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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1347A

Press
Mis.

Dated

5-4-1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1347A
1
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th April 1877.

Famine Relief.
No. 145-B.

No. 1,347-A.

To

THE ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

Miscellaneous.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo, No. 313.

2. In the despatch of the Government of India of the 9th ultimo, No. 277, and in the letter now under reply, three suggestions have been made regarding the Government grain reserve; 1st, to move all to a distance of 60 miles from the railway; 2nd, to sell by auction all now in Madras; 3rd, that none of it should be moved at all without previous sanction from the Government of India.

3. In the telegram from this Government of the 17th instant, in answer to the first of the two despatches, it was pointed out by this Government that the Governor in Council was unable to accede to the first and second suggestions. His Grace in Council has very carefully considered the further desire expressed by the Government of India in the letter now under reply, but is convinced that to act on it would be to court disaster.

4. His Grace in Council was well aware from the first that the transporting means of the railways of the Presidency, and its daily wants were very nearly balanced, notwithstanding the aid which it was hoped might be, and has been, obtained. To meet the contingency, therefore, of failure of supplies, it was considered necessary by the Governor in Council that a certain moderate supply should be available at selected spots, and its gradual distribution to those spots at or within reach of threatened points was early arranged, and has been steadily carried out. To arrest now all movement of the reserve grain would result in an unsuitable distribution, some places having none, while grain needed elsewhere would be retained useless in Madras. The value of a reserve store consists in its being available at the time, when, and within reach of the places where emergencies needing its use may occur. If some place 200 miles distant, perhaps 40 miles from the nearest railway, finds itself suddenly without supplies, grain at Madras would rescue but few victims. The means of carriage also being very limited time now lost in removal cannot be hereafter recovered. This Government, moreover, have carefully adjusted the movement of reserve grain so as not to interfere with the transport of grain by private traders.

4. The Governor in Council after further careful deliberation in Council therefore decides that the places of distribution hitherto acted on cannot safely be discontinued, and submits these views to the Government of India.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Additional Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman

Agriculture (1877) Department

Government of Port St. George.

Dated 5th April 1877.

Received

D. No.

L. No.

No. 1,347-A.

Enclosures.

5 spare Copies.

Progs.

No. 1450

FAMINE RELIEF. No 904-A.

Submitting the views of the Madras Government on the subject of the Government grain reserve, and stating that after further careful deliberation in Council they have decided that the places of distribution hitherto acted on cannot safely be discontinued.

No 1347A

27 5 April 1877

To

The Additional Secretary to the
Govt of India

Sir. I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 23rd ulto No 313.

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