Sectt. I (i)-I—10,000—7-10-70.

(1) Number of pages 12

(2) Date of repair 31.7.73

(3) Initials of the Referencer

# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

---

## GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev. DEPARTMENT

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

Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 15-6-1877 ~~197~~ .

*Not to be folded or roughly handled*

1998B
1

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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

### Famine Relief.

Read the following paper.—

No. 305-C. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th June 1877.

Read the following letter from W.H. GLENNEY, Esq., Sub-Collector, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated Cachapoor, 22nd May 1877, No. 194.

WITH reference to your footnote, dated 18th instant, on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Miscellaneous No. 6,991, of 4th instant, on Government Order, No. 1,636, dated 4th instant, I have the honor, in the first place, to point out that Government seem to think that Venkataramanuppa was a gangsman. He was a Revenue Settlement Goomasta lent to us and doing duty as a paymaster, a man whose duty it was to disburse money obtained from the taluq treasury to the coolies. The gangsmen, as well as their gangs, were defrauded of their pay by him.

2. I have on former occasions given it as my opinion that the system of delivering the pay of each gang to the gangsman is to be avoided if possible. The idea of making gangs consist of persons from the same villagers is simply impracticable. It is true that the bulk of a gang very often does, from the outset, consist of persons of the same village. But to keep continually sorting and resorting the coolies, so that all the members of the gang shall be fellow-villagers, would everywhere add greatly to our administrative difficulties; in Gooty Taluq it would radically upset an organization carefully worked out by Lieutenant Wilson, which, I venture to think, is as good an organization as will be found in any distrtct.

3. The idea of allowing the gangsman to be elected by the gangs is also an impracticale one. We have not time to wait for "elections" and "election petitions" and election squabbles. Beside, the main function of the gangsman is to exact work from the gang. An elective official clearly would not be the man for this function. We want a person whom we can punish or dismiss without consulting the gang. There might, it has been suggested, be one gangsman to exact work and another gangsman to distribute pay. I need not waste time in indicating objections to such a dual system.

4. It is obvious that it, would never do to work the system of representative gangsmen unless we took care that it was thoroughly carried out. An imperfect elective system would involve the certainty of much fraud upon unfortunate individuals in the gang who had not the ordinary claim on the gangsman. The practical truth is that the 'shuffling of the cards' involved in the attempt—certain after all to be unsuccessful—to reconstruct all the gangs properly and to get all the gangsmen duly elected would be most disastrous. We have not time for such revolutionary measures.

5. And there is really no sufficient reason why we should try to save the paying estalishment the time or trouble of making individual payments. I have pointed out that a man can easily pay from 2,000 to 2,500 coolies in the day, allowing him a couple of hours clear for his dinner and siesta. All our arrangements are made to fit in with bi-weekly payments made by each paymaster to this number of coolies. Once more I earnestly beg that this system may be allowed to continue. It is only after a hard fight with dishonest "vested interests" that we have forced the system upon our servants. I beg that we may be allowed to continue to work upon it unless some very serious objection be discovered in it after full inquiry. A slight or doubtful improvement in some detail from some particular point of view is dearly purchased by a radical change of system at a time of pressure like this.

---

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 6,991, dated 14th instant.

(Signed) J. H. MASTER,
Collector.

27th May 1877.

1998-B

*Revenue Department, 15th June 1877, No. 1,997-B.*

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., [illegible]th May 1877, No. 1,636-A.

2. The Board observe that under general orders in force (G.O., 24th March 1877, No. 1,245,) the adoption of payment to gangsmen is discretional.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. [illegible] STOKES,
Secretary.

---

No. 305-D.

Order thereon, 15th June 1877, No. 1,998-B.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded. The matter is left to the discretion of the Collector.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

money obtained from the [illegible]
Treasury

Govt. of (1877) Madras

REVENUE.

To The BOARD of REVENUE, &c., &c., &c.

Dated June 15th.
Passed on MS. 21st
Printed 20th.
Read

G.O. 16th June 1877, No. 1,998-B

JUNE.
Nos. 305C-305D.

FAMINE RELIEF. No. 1301-13.

Fraud of the Relief works in Bellary District — Recording Proceedings of the Board of Revenue on a letter from the Sub-Collector stating that gangsmen were defrauded of their pay by one Venkataramappa, the paymaster, and leaving the matter to the discretion of the Collector.

---

87 15 June No 1998 B

S. Spiers

No 305 C

Bellary

Revenue Department.

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 5th June 1877.

Read the following

No. 194

To

The Collector of Bellary.

Sir,

With reference to your [illegible] dated 18th instant on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue miscellaneous number 6991 of 14th instant on Government order No. 1636 dated 4th instant, I have the honor in the first place to point out that Government seem to think that Venkataramappa was a gangsman. He was a Revenue Settlement Goomasta, lent to us, and doing duty as a paymaster: a man whose duty it was to disburse money obtained from the Taluq

Treasury

necessary to the coolies. These gangsmen as well as their gangs were defrauded of their pay by him.

2. I have on former occasions given it as my opinion that the system of delivering the pay of each gang to the gangsman is to be avoided, if possible. The idea of making gangs consist of persons from the same villagers simply impracticable. It is true that the bulk of a gang very often does from the outset to consist of persons of the same village. But to keep continually sorting and resorting the coolies so that all the members of the gang shall be fellow villagers

would

Good deal [illegible]

2. [illegible]

would carry wherever and greatly add to our administrative difficulties in Ginty Taluq; it would radically upset an organization carefully worked out by Lieut. Wilson which I venture to think is as good an organization as will be found in any district.

3. The idea of allowing the gangsman to be elected by the gangs is also an impracticable one. We have not time to wait for "elections," and "election petitions" and election squabbles. Besides the main function of the gangsman is to exact work from the gang. An elective official clearly would not be the man for this function. We want a person whom we can punish or dismiss without consulting the gang;

there

There might, it has been suggested, be one gangsman to exact work and another gangsman to distribute pay. I need not waste time in indicating objections to such a dual system.

4. It is obvious that it would never do to work the system of representative gangsman unless we took care that it was thoroughly carried out. An imperfect elective system would involve the certainty of much fraud upon unfortunate individuals in the gang who had not the ordinary claim on the gangsman. The practical truth is that the "Shuffling of the cards" involved in the attempt — certain

S. Africa 19981/3

19981/3

certain after all, to be unsuccessful — to reconstruct all the gangs properly and to get all the gangs men duly elected, would be most disastrous. We have not time for such revolutionary measures.

5. And there is really no sufficient reason why we should try to save the paying establishment the time or trouble of making individual payments. As I have pointed out that a man can easily pay from 2000 to 2500 coolies in the day: allowing him a couple of hours clear for his dinner and siesta. All our arrangements are made to fit in with bi-weekly payments made by each paymaster to this number of

of coolies. Once more I earnestly beg that this system may be allowed to continue. It is only after a hard fight with dishonest "vested interests" that we have forced the system upon our Servants. I beg that we may be allowed to continue to work upon it unless some very serious objection be discovered in it — after full enquiry. A slight or doubtful improvement in some detail from some particular point of view is dearly purchased by a radical change of system at a time of pressure like this.

Sub Collector's Office
Cachapoor
22d May 1877

I have &c
(Sd) W. H. Kenny
Sub Collector.

---

19956/6 4

(True Copy) Submitted to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings Miscellaneous Number 6991 dated 14th Inst.

27-5-77 (Sd) J. H. Master
Collector

---

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O. 4th May 1877 number 1636 A.

2. The Board observe that under General order in force (G.O. 24th March 77 No 1241) the adoption of payment to gangsmen is discretional.

(True Copy & Extract)

Secretary

To The Addl Secy: to Govt Rev.

Rev. 1877 Dept

Bellary

No. 4237

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
dated 5th June 1877
Recd 6 "

With order

Submitting to Govt.
letter from the Collector
of Bellary stating that
gangmen were defrauded
of their pay by one Venkata
ramanappa, paymaster
formerly a Gumasta in
the Revenue Settlement

G.O. 10 June 1877
[illegible]

Incl Copy of the [illegible] Rev. Dept 21 June
77 [illegible] 2 July 77
3 the [illegible]