

18-2-05
20/2/12

Public Department.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Ordinary No. 585, dated 16-3-1895.

[G.O.]
5,000-20-7-93.

Date taken out.	FOR WHAT PURPOSE.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
7-9-98	Public	2816	1898	Sub.	16-10-98	Sub.
18-2-05	Public	260	1905	Sub.	20-3-05	Sub.
20/2/12	Public	72	1912	Sub.	2-3-12	Sub.

[J]
53
1,000-25-7-93

Judicial (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 586.

DATED 16th Mar: 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

GOLGONDA HILLS.

Recording proceedings, Revenue Department, declining to accept the scheme sketched out by Mr. Hooper, Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, for the purchase on behalf of Government of the minor produce collected by the hillmen in the --, and directing that that officer be called upon to submit more detailed proposals in consultation with the Collector and Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	2197		10-9-94				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	3847		1895				

Govt. of {1895} Madras.
REVENUE.

1173
Rs 260 43.95 R
Rs 2624 20.94 Mis
Rs 2197 10.94
Rs 965 20.494 Mis
Rs 32 10 Jan 94
910 2 May 93

Order 16 March 1895 No 586
Mis

Recorded.
16.3.95

Issued

Recd. 9-3-95

Encl.

G.O., 21st February 1895, No. 103.

FEBRUARY.

Golgonda Hills.

Stating that the Government is unable to accept the scheme sketched out by Mr. Hooper for the purchase, on behalf of Government, of the minor produce collected by the hillmen in the —, and directing that the Conservator should be called upon to submit more detailed proposals in consultation with the Collector and Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.

14.5.16.3.95.

11/3
21st FEBRUARY 1895, No. 103, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following G.O., dated 25th September 1894, Mis. No. 3748,
Revenue :—

Read—the following G.O., dated 10th September 1894, No. 2197, Judicial :—

Read—again G.O., dated 24th April 1894, No. 965, Judicial.

Read—also the following letter from the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, dated
17th May 1894, No. 530 :—

With reference to G.O., dated 24th April 1894, No. 965, Judicial, although not called on to do so, yet as I am well acquainted with the country in question and most of its chief inhabitants, I venture to offer the following remarks.

2. With reference first to the remarks on Mr. Willock's objections there is now no muttadar at Gudem, he having been forbidden to reside in his mutta. That the people, however, may not lose touch with their future muttadar, I have directed that the muttadar's minor son with his mother visit Gudem occasionally. The muttadar, if he be in Gudem, is surely most likely to have information of any *emeute* that is on hand and can easily send information to, and obtain protection from Chintapalle which is at no great distance. It may be also insisted that the constables of Chintapalle constantly patrol the neighbouring country in pairs and become acquainted with the chief men of the neighbouring villages which are not numerous. I note that Colonel Porteous says his men have to learn Telugu.

3. As to the respective merits of Chintapalle and Gudem there is no comparison. Gudem is situated in a broken country of ravines and hills. No station that could not be dominated could, as far as my recollection goes, be selected, because such a station would have to be on a hill-top, in which case no good, nor even any, water-supply would be available. There is also the disadvantage of being at too great a distance from the base. Gudem has thick jungle growing right up to its doors, and there is no such thing as a fairly level open space in or near it. Moreover, I imagine the rainfall there to be heavier than in Chintapalle, in and in the neighbourhood of which, I spent some weeks in the south-west monsoon of 1887.

4. The very fact that three years have passed in that country without an outbreak is so far a proof that the present arrangement is a good one. I strongly recommend that the present position of affairs be allowed to remain unaltered, and if another three years pass away quietly, it will establish the proof fully.

5. There is, however, an addition that will place matters in a more advantageous position than they are, and that is to make a good cart road straight into Gudem from the foot of the Lammasingi ghât. Ever since the days of General Wade we have recognized the advantages that good roads confer on the proper administration of a country and we are now steadily pursuing the same policy in Upper Burma. A good road necessarily has an excellent moral effect on all the inhabitants of a country. By it, supplies can be easily obtained in time of peace or in disturbance, nor are the inhabitants constantly worried into being turned into beasts of burden.

6. As Principal Assistant Collector here, I made a cart road nearly up to the top of the Lammasingi ghât, but it has been abandoned, because, as Mr. Willock says, nothing goes into that country, neither do we take anything out."

B. P. Forrester 1-3-95 F No 265
" " 15-1-95 F No 36

7. But apart from the moral effect of such a road in adding to our ability in keeping the country quiet, I hope to take a great deal out of that country. It will not cost much to make such a road, once the ghât is ascended, for the country above is comparatively easy.

8. This year since my arrival, I have commenced collecting fees on the minor forest produce from our forests there. This is not collected in the hills themselves from the hill men, but on the plains outside them from the merchants. My District Forest-officer, Mr. Alwar Chetty, expects to realize next year Rs. 3,500 from this source, and ultimately Rs. 5,000 annually. Further, that officer also reports after personal inspection during the last month or two, that the hill men are greatly cheated by the purchasers of their produce who buy from them at rates much below what ought to be paid them. He considers that if Government were to go in and bodily purchase the whole produce even at advanced rates, it would eventually realize a good profit, though possibly at first it would be necessary only to ensure that there was no actual loss. He estimates that at least Rs. 50,000 a year would be required to buy up the whole minor produce. As an experiment he bought a small quantity himself and found the hill people most willing to deal with him, as he of course offered fair prices.

9. This is no doubt a large question, but I consider it an important one, as it at once gives the hill population a great interest in seeing that matters remain quiet, so that they may ensure a certain and good market for the produce they collect.

10. The provision of a good road apart from this will increase the revenue from minor forest produce, to say nothing of the timber that can easily be obtained by the same method. The cost of carriage by carts will obviously be much less than when such produce is carried as it is now on pack bullocks, donkeys and men's heads. Much produce is said now to remain on the hills as there are absolutely not enough people to bring it down. He considers the outlook on this head so promising that half the cost of making and maintaining the road should come out of forest funds.

11. If such a road is made it may in the future be carried on to Malkangiri of Jeypore, and may serve eventually as the medium for emigrants and cultivators going both into our own hill plateau and Malkangiri beyond. There is no reason why this Gudem plateau should not be inhabited and cultivated just as the plateau of Mysore is; nothing is wanted but the people to do so. If labour were available, coffee planters would find it a good place for their enterprise, and once it becomes opened up, there will be no more *fituri*.

Read—also letter from the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, dated 25th July 1894, No. 156.

Order—dated 10th September 1894, No. 2197, Judicial.

After a careful consideration of the arguments for and against the retention of Chintapalle as the head-quarters of the police in the Golconda hills, the Government has decided to accept Colonel Porteous' views of the subject. The construction of the stockade and the necessary buildings at Chintapalle should therefore be vigorously pushed on.

2. So much of Mr. Wolfe-Murray's letter, dated 17th May 1894, No. 530, as relates to the purchase of minor forest produce in the Golconda hills will be considered in the Revenue Department.

3. Mr. Wolfe-Murray's remarks on the Lammasinghi ghât are not clearly understood. The construction of this ghât was sanctioned in G.O., dated 18th November 1886, No. 3080, Judicial, and it is one of the lines of communication selected for completion in paragraph 9 of G.O., dated 20th July 1888, No. 1541, Judicial. From paragraph 17 of the Agency Report for 1890-91, and from paragraph 17 of that for

1893-94, it was gathered that the ghât is practicable for carts throughout, but the Agent now speaks of the road as having been abandoned. The agent will accordingly report, (1) whether the Lammasinghi ghât is practicable for wheeled traffic throughout; (2) in what state the road towards Gudem from the top of the ghât is; and (3) how much it will cost to gravel that road and put it in complete order as far as Gudem if, at present, it is a mere fair-weather track.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. BUTTERWORTH,
Under Secretary,

To the Revenue Department, with Hon'ble Members' notes.
" Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam.
" Inspector-General of Police.

Order—dated 25th September 1894, Mis. No. 3748, Revenue.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for remarks with reference to paragraph 2 of the Proceedings read above.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 15th January 1895, Forest No. 36, Mis. :—

Read—G.O., dated 25th September 1894, Mis. No. 3748, and Reference thereon, dated 9th October 1894, to the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, for remarks.

Read—the following letter from E. D. M. HOOPER, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, dated 24th November 1894, No. 1644 :—

In returning the enclosure to reference on Forest Register No. 3469, dated 9th October 1894, I have the honour as desired to communicate remarks regarding the proposal to purchase minor forest produce from the inhabitants of the Vizagapatam agency hill forests.

2. In my inspection note of 1892 published in Proceedings, No. 486, Forests, dated 27th June 1893, I laid it down as my firm conviction that without the good will of the inhabitants living in and around Government forests, no advance can be made in their conservancy, and I advocated in this particular instance, as I had previously done elsewhere, the opening up of intimate relations with the wild tribes-men including the purchase of minor forest produce which they collect.

3. From the Agent's letter recorded in the Proceedings of Government herewith enclosed, it seems that a commencement has been made to carry such a plan into effect, but it is found to be a matter demanding a large pecuniary outlay, the return from which is to a certain extent speculative. Mr. Wolfe-Murray is advised by his Acting District Forest-officer that Rs. 50,000 would be required annually to purchase produce, and I think this sum by no means represents the buying price of all that the tribes-men could sell as each year.

4. Beyond the mere investing of this large sum every year, we have to face another consideration of importance when we decide upon becoming the receivers of the produce in question, for our doing so will divert from the locality, the employment of

certain capital which is continually being turned over by produce merchants who have hitherto bought from the hill men in the manner we proposed to adopt. So far as I can gather, these merchants without making money advances have very regular dealings with the hill people and have acquired considerable influence over them in consequence. They would only be consulting their interest therefore in trying to thwart us and their opposition would in all probability be manifested by a misinterpretation of our wishes to the hill men hoping to bring about an outbreak which would be put down to the ill-advised action of the Forest Department. I think it will be more politic and convenient to conciliate this interest as an alternative to ignoring it and running the risk of arousing serious opposition, which we should do by monopolising the purchase of minor produce grown in the hills.

5. I would therefore suggest the establishment of a line of revenue stations on the Agency boundary and the levy of seigniorage on karakayi, tamarinds, horns, hides, gums and other true forest products passed out.

6. With reference to the remarks of the Board of Revenue in Proceedings, No. 646, of 17th October, relative to reservation in the Yellavaram division of the Góda-vari district, it is objected that the system of levying seigniorage has inherent drawbacks owing to private ownership of lands yielding such produce within the line of revenue stations and the impossibility of checking produce on all the numerous lines of export, but it is understood that the same drawbacks do not operate in this case to any appreciable extent, especially with the classes of true forest produce, which I have mentioned.

7. It will be advisable, I think, at the same time to make some purchases of various classes of minor produce, especially in the more remote parts of the hills where perhaps merchants do not penetrate and also to buy stuff at the revenue stations from hill men who choose to bring it down. It is believed that the produce exported at present does not constitute any large proportion of the amount of the annual yield, so that our limited purchases from hill men will not necessarily reduce the stocks collected by the merchants, and the knowledge that Government offers to buy will have a tendency to make dealers less exacting in their terms with the villagers. Should it please Government to sanction such purchase, I would further suggest the disbursement of Rs. 5,000 yearly to be expended partly in the purchase of produce and the rest on the maintenance of a special establishment to be employed on the work.

8. Our object throughout must be the contentment of the hill tribes, and we should only interfere with them when they become the instruments of outsiders in devastating the forests, and we shall probably find that if we can provide them with work of a remunerative character, they will cease to cut kondapodu, and then the forest growth will improve.

9. As regards the authority under which minor produce transit can be controlled, we have to fall back upon the general provisions of the Forest Act to support our action, since the special authority to control produce in transit can apply to timber alone.

Resolution—dated 15th January 1895, Forest No. 36, Mis.

In the first of the papers read above Government referred to the Board, for remarks, a proposal of the Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, to purchase on behalf of Government the whole of the minor forest produce collected by the hill men in the Golconda hills. Apart from the profit anticipated to be made eventually, he recommended the measure on the ground that it would at once give the hill population a great interest in seeing that matters remain quiet, so that they may ensure a certain and good market for the produce they collect.

2. The question was referred to the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, for remarks. The Acting Conservator, Mr. Hooper, while advocating the opening up of intimate relations with the wild tribes-men including the purchase of the minor forest

produce which they collect, points out that the plan proposed by the Agent involves a large pecuniary outlay, the return from which is to a certain extent problematical; that even Rs. 50,000, the amount mentioned by the Agent, by no means represents the cost of all that the tribes-men could sell each year; that if Government were to buy the whole of the produce annually, the merchants who have now very regular dealings with the hill people and have acquired considerable influence over them in consequence, would only be consulting their interests in trying to thwart Government; and that their opposition would in all probability be manifested by misrepresenting to the hill men the wishes of Government in this matter with the object of bringing about an outbreak. He considers that it would be more politic and convenient to conciliate this interest, instead of ignoring it altogether, and suggests the establishment of a line of revenue stations on the Agency boundary and the levy of seigniorage on the products passed out of the hills. He has no objection to some purchases of the various kinds of produce being made at the same time, especially in the more remote parts of the hills, where merchants do not penetrate or to the buying of the stuff which the hill men may choose to bring to the revenue stations. He, therefore, recommends the disbursement of Rs. 5,000 annually to be expended partly in the purchase of produce and partly on the maintenance of a special establishment to be employed on the work.

3. The Board concurs with the Conservator and begs to support his recommendations.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

B. P. Forest F No 265 1-3-1895
36 15-1-95

ORDER—dated 21st February 1895, No. 103, Revenue.

Forest No. 34.

The Government is unable to accept the scheme sketched out by Mr. Hooper and supported by the Board of Revenue

in the Proceedings read above. Mr. Hooper proposes to establish a line of stations on the agency boundary where seigniorage will be levied on minor produce coming out of the forests, and at the same time to buy a limited quantity of produce, partly in the more remote portions of the forests themselves and partly at the revenue stations where the fees are collected. The expenditure on this scheme is to be limited to Rs. 5,000 yearly, but it is not stated how these purchases are to be otherwise regulated.

2. The avowed intention of these proposals is the contentment of the hill tribes, and it is not clear how the levy of seigniorage will help to effect this object. From the Agent's letter read in G.O., dated 25th September 1894, No. 3748, it appears that the fees are now being collected from the merchants who purchase the produce from the hill men, and if articles are in future to be taxed at stations on the boundary, the incidence of the seigniorage will apparently fall upon the very persons whom the scheme professes to benefit. Mr. Hooper's proposals would thus tend to increase the burdens already imposed upon the hill tribes by the merchants of the low country, and this evil could hardly be counteracted by the very limited outlay suggested for the purchase of produce at first hand.

3. The details of the scheme now before Government have not, however, been fully worked out, and the Collector of Vizagapatam does not seem to have been consulted. His Excellency the Governor in Council is not therefore in a position to pass definite orders thereon. The Conservator should now be called upon to submit more

detailed proposals in consultation with the Collector and Agent. In the event of the present Conservator being prepared to support the suggested purchase of forest produce, it should be intimated in what manner the purchases are to be effected and the produce so purchased disposed of.

(True Extract.)

Shikar
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
,, the Judicial Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

45 Copies.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____ } 189.
When examined _____
When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE to C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only