

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1926

DATED 8th April 97.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Replies to questions by the Hon'ble
K. Kalyanasundaram aiyar re:
village cess in Tanjore and the
grant of Batta to Karmans.

BACK PAPERS.

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XLII

Question by the Hon
K. Kalyanasundaram
aig.

17. Is it a fact that karnams have every year to remain at the taluk head-quarters for the preparation of jamabandi, irrigation and other accounts, that the total period they are thus required to stay there comes generally to several months in the year, and that they are also summoned very often to appear before Tahsildars for inquiries into Revenue petitions?

If so, will the Government be pleased to order that *batta* be paid to them in consideration of their low pay and the expenses involved in such frequent stays at head-quarter stations?

The answer might be -
"It is the case that karnams are frequently detained at the taluk head-quarters for several weeks. In the district of Cud-
daphur the karnams complained last year that they were so detained for more than 6 months in the year. If this is true the detention was excessive. A report has been called for on the subject. In the Standing order 22 (New Edition) the following passages are found (here under the quotation in the Note). This also true that karnams are frequently summoned by taluk class with reference to revenue enquiries, - have some times to appear on such account at the taluk head quarters, though now that Stationary Book Maps

Note.

orders are requested as to what answer should be given.

Para 5 of S.O. 1022 (New Edition) clearly distinctly says "It is very important in view of the growing amount of clerical work demanded from village officers that the karnams should be kept away from their villages for as short a time as possible. xx The system of summoning karnams to the taluk cutchery and detaining them there for weeks together to write up accounts, which should have been prepared during the year should be put a stop to."

It seems nevertheless to be

true that karnams are frequently detained at Taluk Head Quarters for several weeks. This was in fact the main complaint of the karnams who struck work last year in Cuddapah, and the Board has called upon the Collector to enquire into this matter, among others, and submit a report.

2. With reference to the second part of the question - namely the grant of batta, the following is suggested:-

"The Government is not prepared to sanction the grant of batta to karnams; but it has under its consideration a proposal to increase the salaries of the karnams generally, fixing the minimum pay at Rs. 2 per mensem."

On this question Mr. Tate remarks "The payment of batta to karnams is beyond doubt objectionable, for it will then be their interest to stay for long periods at the Taluk Head Quarters."

have been appointed and indeed visit outlying villages more frequently than they used to do. It is not necessary so frequently as it was. The question whether batta should be given to karnams on these occasions has been considered. It would be objectionable for many reasons,

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one of which is that it would make it the interest of karnams to stay away from their villages longer than they need. It has been resolved, therefore, not to give batta but to increase the pay of karnams, & proposals with this object are now under consideration."

JG
5/2/97

Mr. Tate - Government
Flagged D under

G.O. 3557 Conf.
4-9-96

1/9/97

Q. 4111
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Question by the Hon'ble K. Kalyanaswami Aiyar.

X 4111. Is it a fact that karnams have every year to remain at the taluk head-quarters for the preparation of jamabandi, irrigation and other accounts, that the total period they are thus required to stay there comes generally to several months in the year, and that they are also summoned very often to appear before Tahsildars for inquiries into Revenue petitions?

If so, will the Government be pleased to order that batta be paid to them in consideration of their low pay and the expenses involved in such frequent stays at head-quarter stations?

Answer. Mr. Sankar Das

X 4111/ It is the case that Karnams are frequently detained at the taluk head-quarters for several weeks. In the district of Cuddapah the Karnams complained last year that they were so detained for more than six (6) months in the year. If this is true the detention was excessive. A report has been called for on the subject. In the Standing Order (new edition) the following passages are found. "It is very important in view of the growing amount of clerical work demanded from village officers, that the Karnams should be kept away from their villages for as short a time as possible.

The system of summoning karnams to the taluk cutchery and detaining them there for weeks together to write up accounts, which should have been prepared during the year, should be put a stop to."

It is also true that Karnams are frequently summoned by Tahsildars with reference to revenue enquiries, and have sometimes to remain on that account to the taluk head-quarters, though now that Stationary Sub-Magistrates have been appointed and Tahsildars visit outlying villages more frequently than they used to do, this is not necessary so frequently

Matter in type.

as it was. The question whether batta should be given to Karnams on these -- occasions has been considered. It would be objectionable for many reasons, one of which is that it would make it the interest of Karnams to stay away from -- their villages longer than they need. It has been resolved, therefore, not to give batta but to increase the pay of Karnams, and proposals with this object are now under consideration.

(True copy).

Lonel Davidson
Under Secretary to Govt.

H.F. 403 d. 26-1-96

a/f

9/10/27

Question by the Hon'ble K. Kalynasundaram Aiyar.

XLV. Is the statement in the issue of the *Madras Mail* of the 29th December 1896, that the amount collected as village-cess in the Tanjore district in 1895-96 was 6½ lakhs of rupees, correct?

If so, will the Government be pleased to state the cause of the sudden increase of this cess from Rs. 1,47,360 in 1894-95 (*vide* page 63 of the Proceedings of the Council of Fort St. George of 1896) to 6½ lakhs of rupees in 1895-96?

If not will the Government be pleased to state the amount actually collected?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes

Answer.

XLV. The statement in the *Madras Mail* is not correct.

The sum collected from the ryots as village cess was Rs. 3,16,621.

The increase in the cess collection from Rs. 1,47,360 in 1894-95 to Rs. 3,16,621 in 1895-96 is partly due to the fact that, in Tanjore as elsewhere in the Presidency, the levy of village cess was suspended -- during the first quarter of 94-95 while it was levied throughout the year 1895-96. ~~Information as to any other causes which may have contributed to this increase has been called for from the Board.~~

(True copy.)

Lonel Davidson
Under Secretary to Govt.

96. *It was introduced*
No village cess was collected ~~in the~~ *the* district from the 1st July 1894 ~~in the 1st quarter~~ of 1894-95. The collections in the last nine months of that year was Rs. 1,47,360. The collections in the first three months of 1895-96 was Rs. 1,59,400 in the last nine months Rs. 1,57,000. The increase of Rs. 10,000 in the latter amount is due to increase of Land Revenue.

9/10/27

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