

Public (1897) Department.

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DATED 29-10-97

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Pensioners at military stations.

Comg: to the Rev: Dept: letter from the Controller of military accounts forwarding copy of Govt of India resolution deciding that — in this Command should be paid compensation for deadness of rice at the rates fixed by the station Compensation Committee.

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. PUBLIC.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1425, 29th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Pensioners at Military Stations.

Communicating to the Revenue Department letter from the Controller of Military Accounts forwarding copy of Government of India resolution deciding that — in this Command should be paid compensation for dearness of rice at the rates fixed by the Station Compensation Committees.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. SAWYER, Controller of Military Accounts, Madras Command, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 21st October 1897, No. G. 759.

Referring to Revenue Department No. 4953, dated 17th December 1894, embodied in Proceedings of Madras Government, Military Department, No. 7819, dated 21st December 1894, I have the honour to forward herewith, for information, a copy of Government of India, Military Department Resolution, No. 1950-F., dated 4th August 1897, deciding that pensioners at military stations in this command should hereafter be paid compensation for dearness of rice at the rates fixed by Station Compensation Committees.

2. The necessary instructions have been issued to the pension paying officers at all military stations to give effect to the orders of the Government of India.

3. From paragraph 9 of the above resolution it will be seen that pensioners at *non-military* stations will be granted compensation as heretofore, the certificates of rates being furnished by civil officers.

ENCLOSURE.

RESOLUTION of the Government of India, Military Department, No. 1950-F., dated 4th August 1897.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, Military Department (under date Simla, the 4th August 1897).

Read the following papers, relative to a proposal that the rates of compensation for dearness of provisions and forage admissible to Native troops and followers, should be based on the reports of Station Compensation Committees, to be convened monthly :—

From Major-General A. R. Badcock, C.B., President, Rawal Pindi Committee, No. 40, dated the 5th November 1894.

To Adjutant-General in India, No. 726-F., dated the 1st March 1895.

From Adjutant-General in India, No. 2255-B., dated the 1st October 1895.

From Controller of Military Accounts, Bengal Command, No. 7042, dated the 13th March 1896.

OBSERVATIONS.—In October 1894, a Committee was assembled at Rawal Pindi, under the presidency of Major-General A. R. Badcock, C.B., C.S.I., then Commissary-General-in-Chief, to consider the conditions attending the payment of compensation for dearness of provisions and forage to Native troops and followers, and the system of vouchers and check in auditing claims to such compensation. One of the proposals of the committee was that the rates of compensation should in future be based on the reports of Station Compensation Committees, to be convened monthly. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, and the Controllers of Military Accounts in the four Commands, who have been consulted on the subject, support this proposal.

RESOLUTION.—Under these circumstances the Government of India have been pleased to decide that, in substitution for the present system under which claims to compensation are based directly on price-current returns, the claims shall be based on rates fixed monthly by committees, to be styled "Station Compensation Committees."

2. The constitution of the Committee will be as follows :—

(1) The officer commanding the station (or, where the General Officer Commanding the District is also the officer commanding the station, the next senior officer).

(2) The officers commanding the several Native corps at the station (or, where only British troops are quartered, the officers commanding British corps).

(3) The Commissariat Officer, if available.

(4) The Cantonment Magistrate, or the Station Staff Officer.

3. The Committee will assemble monthly at all Military Cantonments, not later than the 15th of each month, whether compensation appears likely to be claimable or not, to fix what shall be accepted as the price or rate at that station of each article of the daily ration laid down in the regulations, for fighting men, for followers (regimental and departmental), and for horses and grass cutters, ponies of Siladar cavalry, respectively.

4. The rates prevailing for the previous month will be the basis of calculation for the current month's compensation :—that is, the Committee sitting, say on the 15th of October, will ascertain and record for each article of the recognised ration what shall be held to have been the rate prevailing in September, and this rate will be the basis of any claim to compensation for the month of October.

5. The primary responsibility of furnishing to the Committee the data upon which to fix the rates will rest with the commanding officers of the several Native corps in garrison.* Each commanding officer will frequently check the prices obtaining in the bazaar of his corps by those prevailing in the city and sudder bazaar, and it will be his duty to see that the prices

* At stations where British troops are quartered, but no Native troops, the purpose of this paragraph will be met if the Officer Commanding each British Corps furnishes information of the prices paid for food by Native followers under his command who are eligible to receive compensation.

charged to the men in the regimental bazaar for articles of recognized supply are kept as low as possible, consistently with the articles being of suitable quality; he will cause to be maintained by the Quartermaster of the corps, and will submit to the committee under his own countersignature a statement showing the actual daily rate which obtained in the regimental bazaar for each article of the authorised ration for fighting men, followers, horses, and ponies, during the previous month; and the Committee, in fixing the general rates for the station, will be guided by these regimental reports, and also by the local market rates as certified by the civil authorities (for the Bombay Command, as published in the Government Gazette) and by such other information as may be available. The Committee will be under the obligation of ascertaining by all the means in their power that the rates eventually determined upon are fair to the State, as well as to the soldiers and followers concerned; and they are empowered to absolutely reject from their calculation any reported rates which they may consider excessive or fictitious.

6. The station rates, when fixed by the Committee, will be immediately submitted for the approval of the General Officer Commanding the District, and for publication in District orders. In submitting the rates, the Committee will explain briefly the causes of any considerable rise or fall, as compared with the rates of the previous month.

7. When a detachment is quartered at a military station at which Station Compensation Committees are held, any claims to compensation on account of the men of the detachment should be based on the rates fixed for that station. In the case of other permanent detachments, located at outposts or at other places where such Committees are not held, the officer in command of the detachment will forward, in time for the assembly of the Committee at the head-quarters station of the corps, a diary showing briefly the rates which have prevailed at the outpost station, for the articles on which compensation is based, throughout the previous month. This diary will be laid before the Committee by the officer commanding the corps, with his countersignature, and the rate for each article of the prescribed ration, at the outpost, will then be fixed by the Committee.

8. Copies of district orders publishing the rates fixed by the Station Compensation Committees, together with copies of the local price returns on which the rates were calculated, will be forwarded to the Controller of Military Accounts concerned. Should the Controller in any case have very strong reason to suppose that the rates fixed by the Station Committee are unduly high, he will bring the matter to the notice of the General Officer Commanding the District—avoiding direct communication with the commanding, or other, officers concerned.

9. This system of fixing the price of articles of the prescribed ration, as the basis for claims to compensation for dearness of food or forage, will be applicable to all Native troops, and to all followers (regimental and departmental) serving under the military rules on the subject, in the four Commands. The system will also apply to pensioners and family certificate-holders residing at military stations in the Madras Command; but not to those residing at non-military stations in that Command, compensation to whom will continue to be calculated, as at present, on the rates prevailing at the head-quarters station of the Civil District, guided by the local Magistrate's certificate.

10. The three forms, of which copies are annexed, will be introduced for use in carrying out the procedure laid down.

11. The above orders are introduced tentatively for a period of one year, to take effect from the 1st November 1897. At the close of that period a report will be submitted to the Government of India by the Adjutant-General in India, in communication with the Controllers of Military Accounts, showing how the orders have worked, financially and otherwise.

ORDER — Ordered that copy of this resolution be communicated to the Finance and Commerce Department, the Home Department, the Revenue and Agricultural Department, and to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, and heads of departments under the Military Department.

(Signed) P. J. MAITLAND,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy forwarded to—

The Finance and Commerce Department.

The Controller of Military Accounts, Madras Command.

(By order.)

(Signed) H. F. S. RAMSDEN,
Asst. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

(Applicable to the Bengal and
Punjab Commands.)

FORM I.

Form of report, to be used by Station Compensation Committees.

Proceedings of a Station Compensation Committee assembled at _____

_____ on the _____ by order of
_____ for the purpose of fixing the rates
accepted as in force at that station during the month of _____;
to govern claims to compensation for dearness of provisions and forage for the month of
_____ 18 .

President :

Members :

The Committee having assembled according to order, proceed to scrutinize the regimental returns* submitted to them, showing the daily rate—for each article on which compensation is based under rule—which prevailed in the bazaars of corps in garrison during the month of

* Returns forwarded herewith.

_____, and compare these regimental rates with the market rates as reported by the civil authorities * and with other information before them.

NOTE.—Provision is here made for any remarks the Committee may desire to record: if not required, the lines should be scored across.

After carefully considering all the available information on the subject, as above indicated, the Committee have fixed the rates given in the following table; the quantity shown for each article being that sold for one rupee:—

Article.	Combatants' quality.	Followers' quality.	Horses and Ponies, &c.
Atta			
Rice			
Dhall			
Ghee			
Salt			
Gram			
Barley			
Bajra			
Other grain			

Station _____ } President.
Date _____ }

_____ } Members.

Forwarded to the General Officer Commanding

_____ District.

(Applicable to the Bengal and Punjab Commands).

FORM II.

DISTRICT ORDER.

The following rates have been fixed by Station Compensation Committees, and are confirmed by the General Officer Commanding, to govern claims to compensation for

clearance of provisions for the month of _____ 18.

NOTE.—In all cases the quantity shown is that sold for one rupee.

Station.	Combatants' quality.					Followers' quality.					For Horses and Ponies, &c.			
	Atta.	Rice.	Dhall.	Ghee.	Salt.	Atta.	Rice.	Dhall.	Ghee.	Salt.	Gram.	Barley.	Bajra.	Other grain.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

(Applicable to the Bengal and
Punjab Commands).

FORM III.

(REGIMENT.)

Statement of the prices prevailing in the Regimental Bazaar at (station) _____ during
the month of _____ 18 .

NOTE.—In all cases the quantity shown is that sold for one rupee.

Date.	Combatants' quality.					Followers' quality.					Horses, Ponies, &c.				Remarks.
	Rice.	Atta.	Dhall.	Ghee.	Salt.	Rice.	Atta.	Dhall.	Ghee.	Salt.	Gram.	Bar- ley.	Bajra.	Other grain.	
1st															
2nd															
3rd															
4th															
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25th															
26th															
27th															
28th															
29th															
30th															
31st															
Total ..															
Average rate for the month.															

Station _____

Date _____

Countersigned. _____

Commanding _____

Quartermaster _____

ORDER—No. 1425, Public, dated 29th October 1897.

Communicated to the Revenue Department, with reference to its Proceedings,
No. 4953, dated 17th December 1894.

(True Extract.)

A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
Copy to the Deputy Adjutant-General.

Ed. C. M. Thambuswamy.

AGAIN G.O., No.
189

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3997

Submitted that the way be

Order
A No. 14258 29-10-97

Communicated to the
Revenue Dept with ref to
its Proceedings No. 4953 of 17th
December 1894

At 29.10.97

M.L.
27/10/97

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From
The Controller of Military
Accounts
Madras Command

No. G. 759

Dated 21. 10 97
Received 22. 10 97.
Registered 23. 10 97.
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C.W.
26.10.7

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of Govt of
India Military Dept
Resolution No. 1950 dated
4th August 1897 regarding
Compensation allowance
to be granted to pensioners
at military station

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
L.G.	7819	Int.	21-12

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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for signature.

ed in print.

MAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

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DER OF GOVERNMENT

DER OF GOVERNMENT.

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