M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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(2) Date of repair 20-2-67.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1343	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated 17-10-1874 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/1343

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th October 1874.

No. 245. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th October 1874, No. 2,947 :—

Read the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 30th September 1874, No. 1,633.

I HAVE the honor to report to the Board of Revenue that I despatched the enclosed telegram to Government the day before yesterday.

2. On the afternoon of Friday last, the 25th, it became clear that a very high fresh was to be expected, and I directed the Bunder Tahsildar to proceed, with all haste, to Avanigadda to give assistance and advice to the people. The Deputy-Tahsildar, as the Board know, is now stationed at Kodur.

3. The river continued to rise until on Sunday morning; it had reached the height of 19 feet 5 inches above the anicut; as my telegram says 1 foot 11 inches higher than any fresh that has passed over it.

4. Judging by former experience, until Sunday evening I was not deeming any special steps necessary for the people in Divi, as they are quite used to these floods and always have managed to keep themselves safe through them; further, I was trusting that the Tahsildar would inform me of any necessity; but then I first heard a rumour that the Tahsildar was penned up in Sallapalli or thereabouts, from which place he could neither communicate with me nor with Divi. I therefore at once determined to send boats with rice and the necessaries of life in case they should be wanted.

5. Captain Harris, the Superintendent of Police, volunteered to take charge of this expedition, and I have availed myself of his services most thankfully.

6. I have had no postal communication with Repalli since Friday, and my knowledge of what is going on higher up the river has till to-day, when I have a letter from Major Hasted, been chiefly obtained through the telegraph.

7. Above the anicut the river rose above its banks on both sides, and upwards of 1,000 people are reported houseless and without food on the Bezwada side; they were saved by boats sent up the river from the high places and the tops of their houses to which they had escaped. For them the Tahsildar reports that he has provided food gratuitously, and I have sanctioned his doing so. On the Guntoor side Mr. Newman reports five villages flooded and abandoned, and that he had fed 800 people. These people must have lost everything.

8. From these places no loss of life is reported, and I am hopeful that there has been none.

9. Along the river-banks lower down at Vallurpolem and other places the people were obliged to escape into trees; but no loss of life has been reported, save by a Department Public Works subordinate at Lankapilli, who reports a tremendous breach

in the river-bank, through which he saw twelve bodies pass from the river; from what villages they came, of course, cannot be said.

10. I have telegraphed to Mr. Newman to try and get down to Repalli and to report to me from there, as I cannot get away from this, as soon as he has relieved the [illegible] in the Guntoor Taluq.

11. The river fell a whole foot yesterday, and it has continued falling, as Major Hasted reports only 15 feet 5 inches this morning.

12. The people will, therefore, be able to get about again by this time. I heard yesterday from Kodur, and this morning a man has come from Avanigadda; both report that there has been no loss of life at either place.

13. Major Hasted, who was most fortunately at Bezwada, telegraphed to me yesterday that the head-works were safe. They have had a very narrow escape; for the workshop was half flooded, and the compound of the Lock bungalow was under water. On this matter I will report at greater length when I have seen Major Hasted.

14. The damage by breaching to the Bunder canal is very great; the river came right across it at Vallur and then back again at Pamarru; and Lieutenant Campbell reports the whole country to be under water at the latter place. Matters, however, are certainly improving; for I have a letter this morning from Bezwada.

15. I have sent rice to Divi, and have authorised all officers to distribute food gratuitously to those persons who may be in want of it; for the cost of which I shall hereafter have to ask sanction. I cannot at present estimate what it will be.

16. I do not propose to Government that they should advance any money for the reconstruction of houses, though I fear the loss will be very great to the people. Should any special cases arise I will report them. I shall, with the Board's permission, allow all people to take what wood, *etc*, they require, free of cost, from Government jungles.

17. The loss of crops, which were very fine, will, I fear, be very great; but until I can estimate the width of country flooded, I cann t even give a guess that is worth recording. There is yet time for a rice-crop to be put in, and the later dry crops will not be worse for the inundation.

18. I have just heard by telegraph that the river has fallen to 13 feet 10 inches on the anicut.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Board have received with much concern the Collector's account of the disastrous floods in the Kistna.

3. They fully approve the measures taken by the Collector and the district officers for supplying the people with food and providing for their safety as far as possible, and will solicit the sanction of Government for all outlay incurred for these objects.

4. The Board sanction the grant of wood free from Government jungles for the reconstruction of houses, as requested by the Collector in paragraph 16.

5. They await the Collector's further report on the damage done to the crops and to the irrigation works and any proposals he may find it necessary to make for alleviating the distress consequent on such wide spread destruction of property. The Board trust that the loss of life may prove to have been inconsiderable.

2/1343

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th October 1874.

No. 246. Order thereon, 17th October 1874, No. 1,343.

Miscellaneous.

The Collector should be instructed to afford all necessary relief in the way of food, *etc.*, without stint.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

3/
No. 3594/1343 REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From the Board of Revenue.
Dated 9th October 1874

FOR ORDERS.

The Collr should, I think be instructed to afford all necessary relief in the way of food to the sufferers by the

L.D.S. 13.10. 15/10

Govt. of [1874] Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated October 17th.

Read.

G. O. 17th October 1874, No. [illegible]

OCTOBER.
Nos. 245-246.

Distress Floods in the Kistna River.—Directing the Board to instruct the Collector of the Kistna District to afford all necessary relief in the way of food, &c., to the sufferers by the —

FOR ORDERS.

c 12/10/74
c 14/10/74
c 16/10/74

Revenue department

5/3

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 9th October 1874

Read the following:-

No 1633.

From G. D. Lennox Esquire
Collector, Kistna District

To, J. Grose Esquire
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

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I have &c

Kistna District Collector's Office Masulipatam 30 September 1874

Sd/ W. D. Lunan
Collector

Submitted for the information of Government.

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They fully approve the measures taken by the Collector and the District Officers for supplying the people with food and providing for their safety as far as possible and will solicit the sanction of Government for all outlay incurred for these objects.

The Board sanction the grant of wood free from Government jungles for the reconstruction of houses as requested by the Collector in Para 16.

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further report on the damage done to the crops and to the Irrigation works and any proposals he may find it necessary to make for alleviating the distress consequent on such wide spread destruction of property. The Board trust that the loss of life may prove to have been inconsiderable.

True copy & Answer

J Boyle
Secretary

To
The Ag Secretary to
Government Revenue
Department.

E Mughoff
A Sy & Ch Ag Secy

No. 3594
Revenue 1874 Dept.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

&

Under 9th October 1874

Dept. Rec'd. 12-

For orders.

Submitting to
Government report
from Collector of Ko-
Kistna District, of
occurrence of a
disastrous flood
in the Kistna river,
and sanctioning pur-
chase of wood, free, from
Government Jungles
for re-construction
of destroyed houses.
No 1343. 17 October 1874
Write Order

245-246

No. 1343.

The Collector should
be instructed to afford all
necessary relief in the way
of food &c without stint

17 Oct. 74

List under orders.

Desp. in M. to G. of Rev. 17 Oct.
14 Corresponded