Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 597.

DATED 2nd Feby 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B.D. on Govt. Letter of Govt. of India letter regarding the inclusion in the weekly Season Telegrams of the average prices of staple grains on which wages to railway workers are calculated.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

Ap 2/97

No Hm. Mr - from C-D.E

Order No. 597 dated 2nd February 1897

Recorded

To the Board (Sett.) Dis. 6.2.97

KO 27/1/97

SECY. GOVT. MADRAS. 27 JAN 97 REV. DEPT.

From

The Board of Revenue

(Rev. Sett., L. R. & Agri.).

No. 47 Press.

Dated 22nd January 1897.

Received 27th

Registered 27th

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Price and wages -

Communicating to Collectors with instructions, Government Order communicating letter from the Government of India requesting that average prices of staple grains on which wages to relief workers are calculated may be reported in the Weekly Season telegrams.

C. 28/1/97.

R. 2/2/97

BACK PAPERS.

G O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th December 1896, No. 431 :—

Read—the following G.O., Mis. No. 5067, Revenue, dated 10th December 1896 :—

Read—the following letter from the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture (Famine), dated 5th December 1896, Circular No. 19—42–46 :—

I am directed to request that at the end of the crop and weather report for Madras which is telegraphed weekly to the Government of India, the price in Government seers per rupee as it stood on the last day of the week under report in each district in which famine-relief operations are in progress may be stated for the staple grain upon which the famine wage for the time being is calculated in that district. These figures will represent the current price of the grain which sets the standard for the poor. There is no need to specify the staple, and the addition to the telegram might conveniently take the following form: "Prices. Poona 8, Bijapur 9, Sholapur $8\frac{1}{2}$."

The additional information now asked for will give but little trouble to supply, while it is of importance that the Government of India, and through them the Secretary of State, should be kept informed of the course of prices in distressed tracts.

Order—Mis. No. 5067, Revenue, dated 10th December 1896.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Under Secretary to Government.

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

Resolution—dated 14th December 1896, No. 431.

Recorded.

2. As wages on the relief works in different parts of a district and in different, though adjoining, districts will be regulated by the price of the particular grain in ordinary use * at the time of payment, the grain in question will vary from time to time and place to place. The Board therefore considers that it will be better to quote the price of the recognised staple food-grain of the district, so that the figures may indicate the price that "sets the standard for the poor."

* *Vide* section 121 of the Famine Code.

3. It should, however, the Board considers, be pointed out to the Government of India that the prices reported in the weekly season reports are averages of the rates recorded at all the price-recording stations in a district—usually the Tahsildars' and Deputy Tahsildars' stations—and also in the case of cholam (*Sorghum vulgare*) usually the averages of the prices of the two principal sorts of this grain—the white and the yellow. These figures are already reported to the Government of India with the post copy of the season telegram, and the particulars called for will, in future, be telegraphed also. If any further particulars are required, special arrangements will have to be made.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Read—also the following G.O., Mis. No. 314, Revenue, dated 19th January 1897 :—

Read—the following letter from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated 5th January 1897, No. 123-F—51-6 :—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, Mis. No. 5335, dated the 24th December 1896, regarding the inclusion in the weekly weather and crop reports of the price of the staple grain upon which the famine wage is calculated in the distressed districts of Madras.

2. It is stated that this grain will vary from time to time and from place to place, and it is accordingly proposed to substitute for it the price of the staple food-grain which is recognised as the staple for the district.

3. I am to explain that the object of the Government of India being to ascertain, not the price of any particular grain, but the price which the poor man has to pay for the grain upon which he will live, whatever that may be; the variation of the staple from time to time and from place to place is immaterial. Thus if in one taluk a man buying the cheapest grain can get for a rupee 8 seers of cholam and in another of the same district 10 seers of ragi, the average of 9 seers is the price which the Government of India are anxious to ascertain. For this reason the Government of India would prefer, if possible, to adhere to their original proposals.

4. The real difficulty is probably that referred to in the last sentence of the Resolution * of the Board of Revenue, which accompanied your letter under reply. I am to suggest that the weekly telegram to head-quarters of the number employed on relief works might probably be made to include the desired information without giving appreciable extra trouble which the Government of India are particularly anxious to avoid giving. If, however, the Madras Government consider that this could not be done without extra trouble, the Government of India will accept the alternative proposed by them.

* No. 431, dated 14th December 1896.

Order—No. 314, Revenue, dated 19th January 1897.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue for information and for report on paragraph 4 of the Government of India letter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Under Secretary to Government.

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

Resolution—dated 22nd January 1897, No. 47.

The papers read above will be communicated to all Collectors for information and guidance.

2. Collectors of the affected districts will be requested to state after the particulars of the number of relief workers in their weekly season telegrams or reports, for each taluk, the average price in seers per rupee of the grain or grains on the price of which the wages of the workers therein have been based during the week under report. Thus the particulars required might run as follows, "Adóni 172, Bellary 175, Alúr 144," to show that the wages of workers in the taluks mentioned were based on grain sold at 17·2 seers in Adóni, 17·5 seers in Bellary and 14·4 seers in Alúr.

3. From the information thus obtained, the Board will compile averages for the information of the Government of India and inclusion in its weekly season telegram.

(True Copies and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasiar
Secretary.

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

Exd. T. K. Narayana Iyengar.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 26th.

Proceedings, 22*nd Jan.* 1897, *No.* 47.

Prices and wages.—Communicating to Collectors, with instructions, Government Order communicating letter from the Government of India requesting that average prices of staple grains on which wages to relief workers are calculated may be reported in the weekly season telegrams.

When given for copying ____
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When signed ____
} 189.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. DATED
189 ,

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT								
STATEMENT WITH DITTO								
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.								

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