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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<u>597</u> <u>3230</u>	Press Mis. <u>W</u>
Dated	<u>21-7-29-1893.</u>	

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following G.O., dated 31st July 1893, No. 697, Revenue:—

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 1st November 1892, No. 719.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government, with Board's remarks, Mr. Clerk's proposals for the settlement of the Tanjore district.

Order—dated 31st July 1893, No. 697, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

With the Proceedings read above, the Board submits its proposals for the settlement of the Tanjore district. The scheme

originally drawn up by the Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement Mr. Clerk was based on the classification results of three taluks only, viz., Kumbakōnam, Tanjore and Shiyali, but the classification of the remaining six taluks has since been completed, and the Board's proposals are framed with reference to the *data* thus afforded. One of the objections most forcibly urged against the original scheme, viz., that the taluks selected were not typical, has thereby been removed. Full opportunity has been given to those interested of representing their views, meetings having been convened by the Collector at convenient centres for the purpose of discussing Mr. Clerk's proposals and copies of the Board's final scheme having been furnished to the Tanjore People's Association, which is the most influential body representing the land-holding classes. In order, moreover, to obtain the fullest knowledge of what the objections advanced against the project are, His Excellency the Governor invited a deputation of the leading members of the above association, as representing the land-holders of the district, to lay their views before him, and audience was given on the 3rd June at which all the members of Government were present. A memorandum of the objections advanced was put in by the deputation, and the scheme was discussed in detail. His Excellency the Governor in Council has very carefully considered all the arguments adduced and proceeds to state the conclusions at which he has arrived.

2. The Board commences its report by giving a brief description of the systems of settlement which have prevailed in the district since the beginning of the century. At the present day the whole district, with the exception of 46 villages held on lease for fixed rents (kattuguthagai), is settled on the *mothamfaisal* system introduced by Mr. Kindersley into 3,079 out of 4,855 villages in 1831-33 and extended to the remainder in 1860-61. It consists in a lump demand for the whole village based on a standard of gross produce in grain, commuted into money at a fixed price. In the case of 1,818 villages this lump demand was distributed in detail over the fields in accordance with an account furnished by the ryots themselves. The following extract from the Tanjore Manual (pages 644, 645) shows briefly how this lump demand was arrived at:—

“*Para. 200—Nansei assessment.*—The Nansei or wet assessment under the mothamfaisal and fieldwar settlements is based in the main on the village grain standards known as olungu, fixed by Mr Cotton in 1822, the melvaram, or the Government share of the produce, after deducting the usual village fees being taken at 50 per cent. for the river irrigated and 45 per cent. for the tank irrigated lands and converted into money at a commutation price fixed for each maghanam on an average of the selling prices of the five years, 1815-16 to 1819-20. The olungu grain standards were deduced generally from the money assessment which prevailed under the previous lease settlements; and that money assessment was based, as regards both produce and price, more or less on the amani results of the first four years of the British administration, 1800-1 to 1803-4. As already shown, however, these data were considerably modified at each successive settlement and the average

of the amani results, very low taken by itself, became considerably increased by the process by which the olungu grain standards were deduced.

"Para. 201—*Punsei assessment*.—The Punsei assessment, like the Nansei standards, is based chiefly on the amani outturn of dry grain lands in the early years of the British rule, and, like it, has undergone modifications at each successive settlement. The melvaram rate adopted was generally 60 per cent. of the gross produce, less the usual village fees, and the commutation prices were more or less the selling prices of the years 1800-1 to 1806-7. Originally restricted to lands on which dry grains were cultivated, the Punsei assessment has latterly been extended, with one unimportant exception, to lands on which other crops are cultivated without any irrigation, or with the aid of percolation from river channels, or under private wells. On the whole, the Punsei assessment in Tanjore is especially moderate. In motham-faisal villages, there is one uniform rate for each village and in the field assessed villages the village assessment is distributed over the fields according to their relative values."

3. The share of the gross produce taken by Government under the existing settlement is calculated to amount to about 47 per cent., and the commutation rate was fixed at an average of 7 annas and 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ pies a kalam, equivalent to 27.6 Madras measures of paddy or 30.9 Imperial seers. The table at paragraph 12 of the Board's Proceedings shows that during the last 30 years prices have ranged from 15 annas 2 pies per kalam to Rs. 2-4-0, so that the lowest price is nearly double the commutation rate. It was owing to the adoption of this low rate that the ryots have been able to pay an assessment based on so large a share of the gross produce. Not only, however, is Mr. Kindersley's settlement defective as judged by the approved methods of the present day, in that it is based on a share of the gross produce instead of the net, and that the commutation rate is far below the prices which have ruled during the period which would be taken as the basis of settlement under the modern system, but the standard gross produce adopted by him was merely the result of a rough calculation made in the early part of the century through the medium of untrustworthy agency, and even this standard was not adhered to as it appears from his own writings that his settlement partook of the nature of a bargain or composition with the ryots. Moreover, there was no classification of the soil, which is the foundation of the present method of settlement, and ensures the proportionate equality of the incidence of the assessment. It was left to the ryots themselves to distribute the lump demand over the fields, and the distribution was consequently in the hands of the most influential land-holders. It is thus highly improbable that under such circumstances the individual incidence was equitable. Further, although it may be admitted that Mr. Kindersley's survey was fairly accurate (the excess discovered by a scientific survey being only 43,000 acres or 3 per cent. in the aggregate), a large portion of the excess of 24 per cent. disclosed by Mr. Kindersley's measurement (computed at not less than 10 per cent.) was not brought to account.

The above defects furnish ample ground for a revision of the settlement of Tanjore on the principles which have been applied to other districts. In reviewing the Board's proposals it will be convenient to take each process in order.

4. *Classification of Irrigation*.—Five classes of irrigation are proposed with reference to the certainty of the supply. No exception has been taken to the classification of the irrigation sources in the non-deltaic tract, but Mr. Clerk's division of the irrigation of the delta into two classes only in his original* scheme is one of the points most strenuously objected to by the mirasidars, and they are supported in their views by some of the Revenue officers of the district. In Tanjore, facilities of irrigation and drainage, are more important factors in determining the productiveness of the land than the character of the soil, and these facilities under the same channel and even within the same village may vary very greatly, yet there is hardly any mention in the papers of drainage and Mr. Clerk's scheme provides for only two classes of irrigation for the whole delta; the Board has however substituted three classes. On settlement principles and methods the limitation of irrigation classes to three is no doubt defensible, but, in fact, in Tanjore the gradations of efficiency of irrigation are almost infinitely various. The irrigation on the whole is not to be compared as to certainty or efficiency with that in the

Gódavari and Kistna deltas or with good river irrigation in other districts. The alignment of the "rivers," as the main irrigation channels are called, is not as scientific as it is in the Gódavari and Kistna deltas, nor has any scientific provision been made for drainage.

In regard to certainty of supply, the Cauvery, which is said "never to fail," is inferior to the other great rivers of this province. Its volume is smaller, it runs in full supply for a shorter time and it has a disproportionately larger area to irrigate. This river, which is fed by the south-west monsoon, is liable to fail in September, and the crops sown under river irrigation are matured under the usually copious rains of the north-east monsoon. Tanjore thus depends for its main crop on both monsoons, and if either is deficient, the yield of the district is impaired. The Government considers that, in the scheme now submitted, sufficient weight has not been given to these considerations and the Board's classification, if rigidly adhered to, would be likely to produce as great inequalities of assessment as now exist. It does not appear necessary to provide additional classes for the delta irrigation, but, in applying the classification proposed by the Board, it will be necessary, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, to consider more in detail the circumstances of each village. Under the Board's scheme the whole delta is blocked out into three large tracts corresponding to the three classes, but it can hardly be that the efficiency of the irrigation and drainage is uniform throughout these tracts, and allowance must be made for varying degrees of efficiency in individual villages or in groups of villages. His Excellency the Governor in Council accordingly resolves to direct that careful consideration be given to this point in introducing the settlement and that the necessary alteration of classification of sources with reference to efficiency of irrigation and drainage and the character of the water-supply be effected on a consideration of local circumstances.

5. Another point has to be considered in connection with the classification of irrigation sources. This classification is based on the quantity of water supplied by the various distributaries and the constancy of that supply, and the difference in the fertilizing power of the supply when received direct from the main stream of the Cauvery and its chief branches at the head of the delta and when obtained from channels in which the water is largely intermixed with drainage containing very little alluvial deposit, has not been taken into account. The fertility of the delta depends to a great extent on this deposit, but Mr. Clerk's contention is that the relative value of the varying degrees of fertilization is differentiated in the classification of the soils and that it ought not also to be allowed for in the classification of irrigation sources. His Excellency the Governor in Council doubts whether sufficient allowance has been made for the undoubted inferiority of the irrigation derived from drainage channels. It must be borne in mind in this connection that the cultivation under drainage channels is necessarily commenced later in the season than under the main branches of the river. It is therefore more precarious, being more dependent upon late rains. To mark this inferiority in the quality of the irrigation there should be a corresponding distinction between the rates imposed on lands of the same class and sort when dependent, as the case may be, either on the chief branches of the Cauvery or on mere drainage channels. The classification of those tracts which are irrigated from the latter sources must be revised at the time of the introduction of the settlement with reference to the above remarks.

6. The complaint of unequal distribution of the total supply of water available over the district and the insufficiency of the expenditure on the improvement of the irrigation works of the district will be referred to the Department of Public Works for consideration. In this connection the attention of that department is invited to paragraph 18 of the Board's Proceedings.

7. *Classification of soils*.—The chief feature in this part of the scheme is the application of the alluvial series to the lands in the delta taluks. Two classes have been provided: I (clay) and II (loam) with five sorts in each. This is perhaps justified by the character of the soils. The proportion of the total area which has been placed under the alluvial series in the several delta taluks is 82 per cent. in Kumbakonam, 68 per cent. in Mayavaram, 56 per cent. in Nainilam and 14 per cent. in Tanjore. The land-holders complain that too much of the delta area has been placed in the alluvial classes and that in the case of the Kumbakonam taluk too large a proportion of the area

* He subsequently placed 22 villages in the 3rd class.

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so classed is rated under the two highest sorts. The Board admits that the figures indicate over-valuations in Kumbakonam, Nannilam and Mayavaram and proposes to grant the necessary relief at the time of the introduction of the settlement. To meet the objection that the wet lands near Tiruvadi in Tanjore, comprised in the tract known as the "breast of Tanjore," the superior fertility of which is admitted, have been under-valued, the Board has provided an extra sort, the lands classed under which will be subject to a wet rate of Rs. 14 an acre. The foot-note to the statement in paragraph 33 of the Proceedings shows that 1,639 out of the 1,731 acres classed under 2-1 in Tanjore will be transferred to the extra sort 2-1 A, whilst about 8,000 acres classed under 2-2 in Kumbakonam and Tanjore will be transferred to 2-1, Mr. Clerk having unnecessarily reduced his original classification of the best lands in the former taluk. The Deputy Commissioner has been directed to work out the classification and report the result in taluk detail. The Government doubts whether the Board has gone far enough in correcting the obvious defects of Mr. Clerk's proposals (viz., too low assessment of the rich lands and too high assessment of the poorer lands) and in raising the rates on the very best lands in the district, e.g., those forming what is called the "breast of Tanjore," while if its scale of rates is applied without careful consideration of local circumstances, it will in many cases produce excessive and unequal assessments. The introduction of the alluvial series, which is altogether exceptional in settlement schemes, has had the effect of raising the assessment in the Kumbakonam, Nannilam and Mayavaram taluks by 48, 46 and 34 per cent. respectively. The Board's proposal to moderate the increase in these three taluks by reducing the classification of the soils is fully approved.

8. *Dry grouping.*—Two groups have been provided, all the dry lands in the district with the exception of those in the Pattukkottai taluk, the southern portion of Tanjore, 23 villages of the Mannargudi taluk and the 43 kattuguthagai villages in Negapatam and Tiruturaipundi having been placed in the first group. The classification of dry areas is not seriously objected to, but it is represented that there are tracts in the delta in which dry lands are of poor quality and do not properly fall under the first group. The grouping is, however, determined with reference to facilities of communication and proximity to markets, and, as remarked by the Deputy Commissioner in paragraph 61 of his letter, dated 30th September 1890, difference in fertility is allowed for in the classification. The Board's proposals appear to be moderate.

9. *Standard crops.*—For wet lands irrigated paddy has been taken as the standard crop; for dry lands ragi, cumbu and varagu in equal proportions. This is approved.

10. *Commutation rates.*—The Board bases its commutation rates on the prices of the last 20 years excluding faslis 1286, 1287 and 1288, which were years of abnormally high prices and deducting 15 per cent. for merchant's profits. The fairness of the rates for dry grains has not been questioned, but as regards paddy objection has been taken to the inclusion of faslis 1294, 1299, 1300, 1301, during which the district average prices were as marginally noted, on the ground that such prices are exceptional and are not likely to recur during the 30 years' period of settlement. It is stated that fasli 1294 was a year of disastrous floods which caused an immense loss of produce with an abnormal rise of prices in the district, whilst in the other three faslis prices rose in Tanjore owing to the failure of crops in adjoining districts. It is urged that the 15 per cent. deduction for merchant's profits is insufficient to cover cost of carriage, merchant's profits and wastage and that either the four years above specified should be excluded or the deduction raised to 20 per cent. which would in both cases result in a commutation rate of Rs. 104 a garce or 0-15-8 per kalam. The Tanjore People's Association

suggests that at least the odd 8 pies in the rate proposed by the Board may be struck out and the rate fixed at exactly a rupee per kalam or Rs. 11-8-0 per garce. This, however, would result in a loss of revenue to the extent of four lakhs of rupees, and the Government considers that there is no justification for such a sacrifice. The three years of famine prices have been excluded from the series of years with reference to which the commutation rate is struck, and, as regards the four years to the inclusion of which exception has been taken, it is not contended that the high prices were

					District average per garce.
1286	...	...	...	...	206
1287	...	...	...	...	261
1288	...	...	...	...	230

due to a failure of crop in the district itself save in respect of fasli 1294. As the Board remarks every season of scarcity in other parts of the Presidency is a source of great profit to the land-holders of Tanjore, and for a partial failure of crop in the district itself, a very rare occurrence as far as the delta taluks are concerned, liberal allowance has been made in the deduction for vicissitudes of seasons, which, together with the rise in price, affords ample compensation for short crop. As

regards paddy it must be borne in mind that the commutation rate has been struck on the average of the prices of both the superior and inferior sorts, although Mr. Clerk states that 7 lakhs out of 8 lakhs of acres are cultivated with 1st-sort paddy. This is very favorable to the land-holders. The Government considers that the commutation rates proposed by the Board are fair, but, with reference to the remarks in paragraph 39, it must observe that the Board's argument in favour of including "famine prices" is based on a misapprehension of the reason of the rule for the exclusion of famine prices from the calculation of the average, viz., that the revenue should be calculated on what is normal and that famine prices are abnormal. His Excellency the Governor in Council is therefore not prepared to depart from the rule that the prices of famine years should be excluded from the average. The allowance of 15 per cent. for difference between ryot's and merchant's selling prices is, considering the circumstances of the district, in the opinion of Government ample.

11. *Grain outturns.*—The grain outturns proposed by Mr. Clerk are based on crop experiments conducted by himself and his subordinates in three seasons—February 1890, October 1890 and February 1891. The Board considers that Mr. Clerk's proposed outturns for wet lands are, both as regards the best description of land and the inferior sorts, too low, and it has accordingly raised them with reference to the outturns adopted in the adjoining districts and especially in the recently settled district of South Arcot. The Board's scale ranges from 1,300 Madras measures for the best land to 450 measures for the worst under the first class of irrigation, whereas Mr. Clerk's scale ranges from 1,125 measures to 400. The minima proposed by the Board for second, third, fourth, and fifth class irrigation are 400, 350, 300 and 250 measures respectively.

The mirasidars do not object to the maximum of 1,300 Madras measures or to the minima of 350 and 250 measures for the delta and upland tracts respectively, but they complain that too large a proportion of the wet areas in Kumbakonam (86 per cent.), Nannilam (71 per cent.) and Mayavaram (68 per cent.) taluks have been placed under high outturn standards. Relief will be afforded, however, by the alteration of the classification ordered in paragraph 5 *supra*. The Board's scale of outturns is not high as compared with the scales adopted in the neighbouring districts; it may therefore, in the opinion of Government, be accepted, provided it is applied with careful consideration of local circumstances. Mr. Clerk's scale of dry-grain outturns is accepted by the Board, and as no objection to it is taken by the mirasidars, it calls for no remark.

12. *Cultivation expenses.*—The Board's scale of cultivation expenses ranges from Rs. 14 to Rs. 4-8-0 for wet lands and from Rs. 5-8-0 to Rs. 2-10-0 for dry. It is admitted to be generally adequate.

13. *Allowance for vicissitudes of season.*—Mr. Clerk proposed a deduction of 15 per cent. throughout the district. The Board, however, would raise the allowance to 20 per cent. for the non-deltaic portion of the district except as regards land irrigated by rain-fed tanks. The allowance is regarded by those interested as fair, and the Government concurs in this view.

14. *Money rates.*—The Board's table of money rates, deduced from the above data, ranges from Rs. 14 to Rs. 3 per acre for wet lands in the delta and from Rs. 7 to Rs. 1-8-0 for similar lands outside the delta. For ordinary dry lands the scale ranges from Rs. 3 to 4 annas. Two special rates of Rs. 7 and Rs. 5 have been provided to meet the case of the rich "padugai" lands. The Board's scale of rates is fair and is accepted.

15. *Financial results.*—The result of the application of Mr. Clerk's rates to the whole district brings out an increase of 14.47 lakhs on a revenue of 41.06 lakhs and the proposed demand under the Board's modification gives an increase of 14.49 lakhs. In the result the two schemes are practically identical. In justification of this large increase the Board points out that the district is admittedly under-assessed at present; that the cultivation generally is very bad and capable of great improvement; and that there is no reason why it should not pay its fair quota to the State. The average rate of assessment per acre for wet land in the delta portion of the district will, according to the Board's proposals, be Rs. 6.71 against Rs. 7.43 under the Srivai-kuntam anicut, Rs. 6.32 under the Gódavari and Rs. 5.87 under the Kistna. As the Board points out, the existing assessment in the two last mentioned districts is low,

* Vide paragraph 5 of the letter to the Government of India, dated 26th January 1891, No. 51.

owing to the method of settlement adopted there, and the average will certainly be raised* at the next revision. It is admitted, however, that some reduction is required in the delta taluks of Tanjore, and the Board considers that if the total increase of revenue upon the whole district does not exceed 12½ lakhs of rupees or 30 per cent., there cannot be any reasonable ground for complaint. The Tanjore People's Association protests against this proposed enhancement, especially objecting to the increase in the rate of produce per acre by 10½ per cent., resulting from the outturns adopted by the Settlement department and the excess of 8 pies over the commutation rate of one rupee per kalam which it is prepared to accept. It points out that, omitting these items, the increase on wet and dry lands together will be Rs. 7.93 lakhs to which has to be added increase of water-rate, second crop assessment and the village-cess to be newly imposed; this, it calculates, will raise the additional burden on the ryots to 10.11 lakhs which it contends is as much as the ryots can bear.

16. Neither Mr. Clerk nor the Board refer to the question of cesses, land and village, which the ryots will have to pay, but these demands cannot be overlooked in considering what burden of public charges the district can properly be required to bear. The marginal statement † shows what the total enhancement of the burden would probably amount to in consequence of the imposition of the village-cess and the increase of collections from second crop charge, water-rate and land-cess which will result from the new settlement proposed by the Board. It is impossible to calculate exactly what the village-cess will be, as the rate will be uniform throughout the Presidency and will depend on the requirements in the matter of establishments of all districts. The Tanjore People's Association's estimate of 1.38 lakhs or half the cost of the existing village establishment is, however, too low. The Collector considers that the cost will be double what it is at present. The maximum cess which can be imposed is one anna in the rupee of assessment, but it is not probable that the contribution of the ryots need be so high. Assuming that it will be 9 pies in the rupee, the demand on this account would be Rs. 2.83 lakhs. The real

	Present.	Proposed.
Revenue ryotwar demand	(a) 41.06	55.34
Second crop charge	(b) 1.37	(c) 1.87
Water-rate	(d) 1.39	(e) 2.00
Ryotwar land-cess	43.82	59.41
Land-cess in permanently-settled estates and whole inam villages	(f) 2.96	(g) 4.01
	(h) .50	.50
Village cess	47.23	63.92
	..	(i) 2.78
	47.23	66.70
		+ 19.42
		or 41 per cent.

- (a) See column 8 of the statement at page 180 of the Board's Proceedings.
 (b) The average second crop charge as given at page 174 of the Proceedings.
 (c) As 37.31 (the present wet assessment as given in column 8 of the statement at page 180): 50.87 (the proposed wet assessment as given in column 10): 1.37.
 (d) The average water-rate as given at page 174 of the Proceedings.
 (e) Taken at half as much again as the present water-rate.
 (f) The average demand for land-cess during the last 5 years.
 (g) As 43.82: 59.41 :: 2.96: 4.01.
 (h) The average demand during the last 5 years.
 (i) Calculated at 9 pies in the rupee of the total demand—69.41 lakhs.

not probable that the contribution of the ryots need be so high. Assuming that it will be 9 pies in the rupee, the demand on this account would be Rs. 2.83 lakhs. The real

increase of demand therefore involved in the Board's proposals would amount to 19.42 lakhs or 41 per cent. In the opinion of Government this increase is excessive. The Tanjore district taken as a whole is no doubt lightly assessed at present and a considerable increase under the new settlement may reasonably be looked for; but care must be taken that whilst the interests of the State are duly considered, the demand shall not be oppressive to the people or injurious to the prosperity of the district. On the whole the Government considers that the Board's scheme may be accepted subject to modification of the classification of soils, especially those of the alluvial series, in the taluks of Kumbakonam, Nannilam and

	Present.	Proposed.
Revenue ryotwar demand	41.06	52.06
Second crop charge	1.37	(a) 1.74
Water-rate	1.39	(b) 2.00
Ryotwar land-cess	43.82	55.80
Land-cess in permanently-settled estates and whole inam villages	(c) 2.96	(d) 3.77
	(e) .50	.50
Village-cess	47.23	60.07
	..	(f) 2.62
	47.23	62.69
		+ 15.41
		or 33 per cent.

- (a) As 37.31 (the present wet assessment): 47.33 (the proposed wet assessment): 1.37: 1.74.
 [Proposed wet is arrived at thus: 37.31 + 11 = 93 (the increase expected under dry)]
 (b) Taken at half as much again as the present water-rate.
 (c) The average cess during the last 5 years.
 (d) As 43.82: 55.80 :: 2.96: 3.77.
 (e) The average cess during the last 5 years.
 (f) Calculated at 9 pies in the rupee of the total demand.

Máyavaram as directed above, and to careful consideration of local circumstances of irrigation and drainage, and provided that the total increase in ryotwar revenue shall not exceed 11 lakhs of rupees, exclusive of water-rate, second crop charge and cesses. This will result in an enhancement of the present demand by 15.41 lakhs of rupees approximately or 33 per cent. as shown in the marginal statement.*

17. The Board's proposals in regard to the following matters are approved:—

Para. 63.—Scale of increments for gradual imposition of increase of assessment.

Para. 66.—Regulation of charge for irrigation of dry lands.

Para. 67.—Treatment of garden lands.

Para. 68.—Registration of permanent double crop and composition of second crop charge.

Para. 69.—Exemption of *ottadam* cultivation from extra charge.

18. The question of the right of Government to raise the assessment on mohini inam lands dealt with in paragraphs 72 and 73 of the Board's Proceedings has been settled by Government after full discussion in G.O., dated 4th November 1892, No. 1124, and His Excellency the Governor in Council sees no reason to modify his decision.

19. The advisability of modifying the existing *kistbandi* has been referred to the Board for consideration and report in G.O., dated 6th June 1893, No. 2076, Mis.

20. The petitions which have been presented to Government in connection with the settlement scheme will be transferred to the Board for such consideration as they may require in introducing the settlement.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
 „ Board of Revenue (Settlement).
 „ „ „ (Land Revenue).
 Editors' Table.

RESOLUTION—dated 16th August 1893, No. 350.

Communicated to the Deputy Commissioners of Revenue Settlement Parties Nos. II, III and V for information and guidance.

2. The Government directs that the classification of the irrigation sources in the Delta taluks and the classification of the soils, especially those of the alluvial series in

the taluks of Kumbakonam, Nannilam and Mayavaram, shall be revised so that the total increase in the ryotwar revenue shall not exceed 11 lakhs of rupees, exclusive of water-rate, second-crop charge and cesses, the increase in the last three items being estimated at about 4.41 lakhs.

3. As regards the irrigation sources, the Government considers that three classes as proposed by the Board for the deltaic portion of the district are sufficient, but it is of opinion that the distribution of the river-irrigated area proposed in paragraph 24 of the Board's Proceedings into three large tracts corresponding to the three classes does not make sufficient allowance for the varying degrees of efficiency in irrigation and drainage in individual villages or groups of villages comprised in these tracts, and directs that the local circumstances of each village shall be considered at the time of settlement in view to such modifications being carried out in the classification of their irrigation sources as may be found necessary.

4. In paragraph 5 of the order, the Government doubts whether sufficient allowance has been made for the undoubted inferiority of irrigation derived from drainage channels either in the classification of the irrigation sources or of the soils in the villages so irrigated, and suggests that to mark this inferiority in the quality of irrigation, there should be a corresponding distinction between the rates imposed on lands of the same class and sort when dependent on the chief branches of the Cauvery and on mere drainage channels. The modification in the soil classification ordered by Government in paragraph 7 will affect mainly the alluvial soils in the taluks of Kumbakonam, Nannilam and Mayavaram in which the increase by settlement is 48, 46 and 34 per cent. and in which the area classified under the alluvial series is 82, 56 and 68 per cent. of the area of each taluk, respectively.

5. In paragraph 16, the Government calculates that the increase of 11 lakhs which it sanctions in the ryotwari demand of the district will result in an increase of 15.4 lakhs in the total demand inclusive of water-rate, second-crop charge and cesses, equivalent to an enhancement of the existing demand by 33 per cent. In this calculation, the amount of water-rate under the new settlement has been taken at 2 lakhs as against an assumed average of 1.39 lakhs. This latter figure, however, which is taken from the statement at paragraph 70 of the Board's Proceedings, represents the average revenue under this head during the last 17 years, and, as will appear from the last column of the statement, is greatly in excess of the total sum now levied as water-rate which, on the average of the last four years ending fasli 1301 (1891-92) is only Rs. 80,000, the falling off in recent years being due, as explained in the foot-note, to the transfer to wet in fasli 1297 (1887-88) of a large extent of wet lands which were till then shown as dry in the jamabandi accounts. Of the above sum, Rs. 31,000 represents

Average of the last four years.		
	Extent. ACS.	Water-rate. RS.
Dry converted into wet...	23,594	48,518
Dry crops irrigated ...	17,997	31,083
Total ...	41,591	79,601
		RS.
23,600 × 6 = ...	...	1,41,600
Add dry crops irrigated ...	...	31,000
Total ...	...	1,72,600
Deduct present water-rate ...	...	80,000
		92,600
Deduct present dry assessment on dry lands to be transferred to wet ...	...	33,000
		59,600

the charge for water on dry crops irrigated which will probably not be increased in the settlement, and the balance (Rs. 49,000) represents the water-rate on wet crops raised on dry lands converted into wet, averaging 23,600 acres. A considerable portion, if not the whole, of this latter area will be transferred to wet at settlement, and assuming that the average wet assessment on it will be about Rs 6 an acre, the increase by settlement under this head will be about Rs. 59,000 * as against Rs. 61,000 assumed by Government. Further, the second-crop charge during the past four years has averaged Rs. 1.45 lakhs per annum, and the second-crop charge at settlement rates will probably result in an increase of Rs. 39,000 * as compared with Rs. 37,000, the sum assumed by Government. The result of these alterations however does not affect the total increase

	As fixed by Government.	As revised by the Board.	estimated by Government under these two heads.
Second crop ...	1.74	1.84	
Water-rate ...	2.00	1.39	
	3.74	3.23	

6. At a meeting of the Commissioner with the three Deputy Commissioners now engaged in introducing the settlement, it was decided that a sum of about one-fifth of the amount of reduction ordered by Government might be with advantage devoted to making reductions in connection with alterations to be made in the classing of the irrigation sources, while the greater part of the balance should be devoted to making modification in the soil classification of Kumbakonam, Nannilam and Mayavaram in view to reducing the weight of the assessment proposed in the Deputy Commissioner's schemes on the alluvial lands in those taluks, a small sum being reserved for granting relief in other taluks of the district. The average wet assessment per acre in the delta which, according to the Deputy Commissioner's schemes, is Rs. 8-13-2 in Kumbakonam, Rs. 7-10-1 in Nannilam and Rs. 6-3-3 in Mayavaram should be reduced so that the average rates may not exceed Rs. 8, 7 and 6, respectively. This will result in a reduction of Rs. 94,200, Rs. 81,200 and Rs. 23,600, respectively, or a total of 2.02 lakhs for the three taluks. The Deputy Commissioners will consider and report what further reductions, if any, will be required in these taluks. In the Tanjore taluk there is reason to believe that some of the richer lands have been too lightly assessed at settlement; but the proportion of alluvial land is very much less than in Kumbakonam. Mr. Clerk will report whether the average rate which works up to Rs. 8-0-1 per acre for the deltaic portion of this taluk requires any reduction.

Taluk.	Average rate for delta.		Amount of reduction.	Percentage of total increase in land revenue.
	Present.	Proposed.		
Shiyali	RS. A. P. 5 13 3	RS. A. P. 5 12 0	RS. 4,256	23.8
Mannargudi	5 5 11	5 4 0	10,600	21.6
Negapatam	5 12 0	5 10 0	10,665	20.5
Tirutturaippandi	4 13 10	4 8 0	28,188	20.3
Pattukkottai	(a) 3 6 5	3 4 0	4,064	14.3

(a) Delta area only 263 acres. The average is for both delta and non-delta areas.

7. The Deputy Commissioners concerned will consider in what villages and to what extent in each village reduction should be made, the reduction for each taluk to be effected by modification of classification being limited to the sum named above, unless in communication with each other and with the Commissioner, they shall be able to show that a different allotment is advisable.

The sum by which the assessment proposed in the schemes is to be reduced to meet modifications in the irrigation sources is given in paragraph 6 above as Rs. 70,000. This sum will, it is believed, meet all requirements in this connection as very large allowances have already been made in the classification to meet deficiencies of water-supply or inferiority of silt supply, the classification of the soils as alluvial being specially adopted to meet cases where either the situation of the lands on a high level or their distance from the mouth of the irrigation channel or their proximity to a drainage channel injuriously affects the deposit of alluvium.

8. The villages in which a modification is to be made in the grouping of the irrigation sources must be selected by the Deputy Commissioners in communication with each other, any excessive reduction in assessments due to alteration in grouping of the sources being modified by an alteration of the soil classification if it should appear that the classification has already been reduced to meet the inefficiency of irrigation which it is now proposed to meet by an alteration in grouping.

9. The alterations which each Deputy Commissioner proposes to make in obedience to the orders now issued should be considered by the Deputy Commissioners at a

10 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGR.), 16TH AUG. 1893, No. 350.

meeting in Tanjore under the presidency of Mr. Clerk and a joint report showing all alterations proposed should be submitted to the Board at an early date.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Mr. Adriaan van der
Ag. Secretary.

To the Deputy Commissioners, Nos. II, III and V Parties,
with a statement in M. S.
" Collector of Tanjore.
" Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1893.

Board of Revenue

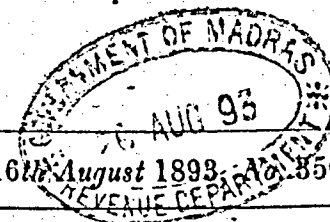
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Current Number 6359

Printed August 15.

Read 25 in



Proceedings, 16th August 1893. 550.

Communicating to the Deputy Commissioners, II, III and V Parties, for information and guidance, with remarks, Government Order, Revenue Department, on the scheme for the settlement of the Tanjore district.

D.O. No. 2366.

13
Revenue and Agricultural Department,
Simla, the 23 September 1893.



Dear Sir,

With reference to your demi-official of the 29th August last, to Sir E. Buck, I am desired to inform you that a copy of the orders passed by the Madras Government on the scheme for the settlement of the Tanjore District, was forwarded to the India Office on the 5th instant.

Yours truly,

W. Marleyan.
Under Secy.

To

C. A. Galton, Esquire,

P. C. M.

21/9/93

(1893.)

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT.

D. A. Current Number. 11.

From

The Under Secretary to the
Government of India
Rev. & Agric. Dept.

2/10
Lodged

Recd

29 3/10

Dated 23 Sept

Received 29 in

Enclosures

No. 2366.

To be stitched with
No. 3230 of 2-9-93

SUBJECT.

21
Informing that a copy
of the orders passed by the
Madras Govt in the scheme for
the settlement of the Tanjore Dist.
was forwarded to the Indian
office on the 5 instant.

P. T. O.

NOTE FOR THE

M. R. Navasam

very inju
C. C. C. C.

Will you kindly look
up the for Tanjore
Settlement papers (originals)
and let me know the
circumstances under
which it was decided
that no copy of the
L.O. of 1893 need be
formally submitted to
the Secy of State. I
remember a copy was
sent with a D.O.

I also find that
in Sept. 1890, a copy
of L.O. No 729 of 12-9-90
was also not sent to the
Secy of State. and have
a vague recollection
that there was an ord.
on the subject. The two
papers referred to were
however not dealt in
detail by me.

M. R. Navasam

P. T. O.

Send back.

V E

There is nothing in the original of G.O. No. 677 of 31.7.93 to show why it was not formally sent to the Secy of State. Attention is however attracted to the notes and docs under G.O. No. 3230 of 2.9.93 from which it will be seen that copy of the G.O. in question was sent to the Secy of State with reference to G.O. No. 4965 of 12.8.90 (copy) which I presume lays down that papers about which questions are likely to be asked in the course of discussions should be sent to the Secy of State. The question whether as a settlement scheme report should not ~~be~~ formally sent to S of S does not appear to have been raised. I am looking into the matter further. As ~~the~~ note is marked E. I send this reply now and shall report further as and when.

(The G.O. which is a bulky file has been retained here and it will be sent up if necessary).

No 27



OOTACAMUND,

29. Aug 1893.

Hyder. Buck

In accordance with the instructions contained in letter No. 100. D. dt. 13 June. 90. from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Dep^t, I am directed to ^{forward} ~~send~~ 2 copies of the orders passed by the Government on the scheme for the settlement of the Tanjore

Direct. It seems ~~more~~
^{likely} ~~than probable~~ that questions
will be asked in the House
of Commons upon this
subject, and I am to request
that ^{one copy of the order} ~~the paper~~, now forwarded,
may be transmitted to the
India Office for the information
of the R^t Hon^{ble} Secretary of
State.

Ch
29 Aug

21
NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY.

With the Secretary sign
the accompanying do.
to Sir S. P. Buck. A copy
of G.O. 657 - ought to
have gone to India
at once in order that
it might be forwarded
to the Secy. of Information.
I forgot all about the
instructions contained
in G.O. 4855/50 - and the
papers were only sent
to me today.

Ran
29. Aug.

Printed copies of the
G.O. on Taxation were
only received 3 or 4
days ago.

Ran

23E

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

23
25-15

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read No. 6359/93.

G.O. no. 63230/22 September 10/93
Recorded.

2. It is observed that the result of the alterations made by the Board in the estimates of increased demand on account of second crop charges and water rate, as detailed in para. 8 of the P.D. read above, is to diminish the surplussment by more than half a lakh of rupees. It is not, therefore, understood why the Board makes at the close of the said paragraph that "the result of these alterations does not ~~not~~ affect the total increase estimated by Govt under these two heads."

31/8/93

W. S. S.

Note - a copy of G.O. 697, 31 July 93, has been sent down officially to the Govt. in accordance with the orders contained in G.O. 4965 (Confid.) 12 Aug 90.

Rm

Rm

29 Aug.
The Comptroller of Accounts

Boudi orders
Comm. to G.O. on
the Tanjore S. S. Scheme

H. M.

52

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. DATED

188

No. 2

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. DATED

1889.

No.

When given for copying

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording of
Committee the
on the Income Tax
Scheme