M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1506	Press ~~Mis.~~
58-59	
Dated 5 — 11 — 18 59	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 58. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th October 1859, No. 4393.

Read letter from the Collector of Malabar, dated 4th July 1859, No. 156.

(In Con. 11th July 1859, No. 3360.)

The Collector of Malabar brings to notice the insufficiency of the pay of some of his Kolkars, or Talook peons, for their subsistence at the present high price of grain.

2. There are altogether 450 Kolkars in Malabar in the receipt of only 4 Rupees per mensem each. During the last five years the price of rice has, in some talooks, risen more than 10 per cent., and the above rate of pay, the Collector states, "is sufficient to maintain a single able-bodied man, much less to feed and clothe himself and family."

3. The consideration of a permanent improvement in the pay of these officers must be deferred, until the revision of establishments now being conducted by Mr. Pelly has been effected, but, meanwhile, the Board recommend, that, under the circumstances stated by Mr. Grant, the pay of the talook Kolkars may be raised from 4 to 5 Rupees per mensem, while prices continue so high as they are at present.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 59. ORDER THEREON, 5th November 1859, No. 1506.

The Government are unable to make a rule for a single district. The Board are aware that in many districts the Revenue Peons receive no more than 3½ Rupees a month. The papers will be referred to Mr. Pelly and to the Inspector General of Police, in connection with the general arrangements on which they are severally employed, in connection with public establishment.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

IN CON. 11TH JULY 1859, No. 3360.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of MALABAR,
dated Calicut, 4th July 1859, No. 156.

The enclosed statement exhibits the number and names of the talooks, and of the Peons in them, drawing a monthly salary of not more than Rupees 4.

2. The average price of rice per garce, in each talook in Fuslies 1262-67, is shewn. The period embraced is only five years; but you will observe that the price of this staple article of food in this district, has, within that period, more than doubled.

3. My object in placing the matter before the Board, is to request their attention to the present position of the Peons, who receive only Rupees 4 a month. The sum is insufficient to maintain a single able-bodied man, much less, to feed and clothe, himself and family.

4. The complaints of this useful class of servants, have been very frequent and earnest of late, and I cannot help feeling that the Board will sympathize with the prayer of their petition herein enclosed.

5. I would beg to suggest that their pay be raised to 5 Rupees per month. Compensation is allowed to subordinates of this class in the Military service, when the price of rice exceeds Rupees 280 per Madras garce, and the same privilege is enjoyed by pensioned Sepoys, in charge of bungalows.

6. In their Proceedings, dated June 6th, 1859, the Board express their opinion, that the Government order of 15th March last applies to Mooches and Massaljees, and other servants of that class. I request to be informed whether Moonshees and Surveyors, drawing a rate of pay less than Rupees 10 per month, should not be included in the category under similar circumstances.

—

ENC. 1.

STATEMENT shewing the number of Revenue and Police Kolkars on the receipt of Rupees 4 per mensem, in the District of Malabar, as well as the price of rice in Fuslies 1262 (1852-53) and 1267 (1857-58.)

	Name of Talook.	Number of Kolkars.	Average price of rice per garce in Fusly 1262.			Quantity of rice required for a day's consumption per man.	Average price of rice per garce in Fusly 1267.			Increase in Fusly 1267 as compared with the regulated Military price viz. Rupees 266-10-8 per garce.		
			Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1	Caway...	...	175	7	6	1 1/16 seer is the average for two meals in a day.	385	15	2	119	4	6
2	Cherikul...	...	189	8	10		375	1	4	108	6	8
3	Coteyom	17	201	6	2		333	12	7	67	1	11
4	Cartenaad..	35	187	7	9		341	5	4	74	10	8
5	Cooroombranaad	34	183	13	4		330	7	9	63	13	1
6	Calicut	55	191	14	1		351	10	1	84	15	5
7	Ernaad...	27	167	0	10		306	13	1	40	2	5
8	Shernaad...	32	201	13	7		408	5	7	141	10	11
9	Betutnaad	23	174	1	4		350	12	0	84	1	4
10	Cootnaad...	22	172	6	8		334	2	11	67	8	3
11	Chowghat	37	180	4	10		391	2	2	124	7	6
12	Nedinganaad	39	132	10	11		251	11	6	0	0	0
13	Walloowanaad	44	125	0	0		251	1	1	0	0	0
14	Palghat	36	138	13	10		303	14	11	37	4	3
15	Temelprom...	36	147	10	5		311	10	8	45	0	0
16	Wynaad...	13	141	12	6		0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Cochin		0	0	0		229	4	3	0	0	0
	Total.....	450	2,711	4	7		5,257	2	5	1,058	6	5
	Average.....	...	169	7	3		328	9	2	81	6	8

(Signed) P. GRANT,
Collector.

CALICUT,
4th July 1859.

—

Enc. 2.

To the TALOOK CUTCHERRY of SHERNAAD.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Peons on the establishment of the aforesaid Talook Cutcherry.

In the first place, we beg leave to request you will be pleased to peruse this petition throughout, and deign to take our sad case into consideration, and afford redress to our grievance.

At the time that the Honorable Company fixed the salaries of Peons and others, paddy was to be had for 2, 4 and 5 parrahs for a fanam, and subsistence was obtainable without difficulty. During the last eight or nine years it was not procurable at that rate, but now it is sold at 3 and ½ seers per fanam, in consequence of which, we, Peons on the receipt of a pay of 4 Rupees each, can only maintain ourselves with the greatest difficulty for 15 or 20 days (in the month). During some of the remaining days, we subsist by contracting debts and on failure to obtain credit, we starve. In former years the prices of rice and paddy ranged low and the Sircar duties of the Peons were light. At present they have greatly increased, and the Peons are obliged to toil day and night indiscriminately. The great hardship with which we discharge the Sircar duties and the starvation which we suffer tend to diminish in us that physical strength which is essential to the due performance of our duties as Peons: a circumstance too well known to the Sircar. Hitherto the Sircar have not interfered in relieving our distress in this respect, but the irremediable embarrassments in which we are plunged, and the great misery to which we have been subjected of late, constrain us to submit this petition with the humble request that our grievances may be taken into consideration and an order issued directing the sale of rice and paddy at the same rate which formerly obtained, or our salaries increased with reference to our present straitened circumstances, and thereby protection afforded us.

Dated 23rd Edavom 1034.
4th June 1859.

(Here follow the signatures of 20 persons.)

(True Translation.)

(Signed) P. GRANT,
Collector.

No. 4393.

PROCEEDINGS of the BOARD of REVENUE, dated 27th October 1859.

Read letter from the Collector of Malabar, dated 4th July 1859, No. 156.

(In Con. 11th July 1859, No. 3360.)

The Collector of Malabar brings to notice the insufficiency of the pay of some of his Kolkars, or Talook peons, for their subsistence at the present high price of grain.

2. There are altogether 450 Kolkars in Malabar in the receipt of only 4 Rupees per mensem each. During the last five years the price of rice has, in some talooks, risen more than 10 per cent., and the above rate of pay, the Collector states, "is insufficient to maintain a single able-bodied man, much less to feed and clothe himself and family."

3. The consideration of a permanent improvement in the pay of these officers must be deferred, until the revision of establishments now being conducted by Mr. Pelly has been effected, but, meanwhile, the Board recommend, that, under the circumstances stated by Mr. Grant, the pay of the talook Kolkars may be raised from 4 to 5 Rupees per mensem, while prices continue so high as they are at present.

(A true Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to Collector of Malabar.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue 1859 Department
Reg.d No. 2015 13th Nov.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
Dated 27th Oct. 1859
Desp.d 1st Nov.
Rec.d 4th
C.-

P. Bd. Rec. 7 28th Nov. 1859
C. L. 2231 in Coln.

No. 1393.
No. 1506. 5th November.

Submitting a
letter from the Collector of Malabar and recommending that under the circumstances stated by Mr. Grant, the Sayer of the Palaco Nolkars may be raised from 4 to 5 Rs. per Mensem, while services continue as high as they are at present.

No. 1506 / 5

The Government are unable to make a rule for a single District. The Board are aware that in many Districts the Peons receive more than 3½ Rupees a month. The reasons will be referred to by the Collector in connection with the general arrangement which he is employed

Dated 5th Nov. 1859

To Collr. & Board of Revenue Reg.d 29
" Superintendent of Police "
" Collr. & Agent S. Canara forwarded