Select Committee Report on the. Bill to amend the Mysore Land Revenue code.

NOTIFICATION.

No. 2129-L. C., Bangalore, dated 9th

Under Standing Order No. 49 of the standing for the conduct of business of the Mysore registrative Council, the following Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Mysore Land Revenue Code together with a Note by Mr. D. H. Chandrasekharaiya is published for general information.

By Order,

A. SUNDARARAJA RAO, Secretary, Mysore Legislative Council.

Select Committee Report on the Bill to amend the Mysore Land Revenue Code

We, the members of the Select Committee to which the Mysore Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Bill was referred, have considered the several clauses of the Bill and have the honor to submit this, our report.

Preamble.—To indicate clearly the reasons which led to the amendments introduced by this Bill, we recommend that the preamble may be recast as follows :—

"Whereas it is expedient further to amend the Mysore Land Revenue Code, 1888, for the better regulation of the relation of superior and inferior holders of land in alienated villages, it is hereby enacted as follows ":---

Clause 4.—Since orders can be issued by the Government under Section 117 of the Land Revenue Code and otherwise, to carry out the provisions of this clause, we recommend that this clause be deleted.

Clause 6.—Since the direction in this clause may be issued as a rule, no amendment of the Code is necessary for this purpose. We recommend that this clause be deleted.

Clause 7.—We are of opinion that this clause may be recast as follows :--...

"Whenever it appears to the Government that it is expedient in the public interests to take over the management of an alienated village by the Government on account of the minority, unsoundness of mind or other incapacity of the holder, or any other cause, the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, order the Deputy Commissioner or any officer of the Government to assume the management of such village temporarily on behalf of the Government provided that, unless the holder is a minor or of unsound mind, the assumption shall not be made without giving notice to the holder and affording him a reasonable opportunity to be heard and to adduce evidence to show that he is fit to manage the village. The Government may, by a like order, release the property from its management as soon as the holder ceases to be a minor or the disability has ceased or for any other reason."

Clause 8.—To give effect to the recommendation of the Inam Committee which was accepted by the Government, that the percentage of tenants or holders who may apply under this clause should be calculated on their interest in the holding and not on their numbers, we recommend that this clause may be recast as follows: —

"When tenants holding interest in not less than half the occupied lands in an alienated village apply to the Deputy Commissioner that the village should be taken under Government management on account of disputes or misunderstanding between them and the inamdar, the Deputy Commissioner shall hold a formal enquiry and if satisfied that it is necessary to take over the village, he shall make a recommendation to the Government. When holders of alienated land holding in the aggregate not less than half the shares in an alienated village apply to the Deputy Commissioner that the village should be taken under Government management on account of misunderstanding between them and their tenants or on account of disputes amongst themselves or for other valid reasons, the Deputy Commissioner shall hold a formal enquiry and if satisfied that the village should be taken over, he shall make a recommendation to Government. Government may thereupon order the Deputy Commissioner or any other officer of Government to assume the management of such village temporarily on behalf of Government. Management assumed under this section shall not be for a period of less than eight years and nine per cent of the revenue of the village shall be charged to the Inamdar towards the cost of administration."

Cluse 10.—Since Section 236 of the Code is proposed to be deleted, references to this section in other sections of the Code will also have to be deleted and we therefore recommend the addition of a further clause to that effect.

The present Clause 10 may be renumbered as subsection (1) and to this sub-section as so renumbered, the following may be added as sub-section (2):

(a) In Section 86 (a), substitute the words and figures "111 and 120" for the words and figures "111, 120 and 236".

(b) In Section 87 (2), substitute the words and figures "111, 115 and 120" for the words and figures "111, 115, 120 and 236".

Clause 11.—In Section 237, the words "of the last section or" may be deleted as Section 236 is proposed to be omitted.

As the Bill has not been altered materially, we recommend that it need not be republished.

> (Sd.) N. MADHAVA RAU (Chairman).
> "S. ABDUL WAJID.
> "B. T. KESAVIENGAR.
> "MIRLE N. LAKSHMINARANAPPA!
> "BELUR SRINIVASIENGAR.
> "D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA (subject to a note):

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda did not attend the meetings of the Select Committee.

NOTE BY MR. D. H. CHANDRASEKHARAIYA.

I have always been taking some pains to study the conditions of raiyats in Inam and Jodi villages of the State. In fact, the present amendment is the outcome of a Resolution moved by me in the Legislative Council in June 1932 and accepted by the Government. My study has revealed the fact that their administration is generally unsatisfactory and the raivats inhabiting them are in a miserable position as compared with those in Government villages. The scope for introducing improvements is very much limited in their case. Hence in these days when a loud cry for bettering the conditions of life and work of the cultivating population is raised all over India and definite attempts are being put forth for the purpose, I hope that our Government will not be slow to take note of The present amendment, though good in its own them. way, does not in my humble opinion, go as far as is necessary in keeping with the existing circumstances. However, it is needless for them to dilate upon this subject at present.

Having kept in view the main principles of the amending Bill, I would like to urge a few points for the

consideration of the Government. Firstly, as the Government are aware, the nature of tenancy has always been a perpetual source of controversy and litigation between the tenants and the inamdars. With a view to facilitate a fair and equitable settlement of questions relating thereto, the period of 12 years provided in Clause 2 of the Bill may be reduced to six years as in Bombay. Secondly, Clause 3 as it stands applies only to Kadim tenants. I suggest that its advantage may be afforded even to gutta tenants as in Bombay. Thirdly, I have attached greatest importance to the provision in Clause 4. But in view of the promise made by the Government to issue definite orders in the matter, I do not propose to urge for its retention. Fourthly, Clause 8 of the Bill as amended has curtailed the very facility which was intended to be provided therein. I am of opinion that the percentage of numbers as given in the original clause may be retained or the holding of interest in occupied lands may be reduced to 30 per cent as recommended by the Inam Committee. Lastly, the Government have accepted the cancellation of the inam tenure on a voluntary basis in the Government Order on the subject. But this Bill has not provided for it. I hope this question will be taken up early. Subject to these observations, I accept the report of the Select Committee.