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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1979 Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 9 - 12 - 1876 196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 211. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th December 1876, No. 3,065 :—

Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, *to* H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 30th November 1876, No. 607 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward copy of a telegram received by me from Government in which they say they are averse to the payment of higher wages to coolies than 2 Annas, and direct me to pay grain wages wherever possible. The experiment of paying in grain having been tried by me before at Kurnool and given up on account of the difficulty of having always on hand a sufficient supply, I must have a large quantity of grain stored at each place where relief works are going on before I can resume grain payments, and subsequent supplies must come in steadily and regularly. From the latest returns of coolies on the relief works received in this office, I gather there are about 126,000 of them, exclusive of the figures of Cumbum which are not yet known. Estimating, however, the number will rise to about 150,000 at the end of a month, and giving each coolie at the rate of half a measure of grain on the average, the daily requirements of grain in the district will be about 75,000 measures, or nearly 1,870 bags, which would require 171 carts to be daily moving from the railway stations to carry the grain to the interior parts of the district. Taking a week to be the average time that each set of carts take to return to the railway stations, we should need 1,197 carts to keep the service going. The intervening between the railway and the interior of the district.

2. As it would cost the Government enormously to hire these carts, I think it best that both carts and bullocks should be purchased and maintained at the Government expense. If this is done, the question of procuring fodder for animals arises. The fodder procurable in the district is almost nothing, and though when the rice crop under the canal is harvested a large quantity of straw will be forthcoming, I am afraid it will all be required by the ryots to keep their own draught cattle alive till the famine is over. I therefore beg to be informed whether Government will undertake to supply the requisite fodder from Madras.

3. In connection with this, I have to inform the Board of the difficulty I now experience in getting rice sent from Gooty to Kurnool. Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., Bankers, intimated to me the despatch of rice to Gooty station, and I wrote to arrange for sending it on to Kurnool and paying the freight, but necessary amount of advances. It seems, however, that the Tahsildar of Gooty could only, on the order of the Sub-Collector, pay out of the Talook Treasury the amount required for advances to the carriers, and the Sub-Collector has to advance it from his private money, which of course put him to great disinconvenience. I wrote Mr. Glanny informed me that he could draw no money from the Talook Treasury, and was unable to pay more of his own accord. I requested the Collector of Bellary by telegram, on the 27th instant, to request the Tahsildar of Gooty to advance money to be withdrawn out of the Talook Treasury, and asked the Sub-Collector to write to arrange for sending on to Kurnool some rice sent to Gooty by Messrs. Dykes and Co. I now hear from Messrs. Binnis and Co. that there is no one left only to take charge of the rice sent by them to that station. I trust that the Sub-Collector will return, and I shall be very much obliged if the Board will get

Government to issue orders for advances being paid to handymen out of the Taluq Treasury at Ghooty.

4. Since writing the above, I have received the enclosed telegram from Government in which they say that I "must substitute grain wages with the least possible delay." I shall try to carry out the orders of Government as soon as I can, but I must here again state that unless Government can undertake to keep me supplied with the grain I want and arrange for its transport by rail much quicker than at present, I shall be compelled to revert to money payment again and again.

Enclosures Nos. 1 and 2.—Copies of Telegrams.

Superseded for the orders of Government.

2. The Board agree with the Collector as to the expediency of not commencing payments in grain until an ample stock is stored at each depôt and subsequent supplies to complement the expenditure secured. Until such time the Collector ought be authorized to pay wages sufficient to enable the labourers to purchase a full meal.

3. The Collector's proposal to purchase carts and bullocks on behalf of Government does not commend itself to the Board.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

No. 282. Camp, Tumkur, 9th December 1876, No. 1,970.

Miscellaneous.

The Collector of Bellary will be invited to make immediate necessary arrangements for the transport of grain from Ghooty. He should arrange for carriage from thence either by hiring carts and bullocks, or by employing contractors to work with the Ooty.

2. The Government are opposed to the purchase of carts and bullocks and think that the cost of conducting the operation has not yet arrived.

3. Grain payments must cease at intervals when grain falls.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) P. R. CAIMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

Extract sent to Secretary
to the Madras Council.
to the Financial Department.

Read at H. Pantheon.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 5430

From Com: Mr Porter

Dated 5th Dec 1874

FOR ORDERS.

Please let the
Doors be closed
from 9 o'clock
there are strong
hints of confusion
and want of
foresight in Mr
Peter's letter
MC

The Collector of Customs
Needs to enquire of
Admiralty the necessary
Funds for Transport from
Cork to Londonderry
Steamer Lee on the Service
& Correspondence on the Spot
Please Copy me Minute
Instructions & enclosures
Let the Proper Officers
Be Directed Accordingly

Ihre Stelle kennt sie
nicht. Weiß nicht, wer sie
ersetzen kann. Ihre Stelle
ist ihr Leben. Ihr Leben
ist ihre Stelle.

FOR ORDERS.

