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Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations

12th March 1858

Back No. 29, 30, 31 & 32

Order No 294 25th March 1858

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்:

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக்-
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்: 01/01/2008
30/01/2008

சரிபார்க்கும்
முதல் நிலை
கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கும்
2ம் நிலை
கையொப்பம்

உதவியாளர்
கையொப்பம்

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 12th March 1858.

No. 29. Read the following Petitions from P. C. MOOTOOSAWMY MOODELLY, LOCANADA MOODELLY, and others; to the Honorable W. A. MOREHEAD, Esq., Councillor, &c., &c., &c., dated Madras 11th February 1858.

RESPECTED SIR,

We the undersigned beg most respectfully to submit our most unfortunate case to your generous and charitable consideration as follows.

That from the time you have been Session Judge of Chingleput and then a Sudder Court Judge, and now thank God a Councillor in this Government your high fame for justice and equity, evincibly meditated which is much appreciated especially by the poor who is lashed unmercifully by the strickture of the Moturpha tax, have mercy on our poor children, you will, therefore graciously be pleased as to look into their case, which is most lamentable and painful to tolerate any longer, the high weight and pestilence of Moturpha tax, our houses are dismantled, our property sold and sacrificed, our children starved and famished, our fine village became an heap of ruins, Oh good God, no mercy as yet nor pity, we are ruled with "*iron rod*," Oh God of mercy, we beseech your forgiveness to soften and move the heart of our rulers, steadfastly to stir in the Council as to crush its existence, respectfully understanding of late years, that there had been some conviction, that an order from the Honorable Court to this Government purporting to abolish the abomination of Moturpha tax which is ruinous and destructive in all its magnitude to the welfare of the poor villagers, why in the name of God this ruinous system held out still in its existence, praying, through your great undertaking crush its existence and redeem us from the tyranny of Moturpha tax.

Ourselves and our children with their lisping tongue and eyes raised, their eyes and voice to Almighty God for your long life and prosperity.

No. 30. *To the Right Honorable the Governor in Council Madras.*

The humble Memorial of the undersigned Mothurpah inhabitants of the Zillah of Chingleput dated 9th February 1858, No. 422.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

1st. That the said Mothurpah tax is imposed on your poor inhabitants, by which means they are suffering great hardship and that there is no limit to the inconvenience and distress they experience from the subordinate officials of Government, viz. Head men of the villages, Puttah Monyacars, Moonooshiffs, Conocopillays, Talliaries, Pashcars, Tasildars and others. In consequence of the inconvenience and distress experienced from the above subordinates, the said Mothurpah tax is very oppressive to your Petitioners, and therefore your Petitioners pray the same may be abolished.

2nd. That in consideration of the benefits derived from the said Mothurpah inhabitants, viz. in salt, spirituous liquors, toddy, different kinds of grains, stamp papers, &c., &c.; and in consideration of the various memorials presented to the different departments of Government from the Collector upwards to the Court of Directors and Parliament, from the year 1843 up to the present moment to abolish the above tax; and in consideration of the letter on the subject received from the Court of Directors dated 5th November 1856, and the letter of the Governor General on the said subject dated 15th March 1857 and the answer of your Government to the Governor General on the same subject; and taking into consideration the great and profitable difference existing in the income, profits, and expences, between this presidency and the other Presidencies; and taking into consideration the cruel famine in this Presidency for the last 4 or 5 years, by which the poor inhabitants are suffering much for want of food and raiment, your Petitioners humbly pray your Government will, by speedily abolishing the 5th Regulation of 1832, bless and protect your poor Petitioners from their sufferings and hardships.

3rd. That the customs of other Zillas, and the effects of the bad feelings of the inhabitants of other places, are not applicable to the Jageer inhabitants of the Zillah of Chingleput, and consequently their being oppressively treated as stated in the first and second paras. is unjust and unreasonable, and therefore your Petitioners pray your Government will be pleased to take into consideration the various Treaties, Cowls, &c., introduced in this Jageer since the commencement of the Company's Government.

4th. That before the consultation of the Zillah Collectors, of the Board of Revenue, of the Local Government, of the Supreme Government and of the Right Honorable the Court of Directors, regarding the abolishment of the said Mothurpah tax, is concluded, we are afraid your poor Petitioners will be starved to death. Therefore the Government up to this time not granting a favourable answer regarding the said tax, is not becoming in the sight of the Almighty.

Therefore your poor Petitioners pray that your Government will be pleased to take the above particulars into your kind consideration and kindly send the necessary directions to the Board of Revenue and the Collector and for which act of benevolence and charity your Petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

(Signed) P. C. MOOTOOSAWMY, AND OTHERS.

No. 31. From P. C. MOOTOOSAWMY MOODELLY, LOCANADA MOODELLY, and others; to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council of Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 10th February 1858.

MY LORD,

We the inhabitants of the different parts of the Chingleput District, most humbly approach your Lordship in Council begging and beseeching that your Lordship will deign to look down upon us in time and with a veiw to save us from the destruction which the continuance any longer of the Moturpha tax is sure to bury us in. This tax conceived or established by Mohamedan tyranny as your Lordship in Council is aware grown to us a great source of misery under the Company's Government. Its ruinous effects on our circumstances in life had been fully and repeatedly brought to the notice of the Governments of Madras and India and to the Honorable the Court of Directors and all of them unanimously agreed in regarding the tax as destructive to the welfare of the people, who have been unfortunately subjected to it for so many years. In consequence of this conviction, the Honorable Court, it appears, have issued some time last year an order to abolish the tax and to rescue immediately the people who have so long suffered from it, but owing to some cause which is not revealed to us, the relief which the Honorable Court saw it necessary to afford us, has not yet been granted. The delay no doubt is very advantageous to Government, but they will, we most respectfully intreat, perceive how injurious it is to us, our families and children. Having suffered for the last four or five years from continuous bad seasons we are at this moment in a most miserable condition, our food simple as it is consisting of kooloo and cunjee cannot be had daily or belly full, cloth to cover our body is much more scarce. Thus we men women and children pass our days enduring all kinds of distress from want of food and raiment. This is not unknown to Government and yet if your Lordship in Council is not moved at our sufferings we despair of living and dying as human beings ought to do. Moturpha tax has been admitted by all the authorities connected with India to be a curse on our industry, and the highest of them the Court of Directors have most benevolently ordered its abolition but why your Lordship in Council is unwilling to carry out the order is incomprehensible to us. Some say the relief will not be afforded us till the Bengal mutiny ceases and some other source of revenue is discovered to compensate for the loss the discontinuance of Moturpha will entail. We cannot believe that such is the intention of Government. The mutiny in Bengal has nothing to do with the question of relief to be granted to us. The expense of one is as necessary as that of the other, as the main object of both is to prevent destruction of human life. It cannot therefore be the Bengal mutiny which delays the abolition of the Moturpha. The delay may be owing to the fear of loss of revenue but we trust that the late death of the Nabob of Carnatic and of the Rajah of Tanjore will enable Government to give

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up Moturpha without any loss of revenue and therefore humbly pray that your Lordship in Council will be pleased to deliver us from our present distress.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, No. 294; dated 5th March 1858.

No. 422 *dated 9th February* 1858.
„ 489 *do. 10th do.* 1858.
„ 488 *do. 11th do.*

Ordered that the above petition, together with those noted in the margin, be brought to the notice of the Honorable Court of Directors for such orders as they may see fit to pass on the prayer of the Petitioners.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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To The Honorable
H. C. Morehead Esqr
Governor
&c &c &c

Respected Sir

We the Undersigned beg leave respectfully to Submit our humble & Informal Case to your generous and charitable Consideration & Protection.

That from the time you have been Resident Judge of Cherokee and then a Circuit Judge and then a Councillor in this Govt you have manifested a Disposition for Justice and Equity, which is much appreciated, especially by the poor who are looked upon cruelly by the strict letter of the Statute for Law, and even on our poor Children, you will therefore graciously be pleased also to look into their Case which is most lamentable and prompt to alleviate (any longer) the high weight and severity of the Statute for Our Blank Evidence discontinued, our property sold on Executions and our Children starved and [illegible] Village became an high Swine, [illegible] day as yet no pity [illegible] Road" ah God of

[illegible]

NPC
1 0

Mercy, we beseech you, forgiveness to sagitta
and move the heart of [illegible] stead
castly to stir in the bosom at a crisis
to existence. respectfully understanding
of late years that there had been some
connection, that on Ord in from the Bontoke
Coast to this Govt. proposing to abolish
the abomination of a Native Tax which
is onerous and vexatious in all its
magnitude to the welfare of the
Tax Payers by the name of Lord
this poisonous system hold out still in
to existence praying, through your great
[illegible] to existence and
redeem us from the tyranny of a Native
Tax.-

Our Father and our Children
with their weeping tongue & eyes parched
with tears and voice to Almighty God
for your long life and prosperity.-

Wellington
11th July 08.

With due respect
Respectfully Sir
Your most obedient Servt

2965
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Petitions Nos 489 1488 of 1858

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Revenue 1858 Deptt
Dy to Com. 12th March
No 252

From C. J. Maclaverty
Moodely & Lacanadia Moodys
and others.

Dated 11th February 1858
Rec'd 16th

S. & No. 294 4th March 1858

Praying to be relieved from the payment of the Mahurpha Tax.

No 29

C 24th July 21 Thmch

294/9A 7

№ 422 of 1855.

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The Right Honorable the Governor in Council
Madras.

The humble Memorial of the
undersigned Mothurpah
inhabitants of the Zilla of
Chengleput

Respectfully Sheweth

1st That the said Mothurpah tax
is imposed on your poor inhabitants by
which means they are suffering great hard-
ship and that there is no limit to the incon-
venience and distress they experience from
the Subordinate Officials of Government,
viz. Head men of the Villages, Pullahmonya-
cars, Shanboghs, Cordepillays, Tal-
liaries, Pashcars, Tasildars and others.
In consequence of the inconvenience
and distress experienced from the
above Subordinates, the said Mothur-
pah Tax is very oppressive to your Peti-
tioners, and therefore your Petitioners
pray the same may be abolished.

2d That in consideration of
the benefit derived from the said Mo-
thurpah by inhabitants, viz in Tank, Spin-

Nº 422 of 1858
Revenue 1858 Departt.
Dy to Comrs 12th March
Nº 333.
From Alexr Saurin Esq.
Yasumpara mouzdy &
Loganathamoudy under
third the Nattukotte
missl Chetts of the Gillahs
of Chingleput
Dated 9th Feby 1858
Rd 9th Feby 1858
Praying to be relieved
from praying the Motursha
for
Nº 30
S.C. Nº 294. 5th March

Nº 2

tions Liquors, Toddy, Different kinds of Grains, Stamp Papers &c &c; and in consideration of the various memorials presented to the different departments of Government from the Collector upwards to the Court of Directors and Parliament, from the year 1843 up to the present moment to abolish the above Tax; and in consideration of the letter on the subject received from the Court of Directors dated 5th November 1856, and the letter of the Governor General on the said subject dated 15th March 1857 and their answer of your Government to the Governor General on the same subject; and taking into consideration the great and profitable difference existing in the income, profits, and expences, between this presidency and the other presidencies, and taking into consideration the cruel famine in this Presidency for the last 4 or 5 years, by which the poor inhabitants are suffering much for want of food and raiment, your Petitioners humbly pray your Government will by speedily abolishing the 3rd Regulation of 1832, bless and protect your poor Petitioners from their sufferings and hardships.

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To
The Right Honorable the Governor in Council
of Fort Saint George

My Lord

We the inhabitants of the different parts of the Chingleput District, most humbly approach your Lordship in Council begging and beseeching that your Lordship will design to look down upon us in time and with a view to save us from the destruction which the continuance any longer of the Moturpha Taxe is over to bring us in. This Taxe conceived & established by Mohamedan Tyranny has your Lordship in Council is aware grown to us a great source of misery under the Company's Government. Its ruinous effects on our circumstances in life had been fully and repeatedly brought to the notice of the Governments of Madras and India and to the Honorable the Court of Directors and all of them unanimously agreed in regarding the taxe as destructive to the welfare of the people, who have unfortunately subjected to it for somany years. In Consequence of this conviction, the Honorable Court, it appears, have issued some time last year an order to abolish the Taxe not to recover immediately the people who have so long suffered from it: but owing to some cause which is not revealed to us the relief, which the Honorable Court saw it necessary to afford us, has not yet been granted. The delay no doubt is very advantageous to Government but they will, we most respectfully intreat, perceive how injurious it is to us, our families and children. Having suffered for the last four or five years from continuous bad seasons we are at this moment in a most miserable condition, our food simple as it is

Consisting

consisting of Ragi and Cunjee cannot be had daily or belly full, cloth to cover our body is, much, more scarce. Thus we, men, women and children pass our days enduring all kinds of distress from want of food and raiment. This is, not unknown to Government and yet if your Lordship in Council is, not moved at our sufferings we despair of living and dying as Human beings ought to do. Motturpha Taxe has been admitted by all the authorities connected with India to be a curse on our Industry and the highest of them the Court of Directors have most benevolently ordered its abolition but why your Lordship in Council is unwilling to carry out the order is incomprehensible to us. Some say the relief will not be afforded us till the Bengal Mutiny ceases and some other source of Revenue is discovered to compensate for the loss the discontinuance of Motturpha will entail. We cannot believe that such is the intention of Government. The mutiny in Bengal has nothing to do with the question of relief to be granted to us. The expense upon is as necessary as that of the other, as the main object of both is to prevent destruction of human life. It can not therefore be the Bengal Mutiny which delays the abolition of the Motturpha. The delay may be owing to the fear of loss of Revenue but we trust that the late death of the Nabob of Carnatic and of the Rajah of Tanjore will enable Government to give up Motturpha without any loss of Revenue and therefore humbly pray that your Lordship in Council will be pleased to deliver us from our present distress.

We beg to remain
My Lord
Your Lordship's
Most Obedient Servant

Madras
10th February 1858

[illegible]

3rd That the customs of other Zillas and the effects of the bad feelings of the Inhabitants of other places are not applicable to the Jageer inhabitants of the Zilla of Chengleput, and consequently their being oppressed directly treated as stated in the first and second Paras is unjust and unreasonable, and therefore your Petitioners pray your Government will be pleased to take into consideration the various [illegible] to be introduced in this Jageer [illegible] commencement of the Collectorate [illegible] the Zilla Collectors, of the Boards of Revenue, of the local Government, [illegible] Government and of the Right Honorable the Court of Directors regarding [illegible] is concluded that we are a privileged [illegible] Petitioners will be starved to [illegible] Therefore the Government upon [illegible] not granting favourable answer to [illegible] pending the said Tax is not [illegible] in the sight of the Almighty.

Therefore your Petitioners pray that your Government will be pleased to

294/11 R. D.

No. 294

Extracted from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 5 ~~February~~ March 1838.

Read Petition

from P. Moodoosawmy

Moodly, Pocanada Moodly &c.

(Here enter 11th February 1838)

Ordered that the above petition together with those noted in the margin be brought to the notice of the Honorable Court of Directors for such orders as they may see fit to pass on the prayer

To

Will

No. 422 d/9 Feby 1838
489 — do 10th — do
488 — do 11th — do being
a copy of the petition
addressed to Fitz Morehead
will not be sent.

294/11

Transmits Petition of P. Moodoosawmy & others of Pocanada Moodly praying to be allowed to purchase certain Lands in Cuddapah &c.

No. 334.

Dated 10th Feby 1838

Rec'd 14th Feby 1838

Answered 19th Feby 1838

Sent other Duplicate

Ordered that the Petitioners be informed that the Petition cannot be received, it having come to hand after the Petitioners had left the Presidency

The Right Hon'ble
Governor in Council &c

Sir

I am directed by the Court of Directors to transmit to you the accompanying Petition of P. Moodoosawmy & others of Pocanada Moodly praying to be allowed to purchase certain Lands in Cuddapah &c.

2 Enclosures

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
J. Stokes
Secy

Ft. St. George
10th Feby 1838

Rec'd 31st

294-5 Cuddapah -

prayer of the Petitioners.

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Ordering that the Prayer of the Petitioners be granted from the Payment of the Stamp in Stamping the Matters that it be brought to the notice of the Honorable Court.

24 July 1854