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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	393.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17-4-1882.	195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th March 1882, No. 794.

Read—the following letter from H. P. GORDON, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st February 1882, No. 628 :—

I have the honor to request the sanction of the Board for the grant of dry remission in the marginally-noted taluks of this district during the Jamabandi now in progress.

Bellary.		Harpanahalli.
Alúr.		Hadgalli.

2. The rainfall of the past cultivation year has, in parts of these taluks, been exceedingly deficient. There was in many cases no Mungari crop at all, and it is now clear that the Hingari crop is a failure. The cotton is a trifle better than the cholam in these parts.

3. The rainfall figures given below are those of the kusbah villages, but in no case are these villages recommended for remission. The rainfall in the afflicted tracts was, therefore, probably even less than that registered at the kusbahs;—

Rainfall at	In 1881.	In 1880.	Average of 1873-74-75.
Bellary	13.77	20.98	21.50
Alúr	12.14	22.95	28.73
Harpanahalli	12.87	33.42	21.12
Hadgalli	15.70	27.54	24.30

4. In Bellary Taluk, the failure was chiefly in the villages on the banks of the Hagari and between that river and Bellary. The villages to the south and west of the kusbah were also affected. Of the total rainfall, nearly one half fell in the month of September.

5. The villages recommended for remission in Alúr Taluk are, with few exceptions, those adjoining the afflicted tract in Bellary, and situated near the right bank of the Hagari, and between that river and the Arikera Hills.

6. In Harpanahalli and Hadgalli the villages which suffered most are those which lie in the southernmost projection of the Hadgalli Taluk, on the banks of the Tungabhadra and in the adjoining tongue of land which the Harpanahalli Taluk here protrudes into Hadgalli.

7. The number of villages reported to be affected by drought is as follows:—

In Bellary Taluk	72 villages.
„ Harpanahalli Taluk	14 „
„ Hadgalli Taluk	18 „
„ Alúr Taluk	20 „
Total	124 „

It may perhaps be necessary to include some remission in Ráyadrug Taluk, but I am not as yet satisfied of the necessity. There was no Mungari, but there was good rain in September and October and a fortunate fall of rain in January of this year.

9. The sums recommended for remission in the four taluks specified aggregate more than a lakh of rupees, of which about one half represents the loss in Bellary Taluk.

10. The total remissions will probably not fall short of that amount, and, as the figures do not generally include any remission on account of waste in holdings, will possibly considerably exceed the above estimate.

11. I would propose that I be authorized to direct Settlement Officers to remit, in all villages where the average crop reaped for either Mungari or Hingari has not exceeded a 4-anna crop, two-thirds of the assessment on all dry land after excluding such waste in holdings as is in ordinary years left fallow.

12. I propose to myself conduct the Jamabandi of the Bellary Taluk, and as I am commencing it at once, I have to request the very early orders of the Board upon these proposals.

Resolution—dated 16th March 1882, No. 394.

Under the circumstances stated, the Board sanction the granting of remissions on dry lands in the taluks of Bellary, Haranahalli, Alur and Hadgalli.

2. The Board are of opinion that remissions on cultivated lands should be granted on the principles enunciated in Board's Proceedings, dated 9th February 1882, No. 432, a copy of which is herewith forwarded. In regard to waste lands the assessment on the entire waste may be remitted if the cultivated lands of the individuals have yielded less than a 6-anna crop, but if they have yielded more, the assessment of only such waste as is not usually left fallow need be remitted.

3. It is to be distinctly understood that the concession is allowed as an exceptional measure of relief, considered to be necessary in consequence of the impoverished condition of the people from the effects of the recent famine.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary.

To the Collector of the Bellary District, with
copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 9th February 1882, No. 432.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with do.

ORDER—dated 17th April 1882, No. 393, Revenue.

Land Revenue, No. 15.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

60 Copies.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 9th February 1882.

Read the following papers:—

From A. J. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Karur, 2nd February 1882, No. A.

I REGRET very much to be obliged to report the necessity for dry remissions, of which I was not aware, having newly joined the district when the estimates of probable Land, &c., Revenue went in.

2. The rainfall has been very deficient, especially in the south-west monsoon season. The total figure from April to December, the portion of the year devoted to cultivation, was a little under 19 inches for the whole district; the Erode Taluk receiving only 17.69, the Palladam Taluk 13.95, and the Dhárápura Taluk only 15.03.

3. The total average rainfall for the district in 1875 was 17.12 and in 1876 22.33 for the same time, April to December, and those were famine years.

The district rainfall, averaged for the same months of 1877, 1878, 1879 and 1880, gives 26.8 inches, and for the corresponding years in the previous decade, 1867—1870, inches 21.29, while in 1871 there fell 26.00 inches.

It will thus be seen that the present year is worse than one of the famine years and nearly as bad as the other; as regards rainfall, very much worse than the average of the four years preceding it and worse than the average of the corresponding years of the previous decade.

4. In the months of April, May, June and July, or the earlier cultivating season, the average district rainfall was 12.8. But the Erode Taluk received only 3.52, the Palladam Taluk 3.20, and the Dhárápura 2.74.

The consequence was that the early crops in those taluks proved entire failures.

5. In Erode Taluk a large proportion, 12.26 inches, of the rain that did fall came in the months of August and September, too late to save the early crops and too soon for the later series, usually sown about October. Consequently this taluk is the worst. The Sub-Collector has most carefully gone through the greater part of the villages of this taluk, and he considers the earlier crops an almost total failure and the later likely to yield, the gram not over one-fourth, cholam one-eighth, and cotton one-third. In some comparatively rare spots things are better, as near the villages. The garden crops are fortunately everywhere good. He thinks the taluk has been over-assessed, the soil being very poor and much deteriorated by extensive and careless cultivation and bad seasons, and that the ryots have as a body become very poor since the famine, so much so, that had last year not been good a very large number must have been ruined.

6. He proposes full remission of waste including fields, small portions only of which have been cultivated; this he estimates at 22,000; also 40 per cent. upon lands assessed at 90,000, and 20 per cent. upon lands assessed at 20,000.

The punjah beriz being 2,80,000, deduct 60,000 for gardens.

Of the remainder 2,20,000, the remissions would be, waste...	22,000
40 per cent. on 90,000	36,000
20 per cent. on 20,000	4,000
	<hr/>
	62,000

leaving a balance of 1,58,000 to be collected from the dry lands and a total of 2,18,000 on the punjah beriz of the taluk.

I see every reason to believe these proposals are moderate and at the same time necessary, and I beg to recommend them strongly.

7. As regards Palladam Taluk, I have myself been over a considerable part of the taluk, and although it is true the early crops were a failure, still in the later season the rain fell at more favorable intervals than in Erode, though in less quantity, and the crops now on the ground are in a fair condition. I am going shortly to recommend liberal measures for the relief of the ryots as respects old arrears, of which relief they stand very much in need, and I think that for this taluk full remission for waste will suffice. I cannot tell accurately what this will come to, but roughly estimate it at Rs. 25,000.

This taluk has suffered so much from loss of cattle in the famine and subsequent unfavorable seasons, as well as other causes into which I shall enter some in detail in my report on the arrears, that a proportion ranging from one-third to half of the ryots in many villages have altogether disappeared. There is ample reason, I submit, for lenience in a season like this.

8. As regards the Dhárápúram Taluk, the Sub-Collector states that, though on the whole no remissions are required, the late crops having done well, yet in about twenty villages this is not the case, and he recommends, after a personal inspection of the area in question, the total remission of waste and 20 per cent. of the punjah beriz of those villages. The rainfall at Dhárápúram itself during the later season appears to have been moderately favorable; but it is known to vary much within the limits of a taluk, and I am not at all surprised to find that a particular tract in a taluk otherwise fairly well off is in need of remission. I beg to recommend the Sub-Collector's proposals, which are estimated to come to Rs. 25,000.

9. In the Coimbatore Taluk the crops of thirteen villages were almost entirely destroyed by caterpillars; in some two and in some three successive sowings were tried but largely failed. The Assistant Collector has been requested to visit and report upon these villages; his report has not yet been received, but I see no reason to doubt the accuracy of the Tahsildar's report, which has been submitted after a special inspection; he recommends 50 per cent. of the dry assessment, and I beg to support his proposal.

The remissions will amount to about Rs. 10,000.

10. The dry remissions thus asked for will probably amount to—

	RS.
Erode Taluk	62,000
Palladam Taluk	25,000
Dhárápúram Taluk	25,000
Coimbatore Taluk	10,000
Total	1,22,000

Telegram from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th February 1882.

My letter about dry remissions, Palladam Taluk waste. Please alter to one lakh, not twenty-five thousand rupees.

With the foregoing letter the Collector of Coimbatore submits proposals for the grant of remission of assessment on dry lands in the taluks of Erode, Palladam, and Dhárápúram, owing to the very insufficient rainfall and the consequent loss of crops in those taluks.

2. The early crops in the taluks specified are stated to have failed entirely, and in the Erode Taluk the outturn of the later crops was also very poor, ranging between one-fourth and one-eighth of the average outturn. The Sub-Collector has visited the taluks of Erode and Dhárápúram, and the Collector the taluk of Palladam, and they are satisfied that remissions are necessary.

3. In the taluk of Coimbatore also the Collector recommends the grant of remissions on dry land in about thirteen villages, in which the crops are stated to have been almost entirely destroyed by caterpillars. The Collector has ordered his Assistant to visit and report upon the villages, but he has no doubt of the accuracy of the Tahsildar's report on which the recommendation is based.

4. The Collector does not explain the principle upon which he proposes to grant remissions, merely stating that in Erode the whole waste will be remitted with a reduction of assessment on certain cultivated lands at 40 and 20 per cent., that in Palladam the waste alone will be remitted, and that in Dhárápúram the waste will be remitted, together with 20 per cent. of the assessment on cultivated lands, in portions of the taluk where the crops have suffered most. In the affected villages of the Coimbatore Taluk he proposes to remit 50 per cent. of the assessment.

	RS.
Erode Taluk	62,000
Palladam	1,00,000
Dhárápúram	25,000
Coimbatore	10,000
Total	1,97,000

5. The total amount of the remissions to be granted is estimated at Rs. 1,97,000 as shown in the margin.

6. The Board are satisfied that indulgence is called for, especially as the ryots have not yet fully recovered from the effects of the famine, but care must be taken that remissions do not reach those who do not require them. The assessment on waste lands may be remitted as recommended, but the remissions in regard to cultivated lands must be granted at a certain percentage of the assessment in definite tracts, as prescribed by the rules, not with reference to the circumstances of particular fields. No remission need be granted when the average crop is 6 annas or more, but when it is less, remissions may be granted at the following rates:—

When the crop is between 6 and 4 annas, at 50 per cent.
Do. do. 4 and 2 annas, at 75 per cent.
When it is less than 2 annas, at 85 per cent.

7. The attention of the First Member in charge of the Settlement Department will be drawn to the Sub-Collector's remark, that the Erode Taluk has been over-assessed, for such notice as he may consider necessary.

8. With reference to the Collector's remark that he will shortly recommend liberal measures for the relief of the ryots as respects old arrears, it is observed that the Board pointed out so long ago as Board's Proceedings, 19th April 1880, No. 524. April 1880 that outstanding arrears on dry lands might be recommended to be written off, and it is to be regretted that full advantage has not yet been taken of the permission. The Collector's attention will now be drawn to Board's Proceedings, dated 1st December 1881, No. 2999, in which it was requested that all such arrears as cannot be collected within the current official year without hardship to the ryots should be at once recommended to be written off.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.

" First Member, Board of Revenue, in charge of the Settlement Department.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

F. A. Grubert.

1882.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

To
THE COLLECTOR OF COIMBATORE,
&c., &c., &c.

Printed February 18th.

Received

PROCEEDINGS, 9TH FEBRUARY 1882, No. 432.

Passing orders on letter from Collector of
Coimbatore submitting proposals for the grant
of remission of assessment on dry lands in the
taluks of Erode, Palladam, and Dhárápura.

No. 794.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th March 1882.

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5. The villages recommended for remission in Alúr Taluk are, with few exceptions, those adjoining the afflicted tract in Bellary, and situated near the right bank of the Hagari, and between that river and the Arikera Hills.

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UNDER the circumstances stated, the Board sanction the granting of remissions on dry lands in the taluks of Bellary, Harpanahalli, Alur and Hadgalli.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)


Secretary.

To the Collector of the Bellary District, with copy of Board's Proceedings,
dated 9th February 1882, No. 432.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with 2.

Revenue Department
No. 1787

1882.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF THE
BELLARY DISTRICT.

Printed March th.

Received — 31st

PROCEEDINGS, 16TH MARCH 1882, No. 794.

SANCTIONING grant of remissions of assessment
on dry land in Bellary, Alur, Harpanahalli and
Hadgalli Taluks of Bellary District.

With an order.

G.O. No. 393

Recorded.

715

17 June 1882

21 To the Board of Revenue
By 6-5-82

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Grat
17/4

21/4

C. S.

Inc: 1

2-1-11-82

C/3-4-82
R/7-4-82

12/6/97
19-9-86
I. No. 4276/82

Original
Dist. of (1882) Madras.
REVENUE.

Order No. 4276/82

Order, dated 17th April 1882, No. 380.

Revisions of Assessment — on dry land in
certain parts of Bellary — Grant of —, 1882
by sanctioning —, recorded.