M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 6

(2) Date of repair 1-12-65

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	107	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	18-1-1873	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 25. Read the following extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public), dated Fort William, 18th December 1872, No. 4711 :—

Read again the following papers on the subject of the increase believed to have taken place in the number of periodical Reports and Returns submitted by local authorities to their Departmental superiors and to Government :—

From Government, North-Western Provinces, No. 2925, dated 9th December 1869.
To Government, North-Western Provinces, No. 15, dated 12th January 1870.
To Financial Department, No. 16, dated 12th January 1870.
From Financial Department, No. 769, dated 31st January 1870.
Circular to Local Governments and Administrations, &c., Nos. 1427-39, dated 17th March 1870.
From Madras Government, No. 1683, dated 30th December 1870.
Circular to Local Governments and Administrations, &c., Nos. 713-23, dated 7th February 1871.

Read also the replies to the Circular of the 7th February 1871 :—

From Surveyor-General, No. 272, dated 16th February 1871.
From Chief Commissioner, Coorg, Nos. 769—102, dated 18th February 1871.
From Resident, Hyderabad, No. 38, dated 20th February 1871.
From Chief Commissioner, British Burmah, Nos. 141—30, dated 27th February 1871.
From Government, North-Western Provinces, No. 930, dated 4th March 1871.
From Government, North-Western Provinces, No. 4244, dated 25th September 1871.
From Chief Commissioner of Oudh, No. 1256, dated 10th March 1871.
From Chief Commissioner of Oudh, No. 3891, dated 6th November 1872.
From Superintendent, Great Trigonometrical Survey, Nos. 32—401, dated 14th March 1871.
From Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, Nos. 563—62, dated 20th March 1871.
From Government of the Punjab, No. 1086, dated 12th June 1871.
From Government of Bombay, No. 148, dated 10th January 1872.
From Government of Bengal, No. 1358, dated 18th April 1872.

Resolution.—On the suggestion of the Financial Department a circular was issued, on the 17th March 1870, to the Local Governments and Administrations and the several Heads of Departments at Calcutta, urging them to consider the possibility of diminishing the number of periodical reports and statements, and of simplifying and condensing those retained in all branches of the Administration. The following remarks were made as to the direction in which diminution of labour seemed possible :—

"It sometimes happens that a periodical report required to meet a temporary or special purpose is not discontinued when the reasons for its submission have ceased to exist, and the expense involved in its preparation becomes a permanent charge to the Imperial Revenues. Again, the same statistics that are rendered monthly or quarterly are sometimes embodied in half-yearly or yearly reports, or in both, without any regard to the feasibility of dispensing with them in one form or the other. Registers and other books are kept up, which might either be done away with altogether, or so reduced in detail as materially to diminish the amount of writing required for their preparation."

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certain periodical returns submitted to his office, but seems to be much
limited in scope than the orders of the Government of India contemplated.
Governor-General desires that he will continue to give his attention to the sub

14. Coorg.—The Chief Commissioner of Coorg has, in consultation wit
he H eads of Offices and Departments in the Province, ordered the abolitio
such returns and statements as appeared to be unnecessary. He promises that
same course will be adopted whenever further reduction is considered practic

15. Hyderabad.—The Resident at Hyderabad has misunderstood the ob
of the orders of the Government of India. Alluding to the circular dated the
February 1871, in which he and some other Heads of Administrations were as
to report what steps had been taken to give effect to the orders of the 17th M
1870, "respecting the simplification and diminution of the reports, returns,
periodical statements in use in all Departments of the Administration," the R
dent states that the adoption of the Statistical Committee's forms, as finally appro
by Government, has been prescribed from the beginning of 1871; but the ob
of the orders of the Government of India was to lead the Local Governments
scrutinize and look over the whole of the reports and statements which are prepar
or which are furnished by one office to another within its jurisdiction, with a vi
to dispensing with such as were not really required.

16. Survey Department.—The Surveyor-General is not aware of a sing
report or return which could be dispensed with. He states that the
Survey Department has always been to keep correspondence at its lowest limi
professional and geographical business being all important and more than sufficie
to occupy the fullest attention. Colonel Thuillier requests that spare copies
printed circulars may be supplied to him for distribution among Survey Officers,
order that the cost of copying or printing may be avoided. The necessary extr
from his letter will be sent to the Agricultural Department for disposal.

17. The Superintendent of the Great Trigonometrical Survey states that t
reports and periodical statements in use in his Department have been examin
and revised from time to time, their number and size being reduced to the low
point consistent with efficiency. He adds that a careful watch will be kept on
such reports, &c., and should it hereafter appear that any of them can be dispens
with, or reduced in size or frequency, the necessary steps will be taken to make t
change.

18. It appears from this correspondence that the circular of 17th March 18
was not uncalled for, and that the question of reducing the number and bulk
official reports and returns is one that requires periodical examination. Much h
been already effected in this respect, but the replies from some of the Local Gover
ments are not such as to satisfy the Governor-General in Council that all whic
was required has been carried out. The attention of the Local Governments ar
Administrations and Heads of Departments being directed to this important subjec
His Excellency in Council hopes that all that is necessary will be done, and he wi
be glad to learn the results of the inquiries which are still pending, and of any whic
may be instituted hereafter.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
9th January 1873.

No. 4712.

Madras.	Oudh.
Bombay.	Central Provinces.
Bengal.	British Burmah.
North-Western Provinces.	Coorg.
Punjab.	Hyderabad.

Order.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the several Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin, for information and guidance.

Ordered, also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Financial Department, with a copy of the report from the Government of Bengal and its enclosures.

Ordered, further, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture, Revenue, and Commerce, with an extract from the report of the Surveyor-General.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 26. Order thereon, 9th January 1873, No. 22.
Communicated to all Departments of the Secretariat.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Public Works do.
,, Military do.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue Despatch
No. 133.

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January, 9th.

Recd. " 16 "

Read.

G. O., 9th January 1873, No. 22.

JANUARY.
Nos. 25-26.

Communicating Resolution of the Government of India on the subject of diminishing the number of periodical reports and statements and of simplifying and condensing those retained in all branches of the administration.

No. 107
Cir. to Bd. of Rev.

16/1

10 Jan 73

To the Govt. of Madras Revenue Dept. 21 Jan 7