

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2421

DATED 6th June

[Despatch Abstract.]

Stating that the Govt will not interfere with the Board's order authorizing the grant of remission of assessment on sugar cane plantations in the Godavari D. and requesting the Board to report under what rules it sanctioned the remissions on dry lands and on portions of Sowny fields.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cuo	1025/99.						

Long

Read B.P. 2470 (Cuo 2823)
6-4-98

G.O. No. 2421 dtd June 28

The Government will not interfere with the orders issued in the above Proceedings as the remissions authorized by the Board have ^{already} probably been granted. ~~By this time. But there is~~ no provision in the S.O. for remissions on account of pests or malignant ~~pests~~ ^{however} and the Board will be called upon to report under what rules it sanctioned these ~~various~~ remissions on dry lands and on portions of Survey fields.

2. A copy of the Collector's letter will be communicated to Dr. A. G. Bowne.

RS
6-98

W. G. B.
3/6/98

*Some Board delin
... is concerned
... is charged
... is dry and
...*

Everybody knows this. The point is that their land are in the delta
4.6

(only para 2)

To the Bd of Rev (Rev Lett)
with Enclosures returned

To Dr. A. G. Bowne, Professor of Zoology
Pres.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2823.

Order

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

No. 2470 Miscellaneous

Dated 6th April 1898

Received 13th

Registered 13th

Enclosures 2

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Sanctioning the Collector's proposal
to grant remission of assessment
on sugar cane plantations in
cases in which the crop or the
entire plantation has been wholly
lost

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(Sett. 22-2,000-11 3-97.)



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

Dated 6th April 1898.

No. 2470. Miscellaneous

READ Letter from the Collector of Godavari, Disposal
No 1162 of 1898 dated 17th March 1898
Rev.

Resolution

Recorded, pending receipt of further
replies to Board's Proceedings No 1662. Miscellaneous
dated 5th March 1898.

2. The Board sanctions the Collector's
proposal in para 10 of his letter to grant
remission of assessment on Sugar cane plan-
tations in those cases in which the crop
on the entire plantation has been wholly lost.
The remission may be granted whether the plantation is
covered entire Survey fields or portions thereof.

(One sheet)

To

The Collector of Godavari
At the Secretary to Government Revenue Department

Secretary

R. V. Subramanian

Copy of letter from the Collector of Godavari to the
Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement &c. Dis.
No. 1162/Rev. of '98 dated Cocanada, 17th March 1898.

B.P.No.9366 Misc.d/ In reference to Board's Proceedings noted in the
20-11-97.

B.P.No.1622 Misc.d/ margin regarding the sugarcane pest, I have the
5-3-98.

honour to report as follows:-

2. Sugarcane cultivation is carried on to a considerable
extent in the four talu's noted in the margin and the dis-
Ramachandrapur Taluk. ease has appeared this year in the first and last
Narsapur Taluk. do.
Peddapur do.
Cocanada Division. talu's.

3. This disease is locally attributed to an insect not
previously known to the ryots but its habits are not known
to any: nor has it any local names. The disease was in fact
never before known or noticed. No other crop has been damaged
by this pest.

4. In the Cocanada Division very little damage is report-
ed to have been done to sugarcane. In Ramachandrapur taluk,
on the other hand, where sugarcane is grown on the largest
scale in the district, real damage appears to have been
caused. A statement showing the damage done there is here-
with submitted: from which it will be seen that according to
the Tahsildar's estimate the total extent cultivated with
this crop during this fasli is acres 3991, a little less
than 1/8 of which (acres 468) has suffered total loss and a
sixth (acres 651) yielded only a 4 annas crop. The average
outturn of the crop for the whole taluk is estimated at bet-
ween 8 and 12 annas. Except in a few cases in a few villages

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Ulapalli | |
| 2. Pandalapaka. | no whole gardens have been damaged. The damage has |
| 3. Konnur. | been considerable in the tract lying between Samal- |
| 4. Palatodu. | cot and Pandapet canals and adjacent to the Cocana- |
| 5. Pandapeta. | da canal which has always been considerable con- |
| 6. Yedida and | |
| 7. Narsipudi. | |

sidered to be the best for sugarcane cultivation. Immediately
on first intimation of this disease on the 15th October last
from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Cocanada, I in-
stituted enquiries and called for reports from the Tahsildars
of the several taluks where there is more or less of this

cultivation. The Tahsildar of Ramachandrapur Taluk where the damage has been considerable, first reported on the 10th December last stating that the damage was still spreading and promising more reliable statistics by the end of January, or in the middle of February. In his further report dated 10-2-98, he stated that the figures already reported needed no revision as the disease had not spread after his first report: what was damaged previously was for the most part removed and manufactured into jaggery by the end of December. The damage is, he says, generally attributed to exhaustion of the soil: but this cannot be the whole explanation for cane grown this year in fields which had not been cultivated with sugar cane for a decade or so has also suffered. Another explanation is said to be found in the use as manure of the castor seed refuse of the factories after the oil has been expressed. This refuse has however been so used for a long series of years. But it is significant that in the taluks of Warsapur and Peddapur where such refuse is not employed as manure, no damage of crop has been reported. It does not appear that Dr. Bourne's attention was called to this point. Some ryots attribute the disease to the heavy rainfall, but this is apparently an untenable explanation inasmuch as the rainfall was not greater than that of 1895 in this taluk. Wide margin. Mr. Parker D.P.W.

	1895	1896	1897
Sub-divisional officer in charge of the	C.In.	C.In.	C.In.
Eastern Division who has closely ins-	July 7.70	6.02	5.42
pected some gardens writes as follows:-	August 7.9	5.20	8.46
	Sept. 11.47	2.81	10.82
	Oct. 8.31	0.53	2.35
	Novr. .	2.11	0.37
"I am inclined to agree with a theory	Total 34.37	16.67	33.42

advanced by some ryots that the ground has rotted and produced it. The ground has been cultivated year after year with the same crop- sugarcane. The constant production of such a strong crop fatigues the land and impoverishes it. In addition to this, the fact is well-known that the ryots in ploughing up the land for a new crop of cane only partially remove the old roots. The ground is constantly soaked with water and is absolutely rotted by the decaying stumps and roots. I have smelt in some fields where I have had some digging done, that heavy smell of decayed vegetable matter noticed in old swamps and drains. I do not know if mere decay

decay could produce these parasites but it would certainly appear to foster germs which may have been present already".

5. As regards the symptoms of the disease it is reported that the canes turned red inside and when opened emitted an offensive smell. As soon as a cane is attacked it begins to wither the topmost leaves going first. It seems that these symptoms also appeared in previous years here and there, but no notice was taken as no appreciable damage was caused.

6. The ryots appear to have had a notion that the disease would be arrested by cutting and removing the cane as soon as the above symptoms appeared and they have done accordingly.

7. Several specimens of the insect have been sent to the Supt., Central Museum, Madras as directed by the Board; but Dr. Bourne is of opinion that while some of them are perfectly harmless, others which are capable of doing harm are answerable for but a very infinitesimal portion of the damage compared with that done by a fungoid growth.

8. Agreeably to B.P.No. 1622 Misc., dated 5-3-98, I have instructed my Divisional and Taluk officers to induce the ryots to adopt the precautions mentioned by Dr. Bourne and I am publishing Telugu translations of the measures he recommends in the form of leaflets in the sugarcane growing villages.

9. Mr. Bourne's remedial measures are however I may mention so drastic that I am very doubtful if the ryots will adopt them till driven to do so by further losses, for they do not coincide with any of ^{their} the views which are that the red-dish fungoid growth spoken of by Dr. Bourne is a consequence and not the cause of the disease. In favour of the "water-logged" explanation too, it may be noted that although the rainfall this year in July, August, September and October was no heavier than in 1895 yet in 1897 the rain set in very late (about 15th July) and found the sugarcane in a backward and indifferent condition in consequence of the exceptionally prolonged hot weather. Very possibly the backward cane of 1897 failed because it could not stand the same amount of water in the monsoon as the advanced cane of 1895. Though

equally heavy the rainfall of 1895 too was better distributed as this year the rains were continuous from the middle of July to the middle of October whereas in 1895 there was a welcome break from about the 10th of September to the middle of October.

10. In regard to the damage done, the Tahsildar of Ramachandrapur enquires whether

- (1) remission may be allowed in cases of total loss
- (2) if it is allowable, whether it can be granted for portions of survey fields planted with sugarcane
- (3) what is the standard of total loss in the case of sugarcane?

Board's Standing order No. 23 does not contemplate cases of pest. Nor do the rules allow remission for portions of survey fields. But these gardens are generally raised in selected portions of fields and my Sub-Collector recommends that, as a special case, remission may be granted in cases of total loss, whether in whole or portions of fields. What extent of damage is to be taken to be the total loss? I cannot say definitely; nor is it possible for the revenue subordinate officers in this district to say, for they are accustomed only to estimate the yield of paddy and other food grains; but have never had occasion to estimate the yield of sugarcane and other garden crops. As stated above, it is only small portions of gardens here and there that have suffered generally, but whole gardens have not been lost except in solitary instances. In my opinion it would be enough if remission be allowed only in those few instances where gardens have been wholly destroyed and the ryot has reaped nothing, whether it be on whole survey fields or portions thereof. I solicit the Board's early instructions in the matter as it is time for jama-bandy.

Statement showing the extent of sugarcane cultivation with the estimated outturn —
Taluk Ramachandrapur.

No.	Ranges	Total Extent.	Estimated outturn.			
			0 Amanas	4 Amanas	8 Amanas	12 Amanas
1.	Ramachandrapur	345	37	50	40	45
2.	Anaparthi	2382	25	339	14	407
3.	Biccavole	947	27	122	92	195
4.	Balanataram	13	70	1	63	-
5.	Atmakur	302	26	3	70	7
6.	Pamarru	-	17	-	7	10
	Total	3991	2	467	96	650

5.11.93

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READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED
189

CURRE. No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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