

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 254

DATED 15th April.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Village Groups.

Yang. The rearrangement of certain — in the
Perunkonda taluk, Anantapur Dt.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 2618

Print 15/4/97



The Hon Mr. G. S. S. S. S.

From

The Board of Rev. L. R.

Order (Print) No 254 13/4/97

The callis
Recommendation
which is supported
by the Board of
Revenue is ap-
proved and sanction-
ed.

No. 1076 has

Dated 22-3-97.

Received 24-3-97

Registered 24-3-97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting for the sanc-
tion of Government proposals
for the revision of certain village
groups in the Pudukkottai
District.

Note

Please see the Board's
Resn. Flap 11/11/4/97.
(R 8/4/97)

In the Board L.R.
with Encls

10.6.5-97 11/11/4/97.
30

24/3/97

11/11/4/97

24/3/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1031 27-11-93 719 1897		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue)

No.1076 Misc., dated 22nd March 1897.

Read the following :-

1. Petition from Chekki Reddi and others of Samandapalle and its hamlets, Penukonda Taluk, Anantapur District, dated 20th November 1896.

2. petition from Chikki Reddi & Venkata Narasappa, Village officers of Samandevapalli, Penukonda Taluk, Anantapur, dated 22nd November 1896.

And the following Reference thereon dated 1st December 1896.

Forwarded to the Collector of Anantapur for report.

3. Petition from Balappa & others ryots of Gudipalli, Penukonda Taluk, Anantapur Dt., dated -----

And the following Reference thereon dated 24th February 1897.

Forwarded to the Collector of Anantapur for report in continuation of the Board's Reference dated 1st December 1896 on Petition Register No.2953/96.

4. letter from K.C.Manavedan Raja Esquire, Ag.Collector of Anantapur, Dis.No.1167, dated 3rd March 1897, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras.

5. Also petition from Thippa Reddi Curnam of Jalappa, Talary Erradiga and Babiga, Village officers of Gudipalli, Penukonda Taluk, Anantapur District, dated 9th March 1897.

33
resolution

Resolution

The Collector of Anantapur recommends the following rearrangement of village groups in the Penukonda Taluk:-

Names of Villages & Hamlets.	Distance from Somandepally	Acreage	Acreage	Pop.	Present Establishment					Proposed Establishment				
					Kurnams	Munsifs	Taluk	Other	Other	Kurnams	Munsifs	Taluk	Other	Other
Somandepally (C)		277	1642	1193	6	5	8	4	4					
Chakarlapally														
Hallegumdi														
Gudipally (C)	1 1/2	297	254											
Petakunta	5	150	10											
Papireddipally		312	35											
Gondipally	1													

2. In the last general revision of the village establishments of the District, the villages above referred to, with their hamlets, were clubbed together as one group both for kurnams and Munsif's charges. Subsequently the group was subdivided as shewn in para 1 above under the sanction conveyed in Government Order No. 1031 Rev., dated 27th November 1893, chiefly on the ground that the hamlet of Petakunta is 5 miles off Somandepally. The Collector now points out that Petakunta is an uninhabited village, that a large portion of the lands of the Gudipally group is in the holding of either the reddy or the kurnam of the Somandepally group and that it would be to the advantage of the Government as well as of the ryots if the arrangement made at the revision were ^{reverted} to. The Board supports the Collector's recommendation which would result in a saving of Rs. 156 per annum.

(True Copies & Extract)

Secretary.

The Secretary to Govt. R.D., with the petitions & their Enclos. & the Collector's report & its Enclos. in original (to be ret'd)

R.H.

Government { 1897 } of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

Enclosures

1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 254, 15th April 1897.

APRIL.

Village Groups.

Sanctioning the re-arrangement of certain — in the Penukonda taluk, Anantapur district.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 1076, dated 22nd March 1897:—

Read—Petition from CHEKKI REDDI and others of Samandapalle and its hamlets, Penukonda taluk, Anantapur district, dated 20th November 1896.

Read—Petition from CHEKKI REDDI AND VENKATA NARASAPPA, village officers of Samandevapalle, Penukonda taluk, Anantapur, dated 22nd November 1896.

Reference thereon dated 1st December 1896.

Forwarded to the Collector of Anantapur for report.

Read—Petition from BALAPPA and others, ryots of Gudipalle, Penukonda taluk, Anantapur district.

Reference thereon dated 24th February 1897.

Forwarded to the Collector of Anantapur for report in continuation of the Board's Reference dated 1st December 1896 on Petition Register No. 2953 of 1896.

Read—the following letter from K. C. MANAVEDAN Raja, Esq., B.A., Acting Collector of Anantapur, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras, dated Anantapur, 3rd March 1897, Dis. No. 1167:—

In reply to Board's Ref. on current petition No. 2953 of 1896 of the 1st December last forwarding for report petitions from the village officers of Sômandépalli and the ryots of Sômandépalli and its hamlets, Papiredipalle, Gondipalle and Nallagundlapalle and of Gudipalle, Penukonda taluk and Reference, dated 24th February 1897, on petition No. 294 of 1897 forwarding for report counter-petition from the village officers and some ryots of Gudipalle, I have the honour to state as follows.

2. In the original revision of the village establishment, Sômandépalli with all its paimash hamlets, viz., Papiredipalle, Gondipalle, Nallagundlapalle and Chakerlapalle in the Penukonda taluk and Gudipalle and Petakunta formerly in the Hindupur taluk were clubbed together as one group, but subsequently on the recommendation of the Tahsildar and the Head Assistant Collector, the group was sub-divided into (1) Sômandépalli with its paimash hamlets except Papiredipalle and Gondipalle and

(2) Gudipalle and Petakunta with Papiredipalle and Gondipalle hamlets of Sômandépalli. The sub-division was sanctioned by Government in its order No. 1031, dated 27th November 1893, communicated with Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 7174 dated 26th December 1893.

3. Subsequent to this the ryots of Sômandépalli petitioned to Mr. Nicholson on the same matter, but he ordered that the matter has been closed and declined to entertain the petition. It will thus be seen that Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Pitt were in favour of the sub-division, and that the Board and Government have accepted their proposal and sanctioned it.

4. The following are the grounds on which the Board's petitioners chiefly protest against the above sub-division:—

(a) That Petakunta is an uninhabited village, and that some of the ryots of Gudipalle are only tenants of the village officers of Sômandépalli and others are ryots of Sômandépalli;

(b) that all the fields of the hamlets Papiredipalle and Gondipalle are held by the village officers of Sômandépalli;

(c) that the transfer of Papiredipalle and Gondipalle, hamlets from Sômandépalli to Gudipalle group causes much inconvenience to the ryots of the hamlets as well as to those of Gudipalle;

(d) that the work of the whole group used to be managed only by one set of village officers without any complaint.

5. The counter-petition presented by the village officers and ryots of Gudipalli in favour of the sub-division deals mostly with certain alleged irregularities on the part of the village officers of Gudipalle. This is irrelevant. The only question for consideration is whether at this stage, after the sub-division has been sanctioned and the survey maps ordered to be revised, it is desirable to re-open the question. I would, however, submit that some of the grounds put forward by the petitioners are deserving of consideration.

6. The Head Assistant Collector in his letter Dis. No. 264, dated 1st February 1897, herewith submitted, supports the Board's petitioners and states that it was not a wise policy to have formed a separate Gudipalle group and that it would have been convenient, both in the interests of the ryots and Government, if the arrangement made at revision had been left undisturbed.

7. One thing must be clearly admitted, viz., that the sub-division involves the incurring of an expenditure of Rs. 156 a year. The question is whether the circumstances justify the incurring of any such expenditure. With all deference to Mr. Nicholson's opinion, I think they do not. The area of the whole group is 7,211 acres and population 1,482. The only ground that I can see assigned in the statement submitted with this Ref. on C. P. No. 1139, dated 12th September 1893, is that Petakunta is five miles away from Sômandépalli. In the first place this distance is not excessive. It is the rule rather than the exception to find hamlets situated at five miles and still further from the central village. In the second place this objection falls to the ground when it is considered that Petakunta is an uninhabited village. On the other hand, the reasons assigned by the present Acting Head Assistant Collector for continuing it as one group are much more important and deserve careful consideration. The greater portion of the two hamlets now taken away from Sômandépalli is in the holdings of either the reddy or the karnam of Sômandépalli. In these circumstances I agree with Mr. Macmichael in considering that it is not advisable to split the group into two.

8. The enclosures are returned.

ENCLOSURE.

From N. MACMICHAEL, Esq., Head Assistant Collector of Anantapur, to the Collector of Anantapur, dated 1st February 1897, Dis. No. 264.

Adverting to your Reference on C. No. 3794 of 1896, dated 11th December 1896, forwarding for report the two Board's petitions of the ryots and village officers of Sômandépalli, Penukonda

taluk, received with Board's Reference on Petition No. 2953 of 1896, dated 1st December 1896, I have the honour to state that before the revision of the village establishment in fasli 1302 the villages of Gudipalle and Petakunta belonged to the Hindupur taluk and at the revision they were both transferred to the Penukonda taluk and included in the Sômandépalī group. By this arrangement, the karnam of Gudipalle and Petakunta was ousted from his appointment.

Sômandépalī group.

1. Sômandépalī.
2. Nallagundapalle.
3. Chakerlapalle.
4. Payasampalle.
5. Baxampalle.

Gudipalle group.

1. Gudipallī.
2. Petakunta.
3. Papireddipalle.
4. Gondipalle.

hamlet Gondipalle in the newly-formed Gudipalle group.

2. The appellants grounds of appeal are—

(a) That the formation of a separate group of Gudipalle is unnecessary both in the interests of the ryots of Papireddipalle and Gondipalle, the present hamlets of Gudipalle, but formerly belonging to the Sômandépalī group, as well as in the interests of Government;

(b) that the present Gudipalle group may be abolished and all the villages constituting this group may be amalgamated with those of Sômandépalī group and the matters may be allowed to remain just as they stood immediately after the revision of the village establishment in fasli 1302;

(c) that if the above concession be not completely granted and if it is considered necessary to form a separate group of Gudipalle, the ryots of Papireddipalle and Gondipalle, &c., specially request that these two hamlets may be separated from it and included in the present Sômandépalī group, as they hold lands in Sômandépalī and its other hamlets, as they have been accustomed to work under the Sômandépalī village officers and as they find it difficult to work amicably and satisfactorily under two sets of masters;

(d) that in the hamlet of Papireddipalle, one Papireddi, the ancestor of Chikki Reddi, the present village Magistrate of Sômandépalī, and his brother Sunjeeve Reddi constructed a dasabandam tank, the whole ayacut under which is in their vasakat and which was therefore named after him (as Papireddipalle, and that even in the hamlet of Gondipalle, a greater portion of the land is held by Chikki Reddi and his brother Sunjeeve Reddi and the present karnam of Sômandépalī;

(e) that all the ryots in these two hamlets are the undertenants of this Chikki Reddi and his brother Sunjeeve Reddi and that it will therefore be convenient for them to pay their dues, &c., to the village officers of Sômandépalī rather than to those of Gudipalle;

(f) that all the villages constituting the Gudipalle group are within a radius of a mile and a quarter from Sômandépalī, which if made the parent village of the two combined groups, would be most convenient;

(g) that a separate Gudipalle group has been formed just to provide employment for the karnam of Gudipalle and Petakunta who has been left without any at the revision;

(h) that the village officers of Gudipalle do not live in Gudipalle, the karnam living at Palasamudram, a village in Hindupur taluk six miles away from theirs, and the Reddy gumastah in Sômandépalī and that if they wanted any information from the karnam they will have to go to Palasamudram six miles distant and that in a different taluk;

(i) the village officers of Sômandépalī group submit specially that they own lands in Papireddipalle and Gondipalle and that for anything that they want to be done in those villages they will have to be under the orders and obligations of village officers of Gudipalle, which they consider highly derogatory to their position as independent village officers;

(j) that the Survey and Settlement Departments have prepared their accounts, &c., treating the two groups as one, and that it will be sheer waste of time to demarcate and re-prepare the accounts of these departments (please *vide* copy of Deputy Commissioner's Takid Endorsement No. 17, dated 8th May 1896, and No. 716, dated 8th May 1896, filed by the appellants with the Board's petitions);

(k) that the appellants were not aware of the formation of the new group of Gudipalle as no notice was published in the District Gazette nor was any notice served on them to give them an opportunity of representing their grievances regarding the formation of the new group.

3. The above are some of the grounds which the petitioners urge in their two appeal petitions to the Board which have been rather very clumsily drawn up; of these grounds, the last is not correct, because a notice announcing the formation of the Gudipalle group was duly published in this District Gazette dated . . . But I do not know the exact circumstances under which the new Gudipalle group has been proposed and approved as the connected correspondence cannot be found whatever they might have been, I do not think it was a wise policy to have formed a separate Gudipalle group. It would certainly have been

convenient if the arrangement made at the revision had been left undisturbed, i.e., the amalgamation of Gudipalle and Petakunta with Sômandépalī group as alleged by the appellants; this new group appears to have been formed just to provide employment for the karnam who was left without any at the revision, though the state of these two villages did not absolutely call for a separate group. These two villages are so insignificant in themselves, one of them being uninhabited that it was not worth while to form a separate group of them; their beriz did not go beyond rupees four hundred and odd. So some more villages had to be amalgamated with them. There were no other villages adjoining except the two hamlets of Papireddipalle and Gondipalle. In ordering the transfer of these two hamlets to the Gudipalle group, I do not consider that the interests of ryots of those hamlets as well as those of Government have been duly considered. The ryots of these hamlets have been used to the rule of the officers of Sômandépalī. From the wording of their petitions to the Board they appear to be satisfied with their rule. By the separate grouping of Gudipalle, a foreign rule has now been introduced. They are not entirely under the orders of the village officers of this new group, for they are subject of the control of the village officers of Sômandépalī group as they own lands in Sômandépalī and its hamlets. They therefore take strong objection to their being subjected to this kind of divided authority. For in their attempt to please the village officers of one group they are sure to incur the displeasure of those of others as both of them appear to be in inimical terms. This will naturally lead to unnecessary factious dissensions among the ryots who have apparently been leading a quiet life. For during the period I have been in charge of this division, I have not received any complaints from Sômandépalī and its hamlets. So far as regards the interests of the ryots.

Now, as to the interests of Government, when Chikki Reddi, the Reddi in office of Sômandépalī, and his brother Sunjeeve Reddi hold patta for the largest portion of the holdings in the two hamlets of Papireddipalle and Gondipalle, it is in the interests of Government that these two hamlets should continue to belong to the Sômandépalī group for the easy collection of the two hamlets should continue to belong to the Sômandépalī group for the easy collection of the circar dues. Apart from the question of collection of assessment, there is also considerable saving effected by the abolition of this unnecessary new group as pointed out by the appellants in their appeal petition. So far as the appellants are considered, they do not object to the new group, provided it is to be composed of Gudipalle and Petakunta only. Their only request is that Papireddipalle and Gondipalle which have now been included in Gudipalle group may be separated from it and allowed to continue as hamlets of Sômandépalī group, as has been the case for years past. This is a very reasonable request which can fairly be considered and conceded.

The village officers of Sômandépalī group complain about the loss of their power and influence by the transfer of their hamlets to Gudipalle group. It is a fact that cannot be denied that every village is a small republic and its village officers are the moving and the leading spirits in it and all the resident villagers look up to them as their chief advisers in all that they do. In these two hamlets the village officers hold particularly large extents on patta; all the resident ryots are their tenants. When they cease to be village officers they cease to command all influence with them and their work in them cannot get on with that felicity with which it will go on when they are the village officers. What has been theirs for a long time has been taken away from them and given to others who have no right to it. There is also another reason why the Reddi and his brother should be particularly anxious to retain Papireddipalle for themselves as their ancestor, Papi Reddi constructed an important dasabandam tank in it. The loss of prestige is everything with village officers who look upon their appointments more as an honour and a source of power and influence rather than a source of pecuniary profit and gain. For these reasons I am of opinion that the two hamlets in question should be again grouped with Sômandépalī group. After their separation from Gudipalle group the continuance of it as a separate group is not necessary. So its complete abolition is strongly recommended. The two villages may conveniently be included in the Sômandépalī group as was done at the revision, and if considered necessary, its establishment may be increased by the addition of one more talayari. This arrangement, the village officers of Sômandépalī admit, will not give them any perceptible increase of work. For as they say there are several groups in this division with a larger beriz and which are still managed by a single karnam and a reddi. The combined beriz of the two groups comes to about Rs. 2,000.

This arrangement will also facilitate the work of the survey and settlement departments. The redemarcation of these two hamlets and the consequent connections in the survey maps which have now been ordered and which do not appear to have been as yet carried out need not be. The settlement accounts which have been prepared according to the survey need not now undergo any alterations.

4. As regards the complaint of the appellants that karnam Jalappa got pattas for some lands which contained valuable trees in the names of some others while he himself has been the actual enjoyer, separate enquires will be instituted and the matter separately disposed of as also their complaint against the village officers of Gudipalle for non-residence in Gudipalle.

5. The Board's appeal petitions are herewith submitted with connected records.

Read—also petition from THIPPA REDDI, karnam of Jalappa, talayary Erradiga and Babiga, village officers of Gudipalle, Penukonda taluk, Anantapur district, dated 9th March 1897.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1076, dated 22nd March 1897.

The Collector of Anantapur recommends the following rearrangement of village groups in the Penukonda taluk :—

Names of villages and hamlets.	Distance from Sômandépalli.	Wet ayacut.	Beriz.	Population.	Present establishment.					Proposed establishment.				
					Karnams.	Munsifs.	Talayaris.	Vettis.	Nirgantis.	Karnams.	Munsifs.	Talayaris.	Vettis.	Nirgantis.
Sômandépalli (e)	..	ACS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Chakarlapalle	..	} 277	1,642	1,193	6	5	* 8	4	4	} 7	6	8	8	4
Nallagundlapalle	..													
Gudipalle (e)	..													
Petakunta	..													
Papireddipalle	..													
Gondipalle	..	150	312	35	6	5	4	4	..					

* Includes a ghât talayari.

2. In the last general revision of the village establishments of the district, the villages above referred to, with their hamlets, were clubbed together as one group both for karnams and munsif's charges. Subsequently the group was sub-divided as shown in paragraph 1 above under the sanction conveyed in G.O., No. 1031, Revenue, dated 27th November 1893, chiefly on the ground that the hamlet of Petakunta is 5 miles off Sômandépalli. The Collector now points out that Petakunta is an uninhabited village, that a large portion of the lands of the Gudipalle group is in the holding of either the reddy or the karnam of the Sômandépalli group, and that it would be to the advantage of the Government as well as of the ryots if the arrangement made at the revision were reverted to. The Board supports the Collector's recommendation which would result in a saving of Rs. 156 per annum.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with the petitions and their enclosures and the Collector's
report and its enclosures in original (to be returned).

ORDER—No. 254, Revenue, dated 15th April 1897.

Miscellaneous.

The Collector's recommendation which is supported by the Board of Revenue is approved and sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), with enclosures.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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