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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

.....Rev......DEPARTMENT

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47

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th June 1873.*

No. 346. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1873 No. 677:—

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Ganjam,	dated 20th January 1873, No. 144.
" " of Vizagapatam,	" 20th February " " 211.
" " of Godavery,	" 16th January " " 16.
" " of Nellore,	" 17th February " " 352.
" " of Cuddapah,	" 10th December 1872, " 215.
" " of Bellary,	" 20th " " " 392.
" " of Kurnool,	" 8th January 1873, " 2.
" " of " "	" " " " 4.
" " of North Arcot,	" 20th December 1872, " 680.
" " of South Arcot	" 18th " " " 412.
" " of Tanjore,	" 14th February 1873, " 46.
" " of Madura	" 10th " " " 33.
" " of Tinnevely,	" 22nd " " " 80.
" " of Salem,	" 25th January " " 24.

ADVERTING to the Order of Government, Public Works Department, dated 26th August 1872, No. 2,031, the Board
 * Dated 11th November 1872, No. 2,180. called upon all Collectors,* except those
 Malabar, South Canara, and Neilgiris. of the districts noted in the margin where
 there are no irrigation works, to report on the progress made in the preparation and printing of the Irrigation Registers prescribed in the Board's Standing Circular No. III. of 1869, and to state how far the mode adopted by the Collectors for calculating the revenue under each source of irrigation corresponded with the instructions contained in the Board's Proceedings, dated 17th June 1872, No. 1,018, and approved by Government in their Order, dated 25th July 1872, No. 1,766. The foregoing letters are the replies.

2. The Collectors of Kistna, Chingleput, Trichinopoly, and Coimbatore have not yet replied, but from the replies received from the other districts it is clear that the revenue under each source of irrigation has no where been calculated according to the principle which has been approved of, and that the mode adopted for calculating it has not been uniform in all the districts. Some Collectors have omitted to include charges for water in the revenue, the quit-rent on Inams has either been omitted or the amount charged on unirrigated lands also has been included, in some cases the full assessment of Inams has been taken as the revenue, while in others the water-rate charged on them alone has been treated as the revenue, and the land assessment of dry lands irrigated has been in most cases altogether omitted.

3. As regards the progress made in the preparation of the registers the Board observe that the detailed registers for each work for Fasli 1277 have been for the most part completed, though they have not yet been printed in all the districts, and that the registers for the subsequent fashies, which do not show the ayacut under each work but only the cultivation, are still for the most part under preparation.

4. The Board consider that the further printing of the registers should be stopped, and that they should be revised, the revenue being calculated strictly in accordance with the principle sanctioned in G. O., dated 25th July 1872, No. 1,766.

5. Before, however, issuing any orders to the Collectors on the subject, the Board beg to draw the attention of Government to paragraph 7 of their Order, dated 17th March 1873, No. 837, Public Works Department, and to inquire whether the instructions therein conveyed are intended to supersede those in their Order No. 1,766, dated 25th July 1872. The instructions in paragraph 7 above quoted are that where water-rates have been introduced in supersession of a consolidated assessment, the work should be credited with the water-rate only; but under the former order the work has to be credited with the water-rate as well as land assessment.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 347. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1873, No. 693.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 3rd April 1873, No. 1,030, Public Works Department:—

ABSTRACT.—*Irrigation Works*.—Passing orders on memorandum by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject of grouping of irrigation works.

COMMUNICATED to all Collectors.

2. The Board resolve to point out to Government that in paragraph 28 of Captain Smith's memorandum it is assumed that the water-rate alone and not the water-rate *plus* the land assessment of irrigated land measures the return from irrigation. This is a contradiction of the principle adopted in G. O., dated 25th July 1872, No. 1,766.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 348. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 26th May 1873, No. 165.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th April 1873, No. 656.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 24th March 1873, No. 164, Revenue Department:—

ABSTRACT.—*Irrigation Works*.—Order regarding the preparation of the Financial accounts in connection with them communicated to the Board of Revenue for the information of all Collectors.

COMMUNICATED to all Collectors.

2. Paragraph 7 is inconsistent with G. O., dated 25th July 1872, No. 1,766. The subject has been brought to the notice of Government in separate Proceedings.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

No. 349.

ORDER THEREON, 24th June 1873, No. 1,640.

IRRIGATION, No. 31.

The Board of Revenue point out that paragraph 7 of G. O. of the 17th March 1873, No. 837, is inconsistent as regards the way in which Irrigation revenue is to be calculated with the order of the 25th July 1872, No. 1,766, in which the mode of calculation recommended by the Board in their Proceedings of the 17th June 1872, No. 1,018, was approved.

2. The order of March, the Government observe, was passed in connection with the Capital and Revenue Accounts of irrigation works, which are required, in accordance with the instructions of the Government of India, to exhibit certain particulars. The Board's method of calculation shows very completely the revenue derived from irrigated lands and it is of such importance that this should be clearly set forth. On the other hand the revenue due to outlay on irrigation works in the sense in which this expression is used in irrigation revenue accounts is clearly, where a water-rate has been introduced, such rate only, irrespective of the land assessment. This revenue is, in fact, a difference between a former and a present sum, and the difference is apparent where a water-rate is levied, it being that rate, while where the assessment is consolidated it is approximately ascertained by comparing the amount of such assessment at two different times.

3. Under this view of the question the Government think that the statement prepared with reference to G. O. of the 25th July 1872, No. 1,766, and submitted with the Secretary's letter No. 589 of the 17th April last, might more appropriately be headed "Statement showing the revenue obtained from irrigated land in each district of the Madras Presidency;" probably without much difficulty the charge for water, where any separate charge is made, might be separately exhibited and then the totals of the statement would show the entire revenue derived from irrigated lands, while the charges for water would indicate, for a portion of the irrigation, the revenue due to that cause, and thus the information required for different purposes would be made available. It may here be noticed that possibly the difference of revenue obtained from irrigated land might, even where a water-rate has been introduced, be nearly the same whether calculated by comparing the revenue of two periods, or by simply taking the water-rate as the index; but for purposes of comparison with irrigation works in other parts of India, it is necessary that, when possible, revenue directly due to outlay on irrigation works should be clearly shown.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th June 1873.*

4. The acreage on which the charge for water is made, as well as that charge, should be noted; and, in the general statement for the Presidency already referred to, there will be for some districts an entry of area with a consolidated assessment, which may be indicated by the letter C against the latter, and another entry of area having two sums shown opposite thereto which may be distinguished by the letter L for land assessment, and W for the charge for water. A foot-note to the statement should explain the several descriptions of entry.

(True Extract.)

W. H. L. S.

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department. ✓

.. Board of Revenue.

.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

.. Controller of Public Works Accounts

Exd. E. C. Shunket.

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1948
Govt. of 1873 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

20. 20. 20.

Dated June 24th.

Recd. July 4th 1873

Encl.

G. O., 24th June 1873, No. 1,640

JUNE

Nos. 348-349.

Irrigation Works.—Passing orders on papers relative to the preparation of financial accounts in connection with Irrigation Works.

With order

No 47 - 5 July 1873 -

RECORDED.

5 July 1873

Further C No 2014/73.