CHAPTER VI

Andhra

394. The boundaries of the existing Andhra State will be determined in the light of what has been said in the preceding Chapters. It is only necessary to deal with two or three minor matters, namely, the rectification of the Andhra-Orissa and Andhra-Madras borders and the adjustment of the Andhra-Karnataka border, with particular reference to the claims of the Andhra State in all these areas.

395. We deal later on, in Chapter XVIII, with the Andhra-Orissa border. Here, it is only necessary to indicate that no changes are being proposed. The boundary of the Andhra State in the south has already been the subject-matter of discussion, and the Prime Minister's statement in Parliament, dated March 25, 1953, made it clear that a boundary commission would in due course demarcate the southern and south-western boundaries of the Andhra State. The Andhra Government has also conceded in the memorandum presented to us that the claims of the Tamilians to areas in the Puttur, Chittoor and Tiruttani taluks of the Chittoor district may be considered after the census slips have been sorted and village-wise language figures are available.

396. Some progress has now been made in this direction and the Madras-Andhra border disputes may be settled satisfactorily by negotiation between the two governments. We do not feel called upon in these circumstances to make any particular recommendation.

397. The Andhra-Karnataka border may also be settled perhaps in the same manner. In the absence of agreement between the parties concerned, however, we see no reason to depart from our general principle that as far as possible district boundaries should be respected. We have considered at some length only two important points, namely, the future of the present Bellary district of Mysore and that of the Madakasira taluk of Anantapur district.

398. The Andhra claim to portions of the existing Bellary district of Mysore has been examined in detail in Chapter IV of this part on Karnataka. We have also dealt with the question of the future of the Bidar district, portions of which have also been claimed by Andhra. The position regarding the Madakasira taluk is somewhat complicated. Portions of this taluk, being enclaves within the existing Mysore State, were merged in Mysore in 1950 in terms of the Provinces and States (Absorption of Enclaves) Order, but a substantial area of this taluk which has a Kannada majority of about 64 per cent. still juts out in Mysore and is surrounded on three sides by areas which will belong to the prospective Karnataka State.

399. There is, however, a great deal to be said in favour of not breaking up the Anantapur district. This would be in accord with our general principle, and since it is also accepted that the integrity of Rayalaseema must as far as possible be respected, this argument applies with additional force. It will be illogical to break up the Anantapur district for the purpose of adding the Madakasira taluk to Karnataka but to decline to break up Kolar for the purpose of adding the predominantly Telugu portion to Andhra.

400. We now come to the question of the future of Madras city. In the memorandum which has been submitted to this Commission, the Andhra Government has reopened this question and has presented elaborate arguments in favour of special arrangements being made for Madras city, relying in particular on the early history of the city in order to prove its Telugu origin and affiliations. The arrangements proposed, which envisage a kind of joint control for Madras city are, however, patently unworkable. The Tamil-speaking population of the city exceeds two-thirds of its total population at the present time and the case for its separation from the predominantly Tamil-speaking State of Madras rests on weak foundations. The future of Madras city, therefore, must now be regarded as finally settled; and, in our opinion, it will be neither necessary nor desirable to go back on a decision which has already been taken after due consideration of the various points of view. We should like to add, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the historical account of the growth of Madras city as it was presented to us, that according to the general principles which have already been discussed in Chapter VIII of Part II, historical origins cannot be regarded as directly relevant at the present time.

401. The area and population of the Andhra State after minor adjustments will be a little more than 64,950 square miles and about 20.9 millions respectively without taking into account any adjustments which may be made by agreement between Andhra and Madras regarding the rectification of the southern border.