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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1038	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	12-3-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1025/1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th March 1877.*

Famine Relief.

No. 376. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th March 1877 :—

Read the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Cumbum, 17th February 1877, No. 4 (Extra).

With reference to G.O., No. 515, dated 5th February 1877, Revenue Department, I have the honor to make the following observations.

2. On all large relief-works the halt, blind, the extremely aged, and mere infants are found to resort, and they appear to think that they have a claim on the charity of Government, by reason merely of their age or infirmity, without reference to the ability or otherwise of the bread-winners of the family to support them.

3. The presence of such incapables among a gang of task-work coolies is obviously unfair; at the same time those of them who are destitute but incapacitated from working by reason of such infirmity are clearly entitled to State aid in this time of dire distress.

4. In such cases it has hitherto been my custom, in consultation with the section or other responsible relief officer present, to draft them and grant them a ticket of admission to the relief-house or lungerkhana, which either has been or is being opened up at usually the most influential village in the vicinity of the relief-works, where they are supplied with cooked food at Government expense, and under the best available control, check, and supervision, till better times come, after it has been ascertained that they are worthy recipients of State charity.

5. Unfortunately one of the greatest difficulties we have to contend with in the present emergency is the wily scheming of the village authorities, who, it is feared, in many instances are taking advantage of the prevailing distress, and of the inadequate supervision as yet supplied to feather their nests at the expense alike of Government and of their fellow-countrymen in distress.

6. This is the great obstacle which presents itself to carrying out village improvements on a systematic and comprehensive scale.

7. Were it otherwise, sums of money might be entrusted to village heads for the relief of the destitute who are unable to earn a living on relief-works, and for cleansing and otherwise improving villages, either singly or in groups.

8. When systematic task under adequate supervision has been introduced, the possibility of outsiders flocking to the relief-works will be reduced in proportion to the amount of subordinate supervision supplied, and which, as has repeatedly been brought to notice, is far below the requirements of the district.

9. I am afraid that if large relief-camps centrally situated are substituted for existing arrangements, the means of ascertaining by local inquiry the condition of applicants will be wanting, and without some such check the influx of such people will be very great from outside the the district, and the expense to Government proportionately heavy and unnecessary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th March 1877.*

10. There will be no great difficulty in effectually carrying out this important order of Government, and, with a view to doing so, I have called on section officers carefully to consider the subject and to submit, with as little delay as possible, lists showing the number and position of central camps which they would recommend should be established in their sections, and unless I hear to the contrary I will see that the order of Government is implicitly obeyed.

11. Meanwhile, however, should Government be of opinion that the want has been sufficiently anticipated in an effectual manner, I have the honor to request that I may be so informed, in which case the present Government Order will be held in abeyance.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The arrangements which Mr. Davidson has hitherto made come under the description of the alternatives to central camps which are allowable under paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Government Order. So far they appear to have answered sufficiently well, and need not be changed. Mr. Davidson should, however, have sites selected and organization ready for starting the large central camps should necessity arise for extension of gratuitous relief.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,

Secretary.

No. 377.

ORDER THEREON, 12th March 1877, No. 1,038.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government do not consider it necessary to make any alteration in the system of providing gratuitous relief

which is in force in the Kurnool District, but the Collector must be prepared to extend that system, or to supplement it by means of relief-camps if necessity should arise.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,

Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 7. March 1877.

Read the following

N^o 4 (Extra)

From The Acting Collector of
Murnool

To The A^d Secretary to the Board of Rev:
Madras.

Sir, With reference to Gov^t order N^o 575
dated 5. Feb. 1877, Rev. Department, I
have the honor to make the following
observations.

2. On all large relief works, the
lalt, blind, the extremely aged and
mere infants are found to resort and
they appear to think that they have
a claim on the charity of Government
by reason merely of their age or
infirmity without reference to the
ability or otherwise of the bread winners
of the family to support them.

The

Govt. of 1877 Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Secy, Secy, Secy.

Dated March, 12th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. 12th March 1877, No. 1,038

MARCH

No. 376-377.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 714.

System of providing gratuitous Relief to
famine in the Kingdom. — Considering it
necessary to make provision in the
event of a famine, it is proposed to
extend the system of relief to the
wamps should necessity arise.

3. The presence of such incapables among a gang of task work evinces is obviously unfair; at the same time those ^{than} those who are destitute but incapacitated from working by reason of such infirmity are clearly entitled to State aid in this time of dire distress.

4. In such cases, it has hitherto been my custom in consultation with the Section or other responsible relief officer present, to draft them and grant them a ticket of admission to the Relief House or Linger's house which either has been or is being opened up at, usually the most influential village in the vicinity of the relief works, where they are supplied with cooked food, at Govt. expense and under the best available control, check and supervision, till better times come, after it has been ascertained

ascertained that they are worthy recipients of State Charity. 1038

5. Unfortunately one of the greatest difficulties we have to contend with in the present emergency is the wily scheming of the village authorities who it is feared in many instances are taking advantage of the prevailing distress, and of the inadequate supervision as yet supplied to feather their nests at the expense alike of Government and of their fellow Country-men in distress.

6. This is the great obstacle which presents itself to carrying out village improvements on a systematic and comprehensive scale.

7. Were it otherwise sums of money might be entrusted to village heads for the relief of the destitute who are unable to earn a living on

relief works and for cleansing and otherwise improving villages either singly or in groups.

8. When systematic task under adequate supervision has been introduced, the possibility of outsiders flocking to the relief works will be reduced in proportion to the amount of subordinate supervision supplied and which as has repeatedly been brought to notice is far below the requirements of the District.

9. I am afraid, that if large relief camps centrally situated, are substituted for existing arrangements, the means of ascertaining by local enquiry the condition of applicants will be wanting and without some such check, the influx of such people will be very great from outside the

the District and the expense to Govt proportionately heavy & unnecessary.

10. There will be no great difficulty in effectually carrying out this important order of Government and with a view to doing so, I ~~request~~ ^{request} Section officers carefully to consider the subject and to submit with as little delay as possible, lists showing the number and position of central camps which they would recommend, should be established in their sections & unless I hear to the contrary, I will see that the order of Govt is implicitly obeyed.

11. Meanwhile however should Government be of opinion that the want has been sufficiently anticipated, in an effectual manner, I have the honor to request that I may be so informed in which

which case the present Govt Order will
be held in abeyance.

Mineral Colln Office } I have &c
Camp Cambum } S^r R. Davidson
17 Feb: 1877 } S^r Collector

for the orders of
Government.

2. The arrangements which Mr
Davidson has hitherto made come under
the description of the alternatives to central
camps which are allowable under paras
7 & 8 of the G.O. So far they appear to
have answered sufficiently well & need
not be changed. Mr. Davidson should
however have sites selected & organiza-
-tion ready for starting the large central
camps should necessity arise for
extension of gratuitous relief.

{ True Copy & Extracts }

H. D. S. S.
Secretary.

The Add^d Secretary to Govt R.D.

Jan 1877 845
720 1270

Proceedings of the

Board of Rev:

Dates 7th Feb. 1877

and 7-12

with order

Submitting for the

Board of Govt. Museum

Cotton letter, marking

certain observations

on G.O. 575. 9. 5. Feb. 77

on the subject of

opening Central

Census for population

relief

GA 12 March 77 No 1038

Ch 1008

The Govt. said it is necessary to

make an alteration in the

printing process which will

be done in the next few

months to be sent to the

Govt. for their consideration

12 Nov 1877

Scott, A. A. 1877
1382
11/17

6 Oct. 1877