

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	938	Press Mis.
300-01. Dated	24-6-1918	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th June 1870.*

No. 300. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th September 1869, No. 6,766.

Read the following letters:—

From the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 29th September 1868, No. 313.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 7th December 1866, No. 8,723, sanctioning the transfer of all "manawary" nunjah lands to the head "punjah," and a reduction of assessment in the rates of these lands as well as in the number of rates of the ordinary regular nunjah lands, and calling for a Statement of the financial effect of the revision, I have the honour to forward the statements noted in the margin.

A., B., and C.

2. The first of these statements relates to the revision of assessment on the so-called manawary or unirrigable nunjah land: it shows that the total extent of land transferred from the head Nunjah to Punjah consists of cawnies 84,704, bearing an assessment of Rupees 3,22,794, according to the rates at which they were originally assessed, while according to the new or revised scale of rates, sanctioned by Government, the assessment of these lands amounts to Rupees 3,00,200: in other words, the reduction conceded has been 7 per cent. of the old assessment. The immediate loss of revenue to Government on the holding of Fusly 1276 amounts to Rupees 5,107, being also 7 per cent. of the old assessment thereon.

3. The reduction effected in the assessment of unoccupied waste amounts to Rupees 17,487, or 7 per cent. of the old assessment: thus it will be seen that the whole amount remitted by Government on this class of land amounted only to Rupees 22,594.

4. Considering, however, the inferior description of the soil of this class of land generally, the remission now conceded by Government is not such as to induce any large area being newly brought under the plough, as evidenced by the paucity of durkhasts received for such lands. In some instances there has been no reduction of rate whatever, and in others the reduction is only a few Annas; whilst the transfer of the lands to the head of Punjah has, of course, been a source of loss instead of gain to the ryot, inasmuch as manawary nunjah lands shared in the benefits of annual remissions in the same way as ordinary irrigable nunjah lands according to the circumstances of the season; but the same lands being now classed once as punjah are liable to the dry assessment in all seasons, also to a water charge whenever the ryot chances to draw water for such lands from any Government irrigation work. As, however, the general survey of the district is in progress, and already three out of six talooks have been demarcated and two surveyed, I would not recommend any further change prior to the re-assessment of the district by the Settlement Department.

5. Statement B. shows that the area of lands, which were originally classed as irrigable nunjah, but which in reality had no means of irrigation whatever, is cawnies 7,047, assessed according to the old scale of rates at Rupees 28,738-8-10; while according to the new scale of rates sanctioned by Government for "mana-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th June 1870.*

wary nunjah" lands, the assessment on such lands amounts to Rupees 26,237, being 9 per cent. less than the assessment which these lands bore formerly.

6. The immediate loss of revenue to Government from this source on the holding of Fusly 1276 amounts, however, only to Rupees 847-10-9, being 10 per cent. of the old assessment on such lands.

7. Statement C. shows the financial effect of reducing the scale of nunjah rates. It will be seen that the rates as formerly obtaining in the district were so many as 177, and that these rates frequently differed from one another by a few Pice only: they have now been reduced to thirty-four, involving a sacrifice of Rupees 5,710 on the total nunjah ayacut of the district, and Rupees 4,314 on the nunjah holding of Fusly 1276.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 to 3.—Statements.

From the Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 7th June 1869, No. 172.

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 13th July 1867, No. 4,397, asking for a report as to whether the revision of district rates has not done all that was required to bring waste lands under cultivation; and, if not, to submit proposals on the subject with reference to the report of the various Tahsildars; I have the honour to state that the only revision effected in this district having been the adjustment of the numerous rates and reduction of their number: it was not to be expected that any effect would result upon the highly assessed waste lands, or bring them under the plough.

2. The regular nunjah assessment throughout the district may be said to be moderate enough, but the assessment on what was formerly known as "manawary nunjah," recently transferred to punjah, requires considerable reduction; and until this is done there appears to be but little chance of any considerable portion of this class of land being reclaimed. As, however, the survey and settlement operations are now in progress in this district, I am not disposed to recommend any alterations or further reductions of the rates of assessment for the present, but would leave any necessary revision to the regular Settlement Department, who will, I believe, shortly commence operations in the parts of the district that have been fully surveyed.

In their Proceedings of the 7th December 1866, No. 8,723, the Board directed the Collector of Madras to adopt sixteen rates, varying from Rupees 6 to Annas 8, for the manawary and unirrigable nunjah lands which were to be transferred to punjah in his district, and to reduce the number of rates for nunjah proper on the plan approved by Government in Government Order, dated 12th July 1866, No. 1,736. These changes were to be introduced at once, that is, in Fusly 1276.

2. In Board's Proceedings, dated 13th July 1867, No. 4,397, the Collector was told to report whether the revision of the rates of assessment had done all that was required to bring waste land under cultivation, and, if not, to make proposals on the subject.

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24th June 1870.*

3. In the letters now before the Board the Collector reports the financial results of the revision, and shows that the reduction which has been made in transferring manawary and unirrigable nunjah lands to punjah has done nothing to encourage the reclamation of waste, and is likely even to cause the abandonment of land previously utilized. There has, of course, been a reduction in making the transfer, but the cultivation of manawary land is precarious, and the benefit is more than counterbalanced by the extra water-cess now levied when water is used and the loss of the customary nunjah remissions. Nevertheless, the Collector, assuming that the Settlement Department will soon be at work in the district, recommends that no further change should be made at present.

4. The manawary lands comprise 84,705 cawnies, assessed (as nunjah) at Rupees 3,22,795. On transfer to punjah the assessment has been reduced to Rupees 3,00,200, or by 7 per cent. Of the whole area one-fifth only was included in holdings of Fusly 1276, and of this one-fifth more than one-fifth is waste. The occupied area is 17,538 cawnies, formerly assessed at Rupees 70,333, and now assessed at Rupees 65,226; so that the actual loss of revenue is only Rupees 5,107. The unoccupied area is 67,163 cawnies, now assessed at Rupees 2,34,974.

5. The lands classified as nunjah, which were transferred to punjah because they possessed no means of irrigation, comprise 7,048 cawnies, assessed at Rupees 28,739. On transfer the assessment was reduced to Rupees 26,238, or by 9 per cent. In Fusly 1276 only 1,755 cawnies, assessed at Rupees 8,327 under the old rates, and Rupees 7,480 under the new rates, were entered in holdings, and of this 566 cawnies, assessed at Rupees 2,361 (new rates) were waste. In one of the classes the per-centage of waste to the total ayacut was no less than 98.

6. The Board consider it clear that the revision of assessment has not afforded the relief intended by Government, and that the interests of the State require that a further reduction should be made. They have ascertained that it may be years before the district is settled by the Settlement Department: the objection to a further reduction is the embarrassment which it may cause in the introduction of a scientific settlement; but the Board, having fully considered the subject, are of opinion that this objection should be over-ruled.

7. They accordingly resolve to recommend Government to make a further ratable deduction of 20 per cent. of the present assessment on land now entered in puttahs, and of 30 per cent. on the unclaimed waste. Taking the figures of Fusly 1276, this will cause the following actual and nominal loss of revenue:—

		RS.
Manawary.	Actual loss on occupied land ...	13,045
	Nominal loss on unoccupied land ...	70,492
Unirrigable	Actual loss on occupied land ...	1,496
	Nominal loss on unoccupied land ...	5,627

8. Thus the total reduction on lands now in cultivation will be Rupees 14,541, and there will be 72,460 cawnies of waste, assessed at Rupees 1,77,613, from which the loss may be recouped.

9. The revision of the nunjah assessment effected by a reduction of the number of rates has caused a reduction of Rupees 4,314 on occupied land, and Rupees 1,395 on unoccupied land, or altogether Rupees 5,710 on a total sum of Rupees 11,22,074. The rates are reported by the Collector to be moderate.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th June 1870.*

No. 301.

ORDER THEREON, 24th June 1870, No. 938.

Land Revenue.

IN their Order, under date 12th July 1866, No. 1,736, the Government sanctioned certain temporary reductions of assessment in the Madras District in regard to the manawary lands, the lands classed as "wet" but devoid of the means of irrigation, and the ordinary irrigated lands.

2. The Board of Revenue now report the result of these reductions. The Acting Collector, Mr. Cockerell, proposed to adopt all the Deputy-Collector's rates below that of Rupees 6 in regard to the manawary and unirrigable lands, but the Board properly directed him to introduce a revised scale more in accordance with the views of Government as expressed in their Order adverted to above.

3. The transfer of the manawary lands from the head "Wet" to the head "Dry" has resulted in a change of designation of 81,704 cawnies of land. This land was assessed at Rupees 3,22,794, and now stands at Rupees 3,00,200. In 1866-67 only 17,537 cawnies were under cultivation, and the reduction of assessment on this quantity amounted to Rupees 5,106-15-8, which may be viewed as the actual loss of revenue involved under this part of the measure.

4. The application of the same rates to 7,047 cawnies of land hitherto classed as "irrigable nunjah," but being in fact devoid of the means of irrigation, has resulted in a demand of Rupees 26,237 against the old demand of Rupees 28,738-8-10; but as only 1,754 cawnies of this land are in occupation, the actual loss of revenue is only Rupees 847-10-9.

5. The higher rates of assessment on the irrigated area have also been reduced, and the number of rates for this description of land has been diminished in accordance with the order of Government. The financial effect of this part of the measure is an immediate loss of revenue, amounting to Rupees 4,314 only, though the reduction made upon the whole extent of land, both cultivated and waste, amounts to Rupees 5,710.

6. The Collector and Board are of opinion that the reductions on the first two classes of lands are not sufficiently liberal to induce the ryots to take up the large quantity of waste land referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 above. The transfer of this land from the head "Wet" to the head "Dry" deprives the holders of the advantage of obtaining annual remissions according to the circumstances of the season, and further renders them liable to water-rate whenever water is taken from a Government irrigation work.

7. As the Board are of opinion that there is little chance of the assessment of the district being revised by the Settlement Department for some years, they recommend that these rates be still further reduced, the assessment of the land in occupation being reduced by 20 per cent., and that of the waste land by 30 per cent. This will involve an actual loss of revenue of Rupees 14,511 on the occupied land, and a nominal loss of Rupees 76,119 on the waste. If the reduction should have the desired effect, the assessment of the land newly taken up will probably cause an increase of actual revenue instead of a decrease.

8. The Collector reports the reduced rates on the irrigated lands to be moderate, and the Board would not interfere with them further.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th August 1870.*

No. 379.

Dated 24th August 1870, No. 1,323.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government understand that the garden at Burliar on the Coonoor Ghaut is for sale for Rupees 2,000, and that Messrs. McIvor and Jamieson are of opinion that its purchase is very desirable for the culture of the Ipecacuanha roots, which do not flourish at Ootacamund. It is also believed that the garden is especially adapted for the growth of West Indian plants as well as those from the Straits and Eastern Archipelago.

2. The Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills will accordingly be directed to ascertain and report whether the information obtained by Government is correct, and, after deputing Mr. McIvor or Mr. Jamieson to visit the garden, will state whether he is of opinion that the purchase is expedient, and whether it could be managed by the present establishment attached to the Horticultural Gardens.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills,
,, the Board of Revenue.

Erd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 3157.

Proceedings of Revenue.

Dated 9th September — 1869.

FOR ORDERS.

The papers submitted
by the Board show, beyond
question — that the re-
direction of assessment

I agree with the
reductions proposed
by the Board as approved
by Mr. Sim.

carried out in 1866 on
the "Manasary" and other
(transferred from Mysore)
undisputed lands of
the Madras District
was not so efficient to
admit of their being
profitably brought under
cultivation. The mea-
sure was a tentative one
and caution was in-
duced by the prospect
of an early revision
of the assessment of
the entire District.
The reduction was ex-

Sd/- of 11/7/69

REVENUE

THE COMMISSIONER OF THE

NEIGHBOURHOOD.

No. 101

Dated August, 24th.

Recd.

G. O., 24th August 1869, No. 1323.

AUGUST

No. 379.

General Order on the General Order —
Commissioner of Neighbourhoods to submit certain
information regarding the —

truly moderate &
in the case of the main-
sawing lands has - owing
to the generally adverse
character of the seasons -
been more than counter-
balanced by the loss
of the remissions &
which, as things are,
they would have been
entitled to.

It is true, as
the Hon. Secy remarks,
prices have risen largely
of late years - but possibly
the crops have had no
crop - or very small
crop to sell. However
this may be - we find
that 80 per cent of
the land is waste -
profitless as to the
State & the people
and this is the

5.
immediate big loss.
loss of the capital.
Even of the 20 per cent.
taken up, one fifth
is waste, though charged
& paid for: four out
of every five acres is
out of cultivation al-
together.

Under these cir-
cumstances a further
reduction is absolutely
necessary - and I
think the rate pro-
posed by the Board
viz 20 per cent will
not prove more than
sufficient - ^{I am not saying the} ~~amount~~
it is enough - but
it may be tried
pending the financial
reversion - which we
may hope to see com-
pleted in 3 years - I

could not find here
on the waste than on
the cultivated. All
the land was carefully
classified a short while
ago and there is no
reason to suppose that
the waste is really less
fertile than the
cultivated. The profit
on sale is so small
that a very small
portion is taken up.

J. D. P.

The present loss of la-
bour is small &
will be small as much
work from the waste.

The necessary
lands must of course
pay for water if they
use it.

FOR ORDERS.

Memo. for Orders, No 3157.

Rev. Department.

In their order under
date 12 July 1866, the Govern-
ment sanctioned certain
temporary reductions of
assessment in the Madras
District.

In regard to the 'mainway'
lands, the lands classed
as wet but devoid of the
means of irrigation, and
the ordinary irrigated lands

This paper is one of the
received during the last
few weeks of Mr. Phillips'
tenure of office. The demands
of which have, under orders,
been deferred until Mr.
Dunn's arrival.

JMS.

2. The Board of
Revenue now report the
result of these reductions.
The Acting Collector Mr.
Locke proposed to
adopt all the Deputy
Collectors' rates below
that of Rs. 6 in regard
to

to the Manawary or converga-
ble lands, but the Board prop-
erly directed him to introduce
a revised scale more in ac-
cordance with the views of Govt,
as expressed in their order
adverted to above.

3. The transfer of these
lands from the head "Net" to
the head "Dry" has resulted in
a change of designation of
84,704 caownies of land. This
land was appraised at Rs. 3,22,794
and now stands at Rs. 3,00,200.
In 1866-67 only 17,537 caownies
were under cultivation and the
reduction of assessment on this
quantity amounted to Rs. 5106.15-8
which may be viewed as the actual
loss of revenue involved under this
part of the measure.

4. The application of the
same rates to 7047 caownies of
land hitherto classed as "irriga-
ble munyah" but being in
fact devoid of the means
of

7.
of irrigation, has re-
sulted in a demand
of Rs. 26,237 against the
old demand of Rs. 28,738-10-0
but as only 1754 caownies
of this land are in pe-
culation, the actual
loss of revenue is only
Rs. 847-10-9.

5. The higher rates of
assessment on the irriga-
ted area have also been
deducted, and the number
of rates for this description
of land have been di-
minished in accordance
with the orders of Govt.
The financial effect of
this part of the measure
is an immediate loss of
revenue amounting to Rs.
4,314 only, though the re-
duction made upon whole
extent of land both culti-
vated and waste amounts
to Rs. 5,710-

6. The Collectors and
Board are of opinion
that

the reduced rates on the
irrigated lands to be
moderate, and the
Board would not in-
terfere with them further.

9. Orders are requested
in the Board's proposals.

It is, however, to be desired
that the enormous rise which
has taken place in
prices during the last
ten years has virtually
had the effect of reducing
the assessment by certainly
50 per cent. We
find that the dry cul-
tivation of the Madras

District has increased
from Acres 76,544 in 1857-58
to Acres 1,73,839 in 1887-88,
though the latter figure
includes the transfers
adverted

It has not dulled in
10 yrs. but of late there
has been greater strictness
as to waste. Almost all
is now paid for - whereas
formerly scarcely any
was. The heavy burden fairly

infer that if the Manna
dry lands had been
relatively as moderately
assessed, 80 per cent
of them would not be
lying waste.

9.
adverted to above. Looking
at these figures, it seems
probable that a further
reduction of assessment
will have the effect
expected, and it is
submitted that the
Board's proposal may
be adopted

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Rev^d Department
938

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 1st June 1870.

Read the following
Proc: of the Bd. of Rev^d.

Recom^d to sanction a
further rateable deduction of 20
percent of a pesh on manawary
& unirrigable kungah lands in
Madras Dist, entered in Puttalar,
of 30 percent on similar lands
left waste.

(H.C. 9th Sept 69 No 6786)

J. P. S.

In their order under
date 12th July 1866¹⁸⁶⁶ the Gov^t
sanctioned certain temporary
reductions of a peshment
in the Madras District
in regard to the manawary
lands

lands, the lands
classed as wet but
devoid of the means
of irrigation, and the
ordinary irrigated lands.

2 The Board of Reas.
now report the result of
these reductions. The
Acting Collector Mr.
Lockrell, proposed to
adopt all the Deputy
Collector's rates below
that of D. to be in regard
to the banowary and
unirrigable lands, but
the Board properly
directed him to introduce

on

a revised scale more
in accordance with the
views of Govt, as ex-
-pressed in their order
adverted to above.

3 The transfer of
the banowary lands from
the head "Wet" to the head
"Dry" has resulted in a
change of designation of
84,704 cawnies of land.
This land was assessed
at Rs. 3,22,794, and now
stands at Rs. 3,00,200. In
1866/67 only 17,537 cawnies
were under cultivation,
and the reduction of as-
sessment on this quantity
amounted

amounted to Rs. 5,706-15-8,
which may be viewed
as the actual loss of
revenue involved under
this part of the measure.

4. The application
of the same rates to
7,047 cawnies of land
hitherto classed as "irri-
gable mungah" but being
in fact devoid of the
means of irrigation, has
resulted in a demand
of Rs. 26,237 against the
old demand of Rs. 28,738-8-10,
but as only 1,754 cawnies
of this land are in occu-
pation, the actual loss
of

of revenue is only Rs. 847-10-9.

5 The higher rates
of assessment on the irrigated
area have also been reduced,
and the number of rates
for this description of land
has been diminished in
accordance with the order
of Government. The financial
effect of this part of the
measure is an immediate
loss of revenue amounting
to Rs. 4,314 only, though the
reduction made upon the
whole extent of land both
cultivated and waste,
amounts to Rs. 5,710.

6 The Collector
and

and Board are of
opinion that the reduc-
tions on the first two
classes of lands are
not sufficiently liberal
to induce the ryots to
take up the large quantity
of waste land referred
to in paras 3 and 4 above.
The transfer of this land
from the head "wet"
to the head "Dry" deprives
the holders of the advantages
of obtaining annual
remissions according to
the circumstances
of the season, and
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13
further renders them
liable to water rate,
whenever water is taken
from a Govt. irrigation work.
As the Board are
of opinion that there is lit-
tle chance of the appt.
of the District being revised
by the Settlement Department
for some years, they recom-
mend that these rates
be still further reduced,
the apptment of the land
in occupation being re-
duced by 20 per cent,
and that of the waste land
by 30 per cent. This will
involve an actual loss
of

of revenue of Rs. 14,541
on the occupied land,
and a nominal loss of
Rs. 76,119 on the waste. If
the reduction should
have the desired effect,
the adjustment of the land
newly taken up will pro-
bably cause an increase
of actual revenue in-
stead of a decrease.

8. The Collr. reports
the reduced rates on
the irrigated lands to
be moderate, and the
Board would not inter-
fere with them further.

The

9. The Right Honorable
the Governor in Council
concurs with the Board
in considering that it is
shown beyond question
that the reduction of
assessment carried out
in 1866 on the 'Mamari'
and the other unirrigated
lands transferred from
Nanjah, was not suffi-
cient to admit of their
being profitably brought
under cultivation. It
appears that 80 per cent.
of this land is still
waste, profitless alike to the
State and the people, and
this too in the immediate
neighbourhood of the Presidency
town

town.

10. Under these circumstances, a further reduction is absolutely necessary, and His Lordship in Council is accordingly pleased to sanction a general reduction in the existing rates of 20 per cent, pending the general revision of the assessment, as there appears to be no sufficient reason for making a difference between the cultivated and the waste. All such lands will of course, continue to be charged a water rate

15

rates when supplied with water from a Govt source of irrigation.

14. Faltie Prop. Pump Dept 28
21. ——— Prop. Dept
13-4 Dry River Lett
13-2 Dept of River Survey

[Signature]