

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 67	Press ~~Mis.~~
136-131	
Dated 6-1-	1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th January 1861.*

No. 130. Read the following Memorial from B. NARAINSAWMI and other inhabitants of Berhampoor in the District of Ganjam, to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated Berhampoor, 15th November 1860 :—

HONORED SIR,

1. We the undersigned Native community of Ganjam District humbly and respectfully beg to enclose three copies of a Petition under rules addressed to the Secretary to the State of India, complaining of the inconveniences we have to meet with by the rules of the Act XXXII of 1860, and request that your Highness will be pleased to bring into kind consideration our request and forward with a recommendation that the Act in question may be postponed.

2. We further beg to crave that your Highness will be so kind enough to issue a favor, to the Collector of this District, to put a stop to the execution of the Act, until an answer is received from Her Majesty the Queen of England.

3. In conclusion we request the favor of granting us an early answer to our prayers as we are daily awaiting for it and for this act of charity we shall be bound ever pray.

No. 131. ORDER THEREON, 10th January 1861, No. 67.

1. Memorialists are informed that the Government decline to forward their Memorial to the Secretary of State.

2. They are to understand that in common with others they must pay Income Tax provided their yearly income exceeds Rupees 200.

3. If they have any doubts regarding the forms which they are to fill up, they should address the Collector or any officer engaged in carrying out the Act, who will explain anything which may seem difficult to them.

4. Europeans are taxed equally with the rest of the people.

5. Memorialists seem doubtful about their accounts. There need be no difficulty. They are not required to show them to any one. If their Returns of Income are considered insufficient they may bring forward what proof they like to show their correctness, but they are not obliged to produce any accounts.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Handwritten text in Bengali script, likely a petition or official communication, covering the left page of the document.

The Right Honorable the Governor
in Council Fort St. George

Honored Sir

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of Ganjam District humbly and respectfully
beg to enclose three copies of a Petition under
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Yours
that

For it and for this act of charity we
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Berhampoor }
15th November }
1860 }

To
The Secretary to the State of India
England
The humble representation of the under-
signed native community of Berhampoor
in Ganjam District except Govern-
ment Servants -
Respectfully

We, the community of Ganjam most humbly
and respectfully beg to lay our grievances for
the benign consideration of Her Majesty the
Queen of England with a hope that we may
be relieved from the feelings that we have
to suffer by the Rules laid down in
act XXXII of 1860 regarding "Income Tax on
the receipt of Notices Forms and Proclamations
from the Collector. The Rules in question, contain
Tax for Income on Immovable property, Estates
and Merchandise.

The livelihood of the Indians are as follows:-

- 1st That there are some among us who are
unable to pay the fixed Cultorhard and enjoy
the Income and support their families -
- 2nd That some of us selling trifling goods and
the Income derives from this selling is quite
inadequate to maintain our poor families and
in Changes of rates we have to sustain a loss to
our principle sums than to get profit -

That there are plenty who are poorly
living on their own professions and labors

3. Thus the livelihood of the Community is going on,
and the Circars have already found a regular
rich and living further to, should this new
Tax be imposed, it will not only injure the
Community but to suffer much. The men
who have immovable properties, are disposing
of to others, their lineal rights for their inadequate
condition to support themselves and their
families and paying the fixed rich and
living on selling trifling goods in such a fair
case, how can they be able to subject to the
new Tax.

4. The term "Trade" we think is not applicable
to the shop-keepers but to the factories and the
merchants such as Aska Factory and the
merchants trading at the Mandoor cotton
and Gaujam ports & there are no such merchants
in this District like other Colonies.

5. The rules state that we should state the annual
income uprightly on solemn affirmation and
therefore we have to state that there are very few
who are trading grandly, if the income derives
therein, takes into account it will be very
great and in opposite, the bandy hire, interest
for principle sums, and servants wages &c
be deducted, there will remain very little
to support themselves. In the meantime,
the Trade of Europeans and French-men is
ever

very where extended abundantly and therefore
the comfortable state of this Country is fall
short. and the grain of Rupee worth is
raised to three and poor men have to
search for beg and die themselves by
starving.

6. The merchandise of English-merchants
extended and in opposite, that of the natives
is stopped. The English men first giving
contracts on a Commission of 2 percent to the men
and in little future they are refusing to accept the
articles that supplied afterwards and bringing civil
suits for penalties and getting decrees in their
favor and ruining the ryots and merchants. The
merchants who are trading with the English have
no competent Clerks nor fair accounts to justify
the real profit or loss and they receive no such
profits to employ such fitted persons and in case
we cannot justify our profits in our Trades how
we can assure the income and made false declaration.
However we have to give imaginary accounts, if

there be any breach it will be a loss to our
respectability and also incur the displeasures of the
authorities that we have given false accounts
of income. The accounts which we profess are
merely to know the men that are due to us but
if so clear to extract the profit and loss owing
this obscurity, we are losing our own property
and turned as bankrupts.

7. There is another stupidity in our accounts being
money and entering their names in badjans and
its repayments we have to square accounts and
lost.

tore them into pieces and this practice prevailing from authenticity and it appears a great difference between Reg ~~XXX~~ of 1816 and that of Act ~~XXX~~ of 1816 the former says nothing about the trading transaction to be written on stamped paper and the latter on stamped and in failure, the penal sum is very heavy - should the existence of the rules of the Act be not postponed, we have to suffer much injuries as many of us are ignorant to understand the Rules.

8 Unless the sovereignty support us (the ignorants) we shall not be able to escape from destruction and further beg to crave that Her Majesty will incur no displeasures in our representing the inconveniences than to adopt some remedial measures.

9 There is no one among us in this District a wealthy and rich man like other District than to manage the Trade of English Merchant on a commission one or two per cent and to supply goods within the fixed terms, we have to spend our pocket money to sub-merchants and supply valuable goods, which appears outwardly of great extent but the profits derived from it is too little than to recover the expenses incurred therein.

10 In ancient times, there was a practice of giving Snams to their servants but in the present or Her Majesty's dominion

5
there were no such Snams were given than to resume the old ones by appointing an Snam Commissioner - The Officer so appointed issued a Proceeding on the August 1859 fixing some classes of Snams and on his examination levying six from the Snam dars.

11 Hitherto the Government are levying fees at the ports on export or import goods and in some parts of this country a "Mothurpa" or tax on houses &c. properties are also levying & moreover hear that some taxes will be separately levied on each gate, compound, tree and other articles this appears to us that Her Majesty tried no good to the people of India than to ruin them. However the Indians are poor and helpless Creatures, like "Leap-goats" and are in wait to suffer the consequences.

12 We are in an alarming state and seek no ways as the Income Tax, is an example to us that the man who healing with a sore got another heavier stroke on it.

13 There is no authority to assist us if we sustain any loss in our Trade than to keep quiet but the rules of Income Tax appears only to enter the Income and not the expenditure should Her Majesty be pleased to take another account of expenditure the except of the latter to be known than the former.

14 Indeed the Indians are very importunate that Her Majesty were pleased to fix this

new tax on the poor creatures who possess very little property and involving with debts and in opposite by a similar question Her Majesty, have to suffer with, How Her Majesty were pleased to observe that we (ignorants) shall be able to subject to the tedious rules of Income Tax. The reason of imposing this tax is merely to ruin us and suffer ourselves the consequence of wants and not to keep us in comfortable state like the ancient dominions ^{and East India Company. The last named dominion} thinking the Dayar established under Reg. VII of 1816 is an abuse to justice, put a stop to its execution. The Proclamation of Her Majesty dated 25th November 1858 that the people of India will have a comfortable birth, but the present Act gives us the uncomfortable one in opposition. We now crave that this arrangement will be postponed and a fresh one may be established cancelling all the miscellaneous taxes hitherto in use.

15 We were happy enough to see the quelling of disturbances in Upper provinces and thought that Her Majesty's reign will remain for ever and ever by the favor of almighty, protecting such as our poor and quiet men. There was another practice in the British

Government questioning the Hindu Community when opportunity offers and deciding it on their answer nothing is done about in this "Income Tax" however Her Majesty will be pleased to deal towards us with the same tenderness as parents do to children.

16 The Government were pleased to order to be as a standard works that the Hindu Law for Hindus and Mahamadan Law for Mahomadans a verse by the late, Rishies or Prophets of the Hindu religion said that the principles of limit of the life, the estate, the secret of human doings, the Charity, the discretion, gracefulness are forbidden to tell others. Instead of taking from us the statements of our property and Income which we cannot give exactly tho' we try our best & it is better to adopt some other measures to recover the debt of Her Majesty that will not be an injurious one to us and of our comfortable.

17 Being of an opinion of taking money from us is contrary to Legal rules and manners and induces us to loose our faith, is not a prosperous one to Her Majesty's dominion and therefore it is a prudent advice that Her Majesty will be highly pleased to approve the latest usage ie in former times, when an opportunity offers to any King of the country for money, the sovereignty use to call for the Chiefs of the parts of his dominion and

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, likely a continuation or a separate entry. It includes several lines of text in Devanagari script, some of which are crossed out or written over other text.

Main body of handwritten text in Devanagari script, organized into columns. The text appears to be a list or a series of entries, possibly related to a historical or administrative record. The script is dense and fills most of the page.

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2955

Minister of Economy.

Decr 29 1859

some year - I will do
for the abolition of
the Income tax -

No. 67. is Illuminating

With an Order

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of three stylized, overlapping 'H' characters. The signature is written on a light-colored, textured paper.

income the provided their year
income exceeds \$1,200

4. Europeans are taxed equally with the rest of the people.

we differ only in they are not again
to show them to any one of the

them something but they are not
obliged to produce any account

Sept 4th Dec 10 Jan 5 1847

32