Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 308

Dated 25th May 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Gratuity Pension

Sanctioning the continuance of a ——
of Rs 77 per annum, in the name of Saiyed
Bachan Hussain, son of the deceased Saiyed
Hussain Mohiuddin.

BACK PAPERS.

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

NUMBER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
G.O	1144	Rev	27-5-97				

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2229

297: 2/4/98
501: 29-5-98
502: 29-7-98

Bank 25/5/98

From The Collector of Madura

Order P.S.No. 3085 25th May 1898.

The Govt is pleased to sanction the continuance ~~of~~ per annum ~~of the allowance~~ of Rs 77½ ~~two-thirds of the allowance enjoyed by the deceased Syed Hassan~~ Mohiuddin, in the name of ~~his son~~, Syed Banker Hussain, son of the deceased Syed Hasan Mohiuddin

(Immediate)

To the Collector of Madura
To the A.G.

Dated 16th March 1898

Received 18 "

Registered 19 "

Enclosures 2.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting for orders the petition of Syed Banker Hussain for the continuance to him of the pension enjoyed by his father Syed Hussain Mohiuddin.

Bank 23/5/98

UPAPE

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	3305 Rev		17-5-98
	1550		27.4.98
	2377		
	2615		
5.0.2497			
602	934		
31.8.98	1064	17.5.98	
	1252		
2615 R			
12.10.98			

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1021		5.9.558
	126		1.2.53.
	531		29.4.47.
	1242		2.12.46.
	920		16.8.45.
	712		14.6.45.
	527		24.7.43.
	609		8.6.43
	224		2.3.43
1550			2.5.43
453			
1201			11.10.43
550/98			4.9.98
E.L.C —			5.1.99
Do. 1557			21.12.98

Enclosure 23
on page 5 of the
List of B.P
to G.O 1550
27.4.98

Encls. to G.O. 308
25.5.98

To,

J. N. Atkinson Esqr.
Collector of Madras.

COLLECTORATE
7 DEC 98
RECEIVED

P. 308/25.5.98

P. Williamson
10 DEC. 1897

The humble petition of Syed Bawker Hussain son of the late Syed Hasan Moinuddin saheb, Inamdar of Nawulpauk & Mundulvadi, South Arcot Dist.

Respectfully Sheweth:—

That your Petitioners late father Syed Hasan Moinuddin was granted a pension of Rs 525 per annum by Govt. as per G. O. No. 531 of 29th April 1847 in lieu of the villages of Nawulpauk & Mundulvadi in the South Arcot Dist: bestowed as Inam by the late Nawab Wallajah on his forefathers.

That subsequently to the greatly misfortune of your Petitioners father the said pension of Rs 525 was divided into 9 shares, out of which only 2 shares amounting to Rs 116-10-8 per annum were continued to your Petitioners father the remaining 7 shares having been granted to seven other individuals bearing a very far relation to your Honors Petitioners father.

That

That this reduced & inadequate pension of Rs116-10-8 per annum was enjoyed by your Petitioner's father until his demise which took place on the 13th April last and your Petitioner intimated the said occurrence to the Accountant General Madras in whose office your Petitioner's late father was drawing his pension and also drew the arrears of pension due to the deceased.

That your Petitioner is the eldest son of the deceased Syed Hasan Moideen saheb and as such, head of his family, having two brothers and one old helpless mother to support, besides my own wife & children.

That your Petitioner therefore begs to solicit You will be pleased to recommend to the benevolent Government for the Continuance of the said pension of Rs116-10-8 per annum to him in full for the support of the deceased's family.

For this act of kindness and benevolence Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.-

Syed Basheer Hussain

Taher Saheb Street
Mount Road, Madras
6th December 1897

Head Assistant's Report No. 3187
dated 8th Dec. 97
to the returned
Ref. No 2946

Endorsement

Returned to the Deputy
Collector of Madras for
enquiry and report.

J. M. Cumming
for
Collector

Madras Collr's Office
8 December 1897

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3229

2946
JC

Madras Collector's Office
Received 9 DEC 1897

Madras

Taluq and Village

Rs 525 — per annum	Extent and value of the entire Enam at present
By Government in it's order Nos. 827 + 531 dated 29th July 1843 and 29th April 1847 Rev. respectively	When and by whom granted
Allowance granted for the resumption of the Enam of Ketavalapakam and Manalavady in South Arcot District	Summons or other document in support of the grant. Nature of grant Charity or Service. If Service, nature of the duties prescribed by the grant.
Syed Gulam Hussain	Name of the original Grantee
Syed Hussain Mohiuddin (Correct name Syed Hassan Mohiuddin) is the great great grandson of Syed Gulam Hussain deceased on the 13th April 1897	Name of last holder and the relationship in which he stood to original grantee and the date of his demise.
2/9 share was enjoyed by the deceased and 1/9 share by each of seven other members.	Share enjoyed by the deceased and that held by the other members.
1. Syed Bunker Hussain (Petitioner) Eldest son of the deceased aged about 44 years. 2. Syed Jaffer Hussain 2nd Son of the deceased aged about 38 years. 3. Syed Jamal Abideen 3rd Son of the deceased aged about 33 years. 4. Khatuma Begum Saiba widow of the deceased aged about 62 years. There are no other heirs	Family left by the deceased and the names and age of the parties.
The eldest son is a Thookia under one Syed Ali Sahib Bahadoor on Rs 15/- a month and is married and has six children. The second son is a temporary clerk in the municipal office, Madras on Rs 15/- a month at present married and has five children. The third son is unemployed and lives upon the petty income of Rs 10/- or Rs 15/- a month he gets from some land in Tanjore District. He is also married and has two children. They have no other income than these and live separately. The Widow Khatuma Begum Saiba lives with the eldest son Syed Bahsker Hussain. The first two sons own each a house the land whereon it is built does not belong to them but only the superstructure. They pay rent for the land occupied by them.	Their Circumstances and means of existence possessed by the Family
Vide this office letter No. 3187 dated 17th February 1898.	Remarks if any.

Heirship of the deceased Syed Hussain Sahib to the Enam of the Village of Ketavalapakam in Chingleput District

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Madras Dy Coll's office
Rf No 3187/C En 2. 17th February 1898.

From The Dy Collector of Madras.

To The Collector of Madras.

Sir,

In returning the petition of Syed Banker Hussain forwarded to me with your endorsement Rf No 2946 dated the 8th December last, I have the honor to state that the petitioner is the eldest son of the deceased yeomiah pensioner Syed Hassan Moineddin who was in receipt of an annual pension of Rs 116-10-8 from the Accountant General's office, Madras. The pensioner died on the 13th april 1897. The petitioner now applies for the Continuance to him of the said pension of Rs 116-10-8 for the support of the deceased's family.

2. In the printed list of money allowances communicated with Board's Proceedings (L.R.) No 128 dated 17th March 1893, the name of the deceased was entered as "Saiyed Hussain Mohiuddin" whereas the correct

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2229

name is ascertained to be "Syed Hussan Moinuddin" as alleged in the petition

3. In this connection I beg to refer you to paras 6 and 7 of my letter Ref.Nr. 1228/C dated 20th october 1893 from which it would be observed that the allowance enjoyed by the deceased has been continued already for three(3) lives and that under para 9 of G.O. Rev Nr 287 dated 21st april 1890 it cannot be continued to the petitioner

4. But as this allowance sanctioned in G.O. Nr 531 dated 29th april 1847 Rev. Syed Hussain mohideen (Correct name Syed Hassan moinuddin) is one to be continued during the pleasure of Govt and as the present case is similar to that disposed of in G.O Nr. 3305 mis dated 17th august 1896 Rev, the present application for the Continuance of the pension to the petitioner may be submitted for the orders of Govt

I beg to submit the usual tabular Statement.

I have the

(True copy)

Ref on Nr. 2946/G 797.

Submitted to Government in the Revenue Department for orders.

2. There appears no sufficient reason for continuance of any part of the pension to any of the sons. If Government see fit a small compassionate allowance might be made to the widow during her life time.

Madras Collector's office
16th March 89

J.H. Atkinson
as collector

W/S
16/3/W

Government {1898} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. }
Regd. } 1898.

Enclosures
Spare copies

G.O., No. 308, 25th May 1898.

MAY.

Yeomiah Pension.

Sanctioning the continuance of a — of Rs. 77 per annum, in the name of Saiyed Banker Hussain, son of the deceased Saiyed Hussain Mohinuddin.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following letter from the Deputy Collector of Madras, to the Collector of Madras, dated 17th February 1898, Ref. No. 3187-C. :—

In returning the petition of Saiyed Bauker Hussain forwarded to me with your endorsement Ref. No. 2946, dated the 8th December last, I have the honour to state that the petitioner is the eldest son of the deceased yeomiah pensioner Saiyed Hassan Moin-ud-din, who was in receipt of an annual pension of Rs. 116-10-8 from the Accountant-General's office, Madras. The pensioner died on the 13th April 1897. The petitioner now applies for the continuance to him of the said pension of Rupees 116-10-8 for the support of the deceased's family.

2. In the printed list of money allowances communicated with Board's Proceedings (Land Revenue), No. 128, dated 17th March 1893, the name of the deceased was entered as "Saiyed Hussain Mohi-ud-din," whereas the correct name is ascertained to be "Saiyed Hassan Moin-ud-din" as alleged in the petition.

3. In this connection I beg to refer you to paragraphs 6 and 7 of my letter, Ref. No. 1228-C., dated 20th October 1893, from which it would be observed that the allowance enjoyed by the deceased has been continued already for three (3) lives and that under paragraph 9 of G.O., No. 287, Revenue, dated 21st April 1890, it cannot be continued to the petitioner.

4. But as this allowance sanctioned in G.O., No. 531, Revenue, dated 29th April 1847, to Saiyed Hussain Mohi-ud-din (correct name Saiyed Hassan Moin-ud-din) is one to be continued during the pleasure of Government, and as the present case is similar to that disposed of in G.O., Mis. No. 3305, Revenue, dated 17th August 1896, the present application for the continuance of the pension to the petitioner may be submitted for the orders of Government.

5. I beg to submit the usual tabular statement.

Enclosure.

Statement showing the particulars of the heirs of the deceased yeomiah pensioner Saiyed Hassan Moin-ud-din.

Case.	Taluk and Village.	Extent and value of the entire inam or yeomiah.	When and by whom granted.	Sannuds or other documents in support of the grant.	Nature of grant, charity or service. If service, nature of the duties ascribed by the grant.	Name of the original grantee.	Name of last holder and the relationship in which he stood to original grantee and the date of his demise.	Share enjoyed by the deceased and that held by the other members.	Family left by the deceased and the names and ages of the parties.	Their circumstances and means of existence possessed by the family.	Recommendation and grounds thereof.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I of 1898.	Madras.	Rs. 525 per annum.	By Government in its orders Nos. 827 and 531, Revenue, dated 29th April 1847, respectively.	....	Allowance granted for resumption of the inam of Navulapakam and Manalavady in South Arcot.	Saiyed Gulam Hussain.	Saiyed Hussain Mohi-ud-din (correct name Saiyed Hassan Moin-ud-din) is the great-great grandson of Saiyed Gulam Hussain. He died on the 13th April 1897.	Two-ninth share was enjoyed by the deceased and one-ninth share by each of seven other members.	1. Saiyed Bauker Hussain (petitioner), eldest son of the deceased, aged about 44 years. 2. Saiyed Jaffor Hussain, second son of the deceased, aged about 36 years. 3. Saiyed Zain-ul-Abidin, third son of the deceased, aged about 33 years. 4. Khatuna Begum Sahiba, widow of the deceased, aged about 62 years. There are no other heirs.	The eldest son is a dhuroka under one Saiyed Alli Sahib Bahadur on Rs. 10 a month and is married and has six children. The second son is a temporary clerk in the Municipal office, Madras, on Rs. 15 a month and is married and has five children. The third son is unemployed and lives upon the petty income of Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 a month he gets from some lands in Tanjore district. He is also married and has two children. They have no other income than these and live separately. The widow Khatuna Begum Sahiba lives with the eldest son Saiyed Bauker Hussain. The first two sons own each a house; the land whereon it is built does not belong to them but only the superstructure. They pay rent for the land occupied by them.	Vide this office letter Ref. No. 3187-C., dated 17th February 1898.

Endorsement of the Collector of Madras, Ref. on No. 2946-G.-L. of 1897.

Submitted to Government in the Revenue Department for orders.

2. There appears no sufficient reason for continuance of any part of the pension to any of the sons. If Government see fit, a small compassionate allowance might be made to the widow during her life time.

Madras Collector's Office,
16th March 1898.

(Signed) J. N. Atkinson,
Ag. Collector.

Order—No. 308, Revenue, dated 25th May 1898.

Miscellaneous.

The Government is pleased to sanction the continuance of Rs. 77 per annum, in the name of Saiyed Bauker Hussain, son of the deceased Saiyed Hussain Mohinuddin.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Madras.
„ the Accountant-General.

Ex^d Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Revenue Department.

Read letter from the Collector of Madras, Ref.No.2946 of 97, dated 16 March 1898. (C.No. 2229 of 98).

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Note.

The paper read above relates to the question of continuing a pension of Rs. 116-10-8 per annum hitherto enjoyed by Syed Hussain Mohiruddin to his eldest son Syed Bauker Hussain.

2. The nature of the pension and the circumstances under which it was granted will appear from the following account.

Two Dehat Inam villages named Manvalapaukam and Manalvahdy were, it would appear, granted by a Nabob of the Carnatic to one Syed Ghulam Hussain. In 1838 when the villages were being managed by the Collector and the net proceeds paid to the inamdars, Sy Ghulam Hussain Husa Baza the third

C7/5/98.

the Board of Revenue at the instance of the Collector of South Arcot requested the sanction of the Govt. for registering the villages in the name of Syed Banker Hussain the son of the deceased. The Govt. however, considered that the renewal applied for required the sanction of the Govt. of India and before obtaining such sanction called for a detailed report explaining the grounds on which the grant was regarded as hereditary. On receipt of the detailed report and the original sunnud, being the Govt. satisfied as to the validity of the original grant requested the Govt. of India to recognize the claim to the inam villages of Syed Hussain Mohideen (the son of Syed Banker Hussain who had in the meantime died), suggesting at the same time that as the villages had always been under the management of the Govt. they might be resumed and a money payment made for the benefit of the family. It was also pointed out that

E.M.C. No 1667 dt 31.12.38 flag G

E.M.C. No 224 dt 2.3.43 flag H

letter in E.M.C. No 827 dt 29.7.43 flag J

E.M.C. No 712 dt 14.6.45 flag L

that although the grant was registered as "hereditary", the particular purpose for which it was made viz. offering up prayers for the donor was not such as to entitle the parties to a continuance of the grant without reduction.

In passing orders on the above reference, the Govt. of India considered that as the documents connected with the grant of the inam villages merely contemplated the payment of 150 pagodas to the original grantee, the grant could not be regarded as hereditary; they therefore ordered the resumption of the inam villages and their incorporation with the Government lands, sanctioning the payment of an allowance of Rs.525 per annum to Syed Hussain Mohideen (and his family) to be continued during the pleasure of the Government.

Two years after the date of the above order, it was brought to the notice of Government that Syed Hussain Mohideen (through his guardian) became irregular in his payment to the o[illegible]

members of the family; and the Govt. finding that the members of the family could not come to any amicable arrangement among themselves, directed that the allowance should be apportioned as a temporary measure among such of the members of the family as were entitled to maintenance and the particulars of the distribution reported. The Collector thereupon divided the allowance into 9 shares allotting two shares to Syed Hussain Mohideen as head of the family, and in consideration of the fact that his father was enjoying two shares with the consent of the other members of the family and distributing the remaining 7 shares among seven of the other members of the family. As a result of the above apportionment, an allowance of Rs. 110-10-8 fell to the share of Syed Hussain Mohideen, while the other members of the family got Rs. 58-5-4 each.

The distribution made by the Collector was sanctioned by the Govt. in E. M. C. No. dated 29-[illegible]-47 with the fol-

* E.M.C. No. 970 dt 16-8-45 flag L

⊗ E.M.C. No. 1242 dt 2.12.46 flag Y.

E.M.C No. 531 dt 29.4.47 flag M.

flag F

following remarks:-

"But the payment will continue to be made and entered in the accounts in the name of Syed Hussain Mohideen to whom it was continued during the pleasure of the Government. This course is necessary to prevent any future misapprehension of the terms of the grant".

3. The Collector now reportsthat the abovementioned Syed Hussain Mohideen died on the 13th April 1897 and recommended that the pension be either resumed or that if the Govt. think fit to do so, a small compassionate allowance be made to the widow during her life time. From the remarks contained in the Deputy Collector's letter, it would appear that the Collector's recommendation that the pension should be resumed is based on the ground that the allowance has been already enjoyed for three lives and that it should not therefore be continued hereafter following the principle laid down in para 9 of G.O.No. [illegible]ses dated 21st April 1890.

b

With reference to this it may be remarked.

1st. that the inam villages were really resumed after the death of Syed Bakker Mussain the father of Syed Mussain Mohideen and during the lifetime of the latter (although the question of resuming the villages arose during the lifetime of the first mentioned person). Syed Mussain Mohideen was therefore strictly speaking the first holder of the money allowance- especially as the inam lands were actually registered (by the Collector) in the name of his father.

please see para 2 of letter to India No 224 d 2.3.43. flag H

— do — do —
please see also E.m.c No 1201 d 11.10.4
flag W

Secondly. The decision of the Govt. in para 9 of G. O. No. 287, dated 21st April 1890 that the pensions will not be continued beyond the third life was intended to apply to the nine allowances originally granted for life in lieu of certain jaghires resumed by the Govt: on the ground that they ~~jaghires~~ were given subsequent to the treaty of 1792 (presumably the treaty of 1792 with Tippu Sultan).

flag F

* please see Cases noted in para 2 of G.O 287 / 21.4.90 (flag F).

4. As mentioned ~~in para 3~~ above, the page 3

ire allowance of R. 525 of which the

7 20

pension under Consideration is a portion, was sanctioned by the Govt. of India with the proviso that it should be continued during the pleasure of the (Local) Government. It is therefore for the Government now to decide whether any portion of the pension under consideration should be continued and if so what portion.

flag M

From E.M.C. No. 531, dated 29th April 1847 it will be seen that in 1847 the entire allowance of R. 525 was divided among eight of the members of the family. Of these seven had died before the receipt of these papers (which relate only to the death of the eighth and remaining member). In each of those seven cases, as will be seen from the papers quoted in the margin, an allowance being two-thirds of the pension enjoyed by the deceased was continued to their respective successors.

. M. C.No. 126, 1- 2-53.
" No. 1021,d/ 5- 9-55.
. .No. 702,d/29- 3-62.
" 1086,d/ 7- 5-66.
" 984,d/16 -4-68.
" 2615,d/12-10-68.
" 3305 Mis,d/17- 8 -96.

5. It is submitted that following th
p[illegible] established by the seven cases

Syed

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cited above, the Government may in the present case direct that Rs. 77-12-5 being two-thirds of the allowance enjoyed by Syed Hussain Mohideen be continued to his son Syed Bakker Hussain.

x Seen.
This seems to be the most appropriate course.
Ulls
6.5.98

I understand 1/3rd of the shares of the 7 members was resumed on their deaths: but as the whole pension was registered in Syed Hussain's name, I suppose a corresponding reduction has been effected on each lapse, in the total amount. Is this so?
7/5/98

see note below.
5.98
Ulls
16.5.98

of which

9 92

Note:

The entire pension of Rs.525 regis
Mohideen
tered in the name of Syed Hussain was divided among the following eight persons

(1) Syed Hussain Mohideen

(2) Meer Beetha Ally.

(3) Meer Razah Hussain.

(4) Meer Razah Ally.

(5) Meer Saduck Hussain

(6) Syed Abbas Ally.

(7) Meer Subder Hussain

(8) Meer Ghulam Musa Raza

(No.1 is the person who is now reported to have died)

When Nos.2,3,&4 died and one-third of th pension ~~xxx~~ enjoyed by each was consequently reduced, the effect of such redu tions ~~xxx~~ on the total pension was dist ly mentioned in each case in E.M.C's.N 126, d/1-2-53 and 1021,d/5-9-55 and B.P. G.C No.702,d/29-3-62 respectively. But when ~~Nos.5,6,7 died~~ on the death of Nos.5, & 7 one-third of the pension was resume as usual, the effect of such resumptio on although not d

flap Q, R & S

#77
Syed Hus

mentioned in the G.Os. sanctioning the reductions) was however pointed out by the Collector in the respective tabular reports which accompanied his proposals in respect of one of these allowances. (Please see tabular reports in G.O's.984,d/16-4-68, 2615,d/12-10-68 and 602,d/1-6-80.) When the pension enjoyed by the remaining person No.8 was reduced, no mention was made in the G.O. sanctioning the reduction of the corresponding decrease in the entire pension (Please see G.O.3305 Mis.d/17-8-96).

2. Besides the reductions after 1st life above referred to, there were two other cases of further reduction after second life and one case of lapse after second life for want of heirs (Please see G.O's.1085,d/7-5-66, 249,d/30-3-86, and 602,d/1-6-80). In G.O.No.1085,d/7-5-66, distinct mention was made of the reduction in the total pension (Please see para 2). In the case of resumption made in G.O.602, d/1-6-80, express mention of the corresponding decrease in the total amount was [illegible] in the Collr's [illegible] report

flag A

flag B, D & C

flag V, W & C

* G.O's 1086 d/7.5.66 flag X.
984 d/16.4.68. flag V.
2615 d/12.10.68. flag W.

flag D in G.O.No.249,d/30-3-86. With regard to the only remaining case of reduction ordered in G.O.249,d/30-3-86, no mention of the consequent decrease in the total amount appears to have been made anywhere.

3. From the above details it appears that the only cases in which distinct mention was not made of the decrease in the total amount were those dealt with in G.O's.249,d/30-3-86 and 3305 Mis.d/17-8-96.

flag D & A

But it is submitted that it may be presumed that the necessary retrenchments were made in the accounts by the Accountant-General

10.4

				original holder	amount after retrenchment
					116.10.8 *
1/4	58.5.4	39.4.0		Sayyid Abbaji Hussain	
1/4	58.5.4	39.0.0	26.0.0	Sayyid Jafar Hussain	
1/4	58.5.4	39.0.0	26.0.0	Sayyid Moosafar Hussain	
1/4	58.5.4	39.0.0	Lapsed.		
	58.5.4	39.0.0		Zainab Bebi	
1	58.5.4	39.0.0		Afzal Hussain	
	58.5.4	39.0.0		Razia Begum	
	525-0-0	Total 314.4.8			

This proposed to reduce it to Rs.77.12.5 as Rs.77 and pay it to Syed Roukea Hussain son of Syed Hussain maiden

Please see draft as per the docket of the

Yes 19/8/96

Yes' some mistake I do not see the Secy. Secy — this led to the pp going down to mad. & thus to some delay. The answer to the Secy query is in the affirmation though in two cases the diminution in the total pension is not distinctly stated, in the pp. wherein it was ordered. The amount now stands as in many 16.V.98

H.H. Rs 77 may be

by Syed Hussain

a |

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66 flag x

0.4

fully complied with, the only difficulty would be to cook enough for the multitude. It is, however, of opinion that all caste scruples cannot be successfully surmounted in working a large relief kitchen, and that as a Hindu may be really starving of hunger and yet refuse to eat food which he esteems or suspects to be polluted; the refusal of cooked food cannot be safely relied upon as indicating the absence of distress

RS
21-5-98

Dr
23/5/98

877 rec

B.P. 149 / 16-4-98 C. No. 3291

G. G. (Press) No. 309 dt 25th May 1898

Ordered to be forwarded to the Govt I in continuation of letter No. 194 / 2-4-98

1111 / 23 V 98

To the Rod (Delhi) 8/5

80/N No. 310

To the Secy to the Govt I R&A Dept

Sir

In continuation of my letter No. 194 / 2-4-98 I am directed to forward the marginally noted proce of this Govt embodying the views of the Board of Rev with which H.E. the Gen C. General's concurs on the question of relief to be given during the earlier stages of distress relief given in the form of cooked food as a test of distress..

1111 / 23.V.98

5/5/98 5/N

Print Mutt Govt Gaz 25/5/98

RA 14.6.98

Recd 27/5/98

No. 309 dt 25-5-98.

I think this RO may be communicated when G of I write upon your letter. The points they make about this extent work cooked food is taken ? into work. to do in Jaipur & on the W coast & about the difficulties caused ? caste prejudices are important.

JG
19/5/98

B.P $\frac{149}{16-4-98}$ (C. No. 3291)

Secretary

The Board of Rev submits the review called for in G.O $\frac{193}{2-4-98}$ on the proposal of the Govt of India to adopt the distribution of cooked food to the poor as a means of guaging the existence and pressure of distress.

2. The Board's Conclusion is that if caste prejudices were understood and fully complied with, in the cooking and serving out of food the only difficulty would be to cook enough for the multitude but that all caste scruples cannot be successfully ignored in working a large kitchen, and that as a hunger will rather shame of hunger than eat food which he esteems or suspects polluted the employment of cooked food cannot safely be relied on as indicating real distress

RS
17-5-98

Secy The current mag recorded

MM
17/5/98

Lr abovem
25

C 1815/98.
R 19/5/98.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Current No 329

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. 4th May	1898.	*Enclosures*
Regd. 4 "		*Spare copies*

Printed April th.

Proceedings, No. 149, 16th April 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
23 MAY 98

APRIL.

Distribution of cooked food.—Submitting to Government the Board's views called for in G.O., No. 193, dated 2nd April 1898, on the suggestion of the Government of India to adopt to the poor as a means of guaging the existence and pressure of distress.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following G.O., No. 193, Revenue, dated 2nd April 1898:—

Read—Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, No. 205, dated 1st March 1898.

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement), No. 101, dated 2nd March 1898.

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement), Mis. No. 1765, dated 11th March 1898.

Abstract.—Requesting permission to defer the submission of the general report on the condition of the districts in which distress is apprehended till April next, and requesting orders on the suggestion of the Government of India regarding the grant of relief in the form of cooked food in the test work stage.

Order—No. 193, Revenue, dated 2nd April 1898.

The report on the general economical condition of the Nellore district will be forwarded to the Government of India for information, and the Board of Revenue will, as requested, be allowed to submit in the course of the current month similar reports in the case of the other districts for which budget provision has been made on account of famine relief in 1898–99. Meanwhile copies of the reports, already received, on the state of the season in the Chingleput and North Arcot districts will be transmitted to the Government of India with the remark that, so far as it can be judged at present, these two districts and Nellore are the only districts in which apprehension of distress continues, and that distress is not likely at any rate in the near future to affect any wider area.

2. As regards the suggestion of the Government of India to place more reliance, during the earlier stages of distress, on relief in the form of cooked food as a means of ascertaining the existence or the pressure of distress, the Government notes that in Nellore, where alone relief measures are in progress, the test stage is passed and that the question of offering cooked food as a test does not therefore arise. It will, however, be pointed out to the Government of India that the proposed test would have diametrically opposite effects in different parts of the country; while in some parts of the Presidency cooked food would be accepted only by persons in extreme want who had arrived at the stage of starvation, there are other districts where large classes of the people would accept it readily whether in want or not, and their doing so would furnish no real test of the necessity of relief measures. The Government will, however, be glad to receive the Board's views on the proposal.

3. The following letter will be addressed to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).
" Public Works Department.
" Financial Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.

Resolution—No. 149, dated 16th April 1898.

With reference to the concluding sentence of paragraph 2 of the G.O. read above, the Board begs to express its agreement in the remarks of Government in that paragraph.

2. The general reluctance, not only of the Uriyas but of the Telugu people to accept food cooked in the Government relief kitchens has been remarked upon by many high authorities. Mr. T. Higham refers to it in paragraph 20 of this report. In paragraph 3 of his report of the Famine Conferences held at Madras in December 1897 and at Waltair in January 1898 (B.P., R.S., L.R. and Agri., No. 52, dated 3rd February 1898), Mr. LeFanu affirms it to be more than ever clear that the objection of the majority of relief-workers to kitchen relief is insuperable, and that to offer kitchen relief would be, practically, to refuse relief to the majority.

The Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 3 of his report at page 147 of the general report on the recent famine, observes that "perhaps nothing was more strongly rooted in the minds of the inhabitants of the Deccan than that kitchens should be carefully avoided." He goes on to remark that in certain parts of the Northern Circars, caste objections to food cooked in kitchens, *although all due care had been observed as to caste prejudices*, also formed a frequent obstruction to the giving of full relief.

3. If, as the Sanitary Commissioner believes, the cooking and distribution of food is performed in relief kitchens with all due care as to caste prejudices, the well-attested refusal of starving people to eat it would be absolutely incomprehensible. In Tanjore, where Brahmin influence is predominant, the Collector (as President of the District Board) manages the vast endowments made by the Tanjore Rajahs for distribution of food to pilgrims and travellers. The Collector appoints the servants who cook and distribute the food at numerous chattrams, and the only difficulty is to make the allotment suffice for the throng of applicants. During the severe scarcity in Ramnad in 1891–92 great numbers of the agricultural population, chiefly Maravars, sought work in the Tanjore delta, and, in passing northwards, they eagerly accepted as much cooked food as could be provided for them at the Rajah's chattrams.

On the West Coast, where caste prejudice is rampant, great quantities of cooked food are distributed in charity; and, in general, in the estates under the Court of Wards, on the occasion of any great feast or ceremony, the poor flock from far and near to partake of such cooked food as can be spared to them.

4. Surely, if the food in the relief kitchens is of a sort, and cooked in the way, which the people are accustomed to, there is the strongest ground for inferring that the refusal to eat it is to be traced to the belief of the people that it is polluted. Apart from the ignorant fear that the Sirkar may harbour some design against caste and purposely pollute the food, there is the fact that the notions of what constitutes pollution, amongst large sections of the population, are quite incompatible with the proper supervision and administration of kitchen relief. For instance, if grain be boiled in a pot by a Brahmin with every observance of caste requirements, if a morsel of the cooked mass be served out to a low caste man, no matter whether it be thrown to him or placed on the ground for him to pick up, no man who esteems himself of better caste will eat of the remaining contents of the pot, though no one but the caste cook has touched the pot or its contents. Part of the mass has been partaken of by a man of lower caste, and the remainder is polluted and an abomination. How can food be served from a relief kitchen to a mixed assemblage of castes if this notion is to be respected? Again, how is the cooking and serving out of the food to be supervised, if none but a high caste Hindu duly bathed and purified, may go near the kitchen. The exasperating circumstance is that the lower castes ape the Brahmins, and that amongst even the Pariahs there may, at any relief kitchen, be members of half a dozen subdivisions who will not eat together, or partake of food cooked in the same pot, unless it is served in what is recognised as the proper order of precedence.

5. The Board believes that if caste prejudices were understood and fully complied with, in the cooking and serving out of food, the only difficulty would be to

cook enough for the multitude. But practically all caste scruples cannot be successfully humoured in working a large relief kitchen, and as [experience shows that a Hindu may be really starving of hunger and yet refuse to eat food which he esteems or suspects to be polluted, the refusal of cooked food cannot be safely relied upon as indicating the absence of distress.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

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