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 (3) Initials of the Referencer.....

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

.....Revenue.....DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	433	Presb
B.P. No.		-Mis.-
Dated	10 - 4 -	1874 -196-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

433

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th April 1874.*

No. 58. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st April 1874, No. 768 :—

Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd March 1874, No. 77 :—

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th March 1874, No. 557, I have the honour to submit copy of a report from the Additional Deputy-Collector, who was deputed to inspect the Melur Taluq. This taluq, with the part of Madura Taluq adjoining it, is the least fertile tract of country in the district. The soil is poor, and irrigation depends almost entirely upon small rain-fed tanks, of which there are 2,771 in Melur alone. In all years, there is a good deal of emigration from this part of the district to Ceylon, and, in a bad season, it is the place where actual distress may be expected to make its first appearance.

2. The Deputy-Collector suggests—

(1.) That all estimates already prepared for the repair of irrigation-works in Melur be sanctioned, and the work executed at once. Between April 1873 and February 1874, estimates, amounting to Rupees 14,350, were countersigned and sent to the District Engineer, and many of these works have not been commenced. Orders for their immediate execution might be issued in the Public Works Department.

(2.) That the Kunnathur tank be repaired. The District Engineer has been asked whether the estimate for the repair of this tank can be sent in at once.

(3.) That the Local Fund roads from Melur to Shevagungah and from Madura to Alagarcovil be pushed on. The District Engineer has been requested to have this done, and sufficient funds are available.

3. The Deputy-Collector thinks that immediate expenditure on the works he mentions will prevent distress till the commencement of the next cultivating season. He is intimately acquainted with this district, and no one is more competent to form a correct opinion regarding the actual state of any part of it; but unfortunately he has been suffering from fever since his arrival, and consequently has not yet seen so many villages as I intended. Revised proposals for the remission of punjah assessment in this taluq will be submitted shortly, some modifications being necessary in the proposals made in my letter of the 24th February last.

—
ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From P. SOOBIEEN, Temporary Deputy-Collector, Madura, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, dated 17th March 1874.

ADVERTING to your letter, No. 253, I have the honour to submit a brief report on the present condition of Melur Taluq.

2. I took a tour into the taluq in each direction whereby I was able to learn the state of the whole taluq, and I actually visited fifteen villages.

3. According to the rain reports kept in the taluq and those furnished by village-officers, there is no question as to the scantiness of the rains during the current official year. It must be

4. In about thirty villages of the taluq, it has been the practice to sow a species of cumbu on dry lands in the month of April or May, and to sow pulse grains on the same lands in the month of August or September for the second crop; while in the other parts of the taluq only one crop is raised on dry lands, the sowing season commencing from July. Accordingly, the rains, which fell in May, were availed of for sowing cumbu. But there having been little or no rain in June and July, the result, as may be expected, seems to have been almost a failure of harvest. The crops raised in the subsequent months have likewise suffered for want of good rains in October and November. There was one heavy rain in December, which, however, was, for the most part, too late to do any good.

6. Before, however, determining whether the ryots are entitled to any special indulgence on account of their dry lands, it becomes necessary to take conjointly into consideration what has been the outturn of their wet cultivation; because Melur is neither a wet nor a dry taluk, and because there is hardly a village in which

	Panjab	Beng.
.. .. .	98,000	
.. .. .	1,14,000	

[illegible]

Shavi reported Rs. 18,000.

10. I would, therefore, suggest—

(1.) That all estimates for repairs of irrigation-works in Melur Taluq, which have, up to this time, been submitted for sanction, may be sanctioned at once, and the works commenced at the beginning of the next official year.

$$\frac{433}{2}$$

(2.) That repairs to the large tank of Kunnathur village, in Madura Taluq, which is in the proximity of the said affected villages, and which is in need of repair, be likewise ordered to be undertaken at the beginning of April. It is said that measurements were made a year ago for framing an estimate to this tank.

(4.) The construction of a road from Melur to Alagarcovil, which has also been sanctioned, should likewise be undertaken.

12. I would have submitted this report some time ago, had I not been labouring with fever for the last ten days.

(Signed) W. McQUHAE,
Collector.

2. The information given regarding the state of the Melur Taluq is sufficient to show that some exceptional remissions will have to be granted eventually, but that *work* is the thing which is most urgently required.

4. The suggestions that the repairs to irrigation-works, which have been already estimated for, should be commenced at once, and that the repair of the Kunnathur tank should be undertaken seem to be judicious. In the case of these works, also, more supervision than usual will be necessary, and the labourers, so long as the distress lasts, should be paid daily.

5. With regard to the exceptional remission, the Board await the promised report. As at present informed, they think it will be best to give remission on the ground that some particular crop, such as varagu, has failed conspicuously throughout a tract where there has been no compensating profit from wet crops.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th April 1874.*

No. 59.

ORDER THEREON, 10th April 1874, No. 433.

Miscellaneous.

His Excellency the Governor in Council approves of the suggestions made by the Board for the immediate commencement of the works entered in the Local Fund Budget, as well as of the irrigation-works in the Melur Taluq. The employment of extra Overseers and Maistries in both cases appears desirable, and it will be considered in the Public Works Department how this can be arranged.

2. The question of the repair of Kunuathur tank will be referred to the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Financial Department.

Temporary Deputy, Madras Office
 Madras 17 March 1874
 933/4

From
 The Temporary Deputy Collector
 Madras.

To
 The Collector of Madras.

Sir,
 Adverting to your letter No. 255,
 I have the honor to submit a brief report
 on the present condition of Melur Taluq.

1 I took a tour into the Taluq
 in each direction whereby I was able
 to learn the state of the whole Taluq
 and I actually visited 15 villages.

3 According to the rain reports kept
 in the Taluq and those furnished by
 Village officers there is no question as to
 the scantiness of the rains during the
 current official year. It must be re-
 marked here that even these rains
 did not fall generally throughout
 the Taluq or at least throughout any
 section.

No order (imposed)
 tank repairs
 preference to
 works. 1874

Not order the ad-
 ditional cultivation
 since the cultivation
 of Melur works in 1873
 works on the present
 as. But further work
 since a few more
 the Melur works
 needed is special re-
 lief for Melur
 whole - 214 of 1872
 Melur. The Melur
 Melur - Melur
 only Melur 2000
 914 58.

Resolved 1874 Depts
 No 1100
 PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
 OF REVENUE.

Dated 1st April 1874
 Despt. 17
 Recd. 23
 en 21

Submitting to Govt. with
 memorandum from J. L. of
 Melur submitting copy of
 a report regarding state
 of season in Melur Taluq
 of promising to submit a
 revised proposal for
 Melur revision in
 the Taluq.
 S.O. No 433-1874

section of the Talag. While there was rain in one village the neighbouring village had none. Instances have also come to my observation in which the same village was partly sown with rains and partly not.

4 In about 30 villages of the Talag it has been the practice to sow a species of cumboos on dry lands in the month of April or May and to sow pulse grains on the same lands in the month of August or September for the 2nd crop, while in the other parts of the Talag only one crop is raised on dry lands the sowing season commencing from July. Accordingly the rains which fell in May were availed of for sowing cumboos. But there having been little or no rain in June and July, the result, as may be expected, seems to have been almost a failure of harvest. The crops raised in the subsequent months have likewise suffered for want of good rains in October and

and November. There was one heavy rain in December which however was for the most part too late to do any good.

5 On the whole it may be said without exaggeration that only one half of the Talag reaped a half of the average produce and that in the rest of the villages there was only a nominal harvest, because no ryot appeared to possess at the time of my enquiry any surplus stock in hand. This Talag which is well known to supply the Madras Market and other adjoining districts with staple pulse grains of black-green and horse grains has failed to do so this year. Hence the exorbitant high price of those species at this time of the year.

6 Before, however, determining whether the ryots are entitled to any special indulgence on account of their dry lands it becomes necessary to take conjointly into consideration what

what has been the out-turn of their
wet cultivation; because Melur is
neither a wet nor a dry Taluk and
because there is hardly a village in
which the failure of one description
of crops could not be compensated
by the good out-turn of the
other.

But from what has been
already stated it would appear
that the season was not favorable
for Kanyah also. Excepting a few
villages, being fed by streams from
Nathur hills (even these do not bring
down a continual supply) the Taluk
consisting of Tanks depends entirely
upon rains. The tanks being generally
small and not capable of holding
water sufficient to produce a crop
and the rains subsequent to the
planting season having been very
little as already stated wet crops
commenced to wither just at the
time of the sprouting of the ears and
there

R
Pongu - 9,500
Kanyah - 114,000

Kanyah reported
Rs 18,000

433
there would have been an entire failure
of paddy crop had not the rain which
fell in the beginning of December
last saved them to a little extent.
Except a very few peculiarly favor-
ed villages the General Kanyah
out-turn of the Taluk is supposed
to have been a little above $\frac{1}{4}$ of the
average omitting the extensive Kanyah
that has taken place out of account.

Under these circumstances
I consider it necessary that in addition
to remissions on account of Kanyah
which will be regulated according
to the rules by the settling officer
a per centage remission on the Kanyah
holding must also be granted to a
selected number of villages where
both Kanyah and Pongu have been
a failure and where the ryots are,
in consequence, not in a position to
pay the Government demand without
feeling it a hardship. I will submit
this

shortly my proposals on the receipt of information from the Taluk.

9 I have however to bring to your notice that in villages most affected some ryots have emigrated to Ceylon or to some villages in Madras Taluk or in the Shervagungan Lemnidari where the harvest has not yet ceased. Others are selling their cattle or borrowing money for their subsistence. I think that even supposing there will be a good season for the next cultivation, the people of the above mentioned villages will feel difficulty in maintaining themselves until they could reap the fruits.

10 I would therefore suggest that all estimates for repairs of irrigation works in Melur Taluk which have up to the time, been submitted for sanction, may be sanctioned at once and the works commenced at the very beginning of the next official

official year.

Note

I have ascertained from the Taluk Officer that estimates amounting to Rs 8100 have been submitted for sanction.

2 That repairs to the large tanks of Chumathur village in the Madras Taluk which is in the vicinity of the said affected villages and which is in need of repairs, be likewise ordered to be undertaken at the beginning of April. It is said that measurements were made a year ago for framing an estimate to this tank.

3 That the next year's allotment for the construction of the Road from Melur to Shervagungan sanctioned by the Local Council Board at the early part of the current official year be ordered to be worked out in the commencement of the year. The work does not appear to make a fair progress.

progress under the Contractor, the amount spent up to the end of February, being only about 1000 Rs though the allotment was Rs 5000-

4 The construction of a road from Melur to Mugarcovil which has also been sanctioned should likewise be undertaken.

11 If the above suggestions were carried out, I believe the ryots in question will have no cause to feel any distress until the ensuing cultivating season. Some of the above works are likely to benefit the ryots of the Madura Taluq also who are in my opinion not placed in a better circumstance than those for whose benefit their early execution is now recommended.

12 I would have submitted this report some time ago had I not been laboring with

with fever for the last 10 days. 437/26

I have seen
Signed / P. S. S. S. S.
Temporary Dy. Collector

/ True copy /

/ Signed / G. M. D. D.
Collector

/ True copy /

J. G. Gole

Collector's Office
Medina
232 March 1874

٧٧٢

From
Mr. Mc Duhne Esq^d,
Collector of Madras
To, J. Goss Esq^d,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,
With reference to the Board's Pro-
ceedings dated 12th March 1874 & 12th May,
I have the honor to submit copy of a
report from the Additional Deputy
Collector who was deputed to inspect the
Mehur Talug. This Talug with the
part of Madurai Talug adjoining it
is the least fertile tract of country in
the District. The soil is poor and
irrigation depends almost entirely upon
small rain-fed tanks of which there
are 271 in Mehur alone. In all years
there

457

Enclosed in this of
the Board of Managers
to the Secretary
Nov. 19. 1874
at New York
Per: $\frac{1}{1100}$ 74
Copy of a report
from the Secretary
of the Board of Managers
to the Secretary
Nov. 19. 1874
at New York
Per: $\frac{1}{1100}$ 74

Ed. Mayhew
Capt. Jas. C. Bogg

there is a good deal of emigration from this part of the District to Ceylon and in a bad season it is the place where actual distress may be expected to make its first appearance.

2. The Deputy Collector suggests (1) that all Estimates already prepared for the repair of irrigation works, in Melur be sanctioned and the work executed at once. Between April 1873 and February 1874 Estimates amounting to Rs. 14,350 were countersigned and sent to the District Engineer, and many of these works have not been commenced. Orders for their immediate execution might be issued in the Public Works Department.

(2) That the Thunathur tank be repaired

439/10
repaired. The District Engineer has been asked whether the Estimate for the repair of this tank can be sent in at once. (3) that the Local Fund roads from Melur to Shevagunah and from Madura to Alagarcoil be pushed on. The District Engineer has been requested to have this done and sufficient funds are available.

3. The Deputy Collector thinks that immediate Expenditure on the works he mentions will prevent distress till the commencement of the next cultivating season. He is intimately acquainted with this District and no one is more competent to form a correct opinion regarding the actual state

state of any part of it, but unfortunately he has been suffering from fever since his arrival and consequently has not yet seen so many villages as I intended. Revised proposals for the remission of Punjab assessments in this Taluk will be submitted shortly, some modifications being necessary in the proposals made in my letter of the 24th February last.

I have &c

(Signed) W. McQuhae.

Collector.

(True Copy)

J. G. Rose
Secretary

W. McQuhae

C. H. K.

433
Revenue Department
Muziris District, Muziris

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 1st April 1874.

Read letter from the Col-
lector of Madras dated 23rd March
1874 No. 77 submitting copy of a re-
port regarding the state of the season
of the Melur Taluk received from
the Additional Deputy Collector
who was deputed to inspect that
Taluk and stating that revised
proposals for Puzha remission
in the Taluk will be submitted
shortly. Submitted for the order
of Government. Submitted
The information given re-
garding the state of the Melur Taluk
is

1874. 10 April 1874
In 13. 11. 58.
Enclosure in Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue
to Secretary to Govern-
ment, Revenue Dept.
dated 1st April 1874.

Rev. 1100/74

Copy of a letter from
the Collector of Madras
dated 23rd March 1874 No. 77
submitting copy of a report
regarding the state of the
season of the Melur Taluk
received from the Additional
Deputy Collector who was
deputed to inspect that
Taluk stating that revised
proposals for Puzha remission
in the Taluk will be submitted
shortly.

is sufficient to show that some exceptional remissions will have to be granted eventually, but that ^{the thing which is} work is most urgently required.

The Board think the Collector should be authorized as President of the Local Fund Board to employ a larger number of overseers and Maistries than usual in supervising work on roads. Without such supervision the work will be badly done and the daily payment of labourers will be impossible. All the road work entered in the Budget has been approved by the Board so that the President might be authorized to push on with it at once though the Budget has not been sanctioned by

by Government. He should also consider and if necessary represent to the Local Fund Board the expediency of sanctioning work upon wells and ponds which supply drinking water.

The suggestion that the repairs to irrigation works which have been already estimated for should be commenced at once and that the repair of the Keunmathur Tank should be undertaken seem to be judicious. In the case of these works also more supervision than usual will be necessary and the labourers so long as the distress lasts, should be paid daily.

With regard to the exceptional remission the Board await the promised

promised report. As at present
informed they think it will
be best to give remission on
the ground that some parti-
-cular crop such as Varagu
has failed conspicuously through-
-out a tract where there
has been no compensating
profit from wet crops.

True Extract

J. G. Gole

Secretary

The Acting Secretary to Govern-
ment, Revenue Department
with copies of Collector's letter
and its enclosure

C. M. Narasimha Chetty

C. M. Narasimha Chetty

1874
No 433 — 10 April 1874

H. E. the G. in C
approves of the
suggestions made
by the Board for
the immediate
commencement
of the works en-
tered in the Local
Fund Budget as
well as of the irri-
gation works in
the Salween Valley.
The employment
of extra overseers
& maintainers in both
cases appears
desirable and
it will be considered
in the Public Works
Department how
this can be arranged.

[Signature]

[Signature]
1874

GOVT. OF BURMA

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE

10th April 1874

APRIL

[Faint text, likely a stamp or official notice]



Question of the
the repair of
Kumathir Tank
will be referred
to the O.W. Dept.

Q.W.

The Board of Revenue des. in no. 10.4.74

O.W. Dept	_____	do	_____
Finl. Dept	_____	do	_____

14.8.53 to 14.8.54 of Rev des 25 apl/74
21 — O.W. Dept —
51 — Finl. Dept —

65-88

GO



many other

✓ July —

July 1888