

LAND SYSTEM AND LEGISLATION IN MADRAS

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I

The State

The first extensive territorial acquisition of the East India Company, in this part of the country, was the 'Jagheer', the area around Madras, granted by the Nawab of Carnatic. This grant was confirmed by the Mughal Emperor Shah-Alam in 1763. The Northern Circars were granted to the Company by the Emperor in 1765. As this territory was controlled by the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Company secured a separate grant of these districts from him in 1768. In 1792, at the end of the third Mysore War, the districts of Malabar, Salem and some taluks forming part of Madura district were secured from Mysore. In 1799, at the end of the fourth Mysore War, Coimbatore and Kanara districts and Hosur taluk were added to the territories of the Madras Presidency. Bellary, Anantpur, Cuddapah and Kurnool districts, which were transferred to the Nizam of Hyderabad in 1799, were ceded by him to the Company in 1800. The territories under the Nawab of Carnatic were made over to the Company in 1801. Barring certain territorial adjustments this formed the area of the Province for most part of the present discussion.

In 1935, parts of the Northern Circars were separated to form Orissa, and in 1953 the ceded districts and the Northern Circars were separated to form Andhra State. Bellary from the ceded districts was added to Mysore in that year. Finally, in 1956, with the reorganisation of states on linguistic basis, South Canara and Malabar districts were separated and some minor adjustments were effected in Coimbatore district leading to the transfer of Kollegal taluk to Mysore. The southern four taluks of old Travancore State and Shenkotta taluk, an enclave held by Travancore in Tamilnad, were added to Madras. The present State consists of the following districts: Chingalput, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Kanyakumari,