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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	421	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24.3.1876	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 246. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th March 1876, No. 633:—

Read the following letter from J. KELSALL, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. HOPE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, dated Rajanagram, 26th January 1876, No 6.

I have the honor to report on the conduct of Mahommed Rahimaddin Sahib, Tahsildar of Amalapur, during the floods of July 28th, which report I am desired to submit by your endorsement, No. 428, on G.O., 10th September 1875, No. 2,611. This reached me on November 11th, and the Tahsildar says that the delay in submitting his explanation is caused by the fact of his transfer to the Narsapur Taluq. He wished to show me by written documents that the charge of apathy and indolence was unfounded, and there was some delay in getting copies of the required papers from another taluq.

2. The flood in the Godavery River was at its height on the 28th and 29th July, and it was on these days that the damage reported on by Mr. Ellis occurred. I have before me papers which show that on June 25th, the Tahsildar issued orders to the Sub-Magistrate of Kottapetta, the three Revenue Inspectors, and to several village heads including the Munsif of Polavaram, specially referred to by Mr. Ellis, warning them that the river would soon be down in flood and calling on them to be on the alert and ready to do what was needed.

3. The first breach occurred near Rali on the morning of the 28th. The village officers sent a report to the Tahsildar of the occurrence and of what they were doing. Mr. Ellis, the Range Officer, also sent notices both to the Sub-Magistrate of Kottapetta and to the Tahsildar, which were despatched at 10 A.M. on the 28th. On account of the floods this letter did not reach the Sub-Magistrate till 10 A.M. on the 29th. He set out at once, and by 2 P.M. of that day was at Ravulapalem, more than half-way, from which place he wrote to Mr. Ellis that he could not get on any further on account of the flood, that he had 100 men ready, and hoped to get more as he had sent to all the neighboring villages. He also asked Mr. Ellis to tell him where he could be most useful, and what he wished done with the men who had been collected. This was sent off by a good swimmer, who managed to bring back at 9 P.M. an answer from Mr. Ellis that coolies were no longer required by him where he was, but that the Sub-Magistrate had better employ his men in putting earth on all low places from Peravaram to Chintalunka. This was done. This is the Sub-Magistrate of whom Mr. Ellis says "he did not personally exert himself by going about and calling on the villagers to look to their banks" and "who sent a peon with stakes and coolies." The correspondence between Mr. Ellis and this Sub-Magistrate shows clearly that he did move about from place to place, and that he did do what he could. His letters show he was at several threatened places that afternoon, and that in a few hours he had collected a large gang of men along the banks which he placed at Mr. Ellis' disposal, and solicited suggestions how he and they could best be employed. This letter

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th March 1876.*

Mr. Ellis received and replied to, but in his report to Major Beatty he implies that all the Sub-Magistrate did was to send him a single peon.

4. I now come to the conduct of the Tahsildar. I have stated that he had some days before issued warning orders. As soon as he received Mr. Ellis' letter on the 29th, he prepared to start for the place. Almost directly afterwards he received reports from the Sub-Magistrate that he had gone to help Mr. Ellis, and from the villagers of Ainavilli, which is twelve miles away in just the other direction, that there had been a large breach in the banks in their village. He, at once, called back his servants, wrote to the Sub-Magistrate that he relied on him to help Mr. Ellis and do all that was necessary in the north of the taluq, since he himself had to go to villages in the south.

5. He started at once for Ainavilli where there was a big breach, and did all he could to put it right. Mr. Ellis chooses to call it a pic-nic to Mukteswaram, which is a celebrated pagoda about three-fourths of a mile from Ainavilli, but I know of no grounds for this description. It is clear from the papers before me, all written on the 29th and 30th, that the Tahsildar intended to go to Rali as soon as he got Mr. Ellis' letter, and then on hearing from Ainavilli, changed his plans and went there because he thought he could be more useful there, and because he reasonably thought that the Sub-Magistrate and Mr. Ellis could between them do all that was necessary.

6. I do not think there is any ground whatever for saying that the Tahsildar and the Sub-Magistrate were apathetic and indolent. The papers written at the time and taken from the taluq files show that they did go about, did collect coolies and were anxious to be useful in any possible way.

7. If Mr. Ellis had cause for complaint it would have been better if he had written to me at the time. All this took place in July, and it is not till November, four months afterwards, that we hear he has any complaint to make.

No. 25.

SUBMITTED to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings of the 19th October last, Miscellaneous No. 9,475. Mr. Kelsall's report shows clearly that the complaints of the Range Officer of apathy and indolence on the part of the Tahsildar and Deputy Tahsildar of Amalapur, on the occurrence of the floods of last July, were unfounded.

MANDAPETTA,
5th February 1876.

(Signed) J. HOPE,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G.O., dated 6th October 1875, No. 2,067.

2. The charge of inaction brought against the taluq officials appears to be quite unfounded.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th March 1876.*

No. 247. ORDER THEREON, 24th March 1876, No. 421.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works
Department with reference to G.O. in that
Department, dated 10th September 1875,
No. 2,611.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. H. French.

No. 633.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th March 1876.

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Govt. of 1876

REVENUE.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

to, to, to

Dated March, 24th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 24th March 1876, No. 421.

MARCH.
Nos. 246-247.

Change of location against Tahsildar of Amalapur in Godavery District. Communicating to the Public Works Department Proceedings, Board of Revenue, on letter from Collector offering explanation on the —

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(Signed) J. HOPE,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G.O., dated 6th October 1875, No. 2,067.

2. The charge of inaction brought against the taluq officials appears to be quite unfounded.

(A true Copy and Extract.)


Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of the Godavery District.

Exd. W. H. French.

6th October / 75 No. 267 mi

N^o 1093

Revenue 1876. Septa
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 6TH MARCH 1876, No. 633.

Dep^d 14 March / 76
Encl.

Received 15 March / 76

MARCH.
No. 633.

Floods—of July last, in Godavery District.—
Submitting to Government explanation of Tah-
sildar of Amalapur Taluq of the charge of
inaction brought against him by Public Works
Department during —.

Ch 421-24 March 1876
with paper

N^o 1421

Communicated to the Public Works

Dept. with reference to the Civil Works Dept.

dy. 10 Sept. 1875 No 26711.

21 to 24 Sept 1875
14th Godavery Rev. J

24 March 1876

18. 10. 376