

(1) Number of pages 18

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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

1368A

Press
Mis.

Dated

7.4.1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Famine Relief.

No. 188A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st March 1877, No. 1,284:—

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kodur, 10th March 1877, Extra No. 282.

I HAVE the honor to request that the Board of Revenue will, if it sees fit, do me the favor of forwarding, for the consideration of Government, my explanation with regard to the remarks made in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, No. 782, dated 22nd ultimo.

2. I trust that if Government consider this sufficient, they will relieve me from the observations made in paragraph 2 of their order, which, although they do not refer to me by name, are known to myself and to the other officers of this district to allude to me.

3. I have, since I was first appointed to famine duty in October last, devoted myself entirely to my work to the entire exclusion of my own affairs, and, with one or two very rare exceptions, to that of the day of rest also. It is therefore a matter of pain and annoyance to me that Government should place on record and give the Press an opportunity of publishing a remark, inferring that I have put upon the shoulders of others work that I should have done myself.

My authority for having deputed to my subordinates the power of sanctioning estimates for relief works, not exceeding Rupees 1,000, will be found in paragraph 4 of the instructions published with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3,208, dated 18th December last, and which met with the entire approval of Government as expressed in their Proceedings, Revenue Department, No. 2,199, dated 28th December 1876.

I beg to point out that I deputed my powers to only half of their full extent; that I strictly forbade the sanctioning of any new roads without reference to me, or of any estimates for irrigation works; and that I required for my perusal a weekly return of all works sanctioned by each officer. My reasons for acting as I did were that I wished my subordinates to feel that they had some responsibilities; that I put sufficient confidence in them to avail myself of the permission accorded by the rules; and that I considered that it was advisable, in order to save correspondence and time, that they should have authority to at once sanction and carry out such works as cleaning, deepening and repairing wells and ponds, improving village roads, &c.

In respect to paragraph 2 of the Government Order quoted in paragraph 1 of this letter, I would beg to observe that the orders in regard to enforcing task-work have been repeated and stringent; that the Board have been in possession of copies of the instructions issued by me in this and the Bellary District; and that these were not passed in contemplation of the present scale of wages, but of one which was sufficient to allow of the coolies being deprived of a portion of their pay if they did not work. I would further draw attention to the concluding portion of paragraph 4 of Mr. Puckle's letter to the Board of Revenue, No. 7, dated 16th January 1877, which met with no objections from the Board or Government, and

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th April 1877.*

which advances the proposition that the gang should be treated as the unit, and attempts to deal individually with uncontrollable masses should be desisted from.

I would submit that in my organization I had this same point in view, and that from a considerable experience of working famine coolies it appeared to me that where they would not do more than a quarter of a very light day's work (the full task being rather less than half the scale of labor in force in the Department of Public Works), they ought not to receive any thing.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. The Board have already pointed out that the course reprehended in the order quoted by Mr. Price was warranted by the rules approved by Government. They trust, therefore, that Government will be pleased to relieve him expressly from the censure which has caused him pain.

3. As to task-work and fining, the instructions which have recently been issued seem sufficient to prevent heavy fining, and by providing for gangs being remodelled and tasks made sufficiently light to reduce to a minimum the infliction of undeserved penalties deprecated in paragraph 4 of the Government Order.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 136B.

ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1877, No. 1368A.

Miscellaneous.

Mr. PRICE is referred to G.O. of the 10th March 1877, No. 1,024, which, by the admission contained in it that G.O. of the 28th December, No. 2,199, had been overlooked when G.O. of February 22nd, No. 782, was passed, completely exonerates him from any blame imputed to him by the Government Order last mentioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ the Financial Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

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13687
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Items:

In order

There is no doubt that Rule 4 of the Instructions to Col^{rs} embodied in G.O. of Dec. 25th N° 2199 authorized all Collectors to delegate their powers of sanctioning estimates to their subordinates as they might deem proper, & the powers of sanctioning estimates up to 2000 Rs. was at the same time conferred on them. The Govt. admitted by that they overlooked this fact when passing G.O. of March 15th 1877 N° 1024.

Mr. Price is not an officer to shirk either his responsibility or his duty. Hence I suggest that he be informed that the Government has disapproved his conduct and a misapprehension is laid down.

31/3/77 J.H.S.

* Act and Deputies

The paragraph refers to was certainly passed in ignorance that

I had certainly referred to the G.O. of March 1877. I admit the fact that G.O. Dec. 25th 1877. I had been overlooked so far as regards the delegation of powers. Hence I write for the peace of mind.

Consent passed on Mr. Price, Acting Collector of Udhampur. - Referring Mr. Price to G.O. of the 10th March 1877, No. 1,024, which completely exonerates him from any blame imputed to him by Government.

PANDE REPLY, No. 916A

APRIL, No. 188A-188B.

G.O., 7th April 1877, No. 1,883A.

Dated April, 7th.

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE, &c., &c., &c.

Cost. of (1877) 33 adms.

was quite exposed
January blaws
imputed by the same
question.

The other matter is
new matter

Re 4/4

Mr
5/4

Dr

Ch. 10680

f.o.

Mr. Price
The Coll. is referred
to f.o. of the 10th March
1877 No 1024, which by
the admission contained
in it that f.o. of the 28th
Dec. No 2199 had
been overlooked when
f.o. of Feb. 22. No 782
has passed, completely
accounted for the
other collection of f.o.

387
to from the any name
which right imputed to
last mentioned
of the f.o. of
2/4/77 J.H.S.
7 April 1877

And copy to the Oddy Rev. as before
3568 of 19th July
60. the Collection of Caddapallu
5 the Funeral of

80
6

Mr

To order

Care

Council

Dr P

11-977

Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue

Dated 21st March 1877, No 1284

R. N. 2752 Read the following No 282

From J. F. Price Esquire
Acting Collector of
Cuddalore

To H. E. Stokes Esquire
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue

Sir Madras

I have the honor to request
that the Board of Revenue will,
if it sees fit, do me the favor of
forwarding for the Consideration
of Government my explanation
with regard to the remarks made
in paras 2 + 3 of the Proceedings
of

dated 18th December last, and
which met with the entire
approval of Government as ex-
pressed in their Proceedings,
Revenue Department, No 2199
dated 28th December 1876.

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I deputed my powers to only
half of this full extent; that
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out reference to me or of any es-
timates for irrigation works, and
that I required for my perusal
a weekly return of all works
sanctioned by each officer,
my reasons for acting as I did
were that I wished my sub-
ordinates

subordinates to feel that ^{they} they
had some responsibilities,
that I put sufficient confidence
in them to avail myself of the
permission accorded by the Rules,
and that I considered that it
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attention to the concluding portion
of para 4 of Mr. Puckle's letter to
the Board of Revenue No. 7 dated
16th January 1897 which met
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Board or Government and which

advances the proposition^{27/8/97} that the
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masses should be desisted from.

I would submit that
in my organization I had this
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from a considerable experience

of working famine coolies, it
appeared to me that when
they would not do more than
a quarter of a very light day's
work, (the full task being rather
less than half the scale of labour
in force in the D.P.W.) they ought
not to receive any thing.

Cuddapah Coll^r's Office } I have
Camp Kodur Pullampett } (Sd) J. Frederick Rice
Collector

(Sd) J. Frederick Price
Sd Collector.

Submitted to Government.

2. The Board have already pointed out ^{that} the course reprehended in the order quoted by Mr Price was warranted by the rules approved by Government. They trust therefore that Government will be pleased to relieve him expressly from the censure which has caused him pain.

3. As to task work & fining, the instructions which have recently been issued seem sufficient to prevent heavy fining & by providing for gangs being remodelled & tasks made sufficiently light to reduce to a minimum the infliction of undeserved penalties deprecated in para 4 of the G. O. (True Copy & Extract)

W. H. Lums

Do add! See? to Govt R.D.

Secretary

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