

125-285

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 5072.

DATED 27 Sept^r

[Despatch Abstract.]

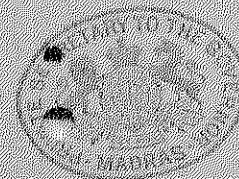
*Calling upon the Collectors of the
Deccan districts to furnish certain information in regard to the dis-
-placement of cholera by rage in the calculation of the
money value of wages & doles.*

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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8067/1927R 723-12-7						



GOVERNMENT HOUSE

@ Adacamund.
16th September 1927



My dear Stokes,

His Excellency
thinks that Honble members
would like to see the enclosed.

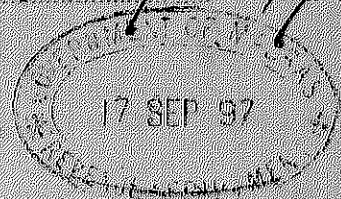
Yours sincerely,
W. S. S. S.

Revenue Board Office,
(Land Revenue),

Suntakal

MADRAS.

3 Sept. 1897.



My dear Sir -

I am glad to report that the rains of the last week have made the ^{agricultural} prospects of the Ceded Districts, humanly speaking, safe. Some comparatively few tracts, scattered here and there, have not fared quite so well as the great bulk of the Decan has. But such areas are trifling, and as there has been general rain during the last 60 hours, I make no doubt that they also have, by this time, had their due share. In many parts, the ryots are crying out for sunny weather.

57-585-161

I have been here for the last four days for the purpose of conferring with the Collectors of the affected Districts. I had met the Kurnool Collector, and several of his officers, at Nandyal on the 29th ult, on my way here.

I have also, during ^{my} stay, occupied 2 fore-
noons in carefully inspecting the Chippigiri
work (Ahi's Taluk) - over 13,000 people - as well
as ^{all} the grantees relying there. Another forenoon
has been spent on the Maddurkera work (Pattin-
Konda Taluk (Kurnool)). I inspected 276th work
individually, as well as the inmates of two
kitchens, the grain doled, and the weaving
operations. I pointed out to Col^l what appear-
ed to be defects. At the same time I would
like to place on record, the immense benefit
which the appointment of a Commissioner's Taluk

Relief Officer (Capt. Shaw) has produced already
in the southern portion of the Pattikonda Ta-
luk. The minute inspection which I made of
the above two works was directed mainly to
two points, viz., the physical condition of
the workers, and to the manner in which
the recent orders of Govt. as to the execution
of tasks is being carried out. In both works
the people were in distinctly good condi-
tion. It must be remembered, of course,
that they ~~are~~ belong mainly to the drags
of the population, but I question very much
whether they were not in at least as good
condition as they would be in at the end
of any hot weather. They are at all events
indistinguishable in this respect from the
village people who are not on relief and
who have never ^{the Hospital Assistant, who have been left in charge of} neglected any. ^{Since Govt. order that there has been no opportunity of inspection (all night and all day) from chosen districts of the district.} The way of things

Cases of emaciation to be found are almost entirely confined to old people and children. In every case in which the subject has been over a month on relief, the patient enquiry invariably discloses here, as every where in the Deccan, a medical history, which (old age of course excepted) fully accounts for the emaciation. Inefficient food has nothing what comes to do with it. In point of fact, the people themselves give practical evidence of the more than sufficiency of the Govt. wages by leaving some of the members of their families at home. The grant of an adult wage to boys and girls between 12 & 16 enables the male produce, especially, to remain at home. As to kitchens, the ration, if not plentiful, is ample. At Chippigiri, for instance, the children must be observed as fat. I am quite aware that Dr. King

is labouring to show the opposite, but I make the above statement deliberately, and after much larger acquaintance with works & other relief during this famine than he can pretend to. To find what true emaciation means, it would be necessary to go to certain parts of Sanjam & Vizagapatam, or to ^{part of} the Agency Tract of Godavari. But Dr. King has never visited any of these ~~parts~~ places.

As to the question of tasks this is a very difficult question indeed. It is too late now to change the system, or want of it, under which they are fixed. In practice everything depends on the Overseer. For instance, on the Chippigiri work, I found the people working at earth work without any

Task being laid out. The people were bring-
ing earth from anywhere. It would be impossi-
ble to measure the work done, and the fig-
ures entered in the registers bore internal
evidence of this unreliability. On the Madras
Kor work, on the contrary, the Overseer was a
real honest workman, and his books were
reliable. Speaking generally, the superior staff
of the P. W. D. have not done well. They have
shown little desire to co-operate with C. E. S.
They have left Overseers far too much to them-
selves. The result has been waste and de-
moralization. There are, of course, exceptions,
such as Mr. De Morgan in Ganjam, Mr. Lieut.
Kelly in Vizianagaram, and Lieut. Close R.E.
and Mr. Murray in Cuddapah. The attitude
assumed by Super? Engineers De Winter and

Laminie has been most regrettable in my
opinion. However, in spite of all drawbacks,
I have found that the system of tasks is gen-
erally in force, and that deductions for
short work are general. The tasks in my
opinion are light.

I am unable to say that, except in Cud-
dalah, Vizianagaram, and Ganjam, the de-
crease in numbers has hitherto been ad-
equate. ^{I am} quite prepared to admit that
a considerable number of persons must re-
main on work for the next seven weeks
or so, i.e., until there has been some lev-
elling, and that the works of gratuitous re-
tiring lists cannot even then be closed, un-
less there is a Tangible fall in prices. Still

Co. I am of opinion that there are many persons
on relief in Kurnool, Anantapur, and Bellary
who have no right to be there. They should
be have no doubt cut down their labours
of bills somewhat extensively. But the relief
workers are very generally refusing to accept
of the offer of field labours on the ground that
in the State works pay better. Ryots are generally
complaining of this, and their fields are very
dirty. I trace a large part of this difficulty
to the manner in which wages are calculated.
Used in Kurnool and Bellary. Cholum, selling
at $8\frac{1}{2}$ pice per rupa, is the basis of cal-
culation in both districts, whereas the price
of raga is 12 to 13. Owing to the adoption of the
dearer grain, the B. wage is (for a man) 2 annas
(or 3 pice) if I remember right, whereas the raga
wage would be only 1 anna & 6 or 7 pice. Now,

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Revenue Board Office,
(Land Revenue),
MADRAS.

I discovered a month ago that the relief workers of the Bellary Taluk
were going down every rest day to a village in
the Bellary Taluk in order to buy the raga for
the work's consumption, although they were
being paid on Cholum. There is ample raga
in the two districts named, and I see no
reason whatsoever why the wages should
not be calculated as in Tadpatri and Gooty
on $\frac{2}{3}$ raga & $\frac{1}{3}$ Cholum. This is another way
of saying that the workers would have a cho-
lum diet every three days. In Cuddapah,
it is half and half, but the B. class
wages there is only 1 anna & 4 pice.
This is one of the reasons of the great reduc-
tions in Cuddapah, for the relief workers per-
sists in looking on his wage as a certain
sum in money, and not as the commuted

3
on value of a certain quantity of grain. Thousands
of coolies who eat raji have, in consequence,
been flocking to the Kurnool and Bellary works,
and during the last six weeks, from Anantapur after
the change to raji was made there. I feel
confident, from my experience elsewhere, that the
fall in the money wage, which would ensue,
if the Anantapur plan were introduced into those
two districts, would send a lot of people to
their ordinary employments. I submit that
the neglect of this consideration is unduly fore-
sight swollen numbers on all relief in the
of two districts attended to.

4
Instant a large fall in prices, it will be
impossible in my opinion, altogether to shut
down works. When this will take place, it
is hard to say, for the most reliable inform-

ation, which I am able to obtain, leads me
to think that, except the very largest ryots,
no one has any stock. Export has ceased to
one extent, especially, to Bombay and to
the North long ago. So there seems to me
little prospect of old stocks coming into
the market in any quantity, owing to im-
proved prospects, and the mud has water
will be used to replace ^{the} depleted stock in
each ryot's home. Imports must therefore
continue for some considerable time,
although such a copious harvest, as will
be reaped in, e.g., Godavari shortly,
will tend to make prices easier.

5
It appears to me that, in the meanwhile,
the efforts of all officers should be concentrated
on preparing the minds of the half million people
not only

by destroying the under attraction of State relief,
I am for a speedy return to their ordinary avoca-
on time. I am opposed to the adoption of any
heroic remedies. Still it is absolutely certain
that the bulk of these people have got into that
morbid state that they will not leave re-
lief willingly. This tendency is increased when
they are paid, or fed, at a rate which is
30% in excess of what they ^{would} spend upon them-
selves, even assuming that our grain equiva-
lents are not in excess of what they consider
sufficient at their own homes.

I may perhaps be permitted to suggest that
Taluk Relief Officers and Circle Inspectors should
be retained up to the end. They form the eyes
and ears of the Collector, and are in a position
to sound a note of warning, in case of reduction
being overdone, or of a recurrence of distress
owing to any other cause.

Finally, I would respectfully suggest for His Excellency's consideration whether this efficient working would not be promoted if Mr. Le Fane's incumbency of the Famine Commissionship were now to be terminated. None of the Collectors take him seriously, and with those at least he has established most undesirable relations. There is consequently considerable friction, but the most immediately urgent feature is the interminable and ever-renewing delays in obtaining ~~the~~ and communicating the orders of Govt., as well as in the transaction of ordinary work. We have arrived at a point in the famine when promptitude in decision is essential. This is

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tion, ^{at its conclusion} the impressions which I have received during the month's tour which has now closed.

Yours sincerely

C. S. Croft

To

H. A. Sim Esq J. C. S.

Private Secretary

H. E. The Governor

No.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

The Hon. Secy. Genl. C.R.
The Hon. Secy. H. W. W. W.

Circulated for information

Submitted to H.E. The Encl. with
reference to Secy. H. W. W. W.

Seen
JH
18/9/97

RS
7-9-97

7-9-97

Since Mr. C.R. had said more
as to how very a comm. T. R. O.
had been found so valuable. I think
I have called along thought that we
ought to have had more of this
this class, but my opinion was
not accepted.

I have drawn attention in my report
on the last Season Report to the exclusive
use of charcoal as the standard gauge
in the Hallway & Kewwood Districts.
It is an error which should be terminated
as soon as may be.

What Mr. C.R. says as to thousands
of persons flocking to the Hallway &
Kewwood works from Amantapen be-
cause of the difference of wage is worthy
of further investigation. It shows
that the people will leave their villages
& go to distant works for adequate
wages. I think, that
the relief workers might have
been concentrated & settled, if possible.

I think we should verify the accuracy of
Mr. C.R.'s information as to the number of persons
who flock to the works. The Hallway
District is a large one.

As to the Hallway and Kewwood works should be asked.
The Hallway works should be asked.
The Kewwood works should be asked.
The Hallway works should be asked.
The Kewwood works should be asked.

Circulated to the Secy. Genl. C.R.
Submitted by Secy. H. W. W. W.

18/9/97

191-583-161

FOR ORDERS.

Effort had been made to secure
Rato than that than.
With info about Mr. C. A. says
about Mr. C. A. I have already
suggested that the app. of Janine
C. A. shall terminate on the
turn of Jan. 1st to Madras

Circ.
1899/97

No. 100 terminable as soon as
possible, but we must get
the report prepared.

25/9/97

From

The Hon. Mr. C. A. C. R.
The Hon. Mr. H. S. R. R.

No.

With reference to H. M. S. R. R.
on Mr. C. A. S. D. S.

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

The relief wage grain was ori-
ginally chalum in all the Decan
districts. On the 3rd July
instructions were issued by
the Finance Commr ~~for~~ for
the adoption of half chalum and
half ragi in Cuddapah, and
two-thirds ragi and one-third
chalum in Anandapur.

2. In Bellary the ^{chalum} basis was changed
into one of half-chalum and
half-ragi in the taluks of
Kudligi and Hospet and the
northern half of the Bellary
taluk in the first half of
July, and the method appears
to have been extended to the
northern half of the taluk
in the second half of the month.
The wage is ~~now~~ still calculated
on the full chalum basis in
Hodagalli, Adoni and Alur.

566 758

vide para 3 of C. A. S. R. R.
G. H. P. R. 583 758
5-8-97

and generally throughout
Kurnool.

3. The complaint that the ~~fact~~
Cholanu wage attracts workers
to Bellary and Kurnool from
Anandapur and probably
also from Cuddapah is well
founded. In the ~~fact~~^{narrative}
for the first fortnight of August
the collector of Bellary reported
that ~~English~~^{English} people came
to the Alur. Gaudakal road
and that he had solved the
difficulty by ordering the
immigrants to be put into
separate gangs and paid a
purely ragi wage; he also
said that it would be possible
to adapt ~~the Anandapur basis~~^{to ragi and to Cholanu as the basis}
in the Alur taluk but his
subsequent narrative contains
no reference to the point.
In his narrative for the second
fortnight of August the collector
of Kurnool reports that Ananda-
pur people are coming to
Gudipallu near Pyapalle
and that he has introduced
the Anandapur basis on
this work, and that in

FOR ORDERS.

No. 111 last fortnightly report
It is calculated on $\frac{2}{3}$ ragi & $\frac{1}{3}$ Cholanu
in some part at all events.

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25/9/97

Page 6 of 10 615 157
13/9/97

The Collector of the
Deccan Districts, all 4,
who be asked ^{from the districts} what
extent, for what works
& kiln, the wages &
doles are calculated on
ragi; and how far this
can be extended now.

25/9/97

Yes -
As I have said else-
where, I ~~have~~ got my info
on this subject from the Deccan
reports of the Col. of Kurnool
& Bellary for the week before
last. Why there have not
been referred to, I do not
under the circumstances, with see

Rs
25/9/97

anticipation of similar
immigration from Cuddapah
he has ordered the adoption
of the Cuddapah basis on the
Nassau and other works in the
parts bordering on Cuddapah

Rs
25-9-97

124/9/97

25/9/97

G. a. min no 5072 d/27 2/16/97

Dr. Stamp
27/9/97

The Govt observes that in the major portion of the Decem relief wages are now calculated on a mixed chalum and raji basis and Mkrayi is also used as food in Kikheho in some parts. The collectors of the Decem districts will be requested to report from what date, to what extent ~~and~~ ~~to~~ what extent and in what circles and Kikheho raji has displaced chalum in the calculation of the money value of wages and dates, and how far the system can be extended.

(List from orders)

The General Comm 17/9/97

res
27-9-97

recd
28/9/97

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

189

READ AGAIN C.O., No. _____
 189 _____

COUNT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTERS OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DICTO

CAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING WANT FOR DEVIATION
 IN ORIGINAL

H.B.—
 A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only