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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

2096

Press
Mis.

Dated

25-6-1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2096
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

25th June 1877, No. 2,096.

Read the following paper :—

No. 520. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th April 1877,
No. 1,983.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to
H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 18th April
1877, No. 1,105-26 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward the further information relative to the settlement of the Tenkarai Taluq called for in Board's Proceedings, No. 10,921, dated 12th December 1876.

2. The total number of villages in the taluq has been reduced from 197 to 133. Thirty-six of the villages clubbed are inhabited, 21 are uninhabited, and 7 are mere scattered fields.

3. The greater part of the inhabited villages show by their names, such as Tadankulam (the Tadan's tank), Vatiyarkudi irupu (the schoolmaster's residence), Seshagiri Aiyarpulli (Seshagiri Aiyar's puttah), &c., that they are in reality hamlets though hitherto borne in the accounts as separate villages; of the remainder some form part of the same nattam or town; thus Kolasegarapattanam includes four or five villages indicated by separate streets, while others have, for reasons unknown, had their Kovilpattu and Perampattu pagoda and Ayan land; their Shanbattu and Maragadu, Shanars' and Maravars' quarters entered as separate villages. The particulars of clubbing in each case are recorded fully in Enclosure No. 1,* and, though it may seem that

* To be returned.

clubbing has been carried to excess, it should be remembered that a large part of the taluq is a sandy waste that only grows paimyras.

4. There are but two villages in the list that possibly would not have been merged had a made the settlement of the taluq; one of these is inhabited by Lubbies and the other by Fishermen, and these can be sufficiently treated by the appointment of separate munsifs when the village establishments are revised.

5. Since Tenkarai was completed, orders have been issued prohibiting the clubbing of inhabited villages.

6. In paragraph 2 of his memorandum on the settlement of the Tenkarai Taluq Mr. Comyn mentions that the rectification of village boundaries was made with the consent of the villagers concerned except in one or two cases in which the objections raised were groundless, and, since the settlement of this taluq was made, I have received no complaints of inconvenience experienced by changes of boundary.

7. Though no attempt was made to provide a village for each curnam, the number of villages as they now stand exactly corresponds to the number of curnams in the taluq.

8. The villagewar statement of alterations in assessment, Enclosure No. 2,† contains notes

† To be returned.

of the reasons for all changes made. These reasons, as generally explained in paragraph 18 of my letter, No. 724-21, dated 14th April 1875, are attributable (1) to the enhanced value of land proposed to be irrigated by the channels from the Streevigundam Anicut, (2) to the high market value of the fuel now regularly planted and grown on lands formerly assessed at 2 or 3 Annas an acre, and (3) to the advantage that large tracts of dry land will gain when the water from the anicut channels soaks into their sandy soil.

9. The maximum wet rate of Rupees 17½ is the compounded double crop charge on 4,716 acres of first-class irrigated land under the Maradur Anicut channels, and there is a loss of Rupees 10,407 by the imposition of this rate.

10. There was nothing higher in the table of rates sanctioned for this taluq, or I would have applied a higher assessment.

11. In the next taram there is an increase by settlement of Rupees 2,545 by the substitution of a compounded rate of Rupees 15-12-0 for an average of Rupees 15-11-9.

12. In the next taram there is a reduction of Rupees 3,336. In the next there is an increase of Rupees 12,334 by the substitution of Rupees 10 for an average of Rupees 9-3-2. In the next there is an increase of Rupees 5,759 by the substitution of Rupees 7½ for Rupees 6-13-5, and the assessment of the remaining tarams corresponds closely with what was imposed before the total average wet assessment, the settlement, being Rupees 9-15-7 an acre against Rupees 10-7-0 formerly.

13. The maximum dry rate of 5 Rupees is only applied to the very best garden land in the "terai" irrigated by Government wells; the area thus enlarged is but 102 acres. There is a loss of Rupees 1,681 by the imposition of this rate.

14. There is an increase of Rupees 303 in the second-class garden lands, and a total increase of 6-1 to Annas 6-8 for the reasons noted above.

15. The total increase of land assessment is Rupees 23,454, which includes the assessment of the area now irrigated by the Streevaygundam Anicut, and that of a considerably increased area of permanent double crop. This cannot be thought excessive, as it is but five per cent. on the revenue of Fasli 1283, and is certainly lower than I had intended when laying out the taluq for settlement.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From T. VENCATACHARIAR, Special Assistant to the Collector, in charge of the Additional Sub-Collector's Office, Tinnevely, to R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Nanguneri, 28th March 1877, No. 11:—

With reference to your Proceedings, No. 4,032-551, dated 21st November 1876, I have the honor to submit a villagewar account showing the old and new rates in juxtaposition with the extents and the new survey areas as also a total comparative account of a similar description for the different tracts and the taluq of Tenkarai. I beg also to submit information in regard to the clubbing of villages in the taluq.

2. In the villagewar statement of comparison remarks have been entered according to the circumstances of each case against apparent increase or decrease of rates in nunja, baling, and punja; under the heads of baling and punja the remarks will be almost similar in most cases. The former rate for baling Government well lands and ordinary dry lands interspersed in nunja were in many cases low. The settlement sets them all right with reference to the circumstances of situation, soil, i.e., according to the blocks in which they are situated. Where the rates are raised they are rightly raised according to the advantages derived by them. It is only on small area the circumstances of which guarantee enhancement against which the ryots have no real cause of complaint. Punja in this taluq is remarkable for its growth of thorn trees and palmyras which are valuable, the first as firewood sold at high rate for general use, or otherwise used by the owner in preparing palmyra jaggery, and the second valuable in various ways as producing articles of consumption at home and of trade elsewhere. Where the rates are lowered, they are owing to the impoverished circumstances of soil and irrigation in nunja to the transfer of nunja to baling or punja or baling and garden to punja for proper reasons.

3. The comparison between the old and new rates of assessment shown in juxtaposition tractwar and for the whole taluq will speak for itself. The result has come very nicely in all the parts and the whole taluq.

4. The village number by the clubbing and sub-division has also come as if by providence to 133, the number of the curams in the taluq.

5. If the season be favorable or ordinary, the taluq will prosper well, the rates imposed being very fair and suited to the circumstances of each tract of country. For the appreciation of the full benefits of the Streivaygundam Anicut, the time is yet to come soon. The much good will come has been evinced by the filling up of the new tanks in the kar season in the beginning; but unhappily ever since the settlement there have been continued unfavorable seasons, owing to which the river did not bring proper freshes, nor have there been proper falls of rain. Even in this year of famine the river valley of Tenkarai Taluq has fared well, with the exception of a few villages on the easternmost parts. If even the ordinary freshes come on and the southern head sluice and channel are improved, there is no doubt of all your expectations being realized and benefits conferred on a large circle of people who are anxiously awaiting a due extension of nunja cultivation among them and sharing in the benefits liberally conferred upon them by the Government in the construction of the anicut.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Director of Revenue Settlement.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 and 3.—Statements.

In this letter the Director of Revenue Settlement furnishes the information called for in G.O., dated 7th November 1876, No. 1,595, relative to the clubbing of villages and the incidence of the rates imposed in the settlement of the Tenkarai Taluq of the Tinnevely District. The total number of villages was reduced at settlement from 197 to 133; of the 64 villages merged 21 are reported to be mere hamlets, but 2, not specified, are said to require considerate treatment when the village establishments are revised. No complaint has, however, been made of inconvenience resulting from the arrangements made, and, as the settlement was made two years ago, it is too late to make alterations in boundary now. The Director, however, mentions that in future settlements care will be taken to keep each inhabited village separate and distinct.

2. As regards the incidence of the rates of assessment, the principal increase is in the Rupees 15-12-0, Rupees 10, and Rupees 7-8-0 compounded wet rates and in the dry rates generally; in the first taram, both wet and dry, there was a considerable decrease, but the increase in the others is stated to be attributable to the extensive compounding for permanent double crop, and to the improved water-supply proposed to be furnished from the Streivaygundam Anicut; the average of the settlement rates, both wet and dry, closely approximate to those that existed prior to settlement, and seem to be fairly well suited to the improved circumstances of the taluq.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

No. 521. ORDER THEREON, 25th June 1877, No. 2,096.

Land Revenue, No. 11.

His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that the explanation submitted in these Proceedings is satisfactory.

2. The settlement has been made with care by very experienced officers, and is accepted by the Government. The results appear reasonable.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Ed. A. F. Goodall.

2596
3

No. 1,983.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 30th April 1877.

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* To be returned.

clubbing has been carried to excess, it should be remembered that a large part of the taluq is a sandy waste that only grows palmyras.

4. There are but two villages in the list that possibly would not have been merged had I made the settlement of the taluq; one of these is inhabited by Lubbies and the other by Fishermen, and these can be sufficiently treated by the appointment of separate munsifs when the village establishments are revised.

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Settlement of Tenkarai Taluq of Tivernally
District.—Instituting the explanation in connection with the clubbing of villages is satisfactory and accepting the —, the results of passing reasons.

REVENUE.
of 1877) 23rd June.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
Ac., Ac., Ac.

Dated June 25th.

G.O. 25th June 1877, No. 2,092.

JUNE.
Nos. 520-621.

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(True Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two statements to be returned.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement,
to the Acting Collector of Tinnevely.

Ed. J. W. Fischer.

2096/5

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

No. 2550

From Progs. of the B^d. of Rev.

Dated 30 April 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

I think that the explanation is satisfactory - the fact is that the present rates have always been too high on the average far higher than other districts and we can not let them down without a loss of

Revenue Department

1877.

Board of Revenue, MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 30th April 1877, No. 1,983.

2096/5-1177

For order: C.M.

Received by Mr. J. J. J.

APRIL. No. 1,983.

Settlement of Tenkasi Taluk of Tinnevely District - Stating Board's views with reference to letter from Director of Revenue Settlement furnishing information called for relative to the clearing of villages and the incidence of the rates of assessment imposed in -

415.57
With order

The standard Pro
which can not be
face. The true
belly people are
accustomed to
high rates; they
do not keep
standard of culti-
vation & the diff-
is one of our most
progressive

976 1207

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I am so weary
for hesitating to
accept this letter!

It has been written
with care by my
Experienced Officers
& it would appear
true to the reasonable

[J.H.]