

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 217

DATED 30th March

[Despatch Abstract.]

Tasks.

Board's Prog. Commg. with remarks, G.O. stating
that— may be reduced to suit the physical
condition of any gang of relief workers, record
with remarks.

BACK PAPERS.

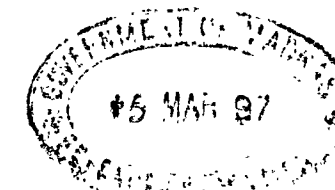
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.



The Hon. Mr. G. S. G. C. S.
The Hon. Mr. S. S. C. S.
H. E. the Governor

G. S. 217
30-3-97

From Board of Revenue
Revenue Settlement, Land
Records and Agriculture
Madras

For Orders

No. 159

Two friends call for notice. ~~the~~
(i) Allowing tasks to suit the physical
condition of the workers, leaving their
wages unaltered.

Dated 25th February 1897.

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

(ii) Allowing tasks ^{to suit} the composition
of the gangs as regards men, women
& children.

2. With reference to (i). The Board
takes advantage of a remark made
by G. S. in the case of the enfeebled
Pattikonda workers that ~~the~~ having
regard to ^{the} recommendation of the San-
itary Commissioner the collectors
would perhaps have been justified
in temporarily ~~reducing~~ re-
ducing their task without redu-
cing wages, and issues instructions

SUBJECT.

Tasks

communicating, with remarks
G. S. stating that — may be
reduced to suit the physical
condition of ~~the~~ any gang of
relief-workers.

G. S. 217
R. 12/3/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERES.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

the effect of which is practically to nullify the main provision of the Code as regards relief works. That provision is, as explained in para 1(2) of G.O. $\frac{43}{26-1-97}$, to reduce the classification when a gang turns out short work through weakness.

A temporary exception was authorized in the case of Pattikonda laborers as these were in enfeebled condition through relief not being given in time, but even as regards this point it has been suggested in a recent note for orders that in this and in similar cases the ~~former~~ ^{better} course would be to place the laborers in class D.

under the instructions now issued by the Board it becomes possible to pay full wages to B class laborers in fair condition for less than the B class task.

3. With reference to (ii). The task of the gang is proportional to the number of child milks it contains, and ~~it~~ two gangs of the same number of child milks must have the same task, though there may be a larger number of women or a smaller number of men in the one than in the other. The Board thinks that the most task should vary with the composition of the gang; this does not appear to be correct.

insufficient for more subsistence & we never get returned to good condition

quite so. The whole question has been raised in papers which had returned to the office when this left it, and it has been decided that the class of gangs is not to be altered, but that the task may be

1 man = 2 women = 4 children

As a gang consists entirely of women & children, the women do so much work as a gang consisting of men women & children, though the number of child-milks may be the same.

Thermost. There is no other way of obtaining tasks of gangs.

16/12/97

6/13/97

Standy

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 25TH FEB. 1897, No. 159.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following G.O., No. 103, Revenue, dated 19th February 1897 :—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.) dated 5th February 1897, No. 100 :—

Read—the following letter from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Maddikera 18th January 1897, No. 179-S. :—

I have the honour to state that, having carefully inspected the condition of the population of Pattikonda in regard to the prevailing high price of food-grains, I am of opinion that the opening of a relief work in the immediate neighbourhood of Pattikonda is essential. The class of labourers usually obtaining their living by assisting in agricultural operations and various forms of petty labour in village life, is in urgent need of aid. My observations show that numerous families have been for nearly two months past without labour sufficiently regular or remunerative to provide a sufficiency of food. Thus, whilst it is true that labour is not entirely absent, it is also true that it can only be obtained fitfully, and, in consequence, many families are living upon less than half their normal amount of food. This morning, after my inspection and after explaining to the people the nature of the Government famine wage, I invited those that were willing to work to assemble near my camp. Within three-quarters of an hour, 240 persons assembled and professed their eagerness to undertake work. This may be accepted simply as a sample of what the demand may be, not of its limit. Of those assembled, I found the following results :—

Health conditions of persons seeking employment on relief works, Pattikonda.

	Men.						Women.						Children.					
	Good.		Poor.		Bad.		Good.		Poor.		Bad.		Good.		Poor.		Bad.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Malas	4	44.4	5	55.6	..	..	20	43.5	16	34.8	10	21.7	12	92.3	1	7.7	..	..
Madigas ..	13	51.2	11	45.8	..	..	2	16.7	7	58.3	3	25.0	10	47.6	11	52.4	..	..
Muhammadians ..	9	37.5	10	41.7	5	20.3	2	15.4	6	46.2	5	38.4	16	59.3	11	40.7	..	..
Bovias	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	25.0	8	50.0	4	25.0	5	38.5	8	61.5	..	..
Oobravas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kuruvias ..	11	50.0	8	36.4	3	13.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	37	46.8	34	43.1	8	10.1	28	32.2	37	42.5	22	25.3	43	58.1	31	41.9	..	..

2. It will be observed that the effects of deprivation differ greatly according to castes—the Mala woman being singularly free. I may add, for your information, that the state of the children presents a strong contrast with that found in the Bellary district, which I have just inspected—inimical influence on children being there rarely found. Taking into consideration the condition of the labourer as shown above, I would advise that B rates be offered, and that, until their strength be regained, the task given be as light as is consistent with reason, and the distances from the town be as little as possible.

Resolution—dated 5th February 1897, No. 100.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. It will be observed that Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King reports that near Pattikonda, in Kurnool, many families were, at the time of his visit in January, living upon less than half their usual amount of food, and that he found that 55 per cent. of the 210 persons who came to him as being willing to accept work at Famine Code wages were in poor or bad condition. At Maddikera, the Sanitary Commissioner found the people to be in absolute need of food and the poorer classes showing undoubted signs of privation. He considers that the people at Pattikonda will need special consideration if it is to be hoped that they can recover lost ground. This is scarcely possible to expect under the system for adapting tasks to the capacity of the workers, laid down in G.O., No. 43, Revenue, dated 26th January 1897. Works have been opened at Pattikonda and Maddikera since the time of Surgn.-Lt.-Col. King's visit and most of the workers have been placed in class C. In the wage of this class, there is no margin allowed over the "equivalent to a ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied labourer in health and strength"—vide Government of India circular, No. 6-44, dated 17th March 1892.

Order—No. 108, Revenue, dated 19th February 1897.

In paragraph 2 of his letter the Sanitary Commissioner recommends that the labourers in Pattikonda be offered B class wages and that they be given light tasks till they regain their strength; whereon the Board remarks that this is scarcely possible under the system for adapting tasks to the capacity of the workers laid down in G.O., No. 43, Revenue, dated 26th January 1897. In paragraph 1 clause 2 of this G.O., however, it is stated that under section 107 of the Famine Code the tasks can be altered with the consent of the Collector. The enfeebled condition of the labourers and the recommendation of the Sanitary Commissioner may be circumstances justifying the temporary exercise of the discretionary power which the Collector possesses under the section.

2. The report called for in paragraph 3 should be submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Settlement).
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Financial Department.
" Accountant-General.

RESOLUTION—dated 25th February 1897, No. 159.

The order read above will be communicated to the Collector of Kurnool and to all other Collectors for information and guidance in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 4th February 1897, No. 98.

2. In paragraph 2 of the Proceedings quoted, the Board stated that, so far as it was then able to determine, the task of a gang could not be reduced except by reducing its class. Collectors will observe that, under the ruling now issued, it is permissible for them to also reduce the task in any case under section 107 so as to meet the special circumstances of the relief-workers in any place or on any work, and thus avoid the hardship of placing them on reduced wages. Under this ruling, it will be advisable for Collectors to call upon their Engineer officers to specify what may

be regarded as the appropriate tasks for workers in (1) good, (2) fair and (3) low condition, much as is done in the North-Western Provinces (vide page 11 of G.O., No. 14, Revenue, dated 9th January 1897). The officers in charge of works will then have less difficulty in applying a task suitable to the condition of the workers. Collectors must also bear in mind that, as no two gangs are exactly the same in sex proportions and strength, no absolutely hard and fast line in tasking is possible, and the case of each gang must, when necessary, be considered on its merits.

3. The Collector of Kurnool will be requested to expedite the report mentioned in paragraph 2 of the Government Order.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. B. Smircovian
Secretary.

*Two gangs of the
same number of
child workers in
the same.*

To the Collector of Kurnool.

" all other Collectors.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" " Sanitary Commissioner.

*Handly, as per...
...for instance, ...
...have more men enough
to do the digging ...
...is not
...as a ...
...are not ...
...number of child
workers may be the same*

Little to

BB 2.44

Exd. Shaik Karim.

Tasks.—Communicating, with remarks, G.O. stating that — may be reduced to suit the physical condition of the any gang of relief-workers.

So far as the Bd says that Colles.
can reduce the task in any
case under Sec 10, so as to meet
the special circumstances of the
relief-workers in any place or
on any work, it is right; but
when it goes on to say that
tasks are to be prescribed for
labourers I in good condition
II in fair condition & III in
low condition, & that the officers
unavoidably ~~franked~~ ^{franked} the list of tasks
to be prescribed & that due con-
sideration of the composition
of a gang (i.e. of the number
of men, women & children in
it) and of the tasks of each
gang separately, the Bd goes
too far. It makes a rule of
what shall be an exception, &
altogether departs from the
intention of the Code to prescribe
uniform tasks. I have no objection
to drawing up the proposed
List of Tasks, but it shall be
issued merely as a guide. The
composition of a gang, as has
been clearly pointed out in
papers in our relations yesterday
may possibly warrant as nec-

The Com. undoubtedly has the power to remove the task under Sec 107. even in the case of a particular Gang. This however is not the ^{idea} ~~case~~ which the Section was intended to be put. The Com. and the Com. who do use it ^{in my opinion} ~~use~~ ^{use} ~~discredit~~ the Section with which he is invested. It is within just measure, not expedient to have different tasks for different Gangs for the same kind of ^{Empl.} ~~work~~ on the same work. The use to which the Section has been put is to remove every other task for a particular kind of ^{Empl.} ~~work~~ on each relief ^{as a whole} ~~work~~ ^{team of} ~~work~~ ^{the} workers at cutting side drains. These signs of discrimination - 1-2. (that is) some 5 or 6 individuals in these Gangs do so. after the

have been employed on the work
for some little time. Then

the officer in charge of the work
the first part of the work

take the individuals out of the
gang and if B class the first

thrust into C class or if necessary
into D class. If he saw distribution

still going on among the gangs
employed on cutting side chains

he the then for the task for
that kind of work under

under 107. If it is only he in
very exceptional cases that

the work in the same
work for the same kind

of work the is different.

the line time of work a state

of things is pointed to his management.

The rule of the N.W.P. East:

is by no means so extensive

as the U.S. W. made out. It

simply authorizes the officer in

charge to put a law task at

FOR ORDERS.

Application of the task. After
considering all this the task
had been fixed, but it should
always be as near the task
prescribed as the Code as
possible. Modifications
will not often be necessary,
but they may be sometimes

Standard
9/3/97
tasks have already been prescribed
I don't see that we want new
ones. What is wanted is that the
standard task should be varied to
suit the difficulty of the work & the
strength & composition of the gangs.
It is not a question of
that that the N.W. means is that some
scale should be laid down as a
guide to such variation. The only ob-
jection to this is that no general rules
can be of much use to provide
for circumstances which vary so much
from day to day. We must in the
last resort, rely on the officer in local
charge using his discretion properly

There the task is allotted
to each digger, & he alone
is fixed on how much work
he is to do. One of the
gangs the task is not allowed
But like the N.W.P. the
principle of beginning with low
tasks & working up.

10/3/97
4-14 12.3.97

intention of the task the task
I think the U.S. W. the
the to be used in the work.

1/6/97

Q. a (Pres) No 217 of 30-3-97.
Recorded

Board (left)
22/1-4-97 50/3
14-3-97

In the instructions now issued
2. the Board apparently intends that
the scale should be laid down for
the guidance of local officers
for varying the standard tasks
of the Code so as to suit the
nature of the work and the
physical condition and com-
position of the gangs. It appears
to go to show that no general rules
can be of much use to provide
for circumstances which vary
so much even from day to day
and in which change must be
placed in the last resort

Issued 1/6/97

on the local officers using
their discretion fully

1897/3/18

The Bd of Rev Sett
Public Works Dept

Ms. 15.4.97

Government (1897) of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 217, 30th March 1897.

MARCH.

Tasks.

Board's Proceedings communicating, with remarks, Government Order stating that —
may be reduced to suit the physical condition of any gang of relief workers, recorded with
remarks.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 25th February 1897, No. 159:—

Read—the following G.O., No. 108, Revenue, dated 19th February 1897:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 5th February 1897, No. 100:—

Read—the following letter from Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Maddikera, 18th January 1897, No. 179-S.:—

I have the honour to state that, having carefully inspected the condition of the population of Pattikonda in regard to the prevailing high price of food-grains, I am of opinion that the opening of a relief work in the immediate neighbourhood of Pattikonda is essential. The class of labourers usually obtaining their living by assisting in agricultural operations and various forms of petty labour in village life, is in urgent need of aid. My observations show that numerous families have been for nearly two months past without labour sufficiently regular or remunerative to provide a sufficiency of food. Thus, whilst it is true that labour is not entirely absent, it is also true that it can only be obtained fitfully, and, in consequence, many families are living upon less than half their normal amount of food. This morning, after my inspection and after explaining to the people the nature of the Government famine wage, I invited those that were willing to work to assemble near my camp. Within three-quarters of an hour, 240 persons assembled and professed their eagerness to undertake work. This may be accepted simply as a sample of what the demand may be, not of its limit. Of those assembled, I found the following results:—

Health conditions of persons seeking employment on relief works, Pattikonda.

	Men.						Women.						Children.					
	Good.		Poor.		Bad.		Good.		Poor.		Bad.		Good.		Poor.		Bad.	
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
Malas	4	44.4	5	55.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madigas	13	54.2	11	45.8	..	..	20	43.5	16	34.8	10	21.7	12	52.3	1	7.7	..	..
Muhammadans ..	9	37.5	10	41.7	5	20.8	2	16.7	7	58.3	3	25.0	10	47.6	11	52.4	..	..
Bovas	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	15.4	6	46.2	5	38.4	16	59.3	11	40.7	..	..
Oobravas	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	25.0	8	60.0	4	25.0	5	38.5	8	61.5	..	..
Kuruvas	11	50.0	8	36.4	3	13.6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	37	46.8	34	43.1	8	10.1	28	32.2	37	42.5	22	25.3	43	55.1	31	41.9	..	..

2. It will be observed that the effects of deprivation differ greatly according to castes—the Mala woman being singularly free. I may add, for your information, that the state of the children presents a strong contrast with that found in the Bellary district, which I have just inspected—inimical influence on children being there rarely found. Taking into consideration the condition of the labourer as shown above, I would advise that B rates be offered, and that, until their strength be regained, the task given be as light as is consistent with reason, and the distances from the town be as little as possible.

Resolution—dated 5th February 1897, No. 100.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. It will be observed that Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King reports that near Pattikonda, in Kurnool, many families were, at the time of his visit in January, living upon less than half their usual amount of food, and that he found that 55 per cent. of the 240 persons who came to him as being willing to accept work at Famine Code wages were in poor or bad condition. At Maddikera, the Sanitary Commissioner found the people to be in absolute need of food and the poorer classes showing undoubted signs of privation. He considers that the people at Pattikonda will need special consideration if it is to be hoped that they can recover lost ground. This is scarcely possible to expect under the system for adapting tasks to the capacity of the workers, laid down in G.O., No. 43, Revenue, dated 26th January 1897. Works have been opened at Pattikonda and Maddikera since the time of Surgn.-Lt.-Col. King's visit and most of the workers have been placed in class C. In the wage of this class, there is no margin allowed over the "equivalent to a ration sufficient to keep an able-bodied labourer in health and strength"—vide Government of India circular, No. 6-44, dated 17th March 1892.

Order—No. 108, Revenue, dated 19th February 1897.

In paragraph 2 of his letter the Sanitary Commissioner recommends that the labourers in Pattikonda be offered B class wages and that they be given light tasks till they regain their strength; whereon the Board remarks that this is scarcely possible under the system for adapting tasks to the capacity of the workers laid down in G.O., No. 43, Revenue, dated 26th January 1897. In paragraph 1 clause 2 of this G.O., however, it is stated that under section 107 of the Famine Code the tasks can be altered with the consent of the Collector. The enfeebled condition of the labourers and the recommendation of the Sanitary Commissioner may be circumstances justifying the temporary exercise of the discretionary power which the Collector possesses under the section.

2. The report called for in paragraph 3 should be submitted to Government.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Settlement).
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Financial Department.
" Accountant-General.

Resolution—dated 25th February 1897, No. 159.

The order read above will be communicated to the Collector of Kurnool and to all other Collectors for information and guidance in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 4th February 1897, No. 98.

2. In paragraph 2 of the Proceedings quoted, the Board stated that, so far as it was then able to determine, the task of a gang could not be reduced except by reducing its class. Collectors will observe that, under the ruling now issued, it is permissible for them to also reduce the task in any case under section 107 so as to meet the special circumstances of the relief-workers in any place or on any work, and thus avoid the hardship of placing them on reduced wages. Under this ruling, it will be advisable for Collectors to call upon their Engineer officers to specify what may

be regarded as the appropriate tasks for workers in (1) good, (2) fair and (3) low condition, much as is done in the North-Western Provinces (*vide* page 11 of G.O., No. 14, Revenue, dated 9th January 1897). The officers in charge of works will then have less difficulty in applying a task suitable to the condition of the workers. Collectors must also bear in mind that, as no two gangs are exactly the same in sex proportions and strength, no absolutely hard and fast line in tasking is possible, and the case of each gang must, when necessary, be considered on its merits.

3. The Collector of Kurnool will be requested to expedite the report mentioned in paragraph 2 of the Government Order.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Kurnool.
„ all other Collectors.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ „ Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 217, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. In the instructions now issued, the Board apparently intends that a scale should be laid down for the guidance of local officers for varying the standard tasks of the Code so as to suit the nature of the work and the physical condition and composition of the gangs. It appears to Government that no general rules can be of much use to provide for circumstances which vary so much even from day to day and in which reliance must be placed in the last resort on the local officers using their discretion fully.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
„ the Public Works Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim

50 Copies.

First copy sent to Press

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
153

Number of copies
required.

Order complete

Letter only

Order complete with Letter.

ENCLOSURES TO G.O.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DILETT

PAPERS NOT FILED TO BE KEPT MEANT FOR DISCARDING
IN ORIGINAL

NOTE—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed
P = Print abstract only
Q = Print heading only.