

**REPORT**  
ON THE  
**ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES**  
UNDER THE  
**COURT OF WARDS**  
IN THE  
**PUNJAB**

*For the year ending 30th September 1927.*



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**Review of the Annual Report on the Administration  
under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the  
year ending 30th September 1927.**

*Proceedings of the Governor of the Punjab in  
Council, No.3304-D., dated 6th July 1928.*

1. The number of estates under the Court of Wards has increased to 50, spread over 19 districts in the Province, with total assets estimated at  $4\frac{3}{4}$  crores and total liabilities at Rs.  $14\frac{2}{3}$  lakhs. In the year under report the Kailash Nath estate (Lahore) was released, this estate having been under the control of the Court of Wards for 22 years, a longer period than any other estate can show, excepting Mamdot (1891) and Lambagraon (1888).

2. The cultivated area of all the estates is  $1\frac{2}{3}$  lakhs acres, with a land revenue of nearly Rs.  $2\frac{1}{3}$  lakhs. In the year under report the income from cash rents was Rs.  $6\frac{2}{3}$  lakhs, and the income from sale of grain, and other produce and of stock was just under Rs.  $5\frac{1}{10}$  lakhs. This income amounts to Rs. 7 per cultivated acre: the land revenue averages Re. 1-5-0 per acre, or in other words absorbs 19 per cent. of the landlord's share. The cost of management at Rs.  $2\frac{1}{10}$  lakhs works out at 11 per cent. of the ordinary income, and 9 per cent. of the total income.

3. The increase in the treasury balance of the estates was deprecated in last year's review when the balance was Rs.  $6\frac{2}{3}$  lakhs. This amount has now swollen to Rs.  $9\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs, and the same estates as last year show big balances, *i.e.*, Sidhowal, Arnauli, Buria, Amb, Kalabagh and Mamdot. The increase is really due in the main to the Mamdot balance being allowed to increase from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs, principally on account of the sale of over 2 lakhs of Government promissory notes which had not been re-invested. The Governor in Council would again direct the attention of local officers to the inadvisability of allowing large balances to remain idle in treasuries.

4. Judging from the increase in the total recoverable areas of rent, from under Rs. 2 lakhs to over Rs. 2½ lakhs, delay or shortage in collection of rents is a factor to be reckoned with by large landlords.

5. The Governor in Council concurs in the views expressed by the Financial Commissioner in paragraph 9 of the report. The primary object of the Court of Wards is to rehabilitate the finances of the Ward's estate, and to effect improvements in the estate. In pursuing that object it is necessary *inter alia* that farming should be conducted on scientific principles, and that attention should be devoted to the improvement of live stock, and the betterment of the resident tenantry.

By order of the Governor in Council,

W. R. WILSON,

*Secretary to Government, Punjab, Revenue  
Department.*