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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. ~~B.P. No.~~	372	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	20 - 3 - 1874 ~~196~~ .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 20th March 1874.

No. 197. Read the following Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 3rd March 1874 :—

Read the following Memorandum from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Courapett, 11th March 1874, No. 200A.

The undersigned has, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in the Secretary's endorsement, dated 3rd instant, to G. O., Revenue Department, No. 251, of the 24th February 1874, consulted with the Collector of South Arcot on the subject of the works which can be undertaken at once to afford relief to the population of this district, wherever distress may be apprehended.

2. It is thought that in connection with Local Fund Roads a very large amount of suitable employment may be found by detailing gangs to quarry, screen and sort gravel, and to quarry and break stone, this being work easily understood and capable of being readily supervised. It will be generally better to let the people do such work than actual constructive or repair work on the roads, as, in the first place, in the dry weather but little effective work can be done on the roads themselves, except where embankments have to be formed, side channels cut, and other descriptions of earthwork executed ; and, secondly, adequate supervision might not be obtainable.

3. In connection with irrigation works there is a great deal which may be especially in the western and north-western parts of the district, in cle[illegible] tank-bunds and supply-channels. These are to a lamentable extent over-run with prickly-pear, and the channels from this and the growth of brush-wood are frequently rendered of but little use. These clearances can be carried out, to any extent which the Collector may desire, under the orders of the Revenue Officers, and the employment which this work will afford is practically unlimited, if the time during which labour is likely to be available from field work be taken into account. Previously to the receipt of the order of Government the Collector had been communicated with on this subject, and it is intended that, while very material aid will be given from Repair Funds for carrying out this work of clearance, the villagers shall be called upon to do such portion of the clearances, as may appear to be equitable and advisable, without payment, in order that they may not obtain entire relief for the neglected obligations of the past, nor suppose that these obligations will not be enforced in the future. It is evident that the cost of the clearances would practically be a great waste of money, if care be not taken that the prickly-pear does not make head again. A very trifling amount of labour bestowed at intervals will prevent its re-establishing itself on the village irrigation works, but the villagers alone can successfully prevent its re-growth on the many hundreds of works scattered all over the district.

4. When all the village irrigation works have been cleared, then, should unhappily more employment be needed, there are still the village waste lands, and often the putta lands as well, to be cleared; while the tracks between villages, now almost impassable in places, and elsewhere much blocked up, would be much the better for the extermination of this unmanageable pear.

5. The Vylore Tank near Virdachellum, which breached shortly after its construction under circumstances which will be noticed in another memorandum, and the Periakurchi Tank, about half way between Virdachellum and Kurinjapady, may be restored directly the employment of labour in these localities is deemed to be desirable by the Revenue Officers; and the estimates, revised according to instructions which will at once be given to the District Engineer, should be immediately got ready, and a memorandum detailing the exact way in which the work is to be done drawn up. Considerable care will be needed in executing these works and a competent maistry should be employed to supervise them.

These will be new works as no revenue has been obtained from the restoration.

6. From these remarks it will seen that there will be no difficulty in providing employment for all who need it, at any rate for several months. Regarding the railway works there is no need of any observations here, as the Chief Engineer of the Great Southern India Railway has just been to Cuddalore, and the Collector has been in consultation with him.

7. The instructions contained in G. O., No. 88, of the 7th March 1874, have also been attended to.

8. The difficulty which there would be in providing funds in a regular manner for agricultural works will be most easily met by Local Fund advances, to be repaid immediately after the 1st April, and the District Engineer has been instructed to apply for such advances as may be needed, and to repay them as soon as allotments for 1874-75 are placed at his disposal.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department with reference to the orders in that Department, No. 251, dated 24th February 1874, and No. 304, of 3rd March 1874.

19*th March* 1874. (Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 198. ORDER THEREON, 20th March 1874, No. 372.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, G. Banbury, Esq.,

Exd. W. H. French.

372/2

Gov^t. of 1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March 20th.

Recd.

G. O., 20th March 1874, No. 372.

MARCH.

Nos. 197-198.

Relief Works in South Arcot District—Communicates to Revenue Board Memorandum from Chief Engineer for Irrigation, regarding what may be undertaken at once.

372/3

No. Read the following endorsement of the ~~Under~~ Secy to Govt. of H. Dept. of 3d March 1874:—

No. 200 A.

Read the following Memorandum from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, of Courapett, 11th March 1874.

The undersigned has, in accordance with the instructions conveyed in the Secretary's endorsement, dated 3d Instant, to G.+O. Revenue Deptt. No. 251 of the 24th February 1874, consulted with the Collector of South Arcot on the subject of the works which can be undertaken at once to afford relief to the population of this District, wherever distress may be apprehended.—

+ Ref^d to the Ch: Eng. for Mig^tn. 3/3/74

2 It is thought that in connection with Local Fund Roads a very large amount of suitable employment may be found by detailing gangs to quarry, screen and sort gravel, and to quarry and break stone, this being work easily understood and capable

of

of being readily supervised. It will be generally better to let the people do such work than actual construc-tive or repair work on the roads, as in the first place in the dry weather but little effective work can be done on the roads themselves, except where embankments have to be formed, side channels cut and other descriptions of earth work executed, and secondly adequate supervision might not be obtainable.

3. In connection with Irrigation works there is a great deal which may be done, especially in the Western and North western parts of the District, in clearing tank bunds and supply channels. These are to a lamentable extent over-run with prickly pear, and the channels from this and the growth of brush-

brush-wood are frequently rendered of but little use. These clearances can be carried out, to any extent which the Collector may desire, under the orders of the Revenue Officers, and the employment which this work will afford is practically unlimited, if the time during which labour is likely to be available from field work be taken into account. Previously to the receipt of the order of Government the Collector had been communicated with on this subject, and it is intended that while very material aid will be given from repair funds for carrying out this work of clearance, the villagers shall be called upon to do such portion of the clearances, as may appear to be equitable and advisable, without payment, in order that they may not obtain entire relief for the neglected obligations of the

the past, nor suppose that these obligations will not be enforced in the future. It is evident that the cost of the clearances would practically be a great waste of money if care be not taken that the prickly pear does not make head again. A very trifling amount of labour bestowed at intervals will prevent its re-establishing itself on the village irrigation works, but the villagers alone can successfully prevent its re-growth on the many hundreds of works scattered all over the District.

"When all the village irrigation works have been cleared, then, should unhappily more employment be needed, there are still the village waste lands, and often the puttah lands as well, to be cleared; while the tracks between villages, now almost impassable

in places, and elsewhere much blocked up, would be much the better for the extermination of this unmanageable pear.—

5 The Vylore Tank near Virdachellum, which breached shortly after its construction, under circumstances which will be noticed in another Memorandum; and the Periakurchi Tank about half way between Virdachellum and Kurinjadi may be restored directly the employment of labour in these localities is deemed to be desirable by the Revenue Officers; and the estimates, revised according to instructions which will at once be given to the District Engineer, should be immediately got ready, and a Memorandum detailing the exact way in which the work is to be done drawn up. Considerable care will be needed in executing these works and a competent Maistry should be employed to

These will be new works as no revenue has been obtained from the restoration

to supervise them.

6 From these remarks it will be seen that there will be no difficulty in providing employment for all who need it at any rate for several months. Regarding the Railway works there is no need of any observations here, as the Chief Engineer of the G.S.I.R. has just been to Cuddalore, and the Collector has been in consultation with him.

7 The instructions contained in G.O. No. 88 of the 7th March 1874 have also been attended to.

8 The difficulty which there would be in providing funds in a regular manner for Agricultural works will be most easily met by Local fund advances, to be repaid immediately after the 1st April, and the District Engineer has been instructed to apply for such advances as may be needed, and to repay them as soon as allotments for 1874-75 are placed at his

disposal

disposal.

Camp at Conrapett 4th March 1874.

Colin Lemmons Lieutt. Col. R.E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To,
The Secretary to Government
Pub. Works Deptt.

24th February /74 No. 216-217
3d March — — — 54/56.

[redacted]

Transferred to the Revenue Department with reference to the orders in that Dept No. 257 dated 24th Feby /74 and No. 304 of 3d March /74.

G. M. Walker Coll. R.E.
Secy to Govt.
P.W.D.

19th March /74. No 372

Comd to the Board of Revenue

13 to Bd of Revenue
20 to P.W. Dept. } Dec. 2513-74 20 Mar: /74.

Revenue ~~Public Works~~ 1874 Dept.
From No. 920 ~~No. 1569~~
The Chf Engr for Irrigation
To The Secretary to Govt. B.R.D.
No. 200 A
Dated 11th
Rec'd 17th March 1874
Rec'd 19:—

Despd in M.G. to B. of Revenue & Mr. Banbury - 20-3-74

Reports on the subject of the works which can be undertaken at once to afford relief to the population of the S. Arcot Dist. wherever distress may be apprehended.

G.O. No. 372 - 20 March 74

Transferred