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Revenue Departmental

Minutes of Consultations

30th June 1857

Back Numbers 52-54

Order Nos 665-686 dated 30th June 185

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் 7/1/07

சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் மு. நி. பா. அ. கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கும் இரண்டாம் மு. நி. பா. அ. கையொப்பம்

உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 30th June 1857.

No. 52. From J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Canara; to H. FORBES, Esq., Secretary to Government, Fort St. George; dated Mangalore 23d June 1857, No. 20.

SIR,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that owing to the monsoon having set in a month earlier than was expected, the usual provision of rice for the consumption of the inhabitants of the 4 Islands of the Laccadive group attached to this province has been so seriously curtailed, as to leave it very doubtful whether it will suffice for their subsistence during the months they are necessarily cut off from communication with the continent.

2. The circumstances of the case are as follows:

Twenty four Coondries laden with Coir arrived at Mangalore from the 4 Islands attached to Canara; viz. Ameeni, Cudmut, Kiltan and Chitlat. Of these, 7 Coondries with a return cargo of rice and other provisions left Mangalore between the 28th March and 4th April, and probably reached Ameendevi in safety, as they are reported to have been seen in its near neighbourhood.

3. The remaining 17 Coondries cleared out between the 25th and 30th April, but meeting with a severe gale which continued for several days, no one of them it is believed can have reached its destination.

4. Five only, so far as has been ascertained, have returned to any of our Ports, and of the fate of the remaining 12 nothing is known.

5. The Ameeni and Cudmut islands lie near each other, and the Coir and supplies for both are conveyed indiscriminately in the same boats.

6. The quantity of rice exported to these 2 islands in the 7 Coondries before alluded to, was 2816 mooras, in addition to 2,215 mooras previously shipped for them earlier in the season.

7. The total quantity of rice which has left the coast for these 2 islands is therefore some 5,000 mooras.

8. The population of Ameeni and Cudmut was in fusly 1262, 2,200 souls. Assuming this to be now 2,500, and allowing ½ seer per diem for each month, the quantity of rice which would be required to feed their population during the 6 months the coast is inaccessible would be 5,400 mooras.

9. These may therefore be said to be beyond the reach of actual famine.

10. With the othreto 2 more remote islands the case however is worse. Making no account of the last shipments of rice, of which under the circumstances above explained no portion has probably reached its destination, there were it appears from the accounts 1,938 mooras, exported from our ports for their special consumption.

11. By the census of Fusly 1262, the population amounted to 1,280 souls. Estimating this now at 1,500, the quantity of rice required for 6 months' consumption would be 3,780 mooras, so that even granting that they are provident enough to husband their resources in the first instance, there would scarcely be ¼ seer per diem for each month. These two islands are more sterile and backward than Ameeni, where vegitables can be grown in small quantities, so that the inhabitants will have nothing to look to, save the produce of their Cocoanut gardens, and the fish they may catch.

12. In this way they make eke out a meagre subsistence and ward off actual famine; but their case is one of so much possible distress and suffering, that I have deemed it my duty to bring it to the notice of Government.

13. In the meanwhile, I have written to the Goa authorities and those at Vingorla, requesting them to inform me whether they have any tidings of the missing Coondries, and shall address the Acting Collector of Malabar, with a view to ascertain whether any of the islands within his jurisdiction are in a similar plight, and in want of assistance.

14. These islands will not be accessible from this Coast until October, and the only possible means of communication with them would be by steam from Bombay.

15. If I mistake not, assistance was afforded to some of these islands in this way in 1850 or 1851.

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 30th June 1857.

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, No. 665; dated 30th June 1857.

Resolved that the Government of Bombay be requested to order the despatch of a Steam Vessel to the Islands of the Laccadive group alluded to in the foregoing communication, with instructions to the officer in command to call at Mangalore, to take in the supply of rice and other provisions which the Acting Collector may think necessary to send to the Islanders, and to obtain information as to what Islands the vessel should visit.

2. Ordered that Mr. Robinson be requested by Telegraph to collect the rice and provisions in time to avoid any unnecessary detention of the Steamer at Mangalore.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

No. 54. From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, dated 30th June 1857, No. 666.

I have the honor under the orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, to forward copy of a letter from the Acting Collector of Canara, reporting that, in consequence of the monsoon having set in a month earlier than was expected, and of several of the boats laden with grain for the use of the Islanders during the monsoon, having been prevented from reaching their destination through stress of weather; the usual provision of rice for the consumption of the inhabitants of the four Islands of the Laccadive group attached to that District has been seriously curtailed. I am therefore instructed to ask the assistance of the Government of Bombay towards relieving them from the distress to which they are otherwise likely to be reduced.

Vide letter to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid dated 19th June 1851, No. 599.

2. The Bombay Government is aware that the despatch of a sailing vessel to the Laccadives from either the Coromandel or Malabar coast during the prevalence of the S. W. moonsoon is not advisable, and that prompt and expeditious relief can only be afforded to the inhabitants at this season, by the despatch of a Steamer to the Islands from Bombay.

3. Under these circumstances, I am desired to request the Government of Bombay to order the despatch of a Steam Vessel to the Islands in question, with instructions to the officer in command to call at Mangalore on his way, to take in the supply of rice and other provisions which the Acting Collector will be instructed to collect, and to ascertain from him what Islands the vessel should visit.

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No. 20.

Collector's Cutcherry
Mangalore 23d June
1857

From

J. D. Robinson Esqre

To

Acting Collector of Canara

H. Forbes Esqre

Secretary to Government

Fort St. George

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of Government, that owing to the monsoon having set in a month earlier than was expected, the usual provision of rice for the consumption of the inhabitants of the 4 Islands of the Laccadive group attached to this province has become seriously curtailed, as the Boats employed in conveying it were prevented, by stress of weather, from reaching their destination during the months they are necessarily cut off from communication with the continent.

2 The circumstances of the case

are as follows.

Twenty four Canadian Cadets with Cair arrived at Rangatira from the 4 Islands attached to Amara: viz. Tamariki, Cudmut, Pitkan and Clarke. By these 4 Canadians with a return cargo of Pine and other provisions left Rangatira about between the 28th March and 4th April and probably reached Amandan in safety as they are reported to have been seen in the more neighbourhood.

The remaining part of Canadian Cadets and between the 2nd and 3rd April last meeting with a severe gale which continued for several days, one one of them it is believed can have reached its destination.

4. Since only 20 Jan as have been ascertained, have returned to any of our Ports and of the fate of the remaining 8 nothing is known.

5. The Amara and Cudmut Islands lie near each other, and the Cair and supplies for both are conveyed indiscriminately in the same boats.

6. The quantity of rice exported to these 2 islands in the 4 Canadians before alluded to was 2915 maras in addition to 2215 maras previously shipped by these vessels in the season.

7. The total quantity of rice which has left the Coast for these 3 islands is therefore same 5130 maras.

8. The [illegible] of labour of the men at Cudmut was on July 1st 5500 souls.

Assuming this to be now 3,000 and allowing 5 seers per diem for each mouth the quantity of rice which would be required to feed them [illegible] during the 6 months the coast is inaccessible would be 3300 maras.

9. There may therefore be said to be beyond the reach of actual famine.

10. With the other 2 more remote islands the case however is worse.

making an account of the last shipments of rice, of which under the circumstances above explained no portion has probably reached its destination, there were it appears from the accounts 31938 maunds, expected soon on shore for their special consumption.

11. By the census of January 1853 the population amounted to 1884 souls. Estimating this now at 1500 the quantity of rice required for the consumption would be 15000 maunds. But as they are stored enough to husband their resources in the first instance, there would scarcely be 10 seers per diem for each month. These two islands are more sterile and backward than Amherst vegitables can be grown in small quantities so that the inhabitants will have nothing to look to save the produce of their Cocoanut gardens and the fish they may catch.

The

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12. In this way they make ends meet a meagre subsistence and ward off actual famine, but their case is one of so much hopeless distress and suffering, that I have deemed it my duty to bring it to the notice of Government.

13. In the meanwhile I have written to the Goa authorities and those at Singapore, requesting them to inform me whether they have any tidings of the missing Cochineen, and shall address them to ascertain whether any of the islands within his jurisdiction are in a similar plight, and in want of assistance.

14. These islands will not be accessible from this Coast until October and the only possible means of communication with them would be by Steam from Bombay.

15. If Immediate aid, assistance was afforded to some of these islands

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Copy to the Court of Bombay
30 Jan 1857
No 82

Reports that the usual provision of rice for the consumption of the inhabitants of the Laccadive Islands attached to this District has been curtailed owing to the unfavorable early setting in of the monsoon

Revenue Dept.

No. 665 of 57

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 30 June 57.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Canara

(Received 23rd June 57 No 20.)

I Received from the Government of Bombay the requisition to order the despatch of a Steam Vessel to the Islands of the Laccadive groups alluded to in the foregoing communication with instructions to the officer in command to call at Mangalore to take in the supply of rice and other provisions which the Acting Collector may think

think necessary to ~~afford~~ send
~~relief~~ to the Islanders
obtain information as to
and to ~~ascertain from them~~
the vessel
what Islands ~~she~~ should
visit.

2. Ordered that Lt. Robinson
be ~~informed~~ requested by Telegraph
to collect the rice and provisions in time ~~to~~
to award any unnecessary
detention of the Steamer
at Mangalore.

Ordered that the following
letter be despatched.

To
The Secretary to the
Govt. of Bombay

Home Inter. 30 June 1857
N. 666

2 Copies to the Admty
Canard Offices
1 — Bd of Rev. Jorningham

2. 1st July
3 Copies

Rev. Dept

Revenue 1857 Dept.
Cons. 30th June
N. 665

Extract Mins of Cons.
Dy. 30th June 57

From the Govt. of Bombay 30th July
57 In Cons 11th Augt 57 N. 2843

N. 5365

Requesting the Govt.
of Bombay to despatch
a Steam Vessel to the
Islands of the Laccadive group for the
instructions to the Officer
Commanding to call at
Mangalore to take in
the supply of rice destined
to the Islands and ordering
that Mr. Robinson be re-
quested by Telegraph to col-
lect in time the provisions required.

No 666

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To the Secretary to the
Government of Bombay

Sir

I have the honor
under the orders of the
Right Honorable the
Governor in Council
to forward copy of a
letter from the Acting
Collector of Canara
reporting the loss con-
sequence of the monsoon
having set in a month
earlier than was expected
and several of the boats
taken into port for
the use of the Salt Farm
during the monsoon,
having been prevented

...ssary of rice; the
...usual provision of
...rice for the consumption
...of the inhabitants of
...the four Islands of
...the Laccadive group
...attached to that Dis-
...trict has been seriously
...curtailed. I am therefore instructed
...to ask
...the assistance of the
...Government of Bombay
...towards returning them
...the difficulty
...from Cannanore to
...Mangalore
...which they are likely
...to be reduced.

Bombay
That Govt is aware
...that the despatch of
...a sailing vessel to
...the Laccadives from
...either the Canara
...Coast or Malabar coast
...during

vide letter to Mr
Secy. Govt dated
the 19 June 52 etc

during the prevalence
of the S.W. monsoon
is not advisable, and
that prompt and
expeditious relief can
only be afforded to the
inhabitants at this
season, by the despatch
of a Steamer to the
Islands from Bombay
3. Under these cir-
cumstances, I am de-
sired to request the
Govt of Bombay to
order the despatch
of a Steam Vessel to
the Islands on guest
from with instructions
to the Officer in command
to call at Mangalore
on his way
to take on the supply
of rice and after
...which the

acking Collector not to
be instructed to collect
Coal, and to ascertain
from him what Steamers
Vessels the Steamed
visit. HR

Sam. Hudson Esq.

Asst. Sec.
30 June 1857.