

LAND REVENUE **POLICY**

OF THE

INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

*PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.*



CALCUTTA:
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, INDIA.
1902.

*Price Ten Annas.
English Price One Shilling.*

X723. 2. N

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28

Agents for the sale of Books published by the Superintendent of Government Printing, India, Calcutta.

IN ENGLAND.

- | | |
|---|--|
| E. A. Arnold, 37, Bedford Street,
Strand, London, W. C. | Luzac & Co., 46, Great Russell Street,
London, W. C. |
| Constable & Co., 2, Whitehall Gardens,
London, S. W. | Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner, & Co.,
Charing Cross Road, London, W. C. |
| Sampson Low, Marston & Co., St.
Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane,
London, E. C. | B. A. Quaritch, Esq., 15, Piccadilly, W. |
| P. S. King & Son, 2 & 4, Great Smith
Street, Westminster, London, S. W. | Williams and Norgate, Oxford.
Deighton Bell & Co., Cambridge. |

ON THE CONTINENT.

- | | |
|--|---|
| R. Friedländer & Sohn, 11, Carlstrasse,
Berlin. | Karl W. Hiersemann, Leipzig. |
| Otto Harrassowitz, Leipzig. | Ernest Leroux, Esq., 28, Rue Bona-
parte, Paris. |
| Martinus Nijhoff, The Hague. | |

IN INDIA.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Thacker, Spink & Co., Calcutta and
Simla. | Superintendent, American Baptist
Mission Press, Rangoon. |
| Newman & Co., Calcutta. | Rai Sahib M. Colab Singh and Sons,
Mufid-i-Am Press, Lahore. |
| Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay. | |
| Higginbotham & Co., Madras, and
Bangalore. | |

A. J. Combridge & Co., Bombay.

10/10/1902 Presented to servants
 iii India Society
 Library
 G. Srinivas
 15/10/1902

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THIS volume contains the Resolution recorded by the Governor General of India in Council on the 16th January 1902 and published in the *Gazette of India* of the 18th idem, on the Land Revenue Policy of the Government. It also contains a series of reports by Local Governments on the same subject. The circumstances which led to the preparation of these reports, and to the promulgation of the views of the Government of India, are explained in the opening paragraphs of the Resolution.

The Resolution is an authoritative exposition of the principles on which the Land Revenue Administration in India has been based in the past, and by which it will be guided in the future. The reports of Local Governments not only afford a reply to criticisms which have recently been levelled at the administration of the Land Revenue in this country ; they furnish valuable materials for a detailed study of the history and methods of the different systems of assessment which have been evolved to meet the widely differing circumstances of the various

provinces. It is considered desirable that these papers should be given a wide publication and be made easily accessible both to the officers of Government and to the public: and with this object it has been decided to issue them in a cheap book form.

The papers have been arranged in chapters and supplied with an index and marginal abstracts to paragraphs for the convenience of those consulting the volume. Arrangements are in progress for the issue in each Province of a translation in the vernacular of the Resolution and of the particular report which concerns the Province.

J. B. FULLER,

Secretary to the Government of India.

CALCUTTA :

DEPARTMENT OF

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

Dated 18th March 1902.

- Khas mahal.** Crown lands; originally, those devoted to the private profit of the ruler.
- Khot.** Originally a revenue farmer with hereditary right of office, now proprietor (Konkan, Bombay).
- Khudkásht.** A resident hereditary tenant under a Zemindar; land cultivated by a proprietor for himself.
- Lakh.** One hundred thousand.
- Lagwán.** One of the village accounts showing the total assessment and by whom to be paid.
- Mahál.** A village, estate, or group of lands regarded as a unit for land revenue purposes.
- Málguzár.** Payer of the mál or revenue; the village headman or proprietor.
- Málguzárf.** Pertaining to the tenure of the málguzár.
- Málik-maqbuzá.** Possessor in full proprietary right of a plot or holding within a village.
- Maund or man.** A measure of weight of 40 seers or 80 lbs. avoirdupois.
- Merak.** Fees, and shares in grain, etc., allotted to hereditary village artisans and servants from the common share (Madras).
- Mirás.** Inheritance; inherited property or right.
- Mirasičar.** The holder of hereditary lands or offices in a village.
- Narva.** The mode of distributing equally the total land revenue assessment of a village among the co-sharers. *Narva* villages are villages held in co-partnership (Guzerat, Bombay).
- Faimásh (Faimáish).** Measurement; survey.
- Patel.** The headman of the *ryotwari* village in Central, Western and part of Southern India.
- Patwari.** A village accountant and keeper of the village records.
- Powars.** A clan or caste of that name.
- Puttah or Fottah.** A written lease or document given to tenants or occupiers or other land-holders.
- Rabi.** The spring harvest which ripens at the beginning of the hot season.
- Ragi.** A coarse millet (*Eleusine Corocana*).
- Ryot.** A tenant under a landlord; also a land-holder or occupant holding direct from Government and not under any landlord or middleman.
- Ryotí, Ryotwárf.** The system of settlement in which there is no middleman or landlord over the individual *ryots*, who are severally (not jointly) liable for the revenue assessment on the holding.

- Sanaí.** A title deed, a patent of appointment to a grant title, dignity or office.
- Sáhukár** or **Savkár.** The village money-lender.
- Seer.** A measure of weight equal to 2 lbs. avoirdupois.
- Serai.** A rest-house.
- Sír.** The landlord's home farm.
- Sír Khudkásht.** The landlord's private lands cultivated by himself.
- Siwai.** Any addition to the standard or customary revenue; profits from the land other than those of cultivation, *e.g.*, fisheries.
- Sunn** or **San.** A fibre plant (*Crotolaria juncea*).
- Tahsíl.** A local revenue sub-division.
- Takavi.** Government loans to land-holders and cultivators.
- Tálúk, Tálúká.** A division of a Collectorate or District (Madras and Bombay). A landholding or tenure which is subordinate to a landlord or superior (Bengal).
- Tálúkdár.** A landlord or zemindar holding (originally) an estate or group of estates by special grant or on feudal tenure.
- Tálúkdári.** The tenure or status of a Tálúkdár.
- Tanká** or **Tankhá.** The Maráthá fixed assessment in money (as opposed to any former revenue assessment varying with the years crop).
- Taram kammi.** A reduction from *taram* assessment, *i.e.*, the assessment based on classification of soils.
- Tíl.** An oilseed (*Sesamum indicum*).
- Toía.** A weight of which about $2\frac{1}{2}$ go to the ounce avoirdupois.
- Váram.** A share of the crop or produce of the field (Madras).
- Zemindar.** A landlord or proprietor receiving rent and paying revenue thereon direct to Government.
- Zemindari.** Pertaining to the tenure of a Zemindar.

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