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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	57	Press / Mis.
Dated 8-11-1873		196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
29th October 1873.

No. 55. Read the following letter from G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Trevandrum, 17th October 1873, No. 92:—

I doubt not Government is aware that the returns of population in these States are exceedingly inaccurate.

2. The generally-quoted returns for Cochin were taken in 1857; those for Travancore, in 1854. Probably, when taken, they were not very correct, and, from the progress made and prosperity enjoyed since, they have now become simply misleading if relied on at all.

3. I have several times casually spoken with the Diwans of having a fresh census taken. They, I believe, are not averse to the measure. If Government approve, I propose now seriously mooting the subject. I would recommend the census being taken in the course of the current Malayalum year, very much in the manner in which the last quinquennial census was conducted in the Madras Presidency. That would give the information which is much required for forming a correct opinion on sundry important questions of administration and statistics.

4. A fresh census in the States would hardly be required at the time of the next ensuing quinquennial census in Madras; but thereafter it might be arranged that census should be taken in the States simultaneously with the census in British India, as that course would secure obvious advantages for purposes of comparison, &c.

5. Considering, however, how very false the now usually accepted figures are, I think it would be undesirable to wait till the next Madras Census to obtain more accurate information in Travancore and Cochin.

6. I solicit an early expression of the views of Government, after receiving which I will, if necessary, communicate with the Diwans. If my proposition is approved, I beg that copies of the most important Orders of Government or Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, prescribing the *modus operandi* in taking the late census in Madras, may be furnished me.

No. 56. ORDER THEREON, 29th October 1873, No. 433.

The Governor in Council approves of the Resident bringing under the consideration of the Travancore and Cochin Sirkars the desirableness of having a new census taken on the system lately adopted in the British Territories.

2. The papers prescribing the procedure, with the reports of the results, will be furnished to the Resident.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Resident in Travancore and Cochin.
,, Revenue Department, with reference to paragraph 2.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

[illegible] of [illegible]

POLITICAL.

To

[illegible]

Dated [illegible]

Recd

G. O., [illegible] No. [illegible]

OCTOBER
Nos. 55-56.

Transmission [illegible] The proposal of the Resident [illegible] the consideration of the Transmission [illegible] the desirableness of having [illegible] on the system adopted in the British [illegible] and the necessary papers on the [illegible] to be furnished.

No 57

Revenue Sept.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue in reverse to the papers being supplied to the Resident

Fred L George
10 November /73

Sd/ R A Dalyell
Ag Secy to Govt

To

The Board of Revenue

With Order