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(2) Date of repair 23-12-69

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. ~~No.~~	1462	~~Press~~ / Mis.
Dated	23-6-1876	~~196~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/1462

No. 1,470.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th June 1876.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 31st March 1876, No. 835, Public Works Department.

ABSTRACT.—*Acquisition of land required for public purposes.*—Letter from the Government of India requesting submission of a report on the working of the rules relative to the —, referred for the opinions of the Board of Revenue and to certain other officers.

THE Government call for an expression of the Board's opinion as to the desirability of any modification of the rules relating to the acquisition of land required for public purposes, which the experience of their working may suggest, with the view of securing to the owner a proper and promptly paid compensation for land and of protecting Government from exorbitant charges. It appears that attempts to require land for State purposes by private negotiation have failed in the Punjab, and it is suggested that in all cases where there is any doubt about title or where land is taken up for any work passing through a number of properties, such as a railway or canal, the procedure under the Act should, as a rule, be adopted.

2. The difficulties stated to have been experienced in acquiring land for State purposes by private negotiation in the Punjab have not, as far as the Board are aware, arisen in this Presidency, and they have already in their Proceedings, dated 19th February 1875, No. 395, on a somewhat similar reference, deprecated any alteration of the rules in the direction of a more extensive application of the provisions of Act X of 1870. They believe that private negotiation is more congenial to the feelings of the people, and that the interests of Government have not suffered, as recourse is always had to the Act when any doubts as to title or other difficulties arise. No instance of defective title resulting from the omission to take up land under the Act has come under the notice of the Board, and a considerable length of line has been recently taken up for the extension of the South Indian Railway without difficulty.

3. The employment of special officers in the case of large works, suggested by the Punjab Government, has been attended with success in this Presidency, also as shown by the report on the settlement of claims to compensation in connection with the Madras Water Works and Chembrambaukum Projects embodied in G.O., dated 11th August 1873, No. 836, and the Board believe that the settlement of claims in connection with the South Indian Railway was facilitated by the appointment of Special Officers in Chingleput, South Arcot, and Tanjore. The chief advantage secured thereby is speedy settlement of claims and prompt payment of compensation; but the Board have not sufficient information as to the average prices paid for land acquired for the new line in the different districts through which it passes, and are not aware whether the rates in districts where Special Officers have been employed were more favorable to Government than those in which the settlement was made by the district officers. No representations of any difficulties encountered in connection with the negotiations have been received from any of the districts concerned.

4. The Collectors of Madras, Chingléput, South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, and Tinnevelly will report on the subject, stating how far difficulties were experienced in acquiring land for the extension of the South Indian Railway by private negotiation, to what extent and by what causes recourse to the Act was necessitated, and whether recent experience of the working of the rules has suggested the desirability of any modifications. The report should be accompanied by a statement showing the extent of land taken up under the Act and by private negotiation respectively with number of years' purchase of the assessment paid under each mode of procedure for different descriptions of land, wet, dry, building sites, &c.

(True Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.
,, the Collector of Madras, with Government Order.
,, the Collector of Chingleput, with do.
,, the Collector of South Arcot, with do.
,, the Collector of Tanjore, with do.
,, the Collector of Trichinopoly, with do.
,, the Collector of Madura, with do.
,, the Collector of Tinnevelly, with do.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. A. Grubert,

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 5TH JUNE 1876, No. 1,470.

Read the Enclosure.

Received

JUNE.
No. 1,470.

Acquisition of land required for public purposes.—Submitting to Government Board's opinion as to desirability of any modification of rules relating to—, and requesting Collectors of certain districts to forward certain statement and to report on the subject.