

(1) Number of pages 28
(2) Date of repair 2-12-72
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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

1347

Press
Mis.

Dated

5-4-1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Famine Relief.

Read again letter from the Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, dated 9th March, No. 277, recorded in the Proceedings of Government, Financial Department, No. 944, dated 20th March 1877.

No. 144. Read also the following letter from the Hon. T. C. HOPE, C.S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Calcutta, 23rd March 1877, No. 313:—

I HAVE had the honor to receive your telegram of the 17th instant, in answer to my letter, No. 276, of the 9th instant.

2. In reply, I am directed to state that, before coming to a final decision on the subject of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th paragraphs of that letter, His Excellency the Governor-General in Council will await the result of the further reference which was made to the Government of Madras by telegraph yesterday.

3. The proposal in paragraph 5, that the reserve of grain now held by the Madras Government should be gradually sold off in small quantities at fixed intervals, was, I am to explain, intended to relieve the mercantile community from the standing menace which seemed to be involved in the existence of a stock of grain in the hands of the Government liable to be despatched into the distressed districts, or to be thrown on the market at any time. From such inquiries as the Government of India have been able to make, it appears that at Calcutta there is considerable difference of opinion on the subject, although some of the leading merchants consider that the sales contemplated would tend to confirm the confidence of the mercantile community in our policy of non-interference with private trade, and that, if conducted in the manner and at the intervals proposed, they would not be of sufficient importance to have any serious effect upon prices. As, however, the general opinion of the trade at Madras appears to be adverse to the measure, and as His Excellency the Governor in Council has given a public pledge that the grain shall be retained in reserve to meet future emergencies, the Government of India will not press its suggestion further. I am, however, to add that the reserve should not be moved or utilised in any way without the permission of the Government of India, which, in case of necessity, may be applied for by telegraph, with a full explanation of the necessity of the case.

No. 145.

ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1877, No. 1,347.

Miscellaneous.

In the letters above read three suggestions are made by the Government of India 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;

Very Much

3rd—That none of it should be moved at all without previous sanction from the Government of India.

2. In the telegram from this Government, of the 17th instant, in answer to the first of the two letters above read, 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, but is convinced that to act on it would be to court disaster.

3. 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 had 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 needed elsewhere would be retained useless in Madras. The value of a reserve store consists in its being available at the times when and within reach of the places where consequences 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 plans of distribution hitherto acted on cannot safely be discontinued.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched:—

(Here No. 1,348, dated 5th April 1877.)

(True Extract.)

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

1347
2
Very much dependent
upon the Government

1347
3

Recd. G. I. I letter
as to non removal of grain

Suggested mitigation for export
~~I am to point out that~~
In the despatch of
this letter 3 suggestions
for respecting the port
grain have been made:-

- 1 to move all to a distance
of 60 miles from railway
- 2 to sell by auction all
wheat in Madras
- 3 that none of it should
be moved at all without
previous sanction from
G. I. I.

MR
80/7
573/3

It was pointed out
in ^{of} the
the G. inf. was unable
to accede to the 1st
3rd suggestions -
2nd

The G. inf. has very
carefully considered the
claim expressed by J. of
in letter under reply -

but is convinced that to
act on it would do more
disaster.

1367
The G. inf. was well aware that
the transporting means of the
Presidency with daily wants
was ~~not~~ very nearly balanced
notwithstanding the aid which
it was hoped might have been
obtained -

Except on the basis of ~~existing~~
telegraphic information ~~common~~
to meet the continuing ~~shortage~~
of ~~factum~~ of supplies - it was
common ~~recourse~~ to the fact
that a certain moderate
supply should be ~~available~~ at selected spots
with its ~~disbursed~~ gradual distribution ~~at those spots~~
at or within reach of the station
points ~~was~~ ^{early} arranged that
been steadily carried out -
To meet ~~that~~ ^{the want} ~~all~~ ^{movement} ~~the~~ ^{was} ~~the~~ ^{was}
result in an unsuitable
distribution - in some places
having none - while

grain would be retained
until be retained
Madras -

The place for the same
is in suitable places at
or near points of danger

Madras does not answer
that plan -

It is some place 200 miles
distant - without perhaps
40 miles from nearest
rail - finds itself suddenly
without supplies -

grain at Madras would
rescue
save but few British

The plan for the power of carriage
system being solicited. time was lost in removal
The plan is completely satisfactory
it cannot be improved -
the report of local officers stating
the daily fluctuations of
trade & the movements
of grain in river that

The Govt. (in a letter of the 11th inst.)
after further consideration
has decided that the plan
of distribution which
cannot safely be dis-
acted on should continue
submitting the views to
the Secretary to the
Government of India
The Secretary to the
Government of India
The Secretary to the
Government of India

J. J. Indian

By

The Secretary to the
Government of India
carefully considered
the plan & has
so far as possible
will be very glad

1342

Remo.

The accompanying
four copies of 2
drafts by the Govt.
the Govt. on the
suggestions of the Govt.
of India regarding the
changing of depôts,
rate of grain & the
removal of reserve
are
as Proceedings follow for Madras are
of the letter as passed circulated - also
in request to whether
both are to be despatched
as letters, or whether
the former is only to be

Thank the Govt. of
the letter as passed
as Proceedings follow
of the letter as passed
7/4 9/11
M

as Proceedings follow
of the letter as passed
7/4 9/11
M

it appears to have been

Treated as a
L.O. & the letter
to be despatched
in letter form.

J.H.P.

4/4/72

This only will go as a
letter -

The former was made at
the time as a presentation
for a draft promissory -

& had better I think be
so treated - as it seems

Matters not I think

Munster noted -

Ref 74

1347
6

it appears to have been

Mem
for
Order

Forwards
of the following
assortment
to the
of

Ch-477 R-7-477

DD 21/3

Understand this
the are on these
for the purpose
of the J. A. letter
regarding the
of the
55

1347

In the latter part of
November. The Genl
~~General~~ joined the opinion
that there were certain
districts & places in which
it was essential that
there should be some
store to provide for
the emergency of
any failure in trade
supplies and 23
places were selected
as depots -
Of these some were
chosen because their
supplies were ordinarily
drawn from Mysore
which would it of course
very much dependant
it appears to have been

change in ^{the} circumstances
as to justify them in
departing from an
arrangement they had
well considered —

The suggestion is now
made by the G. of I. that
all grain at places
less than 60 miles
from the rail be
removed to that distance.

Not only would this proposal
involve ^{heavy} expense in
carriage. But would very
probably demand of all
some places where in the
opinion of the G. of I. it
is essential for safety that
reserves should exist —

It appears that
the only change which

Attain better supplies

1342

Has now appears to be
that the emergency of
which the G. of I. deemed it
essential to provide an
more imminent —

The ^{supply of} ~~require~~ supply is
practically dependant
to a greater degree than
the G. of I. anticipated
upon the Madras railway

In fixing a distance of 60
miles it is probable that
the G. of I. considered that
the railway ^{can} will
carry a small quantity
at any moment at any
station — As a mere
mechanical operation
that may be possible at the
in times of great pressure
to arrange the supply of wagon stock
perhaps difficult — but
it appears to have been

the railway
the supplies

places -
The best information the
Genl. can obtain ^{involves} ~~shows~~
that there are no large
stocks remaining in Wyom
territory - that ~~the~~ no
alliance is to be placed
upon the prospects of

The Gov. C. therefore can
come to no other conclusion
than that the arrangements
for service deposits should
be disturbed —

11

No 313

1347
11

From

The Honble T. C. Slope, C.S.I.
Additional Secretary to the Government of India
Department of Revenue, Agriculture & Commerce

To

J. H. Garstin Esq
Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras
Revenue Department

Calcutta, the 23^d March 1877.

... Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your telegram of the 17th Instant, in answer to my letter No 276 of the 9th Instant.

2. In reply, I am directed to state that before coming to a final decision on the subject of the 2nd, 3^d and 4th paragraphs of that letter His Excellency the Governor General in Council will await the result of the further reference which was made to the Government of Madras by telegraph yesterday.

3. The proposal in paragraph 5 that the reserve of grain now held by the Madras Government should be gradually sold off ⁱⁿ small quantities at fixed intervals, was, as I am to explain, intended to relieve the mercantile

Cy 800

exp 30

2-377

8/1979

70 5 April 1877 No 1347

upon the prospects

mercantile community from the standing menace which seemed to be involved in the existence of a stock of grain in the hands of the Government liable to be despatched into the distressed districts or to be thrown on the market at any time. From such enquiries as the Government of India have been able to make, it appears that at Calcutta there is considerable difference of opinion on the subject, although some of the leading merchants consider that the sales contemplated would tend to confirm the confidence of the mercantile community in our policy of non-interference with private trade, and that... if conducted in the manner and at the intervals proposed they would not be of sufficient importance to have any serious effect upon prices. As however the general opinion of the trade at Madras appears to be adverse to the measure, and as His Excellency the Governor in Council has given a public pledge that the grain shall be retained in reserve to meet future emergencies, the Government of India will not press its suggestion further. I am however to add that the reserve should not be moved or utilized in any way, without the permission of the Government of India, which in case of necessity may be applied for

by telegraph, with a full explanation of the necessity of the case.

1347

12

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

W. A. R.

Additional Secretary to the Government of India

Rev. 1877 Sept
7th 1979

From

The Hon. J. C. Hope C.S.I

Actg Secy. to the Govt. of India
Dept. of Rev. &

Dated 23 }
Recd. 30 } March 1979

No 313.

2/10

On the subject of the
Revenue of grain held by
the Madras Government.

No 1347

27 5 April 1879

Rev. & Secy. to Govt. of India
Dept. of Rev. & C. S. I.
Dated 23rd March 1879
No 313.
G. O. 1347
13

In the letter above used
3 suggestions ~~of~~ made
by the Govt. of India regarding
the Govt. grain revenue -
1st To move it to a distance
of 50 miles from the Railway
2nd To be sold by auction etc
3rd That now yet shall
be made at all without
previous sanction from the
Govt. of India.
2. In the letter from the
Govt. of India & D. C. in
answer to the Govt. of India
letter above used it was
mentioned by the Govt. that
the Govt. in Council has
in the meantime to the
1st & 2nd suggestions - this
from the Council has very
carefully considered the further
details of the Govt. of
India but is unable to

upon the progress of

East on it. I hope to
see disaster.

3. The Finance Council
was also aware from the
first that the transporting
means of the railways
of the Presidency will fail
to be able to carry
balanced and not only
the aid which it has hoped
might be sent here,
Maid. To meet the
contingency therefore of
failure of supplies at the
present season of the
P. & C. Council that a
certain moderate
supply should be available
at selected spots with
food distribution to
those spots at a similar
scale of distribution
which has been arranged
at the present time
at. I am not sure
the movement of the
rain could result in
an available distribution
some places being more
than others.

upon the prospects

1347
with the railway
from. The railway
was also ~~available~~ ^{available}
being available at the time
when on the road of the
places where, consequently
being it was very common.
Of course from 200 miles
distance, perhaps 40 miles
from the railway for its use
instead of without supplies, from
at Madras I. reserve to
for victims - The means
of carriage also being very
limited time would be in
removal. cannot be benefited
wound - This for women
has carefully adjusted the
wounding reserve grain
to be not to interfere with
the transport of grain by private
traders.

4. The P. & C. Council ~~therefore~~
after further careful
deliberation in Council
therefore decides that the
plan of distribution which
was for and so far be
discontinued.

5. And that the following
letters be despatched -
(Dated 5/4/33) 241