M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1413. 61-62	Press / Mis.
Dated	9 - 11 - 1874	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department;
9th November 1874.

No. 61. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th October 1874, No. 2,898:—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 21st May 1874, No. 1,197.

Read also the following replies of Collectors to the above Proceedings:—

Letter from the Collector	of Ganjam,	dated	10th July 1874,	No.	348.
,, ,,	of Vizagapatam,	,,	4th ,, ,,	,,	956.
,, ,,	of Godavery,	,,	3rd August ,,	,,	262.
,, ,,	of Kistna,	,,	10th ,, ,,	,,	1,345.
,, ,,	of Nellore,	,,	7th July ,,	,,	1,441.
,, ,,	of Bellary,	,,	5th August ,,	,,	281.
,, ,,	of Cuddapah,	,,	8th July ,,	,,	154.
,, ,,	of Kurnool,	,,	26th June ,,	,,	235.
,, ,,	of Madras,	,,	4th August ,,	,,	171.
,, ,,	of Chingleput,	,,	25th ,, ,,	,,	448.
,, ,,	of North Arcot,	,,	25th June ,,	,,	350.
,, ,,	of South Arcot,	,,	1st July ,,	,,	331.
,, ,,	of Tanjore,	,,	13th ,, ,,	,,	197.
,, ,,	of Trichinopoly,	,,	5th August ,,	,,	187.
,, ,,	of Madura,	,,	13th July ,,	,,	203.
,, ,,	of Tinnevelly,	,,	30th June ,,	,,	317.
,, ,,	of Coimbatore,	,,	6th August ,,	,,	185.
,, Commissioner	of Nilgiris,	,,	14th July ,,	,,	69.
,, Collector	of Salem,	,,	27th ,, ,,	,,	265.
,, ,,	of South Canara,	,,	8th ,, ,,	,,	1,273.
,, ,,	of Malabar,	,,	27th June ,,	,,	153.

These reports show that the Land Improvement Act (XXVI. of 1871) has not been taken advantage of in a single case in this Presidency. The Act and Rules have been duly published in all the *District Gazettes*, except those of Chingleput and the Nilgiris (where the omission should be rectified at once); but this publication has been without results, as might have been expected considering the length and apparent complication of the Act and Rules, which are no doubt exaggerated in the translations.

2. The simple fact that land-owners wishing to improve their property, and having good security to offer, can get the necessary funds on moderate terms from Government, is evidently unknown to the people.

3. Before the Act was passed, opinions differed as to whether it should be passed or not; but now that it has been passed, and that money has become available for all parts of India, there can be no difference of opinion as to the expediency of appropriating part of that money for this Presidency. The Ryotwary system and the minute division of holdings will greatly limit the sphere in which the Act can operate, but there must still be numerous cases in which it can be made to confer great benefits.

4. If many loans are applied for and obtained, the work imposed on Collectors will be increased, but the Board are sure that there is not one of them but will willingly undertake extra work, contributing so directly as this must do to the development of their districts.

5. The reports now before the Board have been called for at this time by a mistake, and they will have to be called for again at the end of the current year. In the meantime, the Board resolve to request the Collectors to break through the indifference with which the subject has been regarded, and to make a special earnest effort to work the hitherto dormant Act for the benefit of their districts.

6. The widest publicity should be given to the Act and Rules, and a proclamation stating the purport of them in clear and simple language should be promulgated in every village. The

subject should be explained more fully to the chief ryots at the time of the Jummabundi. Collectors, Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and, indeed, all officials of the Revenue Department should seize every opportunity of discussing the subject with land-owners. Any disposition that may be shown by the people to make closer inquiries or to get advances should be encouraged promptly and efficiently.

7. If it is found that the interest required by the Act is too great or that any other provision of the law obstructs its working, this should be brought to notice in the reports which will have to be submitted in April 1875. Collectors should also report whether the ryots in their districts often borrow money from Soucars and spend it in improving their land, and what rate of interest is generally charged when money is lent on good security.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 9th November 1874, No. 1,413.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government approve the instructions issued by the Board in the foregoing Proceedings, and will await their further report on the subject, which should be submitted in time to admit of its reaching the Government of India by the 1st June 1875, as required in paragraph 1 of the letter from that Government, recorded in G. O., 23rd April 1874, No. 490.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. H. French.

Govt. of 1874 Subjects.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated November 9th.

Rcd.

G. O., 9th November 1874, No. 1,113.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 61-62.

Encl

Read 3/11/74

Land Improvement Act, XXVI. of 1871.—Approving the instructions issued by the Board for working the —; awaiting their further report on the subject; and observing that it should be submitted in time to admit of its reaching the Government of India by 1st June 1875.

No. 2,602.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th October 1874.

Read again Board's Proceedings dated 21st May 1874, No. 1,197.

Read also the following replies of Collectors to the above Proceedings :—

Letter from the Collector	of Ganjam,	dated	10th July 1874,	No. 348.
,, ,,	of Vizagapatam,	,,	4th ,, ,,	,, 956.
,, ,,	of Godavery,	,,	3rd August ,,	,, 262.
,, ,,	of Kistna,	,,	10th ,, ,,	,, 1,345.
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,, ,,	of North Arcot,	,,	25th June ,,	,, 350.
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,, ,,	of Tinnevelly,	,,	30th June ,,	,, 317.
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6. The widest publicity should be given to the Act and Rules, and a proclamation stating the purport of them in clear and simple language should be promulgated in every village. The subject should be explained more fully to the chief ryots at the time of the Jummabundi. Collectors, Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and, indeed, all officials of the Revenue Department should

seize every opportunity of discussing the subject with land-owners. Any disposition that may be shown by the people to make closer inquiries or to get advances should be encouraged promptly and efficiently.

7. If it is found that the interest required by the Act is too great or that any other provision of the law obstructs its working, this should be brought to notice in the reports which will have to be submitted in April 1875. Collectors should also report whether the ryots in their districts often borrow money from Soucars and spend it in improving their land, and what rate of interest is generally charged when money is lent on good security.

(A true Extract.)

H Grote
Secretary.

To all Collectors.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with original replies of Collectors.

Fwd. W. H. French.

Rd 22 Nov/74 No. 1583 Para.

Proceedings, 6th October 1874, No. 2,893.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

Rec'd 21 Oct/74
Exd 21 Oct

Rec'd 19 Oct/74
No 1405

Rec'd 19 Oct/74
No 1413

Rec'd 19 Oct/74

4 OCTOBER.
No. 2,893.

Land Improvement Act XXVI. of 1871.—Reports from Collectors on action taken in Madras under—, submitted to Government with remarks.

4 No. 1413 Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 9th Nov. 1874

Read the following
Proc: of the Board of Rev:—

Subject with remarks Reports from Collectors on action taken in Madras under Land Improvement Act XXVI of 1871 — (B. E. 6. October 1874 No. 2898)

The Government
approve the instructions
issued by the Board in
the foregoing Proceedings, and
will await their further
report on the subject, which
should be submitted in time
to admit of its reaching the
Government of India by the
1st June 1875, as required in
para

5
1413

para 1 of the letter from
that Government recorded
in G.O. 23d April 1874
No 490

14 Lokes Board of Rev. 20 Nov

30/10/74
9/11/74

30/10/74
9/11/74