

1. Number of pages 12
2. Date of receipt 26-2-25
3. Initials of Receiver J. S. S.

M.B.O. 1-22 400-22-11-20

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

pension DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	51	~~Press~~ Mis.
Dated	20-2-	18 66

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
6th December 1865.*

No. 5. Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Coimbatore, 21st November 1865, No. 137.

I beg to forward, for the consideration and orders of Government, a letter to my address from M. Soondara Moodaliyar, Tahsildar of the Neilgherry Taluq, applying for permission to retire from the Public Service from the 1st February 1866, the date succeeding that on which he will complete 30 years service.

2. I am aware that under existing orders, applications for pension should be forwarded through the Accountant General, and this rule will be adhered to in the present instance when the time for the submission of his application through that authority arrives; but my object in addressing the Government beforehand is to request that such special notice may be taken of Soondara Moodaliyar's past meritorious services as they deserve, and that such favorable orders may be passed as will ultimately ensure the grant of an increased rate of pension, as desired by him. Soondara Moodaliyar is so well known to Government, that I need hardly say anything as to his merits and past good services. His testimonials, herewith submitted, speak for themselves. I can only add that, during the past 3½ years, I have always found him an active, painstaking, hardworking, and respectable officer, and that, in a climate like that of the Neilgherries, most trying to natives, he has never shown himself wanting in meeting those difficulties which his out-door work entailed on him. He is now old, and his health has been much impaired by frequent exposure and continued hard work, extending over a period of no less than 12 years on the Hills. The pension to which he will be entitled, with reference to the average salary drawn by him during the past 5 years, will be Rupees 103-2-0; but he requests that, in consideration of his past services and the hardships he has undergone in the discharge of his duties, he may be allowed to draw Rupees 112-8-0, being half of his present pay, or Rupees 9-6-0 more than can be sanctioned under the existing Rules. This request, I beg strongly to recommend to the favorable notice of Government, as a special favor in Soondara Moodaliyar's case.

To P. GRANT, Esq.,

Collector of Coimbatore.

MOST HONORED SIR,

I beg most respectfully to submit this my humble application for pension for your honor's most favorable consideration.

2. I entered the service of the Honorable Government on the 12th January 1836, and have continuously served as set forth in the accompanying Statement.

3. My period of service will therefore be 30 years on the 11th January 1866, and on the 1st February following, I hope to retire on the merciful bounty of Government.

4. When I took charge of this Taluq, the Beriz was only Rupees 8419-5-8 per annum. By my exertions, it has gone on increasing, as follows, from Fusly 1267 :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Fusly 1267.....	9,547	12	7
" 1268.....	10,196	13	6
" 1269.....	10,796	3	0
" 1270.....	12,794	2	6
" 1271.....	13,333	1	9
" 1272.....	18,005	8	2
" 1273.....	19,898	6	10
" 1274.....	22,027	10	6

5. Had it pleased my late superior to employ me in a low country Taluq, I should have been able to show a larger amount of Beriz, but he decided thus :—" I should really, in justice to " Soondrum Moodelliar's hard work, long service, and character, have promoted him to a larger " Taluq *below* (which would be of course his preference) had I any one else who could *equally* " supply his place. His local knowledge, activity, and character, with his knowledge of English, " make him *most* valuable where he is."

6. The holdings of the Budgers had no distinctive marks. They cultivated at their pleasure, and it was very difficult to identify their lands. I often represented the same to the

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Hoozoor, and on obtaining orders, measured out every land, and set boundary marks to each holding as well as to Government land.

7. For more than 25 years, there was a boundary dispute between Macanad and Paranganad Villages. Party spirit ran high, and the parties resorted to the District Moonsiff's Court, where the dispute was long pending under the orders of the Collector. I visited the disputed spots, and arranged the boundaries to the satisfaction of all parties.

8. In 1863, when applications from European gentlemen residing on these Hills were so numerous and frequent, and the ill-will and clamour of the Budgers were so great, I worked hard, went over these hills and dales, and inspected almost every land in person. The labor entailed upon me was immense and harassing, and I thereby contracted fever and disease in the chest and limbs, from which I suffered so severely that my life was despaired of. Under the kind treatment of Dr. Rogers, I recovered; but ever since, whenever I am obliged to work hard, I feel the symptoms of the severe disease.

9. I am now 60 years old, and feel weak in body and mind. Should I continue to serve, I am afraid that I shall not be able to do full justice to the high character my superiors have been pleased to give me, and which I value as dear as my life.

10. I beg to submit a copy of my testimonials. You best know, Honored Sir, with what care, industry, and faithfulness I continue to discharge my humble duties. During the earlier years of my service here as Tahsildar, I have had to face dangers and privations peculiar to the nature of these Hills, and notwithstanding the severities of this climate, added to my own ill health, I have never once left the Hills for the low country since my appointment as Tahsildar of Ootacamund 12 years ago. My former superior, Mr. E. B. Thomas, was so good as to speak of me as follows:—

"Soondrum Moodelliar has been now four years Tahsildar of Neilgherries, and many years in public employ. I am not in the habit of giving high characters, but of Soondrum Moodelliar it is only justice to say that I believe him to be one of the most hard working, honest, and painstaking of 15 Tahsildars in the District. He has raised himself by his own merits, and I have never yet had occasion to find fault with him."

11. When these Hills were honored by the august presence of the Governor General of India and the Governors of Madras, I have worked so hard and carefully as not to incur the displeasure of any with whom I came in contact. Mr. G. L. Morris, now Collector of Tanjore, has favorably spoken of my services on one of these occasions in the following terms:—"During the six months that I have been Special Assistant at Ootacamund, Soondrum Moodelliar has been Tahsildar under me. I have on every occasion found him every thing that I could desire, he never once having refused or even said that he could not do what I directed, and this is saying a great deal, when it is recollected that the camp of the Governor General consisted of more than 500 Bengalees, who expected that every thing was to be got at a moment's notice. Soondrum Moodelliar has given the highest satisfaction to all the suite of the Governor General, and I only trust that it may one day be in my power to serve him in the way that he most highly deserves."

12. My labors were so graciously viewed, that the most noble the late Marquis of Dalhousie, then Governor General of India, honored me with his personal notice, and presented me with a pair of shawls. Lord Harris presented me with a pair of shawls, and a gold ring, with the following inscription:—

"Presented to M. Soondrum Moodelliar by Lord Harris, for good service rendered to His Lordship on the Neilgherry Hills in 1856 and 1858;"

Lady Canning with a diamond ring, and Mr. E. B. Thomas also with a diamond ring.

13. During my tenure of office as Tahsildar of Ootacamund for 12 years, I have always endeavoured, and I am thankful to say successfully, to maintain public order and peace by conciliatory measures; and in the selection and allotment of lands for public and private purposes, I have arranged matters to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, and have prevented any discontent in the minds of the Budgers and other Native land owners on the Hills.

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14. By the rules of the service, my pension will be Rupees 103-2-0 on the average salary of five years ending with the 31st January 1866. But as I am weak and unable to discharge my duties as usual, I most humbly beg that your honor will be pleased to obtain me half pension on my present rate of salary, which will be Rupees 112-8-0.

15. I humbly solicit this favor not because the pension of Rupees 103-2-0 is insufficient. I and my family will always be grateful to Government for that amount, but because the small pittance of Rupees 56-0 will add a value to the high characters my superiors have been pleased to bestow on me, and will be a great honor to me among my countrymen.

16. The Government which I have the honor to serve have often been pleased to reward their servants with personal allowances, life pensions, titles, and lands, for hard and faithful service. I most respectfully beseech your honor to obtain me the favor I solicit, and thereby enable me to retire from the service with honor.

I beg to remain, &c.

(Signed) M. SOONDRUM,

Tahsildar.

OOTACAMUND, 14th October 1865.

Statement of service of M. Soondrum Moodelliar, Tahsildar of Neilgherries.

Situations held.	Period of service.	Amount of pay.		
		RS.	A.	P.
Post Office Head Writer, Coimbatore...	From 12th Jany. 1836 to 10th Oct. 1851.	30	0	0
Cutwall at Metapolliem	" 11th Oct. 1851 to 5th March 1852.	40	0	0
Acting Neilgherry Tahsildar	" 6th March 1852 to 10th April 1852.	50	0	0
Cutwall at Metapolliem	" 11th April 1852 to 23rd Jany. 1853.	40	0	0
Acting Town Police Ameen, Coimbatore.	" 24th Jany. 1853 to 24th May 1853.	40	0	0
Cutwall at Metapolliem	" 25th May 1853 to 9th May 1854.	40	0	0
Tahsildar Neilgherry Taluq.	" 10th May 1854 to 30th April 1856.	50	0	0
Do.	" 1st May 1856 to 31st Dec. 1860.	100	0	0
Do.	" 1st Jany. 1861 to 30th April 1862.	150	0	0
Do.	" 1st May 1862 to date.	225	0	0

(Signed) M. SOONDRUM,

Tahsildar.

OOTACAMUND, 14th October 1865.

No. 6. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Fort Saint George, 6th December 1865, No. 553.

I am directed by the Governor in Council to forward to you, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the accompanying letter and enclosures from the Collector of Coimbatore, relative to the grant of an increased pension to M. Soondara Moodaliyar, Tahsildar of Ootacamund.

2. This officer has applied to be permitted to retire, after 30 years service, from the 1st February next, on a good service pension, and he asks, as a special boon, that he may be granted a pension of Rupees 112-8-0, being half the pay of his rank, in place of Rupees 103-2-0, the average of his salary for the past five years.

3. I am to state that M. Soondara Moodaliyar has, for upwards of 11 years, held the responsible post of Tahsildar of the Ootacamund Taluq, comprising the whole of the plateau of the Neilgherry Hills. His duties in this position have been no less arduous than responsible.

4. In a climate very unfavorable to a native of the plains, this officer has had to travel in all weathers to any part of the Hills; while the inspection and demarcation of lands, which have of late years been so largely purchased for coffee and other plantations, have detained him for days together on the slopes of the Hills, exposed to the deadly fever which prevails there. His duties have brought him constantly into contact with Europeans, Planters and others, in circumstances where tact and discretion were eminently required. In none of the qualities necessary for the due performance of these duties has he failed.

24 Mar 74

4

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
6th December 1865.*

5. In addition to these ordinary duties of his position, he has had the no less difficult task of ministering to the wants of the many visitors to the Hills, and in this he has been most successful. He met with the approval and notice of the late Lord Dalhousie and of Lady Canning, on her visit to the Hills, and the testimonials which he submits shew how universal has been the satisfaction he has given.

6. M. Soondara Moodaliyar has been personally known to His Excellency the Governor and the Members of Council for several years, and they are able to bear testimony to his high qualifications for the post he holds, and to the worthy manner in which he has performed its duties.

7. The boon which he asks is small, being an increase of only Rupees 9-6-0, to the pension he has earned, and it is asked rather as a mark of distinction and approbation, than as a pecuniary emolument, and I am to state that the Governor in Council cordially supports the recommendation of the Collector that it may be granted.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

13

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
15th February 1866.*

No. 21. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 27th January 1866, No. 357.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 553, dated the 6th December 1865, and, in reply, to state that His Excellency in Council is precluded, under the orders of the Secretary of State, from admitting the recommendation on behalf of M. Soondara Moodelliar for a pension higher than the maximum allowed by the rules, particularly as that maximum is expressly reserved for cases of extraordinary merit.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 15th February 1866, No. 75.

Forwarded to the Collector of Coimbatore, with reference to his letter of the 21st November last, No. 137, for communication to M. Soondara Moodelliar.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore, with No. 553 of 1865.
,, Civil Pension Department.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

24 Mar 74

23 June 1865 1978

From the Govt of Madras
that it is resolved that
the order of the Secretary
of State, from admitting
the recommendation on
behalf of the Government
of the Neilgherry Taluk
for an increase in the
the maximum amount
by the Rs. 100.
Rs. 1000 000 000

7. 9. 386 of 1866
Pension 1866 24/11/66
21/7/66
Pension of Rs. 5
21/7/66
21/7/66
21/7/66

Order No. 20 of 21/11/66 No. 61
Order to be recorded.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 553.

FROM

A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq.,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

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FORT SAINT GEORGE,
6th December 1865.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Chief Secretary.

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I beg to remain, &c.
(Signed) M. SOONDRUM,
Tahsildar.

OOTACAMUND, 14th October 1865.

Statement of service of M. Soondrum Moodelliar, Tahsildar of Neilgherries.

Situations held.	Period of service.	Amount of pay.		
		RS.	A.	P.
Post Office Head Writer, Coimbatore...	From 12th Jany. 1836 to 10th Oct. 1851.	30	0	0
Cutwall at Metapolliem	" 11th Oct. 1851 to 5th March 1852.	40	0	0
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Tahsildar Neilgherry Taluq.	" 10th May 1854 to 30th April 1856.	50	0	0
Do.	" 1st May 1856 to 31st Dec. 1860.	100	0	0
Do.	" 1st Jany. 1861 to 30th April 1862.	150	0	0
Do.	" 1st May 1862 to date.	225	0	0

(Signed) M. SOONDRUM,
Tahsildar.

OOTACAMUND, 14th October 1865.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
15th February 1866.

No. 21. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 27th January 1866, No. 357.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 553, dated the 6th December 1865, and, in reply, to state that His Excellency in Council is precluded, under the orders of the Secretary of State, from admitting the recommendation on behalf of M. Soondara Moodelliar for a pension higher than the maximum allowed by the rules, particularly as that maximum is expressly reserved for cases of extraordinary merit.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 15th February 1866, No. 75.
Forwarded to the Collector of Coimbatore, with reference to his letter of the 21st November last, No. 137, for communication to M. Soondara Moodelliar
(True Extract).

(Signed) A. J. A. ...
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore, with No. 553 of 1865.
Civil Pension Department.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

23-4-57

20th February 1841.
Pension 1866th of 1841

1873.

Proceedings of the
Joint Committee
of the House of Commons
and the House of Lords
on the
Petition of the
Baptist Missionary Society
for the
Pension of 1866th of 1841

Ordered that the
Baptist Missionary Society
be paid the sum of
£1000

Commencing from the
1st of January 1841, and
that it is provided, under
the order of the Secretary
of State, from admitting the
Baptist Missionary Society
to the Pension of 1866th
of 1841. And the Secretary
of State is directed to
pay the sum of £1000
to the Baptist Missionary
Society for the Pension
of 1866th of 1841.

Under the order of the Secretary of State, 1841 No. 57.

Ordered to be recorded.

Alid.

1841 No. 23 Jan. 1841
1841 No. 20 April 1841
1841 No. 28