



Labour Office,
Government of Bombay

Report on an Enquiry into
Agricultural Wages in the
Bombay Presidency

BY

G. Findlay Shirras

*Honorary-Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society,
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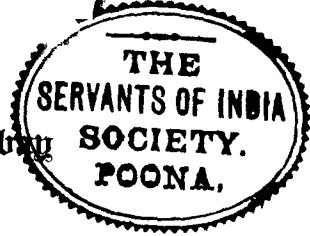
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Director of the Labour Office, Government of Bombay*

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APPENDIX A.

History of Taluka Form No. XVIII.

In 1886, Mr. Ozanne, Director of Agriculture, drafted a memorandum on the method to be adopted for the recording of the prices of food-grains, fodder, and the price of labour ('wages of labour per diem for a man'). The division, at present in vogue, of the three main classes was introduced from that date and returns for three bazaar market towns in each taluka were prescribed. The figures were collected for one particular month in each year, and were intended to be the average of the daily rates in that month. The form drawn up by the Director of Agriculture was approved and incorporated into the 3rd edition of Symonds' "Manual of Revenue Accounts" as form No. 38. Commissioners were instructed to request the Collectors or district officers under them to supply to the Director of Agriculture the information in the form on the 10th April in each year. This continued from 1887 to 1899. The Settlement Officer appointed to revise the settlement of a part of the Taloda Taluka Khandesh, brought to the notice of Government the unreliable nature of the statistics collected in his report No. 80 dated 20th October 1896. The matter was referred for opinion to the Director of Agriculture, and to the Superintendents of Land Records. It was found that the form in which prices were recorded was defective and Mr. Symonds, the Survey Commissioner and Director of Land Records suggested a revised form No. 38 which was approved of by the Divisional Commissioners. Government sanctioned the use of this form in the Revenue Department Government Resolution No. 7110 dated the 7th October 1899 and prescribed (1) that the figures should be collected for the headquarters town of each Taluka and (2) that the monthly prices and wages instead of being forwarded once in each year should be submitted monthly. The revised form continues upto the present date with the exception that it has been renumbered in the Manual of Revenue Accounts by Mr. F. G. H. Anderson as Taluka Form No. XVIII.

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