(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 4

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 12/90

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

40

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

P.W.D. துறை

அரசாணை எண். — 1530
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.

அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் : 4 - 6 - 1891 198X.

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

2. Sheets

ஆவண. கா-1—18,000—15-6-87.

3

1530/1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 12th May 1891, No. 276 :—

Mr. Clogstoun.

Resolution—dated 12th May 1891, No. 276.

The Commissioner visited the Ráyachóti taluk on the 8th instant and had a conference with the Collector at Ráyachóti after having inspected on his way to that place the labourers working on the Hastinapuram tank, a large work, the repair of which had been started eight or nine days previously in view to giving employment to those who had been deprived of their ordinary means of subsistence by the partial failure of last season's harvest. The numbers at work on the day of the Commissioner's visit amounted to 250, of whom about 60 per cent. were women. but there is a tendency to increase, while the work is not capable of giving employment to a very much larger number, and there is very great difficulty in finding any other large remunerative work in the taluk on which labour can be employed. It is therefore necessary that the work at Hastinapuram should be reserved as much as possible for those who are in absolute need, and who, at the same time, are not accustomed to resorting to long distances as are the woddars and others of that class in search of employment. To this end, it is essential that a strict task should be exacted, and that wages should be kept down to an amount sufficient only to keep the labourers and their children in health.

2. The rate at present allowed for earthwork on the tank is $1\frac{1}{2}$-annas per cubic yard, and this the Commissioner considers is ample. The procedure, however, adopted in laying out the tasks and the infrequency of payment for work were not satisfactory. As regards the task, the overseer contented himself with giving the width of the cutting, leaving the depth and length to be decided by the gang-maistry. As a consequence, the men of the gangs contented themselves with scraping off the top surface of the silt to a depth of a few inches, and piling that on the bund, thus saving themselves all but the most inappreciable exertion, while the labour of the women, owing to the distance they had to carry the earth, was doubled. The difficulty, moreover, in accurately measuring these shallow pits in a very friable soil was great, and the Commissioner is not satisfied with the accuracy of the measurements that were made.

3. The infrequency of payments is to be deprecated not because any of the coolies appeared to be suffering from want, for their general appearance was most satisfactory, but because, unless payments are made at reasonable intervals, say, not less than every three days, the labourers do not sufficiently realise that their pay depends on the amount of work, and are exceedingly apt to idle away their time, and the belief that good wages are obtainable for a small amount of labour leads large numbers to come to a work, who are not in absolute need and who, under better arrangements, would stay at home or find suitable work elsewhere.

4. The fines which will have been inflicted for short work on Saturday, will perhaps lead to a reduction of the numbers on the work, but should it not do so, the Commissioner considers that the wages which are now paid at the rate of 3 annas

for a man, 2 annas for a woman, 1½ annas for a child and 4 annas to a gang-maistry, should be reduced to 2 annas for a man, 1 anna 6 pies for a woman, 1 anna for a child and 3 annas for a gang-maistry, the task remaining the same as at present. A gang-maistry should also have charge of at least three gangs of 25 men instead of only one as at present. The wages at this reduced rate will be still somewhat higher than those admissible to labourers of the 1st-class under the Famine Code, while the task will be quite 25 per cent. below what would be exacted from 1st-class labourers. It is advisable, however, that some excess over the famine rates should be admitted, as no kitchens will be opened in the taluk at present, and the support of the labourer's family unable to work will devolve on him.

5. In the event of the work on the Hastinapuram tank and that on the minor irrigation works, which the Collector is starting, being insufficient to meet the demand for employment in the taluk, arrangements must be made by the Collector to draft the surplus labour to the railway works in the adjoining taluks of Váyalpád, Madanapalle and Kadiri, where, as reported by the Collector in his letter of 1st March 1891, printed in Board's Proceedings, dated 6th March 1891, No. 118, Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, there is a large amount of earthwork and ballast still to be done which will give employment to a large number of unskilled labourers. To any gangs so drafted which should be sent under some responsible officer, such as a Taluk Gumasta or Revenue Inspector, a wage equivalent to the dole prescribed in section 186 of the Famine Code should be paid at the end of each day's march, a march being fixed at between 12 and 15 miles.

6. The Commissioner considers it very undesirable that any work should be undertaken on the Kenchalamma tank project. The estimates are far from being ready, and it is doubtful whether the work remaining to be done, if the project is to be carried out, which is the throwing of a bund across the bed of a stream, had not better take the form of a masonry work than of an earthwork, in which case it would of course be useless as a famine work. In any case, it is undesirable to commence so large a work to meet a demand for employment which is not likely to be at all extensive, and which, if the normal rains fall in this and the ensuing month, is sure to be short-lived.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
" Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—dated 21st May 1891, No. 445, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's instructions are approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
Copy to the Public Works Department.

Exd. C. A. Munisawmy.

75 Copies.

1530/2

Govt. of {1891} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. Encl

G.O., 21st May 1891, No. 445.

MAY.

Season.

The instructions issued by the Board of Revenue for finding work for those who had been deprived of their ordinary means of subsistence by the partial failure of last season's harvest in the Rayachóti taluk, Cuddapah district, approved.

Cuddp

No. 1530 dr dt 4th June 91

Communicated to the Supdg Engr III Circle

The Collector's letter of the 1st March referred to in para 5 of the Board's Proceedings is communicated with Lr No. 785 dr dt 18th March 91

1st Asst dr

(2)

S.E. III Cir
C.E. for I
C.E. for Rep.