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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Commissioner's Office,

Camp Kandiara, 2nd February 1899.

From

R. GILES, ESQUIRE, M.A.,
Acting Commissioner in Sind,

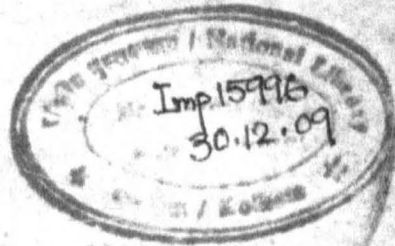
To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE LORD SANDHURST, G.C.I.E.,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the Revenue Settlement of the Province of Sind for the year 1897-98, together with the following appendices :—

- Appendix No. I.—Jamabandi Return No. I.—Contrasted Statement showing the gross and net Land Revenue, together with realisations, remissions and outstanding balances.
- Appendix No. II.—Supplement to Jamabandi Return No. I.—Statement showing the details of miscellaneous Land Revenue entered in columns 21 and 47 (a) of Appendix No. I.
- Appendix No. III.—Jamabandi Return No. II.—Statement showing the causes of increase and decrease under columns 22 and 68 of Appendix No. I.
- Appendix No. IV.—Jamabandi Return No. III.—Statement showing the details of the outstanding balances of Land Revenue on the 1st August 1897 as shown in totals in columns 45 and 46 of Appendix No. I.
- Appendix No. V.—Supplement to Jamabandi Return No. III.—Statement of outstanding balances of Land Revenue for previous years.
- Appendix No. VI.—Jamabandi Return No. IV.—Statement showing the Takavi advances and the objects for which they were made.
- Appendix No. VI (a).—Statement showing balances, recoveries, outstanding, &c., of advances on account of boundary marks recoverable from land-holders.
- Appendix No. VII.—Jamabandi Return No. V.—Comparative Statement showing lands assessed and unassessed, occupied and unoccupied.
- Appendix No. VIII.—Supplement to Jamabandi Return No. V.—Explanatory Statement of decrease and increase in the area and assessment of cultivable assessed land.
- Appendix No. IX.—Jamabandi Return No. VI.—Statement showing the number and extent of holdings in surveyed Government Rayatwari villages.
- Appendix No. X.—Jamabandi Return No. VII.—Statement showing tenures other than Rayatwari.
- Appendix No. XI.—Jamabandi Return No. VIII.—Statement showing the average incidence of Land Revenue and of assessment per head of population and per acre.



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Appendix No. XII.—Jamabandi Return No. IX.—Statement showing the coercive processes adopted for the realisation of Land Revenue.

Appendix No. XIII.—Jamabandi Return No. X.—Statement of realisations under tributes, interest and miscellaneous.

Appendix No. XIV.—Contrasted Statement of actual charges on account of collection establishments.

Appendix No. XV.—Report of the Superintendent, Land Records and Agriculture, Sind, for the year 1897-98.

SEASON.

2. The season was very favourable as regards the inundation and fairly so as regards the rainfall, but this latter was unfortunately not supplemented by the usual cold weather showers. It might have been expected that the abnormal inundation would have resulted in numerous and disastrous floods, but with the exception of a serious flood in the Sitahbandar Division, due to the breaching of the Munarki Bund, another one due to the breaching of the Bharti Bund in the Hyderabad District, and the Manchar Lake flood, the season was remarkably free from floods.

Locusts, however, appeared throughout the Province and did considerable damage to the Kharif crops. The Rabi crops as a whole were very good, except in the northern talukas of the Karachi District, where they suffered from the want of the usual winter rains. The excellence of these crops is the more gratifying because it was not due, as a rule, to floods, but to the late date up to which the river maintained a high level.

The revenue results have, consequently, been extremely satisfactory.

3. The inundation was a favourable one and the supply in the canals good.

Upper Sind Frontier District.

This was especially true of the Begari, where the additional clearance sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 27 W. I. 392, dated 10th March 1897, had the most excellent effect and gave the lands at its tail in the Shahdadpur Taluka a supply which lasted long after the usual season. Unfortunately, the favourable results of the good water-supply were in many parts of the district much diminished by two misfortunes, *viz.*, (1) the appearance twice during the kharif season of locusts, which first attacked and severely damaged the young plants and then the ripening grain, and (2) by the almost universal prevalence of fever just as the crops were ripe for harvest.

4. The inundation was the highest on record, but the experience of 1895-96, which was the lowest, diminished somewhat the good results, the Larkana zamindars

Shikarpur District.

especially hesitating to plant rice until it was too late, or planting it too late to secure a bumper crop. Nevertheless, there was a general increase of revenue, which was 6½ lakhs in excess of that of the previous year. The Robri subdivision was swept by floods, as a result of which the country was covered with wheat and other rabi crops.

5. The inundation was an excellent one, being at once high, steady and long in duration, while the rainfall was double the average and yielded abundant grazing for cattle.

Hyderabad District.

Floods and locusts, however, rendered the season a less prosperous one than it otherwise would have been.

6. Both the inundation and rainfall were good, yet the district was not altogether fortunate. Floods swept the lower portion of the Sehwan Taluka, leaving the river below

Karachi District.

the spot where the protection bunds stop, and also breached the Munarki bund in Shahbandar and destroyed a large area of crops in Jati and Sujawal, while locusts caused considerable injury to the grass and crops in Kohistan, and the want of the winter rains lessened materially the outturn of the rabi in the northern talukas.

7. The season, which is dependent on the canals supply in the Nara Valley and on rain in the Desert, was very favourable—

Thar and Parkar District.

even more so than it was in the previous year, there being an increase in the cultivated area of 57,258 acres in the former and 21,868

in the latter, notwithstanding the fact that in 1896-97 there was an excess over 1895-96 of 8,100 and 40,000 acres, respectively. In both tracts, however, considerable damage was caused by locusts, which practically reduced the outturn of all the kharif crops, except rice, to half what it should have been, the rice remaining uninjured and yielding a bumper outturn. A flood from the Rohri Division entered the Nara Supply Channel on the 28th July, but, owing to the ordinary supply in the Channel itself being reduced, the flood did not reach the north of the district until three weeks later, when it spread over the unprotected area of the Sanghar and Khipro Talukas in the usual way, touching eventually the 29th mile of the Protective Bund and submerging the kharif crops, which were, however, succeeded by extensive rabi cultivation.

8. But for the Plague, which, however, was confined to the town of Karachi and its environs and for a short time to the town of Kotri, the public health has been good, except for the ordinary malarial fevers, which were very prevalent throughout the Province, and in some places small-pox.

9. The net financial result of the Revenue settlements of the Province for the year under report was very favourable. The assessed area and revenue increased from acres 3,271,622-36 and Rs. 80,91,750-8-11 to acres 3,776,063-27 and Rs. 95,05,079-7-1 in 1897-98, or, excluding remissions from both sets of figures, the net revenue for collection, including Hakabo, increased from Rs. 79,16,089-3-11 to Rs. 91,06,093-8-1.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

10. Appendix No. I shows the number of Government and alienated villages. The following table exhibits the number of Government and alienated villages during the year under review as compared with that in the previous year :—

Villages.

No.	District.	1897-98.			1896-97.			INCREASE.			DECREASE.		
		Government.	Alienated.	Total.	Government.	Alienated.	Total.	Government.	Alienated.	Total.	Government.	Alienated.	Total.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1	Upper Sind Frontier ...	393	7	400	393	7	400	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Shikarpur ...	1,163	59	1,222	1,163	57	1,220	...	2	2	...	...	...
3	Hyderabad ...	1,367	223	1,590	1,362	227	1,589	5	...	5	...	...	4
4	Karachi ...	907	16	923	906	17	923	1	...	1	...	1	1
5	Thar and Parkar ...	726	4	730	726	4	730	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total ...	4,556	309	4,865	4,550	312	4,862	6	2	8	...	5	5
	Deduct ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
	Net increase in Government villages and net decrease in alienated villages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	3	...
	Net increase in both kinds of villages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

11. The variations exhibited in the foregoing table are explained below :—

I.—Government Villages.

(1) Hyderabad District—

Increase.

- (a) On account of acquisition of alienated land for railway purposes, villages made Government ... 4
- (b) Do. on partial resumption of Jagir land... 2
- (c) Kacha land surveyed and made a distinct village ... 1
- Total ... 7

Decrease.

(a) Alienated lands in Government villages made into separate alienated villages	...	2
Total	...	2
Net increase	...	5

(2) Karachi District—

Increase.

(a) Due to one alienated village made Government, owing to a piece of land taken up for the Public Works Department	...	1
Total	...	1
Total net increase in Government villages	...	6

II.—Alienated Villages.

(1) Shikarpur District—

Increase.

(a) Alienated lands in Government villages made into separate alienated villages	...	2
Total	...	2

(2) Hyderabad District—

Increase.

(a) On account of exclusion of Government land added to another village and consequent formation of distinct alienated villages	...	2
Total	...	2

Decrease.

(a) On account of acquisition of land for railway purposes, villages made Government	...	4
(b) On account of partial resumption of Jagir land, villages made Government	...	2
Total	...	6
Net decrease	...	4

(3) Karachi District—

Decrease.

(a) Due to one alienated village made Government, owing to a piece of land taken up for the Public Works Department	...	1
Total	...	1
Total net decrease in alienated villages	...	3
Net increase in villages of both kinds	...	3

Hamlets.

12. The number of Government and alienated hamlets in the year under review as compared with that in the previous year is given in the following table :—

No.	District.	1897-98.			1896-97.			INCREASE.			DECREASE.		
		Government.	Alienated.	Total.	Government.	Alienated.	Total.	Government.	Alienated.	Total.	Government.	Alienated.	Total.
		No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1	Upper Sind Frontier ...	1,494	26	1,520	1,476	26	1,502	18	...	18	...	...	...
2	Shikarpur ...	5,855	394	6,279	5,875	391	6,266	10	3	13	...	...	...
3	Hyderabad ...	6,803	701	7,504	6,723	721	7,444	80	...	80	...	20	20
4	Karachi ...	3,319	40	3,859	3,787	41	3,828	32	...	32	...	1	1
5	Thar and Parkar ...	2,542	17	2,559	2,512	17	2,529	30	...	30	...	...	...
	Total ...	20,543	1,178	21,721	20,373	1,196	21,569	170	3	173	...	21	21
	Deduct ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
	Net increase in Government hamlets and net decrease in alienated hamlets.	...	...	...	...	...	...	170	...	...	...	18	...
	Net increase ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	182					

13. The increase and decrease in hamlets are accounted for by districts below :—

I.—Government Hamlets.

(1) Upper Sind Frontier District—

Increase.

(a) New hamlets established for convenience of cultivators ...	...	1
(b) Correction of errors ...	...	17
Total ...	...	18

(2) Shikarpur District—

Increase.

(a) Establishment of new hamlets for convenience of cultivators...	...	16
(b) Correction of errors ...	...	3
Total ...	...	19

Decrease.

(a) Eroded by the river...	...	6
(b) Transferred to the head "Alienated Hamlets," owing to conversion of Government villages into alienated ones ...	...	3
Total ...	...	9
Net increase ...	...	10

(3) Hyderabad District—

Increase.

(a)	Brought from alienated hamlets, owing to alienated villages made Government on account of land acquired for railway	...	20
(b)	Do. owing to partial resumption of Jagir villages	...	4
(c)	Establishment of new hamlets for convenience of cultivators...	...	1
(d)	Rectification of errors	...	67
Total			92

Decrease.

(a)	Transfer to the head "Alienated," being contained in the areas made into distinct alienated villages	...	3
(b)	Eroded by the river	...	9
Total			12
Net increase			80

(4) Karachi District—

Increase.

(a)	Correction of errors	...	24
(b)	New hamlets established for convenience of cultivators	...	10
(c)	Transferred from the head "Alienated," owing to conversion of an alienated village into a Government village	...	1
Total			35

Decrease.

(a)	Eroded by the river	...	3
Total			3
Net increase			32

(5) Thar and Parkar District—

Increase.

(a)	Correction of errors	...	30
Total			30

Total net increase in Government hamlets... 170

II.—Alienated Hamlets.

(1) Shikarpur District—

Increase.

(a)	Transferred from the head "Government Hamlets," being contained in villages made alienated	...	3
Total			3

(2) Hyderabad District—

Increase.

(a) Brought from the head "Government Hamlets," owing to the formation of distinct alienated villages ...	...	...	3
(b) Correction of errors ...	...	...	2
Total ...	...	...	5

Decrease.

(a) Transferred to the head "Government Hamlets," owing to alienated villages made Government on account of land taken up for railway ...	...	...	20
(b) Transferred to the head "Government Hamlets," owing to partial resumption of Jagir villages ...	...	...	4
(c) Eroded by the river ...	...	...	1
Total ...	...	...	25
Net decrease ...	...	...	20

(3) Karachi District—

Decrease.

(a) Transferred to the head "Government Hamlets," being contained in areas made Government villages ...	...	...	1
Total ...	...	...	1
Total net decrease in alienated hamlets ...	...	...	18
Net increase in hamlets of both kinds ...	...	...	152

EXPENDITURE ON IRRIGATION WORKS AND IRRIGATION REVENUE.

14. The total expenditure on Irrigational Works in the Province not debitable to Capital in the Canal accounts during the year 1896-97 is contrasted with that in 1895-96 in the subjoined table :—

No.	Collectorate and Canals Division.	1896-97.	1895-96.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Upper Sind Frontier { Begari Division ...	2,18,053	2,07,910	10,143	...
	{ Kashmor Band ...	4,23,871	1,87,826	2,36,045	...
2	Shikarpur ... { Shikarpur Canals Division ...	2,97,404	3,87,206	...	89,802
	{ Ghar Division ...	2,80,676	2,51,849	28,827	...
3	Hyderabad ... { Hyderabad Canals Division ...	2,87,337	2,65,114	22,223	...
	{ Fuleli Division ...	2,92,388	3,68,087	...	75,699
4	Karachi ... { Western Nara Division ...	2,37,463	3,56,294	...	18,831
	{ Karachi Canals Division ...	3,01,512	4,80,282	...	1,78,770
5	Thar and Parkar ... Eastern Nara Division ...	1,10,449	1,38,180	...	27,731
	Total ...	25,49,153	26,42,748	2,97,238	3,90,823
	Deduct ...	...	...	...	2,97,238
	Net decrease ...	...	...	...	93,595

15. The details of expenditure shown in the foregoing table for each of the years 1896-97 and 1895-96 are exhibited in the following statements. The figures have been supplied by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Bombay :—

1896-97.

No.	Collectorate and Canals Division.	DIRECT CHARGES.						Cost of Revenue Collections.	INDIRECT CHARGES.			Grand Total.
		Works.	Maintenance and Repairs.	Establishment.	Tools and Plant.	Miscellaneous, viz., Refund of Revenue.	Total.		Capitalisation.	Leave and Pension Allowances.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Upper Sind Frontier											
	{ Begari Division	44,730	1,32,677	2,258	487	...	1,80,152	37,210	376	315	691	2,18,053
	{ Kashmir Band	...	3,44,137	78,720	539	...	4,23,396	475	...	...	...	4,23,871
2	Shikarpur	19,291	2,10,403	34,294	498	...	2,64,486	32,918	...	...	...	2,97,404
	{ Shikarpur Canals Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Ghar Division	860	1,67,037	45,685	871	...	2,14,453	60,290	78	5,855	5,933	2,80,676
3	Hyderabad	7,818	1,76,889	45,891	735	...	2,31,353	54,982	...	1,022	1,022	2,87,337
	{ Hyderabad Canals Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Fuleli Division	17,426	1,71,539	38,811	602	...	2,28,378	54,628	6,647	2,735	9,382	2,92,388
4	Karachi	73,643	1,22,472	58,687	1,597	...	2,56,404	45,108	...	...	...	3,01,512
	{ Western Nara Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Karachi Canals Division	66,761	1,68,633	68,538	5,000	...	3,08,932	28,531	...	...	...	3,37,463
5	Thar and Parkar	64	64,657	14,213	143	...	79,077	29,382	...	1,990	1,990	1,10,449
	{ Eastern Nara Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	2,30,598	15,58,444	3,87,097	10,472	...	21,86,611	3,43,524	7,101	11,917	19,018	25,49,153

1895-96.

1	Upper Sind Frontier											
	{ Begari Division	26,604	1,11,973	31,765	632	...	1,70,974	31,337	1,153	4,446	5,599	2,07,910
	{ Kashmir Band	...	1,52,234	34,600	604	...	1,87,438	383	...	...	...	1,87,826
2	Shikarpur	1,62,321	1,56,761	44,926	718	...	3,64,726	22,480	...	...	...	3,87,206
	{ Shikarpur Canals Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Ghar Division	6,803	1,53,277	45,104	820	...	2,06,004	40,002	...	5,843	5,843	2,51,849
3	Hyderabad	8,252	1,37,638	65,158	317	...	2,11,365	52,527	39	1,183	1,222	2,65,114
	{ Hyderabad Canals Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Fuleli Division	65,003	1,91,713	60,018	702	...	3,16,032	48,095	...	3,960	3,960	3,68,087
4	Karachi	1,16,516	1,43,164	60,891	2,191	...	3,22,762	33,532	...	...	...	3,56,294
	{ Western Nara Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Karachi Canals Division	1,68,092	2,08,728	77,144	1,365	...	4,55,329	24,953	...	...	...	4,80,282
5	Thar and Parkar	515	74,613	34,127	728	...	1,09,983	23,418	...	4,779	4,779	1,38,180
	{ Eastern Nara Division	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	5,54,106	13,30,101	4,53,733	6,673	...	23,44,613	2,76,732	1,192	20,211	21,403	26,42,748

16. The following table shows for each Canal Division (1) consolidated Land and Water Assessment, (2) Hakabo, (3) Miscellaneous Canal Revenue, (4) the amount of Remissions and (5) the net Revenue for collection due to Canals in Sind during the years 1897-98 and 1896-97 in contrast with the expenditure incurred in the two years, respectively :—

1897-98.

No.	Canals Division.		GROSS CANAL REVENUE.				Deduct Remissions.	Net Canal Revenue.	Expenditure in 1896-97.	REMARKS.
			Consolidated Land and Water Assessment.	Hakabo.	Miscellaneous Canal Revenue.	Total.				
			Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.				
1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Upper Sind Frontier...	Begari Division ... { District ...	8,26,123 0 0	5,327 1 0	3,501 0 0	8,34,951 1 0	41,001 1 0	7,93,950 0 0	2,18,053 0 0	This is a protective bund, and not a canal.
		Kashmor Band ... { Kalat ...	13,896 14 0	87,643 15 0	...	87,643 15 0	...	87,643 15 0	...	
						13,896 14 0	23 15 0	13,872 15 0	4,23,871 0 0	
2	Shikarpur ...	Shikarpur Canals Division ...	8,06,477 4 9	6,806 10 0	6,147 0 0	8,19,430 14 9	6,648 5 0	8,12,782 9 9	2,97,404 0 0	
		Ghar Division ...	10,55,710 6 0	4,503 8 0	6,598 0 0	10,66,811 14 0	19,731 4 0	10,47,080 10 0	2,80,076 0 0	
3	Hyderabad ...	Hyderabad Canals Division ...	9,99,071 6 7	19,972 13 0	6,732 0 0	10,25,776 3 7	33,594 9 10	9,92,181 9 9	2,37,337 0 0	
		Fuleli Division ...	8,25,218 6 10	33,757 8 0	12,146 0 0	8,71,121 14 10	5,435 13 0	8,65,686 1 10	2,92,388 0 0	
4	Karachi ...	Western Nara Division ...	9,82,417 9 10	8,160 0 0	18,853 0 0	10,09,430 9 10	47,660 0 0	9,61,770 9 10	3,01,512 0 0	
		Karachi Canals Division ...	6,20,355 2 8	4,690 15 0	7,741 0 0	6,32,787 1 8	62,672 14 0	5,70,114 3 8	3,37,463 0 0	
5	Thar and Parkar ...	Eastern Nara Division ...	6,30,955 9 0	1,537 12 0	24,527 0 0	6,57,020 5 0	12,638 1 0	6,44,382 4 0	1,10,449 0 0	
	Total ...		67,60,225 11 8	1,72,400 2 0	86,245 0 0	70,18,870 13 8	2,29,405 14 10	67,89,464 14 10	25,49,153 0 0	

1896-97.

1896-97.													Expenditure in 1895-96.	
1	Upper Sind Frontier...	Begari Division ... { District ... { Kalat ...	7,34,328 13 0	3,858 10 0	2,980 0 0	7,41,167 7 0	58,139 2 0	6,83,028 5 0	2,07,910 0 0	This is a protective bund, and not a canal.				
		Kashmor Band ...	9,639 12 0	62,880 3 0	...	62,880 3 0	13,566 0 0	49,314 3 0	...					
		Shikarpur Canals Division ...	6,27,005 15 6	5,481 8 0	4,727 0 0	6,37,214 7 6	3,376 2 0	6,33,838 5 6	3,87,206 0 0					
2	Shikarpur ...	Ghar Division ...	9,62,414 2 0	4,213 0 0	6,930 0 0	9,73,557 2 0	19,280 8 0	9,54,276 10 0	2,51,849 0 0					
3	Hyderabad ...	Hyderabad Canals Division ...	9,15,220 0 0	18,549 0 0	7,350 0 0	9,41,119 0 0	5,624 11 0	9,35,494 5 0	2,65,114 0 0					
		Fuleli Division ...	7,89,477 14 3	32,229 7 0	8,126 0 0	8,29,833 5 3	696 3 0	8,29,137 2 3	3,68,087 0 0					
4	Karachi ...	Western Nara Division ...	8,59,301 2 6	7,118 4 0	16,264 0 0	8,82,683 6 6	40,489 9 0	8,42,193 13 6	3,56,294 0 0					
		Karachi Canals Division ...	5,36,949 13 7	4,195 3 0	12,580 0 0	5,53,725 0 7	9,924 4 0	5,43,800 12 7	4,80,232 0 0					
5	Thar and Parkar ...	Eastern Nara Division ...	5,23,401 1 0	1,546 8 0	23,289 0 0	5,48,236 9 0	561 13 0	5,47,674 12 0	1,38,180 0 0					
Total ...			59,57,738 9 10	1,40,071 11 0	82,246 0 0	61,80,056 4 10	1,51,849 0 0	60,28,207 4 10	26,42,748 0 0					

17. The following statement shows the Gross Revenue under each head of Canal Revenue in the year 1897-98, including outstanding balances of previous years, as also Remissions and Realisations, the sums written off up to 31st July 1898, and balances outstanding on the 1st August 1898 :—

No.	Heads of Canal Revenue.	Gross Revenue.	Deduct Remissions.	AMOUNT FOR COLLECTION IN 1897-98.			REALISATIONS AND SUMS WRITTEN OFF UP TO 31ST JULY 1898.				BALANCE OUTSTANDING ON THE 1ST AUGUST 1898.		
				Net Revenue for current year.	Balance on account of former years on 1st August 1897.	Total.	Collections on account of current year.	Collections on account of former years.	Irrecoverable balances written off on account of former years.	Total.	On account of current year.	On account of former years.	Total.
1.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Consolidated Land & Water Assessment.	67,60,225 11 8	2,29,405 14 10	65,30,819 12 10	68,762 2 7	65,99,581 15 5	63,97,561 12 3	31,099 4 0	8,446 13 0	64,37,107 13 3	1,33,258 0 7	29,216 1 7	1,62,474 2 2
2	Hakabo	1,72,400 2 0	.....	1,72,400 2 0	11,298 14 0	1,83,699 0 0	1,47,761 7 2	8,054 4 10	83 15 0	1,55,899 11 0	24,638 10 10	3,160 10 2	27,799 5 0
3	Miscellaneous ...	86,245 0 0	.....	86,245 0 0	.....	86,245 0 0	86,245 0 0	.....	.....	86,245 0 0	.....	.....	.....
	Total for 1897-98 ...	70,18,870 13 8	2,29,405 14 10	67,89,464 14 10	* 80,061 0 7	68,69,525 15 5	66,31,568 3 5	39,153 8 10	8,530 12 0	66,79,252 8 3	1,57,896 11 5	32,376 11 9	1,90,273 7 2
	1896-97 ...	61,80,056 4 10	1,51,849 0 0	60,28,207 4 10	68,384 10 0	60,96,591 14 10	59,71,307 1 3	42,538 15 0	2,971 9 0	60,16,817 9 3	56,958 9 7	29,615 12 0	59,774 5 7
	Difference ...	+ 83,88,149 10 0	+ 77,556 14 10	+ 7,61,257 10 0	+ 11,676 6 7	+ 7,72,934 0 7	+ 6,60,261 2 2	- 3,385 6 2	+ 5,559 3 0	+ 6,62,434 15 0	+ 1,00,938 1 10	+ 9,500 15 9	+ 1,10,489 1 7

* This figure when compared with the previous year's return shows a difference of Rs. 286-11-0, of which Rs. 286-3-0 relate to Hyderabad District, 4 annas to Shikarpur District and 4 annas to Upper Sind Frontier District. The difference of Rs. 286-3-0 is explained thus :—The amount assessed in 1896-97 was recovered in that year from an individual who was not the real assessee. After the returns for 1896-97 were prepared, the real assessee was discovered, from whom the amount was recovered in 1897-98 and credited as a balance of 1896-97, the amount recovered from the first man having been refunded. In Shikarpur and Upper Sind Frontier 8 annas, which ought to have been credited to "Canal Revenue," were erroneously credited to "Village Cess," and the mistake was rectified subsequently.

Note.—Remarks about the outstanding balances will be found in paragraph 40, which explains balances generally.

REVENUE DERIVED INDEPENDENTLY OF CANAL IRRIGATION.

18. The following statement shows the details of Revenue derived independently of Canal irrigation, as also the amount of Village Cess and Miscellaneous Revenue for the year 1897-98, as compared with the preceding year :—

No.	Districts.	From lands irrigated from the Indus.	From lands dependent on rainfall.	From lands irrigated from wells.	Village Cess.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier...	1,09,440 0 0	1,187 13 0	408 15 0	59,993 7 0	74,873 6 6	2,44,999 6 6
2	Shikarpur ...	6,04,490 12 0	19,356 1 0	8,007 12 0	1,00,936 11 0	2,83,796 0 2	11,15,477 3 2
3	Hyderabad ...	1,24,260 1 0	43,952 11 0	16,448 11 0	1,26,531 0 0	2,07,075 15 7	5,18,268 6 7
4	Karachi...	1,52,641 12 0	1,65,726 7 0	4,916 4 0	79,767 8 0	1,32,884 0 1	5,34,935 15 1
5	Thar and Parkar ...	.....	1,34,658 0 0	139 0 0	45,311 5 0	72,202 6 0	2,52,311 4 0
	Total	9,89,832 9 0	3,64,781 0 0	20,916 5 0	5,10,539 15 0	7,70,821 13 1	26,65,891 10 1
	Deduct Remissions	16,210 7 0	19,841 13 0	8 12 0	81,989 11 0	51,543 8 0	1,69,594 3 0
	Net Revenue for 1897-98	9,73,622 2 0	3,44,939 3 0	29,907 9 0	4,28,550 4 0	7,19,278 5 1	24,96,297 7 1
	Net Revenue for 1896-97	7,32,095 2 0	2,55,033 3 0	68,515 8 0	4,22,552 12 0	6,56,159 9 11	20,24,356 3 11
	Difference	+2,41,527 0 0	+89,906 0 0	-28,607 15 0	+5,997 8 0	+1,63,118 11 2	+4,71,941 4 2

COMBINED REVENUE.

19. The total Land Revenue derived from all sources during 1897-98 was as shown below :—

	Rs. a. p.
1. Gross Land Revenue from sources independent of Canal irrigation ...	26,65,891 10 1
2. Gross Revenue on account of Canal irrigation...	70,18,870 13 8
3. Total Revenue from both sources ...	96,84,762 7 9

20. This amount, when compared with that entered as item No. IX. in the table at paragraph 24 of this report, shows an excess of Rs. 1,79,683-0-8. The excess is made up of the following non-jamabandi items which have not been included in the table under paragraph 24, though, in order to show the entire revenue obtained by Canal irrigation, they have been shown in the table at paragraph 17 *supra* :—

Total Government revenue as entered under item No. IX in the table at paragraph 24 (<i>vide</i> column 22 of Appendix No. I) ...	Rs. a. p. 95,05,079 7 1
---	----------------------------

Add—

Non-jamabandi items—

1. Hakabo on lands in Kalat territory irrigated by Sind canals ...	87,643 15 0
2. Miscellaneous Irrigation Revenue credited in the accounts direct to the Irrigation Department...	86,245 0 0
3. Irrigation Revenue within Forest limits ...	5,794 1 8

Total... 96,84,762 7 9

WELL IRRIGATION AND ITS REVENUE.

21. The number of Wells in working order at the beginning of the year under report, and the number sunk or restored during the course of the year, as also the number used for irrigation purposes, together with the area so irrigated and the amount of assessment charged thereon, are shown in the subjoined table :—

No.	District.	No. of Wells at the commencement of the year.	No. of Wells sunk during the year.	Total number of Wells in existence.	No. of Wells actually used during the year, i.e., for cultivation.	No. OF WELLS AIDED BY CANALS.			No. OF WELLS INDEPENDENT OF CANALS.			TOTAL.			REMARKS.
						No. of Wells.	Area cultivated.	Assessment.	No. of Wells.	Area cultivated.	Assessment.	No. of Wells.	Area cultivated.	Assessment.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
							A. g.	Rs. a. p.		A. g.	Rs. a. p.		A. g.	Rs. a. p.	
1	Upper Sind Frontier..	646	91	737	222	180	789 22	1,873 5 0	42	136 21	403 15 0	222	926 3	2,277 4 0	
2	Shikarpur	12,971	271	13,242	6,129	5,516	36,164 36	1,10,989 0 0	613	2,433 0	8,007 14 0	6,129	38,597 36	1,18,996 14 0	
3	Hyderabad	6,559	154	6,713	3,817	2,720	17,470 5	47,385 9 0	1,097	6,263 21	16,448 11 0	3,817	23,733 26	63,834 4 0	
4	Karachi	788	50	838	478	78	380 3	1,040 14 0	400	2,218 1	4,916 4 0	478	2,598 4	5,957 2 0	
5	Thar and Parkar ...	5,336	53	5,389	140	90	373 5	891 0 0	50	40 16	139 9 0	140	413 21	1,030 9 0	
	Total ...	26,300	619	26,919	10,786	8,584	55,177 31	1,62,179 12 0	2,202	11,091 19	29,916 5 0	10,786	66,269 10	1,92,096 1 0	
	Total in 1896-97 ...	25,750	612	26,362	11,244	7,223	43,866 22	1,30,571 15 0	4,021	21,129 36	58,523 2 0	11,244	64,996 18	1,89,095 1 0	
	Difference ...	+ 550	+ 7	+ 557	— 458	+ 1,361	+ 11,311 9	+ 31,607 13 0	— 1,819	— 10,038 17	— 28,606 13 0	— 458	+ 1,272 32	+ 3,001 0 0	

NOTE.—The figures in column 3 when compared with those in column 5 of the past year's return show a difference of 62, which is explained as under :—

	No.
(a) Upper Sind Frontier—	1. Due to one well having fallen into disuse.
(b) Shikarpur	— 23. Due to 6 wells eroded by the river and 17 wells excluded, owing to separation of alienated lands from Rayatwari dehs.
(c) Hyderabad	— 28. Due to 19 wells having fallen into disuse and 9 wells eroded by the river.
(d) Karachi	— 10. Due to 10 wells having dried up.
Total	— 62.

22. There were 23,300 wells in working order at the beginning of the year. 619 new wells, being 7 more than last year's number, were constructed during the year under review, making a total of 26,919 at the close of the year. The number of wells aided by canals used for irrigation purposes rose again from 7,223 in 1896-97 to 8,584 in 1897-98, and there was an increase of acres 11,311-9 in the area irrigated and of Rs. 31,607-13-0 in the assessment. On the other hand, in the case of wells used for irrigation purposes independent of canals, there was a decrease throughout. The inundation of 1897-98 being very favourable for canal irrigation, many of the wells of the class "not dependent upon canal supply" utilised in the previous year were not required in the year under report. On the whole, the result of well irrigation was a net increase of acres 1,272-32 in cultivation and of Rs. 3,001 in assessment over the figures of the year 1896-97.

LAND

GENERAL

23. The Gross and Net Land Revenue, together with realisations and compared with 1896-97, are shown in Appendix No. I. The following table

No.	District.	Gross Assessment.		DEDUCT	
				Land not available for cultivation, i.e., land set apart for special or public purposes, &c.	
		1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier	28,08,314 7 0	28,19,779 13 0	.....	.....
	Increase	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Decrease	11,465 6 0	.....	.....	.....
2	Shikarpur	1,02,36,339 15 0	1,01,41,859 14 0	13,586 9 0	10,568 0 0
	Increase	94,480 1 0	.....	3,018 9 0	.....
	Decrease	.....	.....	.....	.....
3	Hyderabad	97,47,161 8 0	97,37,573 11 0	29,212 5 0	27,572 9 0
	Increase	9,587 13 0	.....	1,639 12 0	.....
	Decrease	.....	.....	.....	.....
4	Karachi	53,01,392 7 0	51,19,416 7 0	.....	.....
	Increase	1,81,976 0 0	.....	.....	.....
	Decrease	.....	.....	.....	.....
5	Thar and Parkar	42,69,427 12 0	42,34,717 6 0	.....	.....
	Increase	34,710 6 0	.....	.....	.....
	Decrease	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Total	3,23,62,636 1 0	3,20,53,347 3 0	42,798 14 0	38,140 9 0
	Increase	3,20,754 4 0	.....	4,658 5 0	.....
	Decrease	11,465 6 0	.....	.....	.....
	Net { Increase	3,09,288 14 0	.....	4,658 5 0	.....
	Decrease	.....	.....	.....	.....

ASSESSMENT ON ACCOUNT OF

Fallow Area exempt from Assessment.		Net Alienations.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
7	8	9	10
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
9,08,008 2 0	9,32,828 9 0	86,539 7 0	86,714 4 0
.....
81,820 7 0	.....	174 13 0	.....
12,20,344 8 0	14,84,019 3 0	13,64,240 4 0	13,63,538 11 0
.....	.....	701 9 0	.....
2,63,674 11 0	.....	.....	.....
20,13,116 15 0	20,96,891 3 0	8,73,334 0 0	8,85,917 5 0
.....
82,774 4 0	.....	12,583 5 0	.....
6,95,211 7 0	8,21,717 14 0	3,32,108 12 0	3,34,651 8 0
.....
1,26,506 7 0	.....	2,542 12 0	.....
16,41,030 10 0	17,52,263 2 0	65,497 5 0	65,321 10 0
.....	.....	175 11 0	.....
1,11,232 8 0	.....	.....	.....
64,77,711 10 0	70,94,719 15 0	27,21,719 12 0	27,36,143 6 0
.....	.....	877 4 0	.....
6,17,008 5 0	.....	15,300 14 0	.....
.....
6,17,008 5 0	.....	14,423 10 0	.....

DEDUCT ASSESSMENT ON ACCOUNT OF			
Unoccupied cultivable land.		Land free or specially reduced (including Huris and Kochas).	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
11	12	13	14
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
7,92,737 4 0	8,91,231 4 0	152 1 0	154 4 0
.....
98,494 0 0	.....	2 3 0	.....
42,13,530 0 0	44,36,609 8 0	7,734 8 0	7,702 14 0
.....	.....	31 10 0	.....
2,23,079 8 0	.....	.....	.....
46,49,643 0 0	48,20,235 0 0	1,448 12 0	1,610 1 0
.....
1,70,592 0 0	.....	161 5 0	.....
28,84,589 10 0	28,04,567 14 0	590 13 0	463 12 0
80,621 12 0	.....	127 1 0	.....
.....
16,64,280 13 0	16,52,783 0 0	3,474 13 0	484 4 0
11,497 13 0	.....	2,990 9 0	.....
.....
1,42,04,780 11 0	1,46,05,426 10 0	13,400 15 0	10,415 3 0
91,519 9 0	*	3,149 4 0	.....
4,92,165 8 0	.....	163 8 0	.....
.....	.....	2,985 12 0	.....
4,00,645 15 0	.....	.....	.....

Remainder Government Revenue.		Add Miscellaneous Land Revenue.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
15	16	17	18
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
10,20,877 9 0	9,01,851 8 0	58,328 14 6	32,045 7 1
1,19,026 1 0	...	26,283 7 5	.....
.....
34,16,904 2 0	28,39,421 10 0	2,50,689 11 2	1,70,755 8 0
5,77,482 8 0	.....	79,934 3 2	.....
.....
21,80,406 8 0	19,05,347 9 0	1,34,261 8 7	1,55,857 4 0
2,75,058 15 0	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	21,595 11 5	.....
17,88,891 13 0	11,58,015 7 0	89,038 7 1	97,017 12 10
2,30,876 6 0	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	7,979 5 9	.....
8,95,144 3 0	7,63,865 6 0	70,536 10 9	67,573 1 0
1,31,278 13 0	.....	2,963 9 9	.....
.....
89,02,224 3 0	75,68,501 8 0	6,02,855 4 1	5,23,249 0 11
13,33,722 11 0	.....	1,09,181 4 4	.....
.....	.....	29,575 1 2	.....
13,33,722 11 0	.....	79,606 3 2	.....
.....

Total Government Revenue.		Deduct Hakabo credited to Irrigation Department.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
19	20	21	22
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
10,79,206 7 6	9,33,896 15 1	1,349 4 0	606 5 0
1,45,309 8 5	.....	742 15 0	.....
.....
36,67,593 13 2	30,10,177 2 0	19,052 7 0	15,863 6 0
6,57,416 11 2	.....	3,189 1 0	.....
.....
23,14,668 0 7	20,61,204 13 0	52,524 2 0	49,454 11 0
2,53,463 3 7	.....	3,069 7 0	.....
.....
14,77,930 4 1	12,55,033 3 10	9,086 7 0	8,396 14 0
2,22,897 0 3	.....	689 9 0	.....
.....
9,65,680 13 9	8,31,438 7 0	2,743 15 0	2,870 4 0
1,34,242 6 9	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	126 5 0	.....
95,05,079 7 1	80,91,750 8 11	84,756 3 0	77,191 8 0
14,13,328 14 2	.....	7,691 0 0	.....
.....	.....	126 5 0	.....
14,13,328 14 2	.....	7,564 11 0	.....
.....

Deduct Remissions.		Net amount of Land Revenue for current year, including Village Cess.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
23	24	25	26
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
61,176 4 0	67,970 4 0	10,16,680 15 6	8,65,320 6 1
.....	.....	1,51,360 9 5	.....
6,794 0 0	.....	.....	.....
39,719 0 0	42,734 15 0	36,08,822 6 2	29,51,548 13 0
.....	.....	6,57,273 9 2	.....
3,045 15 0	.....	.....	.....
1,13,488 4 0	9,749 13 0	21,48,655 10 7	20,02,000 5 0
1,03,738 7 0	.....	1,46,655 5 7	.....
.....
1,70,399 6 0	54,452 12 0	12,98,444 7 1	11,92,183 9 10
1,15,946 10 0	.....	1,06,260 13 3	.....
.....
14,203 1 0	723 9 0	9,48,733 13 9	8,27,844 10 0
13,479 8 0	.....	1,20,889 3 9	.....
.....
3,98,985 15 0	1,75,661 5 0	33,21,337 5 1	78,38,897 11 11
2,33,164 9 0	.....	11,82,439 9 2	.....
9,839 15 0	.....	.....	.....
2,23,324 10 0	.....	11,82,439 9 2	.....
.....

Collections on account of Land Revenue for current year.		COLLECTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF	
		Rayati.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
27	28	29	30
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
9,03,752 15 7	7,80,834 4 0	53,345 0 0	47,237 12 0
1,22,918 11 7	.....	6,107 4 0	.....
.....
33,81,096 15	2,27,79,867 14 0	1,96,119 9 0	1,63,285 2 0
6,01,229 1 2	.....	32,834 7 0	.....
.....
19,60,631 15 5	18,81,081 4 0	1,16,192 8 0	1,09,038 0 0
79,550 11 5	.....	7,154 8 0	.....
.....
11,63,962 14 6	10,94,168 11 11	66,525 14 1	61,369 2 0
69,794 2 7	.....	5,156 12 1	.....
.....
8,96,395 8 9	7,82,316 11 0	44,225 5 0	37,722 5 0
1,14,078 13 9	.....	6,503 0 0	.....
.....
83,05,840 5 5	73,18,268 12 11	4,76,408 4 1	4,18,652 5 0
9,87,571 8 6	57,755 15 1
.....
9,87,571 8 6	57,755 15 1
.....

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VILLAGE CESS FOR CURRENT YEAR.

Inami.		Balances on account of current year on 1st August.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
31	32	33	34
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
.....	.....	59,582 15 11	37,248 6 1
.....	.....	22,334 9 10	.....
.....
8 5 0	9 2 0	31,597 9 0	8,386 11 0
.....	.....	23,210 14 0	.....
0 13 0	.....	.....	.....
39 9 0	53 2 0	71,791 10 2	11,827 15 0
.....	.....	59,963 11 2	.....
13 9 0	.....	.....	.....
25 13 0	18 5 0	67,929 13 6	36,627 6 11
7 8 0	.....	31,302 6 7	.....
.....
56 0 0	72 14 0	8,057 0 0	7,732 12 0
.....	.....	324 4 0	.....
16 14 0	.....	.....	.....
129 11 0	153 7 0	2,38,959 0 7	1,01,823 3 0
7 8 0	.....	1,37,135 13 7	.....
31 4 0	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	1,37,135 13 7	.....
23 12 0	.....	.....	.....

Collections of Land Revenue for former years.		COLLECTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF FORMER	
		Rayati.	
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.
35	36	37	38
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
18,636 15 6	19,020 12 8	1,008 3 0	852 0 0
.....	.....	156 3 0	.....
383 13 2	.....	.....	.....
8,943 5 0	21,761 3 0	538 7 0	1,186 0 0
.....
12,817 14 0	.....	647 9 0	.....
5,953 5 0	5,358 13 0	295 10 0	239 13 0
594 8 0	.....	55 13 0	.....
.....
32,658 3 9	18,180 2 8	853 7 0	662 5 0
14,478 1 1	.....	191 2 0	.....
.....
7,019 7 0	20,391 14 0	11 7 0	133 11 0
.....
13,372 7 0	.....	122 4 0	.....
73,211 4 8	84,712 13 4	2,707 2 0	3,073 13 0
15,072 9 1	.....	403 2 0	.....
26,574 2 2	.....	769 13 0	.....
.....
11,501 9 1	.....	366 11 0	.....

REVENUE.

RECEIPTS.

outstandings of the several districts in the Province for the year 1897-98 as shows the information in an abridged form :—

VILLAGE CESS FOR YEARS.		Balances on account of former years on 1st August.		Total balances on 1st August.		Remarks.
Inami.						
1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1896-97.	
39	40	41	42	43	44	45
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
.....	28,360 14 7	20,938 4 3	87,943 14 6	58,186 10 4	
.....	7,422 10 4	.....	29,757 4 2	.....
.....	
.....	7,965 14 0	9,823 4 0	39,563 7 0	18,209 15 0	
.....	21,353 8 0	.....
.....	1,857 6 0	.....	.....	.....
.....	5,625 5 0	2,084 14 0	77,416 15 2	13,912 13 0	
.....	3,540 7 0	.....	63,504 2 2	.....
.....	
.....	14,536 14 11	13,801 13 3	82,466 12 5	50,429 4 2	
.....	735 1 8	.....	32,037 8 3	.....
.....	
3 10 0	1,197 12 0	505 8 0	9,254 12 0	8,238 4 0	
3 10 0	692 4 0	.....	1,016 8 0	.....
.....	
3 10 0	57,686 12 6	47,153 11 6	2,96,645 13 1	1,48,976 14 6	
3 10 0	12,390 7 0	.....	1,47,668 14 7	.....
.....	1,857 6 0	.....	.....	.....
3 10 0	10,533 1 0	.....	1,47,668 14 7	.....
.....	

24. The above abstract is briefly summarised in the following table :—

Heads.	1897-98.	1896-97.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
I.—Gross Assessment	3,23,62,636 1 0	3,20,53,347 3 0	3,09,288 14 0	...
<i>Deductions.</i>				
II.—Assessment on land not available for cultivation... ..	42,798 14 0	38,140 9 0	4,658 5 0	...
III.—Assessment of fallow area exempt from assessment	64,77,711 10 0	70,94,719 15 0	...	6,17,008 5 0
IV.—Net Aliens	27,21,719 12 0	27,36,143 6 0	...	14,423 10 0
V.—Assessment on unoccupied cultivable land	1,42,04,780 11 0	1,46,05,426 10 0	...	4,00,645 15 0
VI.—Assessment of land free or specially reduced	13,400 15 0	10,415 3 0	2,985 12 0	...
<i>Net.</i>				
VII.—Government Revenue... ..	89,02,224 3 0	75,68,501 8 0	13,33,722 11 0	...
<i>Add.</i>				
VIII.—Miscellaneous Land Revenue	6,02,855 4 1	5,23,249 0 11	79,606 3 2	...
IX.—Total Government Revenue	95,05,079 7 1	80,91,750 8 11	14,13,328 14 2	...
<i>Deductions.</i>				
X.—Hakabo credited to Irrigation Department	84,756 3 0	77,191 8 0	7,564 11 0	...
XI.—Remissions	3,98,985 15 0	1,75,661 5 0	2,23,324 10 0	...
<i>Net.</i>				
XII.—Land Revenue and Village Cess combined for collection	90,21,337 5 1	78,38,897 11 11	11,82,439 9 2	...
<i>Collections.</i>				
XIII.—Land Revenue	83,05,840 5 5	73,18,268 12 11	9,87,571 8 6	...
XIV.—Village Cess	4,76,537 15 1	4,18,806 12 0	57,732 3 1	...
XV.—Balances	2,38,939 0 7	1,01,823 3 0	1,37,135 13 7	...
<i>Collections on account of former years' outstandings.</i>				
XVI.—Land Revenue	73,211 4 3	84,712 13 4	...	11,501 9 1
XVII.—Village Cess	2,710 12 0	3,073 13 0	...	363 1 0
XVIII.—Balances	57,686 12 6	47,153 11 6	10,533 1 0	...
XIX.—Total balances... ..	2,96,645 13 1	1,48,976 14 6	1,47,668 14 7	...

25. The greater part of the increase in the gross assessment is due partly to variation in the irrigation rates and partly to extension of cultivation in unassessed areas which are assessed when cultivated, their assessment being then entered in the gross revenue. To a small extent, the gross revenue has also been affected by an extension of dubari cultivation, on which an extra rate is charged. There is also an increase in the assessment of "land not available for cultivation," explained by river erosions, while the decrease in the fallow and unoccupied areas results mainly from extension of cultivation, owing to a favourable inundation and rainfall, as is proved by the large increase in the total Government land revenue, amounting to Rs. 14,13,328-14-2.

ALIENATIONS.

26. The decrease under the head "Alienations" is given by districts below :—

No.	Districts.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier ... ..	...	174 13 0
2	Shikarpur	701 9 0	...
3	Hyderabad ... ..	...	12,583 5 0
4	Karachi ... ..	...	2,542 12 0
5	Thar and Parkar... ..	175 11 0	...
	Total	877 4 0	15,300 14 0
	Deduct ... ..	...	877 4 0
	Net Decrease ... ..	...	14,423 10 0

27. The decrease in the Upper Sind Frontier, Hyderabad and Karachi Districts is due partially to lapses on the death of grantees and partially to increase in Jagir dues, consequent on extension of cultivation. In Shikarpur, the increase results solely from the assessment on certain unsurveyed Jagir areas, omitted from village books in previous years, having now been brought to account for the first time. The increase in Thar and Parkar is due to a smaller cultivation in Jagir lands and consequently to a smaller deduction on account of Government dues.

LAND FREE OR SPECIALLY REDUCED, INCLUDING HURIS AND KACHAS.

28. The total value of these grants was Rs. 13,400-15-0 as compared with Rs. 10,415-3-0 in the preceding year. Their details by districts are as under :—

No.	Districts.	1897-98.			1896-97.			Increase.			Decrease.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier	152	1	0	154	4	0	...	...	...	2	3	0
2	Shikarpur	7,734	8	0	7,702	14	0	31	10	0	...	...	...
3	Hyderabad	1,448	12	0	1,610	1	0	...	...	...	161	5	0
4	Karachi	590	13	0	463	12	0	127	1	0	...	...	...
5	Thar and Parkar	3,474	13	0	484	4	0	2,990	9	0	...	...	...
	Total	13,400	15	0	10,415	3	0	3,149	4	0	163	8	0
	Deduct	...	...	...	...	...	...	163	8	0	...	...	...
	Net Increase	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,985	12	0	...	...	...

29. The decrease in the Upper Sind Frontier is due to a forfeiture entailed on a breach of the condition on which a grant was held.

In the Shikarpur District, a new grant explains the increase. In the Hyderabad District, also, the cancellation of some mafi grants explains the falling-off. The increase in Karachi is explained by an extension of cultivation in lands held on special terms. In the Thar and Parkar District, land was granted on special terms to Nawab Shahbaz Khan, which explains the increase of Rs. 2,990-9-0 shown opposite it.

GOVERNMENT REVENUE, INCLUDING HAKABO.

30. The total Government revenue, including miscellaneous items (*vide* col. 22 of appendix No. I) was Rs. 95,05,079-7-1 against Rs. 80,91,750-8-11 in 1896-97, showing an increase of Rs. 14,13,328-14-2, of which details by districts are as follow :—

No.	Districts.	1897-98.			1896-97.			Increase.			Decrease.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier	10,79,206	7	6	9,33,896	15	1	1,45,309	8	5	...	...	...
2	Shikarpur	36,67,593	13	2	30,10,177	2	0	6,57,416	11	2	...	...	...
3	Hyderabad	23,14,668	0	7	20,61,204	13	0	2,53,463	3	7	...	...	...
4	Karachi	14,77,920	4	1	12,55,033	3	10	2,22,887	0	3	...	...	...
5	Thar and Parkar	9,65,680	13	9	8,31,438	7	0	1,34,242	6	9	...	...	...
	Total	95,05,079	7	1	80,91,750	8	11	14,13,328	14	2	...	...	...

31. The detailed causes of increase and decrease have been given in Appendix No. III. The principal causes are, however, reproduced here for easy reference :—

Increase—

		Rs.	a.	p.
(1). By unoccupied land taken up for cultivation—				
Upper Sind Frontier	...	7,212	11	0
Shikarpur	...	33,940	14	0
Hyderabad	...	61,199	11	0
Karachi	...	24,040	3	0
Thar and Parkar	...	3,951	5	0
Total	...	1,30,344	12	0

Increase—

(2). By unassessed land brought into occupation and assessed—

			Rs.	a.	p.
Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	3,289	6	0
Shikarpur	...	...	14,773	5	0
Hyderabad	...	...	6,932	8	0
Karachi	...	...	14,392	11	0
Thar and Parkar	...	...	5,946	4	0
Total	...	...	45,334	2	0

(3). By lapse of alienated land—

Shikarpur	...	...	334	12	0
Hyderabad	...	...	2,653	8	0
Karachi	...	...	414	3	0
Thar and Parkar	...	...	1	14	0
Total	...	...	3,404	5	0

(4). By land set aside for forest, cultivated without permission—

Thar and Parkar	52	1	0
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(5). By cultivation of lands that were fallow last year—

Upper Sind Frontier	45,225	8	0
Shikarpur	...	...	2,84,902	7	0
Hyderabad	...	...	73,416	0	0
Karachi	...	...	1,34,851	12	0
Thar and Parkar	...	...	1,10,474	3	0
Total	6,48,869	14	0

(6). By lands assessed under the fallow rules—

Hyderabad	71,756	1	0
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(7). By increased cultivation in unsettled lands—

Upper Sind Frontier	24,116	2	0
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(8). By increased cultivation in settled lands given on one year's lease—

Upper Sind Frontier	11,349	14	0
Shikarpur	...	...	1,22,499	12	0
Hyderabad	...	...	7,310	3	0
Karachi	...	...	22,442	0	0
Thar and Parkar	...	...	17,059	12	0
Total	...	...	1,80,661	9	0

(9). By increased cultivation in unsettled lands given on one year's lease—

Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	2,163	12	0
Hyderabad	...	...	36,335	0	0
Total	...	...	38,498	12	0

(10). By increase in unauthorised cultivation—

Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	18,540	14	0
Shikarpur	...	...	43,986	8	0
Hyderabad	...	...	42,281	8	0
Karachi	...	...	6,929	1	0
Total	...	...	1,11,737	15	0

(11). By increased cultivation in unsurveyed lands—

Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	13,697	1	0
Hyderabad	...	...	2,179	9	0
Karachi	...	...	11,676	2	0
Total	...	...	27,552	12	0

Increase—

			Rs.	a.	p.
(12).	By variation in the assessment on settled and unsettled lands consequent on changes in their irrigation—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	2,350	0	0
	Shikarpur	...	65,755	2	0
	Hyderabad	...	10,710	5	0
	Karachi	...	10,161	0	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	6,942	4	0
	Total	...	95,918	11	0
(13).	By increase in Dubari cultivation—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	347	9	0
	Shikarpur	...	9,804	13	0
	Hyderabad	...	3,955	40	0
	Karachi	...	3,824	11	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	1,864	9	0
	Total	...	19,796	10	0
(14).	By increase in Jagir dues, i. e. Hakabo, Chauth, &c.—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	742	15	0
	Shikarpur	...	3,189	1	0
	Hyderabad	...	3,069	7	0
	Karachi	...	935	6	0
	Total	...	7,936	13	0
(15).	By a smaller rebate on account of canal clearance and consequent increase in Government revenue—				
	Karachi	...	37	3	0
(16).	By restoring the survey system to 10 villages of the Shahbandar Taluka in which the Bigoti (annual measurement) system was allowed in the previous year—				
	Karachi	...	2,007	12	0
(17).	By lands in Shahbandar Taluka leased out for 5 years—				
	Karachi	...	2,230	14	0
(18).	By minor causes—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	75	8	0
	Shikarpur	...	203	1	0
	Hyderabad	...	347	6	0
	Karachi	...	40	10	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	26	14	0
	Total	...	693	7	0
(19).	By fixed rents—				
	Hyderabad	...	829	15	0
(20).	By tree tax—				
	Shikarpur	...	34	8	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	12	11	0
	Total	...	47	3	0
(21).	By occasional items of fixed revenue—				
	Hyderabad	...	3,974	5	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	396	3	0
	Total	...	4,370	8	0

Increase—

Rs. a. p.

(22). By sale of lands or occupancy rights—

Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	...	9,479	13	0
Shikarpur ...	...	...	53,918	5	3
Karachi ...	...	...	2,246	0	0
Total ...			65,644	2	3

(23). By proceeds from unauthorised occupation or cultivation—

Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	...	15,998	9	11
Shikarpur ...	...	...	27,339	10	0
Hyderabad ...	...	...	36,655	2	8
Karachi ...	...	...	1,209	15	10
Total ...			81,203	6	5

(24). By revenue from grass and grazing—

Hyderabad ...	...	...	2,331	15	0
Thar and Parkar ...	...	...	504	14	7
Total ...			2,836	13	7

(25). By fine for appropriating land to purposes unconnected with agriculture—

Karachi	87	12	0
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(26). By revenue from trees—

Upper Sind Frontier	58	9	3
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(27). By notice fees—

Upper Sind Frontier	35	12	0
Shikarpur	3,000	4	0
Hyderabad	2,155	4	0
Karachi ...	...	...	1,456	4	0
Thar and Parkar ...	...	...	740	8	0
Total ...			7,388	0	0

(28). By revenue from miscellaneous products—

Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	...	21	6	0
Hyderabad ...	...	...	11	8	0
Karachi ...	...	...	663	3	6
Thar and Parkar ...	...	...	590	4	4
Total...			1,286	5	10

(29). By penalty under Section 148, L. R. Code—

Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	...	863	6	0
Shikarpur ...	...	...	1,049	9	0
Total ...			1,912	15	0

(30). By other items appearing in the jamabandi taleband—

Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	...	102	14	3
Hyderabad ...	...	...	9	7	0
Karachi ...	...	...	5	6	3
Thar and Parkar ...	...	...	10,627	12	6*
Total ...			10,745	8	0

Total increase under all heads ...15,87,360 13 4

* This represents Ghi tax. The increase is due to the more favourable season and to removal of restrictions placed on arrivals from Cutch and Maudvi, which were infected places.

Decrease—

				Rs.	a.	p.
(1).	By land thrown up and remaining unoccupied—					
	Shikarpur	...	...	38	7	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	486	12	0
	Karachi	...	...	0	12	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	3	0	0
	Total	...	...	528	15	0
(2).	By land forfeited for non-payment of revenue and remaining unoccupied—					
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	69	11	0
	Shikarpur	...	...	25	8	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	894	2	0
	Karachi	...	...	353	11	0
	Total	...	...	1,343	0	0
(3).	By transfer of land to head of alienation—					
	Shikarpur	...	...	12	13	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	3	6	0
	Total	...	...	16	3	0
(4).	By land transferred to Forest—					
	Karachi	...	...	367	3	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	121	0	0
	Total	...	...	488	3	0
(5).	By land set apart for special purposes—					
	Shikarpur	...	...	509	13	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	10	1	0
	Total	...	...	519	14	0
(6).	By land set aside for public purposes—					
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	9	12	0
	Shikarpur	...	...	9	3	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	438	4	0
	Total	...	...	457	3	0
(7).	By land entered as un cultivable—					
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	...	35	0	0
	Shikarpur	...	...	188	12	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	660	8	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	5	0	0
	Total	...	...	889	4	0
(8).	By decrease in unauthorised cultivation—					
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	11,889	3	0
(9).	By land eroded by the river—					
	Shikarpur	...	...	709	3	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	1,901	0	0
	Karachi	...	...	1,987	8	0
	Total	...	...	4,597	11	0
(10).	By decrease in Chauth, &c., on alienated lands—					
	Shikarpur	...	...	277	12	0
	Hyderabad	...	...	1,075	4	0
	Karachi	...	...	175	4	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	146	13	0
	Total	...	...	1,675	1	0

Decrease—

			Rs.	a.	p.
(11).	By occupied lands allowed to remain fallow—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	9,955	12	0
	Shikarpur	...	39	3	0
	Hyderabad	...	41,518	5	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	2,862	15	0
	Total	...	54,376	3	0
(12).	By minor causes—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	15	0	0
	Shikarpur	...	96	9	0
	Hyderabad	...	109	10	0
	Karachi	...	222	12	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	2	5	0
	Total	...	446	4	0
(13).	By produce from trees—				
	Shikarpur	...	45	9	10
	Hyderabad	...	3,751	0	3
	Karachi	...	8,517	6	1
	Thar and Parkar	...	2,566	12	0
	Total	...	14,880	12	2
(14).	By occasional items of fixed revenue—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	230	5	0
	Shikarpur	...	1,367	3	0
	Karachi	...	102	2	7
	Total	...	1,699	10	7
(15).	By sale of lands or occupancy rights—				
	Hyderabad	...	59,948	8	10
	Thar and Parkar	...	2,678	2	4
	Total	...	62,626	11	2
(16).	By rice hakabo—				
	Shikarpur	...	60	11	0
	Karachi	...	67	0	0
	Total	...	127	11	0
(17).	By tree tax—				
	Karachi	...	24	3	0
(18).	By miscellaneous products—				
	Shikarpur	...	406	5	4
(19).	By penalty under Section 148 of the Land Revenue Code—				
	Karachi	...	234	5	9
(20).	By fines for appropriating land to purposes unconnected with agriculture—				
	Upper Sind Frontier	...	23	8	0
	Shikarpur	...	1,655	9	0
	Hyderabad	...	3,863	11	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	1,146	4	0
	Total	...	6,689	0	0
(21).	By proceeds from unauthorised occupation or cultivation—				
	Thar and Parkar	...	3,494	13	4

Decrease—

			Rs.	a.	p.
(22).	By fixed rents—				
	Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	23	2	0
	Shikarpur ...	...	1,812	12	6
	Karachi ...	...	1,843	9	11
	Thar and Parkar ...	...	22	12	0
	Total ...		3,702	4	5
(23).	By revenue from grass and grazing—				
	Karachi ...	...	2,859	4	0
(24).	By other items appearing in the jamabandi—				
	Shikarpur ...	...	59	14	5

Total decrease under all heads ... 1,74,031 15 2

Net increase ... 14,13,328 14 2

HAKABO.

32. The Public Works Hakabo revenue rose from Rs. 77,191-8-0 to Rs. 84,756-3-0 in 1897-98. The increase amounted to Rs. 7,564-11-0 and is attributed to a favourable inundation. The district details are given below :—

Increase.

			Rs.	a.	p.
Upper Sind Frontier ...	...	...	742	15	0
Shikarpur	3,189	1	0
Hyderabad	3,069	7	0
Karachi	689	9	0
			7,691	0	0

Decrease.

Thar and Parkar	126	5	0
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Net increase ... 7,564 11 0

REMISSIONS.

33. The amount of remissions granted during the year was Rs. 3,98,985-15-0 against Rs. 1,75,661-5-0 in the preceding year. The details by districts are given in the following table, with the causes to which they were due :—

No.	District.	Want and insufficiency of water.	Land taken up for special or public purposes.	Poverty, death and desertion.	Injury to crops by locusts or other insects or animals.	Loss by fire.	Loss by floods.	Other causes.	Total Remissions.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier ..	9,220 0 0	...	...	33,324 5 0	...	11 4 0	18,620 11 0	61,176 4 0
2	Shikarpur ...	5,578 3 0	68 9 0	...	11,939 10 0	63 14 0	6,484 8 0	15,564 4 0	39,719 0 0
3	Hyderabad ...	596 9 0	...	...	27,997 14 0	...	20,824 7 0	84,399 6 0	1,13,488 4 0
4	Karachi ...	14,133 6 0	...	...	9,218 0 0	...	84,915 5 0	62,112 11 0	1,70,399 6 0
5	Thar and Parkar ...	...	...	...	3,456 6 0	...	10,143 0 0	603 11 0	14,203 1 0
	Total ...	29,523 2 0	68 9 0	...	85,626 3 0	63 14 0	1,22,399 8 0	1,61,900 11 0	3,98,985 15 0
	Total for 1896-97 ...	1,12,270 10 0	1,240 2 0	18 0 0	18,869 14 0	...	22,222 2 0	21,400 9 0	1,75,661 5 0
	Difference ...	-82,682 8 0	-1,171 9 0	-18 0 0	+67,056 5 0	+63 14 0	+1,00,176 6 0	+1,39,900 2 0	+2,23,324 10 0

34. It will be observed that, as was to be expected, the remissions on account of want of water have largely diminished. Those given for land taken up for special objects and for loss by fire are insignificant. For injuries by locusts and other insects, every district had to make some remissions. The total, Rs. 85,626-3-0, exceeds that of the previous year by Rs. 67,056-5-0, and is due for the most part to damage done by locusts and in a minor degree to damage done by rats, blight, &c. On account of floods, the smallest amount remitted (Rs. 11-4) was in the Upper Sind Frontier District and the largest (Rs. 84,935-5-0) in the Karachi District, and considering the high inundation which caused both extensive river spills and breacues in canals, the total amount remitted (Rs. 1,22,398-8-0) is not larger than might have been expected. The remissions included under the head "Other causes" are detailed below, of which those granted on account of time-expired fallows are the largest and require no explanation, as the system under which they are granted is fully known to Government :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
1. Remissions of assessment on uncultivated time-expired fallows—			
(a) Forfeited to Government	1,16,207	12	0
(b) Not forfeited to Government for good reasons...	2,205	10	0
2. Erosion by the river	1,416	9	0
3. Remissions on account of injury by frost, etc. ...	13,164	5	0
4. Do. of assessment and fines on unauthorised cultivation	2,670	1	0
5. Remissions on uncultivated portions of Barani and Manchar and other lands	7,465	0	0
6. Do. of conditional assessment on lands not cultivated in the first year of occupancy ...	319	3	0
7. Do. of assessment on lands the crops of which were destroyed by salt water, <i>kalar</i> and silt ...	5,881	6	0
8. Do. on account of destruction of crops by unfavourable winds	6,012	5	0
9. Do. on account of non-germination of seed ...	1,194	13	0
10. Do. on land water-logged	246	9	0
11. Do. on lands brought under canals	455	0	0
12. Do. on lands overgrown with rank grass, &c. ...	3,255	1	0
13. Do. on lands the crops of which were destroyed by rust	441	10	0
14. Minor causes, such as errors in Jamabandi, &c. ...	365	7	0
Total ...	1,61,300	11	0

REVENUE FOR COLLECTION AND ACTUAL COLLECTIONS.

35. The Land Revenue for collection (*i. e.*, net Government land revenue minus remissions) amounted to Rs. 90,21,337-5-1. To this, if the net uncollected balances of the previous years (Rs. 1,33,608-12 9) be added, the total amount for collection during 1897-98 will be Rs. 91,54,946-1-10 as against Rs. 79,73,838-1-9 in 1896-97, showing an increase of Rs. 11,81,108-0-1 (*vide* columns 57 and 83 of Appendix No. I).

36. From the figures entered in columns 38 to 44 of Appendix No. I, it will be seen that, out of Rs. 91,54,946-1-10 for collection, Rs. 88,58,300-4-9 were recovered within the year, as detailed below :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
(a) On account of 1897-98	87,82,378	4	6
(b) On account of previous years	75,922	0	3
Total ...	88,58,300	4	9

37. The collection of Land Revenue proper (*i.e.*, minus Village Cess) together with the miscellaneous revenue not included in the Jamabandi (columns 38, 41 and 47 (a) of Appendix No. I) amounted to Rs. 83,84,299-11-6. This when compared with the Accountant General's figures (Rs. 83,94,767-10-1), as required by Government Resolution No. 5420, dated 2nd August 1890, shows a difference of Rs. 10,467-14-7. This is explained in the following table:—

Details.	AMOUNT.			
	Hyderabad and Thar and Parkar Districts.	Karachi District.	Shikarpur and Upper Sind Frontier Districts.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Total figures given by the Accountant General in his monthly returns of Land Revenue collections	28,76,283 10 3	11,96,979 6 11	43,21,504 8 11	83,94,767 10 1
Total figures shown in Appendix No. I, columns 38, 41 and 47 (a) combined ...	28,71,372 8 0	11,97,344 1 6	43,15,588 2 0	83,84,299 11 6
Excess in Accountant General's figures...	+ 4,911 2 3	—364 10 7	+ 5,921 6 11	+ 10,467 14 7
More—				
1. Adjustments of errors	5 0 1	...	787 10 6	792 10 7
2. Over-collections	1,899 13 0	1,414 3 11	5,737 1 5	9,051 2 4
3. Recoveries on account of boundary-marks included in the Accountant General's figures, but excluded from Appendix No. I	3,006 5 2	...	...	3,006 5 2
Total ...	4,911 2 3	1,414 3 11	6,524 11 11	12,850 2 1
Less—				
Adjustments of errors ... ..	...	1,778 14 6	603 5 0	2,382 3 6
Net amount in the Accountant General's figures	+ 4,911 2 3	—364 10 7	+ 5,921 6 11	+ 10,467 14 7

BALANCES.

38. The subjoined table shows the total outstanding balances in each district at the close of 1897-98. They amount to Rs. 2,96,645-13-1 as compared with Rs. 1,48,976-14-6 in the preceding year:—

No.	Districts.	Balances on account of 1897-98.	Balances on account of former years.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier	59,582 15 11	28,360 14 7	87,943 14 6
2	Shikarpur	31,597 9 0	7,965 14 0	39,563 7 0
3	Hyderabad	71,791 10 2	5,625 5 0	77,416 15 2
4	Karachi	67,929 13 6	14,536 14 11	82,466 12 5
5	Thar and Parkar	8,057 0 0	1,197 12 0	9,254 12 0
	Total ...	2,38,959 0 7	57,686 12 6	2,96,645 13 1

39. The balances are classified in Appendix No. IV as follow:—

	Rs. a. p.
1. Recoverable ...	2,87,454 4 1
2. Irrecoverable ...	8,500 0 0
3. Doubtful and disputed ...	691 9 0
Total ...	2,96,645 13 1

They are explained as under :—

Causes.	UPPER SIND FRONTIER.		SHIKARPUR.		HYDERABAD.		KARACHI.		THAR AND PARKAR.		TOTAL.		
	Current year.	Former years.	Current year.	Former years.	Current year.	Former years.	Current year.	Former years.	Current year.	Former years.	Current year.	Former years.	Total.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
I.—Total balances shown in Appendix No. IV as recoverable	59,582 15 11	28,360 14 7	30,542 4 0	5,340 10 0	71,027 8 2	5,625 5 0	67,389 11 6	10,330 2 11	8,057 0 0	1,197 12 0	2,36,599 7 7	50,854 12 6	2,87,454 4 1
DETAILS.													
1. Collected after the close of the year and up to the date of submission of the District reports	10,934 13 5	1,300 13 0	16,633 6 0	355 8 0	9,609 6 6	273 8 0	6,170 13 9	361 7 7	476 8 0	50 8 0	43,824 15 8	2,341 12 7	46,166 12 3
2. Due from estates that are under the management of the Manager, Sind Incumbered Estates	5,922 0 0	2,139 7 1	9,321 15 0	681 13 0	17,660 10 0	4,018 10 0	17,480 8 0	4,021 5 0	.....	271 0 0	50,335 1 0	11,132 3 1	61,517 4 1
3. Postponements granted by District officers for sufficient reasons shown	17,135 7 0	10,394 11 0	2,877 0 0	4,103 5 0	37,368 10 0	1,333 3 0	19,192 12 6	1,146 9 0	5,829 10 0	876 4 0	82,403 7 6	17,854 0 0	1,00,257 7 6
4. Processes issued for collection, but the result of which is not yet known	25,590 11 6	14,525 15 0	.....	.....	6,388 13 8	.....	3,810 13 6	1,212 6 4	156 0 0	.....	35,946 6 8	15,768 5 10	51,714 12 6
5. Rent on building sites the recovery of which is being effected according to the terms of sanad	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,611 1 0	.....	.....	.....	3,611 1 0	.....	3,611 1 0
6. Due from minors under the Collector's guardianship	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76 2 0	32 5 0	.....	.....	76 2 0	32 5 0	108 7 0
7. Under correspondence for postponement	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,312 14 6	947 4 0	.....	.....	3,312 14 6	947 4 0	4,260 2 6
8. Do. for recovery	.....	.....	1,709 15 0	200 0 0	.....	.....	13,731 10 3	1,242 14 0	.....	.....	15,444 9 3	1,442 14 0	16,887 7 3
9. Errors discovered after the close of the year, the amount of which will be recovered next year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 6 0	.....	3 6 0	.....	3 6 0
10. Orders passed in disputed cases after the close of the year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19 2 0	.....	19 2 0	.....	19 2 0
11. Owing to adjustments not having been effected before the close of the year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12. Recovery of ground rent postponed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,336 0 0	1,572 6 0	.....	1,572 6 0	.....	1,572 6 0
Total	59,582 15 11	28,360 14 7	30,542 4 0	5,340 10 0	71,027 8 2	5,625 5 0	67,389 11 6	10,330 2 11	8,057 0 0	1,197 12 0	2,36,599 7 7	50,854 12 6	2,87,454 4 1
II.—Total amount shown in Appendix No. IV as irrecoverable	.....	.....	1,055 5 0	2,625 4 0	72 9 0	.....	540 2 0	4,206 12 0	.....	.....	1,668 0 0	6,832 0 0	8,500 0 0
DETAILS.													
1. Remissions sanctioned after the close of the year adjustable in July next	.....	.....	632 2 0	2,625 4 0	.....	.....	60 1 0	4,127 0 0	.....	.....	692 3 0	6,752 4 0	7,444 7 0
2. Under correspondence for remission on lands taken up by the P. W. Department	.....	.....	231 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	231 8 0	.....	231 8 0
2. Do. on account of time-expired fallow assessment disputed by the Manager, Incumbered Estates, on account of estates under his management	.....	.....	182 2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	182 2 0	.....	182 2 0
4. Amount of assessment wrongly brought on the jama and under correspondence for remission	.....	.....	9 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 9 0	.....	9 9 0
5. Due from people who are very poor and to be written off	.....	.....	.....	.....	72 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	72 9 0	.....	72 9 0
6. Under correspondence for remission	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	480 1 0	79 12 0	.....	.....	480 1 0	79 12 0	559 13 0
Total	.....	.....	1,055 5 0	2,625 4 0	72 9 0	.....	540 2 0	4,206 12 0	.....	.....	1,668 0 0	6,832 0 0	8,500 0 0
III.—Total amounts shown in Appendix No. IV as doubtful and disputed	.....	.....	.....	.....	691 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	691 9 0	.....	691 9 0
DETAILS.													
1. Under inquiry	.....	.....	.....	.....	691 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	691 9 0	.....	691 9 0
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	691 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	691 9 0	.....	691 9 0

RECOVERABLE BALANCES.

40. Out of Rs. 2,87,454-4-1 shown under this head, Rs. 46,166-12-3 were collected after the close of the year and up to the date of the submission of the District officers' reports, Rs. 61,517-4-1 are due from the Manager, Sind Incumbered Estates, and postponements to the extent of Rs. 1,00,257-7-6 had to be granted in cases where the season did not prove favourable. Items 5 to 7 and 9 to 11 explain themselves and require no further remark. With regard to item No. 12, the Collector of Karachi states that the recovery has been postponed until the actual area by re-measurement of a plot in the Garden quarter of the town of Karachi has been ascertained by the Engineer and Secretary, Karachi Municipality, and that the delay is owing to the parties being absent from Karachi on account of Plague. The true balance, therefore, amounts to Rs. 68,602-3-9 (items 4 and 8). The bulk of this balance is found in the Upper Sind Frontier, where, as usual, considerable difficulty is experienced in collecting the arrears. This season the crops suffered severely from the ravages of locusts, to which may be largely attributed the heavy balance outstanding on account of the year under report.

IRRECOVERABLE BALANCES.

41. The balances shown under this head amount to Rs. 8,500 against Rs. 11,405-0-3 in 1896-97. These figures indicate that continued endeavours are being made to settle items of this kind as far as possible. Out of the Rs. 8,500, Rs. 7,444-7 were remitted after the close of the year, and the rest is under correspondence for remission.

42. As required by Government Resolution No. 5140, dated 22nd July 1890, the balances on account of previous years shown as recoverable in Appendix No. IV, and which could not be cleared off during the year of the report, have to be accounted for. These amounted to Rs. 50,854-12-6 at the close of 1897-98, of which Rs. 2,341-12-7 have since been collected, leaving Rs. 48,512-15-11 uncollected, as explained below :—

Causes.	AMOUNTS.					Total.
	Upper Sind Frontier.	Shikarpur.	Hyderabad.	Karachi.	Thar and Parkar.	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1. Due from estates that are under the management of the Manager, Sind Incumbered Estates	2,139 7 1	681 13 0	4,018 10 0	4,021 5 0	271 0 0	11,132 3 1
2. Postponements granted by District officers for sufficient reasons shown	10,394 11 0	4,103 5 0	1,333 3 0	1,146 9 0	876 4 0	17,854 0 0
3. Processes issued for collection, but the result of which is not yet known	14,525 15 6	...	...	1,242 6 4	...	15,768 5 10
4. Due from minors under the Collector's guardianship	...	...	...	32 5 0	...	32 5 0
5. Under correspondence for postponement	...	...	...	947 4 0	...	947 4 0
6. Do. for recovery	...	200 0 0	...	1,242 14 0	...	1,442 14 0
7. Recovery of ground rent postponed	...	...	...	1,336 0 0	...	1,336 0 0
Total	27,060 1 7	4,985 2 0	5,351 13 0	9,948 11 4	1,147 4 0	48,512 15 11

The above figures will show that 22·9 per cent. of the previous years' balances are due from the Manager, Sind Incumbered Estates, who will pay the amount as soon as he is in a position to do so. 37·5 per cent. had to be postponed again, which is, however, much less than the percentage (*i.e.*, 60·26) of the previous year on the same account. The rest of the items are already explained in paragraph 40.

TAKAVI ADVANCES.

43. Appendix No. VI gives the details of the advances made under Act XIX of 1883 and Act XII of 1884. The advances of both kinds are compared

with those in 1896-97 in the following table :—

	Granted in 1897-98.			Granted in 1896-97.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Under Act XIX of 1883	29,674	0	0	1,15,450	0	0	...			85,776	0	0
Under Act XII of 1884	34,367	0	0	86,375	0	0	...			52,008	0	0
Total	64,041	0	0	2,01,825	0	0	...			1,37,784	0	0

44. It will be seen from the above that the advances under Act XIX of 1883 were less than those of the previous year by Rs. 85,776 and those under Act XII of 1884 by Rs. 52,008, or by Rs. 1,37,784 under both. The advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act were spent in constructing new bands, wells and karias and repairing old ones, &c., while those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were utilised in purchasing seed and cattle. Land holders continue to appreciate the benefits of Government loans and eagerly avail themselves of what can be given them. In the Financial year 1897-98, however, Government were unfortunately precluded from making any advances on account of financial pressure, which accounts for the large decrease shown above. The foregoing table is made according to the Revenue year and shows loans granted out of the allotment made by Government for the Financial years 1896-97 and 1898-99.

BALANCES OF TAKAVI ADVANCES.

45. The total advances recoverable, including balance of previous years, due on 1st August 1897 amounted to Rs. 4,67,705-4-6 (*vide* columns 7 and 12 of Appendix No. VI). Of this sum, Rs. 1,41,838-14-5 were collected during the year, leaving a balance on 31st July 1898 of Rs. 3,25,866-6-1 to be recovered, as shown in the following table :—

Act under which the advance was made.	District.	Instalments due in past years.			Instalments due in current year.			Instalments due in future years.			Total.		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Act XIX of 1883	Upper Sind Frontier	7,488	13	4	4,409	0	2	12,366	3	4	24,264	0	10
	Shikarpur	3,424	3	4	4,777	2	4	1,09,901	5	7	1,18,102	11	3
	Hyderabad	390	3	10	6,807	8	2	41,929	4	2	49,127	0	2
	Karachi	1,880	0	0	3,809	0	0	23,637	15	0	29,476	15	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	...	688	3	2	14,374	0	0	15,062	3	2
	Total	13,133	4	6	20,490	13	10	2,02,408	12	1	2,36,032	14	5
Act XII of 1884	Upper Sind Frontier	14,024	6	2	815	4	7	666	0	0	15,505	10	9
	Shikarpur	1,365	0	0	567	3	6	3,911	12	6	5,844	0	0
	Hyderabad	600	0	0	2,791	2	3	6,111	10	8	9,502	12	11
	Karachi	5,115	0	0	10,630	0	0	40,166	0	0	55,911	0	0
	Thar and Parkar	...	...	...	250	0	0	2,820	0	0	3,070	0	0
	Total	21,104	6	2	15,053	10	4	53,675	7	2	89,833	7	8
	GRAND TOTAL	34,237	10	8	35,544	8	2	2,56,084	3	3	3,25,866	6	1

46. Of these balances, Rs. 2,56,084-3-3 are recoverable in future years according to the terms of the grants and are therefore to be omitted from consideration. The over-due balances amount to Rs. 69,782-2-10. Of this, Rs. 1,235-15-7 have been collected after the close of the year, reducing the un-collected balances to Rs. 68,546-3-3, as explained below :—

District.	Collections postponed for good reasons.	Applications for postpone- ment under considera- tion.	Due from es- tates taken under Act XX of 1896.	Under process of recovery.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1. UpperSind Fron- tier.	19,893 10 11	...	...	6,443 9 6	26,337 4 5
2. Shikarpur ...	3,782 1 4	...	4,824 4 10	1,462 3 0	10,068 9 2
3. Hyderabad ...	5,491 3 10	...	3,053 14 5	1,373 0 3	9,918 2 6
4. Karachi ...	10,129 0 0	3,700	5,840 0 0	1,615 0 0	21,284 0 0
5. Thar and Parkar	...	...	50 0 0	888 3 2	938 3 2
Total ...	39,296 0 1	3,700	13,768 3 3	11,781 15 11	68,546 3 3

The sums postponed have increased as compared with the previous year, but from the Collectors' reports it appears that the postponements were not given without good reasons. There is a satisfactory decrease in the amount for which processes have been issued, being Rs. 11,781-15-11 against Rs. 29,727-10-6, and the whole of the amount so far appears safe. The sum due by the Manager is also safe and will be paid in as that officer finds his estates in a position to do so.

COLLECTIONS AND BALANCES OF THE COST OF BOUNDARY-MARKS.

47. Appendix No. VI-A shows the demand, collections and balances on account of the cost of boundary-marks. It will be seen from it that Rs. 43,371-9-10 remained outstanding at the close of 1896-97. Rs. 951-8-10 were added during the year, raising the amount to be accounted for to Rs. 49,323-2-8. Of this sum, Rs. 10,322-2-7 were collected and Rs. 87-2-9 were written off under sanction, leaving a balance of—

(a) Rs. 38,585-12-5 recoverable, and

(b) Rs. 328-0-11 irrecoverable.

The balance shown as recoverable is detailed below :—

	Rs.	a.	p.
(1) Since collected	33	12	6
(2) Collections postponed for good reasons	17,980	8	8
(3) Endeavours are being made for the collection of	20,092	5	6
(4) Due by the Manager, Sind Incumbered Estates	439	12	0
(5) Due by individuals whose whereabouts are not traced.	39	5	9
Total	38,585	12	5

The amount shown as irrecoverable was erroneously shown as due on occupied lands. It represented survey expenses on unoccupied lands. Similar charges are directly debited to Government in the accounts, and recoveries are made when the lands are taken up in occupancy. The Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier, in whose district the mistake has arisen, is in correspondence with the Account Department for the adjustment of the amount.

AREAS OCCUPIED AND UNOCCUPIED.

48. The details of lands assessed and unassessed, occupied and unoccupied, are shown in Appendix No. VII. Appendix No. VIII explains the increase and decrease in the area and assessment of cultivable occupied assessed land only. The areas shown under the different heads in the former Appendix are compared with those for the year 1896-97 in the following table :—

Heads.	1897-98.		1896-97.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	A.	g.	A.	g.	A.	g.	A.	g.
1. Total area (columns 3 and 19 of Appendix No. VII)	29,959,479	13	29,934,955	0	24,494	13	...	...
2. Unassessed area and area set apart for special and public purposes, as also the area of land eroded by river (columns 9 and 25)	21,219,225	30	21,390,641	18	...	...	171,415	18
3. Remainder cultivable assessed (columns 10 and 26)	8,740,253	23	8,544,343	22	195,910	1	...	...
4. Unoccupied area and area given out free of rent or at reduced rates (columns 11, 12, 27 and 28)	830,229	12	843,307	2	...	...	13,077	30
5. Remainder occupied assessed land (columns 13 and 29)	* 7,673,024	11	+ 7,701,036	20	271,987	31	...	...

* Includes 143,411-27 acres on account of unauthorised cultivation.

+ Do. 127,507-15 acres

49. The increase in the gross area is attributed mainly to the inclusion of river alluvial lands cultivated during the year of report. The decrease in unassessed and unoccupied areas (heads 2 and 4) is explained by the increase in the cultivable assessed and in the occupied assessed areas, and is due to the expansion of cultivation, owing to a favourable inundation.

50. The details of fluctuations under the head "Occupied land" and "Assessment" shown in Appendix No. VIII are shown below :—

	A.	g.	Rs.	a.	p.
Occupied land paying assessment or quit-rent at the close of the year 1896-97 (<i>vide</i> columns 3 and 4 of Appendix No. VIII)...	7,701,036	20	75,63,408	10	0
(a) Deduct on account of—					
1. Land thrown up and remaining unoccupied ...	2,175	37	528	15	0
2. Land forfeited for non-payment of revenue and remaining unoccupied ...	689	14	1,343	0	0
3. Transfer of land to head of Alienation ...	...	...	16	3	0
4. Land transferred to Forest ...	1,127	14	488	3	0
5. Land set aside for special purposes ...	14	26	10	1	0
6. Land set apart for public purposes ...	1,608	21	967	0	0
7. Land entered as uncultivable ...	1,539	7	889	4	0
8. Other causes, such as river erosions, lands allowed to remain fallow, &c. ...	54,301	22	1,14,433	14	0
Total ...	61,456	21	1,18,676	8	0
(b) Add on account of—					
1. Unoccupied land taken up ...	65,826	26	1,30,344	12	0
2. Unassessed land brought into occupation and assessed ...	37,879	25	45,334	2	0
3. Lapse of alienated land ...	0	27	3,404	5	0
4. Land, hitherto set aside for Forest, given out for cultivation...	46	33	52	1	0
5. Other causes, such as last year fallow, this year cultivated, &c....	229,690	21	12,71,906	11	0
Total ...	333,444	12	14,51,041	15	0
Occupied land paying assessment or quit-rent at the close of the year 1897-98 ...	7,973,024	11	* 88,95,774	1	0

* Includes Rs. 2,39,298-13-0 on account of unauthorised cultivation (*i.e.*, 143,411-27 acres).

51. The foregoing table exhibits an increase of 2,71,987-31 acres in the area occupied and of Rs. 13,32,365-7-0 in the assessment, which is very satisfactory.

52. The following table shows the areas taken up and relinquished in each district of the Province during 1897-98 :—

No.	District.	AREA TAKEN UP.			Area thrown up (not including fallows).
		Unoccupied land taken up.	Unassessed land brought into occupation and assessed.	Total.	
		A.	g.	A.	g.
1	Upper Sind Frontier ...	6,156	23	1,660	38
2	Shikarpur ...	12,678	13	7,309	3
3	Hyderabad ...	28,681	27	3,707	39
4	Karachi ...	10,411	23	6,246	0
5	Thar and Parkar ...	7,898	20	18,955	25
	Total ...	65,826	26	37,879	25
				103,706	11
					2,175 37

53. The areas taken up (*i.e.*, 103,706-11) are, it will be observed, very much in excess of those relinquished (*i.e.*, 2,175-37).

HOLDINGS.

54. The following table shows concisely the particulars given in Appendix No. IX as to the number and extent of holdings in surveyed Government Rayatwari villages, including alienated areas in such villages :—

No.	District.	TOTAL NUMBER OF HOLDINGS.			TOTAL AREA.			TOTAL ASSESSMENT OR QUIT-RENT.			AVERAGE AREA OF HOLDINGS.			AVERAGE ASSESSMENT OR QUIT-RENT PER HOLDING.			AVERAGE ASSESSMENT OR QUIT-RENT PER ACRE.		
		Khalsa.	INAM.		Khalsa.	INAM.		Khalsa.	INAM.		Khalsa.	INAM.		Khalsa.	INAM.		Khalsa.	INAM.	
			In per- petuity.	For life or lives.		In per- petuity.	For life or lives.		In per- petuity.	For life or lives.		In per- petuity.	For life or lives.		In per- petuity.	For life or lives.		In per- petuity.	For life or lives.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		No.	No.	No.	A. g.	A. g.	A. g.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	A. g.	A. g.	A. g.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Upper Sind Frontier	5,881	52	3	796,377 32	6,282 22	561 30	9,63,753 10 0	...	...	205 8	120 33	187 10	248 5 2	...	...	1 3 4	...	...
2	Shikarpur	62,565	127	21	1,394,168 37	19,502 1	11,491 16	33,49,414 3 0	1,087 1 0	1,343 5 0	22 11	153 22	547 8	53 8 7	8 8 11	63 15 6	2 6 5	0 0 11	0 1 10
3	Hyderabad	35,247	202	257	1,718,515 0	36,654 4	33,557 26	21,25,616 9 0	4,273 5 0	5,796 6 0	53 12	181 18	130 23	65 14 8	21 2 6	22 8 10	1 3 9	0 1 10	0 2 9
4	Karachi	20,891	113	99	790,132 6	109,402 30	23,150 7	12,98,697 13 0	4,470 2 0	2,224 0 0	37 33	968 7	233 34	62 2 10	39 8 11	22 7 5	1 10 4	0 0 8	0 1 6
5	Thar and Parkar	5,660	21	11	992,159 33	11,059 36	1,076 10	7,63,804 3 0	828 5 0	234 11 0	175 12	526 26	97 34	134 15 2	39 7 1	21 5 4	0 12 4	0 1 2	0 3 6
	Total	125,244	515	391	5,691,353 28	182,901 13	69,837 9	85,01,486 6 0	10,658 13 0	9,598 6 0	45 18	355 6	178 24	69 14 1	20 11 2	24 8 9	1 7 11	0 0 11	0 2 2

55. The total number of holdings in the year 1897-98 when compared with the previous year shows—

- (a) + 5,036 in khalsa holdings and
(b) — 10 in inam holdings.

The increase in the former is due to expansion of cultivation, while the decrease in the latter is due to correction of errors and death of holders, &c.

56. Appendix No. X shows for tenures other than Rayatwari the number of estates and the area held under each, together with the revenue paid to Government. The following table contains a summary of the information under this head :—

No.	Kind of tenure.	No. of estates.	No. of holders or share-holders.	Gross area in acres.	Average area of each estate.	Total payment to Government on estates of each class.	Average payment to Government on each estate.	Incidence on column 7 per acre (col. 5).
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				A. g.	A. g.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Jagirs, 1st class ...	14	14	249,016 4	17,786 35	4,122 5 0	294 7 3	0 0 3
2	Do. four great Talpur families.	30	30	424,179 20	14,139 13	43,749 11 0	1,458 5 2	0 1 8
3	Do. 2nd class (Sardars)..	51	51	70,802 2	1,388 11	11,160 14 0	218 13 5	0 2 6
4	Do. Political inams ...	6	6	31,854 33	5,309 5	1,589 14 0	264 15 8	0 0 10
5	Khairatdars, 1st class ...	1	1	217,551 11	217,551 11	9 15 0	9 15 0	...
	Total ...	102	102	993,404 12	9,739 10	63,632 11 0	594 7 0	0 1 0

57. There is an increase of three in the number of estates, which is not due to any new grants made during the year, but to the conversion into distinct alienated dehs of areas previously included in Government Rayatwari villages. The decrease in the area is chiefly due to lands acquired for railway purposes. The increase in Jagir dues is attributed to a favourable inundation and to the consequent increase of cultivation.

INCIDENCE OF LAND REVENUE.

58. The average incidence of Land Revenue and of assessment per head of population and per acre, respectively, in each district is shown in Appendix No. XI. Details of population for settled and unsettled villages separately have been omitted from columns 18 and 35 of the appendix as they are not available. The following table contains a summary of the information.

Districts.	Incidence of Land Revenue per head of population, column 19.	Incidence of Land Revenue per head of population on fully assessed area only, column 36.	INCIDENCE PER ACRE OF LAND REVENUE ASSESSED ON FULLY ASSESSED OCCUPIED AREA.	
			Total fully assessed area, col. 31.	Cultivated or net cropped area, col. 32.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1. Upper Sind Frontier ...	5 13 2	5 14 7	2 4 4	2 5 4
2. Shikarpur ...	3 15 8	4 1 5	3 3 11	3 5 2
3. Hyderabad ...	2 7 2	2 10 2	2 5 6	2 7 10
4. Karachi ...	2 4 4	2 11 3	1 15 11	2 3 1
5. Thar and Parkar ...	2 12 7	2 14 9	1 6 7	1 2 11
<i>Classes.</i>				
1. Surveyed Government rayatwari villages ...	.....	.....	2 8 9	2 11 6
2. Other Government villages for which statistics are available ...	.....	.....	0 6 7	0 9 2
On total for the Province ...	3 2 3	3 5 5	2 3 8	2 6 2

59. The incidence per acre of land revenue on fully assessed area shows a slight falling-off in three of the five districts and a slight rise in the two others (Upper Sind Frontier and Shikarpur) in 1897-98 as compared with 1896-97. These variations call for no special remark, being due to the varying rates of the irrigation settlement in operation in Sind.

COERCIVE PROCESSES.

60. The coercive processes adopted for the realisation of land revenue are shown in Appendix No. XII. The following table gives a summary of the figures embodied therein :—

	1897-98.	1896-97.
Number of notices issued No.	45,012	26,344
Amount of notice fees recovered Rs.	18,496 8 0	10,892 12 0
Amount of penalties recovered under Section 148 of the Land Revenue Code "	2,493 9 6	910 5 3
Number of cases in which distraint and sale of property were resorted to No.	41	11
Amount recovered by distraint and sale of moveable property Rs.	870 9 9	480 14 7
Number of cases in which forfeiture was resorted to No.	3,979	114
Assessment on forfeited land sold to the public Rs.	63 10 0	...
Assessment on forfeited land returned to occupants on their paying the Government revenue "	2,657 13 7	1,871 1 0
Assessment on forfeited land remaining with Government "	1,22,877 4 1	1,499 0 0

61. The above table discloses a very considerable increase in the several kinds of coercive processes employed for the recovery of Government revenue. The increase need not, however, be regarded as an alarming one in view of the very large increase in the amount for collection, due to the favourable year.

A contributory cause was the almost entire cessation of business in some parts of the Province on account of the fears and rumours that preceded the total eclipse of the sun on the 22nd January. The consequence of this was in many cases a delay in paying the first instalment due on the 1st January.

The fall in the price of grain later on in the year also tended to unpunctuality of payment, as land-holders who had not disposed of their grain either found it difficult to obtain purchasers or held on in hopes of a rise in prices.

To the above reasons may be ascribed the large increase in the number of notices issued as compared with last year; and though the actual number is large, the issue of notices in Sind, as was explained in last year's report, does not imply any severity.

The amount recovered by distraint, though more than last year, was not large and was less than in 1895-96.

The great increase which may be observed in the number of forfeitures is due to the fact that, on account of the poor inundation of 1895-96, the Commissioner, in his Circular No. 4335, dated 6th November 1896, gave a year's grace from the operation of the Sind fallow rules to all Numbers. This order took effect in 1896-97, and the difference between the forfeitures of the present and last year is solely due to the operation of that concession.

As Government, however, are well aware, the forfeiture is only nominal, as the former holder has the option of at any time redeeming his land on the payment of one year's assessment.

The large remissions and postponements of land revenue shown elsewhere in this report will of themselves show that every consideration has been shown to the land-holders of this Province whenever leniency was desirable, and that resort was had to compulsory processes only where it was justified and unavoidable.

SAYER REVENUE.

62. Appendix No. XIII shows that the Sayer Revenue in 1897-98 amounted to Rs. 17,621-1-9 against Rs. 13,178-2-3 in 1896-97. The revenue from this source is so fluctuating that an increase or decrease in any year has little significance.

COLLECTION AND CHARGES.

63. Appendix No. XIV gives the details of collection and collection charges. The total collections on account of Land Revenue, Village Cess, Sayer Revenue and Hakabo amounted to Rs. 89,62,618-10-4 as compared with Rs. 79,23,714-7-11 in 1896-97. The collection charges amounted to Rs. 9,53,546-1-6 against Rs. 9,41,945-11-5. The increase in collection charges is chiefly due to additions in the Village Cess establishment and increased expenditure on account of contingencies owing to plague. The decrease in the percentage of the cost of collection is entirely due to the large increase in collections.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE IN SIND.

64. Mr. Seymour was able to draw up settlement proposals for one taluka only (that of Johi in the Karachi District), his deputation for a month to the Panjab rendering it impracticable for him to do more. The proposals for this taluka together with those of two other talukas in the same district (Mirpur Batoro and Sujawal), prepared by Mr. Lawrence, I. C. S., were reviewed by the Commissioner in the year under report, and submitted to Government, as also those of the following four talukas :—

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Shikarpur (prepared by Mr. R. Giles,
M.A., Acting Commissioner in Sind). | } Shikarpur District. |
| 2. Nasirabad (prepared by Mr. Cole) ... | |
| 3. Tando Bago (prepared by Mr. Brendon,
I. C. S.) ... | } Hyderabad District. |
| 4. Badin Do. ... | |

This made a total of seven, of which Government sanctioned five, deferring those of talukas Mirpur Batoro and Sujawal for further inquiry.

The existing revision settlements of the Naushahro, Kandiaro and Moro Talukas in the Hyderabad District had to be continued for another year (1898-99), some additional information being required to enable the proposals (which had been prepared by Mr. Cole some time back) to be completed for transmission to Government. Government have at the same time authorised the present irrigation rates in taluka Dero Mohbat to be continued up to the 31st July 1901, while the revision of the Mirpur Mathelo and Ubauro Talukas of the Shikarpur District has been postponed with the permission of Government, pending completion of the Mahiwal project and the improvement generally of the existing canals in those talukas.

65. The Superintendent, Land Records and Agriculture, shows in a table in paragraph 8 of his report (which forms Appendix No. XV to this report) the amount of work performed in his Record Office in the task of correcting Survey records, registers and maps, supplying copies of registers and maps to District officers and the subordinate establishments of the various departments, and furnishing extracts from Survey records to Revenue officers and others. From

this table, it will appear that the work accomplished by the Record Office comprised the following items :—

I.—Corrections—			
1. In Survey registers	...	...	463
2. In Survey maps	...	...	253
3. In field books	...	...	246
		—	962
II.—No. of extracts issued from field books	...	...	656
III.—No. of maps supplied	...	...	3,947
IV.—No. of new registers supplied	...	...	1,005
V.—Corrections in names of occupants	...	...	4
VI.—Maps prepared for printing	...	...	21
VII.—Registers prepared for Record Office—			
1. New registers	...	...	540
2. Corrected for names of occupants and assessment	...	...	540
		—	1,080
			<hr/> 7,675 <hr/>

This would appear to be a commendable amount of work. Turning, however, to the next table at paragraph 9, the figures are not so satisfactory, as it will be seen that, out of a total of 25,672 Survey Numbers received for examination, of which 10,354 were the balance of arrears from the previous year, the papers relating to 9,930 were scrutinised and returned, leaving a balance of arrears of 15,742. From this, it would seem that this branch of the Superintendent's work was likely to get hopelessly into arrears, but the Superintendent gives an explanation which shows that the increase in the arrears was due to special circumstances. In the first place, the number of Survey Numbers sent for examination was larger than the previous year by 771; secondly, two of the surveyors who usually assist the Record Office in this work were away on special duty for some part of the year, and last, but not least, the number of new settlements introduced during the year necessitated for some time the employment of every available hand in the head Record Office on the important work of preparing and issuing the new Survey registers so as to admit of their being in the hands of the tapadars by the 1st October, when the work of field inspection commences. The Superintendent has given orders that these arrears should now receive attention and be worked off with all possible despatch. The Superintendent attributes the arrears also to the bad quality of the work sent for examination by the tapadars, which necessitated numerous references and consequent delays in disposal of the work. This is a cause which the Acting Commissioner is confident will disappear in time as the Village Cess establishment becomes more expert by practice. Elsewhere the Superintendent has shown that the examination of Tapadars' survey work by the Revenue Surveyors shows an appreciable diminution (from 9.97 per cent. to 8.76 per cent.) in errors of 4 per cent. and over, which shows that improvement is surely, if slowly, being effected.

As noted by the Superintendent, the Commissioner is trying whether the appointment of special tapadars who are expert in this branch of work, for the sole purpose of aiding and supervising the less expert, will not facilitate progress. The Superintendent expresses a hope that this measure will prove of immense value. It is as yet, however, only in the experimental stage.

66. The theodolite surveyors have done a much larger amount of work in breaking up land into blocks to be eventually made into cultivable small Numbers than was reported in the previous year. The increased work is due, according to the Superintendent, Land Records and Agriculture, to a large number of applications for land, but it would have been satisfactory had it been stated by him in what talukas this demand had increased, and whether

it had anything to do with tracts where improvements in irrigation are in progress. It is pleasant to note the assurance that the theodolite surveyors are efficient and that their work is entirely satisfactory. Nevertheless, it seems essential that an efficient test of their work should be maintained.

In the year under report, the Superintendent has tested two blocks in a single taluka, and no explanation has been given why no more test was possible. The actual test done is double of what was done in the previous year, but it seems still inadequate.

67. In the two tables at paragraph 11 of the Superintendent's report, details will be found of the test work performed by his surveyors and by himself in relation to survey work done by the Village Cess establishments, Tapadars and Supervising Tapadars. He attributes the falling-off in the quantity of the test work (from 5,483 to 3,550 Survey Nos.) to the larger amount of traverse survey having to receive attention in the year, but in quality he regards the work as satisfactory from the fact that the result has shown errors of 4 per cent. and over in 8.76 per cent. of the total test work as compared with 9.97 of the previous year.

The Superintendent's own test work on the whole comes to 107 Nos. against 92 in the previous year. There is thus some increase on the previous year, but a more extended test by him in both years would have been more satisfactory.

68. The Survey Training Schools which had been founded at Sukkur, Kotri and Hyderabad for teaching the Village Cess Tapadars and Supervising Tapadars were closed in the previous year. However, the Superintendent was able to provide at Hyderabad for some 12 Tapadars who had either received no training before or had forgotten what they had learnt. The Superintendent was also able to give instruction in survey work to 5 Mukhtyarkars. No officer of the Deputy or Assistant Collector's class received training in the year. The criticisms of the Superintendent on his examination of Taluka Forms Nos. 35 and 36 were communicated by him to the Collectors and the Deputy Commissioners, and the work of making corrections in Survey registers and maps is progressing under their supervision.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servant,

R. GILES,

Acting Commissioner in Sind.

APPENDIX No. I.
