M.R.O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1786 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 14 - 11 - 1870

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 14th November 1870.

No. 221. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st November 1870, No. 6,421.

Read the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 6th August 1870, No. 33, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding, for early report on certain points, Proceedings of Government, Public Works Department, passing orders on the Note by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the Sungum Project in the Nellore District.

From the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd Septem-ber 1870, No. 1,558-46.

IN reply to your official memorandum, dated 12th August 1870, No. 824, regarding the rates of assessment mentioned in paragraph 12 of the Chief Engineer's Note upon the Sungum Project, I have the honour to state that these rates were framed after consultation with Mr. Rundall, the Deputy-Director, who is now drawing up the Settlement Report for the taluqs concerned.

2. The accompanying Statement shows the average rates proposed by Mr. Rundall for the villages irrigated by the Nellore anicut in the Nellore and Gudur Taluqs.

Taluqs.	Occupied			Unoccupied			Total		
	Area.	Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.	Average.	Area.	Assessment.	Average.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs. A. P.	Rs A.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.		Rs. A. P	Rs. A.
1 Nelloro.	31,857 72	1,90,508 15 0	6 0	3,206 17	17,262 3 0	5 6	35,063 89	2,07,771 2 0	5 15
2. Gudur.	12,376 63	70,151 4 0	5 11	7,103 11	34,245 12 0	4 13	19,579 74	1,04,397 0 0	5 5
Total...	44,234 35	2,60,660 3 0	5 14	10,309 28	51,507 15 0	5 0	54,643 63	3,12,168 2 0	5 11

The Board will see that this gives an average of Rupees 5-11-0 on the two taluqs. Mr. Rundall explains, in his letter upon this subject, that the tracts of land in the Nellore Taluq, which will come under the influence of the new project, contain areas more or less indifferent, and that the extension of irrigation by bringing to account these inferior soils will necessarily lower the average rate below that of the superior tract under the present Nellore anicut. Thus Mr. Rundall has fixed the average at Rupees 5-8-0, thereby allowing for the amalgamation of this deteriorating item; but he deems that the lands *now* under cultivation within the limits of the project, may safely be assumed as likely to verge eventually closer on Rupees 6 than Rupees 5-8-0.

3. It must, however, be remembered that the proposals of Mr. Rundall have not as yet been submitted to this Office, and have therefore yet to be scrutinized by the Board and Government. I think, however, I may safely say that there is

no probability of Mr. Rundall's rates, and consequently his present estimates being reduced.

4. The assessment of the dry lands now in occupation, and likely to come under the anicut irrigation, should not be credited to the work, but merely the difference between the present dry and estimated wet rate. The dry occupied area in the tract in question may be set down at 22,000 acres, to half of which irrigation may be extended.

5. There are two points, one adverse to, and the other in favour of, the results of the undertaking, and these should not escape notice when calculating the probable returns:

1*st.*—The increase in revenue to be realized by the introduction of the proposed settlement assessment applied to the correct survey measurements.

2*nd.*—The great diminution in the amount of remissions for lands left unavoidably waste, which will be effected by the permanency of the water-supply about to be furnished.

6. As regards the first question, Mr. Rundall points out that the gain that will accrue to the State on the proposed new assessment coming into force should be credited to the Survey and Settlement, and not to the project.

7. As regards the second point, it is estimated that, taking into calculation the last eleven years, the actual realizations of revenue have been only 78 per cent. owing to remissions; thus allowing 25 per cent. as the deductions to be made in the average rate to be hereafter charged, viz., Rupees 5, we should have only to calculate our revenue at an average of Rupees 3-12-0.

8. I must here explain that the rate of Rupees 5 per acre is taken as the average settlement assessment hereafter to be fixed upon the land now in occupation, because, under *existing* irrigation, the group into which these villages fall would give this average of Rupees 5; but now, that the more permanent supply is to be furnished, these villages will be raised one group, and thus yield an average of Rupees 5-8-0 instead of 5, the surplus being credited, of course, to the project. The estimated result then stands as follows:—

	RS.	RS.
Probable assessment on 88,000 acres at Rupees 5½ per acre		4,84,000
Deduct—		
Present occupied wet area, 57,000 acres, on which the proposed new assessment will average Rupees 5 ... ...=2,85,000		2,96,000
Dry assessment of present occupied dry area likely to be converted into wet...= 11,000		
		1,88,000
Add 25 per cent. for cessation of remission as above shown, or, in other words, the difference by taking only an average of Rupees 3-12-0 per acre as the proposed assessment for the 57,000 acres		71,250
Total...		2,59,250

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 14th November 1870.

9. The occupied area as taken above is greater than that taken by Mr. Smith, as the former relates to the Settlement demand of Fasli 1276 (1866-67), our year of comparison for the Nellore Taluq in all settlement matters, whereas the latter is apparently taken for an average of years.

10. I doubt whether the whole of the former remission should thus be credited to the project, as we cannot foretell, with certainty, that there will be no alleviations hereafter, more especially in outlying villages, during unfavourable seasons; but still a fair proportion of the saving in this hitherto sacrificed item of revenue should be credited to the Sungum undertaking.

11. Finally, I note it is proposed to credit to the project the assessment of lands which have not been cultivated with dry grains, but hereafter to be brought under wet tillage by means of the anicut. But I conclude that much of this dry land is held on puttah, and pays assessment year by year, although not always actually under cultivation; this must be particularly the case with regard to the grazing lands which are in permanent occupation; so that only the difference of the wet assessment of lands newly occupied should be credited to the undertaking.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to Government Order, 28th July 1870, No. 1,818 (Irrigation), paragraph 5.

2. The Consulting Engineer estimated the increase of revenue to be gained by the Sungum Project at Rupees 3,07,956. The Director gives it as Rupees 2,59,250, but to be on the safe side, the item "cessation of remission" must be reduced from Rupees 71,250 to Rupees 50,000. This will make the total amount Rupees 2,38,000, and the Board expect that this estimate, which is far from being a sanguine one, will be fully realized.

No. 222. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1870, No. 1,786.

Irrigation, No. 6.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works Department, with reference to the Proceedings in that department, under date 28th July 1870, No. 1,818.

2. The Board of Revenue have not reported on the proposal regarding the sale of land forming the beds of abandoned tanks. They will be requested to supply the omission.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 1786.

14th November 1879

Communicated to the
D.W.D with reference to
the Proceedings in Council
Dept under date 28 July 1879
No 1818.

The Board of Revenue
have not failed to reported on
the proposal regarding
the sale of land forming
the beds of abandoned
tanks. They will be requested
to notify the omission

RDS.

nil
RDS.

21-x P.W.Dept Dept 17.
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Govt. of Bombay.

REVENUE.

To

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

&c, &c, &c.

Dated November, 1879.

Rec'd.

Exd.

G. O. 14th November 1879, No. 1,786.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 221-222.

Subject Proposal for Nellore Fisheries.—Proceedings Board of Revenue regarding increase of revenue, communicated to Public Works Department. Remit of Revenue to report on the proposal to sell land forming the beds of abandoned tanks.