

HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

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INTRODUCTION

- Revenue Department is the oldest arm of the Governments .
- Existing from times immemorial in the country.
- Considered as the prime domain of the State .
- The village is the basic unit of Administration .
- Land Revenue was main source of Income

EVOLUTION OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION IN THE COUNTRY

- **Dates back to the olden days of kings and kingdoms.**
- **Basically concentrated on collection of Land Revenue.**
- **Paid officials collected Land Revenue in Mauryan and Gupta periods.**
- **In post Gupta Period Intermediaries – feudal in nature were there .**

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EVOLUTION OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION IN THE COUNTRY – contd

- **Revenue administration was started by Sher Shah Suri -- 1540-1545.**
- **Todar Mal – in the service of Akbar evolved a system of Revenue Assessment and Survey.**
- **During British Period Revenue Administration was systematised – Permanent Settlement by Cornwallis and Ryotwari systems were introduced .**

EVOLUTION OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION IN ANDHRA PRADESH

- **Minor Dynasties in Andhra Pradesh till the advent of the British.**
- **Significant major dynasty – Vijayanagar.**
- **The kings of Vijayanagara assessed extent of land by quantity of seeds sown- Empire was divided into Mandalams , Nadus and Seemas – effective administration.**

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION DURING BRITISH RULE

- **Board of Revenue was established in earstwhile Madras State in 1786 with the sanction of Court of Directors of East India Company..**
- **Board functioned under the control of the Governor.**
- **Board supervised Land Administration , Collection of Revenue and control of Subordinates.**
- **Revenue Regulation 1803 delinked adminisrtration of civil justice from the Board.**

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REVENUE ADMINISTRATION DURING BRITISH RULE --contd

- **Decentralisation was introduced in 1839.**
- **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 – the condition that all the orders given by Board need Government approval to be effective was dispensed with .**
- **Senior members of ICS were selected as members.**

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REVENUE ADMINISTRATION DURING BRITISH RULE --contd

- In first half of 19th Century , the area was divided in to Districts.
- Collector is the head of the District Administration (collection of Revenue) --monarch.
- Coastal Region was divided around 1800 in to five Districts – Ganjam (now in Orissa), Visakhapatnam, Godavari, Krishna and Nellore.
- Guntur -1904, East Godavari -1925 West Godavari 1925.
---- However Srikakulam in 1950, Prakasham in 1970 and Vijayanagaram in 1979 were formed .
- Rayalaseema was ceded to East India Company by Nizam in 1800- one single District –Antapuram was Head Quarters .---split up in to Bellary and Cuddaph in 1808– Kurnool in 1858, Anapur in 1882 and Chittoor in 1911 were formed .

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INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE

State level	Board of Revenue
District Level	Collector
Divisional Level	Sub-Collector / RDO
Taluk Level	Tahsildar
Firka Level	DT/ FIRKA Revenue inspector
Village Level	Village Officers (Hereditary) – Karanam and Munsiff and Village Servants

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REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AFTER INDEPENDENCE

- **Andhra Board of Revenue – replica of Madras Board was formed in A. P in 1953**
- **Only two members in Andhra State as against five members in Madras Board.**
- **Andhra Pradesh was formed in 1956- Integrated Board of Revenue was constituted on Madras pattern.**
- **Board of Revenue functioning in Andhra Area was entrusted the functions of Board of Regulation 1358 Fasli --- GO 1250 , Rev . Dept , dated 03.07.1957.**

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REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AFTER INDEPENDENCE ---contd

- **Board comprises five members –First Member was Chairman .**
- **Board required to meet twice a week.**
- **Division of work---- Certain subjects such as implementation of Acts and bills was taken care of by the Board as a whole.**
- **Minimum 3 members to be present—subjects like licence for the use of land and building.**
- **Minimum 2 members to be present—subjects like conduct of Gazetted Officers .**

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REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AFTER INDEPENDENCE ---contd

- **Certain subjects were dealt by one member –**
 - 1st member –Land Revenue , Tribal Welfare
 - 2nd member –urvey and Settlements
 - 3rd Member –Commercial Taxes
 - 4th Member–Excise and Civil Supplies
 - 5th member—Irrigation and Ayacut Development
- **Board functioned through Board Standing Orders which form the basis of Administration even today .**
- **In 1957 Natioanal Savings Scheme was put under its charge.**
- **Minor Irrigation and Endowments werete detached in 1962 and 1964 respectively.**
- **Panchayat raj was withdrawn in 1970 .**

ABOLITION OF BOARD OF REVENUE

- Revenue and police departments were prominent during British Rule
- Once number of developmental departments come up, the importance of Revenue department / Board of Revenue dwindled
- Govt. abolished Board of Revenue and appointed five Commissioners - GO.Ms.No.97 Revenue (Z) dated 31-01-1977
- Commissioner of Land Revenue ,Commissioner of Survey, Settlements and land Records , Commissioner of Land Reforms and Urban Ceilings, Commissioner of Commercial Taxes and Commissioner of Excise and Civil Supplies

INTRODUCTION OF FOUR TIER SYSTEM

- **Introduced through amendment (Amendment Act 14 of 1985) to the A P Districts (Formation) Act 1974.**
- **System of Taluks and Firkas was dispensed with.**
- **Mandals were constituted – The head of Mandals was designated as Mandal Revenue Officer – officer of the cadre of Tahsildar/ Deputy Tahsildar was posted as MRO.**
- **From 1996 – only Tahsildars are posted as MROs.**
- **The Head of the Mandal is designated as Tahsildar in 2007.**

VILLAGE LEVEL REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

- **Part time village officers –KARANAM –MUNSIF – in Andhra Area-Hereditary .**
- **Hereditary system was abolished in 1969.**
- **Karanam is accountant prepares village Accounts.**
- **Munisif performed Revenue functions(collection of L R) and police functions.**
- **Part time officers were there up to 1985.**
- **Village Assistants –regular employees of the cadre of Junior Assistants –from 1985-1990 –one for 5 to 10 villages**

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VILLAGE LEVEL REVENUE ADMINISTRATION---contd

- **Village Administrative Officers –Part time Employees @ one per village or group of villages- from 1990**
- **Panchayat Secretaries-Regular employees –both Revenue and developmental functions –from 2002-2007**
- **Village Revenue Officers –regular –from 2007-have definite job-chart.**
- **Village Servants up to 2011- Village Revenue Assistants from 2011**
- **JOB CHARTS ARE THERE .**

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