
REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATES UNDER THE
MANAGEMENT OF THE COURTS OF WARDS

IN THE

NORTHERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN DIVISIONS
AND SIND

For the year ending 31st July 1912.

Northern Division.

THE HON'BLE MR. R. P. BARROW, COMMISSIONER, N. D.

Central Division.

THE HON'BLE MR. G. S. CURTIS, COMMISSIONER, C. D.

Southern Division.

W. D. SHEPPARD, Esq., COMMISSIONER, S. D.

I.—NUMBER OF ESTATES UNDER MANAGEMENT.**NORTHERN DIVISION.**

Five new estates, two in the Ahmedabad District (Syed Mahomedmian Bávámian and Antroli Vas Punjáji), two in the Panch Maháls (Kadachla and Shivrájpur) and one in Surat (Ratilál Lalchand) were taken over for management under the Act. Of these only Syed Mahomedmian's and the Shivrájpur estates have incomes of over Rs. 10,000 a year. The Syed estate was taken under management owing to the insanity of the owner, while in respect of the Shivrájpur estate management under the Gujarát Talukdárs' Act was withdrawn and superintendence under the Court of Wards Act substituted. There were thus thirty-one estates under superintendence at the close of the year, but statistics for the Syed estate which was under management for a very brief period are not given.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

At the beginning of the year, there were thirteen estates under management. Two were added during the year and three released.

Of the fifteen estates under management, eight were big estates having an annual gross income of Rs. 10,000 and above: and the rest small. Details of the former are therefore given and figures of the latter lumped together.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

At the beginning of the year under report, there were in all eighteen estates under management, *viz.*, sixteen in Belgaum, one in Bijápur and one in Ratnágiri. In the course of the year, the superintendence of one estate in Belgaum (Meherbán Venkatráo Konher Deshpande's) was withdrawn, as it was found that the estate was hopelessly involved; the Neválkar's estate in Ratnágiri was released from management, the ward having attained majority. On the other hand one new estate in Belgaum (Anandibai's) and one in Dhárwár (Murtiacharya Adur's) were brought under the Act, the former under section 9 and the latter temporarily under section 10 (1) (a). Thus the total number of estates under control at the end of the year remained the same as last year. No statistics for the above two new estates are available as they were taken charge of towards the close of the year under report. One estate in Belgaum (Narsingráo Konher Deshpande's) continued insolvent.

II.—INCOME.**NORTHERN DIVISION.**

The gross income of the estates during the year amounted only to Rs. 1,22,828. The most serious falling off was in the Ahmedabad, Kaira and

Panch Maháls Districts which were afflicted by scarcity or actual famine. The income of the Rozka estate, in which the crop-share system prevails, fell from Rs. 10,849 to Rs. 93, while the income of the Desai estate in Broach was reduced by about a half. Much of the income of the Shah Alam estate was derived from the sale proceeds of *bdbul* and from cash allowances received from the Hyderabad State. The Tagdi estate depends largely on its lease-money: while of the Desai estate income was made up of Desaigiri and Palki allowances and the recovery of debts due to it. Of the total income of Rs. 11,428 of the Shivrájpur estate, Rs. 4,088 represent the refund to the estate of rent and royalty from mines wrongly credited to Government; the income from this source varies from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000 a year. The increase of Rs. 10,289 in the Mota Mandir estate's income is due to a sale of surplus ornaments and to an increase of offerings in the holy month of Adhik Ashád.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

Of the estates under management, information regarding one small estate added during the year is not available, as it came under management just at the close of the year. Excepting this, the total receipts of the remaining estates amounted to Rs. 3,16,549 as against Rs. 2,56,925 in the previous year. Information about the estate of Shri Bába Maháraj (No. 5), which was hitherto withheld pending the orders of Government, and that of Dharangaon Pande (No. 2) added during the year, appears for the first time. The increase is chiefly shared by the estates Nos. 1 (Bhusával Inámdár), 3 (Raisingpur), 4 (Káthi), 6 (Ráste) and 7 (Thorat), and is mainly due to (a) improved management in the case of Nos. 1 and 4, (b) increased receipts from land revenue, forest and ábkári compensation in No. 3, and (c) from leasing estate lands in a more effective measure in Nos. 6 and 7.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The total gross income of the fifteen estates was Rs. 1,71,759 during the year as against Rs. 2,13,239 in the preceding year. The decrease is mainly due to a fall in the income derived from rents of land on account of the failure of crops.

III.—EXPENDITURE.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

The total gross expenditure exclusive of investments amounted to Rs. 1,17,347. Expenditure was cut down considerably in the case of estates Nos. 1 to 5. In the Mota Mandir estate, however, expenditure increased by Rs. 3,851 owing to the minor Lálbáva's visit to the Delhi Darbar and the appointment of a governess for his wife. The following non-recurring expenditure was incurred in estate Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 :—

Rs. 2,654	Purchase of grass and a tonga and ponies for the Rozka estate.
„ 500	Medical expenses of the Tagdi Vávdí ward.
„ 1,743	Medical and funeral expenses of the Broach Desai's aunt and medical expenses of his grandmother.
„ 747	Repairs to buildings and the construction of a new well in the Shivrájpur estate.

The following investments were made during the year :—

Rs. 5,391	On behalf of the Broach Desai estate, Rs. 3,175 at 6½ per cent. as advances to cultivators of the estate and Rs. 2,216 at 6 per cent. as a loan to the Pahaj estate.
„ 7,000	On behalf of the Bádsháhi Dewan estate as a loan at 7 per cent. to the estate of Syed Mahomedmian Bávámian of Ahmedabad.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

The total expenditure of the estates (excluding one newly added in the small estates) was Rs. 2,25,305 and includes, besides the ordinary expenses, the following items :—

- Rs. 10,000 invested in Raje Bahadar's estate by estate No. 3 (Raisingpur).
- „ 49,400 invested in promissory notes by estates Nos. 5 and 6 (Shri Bāba Mahārāj and Rāste).
- „ 80,684 repayment of debts due by estates Nos. 1, 4, 5, 7, 8 and three out of the small estates.
- „ 2,500 marriage expenses in the case of one female ward in the small estates in East Khāndesh.

The closing balance at the credit of the estates was Rs. 1,81,023 besides Rs. 1,76,400 invested.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The total gross expenditure of the estates fell from Rs. 1,21,158 in 1910-1911 to Rs. 1,07,360 during the year. The suspension of Government demands in the case of some of the Belgaum estates is chiefly responsible for the decrease.

IV.—COLLECTION OF ESTATES' DUES.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

Owing to the failure of crops in Ahmedabad, Kaira and the Panch Mahāls, cash collections had to be largely suspended. In Surat the dues of the estates were collected in full. The gross collections amounted to Rs. 45,106. Of the current year's demand Rs. 42,682 or about 41 per cent. were recovered. Large arrears of former years in the Shāh Alam and Dessi estates are still outstanding even after the writing off as irrecoverable of Rs. 4,516 in the former and Rs. 9,286 in the latter.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

The total rental demand of the estates [excluding No. 2 (Dharangaon Pande) and three out of the small estates for which information was not available] amounted to Rs. 1,39,952, of which Rs. 1,29,318 were collected. As regards arrears of previous years, Rs. 20,624 were collected. Figures of past arrears shown against the estates of Thorat and Ghadge in the last year's report were found after examination of accounts to be not really due to that extent; they had to be reduced from Rs. 18,077 and Rs. 21,629 to Rs. 3,403 and Rs. 16,786 respectively. Arrears amounting to Rs. 4,146 in the case of Ghadge and to Rs. 235 in that of Thorat had to be written off. Allowing for these writes-off and collections during the year, the Ghadge estate still shows a balance of Rs. 7,619 belonging to previous years. In the case of Thorat estate all that was due for collection has come in, except Rs. 25 allowed to be suspended. In the case of the Rāste estate the arrears are still serious amounting to Rs. 20,992, excluding arrears of Rs. 3,266 shown as converted into bonds or decrees. Probably a considerable proportion of this will have to be written off.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

Owing to the unfavourable character of the season, eight estates in Belgaum granted remissions of rent to the extent of Rs. 41,087 and five out of these eight estates suspended Rs. 25,755 out of the rent demand for the year under report. No such concessions were granted by the Tignibidri estate in Bijāpur. Excluding the above sums of suspensions and remissions from the current demand of Rs. 2,05,420, the amount for collection comes to Rs. 1,38,578, of which Rs. 1,29,719 (excluding over-collections) or about 94 per cent. were collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 8,859 against Rs. 6,414 in the preceding year

The above figures of collections and remissions indicate that while the Court of Wards promptly recovered the estates' dues, it accorded considerate treatment to the tenants of the estates in a year of poor harvest. With regard to remissions and suspensions granted, the Collector of Belgaum remarks that the landlords, in the neighbourhood of the estates where the concessions were granted, grumbled that the collection of their own rents suffered owing to the liberal policy of the Court of Wards.

Of the arrears of previous years, *viz.* Rs. 58,928, Rs. 7,741 were collected Rs. 8,032 were remitted and Rs. 43,155 were outstanding at the close of the year. This large balance is mainly shared by three big estates in Belgaum (Nos. 3, 4 and 5). On account of the bad season, much progress does not appear to have been made during the year in making the individual inquiries into the condition of defaulters with a view to reducing the arrears.

V.—GOVERNMENT REVENUE, CESSSES AND RATES.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

Relief in the shape of suspension of Government dues was granted where necessary to estates under the Talukdári Settlement Officer's management, while in the Panch Maháls the whole demand was suspended. Government remissions on account of arrears amounted only to Rs. 1,056.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

The amounts payable to Government by the estates on account of revenue, cesses and rates, have all been paid with the exception of Rs. 25 which were allowed to be suspended in the case of Thorat estate (No. 7) on account of failure of crop. None of the estates granted any remissions.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The total amount of Government dues on account of land revenue, cesses and rates, paid by the fifteen estates was Rs. 26,842, against Rs. 46,088 in the preceding year. The decrease is caused mainly by the grant by Government of suspensions of land revenue and local fund cess to the extent of Rs. 17,153 to some of the Belgaum estates.

VI.—COST OF MANAGEMENT.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

The management costs of all the estates totalled Rs. 9,349, or 7 per cent. of the gross income realized as against 5½ per cent. in the preceding year. Though the average cost was within 10 per cent., this limit was exceeded in the case of Sháh Alam, Rozka and Desai estates which suffered most loss from the unfavourable season and the consequent falling off in recoveries of rent.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

In the case of five out of seven small estates, the expenditure on this account was nil as the management was in the hands of Government officers. The total cost incurred in the management of the remaining estates amounted to Rs. 21,676, being about 6·8 per cent. of their income.

In the case of estate No. 1 (Bhusával), the services of the manager were dispensed with and a karkún on Rs. 20 appointed in his place. In the case of No. 2 (Pande), a manager, who is a pleader, is appointed on Rs. 100 per mensem as the estate is in its preliminary state of management.

In the case of No. 3 (Raisingpur), the cost of management was Rs. 1,868 against Rs. 2,483 in the preceding year. The decrease was due to the fact that the post of the chief karkún was vacant during the year. It has recently

(in August 1912) been filled up by appointing Mr. H. M. Pethkar, a Forester selected from the Forest Department. The cost of management in the case of Kathi estate (No. 4) amounted to Rs. 5,490 as against Rs. 4,039 in the previous year. The management of this estate was in the hands of the wards' uncle as before.

The special establishment entertained for the management of the Raste estate was the same as last year. The total cost incurred on that account was Rs. 8,682. The invested balance of the estate has increased from Rs. 45,000 to Rs. 79,000 in two years.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The total cost of management of all the fifteen estates was 8.25 per cent. of their income against 6.53 per cent. in the preceding year. The smaller income of the year explains the rise in the percentage of cost of management. The actual expenditure incurred on this account, however, was not far in excess of that of the past year, being Rs. 14,172 against Rs. 13,938. Though the average cost was within 10 per cent. of the income, the limit was exceeded in the case of two estates in Belgaum (Nos. 3 and 6), owing to their rental income being greatly reduced by the grant of suspensions.

VII.—ADVANCES GRANTED TO CULTIVATORS.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

On account of the failure of crops Rs. 32,095 including the advances made by the Desai and Bádsháhi Diván's estates were advanced to cultivators of estates under the Tálukdári Settlement Officer's management.

In the Panch Maháls estates the tenants were granted Government takávi loans on giving adequate security, the estates themselves, with the exception of Shivrájpur, not being in a position to lend to the tenants.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

The only estate which could afford to grant advances to cultivators was that of Dharangaon Pande (No. 2). Rs. 10,686 were advanced on this account. Besides, a sum of Rs. 9,000 was spent on agricultural operations in the private lands of this estate.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

No advances were granted to cultivators during the year by any of the estates under management.

VIII.—SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR MANAGEMENT.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

The Tagdi Vávdi estate was, in consideration of partial failure of crops, leased to the ward's brother-in-law at a reduced rental of Rs. 8,750. The recovery of the Hirápur estate's lease money was suspended. The scheme for the liquidation of the debts of the Shastri estate by instalments has been completed.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

During the year special schemes for management were brought into effect in the case of three small estates. One was authorized to raise a loan of Rs. 5,000 locally, and a sum of Rs. 2,500 was borrowed by it accordingly this year. The second was granted a loan of Rs. 10,000 from the surplus balance of the Raisingpur estate. In the case of the third a free grant of Rs. 21,000 sanctioned by Government last year was drawn from the Government Treasury during the year. The amounts thus received were paid in reduction of the debts due by each.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The special scheme adopted for the management of the Nipáni and Kokatnur estates in Belgaum have been described in previous reports. Similar measures are considered to be necessary only with regard to the three estates in Belgaum referred to in the last year's report. In the case of the Alkhanur estate, which consists entirely of Watan property, two out of three applications made to the Revenue authorities for the restoration of mortgaged land were decided against the estate. The third application is still pending. The progress in the settlement of debts of the Nej estate received a further check during the year, as the creditor, who had all along agreed to submit the dispute to arbitration, receded from his agreement at the last moment. A further attempt is being made to settle the matter amicably. Negotiations have been opened with the creditors of the third (Hudli) estate with a view to the settlement of their claims which are ascertained to be Rs. 22,532.

IX.—MAINTENANCE AND EDUCATION OF WARDS.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

Certain of the estate-owners were compelled by the distress of the season to apply for loans for their maintenance. A grant for this purpose was placed at the Tálukdári Settlement Officer's disposal and Rs. 3,400 advanced from it.

There are 16 Government wards of school-going age all but three of whom are attending Vernacular or English schools. Two reside in the King Edward Hostel at Dhandhuka and one is in the Nadiád Hostel. As a preliminary to a University course, the young Desai of Broach is studying in England under a tutor, Mr. Oldershaw of Maidenhead. The Tagdi ward was selected this year by His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavnagar for training at Ahmednagar in horse-breeding and paddock management. For the young Maharaj at Surat a special tutor has been engaged and his progress is reported to be satisfactory while his wife is making fair progress under the governess lately engaged for her.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

In the case of estates Nos. 1, 3, 8 and three small ones, there is no change of importance in the allowances fixed and the arrangements made.

The estate of Dharangaon Pande (No. 2) has been recently taken up under the management of Court of Wards, and arrangements for the education of the minor daughters left by the deceased Kisan Pande were not therefore possible during the year.

Three sons of the chieftain of the Kathi (No. 4) brought to Dhulia last year are getting on nicely with their studies. A trained teacher on Rs. 20 has been engaged to give them private education. The monthly allowance which covers all costs was raised from Rs. 188 to Rs. 238. The fourth son of the chieftain is at Kathi with his uncle, the manager, as he is very young.

The management of the estate of Shri Bába Maháráj cost nothing under this head as it was only under the temporary custody of the Court of Wards as before. Recently, however, Government have accorded sanction to the assumption of the superintendence of the property on the application of Shri Bála Maháráj. Although the management was assumed in the name of Shri Bála Maháráj, it is still the subject of litigation which is being carried to the Privy Council in England.

Previous arrangements as regards the maintenance and education of the Ráste minor continued during the year. He is progressing well under the supervision of Mr. Candy, Principal, Sardár School, Kolhápúr. The monthly expenditure incurred is at present about Rs. 500.

The minor Thorat (No. 7) lives with his mother at Kolhápur and attends the Rájárám High School. He is learning English third standard and is reported to be making good progress in his studies. The maintenance charges of the ward and his relations amounted to Rs. 2,640 as against Rs. 1,780 in the previous year. There are five dependants on the ward—his mother and four unmarried sisters.

One female ward possessing a small estate in East Khándesh, who was attending the female school at Jalgaon, was married this year. The estate was then equally divided among the three sisters and finally released from management.

The maintenance allowance of a ward in one of the small estates in Násik was raised from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per mensem during the latter six months of the year owing to dearness of provisions.

Two small estates—one in Násik and the other in Poona—were released from management during the year. The cost on their account under this head was therefore nil.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

During the year a total sum of Rs. 22,763 was spent under this head against Rs. 19,368 in the previous year. The following new items of expenditure contributed to the increase:—

Expenses in connection with the Koujalgi boy's trip to Bombay on the occasion of the visit of Their Majesties The King-Emperor and Queen-Empress	Rs. 450
Payment for the first time of an allowance to the Yadiballi and Patki wards and the younger brother of the Desai of Kurbet.	2,700
Increase in the cash allowance of the Kokatnur wards to make up the deficiency in the produce of the lands assigned for their maintenance	1,000

Only seven wards (all of Belgaum) are of school-going age. One ward (Hampannavar) is attending the High School at Dhárwár and is in the English second standard. He is reported to be in good surroundings and his progress has been satisfactory. Another ward (Hudli) has left school and all attempts to induce him to resume his studies appear to have been unavailing. The proper education of the Nej ward is hampered for want of funds. The other four wards are attending schools. About these the Collector (Mr. Brown) remarks as follows:—

“The degree of success is necessarily varying. The material is sometimes very poor, and even when wards are sent to good Educational Institutions home influences are sometimes adverse.”

He has therefore determined to remove two wards (Kowjalgi and Kowad) to Kolhápur and to place them under the personal supervision of a European Educationalist of large experience there.

X.—REPAYMENT OF DEBTS AND EXISTING LIABILITIES.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

The debts with which the estates were encumbered when management was assumed amounted to Rs. 5,92,497. This had been reduced by the commencement of the year to Rs. 3,22,729. Fresh debts amounting to Rs. 48,032 were incurred during the year,—Rs. 42,400 for the clearing of old debts and the balance on account of Government loans for maintenance, tagávi, interest, etc. The total debt reduction during the year, exclusive of that paid off by incurring fresh debts, amounted to Rs. 22,687.

Estates Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 are entirely free from debt.

The Sháh Alam estate was unable to pay off the balance of its debt. Referring to the small estates, the examination of the accounts of the Rozka estate has

been completed, but the creditor refuses to accept the small amount found to be due to him and a suit under the Dekkhan Agriculturists' Relief Act for the examination of accounts has been filed in the Conciliator's Court. The dispute raised by the inámdárs of Sália, Khábda and Kotda estate as to the validity of the estate's debt has not yet been decided. Under the scheme put forward for the liquidation of the debts of the Shástri estate it is estimated that in 16 years the estate will be cleared. The balance of debts due by the estates at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 3,05,674.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

Estates Nos. 3, 6 and one out of the small ones are free from debts. As regards No. 5 (Shri Bába Maháráj) no details are available. A notice under Section 14 of the Act has since been issued after the permanent assumption of the superintendence of the estate and the particulars will find place in the next year's report.

The estate of Dharangaon Pande (No. 2) and one small estate in Násik have come under management during the year and consequently their liabilities are not yet known.

The total balance of debts due by the remaining estates at the beginning of the year was Rs. 2,99,757. Fresh loans were incurred to the extent of Rs. 12,500 and claims amounting to Rs. 12,093 were cleared during the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,86,164 at the close of the year.

In the case of estate No. 1, arrangements for settlement of debts are still in progress. With the sanction of Government, several plots belonging to the inámdár ward are being sold, and the sale-proceeds will be utilized in liquidation of the outstanding claim. During the year, much of the debt was settled in the case of three small estates, by the help of fresh loans in two, and by the Government grant in the third. Some fresh debts were found due by estates Nos. 4, 7 and 8 during the course of inquiry and are being cleared up.

The Ghadge estate (No. 8) received from Government this year arrears of cash allowances to the extent of Rs. 17,228. This lumped amount enabled it to pay Rs. 16,000 in reduction of the debt due to the Sávantvádi State to prevent accumulation of interest instead of the stipulated instalment of Rs. 2,000.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

Of the 18 estates under management during the year, the liabilities of the two estates newly added are not known, four estates were entirely free from debt when brought under management and two estates were completely absolved from debts at the close of the year 1910-11. The total indebtedness of the remaining ten estates was Rs. 5,49,692 at the beginning of the year and fresh claims to the extent of Rs. 29,101 were received during the year. The debts settled during the year amounted to Rs. 20,754. The major portion of this amount (*viz.*, Rs. 18,202) was paid out of the current income. The balance of the total liabilities at the end of the year was Rs. 5,58,039.

XI.—REDUCTION OF CLAIMS SECURED IN CONSIDERATION OF PROMPT SETTLEMENT.

No settlements were effected during the year.

XII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

The administration of the Act during the year has, on the whole, been satisfactory. The season was unfavourable and progress in the matter of the

repayment of debt was thereby retarded. A survey of the villages of Sália, Khábda and Kotda was made during the year, and the papers are now under preparation by the Land Records Department. The Mota Mandir estate in the Surat District is usually most troublesome, but the year has passed with less trouble than usual.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

The administration of the Act during the year has been, on the whole, satisfactory and productive of considerable advantage to the wards.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The administration of the Act was, on the whole, satisfactory and was beneficial to the estates managed. In spite of the gloomy prospects of the season, the estates were able not only to meet the usual expenses but to give substantial relief to their tenants in the shape of suspensions and remissions, without thereby further involving themselves in debt. This measure of success was, however, partly due to the suspension of land revenue and local fund cess kindly granted by Government to the estates affected.

Naturally much progress could not be made in reducing the existing debts. As pointed out above, six estates are free from debt. The remaining ten estates, with the exception of one insolvent estate (Narsingrao Konher Ashtekar's) where much depends on the result of the still pending litigation, are in a hopeful condition, though the progress made in liquidating debts was slower during the year than in normal years. The appeal before the High Court in Sirsangi (No. 3) adoption suit, referred to in the last year's report, is still undecided.

Owing to a recent ruling of the High Court, the Subordinate Judges have no jurisdiction to try suits to which the Collector, as agent of the Court of Wards, is a party, and the suits filed during the year and in previous years have been transferred to the District Court, where they are still pending. After these cases are decided, the settlement of debts will, it is hoped, progress rapidly.

STATEMENT No. I.

Statement showing the general position of estates under Government management during the year 1911-12.

Details are given only for estates with gross income of Rs. 10,000 and above. Figures for other estates are lumped together.)

Serial No.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Total area of estate.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total assessment.	Total land revenue demand including cesses.	Total gross income recovered.	Total gross expenditure.	Balance.		Total liabilities.	Cost of management.	Percentage of gross income.	Remarks.
										Invested.	Uninvested.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<i>Northern Division.</i>			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
1	Ahmedabad.	Shah Alam estate.	5,908	4,103	1,803	17,914	12,513	10,003	12,415	...	4,441	3,000	1,611	17	
2	Do.	Syed Mahomed-mian Bava-mian estate.	...	...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	Taken under management at the end of the year.
3	Do.	Rozka estate ...	2,823	2,316	508	5,071	598	93	5,034	1,920	6,819	...	328	360	
4	Do.	Tagdi Vaydi estate.	6,700	6,128	634	6,195	8,750	7,976	8,110	...	2,071	...	200	2	
5	Broach	Desai estate ...	3,302	2,937	365	19,119	19,964	17,283	19,502	50,286	11,084	...	1,890	11	
6	Panch Mahals.	Shivrajpur estate.	8,358	3,424	4,934	1,136	12,582	11,428	4,293	7,000	18,233	...	1,147	10	
7	Surat	Mota Mandir estate.	192	193	...	854	1,671	45,639	39,413	...	6,783	15,337	901	2	
8	.....	Total of small estates.	34,831	24,506	10,205	33,012	45,755	29,456	27,800	25,614	20,574	2,87,337	3,004	10.1	
		Total, N. D. ...	62,171	43,664	18,607	87,331	1,01,833	1,22,828	1,17,347	85,720	71,505	3,05,674	9,349	7.6	
<i>Central Division.</i>															
1	East Khandesh.	Bhunsaval Inamdari's estate.	4,536	3,847	689	8,054	28,201	26,205	13,824	...	21,563	26,500	1,141	4.3	Columns 4 and 5 figures now given according to the division survey as introduced.
2	Do.	Dharrangon Pande estate.	1,094	848	248	1,926	...	25,495	21,675	...	3,810	Not yet known.	364	1.4	Column 8.—The amount due to the estate has not yet been ascertained.
3	West Khandesh.	Raisingpur estate.	128,000 approximately.	3,856	124,150	3,635	8,535	15,994	7,021	70,000	52,872	...	1,868	11.6	Column 7.—Due to large amount brought under cultivation.
4	Do.	Kathi estate ...	870,000 approximately.	10,014	309,936	6,063	6,063	48,635	32,358	...	40,579	4,504	5,490	11.2	Column 11.—An investment of Rs. 10,000 in the gaon Raja Bhalu estate.
5	Poona	Shri Baba Mahiraj estate.	9,006	7,411	1,595	13,103	16,734	40,504	8,581	27,400	2,13,563	Not yet known.	1,404	3.4	Column 8.—The recovery of Rs. 17,400.
6	Do.	Raste estate ...	49,103	47,785	1,318	85,349	53,113	63,947	45,731	79,000	45,383	...	8,632	9.7	Columns 4 and 5 figures given for the year were approximately correct. Those now given are correct.
7	Satara	Thorat estate	4,719	4,536	183	12,431	14,023	18,416	24,031	...	3,984	40,658	1,003	5.7	Columns 11 and 12.—The closing balance of Rs. 47,000 at the end of the last year was reported as incorrect. It is really Rs. 40,100. The balance at the end of the year as reported was Rs. 67,383 of which Rs. 27,000 was invested in purchase of notes.
8	Do.	Ghodge estate.	Acres. 1,1291 Bighas. 5,277	Acres. 11,291 Bighas. 5,277	...	12,054	12,003	84,954	30,280	...	8,659	11,067	1,389	3.9	Column 4.—Due to reduction of some lands during the year.
9 to 15	.....	Total of small estates.	Acres. 1,863 Bighas. 578	Acres. 1,277 Bighas. 503	Acres. 78 Bighas. 75	4,041	6,100	42,179	41,804	...	10,632	94,345	275	0.65	
		Total, C. D. ...	Acres. 529,102 Bighas. 5,855	Acres. 90,857 Bighas. 5,780	Acres. 438,245 Bighas. 75	96,550	1,30,952	3,16,549	2,25,305	1,76,400	1,81,023	1,68,184	21,676	6.34	

STATEMENT No. I—continued.

Serial No.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Total area of estate.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total assessment.	Total land revenue demand including cesses.	Total gross income recovered.	Total gross expenditure.	Balance.		Total liabilities.	Cost of management.	Percentage of gross income.	Remarks.
										Invested.	Uninvested.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
<i>Southern Division.</i>															
1	Belgaum ...	Konjalgid Desgat.	42,953	39,103	4,850	24,067	35,551	24,475	15,402	25,000	16,067	...	2,530	9.11	
2	Do. ...	Nippánid Desgat.	4,871	4,621	250	6,612	25,805	28,541	19,072	...	2,700	1,72,204	1,591	4.49	
3	Do. ...	Sireangid Desgat.	30,612	24,377	6,235	41,083	51,090	24,482	16,474	50,100	25,039	5,120	9,635	18.00	
4	Do. ...	Kowad Desgat.	4,957	2,869	2,089	4,081	11,473	21,239	13,607	13,900	5,356	...	1,180	5.65	
5	Do. ...	Kurbat Desgat.	45,118	43,980	1,138	30,404	31,593	31,132	18,223	...	6,323	78,560	2,300	7.01	
6	Do. ...	Yedihállid Desgat.	2,601	2,601	...	3,607	11,260	7,601	5,554	4,700	5,052	...	842	10.94	
7	Do. ...	Yergattid Desgat.	17,403	17,120	283	8,828	17,106	14,406	4,409	10,000	7,120	2,014	603	6.19	
8 to 16	Belgaum ...	Total for small estates.	16,106	15,019	1,087	8,344	20,612	19,793	14,260	30,000	7,609	3,00,120	1,513	7.79	
17	Bijapur ...														
18	Dhárwár ...														
		Total, S. D. ...	164,711	148,680	16,022	1,23,136	2,05,420	1,71,759	1,07,360	1,42,700	70,304	5,58,030	11,172	8.15	
		Grand Total ...	Acres. 755,984 Bighas. 5,355	Acres. 283,210 Bighas. 5,780	Acres. 472,774 Bighas. 75	8,12,023	4,47,205	6,11,136	4,50,013	4,04,820	8,31,892	10,49,577	45,107	7.4	

STATEMENT

Statement showing the efficiency of rent collection in estates under

Serial No.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Demands.			Collection.	
			Current.	Arrears.	Total.	On account of current year.	On account of arrears.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Ahmedabad ...	Shah Alam estate ...	12,513 0 0	16,231 0 0	28,744 0 0	1,862 0 0	415 0 0
2	Do. ...	Syed Mahomedniam Bavamian estate ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	Do. ...	Rozka estate ...	598 0 0	.....	598 0 0	81 0 0	.....
4	Do. ...	Tagdi Vavdi estate ...	8,750 0 0	508 0 0	9,258 0 0	7,976 0 0	.....
5	Broach ...	Desai estate ...	19,964 0 0	22,716 0 0	42,680 0 0	6,428 0 0	46 0 0
6	Panch Maháls ...	Shivrájpur estate ...	12,582 0 0	583 0 0	13,170 0 0	10,538 0 0	192 0 0
7	Surat ...	Mota Mandir estate ...	1,671 0 0	.....	1,671 0 0	1,671 0 0	.....
8	.....	Total of small estates ...	45,755 0 0	21,390 0 0	67,145 0 0	14,126 0 0	1,771 0 0
	Total, Northern Division ...	.....	1,01,833 0 0	61,433 0 0	1,63,266 0 0	42,682 0 0	2,424 0 0
1	East Khándesh ...	Bhusával Inámdár's estate ...	28,291 0 0	1,009 0 0	29,300 0 0	25,007 0 0	298 0 0
2	Do. ...	Dharangaon Pande estate ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	West Khándesh ...	Raisingpur estate ...	3,535 0 0	.....	3,535 0 0	3,535 0 0	.....
4	Do. ...	Kathi estate ...	6,063 0 0	342 0 0	6,405 0 0	5,986 0 0	299 0 0
5	Poona ...	Shri Bala Maharaj estate ...	16,734 0 0	167 0 0	16,901 0 0	16,734 0 0	131 0 0
6	Do. ...	Raste estate ...	53,113 0 0	36,402 0 0	89,515 0 0	45,999 0 0	11,232 0 0
7	Sátára ...	Thorat estate ...	14,023 0 0	*3,403 0 0	17,426 0 0	13,998 0 0	3,168 0 0
8	Do. ...	Ghadge estate ...	12,003 0 0	*16,786 0 0	28,789 0 0	11,448 0 0	5,055 0 0
9 to 15	.....	.....	6,190 0 0	588 0 0	6,778 0 0	15,711 0 0	441 0 0
	Total Central Division ...	.....	1,99,952 0 0	58,697 0 0	1,98,649 0 0	1,29,818 0 0	20,024 0 0

No. II.

Government management during the year 1911-12.

Total	Amount written off.	Balance.			Details of balances.	Remarks.
		Converted into bonds or decrees.	Others.	Total.		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
2,277 0 0	4,516 0 0	.....	21,951 0 0	21,951 0 0	Old 11,478 0 0 Current 10,473 0 0	
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Vide remarks against this estate in Statement No. I.
81 0 0	.....	100 0 0	417 0 0	517 0 0	Current 517 0 0	
7,976 0 0	.....	.....	1,282 0 0	1,282 0 0	Old 508 0 0 Current 774 0 0	
6,474 0 0	9,286 0 0	5,645 0 0	21,275 0 0	26,920 0 0	Old 13,404 0 0 Current 13,516 0 0	
10,730 0 0	6 0 0	.....	2,434 0 0	2,434 0 0	Old 300 0 0 Current 2,044 0 0	
1,671 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15,897 0 0	11,190 0 0	21 0 0	40,037 0 0	40,063 0 0	Old 9,516 0 0 Current 30,542 0 0	
45,106 0 0	24,998 0 0	5,766 0 0	87,396 0 0	93,162 0 0	Old 85,268 0 0 Current 57,866 0 0	
26,205 0 0	4 2 0 0	.....	2,693 0 0	2,693 0 0	Current 2,003 0 0 Previous 690 0 0 2,693 0 0	
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Liabilities and assets are yet to be determined and hence the information cannot be supplied.
3,535 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6,225 0 0	.....	.....	120 0 0	120 0 0	Current 77 0 0 Previous 43 0 0 120 0 0	
16,805 0 0	.....	.....	36 0 0	36 0 0	Current 36 0 0 Previous 36 0 0	
57,231 0 0	912 0 0	3,206 0 0	28,106 0 0	31,372 0 0	Current 7,114 0 0 Previous 20,892 0 0 28,106 0 0	
17,166 0 0	235 0 0	.....	25 0 0	25 0 0	Current 25 0 0 Previous 25 0 0	* The figures now supplied are found to be correct after scrutiny of accounts.
16,502 0 0	4,146 0 0	.....	8,140 0 0	8,140 0 0	Current 521 0 0 Previous 7,619 0 0 8,140 0 0	
6,152 0 0	.....	.....	623 0 0	623 0 0	Current 481 0 0 Previous 147 0 0 628 0 0	† The amount in column 7 includes over-collection of Rs. 2.
1,49,912 0 0	5,695 0 0	3,266 0 0	39,743 0 0	43,014 0 0	Current 10,221 0 0 Previous 29,527 0 0 39,743 0 0	

STATEMENT

Serial No.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Demands.			Collection.	
			Current.	Arrears.	Total.	On account of current year.	On account of arrears.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Belgaum	Koujalgi Desgat ...	35,551 0 0	3,560 0 0	39,111 0 0	19,180 0 0	2,448 0 0
2		Nippani Desgat ...	25,805 0 0	264 0 0	26,069 0 0	24,256 0 0	97 0 0
3		Sirsangi Desgat ...	51,990 0 0	15,370 0 0	67,360 0 0	18,292 0 0	507 0 0
4		Kowad Desgat ...	11,473 0 0	8,137 0 0	19,610 0 0	10,673 0 0	969 0 0
5		Kurbet Desgat ...	81,593 0 0	26,888 0 0	58,481 0 0	25,179 0 0	3,669 0 0
6		Yedihalli Desgat ...	11,260 0 0	2,256 0 0	13,516 0 0	6,604 0 0	20 0 0
7		Yergatti Desgat ...	17,108 0 0	2,284 0 0	19,390 0 0	13,856 0 0	.....
	Belgaum and Bijapur ...	Totals for small estates ...	20,642 0 0	169 0 0	20,811 0 0	11,884 0 0	91 0 0
	Total, Southern Division ...	.....	2,05,420 0 0	58,928 0 0	2,64,348 0 0	1,29,924 0 0	7,741 0 0
	Grand Total ...	.....	4,47,205 0 0	1,79,058 0 0	6,26,263 0 0	3,01,924 0 0	30,789 0 0

No. II—continued.

Total.	Amount written off.	Balance.			Details of balances.	Remarks.	
		Converted into bonds or decrees,	Others.	Total.			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		
21,628 0 0	9,382 0 0	.....	8,104 0 0	8,104 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 935 0 0 ... 7,169 0 0	Out of the current year's balance Rs. 5,207 have been suspended owing to failure of crops. The amount in column 8 includes an over-collection of Rs. 3.
24,293 0 0	133 0 0	.....	1,643 0 0	1,643 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 94 0 0 ... 1,549 0 0	
18,799 0 0	18,226 0 0	.....	30,335 0 0	30,335 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 14,478 0 0 ... 15,857 0 0	Out of the current year's balance Rs. 14,601 have been suspended on account of bad season.
11,642 0 0	8,914 0 0	.....	4,054 0 0	4,054 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 3,254 0 0 ... 800 0 0	
28,848 0 0	8,539 0 0	.....	26,277 0 0	26,277 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 21,083 0 0 ... 5,194 0 0	Out of the current year's balance Rs. 4,714 have been suspended owing to failure of crops. The amount in column 8 includes an over-collection of Rs. 183.
6,624 0 0	5,724 0 0	401 0 0	783 0 0	1,184 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 1,132 0 0 ... 52 0 0	The current year's balance has been suspended. The amount in column 8 includes an over-collection of Rs. 16.
13,856 0 0	2,331 0 0	.....	3,206 0 0	3,206 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 2,284 0 0 ... 922 0 0	The amount in column 8 includes an over-collection of Rs. 3.
11,975 0 0	5,870 0 0	.....	2,966 0 0	2,966 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 78 0 0 ... 2,888 0 0	Out of the current year's balance Rs. 1,181 have been suspended.
1,37,663 0 0	49,119 0 0	401 0 0	77,368 0 0	77,769 0 0	Previous year Current year	... 43,338 0 0 ... 34,431 0 0	Out of the current year's balance Rs. 25,755 have been suspended owing to failure of crops. The amount in column 8 includes Rs. 20,205 on account of over-collection.
3,32,713 0 0	79,812 0 0	9,433 0 0	2,04,512 0 0	2,13,945 0 0			

STATEMENT No. III.

Statement showing progress made in liquidation of debt in Court of Wards estates during the year 1911-12.

Serial Number.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Debts due on assumption of charge.	Balance of debt at the beginning of the year.	Additional debts incurred during the year.	Debts paid off during current year.					Balance.	Date by which it was expected on assumption of management that estate would be clear of debt.	Remarks.
						By incurring fresh debts.	By sale of property.	Rejected by Court of Wards or Civil Court.	Remitted by creditors.	From current income.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Ahmedabad	Shah Alam estate	Rs. 12,266	Rs. 3,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	1914	
2	Do.	Syed Mahomedmian Bawamian estate.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Do.	Rozka estate	104	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Do.	Tagdi Vavdi estate	54,163	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Broach	Desai estate	7,716	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Panch Mahal.	Shivrajpur estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Surat	Mota Mandir estate	91,565	17,074	...	...	...	...	...	1,787	15,337	...	
8	.....	Total of small estates	4,26,882	3,02,815	48,032	42,470	9,631	6,016	1,056	4,247	2,87,337	...	
		Total, Northern Division.	5,92,487	3,22,729	48,032	42,400	9,631	6,016	1,056	5,984	3,05,674	...	
1	East Khândesh.	Bhusval Inamdar's estate.	80,538	65,501	...	...	...	...	33,001	6,000	26,500	1919 A.D.	
2	Do.	Dharangaon Pande estate.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Assets and liabilities of the estate are yet to be determined. There are to clear the estate.
3	West Khândesh.	Balsingpur estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Do.	Kathi estate	19,589	19,589	...	...	...	1,205	...	13,790	4,594	1918 A.D.	
5	Poona	Shri Balu Maharaj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Liabilities of these are not yet ascertained. There are no debts of the estate.
6	Do.	Raste estate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Liabilities of these are not yet ascertained. There are no debts of the estate.
7	Sâtara	Thorat estate	92,825	63,298	...	...	...	3,419	1,021	9,200	49,653	1919 A.D.	Fresh claims amounting to Rs. 1000 during enquiry added to the debts.
8	Do.	Ghadge estate	80,314	81,082	...	...	...	8,985	...	16,000	11,087	1918 A.D.	Fresh claims amounting to Rs. 1000 during enquiry added to the debts.
9-15	.....	Total of small estates	2,41,692	1,20,317	12,500	12,500	...	1,274	1,559	23,140	94,315	...	
		Total, Central Division.	4,94,868	2,99,787	12,500	12,500	...	9,893	35,580	69,130	1,66,164	...	
1	Belgaum	Koujalgi Desgat	38,484	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Do.	Nippani Desgat	{ 2,22,54* 1,040	1,80,008 1,040	...	...	...	28	438	9,376	1,72,204	...	Debts will be clear in 27 years.
3	Do.	Sirsangi Desgat	71,961	5,126	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,126	...	Debts will be cleared in a year.
4	Do.	Kowad Desgat	2,746	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Do.	Kurbet Desgat	{ 1,23,93 2,556	84,378 2,556	...	...	...	269	1,817	...	8,283	78,569	Debts will be cleared in 19 years.
6	Do.	Yedihalli Desgat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Do.	Yargatti Desgat	2,014	2,014	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,014	...	Debts will be cleared in a year.
8-10	Do.	Totals of small estates	{ 9,06,668 23,452	2,78,187 23,482	...	...	...	...	...	1,543	3,00,128	...	Debts will be clear between 20 and 25 years.
17	Bijâpur	Not known	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	Dhârwar	Not known	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
		Total, Southern Division.	7,94,868	5,76,793	...	...	269	1,845	433	18,202	5,58,633	...	
		Grand Total	18,81,143	12,01,279	60,532	54,900	9,900	17,744	37,074	82,316	10,49,877	...	

SIND.

From

M. WEBB, EsQUIRE, I. C. S.,
Court of Wards for the Province of Sind;

To

THE COMMISSIONER IN SIND.

SIND COURT OF WARDS OFFICE :
Camp Hyderabad, 22nd September 1912.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the management of private estates by the Court of Wards in Sind for the year ending July 31st, 1912.

2. The department was in my charge throughout the year.

3. At the opening of the year there were 85 estates under superintendence; during the year 23 new estates were admitted, and five released, so that at the close 103 estates were under superintendence. Of the new estates, four were taken up under certificates from the District Courts and nineteen on direct applications to yourself or to the Court of Wards. Of the estates released, four were discharged on their owners attaining their majority, and one was transferred back to the Collector as its income was too small to admit of economical management by the Court of Wards in Sind.

At the beginning of the year, 21 applications were under investigation and during the course of it, 52 more were received. Of these 41 applications were disposed of, 19 estates being admitted and 22 rejected, leaving a balance of 32 applications under enquiry at the close of the year.

4. The income for the year amounted to Rs. 2,82,763, the details being as under:—

			Rs.
Rents and produce of land	...	...	1,85,743
Interest on investments	...	...	6,980
Miscellaneous	...	...	89,171
Refund of takavi	...	...	869
		Total	2,82,763

The income from rents shows an increase of about Rs. 3,000 which calls for no comment. Interest received is nearly Rs. 6,000 less than last year, but the decrease is only apparent, the explanation being that the figure for 1910-11 includes Rs. 3,000 which were recoverable in previous years, but had not been recovered, while Rs. 3,600 due for 1911-12 have been recovered in 1912-13 and will be shown in the accounts of that year.

Miscellaneous income includes Rs. 12,273, old debts recovered.

5. The net expenditure, excluding loans advanced for cultivation and investments, amounted to Rs. 2,25,492 as opposed to Rs. 1,86,958 in 1910-11. The difference is covered by the increased sum paid for maintenance, tuition and miscellaneous purposes, such as marriages or repairs to houses.

6. The collections of rent have not been so good as usual. The total demand was Rs. 2,39,118 including Rs. 21,956 arrears, and the collections amount to Rs. 1,67,446 of the

current year's demand and Rs. 18,297 arrears, leaving a total balance of Rs. 53,375 unrecovered. The poorness of the recoveries is due entirely to the miserable crops which have been obtained in Upper Sind, a fact brought strongly into evidence by the figures; out of the total arrears Rs. 47,232 or nearly 90 per cent. being due from the three districts of Sukkur, Lárkána and the Upper Sind Frontier. Of the arrears Rs. 35,681 are under postponement, Rs. 4,873 are due by one estate to another and will be paid when there is sufficient balance, and Rs. 12,821 are unauthorised and under process of recovery. All arrears, whether authorised or not, carry interest. Postponements have been granted only after careful enquiries. By far the largest amount under postponement from one lessee is Rs. 27,800, from the lessee of estate No. 25, and this case perhaps calls for some explanation. It is hardly necessary to remark that under the system prevailing in Sind, a zamindár, or in the zamindár's stead a lessee, has to incur very large preliminary expenses before his land can be cultivated, which expenses he hopes to recover from the crops. Besides the ordinary expenses of clearance of water-courses, he has to give his cultivators enough to live on from the time of the first ploughing to that of harvest; if the crops fail he not only cannot recover these advances, but if he is to prevent them from deserting him for some more liberal zamindár he has practically to support his cultivators until the following season. The loss which a zamindár suffers if his crop fails is not therefore confined to the Government assessment, which in Sind would as a rule be remitted, or to the actual harvest which he loses; besides these he suffers an actual monetary loss owing to his failure to recover his original advances, and is frequently left without the capital necessary for the cultivation of his land in the following year. In the present case I examined the books of the lessee myself and concluded that although the lease money might be recovered by distraint on his property his losses had been so heavy that he would be seriously hampered in cultivating the leased lands in subsequent years. He is himself a fairly wealthy man and he has given two excellent sureties; considering, therefore, that it would be the best policy to allow him time to recover himself, if possible, I have postponed the recovery of the whole lease premium for a year. There is no doubt that it can ultimately be recovered, though unless the seasons improve, it will probably mean the ruin of the lessee.

Old debts to the extent of Rs. 12,273 have been collected, the total is not so large as last year, but it represents more work, as the sum recovered includes a large number of petty account debts. In the case of one estate it has been found necessary to employ a special man to hunt up debtors and make recoveries. Rs. 1,303 were recovered from the North-Western Railway on a contract which had been held by the father of the wards of estate No. 71. Rs. 8,147 had been recovered on this contract in 1910-11 and the Railway authorities refused to give a further account of it, stoutly maintaining that all claims had been settled. It was not till a suit for an account had been filed against them that they were able to discover that Rs. 1,303 still remained to be paid. Besides the debts actually recovered, instalments have been fixed and bonds taken for a large number in addition.

7. At the beginning of the year, the arrears due to Government consisted of Rs. 7,630 assessment and Rs. 776 takavi; the Government cesses and rates. dues for the current year amounted to Rs. 69,661. Out of the total amount of Rs. 78,067, Rs. 73,286 were paid leaving a balance due of Rs. 4,781 assessment. The takavi has all been paid off.

8. The cost of management for 1910-11 which was recovered in the current year was Rs. 16,500 or 8.09 per cent. on the gross income. In 1909-10, the previous year, the percentage was 7.92. The actual rise in the cost of management was only Rs. 2,250 due to the larger number of estates under superintendence.

9. Rs. 2,525 were advanced for cultivation expenses. A balance of Rs. 1,020 was outstanding at the close of last year. Advances granted to cultivators. Of the total amount Rs. 869 have been recovered.

Maintenance and education of wards.

10. Rs. 42,548 were spent on the maintenance and education of wards. The details are as under :—

	Rs.
Cash for maintenance	...
Produce adjusted to maintenance	... 36,969
Education charges	... 3,660
	... 1,919

There were 118 male wards whose estates are under superintendence. Thirty-six are not of school-going age, one has recently died and 75 are receiving education of some sort, including two who are studying the Korán. Efforts are being made to get the remaining six sent to school, but where truant boys can rely on the help of all their relations, success is difficult. In one case during the last year, the aunt of a boy—a Talpur—actually hid her nephew to prevent his being sent to school, although in consequence of her refusal to send him, her own Government pension had been stopped. Her action brought its own retribution, for while in hiding the boy contracted small-pox, from which he nearly died.

11. Statement No. III shows the progress made in the repayment of debt. The net liability at the beginning of the year was Rs. 45,208, to which Rs. 92,091 have been added as under :—

	Rs.
Claims filed	... 91,943
Errors detected	... 48
Interest accrued and paid	... 100
Total	... 92,091

The total liability for the year was therefore Rs. 1,37,299, out of which Rs. 65,831 were settled as shown in the statement attached to the report, leaving a net liability at the close of the year of Rs. 71,468. To this amount must be added a loan of Rs. 12,000 raised in 1910-11 but not included in the total liability of that year.

Twenty-seven claims were pending at the beginning of the year and forty-eight were filed during the course of it, making a total of 75 for decision. Forty-four claims for Rs. 82,444 were decided, Rs. 72,908 being awarded, and 31 claims for Rs. 26,085 remain pending. Of the latter the decision of nine made against estate No. 71 is awaiting the result of certain legal proceedings; the remainder are nearly all against estates which have only recently been taken up and will be decided in the next touring season.

12. The invested balance at the close of the year was Rs. 3,31,954 as contrasted with Rs. 2,28,551 at the close of the previous year. Of the balance invested at the close of the year, Rs. 1,01,047 which had been placed on fixed deposit have since been re-invested partly in Government Promissory Notes, partly in Port Trust and Bombay Improvement Trust debentures and a further sum of Rs. 47,953 has been invested in the same way. Out of the invested balance, Rs. 23,585 have been lent to the Manager, Incumbered Estates, at 5 per cent. interest to pay off loans raised at higher rates in the open market. This form of investment appears to me to be both profitable and secure. The rate of interest is higher than can be obtained from equally safe investments and the credit of the Manager may be judged from the fact that two of his creditors, who had lent Rs. 29,500 at $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., on hearing that their loans were to be paid off, promptly lowered their rates of interest to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. Moreover the Court of Wards being also the Manager has opportunities of investigating the security of the estates requiring loans which are open to few investors.

The system of making investments has been revised. Instead of buying bonds for any definite estate a lump sum is invested in the name of the Court of Wards and distributed among the estates in the books of the office. This course facilitates the transfer of investments from one estate to another when necessary and also gives estates with small balances, which could not be profitably

invested otherwise, an opportunity of drawing some interest on their share of the general invested balance.

It is necessary to keep a large balance in hand to meet current expenses, but where it can be foreseen that any considerable sum will not be required for a few months, it is placed on fixed deposit with a reliable bank.

The experiment of recording and filing correspondences which was mentioned in my last Administration Report continues to be successful. The sorting of records for the period since the management of Court of Wards estates was transferred to this department is well up to date, and some progress has been made in clearing up the mass of undigested files which was received from the Collectors.

The Court of Wards branch of my office has, on the whole, worked well under the Head Munshi, Mr. Jethmal Chandumal, and the Assistant Manager, Mr. Hiranand Tahilram, and the Deputy Managers, Messrs. Bhavandas Fatehchand and Rupchand Teumal, have been keen in the execution of their duties.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

M. WEBB,

Court of Wards for the Province of Sind.

STATEMENT No. I.

Statement showing the general position of estates under Government management.

Serial No.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Total area of Estate.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total assessment.	Total land revenue demand including cesses.	Total gross income recovered.	Total gross expenditure.	Balance.		Total liabilities.	Cost of management.	Percentage of gross income.	Remarks.
										Invested.	Uninvested.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Hyderabad	All Akbār Beg	Acres. † 2,183	Acres. 1,059	Acres. 1,123	Rs. 4,188	Rs. 12,443	Rs. 11,069	Rs. 11,045	Rs. —	Rs. 928	Rs. 12,124*	Rs. 701	...	* Last year's figures were erroneous.
2	Thar and Parkar	Nihalkhan	8,028	1,428	1,002	5,068	10,788	10,854	11,714	5,000	10,721	...	717	...	
3	Larkana	Wahidbuz	† 21,020	6,774	14,246	16,036	61,076	50,207	1,03,408	00,726	27,023	...	5,030	...	
4 to 108		Total for small estates.	43,477	14,194	29,283	44,371	1,29,356	3,10,549	3,09,343	2,36,323	84,303	71,344	9,402	...	
		Total	69,707	23,453	46,254	69,661	2,14,163	2,62,763	6,15,600	3,31,954	1,23,564	83,468	10,800	8.00	

† Difference between the area shown last year and that of the current year is due to correct figures since supplied by the Mukhtārkar.

STATEMENT No. II.

Statement showing the efficiency of rent collection in estates under Government management for the year 1911-12.

Serial No.	Name of District.	Name of Estate.	Demands.			Collections.			Amount written off.	Balance.			Details of balance.	
			Current.	Arrears.	Total.	On account of current year.	On account of arrears.	Total.		Converted into bonds or decrees.	Other.	Total.	Current.	Old.
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Hyderabad	All Akbār Beg	12,443	2,160	15,603	10,563	147	10,710	...	...	4,892	4,892	1,879	3,013
2	Thar and Parkar	Nihalkhan	10,788	...	10,788	10,788	...	10,788	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Larkana	Wahidbuz	61,076	7,005	68,081	30,797	6,990	37,787	...	...	30,304	30,304	30,279	25
4 to 108		Total for small estates.	129,356	14,791	144,647	1,15,298	11,170	1,26,468	...	...	15,179	15,179	14,558	3,621
		Total	214,163	24,956	239,119	1,67,446	18,297	1,85,743	...	...	53,375	53,375	46,716	6,659

* Difference in figures of arrears of last year and those of this year is due to arrears since rectified and additions of arrears of new estates.

M. WEBB,
Court of Wards for the Province of Sind.

STATEMENT No. III.

Statement showing the progress made in the liquidation of debts in the Court of Wards estates during the year 1911-12.

Name of district	Name of estate.	Debts due on assumption of charge.	Debts incurred in previous years after charge was assumed.	Additional debts incurred during the current year.	Debts settled during current year,					Balance.	Date by which it is expected on assumption of management that estate would be clear of debt.
					By incurring fresh debts.	By sale of property.	Rejected by Court of Wards or Civil Court.	Remitted by creditors.	From current income.		
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Hyderabad.	Ali Akbār Beg ...	18,760	13,000	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,124	31st July 1914.
	Total for small estates ...	1,52,091	180	100	650	53,303	8,574	1,178	2,127	71,344	Certain claims are still under investigation.
	Total ...	1,70,880	12,130	100	650	53,303	8,574	1,178	2,127	83,468	

Note.—No estimate was made on the assumption of management of the dates on which these estates would be freed from debt.

M. WEBB,
Court of Wards for the Province of Sind.

*Below report on the estates under management of the Court of Wards
in Sind for the year 1911-12.*

No. 653 OF 1912.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

*Office of the Commissioner in Sind,
Government House, Karachi, 26th October 1912.*

Submitted to Government.

2. The income from rent of land was Rs. 1,85,743 as against Rs. 1,82,523 in the last year. The increase of Rs. 3,220 is incommensurate with the number of estates newly admitted during the year, owing to the failure of crops in Upper Sind as a result of the poor inundation.

3. The miscellaneous income shows an abnormally large increase from Rs. 7,270 to Rs. 89,171. There are two main reasons for the increase. Firstly, owing to the abolition of statement II by paragraph 2 of Government Resolution No. 1051, dated the 31st January 1912, receipts from various sources which were separately accounted for before its abolition are now shown in a lump as miscellaneous income in the report. Secondly, the income realized from sales of land during the year under report amounted to Rs. 62,978 as against Rs. 875 in the previous year.

4. Considerable progress was made in the liquidation of debts during the year, though they were mostly wiped out by sale of property.

5. The unsatisfactory character of the season is reflected in the falling off of the percentage of collections which amounted to 78.18 during the year under report as against 88.55 in the previous year. For the same reason the dues under process of recovery increased from Rs. 3,782 to Rs. 12,821. The amendment of section 29 of the Court of Wards Act referred to in paragraph 5 of the last year's report is awaited.

6. The Court of Wards is not responsible for the education of the wards as their persons are not under its superintendence. The progress made, was, however, as satisfactory as could be expected.

7. In spite of the adverse conditions referred to, Mr. Webb's administration continued to be quite satisfactory.

A. D. YOUNGHUSBAND,
Commissioner in Sind.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department, Bombay.

Annual Reports.

Reports on the Administration of the Estates under the management of the Courts of Wards in the Presidency proper and Sind for the year 1911-12.

No. 3209.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 5th April 1913.

Letter from the Commissioner, N. D., No. 4243, dated 11th October 1912.	} Submitting the annual reports on the management of private estates in their respective charges as Courts of Wards for the year ending 31st July 1912.
Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 653, dated 26th October 1912.	
Letter from the Commissioner, S. D., No. 4114, dated 11th November 1912.	
Letter from the Commissioner, C. D., No. C.—2245, dated 17th December 1912.	

RESOLUTION.—During the year 1911-12 there were in all 66 estates under management in the Presidency proper. The superintendence of nine of these estates was assumed during the year, while five were released from management. The number under management at its close was, therefore, 61, as compared with 58 at the end of the previous year. Regarding five of the estates the management of which was assumed during the year no statistics can be given.

2. The total income of the remaining estates was Rs. 6,11,136, of which Rs. 3,32,713, or just over 50 per cent., consisted of rents from land. Owing to the adverse nature of the season the recoveries from tenants were seriously reduced. Out of a current demand of Rs. 4,47,205 collections amounted to Rs. 3,01,924 only, or 67 per cent. of the demand, as compared with recoveries amounting to 92 per cent. of the demand in the previous year. Out of the arrears which amounted to Rs. 1,79,058 recoveries to the extent of Rs. 30,789 only were made, while Rs. 79,812 were written off as irrecoverable. The total balance at the close of the year was Rs. 2,13,945 compared with Rs. 2,00,000 at the close of the last year, a not unsatisfactory result after taking the prevailing conditions into consideration.

3. The total expenditure for the same estates was Rs. 4,50,012 exclusive of loans advanced and investments made. Of this expenditure the cost of management worked out at 7.4 per cent. only of the gross income.

4. In estimating the progress made in the reduction of indebtedness it is advisable to omit from consideration the nine estates which came under management during the year and one insolvent estate in the Southern Division. Of the 56 remaining estates 13 are now entirely free of encumbrance. The balance of debts outstanding against the other estates at the beginning of the year was Rs. 12,01,279. During the year additional debts to the amount of Rs. 60,532 were incurred, but some of this was employed in paying off old debts on advantageous terms. Claims against the estates amounting to Rs. 17,744 were rejected by the Courts of Wards or the Civil Courts and Rs. 37,074 were remitted by creditors in consideration of prompt settlement of their accounts, while out of the current income Rs. 92,316 were expended in liquidation of debt. Thus the total encumbrances on the indebted estates were reduced during the year from Rs. 12,01,279 to Rs. 10,49,877, a reduction of 12.6 per cent. It is anticipated that most of the remaining estates will be cleared of debt within 20 to 27 years, while in some cases a much shorter period will be required.

5. Twenty-eight wards are of school-going age and satisfactory arrangements have been made for their education.

6. In Sind 85 estates were under management at the beginning of the year, of which five were released before its close. Twenty-three new estates were admitted during the year, which thus closed with a total of 103 estates under

management. A poor inundation resulted in reduced recoveries of rent as compared with previous years. The arrears of land revenue at the end of the year rose to Rs. 53,375, but over two-thirds of this represented demands that had to be suspended. The total income of the estates amounted to Rs. 2,82,763 and the expenditure incurred was Rs. 2,25,492. The cost of management was 8.09 per cent. only of the gross income. The total liabilities of the indebted estates were Rs. 1,37,299, out of which a settlement was arranged for Rs. 65,831 leaving a balance of debts amounting to Rs. 71,468, *plus* a loan of Rs. 12,000 raised during the year, or Rs. 83,468 in all, at the close of the year. The difficulties with which the Court of Wards had to contend are clearly shown in the case of estate No. 25 mentioned in paragraph 6 of Mr. Webb's report and it is creditable to the management that under these adverse conditions such satisfactory results on the whole were attained.

7. The benefits which the estates are deriving from their management under the Courts continued strongly in evidence in spite of the unfavourable season and the consequent difficulties which had to be encountered during the year under review. The Governor in Council desires to accord his thanks to the district officers concerned for the zeal, ability and industry which they have displayed in the administration of the estates entrusted to their charge.

C. W. A. TURNER,

Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner in Sind,
 The Commissioner, N. D.,
 The Commissioner, C. D.,
 The Commissioner, S. D.,
 All Collectors, including the Collectors in Sind and the
 Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier,
 The Tálukdári Settlement Officer,
 The Manager, Incumbered Estates in Sind,
 The Director of Agriculture,
 The Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land
 Records,
 The Director of Public Instruction,
 The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,
 The Accountant General,
 The Compiler of the General Administration Report,
 The Judicial Department of the Secretariat,
 The Political Department of the Secretariat,
 The Financial Department of the Secretariat,
 The Educational Department of the Secretariat,
 The Editors' Tables and the Editors of Newspapers,
 The Non-official Members of the Legislative Council,
 All Registered Libraries,
 The Government of India,
 The Under Secretary of State for India. } By letter.

With copies of
 the Report.