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C. D. Wybrod Esquire
Superintending Engineer, 1st circle.

(The) C. J. Baker Esq
Executive Engineer

Godavery Eastern Division.

H. H. Moss Esq

Asst Engineer, Headworks Sub Division.

M. D. Ramanna, Naidegar
Ancient Superintendent.

MM
31-5-93

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

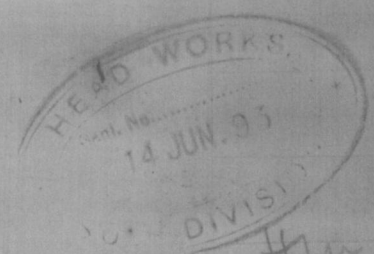
Dowlaishwarrao

Most Honored Sir

28/5/93

Your most obedient servant,
Dowlaishwarrao

Ancient Engineer.



Hu
14-6-93

Secretary to the Government
of Madras Public Works Department.

Humble memorial of Nana Sahab
anicut case of the Godavari Eastern Division on whom
notice has been served under G.O. No. 840 dated 28-3-93,
stating that ^{this} services will be dispensed with at the
expiration of three months from the date of notice.

Most Honoured Sir,

With due deference and profound
submission the memorialist prays the Government
that the following few lines may be taken into its
kind consideration.

1. The first thing that the memorialist would bring to the
notice of the Government is, that no 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
Govt. 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 Government's 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 hardships & accidents
to lives (irrespective of natural and domestic life
struggles) in the due performance of the duties of anicut
case.

lascars who are required:—

- (a) Sometimes to swim with express letters one or two branches of the river Godavari at nights during flood time in cases of emergency.
- (b) To convey tappals regularly by means of a small hawa or a row boat, even when the river is in its highest flood and all traffic by Rahadani 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 whirling current below the Crest; none but experienced men who have been accustomed can put ancient planks to prevent water being wasted).
- (d) To work with the gearings of under-slucies 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 under-slucies there is every chance of men being slipped into the water above under-slucies by accident not knowing the position of the ancient planks placed beneath their feet owing to there being 3' or 4' of water over the parapet walls; none but experienced

lascars can either raise or lower shutters of the under-slucies at Dewlaishweram, Bobberlaika & Vijayaram.)

- (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 not without standing watching at night materials (lime & such) tools, the river embankments and banks (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 laborer's) part? The Memorialist would bring to the special notice of the Government, the difference between servants who are bound by service regulations towards pension 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 banks and mud-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 now 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.)

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

2 Besides the duties enumerated from (a) to (g) 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 Shaddur 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 sufficiently 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 reflections of large glasses into the hole; no daily laborer ventured 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 Superintending, the Executive & the Assistant Engineers of the time to whom the Government may make reference and obtain the truth of the matter as they form the eyewitnesses of the fact.

(b) During the time of the construction of Bobberlaika Head-Sluices in 1879-80, Dowlaiskheram Head-Bock in 1886-87, Bobberlaika Head-Bock in 1889-90 and Vingeruaram Head-Bock in 1891-92, daily laborers did not offer themselves to dive into the wells sunk and 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. Dewinton Esquire will bear testimony to the hazardous work played by ancient lascars when the Bobberlaika Head-Sluices were washed away in the year 1879. A reference to J. H. Somers Esquire the present Executive Engineer in the Pudukkulia Division will clear the doubts of Government if any, in the case of work done by them to Dowlaiskheram Head-Bock.

(3) Both the above facts stated in (a) and (b) under para 2, with, 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 lascars who have been lauded property have disposed it of, lest they may be transported 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 rail-work was commenced in the Godavari District the memorialist would have at least earned viz from 4 to 6 annas a day (for only daytime & not for night work) seeing that local rates of wages of daily laborers in force are greater than what he gets viz Rs. — a day or Rs. for a month both for day and night work and finding that the ancient lascars in the Kistna District draw Rs. 6, 7 & 8 per mensem, the Government's poor memorialist contemplated of sending a memorial to the Government 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 Government 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 Govt may then question why the several advantages opened to daily laborers may not now be enjoyed by the permanent actual lascars 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 and cattle receiving small salaries viz Rs. 5 & 6 per mensem for both day 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 Govt alluded to in the sentence above (a) under para 1 in which Government's servants have some interest they believe it is no economy where

when Government undertake to pay
temporary men 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 Government's service
if any is due to its bestowing pension to
its loyal servants in their old age & 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 Govern-
ment in his old age.

Dorelchun

28th May 1893

to the Secy

Ancient Lascar.



Salary Rs 5-

Service 3-11