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To

G. D. Wybrao Esquire
Superintending Engineer, 1st circle.

(Thos) C. J. Fisher Esq
Executive Engineer, ^{Sod E. & Co.} Head works Sub Div.

H. A. Moss Esquire.

Asst Engineer, Head works Sub Division

M. R. Ramaniyah Naidu gar

Ancient Superintendent.

Most Honored Sir,

I most respectfully and humbly beg
your honor to transmit the enclosed Memorial to the
Government for its favourable consideration, with
your kind recommendations.

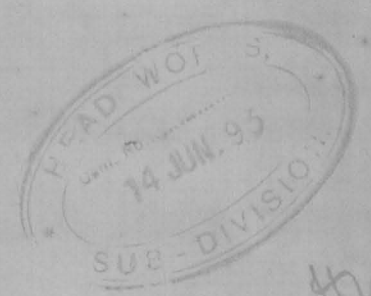
I beg to remain.

Dowlaisheeram }
28th May 193.

Most Honored Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant.

Mark of Poddooka Ramados, +
Ancient Lascar.



MM
14-6-43

To.

The Secretary to the Government of
Madras Public Works Department.

Humble Memorial of Poddooko. Ramasoo aient
lascar of the Godavery District Division on whom Notice
has been served under G.O. No 840 dated 28-3-93,
stating that ~~the~~^{this} service will be dispensed with at the
expiration of three months from the date of Notice.
Most Honored Sir

With due deference and profound
submission, the Memorialist prays the Government
that the following policies may be taken into its kind
Consideration.

The first thing that the Memorialist would bring to the
Notice of the Government is, that no new rule has ever
been enforced in the British Government with
retrospective effect. Except that the rule has been
brought into operation from the date of its origin.
In the case of Government's humble Memorialist his
services being under twenty years are ordered to be
dispensed with as per G.O. No 840 dated 28-3-93.
Evidently the rule originated in the aforesaid G.O.
of March 1893 has affected the services of Govts.
poor servants of 20 years standing in the department.
The object of the Government in doing so, is perhaps
to preserve economy without undergoing expenses
for affording pensions to those that survived after
completing 30 years service overcoming innumerable

handships & accidents to lives (irrespective of natural and domestic life struggles) in the slow performance of the duties of ancient laborers who are required:

(a) Sometimes to swim with express letters one or two branches of the river Godavari at night during flood time in cases of emergency.

(b) To convey tappals regularly by means of a small kana or row boat, even when the river is in its highest flood and all traffic by Rahadari boats or dhonies is altogether stopped for fear of getting them drowned.

(c) To put ancient planks, for preserving water for second crop cultivation, over the ancient crest when 1' to 2' of water is passing over it and when it is too slippery to pass, owing to the growth of moss, over it (one slide or slip of foot makes a man fall down and smash his head into pieces by carrying him along the whirlinge current below the ancient; none but experienced men who have been accustomed to put ancient planks to prevent water being wasted.)

(d) To work with the gearings of undersluices in some parts of the year both day and night according to the state of water in the river (sometimes in working the gearings during the high freshes putting some ancient planks over the parapet walls of the

the undersluices there is very chance of men being slipped into the water above undersluices by accident not knowing the position of the ancient planks placed beneath their feet owing to their being 3' or 4' of water over the parapet walls) none but experienced laborers can either raise or lower shutters of the undersluices at Doolaiskeram, Bobberlaucka & Vijeswaram.)

(e) To carry large apron stones from one place to another and to do such other difficult works during the whole scorching day of the working (summer) season notwithstanding watching at night materials (lime & surki) tools, the river embankment and lankas (infested with Cobras) during the times of flood and in the rainy season. What daily laborers or temporary men can be entrusted with the above works of responsibility and what reliance can officers and subordinates keep on them and what will be the punishment in case of neglect of duty on their (daily laborers) part? The Memorialist would bring to the special notice of the Government, the differences between servants who are bound by service reckonable towards pensions and others who have no such binding.

(f) To accompany the Delta Superintendent attached to the Head Works Sub Division for river survey

work in surveying tanks and sand-shoals four miles below and four miles above the four branches of the ancient bearing scientific instruments in the scorching sun over them and burning sand beneath their feet (if a levelling box is slipped down the head of a lascar for his either getting too much fatigued by sun-stroke or, by accident then therewith and the lascar's services and for fear of this he is more careful towards the instrument than to his own life, but please consider the case of a daily laborer or a temporary servant chargeable to work; nothing can be done but confiscating the wages of the laborer viz as 3' or 4' or whatever he gets for that day.)

(9) To row boats measuring distances in the rivers & taking soundings after field work of river-chart survey is over. (None but experienced lascars can be employed in measuring distances over water.)

2 Besides the duties enumerated from (a) to (9) under para 1, which form the ordinary daily work of ancient lascars the following extraordinary works have been undertaken by them.

(a) During the working season of May 1889 a big hole was found beneath the illbaddur ancient. Officers and Subordinates attempted to penetrate into it and inspect the bottom of it but did not succeed not because the hole was not sufficient

large to hold men, but because it was too dark and heat was very immense, there was not good air to breathe in; light was created by reflection of large glasses into the hole; no daily laborer ventured to enter into the hole. At this time, the ancient lascars were ordered to enter into the hole and to fill it up from its very bottom. They did the work very satisfactorily and won the favor of the Superintendent, the Executive & the assistant Engineers of the time to whom the Govt may make reference and obtain the truth of the matter as they form the eye-witnesses of the fact.

(b) During the time of the construction of Bobberlanka Head-Sluices in 1879-80, Dowlaishanar Head-Loock in 1886-87, Bobberlanka Head-Loock in 1889-90, and

Vizeswanam Head-Loock in 1891-92, daily laborers did not offer themselves to dive into the wells sunk & for pile driving work. Though it was a very difficult task especially diving into wells and sinking them yet the ancient lascars were considered as so many giants that can undertake the work & accordingly it was got done by them. W. B. Devinton Esq. will bear testimony to the hazardous work played by ancient lascars when the Bobberlanka Head-Sluices were washed away in the year 1879. A reference to J. H. Somers Esq. the present Executive Engineer in the Rushkulia Division will clear the doubts of Government if any, in the case of work done

done by them to Doolaisheram Head. Lock.

(3) Both the above facts stated in (a) and (b) under para will, they believe, convince the Government in so far that they have undertaken the above works even at the risk of their lives. Such has been the hard labor with which they have been entrusted and such is the ultimate benefit they derived of it viz the reduction of their posts into posts chargeable to work which carry no pensions with them.

(4) Fully anticipating that they will enjoy the golden rule of the British Government and get pensions in their old age some of the laborers who have had landed property have disposed it of, lest they may be transferred to some other places far off their native land; they also disposed of their cattle which most of them had being unable to look after them while attending to the onerous duties of their public service both day and night. If they intend to return to their former profession, viz cultivating their land they are now destitute of both land & cattle. When they are reduced to such a poor state of life as this, they have been reduced to work establishment to their great misfortune.

(5) Had this reduction been effected when the railway work was commenced in the Godavery District, the memorialist would have at least earned viz from

4 to 6 annas a day (for only day time & not for night work) seeing that local rates of wages of daily laborers in force are greater than what he gets ~~in the~~ ^{in the} a day ~~in the~~ for a month both for day and night work and finding that the ancient laborers in the Kistna District draw Rs 6, 7 & 8 per mensem, the Government's poor Memorialist contemplated of sending a memorial to the Govt for raising ^{his} salary to the corresponding grade of local rates but believing that the scale of rates established once for all will not be revised without his undergoing much trouble he did not submit the memorial. He now very deeply regrets for the necessity of his having had to present this memorial to keep him ^{even} in the same state he has been in, for the last 20 years. He most submissively requests the Govt. to contrast the differences between laborers whose wages are charged to works by day and servants who are bound (in fact fettered) by service binding.

(6) The Government may then question why the several advantages opened to daily laborers may not now be enjoyed by the permanent ancient laborers as they have now been reduced to work establishment; for this they have to reply that their loyal adherence to the department for the last 20 years selling up their land & cattle receiving small salaries viz Rs 5 & 6 per mensem, for both day and

and night work, would not keep them justified
receiving three months notice in spite of their hard
labors in connection with river business, even at the
risk of their lives as enumerated in the foregoing paras.

(7) Even to think of the economy of Government alluded
to in the sentence above (as under para 1) in which Govt's
servants have some interest, by believe it is no
economy when Government undertake to pay tempo-
rary both for day & night work for it amounts to
more than the principal of the amount to be afforded
for pensions as well as interest on it.

(8) All the reverence to Govt's service if any is due
to its bestowing pension to its loyal servants in
their dotage & without it, it is all the same with
whom-so-ever the appointment rests.

(9) In conclusion the Government's humble and poor
servant living on such a small pay of Rs 5 per
mensem who spent almost the prime of his life in
the discharge of public duties begs to know if he
should be betrayed unprotected by the Government
in his old age.

Dolaishweram { Mark of Poddooka Ramadoot,
28th May 1893 } Ancient Lascar.



Salary Rs 5
Sum - 3-0