

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 4443

DATED 14th November 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B. P. recording with remarks, G.O.
Judicial Dept. reviewing the report on the ad-
ministration of Civil Justice in the Presidency
of Madras for the year 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue
~~Marine~~ (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 4644.

14/11/98

From Board of Revenue
Local Revenue

Order must. N^o 4443 14th Nov 1898

Recorded

14/11/98

No. 279

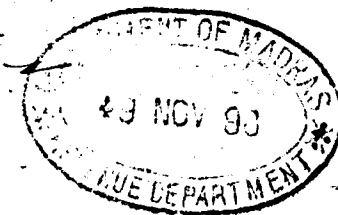
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13/11/98
14/11/98

SUBJECT.

Recording with remarks
Govt order, J. & L. Dept.
reviewing the report on
the administration of
Civil Justice in the
Presidency of Madras
for the year 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
<p><i>Glean No 6800/98</i></p>	

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

• MADRAS.

Printed November th.

Proceedings, No. 279, 20th October 1898.

OCTOBER.

Recording, with remarks, Government Order, Judicial Department, reviewing the report on the administration of Civil Justice in the Presidency of Madras for the year 1897.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE).

READ—the following Government Order, Nos. 1491, 1495, Judicial, dated 23rd September 1898:—

Order—No. 1494, Judicial, dated 23rd September 1898.

6. *Revenue Courts.*—The statistics relating to the work of these courts are liable to show constant fluctuations, owing to the institution or disposal of large batches of connected suits. Thus, the decrease in the number of revenue suits already referred to was mainly due to the institution during 1897 of fewer batches of rent suits. The courts however worked with greater promptitude disposing of nearly 3,500 cases more than in 1896, and effecting a considerable reduction in arrears. In individual districts, arrears were most numerous in Nellore where 1,357 cases were pending for more than three months: the average duration also was great in that district. The matter appears to have attracted the attention of the Board of Revenue, which will be requested to report the result of its enquiry to Government. Gōdāvari improved in the matter of average duration, but disposals there were still wanting in promptitude, 411 cases remaining undisposed of for more than three months. The average duration of uncontested suits was longest in Ganjām, and that of contested suits in North Arcot.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

Endorsement—No. 1495, Judicial, dated 23rd September 1898.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

RESOLUTION—No. 279, dated 20th October 1898.

Recorded.

2. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Government Order, the Board observes from the figures available in its office that, by the end of June last, a further reduction of arrears had been effected as shown below:—

Districts.	Number of suits that were pending at the end of		
	1896.	1897.	June 1898.
Anantapur	766	271	213
Arcot, North	1	6	19
Arcot, South	1	1	8
Bellary	747	8	100
Canara, South	15	1	2
Chingleput	..	..	1
Coimbatore	1,283	8	5
Cuddapah	155	455	391
Ganjām	706	187	60
Gōdāvari	..	..	..
Kistna	769	240	30
Kurnool	..	..	..
Madura	1,007	2,236	495
Malabar	..	..	..
Nellore	102	58	24
Nilgiris	424	414	108
Salem	331	20	13
Tanjore	100	56	28
Tinnevely	32	153	15
Trichinopoly	..	..	..
Vizagapatam	..	..	..
Total	6,440	4,115	1,512

* Represents cases pending at the end of 31st March 1898.

3. Reviewing the work of districts individually, Government comments specially on the case of Nellore. As stated in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its Proceedings, No. 403, dated 18th November 1897, the Board has been obtaining, from this and other districts where arrears of rent suits were heavy, monthly disposal reports, and has been carefully scrutinizing the progress in each instance. Towards the end of 1897, the Collector of Nellore personally examined the records of summary suits in the Head Assistant Collector's office to which the arrears of the district chiefly appertained, and found that there was an utter want of system in the treatment of rent suits in the division. By the close supervision since exercised over this branch of work by the Collector, assisted by the examination of the progress made from month to month by the Board, the arrears have now been considerably reduced as will be seen from the number of cases shown as pending at the end of June last.

* Year.	Number of suits filed.
1896	915
1897	2,133

The Board would add that the large number of suits instituted during 1897 * and the frequent change of officers also account for the congested state of the suit file in this district during 1897.

4. As regards Gōdāvari, Government observes that disposals were wanting in promptitude, 441 cases remaining undisposed of for more than three months. As remarked by the High Court in paragraph 29 of its report, the large majority of the pending cases were suits filed by the Zamindari of the Baharalli Estate for the enhancement of rent which were kept undisposed of pending the decision of the Board in the Settlement Department on an appeal regarding the right of the Zamindari to enhance the rent in proportion to the water-rate levied by Government. The Board's orders having been issued in April last, the Collector reported that the Deputy Collector promised to dispose of the pending cases in a batch by the end of September last. The Board trusts that the progress report for this month, which has not yet been received, will show that the promise has been kept.

5. The attention of the Collectors of Ganjām and North Arcot is invited to the remarks of Government as to the average duration of suits in their districts.

6. In North Arcot the number of pending suits decreased from 213 at the end of June 1898 to 45 at the end of July. The submission of the monthly progress reports for this district was accordingly dispensed with, the Collector being instructed to see that the file of pending rent suits is not allowed to become excessive in the future.

7. In Chingleput only eight cases were pending at the end of December last, and the Collector was consequently allowed to discontinue the submission of monthly reports. The Collector's attention will be invited to the fact that the number of pending cases rose to 100 at the end of June last.

8. In Tanjore 108 suits were pending at the end of June last. The Collector is requested to watch carefully the disposal of work in the various courts and to prevent accumulation of arrears.

(True Copy and Extract.)

John L. Dawson
Acting Secretary.

To all Collectors (Divisional-officers), except Madras.
„ the Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department.
„ the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department. ✓

Mr. A. Rangaswamy Iyengar.

with the revenue
tration Rep of 1897-98

Recording Boards Pro-
ceedings communicating
with remarks to the Colls.
of Salem, re. G.O. Rev.
Dept. (No: 548024-9.98)
on despatch from the
Secretary of State re:
posting the results of
certain tests and experi-
ments made with Bengal
coal and Salem iron
ore at Middlesbrough

/ L.B.-

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189

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