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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th December 1876.*

No. 225. Read the following letter from the Hon. T. C. HOPE, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Agriculture and Horticulture—Famine,) to the Honorable W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, 2nd December 1876, No. 469:—

I am directed to forward copy of a letter which has been addressed to the Government of Bombay on the subject of a complete review and forecast of the condition of the distressed districts; and to request that similar information may be obtained and submitted to the Government of India by January 15th, with respect to all portions of the Madras Presidency which are at that time suffering from drought.

No. 226. ORDER THEREON, 9th December 1876, No. 1,986.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue for early attention and submission of the report called for by the Government of India. It is observed that the report has to be submitted by the 15th proximo.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

D. P. CARMICHAEL,

Secretary to Government

To the Board of Revenue.

Wm. F. R. Bantman

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th December 1876.*

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Hon. T. C. HOPE, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Public Works Department, dated Calcutta, 30th November 1876, No. 459.

Agriculture and Horticulture.
Famine.

I AM directed to inform you that the statements which accompanied the letters from the Government of Bombay quoted in the margin, as also the weekly progress statements up to No. III, have been carefully considered by the President in Council.

2. The object of the Government of India in obtaining general and periodical information of the condition of the districts affected by the scarcity is twofold. It is necessary to ascertain that the expenditure which is taking place is neither excessive nor contrary to the principles which have been laid down for the situation of tenant works, and that the expenditure which has been, and is being, made of the exigencies of the situation up to the time when the reaping of fresh crops at the close of the next rains will, it is hoped, bring relief. This object is thus partly financial and partly administrative, and its attainment evidently depends entirely upon the soundness and the sufficiency of the forecast.

3. His Honor the President in Council fully recognizes the difficulties by which the ascertainment of facts and the preparation of programmes are surrounded, and the efforts which have been, and are being, made by the Government of Bombay to secure the correctness of the returns now under consideration, and to obtain more complete information hereafter on the points they comprise, and others equally important. At the same time he is constrained to observe, and the Excellency the Governor in Council will probably be glad to be made aware of the fact, that the data at present available are still far from free from obvious contradictions and inaccuracies, and are by no means so complete as those which the Government of India has had before it on previous occasions of scarcity in other parts of India. They do not, moreover, in most cases comprise the opinions of the mass of local officers, in which when given deliberately, fully, unassessably, and promptly, considerable value has always justly been attached.

4. Seeing, therefore, that the memoranda for a forecast which may be safely relied on have not yet been obtained, I am to request that a more complete review of the situation may be submitted, comprising:—

(a) A careful estimate of the amount (if any) of the crop which has been sown, calculated in Acrees, on the assumption of an average yield being represented by 10 Acrees of 1000 and 1000 should be shown separately. If there is any prospect of further sowings, it should be mentioned.

(b) An estimate, as close as may be, of the loss as practicable, of the amount of revenue to be expected.

(c) Information as to the mortality, past and anticipated, among cattle and agricultural stock; the measures already adopted by Government and the people, their result, and suggestions for the future.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th December 1876*

- (d.) The nature of the water-supply, extent of its failure, further anticipated failure to next rains, and remedial measures possible, if any.
 - (e.) The course of prices weekly of each of the principal food-grains from October 1st to the date of report in each case, and six years' averaged.
 - (f.) The local stocks, as far as ascertainable, the centres, railway stations or otherwise whence further supplies are being or may be derived, and the probability of private enterprise being sufficient to maintain them, as also of a fall in prices owing to ample importation.
 - (g.) The character of the population, whether high or low caste, poor or well-to-do, pure or only partly agricultural, and if the latter in what proportions urban or artisan; also the character of the landholders, whether large, wealthy, able to aid their tenants and likely to do so or the reverse.
 - (h.) The movements of the people; how far emigration has taken place, and with what result have the people bettered themselves, or merely gone elsewhere to starve, or are they returning, and whether further emigration is probable.
 - (i.) The relief works already started, their sufficiency or otherwise, and the further work which the Government would be arranged in the order of their necessity.
 - (j.) The nature and amount of charitable relief given to travellers, and to the aged, infirm &c., who are unable to work.
 - (k.) The number of persons whom the Government has on its hands, at date of report, relief (1) by works, (2) by charitable measures, and the number, roughly estimated, which it likely to have on its hands on March 1st, May 1st, and July 1st.
4. The above information I am desired to say, should be given for each taluka separately and should be in the first instance prepared by the Mamlatdars, the permission already given place than on special duty being freely availed of for the purpose. The Assistant or Deputy Collector in charge should read verify or supplement the statements of each Mamlatdar, as given subject as before, and in his own language a complete summary of the result of the information so furnished and the character of the population. Each taluka report should be sent on by the Collector with his remarks to the Commissioner, and by him similarly to the Board Government, who will forward it to this department. No report of any one taluka should be retained anywhere besides others have not come to hand, and the whole of the reports now have reached the Government of India by the 10th of January next. As many of the documents specified have already been partially collected, or are in process of collection, and watching of the whole, including the new material, and a complete form will be of obvious and great importance. The President in Council trusts that the call now made will not prove unduly difficult or tedious.
5. It is further desired to remark that no information has yet reached the Government of India as to the condition of the Belgaum territory, comprised in the distressed district, to require that full information as above may be submitted in the names of all States and Taluk management, and such means as may be practicable in the case of the others.

No. 2111. Circular No. 104. December 1876. No. 1,588.

For circulation to the Board of Revenue for early attention and submission of the report made by the Government of India. It is observed that the report has to be submitted by the 10th proximo.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
Madras.

FROM

THE HONOURABLE T. C. HOPE,

Official Secretary to the Government of India.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF BOMBAY, P. W. DEET.

Dept. of Revenue,
Agriculture and Commerce.

*Agriculture & Horticulture
P. W. DEET.*

Calcutta, the 30th November 1876.

SIR,

I AM desired to inform you that the statements which accompanied the letters from the Government of Bombay quoted in the margin, as also the weekly progress statements up to No. III, have been carefully considered by the President in Council.

2. The object of the Government of India in obtaining general and periodical information of the condition of the districts affected by the scarcity is two-fold. It is necessary to ascertain that the expenditure which is taking place is neither excessive nor contrary to the principles which have been laid down for the selection of relief works, and also that a sufficient and safe forecast has been, and is being, made of the exigencies of the situation, up to the time when the reaping of fresh crops at the close of the next rains will, it is hoped, bring relief. This object is thus partly financial and partly administrative and its attainment evidently depends entirely upon the soundness and the sufficiency of the forecast.

3. His Honour the President in Council fully recognises the difficulties by which the ascertainment of facts and the preparation of programmes are surrounded, and the efforts which have been, and are being, made by the Government of Bombay to ensure the correctness of the returns now under consideration, and to obtain more complete information hereafter on the points they complete, and others equally important. At the same time he is constrained to observe, and His Excellency the Governor in Council will probably be glad to be made aware of the fact, that the data at present available are still far from free from obvious contradictions and inaccuracies, and are by no means so complete as those which the Government of India has had before it on previous occasions of scarcity in other parts of India. They do not, moreover, in most cases, comprise the opinions of the mass of local officers, to which when given deliberately, fully, unreservedly, and promptly, considerable value has always justly been attached.

4. Seeing, therefore, that the materials for a forecast which may be safely relied on, have not yet been obtained, I am to request that a more complete review of the situation may be submitted, comprising—

(a) A careful estimate of the amount (if any) of the crop which has been saved, calculated in terms of the assumption of an

average yield being represented by 12 annas: *kharif* and *rabi* should be shown separately. If there be any prospect of further sowings, it should be mentioned.

- (b) An estimate, as close as may at the time be practicable, of the amount of revenue to be realized.
- (c) Information as to the mortality, past and anticipated, among cattle and agricultural stock; the measures already adopted by Government and the people, their result, and suggestions for the future.
- (d) The nature of the water-supply, extent of its failure, further anticipated failure up to next rains, and remedial measures possible, if any.
- (e) The course of prices weekly of each of the principal food-grains from October 1st up to the date of report in each case, and six years' averages.
- (f) The local stocks, as far as ascertainable; the centres, railway stations or otherwise, whence further supplies are being, or may be, drawn, and the probability of private enterprise being sufficient to maintain them, as also of a fall in prices owing to ample importation.
- (g) The character of the population, whether high or low caste, poor or well-to-do, purely or only partly agricultural, and if the latter, in what proportions urban or artisan; also the character of the landholders, whether large, wealthy, able to aid their tenants and likely to do so, or the reverse.
- (h) The movements of the people, how far emigration has taken place, and with what result (have the people bettered themselves, or merely come elsewhere to starve or are they returning), and whether further emigration is probable.
- (i) The relief works already started, their sufficiency or otherwise, and the further works which are considered practicable, arranged in the order of their necessity.
- (j) The nature and amount of charitable relief given to travellers, and to the aged, infirm, &c., who are unable to work.
- (k) The number of persons whom the Government has on its hands, at date of report, for relief: (1) by works, (2) by charitable measures, and the number roughly estimated, which it is likely to have on its hands on March 1st, May 1st and July 1st.

The above information, I am desired to say, should be given for each taluka separately, and should be, in the first instance, prepared by the Mamlatdars, the permission already given to place them on special duty being freely availed of for the purpose. The Assistant or Deputy Collector in charge should test, verify, or supplement the statements of each Mamlatdar, and then submit *ex proprio* and in his own language, a complete report for the taluka on the points indicated, with full and free expression of his own opinions. Each taluka report should be passed on by the Collector with his remarks to the Commissioner, and by him similarly to the Bombay Government, who will forward it to this Department. No report of any one taluka should be detained anywhere because others have not come to hand, and the whole of the reports should have reached the Government of India by the first of January next. As many of the details above specified have already been partially collected, or are in process of collection, and the welding of the whole, including the new matter into a complete form will be of obvious use to both Governments, the President in Council trusts that the call now made will not prove especially onerous or irksome.

In conclusion, I am desired to remark that no information has yet reached the Government of India as to the condition of the political terri-

tory comprised in the distressed tract, and to request that full information, as above, may be submitted in the case of all States under British management, and such details as may be procurable in the case of the others.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

T. C. HOPE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

1876.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE

AGRICULTURE and HORTICULTURE
Famine.

To
THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. BOMBAY.
P. W. DEPT.

No. 459.

Dated Calcutta, the 30th November 1876.

Res 552/76

Subject: Famine

SUBJECT.

Dispute for information on certain points connected with the distress in the Bombay Presidency.

Printed and Published by the Government of India, at the Press of the Government of India, Calcutta.

No. 469

FROM

The Honorable T. C. Hope,
A. C. HUME, ESQUIRE, C.B.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

Department of Revenue, Agriculture
and Commerce.

TO

The Secretary to the Government of
Bombay

Calcutta, dated 30th November 1876.

(Agree & Report)
Famine

SIR,

I am directed to forward to you
a letter which has been addressed to
the Government of Bombay on the subject
of a certain famine and the condition
of the condition of the famine and to request
that similar information may be obtained
and submitted to the Government of India by
the Secretary to the Government of India
with respect to all portions of the
Bombay Presidency which are at
that time suffering from drought.

Yours faithfully,

T. C. Hope

Secretary to the Government of India

For Secretary to the Government of India

Revenue 1876-77
No. 353

From

The off^r of the
Govt of India
Bombay

Sept 2nd 1876
Dec 2nd 1876
Sept 1876 to July 1877

Enclosed copy of a letter
addressed to the Secy of the
of a certain person & forward of the
condition of the subject of the
which has been in formation
may be obtained & submitted for
the address put by the Secy of the

to the Secy of the Govt of India
to the Secy of the Govt of India

By order of the Secy of the
Govt of India
for the Secy of the Govt of India
for the Secy of the Govt of India
for the Secy of the Govt of India
for the Secy of the Govt of India