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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1399

Press
Mis.

Dated

11-4-1877 ~~197~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1399

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th April 1877.*

Famine Relief.

No. 270. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1877, No. 1,447 :—

Read the following papers :—

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Nagaripad, 15th March 1877, Extra No. 351.

In continuation of my letters marginally noted, I have the honor to forward a copy of the report (No. 88, dated 10th March 1877) of the Temporary Deputy Collector in charge Pulivendla Taluq upon the effect of the revised scale of wages upon the coolies in his range.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. SOOBBA ROW, Temporary Deputy Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq. Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Pulivendla, 10th March 1877, No. 88.

With reference to your Official Memorandum, No. 115, dated 1st instant, I beg to inform you that the new scale of wages according to the present prices, as shown in the margin, have been introduced from 22nd ultimo.

	AS. P.	
Men	1 0 + 6 Pies.	
Women	1 0 + 3 "	
Boys	0 6 + 3 "	

2. According to these rates two weekly payments have been made.
3. As second-sort rice is freely sold at $4\frac{1}{2}$ measures per Rupee and raggy at from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 measures, the reduction of wages has not as yet had any injurious effect on the condition of the coolies.
4. After the first payment a great number of men did not attend the work on the ground that the rate was too low, but now they are gradually coming to the work again.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Nagaripad, 15th March 1877, Extra No. 352.

In continuation of my letters marginally noted, I have the honor to forward the report (No. 32, dated 10th March 1877) of the Special Assistant Collector in charge Cuddapah Taluq, required by paragraph 6 of G.O., Financial Department, No. 329, dated 31st January last.

2. I cannot say that I agree fully with Mr. MacCartie. The harvest has, I think, had more to do with the coolies going away than he supposes. I had the opportunity during the fortnight, for which I was detained in Cuddapah before proceeding upon my present tour, of inspecting the gangs employed about the town. One consisting of 900 men, women, and children I ranked up on three successive occasions and carefully inspected. Upon the last I had the benefit of Dr. Cornish's experience, and he pointed out to me signs of physical deterioration which I confess would have hardly been observable to me had I been alone, but which when shown were evident and unmistakeable enough.

claw sent Taluq 15th March 1877 *the collector*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th April 1877.

3. Looking at the coolies I would have thought that they were declining in condition but not exactly to a degree dangerous to life, but where one is shown a man with flabby flesh in lieu of muscle and the inside of the mouth and the lining membrane of the eye quite white, the only conclusion is that he is wanting in blood and strength. Not being a medical man I did not know that these indications should be looked for, but having had them pointed out to me, I know enough to be able to understand that they are signs of a condition of body likely, if the circumstances which have given rise to them are continued, to be dangerous to life.

4. I repeat what I have already stated, and which is apart from all medical considerations, viz., that the effect of the revised scale of wages upon about 1,700 coolies employed around Cuddapah has, according to my observation, been a distinct deterioration in physical appearance.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.
From C. F. MACCARTIE, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 10th March 1877, No. 32.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed in your Memorandum, No. 83, dated 5th March 1877, I have the honor to submit the following report required by paragraph 6, G.O., Financial Department, No. 329, dated 31st January 1877, upon the effect of the late reduction of wages in my taluq for the fortnight ending 9th March.

2. Two weeks have elapsed since the introduction of the new rates, but absence in Pulivendla Taluq having prevented my inspecting the Cuddapah coolies in person during the first week, I have deferred the present report till now when I have seen them all.
3. The immediate effect of the reduction was that a large proportion of gangs struck work, as is apparent from the following statement of six taluq works.
- At Kamalapur there was not a soul at work on March 1st, and the coolies there are almost independent as they demand payment on the first scale for any work they may please to turn out, any thing in the shape of task being abhorrent to them. The raggy harvest finds them in work, so that they are still pretty independent of relief; some have gone to Nellore, as have also about 1,200 persons from the neighbourhood of Yerraguntla and Vempalle road, allured no doubt by the rumours of high pay which are now being spread abroad. In Pulivendla Taluq I noticed that the men staid at home, leaving their families to earn what they could.
4. As regards the physical condition of the people, I am bound to say that after a careful inspection of the gangs employed both in the taluq and in the neighbourhood of the town, I see no reason to fear that the present scale will not support life.
5. Cases of emaciation of course there are, especially near the town, and they should be removed to the relief camp, but my conviction is that the rank and file of the coolies are still in good health.
6. The men are the chief sufferers by the reduction, but even their condition has altered but little during the last three weeks.
7. In my opinion when they cease striking it will be time enough to consider their claim to an increased allowance.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.
Statement showing the Number of Coolies employed on Relief Works before and after the reduced rates came into force referred to in paragraph 3.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th April 1877.

Number.	Name of Work.	Number of Coolies employed before the reduced rates came into force.	Number of Coolies employed after the reduced rates came into force.
1	Patha Cuddapah road	691	503
2	Erraguntla portion of Vempalle road under Tarundar	626	291
3	Indukur portion of Vempalle road under Varadarajulu	580	120
4	Kazeepeet and Kamalapuram road	750	550
5	Chinnachowku road	102	...
6	Kamalapur works	343	81
Total ...		3,092	1,545

The Booga road and town works are not included in this.

(Signed) C. F. MACCARTIE,
Special Assistant Collector.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. Mr. Price's opinion is entitled to great weight as he has probably seen more famine gangs than any single officer. The existence of harvest operations however has doubtless had much effect in drawing coolies away.

3. It is observed that the reduced wage in Pulivendla is regulated with reference to the price of rice, though raggy, it is said, was selling freely at $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 measures (9.9 seers) per Rupee. At the last-quoted price a man's wage would buy just two pounds.

4. Further reports must be awaited.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 271.

ORDER THEREON, 11th April 1877, No. 1,399.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.
" the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

claim with Taluq 15 April 1877. H. Stokes

Conf. of (1877) 234078.
 REVENUE.
 THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
 Dated April 11th.
 Recd.
 G.O. 114 April 1877, No. 1358.
 APRIL.
 Nos. 270-271.
 EXAMINE HEREIN No. 641.
 Effect of the revised scale of wages in the
 Pulvachilla and Cuddapah Taluqs.—Receiving
 Board's Proceedings submitting reports on the—

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
 Dated 31st March 1877.

Read the following—

Entra No. 351.

From

J. H. Price Esqrs.

Collector of Cuddapah

B.O. of R
 No. 2996
 13018

To

H. C. Stokes Esqrs.

Secretary to the Bd. of Revenue

Madras

Sir,

No. 104 dated
 5th March 1877
 Extra No. 284
 of 12th March
 1877
 No. 88 of
 10th March 1877

In continuation of my letters
 marginally noted, I have the honor
 to forward a copy of the Report of
 the Temporary Dy. Collector in
 charge Pulvachilla Taluq—upon
 the effect of the revised scale of
 wages upon the coolies in his

Range.

Cuddapah Collis Officer

I have &c

Camp Najaripad in the / Sd/ J. H. Price
 Pullam with Taluq 15th March 1877.

Enclosure

No. 88

From

The Temporary Dy. Collector
of Cuddapah

The Dy. Collector of Cuddapah
Sir

With reference to your official
Memo No. 116 dated 1st Instant
I beg to inform you that the
new scale of wages according to
the present prices, as shown in ^{Memo}
the margin have been introduced ^{Memorandum}
from 22nd ultimo.

According to these rates two
weekly payments have been made.

As second sort rice is fairly
sold at $4\frac{1}{2}$ measures per Rupee
and raggy at from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6
measures

measures the reduction of wages ^{1399/4}
has not as yet had any injurious
effect on the condition of the coolies.

After the first payment,
a great number of men did not
attend the work, on the ground
that the rate was too low but
now they are gradually coming
to the work again.

Cuddapah Temporary
Dy. Collector's Office
Camp Palimnolla
10th March 1899

I have seen
1st Dy. Collector
Temporary Dy. Collector

True copy

1st Dy. Collector
of Cuddapah

Read also the following
Circular No. 352

From

J. H. Price Esq.
Dy. Collector of Cuddapah
To H. E. Stokes Esq.
Sir
Very truly
In continuation of my

my letters marginally noted
I have the honor to forward the
report of the Special Assistant
Collector in charge Cuddapah
Taluk required by para 6 of G.O.
Financial Deptt. No. 329 of
31st January last.

2 I cannot say that I
agree fully with Mr. MacCartis.
The harvest has I think had
more to do with the coolies going
away than he supposes. I had
the opportunity during the
fortnight for which I was
detained in Cuddapah before
proceeding upon my present
tour, of inspecting the
gangs employed about the
Town

Town. One consisting of ³⁹⁰/₅ men
women and children I ranked
upon three successive occasions
and carefully inspected. Upon
the last I had the benefit of
Mr. Morris's experience and he
pointed out to me signs of
physical deterioration which
I confess would have hardly
been observable to me had
I been alone, but which when
shown were evident and un-
mistakeable enough.

3 Looking at the coolies
I would have thought that
they were declining in condition
but not exactly to a degree
dangerous to life, but where
one

one is shown a man with flabby
flesh in lieu of muscle and the
inside of the mouth and the
lining membrane of the eye quite
white the only conclusion is
that he is wanting in blood
and strength. Not being a
medical man I did not know
that these indications should
be looked for, but having had
them pointed out to me I
know enough to be able to
understand that they are
signs of a condition of body
likely if the circumstances
which have given rise to
them are continued, to be
dangerous to life.

I repeat what I have
already

already stated and which is
apart from all medical consid-
erations vizt that the effect of
the revised scale of wages upon
about 1700 coolies employed
around Cuddapah has, according
to my observations, been a distinct
deterioration in physical appear-
ance.

Quarantine Station Office
Camp Nafaripand
Pulampett Taluq
15th March 1877

I have
1204 J. Price
of Cuddapah

Enclosure

From No. 32

C. H. MacCartie Esq.
Sd. Asst. Secy of Cuddapah

To
J. H. Price Esq.
of Cuddapah

In accordance with the
instructions

instructions conveyed in your
Memo No 88 dated 5th March 1877
I have the honor to submit the
following report required by
para b G.O. 47 & No 329
dated 31st January 1877 upon
the effect of the late reduction
of wages in my Taluq for
the fortnight ending 9th
March.

2. Two weeks have elapsed
since the introduction of
the new rates; but absence in
Palivendla Taluq having prevented
my inspecting the Cuddapah
coolies in person during the
first week I have deferred the

the present report till now when
I have seen them all. 139/1

3. The immediate effect of
the reduction was that a large
proportion of gangs struck work, as
is apparent from the following statement.

Of b Taluq works

At Hamalapur there was not a
soul at work on March 1st and
the coolies there are almost independ-
ent as they demand payment on
the 1st scale for any work they
may please to turn out anything
in the shape of task being obnoxious
to them. The Ragi harvest finds
them in work, so that they are
still pretty independent of B.
Some have gone to Kallare and
have also about 1200 persons
from the neighbourhood of

of Joragumtha and Vempalle road,
allured no doubt by the rumours
of high pay, which are now
being spread abroad. In Pulivudla
Taluk I noticed that the men
stand at home leaving their families
to earn what they could.

4. As regards the physical
condition of the people I am
bound to say that after a careful
inspection of the gangs employed
both in the Taluk and in the
neighbourhood of the Town,
I see no reason to fear that the
present scale will not support
life.

5. Cases of emaciation,
of course, there are especially
near the Town and they
should

should be removed to the Relief
camp but my conviction is that
the rank and file of the coolies
are still in good health.

6. The men are the chief sufferers
by the reduction but even their
condition has altered but little
during the last three weeks.

7. In my opinion when
they cease striking it will
be time enough to consider
their claim to an increased allow-
—ance.

Cuddapah — I have seen
Sd/- Assistant Collector } Sd/- C. H. Macartney
Office 10th March 1897 } Sd/- Asst. Collector

/ True Copy //

Sd/- H. Price
Asst. Collector

Statement

Statement showing the number of coolies employed on Relief works before and after the reduced rates came into force referred to in para 3.

Number	Name of work	Number of coolies employed before the reduced rates came into force	Number of coolies employed after the reduced rates came into force
1	Patha Cuddapah road	691	503
2	Erraguntla portion of Vimpally road under Samundar	626	291
3	Indukur portion of Vimpally road under Varadarazulu	580	120
4	Hazrepatt and Hamala - perum road	750	550
5	Chinna chowku road	102	"
6	Chinnalapur works	343	81
		3092	1545

The Booga road and Lowu works are not included in this.

1 day B. L. Macartney
 1 day J. H. Price
 1 day J. H. Price
 1 day J. H. Price
 1 day J. H. Price

Submitted to Government

2. Mr. Price's opinion is entitled to great weight as he has probably seen more famines gangs than any single officer. The existence of famine operations however has doubtless had much effect in drawing coolies away.

3. It is observed that the reduced wage in Pulurmoda is regulated with reference to the price of rice, though raji it is said was selling purely at $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 measures (9.9 Suro) per rupee. At the last quoted price, a man's wage would buy just two pounds.

4. Further reports must be awaited.

1 True copies & etc.

Secretary.

The Additional Secretary to Government

For exchange of the
3rd of February

to be at 3rd of March

to be at 31st of March

with order

substantially, with
certain observations
from the books
of Washington, but
- making reports
from the temporary
log books, upon the
effect of the removal
of the wages upon
the war line.

9th Sept 1879
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6th Dec 1879

11th Sept 1879
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