Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2946-7

DATED 11th June 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Acknowledging with thanks the receipt of 40 copies each of orders relating to Agricultural Statistics & 10 forecasts of crops forwarded by the D.G. of Statistics.

Note.

The copies were received only today

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Dell 9.6.97.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

STATISTICAL BUREAU

A

COLLECTION

OF

ORDERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

RELATING TO

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

CALCUTTA:
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF GOVERNMENT PRINTING, INDIA.
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I.—General orders relating to the collection and tabulation of Agricultural Statistics.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Assam, British Burma, Coorg, Ajmere, and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident, Hyderabad,—Circular No. 42 (Statistics), dated the 31st March 1884.

I am directed to address you on the subject of the forms recommended by the Conference held in December 1883 for the tabulation of statistics relating to land and agriculture. These forms, which are interspersed in the body of the proceedings of the Conference are reproduced in the annexure * of this letter for facility of reference.

2. The forms of a corresponding nature at present in use, and published among the appendices to the annual administration reports, are those which were drawn up by the Statistical Committee of 1866, and circulated by the Government of India with letter No. 450-458, dated the 31st October 1866.

3. Should the revised tables now circulated * be adopted, they will affect those in use by causing the cancellation of nine of the forms of 1866 and the addition of two new forms, thus:—

Forms recommended by Statistical Conference of December 1883.	Forms of 1866 now in use affected thereby.	
Form A.—Area cultivated and uncultivated.	I-A-1.—Area cultivated and uncultivated.	Cancelled.
Form B.—Crops cultivated	III-D-1.—Crops cultivated	„
Form C.—Surveyed and assessed area (new form).	I-E-2.—Surveyed and assessed area	„
Agricultural stock	III-D-2.—Agricultural stock	„
Irrigation (new form).		
Prices of produce	III-E-1.—Prices of produce	„
Varieties of tenure held direct from Government.	I-E-3.—Varieties of tenure held direct from Government.	„
Registers of transfers	I-E-5.—Registers of transfers	„
None	I-E-4.—Varieties of tenure not held direct from Government.	May be discontinued.
None	III-D-3.—Rates of rent and produce.	May be discontinued for the present.

4. The Government of India considers that the forms now recommended are an improvement on those of 1866, and desires to know whether any objection exists to their adoption. Should there be none, I am to request that they may be adopted in future Administration Reports. It would meet the wishes of the India Office if they could be adopted for the report for the past calendar year; but this may be found to be impracticable, and the Government of India does not wish to press the point.

5. Turning to the minor matters noticed by the Conference regarding the tabulation of the forms, it will be observed

Proceedings of 17th December, paragraph 8.

that in connection with Form B it has been thought undesirable in the Imperial return to distinguish the crops according to the seasons at which they are sown.

In the case of areas under mixed crops, which will fall under more than one column, an estimate should, if possible, be made of the proportion of the area debitable to each crop. This is not a very satisfactory solution of the question, but it appeared to the Conference the only alternative to prescribing an elaborate series of headings for mixed crops which, though suitable for provincial purposes, are out of place in an Imperial return.

In compiling Form B for the Administration Report, it is open to each

Proceedings of 18th December, paragraph 3.

Local Government to subdivide the headings of the form in any manner that appears advisable.

* Not printed in this collection; see revised forms prescribed by later orders dated the 20th July 1891 and 28th June 1893, on pages 8—12, and 18—19.

6. In provinces where the rentals paid by tenants to recorded landholders can be given, the Conference considered it desirable that they should be shown in appropriate tables in the Annual Administration Reports of those provinces.

Proceedings of 22nd December, paragraph 2.

7. Table I-E-4—Fiscal (varieties of tenure not held direct from Government) may be discontinued in its present form, though Local Governments may substitute for it in their Administration Report any return of a similar nature which seems most appropriate for the province.

8. It is optional to Local Governments to show or to omit the transfers of the tenant area (Form I-E-5—Fiscal register of transfers).

Proceedings of 22nd December, paragraph 5.

9. Form III-D-3 (Rates of rent and produce) in the General Administration Reports was considered by the Conference to be of little or no value, and its discontinuance has been suggested until more accurate methods of estimating the yield be devised, and more appropriate forms for exhibiting it be prepared.

Proceedings of 19th December, paragraph 8.

10. Finally, it will be observed that the Conference recommended the substitution of the words "tenures, either wholly or partially, revenue-free" for the words "tenures revenue-free" wherever they occur.

Proceedings of 22nd December, paragraph 7.

From the Government of India, to the Secretary of State for India,—No 1, dated the 22nd April 1884.

With our despatch * * we forwarded, for Your Lordship's information, copy of a circular which we had caused to be addressed to Local Governments and Administrations on the subject of the compilation of agricultural statistics.

2. The replies which we received to that circular having led us to believe that a final settlement of the several questions involved could be most conveniently arrived at by a conference of officers representing the different provinces, we took advantage of the Calcutta Exhibition to convene a meeting of the Directors of the Agricultural Departments and other officers in December last at Calcutta. The Conference, having carefully considered Your Lordship's despatch and its enclosures, drew up a set of new forms which, it is hoped, will secure greater uniformity in the exhibition of agricultural statistics in the provincial administration reports for future years. These forms have now been communicated to Local Governments for opinion (Circular No. 42, dated 31st March 1884), and we hope that it will be found possible to adopt them in the Administration Reports for 1884.

3. It is believed that with the adoption of these forms the labour of preparing quinquennially, as proposed by Your Lordship, a set of tables for the Statistical Abstract similar to those accompanying Your Lordship's despatch will be much lessened. We would, however, submit for consideration the question whether the quinquennial tables might not be more conveniently compiled in our Department of Revenue and Agriculture than in the India Office. The advantage of compiling such tables in India is that, in case of discrepancies coming to light in the course of compilation, a reference can readily be made to the local authorities and the needful corrections made. We have, however, no strong opinion on the subject, and are content to leave it to Your Lordship's decision.

4. With reference to Your Lordship's inquiry whether any improvement can be made in the form or details of the abstract of crops cultivated, we would mention that the Conference, in amending the form in some respects, expressed a wish to know whether the Statistical Reporter to the India Office requires details of the crops classed under the general head of oilseeds.

5. With reference to paragraph 7 of Your Lordship's despatch, we endorse the opinion of the Conference that the information at present given regarding the yield of the different crops in some of the Administration Reports is of little or no value, and we have proposed to discontinue the return. The best method of arriving at approximate estimates of production was much discussed by the Conference, and will engage the attention of the several Agricultural Departments, and we hope that before long steps will be taken in most provinces to secure reasonably trustworthy information on this important subject.

6. With reference to paragraph 10 of the despatch, it will be observed that the Conference have drawn up a form which will give greater information in regard to irrigation than has hitherto appeared in the General Administration Reports.

7. We enclose for Your Lordship's information a copy of the proceedings of the Conference. We would remark that the Conference, in addition to settling the forms for agricultural statistics, discussed several other matters which are under the consideration of our Department of Revenue and Agriculture, and their recommendations will be separately disposed of by us.

From Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India,—No. 50, dated the 3rd July 1884.

I have considered in Council your letter, No. 1, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated the 22nd April last, on the subject of the compilation of agricultural statistics.

2. The statistical forms recommended by the Conference convened under your orders appear to be an improvement upon those now in use for the provincial administration reports, and subject to the following remarks, I approve their adoption.

3. The new and condensed Form B, of crops cultivated, appears intended altogether to supersede the detailed statement of crops hitherto given in Form III. D.I., and the administration reports will no longer show the area cultivated with particular crops under the main headings (*e.g.*, with jawar or maize under the main heading of "other food-grains"). But it may often be desirable to be able readily to ascertain this. Lately a question was raised whether the recent large increase in the export of wheat had caused a decrease in the area cultivated with the common food-grains, and this the existing returns at once showed. I intended that Form B should be merely an abstract of the detailed crop returns, and I am disposed to think that this will be best.

4. These observations will reply to paragraph 4 of your letter, regarding the details to be given under the head of oilseeds. If there is to be in the Provincial Administration Reports no other information regarding crops than that contained in the new Form B, that form should certainly be enlarged. But in any circumstances, I leave entirely to your decision the question what amount of detail the forms should contain, bearing in mind that they should not be too large for insertion in the Statistical Abstract.

5. The only other form on which I have to remark is C. In the first place the division into "zamindari" and "ryotwari" does not appear to be exhaustive; at least, it is not clear under which head would fall "bhyachara" villages in the North-Western Provinces or "khoti" and "narwa" villages in Bombay. Next, it will be difficult to fill in accurately columns 8 and 9, as the population of the fully assessed area alone cannot be shown when, as in at least Madras and Bombay, the same village contains both fully assessed and privileged lands. The difficulty may apparently be got over by a slight re-adjustment of the form as below.*

6. With reference to paragraph 5 of your letter, I quite agree with Your Excellency regarding the value of present estimates of yield. But I share your hope that it may ere long be possible to secure reasonably trustworthy information on this point. It would be invaluable for general purposes of administration in India, and the need of it is often felt in this country by those interested in the Indian trade.

7. As regards your third paragraph, I concur with Your Excellency that the tables had better be compiled in your Department of Revenue and Agriculture. They should be transmitted by the month of May annually, for inclusion in the Statistical Abstract issued before the close of the Parliamentary Session.

From the Government of India, to Local Governments and Administrations,—Circular No. 98 Stats, dated the 20th August 1884.

In continuation of my circular letter No. 42 of the 31st March 1884, forwarding revised forms for the tabulation of Revenue and Agricultural

* Not printed in this collection, the form having been subsequently revised again : see pages 18 and 19.

Statistics, I am directed to forward for information copy of a despatch (No. 50, dated the 3rd July 1884) from the Secretary of State.

2. With reference to the observations in paragraph 2 of the despatch, I am to say that it was not intended that Form B should supersede altogether the more detailed statement of crops which is given as Form III. D. I. of the returns prescribed in 1866 in the annual administration reports of some Provinces. The headings shown in Form B may, as was stated in my previous circular, be sub-divided at the pleasure of any Local Government, and it is desirable that the provincial returns should continue to give the information mentioned in paragraph 2 of the despatch. It will be sufficient for the purposes of this Department if, in addition to the more elaborate crop statement include d in any provincial report, an abstract in the form of Table B be submitted along with the other statements mentioned in the last paragraph of this circular.

3. Opinion is invited on the revised Form C suggested by the despatch. The Statistical Conference did not overlook the difficulty that might be experienced in separating the population of the fully assessed area from the unassessed, but they considered that so far as the difficulty could be overcome, the return would prove of much value, as it would show more truly the incidence of the land revenue, where fully assessed, per head of population in different districts. This information the form suggested in the despatch does not attempt to give, although it shows the incidence per acre for this area. The Government of India thinks that the form suggested in the despatch may be adopted with the addition of two columns, shewn as 11 and 12 in the appended Form C * as finally amended. These two columns, however, need not be filled in when there is any insuperable difficulty in obtaining resonably accurate information.

The remark in the despatch that the division into "zamindari" and "rayatwari" is not exhaustive is of course correct, but it is not understood that the Statistical Committee intended the classification to be exhaustive or wished to prevent additions to these two classes to suit local requirements from being made. I am here to notice that for "zamindari" it would perhaps be better to read "zamindari and village communities," in order to cover the case of the *bhyachara* and other similar communities.

4. With reference to paragraph 7 of the despatch, I am to ask whether this Department can be supplied every year by the 1st March, in anticipation of the publication of the annual administration report, with the tables appended to my circular of the 31st March, in order to enable the Government of India to comply with the Secretary of State's requisition. The 1st March might possibly be too early a date if these agricultural returns are compiled by the calendar year. But it is believed that in most provinces, more especially in Northern India, it is found more convenient to compile such returns for the agricultural year, and in that case the date named would give sufficient time for their submission.

From the Government of the Panjab to the Government of India,—No. 342, dated the 9th October 1884.

2. * * * His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor agrees with the Committee (appointed by him to consider the orders of the Government of India with reference to the Panjab returns) and the Financial Commissioner that the statements should be prepared according to the agricultural year, and that the statement of Rents, Form C, should be prepared quinquennially, as is at present the case with the statement of Tenures, and he would recommend these proposals for the sanction of the Government of India. The Lieutenant-Governor has also approved, subject to the confirmation of the Government of India, of the following suggestions made in the report, namely, (1) that steps should be taken to ascertain the exact area of each district according to the returns of the Surveyor General, (2) that a separate crop inspection or girdawari should be made for each harvest, (3) that the areas of mixed crops should be apportioned, (4) that the present statement of prices * * (*abolished since*), and (5) that the revision of the quinquennial statistics should not be relegated to a single year, but should be gradually carried out in one village one year, and in another the next, during the whole period of five years. * *

* Not printed in this collection, the form having been subsequently revised again: see pages 18 and 19.

From the Government of India, to the Government of the Panjab,—No. 251, dated the 28th October 1884.

* * * * * * * * *

3. I am to convey the approval of the Government of India to the recommendations made by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor in paragraph 2 of your letter (No. 342, dated the 9th instant), with regard to the mode of preparing agricultural and similar statistics, as well as with regard to other details connected with the improvement of such statistics.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Coorg, Ajmere, and Assam; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 121, dated the 28th October 1884.

In continuation of circular No. 98, dated the 20th August 1884, I am directed to forward, for information, a letter with enclosures from the Government of the Panjab, No. 342, dated the 9th instant, with the orders of the Government of India thereon.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—No. 15, dated the 19th February 1885.

I am directed to say that as the lettering and numbering of the forms of Agricultural Statistical Returns in the different administration reports are not uniform, you are at liberty to adopt any method of lettering and numbering the revised forms that will best accord with the present arrangement of the forms appended to the General Administration report for British Burma.

Copy forwarded to all other Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—No. 189, dated the 9th May 1885.

From the replies received to the circulars noted on the margin, it appears that all other Local Governments and Administrations will have little difficulty in furnishing the Government of India with the returns for each year of land and agricultural statistics by the 1st November succeeding the close of the year reported on.

No. 42 (Statistics), dated 31st March 1884.
No. 98 (Statistics), dated 20th August 1884.

2. The returns for British Burma, which are prepared for the agricultural year ending 30th June, cannot however, it appears from your letter No. 1995-28 A., dated 17th September 1884, be submitted before the 1st March of the following year. The necessity for so long a time for the compilation of the returns is not altogether apparent. It is believed that all the essential matter might, in the absence of any special cause of delay, be compiled in the district offices soon after the close of the year, by which time the whole of the land revenue should have been ordinarily collected on the new areas, record of which has been going on in field and office since the preceding November.

3. Under these circumstances the compilation of the provincial returns might, it is thought, be completed by November; and as the Secretary of State has asked that the Imperial statistics may be submitted by the month of May of each year, the Government of India trusts that you will on further consideration be able to arrange that the returns of British Burma may be despatched so as to reach this Department at the same time as those of other Local Governments, namely, the 1st November of each year. Unless the returns are received by this date, the Government of India will hardly be able to check and correct them in correspondence with the Local Government in time to submit the returns for all India to the Secretary of State by the required date.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara,—No. 192, dated the 9th May 1885.

In reply to letter * * relating to the forms for the tabulation of land and agricultural statistics, I am directed to say that Form I.E.-3

need not be submitted for the district and that Form C can be modified as proposed by the Commissioner of Ajmere.

2. Your recommendation that the introduction and submission of the revised forms in Ajmere-Merwara should be delayed until the cold weather of 1886-87 is approved by the Government of India.

From the Chief Commissioner, Burma, to the Government of India,—No. 946-31 G., dated the 9th June 1885.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 189-S.—2-9, dated the 9th ultimo, and in reply to say that there will be no difficulty in furnishing the Government of India with the returns for each year of land and agricultural statistics by the 1st November succeeding the close of the year reported on.

From the Government of India, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh,—No. 290 Stats., dated the 17th July 1885.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter * * * regarding the forms for the tabulation of statistics relating to land and agriculture, and in reply to say that the Government of India approves generally of the modifications which His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner desires to make in respect of the returns from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

2. The returns which call for special remark are the following:—

Form C.—The original division of tenures into "rayatwari" and "zamindari" may be followed in compiling the return for the North-Western Provinces. The proposal that the return should be quinquennial is also approved. Attention is, however, invited to paragraph 2 of letter No. 342, dated 9th October last, from the Government of the Panjab, a copy of which was forwarded under cover of letter noted on the margin, in which it was stated that in the Panjab the revision of quinquennial statistics * would not be relegated to a single year, but would be gradualiy carried out in one village one year and in another the next, during the whole period of five years. This arrangement appears to the Government of India calculated to lessen the labour involved in compiling the return, and is recommended to His Honour's consideration.

No. 121 Stats., dated 28th October 1884.

* Return of rent.
" tenures.
" agricultural stock.

3. *Form III., D-2 (Irrigation).*—It is proposed to classify irrigation under the heads (1) Canals, (2) Wells, (3) Other sources, that is, to make no distinction between Government and private canals, the latter being very few in number, and to include tanks of which the number is also small under the head "Other sources." As the Secretary of State requires full details to be given in the return submitted to the Home Government, the Government of India would prefer that columns 3 and 4 should remain as they are, a foot-note being added to column 4 to explain that the few private canals in the Provinces have been included under the head of Government Canals and that tanks are included under "Other sources."

The Government of India has no objection to the addition also of a foot-note explaining the discrepancy, if any, between the figures in column 8 and the total of columns 9 to 12 of this form. The remark that information as to the extent of the second irrigation is not available at present is, however, not quite understood. It is observed from the extant circulars of the Board of Revenue, North-Western Provinces, part III, pages 14 and 16, that khasra form A is intended to show the area irrigated whether once or twice, while khasra form B supplies the details of crops separately irrigated. The difference between the areas as entered in these two khasra forms would apparently represent with sufficient accuracy the extent of the second irrigation.

4. *Form III, E.-1.*—It is pointed out that the standard maund in use in the Province consists of 83·65 lbs., instead of 80 lbs. as described in this form. As it is necessary that the maund entered in the Imperial returns should be uniform for all Provinces, it is requested that the maund of 83·65 lbs. may be reduced to that of 80 lbs. before the return is submitted to the Government of India. An approximately correct reduction will answer all purposes.

5. *Form I, E.-3.*—It is intended that this form should be provisionally adopted for a few years. With reference to paragraph 5 of his memorandum in which the Secretary in the Oudh Revenue Department desires that more precise instructions may be given as to the manner in which the column "No. of estates" should be filled up, I am to say that an estate of the kind mentioned should be treated as *one* estate.

6. The Secretary of State requires that the statistics for India should be submitted by May in each year, in order that they may be ready for presentation to Parliament. As they have to be compiled and checked by the Government of India, it is necessary that they should be submitted by Local Governments in sufficient time to enable the inevitable correspondence about details to take place between the Imperial and Provincial Governments before the date upon which despatch of the statements to England will be due. His Excellency the Governor General in Council trusts that, under these circumstances, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner will be able, on further consideration, to arrange that the returns from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh may reach the Government of India by the 1st November succeeding the close of the year to which they relate. All other Provinces have agreed to this date, with one exception in respect to which a request has been made that the general arrangement may be adopted.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Panjab; Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Coorg, Ajmere, Assam, and Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 106, dated the 31st July 1885.

I am directed to forward a copy of a letter, with enclosures, from the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, on the subject of the forms for the tabulation of Agricultural Statistics, together with a copy of the orders passed on the subject by the Government of India.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; Chief Commissioners of British Burma, Central Provinces, Assam, Coorg, and Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 130, dated the 7th November 1885.

With reference to my circular No. 15, dated the 19th February 1885, on the subject of Agricultural Statistical Returns, I am directed to request that in the copies of the forms sent to the Government of India, the number and letter of the forms adopted in the series appended to my letter No. 42—26-5, dated the 31st March 1884, may, if not used for provincial purposes, be printed or written on the upper right-hand corner so that the form may be readily identified on receipt.

Copy forwarded for information to the Government of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Ajmere.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, Madras, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; Chief Commissioners, Assam, Central Provinces, British Burma, Coorg, and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 12 Stats., dated the 9th February 1886.

I am directed to inquire whether it would not be convenient that errors and discrepancies occurring in the agricultural statistics submitted to the Government of India should in future be adjusted by the Government of India in direct communication with the officers charged with the preparation of the statements. This arrangement is already followed in the case of the returns of railborne trade, and if followed in that of agricultural statistics, it might probably save time and lessen the labour which the reconcilement of discrepancies now imposes upon Local Governments and Administrations.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner of Ajmere for information.

From the Government of India, to Local Governments and Administrations,—Circular No. 81—13-4, dated the 11th September 1888.

I am directed to forward the accompanying extract from the proceedings of the Agricultural Conference held at Delhi on the 29th March last, relating to the proposed modifications in some of the present forms of the returns of Agricultural Statistics :—

2. The forms are eight in number, namely :—

Serial No.	Present lettering.	Proposed lettering.	Description.
1	A	A	Area cultivated and uncultivated.
2	*Nil*		Irrigation.
3	B		Crops cultivated.
4	III. D. 2		Agricultural stock.
5	III. E. 1	B	Prices of produce.
6	C	C	Surveyed and assessed area.
7	I. E. 3	D	Varieties of tenure held direct from Government.
8	I. E. 5	E	Register of transfers.

As it is desirable and convenient to have a uniform system of numbering or lettering the forms serially, the Government of India will be glad if Local Governments and Administrations can adopt in future the lettering given in column 3 of the above table in the forms furnished to this Department.

3. The forms which were discussed by the Conference are those noted in the marginal list, in which the present lettering of the forms is given. Copies of all the forms, as they will now stand if the proposed alterations are accepted, are appended * for facility of reference.

Irrigation Form.
Form B—Crops cultivated.
„ III D 2—Agricultural stock.
„ C—Surveyed and assessed area.
„ I. E. 3—Varieties of tenure held direct from Government.

4. In the proposed form A have been amalgamated the present forms A, B and III D 2, as well as the form for showing irrigation. The adoption of this form will probably result in more uniformity in printing the returns, and occupy a smaller number of pages than at present. Besides, it will be easier to give comparative figures in this form, as is done in the returns of Great Britain, should this be considered necessary now or hereafter.

5. As regards the acreage under crops to be exhibited in the proposed form A, I am to say that Local Governments and Administrations can, if they prefer it (as was the case before in some provinces), enlarge the form by giving further details under each major head of "Cereals and Pulses," "Oilseeds," etc.; but if this is done the Government of India will require for incorporation in the Imperial return the separate submission of an abstract in the prescribed form. The Secretary of State is in favour of further details being given in the provincial crop returns.

6. With reference to the remarks of the Conference on mixed crops, I am to enquire how far it is possible to exhibit the area under each crop, as desired by paragraph 5 of this Department circular No. 42, dated the 31st March 1884.

* * * *

8. With these remarks I am to say that the Government of India will be glad if the proposed forms A, C and D can be accepted in lieu of the present ones. Form E will stand.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for communication to the Mysore Durbar for information, and to the Agent to the Governor General, Central India, with reference to the Agricultural Statistics of Manpur Pargana.

Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, Nos. 19—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

In the circular of the 11th September 1888, the opinion of local Governments and Administrations was invited on certain modifications recommended by the conference of officers of Agricultural Departments, held at Delhi in March 1888, in the returns of Agricultural Statistics prescribed in the circulars

* Not printed in this collection : see the revised forms prescribed in Resolution dated the 20th July 1891, on pages 8 to 12 and Circular dated the 28th June 1893 on pages 18 and 19.

of 31st March and 20th August 1884. Having carefully considered the opinions and wishes of local Governments expressed in the replies received, the Government of India have decided to prescribe the forms appended to this Resolution. These forms have for the past three years been as far as possible used for the compilation of the Imperial abstracts and they are now circulated for general adoption with effect from the year 1890-91. In determining the changes which should be introduced particular regard has been had to the desirability of making as few as possible those alterations which involve interference with village papers. Occasional exceptions to this principle have, however, been found inevitable. Some of the changes adopted may involve the collection of statistics which are of small consequence in particular Provinces. In these instances the decision has been arrived at on a consideration of the general advantage to be gained by the change and has been based mainly on the recommendations of the Delhi Conference at which the majority of Provinces were represented.

2. For the purpose of imperial compilation uniformity is indispensable. No modifications in the forms of returns submitted to the Government of India which have not been specially authorized can therefore be permitted; and where deviations from the prescribed headings are unavoidable under existing circumstances, efforts should not be spared to gradually eliminate them. There is no objection to the amplification or modification of the forms for provincial purposes. On the contrary, it is most desirable that these returns should be utilized to the fullest extent in administration reports, the headings being expanded or re-arranged as may be necessary. By this measure the labour now devoted to the separate and independent compilation of statistical returns for provincial reports dealing with agricultural subjects will be minimised; the discrepancies which frequently exist between the two sets of returns and detract from the value of both will be obviated; and the examination and discussion to which the figures will be subjected in provincial reports will provide the Government of India with the materials, now wanting, for a review of the imperial tables. The opportunity is at the same time taken to remind local Governments and Administrations of the express desire of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, that the information in provincial reports and returns regarding crops and other agricultural matters should be as full and detailed as the means at disposal will allow.

See Circular No. 98, dated 20th August 1884.

3. No new form has been prescribed, but the series is re-arranged as follows :—

Form A 1. Total acreage.
„ A 2. Classification of net area.
„ A 3. Acreage under crop.
„ A 4. Agricultural stock.

Form B. Prices of produce (*since abolished*)
„ C. Incidence of Land Revenue.
„ D. Varieties of tenure.
„ E. Transfers of landed property.

Instructions for the compilation of the forms are given in the shape of footnotes, but there are some points which call for supplementary remarks and are dealt with in the following paragraphs.

4. *Form A 2 (1)—Forests.*—To provide for the case of lands legally declared to be forests or administered as forests under any legal enactments other than forest Acts it has been necessary to enlarge the definition of the heading. Care should be taken that the areas of Government forest included in this return are obtained from the same source as the areas exhibited in the reports on forest administration.

5. *Form A 2 (3)—Culturable waste other than fallow.*—Owing to the extreme variations which have been found to exist in the period for which land is left fallow the heading "Culturable waste other than fallow" has been substituted for that formerly proposed, namely, "Culturable, but not cultivated for three years."

6. *Form A 3* (1 to 30)—*Details of Crops.*—After careful consideration it has been decided to add *ragi* or *marua* (Eleusine coracana) to the new crop headings adopted on the recommendation of the Delhi Conference. This is as important a food crop in southern India as is barley in northern India, and the Government of India desire that where the area cultivated with *ragi* is not already recorded separately, the alterations necessary in the village returns of

crops to secure these statistics may be introduced as soon as convenient. If for reasons of real importance the statistics of any crop included in the statement cannot be separately given the corresponding column may be left blank, but the reasons for omission should be fully explained. Alterations in the standard crop headings of the imperial return cannot, for the reasons already stated, be allowed though the forms may be expanded or modified at the discretion of local Governments for provincial purposes.

7. *Form A 4—Stock, ploughs, and carts.*—The headings added in this return to those previously suggested are *young stock* and *camels*. *Pigs* have been omitted. Special importance is attached by the Government of India to the correct compilation of the information required for columns 1 to 5, which involve the separate classification of animals whose milk is valuable, and of young apart from adult stock.

8. *Form B—Prices of produce.*—[Since abolished.]

9. *Form C—Incidence of Land Revenue*—has been left unaltered for the present. The form has been the subject of much criticism and discussion, but the Government of India are not prepared to substitute any modified form.*

10. *Form D—Varieties of tenure.*—This form has been provisionally modified in accordance with the recommendations of the Delhi Conference, but is still the subject of correspondence with one or two local Governments. Pending further instructions the revised form should be brought into use as soon as possible.†

11. The provincial returns are, with the following exceptions, due to the Government of India on the 1st November of each year and should be punctually submitted by that date :—

	1st instalment on the 1st December.	2nd instalment on the 1st February.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	Forms A and E.	Forms B, C and D.
Bombay	Forms A, B and E.	Forms C and D.
Panjab	Forms A to E.	...

12. No uniform period can be prescribed for the year to which the statistics should relate, but the Government of India desire that Forms A and B should be compiled for the recognized agricultural year of each Province.

13. No general review of the statistics is required with the returns; but if only to save return references, they should invariably be supplemented with a brief notice of remarkable variations or discrepancies requiring explanation.

ORDERED that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the

Government of Madras.
" " Bombay.
" " Bengal.
" " the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
" " " Panjab.
Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.
" " Assam.
" " Burma.
" " Ajmere.
" " Coorg.
Resident at Hyderabad.

local Governments and Administrations noted on the margin, for information and guidance.

Ordered also that the Resolution be forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Government of the Mysore State and to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana.

* See later order in Circular dated the 28th June 1893, on pages 18 and 19 of this collection.
† See later orders on page 21 of this collection.

FORM A.

ACREAGE, CLASSIFICATION OF AREAS, IRRIGATION, CROPS, CURRENT FALLOWS, AND STOCK IN EACH DISTRICT OF _____ DURING THE* _____ YEAR ENDING _____.

Presidency or Province.	Districts. A, B, Etc., Total.	Presidency or Province.
A 1. Total Area in acres.		**A 1.**
1. Area according to Professional Survey		1. Area according to Professional Survey.
2. Deduct (a) Feudatory and Tributary States.		2. Deduct (a) Feudaty. and Tributy. States.
2. Deduct (b) Area for which no returns exist.		(b) Area for which no returns exist.
3. Net area by Professional Survey		3. Net area by Professional Survey.
4. Corresponding area in Village Papers		4. Corresponding area in Village Papers.
A 2. Classification of Area shewn in column 4 of A 1.		**A 2.**
1. Forests		1. Forests.
2. Not available for cultivation		2. Not available for cultivation.
3. Culturable waste other than fallow		3. Culturable waste other than fallow.
4. Current fallows		4. Current fallows.
5. Net area cropped during the year		5. Net area cropped during the year.
Total		Total.
6. Irrigated during the year from— (a) Government canal		(a) Government canals.
(b) Private canals		(b) Private canals.
(c) Tanks		(c) Tanks.
(d) Wells		(d) Wells.
(e) Other sources		(e) Other sources.
Total		Total. — 6. Irrigated during the year from—
7. Crops irrigated. (a) Wheat		(a) Wheat.
(b) Other cereals and pulses		(b) Other cereals and pulses.
(c) Miscellaneous food-crops		(c) Miscellaneous food crops.
(d) Miscellaneous non-food crops		(d) Miscellaneous non-food crops.
Total		Total. — 7. Crops irrigated.
A 3. Acreage under Crops.		**A 3.**
		Botanical names.
English or vernacular names.		
Cereals and Pulses: 1. Rice		1. Oryza sativa.
2. Wheat		2. Triticum sativum.
3. Barley		3. Hordeum vulgare.
4. Cholum or jawar (millet)		4. Sorghum vulgare.
5. Cumbu or bajra (millet)		5. Pennisetum typhoideum.
6. Ragi or marua		6. Eleusine coracana.
7. Maize		7. Zea Mays.
8. Gram (pulse)		8. Cicer arietinum.
9. Other food grains inclg. pulses		9. Other food grains inclg. pulses.
Total		Total. — Cereals and Pulses.
Oilseeds: 10. Linseed		10. Linum usitatissimum.
11. Til or jinjili		11. Sesamum Indicum.
12. Others		12. Others.
Total		Total. — Oilseeds.
13. Condiments and Spices		13. Condiments and Spices.
Sugar: 14. Sugarcane		14. Saccharum officinarum.
15. Others		15. Others.
Total		Total. — Sugar.
Fibres: 16. Cotton		16. Gossypium, sp.
17. Jute		17. Corchorus, sp.
18. Others		18. Others.
Total		Total. — Fibres.
Dyes: 19. Indigo		19. Indigofera tinctoria.
20. Others		20. Others.
Total		Total. — Dyes.
Drugs and Narcotics: 21. Opium		21. Papaver somniferum.
22. Coffee		22. Coffea arabica.
23. Tea		23. Camellia theifera.
24. Tobacco		24. Nicotiana tabacum and N. rustica.
25. Chinchona		25. Chinchona, sp.
26. Indian hemp		26. Cannabis sativa, sp.
27. Others		27. Others.
Total		Total. — Drugs and Narcotics.
28. Fodder-crops		28. Fodder-crops.
29. Orchards and Garden Produce		29. Orchards and Garden Produce.
30. Miscellaneous Crops. Food		30. Miscellaneous Crops. Food.
Non-food		Non-food.
31. Total of all crops		31. Total of all crops.
32. Area cropped more than once		32. Area cropped more than once.
33. (31—32) Net area cropped during the year†		33. (31—32) Net area cropped during the year.†
A 4. Live Stock, Ploughs, and Carts. (See page 23 of this collection.)		**A 4.**
	No.	
1. Bulls and bullocks	"	1. Bulls and bullocks.
2. Cows	"	2. Cows.
3. Male Buffaloes	"	3. Male Buffaloes.
4. Cow Buffaloes	"	4. Cow Buffaloes.
5. Young Stock (calves and buffaloe calves)	"	5. Young Stock (calves and buffaloe calves.)
6. Sheep	"	6. Sheep.
7. Goats	"	7. Goats.
8. Horses and ponies	"	8. Horses and ponies.
9. Mules and donkeys	"	9 Mules and donkeys.
10. Camels	"	10. Camels.
11. Ploughs	"	11. Ploughs.
12. Carts	"	12. Carts.

* Financial, Agricultural or Revenue year. This information should be given in the heading of each form.

A. 1. (1) This area is exclusive of Native States in political relations with the Government of India in the Foreign Department. If the area returned by Professional Survey Departments includes any such States, they should be excluded before the initial figures for this area are accepted. The area of feudatory or tributary States not under the Foreign Department should be shewn separately as a deduction in A. 1 (2).

A. 1. (4) Should include the whole area entered against A. 1. (3), the net area by village papers being substituted, where it differs, for the area of corresponding tracts by professional survey.

A. 2. (1) "Forests" mean "any land classed or administered as Forest under any legal enactment dealing with Forest." Any province, however, is free to exclude any cultivated areas which may exist within such forests and enter them under the heading "net area cropped during the year," an explanation being given in a foot-note.

A. 2. (2) "Not available for cultivation" should include all land absolutely barren, and also all land covered by buildings, water, roads or otherwise devoted to uses other than agriculture.

A. 2. (3) "Culturable waste other than fallow" should include Groves, not classed in the cropped area.

A. 2. (5) will correspond with entry 33 of "A-3."

† See Circular dated the 30th July 1896 on page 22 of this collection.

Form C.

Not printed in this collection: see the revised form since prescribed with orders dated the 28th June 1893 on pages 18 and 19.

Form D.

Varieties of tenure held direct from Government, during the_____year ending_____

Nature of tenure.	Number of estates.*	Number of villages.	Number of holders or share-holders.	Gross area.	Average area of each estate.	Average assessment of each estate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	No.	No.	No.	Acres.	Acres.	R
1. Revenue payers paying more than R50,000 revenue. (a) Individuals under law of primogeniture. (b) Individuals and families under ordinary law. (c) Village communities.						
2. Revenue payers paying from R50,000 to R5,000 revenue. (a) Individuals under law of primogeniture. (b) Individuals and families under ordinary law. (c) Village communities.						
3. Revenue payers paying from R5,000 to R100 revenue. (a) Individuals under law of primogeniture. (b) Individuals and families under ordinary law. (c) Village communities.						
4. Revenue payers paying less than R100 revenue. (a) Individuals under law of primogeniture. (b) Individuals and families under ordinary law. (c) Village communities.						
5. Present proprietors paying separately						
6.† Holders of wholly or partly revenue-free tenures. In perpetuity‡						
6.† Holders of wholly or partly revenue-free tenures. For life or lives						
7. Landowners who have redeemed the revenue						
8. Purchasers of waste-lands						
9.§ Others						
TOTAL						

* This number represents the number of separate estates recorded on the Land Revenue Registers. One proprietor therefore may be recorded several times as the owner of more than one estate separately recorded.
† Should include Inamdars and Jagirdars.
‡ Local Governments may sub-divide this heading, so as to distinguish between grants (*a*) absolutely and (*b*) conditionally held in perpetuity.
§ If considered necessary, an explanation may be added as to what this covers. See later orders on page 21 of this collection. Such other foot-notes may be added to the form as may be deemed necessary to explain its contents.

Form E.*

Register of Transfers of landed property during the_____ year ending_____

Districts and Class of Tenure.	Number of transfers.		Total area transferred.	
	By order of Court.	By private contract or gift.	By order of Court.	By private contract or gift.
1	2	3	4	5
	No.	No.	Acres.	Acres.
Proprietors. Revenue-paying. Wholly or partially revenue-free.				
Tenants who have statutory (or otherwise recognised) powers of transfer.				
TOTAL				

* See orders on page 23 of this collection.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 1483—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

With reference to your letter * * on the subject of the modification of some of the present forms for the returns of agricultural statistics, I am directed to refer the Government of Madras to this Department's Resolution No. 19 of to-day's date, issuing the revised forms and the general instructions on them; and at the same time to reply to the following points in your letter which could not conveniently be dealt with in the Resolution:—

2. *Form A 2, column (4) Current fallows.*—It appears from the proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 5607 (Mis.), dated 21st June 1884, that in Madras "current fallows" represent "occupied waste," which includes not only land available for cultivation but also "lands covered by buildings, water, etc., comprised in ryots' holdings." The Board's attention might be drawn to the footnote to the prescribed form, which lays down that lands of the latter class should be shown against head (2) "Not available for cultivation."

3. *Form A 2, column (6)—Area irrigated.*—It has been suggested in the letter under reply that the heads (*c*) Tanks, (*d*) Wells, and (*e*) Other Sources may, like heads (*a*) and (*b*) Canals, be divided into "Government" and "Private." These details [that is for (*c*), (*d*) and (*e*)] can be given by the Government of Madras in its returns appended to the general administration and other reports; but the Government of India prefer that they should not find place in the form prescribed for the returns of agricultural statistics.

4. *Form A 4, column (6) Sheep, and column (7) Goats.*—At present the number of sheep and of goats are not recorded separately in the village accounts of the Presidency. The distinction is necessary for the purposes of the imperial return, and the Government of India will therefore be glad if arrangements are made to show it in the prescribed form forwarded to them. All other local Governments and Administrations have agreed to show these animals separately. The heading "Pigs" has been struck out from the form as desired by the Government of Madras.

5. *Form D—Varieties of Tenure held direct from Government.*—The Government of India have no objection to this form being prepared and submitted quinquennially as desired by the Government of Madras.

From the Government of India to the Government of Bombay,—No. 1481—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

With reference to your letter No. * * on the subject of the proposed modifications in some of the present forms of the returns of agricultural statistics, I am directed to refer you to this Department's Resolution No. 19 of to-day's date issuing the revised forms and general instructions on them.

2. I am also to reply to the following points in your letter, which could not conveniently be disposed of in the aforesaid Resolution:—

Form A 1, column (1)—Area according to professional survey.—Instead of the professional survey area, the settlement (revenue) survey area may, as desired, be entered for the present, it being explained in a footnote what the entry represents.

Form A 1, column (2-a)—Area of Feudatory and Tributary States.—It is stated that the areas of Feudatory and Tributary States cannot, as required, be shown as a deduction in this column, as they are not known and are therefore excluded entirely from the return. It is understood, however, that the Revenue Survey has been extended to some of these States, and that the areas of others might be obtained in whole or in part from the data collected during the course of the Topographical Survey which the Presidency is undergoing.

Form A 2, column (6)—Area irrigated.—At present sub-heads (*a*) and (*b*) and (*c*) to (*e*) are amalgamated for the Presidency. The Government of Bombay has been addressed on this subject in this Department's letter No. 405-Statistics, dated the 26th May 1890, and the present practice may continue pending further action on that letter.

3. *Form D—Varieties of tenure held direct from Government.*—The Government of India regret to learn that His Excellency the Governor in Council finds that the form proposed by the Delhi Conference for all provinces cannot be adopted for representing the tenures of the Bombay Presidency.

I am to enquire whether the prescribed form would be correctly filled in if the entries from the present provincial form were transferred in the manner indicated below:—

Bombay Form—(column 1.)	*Prescribed Form*—(column 1).
Head 1.—Rayatwari khalsa, surveyed.	
A.—Peasant proprietors paying separately.	Head 5.—Peasant proprietors paying separately.
B.—Peasant proprietors holding land at privileged rates.	„ 6.—Holders of wholly or partly revenue-free tenures.
„ 2.—Inams and jaghirs.	
„ 3.—Talukdari. } These are *quasi*-za-	
„ 4.—Mehwasi. } mindari	Heads 1, 2, 3, 4, (*b*).—Revenue payers—according to the value of their estates or holdings.
„ 5.—Udhad jamabandi. } tenures.	
„ 6.—Khoti. }	
„ 7.—Izafat.	
„ 8.—On lease.	Head 9.—Others.

The provincial statement is not at present totalled, as it is stated that such a total would be of no value. Unless the prescribed form is adopted and totalled for the Presidency, it will still be impossible to compile an abstract for the Empire as required by the Secretary of State; and in these circumstances His Excellency the Governor-General in Council trusts that the Government of Bombay will find it feasible to devise a provincial form, the statistics of which will fit into the form now to be adopted by other Local Governments and Administrations.

4. *Form E—Register of transfers of landed property.*—This is another form which the Government of Bombay considers inapplicable to the Presidency, and which it has hitherto decided not to fill in. I am, however, to represent the desire of the Government of India that His Excellency the Governor in Council will permit this decision to be reconsidered, in view of the importance attached to the question of the transfer of land from the cultivating to the money-lending classes; a question in which the Bombay Presidency is itself greatly concerned: The Government of India are aware that under the present system there is a want of correspondence between the revenue records and the facts of land transfer, and that there may be difficulties in introducing necessary reforms. But it will probably be found that the difficulty is not insuperable. The statistics alluded to are collected in the rayatwari area of the Presidency of Madras, and I am to suggest that a well devised scheme for the correct registration of transfers might be concerted in correspondence with that Government.

From the Government of India, to the Government of the Panjab,—No. 1482—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

With reference to your letter * * * on the subject of the modification of some of the present forms for the returns of agricultural statistics, I am directed to refer you to this Department's Resolution No. 19 of to-day's date issuing the revised forms and the general instructions on them, and at the same time to reply to the following points in your letter which could not conveniently be dealt with in that Resolution.

2. Form *A 3*, col. (*29*) *Orchards and Garden Produce.*—In the heading "Orchards and garden produce" the omission of the words "and garden produce" is suggested by the Government of the Panjab. As the heading has been retained intact by other local Governments and Administrations, the Government of India would prefer that it should be adhered to in the Imperial forms submitted by the Panjab Government.

A 4. Stock—The heading "Pigs" has been struck out and the heading "Camels" has been inserted.

Form D. Varieties of tenure held direct from Government.—The Government of India trust that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will permit endeavours to be made to employ the form proposed by the Delhi Conference and which was adopted after full consideration of the objection put forward at the Conference. I am to suggest that the prescribed form could be filled in by

the Director of Land Records and Agriculture by transferring the entries from the present provincial form in the manner indicated below:—

Heading of prescribed form—		Heading of provincial form—
1. Revenue payers paying more than ₹50,000 revenue.	(*a*) Individuals under law of primogeniture.	Blank.
	(*b*) Individuals and families under ordinary law.	1 & 2 Zamindari.
	(*c*) Village communities.	Bhaiachara & pattidari.
2. Revenue payers paying from ₹50,000 to ₹5,000 revenue.	(*a*) Individuals under law of primogeniture.	Blank.
	(*b*) Individuals and families under ordinary law.	1 & 2 Zamindari.
	(*c*) Village communities.	Bhaiachara & pattidari.
3. Revenue payers paying from ₹5,000 to ₹100 revenue.	(*a*) Individuals under law of primogeniture.	Blank.
	(*b*) Individuals and families under ordinary law.	1 & 2 Zamindari.
	(*c*) Village communities.	Bhaiachara & pattidari.
4. Revenue payers paying less than ₹100 revenue.	(*a*) Individuals under law of primogeniture.	Blank.
	(*b*) Individuals and families under ordinary law.	1 & 2 Zamindari.
	(*c*) Village communities.	Bhaiachara & pattidari.
5. Peasant proprietors paying separately.		A 1 & 2.
6. Holders of wholly or partly revenue-free tenures.	In perpetuity.	A 3.
	For life or lives.	Blank.
7. Landowners who have redeemed the revenue.		Lessees from Government without right of ownership.
8. Purchasers of waste lands.		
9. Others.		

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Government of the Panjab,—No. 43 S.A., dated the 13th October 1896.

* * *

2. I would request that in table E (transfers) of the Agricultural Statistics the figures for each class of tenures, namely, superior ownership and talukdari, ownership, and right of occupancy, may in future be stated as in statement No. X A appended to the Revenue Administration report for 1894-95, instead of being shewn collectively.

From the Government of India to the Chief Commissioner of Assam,—No. 1484—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

The decision of the Government of India, regarding the new forms of Agricultural Returns, having been communicated in Resolution No. 19, dated the 20th July 1891, I am directed to convey the following remarks on the draft circular of instructions for their preparation which was forwarded with your letter No. * *

2. You will learn from the Resolution that Form C has been left unaltered for the present. The instructions which relate to this form should be excluded for the present from the draft. I am to point out, however, that the exclusion of Government waste and forests, as proposed in the circular (paragraph 8), will result in a large discrepancy between the area shown in Tables A and C, and is therefore inadmissible.

3. It appears that in the Surma Valley districts and Khasi Hills the only cultivated area for which statistics are procurable is that under tea, consequently no other crops are shown as grown in Cachar, Sylhet, and the Khasi hills. To prevent incorrect inferences which might otherwise be drawn from the figures, it will be advisable to add a footnote to Table A explaining that, in hese instances, no statistics are forthcoming for other crops besides tea.

4. In regard to prices it might be explained (*since abolished*).

5. The return of agricultural stock cannot, it is stated, be filled up, but the Government of India trust that the measures referred to in your letter No. * * will enable the Administration to furnish this table in future.

6. It is gathered that the heading "current fallow" will also be omitted in Statement A for the Surma Valley. It appears, however, that the information has been forthcoming for the past three years, and it is not understood how the statistics have been obtained or why the area of current fallows has been shown and not that of cultivation. A further explanation is required.

7. It will be advisable to add a general rule to the effect that all important variations between the returns of one year compared with those of another should be fully but very briefly explained.

8. Subject to the above remarks and to such modifications as the orders contained in Resolution No. 19, dated the 20th July 1891, may involve, the Government of India have no objection to the issue of the draft instructions.

From the Government of India, to the Secretary of State for India,—No. 7, dated the 30th September 1891.

We have the honour to invite Your Lordship's attention to the correspondence marginally noted, relating to the forms to be prescribed for the compilation of the agricultural statistics of British India. These forms, as Your Lordship will remember, were drawn up in pursuance of the recommendation of a Conference of Agricultural Directors from the various Provinces held at Calcutta in December 1883. Experience, however, brought to light some defects, and suggestions for the revision of the forms were framed at the Delhi Agricultural Conference of 1888. The forms as altered by the second Conference were circulated to Local Governments for criticism. After full consideration of their opinions the revised forms which accompany this letter have been finally adopted. The scope and extent of the amendments which have been made in the old forms are indicated in the Resolution (No. $\frac{19}{20}$ of the 20th July 1891) with which the revised forms were circulated. The new forms have already been, as far as possible, brought into use for the Imperial abstract of agricultural statistics which is annually submitted to Your Lordship, but the complete effect of their adoption will not be appreciated until they have been incorporated into the provincial returns.

Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 1 (Statistics), dated the 22nd April 1884.
Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 50, dated the 3rd July 1884.

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Ajmere-Merwara; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 4—51, dated the 2nd March 1892.

I am directed to request that the words "other than those of cultivating communities" may be omitted in the 4th side heading of Form D (Varieties of tenure) circulated with this Department's Resolution No. 19—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department, in continuation of this Department's Resolution No. 19—20, dated the 20th July 1891, for favour of communication to the Government of the Mysore State and to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana.

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, and Coorg,—Circular No. 6—54, dated the 3rd March 1892.

With reference to circular * * * in which Local Governments and Administrations were requested to supply the Revenue and Agricultural Department of the Government of India with copies of all notifications of any changes which may from time to time be made in divisional or district boundaries, I am directed to request that the submission to this Department of such notifications may be discontinued, and that in their place an annual return, showing the area transferred from one district or province to another, may be submitted in the enclosed form with the returns of Agricultural Statistics. The order requiring the transmission of a copy of the notifications to the Surveyor General is not affected by these instructions.

Changes made during the year ending *in district, divisional and provincial boundaries.*

Province.	INTERNAL TRANSFERS.							EXTERNAL TRANSFERS.							
	District or Division from which transferred.	Area transferred and Land Revenue thereof. Area. Cultivated.	Area. Total.	Land Revenue.	District or Division to which transferred.	Number and date of notification of transfer.		Province from which transferred.	Area transferred and Land Revenue thereof. Area. Cultivated.	Area. Total.	Land Revenue.	Province to which transferred.	Area transferred and Land Revenue thereof. Area. Cultivated.	Area. Total.	Land Revenue.	Number and date of notification of transfers in columns 8 to 15.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

NOTE.—The term "Division" refers to a revenue division or group of districts under the control of a Revenue Commissioner.

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Assam, Burma, Ajmere, Coorg; and Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 18—41, dated the 2nd June 1892.

I am directed to request that the following foot-notes may be added in the revised Form A (Total acreage, classification of areas, irrigation, etc.) of the returns of agricultural statistics which was circulated with this Department's Resolution No. 19—20, dated 20th July 1891:—

A2 (6).—*Irrigated during the year.*—Enter the area actually irrigated during the year, areas cropped more than once being counted once only.

A2 (7).—*Crops irrigated.*—Enter the gross area of irrigated crops, areas cropped more than once being counted as separate areas for each crop.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Government of the Mysore State and to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana.

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Ajmere, Coorg; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 36—86, dated the 29th July 1892.

In paragraph 13 of the Government of India's Resolution No. 19—20, dated the 20th July 1891,* forwarding revised forms for the returns of agricultural statistics, it was stated that "no general review of the statistics is required with the returns, but if only to save return references, they should invariably be supplemented with a brief notice of remarkable variations or discrepancies requiring explanation." Experience has shown the necessity for more definite instructions on the subject, and I am now directed to request that orders may be issued that, as far as possible, all differences in excess of 10 per cent between the figures of the year of report and the previous year should, except in cases of ordinary fluctuations in cultivation, be explained in an appendix to the tables which should be drawn up in the form enclosed. Where general causes sufficiently account for differences detailed explanations need not be given.

Copy, with copy of the form, forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Government of the Mysore State, and to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana.

* See page 10 of this collection.

Explanatory memorandum of differences in excess of 10 per cent in the figures of _____ compared with those of _____.

Table.	Column heading.	District.	Figures of		Difference.		Explanation of difference.
			Previous year.	Current year.	Plus +	Minus —	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Punjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Assam, Burma, Ajmere-Merwara, Coorg; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 38—70, dated the 28th June 1893.

In continuation of paragraph 9 of this Department's circular No. 19, dated 20th July 1891,* I am directed to say that, with a view to improving the value of the returns submitted in agricultural statistics form C (Incidence of land revenue), some modifications in the headings and notes of that form have been found necessary. A copy of the table as now revised is appended to this circular.

2. The Government of India recognize that the present form would probably be improved by being entirely recast; but, in view of the fact that it has now been in use for nine years, they are unwilling to make further modifications than those indicated in the form now prescribed.

3. If other changes are in the opinion of any Local Government advisable, I am to ask that early intimation may be afforded to this Department, so that the points raised may, if necessary, be referred for decision to the Agricultural Conference which it is proposed to hold in October next.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Resident at Mysore and to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana, in continuation of this Department's circular No. 19—20, dated the 20th July 1891.

* See on page 10 of this collection.

FORM C.

Incidence of the Land Revenue on area and population in _____ 189

Nature of tenure.		Total area by survey less Feudatories [Table A 1 (1) minus Table A 1 (2 a)].	Deduct.		Balance, i.e., fully assessed area for which returns are available.		Total land Revenue (excluding cesses) of district (column 2).	Population of district (column 2).	Land Revenue per head of population (columns 5 and 6).	Land Revenue assessed on fully assessed area (column 4(a).)	Incidence per acre of Land Revenue (column 8 on fully assessed area (column 4).		Population of fully assessed area.	Land Revenue assessment per head of population of fully assessed area (columns 8 and 11).	Towns of over 10,000 inhabitants.	
District.	Nature of Tenure.		(1) Area not fully assessed.	(2) Area for which returns, so far as required for this table, are not available.	Total.	Cultivated.					For total area.	For cultivated area.			Number of towns.	Aggregate population.
1		2	3 (a)	3 (b)	4 (a)	4 (b)	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Column 1.—The varieties of tenure shown should be included, as far as possible, under one or other of the following, *viz.*, (1) ryatwari, (2) zamindari and village communities (temporarily settled) and (3), Zamindari permanently settled).

Column 3 (a).—Areas revenue-free or held at privileged rates should be deducted, but the deduction need not be made where the areas in question are in any case less than an entire village and where there is any difficulty in estimating the corresponding deduction to be made in the population (column 11). In the Madras and Bombay returns, all land, on which a full assessment has not been leviable during the year, should be classed for the purposes of this column as "area not fully assessed." Areas shall not be entered in this column merely because the assessment due from them has been suspended or remitted on account of short crops, etc.

Column 4 (b).—Will shew only the net cropped area of the year, corresponding with that given under head 33 of table A 3, but limited, to the fully assessed area for which returns are available of column 4 (a) of this table.

Column (5).—Where land revenue includes the zemindar's share, the net receipts should be entered, and the return should show the payments due by the zemindars to Government, not those due by ryots to the zemindars. The actual realizable demand for the year should be entered, after excluding arrears for past years. Sums remitted on account of unoccupied lands, short crops, etc., should be excluded. Land Revenue in this column includes Miscellaneous Land Revenue.

Column 8.—As in column 5, but exclude Miscellaneous Land Revenue and Land Revenue on areas not fully assessed.

Column 9.—Will be column 8 divided by column 4(a).

Column 10.—Will be column 8 divided by column (b).

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Assam, Coorg, Ajmere, and Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 50—80, dated the 16th August 1893.

The attention of the Government of India having been drawn to the necessity of requiring some uniform method to be adopted for the calculation of the areas of crops sown as 'mixtures' in the same fields, as well as to the desirability of eliminating 'mixtures' from all important statistical returns, I am to intimate that the subject will be one of those discussed at the Agricultural Conference in October. In the meantime the following method is suggested as suitable, and will be put forward at the Conference as the basis of discussion.

2. Important 'mixtures' such as 'wheat and barley' will be entered in the village registers as 'mixtures,' no attempt being made by the village officers themselves to separate the areas of the component crops. The sub-division of areas will be made in the central offices on formulæ supplied to them. An appropriate formula for each crop will be prepared for every district or homogeneous portion of a district by the Director of the Agricultural Department in consultation with the district officers.

3. Unimportant mixture such as 'peas and pulse,' or mixtures for which no formula is likely to be appropriate on account of the absence of uniformity in the proportion of the component crops or for any other reason, will not be recorded in the village registers as 'mixtures,' but as single crops, the village officer deciding the proportionate areas in each case as best he can on his own estimates.

4. For example, if a formula has been prepared showing the proportion of area which wheat and barley may be assumed respectively to cover when grown together, the heading 'wheat and barley' would be one of the headings prescribed for the village returns, and all fields containing both crops would be shown under that heading. If in the case of peas and pulse no such formula has been prepared, there would be no heading for 'peas and pulse,' and the village officer would, on inspection of the fields, enter separately the portions of the areas under the mixed crop which he might estimate to be under 'peas' and 'pulse' respectively.

5. The formulæ suggested in paragraph 2 will have to be based upon rough and general data. In tracts in which it is the custom to grow the component crops in distinct rows at normal distances, the determination of the formulæ will be easy. In other cases it will probably be based on information obtained by enquiry as to the usual proportion of seed sown and by enquiry or experiment as to the usual proportion of produce obtained.

From the Government of India to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Ajmere, and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 9—23, dated the 26th February 1894.

In continuation of this Department's circular No. 50—80, dated 16th August 1893, I am directed to inform you that the subject of 'mixed crops' was discussed at the Agricultural Conference of October 1893, and it was then determined that the system proposed in my circular of 16th August should be recommended.

It was also suggested by the Conference that no mixtures should be shown as such in the crop returns submitted to the central provincial office; and that in district returns they should be divided into their constituent parts either initially by the village officers (paragraph 3 of my circular of 16th August) or subsequently by the district staff, in accordance with such methods as may be arranged on the advice of the Director of Agriculture (paragraph 2 of my circular of 16th August).

In these recommendations and suggestions the Government of India agree, and I am to request that instructions may be issued for the adoption, where not already in force, of the system proposed in my circular of the 16th August last.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Government of the Mysore State and to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Burma, Ajmere, Assam, Coorg; the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad; and the Resident in Mysore,—No. 5103-S., dated the 29th October 1895.

I have the honour, under instructions from the Government of India, to state that it is considered desirable to shew in full detail the descriptions of tenure included under the head "Others" in Table D (Varieties of tenure held direct from Government) which forms one of the series of returns of agricultural statistics annually furnished to the Government of India under Resolution No. 19—20, dated the 20th July 1891. The particulars will be most conveniently exhibited in a footnote, and I beg to suggest that this may be done in the return.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—No. 5104-S., dated the 29th October 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter
* * *
forwarding copy of correspondence with the Financial Commissioner, Burma, on the subject of the classification of holders of state and non-state lands in Table D (Varieties of tenure held direct from Government) of the returns of the agricultural statistics of Upper Burma. In the opinion of the Financial Commissioner holders of both state and non-state lands should be shewn under head 5 (Peasant proprietors paying separately), but the Chief Commissioner considers that tenant son state lands might be included in the head "Others" and holders of non-state lands in head 5.

2. The subject having been considered by the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, I beg to say, under instructions from that Department, that the headings of Table D as they now stand are not quite appropriate for all the cases brought under them, but any revision of them must be deferred. For the present it will suffice,—seeing that the occupants of state lands seem to occupy a precisely analogous position to that held by the "raiyati" occupant of Government land under the raiyatwari system and that thathameda is practically land revenue in the case of agriculturists,—to include both state tenants and non-state landholders under head 5 (Peasant proprietors paying separately) distinguishing them as proposed by the Financial Commissioner.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—No. 11-S.A., dated the 30th May 1896.

It appears from Table D (Varieties of tenure held direct from Government) of the Agricultural Statistics of Lower Burma for 1894-95, that the head "9—Others" includes suburban lots in the Rangoon town district.

2. I have the honour, under instructions from the Government of India, to request, in continuation of letter No. 5103-S., dated the 29th October 1895, that suburban lots may be excluded entirely from this table and from the Agricultural Statistics generally, since such lots have no relation to agriculture.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh,—No. 10-S.A., dated the 30th May 1896.

I have the honour to invite attention to the entries included in the head "9—Others" in Table D (Varieties of tenure held direct from Government of the Agricultural Statistics of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for 1894-95.

2. Amongst these entries are (1) Government forests and (2) the area of civil lines and cantonments. Such Government forests and station areas cannot be regarded as "tenures held direct from Government," and I beg accordingly to suggest, under instructions from the Government of India, that they may be omitted from the table.

3. It is not clear whether or not the other entries in the table, namely,

(3) Waste land in Dehra Dun and Almora,

(4) Government property in Mainpuri,

are properly placed in this table. But the point can be settled and such amendments as may be required can be made on the basis of the principle,

which the Government of India consider should be observed, that only land held *of* Government should be included in the table and that land held *by* Government (whether forests or otherwise) should be excluded from it.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Ajmere; the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad; the Agent to the Governor General in Central India; and the Resident in Mysore,—No. 25-S.A., dated the 30th July 1896.

In my letter No. * * * enquiry was made whether the figures entered against item 33 (net area cropped during the year) of Table A 3 (acreage under crops)* of the returns of Agriculturl Statistics represented the area sown or placed under crop, or whether they represented the area from which crops were taken.

2. It appears from the answers to the letter that in Madras, Ajmere-Merwara, and Pargana Manpur (Central India), the figures represent the area sown or placed under crop. In Bombay they represent the area sown, but any area on which the crop fails is treated as unsown. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the figures represent the total cultivated area exclusive of the double-cropped area and the area on which *kharif* sowings fail. In Bengal, the Panjab, and the Central Provinces the figures represent the area from which crops are taken. The practice is not everywhere uniform in Assam, Berar, and Mysore, the area sown or placed under crop being returned by some districts, while in others the figures represent the area from which crops are actually taken. In Coorg neither the area sown nor the area actually cropped is shewn; but all wet land which pays assessment as cropped is entered.

3. It is desirable that there should be one uniform method in all provinces for filling in this form, and I have accordingly, with the approval of the Government of India, the honour to suggest that in filling up item 33 (net area cropped during the year) of table A-3 of returns of Agricultural Statistics, the rule proposed in paragraph 4 of the memorandum on the preparation of final Crop Forecasts, circulated with the letter from the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 48—9, dated the 21st December 1892,† may be observed in future. This instruction is as follows:—

> In dealing with the calculation of areas, two other matters in which practice varies demand consideration, namely, (1) whether the area returned should be the area sown or that successfully cropped.
>
> As regards (1), the general rule should be that the returns should exhibit the areas actually sown, whether the crop comes to maturity or not. The failure of the crop should affect, not its area, but its outturn. An exception to this rule will, however, be made when fields, owing to the failure of the first sowings, have been devoted to other crops. In this case the area first sown with the forecast crop may be omitted.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Agent to the Governor-General, Rajputana,—No. 33 S.A., dated the 15th September 1896.

I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter, No. 25 S.A., dated the 30th July 1896, recently issued from this office under instructions from the Government of India, explaining the decision of Government regarding the method of filling in item 33 (net area cropped) of Table A-3 (acreage under crops) of the returns of agricultural statistics.

2. It is desirable that the agricultural statistics compiled for the State of Jaipur should be framed on the principles adopted in British India, and I beg to request therefore that the letter may be transmitted to the Jaipur Durbar with the suggestion that the method indicated may be adopted.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Ajmere-Merwara; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 27 S.-A., dated the 12th August 1896.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. * * urnishing the information on certain points connected with the explanatory

* See on page 11 of this collection.

† See in collection of orders relating to the preparation of forecast of crops.

memorandum on the tables of Agricultural Statistics which was asked for in the letters from the Government of India * * *.

2. It appears that there is great diversity of practice in the compilation of the returns in regard to the questions on which the reference was made by the Government of India. These questions were—

(1) whether in table A 4 the return of stock includes live stock in towns, cities and cantonments;

(2) whether any, and if any what, age has been fixed below which cattle are classed as young stock (item 5 of table A 4);

(3) whether table E (register of transfers of landed property) includes all descriptions of transfers, including transfers by inheritance, and if not what descriptions are included; also whether non-permanent transfers such as leases and usufructuary mortgages are included;

(4) whether in the entry "by order of Court" in table E the order of a Revenue Court, *e.g.*, an order passed in consequence of arrears of revenue, is included.

3. It is desirable that there should, as far as possible, be uniformity in the collection and compilation of these returns, and I have accordingly, under instructions from the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, the honour to make the following suggestions for the compilation of the returns in respect of the matters specified.

4. Live stock in cities and cantonments should be included in the returns wherever it is possible to secure their enumeration.

5. No general rule can with advantage be prescribed for determining the age below which cattle should be classed as young stock. In Bombay oxen and buffaloes not old enough for work or to produce young are treated as "young stock," and this practice is probably better, as securing greater accuracy, than the specification of age.

6. It is important to secure precision and uniformity in the figures in table E, and special attention is invited to the subjoined rules:—

(1) changes of entry due to succession, partitions, or simple mortgages, are not really transfers, and should be excluded from the table, as also should redemptions of mortgage;

(2) all temporary transfers such as leases should also be excluded, but mortgage with possession should be treated as a transfer and entered in the table;

(3) all transfers made by order of a Court should also be included in the table.

7. It may not be possible to adopt in its entirety the practice suggested in the preceding paragraph in provinces where the mutation figures may not be abstracted in the necessary detail; but, in view to the importance of uniformity, in such cases as close an approximation as possible to the practice should be made, and a note should be added to the table shewing exactly in what respects there has been a divergence from the practice.

8. The word "Court" in the entry "by order of Court" in table E should be held to include a Revenue Court.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg, Ajmere; the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad, the Agent to the Governor General in Central India, and the Resident in Mysore,—No. 22 A., dated the 17th February 1897.

In table A 2 of the Agricultural Statistics no totals of the sub-heads 1 to 5, and of the sub-heads (*a*) to (*d*) of side head 7, are given. In table A 3 none of the sub-heads are totalled.

2. It would be very convenient for this office in dealing with the returns if totals were made in all these cases, and I have the honour therefore to request that you will be good enough to give instructions for the totalling in future in every case where two or more sub-divisions are included in the heads.

II.—Returns of the cultivation of Tea, Coffee, and Chinchona.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; and the Chief Commissioners of Burma, Assam, and Coorg,—No. 60—115, dated the 22nd December 1892.

I am directed to forward copies of returns showing the state of tea and coffee cultivation in British India during the calendar years 1888 to 1891, inclusive. These statistics were formerly incorporated in the volume of "Statistical tables relating to British India," annually published by the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce. Their publication in that volume ceased in 1888, but the returns were continued as they contained information of considerable interest, and it was desirable that the series should be maintained unbroken pending a decision regarding their future preparation.

2. It has now been decided that they should be permanently retained and they will in future be published with the annual return of agricultural statistics compiled in the Revenue and Agricultural Department.

3. I am accordingly to request that the returns may be submitted to this Department by the 1st July annually, and that they may be prepared in the form enclosed.* It will be observed that a column has been added to the existing form to show the total number of labourers employed on tea and coffee plantations in each district, and the Government of India hope it will be possible to furnish this information without much trouble.

4. It has been customary hitherto to submit with these returns a brief report in explanation of noticeable variations in the figures of the year under report compared with the previous year and supplying information regarding the character of the season and crop, cost of cultivation and manufacture, trade and other points of interest connected with the condition and prospects of the tea and coffee industries. These reports the Government of India desire should be continued.

Copy, with copy of enclosures, forwarded to the Foreign Department for communication to the Government of Mysore.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras and Bengal, and the Chief Commissioner of Coorg,—Nos. 11-13, dated the 4th January 1893.

With reference to my circular No. 60—115, dated the 22nd December 1892, I am directed to intimate that it has been decided to discontinue in its present form the annual return showing the progress of Chinchona cultivation, and to substitute the accompanying statement which will be published as an appendix to the tables of Agricultural Statistics. I am to request that the statement in the new form may be submitted by the 1st of July in each year.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department, in continuation of endorsement No. 115, dated the 22nd December 1892, for favour of communication to the Government of Mysore. The return from Mysore will be prepared for the year ending the 30th June, and will be submitted by the 31st August.

Statement showing the condition of Chinchona plantations on 189

Plantation or District.	Botanical names.	Number of acres under cultivation on 31st March.	Total number of plants.		Outturn of bark for the year.
			Mature.	Immature.	lbs.
1	2	3	4	5	6

Note.—Separate statements in the above form should be submitted for the totals of (*a*) Government plantations, (*b*) private plantations.

* Not printed in this collection; see revised forms prescribed by orders of 1894, 1895, and 1896, on pages 25 and 27.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of Burma, Assam, Coorg; and the Resident in Mysore,—Circular No. 53—51, dated the 14th November 1894.

With reference to the circular from this Department, No. 60—115, dated the 22nd December 1892, it is understood that definite instructions are desirable in regard to the manner in which the number of labourers employed on tea and coffee plantations should be calculated. The Government of India accordingly prescribe the following method of calculation:—

Column 3.—The number of persons permanently employed in the estate throughout the year should be entered. For example, if an estate has 20 persons permanently employed, the entry will be 20.

Column 4.—The number of persons employed for any period less than a year should be multiplied by the number of days in that period; the total of the results thus arrived at should be divided by 365, and the result should be entered in this column. For example, an estate employed 30 persons for 90 days, 40 for 60 days, and 100 for 45 days—

30 × 90 =	2,700
40 × 60 =	2,400
100 × 45 =	4,500
Total . .	9,600

dividing 9,600 by 365 days in the year, the result is 26, which will be the figure to be entered in this column.

2. As no uniform method seems to be adopted by planters in calculating the cost per acre of the cultivation of coffee, it has been decided that column 11 of the Coffee return need not be filled up in future.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, the Chief Commissioners of Burma and Assam,—Circular No. 14—43, dated the 18th May 1895.

Since the issue of the circular from this Department, No. 60—115, dated the 22nd December 1892, it has been ascertained that green tea is not produced in any appreciable quantity in India, and that the classification prescribed in columns 9 and 10 of the form showing the state of tea cultivation in British India has led to some misapprehension, and to the entry in column 10 of green or unmanufactured leaf which was not manufactured on the garden, submitting the return, but was disposed of in its unmanufactured state to other gardens. The Government of India have, therefore, decided that the distinction between black and green tea shall no longer be maintained, and that the returns shall, in future, merely show the total yield of tea.

2. I am to ask that effect may be given to this order in the returns due to this Department on the 1st July 1895.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of Burma, Assam, Coorg; and the Resident in Mysore,—No. 3070 S., dated the 1st July 1895.

In continuation of the letter from the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, No. 14—43, dated the 18th May 1895, I have the honour, under instructions from that Department, to enclose two revised forms * for the returns showing the state of tea and coffee cultivation in British India, to be substituted for the forms prescribed in the circular from that Department, No. 60—115, dated the 22nd December 1892, and now in use.

2. The changes made in the forms are these:—

(*Tea*).—Columns 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the present form are replaced by two columns (Nos. 9 and 10), these latter showing (9) the quantity of unmanufactured leaf grown in each garden and (10) the quantity of leaf manufactured in each garden, whether the leaf was grown in the garden or was brought from some other garden for manufacture.

(*Tea and Coffee*).—Only the figures for the year of report are to be entered in the returns in future, and the columns in both forms for the figures of the

* Not printed in this collection; see forms re-issued with letter dated the 28th April 1896, and printed on peges 26 and 27.

year preceding the year of return have been omitted. It is requested, however, that if any rectifications or additional particulars are received after the return for the year has been sent to this office, a supplementary return for that year may be forwarded.

[*To the Governments of Madras, Bengal, and the Panjab*]—3. I have also to suggest, at the direction of the Government of India, that all representative Planting Associations / the Indian Tea Association / the Kangra Valley Planters' Association may be furnished with copy of the forms, and that their co-operation in obtaining accurate and punctual returns from the estates represented may be invited. It should be brought to the notice of the Association that the forms are simpler and clearer than those now in use.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of Burma, Assam, Coorg; and the Resident in Mysore,—No. 2 S.A., dated the 28th April 1896.

From the replies received to the letter No. 3070 S., dated the 1st July 1895, it appears that in some places there has been some uncertainty as to the manner in which the forms for the returns shewing the state of tea and coffee cultivation in British India should be filled up. It is expedient that such uncertainty should, as far as possible, be removed, and I have the honour therefore to suggest, with the approval of the Government of India, that when the forms are circulated to planters all the copies so circulated should have appended to them the notes which are appended to the forms enclosed in this letter.

[*To the Government of Bengal*]—2. With reference to paragraph 9 of your letter No. * * * I beg to state that the Government of India, in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, consider that the statistics of labour required with these returns convey useful information and should be retained. The method of obtaining the figures is indicated in the notes appended to the forms enclosed.

TEA.

Statement illustrative of the state of Tea Cultivation in India during the calendar year

District.	Number of Gardens or Plantations on the 31st December.	Total number of persons employed during the year.		Area in Acres.				Quantity in lbs. of uncured leaf plucked in each garden.	Quantity in lbs. of leaf manufactured in each garden whether grown in the garden or not.
		Actual number permanently employed throughout the year.	Average daily number temporarily employed during the year.	Under mature plants.	Under immature plants.	Total area under Tea.	Taken up for planting but not yet planted.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Total									

Column 3.—The number of persons permanently employed in the estate throughout the year should be entered. For example, if an estate has 20 persons permanently employed, the entry should be 20.

Column 4.—The number of persons employed for any period less than a year should be multiplied by the number of days in that period and the total divided by 365. The result should be entered in this column. For example, if an estate employed 30 persons for 90 days, 40 for 60 days, and 100 for 45 days—

30 × 90 = 2,700
40 × 60 = 2,400
100 × 45 = 4,500

divide the total, 9,600, by 365 (days in the year). The result is 26, which is the figure to be entered in this column.

Columns 5 and 6.—Mature plants are plants over three years old; immature plants are plants less than three years old, that is, still unfit for plucking.

Column 9.—The full quantity of leaf plucked in each estate should be stated in the return sent in from the estate. In the district return only the total for the district need be entered.

Column 10.—The whole quantity of leaf manufactured, whether from leaf grown in the garden (column 9) or from leaf brought from other gardens, should be entered; if there has been no manufacture on any garden this column in the return for that garden will be left blank. In the district return only the total for all estates in the district need be entered.

Note.—(a) The return should be despatched to the Statistical Bureau, Calcutta, by the 1st July each year.
(b) Explanations of noticeable variations in the figures of the year compared with the previous year, together with any information regarding the character of the season and crop, trade and other points of interest connected with the condition and prospects of the industry, should be furnished.
(c) If any rectifications or additional particulars are received after the return for the year has been submitted, a supplementary return for that year should be forwarded.

COFFEE.

Statement illustrative of the state of Coffee Cultivation in India, during the calendar year

Province and Districts.	Number of Plantations.	Total number of persons employed during the year.		Area in Acres.				Total yield in lb.
		Actual number permanently employed throughout the year.	Average daily number temporarily employed during the year.	Under mature plants.	Under immature plants.	Total area under Coffee.	Taken up for planting but not yet planted.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total								

Column 3.—The number of persons permanently employed in the estate throughout the year should be entered. For example, if an estate has 20 persons permanently employed, the entry should be 20.

Column 4.—The number of persons employed for any period less than a year should be multiplied by the number of days in that period and the total divided by 365, the result being entered in this column. For example, if an estate employed 30 persons for 90 days, 40 for 60 days and 100 for 45 days—

30 × 90 = 2,700
40 × 60 = 2,400
100 × 45 = 4,500

divide the total, 9,600, by 365 (days in the year). The result is 26, which is the figure to be entered in this column.

Columns 5 and 6.—Mature plants are plants over three years old; immature plants are plants less than three years old, that is, still unfit for bearing.

Note.—(a) The return should be despatched to the Statistical Bureau, Calcutta, by the 1st July each year.
(b) Explanations of noticeable variations in the figures of the year compared with the previous year, together with any information regarding the character of the season and crop, trade and other points of interest connected with the condition and prospects of the industry, should be furnished.
(c) If any rectifications or additional particulars are received after the return for the year has been submitted, a supplementary return for that year should be forwarded.

III.—Ascertainment and record of the yield of the principal crops.

From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India,—No. 102 (Revenue), dated the 18th December 1890.

* * * * * * *

2. I shall be glad to receive at an early date an abstract table showing, for representative districts in each province, the average yield per acre of each of the principal crops. The table for each province should be accompanied by a short memorandum describing the experiments and other data on which the averages may have been computed. These tables might be published with your annual volume of "Agricultural Statistics for British India," and the averages might be revised every five years by the light of any crop experiments or investigations that may have been completed since the last publication of the average yields.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Ajmere-Merwara, Coorg; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 3—45, dated the 20th February 1892.

I am desired to state that Her Majesty's Secretary of State has called upon the Government of India for an abstract table showing for representative districts in each province the average yield per acre of each of the principal crops. His Lordship also wishes that the table for each province should be accompanied by a short memorandum describing the experiments and other data on which averages may have been computed, and that the averages should be revised every five years by the light of any crop experiments or investigations that may have been completed since the last publication of the average yields.

2. The difficulty of securing statistics regarding the outturn of crops in a form sufficiently accurate for publication was brought to notice in 1883 by the Agricultural Conference, which recorded the following Resolutions on th subject:—

"The information can in most provinces be given, but at present it is very unreliable and would only mislead if sent to the Secretary of State for publication.

"The only safe method of ascertaining the produce of any year is by means of standards of outturn to be drawn up for each tract in each province. No satisfactory results can be expected from any system under which actual outturns are annually returned by village revenue officers in definite quantities per acre. In every standard of the nature above referred to, the average good crop should be taken as three-fourths of a bumper crop.

"The statement showing rates of rent and produce which appears in the General Administration Reports of several Governments is in the Conference's opinion of little or no value and might be discontinued until more accurate methods of estimating the yield be devised, and more appropriate forms for exhibiting it be prepared."

The above remarks were communicated to Local Governments in paragraph 9 of Government of India circular No. 42 (Statistics) of the 31st March 1884,* and Local Governments have since discontinued the submission of the statements showing rates of rent and produce. In forwarding the circular and the proceedings of the Conference to the Secretary of State, the Government of India remarked that—

"The best method of arriving at approximate estimates of production was much discussed by the Conference, and will engage the attention of Agricultural Departments, and we hope that before long steps will be taken in most provinces to secure reasonably trustworthy information on this subject."

3. Eight years have since elapsed during which the Agricultural Departments have been more or less thoroughly organized, and it is reasonable to suppose that Local Governments and Administrations are now in a fair position to obtain through their agency reliable information of the desired character, for which, in most parts of India, fairly good materials are believed to be available.

4. I am now to ask that rules may be prepared without delay with the object of carrying the instructions of His Lordship into effect so far as may be compatible with the conditions prevalent in the province, and I am to intimate that opportunity will be taken at the next Agricultural Conference, to decide upon the best method of collecting and reporting information of this description.

5. In order to give sufficient time for the establishment of a regular system of ascertaining and returning average outturns, the submission of the first of the quinquennial series of tables will be postponed till 1893, or, if necessary, to a later period. But it is desirable that the Secretary of State's requisition should be complied with without delay as far as exisiting means will allow. I am accordingly to request that the Agricultural Department may be instructed to prepare and submit not later than the 1st of July next a statement in the accompanying form.† The time allowed does not permit of special enquiries or investigations for its preparation, nor are they called for on the present occasion, as the statement will avowedly be provisional and subject to verification and revision hereafter. Estimates of outturn have been framed from time to time in all provinces, while in some they are already systematically ascertained. The results have been recorded in various statistical publications, such as agricultural and settlement reports, crop forecasts, gazetteers, replies to enquiries of the Famine Commission, etc., etc. The statement now asked for should be compiled from the information thus available, and should no information be forthcoming for any particular crop or district, the entry for such crop or district may, for the present, be left blank. Further instructions for the preparation of the statement are given in foot-notes to the form.

6. Although the question whether the form now prescribed should in future years be modified will be considered by the Agricultural Conference, the Government of India will, in the meantime, be glad to receive any suggestions for its improvement as well as a list of the crops for which it is proposed that returns should be quinquennially prepared.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Government of Mysore, with the intimation that the Government of

* See on page 2 of this collection.
† See later orders dated the 27th June 1893, on pages 30 and 31.

India will be glad to receive any similar statistics for Mysore which the Durbar may be in a position to supply.

Provisional Return shewing the approximate yield per acre of the principal crops of each district of the $\frac{\text{Presidency}}{\text{Province}}$ *of*_____

Name of crop and class of soil.	DISTRICT. Outturn in lb per acre of land.		Repeat columns 2 and 3 for each district.
	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	
1	2	3	
Name of crop I II III Average			

Notes.—A. Column I will give the name and scientific synonym of each crop returned. Crops should be classed and entered in the order adopted in Table A3 of the annual Agricultural Tables, but the return need not be restricted to the crops shewn in that table; it should be as complete as existing data will allow for the principal crops of each district.

B. The yield shewn should be the average yield of an ordinary year, and may be given separately for I the best land, III the worst land, and II soil which is intermediate between I and III, or only the district average may by shewn, but the district average should be given, whether or not any sub-division is adopted.

C. The yield of crops when sown mixed should, if returned at all, be returned in a separate table.

D. The outturn of cotton should be given in clean cotton.

E. A memorandum stating the source from which the statistics for each district have been obtained should accompany the return.

F. In the case of crops not ordinarily irrigated the column for irrigated land may be left blank.

From the Government of India, to the Secretary of State for India,—No. 85, dated the 19th October 1892.

In his despatch No. 102 Revenue, dated the 18th December 1890, Your Lordship's predecessor desired to be furnished with an abstract table showing for representative districts in each province the average yield per acre of each of the principal crops, together with a short memorandum describing the experiments and other data on which the averages may have been computed.

2. We regret the delay which has occurred in complying with this requisition, but difficulty has been experienced in obtaining, even from the provinces in which systematic attention had been given to the subject, returns altogether satisfactory in point of accuracy and completeness.

3. Local Governments and Administrations were called upon to prepare and submit a table of outturns compiled from the best information available, and a general return embodying the information supplied is herewith submitted * for Your Lordship's information. Appended to the return will be found a memorandum* descriptive of the sources from which the figures presented in the statement have been obtained.

4. With respect to these statistics, it is no doubt unnecessary to remind Your Lordship, after what has been stated in the second paragraph of this despatch, that no pretence is made to rigorous accuracy, and that, as Lord Cross evidently contemplated, they must be taken as subject to revision and verification as opportunity offers. But it is probable that in the provinces, such as Madras, the Panjab and Lower Burma, where the assessments have been based on produce estimates, and the outturns of the different crops have necessarily been calculated with some care by the settlement officer, the results are not far off the truth. We do not intend, unless Your Lordship wishes it, to trouble Local Governments and Administrations with any early requisition for the revision of their figures. We are, however, in correspondence with the provincial authorities regarding the general subject of crop experiments and the methods of estimating correctly outturns on different soils, and under the varying conditions of cultivation, irrigated and unirrigated, and we hope that

* Not printed in this collection.

before the termination of the five years period a considerable improvement in the character of these statistics will have been effected. In particular we trust that, through the medium of the parties now at work on cadastral survey and settlement in Behar and Bengal, valuable information may be collected regarding that part of the country, for the supply of which hitherto there has been no agency available.

From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India,—No. 123 (Revenue), dated the 24th November 1892.

I have received the table showing the yield per acre of the principal crops in India, and I observe that Your Excellency's letter, dated the 19th October, draws attention to the fact that rigorous accuracy is not claimed for these statistics. The table with your letter will be presented to Parliament, if a motion is made for them.

2. I approve your intention to test and revise these statistics with a view to publishing revised tables some years hence. It would be well that in future the yield should be shown under the same denomination for all provinces. At present the rice yield is shown in clean (husked) rice for some provinces and in paddy (rice with the husk on) for others; while the sugar yield is shown in pounds of cane for one province, and in pounds of sugar (perhaps coarse sugar or goor) for others. Any very remarkable discrepancies also should be cleared up; for instance, the yield of unirrigated wheat in Upper Burma, where wheat cultivation is believed to be uncommon, is shown to range from 41 to 16¾ bushels per acre, and to average 29¾ bushels; whereas, for the great wheat-growing provinces, the highest average yield of irrigated wheat in the North-West Provinces is given at 21 bushels, and in the Panjab at 18½ bushels, while in the Central Provinces 13½ bushels are given as the highest average yield of unirrigated wheat.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Ajmere-Merwara, Coorg; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 37—26, dated the 27th June 1893.

Replies having been received to this Department's circular No. 3—45, dated the 20th February 1892, the following instructions are now issued regarding the preparation of a quinquennial return showing the average yield per acre of the principal crops in India.

2. The form in which the return will be submitted to the Government of India is that given in table I appended to this circular, and the crops of which the outturn will be shown are those noted against the names of the respective provinces in table II. As there seems to be some misapprehension regarding the date on which the return is due, I am to state that the next return should reach the Government of India on or about the 1st July 1897.

3. These quinquennial returns will be based on information collected every year by enquiry or actual experiment. The Government of India are glad to notice that arrangements have been made for the introduction of a system of annual crop-cuttings in almost all provinces, in which the system has not previously existed. Rules for the conduct of crop-cuttings have been in force for some years in Bombay, Berar, the Central Provinces, and Assam; and draft rules have now been submitted from Burma, the Panjab, and Ajmere. Copies of the rules adopted in the various Provinces are forwarded *, with this circular for the information of all Governments and Administrations: they show a considerable variety of treatment, especially as regards the area to be experimented on in each case and the grade of the officers selected to superintend the experiments; but the Government of India are not prepared at present to require any strict uniformity in such matters, and the arrangements now existing or proposed may be carried out with such modifications of detail as the various Governments and Administrations may think fit. A report on the working of the rules should be forwarded with the return which is to be submitted in 1897.

Local Governments which have not as yet introduced rules are desired to formulate and issue suitable instructions.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to the Resident at Mysore, in continuation of endorsement No. 3—45, dated the 20th February 1892.

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* Not printed in this collection.

Table I.

Approximate yield per acre of the principal crops in the Provinces (189 —189 .)

Name of Crop.		Average outturn in lbs per acre cropped.							
		Province.			District A.		District B.		etc.
Ordinary name.	Botanical name.	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	Irrigated and Unirrigated.	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	etc.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Notes.—(*a*) Crops should, as far as possible, be classed and entered in the order adopted in Table A-3 of the Annual Agricultural Tables.

(*b*) The yield should be that of the crop when sown unmixed. In each column the estimate given should be that of the average outturn on average soil in a year of average character as deduced from a consideration of the information obtained or experiments made during the years under review; so that when multiplied by the average area cropped it may give as near an approximation as possible to the outturn of the crop in an average year.

(*c*) It is not necessary that estimates of outturn of each crop should be made for every district, they may be given for selected districts only.

(*d*) *Columns 3 and 4.—Provincial Estimate.*—Where the outturn of the crop has been estimated for each district, the average outturn of the province can be estimated by multiplying each district outturn by the area cropped in each district and dividing the total outturns by the total area cropped in the province. Where the outturn has not been estimated for each district the best estimate possible should be made.

(*e*) *Columns 3, 6, 8, etc.*—In the case of crops not ordinarily irrigated, these columns may be left blank.

(*f*) *Column 5*—Will be obtained by multiplying column 3 by the irrigated area cropped, adding column 4 multiplied by the unirrigated area cropped, and dividing the sum of the above by the total area cropped.

(*g*) A brief memorandum stating the sources of the estimates and the manner in which they have been calculated should accompany the return.

Table II.

List of crops, the outturn of which is required in the Quinquennial return of yields.

Crop.		Madras.	Bombay.	Sind.	Bengal.	North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Panjab.	Central Provinces.	Lower Burma.	Upper Burma.	Assam.	Mysore.	Ajmere.	Coorg.	Berar.
Ordinary name.	Botanical name.														
1. Rice (husked)	Oryza sativa	*a*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*
2. Wheat	Triticum sativum.	*b*	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*
3. Barley	Hordeum vulgare.	*b*	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*a*
4. Jawar	Sorghum vulgare.	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*
5. Bajra	Pennisetum typhoideum.	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*
6. Ragi	Eleusine coracana.	*a*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*
7. Maize	Zea mays	*b*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*a*
8. Gram	Cicer arietinum.	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*a*
9. Linseed	Linum usitatissimum.	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*a*
10. Til	Sesamum indicum.	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*a*
11. Sugarcane (manufactured gúr or jaggery.)	Saccharum officinarum.	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*a*	*b*	*b*
12. Cotton (cleaned).	Gossypium, sp.	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*
13. Rapeseed or mustard.	Brassica campestris.	*b*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*	*b*

Note.—Returns are required for crops marked *a* and are not required for crops marked *b*. There is no objection, however, to provinces ascertaining the yield of other crops besides those of which returns are required and including them in the return.

The yield given should be in all cases that of the main product of the crop (*e.g.*, grain, manufactured gur or jaggery, cleaned cotton, etc): if any estimate can be made of the outturn of bye-products (*e.g.*, straw, fodder, etc.), these should be added below the estimate of the main product.

IV.—Colours for the exhibition of statistics on maps.

Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture,—No. 27—16 Stats., dated the 21st March 1885.

READ AGAIN—The following proceedings of the Statistical Conference, dated the 24th December 1883, regarding the desirability of adopting an uniform scale of colours for the illustration of agricultural statistics in maps :—

"In regard to the representation of agricultural statistics by means of maps, it was—

Resolved—Also that, as agricultural statistics can often be conveniently represented by means of coloured maps, it is desirable that an uniform system of representing percentages by particular colours should be adopted, but that the Conference is not at present able to decide which system is the best. An essential point is that colour cakes, and not colours mixed on a palette, should alone be used, and that the paint boxes should be of the same kind."

READ—Replies from Local Governments and Administrations.

The Statistical Conference, in the proceedings cited above, recommended the adoption of an uniform scale of colours for the illustration of percentages in maps prepared for the representation of agricultural statistics. This suggestion was approved by the Government of India, and all Local Governments and Administrations have since been consulted regarding the scale of colours to be employed for the purpose. The only suggestion for the improvement of the scale has been made by the Chief Commissioner of British Burma, who is of opinion that a scale less liable to confusion would be secured by the use of the primary and secondary colours, which should stand above and below each other, just as they do in the chromatic scales; *e.g.*, if it were decided to show the rainfall over different areas, the colours might be arranged somewhat as follows :—

RED.	GREEN.
PURPLE (OR VIOLET).	YELLOW.
BLUE.	ORANGE.

Redder shades of purple might, it is suggested, be employed to represent smaller rainfalls, and bluer shades of purple to represent higher rainfalls than that represented by purple. Bluish and yellowish greens might be similarly employed with respect to green. This scale would, the Chief Commissioner considers, obviate the necessity for using compound colours like greys and browns, and every one would know the relative position of the three primary and three secondary colours in the chromatic scale. The Government of India has carefully considered the relative advantages of this scale, and of that suggested by itself, which latter was the outcome of considerable deliberation between the Revenue and Agricultural Department and the Surveyor General, and believes that while its scale has the advantage of containing more colours than that proposed by the Chief Commissioner of British Burma, it has the further advantage that the colours contained in it are less likely to be confounded with one another, than those which would be required to give effect to the Chief Commissioner's suggestion. It has therefore resolved to prescribe the adoption of its original scale which is reproduced as an appendix to this Resolution.

The scale is a simple ascending scale, and will be generally employed in showing percentages above zero of rainfall, crops, irrigation, and the like, over different areas. The amount of difference in percentage to be indicated by the different colours in the scale will be left to the discretion of Local Governments and Administrations.

The maps will be coloured by hand, and, to facilitate this, the Stationery Department will be asked to supply, on indent, to Local Governments and Administrations, small boxes containing colours in cakes corresponding exactly with the prescribed scale. It will probably be found convenient that as soon as a given scale of percentages is adopted, the percentage which each colour is to express should be clearly shown on a label fixed to the inside of every box.

Ordered that the above Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin for information and guidance.

Government of Madras.
" of Bombay.
" of Bengal.
" of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
" of the Panjab.
Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.
Chief Commissioner of Coorg.
" " of Assam.
" " of British Burma.
Secretary for Berar to the Resident, Hyderabad.

Copy forwarded to the Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery, Calcutta, for compliance.

Sample scale of colours for illustrating statistics on maps.

Sepia.	Gamboge.
Bt. Sienna.	Hook. Green.
Br. Madder.	Pruss. Green.
Carmine.	Cobalt.
Cad. Yellow.	Purple.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Coorg, Assam, British Burma; and to the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 103 Stats.—16, dated the 20th July 1885.

With reference to the Resolution No. 27, dated the 21st March 1885, recorded by the Government of India, regarding the adoption of a uniform scale of colours for the illustration of percentages in maps prepared for the representation of agricultural statistics, I am directed to forward a letter received from the Superintendent of Stationery, and to request that that officer may be furnished with a list of the officers who will require paint boxes for preparation of the maps representing agricultural statistics.

2. In a previous communication the Superintendent of Stationery has asked that the indent to which reference is made in the last paragraph of the Resolution cited above, should be sent to him as soon as possible.

Copy forwarded to the Superintendent of Stationery for information.

From the Assistant Surveyor General in Charge of Drawing Office, to the Under-Secretary to the Government of India,—No. 292 S., dated the 25th January 1889.

With reference to certain correspondence that took place in 1885 on the subject of a scale of colours for the illustration of statistical maps, I have the honour to point out the great saving of both time and expense in making use of different tints of the same colour, rather than a scale of different colours, for that purpose. It is quite possible to represent seven different shades, which in most cases is quite as many as are necessary; such a map printed in shades would pass only twice through the press, whilst if seven different colours were used, it would necessitate eight pulls, or at least four, if three of the colours could be made by combination. Again, as regards the legibility of the map, I think there is no doubt as to the superiority of graduated shades of one colour, for the purpose of illustrating percentages, over the method of allotting a separate colour to each percentage. If this is acknowledged, I think it would be advisable to issue instructions to those who require such maps prepared to allot to such percentage a number, which number should be shown on the map in each district to which it refers. The table of references explaining the percentages should also be clearly given on the margin of the map. From the copy thus prepared, this office can easily make the tinted map. By this plan all hand-colouring and possibility of confusion between different colours is avoided.

2. As a matter of fact, all statistical maps have been prepared in this way, though the orders still exist to colour them according to the scale of colours.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Coorg, Assam, Ajmere; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 14—63 Stats., dated the 27th February 1889.

With reference to this Department's circular No. 27—16, dated the 21st March 1885, prescribing a scale of colours for the exhibition of statistics on maps, I am directed to forward a letter from the Assistant Surveyor General on the subject, and to state that the course suggested by him may be adopted whenever statistical maps are sent for reproduction by lithography to the Surveyor General's Office. Whenever it is more convenient (as would be the case where a few copies are required) to have a map prepared in the provincial offices, the colours laid down in the scale forwarded with the circular of the 21st March 1885 might continue to be used.

Copy forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay for information and guidance.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 1076 F. & C. D.—15-5-97.—500.—S. J. D'S.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

STATISTICAL BUREAU

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
26 MAY 97
SECRETARIAT

A

COLLECTION

OF

ORDERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

RELATING TO

FORECASTS OF CROPS.

CALCUTTA:
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I.—General orders regarding the preparation of forecasts of principal crops, and especially of the Wheat crop.

Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture,—No 40 A., dated the 15th March 1884.

On the abolition of the office of Commissioner of Cotton and Commerce in 1875, it was arranged that annual after-harvest reports should be prepared for each Province, showing the outturn, area, and value of the cotton crop and the course of the export trade. These reports have been regularly submitted, but the delay which necessarily attends their issue has rendered them of little practical value, and as their preparation entails much trouble, their discontinuance has been strongly pressed.

2. The subject was discussed by the Directors of provincial Agricultural Departments assembled at the Statistical Conference, held in Calcutta in December 1883. It was generally agreed that the Agricultural Departments should endeavour to give the public an early forecast of the harvest prospects of any crop which has a special commercial importance, and that, if this course be followed, the necessity for submitting a separate after-harvest report for these crops would cease, as the crops would be noticed in the general agricultural report of the season.

3. The Government of India accepts the views of the Conference, and is prepared to sanction the immediate discontinuance of the annual reports on cotton now prepared, unless Local Governments desire their retention for any special reason.

4. The Government of India will be glad to know to what extent effect can, in the opinion of Local Governments, be given to the proposal for the publication of early forecasts. They are, it is believed, already published occasionally in some provinces * * * * * Such forecasts would be very useful both to the Government and to the public, and their value is seen in the importance which the commercial world in Europe and America attaches to the forecasts of the Agricultural Department of the United States. The imperfection of the agency at the command of Agricultural Departments in this country cannot however be ignored, and before coming to a final decision the Government of India desires that Local Governments will consider the question, and report for what crops and on what dates such reports might usefully be published.

Ordered that copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin for information and compliance.

Government of Madras.	Chief Commissioner, British Burma.
„ Bombay.	„ Assam.
„ Bengal.	„ Ajmere.
„ the N.-W. Provinces and Oudh.	„ Coorg.
„ Panjab.	Secretary for Berar to Resident at Hyderabad.
Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.	

From Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Ajmere, Coorg; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 89 A., dated the 25th July 1884.

In continuation of the Resolution No. 40 A., dated the 15th March 1884, regarding the preparation of early forecasts of crops of special commercial value, I am directed to forward copy of a despatch, with enclosures, received from the Secretary of State, in which the Indian Government is asked whether, in imitation of the practice of the Agricultural Bureau in the United States, it could obtain and publish information as to the harvest prospects of the grain crops of India.

2. The question thus raised has in a measure been anticipated by the Statistical Conference held in Calcutta in December 1883, and by the Resolution referred to in the preceding paragraph, to which replies from Local Governments are awaited. The Government of India trusts that the subject will receive at an early date the careful consideration which it merits.

3. The suggestions made in the despatch are—

(1) that for British territory (exclusive of Bengal) information might be compiled about January in each year regarding the acreage sown with wheat and other grain crops:

(2) that as respects wheat, the area sown with each of the four principal kinds—hard and soft white, and hard and soft red wheat—should, if possible, be shown separately:

(3) that the outturn of crops in each district should be estimated in annas of a rupee.

4. The gentlemen who have moved the Secretary of State to take action in this matter refer to the publications of the Agricultural Bureau in the United States as a model which might be followed in India. The Government of India has, therefore, examined these publications in order to ascertain the system followed in America, and I am now to briefly state the result of this examination.

5. The organization of the American Department differs in two important respects from that of Agricultural Departments in this country. In the first place, there is more centralisation. The Department's "statistical agents," or local reporters throughout the country, correspond direct with the Central Bureau, and not through the circuitous medium of the State Governments. This saves time, and also secures greater uniformity of reporting than is attainable under the Indian system. In the second place, the American Department obtains the co-operation of an intelligent and educated body of farmers such as is not to be found in this country. The official "statistical agent" in each State can thus draw his information from a number of correspondents throughout the State, many of whom give their service for nothing. In India the agency has not only to be salaried, but to be trained.

6. With this staff at its command, the American Bureau is able to bring out every month a small pamphlet reporting on the condition of the more important crops in every State in the Union. Corn crops, especially the wheat crop, are carefully reported on. The natural history, if so it may be termed, of the American wheat crop, is as follows: The chief sowings are in the autumn and for "winter wheat." The crop appears in March and April with the melting of the snows, and in the latter month the first estimate of the acreage can be made. In the same month "spring wheat" is sown both on fallow lands and on lands where the winter sowings are found to have failed. The grain is cut in September and October, and November is considered to be the month by which the harvest is completed throughout the Union. Such being the natural history of the American wheat crop, the monthly reports of the Agricultural Bureau, so far as they relate to that crop, take the following form:—

(1) From January to March the monthly report deals with the estimated stocks in the country, the quantity available for export, the extent of the winter sowings, and the character of the winter.

(2) The April report gives the estimated acreage and a fuller account of the condition of the crop.

(3) From April to October the "condition" is reported, extracts being given from the reports of the statistical agents and their correspondents.

(4) In November and December estimates of yield are framed.

7. The "condition" is also statistically shown for each State by reference to an average standard, which is represented by 100, just as 12 annas does duty for an average crop in India. In October each statistical agent reports the estimated average produce per acre; *e.g.*, that the crop throughout his State will probably yield 20 bushels, or 25 bushels, the acre all round. In November, by which time the harvest is over, the statistical agents send in a revised estimate of average yield per acre, and the Central Bureau, from the accumulated data before it, prepares an estimate of the annual yield in each State. The total production of wheat in the Union during the year is thus arrived at in tons and cwts. In December this estimate is revised, and compared with the figures of the previous year.

8. The most striking feature of this system is that it is based not on returns of actual acreages, but on estimates of acreage. These estimates of acreage seem to be worked out from the actual acreage returns of the Census year, corrected by the information which the statistical agents are able to collect as to the extension of cultivation and the breadth of land sown in the year under report. The intelligence of the local reporters probably leads to results approximating to the truth. But the fact remains that these American returns in which so much confidence is reposed by the commercial world, are not as accurate, in respect of acreage, as the agricultural returns of Bombay or the North-Western Provinces, which are founded on the actual enumeration of every acre under crop. The American returns, however, are valued because they give timely information, which after all is much more complete than any individual grain dealer can obtain. And because the returns are of commercial value, the Agricultural Bureau is held in higher public esteem than it would be if it confined itself to returns which were more accurate in character, and which necessarily took longer to prepare. The example is one which the Government of India considers that Agricultural Departments in India might usefully follow.

9. The weekly crop and weather returns published by Local Governments are extremely useful to the administration, but they are too concise and general to meet the objects aimed at in the American returns. Monthly agricultural reports are also published by the Governments of Madras and the Panjab, in which the state of weather, the condition of the crops, the state of the markets, etc., are given in a tabular form for each district. But even this information is not given in a form in which it can be of much service to the commercial world. The North-Western Provinces Government supplies still more detailed information in its half-yearly reports on the *rabi* and *kharif* harvests; but these reports do not appear until some months after the harvests.

10. The Government of India desires that an attempt should now be made to give effect to the wishes of the Secretary of State in respect to the *wheat* crop, and believes that the following system might be adopted without difficulty in all provinces in which the wheat crop is of much importance.* The Secretary of State thinks that the information ought to be with the Government of India about January, in order that it should be known in England before the end of February. If this date be accepted rough estimates of acreage are all that can be looked for. In Northern India the patwaris do not as a rule begin their inspection of winter crops till the 1st January, and the results are probably not available in any district till the end of February. But rough estimates based on the recorded district statistics for past years ought to be procurable without difficulty in January through the agency of the Agricultural Departments. The area under wheat varies less from year to year than might be imagined, especially in the more developed districts. It should be possible for the Agricultural Department of a province to fix the normal wheat area of each district, and to use this as the basis of its estimates. The staff of patwaris and supervisors should then be called upon to report whether the area under wheat in December seems to be above or below the average, and whether the "condition" is satisfactory. The Central Office of the Agricultural Department would then frame its rough estimate of acreage for the province. As reports for subsequent months were obtained, the monthly report issued for the province by the Agricultural Department would give each month a more correct estimate of the acreage, and better information about the condition of the crop. In February or March a very rough estimate of the wheat-production of the province might be attempted, which would be revised in subsequent reports. By April the wheat harvest would be over in many parts of India, and the monthly reports might then cease; but in Northern India it would be necessary to continue them till May or June. A full summary of the provincial report for the month should be telegraphed by the Agricultural Department direct to the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, where all the provincial reports would be summarised, published in the *Gazette of India*, and communicated to the Press, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Secretary of State.

* See later orders following.

11. The provincial reports should be telegraphed to the Government of India on the following dates :—

15th December.—The report should be very brief, stating the estimated acreage under wheat for the province; whether it is up to or above or below the average (which should be given in acres for the province); whether the sowings have germinated, and how the crop is progressing.

15th January, 15th February.—These should be similar reports, but more accurate as regards acreage. By the 15th February the patwaris' *rabi* inspection in many parts of Northern India is likely to be over, and actuals as to the wheat area should be available for the February report.

15th March.—An estimate of outturn should now be given in addition to the area. The estimate should be given in tons and cwts. though it will probably be necessary to base it upon local returns in which the condition of the crop is merely reported in fractions of a rupee. Some account of existing stocks of wheat should also be given.

15th April, 15th May.—Ditto.

12. The Government of India would invite opinion as to the Secretary of State's suggestion that the several kinds of wheat should be distinguished.

13. Another important question in connection with the proposed system of wheat forecasts on which opinion is invited is as to the inclusion of mixed crops (that is, wheat and barley, wheat and gram) in the estimates of acreage and yield. The Government of India is itself inclined to think that the local reports from districts might be confined to the wheat area alone, and that an allowance for mixed crops should be added to the provincial estimate by the central (provincial) office. The acreage under mixed crops does not seem to vary much from one year to another.

14. It should be clearly understood that estimates must be made with reference to an average or ordinary crop. There is no objection to the employment of the American system, in which case 75 would mean 25 per cent less than an average crop, and 125 would mean 20 per cent above an average crop. But if preferred, statistics may be given in annas, provided that it be understood that 12 annas means an average and one rupee a bumper crop. *

15. The Government of India wishes to know whether effect can be given to these instructions from December next. They need not apply to Madras, Bengal, Burma, or Assam, as in these provinces the wheat area is small. The Chief Commissioner, British Burma, however, might consider whether they might not be made applicable, *mutatis mutandis*, to the rice crop of that province. Were the requisite agency available in Bengal, similar reports as to the jute and rice crop would be of much value.

16. I am also to ask that the question whether the acreage, condition, and prospects of other exported crops, such as oilseeds, can in future years be made the subject of similar reports, may be borne in mind. It is, however, considered sufficient by the Government of India that for the present the experiment should be confined to wheat. It is probable that the experience gained in attempting to secure continuous information about the character of the wheat crop will lead the Directors of Agricultural Departments to formulate and perfect a system which may be applied to other crops of commercial importance.

From the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 782, dated the 21st August 1884.

The undersigned is directed to forward copies of papers regarding the publication of forecasts of area and outturn of the Indian wheat crop.

2. The undersigned is to request that political officers may be asked to report whether they could furnish this Department, by the 15th February every year, with an estimate of the acreage under wheat, and of outturn. It might be explained to the political officers who may be addressed on the subject that (if such a report be furnished) the first step to be taken by them should be to form an estimate, on such data as may be available, of the area under wheat in ordinary years, and of the probable gross production when the crop is an average or 12-anna one.

* See revised order on page 12 of this collection.

3. When the estimate has been determined upon in this way, the report, which is asked to be furnished by the 15th February, would be based partly on it and partly on the knowledge of the character of the season. The undersigned is to suggest that political officers may be asked to communicate their estimate to this Department in the first instance, as it might be possible to correct obvious errors.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Assam, Ajmere, Coorg; and the Secretary for Berar to Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 102A—6-155, dated the 14th July 1885.

With reference to my circular letter No. 89A., dated the 25th July last, I am directed to explain that the duty of obtaining for Her Majesty's Secretary of State's information about the Indian wheat crop was imposed upon Agricultural Departments with the double object (1) of meeting the demand made by the Home Government and (2) of ascertaining in what manner it would be most convenient for the Agricultural Departments to prepare similar information in respect to all important crops. With the view of confining the experiment within the narrowest limits, the Government of India avoided calling for reports upon the condition and outturn of any crops except wheat.

2. Now that the wheat season is over, it may be hoped that the expectation to which expression was given in the concluding paragraph of the circular cited above can be fulfilled, and that the Directors of Agricultural Departments will soon be in a position to formulate and perfect a system applicable to crops other than wheat. There is, however, reason to believe that the system of reporting adopted in the case of wheat has, in some provinces, unduly burdened the officials responsible for preparing or compiling the monthly reports. It will probably therefore be advisable henceforth so far to curtail the reports, that details of area shall not be given until the month of April. In anticipation of this report it may be found possible to telegraph each month the general statement, exclusive of area, indicated in paragraph 11 of the circular. The elimination of "area" will, it is believed, do away with the most troublesome part of the returns.

3. It is now therefore requested that the Director of the Agricultural Department may be asked to submit as briefly and concisely as possible proposals based on the experience now gained, and with due regard to the remarks in the preceding paragraph, as to the best and most feasible method of periodically reporting the condition and probable area and outturn of the most important crops. The Government of India would be glad if the Local Government could see its way to deal with three exports during the ensuing year, namely, winter oilseeds and wheat in 1885-86, followed later on in 1886 by returns for cotton and autumn oilseeds. It should be stated with regard to these whether monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly statements (not including area) are advisable and on what date the Agricultural Department could give a tolerably correct estimate of the area under each crop, it being remembered that the earlier the estimate can be given the more useful it will be to the commercial public. If the Government of India is right in believing that the chief difficulty in complying with the demand for wheat estimates has, during the past season, been caused by framing monthly statistics of area, it is hoped that the suggestion that the area statements should be confined to a single month will afford sufficient relief to enable Agricultural Departments to extend the system adopted for reporting wheat to cotton and oilseeds without imposing upon themselves and the establishments under their control any materially vexatious trouble.

4. In conclusion, I am to say that the Government of India will be glad to receive a reply to this letter before the 1st of September next, in order that the opinions from all provinces may be circulated and an uniform system decided upon well before the end of the year.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bengal, and the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—Nos. 549 and 550A—156, dated the 14th July 1885.

With reference to my letter No. 89A., dated the 25th July last, I am directed to forward copy of a letter which has this day been addressed to

the local Governments and Administrations regarding the submission of reports on the condition and probable area and outturn of the principal crops of the provinces in question. The Government of India would be glad if the instructions now given could be made applicable to Bengal and Burma.

2. It is suggested that it might be possible in the absence of correct statistics to obtain a very fair idea of the localities in which crops are grown by asking for a return from district officers whether, within the area of their jurisdiction, such and such a crop is grown to any extent, to a small extent, or not at all. A similar arrangement has recently been suggested for the compilation of crop maps, and the information obtained for the maps could be utilized for returns of the rice and jute crops.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Panjab; the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 20—4-82 A., dated the 3rd March 1886.

I am directed to say that on consideration of the replies received to letter No. 102—6-155, dated the 14th July 1885, the Government of India has decided that, for the present at least, three memoranda on the Indian wheat crop and oil seed crop shall be published by it during each season. The first of these will be a rough account of the state of the crop, and will not, except in cases in which details can be supplied without trouble by Local Governments, contain information as to area. This statement will be published immediately before the close of the calendar year. The second memorandum, which will be issued about the 15th March, will give as accurate information as may then be procurable regarding both the estimated area and the state of the crop. I the latter half of May the third memorandum will be published, and will contain revised and fuller information on the points mentioned in the second statement. In order to admit of the punctual preparation of these memoranda the Government of India desires that the necessary data may be supplied in time to reach it at the latest on the 20th December, the 1st March, and the 15th May, respectively. It will be convenient that the first two reports, which should give the latest information available at the time of their submission, should be made by telegraph. Fullness of detail being of more importance in regard to the third memorandum, the reports on which it is to be based should be forwarded in writing. The value of the reports on the wheat crop will be much enhanced by a general statement regarding the character and prospects of the other food crops, as this will enable persons interested to draw their own conclusions as to the amount likely to be available for exportation.

* * * * * * * *

3. It is desired that for the present season the final report on wheat and oil seeds may be supplied not later than the 15th May.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 260—4-80 A., dated the 3rd March 1886.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. * * * I am directed to say that the arrangements which it is proposed to make in regard to the submission of crop reports will fully meet all the requirements of the Government of India. In view of the difficulty experienced in some provinces in preparing forecasts, the Government of India has resolved to limit the number of forecasts issued by it to three in the case of wheat and oilseeds, and two in the case of cotton and rice. If therefore it should be found on experience that the forecasts which the Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture has suggested impose too severe a burden on local officials, the Government of India would wish that in any reduction that may be made those reports which coincide with those to be submitted by other Governments should be retained.

From the Government of India, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh,—No. 887, dated the 6th November 1886.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter * * * on the subject of the reports called for by the Government of India on the

condition and prospects of the wheat, oilseeds, and cotton crops of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

In reply I am to say that, under the circumstances explained, the Government of India agree to forego for the present the estimate of the area of land under wheat and rabi oilseeds which apparently cannot be furnished by the 1st of March. In the place, however, of this area estimate a report as to the condition of the two crops should be furnished which would give a more correct account of their character that could have been supplied in the first report due at the end of the calendar year when the effect of the winter rains, the occurrence of rust or blight, etc., would not have been ascertained. Finally, every effort should be made to make the reports as to area, promised by the 1st of May, complete and sufficient for the statistics of the year. As regards the cotton forecasts, the dates fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Commissioner, namely, the 10th of September for the first statement, giving simply the character of the crop, and the 1st of January for the report as to area and outturn, may be adopted.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—Circular No. 68A., dated the 9th December 1886.

I am directed to say that the Government of India will be glad if in future the dates up to which the estimates relate are always given in the telegraphic or written forecasts of all crops reported on.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and Panjab; the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and to the Resident at Hyderabad,—Nos. 8—12, dated the 30th March 1888.

I am directed to state that the Government of India desires that in the final report on the wheat crop which is due on the 15th May next, and in further final reports, information may be furnished in connection with the prices and general condition of the supply of food-grains in the Province.

The main questions are—

(*a*) whether the produce of the year's supply of food-grains has been much above or below the average;
(*b*) whether the food-stocks of former harvests are plentiful or not;
(*c*) whether prices of food-grains generally have ruled higher or lower than usual; and
(*d*) what have been the causes which have caused an increase or decrease of exports of wheat, and how far has the movement been influenced by a scarcity or otherwise of food-grains.

2. I am to add that in order to save time instructions to the above effect have been communicated direct to the Directors of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture by this Department.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 48—9, dated the 21st December 1892.

I am directed to invite attention to the form* enclosed with this letter, and to ask that it may be used in submitting the final crop forecasts.

2. I am also to request that the appended memorandum of suggestions may be conformed to in the compilation of these forecasts as nearly as the circumstances of your Province admit. Particular importance is attached to the suggestions in paragraph 4.

3. I am to explain that the Government of India are well aware of the inconvenience involved in a disturbance of arrangements in connection with the village records, and will be content if the changes suggested in the memorandum are introduced gradually.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to Political officers of Native States who submit crop forecasts.

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* Not printed in this collection: see revised form on page 11.

Memorandum of suggestions.

With the intention of securing greater accuracy in the system of estimating the outturn of harvests and uniformity in the exhibition of the statistics embodied in the final forecast reports on crops, the Government of India, in August 1891, called for information regarding the system at present adopted in each province and circulated a form of statement for criticism. The replies received afford useful information and suggestions as to the method of calculating harvest yields, and they are printed as an appendix to this memorandum.

2. The system generally followed is, that the area under crop being measured and accurately known, the outturn in annas is calculated by some officer for a certain area. The area and estimated outturn are reported to the Director of the Agricultural Department. For each area reported on, the Director has by him a standard of outturn per acre corresponding to a 16-anna crop, and by applying this he gets the estimated outturn. Thus if y represents the standard outturn per acre and a 12-anna crop on x acres is reported, the outturn is estimated at $\frac{12}{16} x y$. The area and estimated outturn of the province are then reported to the Government of India, by whom the provincial statistics are published in a combined form.

There are thus three items in the estimate, namely, the area, the fraction, and the standard.

3. As regards the area, there exists in the village establishments of most provinces, an agency capable of reporting the acreage of crops with great accuracy wherever the fields have been mapped and surveyed. But, although yearly diminishing in extent, there are still important tracts for which at present statistics are not available, owing to the absence of maps or the non-existence of trained village establishments. For these tracts the areas as well as the outturn cannot be more than an estimate. These area-estimates, once framed, are too often allowed to become stereotyped and repeated year after year without regard to the influence of exceptional seasons or changes in the economical condition of the tracts. They should be revised with care annually by comparison with the conditions prevailing in surrounding areas of a similar character for which accurate information is available, and by means of such special enquiries as may be possible. To this end the estimates of unsurveyed areas, where they are large and important, should be shown separately in the returns from the figures relating to surveyed areas and should not be merged in the latter. This separation is already carried out to a large extent in the returns of agricultural statistics for British India.

4. In dealing with the calculation of areas, two other matters in which practice varies demand consideration, namely, (1) whether the area returned should be the area sown or that successfully cropped, and (2) in the case of forecast crops which are sown mixed with other crops, whether the total area covered with the mixed crops should be exhibited, or an area calculated to represent the acreage covered by the forecast crop only.

As regards (1), the general rule should be that the returns should exhibit the areas actually sown, whether the crop comes to maturity or not. The failure of the crop should affect, not its area, but its outturn. An exception to this rule will however be made when fields, owing to the failure of the first sowings, have been devoted to other crops. In this case the area first sown with the forecast crop may be omitted. As to (2), the areas covered by the several crops in a mixed field are at present estimated in various ways in the different provinces, and the most suitable method of calculation of them is a question of some difficulty. But for purposes at least of the forecast, the area to be returned must be the area covered by the forecast crop, exclusive of the area covered by the other crops with which it is mixed. However rough the estimate of the area of the forecast crop may be, it will be less far from the truth than a return of the area of the whole mixed field as the area covered by the single forecast crop.

5. With regard to the fraction to be employed in estimating the character of the harvest, the Government of India have already ruled that the anna system of notation with which native officials are familiar shall be generally adopted, and that sixteen annas should stand for an average crop and twenty

annas for a bumper one. These instructions should be adhered to, and village officers should be instructed in their correct application. It is believed that in some parts of India the anna system has not a uniform application, and that an eight-anna crop, for instance, represents to the cultivator something more or less than a half of a sixteen-anna crop. In order to avoid any difficulties arising from this source, it will be advisable that, when the anna fraction is made use of in published reports to express the probable yield of the harvest, the outturn represented by the fraction should be stated at the same time.

6. The method of arriving at standards for the conversion of anna estimates is under separate consideration, in connection with the requisition received from the Secretary of State for India for periodical returns of the average outturn per acre of the principal crops.* In view, however, of the fact that the accuracy of a standard bears necessarily an inverse ratio to the extent of the area for which it is framed, and that in some provinces extremely wide areas have been adopted for the framing of a single standard, it is desirable that some limit should be introduced as early as possible, in regard to the unit of area for which standards should be framed; and that ordinarily it should not be larger than a taluka or tahsil. To ensure the correct application of the standards. the areas for which fractional anna-estimates are made and reported should invariably correspond with those for which standards are framed. Experience has shown, moreover, that the anna-estimates of village-officers, when not systematically tested, become untrustworthy and misleading; and where they are not actually prepared by a responsible local official of rank, they should always be carefully checked by means of information independently collected from landholders. The resulting outturns for the province should also be tested in the office, in which the computation is made, by the light of trade returns, estimates of consumption (where such exist), and other cognate statistics. If the comparison indicates palpably misleading results in the crop returns, no time should be lost in amending the standards for the crops concerned.

7. Prefixed to this memorandum is the form of statement which should accompany the final forecast for each crop reported on. In previous instructions it has been laid down that the normal area and outturn should be calculated on the average of the last five years exclusive of exceptional seasons. Statistics are, however, now available for a considerable series of years, and it is no longer necessary to adhere to this scale. The normal area and outturn should be taken as the average of the whole period for which reliable data are forthcoming, irrespective of the character of the season, but the period upon which the calculation rests should be indicated in the returns.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 1981—35, dated the 24th July 1893.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter * * * * regarding the preparation of crop forecasts in the Madras Presidency, and to reply as follows.

2. The areas given in column 2 of the form should be the probable final figures for the year, and the normal areas in column 4 should be the normal areas for a year.

3. The normal outturn entered in column 10 should be average of the estimated current yields (column 7 of present form) of previous years.

4. In view of the facts reported by the Madras Government, there is no objection to the adoption by reporting agencies of such anna-notation as the Government may prescribe, but in official publications issued by Government or the Board and in letters to the Government of India, the notation mentioned in paragraph 5 of the memorandum attached to this Department circular of 21st December 1892 should be carefully followed.

5. The Government of India are content to forego the returns from zamindari areas, pending the establishment of a competent agency in such areas for collecting statistics.

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* See in collection of orders relating to Agricultural Statistics.

6. The ultimate use of talukwar standards of outturn is a feature essential to the value of the returns. It is suggested that Collectors should be called on to report what modifications, if any, in the general standards now prescribed are necessary in view of the results of crop experiments conducted in the various taluks of the district of settlement and of information subsequently obtained through crop experiments or in other ways. Where no standards are at present prescribed, Collectors should be required to form estimates on the best data available, and these should be corrected from time to time as new information is collected. It is hoped that the experiments conducted in accordance with this Department's circular No. 46 S., dated 24th July 1893,* may help towards the improvement of these estimates.

7. The outturns returned in the forecasts should be absolute quantities and should not be expressed in fractions of a rupee. The latter form of return is liable to misconception and is not, so far as the Government of India are aware, the form in which the mercantile public desire to have the returns made.

8. An estimate of the proportion of area occupied by the more important crops in mixed fields will in future be required for the preparation of the annual crop returns in accordance with orders about to issue from this Department, and there will probably be little difficulty in preparing similar estimates for the forecasts. Where the areas affected are known to be very small, there will be no objection to omitting, for the present, an estimate of the areas included in mixed fields.

9. In conclusion, I am to draw attention to the last paragraph of the circular of the 21st December 1892, and to point out that the changes may be introduced in such a way as not to occasion any great disturbance of existing arrangements. The Government of India are, however, anxious that the difficulties found in preparing accurate returns in Madras on the prescribed system may be surmounted as soon as possible.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madars, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, and Assam; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 8—53, dated the 23rd February 1893.

In substitution of the form of return to accompany the final forecast of crops, circulated with my letter No. 48—9 of the 21st December 1892, I am directed to forward the enclosed revised form † which has been adopted to meet a suggestion made by the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay. The form differs from that previously circulated, only by the addition of columns to show the acreage and outturn of the year preceding the year of report. It is hoped that the small changes involved can be introduced without causing serious inconvenience.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for favour of communication to political officers of Native States who submit crop forecasts, in continuation of this Department's endorsement No. 48—9, dated the 21st December 1892.

From the Government of India, Foreign Department, to the Resident in Mysore,—No. 1915 I, dated the 4th June 1894.

* * In view of the existing difficulties in obtaining reliable statistics of the wheat crop in the Mysore State, the Government of India do not at present desire to press for the preparation of the annual forecast in the form prescribed in the circular No. 8—53, dated the 23rd February 1893, but will be content to receive it in the form in which it has hitherto been furnished.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 7, dated the 24th February 1896.

I have the honour, by direction of the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture, to enclose a revised form of the table

* See in collection of orders regarding Agricultural Statistics.

† Not printed in this collection: see later form on page 11.

attached to the final forecast of crops, and to request that it may be substituted for the form prescribed in the circular of that Department, No. 8—53, dated the 23rd February 1893.

2. The object of the revision is to eliminate expressions of doubtful meaning, to delete columns which it is difficult to fill up accurately, and to make the form generally clearer, simpler, and more precise. The changes are as follows:—

(1) The word "normal" has been removed from the headings of columns 4 and 10, being inaccurate and misleading in the connection in which it was there used.

(2) Column 8, and column 11 which is based on column 8, have both been removed, being of doubtful accuracy considering the unavoidable roughness of the figures obtainable for standards or normals and annual estimates of area and yield, and the local differences in the bases upon which the figures are framed. Following on this change columns 9 and 10 will be numbered respectively 8 and 9.

(3) Columns 4 and 9 of the new form should shew the average of the quinquennial and decennial periods preceding the "previous year" of columns 3 and 8. (*See* the foot-note to the form.)

(4) Columns 6 and 11 should be filled up in the same manner as columns 4 and 9 of the new form.

No. 8.

Copy forwarded to the Resident at Hyderabad and the Agents to the Governor General in Rajputana, Central India, and Baroda, for information in continuation of the circular No. 8—53, dated the 23rd February 1893.

Final forecast of the crop in the Province for the year 189 -9

DISTRICT.	ACREAGE.							OUTTURN.							
	Of current year's crop (1895-96).	Of previous year's crop (1894-95).	Average of preceding years.	Percentage by which column 2 exceeds (+) or is less than (−) area in		Estimated yield of current year, that is of area in column 2 (1895-96).	Yield of previous year, that is of area in column 3 (1894-95).	Average of preceding years.	Percentage by which column 7 exceeds (+) or is less than (−) outturn in					
				Column 3.	Column 4.				Column 8.		Column 9			
1	2	3	4		5	6		7	8	9		10	11	
			(a) Five years.	(b) Ten years.		(a) Five years.	(b) Ten years.			(a) Five years.	(b) Ten years.		(a) Five years.	(b) Ten years.

Note.—The years on which the average is calculated should be *exclusive* of the year for which figures are given in columns 3 and 8. For instance, if the forecast is for the year 1895-96, columns 3 and 8 will shew figures for 1894-95 and columns 4 and 9 for (*a*) 1889-90 to 1893-94, (*b*) 1884-85 to 1893-94.
In columns 2, 3 and 4 the figures should be in acres; in columns 7, 8 and 9 they should be in tons for wheat and oil-seeds, in cwts for rice, and in bales of 400 lbs. for cotton. For other crops, the weight should be given in tons, cwt., or lb., as may be found convenient.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 4-S.—C., dated the 9th May 1896.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter * * forwarding copy of a letter from the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, in which he proposes that columns 4 (*b*) and 9 (*b*) of the revised form of the table appended to the final forecast of crops should be left blank, and that columns 4 (*a*) and 9 (*a*) thereof should shew averages founded on the figures compiled since the year 1892.

2. I beg to say, in reply, that the proposal is approved by the Government of India, on the understanding that so soon as trustworthy figures are available for five and ten years respectively, the quinquennial and decennial averages will be given.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras,—No. 5—C.S., dated the 9th May 1896.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's proceeding * * requesting instructions on the following points in regard to the preparation, in the revised form, of the table appended to the final forecast of crops :—

(1) whether the figures for columns 4 (*a*), 4 (*b*), 9 (*a*) and 9 (*b*) should be worked out afresh for each taluk and district every year ;

(2) whether the figures for columns 3 and 4 are, as heretofore, to be the final actuals, and for column 2 the estimated complete figures for the whole year, or merely the corresponding figures for the period up to the date of report ; and

(3) whether the outturn to be entered in columns 8 and 9 is to be that calculated by the final estimates of the rates or the yield as estimated at the corresponding dates in the previous years.

2. With reference to point (1), attention is invited to the heading of the columns and the first note attached to the prescribed form, these shewing clearly that the average is to be that of the 5 and 10 years preceding the year previous to the year of report. It must obviously therefore, like the corresponding figures in the old form of the table, be re-calculated each year.

3. As to the second point, I would say that the figures for columns 3 and 4 should be the final actuals, and those for column 2 the probable final figures for the year.

4. As regards (3), the calculation of the outturn for columns 8 and 9 is to be based on the final estimates.

II.—Estimates of probable outturn.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Assam, Ajmere, Coorg; and the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 28-6—764., dated the 21st March 1885.

I am directed to invite attention to circular No. 89 A. of the 25th July 1884,* in paragraph 14 of which it was prescribed that estimates of probable outturn of crops should be made with reference to an average or ordinary crop on either the American or the Indian system, but that if the latter were employed, 12 annas should be taken as indicating an average, and one rupee as a bumper crop.

2. It has been brought to the notice of the Government of India that the system of estimating a bumper crop at 16 annas, and an average crop at 12 annas, is considered to be unsuited to the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, where the system ordinarily in use denotes a good average crop as a 16-annas crop, and a bumper crop as a 20 or 22-annas crop. The Local Government is therefore averse to the adoption of the system suggested by the Government of India.

3. The real object in view is to ensure the employment of an uniform system of notation for all Provinces, and if this can be secured, it is not very material whether that suggested by the Imperial or that which the Government of the North-Western Provinces prefers be adopted. The Government of India would therefore be glad to learn whether there would be any objection to employ the latter standard in the preparation of future forecasts of crops.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for information and for communication to Political Officers, with reference to No. 782, dated the 21st August 1884.†

Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture,—No. 129 A—7-197, dated the 6th November 1885.

In the circular letter No. 89 A., dated the 25th July 1884, it was requested that all future estimates of the probable or actual outturn of crops

* See on pages 1 to 4 of this collection.
† See on page 4 of this collection.

should be prepared in an uniform manner, and Local Governments and Administrations were asked with this object to use either the American or the Indian system. It was added that in the event of the Indian system being preferred, 12 annas should be employed to denote an average crop and one rupee to denote a bumper crop. The object which the Government of India had in view was merely to secure uniformity in the preparation of these estimates. Subsequently the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh represented that the system ordinarily used in those Provinces is that under which an average crop is denoted by one rupee, a bumper crop being described as one and one-quarter or 20 annas crop. A doubt having thus been thrown on the general applicability of the orders of the Government of India, a further reference on the subject was made to Local Governments and Administrations. From the replies received, it now appears that the system under which one rupee is used to denote only an average crop is in use in the whole or part of most Provinces, and all Local Governments and Administrations, except the Governments of Bombay and Bengal, have expressed their willingness to adopt it in their estimates. In the Bombay Presidency and in the Lower Provinces one rupee is generally used to denote a bumper crop, and the Governments concerned are therefore desirous of retaining the standard commonly in use.

2. The Governor General in Council would be glad to leave the decision of the question to Local Governments if it were not for the uncertainty and inconvenience which must result from the preparation of returns by different standards. It is hoped that the returns will eventually be of considerable value to the mercantile public; but this can only be the case if an uniform method is followed in their preparation. Looking to the general tenor of the opinions expressed, it appears that less inconvenience will result from the adoption in Bombay and Bengal of the system under which an average crop is denoted by one rupee, than from the introduction into other parts of India of the system under which one rupee denotes a bumper crop. His Excellency in Council trusts therefore that, with the permission of Local Governments and Administrations, crop forecasts may in future be prepared in all Provinces on the former system.

Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin:

Madras	Central Provinces
Bombay.	British Burma.
Bengal.	Assam.
North-Western Provinces and Oudh.	Coorg.
Panjab.	Ajmere-Merwara.
Secretary for Berar to the Resident, Hyderabad.	

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign Department for communication to Political Officers of Native States.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 679 A.—4-211, dated the 20th August 1886.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. * * * in which it is requested that definite instructions may be issued regarding the standard to be adopted for denoting the outturn of crops, I am directed to say that the system of crop notation, by which 16 annas represents a full average crop, was adopted by the Government of India with the concurrence of the Government of Madras. If the Government of Madras would now prefer to use fractional figures for their own purposes, there will be no objection to this course ; but for the sake of uniformity, it is desirable that reports should be submitted to the Government of India in terms of the Rupee: thus

$\frac{5}{4}$ or 20 annas = a bumper crop; 16 annas = a fair average crop; 8 annas = half of average crop; 4 annas = a quarter of average crop.

Paragraph 5 of Memorandum of suggestions circulated with Government of India's letter No. 48—9, dated the 21st December 1892 (see on page 8 of this collection) may also be reproduced here :—

5. With regard to the fraction to be employed in estimating the character of the harvest, the Government of India have already ruled that the anna system of notation with which native officials are familiar shall be generally adopted, and that sixteen annas should stand for an average crop and twenty annas for a bumper one. These instructions should be adhered to, and village officers

should be instructed in their correct application. It is believed that in some parts of India the anna system has not a uniform application, and that an eight-anna crop, for instance, represents to the cultivator something more or less than a half of a sixteen-anna crop. In order to avoid any difficulties arising from this source, it will be advisable that, when the anna fraction is made use of in published reports to express the probable yield of the harvest, the outturn represented by the fraction should be stated at the same time.

III.—Forecasts of the Cotton crop.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Panjab; the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, and the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 20—4-82 A., dated the 3rd March 1886.

* * * * * * *

2. In regard to cotton, it is desired to prepare two memoranda, one in the latter half of July containing nothing but a statement of the character of the crop, and the other in the latter half of October containing the fullest details available as to both the area and prospect of the crop. I am to ask that the necessary data for these may reach the Government of India by the 15th July and the 15th October, respectively. For the first report it will be convenient that the information should be supplied by telegram.

From the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 441, dated the 22nd May 1888.

The undersigned is directed to request that the Foreign Department will be good enough to ask the Political Officers named in the margin, whether the Government of India can be furnished, as in the case of wheat, with a rough forecast of the area under cotton cultivation in their respective administrations, which should, if possible, also show the prospects and probable outturn of the crop, when it can be given.

Agent, Governor General, Central India.
" Rajputana.
Resident, Hyderabad.

2. If it is found possible to supply the report asked, the Revenue and Agricultural Department would be glad to know on what date the Political Officers would be able to submit it.

From the Agent to the Governor General for Central India, to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 196G.—458, dated the 20th August 1888.

I have the honour to reply to your No. * * in which you ask whether I can furnish a rough forecast of the area under cotton cultivation, with the prospects and probable outturn of the crop in Central India, and if so, on what date.

2. Some of the political agents have promised to send forecasts of cultivation by August, * * * It is not probable that returns of this kind will be punctually submitted, or be of much statistical value when received.

From the Resident at Hyderabad, to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 161, dated the 24th September 1888.

With reference to your letter No. * * I have the honour to state that * * * the Minister now states that * * the required information will be furnished.

From the Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana, to the Government of India, Foreign Department,—No. 4790 G., dated the 10th November 1888.

* * I have the honour to state that a rough forecast of the area under cotton cultivation, with the prospects and probable outturn of the crop in the Native States of Rajputana can be submitted at the end of January in each year.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 34—12 L.-14 A., dated the 27th May 1889.

I am directed to forward a despatch No. 100 (Revenue) dated the 29th November 1888,* from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India on the subject of the early publication of information regarding the prospects of the Indian cotton crops, and to enquire how far in the opinion of the Local Government it would be possible to meet the suggestion therein made for the publication of monthly abstracts showing the area and probable outturn of cotton.

2. It is understood that the acreage returns which are prepared after the crops are sown, are not subject to much variation; while the outturn estimates are compiled from inspection and enquiry when the crop is well advanced and their monthly revision would entail considerable labour, without any material advantage, owing to the imperfect means at present available for obtaining reliable estimates of outturn. Under these circumstances the Government of India would not press for the submission of returns more frequently than in the opinion of the Local Governments is likely to be practically useful.

3. I am to add that whatever returns it may eventually be decided to publish in response to the Secretary of State's invitation, the Government of India would impress upon Local Governments the necessity for a thorough scrutiny of the statistics supplied, in order that no information of a contradictory character should be published. Recent examination of the figures submitted in forecast returns, together with those rendered elsewhere, have in some cases revealed discrepancies which detract seriously from the value of the statistical publications.

Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture,—No. 358—369C-Agri., dated the 13th March 1890.

In a circular dated the 3rd March 1886 (No. 20—4-82),† the Governments of Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh and Panjab, and the Administrations of the Central Provinces and Berar, were desired to furnish the Government of India with two reports on the Cotton crop, namely, the first on the 15th July showing the character of the crop, and the second on the 15th October giving the fullest details available as to both the area and prospects of the crop. These dates having been found unsuited to the Bombay Presidency, they were altered to 10th September and 10th December for the early districts and 10th October and 10th February for the late districts. They have also been changed in the case of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh to 10th September and 15th January, and in the case of the Panjab, the 15th December has been substituted for the submission of the final report. For Berar it has been customary to issue only one report which is published in November, while from Madras four crop reports are received which include cotton, on the following dates: early crops 15th August and 1st November, late crops 15th December and 15th February.

Summarising these dates chronologically it is found that reports on the cotton crop are at present published as follows:—

July.—First report Panjab and Central Provinces.
August.—First report, early crop, Madras.
September.—First report, early crop, Bombay.
" " North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
October.—First report, late districts, Bombay; final report Central Provinces.
November.—Single report, Berar; final report, early crops, Madras; final report, Central Provinces.
December.—Final report, early districts, Bombay; final report, Panjab; First report, late crops, Madras.
January.—Final report, North-Western Provinces and Oudh.
February.—Final report, late districts, Bombay and Madras.

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* Not printed in this collection.
† See on page 6 of this collection.

Occasional reports are also received for the Native States of Rajputana and Central India, but these are not of the nature of forecasts.

2. The expediency of publishing more frequent reports on the Indian cotton crop during the period the crop is on the ground has recently been made the subject of a representation to the Secretary of State on behalf of merchants in the United Kingdom interested in the cotton trade. In forwarding this representation to the Government of India His Lordship desired that the question should be considered whether monthly abstracts might not be published for the whole of India, giving estimated figures of area and probable outturn for each province, with totals for the whole of India. Local Governments and Administrations concerned have been consulted on the subject, and having now received their replies the Government of India is in a position to consider what measures can be undertaken in furtherance of the wishes of Her Majesty's Secretary of State.

3. In referring the question for the opinions of Local Governments and Administrations the Government of India observed that, while—

"the acreage returns which are prepared after the crops are sown are not subject to much variation, the outturn estimates, compiled from inspection and enquiry when the crop is well advanced, and their monthly revision, would entail considerable labour without any material advantage owing to the imperfect means at present available for obtaining reliable information."

"Under the circumstances," it was added—

"the Government of India would not press for the submission of more frequent returns than in the opinion of the Local Governments are likely to be practically useful."

The replies received confirm the view that, unless the village and district officials were to devote a larger share of their attention to the subject than is consistent with their other duties, a monthly inspection and report on the prospects of the cotton crop would be of little practical value. At the same time a suggestion has been made by some Provincial Governments that instead of two there should be three reports, similar to those prepared for the wheat crop. The Government of India considers that some attempt should certainly be made to meet the wishes of the commercial community in this country, as well as in the United Kingdom, for earlier and fuller information, and has arrived at the conclusion that no great disturbance of existing arrangements would be caused by the publication of four two-monthly reports beginning with the period when the greater portion of the early crop has been sown and ending with the arrival of the season for the harvesting of the late crops. For Provinces in which only the early variety is cultivated, three reports will suffice, but a fourth is necessary where the late varieties are also grown.

4. The Government of India has resolved, accordingly, that four general summaries shall be published, on the 20th August, 15th October, 15th December, and 15th February. The first summary will contain an estimate of the area sown with the early crop, as compared with the normal area on that date, with remarks as to the general condition and prospects of sowings; the second, a corrected and completed estimate of the area of the crop, and the sowings to date of the late crop, together with a report on the condition and prospects of both crops. The third summary will deal fully with the area and outturn of the early crop, and give further information regarding the condition and area of the late crops. The fourth and last summary will review the harvest of both early and late crops.

To admit of the punctual compilation of these summaries the following separate reports are required from the Provinces on the dates mentioned:—

August 15th.—First report, early crops, from Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, Central Provinces, and Berar.

October 10th.—Second report, early crops, from Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, Central Provinces, and Berar. First report, late crops, from Madras and Bombay.

December 10th.—Final report, early crops, from Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Punjab, Central Provinces, and Berar. Second report, late crops, from Madras and Bombay.

February 10th.—Final report, late crops, Madras and Bombay.

5. The Government of India desires that instructions may be given to the Directors of Local Departments of Land Records and Agriculture to use every effort to make these forecasts trustworthy sources of information to the public, and in the few instances where the revised dates entail the submission of earlier reports than are at present supplied to secure their punctual issue. The dates have been determined with reference to the demand for early and reliable information, and to the necessity for uniformity in the period of reporting in order to allow of the publication of general summaries. For no province, however, has an earlier date been fixed than has been found possible by experience in other provinces similarly circumstanced.

The Government of India also desires that great care may be taken in every case to express the outturn in terms of "cleaned cotton," that is cotton with the seeds extracted. For the return of areas over which cotton is sown as a mixed crop attention should be had to the instructions furnished in Government of India resolution No. 347—357 of to-day's date,* regarding the returns of mixed oil-seed crops. Figures which are estimates should invariably be shown as such, and the calculations of outturn should be systematically verified by the statistics of consumption and trade.

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department, with the intimation that the Revenue and Agricultural Department would be glad to receive annually a report on the cotton crop in the Nizam's Territory and the Rajputana and Central India States for inclusion in the report to be published on the 15th December.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 104.—3L-18, dated the 4th June 1890.

A representation having been made to the Government of India that there is a want of uniformity in the manner in which the outturn of cotton is expressed in the forecasts of that crop published by Provincial Governments, I am directed to request, in continuation of paragraph 5 of Government of India resolution No. 358-369-C.-A., dated the 13th March 1890, that the yield may in future be shown in bales of 400 lb of clean cotton.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for information, and for communication to the Resident at Hyderabad and the Agents to the Governor General in Rajputana and Central India.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 797, dated the 3rd July 1890.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter * * * in which certain changes are proposed in the dates for the submission of the forecasts of the cotton crop of the Madras Presidency.

I am to say that the Government of India would prefer to maintain the existing dates which for the first and third reports are the same as those hitherto adopted by the Government of Madras. It appears, however, that the statistics of sown areas available by the dates fixed for the first reports will of necessity be exceedingly imperfect. The Government of India, therefore, desires that the first report should be only of a general character regarding the prospects of the season and progress of the sowings, and that it should serve merely as an indication whether and to what extent there is reason to apprehend less than an average crop. Area figures and fuller details would then be given in the second and third reports, the dates of which may be altered as follows:—

Second report, 10th December } for both early and late crops.
Final report, 10th February }

I am further to explain that the special reason for maintaining the dates of the first reports is that the Secretary of State has specially desired that information on the prospects of the Indian cotton crops should reach him during

* Relating to the oil-seeds crop: see on pages 21 to 23 of this collection.

the month of September. The adoption of any later dates would lead to the exclusion of the Madras cotton crop from the first general summary which it is proposed to publish and to forward for His Lordship's information.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 1055—2A., dated the 20th May 1892.

I am directed to invite the attention of the Government of Bengal to this Department's resolution No. 358-369, dated the 13th March 1890, regarding the preparation and submission to the Government of India of forecasts of the cotton crop by Provincial Governments, and to enquire whether it would be possible for the Director, Agricultural Department, Bengal, to submit all or any of the series of forecasts therein prescribed for the northern provinces.

2. The Government of India have hitherto been deterred by the difficulties attending the collection of agricultural statistics in Bengal from making a requisition for cotton forecasts. The Bengal forecasts, particularly those of rice and jute, have, however, proved to be of material value to the commercial public, and the Governor General in Council therefore trust that it may prove feasible to meet the demand which, he is informed, has arisen for similar information in relation to cotton.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab; the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, and the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 14—2A., dated the 17th October 1896.

It has been represented to the Government of India that the mercantile and mill-owning communities are anxious that steps should be taken to secure greater accuracy and completeness in the figures for area and outturn of cotton received from the local authorities and appended to the forecasts of the cotton crop in India now published by the Statistical Bureau.

2. There can be little doubt that the figures as now published leave much to be desired, for an examination of the statistics of production, import, export, and consumption (at least mill consumption), leads to the inference that no account is taken in the estimates of a substantial proportion of the cotton produced in India. Much of the incompleteness is due to the omission, at present unavoidable, of the zamindari area in Madras, which constitutes about a third of the whole area of that Presidency, and of some Native States; while the returns from others are not entirely trustworthy. But it is possible also that in British districts sufficiently close attention is not always and everywhere given by the officers charged with the collection of the figures to the necessity for accuracy in estimating the production of the staple. It is the most important export from India, and also the most important primary material used in the country for manufacture, and the official estimates of the production are consequently of special importance to merchants and manufacturers. I am to suggest therefore that steps should be taken to impress upon all officers concerned the importance of careful attention to the collection of the facts reported for publication in the Government forecasts.

Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for information and favour of communication to the Agents to the Governor General in Central India and Rajputana.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 1815—2A., dated the 17th October 1896.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter * * and of the letter from the Chamber of Commerce of Madras enclosed in it on the subject of the forecasts of the cotton crop issued by the Government of India.

2. The Chamber mention two matters for the consideration of Government. It is represented (1) that the outturn of cotton in raiyatwari tracts is much underestimated, and that the reason for the underestimate is that the officers immediately concerned in the collection of the facts do not take sufficient interest in obtaining accurate figures; and (2) that the returns would be more practically useful to merchants if the different "market descriptions" of the crop were shewn separately.

3. The Governor General in Council is not aware whether there is any foundation for the suggestion of want of care in the preparation of the estimates, but, looking at the forecasts for all parts of India as a whole, the collation of the facts regarding import, production, consumption, and export of cotton, leaves little doubt that the returns of production are exceedingly incomplete. Much, if not most, of the incompleteness is no doubt due to the omission from the returns of the zamindari portion of Madras, and to the entire or partial exclusion of many Native States in other parts of India. It is possible, however, that the returns and estimates for the raiyatwari area in Madras may also be lacking in accuracy and completeness; and having regard to the great importance of the estimates of the cotton crop to merchants—cotton being the most important article exported from India—I am to suggest that the matter should be inquired into, and if it should appear that the suggestion of the Chamber is in any degree well-founded, that steps should be taken to secure closer attention to the correctness and completeness of the district returns on the part of the officers responsible for them.

4. As regards the second point, I am to say that as the published returns give separate figures for each district, and as the Chamber mention in the list appended to their letter the growth peculiar to each district, it would seem practicable, with a very small amount of trouble, to specify the growths against the districts as suggested by the Chamber. This would assimilate the practice in Madras to the practice in Bombay, where the final forecasts prepared by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, contain a statement shewing the variety of cotton grown in each district or Native State, with the area and estimated outturn of the crop in the year under report. I am to suggest therefore that, if the Madras Government see no objection, a statement similar to that appended to the final memorandum on the cotton crop in the Bombay Presidency might be introduced into the final forecast issued by the Board of Revenue, Madras, to meet the wishes of the Chamber of Commerce. The insertion after the column specifying the districts of another column stating the description grown in each district, and the rearrangement of the order in which the districts are shown, so as to bring together those in which the same description is grown, would probably suffice.

IV.—Forecasts of the Rice crop.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—No. 231—4.81 A., dated the 3rd March 1886.

In acknowledging the receipt of letter No. * * I am directed to say that the Government of India concurs in your view that statements regarding the area and condition of the rice crop are the only crop reports required in the case of Burma. It will, the Government of India is of opinion, suffice if two reports are submitted in each year regarding the rice crop. The first of these should give merely a telegraphic account of the general condition of the crop, and should be submitted as soon as any useful anticipation as to this can be formed. The second should be as complete a written report as can be given regarding both the general condition and area of the crop, and should be submitted shortly before the harvest. The Government of India would be glad to learn what dates you would suggest for the submission of these reports.

2. The value of the reports would be much enhanced by a statement of any facts likely materially to affect the quantity of rice available for export.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 663—12 L.-40, dated the 9th October 1889.

I am directed to request that the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, may be asked to consider and report whether it would be possible to prepare forecasts on the rice crop of Bengal on the same lines as those of the wheat forecast. The Government of Madras has recently agreed to furnish forecasts of the rice crop of that Presidency, and the Chief Commissioner of Burma has done so for some years. If similar returns can be supplied from Bengal, early information will be available to

Government and the commercial public regarding one of the principal export staples from the three Provinces which contribute to the trade. The difficulties in the way of obtaining statistics are, it is presumed, no greater than in the case of wheat, and the Government of India considers that, in view of the great importance of the rice crop in Bengal, it is desirable that it should, if practicable, be brought within the system of forecast reports and trusts that an effort will be made to accomplish this object.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras and Bengal, and Chief Commissioner of Burma,—No. 567—59A.—79, dated the 11th June 1896.

I am directed to forward a statement showing the dates on which forecasts of the rice crops are now supplied or have been promised for the three principal rice-growing provinces, and the dates on which the Government of India proposes to publish summaries of these reports in future.

2. The Government of India does not desire to receive any additional reports on the rice crops, but trusts that each forecast will be framed so as to include the fullest available information on the points noted in the statement opposite each, and will be punctually submitted within the dates prescribed. Special attention is invited to the instructions which are added at the foot of the tabular statement and which should be most carefully observed.

Date for submission of forecasts, and character of information to be submitted.

Province.	Character of Information.	Date.	Character of Information.	Date.	Character of informatoin.	Date.	Character of Information.	Date.
Madras . .	Area and prospects of early crop.	15th Aug.	Area, prospects, outturn and exportable surplus of early crop.	1st Nov.	Area and prospects of late crop.	15th Dec.	Area, prospects, outturn and exportable surplus of late crop.	15th Feb.
Bengal . .	Area and prospects of Amun and Bhadoi crops.	30th Sept.	Harvest report of Bhadoi crop; forecasts for Amun. Area, outturn and exportable surplus for each.	15th Dec.	...	...	...	...
Burma (ten surplus rice districts).	Area and prospects.	15th Oct.	Revised area and prospects.	15th Nov.	Revised area, prospects, outturn and estimate of exportable surplus.	15th Dec.	As before, revised.	15th Jan. 15th Feb.
Government of India, General Summaries	...	20th Oct.	...	20th Dec.	...	...	...	20th Feb.

Note.—(1) Character of crop may be expressed in the anna formula, but all outturn should be given in cwts. of cleaned rice.
(2) Final reports should embody a comparison with normal area and outturn based on five years' average; see later revised form for details of final forecasts on page 11 of this collection.
(3) The forecasts should mention the seasonal name of the crops to which they refer.

V.—Forecasts of the Oilseeds crops.

NOTE.—For orders previous to September 1889, see pages 5 to 7 of this collection.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bombay,—No. 543—12 L.-32, dated the 7th September 1889.

The Government of India will be glad if the Director of the Agricultural Department is allowed to consider again the question of the preparation of an oilseeds forecast. The Government of India has carefully considered the difficulties regarding the furnishing of these forecasts * * and is unable to see that they are by any means insuperable. The areas of all crops, mixed and unmixed, are shown separately in the Bombay papers. The occurrence therefore of some of these crops in the mixed form appears to form no obstacle to their tabulation in a forecast. Sesamum, it is believed, is no longer confounded

in the village papers with niger seed. It will of course be necessary to submit a separate forecast for the kharif and rabi oilseeds, and although this will cause a certain amount of work, yet the Government of India is satisfied that the additional labour is fully justified by the importance of the subject. Lastly, it may be mentioned that several provinces already furnish forecasts of their principal oilseed crops; for instance, the North-Western Provinces and the Central Provinces of linseed, and Madras of sesamum. Arrangements also are now being made whereby forecasts of sesamum and linseed will be obtained from all provinces in which they are of commercial importance. I am accordingly to ask that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, arrangements be made to submit forecasts of these two crops for the Bombay Presidency.

3. As to the dates for the submission of the forecasts, I am to suggest that those followed in the Central Provinces, namely, the months of December, March, and May, may be adopted for linseed. For sesamum the 15th of June 1st August, and 15th September are suggested as suitable dates.

From the Government of India, to the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh,—No. 544—12 L.-33, dated the 7th September 1889.

With reference to the final wheat and oilseeds crop report for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh for the season, it is noticed that only the area and outturn of oilseeds sown as an unmixed crop are given, and that a very large harvest of this crop is gathered from fields of wheat and other cereals where it is grown as a mixed crop. I am to ask whether there would be any difficulty in separating the mixed oilseeds crop by means of formulæ and so furnishing an estimate of its area and outturn. The mixed crops it would appear are sown (1) broad-cast, (2) as border crops, and (3) in rows. For (2) and (3), the calculation of area must be exceedingly simple. For (1), the formulæ will be more or less conjectural, but, if framed upon intelligent local enquiry, should represent something like a rough approximation to the truth. I am also to request that a forecast may be supplied for sesamum. The dates for submission, it is suggested, might be the 1st June, 1st August and 15th September.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces,—No. 545—12 L.-34, dated the 7th September 1889.

I am to request that, unless the Chief Commissioner has very strong objections to make, a forecast of the sesamum crop be furnished in addition to the linseed forecasts now being supplied. I am to suggest as suitable dates for submission the 1st June, 1st August, and 15th September.

From the Government of India, to the Secretary for Berar to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 546—12 L.-35, dated the 7th September 1889.

I am to request that, unless the Resident has very strong objections to make, a forecast of the sesamum crop be furnished in addition to the linseed forecasts now being supplied. I am to suggest as suitable dates for submission the 1st June, 1st August, and 15th September.

Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture,—No. 347—357 Agri., dated the 13th March 1890.

In circular letter No. 20—4-82, dated the 3rd March 1886,* it was decided that three memoranda on the oilseed crops should be published each season on the same dates as the forecasts of the wheat crop, namely, on the 20th December, the 1st March, and the 15th May, respectively. These memoranda are now published and incorporated with the wheat forecasts for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, Central Provinces, and Berar. The reports for the Central Provinces and Berar include linseed only; those for the Panjab, rapeseed; and those for the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, linseed and rapeseed. A forecast of the mustard crop is also issued for the Province of

* See on page 6 of this collection.

Assam in January; and sesamum is included in the reports on the early and late crops received from Madras on 15th August, 1st November, 15th December, and 15th February.

No forecasts of oilseed crops have hitherto been prepared for the Bombay Presidency owing to difficulties which have, however, now been removed.

2. The Government of India considers it desirable that the character and prospects of the principal oilseed crops which are of considerable commercial importance should be more systematically reported on in future, and the reports summarised in a series of general memoranda similar to those now published on the wheat crops.

Next to linseed the most important oilseed is sesamum (til or jinjili), on which at present reports are published by only one province. Local Governments and Administrations of the other provinces, in which sesamum is a staple product, have been consulted on the question, and it has been ascertained that sesamum is sown and reaped about the same time as the early cotton crops for which forecasts are published and that there will therefore be no great difficulty in the preparation of reports on sesamum. The Government of India has accordingly decided that sesamum should be added to the oilseed crops for which forecasts are now submitted, and desires that the following general instructions should be observed in the preparation and publication of future seasonal reports on these crops.

3. The crops which will be regularly reported on in future are linseed, rapeseed, and sesamum. But if in any province other oilseeds of commercial importance are grown, their inclusion in the prescribed reports is unobjectionable, provided that they are separately shown.

The report on linseed and rapeseed, now incorporated with the wheat forecasts, should be separately published; the two crops should also be kept distinct and not treated together under the general head of oilseeds. Beyond this, no interference is, so far as the provinces marginally noted are concerned, necessary with the existing arrangements for the submission of forecasts on these two crops. In the Panjab the area and outturn of linseed appear to be unimportant and the report therefore, may as heretofore be confined to rapeseed. For Bombay, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the Department of Land Records and Agriculture will now submit reports on rapeseed and linseed in accordance with the instructions previously issued in the circular of the 3rd March 1886. In the case of Assam, the Government of India will be glad to receive, in addition to the single report on area and outturn now supplied in January, a bulletin in December on the condition and prospects of the mustard crop of the province for inclusion in the general summary of the rape and linseed reports to be published in that month.

North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, Central Provinces, Berar.

4. As regards sesamum, the Government of India desires to be furnished with three reports similar in character to those already prepared for linseed and rapeseed from the provinces noted on the margin. The first report will give, in general terms, a character of the season and the state of the crop; the second will contain a fuller report on prospects and a rough estimate of area; and the third complete statistics of area and probable outturn. The dates which have been suggested, by the various provincial authorities for the submission of the reports on sesamum, range from 1st August to 15th January, and the 15th August, 15th October, and 1st January will probably be found generally suitable, except in Madras, where the existing dates will be maintained. The table appended summarises the reports on oilseeds expected from each province and the dates on which they are to be submitted.

Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Central Provinces, and Berar.

5. A special difficulty in estimating area and outturn arises in the case of oilseeds owing to the almost universal practice of growing them as mixed crops. In some provinces the areas of the several crops composing a mixture are already recorded separately, in others the areas under mixed crops are recorded in a lump for each field, and standard formulæ have been framed after experiment and local enquiry for calculating area and outturn of the crops composing the mixture. In such provinces there will be no difficulty in furnishing the necessary figures. But in the provinces where neither of these systems are in force,

there may be difficulty in giving the areas under oilseeds grown as a mixed crop. In these cases the Government of India will not object to the statistics and information in the forecasts being restricted to the area on which the crop is grown unmixed, leaving the area and outturn of the mixed area to be roughly estimated at such proportion to the unmixed area as may have been determined by special enquiry. But apart from the requirements of forecast reports, the Government of India considers that in provinces where the mixed area of any crop is an important factor in the total production, measures should be taken in the interests of the accuracy of agricultural statistics at large to ensure a record of such areas, and the framing of careful standards for reducing them to an equivalent in unmixed areas. General instructions upon the subject will be issued shortly.

Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments noted on the margin, for information and guidance; and to the Government of Bengal, and the Chief Commissioners, Burma, Ajmere, and Coorg, for information.

Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, Central Provinces, Assam, Berar.

Table referred to in paragraph 4.

Province.	Linseed, Rapeseed, and Mustard.			*Sesamum* (Til or Jinjili).			
	Preliminary report.	Second report.	Final report.	Preliminary report.	Second report.	Final report.	
Madras	...	...	...	15th Aug.*	1st Nov.*	15th Dec.† 15th Feb.	*Early crop. †Late crop.
Bombay	20th Dec.	1st March	15th May	„	15th Oct.	1st Jan.	
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	„	„	„	„	„	„	
Panjab	„	„	„	15th Aug.	15th Oct.	1st Jan.	
Central Provinces	„	1st Feb.	...	...	...	...	
Assam	„	1st March	15th May	15th Aug.	15th Oct.	1st Jan.	
Berar	„	15th March	1st June	1st Sept.	1st Nov.	15th Jan.	
General summaries	1st Jan.						

Preliminary report.—General remarks on season, sowing, and condition.
Second report.—Season, condition and prospects, and general estimate of outturn.
Final report.—Area, outturn, and character of harvest.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces,—No. 475, dated the 31st May 1890.

* * I am directed to say that no forecasts of the rapeseed crop in the Central Provinces need be submitted, and that the Government of India has no objection to the proposals that the first *til* (sesamum) and cotton forecasts should be based on general information, and the second and third on estimates, instead of statistics, of actual area. I am, however, to express a hope that when the patwari staff is less engrossed in settlement work, arrangements will be made to obtain special information for the compilation of these forecasts which the Government of India is desirous should be rendered as trustworthy as possible.

2. I am directed to say that the Government of India would prefer not to make an exception in the existing formula for denoting the character of the harvests. This formula was accepted in 1885,† it has been in force for the past five years, and it is important that a uniform standard should be observed in all Provinces.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Madras,—No. 688, dated the 20th June 1890.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter * * regarding the dates for submission of forecasts of the jinjili crop in the Madras Presidency.

In reply I am to inform you that it will suffice for the requirements of the Government of India if four reports on the crop are furnished on the following dates:—

15th August	Report on early crop.
1st November	ditto.
1st January	Report on late crop.
15th April	ditto.

† Page 12 of this collection.

From the Government of India, to the Government of the Panjab,—No. 1019, dated the 31st July 1890.

I am directed to say that the Panjab was inadvertently not included among the Provinces from which forecasts of sesamum are required under paragraph 4 of this Department's Resolution No. 347—357 C., dated the 13th March last, and that the Government of India will be glad to receive forecasts of the sesamum crop of the Province on the dates fixed for the similar reports from the North-Western Provinces and Oudh.

From the Government of India, to the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 24—28 A., dated the 15th August 1890.

In reply to letter * * * * I am directed to say that only the first or preliminary forecasts of the cotton and oilseed crops should be transmitted by telegraph.

Copy forwarded to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and Panjab, and the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces and Assam, for information and guidance.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 206—5 A., dated the 23rd January 1891.

* * * * * * * * *

Owing to the importance of the oilseed trade the Government of India are very anxious to publish for these crops, as for wheat, a memorandum which shall represent the facts of annual production and outturn for the whole of India. To issue such a memorandum without information relating to Bengal, would be of little utility, and I am to suggest that, with the permission of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, an estimate of the total area and outturn of linseed and mustard in Bengal might be worked out by the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture from the materials and statistics at his command. It is observed that the area and outturn in annas of these crops is given for some districts in the Director's rabi report; but the small areas there assigned to the crop would seem to be in doubtful accordance with the conclusion drawn in the note from the trade statistics.

VI.—Forecast of the Jute crop.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 904, dated the 27th October 1885.

I am directed to enclose a despatch, No. 92, dated the 10th September 1885,* with enclosure, from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, in which a request is made for statistics relative to the jute crop in Bengal.

2. In the opinion of the Governor General in Council the present requisition renders it expedient that every attempt should be made to meet the request made in my letter of the 14th July last.† His Excellency in Council will therefore be glad to learn at an early date what steps the Government of Bengal proposes to take to give effect to the present requisition.

From the Government of Bengal, to the Government of India,—No. 162 T. R., dated the 3rd May 1886.

* * The Lieutenant-Governor has authorised the Director of the Agricultural Department to try the scheme suggested in paragraph 12 of his letter (enclosed) for the collection and publication of information regarding the area sown with jute and the prospects of the crop as it approaches maturity * *.

From the Director of the Agricultural Department, Bengal, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 321, dated the 20th March 1886.

12. I would suggest that the Commissioners of the principal divisions in which jute is grown (namely Rajshahye, Dacca, Chittagong, Presidency

* Not printed in this collection.

† See in section I on pages 5 and 6 of this collection.

and Bhagalpur) should be called upon to select those gentlemen, European and native, in their several divisions who have the best means of giving the desired information for the various local areas in which the crop is extensively grown; that these gentlemen should report to this office direct, or, if thought necessary, through the Commissioners of the divisions, both as to the area sown and the prospects of the crop between the time of sowing and reaping; that the information thus collected should be edited in my office in communication with the Chamber of Commerce and the Council of the Horticultural Society * *.

From the Government of India, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 557A.—171, dated the 9th June 1886.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 162 T. R., dated the 3rd ultimo, I am directed to say that the Government of India fully recognise the difficulty which attends the collection of agricultural statistics and information in the Lower Provinces, and observe with satisfaction the attempt which it is proposed to make in the case of jute.

VII.—Forecast of the Coffee crop.

From the Government of India, to the Chief Commissioner of Coorg,—No. 734.—171, dated the 15th September 1885.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letters * * I am directed to say that no other forecast than that of the coffee crop of the province need be submitted to the Government of India by your administration.

2. I am to request that in submitting these forecasts, some idea, however rough, may be given as to the extent to which the estimate is above or below the average, and the cause thereof.

VIII.—Forecasts of the Indigo crop.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Secretaries to the Governments of Madras, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab,—No. 20 S. C., dated the 19th August 1896.

I have the honour to state that the Government of India desire that a general summary of the local estimates of the area, outturn, and prospects of the indigo crop in Madras, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Panjab should be prepared in this Bureau for publication like the summaries of the estimates of other crops of commercial importance. Estimates of the indigo crop are now received on the dates entered in the table appended to this letter, and I beg to enquire whether it may be assumed that those dates will be adhered to in future.

To Bengal. 2. I venture to suggest that it will now be convenient that the forecast of the indigo crop which is incorporated with the *bhadoi* crops should be printed separately.

	1st Report.	2nd Report.	3rd Report.
Madras	September 15	December 15	.....
North-Western Provinces and Oudh	July 15	October 1	.....
	August 15	October 15	December 20.
Panjab	About the end of September.	About the middle of December.	.....
Bengal			

From the Government of the Panjab, to the Director-General of Statistics,—No. 883 S., dated the 16th September 1896.

In reply to your letter dated the 19th August, I am directed to say that no change is desired by this Government in the dates for the submission of the estimates of the indigo crop, and that the dates already fixed will be adhered to in future.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Madras,—No. 4643 Mis., dated the 25th September 1896.

* * The Director-General's query, in his letter dated the 19th August, will be answered in the affirmative.

From the Government of Bengal, to the Director-General of Statistics,—No. 3865, dated the 30th September 1896.

With reference to your letter dated the 19th August, I am directed to say that the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, has reported that * * indigo will appear as usual as one of the bhadoi crops in the first forecast of the bhadoi crops to be issued shortly, separate reports, will, however, be submitted from December next.

2. At the same time I am * * to say that the Director proposes that special reports of the indigo crop be prepared for twelve districts * * where the normal area is 10,000 acres or more. In other districts the area sown with indigo are insignificant, and the crop in those districts may conveniently be included with "Other non-food crops?" * *

3. I am further to add that the dates on which the estimates of the indigo crop have hitherto been submitted will be adhered to in future.

From the Director-General of Statistics, to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department,—No. 46 C., dated the 24th November 1896.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 30th September 1896. * * With reference to the proposal of the Director of Land Records and Agriculture to confine the reports to the principal indigo-growing districts, and to include other districts in the forecasts of the *bhadoi* crops under the head "Other non-food crops," I would beg to observe that the reason for this course has not been stated and is not apparent. If the figures for all the indigo-growing districts are available, there would seem to be no difficulty in including the whole of them in the reports on the indigo crop; while the exclusion of the figures of some districts and their inclusion in the reports on the bhadoi crops would make the one report incomplete, while the other might tend to mislead. To prevent possible misapprehension from such divided exhibition of the indigo figures in two separate reports, and to secure a return of indigo cultivation in as complete form as is possible, the Government of India would prefer that the figures for all the indigo-growing districts should be excluded from the reports on the bhadoi crops and included in the separate reports on indigo. I have the honour accordingly to enquire whether this can be done without serious difficulty.

From the Government of Bengal, to the Director General of Statistics,—No. 271 Agri., dated the 23rd January 1897.

With reference to your letter No. 46 C., dated the 24th November 1896, I am directed to submit a letter from the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, reporting that he has included all indigo-growing districts in his special report now under issue, and that he will include all such districts in future reports.

From the Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, to the Government of Bengal,—No. 56 A., dated the 15th January 1897.

With reference to your memorandum * * I have the honour to say that I have included all indigo-growing districts in my special report now under issue and will include all in future, and that I propose to shew the area under indigo in the general *bhadoi* forecasts report also in order that it may be complete for all *bhadoi* crops.

IX.—Publication and distribution of the forecasts of crops.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, Madras, Bengal, Panjab, North-Western Provinces and Oudh; the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, Burma, Assam, Coorg; and the Resident at Hyderabad,—No. 25—2A., dated the 4th May 1887.

I am directed to state that complaints have been received by the Government of India that the crop forecasts are not made public with sufficient promptness.

2. As it is desirable that the commercial community should obtain as early information as possible regarding the condition and prospects of the crops, I am to request that the Agricultural Department may be allowed in future to send a copy of the crop forecasts to the principal newspapers in the Province at the

same time that they are telegraphed or forwarded by post to the Government of India.

3. I am to add that the Agricultural Department should, however, not publish actual figures if estimated figures have previously been published by the Government of India.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab; the Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces and Burma,—No. 2–5, dated the 11th February 1892.

I am directed to refer you to circular No. 25A. of the 4th May 1887, in which it was suggested that Provincial Agricultural Departments should be allowed to send copies of crop forecasts direct to the principal newspapers of the province at the same time that they are forwarded to the Government of India, and to enquire whether there would be any objection to the direct distribution at present effected by the Local Agricultural Department being extended so as to include the entire distribution now made by the Government of India. The utility of forecasts is enhanced in proportion to the promptitude with which they reach the persons interested in the information which they contain. Moreover, where facilities for printing exist in the provinces, no appreciable advantage is gained from the printing and distribution of the forecasts by the Government of India, while the delay due to the time occupied in transmission would be saved by direct distribution.

2. If no objection exists to the proposal, the Government of India will be glad that the new arrangements for direct distribution should be brought into force from the 1st March. The forecasts now reported to the Government of India by telegram will continue to be so reported, in order that the general summaries prepared and published by the Imperial Department of Revenue and Agriculture may be issued with punctuality. Other forecasts may be submitted either in manuscript or in print, provided they reach the Government of India by the prescribed dates.

3. A list showing the distribution made by the Government of India is enclosed* for the guidance of the Local Agricultural Department, and any changes in it will be notified from time to time. It would be convenient if the provincial reports and Imperial summaries could be uniform in size and type; and I am to suggest that the form employed by the Government of India should, as far as possible, be adopted.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces,—Nos. 611—614, dated the 24th March 1892.

Adverting to paragraph 3 of this Department circular No. 2—5, dated the 11th February last, on the subject of the publication and distribution of forecasts of crops, I am directed to request that of final forecast reports twenty copies and of intermediate reports five copies may be supplied to this Department in future.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras and the Panjab, and the Chief Commissioner of Burma,—Nos. 615-617, dated the 24th March 1892.

Referring to paragraph 2 of this Department circular No. 2—5 of the 11th February last, regarding the publication and distribution of forecasts of crops, I am directed to state that the forecasts of the

To Madras. (1) Rice and Indigo crops
„ Panjab. (2) Indigo crop
„ Burma. (3) Rice crop

may in future be forwarded to the Government of India by post instead of being telegraphed.

2. I am to add, with reference to the distribution list forwarded with the circular above quoted, that of final forecast reports twenty copies and of intermediate reports five copies will be required by this Department.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, and the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces and Burma,—No. 5—63, dated the 22nd February 1894.

I am directed to forward, for information and guidance, a revised distribution list* of the forecasts of crops, corrected up to 15th February 1894. This list

* Not printed in this collection; see a later list on pages 28 to 31.

is issued in supersession of the list which accompanied circular No. 2—5, dated the 11th February 1892.

From the Government of India, to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Panjab, and the Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces and Burma, No. 2—19, dated the 25th January 1895.

I am directed to forward, for information and guidance, a revised distribution list of the forecasts of crops corrected up to 31st December 1894. This list is issued in supersession of the list which accompanied this Department's circular No. 5—63, dated the 22nd February 1894.

Distribution list of the forecasts of crops.

(Corrected up to 1st April 1897.)

No.		Number of copies.
	COUNTRIES OUTSIDE INDIA.	
	UNITED KINGDOM.	
	Officials.	
1.	H. M.'s Secretary of State, India Office, London	30
2.	The Lords of the Committee of Council on Agriculture, London	20
3.	The Land Office, 3, St. James' Square, S. W., London	10*
4.	Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fetter Lane, E. C., London	1*
	Institutions.	
5.	The Secretary, Royal Agricultural Society, England, London	1
6.	The Secretary, Incorporated Chamber of Commerce, Liverpool	2
	Personal.	
7.	W. E. Bear, Esq., 10 Onslow Gardens, Highgate, London	1
	Newspapers.	
8.	The Editor, *The Economist*, No. 340, Strand, London	1
9.	The Editor, *The Mark Lane Express*, Clement's House, Clement's Inn Passage, London, W. C.	1
10.	The Editor, *The Times*, London	1
11.	The Editor, *Agricultural Gazette*, No. 7, Catherine Street, Strand, London, W. C.	1
12.	The Editor, *Corn Trade News*, Agnew's Buildings, Brunswick Street, Liverpool	1
13.	The Editor, *British Dairy Farmer*, 115 Fleet Street, London, E. C.	1†
	EUROPE.	
	Officials.	
14.	The Imperial Chancellor, Foreign Office, Berlin	4
15.	The Director-General of Agriculture, Rome	10
16.	The Manager of the *Journal of Ministry of Finance*, St. Petersburg	1
	Institutions.	
17.	The Imperial Agricultural Society, Moscow, Russia	1
	AMERICA, AUSTRALIA, AND OTHER COUNTRIES.	
	Institutions.	
18.	The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park, (77th Street and 8th Avenue), New York	1†
19.	The Secretary, Gordon Technical College, Geelong, Victoria	2†
	Officials.	
20.	The Colonial Secretary, South Australia, Adelaide	1*
21.	The Statistician, Department of Agriculture, Washington, United States, America	10
22.	M. A. Carleton, Esq., Agricultural Department, Washington, U. S. A.	1

* Copies of wheat general summaries only.
† General summaries only.

Distribution list of the forecasts of crops—*continued.*

COUNTRIES OUTSIDE INDIA—*concluded.*

EUROPE—*concluded.*

No.		Number of copies.
	Newspapers.	
23.	The Editor, *Argus*, Melbourne	1
24.	The Editor, *The Tropical Agriculturist*, Ceylon, Colombo	1
	INDIA.	
	Officials.	
1.	The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture	5§
2.	The Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce	1
3.	The Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India, Dehra Dun	2
4.	The Reporter on Economic Products, Indian Museum, Calcutta	3§
5.	The Honourable Member, Public Works Department, India	1
6.	The Private Secretary to the Viceroy and Governor General	1*
7.	The Commissary General in Chief, Simla	1*
	MADRAS.	
8.	The Secretary, Government of Madras, Revenue Department, Madras	4
9.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Madras	3
	BOMBAY.	
10.	The Under-Secretary, Government of Bombay, Revenue Department, Bombay	4
11.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bombay, Poona	2
12.	The Revenue Commissioner, Bhavnagar State, Bombay	1
	BENGAL.	
13.	The Secretary, Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, Calcutta	2
14.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal, Calcutta	5
15.	The Collector of Customs, Calcutta	1†
	NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.	
16.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, Lucknow	2
	PANJAB.	
17.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Panjab, Lahore	10
	CENTRAL PROVINCES.	
18.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Central Provinces, Nagpur	2
	BURMA.	
19.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Burma, Rangoon	5
	ASSAM.	
20.	The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Assam, Shillong	1
21.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Assam, Shillong	1
	HYDERABAD.	
22.	The Resident, Hyderabad	2
23.	The Director, Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Hyderabad Assigned Districts, Akola	1
24.	The Revenue Secretary to His Highness the Nizam's Government	1

* Wheat general summaries only.
† General summaries only.
‡ Provincial wheat forecasts also.
§ Forecasts of crops in Assam, Berar, Central India, Rajputana, and the Nizam's Territory also.

Distribution list of the forecasts of crops—*continued.*

No.		Number of copies.
	INDIA—*continued.*	
	AJMERE.	
25.	The Commissioner of Ajmere, Ajmere	1
	MYSORE AND COORG.	
26.	The Resident, Mysore, Bangalore	1
27.	The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Coorg, Bangalore	1
	BARODA.	
28.	The Resident, Baroda	1
	INSTITUTIONS.	
29.	The Chamber of Commerce, Bengal	100*
30.	Ditto, Bombay	5
31.	Ditto, Madras	5‡
32.	Ditto, Rangoon	5
33.	Ditto, Karáchi	5
34.	The Secretary, Upper India Chamber of Commerce, Cawnpore	12
35.	The Secretary, Agri-Horticultural Society of India, Calcutta	5
36.	Ditto Ditto of Madras	5
37.	Ditto Bijnor Agricultural Society, Bijnor	5
38.	Ditto Agricultural Association, Amraoti, Berar	1†
39.	The Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay Branch, Bombay	1†
40.	„ Cottage Library, Bhowanipur, Calcutta	1†
	CONSULS.	
41.	The Consul-General for France, Calcutta	2
42.	„ Consul for Austria-Hungary, Calcutta	5
43.	„ Consul for Belgium, Calcutta	1
44.	„ Consul-General for Germany, Calcutta	2
45.	„ Consul-General for the United States of America, Calcutta	2
46.	„ Consul-General for Denmark, Calcutta	2
47.	„ Consul for Greece, Calcutta	2
48.	„ Consul-General for Italy, Calcutta	2
49.	„ Consul-General for the Netherlands, Calcutta	2
50.	„ Consul for Persia, Calcutta	2
51.	„ Vice-Consul for Portugal, Calcutta	2
52.	„ Consul for Siam, Calcutta	2
53.	„ Vice-Consul for Spain, Calcutta	2
54.	„ Consul, Sweden and Norway, Calcutta	2
55.	„ Consul for the United States of America, Madras	2
56.	„ Consular Agent for Austria-Hungary, Madras	2
57.	„ Consul for the Netherlands, Madras	2
58.	„ Consul for Denmark, Madras	2
59.	„ Consular Agent for France, Madras	2
60.	„ Consul for Germany, Madras	2
61.	„ Consular Agent for Italy, Madras	2
62.	„ Vice-Consul for Portugal, Madras	2
63.	„ Vice-Consul for Spain, Madras	2
64.	„ Consul-General for Belgium, Bombay	2
65.	„ Consul for the United States of America, Bombay	2
66.	„ „ for France, Bombay	2
67.	„ „ for Germany, Bombay	2
68.	„ „ General for Austria-Hungary, Bombay	3
69.	„ „ for the Netherlands, Bombay	2
70.	„ „ for Italy, Bombay	2
71.	„ „ for Portugal, Bombay	2
72.	„ „ for Sweden and Norway, Bombay	2
73.	„ „ General for Turkey, Bombay	2
74.	„ „ for Siam, Bombay	2
75.	„ „ General for Persia, Bombay	2
76.	The Vice-Consul for Spain, Bombay	2
77.	The Consul for Denmark, Bombay	2

* 100 copies of wheat general summaries; 5 copies of the others.
† General summaries only.
‡ Forecasts of the cotton crop in the Nizam's Territory also.

Distribution list of the forecasts of crops—*concluded.*

No.		Number of copies.
	INDIA—*concluded.*	
	NEWSPAPERS.	
78.	The Editor, *Indian Agriculturist*, Calcutta	1
79.	„ „ *Englishman*, Calcutta	1
80.	„ „ *Statesman*, Calcutta	1
81.	„ „ *Indian Daily News*, Calcutta	1
82.	„ „ *Indian Mirror*, Calcutta	1
83.	„ „ *Hindoo Patriot*, Calcutta	1
84.	„ „ *Indian Engineering*, 3 Baretto's Lane, Calcutta	1
85.	„ „ *Madras Mail*, Madras	1
86.	„ „ *Madras Times*, Madras	1
87.	„ „ *Hindu*, Madras	1
88.	„ „ *Khedoot*, Bhavnagar, Bombay	1
89.	„ „ *Bombay Gazette*, Bombay	1
90.	„ „ *Times of India*, Bombay	1
91.	„ Manager, *Bombay Samachar*, Bombay	1†
92.	„ Editor, *Industrial Quarterly Review*, Poona	1
93.	„ „ *Pioneer*, Allahabad	1
94.	„ „ *Indian Forester*, Dehra Dun	1
95.	„ „ *Oudh Akhbar*, Lucknow	1
96.	„ „ *Morning Post*, Delhi	1
97.	„ „ *Civil and Military Gazette*, Lahore	1
98.	„ „ *Tribune*, Lahore	1
99.	„ Manager, *Panjab Times*, Rawalpindi	1
100.	„ „ *Rangoon Gazette*, Rangoon	1
101.	„ „ *Rangoon Times*, Rangoon	1
102.	„ „ *Phœnix*, Karáchi	2
103.	E. J. Buck, Esq., Dufferin Fund office, care of Home Department	2
104.	H. Hensman, Esq., Simla or Calcutta	2
105.	E. C. Cotes, Esq., Simla or Calcutta	2
	COMMERCIAL FIRMS, ETC.	
106.	Messrs. Durst & Co., Calcutta	1*
107.	„ William Moran & Co., Calcutta	5
108.	Thos. Payn, Esq., Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited, Bombay	2
109.	The Agent, East Indian Railway Company, Calcutta	5
110.	The Secretary, Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, Bombay	5
111.	James Currie & Co., Karáchi	1
112.	The Traffic Manager, B. N. Railway, Nagpur	1†

* Cotton general summeries only.
† General summaries only.

G. I. C. P. O.—No. 1013 F. & C. D.—17-5-97.—500—F. C. C.

No. 11-G.
S.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
26 MAY 97

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Statistical Bureau

General.

TO

The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Simla, the 14th May 1897.

SIR,

~~In continuation of my letter No. , dated the~~

I have the honour to forward copies of each of the collections noted below :—

(1) A collection containing the substance of all the orders issued by the Government of India from March 1884 to February 1897, relating to agricultural statistics.

(2) A collection containing the substance of all the orders issued by the Government of India from March 1884 to January 1897, relating to forecasts of crops.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. Eliott

Director-General of Statistics.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Statistical Bureau

General.

To

ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND
ADMINISTRATIONS.

No. $\frac{11\text{-G.}}{S.}$

Dated Simla, the 14th May 1897.

Forwards copies of collections of the orders of the Government of India regarding agricultural statistics and forecasts of crops.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 214 C. F.—14-5-97.—260.

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