Sectt. I (i)-I—10,006—7-10-70.

(1) Number of pages 16

(2) Date of repair 31-3-93

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	1710 — A	Press / Mis.
Dated	12 May	1877 ~~197~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th May 1877, No. 1,710-A.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 260-A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th April 1877.

Read the following letter from R. S. BENSON, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 16th April 1877, No. 371.

I HAVE the honor to submit my weekly report on the physical condition of the coolies on relief-works in my division for the week ending this day.

2. During the week I carefully inspected, person by person, the Kodur party of coolies. Out of 1,764 persons inspected, I selected 36 men, 105 women, and 9 children, total 150, as being in an emaciated or reduced condition. This gives a per-centage of 8·50 on the total number employed. The smallness of the number of children is due to the fact that very few are employed; many who could earn 9 pice daily being kept on the 3-pie list. I have directed a considerable number of the latter to be employed as 9-pie coolies.

3. While the condition of the coolies thus appears pretty fair, I am bound to notice the very emaciated state of a large number of the small children who accompanied their parents. Not less than 30 per cent. of these seemed very much reduced. Some were suffering from fever which is now very prevalent in the parts about Kodur; but I fear bad and insufficient food was the chief source of disease with the majority. Some of the mothers said they had no milk, and ascribed this to want of food. Altogether the condition of the Kodur people is not satisfactory. I intend to visit them again this week.

4. Meantime, I am pushing on the relief-camp there, and I have ordered the Reddy to feed the emaciated, pending the opening of the camp. I have also formed separate gangs of the older and weaklier coolies, and assigned them a lighter task. I found that the 3-pie bonus was only very partially availed of, either through ignorance or through unwillingness to bring the children long distances to the work which was then going on near Settiguntá. This part is now nearly finished, and the coolies are working at the Kodur-Chitwail road, five miles nearer the villages from which the majority come.

5. I hope the condition of these coolies and their children will now improve—

1st.—Because the work is so much nearer their homes.

2nd.—Because the old and weakly are in separate gangs, and the tasks will thus be less for all.

3rd.—Because the 3-pie bonus will be fully availed of.

4th.—Because the more emaciated are being removed to the gratuitous relief list.

Should the expected improvement not take place, I shall be obliged to strongly urge an increase of wage to the coolies or a larger bonus to small children.

6. It may be of interest to note—

(1.) That the old men complain for the most of the insufficiency of the food.

(2.) All natives say that children from five years upwards eat as much or more than an adult. As a corollary to this, it is observed that the children who get only 6 pies or 9 pies seem to suffer the most of any of the people. At least in their case it is most apparent to the eye.

(3.) While some of the coolies are emaciated, others laboring beside them for months at the same work and on the same pay are actually robust: neither have any aid for their subsistence, and neither have any dependants to support. Second sort rice is the standard grain taken in fixing the rate of wages.

7. At present I do not urge an increase of wage. The Tahsildars do not notice any falling off in the condition of the coolies.

Extra No. 862.

Forwarded for the information of the Board of Revenue. The coolies are evidently failing in condition, and the wages are not enough. My experience in this part of the district fully bears out what is said by Mr. Benson. The infant population, *i.e.*, sucking children, is in a very bad state. The mothers have not sufficient sustenance for them, and children of this class are dependent upon their mothers alone. I have had to send many such cases into the relief-camp. If some special allowance, more than 3 pies, is not made to nursing women, the camps will be filled with them, or the greater part of the infants under eighteen months will die. I most respectfully, but most earnestly and strongly, urge that this matter may have the immediate consideration of Government. I have, as will be seen from the District Returns, given the experiment of the reduced scale of wages a fair trial. Although from my experience of the famine from the time when it began to be seriously felt, I have been disposed to look upon the measure in an unfavorable light, I believe that I have carried out my instructions coolly and dispassionately. I feel it my duty, however, as a public servant entrusted with heavy responsibilities, and with all deference to the opinions of those in a position higher than mine, to express the conviction that do what we can to arrest it, the consequences of continuing the present system will be of the most disastrous character, and that it will, in the long run, cost the State far more than the scale of wages previously in force would have done.

Penukamilla,
20*th April* 1877.

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

Submitted for the information and orders of Government.

2. It appears that the child's allowance of three pies has not yet been fully granted. If this is attended to, and if Sunday payments are made generally, which the Board believe is not the case everywhere in Cuddapah, matters may improve. The 3 pie allowance should be freely granted for children at the breast as well as others. Further, it would seem better that the very weakly should be put in gratuitous relief at once instead of being kept at works, and the higher rate of wages should always be paid when increased work renders it admissible.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 260-B. Order thereon, 12th May 1877, No. 1,710-A.

Miscellaneous.

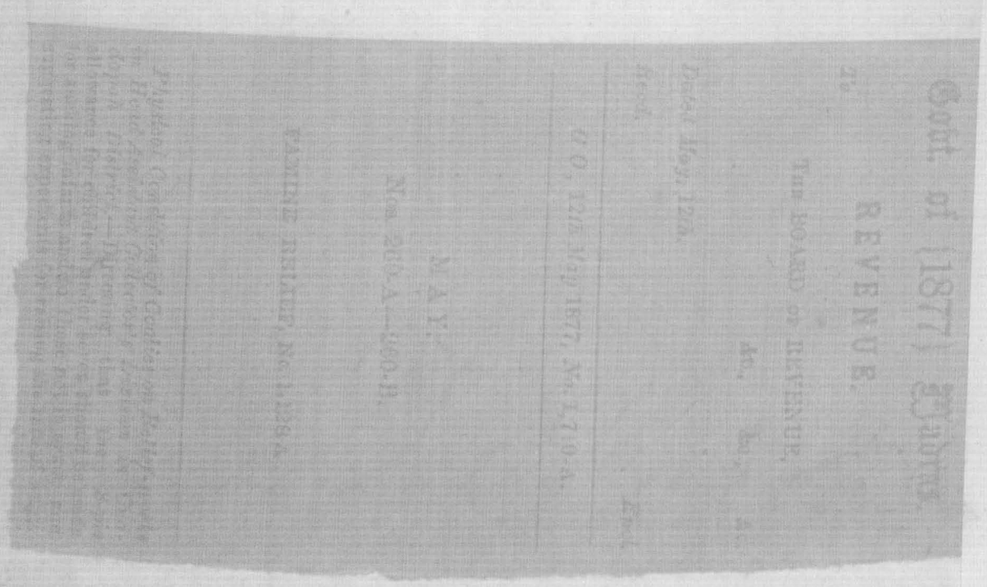
The 3 pies allowance for children under 7 should be made for sucking infants as well as for those which are not in arms; the Sunday wages should in every case be given, and the higher rate of wage for higher task calculated specially with reference to the state of the soil. If these expedients for raising the rate have been already tried, the Government will be prepared to raise the rate for nursing mothers and children.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.


Revenue Department

No 1957

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

1877.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From Rev Bd

Dated April 21st 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

Whether the rate for
infants at the breast
& for nursing women do
not require supplementing
by the 3 pies for children
as it should -
Last - I think that some
provision should be made
in addition to the grain
for nursing women

The Lord sets Mrs
Rodan supplemented
by the 3 pies for children
as it should -
Last - I think that some
provision should be made
in addition to the grain
for nursing women

4/5/77

I do not think we can
alter the existing rate
for children & infants
at the breast
but I recommend
that the Rodan party
be supplemented
by 3 pies per head
per diem

I am of opinion that
the existing rate
for children & infants
at the breast
is sufficient
but I recommend
that the Rodan party
be supplemented
by 3 pies per head
per diem

Sanctioned
5/5 MM

Gout. of 1877 Encls.
to
REVENUE.
The BOARD of REVENUE.
&c.
Dated Aug. 1877.
Rec'd
Aug. 1877. No. 1710-A.
N.A.V.
Nos 2000 A—1000-12.
CENTRAL PRESS, N.-W. P.

Interior department

No 1957

Proceedings of the Board of Indian

1760A
A

the State of the Soil.
Also an Expedient for
increasing the Salt Lum
already Lime stone adapted
from Ind. since the
Salt for the Nursing
Mothers & Children

Xix

Commissioners held at Washington D.C. commencing on the 10th day of April 1877.

Present

Commissioner Smith
Governor Hoyt
Governor Pillsbury
Governor Furnas
Governor Pierce
Governor Hedrick
Governor Smith
Governor Hoyt
Governor Pillsbury
Governor Furnas
Governor Pierce
Governor Hedrick

The Modoc party of exiles.
Out of 1754 persons inspected,
I selected 56 men, 105 women
and 9 children, total 150

a

FOR ORDERS

F/3080

D Bsp

Ct-5-)) Rio-5-))

Revenue department

No 1957

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

dated 28th April 1877.

Read the following

No 371.

BB Gl R
No 4357

From

The Ag Head Assistant Collector
of Cuddapah

To

The Ag Collector of
Cuddapah

Sir,

I have the honor to submit my weekly report on the physical condition of the coolies on Relief works in my division for the week ending this day.

2. During the week I carefully inspected person by person the Kodur party of coolies. Out of 1762 persons inspected, I selected 36 men, 105 women and 9 children, total 150

a

as being in an emaciated or
reduced condition. This
gives a percentage of 8.50 on the
total number employed. The
smallness of the number of
children is due to the fact
that many few are employed.
Many who could earn 9
the daily being kept on the
3 per list. I have directed
a considerable number of
the Cadets to be employed
as 9 per centres.

3. While the conditions of the
centres that appear pretty
fair, I am bound to notice
the very emaciated state
of a large number of the
small children who
accompanied their parents.
Not

Not less than 30 per cent of these
seemed very much reduced.
Some were suffering from
fever which is now very
prevalent in the parts about
Kodur, but I fear bad and
insufficient food was the
chief cause of disease
with the majority. Some of
the mothers said they had no
milk and ascribed this
to want of food. Altogether
the condition of the Kodur
people is not satisfactory.
I intend to visit them again
this week

4. Meantime I am working on
the Relief Camps there and I
have ordered the Reddy to
feed

feed the emaciated, pending
the opening of the camp.
I have also formed separate
gangs of the older and
weakler coolies and assigned
them a lighter task. I found
that the 3 pie bonus and
only very partially availed
of either through ignorance
or through unwillingness to
bring the children long
distances to the work
which was then going on
near Lekhgunta. This part
is now nearly finished
and the coolies are working
at the Kosha Chitrawati
road five miles nearer

the

2

the villages from which the
majority come.

6. I hope the condition of
these coolies and their
children will now improve.
1st Because the work is so much
nearer their homes.
2nd Because the old and weakly
are in separate gangs and
the tasks will thus be
less for all.
3rd Because the 3 pie bonus
will be fully availed of
4th. Because the more emaciated
are being removed, to the
gratuitous relief list.
I showed the expected improvement
will take place, I shall be
obliged to strongly urge

an

an increase of wage to the coolies or a larger bonus to small children.

6. It may be of interest to note (1) that the old men complain for the most of the insufficiency of the food.

(2) All natives say that children from five years upwards eat as much or more than grown adults. According to this it is observed that the children who get only 3 pie or 9 pie seem to suffer the most of any of the people. At least in this case it is most apparent to the eye.

(3) While some of the coolies are married others labouring beside them for months at the same work and on the same pay are actually robust. Neither have any aid from their subsidence and neither have any dependants to support. 2nd sort rice is the standard grain taken in fixing the rate of wage.

7. At present I do not urge an increase of wage. The Jahal Bars do not notice any falling off in the condition of the coolies.

I have &c
Sd/ R.S Benson
Asst. Collector

Ag. Asst Collectors office
Camp Cuddapah
16 April 1877

Forwarded,
Salem 18 Apl 1877

Forwarded for the information of the Board of Revenue. The coolies are evidently failing in

in condition and the wages are
not enough. My experience
in this part of the district
fully bears out what is
said by Mr Benson. The
infant population, i.e.
sucking children, is in a
very bad state. The mothers
have not sufficient sustenance
for them and children of this
class are dependent upon
their mothers alone. I have
had to send many sick
cases into the Relief Comp.
If some special allowance,
more than 3 pints is not made
to nursing women, the camps
will be filled with them
& the greater part of the
infants

infants, under eighteen months
will die. I most respectfully
but most earnestly and
strongly urge, that this matter
may have the immediate
consideration of Government.
I have, as will be seen from
the district Returns, given the
experiment of the reduced scale
of wages a fair trial. Although
from my experience of the
famine from the time when
it began to be seriously
felt, I have been disposed
to look upon the measure
in an unfavorable light,
I believe that I have carried
out my instructions coolly
and dispassionately. I feel
it my duty however, as a
public

public servant entrusted with heavy responsibilities, and with all deference to the opinions of those in a position higher than mine, to express the conviction, that do what we can to avert it, the consequences of continuing the present system will be of the most disastrous character and that it will, in the long run, cost the State far more than the scale of wages previously in force, would have done.

Cuddapah Collector's office
Camp Pommaille Cudrid
dated 20th April 1877

Sd/ W. J. Thomas
Asst Collector

Submitted for the information and orders of Government.

2

H.

2. It appears that the child's allowance of 3pie has not yet been fully granted. If this is attended to and if Sunday payments are made generally, which the Board believe is not the case everywhere in Cuddapah, matters may improve. The 3 pie allowance should be freely granted for children at the breast as well as others. Further it would seem better that the very weakly should be put on gratuitous relief at once, instead of being kept at work, and the higher rate of wages should always be paid when increased work renders it admissible.

I have &c

H. Elliot
Secretary.

To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Deptt

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 20 April 1877

Do 1710 A

The 3 pice allowance to children under 7 [years] old to be made for including infants as well as for those who are ... ; the ... of wages ... can be given & the higher rate of wages for higher ... calculated specially with reference to the state of the ... with reference to ... expedients for ... which have been ... the Govt. will be prepared to raise the rate for nursing mothers & children.

12/5/77

J. H. [illegible]
12 May 1877

Draft

Ind. Copy to the Board of Revenue 350 C of 20 May 1877
5 to the Finance Dept
21 to the P.W. Dept
1 to Accountant General