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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE**GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS**Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1013	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	6.7.	1961.8.5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 61. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd June 1875, No. 1,493 :—

Read the following letter from G. VANSAGNEW, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kistnapatam, 14th May 1875, No. 1,275 :—

In reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 7th November 1874, No. 3,200, I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Rundall to the Director of Revenue Settlement, under date 4th March 1875, No. 225-51.

2. The Board will observe that the diminution in the wet holdings is the result of adjustments made in the Settlement Department, and not the result of any serious relinquishments of lands under wet cultivation as supposed.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. RUNDALL, Esq., Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Nellore and North Arcot, to R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Nellore, 4th March 1875, No. 225-51.

In conformity with endorsement, No. 2,526, of 21st November last, on Board's Proceedings, No. 3,200, of 7th idem, I have the honor to explain the difference remarked on between the area assessed under wet in the Atmakur Taluq in Fasli 1276 and in Fasli 1282 upon the accounts of which latter year the new rates were introduced.

2. The settlement proposals contemplated a very considerable reduction to be effected to the wet area of the taluq, as explained at paragraph 136 of my Settlement Report, from which the following is extracted :—

	A.	C.
Ayacut area	20,052	54
Transfers from... {Wet to dry	3,941	35
{Dry to wet	1,060	21
Area finally confirmed under wet assessment	17,171	40

3. The revision of the wet area was thus estimated to contract the wet assessed area by some 2,881 acres altogether, and a considerable falling off in the area held under wet by the new settlement was to be expected. I attribute the falling off in the wet occupation according to the revenue accounts of Faslies 1276 and 1282 to be due in a great measure to the same cause. At paragraph 134 of the Settlement Report it is explained that detailed lists giving the wet ayacut as adjusted for each village and source had been furnished to the Collector and forwarded to the taluqs for future guidance, until the new settlement and changes effected might come into force. The Tahsildars were permitted to grant at dry rates of assessment unoccupied wet land that might be intended to be settled under dry by the settlement proposals, and excluded from the ayacut lists thus supplied.

4. Advantage was taken of this provision to secure at dry rates of assessment much of the wet assessed land permanently under dry cultivation that might not have been returned in the lists referred to of land confirmed under the wet ayacut. In this way, I found at the introduction of the new rates that between the years specified, Faslies 1276 and 1282, 803 acres out of the 1,162 acres mentioned at paragraph 138 of the Settlement Report, as appertaining to the former Battepaud and Pelleti river channel irrigation, had been relinquished as wet and occupied the same year as dry. This refers merely to four villages. No doubt the same course was

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th July 1875.

followed, only in respect to smaller areas in other villages. The exact difference is compared below :—

OCCUPIED BY THE REVENUE ACCOUNTS UNDER WET.				
Fasli.	Area.		Assessment.	
	A.	C.	RS.	A. P.
1276	18,057	16	80,869	13 0
1282	16,541	07	75,896	11 0
Total decrease...	1,516	09	4,973	2 0

5. The falling off in the wet occupation thus amounted to 1,516 acres; but taking the area in occupation it was proposed to assess under wet on the basis of the accounts of Fasli 1276, and that adjusted as wet at the introduction on those of 1282; the diminution is really only 414 acres and the assessment Rupees 1,399, as mentioned at paragraph 9 of my letter printed with the Proceedings quoted.

6. There evidently was some relinquishment of wet land that by the proposed settlement scheme it was intended to retain under wet, but no great breadth of wet cultivation has been given up as supposed, and hence special inquiry is hardly requisite.

7. The decrease of 414 acres in the wet occupation is not besides wholly due to the relinquishment of land. Subsequent adjustments, since the proposals were originally framed, have aided to raise the area to that now stated as 414 acres. It will be seen that the occupied area, exceptionally assessed at Rupees 2-8-0 per acre, under minor tanks handed over to the villagers has been increased from 77 to 145 acres, so that the ordinary wet occupation will probably

8. Without, therefore, entering into further details, I trust that, as I am able to show that the falling off is only 414 acres, this explanation will be deemed sufficient. There are sixty-four villages in the taluq having wet land, and the unoccupied area is only 1,191 acres, assessed at Rupees 5,047, or at Rupees 4-3-10

per acre. According to the original proposals the details were 880 acres, assessed at Rupees 3,877, or at Rupees 4-6-0 per acre. The unoccupied area has consequently increased to the extent of 311 acres, and looking at the number of villages involved, the difference is not such as to occasion apprehension of any widespread relinquishment of wet cultivation. The adjusted wet area being 17,046 acres for the whole taluq, the unoccupied proportion, 1,191 acres, is equivalent to 7 per cent. The great fall in the prices of wet grain between Faslies 1276 and 1282 may in some degree have led to land somewhat difficult of irrigation being given up.

9. As the Board from paragraph 4 of their Proceedings first quoted consider the serious diminution in the extent of cultivated holdings generally to call for special inquiry, it is necessary to refer also to the dry area in occupation.

10. The following statement furnishes details of the area occupied under dry during the seven years from Faslies 1276 to 1282, and of the prevailing price on the average for dry grains. The diminution in occupation may fairly be regarded as due to the great fall in the price of jonna, the principal grain during the several years specified :—

Fasli.	Total occupied already.	AVERAGE PRICE PER GABCE PREVAILING FOR EACH FASLI.	
		Jonna.	Aruga.
		RS.	RS.
1276	1,03,714	289	...
1277	1,07,302	208	...
1278	1,09,343	166	...
1279	1,10,903	147	...
1280	1,11,435	165	68
1281	1,02,349	115	74
1282	99,572	127	85

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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11. A reference to the statement at paragraph 129 of my Settlement Report will show that the occupied area had risen by rapid strides from 41,319 acres in Fasli 1270 to 103,714 acres in Fasli 1276. The comparatively slight diminution that has occurred since prices assumed a downward tendency is not to be wondered at; and so moderate a reduction of the cultivated area may reasonably be regarded as a hopeful and healthy sign of the general welfare and prosperous circumstances of the cultivating classes.

(True Copy)

(Signed) A. NARAYANA ROW,
Deputy Collector, for Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to G.O., dated 11th December 1874, No. 1,546.

2. In the enclosure of the Collector's letter it is shown that the *bona-fide* falling off in the area of irrigated land under occupation could not exceed 414 acres in Atmakur, and the difference between this and the larger figure remarked on by Government was due principally to the revision of ayacuts and the conversion of some lands held as wet to dry. The fall in prices had something to do with the relinquishment of the wet lands, for prices in Fasli 1282, the year of the introduction of the settlement, were less than half what they had been in Fasli 1276, when the settlement operations commenced. 4,142 acres of dry land in the same taluq were relinquished from this cause, and it is, therefore, reasonable to suppose that the same amount of the poorer wet lands would be given up in like manner. No doubt,

but not such as to cause anxiety or to call for special measures.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 6th July 1875, No. 1,013.

Land Revenue.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

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1013

Read the following letter from G. VANSAGNEW, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kistnapatam, 14th May 1875, No. 1,275:—

2. The Board will observe that the diminution in the wet holdings is the result of adjustments made in the Settlement Department, and not the result of any serious relinquishments of lands under wet cultivation as supposed.

From C. RUNDALL, Esq., Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, Nellore and North Arcot,
to R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Acting Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Nellore, 4th
March 1875, No. 225-51.

2. The settlement proposals contemplated a very considerable reduction to be effected to the wet area of the taluq, as explained at paragraph 136 of my Settlement Report, from which the following is extracted:—

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8. Without, therefore, entering into further details, I trust that, as I am able to show that the falling off is only 414 acres, this explanation will be deemed sufficient. There are sixty-four villages in the taluq having wet land, and the unoccupied area is only 1,191* acres, assessed at Rupees 5,047, or at Rupees 4-3-10

* Paragraph 13 of my report, No. 852-206, of 30th September 1874.

per acre. According to the original proposals the details were 880 acres, assessed at Rupees 3,877, or at Rupees 4-3-0 per acre. The unoccupied area has consequently increased to the extent of 311 acres, and looking at the number of villages involved, the difference is not such as to occasion apprehension of any widespread relinquishment of wet cultivation. The adjusted wet area being 17,046 acres for the whole taluq, the unoccupied proportion, 1,191 acres, is equivalent to 7 per cent. The great fall in the prices of wet grain between Faslies 1276 and 1282 may in some degree have led to land somewhat difficult of irrigation being given up.

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(True Copy)

(Signed) A. NARAYANA ROW,
Deputy Collector,
for Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to G.O., dated 11th December 1874, No. 1,546.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Nellore.

.. to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

11 May/74 No. 149. 1875

Rev. 1875. 2411

24/4/74
1875.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 3RD JUNE 1875, No. 1,493.

Deputy Secretary

Encl

Received 24: June

JUNE.
No. 1,493.

Settlement, New—introduced into the
Atmakur, Rapur, and Udyaghiri Taluqs, in
Nellore District.—Letter from Collector forward-
ing one addressed by Deputy Director of Revenue
Settlement to the Acting Director
reporting that diminution in wet holdings is
the result of adjustment made in the Settle-
ment Department, submitted to Government.

11/6/74
1875.

14/6/74 Board of Revenue 1875