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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1834-A.	Press
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Dated	28-11-1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1834 A

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th November 1876.

No. 5384. Read the following Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 27th November 1876, No. 1,964 :—

Read the following letter from Major C. B. E. SMITH, C.S.I., First Assistant Resident, Hyderabad, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Hyderabad Residency, 23rd November 1876, No. 2,644.

I HAVE the honor, by desire of the Resident, to forward, for the information of His Grace the Governor in Council, English translation of a Rubkar* issued by His Highness the Nizam's Minister on the subject of dearness of grain in His Highness' dominions, and the means to be adopted to afford relief to the people.

* No. 2,006, dated 26th October 1876.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Translation of a Rubkar issued by the Secretary to the Minister in the Revenue and Miscellaneous Departments, dated 26th October 1876, *No.* 2,006.

IN accordance with instructions issued by Madar-ul-Maham (Sir Salar Jung) to the Minister of the Revenue Department, I have the honor to state, in consequence of the failure of rain-fall, deficiency of water, dearness of grain, and scarcity of fodder for cattle, the public are very much distressed and the removal of this direful calamity is entirely in the hands of a merciful Providence, as, indeed, there is no other help but that which comes from Him alone. Yet it is incumbent on humanity to do something to alleviate, as far as lies in its power, the present far-felt want. With this object in view all officials of the Revenue and Public Works Departments are directed to give special attention to the following orders of His Highness' Government in the matter of relief works, and it is earnestly hoped that the Revenue and Miscellaneous Minister will exercise an active supervision in carrying out, to their fullest extent, the wishes of Government on this subject :—

Orders of Government.

Government officials are hereby positively prohibited from interfering in any way with the fixing of prices of grain, &c., as it is found from experience that any interference in this direction tends to lessen the importation and sale of it.

Although it is the hearty desire of the Minister to see grain sold as cheap as possible, thus relieving the wants of those starving, yet he considers the practice of meddling with the rates of selling as highly objectionable. It is certain that, if no interference is shown in fixing rates, the grain merchants will, with greater confidence, expose their grain for sale, thus increasing the importation, whereby the prices will fall of themselves.

2. There is not the slightest doubt that the suffering public are anxious that the prices of provisions which have risen high from failure of rain should fall. It is, therefore, the duty of all officials to pacify them as far as possible, and take proper steps to alleviate the immediate wants of such as are actually starving as well as to relieve the anxieties of the public in general as hereinafter suggested.

3. In districts where the rain-fall has been most scanty and which are most famine-stricken, it will be necessary to organize such unskilled relief works, as making of roads, digging of wells and drains, and heaping earth on the banks of tanks. Early submission of plans and estimates are called for. These plans and estimates must, however, be submitted in each case before sanction of Government can be accorded.

4. In organizing such relief works consideration must be given to the following points :—That the work thus carried out improves the cultivation of the surrounding country or facilitates the transport of grain and other merchandise from one locality to another, more particular attention being paid to such roads as will lead to an easy communication with railway stations.

5. In such districts as are not much affected by the famine, and where the necessity of organizing relief works need not be undertaken during the current year, but instead such works of importance as will benefit the public in general should be gone on with. Full orders on this subject have been issued in the Public Works Department.

6. It will, therefore, be seen that it is the incumbent duty of all officers belonging to the Revenue, Public Works, and Municipal Departments to supply, as far as possible, food to the starving as well as to attend to the water-supply of such places where its want is felt. Officers of the Revenue Department must address the Public Works and Municipal Departments in regard to carrying out such works as they may deem necessary, endorsing their opinion on the plans and estimates received on such works from the Public Works and Municipal Departments before submitting them for sanction, so that Government may be fully informed of the necessity and utility of the work thus undertaken.

7. It has come to the knowledge of the Government that certain Revenue officials have interfered with the exportation of grain, while others are of opinion that Government aid should be called for in importing grain into the afflicted districts. Such opinions being wrong should at once be removed as, on consideration, it will be apparent that, if the inhabitants of other parts of the country were similarly selfish, how much inconvenience would be felt by the public. The same consideration should be shown to the wants of others in such a matter as is desired by one's self.

8. It is highly desirable that all grain-merchants may be fully made to understand the wishes of Government in this matter, and that it now becomes incumbent on them to do their utmost in increasing the importation of grain, and that in proportion to the trouble taken by them in this matter will depend the obligation they will confer on Government, and to the furtherance of this object the Government are willing to give all possible and proper assistance if required by any merchant.

9. All Revenue officers are warned in affording such assistance that no undue advantage is taken of the indulgence thus preferred by Government by unscrupulous merchants in having their private transactions settled through the intervention of Government, but that all legitimate aid which is in accordance with Government Orders and incurring no inconvenience to the public may be afforded.

10. Orders of Government have been conveyed by the Secretary to the Revenue Minister to Public Works Department and the Amaldar concerned regarding the prohibition placed on the irrigation and cultivation of the land under the Mir Sagar Tank, which orders must be carried out without any delay.

11. Orders have also been issued to the Public Works Department and the Suburban Taluqdar directing the discontinuance of cultivation under the Huson Sagar Tank and for preventing the wastage of water contained therein: These orders, it is hoped, will be carefully carried out. The water required for wet cultivation must also be disallowed. Should any loss accrue to any raiat by this step, consideration must be given to the convenience afforded thereby to the public as well as to the object in view, viz., of storing up of water for drinking purposes. The village officials will submit accounts and pay compensation for such loss.

12. It is apparent from the revenue settlement of some villages which has recently been effected by Moulvi Mehdi Ali that the present rent of land is not higher than that of the surrounding country, but, on the contrary, below the average; but there are cases in which complaints of heaviness of rent on land are true. This is due to the land not having been properly assessed, the consequence being that some tracts are over-assessed, while others pay much less than they really should. These circumstances should also be taken into consideration with the fact of failure of rain-fall during last season when Revenue officers are making collections.

13. The procedure indicated above should not be adopted simply on the assertion of the village officers, but should be inquired into by the Tahsildar and Taluqdar, whose reports should be submitted to the Sadar-ul-Maham for orders.

14. All officers of the Revenue, Public Works, and Municipal Departments will within one month submit detailed reports of the measures, taken by them to ensure the proper management of the several districts under them in accordance with the wishes of Government.

Copies of above forwarded for information and guidance to the Miscellaneous Minister, all Sadar Taluqdars, Nazim of the Sarf-e-kas, Amaldars in Nawab Mukhtar-ul-Mulks, Jagirs, and Secretary, His Highness', Public Works Department, and for communication to those subordinate to them.

No. 1,964.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department.

No. 538B. ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1876, No. 1,834A.

Miscellaneous.

COPY furnished to Board of Revenue for information.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

1824/23

Translation of a Rukkar issued by the Secretary to the Minister in the Revenue and Miscellaneous Department dated 6th October 1876 No 3006

...

...tions issued by Sirdar ul Umrah Nuchum (Sir Salar Jung) to the Minister of the Revenue Department. I have the honor to state in consequence of the failure of rain fall, deficiency of water, dearness of grain and scarcity of fodder for cattle, the public are very much distressed and the removal of this dreadful calamity is entirely in the hands of a merciful Providence as indeed there is no other help but that which comes from Him alone. Yet it is incumbent on humanity to do something to alleviate as far as lies within its power, the present fearful want with this object in view all officials of the Public Works Department are directed to give special attention to the following orders of His Highness' Government in the matter of relief works and it is earnestly hoped that the Revenue and Miscellaneous Ministry will exercise an active supervision

...

in carrying out to their fullest extent the wishes of Government on this subject.

Powers of Government.

1. Government Officials are hereby positively prohibited from interfering in any way with the fixing of prices of grain, as it is found from experience that any interference in this direction tends to lessen the importation and sale of it.

Although it is the hearty desire of the Minister to see grain sold as cheap as possible, thus relieving the wants of those starving yet he considers the practice of meddling with the rates of selling as highly objectionable. It is certain that if no interference is shown in fixing rates the grain merchants will with greater confidence bring their grain for sale thus increasing the importation which will help to keep down the prices themselves.

2. There is not the slightest doubt that the suffering public are anxious that the prices of provisions which have risen high from failure of rain should fall. It is therefore the duty of all officials to pacify them as far as possible and take proper steps to alleviate the immediate wants of such as are actually starving as well as to relieve the anxieties of the public in general as hereinafter suggested.

3. In Districts where the rainfall has been most scanty and which are most famine stricken it will be necessary to organize such means of relief works as making of roads, digging of wells and drains, and heaping earth on the banks of tanks. Early submission of plans & estimates are called for. These plans and estimates should however be submitted in each case before sanction of Government can be accorded.

4. In organizing such relief works, consideration must be given to the following points; that the work thus carried out increases the cultivation of all surrounding country facilitates the transport of grain and other merchandise from one locality to another, more particular attention being paid to such roads as will lead to an easy communication with Railway Stations.

5.

5. In such Districts as are not much affected by the famine and where the necessity of organizing relief works need not be undertaken during the current year but instead, such works of importance as will benefit the public in general should be gone in with. Full orders on the subject have been issued in the Public Works Department.

6. It will therefore be seen that it is the incumbent duty of all officers belonging to the Revenue, Public Works and Municipal Departments so to supply as far as possible food to the the starving as well as to attend to the water supply of such places where as the want is felt. Officers of the Revenue Department are to address the Public Works and Municipal Departments in regard to carrying out such works as they may deem necessary, endorsing their opinion on the estimate and other information received on such works from the Public Works and Municipal Departments, before submitting them for sanction so that government may be fully informed of the necessity and suitability of the work thus undertaken.

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8. It is highly desirable that all grain merchants may be fully made to understand the wishes of Government in this matter and that it now becomes incumbent on them to do their utmost in increasing the importation of grain and that in proportion to the trouble taken by them in this matter will depend the obligation they will confer on Government and to the furtherance of this object the Government are willing to give all possible and proper assistance if required

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10. Orders of government have been conveyed by the Secretary to the Revenue Minister to Public Works Department and the Amaldar concerned regarding the prohibition placed on the irrigation and cultivation of the land under the Anai Sagar Tank which orders must be carried out without any delay.

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is hoped will be carefully carried out. The water required for wet cultivation must also be disallowed. Should any loss accrue to any ryot by this step consideration must be given to the convenience afforded thereby to the public as well as to the object in view viz: of storing up of water for drinking purposes. The village officials will submit accounts and pay compensation for such loss.

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Copies of above forwarded for information and guidance to the Miscellaneous Minister all Sadar Talukdars Nazims of the Sarfekhas, Amildars in Nawab Sankhtarul-Mulks Jagirs and Secretary to His Highness' Public Works Department and for communication to those subordinate to them.

Rev: 5210/16

Ins Pol. 846/16.

/True translation/

C. Krueger

Offg Extra Asst. Commrs

H.I.

6 5

No. 2644 Jessup 1834/1

From

The First Assistant Resident
Hyderabad

To,

The Chief Secretary to
Government
Madras.

Of Hyderabad Residency 23rd November

Sir,

I have the honor by
of the Resident to forward
information of His Grace
Governor in Council, Engl.
6 Oct 16 Oct 16 translation of a Pu
issued by His Highness the
Nizams Minister on the subject
of dearness of grain in His High.
-ness Dominions and the means

be adopted to afford relief to the people.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obedient Servt.

[signature]

Surveyor General's Office

[illegible]

No. 84b.

Surveyor General's Office
Salem, Oregon Nov. 28th 1876

Misc. Ltr. Rec'd. Nov. 28th 1876

No. 1964

Nov. 1876.

Transf'd to the Rev. Sect.

E. Hatcher
Chief Secretary
28th Nov. 1876.

Act'd in favor -
27 November 1876
W. H. Rees Secretary