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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

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Dated	25-7-	1874. 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

857

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th July 1874.*

No. 231. Read the following petition from SREE RAJAH VACHAVAYA SURYA-NARAYANA JAGAPATIRAZ BAHADUR, ex-Zemindar of Peddapur and Zemindar of Kottam Estate, Godavery District, to His Excellency the Governor in Council, Madras, dated Tuni, 15th June 1874 :—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That the petitioner most respectfully beg to state your Lordship that, agreeably to the endorsement passed by Government on his petitions, dated 20th and 28th February 1874, petitions which contains a prayer to relieve the petitioner from the injustice regarding his fort at Peddapur, he forwarded the same to the Collector, but the petitioner is not aware of its despatch to Government. Meanwhile, before the final decision of the Government passed thereupon certain timber and other furnitures in the fort have been put up to public sale.

2. The petitioner suffering much on account of this disgrace, he is obliged to intrude upon your Lordship's valuable busy moments, and enclose his address herein for despatch to His Excellency the Secretary to the State of India.

3. The petitioner most humbly solicits that your Lordship will be pleased to peruse the contents of the enclosed, and to pass orders for its despatch to the same authority, and also necessary orders to the Collector, so that the sale of the timber, &c., quoted above to be stopped until the final orders of Government may be passed on the subject.

For which act of favor and indulgence, your Lordship's petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

To

His Excellency the Right Honorable the Secretary to the State of India, London.

The humble petition from SREE RAJAH VACHAVAYA SURYANARAYANA JAGAPATIRAZ BAHADUR, ex-Zemindar of Peddapur and Zemindar of Kottam Estate in the Godavery District.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That the petitioner most respectfully begs the permission of your Lordship to bring forward his claim to the fort of Peddapur for your Lordship's favorable consideration and decision, enclosing, at the same time, copies of the petitions addressed by the petitioner to the Madras Government and their endorsements passed thereon as marginally noted.

11th Aug. 1870.
3rd Sep. 1873.
20th Feb. 1874.

2. The officers of the Public Works Department having, by the instigation of the enemies of the petitioner, been exciting their bad influence to deprive him from his legal right in the above property under a misconception as to the true intent of the order of Madras Government, dated 21st September 1847, the petitioner has often addressed the Revenue authorities to render him justice, but they have followed the same error. The petitioner while in possession of the ancient Zemindari of Peddapur, comprising six estates at the end of 1838 marginally noted, except the large portion of the Zemindari which was already gone to the hands of others, it was sold by public auction on 5th July 1847 in contradiction of the terms of the order of Government passed in December 1841 and bought in on account of Government to a very low price, i.e., equivalent to the permanent assessment, while one or two estates of those sold for arrears deserving to fetch the balance of Rs. 6,46,898.

Peddapur.	Kandikuppam.
Bickavolu.	Kolachuk.
Lingampartha.	Vetigundacher.

3. In paragraph 6 of the order of Government, dated 21st September 1847, which confirms the sale of the petitioner's Zemindari, the phrase runs thus : " In the event of the fort of Peddapur

wherein is the residence of the ancient Zemindars forming a part of the resumed lands, the Board will direct the Collector to restore it entirely to the family for their use to be held free during the pleasure of Government." The point is a topic of discussion, i.e., whether the fort or its value was included in the sale advertisement forming a part of the arrears for which the Zemindari was sold for Government dues. Certainly it would be clear, on a reference to the sale advertisement or statement of the estates sold which accompanied the Collector's report to the Board, dated 9th July 1847, that the fort or its value was not included among the arrears outstanding against the Zemindar, and for which the fort was not sold. The Government had, therefore, decided the right of the fort to the State in a doubtful sense. Had the fort or its value been included as forming a part of the resumed lands, it is out of question on the part of your Lordship's humble petitioner that he should not claim any right in the above property; but inasmuch as the public correspondence was explicit on the subject, that the fort was not included among the resumed lands, the petitioner has ever since been endeavoring to put a stop to the illegal interference of the officers with the petitioner's ancient and exclusive property. However, it is the duty of the petitioner to lay his claim, and to support the same on proper reasonings; but the favorable decision being in the hands of the authorities in India, the petitioner has, therefore, nothing to do than to suffer the consequence of the decisions of the Indian authorities and bring the matter for your Lordship's favorable decision, notwithstanding that the above orders were, the petitioner can say, not legal.

4. On the reversion of the petitioner's Zemindari to the State, a monthly allowance of Rs. 600 was allowed to the petitioner, under the order of the late Court of Directors. Your Lordship's humble petitioner has been with this small income, and expecting your Lordship's favorable orders on the present claim.

5. It being necessitated on the part of your Lordship's humble petitioner to bring to your Lordship's notice the dignity of your petitioner's ancient and respectable family, intending thereby that your Lordship will be pleased to give a little attention to your petitioner's deplorable case, and as there is none of the Zemindars of the equivalent or lowest rank with your humble petitioner exposed to such injustice, under the charitable flag of British rule, your Lordship's humble petitioner takes the liberty of drawing a few lines hereunder.

6. Prior to the assumption of the Northern Circars by British Government, the large Zemindari of Poddapur in this district was in the hands of your petitioner's ancestors from seven generations. The Zemindari was then yielding a considerable profit after all dues to the former rulers. The assets or average collections of the entire Zemindari of eight years, i.e., 1777 to 1784, as ascertained by the Committee of Grant, was Rs. 9,94,623, leaving one-third thereof for the benefit of the Zemindar, the remaining portion of Rs. 6,67,817 was fixed as a permanent assessment, and a permanent deed was granted by the Government to one Sero Rajah Raja Jagupattaz Bahadur. In the early part of the British administration in the Northern Circars the only Zemindar that renders a large amount of permanent assessment to Government was Poddapur, and the public records of the Government were explicit on the subject. Shortly after this grant was conferred on him, he had departed from this world, leaving three widows. Subsequently, consequent on the litigation regarding the succession of the estate between the above parties, the imposition of the highest assessment on the Zemindar, as well as other encumbrances, a large portion of the Zemindari had gone into the hands of other proprietors by purchase and of Government by public sale. The only portion remained in the hands of your petitioner when he had succeeded to the Zemindari was the same as noted in the 2nd paragraph of this address.

7. This was also reverted to Government, or public auction, because the collections of the entire estate were not equal to the permanent assessment in consequence of several calamities having visited the district during the years 1817-33 to 1841-45, i.e., first, cyclone in 1839; second, lowest prices of all sorts of provisions; third, an abundant extent of arable land left waste on account of the poverty of the soil, and so on. This fact is evident from a report of the Commissioner for Northern Circars to the Government in the early part of 1844. In general terms, it is prevalent

that the mismanagement of the Zemindars during that time attributed to the non-realization of the full assessment. Had it been the real fact, it might have only attributed to Zemindari estates and not those of Government. Indeed, several Government estates had also sustained much loss during that time, notwithstanding that there was a best administration of the able officers on behalf of Government. It may, therefore, be conceived by your Lordship on a deliberate consideration that no blame is to be placed on the Zemindars, but the defect supposed by the Commissioner should have been confined to the adversity of the season and other calamities already noted.

8. Your Lordship's humble petitioner became a loser of his ancient Zemindari on its being purchased for a low price on behalf of Government, but after all the Government was pleased to make him a gainer of Rs. 600 a-month as an allowance in substitution of a large income derivable from the lands resumed by the Government, and the Government had also resolved to leave the fort for the abode of the petitioner's family during the pleasure of Government under an unsettled right thereof to Government.

9. The manner in which the ancient and respectable family of your Lordship's petitioner was maintained with a large income which was equal to one-third of the assets of the Zemindari in the commencement of fixing the permanent assessment is now obliged merely on the income of Rs. 7,200 per annum derived from Government as an allowance; owing to this small income the petitioner is detained in his house and exposed too much disgrace among those of equal rank with him, and thereby he was unable to pay his visit to the Presidency authorities in order to represent the real fact of his claim in person.

10. Either the fort is the absolute property of the petitioner in a legal sense, or it be the property of Government as settled under a doubtful interpretation as to the reality of the case, but it is in every respect justifiable on your Lordship to provide the petitioner with an abode which he claims as his property and illegally encroached upon by the Indian authorities for no proper reason. Under these circumstances, your Lordship's humble petitioner most respectfully craves the bounty of Her Majesty, trusting that it would be in favor of your humble petitioner in passing a favorable order for the restoration of the fort to the petitioner free of further litigations, and to support him who belongs to the ancient and respectable family.

For which act of favor and indulgence, your Lordship's petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Tami, 15th June 1874.

No. 232.

ORDER THEREON, 25th July 1874, No. 937.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that petitioner be informed that his memorial has been received and despatched to the Secretary of State.

(True Extract)

Acting Secretary to Government

Edw. F. E. Bantleman.

7/10/5
4/11/5
24/11/5

337

His Excellency the
Governor in Council
Madras.

The humble petition of Pusu Rajah
Pacharaya Suryanarayana Jagapati
Rajw Bahadar ex Zamindar of Piddapur
and Zamindar of Kottam Estate of Cochin.

Most respectfully sheweth

That the petitioner most respectfully begs
to state your Lordship that agreeably to the
endorsement passed by Government on his
petition which contains a prayer to relieve
the petitioner from the injustice regarding his
fort at Piddapur, he forwarded the same
to the Collector, but the petitioner is not aware
of its despatch to Government. Meanwhile
before the final decision of the Government
passed thereupon certain timber and
other fixtures in the Fort have been
put up to public sale.

2. The petitioner suffering much on account
of this disgrace he is obliged to intrude
upon your Lordship's valuable busy
moments and enclosed his address
herein

Petition dated 20th 1884
Endorsement dated 18th March 1884
1794 583 630

him for despatch to his excellency the Secretary
to the state of India.

3 The petitioner most humbly solicits that your
Lordship will be pleased to peruse the contents of
the enclosed and to pass orders for its despatch
to the same authority and also necessary orders
to the Collector so that the sale of the timber &c
quoted above be stopped until final orders
of Government may be passed on the subject.

For which act of favor & indulgence

Done 18 June 1874

Your Lordship's petitioner
as in duty bound
shall ever pray.

~~Respectfully~~
~~and respectfully~~
~~signed~~
~~James W. Brown~~

passed by Govt

Enth. 7. 18/3/70 at 2500
8/10/70 2170
Ref 0.9. 18/7/70 2100
19/4/73 2100
20/2/71 2150
Enth on 18. 20/1/71 2130
Am. this 30. 4/7/70 2150

Aug 17

Ordered that that the
Memorial that his
Memorial has been
received and deposited
to the Society of State

of C. G. M. L.
25 July 74

Note. This order is the
mon of the memorial deposited
to the Society of State

Re 21/4/74
18. 7. 25 July 74
Enth. 18. 20/1/71

states that he has
ed the same through
the Collector that he
is not aware of their
dispatch. He says that
certain timber and the
furnitures in the fort
have been sent up
in the

Subordinate
to the Secretary of the
for the same and prays
that it may be
transmitted

Pray that the
may be sent to
the Collector to get the
sale of the timber
till further order

No 2414
Government of Madras.
Revenue DEPARTMENT.

Petition No. 1864 of 1874.
From - Sri Rajah Vataha
Sri Srinivasa
Occupation - Rajapathy
Raja Bahadur
the Zamindar of Red-
Village - Zamindar
of the Estate
Talook -
District - Coimbatore at
Dated - 1st June } 1874
Received - Do }
Enclosures - 1
X 1 from the Secretary of State

ABSTRACT.

Referring to the
fact that some
of the former petition
with order