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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3651	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	27.6.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

31st January 1877, No. 329.

Famine Relief.

No. 394. *Proceedings of Government, 31st January 1877, No. 329.*

Ever since this Government undertook to combat by measures of State Relief, the sore distress which pervades the Presidency so widely, they have directly and through the Board of Revenue, urged constantly on their officers, the primary duty of guarding against any waste of the State resources, by the most careful supervision that the means at their disposal could secure.

2. His Grace in Council has hitherto allowed consideration to the suddenness with which famine prices were reached, to the rapid growth of numbers seeking relief under the grievous pressure of want and disease, to the imperative necessity for grappling with increasing crime and for removing the incentive to it, and to the inadequate strength of the ordinary Administrative Staff to satisfy the additional demands on its services, all of which circumstances rendered it inevitable that there should be at the outset, defective organization and supervision of Relief Works. How severe was the pressure on the community and on the administration, and how marked the effects of want on the peace of the country, the marginal statistics indicate.

3. Now, however, affairs have assumed a more settled aspect and the extent of the distress and of the relief needed, can be more accurately estimated. It has also been possible to add very considerably to the supervising staff. The Governor in Council therefore deems it imperatively necessary to require, throughout the distressed districts, more systematic and economical administration than has hitherto in all cases been attained.

4. Influenced by these considerations and by the obvious expediency of maintaining a uniform standard of State Relief in adjacent provinces similarly

PRICES—SEERS PER RUPEE.

Second-sort Rice.

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
1872—1874	15.02	15.40	15.83
1875	16.42	16.18	14.88
1876	12.52	10.59	8.07

Cholum.

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
1872—1874	23.50	23.30	19.67
1875	23.87	25.75	23.99
1876	20.30	16.03	11.41

Ragi.

	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
1872—1874	29.58	30.48	22.79
1875	27.97	28.16	26.77
1876	21.17	17.21	12.01

Numbers on Famine Relief Works.

	Cuddapah.	Bellary.	Kurnool.
Towards end of Nov.	47,734	147,996	126,000
.. middle of Dec.	102,340	266,352	168,385
.. end of	168,965	347,316	264,896
.. middle of Jan. 1877.	195,365	356,704	319,774

Dacoities in Famine Districts.

Districts.	TOTAL DACOITIES OF ALL KINDS.				Number of Dacoities in column 5 committed between 4th Nov. and 31st Dec. 1876.
	1873.	1874.	1875.	1876.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kistna	7	3	11	36	22
Nellore	2	..	1	98	68
Kurnool	6	7	12	122	64
Bellary	20	19	15	159	61
Cuddapah	43	4	10	152	88
North Arcot	17	22	22	173	105
Salem	17	12	9	68	50
Coimbatore	33	12	14	40	*13
Chingleput	2	1	5	17	..
Total	147	80	99	865	461

* From 10th December 1876.

Daily average Jail Population.			circumstanced, the Governor in Council has resolved to prescribe the adoption of the following scale of money wages on State Relief Works, which is being introduced in the adjoining Bombay Districts and it is believed will be observed in the Mysore territory:—
1870—1875 ..	..	9,581	
1876 ..	September ..	11,081.58	
" ..	October ..	11,592.58	
" ..	November ..	12,576.64	
" ..	December ..	13,680.8	

I.—Under supervision by the Public Works Department, or where task-work not less than 25 per cent. below ordinary task is enforced—

For a man	the value of 1 lb. of grain <i>plus</i> 1 Anna.
For a woman	do. do. " $\frac{1}{2}$ "
For a boy or girl	do. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. " $\frac{1}{2}$ "

II.—Under non-professional supervision and where not less than 50 per cent. below ordinary task-work is enforced—

For a man	the value of 1 lb. of grain <i>plus</i> $\frac{1}{2}$ Anna.
For a woman	do. do. " $\frac{1}{4}$ "
For a boy or girl	do. $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. " $\frac{1}{4}$ "

5. Suitable task-work is to be insisted on, its amount being settled, wherever possible, in communication with the District Engineers.

6. All officers entrusted with the administration of relief operations are to understand distinctly that they are forbidden to exceed the scale of wages now prescribed by the Governor in Council, but they are very carefully to observe the result of its introduction and to report weekly, until further notice, or immediately if emergently necessary, the result of this reduction of wages more especially as regards the physical condition of the people.

7. The Government have had the advantage of receiving from Sir R. Temple the impressions derived from his tour through the most distressed districts of the Presidency, and His Grace in Council from these, and his own recent personal observation, concurs with Sir R. Temple in thinking it useful again to impress on Collectors the imperative duty of restricting State Relief to those who, without it, must be in danger of perishing. The magnitude of the disaster, which has fallen on the famine stricken districts is such that even to relieve this class, the resources of the State will be taxed to the utmost, and His Grace in Council is confident that it is only necessary to keep the real situation before the officers of Government to secure from them the strictest and most uniform observance of the measures necessary to prevent the abuse of public charity or the admission on State Relief Works of any person who has any other means of support, which will enable him although perhaps not without suffering to tide over this calamitous season without risk to life.

8. His Grace in Council, while believing it necessary to issue these instructions, must at the same time earnestly impress on the officers in charge of Districts and Famine Relief Works, that it is not intended that they should relax the vigilance which has hitherto successfully met the distress which in too many parts of the country has reached the point of famine, or to impede them in their exertions to apply the most effective remedies practicable, wherever numbers of persons are exposed to danger of starvation or to disease arising from want of food.

A The Collectors will give the fullest publicity to the foregoing instructions and are responsible for seeing that they are exactly observed by their subordinates.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" the Board of Revenue.
" all Collectors.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 18th June 1877.

Read the following :

No: 447

FROM

R. W. Barlow Esquire
Collector of the
Chingleput District

TO

H. E. Stokes Esquire,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

SIR,

Aduerting to para 6 of G.O. dated
the 31st January last N^o 3297 is,
and with reference to para 2 of the
Board's Proceedings dated the
8th instant N^o 2676, I have the
honor to state that the officers in
charge of Relief works in this dis-
trict have reported no further
changes in the physical condition
of the coolies employed on works
under them during the fortnight

ending

Copy of 1877

FINANCIAL

To THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

Secy, Secy, Secy

Dated January, 814.

Issued
Recd.

G.O. 314 January 1877, No. 329

JANUARY.
No. 394.

Revenue Relief.—In view to the more systematic
and economical administration of State Relief,
the adoption of a scale of money wages on State
Relief Works prescribed, and subsidiary instruc-
tions issued.

ending Saturday the 9th
Instant.

Wharfside Fish
Collectors office
Sydney 12th June 1885

} I have rec^d
of R. W. Barlow
Collector

Submitted for the information
of Government.

/True copy & Extract/

Witness
Secretary

So

The addy. Secy. to Govt. R. W.

Ca.

Copied by

M. C. Parthasarathy, Secy.

May 1877
 4432
 19-17
 No. 4720
 PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
 OF REVENUE.

123657
 123657
 123657

Dated 18th June 1877
 Despatched 18th June 1877
 Recd 19th June 1877

SUBJECT

Submitting to Govt.
 letter from the Collector
 of Bangalore reporting
 on the progress of
 work on relief works
 for the fortnight ending
 9th Dec 1876.

3651

123657