

1. Number of pages 2-4  
2. Date of receipt 6-4-38  
3. Initials of Reference  
M.R.O. 1-22,500-22-11-65

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT.

|          |         |                       |
|----------|---------|-----------------------|
| G.O. No. | 719     | Press <i>Original</i> |
|          |         | <del>Mis.</del>       |
| Dated    | 8 . 8 . | 18 9/                 |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE  
(LAND REVENUE).

THE HON. H. W. BLISS.

READ—the following letter from the Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue (through the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle), dated 4th October 1890, No. 2950-For. :—

[Referenc. :—Board's Proceedings, dated 30th May 1890, Forest No. 312.]

With reference to the above, I have the honour to submit a Javadi Hills' sketch-map on an enlarged scale (2 inches to the mile), showing the position and estimated size of villages with a statement, in the margin, of population and cultivation.

2. There has been no survey on these hills and the extent (coloured yellow) showing cultivation is only by rough estimate, and is obviously over the mark, when compared with the village officer's figures, which give only 3,150 acres of occupied land, whereas by rough measurement the yellow portions cover nearly double this area.

3. The portion coloured light red, represents the areas proposed by Mr. Hooper to be made Reserved Forest, and from outlines and notes added over these areas, it will be seen that a large portion has already been sanctioned and declared Reserved Land, and that of the remainder, a large area on the south-east slopes was under conservation for some years, while those slopes were under the charge of South Arcot District officers, and was known as the Chinnasamudram Reserve. Even if the Government approve of the whole proposal to reserve now shown, it will practically leave the plateau free.

4. Though not very apparent on the sketch, it must be remembered that the Javadi Hills' plateau is from 1,500 to 2,000 feet above the plains, and that the outer slopes are steep, well-wooded, and unfit for cultivation, except that mischievous system of Ponakad (shifting cultivation) which, I am happy to say, we have almost put a stop to for some years past.

5. I request that the map may be returned as soon as possible.

6. As the Range officer's report on this subject is likely to be useful, I have appended a copy of it.

His closing remark alludes to the fact that, if we were to consult grazing requirement as claimed by the hill villages, we should have to allow free grazing all over the hills. The Malayalis themselves own very few cattle, and I am inclined to doubt the figures given (which were obtained from the people themselves), but they tend cattle put under their care by owners on the plains, and possibly included these or some of them in the figures given.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

REPORT of T. BAPU ROW, Forest Range-officer, Tirupatūr, to the District Forest-officer, Salem, No. 940-For. of 1890-91.

[Referenc. :—Order No. 1219 For., dated 27th June 1890.]

I beg to submit the Javadi Hills sketch-map on 2"=1 mile scale with the necessary particulars asked for in Government Order, No. 268, dated 10th April 1890.

The new proposals are the portions coloured light red in the above map. Their position is such that they will scarcely interfere with the extension of cultivation that may be desired hereafter, as little or no extent of plateau is included in them. The natural features of the selection are valleys and slopes overgrown with thick bamboos and sandalwood and other valuable timber forests and for the most part inconvenient for cultivation owing to their being far away from the villages; as regards included villages, it is better if they are demarcated out with a sufficient radius to meet various demands.

2 BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), 16TH MAY 1891, FOREST No. 207.

In some cases isolated bits of cultivation are included in consideration of convenient boundary line; even if we slightly alter our lines, we cannot but include one or two bits that are in the middle of the selection.

The portions left unreserved are ample enough to meet village requirements.

Statistical information (enclosed)—

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Number of houses | 1,097  |
| Population       | 5,082  |
| Number of cattle | 12,223 |

Extent of cultivation 3,455 including 10 per cent. excess allowed

In accordance with the above, we have 60 acres of cultivation per head of population, 4 head of cattle per acre of cultivation and 4 souls in a house.

If we suppose that 2 acres per head of population is sufficient for all practical purposes, we should leave out 10,000 acres unreserved on the hills; which we have done.

If we include free-grazing as a village requirement, then we won't be able to reserve even half as much as we have now proposed. The hill-people may as well pay grazing fees as low-country people do; but if we want to show them special consideration, we may allow them free-grazing in our Reserves by district order.

Therefore in dealing with the question of grazing requirements, I beg to request that the Government may be made aware of the fact that even 4 acres per head of cattle is not sufficient as the hill cattle roam over the whole hills and still people complain that they have no sufficient grazing.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Map.

Endorsement by Colonel I. CAMPBELL WALKER, Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated 20th November 1890, No. 2199.

In submitting the accompanying letter from the Collector of Salem with its enclosure and a map prepared in accordance with the orders of Government, I have the honour to state that the case of the Javadi Hills is eminently one in which forest reservation should be the rule not the exception. The more or less shifting cultivation of the hill-men is quite secondary in importance to the protection of the forests as sources of supply of timber, sandalwood, bamboos, minor produce, fodder and grazing.

2. The whole unoccupied area as well as the remainder of the hill range in the North and South Arcot districts should, in my opinion, be notified and settled as Reserved Forest (a margin for extension of cultivation and exercise of free privileges being assigned to each village at settlement) and then dealt with to the best advantage in accordance with "the will of the owner" (i.e., Government), which will of course be guided by the advice of its officers in the matter.

3. It is, I submit, emphatically a matter to be dealt with in the Forest Department only, by which I mean by the Collectors, Board and Government in their Forest, not Land Revenue, branches.

A step in the right direction was made when a former Collector of North Arcot, Mr. A. J. Stuart, entrusted the Land Revenue management and collection of assessment to the Forest Range-officer and District Forest-officer, and I regret that the arrangement, which was made with the approval of the Board, was discontinued by a subsequent Collector. Land Revenue officers from the Tahsildar downwards dislike visiting such hill ranges and rarely do so if they can avoid it, and there is really no good reason why they should. The land revenue is quite insignificant, and it would be much better to debit it against the Forest Department and leave the Collector a discretion to collect it or not in his Forest branch as found expedient, having regard to the behaviour of the Malayalis in respect of fires, unauthorized clearings, &c., &c.

4. As the Collector remarks, they own very few cattle for which due provision can be made in the areas excluded at settlement, but they tend large numbers of cattle from the plains which, in the absence of proper regulation, do great damage. I have very graphic accounts of the unsatisfactory state of things in the North Arcot Javadis from the Acting District Forest-officer which would, I fear, apply more or less to the Salem and South Arcot Javadis also.

3 BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), 16TH MAY 1891, FOREST No. 207. 3

5. I can testify from long and intimate personal knowledge of the hill range, both as District Forest-officer and Conservator, to its great value from a forest point of view, and trust that there may be no further doubt or delay in reserving it, and that at settlement the exact position of occupation claims admitted, may be defined on the ground, and maps and number of cattle (if any) for which free-grazing is to be provided, specified, which appears not to have been done hitherto, at least by Mr. Jones in North Arcot.

6. I regret to see that Government on the advice of the Board struck out the further reservation proposed in the adjoining Yelagiri Range which I would treat in exactly the same manner as the Javadis. I trust that the orders may be reconsidered.

RESOLUTION—dated 16th May 1891, Forest No. 207.

Submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 3 of Government Order, dated 10th April 1890, No. 268, Revenue.

2. The map gives no contour lines, but so far as can be gathered from the lines of drainage, the western slope has already been mostly reserved, while the plateau, with the cultivation upon it, has been excluded. The slopes on the eastern side are now proposed for reservation.

3. The map shows that the occupied area has, so far as is practicable, been excluded; and in view of the importance of protecting the slopes, and of the additional reservation called for in Government Order, dated 29th October 1890, No. 844, the Board recommends that the settlement of the blocks now in question be authorized.

4. The proposal to entrust the Land Revenue administration of the North Arcot Javadis to the Forest officers has been distinctly negated by Government in Government Order, dated 25th October 1886, No. 925; and there seems to be no reason why the Salem portion of the hills should be treated in a different way from the North Arcot portion.

5. The Conservator raises the question of the reservation of the Yelagiris also, and requests a reconsideration of the orders of Government, disallowing the reservation of the blocks proposed. In regard to these hills, in view of the orders contained in Government Order, dated 29th October 1890, No. 844, the Board recommends that the present restrictions be withdrawn, and that the settlement of the additional blocks be authorized.

6. The Collector will not consider the present orders as finally disposing of the question of reservation in the Salem district, but will still submit the report called for in paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 16th December 1890, Forest No. 707.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with map. ✓

" Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

" Collector of Salem.

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle.

" Examiner of Forest Accounts.

Exd. W. H. French.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1891.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Current Number 4430

Recd 6.6.91.  
Printed June th. 21



Proceedings, dated 16th May 1891,  
Forest No. 207.

Submitting to Government, with remarks,  
proposals for reservation of forests on the Jaradi  
in the Salem district.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

and Govt. 5554. which  
contains the sketch map of  
the whole taluk - This  
will be returned in due  
course - From the Board Land Revenue.  
Rem

Current No. 4430/91.

Dated 16. May 1891.

FOR ORDERS.

In G.O. 260. dt. 10. April. 90, in  
which orders were passed on  
the proposals for the further  
reservation of forests in the  
Salem District, the Govt. deferred  
its decision on the proposals for  
the Jaradi in the Tirupattur taluk  
until it had been furnished  
with a map showing exactly  
what the effect of the intended  
extension of reservation would  
be. The Board now forwards  
a map as directed and  
requests orders on the proposals  
already made.

The Board supports  
these proposals on the ground  
that "the occupied area has  
been as far as possible included  
that it is important to  
reserve the slopes of these hills  
and finally that under the

C 24/P  
21/5

new policy ~~was~~ announced  
in G.O. 844. dt. 29. Oct. 50.  
further reservation is  
contemplated.

The statistics of  
occupied & unoccupied areas  
reserved forests, in relation  
to the Tinpattur Taluq are  
given below. (in acres).

| ①<br>area of<br>Taluq. | ②<br>unoccupied<br>Govt.<br>land | ③<br>Reserves<br>existing. | ④<br>deho<br>under<br>settlement | ⑤<br>reserves<br>proposed | Composition<br>of col. 5. |       | Percentage<br>of cols 3 & 5 |           |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-----------|
|                        |                                  |                            |                                  |                           | Forest                    | Grass | on col. 4                   | on col. 5 |
| 307,806                | 121,160                          | 54,550                     | 2,402                            | 42,500                    | 40,800                    | 1,700 | 32                          | 82        |

The figure in col. (5) is  
made up as follows:-

|                                | acres.        |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| no. 136. Inner Jawad's.        | 32,000        |
| " 137. Andiapparam.            | 7,500         |
| " 138 & 9. Yelagiri<br>blocks. | 3,000         |
|                                | <u>42,500</u> |

The Yelagiri blocks were  
struck out in the order of  
April-50, but Col. Campbell  
written asks for a reconsideration  
of those orders and the  
Board recommends their  
reservation in view of the  
revised policy of taking up  
all areas which need the  
former

former system would have  
come under the 7  
category of reserved lands  
or village forests.

Orders are requested  
on this point. The exclusion  
of these blocks was recommended  
by the Board in Dec. 49. (in  
its pro-memo G.O. 268/50) and  
this was agreed to by Govt.

The Hon. Mr. Stokes said -  
"I would omit 138 & 9 (the Yelagiri  
blocks) which consist mainly of  
poor boulders - all the slopes  
of the Yelagiri, which have any  
vegetation, ~~have~~ are already reserved -  
the Cherry also  
voted for their exclusion -  
(Please see note against para. 5.  
Tinpattur on page 7 of G.O. 268/50)

he said - "I would leave this  
(the proposed Yelagiri extension)  
alone. It is poor and wanted  
for village." Mr. Pratt's remarks  
are recorded on page 20 of the  
said G.O. Col. Campbell merely  
says that he would "treat the  
Yelagiri in exactly the same  
manner as the Jawad's."

It is submitted that  
there are no sufficient reasons  
for reconsidering the orders

No. 147

of April 30. and that the reservation of these blocks should not be attempted.

It remains to consider the proposals for reservation on the Javadiis. The map now forwarded does not give all the details asked for, but it shows pretty fairly how matters stand. The Board puts the case tersely in para. 2. of Curran "the western slope has already been mostly reserved, while the plateau with the cultivation upon it, has been excluded. The slopes on the eastern side are now proposed for reservation."

This statement, however, omits the Audiappan block of 7500 acres which is situated at the W. end of the range.

The map shows that a considerable portion of the proposed extensions has already been brought under reservation as reserved land - One large bit on the

S. E.

Current

From

Dated

188

FOR ORDERS.

S. E., called the Chinna Samudra Reserve, was taken up when the eastern slopes were included in the S. Arad district and is apparently still under contest. The Audiappan, Kottanur, Garagumundi, and Mudaganthar blocks are also 'reserved lands' (Please see map).

Cultivation is shown by yellow patches. The Collector gives the total area under occupation as 3150 acres. One points out that the map shows about double this area. Statistics of such things are given on the map with the following totals.

\* the Ranger's figures differ slightly - page 2 of C.

\* Villages. 43.  
Houses. 1097.  
Population. 4002.  
Cattle. 12007.

The total area of the Jirga  
range is not given, so it is  
not possible to ascertain  
what area will be left to  
the villagers when all the  
proposed reserves have been  
taken up. The Ranger says  
that 10,000 acres are left  
unreserved: if this is so, the  
allowance of 200 p.c. on  
occupation, which was  
recommended by Mr. Dickson  
(p. 7. of G.O. 268/50), will be  
available for extension of  
cultivation. The Hon. W. Stokes  
was, however, of opinion that  
this was not enough, and  
was in fact "far too little."

(Please see Hon's note on  
Tributary under the above G.O.)  
"Cultivation is not their  
primary means of livelihood,"  
the Hon. added: "They live  
mainly by means of their  
own cattle & goats & by taking  
charge of herds from the plains  
in the wet months."

Attention is invited  
to para. 4. of the Commr's letter  
on page 1. of C. The proposals  
he declares,

quite enough protection of  
cultivation if they are allowed to  
graze their cattle free on the  
highland of fees in the reserved  
forests. H. J.

These lands sh. pay grazing fees  
H. J.

I don't see why this should be.  
They will have a very large  
area of unreserved land for  
grazing of their cattle.  
It may be proposed to  
make a lighter fee for the  
cattle sent from the plains.  
H. J.

he declares, with practically  
level the plateau free, while  
the slopes are unfit for  
cultivation.

The question thus  
resolves itself into this -  
are the hill people to be shown  
more favour in regard  
to cattle grazing than their  
brethren in the plains?  
Their cultivable lands are  
in any case to be left to  
them: are they to be allowed  
a larger grazing area than  
usual because their occupation  
is mainly the tending of  
cattle?

It is <sup>known</sup> ~~instructed~~  
that reservation need not  
necessarily affect this question,  
because the grant of free  
grazing <sup>in the reserves</sup> is contemplated  
under the system sketched  
out in the order of last  
October (G.O. 844 dt. 29. Oct. 50) -  
It is therefore thought that  
the present proposals may  
be accepted, the Commr.  
being instructed to make  
special allowances for the  
hill villagers' cattle, when

||

H. J.

Reservation has been completed.

It is thought that the Govt will readily express concurrence in the views detailed in para. of the B. Pro<sup>d</sup> (Current). The Forest Department has quite enough to occupy it without undertaking the collection of land revenue. In the case of the N. Arad Javadi's a similar proposal was distinctly negatived -

P.O. 925 - dt. 25. Oct. 86. (Please see the H.M. Mr. Stokes note under the original of this order.)

15. July. 91.

I do not know the district but as far as I judge from the report submitted & the map there does not appear to be any objection to the reservation of the whole area which is proposed to constitute the Forest in the Javadi's. Some 10000 acres has been left for

Yes  
Ch.

11/9/86

by the Ministry of the Interior

the area of cultivation which is 3 times the area under occupation. It may be allowed in the reserves - for the payment in the case of cattle kept for agricultural purposes & on payment of moderate fees in the case of those which are sent by cattle owners on the plains, so that the inhabitants of the hill villages will not be prejudiced in this respect.

It is of great importance to reserve as much of the hill ranges as possible because it is in these localities that forest was conserved with the forest and in the interests of the whole district it is of importance to prevent their destruction. The forest cannot be looked at from the point of view of the inhabitants of the ranges whose privileges will be greatly curtailed but this is necessary for the common good. The further reservation of

Super  
L.H.  
30/7/91

FOR ORDERS.

The Yelagiri igneous  
arrivals

Ch  
23/7

I am at the junction as to the  
arrivals.

I am at the junction as to the  
arrivals.

Uro  
1 Aug

Proposed extension  
of forest reservation  
on the Jawadi &  
Yelagiri. Salem District.

The Hon. Mr. Farver. C.S.  
The Hon. Mr. Stokes. C.S.

Co. 71  
Ego 7/19

C 24/7  
8/1/7

Print abstract  
15  
⊕ full

Forest

15  
X  
read again for 268 of 10-4-90  
also C. No. 4430 of 91

order of 8 August 1891, no. 719.

In the circumstances  
now reported, the Govt resolves  
to accept the proposals sub-  
mitted by the Board for the  
further reservation of forest on  
the Jawadi Hills in the Salem  
District, and the draft notes  
under Sec 4 relating to Blocks  
no. 136 and 137, forwarded with  
the Board's Prop. for no 622  
of 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 1889, will be pub-  
lished in the Fort St George  
and the Salem District Gazette.

2. The total area of the  
Jawadi range is not stated, but  
if, as reported by the Ranger,  
10,000 acres will be left reserved,  
after deducting the total area,  
of which it is intended to assume  
control,

Printed in go. 268  
of 10-4-90

control, the allowance of 200 cent on occupation, which was recommended by Mr. McWalter in his letter, embodied in the Board's Props of Dec 1888 above referred to, will be available for the extension of cultivation. It is moreover, observed that the plateau is to be left practically free from reservation.

3. Special <sup>provision</sup> allowance

should be made for the pas-  
turage <sup>in the reserve</sup> of cattle and sheep  
actually belonging to the hill  
villages, <sup>but full fees should</sup> <sup>be charged on all herds coming</sup>  
from the plains.

4. The Govt. agrees  
with the Board in the opinion  
expressed in para 4 of its Props  
read above: but as regards  
the proposal contained in para  
5, it considers that sufficient  
reasons

asons. have not been adduced  
or reconsidering the orders of  
April 1890.

Ran  
6. subd 3.  
CG  
7/8

From orders

To The Comms of L.R.  
with map  
Supt. Govt. Pres  
with notes

6/8/92  
40/3

Draft GO

Extension of Forest  
reservation on the  
Javadis

G. O. 8 August 1891, No. 719.

Summarized  
and enlarged  
Print with original  
in printing  
as per G.O. 268 of 10-11-1890  
later with the present  
description of the reserve  
referred to in G.O. 136 & 137 of 10-11-1890  
order should be  
forwarded after  
8/8

8TH AUGUST 1891, o. 719, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again G.O., dated 10th April 1890, No. 268, Revenue:—

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on papers containing proposals for the further reservation of forests in the Salem district.

READ—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 16th May 1891, Forest No. 207:—

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Statistical information (enclosed)—

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| Number of houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,097  |
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A step in the right direction was made when a former Collector of North Arcot, Mr. A. J. Stuart, entrusted the Land Revenue management and collection of assessment to the Forest Range-officer and District Forest-officer, and I regret that the arrangement which was made with the approval of the Board, was discontinued by a subsequent Collector. Land Revenue officers from the Taluk downwards dislike visiting such hill ranges and rarely do so if they can avoid it, and there is really no good reason why they should. The land revenue is quite insignificant, and it would be much better to debit it against the Forest Department and leave the Collector a discretion to collect it or not in his Forest branch as found expedient, having regard to the behaviour of the Malayalis in respect of fires, unauthorized clearings, &c., &c.

4. As the Collector remarks, they own very few cattle for which due provision can be made in the areas excluded at settlement, but they tend large numbers of cattle from the plains which, in the absence of proper regulation, do great damage. I have very graphic accounts of the unsatisfactory state of things in the North Arcot Javadis from the Acting District Forest-officer which would, I fear, apply more or less to the Salem and South Arcot Javadis also.

5. I can testify from long and intimate personal knowledge of the hill range, both as District Forest-officer and Conservator, to its great value from a forest point of view, and trust that there may be no further doubt or delay in reserving it, and that at settlement the exact position of occupation claims admitted, may be defined on the ground, and maps and number of cattle (if any) for which free-grazing is to be provided, specified, which appears not to have been done hitherto, at least by Mr. Jones in North Arcot.

6. I regret to see that Government on the advice of the Board struck out the further reservation proposed in the adjoining Yelagiri Range which I would treat in exactly the same manner as the Javadis. I trust that the orders may be reconsidered.

Resolution—dated 16th May 1891, Forest No. 207.

Submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 3 of Government Order, dated 10th April 1890, No. 268, Revenue.

2. The map gives no contour lines, but so far as can be gathered from the lines of drainage, the western slope has already been mostly reserved, while the plateau, with the cultivation upon it, has been excluded. The slopes on the eastern side are now proposed for reservation.

3. The map shows that the occupied area has, so far as is practicable, been excluded, and in view of the importance of protecting the slopes, and of the additional reservation called for in Government Order, dated 29th October 1890, No. 844, the Board recommends that the settlement of the blocks now in question be authorized.

4. The proposal to entrust the Land Revenue administration of the North Arcot Javadis to the Forest-officers has been distinctly negatived by Government in Government Order, dated 25th October 1886, No. 925; and there seems to be no reason why the Salem portion of the hills should be treated in a different way from the North Arcot portion.

5. The Conservator raises the question of the reservation of the Yelagiris also, and requests a reconsideration of the orders of Government, disallowing the reservation of the blocks proposed. In regard to these hills, in view of the orders contained in Government Order, dated 29th October 1890, No. 844, the Board recommends that



Original

Govt. of {1891} Madras  
REVENUE.

6. 2-12V

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Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 8th August 1891, No. 719.

AUGUST.

### Javadi Hills.

Accepting the proposals of the Board of Revenue for the further reservation of forests on the — in the Salem district, and ordering the publication in the Fort St. George and the Salem District Gazettes of the draft notifications under section 4 of the Forest Act relating to blocks Nos. 126 and 127. 128 and 129.