

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIAL No. 4422.

G.O., No. 2474

DATED 1st July 98 Public Dept.



[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording of Procs. of the Public Dept. Recording
Letter from the President, Madrid Provinces
Conference of 1898 forwarding copies of the
proceedings for record at the Conference.

of 139

G.O.

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Dated 15-6-98

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SUBJECT,

Recording letter from the President,
Madras Provincial Conference, of 1898,
forwarding copies of the resolutions passed
at the Conference.

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THE MADRAS PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE AT KUMBAKONAM.

Friday, the 8th April 1898.

Saturday, the 9th April 1898.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED.

I. Revenue Settlement:—

(1) That this Conference records its deliberate opinion that the land revenue administration has impoverished the ryots of the Presidency; that it is necessary, in the interests both of the Government and of the people, that greater fixity, if not permanency of tenure, should be generally accorded; that improvements should be protected by law from taxation; that the existing heavy assessments in some of the newly-settled districts should be reduced, and that no revision for the purpose of enhancing existing assessments shall be made without special legislation.

II. Irrigation:—

(2) That this Conference regrets that, while at every revision of Settlement of Land Revenue, Government has invariably enhanced the assessment to the great advantage of its finance, and to the serious detriment of the prosperity of the ryots, it has neglected to discharge the corresponding obligation on its part to give to the ryots improved facilities of irrigation.

Separation of Executive and Judicial Functions:—

(3) That it is necessary, in the interests of efficient and popular administration of justice, that there should be an entire separation of judicial and executive functions, and that the appointment of, and control over, Magistrates should vest in the High Court as in the case of District Munsiffs.

IV. Constitution of the District and Taluk Boards:—

(4) That, in the opinion of this Conference, it is desirable to give effect to the provisions of Madras Act V of 1884 by throwing open at least a few seats in the Taluk Boards for election by the people, and by increasing the proportion of elected members in the District Boards, and further to make non-officials alone eligible for election to the District Boards.

V. Religious Endowments:—

(5) That this Conference records its regret that the Government has not yet taken any steps to protect the religious endowments of this Presidency against malversation, and considers that early legislation on the subject is indispensable.

VI. Technical Education:—

(6) That this Conference places on record its deep conviction that the system of technical education now in vogue is inadequate and unsatisfactory, and prays that, having regard to the poverty of the people and the decline of indigenous industries, the Government will introduce a more elaborate and efficient scheme of technical instruction, and set apart more funds for the better and more successful working of the same.

VII. Police Administration:—

(7) That, having regard to the unsatisfactory character in many respects of the Police Administration of this Presidency, this Conference appeals to the Government of Madras to take immediate steps to reform its Police Administration by raising the salaries

and qualifications of the lower grades, and by appointing to higher posts in the service a larger proportion of duly qualified natives of the country.

VIII. **Grievances of Railway Travellers:—**

(8) That this Conference presses upon the Government the urgent necessity of redressing the grievances of third-class railway passengers from whom a very large portion of railway revenue is derived, and desires to express its hope that Government will take effective steps to bring about an early redress of those grievances.

IX. **Abkari Laws:—**

(9) That this Conference views with great concern the large increase of retail liquor shops in the Presidency as being productive of many evil effects, both moral and physical, to the community, and recommends the more stringent enforcement of the existing laws, and this Conference further urges that the law should be so framed as to apply to liquor obtained by fermentation or distillation alone, and the principle of local option already accepted by the Government of India should be at once given effect to.

X. **Provincial Contract:—**

(10) That this Conference is of opinion that the present system of quinquennial contracts between the Government of India and Provincial Governments should be so modified as to give Provincial Governments greater independence in the administration of their revenues, and to enable them to spend a larger proportion of those revenues than is possible under the present system for purely provincial and local objects as against those of an imperial nature for which provincial savings are now too often appropriated.

XI. **Rules for election to the Legislative Council:—**

(11) That this Conference, in view of the order of the Government of Madras, dated 25th August 1897, on the memorial of the Mahajana Sabha, dated 16th December 1896, praying for six seats in the Legislative Council, instead of four as at present, being thrown open for election outside the city of Madras, urges on the Government its opinion that the prayer of the Sabha is feasible and does not contravene the principle of class as opposed to territorial representation, and leaves ample margin for Government to redress any inequality that may arise from the operation of the system of recommendation, inasmuch as the distinction between Municipalities and District Boards does not practically involve any distinction of classes, and also as Government has three non-official seats at their disposal after throwing open six seats for election.

XII. **Employment of Indians in the higher ranks of the Postal Service:—**

(12) That this Conference regrets that, in regard to the employment of Indians in the higher ranks of the Postal Service, the recommendation of the Public Service Commission and the scheme proposed by the late Director-General of Post Offices to give effect to this recommendation, have not been carried out, and prays that, in view to the increased responsibility and work of the postmasters and delivery peons, their salaries should be increased, and that in all ranks more educated men should be employed.

XIII. **Cancellation of Revenue Sales:—**

(13) That this Conference urges on the Government the desirability of amending Act II of 1864, on the lines of Section 310-A, Civil Procedure Code, with a view to provide that revenue sales should be unconditionally set aside, on payment, by the persons interested in the property, within a stated period, of the kist in arrears and a reasonable percentage thereon.

Secretaries.

President.



Public : DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper:—

Proceedings of the

Department, No.

, dated

189

Copy attached.

From the President, Madras Provincial Conference, Mount Road, Madras, dated 19th April 1898.

ORDER—*X* No. 763, dated 15th June 1898.

Recorded.

(True Extract).

A. Russell

for Chief Secretary.

RR
20-6-98

To the President, Madras Provincial Conference, Madras.
Departments of the Secretariat. (Revenue).

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G.O., R. No.

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SUBJECT.

Recording proceedings of the
Department regarding

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to Board's recommendation
the village of Simgapur
be resumed & transferred
over to the Adami taluk

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