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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

871A

Press
Mis.

Dated

28. 2. 1877

197.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Famine Relief.

No. 884-A. From the Hon. T. C. HOPE, C.S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department dated Calcutta, 21st February 1877, No. 219.

It was not thought necessary, at the time when they were issued, to address any special communication to the Government of Madras in regard to the instructions whereby Sir Richard Temple was authorised, on the 16th ultimo, to inquire into the circumstances of the famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, and to confer with the Governments of those two Presidencies on the results of his inquiries.

2. The circumstances which induced the Government of India to depute Sir R. Temple on his present mission were in fact well known to His Grace the Governor of Madras, with whom the Governor-General in Council had the great advantage of personally discussing the whole subject at Delhi on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage. Sir R. Temple's appointment was made in the hope that it would strengthen the hands of both Governments, that it would serve to clear up some points of importance in regard to which doubts had been felt, and that by diminishing the necessity of frequent references to the Government of India, and preventing delay in the treatment of matters demanding immediate decision, it would confirm that accord and harmony of feeling which it will always be the anxious desire of His Excellency in Council to maintain between the Supreme and the Local Governments.

3. Although the mission of Sir R. Temple is still uncompleted, the Governor-General in Council thinks it right to delay no longer in expressing to the Government of Madras the satisfaction felt by His Excellency in the fulfilment of the hopes with which that mission was undertaken.

4. In conducting operations of so much difficulty and on so vast a scale, for the relief of famine, differences of opinion will necessarily arise, and methods of action adopted with much consideration may sometimes prove mistaken. The Government of India not only claims for itself no exemption from error, but is conscious that, acting, as it must often do, with imperfect knowledge, it may be more liable to err, in its appreciation of local circumstances, than the officers who are acting on the spot.

5. The mission of Sir R. Temple, however, has already had this satisfactory result; that if any difference formerly existed between the views of the two Governments, none, so far as His Excellency in Council is aware, now remain. Sir R. Temple, in reporting to the Government of India the results of his observation, has expressed his opinion that throughout the Madras Presidency famine is successfully combated and starvation prevented; that the physical condition of the people is generally good; that relief-works are everywhere open; that charitable arrangements are well organised; that the operations of private traders for the supply of grain to the distressed districts are everywhere active and successful. Measures are at the same time being taken (and His Excellency in Council feels sure they will be persevered in) only to encourage the efforts

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th February 1877.*

by confirming the confidence of private trade, but also to prevent needless expenditure of money and restrict, as closely as possible, the grant of relief to those who actually require it.

6. The Governor-General in Council wishes to take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the zeal and humanity with which the Government of Madras and its officers are contending against famine, and furthermore for thanking them for the wise and conciliatory spirit in which all the suggestions of the Government of India and of Sir R. Temple have been received by them. The measures approved by the Government of Madras in consultation with Sir R. Temple are being carried into effect with highly satisfactory results; and His Excellency in Council trusts that the officers of the two Governments will always continue thus loyally and efficiently to co-operate with each other in the performance of the great and difficult duty that lies before them.

No. 884-A.

ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1877, No. 871-A.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Revenue
Board and all Collectors.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.
„ all Collectors.

879A
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No. 219 From the Hon. T. C. HOPE, C.S.I., Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department dated Calcutta, 21st February 1877, No. 219.

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Govt. of 1877 Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Secy, Secy, Secy.

Dated February, 28th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. 28th February 1877, No. 571-A.

REVENUE.

NO. 841-A-SM-D.

Famine Relief, Madras Presidency—Com-

menting to the Board and all Collectors' letters from the Government of India expressing the satisfaction felt by the Governor-General in Council in the fulfilment of the hopes with which the mission of Sir R. Temple was undertaken; acknowledging the real and hearty with which the Madras Government and its officers are co-operating against famine; and thanking them for the spirit in which all the suggestions of the Government of India and of Sir R. Temple have been received by them, etc.

2
expenditure of money and restrict, as closely as possible, the grant of relief to those who actually require it.

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Recd
7.3.77

8718
Communicated to the
Res. Secy. Collector
J.H.S.
28/2/77
28 Feb 1877

Side Office
The Permanent Secy
to all Collectors

8718

Memo

~~These~~ Copies of the letter from the Additional Secretary to the Government of India dated 21st February 1877 No 219 on Sir R. Temple's mission to the Madras Presidency and its results are herewith circulated - 3 copies being for the use of the Members and the 4th for recording their remarks on Govt.

1 taken
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28/2/77 J.H.S.

Memo.

Sir R. Temple's
Mission to the
Madras Presy.

Cover

Encl.

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On the
M.V.

N^o 219.

From

The Honourable J. C. Slope, C. S. I.

Additional Secretary to the Government of India

Department of Revenue, Agriculture & Commerce.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Calcutta, the 21st February 1877.

Sir,

It was not thought necessary, at the time when they were issued, to address any special communication to the Government of Madras in regard to the instructions whereby Sir Richard Temple was authorized on the 16th ultimo, to enquire into the circumstances of the famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, and to confer with the Governments of those two Presidencies on the results of his enquiries.

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I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

W. P.

Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

For the Govt.

27/1/12

Rev. 1877 Sept

7th 931

From

The Honble J.C. Hope C.S.S.

Adm. Secy to the
Govt of India
Rm. 100.

Dated 21 } 7th/77
Recd. 27 } 219

Ed

To be printed as
a separate

Pointing the circumstances
which induced the Govt
of India to depute Sir
H. Zeeple on his present
mission and

Printed copy sent in
Circ. on the 23/7/77