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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1599	Press.
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Dated	19-3-1877	197 .

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

24th February 1877, No. 713.

Famine Relief.

Read the following papers:—

No. 429. From W. A. GOODCHAP, Esq., District Engineer of Kurnool, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Cumbum, 11th January 1877, No. 2.

In forwarding the subjoined copies of correspondence that passed between the Range Officer, Cumbum, and the Deputy Collector, on the subject of grain supply to the members of the Public Works Department under his orders, and as the Hon. Mr. D. Arbuthnott, the Acting Second Member of the Board of Revenue, on special duty, in his letter, dated 21st December, advised a reference to Government on the subject, with a view of orders being obtained in the usual course, I have the honor to request that you will be so good as to move Government to issue the necessary orders thereon, as all the members of Public Works Department in this district, particularly the native subordinates, experience great difficulty in procuring rice.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Copy of a letter from the Range Officer, to the Special Deputy Collector, Cumbum, No. 812, dated 18th December 1876.

I have the honor to bring to your notice the great difficulty experienced by myself and camp followers in procuring rice and other food grains in the villages we are continually passing through, and request you will kindly represent the matter to the Hon. D. Arbuthnott, with a view to your obtaining his permission to supply us with the necessaries at cost price from the Government stores at Cumbum.

2. Since the Government have taken upon themselves the importation of rice, local traffic has entirely ceased, and the village bazaarmen distinctly affirm that they have no stock in their shops for sale, hence we are forced to the necessity of making what arrangements we can for getting up small supplies from distant parts of the district, which soon become exhausted, and thereby leave us quite at the mercy of those, who, though they can perhaps help us, are yet unwilling to do so, free trade being the order of the day. I request simply that I may be granted the indulgence to purchase what will suffice for my *bona fide* consumption either weekly or monthly. If Government do not come forward and help us in such times as these, it becomes a hard matter and in a measure impairs the effective working of its officers.

(Signed) J. A. HICKEN,
Divisional Officer.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Copy of a letter from the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Acting Second Member of the Board of Revenue, to the Deputy Collector, Cumbum, dated 22nd December 1876.

In reply to your letter, No. 26, dated 19th December 1876, I have the honor to state that the Divisional Officer can bring the matter alluded to, to the notice of the District Engineer,

now I believe present in the division, with a view to the orders of Government being obtained in the usual course.

No. 518.

Copy forwarded to the Range Officer, Cumbum, with reference to his letter, No. 812, dated 18th instant.

(Signed) M. VENCATACHELLUM,
Deputy Collector.

No. 119.

Referred to the Revenue Department for communication to the Collector who will give such assistance as may seem necessary under the peculiar circumstances.

Fort St. George, (Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-Genl., R.E.,
17th January 1877. Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Transferred to the Financial Department.

Fort St. George, (Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
22nd January 1877. Secy. to Govt., Rev. Dept.

No. 178.

Referred to the Collector of Kurnool for inquiry and report.

2. Meanwhile the issue of the necessary grain to the Public Works Department from Government stock at cost price including all charges is sanctioned.

Fort St. George, (Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
24th January 1877. Chief Secretary.

No. 430. From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th February 1877, No. 151.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 178, dated 28th ultimo, on a letter from the District Engineer, bringing to notice the difficulty experienced by the Department of Public Works subordinates in procuring grain in the Cumbum Division, I have the honor to forward copies of correspondence that passed between me, the District Engineer, and Mr. Farmer on the subject.

2. Judging from Mr. Farmer's letter, dated 1st February, it does not seem that there is any difficulty now in procuring grain in the large villages. The latest date mentioned by the District Engineer in which any difficulty was experienced is the 7th January, and by Mr. Hicken, the Range Officer, the 9th December, and it appears probable that, with the exercise of some care and forethought when going to out-of-the-way villages, little difficulty will be felt in future.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Head Assistant Collector, Cumbum, dated 29th January 1877, No. 267.

With reference to the enclosed correspondence, I have the honor to request you will be good enough to report carefully, at your earliest convenience, whether, as a matter of fact, it is the case

that your Division has been allowed to be absolutely drained of rice, or whether it is merely in some of the out-of-the-way villages that rice is not procurable, while supplies might be drawn from some neighbouring villages of importance.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Chief Secretary's endorsement on Mr. Goodechap's letter, I request you will issue the necessary grain to the Department of Public Works, from Government stock, at cost price, including all charges, until further notice.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From H. B. FARMER, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Cumbum, 1st February 1877, No. A-333.

Your letter, No. 267, dated 29th January 1877.

With reference to the above, I have the honor to state that, in larger villages, there is no difficulty in getting rice, if officers see the market-price paid to the dealers. The Tahsildar went this morning to Bestarpett, and reports that 30,000 Rupees worth of rice is now for sale in that village. In small out-of-the-way villages rice is not always in stock.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter under reply, I beg to submit that, in the absence of precise information as to the cost of carriage of rice, I propose to charge 12 Rupees per bag of 164 lbs.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Copy of a letter from the Range Officer, Cumbum, to the District Engineer, Kurnool, No. 951, dated 3rd February 1877.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 30, dated 31st January, on Collector's letter, No. 263, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honor to state that I did not totally fail in procuring supplies in any village, but that I experienced great difficulty in securing even the small quantities that I did get, which, in most instances, was about half my actual daily requirements. I give below the names of the villages and the dates I encamped there, as requested:—

Boorgamanapully, 26th October 1876,
Gajalacunda, 11th November 1876.
Piddakolakolu, 17th " "
Tippayapoliem, 22nd " "
(Giddalore) Condapettah, 9th December 1876.

(Signed) J. A. HICKEN,
Range Officer.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

From W. A. GOODCHAP, Esq., District Engineer, Kurnool, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Peapalli, 7th February 1877, No. 62.

Adverting to your letter, No. 263, dated 29th ultimo, requesting me to report whether, on my recent tour through Cumbum Division, I personally experienced great difficulty in procuring a sufficient supply of rice in the bazaars for my own and camp followers' consumption, I have the honor to report that I encamped at the following villages on the date set against each:—

Tokapally, 3rd and 4th January 1877,
Devarajughatta, 5th " "
Tippayapoliem, 6th and 7th January 1877.

and all of my camp followers complained that they could not get rice or other grain at those stations.

2. When at Dupád, a large village, it was difficult to get grain even there for the camp followers; and if I had not advanced 20 Rupees through Mr. Farmer, and the Tahsildar, I do not

think they would have procured any; as it was, it took thirty-six hours for the Komaty to supply the rice.

3. As far as I was personally concerned during the tour, I found a great difficulty in procuring grain for my cattle; and as for fodder, I had to take it about with me in carts from place to place, as the town of Cumbum was the only place where it could be purchased.

* No. 361, dated 2nd February 1877.

4. As requested in paragraph 2 of your letter above quoted, I enclose a copy of Mr. Hicken's reply* to your questions.

No. 431.

ORDER THEREON, 24th February 1877, No. 713.

Ordered to be communicated to the Department of Public Works.

2. The Government infer from this correspondence that whatever inconvenience may have existed at one time, it has now been removed, and that need no longer exists for indenting on the Government Reserve.

(True Extract.)

J. H. G. S. S.
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.

- " Collector of Kurnool.
- " Revenue Department.
- " Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. Wright.

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