Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 24455

3.

DATED September

[Despatch Abstract.]

Special Deputy Tahsildars Prov: Revenue Dept
sanctioning the appointment of — to relieve
the Tahsildar of Bhadrachalam of his
ordinary work, Cuttack 6 S.E. Circle.

[P.W. 20.
5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Public Works (1897) Department

Current No: 8303.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. 20. 8. } 1897. *Enclosures* —

Regd. 20. 8. } *Spare copies* 6.

G.O., No. 667, 2nd August 1897.

No. 2445W, dt 3-9-97.

AUGUST.

Communicated to the S. S. I. Circle.

23/8/97

S. S. I. Circle

4/9/97

Special Deputy Tahsildar.

Sanctioning the appointment of a — to relieve the Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam of his ordinary work.

gf 408

R 25/9

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 511, dated 19th July 1897 :—

Read—the following letter from V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Gódávari, to the Famine Secretary, dated Camp, Attili, 4th July 1897, Ref. on C. No. 2265-Ver. :—

I have the honour to report with regret that the South-west monsoon has not yet really set in in this district, and that there has hitherto been practically no rain worthy of the name in a great portion of the District. Next to Bhadráchalam, the portion of the district, that gives the greatest cause for anxiety is the Chintalapudi Division of the Ellore taluk. Portions of the Peddápuram, Rajahmundry and Yernagúdem taluks come next, but up to date nothing serious has been reported from these quarters. The Ellore Deputy Collector to-day reports for the first time, on the strength of a report from the Deputy Tahsildar of Chintalapudi Division, that the condition of about 1,500 of the labouring classes in the Northern half of the Chintálapudi Division is very bad, as there is no local demand for labour, and they are hardly able to maintain themselves in health and strength by the very little they can get by the sale of soap nut and ravi leaves for fodder. The jungle roots, which form the food of the jungle classes (Naiks, &c.) to some extent, are also not available now on account of the want of rain. The number of beggars from the adjoining villages of His Highness the Nizam's dominions is also, he reports, increasing. He states that hitherto those, he has offered to get work for at famine wages, have all refused them, as they are getting as much now by begging and selling what they can get to sell; but as begging is now becoming overdone, he reports that test relief measures are desirable.

2. The Deputy Collector who was away from the taluk lately on jamabandi duty is just now touring in the Chintalapudi Division and promises to report the result of his own observations in a few days. In the meantime, I have, to save delay, instructed him to start a test relief work at once and to offer work on the conditions of the Famine Code to all, that ask for it, if he is satisfied that there is necessity for such a work. I shall report again on hearing from him.

3. I have only just closed the jamabandi of the Tanuku taluk and am returning to Cocanada to-night. I have already instructed the Deputy Collectors in charge of the Head-quarters division and the sub-division to inspect the worst portions of the Peddápuram and Rajahmundry taluks and to report if the poorer classes are likely to require any relief just now or in the near future, but have not yet received reports from either, though I have telegraphed to the Head-quarters Deputy Collector to expedite his, as I hear from unofficial sources that distress is increasing and getting acute in the Tuni Division. I have also instructed him to open a test relief work at once in anticipation of sanction, if he thinks there is any chance of such a work attracting labourers in any part of his Division. They have, however, had more rain in Rajahmundry and Peddápuram than elsewhere. Last night there was some rain here, and I hear it was general as far as Rajahmundry for certain. I hope and believe it was general throughout the District. There are also signs of more rain to-day which, I trust, will not prove fallacious. The Delta water-supply, I am thankful to say, is fair, except in Bhímavaram. As soon as I receive reports I will at once proceed to the worst places and see that what is wanted is being done, though I hope last night's rain has improved matters by giving agricultural operations a fair start everywhere as it has done here.

4. In the case of Bhadráchalam I fear things remain in *statu quo* and more funds are wanted to enable me to send up large quantities of grain. The loss is debited to the Famine Relief fund, of which I have some Rs. 4,000 still to use for the purpose; but this is not enough to purchase within the first instance, and I must use Government money as an advance to pay ready money in Rajahmundry. I can purchase cheaper too, paying ready money. As grain takes a very uncertain time going up the river, I have now ordered the Tahsildar of Rajahmundry to send up 1,000 bags of cholam, of which the initial cost will be about Rs. 6,000 including conveyance, and the last lot has not yet been all sold and the value brought to credit. In consideration of these circumstances and the grave probability that exists that it will be necessary to start some small relief works in other parts of District, I earnestly request that I may be given a further grant of Rs. 20,000 for famine relief, making Rs. 30,000 in all. This, of course, will be quite inadequate if it should be necessary to start relief works on an extensive scale in the plains in the upland taluks, but I fully trust this will not be necessary as if we get rain, and it is now more than due, very few will come to relief works. I further request that the Rs. 20,000 I now ask for may be placed at my disposal *by wire*.

5. As regards the agency outside Bhadráchalam, I think, there is no fear. Chódavaramu got $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain on the 18th ultimo and Yellavaram has all along this year been the best off portion of the District for rain. Mr. Phillips was at Jangareddigudem on the 17th ultimo and wrote that the Koya headmen there and other villagers represented to him that they could get along if the rains came soon and were fair. Polavaram Division too is generally not badly off for rain as the Papikonda hills, and the river seem to attract it and they must have had several showers this week, though I have not got figures. I trust, too, they got rain last night. I have, however, ordered the Deputy Tahsildar to report how the people are getting on after touring through the inland parts and at once report to me if there are signs of distress. I have not yet proposed the appointment of an additional temporary Tahsildar for Bhadráchalam on Rs. 150, as the Tahsildar's duties there are generally nominal, but as the taluk is a big one and he has some other work, though not very much I think, the time has now come to give him some such assistance. He can still do useful work in connection with the famine in the neighbourhood of Bhadráchalam, but his co-adjutor must be put in special charge of this part of his work, because the present Tahsildar is District Munsif and most of his work in ordinary years consists in trying civil suits. The appointment will, I hope, only last to the end of August. I trust the Famine Commissioner will obtain sanction for this also.

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Resolution—No. 511, dated 19th July 1897.

From the report read above, it appears that the portions of the District which give cause for anxiety are the Chintalapudi Division of Ellore taluk, the Tuni Division of Peddápuram taluk, and parts of Rajahmundry and Yernagúdem taluks. The Collector, however, expresses the hope that a fall of rain, of which there appeared promise at the time of his writing, on 4th July, might alter conditions very much for the better. The following falls have been registered in the District since that date :—

Stations.	Week ending 10th July 1897.	Week ending 17th July 1897.	Stations.	Week ending 10th July 1897.	Week ending 17th July 1897.
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4. Tuni	2·59	1·82	17. Bhímavaram	0·17	0·39
5. Pithápuram	0·08	1·10	18. Pentapad	1·35	1·05
6. Prattipadu	1·37	1·11	19. Tanuku	2·68	0·75
7. Peddápuram	0·41	0·69	20. Chintalapudi	1·17	1·23
8. Rajahmundry	3·42	0·78	21. Ellore	0·48	0·02
9. Cocanada	0·27	0·57	22. Polavaram	1·14	1·72
10. Coringa	2·01	0·77	23. Tallapudi	1·18	0·83
11. Alamur	1·15	0·75			
12. Ramachandrapuram	0·94	0·75	Total ..	26·45	22·79
13. Kottapeta	0·73	0·76			
			Average ..	1·15	0·99

The fall has been fairly general throughout the District, except in Bhadráchalam, and has been good in the portions that give cause for anxiety. It is, however, a fact that the harvest in the uplands was poor, and in Rajahmundry bad and prices are affected by adjoining districts, both ragi and cholam being dearer than the scarcity rate.

2. The Collector reports that people are not willing to accept employment on famine conditions. In the earlier stages of distress, there is always a tendency, even among those who are really feeling the pinch, to assert that they are not prepared to accept anything which involves their having to undergo any test of their necessity. The further reports from his Divisional Officers, referred to by the Collector in paragraphs 2 and 3 of his letter, should be submitted for the information of the Famine Commissioner and will, it is presumed, give information as to the fate of the test-works proposed to be opened in Chintalapudi and Tuni. The Collector makes no specific mention of kitchens being opened in connection with the works, but in as-much as he has directed the Deputy Collector to offer work on the conditions of the Famine Code to all that ask for it, it is presumed that he realises that employment at a famine wage constitutes no real test, unless arrangements are made to support gratuitously those dependants of the workers who are unable to work themselves. In the present case, however, there appears to be a good opportunity to introduce, in place of the hard-and-fast system of the Famine Code, the intermediate works scheme, the details of which are to be found in G.O., No. 430 of 1897. The question of the wage under that scheme has been under correspondence with Government, but the Famine Commissioner has had the opportunity of discussing the matter with Mr. Higham, C.I.E., and his opinion is that, in the earlier stages of famine, it is better to start a large work, with an ample wage on piece work, for men, the object being to attract the men, not the women. The Collector has, probably, no large works; but he might start the largest at his disposal on the piece-work system, giving the men a wage higher than the ordinary wage, out of which a margin will be left for their dependants. It would be preposterous and impossible for this wage to vary for each man according to the number of his dependants, but the sum of 5 annas might be tried as an experiment. This will not be a daily wage, but a wage for such an amount of work as can only be done by an honest full day's work, and the workers will only be paid for what is done. The Government of India contemplates the intermediate works, as they style them, being executed under the superintendence of the village Reddi and under the supervision of the Revenue officers. The Collector should see that some officer who really understands, and means, work is put to look after such works, for they are very much in the nature of an experiment, and the Famine Commissioner is not sanguine of success in their management, but District officers should loyally accept the position, and try to make the best of them. If, as is feared, serious difficulties present themselves, the Collector had better revert to the provisions of the Famine Code reporting the matter. He should in any case, remember that a test-work, to be a test, must be very strictly carried out, and no malingering of any kind should be allowed. For malingering, fining may be allowed down to the value of work done; but, to avoid punishing the innocent with the guilty, it should be attempted to separate the malingerers and task them separately.

3. The Collector has taken upon himself the responsibility of ordering a fresh consignment of grain up to Bhadráchalam, which has now presumably arrived. His action is, under the circumstances, approved, and Government will be requested to place at his disposal by wire the Rs. 20,000 he asks for, for this and the other purposes of Famine Relief.

4. The request for the appointment of a Deputy Tahsildar to relieve the Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam of his ordinary work is supported by the Famine Commissioner.

5. The report will be submitted, with these remarks, for the information of Government, with the request that early orders may be passed upon the application for funds and establishment referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of these Proceedings.

6. The attention of the Collector of Kistna was already called to the condition of his upland taluks, as also that of the Collector of Kurnool to the Markapur and Cumbum taluks in B.P., No. 477, dated 30th June 1897.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Collector of Gódávari.
" " " of Kistna.
" " " of Kurnool.

Order—No. 667, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1897.

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The Government sanctions the appointment of a Special Deputy Tahsildar to relieve the Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam of his ordinary work. The Collector of Gódávari will be informed accordingly by wire.

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for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 667, 2nd August 1897.

No. 2445 W. & 3-8-97

Comm: to the S. E. I. circle.

sgd Dm.C.

K

S. E. I. circle

AUGUST.

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To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Collector of Gódávari.
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Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

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Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

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G.O., No. 667, 2nd August 1897.

No. 2445 W. dt 3-9-97.

Commd: to the S. E. I
Circle.
gg. J dmc.
W

S. E. I. Circle.

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Resolution—No. 511, dated 19th July 1897.

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3. Yellavaram	1·09	2·71	16. Narsapuram	0·20	0·31
4. Tuni	2·59	1·82	17. Bhímavaram	0·17	0·39
5. Pithápuram	0·08	1·10	18. Pentapad	1·35	1·05
6. Prattipadu	1·37	1·11	19. Tanuku	2·68	0·75
7. Peddápuram	0·41	0·69	20. Chintalapudi	1·17	1·23
8. Rajahmundry	3·42	0·78	21. Ellore	0·48	0·02
9. Cocanada	0·27	0·57	22. Polavaram	1·14	1·72
10. Coringa	2·01	0·77	23. Tallapudi	1·18	0·83
11. Alamur	1·15	0·75			
12. Ramachandrapuram	0·94	0·75	Total ..	26·45	22·79
13. Kottapeta	0·73	0·76			
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The fall has been fairly general throughout the District, except in Bhadráchalam, and has been good in the portions that give cause for anxiety. It is, however, a fact that the harvest in the uplands was poor, and in Rajahmundry bad and prices are affected by adjoining districts, both ragi and cholam being dearer than the scarcity rate.

2. The Collector reports that people are not willing to accept employment on famine conditions. In the earlier stages of distress, there is always a tendency, even among those who are really feeling the pinch, to assert that they are not prepared to accept anything which involves their having to undergo any test of their necessity. The further reports from his Divisional Officers, referred to by the Collector in paragraphs 2 and 3 of his letter, should be submitted for the information of the Famine Commissioner and will, it is presumed, give information as to the fate of the test-works proposed to be opened in Chintalapudi and Tuni. The Collector makes no specific mention of kitchens being opened in connection with the works, but in as-much as he has directed the Deputy Collector to offer work on the conditions of the Famine Code to all that ask for it, it is presumed that he realises that employment at a famine wage constitutes no real test, unless arrangements are made to support gratuitously those dependants of the workers who are unable to work themselves. In the present case, however, there appears to be a good opportunity to introduce, in place of the hard-and-fast system of the Famine Code, the intermediate works scheme, the details of which are to be found in G.O., No. 430 of 1897. The question of the wage under that scheme has been under correspondence with Government, but the Famine Commissioner has had the opportunity of discussing the matter with Mr. Higham, C.I.E., and his opinion is that, in the earlier stages of famine, it is better to start a large work, with an ample wage on piece work, for men, the object being to attract the men, not the women. The Collector has, probably, no large works; but he might start the largest at his disposal on the piece-work system, giving the men a wage higher than the ordinary wage, out of which a margin will be left for their dependants. It would be preposterous and impossible for this wage to vary for each man according to the number of his dependants, but the sum of 5 annas might be tried as an experiment. This will not be a daily wage, but a wage for such an amount of work as can only be done by an honest full day's work, and the workers will only be paid for what is done. The Government of India contemplates the intermediate works, as they style them, being executed under the superintendence of the village Reddi and under the supervision of the Revenue officers. The Collector should see that some officer who really understands, and means, work is put to look after such works, for they are very much in the nature of an experiment, and the Famine Commissioner is not sanguine of success in their management, but District officers should loyally accept the position, and try to make the best of them. If, as is feared, serious difficulties present themselves, the Collector had better revert to the provisions of the Famine Code reporting the matter. He should in any case, remember that a test-work, to be a test, must be very strictly carried out, and no malingering of any kind should be allowed. For malingering, fining may be allowed down to the value of work done; but, to avoid punishing the innocent with the guilty, it should be attempted to separate the malingerers and task them separately.

3. The Collector has taken upon himself the responsibility of ordering a fresh consignment of grain up to Bhadráchalam, which has now presumably arrived. His action is, under the circumstances, approved, and Government will be requested to place at his disposal by wire the Rs. 20,000 he asks for, for this and the other purposes of Famine Relief.

4. The request for the appointment of a Deputy Tahsildar to relieve the Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam of his ordinary work is supported by the Famine Commissioner.

5. The report will be submitted, with these remarks, for the information of Government, with the request that early orders may be passed upon the application for funds and establishment referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of these Proceedings.

6. The attention of the Collector of Kistna was already called to the condition of his upland taluks, as also that of the Collector of Kurnool to the Markapur and Cumbum taluks in B.P., No. 477, dated 30th June 1897.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Gódávari.
" " " of Kistna.
" " " of Kurnool.

Order—No. 667, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

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Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

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REVENUE.

Recd. }1897. *Enclosures*

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G.O., No. 667, 2nd August 1897.

AUGUST.

Special Deputy Tahsildar.

Sanctioning the appointment of a — to relieve the Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam of his ordinary work.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 511, dated 19th July 1897 :—

Read—the following letter from V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Gódávari, to the Famine Secretary, dated Camp, Attili, 4th July 1897, Ref. on C. No. 2265-Ver. :—

I have the honour to report with regret that the South-west monsoon has not yet really set in in this district, and that there has hitherto been practically no rain worthy of the name in a great portion of the District. Next to Bhadráchalam, the portion of the district, that gives the greatest cause for anxiety is the Chintalapudi Division of the Ellore taluk. Portions of the Peddápuram, Rajahmundry and Yernagú-dem taluks come next, but up to date nothing serious has been reported from these quarters. The Ellore Deputy Collector to-day reports for the first time, on the strength of a report from the Deputy Tahsildar of Chintalapudi Division, that the condition of about 1,500 of the labouring classes in the Northern half of the Chintálapudi Division is very bad, as there is no local demand for labour, and they are hardly able to maintain themselves in health and strength by the very little they can get by the sale of soap nut and ravi leaves for fodder. The jungle roots, which form the food of the jungle classes (Naiks, &c.) to some extent, are also not available now on account of the want of rain. The number of beggars from the adjoining villages of His Highness the Nizam's dominions is also, he reports, increasing. He states that hitherto these, he has offered to get work for at famine wages, have all refused them, as they are getting as much now by begging and selling what they can get to sell; but as begging is now becoming overdone, he reports that test relief measures are desirable.

2. The Deputy Collector who was away from the taluk lately on jamabandi duty is just now touring in the Chintalapudi Division and promises to report the result of his own observations in a few days. In the meantime, I have, to save delay, instructed him to start a test relief work at once and to offer work on the conditions of the Famine Code to all, that ask for it, if he is satisfied that there is necessity for such a work. I shall report again on hearing from him.

3. I have only just closed the jamabandi of the Tanuku taluk and am returning to Cocanada to-night. I have already instructed the Deputy Collectors in charge of the Head-quarters division and the sub-division to inspect the worst portions of the Peddápuram and Rajahmundry taluks and to report if the poorer classes are likely to require any relief just now or in the near future, but have not yet received reports from either, though I have telegraphed to the Head-quarters Deputy Collector to expedite his, as I hear from unofficial sources that distress is increasing and getting acute in the Tuni Division. I have also instructed him to open a test relief work at once in anticipation of sanction, if he thinks there is any chance of such a work attracting labourers in any part of his Division. They have, however, had more rain in Rajahmundry and Peddápuram than elsewhere. Last night there was some rain here, and I hear it was general as far as Rajahmundry for certain. I hope and believe it was general throughout the District. There are also signs of more rain to-day which, I trust, will not prove fallacious. The Delta water-supply, I am thankful to say, is fair, except in Bhímavaram. As soon as I receive reports I will at once proceed to the worst places and see that what is wanted is being done, though I hope last night's rain has improved matters by giving agricultural operations a fair start everywhere as it has done here.

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