

Govt, Order No. G.O.MS.845/64 Revenue dated 19th Dec.1964 from the secretary to Govt..Revenue (B) Dept. Trivandrum to the Heads of Departments.

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Sub:- Jurisdiction Firka system Introduction of Firka system in Travancore Area of the State and appointment of revenue Inspectors, orders passed.

Read:- From the Board of Revenue correspondence resting with letter no. LR (A) 4-71180/63 dated 19th Feb. 1964.

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The Committee appointed for the redistribution of villages and Taluks in the Travancore area recommended in 1956, the formation of firkas on the model of the firkas existing in cochin area. The Government accepted the recommendations and in their GPLR © 2-12070/55 RD dated 11-11-56 ordered the formation of firkas and the appointment of Revenue inspectors. This order was not however implemented.

The Administrative reforms committee in its report submitted in 1958 recommended that the firka system in Malabar and Cochin areas of the State may be abolished. The Committee was of the view that under the new set up of village Administration, as envisaged in the Taluk- cum-block pattern, the firkas would become superfluous and therefore might be done away with. But the proposal of the administrative reforms committee to de-limit the state into block- cum-taluk unit has not yet materialized. However, in view of their recommendation of the committee the Board of revenue was asked to submit proposals to government for the abolition of the firka system existing in Malabar and Cochin areas. The District collectors of these areas have reported that the revenue inspectors provide an important link between the Tahsildar and the village Officers and that experience has shown that a close supervision of the work of the village officers by the Revenue Inspectors serves to tone up the efficiency of the Land Revenue Department. The Board of Revenue has strongly supported the views of the District collectors and recommended that in the interest of maintaining efficiency in the Department the Firka system should not only be allowed to continue in Malabar and cochin areas of the State, but should also be introduced in the Travancore areas.

The Government of India have a scheme for “ Strengthening the Primary and Supervisory Land Record Agencies” for the help in the Implementation of land reform

measures, maintenance of Proper Land records and collection of agricultural statistics. The scheme is part of the scheme Agriculture Research, Statics and surveys” and is eligible for 50 % assistance from the Government of India. The formation of firkas and the appointment of revenue Inspectors will be highly helpful for the maintenance of proper land records and prompt collection of agricultural statistics.

Government have considered this question detail and they are pleased to accept the recommendations of the board of revenue and order as follows:-

1. The firka system will be introduced in the Travancore area with effect from 1-1-65 or as soon as possible after that date the expenditure for the current year being met by diversion from the funds allotted for the survey of unserved areas of there State.
2. Sanction is accorded for delimiting the Travancore areas into 756 firkas as detailed below and for the creation of 76 posts of peons on Rs. 30-40 for being posted in the newly formed firkas with effect from 1-1-65 or the date from which the firka system will be implemented.

Name of the district	No. of firkas sanctioned
Trivandrum	10
Quilon	17
Alleppy	14
Kottayam	20
Ernakulam	15

Total	76 firkas

3. The Board of Revenue (Land Revenue) will send up proposals immediately to Government to delimit the Travancore area into 76 firkas and submit the draft notification for publication in the gazette for the general information of the public.
4. The expenditure on account of the sanction will be debited to the head “9 © (iv) A strengthening of the primary and supervisory Land Records Agencies”. The amount required for meeting the expenditure during the current year will be found by diversion from the funds allotted for “survey of unserved areas. The Board of revenue is requested to submit proposals for the purpose.

5. 50% of the expenditure on the establishment now sanctioned will be claimed from the Government of India as stated in paragraph 3.
6. This order is issued with the concurrence of the finance Department.

E.Dis, D4. 44824/64 dated 1-1-65.

Copy to all conservator of forests. D.F.Os A.C.P S.B.C W.L.P.O F.U.O for information.

Sd/- For Chief conservator of forests.

Ent. D. 1139/65 dated 19-1-1968.

Copy to E1 . section as stock file.

Conservatoire's Office,
Chalakudy

For Conservator of forests.