Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1687

DATED 29th March '97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording P.P. remitting report on Summer Schools for Hamians held in 1895.

BACK PAPERS.

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FURTHER PAPERS.

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545	770						

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 241.

Received 17/3/97

The Hon: the Board of Rev: R&Ag.

Recd 18.3.97

From Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement Land Records and Agriculture) Madras.

No. 147

Order miscl No. 1687 dt 29 March 97
JS
25/3/97

Recorded in D. 20. 3 97

~~expressions of concurrence of the Board's remarks~~

Dated 19th February 1897

Received 17th March.

Registered 18th

Enclosures

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To

The Board of Rev: R&Ag
DW. 1-4-97.

DWW.
18.III.97

SUBJECT.

Survey schools for karnams.

Reviewing report on — held in 1895.

C. 22/3/97
22/3/97

W.S. 2.197

BACK PAPERS.

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

READ—the following letter from H. O'C. CARDOZO, Esq., C.I.E., Superintendent, Madras Survey, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 15th August 1896, No. 294-R.:—

[*Reference.*—B.P. (Settlement), dated 8th November 1895, No. 6029, directing all Collectors to send reports on survey schools through the Superintendent of Survey.]

I have the honour to forward twenty printed forms containing reports on the survey schools held in twenty districts and 145 taluks in 1895, together with papers as per list enclosed.

2. No schools were held in the two districts of Madras and Trichinopoly—*vide* B.P., dated 30th March 1894, No. 2005, and 2nd August 1895, No. 4030.

3. In the other twenty districts 14,199 men went through the course of instruction prescribed in G.O., No. 371, Revenue, dated 24th May 1894. They were classed according to qualification as shown below:—

Class.	Revenue Inspectors.		Karnams.		Other men.	
	Number of men.	Percentage.	Number of men.	Percentage.	Number of men.	Percentage.
Good	414	75	3,015	25	487	32
Fair	137	25	4,579	38	550	36
Indifferent	1	..	2,916	24	294	20
Bad	..	..	1,622	13	184	12
Total ..	552	100	12,132	100	1,515	100

4. As far as the karnams are concerned, the best results obtained were in Nilgiris, South Canara, Tanjore, Chingleput and Tinnevelly. In these five districts, the number of karnams classed as either "good" or "fair" was 75 and upwards per cent. of the total number of karnams instructed. The average for the whole twenty districts was 63 per cent. The following statement shows the percentage in each district:—

Districts.	Total number of karnams instructed.	Percentage of good or fair.	Districts.	Total number of karnams instructed.	Percentage of good or fair.
Nilgiris	22	100	Anantapur	425	61
South Canara	206	95	Salem	315	57
Tanjore	1,376	88	Kistna	1,011	55
Chingleput	655	81	Vizagapatam	166	51
Tinnevelly	715	75	South Arcot	1,268	43
Gódávari	848	73	Nellore	435	43
Malabar	388	71	Cuddapah	657	42
Kurnool	672	69	North Arcot	890	33
Madura	479	68			
Bellary	507	65	Total ...	12,132	63
Ganjám	290	64			
Coimbatore	807	62			

In four districts only, viz., North Arcot, Cuddapah, Nellore and South Arcot, less than 50 per cent. of the karnams were classed as "good" or "fair;" but the karnams in these districts are not really below the average in intelligence or in knowledge of survey work. As recorded in the district reports, the examining officers in 1895, taking into consideration the fact that the karnams had already gone through a course of instruction in the previous year, were exceptionally strict.

5. The total cost of the 145 schools was Rs. 30,650 or Rs. 2-2-6 per each man instructed. Nearly half the total cost is the pay of gazetted Survey Officers for the number of days they were present at the schools.

6. The remarks of the Inspecting officer and the Collector on each taluk school and the remarks of the Superintendent of Survey and the Collector on each district will be found in the printed reports.

Resolution—dated 19th February 1897, No. 147.

With the letter read above, the Superintendent of Revenue Survey forwards, with his remarks, reports received from Collectors on the results of the working of karnams' survey schools held in their districts during 1895. The system of annual survey schools was prescribed in G.O., No. 807, dated 14th November 1894, with a view to test how far karnams, who had already been trained in survey, have kept up their knowledge of the work, and to give such of them as required it, a further course of instruction. Persons other than karnams are allowed to attend these schools on payment of fees. Such persons are generally the heirs or other relations of karnams.

2. The schools were held during the year in 145 taluks in twenty districts. The districts in which schools were not held were, (1) Madras to which the scheme is inapplicable as the karnams (kanakkupillais) in this district have no survey work to do, and (2) Trichinopoly in which the opening of the schools was postponed to the next year as the revised settlement was introduced during the year, and the karnams had heavy work to do in connection with it and with the jamabandi which followed. In Salem, schools were held only in four out of the nine taluks, as the remaining taluks were under re-survey by karnams, while in the Ongole taluk of the Nellore district, no school was held owing mainly to the absence of the District Surveyor on sick leave.

3. The Inspecting officers were generally the Survey or Revenue Divisional Officers except in a few instances noticed below.

4. In all the schools taken together, 12,132 karnams and 1,515 other persons —mostly relatives of karnams—were trained and examined during the year. The results were, on the whole, satisfactory. Sixty-three per cent. of the karnams and 68 per cent. of the other men examined were found to possess "good" or "fair" knowledge. The best results in the case of karnams were secured in the five districts of Nilgiris, South Canara, Tanjore, Chingleput and Tinnevelly, in which the percentage of "good" and "fair" was 75 or more. The number of such karnams was more than 50 per cent. in all the other districts except South Arcot, Nellore, Cuddapah and North Arcot, in which the percentage ranged from 33 to 43. In these districts, it is reported that the results were much better in the year in which the initial training was imparted and the Superintendent of Survey remarks that the comparatively poor results in 1895 were due to the examining officers having been exceptionally strict in view of the fact that the karnams had already undergone a course of training. The Board considers that the classification of karnams as "good," "fair," &c., should be made on a uniform plan everywhere.

5. One thousand six hundred and twenty-two or 13 per cent. of the karnams who appeared for the examination were declared "bad." The Collectors concerned have generally issued the necessary orders to give these karnams further training, or to replace them by competent men as far as practicable with reference to paragraph 3 of B.P., dated 29th October 1895, No. 341.

6. The Board will proceed to deal with such of the remarks in the reports as require separate notice.

7. *Ganjám.*—The percentage of karnams who were classed as "good" or "fair" was more than double that in 1894. The Collector, however, states that "the karnams of the district, especially in Berhampur and Goomsur, are for the most part almost hopelessly inefficient in all branches of their work," and this opinion is generally supported by the remarks of the Survey Divisional Officer who inspected two out of three taluks in the district. Though the number of "good" and "fair" karnams in Berhampur was 73 per cent., the Survey Sub-Divisional Officer remarks that the karnams in the taluk were very backward and that special steps for their training would be necessary in the next year. In Chicacole the karnams were found by the Survey Divisional Officer to be dull and backward, and he considers that the Tahsildar and Revenue Inspectors were quite inexperienced in the methods of imparting tuition, and that it will take at least two more annual schools before karnams can be trusted to do any survey work correctly.

8. *Vizagapatam.*—Mr. Mullins, the Survey Divisional Officer, who inspected the school at Palkonda, states that it was by no means a success, that only one Inspector was present for some time, and that the Inspectors were themselves ignorant and unfitted for the post of instructors. The Board hopes that these Revenue Inspectors have since qualified themselves for the proper discharge of their duties.

9. *Gódávari.*—The Sub-Collector, in paragraph 4 of his report on the Rajahmundry taluk school, suggests that karnams obtaining a first-class certificate in one year should, in the following year, undergo a practical examination on the first day of the school, and be allowed to depart if their certificates are renewed, so that the Head Surveyor and Revenue Inspectors may be enabled to pay more attention to less skilled karnams. The Collector concurs in this suggestion. The Superintendent of Survey has not, however, offered any remarks on the point, though it appears that he was present when the above suggestion was made on the third day of the inspection of the school. From his remarks on the South Arcot report, however, it would appear that Mr. Cardozo does not approve the suggestion.

10. *Kistna.*—The schools in Bápatla and Répalle were inspected by the District Surveyor himself and that in Gudiváda by the Tahsildar. Under the rules issued in B.P., dated 3rd May 1895, No. 107, these officers are expected to be *in charge* of the schools, and their employment as *inspecting officers* was irregular. In the case of the Gudiváda taluk school, which was inspected by the Tahsildar, the Collector remarks that the Head-quarter Deputy Collector could not be spared on account of abkári sales. In that case, the Assistant Collector should have been deputed to inspect the school (*vide* rule 7 of the rules). Mr. Mullins, who inspected the school at Guntúr, remarks "I never in all my experience of schools met with one in which less interest in supervision and instruction by the Revenue officials concerned, viz., the Tahsildar and Revenue Inspector was evinced. The result of such examination as the Tahsildar here shows is most unsatisfactory, for, of the 20 men I examined, all were indifferent or bad as far as I recollect. I would suggest that the Collector should signify his disapproval of the Tahsildar's negligent supervision in a marked manner." The Collector has offered no remarks on this. His attention will be invited thereto.

In the five taluks, the schools in which were inspected by M.R.Ry. Srinivasa Iyangar, Sub-Assistant of Survey, he found that karnams had generally neglected the survey work which they should have done in the course of the year in their villages; such as—

(1) "Preparation of a field measurement book from the existing record of measurement.

(2) "Measurement and plotting of sub-divisions; new as well old sub-divisions for which measurement sketches are not forthcoming.

(3) Replacing missing stones.

(4) Maintenance of permanent progress registers.

Probably the same state of things prevails in other taluks also. The Collector is requested to take steps to ensure that all this work is systematically done in the villages.

11. *Nellore.*—The school in Kanigiri taluk was inspected by the District Surveyor himself and the Collector explains that this was due to the fact that the Divisional Officer (Sub-Collector) was engaged on the superintendence of Special Test Examinations, and that no other officers were available. In the taluks inspected by the Assistant Superintendent of Survey, he found, as in the case of the Kistna district, that the karnams had neglected survey work in their villages. The Collector has issued the necessary orders. The Board observes, from paragraph 24 of his jamabandi report for fasli 1305 (1895–96), that he intends to suggest a general re-survey of the district.

12. *Kurnool.*—The karnams' survey records are reported in general terms to be fair, but no details are given. It is, however, observed that the district is being re-surveyed.

13. *Cuddapah.*—In the taluks inspected by the Deputy Superintendent of Survey, it appears that the karnams "had not plotted any field in the field measurement books, nor had they taken copies of measurements from the original measurement sketch books since the last survey school was held in November 1894." In the case of some of the taluks, it is also stated that no arrangements have been made to fix the position of missing stones or to restore them. From the Collector's latest jamabandi report, however, it appears that steps have been taken to rectify the omission.

The Deputy Superintendent makes the following suggestions of a general nature and the Collector supports them :—

(1) That each Revenue Inspector be made to undergo a practical examination at the beginning of each year and granted a certificate of qualification.

(2) That the duration of the annual survey school shall be at least twenty days, the first ten days being set apart for the purpose of imparting instruction by Revenue Inspectors and the last ten days for practical examination by the District Surveyors and Inspecting officers.

(3) That a printed copy of a prescribed course of instruction for a class of karnams may be supplied to each Revenue Inspector for guidance.

The Superintendent of Survey will be requested to favour the Board with his opinion on these suggestions.

The Deputy Superintendent also points out that there are many karnams good at revenue work but too old and incapable of learning survey work, and that in these cases, the sons and relations of the old karnams, who will eventually be appointed to take their places, should be admitted to the annual school without payment of the fee prescribed in B.P., dated 13th June 1895, No. 157, "it being understood that they should do the survey work, the old karnams being held responsible for the quantity and quality of their work." The Collector supports this suggestion. The Superintendent will be requested to report on this point also, and at the same time to instruct Mr. Martin that suggestions of this character should be made in special communications and not in the annual report which should ordinarily be a record of work done or left undone.

14. *Bellary.*—The Deputy Superintendent of Survey remarks in a general way that the karnams' records were examined and found to be fair, but no details are given as to whether field measurement books had been prepared, sub-divisions had been carried out, &c. The reports of the Revenue Divisional Officers contain no remarks on this head.

15. *Anantapur.*—The Deputy Superintendent of Survey reports that the school at Penukonda was a failure owing to the late and irregular attendance of karnams, and the absence of Revenue Inspectors on other duty connected with the procuring of supplies to certain regiments which passed through that taluk at the time. The irregular attendance of karnams is attributed by the Collector to the Tahsildar's omission to issue timely notice. In paragraph 4 of his endorsement, No. 3130, dated 28th November 1895, on the report of the Deputy Superintendent of Survey on the school in the Dharmavaram taluk, the Collector states that the orders issued in B.P., dated 13th

June 1895, No. 157, should be modified so as to exempt from the payment of fees the sons, and in default of sons, the *primâ facie* heirs, of karnams. This proposal which is similar to one of those mentioned in paragraph 13 *supra* will also be referred to the Superintendent of Survey.

16. *North Arcot.*—The school in Palmanér is stated to have been inspected by the Tahsildar, but this officer should, under the rules, have been in charge of the school and could not properly be an inspecting officer. It is also observed that no report of his inspection is found among the papers sent up. From the Collector's remarks, it appears that the Divisional Officer explained his omission to inspect the school by stating that "the Tahsildar informed him of his own inability to inspect only on the 8th August and that he was not able to arrange to conduct the inspection personally after that date as he was busily engaged in connection with the toddy sale at Chittoor." Apparently the Divisional Officer thought that the Tahsildar was the officer who should ordinarily have inspected the school. His attention should be drawn to rules 6 and 7 of the rules printed in B.P., dated 3rd May 1895, No. 107, according to which the Survey or Revenue Divisional Officer should ordinarily inspect these annual schools.

In his report on the Walajapet taluk, the Assistant Superintendent of Survey states that the Tahsildar of the taluk, who ought to have been in charge of the school, was absent from his head-quarters when the school was held. As the Collector has offered no remarks on the point, his attention is drawn to the matter for necessary action.

The Deputy Collector who inspected the school at Wandiwash remarks that "considering the capacity of the karnams of this taluk, a limited course of training for a short period of 15 days is hardly sufficient" and he recommends that in the ensuing year they may be given at least a month's training under close supervision. Seeing that so many as 110 karnams out of 170 examined were found to be "bad" in this taluk, the course suggested by the Deputy Collector would be advisable were it not that it would be unreasonable to take the karnams away from their houses for such a long time what between stray summonses, jamabandi and survey training the lives of the karnams are yearly becoming more and more those of absentees and this must militate against willing and loyal work.

From the reports sent by the Survey Divisional Officer, it appears that karnams have neglected the survey work they should have done in the villages in the course of the year, *e.g.*, the keeping of the field measurement books, sub-division of fields, &c. The Collector has since issued the necessary orders.

17. *Chingleput.*—None of the schools was examined by an officer of the Survey Department, though according to the programme sanctioned in G.O., No. 1592, dated 23rd April 1895, the schools in the taluks of Saidapet, Chingleput and Madurántakam should have been inspected by the Survey Divisional Officer. The number of karnams found to be "bad" was very small, only nine, out of 655 examined. In the case of some of the taluks, the Superintendent of Survey remarks that "the classification of karnams according to qualification, good, fair, indifferent, bad, appears to have been made by the District Surveyor, which accounts for the large number of good and fair." The procedure was irregular and the attention of the Divisional Officers should be drawn to it.

The remarks of the Inspecting officers are very meagre, and the Board doubts whether the inspection could have been thorough.

It appears that "most of the plotting scales were worn out and some broken," but that a great many of the karnams had provided themselves with new scales. The Collector recommends that all other karnams also may be induced to follow a similar course. The matter is within the discretion of the Collector. The Collector also inquires whether old sub-divisions shown in the settlement registers should be demarcated or not. He points out that Board's Standing Order No. 28 is not clear on the point, that Mr. Hasted, the Survey Divisional Officer, thinks that all such sub-divisions should be demarcated, but that in his (Collector's) opinion, where sub-division numbers are now in the enjoyment of one man, it would be impossible to maintain the stones

and that demarcation should therefore be required only where the sub-divisions are owned by different persons. The Collector should address the Board separately on this point.

18. *South Arcot.*—The Tahsildar is shown as the Inspecting officer of the Survey school in Villupuram. It appears that Mr. Hasted, the Survey Divisional Officer, fell ill, that he expected his successor to do the inspection of this taluk school; but that the latter officer arrived too late and that the Collector was not made aware of this state of things in time to enable him to arrange for the inspection by a competent officer.

The Sub-Collector in his report on the school in the Tindivanam taluk states that the Tahsildar complains that the duration of ten days is too short for the survey course being thorough and satisfactory and that the period should be raised to at least fifteen days. The Collector recommends the suggestion. The Superintendent of Survey will be requested to arrange accordingly if he sees no objection. It is observed that a maximum duration of fifteen days is contemplated by the rules and is actually allowed in many cases.

The Survey Divisional Officer suggests that karnams holding certificates should be examined when they arrive at the school, and that if found to have a "fair" knowledge of their work, they might be sent back to their villages forthwith. The Collector, while approving of the suggestion, considers that it is too early to give effect to it on the ground that karnams have not yet acquired such a degree of perfection as not to require the further instruction contemplated by the institution of the annual survey schools. The Superintendent of Survey thinks that men who have only a "fair" knowledge should not be sent back to their villages without further training, while as regards the "good" men, it would be better to utilize them as instructors than to let them leave the school, and that, in any case they ought to have been kept to write up their field measurements books.

The results in the Vriddhachalam taluk seem to have been particularly poor, only 15 out of a total of 130 karnams having been classed as "fair" and none as "good." The Collector, at the instance of the Survey Officer, suggests that "indifferent" karnams may be kept on lower pay until they qualify themselves in survey, as was the case with the Revenue Inspectors. The proposal does not commend itself to the Board. In the case of Revenue Inspectors no deduction of pay was made, but only increased pay was withheld.

19. *Madura.*—The Collector remarks that in view to ensure that the instructions received by the karnams at the survey schools are not forgotten, the Divisional Officers concerned have been requested to arrange to set them to work at once to remeasure and plot sub-divisions in their villages. The further report promised by the Collector has not yet been received in this office.

20. *Nilgiris.*—The Deputy Superintendent of Survey remarks that no attempt was made to write up the new field measurement books on the ground that the old records are too complicated to be of any use to the majority of karnams and that he has submitted separate proposals to the Superintendent regarding the preparation of the field measurement books. The Superintendent has offered no observation on these remarks. It is presumed that the necessary orders have already been issued.

21. *Malabar.*—The Deputy Superintendent of Survey found that, with one exception, the Revenue Inspectors in the Palghat taluk were "wholly and totally unfit to supervise any survey work." The Collector has thereupon made a reference to the Divisional Officer inquiring whether the Revenue Inspectors were men who once got a certificate of competence in survey work. The Board hopes that these Revenue Inspectors have since qualified themselves for their duties. In paragraph 3 of his report on the Ernad taluk school, the Special Assistant Collector states that there were eleven outsiders who attended the schools, but that they were not examined, "because they were all very young and the Surveyor in charge of the school considered, and I agreed with him, that even if they are qualified now, they should have another year's training before being granted certificates. He adds that if they are granted certificates now, they would forget their knowledge when their services are required as menons. If, as is presumed, these men had paid the prescribed fee, the Board considers that certificates should not have been withheld from those who were qualified. If they are

found to have forgotten the work when appointed as menons, the annual schools should be utilized to revive their knowledge.

22. The reports are, with a few exceptions, silent as to whether karnams had done in their villages, in the course of the year, all the survey work expected of them. Collectors are requested to see that information on this point is furnished in future reports. They are also requested, in future, to give a concise summary of the more important facts noticed in the Inspecting officers' reports. In the reports now reviewed, only a few Collectors have given such a summary.

23. Viewed as a whole the reports hardly justify the sanguine views which justified this new departure, but the experiment must no doubt go on.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To all Collectors.
" the Superintendent, Revenue Survey, with reports.
" the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Ead. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed March th.

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Survey Schools for karnams.—Reviewing report
on —held in 1895.

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