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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 881 Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 1.3.1972 197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

885
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Famine Relief.

Read the following:—

No. 45. From C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Madras, 27th February 1877, No. 98.

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honor to forward copy of a Minute recorded by him, suggesting the issue of further orders to secure that cases of extreme distress may be searched out and relieved in every village of the more distressed districts.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Minute by Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, dated Tripetty, 26th February 1877.

IN my Minute, dated Nundidroog, 8th February, I laid before the Government of Madras my views as to the need for fully utilising the existing organisation in the work of house-to-house visitation, so that all cases of dangerous distress may be searched out and relieved. Since that date I have seen the Madras Government Orders of the —th February on the same subject. I have also visited the Ceded Districts, Cuddapah, North Arcot, and part of Kurnool, with the view of ascertaining how far systematic house-to-house visitation is being carried out, and how far the village headmen discharge the duty of searching out and bringing up every case of dangerous distress.

2. The orders of the Madras Government on this subject have, I believe, reached the village headmen; and Government officers, European and Native, are doing something in this direction. Still the fact remains that up to the present time the village headmen have brought forward only a very few cases of persons, (in the many taluqs visited, there were hardly a score of such cases altogether) who were in extreme need of relief. At the same time, in many of the relief labor-gangs I found, side by side with hundreds or thousands of people not as yet in absolute need, a few persons in very poor physical condition, an inquiry into whose cases showed that they were the only bread-winners for whole families of infirm people. There is risk that the weaker members of families in such straits must sooner or later die, unless they are brought upon charitable relief. And there is always the fear that, if cases of this kind come to light, more (possibly worse) cases of the same kind remain undiscovered. And all this may occur side by side and simultaneously with the employment of great gangs of relief laborers, whose numbers perhaps exceed the real dimensions of distress.

3. During my visit I have always drawn the attention of the relief officers in charge to the dangerous nature of such cases. And I have explained that the admission of thousands of comparatively well-to-do people to relief gangs without discrimination, cannot relieve the few scores of really needy people who may be at home in their villages.

4. I would recommend that the existing orders of the Madras Government (which are doubtless excellent so far as they go) be further explained and enforced, and that a written (or printed) notice of his duties and responsibilities be sent to every village headman in the more distressed districts that a written acknowledgment be obtained from him, and that a report be demanded of him of his having inspected every household in his village and of his having either done the needful if he found any person in dangerous straits or of his having found none such. The intentions of the Government will then become fully known, and supervising officers of all ranks will be able to enforce the real and careful discharge of their duties by the village officers. It is assumed they have already been authorised to relieve temporarily any person in this condition at the Government expense. They, therefore, cannot have any motive for concealing the existence of any such case, if it exist. The reports of the village headmen will, therefore, be evidence of the best kind.

5. With regard to the disposal of necessitous people, when they are brought up to relief officers by the village headmen, I desire to bring to notice that as yet no relief camps on the Madras system have been formed in the Ceded Districts. Instead of the relief camp system, there are a number of relief-houses (in one taluq as many as seven), at which out-door relief is given under the supervision of village headmen. It may be necessary hereafter, when the pressure on the people is greater, to have several places in each taluq for the distribution of out-door relief. But at present such relief is not required; it may lead to great peculation and waste, (for instance) such as occurred recently on a large scale at Hindupur in the Bellary District. I would recommend that, for the present at any rate, the regular relief camp system, such as is enforced at Madras, should be adopted in the Ceded Districts. It is true that a considerable establishment is required; but if Native officers of the Army are employed and existing buildings (such as chuttrams) utilised, the cost will not be excessive. And at any rate the expenditure will be less than under the plan of indiscriminate out-door relief under village headmen. Every necessitous person brought up by a village headman would be taken to the nearest relief camp, would be tended and fed there, until he or she was able to do some light work.

6. I suggest that some further orders on the subject of village visitation and the duties of village headmen be issued and carefully enforced at an early date. Systematic house-to-house inquiry is the necessary complement of an economical relief-work system. Indeed, it is the necessary complement of any relief-work system. Even if 70 per cent. of the population of a severely distressed taluq were on the relief-works, I should still fear that some cases of extreme and dangerous distress must be left at home in the villages, unless a house-to-house visitation were maintained in the villages.

7. It is clearly cheaper for the public treasury and better for the people that all real cases of extreme distress should be searched out and relieved, while admission to the relief-works is allowed with discrimination, than that allcomers should be admitted indiscriminately to the relief-works, while extreme cases of dangerous distress are left unrelieved in the villages or on the highways. In the Madras Presidency discrimination is now generally exercised in admitting people to relief-works; and I earnestly recommend that no pains be spared to secure the discovery and relief of extreme distress, such as must occur in outlying villages, with increased frequency, as the season advances.

RICHARD TEMPLE.

No. 46. From C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I., Secretary to Sir RICHARD TEMPLE, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Madras, 1st March 1877, No. 95.

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honor to solicit that my letter, No. 90, dated 25th February, with its enclosures, may be considered to be withdrawn.

2. If Sir Richard Temple deems it necessary hereafter to lay before the Government of Madras any remarks on relief operations in the Aloor and Tadpatri Taluqs, I shall have the honor of submitting another letter to be substituted for the letter now withdrawn and its contents.

(True Copies.)

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

881/2

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
1st *March* 1877.

Famine Relief No. 881.

No. 46-A.

To

C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.

Miscellaneous.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letters Nos. 95 and 98, and, in reply to the latter, to state that the question to which the Minute by Sir Richard Temple therewith forwarded relates has already occupied the earnest attention of the Madras Government, and will continue to do so.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Read the following :-

No. 98.

No. 45 From

C. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,

Secretary to Sir Richard Temple,

To

J. H. GARSTIN, Esq.,

Additional Secretary to the

Government of Madras.

Dated Madras, 27*th February*, 1877.

Sir,

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honor to forward copy of a Minute, recorded by him suggesting the issue of further orders to secure that cases of extreme distress may be searched out and relieved in every village of the more distressed districts.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. BERNARD,

Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Richard Temple

Govt. of [1877] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

C. E. BERNARD, Esq.

Dated March, 1st.

Rec'd

Encl.

Letter, 1st March 1877, No. 881.

MADRAS.

No. 46-A.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 619.

ESTIMATING, in reply to letter No. 98, dated 27th February, the question to which the Minute by Sir R. Temple recorded therein, forwarded relates has already occupied the earnest attention of this Government, and will continue to do so.

Minute by Sir Richard Temple, dated Tripetty, 26th February, 1877.

In my Minute dated Nundidroog 8th February, I laid before the Government of Madras my views as to the need for fully utilizing the existing organisation in the work of house to house visitation, so that all cases of dangerous distress may be searched out and relieved. Since that date I have seen the Madras Government orders of the th February on the same subject. I have also visited the Ceded Districts, Cuddapah, North Arcot and part of Kurnool with the view of ascertaining how far systematic house to house visitation is being carried out, and how far the village head men discharge the duty of searching out and bringing up every case of dangerous distress.

2. The orders of the Madras Government on this subject have, I believe, reached the village head men; and Government officers, European and Native, are doing something in this direction. Still the fact remains that, up to the present time, the village head men have brought forward only a very few cases of persons, (in the many taluqs I visited, there were hardly a score of such cases altogether) who were in extreme need of relief. At the same time in many of the relief labour gangs, I found, side by side with hundreds or thousands of people not as yet in absolute need, a few persons in very poor physical condition, an inquiry into whose cases showed that they were the only bread-winners for whole families of infirm people. There is risk that the weaker members of families in such straits must sooner or later die, unless they are brought upon charitable relief. And there is always the fear that, if cases of this kind come to light, more (possibly worse) cases of the same kind remain undiscovered. And all this may occur side by side and simultaneously with the employment of great gangs of relief labourers whose numbers perhaps exceed the real dimensions of distress.

3. During my visit, I have always drawn the attention of the relief officers in charge to the dangerous nature of such cases. And I have explained that the admission of thousands of comparatively well-to-do people to relief gangs without discrimination, cannot relieve the few scores of really needy people, who may be at home in their villages.

4. I would recommend that the existing orders of the Madras Government (which are doubtless excellent so far as they go) be further explained and enforced, and that a written (or printed) notice of his duties and responsibilities be sent to every village head man in the more distressed districts, that a written acknowledgment be obtained from him and that a report be demanded of him of his having inspected every household in his village and of his having either done the needful if he found any person in dangerous straits or of his having found none such. The intentions of the Government will then become really known, and supervising officers of all ranks will be able to enforce the real and careful discharge of their duties by the village officers. It is assumed they have already been authorized to relieve temporarily any person in this condition, at the Government expense. They therefore cannot have any motive for concealing the existence of any such case, if it exist. The reports of the village head men will therefore be evidence of the best kind.

5. With regard to the disposal of necessitous people, when they are brought up to relief officers by the village head men, I desire to bring to notice that, as yet, no relief camps on the Madras system have been formed in the Ceded Districts. Instead of the relief camp system, there are a number of relief houses (in one taluq as many as seven), at which out-door relief is given under the supervision of village head men. It may be necessary hereafter, when the pressure on the people is greater, to have several places in each taluq for the distribution of out-door relief. But at present such relief is not required; it may lead to great peculation and waste, (for instance) such as oc-

R Richard Temple

curred recently on a large scale at Hindupur in the Bellary District. I would recommend that, for the present at any rate, the regular relief camp system, such as is enforced at Madras, should be adopted in the Ceded Districts. It is true that a considerable establishment is required; but if Native officers of the army are employed and existing buildings (such as chuttrams) utilised, the cost will not be excessive. And at any rate the expenditure will be less than under the plan of indiscriminate out-door relief under village head men. Every necessitous person brought up by a village head man would be taken to the nearest relief camp, would be tended and fed there, untel he or she was able to do some light work.

6. I suggest that some further orders on the subject of village visitation and the duties of village head men be issued and carefully enforced at an early date. Systematic house to house enquiry is the necessary complement of an economical relief work system. Indeed it is the necessary complement of any relief work system. Even if 70 per cent. of the population of a severely distressed taluq were on the relief works, I should still fear that some cases of extreme and dangerous distress must be left at home in the villages, unless a house to house visitation were maintained in the villages.

7. It is clearly cheaper for the public treasury and better for the people that all real cases of extreme distress should be searched out and relieved, while admission to the relief works is allowed with discrimination; than that all comers should be admitted indiscriminately to the relief works, while extreme cases of dangerous distress are left unrelieved in the villages or on the highways. In the Madras Presidency discrimination is now generally exercised in admitting people to relief works; and I earnestly recommend that no pains be spared to secure the discovery and relief of extreme distress, such as must occur in outlying villages, with increaseed frequency, as the season advances.

RICHARD TEMPLE.

F. No. 1042.

Revenue {1877} Department.

From

C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C. S. I.,

Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Dated 28th February
Recd. 1st March } 1877.
No. 98.

Forwarding copy of a Minute by Sir R. Temple suggesting the issue of further orders to secure that cases of extreme distress may be searched out and relieved in every village of the more distressed Districts.

Lawrence Asylum Press—1877.

No. 98. 98.

From

C. Bernard Esquire, C.S.I.
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

To

J. H. Garstin Esquire,
Additional Secretary to the
Government of Madras.

Dated Madras, 27th February 1877.

Sir,

By direction of Sir Richard Temple I have the honor to forward copy of a Minute recorded by him suggesting the issue of further orders to secure that cases of extreme distress may be searched out and relieved in every village of the more distressed districts.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
C. Bernard
Secretary to Sir
Richard Temple

Minute by Sir Richard Temple,
dated Tripetty, 26th February 1877.

mmm.

In my Minute dated Nundidroog 8th February, I laid before the Government of Madras my views as to the need for fully utilizing the existing organisation in the work of house to house visitation so that all cases of [illegible] distress may be searched out and relieved. Since that date I have seen the Madras Government orders of the [illegible] February on the same subject. I have also visited the ceded districts, Cuddapah, North Arcot and part of Kurnool with the view of ascertaining how far systematic house to house visitation is being carried out

and

and how far the village head men discharge the duty of searching out and bringing up every case of dangerous distress.

2. The orders of the Madras Government on this subject have, I believe, reached the village head men, and Government officers, European and Native, are doing something in this direction. Still the fact remains that, up to the present time, the village headmen have brought forward only a very few cases of persons, (in the many talooks I visited, there were hardly a score of such cases altogether) who were in extreme need of relief. At the same time in many of the relief labour gangs, I found, side by side with hundreds or thousands of people not as yet in absolute need, a few persons in very poor physical

condition, an enquiry into whose cases showed that they were the only bread-winners for whole families of infirm people. There is risk that the weaker members of families in such straits must soon or later die, unless they are brought upon charitable relief. And there is always the fear that, if cases of this kind come to light, more (possibly worse) cases of the same kind remain undiscovered. This and the fact that cases may occur side by side and simultaneously with the employment of great gangs of relief labourers whose numbers perhaps exceed the real dimensions of distress.

3. During my visit I have always drawn the attention of the relief officers in charge to the dangerous nature of such cases. And I have

Enclosed.

explained that the admission of thou-
sands of comparatively well to do
people to relief camps without discri-
mination, can not ~~[redacted]~~ relieve
the few scores of really needy people,
who may be at home in their villages.

4. I would recommend that
the existing orders of the Madras Govern-
ment (which are doubtless excellent
so far as they go) be further explained
and enforced; and that a written (or printed)
notice of his duties and responsibilities
be sent to every village headman in
the more distressed districts, that a written
acknowledgment be obtained from him and
that a report be demanded of him of
his having inspected every household
in his village and of his having either
done the needful if he found any person
in dangerous straits or of his having
found

46/15

found none such. The intentions
of the Government will then become
really known, and supervising officers
of all ranks will be able to enforce
the real and careful discharge of their
duties by the village officers. It is
assumed they have already been author-
-ized to relieve temporarily any person
in this condition, at the Government ex-
pense. They therefore cannot have any
motive for concealing the existence of
any such case, if it exist. The reports of
the village headmen will therefore be evid-
-ence of the best kind.

5. With regard to the disposal of
necessitous people, when they are brought
up to relief officers by the village headmen,
I desire to bring to notice that, as yet,
no relief camps on the Madras system
have been formed in the ceded districts.

Instead

Instead of the relief camp system there are a number of relief houses (in one taluk as many as seven), at which outdoor relief is given under the supervision of village headmen. It may be necessary hereafter, when the pressure on the people is greater, to have several places in each taluk for the distribution of outdoor relief. But at present such relief is not required. It may lead to speculations (for instance) such as occurred recently on a large scale at Kindupore in the Bellary district. I would recommend that for the present at any rate, the regular relief camp system, such as is enforced at Madras, should be adopted in the ceded districts. It is true that a considerable establishment is required; but if native officers of the army are employed and existing buildings (such as chuttrums) utilised, the cost will not be excessive. And at any rate the expenditure will be less than under the plan of indiscriminate outdoor relief under village headmen. Every necessitous person brought up by a village headman would be taken to the nearest relief camp, would be tended and fed there, until he or she was able to do some light work.

6. I suggest that some further orders on the subject of village visitation and the duties of village headmen be issued and carefully enforced at an early date. Systematic house to house enquiry is the necessary complement of an economical relief work system. Indeed it is the necessary complement of any relief work system. Even if 70 percent of the population of a severely distressed taluk were on the relief works, I should ask fear

that

that some cases of extreme and dangerous distress must be left at home in the villages, unless a house to house visitation were maintained in the villages.

7. It is clearly cheaper for the public treasury and better for the people that all real cases of extreme distress should be searched out and relieved, where admission to the relief works is allowed with less discrimination than that all comers should be admitted indiscriminately to the relief works, while extreme cases of dangerous distress are left unrelieved in the villages or on the highways. In the Madras Presidency discrimination is now generally exercised in admitting people to relief works, and I earnestly recommend that no pains be spared to secure the discovery and relief of extreme distress, such as

as must occur in outlying villages, with increased frequency, as the season advances.

Richard Temple

No. 95.

From

C. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple,

To

J. H. GARSTIN, Esq.,
Additional Secretary to the
Government of Madras.

Dated, Madras, 1*st March*, 1877.

Sir,

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honor to solicit that my letter, No. 90, dated 25th February, with its enclosures, may be considered to be withdrawn.

2. If Sir Richard Temple deems it necessary hereafter to lay before the Government of Madras any remarks on relief operations in the Aloor and Tadpatrie taluqs, I shall have the honor of submitting another letter to be substituted for the letter now withdrawn and its contents.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. BERNARD,
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

F. No. 1043.

Revenue {1877} Department.

From

C. E. BERNARD, Esq., C.S.I.,
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Dated & Reed. 1st } March, 1877.

No. 95.

Stating that his letter No. 90, dated 25th February, 1877, with its enclosures, may be considered to be withdrawn.

Lawrence Asylum Press—1877.

From No. 95.

C. Bernard Esquire C.S.I
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple

To

J. H. Garstin Esquire
Additional Secretary to the
Government of
Madras

Sir

Dated Madras, 1st March 1877.

By direction of Sir Richard Temple, I have the honor to solicit that my letter No. 90 dated 25th February, with its enclosures, may be considered to be withdrawn

2. If Sir Richard Temple deems it necessary hereafter to lay before the Government of Madras any remarks on relief operations in the Attoor and Sagapatree talooks, I shall have the honor of submitting another letter to be substituted for the letter now withdrawn and its

its contents.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

C Bernard
Secretary to Sir Richard Temple.

Sir Richard Temple
Bart

Immediate

No. 881

From I. H. Carleton Esq.

To C. C. Bernard Esq.
C. S. I

Sir -

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 95 of 9th & in reply to the latter to state that the question to which the Secretary of State for India has directed the attention of the Madras Govt. & with which you have been communicated to the Government of India.

I. H. C
1/3/77

1 January 1877

Rec. 1877 Sept
7 Jan 1943

From
C. P. Bernard Esqre
Secy. to Govt. of India

Read 1877
Jan 1

Stating that the Govt of India & Govt of Madras have considered the