An Overview of Substantial Assistance started by Travancore – Cochin Government and its impact on High Range Colonization Scheme

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Abstract

The former province of Travancore – Cochin had a territory of 58, 52,000 acres of land. Of this 55 percent is possessed and the rest of the 45 percent as vacant territories. The overall density of population before the reorganization of states in 1956 was as high as 1965 per square mile (calculated on the basis of the occupied area). The Second World War, Indian autonomy development, the procedure of state arrangement in the 1950s and state legislative issues changed the High Ranges into a centre of landless vagrants and rich land-grabbers. So as to advance movement of cultivators towards High ranges Travancore - Cochin Government promoted migration in the High Range Taluks of Devikulam and Peerumede. It included different sorts of credits for example, money advances, house building advance, advances for buy of domesticated animals' and agricultural implements purchase loan. later it led to backwoods infringement and struggle over land control in the territory.

Keywords; Land-grabbers, Encroachments, High Ranges, Blocks, Substantial assistance, leases

Introduction

Since the state had such high thickness of populace and the general population were for the most part agriculturists the subject of giving sufficient land become a difficult issue. With a view to diminishing over populace and neediness, Government after watchful thought of every one of its angles began an orderly colonization plot with significant help to urge families to settle down in the High Ranges. The objective of the High Range colonization plot was to settle 8,000 families on 50,000 sections of land of land at four locales in the terrains adjoining Tamil Nadu. The homesteaders were chosen from landless rural work class who was eager to settle down forever in the pieces with their families.
Objectives of the Study

1. To feature the historical backdrop of settlement in Devikulam and Peermede Taluks in Travancore - Cochin amid the post Independence State Reorganisation period.

2. To uncover the part of Government in advancing the High Range Colonization Scheme.

Methodology

The article is set up based on both primary and secondary sources are composed according to the strategy for Scientific Historical Research. The general system received for the examination is diagnostic, illustrative and factious in nature. The Materials utilized for the most part is essential sources. The greater part of the essential sources are identified with multi-dimensional in nature

With a view to easing over-populace and neediness, Government after cautious thought of every one of its angles began a precise colonization conspires with significant help to urge families to settle down in the High Ranges. The people were chosen from landless rural work class who were ready to settle down for all time in the squares with their families.

Principle highlights of the colonization

A territory of around 50000 sections of land was proposed in high ranges to execute the plan. Of this 10 percent was to be separate for the normal comforts, for example, town locales, streets, markets etc. Another 10 for grazing blocks scattered all over the area. The remaining 40,000 acres was to be subdivided into 8,000 blocks having an area of more or less 5 acres each, with a view to settling 8000 families. The colonists were given money related help by method for credits for house development, development, buy of dairy animals and agrarian executes.

Method of Selection

The colonists were chosen from landless working class who were eager to settle down forever in the pieces with their families. The land was given on rent unbounded of time collecting a Pattom equal to "Essential Tax". The privilege of the resident is heritable however not alienable". The rent is liable to cancelation in case of estrangement. The migrants are additionally allowed to take up work outside the state with the consent of Revenue Divisional Officer, subject to the condition that if by acknowledgment of the business need to leave the place he endow the square to a nearby relative who was mindful to take care of the issues of the Block.

Location of the colonists
The grounds chose for the Colonization Scheme are spread over the Taluks of Udumbanchola, Peermede and Devicolam.

**Controlling expert of the whole plan**

In the Government procedures the whole plan of review, settlement and colonization in Peermede, Devicolam and Udumbanchola under the authoritative and disciplinary control of the District Collector, Kottayam³

**Substantial Assistance to the colonists**

Under High Range Colonization Scheme, every colonists family is qualified for the accompanying generous help as advances:-

**Table showing the loan amount and types of loan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl.No</th>
<th>Loan type</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agricultural loan at 150 per acre</td>
<td>Rs 750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Housing loan</td>
<td>Rs 900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Live-stock loan</td>
<td>Rs 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Agricultural implements loan</td>
<td>Rs 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Rs 2,000/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Government requested that assertions in the affirmed structures ought to be executed by the colonists previously advance were progressed to them.⁴

**Rules representing the dispensing of Cash Loans to Colonists**

The settlers who have been distributed land and working under the plan might be allowed money advances additionally at the rate of Rs. 750 (seven hundred and fifty) per square to assist them with cultivating the land dispensed land. This money credit should not use for some other purpose. The colonists might execute understandings to acquire the credits.⁵

The money advance was to be without interest and might be repayable in 25 equal yearly portions beginning from the sixth year after dispensing. The Revenue divisional officer, Devikualm should be the expert to endorse and dispense the credits to the settlers. He should be in charge of the best possible acknowledgment of portions and the up-keep and rendering of records to the Government. The advance should not be dispensed in lump but rather in four regularly scheduled payments at 30 percent of credit each for first and second portions and 20 percent each for third and fourth portions. The second third and fourth portions will be paid simply subsequent to authorizing specialist is fulfilled that the past portions of advance have been used for the reason for which it was conceded.⁶ In the event that any settlers does not spend the principal progress of money credit only to meet the development
costs. He should be esteemed in qualified to get any further advance help for development the income Divisional Officer, Devikulam might lead periodical review of the advance of development in Colonization Blocks with a view to finding out usage of money advances for reason other than development.7

In the event that any settler defaults in the reimbursement of portions beginning from the sixth year after the dispensing of the last bit of the loan, the Revenue Divisional officer, Devikulam or District Collector, Kottayam might be equipped to continue against such colonists as is adequate to understand the estimation of the defaulted portions with an interest at 6 percent for each annum for the defaulted period8

In the event that the borrower neglects to reimburse the portions on the due date, interest at the rate of 4 percent for each annum might be recouped from the borrower for the defaulted sum from the date of default to the date of reimbursement or acknowledgment of such portion or portions. It is likewise open to the legislature on account of such default, to recoup the whole sum extraordinary, with interest at 6 percent for each annum from the date of default for the amount. All entireties found because of the Government under or by ideals of these presents recoverable from the borrower and his properties portable and steady including the harvests raised on the land designated to the borrower under the arrangements of the Revenue recuperation Act for the present in constrain as though such levy are overdue debts of land income and in such other way as the Government may consider fit9

Principles for the Grant of advances for House Construction to the Colonists

The interest free advances were given to the settlers. The application for the credit was submitted to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Devikulam. The Revenue Divisional Officer fulfil himself about the terms of the application. The Revenue Divisional Officer was the skillful to authorize and dispense credits. He was in charge of the correct support of the records and for the convenient acknowledgment of the advances. Every portion of credit was to be used for the reason for which it was allowed with in a time of 3 months from the date of its payment. The greatest sum payable should be Rs.900 (Rupees Nine Hundred) as it were. The credit was to be reimbursed in portions of Rs.5 every month, the primary portions being payable on the date of expiry of one year from the date of dispensing of the last portion of the advance. It is open to the colonists to repay the loans in larger instalments, if he desires. If the loaner dies before the repayment of the loan, his legal heirs was liable to repay.10

In the event that any portions isn't paid on the due date, interest will be charged on the defaulted sum at 6 percent for every annum. The house developed with the credit should remain the property of the Government, until the point that the advances is completely reimbursed. The settlers might keep up the house in decent
shape, at his own cost. The settlers submits 3 successive defaults in the instalment of the portion, it might be skilled for the income Divisional Officer to continue against the yields and different resources of the colonists to understand the measure of the defaulted portion with the enthusiasm due consequently. On the settlers reimbursing the entire measure of the advance, the responsibility for house will vest with him.\(^{11}\)

**Agreement for the House Building Loan**

The credit sum might be used by the borrower for the reason for which it is allowed with in a time of 3 months from the date of its payment and for no other reason.\(^{12}\) The credit was given as interest free and reimbursed .Rs 5 every month. The main portion being repayable on the date of expiry of one year from the date of dispensing of the last portion of the credit. The house developed with the advance remain the property of Government until the point that the advance is completely reimbursed. In the event that the borrower submits three back to back defaults, it was to be capable for the Government or such other officer engaged by Government for this benefit to claim the harvests on the land designated to the borrower for development under the Colonization conspire and to claim the land dispensed to him with the house built consequently and furthermore to continue against alternate resources of the borrower for the acknowledgment of the defaulted portions with enthusiasm as here in before gave. On the off chance that the borrower confers rupture of all or any of the terms and conditions contained in the standards or in this contained it should be Competent for the legislature to recuperate the credit sum exceptional with enthusiasm for an irregularity and the borrower might on request forward with pay the same. The borrower keep the house in decent shape at his own cost. The responsibility for house will vest with the borrower just when the advance sum is completely reimbursed.\(^{13}\)

**Principles for the issue of credits to purchase Livestock**

A whole not surpassing Rs.250 might be progressed to every settler for the buy of a bovine in lactation. The credit should be interest free. The credit might not be conceded to a pilgrim who possesses a dairy animals as of now. The credit sum might not be used for the buy of in excess of one dairy animals. The credit sum might not be used for the buy of in excess of one dairy animals. The cow should be acquired inside 15 days of the receipt of the advance. The Revenue Divisional Officer Devikulam might be the expert to endorse and dispense the credit to the homesteaders. The cow will be held as security for credit conceded and the town Assistant must review each cow for which advance has been allowed once in three months and note its condition.\(^{14}\)

The dairy animals was not permitted to sold till allowed is completely recuperated or reimbursed. On the off chance that the dairy animals is sold before the credit allowed is completely recuperated without taking the particular authorize of the endorsing expert. The whole advance sum exceptional will be recouped in bump with interest at 6 percent for each annum. The credit recuperated in measure up to quarterly
portions inside a time of 3 years the reimbursement starting on the day after the fulfilment of 3 months from the date of procurement of the dairy animals. On the off chance that the pioneer neglects to reimburse any portion on the due date intrigue should be charged on the defaulted sum at 6 percent for each annum.  

**Rules for the Purchase of Livestock**

The borrower should use the advance sum for the buy of a bovine in lactation and for other reason and in the event that there is excess of the credit sum after the buy of one cow, the borrower might discount the surplus to Government forthwith. The dairy animals obtained inside 15 days of the receipt of the credit sum. The advance was without intrigue and should be reimbursed in compared quarterly portions. On the off chance that the borrower defaults instalment of nay portions on the due date intrigue should be charged on that portion at the rate of 6% for every annum from the due date to the date of instalment. In the event that the dairy animals bites the dust while in the guardianship of the borrower and before the advance sum is completely reimbursed the adjust sum due should be reimbursed as given in close2.16

In the event that the sum was not paid by the borrower when requested, Government should have the privilege to grab the dairy animals. And discard it in any way as the Government may regard for the recuperation of the sum and the land dispensed to the borrower under High range Colonization Scheme for development together with all changes affected subsequently return to the Government and the borrower might not be qualified for any claim for estimation of upgrades at all.17

**Rules for the purchase of Agricultural Implements**

The advance dispensed to the homesteaders for the buy of rural actualizes or the cost of farming executes provided to the pioneers be without interest. The credit dispensed in singular amount. The advance might be used for the buy of farming actualizes with in a time of one month from the date of execution of the understanding for the advance. A total of Rs.50 be paid to the settlers who have effectively gotten horticultural actualizes worth Rs.50. The greatest sum payable might be Rs. 100 (one hundred only).The credit for the buy of horticultural executes or the cost of farming actualizes as of now provided to the homesteaders reimbursed in four equivalent half-yearly portions with in a time of 2 years, the main portions being payable on the expiry of two years from the date of payment of advance.

In the event that the colonists neglect to pay any portions on the due date intrigue charged on the defaulted sum at 6 percent for every annum. The executes obtained with the advance sum remain the property of the Government until the point when the advance is completely reimbursed. On the off chance that the pilgrim submits 3 back to back defaults, it might be capable for the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kottayam in this benefit, to continue against the yields and different resources of the settlers for the acknowledgment of the defaulted portions' with
intrigue subsequently. On the colonists reimbursing the entire credit, the responsibility for executes might vest in him. The Revenue Divisional officer, Devicolam might be the expert to endorse and dispense the advance to the colonists.18

**Agreement for the purchase of Agricultural Implements**

Regarding the aggregate of Rs.100/-paid by the Government to the borrower and the borrower therefore contracts with the Government that inside one month from the date of the execution in this regard the borrower should use the entire credit sum for the buy of agricultural implements said in the Schedule here under composed. The advance reimbursed in four equivalent half-yearly portions with in a time of two years, first portion being payable on the date of the expiry of two years from the date of dispensing of the advance and the resulting portions might be paid on the relating date of the succeeding months/years. 19

If the borrower died before the advance is completely reimbursed ,his legitimate beneficiaries might pay the advance or the adjust, assuming any extraordinary as here in gave; that if any portions isn't paid on the due date the borrower should pay 6 percent interest on the defaulted portions. The advance should not be used for some other reason other than the buy of the rural actualizes specified in the timetable that the farming executes acquired with the credit might remain the property of the Government until the point when the advance is completely reimbursed.20

In the event that the borrower confers three back to back defaults in reimbursement of the credit as thus gave ,it should be skilled for the Government or such other officer enabled by the Government for this sake to claim the executes acquired with the advance sum and to offer the same for the acknowledgment of the advance or the defaulted portions with enthusiasm as here in before said. On the break of all or any of the terms and conditions here in contained it might be vied for the Government to recuperate the advance exceptional with interest for an irregularity and the land which is dispensed to the borrower for the development with all change affected by him subsequently should return to the Government and the borrower should not be qualified for any claim either by method for estimation of the upgrades or by any reason at all. All wholes found because of the Government under or by prudence of this understanding should be recoverable from the borrower and his properties portable and undaunted under the arrangements of the Revenue Recovery Act for the present in compel as though they are unfulfilled obligations ashore revenue or in such other way as the Government may esteem fit.21

**Effects of Substantial Assistance**

To a great extent it prompted the movements to the High Ranges. These components incorporated the domination of Syrian Christians as the overwhelming Malayali bunch in the High Ranges. It led to the depletion of forests in remote areas
due to the advancement of an underlying road network, the principal major hydroelectric ventures, infringements on woodland by both landless settlers and wealthy individuals and government regularization of infringements.  

Grow-more-food campaigns proceeded into the post-war years and time of Indian autonomy. Land awards were suspended in 1952 restarted in 1953 lastly ceased in 1954. Malaria and annihilation of yields by wild creatures still a lot of land in the High Range territory went under development. At first, the terrains were either rented or infringed. Afterward when re-ownership of the land was observed to be unrealistic settlement rights replaced leases. 

References


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4 G.O.Ms.1255/L& LAD, dated 29 October 1958


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7 Ibid.

8 G.A10-262/55/FD, dated 26th March 1955

9 opcit.p.8


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