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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1818.	<u>Press</u>
B.P. No.		<u>Mis.</u>
Dated	29-8-1875	196 .

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1818

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th August 1875.*

No. 231. Read the following letter from Major J. BEATTY, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery, to Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., Officiating Chief Engineer for Irrigation and Joint Secretary to Government, dated Dowlaishweram, 9th July 1875, No. 1,114.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,344, of 22nd September 1873, I have the honor

Amalapur.
Nursapur.
Tanuku.
Yernagudiem.
Ellore.

to forward, herewith, five statements showing the remissions granted in Faslies 1281 and 1282, or 1871-72 and 1872-73, in the villages of the taluqs noted in the margin, with notes in the remarks column as to

the steps proposed to be taken to prevent a recurrence of such remissions.

2. The total of the remissions granted in Fasli 1281 in the Bheemaveram Taluq was only Rupees 5-5-1, which is insignificant. The remissions for that taluq in Fasli 1282 amounted to Rupees 27-15-5 for deficiency of water, which is also insignificant, and Rupees 6,662 on account of "excess of water." In that Fasli there were two extraordinary floods in the Yerracalwa, with reference to which I would invite your attention to my predecessor's letter on the subject, No. 2,566, dated 18th October 1872. With such floods the swamping of the lands under notice was unavoidable; the contemplated improvements to the Yanamaduru will improve matters, but heavy floods of long duration in the Yerracalwa will always do injury to some of the low lying lands of that taluq.

3. The remissions on account of insufficient supply granted in the Rajamundry and Peddapur Taluqs amounted to Rupees 24,435 in Fasli 1281, and Rupees 10,648 in Fasli 1282. These remissions were due to insufficient rain fall.

4. The remissions granted in the Ramachendrapur Taluq in the above Faslies will be reported on at an early date.

No. 232. ORDER THEREON, 13th August 1875, No. 2,338.

IRRIGATION, No. 10.

Amalapur.
Yernagudiem.
Tanuku.
Nursapur.
Ellore.

WITH his letter above recorded the District Engineer forwards statements of remissions of land assessment and water-tax granted during Faslies 1281 and 1282 (1871-72 and 1872-73) in five taluqs of the Godavery District.

2. *Amalapur Taluq.*—The remissions in this taluq were as shown below :—

					Fasli 1281. RS.	Fasli 1282. RS.
Land Assessment	...	...	...	...	—	278
Water-tax	...	...	...	...	716	2,133
				Total	716	2,411

The remissions are chiefly due to unavoidable causes.

3. *Yernagudiem Taluq.*—In respect of a large proportion of the remissions of both years in this taluq, it has not apparently been ascertained whether they are connected with (caused by) defects in tanks or channels from which the lands receive

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th August 1875.

their supply of water. As taken from the list, in connection with the notes in the remark column, the remissions may be classified as shown below:—

	Fasli 1281. RS.	Fasli 1282. RS.
Remissions ascertained not to be due to defects in works	236	43
Remissions due to defects in tanks or channels ...	3,041	1,168
Remissions, the cause of which has not been actually ascertained	2,632	2,276
Total remissions, Yernagudiem Taluq ...	5,909	3,487

Inspections of the works which have not been yet examined should of course be made as early as practicable, and estimates brought forward for the necessary repairs or improvements. It is only the result of actual examination which can be held to settle the questions involved satisfactorily.

4. The remedies where ascertained are usually stated to be minor masonry works to the tanks or repairs to the bunds.

5. *Tanuku Taluq.*—The remissions in this taluq during both the years under notice were trifling. In Fasli 1281 they in round numbers amounted to Rupees 800, and in Fasli 1282 to Rupees 844. In the former case they were entirely due to insufficient, and in the latter to excessive, rainfall and consequent floods and breaches in the canal embankments. Remedies have either been applied or are designed to prevent a recurrence of the latter class of evils.

6. *Nursapur Taluq.*—In Fasli 1281 the remissions were also insignificant, amounting on the whole to only Rupees 312, including both kist and water-tax. In Fasli 1282 they amounted to Rupees 5,635, viz.:—

	RS.
Kist for crops destroyed by water, &c.	1,107
Water-tax remitted for excess of water	4,287
Do. for insufficiency of water	242

The loss as may be supposed was chiefly due to defects in the drainage arrangements of the delta, but in some cases to the want of improvements in the canals themselves. In almost every instance the subject has been considered, and estimates have been supplied or works have been already carried out by way of remedy.

7. *Ellore Taluq.*—In this taluq the remissions amounted in Fasli 1281 to Rupees 8,513, and in 1282 to Rupees 7,551, as shown below:—

	Fasli 1281. RS.	Fasli 1282. RS.
Waste Land, wet	7,708	244
Dried crops	455	183
Crops destroyed, wet land	...	722
Teerwa Cummi	...	10
Water-tax	350	6,392
Total ...	8,513	7,551

The distinction between remissions granted on account of crops destroyed by want of water and by excess of water is not clearly maintained, and as regards water-tax is in

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th August 1875.

fact not shown at all. The headings used by the Revenue Authorities for these returns furnished to officers of the Public Works Department should be strictly uniform throughout every district, and as far as practicable self explanatory. Native terms should not be used. Apparently the remissions are intended to be classed under heads which might be rendered—

A.—Land Assessment Remission.

- (1.) Irrigable land left waste.
- (2.) Irrigated crops destroyed by absence of water.
- (3.) Do. do. by excess of do.

B.—Water-tax Remission.

- (4.) Irrigable land left waste or crops destroyed from scarcity of water.
- (5.) Do. do. do. from excess of do.

and probably there would be no difficulty in obtaining from subordinates entries so classified. It is further desirable that the percentage on the demand which the remissions represent should be stated.

8. Little real information is given by the Range Officer regarding the connection of the remissions with the condition of the tanks and canals. Out of 181 cases of remissions only 12 have been investigated by aid of actual inspection, and, on the whole, there is apparently insufficient knowledge of the general condition of the minor irrigation works in the range. Remissions to the extent of Rupees 897 only during two years in question have seemingly been traced to defects in tanks.

9. As regards the Bheemaveram Taluq, which is referred to in the District Engineer's letter, it appears that the considerable remissions of Fasli 1282 were caused by extraordinary floods in the Yernacalwa, and that loss on such occasions is unavoidable. In Rajamundry and Peddapur Taluqs the remissions stated to amount to Rupees 24,435 in Fasli 1281 and Rupees 10,648 in Fasli 1282 were caused by abnormally small rainfall.

10. The following is a summary of the remissions under all heads in the several taluqs for which statements have been supplied, or which are referred to in the covering letter of the District Engineer:—

	Fasli 1281. RS.	Fasli 1282. RS.
Amalapur Taluq	716	2,311
Yernagudiem „	5,909	3,487
Tanuku „	800	844
Nursapur „	312	5,635
Ellore „	8,513	7,551
Bheemaveram „	5	6,690
Rajamundry „	24,435	10,648
Peddapur „	...	...
Total ...	40,690	37,166

11. If in conducting the conservancy and administration of the irrigation works of the district, the results of the revenue collections continue to be steadily kept in view, expenditure will be directed with much greater certainty of corres-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th August 1875.*

ponding returns, but it is necessary that inspection of the works involved should not be too long delayed.

(True Extract.)

James Clerk Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department. ✓
" District Engineer, Godavery.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

20 Spare Copies *will follow*

22/12/73
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Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Then return to
The Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION.

&c. &c. &c.

Dated August 13th.

Issued

Recd.

27

Encl.

G. O., 13th August 1875, No. 233A.

AUGUST.

Nos. 231-232

Remissions of Land Assessment and Water-tax granted during Festivals 1231 and 1282 (1871-72 and 1872-73) in five taluqs of the Godavery District.—Passing orders on letter from the District Engineer, Godavery, forwarding statements of —.

No. 1818

Comm. to the Board
of Revenue who will issue
instructions with reference to
para 7 of the foregoing order
29th August 1875

14 Lohit Boudy Kous. 23/11

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