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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1303	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	3-4-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Famine Relief.

No. 34. Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Wontimettah, 24th March 1877, Extra No. 501:—

REFERRING to paragraphs 12 and 16 of G.O., Revenue Department, No. 967, dated 7th instant, I have the honor to inquire—

(1) What bonus per head I may offer to gangsmen or other recruiters who bring coolies for Nellore?

(2) Whether I may, without previous sanction, entertain a recruiting and registering staff.

2. I have considered matters carefully, and have come to the following ideas:—

(a.) The two routes to be used are, 1st, via Wontimettah and Kotapad; 2nd via Cuddapah, Sidhout, and Budwail. I have been over the greater part of the route via the Rapoor Ghaut (*i.e.*, from Kadri to two miles up the ghaut), and have arrived at the conclusion that it cannot, on account of the wildness of the country, the want of an abundant supply of water, and of spots where halting places can, without risk of fever, be placed, be used.

I propose that the coolies from Bellary and the Pullampett Taluq shall go from the Wontimettah route; that those from the Sidhout Taluq shall proceed via the Rapoor Ghaut, and at Cuddapah join those collected from that taluq and Pulivendla; that this body shall *en route* pick up the people from Sidhout and Budwail, the latter being joined by those from Jamalamadugu and Proddatur, who will come via the Yeddadugu Pass, and then that the whole shall go on to the frontier which is only seven miles from Budwail. I have met the Superintendent of Police and settled regarding the Police guards required, and I have issued orders that the lines are to be gone over by an experienced and responsible officer. I have further written to the Collector of Nellore regarding the dispositions made by him, and I have determined, in consultation with Mr. Benson and Mr. MacCartie, the measures to be taken as regards stopping works and reducing numbers in the Cuddapah, Pullampett, and Sidhout Taluqs. I only await intimation that my lines are in proper order, news from Nellore, and the arrival of the Military officers mentioned by Government to begin operations throughout the district, which, I hope, will terminate in the supply of laborers required.

3. As regards the question which I have asked I would suggest, as many of the maistries and head coolies will be turned off when the reductions are put in force, that I should be allowed to pay some of these men, say, Rupees 6 a-month, with 4 Annas for each man, 3 Annas for each woman, and 2 Annas for each child, passed here as fit and delivered at the canal. I should thus have a staff of men, acquainted with the district and in the pay of Government who could collect coolies, take them to the canal, hand them over to the District Engineer of Nellore, and return for more. If Government will be pleased to give me authority to do as I think best, I will make every effort to get coolies to the canal at the least possible cost.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd April 1877.*

4. There is one point upon which the Order of Government is silent, and that is, what maintenance allowance is to be given to the coolies "en route." An allowance upon the old scale, say, of 1½ lb. of rice and 6 Pies per man, and in proportion for women and children, or of 2 Annas, 1 Anna 4 Pies, and 1½ Pies, would probably attract many. The only objection would be that people who elected for task work would, on arrival at the works, drop to a lower rate. It might, perhaps, be advisable to pay according to scale 2 given in the annex which, as the coolies would march by pretty easy stages, would, I think, prove enough.

5. I take this opportunity of mentioning that since the reduced scale of wages came into force from 1,200 to 1,500 persons have gone to the canal from the Cuddapah Taluq.

No. 35.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd April 1877, No. 1,303.

Miscellaneous.

THE Collector's proposals contained in paragraph 3 of his letter are approved, and afford an answer to his first question in paragraph 1.

2. As regards question 2, such recruiting and registering staff as is necessary should be engaged at once.

3. The routes proposed in the latter part of paragraph 2 are approved, and the Government readily give Mr. Price full discretion in matters of detail connected with the transport of the coolies, trusting to him to carry out the wishes of Government as inexpensively as possible. He should see that adequate arrangements are made at Wontimettah for receiving coolies from Bellary on arrival, and for feeding them before they are sent on to the canal.

4. The Collector must bear in mind that he must be prepared to sustain persons in jeopardy of life who may not elect for the canal, and that the closing of local works must be effected with great caution.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

1303
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Famine

1303/3

Cuddapah Collector's Office

Camp Montemittah Sidhant Salug

Bocha No 50/.

21st March 1877.

Despd 27

to

From

J. A. Price Esquire

Acting Collector of Cuddapah

To

H. Garetin Esquire

Additional Secretary to Government

Fort Saint George.

Sir,

Referring to paras 12 and 14 of G.O.
Revenue Department No 967 dated 7th

Instant, I have the honor to enquire

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gangmen or other recruiters who bring
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REVENUE

Code of 1877

THE COLLECTOR OF CUDDAPAH

Montemittah

Bocha

Bocha

G.O. No 11577, No 1303

No. 34-35

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 686

Remission of duties from Cuddapah to the
Yellow Creek Works.—Enquiring officers on letter
from the Collector requesting instructions in ex-
treme points connected with the—

the pay of Government who could collect coolies,
take them to the Canal, hand them over
to the District Engineer of Allahabad and return
for more. If Government will be pleased
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in the annex which, as the coolies would
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prove enough.

303/5
5. I take this opportunity of mention-
ing that since the reduced scale of wages
came into force from 1200 to 1500 persons
have gone to the Canal from the Cuddapah
Taluk.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient

Richard Rice
By Collector

Ed
H. B. N. C.

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Wm. S. S. S.

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