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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2063 B.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20-6-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

20th June 1877, No. 2,063-B.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 455-D. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th June 1877, No. 2634.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant C. A. MERCER, Bengal Staff Corps, on Special Famine duty, Kurnool District, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector, Kurnool District, dated Veldurty, 21st May 1877.

I HAVE the honor to forward, herewith, a communication to the Additional Secretary to Government, Madras, on the subject of horse allowance, and to request you will do me the favor to countersign and forward the same together with any remarks of your own, which may give additional support to the claim in question.

2. Hoping that all I have stated thereon may meet with your entire concurrence and approval, I have, &c.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant C. A. MERCER, 4th Goorkhas, Bengal Staff Corps, on Special Famine duty, Kurnool District, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, dated Veldurty, 21st May 1877.

I HAVE the honor to request you will do me the favor to bring forward, for the favorable consideration and orders of the Government, the following remarks on the subject of horse allowance to officers on Special Famine duty from the Bengal Presidency.

2. From the date of my appointment last January to within the last few weeks, I was under the impression that we were to be allowed horse allowance, and such I have reason to believe was the impression of some of the other officers, similarly deputed like myself from the Bengal Presidency. I have accordingly drawn horse allowance at Rupees (30) thirty per mensem for each of the two horses which I brought down with me.

3. About three weeks ago I received an Objection Statement from the Deputy Accountant-General in which my horse allowance was ordered to be retrenched. In compliance with the order I refunded the money, but as I consider it rather hard upon me, I have taken the liberty of bringing the subject to the notice of Government, in the hope that this heavy item may be granted to us, or that, at any rate, the matter may receive due consideration. I beg most respectfully to urge my claims to horse allowance, basing them upon the following grounds :—

- (1). Because my two horses are being used in the interests of Government only, and because the constant journeys (which the nature of my duties necessarily entails) throughout the different parts of my taluq, where Famine Relief Works are in progress, necessitate my feeding them much more liberally than I otherwise should do, in order to keep them up to their work.
- (2). Because the expense of keeping and feeding horses in these Famine Districts (I allude more particularly to the Kurnool District in which I am stationed) is and has been very great ever since my arrival here on account of the exorbitantly high prices of gram, fodder, &c., in addition to which I have been obliged to increase the pay of my horsekeepers and grasscutters, all of whom I brought down with me from my own Presidency.
- (3). Because some consideration to fair wear and tear, and the constant strain of work upon them should be given.

Revenue Department, 20th June 1877, No. 2,063-B.

(4). Because I do not think it can be the intention of the Government that so heavy an item of expenditure should be defrayed by us out of the amount sanctioned to us as famine deputation allowance, and which, I respectfully submit, should be looked upon as a remuneration for our services, and for the hard work which we have taken upon ourselves.

4. The above reasons will, I trust, be deemed a sufficient excuse for my troubling you with a communication on this subject, and that they will also be considered sufficiently cogent, to merit the attention of Government.

5. Were it not for the fact of the local rates being so high, and the difficulty (I might almost add the impossibility) of procuring gram, &c., at a cheaper rate elsewhere, owing to my being some considerable distance from the line of rail; in short, were I able to purchase it at even a moderately cheap price I should not have considered the question of horse allowance so important as to call for a reference to Government, but, as a matter of fact, the amount I spend upon my horses and the attendants connected with them is in excess of what I have been drawing as horse allowance (viz., 30 Rupees per mensem for each horse).

6. In the month of February last, His Grace the Governor in Council was pleased to sanction the purchase of one horse each, at a cost not exceeding 750 Rupees, by Civil and Military officers from Bengal employed on relief works, who did not bring their own horses with them. I am not aware whether any officers availed themselves of this privilege or not, but assuming that some of them did, and that a horse purchased at the expense of Government cost say 420 Rupees, I beg respectfully to submit that it appears to me to be more advantageous to the Government to have two horses placed at its disposal for that same amount, as would be the case when officers have brought their own two horses with them, and where at a monthly cost of Rupees 60 the Government obtains their services for, say, a period of seven months, at a total cost of Rupees 420.

7. In conclusion, I beg to apologize for anything which may appear to be superfluous or unnecessary in this letter, but would at the same time solicit the kind consideration and offices of His Grace the Governor in Council with reference to this subject.

No. 496.

SUBMITTED, through the Board of Revenue, for the favorable consideration and orders of Government.

2. Lieutenant Mercer has unquestionably done good work since he joined the district, and has not spared his horses.

KURNOOL,
25th May 1877.

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the favorable consideration of Government.

2. The interpretation put by the Account Department upon the orders on the point appears in accordance with the letter, but there is much force in what Lieutenant Mercer urges on the subject. Gram and fodder for horses have been enormously dear in Kurnool.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 455-E. ORDER THEREON, 20th June 1877, No. 2,063-B.

Miscellaneous.

In the 300 Rupees allowed to Military officers employed on Famine duty a horse allowance of 30 Rupees which suffices but for one horse is included. His Grace the Governor in Council is of opinion that the principle adopted in G.O., 15th January 1877, No. 128, Financial

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Revenue Department, 20th June 1877, No. 2,063-B.

Department, is applicable to the case of Military officers employed on Famine Relief, and therefore resolves to direct that, when the Collector under whom such an officer is employed certifies that for the due performance of the duty required of him two horses are required, an extra horse allowance of 30 Rupees be passed to such officer.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant-General.
" Financial Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

8th June 1877.

Read the following:—

To. R. Davidson Esq.
Ag. Collector. Kurnool District

Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith a communication to the Addl. Secy. Govt. Madras, on the subject of horse allowance & to request you will do me the favor to countersign & forward the same together with any remarks of your own, which may give additional support to the claim in question.

Hoping that all I have stated therein may meet with your entire concurrence & approval.

I have to
Yours truly
100/ C. A. Mercer, Lieut.
B. S.C. in Spl. Revenue Duty
Kurnool Dist.

NO: 496.
Submitted through the Bd of Rev. for the favorable consideration & order of Govt.

Lieut. Mercer has unquestionably done good work since he joined the District & has not spared his horses.

100/ R. Davidson
Ag. Collector
Kurnool Office
Office, 25 May 77

6034.

Govt. of (1877) Madras.
REVENUE.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
Dated June 20th.
Issued to MS. June 30th.
Printed July 3rd.
C.O. 20th June 1877, No. 2,063-B.
JUNE
Nos. 455-D-455-E.
FARMING REVENUE, No. 1,397-B.
Inspected. Horse employed on Revenue duty in Kurnool District. — Passing orders on the application from — for horse allowance.

Submitted for the favorable consideration of
Government.

2. The interpretation put by the Account
Dept. upon the order on this point appears in
accordance with the letter, but there is much
force in what Comdr. Mercer urges on the subject.
Grain & fodder for horses have been enormously
dear in Kansas.

True Copy & Extract

Wm. M.

Secretary

Advt.
To the Secretary of Government R.D.
with high respects

The
Department

Horse Allowance

Veldusti. 280
near Ramalcottak
Kurnool District.
May 21st 1877

To

J. H. Garstin Esq^r

Additional Secretary to Government.
Madras.

Sir

I have the honor to request you will do me the favour to bring forward for the favourable consideration & orders of the Government the following remarks on the subject of Horse Allowance to Officers on Special Famine duty from the Bengal Presidency.

From the date of my appointment last January to within the last few weeks, I was under the impression that we were to be allowed Horse Allowance, and such I have reason to believe was the impression of some of the other Officers, similarly deputed like myself from the Buzul Presidency - I have accordingly drawn Horse Allowance at Rs. 30/- (Rupees Thirty) per mensem for each of the two horses which I brought down with me.

About 3 weeks ago I received an Objection Statement from the Deputy Accountant General in which my Horse Allowance was ordered to be retrenched. In compliance with the order I refunded the money, but as I consider it rather hard upon me, I have taken the liberty of bringing the subject to the notice of Government, in the hope that this heavy item may be granted to us, or that, at any rate, the matter may receive due consideration.

And Capt. Col. O'Donoghue (Pres. of the
of the Council and General } R. D. S. 1877
the General of the } 9th July 1877

86 June 1877

Ms. 4.311
Proceedings of the
Board of Prov.

1861
 I have all my papers on the subject of the
 first regular census of the population of the U.S. 1850
 and a list of the names of the persons who
 were engaged in the work. L.H.

De 22/10/03

Feb. 29th Jan 1877
 The 28th allowed to visit my friends brother
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 and the 213

I beg most respectfully to urge my claims to Horse Allowance, basing them upon the following grounds:-

(1) Because my two horses are being used in the interests of Government only, and because the constant journeys (which the nature of my duties necessarily entails) throughout the different parts of my Taluk, where Famine Relief Works are in progress, necessitate my feeding them much more liberally than I otherwise should do, in order to keep them up to their work.

(2) Because the expense of keeping & feeding horses in these Famine Districts (I allude more particularly to the Kurnool Dist. in which I am stationed) is and has been very great ever since my arrival here on account of the exorbitantly high prices of gram, fodder &c, in addition to which I have been obliged to increase the pay of my horse-keepers & grasscutters, all of whom I brought down with me from my own Presidency.

(3) Because some consideration to fair wear & tear, & the constant strain of work upon them should be given.

Lastly because I do not think it can be the intention of the Government that so heavy an item of expenditure should be defrayed by us out of the amount sanctioned to us as Famine Deputation Allowance, and which, I respectfully submit, should be looked upon as a remuneration for our services, and for the hard work which we have taken upon ourselves.

The above reasons will, I trust, be deemed a sufficient excuse for my troubling you with a communication on this subject, and that they will also be considered sufficiently cogent to merit the attention of Government.

Were it not for the fact of the local rates being so high, and the difficulty (I might almost add the impossibility) of procuring gram &c at a cheaper rate elsewhere, owing to my being some considerable distance from the line of rail; in short were I able to purchase it at even a moderately cheap price I should not have considered the question of Horse Allowance so important

as to call for a reference to Government, but as a matter of fact, the amount I spend upon my horses & the attendants connected with them is in excess of what I have been drawing as Horse Allowance (viz: 30/- per mensem for each horse).

In the month of February last His Grace the Governor in Council was pleased to sanction the purchase of one horse each, at a cost not exceeding 750 Rupees, by Civil & Military Officers from Bengal employed on Relief Works, who did not bring their own horses with them - I am not aware, whether any officers availed themselves of this privilege or not, but assuming that some of them did, and that a horse purchased at the expense of Government cost say 420 Rupees - I beg respectfully to submit that it appears to me to be more advantageous to the Government to have two horses placed at its disposal for that same amount, as would be the case when Officers have brought their own 2 horses with them, and where at a monthly cost of Rs. 60/- the Government obtains their services for say a period of seven months at a total cost of Rs. 420/-

In conclusion I beg to apologize for anything which may appear to be superfluous, or unnecessary in this letter, but would, at the same time solicit the kind consideration and offices of His Grace the Governor in Council, with reference to this subject.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

C. A. Mercier-Lieut

4th Gorkhas

Bengal Staff Corps

On special Famine Duty
Kurnool District.

20635
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Vide.

Proceedings Madras Govt.

No. 500 [Museum]

Dated 17th Feb. 1897.

No. 732.

To J. H. Garstin Esq.
Asst. Secretary
to Government
Madras.

Model Co. no. June 179
d. 1858