M.R.O. 1—83,000—15-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 876 Press ~~His.~~

28-29

Dated 4. 6. 1862 ~~19~~ .

n/s

Not to be folded or roughly handled

876

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 4th June 1862.

No. 28. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated 27th May 1862, No. 1,179.

Communicating for the information of the Inspector General of Madras Police, the Order passed on certain Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, on the subject of Government Chuttrums in different Districts. (Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated 27th May 1862, Nos. 502—505.)

No. 29. ORDER THEREON, 4th June 1862, No. 876.

Communicated to the Inspector General of Police.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue:—

Submitting with remarks letters from certain Collectors, forwarding information regarding the Government Chuttrums in their Districts.	(Here enter 1st March 1862, No. 1,415.)
Reviewing the letters from certain Collectors replying to Circular No. 2,611, 14th July 1858, regarding the condition, &c., of Chuttrums in their respective Districts.	(Here enter 27th March 1862, No. 2,024.)
Submitting letter from the Collector of Bellary, informing that the charges for the entertainment of servants in the Chuttrums in his District may be met from the provision made in the Budget for 1862-63, under the head unforeseen charges	(Here enter 30th April 1862, No. 2,717.)

ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1862, No. 1,179.

1. The Chuttrums maintained in the Provinces for the accommodation of Native travellers have been the subject of much correspondence. In 1858 returns of these buildings were procured from the Board of Revenue, and it was found that in this Presidency there were 803 Chuttrums, of which 99 were Government and 704 private Chuttrums. The Government, in order to form an opinion on the usefulness of the several Chuttrums in Bellary, Tanjore and Tinnevelly, requested the Board of Revenue to furnish information as to the system observed in the distribution of food in them; the distributors and recipients of it, and the average number of persons relieved or entertained daily, monthly or yearly. The immediate objects which the Government had in view in calling for this information, were to check the abuses known to prevail in some Districts, such as the monopoly by a single class of benefits intended for the whole community, and to grant, if necessary, endowments for such Chuttrums now without them, as might be proved by the local authorities to be useful.

Order dated 7th June 1858, No. 765.

2. The Proceedings of the Board of Revenue now before Government, are their replies to the Order of 7th June 1858. In the first paper, viz., that dated 1st March 1862, No. 788, the Board before proceeding to the immediate subject of inquiry, point out that by including the Coimbatore Chuttrums, which were omitted from the returns of 1858, and making sundry other alterations, the number of Chuttrums is raised from 803 to 913, consisting of 163 Government and 750 private Chuttrums. The particulars for the several Districts are the same as those entered in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 1st April 1858, No. 1,176, except in the case of three Districts, the correct figures for which are given below :—

Districts.	No. of Government Chuttrums.	No. of private Chuttrums.	Total.
Tanjore	18	71	89
Madura... ...	13	14	27
Coimbatore...	61	43	104

3. The Board next allude to the management of the Chuttrums in some of the Districts. In Bellary there is but one Chuttrum (viz., that built at Gooty to perpetuate Sir T. Munro's memory) in which food is distributed. The distribution is regulated by rules already approved* by Government, and the subject does not require further special notice. The Board have properly called the attention of the Collector to the unauthorized increase in the number of Bramin and Comaty recipients of food in that institution to the injury of travellers of other classes.

* Order dated 22nd January 1858, No. 73.

4. In Tanjore there were 23 Government Chuttrums, but by certain transfers, explained in paragraph 10 of the Board's Proceedings, the number was reduced to 18. In 11 of these cooked food is distributed annually to 24,522 recipients, at a cost of Rupees 1,987. The

average cost per head in some of the Chuttrums is large, while in others it is exceedingly small. The Collector should be requested to enquire into the causes of these differences. Six* of these Chuttrums are stated to be open to all classes, while the other five† are restricted to Bramins. The Choultry servants are the distributors, and the Tahsíldárs and other Revenue officers exercise a general control. The Collector is of opinion that abuses prevail in some of them, and that "in some instances at least they "are made the habitual resort of the idle." He suggests that where the endowments are within 100 Rupees, the management might be entrusted to private individuals of respectability willing to undertake the trust, on the condition that they maintain the buildings in repair and appropriate them solely for the use of travellers. The Board recommend the proposal, and the Government sanction the arrangement, though they think it would be preferable to entrust the charity to a small Committee chosen from among the inhabitants of the nearest village, and the head of the village being ex-officio one of its members. The proposal to issue raw instead of cooked food in the Chuttrums retained under Government management is approved, and the alterations in the establishments attached to them, proposed by the Board in paragraph 11 of their Proceedings, are sanctioned. The saving therefrom will be devoted to an extension of the charity, and the institutions may, as proposed, be placed under the management of the Superintendent recently appointed for the supervision of the late Rája's Choultries. The Collector's observation that "they (the Chuttrums) are "made the habitual resort of the idle," leads Government to believe that persons are fed in them for several days together. Such cannot evidently be the object of these charities; they are intended solely for travellers, and no one should be considered a traveller who remains at any particular Chuttrum for more than a day, unless detained by sickness. The Board will instruct the Collectors generally to regulate the distribution of food in the Chuttrums accordingly, and absolutely to prohibit the issue of it to those who are not *bonâ fide* travellers. The Government think it would be advisable to vest some Táluq or village official, stationed in the neighbourhood of each Chuttrum, with a general control over the distribution of food and the management of the institution, instead of trusting entirely to a monigar whose pay is only 2 or 3 Rupees a month. If the conditions of the endowments of the five Chuttrums restricted to Bramins permit, the distribution of food at them should be extended to travellers of all classes in actual distress. The Mahindrapalli Chuttrum, which has lost its income, may be made over to private management as proposed.

* Kallamay.
Kuttallum.
Pallayee.
Salspuram.
Sittambúr.
Alangudi.

† Nemom.
Sendalay.
Venkatasamudram.
Ramasami Naik.
Perumbur.

5. Of the 23 Chuttrums in Tinnevelly, food is distributed in 10. The several particulars connected with the distribution, are clearly shown in the table annexed to paragraph 13 of the Board's Proceedings. In this District no less than 78 per cent. of the recipients were Bramins, and six of the Chuttrums are altogether restricted to that class. The Collector will give his immediate attention to the Board's remarks on the subject.

6. Under the circumstances stated in paragraph 17, the Government will not interfere with the establishment attached to Ellis' Chuttrum in South Arcot. If, as the Board seem to think, the supply of drinking water to travellers should be continued, the services of a Bramin ought to be preferred, as many of the Sudra classes will not take water from another Sudra and thus the usefulness of the charity would be much restricted.

7. The Board of Revenue explain in paragraphs 20 and 21 the new establishments required. The establishment proposed for the 16 Chuttrums in Bellary, consisting of a servant on a monthly salary of 2 Rupees for each building, is moderate and is approved, that for the three newly built Tinnevelly Chuttrums, amounting to 324 per annum, was approved in the Order of Government dated 6th July 1852, No. 652; but on further consideration it appears to be rather large. Kavilgars are unnecessary; it will be the duty of the General Police to protect property and person. Watermen need not be employed at all the Chuttrums as a rule; such men are necessary only at such Choultries within a reasonable distance from which there are neither ponds nor wells of drinking water accessible to all classes. Three sweepers at 2 Rupees each per mensem and the total Sadirwarid of Rupees 4½, are all that can be allowed, and as observed in paragraph 2 of the Order of 6th July 1852 these charges will be debited to the General Revenues. These establishments both for the Bellary and Tinnevelly Chuttrums cannot be entertained before the sanction of the Government of India is received, and the Board of Revenue will be requested to submit at an early date a tabular statement in the prescribed form for them.

8. In paragraph 26 the Board propose gradually to discontinue the distribution of food, raw or cooked, in the Government Chuttrums at Government expense when the terms of the original trust will permit of the reform, as the practice, in whichever shape it may exist, opens the door to much fraud. The Government approve the proposal, and are of opinion that the change may be carried into effect at once when the terms of the grants allow of the change.

9. The Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th March and 30th April 1862, Nos. 2,024 and 2,717, also recorded above, need no orders.

(True Extract.)

To the Board of Revenue.
" Civil Paymaster.
" Judicial Department, for the information of the Inspector General of Mufassal Police.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Recd 13th June.

Proc. of June
Jud. 1862 Dept.

Nos: of Govt. in the
Rev: Dt. 1179.

D/ 2 Dt.
R/ 28 Dt. } May 1862.
45 p: ages.

No. 1061.

Copy for the information of the Inspector Genl. of Police the order passed on certain Pros: of the Board of Revenue on the subject of Govt. Chuttrums in different Districts.

With an Order.

28.v.29

No. 876 — 4 June 1862

Communicated to the Inspector Genl. of Police.

The Inspector Genl. of Police. } Despd. 5th