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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No. 798 — Press / ~~Mis.~~

Dated 23-2-1877 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

KVR

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd February 1877.

No. 739. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th February 1877, No. 612:—

Read the following letter from J. G. HORSFALL, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 5th February 1877, No. 38:—

As information has reached me from all parts of the district from which it is clear that remission of assessment on punjah land will be generally needed in the current fasli, I have the honor to submit proposals on the subject, and to request that the Board's orders may be communicated to me at an early date to enable the several Divisional Officers to commence the Jammabandi of their taluqs without delay.

2. The scantiness of the south-west monsoon early in the season and the almost total failure of the north-east monsoon except on the coast line at a later period have resulted in a considerable tract of punjah land being left waste. Crops are reported to have totally failed in some places, and there is no doubt that throughout the district generally the yield has been unprecedentedly low. A comparative statement of the rain-fall for three years is shown below:—

	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.
April	0·2	0·8	1·3
May	6·7	2·9	1·8
June	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
July	3·9	2·2	2·5
August	5·1	10·2	6·2
September	11·3	6·5	3·3
October	9·4	4·3	2·2
November	6·2	4·4	4·9
December	2·3	1·7	0·5
January	0·4	0·0	0·0
February	0·0	0·0	0·0
March	0·1	0·0	0·0
Total ...	48·6	33·9	24·7

3. Before leaving the district Mr. Garstin had directed all Tahsildars to report on the necessity for granting punjah remissions in their taluqs, and I beg to subjoin a summary of the several replies received together with the opinions of the Divisional Officers.

4. The Tahsildar of Cuddalore reports that the only punjah remission required in his taluq is for waste in eighteen villages in the south-western portion. He does not consider any other remission required for dry lands as the yield of cumboo has been nearly equal to the average, as cholum was grown over a greater extent than usual and yielded a fair outturn, and as though varagu does not look so well as it should, yet it is likely to yield a harvest of from ten to fifteen kalums per cawni. The Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the taluq considers, however, that in some places varagu and puldikar (rain-fed paddy in dry lands) have already perished while the general condition of these crops is far from satisfactory. He therefore proposes a remission of from 25 to 50 per cent. of the assessment on lands grown with these crops as well as a remission of the full assessment on all dry lands left waste.

5. In Chedambram, the Tahsildar reports that cumboo and varagu yielded a half crop in the Srimushnam Division, while they failed altogether in the Buvanigiri Division; a three-fourths of a full crop is expected from cholum. Raggi has failed generally as well as puldikar paddy.

there was no failure of cumboo on irrigated land, while in those tracts where there was no irrigation the yield is estimated to have varied from one-half to three-fourths. Cholum is likely to give a half crop, and raggi from one-fourth to three-fourths according as irrigation was resorted to or not. As regards this taluq the Tahsildar has not furnished information of any value beyond a general report to the effect that punjah remission to the extent of 75,000 Rupees is likely to be required, as varagu and raggi have failed either wholly or partially in 200 out of the 300 odd villages in the taluq. Mr. Wallace, however, considers the Tahsildar's estimate to be too high.

7. The Kallakurchi Tahsildar is of opinion that punjah remission is required throughout the taluq. He recommends remissions at certain percentages varying from 25 to 50 per cent. on lands cultivated with cumboo, raggi, cholum, and puldikar, and a general remission of 50 per cent. on all punjah waste, and estimates the total amount of dry remission for his taluq at 65,000 Rupees. Mr. Wallace considers that this taluq has suffered to a greater extent than Vridachellam, varagu having failed entirely and the other crops being very poor.

[illegible] puldikar paddy, ground-nut, and horse-gram are reported to have failed throughout the taluq either partially or entirely, while the yield in cumboo and cholum is stated to be somewhat less than that of ordinary years.

9. In Trinomalai, the cholum harvest was fair, the yield of cumboo was very partial, while varagu and raggi failed almost entirely. The Tahsildar recommends remission of the full assessment on raggi and varagu as well as on punjah waste and of one-third of the assessment on lands cultivated with cumboo.

10. The Deputy Collector on General Duties who has charge of these two taluqs recommends a remission of 75 per cent. of the assessment on dry waste in Trinomalai and of 50 per cent. in Trikalore; he considers that the cumboo crop was fair in Trikalore, and that no remission is called for on lands cultivated with cholum in either of these taluqs. He recommends the full assessment to be remitted on raggi, varagu, and puldikar paddy as these have all perished. In the Chengam Division the cumboo crop failed entirely, and Sri Baliah proposes that the full assessment should be remitted there, and that 33 per cent. should be remitted for the same crop in the other parts of the Trinomalai taluq.

11. The Head Assistant Collector proposes a remission of the full assessment on all lands shown with varagu and paddy (rain-fed in dry lands), and in the Gingee Division a remission of one-third the assessment on cumboo cultivation.

12. I cannot advocate full remission of the punjah assessment in any case.

1*st*.—Because punjah remission is altogether an act of grace.

2*nd*.—Because entire shavi very rarely occurs on punjah land.

3*rd*.—Because two or three crops can be had from the ground and therefore the loss of one is not quite irreparable as in the case of wet lands;

and, 4th, because to grant such remissions would encourage idle speculations in land, and thus prove permanently detrimental to the revenue.

13. Neither do I consider any remission necessary in the case of dry lands devoted to the culture of the pulses, indigo, ground-nut, oil seeds, &c., as the high rate of prices procurable for these articles in a season like this will more than make up for any losses caused by the scant outturn of these crops.

14. The only cases remaining for consideration will then be dry waste and dry lands cultivated with the food-grains.

15. As regards dry waste I propose a uniform remission of 33⅓ per cent. on all lands which may have been brought under cultivation during any of the last three years. The object of this limitation is to exclude what is known as "mamul waste" or waste not due to the peculiar character of the season from the benefit of remission.

16. As regards the food-grains no remission seems to be called for in the case of cholum as the crop is generally reported to have been fair throughout the district.

17. For cumboo I would recommend a remission varying from one-third to half the assessment at the discretion of the settling officer according to the extent of failure in each tract, and for raggi, varagu and puldikar paddy a remission varying from half to three-quarter of the assessment at the discretion of Divisional Officers.

18. In the Cuddalore taluq it will be sufficient to grant remission for punjah waste and for varagu and puldikar paddy.

The Board are of opinion that a remission of one-third on dry waste (other than mamool waste), and land on which there has been total failure of the only crop, even a partial one, has been raised the present high prices leave a good margin will amply meet the necessity of the case; and this remission is sanctioned. When any to the ryot. As to the Cuddalore taluq, the remission should be allowed only in the specially unfortunate villages mentioned by the Tahsildar.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 740. ORDER THEREON, 23rd February 1877, No. 798.

Land Revenue, No. 41.

RECORDED: the Board properly notice the compensation of high prices. They are doubtless watching carefully the tendency of taluk officials to recommend excessive remissions.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd L. F. Zephir.

Govt. of India 1877 March

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE

Dated February, 23rd.

Read.

G.O. 23rd February 1877, No. 794.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 739-740.

Remission of assessment on dry lands in Bardoli.—Recording Board's Proceedings sanctioning with remark that Board properly, no compensation of high prices, and directing watch carefully tendency of taluq officials recommend excessive remissions.

Letters from Collectors of Surat & Kaira forwarding Revenue Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 13th February 1877

Read the following

No. 38.

From

J. G. Forsyth Esqr

Collector of

Surat

To

H. E. Sutton Esqr

Secretary to the

Board of Revenue &c &c &c

Sir,

In reforming the assessments hitherto levied from all parts of the District from which it is clear that excessive assessment on Punjabi land will be generally needed in the current Fasli I have the honor to submit proposals on the subject

and to request that the Board's orders may be communicated to me at an early date to enable the several Divisional officers to commence the Famine-bunds of their Talugs without delay.

2. The rainfall of the South West monsoon only in the season and the almost total failure of the North East monsoon except on the coast line at a later period have resulted in a considerable tract of Punjab lands lying left-waste. Crops are reported to have totally failed in some places and there is no doubt that throughout the District generally the yield has been unprecedentedly low. At comparative statement of the rainfall for 3 years is entered in the margin.

	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.
April—	0·2	0·8	1·3
May—	6·7	2·9	1·8
June—	3·0	0·9	2·0
July—	3·9	2·2	2·8
August—	5·1	10·2	6·2
September—	11·3	6·5	3·3
October—	9·4	4·3	2·2
November—	6·2	4·4	4·9
December—	2·3	1·7	0·5
January—	0·4	0·0	0·0
February—	0·0	0·0	0·0
March—	0·1	0·0	0·0
	48·6	33·9	24·7

3. Before leaving the District Collector has directed all Talukdars to report on the necessity for granting Punjah remissions in their Talugs and I beg to submit a summary of the several re-

replies received together
with the opinions of the Divi-
sional officers.

The Tahsildar
of Cheddalore reports
that the only Punjab varie-
ty received in his Taluq
is for wastē in 18 villages in
the South Western portion.
He does not consider any
remission required for dry
lands as the yield of Cum-
bu has been nearly equal
to the average, as Cholum
was grown over a greater extent
than usual and yielded
a fair out-turn and as though
Varagu does not look as well
as it should yet is likely to
yield

yield a harvest of from
10 to 15 Kalums per Cawnie.
The Temporary Deputy Col-
lector in charge of the Taluq
considers however that in
some places varagu and
Pulladiku (Rainfed paddy
dry lands) have already pro-
vided while the general con-
dition of these crops is far
from satisfactory. He there-
fore proposes a remission
of from 25 to 50 per cent
of the assessment on lands
grown with these crops as well
as a remission of the full
assessment on all dry
lands left waste.

5. The Cheddalore Tahsildar reports that Cumbu
and

and Kangra yielded a half
crop in the Amritsar
Division while they failed
together in the Burangir
division; a three fourths of
full crop is expected from
Tolum. Raggi has failed
generally as well as Pulsdikar
[illegible]
6. Dr Vredenbellum
the Tubbacco crop states that
Varagu has failed extensively;
there was no failure of Kambu
on irrigated land while in
those tracts where there was
no irrigation the yield is
estimated to have varied from
one half to three fourths.
Cholum is likely to give a
half crop and Raggi
four one fourth to three fourth
according to irrigation was
recorded to crops: etc
-gards this Taluq the Tahs
-ildar has not furnished
information of any value
beyond a general report
to the effect that Paruyat
75,000 Rupees is likely to be
required as Varagu and
Raggi have failed either
wholly or partially in 200
out of the 300 odd villages
in the Taluq. We believe
however consider the Tah-
-ildar's estimate to be too
high

high.

7. The Kallakurichi Tahsildar is of opinion that Punjab remission required throughout the Taluq. He recommends remissions at certain percentages varying from 25 to 50 per cent on lands cultivated with Cumbu, Raggi, Cholam and Pulsetkar and a general remission of 50 per cent on all Punjab waste and estimates the total amount of dry remission for his Taluq at 65,000 Rs. The Collector considers that this Taluq has suffered to a greater extent than Vri-

Vriddachellam, Varagu having failed entirely and the other crops being very poor.

8. In Tirukoilur, Varagu, Raggi, Pulsetkar paddy, groundnut and horsegram are reported to have failed throughout the Taluq either partially or entirely while the yield of Cholam is stated to be somewhat less than that of ordinary years.

9. In Tirumalai the Cholam harvest was fair—the yield of Cumbu not very partial, while Varagu and Raggi failed almost entirely. The Tahsildar recommends

Re

remission of the full assess-
=ment on Koggi and Vanaju
as well as on Penyah waste
and of ½ of the assessment
on lands cultivated with
Cumbu.

10. The Deputy Collector
on general duties who has
charge of these two Talugs
recommends a remission
of 75 per cent. of the assess-
=ment on dry waste in Tri-
=nomalai and of 50 per
cent in Trikalore; he con-
=siders that the Cumbu
crop was fair in Trikalur
and that no remission
is called for on lands cul-
tivated with Cholum
in either of these Talugs. He
recommends the full assess-
=ment to be remitted on Ko-
=gi, Vanagi and Pulditan
paddy as these have all
perished. In the Cheruvai
Division the Cumbu crop
failed entirely and the
British proposes that the
full assessment should
be remitted there and
that 33 per cent should
be remitted for the same
crop in the other parts of
the Trinomalai Talug.

11. The Head Assistant
Collector proposes a remission
of

of the full assessment on
all lands sown with Varagu
and paddy (raised in dry
wet), and in the Ganjam
Division a remission of ⅓
the assessment on Cumbu
cultivation.

12. I cannot advocate
full remission of the Pun-
=jah assessment in any case;
1st Because Punjah re-
=mission is altogether an
act of grace;
2? Because entire shorti
may rarely occurs on Pun-
=jah land;
3? Because 2 or 3 crops
can be had from the
ground and therefore the

the loss of one is not quite
irreparable as in the case
of wet lands;
and 4th because to grant
such remissions would en-
= courage idle speculations
in land and thus prove
permanently detrimental
to the revenue.

13. Neither do I consider
any remission necessary in
the case of dry lands devoted
to the culture of the pulses,
indigo, groundnut, oilseeds
&c. as the high rate of prices
procurable for these articles
in a season like this will
more than make up for
any losses caused by the

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scanty out-turn of these crops.

14. The only cases remaining for consideration will then be dry waste and dry lands cultivated with the food grains.

15. As regards dry waste I propose a uniform remission of 33 1/3 per cent on all lands which may have been brought under cultivation during any of the last 3 years. The object of this limitation is to exclude what is known as "chronic waste" or waste not due to the peculiar character of the season from the benefit of

Lil reserved for posterity

of remission.

16. As regards the food grains no remission seems to be called for in the case of Chalisa as the crop is generally reported to have been fair throughout the District.

17. For Cuttack I would recommend a remission varying from 1/3 to 1/2 the difference at the discretion of the settling officer according to the extent of failure in each tract and for Rabi, Kharif and Paldihar paddy a remission varying from 1/2

1/2 to 3/4 of the assessment at the discretion of Divisional officers.

In the Cuddalore Taluq it will be sufficient to grant remission for Punjah crops and for Kanagu and Puderkad) paddy South crop.

Have you Cuddalore 5th February 1877 } Sign'd J. G. Horsfall Actg Collector.

The Board are of opinion that a remission of one third on dry crops (other than kanmel crops) and on land on which there has been total failure of the only crop sown, will amply meet the necessity of the case; and this remission is

is sanctioned. When any portion, even a partial one has been raised, the present high prices leave a good margin to the ryot. As to the Cuddalore Taluq, the remission should be allowed only in the specially unfortunate villages mentioned by the Tahsildar.

I have &c
Sign'd H. C. Stokes
Actg Secretary

To
The Collector of Arcot.

True Copy
W Lushington
Actg Secretary

To
The Additional Secretary to
Government
Revenue Department

Sd H C
Ls

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In S. Ct. Bd. of Rev. 23-2
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