M.R.O. 14–5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	/288	Press ~~Mis.~~
24-19 Dated	9-5-	18 68.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th May 1868.

No. 218. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department :—

Communicating to Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, Revenue Proceedings dated 6th May 1868, No. 1,249, instructing that Captain Begbie be directed to give as much of his attention as possible to the Kadiri talook, in Cuddapah district. } (Here enter 8th May 1868, No. 1,451.)

No. 219. ORDER THEREON, 9th May 1868, No. 1,288.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue and to the Collector of Cuddapah.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. BRANDT,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, } With Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 1,451.
„ the Collector of Cuddapah, }

Lcd. S. T. Augustin.

Pub: Works Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th May 1868.

No. 136. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1866.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated on Circuit at Kalasamudrum, 27th April 1868, No. 64 :—

1. In continuation of my report, on the state of this part of the district, dated 25th instant, No. 63, I have the honor to inform the Board of Revenue that a personal inspection of several villages, lying to the north-west of the town of Kadiri, has proved the existence in that quarter of the same state of affairs that I brought to the notice of the Board as existing in the south-eastern and eastern sections of the talook. The people, generally speaking, look well, and there is no disease, but the food is the same, and water extremely deficient.

2. I certainly have seen a few instances in which want is apparent from the appearance of the individuals; but they are rare, and with the exception of one, an idiot boy in the village of Kalasamudrum, I have seen no case approaching positive starvation. At the same time, I am bound to inform the Board that the people cannot possibly exist for any length of time on their present food. Already I have heard Wudders at their work complain of want of strength from insufficient nourishment; and I take this as a warning that relief should not be delayed.

3. Having given the subject careful consideration, the following is the plan I would beg to propose for the sanction of Government.

4. I do not think that a smaller sum than Rupees 25,000 will cover the expense of providing labor for the able-bodied, food for the aged and infirm, and drinking water, in this talook alone. This sum, if sanctioned, I propose to divide as follows :—

	Rs.
Wells...	5,000
Roads...	10,000
Minor irrigation works	5,000
Relief in food	5,000
	25,000

5. I have already, as the Board are aware, actually commenced work on wells calculated to cost Rupees 2,064. In addition to this, there will be others which experience will prove to be necessary, and for which a margin of Rupees 2,936 has been allowed.

6. As regards roads, Rupees 5,000 has been already sanctioned for the Kadiri and Royachoty road, of which 2,000 have been allotted to the part in the Kadiri talook. This is quite as much as can be usefully laid out on that portion. After deducting this, there remains Rupees 8,000 to be apportioned, which I propose to do as follows :—

	Rs.
Road from Poolicoontah to Tannacull, as per my letter of 25th instant, about 22 miles, at Rs. 200 a mile ...	4,400
Do. Mootial Chervu to Obuldevara Chervu as per do., about 9 miles, at Rupees 200 a mile...	1,800
From Kadiri to Kurli in addition to Rupees 1,160 from Local Funds, unmade portion, about 10 miles... ...	1,800
	8,000

7. The first of these roads will be expensive to open out in consequence of the rocky nature of the country, but 200 Rupees a mile should make it tolerably well.

8. The second will be a good road for the sum allotted, and the third requires to be really well made, on account of its importance, as forming part of the line from Kadiri to Poolivendala, and thence by the road through Mulliala to the Railway Station at Mudanoor, on which 10,000 Rupees is to be spent this year from Local Funds. Should the sum thus allotted prove more than sufficient, some portion of it might be spent in blasting in the Mullappa pass, to render the present track easier for traffic.

9. Of the sum I propose for minor irrigation works, I have already, as reported in my letter of 25th instant, commenced work on two tanks, estimated to cost for repairs 650 Rupees, and I have this morning seen another tank in the village of Charpully, among the hills, now breached, upon which 1,000 Rupees can be spent with great advantage from its excellent supply and the large extent of good land below it.

10. I would propose to give the Acting Sub-Collector, who will be in the talook in the course of a few days, authority, in conjunction with the Executive Engineer, to lay out the remainder of this sum on irrigation works, as may appear most advantageous, with a view of giving employment, if possible, on works which will bring in a return.

11. As regards the sum I have entered for relief of the destitute, I do not think it too large considering the extent of the country, and that at least four months must elapse before another crop comes in.

12. The great difficulty I feel is the medium through which the money is to be spent. Our Engineering staff is not large enough to undertake the efficient supervision of such an expenditure, scattered over a large area and great number of works. The Executive Engineer of the Range has at his disposal only one Overseer for the whole talook of Kadiri, and he would require at least three or four to supervise properly the outlay contemplated. I doubt also whether Captain Begbie alone could superintend all these works, as he has the talooks of Muddenpully and Voilpad to attend to as well as Kadiri.

13. I would beg, therefore, to suggest that, if the proposed outlay is sanctioned, an officer of the Department Public Works be sent on this special duty, and that a sufficient staff of Overseers be placed at his disposal.

14. The sum (if any) sanctioned for relief in the form of food should be in the hand of the Civil officer on duty here, who would organize a system and carry it out.

15. I would further beg to suggest, that the Civil officer on this duty be empowered to provide seed-grain in cases of destitute ryots, on their receipt, the value at cost price to be recovered from them when the crops are reaped.

16. The Board are aware from my former letter what arrangements I have made temporarily regarding the Civil officers of the district. Should Government see fit to send an experienced officer to take the details of the famine operations, it would be a great relief to me and to my Assistants, who are now both doing work

above their grades in the service. If the scheme for the reduction of garden well rates to dry ones, is to be carried out, we shall all have more to do than we can get through.

---

1. Ordered that the above letter be submitted to Government, in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 1st May 1868.

2. Mr. Molony reports that the north-west portion of the talook is in the same condition as the eastern and south-eastern sections, the state of which formed the subject of his letter of the 25th ultimo. His present communication brings to light one significant sign, viz., that some of the laboring class "complain of want of strength from insufficient nourishment."

3. The Board consider, with Mr. Molony, that this warning cannot be neglected, and they are of opinion that arrangements should at once be made for opening relief-houses. It is obvious that if the able-bodied class cannot earn sufficient food to keep them in vigor, the aged and infirm must be on the verge of destitution. The Board have recommended that a grant of Rupees 5,000 be at once placed at Mr. Molony's command for this purpose. They will inform him of this by telegraph, and instruct him to open relief-houses, wherever necessary, without hesitation or delay. He may confidently reckon on ample funds being placed at his disposal for this purpose; and must not hesitate to take action for want of sanction. He must decide as to the places where the relief-houses should be opened, the source whence supplies are to be drawn, and the agency to be employed.

4. The Board may be doing Mr. Molony injustice, but they think his letter betrays some apprehension lest his recommendations should be considered too liberal. If such be the case, they must beg of him to understand that his measures and proposals will not be judged in this spirit, and that whatever expenditure may be needed, not merely to relieve actual distress, but to prevent the resources of the people from being sapped, will be ungrudgingly accorded.

5. In regard to Public Works, the Board have made a grant of 5,000 Rupees for one of the roads selected by Mr. Molony, and have recommended that 10,000 Rupees be granted for another, and that the third be pushed on to completion, irrespective of a specific allotment. This is considerably more than Mr. Molony proposes, but the Board are satisfied that less could not prudently be allowed.

6. The proposed grant of 10,000 Rupees for wells and minor irrigation works, the Board recommend for sanction, but Mr. Molony will understand that he is not to consider himself limited to this sum if more should appear to him to be necessary.

7. The Board recommend that the Engineering staff be strengthened without delay. It would be advisable, they think, to employ the Executive Engineer of the Range, who no doubt knows the country and people in the talook, sending another officer to perform his other duties.

8. Mr. Horsburgh has left for Cuddapah this morning. The Board recommend that two or more experienced native officers of the grade of Tahsildar or Deputy Collector be also temporarily attached to the talook.

9. Mr. Molony will since have learnt that the Senior Member of the Board is about to visit the district, and will arrange further details with him. Meanwhile, he will of course act with vigour as circumstances require.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th May 1868.

No. 137. ORDER THEREON, 6th May 1868, No. 1,249.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government have already more than once intimated to Mr. Molony that he is at liberty to carry out whatever measures may be required for any description of relief, whether for providing work for the able-bodied poor, or food as alms for the aged and infirm. They look to him to take full advantage of the discretionary authority thus vested in him, to adopt at once whatever plan he approves for the attainment of the object in view, relying on his proceedings being confirmed by Government when reported.

2. The Government have already given their formal sanction to the Board's proposals for the roads designed as relief-works in the Kadiri talook.

3. They now formally sanction the proposed grant of Rupees 5,000 from Imperial Funds for relief-houses, and Rupees 10,000 for work on wells and minor irrigation works, but repeat that Mr. Molony is not to consider himself limited to these sums. The actual requirements of the case, which of course will be carefully weighed by the Acting Collector, must be the measure of the expenditure to be made to prevent and relieve distress.

4. The Government also authorize Mr. Molony to carry out his proposal to furnish destitute ryots with seed-grain.

5. The services of Mr. Lewis, a very competent officer of the Department of Public Works, have been placed at his disposal. It will be considered in that Department, whether the Board's proposal to relieve Captain Begbie of work elsewhere than in the Kadiri talook can be adopted, or whether any other arrangement can be made to afford the Collector additional assistance from the department for the relief-works.

6. Mr. Molony is authorized to employ Bhikam Sing, the Tahsildar of Cuddapah, on special duty in the Kadiri talook, it being understood that he is an active, energetic, and intelligent officer, and to pass to him, while so employed, the pay and travelling allowances of a Deputy Collector of 4th Class, the charge being debited as part of the special famine expenditure. If Mr. Molony requires further assistance of the kind, and can name any well qualified person for the duty, the Government will readily comply with his application for such additional aid.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant General.
„ the Department Public Works.
„ the Honorable T. Clarke.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

4

Order thereon 5th May 1868. No. 1451

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 3d. Division, who will direct Captain Begbie to give as much of his attention as possible to the Kadiri Taluq.

True Extract

Col: R.E.
Secretary to Government.

The Revenue Dept.

Exd. No 1

Revenue 1868 Depᵗ
Pro: of Board for May
№ 1537

Proceedings of the
Govᵗ P. W. Deptt.

Dated 8th May
Received 9th } 1868
№ 1451

№ 1288

Comm^d to the
Board of Revenue
Ho the Coll^r of Cuddapah

9 May/68

1 Copy Letter Ad^g Revenue
to Coll^r Cuddapah } with Pro Ord^r No 1451 Dep^t

13
3

Comm^g Executive Engr
Rev. Circle No May 68 № 1210
3 Bds Dimensions
Flat Cast^n Regrie
directed to give as much
of this allegation as possible
to the Kadiri Talookdar Engr-Bl

With Ador

№ 1288-9 May

№ 2188219

Revenue 1868 Depᵗ
№ 1537
Proceedings of the Govᵗ
Pub: Works Depᵗ

Dated 8th May
Received 9th } 1868

№ 1451