

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 261

DATED 16th Jan'y 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B. P. passing orders on proposals
for remission of postponement of lists in
certain taluk of Bellary.

BACK PAPERS.

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Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 119



From
The Board of Revenue
(Rev. Sett., L. R. & Agri.).

No. 472 Press

Dated 31st December 1896.

Received 8th Jan 1897

Registered 8th

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Remission & postponement.

Passing orders on
proposals for the
of Kists in certain taluks
of Bellary.

No. Hon. Mr. from C.D.E.
H.E. the Governor.

Order No. 2612 16th Jan 1897
12/1/97 8.54
Recorded, 15.1.97

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BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 31st DEC. 1896, No. 472.

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

READ—the following letter from R. H. CAMPBELL, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 19th December 1896, Dis. No. 4773 :—

Referring to paragraph 10 of my letter, dated 2nd December 1896, Dis. No. 4457, I have the honour to submit my proposals for the remission and postponement of revenue in the remaining three taluks of this district.

2. *Adóni taluk.*—The rainfall has been very deficient in this taluk, in October, November and December being only 1·55 in Adóni and 1·39 in Yemmiganur against the average of 5·62 and 5·72, respectively. Even the rainfall of 23rd November was not sufficiently heavy. But the cultivation figures up to the end of November noted

April to November 1896.				April to November 1895.			
Dry.		Wet.		Dry.		Wet.	
First.	Second.	First.	Second.	First.	Second.	First.	Second.
280,555	483	1,704	22	304,126	7,493	2,196	312

in the margin do not show that the dry cultivation in this taluk is much backward, the deficit being only 2,357 acres in first crop, dry. It is reported that the lands in which Mungari crops failed as well as the

lands left waste to raise Hingari crops have, with but few exceptions, been sown with white cholam, Bengal gram and oil-seeds, &c., since the rain of 23rd November. This rain should have considerably benefited the crops then standing. Thus it would appear that the taluk has not much suffered and the Tahsildar also expresses a hope that the lands favoured with sufficient moisture will yield a good harvest. Those sown in soils insufficiently moistured will yield, it is feared, a poor outturn. The Tahsildar and the Divisional Officer express their inability to submit at present any definite proposals, but the Tahsildar recommends that, pending his further report, the collection of assessment due on lands on which the Mungari yield was less than 6 annas may be postponed, while the Divisional Officer states that in the case of lands yielding an outturn between 2 and 4 annas, at least half the assessment should be postponed until next year. Until the effect of recent rainfall is ascertained, it is not easy to make any definite proposals; but, in view of the approaching kist time, I would recommend the remission of assessment on all dry lands left waste and where the outturn is less than 2 annas and the postponement of collection of kist till next year in the case of all lands, the yield of which has been over 2 annas but less than 4 annas; no concession being allowed in other cases.

3. *Alúr taluk.*—This is the most affected of all the taluks in the district. Almost the whole taluk is regada tract depending much upon the late rains which were hopelessly deficient this year amounting to only 1·14 from October to December against the average of 6·22. Even the rainfall of November 23rd, which was only moderate,

did not prove very beneficial. The cultivation is much retarded, the extent of first-crop dry cultivation being only acres 200,359 up to the end of November against 325,707 in the previous year. Since the recent rainfall, the area brought under cultivation is estimated to be only about 30,000 acres. Thus about 100,000 acres of land have been left entirely waste. It is reported that the crop on nearly 118,500 acres has been a complete failure, excepting in a few villages in Holagundi firka; even the cotton is not expected to yield more than a four-anna crop in any part of the taluk. In these circumstances, the Tahsildar recommends full remission for all waste and for lands yielding an outturn of less than 2 annas, and 75 per cent. remission for lands yielding between 2 and 4 annas. The Divisional Officer's recommendation is the same for this taluk as in the case of Adóni taluk. I would support the Tahsildar's recommendation with the modification that, for lands yielding between 2 and 4 annas, the collection of kist may be postponed till next year as in other taluks. Looking to the acuteness of the distress in this taluk, the kist on inam lands also may be postponed till next year in cases where the jodi or quit-rent is equal to the assessment and the yield less than 4 annas.

4. *Bellary taluk*.—The rainfall of this taluk this year from October to December has been the heaviest in the district. But even so it is only 3.94 against the average of 6.27. The cultivation up to the end of November 1896 has been most deficient in this taluk, being only 140,009 acres of first crop dry against 448,120 in the previous year. It is not certain, however, how much of the nearly three lakhs of acres left waste has been brought under cultivation after the rains of November. A large extent is stated to have been sown. Out of the early cultivated area, the crop on nearly 64,000 acres is reported to have entirely failed, while that on nearly 28,000 was below 2 annas. In the remaining portion it is estimated to be 4 annas and more. As regards the lands that have been sown or are being sown since the recent rains, a great portion will wither if, as is probable, there be no more rain. In these circumstances, the Head-quarter Deputy Collector estimates the amount to be remitted and suspended at Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 2,20,000, respectively. The standing crop is for the present stated to be in good condition and the extent of waste is not yet ascertainable. I however recommend, as in the case of Alúr taluk, the remission of assessment on all lands left waste and lands yielding less than 2 annas, the postponement until next year of the collection of kist due on lands yielding between 2 and 4 annas. The inam lands also may be treated as in the case of Alúr taluk.

5. As regards the wet lands in all the three taluks, remission will be granted under the ordinary rules. In all cases where the wet assessment is practically certain to be remitted, its collection will be suspended till jamabandi.

6. I am issuing instructions to the Tahsildars in accordance with the above proposals.

RESOLUTION—dated 31st December 1896, No. 472.

Recorded with reference to paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, No. 448 of 1896.

2. In reporting, the Collector should specially refer to the condition of taluks which have had bad seasons successively. The local officers say that the Alúr taluk, for instance, has not had a good season since 1891.

3. It would be better to defer any recommendations regarding remissions, as distinct from suspension, until the fate of second sowings is a certainty, and the exact tracts for which recommendation is made should be distinctly specified. It is not enough to recommend remissions on crops which have yielded only 2 annas. The tract covered by the recommendation should be specified.

4. The Collector would do well to cancel such portion of his circular referred to in the last paragraph of his letter as refers to remissions on dry. It would be cruel to raise hopes which might not be fulfilled. Remissions on dry can no doubt, be sanctioned by the Board, but always subject to the approval of Government.

5. It should be borne in mind by all Collectors that applications of this kind must be made before the end of January. It will perhaps clear the ground if the Board gives Collectors some idea of the view which it is prepared to take of such applications. The dry lands are settled with special reference to bad seasons and in ordinary years no remission is granted. In a year like the present, remissions may be recommended for tracts in which *both* dry sowings have totally failed. A crop of 2 annas or less may be taken as total failure. When the failure has only been for a single fasli, it is not probable that more than 4 annas in the rupee would be remitted. When, however, the tract in question has suffered for a series of bad seasons, a large remission may be recommended. The Board understands that the Alúr taluk in Bellary has been specially unfortunate in this respect. Collectors are requested to make their recommendations with reference to the above remarks. For higher rates of remissions, very special reasons should be shown. When Collectors may consider it desirable to postpone the collection of revenue, or of the balance after remissions have been made, their proposals will receive due consideration, reference being had to the fact that postponement of revenue is not to the ryot an unmixed blessing. When the ryots have stocks, it is kinder to them to collect the balance, as, in a year like this, the sale of a very small quantity of grain will produce funds to pay the kist. Their poorer neighbours will also profit by the grain being put upon the market.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary..

To the Collector of Bellary.

Copy to the Collectors of other Deccan Districts,
Ganjām, Vizagapatam and Gódvāri.
„ to other Collectors.
„ to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 6th, 1897.

Proceedings, 31st December 1896, No. 472.

Remission and postponement.—Passing orders on
proposals for the — of kists in certain taluks of
Bellary.

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READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

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CURRENT N°

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTERS OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DUTY

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