

ABOLITION OF BRITISH ZAMINDARI ACT IN TAMILNADU, 1947-1948

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Introduction

The zamindars of the second group formed by the permanent residence rule of 1802 went through many cases. They could not hold their zamindaris for long periods of time. Thus, the first group of zamindars on the other hand played a significant role in the social life of zaminars. The completion of the Zamindari project proved to be crucial to the development of landfills. In the 19th century and until the end of 1929-1930 little importance was attached to that problem. The Zamindari Abolition Act was passed by Tamil Nadu in 1948. More places were taken from zamindars.

Zamindari Abolition Act of 1948

The main component of the Act was the Madras Estates Land Act (Abolition of Minerals and Ryotwari Transformation) Act, 1948. The main purpose of the Act was to remove so-called 'zamindars' and establish a direct relationship between the State and farmers or *ryots*. It was introduced in 1947. It was consulted and approved by both chambers of parliament, with approval from the Governor-General of India in 1949. Buildings covering all communal lands, all *poramboke*, abandoned fields, forests, other non-residential lands, all minerals, irrigation and housing projects, etc. with regard to the management of non-crowned areas all troubles. The estate ceased to be the property and officially became the *ryotwari* property.¹ The manager, usually appointed to manage the estate until compensation for *ryotwari* compensation for the collection of revenue for *ryotwari* lands, dies in due course as part of the district *ryotwari* area. In the pre-surveyed land a new study is being conducted on the introduction of *ryotwari* habitat. In some of the areas that have already been explored these landmarks have not been kept informed. After the research is done, compensation is made and it will be a *ryotwari* site. The Bill also provides for a provisional period from the date of replacement to the date on which it was last taken for compensation, etc. as provided for in the rules.²

Although compensation is determined, the Bill sets out the principle and extent of compensation. The principle by which the Permanent Settlement was made in 1802 was that two-thirds were considered by the State as *peshkush* and one-third was left to the landowner. As there was no proper research since 1802 the actual rate of cultivation could not be adjusted. Rental rates in the mines have been increased. It is therefore considered a privilege to reduce the rent to the rotary level, so that the issue of rack rental status can be easily addressed. In terms of compensation rate, asset income was considered. The tax system should be different depending on the income. A person who received a "little inheritance" was given more compensation than a person who had a large inheritance. Although it is appropriate to provide for the termination of the Eternal Agreement, the acquisition of land

owners' rights in permanent settlements and other areas in the Province of Madras and the introduction of *ryotari* settlements in that areas.³

The Act was extended to the entire Province of Madras except the City of Madras, the province of Malabar and part of the Nilgiris region. It operates in the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908 with the exception of *inam* areas which became territories as a result of the Madras (Amendment Third Amendment Act) of 1936; but they are all under the Finance Board. With regard to activities, the Director of Housing conducted a study and performance of accommodation and introduced a *ryotwari* settlement there. Its Settlement Officer makes formal instructions from the Director of Human Settlements from time to time. The Director is empowered to cancel and review any orders, actions or procedures of the Compensation Officer. At the district level managers execute the Collector's instructions.

The Act provided for the establishment of a Land Board to oversee the acquisition and to make appropriate administrative arrangements, in order to issue directives to the Director, District Collectors, Resident Officials and Property Managers. It also provided for a District Council consisting of one District Judge as Chairperson, one Sub-Judge and a Tax Officer. They had jurisdiction over the territories and had the power in the Civil Court to compel the presence of witnesses and the production of documents. If any person is dissatisfied with the decision of the Commissioner for Human Settlements, that party within two months from the date of the decision or the extra time the Tribunal has allowed appealing in its opinion. The Tribunal's decision was final and should not be investigated in any Court of Law. The Forum enjoyed unlimited power in carrying out its duties. This law provides for the granting of a *ryotwari patta* to a ryot in relation to the land he owns, when rent is paid to *zamindar*. The Act also makes provision for the appointment of Settlement Officers who will evaluate applications for *ryots* and provide them with a *patta* on their own planting sites.⁴

Zamindari Law and Compensation Payment

The zamindar was allowed to keep under its ownership of all the additions as private areas and which he farmed for himself and his employees or employees. The zamindar is given a *ryotwari patta* for these private parts. The compensation paid to zamindar was based on the 'basic annual sum' of the zamindari asset that was limited to one-third of the annual ryotwari income required a certain reduction in collection costs and the zamindar obligation to care for irrigation is effective. Deductions of 5% of the annual ryotwari requirement for collection costs and 3.33 percent of the annual ryotwari requirement for the maintenance of irrigation services are made at the annual ryotwari requirement, prior to reaching the basic annual amount. In order to compensate the 'basic annual compensation' is multiplied by the efficiency ranging from 12.5 to 30 times, large for small zamindar and small for large zamindar. In order to pay compensation to *inamdar*, all the ryotwari requirement for its areas under the levy for maintenance of irrigation services is taken as 'the basic amount of the year'. Compensation was paid according to the level of compensation applicable to the mines.⁵

With the introduction of these reforms many educational, religious and humanitarian institutions have experienced a decline in their incomes. The Act therefore contained special provisions for the payment of benefits to these institutions. These grants, known as *tasdik*, were equal to the 'basic amount of the year' appropriate for the lost property of the institution. If the revenue received by the institution, after the introduction of the ryotwari test, is less than the average revenue, the difference is made positive in the *tasdik*. The Act provides for the amount of compensation payable in respect of any estate at the following rate:⁶

- i. When the basic annual amount does not exceed Rs.1000, thirty times that amount.
- ii. Where the basic annual amount exceeds Rs.1,000/-; but not more than Rs.3,000 .This twenty-five times that amount or Rs.30,000/- whichever is greater.
- iii. When the basic annual amount exceeds Rs.3,000/-; but does not exceed Rs.20,000, twenty times that amount or Rs.75,000/- whichever is greater.
- iv. When the basic annual amount exceeds Rs.20,000/-; but does not exceed Rs.50,000, seventeen and a half times that amount or Rs.40,000/- whichever is greater.
- v. When the basic annual amount exceeds Rs.50,000/- but does not exceed Rs.1,00,000, fifteen times that amount or Rs.8,75,000/- whichever was greater.
- vi. When the basic annual amount exceeds Rs.1,00,000, twelve and a half times that amount or Rs.15,00,000/- whichever was greater.
- vii. Compensation was filed in the office of the Tribunal, and it was distributed in installments. In making such a deposit, the Government considered it to have been discharged entirely in respect of all claims.

Implementation and Implementation of Zamindari Act

The implementation of this Act in Madras has been effective in a different way than in other provinces. From the date of the notice the Act made it possible for fully specified areas including all communal lands, forests, mines and minerals, quarries, rivers and streams, tanks and irrigation services, fishing grounds and boats to be transferred to Government. As a first step in implementing Government took over in September 1949 a group comprising of six major spheres of Government and thirty-six sub-divisions. The main areas that came up first were the Ramnad with a rent-roll of about twenty-five lakhs and the Sivaganga with a rent-roll of about 18 lakhs of rupee.⁷ With a view to gaining administrative knowledge and for the convenience of management. , small plots of land occupied by large Government expeditions covered 51 hectares in total land area of 213 lakhs. Under the provisions of the Zamindari Elimination Act only those *inam* areas were areas defined under the Land Act; but when only the land revenue that was given to me was taken by the Government and not all the villages of mine. These *inam* villages were called *inam* estates. In order to determine whether the *inam* district has an *inam* area or not, the Government appointed a number of Settlement Officers from the rank of Deputy Collectors who served in various parts of the State. *inam* estate or not. They identified about 3,500 *inam* villages out of a total of 8,042 such villages in the Province.⁸

Two Forums were formed - one in Madurai and one in Vizianagaram to hear appeals against Inam Settlement officials' decisions. Another important function of the Tribunal was to issue directives regarding the employment of claimants, etc. submitted to them by the Government in respect of the confiscated land. The transition from *zamari* to *ryotwari* was carried out quickly and within two years after the enactment of the Constitution, no less than 1724 of the 1938 land acquired were taken over by the Government in four seventy-seven plots; 587; 601 and 450 locations. As a result of the court proceedings 214 properties were not confiscated. The Government decided to deduct the proceeds from the revenue of the mines and hand them over to the Central Government to pay compensation.⁹

The law treated the zamindars with mildness and the deductions for collection and storage costs were very small. These small reductions have increased the annual base amount and the amount of compensation paid. It has assured the people that they will remove all links between the government and the real farmer of the world. The law created another kind of *pattadar*. For example one member noted that the creation of a new group of people called *pattadars* who acted as mediators and enjoyed all the same benefits as *mindars*. Land as defined in the Estates Land Act, but also with the rest of the land.¹⁰ This is given both in the case of *inam* areas and mines used on topes (gardens), gardens and orchards raised by the landowner. By abolishing the medal system the Government created *ryotwari* *pattadars* which were very useful to the people. The Act did not mention large landowners with hundreds of hectares of land such as zamindars and the Government allowed them to become very rich and wealthy. As the zamindars were relieved of the ability to extract *patta* from zamindari ryots, they released *patta* as 100, 200, 300, and 400 hectares to their favorite *ryots*. For example one member noted that the Minimum Elimination Bill was introduced to abolish the land system introduced by the English; but to speak the truth the Law created small ammunition.¹¹

The main purpose of the Act was to abolish the medal system and to provide relief for the '*ryots*' who were the real farmers of the world. The government bought these properties for a whopping Rs.12.5 crores from public funds and made donations to *pattadars*; but not on the *ryots* they really deserved. At this rate the real earth tiles were ignored. In this bill the consolidation of the property ownership scheme was based on *ryotwari*.¹² But in reality the consolidation was purchased with a down payment. Although consolidation of the land tenure system was introduced, the Act did not recognize the purpose. Looking at this point of view, it has done a lot of damage to zamindars ryot and allowed many benefits to zamindars. In fact through this Act the Government has purchased zamindaries by giving a large sum of rupees per year. There is no doubt that the Government purchased the mines with money so the members of the assembly call it the mandarin Procurement Bill only.¹³

There is no doubt that the Act was a dynamic one with a number of provisions for its response. Zamindars benefit greatly because they are given *pattas* of a few thousand hectares of private land. As a result of this Act another type of zamindar was created such as unemployed landlords, landlords and mirasdar. They move into another form of living with farmers such as the Thai and War Tenure. The termination of the mandarin system has

already changed the mandarin areas; in the fields of ryotwari but the conditions of the farmers continued to deteriorate. Basically the abolition of the mandarin meant a change in the tax system by which the State Government took over zamindars their right to collect income and rent from employers. The abolition of medals was therefore regarded as a change in the tax system that changed the method of collection without changing the negative system of long-term revenue payments.¹⁴

Tenants Enactments in 1948

The conversion of accommodation provided temporary security, adjustment of the appropriate rental and the right of tenants to purchase ownership of their property. The main purpose of the Employers' Law was to eliminate errors in the Madras Employers' Act and the Ryots Protection Act of 1946 when certain provisions were ineffective.¹⁵ Members of the Padumbu Communist Party in Madurai and South Arcot have continued their campaign in the Kisan field led by one Sellamservi to protect the intermediate rental program. At a meeting in Tirunelveli District, social workers criticized the tenants' changes to landlords. In view of this situation, the Act was passed with the aim of providing temporary protection from the eviction of tenants in the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908.¹⁶ Tenants Enactments in 1948 and strengthened the hands of tenants on unnecessary evictions. If an unnecessary eviction is done the Act makes provision to prevent the eviction of landlords. Further if the Revenue court finds that the case was unnecessary it deducted the costs of the case from the plaintiff. However, the shortcoming of the Act was that if any official or employee of the State Government was corrupt there was no provision for prosecution. Mostly the officials and staff were on the side of the landlords receiving the bribe and most of them came from the landlords' family. Although the Act has strengthened the tenants' hands in unnecessary dismissal, the dire result was that the tenants of the backyard and Scheduled Caste did not have the courage to deal with home owners, especially senior ones.¹⁷

Conclusion

The period between 1909 and 1949 saw the gradual disintegration and completion of the program. Despite the disability associated with the medal system it has directly contributed to the integration of social and political alignment. In fact, mammals are replacing leaders' garments in their place. Citizens, on the other hand, did not accept their leadership and demanded another. The origins and growth of the liberation struggle under the Indian National Congress served as a means of unifying their civil interests. Badly the zamindars get another political court in the Judiciary. Depending on the position, they often join or support it or promote it as well - they wish. This has enabled the ANC to view the Judiciary as a coalition of landlords and landlords. Motivated by this and political considerations, the ANC decided to prioritize land reform and agricultural improvement. When the Party came to power in 1946 they took a series of steps towards this. After gaining independence, they abolished the mandarin system and placed the farmers under the direct control of the State. Likewise the whole agricultural community was not able to organize their activities, assignments, needs and activities as much as possible using the social and political changes and liberal practices of the day.

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