

Gobt. of {1889} Madras.

REVENUE.

No 3479 W of 22 December 1889

Communicated to the

Suptg. Engr I circle.

sd/ W. L. C. B.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th November 1889,
Nos. 923, 923A.

NOVEMBER.

To
The Chief Engr. for Surin
" Suptg. Engr I circle.

Condition of the Ganjam district.

Passing orders on the reports of the Collector
and his Assistants on the — for week ending
26th October 1889.

fraudulently indenting at double rates and a conviction could only be had on some such charge as petty pilfering. That the latter did happen has been sworn to by the cooks and warder whose depositions I took and forwarded to you when reporting this occurrence.

- (1) Admission register.
- (2) Attendance register for July.
- (3) Do. do. for August (Caste).
- (4) Do. do. for do. (Pariah).
- (5) Indents for July.
- (6) Do. for August.

16. I enclose a table showing in detail the attendance for July and August for purposes of comparison with the numbers given in the gumasta's indents. The marginally-noted kitchen registers are also forwarded.

ORDER—dated 16th November 1889, No. 923, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The action of the Collector referred to in paragraph 3 of his report is approved.

Orders have already been passed on the

points mentioned in paragraph 5. The Government desires to have fuller information as to the remuneration of Rs. 350 to village officials, recommended in paragraph 14, and the special circumstances which justify its grant in Mr. Carr's division.

2. In paragraphs 10-13 the Collector reports certain transactions at the Mandasa kitchen, which resulted in a surcharge and loss to Government of Rs. 916-15-2. The particulars given in the report and its enclosures are defective as to dates, but there is enough to show that the persons to blame in the matter were Mr. Forbes and the circle inspector. The Government does not see any ground for suspecting fraud on the part of the gumasta who seems to have been guilty of nothing more than gross stupidity in indenting for and issuing double rations. The mistake should certainly have been detected by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July when making a payment of Rs. 220 for 7 days' supplies, and the Government fully agrees with the Collector that the neglect of this officer, even after his attention was called to the matter by Mr. Foster later on in July, was wholly inexcusable and that he cannot relieve himself of his responsibility in the matter by relying on the certificates of the circle inspector whose work it was his duty to check and to control. Mr. Forbes is, however, young and inexperienced and the Government is inclined to take a lenient view of his neglect; he will be ordered, as a warning, to pay one-fourth of the sum lost by Government. The circle inspector is also greatly in fault and was guilty of gross neglect if of nothing worse; for this he must be severely reprimanded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Ganjam.
 „ the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
 „ the Financial Department.
 „ the Accountant-General.
 „ the Public Department.
 „ the Public Works Department.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Editors' table.

No. 923A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.

100 Copies.

7. On my return that day the Deputy Tahsildar informed me that he had been over the kitchen gumasta's accounts and found that the indents were double what they should be. The gumasta explained that he had indented according to the rates he had been told and that the measures in use were of such size that the food went round without large quantities remaining over. I did not regard his explanation as satisfactory and accordingly suspended him till I received your orders.

8. Ever since the appointment of circle inspectors in the middle of July the Mandasa circle inspector was paying the kitchen bills and certifying that he compared the indents with the attendance register and found them correct. Except on the occasion of the first payment no kitchen bills have been shown to me.

9. The general principle on which the former gumasta seems to have prepared his indents was that a person who came to both the morning and evening meal counted as 2 persons in the indent for the day and the person who came for one meal counted as one. That this is the case is evident from his August attendance register, where men, women and children are shown separately in two books—one for the caste and one for the Pariah section. For example on August, 1st, 82 adults and 70 children were fed in the caste section at both meals. The indent is for 164 adults and 140 children. In the Pariah section on the same day the numbers were 148 and 168 and the indent is for 294 adults (the gumasta evidently omitted one in counting) and 336 children and so on for the next 14 days.

10. For the month of July it is not easy to follow the gumasta's figures, as men, women and children are shown indiscriminately on the same page, but by referring to the admission register I have been able for the most part to distinguish the adults from the children. On the 1st July the attendance register shows 107 adults, 77 children and 332, whose ages are not given in the admission register and whom I have consequently marked "doubtful." The indent is made for 288 adults, 228 children; the figures, therefore, which show the distribution of "doubtfuls" among adults and children were obtained by actually counting the persons present. Of these 332 "doubtfuls," only 97 appeared on the 2nd July and on the 4th the number still further fell to 30, till from the 8th onward we get only 5, 2 and 3 "doubtfuls" daily.

11. On the 1st July the total 516 persons shown in the indent is correct according to the attendance register, but the ration per man is doubled. On the next and following days the ration per man is correctly shown, but the numbers in the attendance are wrong. I have gone through the attendance for each day and my clerk has subsequently done the same and where our results differed the attendance has been counted over again; still as it is impossible in a few cases to say whether a man has been marked present or absent, a difference will appear between my figures multiplied by two and those shown in the indents.

12. The gumasta cannot have prepared his indents by the attendance register; he must have done so by actually counting those present, for his attendance register for July does not distinguish adults from children, and I find that in some cases, where the total number of persons present on a given day is correctly stated (allowing that the number has been multiplied by 2), the details of adults and children in the indent do not correspond with those in the attendance register, for instance, on July, 24th, the attendance register shows 161 adults, 161 children, and 1 "doubtful"; according to the gumasta's calculation, his indent should show 322 adults and 324 children or 324 adults and 322 children (total 646) according as he counted the "doubtful" person as an adult or a child; whereas the indent is for 312 adults and 334 children, the total 646 still being retained.

13. As to the question of fraud, it has probably been committed, but not to the extent the double indents would lead one to suppose. I have tested the measures then in use though with varying results, but I think the true difference between the measures used and those of the prescribed size is that the large measure holds 31 tolas and the small one nearly 20. The small measure, especially, is very wide at the mouth and can be made to hold any quantity between 14 and 22 tolas; when food was given out I should say that 19 tolas were given with a small measure. Most of the food was consumed at the kitchen though not altogether by the kitchen inmates, for since I suspended the gumasta I was told by the kitchen servants and also by the apothecary, who was there for 3 or 4 days, that some 30 poor people whose names were not entered in the register used to be fed outside the enclosure. The great bulk of the extra food indented for was doubtless consumed at the kitchen, but a large amount must have been wasted.

14. Though the double indent is from the beginning I do not think fraud was at first intended; it is very probable that the gumasta did at first mistake the ration for the whole day for that prescribed for one meal and that on receiving the table I had prepared for him, he got frightened and continued as he had begun fearing that a change would entail discovery.

15. What confirms me in this opinion is that two days ago, whilst looking over some private papers, I found a letter (herewith returned) from the gumasta, stating the rates at which food was indented for and in it the double rate is given. If this letter is genuine, *i.e.*, is of the date it purports to be (29th July), it would be difficult to prove that the gumasta was

mistake, which can be discovered only by comparison with the kitchen B register, and, as each indent after the appointment of the circle inspector bears his certificate that it is correct according to that register, there is some explanation of the lapse of time before the discovery of the error.

2. Mr. Forbes gives a detailed account of the matter to which it is unnecessary for me to add. He is of opinion that the gumasta was not guilty of deliberate fraud, but that he innocently indented for and received the double quantities at first and subsequently on discovering that he was wrong was afraid to change his system. However this may be, I conclude from inquiries I recently made in the matter at Mandasa that it would be impossible to substantiate a criminal charge against the gumasta.

3. As it thus seems probable that the whole of the supplies procured were issued to the paupers at the kitchen, I think the amounts may be passed and I request your orders as to whether I should include the vouchers in question in my famine bills. The total amount involved in these vouchers is Rs. 1,833-14-4, of which one-half is excess.

4. Enclosures 1 to 6 of Mr. Forbes' letter are retained in this office.

From A. J. FORBES, Esq., Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Senior Assistant Collector, Ganjam, dated Ichápur, 16th October 1889, No. 350.

I have the honor to submit the following report showing how the mistake in the indents for double quantities of food at the Mandasa kitchen occurred, and giving a history of the kitchen from its start to August, 14th.

2. The kitchen was opened on July, 1st, that is to say, food was first distributed from that date. Owing to the heavy rains that set in during the month, it was extremely difficult to progress with the construction of the kitchen sheds as bamboos had to be got from the hills and the gedda being swollen passage of bandies was for several days impossible. As, however, the condition of the people was miserable, delay was out of the question and food was given at the road side till the sheds were constructed.

3. After starting the tank work and the weavers' advances I left for Harripore, where I remained till the 11th, when I visited Mandasa on my way in to Berhampore, where my examination was to take place on the 15th. On arrival at Mandasa the kitchen contractor accompanied by the gumasta came to me for payment of the provisions supplied according to the indents and complained that he had been paid nothing since the opening of the kitchen.

When I referred him to the Deputy Tahsildar for payment, he said that he had not agreed to go to Sompét and refused to give further supplies unless I paid him.

4. There was no other contractor in Mandasa capable of catering for the kitchen, so I paid him on the indents for 7 days. The amount paid was Rs. 220 odd, but I told him that the payment was a payment on account and not a final settlement inasmuch as I had no means of telling the market price of the various articles and that if his charges were found too great the amount would be reduced from the next payment. To this he agreed.

5. I did not notice that a day's rations had been charged for the first day when only one meal was given—in fact as I had no Famine Code till the end of July I did not know what amount of each article was prescribed and had to take the gumasta's word that he was indenting at the rates he was instructed in your office. When I arrived at Ichápur I told my clerk to prepare a table similar to the one I had seen at the Ichápur kitchen showing the amount of provisions necessary for 1 man, for 2 men, 10, and 20, &c., for the whole day and also a table showing in the same way the prescribed quantities for children, and to send it to the Mandasa gumasta, so that he might at a glance calculate the amount of provisions required.

The Ichápur kitchen gumasta made a copy of his table and gave it to my clerk, but it appears that he, instead of sending it to Mandasa as ordered, kept it with him and gave it to the Mandasa gumasta when I visited Mandasa at the end of the month. The gumasta made a copy and returned the original to my clerk.

6. On receipt of your foot-note inquiring whether a double quantity had not been indented for on the 1st July, I at once wrote to the gumasta for an explanation. A reply, dated 29th July, showing that he was indenting at double rates is now in my office. It is singular that, while looking over some private papers on October, 5th, I found this letter, which I had never before seen. How or when it could have come amongst private letters I cannot say and of course it does not bear my initials though I initial and date all papers on receipt. On the 29th July I was encamped at Patrokondo and thence made my way into Ichápur, Sompét, Baruva, Haripore and arrived again at Mandasa on the 11th August, where I was engaged in inspecting the town on that and the next day and inquiring into serious allegations made against the circle inspector. I wrote to the Sompét Deputy Tahsildar to go to Mandasa, as I had to leave on the 13th for Budarsingi, where I remained till the 15th.

From M.R.Ry. A. SURYANARAYANA NAIDU GARU, General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Russelkonda, 27th October 1889, No. 969.

- I have the honor to submit my special report for the week ending with 26th October 1889.
- During the week, the rainfall registered was one inch and 7 cents at Russelkonda, one inch and 89 cents at Surad  and 70 cents at Aska.
 - All kinds of crops under cultivation are in good condition. Paddy in rainfed lands is coming to ripe. Light paddy is being harvested in some places.
 - The condition of cattle is good, but in some parts of the taluk they are suffering from small-pox, the deaths reported from this cause during the week being 54.
 - The condition of people having considerably improved owing to the favorable character of the season, relief in all circles was closed from the 19th instant, but a few emaciated persons are still retained on gratuitous relief in some circles as shown in the subjoined statement :—

In Goomsur Tahsildar's range.

Name of circle.	NUMBER ON RELIEF.			
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1. Russelkonda ...	...	...	3	3
2. Buguda ...	2	3	1	6
3. Jagannathaprasad ...	2	1	1	4
4. Mojogodo ...	18	7	24	49
5. Gulleri ...	12	8	31	51
6. Bellugunta ...	...	5	...	5
Total ...	34	24	60	118
7. Surad� ...	...	6	19	25
8. Aska ...	...	...	3	3
Grand total ...	34	30	82	146

6. The following statement shows the numbers fed at the 3 kitchens maintained at the 3 taluk officers' head-quarters stations in the division :—

Kitchens.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Russelkonda ...	30	70	209	309
Surad� ...	10	28	189	227
Aska ...	7	13	98	118
Total ...	47	111	496	654

7. The following statement shows the numbers employed on relief works :—

Taluks.	On drinking water tanks.	On minor irrigation works.	On other works.	Total.	Number of weakly persons.
Goomsur ...	...	...	304	304	304
Surad� ...	...	...	149	149	149
Aska ...	136	...	...	136	106
Total ...	136	...	453	589	559

8. The only relief works now in progress are the Bodokodanda and Kullada village roads in Goomsur, the Surad  road, and the drinking-water tank of Kalusondapore in Aska. The Rushikulya project works are going on as usual.

9. The prices of food-grains are as follows :—

Stations.	RICE.		RAGI.	
	This week.	Last week.	This week.	Last week.
Russelkonda ...	11½	11	36	35
Surad� ...	11½	11½	36	36
Aska ...	10	10	31	28

10. The price of ragi has fallen at Russelkonda and Aska, while it is stationary at Surad . The price of rice has slightly fallen in Russelkonda, while it is stationary at other stations.

11. No places were visited by me during the week owing to the jamabandi of Goomsur taluk.

From M.R.Ry. D. VENKATA SASTRI, Garu, Deputy Collector on General Duties, Chatrapur Division, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Rambha, 27th October 1889, No. 1486.

I have the honor to submit my report on the Kallik t and Atagad  taluks for the week ending 26th October 1889.

2. *Rainfall.*—The rain gauge at Kallik t shows that the total fall there during the whole week was 85 cents. Similar quantity fell at other important centres in the estate. Excess of rain was at first felt to some extent by the ryots in the Palsara and Boirani muttas, but recent clear days removed their fears altogether.

3. *Agricultural operations.*—Standing crops are all in first-rate condition. I anticipate full crop this year.

4. *Prices.*—

4. Prices.—										
Station.	PAST WEEK.					PRESENT WEEK.				
	Boiled rice.		Raw rice.		Ragi.	Boiled rice.		Raw rice.		Ragi.
	1st.	2nd.	1st.	2nd.		1st.	2nd.	1st.	2nd.	
Kallikót	12	14	11	12	33	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	36
Boirani	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	34
Palsara	12	13	10	11	35	12	13	10	11	33
Pasi	11 $\frac{3}{4}$	12 $\frac{1}{8}$	10 $\frac{7}{8}$	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	40	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	26

Prices have fallen at Kallik t and Boirani, those at Palsara remaining stationary. 40 seers of ragi are shown at Pasi under head past week against 26½ the present one. This must have been a mistake. Ragi is being harvested everywhere and its price must of necessity fall but cannot rise.

5. *Gratuitous relief.*—As already reported all famine circles in the two taluks have been closed from the 19th instant and the return called for in your letter, No. 603, dated 4th October, is under preparation. The numbers that still remain on relief are the following :—

Name of centre.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Boirani ...	1	1	3	5
Kolladi ...	...	...	...	...
Palsara ...	6	9	7	22
Pandripada ...	3	4	29	36
Total ...	10	14	39	63

Information from the remaining circles not having as yet been received, the paupers still left there on the lists have not been shown above. Looking at the highly favorable prospects of the season I consider that this limited number of paupers may with perfect safety be left to private charity. These are what we call professional beggars and they remain as such till they die. I am about to issue instructions to the manager not to sanction any doles unless unavoidable.

6. *Boirani kitchen.*—Seeing no necessity for the retention of the kitchen at Boirani, I have closed it from the 19th instant.

7. *Weavers.*—Out of Rs. 2,504 originally advanced to the weavers at the several places in the two taluks, Rs. 2,097-8-2 have been recovered and the rest will be done shortly.

8. *Relief works.*—No coolies have been employed on any works.

9. *Mortality.*—No reports from small-pox. It has subsided a great deal.

From H. W. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 23rd October 1889, No. 789.

I have the honor to forward herewith a report No. 350, dated 16th October 1889, from Mr. Forbes, Taluk Relief officer, regarding an error which was perpetrated at the Mandasa kitchen and in consequence of which double quantities of food, that is to say, a full day's ration for each meal, were indented for from 1st July, the date of opening of the kitchen to 14th August. The number shown as the attendance in the indent, instead of the number present at the last evening's meal, is the sum of the numbers present at the two meals, and for this number a full day's ration is provided. Thus the indents themselves do not reveal the

cannot now be stopped. These are the only relief works in progress in my division, and the number employed on them on October, 25th was 241. In Chinna Kimedi 200 coolies are working on minor irrigation works and Dhárákót 40.

7. The subjoined statement shows the prices of this and the previous weeks :—

Stations.	LAST WEEK.		THIS WEEK.	
	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.
Chinna Kimedi	Pattupur ...	12 36	12 39	
	Bismagiri ...	12 33	12 33	
	Pudamari ...	12 39	12 42	
	Kunkurada ...	11.25 30	11.25 30	
Dhárákót ...	Mondimorayi ...	11.72 28.36	12.4 28.5	

8. Not much rain has fallen during the week though the days have generally been cloudy. At Pattupur 58 cents were registered.

9. The cattle in this estate are suffering widely from a species of dysentery and many are said to have died. The manager has written to the Treasury Deputy Collector for medicines, but none have as yet been supplied.

10. The usual statements are attached.

No. I.—Number on gratuitous relief.

Name of circle.	Population.	Number on relief including kitchens for the week ending with October, 19th.	Percentage.	Number of special cases selected for money relief on October, 26th.	Number fed on October, 26th.	Total.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. Pattupur ..	13,452	121	.89	17	114	131	.97
II. Pudamari ..	14,525	383	2.63	19	41	60	.41
III. Pratapagiri ..	10,466	241	2.31	15	..	15	.14
IV. Sergada ..	12,056	71	.056	30	..	30	.24
V. Dowgam ..	9,726	174	1.78	9	165	174	1.84
VI. Dhárákót ..	13,045	98	.75	18	..	18	.13
VII. Ballisira ..	15,015	146	.97	15	..	15	.10
Total ..	88,285	1,234	1.39	123	320	443	.05

No. II.—Numbers fed in various kitchens.

Kitchen name.	Circle in which situated.	Date of opening.	Attendance on October, 18th.	Attendance on October, 26th.
1. Pattupur ..	Pattupur ..	11th June 1889 ..	78	114
2. Pudamari ..	Pudamari ..	29th " " ..	38	41
3. Pakkidi ..	Dowgam ..	13th Sept. " ..	165	165
Total ..			281	320

No. III.—Numbers on the drinking-water tanks and wells and on the minor irrigation works.

Taluk.	ON DRINKING-WATER TANKS AND WELLS.		ON THE MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS.	
	Last week.	This week.	Last week.	This week.
Chinna Kimedi ...	237	241	200	200
Dhárákót ...	109	...	45	40
Total ...	346	241	245	240

From W. O. HORNE, Esq., Acting Special Assistant Agent, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Chatrapur, 29th October 1889, No. 1075.

I have the honor to submit my report for the week ending 26th October.

2. All relief circles are closed. A very few people (about 150) are still getting doles through their village officers.

3. Suradá kitchen closed on the 26th, orphans being sent to Russellkonda.

4. Aska and Russellkonda kitchens will close on the 31st.

At those two places a few people will continue to be maintained out of a grant from the famine fund, also a few orphans until orders about their disposal are received.

5. Three minor relief works remain open. The Peddakodanda and the Kullada roads under Mr. Lever, the Suradá village road under the Deputy Tahsildar.

6. Messrs. Storey, Lever and Elphinstone are engaged in making detailed inquiry in a number of representative villages for the purpose of checking the returns of deaths and desertions submitted by the circle inspectors.

7. As soon as these returns are checked and complete, I will submit them tabulated with my remarks thereon.

8. This will be my last regular weekly report. Except the three small relief works mentioned above, famine work has ceased in my division.

Messrs. Elphinstone, Storey and Powell have been ordered to hand over their records and such final accounts as are due from them, and will then be relieved of famine work.

9. Mr. Elphinstone has assisted me from the commencement of operations and I am indebted to him for an immense amount of very hard and thankless work.

10. Mr. Storey has been very zealous and hardworking.

11. Mr. Powell, though having only kitchen work, has managed his kitchens with great success and has been extremely active.

12. Mr. Lever arrived when half the work, and all the worst of it, was over; but since then he has given me invaluable assistance.

13. These remarks may be out of place, but I feel bound to express my obligation to these officers to whose efforts it is due that we have not met with more failures and breakdowns than have had unfortunately from time to time to be reported.

14. All my expenditure is accounted for up to the end of September. The bill for October will be prepared very shortly after the end of this month.

From R. C. C. CARR, Esq., Additional Special Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Pattupur, 27th October 1889, No. 868.

I have the honor to submit my special report for the week ending with October 26th.

2. I was engaged during the week in selecting special cases for money relief in the Pattupur and Pudamari circles. In the latter, more particularly, the harvest has been plentiful and good, and the improvement in the general condition of the people is wonderful. Mr. Quinless accompanied me in my Pudamari inspection.

3. The Pattupur, Pudamari and Pakkidi kitchens were closed on the 26th, so that no kitchen now remains open in my division. Mr. Artho Bisvasara of Pattupur, who showed a commendable spirit of public charity at the commencement of distress, has now offered to continue the distribution of cooked food at Pattupur at his own expense if the present feeding sheds are placed at his disposal. I am asking your orders on the subject in a separate letter, but, pending sanction, am making arrangements to hand over the buildings to Mr. Bisvasara's charge, in order that there may be hardly any interruption in the relief of those now supported by Government. I trust that Mr. Bisvasara's proposals will meet with your approval, as his charitable intentions certainly deserve encouragement.

4. The statement of numbers on gratuitous relief on October, 26th (No. I) shows the number of special cases in each circle. It will be seen that their total (123) is a small one; the Chinna Kimedi estate contains 51 of these, Dhárákót 42, and Sergada 30. As already reported there are no special cases in Bodogodo.

5. Including the 320 persons fed in kitchens, there were thus only 443 on State relief at the end of the week. The kitchens having now been closed, these 320 paupers have for the most part been thrown back on private charity; a few have been sent in to the Aska kitchen; and many of the remainder are children who have parents or other relations able to support them.

6. The earthwork on the Pattupur village road has been completed and metal is being laid. Mr. Quinless has gone to Kunkurada to inspect the work there and to see whether it

8. The following are the numbers employed on works :—

Rushikulya	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,158
Gopálpur canal	...	...	...	...	...	...	803
Tekkali-Anantagiri road	...	...	...	...	...	...	581
Battili	...	...	...	...	...	...	293
Palasa	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Kallikót-Boirani	...	...	...	...	...	...	Not reported.
Berhampore-Digupudi	...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Digupudi-Govindapur	...	...	...	...	...	...	953
Babanda-Pattupur	...	...	...	...	...	...	259
Ichápur-Jarada	...	...	...	...	...	...	Not reported.
Aska-Korcholi	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Boppayapuram gedda	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Drinking-water tanks and wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	194
Other works	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,032
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,586

9. The numbers on relief for the week ending with the 19th October were as follows :—

Gratuitous relief.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Money doles and raw grains	1,081	1,773	4,476	7,330
Fed in kitchens	321	643	2,429	3,393
Total	...	...	...	10,723

As all relief circles closed on the 19th, the numbers have now dwindled down to two or three hundred and, as stated above, these will from to-day be provided for from private funds.

10. I regret to have to bring to the notice of Government a serious case of fraud committed in the Mandasa kitchen. Mandasa is in Mr. Foster's division and was under the immediate charge of Mr. Forbes as famine officer. The kitchen was personally opened by Mr. Foster on the 1st July last, and from that date up to the 14th August, by counting, in his indents for supplies, each person receiving two meals in the day, as two, the gumasta indented for and apparently received double the amount of provisions required, with the result that Rs. 916-15-2 have been surcharged to Government. It is impossible for me to accept Mr. Foster's conclusion that the whole of the supplies procured were issued to the paupers at the kitchen. This mistake should certainly have been detected by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July, when he himself made the first payment to the contractor for a week's supplies. A cursory examination of the indent must have disclosed the fact that the numbers were double the attendance at the kitchen, and at every subsequent visit to the kitchen the error should have been discovered had the most ordinary examination been made of the gumasta's accounts and attendance register. Still more inexcusable is Mr. Forbes' neglect after his attention was called to the matter by Mr. Foster some time in July, for he then wrote to the gumasta for an explanation and appears to have paid no further attention to the subject. The gumasta's reply, which is dated the 29th July, showed that he had been indenting for double the proper quantities. Unfortunately this paper was mislaid by Mr. Forbes and nothing was done till the 14th August when the Deputy Tahsildar visited Mandasa and inspected the kitchen accounts.

11. Subsequent to the first payment made by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July all kitchen payments were made by the circle inspector, who certified that he compared the indents with the kitchen attendance register and the kitchen bills were not sent to Mr. Forbes. I cannot, however, admit that Mr. Forbes is thereby relieved from responsibility. It was clearly his duty as famine officer to test from time to time the quantity and quality of food issued and the accounts showing the charges. To accept the circle inspector's returns without question or inquiry was simply to ignore his own proper functions.

12. Mr. Foster states that from his inquiry it is impossible to substantiate a criminal charge against the gumasta. The contractor is, of course, protected by the indents, but I have little doubt that he, the kitchen gumasta and the circle inspector all connived at the fraud.

13. I have called upon Mr. Foster to state what, if any, pay remains undisbursed to the circle inspector and kitchen gumasta, respectively, but have received no reply as yet. Should there be any sum due to them, I proposed to credit it against the amount of Rs. 916-15-2 and solicit the orders of Government as to how the remainder is to be dealt with. I forward herewith Mr. Foster's letter and its enclosures.

14. Mr. Carr submits a list of village officers for whom he recommends special remuneration on account of famine work. The total amount is Rs. 350 and I recommend sanction for the same.

15. Mr. Horne will proceed in a few days to the Maliahs where his presence is now needed. Mr. Elphinstone is returning to Chatrapur and Mr. Carr informs me that he can finish by the middle of November. There will then remain only Messrs. McMurray and Lever, whose further retention is rendered necessary by the fact that the Divisional officers, Messrs. Foster and A. Suryanarayana, are fully occupied with the jamabandi of the Berhampore and Goomsur taluks.

16. I have been at head-quarters during the week. The cold season has set in and there is every prospect of a very good rice harvest. Famine and all grounds for apprehension are now things of the past, and it only remains for me, as soon as returns are received, to submit a final report which I can very well do when on leave if the leave applied for by me is granted.

ENCLOSURES.

From H. W. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Collector of Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 30th October 1889, No. 807.

I have the honor to submit my report for the week ending 26th instant.

2. With the end of the week all the kitchens remaining open in the division have been ordered to be closed, except that at Berhampore, which has been adapted for the accommodation of the specially bad cases from the kitchens at outlying stations. There are now 43 persons in the Berhampore kitchen and there are some 20 more to be sent from Ichápur, who have not yet arrived.

3. This kitchen and the several relief works are the only remains of the famine relief operations in the division. With an excellent ragi harvest and an assured prospect of an even better paddy crop, distress has entirely disappeared. With reference to the relief works of his division, Mr. McMurray says that all the daily laborers are strong and well and that a weakly cooly is entirely of the past, and regarding the general improvement of affairs he writes : " It gives me much pleasure to bear testimony to the extraordinary change that has been wrought in the state of the people. At one time I saw a Brahmin female actually washing cow dung to secure the ragi grain from the same and now there is plenty of ragi everywhere to prevent even the poorest from being put to such straits." The paddy crop promises such an unusually heavy outturn that, after allowing for the replenishment of the depleted stores, there is certain to be a large surplus for exportation and by that means the district will speedily be restored to its wonted prosperity.

4. I append a statement of coolies on the several relief works :—

Works.	Number of coolies.
Pratapur road	213
Purushottapur road	160
Konchuru road	116
Sindiripuram road	109
Lati road	92
Luchapada road	78
Konisi road	107
Konamana road and quarry	864
Gopálpur road	109
Rambah	Completed.
Total	1,848

16TH NOVEMBER 1889, Nos. 923, 923A, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following letter from J. G. HORSFALL, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Chatrapur, 31st October 1889, No. 8557:—

I have the honor to submit herewith the reports of Messrs. Foster, Horne, Carr, A. Suryanarayana and D. Venkata Sastri for the week ending with the 26th October 1889. Mr. Wedderburn has not submitted a report as relief operations in his division are closed excepting one or two works.

2. Gratuitous relief in the shape of money doles, raw grain, and cooked food has virtually ceased from this date. The Berhampore kitchen and the few remaining cases of starvation will from the 1st proximo be maintained from the subscription fund at my disposal and no further charge under this head will be met from Government funds.

3. The kitchen at Pattapur will be continued temporarily as Mr. Artho Bisvasara of that place has generously offered to maintain it and I have readily complied with his request to allow him the use of the kitchen buildings for the purpose.

4. Messrs. Forbes and Marshall left, I believe, by the last steamer and the services of Messrs. Storey, Sherman, Brown, Quinless and Powell will be dispensed with in the course of a day or two, when they will have prepared their accounts for the month of October.

5. The orders of Government are awaited on the following points:—

- (1) The temporary retention of Messrs. McMurray and Lever.
- (2) The disposal of weavers' cloths.
- (3) The transfer to the Suradā mission of some of the orphans.
- (4) The stoppage of works as relief works and their continuance or otherwise as ordinary works.

6. I append hereunder the usual statement of prices. There has been a slight rise in the price of rice which is remarkable seeing that a good harvest is almost assured and it is now quoted at Pooree at 18 to 20 seers the rupee—a rate which admits of importation to this district with considerable profit.

Date.	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholum.	Cumbu.
26th October 1889	11.74	33.62	17	33.66
19th do. 1889	11.78	31.46	16.33	34.5
29th do. 1887	17.85	33.11	25.1	35.73

7. The following are the importations registered:—

	CWTS.
By sea	139
From Orissa	4,228
From the Central Provinces	6,696
Total	11,063

Govt. of {1889} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th November 1889,
Nos. 923, 923A.

NOVEMBER.

Condition of the Ganjam district.

Passing orders on the reports of the Collector and his Assistants on the — for week ending 26th October 1889.

N. 34417 W. 2/2 and 2/2 1889

Communicated to the
Suptg. Engineer I circle.

sd/ W. L. C. B.

To

The Chief Engr for Irrigation
Suptg. Engr I circle.

fraudulently indenting at double rates and a conviction could only be had on some such charge as petty pilfering. That the latter did happen has been sworn to by the cooks and warder whose depositions I took and forwarded to you when reporting this occurrence.

- (1) Admission register.
- (2) Attendance register for July.
- (3) Do. do. for August (Caste).
- (4) Do. do. for do. (Pariah).
- (5) Indents for July.
- (6) Do. for August.

16. I enclose a table showing in detail the attendance for July and August for purposes of comparison with the numbers given in the gumasta's indents. The marginally-noted kitchen registers are also forwarded.

ORDER—dated 16th November 1889, No. 923, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The action of the Collector referred to in paragraph 3 of his report is approved. Orders have already been passed on the

points mentioned in paragraph 5. The Government desires to have fuller information as to the remuneration of Rs. 350 to village officials, recommended in paragraph 14, and the special circumstances which justify its grant in Mr. Carr's division.

2. In paragraphs 10-13 the Collector reports certain transactions at the Mandasa kitchen, which resulted in a surcharge and loss to Government of Rs. 916-15-2. The particulars given in the report and its enclosures are defective as to dates, but there is enough to show that the persons to blame in the matter were Mr. Forbes and the circle inspector. The Government does not see any ground for suspecting fraud on the part of the gumasta who seems to have been guilty of nothing more than gross stupidity in indenting for and issuing double rations. The mistake should certainly have been detected by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July when making a payment of Rs. 220 for 7 days' supplies, and the Government fully agrees with the Collector that the neglect of this officer, even after his attention was called to the matter by Mr. Foster later on in July, was wholly inexcusable and that he cannot relieve himself of his responsibility in the matter by relying on the certificates of the circle inspector whose work it was his duty to check and to control. Mr. Forbes is, however, young and inexperienced and the Government is inclined to take a lenient view of his neglect; he will be ordered, as a warning, to pay one-fourth of the sum lost by Government. The circle inspector is also greatly in fault and was guilty of gross neglect if of nothing worse; for this he must be severely reprimanded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Ganjam.
„ the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Surgeon-General.
„ the Editors' table.

No. 923A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.

100 Copies.

7. On my return that day the Deputy Tahsildar informed me that he had been over the kitchen gumasta's accounts and found that the indents were double what they should be. The gumasta explained that he had indented according to the rates he had been told and that the measures in use were of such size that the food went round without large quantities remaining over. I did not regard his explanation as satisfactory and accordingly suspended him till I received your orders.

8. Ever since the appointment of circle inspectors in the middle of July the Mandasa circle inspector was paying the kitchen bills and certifying that he compared the indents with the attendance register and found them correct. Except on the occasion of the first payment no kitchen bills have been shown to me.

9. The general principle on which the former gumasta seems to have prepared his indents was that a person who came to both the morning and evening meal counted as 2 persons in the indent for the day and the person who came for one meal counted as one. That this is the case is evident from his August attendance register, where men, women and children are shown separately in two books—one for the caste and one for the Pariah section. For example on August, 1st, 82 adults and 70 children were fed in the caste section at both meals. The indent is for 164 adults and 140 children. In the Pariah section on the same day the numbers were 148 and 168 and the indent is for 294 adults (the gumasta evidently omitted one in counting) and 336 children and so on for the next 14 days.

10. For the month of July it is not easy to follow the gumasta's figures, as men, women and children are shown indiscriminately on the same page, but by referring to the admission register I have been able for the most part to distinguish the adults from the children. On the 1st July the attendance register shows 107 adults, 77 children and 332, whose ages are not given in the admission register and whom I have consequently marked "doubtful." The indent is made for 288 adults, 228 children; the figures, therefore, which show the distribution of "doubtfuls" among adults and children were obtained by actually counting the persons present. Of these 332 "doubtfuls," only 97 appeared on the 2nd July and on the 4th the number still further fell to 30, till from the 8th onward we get only 5, 2 and 3 "doubtfuls" daily.

11. On the 1st July the total 516 persons shown in the indent is correct according to the attendance register, but the ration per man is doubled. On the next and following days the ration per man is correctly shown, but the numbers in the attendance are wrong. I have gone through the attendance for each day and my clerk has subsequently done the same and where our results differed the attendance has been counted over again; still as it is impossible in a few cases to say whether a man has been marked present or absent, a difference will appear between my figures multiplied by two and those shown in the indents.

12. The gumasta cannot have prepared his indents by the attendance register; he must have done so by actually counting those present, for his attendance register for July does not distinguish adults from children, and I find that in some cases, where the total number of persons present on a given day is correctly stated (allowing that the number has been multiplied by 2), the details of adults and children in the indent do not correspond with those in the attendance register, for instance, on July, 24th, the attendance register shows 161 adults, 161 children, and 1 "doubtful;" according to the gumasta's calculation, his indent should show 322 adults and 324 children or 324 adults and 322 children (total 646) according as he counted the "doubtful" person as an adult or a child; whereas the indent is for 312 adults and 334 children, the total 646 still being retained.

13. As to the question of fraud, it has probably been committed, but not to the extent the double indents would lead one to suppose. I have tested the measures then in use though with varying results, but I think the true difference between the measures used and those of the prescribed size is that the large measure holds 31 tolas and the small one nearly 20. The small measure, especially, is very wide at the mouth and can be made to hold any quantity between 14 and 22 tolas; when food was given out I should say that 19 tolas were given with a small measure. Most of the food was consumed at the kitchen though not altogether by the kitchen inmates, for since I suspended the gumasta I was told by the kitchen servants and also by the apothecary, who was there for 3 or 4 days, that some 30 poor people whose names were not entered in the register used to be fed outside the enclosure. The great bulk of the extra food indented for was doubtless consumed at the kitchen, but a large amount must have been wasted.

14. Though the double indent is from the beginning I do not think fraud was at first intended; it is very probable that the gumasta did at first mistake the ration for the whole day for that prescribed for one meal and that on receiving the table I had prepared for him, he got frightened and continued as he had begun fearing that a change would entail discovery.

15. What confirms me in this opinion is that two days ago, whilst looking over some private papers, I found a letter (herewith returned) from the gumasta, stating the rates at which food was indented for and in it the double rate is given. If this letter is genuine, i.e., is of the date it purports to be (29th July), it would be difficult to prove that the gumasta was

mistake, which can be discovered only by comparison with the kitchen B register, and, as each indent after the appointment of the circle inspector bears his certificate that it is correct according to that register, there is some explanation of the lapse of time before the discovery of the error.

2. Mr. Forbes gives a detailed account of the matter to which it is unnecessary for me to add. He is of opinion that the gumasta was not guilty of deliberate fraud, but that he innocently indented for and received the double quantities at first and subsequently on discovering that he was wrong was afraid to change his system. However this may be, I conclude from inquiries I recently made in the matter at Mandasa that it would be impossible to substantiate a criminal charge against the gumasta.

3. As it thus seems probable that the whole of the supplies procured were issued to the paupers at the kitchen, I think the amounts may be passed and I request your orders as to whether I should include the vouchers in question in my famine bills. The total amount involved in these vouchers is Rs. 1,833-14-4, of which one-half is excess.

4. Enclosures 1 to 6 of Mr. Forbes' letter are retained in this office.

From A. J. FORBES, Esq., Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Senior Assistant Collector, Ganjam, dated Ichápur, 16th October 1889, No. 350.

I have the honor to submit the following report showing how the mistake in the indents for double quantities of food at the Mandasa kitchen occurred, and giving a history of the kitchen from its start to August, 14th.

2. The kitchen was opened on July, 1st, that is to say, food was first distributed from that date. Owing to the heavy rains that set in during the month, it was extremely difficult to progress with the construction of the kitchen sheds as bamboos had to be got from the hills and the gedda being swollen passage of bandies was for several days impossible. As, however, the condition of the people was miserable, delay was out of the question and food was given at the road side till the sheds were constructed.

3. After starting the tank work and the weavers' advances I left for Harripore, where I remained till the 11th, when I visited Mandasa on my way in to Berhampore, where my examination was to take place on the 15th. On arrival at Mandasa the kitchen contractor accompanied by the gumasta came to me for payment of the provisions supplied according to the indents and complained that he had been paid nothing since the opening of the kitchen.

When I referred him to the Deputy Tahsildar for payment, he said that he had not agreed to go to Sompét and refused to give further supplies unless I paid him.

4. There was no other contractor in Mandasa capable of catering for the kitchen, so I paid him on the indents for 7 days. The amount paid was Rs. 220 odd, but I told him that the payment was a payment on account and not a final settlement inasmuch as I had no means of telling the market price of the various articles and that if his charges were found too great the amount would be reduced from the next payment. To this he agreed.

5. I did not notice that a day's rations had been charged for the first day when only one meal was given—in fact as I had no Famine Code till the end of July I did not know what amount of each article was prescribed and had to take the gumasta's word that he was indenting at the rates he was instructed in your office. When I arrived at Ichápur I told my clerk to prepare a table similar to the one I had seen at the Ichápur kitchen showing the amount of provisions necessary for 1 man, for 2 men, 10, and 20, &c., for the whole day and also a table showing in the same way the prescribed quantities for children, and to send it to the Mandasa gumasta, so that he might at a glance calculate the amount of provisions required.

The Ichápur kitchen gumasta made a copy of his table and gave it to my clerk, but it appears that he, instead of sending it to Mandasa as ordered, kept it with him and gave it to the Mandasa gumasta when I visited Mandasa at the end of the month. The gumasta made a copy and returned the original to my clerk.

6. On receipt of your foot-note inquiring whether a double quantity had not been indented for on the 1st July, I at once wrote to the gumasta for an explanation. A reply, dated 29th July, showing that he was indenting at double rates is now in my office. It is singular that, while looking over some private papers on October, 5th, I found this letter, which I had never before seen. How or when it could have come amongst private letters I cannot say and of course it does not bear my initials though I initial and date all papers on receipt. On the 29th July I was encamped at Patrokondo and thence made my way into Ichápur, Sompét, Baruva, Haripore and arrived again at Mandasa on the 11th August, where I was engaged in inspecting the town on that and the next day and inquiring into serious allegations made against the circle inspector. I wrote to the Sompét Deputy Tahsildar to go to Mandasa, as I had to leave on the 13th for Budarsingi, where I remained till the 15th.

From M.R.Ry. A. SURYANARAYANA NAIDU GARU, General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Russellkonda, 27th October 1889, No. 969.

I have the honor to submit my special report for the week ending with 26th October 1889.

2. During the week, the rainfall registered was one inch and 7 cents at Russellkonda, one inch and 89 cents at Surad  and 70 cents at Aska.

3. All kinds of crops under cultivation are in good condition. Paddy in rainfed lands is coming to ripe. Light paddy is being harvested in some places.

4. The condition of cattle is good, but in some parts of the taluk they are suffering from small-pox, the deaths reported from this cause during the week being 54.

5. The condition of people having considerably improved owing to the favorable character of the season, relief in all circles was closed from the 19th instant, but a few emaciated persons are still retained on gratuitous relief in some circles as shown in the subjoined statement:—

In Goomsur Tahsildar's range.

Name of circle.	NUMBER ON RELIEF.			
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1. Russellkonda ...	2	3	1	6
2. Buguda ...	2	1	1	4
3. Jagannathaprasad ...	18	7	24	49
4. Mojogodo ...	12	8	31	51
5. Gulleri ...	...	5	...	5
6. Bellugunta ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	34	24	60	118
7. Surad� ...	...	6	19	25
8. Aska ...	...	...	3	3
Grand total ...	34	30	82	146

6. The following statement shows the numbers fed at the 3 kitchens maintained at the 3 taluk officers' head-quarters stations in the division:—

Kitchens.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Russellkonda ...	30	70	209	309
Surad� ...	10	28	189	227
Aska ...	7	13	98	118
Total ...	47	111	496	654

7. The following statement shows the numbers employed on relief works:—

Taluks.	On drinking water tanks.	On minor irrigation works.	On other works.	Total.	Number of weakly persons.
Goomsur ...	...	...	304	304	304
Surad� ...	...	...	149	149	149
Aska ...	136	...	...	136	106
Total ...	136	...	453	589	559

8. The only relief works now in progress are the Bodokodanda and Kullada village roads in Goomsur, the Surad  road, and the drinking-water tank of Kalusondapore in Aska. The Rushikulya project works are going on as usual.

9. The prices of food-grains are as follows:—

Stations.	RICE.		RAGI.	
	This week.	Last week.	This week.	Last week.
Russellkonda ...	11½	11	36	35
Surad� ...	11½	11½	36	36
Aska ...	10	10	31	28

10. The price of ragi has fallen at Russellkonda and Aska, while it is stationary at Surad . The price of rice has slightly fallen in Russellkonda, while it is stationary at other stations.

11. No places were visited by me during the week owing to the jamabandi of Goomsur taluk.

From M.R.Ry. D. VENKATA SASTRI, Garu, Deputy Collector on General Duties, Chatrapur Division, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Rambha, 27th October 1889, No. 1486.

I have the honor to submit my report on the Kallik t and Atagad  taluks for the week ending 26th October 1889.

2. *Rainfall.*—The rain gauge at Kallik t shows that the total fall there during the whole week was 85 cents. Similar quantity fell at other important centres in the estate. Excess of rain was at first felt to some extent by the ryots in the Palsara and Boirani muttas, but recent clear days removed their fears altogether.

3. *Agricultural operations.*—Standing crops are all in first-rate condition. I anticipate full crop this year.

4. *Prices.*—

4. Prices.—										
Station.	PAST WEEK.					PRESENT WEEK.				
	Boiled rice.		Raw rice.		Ragi.	Boiled rice.		Raw rice.		Ragi.
	1st.	2nd.	1st.	2nd.		1st.	2nd.	1st.	2nd.	
Kallikót .. .	12	14	11	12	33	12½	14½	11½	12½	36
Boirani .. .	11½	12½	10½	11½	33½	11½	12½	10½	11½	33½
Palsara .. .	12	13	10	11	35	12	13	10	11	35
Pasi .. .	11¾	12½	10¾	11¼	40	11¾	12½	10	10¾	26½

Prices have fallen at Kallik t and Boirani, those at Palsara remaining stationary. 40 seers of ragi are shown at Pasi under head past week against 26½ the present one. This must have been a mistake. Ragi is being harvested everywhere and its price must of necessity fall but cannot rise.

5. *Gratuitous relief.*—As already reported all famine circles in the two taluks have been closed from the 19th instant and the return called for in your letter, No. 603, dated 4th October, is under preparation. The numbers that still remain on relief are the following:—

Name of centre.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Boirani ...	1	1	3	5
Kolladi ...	6	9	7	22
Palsara ...	3	4	29	36
Pandripada ...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	10	14	39	63

Information from the remaining circles not having as yet been received, the paupers still left there on the lists have not been shown above. Looking at the highly favorable prospects of the season I consider that this limited number of paupers may with perfect safety be left to private charity. These are what we call professional beggars and they remain as such till they die. I am about to issue instructions to the manager not to sanction any doles unless unavoidable.

6. *Boirani kitchen.*—Seeing no necessity for the retention of the kitchen at Boirani, I have closed it from the 19th instant.

7. *Weavers.*—Out of Rs. 2,504 originally advanced to the weavers at the several places in the two taluks, Rs. 2,097-8-2 have been recovered and the rest will be done shortly.

8. *Relief works.*—No coolies have been employed on any works.

9. *Mortality.*—No reports from small-pox. It has subsided a great deal.

From H. W. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 23rd October 1889, No. 789.

I have the honor to forward herewith a report No. 350, dated 16th October 1889, from Mr. Forbes, Taluk Relief officer, regarding an error which was perpetrated at the Mandasa kitchen and in consequence of which double quantities of food, that is to say, a full day's ration for each meal, were indented for from 1st July, the date of opening of the kitchen to 14th August. The number shown as the attendance in the indent, instead of the number present at the last evening's meal, is the sum of the numbers present at the two meals, and for this number a full day's ration is provided. Thus the indents themselves do not reveal the

cannot now be stopped. These are the only relief works in progress in my division, and the number employed on them on October, 25th was 241. In Chinna Kimedi 200 coolies are working on minor irrigation works and Dhárakót 40.

7. The subjoined statement shows the prices of this and the previous weeks :—

Stations.	LAST WEEK.		THIS WEEK.	
	Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.
Chinna Kimedi { Pattupur	12	36	12	39
{ Bismagiri	12	33	12	33
{ Pudamari	12	39	12	42
{ Kunkurada	11.25	30	11.25	30
Dhárakót ... Mondimorayi	11.72	28.36	12.4	28.5

8. Not much rain has fallen during the week though the days have generally been cloudy. At Pattupur 58 cents were registered.

9. The cattle in this estate are suffering widely from a species of dysentery and many are said to have died. The manager has written to the Treasury Deputy Collector for medicines, but none have as yet been supplied.

10. The usual statements are attached.

No. I.—Number on gratuitous relief.

Name of circle.	Population.	Number on relief including kitchens for the week ending with October, 19th.	Percentage.	Number of special cases selected for money relief on October, 26th.	Number fed on October, 26th.	Total.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. Pattupur ..	13,452	121	.89	17	114	131	.97
II. Pudamari ..	14,525	383	2.63	19	41	60	.41
III. Pratapagiri ..	10,466	241	2.31	15	..	15	.14
IV. Sergada ..	12,056	71	.56	30	..	30	.24
V. Dowgam ..	9,726	174	1.78	9	165	174	1.81
VI. Dhárakót ..	13,045	98	.75	18	..	18	.13
VII. Ballisira ..	15,015	146	.97	15	..	15	.10
Total ..	88,285	1,234	1.39	123	320	443	.05

No. II.—Numbers fed in various kitchens.

Kitchen name.	Circle in which situated.	Date of opening.	Attendance on October, 18th.	Attendance on October, 26th.
1. Pattupur	Pattupur	11th June 1889	78	114
2. Pudamari	Pudamari	29th " " "	38	41
3. Pakkidi	Dowgam	13th Sept. " " "	165	165
Total ..			281	320

No. III.—Numbers on the drinking-water tanks and wells and on the minor irrigation works.

Taluk.	ON DRINKING-WATER TANKS AND WELLS.		ON THE MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS.	
	Last week.	This week.	Last week.	This week.
Chinna Kimedi	237	241	200	200
Dhárakót	109	...	45	40
Total ...	346	241	245	240

From W. O. HORNE, Esq., Acting Special Assistant Agent, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Chatrapur, 29th October 1889, No. 1075.

I have the honor to submit my report for the week ending 26th October.

2. All relief circles are closed. A very few people (about 150) are still getting doles through their village officers.

3. Suradá kitchen closed on the 26th, orphans being sent to Russellkonda.

4. Aska and Russellkonda kitchens will close on the 31st.

At those two places a few people will continue to be maintained out of a grant from the famine fund, also a few orphans until orders about their disposal are received.

5. Three minor relief works remain open. The Peddakodanda and the Kullada roads under Mr. Lever, the Suradá village road under the Deputy Tahsildar.

6. Messrs. Storey, Lever and Elphinstone are engaged in making detailed inquiry in a number of representative villages for the purpose of checking the returns of deaths and desertions submitted by the circle inspectors.

7. As soon as these returns are checked and complete, I will submit them tabulated with my remarks thereon.

8. This will be my last regular weekly report. Except the three small relief works mentioned above, famine work has ceased in my division.

Messrs. Elphinstone, Storey and Powell have been ordered to hand over their records and such final accounts as are due from them, and will then be relieved of famine work.

9. Mr. Elphinstone has assisted me from the commencement of operations and I am indebted to him for an immense amount of very hard and thankless work.

10. Mr. Storey has been very zealous and hardworking.

11. Mr. Powell, though having only kitchen work, has managed his kitchens with great success and has been extremely active.

12. Mr. Lever arrived when half the work, and all the worst of it, was over; but since then he has given me invaluable assistance.

13. These remarks may be out of place, but I feel bound to express my obligation to these officers to whose efforts it is due that we have not met with more failures and breakdowns than have had unfortunately from time to time to be reported.

14. All my expenditure is accounted for up to the end of September. The bill for October will be prepared very shortly after the end of this month.

From R. C. C. CARR, Esq., Additional Special Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Pattupur, 27th October 1889, No. 868.

I have the honor to submit my special report for the week ending with October 26th.

2. I was engaged during the week in selecting special cases for money relief in the Pattupur and Pudamari circles. In the latter, more particularly, the harvest has been plentiful and good, and the improvement in the general condition of the people is wonderful. Mr. Quinless accompanied me in my Pudamari inspection.

3. The Pattupur, Pudamari and Pakkidi kitchens were closed on the 26th, so that no kitchen now remains open in my division. Mr. Artho Bisvasara of Pattupur, who showed a commendable spirit of public charity at the commencement of distress, has now offered to continue the distribution of cooked food at Pattupur at his own expense if the present feeding sheds are placed at his disposal. I am asking your orders on the subject in a separate letter, but, pending sanction, am making arrangements to hand over the buildings to Mr. Bisvasara's charge, in order that there may be hardly any interruption in the relief of those now supported by Government. I trust that Mr. Bisvasara's proposals will meet with your approval, as his charitable intentions certainly deserve encouragement.

4. The statement of numbers on gratuitous relief on October, 26th (No. I) shows the number of special cases in each circle. It will be seen that their total (123) is a small one; the Chinna Kimedi estate contains 51 of these, Dhárakót 42, and Sergada 30. As already reported there are no special cases in Bodogodo.

5. Including the 320 persons fed in kitchens, there were thus only 443 on State relief at the end of the week. The kitchens having now been closed, these 320 paupers have for the most part been thrown back on private charity; a few have been sent in to the Aska kitchen; and many of the remainder are children who have parents or other relations able to support them.

6. The earthwork on the Pattupur village road has been completed and metal is being laid. Mr. Quinless has gone to Kunkurada to inspect the work there and to see whether it

8. The following are the numbers employed on works:—

Rushikulya	3,158
Gopálpur canal	803
Tekkali-Anantagiri road	581
Battili	293
Palasa	63
Kallikót-Boirani	Not reported.
Berhampore-Digupudi	226
Digupudi-Govindapur	953
Babanda-Pattupur	259
Ichápur-Jarada	Not reported.
Aska-Korcholi	10
Boppayapuram gedda	14
Drinking-water tanks and wells	194
Other works	3,032
Total	9,586

9. The numbers on relief for the week ending with the 19th October were as follows:—

Gratuitous relief.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Money doles and raw grains	1,081	1,773	4,476	7,330
Fed in kitchens	321	643	2,429	3,393
Total				10,723

As all relief circles closed on the 19th, the numbers have now dwindled down to two or three hundred and, as stated above, these will from to-day be provided for from private funds.

10. I regret to have to bring to the notice of Government a serious case of fraud committed in the Mandasa kitchen. Mandasa is in Mr. Foster's division and was under the immediate charge of Mr. Forbes as famine officer. The kitchen was personally opened by Mr. Foster on the 1st July last, and from that date up to the 14th August, by counting, in his indents for supplies, each person receiving two meals in the day, as two, the gumasta indented for and apparently received double the amount of provisions required, with the result that Rs. 916-15-2 have been surcharged to Government. It is impossible for me to accept Mr. Foster's conclusion that the whole of the supplies procured were issued to the paupers at the kitchen. This mistake should certainly have been detected by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July, when he himself made the first payment to the contractor for a week's supplies. A cursory examination of the indent must have disclosed the fact that the numbers were double the attendance at the kitchen, and at every subsequent visit to the kitchen the error should have been discovered had the most ordinary examination been made of the gumasta's accounts and attendance register. Still more inexcusable is Mr. Forbes' neglect after his attention was called to the matter by Mr. Foster some time in July, for he then wrote to the gumasta for an explanation and appears to have paid no further attention to the subject. The gumasta's reply, which is dated the 29th July, showed that he had been indenting for double the proper quantities. Unfortunately this paper was mislaid by Mr. Forbes and nothing was done till the 14th August when the Deputy Tahsildar visited Mandasa and inspected the kitchen accounts.

11. Subsequent to the first payment made by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July all kitchen payments were made by the circle inspector, who certified that he compared the indents with the kitchen attendance register and the kitchen bills were not sent to Mr. Forbes. I cannot, however, admit that Mr. Forbes is thereby relieved from responsibility. It was clearly his duty as famine officer to test from time to time the quantity and quality of food issued and the accounts showing the charges. To accept the circle inspector's returns without question or inquiry was simply to ignore his own proper functions.

12. Mr. Foster states that from his inquiry it is impossible to substantiate a criminal charge against the gumasta. The contractor is, of course, protected by the indents, but I have little doubt that he, the kitchen gumasta and the circle inspector all connived at the fraud.

13. I have called upon Mr. Foster to state what, if any, pay remains undischarged to the circle inspector and kitchen gumasta, respectively, but have received no reply as yet. Should there be any sum due to them, I proposed to credit it against the amount of Rs. 916-15-2 and solicit the orders of Government as to how the remainder is to be dealt with. I forward herewith Mr. Foster's letter and its enclosures.

14. Mr. Carr submits a list of village officers for whom he recommends special remuneration on account of famine work. The total amount is Rs. 350 and I recommend sanction for the same.

15. Mr. Horne will proceed in a few days to the Maliahs where his presence is now needed. Mr. Elphinstone is returning to Chatrapur and Mr. Carr informs me that he can finish by the middle of November. There will then remain only Messrs. McMurray and Lever, whose further retention is rendered necessary by the fact that the Divisional officers, Messrs. Foster and A. Suryanarayana, are fully occupied with the jamabandi of the Berhampore and Goomsur taluks.

16. I have been at head-quarters during the week. The cold season has set in and there is every prospect of a very good rice harvest. Famine and all grounds for apprehension are now things of the past, and it only remains for me, as soon as returns are received, to submit a final report which I can very well do when on leave if the leave applied for by me is granted.

ENCLOSURES.

From H. W. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Collector of Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 30th October 1889, No. 807.

I have the honor to submit my report for the week ending 26th instant.

2. With the end of the week all the kitchens remaining open in the division have been ordered to be closed, except that at Berhampore, which has been adapted for the accommodation of the specially bad cases from the kitchens at outlying stations. There are now 43 persons in the Berhampore kitchen and there are some 20 more to be sent from Ichápur, who have not yet arrived.

3. This kitchen and the several relief works are the only remains of the famine relief operations in the division. With an excellent ragi harvest and an assured prospect of an even better paddy crop, distress has entirely disappeared. With reference to the relief works of his division, Mr. McMurray says that all the daily laborers are strong and well and that a weakly cooly is entirely of the past, and regarding the general improvement of affairs he writes: "It gives me much pleasure to bear testimony to the extraordinary change that has been wrought in the state of the people. At one time I saw a Brahmin female actually washing cow dung to secure the ragi grain from the same and now there is plenty of ragi everywhere to prevent even the poorest from being put to such straits." The paddy crop promises such an unusually heavy outturn that, after allowing for the replenishment of the depleted stores, there is certain to be a large surplus for exportation and by that means the district will speedily be restored to its wonted prosperity.

4. I append a statement of coolies on the several relief works:—

Works.	Number of coolies.
Pratapur road	213
Purushottapur road	160
Konchuru road	116
Sindiripuram road	109
Lati road	92
Luchapada road	78
Konisi road	107
Konamana road and quarry	864
Gopálpur road	109
Rambah	Completed.
Total	1,848

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following letter from J. G. HORSFALL, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Chatrapur, 31st October 1889, No. 8557 :—

I have the honor to submit herewith the reports of Messrs. Foster, Horne, Carr, A. Suryanarayana and D. Venkata Sastri for the week ending with the 26th October 1889. Mr. Wedderburn has not submitted a report as relief operations in his division are closed excepting one or two works.

2. Gratuitous relief in the shape of money doles, raw grain, and cooked food has virtually ceased from this date. The Berhampore kitchen and the few remaining cases of starvation will from the 1st proximo be maintained from the subscription fund at my disposal and no further charge under this head will be met from Government funds.

3. The kitchen at Pattupur will be continued temporarily as Mr. Artho Bisvasara of that place has generously offered to maintain it and I have readily complied with his request to allow him the use of the kitchen buildings for the purpose.

4. Messrs. Forbes and Marshall left, I believe, by the last steamer and the services of Messrs. Storey, Sherman, Brown, Quinless and Powell will be dispensed with in the course of a day or two, when they will have prepared their accounts for the month of October.

5. The orders of Government are awaited on the following points :—

- (1) The temporary retention of Messrs. McMurray and Lever.
- (2) The disposal of weavers' cloths.
- (3) The transfer to the Suradā mission of some of the orphans.
- (4) The stoppage of works as relief works and their continuance or otherwise as ordinary works.

6. I append hereunder the usual statement of prices. There has been a slight rise in the price of rice which is remarkable seeing that a good harvest is almost assured and it is now quoted at Pooree at 18 to 20 seers the rupee—a rate which admits of importation to this district with considerable profit.

Date.	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholum.	Cumbu.
26th October 1889	11.74	33.62	17	33.66
19th do. 1889	11.78	31.46	16.33	34.5
29th do. 1887	17.85	33.11	25.1	35.73

7. The following are the importations registered :—

	CWTS.
By sea	139
From Orissa	4,228
From the Central Provinces	6,696
Total	11,063

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 16th November 1889,
Nos. 923, 923A.

NOVEMBER.

Condition of the Ganjam district.

Passing orders on the reports of the Collector and his Assistants on the — for week ending 26th October 1889.

fraudulently indenting at double rates and a conviction could only be had on some such charge as petty pilfering. That the latter did happen has been sworn to by the cooks and warder whose depositions I took and forwarded to you when reporting this occurrence.

- (1) Admission register.
- (2) Attendance register for July.
- (3) Do. do. for August (Caste).
- (4) Do. do. for do. (Pariah).
- (5) Indents for July.
- (6) Do. for August.

16. I enclose a table showing in detail the attendance for July and August for purposes of comparison with the numbers given in the gumasta's indents. The marginally-noted kitchen registers are also forwarded.

ORDER—dated 16th November 1889, No. 923, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The action of the Collector referred to in paragraph 3 of his report is approved.

Orders have already been passed on the points mentioned in paragraph 5. The Government desires to have fuller information as to the remuneration of Rs. 350 to village officials, recommended in paragraph 14, and the special circumstances which justify its grant in Mr. Carr's division.

2. In paragraphs 10-13 the Collector reports certain transactions at the Mandasa kitchen, which resulted in a surcharge and loss to Government of Rs. 916-15-2. The particulars given in the report and its enclosures are defective as to dates, but there is enough to show that the persons to blame in the matter were Mr. Forbes and the circle inspector. The Government does not see any ground for suspecting fraud on the part of the gumasta who seems to have been guilty of nothing more than gross stupidity in indenting for and issuing double rations. The mistake should certainly have been detected by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July when making a payment of Rs. 220 for 7 days' supplies, and the Government fully agrees with the Collector that the neglect of this officer, even after his attention was called to the matter by Mr. Foster later on in July, was wholly inexcusable and that he cannot relieve himself of his responsibility in the matter by relying on the certificates of the circle inspector whose work it was his duty to check and to control. Mr. Forbes is, however, young and inexperienced and the Government is inclined to take a lenient view of his neglect; he will be ordered, as a warning, to pay one-fourth of the sum lost by Government. The circle inspector is also greatly in fault and was guilty of gross neglect if of nothing worse; for this he must be severely reprimanded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Ganjam.
,, the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, the Public Department.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Surgeon-General.
,, the Editors' table.

No. 923A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.

100 Copies.

7. On my return that day the Deputy Tahsildar informed me that he had been over the kitchen gumasta's accounts and found that the indents were double what they should be. The gumasta explained that he had indented according to the rates he had been told and that the measures in use were of such size that the food went round without large quantities remaining over. I did not regard his explanation as satisfactory and accordingly suspended him till I received your orders.

8. Ever since the appointment of circle inspectors in the middle of July the Mandasa circle inspector was paying the kitchen bills and certifying that he compared the indents with the attendance register and found them correct. Except on the occasion of the first payment no kitchen bills have been shown to me.

9. The general principle on which the former gumasta seems to have prepared his indents was that a person who came to both the morning and evening meal counted as 2 persons in the indent for the day and the person who came for one meal counted as one. That this is the case is evident from his August attendance register, where men, women and children are shown separately in two books—one for the caste and one for the Pariah section. For example on August, 1st, 82 adults and 70 children were fed in the caste section at both meals. The indent is for 164 adults and 140 children. In the Pariah section on the same day the numbers were 148 and 168 and the indent is for 294 adults (the gumasta evidently omitted one in counting) and 336 children and so on for the next 14 days.

10. For the month of July it is not easy to follow the gumasta's figures, as men, women and children are shown indiscriminately on the same page, but by referring to the admission register I have been able for the most part to distinguish the adults from the children. On the 1st July the attendance register shows 107 adults, 77 children and 332, whose ages are not given in the admission register and whom I have consequently marked "doubtful." The indent is made for 288 adults, 228 children; the figures, therefore, which show the distribution of "doubtfuls" among adults and children were obtained by actually counting the persons present. Of these 332 "doubtfuls," only 97 appeared on the 2nd July and on the 4th the number still further fell to 30, till from the 8th onward we get only 5, 2 and 3 "doubtfuls" daily.

11. On the 1st July the total 516 persons shown in the indent is correct according to the attendance register, but the ration per man is doubled. On the next and following days the ration per man is correctly shown, but the numbers in the attendance are wrong. I have gone through the attendance for each day and my clerk has subsequently done the same and where our results differed the attendance has been counted over again; still as it is impossible in a few cases to say whether a man has been marked present or absent, a difference will appear between my figures multiplied by two and those shown in the indents.

12. The gumasta cannot have prepared his indents by the attendance register; he must have done so by actually counting those present, for his attendance register for July does not distinguish adults from children, and I find that in some cases, where the total number of persons present on a given day is correctly stated (allowing that the number has been multiplied by 2), the details of adults and children in the indent do not correspond with those in the attendance register, for instance, on July, 24th, the attendance register shows 161 adults, 161 children, and 1 "doubtful;" according to the gumasta's calculation, his indent should show 322 adults and 324 children or 324 adults and 322 children (total 646) according as he counted the "doubtful" person as an adult or a child; whereas the indent is for 312 adults and 334 children, the total 646 still being retained.

13. As to the question of fraud, it has probably been committed, but not to the extent the double indents would lead one to suppose. I have tested the measures then in use though with varying results, but I think the true difference between the measures used and those of the prescribed size is that the large measure holds 31 tolas and the small one nearly 20. The small measure, especially, is very wide at the mouth and can be made to hold any quantity between 14 and 22 tolas; when food was given out I should say that 19 tolas were given with a small measure. Most of the food was consumed at the kitchen though not altogether by the kitchen inmates, for since I suspended the gumasta I was told by the kitchen servants and also by the apothecary, who was there for 3 or 4 days, that some 30 poor people whose names were not entered in the register used to be fed outside the enclosure. The great bulk of the extra food indented for was doubtless consumed at the kitchen, but a large amount must have been wasted.

14. Though the double indent is from the beginning I do not think fraud was at first intended; it is very probable that the gumasta did at first mistake the ration for the whole day for that prescribed for one meal and that on receiving the table I had prepared for him, he got frightened and continued as he had begun fearing that a change would entail discovery.

15. What confirms me in this opinion is that two days ago, whilst looking over some private papers, I found a letter (herewith returned) from the gumasta, stating the rates at which food was indented for and in it the double rate is given. If this letter is genuine, *i.e.*, is of the date it purports to be (29th July), it would be difficult to prove that the gumasta was

mistake, which can be discovered only by comparison with the kitchen B register, and, as each indent after the appointment of the circle inspector bears his certificate that it is correct according to that register, there is some explanation of the lapse of time before the discovery of the error.

2. Mr. Forbes gives a detailed account of the matter to which it is unnecessary for me to add. He is of opinion that the gumasta was not guilty of deliberate fraud, but that he innocently indented for and received the double quantities at first and subsequently on discovering that he was wrong was afraid to change his system. However this may be, I conclude from inquiries I recently made in the matter at Mandasa that it would be impossible to substantiate a criminal charge against the gumasta.

3. As it thus seems probable that the whole of the supplies procured were issued to the paupers at the kitchen, I think the amounts may be passed and I request your orders as to whether I should include the vouchers in question in my famine bills. The total amount involved in these vouchers is Rs. 1,833-14-4, of which one-half is excess.

4. Enclosures 1 to 6 of Mr. Forbes' letter are retained in this office.

From A. J. FORBES, Esq., Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Senior Assistant Collector, Ganjam, dated Ichápur, 16th October 1889, No. 350.

I have the honor to submit the following report showing how the mistake in the indents for double quantities of food at the Mandasa kitchen occurred, and giving a history of the kitchen from its start to August, 14th.

2. The kitchen was opened on July, 1st, that is to say, food was first distributed from that date. Owing to the heavy rains that set in during the month, it was extremely difficult to progress with the construction of the kitchen sheds as bamboos had to be got from the hills and the gedda being swollen passage of bandies was for several days impossible. As, however, the condition of the people was miserable, delay was out of the question and food was given at the road side till the sheds were constructed.

3. After starting the tank work and the weavers' advances I left for Harripore, where I remained till the 11th, when I visited Mandasa on my way in to Berhampore, where my examination was to take place on the 15th. On arrival at Mandasa the kitchen contractor accompanied by the gumasta came to me for payment of the provisions supplied according to the indents and complained that he had been paid nothing since the opening of the kitchen.

When I referred him to the Deputy Tahsildar for payment, he said that he had not agreed to go to Sompét and refused to give further supplies unless I paid him.

4. There was no other contractor in Mandasa capable of catering for the kitchen, so I paid him on the indents for 7 days. The amount paid was Rs. 220 odd, but I told him that the payment was a payment on account and not a final settlement inasmuch as I had no means of telling the market price of the various articles and that if his charges were found too great the amount would be reduced from the next payment. To this he agreed.

5. I did not notice that a day's rations had been charged for the first day when only one meal was given—in fact as I had no Famine Code till the end of July I did not know what amount of each article was prescribed and had to take the gumasta's word that he was indenting at the rates he was instructed in your office. When I arrived at Ichápur I told my clerk to prepare a table similar to the one I had seen at the Ichápur kitchen showing the amount of provisions necessary for 1 man, for 2 men, 10, and 20, &c., for the whole day and also a table showing in the same way the prescribed quantities for children, and to send it to the Mandasa gumasta, so that he might at a glance calculate the amount of provisions required.

The Ichápur kitchen gumasta made a copy of his table and gave it to my clerk, but it appears that he, instead of sending it to Mandasa as ordered, kept it with him and gave it to the Mandasa gumasta when I visited Mandasa at the end of the month. The gumasta made a copy and returned the original to my clerk.

6. On receipt of your foot-note inquiring whether a double quantity had not been indented for on the 1st July, I at once wrote to the gumasta for an explanation. A reply, dated 29th July, showing that he was indenting at double rates is now in my office. It is singular that, while looking over some private papers on October, 5th, I found this letter, which I had never before seen. How or when it could have come amongst private letters I cannot say and of course it does not bear my initials though I initial and date all papers on receipt. On the 29th July I was encamped at Patrokondo and thence made my way into Ichápur, Sompét, Baruva, Haripore and arrived again at Mandasa on the 11th August, where I was engaged in inspecting the town on that and the next day and inquiring into serious allegations made against the circle inspector. I wrote to the Sompét Deputy Tahsildar to go to Mandasa, as I had to leave on the 13th for Budarsingi, where I remained till the 15th.

From M.R.Ry. A. SURYANARAYANA NAIDU GARU, General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Russellkonda, 27th October 1889, No. 969.

I have the honor to submit my special report for the week ending with 26th October 1889.

2. During the week, the rainfall registered was one inch and 7 cents at Russellkonda, one inch and 89 cents at Surad  and 70 cents at Aska.

3. All kinds of crops under cultivation are in good condition. Paddy in rainfed lands is coming to ripe. Light paddy is being harvested in some places.

4. The condition of cattle is good, but in some parts of the taluk they are suffering from small-pox, the deaths reported from this cause during the week being 54.

5. The condition of people having considerably improved owing to the favorable character of the season, relief in all circles was closed from the 19th instant, but a few emaciated persons are still retained on gratuitous relief in some circles as shown in the subjoined statement :—

In Goomsur Tahsildar's range.

Name of circle.	NUMBER ON RELIEF.			
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.
1. Russellkonda ...	...	...	3	3
2. Buguda ...	...	...	1	6
3. Jagannathaprasad ...	...	...	1	4
4. Mojogodo ...	...	...	24	49
5. Gulleri ...	...	...	31	51
6. Bellugunta ...	...	...	...	5
Total ...	34	24	60	118
7. Surad� ...	...	...	19	25
8. Aska ...	...	...	3	3
Grand total ...	34	30	82	146

6. The following statement shows the numbers fed at the 3 kitchens maintained at the 3 taluk officers' head-quarters stations in the division :—

Kitchens.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Russellkonda ...	30	70	209	309
Surad� ...	10	28	189	227
Aska ...	7	13	98	118
Total ...	47	111	496	654

7. The following statement shows the numbers employed on relief works :—

Taluku.	On drinking water tanks.	On minor irrigation works.	On other works.	Total.	Number of weakly persons.
Goomsur ...	...	...	304	304	304
Surad� ...	...	...	149	149	149
Aska ...	136	...	136	136	106
Total ...	136	...	453	589	559

8. The only relief works now in progress are the Bodokodanda and Kullada village roads in Goomsur, the Surad  road, and the drinking-water tank of Kalusondapore in Aska. The Rushikulya project works are going on as usual.

9. The prices of food-grains are as follows :—

Stations.	RICE.		RAGI.	
	This week.	Last week.	This week.	Last week.
Russellkonda ...	11½	11	36	35
Surad� ...	11½	11½	36	36
Aska ...	10	10	31	28

10. The price of ragi has fallen at Russellkonda and Aska, while it is stationary at Surad . The price of rice has slightly fallen in Russellkonda, while it is stationary at other stations.

11. No places were visited by me during the week owing to the jamabandi of Goomsur taluk.

From M.R.Ry. D. VENKATA SASTRI, Garu, Deputy Collector on General Duties, Chatrapur Division, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Rambha, 27th October 1889, No. 1486.

I have the honor to submit my report on the Kallik t and Atagad  taluks for the week ending 26th October 1889.

2. *Rainfall.*—The rain gauge at Kallik t shows that the total fall there during the whole week was 85 cents. Similar quantity fell at other important centres in the estate. Excess of rain was at first felt to some extent by the ryots in the Palsara and Boirani muttas, but recent clear days removed their fears altogether.

3. *Agricultural operations.*—Standing crops are all in first-rate condition. I anticipate full crop this year.

4. *Prices.*—

4. Prices.

Station.	PAST WEEK.					PRESENT WEEK.				
	Boiled rice.		Raw rice.		Ragi.	Boiled rice.		Raw rice.		Ragi.
	1st.	2nd.	1st.	2nd.		1st.	2nd.	1st.	2nd.	
Kallikót	12	14	11	12	33	12½	14½	11½	12½	36
Boirani	11½	12½	10½	11½	33½	11½	12½	10½	11½	33½
Palsara	12	13	10	11	35	12	13	10	11	35
Pasi	11½	12½	10½	11½	40	11½	12½	10	10½	26½

Prices have fallen at Kallik t and Boirani, those at Palsara remaining stationary. 40 seers of ragi are shown at Pasi under head past week against 26½ the present one. This must have been a mistake. Ragi is being harvested everywhere and its price must of necessity fall but cannot rise.

5. *Gratuitous relief.*—As already reported all famine circles in the two taluks have been closed from the 19th instant and the return called for in your letter, No. 603, dated 4th October, is under preparation. The numbers that still remain on relief are the following :—

Name of centre.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Boirani ...	1	1	3	5
Kolladi ...	...	...	...	...
Palsara ...	6	9	7	22
Pandripada ...	3	4	29	36
Total ...	10	14	39	63

Information from the remaining circles not having as yet been received, the paupers still left there on the lists have not been shown above. Looking at the highly favorable prospects of the season I consider that this limited number of paupers may with perfect safety be left to private charity. These are what we call professional beggars and they remain as such till they die. I am about to issue instructions to the manager not to sanction any doles unless unavoidable.

6. *Boirani kitchen.*—Seeing no necessity for the retention of the kitchen at Boirani, I have closed it from the 19th instant.

7. *Weavers.*—Out of Rs. 2,504 originally advanced to the weavers at the several places in the two taluks, Rs. 2,097-8-2 have been recovered and the rest will be done shortly.

8. *Relief works.*—No coolies have been employed on any works.

9. *Mortality.*—No reports from small-pox. It has subsided a great deal.

From H. W. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 23rd October 1889, No. 789.

I have the honor to forward herewith a report No. 350, dated 16th October 1889, from Mr. Forbes, Taluk Relief officer, regarding an error which was perpetrated at the Mandasa kitchen and in consequence of which double quantities of food, that is to say, a full day's ration for each meal, were indented for from 1st July, the date of opening of the kitchen to 14th August. The number shown as the attendance in the indent, instead of the number present at the last evening's meal, is the sum of the numbers present at the two meals, and for this number a full day's ration is provided. Thus the indents themselves do not reveal the

cannot now be stopped. These are the only relief works in progress in my division, and the number employed on them on October, 25th was 241. In Chinna Kimedi 200 coolies are working on minor irrigation works and Dhárakót 40.

7. The subjoined statement shows the prices of this and the previous weeks :—

Stations.			LAST WEEK.		THIS WEEK.	
			Rice.	Ragi.	Rice.	Ragi.
Chinna Kimedi	Pattupur	...	12	36	12	39
	Bismagiri	...	12	33	12	33
	Pudamari	...	12	39	12	42
	Kunkurada	...	11.25	30	11.25	30
Dhárakót	Mondimorayi	...	11.72	28.36	12.4	28.5

8. Not much rain has fallen during the week though the days have generally been cloudy. At Pattupur 58 cents were registered.

9. The cattle in this estate are suffering widely from a species of dysentery and many are said to have died. The manager has written to the Treasury Deputy Collector for medicines, but none have as yet been supplied.

10. The usual statements are attached.

No. I.—Number on gratuitous relief.

Name of circle.	Population.	Number on relief including kitchens for the week ending with October, 19th.	Percentage.	Number of special cases selected for money relief on October, 26th.	Number fed on October, 26th.	Total.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. Pattupur	13,452	121	.89	17	114	131	.97
II. Pudamari	14,525	383	2.63	19	41	60	.41
III. Pratapagiri	10,466	241	2.31	15	..	15	.14
IV. Sergada	12,056	71	.056	30	..	30	.24
V. Dowgam	9,726	174	1.78	9	165	174	1.84
VI. Dhárakót	13,045	98	.75	18	..	18	.13
VII. Ballisira	15,015	146	.97	15	..	15	.10
Total ..	88,285	1,234	1.39	123	320	443	.05

No. II.—Numbers fed in various kitchens.

Kitchen name.	Circle in which situated.	Date of opening.	Attendance on October, 18th.	Attendance on October, 26th.
1. Pattupur	Pattupur	11th June 1889	78	114
2. Pudamari	Pudamari	29th	38	41
3. Pakkidi	Dowgam	13th Sept. ..	165	165
Total ..			281	320

No. III.—Numbers on the drinking-water tanks and wells and on the minor irrigation works.

Taluks.			ON DRINKING-WATER TANKS AND WELLS.		ON THE MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS.	
			Last week.	This week.	Last week.	This week.
Chinna Kimedi	...	...	237	241	200	200
Dhárakót	...	...	109	...	45	40
Total	...	...	346	241	245	240

From W. O. HORNE, Esq., Acting Special Assistant Agent, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Chatrapur, 29th October 1889, No. 1075.

I have the honor to submit my report for the week ending 26th October.

2. All relief circles are closed. A very few people (about 150) are still getting doles through their village officers.

3. Suradá kitchen closed on the 26th, orphans being sent to Russellkonda.

4. Aska and Russellkonda kitchens will close on the 31st.

At those two places a few people will continue to be maintained out of a grant from the famine fund, also a few orphans until orders about their disposal are received.

5. Three minor relief works remain open. The Peddakodanda and the Kullada roads under Mr. Lever, the Suradá village road under the Deputy Tahsildar.

6. Messrs. Storey, Lever and Elphinstone are engaged in making detailed inquiry in a number of representative villages for the purpose of checking the returns of deaths and desertions submitted by the circle inspectors.

7. As soon as these returns are checked and complete, I will submit them tabulated with my remarks thereon.

8. This will be my last regular weekly report. Except the three small relief works mentioned above, famine work has ceased in my division.

Messrs. Elphinstone, Storey and Powell have been ordered to hand over their records and such final accounts as are due from them, and will then be relieved of famine work.

9. Mr. Elphinstone has assisted me for the commencement of operations and I am indebted to him for an immense amount of very hard and thankless work.

10. Mr. Storey has been very zealous and hardworking.

11. Mr. Powell, though having only kitchen work, has managed his kitchens with great success and has been extremely active.

12. Mr. Lever arrived when half the work, and all the worst of it, was over; but since then he has given me invaluable assistance.

13. These remarks may be out of place, but I feel bound to express my obligation to these officers to whose efforts it is due that we have not met with more failures and breakdowns than have had unfortunately from time to time to be reported.

14. All my expenditure is accounted for up to the end of September. The bill for October will be prepared very shortly after the end of this month.

From R. C. C. CARR, Esq., Additional Special Assistant Collector, Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Pattupur, 27th October 1889, No. 868.

I have the honor to submit my special report for the week ending with October 26th.

2. I was engaged during the week in selecting special cases for money relief in the Pattupur and Pudamari circles. In the latter, more particularly, the harvest has been plentiful and good, and the improvement in the general condition of the people is wonderful. Mr. Quinless accompanied me in my Pudamari inspection.

3. The Pattupur, Pudamari and Pakkidi kitchens were closed on the 26th, so that no kitchen now remains open in my division. Mr. Artho Bisvasara of Pattupur, who showed a commendable spirit of public charity at the commencement of distress, has now offered to continue the distribution of cooked food at Pattupur at his own expense if the present feeding sheds are placed at his disposal. I am asking your orders on the subject in a separate letter, but, pending sanction, am making arrangements to hand over the buildings to Mr. Bisvasara's charge, in order that there may be hardly any interruption in the relief of those now supported by Government. I trust that Mr. Bisvasara's proposals will meet with your approval, as his charitable intentions certainly deserve encouragement.

4. The statement of numbers on gratuitous relief on October, 26th (No. I) shows the number of special cases in each circle. It will be seen that their total (123) is a small one; the Chinna Kimedi estate contains 51 of these, Dhárakót 42, and Sergada 30. As already reported there are no special cases in Bodogodo.

5. Including the 320 persons fed in kitchens, there were thus only 443 on State relief at the end of the week. The kitchens having now been closed, these 320 paupers have for the most part been thrown back on private charity; a few have been sent in to the Aska kitchen; and many of the remainder are children who have parents or other relations able to support them.

6. The earthwork on the Pattupur village road has been completed and metal is being laid. Mr. Quinless has gone to Kunkurada to inspect the work there and to see whether it

8. The following are the numbers employed on works :—

Rushikulya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,158
Gopálpur canal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	803
Tekkali-Anantagiri road	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	581
Battili	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	293
Palasa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Kallikót-Boirani	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Not reported.
Berhampore-Digupudi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	226
Digupudi-Govindapur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	953
Babanda-Pattupur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	259
Ichápur-Jarada	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Not reported.
Aska-Korcholi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Boppayapuram gedda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Drinking-water tanks and wells	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	194
Other works	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,032
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,586

9. The numbers on relief for the week ending with the 19th October were as follows :—

Gratuitous relief.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Money doles and raw grains	1,081	1,773	4,476	7,330
Fed in kitchens	321	643	2,429	3,393
Total	...	...	...	10,723

As all relief circles closed on the 19th, the numbers have now dwindled down to two or three hundred and, as stated above, these will from to-day be provided for from private funds.

10. I regret to have to bring to the notice of Government a serious case of fraud committed in the Mandasa kitchen. Mandasa is in Mr. Foster's division and was under the immediate charge of Mr. Forbes as famine officer. The kitchen was personally opened by Mr. Foster on the 1st July last, and from that date up to the 14th August, by counting, in his indents for supplies, each person receiving two meals in the day, as two, the gumasta indented for and apparently received double the amount of provisions required, with the result that Rs. 916-15-2 have been surcharged to Government. It is impossible for me to accept Mr. Foster's conclusion that the whole of the supplies procured were issued to the paupers at the kitchen. This mistake should certainly have been detected by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July, when he himself made the first payment to the contractor for a week's supplies. A cursory examination of the indent must have disclosed the fact that the numbers were double the attendance at the kitchen, and at every subsequent visit to the kitchen the error should have been discovered had the most ordinary examination been made of the gumasta's accounts and attendance register. Still more inexcusable is Mr. Forbes' neglect after his attention was called to the matter by Mr. Foster some time in July, for he then wrote to the gumasta for an explanation and appears to have paid no further attention to the subject. The gumasta's reply, which is dated the 29th July, showed that he had been indenting for double the proper quantities. Unfortunately this paper was mislaid by Mr. Forbes and nothing was done till the 14th August when the Deputy Tahsildar visited Mandasa and inspected the kitchen accounts.

11. Subsequent to the first payment made by Mr. Forbes on the 11th July all kitchen payments were made by the circle inspector, who certified that he compared the indents with the kitchen attendance register and the kitchen bills were not sent to Mr. Forbes. I cannot, however, admit that Mr. Forbes is thereby relieved from responsibility. It was clearly his duty as famine officer to test from time to time the quantity and quality of food issued and the accounts showing the charges. To accept the circle inspector's returns without question or inquiry was simply to ignore his own proper functions.

12. Mr. Foster states that from his inquiry it is impossible to substantiate a criminal charge against the gumasta. The contractor is, of course, protected by the indents, but I have little doubt that he, the kitchen gumasta and the circle inspector all connived at the fraud.

13. I have called upon Mr. Foster to state what, if any, pay remains undisbursed to the circle inspector and kitchen gumasta, respectively, but have received no reply as yet. Should there be any sum due to them, I proposed to credit it against the amount of Rs. 916-15-2 and solicit the orders of Government as to how the remainder is to be dealt with. I forward herewith Mr. Foster's letter and its enclosures.

14. Mr. Carr submits a list of village officers for whom he recommends special remuneration on account of famine work. The total amount is Rs. 350 and I recommend sanction for the same.

15. Mr. Horne will proceed in a few days to the Maliahs where his presence is now needed. Mr. Elphinstone is returning to Chatrapur and Mr. Carr informs me that he can finish by the middle of November. There will then remain only Messrs. McMurray and Lever, whose further retention is rendered necessary by the fact that the Divisional officers, Messrs. Foster and A. Suryanarayana, are fully occupied with the jamabandi of the Berhampore and Goomsur taluks.

16. I have been at head-quarters during the week. The cold season has set in and there is every prospect of a very good rice harvest. Famine and all grounds for apprehension are now things of the past, and it only remains for me, as soon as returns are received, to submit a final report which I can very well do when on leave if the leave applied for by me is granted.

ENCLOSURES.

From H. W. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Senior Assistant Collector of Ganjam, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 30th October 1889, No. 807.

I have the honor to submit my report for the week ending 26th instant.

2. With the end of the week all the kitchens remaining open in the division have been ordered to be closed, except that at Berhampore, which has been adapted for the accommodation of the specially bad cases from the kitchens at outlying stations. There are now 43 persons in the Berhampore kitchen and there are some 20 more to be sent from Ichápur, who have not yet arrived.

3. This kitchen and the several relief works are the only remains of the famine relief operations in the division. With an excellent ragi harvest and an assured prospect of an even better paddy crop, distress has entirely disappeared. With reference to the relief works of his division, Mr. McMurray says that all the daily laborers are strong and well and that a weakly cooly is entirely of the past, and regarding the general improvement of affairs he writes : " It gives me much pleasure to bear testimony to the extraordinary change that has been wrought in the state of the people. At one time I saw a Brahmin female actually washing cow dung to secure the ragi grain from the same and now there is plenty of ragi everywhere to prevent even the poorest from being put to such straits." The paddy crop promises such an unusually heavy outturn that, after allowing for the replenishment of the depleted stores, there is certain to be a large surplus for exportation and by that means the district will speedily be restored to its wonted prosperity.

4. I append a statement of coolies on the several relief works :—

Works.	Number of coolies.
Pratapur road	213
Purushottapur road	160
Konchuru road	116
Sindiripuram road	109
Lati road	92
Luchapada road	78
Konisi road	107
Konamana road and quarry	864
Gopálpur road	109
Rambah	Completed.
Total	1,848

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following letter from J. G. HORSFALL, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Chatrapur, 31st October 1889, No. 8557:—

I have the honor to submit herewith the reports of Messrs. Foster, Horne, Carr, A. Suryanarayana and D. Venkata Sastri for the week ending with the 26th October 1889. Mr. Wedderburn has not submitted a report as relief operations in his division are closed excepting one or two works.

2. Gratuitous relief in the shape of money doles, raw grain, and cooked food has virtually ceased from this date. The Berhampore kitchen and the few remaining cases of starvation will from the 1st proximo be maintained from the subscription fund at my disposal and no further charge under this head will be met from Government funds.

3. The kitchen at Pattupur will be continued temporarily as Mr. Artho Bisvasara of that place has generously offered to maintain it and I have readily complied with his request to allow him the use of the kitchen buildings for the purpose.

4. Messrs. Forbes and Marshall left, I believe, by the last steamer and the services of Messrs. Storey, Sherman, Brown, Quinless and Powell will be dispensed with in the course of a day or two, when they will have prepared their accounts for the month of October.

5. The orders of Government are awaited on the following points:—

- (1) The temporary retention of Messrs. McMurray and Lever.
- (2) The disposal of weavers' cloths.
- (3) The transfer to the Suradā mission of some of the orphans.
- (4) The stoppage of works as relief works and their continuance or otherwise as ordinary works.

6. I append hereunder the usual statement of prices. There has been a slight rise in the price of rice which is remarkable seeing that a good harvest is almost assured and it is now quoted at Pooree at 18 to 20 seers the rupee—a rate which admits of importation to this district with considerable profit.

Date.	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholum.	Cumbu.
26th October 1889	11.74	33.62	17	33.66
19th do. 1889	11.78	31.46	16.33	34.5
29th do. 1887	17.85	33.11	25.1	35.73

7. The following are the importations registered:—

	CWTS.
By sea	139
From Orissa	4,228
From the Central Provinces	6,696
Total	11,063