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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2064	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20-6-1877	197-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2066
11.
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

20th June 1877, No. 2,064.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:—

No. 456. From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Acting Third Member of the Board of Revenue, Madras, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Porumamella, 7th June 1877, No. 25.

I HAVE the honor to report the result of my inspection of the Cumbum and Markapur Taluqs of the Kurnool District.

2. These taluqs lie between the Nalla Mala and Vellagunda hill ranges, which cut them off from Kurnool and Nellore, but they are open on the south towards Cuddapah; they form the charge of the Head Assistant Collector of Kurnool, and from their inaccessibility and the reported distress of the people have been a source of anxiety to Government for some time past.

3. I entered these taluqs through the Vemalapad pass from Nellore, and, after camping at Bomanapad, Vemalakota, Tippanapalayam, Cumbum, Tadacherla, and Kumaravole, I passed into the Cuddapah District.

4. I find that much money has been spent on scattered works. Attention has not been paid to forming a continuous line of communication with Cuddapah passable. Cumbum is situated about 90 miles from the coast, and for 80 miles of this distance there is a good made road, but an intervening break of 10 miles on the Nellore frontier renders this route almost impassable.

5. A long narrow strip of the Venkatagherry Zemindary, attached to Nellore, penetrates into Kurnool, and through this the so-called road passes. For a distance of 8 or 10 miles the unformed roadway traverses a tract that may best be compared to the bed of a mountain torrent, and the reefs of rock, masses of boulders, and deep sand are almost impassable. It is most unfortunate that these zemindary villages should be situated in a locality so far removed from Nellore supervision, the Sub-Collector, Range Officer, and Assistant Superintendent of Police being about 60 miles off at Ongole; but these villages are within a morning's ride of Cumbum, and the work required can be supervised with the greatest ease from this side.

6. It is about the same distance to Cuddapah, the nearest point on the railway; for 30 miles at either end there is a good made road, but the intervening 30 miles is at present merely a cart-track; the roadway has been partly formed, and metal has been collected both in the Kurnool and Cuddapah Districts, but work has been discontinued along this line of road in the Cumbum Taluq.

7. On the Nandikanama pass towards Kurnool Rs. 25,000 have been spent, and about a lakh of rupees has been spent on a line of road running northwards through the Markapur Taluq towards Vinukonda in the Kistna District.

8. I do not think it probable that this road will ever be completed, or that it will carry traffic throughout; it avoids the direct line between Cumbum and Markapur; it has engineering faults; the metal will probably be swallowed up in the treacherous subsoil; there is no traffic to speak of; and the Local Fund Board will not be able to afford either to finish or to keep up this road.

9. Altogether these taluqs are better off than I expected to find them; the people are well clothed, and appear to be stout and strong. Only 2,000 in these two taluqs receive gratuitous relief; there has been much rich cultivation round Cumbum, and at the northern end of Markapur there has not been any distress. Distress is confined to the poor dry tracts between Dupad and Cumbum, and between Cumbum and the Cuddapah frontier, and even in these a few showers would alter the state of affairs; the land has been partly ploughed, and a good deal of sugar is sown, and just now there is every prospect of the setting in of the south-west monsoon. About 7 lakhs of Rupees have been spent in providing the people with labor; a large extra establishment comprising 5 European Officers, 1 Settlement Supervisor, 2 Head Surveyors, 2 Road Superintendents, 2 Overseers, 2 Deputy Tahsildars, 7 extra Revenue Inspectors, 58 Settlement and Survey subordinates, 1 Deputy Collector, 22 Maistries, 45 Paymasters, and 13 Clerks has been provided at a cost of Rupees 5,500 per mensem, and 58,000 people are now employed in these taluqs; the work is

Revenue Department, 20th June 1877, No. 2,064.

however too scattered. I would concentrate labor on three points: (1) the line of road between Cumbum and Vemalakota; (2) the line of road between the Cumbum frontier and the Vemalakota pass; and (3) the line of road between Kamaravole and the Cuddapah frontier. If an officer is located at each work-spot, and only selected hands are employed, the work will be easily managed, and the weaker members of the gangs can be provided for by gratuitous relief.

(1.) This will ensure the sufficiency of relief-works until the famine is over.

(2.) The general arrangements for relief-works are sufficient. Mr. Thorburn, Assistant Collector, is in charge of the Markapur taluk. Mr. Goodair to help him. Captain Briscoe, is in charge of the Cumbum taluk, with Mr. Allan to help him; there is a Special Deputy Collector in charge of the grain and tool stores; and there is a special Emigration Officer, Mr. Addis, to draught coolies to the Eastern Coast Canal. These are all under the general direction of the Head Assistant Collector, who has his head-quarters at Cumbum; work has been provided in all parts of these taluqs, in the extreme north and south, in the Mantral and Nandikanama Ghauts, in and around Dupad, Markapur, Cumbum, and other central places, on the Cuddapah and Ongole roads, and on the line towards Vinukonda. Labor has, perhaps, been too profusely employed; the wages throughout have been higher than the Government standard. Task-work, if exacted at all, has only been rarely exacted, and from the scattered nature of the works supervision has not been close.

(3.) The liberality of Government has doubtless been abused in these taluqs; from the causes noted above the work has been very expensive, and there is not much to show for the outlay. The subordinate Government servants are said to be very inferior, the people are rude and ignorant, and apparently unaccustomed to work, and all have combined to do as little as they could for the money; there seems to have been a deficiency in organization. The late Head Assistant Collector was ill, and did not grapple the difficulty, and until the present Acting Collector visited these taluqs things are said to have been in confusion.

(4.) Arrangements have been made with the Munsif of every village to provide food for the necessitous, but people are actually fed in 45 villages only. The inspection of these is not so close as in Nellore, and the same arrangements might be made as in the Venkatagerry Zemindary.

(5.) There are no relief-camps in these taluqs, but about 1,500 people are fed in relief-houses; these, however, are too small, and the situation of some of them is too close to the town. I would have the relief-house in Cumbum closed, and a more suitable place should be built outside the town, and the Government grain in store might be used instead of buying in the bazaar.

(6.) The stoppage of metal on the Cuddapah and Ongole roads is a very suitable work, but I do not think much of the new line of road to the north, and suggest that it should be inspected by the Range Officer before any more metal is spread; breaking the stone collected might proceed at the Cumbum end of the line.

(7.) Village roads, costing 6,000 Rupees a mile, can hardly be called useful works, and I would at once put a stop to these; the filling in cess-pools in Cumbum may improve the health of the town, but the drainage that fall into these has to be provided for elsewhere.

(8.) There is water in the Goondlacamma river and in all the tanks in these taluqs, and wells are fairly supplied.

(9.) The markets of Cumbum and Markapur are well supplied, and the villagers draw from these. As a rule there are no bazaars in the villages. The Chenchus employed in the Mantral Ghaut are paid in grain from the Government store, and it might be well to revert to grain-payments generally to get rid of part of the surplus store, which is sure to be spoiled by keeping.

(10.) The agricultural stock that I saw ploughing was in fair condition, and there is a good deal of grass to be had now, but there must have been a great loss of cattle, judging by the bones that lie round the Pariahs' and Chacklers' quarters in most of the villages.

(11.) The orders of Government are now being carried out, and the Collector has effected reforms. A good deal yet remains to be done to organize to the best advantage, but the present Acting Head Assistant, Mr. Fawcett, is sure to carry out thoroughly such instructions as he may receive.

It may possibly be found advantageous to make small advances of not more than 3 Rupees each to the poorer Puttahdars to purchase seed-grain.

No. 457.

ORDER THEREON, 20th June 1877, No. 2,064.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Collector of Karnool, whose attention is drawn to the possible expediency of concentrating labor on the three roads.

Revenue Department, 20th June 1877, No. 2,064.

mentioned by Mr. Puckle in paragraph 9 of his report, and of adopting his suggestions regarding the stoppage of work on the road to Vinukonda and having it inspected by the Range Officer and reported on.

2. He will also consider the policy of closing the relief-house at Cumbum and having another opened outside the town, where grain from Government stores should be distributed.

3. As to advances of seed-grain to Puttahdars, the Collector is authorized to advance from the Government stores of cholam such quantities as he may think fit, on the understanding that to be paid for at or about cost price.

4. Orders to use up the locally purchased stores of grain at Cumbum for paying wages in the Markapur and Cumbum Taluqs have already been issued.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Karnool
the R. K. Puckle, Esq.
Board of Revenue.
the Financial Department.

Ed. A. E. Goodall.

No 23.

Perumamella

7th June 1877.

North Shore;

The Ag^d Member
Board of Revenue
Madras.

To
The Additional Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George.

Sir

I have the honor to report the
result of my inspection of the Embilum
and Marakur Salugs of the Kurnool district.

These Salugs lie between the Malha
Mala and Pettagnuda hill ranges, which
cut them off from Kurnool and Nellore,
but they are open on the south towards the Cudd-
dorpah - they form the charge of the Head
Assistant Collector of Kurnool, and from
their inaccessibility and the reported dis-
tress of the people have been a source of
anxiety to Government for some time past.

I

Govt. of (1877) Madras.

REVENUE.

For Collector of Kurnool.

Date June 20th.

Letter No. 4533/76.

Private July 4th.

End.

G.O. No. 2014 June 1877. No. 2068.

JUNE

No. 469-467.

PASADINE REVENUE NO. 1306.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the
Revenue Department is not to be
concerned with the collection of the
taxes levied on the people of the
district, but only with the collection
of the taxes levied on the people of the
district, and the collection of the
taxes levied on the people of the
district.

3. Entered these Taluqs through the Vemalapad pass from Nellore, and after camping at Bommalapad, Vemalakota, Tappana-palayam, Cumblum, Sada-cherla, and Kunnaravole, I passed into the Cuddapah district.

4. I find that much money has been spent on scattered works, but sufficient attention has not been paid to rendering the main lines of communication with the coast and with Cuddapah passable. Cumblum is situated about 90 miles from the coast, and for 80 miles of this distance there is a good made road, but an intervening break of 10 miles, on the Nellore frontier, renders this route almost impassable.

5. A long narrow strip of the Venkatagerry Zemindari, attached to Nellore, penetrates into Kurnool, and through this the so called road passes. For a distance of

of 8 or 10 miles the unformed roadway traverses a tract that may be compared to the bed of a mountain torrent, and the reefs of rock, masses of boulders and deep sand are almost impassable. It is most unfortunate that these Zemindari villages should be situated in a locality so far removed from Nellore supervision, the Sub Collector, Range Officer, and Assistant Superintendent of Police being about 60 miles off at Ongole. But these villages are within a Marangudi side of Cumblum, and the work required can be supervised with the greatest ease from this side.

6. It is about the same distance to Cuddapah, the nearest point on the railway, for 30 miles at either end. There is a good made road but the intervening 30 miles is at present merely a cart track. The roadway has been partly formed, and metal has been collected both in the

Kurnool

Kurnool and Juddapah districts, but work
has been discontinued along this line of
road in the Cuntum Taluk.

7 On the Nandi Kurnama pass towards
Kurnool. Rupees 25,000 have been
spent, and about a lac of Rupees has
been spent, on a line of road running
northwards through the Markapur
Taluk towards Vinukonda in the Kistna
district.

8 I do not think it probable
that this road will ever be completed,
or that it will carry traffic. Throughout
it outside the direct line between Cuntum
and Markapur - it has Engineering
faults. The metal will probably be
small and up in the treacherous subsoil,
there is no traffic to speak of, and the
Local Funds Board will not be able
to afford either to finish or to keep up
this road.

9 Altogether these taluqs are
better

taluqs, but about 1500 people are fed in relief
houses - these, as a rule, are too small, and the
scrutiny of cases admitted is too slow and
costly. I would greatly extend the feeding
by allowing of free admission, and by
draughting the wheat from the Calcutta
The relief house in Cuntum should be
closed, and a more suitable place should
be built outside the town, and the Govern-
ment grain in store might be used instead
of buying in the market.

(6) The storage of metal on the Cuntum
and Ongole roads is a very suitable
work, but I do not think much of the
new line of road to the North, and suggest
that it should be inspected by the Range
Officer before any more metal is spread.
Breaking the stone collected might be used
at the Cuntum end of the line.

(7) Village roads, costing 1000 Rupees
a mile, can hardly be called useful works,
and I would at once put a stop to these -
the filling in cess pools in Cuntum may improve
the

the health of the town, but the drainages
that fall into these has to be provided for
sewerage.

There is a water in the Gaudla-
munda river, and in all the tanks in these
taluqs, and wells are fairly supplied.

The Markets of Cumlum and
Marhapur are well supplied, and the
villagers draw from these. As a rule there
are no beggars in the villages. The Chensas
employed in the Montreal grant are
drawing grain from the Government store,
and it might be well to request to grain
payments generally to get rid of part of
the surplus store, which is sure to be spoiled
by keeping.

(10) The agricultural stock that
I saw ploughing was in fair condition, and
there is a good deal of grass to be had now
but there must have been a great loss of cattle,
judging by the houses that lie round the pari-
shes and Chuchlers quarters in most of the
villages.

The

2060
8

Cumlum taluq, with Mr Allen to help,
him. There is a Special Deputy Collector in
charge of the grain and food stores, and there
is a Special emigration Officer, Mr Addis, to
draught coolies to the eastern Coast Canal.
These are all under the general direction of
the Secret Assistant Collector, who has
his head quarters at Cumlum - work
has been provided in all parts of these
taluqs, in the extreme North and South,
in the Montreal and Nandikernama grants
in and around Dupad, Marhapur, Cum-
lum, and other Central places, on the Cal-
cutta - and Angol roads and on the line
towards Vinukonda. Labaur has perhaps
been too profusely employed - the wages
throughout have been higher than the
Government standard. Task work, if ex-
acted at all, has only been partly exacted,
and from the scattered nature of the works
supervision has not been close.

(13) The liberality of Government
has doubtless been abused in these taluqs
from

from the causes noted above the work has been very expensive, and there is not much to show for the outlay. The subordinate Government servants are said to be very inferior, the people are poor and ignorant, and apparently unaccustomed to work, and all have combined to do as little as they could for the money. There seems to have been a deficiency in organization. The late Head Assistant Collector was ill, and did not grapple the difficulty, and under the present Acting Collector visited these things are said to have been in confusion.

(14) Arrangements have been made with the Munsiff of every village to provide food for the necessitous, but people are actually fed in 15 villages only. The inspection of these is not so close as in Bellary, and the same arrangements might be made as in the Venkatagerry Mandalary.

5. There are no relief camps in these taluqs.

to the people of the
2060
yes
high scale + low scale

As a rule I did not give orders to act until I was certain we have all the pros & cons. but I had drawn a circular 8. attention to any suggestion in this respect. I draw which I put through call for notice or action. B.C. 1/11

(Points 2 and 5).
(4) that the relief house at Sambam be placed and also the opened outside the town where grain from the Government stores should be distributed (Point 4).

5. that a report as to the cause of the high cost of the village roads be called for and all of them be ordered to be stopped as suggested by Mr. Puckle (Point 6). and,

6 that if there is any necessity for making advances of seed grain to putthadars that they be made from the stores of Government cholam at Sambam to the extent, if necessary, of a bag each, at cost price.

(yes)
the general absence of bazars in the villages might be noticed, and

it would have to be pointed out that the use of the stores of grain at Sambam for paying grain wages in Sambam and Markapur has already been ordered.

Orders are requested.
14/6/21 J.H.E.

are
forward

His Excellency
has not yet
received the
report of the
Board of
Disbursement
18/6
19/6

2064
3

Under the
Board of Disbursement
already

Mr. Puckler's report on the Ambar
and Markapur Salage is interesting
and straight forward.

There are several points
in it which call for notice.

These are-

1. The condition of the 8 or 10 miles
of road through the Kernalapad Pass
which lie in that strip of the
Keralapad Estate which, though
under the jurisdiction of the Keralapad
authorities, penetrates into the
Kurnool District, and have been
utterly neglected.

2. The needless expenditure on
the road northwards from Ambar
towards Vinukonda.

3. The concentration of labor
on the 3 roads as suggested in Para
9.

4. The closing of the relief
house in Ambar, the selection
of a more suitable spot for it
outside the town and the issuing
Government grain for distribution
to the poor at it.

5. The

5. The advisability of having the work on the road to Winkonda inspected by the Range officer before anything more is done to it.

6. The reason why the cost of village roads is so high as 6000 Rs a mile, and the advisability of stopping them at once.

7. The general absence of bazaars in the villages is a point worth noticing.

8. The payment of grain wages. This has already been ordered in Gunlum and Markapur.

9. The possibility of its being found advantageous to make advances of money to each of the poorer puttahdars to enable them to buy seed grain.

I suggest:-

(1) That the report be communicated to the collector of Mysore and
(2) that he be directed to have the labor in the 2 taluqs concentrated as suggested by Mr. Puckle on the 3 roads mentioned by him. (Pinto 113)

(3) That work on the Winkonda road be ordered to be stopped and what has been done, inspected by the Range officer and reported on

to the collector of Mysore
also to the suggestion

1026
better off than I expected to find them. The people are well clothed and appear to be stout and strong. Only 2000 in these 2 taluqs receiving gratuitous relief. There has been much field cultivation round Gunlum, and at the northern end of Markapur, there has not been any distress. Distress is confined to the poor dry tracts between Dupad and Gunlum, and between Gunlum and the leadlapah frontier, and even in these a few showers would alter the state of affairs. The land has been partly ploughed and a good deal of surza is sown, and just now there is every prospect of the setting in of the South West Monsoon. About 7 lacs of Rupees have been spent in promoting the people with labour a large extra establishment comprising 5 European Officers, 1 Settlement Supervisor 2 head Surveyors 2 road Superintendents 2 Amerecers 2 Deputy Tahsildars 7 extra Revenue Inspectors 58 Settlement and Survey subordinates 1 Deputy Collector 22 Mahanties.

1
Instructors, 15 paymasters and 13 Clerks has
been provided at a cost of Rs 5500 per
Mensem, and 58,000 people are now employed
in these Katugs. The work is however too
scattered. I would concentrate labor on
3 points. (1) The line of road between Pun-
bay and Venmatakota (2) the line of road
between the Chikmagur frontier and the
Venmatapad pass, and (3) the line of road
between Komaranoli and the Chiddapah frontier.

If an Officer is located at each work spot,
and only selected hands are employed, the
work will be easily managed, and the
wrecker Members of the gangs can be pro-
vided for by gratuitous relief.

(1) This will ensure the sufficiency of
relief works until the famine is over.

(2) The general arrangements made to
afford relief up to date are sufficient. Mr
Tharburn, Assistant Collector, is in charge of
the Markapur Katug, and Mr Goodwin to
help him. Captain Briscoe is in charge of the

Continued

(11) The Orders of Government are now
being carried out, and the Collector has ef-
fected reforms. A good deal yet remains
to be done to organize to the best advantage,
but the present Acting Head Assistant Mr
Francett, is sure to carry out thoroughly
such instructions as he may receive.

It may possibly be found ad-
vantageous to make small advances of not
more than 3 Rupees each, to the poorer people
to purchase seed grain.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

P. K. P. S.

Sp. 3d. Member Board of Revenue

No 2064

4-08720 June 1877

Com. in. to the Coll. of himself
those attention is drawn to
the possible expediency of
of concentrating labor on the
3 roads mentioned of Mr.
Pinker ^{in the office of his} and adopting his
suggestion regarding the
~~road~~ stoppage of work on the
road to Ninkkunda & holding
it inspected by the Range
officer & reported on.
I also consider

2. He will also consider the policy of closing the relief house at Cambridge and the grounds outside the town where some few families are distributed.

2. as to advances of seed
grain to put ahead the
Collector is authorized to
advance from the Government
of cholera and quantities
as he may think fit with
understanding that it is to be

Plat. (87) 200
700 4491
K. Brown

Wm. H. D. Brewster
Board of Trustees

20
The Advertiser
Dundee, N.Y. 1890
Jan 8 1890

negatives of the Southern
and Philadelphia Library of
the American Antiquarian

4.00

St. John's, N. B.

Attorney to

the Middle of the Continent

of the City, Station

11/25/1871

My dear Mr. [illegible]

Conf. aus Brief des Pfarrer

Adm. of the Navy, London

Wrote to the Col. & her
Grandchildren before the

Handwritten: I have been thinking
of you very much lately

My dear Mr. [illegible]

I recd
 paid for at cost price
 4. now true up the
 books must be
 given to Comtee
 for paying wages in the
 Harbours + Comtee
 Tables last evening
 he is in

20/5/77 J.H.F.

And Capital to the Collector of Personal
 or the 1st of Dec 1877
 or the 1st of Dec 1877
 the 5th of Dec 1877

20/5/77