# Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3245

DATED 28th June

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[Despatch, Abstract.]

Stating that Mr. Atkinson's report on the experimental assignment of waste lands to the poorer classes in the Gudivada Taluk, Kistna Dt., proves the possibility of success when lands are assigned to Panchamas & that they should not be prevented from taking up lands under the Forest Rules.

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O | No | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No | Department. | Date. |
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

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# Revenue (189 7 ) Department.

**CURRENT No.** 1,3:19

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
26 MAY 97

***From***

The Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, Madras.

***Order***

No. *1881.* Misc.

***Dated*** 22nd May 1897.

***Received*** 26.5.97

***Registered*** 27.5.97

***Enclosures*** 1

***Spare copies***

## SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government with remarks letter from the Collector of Kistna reporting on the experimental assignment of waste lands to the poorer classes in the Gudivada Taluk.

1st (with papers) 27-5

BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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3,000
10-12-96.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE. MADRAS.

# Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue)

No. /881 Misc., dated 22nd May 1897.

Read letter from J.N.Atkinson, Esquire, Collector of Kistna, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras, Dis.No.1645/vol of 1897, dated 22nd April 1897.

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Resolution

Submitted to Government with reference to Government Order, No.4756 Misc., dated 25th November 1895 calling for a detailed report on the assignments of waste lands to Pancharas and other destitute classes in the Kistna District.

2. Mr.Atkinson has been at considerable pains to ascertain the subsequent history of lands assigned to Pancharas in the Gudivada Taluk. He points out that such assignments were made not by way of experiment, but in the ordinary course of Taluk administration, Pancharas not being distinguished from any other applicant for land. Hence his report, though very interesting as an account of what enterprising individuals among the Pancharas are capable of doing, falls short of demonstrating the probable success or failure of any experimental Pancharas colony, composed of individuals who are not fitted either by nature or by habit to an active agricultural life, far away from the [illegible]

...under the Poddutooke Channels to being seperately dealt with.

(True Extract)

Secretary.

To

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with report in original.

W.R.H.

The Hon-ble Mr Grose C.S.I.E.

C.W. 4419 of 1897.

For orders.

In Connection with the Scheme for establishing Colonies of paraiahs &c. in the Kistna District, Sanctioned in G.O. 732 d 17-6-94, the Collector of Kistna, in support of his allegation that there could be no doubt as to pauper assignees being able to retain their lands, quoted the case of an experiment made by him in the Gudivada taluk in providing the poor classes with small allotments of land. As it did not appear then that what was designated by the Collector as an "experiment" was, as afterwards ~~proved~~ turned out to be, merely a case of assignment of land to pancha-ma classes under the ordinary darkhast rules, a more detailed report was called for from the Collector on the "experiment" referred to.

The

C.14/6/97

the Collector accordingly reported the extent of land assigned to indigent classes under the Darkhast Rules since fasli 1302 and the extent since alienated by them, with the remark that — "indigent classes are generally anxious to become landholders, and are no more likely to part with their lands than other wealthier classes, and that Govt officials in the Godavari & Kistna have always said that the parish landholders had been the most punctual in paying their Revenue Kists and the easiest to manage". The Board, however, considered that the report was meagre and that it was rather early then to pronounce a definite opinion on the scheme, and accordingly requested the Collector to submit a more detailed report at the end of 1896. The Collr submits the further report which is contained in the current

| | acres |
|---|---|
| × Sale | 50.90 |
| Mortgage | 663.49 |
| Relinquishment | 349.86 |
| Transfer | 58.87 |
| Sale for arrears of rev. | 29.43 |
| | 1152.55. |

read above.

2. According to his report 3536.96 acres were assigned during the last four faslis, of which 1152.55 acres were alienated leaving a balance of 2384.41 acres as shown below:-

| Fasli | Extent assigned | Extent alienated |
|---|---|---|
| | acres | acres |
| 1302 | 2199.48 | 338.24 |
| 1303 | 211.91 | 338.24 |
| 1304 | 880.53 | 411.73 |
| 1305 | 245.4 | 402.58 |
| Total | 3536.96 | 1152.55 × |

the Collector states that notwithstanding (1) the opposition on the part of the wealthier ryots to allow these depressed classes to better themselves, (2) the disasters caused by the floods in 1892 and 1895 of the Kollern and Buddameru rivers, and (3) of the fact that these purchasers had no capital of any sort

1 (3) the enhancement of the water rate from Rs 4 to 5

to start with, and that they are generally shunned and despised as a race of outcastes without means and without influence, they have been able to keep themselves from ownership to servitude, notwithstanding their traditional improvidence. He further adds that what alienations here have been, have been the result of want of proficiency or lack of study effort but simply of misfortune. He has also ascertained that 122 families are fully provided with agricultural stock and implements, 60 families partially so, and only 32 are dependent on hiring and borrowing from others; that ~~[illegible]~~ 125 families had to borrow money in the first instance of whom 19 have since been able to clear off the encumbrances on their lands; that 98 Pranters have

have brought the whole extent of their holdings under wet cultivation, and 9 are irrigating part of them; and that 124 Pranters have taken pains to manure or otherwise improve their holdings. The Collector concludes his report by saying that his Pranchama Pranters in the Godavari taluk in spite of many obstacles have succeeded in firmly establishing themselves on the soil and that there need be no fear either for their future or that of any others to whom hereafter land may be given.

3. The Board in forwarding his report state, that as the assignments in question were not made by way of Colony experiment, the report may be interesting as an account of what enterprising indi-

-viduals

viduals among the Panchamas are capable of doing; but that it falls short of demonstrating the probable success or failure of any experimental Panchama Colony composed of individuals who are not fitted either by nature or by habit to take active part in life and among whom the spirit of enterprise and self help would be necessarily lacking.

Orders are requested as to whether in the circumstances stated above, further enquiry in this direction may be stopped and the paper merely

Govt. Recorded

14/6/97.

If the report falls short of proving the success of Colonies it proves the possibility of success when lands are given to Panchamas and as there must be much Govt. land which can be assigned this last enquiry as to the fitness of Panchamas to take up land is necessary.

14.6.97.

The report certainly shows that Panchamas should not be prevented from taking up land under the darkhast rules, & I think we should say so, as the report is a careful one & deserves notice, but it does not show that the darkhast rules should be withdrawn or altered, as the Secy. seems to propose.

Dept: Do.

18/6/97

18/6/97

C. No 4419/97

G.O. Mis. No. 3245 of 28th June 97.

The Govt. has perused the Atkinson's report with much interest. The report proves the possibility of success when lands are assigned to Panchamas and that they should accordingly not be prevented from taking up land under the Darkhast rules.

(List from orders).

The Sd. of Revl. (L.R.) with letter

Dtd. 2-7-97