Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2752

DATED 31st May 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Proceedings reports from Collectors re enhancement of the present rate of subscription to the Gazette.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (189 7) Department.

CURRENT No.

GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY
21 MAY 97

From The Board of Revenue
Land Revenue

Order this no. 2752 d/31st May 97

Recorded.

No. 146

Dated 6-5-97

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

District Gazette.

Recording reports from Collrs. reg. enhancement of the present rates of subscription to the ——

Ack'd.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed May 15th.

Proceedings, No. 146, 6th May 1897.

MAY.

Recording, with remarks, reports received from Collectors regarding enhancement of the present rates of subscription to the District Gazette.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(LAND REVENUE).

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 401, dated 24th October 1896.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting for the orders of Government letters from the Collector of Salem and the Superintendent, Government Press, recommending that the price of the Educational, Local and Municipal supplements of the District Gazette may be fixed at 6 annas for each supplement *per annum*, and requesting Collectors to report by how much the price of the District Gazettes should be increased.

READ—also file of Collectors' reports, a précis of which is printed as an appendix.

Read—also Reference order, dated 24th March 1897.

With reference to paragraph 2 of his letter, No. 2548, dated 28th September 1896, printed in Board's Proceedings, No. 401, dated 24th October 1896, the Superintendent, Government Press, is requested to state whether the amount of Rs. 3-4-0, reported to be the cost of paper required for a year's numbers of the Gazette of the Salem district, includes the cost of stationery on account of the local fund and municipal sheets and, if so, what portion of the amount should be deducted on account of these items. Under Government Order, Mis. No. 218, Financial Department, dated 2nd March 1886, Municipal Councils and Local Boards have to supply the stationery required for printing their Proceedings, and in fact it is believed that in most cases they get the required number of copies of their Proceedings printed at their own cost before sending them to the Collectorate Press for circulation with the Gazette.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Superintendent, Government Press.

READ—also the following letter from R. HILL, Esq., Superintendent, Government Press, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, 31st March 1897, No. 1378.:—

With reference to Board's (Land Revenue) Reference, dated 24th March 1897, I have the honour to state that on a reference being made to this office by the Treasury Deputy Collector, Salem, as regards the value of paper required for a year's numbers of the *Salem District Gazette*, I have found out that the correct value of the paper is Rs. 1-11-0 and not Rs. 3-4-0, and the same was reported to him in my letter No. 3037, dated 12th December 1896. The cost of stationery on account of local fund and municipal sheets is not included in the above amount.

2. By an oversight one form of the Gazette was taken per sheet of printing double foolscap 28lb. instead of 2 forms, hence the above mistake.

RESOLUTION—No. 146, dated 6th May 1897.

In his last letter read above, the Superintendent, Government Press, reports that the cost of paper required for a year's numbers of the *Salem District Gazette* is Rs. 1-11-0 and not Rs. 3-4-0, as previously reported by mistake.

2. The Collectors' reports read above will be recorded with the remark that the Board sees no reason to enhance the present rates of subscription to the District Gazette.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To all Collectors, except Madras.
" the Superintendent, Government Press.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

APPENDIX.

A précis of Collectors' replies to Board's Proceedings, No. 401, dated 24th October 1896.

Ganjám.—The cost of bringing out a copy of the Gazette of this district amounts to Rs. 6-4-0 per annum against the existing rates of subscription of Rs. 2 for the 1st class and Re. 1 for the 2nd class. It is quite impossible to recover anything like the cost price of the Gazette and it is not desirable to sacrifice its circulation for the sake of a small additional recovery. No enhancement in the present rates of subscription is therefore recommended.

Vizagapatam.—When compared with the cost of production of the Gazette which is about Rs. 7-4-0 in this district, the existing rates of subscription are very low and may be raised from Rs. 2 to 4 in the case of official subscribers and from Re. 1 to Rs. 2 in the case of village officers and Government officials drawing less than Rs. 25 *per mensem*.

Gódávari.—The circulation of the Gazette, which even now is declining day by day, is sure to be affected considerably if its price be increased. The existing rates of subscription should not therefore be interfered with, at all events, for some time to come.

Kistna.—The number of subscribers to the District Gazette at present is only 260, of whom about 140 pay the full rate of Rs. 2 while the rest pay the reduced rate of Re. 1. As the difference that would result from raising the rates with so few subscribers would be inappreciable, no enhancement in the present rates is recommended.

Anantapur.—The existing rates of subscription are very low when compared with the cost of printing and stationery which amounts to Rs. 7-7-0 per copy per annum; but as the rates of subscription were fixed not with reference to the bulk or cost of the Gazette but solely to bring it within the reach of low paid public servants and persons of ordinary means and as the number of subscribers is very limited even with such low rates, no increase in the present rates of subsciption is recommended.

Bellary.—Free circulation of the District Gazette amongst the non-official class is mainly due to the subscription being small.

Chingleput.—The average cost of stationery for District Gazette, during the last three years was not much over the full rate of subscription to the Gazette. If it is considered that the subscription should at least cover the cost of stationery, it may be raised to Rs. 2-8-0.

North Arcot.—In 1886 the rates of subscription to the District Gazette were raised from Rs. 1-8-0 and As. 12, respectively, for the 1st and 2nd class subscribers to Rs. 2 and Re. 1. This increase has not affected the number of 1st-class subscribers which has risen from 40 in 1885 to 115 in 1896. Nor has it affected the number of 2nd-class subscribers, viz., officials drawing less than Rs. 25 *per mensem* and stamp vendors. This number also has risen from 39 in 1888 to 55 in 1896. In the case of these men as well as of 1st-class subscribers the rate may be raised to Rs. 2-4-0 per annum and in respect of village officers to Rs. 1-8-0 per annum.

South Arcot.—The approximate cost of bringing out a copy of the Gazette of this district is about Rs. 8-8-0, but if the rates of subscription be raised to anything like this amount there will be a considerable falling off in the number of subscribers. The existing rates of subscription may, however, be raised to Rs. 3-8-0 and Rs. 2, respectively, for 1st and 2nd class subscribers.

Tanjore.—According to the valuation of the Superintendent, Government Press, the cost of a copy of the Gazette amounts to Rs. 6–8–10. The enhancement of the rate of subscription from Re. 1 to Rs. 2 in 1885 was followed by a considerable falling off in the number of subscribers and the charge for the Gazette is purposely made as low as possible to ensure extensive circulation. The present rates of subscription should not therefore be increased.

Madura.—The cost of a copy of the Gazette excluding the supplements received from the Superintendent, Government Press, direct, and the municipal and local sheets which are printed in private presses, is about Rs 6-5-8. If the rates of subscription were to be raised to this amount, the number of subscribers will fall off considerably and the main object of the publication will be frustrated. The rate of subscription may however be increased to Rs. 3 per annum.

Tinnevelly —The total cost of a copy of the Gazette amounts to Rs. 6–8–0 per annum, while postage and stationery charges alone come to about Rs. 2–6 -6. The existing rates of subscription may be raised to Rs. 3 and 1–8–0 respectively for the 1st and 2nd class subscribers after due notice and as a tentative measure for 2 years.

Coimbatore.—The present rates of subscription of Rs. 2 and Re. 1 for the 1st and 2nd class subscribers may be raised to Rs. 3 and 2 respectively.

Nilgiris.—Considering the position of the majority of subscribers in this district, the rate of subscription may be raised to Rs 3 per annum in the case of all, except village officers and public servants drawing less than Rs. 25 a month in whose case the present rate of Re. 1 may be left unaltered.

Salem —The estimate of the cost of paper for a year's numbers of the *Salem District Gazette* is only Rs. 1-2-6 and not Rs. 3-4-0 as originally reported by the Superintendent, Government Press, by mistake. There is therefore no necessity for increasing the present rate of subscription to the District Gazette on the ground that it does not cover the cost of stationery. Further any enhancement of the present rates of subscription would lead to a decrease in the number of subscribers.

South Canara.—There should be no increase in the existing rates of subscription to the District Gazette. The loss on stationery should be regarded as a part of the cost of obtaining a wide circulation.

Malabar.—The cost of a copy of the Gazette is about Rs. 11–5–0 including a postage of Rs. 1–8–0. The existing rate of subscription may be increased to Rs 3 per annum, which is merely a fourth of the cost to Government. If any higher rate be fixed at present, there would be a falling off in the number of subscribers.

Ex I P. Seetharam.

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READ AGAIN G.O., No 189 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

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STATEMENT WITH DITTO.										
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