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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1469	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	18-4-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

Famine Relief.

No. 435. Read the following endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George 16th April 1877, No. 975:—

Read the following letter from J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to Colonel E. A. FOORD, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort St. George, dated Nellore, 13th April 1877, No. 167.

I HAVE thought for some time it would be a good arrangement to have an officer from each of the districts of Cuddapah, Bellary, and Kurnool appointed to look after the emigrants from those districts on the Coast Canal.

2. The appointment of special officers to this duty would, I think, be beneficial in many ways: the coolies would probably prefer to be under the protection of an officer from their own district; they would be more reconciled to the system on the canal when partially administered by their own officers, and they would not have opportunities of saying, as they now do, that the promises made to them in their own districts are not fulfilled on the canal; they would look for more sympathy from their own special officer than they seem to expect from the canal officers, and it would reconcile to our system many a man who now runs away dissatisfied and discontented to be told by his special protector that he has no grievance and no cause of complaint.

3. In this view I telegraphed to the Collectors of Cuddapah, Bellary, and Kurnool on the 9th April 1877 as follows:—

"Would you concur in a proposal to have an officer from your district appointed by you to look after emigrants from your district on the Nellore Canal?"

The Collector of Bellary replied: "I gladly agree to your proposal. An officer from this district will leave this for Nellore with coolies in a few days; he will remain at Nellore and on line of route."

The Collector of Kurnool replied: "Your telegram. No officer available in this district to look after Kurnool emigrants on the Nellore Canal. Would be very glad if Government appointed an officer for the purpose from elsewhere."

The Collector of Cuddapah replies by letter: "I am quite willing that an officer from this district should be sent to Nellore to look after the coolies from this. I can spare Major Alexander."

4. I now beg to submit the proposal for the approval of His Grace the Governor in Council with a request that early orders may be passed upon it.

5. Of the thousands of coolies who have been despatched from Kurnool, there are only 849 reported to be at work; many of those who take batta, &c., at the despatching stations never come to the canal at all; they turn round before they reach the canal; they probably enlist again at some other despatching station in the Kurnool District; and it is reported that several hundreds of people are living entirely in this way without doing a day's useful work.

6. A little more vigilance along the route, and more attention to the existing orders of Government on the part of the officers entrusted with this duty, would,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th April 1877.*

no doubt, put a stop to this; and with an officer on the canal to receive the people, to devote his whole time to them, to listen and to dispose of their troubles and grievances, the people would look to him for protection, they would generally be satisfied with his decision, and, I am sure, there would be nothing like the desertion that now takes place.

~~TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department.~~

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 436.

ORDER THEREON, 18th April 1877, No. 1,469.

Miscellaneous.

Mr. O'SHAUGHNESSY will be informed that Major Alexander, Captain Shortland, and Captain Vernon have been appointed transport officers for the three districts of Cuddapah, Bellary, and Kurnool, respectively, to organize the despatch of emigrants to the East Coast Canal, and, under the Orders of Government of the 7th March 1877, No. 967, they will accompany the first batches themselves. The Government have not, however, other European officers available to reside on the canal as Protectors of the Emigrants. Arrangements will, however, be made by the Collectors concerned for a native official of the rank of Deputy Tahsildar being sent from each of the above districts in that capacity.

(True Extract)

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

To the District Engineer, Nellore.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ the „ of Bellary.
„ the „ of Kurnool.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

No 167

District Engineer's Office
Nellor
13th April 1877

From,

The District Engineer
Nellor

To,

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Fort St. George.

Sir

I have thought for some time
it would be a good arrangement to have
an Officer from each of the Districts of
Cuddapah, Bellary and Tumool
appointed to look after the emigrants
from those Districts on the Coast Canal.

The appointment of Special Officers
to this duty would, I think, be
beneficial in many ways, the Coolies
would probably prefer to be under the
protection of an Officer from their own
District, they would be more reconciled
to the system on the canal when
partially administered by their own

GOVT. ST. (1877) 1000

REVENUE.

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

NELLOR.

100. 10. 1000

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GOVT. ST. (1877) 1000

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own officers and they would not have opportunities of saying as they now do, that the promises made to them in their own districts are not fulfilled on the canal, they would look for more sympathy from their own special officer than they seem to expect from the canal officers and it would reconcile to our system, many a man who now runs away dissatisfied and discontented, to be told by his special protector that he has no grievance and no cause of complaint.

3 In this view I telegraphed to the Collectors of Cuddapah, Bellary and Kurnool on the 7th April 1877 as follows.

"Would you concur in a proposal to have an officer from your District appointed by you, to look after emigrants from your District on the Killore canal?"

The Collector of Bellary replied "I gladly agree to your proposal, an officer from this District will leave this for Kellore with coolies in a few days,

he will remain at Kellore and on line of route."

The Collector of Kurnool replied "Your telegram, No. Officer available in this District to look after Kurnool emigrants on the Killore canal, would be very glad if Government appointed an officer for the purpose from elsewhere?"

The Collector of Cuddapah replies by letter.

"I am quite willing that an officer from this District should be sent to Kellore to look after the coolies from this, I can spare Major Alexander"

4 I now beg to submit the proposal for the approval of His Grace the Governor in Council with a request that early orders may be passed upon it.

5 Of the thousands of coolies who have been despatched from Kurnool there are only 849 reported to be at work, many of those who take batta &c

Rev. 1877 Sept.
1877 F. 2646
O'Connor

The District Engineer
Tallahassee

The Secretary did go!

Dr. J. P. L. Smith

Dated 12th April 1877

[illegible]

Appointments of
Special Officers.

Recommends the—
to look after coolies from
Western Districts to the
Coast Canal.

Transferred

[illegible]