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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

650

~~B.P. No.~~

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

29-5-1874

196

.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

650
1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th May 1874.*

No. 270. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th April 1874, No. 1,010:—

Read the following letter from A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th February 1874, No. 28.

I HAVE the honour to report that the marginally noted officials of the Abkari Department, who were suspended pending inquiry on the 15th November last, have applied for the balance of pay due to them for the time they were under suspension.

R. N. Prakasa Mudali.	Kistnasawmy.
Ratnasabhupati Mudali.	Venkatasawmy.
Mahomed Salai Saib.	Kuppan.
Ekambra Iyer.	Venugopal.
Tattaiya.	Kooppoosawmy.

2. They were directed to return to duty on the 28th ultimo, as no offence had been proved against them. The amount due to them is given in the accompanying statement.

3. I beg to enclose a Memorandum and its enclosures showing the charges made against them, and a copy of my decision in the case acquitting them of blame.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Memorandum of Acting Collector, dated 24th February 1874.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 3 to 9.—Letter from Deputy Collector to Collector, dated 12th November 1873, No. 876, with its enclosures.

SUBMITTED for the favourable consideration of Government.

2. On the 15th November 1873 the Collector of Madras found it necessary to suspend certain officials of the Abkari Department pending a thorough inquiry by the Acting Deputy Collector, Suryamurthi Pillai. At the conclusion of the inquiry it was found that no offence had been proved against them, and there seems to be nothing in the facts ascertained which warrants keeping back any portion of their pay for the time they were under suspension. They were restored to duty on the 28th January 1874. Their full pay for the period they were under suspension amounts to Rupees 784-9-3, of which Rupees 25-9-3 was drawn as subsistence allowance. Sanction is requested for payment of the remainder, viz., Rupees 759.

3. The Acting Collector will submit a list showing what pay was drawn by the men who acted for the suspended officials.

No. 271. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1874, No. 650.

Separate Revenue, No. 25.

Abkari.

THE case referred to in the foregoing Proceedings is that regarding which a report was specially required from Suryamurthi Pillai, Acting Deputy-Collector of Madras (G. O., dated 20th January 1874, No. 93, R. D.).

150/2

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th May 1874.*

2. The facts appear to be that the Deputy-Collector sent in a report (12th November 1873) bringing to notice what appeared to be a series of frauds in the Draw-out Department of the Abkari Godown, and suggesting the observance of certain rules.

3. On this the Collector (Mr. Blair) directed (14th November 1873) the suspension of every official in the department, and desired the Deputy-Collector to take statements from them all, and forward them with his remarks.

4. When the report called for was ultimately received, it appeared that there was no proof of any of the allegations made, some of which took their origin in anonymous petitions.

5. The Acting Collector (Mr. Webster) had no alternative but to order the reinstatement of the suspended parties, who now come to ask for the pay due to them for the time they were out of employment, amounting to Rs. 759 net.

6. The Board recommend that it should be given, and the Government, under the circumstances, will not withhold their sanction. The additional charge thus incurred must be met from savings.

7. His Excellency the Governor in Council cannot, however, but express his dissatisfaction with the action of both the Collector and Deputy-Collector in this matter. The former should not have issued so hasty and injudicious an order when no specific charges had been brought against the presumed delinquents. The latter should have reported at once that he could not prove anything against them, and not have allowed this costly suspension to run on so long. Both officers are responsible for this serious waste of public time and money.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant-General.

No. 1,010.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 30th April 1874.

Read the following letter from A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th February 1874, No. 28:—

I HAVE the honour to report that the marginally noted officials of the Abkari Department, who were suspended pending inquiry on the 15th November last, have applied for the balance of pay due to them for the time they were under suspension.

2. They were directed to return to duty on the 28th ultimo, as no offence had been proved against them. The amount due to them is given in the accompanying statement.

3. I beg to enclose a Memorandum and its enclosures showing the charges made against them, and a copy of my decision in the case acquitting them of blame.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Memorandum of Acting Collector, dated 24th February 1874.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 3 to 9.—Letter from Deputy Collector to Collector, dated 12th November 1873, No. 876, with its enclosures.

SUBMITTED for the favourable consideration of Government.

2. On the 15th November 1873 the Collector of Madras found it necessary to suspend certain officials of the Abkari Department pending a thorough inquiry by the Acting Deputy Collector, Suryamurthi Pillai. At the conclusion of the inquiry it was found that no offence had been proved against them and there seems to be nothing in the facts ascertained which warrants keeping back any portion of their pay for the time they were under suspension. They were restored to duty on the 28th January 1874. Their full pay for the period they were under suspension amounts to Rupees 784-9-3, of which Rupees 25-9-3 was drawn as subsistence allowance. Sanction is requested for payment of the remainder, viz., Rupees 759.

3. The Acting Collector will submit a list showing what pay was drawn by the men who acted for the suspended officials.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. Grose
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with nine original enclosures to be returned.
,, the Acting Collector of Madras, with records returned.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Colt. of 1874

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Ac, Ac, Ac

Dated May 20th

Encl.

G O, 29th May 1874, No. 650.

Nos. 270-271.

Memo. Abkari Department.—Sanctions
payment of salaries due to certain officials of —
for the period they were under suspension, and
views with dissatisfaction the action both of the
Collector and Deputy Collector, with remarks.



Revenue Department.

Memo. for Orders.

Pro. Board of Revenue, requesting sanction for payment of salaries due to certain officials of the Abkari department of Madras who were under suspension pending inquiry into certain irregularities in the department and have since been restored.

(H. O. 30 April 1874 N^o. 1010)

This was evidently
been a regular
"business" in
every. The Dept
Ch. evidently was
an unblatant series of
changes - he suspected
indeed he believed
that frauds were
being committed -
he admitted that

The case referred to in these
Proceedings is the one, to prepare
a report in which Surjannurthi
Vellay, Ag. D^y Collector of Madras
was permitted to remain in
Madras after being relieved by
the permanent incumbent. (S.O.
20 January 1874 N^o 93 P.D.)
The facts appear to be
that the D^y Collector sent in a
report (12 Nov. 73) bringing to
notice what appeared to be a
series of frauds in the Draw-out
department of the Abkari godown
and suggesting the observance of

Revenue

1874, Departs

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 30TH APRIL 1874, No. 1,010.

Decy: 10/10/74.

Encl. 9

12548

Received 5th May 1874

APRIL.

No. 1,010.

Abkari Department - of Madras. - Sanction of Government requested for payment of salaries due to certain officials of - who were under suspension pending inquiry into certain irregularities in the department and have since been restored. Collector to submit a list showing what pay was drawn by men who acted for suspended officials.

50 29 May 1874 No 650

1874 N^o 29
C 12th May 1874 N^o 29

of certain rules.

3. On this the collector (Mr. Blair) directed (14 November 1873) the suspension of every official in the department and desired the Deputy collector to take statements from them all, and forward them with his remarks.

4. When the report called for was ultimately received, it appeared that there was no proof of any of the allegations made, some of which took their origin in anonymous petitions.

5. The Ag. collector (Mr. Webster) had nothing to do but to order the reinstatement of the suspended parties, who now come to ask for the pay due to them for the time they were out of employ, amounting to Rs 759 each.

6. The Board recommended that it should be given, but they do not explain from what source the pay drawn by the men who acted for the suspended officials is to be obtained, though they desire the collector to send in a list

there was no
proof - 20/15

what was handed

all the men

if hand! They

must of course

get their back

pay - The matter

over but in brief

we write a favorable

opinion of the Dept

but not really

the collector was more

of course.

10/5

10/5

which has a serious

list of the payments so made.

7. It is sufficiently obvious from the correspondence, that the action taken upon the D^y collector's first report was somewhat hasty.

old administration
Coll. & Dep^y Coll.
in the Coll. for act
with judicial measures
Dep. Coll. for letting
suspension run on
but are responsible
want to ask
money
money must be
in Saon

Surajmurti Pillay's account was highly colored on doubt, but there was so much "gossip & hear-say" about it, that it could hardly justify the sweeping measures adopted. It is very probable that the D^y collector accurately described the irregularities which were or had been of actual occurrence, but this was quite different from bringing specific charges which he was prepared to prove against particular officials. He was probably as much surprised as any one at the result of his recommendations.

8. His account would have been better sent in a demi-official form than as a public document, and the outcome of it all is disastrous because the failure to bring any one to justice casts ridicule on the measures first adopted.

adopted and on the officers
who adopted them, while the
culprits are no doubt, as the D^r
Collector describes them "secretly
rejoicing for the very clever and
"bold tricks played by them."

9. The correspondence which
has passed is succinctly recorded
in the Memorandum prepared
by W. Webster dated 24 Feb^y/74.

Attention is requested to the
concluding remark therein where
he says that "the explanation
"of delay given by the D^r collector
"is by no means satisfactory. He
"should have reported at once that
"he could not prove any case against
"the suspended men, and should
"not have allowed them to remain
"under suspension while he was
"enquiring into the working of the
"Department."

CW

Memorandum for Order
Asst. Secy. of Treas.

Order No. 650.

C 12th May/74 R 22?



Revenue Department.

No. 650.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 29th May 1874

Read the following Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue

Requesting sanction for
payment of salaries due to
certain Officials of the Alwar
Department of Madras who
were under suspension pending
inquiry into certain irregularities
in the department and
have since been restored.

Wd 30th April 1874. R. 22.

The case referred to
in the foregoing Proceedings
is that regarding which a
report was specially re-
quired from Sargamurthi
Pillai, Acting Deputy Col-
lector of Madras (G.O. 20th
January 1874 No. 93 R.O.)

2. The facts appear
to be that the Deputy

Collector

Collector sent in a report (12th November 1873) bringing to notice what appeared to be a series of frauds in the Draw-out department of the Alkari godown, and suggesting the observance of certain rules.

3. On this the Collector (Mr. Blair) directed (14th November 1873) the suspension of every official in the department and desired the Deputy Collector to take statements from them all, and forward them with his remarks.

4. When the report called for was ultimately received, it appeared that there was no proof of any of the allegations made, some of which took their origin in anonymous petitions.

The

5. The Acting Collector (Mr. Webster) had ~~nothing~~ ^{alternative} ~~but~~ to order the re-instatement of the suspended parties, who now come to ask for the pay due to them for the time they were out of employ^{ment}, amounting to Rupees 759 nett.

6. The Board recommend that it should be given and the Government under the circumstances will not withhold their sanction. The additional charge thus incurred must be met from savings.

7. His Excellency the Governor in Council cannot however but express his dissatisfaction with the action of both the Collector and Deputy Collector in this matter.

The

The former should not
have issued so hasty and
unjudicious
~~ill judged~~ an order when
no specific charges had
been brought against the
presumed delinquents.

The latter should have
reported at once that he
could not prove anything
against them and not
have allowed this costly
suspension to run on so
long. Both Officers are
responsible for this serious
waste of public ^{time and} money.

QW

To B. J. Newman with 4 Cents
and 1/2 Cent. { 9/9 June

40

Page of suspended ...
of

270-271

270-271

C 23rd May 174 R 29th

657
1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th May 1874.*

No. 272. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th February 1874, No. 372:—

Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 15th December 1873, No. 414:—

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, of the 31st March last, No. 482, I have the honour to report that the charge of village and field channels may be made over to the village ryots from the beginning of next Fasli (1284).

2. The Sub-Collector thinks that the employment of a Nirgunti in every village having more than 500 and less than 1,000 acres of irrigated land, and two in villages containing more than 1,000 irrigated acres should be employed, and the Deputy-Collector considers that 122 Nirgunties would be required in the two taluqs under his charge, with reference to the local requirements. The Head-Assistant Collector, who has charge of a Delta Taluq and Ellore, a portion of which is also delta, does not require any additional servants. Considering how little was practically managed hitherto by the Department Public Works, assuming that they had the charge of the village and field channels, I should think that no additional establishment would be necessary to distribute the water to fields, for, I believe, the ryots and the village officers will have to do in future practically what they had done, and what they now do, though in theory the Department Public Works are the managers.

3. I propose to try and do without any extra establishment: but I am afraid it will not succeed. I would, therefore, ask that permission might be given to me to employ Nirgunties according to the scale proposed by the Sub-Collector, if in any village I find it necessary. I ask for this, because a letter takes at the very least ten days going to Madras and back, and, if any thing went wrong in the irrigation, those ten days would be quite sufficient to ruin the crops.

4. This scale would require 449 Nirgunties to be entertained; distributed as follows:—

	No.
Ramachendrapur Taluq	122
Amalapur Taluq	37
Ellore Taluq	25
Coringa	2
Narasapur Taluq	72
Cocanada	19
Bhimaveram Taluq	96
Tanuku Taluq	76
	<hr/>
	449

5. Paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, under reply, requires a report on paragraph 4 of Government Order, which refers to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the note from the Chief Engineer. Rules II. and IX. of the Revised Water-tax Rules sufficiently provide for the timely intimation to the Department Public Works of the extent of land to be irrigated, and reserve the power of Government to withhold the supply of irrigation when it thinks necessary. It only remains to be considered whether any restrictions are necessary to supply water to ryots who

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th May 1874.*

had relinquished it before. I think not. It is highly improbable that a ryot who would be benefitted by irrigation would refrain from availing himself of the benefits of irrigation by relinquishing it, and that if he once does relinquish it because of indispensable necessity, he would again apply for it within a reasonable time.

6. As regards the extent of land to be irrigated, Monthly Statements are also sent to the Department Public Works, under G. O., dated 28th November 1871, No. 3,008, communicated with the Board's Proceedings, of 6th December 1871, No. 4,445.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G. O., dated 11th March 1873, No. 48, Revenue Department.

2. The Board are called upon to report—

(1.) From what date the charge of the water supplied to single villages from the moment it quits the regulating sluice can be vested in the village officers, and whether any increase in the number of Nirgunties will be necessary.

(2.) The suggestion of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation that the Collector should keep the District Engineer informed of the areas to be irrigated, and that later applications for water should be transmitted direct to the Range Officer from the taluq.

(3.) The suggestion of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation that Government should have the option of ceasing to irrigate any land after giving due notice, and make rules as to the terms on which after irrigation has been relinquished a subsequent supply may be obtained.

3. With regard to the first question the Collector thinks the new system may be introduced from the beginning of next Fasli (1284). * The Local officers differ as to whether Nirgunties will be wanted and the Collector asks for sanction to employ as many as he may find necessary from time to time up to 449 on a stated scale* without further reference.

4. The difficulty of foreseeing what will happen when the new system is tried, the importance of immediately supplying any help that may be wanted, and the delay that must attend a reference to Madras or Ootacamund are sufficient reasons for giving the Collector the discretion which he asks, but there will be a difficulty about obtaining the money to pay the Nirgunties. The full strength which may possibly be entertained will cost Rupees 21,552 per annum and the Board fear that the Village Service Fund is not sufficiently large to meet this new demand. The Collector (who says nothing as to how the expenditure is to be provided for) will be requested to report on this point.

5. With regard to the second question the Board agree with the Collector that the Revised Water-tax Rules provide for all that the Chief Engineer for Irrigation wants to get.

6. With regard to third question also the Board agree with the Collector who thinks it is not necessary for Government to retain any further right with regard to refusing water when a ryot wishes to take it than is given by Rule IX.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th May 1874.*

No. 273.

ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1874, No. 651.

Miscellaneous.

THERE does not appear to be any urgent necessity for the employment of Nirgunties for the distribution of

water. The original enquiry related more to the keeping in repair of the village and field channels than to the distribution of water. The idea was that the ryots should be left to do both for themselves, and practically it appears they have done this in the Godavery District. The experiment may well be made from the commencement of Fasli 1284 without any extra establishment. After one year's trial of the system the Board will report the result after obtaining information from both the Collector and District Engineer.

2. On the second and third questions the Government agree with the Board.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. G. A. Turton.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th February 1874.

Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 15th December 1873, No. 414:—

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2. The Sub-Collector thinks that the employment of a Nirgunti in every village having more than 500 and less than 1,000 acres of irrigated land, and two in villages containing more than 1,000 irrigated acres should be employed, and the Deputy-Collector considers that 122 Nirgunties would be required in the two taluqs under his charge, with reference to the local requirements. The Head-Assistant Collector, who has charge of a Delta Taluq and Ellore, a portion of which is also delta, does not require any additional servants. Considering how little was practically managed hitherto by the Department Public Works, assuming that they had the charge of the village and field channels, I should think that no additional establishment would be necessary to distribute the water to fields, for, I believe, the ryots and the village officers will have to do in future practically what they had done, and what they now do, though in theory the Department Public Works are the managers.

3. I propose to try and do without any extra establishment: but I am afraid it will not succeed. I would, therefore, ask that permission might be given to me to employ Nirgunties according to the scale proposed by the Sub-Collector, if in any village I find it necessary. I ask for this, because a letter takes at the very least ten days going to Madras and back, and, if any thing went wrong in the irrigation, those ten days would be quite sufficient to ruin the crops.

4. This scale would require 449 Nirgunties to be entertained; distributed as follows:—

	No.
Ramachendrapur Taluq	122
Amalapur Taluq	37
Ellore Taluq	25
Coringa	2
Narasapur Taluq	72
Cocanada	19
Bhimaveram Taluq	96
Tanuku Taluq	76
Total	449

5. Paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, under reply, requires a report on paragraph 4 of Government Order, which refers to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the note from the Chief Engineer. Rules II and IX of the Revised Water Tax Rules sufficiently provide for the timely intimation to the Department Public Works of the extent of land to be irrigated, and reserve the power of Government to with-

7/10/74 No. 2244/150/74

Govt. of 1874

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No. 372.

Dated May 29th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 29th May 1874, No. 651.

MAY

No. 372-273.

Village and Field channels, in Godavery District.—Sanctions transfer of the — to the charge of the village officers from commencement of Fasli 1284, without any extra establishment; directs Board to report the result after a year's trial; and concurs with them regarding certain suggestions of the Chief Engineer for irrigation.



hold the supply of irrigation when it thinks necessary. It only remains to be considered whether any restrictions are necessary to supply water to ryots who had relinquished it before. I think not. It is highly improbable that a ryot who would be benefitted by irrigation would refrain from availing himself of the benefits of irrigation by relinquishing it, and that if he once does relinquish it because of indispensable necessity, he would again apply for it within a reasonable time.

6. As regards the extent of land to be irrigated, Monthly Statements are also sent to the Department Public Works, under G. O., dated 28th November 1871, No. 3,008, communicated with the Board's Proceedings, of 6th December 1871, No. 4,445.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G. O., dated 11th March 1873, No. 48, Revenue Department.

2. The Board are called upon to report—

(1.) From what date the charge of the water supplied to single villages from the moment it quits the regulating sluice can be vested in the village officers, and whether any increase in the number of Nirgunties will be necessary.

(2.) The suggestion of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation that the Collector should keep the District Engineer informed of the areas to be irrigated, and that later applications for water should be transmitted direct to the Range Officer from the taluq.

(3.) The suggestion of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation that Government should have the option of ceasing to irrigate any land after giving due notice, and make rules as to the terms on which after irrigation has been relinquished a subsequent supply may be obtained.

3. With regard to the first question the Collector thinks the new system may be introduced from the beginning of next Fasli (1284). The Local officers differ as to whether Nirgunties will be wanted and the Collector asks for sanction to employ as many as he may find necessary from time to time up to 449 on a stated scale* without further reference.

4. The difficulty of foreseeing what will happen when the new system is tried, the importance of immediately supplying any help that may be wanted, and the delay that must attend a reference to Madras or Ootacamund are sufficient reasons for giving the Collector the discretion which he asks, but there will be a difficulty about obtaining the money to pay the Nirgunties. The full strength which may possibly be entertained will cost Rupees 21,552 per annum and the Board fear that the Village Service Fund is not sufficiently large to meet this new demand. The Collector (who says nothing as to how the expenditure is to be provided for) will be requested to report on this point.

5. With regard to the second question the Board agree with the Collector that the Revised Water-tax Rules provide for all that the Chief Engineer for Irrigation wants to get.

6. With regard to third question also the Board agree with the Collector who thinks it is not necessary for Government to retain any further right with regard to refusing water when a ryot wishes to take it than is given by Rule IX.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. Grose
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ the Acting Collector of the Godavery District.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 29th May 1874.

READ the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting to Gov^t letter from the Collector of the Godavery District reporting as to date from which charges of Village and Field Channels may be made over to Village officers; &c.

H. E. 19th February 1874. No. 372.

There does not appear to be any ^{urgent} necessity for the employment of Virginitis for the distribution of water. The original enquiry related more to the keeping in repair of the village and field channels than to the distribution of water. The idea was that the ryots should be left to do both for themselves, and practically it

But the in the
in the rule? 23/5
Mr. 2/1/4
It is made it tentative
they practically distribute the
village water now & can be
arrange it amongst themselves
the simplest hint that a
Establishment may be entertained
will lead to it

So 1 Aug 1871 No 2 Rev
11 March 1873 - 48 Rev.

Annual 1874. &c.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

No. 692

PROCEEDING, 19th FEBRUARY 1874, No. 372.

Copy 27 Feb 1874

Encl.

Received 2nd March

FEBRUARY.
No. 372.

Village and Field channels.—Letter from Collector of Godavery District reporting as to date from which charge of — may be made over to Village Officers, and regarding suggestion of Chief Engineer for Irrigation that Collector should keep District Engineer informed of areas to be irrigated, etc., submitted to Government.

C 1654. May 1874 R 203

27/2.

SA 29 May 1874 No. 651

it appears they have done
this in the Godavery Dis-
trict. The experiments
may well be made from
the commencement of
Fasli 1284 without any

At an addl. cost to the
Villagers or State of Rs 16000
+ 20000 or
21/5 MA

extra establishment. After one year's trial of the

2. On the second and
third questions the Govt
agree with the Board.

system the Board
will report the result
after obtaining
information from
both the Collector
and District
Engineer.

[Signature]

To
14 B of Revenue }
20 P W - Supts } 2/6 June 74

5
150

272-273

G.O.
Charge of
village + field chan-
nels made over to village
officers - Godavery Dt

Correct
Disputed