

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2482

DATED 14th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording P.O. comm^s to all Collectors
orders of the Govt of India regarding the provisions
of the Famine Code relating to the fixing of
relief works & amending Sec: 106 of the
Madras Famine Code.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Same as current number.
3980

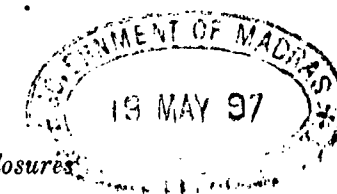
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.



Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

Printed May th.

Proceedings, 10th May 1897, No. 354.

2482
14-5-97

MAY.

Fining of Relief-workers.—Communicating orders of the Government of India regarding the provisions of the Famine Code relating to the —, and amending section 106 of the Madras Famine Code.

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

READ—the following G.O., No. 257, Revenue, dated 21st April 1897:—

Read—the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated 25th March 1897, No. 926-F. :—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 16th February 1897, No. 97, Revenue, submitting the revised Famine Code of the Madras Presidency.

2. With reference to paragraph 3, I am to ask that, with the permission of the Governor in Council, it may be considered whether article 106 of the Code in respect of the power of fining might not be brought somewhat more closely into accord with the codes of other provinces on this subject. A comparative statement setting out the corresponding articles in question is attached for convenience of reference.

3. The Government of India have the fullest sympathy with the wish of the Madras Government to exact a proper labour test, and to prevent relief works from becoming demoralising and wasteful, but they doubt whether the imposition of fines in a general way and for a considerable period, so as to reduce the relief-workers' wages below the minimum wage, is not dangerous, and whether this receives sufficient recognition in article 106, as now worded. It is true that the general principle that wages should not be reduced below the minimum wage is expressed in the article, and that power is given to the Collector to direct the enforcement of this principle on any particular work. But it is possible that the officer in charge of a work may be disposed to assume that the principle, so long as it is not specifically declared to be operative on his work, is in abeyance; and that the Collector finding that he is required to report to the Government each case in which he puts the principle in force, may hesitate to do so until distinct harm to the condition of the relief-workers has occurred. For these reasons the Government of India suggest, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council, that the article might with advantage be amended in the general sense of article 87 of the Bombay Code so as to make it more clear that the principle stated in the article is the general rule, and the suspension of it the exception. The officer in charge of the works must have discretion to fine for contumacy and idleness, but if his fines have to be so frequent as to reduce the wage below the minimum, the matter should receive immediate attention or examination from his superior officer.

Order thereon—No. 257, Revenue, dated 21st April 1897.

The Government accepts the suggestion in paragraph 3 of the letter read above to substitute section 87 of the Bombay Code for section 106 of the present Madras Famine Code. The Board of Revenue will issue instructions to Collectors accordingly.

2. Ordered that the following letter be addressed to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).

RESOLUTION—dated 10th May 1897, No. 354.

Communicated to all Collectors, who will substitute section 87 of the Bombay Famine Code (copy of which is appended) for section 106 of the Famine Code of this Presidency. Amendment slips will be issued in due course.

2. Orders on the subject of fining have already been issued in B.P. No. 278 of 1897.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Handwritten signature
7/5
Famine Secretary.

To all Collectors.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department. *carbon copy sent already.*

APPENDIX.

Bombay Famine Code, section 87.

87. (a) Fines may be inflicted for short work, when the officer in charge is satisfied that the deficiency is due to wilfulness and not weakness; but he shall exercise patience and discretion, and warn the relief-workers before putting the penalty in force.

(b) Ordinarily, no relief-worker shall be fined so as to reduce his wages below the minimum fixed by section 114 below; if, however, in the hope of forcing the authorities to relax discipline, there is continued and deliberate refusal to do the allotted task, the fining may be carried more severely down to the proportionate payment for work actually done, or the contumacious characters may be sent to the poor-house.

(c) The fining may be extended to the gangers and even to the writers when the officer in charge considers that they are to blame.

(d) In all cases the number of persons fined, with the amounts, shall be entered in the weekly report.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3980.

From The Board of Revenue
(Revenue Settlement, Land
Records and Agriculture).

Order No. 2482 of 14th May '97.

Recorded

No. 354 Press.

Dated 10th May 1897.

Received 12.5.97

Registered 13.5.97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Communicating orders of the
Government of India regarding
the provisions of the Famine
Code relating to the fining
of relief workers and amend-
ing Section 106 of the Madras
Famine Code.

The Board of Rev. Sett. 17/5/97

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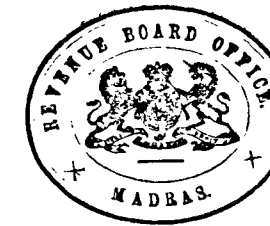
13-5

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	257	Rm	21-5-97
	258	Rm	24-6-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

Dated 10th May 1897.

No. 354 Press.

Read Government Order, Revenue Department, No. 257
Press, Dated 21st April 1897.

Resolution

Communicated to all collectors who will substitute section 87 of the Bombay Famine Code, (Copy of which is appended) for section 106 of the Famine Code of this Presidency. Amendment slips will be issued in due course.

2. Orders on the subject of fining have already been issued in Board's Proceedings No. 278 of 97.

10. 205
254-8
(Reg. 11)

(True Extract)
Enclosure. 1/5
Famine Secretary

To all collectors
Copy to the Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

End of
11-5-97

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
 189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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