

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 157

DATED 11th July 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Board's Proc^{re} Commg Govt order
on Board's Report on the gamabandi (L.R. set.)
for fiscal 1304 (1894-95) and requesting to embody
the substance of the orders quoted in its next
gamabandi Rept.

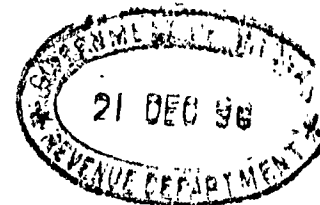
BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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Revenue (1896) Department.



CURRENT No. 111

From

The Board of Revenue

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

Order No. 157 dt 11th Aug 1897
Recorded.

2. With reference to para 6 of its report
the Board is requested to embody the
substance of the orders quoted in its next
Jamaabandi Report.

No. 378 Press

Dated 1st December 1896

Received 21.12.96

Registered 22.12.96

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Jamaabandi (Land Revenue
Settlement).

Communicating Govern-
ment Order on Board's report
on the — for para 1304
(1894-95).

To the Board (Settl) No. 15-1-97

Per

KD
8.1.97

came to be included in ryots' holdings. The result of the further enquiry, which the Board is making on the subject, should be submitted for the information of Government. The decrease in the Nilgiri district is attributed chiefly to the relinquishments of gold mining lands in Gúdálúr. The causes of the relinquishments and of the sales for arrears of revenue that have taken place in South-east Wynaad since the introduction of the Revenue Settlement are under investigation by the Collector.

Excluding the three districts referred to above, the occupied area in the remaining districts showed an increase of 320,641 acres. Of this, 50,874 acres were transferred from inam to ryotwar in the Cuddapah, South Arcot, Tanjore and Madura districts. The area newly taken up on darkhast in excess of the extent relinquished was 220,075 acres. The increase was large in the Cuddapah, Anantapur, South Arcot and Salem districts under the stimulus of a comparatively favourable south-west monsoon.

As compared with fasli 1285, the year before the great famine of 1876—78, the area held by the ryots on patta during the year under review shows an increase of about 11 per cent. If, however, the excess area brought to account by the

	MILLION ACRES.
* Total increase including miscellaneous cultivation ..	2.73
Increase due to extension of cultivation ..	1.65
Remainder ..	1.08

survey and the extent of inam lands incorporated with ryotwar holdings from time to time (viz., 1,080,000 acres) * be excluded, the increase will be reduced to 5 per cent. It is satisfactory to note that in Cuddapah, one of the two districts

	ACRES.
† Occupied area in fasli 1304 ..	1,271,330
Deduct inam lands incorporated with ryotwar since fasli 1283 ..	104,119
Occupied area in fasli 1285 ..	1,167,211
Remainder ..	1,254,436
Balance ..	87,225

in which the occupied area including miscellaneous cultivation continued to be less than in the pre-famine year, the deficiency was made up in the year under review. The other district is Kurnool, in which the deficiency continues; but its extent in the year under review does not appear from the Board's report. Leaving miscellaneous cultivation out of account, regarding which no information is furnished

in the Board's or the Collector's report, the Government observes that there is a difference of 87,225 † acres in the occupied area still to be made up as shown in the margin. After careful local enquiries it was reported that the main cause of the district not sharing in the general advance of unfavourable seasons to contend with.

No information has been furnished in the report as to the extent to which cultivable lands, which have been reserved under section 26 of the Forest Act, but which are not required for forest purposes, have been set free in the several districts, or as to the progress made in the disafforestation of forest blocks less than one square mile in extent under G.O., No. 261, dated 10th May 1895. This information should be submitted.

The marginal statement shows the total area of land newly taken up and the extent relinquished during the ten years ending with the year under review. During the decade occupation increased by two million acres.

Fasli.	Relinquished	Newly taken up.	Difference.
<i>In thousands of acres.</i>			
1295 ..	346	781	435
1296 ..	345	721	376
1297 ..	404	577	173
1298 ..	442	496	54
1299 ..	286	547	261
1300 ..	371	450	79
1301 ..	328	320	8
1302 ..	218	424	206
1303 ..	282	485	203
1304 ..	292	537	245
Total ..	3,314	5,338	2,024

Fasli.	Extent cultivated, dry and wet.	Extent left waste.		Percentage of cultivation to occupied area.	
		Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
<i>In thousands of acres.</i>					
1285	17,462	2,183	376	86.6	90.0
1295	17,094	2,495	286	84.4	92.7
1296	17,355	2,721	249	83.4	93.7
1297	17,584	2,687	228	83.8	94.3
1298	17,573	2,877	273	82.8	93.3
1299	17,911	2,875	257	83.0	93.8
1299	17,822	3,020	298	82.3	92.8
1300	16,849	3,851	457	77.4	89.1
1301	17,957	3,386	283	80.6	93.3
1302	18,537	3,177	231	82.0	94.6
1303	18,616	3,302	313	81.6	92.7
1304					

8. *Ryotwar—Actual cultivation.*—The marginal statement shows for ten years the extent cultivated out of the lands held by the ryots on patta and the extent left waste. During the year under review the area cultivated showed a slight increase as compared with fasli 1303, but the proportion to the holdings fell from 82 to 81 per cent. on dry lands and from 94 to 93 per cent. on wet lands owing mainly to the unfavourable character of the season adverted to in paragraph 2 *supra*. It is observed from the last two columns of the statement that a larger proportion of dry lands is left waste every year than is the case with wet lands, and that in 1894—95 the dry waste was 18.4 per cent. of the dry lands under occupation for the whole Presidency. Taking individual districts the proportion was 41 per cent. in Gódávāri, 32 in Tinnevely, 31 in Chingleput, 27 in Nellore, 26 in Vizagapatam, 25 in Tanjore and 22 in Kistna and Trichinopoly.

The report promised by the Board as to how far the system of fallows is being deliberately practised by ryots and how far the large extent of dry lands left waste is due to the curtailment of common grazing grounds should be expedited.

9. *Remissions and deductions from the beriz.*—The total assessment on ryotwar holdings amounted to Rs. 428.58 lakhs against Rs. 420.97 lakhs in 1893—94, resulting in an increase of Rs. 7.61 lakhs. Of this increase, Rs. 4.24 lakhs were contributed by the revision of settlement, mainly in the Trichinopoly district, Rs. 1.78 lakhs by the extension of cultivation, i.e., by the excess of lands taken up over those relinquished, and the remainder by transfers from dry to wet and *vice versa*, and by the incorporation of inam lands with ryotwar.

	1893—94.	1894—95.
<i>Lakhs of rupees.</i>		
(i) Season remissions ..	3.45	9.14
(ii) Fixed do. ..	6.61	6.11
(iii) Deductions from the beriz ..	13.46	9.61
Total ..	23.52	24.86

From the total assessment shown above Rs. 24.86 lakhs were deducted as shown in the margin against Rs. 23.52 lakhs in the previous year. The first item—remissions dependent on the state of the season including those granted on lands left waste—showed an increase of Rs. 5.69 lakhs. Nearly 50 per cent. of this increase was in the Tinnevely district where the season was most unfavourable. Large remissions were granted also Anantapur, Cuddapah, Nellore, Madura, North Arcot and Coimbatore owing to the unpropitious character of the season. The fixed remissions detailed in paragraph 28 of the Board's report do not present any noticeable variation except under "increment remissions," i.e., the portion of the settled demand foregone in newly settled districts under the usual concession of charging the increase over the old assessments by gradual increments. There was a decrease under this head of about Rs. 2.19 lakhs in Tanjore, Bellary and South Arcot, owing to the lapse of another year since the introduction of the settlements into these districts, counterbalanced to a certain extent by an increase of Rs. 1.75 lakhs in Trichinopoly into which the revised settlement was introduced during the year. The large decrease under head (iii) above was mainly due to the new practice of deducting the contribution due by Government to the Village Service Fund from the Land Revenue collections instead of from the Land Revenue demand as formerly, the transaction appearing only in the Treasury accounts, and to crediting to Land Revenue instead of to the Village Service Fund the revenue from fully assessed village service inams in consideration of the larger contribution paid to that Fund under Act IV of 1893.

10. *Second crop assessment and charge for water.*—The revenue under these heads amounted to Rs. 17.45 lakhs against Rs. 20.41 lakhs in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 2.96 lakhs or 14 per cent. Under second crop assessment there was a fall in every district except Gódvári, Kurnool and Trichinopoly. The increase in the first district is ascribed by the Collector to the suspension of the imposition of enhanced water-rate, and in the last to the levy of a separate charge on lands on which the second crop assessment had been compounded at the old settlement, but which were registered as single crop lands at the revised settlement. The increase in Kurnool was only Rs. 3,000 and calls for no special remarks. The decrease in the several districts was mainly due to the unpropitious character of the season.

11. *Miscellaneous revenue.*—The revenue under this head detailed in paragraphs 31 to 39 of the Board's report exhibits an increase of about Rs. 10.27 lakhs owing to quit-rents on village service inams having been credited during the year under review instead of to the Village Service Fund as in previous years. The revenue from lands cultivated but not included in pattas showed a decrease of about Rs. 16,000 as compared with the previous year. In paragraph 38 of its report for fasli 1303 the Board stated that ryots cultivated a considerable extent of lands of poor quality without any intention to take permanent pattas, but that nevertheless a great deal of the cultivation might be transferred from "Miscellaneous" to ryotwar, if sub-divisions were promptly made when portions of fields were taken up, and that the progress which was being made in the training of village accountants and taluk officials in survey should lead to better results. From the district reports for fasli 1304, the Board finds that much of the area shown under "Miscellaneous" could have been included under holdings if applications for lands were disposed of more promptly and systematically. The Government fully concurs in the Board's remarks.

	1893-94.	1894-95.
	Lakhs of rupees.	
1. Assessment on holdings	420.97	428.58
2. Deduct—remissions	23.51	24.86
3. Remainder	397.46	403.72
4. Add—Water-rate and second-crop assessment	20.41	17.45
5. Miscellaneous revenue	54.38	64.65
Total, ryotwar demand	472.25	485.82

12. *Net Ryotwar demand.*—Including miscellaneous revenue, and second crop assessment and charge for water and deducting the remissions mentioned in paragraph 9, the net ryotwar demand amounted to Rs. 485.82 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 13.57 lakhs, or nearly 3 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The variations under each of the items shown on the margin have been already explained.

13. *Demand, Collection and Balance.*—Including peishcush and shrotriem jodi referred to in paragraph 6 *supra*, the total current demand under land revenue amounted to Rs. 543.57 lakhs or Rs. 13.58 lakhs in excess of the demand of fasli 1303. This demand was the * highest on record and exhibits an increase of nearly 21 per cent. as compared with the average of the five years before the great famine.

The current demand under cesses exhibited an increase of Rs. 24.72 lakhs mainly owing to the re-imposition of village-cess in the year under review. It was not levied in the previous year.

The total settled current demand (land revenue and cesses) thus amounted to Rs. 617.47 lakhs, of which Rs. 605.01 lakhs were collected within the year and Rs. .02 lakhs were written off the accounts, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 12.44 lakhs or 2.01 per cent. at its close against 3.2 per cent. in the previous year. Including arrears, which stood at Rs. 21.21 lakhs at the beginning of the year, the total

demand amounted to Rs. 638.68 lakhs, of which Rs. 624.11 were collected and Rs. .71 lakhs remitted, leaving a balance of Rs. 13.86 lakhs or only 2 per cent. of the total demand at the end of the year. The marginal statement shows that the percentage of collections to total current demand reached in the year was the highest during the decade. It is observed from paragraph 45 of the report that the balance was by subsequent collections and remissions reduced to Rupees

1,66,762 on the 1st March 1896. About 87 per cent. of this amount appertains to the districts of Malabar (79,202), Trichinopoly (29,282), Tinnevely (24,989), and Ganjám (12,056). The following explanation is furnished by the Board—"Of the amount shown against the first district Rs. 59,928 are due on Sultan Ali Raja's estate and have to be adjusted from the sale-proceeds of coir brought from the Laccadive islands; the remainder is mostly due in the Wynaad taluk, in which much difficulty has been experienced in the collection of revenue. Nearly the whole of the arrears in Tinnevely is due from certain zemindars who were permitted in consideration of an adverse season to pay their kists in January last. The amount will soon be realized. The arrear shown against Trichinopoly is the balance of the assessment imposed at the re-settlement which was introduced into the district towards the close of fasli 1304. In Ganjám, the village and taluk accounts were in great confusion, their examination having been neglected for some years; but as they have since been thoroughly overhauled by a special establishment, the balance may be expected to be realized in a short time. The arrears have completely disappeared in the three districts of Gódvári, Nellore and Cuddapah and in twelve others they are under Rs. 1,000."

14. *Coercive processes.*—In paragraphs 51 to 56 of its report the Board of Revenue analyses the statistics of coercive measures employed for the realization of the Government demand. In reviewing the report for fasli 1303 Government observed that the increased resort to legal processes during that year was mainly due to the stringent measures adopted for the realization of old arrears and that as they had been practically cleared in all but five districts before the end of the year, the occasion for the increased employment of legal process in future years had in a great measure abated. This anticipation is borne out by the figures furnished by the Board for fasli 1304.

Though there was, as compared with the previous year, an increase in the

	1892-93.	1893-94.	1894-95.
(1) Demand notices .. No.	4,914,633	5,374,303	5,690,788
(2) Defaulters whose property was distrained or attached .. "	208,900	290,654	236,151
(3) Percentage of (2) to (1).	4.3	5.4	4.1
(4) Defaulters whose property was sold .. No.	12,400	14,198	10,371
(5) Percentage of (4) to (2).	5.9	4.9	4.3
(6) Percentage of (4) to total number of pottadars.	0.39	0.44	0.31
(7) Arrears for which property was sold .. Rs.	2,00,997	2,13,021	1,70,828
(8) Percentage of (7) to total demand and (current and arrears).	0.33	0.35	0.27
(9) Extent of lands sold. Acres.	30,296	54,484	27,899
(10) Percentage of (9) to total holdings ..	0.14	0.25	0.13

was 3 *per mille* of the total number of ryotwar pottadars against 4 in the two preceding years.

Again, the arrears for the realization of which property was sold was, notwithstanding the large increase in the total demand, less than in the two preceding years, and its proportion to the total demand (arrears and current) was also less, being 27 per cent. against 33 and 35 per cent. in those years. Further, a smaller extent of lands was sold in the year than in faslis 1302 and 1303, and its proportion to the total holdings was also less. The amount realized by sale of both personal and real property shows a nearer approximation to its estimated value in the year as shown in the margin. There is great disparity between the estimated value of lands and the amount for which they were sold, but this was due to the practice of putting down the estimated value at twenty times the assessment, and this, though a fair enough estimate for ordinary lands, is much too high for lands brought to sale for arrears of revenue, such lands being often of poor quality near the margin of cultivation. Out of the total amount sold, viz., 27,899 acres, 21,787 acres consisted of dry land assessed at fourteen annas eleven pies an acre. The Board has issued instructions to the effect that in every case the value should be calculated with reference to the market value of similar lands in the neighbourhood.

	1893-94.	1894-95.
Personal property.	Rs. 83,310 Amount realized. 53,876 Percentage 64.6	Rs. 47,216 Amount realized. 45,451 Percentage 96.2
Real property.	Rs. 7,15,612 Amount realized. 1,55,762 Percentage 21.7	Rs. 3,82,759 Amount realized. 1,32,193 Percentage 34.5

The marginal statement shows the total extent of land sold for arrears and that which, for want of bidders, was bought in by Government during the last ten years. The total extent sold in the year 1894-95 was smaller than in any previous year except faslis 1299, 1300 and 1301. The two years 1890-91 and 1891-92 were, however, exceptionally bad years in which considerable postponement of Government revenue was ordered and instructions were issued for a sparing use of legal processes. With reference to paragraph 14 of the review of the Settlement Report for fasli 1303, the Board furnishes a statement at paragraph 57 of its present report showing for certain taluks the number of years for which lands sold for arrears of revenue were in the occupation of the defaulters prior to the date of sale. It is observed that in nearly 76 per cent. of the sales the lands sold were under occupation for five years or more. The information furnished relates, however, to 1,581 sales only, while the number of sales held during the year was 10,371. In view of the strong representation made in Board's Proceedings disposed in G.O., Mis. No. 5168, dated 20th December 1895, the Government will not press for the compilation of a statement to show the extent to which the same lands come to be frequently sold for arrears of revenue.

It is thus clear that, in spite of the somewhat unpropitious character of the season, legal process for the collection of land revenue was found necessary to a comparatively smaller extent than in the previous year. The Board of Revenue should impress on all District officers the importance of devoting personal attention to the punctual realization of the Government demand, and of thereby reducing the amount of formal coercive process.

15. Advances under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists Loans Acts.

G.O., No. 163, dated 15th January 1896.

with the loans under the Land Improvement 1883 and XII of 1884) during fasli 1304.

A brief notice of the transactions will be inserted here as desired by the Government of India in its Resolution, No. 7-167, dated 5th May 1893 (G.O. No. 658, dated 20th July 1893).

The marginal statement shows the advances made under both the Acts since the promulgation of the new rules. The advances made during the year under review amounted to Rs. 2.72 lakhs. The decline during the last two years as attributed to the improvement that has taken place in the season since the end of the distress in 1891-92. The causes which retard the expansion of the system of taking loans are stated by the Board to be (1) the existence of encumbrances on lands adapted for well irrigation; (2) the prevalence of salt in the sub-soil or of hard rock below the surface; (3) absence of facilities for obtaining stone or brick for revetting; and above all (4) the trouble caused by frequent inspections by Government officers, and the fear of Government as a relentless creditor in case of failure to repay the loan by the stipulated annual instalments. The first three causes apply only to advances for the construction or repair of wells, but as shown by the statement on the margin, the greater portion of the loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act is required for this purpose.

	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists Loans Act.	Total.
In thousands of rupees.			
Official year.	1897-88 .. 78	40	1,18
	1888-89 .. 1,31	36	1,67
	1889-90 .. 1,39	45	1,84
	1890-91 .. 2,28	43	2,71
	1891-92 .. 15,28	1,57	16,85
April to June 1892 ..	10,42	1,03	11,45
Fasli year ..	1302 .. 10,55	1,34	11,89
	1303 .. 4,21	8	4,29
	1304 .. 2,56	16	2,72
Total ..	48,78	5,82	54,60

	PER CENT.
Official year 1891-92 ..	92.9
April to June 1892 ..	91.5
Revenue year 1892-93 ..	95.5
" 1893-94 ..	89.1
" 1894-95 ..	89.1

More than 76 per cent. of the advances made under the Land Improvement Loans Act were granted under the Special Well Rules, owing generally to the lower rate of interest charged under these rules. The Board specifies five districts as not showing a preference for advances under the Special Well Rules, being guided apparently by the figures in the tabular statement at paragraph 5 of its Proceedings. But it has been overlooked that a portion of the advances shown under the ordinary rules were obtained for purposes other than the construction or repair of wells. Omitting the amounts so taken, it is observed that the advances taken under the ordinary rules exceed those under the Special Well rules only in the districts of Kistna and Salem. As, however, no one would apply for a loan under the ordinary rules for digging or repairing a well, when he could get it on more favourable terms under the Special Well rules, it seems certain that the latter rules are not so well known as they ought to be. Collectors should therefore be requested to republish them in their district gazettes.

Districts.	For construction or repair of wells.		Other purposes.
	Ordinary rules.	Special rules.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Ganjām ..	200	308	1,575
Kistna ..	1,125	..	625
Kurnool ..	6,600	7,055	750
Bellary ..	350	800	3,920
Salem ..	1,910	822	1,710

One thousand nine hundred and eighty-one new wells were constructed and 2,040 old wells repaired during the year, raising the number of wells constructed since the promulgation of the rules to 13,930 and the number of those repaired to 15,133. It is estimated that these 29,063 wells will benefit 92,907 acres, giving an average of nearly 3.2 acres per well. The average cost of constructing a new well was Rs. 168, but the Board points out that a large well of the sort widely used in the Ceded Districts and Coimbatore cannot be made for this figure, and that the wells now constructed are either unusually small or that private resources must have been drawn upon to supplement the Government loan.

The transactions under the Agriculturists Loans Act call for no remarks.

The following statement shows the advances and recoveries under both Acts:—

		Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists Loans Act.
		RS.	RS.
Outstanding at the beginning of the year	...	33,47,215	1,06,257
Advanced during the year	...	2,55,944	15,739
	Total	36,03,159	1,21,996
Recoveries and remissions	...	5,41,351	99,664
	Balance	30,61,808	22,332
Interest due	...	1,42,591	8,870
Interest recovered	...	1,34,908	7,955
	Balance	7,683	915

The Government notes that in almost all the districts undue hardship was, as far as possible, avoided in realizing outstanding balances and that recoveries ordered for failure of work from causes beyond the borrower's control were made in easy instalments. In 1,948 cases advances amounting to Rs. 1,80,765 were ordered to be summarily recovered on account of misapplication of the loans. In this connection the Board of Revenue remarks that many borrowers cannot resist the temptation to use a portion of the Government loan for their private necessities, that frequent inspection and enquiries by the Revenue officers are therefore needed for the proper application of the loans, and that it is this continual inquisition which the ryots deem so irksome of interest. It is to be expected that in time this objection to obtaining loans from Government will be overcome.

16. *Transfer of revenue registry.*—In the total number of applications presented during the year for the transfer of registry of holdings there was a decrease of 3.9 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The decrease occurred both in the number of applications received direct by Revenue officers and in those received through the Registration Department; but in the percentage of the applications of the latter class to the total number the steady increase which was noticed in previous years was maintained in the year under review. These figures show, as observed by the Board, that this mode of applying for the transfer of registry is finding favour with the people.

There was an improvement in the disposal of applications received through the Registration officers, the percentage of disposals having risen from 88.1 in fasli 1303 received direct by Revenue officers showed a slight retrogression. Under the rules as recently revised, applications for transfer may be submitted direct to Tahsildars or Revenue Inspectors and the intervention of village officers has ceased to be obligatory. This reform has been so far favourably reported on by District officers.

In 3,946 cases steps were taken to issue pattas to persons who had been in possession of lands as ostensible owners and had paid the revenue due thereon for twelve years or more. Nearly a third of the cases appertained to the district of Coimbatore. The efforts to secure agreement between ownership and revenue registry in six other districts—Gódvári, Cuddapah, Anantapur, North Arcot, Salem and South Canara—are also satisfactory. The attention of Revenue officers in the remaining districts should again be drawn to the importance of the subject.

17. *Inspection of boundary and field marks.*—From the figures contained in statement No. 27 appended to the Board's report, it is observed that 9.3 per cent. of the total number of marks were either missing or required repairs and that only in 16 per

cent. of such cases were the stones replaced or repaired. This result cannot be regarded as satisfactory. Greater attention should be paid by Collectors and Divisional officers to this matter, and the training of kurnams in survey together with the appointment of district surveyors will facilitate their efforts.

18. *Inspection of village and taluk accounts.*—The accounts in selected taluks of four districts were inspected during the year by the Deputy Director of Land Records and Agriculture, who found that, while the village accounts were maintained in a fairly satisfactory condition, the accounts and records in taluk offices required greater attention from Tahsildars and Taluk Head Accountants and greater supervision from Divisional officers. The reports on the examination of these accounts at the time of the annual settlement confirm the Deputy Director's opinion and show that there is considerable room for improvement. These accounts, forming as they do, the basis of the land revenue administration of the Presidency, should be carefully maintained and the Government trusts that the matter will receive close attention from the officers concerned.

19. *Irrigation works.*—The number of irrigation works of each class shown in the margin does not exhibit any marked variation except under wells which increased by 33,603 as compared with the previous year, owing partly to the construction of wells in the year under review, and partly to the inclusion in the accounts of about 24,000 wells situated in the unirrigated lands of the Tanjore district. It appears that these wells had been omitted from the previous year's return as not being substantial constructions, but have now been brought to account as the area protected by them is in the aggregate large and important. To the number of wells shown above should be added 139,136 wells which supplement irrigation from other sources.

20. *Rent Roll.*—The total number of pattas held during the year amounted to 3,120,510 showing an increase of about 2 per cent., chiefly under joint pattas, as compared with 1893-94. The variations in the several districts call for no remarks, except in Trichinopoly, in which there was a decrease of 16,318 under single pattas and an increase of 33,646 under joint pattas. This large difference in the number of pattas of each class is due to the fact that, under the plan now followed by the Survey Department, several fields whether held by one or more individuals are surveyed as one field, and that at the introduction of the settlement, the portion held by each ryot is subdivided and lettered separately. If the ryots concerned are not present at the sub-division to point out the boundaries of their fields, the Settlement-officer has no option but to issue joint pattas in such cases.

In paragraph 81 the Board classifies the pattas held in 1893-94 and 1894-95 with reference to the amount of assessment paid, and brings out an increase in the latter year in the number falling under each class except that from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. The increase in all the classes except in the highest and the two lowest classes appears to be due, as shown by the statement on the margin, to the introduction of the revised settlement into the Trichinopoly district. The cause of the decrease in the higher classes is to be found mainly in the Hindu custom of equal partition of property among the sons, which, while increasing the number

	Increase or decrease for the Presidency as compared with fasli 1303.	Increase in Trichinopoly.	Net increase or decrease.
Exceeding Rs. 1,000 ..	+ 39	28	+ 11
From Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000.	+ 11	48	+ 37
" " 250 to " 500.	+ 26	147	+ 121
" " 100 to " 250.	+ 159	593	+ 434
" " 50 to " 100.	+ 581	675	+ 1,256
" " 30 to " 50.	+ 1,181	1,583	+ 402
" " 10 to " 30.	+ 8,627	5,464	+ 3,163
Under Rs. 10 ..	+ 54,629	8,790	+ 45,739
Total ..	+ 63,991	17,328	+ 46,663

of pattas, leads to the new pattas being placed in a lower class. The increase in the lowest class is partly due to this cause, but chiefly to the extension of cultivation by agricultural labourers aspiring to the position of land holders. Thus, while the number of petty ryots paying less than Rs. 10 is steadily increasing, the number of large land holders shows a tendency to decline.

Fasli.	Number of pattas under Rs. 10.
1296	1,798,650
1297	1,801,419
1298	1,824,449
1299	1,870,694
1300	1,908,406
1301	1,932,473
1302	1,968,882
1303	2,024,083
1304	2,078,612

(True Extract.)

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

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

RESOLUTION—dated 1st December 1896, No. 378.

The Government Order will be communicated to all Collectors for information and guidance.

2. The attention of the Sanitary Commissioner will be invited to the remarks of Government in the penultimate sentence of paragraph 3 of the Government Order.

3. With reference to the last sub-paragraph of paragraph 5 of the Government Order, the Board begs to state that it had intended to deal with the question, "whether the custom of paying field labourers in grain is being superseded by money payments and whether the labourers suffer by this change", along with the report on the general question regarding the wages of agricultural labourers, called for in G.O., No. 3462, Revenue, dated 6th July 1885; but when the submission of the latter report was dispensed with in G.O., No. 787, dated 22nd February 1896, it was thought that no report was necessary on the former question, and the papers relating thereto were accordingly recorded. The subject will now be taken in hand and the report called for by Government will be submitted as early as possible.

4. The attention of the Collector of Trichinopoly is drawn to the remarks of Government in paragraph 7 of the Government Order regarding the decrease in holdings in that district and he is requested to state how lands unfit for cultivation or used for public purposes, happened to be included under holdings prior to the resettlement. He is also requested to expedite the report called for in paragraph 1 of Board's Proceedings, dated 21st April 1896, Mis. No. 1963.

5. With reference to the remarks regarding Kurnool in the same paragraph (7) of the Government Order, the Board observes from the Collector's jamabandi report for fasli 1305 recently received, that the lists of lands required for the formation of reserved forests, have been revised for 322 villages and statements showing the areas set free for cultivation in those villages, have been forwarded to Tahsildars, and that revision of similar lists for the remaining villages is expected to be completed shortly. The Collector will be requested to submit a special progress report on the subject by the middle of February, to be embodied in the Board's jamabandi report due to Government on the 1st March next.

6. As regards the information called for by Government about (a) the extent to which cultivable lands reserved under section 26 of the Forest Act, but not required for forest purposes, have been set free in several districts, and (b) the progress made in the disafforestation of forest blocks of less than one square mile, the Board begs to solicit the attention of Government to the papers noted in the margin.

No. and date of G.O.

(b) Northern Circle—

Ganjām	...	G.O., No. 800, dated 6th December 1895.
Vizagapatam	...	" " 569, " 26th October 1896.
Godāvari	...	" " 588, " 3rd November 1896.
Kistna	...	" " 340, " 21st July 1896.
Anantapur	...	" " 165, " 20th April "
Bellary	...	G.Os., " 30, " 21st January 1896, and No. 173, dated 22nd April 1896.
Kurnool	...	Board's Proceedings, dated 13th July 1895, Forest Mis. No. 1012.

Central Circle—

Nellore	...	G.O., No. 126, dated 19th March 1896.
Cuddapah	...	" " 160, " 11th April "
Chingleput	...	" " 283, " 23rd June "
North Arcot	...	" " 758, " 22nd November 1895.
South "	...	" " 46, " 27th February 1896.
Tanjore	...	" " 76, " 15th February "
Trichinopoly	...	" " 106, " 7th March 1896."
Salem	...	" " 764, " 22nd November 1895.

Southern Circle—

Madura	...	G.O., No. 191, dated 13th May 1896.
Tinnevely	...	" " 158, " 10th April "
Nilgiris	...	Not applicable.
North Coimbatore.	}	G.O., No. 374, dated 29th July "
South "		
North Malabar		
South "	}	" " 114, " 16th March "
South Canara		" " 167, " 20th April 1896, and No. 4783, " 24th November 1896.

7. With reference to the last sentence of the fourth sub-paragraph of paragraph 15 of the Government Order, Collecotrs of all districts, except Madras, Nilgiris, Malabar and South Canara, will be requested to republish the Special Well Rules in their District Gazettes. It is, however, observed that the distinction between these and the Ordinary Rules has been proposed to be abandoned in the revised rules now before the Government of India.

8. The remaining points are being dealt with in the Land Revenue Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Sundarajan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" all Collectors.
" the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. Md. Pahlavan.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed December 1896.

Proceedings, 1st Dec. 1896, No. 378.

Jamabandi (Land Revenue Settlement).—Communicating Government Order on Board's report on the— for fasli 1304 (1894-95).

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189

REVENUE G.O., No. 189

CURRENT

ENCLOSURE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

ATTACHMENT WITH DITTO

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