

The revenue of the estate at last settlement was Rs. 30,064. This, however, did not include the amounts of the assignments. If these had been added the revenue payable by the proprietor would have been Rs. 35,842, which is 63.9 per cent of the total assets of the estate at that time. At this settlement a revenue of Rs. 44,284 has been settled, representing 59.3 per cent of the total assets. The amount to be retained by Government, after paying the assignment to the temple, is Rs. 38,506. The advance in revenue is by 30 per cent. The proprietor's income is about 58.2 per cent more than at last settlement.

162. *Procedure of sairat investigations.*—For the purpose of ascertaining the *sairat* incomes of temporarily-settled estates enquiries were made by the Attestation Officers in each village. In the first two blocks these enquiries were made quite summarily without formal notice to the parties. In January 1926 an order was passed by Mr. Tuckey as Director of Land Records and Surveys that regular proceedings should be drawn up for ascertaining *sairat* income. Such proceedings were actually held in the remaining blocks. But it cannot be said that as a general rule the enquiries were made with any thoroughness. This was partly due to the remissness of the landlords and their agents, who were reluctant to produce evidence, and partly to the tendency of Attestation Officers, who are very often over-worked, not to give their best attention to such subsidiary duties. Objections at land revenue settlement to the *sairat* valuation made at attestation were fairly frequent, and it was in many cases found necessary to revise the valuation after proper enquiry. They were given the benefit of any doubt especially when the assessment was much in excess of that of last settlement.

163. *Distribution of assets of sub-proprietary tenures.*—The principles followed at last settlement in the distribution of the assets of sub-proprietary tenures are described in paragraphs 303 and 558 of Mr. Maddox's Report, Volume I. Care was chiefly taken to see that the income which the sub-proprietor was found to be receiving at the time of the settlement was not too severely reduced as a result of the new settlement. "The general rule has been first to give to the tenure-holder the benefit of any increase in the rate of allowances on the estate; secondly, to allow some further reduction in his payment so as to prevent a loss of more than 20 per cent of his income in the first two years and after that 36 per cent." The Provincial Settlement was taken up after an interval of 60 years since the last previous settlement. The incomes of the sub-proprietors had very often increased to a very large extent in the course of those 60 years. Consequently in such cases abnormally high allowances were given to the sub-proprietors to save their incomes from reduction beyond the prescribed limits. At the same time, however, standard percentages were generally laid down for the different classes of sub-proprietors, even when in the actual assessment these were departed from. The normal percentages to be awarded to sub-proprietors of the different classes were as shown below; the actual shares allowed are also shown :—

	Normal per cent-	Actual per cent.		
		Cuttack.	Balasore.	Puri.
1	2	3	4	5
Makaddam	20 to 25	34	29	26
Padhan	20	43	...	20
Shikmi zamindar, I class	35	39	45	34
Ditto II "	25 to 30	...	...	...
Purishethis and shikmi kharida, I class	30	30	32	...
Shikmi kharidars, II class	20	31	30	...
Sarbarakars	10 to 15	28	28	21

The standard percentage payable to Government was 65 per cent, the remainder being retained by the proprietor (in the case of *shikmi zamindars* there would generally be no remainder).

In this settlement also the principle was adopted that the income of the sub-proprietor should not be unduly reduced, and the same maximum limits were prescribed, viz. 20 per cent for the first two years and 36 per cent thereafter. It was further provided that the assessment should generally result in the sub-proprietor retaining an income greater by at least 15 per cent than that which he obtained at last settlement. At the Provincial Settlement it was placed on record by the Settlement Officer that in future settlements it would not be necessary to give *makaddams* more than 25 per cent or *sarbarakars* more than 20 per cent. But by applying the principles described above it has been found necessary again to grant abnormally large shares to the sub-proprietors. The *makaddams* have received 27 per cent on the average in Puri, and 28 per cent in Balasore, while the *sarbarakars* have received 22 per cent in Puri and 26 per cent in Balasore. The Cuttack figures are not yet available.

164. *Temporarily-settled killajat estates.*—There are a few estates in districts Balasore and Cuttack which although originally part of the Rajwara have since the time of the Marhattas been treated as temporarily-settled estates. An account of these is given by Mr. Maddox in paragraph 610 of his report. Of the 8 estates of this description Dompura was in 1829 restored to permanently-settled status, although liable to be resumed in the event of alienation and two others, namely Kanthajhar and Patna, have been alienated by the original *zamindars*. The remaining 5, Balarampur Rugree and Chousathipara in Cuttack district and Ambo and Mangalpur in Balasore district, are still held by the descendants of the original *zamindars*. At Provincial Settlement those landlords protested against being treated as ordinary temporarily-settled proprietors. According to the order of Government then passed the estates were treated as temporarily-settled, but were very leniently assessed to revenue. In this settlement the question of their treatment was again referred to Government, who accepted the proposals of the local officers, and ordered lenient assessment, laying down that in future settlements the rate of assessment should not be more than half that fixed for the ordinary temporarily-settled estates in Orissa, but that these privileged terms should be subject to the condition that the estates shall not be alienated or partitioned and that succession shall be governed by the law of primogeniture. The percentages of the assets actually fixed with the approval of the Government at this settlement were as follows :—

(1) Managalpur	...	...	...	...	25 per cent
(2) Ambo	...	...	...	...	20 " "
(3) Balarampur	...	...	...	...	15 " "
(4) Rugree	...	...	...	...	15 " "
(5) Chousathipara	...	...	...	...	15 " "

A notable feature of these estates, especially Balarampur and Rugree, is the large proportion of land held by the proprietors' relatives and retainers rent-free for their maintenance.

165. *Confusion caused by sub-proprietary partitions.*—In attestation of Block F great difficulty was found in preparing *khewats* of partitioned *tauzis* containing sub-proprietary tenures under them, as in most such cases the relationship between the proprietors and sub-proprietors had become chaotic. In the *tauzi* partitions effected by the revenue courts it was usual to find that the areas under sub-proprietors had not been divided up by metes and bounds between the estates, but the rent payable by the sub-proprietors had been apportioned and a purely theoretical area allotted to each estate. Thereafter it frequently happened that the sub-proprietors themselves entered into a partition either by amicable arrangement or through the civil court with or without the landlord's consent. Those partitions generally, although

not always, involved division of the area by metes and bounds between the sub-proprietors, and those divisions were made without any attention to the previous tauzi partition, so that in some cases they resulted in a sub-proprietor paying rent to a proprietor whose tauzi according to the revenue court partition had no interest in the village now held by the sub-proprietor. In cases of this sort the ordinary rules of *khewat*-writing were of little avail, and generally it was necessary to elucidate the situation in complicated notes in the margin of the *khewat*. The subdivided rents of the sub-proprietors were not entered in the rent column of the *khewat* but were noted in the remarks column, on the principle that the sub-proprietors are payers of revenue to Government and it is not proper to recognize their right to split up the amounts payable without sanction of Government.

The sub-proprietary partitions of the kind described above caused further difficulty in revenue settlement, where it had to be considered whether the divisions should be recognized and the sub-proprietors permitted to execute separate *kabuliats*. The rule adopted in this matter was that separate *kabuliats* should only be allowed provided that the Revenue Officer is satisfied that the division is a reasonable one, that the different parcels of land are absolutely under different tauzis, and that the Government revenue is not endangered by being split up into too small amounts.

166. *Extent of partition.*—The lengths to which partitions of estates have gone are apparent from the fact that whereas Stirling in 1822 remarked that there were 2,390 estates in the three coastal districts, the number at Provincial Settlement was 6,346 and at the beginning of the present settlement was 11,293. In Cuttack the number rose between the settlements from 4,449 to 8,347 and in Balasore from 1,412 to 2,397,

The restrictions of section 11 of the Partition Act (V of 1899) do not appear to be strictly observed. Tauzi no. 289 of cuttack district was partitioned into 21 estates, 14 of which had revenue less than Rs. 5 and 4 less than Re, 1, the smallest having an area of 19 decimals and a revenue of 5 annas. As the proprietors of these *mahals* were not willing to redeem them they still remain revenue-paying estates. Two hundred and sixty-seven estates of those formed by partition since the last settlement in Cuttack district have revenue less than Rs. 10.

Besides the inconvenience from the point of view of revenue collection these petty-partitioned estates create difficulties at the time of preparing the record-of-rights owing to the habit of leaving small areas common. There are many instances in which an area of a fraction of an acre is divided among a number of tauzis, some of which possess shares which in terms of area would represent less than one decimal.

167. *Revenue settlement procedure.*—The work of calculating the assets of each tauzi for purposes of revenue settlement was taken up in recess office as soon as the records of the temporarily-settled area of each block were available from the *moina* section. Some preliminary information had already been obtained from the Collectrates regarding partitions, abatements of revenue, transferred and amalgamated tauzis and lands in one district pertaining to estates in the revenue roll of another. Mauzawar statements were first prepared showing the assets under detailed heads by referring to the *goswara* and *terij*, and then the figures of each tauzi were collected, village by village, in a "detailed asset register". This register was in the vernacular. Draft assessment statements were then prepared in English showing the total areas and assets of each estate under certain broad heads. The areas and assets of last settlement were shown alongside of those of this settlement, and the assets found existing at this

rates to the areas so held, as ordered by Government. The draft assessment statements also showed the last settlement revenue and the revenue arrived at by taking 55 per cent of the total settled assets (85 per cent in case of *chaukidari jagir* resumed lands) or the last settlement percentage whichever was greater. They also contained a list of proprietors' names and addresses and of the villages in which the estates lay. When there were sub-proprietary tenures under the estate the distribution of the assets of these between proprietor, sub-proprietor and Government was shown in a separate statement.

After preparation of these draft assessment statements in office, camps were started at the district headquarters for revenue settlement and at the same time for rewriting of the A—D Registers. The work was taken up as far as possible by *parganas*. A proclamation was published in each estate under section 10 of regulation VII of 1822, and simultaneously a notice in a combined form both for revenue settlement and rewriting was served on every proprietor recorded either in the *khewat* or in the existing Collectorate Register D. After the proprietors had been given an opportunity of examining the asset statements and submitting objections to the assessment the Land Revenue Officers made their final proposals for revenue settlement. At this stage they frequently cut out or reduced the valuation of *nijchas* and *nijjote* lands which were shown to be unproductive, and frequently also reduced the *sairat* assessment when it appeared that the Attestation Officer might have over-estimated it. Also they varied the percentage to be taken as revenue, after considering the effect of the new assessment on the proprietor's income, the extent to which the security of the assets was likely to be affected by floods and other causes, the proportion of privileged tenants and of *nijchas* lands, and other relevant points. (Privileged tenants are notoriously bad rent-payers, and a large area of *nijchas* is of course an advantage, especially when lightly valued at the village rate.) The Land Revenue Officer wrote a report on each *tauzi* describing its main features and giving reasons for the proposed assessment of revenue. Under the rules passed by Government the Assistant Settlement Officers confirmed the revenue when it did not exceed Rs. 50. The assessment reports of other *tauzis* were put up to the Settlement Officer, who confirmed revenue up to Rs. 1,500, and submitted those above Rs. 1,500, to the Commissioner. The latter had power to confirm up to Rs. 10,000 and those above Rs. 10,000 went to the Board of Revenue. On making the final proposals the Land Revenue Officer called upon the proprietors to sign the *kabuliats*. If *kabuliats* were signed at this stage and subsequently the revenue was altered by the confirming authority the *kabuliats* were amended after notice to the proprietors, who had an opportunity of expressing disagreement if the revenue had been increased. Where all or the majority of the proprietors who appeared, signed the *kabuliats*, the settlement was completed with them, and those who definitely refused were declared recusant. When the majority expressed non-agreement the Settlement Officer could either complete the settlement with those who agreed, and declare the others recusant, or, if he thought fit, revise the revenue or propose its revision to the authority who had confirmed it.

168. *Revenue appeals*.—The revenue settlement work went very smoothly. Proprietors nearly always signed the *kabuliats* on being called upon to do so, or at least on the confirmation of the revenue. The proprietors who were dissatisfied with the order of confirmation could apply for revision to the authority immediately superior to the confirming authority, but no application was allowed for revision of an order passed in revision (rule 23). The appeal from the order of the Board was to the local Government. Such applications for revision were exceedingly rare, although they became more common in the later stages, when there was financial depression. There were 9 in Balasore, 5 in Puri and 40 in Cuttack, *54 in all. In 9 cases the petitions resulted in some reduction of the revenue.

The *kabuliats* were bound in serial order before being made over to the Collectors.

*The Cuttack figure is up to the middle of April 1932.

169. *Treatment of estates affected by the Janardan and Routra ghais.*—In two parts of Cuttack district, widespread damage was done to the lands of several estates in 1927 by the breaches in the Brahmini left bank and the Kharsua right bank known as the Janardan *ghai* and the Routra *ghai* respectively. The former affected pargana Olas and the latter parts of parganas Tisania, Kalamatia and Hatimunda. This damage was done after rent settlement, but before revenue settlement. In order to avoid hardship to landlords and tenants alike a resurvey was done to ascertain how badly each holding was affected and the rents of the lands were reduced according to a scale varying with the depth of sand deposit and other relevant considerations. As the present condition of these areas is not likely to be permanent, and action to have the rents revised under section 125 (2) was time-barred, an arrangement was entered into by which the landlords agreed in writing to realize the reduced rents for ten years and the mean between the reduced and the full rents for another five years while the revenue is assessed at proportionately reduced amounts for these periods. At the end of the fifteen years the full rents and revenue come into effect. It is hoped that these areas will have recovered their normal fertility by then.

170. *Assessment of tauzi no. 119 of district Puri.*—Tauzi no. 119 of district Puri presented a difficult problem in revenue assessment. The estate contains valuable lands on the sea shore in Puri town, adjoining the Balukhand *khas mahal*. These lands were the subject of a decision of the Settlement Officer under section 125, by which the tenants of these lands were held to be *pattadars*. Hence their rents could not be enhanced by the Settlement Department. The existing rents were absurdly low for this area (an average of Rs. 8 per acre), as the proprietor had adopted the expedient of charging enormous *salamis*, amounting to between two and three thousand rupees per acre, and taking a very low rental. There is, however, a stipulation in the leases that the rents would be liable to be enhanced in proportion to the enhancement of revenue. It was clearly necessary to value these lands at fair rates for the purpose of revenue settlement. For this purpose the rates fixed varied between Rs. 125 and Rs. 60 according to class. These were the rates actually assessed on the lands at rent settlement while the holdings stood recorded as *chandna* before the section 125, case in which the status was altered to *pattadari*. The rates are much lower than those prevalent in the adjoining *khas mahal*. This method of assessment resulted in enhancement of revenue from Rs. 263 to Rs. 4,042. It was considered that the proprietors would require some time to get the tenants' rents enhanced by suit proportionately to the revenue, and so the revenue for the first two years was assessed at only Rs. 736 ignoring the new valuation of these lands for that period. On the proprietors' refusal to sign the *kabuliat* on these terms it was conceded to them that the revenue of Rs. 736 should hold good for another year, to the end of 1931, and thereafter the full revenue would come into effect. The proprietors accepted this and signed the *kabuliat*.

171. *The Duttapur resumption case.*—In village Duttapur, thana Jajpur no. 392, a large area of land reserved for grazing had been encroached upon, and some landlords had themselves assisted this by bringing the land under cultivation and by collusively allowing the trespassers to obtain decrees in the civil court declaring their *raiya* right. Under section 3 of Regulation 7 of 1822 it was open to Government to refuse to renew the engagement with these landlords and to take the *mahal* into *khas* possession. The matter was referred to Government, who decided that this was a case in which such severe measures were justified, and the Collector was accordingly ordered to start resumption proceedings. Seven estates, bearing tauzi no. 3936 and 6180 to 6185 were affected by this order as the land encroached upon was *samilat* of these estates.

172. *Closing of separate accounts.*—It was decided on the proposal of Mr. Mansfield as Settlement Officer in 1926-27 that no attempt should be made at this settlement to apportion the total revenue of a tauzi among the co-sharer proprietors. It was also suggested that the existing separate

accounts were inconsistent with the *mahalwar* record and should therefore be closed. Mr. Hubback, as Commissioner, recommended that all separate accounts should be closed automatically when the estates were taken up for revenue settlement. The Legal Remembrancer also supported the view that as soon as revenue was revised the separate accounts became inconsistent, and without applications from the proprietors it was not legal for Government to apportion the revenue payable by different groups of co-sharer proprietors. Government also on the recommendation of the Settlement Officer sanctioned remission of court and process-fees on applications for reopening separate accounts, provided that they were filed within six months from the date of publication of a general notice inviting such applications". Government, however, did not find it possible to remit the fee of Rs 2 leviable under section 70 of the Land Registration Act on all applications for the opening of a separate account as this is mandatory and such remission would not be legal. The exemption from fees only referred to applications for reopening separate accounts that had been automatically closed.

As regards the publication of a general notice inviting such applications it was pointed out by Mr. Scotland as Settlement Officer that as revenue settlement of all estates was not done at the same time it would be unfair to proprietors to issue a general notice fixing a specific date for filing their applications free of process and court-fees and on his proposal it was decided to make the six months' period of limitation run from the date of service of the special combined notice in Form A (which gave information to the proprietors of the rewriting of the Register A—D and the revision of revenue). This notice already informed the proprietors of the closing of separate accounts and invited them to reopen them but a paragraph was now added informing them of the exemption from court and process-fees on applications filed within six months.

173. *Reopening of separate accounts*:—Applications for reopening separate accounts were received in the land revenue camps and disposed of. There were 294 such applications in Balasore district and 113 in Puri district. In Cuttack district there have been 414 applications dealt with by this department. After closing of the land revenue camps the applications are received and dealt with in the Collectorate. The numbers of separate accounts in each district prior to this settlement were 1, 296 in Cuttack, 561 in Balasore and 202 in Puri. Every assistance was given to the co-sharer proprietors in determining the proper shares of revenue. In this respect the new *mauzawar* system of registration was found to be much more convenient and clear.

In the course of the rewriting of A—D register of the permanently-settled estates of North Balasore it was found that the existing separate accounts in most of the estates were inconsistent with the actual facts. The Board of revenue ordered that the Collector of Balasore should take up the work of closing separate accounts that were found to be inconsistent with the interests shown in the new A—D registers.

In respect of applications for opening new separate accounts that had not existed before, the ordinary rules were followed in realizing court and process-fees.

CHAPTER VIII.

Preparation of the new A—D Registers.

174. *Defects in the old system of mahalwar registration*—In the course of this settlement the whole question of the system of land registration and the recording of the part interests of co-sharers in an estate was thoroughly sifted and important changes were introduced. The embarrassment caused by this problem in previous settlements can be gathered from paragraphs 411 and 494 of Mr. Maddox's report and from paragraphs 96 to 99 of Mr. James's report. At the Provincial Settlement the principle followed in *khewat* writing was to prepare for each revenue-paying estate a *khewat* based on the entries in the Collector's Registers A and D, and from this *maalwar khewat* to extract the *mauzawar* or village *khewat*. The Collectorate Registers showed the co-sharers as having certain fractional interests in an estate, but made no attempt to record *pattidari* possession where it existed, or to describe the co-sharers' actual interests in particular villages where those differed from their interests in the estates as a whole. The Provincial Settlement *khewat* seems to have anchored itself to the presumed correctness of the *maalwar* shares found in the Collectorate Registers. Mr. James in paragraphs 96 to 97 of his report has dealt very clearly with this matter of the specification of shares in the Collectorate Registers, and the confusion which results from an attempt to reconcile these with the actual facts of possession. The *maalwar* shares are regarded as immutable, whereas in actual fact their value must inevitably change with the lapse of time.

The unfairness of the old system can be illustrated by the case of tanzi no. 236 in the district of Puri; where a proprietor having a separate account based on a *maalwar* share of 11 pies paid revenue of Rs. 59-5-0 although he only received Rs 53 from his share in the estate. This share was repeatedly sold for arrears of revenue.

175. *Proposals for amendment*—Mr. James's suggestion for future settlements was that the settlement record should be made the authority for extent of interest and that this should be omitted altogether from the Collectors' Registers; further that the village *khewat* should show the revenue assessed on the village as well as that on the whole *maal*, thus rendering it easy to determine the revenue which each sharer is liable to pay, without the necessity of working out each share in terms of the whole *maal*.

In this settlement Mr. Mansfield, as Settlement Officer in February 1926, raised the questions whether any attempt should be made at revenue settlement to apportion the liability to revenue among the co-sharer proprietors; and whether the *maalwar* system of recording shares in the Collectorate Registers should be continued. He pointed out the unfairness as well as the practical difficulties resulting from the registration of *maalwar* shares which have long ceased to represent the real interests of the co-sharers. The friction which results from this in partition proceedings was particularly stressed. Mr. Mansfield proposed to abolish the recording of the co-sharer's interests as a fraction of the whole estate, and merely to show the interest held by each co-sharer proprietor in each of the *mauzas* separately. In this way a clear account would be given of the interest actually held by each co-sharer in the various lands of the estate, instead of a mere symbolic share in the estate as a whole. It will still be possible to calculate the proportion which each co-sharer's interest bears to the whole of the estate, and this proportion will represent his real share as it existed at the time of preparing the record. In order to effect this change of system Mr. Mansfield recommended the introduction of the combined form of Registers A and D as shown in the Board of Revenue's circular no. 8, dated the 20th June 1915, and proposed that the re-writing of the Collectorate Registers in this new form should be done by the Assistant Settlement Officers simultaneously with revenue settlement.

those officers being specially empowered by the Collector under section 84 of the Land Registration Act, and the settlement *khewat* being treated as "authentic information", under section 22 of the Act with the sanction of the Board. It was not proposed to show the revenue as apportioned among the different co-sharers. Mr. Hubback, as Commissioner, supported the Settlement Officer's proposals, which were accepted by the Board of Revenue and given effect to in March 1927 as regards the temporarily-settled estates and later extended to the permanently-settled estates of the three districts by Government order.

The proprietary *khewats* have been written at this settlement *mauzawar* and strictly according to possession, to avoid the reproach levelled against the Provincial Settlement *khewats* that they merely repeated the incorrect theoretical shares found in the Collectorate Registers.

176. *Procedure in rewriting the registers.*—The procedure in rewriting the new Register A—D was as follows:—

The new registers were prepared in draft on the basis of the settlement *khewats*. An examination was at the same time made of the existing Collectorate Registers, and a list prepared of all the discrepancies, particularly of the new entries made in the D Registers after the preparation of the settlement *khewats*. As rewriting work was taken up along with revenue settlement a combined form of notice was devised, calling upon the proprietors to attend for both purposes, and was served in the manner prescribed in section 28 read with section 50 of the Land Registration Act both on those parties who were entered in the settlement *khewats* and on others whose names were found in Register D. The notice set forth that the parties' presence was necessary for explaining the discrepancies between the present D Registers and the settlement *khewat* and also for making necessary entries in the new D Register, and they were warned of their liability to penalty under section 31 of the Act if they did not attend. The attendance was in general very satisfactory, as the proprietors naturally took an interest in the revenue settlement and rewriting of the A—D Register. When the work was hampered by non-attendance of parties, the power to fine under section 31 was used. On the dates fixed the draft registers were read out to the Parties and the discrepancies with the existing D Registers reconciled after enquiry. When objections arose regular hearings were given and orders Passed. After completion of the enquiry and disposal of disputes, if any such corrections as were necessary were made in the draft registers, which was thereafter fair-copied. After preparation the fair copies were checked with the drafts. When these rewriting proceedings had been completed, the existing A—D Registers in the Collectorate Record Room were cancelled. The points in which the new A—D Registers differed from the pre-existing D Register were notified under section 77 of the Land Registration Act.

In the new A—D Register the *mauzas* are arranged in English alphabetical order. As Register C was not rewritten, the *mauzas* number according to this register were not entered, but against each *mauza* was entered the name of the revenue thana and its serial number in the thana. In those areas of Blocks A and B (districts Balasore and Puri) in which the villages had been numbered according to police-stations, the police-station names and numbers were entered and the revenue thana names were also added.

In the temporarily-settled estates the areas were entered in three columns, viz. assessed unassessed and total. The figures for these different columns were taken from the revenue assessment reports.

In the column for "Land revenue original" the revenue of last settlement was entered, and in the column for "Land revenue subsequently altered" the revenue as finally settled at this settlement was entered, without any mention of progressive stages of enhancement where such were allowed.

In dealing with lands that are *samilat* of several estates, the details were shown under the *tauzi* bearing the lowest number, the shares of all the

tauzis being there specified. Under each of the individual tauzis the area entered was a fraction of the total *samilat* area proportionate to that tauzi's share.

177. The number of objections raised and the number of discrepancies between the *khewats* and the existing Collectorate Registers were as follows:—

District.	No. of estates.	No. of discrepancies.	No. of objections	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
Cuttack	8,405	29,661	364	Including 21 permanently-settled estates.
Puri	559	2,737	82	Including one permanently-settled estate.
Balasore	2,575	12,959	521	Including 171 permanently-settled estates.
Total	11,539	45,357	967	

The proportion of mistakes is larger than at last settlement when it was only 3.2 per estate. The most common mistake found is the retention of a proprietor's name long after his death, which in some cases occurred 30 years ago.

171. The system of notation used to express the proportionate shares was that laid down by the Doard in 1892, viz. :—

4 beds = 1 kara.

4 karas = 1 ganda.

20 gandas = 1 biswa.

16 biswas = 1 krant.

20 krants = 1 pie.

12 pies = 1 anna.

16 annas = 1 rupee.

Different systems of notation were found to be in use in some localities and in a few instances had been inadvertently adopted in the *khewats*. But the shares were converted into standard notation in the land revenue section.

179. *Rewriting work in permanently-settled estates.*—The rewriting work of the permanently-settled estates was more difficult, the existing registers being very inaccurate, and the proprietors not showing so much interest as in the temporarily-settled estates. The small estates of North Balasore were the most difficult. The entries were largely out of date, and there were often many co-sharer proprietors. In some cases also the land entered under a tauzi in the old registers was hard to identify. The other permanently-settled estates are for the most part large ones in which the law of primogeniture prevails, so that the registers are less complicated. For those estates which had never come under any authoritative settlement, the old registers only showed the total area without any mention of the

villages contained in the estates. In the new A—D Register the village names and areas have been entered. The rewriting was also done of those estates, like Madhupur and Darpan, which were excluded from this settlement, the particulars of villages and their areas being taken from the records of the last settlement. In a very few cases where partitions had been confirmed on the basis of the Revisional Settlement records, after the preparation of the record-of-rights at this settlement, the details of village areas were taken from the existing registers.

180. *Working of the new system of registration.*—In order that the workings of the new A—D Register might not be incomprehensible to the Collectorate staff, a clerk was deputed from each record room to work in the rewriting section of the settlement.

Some inquiries have been made into the experience of the Collectorates with the new form of register, and some criticisms have been made.

In Separate Account cases it is clearly an advantage that the real shares of the individual proprietors should be known, and not merely their theoretical shares. It has been objected by a Collectorate officer that in cases under section 11 of Act XI of 1859 or section 70 of Act VII of 1876 the record-keeper cannot easily check the shares stated by the applicants, and that the Collector has no authority to enquire into the question of assets (note 7 at page 32 of the Sale Laws Manual). Under the old system of registration the share could only be checked theoretically. Under the new system it can, if necessary, be checked by actual computation of the assets, with some additional labour. But generally the parties will agree about the shares. The Collector cannot adjudicate about the shares if these are disputed, but such disputes are very rare. The advantage of the *mauzawar* system is that it enables the proprietors themselves to know more clearly their real shares. A further advantage is that when applications are made under section 10 which should have been brought under another section, this can at once be detected.

Difficulty is experienced in applying section 49 of the Cess Act, 1880, which cannot be done without working out the *mahalwar* shares. I understand, however, that the section is rarely used.

The new system of registration admittedly makes for more work in giving effect to mutations. In making the corrections it has to be seen whether the *mauzawar* arrangement is altered, e.g. whether the possession of a group of proprietors which was previously the same in several *mauzas*, becomes different in different *mauzas*. It will facilitate this work if the parties are instructed to state clearly on their mutation application of what the shares under transfer consist.

Mutation fees have in a few cases to be calculated. It will be possible to work them out from the Asset Registers but this should not be necessary if the parties themselves are asked to state the revenue actually paid on the mutated share. This will generally be known.

The work of calculating costs in partition cases becomes a little more complicated, but no serious difficulty has been encountered. In Cuttack there is a standard scale according to area and for this purpose the areas are calculated to the nearest acre or tenth of an acre according as the cost per acre is above Rs. 2 or not. In Puri, on the suggestion of the Director of Land Records, in calculating costs divisions of less than a *karant* are ignored. It has also been suggested that a ready reckoner would be useful.

There is some greater arithmetical labour involved in preparing partition *goswaras* and *tauzi* slips but no special difficulties.

In partition cases *mauzawar* registration should enable the courts to arrive at a fair distribution. Under the *mahalwar* system this was sometimes difficult. In one case a co-sharer was rerorded for a theoretical *mahalwar* share of 7 annas but actually he was in possession of a specific area the value of which represented only 6 annas of the whole estate. He wanted to receive a 7-anna share on partition but the Board of Revenue held that he only held a 6-anna share. Under the new system of registration

such discrepancies will not arise. It will admittedly involve more trouble in many cases to calculate the *mahalwar* shares for purposes of partition, but under any system it would require more labour to attain greater accuracy. Some difficulty arises in calculating assets for apportioning the revenue. In the settlement asset registers *nijchas* and *nijjote* are valued at village rate, which is generally very lenient. There will be discontent among the co-shares, if some get a larger share of these lands than others, for it is not always possible to divide them equally. In such cases I understand that the court generally resorts to fixing a higher valuation on these lands, although this is not strictly in accordance with section 3 (xv)(b) of the Partition Act. *Anabadi* lands are also sometimes valued, as is indeed provided in section 3 (xv)(b), although this is not done at revenue settlement. These difficulties cannot, of course, be attributed to the new *mauzawar* system of registration, as they are due to the methods of revenue settlement.

There is some demand in the Collectorates for a more convenient record of assets than the detailed asset registers. It will be possible to prepare more compact registers, if necessary, from these detailed registers. It might also be convenient to show in the C Registers the total assets instead of the rental in the column for that purpose. I think it is to be regretted that the *mauzawar* revenue, or else assets, were not entered in the new A—D Registers, at this settlement, as this would have helped the Collectorate staff.*

Another occasion on which the absence of registered *mahalwar* shares is found inconvenient is when it is desired to allot surplus revenue sale-proceeds to individual co-sharer proprietors. Of course, it is always possible to make these payments jointly and this can generally be arranged through a pleader representative, even when the co-sharers belong to different localities.

Critics of the new form of registration should bear in mind that the extra labour which it will create is necessary to secure that fair distribution of shares, which was impossible under the *mahalwar* system, which was simple to work only because it was inaccurate. It is hoped that the proprietors themselves will find it easier to know what their real shares are, and I think that, when the proprietors have become accustomed to the new system, they themselves will generally be able to agree as to the extent of their shares and there will be few occasions when the Collectorate staff will have to work them out.

*The objection to this was that it might lead to the wrong impression that the *mauza* was separately liable for that revenue.

CHAPTER IX.

Statistical Account of Cuttack District.

181. *Situation and area*—The district of Cuttack is bounded on the north by Balasore, on the south by the district of Puri, on the east by the Bay of Bengal and on the west by the Tributary States of Athgarh, Dhenkanal and Keonjhar.

There are three subdivisions, Cuttack Sadr, Kendra para and Jajpur, with 10 revenue thanas in the district, and the area is covered by 25 police-stations jurisdictions

As regards village administration, there are 268 *chaukidari* unions. There are 268 *daffadars* and 3,023 *chaukidars*

Of the total number of 5 609 *mauzas* only 5,394 came under the present settlement.

The total area of the Cuttack district is 3,659 square miles. The areas excluded from settlement cover 597 square miles. Thus an area of 3,062 square miles have come under the present settlement. This area is classified as follows;—

permanently-settled	...	...	974	square miles
Temporarily-settled	...	...	1,783	ditto.
Revenue-free	...	...	244	ditto.
Government lands	...	...	61	ditto.

The district is for the most part a flat alluvial plain. There is a belt of low jungle on the sea coast in Killas Kanika, Kujang, Bishunpur and Harishpur, while along the western border there is a line of hilly estates:—Sukinda, Kalkala, Madhupur, Darpan, Dalijora, Patia, Dompara and Banki.

182. *Communications*—The following roads are maintained—

	Metalled.	Unmetalled.
1. Provincial roads in charge of the Public works Department	66	...
2. District board roads	180	365
3. village roads in charge of union boards	...	416

Among the provincial roads, the most important is the Orissa Trunk Road which traverses the district from north to south. It bifurcates south of Cuttack town, one branch going to Puri and the other to Ganjam.

The principal district board roads are—(1) Cuttack-Taldanda road, (2) Cuttack-Machgaon road, (3) Cuttack-Chandbali road, and (4) Fulna-khara-Madhab road.

The large rivers such as the Mahanadi and the Brahmini carry traffic during the rains. In other seasons the waters are very shallow except in the tidal reaches.

The Taldanda, the Kendrapara, and the Gobri canals are also available for navigation.

The Calcutta-Madras-Puri line of the Bengal Nagpur Railway traverses the district, and a branch line has recently been opened from Nirgundi, a few miles north of Cuttack, to Talcher. The opening of a light railway from Jagatpur, near Cuttack, to Kendrapara has been contemplated.

183. *Fair-weather road across Kathjori*—The river Kathjori to the south of Cuttack town is an impassable barrier to traffic from the commencement of the monsoon until the middle of the cold weather. Thereafter it

is possible to make a *kutch* road across the dry sand, and to construct a temporary bridge across the narrow stream of water that still remains, thus opening the Puri road to traffic. The river bed lies within the estate of a private landlord. The municipality used to construct the fair weather road and levy tolls until 1895, when the proprietor also put up a rival road. There was then a breach of the peace and the proprietor was prosecuted and convicted in the criminal court. But on appeal the High Court acquitted him and held that he was acting within his rights as proprietor of the land. The landlords have constructed roads and levied tolls on wheeled traffic ever since. They have not, however, attempted to set any restriction on the passage of pedestrians, which would indeed be impracticable. The public would, therefore, appear to have a general right to cross these river beds on foot. But the landlords claim that they retain the right to fence any particular part of the river bed, provided that they leave a convenient route open to the public for crossing. In this they appear to be justified, as there is no permanent or well-defined track across these river beds and the route taken by the temporary roads varies from year to year.

An informal conference on this subject was called by Mr. N. F. Peck, I. C. S., as Collector in 1928, at which a certain scale of tolls was laid down and it was agreed by the proprietors that public servants travelling on duty should be exempted from any payment.

184, *Population*.—The following table shows the population figures of thanas at the last three censuses:—

District, subdivision and thana.	Area in square mile	Population.			Percentage of variation		Number of persons per square mile		
		1931.	1921.	1911.	1921 to 1931	1911 to 1931.	1931.	1921.	1911.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cuttack district.	3,654	2,176,707	2,064,678	2,109,139	+5.11	—2.11	396	565	577
Sadr subdivision.	1,562	1,087,991	1,043,301	1,068,772	+4.28	—2.38	697	688	684
Cuttack thana.	298	237,148	2,14,872	228,193	+10.37	—5.84	796	721	766
Banki „ ...	193	84,406	70,110	78,604	+20.39	—10.81	426	354	397
Salepur „ ...	303	266,449	289,245	291,852	—8.54	—0.89	879	955	963
Tirtol „ ...	391	193,491	181,549	183,739	+6.58	—1.19	498	464	470
Jagatsingpur Thana.	372	336,497	287,525	286,384	+6.60	+0.40	824	773	770
Kendrapara subdivision.	977	496,498	478,773	485,918	+3.70	—1.47	508	490	497
Kendrapara Thana.	301	248,069	249,369	250,406	—0.52	—0.41	824	828	832
Patamundai Thana.	302	127,112	120,707	120,352	+5.31	+0.29	422	400	399
Aul „ ...	374	121,317	108,697	115,160	+11.61	—5.61	324	291	308
Jajpur sub division.	1,115	592,218	542,604	554,449	+9.14	—2.14	531	487	497
Jajpur Thana.	320	281,789	259,877	270,080	+8.64	—3.96	881	811	844
Dharamsala „	795	310,429	283,227	284,369	+9.60	—0.40	353	856	358

The fall in population between 1911 and 1921 is attributable to the various epidemics of cholera and influenza in 1919 and 1920, as well as to the spread of malaria in that decade. This fall reduced the total population of the district in 1921 almost to the same figure as in 1901. The decade 1921 to 1931 has seen an advance by 5.43 per cent on the whole. This advance has been most marked in those thanas where the drop in the previous decade had been greatest, viz. Cuttack, Banki, Aul and Jajpur. In

Dharamsala, however, there was also a large advance although the drop had been comparatively slight. The incidence of population, however, is comparatively low in Dharamsala. The increase of population in Jajpur and Jagatsingpur is rather striking in view of the large proportion of population to the square mile already existing in those thanas. On the other hand, Salepur thana the enormous population of which was commented upon by Mr. James, has suffered a large decrease in the last decade and indeed has a smaller population now than in 1901. Jajpur thana now has a slightly heavier incidence of population than Salepur, Kendrapara thana, in which there was an advance by 8 per cent between 1901 and 1911, has since then remained almost stationary suffering a slight decrease in both decades

185. *caste*—The castes which have the largest numbers in the 1931 census are as follows, the 1921 figures being given for comparison—

			1931	1921
Khandait	...	...	548,664	482,542
Brahman	...	...	186,021	191,476
Chasa	...	...	153,663	178,688
Gour	...	...	145,132	134,192
Pan	...	...	116,105	98,986
Kandra	...	...	97,356	88,325
Bauri	...	...	78,553	70,188
Keut	...	...	78,498	48,471

The fluctuations are rather remarkable, particularly, the large increase of Keuts. The Khandaits form a large part of the population of the district.

There are 66,093 Muhammadans and 2,873 Christians.

Some interesting castes are found. The Chatras attribute their origin to the great famine of 1865 when many people were outcasted because they had taken food from the various relief kitchens. Those who did not succeed in gaining readmission to caste formed themselves in to this new caste. The Maharas, found in village Kundal of police-station Barchana are said to be descendants of the Marhattas. Inter-marriage is permitted among them within close degrees of relationship. They speak a mixed *patois* of Maharathi, Hindustani, and Oriya.

186. *Education*—The figures for 1899 are not available but there can be no doubt that literacy has greatly advanced since the last settlement. The following table shows the number of schools and the pupils in the district—

standard.			schools	pupils
High English	...	...	8	1,899
Middle English	...	...	33	3,377
Middle Vernacular	...	...	4	499
Upper Primary	...	...	148	8,110
Lower Primary	...	...	2,837	76,595
Elementary Training	...	...	7	117

Cuttack is an important educational centre and contains many schools and colleges. Chief among them is Ravenshaw College, which is affiliated to Patna University. The standard of literacy, however, among the village population remains low. According to the census of 1931, only 162,945 persons are literate, i. e. 7½ per cent of the entire population. There are 12,867 persons literate in English.

187. *Trade and industries*—The main exports are rice and other agricultural products, hides, and brassware. The main imports are cotton piece-goods, metal articles, spices, tobacco, kerosene oil, sugar and salt. There are no industries which flourish on any large scale. The bell-metal industry, has its chief centre in Bhatimunda, near Kapilas Road Station

in thana Cuttack. Ropes are made from cocoanut fibre or jute and sold. Low-caste people, such as the Pans weave baskets and do cane-work. The area in the neighbourhood of the large town of Cuttack has more opportunities for trade, for instance the sale of bena-grass for thatching of houses in the town. In village Bidyadharpur, a few miles east of Cuttack, there are reported to be 200 families of goldsmiths who earn their livelihood by working in the shops in Cuttack. people in this region, in the villages along the Mahanadi, find it profitable to grow potatoes and other vegetables and hawk them in the town.

In Prathamkhandi village of Jajpur subdivision the weaving of *tassar* silk is carried on by Bengali settlers. An attempt is being made to stimulate this industry in Orissa in general.

Cloth manufacture attains some importance in villages Kisnagar, and Kendupatna of the Sadr subdivision and Haripur and Narsingpur of the Jajpur subdivision. The weaving of cotton cloths in the villages is reported to be reviving.

In Cuttack town the manufactures of silver filigree and horn work still flourish. There are several tanneries. The larger Utkal Tannery does not appear to be prospering. A rice-mill, ice factory and match factory have been started since last settlement, But the last-named has recently suspended work. The cuttack Electric Supply Company has come into existence within the last few years, There has been much evidence of increased building activity in recent years, and in village Tulsipur and Biranasi within the Cuttack municipality many brick-kilns are now to be seen. In the same region there is now a large godown at Chahata ghat, to which bamboos are floated down the Mahanadi from Angul. to be transported to Calcutta for the manufacture of paper. This concern belongs to the Calcutta firm of Messrs Heilgers & Co, Agents for the Titagarh Paper Mills.

A peculiar profession has quite recently grown up in thana Aul and some parts of Jajpur. In these areas a considerable proportion of the male population work in calcutta. In order to provide a cheap and convenient means of sending articles from Calcutta to their native villages these people employ carriers, locally known as *Hundiwalas*, who go from the villages twice or thrice in each month by steamer from Chandbali to Calcutta, and bring from there the various commodities which the emigrants desire to send home, The *Hundiwala* brings these articles as his personal luggage.

188. *Drinking water*—In some areas, particularly near the coast there is difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of drinking water in the dry weather. In the fifteen years from 1913 the district board excavated 15 tanks and 57 wells to improve the supply.

189, *soils*—In the plains ordinarily the soil called *dorasa natal* is predominant. Near the hills there are varieties of *gorimati*, a soil containing particles of rock, and *genguti* composed of clay and small particles of laterite stones. In the villages near the sea, the soils are saline in varying degree.

190. *Agricultural stock*—According to the figures prepared at *khanapuri* the number of draught cattle in the area under survey is 349,388, or one in $3\frac{1}{2}$ cultivated acres, and the number of ploughs 164,686 or one in 7 cultivated acres. The proportion of ploughs is rather higher than in the other districts (one in $8\frac{1}{2}$ in Balosore and one in 9 in Puri) The number of carts is 14,605.

191. *Agriculture*—The area of land under rice is 1,00,531 acres and the proportion of such land to the cultivated area is 91.6 per cent.* This is less than the average of the three districts (93 per cent) but shows a large advance on the district's proportion at Provincial Settlement (85.1 per cent) In Kendrapara thana it is as high as 97 per cent while in other thanas it varies from 90 to 93 per cent.

* The figures are for the area under settlement.

Beali rice is grown on 149,908 acres of 12½ per cent of the cultivated lands. The proportion is considerably higher than the average of the three districts (8.1 per cent) but shows a slight decrease from the Provincial Settlement figure (13.1 per cent). *Sarad* is less widely grown in this district than in the others, viz. on 78.3 per cent of the cropped area as compared with an average of 84 per cent. There is, however, a considerable advance on the Provincial Settlement percentage of 70.2. The present area under this crop is 940,271 acres. The area under *dalua* is now 10,352 acres. The proportion is only half what it was at Provincial Settlement. It is greater than in Balasore but less than in Puri Sadar subdivision.

The decline in cultivation of *mandia* is most pronounced in this district. The proportion has fallen from 30 to 12 acres in every thousand. The area is 14,209 acres.

Cereals and pulses such as *mung*, *biri*, *kulthi* and *harar* cover 207,519 acres or 17 per cent of the cropped area. The proportion is the same as in Provincial Settlement and is higher than in Puri and Balasore (11 per cent and 1 per cent respectively). *Harar* alone accounts for 98,341 acres.

Oilseeds are grown on 15,595 acres. Here also the proportion is higher than in the other districts and shows a considerable advance over that of Provincial Settlement from 9 to 13 acres in every thousand.

The decline in cotton is most marked in this district, as 1,782 acres were found under this crop at Provincial Settlement and only 99 acres now.

Jute, on the other hand, has advanced most strikingly from 6 acres to 40 acres in every 10,000. The present area is 4,940 acres in this district, the total area in the three districts being 5,862 acres.

Sugarcane has advanced slightly but is still insignificant, the area being 1,282 acres, or about 1 in every thousand cultivated acres.

Pan cultivation has extended to 370 acres as compared with 174 acres at Provincial Settlement.

Most of the tobacco-growing area is in this district,—1,321 acres out of a total of 1,460 acres.

The proportion of twice-cropped area shows a slight advance from 14.3 per cent to 15.9 per cent and the area is now 190,352 acres. There has been a much greater advance in Puri Sadr subdivision, while in Balasore the twice-cropped area remains insignificant.

192. *Outturn of paddy*.—In paragraph 51 of Mr. James's report the figures of crop-cutting experiments by the Public Works Department in irrigated and unirrigated areas between 1899 and 1911 are given. The averages were 23 maunds and 18 seers of paddy on irrigated land and 17 maunds 36 seers on unirrigated land. The figures of such experiments from 1917 to 1929, which are given in detail elsewhere in this report, are not widely different, viz. on irrigated lands 23 maunds 33 seers and on unirrigated land 17 maunds 16 seers. The result of 2,014 experiments done by officers of the settlement was on average of 16 maunds 19 seers per acre.* This is exclusive of the experiments done in the seasons 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31 by Mr. Hubback's method of random sampling, which showed an average yield in the irrigated area of Cuttack Sadr subdivision of 23 maunds 16 seers and in the non-irrigated area of the same subdivision of 23 maunds 3 seers, and in the non-irrigated area of Kendrapara subdivision of 19 maunds 3 seers.† These experiments were done in good years in which rainfall was adequate but there were no serious floods. The high figures of 1930-31 are partly explained by the fact that the experiments were only made in the latter half of the harvesting season, which of course means that they do not give a correct indication of the average yield. The high figure of outturn in the non-irrigated area of Cuttack Sadr subdivision illustrates the fact that in such areas the crop obtained in a year of adequate and well-distributed

* After making allowance for ridges and dryage.

† See table in Appendix.

rainfall may be as good as in the irrigated area. Many flood-affected areas also attained good crops in the seasons from 1928 to 1930 as a result of the silt deposited in the flood years 1926 and 1927. On the other hand, the unprotected areas are not secure from an occasional disastrous flood or from failure of the crops through drought.

The mean figures of random sampling experiments in the Sadr-subdivision in the years 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31 were 21.03 maunds, 22.47 maunds and 25.10 maunds, respectively. It was noticed that experiments done by random sampling generally gave higher figures than those done by the ordinary chain method even in the same season.

An analysis of the figures obtained by crop-cutting experiments by the ordinary chain method by Attestation Officers appears to me to give a fairly accurate idea of the difference in outturn between the irrigated and unirrigated areas. The following are the figures :—

Irrigated area.		Non-irrigated area.	
Number of experiments.	Average outturn.	Number of experiments.	Average outturn.
	Mds. srs. ch.		Mds. srs. ch.
441	19 21 7	1,020	15 28 11

The difference is about 4 maunds.

The experiments in some of the principal flooded areas of the district produced the following results :—

Season.	Thana.	Number of experiments.	Average outturn.		
			Mds.	srs.	ch.
1925-26	Jajpur	62	13	34	15
1926-27	Dharamsala	58	12	24	10
1927-28	Kendrapara	33	14	17	10

193. *Extension of cultivation.*—In the temporarily-settled area of district Cuttack there is general increase of 5.9 per cent in cultivated area, the percentage of the assessed area to the total area being 75 per cent as compared with 70 per cent at the Provincial Settlement. The following table shows the increase in the different blocks in this settlement :—

Block.	Thanas.	Last settlement.		Present settlement.		Percentage of increase in assessed area.	Percentage of assessed area to total area.	
		Assessed area.	Total area.	Assessed area.	Total area.		Last settlement.	Present settlement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
C ...	Jajpur	Acres.	Acres.	Acrea.	Acrea.			
	Aul (portion).	169,247	215,266	177,370	214,466	+ 4.8	78	83
D ...	Dharamsala salepur.	192,944	284,129	206,696	281,206	+ 7.1	68	74
E ...	Portions of Jagatsingpur.	204,469	267,322	214,267	266,523	+ 4.8	76	80
	Tirtol. Kendrapara.							
F ...	Pattamundai.	253,325	402,553	270,429	393,768	+ 6.8	63	69
	Ditto and Cuttack.							
	Total ...	819,985	1,169,970	868,762	1,155,923*	+ 5.9	70	75

*The decrease of about 0.9 per cent. is only apparent, and due to shrinkage of the maps.
P. T. M.

The increase of cultivation has been largest in Blocks D and F. Considerable areas have been reclaimed in the thanas of Dharamsala and Cuttack, where the temporarily-settled estates contain a part of the jungle country on the western fringe of the district. In the centre of the district, especially in the irrigated parts, cultivation has practically reached its limit.

194. *Embankments*.—An area of 420 square miles is protected from inundation by embankments (apart from the area protected by canal embankments). Since the last Provincial Settlement most of the class IV and of the class III embankments have been abandoned. Originally embankments extending for a length of 510 miles were maintained, but this had been reduced to 382 miles at the last Provincial Settlement. The existing length of embankments in Cuttack is only 212 miles, excluding canal embankments.

195. *Flood problems*.—An elaborate net-work of rivers is spread over Cuttack district, and a large part of the district is affected by floods in a greater or less degree.

The Baitarani river forms the northern boundary of the district. For about 10 miles above the Trunk Road it is not embanked on the Cuttack side and the villages on the bank of the river in pargana Sargara suffer from floods although the damage is not usually severe. Below this the Baitarani is embanked on the Cuttack side, and the Bura-Kharsua is embanked on the left, so that the triangle of land in thana Jajpur lying between those rivers is protected.

Pargana Jodh, lying in the angle between the Burha and Kharsua is rather badly flood-affected, especially in the south-west. There are several *ghais* in this area which scour the villages and deposit sand.

The Brahmini enters the district a few miles above the head of its delta, and flows between Killa Sukinda on the left and Killas Balaram pur and Chousathipara on the right. The right bank is protected by the Pingua embankment, but the left is unprotected. The southern part of Killa Sukinda has suffered much from floods of the Brahmini, which is eroding its left bank and depositing sand.

The head of the Brahmini delta presents one of the most difficult problems in Orissa. The Patia-Kharsua which goes off on the left is very uncertain in its course, and its vagaries have caused a good deal of damage. The Brahmini itself has developed a tendency to break away to the left into the Patia-Kharsua channel, and has made four gaps in its left bank, the greatest of which is known as the Janardan *ghai*. An escape had been constructed here by Government in 1903. It was outflanked in 1926, and repaired, but was again outflanked in the extraordinary flood of 1927, which also caused the other three *ghais*, known as Sahara, Manika and Bisai. These *ghais* have remained open since 1927, and the damage done to pargana Olas by scouring and sand deposit from these *ghais* is very great. It is estimated that about 18,000 acres are flooded from them. A project is under preparation for closing the *ghais* by a strong embankment and making a high level spill just below the Brahmini anicut on the left bank.

The Flood Committee of 1928 attributed the present condition of the head of the Brahmini delta in part to the existence of the two anicuts, in the Brahmini and Patia respectively, and also observed that serious deterioration had taken place in the Brahmini by the deposit of a vast quantity of sand at the head of the delta in the flood of 1920. The dismantling of the Brahmini weir and the remodelling of the Patia weir were advocated.

The situation in this area is aggravated by the fact that the embankments on the Burha-Kharsua left and on the Birupa and Brahmini right converge to a sort of funnel-mouth only about 5 miles wide, through which the discharges of five major streams, the Burha, Kharsua, Brahmini, Genguti and Birupa, have to pass out. Hence the whole of this area is annually flooded, but the effects vary greatly from one part to another. The western portion of pargana Beruan is badly affected, and further south, in the centre of pargana Alti, where the Genguti joins the Kimiria.

a *ghai* of recent formation has done much harm, depositing a thick layer of sand in Alikana and other villages. The Routra *ghai* in the Kharsua right near Binjharpur has caused damage to a large area in parganas Tisania, Kalamatia and Hatimunda. It is not proposed to close this breach as this will endanger other embankments. The unauthorized closing of it in 1931 caused several breaches elsewhere and the embankment closing the *ghai* was also partially washed away. Most of this region between the Kharsua and Brahmini only suffers damage in exceptionally high floods, and in many parts good *rabi* crops are grown when the paddy crop fails.

To the east of this region lie the Aul Ring Bundh and the Utikan, Gajaria and Damarpur embankments, which were condemned by the Flood Committee as holding up the discharge of the Kharsua and Brahmini to the sea. The Aul Ring Bundh breached in 1920, remained open for the next two years, was repaired in 1923, was breached again in 1926, and has remained so since then. The country inside the embankment is below the level of the surrounding country, and the yearly floods are disastrous to the crops. The year 1924 is the only year in the last 12 in which a good crop has been reaped in this area. This embankment, however, when in repair, has a harmful effect in preventing the speedy discharge of floods to the sea, and its abandonment has been recommended. The same applies with greater force to the Gajaria embankment on the Brahmini right. A project is under consideration for removing these embankments and allowing the Brahmini to find a short outlet to the sea through the Hansua creek or through an alternative channel further to the west.

South of the Birupa and Brahmini lies a protected and irrigated area enclosed between the Pattamundai canal embankment and the Kendrapara canal embankment. Some parts are subject to water-logging by the river Gobri, which flows through the middle. In 1925 the area suffered a little from an excess of rain-water, which could only be drained off through the Jambu river at Gandakia. In 1926 the eastern portion suffered severely by the breaching of the Pattamundai flood bank below Indupur. This breach has been repaired in 1927 and such a calamity is not likely to recur. The area was somewhat compensated for the damage of 1926 by bumper crops in the next season due to enriching of the soil by silt deposit.

Between the Kendrapara and Taldanda canals there is a belt of country traversed by the main stream of the Mahanadi and its branches the Nuna, Chitratola and Paika. This region is only protected piecemeal by various minor embankments. One or two parts of this area were found to have suffered rather severely in recent years. For instance the Mardha *ghai* has done damage in the north of pargana Painda. The breaches in the Chitratola left at Baranaiguan cause damage in high floods, and a good deal of sand has been deposited here. The part of pargana Painda south of the Chitratola has suffered by the Nuapara *ghai*. It is not proposed to close this breach, as its effects are considered beneficial on the whole. Except for such isolated cases, the general condition of affairs in this region was not found to be very bad. The people already realize the advantages of *rabi* cultivation, and the tendency to grow *rabi* crops is being encouraged.

South of this there is another protected and irrigated area between Taldanda and Machgaon canals.

To the south-west of the Machgaon canal there is another strip of country covered with a net-work of streams, which are embanked in a partial and haphazard fashion. The long embankment on the Biluakhai and Devi left protects a considerable area in the eastern portion of parganas Saibiri, Deogaon and Kate. The island between the Kathjori and Surua receives a rush of water from the Kathjuri, which is only partially embanked, and there has been a good deal of sand deposit in the central portion of this island. Pargana Sailo is largely protected by the embankment on the Surua and Devi right, but there have been serious breaches at Korkor and Manko, which have caused considerable damage. The remaining part of this region is somewhat similar to the region between the Kendrapara and Taldanda canals. The rice crop is uncertain and it is a suitable area for the encouragement of *rabi* cultivation. The Flood Committee of 1928 recommended the gradual removal of the embankments in both these parts of the district, leaving only those that protect the noses of islands.

from the onrush of floods. A further suggestion about the southern tract is that the Alanka river, which has been closed by the Machgaon canal embankment, should be reopened and the old Jatadhar estuary revived. This estuary previously took a considerable volume of the discharge from the Kathjori branch.

The Kathjori immediately to the south of Cuttack town has eroded its right bank and rendered a considerable area in Killa Patia unproductive by depositing sand. There have been occasional breaches in the Kuakhai right in pargana Bakhrabad.

196. *Revenue settlement*.—The total revenue of the temporarily-settled estates as assessed at the last settlement was Rs. 10, 99, 165 representing 53 per cent of the gross assets. The present revision has raised the revenue by 33 per cent to Rs. 14, 61,593 * representing 52.7 per cent of the gross assets. The advance in revenue is slightly less than the rate of increase in assets which is 34.9 per cent.

In some estates, owing to abnormal increase of assets, the revenue demand at this settlement had risen in so high a proportion that to avoid hardship temporary concessions were allowed and the revenue was advanced in short steps spread over periods not exceeding four years. In other estates owing to temporary deterioration of soil by floods, concessions were granted for period of fifteen years. The ultimate revenue demand therefore, does not come into full effect until 1944. The difference of revenue in the intervening period will not exceed Rs. 5,000.

The total revenue demand includes a sum of Rs. 24, 412 payable to the *chaukindari* fund, as compared with Rs. 20, 859 at last settlement.

The incidence of revenue per acre of assessed land is now Rs. 1-10-11, as compared with Re. 1-5-4 at last settlement. Calculated on total area the incidence is now Re. 1-4-2 as compared with Re. 0-15-0 at last settlement.

The total *malikana* allowed to the proprietors at last settlement was Rs. 8, 97, 758. The proprietor's income had increased in the course of the settlement to Rs. 10, 77, 380. The *malikana* now allowed to them is Rs. 12, 02, 176. Their income thus advanced by 20 per cent during the term of the last settlement. This settlement brought an increase of 12 per cent over the existing income and the final result is an advance by 34 per cent over the income of last settlement.

Partitions since last settlement have led to an increase in the number of private estates from 4, 452 to 8, 374.

197. *Sub-proprietary tenures*.—There are 1, 124 sub-proprietary tenures in Cuttack district. Of these 613 are *makaddams*, 265 are *sarbarakars*, 7 are *pursethi kharidars*, 23 are *koth kharida*, 202 are *shikmi zamindars*, 5 are *padhans* and 9 are *tanki*.

Their assets advanced from Rs. 2, 37, 790 to Rs. 2, 66 242 during the currency of the settlement, and to Rs. 3, 15, 936 as a result of this settlement. The settled assets exceed the pre-existing assets by 18.7 per cent and those of last settlement by 32.9 per cent.

The distribution of the assets at last settlement and at this are shown below:—

			Last settlement.		Present settlement.	
			Percentage.	Amount.	Percentage.	Amount
				Rs,		Rs,
Sub-proprietor	...	...	32	75,977	31.1	98,109
Proprietor	...	...	16.8	40,061	16.4	51,855
Government	...	...	51.2	1,21,652	52.5	1,65,972

*This and the succeeding figures are not absolutely exact as this is written before final confirmation of a few *tauzis*.

The Government revenue advances by 36.4 per cent. The income allowed to the sub-proprietors is 29.1 per cent more than at last settlement, but it is 6 per cent less than that which they possessed immediately before this settlement. The share now allowed to the proprietors has advanced by 29.4 per cent over that allowed at last settlement.

198. *Sairat*.—The total *sairat* assessment on the temporarily-settled estates at last settlement was Rs. 16,600 and at this settlement Rs. 26,708. The details are as follows:—

						Rs.
Fishery	...	...	...	...	...	10,349
Fruit, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	8,517
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	3,526
Jungle and miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	4,316
Total						26,708

The largest increase is in income from fishery and fruits. In the miscellaneous income is included such items as fees for mooring boats, income from quarries, ferries and jungle produce.

199. *Nijjote and nijchas*.—There are 68,789 acres of *nijjote*. Of these 52,529 acres are recorded in cultivating possession of the proprietors or sub-proprietors* while 12,951 acres are held by tenants on cash rents and 3,309 acres by tenants on produce rents. The *nijchas* area is 34,738, making a total of approximately 87,000 acres nominally in cultivating possession of landlords.

200. *Produce-rented lands*.—There are 18,642 acres held on produce-rents directly under the proprietors and sub-proprietors, including the 3,309 acres of *nijjote* mentioned above. There are also 6,788 acres held by *raiya*ts under tenure-holders and 6,350 acres held by under-*raiya*ts on produce-rents. In all there are 64,006 holdings covering an area of 28,471 acres on produce-rents, the average size of such holdings being 0.44 acres. The area represents 2.5 per cent of the temporarily-settled area. Of the area held by under-*raiya*ts, 40 per cent is held on produce-rents.

201. *Rent-free area*.—The total area held rent-free, apart from *minha* lands is 17,409 acres, of which 4,898 acres are in ordinary tenures, 5,435 acres in holdings of occupancy *raiya*ts. 2,982 acres held as ordinary *jagir* and 4,094 acres as *desheta jagir*.

202. *Cash-rented tenants and rent settlement statistics*.—The areas under the different main classes of tenants on cash rents, and the effect of rent settlement, are shown in the following table—

Class of Tenancy,	Number of holdings	Area under present settlement.	Rents.		Percentage of increase over existing rent.	Rental incidence per acre.	
			Existing.	Settled.		Existing.	Settled.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Kharida <i>jamabandi</i>	34,501	28,077	44,734	61,418	37	1 9 6	2 3 0
<i>Bajyasti</i> tenures and tenancies.	173,114	108,224	1,20,735	1,94,769	61	1 1 10	1 12 10
Settled and occupancy.	854,420	581,501	16,11,347	19,85,718	23	2 12 4	3 6 7
<i>Sthitiban babat nijjote</i> .	29,976	12,951	...	45,533	...	...	3 8 3
Non occupancy ..	2,688	2,226	4,036	4,944	21	1 13 5	2 3 6
<i>Chandna</i> ..	22,369	3,552	18,212	22,706	25	5 2 0	6 6 3
<i>Chaukidari</i> resumed <i>jagir</i> .	18,643	9,251	23,165	28,683	24	2 8 1	3 1 7
Ordinary tenures ...	5,337	8,117	13,974	18,890	35	1 11 7	2 5 1

* As is explained elsewhere a good deal of this area is actually cultivated by *raiya*ts on produce-rents.

Out of 3,975 villages in all, 2,794 received the normal enhancement of 4 annas, 205 received a larger enhancement, 530 received 3 annas, 251,2 annas and 52 one anna. In 54 there was no enhancement and in 89 the rate of enhancement was varied in different portions.

203. *Reserved and communal lands.*—At Provincial Settlement there were 55,300 acres, recorded as reserved, 48,800 acres being for grazing and 6,500 for cremation grounds and other purposes. At Revision Settlement 89,382 acres were recorded as reserved or communal. The figures at this settlement are :—

	Reserved	Communal.	total
1	2	3	4
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
In temporarily-settled area	63,600	11,526	75,133
In permanently-settled area	4,342	3,458	7,718
Total	67,942	14,984	82,926

The figure of Revision Settlement is swelled by some areas of land recorded as communal which are not strictly of that nature, as also by a large area so recorded in Madhupur and Darpan, which were not included in this settlement.

204. *Revenue-free estates.*—The total area in the district under revenue-free estates (excluding Patia) is 133,703 acres. Of this area no less than 76,232 acres, or 57 per cent are recorded as *nijchas* and *nijdakhal* of the landlords. Of this area, 41,333 acres are under cash-rented holdings and 8,650 acres under produce-rented holdings. The area under produce-rents is greater than in Balasore but much less than in Puri.

The total rental of 41,333 acres under cash-rented holdings was Rs. 1,26,155 at the commencement of this settlement. The average incidence was thus Rs. 3-0-10, which is a little higher than the average in the temporarily-settled estate, Rs. 2-14-0

As a result of cases under section 128, affecting 6,812 tenancies rents amounting to Rs. 18,563 were enhanced to Rs. 22,607, an advance of 22 per cent.

205. *Khas mahals.*—There were nine estates held *khas* by the Government at the advent of the settlement. These are as follows :—

1. Tauzi no. 2844.—This is Banki Government estate which was not included in the settlement.
2. Tauzi no. 2616.—Cuttack town *khas mahal*.
3. Tauzi no. 1458.—Cuttack Cantonment *khas mahal*.
4. Tauzi no. 1970.—Cuttack Cantonment *khas mahal*.
5. Tauzi no. 4018.—Jambu, Hukitola and Light House.
6. Tauzi no. 7113.—This tauzi includes the roadside lands of the Ganjam Trunk Road. The lands were recently identified and put under the tauzi at the instance of the Collector. The Collector is in the position of a trustee, and the revenue is credited to the Public Works Department.
7. Tauzi no. 5842 and 8. Tauzi no. 5844.—These two estates were held by proprietors at the last settlement, but were sold for arrears of revenue and there being no bid, Government purchased the estates under section 58 of the Sale Law in 1912 and 1911 respectively.

9. **Tauzi no. 2602**—The estate is in Cuttack town with an area of 21 decimals only. As the proprietors were recusant at last settlement, the lands were held *khas*. In the present settlement the *mahal* has been restored to the proprietors on their executing *kabuliyat* for a revenue of Re. 1-1-0 based on assets of Rs. 2.

206. *Cuttack town and cantonment khas mahals*.—In the Cuttack town and cantonment *khas mahal* the tenants hold on written leases for a term of years. In the town *khas mahal* the leases granted in 1913 expired in 1923. The existing rents were settled in 1913. It has been decided by Government to renew these leases for a further term up to 1943, without enhancing rents. The leases of tenants in the cantonment *khas mahal* were last granted in 1910 and expired in 1928. Government have ordered a revision of the leases and enhancement of rents for a term ending in 1943, so that in that year the lease in both *khas mahals* may be renewed and rents resettled for a further period of 30 years. It was decided after some discussion that the enhancement of rents in the cantonment *khas mahal* should be done by the agency of the Collector and not by the Settlement Department.*

The leases granted to *khas mahal pattadars* do not allow them to transfer their holdings in whole or in part without taking previous permission of the landlord.

They have no right to the timber of trees standing on their holdings, whether self-grown or planted by them, and they have to take previous permission for cutting them.

The 1910 leases of cantonment *khas mahal* tenants and the 1913 leases of town *khas mahal* tenants contained a clause prohibiting the sub-letting of holdings without the previous permission of the Collector. This, however, is frequently evaded, and many unauthorized sub-lessees were detected at this settlement.

The rents of sub-lessees are restricted to a maximum of 100 per cent above the *pattadar's* rent. In practice this does not really protect the sub-lessees. Rents are kept artificially low and the advantage is reaped by the superior tenants in the shape of large *salamis*.

The transfer or bequest of holdings without the Previous permission of the Collector was also prohibited by the leases of 1910 and 1913. A rule is observed of not allowing transfers to persons who are already tenants. This is frequently evaded by means of *benami* transactions.

207. *Sale of occupancy rights*.—The statistics prepared for the last 12 years by the Attestation Officers show that in rural areas settled and occupancy rights covering an area of 71,331 acres were transferred for an aggregate value of Rs. 73,29,156, i.e. at the rate of Rs. 103 an acre. The selling rate reported by Mr. James for the decade preceding his settlement was Rs. 58 an acre. Thus the value of occupancy rights has greatly advanced since the last Revisional Settlement.

The sale rate in thana Salepur is Rs. 178 an acre, in Jagatsingpur Rs. 134 and Cuttack Rs. 121. Lands in the irrigated areas command a higher price than land in the unirrigated thanas. This can be explained by their greater security as well as by the greater pressure of population and the scarcity of new lands open to reclamation. In thana Aul the rate is as low as Rs. 48. In the remote areas near the coast land is very cheap, due to its poorer quality, its inaccessibility and the presence of extensive waste lands still open to reclamation.

208. *Mortgage of holdings*.—In the district of Cuttack an area of 5,389 acres is found to have been mortgaged for a sum of Rs. 4,19,955 during the last twelve years. Mr. James reported an area of 4,288 acres to have

* It was not strictly an enhancement, but a taking of fresh leases. One of the Assistant Settlement Officers was appointed as a Special Sub-registrar for the purpose.

been pledged during the ten years prior to his settlement. Regarded proportionately there is not much difference between the figures. The following statement shows the percentages of areas mortgaged to different classes:—

					Revisional Settlement	Present Settlement
Landlord	...	...	...	...	8	4
Raiyat	...	...	...	...	54	78
Money-lender	...	...	...	...	38	17
Lawyer	...	...	...	...	...	1

The proportion of mortgages to money-lenders shows a decline.

The amount advanced per acre in the rural area is Rs. 78 against the sale rate of Rs. 103 in the district.

209. *Sales of proprietary rights.*—The statistics of the Revision Settlement showed the value of proprietary rights as obtained on sale to be twelve times the amount of the revenue demand on the property transferred. The figures of voluntary sales collected at this settlement show the proportion to be 24 times, while in thana Salepur it is 50 times, in thana Jagatsingpur 31 times and in thana Cuttack 35 times. Of the 1,259 voluntary transfers, 943 were to *zamindars*, 163 to *raiya*s, 137 to money lenders, and 16 to lawyers.

During a period of fifteen years (1914—1928) there were 481 sales of estates or shares of estates for arrears of revenue. The aggregate revenue of the estates sold was Rs. 35,173 and the sale price Rs. 4,08,387 or twelve times the revenue.

The average annual amount of arrears of revenue for which estates were sold is Rs. 882 in a revenue roll of about 12 lakhs of rupees.

210. *Redemption of estates.*—Twenty-six estates were found in this district paying revenue of Re. 1 or less. These were redeemed for a total payment of Rs. 670-5-0.

211. *Utikan estate.*—The Utikan estate, the largest temporarily-settled estate in the district, covering 37,500 acres, belongs to Rai Bahadur Manmatha Nath Mitra of Calcutta. Although surrounded by rivers it is well protected by embankments, some of which are maintained by Government and some by the estate. The lands are fairly fertile. The assets as calculated at this settlement are Rs. 98,688 and the revenue has been settled at Rs. 54,169. Suppression of tenants on *nijchas* and *nijjote* lands took place on a large scale at this settlement and 2,644 acres were recorded as in cultivating possession of the proprietor, who is an absentee, and gets these lands cultivated by *raiya*s, generally on produce-rents.

The estate is in its origin akin to the adjoining Killajat estates, but was not granted permanent settlement. In many respects the management resembles that of a Killajat estate, for instance in the yearly conferring of titles on leading tenants. The management is left to the local officials, who are oppressive.

212. *Mandal estate.*—Tauzi no. 1449 is the largest of the estates formed by partition of the original Killa Dalijora. It is generally known as the Mandal estate as it belongs to the Mandals of Hughli district. Killa Dalijora is a temporarily-settled area in spite of its name and its situation in the hilly tract adjoining the Feudatory States of Dhenkanal and Athgarh. The Mandal estate contains extensive jungles. The cultivated area increased from 5,100 to 8,220 acres in the course of the last settlement, and there is still an unassessed area of 21,000 acres. The jungle also yields a considerable *sairat* income. Thus the revenue, as now assessed (Rs. 10,211) shows an advance by 57 per cent over that of last settlement in spite of very lenient treatment in the *sairat* valuation and a deduction of Rs. 1,734 from the assets in consideration of recurring expenditure of improvements. Subsequent to rent settlement the proprietors have given a lease of 4,000 acres of jungle to the Raja of Pachkote (Manbhum district) at a rent of Rs. 855-9-0. This was not included in the assets for purpose of revenue settlement.

No village notes were prepared in this area as it is temporarily-settled. But the Attestation Officer reported that in the Mandal estate the tenants are allowed to take wood for their own purposes free of cost from the estate jungles, while outsiders are charged fees at varying rates. My own observations while touring in this area bore this out. The Mandal proprietors appear to have allowed their tenants too free a hand in cutting jungle, so that there is danger of its disappearance. The Raja of Pachkote has now moved for the application of some sections of the Forest Act to the area held by him.

213. *Rattan estate*.—The name of Rattan estate is given to a group of tauzis owned by Mr. S.M. Bose of Calcutta. The largest is tauzi no. 147, which lies in Kendrapara subdivision. The lands are for the most part protected and to a great extent also irrigated. Assets had increased substantially and the revenue has advanced from Rs. 12,038 to Rs. 16,733. The *nijchas* and *nijjote* lands were reported to be cultivated by *raiya*ts on produce-rents, but the estate succeeded in suppressing these tenants.

The estate is organized in circles with a manager in each and a head manager in the Cuttack office. The landlord is an absentee but makes periodical visits to the property.

Immediately after the Revision Settlement the estate brought a civil suit to obtain a declaration that the lands recorded as *sarbasadharan* and *rakhit* were ordinary landlord's *anabadi* and this was decreed *ex parte*. In this settlement the rights of the public have again been recorded.

Mutation fees were found to be charged at rates varying between 5 annas and 13 annas per rupee of the sale price according to the decision of the landlord's agents, after taking into consideration the suspected understatement of the price and delay in applying for mutation. A marriage fee of Rs. 2 is realized in the estate. Some cases of failure to grant proper rent receipts were reported to the Collector. In general the management is oppressive, as is usual in large estates with absentee proprietors.

214. *Pandua estate*.—The Pandua estate, tauzi no. 2484, covering 18,400 acres in thana Tirtol, belongs to the well-known Tagore family of Calcutta. Lying near the coast it is liable to saline inundation. The cultivated area increased by 7 per cent in the course of the settlement and revenue has been advanced from Rs. 18,601 to Rs. 25,408 although the percentage of assets taken is only 50. Rents of ordinary tenants are rather high, the average being Rs. 3-14-0 per acre. Only a very small area is recorded as in cultivating possession of the proprietors.

The estate is owned in three equal shares and the co-sharers have been at loggerheads for the last four or five years. Two managers were found installed at Pandua and their disagreements caused some difficulty in the settlement operations. The management of the estate is left to the local agents, who were reported to be somewhat rigorous in their rent collections to adopt arbitrary methods of charging mutation fees when they consider the sale price to have been understated, and to realize at the same time *amla kharcha* of Rs. 3 per *kabala*, but in other respects not to be oppressive.

215. *Resumption cases*.—As a result of boundary disputes between villages Talpada and Termanpur, thana Tirtol nos. 331 and 328, in the temporarily-settled area and the adjoining villages of Killa Kujang it was found that an area of 107 acres was at present held by the proprietor of Kujang although not included in the Killa and were liable to be assessed to revenue. After proceedings the Board of Revenue ordered their resumption. The lands have been made into a separate estate with tauzi no. 8728, and revenue of Rs. 12 has been assessed.

A small area of 18 decimals in mauza Baharnal of Cuttack town was resumed, as it appeared from the General Register of revenue-free claims of 1837 that it was then found to be resumable on the death of the incumbent and it had been recorded as *hinhayati* at last settlement. The land was annexed to a contiguous estate and assessed to rent.

A resumption proceeding was held in 1929 regarding a strip of land on the north border of Killa Patia. An order had been passed by Mr. Mills,

as Collector in 1836, on the award of arbitrators that the boundary between Patia and Cuttack Haveli should run parallel to the stone embankment and the north bank of the Kathjori at a distance of 150 *dasti padikas*. As a fact however, the revenue-free proprietors of the Patia villages hold the whole area up to the river bank (except for a small portion). Neither the Revenue Settlement nor the Provincial Settlement maps gave effect to Mr. Mill's order and the proprietors succeeded in casting some doubt on its validity. Resumption was therefore not recommended.

216 *Relations between landlords and tenants*—In the temporarily-settled area the relations between landlord and tenant rarely become seriously strained. The state of affairs is not at all uniform. In the large estates, such as Utikan, Rattan and pandua, where the landlords are residents of Calcutta, the local officials are oppressive, and the tenants are unable to contend against the superior strength of the management. The reverse is the position in the very small estates, in which the landlords are scarcely better off than the *raiyats*, and the latter can defy any attempt at oppression. Some of the resident landlords, however, obtain a powerful hold over the tenants by combining the functions of landlord and *mahajan*, and several instances were reported of the evil effects of this system. The more powerful landlords eject their tenants arbitrarily without recourse to law. The tenants were found to be still remarkably ignorant of their rights under the law. An effort was made to educate them in these matters at this settlement, and a printed booklet, the *Hal Bandobast Katha*, explaining the rights of various classes of tenants, was sold in the camps.

In the Pachikote estate the relationship is reputed to be satisfactory on the whole but the *jagirdars* complain of the exactions of the landlord in respect of manual labour.

In the Killadari estates of Kantajhar where the landlord is the Raja of Keonjhar and Balarampur, the relationship is good.

In the properties of Babu Ganesh Lal pandit some discontent is reported at the long periods for which mutations are kept pending after transfer.

The Bhinjarpur estate was well managed and contented while under common management. It has now been released. The landlords are still unable to agree among themselves and are not popular with their tenants. The estate is under partition proceedings.

The tenants of Chaudhuri Ismail Khan were reported to be suffering oppresson by the local agents of the proprietor, who is an absentee.

217. *Transfer and subdivision of estates*—The figures of estates transferred from Cuttack to the other two districts and vice versa, of those subdivided, and of lands still remaining on the tauzi roll of a district other than that in which they are situated, can be gathered from the chapters on Puri and Balasore.

218. *Cuttack town municipality*—In 1901 the Cuttack municipality extended over $6\frac{3}{4}$ square miles and had an estimated income of Rs. 56,000. It now contains $18\frac{1}{2}$ square miles and its estimated income is 2 lakhs of rupees. Nearly 12 square miles of the municipal area consist of river bed and open lands. In 1901 the municipality had $19\frac{1}{2}$ miles of *pukka* road, $21\frac{1}{2}$ miles of *kutchra* road, and 10 miles of drains. There are now 40 miles of *pukka* roads (exclusive of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles maintained by the Public Works Department), and 26 miles of *kutchra* roads and 17 miles of drains. It was declared to be a second-class municipality in 1897 and still retains that status.

The population of Cuttack town according to the census of 1931 is 66,253, whereas in 1901 it was 51,364, in 1911, 52,523 and 1921, 51,007. The decline between 1911 and 1921 is attributed to the cholera and influenza epidemics of 1920. The area included in the town at the 1931 census was greater than on previous occasions. The 1931 population over the area covered by the previous censuses was 58,419. This represents an increase between 1921 and 1931 by 14.5 per cent, a much higher rate of increase than in the average rural area.

CHAPTER X.

Statistical account of Balasore district.

219. *Situation and area.*—Balasore district extends over 2,085 square miles and is bounded on the north by Midnapore district of the Bengal Presidency, on the south by Cuttack district, on the west by the Feudatory States of Mayurbhanj, Nilgiri and Keonjhar, and on the east by the Bay of Bengal. The district is 90 miles long from north to south but at its narrowest part it is only 10 miles broad. It is mainly an alluvial plain with a strip of land along the coast covered partly by scrub jungle and partly by grassy ridges and sand hills.

The district is divided into two subdivisions, Balasore Sadar in the north and Bhadrak in the south. There are 9 revenue thanas and 16 police-stations.

The area included in the present settlement operations covered 2,056 square miles, i.e. the whole of the district that is contained in villages, some coastal jungle and river bed only being excluded. It is made up as follows :—

permanently-settled	...	...	336	square miles
Temporarily-settled	...	...	1,512	ditto.
Revenue-free	...	...	172	ditto.
Government lands	...	...	36	ditto.
Total	...	...	2,056	ditto.

220. *Communications.*—The main road of the district is the Orissa Trunk Road which is metalled throughout. It passes through the whole length of the district. There is a ferry over the Subarnarekha river, which is not bridged. A bridge is now being provided for the crossing of the Burabalang river. This has already been done for the Salandi river in 1917. The crossing of the Baitarani, where the road passes into Cuttack district is also unbridged. There is a metalled road connecting Balasore with Chandipur, the site of the proof range on the coast. A bridge has been constructed on this road to cross the Coast canal. An important road more than half of which is unmetalled is that connecting Bhadrak and Chandbali, but owing to floods it is impassable for several months in the year. The Flood Committee of 1928 recommended that it should be lowered and metalled throughout with vented causeways for passage of flood water. Other unmetalled roads run between Bhadrak and Dhamnagar, between Bhadrak and Kupari, between Kupari and Brahmapur, between Kupari and Soro, between Basudebpur and Balasore via Soro, and between Bahanaga Bazar and Talpada. The Keonjhar-Bhadrak road is metalled, and the Bhadrak-Basudebpur road is metalled for 5 miles out of 20.

The following table shows the mileage of roads under the different authorities :—

		Metalled.	Unmetalled.
Government Public Works Department	...	104 miles.	2 miles.
District board	...	76 "	260 "
Village roads under union boards	...	...	198 "

Motor buses run along the main roads from Bhadrak and Balasore, but the bullock cart is still the most common means of transport. In North Balasore pack bullocks are largely used for transport of goods.

The Bengal-Nagpur Railway traverses the district parallel to the Trunk Road. There is a light railway from Rupsa to Baripada in Mayurbhanj State. Another light railway was constructed to connect Balasore town and Nilgiri State but this has been abandoned.

221. *Population*—The following table shows the population figures of the last three censuses—

Population of Balasore.

Name of district, sub-division and thana	Area in square miles.	Population.			Percentage of variation.		No. of persons per square mile.		
		1931.	1921.	1911.	1921 to 1931.	1911 to 1921.	1931.	1921.	1911.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Balasore District	2,085	990,600	980,504	1,055,568	+1.03	—7.11	475	470	506
Bhadrak sub-division.	930	446,771	438,601	460,632	+1.86	—4.78	480	472	495
Bhadrak Thana	292	171,884	181,841	186,353	—5.48	—2.42	589	623	638
Basudebpur „	192	78,757	71,026	78,222	+10.88	—9.20	410	370	407
Dhamnagar „	233	133,711	129,056	134,623	+3.61	—4.14	574	554	578
Chandbali „	213	62,419	56,678	61,434	+10.13	—7.74	293	266	288
Sadar subdivision	1,155	543,829	541,903	594,936	+3.6	—8.91	471	469	515
Soro Thana	402	191,755	218,633	226,514	—12.29	—3.52	477	544	564
Balasore „	227	111,759	102,364	121,636	+9.18	—15.34	492	451	536
Jalleswar „	134	56,899	53,027	61,866	+7.32	—14.29	425	396	462
Baliapal „	207	108,107	100,106	104,522	+7.99	—4.22	522	484	505
Basta „	185	75,309	67,773	80,298	+11.12	—15.60	407	366	434

There has actually been a decrease by 6 per cent since 1911. The fall in the decade 1911—1921 was due to the epidemic of influenza and the spread of malaria. The decrease in thana Soro between 1921 and 1931 by 12.3 per cent is very striking and difficult to explain. In Bhadrak also there has been a decrease of 5½ per cent. In all the other thanas, except Dhamnagar, the increase since 1921 is substantial.

222. *Caste*—The following castes number more than half a lakh in the district, according to the 1931 census—

	1931	1921
Khandait	199,750	194,273
Brahman	110,658	107,664
Gour	69,157	66,546
Pan	59,545	55,333

There are 31,735 Muhammadans, 1,375 Christians and 12,272 Santhals.

The Khandaits are the most numerous caste in the district. Their main profession is agriculture. A certain number among them are proprietors. Babu Ratnakar Das of Tihari and Babu Bhaskar Chandra Mohapatra in Ertal in the Bhadrak subdivision, who are engaged in business in Calcutta, are purchasing big *zamindaries* in this district.

Next to Khandaits in numerical strength are the Brahmans. The old Brahman *zamindar* families are decaying, for instance the Paharaj family. The only Brahman *zamindar*, of importance who retains some prosperity is Babu Radha Kanta Pardhi of Iram in thana Basudebpur.

The Karans though only 22,354 in number are an influential class. There are some Karan *zamindars*, of whom the wealthiest, Babu Radha Prasan Das of Sunhat, is now under the Court of Wards.

The Tamil community occupies a position of some influence in Balasore town. Although their original occupation was growing betel leaf, many of them have become educated and have taken service under Government. Rāi Bahadur Manmatha Nath. De, one of the premier *zamindars* of the district, belongs to this race.

The Telis chiefly employ themselves in trading by means of pack bullocks. They are generally well-off and many of them have purchased *zamindaries*. The designation Teli does not satisfy them and some of them have got themselves recorded as "Kubera", a mythological term signifying the lord of wealth. The leading man among them is Babu Bhagban Chandra Das of Balasore, who has, however, adopted Brahmoism.

There is a peculiar caste, practically confined to this district, known as the Rajus. They are found in thanas Baliapal and Bhograi as well as in the neighbouring part of Midnapore district. Tradition associates their origin with the expedition of Raja Mukund Deb of Orissa to these parts in the 12th century to meet the Muhammadan invasion. The Rajus are said to be the offspring of this king and of two women, one of *dhobi* caste and one of *bania* caste. Another account is that this caste is the result of inter-marriage between some Marhatta settlers and Baisya and Sudra women. They live by cultivation. The Custom of remarriage of widows prevails among them.

There are some Muhammadan *zamindars* in Bhadrak town and Dhamnagar, but they are declining in wealth.

The Bhuians of Gurpara were formerly Brahmans, and are said to have embraced Muhammadanism to gain the support of the Emperor Aurangzeb against the Chief of Mayurbhanj who had occupied some of their lands. They are still *marfatdars* of some Hindu deities, and they do not inter-marry with other Muhammadans, but only among themselves.

The Muhammadans are generally cultivators. They also trade in hides and cattle.

A peculiar community known as Sualgiris is found in villages Sugo and Dhansimali of thana Jalasore. They speak a peculiar language and eat the flesh of jackals.

S. I. In North Balasore there are a large number of Santhals. They generally live on the outskirts of the jungle and earn a livelihood by day labour and by selling jungle produce. Some however, have settled down and reclaimed the jungle for cultivation.

223. *Education*.—According to the census of 1931, the number of literate persons is 81,404, i. e. 8 per cent of the total population. The number of literates in English is only 4,593.

The following accounts is given of the number of schools existing in 1929-30:—

Standard.			Schools.		Pupils.
High Schools	...	...	4	...	762
Middle English school	...	...	20	...	1,445
Middle vernacular school	...	...	...	...	...
Upper primary school	...	...	118	...	6,409
Lower primary schools	...	...	1,164	...	33,203

There is only one High English school managed by the Government and the other three are aided by Government. These high school have been in existence since the last settlement.

There are one upper primary school and 370 lower primary schools with a total strenght of 8,457 pupils which are maintained by private persons or bodies entirely at their expense.

224. *Industries*.—Not many articles are manufactured in the district. The Industrial school in Balasore town, conducted by American missionaries, turns out furniture and ironware. The rice-mill at Jellasore, started by a Marwari in 1918, was the first of its kind in the district. Others have been started at Basta and Balasore, also by Marwaris. I understand that others are contemplated. A good deal of the rice trade is in the hands of Marwaris, who do business at the railway stations. In this district most of the rice area is easily accessible to the railway stations, the distances being less than in the other two districts.

Bell-metal is manufactured in various parts. That of Remuna is noted for its workmanship and commands a wide market even beyond the district. The business is reported to be declining.

Fine mats manufactured in the villages of Jellasore thana are not only sold locally but also exported.

There are a number of dealers in *pan* in Bhograi thana where the leaf is grown and exported on a fairly large scale.

In Mugunipur, Barikpur and other villages of thana Soro the industry of making stone utensils is said to be making progress.

225. *Chandbali port*.—The Coast line of Balasore at one time contained several ports, but of these Chandbali alone remains and it is dwindling in importance, as the following figures show:—

Value of imports.			Value of exports.		
1909-10.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1909-10.	1927-28.	1928-29.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Ri.	Rs.
25,15,246	17,33,754	2,10,828	35,63,696	6,59,851	2,38,245

The sudden drop after 1928 is explained by the fact that the Indian General Navigation Company, Limited, discontinued their service between Calcutta and Chandbali at the end of that year. The number of vessels that entered the port in 1928-29 was 13 with a tonnage of 2,062 as compared with 156 with a tonnage of 33,452 in 1909-10. The bonded warehouse for salt was closed in 1921.

226. *Drinking water*.—The district depends largely on tanks for its supply of drinking water, but wells are also found in the southern portion of Bhadrak subdivision. The district board has spent Rs. 11,692 in excavating tanks and sinking wells in the sixteen years up to 1927. In the same period the Public Works Department spent Rs. 18,246 in sinking wells. Insufficient attention seems to have been paid to the villages on the sea coast, where as reported by officers there is water famine in many places in the hot weather.

227. *Soils*.—The predominant soils are *balia matal* and *balia*, while *matal* is also common in the areas that are inundated by rivers.

228. *Agricultural stock*.—The number of draught cattle in the district according to the figures prepared at *khanapuri* is 231,031, or one in four cultivated acres. The number of ploughs is 110,132 or one in 8½ cultivated acres. But in the cattle census of 1930 the figure for ploughs was 143,325, so that our figure is possibly an under-estimate. The number of carts is 3,924, which is slightly higher than the figure of the 1930 census—3,694. The number of carts is much smaller than in the other two districts. This is mainly due to the greater use of pack bullocks which are the commonest means of transporting goods especially in the northern part of the district.

229. *Agriculture*.—The most striking feature of this district agriculturally is the large extent of rice cultivation, particularly of the *saradh* variety: The area under rice, 886,985 acres, represents 96.2 per cent of the net-cropped area, showing a considerable advance over the proportion at Provincial Settlement—92.5 per cent. In Baliapal thana, where the proportion is lowest, it is 92.5 per cent, while in Basudebpur and Chandbali thanas it is as high as 98.2 per cent.

The rice grown is nearly all *sarad*. The areas are as follows :—

						Acres.
Under <i>sarad</i>	...	...	...	...	...	862,332
Under <i>beali</i>	...	...	...	...	...	22,785
Under <i>dalua</i>	...	...	...	...	...	1,879

Sarad covers 93.6 per cent of the cropped area, as compared with 91.3 per cent at Provincial Settlement. In Basudebpur and Soro thanas the proportions of *sarad* area to total rice area are 98.8 per cent and 99.7 per cent respectively. *Beali*'s proportion to cropped area has advanced from 1.1 per cent to 2.5 per cent but is still very small, while *dalua* is quite insignificant.

The areas under *rabi* and other crops are correspondingly small. Eight acres were found under *mandia* at this settlement (there were only 14 at last settlement). There are 10,831 acres under cereals and pulses such as *biri*, *mung*, *kulthi* and *harar*, the proportion of 1 per cent having remained constant.

Oilseeds show a considerable advance but still only cover 4,130 acres. Cotton has fallen to 27 acres. Jute has advanced its proportion from 2 to 9 per 10,000 but still only covers 795 acres. Sugarcane has also increased its proportion slightly but covers only 740 acres. The area under tobacco is only 47 acres.

Pan cultivation has extended to 369 acres, as compared with 121 at Provincial Settlement. It is mostly done in the coastal tract in the extreme north of the district and in the area south of Bhadrak town.

230. *Outturn of paddy*.—As a result of 1,225 crop-cutting experiments in the district by officers of the settlement the average outturn of paddy per acre was calculated to be 13 maunds 12 seers per acre. This shows little variation from the figure of experiments at Revision Settlement, which was 13 maunds 30 seers.

Random sampling experiments, however, in the seasons 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31 in the Sadar subdivision, showed mean outturns of 17.49 maunds, 17.06 maunds and 11.17 maunds, respectively.

231. *Extension of cultivation*.—In the temporarily-settled area a comparison of the assessed areas of the provincial and the present settlement shows an increase by 9.1 per cent in the area under cultivation, the previous assessed area being 678,393 acres, and the present 739,804 acres, covering 79 per cent of the total temporarily-settled area. The increase is by 13 per cent in the Sadar subdivision, and 3.5 per cent in Bhadrak subdivision.

232. *Reclamation on the coast*.—A large area that was previously scrub jungle in the coastal parganas has been opened up for cultivation since last settlement. Until recently this area had never really recovered from the terrible cyclone of 1831, which depopulated the coastal tract. The Oriya cultivator has never ventured to resettle here, and it was left for speculators from Midnapore to bring the land under cultivation by taking settlement of large blocks and getting them reclaimed by the labour of Santhals from Mayurbhanj and Muhammadans from Midnapore. These settlers were known as *chakdars*. At first the *salami* paid was only Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per acre and the rents Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 2. Although small embankments had to be erected the cost of reclamation was not great and that of cultivation was low, the soil being very good. The productivity of the land led to keen competition and the rates of *salami* rose to Rs. 50 and Rs. 100 per acre. The landlords have tried to retain as much of the land as possible under their own control and have ceased to let it out to *chakdars*. The more unscrupulous among them have attempted by litigation and by instigating the under-tenants, to oust the *chakdars*.

The extent to which the spread of cultivation has taken place in the different parganas is as follows :—

Satmalang (Thana Basta)	...	...	...	77 per cent.
Dasmalang (Thana Balasore)	...	...	...	136 " "
Chanua (Thana Basta) ...	...	...	...	42 " "
Sahabandar (Thana Baliapal)	...	...	...	33 " "
Daradachar (Thana Basta)	...	...	...	14 " "
Bhograi (Tkana Baliapal)	...	...	...	11 " "
Basta ...	...	...	...	8 " "
Routra (Thana Balasore)	...	...	...	40 " "

In the Bhadrak subdivision the largest increase in cultivation is noticed in parganas Ambahata (16 per cent), Saheb Nagar (18 per cent) and Tappamalianch (8 per cent).

233. *Further extension of cultivation.*—The percentage of cropped area to total area in the different thanas is as follows :—

					Present settlement
Soro	...	...	...	...	77.7
Bhadrak	...	...	...	...	76.2
Dhamnagar	...	...	...	...	73
Basta	...	...	...	...	68.1
Baliapal	...	...	...	...	67.6
Basudebpur	...	...	...	...	66
Balasore	...	...	...	...	65.3
Jellasore	...	...	...	...	63.2
Chandbali	...	...	...	...	60

The proportion is very high in Soro, Bhadrak and Dhamnagar, where the population is dense. In the whole district there are 1851,71 acres recorded as culturable waste, including 137,871 acres of old fallow and 28,989 acres of jungle. In the temporarily-settled estates there are 165,083 culturable acres, of which 113,165 acres are old fallow and 22,700 acres are jungle. The additional area available for cultivation is 16 per cent of the total area. The area actually brought under the plough since last settlement is 49,404 acres in the temporarily-settled area of the Sadr subdivision alone, although Mr. Kingsford estimated that only 40,000 acres were open to future cultivation in the whole temporarily-settled area. Restrictions on the erection of embankments in certain areas have come into force from about the time of the last settlement, but cultivation has nevertheless extended substantially. There are still large areas on the sea coast available for reclamation.

234. *Flood problems.*—The parts of Balasore district most severely affected by floods are the extreme north and the extreme south. In the north the lands of the Kamarda and Nayapal area have no protection from the floods of the Subarnarekha, which are held up by the Bhograi and Joki embankments (the latter in Midnapore district). In times of high flood the people of this area generally succumb to the temptation to cut the Bhograi embankment, thereby passing the flood on to the people living further to the east. It has been proposed by the Flood Committee of 1928 to abandon the Joki embankment and the part of the Bhograi embankment north of the Orissa Coast canal, and to construct a new embankment running north or slightly north-east from about the Bhograi Lock. This would protect the larger part of the area now inundated. This project has been taken up, and a survey has been made for it.

On the west of the Subarnarekha mouth lies a flooded area known as the Salsa Pat, where water accumulates from a drain near the Jamkunda Lock and from the Haskura group of streams, and is held up by the line of sand hills on the sea-coast. People of this area have been enterprising enough to excavate a drainage channel through the sand hills, but without a sluice this is useless and allows salt water to enter. A design for a sluice has now been prepared. The situation here has recently been aggravated by the Subarnarekha straightening out a loop at Chormara and causing a spill into the Haskura group.

The district is traversed by a number of minor streams, the Panchpara, Burabulang, Kansbans and Gumai. The first two do not do much damage. Floods are frequent on the Kansbans and Gumai owing to the fact that their estuaries have deteriorated by the construction of the Orissa Coast canal. The area to the south-east of the Bhadrak-Basudebpur road is affected by flood from the Matai and its tributaries. In the south-east corner of pargana Ankura the high river floods are held up by the sea embankment, and the villagers have recourse to cutting this embankment to drain the water off.

It has been proposed by the Flood Committee to abandon the Coast canal so far as it lies in Balasore district. It has long ceased to be worth maintaining for purposes of transport, and it aggravates the flood problem by preventing the drainage of water into the sea.

The southern end of the district is flanked by the Baitarani river and traversed by its tributaries the Salindi and Genguti. The parganas to the east of the High Level canal are more or less affected by floods. The floods of the Salindi are not on the whole harmful except in the lower reaches. Pargana Kaima is damaged by floods from the Salindi and Baitarani, but the south-east corner of that pargana in the vicinity of Chandbali, is a comparatively fertile area. The part of pargana Bayang lying to the east of village Deuldihi is flood-affected. *Dalua* paddy is widely cultivated in this area. A portion of western Bayang, in particular village Nadigan, was reported at attestation to be deteriorated by sand deposit from the Dobandhi ghai. Pargana Ahyas and the adjoining part of Dhamnagar suffer considerable damage to the rice crop in high floods but the soil is favourable to *rabi* crops. The villagers in this area are prone to construct unauthorized embankments which have to be discountenanced as they cause danger to the Baitarani embankment of the Jajpur side. The Baitarani is embanked on its right for about 18 miles below the High Level canal. This embankment has closed up three old channels which used to take a part of the river's discharge in floods. The people of Dhamnagar have always felt a grievance on this account and have prayed for the reopening of these channels. On the recommendation of the Flood Committee of 1928 a scheme is under preparation for reopening the Benga and Patpur channels with sluices. It is not expected, however, that the relief thus afforded to thana Dhamnagar will be very great. The flooded part of south Balasore is also liable to drought in years of scanty rainfall.

The coastal area of the district is in danger of flooding by the sea. Protection is afforded by a salt embankment running from village Mandari to the Dhamra estuary. This is a Government embankment except for the portion in Killa Kanika, which was constructed and is maintained by the Raja. It is evident that this embankment obstructs the flow of flood water from the land side, and in 1927 it was actually breached in more than 60 places from that side. The provision of a means of escape by sluices appears to be the best solution of this problem. Survey works have been completed for this purpose.

The area west of the High Level canal is protected by the embankment on the left bank of the Baitarani. This, however, was breached in the great flood of 1927, which destroyed about 11 miles of the railway and inundated thana Dhamnagar and the land round Bhadrak. It was proposed by the Flood Committee to construct an escape in this embankment, to increase the openings in the railway line and to shorten Range III of the High Level canal so as to provide a wider gap between this and the

Salindi at Bhadrak. These measures will provide for the discharge of an exceptionally high flood in the Baitarani and prevent the repetition of the catastrophe of 1927. The scheme is at present under consideration.

235. *Embankments*—The length of the existing embankments under the Public Works Department is 53 miles; these protect an area of 105 square miles. There are 14 embankment sluices which afford irrigational facilities.

The main embankments are (1) the Bhograi embankment on the left bank of the Subarnarekha, (2) the Baitarani left embankment above the High Level canal; (3) the Salindi embankment protecting the Civil Station of Bhadrak; (4) the salt water embankment in thana Basudebpur.

236. *Revenue settlement statistics*—There are 2,394 estates (excluding *khas mahals*) in Balasore district which were assessed to revenue during this settlement.

The following statement shows the area of these estates, assessed and unassessed, as surveyed at this settlement, compared with the figures of the last revenue settlement;—

	Assessed.	Unassessed.	Total
Provincial settlement	679,296	263,267	942,563
Present settlement	741,703	198,199	939,902

the gross assets at last settlement amounted to Rs. 11,19,674. They were found to have increased during the term of the settlement to Rs. 12,54,454, i.e. by Rs. 1,34,780.

As a result of the settlement of rents at this settlement the assets rose to Rs. 15,45,438. The settled assets show an increase of 23.2 per cent over the existing assets and 38 per cent over the last settlement assets.

The total revenue of the temporarily-settled estates as assessed at last settlement was Rs. 5,96,737 representing 53.3 per cent of the gross assets. The present revision has raised the revenue by 37.5 per cent to Rs. 8,20,404, representing 53.1 per cent of the gross assets. The advance in revenue is practically commensurate with that of the assets. The proportion of assets taken as revenue remains practically unchanged, as the proportion taken at last settlement was already in keeping with the policy laid down at this settlement—that normally the revenue percentage should lie between 50 and 55 per cent.

In Some 50 estates, owing to abnormal increase of assets, the revenue demand at this settlement had risen in so high a proportion that to avoid hardship temporary concessions were allowed and the revenue was advanced in stages spread over periods not exceeding ten years. The ultimate revenue demand of Rs. 8,20,404, therefore, does not come into effect until 1910. The demand in 1928, however, amounted to Rs. 8,10,558.

The total revenue demand includes a sum of Rs. 12,712 payable to the *chaukidari* fund, as compared with Rs. 10,450 at last settlement.

The incidence of revenue per acre of assessed land is now Rs. 1-1-9, as compared with Re. 0-14-0 at last settlement. Calculated on total area the incidence is now Re. 0-14-0 as compared with Re. 0-10-1.

The total *malikana* allowed to the proprietors at last settlement was Rs. 491,366. The proprietors' income had increased in the course of the settlement to Rs. 6,12,095. The *malikana* now allowed to them is Rs. 6,81,148. Their income thus advanced by 25 per cent during the term of last settlement. This settlement brought an increase of 11.1 per cent over the existing income and the final result is an advance by 38.6 per cent over the income of last settlement.

237. Partitions since last settlement have led to an increase in the number of private estates from 1,398 to 2,394. Mr. Kingsford in his report on Balasore at the Provincial Settlement gives the number of estates as 1,417 including 19 *khas mahals*, as against 803 at the previous settlement.

238. *Sub-proprietary tenures.*—There are 1,046 sub-proprietary tenures in Balasore. Of these 157 are *makaddams*, 802 are *sarbarakars*, 49 are *pursethi kharidadars*, 36 are *kharida jamabandars*, and 2 are *shikmi zamindars*.

Their assets advanced from Rs. 1,18,639 to Rs. 1,31,789 during the currency of the settlement, and to Rs. 1,61,791 as a result of this settlement. The settled assets exceed the pre-existing assets by 22.8 per cent and those of last settlement by 38 per cent.

The distribution of the assets at last settlement and at this are shown below :—

	Last settlement.		Present settlement	
	Percentage.	Amount	Percentage.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
Sub-proprietor	26.6	31,571	27.1	43,886
Proprietor	19.3	22,934	18.4	29,739
Government	54.1	64,134	54.5	88,166

The Government revenue advances by 37.5 per cent. The income allowed to the sub-proprietors is 39 per cent more than at last settlement, but is about 2 per cent less than that which they were found to possess at the advent of this settlement (Rs. 44,721). The share allowed to the proprietors has advanced by 29.7 per cent over that allowed at last settlement.

239. *Sairat assessment.*—The total *sairat* assessment on the temporarily-settled estates (including *khas mahal*) at last settlement was Rs. 12,200 and at this settlement Rs. 21,909. The details are as follows :—

	Last settlement	Present settlement
	Rs.	Rs.
Fishery	6,580	12,555
Fruits, etc.	1,050	1,588
Markets	760	5,577
Grazing fees	1,810	930
Jungle and miscellaneous	2,000	1,259
Total •	12,200	21,909

The largest increase is in income from fishery and markets, while grazing fees and income from jungle have fallen considerably.

The number of local markets has increased, and those near the railway centres have grown in importance.

The falling-off in income from jungle and grazing is mainly due to the reclamation of much of the land on the sea coast. Considerable income is still derived from the jungles on the border of Nilgiri State by the proprietors of Mangalpur and neighbouring estates.

There has been a large development of the sea fisheries since last settlement. The fisheries have been recognized as appertaining to the coastal landlords.*

The opening of the railway has greatly encouraged the trade in fish by providing easy access to the large markets in Kharagpur and Calcutta. Some Bengali middlemen export the fish by rail from Bahanaga Bazar and Balasore to Calcutta

*When the land was acquired for the proof range at Chandipur the fishery rights also had to be purchased. The income of the landlord is presumably derived ultimately from the fact that the fisherman pay for the use of the fisheries for drying and fixing their nets.

240. *Fishery mahals*.—The two fishery *mahals* referred to in paragraph 94 of Mr. Kingsford's report were reassessed to revenue. The assets of these *mahals*, in the shape of rents paid by the fishermen to whom leases are granted, were found to have fallen considerably. Even after these had been enhanced by a compromise at this settlement they were still, in the case of tauzi no. 764, less than at last settlement, and the revenue of that tauzi has been reduced from Rs. 325 to Rs. 266, while that of tauzi no. 765 remains constant at Rs. 25. The fisheries appear to have declined and to have suffered from the keen competition of sea fisheries.

241. *Statuses and rents*.—The statuses and rents in the temporarily-settled estates are as described below.

242. *Nijjote and nijchas*.—There are 26,642 acres of *nijjote*. Of these 19,058 acres are recorded as in cultivating possession of the proprietors or sub-proprietors, while 6,404 acres are held by tenants on cash rents and 1,180 acres by tenants on produce-rents. The *nijchas* area is 30,857 making a total of approximately 50,000 acres in cultivating possession of landlords.

243. *Produce-rented lands*.—There are 7,050 acres held on produce-rents directly under the proprietors and sub-proprietors, including the 1,180 acres of *nijjote* mentioned above. There are also 4,323 acres held by *raiyyats* under tenure-holders and 3,966 acres held by under-*raiyyats* on produce-rents. In all there are 22,582 holdings covering an area of 15,337 acres on produce-rents, the average size of such holdings being 0.68 acres. The area represents 1.6 per cent of the total temporarily-settled area. Of the area held by under-*raiyyats*, 32 per cent is held on produce-rents.

244. *Rent-free area*.—The total area held rent-free, apart from *minha* lands, is 8,489 acres, of which 269 acres are in ordinary tenures, 4,206 acres in holdings of occupancy *raiyyats*, 1,615 acres held as ordinary *jagir* and 2,399 acres as *desheta jagir*.

245. *Cash-rented tenancies and rent settlements statistics*.—The areas under different classes of cash-rented tenants, the level of cash rents and the enhancements made at rent settlement are shown in the following statement :—

Class of Tenancy,	Number of holdings	Area under present settlement.	Rents.		Percentage of increase over existing rent.	Rental incidence per acre.	
			Existing.	Settled.		Existing.	Settled.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Kharida <i>jamabandi</i>	4,493	11,330	13,920	18,216	31	1 3 8	1 9 9
<i>Baiyafiti</i> tenures and tenancies.	71,999	97,495	86,501	1,26,239	46	0 14 2	1 4 9
Settled and occupancy.	373,108	542,575	9,62,259	12,05,349	25	1 12 5	2 3 7
Sthitiban <i>babat nijjote</i> .	9,323	6,404	—	15,778	...	...	2 7 6
Non occupancy ..	2,864	5,816	8,524	10,925	28	1 7 5	1 14 1
<i>Chandna</i> ..	8,453	1,758	7,515	9,402	25	4 2 10	5 3 8
<i>Chaukidari</i> resumed <i>jagir</i> .	4,207	7,026	12,127	15,118	25	1 11 7	2 2 5
Ordinary tenures ...	4,183	18,404	25,223	31,298	24	1 5 11	1 11 3

In 2,826 of the total of 3,400 villages the normal enhancement of four annas in the rupee was applied to the rents of ordinary *raiyyats*. In 129 villages a larger enhancement was made while in 247 three annas was given, in 112 two annas, in 37 one anna and in 32 no enhancement. In 17 villages the rate of enhancement was varied according to the quality of different areas.

246. *Communal and reserved lands.*—The reserved area shows an increase of 54 per cent over that of the Provincial Settlement. The proportion is 4.6 per cent of the temporarily-settled area. Communal and reserved lands together have increased by 23 per cent since the Revision Settlement. At Provincial Settlement there were 37,500 acres recorded as reserved, 36,000 for grazing and 1,500 for cremation grounds and other purposes. At Revision Settlement the total was 55,665 acres. At this settlement the total of reserved and communal lands is 65,044 acres. Of this 55,665 are *rakhit* and 9,379 are *sarbasadharan*.

247. *Revenue-free estates.*—There are 34,627 revenue-free estates and the total area under them is 109,841 acres. The average area of a revenue-free property is 3 acres. The area recorded as *nijchas* or *nij-dakhal* of the proprietors is 50,471 acres.

An area of 49,378 acres is under cash-rented holdings and 3,604 acres under produce-rented holdings. The proportionate area under produce-rents is much smaller than in other districts.

The total rental of the 49,378 acres under cash-rented holdings was Rs. 90,304 at the commencement of this settlement. The average incidence was, therefore, Rs. 1-13-3 per acre, which was slightly higher than the level of rents in temporarily-settled estates—Rs. 1-11-0,

There were 922 cases in the revenue-free area for settlement of fair rent under section 128, and these resulted in an enhancement of rent from Rs. 18,460 to Rs. 22,892 by 23 per cent. The proportion of rents for which cases were filed was only one-fifth of the total. In general the rents are too insignificant to make it worth the *baheldar's* while applying for enhancement.

248. *Khas mahals.*—Mr. Maddox gives a list of 19 *khas mahals* in district Balasore at page 505 of Volume II of his report. Since the Provincial Settlement seven of those estates, namely Mahapada, Nalkul, Rasalpur, Gandhina, Padanpur, Panichhatra and Kanheigalpur, have been sold. These were very petty estates covering less than 5 acres in all. The Motto *khas mahal*, which covered 2 acres within the bounds of the Kanika estate, has been made over to the Raja of that estate under orders of the Board. The other estates remain, but Birso has been amalgamated with the Noanand estates. To the Shortt's Island estate has now been added another group of four islands which were recently found to have been formed in the sea and which have been named Wheeler Islands after the then Governor of the Province. These islands were at first claimed under section 116 by the Raja of Kanika as reformation *in situ* of a part of his estate, but his claim was disallowed, and the islands have been treated as Government property and placed in *khas mahal* tauzi no. 1676.

Three new *khas mahals* have come into existence in the course of the settlement, but two of them, which had been the sites of Haldipada and Baghmira police out-posts, have since been sold to private parties. The third, Kantia, originated in a separate account (part of tauzi no. 987) which was purchased by Government in a revenue sale. It was formed into a separate *khas mahal* tauzi, but was later amalgamated with the Noanand *khas mahal*.

There are now 11 *khas mahals* in the district. Their total assets before the settlement amounted to Rs. 40,918, and as a result of the settlement they advanced to Rs. 50,412.

The largest of them is that of Noanand bearing tauzi no. 1316. It has a total area of 17,975 acres in 104 villages, and was purchased by Government for Re. 1 at a sale for arrears of revenue in 1818. The area under assessment has increased since last settlement from 12,756 acres to 14,920 acres. The assets advanced during the term of the last settlement from Rs. 31,457 to Rs. 38,387, and after this settlement they amounted to Rs. 47,229. The estate contains the important market at Mirzapur.

The Chandbali *khas mahal* covers a non-agricultural area at the port of that name. The holdings, 135 in number, are of *pattadari* status, and cover an assessed area of 72 acres.

The Bichitrapur *khas mahal* is really a permanent lease taken by Government from the proprietors of *mahal* Berapal for the purpose of salt manufacture, for which it was never actually used. Government has paid the rent of Rs. 799 from 1809, but derived no income from the estate until 1872, when it was sub-let to Babu Kaliash Chandra Ray Mahasaya as an *ijaradar*.

249. *Sale of occupancy rights.*—As regards the sale of occupancy holdings, in order to compare the ten years' figures of the Revision Settlement report with our figures of the last twelve years, the former figures have been proportionately increased and the result is given below:—

	Number of sales	Area sold	Price paid	Rate per acre
1	2	3	4	5
			Rs.	Rs.
Revision settlement ...	61,478	58,977	26,37,088	44
Present settlement ...	60,999	48,286	30,95,899	64

This shows an advance of about 10 annas in the rupee in the last 30 years. The rise in prices in the same period has been by 15 annas in the rupee. The area sold is about 5 per cent of the area held by *raiya*ts.

A very large proportions of the purchasers are themselves *raiya*ts. The proportions are as follows:—

Landlords ...	3.3 per cent
Lawyers ...	0.6 " "
Money-lenders ...	4.4 " "
Raiyats ...	91.7 " "

The sale price of lands in the irrigated area, which is not extensive, is Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 an acre, very much above the average of the district. In the area irrigated by the Salandi river, a few miles to the south-east of Bhadrak town, it was found to be as high as Rs. 250 per acre. On the other hand in the flooded tracts of thanas Basudebpur and Chandbali, where salt water inundation also affects the soil, the average sale rates are Rs. 32 and Rs.25 respectively.

In the Balasore portion of Killa Kanika the sale value of lands is as low as Rs.23 but this is partly accounted for by the proprietor's policy of discouraging sale to people from outside the estate.

In the flooded tracts of North Balasore, however, the sale rates are found to be slightly above the average of the district. In thana Baliapal it is Rs. 72, in Bhograi Rs. 77 and in Singha Rs. 78.

250. *Mortgage of holdings.*—Statistics on this subject are given in the Appendix. The figures are taken from the registers at attestation of usufructuary mortgages of the last twelve years. A certain proportion of cases have probably escaped detection. The total sum involved is Rs. 3,81,649 on an average of Rs. 55 per acre as compared with an average sale price of Rs. 64. The number of transactions is 6,452 and the number of acres mortgaged is 6,952, only 0.7 per cent of the total cultivated area. The figures at the Revisional Settlement, which were for ten years only were 6,736 mortgages affecting 10,152 acres. This indicates some slight decrease in mortgages of land since the introduction of the Orissa Tenancy Act,

In the great majority of cases the mortgagees are themselves *raiya*s. The following table shows the numbers as compared with those of the Revisional Settlement :—

Classes of mortgages.	Settlement of 1911.		Present settlement.	
	Mortgages.	Percentage.	Mortgages.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5
Landlord	626	9.3	211	3.2
Money-lender	1,928	28.6	771	11.9
lawyer	19	.3	49	0.8
Raiyat	4,163	61.8	5,421	84.1

The percentage of mortgages to landlords and money-lenders has dropped from 38 to 15.

251. *Sales of proprietary rights.*—During the last twelve years before settlement estates or shares of estates with a revenue of Rs. 35,823 were sold for an aggregate price of Rs. 7,62,890. The price is 21 times the revenue transferred. Of the number of transfers 76 per cent were to men of the landlord class, 12 per cent to men of the money-lending class and 9 per cent to *raiya*s.

As regards involuntary sales, i.e., sales of proprietary rights on account of arrears of revenue, the following are the statistics for a period of fifteen years from 1914 to 1928 :—

Number of sales	...	...	...	...	...	257
						Rs.
Government revenue of estates sold	...	...	...	...	...	40,162
Arrears of revenue for which sold	...	...	...	...	...	15,236
Sale price	...	...	...	...	...	4,87,370

The purchase money is twelve times the revenue of the estates transferred. The average amount of arrears of revenue for the year is Rs. 1,000 in a revenue roll of 7 lakhs of rupees.

252. *Amalgamation and redemption of estates.*—In this district 11 *tauzis* were reduced to 5 by amalgamating very small estates with their larger neighbours. The separate existence of these small estates was inconvenient. Later the policy was introduced of allowing the proprietors of such insignificant estates to redeem them and have them recognized as revenue-free.

Six estates were found paying revenue of Re. 1 or less. These were redeemed for a total payment of Rs. 90-10-0.

253. *Transfer and subdivision of estates.*—There were 96 entire estates with an area of 7,699 acres and revenue of Rs. 9,734 transferred from Cuttack to Balasore. Similarly 33 estates with an area of 2,054 acres and revenue of Rs. 1,611 were transferred from Balasore to Cuttack.

There were also several estates which had lands in two districts. By subdivision, portions of 62 estates were transferred from Cuttack to Balasore *tauzi* roll and portions of 11 estates were transferred from Balasore to Cuttack. As a result an area of 4,028 acres with revenue of Rs. 5,534 was transferred from Cuttack to Balasore and an area of 834 acres with revenue Rs. 1,153 from Balasore to Cuttack.

There are still some estates on the *tauzi* roll of Balasore, and others on the *tauzi* roll of Cuttack, which have lands partly in Cuttack

and partly in Balasore. As the proprietors objected no subdivision of the estates was made so as to transfer the lands to their respective districts. A statement is given below showing area and assets of such lands:—

(a) Lands situated in the district of Cuttack but still included in the tauzis of Balasore:—				
Number of estates	...	...	...	109
				Acres.
Area	...	...	...	5241-02
				Rs. a. p.
Assets (valued at revenue settlement)	...	...	...	10,267 7 1
(b) Lands situated in the district of Balasore but still included in the tauzis of Cuttack:—				
Number of estates	...	...	...	158
				Acres
Area	...	...	...	5496-34
				Rs, a. p.
Assets (valued for revenue settlement)	...	...	...	11,726 4 6

254. *B. L. Mukherjee Trust Estate*.—The B. L. Mukherjee Trust Estate was created by the will of the gentleman of that name in 1870, by which he left some lands in Hughly, Midnapore and Balasore to his widow, the surplus proceeds to be devoted to charitable purposes, such as the establishment of schools and dispensaries. The widow died without issue and the estate was then taken over by the Secretary of State. The whole estate was managed by the Collector of Hughly until 1910, when it was decided that the Collector of Balasore should look after the lands in that district, but should pay Rs. 7,000 out of the surplus income to the Collector of Hughly. This contribution was raised in 1922 to Rs. 8,000. The existing *mufassal* assets of the estate in Balasore amount to nearly Rs. 21,000. The revenue and cess payable are Rs. 5,400. Several dispensaries and schools are maintained out of the surplus income.

255. *Resumption case of Becher's estate*.—Becher's estate was a *mahal* covering 91 acres in villages Baghmara, Bahanaga, Mulida and Markona of Balasore district. The lands were granted to Mr. George Becher, Superintendent of the Trunk Road, in 1823 for the purpose of establishing bazars along the road. Mr. Becher transferred the land by a deed of gift in 1888 to his cousin, Frederic Marsac, who in the next year on his return to England sold the estate to his agent, Babu B.N. Das Gupta, although his departure was so hurried that no formal deed of conveyance was executed. The estate had remained in the hands of Babu B.N. Das Gupta and his heirs. At the present settlement it was resumed and assessed to revenue as it was found that it was not being used for the purpose for which it had been granted to Mr. George Becher. It bears tauzi no. 4373. It was assessed to revenue at the low rate of 25 per cent of the assets, in order to avoid hardship to the proprietor.

256. *Mobarakpur estate*.—The Mobarakpur estate, tauzi no. 924, is the largest estate in the temporarily-settled area and covers 59 square miles. The lands lie in nine parganas, the bulk of them in thana Soro. They suffer from no serious physical disadvantages.

Babu Tara Charan Deb Mandal and his brother and cousins are the 10 annas shareholders of the estate. They are residents of Chinsura. They however, spend about six months in the year at Balasore. They are well-to-do. The remaining 6 annas belonged to Babu Bhagaban Charan Das and others of his family, who were big local merchants controlling the trade of the port of Balasore but are now in reduced circumstances. They have now begun to sell away their interest. Samanta Radhaprasana Das is a co-sharer. He is a minor, now under the Court of Wards. A suit for partition of the estate was instituted before *khanapuri* but the proceedings were stayed at the commencement of the settlement operations. The case is now in progress again.

The management of the estate is slack rather than oppressive but there was some suppression of tenants on *nijjote* land.

In the *hastabud* portion collection is made by the *gumastas* or *tahasildars* of the proprietors. In villages in direct possession of sub-proprietors the collection is made under their direct supervision.

The *sairat* assets have advanced from Rs. 109 at last settlement to Rs. 1,115 now. The sea fishery alone accounts for Rs. 1,100, having increased greatly in value since the last settlement.

The net result of revenue assessment in this estate has been an increase of revenue from Rs. 23,941 to Rs. 31,897.

257, *Kasba estate*—The Kasba estate, tauzi no, 1373, is the second largest of the temporarily-settled estates of district Balasore.

The river Subarnarekha is silting up at its mouth, and consequently there has been alluvial accretions of about 850 acres to the estate. The *pal* lands on the river-side are very fertile. There are two distinct divisions in the estate. About two-thirds of the estate is protected by the Bhuan embankment, and about one-third is open to the floods of the Subarnarekha. Some lands were formerly acquired by Government for the manufacture of salt along the left bank of the Subarnarekha. The tract was, however found unsuitable for the purpose and was transferred to the original estate before last settlement.

The proprietors belong to a family of four brothers who are landed magnates of Panchetgarh in the Midnapore district. The management is efficient and well organized after the manner of the Court of Wards from which the estate was released about thirteen years ago. The landlords are not oppressive but somewhat exacting in the realization of their dues. They take a personal interest in the estate. The management is divided into collection circles with an agent to collect about Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 8,000. There is an important *hat* at Bhograi which yields about Rs. 350 and the ferries have been greatly improved since the last settlement and yield about Rs. 1,228. The *sairat* assets amount to Rs. 1,600 against about Rs. 315 at last settlement. The revenue has been advanced from Rs. 14,908 to Rs. 21,969.

258. *Dograi Dolsahi estate*—The Dograi Dolsahi estate, tauzi no. 124, originally covered an area of 8,256 acres, of which 7,779 acres were in Balasore and 477 acres are in Cuttack. The estate is now subdivided so as to transfer the lands of Cuttack to the revenue roll of that district. Nearly 50 per cent of the estate is under sub-proprietors. The lands of the estate are very scattered.

"The history of the estate is rather peculiar. "The lands were originally held as *jagirs* by the *dogras* (i.e. messengers or spies) of the Moghal Government but were subsequently resumed and assessed to rent. "The rents were collected by a *sardar* who was permitted to enter into agreement for payment of revenue at the time of the British annexation. Certain *dogras* were constituted *sarbarakars* and assisted the *sardar* in collection of rents. The *sarbarakars* appear to have been in existence at the time of annexation, but in 1807 the estate was managed *khas* by the *zamindar* for a few years and the *sarbarakars* were ousted. They were called in about 1812 to execute agreement for collection by the *zamindar*. The *sarbarakars* having been found out of possession for a few years were definitely held to have no *maurasidars* title." * At time of the last settlement, however, the *sarbarakars* were found to have attained a right not inferior to that of *maurasidars*. The tenures passed freely by inheritance and purchase and *kabuliats* were accordingly taken from them in that settlement. At present also no distinction is observed between these *sarbarakars* and the *maurasidars* *sarbarakars* in other estates of the district. In the last settlement there were 453 *sarbarakari* tenures comprised in the estate; but at present these number 467. Many of the present tenures are

*From last settlement assessment report; see also Mr. Maddox's report, Volume I. paragraph 291.

very small, paying revenue of a few annas only. These are mostly in the hands of purchasers of the *raiyat* class, who held them in *khas* possession. The sub-proprietary tenures all lie in the district of Balasore and mostly in pargana Senaut.

The chief proprietor of the estate is Chaudhuri Mrutunjay Narayan Paharaj Mandhata, of Irda in North Balasore, a minor.

The existing revenue of the estate was Rs. 9,887. It has been enhanced to Rs. 11,926, of which sum Rs. 672 is borne by the Cuttack tauzi and Rs. 12,254 by the Balasore tauzi.

259. *Other estates.*—Babu Radha Kanta Parhi and his co-sharers have got *zamindari*s in Basudebpur and other parts of the district. These wealthy and powerful landlords are regarded with fear by their tenants, whom they treat oppressively.

The Paharajas of Daradachour belong to an ancient hereditary *zamindari* family of the district. The largest co-sharer is at present a minor and the estate is under the Court of Wards. The other co-sharers are not in prosperous circumstances and their relationship with the tenants is not very satisfactory.

The *kanungoe* of Nadigan belongs to an old family. He lives at Dhamnagar away from his estate, which is badly managed.

The Kothar estate is at present managed by Susilabala Dasi, widow of the late proprietor, Ramkrishna Bose. She is an executrix and her three sons-in-law are executors to the estate. The trustees live in Calcutta and are not in direct touch with the affairs of the estate which is looked after by a manager assisted by *tahsildars* and *sarbarakars*. The *zamindari* staff are highly oppressive. They realize a very high rate of mutation fee, collect more than the actual rent of *raiyati* holdings, foment disputes among the *raiyats*, realize forced labour from the low-class *raiyats*, and generally disregard the law. The *raiyats* are highly dissatisfied with the present officers of the estate. The undesirable state of things in this estate was reported to the Collector. Some improvement is expected since a retired Sub-Deputy Collector has recently taken over management.

260. *French territory.*—The area once occupied by the French factory in Balasore still remains as French territory. Some account of it is given by Mr. D. H. Kingsford in the Final Report of the Provincial Settlement Volume II. page 397. At last settlement the area was in dispute and Government on the recommendation of Mr. Maddox held it to be 38 acres.

In 1907 the area was privately demarcated. A map was prepared and cylinders put down to mark the boundary. In 1917 a proceeding was held to determine the title to certain accretions. As the French were already found to be in possession of these accretions their claim to hold them was admitted on the analogy of the law of alluvion. At the new survey one newly-formed island two uncultivated accretions were found on the north side of the French loge. The Government of India ordered that one of these accretions, which was contiguous to the loge, should be assigned to the French, but that the other two should be treated as British possessions. The French were also found to be in possession, according to the demarcation of 1907, of a small area at the south-west corner of the loge, in excess of that assigned to them at Provincial Settlement. The Government of India ordered their possession to be left undisturbed. The area of the loge is now 45 acres.

CHAPTER XI.

Statistical Account of Puri District.

261. *Situation and area*—The district of Puri is the southernmost district of the province of Bihar and Orissa and extends over an area of 2,444 square miles. It is bounded on the north and north-east by Cuttack district, on the south and south-east by the Bay of Bengal, on the west by the district of Ganjam in the Madras Presidency and on the north-west by the Tributary States of Nayagarh, Ranpur and Khandpara.

Of the total area of the district, about three-fifths is contained in the Sadar subdivision, which is a deltaic alluvial plain lying between the hills and the Bay of Bengal. The remaining two-fifths forms the Khurda subdivision, a hilly tract covering the north-western part of the district. The Chilka Lake, the greater part of which lies in this district, takes up 282 square miles of the Sadar subdivision and 28 square miles of the Khurda subdivision. There are 6 revenue thanas and 19 police-stations.

An area of 1,142 square miles was included in this settlement, made up as follows :—

Permanently-settled	...	...	...	45 square miles.
Temporarily-settled	...	...	...	823 " "
Revenue-free	...	...	...	253 " "
Government lands...	...	...	...	21 " "
Total	...	...	...	1,142 " "

262. *Communications*.—The two most important roads in the district are the Cuttack-Puri road and the Ganjam road. The former is the last stretch of the ancient Jagannath road, which was for centuries, until the opening of the railway, the common pathway for pilgrims on their way to the Puri Temple. It is a metalled road, maintained by the Public Works Department, and is much used by motorists in the dry season but owing to three unbridged rivers it provides no through communication between Cuttack and Puri for about six months in the year. The Ganjam road branches off from the Jagannath road just south of Cuttack town and traverses the Khurda subdivision, touching Khurda itself. In dry weather it affords communication through to Ganjam, but in the rainy season the Monaguni river prevents the passage of vehicles for more than 12 miles south of Khurda. A metalled road between Khurda and Pipli and another between Khurda and Patnaika, form links between the Jagannath and Ganjam roads, but in both cases the Daya river prevents through communication except in the dry season. Another metalled road runs west from Khurda into the Feudatory States.

In the Sadr subdivision unmetalled roads connect Gop with Nimapara, Puri, Kakatpur, Konarak and Niali (Cuttack district), while others go from Nimapara to Astarang to Pipli and to Sakhigopal, from Delang to Pipli and to Kanas, and from Krushnaprasad to Jharkata. These roads are, however, generally rough and very sandy and soon become impassable in the rains. In the Khurda subdivision this difficulty is not felt and serviceable cart roads are fairly numerous.

The mileage of roads under the different authorities is shown in the following table :—

		Metalled.	Unmetalled.
Government Public Works Department	...	111 miles	...
District board	...	127 "	225 miles.
Village roads under district and union boards	...	...	186 "

The Bengal-Nagpur Railway traverses the district. The Calcutta-Madras line passes through the whole length of the Khurda subdivision. At Khurda road the Puri line branches off. For several months of the year water transport is possible on the Bhargovi, Kushbbhadra, Daya and Devi rivers.

263. *Population*.—The figures of population according to the censuses of 1911—1921 and 1931 are given below :—

Thana and sub-division	Population.			Percentage of variation.		Number of persons per square mile.		
	1931.	1921.	1911.	1921 to 1931.	1911 to 1921.	1931.	1921.	1911.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Puri Sadar	657,625	614,754	655,798	+6.97	—6.26	432	404	431
Puri	255,821	242,190	262,653	+5.63	—7.79	137	282	306
Gop	128,914	110,337	114,981	+16.83	—4.04	448	383	399
Pipli	272,890	362,227	278,164	+4.07	—5.72	728	699	742
Khurda subdivision	377,529	336,897	367,604	+12.06	—8.35	389	347	379
Khurda	262,560	237,727	261,181	+10.45	—8.98	434	393	432
Banpur	114,969	99,170	106,423	+15.93	—6.82	314	271	291
Total for district Puri	1,035,154	951,651	1,023,402	+8.77	—7.01	415	382	411

There is a slight advance, the large reduction between 1911 and 1921 having been more than made up in the next decade. The rate of increase between 1921 and 1931 in thanas Gop and Banpur is strikingly high. The population of Pipli thana shows a decrease since 1911 but the density remains much greater than in any other thana.

264. *Caste* :—The following are the figures of the principal castes in the district —

	1921	1931.
Chasa	231,021	268,853
Khandait	112,571	34,051
Brahman	91,832	93,364
Bauri	86,796	74,677
Gour	49,981	44,640

Here the Chasas predominate and not the Khandaits as in the other districts, but the enormous advance in the numbers of the latter is very striking. Many of the Chasas of 1921 are probably Khandaits in 1931.

There are 22,518 Muhammadans and 1,536 Christians.

265. *Education*.—Literacy is low in this district, the number of literates being 67,367 only—6 per cent of the total population. The number of persons literate in English is only 4,756.

The following statement shows the number of schools in 1929-30 :—

Standard.	Schools.	Pupils.
High Schools	3	836
Middle English schools	19	1,792
Middle vernacular schools	2	216
Upper primary schools	91	4,754
Lower primary schools	1,242	18,871

The private enterprise shown in starting schools is commendable. There are 498 lower primary schools with 8,728 pupils conducted by private persons or bodies unaided by Government. A college has been established at Puri a few years ago to promote studies in Sanskrit.

266. *Trade and industry.*—The district depends almost entirely on the cultivation of paddy. Cocoanuts, however, are an important item of export. Sakhigopal is the main centre of this trade. The Provincial Banking Enquiry Committee in 1929 found that 30,000 maunds are exported annually, mainly to confectioners in the Central Provinces. The trade is in the hands of one Marwari and three Oriya Brahmins. They have agents in the interior who make advances to the cultivators.

Coir ropes are manufactured from cocoanuts in certain parts, and are exported to the principal towns of Orissa. The industry is not organized.

Polang trees, grown on the sandy tracts of the delta, are a source of income, through the oil extracted from the nuts. This oil is used for lighting as well as for making soap. It is exported in large quantities from Puri by railway. The demand rose during the War and a Marwari took lease of large areas in mauzas Sunharpur and Sipasurubali for growing the trees. Polang seeds are an important item of sale in the village markets in the coastal area.

The main product of the district is, of course rice. At the Provincial Settlement it was remarked that large quantities of rice were shipped to the Madras ports Ceylon and Mauritius. The opening of the railway has opened up other routes for export. Rice is still exported by sea, however. The amount thus exported in 1928-29 came to 173,363 maunds. The amount exported by rail in the same year came to 769,067 maunds. Some rice is also exported to Ganjam and other Madras districts through the Chilka Lake. Khajuria used to be an important centre of trade before the railway was opened, and people still come from Madras side to purchase rice and to sell gur, molasses and other commodities.

Other exports are pulses, molasses, and brass. The chief imports are salt, spices, kerosene oil, cotton piece-goods, and refined sugar. The export and import trade is largely carried by on rail, but a small traffic in the rainy season passes along the rivers between the district and the neighbouring district of Cuttack, and bamboos and timber are floated down from the Feudatory States. Some trade also passes up and down the creeks of the Chilka Lake to and from Madras side.

The trade of the district is largely in the hands of foreigners, the cloth business being carried on mainly by Marwaris, and the rice trade by Kachhis from Bombay Presidency.

Brass and bell-metal industry flourishes in some villages, such as Balkati and Bhainchua. A market is found not only in Orissa but also outside, in Calcutta, the Feudatory states and elsewhere. The trade has been somewhat affected by the competition of cheap aluminium products. Co-operative societies have been organized in Balkati to help the industry.

Gold and silver ornaments are manufactured in some villages, of which Radhas is the most important.

Laterite and sandstone are quarried in many places, particularly in the Khurda subdivision. Ballast is supplied to the Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company from the quarries in Gharsanput and other villages near Khurda Road Station. Laterite stones are also commonly used for pillars and for paving in constructing houses, and provide a livelihood to a large number of masons. Stone-carving, an art for which in ancient days Orissa was famous, is still carried on round Bhubaneswar, and has received an impetus owing to the repairs to the Bhubaneswar Temple.

In the coastal villages lime is manufactured, both the *chunam* used for betel and the fine lime used for whitewash. It used to be extracted from oyster shells. The supply of shells has fallen low in some parts.

Weaving, as a village industry, has declined but is still carried on in the larger villages. Pipli used to be a great centre of the textile industry and still contains a community of tailors who make embroidered cloths of a good quality.

The principal local markets in the Puri subdivision are found at Sakhi-gopal, Pipli, Balkati, Baliana, Balipatna, Banmalipur, Nimapara, Khajuria and Bhinjarpur.

267. *Drinking water*.—The villages depend on wells and tanks for their drinking water. The district board excavated 28 tanks and sunk 88 wells during the years 1919 to 1927, and a sum of Rs. 58,797 was spent on construction and repairs of these works.

268. *Soils*.—At the Provincial Settlement an elaborate classification of soils was made for purposes of rent settlement, and an interesting account of the soils of the district is given in the report of Mr. McPherson (now Sir Hugh McPherson) at page 532 of the Final Report, Volume II. Of the Sadr subdivision he wrote that "save in the west, where the subdivision encroaches on the laterite uplands of Khurda and on the south and east where the shore sand forms a belt of varying width, the soil of the subdivision is of the normal alluvial type found in the deltaic country. There is every variety of admixture from almost pure sand to almost pure mud. Generally speaking the lighter soils, the sandy loams are most abundant in the north of the district where there is much diversity of level. The black soils are found more widely in the lower levels of the southern parganas".

The most common soil is *balia matal*, a sandy loam. Another variety known as *chaulia matal*, is also very frequently found, and is peculiar to this district. It is described by Mr. McPherson as "brownish, very friable—and fairly fertile"

In the Ekhrajat *mahal* the soil is for the most part typical of the Khurda upland. It is a laterite soil.

269. *Agricultural stock*.—According to the figures prepared at *khana-puri* the number of draught cattle in the area under survey was 107,530, or one in $4\frac{1}{2}$ cultivated areas, and the number of ploughs 52,118 or one in 9 cultivated areas. The proportion of ploughs is smaller than in Cuttack, where it is one in 7. The number of carts was 14,234 which is a very high figure for the area covered. The census of 1930 found, 41,000 carts in the whole district, as compared with 3,694 in Balasore. The pack bullock is not found in Puri. Many carts are employed for the transport of pilgrims and the *maths* also keep large numbers for their own purposes. In and around Puri town itself the number of carts is very large.

270. *Agriculture*.—The figures given in the following paragraphs refer to the Sadr subdivision only.

The total area under rice is now 395,528 acres. This represents 90.4 per cent of the cropped area, as compared with 88.3 per cent at Provincial Settlement. It is most widely grown in Puri and Pipli thanas, where the proportions are 92 per cent and 90 per cent, respectively. The area under *beali* is 37,647 acres, that under *dalua* 11,112 acres, and that under *sarad* 345,774 acres. *Sarad*'s proportion to the net-cropped area has advanced slightly from 78.7 per cent to 79.3 per cent, that of *beali* more markedly from 6.2 per cent to 8.6 per cent, while *dalua* has declined from 3.5 to 2.5 per cent.

The decline in *mandia* cultivation is not nearly so marked as in Cuttack district, its proportion only falling from 19 to 17 per thousand acres. The area is now 7,628 acres. On the other hand, cereals and pulses such as *mung*, *biri*, *kulthi* and *harar* show a large advance from 11 per cent to 20 per cent of the cropped area. The total area under these crops is 85,350 acres, of which 44,929 acres are under *mung* and *biri* and 33,822 acres under *harar*.

The area under oilseeds is 4,968 acres. There is a striking increase in the proportion of these crops from 2.3 to 11.4 per thousand acres.

The area under cotton has dwindled to 128 acres. Jute is still quite insignificant, covering only 99 acres.

Sugarcane has advanced and now covers 2,447 acres, the proportion having increased from 1.2 to 5.6 per thousand acres.

The most important development of all is in the twice-cropped area. It is now 83,437 acres and represents 19.1 per cent of the cropped area as compared with 9.3 per cent at the Provincial Settlement. The proportion is now higher than in Cuttack district, where it is 15.9 per cent.

Pan cultivation has extended in this district more than in any other. The area at the Provincial Settlement was 174 acres, and it is now 440 acres.

271. *Outturn of crops.* As a result of 1,043 crop-cutting experiments in the Sadr subdivision the average outturn of paddy was found to be 13 maunds 31 seers. Random sampling experiments, however, in this subdivision in the seasons 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31 gave mean outturn of 23.62 maunds, 20.81 maunds and 21.86 maunds, respectively.

Forty-four experiments done in the Ekhrajat *mahal* in the season 1928-29 gave an average of 19 maunds 6 seers, while 20 experiments by random sampling in the same area in the same season gave the surprisingly high average of 28 maunds 22 seers. This was, of course, an exceptionally good year. The productivity of the lands in Khurda subdivision in general is rather higher than in the Sadr subdivision.

Some experiments on *mung* gave an average outturn of 3 maunds 5 seers.

272. *Extension of cultivation.*—The extension of cultivation in the temporarily-settled area can be adduced from a comparison of the figures of assessed area at the provincial and the present settlements. These show an advance from 373,300 acres to 390,842 acres, or by 4.7 per cent. The cultivated area is 74.5 per cent of the total area.

The extension has taken place for the most part in the southern parganas near the coast of the Chilka Lake, such as Chaubiskud, East Athais and Damarkhand, Banchas and Serai. The increase in the central parganas such as Kotdesh, Lembai and Kotrahang is very slight. In the central part of the district cultivation had almost reached its limit at the last settlement.

The area recorded as available for cultivation in the temporarily-settled estates is 103,348 acres, of which 9,033 acres are new fallow, 69,052 acres old fallow and 9,161 acres jungle.

273. *Embankments.*—The Sadr subdivision of the district has an elaborate system of protective embankments. In 1866, the mileage of embankments maintained by the Government was 317 miles but the mileage was reduced to 257 by the time of the last Provincial Settlement. The total length of the existing embankments is 253 miles, and an area of 499 square miles is protected. There are 133 sluices in these embankments. The main rivers of the district are for the most part heavily embanked with some escapes for passing off high floods.

274. *Flood problems.*—The Flood Committee remarked that the flood problem of Puri district was the most difficult with which they had been confronted. Deltaic action is here more backward. A glance at the map will show that there is no large estuary in this district. Of the various branches of the Mahanadi which spread over this district, the Kushbhadra has a small estuary 18 miles east of Puri town, the Daya takes a fairly straight course into the Chilka Lake, while the Bhargovi makes as if to reach the sea near Puri town and then turns sharply to the right and eventually flows into the Chilka Lake in a common estuary with the Daya. The country between the Devi and the Kushbhadra is drained by the Prachi river, that between the Kushbhadra and Bhargovi by the Dhanua, and that between the Bhargovi and the Daya by the Ratanchira and Nuna.

The most serious flooding takes place in the southern parganas near the coast. The northern and central parganas are comparatively

immune from injury. The large Kotdesh estate, covering 110,000 acres between the Kushbhadra, and Bhargovi, sustained some local damage in the abnormal floods of 1920, owing to breaches at Achhutpur on the Bhargovi left and Athantar on the Kushbhadra right. Ten villages were affected with sand deposit and revenue of Rs. 1,356 was remitted. At this settlement it was found that most of the lands affected had already recovered and the tenants expected the rest to recover soon. The river Dhanua flows through the middle of the estate and does some harm by water-logging, but also deposits silt. The Flood Committee remarked that the drainage of the Dhanua basin was obstructed by private embankments, and by the district board road from Bipli to Nimapara. Water is discharged into this basin through the Jogisahi and Achhutpur escapes, but it would be dangerous to raise the level of these escapes until the Kushbhadra and Bhargovi mouths are improved. The latter is already being done by providing a cut through the Sur Lake into the sea. At the Kushbhadra mouth a cut was made by Government in 1925-26. It was practically filled up in 1927 but the floods of that year reopened it. In 1930 it was again partially closed but in the flood of 1931 the local villagers cut it again with *koris* and the action of the water opened it still further. The mouth shows a tendency to shift towards the left.

The Kushbhadra itself does not do much harm in its lower reaches but the Kadua which drains the country between the Kushbhadra and the Prachi, has a harmful effect on a part of pargana Athaisi and the south-eastern end of Banchas. Its mouth also tends to become closed and the villagers at times of flood go and open it.

The temporarily-settled parganas in the south-east corner of the district are badly flood affected, particularly pargana Kodhar, which suffers from the Olai *ghai* in the Devi right bank. There was serious flood of the Devi and Bindhan in August 1931, affecting mainly the villages Osian and Khandasahi.

To the east and north of Puri town lie two stretches of water-logged land, known as the Sur Pat and the Samang Pat, respectively. *Dalua* paddy is grown in these areas. They will be affected by the new cut from the Sur Lake to the sea. The flood Committee, in recommending this cut suggested that the weir wall should be constructed at such a height as to hold up water sufficiently for the cultivation of *dalua* to be continued in these parts. The Attestation Officer in the Sur Pat area himself observed that owing to silt deposit some lands were becoming too high for *dalua* and not high enough for *sarad*.

The country to the west of the Trunk Road through which the Ratanchira and Bhargovi flow was remarked by the Flood Committee to be excessively congested by private embankments. The basin of the Ratanchira, where it runs through the centre of the large Rahang estate, is a fertile area. Further to the west in pargana Chaubiskud the Chilka Lake causes salt inundation and the outturn of paddy is comparatively low. This area is not normally injured by river floods, which in fact do good by depositing silt and so counter acting the saline impregnation of the soil. In 1925 and 1926 there were abnormal floods, and revenue of Rs. 1,288 was remitted in the Krishnachandra estate. The salt embankment was reconstructed in 1926-27.

The Daya is embanked on its left, but its right bank, after the first few miles, is open to floods. These floods affect pargana Serai, which contains the large estate of Krishnanagar. Injurious floods are expected once in seven years but this area suffered damage consecutively in 1925 and 1926. In the latter year there was a breach in the Daya left at Gadisagada. Revenue of Rs. 920 was remitted in the Krishnanagar estate. The canal excavated by the landlords and tenants of Paikpara on the Monaguni right bank from village Bargarh is reported to benefit greatly the surrounding villages. The Flood Committee deprecated the double embankment of the Monaguni up to its confluence with the Daya, and recommended that the embankments should be cut short at least two miles from the Daya. They also observed that the Daya left embankment was becoming unstable owing to the raising of the level of the right bank by silt deposit.

The flood-affected areas described above are all in the Sadr subdivision. Khurda subdivision is a higher tract, practically unaffected by floods except for the low-lying area on the shores of the Chilka Lake.

275. *Area under settlement.*—The area under settlement consisted of (1) the temporarily-settled estates which cover the greater part of the Sadr subdivision, (2) the small revenue-free estates lying inside this temporarily-settled area, (3) the permanently-settled estates of Marichpur at the extreme south-east corner of the district, (4) the Ekhrajat *mahal* in Khurda subdivision, (5) scattered lands of religious endowments (about 3,848 acres) lying in the area of Ekhrajat *mahal*, and (6) the Balukhand *khas mahal* in Puri town.

The remaining area of the district is covered by the Khurda *khas mahal* and the jagir mahals (including Parikud) on the southern side of the Chilka Lake, the revenue-free area in Puri town and the Chilka Lake.

276. *Revenue settlement.* The total revenue of the temporarily-settled estates as assessed at last settlement was Rs. 3,71,222 representing 58.3 per cent of the gross assets. The present revision has raised the revenue by 26.8 per cent to Rs. 4,70,710, representing 56.8 per cent of the gross assets. The advance in revenue is less than the advance in the assets which is by 30 per cent. The proportion of assets taken as revenue has been reduced towards normal limits, as the proportion taken at last settlement was already high. In some few estates, owing to abnormal increase of assets the revenue demand at this settlement had risen in so high a proportion that to avoid hardship temporary concessions were allowed and the revenue was advanced in stages spread over periods not exceeding four years. The ultimate revenue demand of Rs. 4,70,710, therefore, does not come into effect until 1933. The revenue demands of the intervening years between 1928 and 1932 show a difference of only Rs. 3,467.

The total revenue demand includes a sum of Rs. 4,907 payable to the *chaukidari* fund, as compared with Rs. 4,389 at last settlement.

The incidence of revenue per acre of assessed land is now Re. 1-3-10, as compared with Re. 1-0-4 at last settlement. Calculated on total area the incidence is now Re. 0-14-9 as compared with Re. 0-11-8.

The total *malikana* allowed to the proprietors at last settlement was Rs. 1,94,615. The proprietor's income had increased in the course of the settlement to Rs. 2,15,207. The *malikana* now allowed to them is Rs. 2,63,148. Their income thus advanced by 11 per cent during the term of the last settlement. This settlement brought an increase of 22.3 per cent over the existing income and the final result is an advance by 35.2 per cent over their income of last settlement.

277. Partitions since last settlement have led to an increase in the number of private estates from 485 to 560. In addition there are three *khas mahal* estates in Puri Sadr subdivision as at last settlement.

278. *Sub-proprietors.*—The *tanki baheldars* are those sub-proprietors, referred to in section 3 (21) (1) of the Orissa Tenancy Act, who hold lands for a payment fixed in perpetuity. They are found in parganas Lembai, Rahang, Chaubiskud and Serai. They hold 28,143 acres on a rent of Rs. 14,380, so the rent incidence is about 8 annas per cent. These tenures are described elsewhere. The remaining sub-proprietors have had their revenue payments revised at this settlement.

There are 1,382 other sub-proprietary tenures in Puri, of these 687 are *makaddams*, 211 are *sarbarakars*, 451 are *padhans*, 9 are *shikmi zamindars*, 18 are *dalais*, and 6 are *dalbeheras*.

Their assets advanced from Rs. 2,91,046 to Rs. 3,14,153 during the currency of the settlement, and to Rs. 3,71,303 as a result of this settlement. The settled assets exceed the pre-existing assets by 18.2 per cent and those of last settlement by 27.6 per cent.

The distributions of the assets at last settlement and at this are shown below—

	Last settlement		Present settlement	
	Percentage.	Amount	Percentage.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
Sub-proprietor	24.4	71,091	25.4	94,250
Proprietor	17.6	51,325	17.7	65,665
Government	58	1,68,650	56.9	2,11,388

The Government revenue advances by 25.3 per cent. The income allowed to the sub-proprietors is 32.6 per cent more than at last settlement, but is almost the same as that which they were found to possess at the advent of this settlement. The share allowed to the proprietors has advanced by 27.9 per cent over that allowed at last settlement.

279. *Sairat*—The total *sairat* assessment on the temporarily-settled estates at last settlement was Rs. 5,538 and at this settlement Rs. 10,747. The details are as follows—

				Last settlement.	Present settlement.
				Rs.	Rs.
Fishery	...	...	...	2,630	3,347
Fruits, etc.	...	...	...	2,435	4,343
Markets	...	...	...	...	1,129
Jungle and miscellaneous	...	...	...	464	1,928
Total				5,538	10,747

There has been an increase in all items of *sairat*, due mainly to the greater care with which these sources of revenues were investigated.

280. The following account of status and rents refers to the temporarily-settled estates of the district.

Nijjot and nijchas—19,586 acres have been recorded as *nijjote*. Of this area, 4,113 acres are held by cash-rented *raiya*s and 741 acres by produce-rented *raiya*s. The remaining 14,732 acres are recorded as in possession of the proprietors or sub-proprietors. The *nijchas* area is 42,240 acres, making a total of 56,972 acres in cultivating possession of these landlords. The area so recorded at last settlement was 40,100 acres.

281. *Tenancies on produce-rents*—There are 9,148 acres held on produce-rents directly under the proprietors or sub-proprietors, including these 741 acres of *nijjote*. There are in addition 6,574 acres held by *raiya*s under tenure-holders, and 4,883 acres held by under-*raiya*s on produce-rents. The total number of produce-rented holdings (including those of under *raiya*s) is 26,497 and the total area 20,605. The average size of a produce-rented holding is 78 acres. The area under produce-rents is 3.9 per cent of the total temporarily-settled area. Of the area held by under-*raiya*s 62 per cent is held on produce-rents.

282. *Rent-free holdings*—The total area held rent-free is 3,827 acres of which 1,268 acres in 4,889 holdings are so held by occupancy *raiya*s, and

14 acres are held in 10 rent-free tenures. There are 956 acres under ordinary *jagirs* and 1,589 acres under *desheta jagirs*. This does not include the area recorded as *minha* which is 625 acres.

283. *Cash-rented tenancies and rent settlement*.—Passing to the cash rented areas and the results of rent settlement, the following table gives the main statistics:—

Class of Tenancy,	Number of holdings	Area under present settlement.	Rents.		Percentage of increase over existing rent.	Rental incidence per acre.	
			Existing.	Settled.		Existing.	Settled.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Kharida <i>jama bandi</i>	1,299	2,305	3,419	4,174	22	1 7 9	1 13 0
<i>Bajyafiti</i> tenures and tenancies.	48,198	63,184	71,443	1,00,867	41	1 3 1	1 9 7
Settled and occupancy.	198,766	230,661	4,58,529	5,67,469	24	1 15 10	2 7 4
Sthitiban <i>babat nijjote</i> .	6,263	4,113	—	11,740	...	...	2 13 8
Non occupancy ..	540	399	551	766	39	1 6 1	1 14 9
<i>Chandna</i> ..	3,190	308	2,965	3,841	30	9 10 0	12 7 6
<i>Chaukidari</i> resumed <i>jagir</i> .	4,033	2,346	4,546	5,623	24	1 15 0	2 6 4
Ordinary tenures ...	1,415	6,894	6,719	9,364	39	0 15 7	1 5 9

There are also 83 *pattadari* holdings with an existing rent of Rs. 506. These were valued at Rs. 6,515 for purposes of revenue settlement. The large enhancement of non occupancy rents is due to the greater proportion of lands newly assessed. The rate is still very low.

In rent settlement out of the 1,651 villages, 1,173 were given the normal four annas enhancement. In 87 a larger enhancement was imposed, in 178 it was three annas, in 138 two annas, in 29 one anna and in 46 no enhancement.

The average size of the holdings of cash-rented settled and occupancy *raiyyats* at the Provincial-Settlement was 1.73 acres. It is now 1.16 acres.* The average of *bajyafiti* tenancies has similarly decreased from 1.58 to 1.31 acres.

284. *Rakhit and sarbasadharan*.—The areas recorded in the Sadr sub-division as reserved or communal lands, as compared with last settlement areas, are shown in the following statement:—

	Area of grazing and other land reserved.	Area of cremation and other communal lands.	Total.
1	2	3	4
Provincial Settlement, 1897	21,400	800	22,200
Revisional Settlement, 1911	...	...	27,120
Present Settlement	26,709	5,581	32,290

* This does not mean that this amount of land is held by the average family, as one family may have several holdings.

In the Sadr subdivision the area reserved has increased by 25 per cent and now represents 5 per cent of the total temporarily-settled area.

285. *Revenue-free estates*.—There are 14,572 revenue-free estates in the Sadr subdivision, with a total area of 93,443 acres. The average area of an estate is $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres. 31,810 acres are recorded as *nijchas* and *nijdakhal* of the proprietors. There are 31,590 acres included in cash-rented holdings and 15,100 acres included in produce-rented holdings.

The area under produce-rents is much larger than in other districts. Applications for commutation are rare in the religious properties as the *mahants* are powerful while pious feelings deter the tenants from going against the interests of the deity.

The total rental of the 31,590 acres under cash-rented tenants was Rs. 74,080 at the commencement of this settlement. The average incidence was thus Rs. 2-5-5 per acre, which was much higher than the average in the temporarily-settled estates—Rs. 1-15-10.

There were 1,143 applications filed for settling fair rents under section 128 and as a result of these rents amounting to Rs. 53,876 were enhanced to Rs. 65,424. Five-sevenths of the total rents were affected by these applications. In this district the powerful *mahants* took a keen interest in the rents and generally applied for enhancement.

286. *Sale of occupancy rights*.—The statistics prepared in course of the settlement proceedings for the last twelve years show that settled and occupancy rights covering an area of 31,001 acres in Puri Sadr subdivision were sold for a sum of Rs. 30,32,290, i.e., at the rate of Rs. 93 an acre. The selling rate reported by Mr. James for the decade preceding his settlement was Rs. 69.

The land commands the highest price in P.S. Delang and P. S. Satyabadi, the rate per acre being Rs. 140 and Rs. 124 respectively. This can be explained by the greater pressure of population in those regions and by the fact that the valuable cocoanut and polang trees are extensively grown there. The sale rates in P. S. Balipatna, Baliana and Pipli are still high, i.e. Rs. 120, Rs. 116 and Rs. 115, respectively, there being very little scope for extension of cultivation, and consequently a keen demand for lands. The sale rate is lowest in Kakatpur, the area being open to injurious flood.

287. *Mortgages of holdings*.—In the Sadr subdivision an area of 536 acres is found to have been mortgaged for a sum of Rs. 34,347 during the last twelve years. Regarded proportionately for the same period Mr. James's figure would be 770 acres. There is a decline in the mortgages since the last Revision Settlement owing to the fact that section 96, Orissa Tenancy Act, has discouraged usufructuary mortgages for any longer period than nine years. The average loan per acre mortgaged is Rs. 64.

The following is a comparative statement showing the percentage of area mortgaged to men of different professions:—

—	Landlord.	Raiyat.	Money-lender.	Lawyer.
Settlement of 1911 ...	24	44	32	...
Present settlement ...	9	75	15	1

288. *Khas mahals*.—The following is a list of the *khas mahals* in district Puri:—

Name of mahal.	Total area.
Kodhar, tauzi no. 251 ...	12,022 acres.
Balukhand, tauzi no. 459 ...	590 "
Pattunayanadi, tauzi no. 426 ...	55 "
Khurda tauzi no. 267 ...	575,059 "

Pattunayanadi is a small estate leased out on a twelve years' term. The Collector has settled the estate with Rai Sahib Srish Chandra Ghose of Puri. It was included in this settlement.

289. *Settlement of rent by agreement in Khurda khas mahal.*—The Khurda Government estate with an area of 883 square miles was originally included in the programme of the present settlement operations and it was intended that it should be taken up along with Block G. In view, however, of the fact that there have been many settlements in Khurda and that a continuous record is maintained there it was felt that it would be a waste of time and money to have another settlement including the preparation of maps and records if the tenants could be induced to compromise with their landlord for a fair enhancement of rent.

Mr. Mansfield, therefore, after consulting the Collector and Subdivisional Officer, submitted to Government a proposal that an attempt should be made by the *khas mahal* authorities to compromise with their tenants on the basis of a rent enhancement of two annas in the rupee under section 34 of the Orissa Tenancy Act. He further proposed that such compromises should be in writing and registered by officers of the settlement department specially empowered as joint sub-registrars. This operation, if successful, would obviate any necessity of a regular survey and settlement. In order to test whether the scheme was likely to be successful or not an experimental joint sub-registration office was started at Pichkuli in December 1927. Unfortunately the scheme attracted the attention of one or two irresponsible local politicians who started an agitation against it. This agitation at first met with some success, but after Government had issued a public notice giving time to the tenants till the 31 st March 1928 to decide whether they would take advantage of the offer of a compromise on rents, and some of the more intelligent tenants round Khurda had set the example of coming forward to execute *kabuliats*, the opposition quickly evaporated, and by the middle of June seven camps were working. Progress was at first delayed by inadequacy of *khas mahal* staff and by some friction between that staff and the settlement employees. These defects were, however, remedied Rsi Bahadur Radha Charan Das, who became Subdivisional Officer in October, took a keen interest in the work, and in the cold weather the outturn of the camps improved greatly. On some days as many as 300 *kabuliats* were registered in one camp. Nine officers were engaged in the work of registration and the whole area was divided into 35 centres. It was completed by the middle of February 1929. A very few tenants who had failed to execute their agreements in the camps came later to execute them in the ordinary registration offices at Khurda, Banpur and Puri.

The total number of agreements registered was 158,980. They were executed for all the holdings in the *mahal* except two. Those two belonged to a disgruntled agitator, who was thereupon sued for enhancement of rent under section 35. He executed the agreement for one holding in court and for the other he contested the suit, but on the court's ordering enhancement by two annas in the rupee, no appeal was filed.

There are 1,378 villages in the *mahal* of which 28 consist of jungle. Of the remaining 1,350 villages 1,310 had their rents enhanced by two annas in the rupee, 10 by one anna and 30 were exempted. The village Jatni was exempted because the holdings there (at Khurda Road Railway Station) are held on periodical leases of which the terms had not expired. The other exemption and enhancements at the lighter rate were made in order to prevent any hardship to villages liable to damage from flood. Such villages are few in the *mahal*, but some of those lying close to the Chilka Lake are subject to inundation. The general enhancement by two annas in the rupee was amply justified. A much higher enhancement, viz. by four annas six pies would have been legally admissible on the ground of rise in prices since the last settlement of rents. The existing average rate of rent in Khurda was Rs. 1-12-8 whereas in Puri Sadr after the Provincial Settlement it was Rs. 1-15-5 and in the adjoining district of Cuttack it is much higher. After the present enhancement the rate in Khurda is Rs. 2 as compared with Rs. 2-8-0 in Puri sadr. The average outturn of paddy was estimated

in 1915 to be 15 maunds per acre. Crop-cutting experiments in Puri Sadr in 1924-25 showed an average of 14 maunds 26 seers.

The subdivision was described by Babu Sudarsan Das in 1915 as "an undulating country with rich fertile villages and uncultivable uplands in alternate succession. It is free from inundation and protected from drought by means of water reservoirs and tanks". The sale price of land in the subdivision according to figures of sales between 1923 and 1926 was Rs. 241 per acre.

After the completion of the registration of *kabuliats* the work of entering the new rents in the maintenance records and of preparing new *pattas* for distribution to the tenants was done by the *khas mahal* staff.

The whole operation cost Rs. 59,620, of which Rs. 32,407 was expended by the settlement department and Rs. 27,213 by the *khas mahal*. The budget estimate for the regular survey and settlement of the *khas mahal* had been Rs. 5,35,000. The saving to Government was thus Rs. 4,75,380.

The settlement of 1913-14 brought the total rental of the *mahal* to Rs. 4,33,512. By the 31st March 1929 this had risen to Rs. 4,38,838 owing to assessment of newly reclaimed land. The present operation has added Rs. 52,489, bringing the total to Rs. 4,91,327. Out of this sum the *sadar jama* due to Government on account of the land revenue of the *mahal* is Rs. 3,97,956.

The tenants themselves in the end fully appreciated that their acceptance of the enhancement of rent by voluntary agreement had been immeasurably to their advantage.

290. *Balukhand khas mahal*.—The *Balukhand khas mahal* covers nearly 600 acres in Puri town, containing the Government offices and other important buildings. It was at first excluded from this settlement but it was eventually decided to include it.

The land was at first acquired by the Collector, Mr. Armstrong, in 1876 on behalf of the Town Improvement Fund, which in 1881 became the Puri municipality. In 1885 Government took direct control over the land by refunding the purchase money to the municipality. Mr. Garrett, as Collector in 1901, defined a policy for the laying out of the estate for building purposes, the recent opening of the railway having brought the town into prominence as a seaside resort. The lands on the seafront were divided into three classes according to their site value. The rate of rent was at that time about Rs. 30 per acre. In 1902 the Board of Revenue decided that the rate in the three blocks should nowhere be less than Rs. 100 per acre. Since then it has been progressively raised and in 1924 Government approved of rates of rent of Rs. 250 for Block, I. Rs. 200 for Block II and Rs. 150 for Block III.

The estate was cadastrally surveyed in 1897 and a record-of-rights prepared. There were then very few private houses and the rent roll was only Rs. 662. There was a survey on the 64-inch scale in 1918-19 under the Municipal Survey Act. At the present settlement the area was again surveyed on the scale of 64 inches to a mile and a record-of-rights was prepared. Rent settlement was not done by the settlement department. The rent roll at the time of preparing the record was Rs. 17,812, and it has since then been enhanced by the Collector to Rs. 19,432.

According to the terms of the leases the previous written permission of the Collector is required for transfers of holdings by sale or gift. A mutation fee is charged. This was fixed at six times the annual rental by order of Government in 1925. The Legal Remembrancer has held that the Collector can refuse his consent to a transfer during the continuance of an existing lease, but if he gives his consent he cannot at the same time demand an enhanced rent.

The tenants have the right to the fruit only of fruit-bearing trees on their holdings. The fruit and timber of all trees on road-side lands belong to the *khas mahal*.

At this settlement the lease-holders were recorded as *pattadars*. There are also a number of old established tenants (mostly *Nolias* and *Haris*) without lease, who had never had their rents enhanced. These have been recorded as tenants at will.

291. *Kodhar khas mahal*.—The *Kodhar khas mahal* lies in 40 villages of thana Kakatpur. Seven villages with an area of 2,261 acres are under the direct control of the Collector. There are 3,007 acres in 13 villages under sub-proprietors, and 6,754 acres in 20 villages under the *Uttarparswa math* and the Jagannath Ballav Committee as tenure-holders on a quit rent of Rs. 97.

At the British conquest the whole estate was found to be in possession of the *mahant* of the *Uttarparswa math*, but in 1834 the investigation into his right to hold the land free of revenue disclosed that the *math* had received no proprietary right but merely an assignment of revenue from the Mahratta Government. In 1843 it was let in farm for Rs. 6,739 out of which a sum of Rs. 3,467 was paid to the *math* annually. But in 1865 this money payment was commuted to a grant of certain villages. A payment of Rs. 2,667 to the Jagannath Ballav endowment was similarly commuted. It was noticed; however, that the income from the transferred villages, after allowing 5 per cent for cost of collection, slightly exceeded the amounts of the annual payments, and the Board therefore ordered that the difference, Rs. 97, should be paid annually by the assignees to Government.

In the course of the present settlement the point was raised whether the arrangement made in 1865 was intended to be permanent and whether Government could now settle fair rents in the transferred villages and appropriate the increase. The original documents did not make this matter clear. At the last revenue settlement it was held that the quit rent payable for these villages was fixed in perpetuity. This view has been again taken at this settlement on a reference to Government. The *Uttarparswa math* and the Jagannath Ballav Charitable Endowment have been recorded as permanent tenure-holders on rents fixed in perpetuity. Rent settlement under section 119 was not applied to the tenants under these tenures.

The revenue of the *hastabud* portion is now Rs. 3,141 and that of the sub-proprietary portion, Rs. 2,931. The total revenue of the estate is Rs. 6,072.

292. *Sales of proprietary rights*.—From the statistics prepared at attestation it appears that estates or shares of estates with an aggregate revenue of Rs. 20,791 were sold by voluntary rules for a consideration of Rs. 2,77,711 during a period of twelve years. The purchase money is thirteen times the revenue transferred. Of the transfers, 92 per cent were to the landlord class, 5 per cent to money-lenders and 3 per cent to *riayats*.

Of the involuntary sales, i. e. sales of estates for arrears of land revenue, the following are the statistics for a period of fifteen years from 1914 to 1928 :—

Number of sales	...	...	...	...	17
					Rs.
Dues for which sold	...	...	...	...	505
Aggregate revenue of the estates or shares of estates sold	...	...	...	...	2,418
Sale price	...	...	...	...	26,924

The sale price is about eleven times the revenue of the estates sold.

It is, however, significant that the amount of arrears of revenue for a year is only Rs. 34 in a revenue roll of Rs. 4 lakhs.

293. *Kotdesh estate*.—The *Kotdesh estate*, tauzi no. 44, is the largest temporarily-settled estate of Orissa, covering an area of 172 square miles. It was given to one Trilochan Patnaik, a *tahsildar*, by the Raja of Berar in 1775, and remained in the hands of the same family until the Provincial Settlement when it was sold for arrears of revenue. A 7-annas share was then purchased by the *Bhagats* of Cuttack town, a 4-annas share by the *mahant* of Emar *math* and a 5-annas share by the *Chaudhuries* of Bhinjarpur. The estate was under the management of the Collector for

ten years from 1899, and was then restored to the Common Manager appointed by the District Judge. A condition of the restoration was that a sum of Rs. 4,000 should be paid annually to the Collector for improvements and for the maintenance of roads and embankments in the estate.

The estate occupies a large triangle of land between the Bhargovi and Kushbhadra rivers, and the Dhanua river runs through the middle of it. Normally it does not suffer much from floods, but in the exceptional floods of 1920 a part of it suffered severe damage and revenue was remitted for the remaining seven years of the settlement to an amount of Rs. 1,381.

The revenue at last settlement was Rs. 1,04,338, and it has been assessed at this settlement at Rs. 1,29,758. In revenue settlement the sum of Rs. 4,000 annually payable to the Collector has been excluded from the assets assessable to revenue by the order of the Board.

294. *Rahang estate*.—The Rahang estate, tauzi no. 268, was purchased in 1809, along with the Krishnachandra and Krishnanagar estates by Radha Krishna Chandra Singh, a Bengalee Dewan of Orissa. This estate was recusant from 1813 to 1898, but at the Provincial Settlement the proprietors entered into engagement. The estate covers 96 square miles, lying immediately to the north of Puri town. The river Nuna runs on the north-west flank, the Ratanchira in the middle, and the Bhargovi towards the south and west. It contains the area known as the Samang Pat and a portion of the Sur Pat. It is not badly affected by floods and the basin of the Ratanchira is fertile. A detached portion near the Kushbhadra on the east is sandy and inferior.

The revenue at last settlement was Rs. 35,627, and has now been settled at Rs. 44,284. The money assignments payable to the Puri Temple from this estate are described elsewhere. The proprietors are minors, and the management is in the hands of their grand-mother, Rani Harshamukhi as trustee.

295. *Krishnachandra estate*.—The Krishnachandra estate, tauzi no. 269, which belongs to the same proprietors as Rahang, covers an area of 51 square miles in pargana Chaubiskud. More than half the estate is held by sub-proprietors of the class of *padhans* and *sarbarakars*. The estate lies on the lower reaches of the river Bhargovi near the Chilka Lake. The area near the Chilka Lake suffers from salt inundation and is not very productive. The estate suffered rather severely in two successive floods in 1925 and 1926, and in the latter year revenue was remitted up to Rs. 1,288. On account of the damage by floods the rent settlement in this estate was rather lenient, and 69 villages out of 93 received enhancements at less than normal rates.

296. *Krishnanagar estate*.—The Krishnanagar estate, tauzi no. 270, also belongs to the same proprietors as Rahang. It covers an area of 58 square miles in pargana Serai. About two-thirds of it is held by sub-proprietors. The Daya river runs through the estate, and the villages to the west of that river are flooded. This area suffered severely from flood in 1925 and 1926, and revenue was remitted to an amount of Rs. 920. Rent settlement in this estate was rather lenient after the floods, and in 43 out of 94 villages low enhancement was given.

297. *Delang estate*.—Delang estate is situated in pargana Lembai covering an area of 81 square miles. An area of 23,042 acres is in direct control of the proprietor, and over the remaining 29,027 acres sub-proprietors intervene. Of these 214 are *padhans*, 55 *makaddamas*, 21 *sarbarakars*, 17 *dalais* and 6 *dalbeheras*. The estate does not suffer from any physical disadvantage, and the lands are mostly fertile.

At the last settlement the Raja of Puri, who owned the proprietary right, was heavily in debt to the Raja of Parlakimedi. In 1903 the estate was sold for arrears of revenue and purchased by the latter. Soon after the purchase the proprietor died, and the present Raja being a minor at the time, the estate was managed by the Court of Wards till 1913. The management is well organized after the manner of the Court of Wards.

The question arose as to whether certain sub-proprietors, who were described in the *kabuliats* of the last settlement as *padhani sarbarakars* are really *sarbarakars* or *padhans*. Rai Bahadur Nandkishore Das in his report on land tenures in Puri (1875 Edition) writes as follows in paragraph 44:—

"In the villages held by a large number of *padhans*, one or more of them have been selected and recorded as managers. They collect rents from *rai-yats*, pay the *jama*, and distribute the profits among themselves. The managers are called *padhani sarbarakars*, and the others are called *bhyalli padhans*." This being the origin of the tenures, the sub-proprietors have been recorded as *padhans* at this settlement.

The revenue of the estate has been increased from Rs. 43,560 to Rs. 53,246

The proprietor appealed to the Government against this assessment, but his objection was rejected. He has filed a suit in the civil court against the revenue assessed on various grounds, but has provisionally executed the *kabuliat*.*.

298. *Relation between landlord and tenants*—The relations between the landlord and tenants are apparently cordial. Most of the larger estates are well managed.

In Kotdesh the management of the Common Manager appointed by the District Judge is reported to be efficient and popular.

In Krishnanagar the late proprietor did much good and was held in esteem by his tenants. In particular he had the Rajkhama canal constructed.

In Delang the relationship between landlord and tenants is good.

The several estates held by the *chaudhuris* of Bhinjarpur were placed under a Common Manager appointed by the District Judge, but most of them have been released. The co-sharers are many and there are dissensions among them. The collecting agents are influential and exacting.

The *Mahant* of *Emar math* is a powerful landlord and his collecting agents are arbitrary in their methods. In the lands held by him in Harishpur estate it was observed at attestation that the *Mahant* never had to sue a tenant for rent and entirely prevented all transfers.

In the sub-proprietary tenures where there are many co-sharers faction is generally rife. Many of these petty sub-proprietors are no better off than their tenants and the latter have the upper hand unless the former are united.

299. *Transfer and subdivision of estates*.—Fourteen estates with an area of 607 acres and assets of Rs. 1,406 were entirely transferred from Cuttack to Puri. Further, as a result of subdivision of estates, portions of two estates with area 32 acres and assets Rs. 62 were transferred from Cuttack to Puri and portions of seven estates with area 1,596 acres and assets Rs. 3,203 were transferred from Puri to Cuttack.

There are still some estates on the tauzi roll of Puri, and others on that of Cuttack which have lands partly in Cuttack and partly in Puri. On account of the objection of the proprietors they were not subdivided. The details of these lands are as follows :—

(a) Lands lying in Puri but borne on the tauzi roll of Cuttack :—					
Number of estates	...	...	...	...	32
Area	...	...	...	...	Acres. 2632.48
Assets (valued for revenue settlement)	...	...	...	...	Rs. a. p. 5,433 12 0
(b) Lands lying in Cuttack but borne on the tauzi roll of Puri :—					
Number of estates	...	...	...	...	10
Area	...	...	...	...	Acres. 772.09
Assets (valued for revenue settlement)	...	...	...	...	Rs. a. p. 1,470 4 0

* I understand the suit failed.

CHAPTER XII.

The permanently-settled estates.

300. *Killa Kanika*.—Killa Kanika, the largest estate on the revenue roll of the Cuttack Collectorate, covers an area of 440 square miles, out of which 275 square miles are in Cuttack district and 165 square miles in Balasore. The estate lies on the sea-coast on both sides of the Dhamra estuary. There is a belt of jungle along the sea shore. Further inland are arable plains. The parts adjoining the coastal jungle are partially protected from salt water inundation by that jungle and by the embankments constructed for the purpose by the estate. Owing to encroachment by the sea the jungle is at many points an inadequate protection. The embankments in the Cuttack area were badly breached by a cyclone a few years ago, but have since been repaired. The cultivated lands lying further inland are subject to floods of the Baitarani and Brahmini rivers.

301. *Previous settlements*.—The estate was under the Court of Wards from 1844 to 1849 and again from 1862 to 1902. There were three private settlements while the estate was under the Court of Wards. The last of these, that of 1889-94, was preceded by a cadastral survey carried out by a professional survey party, under Act V of 1875. During the present settlement all the old villages were resurveyed, and an original survey was done of the newly-formed villages. An area of 4,350 acres of jungle, not contained in any village, was excluded. An authoritative record-of-rights was prepared for the first time.

302. *Classification of areas*.—The total area of the Killa surveyed in the present settlement was 202,933 acres, of which 127,634 acres, or 63 per cent are cultivated and 11,512 acres, or 6 per cent are current fallow. Since the settlement of 1889-94 about 10,000 acres have been brought under cultivation. There is still a large area of jungle capable of being reclaimed. Within the boundaries of the estate there are 816 acres of Government lands. 51,253 acres were recorded as *anabadi* of the proprietor. No *sarbasadharan* or *rakhit khata*s were prepared. Public rights and easements were noted in the remarks column of the plots affected. There are 855 acres of *nijjote*, including 227 acres in which occupancy rights have accrued.* Only 11 decimals of this area is held on produce-rent and the rest on cash-rents. The total area in the estate recorded as under produce-rents is only 129 acres. There are 463 acres of ordinary *jagir* and 78 acres of *desheta jagir*.

303. *Rent roll*.—The cash rent roll at the commencement of the operations amounted to Rs. 1,98,347 of which Rs. 1,71,351 was for an area of 120,330 acres held by settled and occupancy *rai-yats*, at an average rate of Rs. 1-7-0 per acre. The rent roll after the proceedings under section 128 and sections 136 and 137 has risen to Rs. 2,20,989.

304. *Minha*.—The custom of allowing resident *rai-yats* to hold homestead lands up to one-sixteenth of their rice lands in a village rent-free prevails in this estate.

305. *Fisheries*.—The estuary and sea fisheries in the Killa are very valuable. The income is estimated to be about Rs.20,000 a year.

306. *History of rents*.—Mr. Sakhawat Hossein in his report of the settlement of 1889-94 shows the area of *rai-yati* holdings under the proprietor as 107,966 acres, and the rental as Rs. 127,917-8-0. Since then the Raja had affected various enhancements of the existing rents. Rents were enhanced in 1909 in the part of the estate east of the Matai river in Balasore. The enhancement was by four annas per rupee of rent, of which two annas was said to be on the ground of rise of prices and two annas for an improvement—the reconstruction of the Nuna Bundh. There was also a general enhancement in the Cuttack portion in 1916, which in some cases was within the legal limit of two annas in the rupee and in some cases beyond this limit. There were also several local enhancements on account of various

*Actually a great deal of the remainder is held on produce rents.

embankments, constructed or repaired (the Satbhaya embankments, the coastal embankment near Kaintha, one further inland between Tiari and Mangarajpur and the embankment and canal near Chandibansmul). These enhancements varied from four annas to eight annas in the rupee. They, were in many cases within fifteen years of a previous enhancement, so that they were *ipso facto illegal*. The others could be regarded as legal if it were proved that there had been a genuine contract between landlord and tenant and that the embankment was in effect an improvement. They had clearly, however, been quite arbitrarily imposed, and it was doubtful whether there had been any real improvement, although undoubtedly the landlord had incurred a good deal of expense in keeping embankments in order. Generally these enhancements were treated as illegal at attestation but later under section 137 were restored and settled by compromise.

307. *Rent settlement in Balasore under section 128*—In the Balasore portion an attempt was made in 1925 by the landlord to effect a general settlement of fair rents by compromise under section 137. But as the relationship between landlord and tenants was strained only about 1,000 rents were settled in this way. Thereafter acute differences arose between the parties and the landlord filed cases under section 128 throughout the Balasore area of the Killa.

An attempt was made to compromise them, and the terms of compromise were actually drawn up and agreed to, but the agreement was later retracted. Two test cases were then taken out, in order to decide the general principles at issue. The landlord appealed to the Special Judge against the orders passed by the settlement courts in those cases, and was partially successful. The tenants went up to the High Court, but their appeals failed. One of those cases concerned a village to the east of the Matai river and it was contended by the tenants that the enhancement of rent in 1909 was illegal, because (1) there had been no "improvement", and (2) there had been no contract. On those points it was held by the Special Judge, disagreeing with the Settlement Officer, that there had been reconstruction of the embankment amounting to an improvement, and that although there had been no written contract, the fact of continuous payment of the enhanced rents for seventeen years was sufficient to prove that the enhancement was agreed to. In his judgment on appeal Ross J. observed that "just as in the case of the statute of frauds part performance is allowed to take the place of writing, so in the case of contracts for enhancement of rent proof of continuous payment of the enhanced rent may take the place of writing and registration".

The other test case concerned a village to the west of the Matai where there had been no enhancement in 1889—94. The main contest in this case turned upon the question of fixity of rent. The High Court made some interesting observations on the question of onus. The landlord had stated in his plaint that the rents fixed in the settlement of the year 1301 were not enhanced thereafter. The tenants pointed to this as an admission that the rent had not been enhanced for twenty years, so that the presumption of fixity arose under section 58 of the Orissa Tenancy Act. The landlord urged that the statement should be taken as a whole, i.e. as implying also that the rents were enhanced in the settlement of 1301. Kulwant Sahay, J. held that there was an admission of the same rent existing for a period of twenty years, and that the landlord would have to prove by evidence that there had in fact been an enhancement in the year 1301.

308. *Rent settlement in Cuttack under sections 136 and 137*—The disposal of section 128 cases in the Balasore portion of the estate was greatly retarded by those contests. The Cuttack portion was taken up in a later block, and in order to avoid a repetition of this trouble the parties were induced to effect a settlement of rent by agreement under the provisions of sections 136 and 137. The rates of enhancement agreed upon were 3 annas on those rents which had been current since the last settlement and 1 anna on those which had been current since the enhancements of 1916. (Where the 1916 enhancements were illegal, they were ignored,

the previous legal rents were attested and were then enhanced by Re. 0-3-0). Where rents had been illegally enhanced on the ground of improvements, the enhanced rents were settled as fair by the compromise. The great majority of tenants agreed to the compromise, with the result that no section 128 cases were filed by the Raja in the Cuttack portion,

309. *Result of rent settlement*.—The result of the settlement of rents by suit was an enhancement by Rs. 10,067, and that of the compromises was an enhancement by Rs. 12,575.

310. *Public right of way and irrigation*.—The recording of the public right of way in the roads of the estate was strongly opposed by the landlord. The matter was referred to the Legal Remembrancer, and in the light of his opinion, the burden was placed on the public to prove the existence of an ancient right. When the public succeeded in proving uninterrupted enjoyment of the right for twenty years, the burden was shifted to the landlord, who might then prove that there had in fact been no dedication of a right of use to the public by evidence that the road was constructed and maintained entirely at his cost or in other ways.

A similar principle was applied in dealing with rights of irrigation from tanks.

311. *Gochar*.—There are no areas reserved for grazing purposes. It is indeed the immemorial custom to allow the cattle to graze on all available waste land of the village but this will not limit the right of the landlord to lease out the land for cultivation. The tenants were anxious that these lands should be recorded as *gochar* and this word was often entered in the description column. But this cannot effect the landlord's right to bring the land under cultivation. It is hoped, however, that sufficient areas will be left open for pasture.

Along the sea-coast in Balasore there is a strip of jungle called *banipahi*, which supplied very good grazing for buffaloes. The tenants used to cut wood from here after taking permits and could also graze their buffaloes on payment of eight annas. About 1922 the Raja closed this jungle to the tenants. This led to some friction and to criminal cases. The Raja, however, appears to have been acting within his rights in closing this jungle in which the tenants have not exercised free rights of user at least since 1868.

312; *Record of Debottar properties*.—The mode of recording *debottar* properties caused some controversy in the Balasore area. The Raja claimed *sebaitship* of all these properties as spiritual head of the Killa. Inquiry at *khanapuri* showed that there are various classes of endowments and the Raja's claim to *sebaitship* only appeared to be valid in respect of one class. The Settlement Officer ordered the Raja to be recorded as *sebait* only when he actually exercises some control over the endowment. Legal opinion was given that where *debottar* land had been granted to a *Thakur* with some one as *marfatdar* under a *sanad* such as that quoted in Sukhawat Hassein's report page 52, the Raja has no right to be recorded as *sebait*. In the Cuttack area the Raja generally succeeded in being recorded as *sebait* without any contest.

313. *Ntjjote lands*.—Some lands were found recorded as *koth-khamar* of the landlord in the *jamabandis*. These were claimed as *nijjote*, and as they appeared to fulfil the definition in section 135 of the Act they were so recorded.

314. *Rights in trees*.—The custom as regards tree in *raiya* holdings was found to be that the *raiya* enjoys the fruits but has no right to the timber. Bamboos are, however, taken by the *raiya*s. Trees on *niskar* and *tanki* holdings belong entirely to the tenants.

315. *Jungle management*.—The system of jungle management has undergone frequent changes. Under the Court of Wards a jungle cess of eight annas was charged to those who took wood. The present Raja introduced the system of charging six pies per rupee of rent, which was

collected from all *rai-yats* indiscriminately along with their rents. The maximum quantity of fuel wood allowed to be taken was 100 maunds and in addition wood for house-building and agricultural implements could be taken. The tenants were dissatisfied with this system and the settlement authorities pointed out its unfairness to tenants residing at a great distance from the jungles. In 1928 the Raja went back to the system of levying a cess of eight annas, which is charged on each hearth. The maximum quantity was cut down to 50 maunds, and wood for house-building was not allowed. While negotiations for a compromise were going on in the Balasore area the tenants complained before me of this new scale of jungle charges and particularly of the restrictions on the quantity taken. The printed form of pass specifies the kinds of trees which are permitted to be taken for fuel and for agricultural implements, and defines the maximum quantities as follows :—

Fuel wood	...	...	...	...	...	50 maunds.
Nangal	...	...	...	...	...	2 pieces.
Kanti	...	...	...	...	...	2 "
Isa	...	...	...	...	...	2 "
Juali	...	...	...	...	...	1 "
Maigar	...	...	...	...	...	1 piece.

It also names the portions of jungle which are open. The estate reserves the right to close any portion of the jungle at will. The jungle is divided into blocks, some of which are "protected" and some "reserved". The protected blocks are closed and the reserved ones are opened in rotation. The tenants also complained that the nearest open jungles were very far from their villages and that to get there they had to take their boats through a channel for which they were charged a fee by the estate.

316. *Causes of discontent.*—The *rai-yats* are harassed by innumerable charges which are a serious drain on their resources and are in my opinion responsible for a great part of the discontent that prevails. As an example may be given the system of *bhul sansodhan* or mistake correction, on which pretext many fees are charged to *rai-yats* who are not responsible for the mistakes, and incidentally rents are often unfairly enhanced. Again it is a ground of complaint in Chhamukha at least that no petition is received unless written by the Raj petition-writer on the proper form, with appropriate charges. The system of dealing with social delinquents and levying fines for readmission into caste which prevails here as in some other Killas, is unusually rigorous. In this estate as in Sukinda the estate officers decide disputes practically in the manner of courts with the Raja as final court of appeal. The registration of documents in Government registry offices is severely dicountenanced, and rarely occurs. Moreover, several instances were detected of land being resumed by the estate for its own purposes without due compensation to the tenants. The Executive Officer of the estate in Chhamukha was reported by the Attestation Officer to be extremely oppressive in his dealings with the tenants. The restrictions on the cutting of jungle and the estate's policy of reservation are resented as illiberal to the tenants. Fees are illegally charged for the mutation of the names of heirs in the landlord's *sherista*. The estate also derives income from various compulsory charges in the nature of searching and copying fees, process-fees, sale-proceeds of petition forms; and from numerous "taxes", of which the charcoal tax, paddy-stacking tax, honey tax and cowdung pit tax may be regarded as typical.

317. *Management of endowments.*—The estate is very efficiently managed, and considerable sums are expended on upkeep of embankments. There are 158 miles of embankments in the estate.

318. *Transferability of holdings.*—The custom about transfer of ordinary *rai-yati* holdings is that the consent of the landlord is necessary, and indeed in a few cases this consent has been refused. The estate has adopted the usual rate of 25 per cent of the consideration money as the fee for mutation in the case of ordinary rent-paying holdings, but a higher rate

is charged to purchasers from outside the estate, or when there is a registered sale-deed. These rates are charged on the nominal value of land in the village, as fixed by the landlord, unless the actual price is higher. Rent-free and quit-rented (*tanki*) holdings are also non-transferable without the consent of the landlord, and these are generally resumed on transfer and assessed at the village rate.

319. *Accretions on the coast*.—In the course of settlement it was discovered that several hundred acres of land had accreted to the estate along the sea-coast in Balasore. It was at first proposed to demarcate the area and assess it to revenue as a separate *tauzi* under rule 730 of the Settlement Manual. But Government were advised that this could not be done under the settlement notification under the Orissa Tenancy Act but only after a special survey under Bengal Act 9 of 1847. It was further pointed out that the maps of 1888-89 had not been recognized as a revenue-survey and that there was no evidence on record to show how the present maps compare with the revenue-survey of 1840-41. The orders passed at section 116 stage to record the lands as a separate *tauzi* were revised by Mr. Reuben as settlement Officer. *

KILLA CHHEDRA

320. *Killa Chhedra*.—Killa Chhedra covers 5,244 acres in the centre of Kendrapara subdivision. The Commissioners in 1803 allowed it a permanent settlement, but it was not mentioned in Regulation XII of 1805. In view of its situation in the Moghulbandi area its inclusion among the permanently-settled estates is rather anomalous. The estate passed out of the family of its original proprietors by sale in 1836. There have since been several transfers and the original *tauzi* no. 17 has become four *tauzis* by partition (nos. 17, 5890, 5891 and 5892). The total revenue paid by the four estates is Rs. 2,258.

This estate was included in the Provincial Settlement operations in accordance with the order of Sir Charles Elliott, who decided that the permanently-settled estates should be taken up if they were mixed up in the temporarily-settled area or were irrigated by canal water.

The question of the estate's right to retain its permanently-settled status on alienation was enquired into but no original *sanad* or other paper could be traced to throw light on the circumstances of its permanent settlement. It has, therefore, been presumed to be entitled to retain its status. The original, *tauzi* no. 17, is now held by Srimati Sukheshini Bose, a resident of British Chandanagore in Bengal.

In the four *tauzis* an area of 3,364 acres is held by settled and occupancy *raiyats* on a total rent of Rs. 9,518. The total cash-rent roll amounts to Rs. 9,771. The proprietors did not file any applications for enhancement of rent under section 128. There are 111 acres in cultivating possession of the proprietors and 12 acres held by tenants on produce-rents.

KILLA KALKALA.

321. *Killa Kalkala*.—Killa Kalkala is a small permanently-settled estate with an area of about 19 square miles, situated at the extreme south-western corner of Jajpur subdivision adjoining Dhenkanal State. Like the other estates on the western fringe of the district it contains forest-clad hills which slope down to the edge of the Orissa plain.

This estate originally formed part of Killa Darpan, which was permanently-settled under section 33 of Regulation XII of 1805. After the permanent settlement Kalkala was in 1805 made into a separate estate.

The total area of the estate is 12,091 acres, of which 2,730 acres or 23 per cent are cultivated while of the remainder some 7,751 acres are recorded as culturable.

The statuses found in the estate are of the kind generally prevalent in permanent-settled areas. The local designations of *raiyats* on fixed rents are *kaiemi jama* and *kam jama*, and these have been recorded as *chirasthayi jama raiyat*. *Khorak poshak* grants to the relations of the landlord are

* Government reserved the right to assess accretions in the future.
P. T. M.

numerous, as succession is governed by the law of primogeniture, and women are excluded from the succession.

Most of the *raiya*s hold their homestead lands rent-free. This is regarded as an unconditional privilege for the higher castes, but the lower castes have to render *bethi* services to the landlord in return for it.

Only 26 acres of *zamindar*'s private land were found, and recorded as *nijjote*. An area of 56 acres is recorded as *nijchas* and 17 acres are on produce-rents.

The resident *raiya*s of the estate are permitted to take fire-wood from the jungle on payment of an annual fee of Rs. 1-4-0 per family. They also get timber for building purposes on payment of half the market rates. There is free right of pasturage in the jungle, except for the *Gour* caste, who have to supply *ghi* to the *zamindar* at the rate of one quarter seer per 10 head of cattle and the same for every additional 5 head, the price being fixed at 8 annas a seer. *Gours* with less than 10 head of cattle do not have to supply *ghi*.

No land has been recorded as reserved for grazing or any other purpose.

There is little friction between landlord and tenants. Rent receipts are granted in proper form. Compromises for settlement of fair rents by a general enhancement of two annas in the rupee plus assessment on excess areas were effected in respect of 533 holdings and rents amounting to Rs. 1,939 were thereby increased to Rs. 2,350. Rents were also enhanced under section 128 by Rs. 547.

The total cash-rents of the estate now amount to Rs. 4,330. It is calculated that Rs. 630 is the annual *sairat* income from forest produce. The revenue of the estate is Rs. 131-3-7.

KILLA SUKINDA.

322. *Killa Sukinda*.—Killa Sukinda lies at the extreme north-west corner of Cuttack district, jutting out like a wedge between the States of Keonjhar and Dhenkanal. It is for the most part an area of forest-clad hills, belonging geographically to the highland region of the Feudatory States. The eastern and southern portions, however, are on the fringe of the deltaic plain country.

The population are generally Oriya Hindus, but there is an intermixture of aborigines such as Mundas and Kols in the jungle area.

323. *History*.—The Killa is said to have been acquired about the 8th century by a scion of the Bhoj rulers of Central India, who expelled the aboriginal Chiefs. The Rajas' genealogical table gives the names of 45 Chiefs in 1,168 years. The estate was permanently-settled along with Darpan and Madhupur under section 33 of Regulation XII of 1805, a *sanad* being given to the *zamindar*, who executed a *kabuliat* for payment of revenue. The Poplice administration remained in the hands of the *zamindar* until 1874 when it was taken over by Government. The revenue stated in the *sanad* of 1804 was 5,500 *kahans* of *kouris*. This was converted into Rs. 1 364-6-0. According to the cess revaluation of 1916 the estate pays cess of Rs. 3,618.

324. *Area under cultivation*.—Of the total area of 214,790 acres, only 39,011 acres are under cultivation. Reclamation has gone on rapidly in recent years, but there is still much room for extension of cultivation. 106,389 acres have been recorded as culturable waste. The landlord grants *pattas* for purpose of reclamation on payment of *salami*, allowing a rent-free period of a few years (called *minha*) after which the reclaimed land is measured and assessed to rent. Much of the reclamation is done by Mundas who have come from Singbhum and Mayurbhanj.

325. *Principal crops*.—Rice is the principal crop. The rice lands vary in fertility according to their level. In the estate papers they are divided into three classes. *Gobra* or first-class land retains sufficient moisture to grow a late winter rice of good varieties. *Passi-ek* lands lie somewhat higher and are capable of growing early winter or late autumn rice. *Passi-dui* lands are still higher and grow *beali* rice, which in years of scanty rainfall is liable to fail.

In the jungle area enormous damage is annually done to the crops by wild elephants. These are a serious menace.

Rabi crops are found on 4,122 acres.

326. *Tassar cultivation*.—A certain amount of *tassar* cultivation is done, generally by aboriginals, but the industry is not in a flourishing condition. For this purpose the jungle is leased out to *thikadars*, to whom the cultivators are obliged to sell the *tassar*.

327. *Statuses*.—The estate *jomabandis* show many peculiar statuses, which have not been reproduced in the settlement records. *Datta tankidars* and *bhalloki tankidars* are *raiya*s whose rents are fixed in perpetuity, and they have been recorded as *chirasthai jama raiyat*. Persons with statuses *Sardar datta*, *dalai datta* and *jagir tanki* have generally been recorded as *jagirdars*, as they hold lands in lieu of services, but if the land is held as a reward for past services *raiya*ti status has been given.

328. *Village servants*.—The village servants such as *dhobis*, barbers, potters and blacksmiths hold *jagirs*. A few of them have been given the status of *desheta jagirdars*. According to local custom the *jagirs* pass by the law of primogeniture and are not divisible.

329. *Religious grants*.—The usual grants to Brahmins and idols are found in this estate. A peculiar type is that of *sona paita brahmottar* which is a grant for supply of sacred thread to be worn by the *zamindar* on *Pous Purnima day*. In the majority of *debottar* holdings it was found that the proprietor exercised supervision over the management, and he was accordingly recorded as *sebat*. Where he exercised no such supervision his name was not recorded.

330. *Grants of maintenance*.—There are a number of maintenance tenures held by the *zamindar's* relations. They are heritable but not transferable. Some relations merely have money assignments. These are paid out of the rents of particular villages but the grantees have no connection with the villages as landlords.

331. *Nijjote lands*.—An area of 224 acres was found to be *zamindar's* private lands and recorded as *nijjote*. A further area of 1,783 acres was recorded as *nijchas* or in cultivating possession of the *zamindar*. Most of these lands are actually let out to tenants on produce-rents, but the tenants were as usual reluctant to be recorded.

332. *Reserved lands*.—Although the estate is permanently-settled the landlord was induced to give his consent to the reservation of some areas for grazing. This was mainly done in villages where jungle is scarce. An area of 1,243 acres in 103 villages was recorded as reserve.

333. *Rent enhancements*.—In 1885 the lands of the estate were measured and *bhourias* were written up by the estate officials. In 1889 there was a general enhancement of the rates of rent for different classes of land. In 1910 to 1916 there was a remeasurement and assessment of rent on excess lands. In 1925 and 1926 a further enhancement was made of the rents of some villages. This last enhancement being within fifteen years of the previous one was not legal and was ignored in recording the existing rents. The estate was found to be realizing cess from the tenants at the rate of one anna per rupee of rent. It was explained to them that this is illegal. It is also realized at arbitrary rates assessed by the *zamindar* on *brahmottardars* and other rent-free holders.

334. *Illegal cesses*.—It was also found that along with the rents a number of extra payments were realized locally known as *baje kharcha*. These were illegal *abwabs*. They consisted mainly of—

				Rs.	a	p.	
Rasad kharcha	...	...	...	0	1	0	per rupee of rent,
Collection charges	...	...	...	0	1	0	ditto,
Sunakhetra (or birth day tax)	...	...	...	0	0	1	ditto,
Pushyavisek tax	...	...	...	0	0	1	ditto,
Rakamtuti*	...	...	...	0	0	2	ditto,

* This *abwab* was levied as the price of exemption from the liability to sell rice and other commodities to the landlord at less than market rates.

335. *Rent compromise under section 137.*—At time of attestation compromises were entered into between the *zamindar* and the tenants for enhancement of rents. Generally the rents settled by compromise were equal to the old rents plus *baje kharcha* plus some additional assessment on excess areas. Where there had been illegal enhancement in 1925 and 1926 these illegal rents were now accepted as fair rents without any further enhancement. The rents thus settled were quite fair to the tenants, who accepted them readily. The compromises were effected in 213 villages out of 244 and the total legal rental of 10,657 holdings was increased from Rs. 35,690 to Rs. 48,011.

This compromise reduced the volume of section 128 cases to a negligible amount. The total cash-rent roll now amounts to Rs. 51,537.

336. *Internal management*—In its internal administration the Killa bears a close resemblance to a Feudatory State. Disputes between the tenants are generally decided by the *dewan* and subordinate officials, with the *zamindar* acting as a final court of appeal. The registration of documents is rare. There is an organized system of unpaid labour. Each *raiya* has to give his services for one day for ploughing the landlord's *nichas* and for one day for weeding. Services have also to be given for the Car festival, the catching of elephants and shooting expeditions. In return for these services the *raiya*s are allowed to take wood from the jungle for fuel and for agricultural purposes. The proprietor, however, reserves portions of the jungle from time to time at will. An area of about 3,000 acres covering the *Mahagiri*, *Sunajhari* and *Guduchipasi* hills was found to be reserved and has been demarcated as such.

Rent collection is done by *tahsildars* in some areas and by *padhans* in the more jungly parts. The *padhans* receive 2 annas in the rupee as commission.

The estate *jamabandis* wear in a confused state and out of date. The practice as regards rent collection and granting of receipts is quite unsystematic, and the tenants themselves appeared to have no idea what rents they were legally liable to pay.

337. *Chaukidari jagirs*—In 1903 the Collector proposed to resume the *chaukidari jagirs* in Sukinda but on objection being raised the matter was adjudicated upon by the civil courts. The Privy Council finally rejected the claim of Government to resume these *jagirs* (21 C. L. J., page 31).

338. *Sale of raiya holdings.*—The average sale price of *raiya* soldings is only Rs. 35 per acre. The rate for mortgages was found to be a few rupees higher, which is attributed to the fact that the people prefer to take a mortgage rather than to purchase, so as to escape mutation fees.

Occupancy holdings are not transferable without the landlords consent. There used to be no fixed rate for mutation fees but since the passing of the Orissa Tenancy Act the rates of 25 per cent of the consideration money or six times the rental have been adopted, on the analogy of section 31. A petition fee of three annas is also charged, and two pice per mile as peon's fee. No case of refusal to recognize a transferee is reported to have occurred.

KILLA PATIA

339. *Killa Patia*—Killa Patia was at one time part of the kingdom of Khurda held by the Gajapati Rajas of Orissa. After the Moghul conquest one Chhakari Brahmarbar Ray, a descendant of the Gajapati Rajas, went to Delhi and obtained the Killa along with other *zamindari*s from the Emperor Akbar. At the time of the British conquest the Killa was in possession of Raja Raghunath Deb who had been allowed by the Marhattas to hold it free of revenue in consideration for giving up his *zamindari* of Saibir. The *zamindar* assisted the British forces at the time of the conquest and the Commissioners confirmed the existing arrangement and further allotted to the *zamindar* a pension of 5,000 *kahans* of *kouris*, but later the pension was discontinued and the *zamindar* received back Saibir, which was afterwards sold for arrears revenue. In 1836 it came to light that the exact area of the Killa had never been defined, and Mr. Mills, the then

Collector, strongly urged that the original rent-free grant was of a very much smaller area than the 48 villages of *parganas* Sauri and Bahurupa then in possession of the *zamindar* and that the larger area had been obtained by fraud. Mr. Mills in his letter to the Commissioner, Mr. Rickett, dated the 17th April 1837, put forward the view that *parganas* Sauri and Bahurupa, which form the present Killa Patia were in reality an integral part of the *mahal* Saranghar which the Raja had unsuccessfully claimed as his *nankar* and for which he had been permitted to engage, while Patia itself consisted of only five *ghars*, with an annual produce of Rs. 763-8-70. He pointed out that in his petition to engage for Saibiri the Raja had referred to Sauri and Bahurupa as part of his hereditary *zamindari* and to Patia as "a jungly place where he built a house for security against the Raja of Khurda". The arguments of Mr. Mills did not, however, convince the higher authorities, who left the Raja in the enjoyment, free of revenue, of the whole area then held.

When the present operations were taken up the *zamindar* retained only 19 of the 48 villages, of which the Killa at one time consisted, the remainder having been sold. The estate was heavily in debt and has now been completely sold up by civil court decree and purchased by the Raja of Kanika.

The Killa had never previously been brought under settlement. At the time of the Provincial Settlement, operations were indeed started, but after survey and preparation of a draft record-of-rights, the settlement was stopped on the objection of the proprietor. Only two villages, Arilo and Ratagarh, the property of the Raja of Athgarh, were included in the Revision Settlement operations.

340. *Situation and description*.—The Killa is situated to the south of Cuttack town, adjoining the northern extremity of the Khurda subdivision. The northern portion includes the bed of the Kathjori river, while the southern portion is hilly and contains dense jungle. The soil in the vicinity of the river is sandy of the types known as *balia* or *dorasabalua*, while in the interior it is largely *matal* or clayey with *gorimati* in the uplands. There are fertile *pathas* or silt deposits in the bed of the Kathjori.

341. *Crops*.—The main crops grown are paddy, *mung*, *harar*, *biri*, *kolath*, potatoes and other vegetables. From crop-cutting experiment the average outturn of paddy appears to be 18 maunds 29 seers.

The paddy grown in the Killa is insufficient for the wants of the people, and some is imported mainly from Khurda and Banki. Pulses and vegetables are exported.

342. *Rent*.—*Raiyati* rents are low, the average being Rs. 2-4-10 per acre. In proceedings under section 128, existing rents amounting to Rs. 3,043 were enhanced to Rs. 3,251.

343. *Industries*.—The Killa is within easy reach of Cuttack town, and industries therefore have an advantage. There is some manufacture of shoes and iron implements, and laterite stone work is also done. The local cartmen ply for hire in Cuttack town.

344. *Nijjote lands*.—Some lands were found recorded as *khamar* lands in the *jamabandis*. These appeared to be the recognized private lands of the *zamindar* and were recorded as *nijjote*. They are nearly all cultivated by tenants on produce-rents.

345. *Relationship between landlord and tenant*.—The relationship between the *zamindar* and his tenants was extremely strained, and the management of the estate almost impotent. The trouble was of long standing and had come to a head in 1923 when a court of arbitrators was appointed to make a settlement of the points of difference. The strife still continued, however, up to the time of the settlement operations. Rent collections were many years in arrears and were effected with great difficulty.

346. *Brahmottar question*.—In the present operations the *zamindar* was found to be at loggerheads with the Brahmins of the estate over the

question of *brahmotter* grants. The Brahmin incumbents claimed that their rights were of full proprietary nature, in support of which they quoted the entries in the Collectorate Register B. The *zamindar* contended that the position of the Brahmins was that of rent-free tenure-holders. A careful enquiry was made into the question at attestation. It turned out that the entry of the *brahmottardars* in the register was primarily due to a misunderstanding. The *zamindar* in 1880 had filed a wrong return before the Cess Revaluation Officer and in consequence the *brahmottardars* had been called ordered to pay cess direct in the Collectorate. An order had actually been passed to cancel their names from the register, but by some oversight this order was in many cases not carried out. The claims of the Brahmins appeared to be groundless and they were recorded as tenure-holders permanently rent-free.

Trouble also arose at attestation over the *debottar* lands. The *zamindar* has been recorded as *sehait* of the deities, as he exercises control over the management. Some of the *pujharies* who had been dismissed by the *zamindar* tried forcibly to retain possession and succeeded in being recorded at *khanapuri*, but at attestation an enquiry was made and their names were expunged.

347. *Sankharisahi*.—In the course of the present settlement the proprietor of *patia* claimed the proprietary right in two villages Sankharisahi and Pari Sankharisahi in thana Jagatsingpur. These are revenue free villges which at one time belonged to the Killa. But they had been purchased in 1868 in a court sale in satisfaction of a mortgage by one Lakhminarayan Ray Choudhuri, who had been recorded in the Collectorate Registers of reserved lands. The *zamindar* of *Patia* now claimed on the ground that the Killa is inalienable. The High Court of Patna held, however, that there is no custom of inalienability attaching to Killa *Patia*. A peculiar feature of these two villages, is that there is an intermediate *sarbarakari* right extending over both villages, apparently dating from ancient times. It has now been acquired by the proprietor, who was held to be entitled to retain the right, as the principle of merger is inapplicable to *sarbarakari* rights.

348. *Transfer of holdings*.—On the transfer of *raiya* rights, 25 per cent is charged as mutation fee in the case of rent-paying holdings and Rs. 10 for each transfer in the case of rent free holdings. The custom prevails of obtaining the consent of the landlord in both cases.

349. *Rights in trees*.—The *raiya*s have the right to timber as well as fruit of the trees on their homestead lands. The landlord takes half the timber of trees on *raiya* holdings and half the fruit and entire timber from trees on *anabadi*.

The *raiya*s have no right to take wood from the estate jungles free. They pay royalties at rates fixed by the proprietor.

KILLA KUJANG.

350. *Killa Kujang*.—Killa Kujang is one of the *Peskas mahals* which were permanently-settled by section 35 of Regulation XII of 1805. It covers an area of 369 square miles containing the main estuary of the Mahanadi. In this region there were at one time a number of *garhs* or forts. In the 17th century one Malik Sendh subdued the neighbouring chiefs and created the Killa of Kujang. The Sendh family held the Killa from 1643 to 1868. On the advent of the British the Raja executed an *Ekrarnama* for payment of a *Peskas* of 14,011 *kahans* of *kouris*. This was commuted to Rs. 11,503 which was reduced to Rs. 7,503 in 1813 on the Raja's agreeing to keep embankments in repair and construct new ones whenever necessary, and that no further remission of any kind would be granted on account of flood or drought.*

The Sendh family fell into debt, and the great famine of 1866 finally ruined them. The estate was sold in 1869 and purchased for 3½ lakhs of rupees by the Maharaja of Burdwan who still holds it.

*See page 21 of the Completion Report of the 1889 Settlement.

351. *Court of Wards settlement.*—The estate was under the Court of Wards from 1885 to 1902. In 1887 the estate was cadastrally surveyed and the village units rearranged, forming 461 villages in all. (As a result of amalgamation, division and creation of new villages at the present settlement the number of villages is now 408.) The 1887 survey was not followed by any authoritative record-writing or rent settlement. An amicable settlement of rents was made, at the completion of which the rent roll amounted to Rs. 1,19,595.

352. *Statuses.*—The statuses found in the estate *Jamabandis* are those recorded at the 1887 settlement. A number of rent-free grants were recorded with designations *brahmottar*, *debottar*, *pirottar* or *khairat*. At the present settlement it was contended on behalf of the landlord that conditions of service were attached to these grants, but this claim was found to be untenable. The grants have been recorded as rent-free in perpetuity.

At the 1887 settlement the estate claimed to resume certain areas possessed by such rent-free tenants but alleged to be in excess of their grants. In most cases, however, the intention to resume was never carried out. At the present settlement the areas were found to be still held rent-free, and in the absence of any proof of their liability to resumption they have been recorded as rent-free in perpetuity. Mixed holdings were also found with status rent-free but with rent assessed on resumed areas which had never been defined. At this settlement the parties were induced to define the rent-paying areas and from them into separate holdings.

There are a number of tenants on quit rents fixed in perpetuity. These are locally known as *tankidars* and the rate of rent is 1 anna per *man*. The *tankidars* are Brahmmins of 6 *sasans*, who had consented to this quit rent on the proprietor's agreeing that it should be fixed in perpetuity.

In most of the villages the village servants such as barbers, washermen, carpenters, potters and blacksmiths hold *jajir* lands. At attestation these were recorded as *desheta jagirdars*. The estate authorities strongly contested this and brought cases under section 130 to cancel the entry of *desheta*. These cases were not defended and were allowed.

There are numerous grants to idols in the estate. The proprietor claimed to be recorded as *sebait* in all cases and generally succeeded.

The estate is peculiar in having no lands recorded as *nijjote* of the proprietor. There are only 56 acres recorded as *nijchas* and 13 acres on produce-rents.

353. *Grazing lands.*—Grazing lands are somewhat scarce in the estate. It was admitted to be the policy of the estate to keep at least 10 per cent of the area of each village open for grazing, but the estate authorities were not willing to have any area recorded as reserved.

354. *Palanda lands.*—There are considerable *Palanda* lands, formed along the river banks by accretion. They are generally leased out for grazing, but in many cases the lessees had used them for cultivation. In such cases they have been recorded as tenants if the period of cultivation exceeded the four years required by section 61.

355. *Transferability of holdings.*—Rent-free holdings are transferable without the landlord's consent, but a fee of Rs. 2 is charged for entering the names of the transferees in the *zamindar's sherista*. Rent-paying holdings, however, are not transferable by custom without the landlord's consent. The fee charged used to be a fixed one of Rs. 2, but after the passing of the Orissa Tenancy Act the scale laid down in section 31 (25 per cent of the consideration money) was introduced. But on transfer of a part holding when no separate tenancy is recognized only 12½ per cent is charged.

356. *Rights in trees.*—Trees growing on rent-free lands belong entirely to the *raiya*s. As regards those growing on cash-rented *raiya*ti lands there was some contest between the landlord and the tenants, and the former succeeded in proving that he has the right to the timber, while the *raiya*s are entitled to take the fruits.

357. *Rights in jungle*.—There are extensive jungles near the coast. The customs about cutting jungle were enquired into by the Attestation Officers, who wrote up village notes. The matter was later reopened, as the findings of the various Attestation Officers were inconsistent in several details. Eventually the points of discrepancies were cleared up and a revised note was written by an Assistant Settlement Officer doing case work in the estate. This note has been embodied in the village notes of mauza Patalipank, but it has general application to the estate.

It was found that the resident tenants are allowed to take wood from the jungles on payment of a fee of Re. 0-4-0 per annum for each hearth. All the Attestation Officers formed the view that this Re. 0-4-0 was being charged indiscriminately to all tenants whether they applied for taking wood or not, but the sub-manager succeeded at a later stage in showing that this is not done. On payment of the Re. 0-4-0 fee the tenant obtains a permit which entitles him to take 20 maunds of dry fuel and certain amount of wood for agricultural implements, as well as some creepers for thatching. Some classes of *jagirdars* are exempted from the fees. The landlord reserves portions of the jungle from time to time. At present it was found that the Kharinasi, Gourapada Pitachela and Barakolitola jungles were being treated as reserved. Also certain trees are prohibited from being cut, a list of which is entered on the back of the permits. The list appears to vary slightly from time to time. If a tenant wants more than 20 maunds he is charged for the excess at certain fixed rates. At present six pice per maund is charged for dry fuel. Outsiders are charged at double the scheduled rates. Timber for house-building is obtained by the resident tenants at certain fixed rates.

358. *Effects of floods*.—The central portion of the estate is rather severely affected by floods of the Mahanadi and its branches. An embankment runs east from the extreme western border of the Killa for about six miles parallel to the Nuna river and one or two miles south of it. This should protect the land to the south from floods of the Nuna. But the embankment has been repeatedly breached in recent years and some land in this area is badly damaged, but a greater area is on the whole benefited by the breach, which has been kept open. Recently there has been an attempt to introduce various *rabi* crops and flood-resisting types of sugarcane. The Khanapuri Officer reported that in the irrigated area leases were not being renewed, mainly because the *raiya*s did not find it necessary for paddy. In the vicinity of the tidal creeks these are used for irrigating winter crops, but they are said to be useless for irrigating *rabi* because the water becomes too saline in the *rabi* season.

The average outturn of paddy in the estate, as a result of 80 cropcutting experiments, was calculated to be 16½ maunds.

359. *Rents*.—At the Court of Wards settlement rents were settled after a thorough investigation. Although the estate claimed that the 16 *dasti padika** was in use, it was decided to adopt the 20 *dasti padika* throughout the estate except in Chokra, where the 24 *dasti padika* was in force, and to assess the lands at the existing rates. Rents were found to be rather high and the *raiya*s poor, and so this lenient method of rent settlement was adopted. The existing rates were classified according to the crop grown. The rates for *saradh* land varied from 5 annas 9 pies to Rs. 2-10-0 per acre, for *beali dofasal* land from Rs. 1-15-0 to Rs. 3-6-0 and for lands growing mustard from Rs. 2-10-0 to Rs. 3-9-0. The estate in settling new lands still continues the practice of fixing different rates for lands under different crops, but the rates have been considerably enhanced. Thus the commonest rate for *saradh* land is Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3-2-0, for *beali dofasal* it is Rs. 4-11-0, and for mustard it is Rs. 5-3-0.

The present average rent incidence of lands under occupancy *raya*s is Rs. 2-5-0 per acre. The landlord did not claim any general enhancement of rent under section 128 on the ground of rise in prices, but was content to apply for settlement of rent on new holdings and excess areas

* i. e., the measuring pole (*padika*) of length 16 *dastis*, the *dasti* being a measure of about 4½ inches,

found liable to assessment. There were a few claims by tenants for reduction of rent on account of decrease of area or deterioration of soil.

The rents charged for *pan* gardens are from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 per acre, and the *salami* is equivalent to one year's rent. Even in 1889 the rents for *pan* lands were sometimes as high as Rs. 68 per acre.

The *sairat* income of the estate is largely derived from jungles, but there are also some profits from markets, fisheries and miscellaneous sources. The total *sairat* income is estimated to be about Rs. 12,000.

360. There has been a long-standing dispute between the estate and the *keuts* about the river fisheries. The *keuts* claim that the sum annually payable for the enjoyment of the fishery right is Rs. 501 and that it is fixed in perpetuity. The estate denies that this rent is fixed in perpetuity. As the matter did not affect the settlement record, and required adjudication by a civil court, it was not taken up in the course of settlement.

KILLA BISHUNPUR

361. *Killa Bishunpur*.—Killa Bishunpur is an estate covering 17½ square miles between Killa Kujang and Harishpur. As it has been described in Mr. James's report of the Revision Settlement as well as in a separate report of the same date, it is unnecessary to devote much space to it here.

The original estate bearing tauzi no. 13 has been partitioned into six estates, creating tauzi nos. 8470 to 8474. The rent-free grants have been kept common.

362. *Status*.—There are no peculiar statuses. Certain persons recorded in estate papers as *tanki jagirdars* were found to be settled *raiya*s, giving service in lieu of rent. Others described as *tanki baheldars* were simply tenants on rent fixed in perpetuity.

363. *Transferability of holdings*.—Rent-free holdings are transferable without the landlord's consent, but a mutation fee of Rs. 2 is charged. Rent-paying *raiya*ti holdings are not transferable without the landlord's consent but transfer is generally allowed on payment of a mutation fee of 25 per cent of the consideration money.

364. *Grazing*.—No *rakhit khatians* were prepared in this estate. The villagers are allowed to graze their cattle on all available waste lands without any fee.

365. *Rights in trees*.—The *raiya*s were found to enjoy both the fruit and timber of trees standing on their holdings.

366. *Nijjote*.—Thirty-six acres of land have been recorded a *nijjote*, but only 8.62 acres are in possession of the proprietors. There are only 64 acres of *nijchas* and 59 acres on produce-rents.

367. *Cropped area*.—The cropped area is 6,985 acres, which is 59 per cent of the total area. There is not so much scope for extension of cultivation as in the neighbouring estates. Here, as in Harishpur, the lands on the coast would cost much to reclaim while the lands in the interior are being reclaimed at the expense of grazing lands.

368. *Jungle*.—There is very little forest in the Killa. Permits are granted by the *tahsildars* for taking canes and bamboos. There appears to be no particular system followed in respect of jungle produce. Fuel is taken with the verbal permission of the *tahsildars*, but no fees are specified.

369. *Management*.—The management of the estate is largely left to the *tahsildars*. The only proprietor who has much influence with the people is Babu Udayanath Mahapatra, a local man who has recently purchased and now holds tauzi no. 8474. The tenants are of a more advanced and litigious nature than in the adjoining estates.

KILLA HARISHPUR

370. *Killa Harishpur*.—Killa Harishpur covers 40 square miles in 63 villages on the coast in the south-eastern corner of Cuttack district. It is divided into two parts by the Alanka river. The western half is more closely cultivated and is much more advanced.

The original proprietors belonged to the Mangaraj family who also held Marichpur and Bishnupur. Nilkantha Mangaraj held it at the British conquest. The *peshkash* of the estate was confirmed in perpetuity by section 35 of Regulation XII of 1805. There was a settlement of the estate by the Court of Wards in 1857. Soon after this the estate passed out of the hands of the Mangaraj family owing to debts. After being held by a family named Bose for 30 years it was purchased by Babu Durga Charan Laha of Calcutta and still remains with the same family. The revenue is Rs.3,635-6-10.

371. *Statuses*.—The statuses are of the same nature as in other permanently-settled estates. In 1857 some tenants were recorded with status *tanki*, but their rents had in fact been considerably enhanced since then and these were recorded as ordinary settled *raiya*s. Others were recorded in 1857 as *bajyasti upajukta*, indicating that they were considered to be fit to be resumed. In many cases their rents had never been enhanced, and these were recorded as *raiya*s on fixed rents.

372. *Rents*.—Enquiries at attestation showed that rents had been enhanced in the estate from time to time. In the year 1310 fasli a peculiar sort of enhancement was effected. Previously cess had been charged at one anna per rupee and a combined receipt had been given for both, but from that year cess was charged at half an anna and separate receipts were given but rents were at the same time enhanced by half an anna in the rupee, so that the total sums realized remained the same. The average rate of rent in the killa was Rs. 2-4-0 at attestation.

At section 128 stage the landlords applied for settlement of fair rents throughout the killa, and caused considerable inconvenience by filing a separate case for each holding instead of one per village, as is usual. The tenants showed a disposition to contest the claim for enhancement of rents, but after negotiations between the representatives of the parties a general compromise was effected by which it was agreed that rents below Rs. 3 per acre should be enhanced by Re.0-1-6 in the rupee, those between Rs. 3 and Rs. 3-8-3 by Re.0-1-0 in the rupee, and those above Rs. 3-8-3 by Re. 0-1-0 per acre.

373. *Transferability*.—Rent-free holdings in this as in most other killas were found to be transferable without the consent of the landlord. The landlord did not appear to be realizing any fee. But on finding at this settlement that a number of such holdings had been transferred the *naib* mutated the names on being paid Rs. 2 per *kebala*. Rent-paying *raiya*ti holdings are not transferable without consent, but they are invariably recognized on payment of a fee of 25 per cent of the consideration money.

374. *Rights in jungle and trees*.—The right to cut jungle is not exercised by the *raiya*s free of charge. Permits are issued by the estate for taking fuel with a charge of Re. 1 per boat-load or 8 annas for eight head-loads. Trees standing on rent-free holdings are enjoyed by the tenant, both fruit and timber. But on rent-paying lands the *raiya*t takes the fruit but cannot cut the timber without the landlord's permission. The usual practice in case of sale is for the landlord to take half the consideration money.

375. *Grazing lands*.—No lands have been recorded as reserved. Cattle graze freely on all available waste lands. The area is adequate in the coastal villages but is in danger of falling short in those in the interior.

376. *Nijjote*.—The estate *goswara* shows an area of 1.15 acres of land as *nijjote* under a *raiya*t. on produce-rent. Practically speaking the landlords have no private lands.

377. *Management*.—The landlords are absentees and are wealthy men. The management is left to a local agent of no great capacity. At the time of section 128 cases, however, the proprietors took some personal interest in the proceedings. The tenants are mostly poor, and although not markedly hostile are far from sympathetic towards their landlords. It was noticed

as an illustration of the power wielded by the landlord in such remote estates that the *dhobis*, who hold *jagir* lands in this *killa*, are made to visit the jungle for several days on end for cutting wood without even being granted an allowance for their food.

378. *Cultivated area*.—The cultivated area is 12,436 acres or 38 per cent of the total. There would appear to be much scope for extension, but the land available is for the most part on the coast and scarcely worth reclaiming unless a protective embankment is constructed to keep out sea water, and the expense is beyond the means of the villagers. On the other side of the estate where the better lands lie, the waste land is being reclaimed to the detriment of the grazing grounds.

KILLA MARICHPUR.

379. *Killa Marichpur*.—Killa Marichpur lies at the mouth of the Devi river in the north-east corner of Puri district adjoining the Harishpur estate of Cuttack district. Both estates belonged to the Mangarajes, a Khandait family. Marichpur passed out of the hands of this family in the early part of the 19th century owing to the debts of the Raja. It has since been transferred in portions several times, and there are now eight sets of proprietors, the Raja Aul having the largest interest.

380. *Cultivated area*.—The cropped area is 12,251 acres or 37 per cent of the total area. About 30 per cent of the total area is available for extension of cultivation including 6,482 acres of culturable jungle. The lands of the estate suffer largely from saline inundation and the average productivity was estimated by Attestation Officers to be between 10 and 14 maunds per acre. Probably the lower estimate is more accurate, although three crop-cutting experiments produced a result of 14 maunds 10 seers per acre. The remoteness of the area prevents much competition for land. The average sale price is Rs. 58 per acre.

381. *Rents*.—There appears to have been no general enhancement of rents in the estate for a very long time. The landlords hampered the work greatly by delay in producing their old papers. At attestation there appeared to be reason for believing that there had been no enhancement of rent, except on account of extension of cultivation, and so when it was found that a tenant had held land for over twenty years without enhancement the presumption of fixity of rent was applied, and many tenants were recorded as on fixed rent. At section 116 stage the proprietors brought many objections and by producing old rent rolls and *bhourias* generally succeeded in rebutting the presumption of fixity.

The cash rent roll of the proprietors at attestation was Rs. 19,200.

382. *Excess areas*.—The Attestation Officer found that the areas in the *jamabandis* were not reliable, as they were not based on accurate measurement but on the reports of *patwaris* who appear to have made a habit of understating them. For this reason an allowance of 20 per cent was ordered to be made in calculating excess areas.

383. *Statuses*.—Permanent *niskar* grants are known in the estate as *bahel*. They were recorded as rent-free in perpetuity. There were a number of ancient *patwari jagirs*. As the holders had long since ceased to exercise their functions they were recorded as *raiya*s or tenure-holders assessable to rent.

There are no *nijjote* lands. One co-sharer who is resident in the *mahal* got 156 acres of *nijchas* recorded in his name.

384. *Transferability*.—The custom as regards transferability appears to be the same here as in most other coastal *killas*, viz. rent-free holdings are transferable without consent but ordinary *raiya*ti holdings are not so transferable. The mutation fee for ordinary holdings is usually 25 per cent of the consideration money. The growth of this custom is comparatively recent. It is an indication of the primitiveness of the *killa* that up to 1902 transfers of holdings were unheard of, a condition of affairs similar to that observed by Stirling in Orissa as a whole in 1821.