

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 1277 W

DATED 17 May 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Revenue, Pro. Revenue Dept recording Pro.
Pro. Submitting a report on the failure
of the work testwork started at Kolana-
gudem in Bhadrachalam taluk
Godavari Dist. Comd. to Sd. Mnt.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1102	C	23.2.97				
	509	W	20.2.97				
	449	W	15.2.97				
	3451	W	3.12.96				
	3427	W	1.12.96				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public works (1897) Department

Current Number 4482

Government (1897) of Madras.

REVENUE.

No. 1102 of 23-2-97

509 W of 20-2-97

449 W of 15-2-97

3451 W of 3-12-96

3427 W of 1-12-96

Recd. 6. 5. } 1897.
Regd. 6. 5. }

Enclosures

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G.O., No. 264, 26th April 1897.

1897.

No. 1277 W of 17-5-97

APRIL. Commanded to the Super Int. I am

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17/5/97

Test-work.

Recording Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting, with remarks, a report on the failure of the — started at Kolanagudem in Bhadrachalam taluk, Godavari district.

O.L.S. 78
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

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Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 29th March 1897, No. 257:—

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 12th March 1897, Mis. No. 1899.

ABSTRACT.—Recording telegram from the Collector of Gódvári stating that no labourers attended the test relief work at Bhadrácalam.

Read—also the following letter from J. W. HUGHES, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, Gódvári, to the Collector of Gódvári, dated Gauridevipeta, 12th March 1897, Dis. No. 349-S. A.A. and the Endorsement thereon by the Collector of Gódvári, dated 18th March 1897, Ref. No. 338-Ver.:—

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2. On the 2nd of March my tent was pitched at Kolanagudem, the point from which cutting was actually to commence, and on the 3rd early in the morning I arrived there. The Public Works Department Supervisor, with two Overseers, was present, as well as the Tahsildar and the Revenue Inspector. A tom-tom was beaten morning and afternoon, but no one came until 3-30 p.m., when twenty-nine Koyas from the villages near Dumagudem came to me with a chit from the Rev. John Cain, stating that they wanted work. However I interviewed them at once, and as soon as they learnt the wages proposed, they would have nothing to do with the work and went off. Their physical condition was satisfactory.

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4. I think it unnecessary to open any other test work. There is no other part of the taluk affected so much as the Bhadrácalam range, and the road selected was situated most conveniently for a test, since people could have come easily enough both from Marrigudem and Bhadrácalam ranges.

5. The conclusion to be drawn from the failure of the work is that the distress is not bad enough now to compel the Koyas to work at famine rates. It unhappily does not prove that there is no distress, for the hillmen will not come to such work until driven to extremities. It will be necessary, therefore, to be constantly on the look out, and I have instructed the Tahsildar and the Revenue Inspectors to thoroughly inspect the interior villages. I myself will remain in the taluk till the 20th of this month; I cannot remain longer, since I have to go through Chódavaramu division, which I have not yet visited and have to do the jamabandi there as well as in Polavaram and Yellavaram divisions. The jamabandi has to be finished before the end of May, as the rains come on early in June.

6. I have informed the headmen of the villages that should the Koyas ever feel inclined to accept relief on the terms offered they can inform me or the Tahsildar and relief works will be opened again.

Endorsement by the Collector of Gódvári, dated 18th March 1897, Ref. No. 338-Ver.

Submitted to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, in continuation of my endorsement Pet. Cur. No. 748-Ver. of 1897.

2. The Special Assistant Collector's action in closing the test-work after a trial of ten days is approved. The Superintending Engineer has been allowed to withdraw the Public Works Department subordinates from the Bhadrácalam taluk for the present. If the Ippa flower crop proves a failure, the work will have to be re-started about the end of April; but at present there is no reason to anticipate that it will, and if it does not, no Koya can be expected to come near a relief-work. Should the Ippa crop unfortunately prove disappointing and the condition of the Koya women and children who will suffer first give cause for anxiety, the work must be re-started and arrangements somehow come to with their headmen to induce them and their dependants to the work. They are, however, a peculiar people to deal with and anything like compulsion have to be avoided or we may have the country in a blaze. At present, however, they seem to be quiet enough and there is no crime or other evidence of disaffection or acute distress. Should it be necessary to make an attempt to re-start the work in April, I will proceed myself with the Special Assistant Agent to Bhadrácalam and endeavour to start them on a satisfactory basis.

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4. Even if relief-work should again be necessary in Bhadrácalam the Collector would do well, at the outset at least, to place Mr. Ward in charge of it.

5. The Special Assistant Agent's remark, that the failure of the Koyas to come and work does not by any means prove that there is no distress, is correct. It is possible that gratuitous relief on a small scale might be necessary before the Koyas come to work, or even if they do not. The Special Assistant Agent ought to return as soon as he conveniently can to Bhadrachalam and watch events.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

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

ORDER—No. 264, Revenue, dated 26th April 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded. ✓

(True Extract.)

M. M. M. M.
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Financial Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Ed. Shaik Karim.

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Government {1897} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

} 1897.

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G.O., No. 264, 26th April 1897.

*Order thereon No. 1277 W of 17.5.97
Communicated to the
Superintending Engineer I
Circle.*

APRIL.

*(True extract)
f/s D. M. C.*

*To
The Supts. Engrs. I Circle.*

Test-work.

Recording Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting, with remarks, a report on the failure of the — started at Kolanagudem in Bhadrachalam taluk, Godavari district.

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2. On the 2nd of March my tent was pitched at Kolanagudem, the point from which cutting was actually to commence, and on the 3rd early in the morning I arrived there. The Public Works Department Supervisor, with two Overseers, was present, as well as the Tahsildar and the Revenue Inspector. A tom-tom was beaten morning and afternoon, but no one came until 3-30 P.M., when twenty-nine Koyas from the villages near Dumagudem came to me with a chit from the Rev. John Cain, stating that they wanted work. However I interviewed them at once, and as soon as they learnt the wages proposed, they would have nothing to do with the work and went off. Their physical condition was satisfactory.

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3. I have only to add that all the necessary arrangements were made—a small kitchen was erected and a water-pandal; ample materials were at hand for the erection of a large kitchen and huts, if the necessity had arisen. There was very little water to be had along the road, it could only be obtained from pits dug in the vagus here

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No. 264, REVENUE, 26TH APRIL 1897.

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