

(1) Number of Pages 16
(2) Date of repair 17. 11. 66
(3) Initials of the Referencer [Signature]

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	934	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	25 th July	1966/4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th July 1874.*

No. 224. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th July 1874,
No. 1,685 :—

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly,
to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 28th March 1874,
No. 68.

With reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 2,733, dated 17th June 1873, on G. O.,
No. 584, dated 7th June 1873, I have the honor to submit the following report.

2. On my visit to the Wyacundan Corumboo Flood last July, I took the opportunity of
speaking to the divers and boatmen of the Corumboo, and persuaded them to go to their work
which they had given up ever since July 1872. I explained to them the orders of Board and
Government, that they were to be provided with an additional extent of land to compensate them
for the road-cess and water-rate they may have to pay, as well as for the loss of income for the
past six years from lands taken up by the railway. Then they had a fresh complaint to make,
and it was nothing less than a dispute among themselves as regards the kind of work they were
expected to perform. The divers represented that the diving part of the operation should be
done by all the boatmen and divers without distinction.

3. The items of work usually performed by the boatmen are as follows :—

(1.) Putting in and removing the shutters at the head sluice to regulate the supply in the
channel during the freshes.

(2.) Carrying the nanal from the edge of the streams, where they are heaped up by the
coolies, to the place where the Corumboos are being constructed.

(3.) Holding nanal topsy-turvy, and keeping its ends steady under foot to enable the
divers to pour sand over it and fix it in the ground.

(4.) Arranging the brushwood on the mud dams thus formed.

(5.) Helping the divers to remain under water to scrape sand by standing on them till
they are obliged to come up to breathe.

(6.) Making rollers of brushwood, and fixing the horses in the water when it is too deep
to construct the dam with nanal.

4. The divers' only work is to dive and scrape sand and pour it over the nanal, etc., to
form the dam, and no doubt this is the most difficult of all work on the Corumboo.

5. The divers now say that they are unable to do all the diving work themselves and
that there should be no distinction hereafter between their work and that of the boatmen. The
boatmen do not agree to this proposal. There were sent for three or four times in hopes
that they might be brought to some reconciliation, but all my efforts were in vain; and I learned
to believe from their behaviour that they are determined not to go to work. One or two of the
boatmen who look very poor say, that they will do all the work, but the rest of them are as obsti-
nate as the divers who would not yield to any proposal.

6. It is now about eighteen months since these people struck work, and what those thirty-
nine men did in the Corumboo, jointly with great discontent and very often not without much
trouble to the Tahsildar, because they knew they could neither be fined nor dismissed, ten men
on 5 Rupees salary each have done steadily and without the least trouble to those who have to
superintend the work. Extra hands have to be engaged temporarily for a few days on daily hire
when the work happens to be heavy; and if fifteen men are permanently employed, there will be
no difficulty whatever.

7. Under these circumstances, I beg to recommend that the Inam lands allowed to these
divers and boatmen should be resumed and

* According to new or settlement rates Rs. 957-3-0.

assessed fully at the old rates, the assessment on
which will amount to Rupees 1,221-7-0 inclusive of the tax on waste in the nattam or village sites,
as shown in the accompanying statement. This amount together with the interest at 4 per cent.
that would accrue on Rupees 5,000, which the Government would have to pay for purchasing lands
to reimburse all the loss to the Inamdars for road-cess, water-cess, etc., will be more than enough

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th July 1874.*

in fact almost twice as much as will be required to employ fifteen men permanently to work at the Corumbhoi; and from what the present gang of ten men are able to do, I am sure that the whole of the work that these unwilling and discontented men were doing can be done by fifteen men without the least cause of complaint, although occasionally for about a month in the year extra hands may be required, which can easily be done.

8. By this arrangement the Inamidars will become the owners of the Inam lands, and hold them all under puttas, while the work can be done without the least inconvenience to the proprietors of land under the channel.

EXTRACT No. 1.—Statement.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The divers and boatmen of the Vayalankan Channel, otherwise known as the Corumbhoi Inamidars, have struck work since about October 1872. At first they contended for certain privileges, which amounted to an increase in their wages; and in G. O. dated 7th June 1873, No. 534, Government put an end to all possible complaint on this score by authorizing an additional assignment of land to a sufficient amount. The men still refuse to work, and have started a new grievance as to the allotment of the work amongst themselves.

3. In the meantime, the Collector has been able to get the work done by other men, and has thus disproved the idea very generally entertained that the work is of so peculiar a kind that it cannot be done by any but these men and land to it.

4. Mr. Pennington is of opinion that the work can be done by fifteen men paid Rupees 900 per annum.

5. It seems to the Board clear that the Corumbhoi Inamidars must be dismissed. Their disobedience and obduracy proceed not from a legitimate desire to get fair wages, but from a disinclination to do the work for which the Inams are granted.

6. The Inams must accordingly be fully assessed. The Collector recommends that the assessment should be imposed at the old rates, but this seems to the Board to be impracticable. The new rates will give Rupees 240 for waste and Rupees 430 for cultivated land, and it is evident that only the latter amount can be counted on as permanently available. The Board think that Government should make some contribution on account of the additional assignment of land sanctioned in the order already referred to. The Collector estimates the cost of the land at Rupees 6,000, and proposes that Government should give 5 per cent. per annum on this sum. It would perhaps be better if Government would assign to the Inam assessment on land to the extent of Rupees 400 per annum. If this with the receipts on the fully assessed Inams is not enough, the remainder can probably be paid out of the proceeds of the irrigation cess.

It remains to consider what compensation is to be given to the owners of the *quarant* Inams on account of the portion of their land which was taken from them for the railway, viz.

7.05 acres wet land

2.34 do. dry

assessed at Rupees 40,000. It was found that it would be necessary to purchase part of the land given in compensation, and the Inamidars were directed to choose the land to be purchased. In the meantime, in 1868, compensation for musay profits was paid to the Inamidars at the rate of Rupees 200 a year on the express condition that no more would be paid on this account, however long they might delay choosing land. Nevertheless the Inamidars delayed until a piece of land was chosen by Government officers, when the Inamidars agreed to take it. The land was then purchased (Acres 7.09 for Rupees 2,500 8-9, as mentioned in G. O. dated 23rd March 1872, No. 162), but the Inamidars have refused to take it in spite of their previous consent, and want compensation for musay profits, apparently at the rate granted in 1866, viz. Rupees 200 a year.

8. It is now about twenty months since the Inamidars struck work, and other men have had to be paid for doing their duty. Accordingly, the Board think it will be sufficient to offer them the piece of land which has been purchased for them on full assessment, if they choose to take it on those terms. Compensation for musay profits should be refused.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th July 1874.*

No. 225.

ORDER THEREON, 25th July 1874, No. 934.

Miscellaneous

The Governor in Council concurs with the Board in the conclusions at which they have arrived. The Inamidars should be dismissed and their lands fully assessed at the new rates. The assessment on additional land to the extent of Rs. 400 per annum may be assigned to make up the remuneration requisite under the new arrangement.

2. The method of disposing of the compensation question, as detailed in paragraph 5, is approved.

(True Extract)

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

To the Board of Revenue

Edw. W. H. French.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 4th July 1874.

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 28th March 1874, No. 66.—

With reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 3,733, dated 17th June 1873, on Government Order, No. 584, dated 7th June 1873, I have the honour to submit the following report.

2. On my visit to the Wyacondan Corumboo Head last July, I took the opportunity of speaking to the divers and boatmen of the Corumboo, and persuaded them to go to their work which they had given up ever since July 1872. I explained to them the orders of Board and Government, that they were to be provided with an additional extent of land to compensate them for the road-cess and water-rate they may have to pay, as well as for the loss of income for the past six years from lands taken up by the railway. Then they had a fresh complaint to make, and it was nothing less than a dispute among themselves as regards the kind of work they were expected to perform. The divers represented that the diving part of the operation should be done by all the boatmen and divers without distinction.

3. The items of work usually performed by the boatmen are as follows:—

(1.) Putting in and removing the shutters at the head sluice to regulate the supply in the channel during the freshes.

(2.) Carrying the nanal from the edge of the streams, where they are heaped up by the coolies, to the place where the Corumboos are being constructed.

(3.) Holding nanal topsy-turvy, and keeping its ends steady under foot to enable the divers to pour sand over it and fix it in the ground.

(4.) Arranging the brushwood on the mud dams thus formed.

(5.) Helping the divers to remain under water to scrape sand by standing on them till they are obliged to come up to breathe.

(6.) Making rollers of brushwood, and fixing the horses in the water when it is too deep to construct the dam with nanal.

4. The divers' only work is to dive and scrape sand and pour it over the nanal, etc., to form the dam, and no doubt this is the most difficult of all work on the Corumboo.

5. The divers now say that they are unable to do all the diving work themselves, and that there should be no distinction hereafter between their work and that of the boatmen. The boatmen do not agree to this proposal. These men were sent for three or four times in hopes that they might be brought to some reconciliation, but all my efforts were in vain; and I am led to believe from their behaviour that they are determined not to go to work. One or two of the boatmen who look very poor say, that they will do all the work, but the rest of them are as obstinate as the divers who would not yield to any proposal.

6. It is now about eighteen months since these people struck work, and what these thirty-nine men did in the Corumboo jointly with great discontent and very often not without much trouble to the Tahsildar, because they knew they could neither be fined nor dismissed, ten men on 5 Rupees salary each have done steadily and without the least trouble to those who have to superintend the work. Extra hands have to be engaged temporarily for a few days on daily hire when the work happens to be heavy; and if fifteen men are permanently employed, there will be no difficulty whatever.

7. Under these circumstances, I beg to recommend that the ^{land} lands allowed to these divers and boatmen should be resumed and assessed fully at the old* rates, the assessment on which will amount to Rupees 1,271-7-0 inclusive of the tax on trees in the natham or village site, as shown in the accompanying statement. This amount together with the interest at 4 per cent that would accrue on Rupees 5,000, which the Government would have to pay for purchasing lands

* According to new or settlement rates Rs. 567-5-0.

to reimburse all the loss to the Inamdars for road-cess, water-cess, etc., will be more than enough; in fact almost twice as much as will be required to employ fifteen men permanently to work at the Corumbao; and from what the present gang of ten men are able to do, I am sure that the whole of the work that these unwilling and discontented men were doing can be done by fifteen men without the least cause of complaint, although occasionally for about a month in the year extra hands may be required, which can easily be done.

3. By this arrangement the Inamdars will become the owners of the Inam lands, and hold them all under puttas, while the work can be done without the least inconvenience to the proprietors of land under the channel.

Enclosure No. 1—Statement.

Summary for the orders of Government.

2. The divers and boatmen of the Wyandam Channel, otherwise known as the Corumbao Inamdars, have struck work since about October 1872. At first they contended for certain privileges, which amounted to an increase in their wages; and in G. O., dated 7th June 1873, No. 534, Government put an end to all possible complaint on this score by authorizing an additional assignment of land to a sufficient amount. The men still refuse to work, and have started a new grievance as to the allotment of the work amongst themselves.

3. In the meantime, the Collector has been able to get the work done by other men, and has thus disproved the idea very generally entertained that the work is of so peculiar a kind that it cannot be done by any but those born and bred to it.

4. Mr. Tomington is of opinion that the work can be done by fifteen men paid Rupees 300 per annum.

5. It seems to the Board clear that the Corumbao Inamdars must be dismissed. Their disobedience and obstinacy proceed not from a legitimate desire to get fair wages, but from a disinclination to do the work for which the Inams are granted.

6. The Inams must accordingly be fully assessed. The Collector recommends that the assessment should be imposed at the old rates, but this seems to the Board to be impracticable. The new rates will give Rupees 248 for waste and Rupees 480 for cultivated land, and it is evident that only the latter amount can be counted on as permanently available. The Board think that Government should make some contribution on account of the additional assignment of land sanctioned in the order already referred to. The Collector estimates the cost of the land at Rupees 5,000, and proposes that Government should give 4 per cent. per annum on this sum. It would perhaps be better if Government would assess to the land assessment on land to the extent of Rupees 100 per annum. If this, with the receipts on the fully assessed Inams, is not enough, the remainder can probably be paid out of the proceeds of the irrigation cess.

7. It remains to consider what compensation is to be given to the owners of the *quendam* Inams on account of the portion of their land which was taken from them for the railway, viz.,

7.03 acres wet land,

2.34 „ dry land.

assessed at Rupees 46-9-0. It was found that it would be necessary to purchase part of the land given in compensation, and the Inamdars were directed to choose the land to be purchased. In the meantime, in 1866, compensation for mesne profits was paid to the Inamdars at the rate of Rupees 220 a year on the original condition that no more would be paid on this account, however long they might delay choosing land. Nevertheless the Inamdars delayed until a piece of land was chosen by Government officers, when the Inamdars agreed to take it. The land was then purchased (Acres 7.03 for Rupees 2,545-5-0 as sanctioned in G. O., dated 23rd March 1872, No. 151), but the Inamdars have refused to take it in spite of their previous consent, and want compensation for mesne profits, apparently at the rate granted in 1866, viz., Rupees 300 a year.

8. It is now about twenty months since the Inamdars struck work, and other men have had to be paid for doing their duty. Accordingly, the Board think it will be sufficient to offer them the piece of land which has been purchased for them on full assessment, if they choose to take it on those terms. Compensation for mesne profits should be refused.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. G. G.
Secretary.

To Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with one original statement.

Copy to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly.

No. 2327

From *Pro. Bd. of Rev.*
Dated *5th July* 1874.
FOR ORDERS.

*I can cur in the the Govt -
the rev as does want; but the
the should be improved
and 1874
11/23/74*

*Pro. Bd. of Rev.
No. 2327*

*Pro. Bd. of Rev.
No. 2327*

Revenue 1874. 11/23/74

BOARD OF REVENUE,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 4TH JULY 1874, No. 1, 696.

11/23/74
Encl. 1

Received

11/23/74

JULY.

No. 1686.

*Direct and Revenue - of Wyandham (General
in Wyandham, District, otherwise called Co-
rundo-o. Inland, who have strict work since
about October 1872. Collector's proposal for
dismissal of - imposition of full assessment on
from lands allotted to them, and employment*

224
502518-4777-1000
75-6-10-1000

FOR ORDERS.

C. H. J. R. 1874

Revenue Department

1874

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Under date the 25th July 1874

Read the following Res.
of the B^d of Rev.

Subj. for orders proposal
of Coll^r of Trichinopoly Dist.
for dismissal of
Contractors of Wyaccondam Channel
who have struck work since
Oct^r 1872; imposition of full
assessment on swamp land allotted
to them, and employment of 15
other men to do the work at a
cost of Rs 900 per annum

H. C. 4th July 1874. No. 1000

The Governor in
Council concurs with
the Board in the con-
clusions at which they
have arrived. The swam-
pans should be dismis-
sed and their lands fully
assessed at the new
rate. The assessment

an additional fund
to the extent of Rs 400
per annum may be
assigned to make up
the remuneration re-
quisite under the new
arrangement.

The method of disposing of the compensation question as detailed in paragraph 8 is approved.

700

To B. of Mass. with the Encl.
7/5/81

Sub from Order

224-225