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REPORT

OF THE

FAMINE IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY

DURING

1896 AND 1897.

VOL. II.—APPENDICES.

MADRAS:
PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRESS.

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APPENDICES TO THE REPORT OF THE FAMINE OF 1896 AND 1897.

APPENDIX I.

From H. D. TAYLOR, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of Ganjām, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Camp Udayagiri, 29th November 1897.

I have the honour to submit my report upon the administration of Famine Relief in the Ganjām district during the past year.

PRELIMINARY.

2. The limits of the district have remained unchanged since the famine of 1889, and though the area of distress has varied considerably within the district from that affected in the famine of 1889, I do not consider that it is necessary to go over old ground. A mere reference to Mr. Horsfall's remarks in paragraph 2 of his report on the famine of 1889, embodied in G.O., No. 1026, dated 18th December 1890 (page 13), will suffice. There are only three causes which tend in any way to modify the conditions of the district as it then existed. These are—

- (i) the natural increase of population, the Census of 1891 showing an increase of 5.98 per cent. over that of 1881;
- (ii) the construction of the Russellkonda reservoir, and works in connection with the Rushikulya project;
- (iii) the opening up of the coast tracts, and improved communication owing to the construction of the East Coast Railway.

In regard to these I may briefly remark that the increase in production of food-grains owing to (ii) is not sufficient to provide for the increase in population (i); while the construction of the East Coast Railway, the general value and utility of which I do not wish in any way to depreciate and which in ordinary years, assuming famine to be existent in Ganjām only as in 1889 and non-existent elsewhere in the Presidency, would be a most potent factor in the prevention of distress and alleviation of scarcity, has, in my opinion, during the current year, acted prejudicially to the general welfare of the labouring and non-commercial community in the district. Famine in Ganjām was not pronounced for some months after it had become a reality in the Deccan Districts, and in consequence an enormous quantity of food-grains were exported during the earlier months in the year, which, had they remained in the district, would probably have sufficed for its needs, but which, as a matter of fact, had to be re-imported at a very considerable loss to the consumer. When, however, the district stock had become depleted by exportation, the value of the railway during the monsoon months, when communication by sea is uncertain, could not be over-estimated.

A peculiarity of the recent famine is that it succeeded four favourable years, whereas on the occasion of previous famines the previous years had been indifferent. This can be only attributed to the large exportation of food-stocks by rail in the earlier months of the fasli, due to the scarcity and high prices prevailing in other districts of the Presidency. Without the East Coast Railway these stocks would have remained in the district, as they could not have been exported by sea during monsoon months.

SEASON.

3. *Rainfall and water-supply.*—The average rainfall for the district calculated on the twenty-five years ending 1894-95 is 45 inches—*vide* Board's Proceedings,

No. 350, dated 8th May 1897, whereas the rainfall from April 1896 to March 1897, which may be taken as the rainfall affecting the fasli year, was 36.29 inches.

The accompanying statement I-A shows details, month by month, of the rainfall from faslis 1298 to 1307 up to date inclusive, as well as that for faslis 1275 and 1287, which were also famine years. The average rainfall for years intervening between 1888 and 1896 is, however, 50 inches.

I-A.—Statement of Rainfall in the Ganjam District.

Months.	1865-66. Fasli 1275.	1877-78. Fasli 1287.	1888-89. Fasli 1298.	1889-90. Fasli 1299.	1890-91. Fasli 1300.	1891-92. Fasli 1301.	1892-93. Fasli 1302.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
April ...	1.85	2.6	2.5	0.18	0.19	0.73	0.48
May ...	2.90	7.9	3.7	1.69	2.48	6.27	1.02
June ...	4.70	3.3	2.37	6.12	5.35	1.12	6.80
July ...	3.80	3.6	3.23	10.35	7.09	4.89	8.05
August ...	5.97	4.8	7.42	7.61	6.05	8.11	8.49
September ...	4.92	6.4	4.48	6.39	7.52	7.48	11.47
October ...	4.5	2.0	1.92	14.34	9.08	1.97	12.56
November ...	3.2	1	5.83	12.27	3.31	1.12	0.75
December ...	...	...	0.9	0.35	1.03	0.02	...
January ...	...	...	...	...	0.06	...	1.51
February ...	0.97	1	0.2	...	1.09	0.02	1.98
March ...	0.05	6	0.6	0.99	2.88	0.01	2.90
Total ...	25.93	31.4	26.09	60.29	46.13	31.74	56.01
Remarks as to state of season ...	Very bad.		Very bad.	Favourable	Compa- ratively favourable.	Far from favourable.	Favourable
Months.	1893-94. Fasli 1303.	1894-95. Fasli 1304.	1895-96. Fasli 1305.	1896-97. Fasli 1306.	1897-98. Fasli 1307.	Remarks.	
	9	10	11	12	13	14	
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.		
April ...	1.65	1.73	1.72	0.68	0.72	} South-West monsoon	
May ...	3.87	0.98	2.48	1.88	1.30		
June ...	6.33	5.25	13.42	7.03	4.34		
July ...	11.02	13.41	8.92	8.49	7.51		
August ...	8.33	5.43	11.54	10.02	9.76		
September ...	11.94	7.63	6.84	4.41	13.95	} North-East monsoon.	
October ...	7.69	7.68	8.71	0.07	12.48		
November ...	1.99	2.70	0.68	0.13	...		
December ...	...	0.01	0.01	...	...		
January ...	0.16	0.02	...	0.03	...		
February ...	1.10	1.41	...	1.59	...		
March ...	0.03	0.08	0.53	1.76	...		
Total ...	54.11	46.33	54.85	36.29	...		
Remarks as to state of season ...	Favourable	Favourable	Favourable	...	...		

It will be observed that the rainfall of fasli 1306 (1896-97) was considerably higher than it was in the following years:—

Fasli.	Years.	Inches.
1287	1877-78.	31.4
1275	1865-66.	25.93
1298	1888-89.	26.09
1303	1891-92.	31.74

In the first three of these years famines occurred. In 1891-92 there was no famine, due partly to two favourable seasons immediately preceding, and partly to the fact, the joint construction of the East Coast Railway and Rushikulya works provided employment at remunerative wages to all who were in need of work.

The state of the season cannot, however, be judged merely by the total amount of rainfall in the year. The distribution of that rainfall in the various months of the year is a most powerful factor in deciding whether a season is favourable or otherwise, especially in a district like Ganjam where rain-fed paddy forms a very large proportion of the cultivated area. In this respect it will be noted that the rainfall in fasli 1306 was particularly unfavourable. Up to the end of August, everything was favourable, except in parts of Chicacole and Tekkali, where the season reports showed a deficiency of rainfall from the commencement of August; and the rainfall fairly early and continuous. During the early portion of September there was a slight fall, but the total average rainfall for that month was 4.41 inches only, while that of October and November was practically nil. It was not, however, till the end of October that alarm was felt. These same features will be observed, though in a slightly less marked degree, in faslis 1275, 1287 and 1298. In fasli 1301 the September rainfall was normal. The result of the failure of the North-East monsoon was to destroy almost at one blow the entire amount of rain-fed paddy—a subject which will be referred to later on. It should also be noted that the distress was prolonged owing to the lateness of the South-West monsoon of fasli 1307, and comparative failure of the early ragi crop.

In the season report for 5th October 1896, it was stated for the first time 'Prospects not encouraging,' while that for 19th October 1896 was most unfavourable, and a special report was submitted by Mr. Weir and embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 296, dated 28th October 1896. The details of further stages of distress as depending on the failure of the rain and insufficient water-supply are fully dealt with in two special reports and successive fortnightly narratives.

I may note that, as early as January 1896, the scarcity of water-supply in tanks, both for men and cattle, was beginning to make itself felt.

4. *Cultivation.*—Statement I-B shows the details of Government lands, dry and wet, cultivated or left waste in the seven succeeding years and in previous famine years. Figures for fasli 1306 in this form are not yet available, and I am, therefore, unable to comment upon them at length.

I-B.—Statement of the Area of Government lands (dry and wet) cultivated and left waste in the District of Ganjam.

—	1299.		1300.		1301.		1302.		1303.	
	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cultivated ...	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.
Waste charged.	345,228	{ 7,51,004	312,295	{ 7,50,772	336,712	{ 7,44,144	343,559	{ 7,51,674	346,920	{ 7,56,411
Waste remitted.	17,266		20,512		24,347		20,958		18,721	
	247	435	158	455	2,731	6,506	23	68	65	139
Total holdings...	362,841	7,51,439	362,985	7,51,227	363,790	7,50,650	364,540	7,51,742	365,706	7,56,633

—	1304.		1305.		1298.		1275.		1287.	
	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.	Area.	Assessment.
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Cultivated ...	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.
Waste charged.	345,780	{ 7,60,400	343,384	{ 7,61,142	327,488	{ 7,17,350	278,509	{ 6,33,095	281,015	{ 6,64,304
Waste remitted.	20,327		24,378		20,517		2,016		21,372	
	60	104	85	191	14,383	33,122	130	311	2,680	7,053
Total holdings...	366,176	7,60,594	367,847	7,61,333	366,388	7,51,072	280,655	6,33,406	305,067	6,71,357

APPENDIX I.

I-C.—Statement showing the Area sown in the District of Ganjam during the period of distress as compared with the average for the five years ending 1895-96.

District.	Dry cultivation.			Wet cultivation.		
	Average.	1895-96.	1896-97.	Average.	1895-96.	1896-97.
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
Ganjam { First crop	219,637	222,841	207,236	191,312	193,899	182,128
... { Second crop	16,010	15,376	15,393	29,346	33,507	18,108
Total ...	235,647	238,217	222,629	220,658	227,406	200,236

The figures shown in statement I-C are for the official year 1896-97, and are taken from the Board's monthly season report for March 1897. The average area sown for the five years ending 1895-96 amounts to 456,305 acres. These figures include both Government and Inam lands, wet and dry, for both first and second crop. The total area sown in 1896-97 was 422,865 acres showing a falling off of 33,440 acres, as against the average and 42,758 acres as against the figures of 1895-96. In the statement shown on page 17 of Mr. Horsfall's report, the total area sown is entered as 362,319 acres only, but I am not aware whether this total includes inam or second-crop cultivation.

It will be noted that the falling off in 1896-97 was chiefly noticeable under second-crop wet cultivation, the acreage being only 18,108 as against 33,507 in the previous year. So far, however, as the Ganjam district is concerned, it is unsafe to draw any conclusion from the cultivated area in Government taluks, and the yield on those areas. The major portion of the district is zamindari, while a large area of the Government lands in Goomsur and Chicacole are placed in a much more advantageous position than the zamindari lands, owing to the Rushikulya system in Goomsur and the Langulya and Vamsadhara river systems in Chicacole.

In the Chicacole taluk proper and Goomsur the distress did not amount to a general famine; this result was probably due to the fact that the majority of the ryots owning lands under the river systems were enabled to grow sufficient grain for their own actual consumption, if not for sale to others.

It was throughout the zamindari tracts that distress was most severe, and for these tracts we have no statistics of cultivation. The area actually under cultivation may not have been much below normal as the early rains were favourable, but with the exception of Parlákimedi, the failure of crops was far more widespread than in Government taluks (Berhampur excepted).

5. *Harvests and outturn.*—As soon as it was evident that there would be a large failure of crops and that considerable remission would be necessary, application was made for the temporary appointment of ten special crop inspectors in Government taluks (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 345, dated 14th November 1896, Revenue Settlement). Until, however, the Jamabandi report and returns are completed, exact details as to the outturn of crops cannot be ascertained with accuracy. The accompanying statement I-D shows the acreage and outturn under each crop for fasli 1306; the figures are, however, mainly based on karnam's figures and relate to Government taluks and minor inam lands only. They may, however, be considered as fairly approximate.

I-D.—Wet and Dry Outturn Statement for Fasli 1306.

Name of crop.	Total extent sown.	17 to 20 annas.	13 to 16 annas.	9 to 12 annas.	5 to 8 annas.	1 to 4 annas.	0	Average in annas.
Wet Crops.								
Paddy	298,653	1,546	17,129	42,777	63,037	92,935	81,149	4-5
Sugar-cane	1,731	2	137	534	821	230	7	7-8
Green-gram	14,462	...	137	638	2,650	7,371	3,650	3-4
Total ...	314,846	1,548	17,403	43,949	66,518	100,506	84,812	4 to 5

I-D.—Wet and Dry Outturn Statement for Fasli 1306—cont.

Name of crop.	Total extent sown.	17 to 20 annas.	13 to 16 annas.	9 to 12 annas.	5 to 8 annas.	1 to 4 annas.	0	Average in annas.
Dry Crops.								
Ragi	55,175	...	549	6,933	16,688	29,037	1,965	6-7
Horse-gram	4,099	...	...	...	619	2,880	600	2-3
All others, including pulses	19,030	...	390	2,970	6,570	7,195	1,905	3-4
Cotton	2,420	...	20	259	1,030	1,087	24	5-6
Castor and lamp-oil seeds.	2,374	...	9	158	908	1,014	285	4-5
Gingelly	22,268	...	162	1,599	7,022	12,154	1,331	4-5
Other oil-seeds	715	...	...	18	209	370	118	3-4
Tobacco	395	...	5	17	150	207	76	4-5
All others, including topes.	24,167	71	518	3,060	3,415	14,187	2,916	1-2
Total ...	130,643	71	1,653	15,014	36,611	68,131	9,160	4 to 5

The rain-fed paddy failed almost completely throughout the district, and, as pointed out by Mr. Horsfall in 1889, there can be no doubt that the partiality of the Uriya ryot for rain-fed cultivation is one of the main causes which contributes to the recurrence of famine in this district. Endowed as it usually is with a plenteous rainfall, the ryot, for five years out of six, reaps a rich and profitable harvest, but should the rains fail, his entire crop is lost, and lands which are suitable for ragi, and which would have grown a good crop of the same, are rendered a barren waste.

Irrigated paddy was good in some parts under the Rushikulya and indifferent in other lands under the remoter distributaries of the same project, fair under the river channels of Chicacole, and bad under small tanks.

In regard to ragi the reports of Divisional officers vary: though there were some good crops in parts, yet the average for Government taluks cannot be put down as exceeding an 8-anna crop. The second crops of ragi grown in the hot weather proved almost an entire failure, except under a few exceptionally good wells in the vicinity of rivers.

I would here note that the ragi crop is largely used by the ryots for payment of wages in kind to field labourers employed in the weeding and harvesting of paddy. In the year under review not only was the yield of ragi deficient, but the amount so expended in wages brought but little, if any, return in a very large number of villages. Green-gram and red-gram yielded moderate crops, but black-gram and horse-gram, which are frequently relied upon as food-grains where ordinary crops fail, were almost entirely lost, considerable damage being caused by caterpillars to the horse-gram crop in Chicacole.

I enclose herewith a few extracts from the earlier reports of Divisional officers, gathered from their personal observation in the course of their tours:—

The Principal Assistant Collector (Mr. Rice) wrote thus in his letter, dated 31st October 1896:—

“The Sub-divisional officer estimates that 80 per cent. of the crop (paddy) will be saved, and I think that he is not far wrong though possibly his figure is rather high. In Kota Bommali the land is chiefly dry, and as you know the ragi crop was a good one. I saw some very thriving looking paddy on the road from Bommali to Raghunadhapore, but whether it will yield much is another question. I have plucked several heads of paddy and found them mere husk without grain inside. The samples I took were from fields with water in them, and the paddy was green and fresh-looking.

“The paddy between Tekkali and Pata Tekkali is all gone; acres of it are parched and withered, and look more like inferior grass than paddy; they are a dull greenish-brown instead of the beautiful live green of the paddy-field. There seems to be very little irrigation in this zamindari. I am told there is one channel which is flowing. The tanks are nearly all quite dry.”

Again the same officer wrote thus on 6th November 1896:—
However on the 4th I rode from Pundi to Kota Bommali about 28 miles. and I had a good opportunity of contrasting the various districts (*sic*).

I was much struck by the complete failure in the Tekkali taluk. Near Nowpada the plain is a dreary waste. Kota Bommali itself is dry and grows dry crops. Some excellent paddy was growing near Urlam Railway station and showed me what paddy ought to be. Paddy under channels is still flourishing, but I fear the outturn will be small."

The Deputy Collector in charge of the Senior Assistant Collector's division wrote thus in his letter, dated 1st November 1896:—

"Rain-fed paddy has withered except such as has been fully irrigated by the canal. Irrigated paddy under small tanks and river channels has almost withered in most parts, that under big tanks and tamparas and under Rajaghayi, a river channel, is in fair condition generally except the crop lying at a distance from these sources. Paddy fully irrigated by the canal water is in good condition. Outturn of ragi averages 4 annas."

The same officer added to the above the following remark in his report, dated 7th November 1896:—

"In the Surangi Estate, in 16 villages under the Mukundasagaram, paddy crop is thriving well, but should there be no rain in about a week or so this will suffer. In the remaining villages of the estate it has either withered or is withering."

In his letter, R.C. No. 1083, Revenue, of 1896, dated 31st October 1896, the General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, stated thus:—

"There was no rain anywhere in my division, and the standing wet crops that have no water or moisture are hopelessly bad, while rain-fed paddy is either ripe or withered up. The muttals I visited will, however, on the whole, certainly yield 8-anna crop whether there is rain or no rain. It is the wet crop that is yet to be benefited by rain and that even to a small extent as the stage of relief by rain has nearly passed. Red-gram and gingelly are growing well and a fair outturn is expected. Night dew has helped the rain-fed paddy which has already given out ears to ripen them, and the standing wet paddy is surviving the unusual heat of the day by the same means in places."

Again, the same officer wrote thus in his letter, Reference on Current No. 2-F, dated 7th November 1896:—

"In several of the villages I visited rain-fed paddy is completely scorched up, there being 2 or 3 beds that would yield 4 to 6 anna crop where it is low. Ragi plants are withered up in the seed beds, as it was not possible to transplant for want of rain. Horse-gram stands in need of rain. A good rain even a fortnight hence will enable the ryots to sow mustard and prove beneficial to the standing dry crops."

The Head-quarters Deputy Collector wrote thus in his letter, Reference on Current No. 1205-H.R. of 1896, dated 1st November 1896:—

"The early paddy originally raised on dry and rain-fed lands, which might have been harvested in October, appears to have entirely failed. That (early paddy) cultivated subsequently on those lands has been partly (about a third) lost. Three-fourths of the paddy crop raised on irrigated lands has either already withered away or is still withering from want of water. The remaining one-fourth seems to be thriving as the fields contain little water in those beds. This refers to the fields near the roads from Purushottapur to Boirani. The early ragi has been already harvested. I was told that through excessive moisture the plants did not thrive well and produced only a 6-anna crop or so. Gingelly crop has also suffered to a little extent, the yield being less than three-fourths. The late ragi and gingelly crops which are now standing in the fields are very poor, and are ready to wither away. The early paddy crop on rain-fed lands appeared to have been in some places withered away, while others produced a very poor crop. The late paddy on rain-fed and wet lands in many places is almost withering away, the fields being dry. In few places the plants are green and are throwing up ears, and if there be no rain immediately, it is apprehended that these also will either fail or produce a very poor crop. In few places again the paddy ears seem to be forming moderately well."

The Head-quarters Deputy Collector wrote thus on 7th November 1896:—

"I have, however, inspected the crops of Gopalpur which adjoin Chatrapur. Most of the paddy crop has been withering away in both rain-fed and irrigated

respectively. None of these ports are favourable for shipping and landing of goods except in fair weather. The present season has, however, been exceptionally favourable in that respect.

The district is further in communication by rail with Cuttack on the north, and Bezwada and Cocanada on the south.

There were considerable imports of grain from the Tributary State of Nyagarh to the north of Goomsur into that taluk, but the road is a mere track and, in the rains, was well nigh impassable. I hear that there were very large stocks in Nyagarh, but that the Raja of that State at first vetoed all export, finally granting the concession to a single merchant on the payment to him of a fixed tariff for each carce of grain exported, and a guarantee that a fixed reserve would be kept stored up in that State.

8. *Internal communication.*—The Chicacole sub-division is well supplied with roads throughout: these roads were at the commencement of the year all in an excellent state of repairs, though they have since considerably deteriorated owing to the heavy traffic of the past years, and inadequate water-supply for their repair during the hot weather.

Senior Assistant Collector's Division.—The southern portion of this division is a fairly narrow strip along the coast. The East Coast Railway and the trunk road run almost parallel along this portion up to the extreme north of the division. The division is, however, badly supplied with branch roads, and great difficulty was experienced in conveying supplies to the remoter villages and kitchens and especially to the Savaras of the Tumba Agency. In the northern portion of this division it widens out and embraces the Chikati and Peddakimedi Zamindaris. The headquarters of these zamindaris are connected by road with Ichchāpur, but the road from Berhampur is only completed to within four miles of Digupudi, the last portion being well nigh impassable in bad weather. In the triangle formed by these two roads with the trunk road as its base lie the large block of Mohiri hills, where considerable distress existed and to which means of communication are extremely inadequate. Further on again towards the main line of Eastern Ghāts behind Digupudi, was the Khoitkhandi circle, the last to be closed, which is absolutely devoid of roads or cart tracks and intersected by nullahs. This was the most difficult portion of the Senior Assistant Collector's Division for purposes of relief.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.—From Chatrapur to the Orissa frontier, this district is served by the East Coast Railway and trunk road. The latter, however, is of little use as a means of through traffic during heavy rains, as the Rushikulya river, when in flood, is impassable being unbridged. The immediate coast strip, through the Paloor Zamindari, is served by the Ganjam-Chilka Canal.

From Berhampur a road runs to Purushottapur, but before reaching the latter place the Rushikulya river has again to be crossed. Purushottapur is connected with Aska (the Mahanadi river unbridged intervening), and with Humma on the trunk road, north of the Rushikulya, but for three miles near Humma the road during rains was unmetalled and carts had to leave the track.

From Boirani (between Aska and Purushottapur) to Khallikote, a new road is in progress and was found useful as a famine work. But to the north of this lies a large tract of hill and barren country embracing the Pulsara and Pandripada muttas, which are absolutely devoid of proper means of communication with outside markets.

It will be seen, therefore, that in this division, especially during the monsoon, was by no means easy to adequately administer relief, especially as traders and merchants are conspicuous by their absence, as are village officers by their apathy and uselessness.

Goomsur (General Deputy Collector's) Division.—This is another difficult division. In fact the only roads which are at all in good condition are those from Aska to Russelkonda and from Aska to Surada. Importation was not, however, necessary. Relief measures, except for a short period, were not on any extended scale, and the taluk contains many large villages and local merchants. There is a large market at Belligunta which was fairly well supplied from Nyagarh.

9. *Internal trade.*—No statistics are available on this subject, but the general tone of fortnightly narratives throughout has shown that internal trade has been dull and inactive. When once the stocks had become exhausted by exports beyond the district, there was a strong disinclination on the part of the grain owners to part with their stocks; hence localities requiring grain had to procure the same by means of import from other districts.

It is usual for grain from Parlákimedi to be stored up by merchants in Narsannapet, Chicacole and Calingapatam for export to Vizianagram, and a portion of the grain so stored found its way up to Berhanpur. There were also some slight movements of grain from Goomsur to Berhanpur, but this was to a large extent grain imported from Nyagarh and temporarily stored in Goomsur taluk.

10. *External trade.*—As noted above the Ganjam district is at all times a very heavy exporting district, a large portion of the annual crop being bought up in advance. Hence until the district stocks were absolutely exhausted, the exports far exceeded the imports, but from June onwards the balance of trade turned in favour of the district. For some two months prior to this, the export of ragi had practically ceased, and it was being imported from Bangalore, Cocanada and other places, though rice continued to be exported.

Statement II-A gives details of the exports by sea of food-grains for what may be taken to be the shipping season, from October to September in each year for the last ten years. These figures are not of great importance on a comparison with those of 1888-89 or 1877-78, as the opening of the East Coast Railway has considerably altered the position of the district since then. They are, however, sufficient to show how heavy was the export in 1894-95 and 1895-96, and what a sharp fall there has been in the year under review.

II-A.—Statement of Exports of Food-grains by Sea from October to September of each year.

Years.	Cwts.	Value.	Season.
1889-90	8,882	RS. 32,732	Favourable.
1890-91	132,159	4,66,813	Comparatively favourable.
1891-92	227,406	6,98,919	Far from favourable.
1892-93	457,993	18,45,656	Favourable.
1893-94	253,780	9,73,789	Generally favourable.
1894-95	392,704	12,55,157	Do.
1895-96	990,639	27,78,510	Do.
1896-97	61,285	2,68,093	
1888-89	456	1,296	Very bad.
1877-78	65,622	2,82,663	Very unfavourable.

Statement II-B gives details of imports and exports for the last five years from October to September in each year.

II-B.—Statement showing Exports and Imports by Sea for the five years ending 1896-97 calculated from October to September in each year.

Years.	Exports by sea.	Imports by sea.	Differences.
1892-93	CWTS. 457,993	CWTS. 84	CWTS. + 457,907
1893-94	253,780	75	+ 253,705
1894-95	392,704	2	+ 392,702
1895-96	990,639	6	+ 990,633
1896-97	61,285	77,017	- 15,732

It will be seen that whereas in former years exports by sea largely exceeded imports, the latter exceeded exports in the year under review.

Statement II-C gives details of exports and imports of food-grains by rail in each month from December 1896 to October 1897, the figures being taken from the weekly season reports.

II-C.—Statement showing Exports and Imports by rail from December 1896 to October 1897.

Months.	Exports by rail.	Imports by rail.	Differences.
December 1896	MDS. 24,803	MDS. 8,289	+ 16,514
January 1897	14,034	11,068	+ 2,966
February "	10,158	10,576	- 418
March "	10,732	3,984	+ 6,748
April "	16,431	3,428	+ 13,003
May "	25,178	6,073	+ 19,105
June "	17,933	13,857	+ 4,076
July "	9,993	26,583	- 16,590
August "	3,313	51,895	- 48,582
September "	2,427	39,766	- 37,339
October "	2,539	22,921	- 20,382
Total	137,541	198,440	60,899

As noted above the imports exceeded exports from June onwards, and the total amount imported during the period far exceeded that exported. Separate figures for rice and ragi are not available.

11. *Ability of local markets to meet demands.*—This has been practically dealt with above. Had there been no exports subsequent to September 1896 it is possible that, in spite of the failure of crops, the stocks would have sufficed for the district supply and that there would have been no famine. The famine, in the present instance, was clearly brought on by over-exports combined with failure of crops. The district markets throughout were indifferently supplied, and grain in many cases was quite non-procurable, especially in remote localities. Several merchants were apathetic and slow to import, while contractors for the supply of grain doles at remoter centres were exceedingly difficult to procure. For these reasons, I submitted proposals (a) for the advance of funds to contractors to import grain, (b) for the opening of grain depôts, (c) for the grant of money doles—all of which were negatived by Government.

In the remoter villages the want of grain stocks was keenly felt even by those who could afford to pay for the same. The Taluk Relief officer of Purushottapur mentioned in one of his diaries that he overheard one woman saying to another in the street: "To-day we must go hungry again. I cannot buy any grain in the bazaar—" and this was by no means an uncommon occurrence in many parts of the district.

PRICES.

12. *Fluctuations in district average prices.*—The following are the normal, warning and scarcity rates for the staple food-grains for the Ganjam district, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, calculated on the average of the ten immediately succeeding non-famine years:—

Rates.	Rice.	Ragi.
Normal	17-6	30-0
Warning	13-0	22-5
Scarcity	10-2	15-0

At the commencement of distress it was ruled that the wages of labour on famine relief works should be calculated on a basis of one-fifth rice and four-fifths ragi. This was subsequently altered on my representations to half rice and half ragi. Further, when in June ragi became unprocurable, permission was given to use rice instead of ragi for relief in other ways.

Statement III-A shows the average prices of rice and ragi as taken from the jamabandi reports for the last ten years and in previous famine years.

III-A.—In seers per rupee.

Food-grains.	Faslis.										
	1299	1300	1301	1302	1303	1304	1305	1306	1298	1275	1257
Rice, second sort.	9-1	11-6	13-0	13-0	14-9	15-9	18-3	12-00	12-05	10-73	8-76
Ragi	24-9	32-5	22-6	25-2	27-0	27-1	30-0	18-76	22-62	15-29	20-76

Statement-III B shows the same details-month by month for the last five years.

III-B.—In seers per rupee.

	Second-sort rice.					Ragi.				
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.
April ...	14.06	15.36	17.31	19.09	11.0	26.69	26.11	28.71	30.48	15.3
May ...	13.79	15.18	17.32	18.36	10.7	26.48	25.57	28.62	29.94	13.3
June ...	13.50	15.09	17.26	17.78	9.6	26.35	24.83	31.35	29.05	10.8
July ...	13.50	14.93	16.79	17.3	8.7	27.43	25.20	29.63	28.6	10.4
August ...	13.94	14.64	16.57	17.0	7.7	27.64	24.86	29.31	29.1	10.4
September ...	14.07	14.47	16.96	16.1	8.4	28.34	24.60	28.99	29.7	11.0
October ...	14.54	14.69	17.51	12.5	8.3	28.82	26.43	29.41	23.8	14.3
November ...	15.46	15.04	18.44	10.4	...	28.39	26.88	30.24	16.8	...
December ...	15.03	15.70	21.43	10.6	...	27.01	27.08	30.78	16.5	...
January ...	15.28	16.08	20.37	10.2	...	26.71	27.12	30.72	15.0	...
February ...	15.75	16.62	19.85	10.1	...	26.49	27.49	30.53	14.5	...
March ...	15.83	15.52	19.47	10.7	...	26.36	28.10	30.55	15.2	...

Statement III-C shows the prices, month by month, of rice and ragi during the past year as compared with the normal prices and those of previous famine years.

III-C.—Statement showing the prices of Rice and Ragi in the district of Ganjam from July 1896 to October 1897 as compared with the prices prevailing in 1888-89, 1877-78, and with average normal rates.

Name of the month.	Seers per rupee.							
	1896-97.		1888-89.		1877-78.		Normal rates.	
	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.
July ...	17.3	28.6	17.8	26.6	11.0	14.7	17.0	26.0
August ...	17.0	29.1	16.0	24.0	10.1	13.7	16.5	25.3
September ...	16.2	29.7	14.5	24.2	9.0	17.7	16.6	27.2
October ...	12.4	23.0	11.3	21.5	9.0	14.6	16.8	30.0
November ...	10.4	16.8	12.6	22.8	9.1	15.2	17.1	30.1
December ...	10.6	16.5	12.4	22.1	9.7	14.8	17.3	29.9
January ...	9.9	15.0	11.6	19.2	9.9	15.1	18.1	29.7
February ...	10.1	14.5	11.3	18.0	9.0	13.2	18.1	29.7
March ...	10.2	15.2	11.2	18.8	12.7	12.7	18.2	29.4
April ...	10.4	15.3	11.6	21.8	8.7	13.0	18.0	29.3
May ...	10.2	13.3	10.8	18.6	8.8	12.7	17.7	29.1
June ...	9.3	10.8	10.0	17.0	8.8	12.1	17.5	28.4
July ...	8.3	10.4	9.9	17.5	8.2	11.0	17.0	26.0
August ...	7.4	10.4	10.2	18.1	8.4	12.4	16.5	25.3
September ...	7.4	11.1	10.9	26.5	9.1	13.0	16.6	27.2
October ...	8.7	14.1	11.6	33.2	9.9	17.3	16.8	30.0

Enclosures III D-1 and D-2 show the same details at a glance in diagram form.

From these statements it will be observed that there was a sharp rise from almost the normal price of rice and ragi in August to nearly the level of 1877-78 price in November, that the 1877-78 prices were subsequently exceeded in the case of both grains, that they were subsequently to October considerably higher throughout in each case than the prices in 1888-89, and that at the present time the prices both of rice and ragi are nearly 100 per cent. in excess of normal, in spite of most favourable prospects for the paddy crop. The high prices of the past year, as compared with those of previous famine years, are alone sufficient to demonstrate the severity of the distress with which this district has been afflicted. The prices are, moreover, slow in returning to their normal stage, partly owing to the failure of the ragi crop, and partly owing to the lateness of the paddy harvest owing to a late monsoon.

I am inclined to think that the normal prices of the Ganjam district will never again fall to their old low level owing to the manner in which export and movements of grain have been popularised in the course of the last year.

13. *Variations between Prices at Recording stations.*—The price-recording stations in the district are connected with each other either by rail or by means of good roads. The southern portion of the district is also similarly connected with Vizagapatam. Hence not much variation in the prices recorded at various recording-stations is to be looked for.

Statements III-E (1) and E (2), show, month by month, the prices recorded at the various price-recording stations in the district, both for rice and ragi from July 1896 to date.

III-E (1).—Statement of Prices of second-sort Rice in seers per rupee.

Months.	Price-recording stations.												District average.
	Russellkonda.	Surada.	Aska.	Purnashottapur.	Chhatrapur.	Berhampur.	Ichchhapuram.	Sompeta.	Parlakimedi.	Tekkali.	Narasannapet.	Chitacole.	
1896.													
July ...	18.26	19.80	16.00	19.57	18.15	15.00	16.00	15.64	19.00	18.30	16.50	15.88	17.34
August ...	18.00	19.80	16.00	19.00	18.15	15.00	14.66	15.12	18.03	18.30	16.13	15.79	16.99
September ...	17.80	19.80	16.00	19.00	16.50	14.76	14.32	15.12	16.13	15.25	15.18	13.97	16.15
October ...	14.38	15.30	12.40	14.45	11.68	11.75	11.10	10.76	12.34	12.15	11.68	11.35	12.44
November ...	11.50	10.12	10.16	12.00	10.72	9.60	9.50	10.21	10.52	10.56	10.60	9.83	10.44
December ...	11.61	10.10	10.16	12.00	10.72	10.00	9.50	10.28	10.57	10.67	10.67	10.56	10.57
1897.													
January ...	9.89	9.25	9.70	12.00	9.90	10.00	9.13	9.95	10.20	10.23	10.50	10.76	9.88
February ...	11.26	9.25	9.79	12.13	9.50	9.80	9.80	9.86	9.75	10.10	10.50	9.73	10.12
March ...	10.50	10.10	10.10	10.50	8.88	10.44	9.62	10.72	10.34	10.10	10.77	9.73	10.15
April ...	10.50	10.62	10.12	10.50	9.20	10.50	9.52	10.72	10.50	10.25	10.72	10.56	10.30
May ...	10.50	10.17	11.46	10.50	9.10	10.16	9.51	9.84	10.31	10.30	12.03	10.57	10.20
June ...	10.50	10.17	10.43	10.50	8.28	9.16	9.80	9.08	7.19	8.50	9.33	8.11	9.25
July ...	8.58	9.25	9.26	9.50	7.45	8.11	8.66	8.12	7.90	7.30	8.61	7.23	8.23
August ...	7.61	7.59	7.55	7.88	6.40	7.41	7.50	7.48	7.11	7.10	7.50	7.13	7.35
September ...	7.23	7.62	7.22	7.79	7.41	7.12	7.50	8.11	6.97	7.10	7.79	7.17	7.42
October ...	8.15	8.33	8.70	8.36	8.65	8.06	8.62	8.81	9.75	9.45	9.44	7.66	8.66
Total ...	187.27	187.27	176.14	195.68	170.67	166.87	163.34	163.82	176.61	175.86	175.95	163.03	175.14
Taluk average ...	11.70	11.70	11.01	12.23	10.67	10.43	10.25	10.61	11.04	10.9	11.00	10.38	10.98 or 11.00

Statement-III B shows the same details month by month for the last five years.

III-B.—In seers per rupee.

	Second-sort rice.					Ragi.				
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1897-98.
April ...	14.06	15.36	17.31	19.00	11.0	26.69	26.11	28.71	30.48	15.3
May ...	13.79	15.18	17.32	18.36	10.7	26.48	25.57	28.62	29.94	13.3
June ...	13.50	15.09	17.26	17.78	9.6	26.35	24.83	31.35	29.05	10.8
July ...	13.50	14.93	16.79	17.3	8.7	27.43	25.20	29.63	28.6	10.4
August ...	13.94	14.64	16.57	17.0	7.7	27.64	24.86	29.31	29.1	10.4
September ...	14.07	14.47	16.96	16.1	8.4	28.34	24.60	28.99	29.7	11.0
October ...	14.54	14.69	17.51	12.5	8.3	28.82	26.43	29.41	23.8	14.3
November ...	15.46	15.04	18.44	10.4	...	28.39	26.88	30.24	16.8	...
December ...	15.03	15.70	21.43	10.6	...	27.01	27.08	30.78	16.5	...
January ...	15.28	16.08	20.37	10.2	...	26.71	27.12	30.72	15.0	...
February ...	15.75	16.62	19.85	10.1	...	26.49	27.49	30.53	14.5	...
March ...	15.83	15.52	19.47	10.7	...	26.36	28.10	30.55	15.2	...

Statement III-C shows the prices, month by month, of rice and ragi during the past year as compared with the normal prices and those of previous famine years.

III-C.—Statement showing the prices of Rice and Ragi in the district of Ganjam from July 1896 to October 1897 as compared with the prices prevailing in 1888-89, 1877-78, and with average normal rates.

Name of the month.	Seers per rupee.							
	1896-97.		1888-89.		1877-78.		Normal rates.	
	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.
July ...	17.3	28.6	17.8	26.6	11.0	14.7	17.0	26.0
August ...	17.0	29.1	16.0	24.0	10.1	13.7	16.5	25.3
September ...	16.2	29.7	14.5	24.2	9.0	17.7	16.6	27.2
October ...	12.4	23.0	11.3	21.5	9.0	14.6	16.8	30.0
November ...	10.4	16.8	12.6	22.8	9.1	15.2	17.1	30.1
December ...	10.6	16.5	12.4	22.1	9.7	14.8	17.3	29.9
January ...	9.9	15.0	11.6	19.2	9.9	15.1	18.1	29.7
February ...	10.1	14.5	11.3	18.0	9.0	13.2	18.1	29.7
March ...	10.2	15.2	11.2	18.8	12.7	12.7	18.2	29.4
April ...	10.4	15.3	11.6	21.8	8.7	13.0	18.0	29.3
May ...	10.2	13.3	10.8	18.6	8.8	12.7	17.7	29.1
June ...	9.3	10.8	10.0	17.0	8.8	12.1	17.5	28.4
July ...	8.3	10.4	9.9	17.5	8.2	11.0	17.0	26.0
August ...	7.4	10.4	10.2	18.1	8.4	12.4	16.5	25.3
September ...	7.4	11.1	10.9	26.5	9.1	13.0	16.6	27.2
October ...	8.7	14.1	11.6	33.2	9.9	17.3	16.8	30.6

Enclosures III D-1 and D-2 show the same details at a glance, in diagram form.

From these statements it will be observed that there was a sharp rise from almost the normal price of rice and ragi in August to nearly the level of 1877-78 price in November, that the 1877-78 prices were subsequently exceeded in the case of both grains, that they were subsequently to October considerably higher throughout in each case than the prices in 1888-89, and that at the present time the prices both of rice and ragi are nearly 100 per cent. in excess of normal, in spite of most favourable prospects for the paddy crop. The high prices of the past year, as compared with those of previous famine years, are alone sufficient to demonstrate the severity of the distress with which this district has been afflicted. The prices are, moreover, slow in returning to their normal stage, partly owing to the failure of the ragi crop, and partly owing to the lateness of the paddy harvest owing to a late monsoon.

I am inclined to think that the normal prices of the Ganjam district will never again fall to their old low level owing to the manner in which export and movements of grain have been popularised in the course of the last year.

13. *Variations between Prices at Recording stations.*—The price-recording stations in the district are connected with each other either by rail or by means of good roads. The southern portion of the district is also similarly connected with Vizagapatam. Hence not much variation in the prices recorded at various recording-stations is to be looked for.

Statements III-E (1) and E (2), show, month by month, the prices recorded at the various price-recording stations in the district, both for rice and ragi from July 1896 to date.

III-E (1).—Statement of Prices of second-sort Rice in seers per rupee.

Months.	Price-recording stations.												District average.
	Russalkonda.	Surada.	Aska.	Purnashottapur.	Chatrapur.	Borhampur.	Ichchapuram.	Sompeta.	Parakkimedi.	Tekkali.	Narasannapet.	Chitacole.	
1896.													
July ...	18.26	19.80	16.00	19.57	18.15	15.00	16.00	15.64	19.00	18.30	16.50	15.88	17.34
August ...	18.00	19.80	16.00	19.00	18.15	15.00	14.66	15.12	18.03	18.30	16.13	15.79	16.99
September ...	17.80	19.80	16.00	19.00	16.50	14.76	14.32	15.12	16.13	15.25	15.18	13.97	16.15
October ...	14.38	15.30	12.40	14.45	11.68	11.75	11.10	10.76	12.34	12.15	11.68	11.35	12.44
November ...	11.50	10.12	10.16	12.00	10.72	9.60	9.50	10.21	10.52	10.56	10.60	9.83	10.44
December ...	11.61	10.10	10.16	12.00	10.72	10.00	9.50	10.23	10.57	10.67	10.67	10.56	10.57
1897.													
January ...	0.89	9.25	9.70	12.00	9.90	10.00	9.13	9.95	10.20	10.23	10.50	10.76	9.88
February ...	11.26	9.25	9.79	12.13	9.50	9.80	9.80	9.86	9.75	10.10	10.50	9.73	10.12
March ...	10.50	10.10	10.10	10.50	8.86	10.44	9.62	10.72	10.34	10.10	10.77	9.73	10.15
April ...	10.50	10.62	10.12	10.50	9.20	10.50	9.62	10.72	10.50	10.25	10.72	10.56	10.30
May ...	10.50	10.17	11.46	10.50	9.10	10.16	9.51	9.84	10.31	10.30	12.03	10.57	10.20
June ...	10.50	10.17	10.43	10.50	8.28	9.16	9.80	9.08	7.19	8.50	9.33	8.11	9.25
July ...	8.58	9.25	9.26	9.50	7.45	8.11	8.06	8.12	7.90	7.50	8.61	7.23	8.29
August ...	7.61	7.59	7.55	7.88	6.40	7.41	7.50	7.48	7.11	7.10	7.50	7.13	7.35
September ...	7.23	7.62	7.22	7.79	7.41	7.12	7.50	8.11	6.97	7.10	7.79	7.17	7.42
October ...	8.15	8.33	8.70	8.36	8.65	8.06	8.62	8.81	9.75	9.45	9.44	7.66	8.66
Total ...	187.27	187.27	176.14	195.68	170.67	166.57	163.94	169.82	176.61	175.86	175.95	166.03	175.14
Taluk average ...	11.70	11.70	11.01	12.23	10.67	10.43	10.25	10.61	11.04	10.9	11.00	10.38	10.98 or 11.00

February to May it carried off 6,028 persons; that is, nearly double the number (3,293) that fell victims to the same disease in the seven years intervening between the present famine and that of 1889. The severity of cholera was only next to that of 1865-66. Six additional temporary vaccinators were appointed by the District Board in January, but their efforts were quite unable to avert the progress of the disease. The Deputy Tahsildars of Aska and Surada were both attacked by small-pox. My own camp was attacked with cholera on no less than four occasions. The season was generally unhealthy, fever being very prevalent. There were an unusual number of deaths from dysentery and bowel complaints owing to the consumption of unhealthy green food. The question of health was fully dealt with in my letter No. R.G.B. 213-F., dated 8th November 1897, already referred to.

Birth and death-rate.—Statement IV-A compares the total number of births and deaths from October to October in 1896-97 with those of the preceding six years and previous famine years for the same period. The causes of deaths are also noted in detail.

IV-A—Statement of Births and Deaths in the Ganjam District.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.						Total deaths excluding those from cholera.	Total deaths including those from cholera and small-pox.
		Cholera.	Small pox.	Fever.	Bowel complaint.	Other causes.	Total.		
1st October 1889 to 31st October 1890	19,601	173	951	14,875	434	3,191	19,624	19,451	18,500
Do. 1890 to do. 1891	35,475	42	217	13,197	332	3,587	17,375	17,333	17,116
Do. 1891 to do. 1892	12,577	302	457	19,268	760	4,934	25,781	25,419	24,962
Do. 1892 to do. 1893	25,395	272	266	17,782	558	4,235	23,113	22,841	22,575
Do. 1893 to do. 1894	38,027	260	300	18,957	804	4,577	24,898	24,638	24,338
Do. 1894 to do. 1895	33,496	118	250	19,450	931	4,431	25,180	25,062	24,812
Do. 1895 to do. 1896	31,896	1,293	852	18,249	993	4,156	25,534	24,241	23,389
Do. 1896 to do. 1897	28,361	14,474	10,104	19,350	1,962	4,920	50,810	36,336	26,232
Do. 1888 to do. 1889	18,581	14,041	4,680	14,181	527	5,034	38,463	24,422	19,742
Do. 1877 to do. 1878	18,045	10,398	740	15,141	584	4,118	30,181	20,583	19,843
Do. 1865 to do. 1866	...	25,854	4,330	...	...	26,078	56,262	30,408	26,078

Statement No. IV-B gives monthly details of births and deaths for the three preceding years and 1888-89.

IV-B.

Months.	Births.						Deaths.					
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	Average of past 3 years.	1896-97.	1888-89.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	Average of past 3 years.	1896-97.	1888-89.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
November	3,260	2,444	2,446	2,716	2,913	2,072	2,163	1,948	2,142	2,064	1,826	1,549
December	3,119	2,614	2,353	2,762	2,795	1,943	2,971	2,340	2,328	2,546	2,750	1,704
January	3,156	2,565	2,318	2,679	3,119	1,479	2,393	1,919	2,217	2,176	3,363	1,878
February	2,649	2,158	1,749	2,185	2,814	1,435	1,660	1,539	1,306	1,501	3,000	1,636
March	3,057	2,631	1,947	2,545	2,794	1,411	1,823	1,898	1,724	1,815	3,791	2,101
April	2,895	2,664	2,098	2,552	2,703	1,279	1,852	1,713	1,890	1,818	4,353	5,971
May	3,214	2,800	2,618	2,880	2,533	1,383	2,026	2,398	1,965	2,129	6,332	6,787
June	2,981	2,737	2,920	2,879	1,390	1,251	1,525	2,035	1,721	1,760	7,263	5,283
July	3,211	3,028	3,571	3,270	2,178	1,342	1,835	2,187	2,078	2,033	7,392	4,228
August	3,422	3,167	3,715	3,434	2,435	1,710	2,411	2,591	2,897	2,633	5,052	3,882
September	3,246	3,371	3,165	3,260	1,947	1,688	2,306	2,675	2,904	2,628	3,764	2,468
October	3,108	2,996	3,143	3,082	1,861	1,784	1,939	2,362	2,205	2,168	3,555	1,820
Total	37,318	33,884	32,043	34,244	29,483	18,777	24,844	25,605	25,377	25,271	52,531	39,397

On comparing the current figures with those of 1889 it will be observed that though the death-rate was much higher for the period, the total number of births was 29,483 as against 18,777.

The current birth-rate was nearly 5,000, or 13½ per cent. below the average of the three preceding years, while the death-rate was over 100 per cent. in excess. Almost the entire increase, however, is covered by deaths from small-pox and cholera. I consider also that the large increased mortality shown is due to more effective registration to which special attention has been paid in the past year.

I enclose (Statement IV-C) a statement already furnished in my letter R.G.B. No. 213-F., dated 8th November 1897, showing the details of mortality month by month during the current and two immediately preceding years. With these figures before it, the Board will be in a position to draw its own inferences.

IV.C.—Statement showing the Mortality under several diseases in the Ganjim District during January to September 1897 as compared with that of 1895 and 1896.

Months.	1895.							1896.							1897.							Remarks.
	Small-pox.		Fever.	Diarrhea and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Diarrhea and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Diarrhea and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.				
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20			
January	1	20	1,543	44	309	1,917	104	77	1,622	64	349	2,216	362	833	1,630	130	408	3,363				
February	1	13	1,233	39	253	1,539	16	40	988	32	230	1,306	284	1,185	1,175	105	341	3,090				
March	...	28	1,541	49	280	1,898	8	82	1,303	57	272	1,722	455	1,243	1,587	123	383	3,791				
April	...	10	1,345	42	315	1,712	3	93	1,385	71	338	1,890	624	1,572	1,560	101	440	4,297				
May	...	21	1,833	103	438	2,398	...	96	1,437	92	340	1,965	1,814	2,028	1,477	178	512	6,000				
June	...	25	1,517	72	421	2,035	...	82	1,213	76	350	1,721	4,775	715	1,237	177	359	7,263				
July	...	30	1,508	118	438	2,184	23	87	1,487	113	366	2,076	3,800	704	2,057	286	545	7,392				
August	...	15	1,966	133	454	2,590	367	73	1,879	131	447	2,897	1,350	621	2,247	336	506	5,060				
September	...	22	2,057	135	424	2,674	481	98	1,797	111	417	2,904	402	470	2,112	298	482	3,754				
October	...	13	1,829	102	386	2,362	263	82	1,459	63	337	2,204	569	506	2,231	236	477	4,019				
November	...	113	39	1,543	91	356	136	160	1,203	62	265	1,826	...	...	...	...	...	...				
December	...	165	53	1,755	51	2,328	209	491	1,606	103	341	2,750	...	...	...	...	...	...				
Total	330	332	19,760	979	4,375	23,779	1,610	1,461	17,378	975	4,052	25,477	14,435	9,877	17,313	1,970	4,453	48,048				

18. *Crime and jail statistics.*—(a) A favourable feature of the Crime and Jail Statistics for the past year has been the decline in the number of house-breakings and open looting such as occurred in 1888-89. There has also been a considerable increase in the number of house-breakings which will not eat in a chuttram; I have seen a considerable number of Tekkali and Parlakimedi have been unusurant of grain doles. The Board already referred to

No. IV-D—Statement of Crimes in Ganj

No.	Offences.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	Murder	10	10
2	Culpable homicide ...	6	6
3	Dacoity	2	2
4	Robbery	9	9
5	Riot	121	121
6	House-breaking	180	180
7	Theft	311	311
8	Abkari Act ...	355	355
9	Salt Act ...	7	7
10	Arms Act ..	6	6
11	Opium Act ...	133	133
12	Forest Act ...		
	Total ...	1,140	1,100

(b) The figures relating to jails are available in Board's Proceeding latest return from this office, forwarded with Board's Proceeding dated 5th November 1897, relates to the month of August. The return for that from January 1897 up to August there was a large increase in admissions over the normal, the increase amounting to as much as 50% for July. The District Jail was greatly crowded, and batches of prisoners had to be removed from time to time to other districts. The Sub-jail at Parbhani had been more than once overcrowded, the prisoners consisting chiefly of Sagar districts, concerned in abkari offences. I may, at the same time, note that from April 1897 owing to the appointment of Special Stationary Magistrates, many cases which had been pending on the files for a long time were enabled to be disposed of. In the course of my visit to the District Jail, I noted that a large number of the prisoners, especially Savaras, were anaemic. Their condition, at the time of their admission as entered in the register, showed that they were far below the physical standard of an ordinary prisoner. This state of things gradually ceased in the month of August.

19. *Emigration and immigration.*—Statement IV-E shows the number of emigrants and immigrants by sea from October 1896-97 as compared with the five previous years and the two previous famine years.

IV.E.—Statement of Emigration and Immigration by Sea from October to October.

Years.	Emigrants.	Immigrants.
1891-92	23,056	6,473
1892-93	13,219	9,000
1893-94	11,517	8,485
1894-95	9,592	5,368
1895-96	11,473	5,403
1896-97	20,061	3,952
1898-89	15,394	3,118
1877-78	1,087	39

There is always large emigration from this district to Burma from the Baruva and Calingapatam. In a large number of cases the coolies go to the Beridi, Pan in the ma, Jalantra, their families at home. I was able, in communication with the Super Post offices, to ascertain the amount so remitted by month, the area and population however, gives no idea of the total amount under Government and zamindari, As a rule only men emigrate to Burma. preponderance of Telugu women (Reddiki)

IV.C.—Statement showing the Mortality under the Ganjā District during January to September 1897 as compared with the same months of 1895 and 1896.

Remarks.	1897.					
	Total.	All other causes.	Dysentery.	Diarrhoea and cholera.	Governments.	Small-pox.
of cases their husbands were in Burma. Uriyas do not as the Telugus.	19	18	17			
Gopalpur are far fewer than from either Baruva or the population in the north of the district contains a m Gopalpur, however, coolies are shipped to the tea ated emigration. This trade was much more active very large proportion shipped under the Assam Labour sts of Khonds and Savaras, both of whom command r immunity from fever, while Savaras are notoriously cultivation. Combined, however, with the regulated n February last a considerable amount of non-regulated Garden contractors and agents were not apparently last year that other than regulated emigration to Assam rtaining this to be the case, they were not slow to take y avoid all Government supervision. By this means ove their coolies by rail, the fare to Calcutta being only o Rs. 4 in competition. Emigrants to Assam take their pendants. On receipt of information from Messrs. Cass ,000 coolies were wanted for railway contract work at fact was duly notified and endeavours made to try and roceed to that place, where they were guaranteed a wage in this district, the price of food-grains being much heavier special arrangements were made with the Railway Company for ff these coolies at a low rate in large batches. The experiment success. About 200 coolies were induced to go but without their y of them, however, soon returned stating that the climate was believe that this allegation was not justified in fact. It seems strange who would, of their own free-will, pay Rs. 10, and endure a sea voyage n, should decline a short and cheap railway journey to Barang, where they certain of immediate employment, and for which work the contractors willing to grant them advances before leaving their homes.						
Immigration.—The figures show that while the number of emigrants by sea nearly twice the average of the three previous years and 25 per cent. in excess ose in 1889, the number of immigrants returning was far less than the average. moreover reported, with what truth I cannot say, that owing to the labour in Burma being overstocked, the wages of coolies were much lower than during the past year, and that many emigrants returned disappointed to their						
details are available as to emigration or immigration by road or rail. he exception of the coolies recruited for Assam, the numbers would be cant.						
Peculiar communities.—I have so often dwelt, in my fortnightly and ports, upon the idiosyncracies of the Uriyas, that I do not think it neces- well upon them here at length. It will be sufficient, if I reiterate that the re utterly devoid of any principles of self-help, and cling to their ancient es with an obstinacy worthy of a better cause. They have moreover in ued those Telugus who live by their side with similar prejudices; and this ontributed to the difficulty of administering famine relief in the district. e exception of Bavaris, Dandasis and Haddis, who form the lowest classes for a time, could not be induced to attend works, Uriya men, though sses are ready en- h themselves to work, decline to allow their women relief work- they ordinarily engage in agricultural operations limits of ges. To this an exception must be made in the Month 1 v of whom—both men and women—I have seen en known cases of women and girls of this class January age or extreme youth, I wished to place on February allowed to remain on the works and do what March many other classes, who, both men and						

women, decline to perform any work, decline to attend kitchens and decline to help themselves. They say: "I will not work; I will not eat in a chuttram; I will die": and die they would, were it not for the grant of grain doles.

Khonds and Savaras.—My special report to the Board, already referred to No. 213, dated 8th November 1897, deals fully with this question, to which I have nothing to add. Famine did not extend inland far into the hills, though considerable scarcity existed. Amongst the Khonds distress was confined to the lower ranges of Bodogodo and the Mohiri Hills, the hill Savaras of Tumba (Sompéta) and Tekkali, and the Kapu Savaras of Parlákimedi. Both these classes had strong prejudices against attending kitchens, while the Kapu Savaras of Parlákimedi had only themselves to blame to a great extent, as they declined to attend the works opened on an extensive scale by the Rajah of Parlákimedi throughout his estate. They dislike other than agricultural employment. The condition of these two classes, as has been noted elsewhere, was rendered critical, not only by the prevailing high prices of food-grains and their own refusal to work, but by the failure of the mango crop, supplemented by only an indifferent, mohawa crop, and inability to dig jungle roots owing to the hardness of the soil.

These classes would be affected, even in a year of plenty so far as relates to food-grains, by the failure of the mango and mhowa crops, on which, combined with jungle roots, eked out by a scanty ration of grain, they depend for their livelihood during a considerable portion of the year.

RELIEF MEASURES—(A) UNDER THE FAMINE CODE.

21. *Necessity for State aid.*—The deficient rainfall of 1896 caused a general failure of crops otherwise than under channel-fed lands, and this, combined with depletion of stocks caused by over-exportation due to distress in other districts, resulted in abnormally high prices. These high prices re-acted upon private charity which, in March, began to be withheld, while at the same time there was a dearth of employment for the working classes. Under these circumstances State relief would have been necessary in any district, and especially in a backward district like Ganjām, where the majority of the population live a hand-to-mouth existence and are entirely devoid of the spirit of self-help and enterprise. Failing State relief, many thousands of persons would have died from starvation and gone to swell the total of those who succumbed to cholera and small-pox. The process of recovery was retarded by the lateness of the South-West monsoon of 1897.

22. *Area and population for which required, distinguishing Government and Zamindari tracts.*—As soon as it was seen that famine was probable, the district (excluding the Agency) was mapped out into circles for relief purposes, each circle being from 30 to 50 square miles in extent, one or more kitchen centres being selected for each circle. The enclosed statement V-A* shows the details and population of each circle. Of these circles only 63 were actually opened under Special Circle Inspectors, relief where necessary in less affected tracts being administered by Revenue Inspectors and taluk officers.

From December onwards test works were tried, but relief was not administered till February when a work near Chatrapur attracted labour and two kitchens were opened in the Tekkali taluk. The distress continued to increase over an extended area until the end of July—the maximum, strangely enough, being reached at exactly the same period as in 1889. The area affected was mostly zamindari, though the entire Government taluk of Berhampur and the northern portion of the Chicacole taluk and the Tumba Malhans were severely affected. Of the zamindaris, the worst affected were Atagada, Kallikote, Beridi, Palur, Humma, Jalantra, Mandasa, Tekkali, Tarla and at a later period Parlákimedi.

Statement V-B* shows in detail, month by month, the area and population affected and the degree to which it was affected under Government and zamindari, respectively.

Taking the figures for July as being the period of greatest distress, the following figures give a brief resume of the area and population involved :—

	Government.		Zamindari.		Total.	
	Area.	Population in thousands.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Area.	Population in thousands.
	SQ. MILES.		SQ. MILES.		SQ. MILES.	
Seriously	558	266	1,715	545	2,273	811
Slightly	1,324	264	463	137	1,787	401
Moderately	714	127	842	235	1,556	412
Total ...	2,596	657	3,020	967	5,616	1,624

23. *Nature of measures introduced with dates of introduction and closure—A. works—Calculation of wages for relief purposes.*—In paragraph 4 of Board's Proceedings, No. 426, dated 12th December 1896, the Board considered that wages on relief works should be calculated as in 1889, i.e., on a basis of $\frac{1}{4}$ rice and $\frac{3}{4}$ ragi with an allowance of 20 per cent. for the conversion of ragi into flour. This was subsequently modified by the Board in paragraph 6 of Board's Proceedings, No. 467, dated 29th December 1897, where it was directed that unhusked ragi should be taken as the standard, while the Government of India further lowered the standard by striking out the allowance for conversion of ragi into flour. The question was again reconsidered, and in Board's Proceedings, No. 67, dated 26th January 1897, on the suggestion of Mr. Weir, that wages should be calculated on a basis of pure ragi in the sub-division and of $\frac{1}{4}$ rice and $\frac{3}{4}$ ragi elsewhere, that standard was adopted. Finally, after some considerable experience of works and detailed inquiries, a further reference was made and the Board in its Proceedings, No. 312, dated 26th April 1897, directed that wages should be calculated throughout the district on a basis of half rice and half ragi—this being finally confirmed by Government in its order communicated with Board's Proceedings, No. 635, dated 24th September 1897.

Test works.—The first test works were tried at Borubadhra in the Paltalagam Khudum and at Bendi in the Tekkali taluk on the 9th and 14th December 1896, respectively, but the low rates of wage (1 anna 1 pie) failed to attract labour at either place.

Another test work in the same month at Subulia in Palur Zamindari also failed. Test works were again renewed at the end of January and in all 23 such works (*vide* statement V-C*) were tried between December 1896 and April 1897. The only one which attracted labour was the Kaliapalli quarry near Chatrapur, but this could not be considered a real test as the workers consisted entirely of women and children, who were attracted by what was to them a high wage as compared with the normal rate for female labour. The first real test work, which proved the need for State aid in the matter of providing work, was that started at Dayagam in Atagada (Purushottapur taluk) on 20th March 1897. This was converted into a relief work on 14th April. From this period onward test works generally succeeded; but owing to want of hands it was not possible to open up relief works as quickly as desirable. Paymasters also were extremely difficult to procure.

Under G.O., No. 320, dated 12th May 1897, all relief works were placed under the supervision of the Public Works Department, but, owing to want of subordinates, I found it necessary to continue opening up test works by Local Fund Agency.

Relief works were first organized in the Ganjam and Purushottapur taluks, and it was not until June, when a special sub-divisional officer was appointed for Sompeta, that it was found possible to open works on an extended scale in that taluk.

Statement V-D* shows the works to the number of 22, which were opened as test works and subsequently converted into relief works. In addition to these, numerous other works were started as relief works direct by the Public Works Department, without passing through the test work stage—full details of these with expenditure on each are given in paragraph 42 which deals more in detail with this point.

I would here note that throughout the relief operations the relations between myself and the Executive Engineer have been cordial and devoid of friction. A district task table was drawn up by Mr. DeMorgan and approved of by me. Copy of this has been already communicated to the Board. The tasks fixed are slightly less than standard tasks according to the Code, but they are only intended to apply to the hot months from 15th March to 15th July, the tasks at other times being enhanced by 15 per cent. The district was divided into three sub-divisions for the purpose of relief works—

(1) Berhampur sub-division—under Mr. Lacey—a large and onerous charge with as many as 22 centres, at which various works were in progress. This embraced the Ganjam, Purushottapur and Berhampur taluks and the Chikati and Peddakimedi Zamindaris extending down to Ichchapur.

(2) No. 2, Famine sub-division, was under a specially deputed officer and consisted of the Sompeta taluk with 14 works.

(3) Chicacole sub-division was for famine purposes light. There were four works at Tekkali, two at Kotabommali and two near Palasa.

Owing to the liberality of the Rajah of Parlakimedi, it was not found necessary to open relief works in that zamindari. Indeed it would have been impossible to do so for want of sufficient staff. The Rajah, however, opened relief works to all comers at his own cost throughout his estate, at fixed daily wages irrespective of the task accomplished. At one period as many as 10,000 persons were engaged on these estate works. There were no relief works in the Goomsur division; but a large amount of labour was employed in the ordinary course on the Surada dam.

Orders regarding the introduction of the intermediate system of works were received by me too late to be introduced to any appreciable extent. The system is no doubt suited to this district and would be most advantageous if introduced at an early stage of famine operations. I applied it to the A and B classes on the Hingili work (No. 7 Distributary) shortly before the work closed, and found that the wage earned under this system approximated to the actual famine wage, while only the actual estimate rates for the works were paid.

The numbers on works began to fall off rapidly from the beginning of August after agricultural operations became general, and from the 1st October A and B classes were refused admission to the works, and all works were finally closed from 15th October.

Weavers.—Though weavers had been clamouring for relief from January onwards, yet they were in no way inclined to accept the Government terms and work according to a definite task table: they were anxious for cash advances; had these been given, very great loss would probably have resulted to Government, as the weavers are notoriously addicted to gambling. It was only in April that the weavers' needs had become pressing, and the first depôt was opened at Sompeta on 5th April. Meanwhile a set of rules had been framed and approved by Government and a task table, based partly on actual experiment and partly on enquiries, was prepared and submitted to Government for approval. Meanwhile operations were carried on under a provisional task table in which the number of cloths was limited to five. Tenders were called for, for the supply of twist to the various depôts, and the lowest tender, that of K. Rangayya Subudhi, a Berhampur merchant, was accepted. The task table which provided for 25 kinds of cloths was approved by Government, but it has since been found necessary both to modify the task table and to reduce the number of cloths to 12. The task table was originally prepared on the basis of a 9-hours day, C class wages being allowed to the male workers and also to the women employed in subsidiary operations with

certain allowances for paste and oil, and deductions for short length, breadth, or weight. Government subsequently ruled that the wages of women should be calculated only on the actual period for which they were occupied in weaving the cloth and not for the entire period. The Board also ruled that the mere acceptance of the task table was a sufficient criterion of distress, and that the mere acceptance to all weavers who asked for it, without the necessity for relief could be given each individual was in need of relief or otherwise. Any enquiry as to whether whether destitute or otherwise, flocked in to the depôts, as a result, all weavers, had rendered the Government wage more than the ordinary the high price of grain weaving. In all, 13 depôts were opened, 6,508 tickets were issued, giving employment to 16,376 weavers out of a total weaving population of 141,258 pair of cloths, of which 132,408 pair of 47,743. Twist was up to date, and value of 6,732 pairs has been recovered from supervision of these depôts, a Special Deputy Tahsildar on the defaulters. For the by Government, while the Registrar-General authorized the Rs. 120 was sanctioned various taluks to supervise the working of the depôts during the absence of the taluk officers on tour.

By far the heaviest depôt was that at Sompeta, where more than double those of Berhampur, the next in order. The transactions were well. The results of the working of the depôts at Russellkonda said to have worked two depôts of the Tekkali taluk, viz., Tekkali and Palasa, manda, Chicacole and the The entire demand at these depôts has been recovered. It may be said to be good. Russellkonda appear to be of especially good quality and the cloths woven at A central depôt for the storage of cloths was opened at Berhampur. The work of the depôts at Aska, Chatrapur and Purushottapur was bad. The weavers at these died of small-pox and cholera, but the large outstanding balance to them. Others want of supervision on the part of the taluk officers concerned. The place is largely due to

Steps are now being taken for the retail disposal of cloths in various markets throughout the district, but the process of disposal is slow and tedious. The following statement shows the details of expenditure on weavers' relief as taken from the taluk figures and excluding establishment charges:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Cost of twist	1,66,099	11	0
Paste and oil	7,893	3	8
Wages	63,829	14	11
Contingencies	2,335	4	2
Total	Rs. 2,40,158	1	9

These figures have, however, still to be checked and adjusted. The figure which shows a total expenditure of Rs. 2,47,177-3-8. Out of this expenditure it is anticipated that the sum of Rs. 1,75,000 will in all be recovered by the sale of cloths and materials in hand. Statement V-E * gives full details of the dates of opening and closing each depôt and the number of weavers employed at each.

Gratuitous relief.—Great difficulty was at first found in procuring suitable candidates for Circle Inspectors' posts. In Parlákimedi the position at one time was aggravated by the illness both of the Divisional Officer and the Deputy Tahsildar, while three Circle Inspectors died of cholera. Mr. Gocher and the Deputy Officer, aided by the Officiating Deputy Tahsildar, however, restored things to order, but unfortunately Mr. Gooch knocked himself up very soon with exposure and hard work.

(a) *In kitchens.*—The two first kitchens were opened at Tekkali and Kotapurushottapur, Ichchāpur and Parlákimedi and elsewhere up to August 1897. The kitchens in the Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division were not a success owing to the reluctance of the people to accept cooked food in spite of

every effort made to overcome their prejudices. On this account several kitchens had to be closed after being in existence for a very short time, as it was found cheaper to grant grain doles to the few who did attend, than to retain an establishment for their benefit. Attempts were made to form special caste kitchens for special castes, with cooks and servants selected by themselves, but with the exception of the Bavuri kitchen at Subulia, these efforts were unsuccessful. In all 66 kitchens were opened, and there were 17,010 admissions with an average attendance of 4,767. Statement V-F * gives full details as far as available for each taluk.

The rations supplied to kitchens were $\frac{1}{2}$ ragi and $\frac{1}{2}$ rice, but as ragi was unprocurable at many centres, rice had to be substituted under the orders of Government in such cases. Kitchens on the works proved failures, and with the exception of Subulia and Sorasinghi, the dependants neither of relief workers nor of weavers could be induced to attend the kitchens.

(b) *By doles.*—It has been found necessary in this district to give relief by grain doles on a very extended scale. This is due greatly to the reluctance of the people to accept kitchen relief, partly to the refusal of certain classes to resort to the works, and partly to the fact that owing to the paucity of overseers, work could not in some cases be provided where it was required.

Statement V-G * gives talukwar details, as far as available, of the numbers admitted to this form of relief.

The dole for gratuitous relief was originally given in accordance with section 122 of the Famine Code, the grain being ragi in the sub-division, and $\frac{1}{2}$ ragi and $\frac{1}{2}$ rice elsewhere. Owing, however, to the difficulty of procuring ragi, rice had frequently to be given instead at certain centres, with the special sanction of Government. The dole was subsequently reduced to the minimum (D) wage prescribed in section 120 of the Code. It was with very great difficulty that contractors could be procured in remote centres for the supply of these doles, and in some cases, those whose names were on the relief list had to go without their dole for a week at a time.

Dependants.—The non-working dependants of destitute weavers in receipt of Government relief were granted grain-doles. These doles were not, however, paid to the working members at the depôt—but by the Circle Inspectors who appear in many cases to have made no distinction between dependants of weavers and others. Hence the available information is not very reliable. The numbers of weaver's dependants so relieved were, however, few. A very small proportion of the weavers were really destitute.

Under G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, the grant of cash payments to the non-working dependants of relief workers was sanctioned in cases in which their caste reasonably justified their non-attendance at a kitchen. This worked very unevenly. The muster rolls of dependants were kept by the ordinary executive staff, and in many instances but little care was exercised in checking their numbers or their caste, or in insisting on their attendance at the works. On other works again no dependants were admitted at all. It is difficult to know how to deal with such dependants; but I think it preferable to insist on their attending kitchens if relief at all is to be granted to them. The following were the average numbers of such dependants for each month:—

May	1,014
June	2,193
July	3,346
August	328
September	44

One important point in regard to the administration of gratuitous relief is the question of the grant of grain-doles to children whose parents are in good condition, but decline to work. Cases of this nature have been very numerous in Gaujam.

Parents keep their children at starvation point in order that doles may be given to the children, who are given just enough to keep them alive, while the parents consume the rest. In such cases I consider that famine officers should be authorized to remove such children by force, if necessary, to the nearest kitchen.

24. *Classes of people relieved.*—In regard to this subject I may commence by stating that no special information is required in regard to weavers—while no information is available in regard to those on relief works. The relief workers consisted largely of the professional classes of Reddikis (Telugu) and Bavuries (Uriya) supplemented largely by Haddis and Dandasis. On the Chikati work I noticed a considerable number of Tellies (oil mongers) and in Atagada and Ganjam large numbers of the Gowdoo (shepherd) caste, both men and women, have attended. I have also noticed stray cases of Brahmins, karnams, goldsmiths and weavers on relief works.

I enclose herewith two statements V (H)* and V (I) showing, respectively, as far as details have been furnished by the Circle Inspectors concerned, the castes of those in receipt of kitchen and gratuitous relief on the last day of July when the numbers were at their highest.

Malas, 1,795	Jaggili, 463	Godagala, 77	Dombo, 9	Of the 9,115 on kitchen relief, 60 per cent. are Panchamas, numbering 5,447 as noted in the margin.
Haddis, 1,027	Yattavallu 328	Ghasi, 47		
Relli, 691	Paida, 324	Khodalo, 32	Total 5,447	
Dandasi, 437	Bavuries, 150	Barikis, 17		

The hill or jungle tribes number 1,440, or 16 per cent., viz.—

Savaras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	649
Panos	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	221
Khonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	206
Konda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	182
Bagata	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Jatapu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Yanadi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Gadaba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total									1,440

The agricultural and labouring classes are shown as follows, coming to 12 per cent.—

Kapus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	395
Reddikis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Velamas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Voddes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Kalinjis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Telagas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Kurakulas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Pondaras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Aravas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total									1,102

The artisans are represented by 125 Majjulis (basket-makers), 123 dhobies, 70 weavers, 16 barbers and 10 goldsmiths—total 344.

Of other classes 200 Segidis (toddy drawers) and 65 fishermen sought kitchen relief.

Professional beggars and worshippers were largely represented—61 Satanies (Vaishnava professional beggars) and 115 Dammalas (worshippers), this result being largely due to the contraction of private charity.

Grain-doles.—Out of 80,673 persons on relief, 20 per cent. are Panchamas numbering 16,038, as follows:—

Bavuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,152
Dandasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,158
Malas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,923

Kodolos	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,121
Jaggilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,009
Haddis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	638
Relles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	462
Paidas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	385
Dombos	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Yattavallu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Barikis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Boysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ghasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Godagalu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total									16,038

The hill and jungle tribes form 17 per cent. of the total and number 13,742, as follows:—

Khonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,879
Savaras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,394
Kondas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	286
Jatapus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218
Bhagatis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Gadabas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Yanadis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Gayatas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total									13,742

The agricultural classes form 29 per cent. and number 23,260—

Reddikis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,921
Voddis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,140
Saxantras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,993
Kaligis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,833
Kapus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,705
Telagas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,400
Doluvus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,443
Uriya Brahmins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,329
Pondaras	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	978
Velamas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	889
Aravas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	461
Kukakulas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Total									23,260

There are also 1,137 unclassified Brahmins who may or may not be cultivators. Artisans are shown as follows, numbering 6,310 or 8 per cent. of the whole:—

Dhobies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,294
Weavers of various castes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,481
Barbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,033
Potters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	411
Carpenters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	472
Goldsmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	291
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Bellmetal makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Cotton spinners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Oil mongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	554
Sweetmeat-makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	315
Majjullies (basket makers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	119
Bajjis (bangle makers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total									6,310

There were 3,334 fishermen of various castes and 1,939 persons connected with the Abkari trade, 221 Muhammadans, 106 Christians and 1,454 Karnams or Mahanties.

I am inclined to think that Circle Inspectors leaned rather too much towards Brahmins and Karnams in distribution of relief, though there were many pitiful cases amongst these classes. The following professional beggars were also represented:—

Satani (Vaighnavas)	654
Sanyasis, Bairagis, Yogis	190
Worshippers	856
Total	1,700

Towards the end I had to issue orders that professional beggars would receive only kitchen relief in localities where kitchens were available.

The following abstract shows at a rough glance the details of such as I have been able to classify:—

	Kitchens.	Per-centage.	Grain-doles.	Per-centage.
Panchamas	5,447	60	18,038	20
Hill and Jungle tribes	1,440	16	18,742	17
Agriculturists	1,102	12	23,260	29
Artisans	344	4	6,310	8
Fishermen	65	1	3,334	4
Liquor traders	200	2	1,989	3
Christians	...	...	106	...
Beggars and worshippers	176	2	1,790	2
Karnams	...	...	1,454	2
Brahmins	...	...	1,137	1
Muhammadans	...	...	221	...
Unclassified	441	3	11,432	14
Total	9,115	100	80,673	100

25. *Numbers on relief.*—Statement V (J)* shows details of the numbers on relief week by week since the commencement of distress. It will be observed that the maximum was reached on 31st July.

Statement V (K)* shows the average numbers on relief under each head, talukwar for each month.

The percentage of persons on relief to the total population was high throughout the Berhampur taluk, with the exception of the Berhampur town, and very high in the Mohiri Khond villages and Tumba (Savara) Agency. In the latter place the percentage was 31 per cent. of the population for the total period of relief. For a brief period almost the entire population of these tracts was on relief. The average was also high in the Biridi (4.23), Humma (3.63), Sompeta (7) and Haripur (5) circles. The average figures are much higher than those in certain other circles, where, however, relief was not given till a late period, hence increasing the average.

The maximum monthly average number on gratuitous relief of both classes, 7,498, was almost the same as in 1889 (73,428); but in the latter case the work of distribution was much lighter, as money doles and not grain doles were given.

The monthly average of numbers on works (38,683) was far higher in the current year than in 1889, when the maximum monthly average number was 18,572. The works in 1889 were extended over a much larger period, but were more concentrated, and were not strictly conducted according to the Famine Code.

The highest number of relief workers in 1897 was 46,529 on the 31st July against 20,726—the highest number on 6th April in 1889.

* Vide appendices V and VI to Vol. I.

The highest number on kitchens was 8,897 on 31st July 1897 as against 11,632 on 10th August in 1889. The highest number on other gratuitous relief was 79,473 on 31st July as against 93,561 for the corresponding week of 1889.

The highest number on weavers' relief, 7,836, was reached on 8th August.

26. *Cost of each form of relief.*—Statement V (M)* shows the total famine expenditure, month by month, as adjusted up to date under each head for 1897–98. In addition to this the sum of Rs. 2,663 was expended on account of test works in 1896–97, and there are still some outstanding items pending adjustment, on account of salaries, works, and grain-contractors' bills under objection. A small expenditure will also be incurred in payment for the balance of cloths still outstanding as they are brought in to the depôts. This statement is taken from the treasury account and does not entirely tally with the accounts submitted by the various taluk officers. For works a separate statement has been prepared and submitted with chapter IX, giving full details of actual and normal cost of famine work as far as information is available. Under gratuitous relief the total cost is Rs. 4,73,139–4–6, and made up as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Kitchen relief	61,817	13	5
Grain doles	4,05,126	0	6
Miscellaneous	179	12	0
Construction of kitchens and contingencies	6,015	10	7
Total	4,73,139	4	6

The details of cost of weavers' relief have already been given above.

RELIEF MEASURES—(B) OTHERS.

27. *Remissions and suspension of revenue.*—(a) *Government Land Revenue.*—The principles on which remissions and postponements have been granted are fully enumerated in Board's Proceedings, No. 282 Mis. (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 5th April 1897. The Government lands in the district are divided into three classes, dry, rain-fed and wet. No dry remissions were granted, but a postponement of the second and third dry kists till 15th November was approved for all villages of the Paltalagam Khandam of Chicacole, in which 50 per cent. of the cultivated area of wet and rain-fed was under a 4-anna crop. The amount so postponed was Rs. 3,675. Similarly, in regard to peishcush, revenue to the amount of Rs. 98,823 was similarly postponed in the case of estates, the owners of which had suffered heavily from loss of crop, on the distinct understanding that proprietors would grant a similar indulgence to ryots holding under them.

Remissions.—Full wet remission was granted on all wet lands with an outturn of two annas and under, and on all waste, the total remission, as originally estimated, amounting to Rs. 1,92,837. In regard to rain-fed lands a percentage remission was granted in all villages in which 50 per cent. of the rain-fed paddy was less than a 6-anna crop, with full remission for waste and shavi, including a crop of one anna or less.

(1) Crop between 1 and 2 annas	85 per cent.
(2) Do. 2 and 4 do.	50 do.
(3) Do. 4 and 6 do.	25 do.

The total estimated remission on rain-fed lands under this rule amounted to Rs. 52,241–2–7.

Final details in regard to the actual amounts of seasonal remissions are not yet completely available, but the total amount appears to be less than the estimate, and will approximately be represented by the following figures:—

	RS.
Berhampur	1,35,742
Chicacole	35,757
Gumsur	47,742
Total	2,19,241

* Not printed.

(b) *Government Separate Revenue.*—The sum of Rs. 2,879-10-0 being the deficit guaranteed duty payable by abkari renters was remitted (*vide* Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 4680, dated 23rd October 1897, Separate Revenue) on the ground that the renters had been affected adversely by the state of the season, and were therefore not in a reasonable position to fulfil their guarantee.

(c) *Other remissions.*—The following amounts of rent were remitted by the Court of Wards in estates under management in the district:—

	RS.
Bodogada	5,976
Peddakimedi	21,258
Total	27,234

28. *Loans.*—The rule that no loans should be granted to ryots who are in arrears of revenue was relaxed in the case of ryots who were not in arrears for faslis prior to fasli 1306, pending completion of jamabandi which has been of necessity delayed. As I have pointed out elsewhere, the ryots of this district have a great aversion to taking advances under the special well rules. Only four applications were presented, of which two were withdrawn, and the applicants in the other two instances could not be found. No advances therefore were given under these rules.

Statement VI-A gives full details of the loans granted talukwar under each of the Acts. In all Rs. 19,865 was advanced under the Land Improvement Act to 188 applicants, and Rs. 87,733 under the Agriculturists' Loans Act for seed grain and cattle to 1,867 applicants. This tends to show that applications for loans under the Land Improvement Act are limited to the larger ryots:—

VI-A.—Statement of Loans transactions since the commencement of distress, i.e., 1st November 1896.

Taluka.	Land Improvement Loans Act—other purposes.		Agriculturists' Loans Act—cattle and seed-grain.		Total under both the Acts.	
	Granted.	Disbursed.	Granted.	Disbursed.	Granted.	Disbursed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Berhampur	RS. 184	RS. 19,145	RS. 184	RS. 19,145	RS. 1,499	RS. 69,077
Gumsur	...	...	...	...	RS. 397	RS. 19,393
Chicacole	4	720	4	720	76	3,699
Total	188	19,865	188	19,865	1,972	92,169

29. *Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.*—A general meeting was convened in March for the purpose of electing a District Committee in connection with this Fund, and Sub-Committees were also formed at Chicacole, Parlákimedi, Gumsur and Berhampur. The total district subscriptions amounted to Rs. 7,225-5-10, which sum was duly collected and remitted to the Madras Executive Committee. The total amount received from the Executive Committee, Madras, for expenditure within the district, amounted to Rs. 63,250. Of this sum, Rs. 42,500 was expended under my supervision in advances for the purchase of cattle and seed grain (head IV), and Rs. 750 was similarly granted for artisans. The former sum was fully expended, 12,516 persons being relieved at an average of Rs. 3-6-4, the maximum advance being Rs. 20 to any one individual. This maximum was only given in a few cases in which the parties were ascertained to be in need of ploughing cattle, having either lost or been compelled to part with their own by stress of famine. The distribution was made by myself, by Divisional officers, or by Taluk

officers in the presence of Committee members—the latter being invited to attend on all occasions. The Reverend I. C. Archibald of Chicacole did very good work in this connection, and Mr. Elphinstone distributed a large amount to deserving ryots of the Ganjam taluk.

The following statement VI-B shows the talukwar distribution of seed grain advances under this head. Statement VI-B also shows similarly the advances made to artisans so far as they are at present completed.

VI-B.

Taluka.	Head IV—Seed-grain advance.				Advance to artisans.			
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Balance.	Number relieved.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Balance.	Number relieved.
	RS.	RS. A. P.	RS.		RS.	RS.	RS.	
1. Ganjam	...	10,417 12 0	...	3,060	...	...	...	...
2. Purushottapur	...	3,406 4 0	...	691	114	114	...	9
3. Berhampur	...	4,048 11 0	...	1,843	73	73	...	4
4. Ichhapuram	...	3,245 0 0	...	823	...	...	...	...
5. Sompeta	...	3,423 8 0	...	1,294	84	...	84	...
6. Tekkali	...	4,142 13 0	...	1,312	157	157	...	9
7. Narasannapet	42,500	700 0 0	...	366	...	...	...	...
8. Surada	...	1,277 0 0	...	214	80	80	...	1
9. Gumsur	...	6,723 0 0	...	1,261	85	...	85	...
10. Chicacole	...	2,013 0 0	...	627	99	99	...	6
11. Parlákimedi	...	2,203 0 3	...	1,025	60	60	...	4
12. Atagada (Purushottapur)	...	...	...	...	28	28	...	2
13. Aska	...	...	...	...	30	30	...	2
Total	42,500	42,500 0 0	...	12,516	750	581	169	37

The balance of the Local Committee (Rs. 20,000) was distributed as follows (according to the figures for 31st October):—

	RS.	A.	P.
Chicacole Sub-Committee	3,250	0	0
Parlákimedi do.	2,750	0	0
Berhampur do.	7,750	0	0
Gumsur do.	3,000	0	0
Expenditure locally occurred: Mellin's food	383	8	4
Balance in hand with Local Committee	2,866	7	8
	20,000	0	0

The consolidated figures up to 31st October show 2,451 persons clothed at a cost of Rs. 1,548-9-6, and 29,404 persons fed or granted doles at a cost of Rs. 13,745-2-2. The doles given were in money at the rate of 1 anna 9 pies per adult per diem, 1 anna between 7 and 12 years of age, 6 pies for a child below 7 years, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 per mensem to any single family. The doles were paid weekly, fortnightly, or monthly. As the final report and accounts of the Local Committee are not yet completed, I am unable to obtain further details on this subject.

I am of opinion that a much larger sum could have been advantageously utilized in this direction in the relief of distress, but it is very difficult in this district

to find Native gentlemen, unfettered by business, who are willing to travel about in remote villages for inquiries and distribution.

30. *Private charity.*—I have already referred under 'works' to the liberal manner in which the Rajah of Parlakimedi opened works throughout his estate for all who chose to avail themselves of the same, employing at one time as many as 10,000 labourers on a fixed daily wage. Though Savaras unfortunately could not be induced to attend these works, the latter proved of the greatest assistance in affording relief to the labouring classes not only of Parlakimedi but of the neighbouring estate. I heard of many labourers from the Tekkali side going to these works. The wage paid was, I believe, $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas a day per man, 1 anna per woman, and children according to age. Though the task executed may not have been severe, the wages could not be considered demoralising.

The Zamindar of Khallikote and Atagada, though with the best intentions, was somewhat handicapped owing to the absence of his Agent on sick leave. He opened a kitchen at Haradamali, which would have been better if placed under Government supervision, and latterly commenced several tank works in remote parts of his estate. Some gentlemen at Aska subscribed to give a meal on the average to 50 persons daily, the Zamindar of Chinnakimedi fed a considerable number of persons at his temples and mutts: the proprietrix of Utlam opened a private kitchen at Devadi; and when Government relief was closed, two gentlemen, Messrs. Arta Visvasa Rai and Venayaga Santra of Radhadevipuram Agraharam near Pattapur, fed 100 people daily for a month. The Zamindar of Chikati studied the interests of his ryots by refraining from selling his stock of grain at high prices, and keeping it in hand to advance to them when sowing time commenced, an example which might have well been followed by several of his brother Zamindars.

31. *Special measures of relief to hill and jungle tribes.*—Such hill and jungle tribes (Khonds and Savaras) as were in need of relief were relieved in the ordinary way, and it cannot be said that any special measures of relief were taken in their behalf. A special allotment of Rs. 5,000 was made by Government for relief-works in the Tumba Agency of Sompeta taluk. This subject has been duly treated under works. Savaras, as a rule, do not care about regular work on a daily wage: this is not due to idleness: in fact in matters of agriculture they are exceedingly industrious. It was, however, necessary to modify the conditions of the Famine Code in regard to works provided for their relief, and to execute the work rather on piece-work system than on a daily task. The Savaras live very largely not only on mangoes and jungle fruits, but on the pith of the sago palm, and when paid for their work they refused to buy grain, but said that they would buy some sago palm trees which would support them for a much longer period.

32. *Famine allowance to public servants.*—In Board's Proceedings, No. 206, dated 9th March, famine batta was granted from the date of Government sanction. No. 135, Revenue, dated 4th March 1897, to all Government servants on civil establishment in the district, at the rate of Re. 1, where the pay did not exceed Rs. 16 per mensem, or in the case where officials were required to keep a horse when the pay did not exceed Rs. 25 per mensem. This was subject to the proviso that the minimum in all cases should be Rs. 6. Under the Accountant-General's ruling conveyed in his letter No. 2900, dated 18th September 1897, these orders have been held to apply to acting officers holding no substantive appointment, and also to members of temporary establishments including those entertained under the Famine Code, but not to punka-phillers on the hot-weather establishment. On a reference from this office the Board held that this allowance was not admissible to village officers, but in G.O., No. 918, Press, dated 6th November 1897, communicated with Board's Proceedings, No. 9156 Mis. (Revenue Settlement), dated 13th November 1897, the allowance has been sanctioned to village officers also, the maximum allowance being fixed at Rs. 1-8-0. I enclose a statement VI C showing the expenditure, Rs. 16,522-12-7, incurred under the head up to date; but it is very incomplete.

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APPENDIX I.

VI.C.—Statement of allowances paid to public servants.

No.	Department.	Amount.
1	2	3
1	3. Land Revenue	Rs. A. P.
2	9. Customs	2,154 14 9
3	12. Registration	176 7 0
4	15. District Post Office	357 0 7
5	19A. Law and Justice (court of law)	657 13 1
6	19B. Law and Justice (jails)	2,345 6 11
7	20. Police	611 4
8	22. Education	8,438 11
9	23. Ecclesiastical	1,317 6
10	24. Medical	23 11
11	25. Political	82 8
12	26. Scientific and other Minor Departments	23 11
13	32. Miscellaneous	19 15 1
14	30. Stationery and Printing	12 1
15	33. Famine Relief	71 1
16	43. Minor Irrigation	53 0
17	Excluded Local Funds Port Light-house Establishment	9 12 ality
18	Remittances (abkari and meteorological clerk)	88 0 eless
	Total	16,522 12 based head

No charges on account of village service establishments have as yet been incurred under the last-quoted order, while details are not available for the Post Telegraph, Forest, Public Works Department and Salt establishments. The allowance has moreover not yet ceased, as under G.O., No. 5866, Mis., dated 15th November 1897, communicated with Board's Proceedings, No. 9334, Mis. (Revenue Settlement), dated 20th November 1897, it will continue to be paid until price of rice is below scarcity rate (10-2 seers per rupee), the present district average being 10-2 seers. The total amount of expenditure for which details are available up to 31st March 1898 is Rs. 16,522-12-7. Similar allowances were sanctioned by the District Board for Local Fund servants, subject to the proviso that it would only be paid to servants borne on the establishment, whose entire time was devoted to the service of the department, and that in the case of sweepers, scavengers and others drawing salary of Rs. 3 or less, the allowance should not exceed Re. 1 per mensem.

CONDITION OF CATTLE.

33. The condition of cattle was generally good throughout the year. No special signs of deterioration were noticed at any time, while, as far as my observation goes, the calving season produced satisfactory results.

34. *Availability of pasture and fodder.*—Pasture was generally available throughout the year, and was perhaps more scarce in January than at any other time. It was also somewhat scarce during the last fortnight in April and in May, but not to any greater extent than in ordinary years. There were some smart falls of rain in February and March, which, while not sufficient to fill the tanks or improve the failing water-supply, were quite sufficient to revive the pastures. The cattle really suffered rather from want of water than from want of pasture. Fodder was available throughout the year, though somewhat scarce and dear from June onwards. As, however, pasture was plentifully available from the middle of June, this scarcity of dry fodder did not seriously affect the cattle.

35. No operations were taken by the Famine Fund for the relief of cattle in this district.

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APPENDIX I.

he reserves to render this course unnecessary. The reserves of the Berhampur taluk are limited to 20 square miles. The District Forest officer states that the permission to remove grass was scarcely at all availed of by the people, as the grass growing in these reserves is long and coarse, and cattle will not feed on it. He states that no statistics were kept as to the amount of grass removed, but that the loss sustained to Forest Revenue from this source was quite inappreciable.

37. *Mortality*.—Though cattle disease was not very prevalent, there was throughout the year a certain amount of disease in the Tekkali and Surada taluks and the Peddakimedi Estate. This has, in the last few months, extended in somewhat severe form to the Berhampur taluk: the latter outbreak, however, is subsequent to, and unconnected with, the famine.

Statements VII-A and VII-B show the total mortality (excluding sheep or goats) in the district, and in the Government taluks of the district, respectively. It will be observed that while the mortality in 1896-97 (November to October) was less than the average of the three previous years in Government taluks, it is 20 per cent. over the average for the whole district.

VII-A.—Statement of Cattle Mortality in the Government Taluks of the Ganjam District.

Months.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	Total.	Average of previous three years.	1896-97.	1888-89.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
November ...	1,182	224	242	1,648	549	559	35
December ...	758	293	188	1,239	413	161	62
January ...	776	285	165	1,216	405	193	20
February ...	334	268	65	667	222	156	40
March ...	539	197	64	800	266	228	75
April ...	469	263	153	885	295	215	143
May ...	407	200	133	740	246	174	74
June ...	416	519	169	1,104	368	223	87
July ...	545	518	128	1,191	397	261	141
August ...	717	373	184	1,274	424	551	411
September ...	644	399	147	1,190	396	438	201
October ...	521	350	166	1,037	345	460	450
Total ...	7,308	3,889	1,794	12,991	4,326	3,619	1,844

VII-B.—Statement of Cattle Mortality in the Ganjam District.

Months.	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	Total.	Average of previous three years.	1896-97.	1888-89.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
November ...	1,436	361	385	2,182	727	1,111	152
December ...	925	426	319	1,670	556	735	120
January ...	999	376	229	1,604	534	554	105
February ...	457	361	139	957	319	417	110
March ...	636	329	119	1,084	361	360	181
April ...	500	326	191	1,017	339	326	292
May ...	504	267	201	972	324	454	311
June ...	611	331	311	1,253	417	311	385
July ...	871	603	203	1,677	559	490	464
August ...	1,096	603	496	2,195	731	670	882
September ...	987	591	308	1,886	622	778	760
October ...	683	443	264	1,390	463	872	1,197

APPENDIX I.

Statement VII-C shows the details of the census of horned cattle during the last five years in the Government taluks.

VII-C.

Faslia.	Number of horned cattle.			
	Tilling.	Breeding.	Young.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
In October.				
1302 ...	129,016	100,524	71,391	300,931
1303 ...	132,999	102,174	70,299	305,472
1304 ...	135,686	120,448	70,442	326,576
1305 ...	142,682	107,563	78,676	328,921
1306 ...	143,516	103,781	80,682	332,979

The figures do not tend to show that there has been any unusual mortality which could be attributed specially to the season. Some of the older and useless cattle may have died; but there has been no wide-spread loss or mortality. Very few applications for advances from the Famine Fund to replace the loss of deceased cattle were made to me when distributing the Famine Fund advances under head IV.

FAMINE ESTABLISHMENTS AND THEIR COST.

38. I herewith submit seven statements, VIII (A to G), showing details of the additional temporary establishments entertained on account of famine, their duration and cost—

Statement (A) * shows the additional general establishments sanctioned by Government;

Statement (B) † shows details of the paymasters entertained on the several works;

Statement (C) † shows the details of Kitchen Superintendents;

Statement (D) † shows Circle Inspectors and their peons;

Statement (E) † shows the establishment in the several weavers' depôts;

Statement (F) † shows the establishment specially sanctioned in the Public Works Department for the management of relief-works and audit; and

Statement (G) † shows the additional establishment entertained in the Medical and Sanitary department.

The cost of the Revenue establishments is as follows (not counting certain unadjusted items and future expenditure on account of establishments still retained):—

	RS.	A.	P.
1. Huzûr, Divisional and Taluk establishments ...	21,399	15	11
2. Circle Inspectors and peons ...	13,544	1	7
3. Paymasters on relief-works ...	2,458	8	8
4. Kitchen Superintendents ...	3,154	1	8
5. Weavers' establishment ...	5,882	0	9
Total ...	46,438	12	7

(A) *Collector's office*.—Mr. Elphinstone was attached as Special Famine Assistant on the pay of a Sub-Collector to look after the routine duties of the office, was allowed two peons. The Treasury Deputy Collector's establishment was strengthened by an additional staff costing Rs. 145 per mensem and the Veterinary Branch, by Rs. 50.

temporary man being enlisted, and that this should be so, reflects the greatest credit upon Mr. Travers and his men.

I regret that I have found it quite impossible to submit this report punctually on the prescribed date. Even now certain statistics called for from divisional officers and the Executive Engineer have not been received, while the accounts have not yet been finally closed or adjusted. I have, in consequence, been compelled to submit this report not only late, but in an incomplete form. The financial statement pending final adjustment cannot be considered otherwise than merely approximate.

ANNEXURE.

A.—Statement showing the Area and Population of each Circle formed for the purpose of Gratuitous Relief.

No.	Taluka.	Serial number and name of circle.	Area in square miles.	Population per census of 1891.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
GENERAL DEPUTY COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.					
1	Gumsur	1 Russellkonda	25	18,731	
		2 Bodokodanda	16	5,839	
		3 Bellugunta	33	18,314	
		4 Buguda	57	19,656	
		5 Korchilli	29	7,695	
		6 Jagannadhprasad	56	14,655	
		7 Kullada	41	16,266	
		8 Kukkulubha	9	6,753	
		9 Gullery	6	5,586	
		10 Mojjagada	11	5,069	
		Total ..	283	118,564	
2	Surada	1 Surada	19	13,764	
		2 Osorobondho	7	5,604	
		3 Korada	7	2,682	
		4 Bodoborosingi	5	7,094	
		5 Payalapada	22	16,524	
		6 Vishnuchekram	15	12,702	
		7 Ballipadra	23	13,196	
		Total ..	98	71,566	
3	Bodagada	1 Manikyapur	40	6,383	
		2 Godomuttah	40	9,720	
				Total ..	80	16,106
4	Aska	1 Pandamari	23	15,307	
		2 Pattapur	29	21,747	
		3 Serugada	23	18,528	
		4 Dhowgam	40	18,513	
		5 Aska	35	18,001	
		6 Mondimorayi	50	16,699	
		Total ..	200	108,800	
SENIOR ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.					
5	Berhampur	1 Golantra	30	14,990	
		2 Berhampur	25	38,714	
		3 Jagannadhapur	39	21,916	
		4 Tanginapalli	38	14,214	
		5 Banginibady	35	13,628	
		6 Kukudakhandi	34	15,461	
		Total ..	201	118,923	
KHOND MUTTAH.					
		1 Golantra	2	1,294	
		2 Kukudakhandi	1	2,062	
				Total ..	3	3,356
		Total Berhampur Taluk.	204	122,279	

V-A.—Statement showing the Area and Population of each Circle formed for the purpose of Gratuitous Relief—cont.

No.	Taluka.	Serial number and name of circle.	Area in square miles.	Population per census of 1891.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
SENIOR ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S DIVISION—cont.					
6	Ichhāpur	1	Kavita	48	25,435
		2	Ichhāpur	48	25,165
		3	Mantriddi	48	11,978
		4	Kotilingi	49	8,968
		5	Chikati	48	10,023
		6	Surangi	48	7,963
		7	Nuvagada	49	3,969
		Total ..		338	93,501
7	Sompéta	1	Sompéta	103	26,315
		2	Haripur		31,072
		3	Mandasā		14,653
		4	Patrapur		24,550
		5	Siripuram		13,549
		6	Thumba		3,989
		7	Bāruva		25,044
		8	Jayantipuram		28,242
Total ..		103	167,414		
8	Pedda Kimedi.	1	Addupada	80	9,461
		2	Digupudi		13,180
		3	Koitakhandi		8,458
		4	Naupada		10,286
		5	Bhramarapuram		5,960
Total ..		80	47,345		
HEAD-QUARTERS DEPUTY COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.					
9	Purushottapur.	1	Purushottapur	31	23,345
		2	Bhatukumarada	35	23,405
		3	Hingili	31	25,257
		4	Boyirāni	35	21,655
		5	Kolladi	35	23,724
		6	Pandripada	12	9,921
		7	Pulasara	27	23,056
		8	Atagada	31	17,543
Total ..		237	167,906		
10	Ganjām	1	Chatrapur	40	32,870
		2	Mundala	28	18,874
		3	Bengunowpada	30	17,925
		4	Khallikota	18	17,892
		5	Biridi	50	16,175
		6	Humma	40	10,473
Total ..		206	114,209		
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S DIVISION.					
11	Parlākimedi ..	1	Battili	50	17,621
		2	Vāranāsi	50	31,153
		3	Koradā	50	29,009
		4	Sāravakōta	50	18,710

V-A.—Statement showing the Area and Population of each Circle formed for the purpose of Gratuitous Relief—cont.

No.	Taluk.	Serial number and name of circle.	Area in square miles.	Population per census of 1891.	Remarks.		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S DIVISION—cont.							
12	Parlakimedi— cont.	5 Tembere	50	15,963			
		6 Korasavada	50	22,964			
		7 Parlakimedi	60	47,854			
		8 Chapra	50	17,187			
		9 Garabanda	50	11,875			
		10 Gurandi	50	22,561			
		11 Uppalada	50	8,855			
		Total ..		560	245,650		
		12	Tekkali	1 Tekkali Raghunadha- pur.	40	25,740	
				2 Kommali	40	38,043	
				3 Pat Tekkali	40	28,974	
4 Kasibugga	40			34,294			
Total ..		160	127,051				
13	Narasannapét.	1 Narasannapét	59	32,145			
		2 Polaki		25,746			
		3 Sirigam		21,109			
		4 Jalmooru	59	18,983			
Total ..		59	97,983				
14	Chicacole	1 Chicacole	402	22,736			
		2 Calingapitam		22,743			
		3 Korlakota		19,174			
		4 Kristnapuram		14,382			
		5 Peddaswlapur		10,980			
		6 Telikipenta		7,930			
		7 Dhavakuvaday	11,932				
Total ..		402	109,877				

Note.—The above are the approximate figures reported by the taluk officers. The totals of each taluk do not exactly agree with those given in the census book and other records. As there is no time to admit of any scrutiny, the figures of taluk officers are adopted.

V.D.—Test works which have been subsequently converted into relief works.

No.	Name of taluk.	Name of locality or village.	Name of work.	Department in charge of the work.	Nature of work.	Date of opening as test work.	Date of conversion into relief work.	Date of closure.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Purushottapur	Deigam	Work at the quarry.	Local Fund.	Collection of metal.	1897. 20th March	1897. 14th April	1897. 12th August.	
2	Ganjām	Chatrapur	Hill quarry	Do.	Do.	5th April	2nd May	14th October.	
3	Purushottapur	Attageda	Quarrying	Do.	Do.	10th "	8th "	11th August.	
4	Ganjām	Johini	Do.	Do.	Collection of ballast.	21st "	15th "	11th October.	
5	Purushottapur	Makundapur	Do.	Do.	Collection of metal.	1st May	10th "	"	
6	Ganjām	Chatrapur	Pill tank	Do.	Clearing silt, &c.	5th "	22nd "	14th "	
7	Purushottapur	Sorasingi	Quarrying	Do.	Collection of metal	7th "	10th "	28th July.	
8	Tekkali	Tekkali	Patta Mahadev tank.	Do.	Repairs	12th "	15th June	4th September.	
9	Purushottapur	Seratosapur	Quarrying	Do.	Collection of metal	12th "	26th "	17th August.	
10	Ichhāpur	Ichhāpur	Rudha Hill	Do.	Digging of channel	23rd "	23rd May	22nd "	
11	Purushottapur	No. 7 Distributary	Irrigation work	Do.	Collection of metal	23rd "	12th June	14th October.	
12	Do.	Boirani	Quarrying	Do.	Do.	23rd "	10th "	14th "	
13	Ganjām	Nungur	Do.	Do.	Do.	28th "	26th "	1st August.	
14	Purushottapur	Bladkna-rada	Do.	Do.	Repairs	1st June	22nd July	2nd September.	
15	Ganjām	Pothara	Do.	Do.	Quarry	2nd "	15th June	23rd August	
16	Tekkali	Purushottapur	Quarry	D.P.W.	Collection of metal	7th "	21st July	"	
16a	Ichhāpur	Sabulia	Quarrying	Local Fund.	Do.	10th "	12th June	25th "	
17	Ganjām	Kotahomali	Quarry	D.P.W.	Do.	11th "	13th "	17th "	
18	Tekkali	Kairie	Do.	Do.	Do.	13th "	17th "	6th "	
19	Do.	Bendi	Do.	Do.	Do.	15th "	20th "	1st "	
20	Do.	Haradamolli	Do.	Local Fund.	Do.	20th "	26th July	9th "	
21	Ganjām	Tekkali-Anantagiri	Do.	D.P.W.	Do.	1st July		30th July.	
22	Tekkali	Road.							

65

V.E.—Statement showing the names and particulars of relief in weavers' depôts.

Serial number.	Name of depôt.	Total number of weavers in the taluk according to the census of 1891.	Date of opening of the depôt, i.e., from which twist was advanced.	Date of closing of the depôt, i.e., the date from which advance of twist was stopped.	Date on which the depôt establishment was entirely dispensed with.	Maximum number of ticket-holders at any one time.	Maximum number of working members on relief at any one time.	Date on which the maximum number was reached.	Total number of cloths for which twist was advanced.	Total number of cloths collected.	Total number of cloths for which money was recovered.	Number of cloths reported irrecoverable up to date.	Number of cloths still to be collected.	Maximum number of dependents to whom doles were given at the depôt.	Average number of weavers on relief.							
															April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	
1	Chicacole	6,238	1897. 16th June.	1897. 31st Aug.	1897. 12th Nov.	373	1,340	1897. 18th Aug.	4,058	3,253	805	..	..	23	..	..	..	9	221	232	199	3
2	Narasannapét	3,226	3rd July.	31st "	" 5th "	550	1,716	" 24th "	6,795	6,669	82	..	44	..	..	..	..	100	211	51	..	
3	Tekkali	199	7th May.	20th Sept.	21st Oct.	332	1,370	28th July.	13,954	13,931	23	..	..	135	..	72	156	178	224	226	12	
4	Pahsa	5,438	24th "	18th "	" 7th "	222	645	6th Aug.	7,135	7,095	40	..	..	96	107	..	250	663	581	941	184	
5	Parlakimedi	9,415	1st June.	21st "	" 15th "	744	1,300	9th "	11,774	11,011	668	..	46	76	..	..	261	163	215	988	130	
6	Berhampur	3,590	5th April.	18th "	" 8th Nov.	815	2,364	1st Sept.	15,620	15,154	344	19	74	184	441	1,304	1,795	2,143	1,888	912	330	
7	Sompéta	2,453	26th July.	19th "	" 15th Oct.	1,111	2,149	26th Aug.	37,641	37,056	492	23	..	..	..	..	..	9	363	481	14	
8	Ichhāpur	1,239	27th "	16th "	" 12th "	257	869	13th "	2,937	2,874	40	20	..	3	..	..	..	50	192	71	..	
9	Digupádi	1,087	16th May.	16th "	" 31st "	312	*	9th Sept.	3,028	2,597	405	..	194	..	..	83	324	375	415	321	..	
10	Chatrapur	5,010	6th "	19th "	" 31st "	214	2,016	15th Aug.	7,582	6,847	541	..	310	..	..	479	968	1,118	1,490	1,074	162	
11	Purushottapur	2,604	22nd April.	19th "	" 31st "	631	1,716	26th "	14,511	12,953	1,248	37	176	80	..	186	366	313	616	235	59	
12	Aska	4,244	2nd May.	16th "	" 15th "	626	847	11th "	13,881	11,025	1,593	..	..	24	..	..	114	477	892	416	100	
13	Russellkonda	47,743	..	..	..	221	16,376	17th "	2,392	1,941	451	151	969	616	441	2,127	4,243	5,811	7,319	5,961	994	
Total		..	..	..	..	6,508	16,376	..	141,268	132,406	6,732	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	

* This information is not available.

V.F.—Statement of relief in kitchens in the Famine of 1897.

Serial number.	Taluk.	Number of kitchens.	Population of the taluk.		Maximum number of persons that attended at one time.		Average number.		Total number as per kitchen register.			Number discharged having gained strength.	Number sent to work.	Number died.	Number remaining in the register at the date of closing.	Whose whereabouts known.	Whose whereabouts not known.	Expenditure (not verified with the Treasury account).		Total.	
			Dependents.	Others.	Dependents.	Others.	Dependents.	Others.	Value of food articles supplied.	Miscellaneous charges.											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1	Borhampur ...	6	130,200	61	476	537	12	177	189	113	611	754	416	228	3	104	3	...	3,007 6 10	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
2	Sompét ...	13	89,829	72	1,024	1,496	86	972	1,058	202	2,761	3,023	2,327	370	1	315	8	...	7,058 7 5	1,563 8 3	4,570 15 1
3	Ichhapur ...	5	120,027	36	224	260	75	66	141	36	224	260	155	6	2	67	...	...	897 8 5	3,134 7 4	10,792 14 9
4	Pedda Kimedi ...	5	43,494	..	1,754	1,754	...	252	252	...	776	776	414	55	7	131	169	...	1,772 9 4	604 14 7	1,502 7 0
	Total of Senior Asst. Collector's Division.	29	384,550	169	4,378	4,547	173	1,467	1,610	411	4,402	4,813	3,342	659	13	617	180	...	13,336 0 0	6,911 13 3	20,247 13 3
5	Ganjām ...	3	122,432	...	293	293	...	81	81	...	3,536	3,536	2,088	14	3	81	1,978	1,557	346 8 11	199 7 3	546 0 2
6	Purushottapur ...	6	166,510	...	343	343	...	212	212	...	668	668	140	236	...	109	42	...	1,938 1 5	582 7 3	2,520 8 8
	Total of Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.	9	288,942	...	636	636	...	293	293	...	4,204	4,204	2,228	250	3	140	2,020	1,557	2,284 10 4	781 14 6	3,063 8 10
7	Gansur ...	3	118,263	...	357	357	...	241	241	...	654	654	600	...	...	188	50	...	1,233 0 1	444 9 7	1,677 9 8
8	Aska ...	1	108,320	...	242	242	...	136	136	...	332	332	290	...	...	2	40	...	797 9 0	378 7 11	1,176 0 11
9	Naradā ...	2	65,683	...	236	236	...	98	98	...	299	299	120	...	...	29	30	...	680 1 14	354 13 14	1,034 14 3
10	Bodagada ...	1	18,027	...	116	116	...	62	62	...	163	163	97	...	...	18	28	...	548 1 11	235 2 10	783 4 9
	Total of Gansur Deputy Collector's Division.	7	310,806	...	951	951	...	537	537	...	1,438	1,438	1,107	...	49	236	80	120	3,258 12 13	1,413 1 64	4,671 13 7
11	Chicacole ...	2	123,338	...	651	651	...	485	485	...	902	902	244	...	...	8	275	...	1,845 9 3	732 9 3	2,578 2 6
12	Narayanapét ...	3	102,172	25	1,493	1,518	...	1,082	1,086	25	2,384	2,389	712	...	...	17	193	...	4,746 12 3	950 9 3	5,697 5 6
13	Takkali ...	6	127,329	...	1,565	1,565	...	776	776	...	3,264	3,264	2,618	...	...	114	232	...	7,931 9 1	2,415 7 8	10,347 0 9
14	Parlakimedi ...	...	252,050	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total of Principal Assistant Collector's Division.	11	605,089	25	3,709	3,734	1	2,295	2,297	25	6,530	6,555	3,574	270	139	700	284	279	14,523 14 7	4,098 10 2	18,622 8 9
	Grand Total ...	56	1,589,477	104	9,074	9,808	174	4,593	4,767	436	16,574	17,010	10,251	1,179	204	1,693	2,564	1,956	33,403 5 04	13,205 7 44	46,608 12 5

VIII.—Statement of Relief in kitchens attached to Works in the District of Ganjam.

Number.	Taluk.	Number of works.		Average number.		Number of deaths.		Number of Relief workers on the date of closing.		Amount of fines indicated.		By Local Fund By D.P.W. as Test works. Relief works.		Total.		Actual value of work done as far as information is available.	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Senior Assistant Collector's Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Borhampur ...	4	7,690	837	8,527	4,675	288	4,963	7	865	2,634 14 9	...	38,176 0 0	...	38,176 0 0	...	9,821 RS.
2	Pedda Kimedi ...	5	3,647	...	3,647	2,408	...	2,408	...	1,907	70 7 4	147 0 0	2,652 0 0	...	2,799 0 0	...	108
3	Sompéta ...	11	14,085	14	14,099	9,916	7	9,923	4	...	1,170 13 0	...	52,874 0 0	...	52,874 0 0	...	15,210
4	Ichhapur ...	6	14,873	646	15,519	6,196	205	6,331	1	1,938	2,674 9 4	2,444 0 0	56,708 0 0	...	59,152 0 0	...	15,600
	Total ...	26	40,295	1,497	41,792	23,135	500	23,625	12	4,710	6,550 12 5	2,591 0 0	1,50,410 0 0	...	1,53,001 0 0	...	40,739
5	Head-Quarters Deputy Collector's Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Ganjām ...	11	14,073	829	14,902	9,306	351	9,717	3	1,612	1,664 5 3	11,610 0 0	53,178 0 0	...	64,788 0 0	...	16,112
6	Purushottapur ...	8	10,528	1,904	12,432	5,894	602	6,496	16	600	4,352 3 6	2,386 0 0	72,254 0 0	...	74,640 0 0	...	8,168
	Total ...	19	24,601	2,733	27,334	15,200	953	16,213	19	2,302	5,996 8 9	13,996 0 0	1,25,432 0 0	...	1,39,428 0 0	...	24,280
7	Principal Assistant Collector's Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Takkali ...	9	6,726	...	6,726	4,575	...	4,575	284	2,116	388 7 2	1,207 0 0	21,412 0 0	...	22,619 0 0	...	4,880
	Grand Total ...	54	71,622	4,230	75,852	42,960	1,453	44,413	235	9,128	12,930 12 4	17,794 0 0	2,97,254 0 0	...	3,16,049 0 0	...	69,899

V-G.—Statement of Gratuitous Relief in villages in the Ganjam district in the Famine of 1897.

Taluk.	Number of circle.	Number of villages.	Population of the taluk.	Maximum number relieved at one time.			Average number relieved in the whole period.			Total number of deaths among those relieved.	Number of description.	Expenditure in each taluk (not verified with Treasury figure).
				Dependents.	Others.	Total.	Dependents.	Others.	Total.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
General Deputy Collector's Division.												
Gunsur	7	534	118,266	...	6,232	6,232	...	1,776	1,776	43	...	Rs. 19,519 11 4
Aekka	4	469	108,920	...	4,350	4,350	...	1,453	1,453	48	...	10,888 6 8
Surañā	4	469	83,710	...	3,056	3,056	...	992	992	41	7	8,331 14 4
Total	15	1,472	310,896	...	13,638	13,638	...	4,221	4,221	132	7	38,740 0 4
Senior Assistant Collector's Division.												
Barhampur	8	223	1130,200	229	27,235	27,454	27	4,542	4,669	325	...	99,314 1 4
Pedda Chinnur	7	263	120,927	...	8,621	8,621	...	4,329	4,329	187	...	39,980 10 4
Pedda Kimmidi	4	237	143,494	3	637	637	...	67	67	111	39	24,613 11 9
Sampet	6	443	89,929	...	13,078	16,078	1,172	7,651	8,823	26	...	80,161 2 10
Total	25	1,105	384,550	232	52,771	53,003	1,199	16,689	17,888	649	39	2,44,079 10 3
Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.												
Ganjān	6	345	122,432	...	5,780	5,780	...	2,716	2,716	...	...	24,650 9 5
Purushottapur	7	372	168,510	...	6,358	6,358	...	2,815	2,815	193	...	31,486 3 2
Total	13	717	288,942	...	12,148	12,148	...	5,531	5,531	193	...	56,136 12 7
Principal Assistant Collector's Division.												
Chiccacole	3	345	120,538	23	474	497	23	292	315	2	...	2,282 15 7
Narasannapet	4	151	102,172	...	1,089	1,089	...	212	212	2	...	2,027 0 5
Parlakimidi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tekkali	4	363	127,329	185	3,911	4,046	96	1,193	1,299	1	...	8,068 15 6
Total	...	...	...	158	5,474	5,632	119	1,697	1,816	5	...	12,378 15 6
Grand Total	56	1,569,477	194	9,674	9,868	174	4,593	4,767	436	2979	46	3,51,335 6 8

VIII.—Statement of Relief in kitchen.

Serial number of appointments	Government order sanctioning the establishment.		Office.	Rank.	Rate of pay per mensem.	Date of commencement.	Date of termination.	Total number of days.	Cost of establishment.			Total.	Remarks.
	Number.	Date.							Pay.	Batta and tentage.			
1	G.O., Nos. 575 and 575-A.	14th May 1897.	Collector's office.	Famine Special Assistant Collector.	1,033 14 3	16th May 1897.	1st Nov. 1897.	5 17	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	6,180 6 2	Debited to Land Revenue.
2	G.O., No. 278 ...	20th April 1897.	Do.	Peon ...	6 0 0	Do.	{ Date of termination is not known, but pay was drawn up to end of Oct. 1897.	5 16	33 1 7	2 0 0	35 1 7		
3	" Do.	Do.	Do.	Do. ...	6 0 0	Do.		5 16	33 1 7	2 0 0	35 1 7		
4	G.O., No. 3801.	22nd July 1897.	Do.	Famine audit clerk.	40 0 0	19th June 1897.	{ Date of termination is not known, but pay was drawn up to end of Nov. 1897.	5 12	216 0 0	...	216 0 0		Pay for November is included. Debited to Land Revenue.
6	Do.	Do.	Do.	Accountant	40 0 0	Do.		5 12	216 0 0	...	216 0 0		
6	G.O., No. 278, Rev.	29th April 1897.	Do.	Clerk	25 0 0	9th May 1897.		6 23	168 8 9	...	168 8 9		
7	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	30 0 0	Do.	6 23	202 4 2	...	202 4 2			
8	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	6th May 1897.	6 23	136 12 5	...	136 12 5			
9	Do.	Do.	Do.	Attender	10 0 0	12th May 1897.	6 20	63 7 3	3 0 0	69 7 3			
10	G.O., No. 3671.	16th July 1897.	Do.	Local audit clerk.	30 0 0	4th May 1897.	6 28	207 7 3	...	207 7 3			
11	G.O., No. 270.	23rd April 1897.	Divisional officer.	Special Deputy Collector, Berhampur.	250 0 0	1st May 1897.	7 0	1,760 0 0	400 10 0	2,160 10 0			
12	Do.	Do.	Do.	Peon	6 0 0	5th May 1897.	Do.	6 27	41 3 7	34 2 10	116 10 0		
13	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	6 27	41 3 7	117 0 0	1,860 13 11		
14	Do.	Do.	Do.	Special Deputy Collector, Chattrapur.	250 0 0	4th May 1897.	Do.	6 28	1,733 13 11	...	...		
15	Do.	Do.	Do.	Peon	6 0 0	5th May 1897.	1st Nov. 1897.	5 28	35 6 9	4 12 10	75 10 4	Debited to Land Revenue.	
16	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 28	35 6 9	...	548 6 2		Debited to Law and Justice.
17	Do.	Do.	Taluk office.	Special Sub-Magistrate, Ganjam and Purnashottapur.	100 0 0	17th May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 15	548 6 2	...	...		

VIII-A.—List of Temporary Establishments entertained in the Famine of 1897—cont.

Serial number of appointments.	Government order sanctioning the establishment.		Office.	Rank.	Rate of pay per mensem.	Date of commencement.	Date of termination.	Total number of days.	Cost of establishment.		Remarks.
	Number.	Date.							Pay.	Batta and tentage.	
18	G.O., No. 270.	29th April 1897.	Taluk office.	Peon	Rs. A. P. 6 0 0	17th May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	M. D. 15	Rs. A. P. 32 14 5	Rs. A. P. 1 6 11	Rs. A. P. 34 5 4
19	Do.	Do.	Do.	Special Sub-Magistrate, Sompeta and Ichhapur.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 15	32 14 5	1 6 11	34 5 4
20	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	100 0 0	14th May 1897.	11th Nov. 1897.	5 23	535 0 0	...	535 0 0
21	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	1st June 1897.	Do.	5 11	32 3 2	1 12 9	33 15 11
22	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 11	32 3 2	1 12 9	33 15 11
23	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	100 0 0	10th May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 22	572 9 0	...	572 9 0
24	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 22	33 13 11	4 2 0	71 13 10
25	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 25	606 12 6	...	...
26	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	120 0 0	7th May 1897.	Do.	5 25	...	...	...
27	G.O., No. 278.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 25	116 2 1	514 0 4	1,396 9 8
28	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 25	34 13 5	...	...
29	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 25	84 13 5	...	...
30	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	300 0 0	1st August 1897.	15th Oct. 1897.	2 15	745 2 7	265 0 0	1,010 2 7
31	G.O., No. 278.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	Information is not available, as the office copies of bills are not received.	Do.	...	65 0 4	23 15 3	88 15 7
32	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	...	...	...	...
33	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 30	520 5 2	...	870 15 6
34	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	100 0 0	2nd August 1897.	17th Oct. 1897.	2 25	280 10 4	...	...
35	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	2nd August 1897.	15th Oct. 1897.	2 15	49 0 6	...	...
36	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	2 15	11 3 7	31 4 8	114 9 2
37	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	2 15	11 3 7	...	...
38	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 0	5 14 5	...	...
39	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 0	5 14 5	...	...
40	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	250 0 0	14th July 1897.	8th Oct. 1897.	2 26	523 10 10	293 14 0	823 8 10

VIII-A.—List of Temporary Establishments entertained in the Famine of 1897—cont.

Serial number of appointments.	Government order sanctioning the establishment.		Office.	Rank.	Rate of pay per mensem.	Date of commencement.	Date of termination.	Total number of days.	Cost of establishment.		Remarks.
	Number.	Date.							Pay.	Batta and tentage.	
41	G.O., No. 278.	29th April 1897.	Taluk office.	Clerk	Rs. A. P. 20 0 0	25th August 1897.	8th Oct. 1897.	M. D. 1 15	Rs. A. P. 20 10 9	Rs. A. P. 17 7 7	Rs. A. P. 63 12 6
42	Do.	Do.	Do.	Peon	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 15	8 5 1	...	...
43	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 15	8 5 1	...	...
44	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Pay not drawn yet.	...	...	...	...	...	Debited to Famine.
45	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	Not entertained.	...	...	...	...	...
46	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	Information not available.	...	6 26	5 3 2	4 10 0	Debited to Land Revenue.
47	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	6 0 0	6th May 1897.	30th Nov. 1897.	...	136 12 5	6 10 0	Debited to Land Revenue.
48	G.O., No. 278.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	Do.	Do.	3 22	111 4 8	...	Debited to Land Revenue.
49	G.O., No. 3801.	22nd July 1897.	Senior Assistant Collector's office.	Audit clerk	30 0 0	10th August 1897.	Do.	6 18	131 9 10	...	Debited to Land Revenue.
50	G.O., No. 278.	20th April 1897.	Do.	Clerk	20 0 0	14th May 1897.	Do.	4 26	145 2 7	...	Debited to Land Revenue.
51	G.O., No. 380.	22nd July 1897.	Do.	Audit clerk	30 0 0	6th July 1897.	Do.	6 29	138 11 4	63 9 6	Debited to Land Revenue.
52	G.O., No. 278.	20th April 1897.	Do.	Clerk	20 0 0	3rd May 1897.	Do.	6 27	197 6 9	31 6 0	Debited to Land Revenue.
53	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	5th May 1897.	Do.	6 24	135 7 9	12 0 0	Debited to Land Revenue.
54	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	15 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 24	69 10 1	7 12 0	Debited to Land Revenue.
55	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	22nd May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 22	106 7 3	...	Debited to Land Revenue.
56	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	15 0 0	Do.	Do.	4 22	65 4 4	...	...
57	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	20th May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 22	107 11 10	...	...
58	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	15 0 0	22nd May 1897.	30th Sept. 1897.	2 10	34 13 5	0 6 2	Debited to Land Revenue.
59	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	20 0 0	19th May 1897.	15th Nov. 1897.	5 28	118 6 2	...	...
60	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

VIII-A.—List of Temporary Establishments entertained in the Famine of 1897—cont.

Serial number of appointments	Government order sanctioning the establishment.		Office.	Rank.	Rate of pay per mensem.	Date of commencement.	Date of termination.	Total number of days.	Cost of establishment.		Remarks.
	Number.	Date.							Pay.	Batta and tentage.	
19	No. 278.	23rd April 1897.	Deputy Tahsildar, Purushottapur.	Clerk	Rs. A. P. 20 0 0	29th May 1897.	15th Nov. 1897.	M. D. 5 18	Rs. A. P. 121 15 0	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 121 15 0
20	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Ganjam.	Do.	20 0 0	3rd May 1897.	Do.	5 23	123 5 4	27 9 6	156 14 10
61	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Ichhapur.	Do.	20 0 0	11th May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 21	113 8 9	.....	113 8 9
62	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Sompét.	Do.	20 0 0	9th May 1897.	30th Nov. 1897.	6 21	134 13 5	4 2 0	138 15 5
63	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Tekkali.	Do.	20 0 0	12th May 1897.	15th Nov. 1897.	6 2	122 14 5	1 12 0	124 10 5
64	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Pata Tekk.	Do.	20 0 0	Do.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 20	112 14 5	9 14 0	122 12 5
65	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	20 0 0	Do.	15th Oct. 1897.	5 6	519 5 8	159 2 0	729 5 4
66	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	100 0 0	11th May 1897.	Do.	5 6	50 13 8	.....	Debited to Land Revenue.
67	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 6	308 10 10	.....	Debited to Land Revenue.
68	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	15 0 0	16th June 1897.	2nd Aug. 1897.	1 17	8 0 0	.....	Debited to Land Revenue.
69	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	35 0 0	11th June 1897.	Do.	1 22	Pay not drawn.	27 5 0	367 9 6
70	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	35 0 0	12th July 1897.	Do.	0 22	70 0 0	.....	70 0 0
71	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	35 0 0	1st June 1897.	Do.	1 22	60 10 8	.....	60 10 8
72	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	2nd June 1897.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
73	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
74	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
75	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
76	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
77	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
									19,386 9 4	2,134 1 3	21,530 10 7

NOTE.—Statements VIII-B to G, Lists of officers on Famine Duty (not printed).

ENCLOSURE.

From H. D. TAYLOR, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to the Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Chatrapur, 8th November 1897.

As directed in Board's Proceedings No. 8492, Miscellaneous, dated 18th October 1897, I have the honour to submit herewith a brief advance report on the peculiarities of this district from the point of famine administration, the reasons for their rapid collapse and speedy recovery.

2. I have not much to add to the remarks given in my fortnightly narrative for the period ending 30th April as to the cause of the rapid decline in the condition of the people and the development of real distress. From the middle of December 1896 to the middle of March 1897, test works were opened at various places in Tekkali, Sompét, Peddakimedi, Ichhapur; Ganjam and Purushottapur taluks without labour being attracted thereto, though people were ready enough to come to works on piece-work system so far as funds were available for that purpose. The work at Kaliapalli near Chatrapur in February attracted a large number of workers; but for reasons pointed out, I was unable to convert it into a real test of distress, as the majority of those attending it were professional labourers, of whom nearly 90 per cent. were women. These were attracted by what was the high rate of wages, which was an increase over the woman's wage, their Code being less than the normal. The women and children work.

The first real test was opened as the result of my strong supervising staff. Sompét, Ichhapur and Berhampur sub-division to many who work.

3. I may here note that the population of Parlakimedi and the Sompét division of Parlakimedi being Berhampur and Ganjam (south) population, but mixed with a large number of Reddikas—all of whom have to a large extent imbibed the prejudices of the Uriyas.

The Purushottapur taluk and almost entirely of pure Uriyas.

The Gumsoor sub-division is all relief works in that division, while the other sub-divisions are on a limited scale, except for about a month in the monsoon. I will take these in turn as somewhat different. In the sub-division which includes the Tekkali, Pata Tekk, Khandam of Chicacole, where crops had failed, where gratuitous and kitchen relief was first attraction until June and July, when a large number of people became available, though a considerable amount of Local Fund works of water-supply, and to some extent to Parlakimedi on the borders of this taluk. The famine was gradual, and did not occur suddenly on other parts.

APPENDIX III.

Serial number of appointments	Government order sanctioning the establishment.		Office.	Rank.	Rate of pay per mensem.	Date of commencement.	Date of termination.	Total number of days.	Cost of establishment.		Remarks.
	Number.	Date.							Pay.	Batta and tentage.	
19	No. 278.	23rd April 1897.	Deputy Tahsildar, Purushottapur.	Clerk	Rs. A. P. 20 0 0	29th May 1897.	15th Nov. 1897.	M. D. 5 18	Rs. A. P. 121 15 0	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P. 121 15 0
20	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Ganjam.	Do.	20 0 0	3rd May 1897.	Do.	5 23	123 5 4	27 9 6	156 14 10
61	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Ichhapur.	Do.	20 0 0	11th May 1897.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 21	113 8 9	.....	113 8 9
62	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Sompét.	Do.	20 0 0	9th May 1897.	30th Nov. 1897.	6 21	134 13 5	4 2 0	138 15 5
63	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Tekkali.	Do.	20 0 0	12th May 1897.	15th Nov. 1897.	6 2	122 14 5	1 12 0	124 10 5
64	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Pata Tekk.	Do.	20 0 0	Do.	31st Oct. 1897.	5 20	112 14 5	9 14 0	122 12 5
65	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	20 0 0	Do.	15th Oct. 1897.	5 6	519 5 8	159 2 0	729 5 4
66	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	100 0 0	11th May 1897.	Do.	5 6	50 13 8	.....	Debited to Land Revenue.
67	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	5 6	308 10 10	.....	Debited to Land Revenue.
68	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	15 0 0	16th June 1897.	2nd Aug. 1897.	1 17	8 0 0	.....	Debited to Land Revenue.
69	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	35 0 0	11th June 1897.	Do.	1 22	Pay not drawn.	27 5 0	367 9 6
70	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	35 0 0	12th July 1897.	Do.	0 22	70 0 0	.....	70 0 0
71	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	35 0 0	1st June 1897.	Do.	1 22	60 10 8	.....	60 10 8
72	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	2nd June 1897.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
73	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
74	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
75	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
76	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
77	Do.	Do.	Deputy Tahsildar, Khandam.	Do.	6 0 0	Do.	Do.	1 29	11 12 10	.....	60 10 8
									19,386 9 4	2,134 1 3	21,530 10 7

In this, and in the Narasannapet taluk, it was found possible owing to the fact that the population was Telugu, to relieve a far larger proportion by the grant of cooked food at kitchens, than elsewhere.

4. In the Parlákimedi taluk, distress did not appear so early as elsewhere. The dry crops throughout the estate had been good, while paddy yielded nearly a half crop: prices ruled lower than elsewhere in the district, and labour was plentifully available at fixed daily rates on the numerous works opened by the Rajah to all comers throughout his estate. Hence it was at the outset merely necessary to start a few kitchens for the children and aged infirm dependents of these workers.

Subsequently, however, owing to heavy export and a continued drain upon the resources of the taluk, prices rose rapidly, the merchants' stocks were exhausted, and ryots with large stocks refused to sell. This combined with a failure of the mango crop produced severe distress amongst the non-working and middle classes. Amongst the former the Savaras must be numbered, as they decline to engage in other than agricultural operations and the failure of the mango crop, on which, together with jungle roots, they annually rely for their food supply for two months in the year, caused severe distress amongst them: the majority of them were relieved by grain doles, but a few were induced to attend kitchens. With the heavy rains their state was improved, as they were able to dig their jungle roots, and could also rely upon the early crops of maize and samalu, the latter of which are not consumed generally by any but the poorest classes.

5. In the Sompét taluk distress commenced at the beginning of April and spread very rapidly through Ichhápúr to Berhampur. In the Peddakimedi Estate, however, relief was not found to be necessary to any large extent prior to the end of May. It was, however, found that in certain parts of this estate, owing to the extremely late rain (the earlier rains having entirely omitted this tract) it was necessary to keep on relief here for a longer period than elsewhere.

6. In the Ganjám and Purushottapur taluks severe distress set in from the end of March amongst the Uriya population. This date coincided with the period when all ordinary field labour has ceased—the small stock of grain had been exhausted; the people being reduced to a large extent to subsist on the leaves of a thorny shrub (balusukura). The Uriyas, or almost all classes of them, declined to allow their women to attend relief works on the ground that it was contrary to their caste to do other than agricultural work. Bouris, Haddis and Dandasis, however, came freely after a while, as well as a few Gowdoos.

I believe further that the extremely insufficient water-supply had a good deal to do with the very rapid falling off in the condition of the people, coinciding as it did with the commencement of the hot weather, and the time when the stocks of food-grain had become exhausted.

In the case of Telugus, distress was more or less confined to professional beggars, children, and the middle classes: the former because private charity ceased with the increase of prices, children because parents could not earn enough for themselves and their children at current prices, and the middle and artizan classes because they had no work to do. I have subsequently noted several goldsmiths and even Brahmins attending relief works.

7. It is not, I think, necessary to assign any cause for the distress in Gumsoor. Relief here was always on a limited scale, and not continued for a long period. The sudden increase at the end of June was due to high prices of food-grains.

8. To sum up the sudden increase in distress in the district may be attributed to the following causes which were also more or less simultaneous:—

- (1) Rise in prices of food-grains.
- (2) Inadequate water-supply.
- (3) Failure of mango crop and inability to dig jungle roots (especially in the case of Khonds and Savaras).
- (4) Want of field labour and refusal on the part of Uriya women to work at all.
- (5) The depletion of ryots' stocks of food-grains and substitution therefor of leaves or grasses where available.

The sudden decrease in the following causes:

- (a) That relief was given in time and steps taken not to let people run down too low before granting relief, thereby enabling them to take up light field work as available.
- (b) That the population in receipt of gratuitous relief was largely agricultural.
- (c) Harvesting of the cumbu and samalu crop and possibility of digging jungle roots owing to rain.
- (d) Improvement in water-supply and plentiful supply of natural vegetables and grasses.

It will be noted specially that the decline in prices has been very slow and gradual, and had practically no effect in itself upon the reduction in numbers. It may also be noted that the stricter policy enjoined by Government in regard to works may have had some slight effect in the reduction of numbers on relief works, but the decline had commenced in the natural course before it was possible fully to bring those orders into force.

I may add that the aversion on the part of Uriyas to accept any form of relief other than that to which they have been accustomed is due to their liberal treatment and concessions made in former famines to their prejudices which have now become still more deep-rooted and difficult to eradicate. They decline to help themselves and expect Government to bring relief to their doors. Failing this they prepare themselves resignedly for death, without making any effort to avert it.

10. Weavers' relief calls for no comment. At first they declined to accept that on the terms offered, as they expected that as in 1889 lump sums of money would be paid in advance, viz., a box of twist value Rs. 4-4-0 and Rs. 4, in cash. When, however, they saw that Government was firm in the matter they came in and depôts became, if anything, too popular. The decline was due to stoppage of the form of relief.

11. *Mortality and vital statistics.*—The death-rate in the district has throughout the year been exceedingly high and far in excess of the average. The large increase is almost entirely accounted for under small-pox and cholera. At the same time the season has been an extremely unhealthy one on other ways, and fever has been very prevalent.

The epidemic of confluent small-pox of a most virulent type has been general throughout the district; amongst others two Deputy Tahsildars were attacked by it. I have in mustering villagers on some occasions seen nearly half of the population suffering from this scourge. All possible steps have been taken to combat it, and in January last the District Board applied to Government for sanction for the entertainment of six additional vaccinators who were lost over the population. Though a serious outbreak of cholera occurred in February in Tekkali, yet it did not become general throughout the district, and a large staff of extra medical subordinates was entertained to stamp it out, conjointly with the supervision of famine works.

The following statement shows the deaths as registered from small-pox and cholera from January to December for 1895, 1896 and 1897, respectively:—

Months.	1895.	1896.	1897.
January	21	181	1,195
February	7	30	1,491
March	26	90	1,719
April	10	95	1,641
May	24	96	3,842
June	25	81	5,490
July	30	110	4,504
August	37	448	1,271
September	58	579	900
October	45	311	...
November	152	296	...
December	218	700	...
Total	653	3,052	22,753

and in the Narasannapet taluk, it was found that the fact was Telugu, to relieve a far larger number of deaths were attributed to cholera in the months of the present year than elsewhere. I think at these times, than elsewhere. It would really have been a class under famine diarrhoea, but the present staff of village officers is not capable of appreciating such differences.

There were an unusual number of deaths from dysentery, caused, I understand, by the consumption of unwholesome leaves, &c., by those who declined to accept Government relief in the form in which it was offered to them.

12. In connection with this question there is another very important point to be observed, viz., that in a famine year vital statistics are registered with much greater care and accuracy than in an ordinary year. This district is largely zamindari, and the zamindari village servants are, as a rule, most perfunctory in the discharge of their duties. During the present year, however, they have been under the constant supervision of Government officers and Circle Inspectors, and very few cases have, in consequence, been omitted from the returns.

Hence, there are good grounds for believing that the percentage increase over the average as shown in the current year is more apparent than real. What, however, I do consider is a more serious feature and a clear proof of the extent and severity of distress prevailing in the district, is the large decrease in the number of births as compared with the average of ordinary years as shown in Famine statement. Every step was taken to see that relief was given to pregnant women and nursing mothers, and the very large proportion of these classes who spread the works more than once attracted my attention. A statement is put up for reference showing month by month the causes to the extent all deaths registered were attributed.

6. Statement showing the mortality under several diseases in the Ganjam District from January to September 1897 as compared with that of 1895 and 1896.

	1895.						1896.						1897.					
	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Diarrhoea and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Diarrhoea and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Diarrhoea and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.
January	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	330	332	18,721	1,538	183	20,004	1,610	1,461	17,379	975	4,052	25,477	13,906	1,371	15,082	1,734	1,376	15,187

APPENDIX II.

From W. O. HORNE, Esq., Acting Collector, Vizagapatam, to L. E. BUCKLEY, Esq., Famine Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Vizagapatam, 23rd November 1897, No. 4353.

I have the honour, as required in Board's Proceedings, No. 675, Press, dated 18th October 1897, to submit my report on the famine in this district during 1896-97 and 1897-98.

2. The famine was caused by the partial failure and early cessation of the South-West monsoon rains of 1896, followed by the total absence of any North-East monsoon at all. I shall proceed below to show the extent to which, so far as figures are available, crops failed, but it may be broadly stated that the summer dry crops yielded a moderate outturn, the later or winter ones a poor to bad one, and that the big crop of the district, was a general failure. It was difficult, until events developed, to tell how far this failure would tell on the population. It has been laid down as a general rule that failure of a single harvest in a limited area will not produce great distress, and, had the area of failure been more limited, I think this district would have tided it over without State relief; but the existence of distress in four or five other districts of this Presidency, and the simultaneous growth of a similar state of affairs in a large part of the rest of India, had such an effect on trade and prices that shortly after the commencement of 1897 the result was no longer in doubt; and although State relief was offered in January and February, and the Government accepted in March and afterwards. The worst of the year interest to overstock the, result solely from the failure of the 1896 rains. The 1896 I think, however, that of 1897, which was eagerly looked for, and which, if timely years district with a stock, we soon put an end to all difficulties, was both late in arrival up to yield of dry grains is a fact. The weather were better hot weather showers than usual, to the more than a few months, and the latter month tempted the ryots to the for in the output of their large areas, being planted at the end of May and beginning was no the surplus comes and cumboos, all of which was utterly lost owing to the failure of weather enough of other monsoon to itself in June. The weather of June was

19. Means of communication. Three weeks of scorching sun and drought which withered the crops and reduced the ryots to a panic of despair. It was at the beginning of the serious trouble that distress was most acute. Prices rushed up to unprecedented heights. Agricultural work was at a standstill, the ryots even turning adrift before the country by farm hands. Private charity dried up and wandering set in badly. The Government, when the distress was most acute, sent a large number of men to the Godavari district, which they are accustomed to grow in the district, much to the chagrin of the Collector of that district. Crowds of men in the Centrif in difficulties. It was, however, out of the power of the officers to regard the men and Cocant to stop them. Distress had deepened so rapidly that there were not of this district. The works, and the Public Works Department had been so drawn upon nearly of the districts that it was at the end of its resources. The existing organization for the relief of the famine by kitchens was inadequate, and the organization of village relief and all other things, which was pushed on with all speed, was not rapid enough to meet the emergency. From about 25th June to 15th July all officers in this district were in the field, and all their energies were soon, however, as village relief was organized, wandering ceased. From the middle of July the situation improved. There was something of a burst of the monsoon, which was good, with the exception of another break at the beginning of August, it continued to improve steadily till distress was at an end at the end of September.

3. With this brief preliminary sketch of the cause of affairs, I proceed to refer to the subjects tabulated by the Board in the appendix to its proceedings.

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The total area sown with all crops in the fasli—both Government and private—was 206,392 acres, the average of the three previous faslis being 1,94,459 acres. Of this, 41,459 acres yielded no crop at all and 69,425 acres four annas or less. Thus considerably over half the area sown with all crops yielded four annas or less—mostly less—only 8,272 acres yielded better than a twelve-anna crop and further 27,704 acres better than a half crop. Thus only 36,900 acres

1897.				
Feaver.	Diarhœa and dysentery.	All other causes.	Total.	
150	408	341	3,375	
105	341	383	3,275	
123	383	440	4,275	
101	440	512	5,125	
178	512	545	5,525	
177	545	506	5,065	
286	506	482	4,825	
298	482	...	...	
...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	
1,734	1,975	44,000	46,709	

3. At the 10 garces of grain were imported. A very small amount in order to VOL. II 19

the Maharajah of Jeypore. It was almost all coolies, men, who were generally employed by the low country Sahucars, but in some cases they traded on their own account. The ryots of Bobbili and Sálur taluks grew largely for this trade in most years after their own harvest is over.

11. *External trade.*—Imports by sea were never very large. There were none prior to September 1896 and none in December 1896, and they were only in July 1897, when probably the merchants were providing against the possibility of a deficiency, so they anticipated three years' famine. In that month 23,234 maunds of food-grains were imported by sea, and from September 1896 to September 1897 55,123 maunds in all were received. From July 1896 to May 1897, 22,899 maunds of food-grains were exported and after May 1897 there was no export trade by sea. The rainfall of 1897 was a serious failure.

The trade by rail was larger, and this also attained its maximum in 1897, when 141,745 maunds were imported, only 2,624 being exported. The part of the import by rail from October 1896 to September 1897—12 months—aggregated 596,628 maunds, and exports only 49,424. The rail-borne imports, therefore, exceeded the sea-borne in the ratio of 10 to 1.

12. *Ability of local markets to meet demands.*—The local markets were not in any case absolutely depleted at any time, except of particular grains. Rice was always available everywhere at a price, but ragi was for about two months scarcely procurable in Palkonda and Chipurupalle taluks, rice having sometimes to be given in the Government kitchens for want of it, and cumboo was not freely procurable anywhere, except in the largest markets, after the beginning of January 1897, but June when seemingly the last year's crop was exhausted. Markets on the whole were well supplied.

PRICES.

13. Up to the end of September 1896, prices did not show any signs of anxiety on the part of traders as to the future, but with the failure of the North-East monsoon in October, there was a sharp, and in some cases unnecessary, rise. In a few places traders showed a tendency to hold up stocks and refuse to sell, and this tendency was aggravated by attempts on the part of ignorant subordinate officials to interfere with them; and by the clamour which the ignorant always make on such occasions for State interference with merchants' prices; the shortest and quickest way to kill trade altogether. There was on this account danger of riots, but energetic measures were taken, the Police did their duty well, and interference with or 'advice' to traders was vigorously forbidden, and trade went on its course again. The Banyas, finding they could sell at what price they chose, soon saw which way their interest lay, and prices, with the exception of the first few days of panic, were never held much above what the state of the markets of this and other districts justified.

14. *Fluctuations in district average prices.*—Rice passed the warning rate (12 seers) in October 1896, in which month it was 10.9 seers per rupee, and hovered just below the scarcity rate of 9 seers until June 1897, when it rose to 10 seers and in August to 7.4, since which it has slowly fallen.

Ragi was 21.8 seers per rupee in October 1896. The warning rate was 16 seers. It reached 16.9 in November and then fluctuated up to May between 16 and 17 seers, but in May it rose to 15, in June to 12 and in July to 10.9, since which it has fallen. The prices from May to July are without precedent, and this was one of the principal factors in producing the increase of distress which occurred in those months.

Cumboo was almost the same price as ragi throughout, but it fell earlier than ragi as the early crop of 1897 was a fair one, while that of ragi was bad.

15. *Noticeable variations from the district average at any recording station.*—The variations between the prices reported at individual stations and the district average are not very noticeable. During the early part of the year Sálur was a cheap market owing to the Jeypore trade. Vizianagram and Vizagapatam were dearer than the average all through; from May to September 1897, Patinagaram and Chipurupalle were considerably dearer than the average, and this was probably owing to local stocks being exhausted and local trade being deficient.

1897.	District and Jeypore.	All other districts.	Total.
1,030	150	408	1,588
1,175	105	341	1,621
1,387	123	385	1,895
1,560	101	440	2,101
1,477	173	512	2,162
1,237	177	360	1,774
	280	645	925
	323	540	863
	482		482

16. *Variations between prices at recording stations and outlying villages.*—In the earlier part of the scarcity the prices in outlying villages and at village shandies were generally slightly cheaper than at large markets; this was of course due to the latter being supplied from the former, but from and after about February 1897 the reverse was the case, owing no doubt to local stocks being exhausted and to the small shandies having to be supplied from the large markets.

CONDITION OF PEOPLE.

17. *Labour markets.*—The first symptoms of congestion of the labour market were caused by the absence of the employment usually available at the paddy harvest, but emigration to Burma on a larger scale than usual relieved this, and there was also more cultivation than usual throughout the cold weather under wells, which required coolies for baling water. Still by January it was evident that large numbers were unemployed, and test works were opened in the first and second weeks of that month in the worst localities of Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam taluks. These failed and the people struggled on till March, when they were tried again and attended by large numbers. Scarcity of employment continued to increase till May, when good showers encouraged the commencement of dry cultivation and large numbers were temporarily employed in transplanting ragi and cumboo. With the holding off of the monsoon in June and July, however, the congestion of the labour market became very serious, and it increased so rapidly as to outrun the means at our disposal for meeting the difficulty, the Public Works Department having neither staff nor tools when needed. When at last more relief works were opened and about to be opened, the South-West monsoon set in and the pressure was relieved. Labour in this district has many outlets, viz., emigration to Burma and Godáviri and employment in the Jeypore grain trade. Thousands also lived all through the year by grass cutting for the ryots' cattle, for which no other fodder was available.

18. *Public health.*—The mortality in this district from cholera from May 1896 to September 1897 mounted to 4,896 against an average for the previous years of 1,052 for the same period. That from fever was much below the average up to and including March, owing, I suppose, to the dry season being less conducive to this form of disease. From June onwards it increased enormously, being 13,410 to September 1897 against an average of 9,355. There was no other epidemic disease and the public health was good throughout the hot weather.

19. *Death and birth rate.*—The birth and death rate figures are already before the Board, and it will have observed that the death-rate was below the average up to and including March, equal to it in April, and enormously in excess thereafter. I have already reported on the causes and reasons for this. Similarly the birth-rate was in excess up to June and fell off rapidly thereafter.

20. *Crime and jail statistics.*—Crime increased largely during the period of distress. This was particularly noticeable under the heads of house-breaking and theft. House-breakings showed a noticeable increase in March 1897, in which month there were 49 occurrences of this class, the average for the previous months being 30. In April they rose to 56, in May to 73, in June to 77, and in July attained the maximum figure of 81. Thefts showed a smart rise in February, in which month there were 79 such crimes, the average for the previous seven months being 55. In March there were 95 thefts, in April 96, in May 99, in June 102, and in July 92, since which there has been some decrease. Very few dacoities, robberies occurred at all.

21. *The jail population.*—The jail population has shown a considerable increase ever since distress declared itself. The increase was first noticeable in November 1896, when the total number of admissions of convicts and under-trials was 274, as against an average of 170 in the preceding three years. During the next six months from December 1896 to May 1897 the number of admissions was in excess of the average in the corresponding months of the previous three years by more than 60 per cent. In June 1897 it rose to 503, in July to 568, and in August to 695—the maximum number—the average for the three preceding years in the same months

being 231, 253 and 212, respectively. In September 1897 the number fell off, but was still very high being 485 against an average of 164. Later figures are not available.

22. *Emigration and immigration.*—Emigration was brisk, principally to British Burma, to which country it is customary for the cooly class in this district to resort when times are hard at home. But this goes on not only in bad years but at all times. Many of these emigrants remit money to their families and relations, and I ascertained by personal enquiry at village post offices that in some villages, very large sums in the aggregate were being received by money order from Burma. The total emigration between July 1896 and September 1897 was of 20,035. The figures for the previous three years were 7,610, 7,325 and 6,608. The greatest numbers emigrated in November and December 1896, after which the number fell off, but in July, to which I have already referred as the period of maximum distress and alarm, the figures rose again sharply; 2,621 persons went to Burma in that month as against 921 in June. Immigration was confined to returning emigrants.

23. *Peculiar communities.*—There are in this district many peculiar communities, but luckily the Agency Tracts, to which they are almost entirely confined, were, with one small exception, spared the distress which afflicted the plains, and we were, therefore, saved from the problem, with which we should otherwise have been confronted, of adopting and modifying the orthodox forms of relief to suit the peculiarities and prejudices of people slow to adopt new ways and mostly troubled with a shyness and suspicion worthy of the wild animals with which they are more familiar than with civilised man. The crops throughout the Agency Tracts, except those of Palkonda, yielded nearly a normal outturn, and the only hardship which was caused was due to the total failure of the mango crop of 1897, and the partial failure of the mohwa. On these two natural products the hill people are accustomed, even in ordinary years, to depend during the hot weather and the early rains, and their failure did undoubtedly cause a certain extent of privation, but luckily not such as was dangerous to life.

24. The Palkonda Agency Tracts are an almost isolated range of hills lying on the northern edge of the Palkonda taluk, and separating this district from the first few miles. The hills are covered with jungle and intersected by narrow valleys. Streams are numerous, but seldom perennial, and with their help paddy is grown in the valleys. On the slopes, ragi, cumbu, cholam, samalu, vadalu, korralu and various grains are grown. These form the food of the people, the paddy all going to the Sahucars who advance loans on it. Mangoes and tamarinds are plentiful, and on these the population largely lives in the hot weather, exporting them also for sale to the low country markets. The population consists principally of 'Jats'; there are also many Savaras and some Paidis and Sundis. The Jats cultivate the valley and lower slopes, while the Savaras mostly live by 'Koradu' or 'Kumeri' cultivation of the hill sides. The Paidis are a menial race, the Sundis principally distil and sell liquor. The whole population is very poor and ground down by the Sahucars.

1895-96 the mango and tamarind crop was a very poor one, and in 1896-97 it was an utter failure. Almost all crops failed or were poor in 1896-97 also, and it was not till the hot weather of 1897 was well advanced, and the want of usual supply of mangoes and other natural produce was felt, that distress began to declare itself in the hills. When once it began, it advanced by leaps and bounds, and with the advent of the June rains the people found themselves without seed grain, which they had eaten, and unable to obtain loans from the Sahucars, who distrusted the future. They were then driven to live on roots and the pith of sago palms, and relief became urgently necessary. The difficulty of adopting ordinary forms of relief to a jungle population was however realised, and it was recognised that relief works under the Code system would be useless. Ordinary road work was therefore started at once, the people being accustomed to this, not objecting to it; and Mr. Elwin, the Principal Assistant Agent, went at once to Sitampeta, where he opened a relief kitchen which has had no difficulty in inducing the distressed to attend. The case of those out of reach of the kitchen was met by the distribution of grain doles at two centres, and the prompt initiation of

these forms of relief was efficacious in preventing the distress from assuming, as it threatened rapidly to do, dangerous proportions.

25. The most efficacious form of relief administered in the hills, however, was that obtained from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. Fortunately, at the time when I first became aware of the critical condition of the tract in question, Mr. Crole, happened to be in the district, and at my request he got a grant of Rs. 10,000 put at my disposal for relief to the hill men. This was almost all personally distributed by Mr. Elwin in the shape of grants for the purchase of seed grain, and this assistance at a critical time enabled all to commence their cultivation at the proper season and started them on the way to that prosperity which, with a favourable rainfall, they very soon regained. The kitchen was open only for two months, and grain doles were distributed for six weeks, after which the necessity for relief in the hills vanished.

RELIEF MEASURES UNDER THE FAMINE CODE.

26. *Necessity for State aid.*—That the district would be unable to tide over the season without State aid first became obvious in January 1897, though the people themselves were not at that period yet convinced of the fact; but from the middle of March onwards relief works and kitchens were found necessary in Vizagapatam and Bimlipatam taluks and in the northern portion of Sarvasiddhi, while kitchens for the gratuitous relief of those dependent on charity were established at Párvatipuram; and Rajah Gajapati Rao, C.I.E., started and maintained relief kitchens at three places in his estates besides Vizagapatam. These latter were, to all intents and purposes, the only difference being that the Rajah defrayed the cost of them.

27. *Area and population for which required.*—Up to the end of May the relief which was required was confined to that indicated above, and may be said to have embraced only the following taluks:—

Taluk.	Population.		Area.	
	Government.	Zamindari.	Government.	Zamindari.
Vizagapatam	...	97,301	39 sq. mls.	...
Bimlipatam	...	113,309	...	...
Sarvasiddhi	75,764	79,202	169	...
Total	75,764	291,812	169	...

By the second week of June, however, the sudden and rapid rise in prices caused such an extension of distress that relief had to be extended as rapidly as possible to all taluks in the district, and although, in some of them, e.g., Guntur, Viravalli and Palkonda, it did not last long, it was not possible to anticipate a favourable turn of the season, and not safe to rely on it. In July the whole area embraced the whole of the district in the plains and the Agency Tracts, Palkonda—or 923 square miles of Government, and 3,864 square miles of zamindari, with a population of 303,023 in Government taluks and 1,652,012 in zamindari, or 1,955,035 in all—close on 2 millions.

28. *Nature of measures introduced.*—The first relief work was opened on 12th June, and the last was closed on 29th September.

Gratuities' relief opened on 18th June and closed on 17th September.

Gratuities relief in kitchens—both to dependants and others—opened on 12th March and closed on 1st October.

Village relief by grain doles opened on 10th June and closed on 24th September.

This gentleman intimated to me his desire to open relief kitchens at various places in his estates, and by my advice did so at Vizagapatam, Anakapalle, Ellamanchi and Nakkapalli. Wisely foreseeing the waste, peculation and misdirection of relief which was likely to occur if these institutions were left, like those of some other proprietors, to the care and control of the ordinary gumasta, the Rajah requested me to manage them at his expense in the same way as Government kitchens, and this was done throughout till, at the end of July, the Rajah had expended the sum which he intended to devote to this purpose, and I took the kitchens over on behalf of Government. The Rajah expended altogether Rs. 7,377, and supported on the average some 1,000 to 1,200 people for four months. The Vizianagram and Bobbili Samastanams also distributed cooked food to some extent. Two wealthy Chetties in Pondur, Chipurupalli taluk, Messrs. K. Venkanna and K. Suryanarayana, maintained a kitchen at their private expense for about three months, and this was managed in an efficient and orderly manner. The proprietor of Gopalpur, Sri Rajah Uppalapati Venkata Vijaya Gopala Raju Garu, daily distributed food and money doles throughout the distress. M.R. Ry. Perla Narayana Chetti of Vizianagram gave doles to several hundred impoverished Kshatriyas. The Rani of Wadhwan and Rani Ankita Achayamma Garu daily fed the poor in Vizagapatam, and a local Marwari merchant, Baghmah Sahucar, administered charity in an extensive and unostentatious manner.

36. *Special measures of relief to hill and jungle tribes.*—None of the hill or jungle tribes in this district required relief, with the exception of those in the agency already alluded to; so no special measures required to be inaugurated for their benefit.

37. *Famine allowances to public servants.*—Ragi, the official staple food-grain, was dearer than 12 seers for the rupee for only about two months from the middle of June to the middle of August, and compensation for dearness of food was paid to low-paid Government servants for that period only. The total expenditure under this head in all departments amounted to only Rs. 4,639-12-5. In my opinion this form of relief should have begun much earlier, and the test adopted is a wrong one; but, as this is probably a controversial matter, I refrain from discussing it here.

CONDITION OF CATTLE.

38. *Availability of pasture and fodder.*—Cattle in this district suffered far less than in the Deccan, *firstly*, because there is always probably a greater amount of grazing available, and, *secondly*, because the pasture was frequently revived during the worst months of the year by good showers of rain. The rainfall of March, April and May was particularly useful in this direction. Fodder was from an early period procurable only at famine rates, but grass was, as stated, generally procurable, and many thousands of coolies made a living throughout the distress by cutting and bringing grass for sale. It was only in Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam, Anakapalle, and parts of Sarvasiddhi taluks that distress among cattle threatened to become serious.

39. *Methods of relief adopted.*—It was not found necessary to call upon the Famine Fund for any assistance in keeping cattle alive. There was, in fact, probably no mortality from absolute starvation, but cattle diseases were extremely prevalent previous to the monsoon and large numbers died from these causes.

In the Zamindari taluks the Forest Department could do nothing for the cattle. Of the three Government taluks Sarvasiddhi was the most affected, and that taluk all the reserves were thrown open to grazing from 1st January to 30th June. Those cattle owners who had taken out permits for the previous six months were allowed to renew their permits free of charge, and others were charged only half the usual rates for the same privilege. Goats and sheep were admitted to a but one reserve at 2 annas per head. It was found advisable to make these reduced charges rather than to permit free-grazing, as the number of cattle was out of proportion to the extent of the reserves that otherwise the food which might have benefited cattle of some value would have been eaten up by herds of worthless beasts in a very short time and there would have been no food left for any

lands, while comparatively little has produced crops ranging from 1 to 4 annas. There are no dry crops visible anywhere."

The following is the abstract of Mr. Weir's report of 31st October 1896:—

Rain-fed paddy ...	Light paddy ...	Indifferent, i.e., something over 4 annas.
	Remaining paddy which is harvested at the same time as irrigated paddy.	Nearly entirely lost everywhere.
Irrigated paddy ...	Under sources other than Rushikulya and Chicacole river channels	Lost to a great extent.
	Under Rushikulya and Chicacole river channels, about 100,000 acres	Safe: 3 to 4 annas.
Ragi ...	Southern part of the district	Good.
	Borhampur	Indifferent.
Gingelly ...	Other parts	Fair.
	In some places	Good.
	In others	Very bad. } Uneven crop.

Hot-weather crops were everywhere bad to indifferent.

Zamindari lands.—The above remarks, though embracing a general review of the outturn in the entire district, apply more immediately to the three Government taluks of Chicacole, Borhampur and Goomsur.

In regard to zamindaris I may note that so far as Parlakimedi was concerned the season was not altogether unfavourable. The irrigation systems in this estate, which were for many years under the management of the Court of Wards, are better than elsewhere, and it was only in the high level lands that crops were lost. The average yield of paddy throughout the Parlakimedi Estate was not much, if at all, less than 8 annas, only the crops on the higher levels suffering complete loss.

Some excellent crops of ragi were harvested in the northern portion of the estate at Battili and Varanasi, while the yield of sugar-cane, an important crop in this zamindari, was estimated at from 12 to 14 annas.

Owing to the high prices which prevailed, it cannot be said that any except the poorest ryots in the plain villages of the estate suffered to any great extent.

Very heavy exports both of ragi and paddy took place from Parlakimedi from October to the end of March, and the result of this continued and heavy drain was to enhance local prices. The latter, however, did not rise to a high point as elsewhere in the district till the middle of May, but subsequent to that date they rose to a point as high as any in the district: the merchants' stocks were absolutely exhausted, while the larger ryots and temple adhikaris refused to sell their grain on the uncertainty of the future.

Thus (with the exception of the Savaras, a class to whom I shall allude later) the distress in Parlakimedi was limited rather to the lower and non-cultivating classes, and to the middle and artisan classes. There was no great distress among those actually owning and cultivating lands in this estate.

In the Utlam Estate which is exceptionally favourably situated under the Chicacole river channels, there was a good crop of paddy followed by an equal good crop of gram.

In parts of the Surangi Estate, at the immediate foot of the hills, an 8-9 crop was mostly realised: the estate had only recently been handed over to a zamindar, and the tanks which are fed by hill streams, were generally well supplied.

In the Peddakimedi, Chinnakimedi and Dharakote Estates there were fair crops on lands beneath the Rushikulya canal, but the higher and rain-fed lands to which the water did not pass suffered severe loss. The low-lying lands of Atagada yielded fairly well; but these form but a small proportion of the whole area, and the rest of Atagada, together with almost the entire area of Khalikota, suffered heavily. The Biridi, Humma and Palur zamindaris of the Ganjam taluk were also severely affected, and almost a total loss was experienced in the Pata Tekkikali and in parts of the Tekkali zamindaris.

It may, in fact, be stated that the loss of crop was exceedingly severe along the entire 'Uddanam' or coast strip, from the north of the district until the

Chicacole river system was reached. This embraces the large portion of the Ganjam, Berhampur, Ichchāpur, Sompét and Tekkali taluks.

Agency Tracts.—Crops in the Agency tracts are usually harvested earlier than elsewhere, and the water is largely stored up in hill nullahs. Hence the loss of crop owing to the failure of the later rains was not so great as in the rain-fed tracts of the plains. Still, though famine did not actually extend to the Agency, as there was a considerable amount of scarcity between the period from 1st August.

This was due to three main causes:—

- (1) heavy export to the plains;
- (2) failure of the mango and mbwa;
- (3) hardness of the ground any to dig jungle roots.

The Khonds and Savaras greatly for two months in the year on the mango and mbwa crops, and in a normal year, considerable distress is felt amongst the poorer of these two sources fail. So far as the interior of the Agency was concerned were fair showers at intervals from February to June, so that the difficulty obtaining jungle roots was not so great, but on the edge of the ghāts, no rains fell, the inability to procure these was a serious matter. Some of the Khonds of Bodagodo, a large number of the Savaras of Tumbada had to be brought on relief. When I visited Tumba in June, nearly 50 per cent. of the Savara population was on relief. They were all checked by me, and the sorry exhibition of emaciated subjects, I trust that it may never be my lot to see.

So, however, recovered very rapidly with the first rains, and this fact is sufficient to show what an important factor jungle produce is in the daily life of hill tribes.

Savaras of Tekkali and Parlākimedi did not feel the distress so early as in Tumbada. This I attribute partially to the fact that there were some fairly heavy showers in February and March, which rendered the soil tractable and the discovery of roots possible. Besides the failure of food-grains was not so great here as in Sompét taluk. Relief had, however, to be extended to them as a body at a later period than in the case of the Tumba Savaras.

The Khonds of the Mohiri hills in the Berhampur taluk suffered almost as much as their brethren on the borders of the Agency tracts for want of mangoes and jungle produce.

FOOD-STOCKS AND TRADE.

Stocks.—It has throughout been very difficult to form any reliable estimate of existing stocks of food-grains in the district. Divisional officers were asked to submit estimates with their fortnightly narratives showing the estimated number of months' supply in hand for the population of each division, but the figures given have been anything else than guess work. Many of the larger ryots and the adbhikaris held up their stocks, which never passed through the merchants' hands, in anticipation of a second failure of the monsoon. Though the three immediately preceding seasons were favourable, yet exportation had taken place on an unprecedented scale in the previous year due to high prices elsewhere. The Ganjam district is always a heavy exporting district, a very large proportion of the produce being contracted for long in advance to merchants at Colombo, Cocanada and Chinnagaram. Hence, notwithstanding the opinion expressed by Mr. Weir, in paragraph 9 of his letter No. 296, dated 28th October, I believe that the stock remaining in the district at the commencement of October was little, if any, in excess of normal. This would be little more than sufficient in an ordinary season to supply the needs of the population until the succeeding pongal.

7. *External communication.*—The district is well provided with means of external communication. There are three ports at Calingapatam, Baruva and Gopalpur, respectively, connecting with the southern ports of the Presidency, Madras, Cochin, Orissa and Calcutta. The port of Baruva is used mainly for passage traffic, and considerable exports and imports take place at Gopalpur and Calingapatam.

In Palkonda and Golconda districts among cattle was less severe, and all that was found needful was to permit free-cutting and removal of grass from all reserves. The loss to Government was nil, as the increased number of permits taken out more than compensated for the reduced rate.

40. *Mortality.*—The returns of cattle mortality show that up to the end of December 1896, the mortality was below the average, but that in succeeding months up to July it largely exceeded it. I regret to say that I do not place much reliance on these returns.

41. *Famine establishment and cost.*—The annexed statement shows the cost of the special famine establishments entertained:—

Statement showing the Cost of Famine Establishments.

Particulars.	Amount.	Remarks.
<i>Directly due to famine.</i>	Rs. A. P.	
Famine establishment, such as Taluk Relief officers, Circle Inspectors, and Kitchen Superintendents, &c.	12,453 0 3	
Travelling allowance	543 0 7	
Contingencies	200 4 0	
Total	13,556 4 10	Charged to "S. Famine."
<i>Indirectly due to famine.</i>		
Famine establishment, such as Special Assistant Collectors, Temporary Deputy Collector, Special Deputy Tahsildars, Clerks and servants	5,524 2 8	
Travelling allowance	547 8 6	
Total	6,171 11 2	Charged to "S. Land Revenue, District Administration."
Grand Total	19,728 5 12	

GENERAL.

distress would never have extended beyond a comparatively small area on the coast. It was the threatening of a second failure and the actual commencement of the same (for the South-West monsoon was an utter failure up to the middle of July), which brought matters to a climax, and extended distress rapidly and severely to the whole of the plain tracts of the district. Whether the relief administered in the past year in a district previously unacquainted with it may not have some evil effect in rendering the people more ready in future to look to Government for aid and less prepared to rely on their own efforts and resources, whether in fact it may not have been to a certain extent demoralising, is a matter of which I have my doubts. One other matter requires to be mentioned as explaining the greater resisting power of the Vizagapatam labouring classes as compared with those of the Deccan, and that is the multiplicity of crops and harvest. In the Deccan I believe there is little besides the one big harvest of the staple dry crop. Here there is cultivation and harvesting of some kind going on almost all the year. With the first good showers in May, ploughing of dry lands and sowing of ragi and cumbu in seed-beds, commences, and in June transplantation of these crops is in full swing. Even earlier than this, if showers have been received, gingelly has been sown. As soon as transplantation of dry crops is over, should the South-West monsoon set in, wet lands are ploughed and paddy seed sown. At the end of July paddy transplantation begins and continues through August. Hardly is that over when the ragi and cumbu harvest commences and is carried on through September. Gingelly is meanwhile being reaped in August and September and korra, vuda and sama in August. When the ragi and cumbu is off the ground, dry lands are immediately prepared again and sown with grams and pulses—or a second crop of ragi or with cholam. Then follows the North-East monsoon in October and very soon after that is over early paddy commences to be harvested. Ragi, sown at various periods, is being cut all this time. The big paddy harvest commences in November and extends into December. Then follows the cold weather cultivation of ragi, chillies, &c., under wells, and the harvesting of grams and pulses. Indigo is sown as soon as the paddy is off the ground, and sugarcane is harvested up to March. When this is over, it is almost time to sow gingelly again, so that in fact it is only for about 2½ months from March to May that agriculture of some kind is not proceeding to a considerable extent.

43. The permanent effect of the past distress on the economic conditions of the district has not, I conceive, been either great or serious. If it should have any effect in teaching prudence and forethought and in diminishing the reckless reproduction of the species by the classes which have the least prospect of supporting their increase, it will not have been without beneficial results.

44. The nature of the works carried out in this district for the relief of distress is, I regret to say, deficient both in utility and permanency. The district is almost all zamindari, and in these portions schemes of irrigation are absent; nor even in the Government taluks was the Public Works Department able to supply work on which famine labour could be employed so as to afford relief, and at the same time do some permanent good. Most of the work was therefore merely stone-breaking, the broken stone being stacked in mountains, which there is no probability of utilising within the lifetime of any one now living. In one case only was the stone made a good use of, being carried to the side of the East Coast Railway line, where it will be taken as required by the Railway, and the price credited to famine. In three cases now roads were commenced, but they were not finished, and I fear the only result will be to spoil a good cart-track, as the Local Boards have no scope of finding money to complete these works. In two cases a few miles of existing road were picked up and relaid—the work being well done; and at all works the opportunity was taken of digging out and repairing all drinking-water tanks within reasonable reach. The cost of the works at ordinary and famine rates will be reported in the Public Works Department (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 7819, dated 22nd September 1897), and a statement showing the same particulars for works executed in the Revenue Department.

46. The lessons learned during the past distress have been many and useful, but as most of these involve questions of a controversial nature, they are omitted from this report.

47. In conclusion, I wish to commend the self-sacrificing and devoted manner in which all the Divisional officers under me worked throughout a time of the most trying anxiety and wearing labour. For many months it is no exaggeration to say that none of these officers ever had or attempted to take any rest or relaxation whatever, and that none of them have suffered in health therefrom is a fact which causes me the liveliest satisfaction. The hardest and longest work fell upon Mr. E. B. Elwin, Principal Assistant Collector, and M.R.Ry. R. Govinda Rao Naidu Garu, Huzur Deputy Collector. Mr. Elwin, with a division consisting of five taluks and the Palkonda hills, had more in hand than one man could easily manage. He was nevertheless ubiquitous and, I consider, remarkably successful in his administration. Mr. Govinda Rao Naidu was equally indefatigable and showed much tact and energy. His work in connection with the Famine Fund grants under Head IV was particularly good.

Mr. Lya, Senior Assistant Collector, had to deal with distress in his division for a much longer time, but the fact that it developed all at once, and that it had to be everywhere at the same time made his position difficult. He met the difficulty by remarkable energy and activity and great success.

Mr. J. D. Head Assistant Collector, was in the difficult position of assuming his first personal charge just as famine relief was being started in it. He acquired a thorough knowledge of his division in a remarkably short time and proved himself thoroughly equal to the situation.

Mr. Heaney, Assistant Collector, was continuously on famine duty from the middle of March to the beginning of September. He proved himself a most useful and capable officer.

My thanks are due to my Treasury Deputy Collector Rao Bahadur R. Suryarao Naidu Garu, to whose exertions at head-quarters I owe the fact that not a single hitch occurred in the supply of money to relief works, and that all audit and account work was conducted with as great promptitude and accuracy as could be desired.

The officers of the Salt and Abkari Department employed as Taluk Relief officers were Messrs. Irving Brown, Wroughton, Tillard and Warner. They all worked zealously and efficiently and, without in any way depreciating the others, I may say that Mr. Wroughton did particularly good work.

Of the Taluk officers most did their duty efficiently, though a few were found incapable in emergencies. M.R.Ry. V. Sanyasiah Chetti Garu, Deputy Tahsildar of Vizagapatam, and M.R.Ry. S. Kutumba Rao Pantulu Garu, Acting Deputy Tahsildar of Bimlipatam, deserve commendation for their hard and steady work.

I trust it will not be out of place if I express my thanks to Mr. E. C. Rawson, the District Judge, for having consented to accept, in addition to his other onerous duties, the Chairmanship of the District Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and for the help which he thereby rendered to the administration of relief.

The statistics required by the Board in Appendix B to its Proceedings No. 675, dated 18th October 1897, will be submitted subsequent to this report.

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APPENDIX III.

From V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Góddavari, to the Famine Commission
Madras, dated Camp Chintoor, 5th December 1897, No. 4204-Ver.

I have the honour to submit the following report on famine operations in district in accordance with the instructions laid down by the Government of communicated to Collectors with Board's Proceedings No. 675, dated 18th C. 1897 :—

SEASON.

2. *Rainfall and water-supply.*—The cultivation season of the year 1900 was a somewhat disastrous one for the agricultural population generally of the district, *deltatic as well as upland*. The Gó dávari river which began to rise on 19th June reached a maximum level of 14 feet over the anikat crest of the hills on 1st August 1896. This is by no means its record level which is 17·1 feet. The water remained at a high level for an unusually long time and either from the cause of rat holes or the scanty local rainfall not having as usual caused the black cotton soil flood banks, serious breaches occurred early in August on the flood bank in Tanuku taluk, in the southern flood bank of the Amalakur river and in Rámachandrapur taluk, whereby portions of the taluks of Amalakur, Tanuku, Amalápuram, Rámachandrapur and the Cocanada division were merged for from 10 days to about 3 weeks together, causing much loss of crops and immense damage to the standing crops over a large area.

The following statement shows the extent of, and assessment on, the area crop on which suffered most by these inundations and for which remission in consequence to be granted for fasli 1306:—

Taluk.										Extent.	Assessment.
										ACRES.	RS.
Narsapur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,087	96,822
Tanuku	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,411	12,544
Ellore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,114	15,674
Cocanada	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	310	1,743
Total										27,522	1,26,783

This area, however, does not give a very accurate idea of the damage, as a large crop lands and mamul wet in the flooded villages is excluded and in a very that area—more than 27,000 acres—the crop, though it survived, was so damaged after the outturn was very poor compared with what it would have been, or raised season the floods, only yielded indifferently as the best part of the cultivation by a was over before it was planted. The South-West monsoon was accompanied 6, but moderate rainfall in the months of June, July, August and September 1885, the the rainfall was neither timely nor copious. The following statement gives totals. rainfall at the several rain recording stations in the district and the district 1897 :— and averages for the several months commencing with June 1896 to October 1

Stations.	June 1896.	July 1896.	August 1896.	September 1896.	October 1896.	November 1896.	December 1896.	January 1897.	February 1897.	March 1897.	April 1897.	May 1897.	June 1897.	July 1897.	August 1897.	September 1897.	October 1897.	September 1898.	October 1898.	November 1898.	December 1898.
Buddachalan	330	780	1000	910	...	020	...	...	135	035	025	190	98	735	1289	787	805	289	255	095	...
Chidavaram	188	2225	1202	615	050	050	...	020	020	083	173	421	430	1102	1214	1477	1610	410	1810	400	...
Yellavala	298	868	620	608	070	070	...	...	...	087	083	222	277	676	1688	1068	1306	1127	1849	173	...
Toni	436	840	485	440	136	136	...	035	035	136	922	401	206	731	685	810	1030	835	505	072	...
Pillapur	609	923	605	321	120	120	...	069	069	098	...	123	106	423	1022	1178	954	812	1180	045	...
Prattipad	349	746	677	276	069	075	...	171	171	168	043	276	225	441	1440	822	979	716	070	...	
Peddapur	316	712	450	379	106	106	...	107	107	108	043	276	225	441	1440	822	1055	726	059	...	
Rejalmundry	717	394	632	203	102	102	...	075	075	252	012	250	144	823	1008	946	1148	870	1111	065	001
Cocanada	369	591	415	888	801	801	...	159	159	320	003	013	347	303	813	944	828	691	937	002	006
Curings	290	525	432	845	472	472	...	083	083	104	...	223	325	867	951	1007	1157	879	1252	040	...
Alamur	117	271	876	572	370	370	...	075	075	203	...	721	325	470	637	956	1040	1650	1030	067	...
Ritschadrapur	161	802	532	281	911	911	...	025	025	249	...	339	353	345	846	1052	826	1147	831	070	...
Kollapada	446	557	206	804	010	331	...	061	061	198	047	260	392	381	702	894	1225	1072	1541	...	...
Amalapuram	324	618	660	960	120	330	...	076	076	108	054	440	303	590	1246	664	764	8208	1542	...	...
Basoli	734	734	878	575	351	351	...	...	...	072	...	243	301	650	878	1259	1073	1340	1094	414	...
Nesapur	345	794	634	545	261	261	...	...	...	065	068	275	176	667	1218	1454	285	1653	789	077	...
Himavaram	420	543	610	211	081	265	...	015	015	100	065	245	002	535	1170	1090	967	1880	1185	030	...
Pentapad	110	670	1180	240	140	140	...	...	...	260	055	234	650	576	662	946	1158	1684	843	143	...
Tandava	347	447	090	447	...	125	...	...	...	043	016	186	103	826	1040	1036	778	700	1070	010	...
Chintalapudi	311	643	1816	323	...	140	...	143	143	108	066	197	141	459	578	1052	691	1610	1095	006	...
Kilore	321	568	677	912	...	276	...	...	...	260	040	137	103	1014	1201	521	1262	385	770	048	...
Pulavaram	290	547	748	280	066	066	...	...	...	160	040	395	300	844	1342	1030	1217	472	656	...	...
Tallypudi	129	515	927	194	013	097	...	...	...	160	040	395	300	844	1342	1030	1217	472	656	...	...
Total	7528	19057	16032	6265	541	4123	...	1520	3376	841	6910	14988	3704	14988	15700	24508	23157	25654	22934	1562	007
Average	327	784	742	402	023	195	...	067	147	039	030	388	346	625	1079	1061	1020	1120	937	008	003

The following statement compares the district average rainfalls in the seven months of fasli 1305 and 1306 :—

Months:	Fasli 1305.	Fasli 1306.
	1895.	1896.
July ...	10.30	7.24
August ...	8.18	7.25
September ...	11.59	4.02
October ...	9.27	0.23
November ...	0.68	1.95
December ...	...	...
	1896.	1897.
January ...	...	...
February ...	...	0.67
March ...	0.19	1.47
April ...	0.11	0.36
May ...	0.81	2.88
June ...	3.27	2.48
Total ...	45.10	28.55

The total rainfall during the fasli 1306 was 28.55 against 45.10 in the previous fasli as shown above and was altogether deficient and insufficient for agricultural operations. The South-West monsoon came to an end unusually early generally by the 10th September, and the North-East monsoon during the month of October, November and December was most disappointing, the rainfall during those months averaging only 2.18 inches as against 10.65 inches in the previous fasli. Even this does not convey a clear idea of the magnitude of the evil. It has to be taken into consideration that most of the rain in September fell early in the month and much the greatest quantity of that in November after the 20th, while the month of October was almost rainless. The early dry crops which are harvested early in September were fair, but the late dry crop which is usually sown at the end of September and depends principally upon the North-East monsoon at the end of October in great measure failed. In the upland parts of the district the numerous irrigation tanks never received a full supply and almost all became dry by the end of October with the result that the crops under them failed more or less totally.

3. *Cultivation, harvests and outturns.*—The following statements show talukwar and cropwar outturn of crops in Government villages (including mininams) in the Gōdāvari district for fasli 1306 :—

Statement of outturn under each crop.

Names of crops.	Total extent sown Government and inam.	Outturn of crops harvested up to June 1897, which was annas.						Total.	Area on which crop was standing at the end of June 1897.
		17 to 20.	13 to 16.	9 to 12.	5 to 8.	1 to 4.	0		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
Paddy ...	610,848	16,270	114,001	133,795	161,388	95,084	90,259	610,797	large
Cholam ...	76,890	3,423	7,540	14,767	19,060	23,463	8,637	76,890	that
Cumbu ...	9,958	118	150	1,552	4,840	2,755	543	9,958	after
Ragi ...	16,974	1	375	1,241	3,077	8,389	3,891	16,974	season
Cereals and pulses.	99,615	52	3,847	10,691	27,238	34,998	22,791	99,615	3.01 by a
Cotton ...	3,077	...	812	956	809	463	36	3,077	8.16, but
Indigo ...	932	...	...	560	37	813	22	932	19.75 the
Sugar-cane ...	8,167	72	1,210	2,350	2,676	1,486	261	8,167	totals.
Castors ...	19,754	...	547	1,819	6,473	9,594	1,218	19,754	74,897 :—
Gingelly ...	148,435	1,731	12,363	28,121	64,641	36,101	5,227	148,435	
Tobacco ...	8,235	400	578	1,692	4,148	1,130	244	8,235	
Other crops and topes.	81,052	1,593	3,757	21,840	28,140	16,210	3,213	81,052	
Total ...	1,083,927	23,660	145,180	219,384	322,516	230,192	136,542	1,077,474	

Statement of outturn in each taluk.

Taluka.	Total extent sown Government and inam.	Outturn of crops harvested up to June 1897, which was annas.						Total.	Area on which crop was standing at the end of June 1897.
		17 to 20.	13 to 16.	9 to 12.	5 to 8.	1 to 4.	0		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
Chandrapur ...	206,031	4,669	55,998	43,558	62,921	25,300	8,618	206,031	...
Narepur ...	155,518	4,247	16,532	25,321	41,014	42,230	23,540	155,518	2,612
Amalapuram ...	153,418	3,677	11,825	39,090	60,375	21,911	10,060	153,418	...
Tannuku ...	138,153	2,232	23,111	36,182	43,203	17,003	9,422	138,153	...
Bhimavaram ...	96,791	2,320	17,368	27,909	24,519	20,752	549	96,791	2,674
Rajahmundry ...	69,997	...	2,587	6,176	10,590	21,517	28,847	69,997	...
Peddapur ...	69,011	52	1,867	7,604	17,041	21,905	20,838	69,011	...
Ellore ...	76,153	2,522	6,750	12,867	17,294	23,608	16,017	76,153	86
Yernagudem ...	83,550	3,271	7,672	15,213	21,168	19,771	11,378	83,550	...
Cocanada ...	1,154	...	...	88	630	221	295	1,154	...
Pithapur ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Polavaram ...	17,240	...	...	765	3,936	9,846	2,735	17,240	...
Chodavaram ...	462	...	...	...	...	167	275	462	...
Yellavaram ...	8,453	270	...	...	1,017	2,021	3,945	8,453	...
Total ...	1,083,927	23,660	145,180	219,384	322,516	230,192	136,542	1,077,474	74,897

The total area in which the crop was lost or badly affected was 366,734 acres or 33 per cent of the total area sown. The loss was greatest under food-grains and pulses and gingelly. The following statement compares the area on which crop was lost for fasli 1306 with that in fasli 1305 :—

Taluk.	Fasli 1305.	Fasli 1306.
Ramachandrapur ...	1,753	8,618
Narepur ...	6,714	23,540
Amalapuram ...	863	10,060
Tannuku ...	6,863	9,422
Bhimavaram ...	4,503	549
Rajahmundry ...	1,118	28,847
Peddapur ...	...	20,838
Ellore ...	5,945	16,017
Yernagudem ...	2,427	11,378
Cocanada ...	13	295
Pithapur ...	...	3
Polavaram ...	...	2,735
Chodavaram ...	...	275
Yellavaram ...	...	3,945
Total ...	30,557	136,542

These figures are exclusive of the loss in whole inam and zamindari villages and in rented villages under Government. The loss of crop in Bhadrachalam taluk also does not appear in the above statement, as all the villages in that taluk are zamindari or rented. But the Tahsildar reports that, out of Acs. 9,003.3 dry and 1,175.21 wet in the Government rented villages of the Bhadrachalam taluk 6,002 acres of dry crop and the whole of the wet crops were lost.

PRICES.

4. Partly owing to this loss of crop, but in great part also owing to distress in the neighbouring districts and orders received from Bombay to Secunderabad for grain, prices went up rapidly. The following statement compares the district average prices of the principal food-grains in the several months commencing with June 1896 with those in the corresponding months of the previous year:—

Name of food-grain.	June		July		August		September		October		November		December	
	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Average of 10 years ending fasli 1305.	...	15.1	...	15.2	...	15.0	...	14.9	...	14.7	...	14.8	...	15.2
Rice, 2nd sort...	15.14	13.94	14.91	13.70	14.68	13.32	14.67	12.60	14.67	10.28	14.63	8.93	13.82	9.49
Average Cholaam	...	26.4	...	26.1	...	25.8	...	25.7	...	25.1	...	25.1	...	25.3
Average Cumbu	...	32.8	...	32.77	...	31.85	...	33.64	...	30.80	...	34.79	...	27.6
Average Ragi	...	31.81	...	31.79	...	31.84	...	29.40	...	32.02	...	27.39	...	15.76

Name of food-grain.	January		February		March		April		May		June 1897.	July 1897.	August 1897.	September 1897.	October 1897.
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	June 1897.	July 1897.	August 1897.	September 1897.	October 1897.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Average of 10 years ending fasli 1305.	...	15.6	...	15.6	...	15.6	...	15.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rice, 2nd sort...	14.95	10.17	14.82	9.9	14.88	10.4	15.07	10.1	14.04	9.92	9	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
Average Cholaam	...	26.2	...	26.9	...	27.5	...	27.6	...	27.0	...	...	...	...	...
Average Cumbu	...	36.15	...	36	...	35.27	...	34.1	...	33.2	...	...	...	...	...
Average Ragi	...	34.2	...	33.69	...	32.92	...	32.72	...	32.95	...	...	...	...	...

Rail-borne trade exports and imports of food-grains and pulses in the Godavari district from February to November 1897:—

Month.	Imports.	Exports.
	MAUNDS.	MAUNDS.
February	714	13,153
March	19,174	106,163
April	12,455	71,721
May	25,100	86,851
June	45,942	126,020
July	70,167	99,591
August	25,038	36,495
September	12,121	6,517
October	14,142	92,612
November	1,700	133,904

[NOTE.—Particulars of food-grains and pulses are not available, nor are figures available for the year 1896 to February 1897. Figures for February and November represent the transactions in the first and last two weeks of the year.]

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

5. *Crime and jail statistics.*—The following statement shows the number of convicts admitted to the jails in the Godavari district from June 1896 to October 1897:—

Months.	Received by direct committal.			Received en route.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1895.									
June	81	5	86	32	3	35	113	8	121
July	42	4	46	25	...	25	67	4	71
August	32	2	34	25	...	25	57	2	59
September	13	4	17	43	3	46	56	7	63
October	50	4	54	114	4	118	164	8	172
November	29	4	33	45	...	45	74	4	78
December	29	5	34	50	...	50	79	5	84
1897.									
January	27	1	28	46	1	47	73	2	75
February	25	1	26	42	1	43	67	2	69
March	56	1	57	30	3	33	86	4	90
April	61	2	63	73	...	73	134	2	136
May	70	10	80	74	...	74	144	10	154
June	67	4	71	52	2	54	119	6	125
July	68	7	75	...	...	...	175	11	186
August	57	14	71	11	2	13	173	16	189
September	36	7	43	84	1	85	120	8	128
October	50	8	58	69	5	74	119	13	132

How far the increase in the number of prisoners is due to the effects of the distress cannot be stated with any certainty, as statistics showing the number of persons convicted of each offence are not available and cannot be gathered without much trouble. But the marked increase in the number of convicts in the season of most distress is significant. The highest figure was reached in the months of July and August 1897 when distress was most keenly felt. The increase was also perceptible in the month of October 1896 when prices rose with a leap. It is noteworthy that the variation in number of offenders accords with the fluctuation in prices. It does not, however, follow from a big figure that there were more offences committed. The increase in July and August in the current year is due, in great measure, to few looting cases involving considerable numbers of persons.

6. *Death and birth rate.*—In the succeeding portion of my report I have tried to give as accurate a picture of the condition of the people as possible during the period of distress. I now append two statements of deaths and births from June 1896 to October 1897.

The effect was, as might be expected, disastrous. Almost all the dry crops as well as the wet crops under tanks and jungle streams failed more or less. The yield of the dry crops was exceptionally poor, ranging generally from 1 to 8 annas where there was not total loss. No doubt a good cholam crop was reaped in parts of Ellore and Yernagudem taluks and in the river side villages of Bhadrachalam and the Polavaram and Chodavaram divisions, but this constituted but a small portion of the area under dry crops; and it goes without saying that there must have been very general failure, or we should not have had cholam selling at Rajahmundry at Rs. 65 per putti in August against a normal price of less than Rs. 30. Amidst these difficulties the ryot had to face another serious problem in the maintenance of his cattle. The withered crop furnished sufficient fodder for the cattle for a month or two, but there was little pasture and in the upland tracts drinking water was hard to obtain even from wells. There being little water in the tanks for drinking and none for irrigation purposes, it is hard for the ryot, in any season, to maintain his cattle by fodder alone, where there is no pasture to supplement it; and it is harder still when hard put to it to maintain himself and his family. In one respect he was, however, fortunate and that was in there being quite unusual and heavy rain towards the end of February, at the end of March and towards the end of May. Followed by a hot sun, these rains were not able to do much for the pasture though the rain at the end of March did something, but they did a great deal for the drinking-water supply—especially the fall at the end of March. Having no pasture for his cattle and fodder being scarce and dear, the ryot had no alternative in many cases but to part with his cattle, though unwillingly, and there was, in consequence, a marked fall in the price. This, however, was not wholly due to local distress, but in great measure caused by the importation of cattle for sale from Vizagapatam. Though ragi is officially recognized as the staple food-grain of the district, and no doubt was actually consumed to a large extent in and before the early severities, when the effects of the construction of the anikat had not generally made themselves felt and wealth was only beginning to give rise to luxury, yet the advent and gradual extension of anikat irrigation and prosperous times have rendered rice so plentiful and cheap that the consumption of ragi, cholam and other dry grains has every year become less and less the fashion and rice come to be adopted as their principal article of food, even by the ryot and labouring classes; where it is not their sole food, it is now at least a substantial portion of it and only supplemented, in the case of the poorest, with ragi, &c. In other words, the position has been reversed since the anikat was built. Before that, rice was the diet of few and to the many a luxury used only to supplement coarser food. Now it is the general diet of the many. Below the Ghauts and even the Koya of the Agency now buys rice largely. Of course in his case it cannot be said to be his staple food, for he only uses it to supplement his cholam; still, wherever he can and as far as he can, he too is discarding other grains for rice. The rise in the price of rice which occurred first reached upon the price of the dry grains which the people were driven to use instead; but up to the end of September there was no reason to apprehend serious scarcity, and the prices, though high, could not be said to be excessively so. At the prospects of the season became more gloomy, not so much in this district as in Vizagapatam and Ganjam, the Deccan and the Nizam's Dominions, prices rapidly rose, for the district was soon filled with the agents of merchants anxious to buy for export, whose keen competition not only directly raised prices indirectly did so by giving rise—supplemented by the unfavourable character of the season—to a panic-feeling that bad times were in store for all. Hence it is no surprise that prices verged upon scarcity rates in the months of November and December. It cannot be said that the alarm was not given in time; for so early as September the Board in its Proceedings No. 254 drew the attention of Collectors to the situation, and subsequently by its Proceedings No. 283 directed them to obtain fortnightly reports from their Divisional and Taluk officers and carefully watch the situation closely. To give an idea of the condition of affairs in December when all the rain that was to fall had fallen, and the prospects of the harvest could be foretold with pretty fair exactitude, I cannot do better than give here some extracts from the fortnightly narratives then submitted.

Rajahmundry Taluk (fortnight ending 15th December 1896).—"The paddy crop has totally failed except on 700 acres under two irrigation tanks. The outturn of the crop on the latter extent may be As. 4."

"Dry crops have totally failed except cholam, ragi and gram now standing. Cholam is nowhere promising a fair crop."

"In the upland villages cattle are suffering for want of sufficient fodder."

"Almost all the tanks in the upland villages are dried up. No sufficient water even for drinking purposes in many villages."

"Owing to the absence of rain, agricultural operations have come to a standstill."

"The condition of the labouring classes is very bad. Crops have failed in almost all villages, and there is no work for the labouring classes."

"In some villages agricultural labourers are said to have left their villages for want of labour and settled themselves in the neighbouring delta villages."

"Head-quarters division (comprising Peddapuram taluk Cocanada, Pithapuram and Tuni Divisions) fortnight ending 31st December 1896."

"Wet crops under all tanks except the Timmaraju tank of Lingamparti and under the Yeleru have entirely withered."

"Fodder insufficient in Peddapur and Tuni."

"In the upland taluks the supply of water both for irrigation and drinking purposes is quite insufficient."

"The further state of the season will have to be closely watched, and, at present, does not appear to be very hopeful."

Ellore Division (comprising Tanuku, Ellore and Yernagudem taluks) fortnight ending 31st December 1896.

"Paddy in delta villages good, but in upland villages and under tanks has failed much. Dry crops in the Ellore taluk middling, bad in Chintalapudi division. Fodder not plentiful in upland villages, and the Ellore and Yernagudem divisions just at present."

"Water-supply scanty in upland villages in Ellore and Yernagudem taluks."

Special Assistant Agent's Division.—Fortnight ending 31st December 1896.

"Bhadrachalam.—Konda jonna has almost failed. Manchi jonna along the river side villages is thriving well."

"Polavaram.—Standing crop cumbu on black soil is better than that on rocky and sandy soil."

"Chodavaram.—Paddy failed."

"Yellavaram.—Paddy failed except in a few villages, cholam yielded between 4 and 8 annas in the mutta villages and 4 and less in Government villages."

"Fodder available in Bhadrachalam, hardly sufficient in Chodavaram and Yellavaram divisions and withering away in Polavaram division."

* * * * *

"Water-supply—Polavaram.—The wells contain very little quantity.

"Yellavaram.—Want of water is much felt in many villages.

"Bhadrachalam.—The Koyas in most of the villages are busy with carting and cutting timber. They are now living mostly on the wages paid by merchants.

"Polavaram.—Most of the Koyas are living by selling simple forest produce, such as firewood and hill seeds, and some are living on roots.

"Chodavaram.—Living on the produce of early crops and on last year's produce.

"Yellavaram.—Living on the produce of early crops and some on roots."

9. Mr. Elphinstone who acted as Collector before Mr. Shipley, reported, in his letter printed in Board's Proceedings, No. 386, dated 3rd December 1896, after personal inspection, that the principal crops on the ground at the time, paddy, ragi, gram and cholam, had totally failed, and that gingelly, harvested some two months before, had yielded 4 to 8 annas crop. The condition of the district was reviewed pretty accurately in the Board's Proceedings, and I shall not dwell further on this period, but proceed to the history of later times. In the month of January of the present year, prices fell a little below the scarcity rates they had reached, owing, probably, to that being the period of harvest. The price of rice fell from 9.49 to 10.17, that of cholam from 14.11 to 16.85, that of cumbu from 16.55 to 19.04 and that of ragi from 15.76 to 17.48 per rupee, but the prices in the subsequent months rose and fell and rose again and have not recovered up to date. The first taluk that showed signs of distress was Bhadrachalam. As already stated, the konda jonna crop, the principal crop of the Koya, almost totally failed. In the river-side villages, in many of which there was a very good crop of manchi jonna, the ryots did not open their cholam pits partly in expectation of a rise in prices and partly from a feeling of panic that we were only at the beginning of a cycle of bad years. The price of cholam in the Bhadrachalam taluk in the months of December and January was 12 and 13 seers, respectively, per rupee, and as the Koya generally has no property beyond his *podu* and is a thriftless being who ever lives on credit when available, when his *podu* fails and prices rise he is bound to suffer, for, at such times, in place of farther advances, his usury bankers demand repayment of their previous loans. In ordinary seasons, however, little depressed by these difficulties as he can fall back on the forest produce, to which he is accustomed. He finds an agreeable food in it to Ippa flower, the Jimiki fruit and the kernels of the tamarind nut too is the mango stone, a wholesome vegetable in the leaves of the Boddikurra, first other plants and an especially nutritious and favourite diet in the pith of the Jiligu palm (bastard sago) and the flowers of the bamboo. The Jiligu and the palmyra palms supply him with meat and drink in the shape of toddy, and the Ippa flower he distils a potent spirit. Food also is obtainable from centuri roots. Owing to his special ill-luck in the current year, however, these resources also proved much more scanty than usual, and, of course, he had no store remaining from the previous year which had been one of exceptional abundance, as he had no thought for the morrow and limits his efforts to procuring sufficient for immediate needs. Of all the above, the Tuniki fruit alone was an abundant crop but although it can be dried, it will not in this shape keep long. Still from January to May it was of invaluable assistance to him. The tamarind crop was a poor one, varying from 4 annas to 8 annas, and the Ippa crop was worse. A mango was hardly to be found. In the whole of the Bhadrachalam Taluk, the Forest Sub-Divisional officer only saw one with fruit on it and could hear of no other. On no mango tree in the Agency did I see a vestige of fruit and the one was brought to the markets at Chodavaram, Devipatnam and Rekapalle. On the days I visited them in April. The bamboos, in great part of the Agency, had flowered and died the year before, and none flowered anywhere in 1897. The

k is not a common tree, but its crop too was of the scantiest, whilst the ground is so hard and parched that it was not possible to dig up roots when found; but till the rains set in, it was hopeless almost to look for them at all. The leaves springing from them were dead themselves, and the ground covered with dead leaves fallen from the trees. The Jiligu remained, but it occurs only in favoured localities out of Rampa, and to destroy it for its sago means its loss as a toddy producer, so that it is cut only as a last resource. Even the palmyra yielded less toddy than usual and ceased to yield sooner than usual. It is also a rare tree in Bhadrachalam, except in the Sabari valley and the Godavari valley, east of Bhadrachalam.

10. To work of any kind that he is not used to, the Koya is averse and beyond his podu cultivation and scanty rice cultivation, the only work he is accustomed to is timber cutting. At this he is a deft hand, and many found employment in cutting and carting timber for merchants in Bastar and in the neighbourhood of the Godavari and Sabari rivers from the month of November onwards; but this trade was so overdone that the prices of bamboos and timber fell very heavily at Rajahmundry—the great emporium of the timber trade of the district—so that towards the end of the season most merchants having lost money were chary of making advances for this purpose. The condition of the Koyas in Bhadrachalam, therefore, caused some anxiety even so early as January, and the Acting Tansildar of the Taluk, I.R.Ry. A. Appa Row, reported in his arzi No. 637, dated 5th November, that famine was in all probability, set in at the latest in the month of January. The Special Agent also reported in his fortnightly narrative printed in Board's Proceedings, No. 18, dated 8th January 1897, that a test work should be opened in January, and one was to be opened by the Board by the end of that month. The work, however, was not opened earlier than the 3rd March, owing to Mr. Hughes' jungle fever for sometime at Rajahmundry and the Bhadrachalam taluk; and when it was actually opened on that day on the road from Chinnampet to Lathigudem, it failed to notwithstanding the work to be done was jungle cutting accustomed to. As no one came near the work for 10 or 12 days it was abandoned. For a full report—vide Board's Proceedings No. 1897. Various causes have been put forward for the failure, such as misapprehension of the nature of the work, the Koyas, non-suitability of the work, and the instigation of agents who desired the work to fail partly, because they feared the Koyas themselves at cheap rates; and partly to bring discredit on the Forest Sub-Divisional Officer. The prevention of abuses, incurred their ill-will; as stated, their endeavour was to prove him wrong and that the failure was partly due more or less to a conspiracy. Mr. Hughes visited many villages and in all found the character of all men, women and children excellent; and I found that the fact, for, even at the beginning of May, any marked time reaction, physically, was not observable in the part of the taluk about district artem, and the people had not then come quite to the end of their resources, that was admitted by all to be decidedly the worst part of the taluk. Division of the Polavaram, Yellavaram and Chodavaram Divisions was to be very good with cholam selling at from 18 to 28 seers a rupee. These divisions have also vast forest resources for the Koya to draw upon, and the condition is scantier than in parts of Bhadrachalam. The prices in the non-forest taluks showed a fall in the months of January and February, which might lightly to allay the panic to which the rapid rise in the previous two months had given occasion. There was not, however, much work for the labourers. Thus after the completion of the harvest in the delta, which had proved a very bad one, and the condition of the cattle was reported to be deteriorating for want of fodder. Considerable difficulty was also felt in procuring drinking water, so that large had often to be made to wells situated at long distances. Hence, at my suggestion the Taluk Boards of Ellore and Rajahmundry sanctioned Rs. 7,281-12-0 for Koya vol.

and Rs. 8,993, respectively, for sinking wells in the distressed villages and put in hand most of them. I also instructed the President, Taluk Board, Cocanada, on 19th February 1897, to sanction funds for the sinking of wells in several villages of the Peddápúr Taluk where the tanks had dried up owing to the failure of the monsoon and fresh water was scarce. The distress was not, however, sufficiently keen anywhere to induce labourers to work at famine wages. The attempt was made in the Rajahmundry taluk early in January to start a minor irrigation work at Narsapur in the centre of the worst tract, fixing the daily rate of wages at 2 annas, the ordinary rate being 2 annas 6 pies, but with no success. Similar attempts were made by the Tahsildar of Yernagudem in connection with some minor irrigation works in his taluk and the ramp work to the Gódvári river embankment, but they proved equally unsuccessful. In the Peddápúr and Ellore taluks, the condition of people, i.e., labouring classes, and cattle was much the same. It was evident that the masses were having a hard time of it, but they were not so hard pressed as to be willing to accept of relief on Famine Code conditions. There appears also to be considerable prejudice against relief works, partly on the ground that such work is derogatory, but principally because the wages are deemed too low. During the next three months—March, April and May—the condition of things did not improve, but deterioration was fortunately very gradual. There were 2.50 inches of rain; but little appreciable benefit therefrom. It, however, helped to start ploughing operations and the sowing of summer gingelly, which did good to the labouring classes by providing some who wanted it badly with employment. It also greatly improved the drinking-water supply and to a small extent provided some pasture temporarily. A few extracts from a fortnightly narrative will vividly explain the situation.

Ellore division (fortnight ending 30th April 1897).

* * * * *

"Fodder insufficient in the upland villages of the Ellore taluk.

* * * * *

"No water in upland villages except in a few wells.

* * * * *

"Ploughing in several villages.

* * * * *

"Cattle generally in good condition except in Yernagudem where stated to have been suffering from want of water.

* * * * *

"The Ellore Tahsildar reports that the poor of the labouring classes villages in Chintalapudi division have been suffering for want of labour, and fore, unable to procure proper food. He states that some are living on to palmyra fruit and that these people are unwilling to work at famine rates works." These remarks apply with equal force to the other upland talu

11. In the beginning of March, I visited Pithápúr and Tuni and drove latter place to Rajahmundry through the worst parts of the Peddápúr and mundry taluks, but could observe no outward signs of distress; and nowhere the people at all willing to have relief works. At that time the immigration the Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts, which afterwards attained considerable dimensions, had not set in, but I observed hundreds of carts carrying grain from northern districts along the grand northern trunk road parallel to the railway condition of the people in the various villages—and I especially observed the boys and girls between 5 and 12—appeared to be perfectly normal and tory whilst the state of the public health was distinctly good. In Bhadr the rain in February and March did some little good and it was hoped that, in quence, the Ippa flower crop would prove a good one and enable the Koyas with their earnings from bamboo and timber cutting, to pull through until July. These hopes, however, proved fallacious, for the crop was only a to an 8-anna one. Still, without that rain, it would, no doubt, have been

Early in April I started on an Agency tour to satisfy myself from personal inspection as to the truth of certain statements regarding the distress in the Bhadrachalam taluk, which appeared in the *Madras Mail* at that time under the signature of the Rev. Mr. Cain of Dumagudem. I found no distress in the river-side portion of the Polavaram division and in the Chodavaram division which I visited first, whilst the District Superintendent of Police, along with whom I had proposed visiting the Yellavaram division too before proceeding to Bhadrachalam, assured me subsequently that that division was also all right. In consequence of the Rev. Mr. Cain's statements, I gave up my plan of visiting Yellavaram first and proceeded direct from Chodavaram to Bhadrachalam about the 17th April. In the Rekapalle and Marrigudem ranges of Bhadrachalam, there was then no serious distress; nor was there any even when I left the taluk towards the end of May, though there was then good reason to apprehend there would be, as subsequently proved to be the case. I arrived at Dumagudem on the 28th April having been assured in a private letter by the Rev. Mr. Cain that the worst tract in the taluk was that lying within a radius of about 7 miles of Dumagudem. Arrived here, I found, on inquiry, that some relief was necessary, and I accordingly applied for an allotment of Rs. 10,000 for relief works and gratuitous relief and ordered up two Revenue Inspectors from the plains to assist the Revenue Inspector of that range and of the Marrigudem one in the work of inspecting villages. At the same time, I must mention that the zamindar's naib and the leading merchants of Dumagudem were unanimous in asserting that the Koyas were not really so badly off as they and their advocate, the Rev. Mr. Cain, alleged. Their then condition I would describe rather as verging closely upon famine than as a state of famine, for most probably some little store of food by them; but, in most instances, these were very trifling. The circumstances, however, in which I took these have been detailed in my letter printed in Board's Proceedings No. 362 so that I need not repeat them here. A test work was which was fairly attended (vide my letter printed in Board's dated 26th May 1897) and this proved that some real distress Dumagudem, for no Koya will work, especially at a strange sh-work, unless under compulsion. Though there were not sure me that the presence of many of the Koyas was due to n and his catechists and converts. I will not, however, relief operations as I propose to deal with them at length ever, mention that, having found distress to exist, I at vary Deputy Collector, Mr. Woodhouse, to take up direct and he arrived at Dumagudem about the 22nd of May, about the 26th of May and was immediately taken up unkn taluk, and had therefore no time to inspect the taluks, which I had intended to do. Mr. Coleridge, my spent a few days there of May directed to proceed to Kunavaram in the Department co-operation with the Forest Sub-Divisional Officer, Mr. Ward, keep ment, informed as to the course of affairs and relieve distress where he to be to exist. Prices began to go up again in the month of May and this the scarcity rate. The normal, warning, and scarcity rates for this district are as shown below:—

Staple grain.	Normal rate.	Warning rate.	Scarcity rate.
Rice, second sort ...	16	15 3	9
Cholam ...	23	21	14 0
Cumbar ...	23	21	14 0
Ragi ...	23	21	...

Deput. The district average price of rice during the month of May was 9 seers per village that of cholam 13.9 seers, cumbar 15.2 and ragi 14 seers. In the next month, and th the prices went up still higher, being 8.5 for rice, 12.8 for cholam, 13.3 for 3rd J^e, and 13.2 for ragi. These prices are so high that it seemed impossible for strenr ryots and the labouring classes to do without assistance much longer; allotn
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already their resources must have been reduced very low, whilst, for cattle, there was no fodder outside the delta and but little pasture. All Divisional officers were therefore constantly warned to be alert and watchful to detect the first signs of serious distress, and it was earnestly hoped that the South-West monsoon rains would set in copiously about the usual time (5th to 10th June) as this would bring relief to all, providing the labouring classes with ample employment and having a beneficial effect on prices. The staying powers of the people were, however, surprising, even though the rains did not, as hoped for, come early. The Sub-Collector writing on the 4th June 1897 reported "there is a certain amount of distress in the Rajahmundry taluk which may become acute, but I do not think that the state of the taluk is as bad as the Tahsildar makes out, for he admits that people will not work for famine wages and further no serious difficulty has been felt over collections." The Tahsildar's view of the situation was as follows: "This taluk is one of the most affected of the distressed areas in the district. The dry and wet crops have totally failed. Relief works should have been started long ago, but for the normal (*sic*) rate of prices prevailing in the towns. The cooly and agricultural population of the rural villages have been, as I am repeatedly remarking in my season reports suffering for want of work, but they are unwilling to work for the rates allowed in the Famine Code."

13. On the other hand, the Tahsildar of Yernagudem, just across the Godavari, reported on the 4th June: "By these early rains,* the ryots were able to plough

February	...	...	...	1-03
March	...	...	...	1-69
April	...	...	...	0-40
May	...	...	...	3-39

their lands and keep them ready sufficiently early, now they are sowing early dry crops on a large scale. The season promises well, sufficient supply of water is being received into many of the irrigation tanks although these rains are not sufficient to feed well the irrigation tanks. From my experience of the taluk, I beg to submit that the people in general are not in such a bad condition as to suffer for want of means of livelihood. Of course there are poor men, women and children who have been naturally depending on alms either on account of old age or defect in some of their limbs or for any other reasons. They cannot be expected to get so much as they used to do before." This Tahsildar continued to write in much the same strain in the subsequent months also. In such matters of opinion the truth is not very easy to arrive at, and it is probable that the Tahsildar of Rajahmundry overstated and the Tahsildar of Yernagudem understated the real state of affairs, for, though Yernagudem is the more fertile of the two taluks, the rainfall and prices in both were much the same. June was unfortunately a most trying and disappointing month. The South-West monsoon set in with a high wind and a cloudy sky about the 8th June, but without a drop of rain almost in most parts of the district. On the 18th June, there was rain generally which enabled the people to plough and sow their gingelly and some other dry crops, but the rain did not continue and over only too large an area the lands then sown had subsequently to be re-sown. As the month went on, the state of affairs became daily more and more critical. Towards the end of the month the proprietors of the Yadavole estate in Yernagudem taluk addressed me to the effect that they had been giving ambali and canji (rice-water) to about 200 poor for some days, and it was time the State intervened and relieved them of this burden whilst the Rev. Mr. Bowden of Chettipet also reported that there was much distress in some villages in this taluk. These petitions and others were referred to the Tahsildar who replied that, no doubt, the people would gladly accept of food, if the State would open kitchens and unconditionally as in choultries, but everywhere these same people protest would have nothing to do with famine works and famine wages. While at Tanuku which I was only able to leave on 3rd July, I also received reports of the condition of the Kottapalli range of the Rajahmundry taluk talapudi division of the Ellore taluk and Lingamparti range of the Peddapur taluk. A mahazar petition signed by a number of people including the kurnam and of Kottapalli having informed me that the village was about to be looted poorer classes, who were in a famine-stricken condition, I at once ordered the Collector in charge of the Sub-Division, M.R.Ry. P. Deenadayalu Naidu, of some famine experience, to move to the spot and render relief if need

The *Vibhudaranjan* paper of Ellore in a leading article headed "dreadful famine in Chintalapudi division" brought to notice that there were about 2,350 people in 71 villages of the division in special need of relief, and I also heard that Kovuri Basivireddi, a liberal merchant of Cocanada, had been feeding several hundreds of famine-stricken Panchamas and other low caste people at Annavaram in the Peddapur taluk. The former was referred for reports to the Deputy Collector, Ellore, who was engaged on the jamabandi of the taluk at the time and in connection with the latter, the Head-Quarters Deputy Collector was ordered out to again tour through the worst portions of his division and report immediately what relief measures were necessary. All Divisional officers were given *carte blanche* instructions to open test works whenever they thought them likely to attract labourers, in anticipation of my sanction, for, so long as the rains held off, every day was of importance. In consequence of the threatening aspect of affairs, as soon as I could complete the settlement of the Tanuku taluk, I hurried to head-quarters in order there to await the reports of my Divisional officers. Those that were received were all to the effect that there was some degree of distress, but that it was not so serious, that the people would anywhere resort to relief works if opened, and this is the test prescribed by the Code for determining whether State relief is necessary or not. As it did not appear that any Divisional or Taluk officer had opened any work actually, however, I drew up a list of works myself for all the upland taluks and divisions and sent it to Divisional officers and Tahsildars and the District Board Engineer with instructions to open the same as relief works on Code conditions at once and report the result. The test works in the Peddapuram Taluk and Tanuku division, though opened by the Divisional officer and District Board Engineer, did not attract a single labourer, though many immigrants from Vizagapatam and Ganjam passed along the Great Northern Trunk Road within 2 or 3 miles of both, and the same was the case with the works ordered to be opened in the Ellore and Yernagudem taluks and in the Chodavaram and Yellavaram Agency Divisions. The latter, it was reported, failed, because the Koyas generally disliked road work. Had there been, however, judging by what happened elsewhere, I do not suppose they would have resorted to it unless at their very door. In the Polavaram division, at least, test work could be opened as the looting of Yernagudem taluk by bands of Koyas and Panchamas on the borders of the Yernagudem taluk by bands of Koyas and Panchamas began on the 3rd July, and demanded all the attention of the Deputy Tahsildar. Till the time it was suppressed, relief works were unnecessary owing to the good rains that had fallen and the fact that the Koya and Panchama population had helped itself so liberally out of the abundance of their better caste neighbours as to be in no want of grain in the worst portion of the division. I myself had to hurry to the scene of the rioting on the 8th of July, whereas I had intended a tour in the Head-Quarters Division and Rajahmundry taluk, and found with some satisfaction that it was probably more the result of instigation than of distress as I at first apprehended. In any case relief on Famine Code conditions would have been and indeed was all along flatly refused by the Koyas, and no doubt would have been by the Panchamas and others who joined them. The Special Assistant Agent, who did the jamabandi of the taluk, was assured by the Koyas (or rather their headmen) of the region where the riots occurred, so late as the 18th or 19th June, that they would want no help, provided the rains came soon and the sowars continued to make them advances; and no representation was received from any of them or any one on their behalf until the 3rd of July when the headman of Bedadavole, who was undoubtedly one of the ringleaders of the outbreak, and is generally credited with having been probably its chief organizer, came riding to Polavaram dressed like a zamindar, and demanded the immediate delivery of ten pottis of cholam for his village. He was told the Famine Code made no provision for such gifts, but the Deputy Tahsildar would be glad to provide "work" on famine wages for any of his villagers who were in want—an offer he went away without deigning to reply to: and the same night, the outbreak occurred. Indeed the Deputy Tahsildar on the 3rd July applied for Rs. 500, to open a test relief work with for the Koyas, on the strength of this man's representations, but it was never necessary to make the allotment. There is no doubt that the sowars stopped making advances to the Koyas at the end of June, when it appeared that the gingelly crop, they had sown

with the aid of the rain of the 18th, must fail for want of rain, which irritated them and as little doubt that they were advised by the leading Telagas (like the Kannapuram Muttadar), when they then complained to them and sought their assistance, to help themselves out of the stores of the sowcars and not referred to Government for help—advice they were not slow to take; once they found how easy looting was, for no resistance was made by a single village, naturally it became most popular, and hence the looting of so many villages in practically five days; as the District Superintendent of Police was able to put a stop to it by his energetic measures in 3 or 4 days with aid of only a few men of his reserve, it is clear the rioting would never have extended as it did, had the low country villagers and sowcars made even a show of resistance. Along the Prakkilanka-Jangareddigudem

which runs through portions of Yernagudem taluk and Polavaram division, struck by the number of palmyra and date trees that had been felled for the sake of the tender tops which are very nutritious and the carcasses and skeletons of dead cattle. Large numbers of date and palmyra trees—especially of the former—were also cut for the same purpose about that time in the Head-Quarters Division. The deaths of the cattle were principally due to disease which was very prevalent; but no doubt starvation helped. The flesh was not always wasted as the Panchama is not particular. In fact, the very superior condition of the Panchamas and Madigas was put down to this source by some; but, in that case, it is difficult to understand why the Koyas were in poorer condition, for they too are beef-eaters, and as little particular about the cause of death of the animals, whose carcasses they find. The animals were, for the most part, the small, worthless local cattle that are kept principally for manuring the fields and never fed, but left to find their own living by grazing.

14. From and after the 3rd July up to the 14th, there were general local showers especially in the Tuni division and about Prattipad, where they had heavy rain on the 6th July. After the 14th July there was generally ample rain everywhere for dry cultivation and pasture which afforded much relief to the people who provided all for the time being with work and wages. The dry cultivated land to get so is, however, a short one generally lasting for about a month only and in much came to an end, wet cultivation, which provides yet more employment, and is ready to be begun, either because the tanks were not full, or because the seedlings that were sown later than usual, were not ready for transplantation. During the intervening period in July and August, it became necessary in Rajahmundry and Ellore Taluks to give some relief, for prices also rose owing to large exports.

15. In April, persons began to come in from the Vizagapatam and Ganjam Districts in search of work, and this tide of immigration continued to increase in volume till the middle of June, the immigrants hoping to get transplantation work in the delta, which usually commences in the middle of June, and, meantime, trusting to begging for their maintenance. To their peculiar misfortune, the Godavari was very late in coming down; for it did not come down properly and transplantation did not become general until towards the close of July. Fortunately for them, where they did not obtain work, they received charity in the delta where many ryots, especially in the Ramachandrapur Taluk, were very liberal to them. The same was the case in the towns of Cocanada and Rajahmundry and so well did charity provide for them, that it was everywhere reported that they would not work at famine wages, if offered. They had refused them in their own districts and had not come to this one to accept them, they said. It, however, became a question, early in July, whether private charity could alone go on bearing the burden of their support in the towns of Cocanada and Rajahmundry into which they poured, when they found themselves disappointed in their hopes of employment on remunerative wages in the delta. In consequence of the large influx of these persons, a relief work was opened on the outskirts of the town of Cocanada itself, as a safety valve in case they could get no other employment and begging failed them. For such as were emaciated or unable to work from any cause, a poor-house with kitchen was opened. Orders were also sent to the Rajahmundry Town Council to open a poor-house near that town, if necessary; but it decided that such an institution was unnecessary as the number of immigrants was

not more than could find a living by begging and at the various choultries or by securing employment.

16. Test relief works were started in the Rajahmundry Taluk on the 18th July, which, though at first not very successful in attracting labour, afterwards did so on a fairly large scale, and in the same way, the Chintalapudi-Jilugumilli road test relief work was started at Chintalapudi on 30th July 1897 after having been kept open for three weeks without attracting any one.

RELIEF MEASURES.

17. *Area and population of the affected tract.*—The following statement gives with fair accuracy the area in which the failure of rain involved distress and the population of the affected tract in each taluk:—

Taluk.	Area affected.	Population of the affected tract.
Rajahmundry	82 miles 43-41	13,567
Ellore	238	23,150
Bhadrachalam	607-33	24,302
Polavaram	51-00	8,109
Chodavaram	40	19,171
Yellavaram	112	21,278
Total	1,112-67	113,654

In the months of May and June, relief was given only in the Bhadrachalam Taluk, and the affected area during those months was therefore only 607-33 square miles. The whole area of the taluk, 911 square miles, was shown as affected in the telegraphic summaries, but that was a mistake, as the river side villages, in which but few were admitted to relief, should have been excluded. In August and September, the affected area was 1,112-67 square miles as relief was given in all the taluks and divisions shown in the statement, although the relief given in the Yellavaram and Chodavaram divisions was trifling. In the months of October and November relief ceased to be given in all the taluks except Bhadrachalam. The affected area for October and November is, therefore, only 607-33. With the close of November all relief operations have stopped.

18. The measures taken for the relief of distress were the following:—

- (a) Opening of works.
- (b) Opening of a poor-house.
- (c) Gratuitous relief in villages and to relief workers to children and other dependents.
- (d) Sales of grain at reduced prices.

A.—OPENING OF WORKS.

The test relief works opened were of three kinds—

- I. Irrigation works.
- II. Road works.
- III. Miscellaneous works.

The irrigation works opened were—

- (1) Repairs to Gangola tank in Bhadrachalam taluk.
- (2) Repairs to Peddapatruni tank of Kottapalli.
- (3) Repairs to Kuminaragotula tank of Kalavacherla.
- (4) Repairs to Nallamoluvari tank of Godarada.
- (5) Repairs to Panyva tank of Godarada.

All these four belong to Rajahmundry Taluk.

The road works opened were—

- (1) Constructing Ramarowpet road in Cocanada town.
- (2) Constructing Chintalapudi-Jilugumilli road in the Chintalapudi division.

The miscellaneous works opened were—

- (1) Clearing silt from Dummagudem canal.
- (2) Constructing ramp to the Gódávri at Dummagudem.
- (3) Conveying lime from kilns to workshop at Dummagudem.
- (4) Filling in holes in rear of the stone-dam at Dummagudem.

I shall take up these works in the order of their commencement.

Works in Bhadrachalam taluk.—The silt clearance of the Dummagudem canal was commenced on 3rd May 1897 in my presence with 94 workers. It was opened with a view to test the acuteness of the distress in the Dummagudem range of which so much has been said in the *Madras Mail* of that period. It was at first intended to limit the test to Koyas and Reddis; but the Malas and Madigas (Panchamas) raised such a howl that they were worse off than the hillmen that I was obliged to admit them too. This being a small work, which could not last long at the rate the workers flocked to it, other works, viz., constructing a ramp to the Gódávri, conveying lime from the kilns to the workshop and filling in holes in rear of the stone-dam, were taken up along with it successively on the 12th, 22nd and 29th idem. The attendance on all the four works therefore merged and was as shown below.

Number of relief workers employed in the relief works during each week.

Week ending	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
8th May 1897 ...	659	506	133	1,298
15th " " " " " "	...	...	...	2,417
22nd " " " " " "	...	...	...	974
29th " " " " " "	...	...	...	2,310
5th June " " " " " "	1,746	1,748	331	3,825
12th " " " " " "	1,870	2,215	636	4,721
19th " " " " " "	402	252	83	737
26th " " " " " "	133	80	32	247

All the four works finished on the 23rd June. The actual cost of the works was Rs. 1,478-13-1 against an estimated cost of Rs. 1,350.

19. The condition of the relief workers was excellent, and there were absolute no cases of emaciation. If it is true that they were previously suffering from severe distress, the wonder is that they could have maintained their health and strength so long and so well. As I have already stated, however, both Koyas and Panchamas were at that time on the verge of severe distress and not actually suffering. Otherwise, they would have been more regular in their attendance. For instance, of the 94 Koyas who appeared the first day, only 17 appeared the second (their absence was more than made up for by Panchamas); and on the first day loud and long were their complaints about the hardness of the work and the insufficiency of the wage, though I paid them on the A scale as an encouragement and made allowances for dependents also. The one error in connection with the management of these works was the non-relief, after my departure, of dependents of relief workers and the withholding of Sunday pay. I became aware of these facts only when an explanation was called for by the Famine Commissioner on perusing in the *Madras Mail* some letters by the Rev. Mr. Cain regarding the irregularities on the relief works. The Assistant Engineer in charge of relief works, M.R.Ry. C. Ramiah, had been left in sole charge of the works by me as they were small and there was no one up there from the Revenue Department who could be spared to assist him, and when the Probationary Deputy Collector arrived, he did not pay very much attention to this work as he found the Assistant Engineer in charge and he had himself to be absent most of his time from Dummagudem inspecting villages. The Assistant Engineer's errors were either of ignorance as in the case of allowances to dependents or intended as a bribe for short work like the withholding of Sunday pay. He was ordered to pay

arrears of Sunday pay, but the workers had been so irregular in their attendance that but few were entitled to it. Strictly speaking, the Probationary Deputy Collector should have seen to the relief of dependents, as that duty ordinarily devolves on the Revenue Department or at least should have seen the Assistant Engineer thoroughly understood his duties in the matter but, of course, he found the work in charge of the Assistant Engineer who was not his subordinate and was himself hardly ever in Dummagudem, until the mistake was discovered and rectified, so that he had perhaps some excuse for not discovering it. The repairs to the Gangolu tank were commenced on the 14th June and stopped on the 23rd of that month under my instructions, those who seemed deserving of it being ordered to be given gratuitous relief. Previous to the 18th June, there was good rain all over the country and I thought it would be cruelty to keep the Koyas on a relief work away from their villages where they would be more profitably employed in cultivating their paddy whilst it all along had been presumed that the Panchamas would get employment as soon as the cultivation season set in. The rainfall, which was pretty heavy and general up to the 18th June, was, however, scanty afterwards and I, therefore, ordered the revival of the work even before the receipt of the Board's Proceedings, No. 448, dated 18th June 1897, remarking that its closure was too early. The work was accordingly revived on the 29th idem and continued till 17th July when it was peremptorily ordered to be closed by the Probationary Deputy Collector, partly to put an end to the malpractices, which he observed going on in connection with it, and partly because the work being completed, it was not easy to find any other suitable work, as the weather was too wet for earth work. The following statement shows the total number of workers employed on the work during each week from its commencement:—

Week ending	Men.	Women.	Children.	Dependents.	Total.
1st June 1897 ...	592	717	304	626	2,039
8th " " " " " "	1,200	401	187	308	1,996
15th " " " " " "	1,687	2,338	1,172	1,761	7,158
22nd July " " " " " "	3,023	5,227	2,637	5,150	16,037
29th " " " " " "	4,438	6,352	2,334	7,433	20,557
Total ...	18,350	15,135	6,634	15,278	47,407

The estimated cost of the work was only Rs. 1,520, while the actual cost amounted to Rs. 3,585 or Rs. 2,065 in excess, which was remarkable considering the fact that the estimate provided for normal wages, whereas only half wages were paid. The laxity of supervision which gave rise to grave abuses, as the Probationary Deputy Collector reported at the time, was the cause for the enormous increase in the numbers of those on the work during the last few weeks and for the small amount of work they turned out. This was due to the absence of the Probationary Deputy Collector from the place and the illness of the Assistant Engineer which confined him to bed, but this last is not at all satisfactory (for in his absence some one must have been appointed to look after the work) and the one called for from the Assistant Engineer through the Executive Eastern Division, has not yet been furnished to me. The Executive Eastern Division has probably thought the matter does not concern this department. I have again addressed him on the subject. Personally my orders were that the workers should be divided into gangs according to their fitness for work, and a proper task rigidly exacted from each gang; but the Probationary Deputy Collector, whilst visiting the work unexpectedly found most of those on the work merely pretending to work, so leisurely were their movements and many of them were spectators. Having answered the roll call too, he found many departed till the evening when he was called again or the wages distributed. The Assistant Engineer, however, had some difficulties to contend with, as when at the beginning he insisted upon a proper outturn of work and imposed fines to enforce this, he drew down upon himself the vials of the Rev. Mr. Cain's wrath who promptly got him as an oppressor in the *Madras Mail*, taking the word of his informants and not asking the Assistant Engineer for any explanation. He was also himself confined to bed when the abuses were at the worst and Dummagudem is not a place where educated or

In the latter part of September 1897 some of the works were closed as the numbers on them fell below 300 (*vide* Board's Proceedings No. 520-A, dated 21st July 1897), while others were amalgamated in accordance with the orders contained in Government Order No. 489-Rev., dated 25th June 1897, communicated with Board's Proceedings No. 487, dated 7th July 1897, regarding the concentration of works wherever possible. The work at Mutyalpad was the first to fall under the former class and was closed during the first fortnight of September 1897. The works at Marella Chinna Kambalur (which had been shifted to Rudravaram) and Komarole were closed in the course of the next fortnight, during which period several others were amalgamated. By the middle of October all the works, except three central works at Owk, Koilkuntla and Laddagiri, had been closed, and on the last day of that month the latter too were brought to an end.

(b) *Weavers*.—As the nature of the relief offered to this class of people must have been fully dealt with in the report submitted by the Special Deputy Collector, in charge of Weavers' Relief operations, Decan districts, I do not think I need here enter into any details. The scheme for relieving this class at its own trade was introduced into the Pattikonda taluk at two centres, viz., Pattikonda and Kodumur, towards the end of February 1897. Other three centres, viz., Maddikera, Gonegundla and Pyapalli were subsequently opened in this taluk. The scheme for the Kurnool weavers was approved by the Board in the beginning of March and introduced at once. The scheme for the relief of the weavers in the Koilkuntla and Sirvel taluks of the Nandyal division, which was sanctioned in Board's Proceedings No. 303, dated 13th April 1897, was actually introduced in those places from 1st May. In addition to the relief thus offered to these people in their own trade, their non-working children and infirm dependents were fed in several places in kitchens opened for the purpose.

This form of relief was brought to a close everywhere towards the end of October, though a small establishment consisting of a storekeeper and an attender and a clerk or appraiser wherever necessary is still being retained in each of the central depôts at Kurnool, Pattikonda and Nandyal, as such is necessary to ensure the due preservation of the cloths till final arrangements are made for their disposal.

(c) *Gratuitous relief*—(i) *In kitchens*.—Gratuitous relief was given during this famine in two different ways: one by the offer of cooked food in kitchens and the other by the grant of grain doles in villages. Kitchens again were of two classes, relief work kitchens and central kitchens. The former which were intended primarily for the dependents of the relief workers were always opened contemporaneously with the works to which they were attached, while the latter were begun to be opened throughout the affected taluks, wherever necessary, from the middle of April 1897, in consequence of the extension of the village relief system sanctioned in G.O., No. 216, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897. There were 7 such relief kitchens and 9 village kitchens open in the Ramallakot taluk, 12 and 28*

* Including eight weavers' kitchens.

respectively in Pattikonda, 10 and 18 respectively in Koilkuntla, 4 and 6 respectively in Nandyal and 7 and 8 respectively in the Sirvel taluks. In these kitchens were admitted not only the children and other non-working dependents of the labourers, but also 'others' such as the infirm and helpless poor, who were destitute of all extraneous help. The central kitchens were gradually closed one by one from the month of July after the early rains. They were ultimately closed from the 1st October in the Nandyal division and from the 31st idem elsewhere. Besides the kitchens mentioned above, three village kitchens for the use of the Chonchus and one for the dependents of the labourers employed on the ordinary tank work at Mchukur, Nandikotkur taluk, which had been opened for the relief of the people in the surrounding villages of that and the Nandyal taluks, were opened in May and July 1897, respectively, under the circumstances detailed in the succeeding paragraphs. These were closed on the 30th and 11th September 1897, respectively.

(ii) *By doles*.—This form of relief was introduced from the 25th April 1897 in the Pattikonda taluk, in the few villages situated on the line of country extending from Pattikonda to Kodumur, and thence to Veldurthias pointed out by the Sanitary Commissioner after his visit to the localities (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 195, dated 5th March 1897). The relief was subsequently extended to all the affected taluks along with the extension of the village relief alluded to above.

The staff specially appointed to supervise the distribution of this relief consisted of one Taluk Relief officer who was deputed for the Pattikonda taluk towards the end of August and of 25 Circle Inspectors who were under the direct supervision of the Tahsildars concerned. This relief was stopped in Sirvel taluk from 1st October, and in the other taluks on the 31st idem.

One of the chief items under this head was the relief given in the Kurnool town, under the provisions of sections 134–136 of the Code and the sanction conveyed in Board's Proceedings, No. 195, dated 5th March 1897, to able-bodied gosha women, who were required to grind grain in return for the relief afforded them. There were, at the end of April, when the system was introduced, comparatively few women in receipt of relief, but their number gradually rose to 3,694, and the system of grinding grain was consequently carried on on such a large scale that the ground flour was not only supplied to the kitchens in the Ramallakot taluk, but was also made use of as the grain portion of the ration given to these women themselves as well as to other recipients of grain doles in Kurnool town.

21. *Classes of people relieved*.—No statistics were maintained so as to enable the percentage of the several classes of people relieved to be struck. It may, however, be said, that on works the majority of the labourers consisted of the lower classes, viz., Malas, Madigas, Boyas, &c., who usually earn their livelihood as agricultural labourers, and of petty landowners accustomed to labour. There were also a certain number of professional labourers, weavers, shepherds, &c. Among those in receipt of gratuitous relief were all classes of the community.

22. *Numbers on relief*.—The average numbers who resorted in each month to the relief works are shown in the subjoined statement:—

Taluka.	November 1896.	December 1896.	January 1897.	February 1897.	March 1897.	April 1897.	May 1897.	June 1897.	July 1897.	August 1897.	September 1897.	October 1897.
Pattikonda	...	426	1,148	3,242	6,024	12,806	26,241	29,958	45,557	38,609	23,493	3,020
Ramallakot	...	...	...	...	...	2,069	7,738	13,520	34,281	24,889	21,839	7,431
Koilkuntla	4,958	3,352	2,059	2,341	5,426	8,723	15,371	29,052	38,988	38,082	25,640	12,668
Nandyal	...	...	...	1,525	1,811	4,089	5,656	10,310	17,395	14,656	6,664	4,297
Sirvel	...	487	35	691	2,873	5,545	11,045	14,313	19,949	14,698	6,060	1,787
Total	5,445	3,778	3,242	7,799	16,134	33,232	66,051	97,153	156,170	130,934	83,696	29,203

The numbers employed during November 1896 fell off in the following two months. A steady increase, however, then commenced, and the numbers employed rose from 7,799 in February to an average of 16,134 in March, 33,232 in April, 66,051 in May, 97,153 in June, and 156,170 in July, the highest numbers employed in any week being 170,289 in the week ending 24th July 1897. The South-West monsoon which broke about the usual time being on the whole copious, though there was a somewhat alarming break in the first part of July, the numbers seeking relief speedily began to decline and fell to an average of 130,934 in August, 83,696 in September, and 29,203 in October, by the middle of which month it was found possible to close relief works everywhere with the exception of three central works which were themselves closed at the end of the month.

Judging from the numbers on relief the areas which suffered most from distress owing to the absence of demand for labour were the Pattikonda, Koilkuntla,

and Ramallakot taluks. In these taluks, the numbers on relief works during the week in which in each respective taluk they had attained their maximum bore the following percentages to the total population of the taluk :—

Taluks.	Population.	Highest number employed in any week.	Highest percentage employed of total population.
Pattikonda	138,703	52,439	33.4
Koilkuntla	86,544	41,940	48.4
Ramallakot	124,971	33,335	26.6

Gratuitous relief.—The average numbers gratuitously relieved in each month were as shown below :—

Taluku.	November 1896.		December 1896.		January 1897.		February 1897.		March 1897.		April 1897.	
	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.
1	2	3	4	5	6.	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Koilkuntla ...	...	187	...	33	...	68	...	169	...	269	...	521
Pattikonda ...	...	...	...	30	...	98	...	273	...	349	7	845
Sirvel ...	...	90	...	...	...	166	...	152	...	142	...	528
Nandyal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116	...	201	...	225
Ramallakot ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	* 17	101
Nandikotkur ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	277	...	63	...	352	...	710	...	961	24	2,220

Taluku.	May 1897.		June 1897.		July 1897.		August 1897.		September 1897.		October 1897.	
	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.	Grain doles.	Kitchen.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Koilkuntla ...	832	985	3,304	3,571	3,377	4,869	2,654	4,445	1,533	3,446	314	780
Pattikonda ...	163	1,468	1,732	3,135	5,372	4,327	5,177	4,219	2,615	3,677	231	738
Sirvel ...	...	1,591	1,852	1,543	2,568	2,545	1,446	1,858	803	1,536	244	520
Nandyal ...	274	1,165	1,908	1,255	3,323	1,530	3,128	1,238	1,576	1,111	312	222
Ramallakot ...	138	324	3,875	1,383	14,301	2,189	16,607	2,688	2,036	3,550	1,365	1,797
Nandikotkur ...	...	307	...	508	+ 18	643	...	372	...	266	...	...
Total ...	1,407	5,840	12,671	11,395	28,959	16,103	29,012	14,820	8,563	13,586	2,466	4,057

* On money doles.

† Granted under the authority of Board's Proceedings, No. 420, dated 8th June 1897.

As was the case during the previous years of famine, the numbers in the kitchens attached to the relief works (then the only kind of such institutions in existence) bore, in the beginning, but a very small proportion to the numbers relieved

on works. This was, as usual, due to the unwillingness of the people to send their children to a public kitchen partly owing to the fear of falling in the esteem of their associates and partly owing to a superstitious belief that the kitchen food was unwholesome. The kitchens were, however, rendered more popular in due course by the continued persuasions of the revenue officers and the visibly good results of the diet on the inmates of long standing. The numbers fed in kitchens in the month of June 1897 bore the highest proportion of 11.7 per cent. to the numbers on works in that month.

The numbers in receipt of grain doles, which averaged only 1,407 during the first month (May 1897) of its universal introduction rose by leaps and bounds during the following three months, in the last of which the maximum number was reached. Owing to an improvement in the season after the setting in of the South-West monsoon, the relief was restricted to the most needy and deserving, and the numbers fell very suddenly in September and October, at the end of the latter of which the relief was closed everywhere.

Weavers.—The numbers that were in aid of the State relief during the several months were as follows :—

	March 1897.	April 1897.	May 1897.	June 1897.	July 1897.	August 1897.	September 1897.	October 1897.
Ramallakot	...	188	521	608	878	1,132	807	618
Pattikonda	660	1,683	3,343	3,904	8,134	9,357	8,621	4,537
Koilkuntla	...	...	97	213	375	431	579	436
Sirvel	...	...	479	509	828	997	791	433
Total	660	1,871	4,440	5,234	10,215	11,907	10,738	6,024

The highest average number on the rolls was 11,907 in August which bore a proportion of 42.4 per cent. to the total weavers' population in the taluks according to the census of 1891. Consequent upon the brightening of prospects after the fall of the rains, the grant of relief to this class of people was restricted from the second week of September to such as owned only one loom, until it was at last fully closed by the end of October.

23. *Cost of each form of relief.*—The annexed statement gives the particulars of expenditure on the various forms of relief :—

Taluks.	Under the Public Works Department.			Under Civil Agency (on roads).		
	Roads.	Irrigation works.	Total.	By the Revenue Department.	By the Local Fund Department.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Ramakot	3,26,097	0 0	3,26,097	0 0	11,026	13 7
onda	5,29,437	0 0	5,29,437	0 0	1,376	10 4
al	2,04,066	0 0	2,04,066	0 0	...	...
ntla	6,03,398	0 0	6,03,398	0 0	8,041	2 3
...	1,20,127	0 0	1,20,127	0 0	...	...
itkur	...	...	...	...	...	...
d plant	24,548	0 0	24,548	0 0	...	...
Total	18,07,673	0 0	18,07,673	0 0	20,444	10 2

Taluks.	On kitchens.	On village relief.	On Weavers' relief.			
			Purchase of yarn.	Wages to weavers.	Contingen- cies.	Total.
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Ramallakót ...	11,145 6 6	91,687 11 8	9,664 15 0	9,033 14 3	7,629 10 3	66,328 7 6
Pattikonda ...	31,055 12 7	27,704 8 8	9,834 6 0	30,386 7 10	17,562 6 11	1,27,783 4 9
Nandyal ...	13,867 13 7	20,728 3 8	21,436 14 9	12,157 15 1	858 3 9	34,453 1 7
Koilkuntla ...	38,367 3 6	23,471 14 4				
Sirvel ...	18,136 3 9	15,036 0 6				
Nandikótkur ...	4,795 12 4	27 14 6	...	...	...	...
Tools and plant ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,17,388 4 3	1,78,656 5 4	1,50,936 3 9	51,578 5 2	26,050 4 11	2,28,564 13 10

RELIEF MEASURES—(B) OTHERS.

24. *Remissions and suspensions of revenue.*—The failure of the last year's rain which caused a great loss of crops rendered necessary the grant of remissions on considerable scale. Proposals were accordingly submitted by me on the 16th June 1897 and approved, subject to certain modifications recommended in Board Proceedings, No. 491, dated 10th July 1897, by Government in its Order, No. 65 dated 30th July 1897, embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 6082, Mis., dat 4th August 1897. The remission was granted on this occasion tractwar, & each village was taken generally as a unit for that purpose, except in a few instances when hamlets were taken into consideration separately. The following statement shows talukwar the amount of remissions granted as compared the average for the three preceding faslis. The adverse state of the season necessitated a large excess over the normal wet remissions:—

Taluku.	Average remission for the three faslis ending 1205.			Fasli 1306.			Remarks.
	Wet.	Dry.	Total.	Wet.	Dry.	Total.	
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Pattikonda	2,373	* 10	2,383	15,108	1,05,535	1,20,643	Affected.
Ramallakôt	1,800	* 172	1,981	9,495	56,590	66,085	
Nandyal	3,840	...	3,840	11,562	38,259	49,821	
Koilkuntla	340	...	340	10,083	62,831	72,914	
Sirvel	145	...	145	144	Not yet reported.		
Cumbam	310	...	310	10,528	...	10,528	Unaffected.
Markapur	1,822	...	1,822	8,356	...	8,356	
Nandikôtkur	495	...	495	8,347	† 7,828	16,175	
Total	11,134	182	11,316	73,623	...	...	

* Cowl remissions.

† Granted in a few villages lying at the foot of the Nallamala

In consequence of the hardship entailed on the ryots the collection of the kist for December 1896 was postponed and the fact intimated to the Board in this office letter, Dis. No. 83-Eng. of 1897, dated 9th January 1897, in which the postponement of the collection of the current year's kista in all black-soil villages of the affected taluks till the next jamabundi was also proposed. The Board, however, declined to pass final orders in the absence of definite proposals drawn up in accordance with the principles laid down in paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, No. 472, dated 31st December 1896. The proposals were accordingly submitted to the Board along with those for the remission of revenue to be granted and approved in the Government Order quoted above. The amounts, the collection of which has thus been suspended in the several taluks, are as noted below:—

	RS.
Pattikonda ...	20,936
Ramallakót ...	42,309
Nandikótkur ...	1,642
Nandyal ...	7,417
Koilkuntla ...	49,156
Sirvel ...	51,675
Total ...	1,73,135

25. *Loans.*—The subjoined statement shows the actual amounts advanced in the affected taluks under both the Acts from the beginning of the distress in November 1896 up to the closure of relief in October 1897. The amounts disbursed in the unaffected taluks were nominal:—

Taluks.	Land Improvement Loans Act.			Agriculturists' Loans Act.			Grand total.
	For wells.	Other purposes.	Total.	For fodder.	For cattle and seed-grain.	Total.	
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Pattikonda ...	26,653	1,21,140	1,47,793	1,17,425	17,819	1,35,244	2,83,037
Koilkuntla ...	4,700	3,175	7,875	54,434	...	54,434	62,309
Ramallakót ...	7,200	2,480	9,680	6,104	9,900	16,004	25,684
Nandyal ...	1,850	4,840	6,690	7,649	7,625	15,274	21,934
Sirvel ...	10,300	1,900	12,200	1,889	7,353	9,244	21,444
Total ...	50,703	1,33,515	1,84,218	1,87,501	42,799	2,30,300	4,14,518

The total amount granted was Rs. 4,14,518. The further grant of loans under both the Acts was ordered to be stopped from the 1st of October last. The severity of the distress and the fact that the ryots have sufficiently realised the advantages of taking State loans have contributed to these large disbursements. The amounts shown against Pattikonda and Koilkuntla are mostly composed of advances granted for the purpose of removing nuth-grass and for the purchase of fodder. It may be noticed that the amounts advanced for the improvement of water-supply in these two taluks, where the transactions were the heaviest, were comparatively small. This was mainly due to the fact that in the black-soil villages, in which the loans were chiefly granted, there are not great facilities for well-digging, unless large sums are invested on it, and for such large sums the ryots are often too poor to offer sufficient security. The large amount disbursed especially for the removal of nuth-grass, generally enabled the ryots to employ, for some time at least, a few of the coolies usually dependent on them and prevented the ryots themselves from resorting to the State relief works. The estimated monthly average number of labourers thus employed on land improvement works during the period of distress was about 1,920, the maximum number, viz., 4,987, having been employed in June. No new wells could be completed within the period under report, as loans for that purpose were practically begun to be disbursed only from the month of March 1897. 289 wells are reported to be still under construction.

The operations connected with loans were at first conducted by the ordinary staff, but the large proportions which they assumed later on necessitated the appointment of a special Tahsildar with an establishment of three clerks and three additional special Revenue Inspectors for the Pattikonda taluk, of another Tahsildar with two clerks and a special Revenue Inspector for the Ramallakota taluk, and of two special Revenue Inspectors for the Nandyal taluk, and one for each of the Koilkuntla and Sirvel taluks. These establishments were dispensed with at the end of September.

26. *Relief measures adopted by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund.*—*Formation of District and Sub-Committees.*—In accordance with the instructions of the Provincial Committee contained in their Circular, dated 13th February 1897, steps were taken for the formation of District and Sub-Committees for raising subscriptions towards, and administering the monies of, the Charitable Relief Fund. The District and Town Sub-Committees were formed on the 22nd March. On the 4th April a meeting, at which I presided and which was largely attended by all classes, was held for the purpose of raising subscriptions towards the Fund. Subscriptions to the extent of Rs. 1,300 were promised and Rs. 180 collected on the spot. Shortly afterwards Sub-Committees were appointed at Cumbum, Atmakur (Nandikotkur taluk), Pattikonda and Nandyal. The Cumbum and Nandikotkur divisions being unaffected by the distress, the Sub-Committees formed in them only assisted in collecting subscriptions towards the fund. The other Sub-Committees acted both as collectors of subscriptions and as distributors of relief. The amounts collected by each of the Sub-Committees were as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Cumbum	232	4	0
Nandyal	430	4	0
Atmakur	76	0	0
Pattikonda	335	2	0
Kurnool town	1,644	10	0
Total	2,718	4	0

A general account of the operations.—The District and Sub-Committees were formed by the end of the first half of April, but the actual distribution of relief was commenced only about the beginning of the following month when the distress was fairly widespread in the district, as will be seen from the following table, which gives particulars of persons on State relief in the various affected taluks on 1 May 1897:—

Taluk.	Number of relief works.	Number of persons on works.	Number of persons on gratuitous relief.					Grand total of persons relieved.
			In kitchens attached to works.	In central or village kitchens.	In the shape of grain doles.	In their own craft weavers.	Total.	
Koilkuntla	10	16,440	922	...	...	...	922	17,362
Sirvel	5	8,057	569	...	...	...	569	8,626
Nandyal	3	5,184	331	...	...	...	331	5,515
Pattikonda	10	21,371	962	20	51	2,814	3,847	25,218
Ramallakot	3	5,915	259	...	84	398	741	6,656
Total	31	56,967	3,043	20	135	3,212	6,410	63,317

It will be seen from the above that when the operations of the Fund commenced, gratuitous relief was being given by the State only in a very few villages. The Sub-Committees had, therefore, in the initial stages, to devote the funds at their disposal almost entirely to the relief of the helpless poor by money doles. As the operations of Government, in respect of village kitchens, and grain doles

increased and finally attained completeness, the relief given by the Committees in the shape of money doles was proportionately restricted and eventually withdrawn. Their operations were then confined to giving clothing to the deserving poor, supplementing the rations given in kitchens by the provision of vegetables, &c., giving additional allowances of a few annas per month to the more respectable of the recipients of grain doles from Government for the provision of firewood, &c., distributing money doles to a few respectable families for subsistence, &c. When the South-West monsoon had set in, grants were made for the purchase of seed-grain and bullocks to the impoverished cultivators of red soils to enable them to commence their agricultural operations. When, in consequence of the copious rains of September, the black-soil lands were ready for cultivation, and the Government relief works were one after another being closed, owing to the improvement in the season, grants were made to (a) poor ryots holding black-soil lands for the purchase of seed-grain and bullocks, (b) artisans, ryots and weavers, whose resources had been exhausted in order to restore them to their original condition, and to enable them to make a fresh start in life. Thus, in every way, the relief afforded by the Fund was a welcome supplement to that given by the State and was most opportune. Care was taken by the Divisional Officers, who were in all cases Members of the local Sub-Committees, to see that the two agencies did not overlap and that, on the other hand, they maintained close touch with each other.

Allotment.—A total sum of Rs. 2,22,700 was allotted to this district, the particulars of the grant and of the redistribution of the same for the different affected areas being as follows:—

Object.	Total grant for the district.	How redistributed.	To whom redistributed.
	RS.	RS.	
For clothing, subsistence allowance, &c., to the poor.	16,000	10,070 2,000 1,500 2,430	Town Sub-Committee. Nandyal Sub-Committee. Pattikonda Sub-Committee. District Committee.
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	Nawab of Banganapalle.
Do.	700	700	Collector for relief to Khandam families.
For purchase of seed-grains, &c. (red-soil villages).	60,000	30,000 30,000	Pyapali Division. Nandyal do.
For purchase of seed-grains, &c. (black-soil villages).	95,000	45,000 5,000	Pyapali do. Nandyal do.
For distribution among artisans, ryots, and weavers to enable them to make a fresh start in life.	50,000	25,000 25,000	Pyapali do. Nandyal do.

Items of expenditure incurred by the District and Sub-Committees.—Out of the total allotment of Rs. 16,000 placed at the disposal of the District and Sub-Committees, Rs. 1,850 was spent in the distribution of clothing to the poor, who were in receipt of Government relief, and Rs. 435 in affording similar assistance to the respectable poor. The Town Sub-Committee spent Rs. 7,462, partly in giving full money doles to the poor people of the town prior to the distribution of gratuitous relief under Government Agency, and partly in supplementing the Government grain doles by paying some of the recipients thereof 6 or 8 annas per mensem for fuel, &c. A sum of Rs. 448 was utilized in supplementing the rations given in Government kitchens and providing sundry comforts to the inmates of these institutions. Money doles amounting to Rs. 1,162 and grain doles to the value of Rs. 2,924 were given to the respectable poor—mostly Gosha females.

The allotment for Khandam families.—The whole of the sum of Rs. 1,000 sent to the Nawab of Banganapalle was spent by him in money doles, and in the purchase of clothing for distribution among the poor. Of the allotment of Rs. 700 for Khandam families sent direct to the Collector by the Provincial Committee, Rs. 629 was spent and the balance remitted to the District Committee.

Relief to Cultivators and Artizans.—The last and the most important item of relief administered by the fund was the distribution of money among the ryots soon after the rains of June and September to enable them to resume their agricultural operations. The following statement gives particulars regarding the distribution of relief to the cultivators of red-soil lands :—

Taluk.	Amount allotted.			Amount spent.			Balance.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Pattikonda ...	18,000	0	0	16,161	8	0	1,838	8	0
Ramallakót ...	12,000	0	0	10,376	0	0	1,624	0	0
Nandyal ...	14,400	0	0	14,378	8	6	21	7	6
Koilkuntla ...	6,000	0	0	5,985	2	0	14	14	0
Sirvel ...	9,600	0	0	8,488	12	6	1,111	3	6
Total ...	60,000	0	0	55,389	15	0	4,610	1	0

* The balance was subsequently distributed to the cultivators of black-soil lands along with the allotment for such lands.

The talukwar distribution of the allotments for black-soil villages and for artizans was as follows :—

Taluk.	Allotment for black-soil villages.		Allotment for artizans.	
	RS.		RS.	
Pattikonda ...	20,000		15,000	
Ramallakót ...	25,000		10,000	
Nandyal ...	17,000		8,000	
Sirvel ...	3,000		5,000	
Koilkuntla ...	30,000		12,000	

These allotments have, very nearly all, been distributed. The total expenditure up to the end of November under these two heads was Rs. 1,22,596.

Particulars of relief.—The grants under these heads being large (Rs. 2,05,000) a substantial relief was afforded to many thousands of ryots and artizans, and the serious effects of the distress were mitigated to a considerable extent. Up to the end of October 1,111 ryots were given money for the purchase of cattle and 17,210 for the purchase of seed-grains. The amount distributed to ryots and artizans during November was Rs. 97,454, but particulars are not at present available as to the number of persons relieved during the month, as the vouchers and other papers are said to have been taken away by the Deputy Collector deputed to audit the account of the fund.

27. *Private charity.*—There was no regularly organized system of relief for the suffering poor. Some of the charitably disposed, however, undertook to feed the poor, from time to time, for a few days; while the Reddis and others of some of the villages, in which Government kitchens were situated, provided the inmates of the kitchens with meat, vegetables and sweetmeats on occasions such as religious festivals, the Diamond Jubilee, Collector's visit, &c. Raja Sir Savalai Ramaswami Moodaliar of Madras sent me about 300 cloths, which were duly distributed among the deserving poor by me and the famine Divisional Officers in person. The private charity, which had almost entirely ceased during hot weather, gradually revived towards the end of August when prospects brightened to a certain extent. Relief was afforded to certain Chenchus by the American Baptist Mission, as will be related under the next paragraph.

28. *Special measures of relief to hill and jungle tribes.*—The Chenchus, whose condition has been described above form the only hill tribe in this district, for whom some special measures of relief had to be contrived to prevent their raids on the villages in the plains to which, it was apprehended, they would

otherwise have had recourse. The Head-quarter Deputy Collector of Nandikotkur having brought to notice towards the end of October 1896 that the Chenchus in the forest adjoining Atmakur were suffering for want of food, the District Forest officer was asked to offer them the work of line clearing near their own homes. This work they would not accept, as they were averse to working from morning to evening under strict supervision. Matters having reached a crisis, however, sometime afterwards, these Chenchus were employed in fashioning spokes and felloes from dry yegi wood at the rate of Rs. 4-8-0 per set, on the distinct understanding that the relief thus afforded was only temporary during the scarcity. Reports having been received from all quarters, in the beginning of April 1897, that the Chenchus were feeling the effects of distress, I arranged with the District Forest officer that all the able-bodied males, resident in the affected area, should be offered light work in the forest, such as line clearing, creeper cutting, &c., but they systematically refused to avail themselves of the opportunity anywhere. The Chenchus living in the gudams situated near Atmakur and Velgode having been reported to be in great want, kitchens were opened at Gurralakunta, Atmakur and Velgode for the use of the infirm males and the children as well as of the females who are not used to any form of labour beyond the collection of jungle produce. Kitchens were also opened at Matamallacheruvu in Sirvel taluk and in Baswapuram in the Nandyal taluk: the last was not freely resorted to and was soon closed. In the Cumbum division, certain Chenchus were found by the Extra Assistant Conservator of Forests to be in very bad condition and given grain to the value of about Rs. 25, which charge was ultimately borne by the Famine Fund. Their state was, of course, at once enquired into with a view to afford them the necessary relief, but meanwhile the American Baptist Missionary at Cumbum undertook to give them grain-doles out of funds provided specially for the purpose by certain charitable persons in America. This relief which was referred to in due course in my fortnightly narratives, was kindly continued till the recipients were again able to earn their own livelihood.

29. *Famine allowance to public servants.*—Government in its Order No. 603, Revenue, dated 21st July 1897, sanctioned with retrospective effect from 3rd July 1897 the grant of allowances as specified in article 72 of the Civil Account Code, to all public servants, including those employed temporarily on famine duty. This concession was also subsequently extended to the case of the village establishment by Government Order, No. 918, dated 6th November 1897. The expenditure actually incurred under this head from July to November 1897 when the prices fell below the prescribed rates, amounted to Rs. 3,611-11-0, which is distributed, as follows, among the various departments :—

	RS.	A.
Land Revenue ...	793	4
Registration ...	114	8
Law and Justice ...	309	13
Police ...	2,259	7
Education ...	36	15
Ecclesiastical ...	4	0
Scientific and other minor departments ...	15	11
Press ...	43	4
Famine relief ...	34	3
Total ...	3,611	11

This amount does not include the compensation paid to village establishment, the order sanctioning the grant has only recently been communicated to the Tahsildars.

30. *Other measures of relief.*—In addition to the relief afforded to the people in the various ways detailed above, the following advantages were especially shown to the ryots :—

(i) Following the precedent during the famine of 1891-92, the ryots of the Okw-firka were allowed, towards the end of October 1896, to cultivate the Okw-firka.

tank-bed, care being taken by the taluk and village officers to apportion the land of equitably among the ryots of all the interested villages. The Board, while approving of the above action, urged the necessity of encouraging the cultivation of all other tank-beds too in order that some supply of fodder for cattle might at least be obtained. This concession to cultivate tank-beds free of charge, which was granted in accordance with Government Order, No. 1047, dated 14th February 1897, was thereupon extended (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 314, dated 3rd November 1896) to all such tanks in the district as retained in them sufficient moisture for the raising of crops, and was largely availed of. The Divisional Officer of Cumbum having, however, represented that the exceptional fertility of the soil of the Cumbum tank-bed would not make the rich ryots refrain from monopolizing the major portion of the bed even under threats of prosecution in case they persisted in doing so, the case of this particular tank was ordered by my predecessor to be treated as an exception to the general rule, and trespassers charged the highest dry rate of the villages. Even this did not produce the desired effect, and the levy of the prohibitory assessment was therefore ultimately left to the discretion of the Jamabandi officer.

CONDITION OF CATTLE.

31. *Availability of pastura and fodder.*—Owing to the almost total failure of rain in October 1896 (when distress began to be felt in the district), all the pasture that had, up till then, been available, generally disappeared and was available only in the Cumbum taluk and in canal villages and hills. The supply of fodder was also precarious throughout. The condition of cattle was thereby seriously affected, and they began to deteriorate especially in the western and south central sections. The want of fodder was so severely felt that the ryots in these divisions undertook to sell their animals at very low prices. The advent of the rains, however, towards the latter part of November 1896 slightly improved matters. Pasture began to revive, chiefly in the jungles and on the hills whither large herds of cattle were driven for grazing. Fodder was available only for valuable cattle, while those of less value had to depend for the most part on the little pasture that was available here and there. The revival of pasture, however, was but transient; the absence of rain from the month of December 1896 again resulted in an universal dearth of pasturage and the high prices that were realised by the sale of fodder contributed towards the depletion of even the little stock that was available. Fodder was then available to some extent only with rich ryots. The ploughing cattle were gradually deteriorating in condition and were growing visibly weaker everywhere especially in the two sections mentioned above. The want of fodder and pasture aggravated by the scarcity of water became so widespread by the end of April 1897 that even the cattle in the north central section showed signs of deterioration, while in the western and south central sections their weakness was increasing, and their poor condition was causing them to fall easy victims to the prevailing disease of rinderpest. This state of things continued till the end of June, when, owing to the setting in of the South-West monsoon, the pasture began to revive in all red-soil villages, and this, with the throwing open of the forest reserves in May, brightened the outlook for cattle. Though the break in the monsoon in the beginning of July checked the growth of pasture and caused some anxiety, the rain that fell towards the latter part of that month greatly improved matters, and pasture became abundantly available by the end of August in all the taluks bordering on the Nallamalais and revived rapidly in other places, though fodder was of course still very scarce. Pasture resumed its normal condition throughout the district by the beginning of September and fodder was more freely available for sale owing to the reaping of early cholam and korra here and there and to the prospect of an abundant harvest later on. Thenceforward, in consequence of the general harvesting of the early cholam crop, fodder, though still scarce in several localities, became more freely available, and cattle gradually regained their normal condition.

32. *Methods of relief adopted by (a) Famine Fund.*—At the suggestion of the Honourable Mr. Crole, Chairman of the Provincial Committee of the Indian Famine

Charitable Relief Fund, and as an experimental measure, about 4 tons of compressed paddy-straw worth Rs. 176-11-0 were imported into Nandyal from Guntur at the cost of the Fund and offered for sale at cost price in the month of May 1897 when there was scarcely any food for cattle in the district. At about the same time, the Board in its Proceedings, Mis. No. 3431, dated 15th May 1897, ordered a consignment of 100 tons of paddy-straw to be sent from Guntur to the Kurnool road station. The straw imported into Nandyal, small as the quantity was, was disposed of only with great difficulty after the lapse of a month or so: a great portion of this quantity had to be sent to Owk, there having been no demand for it at Nandyal. Though the straw at the Kurnool road station was also exposed for sale for about a month, and every effort to induce the ryots to buy it was made by the Tahsildar of Ramallakot and myself, it was found impossible to effect a sale of even one-fourth of the quantity and the remainder was, under the orders of the Provincial Committee of the fund, despatched to Guntakal. The reasons for the failure of the experiment were probably the following:—

(1) The ryots, who appear to be utterly wanting in enterprise, believed the straw to be less nutritious than the cholam stalks, or choppa, on which their cattle are accustomed to feed, and preferred to leave the animals to depend upon the scanty remnants of fodder available with them or upon the leaves of margosa and other trees; (2) the centres of sale, viz., Nandyal and Dhone, were not well suited for the purpose, situated as they are by the side of the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal and a perennial stream, respectively, though, owing to the fact that the most affected tracts, such as the Koilkuntla taluk and the northern half of the Pattikonda taluk, lay at a distance from the railway, it is difficult to say that any better centres, except at the risk of heavy loss of money, could have been selected; (3) the opening of the forest reserves particularly in the Erramalais led many persons to trust to a less expensive means of feeding their cattle.

The straw was first sold at Rs. 12-8 per ton, but the rate was subsequently raised to Rs. 15 and ultimately to Rs. 17-8 per ton. The sale-proceeds realised from the depôts at Nandyal and Dhone were duly credited to the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. The cost of straw imported into Kurnool road station at the instance of the Board is not known. A total sum of Rs. 360 was distributed by the fund agency to poor ryots (85) for the purchase of fodder for their cattle.

(b) *Forest department.*—The experiment tried during the late famine of 1891-92 of cutting and stacking hay in the forest on behalf of Government for sale to the ryots having proved a failure, a similar step was not undertaken this time, but the ryots were allowed to cut grass from all the reserved forests, except the fire-protected blocks, for the use of their cattle. This concession was availed of to a large extent and saved the lives of many cattle. The loss that accrued to the forest revenue by this free removal of grass may be roughly estimated at Rs. 1,000.

In addition to the above privilege the permits issued during the official year 1896-97, for the grazing of cattle in the reserves, were allowed to hold good till the end of June 1897, and all the reserved forests including fire-protected blocks were thrown open for free grazing till that date. These concessions were subsequently allowed to be enjoyed till pasture outside the reserves resumed normal condition, i.e., as decided by me, till the end of August, in the case of the Nallamalais and the middle of September in the case of the Erramalais. The number of cattle that were driven into the reserves was about 181,500.

Since the dates of the withdrawal of the privileges, grazing permits have been issued, and judging from the receipts up to date the revenue normal of the year is likely to be realized. But the period for which licenses have been granted has been made to run not from 1st April 1897 to 31st March 1898, but from the dates of issue of the licenses to 30th June 1898, i.e., the term of the licenses terminates three months later than usual. The loss sustained by the Forest department by this extension may be estimated at one-fourth of the annual revenue or at Rs. 5,000.