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## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT

|          |           |       |
|----------|-----------|-------|
| G.O. No. | 1234      | Press |
| B.P. No. |           | Mis.  |
| Dated    | 26-5-1876 | 196   |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
11th May 1876.*

No. 176. Read the following letter from B. LEGGATT, Esq., A.I.C.E., Officiating District Engineer, Bellary, Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Raman- droog, 1st May 1876, No. 318.

With reference to G.O., No. 848 of the 31st March last, I have the honor to report that in August last the President of the Local Fund Boards, brought to my notice that distress had begun to be felt among the poorer classes in the western taluqs of the district, as in consequence of the absence of rain cultivation was then at a stand still.

2. As a means of alleviating the distress it was decided, in consultation with the Collector, that the roads noted in the margin should be opened out as famine relief works, in view to finding employment for as many as were unable to procure it in the fields; and accordingly work was commenced on these roads in October last.

3. A large number of coolies was employed on the road from Hurryhur to Nundybahoo *via* Hurpenhully.

Although this was not a road specially opened out as a famine work, yet as it passes through the part of the district where distress was most felt, I ordered the Range Officer to find work thereon for those who sought it.

On this road a large number of coolies were employed from early in October to the 10th December last; after that date work was resumed in the fields and the numbers soon began to diminish.

4. The distress was at its height in the early part of October, but after the first shower of rain in November the price of grain fell, and relief was immediately felt. At present the average daily attendance is very low, about 300 only being employed on the two first-mentioned roads.

5. Some heavy showers of rain have recently fallen, and the ryots have once more begun to cultivate their fields. It is therefore, that there will not be much distress this year. The relief works will never be kept open till the Collector pronounces it safe to close them.

6. A sum of Rupees 15,000 has been placed at the disposal of this department for famine relief works, of which the sum of Rs. 4-7 was expended during 1875-76 as particularized below:—

| Name of work.                                                   |         | Outlay in 1875-76. | Total number of Coolies employed in 1875-76. | Remarks.                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Road from Oojany to Sovinhully...                               | 6,32    | 2,533 12 6         | 17,717                                       | Work still in progress. |
| Do. from Humpasagram to Hollal ... ..                           |         | 3,914 15 1         | 27,834                                       |                         |
| Do. ... ..                                                      |         | 6,448 11 7         |                                              |                         |
| Do. from Hurryhur to Nundy-<br>bahoo <i>via</i> Hurpenhully ... | 1,727 0 | 1,727 7 0          | 15,349                                       |                         |
|                                                                 | 8,057 0 | 8,176 2 7          | 60,900                                       |                         |

7. A sketch showing the position of the roads above referred to is enclosed.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt, Public Works Department,  
11th 1876.

No. 177. ORDER THEREON, 11th 1876, No. 1,171.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 13-A.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Ct.)

*Harman* Colonel,  
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

to the District Engineer, Bellary.  
,, Revenue Department.  
,, Financial

Exd. S. T. Austin.

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THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,  
BELLARY.  
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Dated May 11th.

Issued

Recd. 25

Recd.

G. O., 11th May 1876, No. 1,171.

MAY.  
Nos. 176 177.

*original*

Famine Relief Works in Bellary District.  
Letter from the District Engineer, Bellary,  
reporting on the — which were undertaken  
in the western taluqs of the district.  
recorded.

Sl. 1204  
Communicated to the W of  
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