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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1986	Press
B.P. No.		Miss.
Dated	9. 12. 1876	190 .

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. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Read F. R. Pentegrass

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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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 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.

No. 6,721, dated 4th November 1876.
„ 6,906, „ 8th „ „
„ 6,961, „ 10th „ „

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 local works, and that no part of the money has been, and is being, made of the exigencies of the situation up to the time when the raising of fresh crops at the close of the next rains will, it is hoped, bring relief. This end 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 ensure 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 commanded 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 whom grain deliberately, fully, unreservedly, and promptly communicate value has always freely been afforded.

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

(a) A carefully estimate of the amount (if any) of the crop which has been saved, calculated in Annas, on the assumption of an average yield being represented by 16 Annas; kharif and rabi should be shown separately. If there is any margin of further savings, it should be mentioned.

(b) An estimate, as close as may be practicable, of the area in which the amount of revenue to be remitted.

(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 u
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' averages.

(*f.*) The local stocks, as far as ascertainable; the centres, railway stations or otherwis
whence further supplies are being, or may be, drawn; and the probability of private enterpri
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 t
character of the landholders, whether large, wealthy, able to aid their tenants and likely to do
or the reverse.

(*h.*) The movements of the people; how far emigration has taken place, and with wh
results (have the people perished there last, or merely gone elsewhere to starve, or are they retu
&c.), and whether further emigration is probable.

(*i.*) The relief works already started, their sufficiency, or otherwise, and the further wo
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, infir
&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 is
likely to have on the list as on March 1st, May 1st and July 1st.

6. The above information, it was desired to say, should be given for each taluka separate
and should be in the first instance prepared by the Mamlatdars, the permission already given
on by the Collector, with his remarks in the Commissioner, and by him finally to the Boar
Government, who will forward it to this department. No report of any one taluka should
delayed anywhere beyond 15 days after it comes to hand, and the whole of the reports sho
have reached the Government of India by the 15th of January next. As many of the det
above specified have already been partially collected, or are in process of collection, and
working of the whole, including the new duties, when complete form will be of obvious ad
both Governments, but I desired to impress on all concerned that the call now made will not prove exces
difficult or irksome.

7. In conclusion, I am desired to remark that no information has yet reached the Gover
part of India as to the determination of the Imperial Legislature, empowered by the Act
to impose that fuller information as above may be submitted in the cases of all States
British management, and such data as may be procurable in the case of the others.

No. 2511 Gross Revenue, of 9th December 1876, No. 1, para. 6.

Mr. Ballard. Correspondence to the Board of Re
(vide for daily attendance and submissi
of the Report called for by the Gover
Lord. It is observed that the report has to be submitted by the 15
proximo.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Read F. R. Ingleman.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 459.

FROM

THE HONOURABLE T. C. HOPE,

Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

TO

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

Dept. of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce.

Agriculture & Rural Works

Famine.

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.

No. 6930, dated 6th November 1876.
" 6966, " 8th " " "
" 6969, " 10th " " "

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 comprise, 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 inconsistencies, 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 heads of local offices, 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 tonnes, on 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 remitted.

(*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 succeeded in not starving, 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.

5. 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 their Circle Inspectors being freely availed of for the purpose. The Assistant or Deputy Collector in charge should next verify, or supplement, the statements of each Mamlatdar, and then submit *as his own*, 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 delayed on account of others have not come to hand, and the whole of the reports should have reached the Government of India by the 15th 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 difficult or irksome.

6. 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. 489.

Dated Calcutta, the 20th November 1876.

SIR,

SUBJECT:

Asking for consideration on certain points connected with the distress in the Bombay Deccan.

No. 4[illegible]

FROM

A. O. HUME, ESQUIRE, C.B.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce.

To

[illegible]

dated [illegible] November 1876.

SIR,

Property of the Supreme Court of Georgia