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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1998-A
B.P. No.

Press
Mis.

Dated 15-6-1877

197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1998A
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

15th June 1877, No. 1,998-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 305-A. Diary, No. 10, of the Acting Third Member of the Board of Revenue.

The Cumbum Taluq of the Kurnool District, 6th June 1877.

The town is situated on the skirt of the rice-fields under the Cumbum tank, and its situation and the crumbling slaty soil on which it is built probably account for the fever for which the place is notorious. There is a low-lying basin at either end of the taluq, but the centre for 20 miles consists of a high ridge of shingle. This is traversed by the Cuddapah road, and along this large quantities of metal have been stored; the same has been done along the Ongole road for a distance of 10 miles from Cumbum; the storage of metal has cost upwards of a lakh of Rupees. Filling in cess-pools in Cumbum has cost Rupees 25,000. Some village-roads at the Cuddapah end of the taluq have cost Rupees 1,67,000, or Rupees 6,000 a mile, and are not yet finished, and the repair of the Nandigam

2. Altogether 5½ lakhs of rupees have been spent in this taluq; tools have cost another lakh, and supervision costs Rupees 3,500 a-month.

3. There are three European Officers, one Deputy Collector, one Deputy Tahsildar, three extra Revenue Inspectors, a Road Superintendent, thirty-two Settlement and Survey Subordinates, twenty-two Maistries, forty-five Pay masters, and thirteen Clerks.

4. Fifty thousand coolies are now employed, but only 1,500 people receive gratuitous relief. There are five relief-houses and twenty-four centres for village relief. The cost is about Rupees 2,660 a-month, or 1 Anna per diem for each person relieved. This gratuitous relief might, I think, be extended with very great advantage, as the works are immensely expensive, in some cases they may be unnecessary, they are scattered about the taluq, and the subordinate supervision is said to be somewhat untrustworthy. The Cuddapah road is in pretty fair order up to five miles from the end of the taluq, from which point there is only a cart-track. These five miles might be completed, and work on the village-roads might be abandoned; in like manner, the Ongole road at the other end of the taluq should be completed as proposed in Diary No. 8, and, if selected hands are concentrated on these two works, an officer can camp on each, and the feeble, old, young, and sickly among the gangs can be furnished with tickets for gratuitous relief, which is known to cost but an anna a head per diem.

There is a large stock of grain, 4,000 bags, in store at Komaravole near the Cuddapah border, in charge of a Head Surveyor on Rupees 100 a-month; this is said to be likely to spoil from want of ventilation and from want of occasional exposure to the sun. It might be disbursed in grain wages to the coolies employed in that neighbourhood, and in providing relief-houses with grain. There have been fleeting showers from the west during the past two days, and the sky has been much overcast.

VENKATAPURAM
6th June 1877.

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Ag. 3rd Member, Board of Revenue.

Revenue Department, 15*th June* 1877, *No.* 1,998-*A*.

No. 305-B. ORDER THEREON, 15th June 1877, No. 1,998-A.

Miscellaneous.

HIS GRACE in Council, while recognising the necessity for the concentration and reduction in numbers of the coolies employed and the necessity for an extension of gratuitous relief, desires that the change be introduced gradually and with the utmost care. A responsible officer should be sent to disperse the gangs and issue tickets for gratuitous relief to the old, feeble, and sickly.

2. His Grace in Council also desires that the Collector will have the large stock of grain at Komaravole, which, it is presumed is grain locally purchased, used, as proposed, for the payment of the grain portion of wages, and for relief-camp purposes, forthwith.

(True Extract.)

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

To W. K. Puckle, Esq.
" Board of Revent
" the Collector of Kurnool.
" the Financial Department

Exd. T. D. Ryan.

1998A
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Diary No. 10.

The Cumbum Taluq of the Kurnool District, June 6th, 1877.

The town is situated on the skirt of the rice fields under the Cumbum tank, and its situation and the crumbling slaty soil on which it is built probably account for the fever for which the place is notorious. There is a low-lying basin at either end of the taluq, but the centre for 20 miles consists of a high ridge of shingle. This is traversed by the Cuddapah road, and along this large quantities of metal have been stored; the same has been done along the Ongole road for a distance of 10 miles from Cumbum; the storage of metal has cost upwards of a lakh of rupees. Filling in cess pools in Cumbum has cost Rupees 25,000. Some village roads at the Cuddapah end of the taluq have cost Rupees 1,67,000 or Rs. 6,000 a mile and are not yet finished, and the repair of the Nandikamma ghaut has cost Rupees 30,000.

Altogether $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of Rupees have been spent in this taluq; tools have cost another lakh, and supervision costs Rupees 3,500 a month.

There are three European Officers, one Deputy Collector, one Deputy Tahsildar, three extra Revenue Inspectors, a Road Superintendent, thirty-two Settlement and Survey Subordinates, twenty-two Maistries, forty-five Pay Masters, and thirteen Clerks.

Fifty thousand coolies are now employed, but only 1,400 people receive gratuitous relief. There are five relief-houses and twenty-four centres for village relief; the cost is about Rupees 2,660 a month or 1 Anna per diem for each person relieved; this gratuitous relief might, I think, be extended with very great advantage, as the works are immensely expensive, in some cases they may be unnecessary, they are scattered

about the taluq, and the subordinate supervision is said to be somewhat untrustworthy. The Cuddapah road is in pretty fair order up to 5 miles from the end of the taluq, from which point there is only a cart track. These 5 miles might be completed, and work on the village roads might be abandoned; in like manner the Ongole road at the other end of the taluq should be completed as proposed in Diary No. 8, and, if selected hands are concentrated on these two works, an officer can camp at each, and the feeble, old, young, and sickly among the gangs can be furnished with tickets for gratuitous relief, which is known to cost but an anna a head per diem.

There is a large stock of grain, 4,000 bags, in store at Komaravole near the Cuddapah frontier, in charge of a Head Surveyor on Rupees 100 a month; this is said to be likely to spoil from want of ventilation and from want of occasional exposure to the sun. It might be disbursed in grain wages to the coolies employed in that neighbourhood, and in providing relief houses with grain. There have been fleeting showers from the west during the past two days and the sky has been much overcast.

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Ag. 3rd Member, Board of Revenue.

VENKATAPURAM,
6th June 1877.

1998/4

Revenue (1877) Department.

F. No. 4,414.

Diary No. 10.

From

R. K. PUCKLE, Esq.,

Acting 3rd Member,

Board of Revenue,

on special duty.

Dated 6th } *June* 1877.
Recd. 9th }

SUBMITTING Inspection Report No. 10 of the Cumbum Taluq, Kurnool District.

GO 15 June/77 No 1998

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 4414

From R. K. Puckle Esqr.

Dated 6th June 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

Dated and
Report No 10
submitting
Inspection
Report of the Cumbum
Taluq in the
Kurnool District
See minute
above
Ber
Sept

Revenue (1877) Depa

F. No. 4.414

1998A

SUBMITTING Inspection Re
the Cumbum Taluq, Kurnoo

GO 15 June/77

No 1998 A

G.O. 15 June 1877 FOR ORDERS.

1. His Hon'ble in Council while sensible of the necessity for the concentration of the Parties employed for Gunpowder and the necessity for an extension of irrigation in the Districts of Trichinopoly & Madura, desires that the change be introduced with the utmost care. A responsible Officer should be sent to this Presidency this season and assist the Board of Revenue gradually in the introduction of Irrigation Tools & Implements.

2. His Hon'ble in Council also desires that the Collr will bring to the Coast Steam Plough at Chemnad, which it is presumed is soon to be locally purchased, used as proposed in the improvement of this Province for this season, & that a Report thereon be furnished.

C 12-6-77 R 15-6-77

SUBMITTING Inspection R
the Cumbum Taluq, Kurno

GO 15 June/77