Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1349

DATED 10th March

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Board's Progs (Settlement) comm
with remarks G.O. on the report on the
results of the introduction of the new
rates into the whole of the Bellary Dt
and Gooty and Tadpatri taluks of
Anantapur Dt

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Revenue (189 7) Department.

CURRENT No. 1995

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
15 MAR 97
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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From Board of Revenue
Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and
Agriculture
Madras

Order Misc No 1349 d/ 10 March 1897.

Dy No 3197

Records

Dy 9.3.97

No. 142

Dated 18th February 1897.

Received

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SUBJECT.

Settlement

Communicating, with remarks, G. O. on the report on the results of the introduction of the new rates into the whole of the Bellary district and Gooty and Tadpatri taluks of Anantapur district.

To

The Board of Rev: Rs.de

Dis. 13-3-97

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BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following G.O., No. 429, Revenue, dated 28th August 1896 :—

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 1st May 1896, No. 83.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government report of the Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, No. I Party, on the results of the introduction of the new settlement rates into the whole of the Bellary district and the Gooty and Tadpatri taluks of Anantapur district.

Order—No. 429, Revenue, dated 28th August 1896.

Land Revenue No. 42.

With its Proceedings read above, the Board of Revenue submits the report drawn up by M.R.Ry. S. Rangachariar Avargal, Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, No. I Party, on the results of the introduction of the new settlement rates sanctioned in G.Os., No. 729, dated 12th September 1890, and No. 358, dated 1st May 1893, into the whole of the Bellary district and the Gooty and Tadpatri taluks of the Anantapur district.

2. The settlement was commenced in July 1885 and by June 1894 the new rates were introduced into the several taluks with the exception of three villages or portions of villages, which were transferred to Adóni from the Pattikonda taluk in the Kurnool district subsequent to the settlement of that taluk in 1872, and consequently do not require any revision of assessment before the year 1902. The period occupied by the settlement was thus nine years ; the delay is mainly attributable to the difficulty experienced in the preparation of suitable schemes to meet the particular requirements of the ten taluks under settlement, the physical and economic characteristics of which exhibit considerable varieties and differ widely from those of most other districts. Two separate schemes were found necessary, and the exceptional poverty of the tract and its liability to famine made great caution necessary.

3. The subjoined statement compares the survey areas of the Bellary district and the portion of the Anantapur district now settled with those entered in the revenue accounts, prepared previous to the survey :—

Districts.	Items.	As per revenue accounts.	As per survey.	Difference by survey.	Percentage.
		ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	
Bellary ..	Total area of the district	3,587,199	3,595,924	+ 8,725	+ 0·25
	Area of Government lands excluding poramboke and inam	*2,320,960	2,273.098	*— 47,862	— 2·06
	Area of occupied Government lands. Dry ..	1,449.135	1,519,053	+ 69,918	+ 4·82
	Area of occupied Government lands. Wet ..	37,696	40,563	+ 2,867	+ 7·61
	Area of occupied Government lands. Total ..	1,486,831	1,559.616	+ 72,785	+ 4·89
	Area of unoccupied Government lands ..	836,240	713,482	— 122,758	— 14·68
	Total area of Gooty and Tadpatri	988,718	1,054,553	+ 65,835	+ 6·66
Anantapur ..	Area of Government lands in the two taluks excluding poramboke and inam.	* 513,588	517,412	*+ 3,824	+ 0·74
	Area of occupied Government lands. Dry ..	379,351	392,263	+ 12,912	+ 3·40
	Area of occupied Government lands. Wet ..	14,408	15,214	+ 806	+ 5·59
	Area of occupied Government lands. Total ..	393,759	407,477	+ 13,718	+ 3·48
	Area of unoccupied Government lands ..	120,078	109,936	— 10,142	— 8·45

* These figures do not quite correspond with the totals of the details regarding occupied and unoccupied Government lands; the discrepancy is referred to at the close of the paragraph.

The general increase by survey was thus very small. There was a considerable advance in the area of occupied Government lands, but this was accompanied by a greater decrease per cent. in the unoccupied area, a circumstance which should no doubt be attributed mainly to the gradual encroachment by the ryots on Government waste. In this connection the Government observes that the figures relating to the occupied area "as per revenue accounts" given in the statement attached to paragraph 12 of the Deputy Commissioner's report differ from those which appear in the statements in paragraphs 42 and 43 of the same report and in paragraph 8 of the Board's Proceedings. The area of the bungalow lands shown in the statements last mentioned also does not agree with that given in paragraph 37 of the report. The causes of these discrepancies should be explained.

4. In sanctioning the scheme for the settlement of the Adóni, Alúr, Bellary, Gooty and Tadpatri taluks, the Government, in paragraph 11 of G.O., No. 729, Revenue, dated 12th September 1890, directed that "the total increase in dry assessment must be reduced to 6 per cent. in Bellary, to 10 per cent. in Gooty and to 15 per cent. in Tadpatri" and added that "care must be taken to adjust the proportionate reduction so as to afford relief in those cases where it is most needed." In paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 358, Revenue, dated 1st May 1893, it was further directed that the increase in the assessment of the then unclassified taluk of Harpanahalli should be restricted to a figure not greater than that anticipated "in the other taluks dealt with." In the case of the taluks first mentioned, the orders of Government have as far as possible been complied with, the actual increase except in Bellary being below the maximum prescribed. In Bellary, however, the total assessment appears to have increased by 7 per cent. and it has not been explained why the increase was not limited to 6 per cent. as originally directed by Government. The Board will now be requested to submit a report on the point. The Deputy Commissioner who seems to have misapprehended the exact meaning of paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 358, Revenue, dated 1st May 1893, states that the rates of increase in the case of the Hadagalli and Harpanahalli taluks could not be equalized owing partly to the difference in the rates of increase in area discovered by survey and partly to the average revenue assessment having been lower in Harpanahalli than in Hadagalli. The Government did not expressly desire that the rates of assessment in these two taluks should be equalized, but, as has been mentioned above, limited the increase in Harpanahalli, to that anticipated in the "other taluks dealt with." The soils in Hadagalli are, however, similar to those in Harpanahalli, and as the Deputy Commissioner has explained why the increase of assessment in the latter slightly exceeds that noticeable in the former, the Government sees no reason to suppose that Harpanahalli taluk has been over-assessed although the rates of increase is higher than in some of the other taluks settled.

5. The following statement gives the percentage of increase or decrease in assessment under "dry" and "wet" in the several taluks as compared with that previous to settlement and also the average rate, of assessment per acre both before and after settlement:—

Districts.	Taluks.	Percentage of increase or decrease of settlement assessment as compared with revenue assessment.		Average rate per acre as per revenue accounts.		Average rate per acre of revenue assessments on survey area.		Average rate per acre of settlement assessment on survey area.	
		Dry.	* Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
				RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Bellary	Alúr	+ 8	— 1	1 3 6	5 1 5	1 2 9	4 12 0	1 3 5	4 10 11
	Ádóni	+ 8	+ 7	0 15 1	5 5 4	0 14 6	5 5 11	0 15 0	5 11 9
	Bellary	+ 7	+ 8	0 13 3	8 0 11	0 12 7	7 10 10	0 13 5	7 15 1
	Hospet	+ 7	+ 11	0 7 1	6 14 5	0 6 9	6 9 2	0 7 3	7 4 3
	Hadagalli	+ 8	+ 8	0 9 2	5 6 3	0 8 10	5 0 8	0 9 7	5 7 3
	Rayadrug	+ 12	+ 9	0 8 7	4 0 3	0 8 0	3 9 2	0 9 0	3 14 2
	Kódligi	+ 3	+ 3	0 7 5	4 13 4	0 7 0	4 6 11	0 7 4	4 9 4
	Harpanahalli ..	+ 10	†+ 24	0 8 9	4 4 9	0 8 1	3 14 4	0 9 2	4 13 3
	Total ..	+ 6	+ 9	0 11 7	5 9 3	0 11 2	5 2 11	0 11 10	5 10 2
	Special rates and quit-rent on bungalows.	‡+ 19	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Grand Total ..	+ 6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Anantapur.	Gooty	+ 6	— 4	0 10 9	4 7 9	0 10 3	4 2 9	0 10 10	4 0 4
	Tadpatri	+ 12	+ 2	0 11 10	4 15 3	0 11 9	4 12 8	0 13 0	4 14 5
	Total ..	+ 8	— 1	0 11 2	4 11 2	0 10 10	4 7 2	0 11 9	4 6 8

* Including tirvajasti.

† Increase in area, 10 per cent.; total extent only 3,664 acres or less than 2 per cent. of the total area of occupied Government lands.

‡ Only about 900 acres of land.

In view of the fact that the increase by survey in the areas of "dry" and "wet" lands in the Bellary district was 5 per cent. and 8 per cent., respectively, the increase in assessment by settlement, viz., 6 per cent. and 9 per cent., respectively, is very moderate. In the two taluks of Anantapur now reported on there was an advance in area of 3 per cent. under "dry" and 6 per cent. under "wet." The dry assessment of these taluks exhibits an increase of 8 per cent., though under "wet" there was a decrease of 1 per cent., the whole of which occurred in the Gooty taluk. It may, however, be mentioned here that if the water-rate charged on dry lands transferred to wet be excluded, there would be an increase of 11 per cent. in the wet assessment in that taluk. A comparison of the average rates per acre both before and after settlement shows that there has been very little variation, and from paragraph 50 of the report it appears that the assessment is also considerably lower than in some of the adjacent taluks of the Cuddapah and Kurnool districts.

6. The total demand previous to settlement in the Bellary district was Rupees 12,68,666 and in the Gooty and Tadpatri taluks Rs. 3,53,306, while that after the settlement was Rs. 13,53,608 and Rs. 3,54,863, respectively. The increase in the demand of the land revenue proper was thus about 7 per cent. in the Bellary district and 6 per cent. in the portion of the Anantapur district now settled, but if allowance is made for the increase in the area brought to light by the new survey and not paying its proper assessment before, viz., 5 per cent. and 4 per cent., respectively, the advance in assessment is insignificant. It has, however, to be remembered that as already pointed out by Government on a previous occasion the districts concerned "are the poorest and most backward in the Presidency, the most sterile and the most subject to drought," and that "good policy alone demands most lenient assessment of them." Judged in the light of these remarks the results obtained must, in the opinion of Government, be considered to be thoroughly satisfactory.

7. As regards the future possibilities of increase in the revenue, the Government observes that the assessed waste lands available for cultivation in the Bellary district amount to 705,288 acres under "dry" and 8,182 acres under "wet" and in the Gooty and Tadpatri taluks to 107,312 acres under "dry" and 2,624 acres under "wet." The assessments fixed on "dry" and "wet" waste amount in the Bellary district to Rs. 2,81,329 and Rs. 31,036, respectively, and in the Gooty and Adóni taluks to Rs. 39,131 and Rs. 2,624, respectively. The average rates per acre except in the Alúr taluk are considerably less than those leviable on occupied lands, and the Board's instructions to the Collector of Bellary to consider the question of the advisability of reducing the rates in Alúr as directed by Government are approved.

8. The Government notes with satisfaction that a scrutiny of the cost and results of the survey and settlement of the districts which have been settled since the year 1880 shows that the charges incurred in Bellary and in the portion of the Anantapur district now reported on are the smallest on record and that the net gain on the outlay, viz., 7 per cent. in Bellary and 6 per cent. in the two taluks of Anantapur, compares favourably with that of most of the other districts referred to.

9. The following inaccuracies are noticeable in the Board's Proceedings:—

(i) The expression "a little less than 9 lakhs" in paragraph 12 is apparently a mistake for "a little more than 0·9 lakh."

(ii) The Pattikonda villages referred to in paragraph 15 were settled in 1872 and not in 1878.

(iii) In paragraph 16 it is stated that the settlement of the Madura district resulted in an increase of 2 per cent. in assessment, but from paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 1155, Revenue, dated 4th December 1891, it is clear that the introduction of the new rates into that district brought about a net decrease of 2½ per cent.

10. A copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded for the information of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
" Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

RESOLUTION—dated 18th February 1897, No. 142.

Communicated to the Deputy Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Party No. I, and the Collectors of Bellary and Anantapur districts.

2. The Deputy Commissioner is requested to explain the causes of the discrepancies pointed out at the end of paragraph 3 of the G.O., read above. As regards the discrepancy in the case of the bungalow lands, it is observed that the area thereof given in the statement in paragraph 37 of the Deputy Commissioner's report (viz., 787 acres) includes, while the area entered in the statement in paragraph 42 (viz., 775·39 acres) excludes, unoccupied lands, as will be seen from the statement in paragraph 67, in which the area of such lands is given as 12 acres.

3. Referring to the remarks of Government in paragraph 4 of the order regarding the increase in "dry" assessment in Bellary taluk, it will be noted that a special report on the financial results of the introduction of the new rates into that taluk was obtained and reviewed by the Board in its Proceedings, No. 56, dated 9th February 1893. In paragraph 3 of that review it was pointed out that the revenue and settlement average-rates on occupied "dry" lands were As. 12–7 and As. 13–5, respectively, and that the percentage of increase was 6·38 over the revenue assessment, while the increase in area by survey was 4·77 per cent. The Board then remarked: "the net increase thus obtained is less than one half of that brought out in Mr. Cox's proposals

though it is slightly in excess of the 6 per cent. limit fixed by Government. It is possible, however, that some further reductions may be granted by the Board in some of the cases coming up before it on appeal." The above Proceedings were recorded by Government in G.O., No. 1276, dated 5th April 1893.

4. The final report now reviewed by Government also shows the same average "dry" rates both under revenue and settlement as those mentioned above. The percentage of increase in the total assessment is entered as 7 in the report by rounding the fraction; but the actual increase was only 6·83 per cent. and this slightly larger percentage was mainly due to increase in the percentage of excess area by survey which rose from 4·77 to 5 per cent. The Deputy Commissioner will, however, be requested to report further on the point.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. J. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Deputy Commissioner, Revenue Settlement, No. I Party.
" Collectors of Bellary and Anantapur.
Copy to Officers in charge of other Settlement Parties.
" to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed February 27th.

Proceedings, 18*th Feb.* 1897, *No.* 142.

Settlement.—Communicating, with remarks, G.O. on the report on the results of the introduction of the new — rates into the whole of the Bellary district and Gooty and Tadpatri taluks of Anantapur district.

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