

REPORTS
ON THE
REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
AND ON THE
OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND
SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS
IN
BERAR
DURING THE YEAR
1918-19



Agpur

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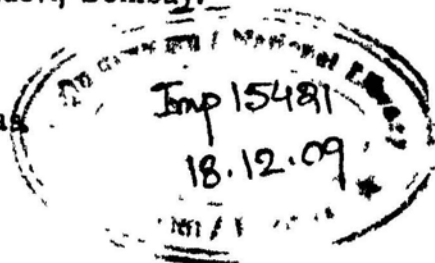
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Central Provinces Administration

REVENUE AND SCARCITY DEPARTMENT

Nagpur, the 20th April 1920.

READ—

Report of the Commissioner, Berar, on the Revenue Administration of Berar and the Report of the Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records on the Departments of Land Records and Settlements in Berar for the year ending the 31st July 1919.

RESOLUTION.

The annual report on the revenue administration of Berar was received three months late from the Commissioner, and the publication of this resolution is consequently delayed. The year was full of difficulties. The rainfall was short and badly distributed and stopped prematurely, and in October 1918 there were very gloomy forebodings regarding the prospects of the crops. At the same time the violent influenza epidemic reached its height and was responsible for the appalling mortality of over a quarter million deaths in a population which at the last census amounted to just over three million persons. In the best of years the division imports some of its foodstuffs, and the poor kharif outturn in 1918-19, coupled with the depletion of stocks due to inferior harvests in the two preceding years, increased largely the need for import just at the time when crop failure in other parts of India greatly increased the pressure on the already overtaxed railways. Berar, however, overcame its difficulties better than was anticipated. The yield of the important guar crop was everywhere very poor, but the early winter showers improved the outturn of cotton, which was everywhere better than half the normal and in East Berar reached three-fourths of the normal. Wheat was practically a failure in the Buldana district, but again the eastern districts of Amraoti and Yeotmal obtained three-quarters of the normal outturn. The cultivators were saved by the abnormally high prices for which they sold their cotton, a record rate being reached at the beginning of the season. These large profits enabled them to purchase foodstuffs and other necessities in spite of the high prices. The chief anxiety of Government was for the landless labourer and the small cultivator who supplements his agricultural income by labour, but here again the exceedingly heavy mortality during the influenza epidemic caused a great shortage of labour and a substantial rise of wages. Prices reached heights hitherto unknown, crime was abnormally heavy, and control was exercised over railway traffic by a system of import and export permits under which an effort was made to regulate prices.

2. Early measures were taken for the suspension of land revenue in the worst affected tracts. Suspensions exceeding Rs. 11½ lakhs were sanctioned, of which Rs. 7½ lakhs was in the Buldana district alone, where the crops were worst, but the Berari has an excellent record for punctuality in the payment of land revenue, and it appears from the report that some Revenue Officers did not realise the importance of maintaining what the Commissioner describes as a clean sheet in the matter of collections. If revenue is suspended, the orders of suspension should be communicated promptly and should under no circumstances be withheld in the hope that though the suspensions are required under the standing orders, the cultivators may deem them unnecessary. Suspended land revenue, which is paid after the orders of suspension have been communicated, should be accepted, but the raiyats should not be kept in ignorance of the orders of Government concerning suspension. The mistakes made by the Revenue Officers are no doubt due to inexperience, as the Revenue Officers of Berar have not nearly as much experience in dealing with suspensions as their colleagues in the Central Provinces.

3. Except as regards loans to cultivators, which are mentioned below, it is not necessary to describe in detail in this resolution the further measures taken for the relief of distress, as the Chief Commissioner will deal with them in the report on the scarcity and famine of 1918-19 for the Central Provinces and Berar. It will suffice to state that, in addition to the liberal grant of suspensions of land revenue and distribution of agricultural advances, scarcity works were started in the worst affected tracts, gratuitous relief was given on a limited scale, forest concessions were allowed, cheap grain shops were opened and private charity was organized. The Chief Commissioner desires to acknowledge the cordial co-operation of all classes in the organization of these measures of relief, which materially mitigated the difficulties of the poor.

4. Revenue Officers in Berar have now been relieved of Collectors' cases, and but for the exceptional circumstances of the year the volume of revenue work and the number of cases pending at the end of the year should have shown a decline. There was, however, an increase of some 2,000 cases in the pending file and a slight rise in the average duration of cases. The Commissioner explains that much of the increase in the cases pending at the end of the year was due to the institution of numerous income-tax cases, many of which were filed towards the close of the year, and to excise and taccavi cases. Taccavi was given on a much more liberal scale than in previous years, and the Commissioner reports that in the Buldana district, where the amount was the largest, the people would not agree to the principle of joint security, which has for many years been worked successfully in the Central Provinces. It is not stated whether this refusal to accept loans on joint security was due to the idea being new to the people or to inexperience on the part of Government officers in applying it. As the granting of individual loans causes a large amount of unnecessary work, the Commissioner should look into the matter and see if the Central Provinces system cannot be rendered acceptable to the people.

5. The report on the Land Records Department shows that the work of land records suffered to some extent owing to the pre-occupation of Revenue Officers, especially of the higher grades, in urgent work connected with the scarcity and with the importation of foodstuffs but considering the circumstances of the year the Chief Commissioner sees no reason to be dissatisfied. The revision of the pay of Assistant Superintendents of Land Records, Revenue Inspectors and Patwaris is now engaging the attention of the Administration, and an officer of wide experience of Berar has been placed on special duty to enquire, among other matters, into the system of remunerating patwaris and to formulate proposals. When his report is received, the Chief Commissioner will consider what remedial action, if any, should be taken.

6. The year was one of exceptional stress for Revenue Officers of all grades. Although the Officiating Commissioner refrains, owing to his inexperience of the division, from mentioning any individual officer, the Chief Commissioner is aware that as a body they acquitted themselves well under circumstances of great difficulty. Mr Standen held charge of the division until the beginning of May, a tenure of over seven years. The Chief Commissioner places on record his thanks to him for his vigorous administration of the division throughout this period, and in particular Sir Frank Sly recognises the energetic measures which he took at the close of the monsoon of 1918 to anticipate and combat the appearance of distress.

ORDER—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution and its annexures be submitted to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture; that copies be forwarded to the Commissioner, Berar, Deputy Commissioners in Berar, and the Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records for information and guidance, and that it be published in the Supplement to the *Central Provinces Gazette*.

J. F. DYER,

Third Secretary to the Chief Commissioner,

Central Provinces.

Loans made under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Agriculturists' Loans Act:

I.—Account of the Local Government with the Government of India for Berar during the Revenue year ending the 31st July 1919

Heads.	Amount advanced to the Local Government by the Government of India.			Interest payable for the year by the Local Government to the Government of India at different rates on mean outstanding.
	Outstanding at the commencement of the year.	Outstanding at the close of the year	Mean outstanding.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Land Improvement Loans Act ...	1,95,515	3,83,410	2,91,462	14,312
Agriculturists' Loans Act ...	2,57,373	3,71,034	3,14,203	16,970
Total of both Acts ...	4,52,888	7,58,444	6,05,665	31,282

II—Account of the Local Government with agriculturist borrowers

		Land Improvement Loans Act	Agriculturists' Loans Act	Total both Acts.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Principal	Outstanding at commencement of the year ...	1,95,061	2,57,015	4,52,076
	Advanced during the year ...	2,51,440	2,44,626	4,96,066
	Total advanced ...	4,46,501	5,01,641	9,48,142
	Amount due for collection within the year including arrears	74,293	1,49,187	2,23,480
	Remitted during the year	(a) 6,140	(a) 1,30,358	(a) 1,90,507
	Collected during the year	60,140	1,30,358	1,90,507
	Total remitted and collected	3,86,352	3,71,283	7,57,635
	Balance outstanding at the end of the year	11,471	8,211	19,682
	Amount suspended by competent authority	9,562	22,476	32,038
Interest	Arrears of interest suspended and overdue at commencement of the year ...	997	266	1,261
	Interest falling due within the year ...	11,762	13,984	25,746
	Total interest for collection within the year ...	12,759	14,248	27,003
	Remitted during the year	...	...	...
	Collected during the year	11,528	12,764	24,292
	Total remitted and collected	11,528	12,764	24,292
	Suspended by competent authority	647	305	952
	Arrears of interest overdue at end of the year	584	1,179	1,763
Total Principal and Interest	Remitted during the year	...	...	...
	Collected during the year	71,677	1,43,122	2,14,799
	Under suspension at the end of the year	12,118	8,516	20,634
	Overdue at the end of the year	10,146	23,655	33,801

III.—Financial results of loan operations to Local Government for the revenue year ending the 31st July 1919.

	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.	Total both Acts.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Interest payable for the year by the Local Government to the Government of India ..	14,312	16,970	31,282
2. Interest collected during the year ...	11,556	12,762	24,318
3. Balance of interest accruing to Local Government, i. e., difference between (1) and (2).	-2,756	-4,208	-6,964
4. Remissions of principal during the year ...	...	...	...
5. Net result (profit or loss) for the year 1918-19 ...	-2,756	-4,208	-6,964
6. Net result for previous years ...	1917-18 ...	+ 5,682	+ 720
	1916-17 ...	+ 8,765	+ 10,528
	1915-16 ...	+ 12,367	+ 15,883
	1914-15 ...	+ 8,301	+ 9,693
7. Expenditure on free grants-in-aid towards the construction of private protective works or on establishments for well-boring or other outlay incurred from current revenue in connection with takavi transactions.	+ 10,378	+ 1,856	+ 12,234

NOTE.—The differences between the Accountant-General's figures and the departmental figures are due to the fact that the Commissioner's accounts are made up to the 31st July and the Accountant-General's accounts to the 31st March, the differences being reconciled by the end of the financial year.

(a) Includes advance collections on account of principal not yet fallen due:—

	Rs.
Land Improvement Loans Act ...	6,889
Agriculturists' Loans Act ...	11,858
Total ...	18,747

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Report on the Revenue Administration of Berar for the year 1918-19.

PART I.—AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS OF THE YEAR.

1. The rainfall during the season 1918-19 was irregular, insufficient and badly distributed; the average for the Division was 22·04 against an annual average of 33·35 for the previous 25 years. In some stations the fall registered was very small indeed comparable with the record low fall of 1899.

Character of the Season.

The monsoon broke earlier than usual and the rainfall in June, though light, was generally sufficient. There was moderately heavy rain early in July, but a prolonged break followed and the later sown crops suffered in consequence. Opportune rain was, however, received towards the end of July and this greatly improved the condition of crops, though more rain was still required in parts of Akola and Buldana. The rainfall during August, though very scanty, was sufficient. From the second week of September almost to the end of November there was little or no rain, and over large areas the crops deteriorated seriously. Local showers and thunderstorms improved matters, but where none such fell, the outturn varied according as the crops were early or late sown and as the soil was heavy or light. Cotton stood the drought better than juar and was, moreover, revived by a fall of rain in November. Land for rabi crops was exceptionally well prepared owing to the character of the rainfall in June, July and August, but sowings were short owing to failure of late monsoon rains, and the fall in November would have been more beneficial, had not the country sides being prostrate with influenza been unable to take full advantage of it for further rabi sowings. The winter rainfall was deficient in Buldana, in Yeotmal was too heavy for rabi crops, in Akola and Amraoti was of benefit to such rabi crops as had been sown. In the Melghat crops were a complete failure.

The outturn of juar varied from 33 per cent of normal in Buldana to 50 per cent of normal in Akola, and of wheat from 18 in Buldana to 79 in Amraoti. The yield of cotton averaged 69 per cent of normal for the Division as a whole as against 54 for the previous year. The yield of the Amraoti and the Yeotmal districts was distinctly better, being 77 and 75 per cent of normal respectively. Buldana, for the second year in succession, had the poorest outturn in the Division.

2. The area of State and village forests increased in the Yeotmal district by 3,365 acres owing chiefly to the transfer of 1,215 acres from H Class land and 2,108 acres from free grazing land.

Classification of Areas.

A further transfer of 2,791 acres was made from H Class land in the same district for cultivation. The land available in Berar to be given out for cultivation amounted at the end of the year to 21,869 acres, showing a decrease of 4,011 acres as compared with the previous year; most of this land is inferior and there is not much demand for it. There is an increase of Rs. 1,62,658 in assessment mostly due to imposition of graduated revised assessment in certain tracts of Amraoti and Akola districts. Other variations in the classification of area large enough to deserve special notice are that in the Akola district 255 acres and 26 gunthas of inam land were resumed and 7 acres and 20 gunthas were regranted.

3. In spite of the adverse season and the partial failure of the crops, the year was by no means an unfavourable one to the agriculturist. The cotton crops did not suffer to the same extent; the outturn was in some parts of Berar quite good, and prices realised were high. At the beginning of the season record prices were touched. Afterwards from February 1919 onwards the prices dropped and were less than in the corresponding period of previous years, but still high compared to old time prices.

Condition of the Agricultural Classes.

In the early part of 1918 there had been some attempt to control imports of food-stuffs into this Division, and imports by rail of food-stuffs had been much larger than usual. Some suspensions of land-revenue had been offered, crime had increased, excise revenue dwindled, some cheap grain shops had been opened and employment works started. But with the failure of the juar crop of 1918-19 and the influenza epidemic and famine in other parts of India prices soared higher than had ever been known, crime increased still further and the indications were of a severe famine at the end of 1918. But the famine did not ensue. Crime remained abnormally high, especially dacoities on the borders in the Buldana district, but excise revenue in the latter 6 months more than made up

its shortcomings of the first half year and employment works at special rates of wages (fixed to correspond with the high prices of food-stuffs prevailing) failed to attract workers. For various reasons, agriculturists, traders and labourers did not feel the consequences of the abnormal state of things. The unprecedentedly high prices obtained by agriculturists for their cotton enabled them not only to face the high prices of all commodities, but often to pay off old debts and to purchase more land. Traders profited largely by the high prices of all commodities, and labourers, with numbers diminished by influenza, demanded and obtained high wages. Those who suffered were the people with fixed incomes and persons who could not take to labour, or to trade. To meet the situation here as elsewhere, improved control of transport on railways was introduced and an attempt was made by the issue of permits to approved dealers wholesale and retail to control prices. With all its defects it ensured a minimum supply of grain and actually steadied prices. Further measures such as the opening of cheap grain shops subsidized by Government, grant of gratuitous relief on a limited scale, opening of scarcity works in the worst affected areas, suspension of land revenue, organization of private charity, extensive distribution of taccavi loans and grant of forest concessions were also adopted to mitigate hardship.

Influenza appeared in a mild form in August and September and assumed a virulent type in October and continued its ravages till December. It reduced the population of the Division by more than 233,000, paralyzing agricultural operations due then and soon after. It carried away whole families, and deprived many of the survivors of their bread-winners. This depleted the labour class and contributed in no small measure to the rise in wages. All possible efforts were made to provide for medical treatment and special diet to the patients, and in this work Local Bodies and private individuals joined voluntarily and co-operated enthusiastically. After the influenza ceased, relief in the form of clothes, etc., was afforded to the destitute.

A separate report on the scarcity operations and the control of food-stuffs has been submitted and no more need be said here in that connection.

New Co-operative Central Banks were formed at Daryapur and Malkapur, and that at Buldana commenced work. Considerable expansion of co-operative work in Amraoti and Buldana districts took place in increasing number of societies steady progress in Yeotmal. In Akola district energy was confined mainly to development of the 16-year mortgage bond scheme for payment of old debts. A few more taluq associations (besides Khamgaon mentioned last year) have been registered with capital. Some of them are doing very successful work, such as Jalgaon and Daryapur. The Circle Agricultural Committee has lately urged the importance of this step for propaganda work and development of sales of machines, seed and manure. An agricultural show was held at Pimpalgaon Devi in the Buldana district and at Rinmochan in the Amraoti district in January 1919. No divisional show was held owing to poor crops and the disturbance caused by influenza epidemic.

In view of the poor outturn of crops and other adverse conditions of the year suspensions of land revenue to the extent of nearly 14 lakhs of rupees were granted, of which the Buldana district alone accounts for more than 8 lakhs. The recovery of the suspended amount of over Rs. 4,000 of the previous year in the Yeotmal district was also postponed. Beyond this concession and the grant of liberal taccavi the ordinary cultivator did not require any assistance, and the poor cultivator with a large family, who did feel the pinch, managed to tide over the difficulty by borrowing money when necessary on the security of his land.

The forest concessions referred to above consisted in the reduction of the rate for cart-loads and free issue of head-loads of grass, and throwing open of some of the forests for free grazing. These concessions served the double purpose of supplying fodder to the cattle and provided the labourers in and near the forests with the means of earning their livelihood. By way of further concession the license fee on timber and bamboos in the Melghat was reduced by 25 per cent.

The relations of the public towards Government and of different classes towards each other remained satisfactory. There was cordial co-operation in measures of public interest and a willing response to every call to raise funds and to organize local committees for the relief of the distressed. As an instance

of the people's sympathetic co-operation with Government the Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, reports that out of the quota of Rs. 40,000 allotted to his district towards the Viceroy's appeal for the Indian Relief Fund a sum of about Rs. 22,000 has been collected from the well-to-do to the date of his report. Referring to the relations between Hindus and Mahommedans, the Deputy Commissioner, Yeotmal, remarks that there were practically no disputes and the policy of the police in doing away with licenses for the Dasahra and Moharrum festivals and putting the two sides on their honour to keep the peace entirely justified itself.

The question of Mahars' huiqs, referred to in last year's report, is under the consideration of Government, and a small committee of members possessed of local knowledge specially appointed by the Honourable the Chief Commissioner has commenced its enquiry. The attempt to avoid payment of the huiqs by passive resistance in Kelapur and Daraha and the refusal of one village *en bloc* to pay until attachment took place was no doubt the outcome of outside influence. A similar attempt made near Malkapur in Buldana district, which met with an unpleasant result, has also been brought to notice. There was no political movement worth mentioning in this report. Meetings were held at certain places against the Rowlatt Act and were followed by *Satyagrah* day which passed peacefully. The cessation of hostilities and the signing of peace were hailed with relief.

Since the close of the year an officer has been on special duty for two months enquiring further into the Izara Tenancy question and his report is awaited.

No pig-killing societies were organized in the Amraoti district, and little seems to have been done to kill pigs, though the damage done by these animals is not inconsiderable. In Akola 208 pigs and 19 milgais were killed as against 282 and 29, respectively, in the previous year, and the rewards given amounted to Rs. 40 as against Rs. 292. In Buldana about 500 pigs were killed by the pig-killing associations, which number 21, and by gun license-holders together. 126 pigs were killed in Pusad and Kelapur taluqs and some in the Wun taluq, but the number in the last mentioned taluq is not reported. In Darwaha taluq societies are reported to have been formed, but no work has been reported so far. A committee has been formed at Yelabara (Yeotmal taluq) which adjoins Government forests, and a man with a license for a muzzle-loading gun is working under the committee's supervision. The condition imposed on the licensees to kill a specified number of pigs was not strictly enforced, and the associations formed have shown little activity, which accounts for the poor results, though influenza and other circumstances of the year may be partially responsible for them.

4. The following new Acts were applied to Berar during the year under report :—

- (1) The Usurious Loans Act (X of 1918).
- (2) The Excess Profits Duty Act (X of 1919).

5. Total outstandings on account of agriculturists' loans at the commencement of the year were Rs. 2,57,015. Rs. 2,44,626 was advanced during the year and Rs. 1,30,358 was collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,71,283. Of the demand falling due for recovery, *vis.*, Rs. 1,49,187, Rs. 22,476, excluding suspensions, remained unpaid.

Outstandings on account of Land Improvement loans at the commencement of the year amounted to Rs. 1,95,061, Rs. 2,51,440 was paid out and Rs. 60,149 was collected during the year; thus the outstanding balance at the close of the year was Rs. 3,86,352. Advance collections amounted to Rs. 6,889. The balance of the demand due for recovery at the end of the year was Rs. 9,562, excluding suspensions.

Taccavi advances was one method of meeting distress caused by failure of crops, loans were freely offered and taken, cultivators were also glad to avail themselves of the labour available during the year. Hence the unusually large sums for Berar advanced during the year. The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, in which district much larger sums were distributed than in the other districts, states that people would not agree to joint security. The distribution of the large sums in his district must have entailed a very great deal of work.

PART II.—DEMAND AND COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE.

6. The balance for collection from the previous year including cesses amount-
 Demand and Collection. ed to Rs. 39,609, of which Rs. 34,389 have been recovered
 Appendix V. and Rs. 5,220 are outstanding—mostly in the Yeotmal
 district—and include Rs. 4,161 suspended in the Amraoti district. The demand
 for the year on account of land revenue was Rs. 86,50,053, an increase of
 Rs. 1,62,915 over the last year's demand, due to the revised assessments in the
 Amraoti, Morsi and Ellichpur taluqs of the Amraoti district, the Murtizapur,
 Basim and Mangrul taluqs of the Akola district, and in the Darwha taluq of the
 Yeotmal district, and also to the assessment recovered for waste lands given out
 for cultivation in the last-named district. Demand on account of cesses shows
 an increase of Rs. 15,624, which follows the increase in land revenue. The total
 demand on account of Land Revenue and cesses stands at Rs. 94,67,688. Of
 this sum, Rs. 82,72,907 were collected, Rs. 1,561 were remitted in the Yeotmal
 district and Rs. 11,64,232 were suspended. Thus the net balance including
 cesses due for collection but not collected amounted to Rs. 28,988. A large
 portion of this has been recovered subsequently to the close of the year. Much
 was due to confusion by ryots as to orders of suspension, and in some cases it is
 said they were really unable to pay. But the virtue of a clean sheet in matters
 of collection needs to be impressed on Tahsildars. The Deputy Commissioner,
 Akola, reports that the late Tahsildar of Balapur abstained from communicating
 the grant of suspension to the villagers concerned and thereby allowed revenue to
 come in though it should not have been collected. In Buldana full advantage of
 the suspensions was not taken till about one-third of the amount originally suspend-
 ed was paid in, and in Yeotmal of the Rs. 1,58,320 shown as suspended all but
 some Rs. 5,000 was paid in in spite of suspension and has been treated as advance
 collections. Suspensions, therefore, were granted liberally enough and full col-
 lection of unsuspended revenue must be insisted on. Fluctuating collections
 diminished on the whole by Rs. 5,784. While the Amraoti district as a whole
 shows an increase under this head, Morsi, Daryapur and Melghat taluqs show
 a decrease, which is attributed to the bad mango and mohwa crops and also to
 the letting out of melon beds at half of the last year's rent, and to the decrease
 in penalties for unauthorized felling of Government trees in the Melghat; the
 increase in the Amraoti and Ellichpur taluqs is attributed to premia and penalties
 levied in encroachment cases discovered at the recent Nazul Survey of the
 Amraoti and Ellichpur towns. The fall in Akola is due to there being no sale
 of trees in E Class land, that in Buldana to melon beds not being auctioned this
 year, and that in Yeotmal to a decrease of about Rs. 10,000 in income from the
 sales of H Class land given out for cultivation and to an increase of Rs. 8,000 only
 as a set-off in the income from premium realized from the sales of building sites
 near the railway station at Yeotmal. The receipts under miscellaneous fell in
 the Amraoti district on account of a fall in the income from parcha and measure-
 ment fees, while they rose in Buldana owing to increased receipts on account of
 Record-of-Rights and fines inflicted on Patels and Patwaris and in Yeotmal
 owing to larger receipts on account of mining leases.

7. Last year there had been in Yeotmal some organised opposition to
 revenue paying. This year there was less to collect.
 Coercive processes. The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, states that the
 Appendix VI. figures cannot be compared with those of the previous
 year as in case of persons believed to be unable to pay orders of attachment
 were not issued. Yet his orders of attachment of moveable property increased
 from 137 to 252 and it was not found necessary to sell any of the property
 attached. I doubt the wisdom of this policy. It must tend to encourage laxity
 in payment and leave the discretion ultimately to the judgment of the village
 officers. Revenue should, in my opinion, be either suspended or collected.

Yeotmal and Amraoti show a largely reduced number of coercive processes,
 Akola a large increase. A field was sold by auction in Amraoti district because
 it was allowed to remain uncultivated by the defaulter, who had left the village
 and could not be traced; presumably it was forfeited and should be in column 12.
 Two were sold in Akola and three in Yeotmal. Of the latter three, two were

attached in the previous year and one in the year under report, and would seem to be the same fields as are retained in column 12. There were in all forfeitures of 4 fields, one in Buldana and 3 in Yeotmal. The field in Buldana was forfeited for arrears of land revenue because every attempt to secure the attendance of the Kabjedar proved futile and the mortgagee would not pay the amount. The Kabjedar was a woman who had remarried and consequently had lost all interest in the land which was also heavily encumbered. Two of the fields in Yeotmal were forfeited for want of trace of the defaulters and the third because the defaulter—a crazy Marwadi woman—did not care to cultivate it for some years past and to pay land revenue for the last 2 years. The prices fetched by the Amraoti and Yeotmal sales, which being forfeited are sold without encumbrance, are moderate, considering the price of land in Berar nowadays; one penalty for default was levied in Buldana and two were levied in Amraoti district.

8. The emoluments payable to village officers for the year under report show a rise over the previous year's figure owing to an increased demand of land revenue. They were all paid except Rs. 3,810. Akola is responsible for arrears of Rs. 2,220, Buldana for Rs. 768 and Yeotmal for Rs. 789. In Akola Rs. 2,188 were withheld by the Tahsildar, Akot, owing to suspensions of land revenue and Rs. 32, which is due to a patel, could not be paid as he died without any known heir. In the former case the Tahsildar was wrong in withholding payment as the arrears of land revenue were not due to any slackness on the part of the village officers. The arrears of emoluments in Buldana were due to the Tahsildar, Malkapur, having withheld payment because of large arrears of land revenue due, in his opinion, to want of sufficient care to recover them. The arrears in Yeotmal relate to the Darwaha taluq, and the Tahsildar has not reported any reasons therefor. The payments made during the year include Rs. 2,309 on account of last year.

Two patels were dismissed with forfeiture of watan, one in the Chandur taluq for misappropriation of taccavi dues and the other in the Malkapur taluq in consequence of his conviction under Section 409, Indian Penal Code, for having committed a breach of trust in respect of income-tax recovered by him. One Malik Patel and one Malik Patwari were dismissed in Akola district without forfeiture of watan because of a conviction of extortion under Section 384, Indian Penal Code, and of an offence under Section 465, Indian Penal Code, respectively. One Izardar Patel in the Yeotmal district was criminally prosecuted for dacoity, and sentenced to 5 years' rigorous imprisonment. The minor punishments on village officers were especially numerous in the Buldana district. The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, found that village officers in some taluqs, notably Chikhli, had got somewhat out of hand, while the Deputy Commissioner, Yeotmal, remarks that these officials as a body are gaining more confidence in the Police and helping more in the reporting and detection of crime, and in corroboration of his remarks brings to notice the fact that no less than 20 village officers have earned money rewards or certificates for valuable assistance in the matter.

I have noticed some instances of village officers being unnecessarily called to court in petty cases, a thing which unintelligent officers often do to save themselves the trouble of thinking a little on starting an enquiry.

PART III.—REVENUE COURT WORK.

Revenue Court Work.
Appendix VIII.

9. The principal figures of the year and of the preceding year are—

	1917-18.	1918-19.
Cases disposed of	... 39,564	38,356
Pending at end of year	... 4,401	6,441
Average duration of cases	... 69.4	70.1

The district figures are :—

District.	Cases disposed of.		Pending cases.		Total of disposals and pending cases.
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	
Amraoti ...	...	1,549	521	...	— 1,028
Akola ...	2,459	...	655	...	+ 3,114
Buldana ...	997	...	1,707	...	+ 2,704
Yeotmal ...	...	3,114	...	843	— 3,957
Total ...	3,456	4,663	2,883	843	+ 833

Class 32 cases (so called collectors' cases) are no longer enquired into by the Revenue Courts in Berar. These cases last year numbered as many as 1,741. All districts show an increase in patelki, patwari and mutation cases, generally owing to casualties in the influenza epidemic. Income-tax cases have largely increased, as each case is now registered under the revised Act and procedure.

The number of cases in the Buldana district was 11,581 for disposal against 8,877 in 1917-18 and 6,848 in 1916-17. The increase this year was made up by taccavi applications and measures against excise contractors. Akola shows a considerable increase in the number of cases, due also to larger amounts of taccavi and more numerous cases against excise and revenue defaulters. The large decrease in Yeotmal is under revenue coercive measures and taccavi applications. Allowing for the 745 collectors' cases of last year, the Amraoti file shows little difference in total.

Where the number of cases has largely increased, *i. e.*, Buldana and Akola districts, the burden has been on tahsili officers mostly.

Considering the circumstances of the year (war, influenza and scarcity), the state of the Revenue file is satisfactory, except in Yeotmal where disposals seem to take longer than in other districts. Of the cases pending at the end of the year, a large proportion was income-tax cases, which mostly commence soon after the 1st April, and under the new Act have increased very largely in number and are more complicated to deal with.

10. Appeals and applications for revision on the file of the Deputy Commissioner increased in all districts, except Akola where they decreased from 325 to 246. Amraoti had an increase of 176, Buldana of 44, and Yeotmal of 11. Of the appeals on the file of the Deputy Commissioner, Amraoti, which numbered 422, 148 were in respect of income-tax assessment, a very large number compared with other districts. In fact, Akola and Buldana (both districts with important mercantile towns) show no appeals against income-tax assessment. But it is possible that appeals have been wrongly shown under Revisions. This will be enquired into. Duration rose in Amraoti from 36'8 to 41'3 and in Buldana from 50'4 to 67'3, and fell in Akola from 53'5 to 43'3 and in Yeotmal from 67'9 to 59'9.

The Sub-Divisional Officers in the Amraoti district had a largely increased number of appeals and applications for revision to dispose of, and it is satisfactory that all but two were disposed of during the year, with a lower duration than last year.

Revenue appeals for disposal in my court rose from 38 to 52 and applications for revision of municipal appeals and miscellaneous petitions fell from 186 to 106. Pending cases increased from 14 to 17, and duration from 39 to 40'6. This was due to long delays (over 3 months) in disposal of appeals under Classes VI, VIII and XVI.

11. The elimination and destruction of revenue records is up to date in all districts, except at Amraoti District Office where it is reported as "almost up to date," also at Akola.

Revenue Records.

District Office where the elimination of B file papers in cases prior to 1907 is in hand and is completed in respect of cases of 250 villages. The remaining work is expected to take 3 or 4 years for the existing staff.

The B Volume of the District Gazetteers is reported to be up to date in all districts.

PART IV.—OTHER HEADS OF ADMINISTRATION.

12. Mr. Standen held charge of the Division for the nine months ending April 1919, and I was in charge for the remaining three months. Mr. Standen inspected the District and all Subordinate Courts at Amraoti and Yeotmal and the Daryapur tahsili in the Amraoti district. I did no inspections. Mr. Standen was away from headquarters for 132 days, of which 89 days were spent on tour in the Division.

Tours and Inspection.

All Deputy Commissioners toured sufficiently except the Deputy Commissioner, Amraoti, who was out for 60 days only. The touring done by Sub-Divisional Officers was adequate in all districts except Amraoti, where, with the exception of Mr. Kathale, Sub-Divisional Officer, Chandur and Morsi, who toured for 159 days, it was very little. Tahsildars of Melghat, Wun, Darwha, Kelapur, Pusad, Malkapur and Jalgaon did insufficient touring. The Naib-Tahsildars of Akot and Balapur were out for very few days. Apparently the Tahsildar, anxious for his taluq in times of scarcity, toured himself and left the Naib-Tahsildar with office work.

The Deputy Commissioner, Amraoti, did not inspect the Chandur and Amraoti tahsils, and the Sub-Divisional Officer, Ellichpur, any of the tahsils in his sub-division. In a year of scarcity, failure to inspect a tahsili may be excusable, but the Sub-Divisional Officer, Ellichpur, also failed to tour sufficiently—67 days in all. Constant changes of officers may be partly the cause. The Deputy Commissioner, Akola, inspected all the taluqs in his district except Akot and Mangrul, and the Sub-Divisional Officers in that district all in their charge. Malkapur and Jalgaon tahsils, which remained uninspected by the Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, were inspected by the respective Sub-Divisional Officers in addition to Chikhli and Mehkar. In Yeotmal each Sub-Divisional Officer inspected his tahsils—so also did the Deputy Commissioner—except Kelapur.

13. Mr. Danks held charge of the Amraoti district from the beginning of the year to the 5th May 1919, on which date he was relieved by Mr. Woodward, who remained in charge till the 12th July 1919, when Mr. Patuck joined. Mr. G. A. Khan was in charge of the Akola district for the whole year except from the 21st June 1919 when Mr. Abdur Rahman relieved him. The charge of Buldana was held by Mr. Gaskin from the beginning of the year to the 30th September 1918, by Mr. De till the 19th March 1919, and by Mr. Waterfall to the end of the year. Mr. Chapman was in charge of the Yeotmal district till the 15th May 1919, when he was relieved by Mr. Gruer who continued till the end of the year.

Notice of Officers.

The changes amongst Sub-Divisional Officers in Amraoti and Akola have been numerous. The Deputy Commissioner, Akola, was particularly hardly dealt with in being without relief for an assistant going on leave for 2 months on one occasion, and for 4 months on another occasion.

Frequent changes must, I am afraid, be looked for in the immediate future until arrears of leave are made up. But the staff deserve all the more credit for carrying on in spite of the numerous changes and occasional shorthandedness.

I had too little experience of the work of the year to be able to praise or blame. I invite attention to the lists of officers mentioned by the Deputy Commissioners.

F. C. TURNER,

Offg. Commissioner,

Berar.

AMRAOTI:

The 3rd March 1920.

APPENDICES.

Statement showing the Classification of Area of

District	Classification of villages.	Number of villages in each class.	Total area in each class.	Area, such as village sites, tanks, rivers, not included in any survey number	Area included in State and village forest.	Fields assigned for village purposes and for free grazing not included in the forest area.	Unculturable lands (Parampoke) not included in any of the foregoing	Total of columns 5 to 8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Amraoti, excluding Malghat Taluq	Khalsa ..	1,639	19,84,372	59,955	1,43,933	74,035	4,032	2,81,055
	Jagir ..	19	22,396	969	...	6	...	975
	Palampat ..	6	8,716	271	..	..	...	271
	Total ...	1,664	20,15,484	60,295	1,43,933	74,041	4,032	2,82,301
Melghat Taluq	Khalsa ...	153	1,90,593	...	...	12,650	...	12,650
	State Forest	...	7,51,634	..3	7,51,631	...	...	7,51,634
	Izara ..	2	2,105	..	...	...	...	...
	Inam ...	2	2,520	..	...	...	...	...
	Jagir ..	21	48,512	...	..	...	15,413	15,413
	Total ..	178	9,95,365	3	7,51,631	12,650	15,413	7,79,697
Akola	Khalsa ..	1,666	24,81,429	51,701	2,01,825	1,28,270	2,382	3,84,178
	Integral ...	5	6,127	...	6,117	10	...	6,127
	Izara ...	35	60,164	553	33	474	5,554	6,614
	Jagir ...	56	81,359	1,273	...	1,157	4,957	7,387
	Palampat ..	1	3,898	63	...	11	330	404
	Total ...	1,763	26,32,077	53,590	2,07,975	1,29,922	13,223	4,04,710
Buldana	Khalsa ..	1,330	22,49,535	42,306	2,19,438	1,07,194	1,078	3,70,016
	State Forest	31	55,649	...	55,649	...	...	55,649
	Jagir ...	40	84,577	1,386	...	467	24,705	26,558
	Total ..	1,401	23,90,061	43,692	2,75,087	1,07,661	25,783	4,52,223
Yeshmal	Khalsa ..	1,366	22,69,373	47,415	5,52,347	71,453	9,943	6,81,158
	State Forest	111	1,93,716	340	1,93,376	...	...	1,93,716
	Integral ..	14	12,017	...	11,669	...	...	11,669
	Izara ...	359	6,89,152	6,761	191	384	85,385	92,722
	Jagir ...	70	1,68,036	2,320	...	80	44,451	46,861
	Palampat ..	9	8,471	215	...	-	978	1,193
	Total ..	1,929	33,40,765	57,051	7,57,583	71,917	1,40,768	10,27,319
Total excluding Melghat	Khalsa ...	6,001	89,85,009	2,00,477	11,17,543	3,80,952	17,435	17,16,407
	State Forest	142	2,49,365	340	2,49,025	...	...	2,49,365
	Integral ...	19	18,144	...	17,786	10	...	17,796
	Izara ...	394	7,49,316	7,314	224	858	50,940	99,336
	Jagir ...	185	3,56,368	5,948	...	1,710	74,123	81,781
	Palampat ...	16	21,085	549	...	11	1,308	1,868
GRAND TOTAL	...	6,757	10,379,287	2,14,628	13,84,578	3,83,541	1,83,806	21,66,553
	..	6,757	10,379,271	2,14,582	13,81,815	3,86,445	1,83,136	21,65,382

DIX I.

the District for the year 1918-19.

Balance assessed and available for cultivation (column 4 minus column 9)						Details of Land Revenue assignment.			Progress of cultivation in khalsa villages			Remarks.
Not occupied		Occupied.		Total		Area assigned	Full assessment.	Quit Revenue payable.	Unoccupied land newly occupied in khalsa villages	Occupied land relinquished in khalsa villages.	Nett increase or decrease of occupied land	
Acres.	Assessment	Acres.	Assessment	Acres (columns 10 and 12).	Assessment (columns 11 and 13).							
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Rs.		Rs		Rs.	Acres.	Rs	Rs.	Acres	Acres.	Acres	
1 447	658	17,01,870	28,71,341	17,03,317	28,71,999	17,437	33,509	3,511	...	72	-72	
...	...	21,421	34,765	21 421	34 765	22,396	34 765	236	...	..	..
...	...	8,445	17,091	8,445	17,091	8,445	17,091	5,665	..	..	...
1,447	658	17 31,736	29,23,197	17,33,183	29,23,855	48,328	85,365	9,412	..	72	-72	
84,199	176	93,744	38,178	1,77,943	38,354	...	...	...	1,470	1,405	+ 65	
...	
1,918	..	188	10	2,106	10	...	..	...	..	...	..
1,712	...	808	1,294	2,520	1,294	2,520	1,294	...	...	...	..
27,014	...	6,085	4,319	33,099	4 319	48,512	4,319	...	...	..	...
1,14,843	176	1,00,825	43,801	2,15,608	43,977	51,032	5,613	..	1,470	1,405	+ 65	
2,680	630	20,94,571	26,25,442	20,97,251	26,26,072	19,331	28,632	4,354	208	217	-9	
...	
...	...	53,550	31,028	53,550	31,028	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	73,972	77,318	73,972	77,318	73,972	77,318	16 988	...	...	...
...	...	3,494	3,202	3,494	3,202	3,494	3,202	1,645	..	...	...
2,680	630	22,25,587	27,36,990	22,28,267	27,37,620	96,197	1,09,152	22 987	208	217	-9	
849	277	18,79,970	19,76,831	18,79,819	19,77,108	14,200	18,240	2 135	46	20	+ 26	
...	
119	79	57,900	54,016	58,019	54 095	84,577	54,604	4,105	...	...	..
968	356	19,36 870	20,30,847	19,37,838	20,31,203	98,777	72,844	6,240	46	20	+ 26	
16,246	4 482	15,71,789	10,21,356	15,88,215	10,25,838	8,052	7,148	487	3,018	117	+ 2 901	
...	
348	265	...	...	348	265	...	...	...	...	..	..
...	...	5,96,430	2,63,371	5,96,430	2,63,371	...	..	...	..	...	...
...	...	1 21,175	60,163	1,21,175	60,163	1,68 036	60,163	12,468	...	...	..
...	...	7,278	4,644	7,278	4,644	8,471	4,644	2,426	...	..	...
16,774	4,747	22,96,672	13,49,534	23,13,446	15,54,281	1,84,559	71 955	15,381	3,018	117	+ 2,901	
21,402	6,047	72,17,200	84 94,970	72,68,602	85,01,017	59,070	87,529	10,487	4 742	1,831	+ 2,911	
...	
348	265	...	...	348	265	...	...	...	...	..	..
...	...	6,49,980	2,94,399	6,49 980	2,94,399	...	...	...	...	...	...
119	79	2,74,468	2,26,262	2,74,587	2,26 341	3,48,981	2,26,850	33,797	...	...	..
...	...	19,217	24 937	19,217	24,937	20,410	24,937	9,736	...	...	...
21,869	6,391	81,90,865	90,40,568	82,12,734	90,46,959	4,28,461	3,39,316	54,020	4,742	1,831	+ 2,911	
25,880	7,540	81,38,009	88 77,910	82,13,889	88,85,420	28,750	3,39,357	54,104	...	...	..

APPENDIX II.

Statement showing Financial Results on account of Loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, XII of 1884, for the year ending 31st July 1919.

District.	State of Loans Account (Principal).					Recovery of Principal.							Recovery of Interest.		Remarks.
	Total amount of Loans outstanding at commencement of year.	Amount sanctioned for distribution during the year.	Paid out during the year.	Collected or written off during the year (cols. 10, 11 and 12.)	Balance of Loans outstanding at close of the year.	Demand falling due for recovery during the year.	Arrear demand of principal.	Total demand on account of principal.	Total collections on account of principal due.	Advance collections on account of principal which has not yet fallen due.	Principal written off as irrecoverable.	Balance of demand on account of principal due for recovery.	Collections on account of interest during the year.	Interest written off as irrecoverable.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Amraoti ...	18,398	63,789	41,919 21,215	9,694	50,623	11,755	405	12,160	9,205	489	...	* 2,955	915	...	* Includes Rs. 1,820 as suspended.
Akola ...	16,320	16,690	53,620 13,915	11,951	57,989	9,770	2,395	12,165	11,345	606	...	† 820	892	...	† The whole amount has been suspended.
Buldana ...	15,904	21,500	1,27,997 17,285	3,729	1,40,172	10,052	748	10,800	3,165	563	...	‡ 7,634	765	...	‡ Includes Rs. 4,363 as suspended.
Yeotmal ...	2,06,393	1,96,451	21,090 1,96,451	1,04,984	1,22,499	1,10,285	3,777	1,14,062	94,784	10,200	...	§ 19,278	10,192	...	§ Includes Rs. 1,208 as suspended.
Total ...	2,57,015	2,98,430	2,44,626 2,48,866	1,30,358	3,71,283	1,41,862	7,325	1,49,187	1,18,500	11,858	...	30,687	12,764	...	
1917-18 ...	63,266	63,267	2,28,999 39,070	35,250	2,57,015	41,394	1,932	43,326	24,085	1,165	...	9,428	3,257	...	

Notes.—The italic figures in column 4 represent the total disbursement for the year ending 31st March 1919 and the others for the year ending 31st July 1919.

APPENDIX III.

Statement showing Financial Results on account of Loans under the Land Improvement Loans Act, XIX of 1883, for the year ending 31st July 1919.

District.	State of Loans Account (Principal)					Recovery of Principal							Recovery of Interest		Remarks
	Total amount of loans outstanding at commencement of year	Amount sanctioned for distribution during the year	Paid out during the year	Collected or written off during the year (cols. 10, 11 and 12)	Balance of loans outstanding at close of the year	Demand falling due for recovery during the year	Arrear demand of principal	Total demand on account of principal	Total collections on account of principal due	Advance collections on account of principal which has not yet fallen due	Principal written off as irrecoverable	Balance of demand on account of principal due for recovery	Collections on account of interest during the year	Interest written off as irrecoverable	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	
Amraoti ...	24,874	28,000	24,160 17,345	7,728	41,716	8,248	1,177	9,425	7,333	395	...	* 2,092	1,448	...	* Includes Rs. 1,145 as suspended
Akola .	36,345	29,210	49,265 20,210	12,085	73,525	11,349	1,058	12,407	11,052	1,033	...	* 1,355	2,307	...	* The whole amount has been suspended
Buldana ...	48,100	65,815	1,28,550 6,165	11,514	1,65,136	19,587	357	19,944	* 7,955	3,559	.	* 11,989	1,809	...	* Includes Rs 8,087 as suspended
Yeotmal ...	85,732	41,385	49,465 1,015	28,822	1,06,375	25,464	7,053	32,517	26,920	1,902	...	* 5,597	5,964	...	* Includes Rs 884 as suspended
Total ...	1,95,061	1,64,410	2,51,440 1,0,105	60,149	3,86,352	64,648	9,645	74,293	52,260	6,889	.	21,033	11,528	...	
1917-18 ...	1,92,624	57,663	66,820 45,165	64,383	1,95,061	60,063	3,846	72,509	61,536	2,847	.	11,646	13,531	...	

The italic figures in column 4 represent the total disbursement for the year ending 31st March 1919 and the others for the year ending 31st July 1919

APPENDIX V.

Statement showing the Demand and Collections of Land Revenue and Cesses for the year 1918-19 and resulting balances.

District.	Fixed Collections																Fluctuating collections.	Miscellaneous collections.	Remarks	
	Arrears of previous years.								Current year											
	Balance for collection from previous year.		Collections		Remissions.		Balance on 31st July 1919.		Demand		Collections		Remissions		Balance on 31st July 1919					
	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.	Land Revenue.	Cesses.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12									
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
Amraoti, including Melghat.	2,392	284	2,379	283	...	...	13	1	28,85,382	2,73,370	27,34,532	2,73,034	...	...	*1,50,850	336	10,229	20,394	* Includes Rs. 1,47,801 as suspended
Ahola	...	1,744	61	1,744	61	...	...	...	26,38,111	2,49,373	25,28,890	2,47,974	...	...	1,09,221	399	9,139	13,559	Out of the balances shown in column 9, the suspensions are:— Land Revenue Rs. 1,03,589 340 Cesses. 7,54,182 ...
Buldana	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,64,821	1,85,653	11,97,417	1,83,954	...	...	7,67,404	1,699	4,989	18,045	
Yashwantrao Chavan	...	33,277	1,851	28,152	1,770	*5,125	81	1,16,1,739	1,09,239	9,98,423	1,08,683	1,561	...	*161,755	556	22,665	7,617	* It includes Rs 4,161 as suspended † It includes Rs 1,58,320 as suspended
Total	...	37,413	2,196	32,275	2,114	5,138	82	86,50,053	8,17,635	74,59,262	8,13,645	1,561	...	11,89,230	3,990	47,022	59,615	
1918-19	...	3,890	239	3,893	239	...	...	...	84,87,138	8,02,011	84,49,697	7,99,813	28	3	37,413	2,195	52,506	62,373	

APPENDIX VI.

Statement showing Coercive Processes employed during the year 1918-19.

District.	Number of notices of demand.	Arrest of defaulters			Processes issued against movable property			Processes issued against immovable property			Fields forfeited			Sales of fields for arrears				Remarks
		Number of warrants of arrest issued	Number of defaulters brought to district or tahsil Headquarters under a warrant of arrest	Number of defaulters imprisoned in Civil Jail	Number of attachment orders issued	Number of attachments effected	Number of sales carried out	Number of attachment orders	Number of attachments effected	Number of sales carried out	Number of fields	Acreage	Assess-ments	Number of fields actually sold	Acreage	Assess-ments	Price realized	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
												A C	Rs. a		A G	Rs a p	Rs	
Amraoti	280	...	...	...	1,128	35	5	12	7		...	...	...	1	6 7	13 12 0	850	
Akola	1,791	...	...	...	716	26	4	3	3	2	...	...	...	2	14 38	14 4 9	690	
Buldana	476	...	...	..	252	...	...	1	1	..	1	29 3	40 0	...	...	..	.
Yezmal	781	...	.	...	160	12	1	3	3	3	3	24 23	19 15	3	24 23	19 15 0	1,142	
Total	3,328	...	...	...	2,256	73	10	19	14	5	4	53 26	59 15	6	45 28	47 15 9	2,662	
1917-18	3,326	...	...	...	3,015	175	3	36	32	1	1	4 24	4 0	1	4 24	4 0 0	55	

Statement showing Cost of Village Collecting Agency, Number of Village Officers,

District	Items in respect of which emoluments are payable.	Current year.						Number of village officers actually in office during the year.	
		Emoluments payable.		Amounts actually paid on or before 31st July.		Number of villages.			
		Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Amraoti excluding Melghat Taluq.	Land Revenue	Rs. 1,28,227	Rs. 1,46,179	Rs. 1,28,227	Rs. 1,45,146	1,637	1,637	1,587	625
	Forest	852	604	852	604	...	...	...	...
	Income-tax	5,610	3,545	5,610	3,545	...	...	...	...
	Ground-rent	244	244	244	244	...	...	...	...
	Total	1,34,933	1,50,572	1,34,933	1,50,539	1,637	1,637	1,587	625
Melghat Taluq. ..	Land Revenue	5,284	* 3,025	5,284	3,025	153	153	131	12
	Income-tax	49	...	49	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	5,333	* 3,025	5,333	3,025	153	153	131	12
Akola	Land Revenue	1,20,572	1,37,278	1,19,090	1,36,543	1,763	1,763	1,895	623
	Forest	3,582	1,841	3,582	1,841	...	...	...	...
	Income tax	5,873	3,912	5,870	3,912	...	...	...	...
	Ground-rent	37	1	37	1	...	...	...	...
	Total	1,30,064	1,43,032	1,28,579	1,42,297	1,763	1,763	1,895	623
Buldana	Land Revenue	93,203	1,05,988	92,852	1,05,571	1,330	1,330	1,401	541
	Forest	723	869	723	869	...	...	...	...
	Income-tax	5,529	3,697	5,529	3,697	...	...	...	...
	Ground-rent	10	10	10	10	...	...	...	...
	Total	99,465	1,10,564	99,114	1,10,147	1,330	1,330	1,401	541
Yeotmal	Land Revenue	58,548	64,975	† 59,021	† 65,901	1,363	1,363	1,216	344
	Forest	3,007	4,528	† 3,417	4,528	...	...	...	...
	Income tax	2,091	1,303	1,618	1,077	...	...	...	...
	Ground-rent	68	59	68	59	...	...	...	...
	Total	63,214	70,955	64,124	71,565	1,363	1,363	1,216	344
Total	Land Revenue	4,05,334	4,57,445	4,04,474	4,57,186	6,246	6,246	6,230	2,145
	Forest	8,164	7,842	8,574	7,842	...	...	...	...
	Income tax	19,152	12,547	18,676	12,231	...	...	...	...
	Ground-rent	359	314	359	314	...	...	...	...
	GRAND TOTAL	4,33,009	4,78,148	4,32,083	4,77,573	6,246	6,246	6,230	2,145
	1917-18	4,24,730	4,66,506	4,22,347	4,64,648	6,244	6,244	6,236	2,089

DIX VII.

their average Emoluments and Punishments inflicted in the year 1918-19.

Average emoluments per village officer.		Number of villages in which the office is held in rotation or concurrent officiation in any form.		Punishments								Remarks.
				Dismissed with forfeiture of watan.		Dismissed without forfeiture of watan.		Suspended		Fined.		
Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	Patel.	Patwari.	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
...	...	268	85	1	...	3	3	7	3	33	30	
...	
...	
...	
...	...	268	85	1	...	3	3	7	3	33	30	
...	2	1	...	1	* Not calculated on Land Revenue. The Patwaries in the Melghat Taluq are paid quarterly at the rate of Rs. 20 per mensem. Five of them get a good conduct allowance at Rs. 5 each.
...	
...	2	1	...	1	
...	...	356	97	...	...	6	5	9	6	25	49	
...	
...	
...	
...	...	356	97	...	...	6	5	9	6	25	49	
...	...	476	126	1	...	3	3	4	5	57	81	
...	
...	
...	
...	...	476	126	1	...	3	3	4	5	57	81	
...	...	46	32	...	...	4	...	4	3	12	35	† Includes Rs. 973 and 926 paid to Patels and Patwaris respectively on account of emoluments payable for the last year.
...	
...	
...	
...	...	46	32	...	...	...	...	4	3	12	35	‡ Includes Rs. 410 on account of emoluments payable for the last year.
...	...	1,146	340	2	...	16	11	26	18	127	205	
...	
...	
...	
...	...	1,146	340	2	...	16	11	26	18	127	205	
...	...	1,162	351	...	...	18	22	33	22	90	145	

Classification of Revenue Court Work with details under

Classification No.	Nature of case.	Amraoti.			Akola.		
		Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Settlement record	...	..	..	64	140.2	11
1 A	Proceedings for correction of Record-of-Rights other than clerical errors	129	112.5	13	189	57.3	26
3 and 4	Field and Village boundaries	277	49.4	7	386	41.8	4
5 and 6	Cases regarding Jagirs	117	138.2	27	97	131.2	10
7 and 8	Proceedings relating to pensions	43	137.6	22	39	76.9	5
9	Proceedings regarding enhancement of rents	3	9.3	..	...	...	...
10 and 10-A	Proceedings relating to pre-emption	1	95	...	1	198	...
11	Patels' cases	510	79.9	55	474	95.5	53
12	Patwaris' cases	318	90.3	42	335	94.9	46
13	Jagias' cases	774	14	14	470	23.5	6
14	Village Servants' cases	684	60.7	163	550	68.3	113
16	Unauthorized occupation or appropriation	629	240	229	259	128.8	62
17	Maintenance of boundary marks	631	81.5	5	678	68.4	5
18 and 20	Applications for assessed and unassessed fields	67	16.7	14	16	197	4
19	Transfer of fields	23	61.9	3	46	82	4
10-A	Applications for alienation of lands, the transfer of which is restricted	21	80	2	9	146.8	3
21 and 22	Mutation proceedings	570	11.1	1	...	...	...
23	Relinquishment of fields	175	21.8	8	...	...	...
24 and 25	Assignment and appropriation of land	40	294.6	32	26	262.9	19
27	Building sites	397	354.4	179	321	237	54
28	Applications to quarry, &c.	392	37.2	13	468	36	23
30	Trees on occupied and unoccupied land	528	24.3	21	598	334	20
31	Land for public purposes	14	339	16	37	250.8	23
32	Civil Court orders	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	Partition of land under Civil Court decrees	21	123.9	10	17	269.5	5
	Other classes	3,094	52.3	158	351.5	60.5	367
	Total	9,458	77.2	1,034	8,595	71.2	863
B	Revenue General	15	46.7	2	71	161.9	194
C-I	Cases under Excise Act XII of 1896 and Opium Act	555	28.9	24	997	42.4	5
C-II	Proceedings relating to Income-tax	802	66.3	403	668	37.4	392
C-III	Cases under Stamp Act	289	65.8	30	205	32.8	6
C-IV	Appropriation of Forest lands for purposes of quarrying, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	1,646	53.2	457	1,870	39.6	449
	GRAND TOTAL	11,119	73.6	1,493	10,536	66.2	1,506
	Grand Total for 1917-18	12,668	73.5	972	9,077	81.3	851

DIX VIII.

certain important heads for the year 1918-19.

Buldana.			Yeotmal.			Total.			Remarks.
Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12	32'8	...	3	265'3	1	79	128'6	12	
283	107	20	74	100'9	3	675	93'5	62	
398	45'4	3	93	55'3	...	1,154	46	14	
274	159'7	20	104	254'6	20	592	167'5	77	
39	72	5	23	123'2	6	144	101'1	38	
1	14	...	11	25	...	15	21'1	...	
2	71'5	...	2	73'5	...	6	97'2	...	
429	83'4	73	545	97'9	74	1,958	89'8	255	
339	92'4	77	253	106'1	63	1,245	95'3	228	
519	23'5	14	314	22'7	8	2,077	19'8	42	
491	73'6	145	417	103'5	189	2,142	73'9	610	
277	178'4	300	93	178'4	19	1,258	198'9	610	
702	77'1	29	341	66'4	5	2,352	74'2	44	
...	...	1	54	233'5	3	137	123'2	22	
7	46'6	...	12	24	...	88	66	7	
...	...	...	77	118'2	21	107	113	26	
...	...	...	16	76'5	...	586	12'9	1	
...	...	...	...	...	...	175	21'7	8	
31	234'9	18	8	200'9	5	105	263'9	74	
149	71'4	35	121	131'5	41	988	238'2	309	
500	45'1	42	120	35'9	9	1,480	39'5	87	
426	38'7	48	251	58'9	20	1,803	35'4	109	
18	314'5	4	7	322'4	6	76	288'5	49	
...	
10	91'2	4	14	178'6	12	62	170'9	31	
3,201	30'9	483	2,943	84'9	432	12,753	56'7	1,440	
8,108	58'8	1,321	5,896	89'4	937	32,057	73'2	4,155	
5	124'2	2	14	160'5	...	105	143'5	198	
675	48'4	26	1,025	86'3	63	3,252	55'2	164	
237	38'7	948	235	59'6	110	1,942	52'2	1,853	
241	43'7	18	265	47'2	17	1,000	48'1	71	
...	
1,153	45'4	992	1,525	75'4	190	6,194	53	2,038	
9,266	57'2	2,315	7,435	86'7	1,127	38,356	70'1	6,441	
1,409	67	608	10,549	57'2	1,970	39,564	69'4	4,401	

APPENDIX IX.

Statement showing the number of Appeals and Applications for Revision disposed of by Deputy Commissioners in Berar during the year 1918-19.

Classification No.	Nature of case.	Amraoti.			Akola.			Buldana			Yeotmal.			Total.			Remarks.
		Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	Disposed of.	Average duration.	Pending.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
XI	Patels' cases	122	44.3	36	45	40	15	42	26	6	29	41.8	3	238	39.9	60	
XII	Patwaris' cases	29	12.9	6	29	55.2	3	9	12	..	13	64.1	1	80	78.1	10	
XIII	Jagias' cases	1	90	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	90	..	
XIV	Village servants' cases	7	49.1	..	4	41.7	..	7	78.6	1	18	50.2	2	36	54.6	3	
XVI	Unauthorized occupation of land.	24	53.7	5	14	39.8	1	13	45.2	..	6	138.3	3	57	57.3	9	
XIX	Proceedings for failure to report acquisition of right or to supply information as required by Sections 96-C and 96-E.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	136	..	1	136	..	
XXI	Mutation proceedings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
XXVII	Building sites	..	..	..	1	126	1	..	..	..	2	57.5	..	3	80.3	1	
XXX	Trees on occupied and unoccupied land.	2	64	..	2	45.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	54.7	..	
C-II	Proceedings relating to income-tax	101	21	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	19	7	103	20.9	54	
	Other classes	23	48.3	19	34	35.9	1	8	27	1	3	95	..	68	41.7	21	
	Total	309	45.9	113	129	43.1	21	79	32.3	8	74	58.8	16	591	45.1	158	
	Applications for revision...	37	2.7	6	94	43.5	2	80	101	2	28	63	..	239	58.9	10	
	GRAND TOTAL	346	41.3	119	223	43.3	23	159	67.3	10	102	59.9	16	830	49.1	168	
	GRAND TOTAL FOR 1917-18	264	36.8	25	258	53.5	67	115	50.4	10	89	67.9	18	726	48.7	120	

APPENDIX IX-A.

Statement showing the number of Appeals and Applications for Revision disposed of by Sub-Divisional Officers in Berar during the year 1918-19.

Classification No.	Nature of case.	Amraoti			Akola			Buldana			Yeotmal			Total			Remarks
		Disposed of.	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Record-of-Right appeals	10	37.1	2	10	66.8	11	1	24	2	5	31.4	1	26	46.9	16	
	Sanitation Pauchayat appeals	81	61.4	...	12	55.7	...	9	95.3	2	1	34	1	103	63.4	3	
	Total ...	91	58.7	2	22	60.7	11	10	88.2	4	6	31.8	2	129	60.1	19	
	Income-tax Applications Revision	95	60.1	...	10	15.9	...	37	68.4	1	...	...	...	151	56.6	1	
	Grand Total ...	186	59.4	2	41	39.9	11	47	72.6	5	6	31.8	2	280	58.2	20	
	GRAND TOTAL FOR 1917-18	56	67.1	35	67	36.5	9	71	96.6	...	38	52.6	...	232	64.9	43	

APPENDIX X.

Statement showing the number of Appeals and Applications for Revision disposed of by the Commissioner, Berar, during the year 1918-19.

Classification No	Nature of case.	Amraoti			Akola			Buldana			Yeatmal			Total			Remarks.
		Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	Disposed of	Average duration	Pending	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
I-A	Proceedings for correction of Record-of-Rights other than clerical errors	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	2	7.5	...	
II	Waste land grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	18	...	1	18	...	
VI	Succession to, and resumption of, Jagirs.	6	107.5	3	1	13	1	1	6	...	1	29.8	4	9	106.9	8	
VIII	Dispute among pensioners.	2	118.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	118.5	...	
XI	Patels' cases	2	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	51	...	
XII	Patwaris' cases	1	57	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	57	1	
XIV	Village servants' cases	...	...	...	1	46	...	...	...	...	2	73	...	3	64	...	
XVI	Unauthorized occupation or appropriation.	5	90.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	90.2	...	
XXI	Mutation, ordinary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
XXVII	Building sites	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	
XXXI	Land for public purposes.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
XXXII	Civil Court orders	1	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	18	...	
XXXIII	Partition of land under Civil Court decrees.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
C-I	Cases under Excise Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	...	...	...	...	1	9	...	
	Other classes	2	33.5	2	7	37.9	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	10	31.5	5	
	Total	21	75.8	5	9	33.8	2	2	7.5	...	6	78.2	7	38	62.6	14	
	Applications for revision and review	10	71.2	1	5	18.8	...	2	6	...	6	21.8	...	23	41.2	1	
	Municipal appeals	4	10.5	...	6	10.8	...	6	4	...	...	...	...	16	8.2	...	
	Miscellaneous petitions	20	31.6	...	16	40.7	...	12	65.8	...	13	14.2	...	61	37	...	
	Khatewari cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3.7	1	...	...	1	3	3.7	2	
	Total	34	40.7	1	27	30	...	23	36.4	1	9	16.6	1	103	32.5	3	
	GRAND TOTAL	55	54.1	6	36	30.9	2	25	34	1	25	31.4	8	141	40.6	17	
	GRAND TOTAL FOR 1917-18.	83	37	8	61	42	2	33	31	2	33	49	2	210	39	41	

APPENDIX XI.

Statement showing sales in execution of Civil Court orders, voluntary sales and sales for arrears of land revenue in the year 1918-19.

District.	Year.	Voluntary Sales.						Sales for arrears of land revenue.		Grand total of sales of all classes		Remarks.
		Compulsory.		Optional.		Total		Number of cases	Area	Number of cases	Area	
		Number of cases.	Area.	Number of cases	Area	Number of cases	Area					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Acres.		Acres		Acres		Acres.		Acres	
Amraoti	1918-19	7,162	50,687	...	...	7,162	50,687	1	6	7,163	50,693	
Akola	"	6,649	62,527	..	...	6,649	62,527	2	15	6,651	62,542	
Buldana	"	5,401	49,904	7	11	5,408	49,915	...		5,408	49,915	
Yectmal	"	2,780	53,632	...	...	2,780	53,632	3	25	2,783	53,657	
GRAND TOTAL	...	21,992	216,750	7	11	21,999	216,761	6	46	22,005	216,807	
GRAND TOTAL FOR 1917-18.	...	19,208	179,235	36	51	19,244	179,286	1	5	...	...

CS

REPORT
ON THE
**OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND
SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS**
IN
BERAR
DURING THE YEAR
1918-19

Agents for the Sale of Books published by the Central Provinces Administration.

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No. 87-1.

FROM

P HEMINGWAY, ESQ., I C S.,

COMMISSIONER OF SETTLEMENTS AND DIRECTOR OF
LAND RECORDS,

Central Provinces,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER,

LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT,

Central Provinces.

Nagpur, the 17th January 1920.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the working of the Land Records Department in Berar during the year ending 31st July 1919.

2 The charge of the Department was held by myself for the full year, and Mr. Chhotelal Verma, Extra-Assistant Commissioner, worked as my assistant.

1.--Land Records Establishments

3. The strength of the establishment remained unchanged during the year under report.
Revision of establishment.

4. The improved scale of pay for Revenue Inspectors introduced last year is said to be attracting better qualified candidates for the posts. Insufficient attention is, however, paid at present to Rule 2 Chapter 1, Part I, of the Land Records and Survey Manual, which requires that the previous sanction of the Director must be obtained before non-matriculantes are included in the list of candidates for employment as Revenue Inspectors, and it has been noted in the past year that unqualified candidates are in actual practice frequently appointed without such sanction; the first intimation sent to me by Deputy Commissioners is too often a request to confirm unqualified men as Revenue Inspectors. This recent increase in the pay of Revenue Inspectors was sanctioned on the understanding that only fully qualified men are now to be employed; and the object of revising the cadre will be entirely defeated if unqualified men are, as now, repeatedly employed. I have pointed this out to Deputy Commissioners in Berar, and insisted on a more strict observance of the rules.

5 The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, refers to the necessity of raising the pay of the last grade of Assistant Superintendents of Land Records. Personally I am inclined to agree with him that the pay needs revision; but I am not prepared to take up this question at once, for it has to be remembered that for the post of Assistant Superintendent of Land Records we do not require men of the Naib-Tahsiildar type. This staff is recruited entirely from the ranks of Revenue Inspectors and the Settlement cadres, and the question concerns the Central Provinces as well as Berar.

6. Another reform reported as important is the improvement of the pay of the patwaris. This, however, involves a careful local inquiry of the work done as well as of the pay, and its inequalities, and it was therefore decided in Secretariat letter No. C-398, dated the 24th May 1919, addressed to the Commissioner, Berar, to depute a special officer about the middle of the current month to examine the whole question of the patwaris' staff and work to enable the Local Administration to frame a policy. It will probably be found, not that the pay throughout is too low for the work done, but that both work and pay are distributed unequally and uneconomically.

II.—Land Records Work.

7. There have been no changes in the system of Land Records, except a few amendments of a purely formal character. The form of the diary maintained by Superintendents of Land Records and their assistants was found unsuitable and was amended.

8. The quinquennial rewriting of the record-of-rights was finished during the year under report in the Amraoti and Murtizapur taluqs: but it could not be taken up or had to be left unfinished in Malkapur and Akola taluqs, because the patwaris and the Revenue Inspectors were engaged on other important work in connection with the threatened scarcity.

9. Record-of-rights registers have been introduced for the first time during the current year in the Izara villages of Yeotmal district. Statement E exhibits the amount of accuracy attained in the record-of-rights. It will be seen that the balance of uncertified entries is still large, notably in Akola and Buldana. The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, attributes this to the abnormally high mortality of last year; in Akola certification was hampered by a propitious marriage season and the absence of parties residing outside the district. The method of quinquennial revision and maintenance is not altogether satisfactory; but there is no doubt that the record is a valuable and useful register of property and is gaining in accuracy and utility every year. In spite of the extra work entailed by the scarcity operations a fairly adequate check seems, on the whole, to have been exercised by the Land Records Department, including Revenue Inspectors, in Akola, Amraoti and Yeotmal districts. In Buldana, on the other hand, the number of entries checked in the record-of-rights registers shows a marked fall: I am not satisfied with the explanation furnished and am asking the Deputy Commissioner of that district to issue strict orders for the ensuing camping season to his Land Record staff from the Superintendent of Land Records downwards that much more attention is to be paid to this work. Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars, with a few exceptions, devoted as much attention to the check as could be expected of them. I wish, however, that the superior District staff, particularly Sub-divisional Officers, were able to spare more time for this work.

10. The following figures are reproduced from the district reports to show the amount of inspection of boundary marks performed by Revenue Inspectors:—

District.	Total number of marks.	Number inspected.	Percentage of marks inspected to the total number of marks.	Found out of repairs.	Percentage of marks found unrepaid to the number inspected.	
					Present year.	Last year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Akola ...	1,188,998	204,379	17	78,118	38	35
Amraoti ...	828,948	96,573	12	35,452	37	39
Buldana ...	887,045	157,279	18	24,543	16	36
Yeotmal ...	836,784	80,652	10	25,949	31	34

The improvement in the condition of these marks in Buldana is due to the special attention given to them last hot weather. The percentage of marks found unrepaid is however still high in the other 3 districts, and I may repeat the previous year's remark that the power to inflict a penalty would not necessarily result in a large crop of cases, and the knowledge that such a power existed would serve as a deterrent. There is very little prospect of arresting the slow but certain deterioration which is taking place, unless a system of fining those at fault, advocated in the previous year's reports, is introduced.

An amplified form of the statement of the boundary marks found out of repair prescribed in Chapter V, Part III of the Manual, has been separately submitted to the Local Administration for adoption.

11. The following table indicates the average boundary mark and crop inspection work done by Superintendents of Land Records, Assistant Superintendents of Land Records and Revenue Inspectors—

District.	Boundary marks.			Crop inspection		
	Superintendents of Land Records	Assistant Superintendents of Land Records	Revenue Inspectors.	Superintendents of Land Records	Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.	Revenue Inspectors.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Akola	2,790	3,881	7,048	678	400	300
Amraoti	3,501	3,853	3,714	322	318	337
Buldana	1,827	3,914	6,291	184	361	233
Yeotmal	2,401	3,287	3,102	417	436	294

The number of inspections of boundary marks in Yeotmal, and of the crop statement in Buldana is less than last year and is ascribed chiefly to the extra work entailed by the scarcity operations. It is hoped that the Superintendent of Land Records, Buldana, will exert himself and show better results in future.

12. The supervision by Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars was generally fair except in the case of the following officers whose outturn of work was inadequate :—

Akola district	...	Tahsildar.	Naib-Tahsildar	...	Akot.
Amraoti	"	...	"	...	Amraoti
Buldana	"	...	"	...	Morsi.
Yeotmal	"	...	"	...	Khamgaon.
				...	Jalgaon.
				...	Kelapur.

The insufficient check by the Naib-Tahsildar, Kelapur, is attributed to the changes in the office of the Naib-Tahsildar in that tahsil. The Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars of Amraoti, Morsi and Khamgaon are, however, old defaulters, who have repeatedly neglected this part of their duties, and I may again express a pious hope that the necessity of paying proper attention to the Land Record work will be brought to their notice.

13. It is stated that the work in connection with the scarcity naturally caused a shrinkage in the number of inspections by the Deputy Commissioners and their assistants; but apart from this the results of the year are disappointing in Amraoti and Yeotmal districts. In Amraoti, no details of the work done by the former Deputy Commissioner are available, and the number of inspections made by Sub-Divisional Officers, except Mr. Pollock, I.C.S., was altogether inadequate. In Yeotmal, the Deputy Commissioner and Mr. Bewoor, I.C.S., Assistant Commissioner, did some inspection work, but the Sub-Divisional Officers, Messrs. Kholkute and Subhedar, made no check of the crop statement and boundary marks. Mr. Khan, I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner, Akola, inspected extensive areas to ascertain the agricultural situation, but no record was unfortunately left of the survey numbers examined. The figures furnished show that a satisfactory amount of inspection was carried out by Mr. Sinha, Sub-Divisional Officer, Mehkar (Buldana district).

III.—Conduct of the Land Records Staff.

14. There was a satisfactory drop in the percentage of non-resident patwaris, and considerable success in enforcing residence within their circles and their conduct and discipline. The only district in which the number of non-resident patwaris has risen since last year is Amraoti. The Deputy Commissioner of that district will, it is hoped, give the matter his personal attention. The conduct and discipline of the patwaris' staff has been favourably reported on by all Deputy Commissioners, and punishments have generally been comparatively few in number. The Deputy Commissioner, Yeotmal, however, complains of slackness of work among the patwaris of Izara villages:

(a) Residence of Patwaris within their circles and their conduct and discipline. 15. Classes for training patwaris in survey and the new manual were opened during the rains at all the taluq head-quarters, except where the rewriting of the record of rights was in progress, with satisfactory results. No test examination in the rules could, however, be held in Akola and Buldana districts because the patwaris had to be sent back to their circles for the preparation of detailed statements of the outturn of crops.

(b) Training of Patwaris. 16. The conduct and work of Revenue Inspectors has been favourably reported on. One Revenue Inspector was removed from service in Yeotmal for fudging his diaries and general incompetence, and two were suspended, one in Amraoti, and the other in Buldana, for bad work. All the permanent Revenue Inspectors are now either fully qualified or were permitted to appear at the annual examination. The value of this examination as a test of general efficiency is not, however, fully realized. The paper set at the last examination was entirely of a practical nature and by no means difficult; yet of the 38 candidates who appeared only 14 were successful. The percentage of marks necessary for a pass at the last examination was 40 per cent only, and I propose to raise it to 50 so as to correspond with the standard fixed for the departmental examination for members of the subordinate Civil Service. With pay now graded it is time to insist on efficiency.

(c) Revenue Inspectors. 17. The number of days spent on tour by the Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records is shown in the subjoined table:—

District.	Superintendents of Land Records.		First Assistant Superintendent of Land Records.	Second Assistant Superintendent of Land Records.
	Days.		Days.	Days.
Akola	...	170	154	83
Amraoti	...	110	123	91
Buldana	...	175	198	184
Yeotmal	...	197	185	188

The rewriting work seems to have interfered with the touring of the 2nd Assistant in Akola and Amraoti districts. Mr. Mhaisalkar, Superintendent of Land Records, Amraoti, seems reluctant to leave his head-quarters and the touring done by him is again short. Mr. Utgikar, Superintendent of Land Records, Buldana, has done enough touring, but I wish he had devoted a greater proportion of his time on tour to testing Land Record work. The following are commended for good work:—

Mr. R. B. Chaubal, Superintendent of Land Records, Yeotmal.

„ Kesho Annaji, Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, Akola.

IV.—Utilization of Land Records.

18. The circle note-books have been brought up to date in the new form, except in parts of Buldana district where steps have since been taken to complete them.

Circle note-books.

V.—Miscellaneous.

19. There has been a decrease since the previous year in the number of encroachments on Government lands, detected by the members of the Land Records staff, as the following figures show :—

Detection of encroachment and check of live-stock. Statement B.

Year.	By Superintendents of Land Records.	By Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.	By Revenue Inspectors.
1917-18	22	59	376
1918-19	20	25	330

The drop in the number of encroachments discovered by Revenue Inspectors is large in Buldana and Yeotmal districts. In the absence of any comment by the Deputy Commissioners, it is difficult to say whether this decrease indicates fewer encroachments or less check by the Land Records staff. The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, ascribes it to the diminution in the number of inspections carried out.

20. The percentage of errors detected by Revenue Inspectors in the live-stock statement is 8 in Akola, 15 in Amraoti, 12 in Buldana and 16 in Yeotmal against 7, 12, 17 and 17, respectively, during the preceding year. The Deputy Commissioner, Buldana, considers that this drop also is due to less careful check by the Revenue Inspectors. As was pointed out last year, these statistics are of great importance to the Forest Department, and it is most desirable that Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants should confine their check almost entirely to the entries attested previously by the Revenue Inspectors to make sure that the check of the latter is thorough.

21. The Statement C gives details of the measurement work done during the year under report. The figures of the four districts for the last two years are compared below :—

Measurement work. Statement C.

District	1917-18	1918-19
Akola	548	469
Amraoti	636	512
Buldana	715	550
Yeotmal	275	228
Total	2,174	1,759

There is a decrease in all cases and it is due to a fall in the number of cases under the heads "Measurement of land for building sites" and "Miscellaneous." The measurement work which is necessary for the accurate maintenance of the record-of-rights seems fairly up to date, but special efforts are needed to wipe off the arrears in the Morsi taluq of Amraoti, and the Mehkar, Malkapur and Khamgaon taluqs of Buldana.

The number of cases other than measurement cases rose in all the districts except Yeotmal; this was due to a number of taccavi cases sent to Revenue Inspectors for enquiry.

22. The correction of survey records is practically up to date in all districts, and calls for no special remarks.

Correction of survey records at head-quarters.

23. During the year under report, the Revenue Inspectors inspected 5,521 villages and discovered 467 errors in the vital statistics as against 6,643 villages with 279 errors in the previous year. The number of death entries made in the Vital Statistics Register

Check of vital statistics. Statement D.

was unusually large owing to the influenza epidemic; and the mistakes detected were unusually numerous, because several omissions were made by village officials who were themselves ill.

24. No sanads were issued in Amraoti, while 7 were issued in Akola, 4 in Buldana and 7 in Yeotmal. As remarked before, the agriculturists in Berar have not yet begun to realize the importance of these sanads.

VI.—Survey and Settlement Work.

25. No work of survey and settlement was in progress during the Survey and Settlement work. year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. HEMINGWAY,

Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records,

Central Provinces.

STATEMENT A—Showing the extent to which Village Papers were tested during the year ending 31st July 1919.

District, number of villages and number of Revenue Inspectors' Circles.	Inspecting Officers.	Crop Inspection Statement.			Boundary Mark Inspection Statement.			Record-of-rights Registers.			Mutation Registers.			Rasid Bahis.	
		Number of villages visited.	Number of entries tested.	Number of entries found wrong.	Number of villages visited.	Number of marks inspected.	Number of marks found out of repairs.	Number of villages visited.	Number of entries tested.	Number of entries found wrong.	Number of villages visited.	Number of entries tested.	Number of entries found wrong.	Number of Bahis examined.	Number of Bahis found incorrect or incomplete.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Akola.—1,755 villages, 29 Circles.	Deputy Commissioner ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Assistant and Extra-Assistant Commissioners.	236	481	...	236	700	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	823	...
	Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.	1,128	1,942	76	956	2,728	194	274	1,149	60	284	1,275	86	8,307	110
	Superintendent of Land Records.	137	678	60	184	2,790	560	178	1,715	24	178	874	37	340	15
	Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.	226	800	2	213	7,762	2,287	213	2,364	2	213	1,163	35	699	...
	Revenue Inspectors ..	1,654	8,694	1,072	1,625	204,379	75,118	1,516	43,371	1,227	1,642	18,993	152	18,280	...
	Total ..	3,381	12,595	1,210	3,214	218,359	81,159	2,181	48,559	1,313	2,317	22,305	310	28,449	125
Amravati.—1,817 villages, 26 Circles.	Deputy Commissioner ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Assistant and Extra-Assistant Commissioners.	15	53	...	15	69	...	7	26	...	11	41	1	310	...
	Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.	590	1,529	77	625	7,405	947	273	1,173	...	417	2,771	...	3,929	122
	Superintendent of Land Records.	63	312	19	83	3,501	777	54	1,299	10	62	570	38	527	12
	Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.	231	636	55	236	7,706	767	253	2,969	36	227	790	64	1,193	109
	Revenue Inspectors ..	1,789	8,774	1,298	1,558	96,573	35,452	1,347	36,129	727	1,566	14,344	966	19,069	524
	Total ..	2,688	11,314	1,449	2,517	115,954	37,943	1,934	41,596	773	2,223	18,516	1,069	25,028	827

STATEMENT A.—Showing the extent to which Village Papers were tested during the year ending 31st July 1919 —(Concl'd.)

District, number of villages and number of Revenue Inspectors' Circles	Inspecting Officers	Crop Inspection Statement			Boundary Mark Inspection Statement			Record-of-rights Registers			Mutation Registers			Kasid Bahis	
		Number of villages visited.	Number of entries tested	Number of entries found wrong	Number of villages visited.	Number of marks inspected.	Number of marks found out of repairs	Number of villages visited	Number of entries tested	Number of entries found wrong	Number of villages visited	Number of entries tested	Number of entries found wrong.	Number of Bahis examined	Number of Bahis found incorrect or incomplete
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Buldana.—1,330 villages, 25 Circles	Deputy Commissioner ...	138	474	50	138	4,473	263	...	7	...	2	36	...	887	...
	Assistant and Extra-Assistant Commissioners.*	159	568	51	155	826	95	55	490	6	49	593	146	562	5
	Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.	48	184	26	62	1,827	487	77	493	6	73	501	15	793	45
	Superintendent of Land Records.	161	782	156	288	7,828	1,026	149	1,167	26	149	807	58	1,974	76
	Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Revenue Inspectors	1,089	5,815	1,441	1,025	157,279	24,543	854	12,637	94	1,141	14,352	1,291	28,013	1,852
	Total	1,595	7,763	1,724	1,668	172,233	26,404	1,135	14,794	132	1,414	16,289	1,510	32,229	1,978
Yavatmal.—1,929 villages, 26 Circles	Deputy Commissioner ...	27	35	...	3	12	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	67	2
	Assistant and Extra-Assistant Commissioners.	38	228	33	...	...	...	30	383	...	11	40	...	66	...
	Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.	819	1,960	21	801	8,937	359	580	1,193	7	571	2,128	9	8,001	...
	Superintendent of Land Records	155	417	38	142	2,408	235	297	1,568	13	323	840	87	1,567	48
	Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.	430	873	85	306	6,574	1,292	510	2,252	31	510	1,167	118	1,629	52
	Revenue Inspectors	1,610	7,654	1,680	1,428	80,652	25,949	1,736	31,147	196	1,357	11,826	564	15,194	914
	Total	3,079	11,167	1,851	2,680	98,523	27,835	3,156	36,346	247	2,772	16,001	778	26,524	1,016
	GRAND TOTAL	10,743	42,839	6,234	10,079	604,429	173,341	8,406	141,535	2,465	8,786	73,111	3,667	112,230	3,946

* No record of inspections has been maintained by these Officers.

STATEMENT B.—Showing the number of Encroachments detected and mistakes found in Live-stock Return during the year ending
31st July 1919.

District.	Superintendent of Land Records.				Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.				Revenue Inspectors.				Remarks.
	Number of encroachments detected.			Number of mistakes found in return of live-stock.	Number of encroachments detected			Number of mistakes found in return of live-stock.	Number of encroachments detected			Number of mistakes found in return of live-stock.	
	At crop inspection.	At boundary mark inspection.	Total.		At crop inspection.	At boundary mark inspection.	Total.		At crop inspection.	At boundary mark inspection.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Akola	3	1	4	20	...	2	2	26	98	53	151	623	
Amraoti	...	1	1	40	1	2	3	123	53	23	76	1,352	
Buldana	4	2	6	42	1	1	2	195	26	27	53	1,225	
Yeotmal	6	3	9	58	13	5	18	120	18	32	50	1,079	
Total	13	7	20	160	15	10	25	464	195	135	330	4,279	

STATEMENT C.—Showing the Measurement work done during the year ending 31st July 1919.

District.	Class of cases and the number disposed of under each class.										Cases other than measurement cases disposed of.		Remarks.
	Partition of land under Court decree.	Disputes necessitating measurements of fields	Disputes requiring fixing of marks by field book.	Encroachments.	Measurements of alluvion, etc	Measurement of land for public purposes.	Measurement of land for building sites	Reclassification.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Prescribed by rules.	Not prescribed by rules	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Akola	12	1	95	123	6	72	48	2	110	469	566	8	
Amraoti	19	2	65	213	11	66	41	...	95	512	292	67	
Buldana	4	...	173	120	2	37	54	...	160	550	545	33	
Yavatmal	17	15	55	45	2	24	14	...	56	228	254	...	
Total	52	18	388	501	21	199	157	2	421	1,759	1,657	108	

STATEMENT D.—Showing Inspection of Vital Statistics by Revenue Inspectors during the year ending the 31st July 1919.

District			Number of mistakes detected.					Number of villages inspected	Remarks.	
			Number of births		Number of deaths omitted.	Causes of death.				Total.
			Omitted.	Wrongly shown.		Omitted	Wrongly shown.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Akola	8	11	13	16	16	64	1,521	
Amrseti	9	20	23	4	18	74	1,329	
Baidana	7	15	53	1	50	126	1,067	
Yectmal	35	29	60	25	54	203	1,604	
Total			59	75	149	46	138	407	5,521	

