M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-3-34

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1125 Press ~~Mis.~~

37. 38

Dated 2—7— ~~18~~ 1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 2nd July 1864.

No. 37. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd June 1864, No. 3,388.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 19th May 1864, No. 191 :—

1. *In reply to the Board's Proceedings of 29th April, calling for a report on the present position and numbers of the divers in this District, I have the honor to forward for the information of the Board and Government, copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to my address, dated the 16th instant.*

2. The divers are quite as well off, if not better, than the average race of fishermen and lascars. I have no apprehension whatever, that they may leave this coast, or be wanting when a Pearl fishery occurs. Mr. Barter, a resident of Tuticorin, has engaged nearly all the divers there to work for him, and he holds all the licenses for the Chank boats this year. Should he at any time discontinue employing them, they will always get employment from Government to work the Chank fishery.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From G. A. PHIPPS, Esq., Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Tuticorin, 16th May 1864, No. 15.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 514, dated the 9th instant, and in reply beg to inform you that upon inquiry I find that the numbers which I have placed against the names of the villages noted in the margin, is as near as possible the correct number of divers residing at each. The Jady Thalaven being absent, I am unable to consult him on the subject. Those residing at Coolasegarapatam, Coilpatam, Patnamarudoor, Tharavicolam, Vypar, and Vembar, are all Pearl divers and these never engage in the Chank fishery. When not preparing for a fishery, some of those belonging to Coolasegarapatam and Coilpatam are employed on board of the vessels trading to those ports; many of them also go over to Colombo and work in the cargo boats; others are fishermen or boat lascars at their respective ports; those residing at Patnamurdoor, Tharavicolam, Vypar, and Vembar, are all fishermen.

Coolasegarpatam	10 to 14
Coilpatam	25 to 30
Punnacail	15 to 20
Mukany	10 to 12
Tuticorin	100 to 130
Patnamarudoor	20 to 25
Tharavicolam	12 to 20
Vypar	10 to 15
Vembar	25 to 30

2. Of the Tuticorin divers, ninety are at present engaged in the Chank fishery; the others find employment as Lascars, Boat-men, Stevidors, and Coral diggers, and in a few cases they are fishermen. Most of the Punnacail and Mukany divers are also fishermen; in previous years they joined in the Chank fishery; for some reason they have not done so during the present season.

3. In my opinion the divers on this coast are if any thing better off than the generality of their class, the reason for this is, that during Pearl fisheries, they always make a considerable sum of money, which by some is safely invested; as a rule the fishermen, divers, lascars, and boatmen, are a very drunken lot, and care for nothing beyond just their daily wants.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. SILVER, *Collector.*

Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Order dated 33rd April 1864, No. 705.

No. 38.

Miscellaneous.

ORDER THEREON, 2nd July 1864, No. 1,139.

Ordered to be communicated, together with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue of 9th instant, No. 3,526, to the Secretary of State, with reference to paragraph 2 of his Despatch, 9th March last, No. 11.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 3,388.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 3rd June 1864.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 19th May 1864, No. 194:—

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings of 20th April, calling for a report on the present position and numbers of the divers in this District, I have the honor to forward for the information of the Board and Government, copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to my address dated the 16th instant.

2. The divers are quite as well off, if not better, than the average race of fishermen and lascars. I have no apprehension whatever, that they may leave this coast, or be wanting when a Pearl fishery occurs. Mr. Barter, a resident of Tuticorin, has engaged nearly all the divers there to work for him, and he holds all the licenses for the Chank boats this year. Should he at any time discontinue employing them, they will always get employment from Government to work the Chank fishery.

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From G. A. PHIPPS, Esq., Superintendent of Pearl Banks, to J. SILVER, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Tuticorin, 16th May 1864, No. 15.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 514, dated the 9th instant, and in reply beg to inform you that upon inquiry I find that the numbers which I have placed against the names of the villages noted in the margin, is as near as possible the correct number of divers residing at each. The Jady Thalaven being absent, I am unable to consult him on the subject. Those residing at Coolasegarapatam, Coilpatam, Patnamarudoor, Tharuvicolam, Vypar, and Vembar, are all Pearl divers, and these never engage in the Chank fishery. When not preparing for a fishery, some of those belonging to Coolasegarapatam and Coilpatam are employed on board of the vessels trading to those ports; many of them also go over to Colombo and work in the cargo boats; others are fishermen or boat lascars at their respective ports; those residing at Patnamurdoor, Tharuvicolam, Vypar, and Vembar, are all fishermen.

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Vypar	10 to 15
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(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. SILVER, Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Order dated 23rd April 1864, No. 705.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to J. Silver, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly.

Exd. J. Wright.

Pro: 23 April/64 pp 381-382

1 July 1864 No 8 Leg

Pro: 1864. Department
Bd. of Rev. for July.

No. 1139.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 3rd June 1864.

No. 3,388.

Submitting for information letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly forwarding copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Pearl Banks on the subject of the present position and numbers of the divers in the district.

No 1139. 2d July
With answer

c. fo. 37 to 38.

2 Enclosures Leg

No. 1139.
Ordered to be communicated, together with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue of 2d instant No 3524, to the Secretary of State, with reference to para 2 of his despatch 9th March last No 11.

Hon. Ed. George
2d July 64

To
The Board of Revenue. Bd Rev 2d July