

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1102

DATED 24th Feb. '97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Approving the proposal of the Board of Revenue
regarding the issue of a notification the subject of water
applications and relinquishments in the Godavari
District.

BACK PAPERS.

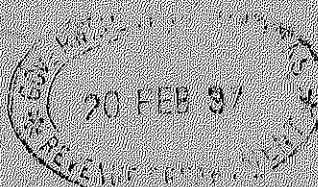
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1543



Ref to def
24/2/97

The Honble Mr J. G. S. S.

From

The Board of Revenue

(Rev. Sett., L. R. & Agri.).

Madras

Order mis No. 1102 of 24 Feb. 97

The proposal of the Deputy
Commissioner which is supported by the
Board of Revenue is approved and the
Commissioner will be authorised to issue
the necessary notification

No. 1264 Miscellaneous

Dated 19th February 1897

Received 20 - 2 - 97

Registered 20 - 2 - 97

Enclosures

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apparently not 5
SUBJECT

It should a copy be submitted for the
approval of Govt by

The Board of Revenue (Rs) 97000-2-3 97

Note No. 123 referred to in the
current is under disposal and it
is thought that this paper need not
be delayed on this account. There
would be no harm if it is submitted,
by the issue of the proposed notification
It is necessary

Submitting for the orders
of Government, with remarks,
letter from the Deputy Commissioner
of Revenue Settlement to the Board
regarding the issue of a notification
on the subject of water application
and relinquishment in the Godavari
and Krishna Districts.
With the most recent paper.

24/2/97

27/2/97

23/2/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed May 19th.

Proceedings, 8th May 1896, No. 93.

Revision of assessment.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, letter from the Deputy Commissioner, III Party, suggesting the publication of a notice in the Godavari and Kistna District Gazettes in respect of the — in the Delta taluks in fash 1896 to the effect that water should be taken subject to the rates of assessment that may be imposed under the orders of Government.

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

READ—the following letter from G. P. CLERK, Esq., Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Party No. III, Gódvári and Kistna, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Cocanada, 1st May 1896, No. 260 :—

In a demi-official letter received from the Commissioner early in March last, I was instructed to undertake the compilation of a statement showing what fields have been continuously under wet cultivation for five years and upwards in the Gódvári Delta.

2. The Miscellaneous Account No. 2 prepared at time of classification shows figures for only five years.

3. In paragraph 6 of its Proceedings, Mis. No. 226, dated the 16th January last, however, the Board ordered that "It would wish to have the wet area shown in the scheme to be divided as follows :—

Area irrigated for five years consecutively.

Do. for four years out of five.

Do. for three years do.

Do. for two years do.

Do. for one year do."

4. I have, therefore, had the information available compiled under the above heads, and beg to subjoin the following abstract :—

Taluka.	Extent irrigated for										Total area irrigated.		Area shown in the scheme as wet.	
	Five years consecutively.		Four out of five years.		Three out of five years.		Two out of five years.		One out of five years.					
	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.		
1	2		3		4		5		6		7		8	
Rámachandrapuram ..	ACS. 68,935	93	ACS. 2,100	3	ACS. 1,422	2	ACS. 1,012	1	ACS. 935	1	ACS. 74,404	100	ACS. 74,404	
Tanuku ..	42,676	82	3,407	7	2,617	5	1,850	4	1,520	2	52,070	100	52,070	
Amalapuram ..	30,638	92	775	3	755	2	667	2	455	1	33,280	100	33,533	
Narasapur. {	Narasapur ..	33,502	79	3,090	7	2,330	6	1,665	4	1,729	4	42,316	100	42,316
	(Nagaram ..	17,673	83	854	5	636	3	489	2	562	2	20,214	100	20,214
Total ..	51,175	82	3,944	6	2,966	5	2,154	3	2,291	4	62,530	100	..	
Bhimavaram ..	55,833	85	3,455	6	2,878	4	2,197	3	1,431	2	65,794	100	66,529	
Ernagudem ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	784	
Ellora ..	30,523	87	1,620	5	1,804	5	788	2	185	1	34,920	100	34,920	
Cocanada Division ..	230	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	230	100	230	
Total ..	280,010	86.6	15,301	4.7	12,442	3.8	8,658	2.7	6,817	2.2	323,228	100	326,258	

Area for which details are not available.

Tanuku.—Statements for two villages not received from the branch offices ..	ACS.
Amalapuram.—The statement of one village is missing ..	1,253
Bhimavaram.—Statements of three villages not received from the branch offices ..	258
Ernagudem.—Details are not given in the No. II statement. The area relates to five villages ..	784
Total ..	3,030
Total ..	326,258

It will be observed that about 86.6 per cent. of the area shown as "wet" in my scheme has been under irrigation for five years consecutively. In addition to this, about 9 per cent. of the remaining area took the Government water for three years. But these years may or may not have been consecutive.

5. As the information called for by the Board is required for the determination of the wet area that is permanently under irrigation, and as, under the rules regulating the transfer of dry lands to wet printed on page 18 of the Settlement Manual, all dry lands irrigated for three or more years consecutively from a fairly trustworthy supply should be changed into wet, I have had the statistics compiled also under other heads showing the area irrigated consecutively for each period of five, four, three and two years during the five years ending fasli 1304. The following abstract gives the result:—

Taluka.	Extent irrigated consecutively for								Add area irrigated only in one year.		Total		Area shown in the scheme as wet.	
	Five years.		Four years.		Three years.		Two years.							
	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.	Area.	Percentage.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Ramachandrapuram ..	ACS. 69,935	93	ACS. 1,562	2	ACS. 1,386	2	ACS. 1,095	1	ACS. 1,426	2	ACS. 74,404	100	ACS. 74,404	
Tanuku ..	42,676	82	2,454	5	2,799	5	2,158	4	1,983	4	52,070	100	53,328	
Amalapuram ..	30,038	92	681	2	600	2	811	2	541	2	33,280	100	33,533	
Narasapur ..	Narasapur ..	33,502	79	1,881	4	2,417	6	2,057	5	2,459	6	42,316	100	42,316
	Nagaram ..	17,673	88	673	3	568	3	488	2	812	4	20,214	100	20,214
Total ..	51,175	82	2,554	4	2,985	4	2,545	4	3,271	6	62,530	100	..	
Bhimavaram ..	65,833	85	2,539	4	2,572	4	2,811	4	2,039	3	65,794	100	66,529	
Ernagudem ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	784	
Ellore ..	30,523	87	1,166	3	1,067	3	1,537	6	627	2	34,900	100	34,920	
Cocanada Division ..	230	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	230	100	230	
Total ..	280,010	86.6	10,956	3.4	11,418	3.6	10,067	3.4	9,887	3	323,228	100	326,258	

Area for which details are not available.

Tanuku.—Statements for two villages are not received from branch offices ..	ACS. 1,258
Amalapuram.—The statement of one village is missing ..	253
Bhimavaram.—Statements of three villages are not received from the branch offices ..	736
Ernagudem.—Details are not given in No. II Miscellaneous Account. The area relates to five villages ..	784

3,030
Total .. 326,258

About 302,000 acres, or 94 per cent., of the area shown as wet in the scheme should be registered as "wet" if the rule given in the Settlement Manual referred to above is to be given effect to.

6. In the Board's review on my proposals for the settlement of the district—vide clause 2 under paragraph 53—it is proposed that "only those fields which have been for five years continuously under 'wet' cultivation may be so classed." That is to say, that they should be registered as wet, treated as lands which are unfit for dry cultivation being unable to exclude the Government water, and that they should be charged with consolidated wet rates. In paragraph 34 of the same review, it is stated that in tracts where wet cultivation is general, it is impossible for scattered fields surrounded by "wet" cultivation to grow a "dry" crop unless water were cut off from the whole tract. I presume this to mean that all such scattered fields should be registered as "wet," and charged with a consolidated wet rate without any option to the ryot. But this is not in accordance with the opinion of the Board that only lands

irrigated for five years should be registered as "wet". These scattered fields cannot be registered as "dry" for the reason that they cannot exclude water being in the midst of a general "wet" tract.

7. In illustration of this case I beg to enclose the map * of village No. 4 Pedapudu in the Ramachandrapuram taluk. The

* To be returned when no longer required. numbers marked in blue pencil represent the fields which took Government water for less than five years, while those marked in red pencil represent the fields registered as "dry" in the scheme averzas and revenue adangal of fasli 1302. All these scattered fields are surrounded by a general tract of "wet" land which has taken Government water regularly for five years. Such scattered fields must necessarily be registered as "wet" at time of introduction, as they cannot exclude water unless water is cut off from the whole tract.

8. If five years continuous irrigation is essential to the registration of land as "wet," the question arises as to what five years' period should be adopted. We cannot well take the last five years as the ryots have relinquished the right to use water for about 80,000 acres in fasli 1305 in the Delta taluks when the uniform water-rate was raised from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5. In some cases these form scattered fields in a general tract of "wet" land, while in other cases, water was refused for whole tracts of land. From the tenor of the Board's Proceedings, No. 434, dated 15th October 1894, it appears that the five years' period should be calculated afresh each year. If this principle is followed, there will be an increase in the wet *ayakat* every year. In districts already settled, the ayakats are finally determined by the Settlement Officers, and the Revenue Officers cannot transfer dry land into wet or *vice versa* unless it is proved in the latter case that the source of irrigation has failed.

9. I beg to suggest, in the circumstances above set forth, that, as in other districts already settled, the Settling Officer may be allowed to register lands as "wet" in accordance with the rules published in the Settlement Manual.

Of course the high level lands referred to in paragraph 36 of the Board's review will be registered as "dry," so that the ryots may have the option of irrigating them.

10. In this connection I request the orders of the Board on the following point.

In this and Kistna districts, the applications for irrigation to be discontinued should be made, under the Delta rules given as appendix to Board's Standing Order No. 4 (Revised Edition), before the 1st April.

The enhanced water-rate of Rs. 5 for fasli 1304 was ordered to be discontinued, as the ryots had not been given previous intimation of the change.

If consolidated assessments *higher* than the existing dry assessment, *plus* Rs. 5 water-rate per acre, are imposed at time of settlement in fasli 1306 (1896-97), the ryots may raise the same objection and legally claim to pay only the old land assessment and Rs. 5 water-rate per acre for all lands irrigated with permission. To avoid this legal disability of imposing the higher settlement rates, I beg to suggest that a notice may be published in the District Gazettes of this and Kistna districts in respect of Delta irrigation in taluks in which the existing rates of assessment have to be revised by the Settlement Department in fasli 1306. Although the date prescribed in the Board's Standing Order has expired, still, as the ryots have not yet taken any water, the date of relinquishment may be extended. River water will not be available for irrigation till middle of June, and the ryots and inamdars may be informed that they can relinquish the right to use water before the 15th June 1896, if they are not prepared to pay such rates of assessment and water-tax for wet cultivation as may be sanctioned by Government hereafter.

If the Board approves of my suggestion, telegraphic orders may be issued to the Collectors of the Godavari and Kistna districts, so that the ryots may be given at least a month's previous intimation of the intended change.

RESOLUTION—dated 8th May 1896, No. 93.

The Deputy Commissioner's letter will be submitted to Government with the following remarks:—

Paragraph 6 of the letter.—“I presume this to mean that all such scattered fields should be registered as ‘wet’ and charged with a consolidated wet rate without any option to the ryot.”

On the hypothesis that the said scattered fields are unfit for dry cultivation and unable to exclude the Government water, the Deputy Commissioner's presumption is correct.

The Deputy Commissioner misquotes the Board in saying that “only those fields which have been for five years continuously under ‘wet’ cultivation may be classed as ‘wet.’”

The Board has not used the word “only.”

The Board's main proposition is contained in paragraph 53 (1) of its review.

The Board goes on to state that “all fields continuously under wet cultivation for five years” may be regarded as falling under class 53 (1) without further inquiry. This is only one test, requiring no local inspection. Whether any other land should be classed under 53 (1) is a matter to be decided by the Settling Officer by inspection on the ground.

2. The Deputy Commissioner's proposal in paragraph 9 is equivalent to recommending that the 22,000 acres shown in columns 4 and 6 of the statement in paragraph 5 of his letter should be treated as falling within class 53 (1) without local inspection.

Until Government accepts the principle advocated in paragraph 53 (1), the Board is not disposed to raise the minor question, although it is inclined to approve the recommendation.

3. With reference to clause 2 of paragraph 9, it is not clear how the Deputy Commissioner would propose to ascertain the high level lands without actual inspection.

If the necessity of such inspection be admitted, there is virtually no difference between the course now recommended by the Deputy Commissioner and that proposed by the Board.

4. Deputy Commissioner's paragraph 10.—The Board does not understand how any ryot can “before the 15th June 1896” determine whether he is prepared to pay such rates of assessment as Government may hereafter be pleased to impose. In order that he may make up his mind, he must obviously know what the new rates will be.

The Board therefore sees no advantage in the proposed extension of the date of relinquishment.

In fact what the Board would desire is the publication of a notification that the option of relinquishing Government water will be withdrawn from 1st July next. It is useless to ask Government to publish such a notification until it is in a position to pass orders on the questions of principle which have been laid before it.

5. If the system of charging a consolidated assessment is determined upon, it will be for Government to consider whether the new rates can be introduced for a fasli in respect of which the ryot has been permitted to exercise the option of taking, or relinquishing, the Government water.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with a map to be returned.

Copy to the Deputy Commissioner, No. III Party.
“ “ Collector of Godavari.

Exd. O. M. Thambuswamy.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

Dated 19th February 1897.

No. 1264 Miscellaneous

READ the following letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement Party No. III dated 8th February 1897 No. 98:—

I have the honor to invite the attention of the Board to para 10 of this office letter No. 260 dated 1st May 1896 and to paras 4 and 5 of Board's Proceedings thereon No. 93 dated 8th May 1896.

2. I am not sure whether it will be practicable to introduce the resettlement into the Godavari District or into the Masulipatam portion of the Kistna district in the current fasli 1306 (1896-97). The Statistics required for the Kistna Scheme report are not yet complete, and in Godavari

there is still a large amount of work to be done in the measurement of subdivisions of fields so as to secure agreement between occupation on the ground and the registry of holdings. This work will have to be done later on in Kistna also, where the final inspection of Classification may be expected to be completed by the end of the current month, but as already noted, the work of measurement of subdivisions of fields, which is proving more heavy than was at first anticipated, will occupy some time longer.

3. As pointed out by the Board in para 5 of its Proceedings above quoted, it is a point for consideration whether the new rates can be introduced in the current fasli, in respect of which the ryots have been permitted, under the existing water-rate rules, to exercise the option of taking or relinquishing Government water. If there is any force in this objection to the introduction of new rates in the current fasli year, it seems desirable that, with a view to remove all ground for such objection to the introduction of the resettlement in the ensuing fasli 1307 (1897-98), a notification should be published at once, as suggested by

the Board in its Proceedings above quoted or a notification to the general effect that those who may take water for the ensuing fasli under the existing water-rate rules will do so, subject to the contingency of these rules being superseded or modified by the introduction of a resettlement on such lines as Government may approve of. As applications for irrigation to be discontinued for the ensuing fasli should be made under the existing rules before 1st April next, I submit the question of the issue of a notification in the sense above suggested for the consideration of the Board.

Resolution

Submitted for the orders of Government.

1. The Board supports the Acting Deputy Commissioner's proposal that a notification may be issued to the effect that those who may take water for the ensuing fasli under the existing water-rate rules will do so subject to the contingency of those rules being

Superseded or modified by the introduction
of a resettlement on such lines as Government
may sanction.

(True Copy and Extract)

R. J. Summerville
Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.
Copy to the Deputy Commissioner
No III Party

Encl
19/2/87

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DUTY

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL

N.B.—

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