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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2072A	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	21-6-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

SR

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

21st June 1877, 72-A.

Famine

Read the following paper :—

No. 472-A. From Major T. G. CLARKE, Officer to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Bangalore, 16th June 1877, General No. 2,734-G. 34.

I AM desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,949-A, of the 11th instant, and your telegram of the same date, communicating the report of the Commissioner of the Nilgiris as to a large influx of famine-stricken Mysore people into the Nilgiri District via the Segur Ghaut, and to state that, in reply to instructions by a telegram, the Commissioner of the Ashtagram Division reports that he has already issued orders for the establishment of relief-houses on the frontier for the reception of destitute travellers and for the stoppage of weakly emigrants.

2. From the enclosed copy of the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings,* it will be seen that

* No. 2,502—G. 25, dated 11th June 1877.

the subject of arresting the movement of these people has already received attention. The object which they have in wending their way to the Hill Districts of Coorg and Manjarabad as well as of the Wynaad and Nilgiris, is inexplicable, except on the ground that those districts have been long associated in their minds with the means annually provided by large numbers of European employers of labor, of giving employments whenever needed. The ample provision made in the Province for maintaining the needy, either on relief-works or at Government kitchens, forbids the supposition, that this exodus from the low country is due to defective arrangements in this respect. It seems to Mr. Saunders rather that these wretched people prefer the precarious and yet independent life afforded by a wandering habit, to the monotonous and restricted fare given at a relief-kitchen. The season for coffee planting operations having commenced, it is natural that they should flock towards Hill Districts, and the chief difficulty with which the officers of this Administration have had to contend, is to exercise only such a degree of interference with the usual migration, as will prevent infirm and weakly persons of both sexes from entering districts where the wet and cold would expose them to certain and speedy death.

3. I am desired to add that His Grace in Council may rely on every endeavour being made to turn back the tide of emigration which has recently set in along the western frontier, but which may, it is hoped, have been greatly checked by the heavy monsoon rains with which the country has been now blessed.

From the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, to the Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department, Camp, No. 96, dated Camp Hassan, 2nd June 1877.

I have the honor to request that you will submit to the Chief Commissioner the following proposals which I consider it necessary to make in connection with the recent orders regarding the return from Wynaad and Coorg of destitute Mysore paupers, and with the prospect of the approaching monsoon.

2. From various accounts which I have received regarding the miserable condition of many Mysore coolies in Coorg, from my own observations on the Gundlupet road, and from descriptions of the deaths occurring from privation along the Mercara route, I am satisfied that it is absolutely necessary to take decided steps for preventing any persons not actually fit for labor from proceeding to Coorg, Wynaad, and Manjarabad. General instructions to this effect have been repeatedly issued, but as it has been thought inadvisable to interfere with those who could show that they were under engagements, or had relations and friends already employed, comparatively little good has resulted from the orders, and very many persons continue to go to the coffee districts, who will fail in finding work and either die or become so enfeebled as to be only fit for hospital.

3. The Judicial Assistants and Munsifs are now withdrawn, and I consider the time has come for assisting the Deputy Commissioners of Mysore and Hassan by placing at their disposal the services of a European officer for directing and controlling the arrangements for the relief of travellers along the important roads, and for supervising such other relief measures as they may be able.

4. The Secretary of the Mysore Fund lately represented to me that the town was becoming crowded with paupers from other diseases, and suggested that as the people were willing to return to their own neighbourhoods, if assured of support there, it would be better to pass back all fit to be despatching parties of those reported fit to travel, being sent to their own hobli relief-kitchens, and Bangalore and Tumkur Districts to the officers in charge of relief-kitchens there, and to Banavar, Tiptur, and Nelliga begging in the towns, as are able to do so. The Government expenditure will be less than to allow the influx to continue unchecked.

5. A commencement has been made of the paupers of the Mysore and Hassan Districts to the officers in charge of relief-kitchens there, and to Banavar, Tiptur, and Nelliga begging in the towns, as are able to do so. The Government expenditure will be less than to allow the influx to continue unchecked.

6. The system that I propose is to place a small scale, placed so as to cover the towns of Mysore and Hassan, to which it has been found by experience that most of the paupers are attracted by the hope of supplementing the kitchen allowance by begging from door to door.

7. In the Mysore District a camp should be established at Hunsur on the Mercara road, and either at Gundlupet or Nanjangud on the Neilgherry line, at which paupers should be received and fed until able to move on, the stations between these points and the frontier being provided with kitchens, and arrangements made for regular patrolling and for picking up all weak stragglers in addition to those received from the officers of the outside districts. Further inquiry will show whether Gundlupet or Nanjangud is the best place, and whether a small camp is needed on the Antarsante road or not.

8. These paupers should not remain in Mysore, but be gradually sent to their own neighbourhoods, and in order to remedy the evil of numbers crowding into Mysore, a camp should be formed clear of the town for the reception of all outsiders, the Mysore kitchen being reserved as much as possible for the relief of the poor of Mysore itself.

9. This measure has been several times suggested, but there was a difficulty in finding a site and a good water-supply, so that nothing has been done; and looking to these facts, as well as to the advantages of selecting a place at which wanderers can be most conveniently intercepted, it appears to me that Seringapatam is better adapted for the purpose than Mysore.

10. It stands at the point where the Bangalore, the Hassan, and the Bellary roads meet and whence the lines to Coorg, North Wynaad, South Wynaad, and the Neilgherries diverge, and has peculiar facilities for control, as all travellers must pass over the bridges; and when the river rises, the island is isolated on all sides. There are excellent markets, and by forming a camp at the most convenient place on the island near Ganjam, which is found to be perfectly healthy, all paupers from the open country not fit to proceed to the coffee districts and all on their way to Mysore who had reached that point could be stopped and retained till sent back to their own taluqs, or when fit for work drafted to the channel officers or Mysore water-works.

11. In applying the same principles to the Hassan District it seems only necessary to have one camp at the central point of Channaraypatna where the roads from Coorg via Arkalgud and Narsipur and the Saklespur road meet, as well as those from Tumkur, Mysore, and Harnhalli. I have just returned from Belur and Saklespur, at both of which places I found that number of wanderers from the Tumkur District and from Budihal, Haliyar, and other taluqs were coming in with but little prospect of work, for which, moreover, many were perfectly unfit. It appears that some of the coffee planters are ready to take on more labor, while others are discharging their coolies, and that there will be no farm work going on for nearly three months, in addition to which there are a number of Maidan emigrants scattered all through the hoblis either fed by the Patels at their houses or subsisting by begging, who should be collected and taken care of before the monsoon sets in. The Deputy Commissioner will be able to ascertain from each planter whether he requires laborers and migration to them can be arranged, the remaining emigrants when fit for labor being either sent to the Irrigation Department, or to the relief roads as may be best, and the incapable retained and fed till able to return to their own taluqs.

12. The Commissioners of Nagar and Nundydroog have been asked to co-operate and will no doubt arrange as far as they can, both for providing work and for preventing weakly paupers and women with children from wandering across the border, but this can only be done on the roads, and it is impossible to prevent paupers from travelling from village to village by paths and bye-ways till they reach the high roads.

13. With regard to the establishment required for the relief of paupers in the Madras Presidency be followed with the necessary modifications. Consult the scale sanctioned in the Madras Presidency for the relief of paupers in the first class, 250 to 500 inmates. (European Rs. 50).

Establishment for Relief Camps in Cuddalore

- 1 Superintendent, Rs. 35 per month
- 1 Gumastah and Storekeeper, Rs. 6 per month
- 5 Warders, (1 per 100) at Rs. 6 each
- 1 Hospital Warder, Rs. 6.
- 4 Katbadis, at Rs. 3 each.
- 3 Constables, Rs. 22.
- 2 Male cooks, Rs. 3 each with food.
- 3 Female cooks, Rs. 2 each with food.
- 1 Hospital cook, Rs. 2 with food.
- 4 Toties, Rs. 6-8-0 each.

Total charges per mensem, Rs. 65.

Second Class, —252 inmates

- 1 Superintendent, Rs. 25 (If E)
- 1 Gumastah and Storekeeper at Rs. 6
- 3 Warders at 6 Rs., (1 per 100)
- 2 Constables, Rs. 18.
- 3 Katbadis at Rs. 3 each.
- 1 Male cook at Rs. 3 with food.
- 2 Female cooks at Rs. 2 with food.
- 1 Hospital cook at Rs. 2 with food.
- 3 Toties at Rs. 6 each.

Total charges per mensem, Rs. 12.

14. To reduce these expenses, I would propose, with the sanction of the Judicial Commissioner, granting tickets of leave to well-conducted convict warders in the Mysore Jail to do duty as warders under the official in charge, for which they would be well suited from the previous training and discipline, and to employ Kulvadis in addition, many of whom would be willing to come if supplied with a good cloth and cumbly and fed while doing duty at the camp. This would effect a saving of about 42 Rs. per month on a first class, and 27 Rs. on a second camp. Men and women of good caste will probably also be found ready to perform the office of cooks if fed and clothed, so that the total expenditure would be little when compared with the advantage of having a well-regulated establishment.

15. The camp at Seringapatam should be started on the basis of a first-class establishment, and if this was found insufficient the establishment could be expanded in the same proportion as regards the minor officials, with a percentage of increased pay given to the Superintendent with Assistants added on less pay.

16. The remaining camps need only be second class, but would admit of enlargement on the same principle. Sheds should be put up on a proper plan by the D. P. W. Department; medical attendance is available at Hunsur and in the Nanjangud Sub-division, and could be provided, I believe, at Seringapatam by posting at that place the Dresser ordinarily attached to the Commissioner's camp. An additional Dresser would be needed for Channaraypatna.

17. I would solicit sanction for the immediate formation of the camps at Seringapatam, Hunsur, and Channaraypatna, and for another either at Nanjangud or Gundlupet as may be decided after consultation with the Deputy Commissioner, but, in conclusion, I would again urge that a European officer for each district may be immediately nominated for this duty, without which I fear that the measures proposed will not be properly carried out.

No. 2,502—GENL. 25, DATED BANGALORE, 11th JUNE 1877.

ORDER THEREON.—The Chief Commissioner concurs with the Commissioner in thinking that the migration of weak and emaciated persons to the Wynaad, Coorg, and Manjarabad, in hopes of getting employment there, should be prevented as far as possible. This measure has been rendered doubly necessary in the interests of the people themselves by the approach of the monsoon rains, for it is well known that, at the best of times, Mysore coolies are unable to withstand the inclement rains and winds of the Malnad during the monsoon months, and that they must necessarily succumb to the cold and damp in their present weak and impoverished condition, if allowed to wander about in search of food and employment. Mr. Saunders accordingly desires that immediate steps be taken to restrain weakly men and women with children from proceeding into these districts, and with this view, approves of the Commissioner's proposals for the formation of temporary

June 1877, No. 2,072-A.

relief-camps at (1) Hunsur as may be decided upon Mysore District.

2. The Commission to prevent the influx of or All such paupers should their physical strength, work or sent to their own

3. The scale of establishment into two classes, according proposed in paragraph 13 tendence may be adopted, of allowance authorized in dated 22nd February last,

4. With the concurrence of the Commissioner sanctions the employment of convict warders in the relief-camps. It will be necessary, however, among the convicts with due regard to their good conduct, physical fitness and unexpired term of sentence.

5. As regards the employment of Kulvadis at the relief-camps, the Commissioner is referred to the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings, No. 1237-18, of the 4th May last.

6. The proposal to post the Dresser ordinarily attached to the Commissioner's camp to the Seringapatam relief-camp is approved, and the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, is requested to arrange for deputing an Hospital Assistant for duty at the Channaraypatna camp.

7. The Superintendent of Revenue Survey has been addressed with a view to the services of a European officer being made available for supervising the relief operations in the Ashtagram Division, but it is feared that a second officer will not be available. A separate communication will follow on this subject.

(Signed) T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY,
For Offg. Secretary.

No. 472-B.

ORDER THEREON, 21st June 1877, No. 2,072-A.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. T. O'Connor.

2072A
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the reception of destitute travellers,
and for the stoppage of weakly
Emigrants.

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Chief Commissioner's Proceedings, it
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ing the movement of these people has
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Nº 2502
G. 25th
dated 11th
June 1877

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ent life afforded by a wandering
habit, to the monotonous and restrict-
ed fare given at a Relief Kitchen.
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may it is hoped have been
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greatly checked by the heavy monsoon,
ins with which the country has
now blessed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

Henry H. H. H.
Offg. Secretary

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department,
11th June 1877.

From the Commissioner, Ashtagram Division, To the Offg. Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of
Mysore, General Department, Camp No. 96, dated Camp Hassan, 2nd June 1877.

I have the honor to request that you will submit to the Chief Commissioner the following proposals
which I consider it necessary to make in connection with the recent orders regarding the return from
Wynad and Coorg of destitute Mysore paupers, and with the prospect of the approaching monsoon.

2. From various accounts which I have received regarding the miserable condition of many Mysore
coolies in Coorg, from my own observations on the Gundlupet road and from descriptions of the deaths
occurring from privation along the Mercara route, I am satisfied that it is absolutely necessary to take
decided steps for preventing any persons not actually fit for labor from proceeding to Coorg, Wynad,
and Manjarabad. General instructions to this effect have been repeatedly issued, but as it has been
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relations and friends already employed, comparatively little good has resulted from the orders, and very
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so enfeebled as to be only fit for hospital.

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European officer for directing and controlling the arrangements for the relief of travellers along the im-
portant roads, and for supervising such other relief measures as they may be able.

4. The Secretary of the Mysore Famine Fund lately represented to me that the town was becoming
crowded with paupers from all sides, many of whom were suffering from small-pox and other diseases,
and suggested that as kitchens were now established in most hoblis, and as many of the people were
willing to return to their own neighbourhoods, if assured of support there, it would be better to pass
back all fit to go rather than to allow the influx to continue unchecked.

5. A commencement has been made by despatching parties of those reported fit to travel, the
paupers of the Mysore and Hassan Districts being sent to their own hobli relief kitchens, and the others
made over at the frontiers of the Bangalore and Tumkur Districts to the officers in charge of relief kit-
chens there, and in the Hassan District, the same is being done by returning to Banavar, Tiptur and
Nelligere such pauper immigrants now subsisting at the kitchens or begging in the towns, as are able for
the journey, but the agency is insufficient and if the arrangements are not thoroughly organized, I feel
sure that the mortality and suffering will increase while the Government expenditure will not be pro-
perly checked.

6. The system that I propose is therefore the immediate establishment of relief camps on a small
scale, placed so as to command the principal roads leading to the coffee districts and clear of the towns
of Mysore and Hassan, to which it has been found by experience that most of the paupers are attracted
by the hope of supplementing the kitchen allowance by begging from door to door.

7. In the Mysore District a camp should be established at Hunsur on the Mercara road, and
either at Gundlupet or Nanjangud on the Neilgherry line, at which paupers should be received and fed
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Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department,
11th June 1877.

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12. The Commissioners of Nagar and Nundydroog have been asked to co-operate and will no doubt arrange as far as they can, both for providing work and for preventing weakly paupers and women with children from wandering across the border, but this can only be done on the roads, and it is impossible to prevent paupers from travelling from village to village by paths and bye-ways till they reach the high roads.

13. With regard to the establishment required, I propose that the scale sanctioned in the Madras Presidency be followed with the necessary modification.

Establishment for Relief Camps in Cuddapa—First Class, 250 to 500 inmates.

- 1 Superintendent, Rs. 35 per month (If European Rs. 50.)
- 1 Gunasta and store-keeper, Rs. 20.
- 5 Warders, 1 per 100 at Rs. 6 each.
- 1 Hospital Warder, Rs. 6.
- 4 Katabadis at Rs. 3 each.
- 3 Constables, Rs. 22.
- 2 Male cooks, Rs. 3 each with food.
- 3 Female cooks, Rs. 2 each with food.
- 1 Hospital cook, Rs. 2 with food.
- 4 Totis, Rs. 6—8—0 each.

Total charges per mensem Rs. 165.

Second Class,—252 inmates or under.

- 1 Superintendent, Rs. 25 (If European Rs. 40).
- 1 Gunasta and store-keeper at Rs. 15.
- 3 Warders at 6 Rs. 1 per 100.
- 2 Constables, Rs. 18.
- 3 Katabadis at Rs. 3 each.
- 1 Male cook at Rs. 3 with food.
- 2 Female cooks at Rs. 2 with food.
- 1 Hospital cook at Rs. 2 with food.
- 3 Totis at Rs. 6 each.

Total charges per mensem, Rs. 112.

14. To reduce these expenses, I would propose with the sanction of the Judicial Commissioner granting tickets of leave to well conducted convict warders in the Mysore Jail, to do duty as warders under the official in charge, for which they would be well suited from the previous training and discipline, and to employ Kulvadis in addition, many of whom would be willing to come if supplied with a good cloth and cumbly and fed while doing duty at the camp. This would effect a saving of about 42 Rs. per month on a first class and 27 Rs. on a second camp. Men and women of good caste will probably also be found ready to perform the office of cooks if fed and clothed, so that the total expenditure would be little when compared with the advantage of having a well regulated establishment.

Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department,
11th June 1877.

15. The camp at Seringapatam should be started on the basis of a first class establishment, and if this was found insufficient the establishment could be expanded in the same proportion as regards the minor officials, with a percentage of increased pay given to the Superintendent with Assistants added on less pay.

16. The remaining camps need only be 2nd class, but would admit of enlargement on the same principle. Sheds should be put up on a proper plan by the D. P. W. Department; medical attendance is available at Hunsur and in the Nanjangud Sub-division, and could be provided, I believe at Seringapatam by posting at that place the Dresser ordinarily attached to the Commissioner's camp. An additional Dresser would be needed for Channaraypatna.

17. I would solicit sanction for the immediate formation of the camps at Seringapatam, Hunsur and Channaraypatna, and for another either at Nanjangud or Gundlupet as may be decided after consultation with the Deputy Commissioner, but in conclusion I would again urge that a European officer for each District may be immediately nominated for this duty without which I fear that the measures proposed will not be properly carried out.

No. 2502—GENL. 25, DATED BANGALORE, 11TH JUNE 1877.

ORDER THEREON.—The Chief Commissioner concurs with the Commissioner in thinking that the migration of weak and emaciated persons to the Wynad, Coorg and Manjarabad, in hopes of getting employment there, should be prevented as far as possible. This measure has been rendered doubly necessary in the interests of the people themselves by the approach of the monsoon rains, for it is well known that, at the best of times, Mysore coolies are unable to withstand the inclement rains and winds of the Malnad during the monsoon months, and that they must necessarily succumb to the cold and damp in their present weak and impoverished condition, if allowed to wander about in search of food and employment. Mr. Saunders accordingly desires that immediate steps be taken to restrain weakly men and women with children from proceeding into these Districts, and with this view, approves of the Commissioner's proposals for the formation of temporary relief camps at (1) Hunsur, (2) Channaraypatna and (3) Gundlupet or Nanjangud as may be decided upon in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner of the Mysore District.

2. The Commissioner's proposal to establish a camp at or near Seringapatam to prevent the influx of outside paupers into the town of Mysore is also sanctioned. All such paupers should be intercepted and retained at the camp till they recover their physical strength, when they should either be relegated to the nearest relief work, or sent to their own taluks.

3. The scale of establishment for these relief camps which may be divided into two classes, according as the number of inmates is above or below 250, as proposed in para 13, is sanctioned. The salaries proposed for superintendence may be adopted, but when an official is appointed for the work, the scale of allowance authorized in the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 11820—15, dated 22nd February last, should be followed.

4. With the concurrence of the Judicial Commissioner, the Chief Commissioner sanctions the employment, as an experimental measure, of well-behaved convict warders in the Mysore Jail as warders under the officials in charge of relief camps. It will be necessary, however, that a judicious selection should be made among the convicts with due regard to their good conduct, physical fitness and unexpired term of sentence.

5. As regards the employment of Kulvadis at the relief camps, the Commissioner is referred to the Chief Commissioner's Proceedings No. 1237—18 of the 4th May last.

6. The proposal to post the Dresser ordinarily attached to the Commissioner's camp to the Seringapatam relief camp is approved, and the Deputy Surgeon General, Indian Medical Department, is requested to arrange for deputing an Hospital Assistant for duty at the Channaraypatna camp.

*Proceedings of the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, General Department,
11th June 1877.*

7. The Superintendent of the Revenue Survey has been addressed with a view to the services of an European Officer being made available for supervising the relief operations in the Ashtagram Division, but it is feared that a second officer will not be available. A separate communication will follow on this subject.

T. R. A. THUMBOO CHETTY,
For Offg. Secretary.

To—The Commissioner, Ashtagram Division.
" Deputy Surgeon General, Indian Medical Department.
" Deputy Accountant General.
" Superintendent, Revenue Survey.

Rev: 1877
1877. 7. 104705
From
The Secretary to the Chief Commissioner
of Mysore.

To The Additional Secretary
to Government,
Fort St. George.

Dated Bangalore 16th June

Despatched

Received 18 -

Enclosures No. 1

General No. 2734 1877/8
G. No. 34

Stating that the
Madras Govt. may rely
on every endeavour being
made to turn back the tide
of emigration wh. has set
in along the western frontier.

Do 20728

21 June 1877

Jan.

21.6.77

To the Secretary to the
Chief Commissioner of Mysore
9 July 1877

N. 4720

C19-6-77 R24-6-77

1877.

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE.

GENERAL.

To

THE COMM. ASHTAGRAM DIVISION.
" DY. SURGEON GENERAL J. M. D.
" DY. ACCOUNTANT GENERAL.
" SUPT., REVENUE SURVEY.

Dated June 11th.

Despatched

Received

No. 2502.
Genl. 25.

Sanctioning certain relief operations in
the Ashtagram Division for preventing the
migration of weak and emaciated persons to
the Wynad, Coorg and Manjarabad.

F No 4705