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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

.....DEPARTMENT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| G.O. No. | 1331 | Press |
| ~~B.P. No.~~ | 255-256 | ~~Mis.~~ |
| Dated | 23-9-1876 | 196 . |

*Not to be folded or roughly handled*

365

No. 255. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th September 1876, No. 2,382.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to [illegible] Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated

*Vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,607, dated 7th August 1876, and Board's Misc. No. 7,308, dated the 25th idem.

In continuation of my letter, No. 282, dated 2nd ultimo, I have the honor to report that I have myself visited the western taluqs, and I regret to say that I find matters worse even than I had anticipated.

2. I enclose a sketch-map of the two taluqs of Huvinhadgally and Hurpunhully, in which the villages where distress exists are marked.

3. The first or dry crop was pretty generally sown in the month of June, in the early part of which month we were favored with showers of rain. Since then, however, except in a few localities, the fall of rain has not only been partial, but not sufficient, on any one occasion, to penetrate the soil. The tanks, excepting a very few in the south-eastern corner of Hurpunhully, are, large and small, [illegible] few which do contain water received a supply in May and June.

4. The principal crop is cholum. It should by right be coming into ear this month. The stalk, however, instead of being six and eight feet high is stunted, sometimes two feet high sometimes a little more. But what is most grievous is, that just at this crisis, when if the grain formed, a return of some kind would be obtained, the blade is over a very large area drying up altogether.

5. No rain could do any good to fields where this state of things exists. The consequence of the absence of rain is that there is no field work going on at all; and although cholum is not sold as yet at a dearer rate than sixteen seers per rupee, yet those who are experienced say that distress is greater than it was in 1866, when grain was much dearer.

6. One reason for this is said to be that ten years ago the ryots had, on account of the high price of cotton then obtaining, more money in hand to fall back upon than they have now. However it is, the present distress affects all classes, not only the laboring classes. Goldsmiths are to be seen at the relief works, and in one instance a Village Reddy with all the members of his family was only too glad to be allowed to work. The general rate paid is one anna and a half for a man, and one anna for a woman.

7. I entered the taluq of Hurpunhully from the east and halted first at Chigatari. A relief work in the shape of a road through the village had been set in hand, and there were some seventy persons out of employ. At my door, a village a little to the north, work had also been put in hand for some fifty persons.

For the villages of Bennyhully, Band, Holaishwaram and others, nothing had been then done, but road work was directed to be commenced.

8. I then proceeded to Arsekerra and Oochingydroog, at which places and in the villages surrounding them I found the crops looking better. The tanks had a certain amount of water in them, and no great distress was visible.

9. But within a very few miles of these places, I came upon villages which the Tahsildar had previously reported to be in a sad plight—Raggy, Mussulwadi, Teligi, Joladacutta, Wuddarahully, Doogawatty, Bukycutty, &c. A well was being repaired at the first-named village; at Doogawatty one was being dug. Road-work was [illegible] well-work was going on.

10. At Hurpunhully itself, which has a large laboring population, the pressure was the greatest. Work in the shape of making roads in the village and filling up pits had been provided, but that was soon got through. The people are now employed in excavating a supply channel to the Hurpunhully large tank; it is expected that this may afford employment for a few weeks; but if the number of laborers increases in the ratio it has been doing, this too will soon be finished. I did not go to the kusbah myself, as there could be no doubt of the existence of distress there, and I had to get into the extreme south-western corner of the Hadgally Taluq, round the range of hills near Hanagal and Karrabagudy. I may mention, however, that when work was, on the 22nd July, first commenced at the kusbah of Hurpunhully, 150 persons presented themselves for employment, and by the last report, on the 9th instant, work has to be found for 1,100 persons.

11. The first village visited in the Hadgally Taluq was Honal. Here some 320 people were employed in deepening a large [illegible] or reservoir. This work was commenced on the 28th July. When it is completed, a road is to be made to Mylar, a distance of some three miles.

12. The next stage brought me to Heerahadgally, about which place and Magalam the crops failed so completely last year. Work was commenced here on the 27th July. A road had been made in the village, a well had been deepened, and 590 persons were engaged, when I saw them, in deepening a "gunta," or small tank. When that work is completed, a road will be commenced towards Magalam, six miles off.

13. At Magalam things were very bad; people crowding to the works which had been commenced on the 23rd July. A road had been made from the village to the River Toongabudra, some three-fourths of a mile in length; another had been made in like manner to the point where the ferry is: and when I saw them, some 650 men and women were employed in making a road towards Heerahadgally, to meet that which is to be made from that place. Numbers of people from the surrounding villages are benefited by this work.

14. I then came on to this place, the head-quarters of the taluq. A road has been marked out from this to Holagondy, a distance of some four miles and a half. It was commenced on the 31st July with seventy-seven coolies. The next week they numbered 463, the next 367, the next 732, till now the number at work is 1,456. Of course the four miles and a half of road work was soon finished: and now a road to the bank of the River Toongabudra at Madalacutta, on the way to Moondrigy, is being marked out. This is a distance of seven miles. When this is





finished, it is proposed to employ them on a large tank at Moodanpoor, some two miles; hence, as it requires a good deal of earthwork.

15. I may mention that it has been impossible to furnish any of these gangs of laborers with tools. They, therefore, bring their own; the condition of being employed being that a man must have a pickaxe or a momaty and a woman a basket. They are only too glad to comply with this condition, even though they receive so small a remuneration; I have applied to the Department of Public Works [illegible]

16. The willingness of [illegible] a test of the existence of real distress. Of course they clamour for more, but when told that they must be content, they submit immediately, only entreating that work may be continued to be provided for them till rain falls. The poor creatures are most grateful for the relief which is being afforded.

17. A grant of 12,000 Rupees was sanctioned in the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 6,417, dated the 28th July last. This has all been distributed and more besides. A sum of Rupees 2,000 was sent to each of the taluqs of Kudligi, Hurpunhully, and Hadgally. Rupees 3,800 were repaid to the District Engineer for the money he gave out of last year's grant for roads which was at his disposal, and a sum of Rupees 4,000 has now been sent again to each of the taluqs of Hurpunhully and Hadgally. A rough statement of the expenditure in two* taluqs up to date is enclosed, and I beg most earnestly that a further grant of Rupees 25,000 may be made for the western taluqs.

* For Hurpunhully will follow.

18. I do not take into calculation at present the sums granted for the Sub-division, and for the Head Assistant's Division: as out of the Rupees 10,000 allowed for the former, Rupees 7,000 have or are being utilized, and out of the Rupees 7,000 allowed for the latter, arrangements have been made, as will be seen by my letter of [illegible]date to the Board, for the utilization of between five and six thousands.

19. It may be asked what is being done upon the two lines of road under the charge of the Public Works Department, opened as so-called relief works last year, *viz.*, from Humpasagar to Hollal, and from Oojiuny *viâ* Cottoor to Soovainhully. Coolies will not go in any number on these roads, because they say they only get paid when they are weeks and sometimes months in arrears. I have written to the District Engineer to ask what there is in the system obtaining in his department which causes this state of things, and asking him if he cannot remedy it. Meanwhile we cannot depend upon those roads as relief works in times of emergency, such as the present.

20. I beg to enclose copies of letters from the Deputy Collector in charge of the division, Venkatachellam Puntulu, latelyreceived. He has been on circuit† lately all through his division; and was only prevented doing this before, by my requesting him to undertake a special inquiry at *Kudligi*, into a case in which two Revenue Inspectors were charged with fraud in the execution of certain works carried on under the direction of the Local Fund Board of the Bellary Circle.

† *Vide* paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings under reply.

21. A statement prepared according to the form laid down in the Proceedings of the Board, No. 1,807, dated the 14th July last, is enclosed; but I do not pretend to say it is very accurate. Estimates are most uncertain things, prepared in the hurry they have to be made out, under present circumstances, by inexperienced persons.

22. The Tahsildars of the two taluqs, K. Venkoba Row and H. Ramachandra Row, are exerting themselves energetically at the present crisis, and the people evidently feel confidence [illegible]

[illegible] funds are entrusted to the Reddy and Curnam in the villages where work is going on. Lists of coolies are kept as vouchers. It is absolutely necessary to make daily payments. These are superintended at the kusbah stations by the Tahsildar or Sheristadar, whoever may be present.

23. As yet distress is confined to the western portion of the taluq of Hadgally.

24. I beg to enclose letters from the divisional officer on the subject.

Enclosures Nos. 1 to 6—Copies of Reports of Divisional Officers.

Enclosure No. 7—Sketch-map.

Enclosures Nos. 8 to 10.—Statements.

The above report as to the distress existing in the western taluqs of Bellary shows that it is becoming serious; and that if the north-east monsoon rains are not copious, work will have to be found in the coming dry season for many thousand people. The report will be submitted for the information of Government.

2. The measures which the Collector has adopted to meet the present need seem judicious and are approved. He states that the sum of Rupees 25,000 is urgently wanted at once for relief works in these taluqs; and the Board resolve, in anticipation of the sanction of Government, to inform him by telegraph that that sum is at his disposal.

3. The attention of Government is called to the fact that the Public Works Department work is useless for relief purposes, because the officers of the department cannot disburse the hire of the laborers every day. The Board, however, are in favor of employing district officers as much as possible in the supervision of famine works, relieving them as far as this can be done of their ordinary routine duties. If matters get worse in Bellary it will be necessary to strengthen the district staff. Meanwhile it might be advisable to relieve the Tahsildars of their Magisterial work, and so set them free to devote themselves to supervising and organizing operations for famine relief. If the Collector thinks this necessary and feels the want of assistance, the Board will gladly support any arrangements he may propose to this end.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.



No. 256. ORDER THEREON, 23rd September 1876, No. 1,331.

Miscellaneous.

THE Board's action, in sanctioning the grant of Rs. 25,000 asked for by the Collector, is approved and confirmed. The Collector's further report is awaited.

2. Paragraph 3 will be disposed of in the Department of Public Works.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Financial Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated September, 23rd

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 23rd September 1876, No. 1,331.

SEPTEMBER.

Nos. 255-256.

*Relief Works in the Western Taluqs of the Bellary District.*—Confirming the Board's action, in sanctioning the grant of Rs. 25,000 for —; awaiting the Collector's further report: and referring paragraph 3 to the Public Works Department for disposal.

# MAP

stressed villages of the

# ADGALY AND HARPANHULLY TALUKS

ks
ds

Sovalu Hully
Poora
Modalacutta
Cyombaly
Heera Mullankeera
Hunaikanhully
Coarlagutta
Timapen Godae
Pag
Nowlay
Honoor
Timlapoor
Bairy hully
Hola goondy
HUVINADGALY
Hundiganur
Rungapoor
Tippapoor
Dasyoondhully
Hunnakanhully
Magala
Ma kapoor
UNgoor
Hirehadgaly
Hurraly hully
Maudnaikhully
Pag
Maggarnoor
Hitt
Baithoonshe
Cotahall
Beeraby
Hundygavy
Chicka Bunny Mutty
Heera Bunny Mutty
NHADGLY TALUK
Halla Murra
Stej Ker
Barugaly
Govairhally
Srinyarazota
Chiggatair
M Y Door
Nuddavanhully
Dassanhully
Haurakanhal
Karanaikanhatty
Hollal
Pag
Hoolicutta
THogara Kubby
Voodagatta
Madapur
Potalcutta
Ombarhully
Myllarra
Somalapoor
Yhârada
HUMPApoor
Cyllhully
HARPANHALLY
Devara Timlapur
Devarava Tanahully
Bermyhully
Thaisewar
Loiswar
Tootyghee
TALUK
Yetigud
Neelgoonda
Tatudahally
Byra Poor
Machihully
Kullahully
Chiravahally
Gooroosantainhally
Daudapoor
Hallajiliraud
Jeerlahally
Tellyghee
Dugbevally
Wuddarhally
Jolada cutta
Raggy Mosalwad

Thomas
Collector

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 19th September 1876.
No. 2382.
Read the following:-

From

The Collector of Bellary

To The Secretary to the Board
of Revenue, Madras.

Sir

In continuation of my
letter no 282 dated 25th Ultimo,
I have the honor to report that
I have myself visited the west-
-ern Taluqs, and I regret to
find matters worse
than I had anticipated.

2 I enclose a sketch map
of the two Taluqs of Kurnihad-
-jutty, and Kanpurhully; in

Vide Board's
Proc. No. 2107
3/7 August
1876 & Do. Mis.
No. 7308 dated
the 25th idem.

2 Each

which the villages where distress exists are marked.

3. The first or dry crop was sown [illegible] in the month of June, in the early part of which month we were favored with showers of rain. Since then however except in a few localities, the fall of rain has not only been partial, but not sufficient, on any one occasion, to penetrate the soil. The tanks, excepting a very few in the South Eastern Corner of Kempum hully are, large and small, dry. Those few, which do contain water received a supply in May & June.

4. The principal crop is Cholum. It should by rights becoming into ear this month. The stalk however [illegible] being six and eight feet high is stunted, sometimes two feet high sometimes a little more. But what is most grievous is, that just at this crisis when of the first formed, a return of some kind would be obtained, the blade is over a very large area drying up altogether.

5. No rain could do any good to fields where this state of things exists. The consequence of the absence of rain is that there

there is no field work going on at
ath, and although Cholum is sold
as yet at a dearer rate
than Sixteen ~~seers~~ per rupee, yet
those who are experienced say
that distress is greater than it
was in 1866, when grain was much
dearer.

6. One reason for this is said
to be, that ten years ago the
ryots had, on account of the high
price of cotton then obtaining,
more money in hand to fall
back upon than they have now.
However it is, the present
distress affects all classes,
not only the labouring classes.

Goldsmiths

Mysore & Ves

Goldsmiths are to be seen at the
relief works, and in one instance
a village Headdy with all the
members of his family was only
too glad to be allowed
The general rate paid is
annas and a half for a man
and one Anna for a woman.
I entered the Jubbulpore
7. Impromptu from the East and
halted first at Chijatani:
A relief work in the shape of
road through the
had been set in hand, and
there were some 70 persons at
employ. At Imgalore, a village
a little to the north; work
had

The village Headdy employed

Little employment although prices too little

8

9

had also been put in hand for
some 50 persons.

For the villages of Bennyhully,
[illegible] and Theo
had been then done or
d work was directed to be
commenced.

8/9 I then proceeded to Ar-
[illegible]eri and Doddingy Drog, at-
which places and in the villages
surrounding them I found the
looking better. The tanks
[illegible] water
in them, and no great distress
was visible.

9 But within a very few
miles of these places, I came
upon

33/a.

upon villages which the Tahsildar
had personally reported to be
in a sad plight, Rugy Mus-
-sulmans Jeliji Joladacutta,
Muddarahully, Dorga watty,
Bicky cutty &c. A well was being
repaired at the first place, and
at Dorga watty one was being
dug. Road work was going on
at Jeliji, to which place the la-
-bourers from neighbouring villages
congregated. At Allasilvada
well work was going on.

10 At Hampsamudry —
itself which has a large
labouring population the
pressure

presume was the greatest work
in the shape of making roads
in the village and filling
up pits had been performed
but that was done for Khunjab.
The people are now employed
in excavating a supply chan-
-nel for the Kumpan tank; it is expected that this
may afford employment for
a few weeks; but of the num-
-ber of men in the
ratio it has been doing, this
too will soon be finished.
I did not go to the Bustah
myself

myself, as there could be no
doubt of the existence of
distress there, and I had to
get into the extreme
western corner of the Hadjaby
Valley, round the range of
hills near Halvagal and Kar-
-rubagudy. I may mention, how-
-ever, that when work was
on the 22d July first commen-
-ced at the Bustah of Bu-
-nchuttay, 150 persons presen-
-ted themselves for employ-
-ment, and by the last re-
-port on the 9th Instant
work had to be found
for

for 1100 persons.

11. The first Village visited in the Hadgully Taluq was H. Kal. ... persons were employed in deepening a large Tank or Reservoir. This work was commenced on the 28th July. When it is completed, a road is to be made to Mulur a distance of some three miles.

12. The next stage brought me to Heerahadjally, about which place two many words can not be said. Work was commenced here on the 27th July. A road had been made to the Village, a well had been deepened and 590 persons were employed when I saw them, digging a "Gunta" or small tank. When that work is completed, a road will be commenced towards Nagalam six miles off.

13. At Nagalam things were very bad; people coming to the works which had been commenced on the 23rd July. A road had been made from the village to the River Jungabadra, some 3/4 of a mile in length; another had been

made in like manner to the
where the ferry is: and
I saw there some 650
men and women were employed
in making a road towards
Veeraha[illegible]ally, Bomeit that
which is to be made from
that place. Numbers of
people from the surrounding
villages are benefited by
this work.

14. I then
this place, the headquar-
ters of the Collr. A word
has been marked out
from.

from this to Kolasondy, a dis-
tance of some four miles and
a half. It was commenced
on the 31st July with seventy
seven coolies. The next week
they numbered 463, the next
367, the next 732 like now
the number at work is 1456.
Of course the four miles and
a half of road work was
not finished: and now a
road to the bank of the River
Tungabadra at Madulapatta
on the way to Hunsdrigy, is
being marked out. This is a
distance of seven miles. When
this

this is finished it is proposed to employ them in a large tank at Nirodanagar, Some two miles hence, as it requires a good deal of Earthwork.

15 I may mention that it has been impossible to furnish any of these gangs of Labourers with tools. They therefore bring their own, the condition of being employed being that a man must have a pick axe or a Kumatry and a woman a basket. They are only too glad to [illegible] on these conditions. Even though they receive so small a remuneration. I have applied to the Department of Public Works for tools.

16. The willingness of the people to accept so small a remuneration is, I think, a test of the Suddenness of real distress. Of course they clamour for more; but when told that they must be content, they submit immediately, only entreating that work may be continued. Wbe provided for them till rain falls. The poor creatures are most grateful for the relief which is being afforded.

Picture is perfectly fair kind of labour is a matter of careful comparison — section 88

17. A grant of 12000 Rupees was sanctioned in the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No: 6417 dated the 28th July last. This has all been distributed and more besides. A sum of Rs 2000 was sent to each of the Taluqs of Kadoliqhi, Nurpunhally and Hudliqhi, Rs 3800 were repaid

to the District Enquired for the money he gave out of last years grant for roads which was at his disposal, and a sum of Rs 4000 has now been sent again to each of the taluqs of Hosspunhully and Hadgally. A single statement of the Expenditure in two taluqs up to date is enclosed, and I beg most earnestly that a further grant of Rs 2500 may be made for the Western taluqs

For Hosspunhully with follows.

18. I do not take into calculation at present the sums granted for the Sub. Division, and for the Head Assistants Division; as out of Rs 10,000 allowed for the former Rs 7000 have or are being utilized, and out of the Rs 3000 allowed for the latter arrangements have been made, as will be seen by my letter of to-days date to the Board for the utilization of between five and six thousand.

19. It may be asked what is being done upon the two lines of road under the Charge of the Department Public Works, opened as so called relief works last year, viz from Hosspasagar to Hollal and from Ojeiny via Cottoor to Loodainhully. Coolies will not go in many number on these roads because they say they only get paid when they are weeks and

sometimes
months in arrears. I have written
to the District Engineers to ask what
there is in the system obtaining in this
department which causes this state
of things, and letting him, if he
cannot remedy it. Meanwhile we
cannot depend upon these roads
as relief works in times of emergency
such
as the present.

20. I beg to enclose copies of letters
from the Deputy Collector in charge
of the Division, Navan, which I have
lately received. He has been on Circuit
lately all through his Division, and
was only prevented doing this before,
by my requesting him to undertake

a special enquiry at Kindlehill, into a
case in which two Revenue Inspectors
were charged with fraud in the execution
of certain works carried on under the
direction of the Local Fund Board of the
Bellary Circle.

21. A statement prepared according to
the form laid down in the Proceedings
of the Board No: 1807 dated the 14th
July last is enclosed; but I do not
pretend to say it is very accurate.
Estimates are most uncertain things,
prepared in the hurry they have
to be made out under present cir-
-cumstances, by inexperienced
persons.

22. The Tahsildars of the two Taluqs K. Venkoba Row, and K. Raghavendra Row, are exerting themselves energetically at the present crisis, and the people evidently feel confidence in them; but it is hard work, & as the latter intended criminal powers, they must find it difficult to move about as much as they otherwise ought to do. If distress continues I must ask for additional hands.

At present funds are entrusted to the Reddy and Kurnam of the village where work is going on; lists of coolies are kept as vouchers.

It is absolutely necessary to make daily payments. These are superintended at the Kuchahs stations by the Tahsildar or [redacted] as soon as [redacted]

23. As yet distress is confined to the Western portion of the Taluq of Hadgally.

24. I beg to enclose letters from the Revenue officers at the station.

Bellary Collr's office
Hadgally, Hadgally Taluq
11 Septr 1876

I have &c
(sd) J. H. Master.
Collector

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The above report as to the distress existing in the Western Taluqs of Bellary shows that it is becoming serious; and that if the North East Monsoon rains are not copious,

work will leave Bellary in the
coming Dry season for many thousands
to table. The report will be submitted
for the information of Government.

2. The measures which the Collector
has adopted to meet the present
need seem judicious and are
approved. He states that the sum
of Rs 25 000 is urgently wanted at
once for relief works in these talugs;
and we feel [redacted] pressure in anticip-
-pation of the sanction of Govern-
ment to inform him by telegraph
that that sum is at his disposal

3. The attention of Government is
called to the fact that the Department
Public Works work is useless for relief
purposes, because the officers of the
department cannot disburse the hire
of the Labourers every day. The Board
however are in favor of employing
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If matters get worse in Bellary it
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supervising and organizing operations
for famine relief. If the Collector
thinks this necessary and feels the
want of assistance, the Board will
gladly support any arrangements
he may propose to this end.

True copy of the draft

H Elwes

Agt Secretary

To

The Secretary to Govt Revenue Dept
with the Board's letter returned

W. Hogg
Secretary

N. 3863
Rec: 11th Sept

To Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Dated 19 th September
Received 19 " "
Entered 20 " "

Acknowledged.

Intimation of sanction of Rs 25,000 demanded by Collector vide his letter No 1980 dated 17th inst. to defray the charges of the Establishment employed on Godavery Irrigation Works.

No. 1981

The Bd's action, in sanctioning the grant of Rs 25,000 asked for by the Collector, is approved & confirmed.
The Collr's further report is awaited.
2. Para 3 will be disposed of in the Dept. of Public Works —
Send copy to the Board of Rev. &c.

20/9/19

20-9-19

2-12-8-65.