

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 655

DATED 30th July

[Despatch Abstract.]

Dry Remissions.

Approving the proposals of the Collector of Turnool for the grant of — and postponement of first collections for Rs 1306 in six taluks of the district, as modified by the Board of Revenue

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 6242

The Hon. Mr. Cross. C. D. E.
The Hon. Mr. H. P. Lins. K. C. D.
H. L. the Governor

Print
27/7/97

From

The Board of Revenue
Sect.

Order (Rev.)

No. 655 of 30th July 1897.

27/7/97 27/7/97

The Collector's proposals 29.7.97

No. 491

as modified by the Board of Rev.
are approved.

26/7/97

Dated 10th July 1897

Received

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SUBJECT.

dry remissions.

The Board of Rev. Sect. L. R. 60/3
proposals from the Coll.
Annual re. —

Rd.
26.7.97

Note: In view of the exceptional character
of the season, the Govt. has decided
to accept similar proposals in the
case of Bellary & Anantapur - vide
No. 442 (757)
5-6-97

27/7/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.



Recd.

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1897.

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Printed July th.

Proceedings, 10th July 1897, No. 491.

JULY.

Dry Remissions.—Passing orders on the proposals from the Collector of Kurnool regarding.—

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

READ—the following letter from E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 16th June 1897, Dis. No. A:—

With reference to paragraph 4 of B.P., dated 20th January 1897, No. 420, I have the honour to submit my proposals for the grant of dry remission and postponement of kist collections for fasli 1306 for the marginally noted six taluks west of the Nallamalais. The two taluks of Cumbum and Markapur, comprising the Cumbum division and lying east of these hills, having had a fairly favourable season, were never included in the category of affected tracts, nor are they included in the present proposals.

2. The condition of the district, as it was in the middle of October last, was delineated in Mr. Gillman's report, dated 21st October 1896, embodied in B.P., dated 23rd October 1896, No. 291. The state of affairs gradually changed from bad to worse owing to the absence of sufficient rains after September.

3. The following table exhibits the rainfall during the south-west and the north-east monsoons of 1896-97 as compared with the average of the four years immediately preceding, and with the rainfall of the two previous famine years, namely, 1876-77 and 1891-92:—

Taluk.	Rainfall in 1876-77.		Rainfall in 1891-92.		Rainfall in			
	South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.	1892-93.		1893-94.	
					South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rámallakóta	7.89	1.62	11.60	2.33	28.94	13.12	29.68	9.73
Pattikonda	6.46	..	13.05	3.43	27.81	16.67	22.35	8.39
Nandyal	10.63	2.15	14.06	2.70	30.87	13.23	22.30	6.83
Koilkuntla	6.03	..	15.30	5.27	27.73	11.10	16.00	7.75
Sirvel	15.06	1.00	14.75	4.05	31.00	13.66	20.34	9.15
Nandikótkur	6.85	0.50	12.65	8.82	30.80	9.21	21.27	7.18
Average	8.82	0.88	13.57	3.43	30.62	12.83	21.97	8.00
Owk range of Koilkuntla	..	..	5.41	2.21	17.03	12.41	10.90	1.63

Taluk.	Rainfall in				Average, 1892-93 to 1895-96.		Rainfall in 1896-97.	
	1894-95.		1895-96		South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.
	South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.				
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Rámallakóta	24.90	6.27	23.27	6.02	26.67	8.78	13.84	1.94
Pattikonda	13.45	10.05	16.65	7.21	20.06	10.58	15.69	1.30
Nandyal	26.78	7.66	20.87	5.48	26.70	8.05	13.66	3.03
Koilkuntla	19.17	5.38	17.10	12.78	20.00	6.25	11.62	1.91
Sirvel	32.93	10.02	22.21	8.12	26.62	10.24	11.13	2.81
Nandikótkur	20.74	7.45	23.03	7.15	23.96	7.75	15.28	1.85
Average	22.98	7.80	20.52	7.79	24.00	8.94	13.53	2.14
Owk range of Koilkuntla	15.74	7.32	11.68	7.17	13.84	7.13	6.39	2.64

4. The south-west monsoon opened well, and ploughing and sowing operations were carried on as vigorously as usual except in the Owk range of Koilkuntla taluk, where the rainfall was markedly low from the beginning of the fasli. The rains of July and August were not much below the average and as they fell at proper intervals and were fairly evenly distributed throughout the district, cultivation progressed briskly and there was for a time no cause for anxiety. The rainfall in September was, however, deficient being only two-fifths of the average due for the month, and in October was almost a total failure. In consequence of this the early crops were in many cases altogether lost or yielded only a poor outturn and the later sowings, cotton, korra, white cholam, &c., began to fade. In the latter part of November, there were some showers, the average for the affected taluks being 1.85 inches, but for which the loss of crops would have been more extensive and serious. The taluk that was most benefited was Koilkuntla, where considerable extents had been sown with cotton and other crops in September. Prospects also improved materially in Nandyal, Sirvel and Nandikotkur owing to these showers, and the taluk last mentioned was removed from the list of those affected.

In one way, however, the November rains served to aggravate rather than avert the distress, leading as they did to the expenditure of much useless labour and to the loss of large quantities of seed-grain. It was then long past the season for sowing the late crops, but the eager ryots sowed vast extents with Bengal-grain, white cholam, horse-grain and other late crops in the hope that more rains would fall. They were, however, doomed to total disappointment.

5. *Cultivation.*—As has been already stated, the early rains of the south-west monsoon stimulated agricultural operations, and the extents brought under the plough were nearly as large as in normal years, and greater than in 1891-92, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	ACS.
Average of 1892-93 to 1895-96	1,012,141
Do. of 1896-97 to ..	965,070
Do. of 1891-92 to ..	877,166

The decrease below the average was thus only 4.9 per cent.; it was evenly distributed in all the affected taluks as is manifest from the subjoined statement:—

Cultivation of dry lands from 1891-92 to 1896-97.

Years.	Pattikonda.	Rámallakóta.	Nandikótkur.	Nandyal.	Koilkuntla.	Sirvel.
1891-92	ACS. 216,965	ACS. 180,078	ACS. 141,839	ACS. 114,692	ACS. 117,062	ACS. 106,530
1892-93	269,515	217,924	163,552	132,034	127,288	113,209
1893-94	269,204	215,466	162,176	126,720	126,691	116,023
1894-95	266,860	215,230	156,995	126,561	123,946	112,791
1895-96	265,009	216,173	158,911	126,828	125,108	112,297
1896-97	259,736	209,724	151,617	118,477	116,619	108,897

6. The number of villages comprised in each taluk, as also the number of affected villages, as well as those for which remission is recommended, are given in the margin. Out of the 84 villages in the Koilkuntla taluk, 54 or 64 per cent. are affected. In the Pattikonda taluk, the proportion of the number of affected villages is not so high, but the failure of crop was more serious. As regards the other taluks, the proportion of the affected villages ranges from 37 per cent. in Rámallakóta to 12 per cent. in Nandikotkur. Here and there it has been found necessary to exclude some villages

Taluks.	Total number of villages in the taluk.	Number of affected villages.	Number of villages for which remission is recommended.
Koilkuntla ..	84	58	54
Pattikonda ..	102	54	49
Rámallakóta ..	101	52	38
Nandyal ..	92	30	28
Sirvel ..	85	57	22
Nandikotkur ..	93	12	11

from the scope of these proposals, their average yield being more than 6 annas in the case of villages affected in 1891-92 as well as on the present occasion, and more than 4 annas in the case of those affected on the present occasion only, though they lie in the tract in which the affected villages are situated. This is accounted for by the fact that the rains of the past season varied considerably from village to village, so much so that it was not an uncommon phenomenon for one village to have a bumper crop, while another at no great distance sustained almost total failure of crops. Each village has therefore been taken generally as a unit, except in three cases in Nandikotkur and one in Nandyal, where hamlets have been treated as units for purposes of remission.

7. The following statement shows particulars of the total dry holdings together with their outturn in the affected villages:—

Name of taluk.	Number of affected villages.	Dry holdings.		Cultivated area.	Extent and proportion of cultivated area on which the yield was					Proportion of waste to holdings.	Number of villages in the taluk.
		Extent.	Assessment.		Six annas and over.	Between 4 and 6 annas.	Between 2 and 4 annas.	Between 0 and 2 annas.	Nil or total loss.		
		ACS.	RS.								
Nandyal ..	28	32,880	46,167	25,652	1,984	5,268	2,494	708	15,198	7,228	92
Koilkuntla ..	54	78,703	1,05,552	68,371	7-73	20-54	9-72	2-76	59-25	21-98	84
Sirvel ..	22	23,220	24,463	19,321	10-567	26-431	9-381	6-557	15-445	10-332	85
Nandikotkur ..	11	13,179	9,955	9,225	15-44	38-66	13-72	9-59	22-59	13-13	93
Rámallakóta ..	38	102,711	81,953	92,020	3-108	6-134	2-991	..	7-084	3-899	101
Pattikonda ..	49	138,981	1,16,810	127,217	16-09	31-75	15-48	..	36-63	16-79	102
					1-550	1-656	7-42	1-39	5-138	3-954	
					16-80	17-95	8-05	1-61	55-69	30-02	
					14-244	22-673	24-760	1-883	28-460	10-691	
					15-48	24-64	26-91	2-04	30-93	10-41	
					2-723	32-252	24-259	15-938	61-995	11-764	
					2-14	25-35	19-07	12-57	40-87	8-46	

The state of the Pattikonda taluk rapidly deteriorated after October owing to the total failure of the North-east monsoon, during which season the rainfall in this taluk was the lowest recorded in the district. There was a total failure of crop on nearly 52,000 acres or 20-02 per cent. of the total cultivated area of the taluk and only 1-05 per cent. yielded a crop of 6 annas and more and the loss of crop and the consequent distress of the population is more serious than anywhere else. This is also evidenced by the fact that the number of persons attending relief works in the taluk is higher than in any other. In the Rámallakóta taluk also the yield was extremely poor, the average yield of the affected villages comprising 92,020 acres, being only 2-4 annas. In the Koilkuntla taluk, the failure of crops was very widespread and would have been far more serious than it actually was but for the rains of November. In this taluk and in Nandyal over 15,000 acres failed completely and the extents which yielded a crop of 6 annas and above in the affected villages were only 10,557 and 1,984 acres, respectively. In the Sirvel taluk, the cultivated area of the affected villages was 19,321

acres, of which 36 per cent. yielded nothing, and 16 per cent. a crop of 6 annas and more. In the Nandikotkur taluk, the rains were fairly favourable, and the extent of the loss of crop was limited to a small belt of villages lying at the foot of the hills, though in that tract the loss was heavy.

8. *Inspection.*—Instructions were issued to Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors, as early as October last, in regard to the careful and systematic inspection of dry crops. The Head-quarter Deputy Collector in charge of the Nandikotkur taluk made no inspection, as Mr. Mullaly ordered him to remain at Kurnool, there being an anticipation of grain-riots. Out of the eleven villages for which remission is now recommended, two have been inspected by the Deputy Tahsildar and the rest by the Tahsildar. In Pattikonda, most of the affected villages and some of the non-affected ones were personally inspected by the Divisional Officer and the late Tahsildar, and the correctness of the estimate of the outturn made by the Revenue Inspectors and karnams was checked by them. The notes of inspection made by the late Tahsildar, who is now dead, are not forthcoming, but Deputy Collector Mahomed Husain Sahib reports that as he and the late Tahsildar were constantly on the move in the affected parts, the karnams and the Revenue Inspectors were careful in their estimate of the outturn and that he found their work (on his inspection) to be fairly well done. He further says that his inspection was between 5 and 10 per cent. In the Rámallakóta taluk, the Tahsildar himself made fieldwar inspection of the crops in 53 villages and the Deputy Tahsildar in 6 villages, and the results noted by them were checked by the Divisional Officer generally and found correct. In the Nandyal division, the affected villages in the Koilkuntla taluk were thoroughly inspected by the Tahsildar, and the Head Assistant Collector says that he himself inspected on an average about 5 per cent. of the fields in most of the villages and found the outturn of the crops accurately estimated and in some cases even overestimated.

In Sirvel, the Head Assistant Collector considers that there was not so much accuracy, but he believes that the inspections made by the Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildar subsequent to his giving them detailed instructions have brought up the figures to as near the real state of affairs as possible. By the time the Head Assistant Collector went to Nandyal, the crops had been removed from the ground and he had no means of checking the estimate of his subordinates. He has therefore submitted the statement drawn up by the Tahsildar.

9. I would solicit attention to the remarks of Government made in 1888 (G.O., No. 731, Revenue, dated 23rd October 1888,) regarding the poor and backward condition of the Bellary and Anantapur districts which apply equally well to Kurnool, and request that in consideration of these facts, the affected tracts be accorded a liberal treatment. The number of villages for which dry remission is recommended in each of the affected taluks has been given in paragraph 6 *supra*. Out of the 202 villages comprised in the remission statement (Enclosure A), 93 appertaining to Rámallakóta, Koilkuntla, Pattikonda and Nandyal were affected more or less in the year 1891-92, and I consider that these villages should be classed separately and be afforded relief on a more extensive scale than the remaining 109 villages which were not affected materially in 1891-92. The Head Assistant Collector discusses various schemes regarding the grant of remissions, which I have left out of consideration as being inadmissible under the rules, and I base my recommendations on the lines indicated by the Board in Board's Proceedings, dated 8th April 1897, No. 295, and 28th April 1897, No. 323, sanctioning dry remissions for the Anantapur and Bellary districts, respectively.

10. My proposals are—

- In the case of villages, which were affected both in 1891-92 and 1896-97—
 - For waste and shavi and for yield not more than 2 annas, 100 per cent. remission.
 - For yield over 2 annas and not more than 4 annas, 50 per cent. remission.
 - For yield over 4 annas and not more than 6 annas, 25 per cent. remission.

(b) In the case of villages which were not affected in 1891-92 but affected in 1896-97, concessions Nos. 1 and 2 only, no remissions being allowed for outturn over 4 annas.

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Care will, however, be taken to restrict the waste remission only to such lands as are left waste for want of rain and not to mamul waste, in the case of individuals whose cultivated lands have yielded a crop of 6 annas or more.

11. The amounts to be remitted in accordance with the above recommendations will be as follows (*vide* Enclosure B):—

	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda	1,03,609	13	2
Ramallakota	57,049	3	5
Koilkuntla	64,192	0	0
Nandyal	41,571	7	11
Sirvel	18,302	12	4
Nandikotkur	8,648	14	5

Total ... 2,93,374 3 3

12. As regards the suspension of kist collections, I consider that the concession is essential not only for all the affected villages, but also for the other portions of the affected taluks, where balances still remain uncollected. I beg therefore to recommend that the collection of the balance at present outstanding against all the affected taluks be postponed till next year. The amounts that will have to be suspended in the affected villages are as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda	24,889	11	2
Ramallakota	53,277	0	0
Koilkuntla	49,941	3	0
Nandyal	8,571	13	8
Sirvel	63,238	3	5
Nandikotkur	1,803	10	2

Total ... 2,01,831 9 5

Those relating to the non-affected villages are not available for all the taluks and they will be furnished later on.

13. I regret very much the great delay that has occurred in the submission of these proposals. It is due to the very late receipt in spite of numerous reminders, of the reports from the Divisional Officers of Nandyal and Pydpalli divisions, which reached me only on 26th ultimo and 9th instant respectively. The Divisional Officers explain that the original statements submitted by their Taluk officers were for the most part incorrectly prepared and required revision and thus the revised statements reached them only a few days before they sent up their own proposals to my office. All the Tahsildars appear to have given a great deal of trouble in this matter, and I am personally aware that the Deputy Collector, Pydpalli, was unable to obtain reliable information for his report till he called in the Tahsildars of Pattikonda and Ramallakota and caused them to draw up the statements for their taluks under his immediate supervision. On the other hand, there is no doubt that work has been carried on in the taluk offices with the utmost difficulty during the past three or four months owing to the very severe strain put upon the Tahsildars in connection with the extension of famine relief measures of various kinds and to the reduction, in several cases, to half the normal strength of the office establishments by the withdrawal of clerks to fill paymasters' and other posts.

READ—also the following letter from P. J. POPE, Esq., Special Assistant Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 18th June 1897, Dis. No. 1715-Genl:—

I have the honour to request that the under-mentioned corrections may be ordered to be made in paragraph 12 of this office letter No. A, dated 16th instant:—

Against				For			Read		
				RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda	...	...	...	24,889	11	2	24,899	11	2
Ramallakota	...	...	...	53,277	0	0	49,677	0	0
Total	...	...	...	2,01,831	9	5	1,98,231	9	5

RESOLUTION—dated 10th July 1897, No. 491.

In the letter read above, the Collector of Kurnool submits his proposals for the grant of dry remissions and suspension of collections in the district, rendered necessary by the failure of last year's rains.

2. No remissions or suspensions are recommended by the Collector in the case of Cumbum and Markapur taluks (lying to the east of the Nallamalai range) where the crops are reported to have been fair.

3. As regards the other taluks, the Collector has given full particulars regarding the state of the season in paragraphs 3 and 4 of his letter. In brief, the South-west monsoon rains were favourable till August, but in September the deficiency was so great that the average rainfall from June to September was only 11.65 inches against 20.63 inches the average of the four previous years. There was an almost total failure of rain in October, and though in the latter part of November there were some local falls, the average west of the Nallamalais was only 1.8 inches, against 7.97 inches, the average of the previous four years. Such rain as fell was so ill-distributed that (as the Collector remarks) it was not an uncommon phenomenon to find one village with a bumper crop and another at a little distance with its crop totally lost. The showers in the latter part of November stimulated late sowings, but as there were no subsequent rains, this untimely cultivation for the most part only increased the losses and disappointment of the unfortunate ryots.

There is no question but that the loss of the crop over a great part of the district, and the distress of the ryots, are such as to demand a large remission of revenue. Relief works were opened in the district in November 1896, and in the week ending 26th June 1897, 108,884 persons were employed thereon.

4. The following statement shows the number of villages affected and particulars of holdings and outturn:—

Taluk.	Total number of villages.	Number of affected villages.	Number of villages in which remission is proposed to be granted.	Total dry holdings of villages in column 4.	Waste.		Yield of 6 annas and over.	
					Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nandyal	92	30	28	ACR.	ACR.		ACR.	
Koilkuntla	84	58	54	32,880	7,228	21.9	1,984	6.0
Sirvel	85	57	22	78,708	10,332	13.1	10,557	13.4
Nandikotkur	93	12	11	23,220	3,899	16.7	3,108	13.3
Ramallakota	101	52	38	13,179	3,954	30.0	1,550	11.7
Pattikonda	102	54	49	104,711	10,691	10.4	14,244	13.8
				138,981	11,764	8.4	2,723	1.9

Taluk	Yield of 4 to 6 annas.		Yield of 2 to 4 annas.		Yield below 2 annas.		Nil or completely lost.	
	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Nandyal	ACR.		ACR.		ACR.		ACR.	
Koilkuntla	5,258	16.0	2,404	7.5	708	2.1	15,198	46.2
Sirvel	26,431	33.5	9,381	11.9	6,557	8.3	15,445	19.6
Nandikotkur	6,134	26.4	2,991	12.8			7,093	30.5
Ramallakota	1,655	12.5	742	5.6	139	1.0	5,138	39.9
Pattikonda	22,673	22.0	24,760	24.1	1,883	1.8	28,460	27.7
	32,252	23.2	24,259	17.4	15,988	11.5	51,995	37.4

5. In making his proposals for remission, the Collector states that he has been guided by the proposals which have been recently approved for the districts of Bellary and Anantapur (*vide* B.P., No. 323, dated 28th April 1897, and No. 295, dated 8th

April 1897, and G.O., No. 442, dated 5th June 1897). His proposals as given in paragraph 10 require to be read with the last sentence in paragraph 6. The village is to be treated as the unit or tract, except in four cases where hamlets have been treated as tracts. No remission is proposed for villages where the dry crops are estimated to have yielded on the whole 6 annas and upwards.

6. In dealing with the villages where remission is recommended, the Collector would draw a distinction between those which suffered in the famine of 1891-92, and those which did not suffer. The Board sees no sufficient reason for making this distinction. It was not made in the case of Bellary and Anantapur. Five years have elapsed since 1891-92, and the losses of those years can hardly be regarded as so recent as to afford a reason for not treating in one and the same way all villages, which have last year suffered alike.

Out of the villages which are estimated to have yielded a total village-crop of over 4 and less than 6 annas, the Collector would grant 25 per cent. remission only to such of them as suffered in 1891-92.

The Board would grant the 25 per cent. remission to all of them alike.

7. The Collector's proposals, thus modified, are as follows:—

Full remission to be granted where the dry crops of a village, as a whole, are estimated at 2 annas or less.

Fifty per cent. remission where the said crops are estimated to have yielded more than 2 annas, but not more than 4 annas.

Twenty-five per cent. remission where the said crops are estimated to have yielded more than 4 annas but less than 6 annas.

The Board presumes that the Collector's proposal to give the 25 per cent. remission to villages with a yield of "not more than 6 annas" was a slip. His enclosure A, and other parts of his report, show that he understands that no remission is to be granted for a village-yield of 6 annas and upwards.

8. The Board approves the above proposals, subject to the remarks—

(a) that any fully assessed minor inams should be treated for remission purposes as if they were ryotwari;

(b) that no remission should be granted for fields covered with date, or other, topes;

(c) that no remission should be granted for fields protected by wells in an efficient condition; and the next step is to examine the methods by which the Collector has ascertained the yield of each village.

In the first place the Board observes, from enclosure A, that the village-yield has been estimated, not on the area actually cultivated, but on the total holdings including waste.

The existing rule directs that the estimate should be made in respect of the cultivated area only, excluding waste. Presumably the rule is founded on the view that if the cultivated lands are found to have borne a fair crop, the waste may be fairly attributed to ryots' neglect. It is difficult to take this view in a season of extreme drought. In most villages there are small low-lying damp patches, which may yield fairly, whilst the uplands cannot, for want of rain, be ploughed; and in such cases the operation of the rule would be obviously unjust. An examination, however, of enclosure A shows that if the waste were excluded the classification of the villages in respect of their eligibility for remission would, with very few exceptions, remain unaltered, and the Board accordingly refrains from directing a revision of the Remission Statement.

9. The details given in enclosure A show that in Kurnool the village accountants have actually made an estimate of the outturn field by field. It is perhaps useless to enquire too closely as to how this vast task could be accomplished. In paragraph 8 the Collector describes the inspection work done by the Divisional officers. In Pattikonda, the Divisional officer and Tahsildar are said to have been constantly on the move, and the former is reported to have checked the inspections of the Tahsildar and Deputy Tahsildar in Ramallakota. The Head Assistant Collector and Tahsildar are

reported to have thoroughly inspected Koilkuntla. Elsewhere the Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors appear to have been the only checking officers. There is no reason to think that the small and over-burdened district staff did not exert itself to the utmost, and the estimates may be accepted as the best which the Collector had it in his power to frame.

10. With reference to the Collector's wording of paragraph 10(a)(1) it appears well to point out to him that under the rules, shavi (total loss of crop) and waste are treated differently. The area on which the crops have been totally lost is part of the cultivated area, and is considered in forming the estimate of the village yield. Fieldwar particulars are not available without a detailed inspection which is recognized to be impracticable, and shavi therefore only gets whatever percentage remission is granted to the village as a unit.

It is no doubt inequitable that a man who leaves his land waste should be in a better position as regards remission than a man who has ploughed and sown his land and has totally lost his crop. The application of the dry remission rules exposes many incongruities of this sort which can hardly be defended, but which will be removed, as far as may be, when a revised Standing Order is issued.

11. In granting remissions for waste, the Collector, following the instructions contained in B.P., No. 295, dated 8th April 1897, and No. 323, dated 28th April 1897, passing orders on dry remissions in Anantapur and Bellary, proposes to exclude māmūl waste in the case of individuals whose cultivated lands have yielded a crop of 6 annas or more. As, however, Government has removed this restriction in passing orders on the B.Ps. quoted above (G.O., No. 442, Revenue, dated 5th June 1897, communicated with B.P., No. 411, R.S., dated 16th June 1897), the Collector need not exclude any māmūl waste from remissions.

12. The total amount of remissions according to the Collector's recommendations is stated to be Rs. 2,93,374. Sufficient data not being available for estimating the additional remission sanctioned in paragraph 6, and in paragraph 11 *supra*, the Collector will be requested to submit a revised statement of the amount to be remitted.

13. As regards suspension of revenue, the Collector considers that the concession is essential not only for all the villages in respect of which dry remission is recommended, but also for the other portions of all the taluks (except Cumbum and Markapur) where balances still remain uncollected; and he accordingly recommends that the collection of the balance at present outstanding against all the affected taluks be postponed till next year. The Board approves the proposed postponement as regards the unremitted portion of the dry assessment in the villages in which remissions are to be granted, and as regards the entire balance of dry assessment in the other affected villages; but it considers that in the case of the villages reported to have had a fair crop, the collection of the balance should be proceeded with in the usual course. The sanction of Government will be requested for the proposed suspension.

14. The Collector explains in paragraph 13 of his report the cause of the great delay that has occurred in the submission of his proposals for dry remissions and suspension of collections. The delay is stated to be due mainly to increase of work in taluk offices, consequent on extension of famine relief measures during the past four months.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
Collector of Kurnool.

Copy to Board, Land Revenue.
other Collectors.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Government {1897} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

} 1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 655, 30th July 1897.

JULY.

Dry Remissions.

Approving the proposals of the Collector of Kurnool for the grant of —, and postponement of kist collections for fasli 1306 in six taluks of the district, as modified by the Board of Revenue.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 10th July 1897, No. 491:—

Read—the following letter from E. A. ELWIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 16th June 1897, Dis. No. A:—

With reference to paragraph 4 of B.P., dated 20th January 1897, No. 420, I have the honour to submit my proposals for the grant of dry remission and postponement of kist collections for fasli 1306 for the marginally noted six taluks west of the Nallamalais. The two taluks of Cumbum and Markapur, comprising the Cumbum division and lying east of these hills, having had a fairly favourable season, were never included in the category of affected tracts, nor are they included in the present proposals.

2. The condition of the district, as it was in the middle of October last, was delineated in Mr. Gillman's report, dated 21st October 1896, embodied in B.P., dated 23rd October 1896, No. 291. The state of affairs gradually changed from bad to worse owing to the absence of sufficient rains after September.

3. The following table exhibits the rainfall during the south-west and the north-east monsoons of 1896-97 as compared with the average of the four years immediately preceding, and with the rainfall of the two previous famine years, namely, 1876-77 and 1891-92:—

Taluk.	Rainfall in 1876-77.		Rainfall in 1891-92.		Rainfall in			
	South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.	1892-93.		1893-94.	
					South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Rámallakóta	7.89	1.62	11.60	2.33	28.94	13.12	29.68	9.73
Pattikonda	6.46	..	13.05	3.43	27.81	16.67	22.35	8.39
Nandyal	10.63	2.15	14.06	2.70	26.87	13.23	22.30	5.83
Koilkuntla	6.03	..	15.30	5.27	27.73	11.10	16.00	7.75
Sirvel	15.06	1.00	14.75	4.05	31.00	13.66	20.34	9.15
Nandikótkur	6.85	0.50	12.65	3.82	30.80	9.21	21.27	7.18
Average	8.82	0.88	13.57	3.43	30.52	12.83	21.97	8.00
Owk range of Koilkuntla	..	..	5.41	2.21	17.03	12.41	10.90	1.63

Taluk.	Rainfall in				Average, 1892-93 to 1895-96.		Rainfall in 1896-97.	
	1894-95.		1895-96		South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.
	South-west.	North-east.	South-west.	North-east.				
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Rámallakóta	24.90	6.27	23.27	6.02	26.67	8.78	13.84	1.94
Pattikonda	13.45	10.05	16.65	7.21	20.06	10.68	15.69	1.30
Nandyal	26.78	7.66	20.87	5.48	26.70	8.05	13.66	3.03
Koilkuntla	19.17	5.38	17.10	12.78	20.00	5.25	11.62	1.91
Sirvel	32.93	10.02	22.21	8.12	26.62	10.24	11.13	2.81
Nandikótkur	20.74	7.45	23.03	7.15	23.96	7.75	15.28	1.85
Average	22.98	7.80	20.52	7.79	24.00	8.94	13.53	2.14
Owk range of Koilkuntla	15.74	7.32	11.68	7.17	13.84	7.13	6.39	2.64

4. The south-west monsoon opened well, and ploughing and sowing operations were carried on as vigorously as usual except in the Owk range of Koilkuntla taluk, where the rainfall was markedly low from the beginning of the fasli. The rains of July and August were not much below the average and as they fell at proper intervals and were fairly evenly distributed throughout the district, cultivation progressed briskly and there was for a time no cause for anxiety. The rainfall in September was, however, deficient being only two-fifths of the average due for the month, and in October was almost a total failure. In consequence of this the early crops were in many cases altogether lost or yielded only a poor outturn and the later sowings, cotton, korra, white cholam, &c., began to fade. In the latter part of November, there were some showers, the average for the affected taluks being 1.85 inches, but for which the loss of crops would have been more extensive and serious. The taluk that was most benefited was Koilkuntla, where considerable extents had been sown with cotton and other crops in September. Prospects also improved materially in Nandyal, Sirvel and Nandikotkur owing to these showers, and the taluk last mentioned was removed from the list of those affected.

In one way, however, the November rains served to aggravate rather than avert the distress, leading as they did to the expenditure of much useless labour and to the loss of large quantities of seed-grain. It was then long past the season for sowing the late crops, but the eager ryots sowed vast extents with Bengal-grain, white cholam, horse-grain and other late crops in the hope that more rains would fall. They were, however, doomed to total disappointment.

5. Cultivation.—As has been already stated, the early rains of the south-west monsoon stimulated agricultural operations, and the extents brought under the plough were nearly as large as in normal years, and greater than in 1891-92, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	ACS.
Average of 1892-93 to 1895-96	1,012,141
Do. of 1896-97 to	965,070
Do. of 1891-92 to	877,166

The decrease below the average was thus only 4.9 per cent.; it was evenly distributed in all the affected taluks as is manifest from the subjoined statement:—

Cultivation of dry lands from 1891-92 to 1896-97.

Years.	Pattikonda.	Rámallakóta.	Nandikótkur.	Nandyal.	Koilkuntla.	Sirvel.
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
1891-92	216,965	180,078	141,839	114,692	117,062	106,530
1892-93	269,515	217,924	163,552	132,054	127,288	113,209
1893-94	269,204	215,466	162,176	126,720	126,691	116,023
1894-95	266,860	215,230	156,995	126,561	125,946	112,791
1895-96	265,009	216,173	158,911	126,828	125,108	112,297
1896-97	259,736	209,724	151,617	118,477	116,619	108,897

6. The number of villages comprised in each taluk, as also the number of affected

Taluk.	Total number of villages in the taluk.	Number of affected villages.	Number of villages for which remission is recommended.
Koilkuntla ..	84	58	64
Pattikonda ..	102	54	49
Rámallakóta ..	101	52	38
Nandyal ..	92	30	28
Sirvel ..	85	57	22
Nandikótkur ..	93	12	11

villages, as well as those for which remission is recommended, are given in the margin. Out of the 84 villages in the Koilkuntla taluk, 54 or 64 per cent. are affected. In the Pattikonda taluk, the proportion of the number of affected villages is not so high, but the failure of crop was more serious. As regards the other taluks, the proportion of the affected villages ranges from 37 per cent. in Rámallakóta to 12 per cent. in Nandikótkur. Here and there it has been found necessary to exclude some villages

from the scope of these proposals, their average yield being more than 6 annas in the case of villages affected in 1891-92 as well as on the present occasion, and more than 4 annas in the case of those affected on the present occasion only, though they lie in the tract in which the affected villages are situated. This is accounted for by the fact that the rains of the past season varied considerably from village to village, so much so that it was not an uncommon phenomenon for one village to have a bumper crop, while another at no great distance sustained almost total failure of crops. Each village has therefore been taken generally as a unit, except in three cases in Nandikótkur and one in Nandyal, where hamlets have been treated as units for purposes of remission.

7. The following statement shows particulars of the total dry holdings together with their outturn in the affected villages:—

Name of taluk.	Number of affected villages.	Dry holdings.		Cultivated area.	Extent and proportion of cultivated area on which the yield was					Proportion of waste to holdings.	Number of villages in the taluk.
		Extent.	Assessment.		Six annas and over.	Between 4 and 6 annas.	Between 2 and 4 annas.	Between 0 and 2 annas.	Nil or total loss.		
		ACS.	RS.								
Nandyal ..	28	32,880	46,167	25,652	1,984	5,268	2,494	708	15,198	7,228	92
Koilkuntla ..	54	78,703	1,05,552	68,371	10,557	26,431	9,381	6,567	59,25	21,98	84
Sirvel ..	22	23,220	24,163	19,321	15,44	38,66	13,72	9,59	15,445	10,332	85
Nandikótkur ..	11	13,179	9,955	9,225	3,108	6,134	2,991	..	7,088	3,899	93
Rámallakóta ..	38	102,711	81,953	92,020	16,09	81,75	15,48	..	36,63	16,79	101
Pattikonda ..	49	138,981	1,16,810	127,217	1,550	1,656	742	130	5,133	3,954	102
					16,80	17,95	8,05	1,51	55,69	30,02	
					14,244	22,673	24,760	1,883	28,460	10,691	
					15,48	24,64	26,91	2,04	30,93	10,41	
					2,723	32,252	24,259	15,988	51,995	11,764	
					2,14	25,35	19,07	12,57	40,87	8,46	

The state of the Pattikonda taluk rapidly deteriorated after October owing to the total failure of the North-east monsoon, during which season the rainfall in this taluk was the lowest recorded in the district. There was a total failure of crop on nearly 52,000 acres or 20.02 per cent. of the total cultivated area of the taluk and only 1.05 per cent. yielded a crop of 6 annas and more and the loss of crop and the consequent distress of the population is more serious than anywhere else. This is also evidenced by the fact that the number of persons attending relief works in the taluk is higher than in any other. In the Rámallakóta taluk also the yield was extremely poor, the average yield of the affected villages comprising 92,020 acres, being only 2.4 annas. In the Koilkuntla taluk, the failure of crops was very widespread and would have been far more serious than it actually was but for the rains of November. In this taluk and in Nandyal over 15,000 acres failed completely and the extents which yielded a crop of 6 annas and above in the affected villages were only 10,557 and 1,984 acres, respectively. In the Sirvel taluk, the cultivated area of the affected villages was 19,321

acres, of which 36 per cent. yielded nothing, and 16 per cent. a crop of 6 annas and more. In the Nandikótkur taluk, the rains were fairly favourable, and the extent of the loss of crop was limited to a small belt of villages lying at the foot of the hills, though in that tract the loss was heavy.

8. *Inspection.*—Instructions were issued to Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors, as early as October last, in regard to the careful and systematic inspection of dry crops. The Head-quarter Deputy Collector in charge of the Nandikótkur taluk made no inspection, as Mr. Mullaly ordered him to remain at Kurnool, there being an anticipation of grain-riots. Out of the eleven villages for which remission is now recommended, two have been inspected by the Deputy Tahsildar and the rest by the Tahsildar. In Pattikonda, most of the affected villages and some of the non-affected ones were personally inspected by the Divisional Officer and the late Tahsildar, and the correctness of the estimate of the outturn made by the Revenue Inspectors and karnams was checked by them. The notes of inspection made by the late Tahsildar, who is now dead, are not forthcoming, but Deputy Collector Mahomed Husain Sahib reports that as he and the late Tahsildar were constantly on the move in the affected parts, the karnams and the Revenue Inspectors were careful in their estimate of the outturn and that he found their work (on his inspection) to be fairly well done. He further says that his inspection was between 5 and 10 per cent. In the Rámallakóta taluk, the Tahsildar himself made fieldwar inspection of the crops in 53 villages and the Deputy Tahsildar in 6 villages, and the results noted by them were checked by the Divisional Officer generally and found correct. In the Nandyal division, the affected villages in the Koilkuntla taluk were thoroughly inspected by the Tahsildar, and the Head Assistant Collector says that he himself inspected on an average about 5 per cent. of the fields in most of the villages and found the outturn of the crops accurately estimated and in some cases even overestimated.

In Sirvel, the Head Assistant Collector considers that there was not so much accuracy, but he believes that the inspections made by the Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildar subsequent to his giving them detailed instructions have brought up the figures to as near the real state of affairs as possible. By the time the Head Assistant Collector went to Nandyal, the crops had been removed from the ground and he had no means of checking the estimate of his subordinates. He has therefore submitted the statement drawn up by the Tahsildar.

9. I would solicit attention to the remarks of Government made in 1888 (G.O., No. 731, Revenue, dated 23rd October 1888,) regarding the poor and backward condition of the Bellary and Anantapur districts which apply equally well to Kurnool, and request that in consideration of these facts, the affected tracts be accorded a liberal treatment. The number of villages for which dry remission is recommended in each of the affected taluks has been given in paragraph 6 *supra*. Out of the 202 villages comprised in the remission statement (Enclosure A), 93 appertaining to Rámallakóta, Koilkuntla, Pattikonda and Nandyal were affected more or less in the year 1891-92, and I consider that these villages should be classed separately and be afforded relief on a more extensive scale than the remaining 109 villages which were not affected materially in 1891-92. The Head Assistant Collector discusses various schemes regarding the grant of remissions, which I have left out of consideration as being inadmissible under the rules, and I base my recommendations on the lines indicated by the Board in Board's Proceedings, dated 8th April 1897, No. 295, and 28th April 1897, No. 323, sanctioning dry remissions for the Anantapur and Bellary districts, respectively.

10. My proposals are—

(a) In the case of villages, which were affected both in 1891-92 and 1896-97—

- (1) For waste and shavi and for yield not more than 2 annas, 100 per cent. remission.
- (2) For yield over 2 annas and not more than 4 annas, 50 per cent. remission.
- (3) For yield over 4 annas and not more than 6 annas, 25 per cent. remission.

(b) In the case of villages which were not affected in 1891-92 but affected in 1896-97, concessions Nos. 1 and 2 only, no remissions being allowed for outturn over 4 annas.

Care will, however, be taken to restrict the waste remission only to such lands as are left waste for want of rain and not to mamul waste, in the case of individuals whose cultivated lands have yielded a crop of 6 annas or more.

11. The amounts to be remitted in accordance with the above recommendations will be as follows (*vide* Enclosure B):—

	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda	1,03,609	13	2
Rámallakóta	57,049	3	5
Koilkuntla	64,192	0	0
Nandyal	41,571	7	11
Sirvel	18,302	12	4
Nandikotkur	8,648	14	5
Total ...	2,93,374	3	3

12. As regards the suspension of kist collections, I consider that the concession is essential not only for all the affected villages, but also for the other portions of the affected taluks, where balances still remain uncollected. I beg therefore to recommend that the collection of the balance at present outstanding against all the affected taluks be postponed till next year. The amounts that will have to be suspended in the affected villages are as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda	24,899	11	2
Rámallakóta	49,677	0	0
Koilkuntla	49,941	3	0
Nandyal	8,571	13	8
Sirvel	63,238	3	5
Nandikotkur	1,863	10	2
Total ...	1,98,231	9	5

Those relating to the non-affected villages are not available for all the taluks and they will be furnished later on.

13. I regret very much the great delay that has occurred in the submission of these proposals. It is due to the very late receipt in spite of numerous reminders, of the reports from the Divisional Officers of Nandyal and Pyápalli divisions, which reached me only on 26th ultimo and 9th instant respectively. The Divisional Officers explain that the original statements submitted by their Taluk officers were for the most part incorrectly prepared and required revision and thus the revised statements reached them only a few days before they sent up their own proposals to my office. All the Tahsildars appear to have given a great deal of trouble in this matter, and I am personally aware that the Deputy Collector, Pyápalli, was unable to obtain reliable information for his report till he called in the Tahsildars of Pattikonda and Rámallakóta and caused them to draw up the statements for their taluks under his immediate supervision. On the other hand, there is no doubt that work has been carried on in the taluk offices with the utmost difficulty during the past three or four months owing to the very severe strain put upon the Tahsildars in connection with the extension of famine relief measures of various kinds and to the reduction, in several cases, to half the normal strength of the office establishments by the withdrawal of clerks to fill paymasters' and other posts.

Read—also the following letter from P. J. POPE, Esq., Special Assistant Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 18th June 1897, Dis. No. 1715-Genl:—

I have the honour to request that the under-mentioned corrections may be ordered to be made in paragraph 12 of this office letter No. A, dated 16th instant:—

Against				For			Read		
				RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda	...	...	...	24,889	11	2	24,899	11	2
Ramallakota	...	...	...	53,277	0	0	49,677	0	0
Total	...	...	...	2,01,831	9	5	1,98,231	9	5

Resolution—dated 10th July 1897, No. 491.

In the letter read above, the Collector of Kurnool submits his proposals for the grant of dry remissions and suspension of collections in the district, rendered necessary by the failure of last year's rains.

2. No remissions or suspensions are recommended by the Collector in the case of Cumbum and Markapur taluks (lying to the east of the Nallamalai range) where the crops are reported to have been fair.

3. As regards the other taluks, the Collector has given full particulars regarding the state of the season in paragraphs 3 and 4 of his letter. In brief, the South-west monsoon rains were favourable till August, but in September the deficiency was so great that the average rainfall from June to September was only 11.65 inches against 20.63 inches the average of the four previous years. There was an almost total failure of rain in October, and though in the latter part of November there were some local falls, the average west of the Nallamalais was only 1.8 inches, against 7.97 inches, the average of the previous four years. Such rain as fell was so ill-distributed that (as the Collector remarks) it was not an uncommon phenomenon to find one village with a bumper crop and another at a little distance with its crop totally lost. The showers in the latter part of November stimulated late sowings, but as there were no subsequent rains, this untimely cultivation for the most part only increased the losses and disappointment of the unfortunate ryots.

There is no question but that the loss of the crop over a great part of the district, and the distress of the ryots, are such as to demand a large remission of revenue. Relief works were opened in the district in November 1896, and in the week ending 26th June 1897, 108,884 persons were employed thereon.

4. The following statement shows the number of villages affected and particulars of holdings and outturn:—

Taluk.	Total number of villages.	Number of affected villages.	Number of villages in which remission is proposed to be granted.	Total dry holdings of villages in column 4.	Waste.		Yield of 6 annas and over.	
					Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Nandyal	92	30	28	32,880	7,228	21.9	1,984	6.0
Koilkuntla	84	58	54	78,703	10,332	13.1	10,557	13.4
Sirvel	85	57	22	23,220	3,899	16.7	3,108	13.3
Nandikotkur	93	12	11	13,179	3,954	30.0	1,550	11.7
Ramallakota	101	52	38	102,711	10,691	10.4	14,244	13.8
Pattikonda	102	54	49	138,981	11,764	8.4	2,723	1.9

Taluk	Yield of 4 to 6 annas.		Yield of 2 to 4 annas.		Yield below 2 annas.		Nil or completely lost.	
	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.	Extent.	Proportion to holdings.
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Nandyal	ACS. 5,268	16.0	ACS. 2,494	7.5	ACS. 708	2.1	ACS. 15,198	46.2
Koilkuntla	26,431	33.5	9,381	11.9	6,557	8.3	15,445	19.6
Sirvel	6,134	26.4	2,991	12.8	..	..	7,088	30.6
Nandikotkur	1,656	12.5	742	5.6	139	1.0	5,138	38.9
Ramallakota	22,673	22.0	24,760	24.1	1,883	1.8	28,460	27.7
Pattikonda	32,252	23.2	24,259	17.4	15,988	11.5	51,995	37.4

5. In making his proposals for remission, the Collector states that he has been guided by the proposals which have been recently approved for the districts of Bellary and Anantapur (*vide* B.P., No. 323, dated 28th April 1897, and No. 295, dated 8th

April 1897, and G.O., No. 442, dated 5th June 1897). His proposals as given in paragraph 10 require to be read with the last sentence in paragraph 6. The village is to be treated as the unit or tract, except in four cases where hamlets have been treated as tracts. No remission is proposed for villages where the dry crops are estimated to have yielded on the whole 6 annas and upwards.

6. In dealing with the villages where remission is recommended, the Collector would draw a distinction between those which suffered in the famine of 1891-92, and those which did not suffer. The Board sees no sufficient reason for making this distinction. It was not made in the case of Bellary and Anantapur. Five years have elapsed since 1891-92, and the losses of those years can hardly be regarded as so recent as to afford a reason for not treating in one and the same way all villages, which have last year suffered alike.

Out of the villages which are estimated to have yielded a total village-crop of over 4 and less than 6 annas, the Collector would grant 25 per cent. remission only to such of them as suffered in 1891-92.

The Board would grant the 25 per cent. remission to all of them alike.

7. The Collector's proposals, thus modified, are as follows:—

Full remission to be granted where the dry crops of a village, as a whole, are estimated at 2 annas or less.

Fifty per cent. remission where the said crops are estimated to have yielded more than 2 annas, but not more than 4 annas.

Twenty-five per cent. remission where the said crops are estimated to have yielded more than 4 annas but less than 6 annas.

The Board presumes that the Collector's proposal to give the 25 per cent. remission to villages with a yield of "not more than 6 annas" was a slip. His enclosure A, and other parts of his report, show that he understands that no remission is to be granted for a village-yield of 6 annas and upwards.

8. The Board approves the above proposals, subject to the remarks—

(a) that any fully assessed minor inams should be treated for remission purposes as if they were ryotwari;

(b) that no remission should be granted for fields covered with date, or other, topes;

(c) that no remission should be granted for fields protected by wells in an efficient condition; and the next step is to examine the methods by which the Collector has ascertained the yield of each village.

In the first place the Board observes, from enclosure A, that the village-yield has been estimated, not on the area actually cultivated, but on the total holdings including waste.

The existing rule directs that the estimate should be made in respect of the cultivated area only, excluding waste. Presumably the rule is founded on the view that if the cultivated lands are found to have borne a fair crop, the waste may be fairly attributed to ryots' neglect. It is difficult to take this view in a season of extreme drought. In most villages there are small low-lying damp patches, which may yield fairly, whilst the uplands cannot, for want of rain, be ploughed; and in such cases the operation of the rule would be obviously unjust. An examination, however, of enclosure A shows that if the waste were excluded the classification of the villages in respect of their eligibility for remission would, with very few exceptions, remain unaltered, and the Board accordingly refrains from directing a revision of the Remission Statement.

9. The details given in enclosure A show that in Kurnool the village accountants have actually made an estimate of the outturn field by field. It is perhaps useless to enquire too closely as to how this vast task could be accomplished. In paragraph 8 the Collector describes the inspection work done by the Divisional officers. In Pattikonda, the Divisional officer and Tahsildar are said to have been constantly on the move, and the former is reported to have checked the inspections of the Tahsildar and Deputy Tahsildar in Ramallakota. The Head Assistant Collector and Tahsildar are

reported to have thoroughly inspected Koilkuntla. Elsewhere the Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors appear to have been the only checking officers. There is no reason to think that the small and over-burdened district staff did not exert itself to the utmost, and the estimates may be accepted as the best which the Collector had it in his power to frame.

10. With reference to the Collector's wording of paragraph 10(a)(1) it appears well to point out to him that under the rules, shavi (total loss of crop) and waste are treated differently. The area on which the crops have been totally lost is part of the cultivated area, and is considered in forming the estimate of the village yield. Fieldwar particulars are not available without a detailed inspection which is recognized to be impracticable, and shavi therefore only gets whatever percentage remission is granted to the village as a unit.

It is no doubt inequitable that a man who leaves his land waste should be in a better position as regards remission than a man who has ploughed and sown his land and has totally lost his crop. The application of the dry remission rules exposes many incongruities of this sort which can hardly be defended, but which will be removed, as far as may be, when a revised Standing Order is issued.

11. In granting remissions for waste, the Collector, following the instructions contained in B.P., No. 295, dated 8th April 1897, and No. 323, dated 28th April 1897, passing orders on dry remissions in Anantapur and Bellary, proposes to exclude māmūl waste in the case of individuals whose cultivated lands have yielded a crop of 6 annas or more. As, however, Government has removed this restriction in passing orders on the B.Ps. quoted above (G.O., No. 442, Revenue, dated 5th June 1897, communicated with B.P., No. 441, R.S., dated 16th June 1897), the Collector need not exclude any māmūl waste from remissions.

12. The total amount of remissions according to the Collector's recommendations is stated to be Rs. 2,93,374. Sufficient data not being available for estimating the additional remission sanctioned in paragraph 6, and in paragraph 11 *supra*, the Collector will be requested to submit a revised statement of the amount to be remitted.

13. As regards suspension of revenue, the Collector considers that the concession is essential not only for all the villages in respect of which dry remission is recommended, but also for the other portions of all the taluks (except Cumbum and Markapur) where balances still remain uncollected; and he accordingly recommends that the collection of the balance at present outstanding against all the affected taluks be postponed till next year. The Board approves the proposed postponement as regards the unremitted portion of the dry assessment in the villages in which remissions are to be granted, and as regards the entire balance of dry assessment in the other affected villages; but it considers that in the case of the villages reported to have had a fair crop, the collection of the balance should be proceeded with in the usual course. The sanction of Government will be requested for the proposed suspension.

14. The Collector explains in paragraph 13 of his report the cause of the great delay that has occurred in the submission of his proposals for dry remissions and suspension of collections. The delay is stated to be due mainly to increase of work in taluk offices, consequent on extension of famine relief measures during the past four months.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Kurnool.

Copy to Board, Land Revenue.
" other Collectors.

10

No. 655, REVENUE, 30TH JULY 1897.

ORDER—No. 655, Revenue, dated 30th July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

The Collector's proposals as modified by the Board of Revenue are approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
,, the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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