

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1072

DATED 23rd Feb. 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Requesting the Board of Rev. to arrange
for printing its Profs in the same way
as G.O.s are now printed.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government { 1897 } of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd. *Enclosures*
Regd. } 1897. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 53, 27th January 1897.

JANUARY.

Famine.

Explaining to the Board of Revenue the nature of the arrangements ordered to be made
G.O., No. 755, dated 26th December 1896, for the disposal of papers relating to — by the
Land Revenue Commissioners.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 41, dated 6th January 1897 :—

Read—G.O., No. 755, Revenue, dated 26th December 1896.

Resolution—Mis. No. 41, dated 6th January 1897.

In the order read above the Government indicates certain arrangements which it desires to have carried out with the object of expediting the disposal of famine business. The orders of Government have been discussed at a meeting of a full Board, consisting of the two Land Revenue Commissioners and the Settlement Commissioner, who is *Ex-officio* Famine Commissioner, and it has been resolved to submit the following remarks for the consideration of Government.

2. The Government directs that "famine questions and papers which do not need the opinion of the Famine Commissioner or which need it but do not admit of being forwarded for his remarks," should be disposed of by the Land Revenue Commissioners, and it is premised that a similar arrangement was made in 1891-92. The Board would, in the first place, respectfully submit that no arrangement, such as that now proposed, was made in 1891-92, or indeed in any year in which the Settlement Commissioner was called upon to assume the control of operations for the relief of distress. The arrangement approved in 1891-92 was that the Land Revenue Commissioners should take upon their shoulders all the Settlement Member's work *other than* "famine," in order that the Commissioner entrusted with the famine work should be enabled to devote the whole of his time to that subject alone. The Land Revenue Commissioners did not offer to take, and as a matter of fact did not take, any portion of the "famine" business under their control. The facts are clearly stated in the Board's Proceedings approved in G.O., No. 1225, dated 24th December 1891.

3. The question of transferring to the Land Revenue Commissioners the ordinary and *non-famine* work of the Settlement Commissioner is not raised in the Government Order now under consideration, and as the Settlement Commissioner himself is of opinion that there is no immediate necessity for any such transfer of work, the Board will not discuss the matter any further. But the Board resolves to submit to Government its opinion as to the contemplated division of the "famine" work.

4. The Board is very strongly of opinion that the whole of the work connected with the famine should pass under the eye of the Famine Commissioner, and that no step should be taken which would tend in any manner to attenuate the responsibility which must of necessity be centred in his hands. The Government directs that emergent questions or those "which do not need the Famine Commissioner's opinion" should be disposed of by the Land Revenue Commissioners who should then send copies of their orders to Government and to the Famine Commissioner at the same time. In the opinion of the Board no "famine" question, other than one of the merest routine can be said to be one with regard to which the opinion of the Famine Commissioner is not needed. To furnish Government with the views of the Land Revenue

Commissioners, which it may be noted cannot be based upon the results of local inspection, would possibly complicate the final disposal of any matter, instead of facilitating it, for the line already adopted by the Famine Commissioner in dealing with such cases would not be known, and a second proceedings might have to be submitted to Government when the papers reached the officer really responsible for their disposal. Such divided control might thus lead to serious public inconvenience and to a great increase of scriptory work.

5. With regard to cases of such an emergent nature that the views of the Famine Commissioner cannot be waited for, the Board submits that during the absence of one member on tour, whether he be a Land Revenue Member or one of the other Commissioners, the orders of another Member are invariably taken on any question which cannot at the time be submitted to the Member in charge. This principle is followed in regard to "famine" questions, in the same way as others, and there is no probability of any very emergent "famine" business being long kept back from Government by reason of the absence of the Famine Commissioner on tour.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

READ—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 6th January 1897, Mis. No. 143 :—

Read—G.O., No. 755, Revenue, dated 26th December 1896.

Resolution—dated 6th January 1897, Mis. No. 143.

A report from the full Board on the disposal of famine papers has already been submitted in the Land Revenue Department in reference to the order read above, which has been issued to avoid unnecessary delay in dealing with such papers. The immediate cause of the order was apparently the fact that, for a brief period about the end of November last, such papers took about eleven days on the average between receipt in the Board's office and the issue of Proceedings. This delay was brought about by stress of weather, and was often greatly exceeded during 1891-92 when the prompt despatch of all famine business received the commendation of both the Madras and the Supreme Government. In 1891-92, the papers dealt with in the "Press" Proceedings of the Board for the two districts of Bellary and Kurnool were issued on the average in proceedings in 6½ and 6 days, respectively, after receipt in the Board's office. During the current year, during November and December, the average number of days taken has been only four days, including 14 papers disposed of in Proceedings, dated between 30th November and 4th December, which had an average pendency of ten days owing to the cause above noted.

2. The Board in this department has made all possible arrangements to expedite the despatch of business. Fortnightly reports require the order of the Commissioner, but the Board, if Government desires, will direct Collectors to send a copy of the fortnightly reports direct to Government. If there are any other papers, which Government desires to be treated with special urgency, on receiving a list of the same, they will be dealt with in the Land Revenue Department during the absence of the Commissioner on tour.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 53, Revenue, dated 27th January 1897.

Miscellaneous.

In G.O., No. 755, dated 26th December 1896, the Government requested the Commissioners of Land Revenue to dispose of two classes of famine papers:—

- (1) Papers relating to subjects on which the Famine Commissioner had already expressed his opinion;
- (2) Urgent papers on which orders should be passed at once, such as applications for funds.

2. From paragraph 5 of the Proceedings of the Board on the Land Revenue side, it appears that the usual practice is to deal with urgent papers as above indicated. If the Board deals with the other class of papers also, on the lines of the opinion already expressed, as it may be, in some other connection by the Famine Commissioner, it will meet all the requirements of Government.

3. Orders should be issued by the Famine Commissioner that the fortnightly reports should be submitted by Collectors in duplicate, one to the Board's office as at present and the other direct to Government. As a rule, the Government will not pass orders thereon till the Commissioner's Proceedings are received.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
„ the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Exd. Md. Philvan.

50 Copies.

G.O. No. 1072 of 23rd Feb. 97.
With reference to
Notifications Nos. 379 and 407
dated 21st July and 3rd August
1896 respectively, published
at page 974, of the F. S. Gazette
dated 11th August '96, the Board
of Rev. is requested to make
arrangements for printing its
Proceedings in the same way
as G.O.s are now printed,
of which a specimen copy
of G.O. No. 53 dated 27th January 1897
is herewith forwarded as a

air specimen
12/1/97

W. P. P.

Ad. 26.2.97
To the Board of Rev. (L. R.) } with a
" (Rev. Sett.) } copy of
" (Sep. Rev.) } G.O. 5-3
27.1.97

Note

The above draft is
Submitted with reference to
the Hon. Mr. Bliss's remark
on the Current under No. 605
of 2.2.97.

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189

READ AGAIN G.O., No
189

DATE

ORDER No.

ENCLOSURE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH NOTE

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