Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2547-2553

DATED 5th May 1898.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Endeavg. that the Govt. of India be addressed on the subject of the simplification of returns of agricultural statistics.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government {1898} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 254, 5th May 1898.

MAY.

Returns of Agricultural Statistics.

Ordered that the Government of India be addressed on the subject of the simplification of —

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again G.O., No. 206, Revenue, dated 21st May 1896.

Abstract.—Approving the suggestions of the Board of Revenue for the simplification of returns of agricultural statistics.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 3943, Revenue, dated 29th July 1897:—

Read—the following letter from DENZIL IBBETSON, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, (Department of Revenue and Agriculture—Statistics), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 13th July 1897, No. 1825—I-2:—

I am directed to communicate the following remarks in reply to your letter No. 207, dated 21st May 1896, with which you forwarded to the Director-General of Statistics, for the orders of the Government of India, a copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue containing suggestions regarding the preparation and submission of the returns of agricultural statistics.

2. The Government of India recognise the fact that the work imposed upon the village (as upon all other Government) establishments is increasing, and fully sympathise with the desire of the Madras Government to reduce it by discontinuing any portion that can properly be held to be unnecessary. They understand, however, that all the particulars from which the tables of agricultural statistics are compiled are, and will continue to be, *recorded* every year in Madras for each survey unit; and that the labour to which exception is taken is that of extracting the figures in the form of totals for embodiment in the tables. The letter under reply mentions the necessity of posting the details for each separate field. It is perhaps possible that some slight modification of the register in which the details are recorded might remove this necessity. In Northern India the totals are ordinarily extracted and posted for each page or double page only of the register.

3. The general case as regards the tables of agricultural statistics is as follows. They are prepared and submitted to Parliament under the general orders of the Secretary of State for India; and some of them have been framed or altered so as to comply with his special requisitions. Their form has been several times considered by experts from all the provinces in conference, with a view to reduce the labour of compilation to the lowest point compatible with the object in view. It is not yet ten years since they were thus reconsidered. Their value mainly depends upon their being uniform for all provinces; and other provinces have not suggested any alterations; though all doubtless feel the burden of preparing them. At the same time, one of the main objects which the Government of India, acting upon the recommendations of the Famine Commission, endorsed by the Secretary of State, have steadily kept in view in developing and improving the village agency, has been to obtain accurate and complete agricultural statistics regarding the land. These statistics serve a double purpose. They are not only important as informing Government year by year of the condition of the estates from which it draws its land revenue, and as enabling it to gauge the agricultural progress of each tract and village, to decide in what respects

its agricultural standard is most deficient, and to detect at once signs of deterioration which may call for relief, but they are also of special value as affording a sound basis for the assessment of the land revenue demand, thus doing away with the necessity for that minute inquisition by a foreign establishment which has been one of the chief evils attendant upon settlement operations. The totals for villages are therefore absolutely necessary; and their extraction is the main part of the labour. Their compilation into totals for districts and provinces is a comparatively small matter. It must be remembered also that the tables are imperial and not merely provincial; and that the omission of details which may be of minor importance in a particular province will destroy the completeness of statistics which may be of the greatest importance for India taken as a whole. Finally, any change in periodical returns is to be avoided unless there are very strong reasons in its favour as it destroys the continuity of the statistical record and renders comparison impossible. A change which affected one province only would be still more objectionable, as the figures must then be either incomplete or heterogeneous.

4. I am now to examine in detail the proposals made in your letter under reply. The references are in all cases to the tables as published for 1893–94 which was the latest issue in the hands of the Madras Government when the letter under reply was written.

Form A-3.—Detail of area under various crops.

Form A-2.—Fallow; cropped area; areas irrigated from various sources; irrigated areas under classes of crops.

It seems to the Government of India that this information is almost useless unless it is obtained annually. The figures fluctuate so widely from year to year in sympathy with the nature of the season that it would be most unsafe to take every tenth, or even every fifth year as typical. The information is of the first importance for assessment purposes, and, the Government of India would have thought, for general administrative purposes also; and it is necessary that it should be complete. They do not think the list of crops can be reduced with advantage; it was indeed amplified some years ago at the request of the Secretary of State. It seems to them important to distinguish between irrigation from canals, wells and tanks, respectively; and here again, details of irrigation were specially called for by the Secretary of State. The detail of irrigated crops given under head 7 of Table A-2 is perhaps not so essential, while the labour of extracting it must be considerable. But separate details of the cropping of irrigated and unirrigated land, respectively, are of the greatest value in fixing assessment rates; and they would retain the information, which is otherwise interesting and useful. It will be for the Government of Madras to decide whether they will simplify or abandon the still more elaborate provincial form of Table A-3, and the distinction between raiyatwari and inam land to which the joint note forwarded with your letter refers. The Government of India require neither.

5. *Table A*-1—*Total areas by professional and village surveys.*—The item to which the strongest objection is taken is that headed "area in village papers." It is, however, or should be, simply the total of heads 1 to 5 of Table A-2; so that if these are retained, this total is ready to hand. For the object of the entry I am to refer you to page 2 of the explanatory memorandum prefixed to the returns of agricultural statistics for 1893–94. I am to remark that it, as would appear from the joint note, the Madras Presidency has been "completely surveyed," it is not evident why the figures of heads 4 and 3 are not identical, as they are in Bombay and Sindh.

6. Under the other heads of Table A-1, the fluctuations are inconsiderable, except where, as in Bengal or Burma, survey operations are in progress on a large scale. The Government of India propose therefore to transfer head 4 to Table A-2, giving it either as the first entry under the heading "area for which village returns are available," or merely making it the total of heads 1 to 5; probably the former. This having been done, they think that Table A-1 (which would then consist of the first three heads, and deal with professional survey only) might be made quinquennial; subject to the proviso that whenever survey operations on a considerable scale are in progress, whether in British territory or in feudatory states, in tracts which have not before been surveyed, or not for many years, the alterations in area which the

results of the operations may render necessary should be annually embodied in the figures. It is for the Local Government to say whether this change would give any material relief.

7. *Table A-4—Live-stock.*—The Government of India agree with much that is said about this table in the joint note. They are inclined to make it quinquennial. It is true that it is of advantage to know the effect of a year of drought or famine upon the live-stock. But they doubt whether the figures have at present much claim to accuracy; and they believe that a quinquennial census would be more likely to be accurate than an annual one, as it would become a special operation instead of a part of the yearly routine. In some provinces the live-stock are counted, for the purposes of the present return, in one-fourth of the villages only each year, so that each return includes partial statistics for four separate years, of which two may precede and the other two follow a year of drought. This must destroy in great part the usefulness of the figures, and a general quinquennial census would clearly be preferable.

8. *Table C—Incidence of land revenue on area and population.*—The Government of India think that this return also may be made quinquennial, though they would not make it decennial. Here again, in some provinces the figures are ascertained with accuracy for a portion only of the villages in each year. But the figures in question change so slowly that there is apparently no objection to the procedure in this case, the figures being annually rectified for, say, one-fifth of the villages; subject however to the proviso that in any year in which a new assessment has been announced in a local area, the figures for the whole of that area must be brought up to date.

9. *Table D—Tenures held from Government.*—The Government of India think that this table might be treated in the same manner as Table C; when settlement operations are concluded in any local area, the figures for that area being brought up to date.

10. If, as suggested above, Tables A-1 and A-4, C and D are made quinquennial, the years for their separate preparation might be fixed as follows with reference to the years of Indian census:—

Table C	... ...	1892, 1897, &c.
Do. D	... ...	1893, 1898, &c.
Do. A-4	... ...	1894, 1899, &c.
Do. A-1	... ...	1895, 1900, &c.

All these tables should however be repeated each year in the general administration report, with a note to show the year in which the figures were last collected.

11. As regards the change of date by which the returns are due to reach the Government of India, there is no objection to the date for Table E being changed to 1st February as proposed in paragraph 7 of the Board's Resolution. But as that date will leave not more than sufficient time for the subsequent examination and compilation of the figures, I am to ask that the strictest punctuality may be observed. The Government of India are not certain whether the Madras Government desire any change in the date for the despatch of the other tables.

12. I am to say that other Local Governments and Administrations will now be consulted regarding the changes suggested in paragraphs 5 to 10 of this letter, and I am to request that the Government of India may be favoured with the opinion of the Madras Government upon them.

Order—Mis. No. 3943, Revenue, dated 29th July 1897.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for early remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

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

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 9612, dated 30th November 1897:—

Read—Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

Resolution—Mis. No. 9612, dated 30th November 1897.

The Board begs to submit the following reply to G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

2. The Government of India is willing to make tables A_4, C and D, as well as table A_1 with the exception of item 4, quinquennial. The Board considers that this may be accepted. It is to be observed, however, that table D is already a quinquennial return in this Presidency—*vide* paragraph 5 of letter from the Government of India, communicated with G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891. As regards table A_1, the Government of India, in paragraphs 5 and 6 of its letter, observes that item 4, "corresponding area by village papers" is or should be simply the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2. It therefore proposes to transfer the item to the latter table and enquires whether, with this change, the submission of table A_1 quinquennially would give any material relief. The Board begs to state that though, as observed by the Government of India, item 4 of table A_1 should agree with the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2, it is not obtained by merely totalling up those heads but by independent postings in the village and taluk accounts and this course is followed in order to secure a check of the totals obtained under those heads. The change proposed by the Government of India will not therefore afford material relief. It may be noted in this connection that instructions have recently been received from the Director-General of Statistics that totals of heads 1 to 5 should be entered in table A_2—*vide* G.O., No. 1159, dated 27th February 1897.

3. With reference to the concluding sentence of paragraph 5 of the Government of India letter, the Board begs to state that the main cause of the difference between the figures entered against items 3 and 4 of table A_1 is as explained in the memorandum referred to by the Government of India, that the area by professional survey, which is furnished by the Superintendent of Survey, represents the area by *traverse survey*, while the area by village papers represents the added total of field areas. The Superintendent has, however, been requested to send a revised statement substituting the total of field areas wherever available, for traverse area. When this is received, the revised figures will be entered in the statistical table A_1, and then it is hoped that the differences between items 3 and 4 of the table will be minimised. They cannot entirely disappear, because whole inam villages in the Presidency are, with a few exceptions, unsurveyed.

4. The Board regrets that the Government of India is unable to sanction the submission of tables A_2 and A_3 quinquennially. The Government of India remarks in paragraph 2 of its letter, that the necessity of posting the details for each field, required for these tables, may possibly be obviated by some modification of the village registers, and that in Northern India, the totals are ordinarily extracted and posted for each page or double page only of the register. The Board begs to state that, even in this Presidency, totals are made for each page of the Adangal (village account No. 2)—*vide* form of posting statement given at page 17 of Board's Proceedings, No. 131, dated 10th March 1894; but, that in making out the totals for each page, separate postings have to be made, in detail of fields, for each different crop and item of information specified in the tables. With so many different items, it appears impracticable to provide a separate column for each in the village accounts so as to facilitate totalling; but the point will be considered in connection with the revision of the "Village Manual."

5. Referring to the latter part of paragraph 4 of the Government of India letter, the Board begs to state that Government has already sanctioned the discontinuance of the Provincial return G—*vide* paragraph 7 of G.O., No. 516, Revenue, dated 8th October 1896.

6. In paragraph 8 of its letter, the Government of India, while suggesting that table C may be made quinquennial observes that in some provinces the figures are ascertained with accuracy for a portion only of the villages in each year and that there is no objection to this procedure, the figures being annually rectified for, say, one-fifth of the villages. This plan would save no labour in this Presidency, as the main portion of the table, *i.e.*, from column 4 onwards, is filled in from statements prescribed and prepared annually for the Jamabandi report, and from the census tables.

7. In paragraph 11 of the letter, the Government of India states that table E may be submitted by 1st February as proposed by the Board and adds that it is not certain whether the Government of Madras desires any change in the date for the despatch of the other tables. As stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the joint note submitted with Board's Proceedings, No. 20, dated 4th February 1896, the returns of agricultural statistics and the statements connected with the annual settlement of land revenue have to be prepared from the same sources; but, while the latter are due in the Board's office only on the 1st October and to Government on the 1st March, the former have to be submitted to the Director-General of Statistics by the 1st November and are therefore due to the Board by the middle of August. This hardly leaves sufficient time in the districts, for the correct preparation of these returns, as they relate to the year ending 30th June; and the result is that numerous discrepancies are noticed and frequent references to Collectors are necessitated. The Board would therefore suggest that the date fixed for the submission of the returns of agricultural statistics be changed from 1st November to 1st February.

There is, however, one difficulty in making this change, and that is, that all these returns are published in the General Administration Report of the Presidency and are therefore required to be submitted to Government in the Public Department by the 1st November. This difficulty can be overcome, if, for the purposes of the Presidency Administration Report, the figures of the preceding year (fasli), or quinquennium as the case may be are considered sufficient. In the case of the administration of land revenue, of which a summary appears in Part I of the Presidency Administration Report, the information given in the report relates to the preceding fasli year.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Order—No. 254, Revenue, dated 5th May 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Government sees no objection to the proposal of the Government of India to make tables A_1 (with the exception of item 4) A_4, C and D quinquennial. As regards item 4 of table A_1 the Government considers that it would best appear as the total of items 1 to 5 of table A_2. In the case of table C, it will be pointed out to the Government of India that no relief will be given by making table C quinquennial and, at the same time, requiring that the figures for one-fifth of the villages should be annually rectified; and in the case of table D, it will be pointed out that this return is already quinquennial in this Presidency and that no annual revision of the figures for any portion of the villages is required.

2. The decision of the Government of India to retain tables A_2 and A_3 as annual returns will be accepted, it being understood that item 7 of table A_2, giving the details of the crops irrigated is to be omitted. The Government notes that the Board will consider the question of revising the form of the Adangal (village statement No. 2) so as to facilitate the extraction of the particulars required by tables A_2 and A_3; an additional column or two for the separate exhibition of the more important items would probably not add materially to the present length of the account.

3. The years proposed by the Government of India for the separate preparation of the several tables seem suitable.

4. As to the date by which these returns should be forwarded to the Director-General of Statistics, the Government agrees with the Board that the 1st of February would be suitable.

5. The Government of India will be informed of the views of His Excellency in Council and the following letter will accordingly be addressed to that Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).

Exd. A. F. Eccleston

50 Copies.

1898.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

From

The Government of Fort St. George.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

Letter, No. 255, 5th May 1898.

MAY.

ADDRESSING the Government of India on the subject of the simplification of returns of agricultural statistics.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. G. S. FORBES, I.C.S.,
Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Dated Ootacamund, 5th May 1898.

Sir,

I am directed to reply to your letter, No. 1825-1-2, dated 13th July 1897, on the subject of simplifying the returns of agricultural statistics and to state the views of His Excellency the Governor in Council on the changes referred to in paragraphs 5 to 10 of the letter.

Miscellaneous.

2. *Table A_1.*—The Government of India propose to transfer head 4 of the table to table A_2 and with this alteration to make the table quinquennial, subject to the proviso, that, whenever survey operations on a considerable scale are in progress whether in British territory or in Feudatory States in tracts which have not before been surveyed or not surveyed for many years, the alterations in area which the results of the operations may render necessary should annually be embodied in the table. His Excellency the Governor in Council accepts the proposal. With regard to the alternative proposed as to head 4 of table A_1, I am to urge the desirability of making this head the total of items 1 to 5 of table A_2 instead of giving it as the first entry in the latter table under the heading "area for which village returns are available". For, although as remarked by the Government of India, item 4 of A_1 should be merely the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2, it is obtained in this Presidency not by simply totalling up those heads but by tabulation by villages and independent postings from the village and taluk accounts. The change suggested by the Government of India in table A_1 will not, therefore, afford any relief unless head 4 of the table consists simply of the total of items 1 to 5 of table A_2.

3. In paragraph 5 of your letter, you enquire why, if as it would appear, the Madras Presidency has been completely surveyed, the figures under head 3 and under head 4 of table A_1 are not identical. I am to explain that the apparent discrepancy arises mainly from the fact that the figures under head 3 represent the areas by traverse survey while those under head 4 exhibit the added totals of field areas; moreover the whole inam villages in this Presidency being with few exceptions unsurveyed, their area is not included in item 3.

4. *Tables A_2, A_3, A_4.*—His Excellency in Council accepts the decision of the Government of India that statements A_2 and A_3 should continue to be annual and that table A_4 should be made quinquennial. It is understood that head 7 of statement A_2 will be omitted.

5. *Tables C and D.*—This Government concurs in the proposals of the Government of India that tables C and D should be made quinquennial subject to the proviso that in any year in which a new assessment has been announced in any local area, the figures for the whole of that area must be brought up to date. I am to point out, however, that so far as this Presidency is concerned, table D is already quinquennial under the orders conveyed in Sir E. C. Buck's letter, No. 1483-20, dated 20th July 1891.

6. With reference to the proposal contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 of your letter that in these two returns the figures relating to a portion—say one-fifth—of the villages should be rectified each year, I am to explain that such a procedure in the case of table C would not save any labour in this Presidency as the main portion of the table, *i.e.*, from column 4 onwards is filled in from statement prescribed and prepared annually for the annual settlement or Jamabandi report and from the census tables; while in the case of table D, it would entail additional work as this rectification is not at present required.

7. His Excellency in Council considers the years proposed in paragraph 10 of the letter under reference for the separate preparation of the several tables to be suitable.

8. As to the date on which the returns are due to the Director-General of Statistics, I am to point out that the difficulties experienced in preparing and checking the figures by the 1st November, the date at present fixed, are common to all the statements. I am, therefore, to request that the Government of India will be pleased to alter this date in respect of all the returns to the 1st February.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

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NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., Nos. 254-255, REVENUE, DATED 5TH MAY 1898.

[SUBJECT.—*Simplification of Agricultural Statistics.*]

From the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 9612, *dated* 30*th November* 1897.

To Secretary—

These papers relate to the question of simplifying the returns of agricultural statistics which are now forwarded to the Director-General of Statistics. The returns are four in number, viz., A, C, D, E. Statement A is divided into four parts lettered A_1, A_2, A_3 and A_4. (Statement B is no longer sent being discontinued under the order contained in the Government of India Circular, No. 7-S.-G., dated 16th April 1896.)

G.O., No. 198, dated 15th May 1896.

2. In February 1896, the Board of Revenue forwarded to the Government with certain modifications a joint memorandum prepared by Messrs. Wynch, Rajaratna Mudaliar and Benson containing suggestions for reducing the work of the village and taluk establishments by dispensing with the annual compilation of some of these statistics. These proposals were forwarded with the recommendation of the Government to the Director-General of Statistics for submission to the Government of India.

G.O., No. 206, dated 21st May 1896.

3. The reply of the Government of India to the proposals is contained in its letter, dated the 13th July 1897, and the remarks of the Board of Revenue thereon in the current.

G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

Each statement will be discussed separately.

Table A_1.—*Total acreage* showing the total area by professional survey and the variation of this area from the area arrived at from the village papers after deducting the areas of feudatory states and other areas for which no returns are available.

Form given on page 4 of Government of India *Resolution* in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891.

The joint memorandum suggested that, as the figures in this statement are practically almost unnecessary, it would suffice that if the return be made decennial and for the years in which the census is taken. Entry No. 4—"area by village papers"—was particularly objected to as being unnecessary in this Presidency. It was stated that the preparation of this entry entailed tabulation by villages and that small differences which resulted involved numerous references for explanation. The item appeared, the writers of the memorandum said, to have been added with special reference to provinces which had been

G.O., No. 206, dated 21st May 1896.

area by professional survey—and remarked that if the Madras Presidency had been completely surveyed, it was not evident why the figures of heads 4 and 3 were not identical. The Government of India would * propose, however, to transfer head 4 to table A_2† giving it either as the first entry under the heading—*area for which village returns are available*—or merely making the total of heads 1 to 5; probably the former. This having been done, it is proposed that table A_1 which would then consist of the first three heads (at present in it) and deal with professional survey only should be made quinquennial, subject to the proviso that, whenever survey operations on a considerable scale are in progress whether in British territory or in feudatory states in tracts which have not before been surveyed or not for many years, the alterations in area which the results of the operations may render necessary should annually be embodied in the figures. The Local Government was asked to say whether this change would give any material relief. With reference to this, the Board states that though, as observed by the Government of India, head 4 of table A_1 should agree with the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2, it is not obtained by totalling up those heads, but by independent postings from the village and taluk accounts and this course is followed in order to secure a check of the totals obtained under those heads. The change proposed by the Government of India will not therefore, the Board remarks, afford material relief. The Board also points out that under recent instructions‡ the totals of heads 1 to 5 in table A_2 are in future to be totalled. The reason why the figures of heads 4 and 3 of table A_1 are not identical is that the area by professional survey which is furnished by the Superintendent of Survey represents the area by *traverse* survey, while the area by village papers represents the *added total of field areas*. The Board states that the Superintendent has been requested to send a revised statement substituting the total of field areas wherever available for the traverse area. When this is received, the revised figures will, the Board says, be entered in the statistical table A_1 and then the Board hopes that differences between items 3 and 4 of table A_1 will be minimised. They cannot, however, entirely disappear because whole inam villages in this Presidency are with few exceptions unsurveyed.

* Paragraph 6 of Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

† Form given on page 4 of Government of India Resolution in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891.

Paragraph 2 of the current.

‡ In G.O., Mis. No. 1159, dated 27th February 1897.

Paragraph 3 of the current.

It is submitted that the Government of India's proposal to transfer head 4 of table A_1 to table A_2 and to make table A_1 as thus abbreviated quinquennial may be accepted. But it must be pointed out that if, as the Government of India itself says, head 4 should be simply the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2, it is not obvious why this head should be transferred to table A_2 as the first entry under the heading "*area for which village returns are available*" instead of merely making it the total of heads 1 to 5. This might, it is submitted, be pointed out to the Government of India, and that Government urged to dispense with the separate totals now furnished under this head 4 (of A_1), accepting instead the total of heads 1 to 5 of A_2.

Yes: in paragraph 6 of the Government of India letter in G.O., No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897, the proposal about item 4 of A_1 is an alternative and we may say that the proposal to eliminate it from A_1 by substituting the totals of items 1 to 5 of A_2 should be adopted.

G.S.F.

§ *Table A_2—Classification of area shown in the village papers; fallow; cropped area; areas irrigated from various sources; irrigated areas under classes of crops.*—The proposal in the joint memorandum endorsed by the Board and by Government was that the detailed information required by this table should be submitted decennially while the information required under

§ Form given on page 4 of the Government of India Resolution in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891.

G.O., No. 203, dated 21st May 1896.

the first five heads of the table and (in a simpler form) that required in head 6 should be submitted annually in a simple form. The Government of India point out that the information required by the table will be almost useless unless obtained annually. The information is of the first importance for assessment purposes and (the Government of India would have thought for) general administration purposes also. The details of irrigation under head 6 was specially called for by the Secretary of State. The Government of India admit that the details of irrigated crop given under head 7 is perhaps not so essential while the labour of extracting it must be considerable. It is submitted that the decision of the Government of India may be accepted, it being understood that head 7 is to be abolished.

Paragraph 4 of the Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

G.S.F.

Table A_3.—Acreage of crops.—The proposal of this Government was to submit this statement decennially. The joint memorandum * pointed out that a still more elaborate form (statement G) was prepared under the orders of this Government. As in the case of table A_2, the Government of India considers that table A_3 contains information interesting and useful and which is of the greatest value in fixing assessment rates. The Government of India states that it will be for this Government to decide whether they will simplify or abandon the still more elaborate provincial form referred to in the joint memorandum. This form (statement G) has, however, already been abolished (paragraph 7 of G.O., No. 516, Revenue, dated 8th October 1896).

Form given on page 4 of Government of India *Resolution* in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891.

* In G.O., No. 206, dated 21st May 1896.

Paragraph 4 of the Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

With regard to both statements A_2 and A_3 the joint memorandum complained that their preparation entailed the posting of entries per field. With reference to this the Government of India remark that it was perhaps possible that some slight modification of the register in which the details are recorded might remove this necessity and stated that in Northern India the totals are ordinarily extracted and posted for each page or double page only of the register. The Board points out that even in this Presidency totals are made for each page of the adangal (village account No. 2), but that in making out the totals for each page, separate postings have to be made *in detail of fields* for each different crop and item of information specified in the tables. With so many different items, remarks the Board, it appears impracticable to provide a separate column for each in the village account so as to facilitate totalling. The Board states the point will, however, be considered in connection with the revision of the "Village Manual." It is submitted that this decision of the Board may be approved. Possibly an additional column or two for the separate exhibition of the more important items would not add materially to the length of the adangal and would yet greatly facilitate the work of picking out and totalling up the various items for the purpose of the tables A_2 and A_3.

Paragraph 2 of Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

Paragraph 4 of the current.

G.S.F.

The list was amplified under the Secretary of State's orders, so that it is not likely to be materially modified.

G.S.F.

† *Table A_4—Livestock.*—The joint memorandum pointed out that the preparation and compilation of this return annually involves an enormous amount of labour without any compensating advantage, while the results are far from satisfactory. It was suggested that if the table were made a decennial one arrangements for

† Form given on page 4 of the Government of India *Resolution* in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891.

checking the census could be specially made as is done in the census population.

G.S.F. | The Government of India approve of this suggestion, but would make it quinquennial. The Government may welcome the approval.

* Paragraph 7 of Government of India Resolution in G.O., No. 198, dated 15th May 1896.

Table B—Return of wholesale prices—has since been * abolished, another form for supplying the information having been sanctioned.

† *Table C—Incidence of Land Revenue on area and population.*—The joint memorandum suggested that this statement should be prepared decennially in the census year. It stated, however, that much of the information could easily be prepared from the jamabandi returns and could be furnished annually if required.

† For revised form please see enclosure to Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 4097, dated 11th November 1893.

Paragraph 8 of Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

The Government of India would agree to make this return quinquennial, the figures being annually rectified for, say, $\frac{1}{5}$ of the villages, but add a proviso that in any year in which a new assessment has been announced in any local area the figures for the whole of that area must be brought up to date. The Board points out that the plan of rectifying $\frac{1}{5}$ of the villages each year would save no labour in this Presidency as the main portion of the table, that is, from column 4 onwards is filled in from statements prescribed and prepared annually for the jamabandi reports. It is submitted that this may be pointed out to the Government of India and the advisability of making the return decennial again pressed on them.

Paragraph 6 of the current.

Or agree to its being quinquennial without requiring $\frac{1}{5}$ of the villages to be revised annually.

G.S.F.

‡ *Table D—Tenures held from Government.*—It was suggested that this report should be made decennial, it being at present quinquennial.§ The Government of India stated that they think that this table may be treated in the same manner as table C, when settlement operations are concluded in any local area the figures for that area being brought up to date. It is submitted that it may be pointed out to the Government of India that the return is already a quinquennial one and that their *new* proposal requiring *interim* revision whenever there is a settlement involves an addition of labour.

‡ For form please see page 7 of Government of India Circular in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891.

§ Government of India letter, No. 1483—20, dated 20th July 1891, paragraph 5 (in G.O., Mis. No. 4591, dated 26th August 1891).

(*a*)

Paragraph 9 of the Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

(*a*) This may be accepted, but we may object the revision of one-fifth of the villages.

G.S.F.

Paragraph 10 of the Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

Subject to the above remarks it is submitted that the years proposed by the Government of India for the separate preparation of tables A_1 and A_4, C and D may be accepted. They are as follows:—

G.S.F.

Table C	... ...	1892—97, &c.
„ D	... ...	1893—98, „
„ A_4	... ...	1894—99, „
„ A_1	... ...	1895—1900, &c.

The Government of India remarked that these tables should, however, be repeated each year in the General Administration report with a note to show the figures which were last collected.

G.S.F.

As to the date on which the returns should reach the Government of India, the joint memorandum suggested that the date at present fixed, that is, 1st November, is far too early, and suggested that time should be allowed till 1st February or 1st March. The Government of India state that they have no objection to the date of table E (transfers) being changed to 1st February as proposed in paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings,* No. 20, dated 4th February 1896. The Government of India are not certain whether the Government of Madras desire any change in the despatch of other tables. The Board points out that the difficulty is the same in the case of all the returns and suggest that the date fixed for the submission of the returns of the agricultural statistics, *i.e.*, presumably A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, C, D, E, be changed from 1st November to 1st February. The Board points out that there is one difficulty in making this change, and that is that all these returns are published in the General Administration Report for the Presidency and are therefore required to be submitted to Government in the Public Department by the 1st November. This difficulty can be overcome if, for the purposes of the Presidency Administration Report, the figures of the preceding year, fasli, or quinquennium, as the case may be, are considered sufficient. In the case of the administration of land revenue, of which a summary appears in part I of the Presidency Administration Report, the information given in the report relates to the preceding fasli-year. It is submitted that the Board's recommendation to change the dates to the 1st February may be accepted and urged on the Government of India. The early date, 1st November, at present prescribed for their submission, leads to the wholesale fudging of these returns and general neglect of all other work in taluk offices from July to October in each year.

Paragraph 11 of the Government of India letter in G.O., Mis. No. 3943, dated 29th July 1897.

* G.O., No. 206, dated 21st May 1896.

Paragraph 7 of the current.

G.S.F.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS.
9–3–98.

To Honourable Member—

Please see marginal notes.

G. S. FORBES.
21–3–98.

I agree with these conclusions.

J. G[ROSE].
31–3–98.

To Under Secretary—

Please see draft order and letter submitted.

S.M.
18–4–98.

To Secretary—

N.E.M.
21–4–98.

Issue.

G.S.F.
21–4–98.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 10491

From The Board of Revenue Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture Madras

Order

No. 9612 miscellany

Dated 30 November 1897

Received 2 Dec

Registered 3 Dec.

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government remarks on Government of India's letter regarding the preparation and submission the returns of Agricultural Statistics

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	[illegible]		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	7-8 P		
	3403 P		
	3943		
	4097		
	4591		
	76-7 P		11-8-97.

56

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

Dated 30th November 1897.

No. 9612 mis:

READ Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue department, No: 3943 mis: dated 29th July 1897.

Resolution

The Board begs to submit the following reply to G.O. No: 3943 mis: dated 29th July 1897.

2. The Government of India is willing to make Tables A_4, C and D, as well as Table A_1 with the exception of item 4, quinquennial. The Board considers that this may be accepted. It is to be observed, however, that Table D is already a quinquennial return in this Presidency, *vide* para 5 of letter from the Government of India, communicated with G.O. No: 4591 mis: dated 26th August 1891.

As

to regards Table A_1, the Government of India, in paras 5 and 6 of its letter, observes that item 4, "Corresponding area by village papers" is or should be simply the total of heads 1 to 5 of Table A_2. It therefore proposes to transfer the item to the latter Table and enquires whether, with this change, the submission of Table A_1 quinquennially would give any material relief. The Board begs to state that though as observed by the Government of India, item 4 of Table A_1 should agree with the total of heads 1 to 5 of Table A_2; it is not obtained by merely totalling up those heads but by independent patings in the village and Taluk accounts and this course is followed in order to secure a check of the totals obtained under those heads. The change proposed by the Government of

(be Simply)

of India will not therefore afford material relief. It may be noted in this connection that instructions have recently been received from the Director-General of Statistics that totals of heads 1 to 5 should be entered in Table A_2 Vide G.O. No. 1159 dated 27th February 1897.

3. With reference to the concluding sentence of para 5 of the Government of India letter, the Board begs to state that the main cause of the difference between the figures entered against items 3 and 4 of Table A_1, is as explained in the memorandum referred to by the Government of India, that the area by professional survey, which is furnished by the Superintendent of Survey, represents the area by Traverse Survey, while the area by village papers represents the added total of field areas. The

Superintendent

superintendent has, however, been requested to send a revised statement substituting the total of field-areas wherever available, for traverse area. When this is received, the revised figures will be entered in the statistical Table A, and then it is hoped that the differences between items 3 and 4 of the Table will be minimised. They cannot entirely disappear, because whole main villages in the Presidency are, with a few exceptions, unsurveyed.

4. The Board regrets that the Government of India is unable to sanction the submission of Tables A_2 and A_3 quinquennially. The Government of India remarks in para 2 of its letter, that the necessity of posting the details for each field, required for these Tables, may possibly be obviated by some modification of the village registers, and that in Northern India, the totals are ordinarily extracted and posted for each page or double page only of the Register. The Board begs to state that, even in this Presidency totals are made for each page of the Adangal (Village Account No: 2) vide form of posting statement given at page 17 of Board's Proceedings No: 131 dated 10th March 1894; but that in making out the totals for each page, separate postings have to be made, in detail of fields, for each different crop and item of information specified in the Tables. With so many different items, it appears impracticable to provide a separate column for each in the village accounts, so as to facilitate totalling; but the point will be considered in connection with the revision of the "Village Manual".

ii P.o 1778 dis 4.5.94

5. Referring to the latter part of para 4 of the Government of India

India letter, the Board begs to state that Government has already sanctioned the discontinuance of the Provincial return G vide para 7 of G. O. No. 516 Revenue dated 8th October 1896.

6. In para 8 of its letter, the Government of India, while suggesting that Table C may be made quinquennial observes that in some Provinces the figures are ascertained with accuracy for a (proportion) only of the villages in each year and that there is no objection to this procedure, the figures being annually rectified, for, say, 1/5 of the villages. This plan would save no labour in this Presidency, as the main portion of the Table, ie from Column 4 onwards is filled in from statements prescribed and prepared annually for the Jamabandi Report, and from the Census Tables.

7. In para 11 of the letter, the Government of India stated that Table E may be submitted by 1st February as proposed by the Board and adds that it is not certain whether the Government of Madras desires any change in the date for the despatch of the other Tables. As stated in paras 2 and 3 of the joint-note submitted with Board's Proceedings No: 20/4-2-96; the Returns of Agricultural statistics and the statements connected with the annual settlement of land revenue have to be prepared from the same sources, but while the latter are due in the Board's office only on the 1st October and to Government on the 1st March, the former have to be submitted to the Director-General of Statistics by the 1st November and are therefore due to the Board by the middle of August. This hardly leaves sufficient time in the districts for com-

for the correct preparation of these returns, as they relate to the year ending 30th June; and the result is that numerous discrepancies are noticed and frequent references to Collectors are necessitated. The Board would therefore suggest that the date fixed for the submission of the returns of Agricultural statistics be changed from 1st November to 1st February.

There is, however, one difficulty in making this change, and that is, that all these returns are published in the General Administration Report of the Presidency and are therefore required to be submitted to Govern. ment in the Public department by the 1st November. This difficulty can be overcome, if, for the purposes of the Presidency Administration Report, the Tables of the preceding year (fasli), or quinquennium as the case may be are considered sufficient. The case of the administration of land revenue, of which a summary appears in Part I of the Presidency Administration Report, the information given in this Report relates to the preceding fasli year.

(True Extract)

R. B. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To

The Secretary to Govt: Revenue department.

ms

Read again G.O. 206 / 21-5-96.

,, ,, G.O. 3943Misc. d/ 29-7-97.

,, also B.P.(R.S.) 9612Misc.d/ 30-11-97

(C.No. 10401).

These papers relate to the question of simplifying the returns of agricultural statistics which are now forwarded to the Director-General of Statistics. The returns are four in number viz., A, C, D, E. Statement A is divided into four parts lettered A_1, A_2, A_3 and A_4. (Statement B is no longer sent being discontinued under the order contained in the Govt of India Circular No. 7-S-G dated 16th April 1896)

2. In February 1896, the Board of Revenue forwarded to the Govt with certain modifications a joint memorandum prepared by Messrs. Wynch, Rajaratna Mudaliar and Benson containing suggestions for reducing the work of the village and taluk establishments by dispensing with the annual compilation of some of these statistics. These proposals were forwarded with the

recommendation of the Govt to the Director-General of Statistics for submission to the Govt of India.

3. The reply of the Govt of India to the proposals are contained in its letter dated the 13th July 1897 and the remarks of the Board of Revenue thereon in the current.

Each statement will be discussed separately.

Table A_1.- Total acreage showing the total area by professional survey and the variation of this area from the area arrived at from the village papers after deducting the areas of feudatory states and other areas for which no returns are available.

The joint memorandum suggested that, as the figures in this statement are practically almost unnecessary, it would suffice that if the return be made decennial and for the years in which the census is taken. Entry No.4-area by village papers- was particularly objected to as being unnecessary in this Presidency. It was stated that the preparation of this entry entailed tabulation by villages and that small differences which resulted involved numerous references for explanation. The item appeared in the written memo said to have been added with special reference to provinces which had been incompletely surveyed. With reference to this the Govt of India pointed out that the entry-area by village papers- is, or should be, simply the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2 - the object of the entry is said to be a check on head 3-net area by professional survey- and remarked that if the Madras Presidency had been completely surveyed, it was not evident why the figures of heads 4 & 3 were not identical. The Govt of India would propose, however, to transfer head 4 to table A_2 giving it either as the first entry under the heading -Area from which village returns are available- or merely making the total of heads 1 to 5; probably the former. This having been done, it is proposed that table A_1 which would then consist of the first three heads and deal with professional survey only should be

in G.O 3943 mis dt 29.7.97 (Flap B)

form given on page 4 of G.I. resolution in G.O 4591 mis dt 26.8.91. (Flap E).

in G.O 206 dt 21.5.96 (Flap F)

para 5 of G.I. Letter in G.O 3943 mis 29.7.97 (Flap B).

⊗ para 6 of G.I. Letter in G.O 3943 mis 29.7.97 (Flap B).

* form given on page 4 of G.I. Resolution in G.O 4591 mis 26.8.91 (Flap E)

made quinquennial, subject to the proviso that, whenever ~~certain~~ Survey operations on a considerable scale are in progress whether in British territory or in Feudatory States in tracts which have not before been surveyed or not for many years, the alterations in area which the results of the operations may render necessary should be annually be embodied in the figures. The Local Govt was asked to say whether this change ~~will~~ would give any material relief. With reference to this, the Board states that though, as observed by the Govt of India, head 4 of table A_1 should agree with the total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2 it is not obtained by totalling up those heads but by independent postings for the village and taluk accounts and this course is followed in order to secure a check of the totals obtained under those heads. The change proposed by the Govt of India will not therefore, the Board remarks, afford material relief. The Board also points out that under recent instructions the totals of prep... to 5 in table A_2 are in future to

para 2 of the Current.

+ in S.O 1159 dtd 8.27.2.97. (~~the F~~)

para 3 of the Current.

totalled to be ~~accepted~~. The reason why the figures of heads 4 & 3 of table A_1 are not identical is that the area by professional survey which is furnished by the Supt of Survey represents the area by traverse survey, while the area by village papers represents the added total of ~~fields~~ field areas. The Board states that the Supt has been requested to send a revised statement substituting the total of field areas wherever available for the ~~by~~ traverse area. When this is received the revised figures will, the Board says, be entered in the statistical table A_1 and then the Board hopes that differences between items 3 & 4 of table A_1 will be minimised. They cannot however entirely disappear because whole inam villages in this Presidency are with few exceptions unsurveyed. It is submitted that the Govt of India's proposal to transfer head 4 of table A_1 to table A_2 to make table A_1 as thus abbreviated quinquennial may be accepted. But it must be pointed out, that if, as the Govt of India itself says, head 4 should be simply the

I agree. Submit E

Yes: in para 6 of the C.J.D. Letter no. 29.7.97 no. 3943 the proposal about item 4 of A, is an alternative we may say that the proposal to ~~—~~ eliminate it from it by substituting

the totals of items 1 to 5 of A_2 should be adopted

S.V.

total of heads 1 to 5 of table A_2 it is not obvious why this head should be transferred to table A_2 as the first entry under the heading "Area for which village returns are available" instead of merely making it the total of heads 1 to 5. This might, it is submitted, be provided for in the Govt of India's Resolution by the Govt of India's Resolution dispensing with the separate totals now furnished under this head (of A_1), accepting instead the totals of heads 1 to 5 of A_2.

* Table A_2.- Classification of area shown in the village papers; fallow; cropped area; areas irrigated from various sources; irrigated areas under classes of crops.

* form given on page 4 of the G.I. Resolution in G.O. 4591 misc. 26.8.91 (Appx E)

The proposal in the joint memorandum endorsed by the Board and by Govt was that the detailed information required by this ~~statement~~ Table should be submitted decennially while the information required under the first five headings of the ~~statement~~ Table and (in a simpler form) that required in head 6 should be submitted annually in a simple form. The Govt of India point out that the information required by the ~~statement~~ Table will ~~always~~ almost be useless unless obtained annually. The information is of the first importance for assessment purposes and (the Govt of India would have thought) for general administration purposes also. The details

in G.O. 2068 21.5.96 (Appx P)

para 4 of the G.I. letter in G.O. 3943 misc. 29.7.97 (Appx B)

G.I.

details of irrigation under head 6 was specially called for by the Secretary of State. The Govt of India admit the details of irrigated crop given under head 7 is perhaps not so essential while the labour of extracting it must be considerable. It is submitted that the decision of the Govt of India may be accepted it being understood that head 7 ~~has been~~ is to be abolished.

Table A_3. acreage of crops.

The proposal of this Govt was to submit this statement decennially. The joint memorandum pointed out that ~~the~~ a still more elaborate form ~~for~~ (statement G) was prepared under the orders of this Govt. As in the case of table A_2 the Govt of India considers that table A_3 contains information interesting and useful and which is of the greatest value in fixing ~~the~~ assessment rates. The Govt of India states that it will be for this Govt to decide whether they will simplify or abandon the still more elaborate provincial form referred to in the joint memorandum. This form-

form given on page 4 of G.I. Resolution in G.O. — 11 misc. 2.8.91 (Appx E).

* in G.O. 2068 d 21.5.96 (Appx P)

para 4 of the G.I. letter in G.O. 3943 misc. 29.7.97 (Appx B).

(statement G) has however already been abolished.

(Para 7 of G.O.No. 516 Rev. dated 8th Octr. 1896.) flag H

With regard to both statements A 2 & A 3 the joint memorandum complains that their preparation entails the posting of entries per field. With reference to this the Govt of India remark that it was perhaps possible that some slight modification of the register in which the details are recorded might remove this necessity and stated that in Northern India the totals are ordinarily extracted and posted for each page or double page only of the register. The Board points out that even in this Presidency totals are made for each page of the adangal(village account No.2), but that in making out the totals for each page, separate postings have to be made in detail of fields for each different crop and item of information specified in the ~~statement~~ Tables. With so many different items, remarks the Board, it appears impracticable to provide a separate column for each in the village

para 2 of G.I. letter in F.O 3943 mis 29.7.97 (flag B).

para 4 of the Current

7

* form given on page 1 of the G.I. Resolution in F.O 4891 mis 26.8.91 flag E

para 7 of G.I. Resolution in F.O 198 15.5.96 (flag I).

The list was amplified under the G. of I. orders, so that it is not likely to be materially modified by G.I.

The Board states the point will however be considered in connection with the revision of the "Village Manual". It is submitted that this decision of the Board may be approved. Possibly an additional column or two for the separate exhibition of the more important items would not add materially to the length of the adangal and would yet greatly facilitate the work of picking out and totalling up the various items for the purpose of the Tables A 2 & A 3.

Table A 4. Livestock.

The joint memorandum pointed out that the preparation and compilation of this return annually involves an enormous amount of labour without any compensating advantage while the results are far from satisfactory. It was suggested that if the table were made a decennial one arrangements for checking the census could be specially made as is done in the census population. The Govt of India approve of this suggestion. (Govt of India's approval to be communicated. The Govt may welcome the approval generally.)

Table B- Return of wholesale prices has since been abolish-

ed, another form for supplying the information having been sanctioned. Table C- Incidence of Land Revenue on area and population. The joint memorandum suggested that this statement should be prepared decennially in the census year. It stated however, that much of the information could easily be prepared from the jamabandi returns and could be furnished annually if required. The Govt of India would agree to make this return quinquennial the figures being annually rectified, for say 1/5, of the villages, but add a proviso that in any year in which a new assessment has been announced in any local area the figures for the whole of that area must be brought up to date. The Board points out that the plan of rectifying 1/5 of the villages each year would save no labour in this Presidency as the main portion of the table, that is from column 4 onwards is filled in from statements prescribed and prepared annually for the jamabandy reports. It is submitted that this may be

* for revised form please see enclosure to G. I. letter in G.O 4097 mis dt 11.11.93. (flag N).

para 8 of G.I. letter in G.O 3943 mis 29.7.97 (flag B).

para 6 of the Current.

Or agree to the being quinquennial with out requiring 1/5th of the villages to be revised annually. SH

* for form please see page 7 of G.I. Circular letter in G.O 4591 mis 26.8.91 (flag E)

⊗ G.I. letter No 1483/20 dt 20.7.91, para 5 (in G.O 4591 mis 26.8.91) flag F

para 9 of the G.I. letter in G.O 3943 mis 29.7.97 (flag B)

This may be accepted but we may object to the revision of 1/5th of the villages SH

para 10 of the G.I. letter in G.O 3943 mis 29.7.97 (flag B).

pointed out to the Govt of India and the advisability of making the return decennial again pressed on them.

* Table D. Tenures held from Government.

It was suggested that this report should be made decennial it being at present quinquennial. ⊗ The Government of India stated that they think that this table may be treated in the same manner as table C when settlement operations are concluded in any local area the figures for that area being brought up to date. It is submitted that it may be pointed out to the Govt of India that the return is already a quinquennial one and that their new proposal requiring interim revision whenever there is a settlement involves an addition of labour. Subject to the above remarks it is submitted that the years proposed by the Govt of India for the separate preparation of Tables A_1 and A_4, C and D may be accepted. They are as follows:-

Table C ---------- 1892-97 &c.
Table D ---------- 1893-98 &c.
" A_4 ---------- 1894-99 &c.
" A_1 ---------- 1895-1900 &c.

DSH

SH

The Govt of India remarked that these Tables should however be repeated each year in the General Administration Report. with a note to ~~say~~ show the figures which were last collected.

1877

As to the date on which the returns should reach the Govt of India, the joint memorandum suggested that the date at present fixed, that is, 1st November, is far too early and suggested that time should be allowed till 1st February or 1st March. The Govt of India stated that they have no objection to the date of Table E (transfers) being changed to 1st February as proposed in para 7 of B.P. No.20 dated 4-2-96. The Govt of India are not certain whether the Govt of Madras desire any change in the despatch of other tables. The Board points out that the difficulty is the same in the case of all the returns and suggest that the date fixed for the submission of the returns of the agricultural statistics, i.e., presumably A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, C, D, E, be changed from 1st November to 1st February. The Board points

para 11 of the G.I. Letter No 3943 misc dt 29.7.97 (Appx B) ... ...

G.O 206 dt 21.5.96 (Appx D).

para 7 of the Current.

para 7 of the Current

out that there is one difficulty in making this change, and that is that all these returns are published in the General Administration Report for the Presidency and are therefore required to be submitted to Government in the Public Department by the 1st November. This difficulty can be overcome if for the purposes of the Presidency Administration Report, the figures of the preceding year, ~~fasli~~ or quinquenniem as the case may be, are considered sufficient. In the case of the Administration of land revenue of which a summary appears in part I of the Presidency Administration Report the information given in the Report relates to the preceding fasli year. It is submitted that the Board's recommendation to change the dates to the 1st February may be accepted and urged on the Government of India. The early date 1st November at present prescribed for their submission leads to the wholesale fudging of these returns and general of all other work in Taluk offices.

1877

July to October in each year.

Ille
9398

Hm

Please see marginal notes

S. Hart 21/4/98

To Under Secy

Please see draft order & letter submitted

Sm
18.4.98

Under Secy
21.4.98

Secy
21.4.98

vembe.

Read again G.O. 206-7 d 21-5-96.
S943 Mis d 29-7-97
Read also B.V. (RS) 9612 Mis
d 30/11/87 (C. No 10401 of 97)

P
A

DW

Pres

G.O. No 254 d 5th May 1898

The Govt sees no objection to the ~~Govt will accept the~~ proposal of the Govt of India to make Table A, (with the exception of item 4) A, C, & D ~~will be quinquennial~~ consequentially. As regards item 4 of Table A the Govt consider that it would best appear as the total of items 1 to 5 of Table A2.

In the case of Table C, ~~and~~ it will be pointed out to the Govt of India that no ~~modern~~ relief will be given by making Table C quinquennial &, at the same time, requiring that the figures for 1/5th of the village should be annually rectified; and in the case of Table D, it will be pointed out that this return is already quinquennial in this Presy & that no

annual revision of the figures for any portion of the villages is required.

2. ~~The decision of the Govt of India to retain~~ Tables ~~both in accordance with the decision of the Govt of India, be retained~~ A_2 & A_3 as annual returns ~~will be accepted~~, it being understood that item 7 (giving the details of the crops irrigated) of table A_{2R} is to be ~~abolished~~ omitted. Stet

The Govt notes that the Bd will consider the question of revising the form of the Adangal (Village statement No 2) so as to facilitate the extraction of the particulars required by Tables A_2 & A_3; an addl column or two for the separate exhibition of the more important items would probably not add materially to the present length of the account.

3. The years proposed by the Govt of India for the separate preparation of the several Tables seem suitable.

4. As ~~with regard~~ to the date by which these returns should be forwarded to ~~submitted to the Govt of India~~ the Director Genl of Statistics, the Govt agrees with the Board that ~~the date should be~~ the 1st of Feby. would be suitable.

5. The foll. letter with enclosures to be addressed to the Govt. ~~of India~~ & Govt of India will be infor of the views of H.E. in C.

21-5-98

21/5/98

2 To the Bd R.S. — wedpo 11/5/98

50/W

18.4

wedpo 11/5/98

Letter No. 255, 6-5-98

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of India

Rev. & Agri. Deptt.

Sir,

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 1825 / 1-2 dated 15th July 1897, on the subject of simplifying the returns of ~~the~~ agricultural statistics and to ~~forward~~ state the views of H.E. the G in C ~~the opinion of the Govt. of Madras~~ on the changes referred to in paras 5 to 10 of the letter.

[para 6 of G.I. letter dt 13.7.97 in G.O. 3943 mis / 29.7.97 flag B]

2. Table A_1. The Govt. of India propose to transfer head 4 of the table to ~~statement~~ Table A_2 and with this alteration to make the table quinquennial, subject to the proviso, that, whenever survey operations on a considerable scale are in progress (whether in British territory or in Feudatory States in tracts which have not before been surveyed or not for many years) the alterations in area which the ~~resulting from~~ the ~~alterations~~ operations ~~should be annually~~ may render necessary should annually be embodied in the ~~figures~~ table. ~~embodied.~~ His Excellency the Governor in Council ~~while assenting to these proposals wishes to point out the desirability~~ accepts the proposal. With regard to the alteration proposed as to head 4, Table A_1, I am to urge the desirability of making ~~of raising~~ this head ~~4 of table A~~ ~~simply~~ the

(surveyed)

total of items 1 to 5 of Table A 2 instead of

giving it ~~an the xirstnentry under a new~~

~~heading~~ as the first entry ~~entry~~ in the

latter table. For, although as remarked

by the Govt.of India, item 4 of A 1 should

be merely the total of heads 1 to 5 of

table A 2, it is obtained in this Presy.

not by simply totalling up those heads

but by tabulation by villages and inde-

pendent postings from the village and

taluk accounts. The change suggested by

the Govt.of India in table A 1 will not

therefore afford ~~natural~~ any relief unless

~~the total of~~ head 4 of the ~~statement~~ Table as

made consists simply of the total of

items 1 to 5 of ~~statement~~ table A 2.

5. In para 5 of ~~the~~ your letter, ~~the Govt.~~

~~of India enquire~~ why, if as it would

appear, the Madras Presy.has been com-

pletely surveyed, the figures of heads under head table

5 and 4 of A 1 are not identical. ~~In reply~~

I am ~~directed~~ to explain ~~say~~ that the apparent

discrepancy arises mainly from the fact

that the figures ~~in item~~ 5 represent the under head 3

~~those~~ by traverse survey while head 4

under the heading – "area for which village returns are available" in para 5 of letter dt 13.7.97.

paras 4 & 7 of the G.I. letter dt 13.7.97.

paras 8 & 9 of the G.I. letter dt 13.7.97.

W.F. no 4591 mi 26.8.91 flag F

Exhibit

~~shows~~ the added total of field areas;

moreover the whole inam villages in this

Presy. being with few exceptions unsur-

veyed ~~that~~ their area is not included in ~~item~~ 5.

4. Tables A 2, A 5, A 4.

~~H.G. in Council~~ The decision of the Government

(Should continue to be annual and that table A 4)

of India that statements A 2 and A 5 should

be made quinquennial. ~~is accepted by this~~

~~Govt.~~ It is understood that head 7 of

statement A 2 will be ~~abolished~~ omitted.

5. Tables C and D.

This Govt. concurs in the pro-

posals of the Govt. of India that table C

should be made quinquennial ~~and that~~ subject to

~~to proceed~~ the proviso that

~~tables C and D should both be annually~~

~~revised with reference to any settlement~~ in any year in which a new assessment

~~that may have~~ has been announced ~~or concluded~~

in any local area, the figures for the whole

of that area must be brought up to date.

I am to point out, ~~G~~ so far as this Presidency is provides, that

concerned, table D is already quinquennial

under the orders conveyed in ~~the Govern-~~

~~ment of India~~ letter No. 1485, dated

20" July 1891. Sir E.C. Buck's

6. With reference to the ~~suggestion~~ proposal

contained in paras 8 and 9 of your letter

in
that these two returns the figures re-

lating to a portion - say one-fifth -

of the villages should each year, ~~be ascer-~~ rectified

~~tained with accuracy and thus revised,~~
I am to point out
~~His Excellency the Governor in Council~~
that in the case of Table C,
~~wishes to point out that~~ such a procedure
would not save
~~fair from saving~~ any labour in this Presy.
as the main portion of this table viz. from col 4 onwards is filled
~~will only entail additional labour which~~ work
from statements prescribed & prepared annually for the annual settlement or
Report & from the Census Tables; while in the case of Table D, it
~~it is the desire of this Govt. to reduce~~
would entail additional work as this rectification is not at present required.
~~as much as possible~~

7. ~~In the opinion of this Govt. there~~
H.E. has considers
~~seems no objection to the arrangement~~ para 10 of the G.I. letter dt 13.7.97.
~~made~~ in para 10 of his letter under reference
~~by the Govt. of India, of the several~~
the years ~~from which~~ for the separate preparation
of the several tables ~~which it is pro-~~ substituted
~~posed to make quinquennial~~ to be suitable.
now proposed to make quinquennial

8. As to the date on which returns are
the
due to the Director-General of Statistics,
I am to point out that ~~the~~ ~~returns of~~
~~Agricultural statistics are all prepared~~
~~from the same sources and that~~ the dif-
experienced in preparing & checking
ficulty ~~of obtaining correct information~~
~~in time for statement I applies to all~~ the tables in time by the 1st Nov, the
dates at present fixed, are common to all
the ~~other~~ statements, ~~also with equal if~~
~~not greater force~~. I am therefore to request
that the Govt. of India will be pleased

Done by traverse sur

to alter the date ~~of submission in res-~~
pect of all the returns ~~from the 1st.~~
~~November~~ to the 1st. February. ~~follo ing.~~

21-12-98.

21/12/98

5/2

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