Revenue Administration at a Glance

Dr. Ali Rafat, IAS
VC & Managing Director,
A P Dairy Development Co-operative Federation
The history of Land Administration dates back to the olden days of kings and Kingdoms.

The Land Revenue was the major source of revenue for the kings.

The present system of preparing and maintaining land records originated from the Moghul period and it reached its scientific form during the British rule.
In Andhra area the Board of Revenue was established in Madras State in 1786 with the sanction of the Board of Directors of East India Company.

The Board subject to the control of Governor had to superintend the whole administration, collect revenue and control subordinates.

It marked the beginning of departmentalizing the functions of Government.
The Revenue Regulation in 1803 de linked administration of Civil Justice from Board.

- It gave statutory foundation to the Board and spelled out its main duties like Collection of Revenue, and
- recommending sources for augmenting the income of the Government and punishing the subordinate.
In 1849 decentralization was introduced. The Board of Revenue Act 1883 dispensed with the Collective nature of the Board.

Each member was assigned some subjects and his orders were treated as those of the board.

In 1894 the Board received operational freedom when the condition that all the orders given by Board need Government approval to be effective was dispensed.

Senior members of ICS were selected as members.
• The Board seems to have received a setback from 1916 to 1926 when its jurisdiction shrank.

• Separate Departments were constituted and certain sources of Revenue were transferred to Center.

• However from 1937 it regained its importance. Further in the wake of Independence it was asked to coordinate Food Production, Community Development and National Extension Service.
In Andhra State the Andhra Board of Revenue was formed in 1953. It was a replica of Madras board.

But it has only 2 members whereas Madras Board has 5 members drawn from ICS.

It was the link between the Government and the Districts. The first member was senior even to the then Chief Secretary to Government.
TELANGANA BOARD OF REVENUE:

- The Prime Minister of Hyderabad, Sir Salar Jung, constituted a board of revenue for the first time in 1864.
- In 1885 it was abolished and Inspector General at State Level was appointed.
- In 1893, the assistant Minister of revenue, Vkar-ul-Umra, was appointed as the Prime Minister and to fill this gap a Revenue Board was created for the third time. It was abolished in 1901 and the post of Revenue Secretary was revived. He was also designated as Director General of Revenue in 1928.
Thus the Secretariat and executive functions were combined. This arrangement continued till 1945 when the Board of Revenue was created for the fourth time purely as an appellate body. Its life ended by 1949. Meanwhile Hyderabad merged with the Union of India.

Then for the fifth time the board of Revenue in erstwhile State of Hyderabad was established under a Regulation issued in 1949. (Regulation LX of 1358 Fasli). The Hyderabad board as it existed in 1956 was by and large modeled on Madras pattern.
The integrated Board of Andhra Pradesh, constituted on Madras pattern enjoyed some of the powers of Hyderabad Board also.

It administered through the Board Standing Orders that form the basis of administration even till today. It consisted of five members.

In 1957 National savings Scheme was put under its charge. It lost its control over minor irrigation in 1962 and Endowments in 1964.

The Panchayat Raj was withdrawn in 1970. But Tribal Welfare and PWD were added under its control as a coordinating agency.
In the Revenue Department, Commissioner of Revenue assisted the Board of Revenue in its functioning.

Secretary, Board’s Land revenue and irrigation Branch, in turn assisted the Commissioner.

At the District Level District Collectors, District Revenue Officers performed the revenue and administrative functions.
• Revenue Divisional Officers and Sub Collectors at the Sub-Divisional Level,
• Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars at the Tahsil Level,
• Revenue Inspectors and Girdwars at the Firka/Circle Level, and
• Village Officers and Village Servants at the Village Level assisted the Collector.
The A.P. Board of Revenue Replaced by *AP Board of Revenue replacement by Commissioners Act 1977*.

As per this new Act Commissioners were appointed in place of Members.

The Commissioner of Land Revenue, Commissioner of Survey and Settlement, commissioner of Excise, Commissioner of Commercial Taxes and Commissioner Land Reforms and Urban Land Ceiling exercised the powers of Members.
THE PRESENT SET UP:

- In 1999 the post of Commissioner of Land Revenue was redesignated as Chief Commissioner of Land Administration.
- Commissioner Appeals in a Cadre post of I.A.S and
- Commissioner Legal affairs in the cadre of District and Sessions judge were also created to assist the Chief Commissioner of Land administration.
- In Secretariat there are 4 Principal Secretaries
  - (1.) for revenue (2) Endowments (3) Registrations & (4) Excise and Commercial.
CO-ORDINATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Revenue Department

- Women and Child Welfare
- All Welfare Departments
- PD (DRDA)
- PD (DWMA)
- Municipalities
- Bank
- Registration
- Co-Operative
- Judiciary
- Treasuries
- Health & Family Welfare
- Commercial Taxes
- Planning
- Excise
- Panchayath Raj
- Irrigation
- RWS
- Engineering
- Endowments
- Education
- Agriculture
- Police
- Revenue Department
The Collectorate is divided into 8 sections as per the administrative reforms taken up by the Government of AP.

- Section A: Deals with Establishment and Office Procedures.
- Section B: Deals with Accounts and audit.
- Section C: Deals with Magisterial (Court/Legal) matters.
- Section D: Deals with Land Revenue and relief.
- Section E: Deals with Land Administration.
- Section F: Deals with Land Reforms.
- Section G: Deals with Land Acquisition.
- Section H: Deals with Protocol, Elections and Residuary work.
As per the administrative reforms the various sections in the TAHSILDAR Office are:

- Section A: Office procedure and financial activities,
- Section B: Land Related activities,
- Section C: Civil Supplies, Pension Schemes etc.
- Section D: Establishment, Natural Calamities,
- Section E: Issue of Caste, income, nativity etc; certificates
1. Appointment and Functions of Commissioners under the Andhra Pradesh Board of Revenue (Replacement by Commissioners Ordinance, 1977).
2. GO MS No: 59 Revenue (DA) Dated 21.01.1999
3. The Andhra Pradesh Districts (Formation) Act, 1974
4. The Andhra Pradesh Districts (Formation) Rules, 1984
5. The Andhra Pradesh Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars (Construction of References) Act 1985
7. Laoni Rules, 1950
8. The Andhra Pradesh assigned Lands (Prohibition of Transfer) Act, 1977
9. Lease lands of Secunderabad.
10. Land Administration Rules in Secunderabad
11. Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Land Revenue rules 1951 F
12. Andhra Pradesh Revenue Recovery Act, 1864
15. The Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Jagirs (Commutation) Regulation, 1359 F
25. Fixation of date of enforcement of Andhra Pradesh Record of Rights in Land Act, 1971
26. The Andhra Pradesh Land Encroachment Act, 1905
27. A.P. Land Encroachment (Extension and amendment) Act, 1959
27. The Andhra Pradesh Land Encroachment Rules, 1976
29. The Andhra Pradesh Farmers’ Management of Irrigation System Rules, 1997
30. Election Manual for Farmers’ Organisation
31. The Andhra Pradesh Farmers’ Organisation Rules, 1997

32. The Andhra Pradesh Farmers’ Management of Irrigation System (Election Tribunals in respect of Water User’s Associations, Distributory Committees and Project Committees) Rules, 1997

33. The Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Alienation of State Lands and Land Revenue rules. 1975

34. The Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Grant of Lease of Lands for Non-Agricultural Purposes Rules, 1977)
35. The Andhra Pradesh Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, 1982
36. The Andhra Pradesh Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Rules, 1988
37. The Andhra Pradesh Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Special Court Regulations, 1988
38. Rules for preservation and destruction of records in the Special Courts constituted under the Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, Rules, 2002
• 40. The Andhra Pradesh Occupants of Homesteads (Conferment of Ownership) Act, 1976
• 41. The Andhra Pradesh Occupants of Homesteads (Conferment of Ownership) Rules
• 42. The Survey and Boundaries Act of 1923.
• 43. Indian Christian Marriages Act 1872.
• 44. The Andhra Pradesh Cinemas (Regulation Rules 1962).
• 45. The Andhra Pradesh Cinemas (Regulation Act, 1955)
• 46. The Indian Arms Act (Central Act XI of 1878) 2.
47. The Arms Act, 1959 (No. 54 of 1959)
48. The Indian Explosive Act (Central Act IV of 1895)
50. The Indian Registration of Foreigner Act. (Central Act XVI OF 1939)
51. The Officials Secret Act.
52. Bonded Labour Act, 1976,
53. **Minimum Wages Act.**
54. **The Indian Treasure Trove Act 1878 (Central Act VI of 1878).**
55. **Inam Abolition Act, 1956**
56. **The A.P. (Telangana) Inam Abolition Act, 1967**
57. **The Indian Stamp Act of 1819.**
58. **The Pawn Brokers Act.**

60. Land Acquisition Act 1894 as amended by Act 68 of 1984


62. A.P Agency Rules

63. Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Areas Land Transfer Regulation 1959
64. Estates (Abolition and conversion into Ryotwari) Act 1948
65. The AP Mines Mineral Concession Rules, 1966
66. The A.P Water, Land and Trees Act, 2002
67. The A.P Water, Land and Trees Rules, 2002
68. The Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act 1976
69. Civil Supplies Acts
70. Excise Acts
71. A.P.V.A.O's SERVICE RULES 1990
Thank You