Sectt. I (i)-I—10,006—7-10-70.

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1064. Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 13-3-1877. 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1064/11

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th March 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 427. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th February 1877, No. 686.

Read the following letter from W. LOGAN, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 6th February 1877, No. 9.

I HAVE the honor to transmit, herewith, a letter to your address received from the Honorary Secretary to the Planters' Association of North Wynaad, and to refer you to my letter, dated 29th November 1876, No. 90, which contains my views on the subject.

2. A further communication will again be shortly submitted.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From F. W. DITMAS, Esq., Honorary Secretary, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Manantoddy, 26th January 1877, No. 743.

WITH reference to the famine with which Wynaad has been effected in common with Mysore, from whence all its supplies of grain are in ordinary seasons drawn, I am directed to request that Government will grant funds for the opening out of the few district roads that are still required in North Wynaad, and that these works may be treated as famine relief-works for the employment of the large number of estate coolies who must very shortly be thrown out of employment in consequence of the work on coffee estates coming to an end, as it always does at this season of the year. In ordinary seasons the coolies leave Wynaad for Mysore in March and return again in May or June, but they will find it impossible to do so this year in consequence of the scarcity of grain. The relief-works which the Mysore Government have organized for the benefit of "coolies in want of work" only provides for the employment of some 14,500; and when it is taken into consideration that not less than 40,000 coolies are employed on the coffee estates in Wynaad alone, it will be easy to understand that the distress amongst this class will be extreme, unless some measures are taken by Government to provide for their employment during the months in which planters are unable to find work for them.

2. I am directed to inform you that, if Government is prepared to sanction funds for this purpose, this Association will submit a list of the local district roads which could be opened out with the greatest benefit to the local public.

3. I am further to request that relief-works may be started along all the lines of existing roads where Canarese labor can be employed with advantage in breaking metal, collecting gravel, and generally providing for the putting into thorough repair of old roads and for the completion of the unfinished portions of the roads; in these relief-works the Government might rely on the hearty co-operation of every resident planter, nearly all of whom would, the Association believes, willingly superintend the work being carried on by their own coolies.

4. I am to add that planters have, as a body, already made great sacrifices to provide their coolies with grain during the past four or five months, and have also expended large sums in laying in stocks of grain for their coolies when work will commence again on the estates, when no grain can be expected from Mysore on account of the famine, and when it will be impossible to cart it from the coast owing to the south-west monsoon and to the condition of the roads.

5. There are, however, some planters who are not in a position to lay in large stocks of grain, and it is of vital importance to them, besides being of very considerable interest to every one else in the district, that the roads should be put into such a state of repair before the setting in of the south-west monsoon as will admit of at least a moderate amount of traffic during the rains.

By Order of Collector

6. This Association is of opinion that the number of coolies who will require relief will number from 5,000 to 7,500.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. In G.O., dated 27th December 1876, No. 2,441, Government have already decided that it would be inexpedient to open out relief-works in the Wynaad for the benefit of the Mysore coolies. Moreover in the despatch from the Government of India to the Secretary of State, dated 26th January, it is laid down, as a general principle, that the British Government is not under any obligation to provide extensive relief for the subjects of Foreign States. The question of the treatment of Mysore subjects who resort to British territory has, however, been again brought before Government in Board's Proceedings, dated 5th February 1877, No. — .

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 428. ORDER THEREON, 13th March 1877, No. 1,064.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED with reference to the telegram from this Government, dated 9th February 1877, to the Collector of Malabar, directing him to start relief-works where necessary in Wynaad.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

Govt. of {1877} Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c.,

&c.

Dated March, 1877.

Rcd.

Encl.

G.O., 18th March 1877, No. 1,064.

MARCH.

Nos. 427-428.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 737.

Famine Relief in Wynaad, Malabar District.—Recording Board's Proceedings on letter from the Collector transmitting one from the Honorary Secretary, Planters' Association, North Wynaad, with reference to the telegram from Government to the Collector directing him to start relief-works where necessary in Wynaad.

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Planters Association of North Wynaad,

Manantoddi, 26 January 1877.

No. 743.

From J. W. Ottmas Esq:

Honorary Secretary

To, The Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St: George.

Sir,

With reference to the famine with which Wynaad has been effected in common with Coimbatore, from whence all its supplies of Grain are in ordinary seasons drawn; I am directed to request that Government will grant funds for the opening out of the few District roads that are still required in North Wynaad, and that these works may be treated as Famine Relief Works for the employment of the large number of Estate Coolies, who must very shortly be thrown out of employment in consequence of the work on Coffee Estates coming to an end; as it always does at this season of the year. In ordinary seasons the Coolies leave Wynaad for Coimbatore in March and return again in May or June, but this will find it impossible to do so this year in consequence of the scarcity of grain. The Relief Works which the Coimbatore Government have organised for the benefit of "Coolies in want of work" only provides for the employment of some 1100 of them, and, when it is taken into consideration that not less than 40,000 Coolies are employed on the Coffee Estates in Wynaad alone, it will be easy to understand what the distress amongst this class will be extreme, unless some measures are taken by Government to provide for their employment during the months in which Planters are unable to find work for them.

I am directed to inform you that, if Government

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Revenue Department

is prepared to assist the Government for this purpose, this Association is of opinion that the Local Militia should be employed in such a manner as to afford the greatest benefit to the locality.

I am further directed to call Your attention to the Relief Works now started all over the Lines of existing roads where it is proposed that the unemployed should be employed with advantage to the Public, such as the gravelling and drainage of the roads, providing for the widening of the roads and for the improvement of the unfinished portions of the roads; in which works the Government might rely upon the hearty co-operation of every resident Planter, nearly all of whom would, I am assured, be willingly ready to superintend the work to be carried on by their own Negroes.

I am to add that Planters have as a body made great sacrifices to provide their estates with Negroes during the past few months, and have already expended large sums in Labour in Stocks of grain for their Negroes; the result will be a great increase of Agricultural Produce can be expected from Estates in accordance to the Labour and also when it will be impossible to send it from the Country to the South West. Moreover as to the condition of the Estates to which the Planters have gone, I am to state that the Association is of opinion that the number of Negroes in proportion to the acres of grain and other provisions to them, provides but a very small proportion of the Labour available whereas to meet the pressing wants of the Public the Roads should be put in a state of repair before the setting in of the South West Monsoon, when a large amount of traffic is expected.

The Association is of opinion that the number of Negroes who will be required daily will not exceed 500 to 700.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servt.

J. M. Dittmar

The Hon. Secretary

Pondicherry

1664/6

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 17th February 1877

Read the following

Famine

No. 9

From W. Logan Esqr.

Collector of Malabar

To The Hon: W. Mullaston

Chief Secretary to Government

Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter to your address received from the Honorary Secretary to the Planters Association of North Wynaad, and to refer you to my letter dated 29th November 1876 No. 90 which contains my views on the subject.

A further communication will again be shortly submitted.

I have &c.

Malabar Collectors Office
Calicut 6th February 1877

Sd/ W. Logan
Sd/ P. Ry Pole
Dy for Collector

submitted to Government.—

2. In G.O. dated 27th December 1876 No 2541 Government have already decided that it would be inexpedient to open out relief works in the Wynaad for the benefit of the Coorg coolies Moreover in the Despatch from the Government of India and the Secretary of State dated 26th January it is laid down as a general principle that the British Government is not under any obligation to provide extensive relief for the subjects of Foreign States. The question of the treatment of any such subject who resort to British Territory has however been again brought before Government in

Board's

6364

Board's Proceedings dated 5th Febry = ary 1877 No. —

/True Copy & Extract/

S Lewin
Acting Secretary

To The Sec. Secretary to Government N.D.

with the original Enclosure

Rev. 1877 Sept
7. No. 655

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
Dated 17th Feby/77
Recd. 19 -
Desd 17
ch 1

For Council
Ru 24/2

Submitting to Govt.
from Collector of Malabar
regarding expediency
of opening Famine
relief works in Wynaad
for the benefit of
Mysore Coolies -

GO 13 March/77 No. 1064

In Council 18/3/77

No. 1064 Dt 19 June 1877
[illegible]

On the 23rd Sept
it is estimated by the planters that 7,000
coolies may need relief - this for 4 months
would be about Rs. 30,000 -
[illegible]

100/4

[illegible]
35 PC [illegible]
5th [illegible]
21st [illegible]