5-3-04

Marine (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 489 Mar

DATED 26.8.97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Ramnad: Pro: Revenue Dept. Stating that the attention of all Collectors and Supts. of Salines should be drawn to the necessity of being fully prepared to start relief operations in the event of any possible increase of distress in the Presidency consequent upon even a partial failure of the next South West monsoon, recorded.

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[N. 6. 2,000—28-10-96.]

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Marine - (1897) department

Current No: 751

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. 19-5- } 1897.
Regd. 19-5-

Enclosures

Spare copies 16.

G.O., No. 304, 6th May 1897.

No. 489 mar 8/26 May 97

MAY. Recorded.

25/5/97

Famine.

Stating that the attention of all Collectors and Superintending Engineers should be drawn to the neccessity of being fully prepared to start relief operations in the event of any possible increase of distress in the Presidency consequent upon even a partial failure of the next south-west monsoon.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

ORDER—No. 304, Revenue, dated 6th May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Even a partial failure of the next south-west monsoon is likely to lead to a very considerable extension of the distressed area in the Presidency besides greatly accentuating the scarcity and suffering in the districts already affected, and His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the next month or two should be utilized in getting things ready for this possibility. The attention of the Collectors of all districts, especially of the non-affected ones, should therefore be drawn to the urgent necessity of having programmes of famine relief-works prepared in advance and of providing a sufficient number of sanctioned works ready to be started whenever required in places likely to be seriously affected. The division of the district into village relief circles, the localities where poor-houses and kitchens will be most wanted, and the extra establishments likely to be required are also matters that should be thought out in advance. It is of the utmost importance that District officers should be prepared on all points for the contingency of serious distress next July; all the detailed enquiries prescribed in section 75 of the Famine Code should be completed by the 15th June, plans for circle inspections laid down, men designated for the charges, and works made ready for immediate opening by the provision of tools, staff and the like.

2. The experience of the past four months has brought out prominently that the Public Works Department is generally unable to start the works proposed by Collectors at short notice, and that considerable delay is frequently caused in the opening of relief-works by the insufficiency of the Public Works staff. Orders have already been issued that relief-works should in the first instance be taken up by the ordinary Public Works staff of the district and that their opening should in no case be delayed pending the arrival of special officers deputed from other districts. Superintending Engineers will now be instructed to frame for each district in consultation with the Collector a forecast of the probable requirements as regards staff, tools, &c., and submit it to the Chief Engineer as early as possible.

(True Extract.)

A. D'Knapp.
for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Local and Municipal Department.
,, the other Departments of the Secretariat.

~~Public Works~~ Irrigation Dept

Exd. A. F. Eccliston.

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