

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	966	Press ~~MS.~~
354-55		
Dated	29-6-1870 19	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

12/11/70
19/5/71

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th June 1870.*

No. 354. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department—Public, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 7th June 1870, No. 2,788 :—

In Part III. of their General Report the Commissioners, appointed to inquire into the famine in Bengal and Orissa in 1866, discussed at some length the question of the future liability of the country to famine, and the means of mitigating such calamities; and in paragraphs 63 to 73 of that document they submitted certain suggestions which occurred to them for raising, by a system of local taxation, the funds required on such extraordinary occasions to afford relief to the sufferers,

2. The questions involved in the suggestions made by the Commissioners are of extreme importance. They are, however, surrounded by difficulties of considerable magnitude, affecting a variety of interests, and requiring the solution of some administrative problems of very great moment.

3. But the scarcity in the Upper Provinces almost immediately following the famine in Orissa, and the recent epidemic fever which made terrible havoc in certain districts in Lower Bengal, have pressed upon the Government of India the necessity of inquiring how far those difficulties, however serious they may be, are practically insurmountable.

4. Liberal contributions from the Imperial Exchequer may become absolutely necessary when calamities like those above mentioned reach such a point as to make adequate relief by any other means impossible. But before such an unfortunate climax is attained, State-help is attended by mischievous consequences of a very serious nature, such as the withering up of private charity, not to speak of the financial disturbance which inevitably follows such a course.

5. I am directed to forward a copy of the suggestions made by the Famine Commissioners, and to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council will take the subject into his most careful consideration, and, after communicating with such officers as he may wish to consult, favour the Government of India with the conclusions at which he may arrive, with a copy of the opinions given by the officers consulted.

* Paragraphs 63 to 73.

No. 355. ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1870, No. 966.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue who are requested to favour the Government with a report, after

calling upon the most experienced and competent Revenue-officers of the Presidency, for an expression of their views on the question raised by the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS, 
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

11/11

Rev^d Department

11/11/11

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 29th June 1870.

Read the following
letter from the Secy. to the
Govt of India. H.D.

Forwarding for consideration
a copy of the suggestions made
by the Commissioners appointed to
enquire into the Revenue in Bengal
& Orissa in 1866, & to forward the Govt
of India with a copy of the opi-
nions given by the Officers
consulted.

H.E. 7th June 1870 No. 2700

Communicated
to the Board of Revenue
who are requested to
favor the Government
with a report, having
first

Govt. of 1870: 2700.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June, 29th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 29th June 1870, No. 966.

JUNE.

Nos. 354-355.

Revenue in Bengal and Orissa in 1866.—
Letter from Government of India on this subject,
communicated to Board of Revenue for report on
the question raised by that Government.

From the Secy. to the Govt.
11/11/11
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after asking of
first called upon the
most experienced and
competent Revenue of-
ficers of the Presidency
for an expression of their
views on the question
^{raised}
 mooted by the Govt of India.

Ans.

Mr

14. Letter No. 1 of 1894 with an Encl. Sept 3

Encl.

L. H. Holl