

SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY  
GOVERNMENT.

No. CCLX.—NEW SERIES.

---

PAPERS

RELATING TO THE

REVISION SURVEY SETTLEMENT

OF THE

NEVÁSA TÁLUKA

OF THE

AHMEDNAGAR COLLECTORATE.

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## APPENDIX A.

to Survey Commissioner's letter No. 337, dated 23rd February 1882, showing the modifications proposed to be made in the grouping of Villages proposed by the Superintendent, Poona and Nasik Revenue Survey.

Number according to Superintendent's Statement P.	Name of Village.	Rate.	Old Revenue.	New Revenue.	New rate now proposed.	Revenue under new Rate now proposed.	PERCENTAGE.		REMARKS.
							Increase.	Decrease	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs. a.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			
1	Ladgaon ...	1 6	569	767	...	767	34.8	...	
2	Rajegaon ...	1 6	940	962	...	962	2.3	...	
3	Singwa Tukai ...	1 6	1,452	1,789	...	1,789	23.2	...	
4	Lohogaon ...	1 6	1,923	2,171	...	2,171	12.0	...	
5	Moria Chinchora ...	1 6	840	1,037	...	1,037	23.5	...	
	Total ...	...	5,724	6,726	...	6,726	17.5	...	
6	Sonai ...	1 4	8,968	11,710	...	11,710	30.6	...	
7	Hingoni ...	1 4	676	852	...	852	26.0	...	
8	Kangoni ...	1 4	1,267	1,641	...	1,641	29.5	...	
9	Barhanpur ...	1 4	1,127	1,550	...	1,550	37.5	...	
10	Loharwadi ...	1 4	882	1,074	...	1,074	21.8	...	
11	Mandegawhan ...	1 4	577	779	...	779	35.0	...	
12	Morgawhan ...	1 4	799	1,051	...	1,051	31.5	...	
13	Mahalaxumi Hivra ...	1 4	2,010	2,570	...	2,570	27.9	...	
14	Nimba ...	1 4	776	1,006	...	1,006	29.6	...	
15	Nandur ...	1 4	501	627	...	627	25.1	...	
16	Dhor Jalgaon ...	1 4	735	959	...	959	30.5	...	
17	Akhalwada ...	1 4	675	840	...	840	24.4	...	
18	Bhatkudgaon ...	1 4	1,706	2,135	...	2,135	25.1	...	
19	Bhaigaon ...	1 4	526	557	...	557	5.9	...	
20	Dautpur ...	1 4	333	349	...	349	4.8	...	
21	Baktarpur ...	1 4	487	659	...	659	35.3	...	
22	Wadula ...	1 4	467	559	...	559	19.7	...	
23	Chilekhanwadi ...	1 4	844	860	...	860	1.9	...	
24	Deosada ...	1 4	738	847	...	847	14.8	...	
25	Telkudgaon ...	1 4	1,112	1,442	...	1,442	29.7	...	
26	Pachunda ...	1 4	435	545	...	545	25.3	...	
27	Dedgaon ...	1 4	2,142	2,864	...	2,864	33.7	...	
28	Jeur ...	1 4	1,167	1,380	...	1,380	18.3	...	
29	Kukana ...	1 4	551	631	...	631	14.5	...	
30	Antarweli Budrukh ...	1 4	455	560	...	560	23.1	...	
31	Taraudi ...	1 4	1,001	1,095	...	1,095	9.4	...	
32	Bhenda Budrukh ...	1 4	883	1,207	...	1,207	36.7	...	
33	Saudala ...	1 4	592	682	...	682	15.2	...	
34	Godegaon ...	1 4	366	446	...	446	21.9	...	
35	Mhasla ...	1 4	164	167	...	167	1.8	...	
36	Pichadgaon ...	1 4	330	411	...	411	24.5	...	
37	Maktapur ...	1 4	415	582	...	582	40.2	...	
38	Mukundpur ...	1 4	498	675	...	675	35.5	...	
39	Khadka ...	1 4	790	1,066	...	1,066	34.9	...	
40	Nevasa Khurd ...	1 4	2,885	4,076	...	4,076	41.3	...	
41	Ladmod ...	1 4	21	41	...	41	95.2	...	
42	Malimoho ...	1 4	95	127	...	127	33.7	...	
43	Khupti ...	1 4	1,416	1,884	...	1,884	33.1	...	
44	Dhangarwadi ...	1 4	451	614	...	614	36.1	...	
45	Narayanwadi ...	1 4	913	1,101	...	1,101	20.6	...	
46	Nipani Nimbgaon ...	1 4	802	1,020	...	1,020	27.2	...	
47	Malichinchora ...	1 4	1,527	1,725	...	1,725	13.0	...	
48	Babhulweda ...	1 4	268	341	...	341	27.2	...	
49	Handi Nimgaon ...	1 4	754	1,050	...	1,050	39.3	...	
50	Bhanashivra ...	1 4	1,069	1,371	...	1,371	28.3	...	

## APPENDIX A—continued.

Number according to Superintendent's Statement P.	Name of Village.	Rate.	Old Revenue.	Now Revenue.	New rate now proposed.	Revenue under new rate now proposed.	PERCENTAGE.		REMARKS.
							Increase.	Decrease	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs. a.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
51	Khunegaon ...	1 4	187	267	...	267	42.8	...	
52	Nagapur ...	1 4	177	226	...	226	27.7	...	
53	Karegaon ...	1 4	456	354	...	354	...	22.4	
54	Rastapur ...	1 4	2,137	2,924	...	2,924	38.8	...	
55	Fatepur ...	1 4	743	1,025	...	1,025	38.0	...	
56	Shahapur ...	1 4	452	575	...	575	27.2	...	
57	Kauta ...	1 4	1,767	2,332	...	2,332	32.0	...	
58	Chanda ...	1 4	2,420	3,272	...	3,272	35.2	...	
59	Mhalas Pimpalgaon ...	1 4	807	1,109	...	1,109	37.4	...	
60	Kharwandi ...	1 4	4,982	6,657	...	6,657	33.6	...	
61	Tamaswadi ...	1 4	1,781	2,410	...	2,410	35.8	...	
62	Watapur ...	1 4	907	1,230	...	1,230	35.6	...	
63	Shiregaon ...	1 4	780	991	...	991	27.1	...	
64	Panegaon ...	1 4	939	1,289	...	1,289	37.3	...	
65	Amalner ...	1 4	1,044	1,420	...	1,420	36.0	...	
66	Gomalwadi ...	1 4	688	937	...	937	36.2	...	
67	Nimbari ...	1 4	1,421	1,760	...	1,760	23.9	...	
68	Gonegaon ...	1 4	687	897	...	897	30.6	...	
69	Imampur ...	1 4	202	275	...	275	36.1	...	
71	Chinchban ...	1 4	359	465	...	465	29.5	...	
90	Madki ...	1 4	261	352	...	352	34.9	...	
91	Khalalpimpri ...	1 4	408	564	...	564	38.2	...	
92	Malewadi ...	1 4	375	484	...	484	29.1	...	
93	Jalka Budruk ...	1 2	769	1,000	1 4	1,107	44	...	
		...	69,945	90,543	...	90,650	29.6	...	
70	Punadgaon ...	1 4	1,447	1,971	1 2	1,776	22.7	...	
72	Belpimpalgaon ...	1 4	2,000	2,865	1 2	2,604	30.2	...	
73	Taklibhan ...	1 4	1,864	2,526	1 2	2,288	22.7	...	
74	Bhokar ...	1 4	1,872	2,440	1 2	2,221	18.6	...	
75	Khokar ...	1 4	855	1,037	1 2	955	11.7	...	
76	Nipani Wadgaon ...	1 4	940	1,306	1 2	1,178	25.3	...	
77	Wadala ...	1 4	872	1,205	1 2	1,099	26	...	
78	Muta Wadgaon ...	1 4	1,031	1,370	1 2	1,243	20.6	...	
79	Malwadgaon ...	1 4	2,005	2,754	1 2	2,493	24.3	...	
80	Khanapur ...	1 4	1,314	1,846	1 2	1,666	26.8	...	
81	Kamalpur ...	1 4	1,017	1,424	1 2	1,284	26.3	...	
82	Ghamandev ...	1 4	629	799	1 2	721	14.6	...	
83	Jainpur ...	1 4	758	1,015	1 2	914	20.6	...	
84	Belpandri ...	1 4	1,225	1,689	1 2	1,521	24.2	...	
85	Suregaon ...	1 4	872	1,189	1 2	1,071	22.8	...	
86	Borgaon ...	1 4	549	725	1 2	654	19.1	...	
87	Usthal ...	1 4	931	1,164	1 2	1,048	12.6	...	
88	Dhamori ...	1 4	457	667	1 2	602	31.7	...	
89	Bahirwadi ...	1 4	788	1,010	1 2	909	15.4	...	
94	Murma ...	1 2	361	477	...	477	32.1	...	
95	Bhalgaon ...	1 2	1,414	1,876	...	1,876	32.7	...	
96	Gondhegaon ...	1 2	1,203	1,567	...	1,567	30.3	...	
97	Wasim ...	1 2	212	280	...	280	32.1	...	
98	Khedla Kajli ...	1 2	386	578	...	578	49.7	...	
99	Galnimb ...	1 2	1,338	1,788	...	1,788	33.6	...	
100	Suregaon ...	1 2	372	485	...	485	30.4	...	

## APPENDIX A—continued.

Number according to Superintendent's Statement P.	Name of Village.	Rate.	Old Revenue.	New Revenue.	New rate now proposed.	Revenue under new rate now proposed.	PERCENTAGE.		REMARKS.
							Increase.	Decrease	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs. a	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.			
101	Warkhed ...	1 2	941	1,258	...	1,258	33·7	...	
102	Sirasgaon ...	1 2	1,015	1,330	...	1,330	31·0	...	
103	Wakdi ...	1 2	758	948	...	948	25·1	...	
104	Gaigawhan ...	1 2	264	341	...	341	29·2	...	
105	Pimpri Shahali...	1 2	779	1,003	...	1,003	28·8	...	
106	Sukeli budrukh ...	1 2	260	352	...	352	35·4	...	
107	Do. khurd ...	1 2	106	143	...	143	35·0	...	
108	Shahar Takli ...	1 2	825	1,104	...	1,104	33·8	...	
109	Majre Shahar ...	1 2	466	630	...	630	35·2	...	
110	Nandur Shikari ...	1 2	172	227	...	227	32·0	...	
111	Patharwela ...	1 2	506	640	...	640	26·5	...	
112	Sultanpur ...	1 2	413	400	...	400	...	3·1	
113	Gaurai ...	1 2	743	895	...	895	20·5	...	
114	Dighi ...	1 2	631	864	...	864	36·9	...	
115	Babhul khed ...	1 2	440	602	...	602	36·8	...	
116	Salabatpur ...	1 2	642	899	...	899	40·0	...	
117	Gogalgaon ...	1 2	1,049	1,433	...	1,433	36·6	...	
118	Malunja budrukh ...	1 2	449	602	...	602	34·1	...	
	Total ...	...	37,171	49,724	...	46,969	26·4	...	
	Total of Govt. villages ...	...	1,12,840	1,46,993	...	1,44,345	27·9	...	
	<i>Inám Villages.</i>								
119	Tuljapur ...	1 8	1,513	1,671	...	1,671	10·4	...	
120	Shingwa keshav *	1 6	1,460	1,183	...	1,183	...	19	
121	Ghodgaon ...	1 4	3,083	3,836	...	3,836	24·4	...	
122	Khedia Parmanand ...	1 4	1,438	1,848	...	1,848	28·5	...	
123	Karanjgaon ...	1 4	2,426	3,177	...	3,177	31·0	...	
124	Ghogargaon ...	1 4	2,391	2,748	...	2,748	14·9	...	
125	Pravra Sangam ...	1 4	1,150	1,457	...	1,457	26·7	...	
126	Bhenda khurd ...	1 4	620	647	...	647	4·4	...	
127	Gumpha ...	1 4	291	371	...	371	27·5	...	
	Total ...	...	11,399	14,084	...	14,084	23·6	...	
128	Baku Pimpalgaon ...	1 2	608	825	...	825	35·7	...	
129	Toka ...	1 2	234	306	...	306	30·8	...	
130	Mahalapur ...	1 2	377	517	...	517	37·1	...	
131	Manglapur ...	1 2	754	1,033	...	1,033	57·0	...	
132	Malwadi ...	1 2	310	429	...	429	38·4	...	
133	Gopalpur ...	1 2	586	763	...	763	30·2	...	
134	Khangaon ...	1 2	2,511	3,396	...	3,396	35·2	...	
135	Dahigaon ...	1 2	2,121	2,898	...	2,898	36·6	...	
136	Najik Chincholi ...	1 2	458	555	...	555	21·2	...	
137	Deotakli ...	1 2	1,237	1,524	...	1,524	23·2	...	
	Total ...	...	9,196	12,246	...	12,246	33·2	...	
	Total of Inám villages ...	...	23,568	29,184	...	29,184	23·8	...	

T. H. STEWART,  
Survey and Settlement Commissioner.

No.  $\frac{R}{1122}$  OF 1882.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

FROM

E. P. ROBERTSON, ESQUIRE,  
Commissioner, C. D. ;

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,  
Bombay.*Sátára District, Camp Ving,  
20th March 1882.*

SIR,

I have the honour to submit, for the orders of Government, an exceedingly able and exhaustive settlement report by Mr. Stewart, the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, on 119 Government and 19 Inám villages of the Nevása Táluka of the Ahmednagar District.

2. Mr. Stewart having been Collector of Ahmednagar for some time, his personal experience and knowledge of the táluka is considerable and has stood him in good stead.

3. The Collector, Mr. Elphinston, has made a number of errors in commenting on Mr. Stewart's report. These errors are, no doubt, due to the fact that Mr. Elphinston is entirely without any Deccan experience, and that he has attempted to criticise minutely a settlement report regarding a portion of the country of which he is entirely ignorant. Mr. Stewart has so ably reviewed Mr. Elphinston's criticisms that I deem it unnecessary to say more than that I entirely concur in the comments made by Mr. Stewart.

4. Whenever I have had any opportunity I have always endeavoured to impress upon the Settlement Commissioner the great importance of carefully noting that the rates are not placed unduly high on the lower qualities of soil in comparison with the better class of soil. It is satisfactory to find from Mr. Stewart's 5th and 6th paras. that this most weighty consideration has not only not been lost sight of, but that it has received every attention at the hands both of the Commissioner and the Survey officers,

5. Mr. Stewart's remarks as to the general character of the rainfall of the Nevása Táluka are perfectly correct. My own experience from 1876 bears out Mr. Stewart's statement that it is the north-eastern villages chiefly which have, when there has been a scanty fall of rain, given cause for concern. On the whole, however, the Nevása Táluka has been fortunate in escaping the very severe pressure of the bad seasons which have affected other parts of the Ahmednagar District.

6. I fully approve of the grouping proposed by the Survey Commissioner. It eases off the settlement in the one quarter where the lands are poor and the pressure of bad seasons has been invariably felt. When Mr. Stewart was preparing his proposals I had a long personal conference with him as regards the grouping and rates now proposed, and I am satisfied with the settlement submitted, and recommend both the rates and grouping for the sanction of Government.

7. When I conferred with Mr. Stewart on the question of grouping and rates I drew his attention to the fact that in the neighbouring villages of the Ráhuri Táluka, settled in June 1881, the maximum rates ran up to Rs. 1-8-0. The settlement for Ráhuri, though sanctioned, has not as yet been brought into force, and I desire now to recommend to Government that the Survey and Settlement Commissioner should be requested to report whether a sensible reduction of from 2 to 4 annas in the rates of this part of the Ráhuri Táluka would not be advisable.

8. Ráhuri is now again suffering from an exceedingly unfavourable and deficient rainfall, while further the Ráhuri Táluka has, each year, since the famine, suffered more or less from insufficient rainfall. On this ground it would be well if, before the sanctioned rates are finally introduced, the Survey Commissioner were required to submit a further report with an expression of opinion as to whether any reduction should be made, and, if so, what reduction.

9. I do not consider that any modification is required in the proposed settlement for Ladmod. As explained by Mr. Stewart in his 39th para. the case of this uninhabited village is peculiar; the lands are exceedingly rich and there has been a large increase in area owing to alluvion during the term of the settlement.

10. On the whole, the proposed settlement is moderate and fair, giving an average of not more than 27.9 per cent. Mr. Stewart has asked for its introduction on any date before 5th June next. As the neighbouring Tálukas of Ráhuri and Kopargaon have, under the

terms of Government Resolution No. 3545, dated 21st June 1881, had a concession, the introduction of their revised rates having been deferred till 1883-84, I would suggest that as the last season has been exceedingly unfavourable in the north-western villages of Nevása, the introduction of the rates of the present revised settlement should, if sanctioned, be deferred till 1883-84 and that they be introduced at the same time as the Ráhuri rates.

11. Mr. Stewart in his 3rd para. makes a very sensible proposition that endeavour should be made to come to terms with the Government of His Highness the Nizám for an exchange of the villages of Malunja and Bhamathan. I trust that Government will feel disposed to communicate with the Resident at Hyderabad with the object of having this proposal considered by the Government of His Highness the Nizám.

I have the honour, &c.,  
(Signed) E. P. ROBERTSON,  
Commissioner, C. D.

*Revenue Survey and Assessment: Nevása Taluka, Ahmednagar Collectorate.*

No. 2985.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 6th May 1882.

Letter from the Commissioner, C. D., No. R.—1123, dated 20th March 1882—Submitting, with his remarks, a report (No. 337, dated 23rd February 1882,) with accompaniments, from the Survey and Settlement Commissioner on the revision settlement of 118 Government and 19 Inám villages of the Nevása Taluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate.

RESOLUTION.—The original Survey Settlement was introduced into different villages of the Nevása Taluka in different years from 1849-50 to 1869-70. But 110 villages, constituting the greater part of the taluka, were settled in 1851-52. The present proposals for revision settlement relate to all the Government villages, which now number 118, and to 19 alienated villages. The period for which the original settlement was guaranteed expired at the end of last year in 117 Government and 4 alienated villages; in 1 Government and 4 alienated villages it will expire in 1882-83, in 1 alienated village in 1883-84, and in another in 1884-85. There are 7 alienated villages to be settled for the first time, but proposals regarding them are not now before Government. Four alienated villages remain, of which one has been settled, but the Inámdárs of those villages refuse to have new rates introduced.

2. In 1851-52 the conformation of the taluka was very irregular. This defect has been generally remedied, and the Godávári now forms the boundary on the north and north-east with the exceptions that one village of the taluka (Malunja) is isolated amongst the villages of His Highness the Nizám at a distance of about 12 miles from that river, and that one of His Highness' villages is on the south of the river and breaks the continuity of the boundary line. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner and the Commissioner, C. D., recommend an exchange of those villages, which appears to be very desirable. The Resident at Hyderabad might be requested to ascertain whether His Highness the Nizám takes a favourable view of the proposal, in which case instructions regarding the arrangement of the terms can be issued hereafter.

3. An interesting account of the condition of the taluka in 1854 is given in a report by Colonel G. S. A. Anderson, then Superintendent of Revenue Survey and Assessment. From a comparison of the facts stated by him with those now reported it appears that in many respects there has been material progress, while in others the advance has not been so great as might have been expected. The soil is generally good except on high lands, which have now been mostly taken up for forest; that in the vicinity of the Pravara and Mula rivers is particularly rich, but that along the Godávári is of a clayey composition, and in the north-west of the taluka there is much stony land. During the currency of the settlement wells have increased 44.2 per cent. and the irrigated area from 3,026 to 7,195 acres. The latter area is but a small proportion of the total cultivated area, but the explanation given is that owing to the richness of the soil the agriculturists do not care to resort to irrigation, which involves the more liberal use of manure and higher cultivation. The system of husbandry generally continues to be slovenly. 68.1 per cent. of the cultivated area is devoted to the coarser food grains, though much of the soil is suitable for wheat, gram, cotton, linseed and other exportable produce. Colonel Anderson calculated that in 1854 about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the cultivators were in the hands of money-lenders, with an average debt of about Rs. 100. No estimate has been made of the present extent of indebtedness, but the inquiries of the Committee on the Deccan Riots tended to show that only about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the agricultural population of the Deccan are in debt. There is no reason to suppose that this proportion is exceeded in the Nevása Taluka,

and there is a general consensus of opinion amongst officers who have personal knowledge of the táluka that the people are well off as compared with those of other parts of the Ahmednagar District. Even during the time of famine the agricultural population did not suffer severely in this táluka; they paid up nearly the whole of the arrears of revenue without resort to compulsory processes. Many of the crops did not fail entirely, and high prices were obtained for the produce they were able to raise. Statements prepared by the Superintendent of Survey and Assessment from the records of the registration offices show that land is mortgaged for 18.5 times and sold for 20.4 times the present assessment. These facts afford strong evidence of the lightness of the rates now in force. About 73 per cent. of the land in cultivation is cultivated by the occupants, but it is possible that a considerable portion of such land may be mortgaged.

4. A comparison of the present population, houses and agricultural stock with those of the time when the original settlement was introduced is made in the following table:—

Items.	According to first Survey Settlement.	According to revision Survey Settlement.	Increase.	Decrease.	Percentage Increase or Decrease.
Population	49,294	58,510	9,216	..	+18.7
Houses					
{ Flat-roofed and tiled	5,962	7,301	1,339	..	+22.5
{ Thatched	2,200	1,331	..	869	-39.5
Agricultural cattle	17,537	20,655	3,118	..	+17.8
Cows, buffaloes, and their young	18,168	24,556	6,368	..	+35.0
Sheep and goats	40,114	32,029	..	8,085	-20.2
Ploughs	2,949	3,928	979	..	+33.2
Carts	1,641	2,558	917	..	+55.9
Horses and ponies	1,748	2,266	518	..	+29.6

5. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner states that great efforts are made to secure correct statistics but the general tendency of the enumeration is to show smaller numbers of live stock than do really exist, the enumerator being very liable to be overreached by the villagers. If, however, the same tendency existed at the time of the original settlement—and there is no apparent reason why it should be more prevalent now than then—it cannot be taken into account as an explanation of a small increase in, or an actual decrease of, live stock. The increase of agricultural cattle is not proportional to the increase of cultivation, and Mr. Stewart admits that a further increase must be looked for before slovenly husbandry can be expected to disappear, although he considers that the fact that there is on an average one pair of bullocks to every 26 acres of occupied area does not show any very marked deficiency. The curtailment of pasturage lands through the extension of cultivation as well as on account of forest conservancy has no doubt retarded the increase, and considerable mortality is believed to have resulted from scarcity of fodder in the famine years. It is probable that in the original census of cattle, large numbers of pack bullocks and cattle that were grazing on the extensive waste lands were included. Government, however, consider that a pair of bullocks for every 26 acres is not much below what is required for the light lands of this táluka. The decrease in sheep and goats is probably also due in a great measure to the diminution of pasture, and is not so much a matter of regret. The other statistics, including those which show a decrease in thatched houses through the substitution of flat-roofed and tiled houses, indicate that the prosperity of the people has advanced very considerably since the original settlement was introduced.

6. At the date of Colonel Anderson's report the only communications were two cart-roads and a few cross-roads "principally traversed by Brinjáris." The cart-roads have now become good metalled roads, and many cross-roads fit for cart traffic in the fair season have been made. And the Dhond and Manmád Railway runs at an average distance of twelve miles from the western frontier.

7. The rainfall varies much both in different years and at different places in the same years. At the Mámílatdár's headquarters, 36.86 inches were measured in 1879, but in 1870 only 5.37 inches. In 1876 and 1877 the quantities measured were respectively 13.62 and 13.30 inches. The villages in the south of the táluka, which adjoin the hills, have the steadiest rainfall.

8. There have been violent fluctuations in the prices of food grains during the currency of the original settlement. The Superintendent of Survey and Assessment shows the average price of jowári, the staple food grain, to have been 55 seers per rupee in the first decade, 30 in the second, and 24½ in the third. The average of five years from 1856-57 to 1860-61, in which there were no special causes to disturb prices, was 59½ seers. In comparing that average, however, with the average of the last decade of the settlement, it must not be forgotten that the latter includes the famine years. To meet this objection, Mr. Stewart has included in another calculation the price of the current year, 40 seers for the greater part of the year, which is exceptionally low. The average of the last eleven years is given as 26 seers. But the objection is not fully met thus. There were four years of exceptionally high prices, viz., from 1876-77 to 1879-80, in none of which more than 15 seers of jowári could be purchased for a rupee. In only one of the other 11 years was the price up to the average given above. It may be expected that with improved communi-



cations prices will remain steadier, but the experience of the current year tends to diminish confidence in any prediction regarding the future course of prices. Here, however, the probable effects of the railway in equalising prices is stated to have been neutralised by the unusually large harvests in neighbouring districts.

9. The following statement shows the variations in the extent of land occupied and in the collections during the currency of the original settlement as compared with the previous decade, in the 110 villages settled in 1851-52 :—

Years.	Government Occupied Land.		Collections.
		Acres.	Rs.
1841-42—1850-51	...	123,385	84,713
1851-52—1860-61	...	181,195	92,049
1861-62—1870-71	...	227,387	1,10,986
1871-72—1880-81	...	221,373	1,09,212

The marked extension of cultivation in the years following the settlement is evidence of the lightness of the rates. This extension on the whole continued till 1870-71, when 233,088 acres were occupied, and Rs. 1,13,688 were collected. In that year the rainfall was not much over 5 inches, and in the next it was not quite 10. In 1871-72 the occupied area was 233,248 acres, but Rs. 9,823 had to be remitted, and the collections amounted to Rs. 1,03,865 only. Since that time there has been on the whole a steady decline in cultivation. There was a recovery in 1878-79 owing to the high prices which continued to prevail after the famine, but after that year cultivation again fell off, and in the last year it was less than in 1861-62. Before the introduction of the Survey rates large remissions had to be annually granted, but during the currency of the settlement they have been considerable in 2 years only, 1868-69 and 1871-72. Until the latter year there were no outstanding balances, and of outstanding balances pertaining to the famine years and succeeding years only Rs. 1,419 had to be remitted, and only Rs. 1,367-1-9 remained to be collected at the end of July last. There have been only 15 sales of the right of occupancy for arrears of revenue in the last 3 years, and as the average assessment of the land sold was only 6 annas per acre, the soil must have been mostly of a poor description.

10. A consideration of the above facts leads to the conclusion that the district can well bear an increase of rates, and it would not be equitable in consideration of the necessity of as far as possible equalizing the burden of taxation to leave the assessment unchanged. At the same time the capricious nature of the rainfall, and the uncertainty of prices, are reasons for the exercise of great moderation in the enhancement of the rates. These reasons have not been lost sight of by the Survey and Settlement Commissioner in framing his proposals.

11. For the purpose of the original settlement Colonel Anderson divided the villages into 3 groups, of which the maximum rates were Rs. 1-4-0, Rs. 1-2-0, and Re. 1-0-0 respectively. The villages in the first group are in the south of the taluka, adjoin the hills, and have a more favourable rainfall and are nearer the large market of Ahmednagar than the rest. Those in the second group are in the centre and extreme north-west, with a less favourable rainfall, and at a greater distance from the market. Those in the third group are in the north-east of the taluka, and are considered to be least favourably situated as regards climate and markets. The Superintendent of Survey and Assessment proposes to retain that grouping, but to increase the maximum rates by 2 annas in each class, except in the case of 3 Government and 5 Inám villages, the present maximum rates of which he considers sufficient. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner concurs in the suggestion regarding the maximum rates, but thinks that owing to the uncertainty of the rainfall 19 villages in the north-west should be transferred from the second to the third group. The effect of Mr. Stewart's proposals is shown in the following table :—

*Government Villages.*

Group.	Number of Villages.	Old Revenue.	New Revenue.	Percentage Increase.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1st...	5	5,724	6,726	17.5
2nd...	69	69,945	90,650	29.6
3rd...	44	37,171	46,969	26.4
Total	118	1,12,840	1,44,345	27.9

*Inám Villages.*

Total	19	23,568	29,184	23.8
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In no village does the proposed increase of assessment amount to 50 per cent. except in Ládmod, where it is 95·2. But more than 50 per cent. of the increase in that village is due to an increase of area through alluvion, and the land is annually submerged by floods which leave a fertilizing deposit.

12. Mr. Stewart's proposals are fully concurred in by the Commissioner, C. D. The Collector has criticized the report of Colonel Laughton at some length, but, as pointed out by the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, he has fallen into some singular misconceptions as to the bearing of the statistics appended to the report. Mr. Elphinston finally asks Government if they consider that the imposition of any increased rates of assessment is justifiable in the present state of the country to remember the limits fixed in Government Resolution No. 5739, dated 29th October 1874. If he had examined the increases which result from even Colonel Laughton's proposals, he would have seen that they in no case come up to the limits referred to except in the village of Ládmod, for the high increase in which there is, as above stated, a satisfactory reason. Mr. Stewart's proposals have been framed with studied moderation, and His Excellency the Governor in Council thinks they are justified by the facts which have been detailed above, and may with safety be sanctioned.

13. The result of the revision settlement proposed varies very largely in different villages, and no doubt varies still more in the case of individual holdings. The valuation-scale adopted is that prescribed by the late Survey and Settlement Commissioner for revision operations generally. Mr. Stewart reports that the old scale could not have been applied to the present classification without some modification, as the present system prescribes 10 classes, while the original classification had but 9. He also thinks that owing to the great difference in the productiveness of soils in the Nevása Táluka the new scale is better suited for that táluka than is the old one, and points out that the increases are not so much the result of an amended scale of valuation as the transfer of soils from one class to another. Even now there exists a tendency among classers to rate the poor soils too-high and the good soils too low, and there is reason to believe that the tendency prevailed to a greater extent at the time of the original settlement.

14. The Secretary of State has, however, objected not merely to an alteration of the scale, but to changes in the relative valuation of lands, in whatsoever manner these changes are brought about, and in his despatch No. 14, dated 31st March 1881, communicated to the Survey and Settlement Commissioner with Government Resolution No. 2516, dated 5th May 1881, it has been directed that there shall be no re-measurement or re-classification except where Government are satisfied that such operations are necessary. In the Nevása Táluka the re-measurement was completed and the re-classification was nearly completed before the receipt of those orders. There can be no objection to abiding by the results of the re-measurement, now that it has been carried out. The difference in the total area as shown by the two measurements is very slight, but there are large differences, amounting in some cases to over 30 per cent. in individual fields, and there is also a manifest advantage in holdings as they now exist being separately marked off. The question whether the results of the re-classification should be accepted depends on the comparative weight of different considerations. The harassment, trouble and expense, regarded by the Secretary of State as one objection to re-classification, have already been undergone. The objections on the grounds of uncertainty in the assessment, the transfer of lands without regard to a possible change in valuation, and the chance of taxing improvements, still remain in force. On the other hand, Mr. Stewart shows that under the original settlement good lands do not bear their fair share of the burden of assessment, and this is a defect which it is very important to remedy. It is only reasonable to suppose that great improvements in classification have resulted from wider experience, and as the classes are determined on a consideration of texture and depth of soil only, it should be possible to re-classify without taxing improvements. As the re-classification has been effected, and as the Survey and Settlement Commissioner has devoted much personal attention to it, it should be accepted, but Mr. Stewart should be reminded that the operations of re-measurement and reclassification are not to be carried on in other tálukas without the special sanction of Government and, when he finds this to be necessary he should make an early application for sanction.

15. Mr. Stewart asks for sanction to the introduction of the settlement on any date before 5th June next in the villages for which the period of guarantee has expired. The Collector pleads that any increase in the assessment of villages which have suffered from drought should be held in abeyance for five years. The Commissioner, Central Division, thinks that the introduction, by which he apparently means collection, of the revised rates should be deferred till 1883-84 as in Ráhuri and Kopargaon, the last season having been unfavourable in the north-west of Nevása. Mr. Robertson's suggestion should be adopted; the rates should be announced next year for the villages for which the period of guarantee has expired and levied from 1883-84; in the remaining villages the revision settlement should be introduced when the period of guarantee expires.

16. The Commissioner, Central Division, points out that in the neighbouring villages of Ráhuri settled in June 1881, the rates are much higher than those proposed for Nevása, and he suggests that the Survey and Settlement Commissioner might be asked to propose whether a sensible reduction in those Ráhuri villages is not desirable. Mr. Stewart has

assigned some reasons in his report for having higher rates in those Ráhuri villages than in the adjoining Nevása villages and Government are of opinion that a re-opening of the question of settlement would only unsettle the minds of the people. If the Ráhuri rates are found in practice to be too high, remissions can be granted, but there is no necessity to reduce the rates for the sake of uniformity when the circumstances of the two tálukas differ.

17. In these conclusions, Government have in several instances been unable to adopt the recommendations of the Collector. Mr. Elphinston has been but a short time in charge of this district: he has taken an active interest in examining the condition of the people, and has shown himself anxious to bring to the notice of Government the hardships under which they have laboured owing to the vicissitudes of the climate. In the present case Government must adopt the results of the large and special experience possessed by the Commissioner, Central Division, and the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, and believe that on perusing their reports, Mr. Elphinston will see cause to modify his present opinions.

18. Mr. Stewart should be thanked for his very able and clear report. His personal knowledge of the táluka has been of much service to him, and he has with great care examined all the facts which relate to the question of a revision of rates, and placed them very lucidly before Government. Colonel Laughton's report is also creditable to him,

J. MONTEATH,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner, Central Division,  
The Survey and Settlement Commissioner,  
The Collector of Ahmednagar,  
The Resident at Hyderabad (by letter),  
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat, Irrigation (with copy of the Survey Commissioner's report and accompaniment).

*Revenue Survey and Assessment: Nevása Táluka, Ahmednagar.*

No. 8702.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 12th December 1882.

Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 19, Revenue, dated 19th October 1882:—

"I have considered in Council the report and accompanying papers on the revision of assessment in the Nevása Táluka of the Ahmednagar District, transmitted with your Secretary's letter No. 35, Revenue, of 27th June last.

"2. The revenue history of the táluka is briefly this. The assessments introduced when it came under British rule in 1818 A.D., which were founded upon the old Maratha 'kamál' assessment, proved injuriously heavy, and prevented the advance in prosperity which ought to have followed on the establishment of peace and security. When, in 1851-52, the settlement which has just expired was introduced, the nominal average rate of assessment per acre was nearly one rupee, but the rate actually realized about 12½ annas. The settlement reduced the average rate to about 8½ annas an acre, and the good effect of moderation in assessment immediately became apparent. Although prices remained very low for several years cultivation increased rapidly, while the Government revenue began to be recovered punctually and with ease. Taking the villages for which a comparison is possible the cultivated area, which in the decade preceding the settlement had averaged about 123,000 acres, rose in the ten years ending 1870 to an average of 227,000 acres, while remissions and balances, which had averaged about 35 per cent. of the demand, almost entirely disappeared.

"3. The statistical returns show that, notwithstanding the occurrence of the famine, from which, however, Nevása suffered less than some other tálukas, there has been a considerable increase, and one exceeding the proportion of the increase of the population, in almost all kinds of agricultural stock during the term of the settlement. The construction of the Dhond-Manmád Railway has lately much improved means of communication. Average prices have risen very greatly. And land appears to have a high saleable value.

"4. On the other hand, cultivation has fallen off somewhat since the famine, while the re-appearance of remissions and balances shows that there is more difficulty in collecting the revenue than in the prosperous years, 1855-70. And although the average price of produce for the last decade, which includes the famine years, has been extremely high, yet a considerable fall has lately occurred.

"5. In these circumstances you consider that, although the district can well bear an increase of rates, and that it would not be equitable to leave the old very light assessments unchanged, yet the capricious nature of the rainfall and the uncertainty of prices are reasons for the exercise of great moderation in enhancement. I see no reason to dissent from these conclusions.

"6. The total enhancement effected by the proposals you have sanctioned is, for the 118 Government villages, from Rs. 1,12,840 to Rs. 1,44,345 or 27.9 per cent. The new average rate per acre, including Local Fund, appears to be about 10½ annas, that is, 5 annas or about 32 per cent. lower than the rate in force before 1850. Considering the improvement in prices, in means of communication, and in general prosperity since the low rates of the original settlement were fixed, an enhancement of 28 per cent. may not be perhaps excessive, though it is by no means inappreciable.

"7. It appears that the re-classification of Nevása had been nearly completed before the receipt of my despatch of the 31st March 1881, and as Mr. Stewart was satisfied that the new valuation was superior to the original valuation you have permitted its adoption as the basis of the revised assessment. To this, under the circumstances, I will make no objection. But I am glad to observe that, for the future, neither re-measurement nor re-classification is to be undertaken without your special and previous sanction.

"8. Appendices B, C and D to the Settlement Report contain information regarding the sale, mortgage, and letting value of assessed land, which would be of great interest if it did not appear from paragraph 11 of Colonel Laughton's letter that the instances given are selected ones. Colonel Laughton should be reminded that not only does the selection of instances deprive information of this kind of all statistical value, but also that a complete abstract of the information which the Registration Offices supply would throw much light upon the subject of the extent and nature of transfers of land, one of great interest and importance in connection with the revision of a settlement.

"9. I have much pleasure in expressing my full concurrence with your Excellency's opinion of the merits of Colonel Laughton's and Mr. Stewart's interesting reports.

"10. I observe that, in accordance with the recommendation of the Commissioner, C. D., you have directed that the revised rates for Nevása shall not be collected till 1883-84, to which year you have postponed the collection of enhanced rates in the neighbouring talukás of Ráhuri and Kopargaon. Mr. Robertson points out that the Ráhuri rates are a good deal higher than those now sanctioned for Nevása, and proposes that they shall be proportionately reduced. You are aware that in my despatch of 11th November 1880, No. 45, Revenue, I expressed some doubt whether the revised rates adopted by Colonel Anderson for Ráhuri were not higher than is desirable, and, although I have no objection to the decision contained in the 16th paragraph of your Resolution, I shall be glad if your Excellency will reconsider the circumstances of Ráhuri before the revised rates are actually levied in that taluka."

RESOLUTION.—A copy of the despatch should be forwarded to the Survey and Settlement Commissioner, whose particular attention should be called to paragraph 8, and who should be requested with reference to paragraph 10 to report after consultation with the Commissioner, C. D., and the Collector of Ahmednagar whether in consideration of existing circumstances he would recommend any modification of the rates already sanctioned for the Ráhuri Taluka.

J. MONTEATH,  
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Survey and Settlement Commissioner,  
The Commissioner, C. D.,  
The Collector of Ahmednagar,  
The Public Works Department of the Secretariat (Irrigation).

*Extract from Bombay Government Gazette, dated 13th March 1884, pages 182 and 183, Part I.*

*Bombay Castle, 12th March 1884.*

No. 2171.—A Revised Survey Settlement having been introduced under the provisions of Bombay Act V. of 1879 into the below-mentioned villages of the Nevása Taluka of the Ahmednagar Collectorate, it is hereby notified for general information that in exercise of the power conferred by Section 102 of the said Act, His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to declare the assessments imposed under the said Settlement fixed for a period of 29 years commencing with the Revenue year 1883-84, and ending with the Revenue year 1911-12:—

*Names of the Villages above referred to.*

1. Kadgaon.	41. Rájegaon.	81. Shingva Tukái.
2. Lohogaon.	42. Morya Chinchora.	82. Sonai.
3. Hingoni.	43. Kágoni.	83. Barhánpur.
4. Lohárvádi.	44. Mándegavhán.	84. Morgawhán.
5. Máhálakshmi Hivra.	45. Nimba.	85. Nándur.
6. Dhorjalgaon.	46. Akhatváda.	86. Bhátkudgaon.
7. Bháýgaon.	47. Dautpur.	87. Baktapur.
8. Vadula.	48. Chilekhánvádi.	88. Devsada.
9. Telkudgaon.	49. Páchunda.	89. Dedgaon.
10. Jeur.	50. Kukána.	90. Antarváli Budruk.
11. Taravdi.	51. Bhenda Budruk.	91. Saundala.
12. Gondegaon.	52. Mhasla.	92. Pichadgaon.
13. Maktápur.	53. Mukundpur.	93. Khadka.
14. Nevása Khurd.	54. Ládmod.	94. Málímoh.
15. Khupti.	55. Dhangarvádi.	95. Náráyanvádi.
16. Nipáni Nimgaon.	56. Málíchinchora.	96. Babbulveda.
17. Hándi Nimgaon.	57. Bhánashivra.	97. Khunegaon.
18. Nagápur.	58. Koregaon.	98. Rastápur.
19. Fatepur.	59. Sahápur.	99. Kautha.
20. Chánda.	60. Mhálaspimpalgaon.	100. Kharvandi.
21. Tamasvádi.	61. Vátápur.	101. Shiregaon.
22. Pánegaon.	62. Amalner.	102. Gomalvádi.
23. Nimbari.	63. Gonegaon.	103. Imámpur.
24. Punadgaon.	64. Chinchban.	104. Belpimpalgaon.
25. Táklibhan.	65. Bhokar.	105. Khokar.
26. Nipáni Vadgaon.	66. Wadála.	106. Muthevadgaon.
27. Málvadgaon.	67. Khánápur.	107. Kamálpur.
28. Ghumandev.	68. Jainpur.	108. Belpándhari.
29. Suregaon.	69. Borgaon.	109. Usthal.
30. Dhámori.	70. Bahirvádi.	110. Madki.
31. Khalálpimpri.	71. Málevádi.	111. Jalka Budruk.
32. Murma.	72. Bhálgaon.	112. Godhegaon.
33. Vásim.	73. Khedia Kánjli.	113. Galnimb.
34. Suregaon.	74. Varkhed.	114. Shirasgaon.
35. Wákti.	75. Gáýgawhan.	115. Pimpri-Sháháli.
36. Sukeli Budruk.	76. Sukeli Khurd.	116. Shahar-Tákli.
37. Majreshahar.	77. Nandurshikári.	117. Pátharvála.
38. Sultanpur.	78. Gavrái.	118. Dighi.
39. Bábhulkheda.	79. Salábatpur.	119. Gogalgaon.
40. Málunja Budruk.	80. Vadála.	

*Inám Villages.*

1. Tuljápur.	7. Shingva-Keshav.	13. Ghodegaon.
2. Pravrasangam.	8. Karanjgaon.	14. Ghogargaon.
3. Baku-Pimpalgaon.	9. Bhend Khurd.	15. Gumphá.
4. Manglapur.	10. Toka.	16. Máhálápur.
5. Khámgaon.	11. Málvádi.	17. Gopálpur.
6. Dev-Takli.	12. Dahigaon.	18. Najik-Chincholi.