Sectt. I (i)-I—10,006—7-10-76.

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(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1108 A. Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 16-3-1977 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

118 D/1.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th March 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 536. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th March 1877, No. 1,121:—

Read the following letter from J. G. HORSFALL, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 28th February 1877, No. 103.

In acknowledging the receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 22nd instant, No. ——, I have the honor to submit, for the Board's information, an account of the steps taken by me in connection with relief works in this district, from which I trust that the Board will understand my inability to furnish the report therein noticed, and that they will be satisfied that no delay or inattention has occurred either in my office or any where else in carrying out the instructions received from time to time on this subject.

2. Immediately on receipt of the Board's Proceedings, of the 30th December last, which was the first order on the subject applicable to this district, I requested the Head Assistant Collector and Deputy Collector on General Duties, for whose divisions relief works had been recommended by Mr. Garstin as well as the District Engineer, to furnish me with lists of works.

3. The Deputy Collector's poposals reached me on the 16th January last, and I at once placed funds at his disposal for the repair of drinking water ponds, requesting [illegible] Board can be prepared become more accustomed to the nature of the work, I hope to be able to submit the returns hereafter punctually.

Enclosures Nos. 1 to 9.—Returns of Prices, &c.

Enclosures Nos. 10 to 12.—Maps.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Collector should arrange for the returns being forwarded to him direct by the Tahsildars and not through the Divisional Officers, and will see that they are despatched to the Board on the prescribed date in future.

3. The report for the latest date, viz., the 24th February, need alone now be noticed. Three taluqs only, viz., Trinomalai, Tindivanam, and Villapuram are classed as distressed. The average prices of these taluqs for the three staple grains (cholum is not sold) are noted in the margin.

		17th Feb. Seers of 80 tolahs.	Same date last year.
2nd sort rice ...	...	8·15	17·57
Ragi	...	10·12	25·32
Cumbu ...	...	11·24	26·76

4. Twenty-three minor works (clearing of ponds and wells) estimated to cost Rupees 4,188 were in progress. The outlay in the week was Rupees 588 and up to the week Rupees 1,554. The numbers were 458 men, 527 women, and 145 children, total 1,130. One hundred and fifty-six persons were being gratuitously fed. In two taluqs, though there are persons thus relieved, no outlay is given, and the outlay for gratuitous relief in the week is not given in the third.

10. Having received information from Divisional Officers, I am now in a position to furnish the Board with the information called for by them in their Proceedings of the 25th and 26th January last, Nos. 300 and 320-A, respectively. The Deputy Collector on General Duties reports* that the laborers employed are purely local ryots including Mussulmans and Pariahs, and that no Wdders are employed. The Head Assistant Collector states† that Palies, Pariahs, Christians, Mussulmans, and other castes resort to these works, and that only a small number of women and children have appeared on the scene, as most of them are at present employed in digging ground-nut.

*(Report dated 23rd instant.)

†(Report dated 19th instant.)

11. The contract system of work has not been adopted in the district as unsuitable for relief. Village Officers have been entrusted with the execution of the works which are purely village ones.

12. The repairs of only fourteen drinking water ponds in the Trinomalai Taluq, eight in Villapuram, and one in Tindivanam have yet been commenced.

13. I am unable at present to state what effect the new scale of wages has had upon the physique of the laborers employed, and indeed the decrease under the new scale appears to be very trifling.

14. As the various officers through whom correspondence connected with these matters must necessarily pass before information such as is wanted by [illegible] him to start the works at once and to furnish me with the prescribed weekly reports.

4. Proposals from the Head Assistant Collector for relief operations in his division did not reach me till the 19th ultimo, when funds were likewise at once placed by me at his disposal with similar instructions.

5. The Board's Proceedings of the 25th January last, No. 300, requiring a report as to the classes of persons who resort to these works, and on the result of getting the work done by contract or piece-work, reached me on the 29th idem, while relief works had not yet been actually commenced in the district.

6. The first weekly report did not reach me till the 20th instant, and showed that no relief works had been commenced in any part of the district until the 4th instant.

7. Under these circumstances, I trust that the Board will see that sufficient time had not elapsed to enable me to send the report in question when I received their reminder of the 13th instant.

8. Reports for three weeks have now been received from the Head Assistant Collector and Deputy Collector, but they do not contain all the information wanted to fill up the forms prescribed by the Board; and I am awaiting further particulars which I have called for from the Divisional Officers and Tahsildars. Considering the short time that has elapsed since relief was started in the district, and the fact that a vast mass of instructions had to be studied and circulated and rendered intelligible to various officials down to village officers, I trust the Board will not be astonished that the first few returns should have been imperfect in details.

9. I beg now to submit these reports to the Board in their present state, to avoid further delay, together with outline maps showing the stations where works have been opened.

11088/2

5. The Collector should introduce task-work in accordance with the Board's recent instructions.* The Board infer from paragraph 13 that the wages in force are those ordered in G.O., 31st January 1877, No. 329.

*Board's Proceedings, dated 21st February 1877, No. 766.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 537. ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1877, No. 1,108-A.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED. The Tahsildars will of course forward copies of their reports to their respective Divisional Officers.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Govt. of [illegible] (1877) [illegible]

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD OF REVENUE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated March, 1877.

Read.

G.O., 16th March 1877, No. 1,105-A.

MARCH
Nos. 330-337.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 769-R.

Revenue Department

1180/3

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

dated 10th March 1877. No. 1121

Read the following:—

Board's No. 2326. No. 103.

From

J. G. Horsfall Esquire

Ag. Collector of South Arcot.

To

H. B. Stokes Esquire

Secretary to the Board of Revenue,

Madras.

Sir,

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in this District, from which I trust that the Board will understand my inability to furnish the report therein noticed and that they will be satisfied that no delay or inattention has occurred either in my office or anywhere else in carrying out the instructions received from time to time on this subject.

2. Immediately on receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 30th December last which was the first order on the subject applicable to this District, I requested the Head Assistant Collector and Deputy Collector on General Duties for whose Divisions relief works had been recommended by Mr Gavelin as well as the District Engineer to furnish me with lists of works.

3. The Deputy Collector's proposals reached me on the 16th January last and I at once placed funds at his disposal for the repair of drinking water ponds requesting him to start the works at once and to furnish me with the prescribed weekly reports.

4. Proposals from the Head Assistant Collector for relief operations in his Division did not reach me till the 19th Idem when funds were likewise at once placed by me at his disposal with similar instructions.

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7. Under these circumstances I trust that the Board will see that sufficient time had not elapsed

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8. Reports for three weeks have now been received from the Head Assistant Collector and Deputy Collector but they do not contain all the information wanted to fill up the forms prescribed by the Board, and I am awaiting further particulars which I have called for from the Divisional officers and Tahsildars. Considering the short time that has elapsed since relief was started in the District and the fact that a vast mass of instructions had to be studied

studied and circulated and [illegible] intelligible to various officials down to Village officers I trust the Board will not be astonished that the first few returns should have been imperfect in details.

9. I beg now to submit these reports to the Board in their present state to avoid further delay together with outline maps showing the stations where works have been opened.

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11082/15

(report dated 23rd Instant) on General duties reports that the labourers employed are purely local ryots including Mussalmans and Pariahs and that no Poddars are employed.

(Report dated 19th Instant) The Head Assistant Collector states that Palies, Pariahs, Christians, Mussalmans and other castes resort to these works and that only a small number of women and children have absented on the score of work of them are at present employed in digging ground nut.

11. The Contract system of work has not been adopted in the District as unsuitable for relief. Village officers have been entrusted with the execution of the works which are purely village ones.

12. The

12. The repairs of only 14 drinking water ponds in the Tirumalay Taluq 8 in Villapuram and 1 in Tindivanam have yet been commenced.

13. I am unable at present to state what effect the new scale of wages has had upon the physique of the laborers employed, and indeed the decrease under the new scale appears to be very trifling.

14. As the various officers through whom correspondence connected with these matters must necessarily pass before information such as is wanted by the Board can be prepared become more accustomed to the nature of the work,

I hope to be able to submit the returns hereafter punctually

South street
Collector's office,
Cuddalore
28th February 1877.

I have &c
(Signd) J. G. Horsfall
Ag. Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Collector should arrange for the returns being forwarded to him direct by the Tahsildars and not through the divisional officers, and will see that they are despatched to the Board on the prescribed date in future.

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and the outlay for gratuitous relief in the week is not given in the third.

5. The Collector should introduce task work in accordance with the Board's recent instructions. The Board infer from para 13 that the wages in price are those ordered in G.O. 31st January 1877. No 329.

Proceedings 6/177 No 766.

(True Copy & Extract)

W Thomas
Secretary

To

The Addl Secretary to Government R.D.

with 9 statements & 3 maps to be returned.

7 No 1393

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

Dated 10th March 1877.

Despd 10 " " "

Recd 12 —

in 2 12 Rd

GO 16 March /77 No 1108 A

Reviewing & submitting to Government report from Collector of South Arcot regarding Famine Relief works in the District, and requesting him to introduce task work in accordance with Board's recent instructions and to arrange for returns being forwarded to him direct by Tahsildars and not

No 1108 A

Despd 16/3

Recorded. The Board of Revenue [illegible] the Collector's [illegible] & their [illegible] approves.

14/3/77

16/3 16/3

18 March 1877