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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	876	Press Mis.
Dated	3. 6.	1887 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

3rd June 1881, No. 876.

READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER:—

No. 59. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th April 1881, No. 613.

Read the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., First Member, Board of Revenue, in charge of the Settlement Department, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd March 1881, No. 659-11:—

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Board and Government, copy of my instructions to the Officer in charge of No. IV Party, Revenue Settlement, in connection with G.O., dated 16th instant, No. 453.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Proceedings of the First Member, Board of Revenue, in charge of the Settlement Department, Madras, dated 23rd March 1881, No. 658-A-71.

Read the following:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 16th March 1881, No. 453.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on Revenue Board's Proceedings submitting letter from Commissioner recording his opinion as to the way in which the Settlement of Toda puttass should be conducted, and Mr. Puckle's scheme for the settlement of lands on Nilgiris.

COMMUNICATED to the Special Assistant Commissioner in charge of No. IV Party, Settlement Department.

Mr. Benson will keep carefully in view the remarks of Government conveyed in para. 1 when dealing with lands which have been alienated by the Todas temporarily or permanently from the purpose for which they were originally granted. Each case will have to be dealt with on its merits, and the only rule of general application that can be laid down is, that where such alienations are recognized at settlement, the highest rate of estate assessment, Rs. 2 per acre, should be imposed. To prevent future alienations the puttass granted to Todas at the settlement should have a notice printed in red letters that the land therein specified has been granted for grazing purposes to the Todas, and that they have no power to transfer it by sale, gift, or otherwise.

2. Adverting to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Order of Government, it will be observed that the permission to grant small patches of land on putta under Rules X and XVI is limited to the currency of the settlement, and that the area to be so granted by the Settlement Officer is restricted to a maximum of 100 acres in the case of each holding or estate. A monthly return in the form appended to these Proceedings showing the extent of waste land so granted will be submitted not later than the 7th of each month to the Commissioner. In regard to the rate of assessment to be imposed on land newly applied for on putta within circuits, the First Member of the Board of Revenue, in charge of the Settlement Department, is of opinion that some discretion should be vested in the settling officer. Under Rule X the rate is limited to 10 annas per acre, whilst additions to estates under Rule XVI will be charged Rs. 2. In making this distinction Mr. Puckle had in view the fact that, as a rule, the cultivation within circuits embraced inferior grains, the market value of which gave but a small margin of profit, whilst that of the estates comprised valuable products, tea, coffee, and chinchona, which could easily bear the higher rate of assessment. Recent inquiries, however, have shown that in some circuits the cultivation of low-priced grains has almost ceased and has given place to coffee, a good deal of the land having been bought up by European planters and included in their estates. In these circumstances it is submitted that applicants for waste on putta even though it may fall within a circuit boundary may well be required to pay Rs. 2 per acre, and it is recommended that Mr. Benson be allowed to impose this maximum rate where circumstances seem to justify it, and applicants for waste are ready to pay it.

2012-6

Original

Gobt. of (1881) Madras.
REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated June 3rd.

Printed 9th.

Read.

Encl.

G.O., 3rd June 1881, No. 876.

JUNE.
Nos. 59-60.

SUBJECT.

Settlement of Toda Pattas and Lands on the Nilgiris.—Recording Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting copy of the instructions issued by the Settlement Department on Government Order regarding the —; and approving the suggestion of the First Member of the Board of Revenue to vest in the settling officer the discretion of imposing an assessment of Rs. 2 per acre on waste land newly applied for.

C N 2322

The only noticeable points in this paper seem to be the slight modifications of Mr Puckler's rules X & XVII (vide paras 2 & 3 respectively of Mr Sullivan's instructions).

* approved in paras 2 & 3 of G.O. 16 March 81 N 1683

No. 613.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 8th April 1881.

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2. Adverting to paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Order of Government, it will be observed that the permission to grant small patches of land on putta under Rules X and XVI is limited to the currency of the settlement, and that the area to be so granted by the Settlement Officer is restricted to a maximum of 100 acres in the case of each holding or estate. A monthly return in the form appended to these Proceedings showing the extent of waste land so granted will be submitted not later than the 7th of each month to the Commissioner. In regard to the rate of assessment to be imposed on land newly applied for on putta within circuits, the First Member of the Board of Revenue, in charge of the Settlement Department, is of opinion that some discretion should be vested in the settling officer. Under Rule X the rate is limited to 10 annas per acre, whilst additions to estates under Rule XVI will be charged Rs. 2. In making this distinction Mr. Puckle had in view the fact that, as a rule, the cultivation within circuits embraced inferior grains, the market value of which gave but a small margin of profit, whilst that of the estates comprised valuable products, tea, coffee, and chinchona, which could easily bear the higher rate of assessment. Recent inquiries, however, have shown that in some circuits the cultivation of low-priced grains has almost ceased and has given place to coffee, a good deal of the land having been bought up by European planters and included in their estates. In these circumstances it is submitted that applicants for waste on putta even though it may fall within a circuit boundary may well be required to pay Rs. 2 per acre, and it is recommended that Mr. Benson be allowed to impose this maximum rate where circumstances seem to justify it, and applicants for waste are ready to pay it.

3. Paragraph 4 deals with Rules XV, XVII and XVIII. With reference to Rule XVII, Mr. Benson will observe that in dealing with excess areas in estates, 8 annas per acre on the entire survey area is to be the *minimum* charge, but where it is satisfactorily established that the owner of an estate is in occupation of land for which he can show no title and for which he is paying no assessment, such portion should be charged according to sanctioned rates notwithstanding that thereby the assessment over the entire survey area would be in excess of 8 annas per acre. It is not, however, considered desirable that any excess within 10 per cent. over the supposed area should be noticed.

30/6 March/81 No 203. 5

Revenue 1881. *Depart.*
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

No 2322.

To
THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Print
3/6

H E. the Governor

Print
3/6
Dated April 8th.

Printed th.

Received *W. H. H. H.*

PROCEEDINGS, 8TH APRIL 1881, No. 613.

2 Apr 28/4/81

APRIL.
No. 613.

Settlement of Toda Puttas and Lands on the
Nilgiris.—Submitting to Government copy of
instructions issued in the Settlement Depart-
ment to Officer in charge of No IV Party in
connection with Government Order regarding —

Recorded
Being given at the close of the
the two members present
3rd June 1881

By the Board of Revenue
10/11/81

C28-57-81
R3-1-81

59-60