

[illegible]

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 603.

DATED 21st July 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Hamine Batta.

Directing that Government servants on civil establishments in the districts of Bellary, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Anantapur, and Cuddapah be granted - under article 72 of the Civil Account Codes with effect from certain dates.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Record-keeper.

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. 5565

The Hon. Mr. Justice C. J.
The Hon. Sir H. B. K. C. K.
J. H. Me. Governor

From

The Board of Revenue
Sd/-

For Orders.

The Board submit the report
called for in para 2 of G.O. $\frac{4397}{4-6-97}$ flagged B No. 255 P.

2. It states for granted that
the five affected districts are
the only ones in which ^{the grant of} famine
batta is required urgently now
and, including Tanjore, its
report deals with the remaining
five districts

Dated 22nd June 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Requesting sanction
for the grant of famine
batta to Govt. servants in
Bellary.

3. (1) The average price of
the staple grain (cholum) is
now higher than 12 seers in
Bellary, and the Board
recommends that batta may
be granted at once in the
district under article 72 of
the C. A. Code.

This may it is submitted to do.

7/7/97

(2) In the other four districts

CS/7/97

Paper taken out of the records from the charge of the Record-keeper.

B2

Vijayaram (ragi) 13.1.
 Kurnool (Cholam) 12.6
 Anandapur (Cholam) 13.1
 Cuddapah (Cholam) 13.5

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
According to the report for the week ending the 30 July the prices were			
Vijayaram (Ragi)			11.1
Kurnool (Cholam)			11.5
Anandapur (Cholam)			11.9
Cuddapah (Cholam)			13.1
23			

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Compensation is not allowable under the rules in these districts, but the Board points out that the amount of grain which Govt servants of Rs 6, 7, 8 could purchase for the full amount of their pay ~~is not sufficient~~ ^{is not sufficient even for subsistence} ~~is not sufficient~~ ^(to say nothing of clothing &c.) and that as the ~~rank~~ ^{rank} of these servants do not generally add anything to the common stock by their labor ~~their~~ ^{their} condition is hardly better than that of relief workers and in many cases considerably worse. ~~But~~ ^{But} this kind

of argument will apply with equal force to Malabar and S. Canara even in ordinary times, and applies with considerably greater force to the prices at present ruling in those districts. It is in fact an argument for fixing the limit in art 72 of the Act

	Normal	Current
Malabar (Rice)	13.4	18.8
S. Canara (Rice)	14	18.8

G.O. 324 554-89 2

Ordinance in all the districts named Malabar & S. Canara. As I have noted above the price of the people in all these districts is also to be granted in Cuddapah, but I don't think we can make one law with regard to the position taken up. The Commission cannot be given

side at a higher figure 12, or for raising the pay of the memorial servants in districts where prices are high even in normal times, and will not help us much in our contention that the limit at which better becomes payable should bear some relation to normal prices. The Board also causes some confusion in para 4 by referring to the hardship of leaving the distress of Govt servants in Anandapur and Cuddapah by the price of ragi; ~~but~~ ^{but} ~~that~~ ^{that} but cholam is the staple grain of these districts for purposes of famine relief and the allusion to ragi was perfectly unnecessary; it might possibly prejudice the Govt of India.

referred to the recommendation in para 36.1) above may be given effect to at once. The proposal of the Collector of Bellary in C. O. 5503. linked to this to make the better payable from diff dates in diff districts cannot apparently be accepted

from different states in different
backlogs or sub-effectively
The on days with appt on the case of
5-5-03. ~~to be~~ ~~afforded~~ ~~the~~
this notice mentioned in the file lifted with this
not part of 2y since then

NW
10/7/97

29

9/7/97

ASH
12.7.97

Sept 20 and make a letter
to Lucia to make the hearing-
date the test. & prepare to
reduce the superior limit.

4/24/77

rates are lower in 13 districts ~~costs~~

~~consequently~~ agree to this ~~proposal~~ proposal? $n \in \text{fi}$

Subjunctive as to the General
it is to be addressed

6-7-94

1871/81.

Please see note attached.

897181

district
payment
average
as a rule
of 12
5. It
miss
allow
Cudd
do
new
of
mu
mu
local
do

The difficulty in which we
ourselves in Madras arises from
fact that the limit in the Art.
which discretion is given to gr
pensation is defined by a fixed
ty being obtainable for one rupee
grain being obtainable for one rupee
The quantity of dry grain obtain
for one rupee is ordinarily from
three times as great as that of rice
Thus, in the rice eating districts
limit is easily reached. Hence arises
in the first instance the feeling
hardship among the poorer servants
unequal treatment. The Govt. of India
~~remains~~ that the test of the grant of compensa
tion is to be scarcity. The test of
scarcity is the scarcity rate. Therefore
the test for the grant of compensation
should be the same. Severe scarcity is
present in Bellary where cholera
is 15 seers the rupee but it is not
in Trichy till 12 is reached. By the
time 12 seers is reached in Bellary

erings of the more poorly paid
ants will have reached a much high-
in Trichy and the point
which the grant should be given as
down by India will be long passed.
the arbitrary limit works unjust-
and unsatisfactorily in the way. The
ent rule prevents ~~the~~ Local Govts.
ing the allowances in cases where on
shewing of India itself it is real-
wanted and allows them to give ^{it} if
wish when by the same test it is
wanted. It would be small matter if
disability did not press most hard-
on the poorest of Govt. servants. In-
object is to protect the Treasury
If so, it would seem better to ^{it}
ly lowering the superior limit of
to which the concession is granted
compensate for the slight extension
might accrue from substituting
the inferior limit of 12 seers, the
ity rate of the district.

8/7/97.

I quite agree to all this,
but it adds nothing to what
we have already had before
India finally.

29
9/7/97

If we have a good case, I should not be deterred from
pressing it ahead, by the refusal of India to a
former application.

13.7.97

S

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.



Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

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Printed June th.

Proceedings, 22nd June 1897, No. 455.

JUNE.

Famine Bitta.—Requesting Government to sanction the grant of — to Government servants in Bellary and recommending the consideration of the case of certain low-paid servants in Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah.

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

READ—the following G.O., No. 439, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897:—

Read—the following letter from G. STOKES, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to the Government of India (Department of Finance and Commerce), dated Fort St. George, 4th March 1897, No. 136, Revenue:—

I am directed to forward copy of the marginally-noted Proceedings of this Government in which His Excellency the Governor in Council has sanctioned the

grant of famine batta to Government servants in Ganjám in accordance with the provisions of article 72 of the Civil Account Code, Part I., Volume I., and to invite your attention to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Board's Proceedings printed therein, pointing out that the adoption of a fixed price for all grains and all districts alike as indicative of general scarcity and distress, gives rise to anomalous results, and suggesting a modification of the present rules regulating the grant of compensation for dearthness of provisions.

2. The Government of India has directed that the grain to be adopted for regulating the grant of compensation should be the cheapest grain of any kind commonly used by the people, that is, the common staple food of the people of the district (*vide* paragraph 9 of the Government of India Resolution, No. 1648, dated 28th March 1888, Finance and Commerce), and it has been explained in Mr. Sinkinson's letter No. 3040, dated 18th June 1889, that the basis of this rule is that "if in any district the common food of the people has risen in price beyond a certain point the fact indicates a general scarcity and pressure in the district causing such distress to Government servants there employed as to warrant an increase to their pay sufficient to mitigate the hardship caused by high prices." The staple-grains adopted by this Government for the different districts in accordance with the above resolution of 1888, are given in the annexed statement from which it will be seen that the normal prices of these grains as determined from the averages of ordinary years vary widely, from 13.4 seers per rupee in Malabar to 32 seers in North Arcot. It will be obvious from an examination of these normal prices (column 3 of the statement) that the fact that the price of the staple adopted has risen to 12 seers per rupee in any district does not necessarily show that there is scarcity or pressure in the district, and that where it does indicate distress, the limiting price is reached at different stages of distress in different districts. Thus in Malabar and South Canara a small rise in prices over the normal entitles Government employes therein to famine batta, and in the districts of Ganjám, Nilgiris and Tinnevely, the grant of such batta is permissible long before scarcity rates are reached. On the other hand in North Arcot, Salem and the Deccan districts no compensation will be payable till prices exceed scarcity rates considerably and till probably very severe distress has set in. The Government has till now avoided inequalities in the working of the rules by the exercise of the discretion vested in it by article 72 of the Civil Account Code, but this discretion only enables it to withhold

compensation where it is permissible under the rules, and not to grant it in cases where there is undoubted distress though the staple-grain has not risen in price above 12 seers per rupee.

3. Second-sort rice is the staple-grain adopted for Ganjám, and as the price of this grain has been for months past higher than 12 seers per rupee, and has now

risen beyond the scarcity rate of 10.2 seers, orders have been issued directing the grant of famine batta to Government employes in the district. As yet, however, only test-works have been opened in the district on which about 1,629 persons are employed, and the distress,

though undoubted, is not so severe as in the Deccan districts where regular relief-works have been opened in various parts and where over 50,000 persons are in receipt of State relief. Government servants in these districts in receipt of small salaries are certainly in greater need of help from Government than those in Ganjám, but as the staple-grain of these districts, viz., cholan, is still cheaper than 12 seers per rupee they are not entitled to any concession under the rules. This is an undoubted inequality in the working of the rules which the Local Government cannot rectify.

Week ending 20th February 1897.

Districts.	Seers per Ru.
Kurnool	10.4
Bellary	10.3
Anantapur	10.2
Cuddapah	10.0

4. The object of the Government of India in framing the rules being to mitigate the hardship caused to its employes by high prices in times of general scarcity and pressure, it appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council for the reasons set forth above, that definite percentage increases over normal prices are a fairer and surer gauge of such scarcity and pressure than a fixed price for all grains and places alike. The warning and scarcity rates adopted for the various districts are based on the principle of percentage increases, and I am to suggest that the same principle may also be adopted in article 72 of the Civil Account Code.

APPENDIX.

Districts.	Grain.	Normal price.	Scarcity rates.	Percentage rise above normal prices when compensation will be allowable.	Percentage rise above scarcity rates before compensation may be allowed.
Ganjám	Rice, 2nd sort.	17.0	10.2	41.7	..
South Canara		14.0	8.4	16.7	..
Malabar		13.4	8.0	11.7	..
Vizagapatam		28.0 ✓	14.0 ✓	133.3	16.7
Godavari		28.0 ✓	14.0 ✓	133.3	16.7
Madras		24.0 ✓	12.0	100.0	0.0
Chingleput		24.0 ✓	12.0	100.0	0.0
North Arcot		32.0 ✓	16.0 ✓	166.7	33.3
Tanjore		28.0 ✓	14.0	133.3	16.7
Nilgiris		21.0	10.5	75.0	..
Salem		31.0 ✓	15.5 ✓	158.3	29.2
Kistna		26.0 ✓	13.0 ✓	116.7	8.3
Nellore		26.0 ✓	13.0 ✓	116.7	8.3
Cuddapah		30.0 ✓	15.0 ✓	150.0	25.0
Anantapur		30.0 ✓	15.0 ✓	150.0	25.0
Bellary		30.0 ✓	15.0 ✓	150.0	25.0
Kurnool		24.0	12.0	100.0	0.0
Tinnevely		24.0	12.0	100.0	0.0
Trichinopoly		24.0	12.0	100.0	0.0
Madura		23.0	11.5	91.7	..
Tinnevely		26.0	13.0 ✓	116.7	8.3
South Arcot		26.0	13.0	116.7	8.3
Coimbatore		26.0	13.0	116.7	8.3

Read—also the following letter from W. S. MEYER, Esq., Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India (Finance and Commerce Department—Salaries, Establishments, Etc., Compensation), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 20th May 1897, No. 2287-Ex.:—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 136, dated the 4th March 1897, on the subject of the modification of the rules regarding the grant of compensation for dearness of provisions to servants of Government on civil establishments.

2. Under the rules, as they now stand, grain compensation is not admissible until the selling price of the cheapest grain of any kind commonly used by the people of the district is dearer than 12 seers a rupee. It is explained, however, that the normal prices of the staple food-grains in different districts in the Madras Presidency vary considerably, so that in some districts a slight increase in the price of the staple food-grain "entitles" Government servants to compensation, while in others no relief is admissible even when the prices have risen very largely. Inequalities such as these in the working of the rules are, it is stated, a source of great hardship, and a remedy is suggested by the adoption of percentage increases over normal prices as the basis of compensation.

3. In reply, I am directed to refer to the letter from this Department, No. 3040, dated the 13th June 1889, and to observe that the price limits stated in the present rules should not be regarded as those beyond which Government employes are *entitled* to compensation. They are merely laid down as the rates at which discretion is given to Local Governments to grant it. Most of the inequalities, which the Government of Madras urge in the operation of the present limits, can, therefore be met and avoided by the discretion vested in the Local Governments as regards the application of the rules. Compensation for dearness of food should not be given, that is, merely because the case falls technically within the limits of Article 72, Volume I, of the Civil Account Code; there must be at the same time such a pressure on the resources of the inferior Government servants that a temporary increase in their pay is urgently required. As the Madras Government justly observe, the discretion vested in them enables them to withhold compensation in cases where, though permissible by rule, it is not really required.

4. I am to add that in the opinion of the Government of India a departure from the present rule to that of a standard fixed by a ratio of increase over normal rates would open the door to so many difficulties in the establishment of rates that it would give rise to more doubts and correspondence over the settlement of cases than the present rule of fixed rates tempered in their application by the discretion allowed to Local Governments. The Government of India are also of opinion that as a general rule it is reasonable to hold that until the pressure of scarcity has reached, the point indicated by a price of 12 seers the rupee, the need has not arisen for resorting to the exceptional step of increasing, temporarily, the pay of Government servants on account of the dearness of food.

5. In these circumstances, the Governor-General in Council does not consider it desirable to amend the rules in the manner suggested, and accordingly regrets his inability to sanction the proposals of the Madras Government. If, however, the exceptional circumstances of any district give rise to cases of such hardship that the Government of Madras consider special intervention to be necessary, the Government of India will be prepared to consider any proposal of the Madras Government to admit compensation in such cases although it may not fall within the terms of the rule.

Order thereon—No. 439, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

2. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Government of India letter read above the Board is requested to submit a very early report as to the districts in which

compensation to inferior Government servants for dearness of provisions is now urgently required accompanied by a tabular statement showing the course of prices in those districts.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).
" Financial Department.

RESOLUTION—dated 22nd June 1897, No. 455.

The Board begs to submit the information called for by the Government in the order read above.

2. The average price of cholam, the staple food grain of the Bellary district for the month of May, was 11.98 measures per rupee, and the price has since risen to 11.4 measures per rupee. It is therefore requested that article 72 of the Civil Account Code Part I, Vol. I, may be brought into force in that district.

3. Omitting Bellary, and Ganjam in which district compensation has been granted to Government servants in G.O., No. 135, Revenue, dated 4th March 1897, the following figures show the prices of the cheaper grains usually eaten by the people in the affected districts:—

District.						Number of measures of 80 tolas each per rupee procurable on June 5th.	
						Cholam.	Ragi.
Vizagapatam	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.1
Kurnool	...	...	...	...	...	12.6	...
Anantapur	...	...	...	...	...	13.1	16.5
Cuddapah	...	...	...	...	...	13.5	17.7

4. It is believed that though ragi is considerably cheaper than cholam in Anantapur and Cuddapah it is not consumed by any classes of Government servants, and the lower prices therefore do not affect them. It seems hard therefore that their sufferings should be tested by the price of a grain they do not touch. As a fact, Government servants generally, even down to the Police, are rice eaters, and the karnams and monigars in the Tamil districts are rice eaters also.

Taking the prices of the grains which are ordinarily consumed by the poorer classes of Government servants, viz., ragi in Vizagapatam and cholam in Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah, the lowest price is found to be 13.5 measures per rupee. A taluk peon draws a pay of Rs. 6; he usually has a wife, and say, two children. For his Rs. 6 he can purchase, at 13½ measures to the rupee, 81 measures of grain, which allows him and his family 27⅞ measures or 5½ lb. a day. Allowing two children to eat as much as an adult, there will be 1⅞ lb. a day for the man, 1⅞ lb. a day for his wife, and 1⅞ lb. each a day for the children, or rather less than the ration purchasable with a C wage, which has been declared by the Sanitary Commissioner insufficient to support life with labour for any prolonged period. It has to be remembered also that the peon is expected to dress himself neatly. It may be taken for granted that no contribution is likely to be made to the common stock by the labour of the woman, for she is not accustomed to busy herself with anything but her household duties.

If the Kurnool price is taken, the allowance for each day is 1¾ lb. for each adult, and corresponds practically to the minimum ration fixed by the Code.

Adopting the same method of calculation, each adult member of the family of a peon on Rs. 8 per mensem would receive in Cuddapah 2¼ lb. per diem, or just an A ration, and in Kurnool 2¼ lb. or ¼ lb. more than a B ration.

If the pay is Rs. 10, the corresponding rations are $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. and $2\frac{1}{4}$ lb., the latter being only $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. in excess of the average A ration of a man and a woman.

5. The Board is, therefore, of opinion that in the districts of Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah, although prices have not yet risen to 12 seers per rupee, the case of all Government servants drawing not more than Rs. 10 per mensem is deserving of consideration on the lines indicated in article 72 of Part I of Volume I of the Civil Account Code.

The Board in writing the above has taken the case of a man, his wife and two children. As a fact, these unfortunates, usually, have a large family hanging on to them. For instance, one of the Board's peons, now on famine duty, has a wife, six children, a niece and an aunt, all dependant on him and his pay of Rs. 8. It is perfectly impossible for him to maintain them on his pay, and, being Mussalmans, the females cannot go out to work. For four months a charitable friend has allowed this family Rs. 8 per mensem, but this allowance will stop when the fourth month is over. There are dozens of cases of this kind. The peon above mentioned, before his family was assisted, was in a state of very advanced emaciation and weakness, but has picked up since he got more to eat.

6. The tabulated statement of prices asked for is appended.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

A. S. Karim
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Kurnool.

" " " of Bellary.
" " " of Anantapur.
" " " of Cuddapah.
" " " of Vizagapatam.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing the course of prices in the Deccan districts and Vizagapatam in 1896-97 in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Months.	Kurnool.		Bellary.		Anantapur.			
	Cholam.		Cholam.		Cholam.		Ragi.	
	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Scarcity rates	15-0	..	15-0	..	15-0	..	16-0	..
July 1896	26-9	..	30-4	..	30-0	..	33-6	..
August "	27-8	..	31-1	..	29-8	..	33-2	..
September "	26-2	..	28-8	..	27-9	..	31-3	..
October "	17-3	..	18-1	..	18-8	..	22-7	..
November "	13-1	14-5	12-1	24-0	13-6	10-3	16-0	..
December "	14-0	7-1	13-6	10-3	14-2	5-6	16-9	..
January 1897	15-5	..	14-3	4-9	14-4	4-2	17-3	..
February "	14-4	4-2	13-4	11-9	13-8	8-7	16-9	..
March "	14-0	7-1	12-9	16-3	14-1	6-4	17-3	..
April "	13-2	13-6	12-1	24-0	13-9	7-9	17-4	..
May "	12-9	16-3	12-0	25-0	13-5	11-1	16-9	..

Months.	Cuddapah.				Vizagapatam.	
	Cholam.		Ragi.		Ragi.	
	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.
10	11	12	13	14	15	
Scarcity rates	15-0	..	16-0	..	14-0	..
July 1896	25-9	..	29-4	..	28-6	..
August "	25-0	..	28-6	..	29-1	..
September "	24-7	..	27-4	..	29-7	..
October "	18-9	..	24-7	..	23-9	..
November "	13-5	11-1	15-8	1-3	16-8	..
December "	14-0	7-1	16-3	..	16-5	..
January 1897	11-6	2-7	17-0	..	15-0	..
February "	14-1	4-2	17-2	..	14-5	..
March "	14-2	5-6	17-4	..	15-2	..
April "	14-3	4-9	17-7	..	15-3	..
May "	14-1	6-1	17-7	..	14-8	..

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.



From the Board of Revenue
Revenue Settlement, Land
Records and Agriculture
Madras

No. 4627 Mis

Dated 26th June 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Recording with reference
to Board's Proceedings No.
455 dated 22nd June 1897
letter from the collector of
Bellary requesting sanction
for the grant of Famine bhatta
to Government servants of
certain taluks in the Bellary
district

Order

26.6.97
19.7.97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Copy of letter from The Superintendent of Police to The Inspector General of Police Madras, through the collector of Bellary and Deputy Inspector General of Police C. R.

C No. 1205 dated 28th May 97
Genl. 977

I have the honor to inform you that when I applied for battha for the Bellary District Police in my letter current No. 2588 dated 11 November 1896, I was informed that famine battha will not be sanctioned until the season has finally settled down, and there is no chance of prices coming down, and that I should apply again if the prices continue to be over famine rates. The

is however no question now of famine and consequent hardship entail upon all classes.

The difficulty of feeding themselves and their families and paying house rent on Rs 7 and Rs 8 per mensem has for many months past been a source of great trouble to the Force. In fact a large number of them are reduced to eating cholam and raji and even then have not one meal a day. Now the sepoys draw Rs 9 per mensem + rice money, and our men not only get no extras in the way of rice money, but $\frac{2}{3}$ rds of the Force get only Rs 7 a month.

Even horse keepers

are getting Rs 8 in Bellary and hackney carrying drivers Rs 9. The present pay of the Subordinate police is not in the best seasons likely to entice decent men to enlist in the force and in such seasons of distress as the present it is not as much as a man and his wife can earn in the relief works at the maximum wage. I would respectfully request that our constables anyhow should be granted batta and with retrospective effect from the 1st of January 1897. (True copy)

(Signed) J. T. Lever
Jr collector

(True copy) *Andover*

25/6



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

Dated 26th June 1897.

No. 4627 mis.

READ the following letter from the collector
of Bellary dated 16th June 1897. Ref.
on 9 and 16 No 1169 of 97.

Referring to Board's Proceedings
3621 mis dated 22nd May 1897, I have
the honor to state that good yellow
cholam not being available in
Adoni and Hur, the wages of labour-
ers there are regulated on the
prices of white cholam. This grain
has been selling at less than 12 annas
the rupee since 24th March 1897, in
Adoni, and 13th January 1897 in Hur

In

In other Taluks yellow cholera
is still available and this grain
also is now dearer than 12 seers
a rupee in Adoni, Shur, Bellary
and Kudligi. I have therefore
the honor to recommend the
grant of Famine batta to
Government Servants in the
four taluks mentioned with
effect from the 1st April in
the case of Shur, the 1st May in
the case of Adoni and the 1st
June in the case of Bellary and
Kudligi. It may be mentioned
that the prices of other articles
of ordinary consumption, such
as tamarind, chillies and
vegetables, have also risen greatly
and the lower paid servants
of the Government has undoubt-
edly suffered very much since
last November. For this reason
I.

I should be glad to see the
12 seers rule abolished altogether
and batta granted to all
menial servants with effect
from the 1st January last. Many
of them have been obliged
to go into debt to obtain the
necessaries of life for themselves
and their families. I enclose
a copy of a letter on this subject
from the District Superintendent
to the Inspector General of Police

Resolution

Recorded with reference
to Board's Proceedings No. 455
dated 22nd June 1897.

(True copy and extract)

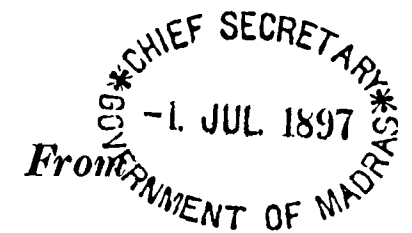
A. S. S. S. S.
Famine Secretary

To the Collector of Bellary
Copy to the Secretary to Government Revenue
Department

26/6

Judicial (189)) Department.

CURRENT No. 2710



M. HAMMICK, ESQUIRE, I.C.S.,
Inspector-General of Police,
Madras.

No. 2262

Dated 30 June 1897.

Received 1. 7. 97

Registered 2. 7. 97

Enclosures One

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Recommending the grant of
famine batta to the Police force,
Bellary.

MR 27-397
10-7-97

Endorsement No. 1386 of 6 July 1897
Order

Transferred to the Rev. Dept.

Francis.

as Under Secretary.

MR
3-7-97

*This may be put up with the
paper about famine batta*

RE
8-7-97

To

The Rev. Dept.

*not
2/7*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	734	2nd	18-8-57
Cm	1117 of 87. etc.		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Enclosure No. 1

To Vellor No 2262 of 30-6-97

From Inspector-General of Police.

C.No.1205/Genl.,
of 1897.

Office of the Superintendent of Police,
Bellary District, dated 28th May 1897

From

C. G. W. Clogstoun, Esquire,

Acting Superintendent of Police,

Bellary District.

To

The Inspector-General of Police,

Madras.

through the Collector of Bellary
and Deputy Inspector-General of Police,
Central Range.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that when I applied for batta for the Bellary District Police in my letter Current No.2588/dated 11th November 1896 I was informed that famine batta will not be sanctioned until the season has finally settled down and there is no chance of prices coming down and that I should apply again if the prices continue to be over famine rates. There is however no question now of famine and consequent hardship entailed upon all classes. The difficulty of feeding themselves and their families and paying house rent on Rs.7 and Rs.8 per mensem has for many months past been a source of great trouble to the force. In fact a large number of them are reduced to eating cholam and ragi and even then have not one meal a day. Now the sepoy draw Rs.9 per mensem + rice money and our men not only get no extras in the way of rice money but 2/3 of the force get only Rs.7 a month.

Even horse-keepers are getting Rs.8 in Bellary and

hackney carriage drivers Rs.9/-.The present pay of the subordinate police is not in the best seasons likely to entice decent men to enlist in the force and in such seasons of distress as the present it is not as much as a man and his wife can earn in the relief works at the maximum wage. I would respectfully request that our constables any how should be granted batta and with retrospective effect from the 1st January 1897.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. servant,

(Signed) C.C.W. Clogstoun.
Ag. Superintendent of Police.

Forwarded. I quite agree with Mr. Clogstoun that the lower paid servants of Government suffer much hardship in consequence of the present high prices and as the price of cholam has now fallen below 12 seers the rupee I have asked the Board to sanction the grant of famine batta.

16th June 1897.

(Signed) H.A. Stuart.
Ag. Dt. Magistrate, Bellary.

C.No.1348 of 97.

(Signed) W.J.A. Sullivan.
Dy. Insp: Genl of Police,
Central Range.

(True copy)

Shank
Assistant Inspector-General of Police.

DEPARTMENT.

No. *2262*.

CHIEF OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

MADRAS, *30* June 1897.

FROM

M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S.,

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

Madras,

TO

THE Chief Secretary to Government,

Ootacamund.

SIR,

Enclosures.

I have the honor to submit for orders a copy of a letter from the Superintendent of Police, Bellary with an endorsement on it by the District Magistrate, in which the Superintendent asks for famine batta for the Police. I know that the Police all through the famine districts have suffered very much from high prices and I strongly support the Superintendent and District Magistrate's views that batta should be given until prices fall.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. servant,

M. Hammick

Inspector-General of Police.

Encl. *12*
13.

FROM

M. HAMMICK, Esq., I.C.S.,
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE,

Madras,

No.

189

Dated

Received

SUBJECT.

It is from 2 not from 3 that
recommended a grant in the case of
Bellary &
the Hon. Mr. C. R.
the Hon. Mr. H. P. R. K. R.
H. & the Governor



On the 1st May the price of
Cholam in Bellary was 12.4
then a rupee, & on the 8th
of May it was 12.2. It
rose to 12 rupees a Rupee on
some date between the 8th
& the 15th. We can only grant
the allowance from that
date. The collector says that
Yellow Cholam is not obtained
& that White Cholam is consumed
in some places, but we can't act
upon that. Jy M

In Vijayapattam the price
of ragi rose above 12 rupees
in White Rag, between the 29th
May & the 5th June. The
allowance will be granted
for that date. Jy M

Note. With reference to the proposal
of the collector of Bellary that the
allowance should be granted with
effect from the 1st January the
Hon. Mr. C. R. says that the
allowance cannot be

C. No. (5503) = 556542

G.O. (Press)

With reference to para 3
of the G.O. read above the Govt.
resolves to direct that Govt.
servants on civil establishments
in the district of Bellary be
granted the extra allowance
mentioned in G.O. 135 in the
4-3-97
case of Ganjam, with effect
from the 1st May 1897.

It is observed from the
Board's season report for the
year 3rd July 1897 that the
prices of the staple food grains
are not dearer than
the previous year 12 rupees per
also in the districts of Anandapur
Kurnool & Vijayapattam. The
extra allowance will also be
granted in these districts with
effect from the 1st July

11/4/97

The Finance Comm.
To the G.O.
To the Secy of the Secretariat
To the Secy of Imperial Dept
working in the Press
To the Secy of Dept under the
To the A.C.

retrospectively. The collection
 proposal involves the grant of
 the bella in months in which
 the price was cheaper than 12
 seers. It is presumed that it
 is this that the St. M. objects, and
 that it is not intended that
 retrospective effect ^{cannot} be
 given to our order so as to ~~include~~
 include months in which the
 price was ^{higher} than 12 seers.
 (to which there seems to be no account objection)
 Para 1 ~~of the order~~ has been drafted
 on this presumption and is sub-
 mitted for approval.
 2. The ^{last part of} Govt order shows that
 the Govt will be prepared to consider
 cases not falling within the rules
 in which ~~the~~ intervention
 might be considered necessary by
 this Govt. The case of Cuddapah
 is one of this kind; might ^{not the Govt} be asked to extend ^{the} concession
 to this district also. If the St. M.
 agree it will be necessary to
 make a telegraphic reference,
 as the Govt order will take
 effect only from the date thereof
 and may not be passed
 till the next month.

I may be given for the
 date at which the price given
 was ~~between~~ 12 seers
 as per price

R.G. $\frac{439}{4-6-97}$ flagged B.

Yes, I think this may be done

11/11/97
 1577/97
 19.7.97

11/14/97

Remains

(full) (abs) (abs)
 Reels C. Nos 5565 & 5503 & 5523
 G. B. C. Press. No 6038/21st July 1897

The monthly season reports
 show that the price of the staple
 food grain has become dearer than
 12 seers per rupee ~~also~~ in the district
 of Vizagapatnam, Kurnool and
 Anantapur ^{& Cuddapah} also since the date
 of the B.P. first sent above, and
 that this limit was passed in more
 than three districts and in Bellary on
 the following dates:—

Bellary	W. L. 15 th May
Vizagapatnam	W. L. 12 th June
Kurnool	} W. L. 3 rd July
Anantapur	
Cuddapah	W. L. 10 th July

The Govt therefore resolved to
 direct that Govt servants on civil
 establishments in these districts
 be granted the extra allowances
~~handicapped in 1897~~ ^{+25%} in the
~~case of Cuddapah~~, with effect from
 the following dates:— Bellary 15th
 May, Vizagapatnam 12th June, Kurnool
 and Anantapur 3rd July, Cuddapah
 10th July.
 The condition of Cuddapah also
 warrants the concession being extended
 to Govt servants employed ~~there~~
~~district~~ although the price of the
 staple grain is still cheaper than

to Fairweather
 21/7/97

11/11/97

transmissible under Art. 72 of
 the C. A. Code.

The price accordingly to last
 report is 11.6 seers

12 seers per rupee in the district
Application will be made to the
Govt I with reference to para
5 of its letter
for the grant of compensation to Govt
securities in this district also.

(List from under)

The Finance Com.
The other Secy of Secy under R.D.
The S.D.
The Secy of Secy of Secy
The A.C.
The Secy of Secy of Secy in
the Secy

Telegram to the Govt of India
in Commerce
"Para 5 your letter 2287-En.
May 20. Staple food grains now
dearer than 12 seers in Vizagapatam
Kurnool, Anantapur and Bellary
Compensation has been sanctioned
in these four districts also. The only
affected district in which price
is still cheaper than 12 is Cuddapah
but distress in this
district more severe than in some
of the others in which prices dearer.
Request sanction for grant com-
pensation Cuddapah from first July

Note for the Secy
Staple grain
The price is now dearer than
10 seers in Rayachoti, Kurnool
& Bellary & has been dearer
from the following dates.

Rayachoti W.D. 26th June
Kurnool } - W.D. 1st July
Bellary }

The higher rate of compensation
is allowable in these districts from
the above dates.

Rs. 20-7-77. We need not say anything
about this. When crop
is fair it will be so accordingly
to rule - 1474/77

unnecessary as the price now
is 11.6 seers

Government (1897) of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 603, 21st July 1897.

JULY.

Famine Batta.

Directing that Government servants on civil establishments in the districts of Bellary, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah be granted — under article 72 of the Civil Account Code with effect from certain dates.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 22nd June 1897, No. 455 :—

Read—the following G.O., No. 439, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897 :—

Read—the following letter from G. STOKES, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to the Government of India (Department of Finance and Commerce), dated Fort St. George, 4th March 1897, No. 136, Revenue :—

I am directed to forward copy of the marginally-noted Proceedings of this Government in which His Excellency the Governor in Council has sanctioned the grant of famine batta to Government servants in Ganjām in accordance with the provisions of article 72 of the Civil Account Code, Part I., Volume I., and to invite your attention to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Board's Proceedings printed therein, pointing out that the adoption of a fixed price for all grains and all districts alike as indicative of general scarcity and distress, gives rise to anomalous results, and suggesting a modification of the present rules regulating the grant of compensation for dearth of provisions.

2. The Government of India has directed that the grain to be adopted for regulating the grant of compensation should be the cheapest grain of any kind commonly used by the people, that is, the common staple food of the people of the district (*vide* paragraph 9 of the Government of India Resolution, No. 1648, dated 28th March 1888, Finance and Commerce), and it has been explained in Mr. Sinkinson's letter No. 3040, dated 18th June 1889, that the basis of this rule is that "if in any district the common food of the people has risen in price beyond a certain point the fact indicates a general scarcity and pressure in the district causing such distress to Government servants there employed as to warrant an increase to their pay sufficient to mitigate the hardship caused by high prices." The staple-grains adopted by this Government for the different districts in accordance with the above resolution of 1888, are given in the annexed statement from which it will be seen that the normal prices of these grains as determined from the averages of ordinary years vary widely, from 13·4 seers per rupee in Malabar to 32 seers in North Arcot. It will be obvious from an examination of these normal prices (column 3 of the statement) that the fact that the price of the staple adopted has risen to 12 seers per rupee in any district does not necessarily show that there is scarcity or pressure in the district, and that where it does indicate distress, the limiting price is reached at different stages of distress in different districts. Thus in Malabar and South Canara a small rise in prices over the normal entitles Government employes therein to famine batta, and in the districts of Ganjām, Nilgiris and Tinnevely, the grant of such batta is permissible long before scarcity rates are reached. On the other hand in North Arcot, Salem and the Deccan districts no compensation will be payable till prices exceed scarcity rates considerably and till probably very severe distress has set in. The Government has till now avoided in equalities in the working of the rules by the exercise of the discretion vested in it by article 72 of the Civil Account Code, but this discretion only enables it to withhold

compensation where it is permissible under the rules, and not to grant it in cases where there is undoubted distress though the staple-grain has not risen in price above 12 seers per rupee.

3. Second-sort rice is the staple-grain adopted for Ganjām, and as the price of this grain has been for months past higher than 12 seers per rupee, and has now

Months.	Seers per Ru.
November	10·4
December	10·3
January	10·2
February (average of the first 3 weeks)	10·0

risen beyond the scarcity rate of 10·2 seers, orders have been issued directing the grant of famine batta to Government employes in the district. As yet, however, only test-works have been opened in the district on which about 1,629 persons are employed, and the distress, though undoubted, is not so severe as in the Deccan districts where regular relief-works have been opened in various parts and where over 50,000 persons are in receipt of State relief. Government servants in these districts in receipt of small salaries are certainly in greater need of help from Government than those in Ganjām, but as the staple-grain of these districts, viz., cholam, is still cheaper than 12 seers per rupee they are not entitled to any concession under the rules. This is an undoubted inequality in the working of the rules which the Local Government cannot rectify.

Week ending 20th February 1897.

Districts.	Seers per Ru.
Kurnool	14·2
Bellary	13·1
Anantapur	13·7
Cuddapah	14·5

4. The object of the Government of India in framing the rules being to mitigate the hardship caused to its employes by high prices in times of general scarcity and pressure, it appears to His Excellency the Governor in Council for the reasons set forth above, that definite percentage increases over normal prices are a fairer and surer gauge of such scarcity and pressure than a fixed price for all grains and places alike. The warning and scarcity rates adopted for the various districts are based on the principle of percentage increases, and I am to suggest that the same principle may also be adopted in article 72 of the Civil Account Code.

APPENDIX.

Districts.	Grain.	Normal price.	Scarcity rates.	Percentage rise above normal prices when compensation will be allowable.	Percentage rise above scarcity rates before compensation may be allowed.
Ganjām	Rice, 2nd sort.	17·0	10·2	41·7	..
South Canara		14·0	8·4	16·7	..
Malabar		13·4	8·0	11·7	..
Vizagapatam		28·0	14·0	133·3	16·7
Gōdāvari	Ragi.	28·0	14·0	133·3	16·7
Madras		24·0	12·0	100·0	0·0
Chingleput		24·0	12·0	100·0	0·0
North Arcot		32·0	16·0	166·7	33·3
Tanjore		28·0	14·0	133·3	16·7
Nilgiris		21·0	10·5	75·0	..
Salem		31·0	15·5	158·3	29·2
Kistna		26·0	13·0	116·7	8·3
Nellore		26·0	13·0	116·7	8·3
Cuddapah		30·0	15·0	150·0	25·0
Anantapur	Cholam.	30·0	15·0	150·0	25·0
Bellary		30·0	15·0	150·0	25·0
Kurnool		30·0	15·0	150·0	25·0
Trichinopoly		24·0	12·0	100·0	0·0
Madura	Cumbu.	24·0	12·0	100·0	0·0
Tinnevely		23·0	11·5	91·7	..
South Arcot		26·0	13·0	116·7	8·3
Coimbatore		26·0	13·0	116·7	8·3

Read—also the following letter from W. S. MEYER, Esq., Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India (Finance and Commerce Department—Salaries, Establishments, Etc., Compensation), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 20th May 1897, No. 2287-Ex.:—

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 136, dated the 4th March 1897, on the subject of the modification of the rules regarding the grant of compensation for dearness of provisions to servants of Government on civil establishments.

2. Under the rules, as they now stand, grain compensation is not admissible until the selling price of the cheapest grain of any kind commonly used by the people of the district is dearer than 12 seers a rupee. It is explained, however, that the normal prices of the staple food-grains in different districts in the Madras Presidency vary considerably, so that in some districts a slight increase in the price of the staple food-grain "entitles" Government servants to compensation, while in others no relief is admissible even when the prices have risen very largely. Inequalities such as these in the working of the rules are, it is stated, a source of great hardship, and a remedy is suggested by the adoption of percentage increases over normal prices as the basis of compensation.

3. In reply, I am directed to refer to the letter from this Department, No. 3040, dated the 18th June 1889, and to observe that the price limits stated in the present rules should not be regarded as those beyond which Government employes are entitled to compensation. They are merely laid down as the rates at which discretion is given to Local Governments to grant it. Most of the inequalities, which the Government of Madras urge in the operation of the present limits, can therefore be met and avoided by the discretion vested in the Local Governments as regards the application of the rules. Compensation for dearness of food should not be given, that is, merely because the case falls technically within the limits of Article 72, Volume I, of the Civil Account Code; there must be at the same time such a pressure on the resources of the inferior Government servants that a temporary increase in their pay is urgently required. As the Madras Government justly observe, the discretion vested in them enables them to withhold compensation in cases where, though permissible by rule, it is not really required.

4. I am to add that in the opinion of the Government of India a departure from the present rule to that of a standard fixed by a ratio of increase over normal rates would open the door to so many difficulties in the establishment of rates that it would give rise to more doubts and correspondence over the settlement of cases than the present rule of fixed rates tempered in their application by the discretion allowed to Local Governments. The Government of India are also of opinion that as a general rule it is reasonable to hold that until the pressure of scarcity has reached, the point indicated by a price of 12 seers the rupee, the need has not arisen for resorting to the exceptional step of increasing, temporarily, the pay of Government servants on account of the dearness of food.

5. In these circumstances, the Governor-General in Council does not consider it desirable to amend the rules in the manner suggested, and accordingly regrets his inability to sanction the proposals of the Madras Government. If, however, the exceptional circumstances of any district give rise to cases of such hardship that the Government of Madras consider special intervention to be necessary, the Government of India will be prepared to consider any proposal of the Madras Government to admit compensation in such cases although it may not fall within the terms of the rule.

Order thereon—No. 439, Revenue, dated 4th June 1897.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

2. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Government of India letter read above the Board is requested to submit a very early report as to the districts in which

compensation to inferior Government servants for dearness of provisions is now urgently required accompanied by a tabular statement showing the course of prices in those districts.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).
,, Financial Department.

Resolution—dated 22nd June 1897, No. 455.

The Board begs to submit the information called for by the Government in the order read above.

2. The average price of cholam, the staple food grain of the Bellary district for the month of May, was 11.98 measures per rupee, and the price has since risen to 11.4 measures per rupee. It is therefore requested that article 72 of the Civil Account Code Part I, Vol. I, may be brought into force in that district.

3. Omitting Bellary, and Ganjam in which district compensation has been granted to Government servants in G.O., No. 135, Revenue, dated 4th March 1897, the following figures show the prices of the cheaper grains usually eaten by the people in the affected districts:—

District.	Number of measures of 80 tolas each per rupee procurable on June 6th.	
	Cholam.	Ragi.
Vizagapatam	...	...
Kurnool	...	13.1
Anantapur	...	...
Cuddapah	...	16.5
	13.5	17.7

4. It is believed that though ragi is considerably cheaper than cholam in Anantapur and Cuddapah it is not consumed by any classes of Government servants, and the lower prices therefore do not affect them. It seems hard therefore that their sufferings should be tested by the price of a grain they do not touch. As a fact, Government servants generally, even down to the Police, are rice eaters, and the karnams and monigars in the Tamil districts are rice eaters also.

Taking the prices of the grains which are ordinarily consumed by the poorer classes of Government servants, viz., ragi in Vizagapatam and cholam in Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah, the lowest price is found to be 13.5 measures per rupee. A taluk peon draws a pay of Rs. 6; he usually has a wife, and say, two children. For his Rs. 6 he can purchase, at 13½ measures to the rupee, 81 measures of grain, which allows him and his family 27½ measures or 5½ lb. a day. Allowing two children to eat as much as an adult, there will be 17½ lb. a day for the man, 1½ lb. a day for his wife, and 1½ lb. each a day for the children, or rather less than the ration purchasable with a C wage, which has been declared by the Sanitary Commissioner insufficient to support life with labour for any prolonged period. It has to be remembered also that the peon is expected to dress himself neatly. It may be taken for granted that no contribution is likely to be made to the common stock by the labour of the woman, for she is not accustomed to busy herself with anything but her household duties.

If the Kurnool price is taken, the allowance for each day is 1½ lb. for each adult, and corresponds practically to the minimum ration fixed by the Code.

Adopting the same method of calculation, each adult member of the family of a peon on Rs. 8 per mensem would receive in Cuddapah 2½ lb. per diem, or just an A ration, and in Kurnool 2½ lb. or ¼ lb. more than a B ration.

If the pay is Rs. 10, the corresponding rations are $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb. and $2\frac{1}{4}$ lb., the latter being only $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. in excess of the average A ration of a man and a woman.

5. The Board is, therefore, of opinion that in the districts of Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Anantapur and Cuddapah, although prices have not yet risen to 12 seers per rupee, the case of all Government servants drawing not more than Rs. 10 per mensem is deserving of consideration on the lines indicated in article 72 of Part I of Volume I of the Civil Account Code.

The Board in writing the above has taken the case of a man, his wife and two children. As a fact, these unfortunates, usually, have a large family hanging on to them. For instance, one of the Board's peons, now on famine duty, has a wife, six children, a niece and an aunt, all dependant on him and his pay of Rs. 8. It is perfectly impossible for him to maintain them on his pay, and, being Mussalmans, the females cannot go out to work. For four months a charitable friend has allowed this family Rs. 8 per mensem, but this allowance will stop when the fourth month is over. There are dozens of cases of this kind. The peon above mentioned, before his family was assisted, was in a state of very advanced emaciation and weakness, but has picked up since he got more to eat.

6. The tabulated statement of prices asked for is appended.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Kurnool.
" " " of Bellary.
" " " of Anantapur.
" " " of Cuddapah.
" " " of Vizagapatam.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing the course of prices in the Deccan districts and Vizagapatam in 1896-97 in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Months.	Kurnool.		Bellary.		Anantapur.			
	Cholam.		Cholam.		Cholam.		Ragi.	
	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Scarcity rates	15-0	..	15-0	..	15-0	..	16-0	..
July 1896	26-9	..	30-4	..	30-0	..	33-6	..
August "	27-8	..	31-1	..	29-8	..	33-2	..
September "	26-2	..	28-8	..	27-9	..	31-3	..
October "	17-3	..	18-1	..	18-8	..	22-7	..
November "	13-1	14-5	12-1	24-6	13-6	10-3	16-0	..
December "	14-0	7-1	13-6	10-3	14-2	5-6	16-9	..
January 1897	15-5	..	14-3	4-9	14-4	4-2	17-3	..
February "	14-4	4-2	13-4	11-9	13-8	8-7	16-9	..
March "	14-0	7-1	12-9	16-3	14-1	6-4	17-3	..
April "	13-2	13-6	12-1	24-0	13-9	7-9	17-4	..
May "	12-9	16-3	12-0	25-0	13-5	11-1	16-9	..

Months.	Cuddapah.				Vizagapatam.	
	Cholam.		Ragi.		Ragi.	
	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.	Average price.	Percentage of increase over scarcity rate.
	10	11	12	13	14	15
Scarcity rates	15-0	..	16-0	..	14-0	..
July 1896	25-9	..	29-4	..	28-6	..
August "	25-0	..	28-6	..	29-1	..
September "	23-7	..	27-4	..	29-7	..
October "	18-9	..	21-7	..	23-9	..
November "	13-5	11-1	15-8	1-3	16-8	..
December "	14-0	7-1	16-8	..	16-5	..
January 1897	14-6	2-7	17-0	..	15-0	..
February "	14-4	4-2	17-2	..	14-5	..
March "	14-2	5-6	17-4	..	15-2	..
April "	14-3	4-9	17-7	..	15-3	..
May "	14-1	6-4	17-7	..	14-8	..

READ—also Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 26th June 1897, Mis. No. 4627.

ABSTRACT.—Recording, with reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 455, dated 22nd June 1897, letter from the Collector of Bellary requesting sanction for the grant of famine batta to Government servants of certain taluks in the Bellary district.

READ—endorsement of the Judicial Department, No. 1386, dated 6th July 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Transferring to the Revenue Department letter from the Inspector-General of Police, No. 2262, dated 30th June 1897, recommending the grant of famine batta to the police force, Bellary.

ORDER—No. 603, Revenue, dated 21st July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

The weekly season reports show that the price of the staple food-grain has become dearer than 12 seers per rupee in the districts of Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Anantapur, and Cuddapah also since the date of the Board's Proceedings first read above, and that this limit was passed in these four districts and in Bellary on the following dates:—

Bellary, week ending 15th May.	Anantapur, week ending 3rd July.
Vizagapatam " 12th June.	Cuddapah " 10th "
Kurnool " 3rd July.	

The Government therefore resolves to direct that Government servants on civil establishments in these districts be granted the extra allowances permissible under article 72 of the Civil Account Code with effect from the following dates:—

Bellary, 15th May.	Kurnool and Anantapur, 3rd July.
Vizagapatam, 12th June.	Cuddapah, 10th July.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Famine Commissioner.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.
" other Heads of Departments under Revenue Department.
" other Departments of the Secretariat.
" Heads of Imperial Departments working in the Presidency.

Exd. Shaik Karim.
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