

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 366.

DATED 20th May 1897.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Wages.

Stating that further evidence is needed to justify the adoption of half rice and half ragi for calculating relief - in Ganjam, and referring to the Sanitary Commissioner for remarks the collector's proposal to make certain alterations in the quantity of certain articles in the ration prescribed in section 122 of the Famine Code.

BACK PAPERS.

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

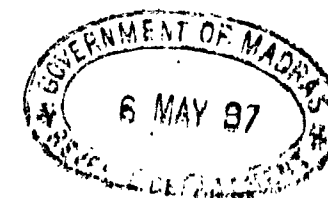
FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Orig	6749/97						

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1733

The Hon. Mr. Crooke C.E.
to the Government



From The Board of Revenue
Revenue Settlement
Land Revenue & Agriculture
Madras

Order

Recorded

No. 312 Press.

Dated 26th April 1897.

Received 6-5-97

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

pl
7-5-97
R.D.C. (S.L.)

L.S.M. Dept.

P.W. D.

G. D.

A. G.

SUBJECT.

Wages. Passing orders on a
proposal to adopt half rice &
half ragi as the basis for the
Calculation of faminty - in the
Ganyam district and sanctioning
certain alterations of diet
under the head of "other items".

Note. The instruction issued
in para 2 is in accordance with
Section 121 of the Act.

2. As regards para 3, ~~which~~
~~expressed that~~ Chilli is ~~usually~~
dearer than salt ~~being~~ and the
substitution of 2 lbs salt & 1 lb
chilli for 1 1/2 lbs salt & 1 1/4 lbs
chilli need not be objected to; further
the Board implies the condition that
the cost should not exceed that of the other items as shown in the schedule.

6/5/97

P.T.O.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

I do not understand in 121 as authorizing the Commission in para 2. but Govt has already accepted the principle of the clause grain standard in Gangan. The real gist of the matter is that the substitution of $\frac{1}{2}$ rice for $\frac{1}{5}$ rice increases ~~very~~ largely the wage paid for rice is much the chosen grain. (In calculation below in particular) As to the change of chili in 2-ct I think it has not been attained except ~~under~~ ^{of this} a reference to the Sanitary Comm: and the adoption of this proposal must be referred to India. I think though this is doubtful.

17/5/97

Taking Rice to be 10 Seers and Ragi 15 Seers per rupee, the price of 10 Seers of grain (2 Seers rice and 8 Seers ragi) on the supposition that one-fifth is rice and four-fifths ragi will be $\frac{2}{10} + \frac{8}{15} = \frac{11}{15}$ of a rupee (A) on the supposition that one-half is rice and one-half ragi, the price of the 10 Seers

to and should (though not allowed by the Code) but the Sanitary Comm: opinion should be asked & the matter is now then be reported to the Govt.

10/5/97

Tenant. But, I would not trouble the Govt. of India unless it is absolutely necessary to do so.

Dr. King's opinion might be asked on the Collector's remarks about the existing nature of ragi. (See para 10, etc.)

14.5.97

14.5.97

Dr. King 20. 11/5/97.

(5 Seers rice and 5 Seers ragi) will be $\frac{5}{10} + \frac{5}{15} = \frac{5}{6}$ of a rupee (B).

The ratio of (B) to (A) $\frac{5}{6} + \frac{15}{11} = \frac{25}{22} = 1\frac{3}{22}$

The cost of relief is therefore increased $\frac{3}{22}$ or by $\frac{300}{22}$ or nearly 14 per cent

RS 8-5-97

8/5/97

The question whether the grain ration should be $\frac{4}{5}$ of Ragi & $\frac{1}{5}$ of Rice, or $\frac{1}{2}$ Ragi & $\frac{1}{2}$ Rice depends on what is the food in ordinary use at the time of famine. Mr. Wair reported that though the people used equal quantities of rice & ragi in ordinary years he found that they were now living mainly on ragi supplemented by a little rice. Mr. Taylor says they were half & half in ordinary years, but only eating about this year. I had better be to make further inquiries as to food now in use, but in the meantime I will let the order stand.

The order about chili & salt does no harm & does not increase expenditure.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed May th.

Proceedings, 26th April 1897, No. 312.

APRIL.

Wages.—Passing orders on a proposal to adopt half rice and half ragi as the basis for the calculation of famine — in the Ganjām district, and sanctioning certain alterations of diet under the head of "Other items."

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

READ—G.O., No. 1026, Revenue, dated 19th December 1890.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on Board's Proceedings containing its views on the administration of relief during the recent famine in Ganjām and proposals for amending the Famine Code.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 12th December 1896, No. 426.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, fortnightly narrative from the Ganjām district for the period ending 30th November 1896.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 29th December 1896, No. 467.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, fortnightly narrative of the Ganjām district for the period ending 15th December 1896.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 11th January 1897, No. 24.

ABSTRACT.—Informing the Collector of Bellary that wages to relief workers need not, in the circumstances reported, be calculated according to the price of ragi.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 25th January 1897, No. 56.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on letter from the Collector of Cuddapah asking that wages of relief workers may be calculated according to price of cholam and not ragi.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 26th January 1897, No. 67.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting, for orders of Government, letter from the Collector of Ganjām suggesting the adoption of rice and ragi combined as the standard on which to base relief wages, except in the Chicacole division.

READ—also the following letter from H. D. TAYLOR, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjām, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Tekkali, 1st April 1897, Camp No. 4-F:—

I have the honour to report, for your information and favour of sanction, that I have, after inspection of the kitchens at Parlākimedi and Tekkali in the sub-division of the district, found it necessary after an enquiry into the usual habits of the people, and under the advice of the local medical officer, to direct certain alterations in the scale of diet as laid down in section 122 of the Famine Code.

2. The rule for this district as laid down is that a famine wage or gratuitous relief shall consist of a ration of four-fifths ragi and one-fifth rice in every part except the sub-division, where it is to consist of ragi only.

3. My own experience since I have been in this district, both as Collector and as Principal Assistant Collector, tends to show that the morning meal throughout the district consists of ragi and the evening meal of rice, and I consider that the famine wage throughout the district should have been calculated on a basis of half rice and half ragi. With all due deference to Mr. Weir's opinion, I cannot arrive at any explanation of his statement that in the sub-division ragi only is the staple food of the country. I have made very particular personal enquiries on this point and I feel certain that he must have been misled in the matter.

4. It has been found both in kitchens and elsewhere that a sole diet of ragi, however finely pounded the flour may be, tends to produce diarrhoea. In the northern part of the district, it is stated that even when one meal consists of ragi, the latter must first be soaked in rice congee-water before being cooked.

There is a somewhat severe outbreak of cholera at present prevailing in Tekkali and I have, on the recommendation of the local apothecary, sanctioned the substitution of one-fifth rice and four-fifths ragi for a pure diet of ragi, pending the Board's sanction. I request that my action may be approved. The change is, I consider, very necessary, as, if diarrhoea is provoked by the use of pure ragi, cholera, when cholera exists, is very likely to ensue.

The second point is in regard to the increase in the salt ration and a corresponding reduction in the amount of chillies and tamarind. Both at Parlākimedi and Tekkali the kitchen inmates complained that the allowance of salt was insufficient, and in each case the ration of tamarind, chillies and pulse was in excess of the actual requirements; section 122 of the Famine Code only allows relief officers to vary the proportion of tamarind and chillies, but does not authorize the reduction of these and an increase in the salt rations. I request that the proportion of salt may be increased from 1.75 to 2 tolas and that of chillies reduced from 1.25 to 1 tola.

RESOLUTION—dated 26th April 1897, No. 312.

In his letter read above, the Collector of Ganjām requests that the famine wage throughout the district may be calculated on a ration of half rice, half ragi, instead of on a ration of one-fifth rice, four-fifths ragi, for the northern divisions, and of pure ragi for the sub-division, as he is of opinion that throughout the district the morning meal consists of ragi, and the evening meal of rice. In its Proceedings, No. 426 of 1896, the Board directed that wages should be calculated as in 1889, and Mr. Weir in carrying out this direction adopted the proportion of 1:4, rice and ragi, although he had some doubts at first as to the way in which wages were calculated in that year (Board's Proceedings, No. 467 of 1896). He seems, however, to have arrived at a correct decision, for it will be seen from paragraph 43 of Mr. Horsfall's report (to be found in G.O., No. 1026, Revenue, dated 19th December 1890), that wages were originally calculated on ragi alone, but subsequently on one-fifth rice and four-fifths ragi. While commenting upon the lowness of the wages given, and showing how little difference there was between the relief given to the tasked labourer and him who was gratuitously relieved, Mr. Horsfall appears to have made no recommendation for calculating the wage on any other grain basis than that adopted during the later months of the period of distress in 1889. He appears, indeed, to have considered a porridge of four-fifths ragi and one-fifth rice a common form of food in the district (vide paragraph 38). It was only in connection with the fixing of scarcity rates that he expressed the opinion that rice should be adopted as the standard grain in place of ragi, and in reviewing the report, the Board and Government followed the same lines. The question of what grain should be adopted as the basis for the calculation of wages was not then discussed, though it was decided that the price of rice should be substituted for that of ragi for the purpose of computing famine batta due to Government servants.

2. Mr. Weir reported in his No. 296-F, dated 19th January 1897, that it was only in the Chicacole division that the people lived on ragi alone, the people of the rest of the district, who are mostly Uriyas, adopting a diet of ragi and rice combined. Mr. Taylor, who says he has made very careful enquiries into the matter, is confident that throughout the district the morning meal consists of ragi, and the evening meal of rice, and therefore requests that wages may be calculated on a basis of half rice, half ragi. The Board is satisfied that Mr. Taylor's contention is correct, and he will therefore, in accordance with section 121, Famine Code, adopt the average price of rice and ragi combined for the purpose of calculating relief wages. His action in adopting a diet of one-fifth rice and four-fifths ragi at Tekkali for one of pure ragi is approved.

3. The Collector further asks for authority to increase the salt ration from 1.75 to 2 tolas and reduce the chilli ration from 1.25 to one tola. The recommendation is, as pointed out by the Collector, not strictly in accordance with section 122, Famine Code, but the Board will not object to the adoption of the course proposed on condition that the total cost of "Other items", as provided in the Code, is not exceeded by the change.

(True Copy and Extract).

B. C. May 4/5.
Famine Secretary.

To the Collector of Ganjam.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" " Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. P. Seetharam.

*Print. mod. first do
Board & Sanitary Commr
RD
20-5-97*

C. No. 3733.

G. O. (Press) No. 3664/20th May 1897.

The Govt is of opinion that further evidence is ~~needed~~ ^{needed} to justify the adoption of half rice and half ragi for calculating relief wages in Ganjam. ~~As per~~ ^{In} Decr last Mr. Weir reported that though the people used equal quantities of rice and ragi in ordinary years they were living mainly on ragi supplemented by a little rice in the present year. ~~As per~~ ^{In} Mr. Taylor's letter confirms the above statement as ^{laborers} to the ~~ordinary~~ ^{laborers} funds of the ~~people~~ ^{people} in ordinary years but says nothing as to the grain used by them and the Board of Revenue is requested to make further enquiries on the point.

2. The proposal to substitute an additional quarter tola of salt in the ration prescribed in section 122 for an equal quantity of chilli will be referred to the Sanitary Commr for remarks. Surgeon Lieut Colonel King will also be requested to favour Govt with his opinion on the remarks of the Collector of Ganjam about the irritating

nature of ragi.

3. In the meanwhile the instructions issued by the Board in paras 2 & 3 of its report will be allowed to stand

W/5/57.

The Bd (lett)

The Sanitary Commr

Cpy to P. D.

60/5

W/5/57

W/5/57

List of members

Rs
20-5-97

Government {1897} of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 366, 20th May 1897.

MAY.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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Resolution—dated 26th April 1897, No. 312.

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3. The Collector further asks for authority to increase the salt ration from 1.75 to 2 tolas and reduce the chilli ration from 1.25 to one tola. The recommendation is, as pointed out by the Collector, not strictly in accordance with section 122, Famine Code, but the Board will not object to the adoption of the course proposed on condition that the total cost of "Other items", as provided in the Code, is not exceeded by the change.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Collector of Ganjam.

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

ORDER—No. 366, Revenue, dated 20th May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

The Government is of opinion that further evidence is needed to justify the adoption of half rice and half ragi for calculating relief wages in Ganjam. In December last Mr. Weir reported that though the people used equal quantities of rice and ragi in ordinary years they were living mainly on ragi supplemented by a little rice in the present year. Mr. Taylor's letter confirms the above statement as to the food of the labourers in ordinary years, but says nothing as to the grain used by them now. The Board of Revenue is requested to make further enquiries on the point.

2. The proposal to substitute an additional quarter tola of salt for an equal quantity of chilli in the ration prescribed in section 122 will be referred to the Sanitary Commissioner for remarks. Surgeon Lieutenant Colonel King will also be requested to favour Government with his opinion on the remarks of the Collector of Ganjam about the irritating nature of ragi.

3. In the meantime the instructions issued by the Board in paragraphs 2 and 3 of its Proceedings will be allowed to stand.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Sanitary Commissioner.

Copy to the Public Department.

Exd. Shaik Kiam.

60 Copies.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATE.

CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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IN ORIGINAL.

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B = Not to be printed.
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REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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