

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 4524

DATED 19th November 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Transferring to the Collection of Salem
petition from the managers of the Salem
St praying for relief work.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
211237/01 Gp. 867		Revenue	13-5-01				

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18 2,000-30-3-08.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 7841

sk
13/11/98

From

The weavers of the
Salem District

Order Endd. No. 4524 7/19/98 Nov 1898

Transferred
Refers to the

Collector of Salem for
a very early report which

should be submitted through

the Board of Rev.

114
18.1/58

Dated 29/10.

Received 16/11

Registered 17/11

Enclosures -

Spare copies 2

No.

To the Collector of Salem.

Cop. to the Bd of Rev (Rev. 20th)

22-11-98

SUBJECT.

Requesting that relief work
may be given to them

cd
17-11-98
rs
6-11-98

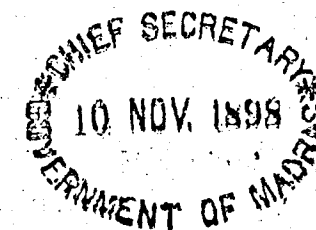
BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Specimen



To

His Excellency the Governor in Council,

Fort St. George,

MADRAS.

May this please your Excellency.

We the Weavers of the town of Salem and surrounding villages in Salem Taluk respectfully beg, to submit this memorial for your benign consideration.

2. For nearly two years the selling price of our clothes has not exceeded the cost of the raw materials plus one-fourth the value of our actual work in producing them and for the last 60 days we have not obtained even the bare cost of our labor.

3. We experience this dullness of trade since customers who used to travel from the Northern districts do not come owing to the prevalence of the Bombay bubonic plague in those parts and owing to the examination and detention of Railway passengers at fixed stations carried out under the orders of Government with the good intention of checking the spread of the disease.

4. We are incapable of doing the work of road making standing under the sun because we are accustomed to work for the most part under shade and shelter from our childhood. Further we are physically unfit for such work. We therefore ardently prefer our looms to any other works.

5. At present 75 per cent among us are suffering from almost starvation and from want of means we are often 2 or 3 days absolutely without food.

6. There are among us some who feel that there is no hope for them and they are looking forward with resignation to death either from starvation or from the plague.

7. For the last 30 days many of our class of Weavers have gone and are still going every day in a body to Pondicherry and the Southern districts in order to seek their livelihood and to partake of the food given free in the choultries of the Rajah of Tanjore and of other benevolent persons.

8. A large body of Weavers, their wives and children are begging in the streets of this town, surrounding villages and out stations. This we regard as a disgrace and are mortified at its necessity.

9. Your Excellency may perhaps be aware that our distressed brother Weavers in Mysore are now being employed by the Government of that country in road works, &c., and are paid wages at 5 as. per head daily and thus they are graciously protected. This fact would seem to contradict the statement made in

para 4 of the Memorial; but we would submit to your Excellency that the climate of Mysore is cooler than that of Salem, that the higher rate of wage paid to the Weavers enabled them to buy nourishing food and that they are not called upon extreme tasks.

10. From the facts stated in this Memorial your Excellency will perceive the condition of the Weavers is the same through the existence of plague and the carrying out of the rules to prevent its spreading.

11. Government is spending and is prepared to continue to spend Salem large sums of money to prevent the arrival and the spread of plague and we humbly submit that some portion of this money might be directed to our relief as it is well known fact that weakness consequent on insufficient food renders the sufferer liable to the attacks of disease.

12. We therefore respectfully pray;

- (1) that your Excellency will be pleased to direct an enquiry into our distressed state.
- (2) to direct that we should receive relief either by giving us weaving work as was done in the famine of 1877 or in such other way not road works as your Excellency may deem fit.

SALEM,

29th October 1898.

SOWASTRA PRESS, SALEM.

When given for copying _____
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When signed _____

189 .

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.

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IN ORIGINAL.

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