# Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 410

DATED 31st May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Subordinate establishments and medical Subordinates necessary in connection with relief works and the organization of village relief.

Passing orders on papers bringing to the notice of Government the extreme difficulty of finding the —.

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | |

## FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Rev. 6614/97

Rev. Dept.

Same as Current Number

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

SECY. GOVT. MADRAS 14 JUN 97 REV. DEPT.

4239.

# Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

*Recd.* 14-6- } 1897. *Enclosures*

*Regd.* 15-6- } 1897. *Spare copies*

*Printed June -th.*

**Proceedings, 17th May 1897, No. 373.**

GO. 410 Fam. 31-5-97

**MAY.**

*Famine relief works.*—Informing Government of the paucity of subordinates in the Revenue, Public Works Department and Medical departments.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

## (REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following G.O., No. 314, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897:—

*Read*—note by the Chief Engineer, dated 7th April 1897, regarding the paucity of hands for the establishment for the supervision of famine relief-works.

*Order*—thereon, No. 314, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897.

In the note read above the Chief Engineer brings to the notice of Government the great difficulty experienced in providing establishment for the supervision of famine relief-works. There were altogether 61 Assistant Engineers and Upper Subordinates employed on famine duty when the note was written; the number has since increased to 86 and it appears that eight more will shortly be required in the III Circle alone, to say nothing of Ganjám and Vizagapatam where distress is deepening and where relief works, which till recently had failed to attract labourers, are now resorted to by the people in considerable numbers. It seems, therefore, probable that before the next south-west monsoon the number employed on famine duty will considerably exceed the estimate given in paragraph 6 of the note, and if there should be any serious delay or failure in the next monsoon rains and it becomes necessary to open relief-works in other districts, the department would be unable to meet the demand for increased supervision.

2. It is necessary to take timely steps to meet this possible increase in the demand for supervision. It might be possible for the Chief Engineer to temporarily extend and re-arrange the divisions and ranges in the non-affected districts so as to relieve a larger number of officers for famine duty; this course should be adopted wherever practicable. The Salt Department will doubtless be able to supply a number of men capable of supervising works; the Collectorate staff in the non-affected districts and the Forest and Survey Departments might also supply a fair number. The heads of these departments are requested to submit to Government as early as possible statements showing the names of the officers they could spare for famine duty and the vernacular languages with which each is acquainted. As additional officers will also be required for the posts of taluk relief officers, circle inspectors, poor-house superintendents, kitchen superintendents, &c., the statements should classify the men as accurately as possible according to the nature of the work they can do.

3. The Government is also of opinion that it would be possible to some extent to replace small scattered relief-works by a few large ones and thus economise supervision by massing relief-workers at selected centres. The Board of Revenue is requested to report the extent to which this can be done and to direct Collectors to have estimates for a sufficient number of works prepared at once in consultation with Superintending Engineers. It should be borne in mind that when works are concentrated it will be necessary to make arrangements for hutting the labourers for establishing bazaars and hospitals, &c. (*vide* section 113). It will also be necessary to open a sufficient number of village works to afford employment near their homes to people living at a distance from the works centres. These details should also receive early attention. Such works might be placed under the Revenue officers, and to that extent they would relieve the strain on the Public Works Department.



4. The three works referred to in paragraph 6 of the Chief Engineer's note may be kept going for the present as their stoppage is not likely to afford much help. The proposal made in this paragraph to employ a number of College students before their training is completed may be renewed if extreme pressure should arise.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Rev. Sett.).
" Public Works Department.
" Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
" " " (Land Revenue).
" Superintendent, Revenue Survey.
" Local and Municipal Department.

READ—also G.O., No. 315, Press, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Recording the fortnightly narrative of the Kurnool district for the period ending 28th February 1897, with the remark that the Government is prepared to consider any proposals which the Board may send up in consultation with Collectors for the appointment of Taluk Relief Officers.

READ—also G.O., No. 316, Press, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Defining the duties and responsibilities of the officers deputed to famine duty, and laying down some principles which should guide the Famine Commissioner and the Collectors in their selection.

RESOLUTION—dated 17th May 1897, No. 373.

The Board begs to submit the report, already referred to in paragraph 5 of B.P., dated 10th May 1897, No. 352, regarding the difficulties placed in the way of the proper administration of famine relief by the paucity of subordinates in the Revenue, Public Works and Medical Departments.

2. The appended statement shows for each affected district the numbers on relief, tasked and gratuitous, the number of works open, and the number of officers on relief duty at the end of April 1897:—

| District. | Numbers on relief. | | Number of works open. | Number of Revenue Officers | | | | Number of Public Works Department Officers. | | Number of Paymasters. | Number of Circle Inspectors. | Number of Medical Subordinates. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | On famine in addition to other duties. | | On famine duty alone. | | | | | | |
| | Works. | Gratuitous. | | Collector and Divisional Officers. | Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars. | Collector and Divisional Officers. | Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and temporary Relief Officers. | Executive and Assistant Engineers. | Overseers and Supervisors. | | | |
| Ganjám .. | 5,257 | 13,350 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 4 | .. | 5 | 1 | 20 | .. |
| Vizagapatam .. | 14,262 | 1,912 | 7 | 5 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | 9 | 10 | .. | .. |
| Kurnool .. | 70,063 | 3,785 | 31 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 29 | 3 | .. |
| Bellary .. | 76,805 | 7,449 | 28 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 39 | 39 | 11 | 7 |
| Anantapur .. | 22,741 | 1,506 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | 15 | .. | .. |
| Cuddapah .. | 48,008 | 1,300 | 17 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 14 | .. | .. |
| Total .. | 237,136 | 29,302 | 103 | 18 | 36 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 76 | ~~89~~ 108 | 34 | 7 |

In only one district, Bellary, and perhaps, in Vizagapatam, can the establishment be said to be at all adequate, and even there the supply of medical officers is below requirements.

3. After the experience of the working of the distance-test in 1877–78, it has been the policy during recent years of distress to provide employment to all applicants as far as possible within a reasonable distance of their homes. The adoption of this policy necessarily involves the opening of a very large number of works, but even within the comparatively limited area within which distress has been declared during the present year, it has been found impossible to fully carry out the principles of the policy owing to the want of officers of the Upper Subordinate grade in the Public Works Department; and it has been found a matter of the gravest difficulty to supply competent and trustworthy men for the responsible posts of paymasters on the works opened. In Anantapur, there are thirteen works open, where there should be at least twenty, while in Kurnool one Divisional Officer, at least, who ought to be constantly touring and inspecting, is to be seen performing the duties of an overseer in setting out and measuring up work, in order to avert the alternative of closing some of the works. The supply of overseers and supervisors is already exhausted, although little or no additional assistance has been afforded in Ganjám and Vizagapatam. Should the failure of the south-west monsoon involve the greater part of the Presidency in famine, the Board doubts if it will be possible, even if the various departments are drained of all the men they can spare, to meet the strain, unless help is called in from other quarters.

4. The Board has alluded to the difficulty of finding men fit to discharge the duties of paymasters. A reduction in the number of works, unless caused by the improvement of the season, is not accompanied by a corresponding reduction in the number of paymasters required, for, the number of such officers depends upon the numbers on works. One paymaster should be attached, as a rule, to each work, or where the work is a large one to every 3,200 coolies, and in some cases it is necessary to appoint more than the minimum fixed by the Code. In Cuddapah, there are only 14 paymasters for 17 works, and in Kurnool, 29 for 31; while in the former district each officer has to pay 3,429 coolies.

The posts carry with them a pay not exceeding Rs. 30, and it is necessary to find men of energy, honesty and a certain amount of education. Large sums of money are continually passing through their hands, and it is therefore desirable, as far as possible, to have men over whom Government possesses some hold. Taluk gumastahs have usually been employed on this work, resulting in the disorganization of taluk offices. It has also been necessary to entertain unpassed and unknown men for these responsible posts, but the supply even of these is insufficient. Considerable help might be given by drafting men from other departments, though with the many other directions in which assistance is required, the supply is likely to be below requirements in the event of widespread distress.

5. Except in Bellary, and perhaps Ganjám, it has been found impossible to carry out properly the benevolent intentions of Government in the matter of organising gratuitous relief in villages, owing to the want of Circle Inspectors. In Cuddapah and Anantapur no men, and in Kurnool only three have been found for these posts, when ten or twelve are wanted in each district. The difficulty that is encountered in finding men to act as paymasters is met again in the case of kitchen Superintendents.

6. Finally, works are practically without any proper medical superintendence. It is impossible for the present medical staff, be its members never so energetic, to pay anything more than occasional flying visits to the works. The affected districts except Ganjám, have up to now been spared any serious visitations of cholera or small-pox; but such an immunity cannot be counted upon indefinitely. Once the relief camps are attacked with either epidemic, it will run like wild-fire from end to end, works will be deserted, the contagion will be spread far and wide, and the death roll will be enormous owing to the inadequacy of the medical establishments to cope with the outbreak. The sequel of the abandonment of works will be the necessity to grant gratuitous relief upon an unlimited scale.



7. With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 314 of 1897, the Famine Commissioner ventures to suggest that the lists of officers in each department available for famine duty may be forwarded to Government through him, in order that he may express his opinion as to the adequacy of the staff that may be available. Possibly the Staff Corps and the Sappers might be indented on. In the great famine of 1877–78, after the month of August 1877, floods of officers of all departments were poured over the Presidency from Bengal and elsewhere, many of whom did excellent work; but the strain in Bengal and other Provinces is already great, and it is doubtful if they could lend men, should the south-west monsoon prove unfavourable. In the latter contingency Mysore and the Nizam's Dominions would be likely, more or less, to fall into line with the bulk of this Presidency, so that the area which could be indented on for help would be further reduced.

8. Further report on the question raised in paragraph 3 of the last quoted G.O., will be submitted as soon as possible.

9. The report as to the necessity for taluk relief officers will be furnished as soon as replies are received from Collectors.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department. (MS. copy already sent)
„ Collectors of affected districts.
Copy to all other Collectors.

Exd. W. D'Moss.

# Revenue (1897) Department.

**CURRENT No.** 1239

RECEIVED MADRAS
20 MAY 97

The Hon: Mr Ruthe C.S.I.
The Hon: Mr Price C.S.I.
&c &c The Governor

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

No. 373 Proco.

**Dated** 17th May 1897.
**Received** 20.5.97
**Registered** 20.5.97
**Enclosures**
**Spare copies**

**SUBJECT.**

Famine relief works

Informing Government of the paucity of Subordinates in the Revenue, Public Works and medical departments.

Read C

**for Orders**

The Govt has already taken notice of action in regard to the matters dealt with in this P.P. (Vide G.O.s $\frac{314}{11-5-97}$ & $\frac{322}{12-5-97}$) The points requiring notice now are: ——

(1) the low rate of pay (Rs 30) allowed to paymasters at the works — the difficulty of finding suitable men for this rate

(2) Paucity of medical Subordinates

(3) the proposal in para 7 that the statements called for in para 2 of G.O. $\frac{314}{11-5-97}$ should be forwarded to Govt through the Famine Comm.

2. In regard to (2) the Govt has reminded the Surgeon-General of the responsibility

25/5/97

imposed on him by Section 149 of Mes Code and has asked him if he could not provide more subordinates for the ~~same~~ affected districts by making men in the non-affected districts do extra work. I C. dtd 4312 Price labeled with this is his reply. He says that he is alive to the responsibility ~~& that he would like~~ and that he has tried to get required men by advertisement ~~to also says that he has provided the~~ ~~to provide more subordinates~~ additional men required in the manner suggested by Govt. ~~and prefers~~ He temporarily to close the less important dispensaries ~~also proposes to utilize the services~~ and utilize the services of the subordinates in charge ~~Till the new Hospital Assts pass~~ of the Hospital Assts ~~that would pass~~ out of the medical college at the end of June next ~~if the new Hospital Assts do not pass~~

The rate of pay for a Paymaster & Kitchen Supt is fixed by Sec 40 of the Code. I have always noted that 30 Rs was too small pay for a paymaster and I submit the maximum pay that be raised to 50 Rs. Paying is troublesome & responsible work and I want one of the Rev: Insp^rs grade. I found Jail Inmates & baking that grade of Superintend Kitchens. I think then only can the difficulty in getting suitable men for Civil Inspectors be met.

25-5-97

BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|
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FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |

C 4239

The Board move that the ~~Sub~~ Asst Commissioners for Famine duties are insufficient now, if the S.W. monsoon fails, they will be utterly insufficient, when we have got all the help we can from extraneous sources.

With regard to men to have the power of direct agency & appointment of subordinates in the supervision of relief works, the Board suggest that we might get help from the Staff Corps & the Sappers. We have already ordered inquiries to be made for this purpose from the S. & C. about the Sappers. I don't understand what is meant about the Staff Corps.

With regard to Civil Surgeons & Assistants, we have told the Heads of the Forest & Survey Depts to submit lists of the men they can spare. The suggestion that these lists should be brought to the Famine Commissioner as a pool and he will issue orders and be issued accordingly.

The rates of pay authorized in the Famine Code for Paymasters is evidently not sufficient to attract the required number of men required. We are writing to the Sec. Govt [illegible]

Yes I, for works. Some men might be got from the I. & A. Dept who could supervise works

The pay may be raised as proposed, but in my opinion the difficulty is that the men of the kind required don't exist in sufficient numbers. B.A.s are plentiful but decent men who can drill clerks in the same sense I think men should be rendered in famine districts. The Telugu districts being mostly distressed, many men cannot be got

is too little to pay for the work they have to do. I think they too should be authorized hereafter to pay to R S O when they themselves consider it necessary to do so.

Mr S. G. and he requested that Hospital assistants to remain be withdrawn from unimportant & newly established Dispensaries for Famine Work. This letter and be communicated to the Board.

26/5/97

A.S.H 27.5.97

JG
26.5.97

Therefore, but there must be scores of Rs. Insprs or Taluk Surveyors in Tamil districts who have acquired knowledge of Telugu — At least, there were then twenty district officers — In the Sect. offices in the city of Madras there must be some dozens of such men — They should be sent out to the interested districts.

Draft to.

AS 27.5.97

JG 27.5.97

(Sett. 24—2,000—29-10-96)

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

# Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

*Dated* 17th May 1897.

No. 373 Press.

READ G.O. dated 11th May 1897 No. 314 Press.

Read also G.O. dated 11th May 1897 No: 316 Pres.

Read also G.O. dated 11th May 1897 No. 315 Pres.

## Resolution

The Board begs to submit the report already referred to in para 9 of Board's Proceedings No: 367 dated 15th May 97, regarding the difficulties placed in the way of the proper administration of famine relief by the paucity of subordinates in the Revenue, Public Works, and Medical departments.

2. The appended statement shows for each affected district the numbers on relief, tasked and gratuitous, the number of works open, and the number of

of officers on relief duty at the end of April 1897:-

| District. | Numbers on relief | | Number of works open | Number of Revenue officers | | | | | | | | | Number of P. W. D. officers | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Works | Gratuitous | | Collector and Divisional officers | Assistants and Tahsildars | Engineer officers in addition to other duties | Engineer officers on Famine duty alone | Tahsildars and Assistant Tahsildars in addition to other duties | Tahsildars and Assistant Tahsildars on Famine duty alone | Engineer and Assistant Engineer officers | Executive officers | Overseers | No. of Paymasters | No. of Field Inspectors | No. of Medical Subordinates | No. of medical officers | | | | | | |
| Ganjam | 5,257 | 13,350 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 1 | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vizagapatam | 11,262 | 1,912 | 7 | 5 | 6 | - | - | 1 | 9 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kurnool | 70,063 | 3,785 | 31 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 29 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bellary | 76,805 | 7,449 | 28 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 39 | 39 | 11 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Anantapur | 22,741 | 1506 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 1 | . | . | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cuddapah | 48,008 | 1300 | 17 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 237,136 | 29,302 | 103 | 18 | 36 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 76 | 99 | 32 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |

In only one district Bellary and perhaps in Vizagapatam can the establishment be said to be at all adequate, and even there the supply of medical officers is below requirements.

3. After the experience of the working of the distance test in 1877-78, it has been the policy during recent years of distress to provide employment to all applicants as far as possible within a reasonable distance of their homes. The adoption of this policy necessarily involves the opening of a very large number of works, but even within the comparatively limited area within which distress has been declared during the present year, it has been found impossible to fully carry out the principles of

of the policy owing to the want of officers of the Upper Subordinate grade in the Public works department; and it has been found a matter of the greatest difficulty to supply competent and trustworthy men for the responsible posts of paymasters as the works opened. In Ananta jur, there are 13 works open, where there should be at least 20, while in Kurnool one divisional officer at least, who ought to be constantly touring and inspecting is to be seen performing the duties of an overseer in setting out and measuring up work, in order to avert the alternative of closing some of the works. The supply of overseers and Supervisors is already exhausted, although little or no additional assistance has been afforded in Ganjam and Vizagapatam.

should

Should the failure of the South-West monsoon involve the greater part of the Presidency in famine, the Board doubts if it will be possible even if the various departments are drained of all the men they can spare, to meet the strain unless help is called in from other quarters.

4. The Board has alluded to the difficulty of finding men fit to discharge the duties of paymasters. A reduction in the number of works, unless caused by the improvement of the Seasons is not accompanied by a corresponding reduction in the number of paymasters required, for the number of such officers depends upon the number of works. One paymaster should be attached as a rule, to each work. ~~One paymaster should be attached to each work~~, or where the work is a large

large

Large one to every 3,200 coolies, and in some cases it is necessary to appoint more than the minimum fixed by the Code. In Cuddapah there are only 4 paymasters for 17 works, and in Kurnool 29 for 31 while in the former district each officer has to pay 3429 coolies. The ports carry with them a pay not exceeding Rs 30 and it is necessary to find men of energy, honesty and a certain amount of education. Large sums of money are continually passing through their hands and it is therefore desirable, as far as possible, to have men over whom Government possess some hold. Taluq Gumastahs have usually been employed in this work, resulting in the disorganisation of Taluq offices. It has also been necessary

necessary to entertain unpaused and unknown men for these responsible posts; but the supply even of these is insufficient. Considerable help might be given by drafting men from other departments, though with the many other directions in which assistance is required, the supply is likely be below requirements in the event of widespread distress.

5. Except in Bellary, and perhaps Ganjam, it has been found impossible to carry out properly the benevolent intentions of Government in the matter of organising gratuitous relief in villages, owing to the want of circle Inspectors. In Cuddapah and Anantapur, no men and in Kurnool only 3

have

have been found for these posts, when 10 or 12 are wanted in each district. The difficulty that is encountered in finding men to act as paymasters is met again in the case of Kitchen Superintendents.

6. Finally, works are practically without any proper Medical Superintendence. It is impossible for the present medical staff, be its members never so energetic, to pay anything more than occasional flying visits to the works. The affected districts, except Ganjam, have upto now been spared any serious visitations of Cholera or Small-pox; but such immunity cannot be counted upon indefinitely. Once the relief camps are attacked either with such epidemic, it will run like wild-fire from end to end, works will be deserted, the contagion will be spread far and wide, and death-roll will be enormous owing to the inadequacy of the medical establishments to cope with the outbreak. The sequel of the abandonment of works will be the necessity to grant gratuitous relief upon an unlimited scale.

7. With reference to para 2 of Government Order 314 of 97, the Famine Commissioner ventures to suggest that the lists of officers in each department available for famine duty may be forwarded to Government through him in order that he may express his opinion as to the adequacy of the Staff that may be available. Possibly the Staff of

staff corps and the sappers might be indented on. In the great famine of 1877-78 after the month of August 1877 floods of officers of all departments were poured over the Presidency from Bengal and Elsewhere, many of whom did excellent work; but this strain in Bengal and other provinces is already great, and it is difficult doubtful if they could lead men should the South West Monsoon prove unfavourable. In the latter contingency Mysore and the Nizam's dominions would be likely more or less to fall into line with the bulk of this Presidency, so that the area which should be indented on for help would be further reduced.

8. Further report on the question raised

raised in para 3 of the last quoted Government Order will be submitted as soon as possible.

9. The report as to the necessity for Relief officers will be furnished as soon as replies are received from Collectors.

(True Extract)

Madras 19/5/

Famine Secretary

To The Secretary to Government
Revenue department

Revenue

# Public (1897) Department.

4312

CURRENT No. ~~1918~~ 1917

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
22 MAY 97
CHIEF SECRETARY
21 MAY 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

From Surgeon-Major-Genl C Sibbald
M.C.P.D.
Surgeon-Genl with the Govt of Madras

No. Jour 2 / 37

Dated 21st May 1897

Received 22 do

Registered do

Enclosures

Spare copies

Endt No: 1099 dated 22d May 1897.

~~Order~~

Forwarded.

Chief Secretary.

C.W.S. 21/5/97

Read in Rej 6.30 P.M on 21-5-97

Vbw 21/5/97

SUBJECT.

States with reference to G.O. No 308 Rev: dated 8 May 1897 that he is fully alive to the responsibility imposed on him by section 42 of the Famine Code for providing Govt Sahibs for famine duty and explains the difficulty in obtaining hands owing to the low rate of sala

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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[1]

Through the Honble the Chief Secy. to Government.

Public Dept.

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

No. Tour 2 37

Ootacamund, 21st May 1897.

CURRENT No. 210

From

SURGEON-MAJOR-GENERAL C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I.,
SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE ~~HON'BLE AND CHIEF~~ SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Revenue DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

With reference to para 2 of G.O. No. 308 Revenue dated 8th May 1897, I have the honor to state for the information of Government that I am fully alive to the responsibility imposed on me by Section 149 of the Famine Code for providing Medical subordinates for famine duty and with this responsibility in view, I have with the permission of Government repeatedly advertised for private and pensioned Medical men for temporary duty, as the small provincial reserve at my disposal could not sufficiently cope with the heavy and urgent demands for plague, famine and cholera duties from various districts and stations. I regret however to state that I have been able to secure very few men by such advertisements. The number entertained from March up to date has only been ten and of this three have already resigned owing probably to the hard nature of famine duty & the incompatible rate of remuneration allowed.

2. As regards the requirements of the Kurnool District I have to state that there were originally four reserve Hospital Assistants under the order of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer and I have since posted six more, making a total of 10 extra men. This number together with the large permanent staff at the disposal of the District authorities which should be redistributed as required by Section 15 b of the Famine Code, ought in my opinion to be sufficient to meet all requirements. Should more Hospital Assistants be still required in spite of such redistribution, they may be withdrawn from less important minor dispensaries in the District and such institutions temporarily closed until the new batch of Hospital Assistants passes out from the Madras Medical College at the end of June next when substitutes can be spared.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obdt. Servant
C. Cornrie
Surgeon-Major-General
Surgeon-General with the Govt of Madras

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RS
31-5-97

Read C. Nos 4239 & 4312.

Order (Press) No. 410 dt/ 31st May 1897.

In the first of the papers read above the Board of Rev bring to the notice of Govt the extreme difficulty of finding the subordinate establishments necessary in connexion with ~~the~~ relief works and the organization of village relief. In G.O 322/12-5-97 the Govt has already ordered enquiries as to whether as to the H.Q. the L.G.C. madras Forces would be able to spare the services of any Sappers and Miners for the supervision of relief works. In G.O 314/11-5-97. lists have been called for of those men that can be spared for famine during season the Salt & Abkari, the Forest, and the Survey Depts and from the Collectorate Staff in the non-affected districts; the suggestion that these lists should be submitted to Govt through the Famine Commissioner is approved.

2. The Govt agrees with the Board of Rev in thinking that the pay of Rs 30 authorized in

the Cadre to Paymasters is not
sufft to attract the [Class X] of men
required for the post in sufft
numbers and authorises the Famine
Comm to raise the pay [of these officers] up to a maximum of Rs 50.
whenever he considers it necessary
to do so. There are [very many] [Class X] officers
of Rev Inspectors and Taluk Tumsildars
in the Famine Districts who have
a colloquial knowledge of Telugu
and might be [deputed] to the
affected districts. The Govt offices
in the City of Madras might also
[who?]
sufftly a fair number of men
suitable for the post of pay-
masters; the Famine Comm should
place himself in communication
with the Heads of these offices.
3. In the second of the papers
read above the S. G. reports
the action taken by him
in regard to the medical sub-
ordinates required in connexion
with the relief works. The suggestion
in the last sentence of his com-
munication is approved and
he will be informed that Hospl
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# Government {1897} of Madras.

## REVENUE.

*Recd.* } 1897. *Enclosures*

*Regd.* } *Spare copies*

**G.O., No. 410, 31st May 1897.**

## MAY.

**Subordinate establishments and medical Subordinates necessary in connection with relief-works and the organization of village relief.**

Passing orders on papers bringing to the notice of Government the extreme difficulty of finding the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, (Land Records and Agriculture), dated 17th May 1897, No. 373:—

*Read*—the following G.O., No. 314, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897:—

Read—note by the Chief Engineer, dated 7th April 1897, regarding the paucity of hands for the establishment for the supervision of famine relief-works.

Order—thereon, No. 314, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897.

In the note read above the Chief Engineer brings to the notice of Government the great difficulty experienced in providing establishment for the supervision of famine relief-works. There were altogether 61 Assistant Engineers and Upper Subordinates employed on famine duty when the note was written; the number has since increased to 86 and it appears that eight more will shortly be required in the III Circle alone, to say nothing of Ganjám and Vizagapatam where distress is deepening and where relief works, which till recently had failed to attract labourers, are now resorted to by the people in considerable numbers. It seems, therefore, probable that before the next south-west monsoon the number employed on famine duty will considerably exceed the estimate given in paragraph 6 of the note, and if there should be any serious delay or failure in the next monsoon rains and it becomes necessary to open relief-works in other districts, the department would be unable to meet the demand for increased supervision.

2. It is necessary to take timely steps to meet this possible increase in the demand for supervision. It might be possible for the Chief Engineer to temporarily extend and re-arrange the divisions and ranges in the non-affected districts so as to relieve a larger number of officers for famine duty; this course should be adopted wherever practicable. The Salt Department will doubtless be able to supply a number of men capable of supervising works; the Collectorate staff in the non-affected districts and the Forest and Survey Departments might also supply a fair number. The heads of these departments are requested to submit to Government as early as possible statements showing the names of the officers they could spare for famine duty and the vernacular languages with which each is acquainted. As additional officers will also be required for the posts of taluk relief officers, circle inspectors, poor-house superintendents, kitchen superintendents, &c., the statements should classify the men as accurately as possible according to the nature of the work they can do.

3. The Government is also of opinion that it would be possible to some extent to replace small scattered relief-works by a few large ones and thus economise supervision by massing relief-workers at selected centres. The Board of Revenue is requested to report the extent to which this can be done and to direct Collectors to have estimates for a sufficient number of works prepared at once in consultation with Superintending Engineers. It should be borne in mind that when works are concentrated it will be necessary to make arrangements for hutting the labourers for establishing bazaars and hospitals, &c. (*vide* section 113). It will also be necessary to open a sufficient number of village works to afford employment near their homes to people living at a distance from the works centres. These details should also receive early attention. Such works might be placed under the Revenue officers, and to that extent they would relieve the strain on the Public Works Department.



4. The three works referred to in paragraph 6 of the Chief Engineer's note may be kept going for the present as their stoppage is not likely to afford much help. The proposal made in this paragraph to employ a number of College students before their training is completed may be renewed if extreme pressure should arise.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Rev. Sett.).
" Public Works Department.
" Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).
" " " (Land Revenue).
" Superintendent, Revenue Survey.
" Local and Municipal Department.

*Read*—also G.O., No. 315, Press, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897.

Abstract.—Recording the fortnightly narrative of the Kurnool district for the period ending 28th February 1897, with the remark that the Government is prepared to consider any proposals which the Board may send up in consultation with Collectors for the appointment of Taluk Relief Officers.

*Read*—also G.O., No. 316, Press, Revenue, dated 11th May 1897.

Abstract.—Defining the duties and responsibilities of the officers deputed to famine duty, and laying down some principles which should guide the Famine Commissioner and the Collectors in their selection.

*Resolution*—dated 17th May 1897, No. 373.

The Board begs to submit the report, already referred to in paragraph 5 of B.P., dated 10th May 1897, No. 352, regarding the difficulties placed in the way of the proper administration of famine relief by the paucity of subordinates in the Revenue, Public Works and Medical Departments.

2. The appended statement shows for each affected district the numbers on relief, tasked and gratuitous, the number of works open, and the number of officers on relief duty at the end of April 1897:—

| District. | Numbers on relief. | | Number of works open. | Number of Revenue Officers | | | | Number of Public Works Department Officers. | | Number of Paymasters. | Number of Circle Inspectors. | Number of Medical Subordinates. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | On famine in addition to other duties. | | On famine duty alone. | | | | | | |
| | Works. | Gratuitous. | | Collector and Divisional Officers. | Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars. | Collector and Divisional Officers. | Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and temporary Relief Officers. | Executive and Assistant Engineers. | Overseers and Supervisors. | | | |
| Ganjám .. | 5,257 | 13,350 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 4 | .. | 5 | 1 | 20 | .. |
| Vizagapatam .. | 14,262 | 1,912 | 7 | 5 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | 9 | 10 | .. | .. |
| Kurnool .. | 70,063 | 3,785 | 31 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 15 | 29 | 3 | .. |
| Bellary .. | 76,805 | 7,449 | 28 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 39 | 39 | 11 | 7 |
| Anantapur .. | 22,741 | 1,506 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | 15 | .. | .. |
| Cuddapah .. | 48,008 | 1,300 | 17 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 14 | .. | .. |
| Total .. | 237,136 | 29,302 | 103 | 18 | 36 | 11 | 13 | 10 | 76 | 108 | 34 | 7 |

In only one district, Bellary, and perhaps, in Vizagapatam, can the establishment be said to be at all adequate, and even there the supply of medical officers is below requirements.

3. After the experience of the working of the distance-test in 1877–78, it has been the policy during recent years of distress to provide employment to all applicants as far as possible within a reasonable distance of their homes. The adoption of this policy necessarily involves the opening of a very large number of works, but even within the comparatively limited area within which distress has been declared during the present year, it has been found impossible to fully carry out the principles of the policy owing to the want of officers of the Upper Subordinate grade in the Public Works Department; and it has been found a matter of the gravest difficulty to supply competent and trustworthy men for the responsible posts of paymasters on the works opened. In Anantapur, there are thirteen works open, where there should be at least twenty, while in Kurnool one Divisional Officer, at least, who ought to be constantly touring and inspecting, is to be seen performing the duties of an overseer in setting out and measuring up work, in order to avert the alternative of closing some of the works. The supply of overseers and supervisors is already exhausted, although little or no additional assistance has been afforded in Ganjám and Vizagapatam. Should the failure of the south-west monsoon involve the greater part of the Presidency in famine, the Board doubts if it will be possible, even if the various departments are drained of all the men they can spare, to meet the strain, unless help is called in from other quarters.

4. The Board has alluded to the difficulty of finding men fit to discharge the duties of paymasters. A reduction in the number of works, unless caused by the improvement of the season, is not accompanied by a corresponding reduction in the number of paymasters required, for, the number of such officers depends upon the numbers on works. One paymaster should be attached, as a rule, to each work, or where the work is a large one to every 3,200 coolies, and in some cases it is necessary to appoint more than the minimum fixed by the Code. In Cuddapah, there are only 14 paymasters for 17 works, and in Kurnool, 29 for 31; while in the former district each officer has to pay 3,429 coolies.

The posts carry with them a pay not exceeding Rs. 30, and it is necessary to find men of energy, honesty and a certain amount of education. Large sums of money are continually passing through their hands, and it is therefore desirable, as far as possible, to have men over whom Government possesses some hold. Taluk gumastahs have usually been employed on this work, resulting in the disorganization of taluk offices. It has also been necessary to entertain unpassed and unknown men for these responsible posts, but the supply even of these is insufficient. Considerable help might be given by drafting men from other departments, though with the many other directions in which assistance is required, the supply is likely to be below requirements in the event of widespread distress.

5. Except in Bellary, and perhaps Ganjám, it has been found impossible to carry out properly the benevolent intentions of Government in the matter of organising gratuitous relief in villages, owing to the want of Circle Inspectors. In Cuddapah and Anantapur no men, and in Kurnool only three have been found for these posts, when ten or twelve are wanted in each district. The difficulty that is encountered in finding men to act as paymasters is met again in the case of kitchen Superintendents.

6. Finally, works are practically without any proper medical superintendence. It is impossible for the present medical staff, be its members never so energetic, to pay anything more than occasional flying visits to the works. The affected districts except Ganjám, have up to now been spared any serious visitations of cholera or small-pox; but such an immunity cannot be counted upon indefinitely. Once the relief camps are attacked with either epidemic, it will run like wild fire from end to end, works will be deserted, the contagion will be spread far and wide, and the death roll will be enormous owing to the inadequacy of the medical establishments to cope with the outbreak. The sequel of the abandonment of works will be the necessity to grant gratuitous relief upon an unlimited scale.



7. With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 314 of 1897, the Famine Commissioner ventures to suggest that the lists of officers in each department available for famine duty may be forwarded to Government through him, in order that he may express his opinion as to the adequacy of the staff that may be available. Possibly the Staff Corps and the Sappers might be indented on. In the great famine of 1877–78, after the month of August 1877, floods of officers of all departments were poured over the Presidency from Bengal and elsewhere, many of whom did excellent work; but the strain in Bengal and other Provinces is already great, and it is doubtful if they could lend men, should the south-west monsoon prove unfavourable. In the latter contingency Mysore and the Nizam's Dominions would be likely, more or less, to fall into line with the bulk of this Presidency, so that the area which could be indented on for help would be further reduced.

8. Further report on the question raised in paragraph 3 of the last quoted G.O., will be submitted as soon as possible.

9. The report as to the necessity for taluk relief officers will be furnished as soon as replies are received from Collectors.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collectors of affected districts.
Copy to all other Collectors.

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Read—also the following letter from Surgeon-Major-General C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department (through the Chief Secretary to Government), dated Ootacamund, 21st May 1897, No. 2-37-Tour:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 308, Revenue, dated 8th May 1897, I have the honour to state, for the information of Government, that I am fully alive to the responsibility imposed on me by section 149 of the Famine Code for providing medical subordinates for famine duty and with this responsibility in view, I have, with the permission of Government, repeatedly advertised for private and pensioned medical men for temporary duty, as the small provincial reserve at my disposal could not sufficiently cope with the heavy and urgent demands for plague, famine and cholera duties from various districts and stations. I regret, however, to state that I have been able to secure very few men by such advertisements. The number entertained from March up to date has only been ten and of this three have already resigned owing probably to the hard nature of famine duty and the incompatible rate of remuneration allowed.

2. As regards the requirements of the Kurnool district I have to state that there were originally four reserve Hospital Assistants under the order of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer and I have since posted six more, making a total of ten extra men. This number, together with the large permanent staff at the disposal of the district authorities, which should be redistributed as required by section 156 of the Famine Code, ought, in my opinion, to be sufficient to meet all requirements. Should more Hospital Assistants be still required in spite of such redistribution, they may be withdrawn from less important minor dispensaries in the district and such institutions temporarily closed until the new batch of Hospital Assistants passes out from the Madras Medical College at the end of June next when substitutes can be spared.

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Order—No. 410, Revenue, dated 31st May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

In the first of the papers read above the Board of Revenue brings to the notice of Government the extreme difficulty of finding the subordinate establishments necessary in connection with relief

works and the organization of village relief. In G.O., No. 322, dated 12th May 1897, the Government has already ordered enquiries to be made as to whether His Excellency the Lieutenant-General Commanding Madras Forces would be able to spare the services of any Sappers and Miners for the supervision of relief works. In G.O., No. 314, dated 11th May 1897, lists have been called for of the men that can be spared for famine duty from the Salt and Abkári, the Forest and the Survey Department and from the Collectorate staff in the non-affected districts; the suggestion that these lists should be submitted to Government through the Famine Commissioner is approved.

2. The Government agrees with the Board of Revenue in thinking that the pay of Rs. 30 authorized in the Code to paymasters is not sufficient to attract the class of men required for the post in sufficient numbers and authorizes the Famine Commissioner to allow increased pay to these officers up to a maximum of Rs. 50, whenever he considers it necessary to do so. There are probably very many Revenue Inspectors and taluk gumastahs in the Tamil districts who have a colloquial knowledge of Telugu and might be deputed to the affected districts. The Government offices in the City of Madras might also supply a fair number of men suitable for the post of paymasters; the Famine Commissioner should place himself in communication with the heads of these offices.

3. In the second of the papers read above the Surgeon-General reports the action taken by him in regard to the medical subordinates required in connection with relief works. The suggestion in the last sentence of his communication is approved and he will be informed that Hospital Assistants may be withdrawn for famine work from unimportant and newly established dispensaries.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
„ the „ (Land Revenue).
„ the „ (Separate Revenue).
„ the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Superintendent, Revenue Survey.
„ the Public Works Department,
„ the Local and Municipal Department,
„ the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces,
„ the Public Department,
„ the Judicial Department,
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Financial Department.

} for favour of early communication to heads of offices in the Presidency Town.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

150 Copies.