

31-8-11
26-2-13 ✓

Revenue (1897) Department.

ROUTINE SERIES.

G.O., No. 1617

DATED 30 Sept

[Despatch Abstract.]

Petition from the Village Munsiffs
of Madanapalle Taluk, Buddapah Dt.,
is disposed of under Para 2 of Consti-
tution Rules.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 7198

list.
Order A no 1617 dt 30 aug 97
Para 2 of Petition
Rules

From
The Village Municipality
of Madanapalle Esr,
Cuddalore St.
No.

Dated 12th August 1897.

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies.

To The Petitioners des. 2-9-97

SUBJECT.

Praying for increase
of pay.

25/9/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Madanapalle

12th August 1897.

PETITION

684

REVENUE DEPT

Chief Secretary
18 AUG. 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Sir Arthur Haileylock,
G.C.M.G.
Governor in Council

Madras

The humble memorial of the undersigned
village mundeiffs of Madanapalle Taluk
Respectfully sheweth.

That the duties your petitioners
have to perform in their villages are
innumerable. In his village a village
magistrate is a Revenue Officer, a mundeiff,
a magistrate, a police officer, an Akkari Officer
and in short he has to perform all the duties
that Government expects from the various
departments established by it. From time to
time different functionaries in a mundeiff
visit the village & they look to the village
magistrate for help. A police officer expects
him to detect criminals. An Engineer or
a Local Fund officer looks on him for
assistance in public works. An officer of
the Akkari Department seeks his help in
discovering cases of illicit distillations or

illicit manufacture of salt. A Forest officer imposes duties on him of issuing grazing permits and generally conservating the forest. When officers of the vaccination department visit the village he has to wander with them from hamlet to hamlet and house to house to procure children for vaccination and to get them calves for extracting lymph. Their visit is more frequent in a year than that of any other excepting Revenue Officers. Civil Courts' peons often visit the village with summonses or decrees and call for his cooperation in the execution thereof. Revenue Officers viz. the Divisional Officer, Tahsildar, Revenue Inspectors visit the villages too frequently and always require the village magistrates' attendance for various works. Besides helping each of the above description of officers in their public duties the village magistrate has to provide them with carts and procure supplies for them in all seasons. For the slightest error or any most trifling omission on his part due to causes beyond his control or to any peculiar circumstances the village magistrate is at once charged with disobedience, impertinence, indifference, insubordination etc. reported and punished either with heavy fines (which

the slightest and most lenient punishment) or suspended. It is to be imagined what leisure a village magistrate can command amidst so much work.

Then comes his legitimate & most important duty of collection. If there happens a delay of one or two days over the prescribed time in remittance or if there is a slight delay in collection due to his engagement in other

public duty the village magistrate is at once suspected of bad motive and if he is a permanent village magistrate he is either warned or suspended or if he

unfortunately happens to be a gemastar on behalf of a municipality he is once for all dismissed for temporary employment.

For instances of laxity in rendering help to vaccinators long terms of suspensions are awarded to the village magistrate.

At no time (petitioners are not going too far in their statement) was any leniency shown to him in such cases. He is dealt with with an iron rod. Exclusive

of all these he has to maintain his diary, his registers and other accounts. It is

considered his duty when famine arrives to induce ryots to apply for loans. He is worried and threatened with dismissal if he did not produce loan applications.

from his villagers. He is to estimate the value of the lands property of a loan applicant and if after a lapse of time the land becomes valueless for various causes he is either made to make good the deficit or punished for incorrect valuation. The village Tappal system has recently been added to his multifarious duties. While so much work is imposed on him the pay given to him is not worth mentioning. It ranges from Rs 5 to 7 in the Sub Division, Rs 5 being below a Talukdar's pay & less or less than a Talukdar being not worthy of his village position. To have a high sounding designation of a village Munsiff & Magistrate & to draw a pay of Rs: 5 or 6 considerably lowers the position of a village Magistrate in the eyes of any being. He was happy when he had no pay at all. He was satisfied with his Swams only because he had then preserved his dignity and because his position then was not equal to that of his own Talukdar or Talukdar as it has now been made by the equality in pay (the difference of one rupee being not much). The Carnam who is placed under him as a gumastah gets greater pay doing the sole duty of keeping certain cultivation accounts. In these parts the Carnam being Brahmin by caste they claim

superiority even in official position (as they always do in social) by reason of receiving greater pay than a Reddi and always behave insubordinately with their Reddis. Being far from proportionated remuneration to the work rendered by him to Government the pay of a village Magistrate has only served to degrade his reputation in social position.

Before concluding this memorial the memorialists beg also to bring to notice that the pay of Rs 5 or 6 given to them is barely sufficient to maintain them for half a month if they are in head-quarters to which they are often summoned for various works. Out of their pay they have to spare a portion to purchase papers to stick registers & diaries also to purchase needle, thread and also sealing wax & gum etc. They are never supplied with stationery by the Talukdar which they always require for writing reports to the Police, P.M. Magistrates Talukdars etc -

Under the foregoing circumstances the memorialists most respectfully solicit that His Excellency the Governor in Council will be pleased to take into consideration the facts stated in the preceding paras and raise the official position of the memorialists by raising their pay in proportion to their duties and

responsibilities and by directing the Tahsildar
to supply them with necessary stationery
every year.

For this act of justice equity and
support memorialists as in duty bound
shall ever pray.

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[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text in Devanagari script, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

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READ AGAIN G.O., No.
 189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITO.

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