$\frac{0}{9}$. 2,000—24-11-99.

Revenue (189) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2212

DATED 21-5-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Passing orders on the ~~report~~ report to received from the Board of Revenue on the work of Deputy Collector M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachellam Pantulu, especially as special officer appointed for localizing marmul wet lands in the Godavari district.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No	Department.	Date.
Jo	984	Rev	26-9.00				

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

SECY. GOVT. MADRAS
29 JUL 97
REV. DEPT.

From The Secretary to the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue Madras

Order Mis No. 2723

Dated 30th June 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures /

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting for the orders of Government letter from the Collector of Godavari forwarding the explanation of M R Ry C Venkatachalam Pantulu Deputy Collector on leave regarding his income tax assessments in Kakinada.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
478	3552	-	27-12-96
	Ker		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	Cus. 570 5		

Copy of letter from S Venkatachalam Pantulu
Deputy Collector on leave to the Collector of Godavari dated 31st May 1897.

"In reply to your endorsement Ref on our No 352 Ker of 1897 dated 2-2-97 / 27-2-97 on the proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue) No 518 dated 26th December 1896, I have the honour to submit the following explanation, the last of the papers having reached me on the 20th current.

2. I respectfully beg, in the first place that you will be pleased to consider that I was actuated by no other than honest motives in dealing with the income tax assessments of Palcole and that at the worst it was only an error of judgement on my part to have reduced them as I did. The circumstances which led me to that step are found briefly stated in the decision quoted in the 4th para of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

3. During the year 1893/94 I found the assessments for that year had been made by my predecessor before

before I joined the Division which was in July 1894 and made enquiries in regard to Palode in particulars, if any enhancements and further assessments were possible. But not finding any sources of information then, I had put off enquiries for that year and presumed them for the succeeding year 1894/95. I issued the notices showing the tentative assessment accordingly. The final assessments for 1893/94 for the town of Palode amounted to Rs 1733-9-6 as against Rs 2660 the total of tentative assessments by me for the year 1894/95. This was obviously one large stride and the assessees of Palode had naturally to send up a petition to the then Collector of the District complaining of my extraordinary assessments and the same was forwarded to me with the remark that the Act should be worked with as little friction as possible. As I found that the disaffection was very great I kept the advice of the Collector in my mind for eventually moderating the assessments.

But as I had in addition 1894 to go away on leave and to return only to take charge of the Special Duty in January 1895, I was not in a position to try the objections myself. So noted therefore in the decision quoted in the 4th para of the Board's Proceedings under reply, my tentative views gave effect to the endorsement of the Collector only in two cases and this was only to some extent. Hence my interference in the succeeding year of 1895/96 when as many objection petitions filed. It was impossible to obtain reliable evidence and hence I thought I might not be far wrong in allowing a reduction all round of one fourth of the assessments - in some cases less - thus showing an increase of Rs 184 over the tax for 1893/94. At the same time I introduced the principle of self-assessment as that tended, in my opinion, to make the tax popular and as I had tried it in the Kistna District with success.

4. The totals of final assessments in the town of Palode for the several years were as follows:-

	Rs - as - ps
1893/94	1733 - 9 - 6
1894/95	2616 - 12 - 10
1895/96	1917 - 4 - 6
1896/97	2719 - 12 - 8

As stated in para 3, the total of assessments imposed by me at first for 1894/95 was Rs 2660.

The

The details of final assessments were;

on old assessees ..... Rs 2113-8-8 p/o inclusive of enhancements over the assessments of the previous year

on new assessees for 1894/95 } Rs 503-4-2 p/o

The difference between the final assessments ordered by me and the final assessments as settled by my locum tenens was therefore only Rs 43-9-10 p/o

The details of the final assessments by me for 1895/96 were

on old assessees Rs 1605-15-10 p/o against Rs 1733 of 1893/94

on new assessees of 1894/95 } Rs 311-5-8 p/o

1917-4-6

net increase over the final assessments 1893/94 was Rs 184.

In the details of the figure for 1896/97 the same new assessees appear as those first proposed and afterwards fixed upon by me the only exception being that which was transferred to the list of the Talukdar.

Having given attention to the subject and after consulting the principal men of the town, I came to the honest conclusion that the sums should be permitted the original enhancements and new assessments having been first proposed by me for the year 1894/95, although the gentleman acting for me had confirmed the same with the exception of two sums aggregating Rs 43: and the fact that that officer confirmed the assessments as at first proposed by me or that my successor enhanced those assessments by a hundred rupees now and confirmed the same for the year 1896/97, does not, I respectfully submit, conclusively prove that either officer was correct and that to the fullest extent of the original assessments which had been but tentatively ordered by me as an improvement on the previous year's assessments. Having been an assessing officer for many years, I beg to state that I have had experience of difficulties in the way of fixing the income whether at the first imposition of the tax or finally.

5 I venture to express a hope that you will be pleased to consider that whatever shortcomings there were, you need not doubt my honesty of purpose and excuse them in me as errors of judgement but the worst. I respectfully request further that in view of the fact that I have applied for extension of furlough preparatory to retirement and of the fact that my services were favourably noticed by

by the Jeweral Collectors of Kistna, the Board
and Government to wit, especially in connection with
the Kistna floods in 1882 and in connection with
the detection of water tax frauds in the Duncholta
Estate in 1888, as also in connection with the wet
tax administration in the Zemindaries of the Kistna
Delta later on - in the first and last cases by the
Board and Government Specially - you will be
pleased to recommend to the Board that clemint
view may be taken by it in the present matter
as what was done by me was done in good faith."

I have the honour &c

(sd) S. Venkatachelam
Deputy Collector on leave

(True copy)

(sd) V.A. Brodie
Collector

(True copy)

Commissioner &
Secretary Secretary

87/1897

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE
MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue.)

Dated 30th June, 1897.

Mis No. 2728

Read the following letter from the Collector of Godavari

Dis No. 1902/Ver of 1897 dated 19th June 1897.

"Adverting to para 4 of Board's Proceedings No. 5185
dated 26th December 1896 and subsequent reminder
of the 27th April last, I have the honour to submit
herewith a copy of M.R.Ry S. Venkatachelam Pantulu's
letter of the 31st ultimo furnishing the explanation
therein called for by the Board. As already stated
in para 2 of my letter Dis No. I Extra Confidential
Register, Venkatachelam Pantulu is I believe a
thoroughly worthy and honest man. There is not the
least doubt that he acted in perfect good faith
in

all he did in connection with the administration
the income tax, though there are not a few instances
errors of judgement, as already noticed by the Board.
His work in every branch was unsatisfactory pointing
facting powers generally and as he says he is retiring
on furlough preliminary to retirement and so is not
likely to return to duty as a Deputy Collector, I re-
commend in consideration of the good work he seems to
have turned out as a younger man, that he maybe
excused and no serious notice be taken of the errors
committed by him in connection with his income tax
& other work.

I regret the delay in the submission of this
report which is due to the absence of Venkata-
chelam Pantulu in Masulipatam and Madras
and to the fact that he had to obtain information
from Narsapur to enable him to furnish the
enclosed explanation."

Resolution

Submitted for the orders of
Government

10

Government with reference to Government order
Mis No 1772 dated 2nd April 1897.

(True copy and extract)

Assistant Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Godavari

Copy to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Land Revenue

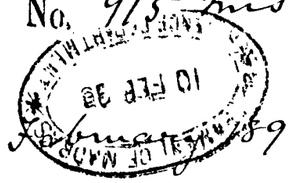
Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1161.

Order

From
The Board of Revenue,
Department of Revenue Settlement
Land Records and agriculture
Madras

No. 915 Miscellaneous



Dated 8th January 1898

Received 10th —

Registered // —

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Informing Government
that the report regarding the
work of M/s R.Ry Ch. Venkatachella
Pantulu will be submitted
by the end of the current month

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(Sdt. 22—2,000—11-3 97.)

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 8th February 1898.

No. 915 Miscellaneous

READ Official Memorandum Government, — Revenue Department, No 9. dated 15 January 1898:

Resolution

In reply to the Memorandum read above, the Board begs to state that it hopes to be able to submit by the end of the current month its Proceedings (1) on the reports submitted by the Deputy Collector Ch. Venkatacha-lam Pantulu on the special work-of localization of manual wetland carried out by him in the Godavari delta

Delta and (2) on the Explanation sub-
-mitted by him regarding the small
outturn of work by the men employed
under him in connection with his
special work.

(True extract)

R. V. Sriniwasa
Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Read
8/2/98

Revenue (1898) Department.

To await
BP 73
11.2.98

with Revs.
M
12/2/98.

CURRENT No. 1201.

From

The Board of Revenue,
Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and
Agriculture,
MADRAS.

Order

No. 931 Rev

Dated 9th February/98

Received //

Registered //

Enclosures 10

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government report regarding the work done by the Special Establishment entertained in connection with the settlement of marsh wet lands in the Godavari Delta.

K.I.
12.2.98.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(Sdt. 22—2,000—11-3 97.)

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 9th February 1898.

No. 931 Rdc:

READ ...again Board's Proceedings No.5011 Mis, dated 14th October 1896, communicating to the Collector of Godavari G.O. approving, with remarks, Board's proposals regarding the retention of the Special Deputy Collector, Godavari, for the localization of the nanul wet and returning to Collector certain papers received from him for retransmission with the further report promised.

Read also the following letter from the Collector of Godavari No.779/ver. dated 4th March 1897:—

In reference to para 2 of G.O.No.3804 Mis. dated 29th September 1896, I have the honor to report as follows:-

The further report promised in this Office letter Ref. No.2,240/ver. dated 20th August 1896 has already been submitted with this Office endorsement No.3026/ver dated 30th September 1896 on the localizing Deputy Collector's letter No.164 dated 9th September 1896. As the Board however, in its Proceedings No.5011 Mis. dated 14th October 1896 directs me to submit a further report on the lines indicated by Government in the above quoted G.O., I submit a copy of the Special Deputy Collector's explanation(No.235 dated 31st October 1896). In the above G.O. I am called on (1) to show how far the delay which has occurred was due to the Survey Department,

(2). to set out clearly the several steps which the localization

So 3894
28-2-98.
* Submitted in original Stamps returned.

A (1)

B

C.

localization of mamul-wat involved, and (3) to specify the actual pattum of each individual under each head as compared with what the pattum should have been under proper supervision. With regard to (1) I enclose a statement I showing the dates of despatch of survey records from the Survey Deputy Collector's Office, the dates of their receipt in the localising Deputy Collector's Office and the dates of settlement of mamul-wat of each village. It will be seen from this statement that the number of mamul-wat villages that the Deputy Collector had to settle was 160, the survey records of 101 villages were received by him before the end of the year 1895, those of 50 others before the end of April 1896 and those of the remaining 12 towards the end of May 1896. The Special Deputy Collector's establishment was abolished at the end of October 1896 and his final report and statements were received at the end of December 1896. It is true that at the beginning the work of the Localising Deputy Collector was greatly retarded for want of survey records but as the bulk of the records were received before the end of December 1895, the subsequent delay in the settlement of mamul-wat is to be greatly attributed to the Localising Deputy Collector. A perusal of columns 6 to 10 of the above statement will show that in some cases the interval between the date of the receipt of records and the settlement of mamul-wat is as great as 14 months. In other cases also the delay is not slight. From columns 7 & 10 of the above statement, it seems that on receipt of the records of a village, he did not take up proprietary jeroyati and minor Inams in the village at one and the same time, but settled them at different times. It is not clear to me why he has followed this unmethodical way of doing things. He joined his special duty for the first time on 16th January 1895 and it is a point in his favour that the survey of Government villages did not proceed with such celerity as while the Localisation work is to be completed with survey. The Localisation work was in fact retarded a good deal, and it was, therefore, thought inexpedient to proceed with it any further and

the work was suspended. The Deputy Collector was directed to resume charge of his division which he did accordingly on 5rd July 1895. It may however be noted here that with the Deputy Collector, his special establishment was not discontinued, but kept up in order that as much work (Localisation) as possible might be done with the survey records of such villages as were ready at the time. The slow progress of the survey, upon which the Deputy Collector leans in explanation of his shortwork, then engaged my best attention and its progress was so accelerated that by the end of October 1895 the survey records of about 90 villages were ready for the Special Deputy Collector. The Settlement work done by him up to the time when he was recalled to special duty (January '96) was not worth mentioning. The plea set up by the Deputy Collector was mostly that nothing was practicable with a bad start and that a Government Order then issued upset his settlements already made. That the G.O did undo things is admitted, but I cannot imagine that the Order could have so materially affected the progress, when what had been done up to the time was but little. From the statement referred to above, it will be seen that the progress of survey was unquestionably satisfactory at the time the Deputy Collector entered upon his special duty for the second time and by the end of April, the records of almost all the villages were ready. There was, therefore, ample and more than ample time, so far as survey goes, for the Deputy Collector to have completed his work long before he did and I consider that the delay caused by the Survey Department was comparatively little and cannot be said to have affected the progress of the Localisation work after the Special Deputy Collector reentered on special duty solely.

(2) In regard to the several items which the localisation involved, the Deputy Collector states as follows:-

"The old documents available in any public office had " to be obtained. In respect to Jeroyati, statements of

claims

" claims had to " obtained from the proprietors together with
" any documents that could be filed; when Karnams could produce
" any documents, they had to be taken and statements taken from
"them when necessary. When the settlement was made generally
"in the presence of the proprietor after he was heard and himself
"requested to select the survey numbers which should hereafter
" form the usual wet area. When parts of numbers were to be
"considered as usual wet, such parts were taken under the area
"involved in sub-division and these sub-divisions were effected
"by the Special Revenue Inspector and staff to a small extent
"by the Inspectors employed on garnish work and by the additional
"Inspectors latterly detailed for the work in Cocanada Division,
"Range Inspectors having been made to do the work in Ramachandrapur
"and other taluks. In respect to the Inams, the attendance of
"the Karnams concerned had to be obtained and statements prepared
"by them had to be checked by my office staff and then parts of
"numbers had to be subdivided in the field, the selection being
"made by the Inamdars when present and when not present, by me
"on the information of the Karnam and the whole numbers being
"fixed subject to the area fixed in each case. In several cases
"where the survey afforded no facilities as when Inam was found
"clubbed with seri or when one number was given by the Survey
"Department and no sub-division for the Inam portions of 2 or
"more claimants, the subdivisions have been made by the staff
"except where the Survey Department has subsequently effected
"it." I am aware that the work of localization is a complicated
and troublesome piece of business, as the Deputy Collector has
pointed out above, but I am doubtful in regard to the sub-division
work, as already remarked by me on his final report just forwarded,
whether he did really do it. He has entirely failed to visit
the fields and inspect things on the ground which was most essential,
and what was expected of him, but has merely passed decisions in
his office proceeding on general principles. He has hardly made
any attempt at identifying mamul wet on the ground and the
result of his scheme shows what trouble he took in making the

investigation.

E

investigation.

(5). With regard to the 3rd point, I enclose a statement showing the actual outturn of each individual employed on this duty. It will be seen that the work turned out by almost every one is so very small that their conduct needs severe notice and to this end their explanations have been called for and I will deal with them suitably in due course. This fact far from divesting the Deputy Collector of his responsibility only makes him all the more to blame. He did not take the trouble to check the work of his subordinate Revenue Inspectors and he left them much to themselves. He did not call for a single progress report from any of them to ascertain what progress they were making. In his explanation he puts forward the plea of indifference on the part of his subordinate Revenue Inspectors as one of the chief impediments which tended to slacken the progress of Localization work, but this tone of helplessness does him the reverse of credit. If any Inspectors were refractory, the duty of handing them up rested with him and that of inflicting condign punishment with me. His part he deliberately neglected to do. With regard to the question as to what the outturn of each individual should have been under proper supervision I am unable to express a definite opinion, except it should certainly have been much greater than what it was. Repeated Orders were issued from this office directing the Deputy Collector to extract an amount of work of not less than 15 acres per head per diem. But they were entirely disregarded with the consequence that the Localization scheme, apart from its not being completed by the date fixed has proved to be a waste of Government money. If he could not extract this amount of work, he should have reported the fact and got the quantity reduced or the order modified, giving reasons where the mamul wet areas were small and scattered very possibly 15 acres was too much, but where the mamul wet was in extensive and compact blocks it was too little. This knowledge, of course, the Deputy Collector possessed and

I

I did not and he could have reviewed the work of his subordinates by it, but instead he seems not to have supervised their work practically at all.

RESOLUTION.

The Collector's reports read above will be submitted to Government with reference to G.O.No.3804 Mis. Revenue, dated 29th September 1896.

2. The report contains an account of the work done by the Special Establishment employed in connection with the determination and localization of "marul" wet lands in the Godavari Delta. The correspondence on the subject may be stated briefly as follows:-

When the Government approved the recommendation of the Collector and the Board that a special establishment, headed by a Deputy Collector, should be detailed for the settlement of the water-rate question in the proprietory estates in the Godavari Delta, it directed that the Collector should be called upon to apply for such establishment as he might consider necessary for getting the work completed within a period of six months-vide G.O.704 Revenue, dated 1st October 1894. A Survey party had previously been employed to survey all the non-Government villages in the Delta in view to facilitate the settlement of the "marul" wet question: but as it appeared at the time the G.O. quoted above was passed, that the Survey Department had not made much progress, Government directed that the special establishment to be entertained for the localization work should carry out also the necessary survey in those villages. Subsequently, however, arrangements were made for an early completion of the villages by the Professional Department and the special establishment was accordingly limited to what was considered necessary for the localization work alone. The Collector proposed the marginally noted staff; and Government sanctioned it and appointed Deputy Collector, Mr. Ch. Venkatachalam Pantulu Garu, for the special duty-G.O.No.64, Revenue, dated 10th January 1895. The Deputy Collector entered on the duty on the 18th January 1895; but finding, soon after, that the survey was not progressing rapidly enough to give him full work, he proposed that he might be allowed to revert to his regular duty until the survey of the villages had been completed. This was approved by Government and he reverted to his Divisional charge on 3rd July 1895: but, at his request, the special establishment was retained, as he offered to attend to the special work also along with his duties as Divisional Officer-G.O.No.3586 Mis, Revenue, dated 4th September 1895. About the end of the year, it was reported by the Collector that, the survey had made much progress and was expected to be finished by the end of March 1896, and that the Deputy Collector might therefore be relieved of his Divisional charge to resume the special work. He estimated that if the Deputy Collector resumed the work about the middle of December he ought to be able to complete it in about 4½ months, that is, by the end of April 1896. Government approved the proposal (G.O.No.4983 dated 9th December 1895) and the Deputy Collector resumed his special duty on 4th January 1896.

3. The survey records were not, however, received as anticipated; and the Deputy Collector, writing to the Collector under date 11th April 1896, stated that the Survey Deputy Collector had promised to send in the records of all the remaining villages before the close of April; that, for want of sufficient establishment, his own work was considerably behind-hand, and that two additional clerks should be given to him. The Collector recommended the additional establishment asked for and requested, in view of the slow progress of the work, that the localizing establishment might be retained till the end of June 1896. Government, while sanctioning this establishment, directed that the Collector should be requested to submit, for the information of Government, a detailed report of the progress which the

Special

Special Deputy Collector had made G.O.No.1858 Mis, Revenue, dated 15th May 1896.

4. Subsequently, three field Surveyors were sanctioned to help in subdivision work (G.O.No.2688 Mis, Revenue, dated 9th July 1896). In the meantime, the Collector had, at the request of the Deputy Collector, placed four Revenue Inspectors at his disposal for the inspection of irrigated lands. The Deputy Collector asked for four more Revenue Inspectors, and, in doing so, stated that his work was too much for one Officer to get through within the prescribed time. The Collector, while acceding to the Deputy Collector's request for additional hands, reported for the information of the Board that the localization work was in an unsatisfactory condition, and that it could not be said, with any certainty, what time the Deputy Collector would take to finish the whole work. The Board thereupon requested the Collector to report clearly what steps he had taken to expedite the progress of the work, and why it was not finished by the end of April, as anticipated (Board's Proceedings No.2886 dated 12th June 1896). The Collector explained the cause of the delay, in his letter No.2240, dated 30th July 1896, and stated that, on a reference from Government, he had reported that the work would be completed only by the 20th August, and that he had issued strict instructions to the Deputy Collector that he should finish it by that date. This report was submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings No.4195, dated 26th August 1896. Even this expectation was not realised. Writing under date the 10th August, the Deputy Collector stated that the subdivision work was largely in arrears and would take about four months to be completed by his then reduced staff of one Revenue Inspector and three Surveyors; and that, as to his report, he could not write even half of it before the 20th August and could complete it only by the 15th September. He attributed the delay to various causes, of which one was that he was ill for sometime, and another that Inamdars, who will not till then appeared before him to represent their claims, were coming forward with complaints against his Settlement. The Collector reported on this state of affairs in his letter dated 20th August 1896, submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings No.4561, dated 9th September 1896. He remarked that delay in subdivision work was due to the Deputy Collector not having exacted full work from the staff placed at his disposal: that he had called on these men to submit their diaries, and would submit a further report after scrutinizing them: that he had also called on the Deputy Collector to explain the small outturn of work by his staff: that if his explanation was not satisfactory he should be told that the time he might take after the 20th August for the completion of his work should be treated as privilege leave: and that he had wired to this effect to Government. In submitting the Collector's report to Government, the Board remarked that it awaited the Collector's further report on the work done by the men employed under the Deputy Collector and the explanation called for from him regarding the short outturn of work- Board's Proceedings No.4561 Mis, dated 9th September 1896.

5. Government in passing orders on the above mentioned papers remarked as follows:- (G.O.No.3894 Mis,Rev.dated29th September 1896).

"The further report promised by the Collector and the Deputy Collector's explanation will be awaited. The Collector's report should show how far the delay which has occurred was due to the Survey Department; should set out clearly the several steps which the localization of the 'mamul' yet involved and should specify the actual outturn of each individual under each head, as contrasted with what the outturn would have been under proper supervision".

6. When this G.O. was received, the Collector's report, awaited in Board's Proceedings No.4561, dated 9th September 1896, had also been received: but, as the information contained in the latter was not in the detail required by

Government

Government, the G.O. was communicated to the Collector and he was requested to submit a further report on the lines indicated therein. The report already submitted by him was also returned to him for resubmission with the further report called for— Board's Proceedings No.5011, dated 14th October 1896.

7. This further report received with the Collector's letter dated 4th March 1897 and his previous report above referred to are now submitted to Government.

8. The Board concurs in the Collector's general remarks that the work of localization was a complicated and troublesome piece of business; that the Deputy Collector at first under estimated the amount of work involved therein, and that, while it is true that the delay was due to some extent to slow progress of survey work, it was due to a large extent to the unmethodical way in which the Deputy Collector proceeded in the matter.

9. As regards delay in the receipt of survey records, it will be seen from one of the statements submitted by the Collector (marked I) that of the 165 villages which the Deputy Collector had to deal with, the survey records of 101 villages were received by him before the end of the year 1895, those of 50 others, before the end of April 1896 and those of the remaining 12 about the end of May 1896. In the last column of the statement the Collector has noted the interval that elapsed between the date of receipt of the survey records of each village and the dates of settlement of the mamul not question therein. The Collector points out that this interval was as great as 14 months in some cases; and that the Deputy Collector's procedure on receipt of the records was unmethodical in that he did not deal with the "Jeripati" and minor Inams in a village at the same time, but often took them up at different times. There are indeed many cases of this kind; but it is possible that the Deputy Collector was compelled to adopt this procedure by not getting at the same time the necessary records and information relating to the two classes of cases. It should also be noted that, in calculating

calculating the intervals; the Collector has included the period between 3rd July 1895 and 4th January 1896 when the Deputy Collector was in charge of his Division and attended to the special duty only at intervals.

10. The several steps which the localization work involved are explained in the extract from the Deputy Collector's report given in the Collector's letter ; and while admitting with the Collector that the work was a complicated and troublesome one, the Board shares the Collector's fear that the work has not been carried out in the manner in which it should have been done. This point is considered fully in the Board's Proceedings on the Collector's final report on the Deputy Collector's localization work.

11. As regards the work done by each individual of the staff employed on this special duty, the Collector submits a statement (marked II), from which it is clear, as remarked by him, that the work turned out by almost every one was very small and that their conduct requires severe notice. The Collector states that he has called for explanations from the men concerned and would deal with them suitably in due course. Government wanted that the work turned out by each individual should be compared with what the outturn should have been under proper supervision. The Collector states that he is unable to express a definite opinion except that the outturn should certainly have been much greater than what it was.

12. As regards subdivision work, the Collector states that he issued repeated orders directing that not less than 15 acres should be done by each man per day; and that the Deputy Collector should have either exacted this work or, if he found the standard too high, reported the fact to the Collector and obtained a modification of his order and then insisted on the order being strictly obeyed. The Deputy Collector was certainly to blame for not having followed this course; and his explanation that the men were indifferent and did not act up to his instructions is hardly satisfactory:

satisfactory: the Board would use a stronger term, were it not that indifference and inefficiency are only too general characteristics of the Godavari Telugu subordinates.

13. Among the causes assigned by the Deputy Collector for the excessive length of time taken by him, there are two to which he makes frequent reference, and they are the instructions contained in G.Os.Nos.2416 dated 17th June 1895, and 753 Rev. dt. 22-2-96; in the first of which Government directed that the Deputy Collector should determine the correct conversion rates in all cases inclusive of those in which the settlement previously made may have been in force for 20 years or more: and in the second Government stated that, in regard to Minor Inams in non-Government villages, the rule laid down in G.O.No.230, Revenue, dated 15th March 1893 should be considered as cancelled by G.O.No.2416, dated 17th June 1895. The Deputy Collector states that on account of these two orders, he was obliged to revise certain settlements which he had made prior to the receipt thereof. The Collector points out that the former G.O. could not have led to the revision of many cases as the localization work done by the Deputy Collector prior to the receipt of that G.O. was very little. As regards the latter G.O., which the Deputy Collector says he received only on the 8th April 1896, the Collector remarks that the Deputy Collector has given no figures to show the extent of subdivision work upset by the G.O.; it was after the receipt of the G.O. that he applied for three surveyors, and that if he thought that there was more work, he should have applied for more staff (para 5 of the Collector's report dated 30th September 1896). In fact, as observed by the Collector, the Deputy Collector blundered all along, in estimating the amount of work to be done and the time in which it could be completed; and this is admitted by the Deputy Collector himself in his explanation. If with all this blundering, the Deputy Collector had carried out his work satisfactorily, the Board would be inclined to recommend that his faults in other respects might be overlooked: but as will

be seen from Board's Proceedings No. 73 dated 11th Feb. 1898, it is matter for regret that without further investigation the Deputy Collector's decisions cannot be accepted and acted upon.

In the press

14. The Board must, however, in justice to the Deputy Collector, state that he is an Officer by age and physique unequal to the very heavy task imposed on him. A younger and stronger man would be in a better position to show good outturn of work. It was, probably, with a knowledge of this fact that the Collector of Godavari in his letter No.4205 dated 9th November 1894 submitted to Government with Board's Proceedings No.7151 Mis. dated 26th November 1894 recommended that the work should be assigned to M.E.R.K.Narasimhan Pantulu, then Tahsildar of Ramachandrapur.

(True copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

with papers, as per list, in original
to be kindly returned

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. 2 Mar: } 1898.
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Proceedings, No. 73, 11th February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Settlement of mamul wet lands.—Submitting to Government report regarding the — in the Gódávari delta.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following letter from R. H. SHIPLEY, Esq., Acting Collector, Gódávari District, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Cocanada, 1st February 1897, No. 691.

In reply to G.O., Mis. No. 2416, Revenue, dated 17th June 1895, communicated with B.P., Mis. No. 3197, L.R., dated 27th June 1895, I have the honour to report on the settlement and localization of mamul wet lands in the non-Government villages commanded by the Gódávari canals.

2. The officer in charge of the work was M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachalam Pantulu Garu, Special Deputy Collector. He began the work in the middle of January 1895 and brought it to a conclusion on the 31st October 1896. His final report and statements were received in my office at the end of November.

3. The procedure, which he adopted, was laid down for him to some extent in the above quoted Government Order. He has accepted, under protest, and has localized, the mamul wet in all cases of more than twenty years' standing. In other cases, he has fixed the mamul wet area, according to the conversion rates which he has adopted. In both sets of cases, moreover, he has shown, as directed by the Government Order, what he calls "correct conversion" rates as fixed by him in individual cases.

4. The following statement No. I gives his settlement, under protest, of jeroyati mamul wet of more than twenty years' standing, and the financial effect of the same, as compared with the effect which the adoption of the "correct conversion" rates would show :—

No. I.

Extent hitherto allowed by former officers.	Extent now allowed under protest by the Special Deputy Collector.	Extent according to the correct conversion rate indicated by the Special Deputy Collector.	Difference between columns 1 and 2.	Difference between columns 2 and 3.
1	2	3	4	5
ACS. 40,497·47	ACS. 39,670·88	ACS. 38,659·39	ACS. 826·59 or Rs. 4,300.	ACS. 1,011·49 or Rs. 5,055.

5. Statement No. II gives the settlement of mamul wet of less than twenty years' standing and the financial effect as compared with the existing mamul wet areas :—

No. II.

Extent hitherto allowed or enjoyed.	Extent now allowed by Deputy Collector according to his own rates.	Difference.
ACS. 5,009·62	ACS. 5,074·59	ACS. 64·97 or Rs. 320.

6. Statement No. III shows in the same manner the settlement under protest of minor Inam mamul wet of more than twenty years' standing :—

No. III.

Extent allowed by former officers.	Extent under actual enjoyment.	Extent allowed by Special Deputy Collector.	Extent according to correct "conversion rate."	Net extent subject to the correct conversion rate recommended by Deputy Collector as mamul wet.	Difference between columns 1 and 2.	Difference between columns 2 and 3.	Difference between columns 4 and 5.	Difference between columns 2 and 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ACS. 26,208·72	ACS 19,659·51	ACS. 19,486 03	ACS. 22,212·33	ACS. 18,371·87	ACS. 6,549·21	ACS. 173·48	ACS. 33,40·46	ACS. 1,287·64

7. Statement IV shows in the same way the settlement without protest of mamul wet of less than twenty years' standing in minor Inams :—

No. IV.

	Extent hitherto allowed.	Extent under actual enjoyment.	Extent according to correct conversion rate.	Difference between columns 2 and 3.
	1	2	3	4
	ACS. 3,409·64	ACS. 2,728·83	ACS. 2,651·73	ACS. 77·10

8. The result according to the Deputy Collector's calculation (*i.e.*, accepting existing mamul wet under protest, and converting the rest at his own rates) is an increase in the taxable area of 185·61 acres, say, Rs. 925.

9. The result, if his correct conversion rate be adopted in the case of protested mamul wet as well, will be an increase of 2,311·26 acres, say, Rs. 11,555.

10. In neither case does the resultant profit amount to as much as it was expected to.

11. I propose to discuss the Special Deputy Collector's report under two heads :—

Firstly, I propose to take the cases which he has accepted under protest in zemindari jeroyati lands. Secondly, I will take those which he has localized afresh. Then I will deal with minor Inams. Under each head, I think, I can show that the settlement arrived at by him cannot be accepted.

12. The chief part of the mamul wet accepted under protest by the Deputy Collector lies in the villages settled by M.R.Ry. Kanchi Subba Rao in the year 1875. This settlement related to eighteen villages comprising 4,661·98 acres in Narsapur taluk and 1,146·17 in Bhimavaram and was discussed by the Board in its Proceedings No. 132, L.R., dated 31st March 1894, and was unequivocally condemned. It was not repudiated by Government on the sole ground of the position of the settling officer. But in its order, dated 17th June 1895, Mis. No. 2416, Revenue, Government directed that, whatever the status of the original settling officer, all cases of mamul wet of not more than twenty years' standing should be resettled. This latter order was most clearly aimed at M.R.Ry. Kanchi Subba Rao's settlement and, in my opinion, the Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachalam, should have accepted it and have revised M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao's settlement. But he has not done so. He accepted all that large extent of mamul wet, under protest in Narsapur, simply because he began his settlement of those villages more than twenty years after M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao had settled them. He has thereby, no doubt, saved himself a considerable amount of trouble. But I submit that his procedure was, in this matter, indefensible. He was actually directed in this office endorsement, No. 3242-Ver., dated 3rd October 1895, on B.P., Mis. 4657, L.R., dated 16th September 1895, to revise all the cases settled

by M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao, "as it was not quite twenty years since he made his settlement." He disobeyed these instructions and thereby nullified G.O., No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, which, to all intents and purposes, cancelled M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao's settlement.

13. The extent of the area settled by M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao and localized by the Deputy Collector under protest is 4,661·98 acres, hardly any of which he has identified. He contented himself with accepting the land-owner's choice of fields which the latter desired to hold as mamul wet. This is office work, not field inspection such as is absolutely necessary for real identification. The Deputy Collector has, in these as well as other cases of twenty years' standing, indicated an alternative area to be treated as mamul wet, in case the Government does not allow the "under protest" area to stand. This alternative area he has calculated according to what he pleased to term "correct" conversion rates. The extent of the land to be localized, he ascertained from various sources, whether taluk accounts, karnams' or proprietors' accounts or statements; sometimes these extents were given in acres: sometimes in "puttis." But as a "putti" is a variable quantity, he had in each case to convert it into acres. This conversion he effected by a method whose only merit is simplicity. He divided the survey area (in acres) by the number of "puttis" according to the Gudikat account. The result he calls the correct conversion rate. This procedure is fundamentally bad. The gudikat area, at the best, was only approximately correct: for in those days only the cultivated land was measured, the rest was put down at a hazard and even the cultivated portion was only roughly measured. The consequence is that the conversion rate adopted by the Deputy Collector gives many more acres to the putti than either that adopted by the Inam Commissioner or that quoted in Bayley's memorandum. As a rule, the Inam Commissioner allows eight acres to the putti. But the Deputy Collector, as can be seen by a glance at his calculation, allows about ten or eleven. He has, in fact, done what M.R.Ry. Kanchi Subba Rao did, converted the putti at an extravagantly high rate; and therefore his settlement, in my opinion, fails in the same manner as M.R.Ry. Kanchi Subba Rao's. In fact, except that M.R.Ry. Kanchi Subba Rao allowed ten per cent. additional, the Special Deputy Collector has accepted the latter rates in Narsapur. Further, it is very noticeable that, where the Inam Commissioner's rate is a higher one than that at which the correct conversion rate works out, the Deputy Collector has accepted it. It is only when the Inam Commissioner's rate is more liberal than his own, that the Deputy Collector is convinced of its correctness. In all other cases, and they are the large majority, he discards the Inam Commissioner's rates as incorrect and in more than a few cases he adds ten per cent. except where there is not sufficient land. Now, here again, he deliberately disobeyed this office orders. He was directed to adopt the Inam Commissioner's rates in all cases, except those in which they were obviously inadequate, and even then he was only to allow the ten per cent. addition as a *maximum*. If, even with the addition of the percentage, he found the rate still inadequate, he was to settle each case on its merits, and make a full report on the subject to the Collector. He has made no such report and he has, in very rare instances, adopted the Inam Commissioner's rate.

14. As a consequence of this procedure, it has happened in several cases that he has actually *created* fresh mamul wet, and in many cases he has extended it. An instance of the first is in the village of *Nirasavametta*, where, up to now, no mamul wet has been allowed at all. Notwithstanding this, the Deputy Collector allows 180 acres. An instance of the second is in the village of *Nadavapalli*, where the amount hitherto allowed was 263 acres. The Deputy Collector allows 346. In the latter case, the Deputy Collector's figures are wrong and nothing can be argued from them. In *Gondi* village, the mamul wet area is given as 474 acres, the actual wet area is 405 acres. The proprietor is thus given as mamul wet 69 acres more than there are.

15. It may be taken as certain that land-owners who are entitled to "mamul wet" hold *at least* as much mamul wet land as they are entitled to. It is a matter of notoriety in this district that there is much more free irrigation than there would be, if land-holders were to irrigate only as much mamul wet as they are strictly entitled to. Fraudulent and other encroachments have been very common. Their detection

was a matter of great difficulty owing to the apathy or connivance of the lower subordinate officials. In the course of time, these encroachments would be claimed as mamul wet. On the other hand, it is very improbable that any land-holder would rest content with a smaller extent of mamul wet than he was entitled to. And though in some cases it may be argued, yet we cannot admit, that any mamul wet holding has been decreased by an improved system of irrigation. I consider, therefore, that we should not allow any extension of mamul wet. Much less, then, can we allow fresh mamul wet to be created where none previously existed, especially when it has repeatedly been refused after enquiry by local officers.

16. The total extent of mamul wet freshly allowed by the Deputy Collector is 299·77 acres. And this extent, I think, must certainly be disallowed.

17. A very grave mistake made by the Deputy Collector in localizing and settling mamul wet is in reference to the expression "irrigable area," and this mistake is responsible for some of the increase he allows in mamul wet. In G.O., Mis. No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, it is laid down that "where the mamul wet areas to be allowed are found to be in excess of the highest recorded areas under wet cultivation in the village concerned, the maximum area irrigable should be allowed." The Deputy Collector made no separate enquiries as to the extents *irrigable*. He adopted the area shown as wet in the Survey registers. This area is in most cases greatly in excess of the area shown as *irrigated* in the Revenue accounts for the last four or five faslis. Now every school boy knows that the Survey department makes no pretence to authority when it records a certain area as "wet." All that it is responsible for is the correct measurement of the fields. The record "wet" or "dry" is put down on the word of a karnam and can be no proof whatever that the land thus registered is "wet" or "dry." In some cases the area shown by the Survey department in their registers as wet and therefore irrigable is actually less than that shown in Revenue accounts as *irrigated*. In others, even if the land bears a wet crop, if the karnam says it must be registered as dry, this is done. This is surely sufficient proof of the unwisdom of relying upon the Survey department as an authority on the class of land. It is almost incredible, but the fact stands recorded, that, in Satyavoli village, Ellore taluk, and in Neredupalli, Narsapur taluk, the Deputy Collector allowed mamul wet in excess of the area shown as wet by the Survey department, on the mere assurance that there was a larger irrigable area in the village. The area irrigated in each village varies very little from year to year, and the Deputy Collector would not have gone wrong, had he taken the highest area irrigated in the past five years as the maximum irrigable. I do not think any other method would prove satisfactory. We cannot actually say how much is irrigable, but we know how much is *irrigated* and we can depend upon owners irrigating as much land as possible. I take fasli 1304 which was a good year (I have not the figures for other faslis), and I find that if my view be accepted as correct, the area localized in this manner by the Deputy Collector is 3,993 acres more than should be allowed. To this amount must be added 299·77 acres; total extent to be disallowed is, therefore, close on 4,293 acres.

18. It seems to me that M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachalam Pantulu forgot that he was a mere localizing agent. He appears to have considered himself armed with powers to correct former acts of injustice by the creation and extension of free irrigation. I can hardly think it was the intention of Government that he should do this: "Non tali auxilio, &c."

19. Finally as to *minor Inams*, the Deputy Collector has followed the same methods and fallen into the same errors. He has not truly localized these, for he did not identify them. He has converted them into acres "correctly" by dividing, as before, the number and acres by the Gudikat area, and to this result he has added all through ten per cent. to make sure that the minor Inamdar should not suffer. This addition of ten per cent. is, under the circumstances, nothing less than astounding. The consequence of this addition to the "correct" conversion rate is that the minor Inamdar usually finds himself in possession of more free acres than there are in his inam! There are many such cases, and the total area allowed as mamul wet is 1,874 acres in net excess of that in actual enjoyment. Besides this, he has allowed the *maximum*

irrigable area in these minor Inams, on the same principle as in the Zemindari jeroyati lands. The total extent thus allowed cannot be calculated, but it is probably about 1,000 acres. The fact is that he ought to have made separate enquiries into each case. But he had already spent much time over this "localization," and with the dread of explanations before him, he evidently thought it wiser to settle these cases in his office, all on one principle and one method. His method is, of course, vicious *ab initio* as shown above, and I cannot understand why the Deputy Collector did not accept the Inam Commissioner's rates. These rates (it may be as well to lay stress on this point) were calculated after an exhaustive enquiry in each village by a staff of competent subordinates, under an able head, and at a time when local measures were more easily ascertainable and better known than they are now. The arrogance of the Special Deputy Collector in rejecting them without any fresh enquiry is startling. In my opinion, this localization and settlement is a failure. I am afraid that the rôle of Balaam assumed by the Deputy Collector has not been a success, though the picture of him in that rôle with Balak and the other figure thrown in, is suggestive.

20. I subjoin a statement showing at a glance the effect of the Deputy Collector's proposals:—

(1) If the under-protest and the correct conversion rates in the newly settled case are accepted.

(2) If the under-protest rates are revised according to Deputy Collector's correct conversion rates, and if his correct rates are accepted in new cases. I also subjoin two statements showing the financial result, approximately, if my views are held to be correct.

21. I would propose that the fresh settlement be made with the ordinary staff of Divisional officers, Tahsildars, Revenue Inspectors, &c. M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachalam, if he has done nothing else, has at least recorded a list of mamul wet lands, and this may serve as a basis in the future enquiry. If this enquiry is conducted according to the method adopted in the Kistna district, it would not necessarily take long. A few more Revenue Inspectors might be appointed. That method was to allow the Inam Commissioner's rates, except where they were clearly inadequate and to these latter cases add the necessary percentage.

22. The Deputy Collector's report is herewith submitted.

Endorsement by V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Gódávari, dated 28th February 1897, Dis. No. 691-Ver.

Forwarded. Mr. Shipley has gone very carefully into the report of the Special Deputy Collector and its accompanying voluminous records which I have not had time to do, but from the cursory examination of them I have been able to make, I fully concur in the view of Mr. Shipley that it is utterly out of the question to accept the Deputy Collector's decisions without most careful scrutiny and examination in every individual case.

2. Mr. Shipley's remarks in paragraph 12 I fully endorse, and am surprised to find that M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachalam has in spite of my orders failed to revise the settlement of M.R.Ry. Kanchi Subba Rao in a single instance. Again as Mr. Shipley remarks in paragraph 13 the Special Deputy Collector has wholly failed to comply with the instructions I gave him in the case of Inams. He has not adopted the Inam title-deed area *plus* ten per cent. as a maximum as directed, and submitted special reports for orders in all cases in which he thought himself bound to allow more but apparently allowed acres and acres more without any reference to me, simply because he finds very much more now under wet cultivation than the Inam Commissioner has allowed. The great error in all previous settlements of mamul wet including M.R.Ry. K. Subba Rao's was that the officers who made them attached far too much weight to the existing condition of things, and made no attempt to discover the causes of differences, and this is just the error, the Special Deputy Collector has fallen into. He finds so much cultivated with wet crops, it appears to have been so cultivated for a long time

and is alleged to have been so cultivated for a long time. *Ergo* he finds it to be "mamul" wet. But this is just the error he was specially wanted to correct and rectify. He has been Divisional officer of Narsapur for some time, and if any one should have known the fact, he should, that, since the anicut was constructed, enormous areas of what was waste swamp, when the anicut was built, are now flourishing paddy flats. Yet so far as I can see, he has completely shut his eyes to this fact, though the accounts of many Government villages clearly prove it and it is notorious. I have not the village accounts by me, but I am perfectly certain, that the area now under paddy in Government villages like Ellurpad and Yennamadurru, is enormously greater than it was at the time of the Settlement in 1860, and therefore, of course, much greater still than it was when the anikat was built and the same process has of course been going on in inam and proprietary villages similarly situated. Yet this fact seems never to have struck the Deputy Collector nor does he seem to have recollected the fact, that the drainage channels of the present system were the irrigation channels of the pre-anikat days. We know for instance that the average area actually cultivated with wet crops in the Baharsalli estate during the ten years prior to the construction of the anikat was only 9,000 and odd acres, whereas the irrigated area now exceeds 30,000 acres! The Deputy Collector knows or should know this, and he also knows that the same thing has been steadily going on in all the agraharam, Zemindari and Government villages similarly situated in the Delta; yet neither K. Subba Rao twenty years ago, nor Mr. Venkatachalam now, appears even to have thought of this. Neither have they considered the fact that in pre-anikat days, the registered or nominal wet area far exceeded the actual. For instance, in the case of Baharsalli, though only 9,000 and odd acres were annually cultivated with wet crops on the average, the registered "wet" ayakat was 25,000 acres and odd. Practically the Special Deputy Collector has made his localisation with his eyes shut, and to save himself trouble allowed nearly every acre to be mamul wet that has been claimed to be such and would lead us to believe that there has practically been no extension of wet cultivation in inam and Zemindari villages that had wet lands prior to the anikat. The result of adopting his localisation would therefore be that proprietors generally would not only benefit as they have done by getting a certain, in place of a very precarious, water-supply through the construction of the anikat, but that they would also get acres and acres of what was waste and swamp when the anikat was built, confirmed to them as "mamul" wet. This additional benefit gratis is surely not called for, and in the interest of the general tax-payer, it is surely one that cannot be allowed. Not only so but many agraharams, and no doubt Estate villages, too, appear to have grown in the most marvellous way since the Inam settlement. There is the village of Dumpagadapa agraharam near Ellurpad on the borders of the Collair and Upputeru regarding which a special report will be submitted. The Inam Commissioner confirmed it as consisting of 261 acres "wet" and 62 acres "dry," but it now measures 128 acres "dry" and apparently over 600 acres "wet." The Deputy Collector says the difference is wonderful, but in place of considering whether the difference admits of no more probable explanation, he assumes from it that the Inam Commissioner must have made a huge error in his conversion rate, more than doubles it and allows "under protest" 549 acres as mamul wet. I feel certain that enquiry—and I will make inquiry before submitting the Deputy Collector's report—will prove that the large increase in area is much more probably due to the agraharamdar having occupied and reclaimed a large area of Collair bed and swamp adjoining what he had at the time of the Inam settlement, which he has really I think no title to as "inam," let alone as "mamul wet" inam. I am well aware of course that in starting inquiries into "reclamations" and "extensions" and "encroachments," I am raising a big and troublesome question and very possibly this has been the Deputy Collector's reason for not raising it. But then it was the very question he was appointed to solve, and it is I imagine the true explanation of the wonderful increase in the wet area of Dumpagadapa and many other villages. However troublesome therefore it may be, he should have raised it.

3. In paragraph 14, Mr. Shipley points out several instances of error. The case of *Nirasanametta* is a flagrant case. This village is in the Rámachandrapur taluk and in spite of the fact that it has never been allowed any mamul wet on the ground

that it was all "dry" at the time the anikat was built, whatever may have been the circumstances fifty years before, the Deputy Collector has allowed it 180 acres of "mamul" wet in face of the Collector's decision to the contrary in 1880. This decision must, of course be summarily cancelled. He was not appointed to decide whether persons who had no mamul wet were entitled to any or not, but to determine the limits of the "mamul" wet of those who admittedly possessed some. *Nadarapalli* seems to be a case like that of Dumpagadapa. It is in the Cocanada division and no doubt the increase is principally due to the reclamation and cultivation of what was swamp when the anikat was built. No increase whatever should, I think, be allowed over the allowance of the Inam Commissioner and certainly not even 10 per cent. should be allowed without very careful investigation as to what was the pre-anikat source of irrigation, &c. The case of *Gondi* has naturally struck my predecessor as curious and it is certainly most strange that the Deputy Collector should allow more to be "mamul" wet than can be irrigated or is being irrigated. It is not strange that the old accounts should register more "wet" than exists, for Baharsalli is the most striking case of this as, at the time the anikat was built, the registered wet area was 25,000 acres and more, whereas the area actually under wet cultivation was then less than 10,000 acres. In Baharsalli more is now being cultivated with wet crops than was registered as "wet" in 1854, but in Gondi actual irrigation still appears to be less, probably because it is at a distance from any main canal. That was however no reason for the Deputy Collector to allow more than is now irrigated to be mamul wet. The only question he had to decide was how much of the area now irrigated can be held to have been cultivated with wet crops when the anikat was built, or at any rate not long afterwards. The 69 acres the Deputy Collector has allowed as "mamul" wet are certainly not that, for, apparently, they are not now, and have not for years been "wet" at all.

4. No doubt it would be possible to find many such instances in the Special Deputy Collector's report and as Mr. Shipley says in paragraph 15, it is notorious that proprietors and Inamdars are now alleging far more to be "mamul" wet than they have the least claim to and that such frauds are difficult to discover. In the case of proprietors, as Mr. Shipley says in paragraph 17, we can depend on their irrigating as much as they can and "mamul" wet strictly means "always irrigated." It is certain therefore that the extent they are now cultivating with wet crops is the *maximum* they can be allowed and it is probably much more than they are entitled to, as local inspection would probably show that much of what they are cultivating now could not possibly have been cultivated with wet crops, before the anikat was built as the level is too high. I can see nothing, however, in the Deputy Collector's report to show that he considered this point. On the contrary, he appears to have accepted the evidence of the karnams, &c., as much better evidence than the configuration of the ground, &c. In the case of Inams, he has fallen into the same mistakes without the same excuse, for there he had explicit instructions not to allow more than 10 per cent. above what was entered in the title-deed without special sanction, and he has not complied with these instructions. Surely his work was easy enough. Where he found the area irrigated now less than the extent entered in the title-deed as "wet," all he had to do was to demarcate, *i.e.*, localise the "irrigated" area, for whatever the rest may be "registered," as it is not "mamul" wet under the anikat system and not entitled to anikat water. Even though it may once have been "wet," it is not "wet" now if it cannot be proved to have been irrigated during the past twenty years or so. Where the irrigated area exceeds the title-deed area, he should have followed instructions, inspecting each Inam to satisfy himself that the title-deed area could have been irrigated, before the anikat was made, from some source which the anikat system has done away with. The extra 10 per cent. allowed in dealing with Inams found to measure more now than their title-deed areas, he might also have allowed in cases in which he thought the Inamdar clearly entitled to it, but I never intended him to allow it as a matter of course in every case; for there is no denying that the present system of irrigation is very superior to that before the anikat, Whether it should be allowed or not, could therefore only be determined on the ground itself. In place of this we find that he has in many instances set aside the decisions

of the Inam Commissioner altogether, and allowed more as usual wet under the anikat than the Inam Commissioner allowed as "wet." This was assuming an authority he did not possess, and where he has done so, of course his decisions are waste paper. There can be no doubt that many a fraud was perpetrated at the Inam settlement and it is difficult to refrain from suspecting that the people generally thought that this "localisation" was like the "Inam settlement," an opportunity for getting something more than they possessed. Hence claims by every one, which *mirabile dictu*, the Special Deputy Collector appears to have allowed in every case almost, and often upon evidence little worthy of the name of evidence. No doubt, as Mr. Shipley says, he should have settled every case on the ground, but as he found this would take longer than the estimate, he decided all in office on general principles which he laid down for himself and which seem in every case to have been mistaken principles. As regards "Inams", the title-deed represents the final agreement between the Inam Commissioner on the one hand representing the State, and the Inamdar on the other, and it is a bargain the Deputy Collector had no power to vary; and how he has taken it upon himself to vary it in many instances, I cannot understand at all.

5. The only thing in Mr. Shipley's report, I doubt the advisability of, is having the work done once again by the ordinary staff. In the delta taluks the work is very heavy as it is, and I fear this additional duty will prove the last straw. The work, too, is work of an intricate and responsible nature and I doubt the capacity of some of the Tahsildars to investigate and decide such questions, even subject to revision by the Divisional-officers, and their ability to get through their ordinary work and, at the same time within a reasonable time, inspect every Inam and estate village in their taluks in which there is mamul wet. If the Board however think this plan must be tried and that enough has been wasted to little purpose already upon a special establishment, I will give it a trial.

P.S.—The No. 6 accounts showing irrigation frauds submitted by the Special Deputy Collector have been forwarded to the Divisional-officers for disposal; as, however, the crop had long been off the ground, before the azmoish was made, I doubt very much if penal water-rate to any great extent can be levied on the strength of them. The principal fraud was in the village of Palivela in Amalápuram taluk, of which the karnam was committed to the sessions for embezzlement and the preparation of false accounts. He has there been acquitted, and this fact too will not simplify matters.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From CH. VENKATACHELAM Pantulu Garu, Special Deputy Collector, Gódávari, to the Acting Collector of Gódávari, dated Cocanada, 31st October 1896, No. 230.

In reply to your endorsement, No. 1920-Ver., dated 12th July 1895, on B.P., No. 3197, dated 27th June 1895, embodying G.O., Mis. No. 2416, dated 17th idem, I have the honour to submit my report on the settlement and localisation of usual wet lands in the non-Government villages of the Gódávari delta together with statements.

(*a*) Statement showing the present settlement (under protest) of proprietary usual wet of more than twenty years' standing and the financial effect of the same as compared with the results of correct conversion rates now recommended as directed by Government.

(*b*) Statement showing the present settlement (without protest) of proprietary usual wet of less than twenty years' standing and the financial effect of the areas decided as compared with the existing usual wet areas.

(*c*) Statement showing the present settlement (under protest) of minor Inams of more than twenty years' standing and the financial effect of the same as compared with the results of correct conversion rates now recommended.

(*d*) Statement showing the present settlement (without protest) of minor Inams of less than twenty years' standing and the financial effect of the areas decided as compared with the existing usual wet areas.

And also to report what action could be taken under the circumstances in the way of detection of frauds.

2. *An account of the progress of the work of localisation.*—Under orders of the Collector, I entered on the duties of the Special Deputy Collector on 18th January 1895 and after receiving general instructions from the Collector on 26th idem; meantime acquainting myself with the papers

available at the Collector's office on the question of usual wet, I proceeded to Sila village close by Cocanada and made enquiries on 30th and 31st January 1895 in order to see what course of action was necessary; for, as it was, I had found orders of Divisional-officers and even Collectors had been passed settling the usual wet in almost all cases and the only thing required seemed to be simple localisation—a work of no time if the Survey records were to hand. In the Collector's office file of the usual wet papers, I noticed that the Board, while forwarding certain papers on the subject, especially with reference to the Kistna district, had suggested that when occasion arose special instructions might be asked for. Hence my reference, No. 5, dated 14th February 1895, on the basis of enquiries in Sila and Bandanapudi villages, asking for instructions whether I had simply to localise the usual wet passed by the several officers or whether I could revise the rates and areas allowed, thus setting aside not only the decisions of officers of the standing of a Sub-Collector but also of jamabandi officers and even of Collectors. Final orders were passed in the G.O. above quoted on your reference. No. 681-Ver., dated 27th February 1895, and B.P., Mis. No. 1648, dated 1st April 1895. Meanwhile the localization work was pushed on as much as possible, the areas sanctioned by former officers being adopted. On 7th February 1895, draft of a notice inviting claimants of usual wet areas to put in their claims was submitted to the Collector for approval and publication in the Gazette of this district, as well as in those of adjoining districts and steps were taken to obtain information from the karnams concerned in two forms. In my letter, No. 7, dated 16th February 1895, I reported steps taken and my difficulty owing to non-receipt of Survey records. Some Survey records were received on the 19th February and localisation of the areas sanctioned by former officers was effected in these cases as also in the case of Dumpagadapa in regard to which the Board's decision (No. 132, dated 31st March 1894), was carried out. Having done some work in Bhimavaram taluk, I proceeded to Tanuku taluk in the early part of March 1895. The Survey work there being in progress, the head surveyor was to supply certain records. Mr. Spurling had also suggested that I should obtain certain records from the Central office at Madras. As regards minor Inams your Proceedings, Nos. 682-Ver. and 931-Ver., dated 3rd and 12th March 1895, respectively on my progress report for the fortnight ending with 15th February 1895 and letter, No. 9, dated 1st March 1895, were to be my guide; but as the survey was not sufficiently in progress to give sufficient work to me and to my establishment, in my letter, No. 13, dated 26th March 1895, I recommended the suspension of localisation work till the end of June 1895 or till greater part of the survey work with records was completed. At the same time I had to request that the establishment might be retained. This was with a hope that the work might be going on as much as possible so that the interest in it might not fag altogether. You were pleased to support the recommendation and on a reference from the Board as to whether there was not sufficient identifiable usual wet to engage me and my establishment, I had to say in my letter, No. 24, dated 18th May 1895, that there was scarcely sufficient work on that score and to recommend that both the general and special duties might be carried on simultaneously till the end of November when, as Mr. Spurling assured me, the work would be sufficiently in progress to engage my establishment and myself fully and exclusively. Thus from 3rd July 1895 to 4th January 1896 both duties were carried on. One month, viz., from 27th September to 29th October, was specially devoted for certain preliminary work connected with the special duty. By the end of September 1895, the work accumulated to some extent.

The progress of the survey without adequate settlement by me *per contra* was specially noticed in your Proceedings, No. 3573-Ver., dated 21st October 1895, in which I was called upon to say whether I was prepared to engage on special duty solely, and I made my proposals accordingly in my letter, No. 64, dated 4th November 1895, requesting relief at the same time from 1st December 1895 and stating that the balance against me was only 10,345 acres by the end of October. It was on 4th January 1896 that I was relieved from the divisional charge. The balance at the beginning of January 1896 was 14,795 acres. But much progress could not be shown till the 25th January 1896 owing to delay in the attendance of the Dewan of Pithápur in Rámachandrapur taluk where there was a large quantity of work to be done and where therefore I had expected to turn out work accordingly and, as directed, weekly reports were despatched every Monday instead of fortnightly ones. Real progress commenced from the 28th January. In six weeks therefore I nearly overtook the survey progress having had to encamp in five taluks to hear parties and settle usual wet, besides getting Inam statements written up for which the attendance of karnams had to be obtained and passing orders thereon. On the 10th March 1896 a batch of records representing usual wet of 4,621·94 being received by the 16th idem the area pending was disposed of, leaving a balance of 2,745. The rate of work directed by you in the several reviews to be performed by me could not be shown during the six weeks, but as the work was to be far more concentrated in the Cocanada division with its 24,000 acres, there was more hope of that there.

As it was, the balance could be reduced only to the figure noted above during the week ending with 15th March. I was thus at liberty to proceed to Ellore taluk on inspection duty in view of detection of irrigation frauds, there being some intermission foreseen. The bulk of the Cocanada division records was received during my stay at Palivala in the latter half of April 1896 and at Injaram during the first part of May but as I was engaged at Palivela in enquiries as to

irrigation frauds I could not go to Cocanada division before the 25th April. Again on 8th April 1896 final instructions from Government (G.O., Mis. No. 703, dated 27th February 1896, were communicated to me regarding the settlement of Inams, thus upsetting my disposal under that head to the extent of 12,700 acres besides 3,240 acres under the head of agraharams which I had been under the impression could not be resettled under the orders relating to Zemindari villages. In May and June the bulk of the balance, viz., 36,529 was disposed of, leaving 6,286 acres of which records for 1,769 acres were pending with me for settlement and revision, the rest being involved in sub-divisions.

The localization work in main could not be finished till the 24th July 1896. Then I had to visit the scene of operations by the additional inspectors, but as they had to write up water-tax accounts showing concealments detected, they were asked to do so before they rejoined their several ranges. I had then to make some inspection of the sub-division work as directed by you that is, check the inspector's measurements in the field. I arrived at Narsapur on the 4th August with a view to review the usual wet cases already done by me, preparatory to the draft-ing of the final report and to the preparation of statements showing financial effect as ordered by Government. While engaged in this work, however, I had unfortunately to suffer from indis-position and then I got your orders directing me to draft the final report in the intervals of inspec-tion of sub-division work. I had, however, to look into the water tax statements prepared by the several inspectors and send as many of them away as possible. Before the end of the month I had, as ordered, to go out in order to superintend the sub-division work then being done by my inspector and staff, and for this purpose I had to encamp at Todepalligudem, Bheemadole, Ellore and Vasantavada and thus, in September, the sub-division work in the usual wet villages of Tanuku, Yernagudem and Ellore taluks was finished and as I had your orders while at Bheemadole, withdrawing my total exemption from the inspection by way of checking the inspector's measurements in the field, I carried on inspection also in the Ellore and Yernagudem taluks. Before the end of September, the inspector and staff were sent away to Cocanada division which they were to reach after finishing the one village in Yernagudem taluk, while I went to Narsapur on 23rd to revise the localization of Elamanchili village as previously ordered. On the 28th I received orders to stop further action in the matter pending final orders and thus I had to leave for Nidadavole to do some inspection work in Sankarapuram of Tanuku taluk and Ravimetta of Yernagudem taluk and then for Cocanada where I arrived on the 1st of this month. Except for a few days during which I had to go out into Ramachandrapur taluk to do some inspection work, I have been engaged throughout the month in carefully reviewing the memo-randums and Inam statements and drafting this final report and getting the necessary statements prepared. In a considerable number of cases, I have had to revise the conversion rates first proposed or adopted by me, thus rendering the preparation of statements somewhat tardy. In so doing I have had to take advantage of the experience gained, and so general lines have been struck and adhered to as much as possible in view to the materials being placed before you and eventually before the Board and Government in a light which, I submit, might better facilitate examination and disposal of the questions than otherwise.

Some takarars thus sprang up and changes have had to be made in the localization while petitions on the score of others have had to be kept by, being received too late for any action

As regards the sub-division work, in the middle of last month, I had to ask for more surveyors as I saw the present staff was not sufficient to cope with the whole work of the taluks of the district containing usual wet.

You were, however, pleased to order the assistance of range inspectors in Ramachandrapur taluk and Cocanada division and for the two villages of the Rajahmundry taluk and one village of Narsapur taluk and thus the whole sub-division work has been completed but not without much difficulty owing to the surveyors of the Survey Department having committed certain irregularities in the way of clubbing Inam and Seri for instance.

I fear, however, a considerable part of the sub-division work may have to be done over again, should Government be pleased to adopt my proposed correct conversion rates or any other rates which it may deem proper, as has already been suggested in my letter, No. 139, dated 17th July 1896.

The reason for this my fear is, that in the majority of cases, the sub-division work is dependent on the present settlements and these are only what were accepted by District-officers and the Board more than 20 years ago. Such areas are now accepted under protest and localized, while the proposed correct conversion rates generally give different results. If, as remarked in one part of the Government Order, and in your Proceedings, No. 970, dated 30th March 1896, Government intend to revise only in particular instances, there would scarcely be any financial effect as desired by Government; besides the difficulty would not be small in finding general principles to suit cases in which the present settlements should stand and cases in which such settlements might be revised.

The Tahsildars concerned and Deputy Tahsildar of Cocanada division have checked a fair percentage of the measurements of sub-divisions in the field and I have done myself as much as possible so that the more important work of review and drafting of the report and preparation of

statements might not suffer considerably as the work had always to be hurried over. I had in the beginning of the month, to represent to you the necessity of my carefully reviewing the work done in view to preparation of the statements and draft.

As directed in your office No. 2240-Ver., dated 20th August 1896, I beg to state that I have satisfied myself that the sub-division work has been correctly and properly done. The few instances, however, brought to notice by the Deputy Tahsildar of Pentapaud have been explained separately. Thus you will be pleased to observe that the main cause for the long procrastination of the work was the slow progress of the survey which again was due to paucity of surveyors.

At the end of December 1895, the survey progress represented only 6,700 acres localized and 14,795 in balance pending settlement. The G.O., Mis. No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, about the settlement of mamul wet in proprietary villages was received on 16th July 1895 and the G.O., Mis. No. 783, dated 22nd February 1896, about the settlement of Inams on 8th April 1896.

3. *General principles kept in view.*—The following general principles have been kept in view:—

(1) Previous to 1882, the current of decisions arrived at by the Board and Government was to the effect that Zemindars receiving from Government anikat irrigation in the place of obstructed pre-existing irrigation of their own, should receive such Government irrigation free to the full extent of the customary irrigation of their own which had been so obstructed; that such customary irrigation should be taken to be the gudikat wet area, that is, the area entered as wet in the permanent Settlement accounts and that so long as the total area allowed free, as being customary, was not exceeded, it did not matter whether the particular fields irrigated were originally wet or dry (*vide* paragraph 2 of Board's Resolution, No. 1895, dated 24th August 1886, and the orders quoted therein).

Thus the original order about "mamul wet" was that the gudikat wet should not be charged for and was based on the idea that when a Zemindar's peishcush was calculated on the supposition that a certain extent of his land was wet, he ought not to be charged extra for that extent when it is irrigated by anikat water. The new order is that issued in 1882 (B.P., Mis. No. 5318, dated 13th July 1882), and is to the effect that only the particular fields irrigated, at the time the anikat water was introduced from sources which were intercepted by the anikat works, are to be exempt from water-rate (*vide* Resolution, No. 611, dated 25th March 1897, paragraph 1). The Board had held that the mere fact that land had been classed as wet in the old permanent Settlement accounts was not sufficient to support a claim to free anikat irrigation for all time, but that each individual field for which the claim was made must be proved to have been actually itself irrigated and to have been so irrigated, right up to the time at which the anikat works were erected from sources which those anikat works had obstructed.

On the Collector pointing out that this last order was unfavourable to Zemindars because they might have increased the area irrigated, thereby improving their own irrigation works, even if anikat water had not been introduced, the Board thought that the difficulty was amply met by directing that the area irrigated just before anikat water was introduced should be calculated liberally. It was impossible (in some cases at all events) to determine what particular fields had been irrigated before the anikat water was laid on. The Board therefore submitted a modification to the effect that the area (and not the particular fields) irrigated just before the anikat water was introduced and of which the irrigation was intercepted by the anikat works should be exempt from water-rate. In G.O., dated 4th September 1888, however, Government ruled that the practice in force prior to 1882 in the settlement of mamul wet areas should be reverted to and laid down the following general principles:—

(*a*) The identification of the actual fields irrigated prior to the construction of the anikat is impracticable.

(*b*) The "gudikat" rule should be applied villagewar in all cases in which this can be done.

(*c*) The mamul wet for each village will be taken to be included in the lands already provided with means of irrigation and no demand for new channels for other lands, as if they were part of the mamul wet will be admitted.

(2) The current of subsequent decisions shows that the highest wet area recorded in the Bhubands of any one or more faslis available should be taken as representing the gudikat wet, provided such accounts referred to faslis prior to the introduction of anikat water. This supersedes the principle of allowing the average of several faslis.

(3) The instructions laid down in G.O., No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, are—

(*a*) Where a certain area has been accepted by District-officers for more than 20 years that area should be accepted under protest, so that Government may be at liberty to revise.

(*b*) In similar cases of less than 20 years' standing, a decision should be given now.

Note.—In both cases a correct conversion rate should be indicated.

(*c*) Where the area allowable as mamul wet exceeds the irrigable area, only the irrigable area should now be recognized. This seems to have a special bearing on principle (*c*) under No. 1 and also on (2).

(4) In general, the average survey rate of the village has been adopted in the case of Inams especially, but where it is considered too high, the principle enunciated in appendix to B.P., No. 132, dated 31st March 1894, has been followed, giving nearly half of the average survey rate + half the Inam Commissioner's rate and in some cases half the average survey rate + half the rate already allowed.

(5) There were the following rates adopted by the former officers under previous orders, Baby's rates for the district being 8 annas per putti which is met with often as the Board's rate.

The Inam Commissioner's rates are—

	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
For Putti	6·40	9·63	8·0	10·0	10·60
„ Katti	12·9	12·47	15·34	16·97	18·56

In naming a correct conversion rate much difficulty has been experienced for one reason especially, viz., that in several cases the average survey rate arrived at for Putti exceeded the rate for Katti and hence the highest correct conversion rate for the former has been attempted to be kept below the lowest rate for the latter. It may, however, be a question for consideration whether such a principle should be acted upon rigorously.

(6) In Zemindari or other proprietary villages, the Zemindar or other proprietor has been generally given the choice of selection of what Jeroyati fields he wants to have recognised as mamul wet and the fields so selected have been localized. As regards the Inams, the Inamdar has been allowed the choice wherever he signified his wish.

(7) Where the average survey rate as now ascertained is found to be less than the Inam Commissioner's rate for the village, the latter has been adopted as the correct conversion rate especially for the Inams.

(8) For the Jeroyati 10 per cent. allowance has not been granted where the average survey rate has been granted (*vide* Board's ruling, dated 9th June 1880, Mis. No. 6293, *in re* Bantumilli). It is doubtful if this applies to the 16 villages noted in G.O., No. 661, dated 13th September 1894, as they seem to require special treatment. For Inams the benefit of the addition of 10 per cent. has been allowed besides the average rate.

(9) There has been also an attempt to arrive at a correct conversion rate by making out a common rate which would cover both the wet and dry extents as per Bhubands and other accounts.

(10) It has been a most difficult matter to recognize established facts.

In all cases in which decrees and judgments of civil courts have been produced, the same have been given effect to.

Where cases have been pending before higher courts in appeal, the *status ante* of the parties has been respected because if any disturbance takes place, the rights of parties would be affected before the decisions of those courts are pronounced and because the value of the suit would be lost.

Except where private documents are again assented to by proprietors, the parties have been left to fight out in civil courts.

The greatest difficulty has been in the case of permanent cowles with fixed rents. One case is said to be pending appeal before the Privy Council, and this has been disposed of as above noted. With these preliminary remarks I beg to deal with each village, with Jeroyati usual wet first and then with the inams.

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(*N.B.*—The rest of the report has not been printed.)

(Signed) CH. VENKATACHALAM,
Special Deputy Collector.

RESOLUTION—No. 73, dated 11th February 1898.

With his letter read above, the Collector of Gódávari (Mr. Brodie) forwards, with his remarks, the report submitted by M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkatachalam Pantulu Garu, the special officer appointed in G.O., No. 64, Revenue, dated 10th January 1895, for the determination and localization, wherever possible, of lands entitled to free irrigation as "mamul wet" in non-Government villages in the Gódávari delta.

2. The circumstances which led to the special appointment were briefly as follows :—

When the system of anikat irrigation was introduced into the Gódávari and Kistna Deltas, Government allowed free irrigation from the anikats to all lands which, owing to the construction of the several anikat channels and other works connected therewith, were found to have lost, wholly or partially, their pre-existing sources of supply (G. O., No. 101, Revenue, dated 16th January 1861). These lands known as "mamul wet" lands were, in the majority of cases, unlocalized; and, in consequence, considerable difficulty often arose in deciding what lands were entitled to free irrigation and what were liable to pay water-rate. Such difficulties arose much more frequently in the Gódávari than in the Kistna delta and many were the cases in which the claims of individual proprietors to free irrigation led to protracted correspondence before a settlement could be arrived at. The experience of these difficulties having shown that, in the absence of localization, the mamul wet question cannot be satisfactorily settled, the Board in reporting on a case of the kind above referred to, impressed on Government the absolute necessity of localizing, in both the deltas, the lands entitled to free irrigation (paragraph 8 of B.P., No. 618, dated 24th January 1883). Government accepted the suggestion (G.O., No. 312, Revenue, dated 2nd March 1883), and called upon the Director of Revenue Settlement to submit, after communication with the Superintendent of Survey, proposals for giving effect thereto.

3. The Director, in submitting proposals, pointed out that a regular field survey of all irrigable lands in non-Government villages was necessary; and Government decided, after consulting the Government Pleader, that the cost of the required survey should be charged to the State and not to the Proprietors.

4. Before ordering the survey, however, Government wished to know in what detail it should be done; whether it should be by fields throughout, as recommended by the Director, or whether it would suffice to survey the mamul wet areas in blocks and outside areas irrigable from the canals by fields—G.O., No. 693, dated 10th June 1895. The Collector of Gódávari and the Superintendent of Survey were accordingly requested to carry out an experimental survey of two selected villages on the latter plan and to report the result. A similar experimental survey was also subsequently sanctioned in respect of the Kistna district (G.O., No. 113, Revenue, dated 11th February 1886).

5. The results of the experimental survey in Gódávari were reported to Government; and in his report, the Superintendent of Survey stated that if the survey of Zemindari lands in the two deltas were to be undertaken, a special survey party would have to be organized. Government, in passing orders thereon, observed that there was no need to make special arrangements for carrying out a general survey immediately—G.O., No. 624, Revenue, dated 4th September 1888.

6. In the meantime, arrangement having been made by the Superintendent of Survey to carry out the experimental survey ordered in Kistna, the Collector of that district brought to notice the urgent necessity, in the interests of the revenue, for localizing the mamul wet lands in advance of the survey and requested permission to employ a special officer of the grade of Deputy Collector with a suitable staff to carry out the localization work—*vide* correspondence printed with G.O., No. 38, Revenue, dated 25th January 1889. It is unnecessary to give a detailed account of the work done in Kistna in connection with the mamul wet question. It will suffice to say that a satisfactory settlement of the question was soon arrived at in that delta by the adoption of three principal measures recommended by the then Collector (now the Honourable) Mr. Arundel, viz., (1) the survey and demarcation of all Zemindari and Inam villages in the delta, (2) the localization of mamul wet areas in all but a few of these villages, (3) the establishment of a special village agency for the collection of water-tax in them, in lieu of the system which till then obtained of collecting it through the agency of the proprietors.

7. It was the successful settlement of the question in the Kistna delta that led to a similar settlement being undertaken in the Gódávari delta.

8. When Government ordered the survey of non-Government villages in the Kistna Delta in view to facilitate the settlement of the mamul wet question therein, it remarked that the question of extending it to Gódávari would be considered when the results of the survey ordered in Kistna had been ascertained (paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 10, Revenue, dated 4th January 1890). In the following year, however, Government, without waiting for the results in Kistna, sanctioned the survey of non-Government villages in the Gódávari Delta (G.O., No. 1084, Revenue, dated 14th November 1891); and as soon as the survey was begun, the Collector addressed the Board requesting to be instructed as to how he should proceed to deal with the mamul wet question, and to be furnished for his guidance with the principal orders issued in connection with the Kistna Delta. The Board supplied him with copies of the orders asked for and desired him to proceed on similar lines and to apply for special instructions when necessary (B.P., No. 4811, dated 5th August 1892).

9. One of the first difficulties encountered by the Collector related to the conversion rate to be adopted in determining, in acres, the areas given in local land measures. On a reference made by him in regard to certain villages, Government passed order sanctioning the revised rates of conversion proposed by him and the Board in respect of some of the villages, and directing, in respect of certain others, that the rates of conversion adopted by a former Deputy Collector Kanchi Subba Rao, should be accepted in consideration of the official position of the officer who fixed those rates (G.O., No. 661, Revenue, dated 13th September 1894).

10. In the meantime, Government having found that very little progress had been made in the settlement of the mamul wet question, it called for explanation on the point and, after some correspondence, approved the proposal of the Collector and the Board, that a special establishment headed by a Deputy Collector should be detailed for the work (G.O., No. 704, Revenue, dated 1st October 1894). Government further directed, in that order, that as the Survey Department did not expect to finish its work in the Delta before 1895, the special establishment should take up also the necessary survey work. Subsequently, however, special arrangements having been made to push on the survey work by the Survey Department, the special establishment was relieved of this work; and the Deputy Collector appointed for the special duty (G.Os., No. 64, dated 10th January 1895; and No. 76, dated 10th January 1895) entered on his work on the 18th January 1895.

11. As soon as the Deputy Collector commenced his special work, he met with a difficulty. He found that in many cases the conversion rates had been fixed by former Collectors or other district officers of high official position and that, if, in accordance with the view taken by Government in paragraph 1 of its Order, No. 661, dated 13th September 1894, those rates were to be accepted, the result would be that in some villages the mamul wet areas so determined would be larger than the largest recorded area under wet cultivation, in some larger than the total dry and wet area under cultivation, and in some others, larger than even the total areas of the villages. On a consideration of these difficulties, Government passed Order, Mis. No. 2416, Revenue, dated 17th June 1895, laying down that in all cases in which the rates have not been accepted for 20 years, they should be revised, but that in cases in which the rates have been in force for 20 years or more, they may be accepted under *protest*, reserving to Government the right to revise them, should it deem proper to do so. In all cases, Government desired that the correct conversion rate should be determined on the best data available. On a further reference made by the Collector, Government stated that the instructions contained in the order last quoted above should be taken as superseding those in G.O., No. 661, dated 13th September 1894. A still further reference was made by the Collector inquiring whether G.O., No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, should be taken as cancelling also the rule laid down in G.O., No. 230, dated 13th March 1893, in regard to excess areas discovered in minor inams in non-Government villages; and Government replied in the affirmative (G.O., No. 783, dated 22nd February 1896).

The procedure followed by the Special Deputy Collector purports to be therefore in accordance with the three Government Orders quoted above; namely, No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895; No. 3612, dated 5th September 1895; and No. 783, dated 22nd February 1896.

12. The Deputy Collector, though employed on this special duty until November 1896, did not work at it continuously. After having been at work for some months, he reported that the survey was not proceeding fast enough to give him full work; and, at his suggestion, he was allowed to rejoin his regular work as Divisional officer; but the establishment was kept on (G.Os., No. 2425, dated 18th June 1895; and No. 3586, dated 4th September 1895). He returned to his regular work on 3rd July 1895 and was again set free for the special duty about the end of the year (G.O., No. 493, dated 9th December 1895); and resuming that work on 4th January 1896, he brought it to a close by the end of October; and his final report was received by the Collector at the end of November 1896.

13. The Collector having reported that the time taken by the Special Deputy Collector was excessive, Government called for an explanation on the point, and this is submitted to Government in a separate proceedings.

14. The present proceedings will be confined to the results of the special duty.

15. After a careful perusal of the report and of the remarks thereon by Messrs. Shipley (Acting Collector at the time) and Brodie, the Board concurs in the view expressed by these officers that the Deputy Collector's settlements cannot be accepted without further scrutiny and examination in each individual case. Mr. Shipley would have this further scrutiny carried out by the ordinary staff of Divisional officers; but Mr. Brodie doubts the advisability of adopting this measure. He considers that the ordinary revenue staff will not be able to do this work in addition to its own regular duties, which are in themselves heavy in the delta taluks; but adds that if the Board thinks that this plan must be tried, he would give it a trial.

16. Before expressing an opinion as to how the work should be done, the Board would review some of the objections taken by Messrs. Shipley and Brodie to the settlement proposed by the Special Deputy Collector.

17. (1) Both Messrs. Shipley and Brodie find fault with the Deputy Collector for his not having revised the settlement made by Kanchi Subba Rao. Mr. Shipley says that the Deputy Collector has accepted under "protest" K. Subba Rao's settlement of certain villages in Narsapur, simply because he began his settlement of those villages more than 20 years after K. Subba Rao had settled them; and he proceeds to observe that the Deputy Collector's procedure was indefensible as he had been actually directed by the Collector to revise all the cases settled by K. Subba Rao, as it was not quite 20 years since he made the settlement; and he adds that the Deputy Collector has disobeyed his instructions and thereby nullified G.O., No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, which to all intents and purposes cancelled K. Subba Rao's settlement (paragraph 12 of his remarks). The Board doubts whether Mr. Shipley is quite correct in his view that Government intended that K. Subba Rao's settlement should be revised in all cases without reference to the 20 years' rule laid down by it. The Board considers that as the Government Order is dated 17th June 1895, only those cases settled by K. Subba Rao, should have been revised, in which that officer's settlement had not been accepted for at least 20 years up to and inclusive of fasli 1304.

(2) Another charge brought against the Deputy Collector is that in respect of the areas in Narsapur villages accepted under "protest," he has localized the area of mamul wet without identification and by accepting the land-owners' choice of fields which the latter desired to hold as mamul wet. Considering how difficult it must be to recognise lands which were wet before the anikat works, the choice allowed by the Deputy Collector was perhaps not altogether wrong: but he should have previously inspected the fields to make sure that the selected areas did not exclude any field from which canal water cannot be excluded. This point will be further considered below.

(3) The Deputy Collector's general procedure of determining the correct conversion rate for each village by dividing its survey area by the "gudikat" area in local measures, is declared by Mr. Shipley to be fundamentally bad. He does not state what alternative procedure he would recommend. It is quite true, as pointed out by him, that the "gudikat" area is only approximately correct, but this remark applies not only to proprietary villages but also to Government villages: and in the case of the

...er, the conversion rate required for the purpose of determining excesses in Minor Inams is usually arrived at in the same way in which the Deputy Collector has proceeded in the case of non-Government villages—*vide* Standing Circular No. 60 of 1865 (B.P., No. 5666, dated 13th September 1865). In fact, the applicability of this rule to proprietary villages also was admitted by the Board itself in its Proceedings, No. 83, dated 21st January 1873. Mr. Shipley finds fault with the Deputy Collector for not having followed the instructions issued to him by the Collector, which, it is stated, were to the effect that he should follow the Inam Commissioner's rates in all cases, except those in which they were obviously inadequate: and even then he was only to allow the 10 per cent. addition as a maximum. If even with this addition of the percentage he found the rate still inadequate, he was to settle each case on its merits and make a full report on the subject to the Collector. Mr. Shipley remarks that the Deputy Collector has made no such report, and he has in very rare instances adopted the Inam Commissioner's rate. The Deputy Collector was certainly to blame for not having obeyed the orders so explicitly given by the Collector. The main question, whether the procedure followed by the Deputy Collector in determining the correct conversion rates is right or wrong, will be considered later on.

(4) Mr. Shipley observes: "as a consequence of the Deputy Collector's procedure, it has happened, in several cases, that he has actually *created* fresh mamul wet and in many cases he has extended it. An instance of the first is in the village of Niravametta, where up to now no mamul wet has been allowed at all. Notwithstanding this, the Deputy Collector allows 180 acres. An instance of the second is in the village of Nadavapalle, where the amount hitherto allowed was 263 acres. The Deputy Collector allows 346."

In regard to Nirasavametta, the circumstances under which the Deputy Collector fixes 180 acres as the mamul wet are stated at pages 493—500 of his report. This is one of the villages of the Vagayammapeta estate, the mamul wet in which was settled in 1880 by the then Sub-Collector, Mr. Johnson. Although some of the *old* accounts showed that a large extent in the village was wet, the Sub-Collector refused to allow any mamul wet as the lands were shown as dry in the *later* accounts and the assessment on the lands did not show clearly that they were treated as wet. On appeal, the Collector declined to interfere, basing his refusal on the ruling laid down in B.P., No. 5318, dated 13th July 1882, a ruling which was subsequently cancelled by Government in its Order, No. 623, dated 4th September 1888. The Deputy Collector states that the Zemindarni having since presented a petition to the Collector to have the case re-opened and the petition having been referred to him for report, he has inquired into the case and finds that if the village is to be dealt with in accordance with the ruling in the Government Order last quoted above, an extent of 180·25 acres will have to be allowed as mamul wet. Both Messrs. Shipley and Brodie consider that the Deputy Collector's decision should be summarily set aside. The Board is not prepared to accept this recommendation without a fuller report dealing with the several grounds assigned by the Deputy Collector for his conclusion. As regards Nadavapalle, pages 607—610 of the report, the Deputy Collector's report is not clear. Mr. Shipley observes that the Deputy Collector's figures are wrong and nothing can be inferred from them. Mr. Brodie remarks that no increase should be allowed over the allowance of the Inam Commissioner; but in making this remark, he appears to have overlooked the fact that the conversion rate adopted by the Deputy Collector in the case of "jeroyati" lands is only 7·70 acres per putti (less than the survey rate of 7·88) as against the Inam Commissioner's rate of 8 and that it is for the Inams in the village that he adopts a higher rate of 8·67 obtained by adding 10 per cent. to the survey rate of 7·88. It should be noted that when the Board in its Proceedings, No. 271, dated 25th January 1884, disposed of the Proprietor's claim for refund of excess water-tax levied in that village, it proceeded on the principle subsequently cancelled by Government in its Order, No. 623, dated 4th September 1888 (*vide* paragraph 3 of B.P., No. 1895, dated 24th August 1886). It appears also from the Deputy Collector's report that the 263 acres referred to by Mr. Shipley was a temporary settlement made by the Sub-Collector in 1886 and that, in 1879, the then Collector had fixed the mamul wet at 360 acres. Mr. Shipley's remarks in paragraph 15 are quite true: but those remarks cannot be

applied without qualification to cases in which for one reason or another the proprietors have kept complaining against settlements already made.

(5) In determining the correct conversion rates in the case of minor Inams, the general procedure followed by the Deputy Collector is to take the gudikat survey rate of the village and to add 10 per cent. to it. This is in accordance with the procedure laid down in Board's Standing Order No. 124 for charging excess areas in such Inams. Both Messrs Shipley and Brodie object to this procedure. Mr. Brodie says that he gave explicit instructions to the Deputy Collector not to allow more than 10 per cent. above what was entered in the title-deed without special sanction, and that he intended this allowance of 10 per cent. to be made, not as a matter of course in all cases, but only in special cases. This instruction was given by the Collector with reference to the ruling in G.O., No. 430, Revenue, dated 13th March 1893. But that ruling was laid down for application to *unsurveyed* villages, for which the procedure prescribed in Standing Order No. 124 would be inapplicable. In the case of villages dealt with in the report, Government itself stated in its Order, No. 733, Revenue, dated 22nd February 1896, that its Order No. 203, dated 13th March 1893, should be considered as cancelled by paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 2416, dated 17th June 1895, except in regard to cases in which the area of mamul irrigation is clearly defined and well known. It was in consequence of this order of 22nd February 1896, that the Deputy Collector has proceeded as he has done. It will be noted that the Deputy Collector specially mentions this order, which he says he received on 8th April 1896, as having partly contributed to the delay in completing the special work, inasmuch as that order necessitated his revising the settlement of Inams previously made by him.

18. The remarks contained in the previous paragraph sufficiently show that neither portion of the work assigned to the Deputy Collector has been done by him satisfactorily. The main work entrusted to him was to localize the mamul wet area. As a preliminary thereto he was required to determine the correct conversion rates.

19. In carrying out localization, he says, in paragraph 3 (6) of his report, that he allowed the proprietors to choose the fields in all cases in which they wished to make a selection. If in accepting the selected fields the Deputy Collector made no inspection to satisfy himself that the selected areas did not omit fields from which canal water cannot be excluded (and there is not only nothing in the report to show that he adopted this course, but from his remarks here and there it appears, as observed by the district officers, that he has carried out the localization, as office work, by accepting as wet, lands shown as irrigable in the survey or other records), the Board has no hesitation in saying that the Deputy Collector has practically left undone the most important portion of his work. His localization cannot be accepted, until by an actual inspection of the fields in each case, it is ascertained that lands from which canal water cannot be excluded are, as far as possible, included in the localized areas. This is in view of the High Court's decision that Government cannot charge water-rate when lands are irrigated by involuntary flow.

20. The other portion of the work done by the Deputy Collector, namely, the determination of the extent to be recognized as mamul wet, also appears to need revision. The Board will examine a few typical cases of the Deputy Collector's settlement.

(*a*) In the case of the second village (Kalagampundi) dealt with in the report (page 34), Kanchi Subba Rao had allowed 314·66 acres, being the equivalent at 14·07 acres per *putti* of 22p.7t. 5m. of wet, the last-mentioned local measure being the area entered as wet in the accounts of several faslis. At the survey rate, the equivalent of 22 and odd putties is only 288·26 acres; but the Deputy Collector proposes to accept the whole of the present irrigable area of the village as mamul wet, because the whole ayakat of the village is entered as wet in the accounts of two faslis. He admits that, "Mr. Subba Rao had preferred the accounts of the majority of the faslis which showed 22p. 7t. 5m. as wet"; but he himself prefers the accounts of two of those faslis without assigning a sufficient reason for the preference. The proposed settlement will give to the proprietor 17·92 acres more than was allowed by K. Subba Rao and 12 acres more than the area actually irrigated during the five years ending with fasli 1301.

(*b*) In the case of the third village (Pedamamidipalli) dealt with in the report (pages 37—44) which is also one of the villages settled by K. Subba Rao, that officer allowed 199·20 acres, being the equivalent of 14p. 8t. 8m., at 13·81 acres per putti. The Deputy Collector takes the wet as 21p. 13t., being the area obtained from an account of fasli 1234 filed by the proprietor. He states that an account of that fasli is referred to in K. Subba Rao's memorandum, but no reason is given for ignoring it; and he proceeds to remark: "As the account noted by Mr. Subba Rao is not forthcoming now, the account put in by Mr. Jagannadha Rao (the present proprietor) will have to be taken into consideration." The Deputy Collector gives no sufficient reason for attaching such a preponderating weight to an account rejected by K. Subba Rao.

(*c*) The Deputy Collector's reasons are insufficient, and therefore unsatisfactory, not only in cases in which he recommends larger areas than have hitherto been allowed, but also in cases in which he recommends smaller areas. One or two cases may be instanced. In Bandanapudi (page 245 of the report), one of the villages of the Pittapur estate, the usual wet was fixed in the year 1878 by the then Collector at 1,001 acres at the conversion rate of 8 acres per putti, which was less than the Inam Commissioner's rate of 10 acres. The survey rate is found by the Deputy Collector to be 5·56 acres when the gudikat of the entire village is taken, and to be 3·77 acres, when the gudikat of the "Jeroyati" lands alone is taken. At these rates the corresponding wet areas will be 696·25 acres and 471·63 acres. He has accepted under protest 774·65 acres, being the total area of lands shown as irrigable in the accounts, but recommends that the usual wet be fixed at only 471·63 acres against 1,001 acres now recognized as mamul wet. It is stated that the head clerk of the Dewan of Pittapur estate wished to enter a protest against the Deputy Collector's decision to accept only 774·65 acres, and if the area is to be still further reduced to 471·63 acres, it goes without saying that the Rajah will not easily accept the settlement. In respect of two other villages belonging to the same estate (viz., Nadakuthunu in Cocanada division, page 318 of the report, and Challapalle in Amalapuram taluk, page 594), the Deputy Collector recommends large reductions in the areas hitherto allowed; but he is himself in doubt as to the correctness of his conclusions. Another unsatisfactory feature about the Deputy Collector's proposals is that the rates of conversion recommended for "jeroyati" and Inam lands in the same village are in several cases arrived at by independent considerations and are found to be widely different.

21. The foregoing cases are, the Board considers, sufficient to show that without further investigation it will not be safe to accept the Deputy Collector's decision; and if Government concurs in this view, the questions to be considered will be:—

(1) By what agency is the further investigation to be carried out; and

(2) whether to provide against another failure, any definite rules can be laid down for the guidance of the officers to be entrusted with the work.

22. The work to be done is two-fold—

(*a*) The determination of the extent to be allowed as mamul wet in each case; and

(*b*) the localization thereof wherever possible.

For the latter it appears to the Board desirable for the reasons stated above in paragraph 19 that the necessary local inspection should be made in conjunction with an officer of the Public Works Department.

23. It is, however, the former that appears likely to entail work of a very troublesome character. The Deputy Collector says that he has followed some general principles and he explains them in paragraph 3 of his report; but the District-officers do not approve these general principles, and the few typical cases noticed above will have shown that in many cases the Deputy Collector has had to deviate from his so-called general principles to meet special conditions. The fundamental rule followed by him is to start with the gudikat survey rate; but in several cases the rate so obtained is found to be so wide of the mark as to be practically valueless. As a further instance, the case of the fourth village (Gondi) dealt with at pages 45—48 of the report may be

noted. K. Subba Rao allowed 471·12 acres, being the equivalent of 39p. 11t. 2m., at 12 acres per putti. At the survey rate the equivalent is 444·21 acres. As, however, the irrigable area according to land registers is only 405·81 acres, the Deputy Collector has accepted this area under protest and recommends that the same may be recognized as mamul wet, following, apparently, the ruling in paragraph 5 of G.O., No 2416, Revenue, dated 17th June 1895, in which Government directed that where the rate to be accepted under protest gives a larger area than the maximum irrigable extent, the latter should be accepted. But this recommendation cannot be accepted until it is ascertained that the area shown as irrigable in the land registers are really so; and it does not appear that the Deputy Collector made a personal inspection of the lands. What raises a doubt on the point is the circumstance that the largest area actually irrigated during the five years ending with fasli 1304 is stated by the Deputy Collector himself (*vide* marginal entries at page 46) to have been only 145·27 acres. It is doubtful whether, even in cases in which the Deputy Collector has fixed the mamul wet by *identification*, he has ascertained the area by actual inspection. One such case is that of Dumpagadappa (pages 109—120 of the report), for which he allows 523·15 acres (and not 509 acres as stated by the Collector) or about double the area (261·66 acres) allowed by the Inam Commissioner. The Deputy Collector's remarks do not show that he made any local inspection at all. The Collector appears to have intended to submit a special report regarding this village along with the Deputy Collectors necessary local inspection. These cases point to the necessity for a further scrutiny of each case, before the Deputy Collector's recommendations can be accepted.

21. Mr. Shipley is for conducting the inquiry according to the method adopted in the Kistna district. "That method," he says, was to allow the Inam Commissioner's rates, except where they were clearly inadequate, and to these latter cases add the necessary percentage (paragraph 21 of his remarks on the report). As regards the plan followed in Kistna, the Board has no definite information. On a reference made by Government in its official memorandum No. 291, dated 17th October 1892, inquiring whether in the determination of mamul wet areas in whole Inam villages in the Kistna delta, any allowance was made when the area, for which free irrigation was claimed, was found to be in excess of the area, entered as wet in the title deeds, and, if so, on what principle the allowance was fixed; the Collector reported that no allowance whatever was made and that all excess was excluded from mamul wet and taxed. He observed at the same time that the lands in Inam villages were never properly surveyed before, that the mamul wet lands were first surveyed and demarcated with temporary marks by Revenue Inspectors and that the Survey Department subsequently remeasured the lands and demarcated them with stones. He did not state how he dealt with cases in which the survey disclosed larger areas in the demarcated extents of mamul wet than were entered as wet in the title-deeds (*vide* correspondence printed in G.O., No. 230, Revenue, dated 13th March 1893). For the reasons stated in paragraph 1, of G.O., No. 626, Revenue, dated 4th September 1888, there is no doubt but that the Inam Commissioner's rate is a safer guide than the gudikat survey rate, but the Gódávari cases clearly show that the rule should be applied cautiously; and that practically, as remarked by the Collector, each case should be decided on its merits. This appears also from the various orders passed by Government and the Board on the numerous petitions received from proprietors of estates in the Gódávari delta, of which it would suffice to mention those relating to the Pittapur and Bahar-zalle estates (*vide* correspondence ending with G.O's. No. 312, Revenue, dated 2nd March 1883 and No. 599, Revenue, dated 8th June 1882). It is indeed very remarkable that, while in the Gódávari delta the mamul wet question was debated in connection with so many estates leading in many cases to protracted correspondence, the question appears to have presented no difficulty in the Kistna delta. The only case in that delta, so far as the Board has been able to trace, which presented any difficulty was that of the Gudur estate. and the difficulty in that case related not to the conversion rate but to the question of localization (*vide* correspondence ending with G.O., Mis. No. 6427, Revenue, dated 17th December 1891). A few cases in which proprietor claimed larger areas of mamul wet than were entered in the accounts were reported

by the Collector of Kistna in paragraph 19 of his letter No 9091, dated 12th December 1891, first printed in G.O., No. 1198, Revenue, dated 5th December 1892; but the claims were for trifling extents and it does not appear that their settlement caused any difficulty at all. The Board considers that the Collector of Gódávari should ascertain from the Collector of Kistna, and report, how it was that the question of conversion rate did not cause any difficulty in that district.

25. Pending receipt of the report called for in the previous paragraph, the Board would defer expressing an opinion as to the expediency or even the feasibility of carrying out an investigation on the lines and to the extent contemplated in the three Government Orders, mentioned in paragraph 11 above.

What those Government Orders contemplate is that correct conversion rates should be investigated afresh on the best data available, in the case of all mamul wet areas, with the possible exception of the 'Jeroyati' (as distinguished from Inam) lands in the Zemindari villages of the Nidadavole and Baharzalle estates, for which Government has allowed about 25,881 acres of unlocalized mamul wet (G.O's., No. 764, Revenue, dated 13th May 1872 and No. 134, Revenue, dated 18th January 1879) and in the Mokhasa village of Saripalle for which Government has accepted a conversion rate of 18·59 acres per 'Katti,' (G.O., No. 626, Revenue, dated 4th September 1888). Now, the Deputy Collector's report shows that the data collected by him are in many cases insufficient for a satisfactory determination of the conversion rate; and, if no further data are available in such cases. the question would be worth considering whether it would not be expedient to limit revision of rates to those cases only in which the rates now accepted are obviously inaccurate, or will, if acted upon, lead to absurd results such as those reported in B.P., No. 1648, dated 1st April 1895, disposed of in G.O., Mis. No. 2416, Revenue, dated 17th June 1895. In several cases of even Jeroyati settlement, the Deputy Collector says that nobody appeared before him to represent the claims of proprietors; and, as regards minor Inams which cover nearly one-third of the area comprised in the present settlement, it appears both from the Deputy Collector's present report and from his report No. 149, dated 10th August 1896, submitted to Government with B.P., No. 4361, dated 9th September 1896, that all available information has not been collected by him. In the latter report in which he explained to the Collector the cause of delay in completing his work, he has written as follows:—

"Moreover, the Inamdars are now coming forward with several complaints. They have not hitherto attempted to appear before me to represent their claims in spite of the notice issued in the Gazette of this District as well as those of the adjacent districts. They are opening their eyes now and coming forward in numbers with their claims as well as with complaints against the karnams upon whose information the settlement of Inams was based"—(paragraph 4 of his letter)—and in his present report, after remarking in paragraph 2 (page 13) that certain "petitions have had to be kept by, being received too late for any action," he writes as follows in paragraph 272 (page 656). "In fact the Inamdars, as a rule, kept quiet either from ignorance or from the assurance of the karnams. Some of them, however, turned up with their claims and disputes rather late, while others could not think of their claims until it was too late for them. It could not have been apathy to their own interests. Else they would have tried to persist on the identification principle being acted upon, seeing that extracts from Inam sheets, which generally give the boundaries, might have been availed of if they chose." The last sentence, the Board does not understand; but it is clear from the other passages quoted above that in the case of Inams the Deputy Collector was not in possession of all available information. In these circumstances, and considering also that, in cases in which the mamul wet area is reduced, the proprietors concerned will not accept the settlement without a struggle which, in some cases at least, may take the form of suits in the Civil Courts, the Board is of opinion that the Collector should be called upon to institute a careful examination of some typical cases dealt with by the Deputy Collector, and to report his views as to the feasibility of carrying out such a thorough revision of the conversion rates as is contemplated in the Government Orders quoted above in paragraph 11. It is only on receipt of this report and of the report called for in paragraph 24 that

it will be possible to decide on what lines the revision should be conducted and by what agency. The investigation suggested in this paragraph will show whether the required revision can be carried out by the ordinary staff of Divisional-officers in the district, or whether a special agency should be employed.

26. For convenience of reference, the accompanying statements marked A,B,C,D and E are submitted, as also two files marked F and G, the former containing the principal (printed) Proceedings and Government Orders quoted either in the report or in these Proceedings, and the latter containing copies of some of the Collector's Proceedings referred to in the Deputy Collector's report or in the Collector's endorsements thereon.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
" Collector of Gódávari. with enclosures as per accompanying list.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1747.

From the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)

Order

Ref. Letter No. 366.

Dated 28 February 1898.
Received 3 Mar
Registered 4 —
Enclosures 1 & eight 2 annas Cs. Pg. papers.
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting for the orde
of Government petition fro
Dy. Collector Dr. K. Rly. Ch. V
-katachalam Pantulu fath
applying for copies of c
papers, relating to his c

Secreta

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue

Issued 27.

213

360 57

To REVENUE

19 FEB. 97

19 FEB 97

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)

Eight copy stamp paper Madras

Application from Ch. Venkatachalam Dy. Collector on leave.

Sir,

In the proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) no. 1940, Revenue, dated 5th July 1897, which was communicated to me by the Collector of the Godavary district, I find Board's proceedings no. 1997, his, dated 1st June 1897 set out in this, the Board, while Submitting to Government my application for permission to take up the appointment of Receiver of the Vallur Estates, were pleased to refer to the fact that the Board had already submitted a report to Government regarding the "bad" work done by me & to the fact of that proceedings having been recorded in Government Orders no 1772 dated the 2nd April 18[illegible], pending the receipt of similar reports from the settlement & Separate Revenue departments.

2. I beg to state that I have been favoured with no the copy of the above noted Board's Proceedings & thus had no notice of what the matter was against

ost earnestly request therefore that I may be [illegible]

Rec

Secreta

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(2.) If the papers related to a quarterly return of business, as I recollect the Board called for explanation while I was on special duty, Copy of the reports of my locumtenens Peddibhotla Punnayya Pantulu garu, Acting Deputy Collector at Narasapur.

(3) The report of the Collector.

8 Copy stamps are herewith submitted.

4. If the Board's proceedings referred to above related to another matter, I respectfully submit that there is the greater reason for taking my explanation, as the Board, I am sure, will not allow an old servant of Government like me to suffer without having an opportunity to put in my defence & without being afforded all facilities in view of the same.

I therefore request the favour in order that I may be enabled to submit my explanation before Proceedings final orders are passed & that in the light of the Collector's report.

I beg, respectfully to remain,
Your most obedient servant,
Ch Venkatal

Rec
Secreta

Vizianagaram Mandal Office
1916 8th

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Reference on Petn No 366 of 1898.

In replying the above should be quoted.

58

(LAND REVENUE.)

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE
MADRAS

Read — petition from M. Khy. Ch. Vam
Deputy Collector on leave, dated
1898.

Reference — dated 28 February 1

Submitted for the order

Government.

2. The letter referred to was
to Government with Board's Proc
981 dated 15th March '97. Final
not appear to have issued in

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Department.	Date.

Read again G.O. 677 d 13.9.
3894 d 29.9.
636 d 4.2.
1772 d 2.4.

also C.No^s.

5729 of 1897 B.P.(S.R) 272 30.6.
1161 of 1898 BP(R.Y) 91 8.2.
1201 of 1898 B.P(R.Y) 93 9.2.9
1706 of 1898 B.P(R.Y) 72 11.2.9
1747 of 1898 BP(R) 36 28.2.9

For orders.

The papers read above relate to the work of Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry Venkatachallam Pantulu now on furlough, as Treasury officer, Revenue Divisional officer and special officer engaged in the localization of manual wet lands in Godavari District.

2. In 1893, while M.R.Ry Venkatachallam Pantulu was in charge of the treasury in the Kistna District, he had to submit an explanation of the delay [illegible]

C 145/98.

disposal of an application for gratuity from one Mr Todd. The Govt there upon observed in G.O no 677 dated the 13th February 1895 that the conduct of business in the office of the Deputy Collector was discreditably lax and that M.R.Ry Venkatachellam Pantulu who was one of the two officers responsible seemed to have failed to take the most ordinary precautions to ensure that the work of the office was regularly carried on.

A(1)

3. In January 1895, M.R.Ry. Venkatachellam Pantulu was placed on special duty for six months to complete the work of localization of manual wet lands in the non-Govt villages of the Godavari District. He did not finish the work within the prescribed time but it dragged on till the end

G.O. no 64 / 10.1.95 G

A

of October 1896. In G.O no 3894 dated the 29th September 1896, the Govt called for a full explanation of the delay. The Deputy Collector's explanation and his report on the localization work have now been submitted by the Board of Revenue with C. no's 1201 of 1898 and 1701 of 1898. and will be dealt with below.

4. In December 1894 the then acting third member of the Board of Revenue found on inspecting the income-tax registers and records of the General & Deputy Collector, Narasapur that the decisions passed in 1895-96 by M. R.Ry. Venkatachellam Pantulu on income-tax objection petitions were very irregular. It appeared that the traders of Palcole - the principal town in the Division - having all presented objection petitions, M.R.Ry. Venkatachellam Pantulu called upon them to direct them

G.O. no 636 / 4.2.97 BB

emselves what they should
bay and allowed a re-
duction of one-fourth of the
assessment levied in 1894-95.
The Board of Revenue asked
the Collector to call upon
the Dy: Collector to show
Cause why he should not
be made to pay the sums
remitted by him in this
most irregular manner
and why the attention of
Govt should not be
drawn to the generally
Careless and slovenly
way in which his income
tax work had been done.
5. A copy of the
Board's above Proceed-
ings having been submitted
to Govt, the Hon'ble Sir
Henry Bliss observed
as follows:—
"I think we should have
"a full report on him.
"His income-tax work is
"evidently very bad. It
"would be well to make
"an example unless he

para 2 of B.P. in G.O. 636 BB 4.2.97

in G.O. 636 4.2.97 B

BB

letter d 1.3.97 CC
in G.O. No 1772 Com
2.4.97

"has a good defence, for it
"is pretty clear that little
"or no trouble is general
"taken about income-tax. It
"is a branch of work that
"comes so little under obse
"vation that men do not scr
"ple to neglect it and to
"base their claims to prefer
"ment on their quality of the
"Land Revenue and magiste
"rial work."
6 The Board of Revenue
was thereupon asked in
G.O. No 636 d 4.2.97 to sub
mit a special report regar
ding M.R.Ry Venkatachallam and
it was observed that the
nature of his income-tax
sions tended to raise doubt
as to his fitness for a
Divisional officer. The
Collector of Godavari, Mr
Brodie, to whom the Boa
in the Land Revenue Dep
made a reference replie
as follows:—
"I consider M.R.Ry
"Venkatachallam Pantulu

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"I think we should have
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"His income tax work is
"evidently very bad. It
"would be well to make
"an example unless he
"has the prescription
"dragged on till the end
of

para 2 of B.P. in Go. 636 BB
2.97

in Go. 636 BB
4.2.97

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"is pretty clear that little
"or no trouble is general
"taken about income-tax. It
"is a branch of work that
"comes so little under obse
"vation that men do not sc
"ple to neglect it and to
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in the Land Revenue Dep
made a reference replie
as follows:—

"I Consider M.R.Ry.
"Venkatachallam Pantu
ul-tax

BB

letter d 1.3.97 CC
in G.O. No 1772 Cm
2.4.97

"utterly unfit to be a Revenue
Divisional officer whatever
he may have been. In con-
nection with no Department
and in respect of no
duty has he done well. As
a subdivisional magistrate
"he was always an unconscionable
"time in disposing of cases
"and appeals and as a
"Revenue Officer it was
"just the same thing.
His income-tax work has
"been reviewed by the Board
"and speaks for itself.
"Lastly, he has been on
"special duty in connection
"with the localization of
"manual work and it has
"been just the same thing
"as the Board will see
"from the report... The
"work has been so badly
"done that it will have
"to be done over again.
"2. He is, I believe, a
"thoroughly honest man
but this is absolutely all
that can be said
of

6 BB 7

Co. 1772 DD.
2.4.97

"of him. He seems to
"quite incapable of coming
"to a decision promptly
"and supervising his sub-
"ordinates. On returning
"to this District, I have
"been much relieved to
"find him on leave and
"had it been proposed to send
"him back I would have
"been compelled to protest
"for he is quite unfit for
"a Divisional charge in a
"District like this and
"indeed in any District
"As a Treasury officer, I
"know nothing personally of
"his qualifications but judg-
"ing from the way in which
"he has discharged his
"duties generally, I should
"be very sorry to have him
"in that capacity too."
In submitting the above
letter to Government with its Pro-
ceedings No 981 mised 15.3.97,
the Board of Revenue endorse
the Collector's statement
about the bad work done

the Deputy Collector in con-
"nection with the localization
Division of manual wet lands.
he may 7. Mr. Brodie's report
"nection was recorded in Co. No
"and it 1772 d 2.4.97 pending
"duty receipt of the explanation
"a su from the Deputy Collector
"he w regarding his income tax
"time administration and the
"and localization of manual
"wet lands.
"Jus 8. The Dy: Collector's
"He explanation about his
"he income tax work which
"a was subsequently received
"& is contained in Co. No.
"Sp 5729 of 1897. Mr. K.
Mr. Vedhachellam Pantulu says that he
was actuated by no other
than honest motive and
that at worst it was
an error of judgment
on his part to have re-
duced the income-tax
assessments as he did.
He urges that he fixed
the assessment for
the year 1894-95 at Rs
2660

DD.

This is no excuse for incompetence
S/R

Matter not detailed in Verification

2660 as against the final
assessment of Rs 1,733-9-1
in 1893-94, that the asse
having thereupon put in a
petition to the
Collector complaining of
the enhancement, the latte
forwarded it to him with
the remark that the Act
should be worked with as
little friction as possible,
that he subsequently wen
on leave and that as his
locum tenens gave effect
to the assessment of the
'Collector' in 1894-95 only
in two cases' and that onl
to some extent, he had the
interfere in 1895-96 and
thought that "he would no
"be far wrong in allowin
"a reduction all round
"one-fourth of the assessme
"— in some cases less —"
In forwarding this explan
tion to Govt, the Collecto
has remarked that there is
not the least doubt that
the Deputy Collector act

e Deputy Collector in Con-
nection with the localization
of manual wet lands.

7. Mr. Brodie's report was recorded in C.O. No 1772 of 2.4.97 pending receipt of the explanations from the Deputy Collector regarding his income-tax administration and the localization of manual lands.

8. The Dy: Collector's explanation about his income-tax work which was subsequently received is contained in C.O. No 5729 of 1897. M.K.K. Venkatachellam Pantulu says that he was actuated by no other than honest motive and that 'at worst it was 'an error of judgment 'on his part to have re-'duced' the income-tax assessments as he did.' He urges that he fixed the assessment 'for

DD.

This is no excuse for incompetence
S/R

further detailed in-
Vestigation

2,660 as against the final assessment of Rs 1,733-9-0 in 1893-94, that the asse. having thereupon put in a petition to the Collector complaining of the enhancement, the latter forwarded it to him with a mark that the Act should be worked with as little friction as possible, that he subsequently went on leave and that as his locum tenens gave effect to the endorsement of the 'Collector' in 1894-95 only in two cases' and that only to some extent, he had not interfere in 1895-96 as he thought that "he would no "be far wrong in allowing "a reduction all round of "one-fourth of the assessment "— in some cases less —"

In forwarding this explanation to Govt, the Collector has remarked that there is not the least doubt that the Deputy Collector acted

perfect
in good faith in all that he did in Connection with the administration of the in Come-tax though there are not a few instances of errors of Judgment. Mr. Brodie has also observed as follows:—
"His work in every branch
"was unsatisfactory pointing
"to failing powers generally
"and as he says he is
"extending his furlough preli-
"minary to retirement, and
"so is not likely to return
"to duty as a Deputy Col-
"lector, I recommend in
"Consideration of the good
"work he seems to have
"turned out as a Younger
"man that he may be
"excused and no serious
"notice be taken of the
"errors committed by him
"in Connection with his
"in Come-tax or other work."
The Board in the Separate Revenue Deptt has not offered any remarks on this letter.
Q: Now remains for the Consideration

Consideration the work of localization of manul wet lands in the non-Govt villages of the Godavari District. in which the Dy. Collector was placed on special duty and which he expected to finish in six months. Under this head have to be considered the long delay in the completion of the work and the quality of the work done by him. As regards the former, a short precis of the Correspondence is given in B.P. No 931 Misc dy. 2.98 and also in the note under C.O. No 3894 dated the 29th September 1896. The salient points are briefly recapitulated below:— The Deputy Collector entered on the special duty on the 18th January 1895 but was allowed to resume charge of his division on the 3rd July 1895 on the ground that he was not able to

C No 1201 of 1898.

"A

make any appreciable progress in the localization work as the survey of the wet lands by the Survey Department did not proceed with sufficient rapidity to keep him fully engaged. ~~He was told~~ ~~that if he could not~~ He was permitted to keep on the special establishment sanctioned for the work. as he stated that he would, without prejudice to his general charge duties, settle all the preliminaries, and even effect actual localization and that the work which might remain unfinished by the end of November 1895 could be done in two months. In November 1895, however, M.R.G. Vs Panjtuly Katachellam urged that he was not able to make much progress in the special work. as he had charge of the division, and on the Collectors

× 1 Rev: Inspector on Rs 40
1 Clerk on Rs 25
2 peons on Rs 7 each
1 attender on Rs 10
1 masalji on Rs 6
Rs 95.

E.E. & G.O. 2475 18.6.95

Collector's letter dated 19.11.95 in G.O. 4983 H 9.12.95

The year 1894-95 at Rs

Collector's recommendation, he was again set free on the 4th January 1896 for the special work which it was thought would be finished by the end of April 1896. It was not, however, completed by that date. The delay was attributed to the non-receipt of survey records in time, and on the Collector's recommendation, the retention of the Deputy Collector and his special establishment till the end of June 1896 ~~was~~ was sanctioned as also the entertainment of two additional clerks. Subsequently at the Deputy Collector's request the entertainment of three field surveyors was also approved. The work did not however approach completion by the end of June. In explanation of the delay Mr Brodie stated that the Survey records were not received in sufficient

para 2 of Collector's letter d 14.4.96 in B.P. in G.O. No 1858/13.5.96 J

G.O. 2688/9.7.96 K.

Collector's letter No 2240/Ver of 1896 d 30.7.96 M in G.O. No 3894/29.9.96.

quantities to give full work to the Dy: Collector, that the records in respect of 29,382 acres were received from the Survey Party so late as the latter part of April, that the establishment originally sanctioned was wholly inadequate, that the survey records were not always correct, that there was a great deal of subdivision work to be done as the survey was by ten acre blocks and that the Deputy Collector had to resettle 12,760 acres of inam land with reference to the revised instructions issued in G.O. No 783 dated 22.2.96. and 3,240 acres of agraharam land owing to a misconception on his part of the applicability of G.O. No 230 dated the 13th March 1893, which he thought governed the case of agraharamdars. Mr. Brodie promised in conclusion that he would see that the whole work was completed by the 20th August the year 1894-95 at Rs 2660

V.
GG
HH

B.P. No 4361 P
9.9.96

M.G.O. 3894
29.9.96

A

August 1896. with the extra assistance of eight Revenue Inspectors which he said he had given the Deputy Collector. This expectation also was not fulfilled. Mr Brodie then found and reported that the cause of the slow progress was that the Dy: Collector did not exercise proper supervision over his subordinates that he had taken things easy and left the subordinates to themselves in spite of repeated instructions and that he had a desultory mode of doing business which rendered the forecast impossible of realization. Again on Mr Brodie's recommendation the retention of the Dy: Collector and his establishment till the end of October 1896 was sanctioned by Govt and the Collector was asked in G.O. No 3894 dated 29.9.96 to report while submitting the Dy. Collector's explanation (1) how far the delay was

due to the Survey Deptt.
(2) to set out clearly the several steps which the localization work involved
(3) to specify the actual outturn of each individual of the Dy: Collector's staff under each head, as contrasted with what the outturn should have been under proper supervision.

10. The Dy: Collector's explanation of the slow progress made is contained in his letter no 164 dd 9.9.96 and it has been reviewed by the then acting Collector Mr Elphinstone in his endt. no 3026 dated 30.9.96. wherein it has been shown that the pleas put forward by the Dy Collector are unsustainable. The report on the three special points above mentioned has been submitted by the Collector with his letter dated 4.3.97 read in B.P. ... the year 1894-95 ... 2660

Q

I,

70

Ctr 1201/98.

17

B.P. no 931 dd 9.2.98.

(11) With regard to the first question how far the delay in the ~~disposal~~ completion of the Settlement was due to the Survey Department it now appears from the statement flagged D that out of 163 villages in the District in which the Dy: Collector had to settle ... wet area, the survey records of 100 villages were received by him before the end of December 1895, those of 50 others before the end of April 1896 and those of the remaining 12 towards the end of May. The Collr says that although it is true that the work of the Dy: Collector was retarded for want of survey records at the beginning, the bulk of the records having been received before the end of December 1895, the subsequent delay in the settlement is to be attribu...

to the Deputy Collector him-
self who re-entered on his
special duty on the 4th
January 1896. The Board
of Revenue also concurs in
the main with the Collector
and observes that the
delay was due to a large
extent to the unmethodi-
cal way in which the
Dy: Collector proceeded
in the matter.

(2) As regards the
several steps which
the localization work in-
volved, the Dy. Collector
says as follows:—

"The old accounts available
"in any public office had
"to be obtained. In res-
"pect of to Jeroyati, state-
"ments of claims had to
"be obtained from the pro-
"prietors together with any
"document that could be
"filed; when Kurnams
"could produce any docu-
"ment they had to be taken
"and statements taken from
the year 1844-45 at vide 2660

paras 8 & 9 B.O. no C no 1201/98

letter No 235-d 31.10.96

C.

"from them when necessary.
"Then the settlement was
"made generally in the pres-
"presence of the proprietor
"after he was heard and
"himself requested to select
"the survey numbers which
"should hereafter from the usual
"wet area. When parts of
"Survey numbers were to be
"considered as usual wet,
"such parts were taken and
"the area involved in sub-
"division and these sub-
"divisions were effected by
"the Special Revenue Inspector
"and staff, to a small extent
"by the Inspectors employed
"in arduous work and
"by the additional inspect-
"latterly detailed for the
"work in Cocanada Divis-
"Range Inspectors having
"been made to do the work
"in Ramachandrapuram and
"other Talukas. In respect
"of the inams, the attend-
"ance of the Kurnams con-
"cerned had to be obta-

and statements prepared
" by them had to be checked
" by my office staff and
" then parts of the numbers
" had to be subdivided in
" the field, the selection being
" made by the inamdars
" when present and when
" not present, by me on the
" information of the Kurnam
" and the whole numbers
" being fixed subject to the
" area fixed in each case.
" In several cases where the
" survey afforded no faci
" lities as when inam was
" found clubbed with
Seri or when one number
was given by the survey
" Department and no sub
divisions for the inam portions
of two or more claimants,
the sub divisions have been
made by the staff except
" where the Survey Deptt
has subsequently effected
" it." In submitting
the above extract which
does not very clearly show what was done
the Collector
the year 1894-95 at vide
2660

C No 201/98.

Collector admits that the
work is no doubt complicated
and troublesome but points
out that the Dy: Collector has
entirely failed to visit the
fields and inspect things on
the ground which was most
essential and what was ex-
pected of him, that he had
merely passed decisions in
his office proceding on gene-
al principles and that he has
hardly made any attempt
to identify mamul wet on
the ground. The Board
also concurs that the work was
troublesome and complicated
but ~~that the Collector's~~ fear
that the Dy: Collector has
carried it out in the manner
in which it should have been
done. This question will be
further dealt with below in
discussing the quality or the
results of the work done.
(3). As regards the actual
outturn of work of each
individual in the staff
of the Dy: Collector, the
Collector

Collector has submitted a statement, which is however, very incomplete owing to the Dy: Collector's not having furnished particulars as to the number of days during which most of the Revenue Inspectors deputed by the Collector worked under him and to the work turned out by each of the men in his special establishment. The total amount of subdivision work done by the special establishment is given as 2,428.17 acres or 5.78 acres per head per diem, as against the Collector's standard rate of 15 acres. The Collector says :— "It will be "seen that the work turned out by almost every "one is so very small "that their Conduct needs "severe notice and to this "end their explanations have been called for

E

C.R. 1201/98.

and the year 1894-95 vide No 2660

22

"and I will deal with them "suitably in due course. The "fact far from divesting "the Dy: Collector of his res- "ponsibility only makes him "all the more to blame. He "did not take the trouble to "check the work of his sub- "ordinates Revenue Inspectors "and he left them much to "themselves. He did not call "for a single progress re- "port from any of them and "ascertain what progress they "were making. In his explan- "ation he puts forward the "plea of indifference on the "part of his subordinate Rev- "enue Inspectors as one "of the chief impediments "which tended to slack- "the progress of localiza- "tion work but this lone "of help lessness does him "the reverse of credit. If "all Inspectors were "refractory, the Dy: "handing them up to per- "form with him and that of

inflicting condign punish
"ment with me. His part
"he deliberately neglected
"to do... With regard
"to the question as to
"what the outturn of
"each individual should
"have been under proper
"supervision, I am un-
"able to express a definite
"Opinion except that it
"should certainly have
"been much greater than
"what it was. Repeated
"orders were issued from
"this Office directing the
"Dy: Collector to extract
"an amount of work of
"not less than 15 acres per
"head per diem. But they
"were entirely disregarded
"with the Consequence
"that the localization scheme
"apart from its
"not being completed
"by the date fixed has
"proved to be a waste
"of Govt money. If he
"could not extract this
"amount
the year 1894-95 2660

"amount of work, he should
"have reported the fact as
"got the order modified in
"reasons. Where manual wel
"areas were small and scatte
"very possibly 15 acres was to
"much but where it was
"in extensive or compact
"blocks it was too little. This
"knowledge of course, the Dy.
"Collector possessed and I
"did not, and he could have
"reviewed the work of his
"subordinates by it but inste
"he seems not to have super
"vised their work practically
"at all." The Board of
Revenue also observes that the
Dy. Collector was certain
to blame for not having
followed the course indic
by the Collector and that
his explanation that the
men were refractory a
did not act up to his in-
structions is hardly satis
factory.
"As one of the causes for
the excessive length of

CNo 1201/98.

taken by the Dy: Collector to complete the settlement, he said that he had to re-settle 12,760 acres of main land on account of the instruction issued in G.O. No 783 dated 22.2.96. The Collector however, has pointed out that the Deputy Collector who asked for additional field surveyors subsequent to the receipt of the above G.O. should have reported the fact and applied for more hands. The Board of Revenue observes that the Dy: Collector had blundered all along in estimating the amount of work to be done, and the time within which it could be completed, that if, with all this blundering, he had carried out his work satisfactorily, it would be inclined to recommend that his faults in other respects might be overlooked but that it is a matter for

the year 1074 F. 2660

GG

para 149 B. Pin Cir 01201/98

I submit that anyone who sees him will agree in this [illegible] 10/5/98

G.O. 64 R 10.1.95

for regret that the Dy: Collector's decision cannot be accepted and acted upon without further investigations.

The Board also adds that M.R.Ry V. Pantulu was an officer by age and physique unequal to the very heavy task imposed on him and indirectly hints that Govt made a mistake in having selected him for the work in preference to M.R.Ry. K. Narasimham Pantulu Tahsildar of Rama Chandrapur who was recommended by the Collector. Vent as to the rest of the work done by the Dy: Collector:—

The task assigned to the Deputy Collector was two fold (1) the determination of the extent to be allowed as manul wet in each case (2) the localization of the area so determined on the ground. In regard

to the first point, it was laid down in G.O. No 623 dated 4.9.88 that the gudikal wet area ie the area entered as wet in the permanent settlement accounts or accounts prior to the Construction of the Anikut should be allowed. As the areas given in those accounts were in local measures ('patti' in Bhimavaram & 'Katti' in Narasapur) they had to be converted into 'acres.' In 1875-76 a Deputy Collector MKRy. Kanchi Subba Rao, worked out the Conversion rate per 'patti' or 'Katti' in the case of 17 villages by dividing the survey area of the entire village (in acres) by the extent recorded (in local measures) in the old accounts and added 10 per cent to the rate thus deduced. This method would have been correct if the extent in local measures recorded in the old accounts represented the Cor[illegible] the year 1074 F[illegible] 2660

NN (also vide thereunder)

para 5 of B.P. in G.O. No 661 13-9-94 KK

G.O. No 626 4.9.88 SS.

G.O. 661 13.9.94. KK.

correct area of the entire village; but except in the case of occupied & poor cultivable lands, the extent recorded in the old accounts were more or less a matter of guess work. The result was that the rates ('per 'patti' & 'Katti') adopted by the Dy: Collector, MRy. Kanchi Subba Rao were much in excess of the Inam Commissioner's rates which were arrived at by local enquiry by skilled officers, at a time when local measures were better understood than at present, and which were adopted in the case of inam lands in the same village.

In 1894 the Collector brought to notice the fact that a large sum of revenue was being sacrificed every year on account of the erroneous settlements of manual wet lands made by MRy. Kanchi Subba Rao and also certain other officers who has proceeded on much the same lines as the former in Converting local measures in

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into acres. The Board of Revenue thereupon, after Consulting the Govt Pleader, recommended that all those Settlements should be repudiated and that the extents of manul wet in the villages settled should be revised by adopting in most cases the Inam Comrs' rates. The Govt ~~[illegible]~~, in G.O. No 661 dated 13.9.94 accepted the Board's proposals except in the Case of 16 villages ~~[illegible]~~ dealt with by Kanchi Subba Rao in respect of which it was held that the settlements already made should not be repudiated in view of the ~~[illegible]~~ position held by the officer when he made the settlement. In 1895, ie shortly after MRRy. Venkatachallam Pantulu entered on his Special duty, he reported that in several other cases besides those dealt with in the G.O. last quoted, erroneous the year 1074 7 2660

KK.

G.O. 2416 / 17.6.95 I.L.

84

erroneous rates of conversion had been fixed by former Collectors or other officers of high official position and that in accordance with the view taken in G.O. No 661 d 13.9.94 those rates were to be accepted, it would lead to absurd results namely that in some villages the Manul wet area so determined would be ~~[illegible]~~ larger than the large recorded area under wet Cultivation, in some, larger than the total dry and wet area under cultivation and in some others, larger than even the total area of the villages. The Govt thereupon, in G.O. No 2416 d 17.6.95, laid down in modification of G.O. No 661 d 13.9.94 that in all Cases in which the rates of Conversion have not been accepted for 20 years, they may be revised whatever be the rank of the ar

KK.

I.L.

3

1

who originally fixed them,
that in cases in which
the rates have been in
force for 20 years or
more they may be accepted
under protest, reserving
to Govt the right to re-
vise them should it deem
proper to do so, but that
in both sets of cases,
the Correct Conversion rate
should be determined on the
best data available."

13. As regards minor inams
in Zamindaris and agraharams,
it had been previously laid down in G.O.
No 230 d 13.3.93 that "where the
area irrigated is found to be
in excess of the area entered
as wet in the title-deeds
issued by the Inam Comr
the fairest course will be
to grant an allowance of
free irrigation within a maxi-
mum of 10 per cent in excess
of the area entered in the
title-deeds in all cases
except where the area of
manual irrigation is clearly
defined
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notes thereunder

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defined and well-known
and then the whole excess
if any, found on survey
should be given free of irriga-
tion."

On receipt of G.O. No 2616
d 17.6.95 directing the Dy.
Collector to determine Correct
Conversion rates in all
Cases on the best data avail-
able, the Board of Rev.
asked if the instructions
laid down in G.O. No 230 d 13.3.93
93 regarding the settlement
of minor inams, should not
be considered as Cancelled
The Govt answered the query
in the affirmative in G.O. No
No 783 d 22.2.96 under the
impression that the fresh Con-
version rates which the Collect-
ing Dy. Collector was asked
to determine on the best data
available would apply to
the minor inams as well.
Now, M.R.Ry. Ch. Venkata
Challam Pantulu in R. A.
(1) in determining the Corrt
Conversion rate the area

be allowed as manul wcl. 2(2) in localizing the area, has been wholly Condemned both by Messrs Shipley and Brodie.

(1) In regard to the villages settled by Kanchi Subba Rao. Mr Brodie had ordered ~~that~~ the Dy: Collector to revise the settlements as it was not then quite 20 years since they were made. The Dy: Collector however, did not do so, but accepted all the settlements in Vansapur under protest simply because when he ~~was~~ to begin the settlement, it was more than 20 years. Both Messrs Shipley & Brodie call this procedure on the part of the Dy. Collector indefensible. It is clear that as observed by the Board of Revenue the Dy: Collector should have revised all those cases in which the original settlement

C.R.O 1706 of 1898

para 12 of letter in page 3 of C.R.O 1706/98.

para 17 of in page 16 of the current (1706/98)

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settlement ~~was~~ was made within twenty years counting back from the date of the Govt order (dt 17.6.95.).

2ndly, as regards the rate of conversion adopted by ~~Mr~~ M.K.Ry. V. Pantulu, Mr Shipley observes that he again it was a failure: "The "Deputy ~~Dy~~ Collector has," Mr Shipley remarks, "in these "as well as other cases of "twenty years' standing, ina "cated an alternative area "to be treated as manul "wet in case the Govt does "not allow the 'under protest' "area to stand. This alternative area he has calculated "according to what he pleases "to term 'correct' conversion "rates'. The extent of the "land to be localized, he "ascertained from various "sources, whether 'taluk "accounts, Karnam's or pro "prietor's' accounts or settle "ments; sometimes these were "given in acres; sometimes in

para 13 in page 4 of C.R.O 1706/98.

"'puttis.' But as a 'putti' is a
"variable quantity he had to
"~~convert it~~ in each case to
"convert it into acres. This con-
"version he effected by a method
"whose only merit is simpli-
"city. He divided the survey
"area (in acres) by the number
"of 'puttis' according to the
"Judicial account. The result
"he calls the Correct Conversion
"rate. This procedure is
"fundamentally bad. The
"judicial area, at the best,
"was only an approximately
"correct: for in those days
"only the cultivated lands was
"measured, the rest was
"put down at a hazard
"and even the cultivated
"portion was only roughly
"measured. The consequence
"is that the Conversion rate
"adopted by the Deputy Collector
"gives many more acres to
the putti than either that
"adopted by the Inam Comr
"or in Bayley's memorandum.
"As a rule the Inam
Comr

"Comr allows eight acres to the
"putti. But the Deputy Collec
"as can be seen by a glance at
"his calculation, allows about
"ten or eleven. He has in fact
"done what M'Kay Kanchi Subb
"Rao did, converted the putti
"at an extravagantly high rat
"and therefore his settlement, in
"my opinion, fails in the same
"manner as M'Kay Kanchi Subb
"Rao's. In fact ~~does~~ except
"that M'Kay Kanchi Subba Rao
"allowed ten per cent addition
"the Special Deputy Collector ha
"accepted the latter rate in Nan
"sapur. Further, it is very
"noticeable that, Where the
"Inam Comr's rate is a high
"one than that at which the
"Correct conversion rate work
"out the Deputy Collector ha
"accepted it. It is only whe
"the Inam Comr's rate is mo
"liberal than his own
"the Deputy Collector is convin
"of its Correctness. In all
"other Cases and they are the
"large majority, he disca

"the Inam Commissioner's rates
"as incorrect and in more
"than a few cases he adds
"ten percent except where
"there is not sufficient land.
"Now here again he deliberately
"disobeyed orders. He was
"directed to adopt the Inam
"Comrs' rates in all cases
"except those in which they
"were obviously inadequate
"and even then he was only
"to allow the ten per cent ad-
"dition as a maximum. If
"even with the addition of the
"per centage he found the
"rate still inadequate, he
"was to settle each case on
"his merits and make a full
"report on the subject to the
"Collector. He has made
"no such report and he
"has, in very rare instances
"adopted the Inam Comrs'
"rates."

The Board of Revenue concurs with Mr Shipley in considering that the Gudikal area is only approximately

Correct

para 17 in p. 16 of Ctr
1706/88

correct and that the Dy. Collector was certainly to blame for not having obeyed the orders so explicitly given by the Collector. At the same time, the Board observe that the method of conversion adopted by the Dy: Collector was prescribed in Circ orders No 60 of 1865 for the purpose of determining excesses in Inamdars in Govt villages and that the applicability of the rule to proprietary villages was admitted by the Board itself in its Proceedings No 83 d 21.1.73. Here the Board apparently forgets the remarks made by Govt in a later G.O. of 1888. with reference to the ~~Gudikal~~ one of the villages settled by Mr Kg Kanchi Subba Rao. on the method above referred to, which Mr Kg. V. Santulu Pantulu has now followed:— "Kanchi "Subba Rao's rates were arrived at by dividing the total area (in acres) of the village as ascertained

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G.O. 626
4.9.88 SS.

ascertained by actual survey
only the number of Kattus
shown in the old accounts
"and adding 10 per cent
"under S.O. No 127 (New
S.O. No 124) to the rate
thus deduced. The prin
"ciple of the standing order
"is a safe and fair
"guide, if applied to
"occupied or cultivable
"lands only, but when
"it is applied to whole
"villages, there is always
"danger of large tracts
"of waste lands entered in
"the old accounts by
"guess usually much
"below the truth falsify
"ing the whole result.
"In cases of the latter
"description the safer
"rule to follow is to accept
"the rates of Conversion
"adopted by the Inam
"Comr. for the village
"or Estate Concerned as
"these rates were arrived
"at after local enquiry

"enquiry by skilled offices
"at a time when local
"measures were better known
"and ascertainable than
"now."

It would therefore appear
that the Dy: Collector who
refers to the G.O.
above quoted in his report
on the Saripalle village, had
no justification for adopt
ing Kanchi Subba Rao's
plan of Conversion which
was repeatedly condemned
as inaccurate and extra
vagant and that if he had
no other data for deter
mining the conversion ra
afresh, he had simply t
adopt the Inam Comr's
rates which was already
declared to be the safes
guide & to report those ca
in which he may deem th
rates inadequate for the a
of the Collector, as directed
the latter.

page 97 of the report.

3rdly. Mr Shipley point
out that the Dy: Col

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has committed a grave error in giving effect to the rule laid down in G.O. No 2416 × d 17.6.95 to the effect that where the manual wet areas to be allowed under protest are found to be in excess of the highest recorded areas under wet cultivation in the village, the maximum area irrigable should be allowed. Mr Shipley says that McKay v. Pantulu has made no separate enquiries as to the area irrigable but has adopted the areas entered as wet on the Kurnam's word in the Survey Registers and in some cases larger areas too on the Kurnam's assurance that such areas were irrigable. 4th Cly In the Case of minor inams, the Dy Collector has adopted the method of Conversion already referred to and to the rate deduced has added 10 per cent. Mr Shipley strongly condemns the Dy: Collector's action in the following passage :— "This addition of 10 per cent is nothing less than astounding. The consequence of the addition to the (so called) 'correct' conversion rate is that the minor inamdar usually finds himself in possession of more free acres than there are in his inam! There are many such cases and the total area allowed as manul wet is 1,874 acres in excess of that in actual enjoyment. Besides this he has allowed the maximum irrigable area in these minor inams on the same principle as in the Zemindari Jeroyati lands. The total extent .... is probably 1,000 acres. The fact is that he ought to have made separate enquiries in Each case. But he had already spent much time over this localization and with the dread of explanat

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para 17 of letter
at page 5 of
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para 19 of letter at page 5
of CRO 1206/28

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before him, he evidently thought it wiser to settle these Cases in his office all on one principle and one method. His method is, of course, vicious ab initio as shown above and I cannot understand why the Dy: Collector did not accept the Inam Comrs rates. These rates (it may be as well to lay stress on this point) were calculated after an exhaustive enquiry in each village by a staff of competent subordinates under an able head and at a time when local measures were more easily ascertainable and better known than they are now. The arrogance of the Dy: Collector in rejecting them without fresh enquiry is startling. In my opinion this localization & settlement is

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para (7(5) in page 18 of CR 01706/28

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is a failure."

The Board of Revenue however thinks that the Dy. Collector had some excuse for having proceeded as he has done in the case of Inamdars. The instructions issued to him by the Collector not to allow more than 10 per Cent in excess of the area entered in the Inam Comrs title-deed without special sanction was based on G.O. no 2306 of 13.3.93. But this latter G.O. was declared in G.O. no 783 of 22.2.96 to be considered as cancelled by G.O. 2416 of 17.6.95 in which the Dy. Collector was asked to determine correct Conversion rates on the best data available. The Dy: Collector therefore, the Board seems to think, was of opinion that he was not bound by the Collector instructions and that he was at liberty to deduce "Correct Conversion rates which

which he did as in the Case of Jeroyati lands by dividing the Survey area of the whole village by the gudikal area.

It should however be noted that in the Govt order no 2416 dtd 17.6.95 it was never said that the Dy: Collector should reject the Inam Comrs rate as inaccurate & to adopt the gudikal-survey rate so often condemned; and as already noted it was a great error of Judgement on his part to have preferred, in exercise of the discretion which he thought he was allowed, the latter rate to the former.

Next as regards the 2nd item of the work namely localization, the Collector and the Board of Rev: are of opinion that it is also unsatisfactory because the Dy: Collector

failed to, Collector personally inspect the fields which he allowed to be selected by the parties and satisfy himself that all lands from which wet's Cannot be excluded are as far as possible included in the areas so localized. ~~Moreover~~ in view of the fact that the levy of wet's rate on involuntary irrigation has been declared illegal.

The Board has also after examining some of the cases settled by the Dy: Collector come to the conclusion that the work done by the Dy: Collr cannot be accepted without further scrutiny & investigation. Mr Shipley thinks that a fresh settlement must be made with the ordinary staff of Rev: Divisional officer, Tahsildars, Revenue Inspectors. Mr Brodie doubts the advisability of this plan and is inclined to have the work done again by a special establishment

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The Board of Revenue however, before giving an expression of its opinion as to the expediency or feasibility of carrying out a fresh investigation regarding ~~previously dissected by Govt,~~ when the manual wet question, as already directed by Govt. considers that the Collector of Godavari should ascertain ~~and to~~ from the Collector of Kistna and report how it was that the question of conversion rate did not cause any difficulty in that District. The Board also is of opinion that the Collector should be called upon to examine some typical cases dealt with by the Dy: Collector and to report his views as to the feasibility of carrying out a thorough revision of the Conversion rates as contemplated by Govt. that it is only on receipt of the above reports, ~~that~~ it will be possible to decide

decide on what lines the revision should be conducted and by what agency.

These reports may perhaps be awaited but the broad facts seem to be sufficiently clear to show that a fresh investigation is necessary and that the Dy: Collector's present settlement cannot be accepted in its present form.

In the case of Jeroyati lands in non-Govt villages the Dy: Collector has, as pointed out by the Collector adopted very liberal rates of Conversion by following the plan of Kanchi Subba Rao which was ~~of~~ particularly pointed out as unsafe.

In the case of minor manual wet allowed by the Dy: Co. are far in excess of the ~~rate~~ entered in the inam title deeds: because the survey & Kat & rate had been adopted in these cases also.

the meantime, orders have to be passed regarding the Dy: Collector, M.K.Ry Ch. Venkatachallam Pantulu.

In the note under G.O. No 5368 15-10-97 the Secretary (the Hon'ble Mr Stokes) remarked as follows:- "The Deputy Collector will "be 55 years in September "1898. He is under report "for great inefficiency. It seems "to me therefore that he "should not be allowed to "rejoin the service but "should be kept on leave "till his retirement. This "is a very merciful course "to him. It seems very "difficult to get the report "on his case out of the local "officers. Pending its disposal "any way, he should not "be allowed to come back "to active service." The Hon'ble Member concurres in this view and the Dy: Collector was accordingly informed in G.O. No 5369 dated 15-10-97 that he would not be allowed to return to duty pending disposal of the reports about his conduct in the collection of manial wet-land cess and in administering income-tax. but that he would be granted an extension of leave if he applied for it and was eligible.

The Dy: Collector who was first granted furlough for one year from the 1st November 1896 accordingly applied for an extension of three months and it was sanctioned in G.O. No 5873 15-11-97. On the 17th January last he applied for a further extension of 5 months and said that he hoped to retire with effect from the 26th Sept 1898 the date on which he would complete his fifty fifth year. The A.G. however declared that the Dy: Collector was eligible only for an extension of furlough for

for three months & 15 days.
and ~~this~~ it was accordingly
sanctioned so that the last
extension will expire
by the 15th of this month.
The Dy: Collector will have
then 4 months & 11 days
to complete his 55th year.
and he has not ~~yet~~ put in
full thirty years service
so that he cannot retire immediately.
Having regard to Mr Brodie's
strong views that the Dy: Collector
is ~~not~~ thoroughly unfit
to be in charge of any di-
vision, and in view of the
extremely unsatisfactory
nature of the incumbent's
localization work, it
seems out of the question
to allow the Dy: Collector
to continue in service. It
is for consideration whether
the short period of about 4 months
which must elapse
before he completes
his fifty-fifth year
may not be treated as
leave on loss of pay
and

the Deputy Collector re-
tired thereafter.

Mc
9/5/98.

Secy

It seems clear that
that the work of localisation
must be done over again
but before orders are passed
on this question the further
reports called for by the Bd
(1) as to why no difficulty
as to conversion rates was
felt in Krishna & (2) whether
a thorough revision of con-
version rates in Godavari is
feasible now, might
await. The Bd might
asked to expedite these
reports & to submit them
with a full expression
of its views & recommendations
on the subject.

As for Venkata
Chellam Pantulu it is
to submit clearly proved
that his work in all
respects was most inefficient

the Collector Mr Brodie strongly certifies to his honesty but his errors are all one way – i.e. they benefit the individual at the expense of the State.

He says it is extraordinary Entirely to grant him leave without allowances till September next when he will be 55 – when he has been ordered to retire.

His pension whether his inefficient work should be visited with a more substantial mark of the Govt's displeasure. Will perhaps be sufficient to mark the question when his pension application comes for order.

10.5.98

Yes As to the localization work we may await the further reports called for by the Board

As to the Dy Collr Venkatachellam Pantulu there is a consensus as to his incompetence & the inexpediency of permitting him to return to duty. As proposed, he may be told and

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12.2.98

Yes 1-2-17
A.H. 2-2-17
Extraordinary leave without allowances from date of expiry of his present leave (16th inst) till he shall be completed his 55th year.
G.O. 11/5/98

Read again G.O. 677 13.2.95
3894 29.9.96
636 4.2.97
1772 2.4.97

also Cros.

5729 of 1898 B.O (SR) 2723 30.6.97
1161 of 1898 B.P (RY) 915 8.2.98
1201 of 1898 B.P (RY) 931 9.2.98
1706 of 1898 B.P (RY) 73 11.2.98.
17479 of 1898 B.P (RR) No 361 28.2.98

G.O. Misc No. 2212 d/21st may 98.

After a full consideration of the reports submitted by the Board of Revenue regarding the work of the Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry Ch. Venkatachellam Pantulu, the Govt agrees with the observations that there is a general consensus of opinion as to his incompetence and the inexpediency of permitting him to return to duty.

To the Secretary

As the time is so short I have issued the Opl. Telegram in the 2nd para. in anticipation of approval

[illegible] 20.5.98

Appd. A.H. 20.5.98

directs

~~ordinarily resolves to~~ direct ~~that he should be called upon to apply for extraordinary leave without allowances from the date of the expiry of his furlough to the date on which he completes his fifty-fifth year.~~

The Dy Collector has been ordered to retire w.e.f. his No 272 Rev. & Ag. dt. from the 26th Septr next. Then he will have attained the age of 55 years. His present leave expires on the during the course of which he chooses according to direction to apply for extraordinary leave without allowances from the date of expiry of the present leave to the date on which he will attain.

2. The following telegram will be despatched to the Collector of Godavari:-

'Deputy Collector Venkatachellam Pantulu should not return to duty. He should be directed to apply for leave without allowances until he completes his fifty-fifth year when he retires.'

defers

Issue this advice as apparently he may return to duty on 15th. If the order is afterwards modified, we may allow him to rejoin later

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3. The Govt agrees with the Board of Revenue that the Deputy Collector's settlement of the manual wetlands cannot be accepted without further investigation and before taking further steps in the matter resolves

CRO 1706/98.

resolves to await the further reports which the Board of Revenue has deemed fit to call for from the Collector of Godavari in paras 24 & 25 of its Proceedings No 73 dt 1.2.98 & the Bd's views thereon.

(from orders) MK 14/5/98

S/B 14/5/98

We cfpd 23/5/98

To the Bd (L.R.)
To the Bd (R.S.) with Encl (23) returned.
To the Bd (J.R.)

MK 14/5/98.