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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	9	<u>Press</u>
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd September 1872.*

No. 116. Read the following letter from the Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Vizagapatam, 7th August 1872, No. 348:—

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for the favourable consideration of Government, copy of a letter sent me by the Assistant Agent, Mr. Turner, regarding the promise made by Government to consider the proposal to change the official designation of the Assistant Agent and to secure to him the same advantages as are obtained by his contemporaries in the service.

2. As Government are well aware of the great difficulties which one must undergo in such a country as Jeypore and of the great interest which Mr. Turner takes in the country and all concerning it, and as Government have been pleased to thank him for his work on several occasions, it is unnecessary for me to discuss at length the right he has to the concessions now requested to be made to him.

3. I think it would be good policy to increase his pay. He has been long in the country, knows it all and all the people. He is close upon an Acting Sub-Collector's appointment, and if he gets such an appointment some one quite new to the work who has everything to learn must be appointed, which must retard for a time at least the carrying out of the changes and improvements already made.

4. Should Government be pleased to consider his requests I think it would be well to extend the Assistant Agent's powers in civil matters, for it seems to me somewhat absurd to deny to one in the position of the Assistant Agent powers which can be exercised by any Munsif.

5. Mr. Melville has already expressed his opinion on the above points in paragraph 13 of his report dated 29th April 1871, No. 134.

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., Assistant Agent, to the Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, dated Waltair, 31st July 1872, No. 96.

Government, in a G. O. of the 16th August 1871, No. 1126, paragraph 13, were pleased to say that they would consider a proposal that was then made to increase the style and the salary of the Junior Assistant Agent. This they have not yet done.

2. I would venture to point out with all delicacy that I am undergoing some pecuniary loss in this matter. On one or two occasions the temporary charge of the Principal Assistant's division has been given to my junior in the service, and I believe I am right in the assertion that the officer now holding that appointment, who is my junior, has held it for three months and is likely to hold it for three months more.

3. The expenses of living in Jeypore are, from its ill-repute among domestic servants and the difficulties of procuring supplies from the low country, far greater than those encountered in appointments of similar emolument in the plains, and though the difference is in some degree counterbalanced by the grant of Rupees 10 per diem, yet against this must be set the heavy charges that marching entails. I see by my diary that I was on tour 128 days during the past season of 200 days, i. e., since the beginning of this year.

4. But it is more particularly on the subject of the status of the officer holding the appointment that I would beg your attention. I would submit with deference that my charge is at least as important as the Principal Assistant Agent's, and that some such idea is not wanting to the Government is evident from the fact that the Police Officer in charge of it has the rank and title of a District Superintendent.

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23rd September 1872.

5. If Government see fit to consider this matter I would represent that the opportunity is a proper one for some reform in the civil powers delegated to the Junior Assistant. These are now controlled by rules which were evidently drawn up on the supposition that this officer would be always attached to the Court of the Agent. I will not enter into the matter *in extenso*; but, as a proof of the necessity of an alteration, I will adduce the fact that I cannot try the smallest cause without sending the plaint all the way from Koraput to Vizagapatam for your endorsement. I cannot hear an appeal from the decision of my Munsifs, who have an original jurisdiction that I do not hold and which I am not empowered to control.

6. I am prepared, should Government wish it, to submit a draft of the amended rules which I deem suitable to the requirements of the country.

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 23rd September 1872, No. 1292.

The Governor in Council directs that the officers employed in the Hill tracts of Ganjam and in Jeypore under the designation of Junior Assistant Agent shall in future be styled Special Assistant Agents.

2. The Government are not prepared to increase the salary attached to the officer in either district. The amendment of Act XXIV. of 1839 being now under the consideration of the Council of the Governor-General, the Governor in Council does not deem it expedient at present to make any alterations in the Agency rules at present in force.

(True Extract.)


Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam.

„ „ „ „ „ in Ganjam.
„ Revenue Department. ✓
„ Accountant-General.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

20th September

Revenue 1872 No. 116
Sept 31/72
Govt. of 1872/Attorneys.

JUDICIAL.

To
THE AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR OF
FORT ST. GEORGE IN VIZAGAPATAM,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated September, 23rd.
Recd. *Sept 2nd* Encl.

G. O., 23rd September 1872, No. 1292.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 116-117.

Directing that the officers employed in the Illi-
tracts of Ganjam and in Jeypore under the designa-
tion of Junior Assistant Agent in future be
styled "Special Assistant Agents."

W. H. D. as 1872/116

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