

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 524

Dated 2nd July 1897.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Weavers' Task Table.

Recording Board's Prop. issuing instructions
for the preparation of a revised — in
Buddapest.

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. 5131.

The Hon: Mr. Cresser
Jt. Secy to the Government

From

The Board of Rev:
(Mr. L. R. G. A.)

Orders

~~Order~~ with reference to the remark in
last sentence of the BP that it
does not seem clear how the
Adoni task (as implied in
G.O. 224) provides for
the family also.

No. 427.

Dated 10th June 1897

Received 19th do -

Registered 21st do -

Enclosures

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2. The Adoni tasks are ad-
mittedly higher than those

proposed by collectors and accepted
by the Board for ~~other places~~.

But this excellence
after ~~his~~ personal inspection
of the weavers' relief at Adoni
was of opinion that the tasks
there were not too, the earnings
of weavers with single looms
being barely sufficient for
subsistence in cases in which

SUBJECT.

Issuing instructions
for the preparation of a
revised weavers' Task Table
in Cuddapah.

C26/6/97
4/7/97

Weavers' Task Table.—Issuing instructions for the preparation of a revised — in Cuddapah.

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

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 22nd January 1897, No. 46.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on reports from the Collectors of Bellary and Kurnool regarding the adequacy of the prescribed tasks for weavers.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), dated 6th May 1897, Mis. No. 3185.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on certain points in connection with the weavers' relief scheme in Cuddapah.

READ—also the following letter from M.R.Ry. S. RAMU AIYAR Avargal, B.A., Special Deputy Collector in charge of Weavers' Relief, Deccan Districts, to the Collector of Cuddapah, dated Kurnool, 18th May 1897, Ref. on Cur. No. 85 :—

Adverting to paragraph 3 of your Ref. on Cur. No. 7290-Rev. of 1896, dated 14th May 1897, I have the honour respectfully to submit that the Board of Revenue appears to be under an erroneous impression that the Adóni task table is based upon a six-and-a-half hours' working day. Evidently, this is based upon a statement of mine made in my letter, as Divisional Officer, Adóni, and printed in B.P., dated 22nd January 1897, No. 46, R.S., L.R. and Agri., that, when I actually watched certain able-bodied Mussalman carpet-weavers, I found that they could weave at the rate of about a foot an hour. The Board, in paragraph 2 of its Proceedings, appears to have arrived at the conclusion that a carpet can be woven at about 6½ hours, allowing for interruptions in weaving caused by thread snapping, &c. But in the same paragraph of my letter above referred to, I estimated the time required for the weaving of a carpet at about eight hours, i.e., by an average weaver. The experiments subsequently made at Adóni have established the correctness of this view.

2. I have already, in my letter R. C. No. 85 of 1897, dated 2nd instant, stated that the rates of wages allowed for turbans in the Jammalamadugu scheme appear to me to be somewhat liberal. In saying so, I was guided by the result of the enquiries made by me in Jammalamadugu and some of the surrounding villages and consideration of the time allowed in the task table for the weaving and the various processes connected with the weaving as compared with that which, so far as my inspections and enquiries went, was actually taken.

3.

4. Meanwhile, and pending regular investigation of the present tasks by me, I strongly deprecate any lowering of the tasks, and I beg to suggest that you may recommend this proposal to the Board of Revenue, keeping the order in question in abeyance pending the order of the Board on your reference. It is extremely undesirable to lower the task at present, as in the event of its being found too light after due investigation, it will be difficult to raise it and the weavers will naturally clamour a good deal. Sufficient concession for the present has, in my opinion, been shown to them for the present by fixing the working number of hours a day at 8.

Reference on the above, dated 23rd May 1897, Ref. on Cur. No. 7290-Rev. of 1896.

Extract (paragraphs 1, 2 and 4) forwarded to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue in continuation of this office letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 7290-Rev. of 1896, dated 18th instant.

2. The Deputy Collector's report confirms the view expressed in my letter referred to above.

3. Pending orders of the Board, the Deputy Collector says he has not enforced the 6½ hours per day task ordered by me.

(Signed) A. C. TATE,
Collector.

READ—also the following letter from A. C. TATE, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th May 1897, Ref. on Cur. No. 144-F.:—

With reference to B.P., dated the 22nd April 1897, No. 308, I have the honour to state that the Special Deputy Collector in charge of the Weavers' Relief Operations, who was asked to submit a report on the subject, says that he does not think that the question of granting gratuitous relief to the dependants of weavers in this district need be considered at present, as the bulk of those in receipt of State relief are weavers of turbans, and the rates of wages now allowed to them for these cloths appear to be liberal, being based, as they are, on a task of eight hours a day, and the weavers further derive profit by paying the coolies employed by them less amount than they are allowed by Government. He further states that the above view is confirmed by the results of his personal visits to the weavers' houses in Jammalamadugu, Moragudi and Karmalanandlapalle, but pending regular experiments to be made under his supervision, he does not wish it to be understood that he has formed any final opinion in the matter. I have drawn his attention to the urgency of this matter.

2. In the opinion of the Deputy Collector, the eight-hour day task is lenient. According to the recent orders, the task has still further been reduced to one of 6½ hours a day. I have therefore issued orders to exclude weavers' dependants from the operation of the recent orders relating to the distribution of gratuitous relief pending further report from the Special Deputy Collector. I request the Board's orders.

READ—also the following letter from A. C. TATE, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th May 1897, Ref. on Cur. No. 7290-Rev. of 1896 :—

With reference to B.P., dated 17th April 1897, No. 2846, I have the honour to state that the Special Deputy Collector in charge of Weavers' Relief Operations has not yet taken any steps to investigate the matter and submit his report. He says in his letter, Ref. No. 85, dated 14th May 1897 (copy enclosed), that his first duty, as ordered by Government, is to visit all working centres with a view to bring the tasks and rules into some degree of uniformity. This being his first duty, I think he should regard making the Jammalamadugu experiments which have been ordered so long ago to be a most urgent matter. It is only by such experiments that uniformity can be secured. The Deputy Collector will never secure uniformity by visiting centres and abstaining from making the experiments that have been called for. The Board is aware that in March last I brought to its notice that certain weavers at Jammalamadugu were earning over A-class wages, while the intention of Government is that they should earn C-class wages. Until the Deputy Collector makes his experiments, the present rate of wages will continue, and it seems to me that a good deal of time has been lost already in making the further investigation which the Board desires, and that the Deputy Collector should now attend to the matter at once. The Government revenue is suffering. If the Board agrees with me, I request that it will issue the necessary orders.

ENCLOSURE.

From M.R.Ry. S. RAMU IYER Avargal, B.A., Special Deputy Collector in charge of Weavers' Relief Operations, Deccan Districts, to the Collector of Cuddapah, dated Kodumur, 14th May 1897, Ref. on Cur No. 85.

With reference to your R.C. No. 144-F. of 1897, dated 8th instant, I have the honour to enquire whether it is your wish that I must go at once to the Cuddapah district and stay there until I could complete the necessary investigations into the subject of the tasks and submit my report thereon. In this connection, I respectfully solicit reference to paragraph 7 of G.O., No. 216, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897, and paragraph 2 of B.P., dated 8th April 1897, No. 293, from which it will be seen that my first duty is to visit the various weaving centres in the four Deccan districts with a view to bring the tasks and rules into some degree of uniformity. I have been accordingly visiting the various centres. As the Jammalamadugu tasks appear to be based on actual experiments, I do not think that I shall be qualified in proposing any changes unless I consider them necessary after making fresh experiments under conditions which may ensure the correctness of the results arrived at. It is my intention to take up, in the first instance, the experiments in connection with the turbands woven at Jammalamadugu and Proddatur, after I shall have finished my preliminary inspection of the various weaving centres. If this plan does not meet with your approval, I beg to be favoured with definite instructions as to what you wish me to do.

2. I shall be obliged by your kindly directing my particular attention to any points in connection with the tasks at present in force which may have attracted your notice, so that I may know on what lines you wish my investigations should proceed.

RESOLUTION—dated 10th June 1897, No. 427.

Under the circumstances now explained by the Special Deputy Collector, Weavers' Relief Operations, the tasks in Cuddapah should, for the present, be based upon the outturn that may be expected of an average man working eight hours a day. The Special Deputy Collector should submit without delay the report called for in B.P., No. 281 of 1897. From the last paper read above, it would appear that he had up to 18th May done nothing towards determining what the tasks should be for each kind of cloth, although he had been at work for about six weeks; this is very unsatisfactory. He has since ordered Deputy Tahsildars to conduct experiments. The dimensions of the various cloths and the quality of the twist used are so different in different places that it is often difficult to compare one task with another. It may be convenient to lay down the principles that should be followed in attempting to fix a task. The Deputy Collector has yet to report the number of hours that should be generally taken as equivalent to a day: it appears that the task at Adóni will afford employment to an average weaver for eight hours. But, whatever the number of hours that may be eventually decided on in fixing the task, it is necessary to ascertain how much cloth or carpet can be woven by an average weaver in a day's fair work; the task must not be too high, or it will be beyond the average weaver's capacities; nor must it be too low, or those of superior physique and skill will earn a higher wage than they are intended to do. No doubt, whatever task is fixed, a considerable number, through extraordinary skill or assiduity, will be able to turn out work in excess of that task; it has to be considered how such cases should be dealt with so as to prevent weavers from earning more than the daily C wage. The simplest method may, perhaps, be to refuse to issue yarn against cloths produced before the allotted time is up; but this is not suggested as a hard and fast rule, for it may be desirable to afford to zealous workers some set-off against the delays in appraising and issuing yarn that occur from time to time, and for which they themselves are in no way responsible. Next, in addition to the C wage for actual weaving, the weaver or his family should be paid for each cloth, or set of cloths, such actual money value as may be ascertained to be the equivalent of certain preliminary processes, such as winding, setting up, sizing, &c., necessary before the cloths can be woven. These subsidiary operations will generally be performed by the weaver's wife or children, and it should be understood that the wages paid for these subsidiary operations should be sufficient to provide a full C day's wage for the operator for each day allowed for the actual

weaving of the cloth, although the work may not occupy the whole day, for, it is no fault of the wife, or sister, or daughter, as the case may be, that her task is less than a full day's work, and anything less than the C wage is insufficient to support existence for any length of time. What the tasks should be for the weaver and the subsidiary operator, experiment alone can tell, and these experiments should be conducted without further delay.

2. The Collector remarks in his letter, No. 144, dated 24th May 1897, that "weavers derive a profit by paying the coolies employed by them less amount than they are allowed by Government." He is referred to Rule No. 6 of the rules for the relief of weavers in Jammalamadugu, under which advances of materials should be made for only as many looms as can be worked by the members of the family, assisted by such additional and necessary labour as cannot be provided by the family itself. The employment of cooly-labour should be the exception. The Collector should have enquiries made, so that the yarn advanced may be restricted to the quantity really required to keep the weaver and his family in employment. Advances should be refused in all cases where it is found that weavers take them merely to enable themselves to employ others under them at lower wages.

3. The Collector's attention will also be drawn to paragraph 2 of B.P., No. 46 of 1897, in which the relief of weavers' dependants was formally sanctioned by the Board, and this direction was approved by Government in G.O. No. 77 of 1897. Government, in its subsequent Order, No. 229, dated 1st April 1897, remarked that, if the Adóni tasks were adopted, it would be a question for consideration whether separate arrangements should be made for their relief. As the Adóni tasks have not yet been adopted in Cuddapah, gratuitous relief should be granted to these dependants, and it does not yet seem at all clear how the Adóni task provides for the family also.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
" Special Deputy Collector, Weavers' Relief Operations.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Ed. A. F. Eccleston.

Government {1897} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

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G.O., No. 524, 2nd July 1897.

JULY.

Weavers' Task Table.

Recording Board's Proceedings issuing instructions for the preparation of a revised — in
Cuddapah.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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Adverting to paragraph 3 of your Ref. on Cur. No. 7290-Rev. of 1896, dated 14th May 1897, I have the honour respectfully to submit that the Board of Revenue appears to be under an erroneous impression that the Adóni task table is based upon a six-and-a-half hours' working day. Evidently, this is based upon a statement of mine made in my letter, as Divisional Officer, Adóni, and printed in B.P., dated 22nd January 1897, No. 46, R.S., L.R. and Agri., that, when I actually watched certain able-bodied Mussalman carpet-weavers, I found that they could weave at the rate of about a foot an hour. The Board, in paragraph 2 of its Proceedings, appears to have arrived at the conclusion that a carpet can be woven at about $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours, allowing for interruptions in weaving caused by thread snapping, &c. But in the same paragraph of my letter above referred to, I estimated the time required for the weaving of a carpet at about eight hours, i.e., by an average weaver. The experiments subsequently made at Adóni have established the correctness of this view.

2. I have already, in my letter R. C. No. 85 of 1897, dated 2nd instant, stated that the rates of wages allowed for turbans in the Jammalamadugu scheme appear to me to be somewhat liberal. In saying so, I was guided by the result of the enquiries made by me in Jammalamadugu and some of the surrounding villages and consideration of the time allowed in the task table for the weaving and the various processes connected with the weaving as compared with that which, so far as my inspections and enquiries went, was actually taken.

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4. Meanwhile, and pending regular investigation of the present tasks by me, I strongly deprecate any lowering of the tasks, and I beg to suggest that you may recommend this proposal to the Board of Revenue, keeping the order in question in abeyance pending the order of the Board on your reference. It is extremely undesirable to lower the task at present, as in the event of its being found too light after due investigation, it will be difficult to raise it and the weavers will naturally clamour a good deal. Sufficient concession for the present has, in my opinion, been shown to them for the present by fixing the working number of hours a day at 8.

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2. The Deputy Collector's report confirms the view expressed in my letter referred to above.

3. Pending orders of the Board, the Deputy Collector says he has not enforced the $6\frac{1}{2}$ hours per day task ordered by me.

(Signed) A. C. TATE,
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(True Copies and Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Cuddapah.

" Special Deputy Collector, Weavers' Relief Operations.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 524, Revenue, dated 2nd July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Famine Commissioner.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

50 Copies.