

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1009	Press Mis.
Dated	18	.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1009	Press Mis.
Dated	4.10.	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 53. Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., Magistrate of Ganjam, to the Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Chetterpore, 9th September 1866, No. 2497.

In reply to your telegram, directing me to state fully, in writing, my reasons for suggesting postponement of the introduction of the Municipal Act in Berhampore and Chicacole (the only towns in the District to which it is applicable), I have the honor to observe that, having already, at the commencement of the famine,

represented to Government,* through the Inspector General of Police, the hardship of imposing new taxes at such a moment, and knowing that they were fully aware how far that calamity has exceeded the worst expectations then formed, I brought the matter forward by telegraph, instead of by letter, not deeming it necessary to enter particularly into reasons, which I imagined to be already known and accepted.

2. To state these reasons distinctly: during the last six months, the people of Berhampore have, in common with the population of all the northern section of this District, suffered that impoverishment, which the scarcity and dearness of all sorts of provisions and of other necessaries of life, accompanied by the stagnation of all trade (excepting the importation and sale of grain), necessarily occasioned. Not only have the poor been in a state of starvation and nakedness, but the more respectable classes have been sorely pinched, the Mahomedans especially.

3. The weavers, of whom there are large numbers in Berhampore, have been for a long time unable to get any employment, and I am at this moment assisting them from the famine fund with work. It can scarcely be supposed that, though they are beginning to feel a relaxation of the distress, the people are better prepared for taxation than they were in the month of March, when it was already severely felt. We are even now supporting 18,000 souls of the ryot class, besides between 6 and 7000 paupers.

4. Should the Government direct the immediate introduction of the Act, I should be at a loss whom to tax, excepting the wholesale dealers in grain. A wheel tax, or a toll on carts, would certainly be impolitic, for we have extreme difficulty in obtaining carriage, and all the grain consumed in this part of the District is still brought from the sea-ports, and is dear enough already, without such an enhancement.

5. These arguments apply with less force to Chicacole, where prices have not been so high or grain so scarce, though times have been hard. I would suggest, however, that the Act be introduced in both places in February next, when the harvest will be in the market, and prices may resume their former amount.

No. 54. ORDER THEREON, 4th October 1866, No. 1009.

The Government accede to the Magistrate's recommendation. Mr. Forbes will, in December next, submit, in due form, his proposals for introducing the Act into Chicacole and Berhampore, during the last quarter of the current official year.

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Magistrate of Ganjam.

„ Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

the population of the northern section of the District suffered

802424.

From

To

His

Ganjam District
Collector's Office
(Kollerpondy) 29th Septem 1886
C. S. Forbes Esq^r
Collector of Ganjam.
S. S. Sen Esq^r
Revenue Secretary Government
Madras

In reply to your telegram directing me to state fully in writing my reasons for suggesting postponement of the introduction of the Municipal Act in Berhampore and Chencote (the only towns in the District to which it is applicable), I have the honour to advise having already at the commencement of the order they were represented to Government through the Inspector General of Police. of Govt No. the hardship of imposing new taxes at a time when such a moment and knowing that they of May 1886 were fully aware, how far that calamity has exceeded the worst expectations then formed, I brought the matter forward by telegraph instead of by letter, not desiring it were to enter particularly into reasons, which I imagined to be already known and accepted.

2. To state these reasons distinctly during the last six months, the people of Berhampore have in common with the population of all the northern section of the district suffered

the improvement which the scarcity
and dearth of all sorts of provisions and
of other necessaries of life, accompanied by
the stagnation of all trade, the im-
migration and sale of grain necessarily
occasions. Not only have we now been
in a state of starvation and nakedness but
the more respectable classes have been sorely
pinched. The Mahomedans especially.

3. The weavers of whom there are large
numbers in Berhampore have been for a
very long time unable to get any employment and
I am at this moment assisting them from
the famine fund with work. It can scarcely
be supposed that though they are beginning
to get a relaxation of the distress, the people
are better prepared for relaxation than they
were in the month of March when it was
already severely felt. We are even now sup-
porting 18000 out of the rich class besides
nearly 6000 and 7000 paupers.

4. Would the Government direct the in-
crease of taxation to the extent I should
be at a loss whom to tax, propping the whole
upon the grain. It would tax on a scale on carts
and certainly be impolitic for we have so
much difficulty in obtaining carriage and
as the grain consumed in two parts of the
District is still brought from the sea-ports

and is clear enough already without an
enhancement. 57

5. These arguments apply with less force
to Meacote where prices have not been so
high or grain so scarce, though times have
been hard. I would suggest however that
it be introduced in both places in Febru-
ary when the harvest will be in the market
and prices may resume their former amount.
I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant.

J. O. S. S. S.
Collector.

4. October 1888

The full record
of the colony.

Communication

has taken with

in Dec? week

has been in the

house in the

house in the

house in the

house in the

house in the

house in the

house in the

house in the

October 1888

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the

House in the