

GOVERNMENT OF THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR



REPORT

ON THE

MANAGEMENT BY GOVERNMENT
OF PRIVATE ESTATES

IN THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE

30TH SEPTEMBER 1940

NAGPUR
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1941

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GOVERNMENT OF THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Nagpur, the 25th August 1941.

READ—Reports of the Commissioners of Divisions on the management of the estates under the Court of Wards in the Central Provinces for the year ending the 30th September 1940.

RESOLUTION

The number of estates under the Court of Wards management in the province decreased from 47 to 42, owing to relinquishment of 5 estates. Of the 42 retained, 35 were held permanently and 7 provisionally. The Bhargava estate and the estates of Diwan Bahadur Jiwandass and his grandsons in the Jabulpore district, which were under provisional management, were relinquished as the volume of their indebtedness precluded any hope of restoring them to solvency: for the same reason the Landgaon estate, assumed in 1934, was also released. The Gorani estate in the Chhindwara district, which had been taken over in 1933 with liabilities amounting to Rs. 8,000, was free of debt when relinquished this year.

2. The gross ordinary income of all estates combined totalled Rs. 19.39 lakhs. Rental collections, always the outstanding item, amounted for Rs. 10.36 lakhs, representing 77 per cent of the net demand, an improvement of 7 per cent on last year due to better economic conditions. Rent suits were filed to the number of 2,226 but in less than 4 per cent did they result in ejectment, clear proof that non-payment cannot be attributed to economic causes.

3. The balance of debts outstanding when the year opened was Rs. 36.65 lakhs. Further borrowings added Rs. 3.38 lakhs to this figure; but with total repayments of Rs. 4.25 lakhs, the year ended with a slightly reduced debt of Rs. 35.78 lakhs. The bulk of this amount should be within the capacity of the estates eventually to repay, though there are still a few bad legacies from the past, such as the Sarekha estate, where excessive optimism inspired the estimates of assets at the time of assumption of management.

4. All Commissioners of Divisions record the maintenance of generally cordial relations between the Court of Wards and the tenants and tenants. Some estates in the Raipur and Drug districts did not escape the prevailing unrest over grazing and nistar rights, but this was easily allayed by free and open investigation of its causes everywhere, except in one estate in the Raipur district where the Court of Wards had to resort to the civil court to secure payment of its rightful dues.

5. The outlay on estate improvements amounted to Rs. 80,323. Taccavi advances amounted to 13,554 maunds of seed grain and Rs. 4,354 cash. Arrears of taccavi to the extent of 2,679 maunds and Rs. 1,301 cash were written off. The Court of Wards also continued its customary benefactions to schools and dispensaries. On a review of the whole year's work, Government considers that the standard of prudent and sympathetic administration was well maintained.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this resolution and its annexures be forwarded to all Commissioners, and that the resolution be published in Part I of the *Central Provinces and Berar Gazette*.

By order of the Governor, C. P. & Berar,
K. B. L. SETH,
Secy. to Govt., C. P. & Berar, Rev. Dept.

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