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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1819. Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 25-5-1877 197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1819
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

25th May 1877, No. 1,819.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 510. Diary, No 1, of the Acting Third Member of the Board of Revenue, on Inspection Duty in the distressed districts.

Madras to Sulurpet, 50 miles up the Northern Trunk Road.

THE destitute people who travel down the northern road towards Madras are no longer met with in hundreds, but in small parties or singly; they have not the same distressed look as formerly, and are mostly women and children on their way to join relatives who are said to have found work in Madras. Between Madras and Sulurpet, a distance of 50 miles, I did not pass more than 200 destitute travellers, and perhaps half of these were Tamil people from Ponneri and the Sateeved Division of Trivellore.

2. There is need of more work in the Chingleput District between Madras and Gumadipundi; for, with the exception of the bridge building over the Cortelliar river, I am not aware of the existence of any road-side work in progress for a distance of 30 miles. The proposed embankment of the Cortelliar and Narayanaveram rivers, and the cutting of the main drainage channels from the Red Hill tank are works of the first necessity, for, as mentioned in my settlement report on the villages thereabouts, the whole country is flooded at times by the want of artificial embankments to the rivers and by the choking up of the old drainage channel. These works have been surveyed and aligned and estimated for, but have not been commenced for want of final sanction. The people of that part of the country are most anxious that the present dry season should be taken advantage of, for the execution of works on which the welfare of some fifty villages depends, and it is in this very locality that work now seems to be so very much needed.

3. The choultry at Narivarikupum near the calingulah of the Red Hill tank has been white-washed, but the ground round it needs scraping and cleaning. Hundreds of carts halt nightly at the very door of the choultry, and the small space between the road and the building is covered inches deep with the dust and filth of years. There have been no deaths at this choultry since arrangements were made to receive the sick and feeble into the camp close by; but at Gumadipundi further on, where there is a very fine choultry with the same filthy surroundings as at Narivarikupum, I found eleven small-pox patients and three other sick people occupying quarters in the midst of some hundreds of cartmen. I did not visit the new camp at the Cortelliar, as it stands so far back from the road, that I missed it altogether; it would be well, I think, to advance some of the buildings nearer to the road, so that passers-by might see them, and a few men might be specially told off for the duty of intercepting destitute travellers and offering them food and shelter.

4. There is plenty of water along the road as far as Gumadipundi, but the long stretch at the head of the Pulicat Lake is almost without fresh water. At the 35th mile just within the border of the Venkatagiri Zemindari a spring of good

water is being cleared out and deepened, and at Tadda, some miles further on, also in the Venkatagiri Zemindari, two square tanks are being deepened.

5. The traffic on the northern road is excessive, mainly grain and hoop iron going up from Madras, and straw, fire-wood, hides, and pottery coming down. Straw is exceedingly dear and scarce, about 15 Rs. a cart-load, but fire-wood and pottery are said to be cheap this year. The road is in very bad condition, the surface being quite cut through, and it will have to be entirely re-made for miles. It is impossible to do anything to it now, as there is no water to tamp the laterite metal, which, if put on dry, grinds into dust immediately. There are relief-camps at Sulurpet, Naidupet, and Gudur, on the northern road in the Nellore District, and these have no doubt helped to check the flow of destitute travellers towards Madras. I will report on these camps hereafter.

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Ag. Third Member, Board of Revenue.

SALURPET,
7th May 1877.

No. 511. ORDER THEREON, 25th May 1877, No. 1,819.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Collector of Chingleput, who will state whether any objection exists to the commencement of the drainage works referred to by Mr. Puckle, in preference to the embankments of the Cortelliar and Narayanaveram rivers.

2. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation will be requested in the Public Works Department to submit the plans of the drainage works referred to for the inspection of Government, etc.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Chingleput.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, R. K. Puckle, Esq.
,, the Financial Department.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of [1877] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The COLLECTOR or CHINGLEPUT,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 25th.

Rect.

Encl.

G.O. 23d May 1877, No. 1,819.

MAY.

Nos. 510—511.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 1,193.

Drainage Channels for the Red Hills Tank.—Communicating to the Collector of Chingleput, for report, Mr. Paddle's Inspection Report on the commencement of the — recommended that officer in preference to the embankments of the Cortelliar and Narayanaveram rivers, and requesting Chief Engineer for Irrigation to submit plans for the works.

1819/3

The destitute people who
travel along the Northern road
towards Madras, are no longer
met with in hundreds but in
small parties or singly – they
have not the same distressed
look as formerly, and are
mostly women and children
on their way to join relatives
who are said to have found
work in Madras. Between
Madras and Suliurpeh, a dis-
tance of 50 miles, I did not
pass more than 200 destitute
travellers and perhaps half
of these were Tamil people
from Mysore and the Sala-
ried division of Trivalur –
There is need of more work
in the Chingleput District
between Madras and
Gummidipundi, except the
exception of the bridges
building over the Courtalliar
rivers

rivers. I saw each aware of
the existence of any road side
marks in progress for a dis
tance of 30 miles. The proposed
embankment of the Kurtallivar
and Karyanaaram rivers
and the Cutting of the main
drainage channels from the
Red Hill South are marks
of the first necessity, for as
mentioned in my last Report
repair on the villages there
about, the whole Country
is flooded at times, by the
mouth of artificial embank
ments to the rivers, and by the
choking up of the old drainage
channels. These vital Works have
been surveyed and designed
and estimates for, but have
not been commenced for
want of funds same time
The people of that part of
the Country are most anxious
that

I think that
Mr Hamilton from his
with I cannot help
in August urging
Government to
I know no
execution other
works

that the present Dry season
should be taken advantage
of, for the execution of works
as above, for the welfare of some
50 villages dependents, and this is
in this very locality that re
pairs now seems to be so very
much needed.

The Chaultry at Purnaritirippum
near the Palmyrah of the Red
Hill South has been pulled
washed, but the ground round
it needs scraping and adorning
Hundreds of Carts halt nightly
by at the very door of the
Chaultry and the small space
between the road and the
building is covered with carts
up to the Chaultry and filled up
Years. There have been no
deaths at this Chaultry since
arrangements were made to
receive the sick and feeble
into the Camp close by, but
at Gannadipundi further nor
there is a very large

Chaultry

Chaultry with the Comm of Ellay
surrounding as also Parianai-
Puram, I found it small pave
patients and 3 other sick people
occupying quarters in the midst
of some hundreds of Coolies
I did not wish the new Comp
at the Courtillier as it stands so
far back from the road that I missed it altogether - it would
be well I think to advance
some of the buildings nearer to
the road so that passers by
might see them, and a flag mast
might be speedily taken off for
the duty of interrogating sick
like travellers and offering
them food and shelter -
There is plenty of water
along the road as far as
Gunnadeypundi, but the long
stretch at the head of the
Pulicat Lake is almost without
fresh water - at the 35th
mile finish with the boarder
of the Vencatagherry Zemindari,

a

in W.R. & Winter Turn the
book. + this tree cannot be
visible to those coming from the
South - it is the only colour to the
Eastward - flying in view of those
coming to the North - It is by Strictly
Road Station & Cable Communication
to be in the Telegraph Estimate £1500 -
Telegraph Department

3 [illegible]

a spring of good water is
being cleared with and deepened
and at Tadola some miles
further on, also in the Venkata-
gherry Zemindari two square
tanks are being deepened -
The traffic on the Northern
road is excessive mainly grain
and hoop iron going up from
Madras and Straw Jeremood
tides and pottery coming down
Straw is exceedingly dear and
scarce, about 15 Rupees a Cart
load, such Jeremood and pottery
are said to be cheap this year -
The road is in very bad condition
the surface being quite sand
Strands, and it will have to be
entirely remade for miles - It
is impossible to do any thing to
it now, as there is no water to
damp the laterite metal, which
if such was, dry grind into
dust immediately - There
are poles of canjee at Sulur-
pet, Naidupet and Gudur on
the Northern road in the Nellore
District

Distrcts and Mysore Service no
doubt helped to check the
flow of destitute travellers
towards Madras. Details of
preparations these camps hereafter.

Sulurpet
7 May 1877

R K Reddi
of 3 Member Board of Revenue

Rec. 1877 Dept
7 No. 3393

From R. K. Pechell Esqr
Lieut. 3rd Chamber W. of Rec.
on inspection duty
in the Chatham Dist.

Dated 7 May 1877 Rec'd 8 May 1877

No 819

Comm[d] the Coll[r] of Chatham. to call state whether any objections exist to the commencement of the drainage works intended to be executed in pursuance of the Contract entered into for the Catellian & Nanyamarman rivers.

2. The Chatham Engr for Irrigation will be requested to submit the plans of the drainage works intended to be executed in pursuance of the Contract

25/5/77 DHF 25 May 1877

Subj. inspection report on 50 miles of Northern Trunk Road from Madras to Tulsipett.

Rec'd Copy of the Collector of Chingleput 29 May
100 Cs 7 Fem
210 Cs Bullock do
350 Cs Basket of Clay do
100 Cs Sundries dyo

C 100-5-) R 22-5-)

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 3393

1819

From R. H. Smith Esq.

Dated 7th May 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

I send case for the
Opinion of the Crown
Lawyers referred to. I
suppose (Mr Smith may
have pointed that
out in his letter - but
I have overlooked it)

Ref. 1/5

Ordered that the
Crown Lawyers - Mr Hall
& Mr Hunt
be asked for their
opinion
Feb 1878

FOR ORDERS.

1819
8
Dupl
26-5-77

H 33393

C10-5-» R22-5-»