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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 994 Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 29 March 1972 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th March 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 202. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated 2nd March 1877, No. 36:—

With reference to paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 329, of 31st January 1877, and your telegram, dated 13th February, calling for report on the result of the introduction of the new scale of wages on the physique of laborers on relief-works, I have the honor to state that the reduced rates had been introduced into the taluqs of Sattiamungalam, Bhowany, Coimbatore, and Oodoomulpettah.

2. The effect as regards the first three taluqs was to induce a partial desertion of relief-work. The physical effects are not reported in the first two taluqs; in the third there had not been time to observe a change.

Taluqs.
* Erode.
Dharmpurum.
Cavoor.
† Pullidum.

3. The Sub* and Head† Assistant Collectors had not introduced the reduced rate. They doubtless considered it could not be done with safety.

4. The labor in this district is all of the first class, not being under 25 per cent. of the Public Works Department rates, but in general equal to or above it as regards task-work.

5. Taking second-sort rice as a standard pound of value at 7 dz. ‡ to real reduction of the two-anna man's wage will now take place, and I earnestly deprecate any lowering of the rate.

‡ Seers of 80 tolahs each per rupee.

6. Mr. Cook, whose report I enclose, and whose rates had been reduced to 1 Anna 6 Pies, 1 Anna 3 Pies, and 9 Pies for men, women and children, respectively, reports a falling off in physique, chiefly of men, of coolies employed in the fourth§ taluq referred to above.

§ Oodoomulpettah.

7. The return to the two-anna rate for men and proportionate rates for women and children, consequent on taking the second-sort rice as the standard pound, will, I trust, enable lost ground to be recovered.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. H. COOK, Esq., Special Assistant in charge of Relief-works, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, dated Oodoomulpettah, 24th February 1877, No. 30.

With reference to your endorsement on the Government telegram of 13th instant, regarding the appearance and condition of the people on relief-works, &c., I have the honor to submit my establishment statement in the form required.

2. With regard to the physique of the coolies at work since the reduction of wages, I regret to state that I observe a decided falling off. This is more marked among the men than the women. I fear that as the hot weather approaches many will find it very difficult to work in the sun, supported as they are by the miserable pittance allowed them.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department.
9th March 1877.

No. 2924. Office Extract, 9th March 1877, No. 694.

Mr. Brewett. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Coimbatore,
" Board of Revenue,
" Accountant-General.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated 1873.

FOR ORDERS.

FOR ORDERS.

