(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 18

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் மே-1994

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

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~~அச்சகம்~~
~~பலவகை~~

நாள் : 27-1-1892

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மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

9 Sheets

ஆவண. கா-1—18,006—15-6-87.

25/1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 13th January 1892, No. 26 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 5th January 1892, R.P.R. No. 11 :—

FORTNIGHTLY NARRATIVE.

(*Fortnight ending from* 20*th December to* 31*st December* 1891, *Bellary District.*)

STATE OF COUNTRY—*Crops.*—Mungari almost wholly harvested with various outturns. The estimated outturn in red and mixed soils ranges from 2 to 6 annas. In black soils mungari is almost a failure. Pulses are still being harvested. Castor plant growth very meagre. Yield does not exceed one anna in parts.

Hingari is doomed to failure except in a few isolated cases, and even then the yield will not exceed 4 annas. In many places white cholum and cotton have either already withered or are withering and are being grazed or removed for fodder. Reports from several taluks show that this is the sole use to which these two crops can be put. Crops under well lands are doing well. Crops under large tanks are doing well, but the result of crops under small tanks will not be up to the average. Crops under channels are in a fair condition.

Fodder.—Prohibitive prices still rule. Stock of fodder with the ryots is very little. Dry grass is largely imported from Sandúr and other hill forests. Use of prickly-pear as fodder is also resorted to in some places. There is a demand on the part of the ryots to throw open the reserves for grazing.

Water-supply is failing in Kúdligi and in parts of Harpanahalli, Hadagalli and Adóni. No real scarcity anywhere else, though the supply is everywhere less than usual for drinking purposes. In the case of cattle the difficulty of procuring water is more keenly felt.

Agricultural operations.—In the case of wet lands under channels and wells, various operations are in progress and in dry lands nuth grass is being removed here and there. In nearly all cases, however, the work is being performed by the members of the cultivators' families and not by paid labour.

Cattle.—Foot and mouth disease in Hospet. No disease anywhere else. Their general condition is miserable except in the case of domestic cattle and cattle used for ploughing. Both these and cattle reared for sale are brought to market in large numbers and are sold at one-eighth to one-fourth of their normal price. During the last week in Adóni cattle fetched a slightly better price owing to dealers coming in from the Nizam's dominions and running up the price against the local butchers who had hitherto had matters pretty much as they liked.

The prices of skins have fallen considerably in Bellary and Hospet probably owing to the large numbers put upon the market. It is probable that the loss of cattle in black cotton soil districts will be very great before the next sowing season sets in, in spite of any amount of taccávi loans that may be granted.

General Remarks.—I hope that Government will sanction the extra hands applied for for assisting Tahsildars in the matter of applications for loans for digging wells and for fodder. The present staff cannot deal with it, and the Head Assistant Collector especially is crying out for help in this direction. The Divisional officers think that there are still large stocks of hoarded grain in villages, and that in most places labour is still available though few regular agricultural operations are being carried on. A number of ryots are having their fields deep-hoed, as they get the work done cheaply in these hard times owing to the laborers' demand for work.

The Head Assistant Collector, on personal inspection, reports more favorably of his division, and I am satisfied that generally there is no need yet for opening works in the south and west, though the need may arise and probably will before long. So far I must admit that Mr. Clogstoun's estimate was better than mine. But there can be no doubt of the need at the places where road works have been opened in Bellary, Alúr and Adóni. The road work at Bommanahall in south of Bellary was attracting many distressed persons and I regret its abandonment. The Public Works Department works at Kanekal are too far south and appear not to be resorted to except by a few weavers in great distress. I would recommend that they be closed and opened later on were it not that the work affords relief to these people, who, though few in number, are so hard pressed that they persevere in working on, though against all the disadvantages of blistered hands and strained muscles, for the very small wage we give knowing that their condition will become critical if they do not do so. I request orders. The work is good and remunerative work, and the numbers will undoubtedly increase by and bye. The same may be said about the Daroji works. Only those really in distress, and these were few in number, stuck to the unlovely work of clearing prickly-pear. This will soon be done, and I have proposed to the Superintending Engineer to go on with the silt clearances in the Daroji tank channels. Shall I do so for the benefit of the few in real distress, or wait till later when the numbers in real distress will be largely increased? If the latter course is resolved on, I am afraid that those *now* employed will have suffered by that time so severely as to be unable to turn out good work and that they will be thrown on the State for gratuitous and unremunerative relief in kitchens. Distress in Alúr, Adóni and Bellary is deepening and the numbers on the works are increasing.

Condition of People—*On works.*—I saw a few bad cases on the Chippagiri works but not many. Mostly the coolies are in good strong health. At the Bommanahall works the proportion of weakly and debilitated persons was comparatively large. I have alluded to this before. I shall be able to give personal estimate of the Nandavaram works in my next report. The Divisional officer and Tahsildar both speak rather badly of the state of the people.

In villages.—The reports show that things are getting worse in the villages generally, though the Head Assistant Collector, as already stated, reports more favorably than I expected.

No sensible change. Many dependent on agricultural labour are without employment. Their earnings are too small for two meals a day. Gratuitous relief in the shape of grain is afforded in Ráyadrug and Hirehal by private subscription to weavers and others.

Mortality.—The death of one cooly from fever is reported from the Nandavaram road work.

Sickness.—Health good except two villages in Adóni taluk where there were six attacks of cholera but none proved fatal. Fever prevalent in Hospet and on the road work at Nandavaram.

25/2

Remarks.—One of our present difficulties is with the case of the weavers. They have been generally warned that they must go on the works and that no gratuitous relief will be given; but they have a great distaste, born of want of experience, for hard manual labour. This is very natural. To put these men all at once on to tank or road works is like putting a batch of starving Whitechapel tailors to the work of navvies. They have no aptitude for it. Doubtless those who stick to it will find that the work gets easier as their muscles get harder, but at present there are loud complaints from those on the works, and I have seen one or two pitiable cases of old and sickly men, weavers, trying their prentice hands at stone-breaking, with soft hands and flacid muscles, hurting themselves and blistering their fingers and thoroughly tired out with the first two hours' work. They came on the works weak and pulled down and have no strength for it. The weavers that are holding back are getting daily into worse condition in some parts and I am afraid they will greatly suffer. They will try to hold on till they are too emaciated to be of any use at all on the works and possibly some lives will be lost amongst them.

I can at present do nothing for them however but try to induce them to go on the works, for the time has not yet arrived for the opening of any kitchens in or near villages, and my endeavour is to obviate altogether the necessity for village kitchens by inducing *all* distressed persons to go to the works and in time opening kitchens there (and there only) for the very young and very old. If this could be carried out it would save immense cost to the State, but the difficulty here is the question of these weavers. I should be glad if I might be favored with instructions for guidance. I may mention that I received a startling report from the Civil Apothecary at Ráyadrug as to the condition of the weavers there, but I have reason to think it exaggerated.

Relief Measures—*Works.*—Road work at Nandavaram in Adóni taluk; number of coolies on the 1st of January, 2,186.

Road work at Chippagiri, Alúr taluk; number of coolies on the 3rd, 1,816.

Road work at Tekkalakota, Bellary taluk; number of coolies on 1st January, 228.

Clearance of prickly-pear on Daroji tank, Hospet taluk; number of coolies on 2nd January, 636.

Tank work at Kanekal in Ráyadrug taluk; number of coolies not known. Officers in charge have been directed to send daily post-cards showing the numbers daily on the works:—

Poor-houses	None.
Village relief	
Cases of death	One.

Remarks.—I have already reported on my system of apportionment of tasks and the policy I have advocated and have adopted, pending sanction, of making the professional Executive officers responsible for fixing the task for each gang daily taking into consideration such matters as lead and lift. I am satisfied that no other course is possible and it is the easiest to work and the fairest. I beg to refer to my famine slip No. 22. With the introduction of this policy the coolies have returned to work and are receiving a fair wage, generally up to third-class rate and seldom above it. It is found practically that they cannot work up to the scale laid down at page 61 of the Famine Code in the matter of stone-breaking Gangs have been watched and kept actively at work and the present scale has been fixed by my professional adviser, the Local Fund Engineer, in consonance with the results obtained. The Superintending Engineer recommends precisely the same system. With reference to this I enclose translation of report by the Tahsildar of Bellary regarding what took place at the Tekkalakota work on the Bellary-Siruguppa road.

The Local Fund Engineer tells me that the metal now at road side at Chippagiri is some of the best he ever saw and far better than what he generally gets from contractors. The stacking is regular and properly placed. The gravel is excellent.

I think therefore that the work done is good work and I hope that the cost will be found moderate. I have asked Mr. McInerny to give me a comparative estimate of cost and value of materials collected by contract labour and by our present famine labour and shall report the result.

It was reported to me at Chippagiri that No. 9 gang had been cheating by putting large stones into their metal stack. I found this true and I promptly dismissed the head cooly, made the whole gang give up their tools, disbanded them and told them I should not allow them to return to the works for a week. They all left for their village and seemed properly ashamed of themselves. I had this treatment of them tom-tommed all along the line of gangs and I think it will have good effect.

Grain Supply—*Private trade, &c.*—Active and sufficient.

Imports—Large quantities are imported by rail.

Stocks.—Believed to be large in most villages, but a good deal was exported to the south earlier in last year.

Markets—

Taluks.	Rice.	White cholum.	Yellow cholum.	Ragi.	Cumbu.	Rising at	Falling at	Stationary at
Bellary	8·64	13·39	13·91	14·07	12·22	..	Bellary.	..
Rayadrug	8·10	13·39	13·91	14·55	..	..	Rayadrug.	..
Hospet	7·56	13·39	13·91	15·52	13·30	Hospet.	..	..
Kúdligi	7·56	..	15·45	15·52	..	..	Kúdligi.	..
Hadagalli	7·56	..	13·39	15·52	..	Hadagalli.	..	..
Harpanahalli	7·56	..	14·42	17·46	..	Harpanahalli.	..	..
Alúr	8·10	12·36	13·39	..	..	..	Alúr.	..
Adóni	8·64	13·91	14·42	..	12·35	..	Adóni.	..

Remarks.—Actual figures for 31st December not being available, figures of 2nd January are entered.

Places visited—*By the Collector.*—23rd December, Petah Budehal, Ibrampur, Burinaikanahalli, Yettan Budehal in Bellary taluk, and Bommanahall and Untakal in Rayadrug taluk; 29th December, Cheppagiri in Alúr taluk; 3rd January, Kosgi, Basavakod, Chintakunta, Pallipad, Sunkesvari, Tinmiapur, Chilkaladona and Nandavaram, all in Adóni taluk.

By Head Assistant Collector.—Hadagalli, Holagondi, Itigi, Kogali, Malvi, Chintrapalli, Anekal, Bylahal, Kattimardi, Hagaribommanahalli, Madoor, Kosakeri, Upparagatti, Hausi, Heré Heggadahal, Kúdligi and Amaradevaragudda.

By Deputy Collector, Adóni.—Chippagiri and Nandavaram.

By Deputy Collector, Bellary.—Havinahal, Konchiganur, Gundiganoor, Sindigeri, Sanwaspuram, Dasapur, Siddarampur, Sirigeri, Rayadrug, Badanhal and Kallyan.

Enclosure No. 1.

From M.R.Ry. M. V. CHALLAPATHY NAIDU, Tahsildar of Bellary, to the Collector of Bellary, dated 29th December 1891, No. 4121.

With reference to your order No. 5633, dated 24th December 1891, I beg to report as follows.

In accordance with your orders road work at Tekkalakota was started on the morning of the 26th. Local Fund overseer was present. Local Fund supervisor also came the same day noon. Several coolies came to the spot, made inquiries as to the number of persons constituting the gang, the task allotted and the wages to be paid, and most of them went away without coming on the works. Finally, 28 men, 79 women and 22 children offered themselves to come on works. I and the overseer formed 18 men, 54 women and 16 children into a gang and the remaining 10 men, 25 women and 6 children into a separate half gang (short of one woman cooly). The work of breaking stones into metal was commenced on the 27th milestone south of Tekkalakota. Myself and the Local Fund overseer were present till 12 o'clock exacting

work from them. Again we went with the supervisor at 3 o'clock and stayed on the same duty till 6-30 P.M. and got the work done. The full gang turned out 120 cubic feet and the half gang 62 cubic feet. On calculating the wages in the 3rd class, it was 6 pies to a man, 5 pies to a woman and 3 pies to a child. The total sum earned by the full gang is:—

	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Amount. Rs. A. P.
Men, 18	0 0 6	0 9 0
Women, 54	0 0 5	1 6 6
Children, 16	0 0 3	0 4 0
Total ...		2 3 6

The price of 120 cubic feet of metal (the outturn in the present case) is Rs. 3–5–3 calculated at the rate given in the Local Fund schedule of rates which is Rs. 2–12–5 for 100 cubic feet. Thus it will be seen that the famine rate is heavier than Local Fund rate of wages. The rate of wage for the other half gang also is the same. Calculated as noted above, this half gang has to be paid Rs. 1–0–11 for an outturn of 62 cubic feet, while the price of the same at Local Fund schedule of rates is Rs. 1–11–5.

On the second day although we took great pains, one man and two women came in addition and four men, four women and a child who came on the first day absented themselves on the second day.

On making inquiries as to why the coolies do not freely come, it came to light that those who went to other places in search of livelihood did not return and that they would return on learning the rate of wage earned by those who enlisted themselves on the work, and that Tekkalakota being a village where the crops yielded something, a greater number of coolies did not come. I stopped there two days and returned. Local Fund overseer and supervisor stay there.

The work turned out next day by the full gang was 135 cubic feet instead of the allotted task of 284 cubic feet, and that by the half gang was 81 instead of 171 cubic feet, and thus the wages earned by them are, each man 8 pies, each woman 6 pies, and each child 4 pies. Thus it will be seen that the rates are too low. It appears to me that a great number of coolies will come on works from black-soil villages of the eastern part of the taluk if instead of starting the work at Tekkalakota, it be started at the 18th mile near Sanaspuram northwards and on the 10th milestone northwards near Koloor.

Resolution—dated 13th January 1892, No. 26.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. No change occurred in the agricultural prospects during the fortnight and the almost entire failure of the later crops is confirmed. The scarcity of fodder is becoming more intensified and cattle are being parted with at exceedingly low prices, because their owners are unable to support them. Their general condition is very bad, and it is to be feared that great mortality must occur amongst them before the next monsoon. In the eastern taluks of Bellary, where the scarcity of fodder is greatest, but few breeding cattle are kept. The Collector's application for additional Revenue Inspectors to make inquiries into applications for loans will be disposed of on receipt of information twice called for as to the number of applications pending in each taluk.

3. Prices fell slightly during the fortnight, but the following statement shows how large the recent rise has been. The average price of cholum is now at the scarcity rate for the district and is above it at several stations, the average being reduced by the comparative cheapness of the grain at Adóni, Kúdligi and Harpanahalli. As shown on the margin, the price of this grain is still much below that ruling during October 1876, whilst it is only about half the price for December that year. Large imports of grain are being made by rail and it is believed that large local stocks exist.

Month.	Cholum, seers per rupee in 1876.	1877.	1891.
July	22·0	5·8	26·4
August	20·9	5·6	26·1
September	16·2	6·1	22·7
October	10·2	8·7	21·9
November	7·1	10·9	17·1
December	7·4	41·4	14·2

Seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Stations.	Rice, 2nd sort.					Cholum.				
	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.
	October.	November.	December.			October.	November.	December.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Adóni	9·72	9·18	8·64	12·40	8·6	19·06	15·71	13·90	32·04	14·1
Alúr	10·26	9·45	8·21	13·25	8·10	22·02	18·56	13·27	30·90	12·9
Bellary	9·72	9·24	8·64	13·58	8·6	20·86	16·74	13·68	31·11	13·6
Rayadrug	11·61	10·26	7·83	15·39	8·1	21·63	17·77	13·39	32·87	13·6
Hospet	9·72	8·64	7·56	11·79	7·6	24·20	16·74	13·90	30·04	13·6
Kúdligi	9·45	8·64	7·0	12·84	7·0	24·20	18·03	15·71	36·05	15·4
Huvinahadgalli	9·72	9·72	7·56	12·24	7·0	22·92	18·54	15·19	34·68	13·4
Harpanahalli	9·72	9·18	..	13·32	7·0	25·75	19·98	15·35	38·11	14·4
District average ..	10·30	9·40	8·1	13·70	8·0	21·90	17·10	14·2	32·03	13·7
Scarcity rates ..			9·7					13·7		

Seers of 80 tolas per rupee—*cont.*

Stations.	Cumbu.					Ragi.				
	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.
	October.	November.	December.			October.	November.	December.		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Adóni	16·15	13·78	12·66	23·15	12·3	..	..	..	..	..
Alúr	..	..	..	25·33	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bellary	16·69	14·34	11·98	23·47	12·2	20·86	16·79	14·27	35·13	14·1
Rayadrug	21·61	15·68	..	30·99	..	22·07	17·95	14·31	40·50	14·5
Hospet	21·85	14·73	11·40	24·46	13·3	27·66	21·58	15·52	58·31	15·5
Kúdligi	19·00	17·10	15·20	28·50	..	24·74	18·92	15·76	44·46	15·5
Huvinahadgalli	..	..	13·30	..	..	..	..	15·32	..	15·5
Harpanahalli	22·56	19·08	16·36	31·96	..	27·16	22·99	18·82	53·46	17·5
District average ..	18·70	15·40	13·0	26·90	12·8	24·50	19·60	15·7	37·20	15·4
Scarcity rates ..			13·1					14·7		

4. No material change in the condition of the people generally is reported, and it is believed that a large number of the agricultural population still find some work to do, but it is difficult to see in what manner. In the south and west of the Head Assistant Collector's division, there is no present necessity for opening relief works, though the Collector thinks the need may arise before long. In the eastern taluks relief works have been begun in Adóni, Alúr, Bellary and Ráyadrug. The numbers reported as resorting to the works were as follows. The reports are not complete :—

Hospet.
Hadagalli.
Kúdligi.
Harpanahalli.

Taluk.	Dec. 19th.	Jan.
Adóni	...	1st, 2,186
Alúr	2,480	3rd, 1,816
Bellary	502	2nd, 864
Ráyadrug	394	Not reported.

There was an intermediate large falling off in the numbers in Alúr owing, the Collector states, to the task having been fixed too highly. The Collector has been authorised to modify the tasks suggested at page 61 of the Famine Code on the principles set forth in section 51 of the code. If this be done, the case of the weavers and others not accustomed to such work as stone-breaking can be duly provided for, separate gangs being formed of incompetent labourers. A report of the nature of that prescribed in section 133 of the Famine Code should be obtained from the District Engineer in regard to the Kanekal tank. This will enable the Collector to decide as to the necessity or otherwise of retaining it as a test work.

If the Collector thinks it absolutely necessary, the road work at Bommanahal may be recommenced if there is no irrigation work in the neighbourhood, but a proper task must be exacted—very weak gangs, if such there should be, being specially treated and given a light task.

The code does not profess to lay down any hard-and-fast line, and it is a matter of course that the task must vary with the length of lead. If—as the Commissioner was urgent in recommending—metal-breaking had been begun where stone was readily obtainable, the task prescribed in the code would have been found suitable. The Commissioner has satisfied himself of this fact both in Salem, in Coimbatore and in Cuddapah. If in Bellary at the spot where the road work was started metal was not obtainable easily within 100 yards, the task should have been modified. If it was, the fact that the gangs did only a third of the prescribed task must be due to the gangs having been specially weak, and there is nothing to show that they were, or it must be due to the idleness of the gangs or the incompetence of the Tahsildar to exact work from them.

The carrying out of the silt clearances of channels at Daroji will also be useful work, and may, the Board considers, be put in hand when necessary.

5 The progress made, if any, in the sinking of wells by the aid of loans should be noticed in future reports.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

ORDER—dated 23rd January 1892, No. 80, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's instructions are approved.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
" the Public Works Department.

Exd. A. Aubert.

70 Copies.

P. W. CURRENT No. 761

Govt. of {1892} Madras.

REVENUE.

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27.1.92

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 23rd January 1892, No. 80.

JANUARY.

Season, Bellary.

The instructions of the Board of Revenue on the fortnightly narrative on the state of the season from 20th to 31st December 1891 from the Collector, approved.

25/5

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Mr. Clogstoun.

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 5th January 1892, R.P.R. No. 11:—

Fortnightly Narrative.

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State of Country—*Crops.*—Mungari almost wholly harvested with various outturns. The estimated outturn in red and mixed soils ranges from 2 to 6 annas. In black soils mungari is almost a failure. Pulses are still being harvested. Castor plant growth very meagre. Yield does not exceed one anna in parts.

Hingari is doomed to failure except in a few isolated cases, and even then the yield will not exceed 4 annas. In many places white cholum and cotton have either already withered or are withering and are being grazed or removed for fodder. Reports from several taluks show that this is the sole use to which these two crops can be put. Crops under well lands are doing well. Crops under large tanks are doing well, but the result of crops under small tanks will not be up to the average. Crops under channels are in a fair condition.

Fodder.—Prohibitive prices still rule. Stock of fodder with the ryots is very little. Dry grass is largely imported from Sandúr and other hill forests. Use of prickly-pear as fodder is also resorted to in some places. There is a demand on the part of the ryots to throw open the reserves for grazing.

Water-supply is failing in Kúdligi and in parts of Harpanahalli, Hadagalli and Adóni. No real scarcity anywhere else, though the supply is everywhere less than usual for drinking purposes. In the case of cattle the difficulty of procuring water is more keenly felt.

Agricultural operations.—In the case of wet lands under channels and wells, various operations are in progress and in dry lands nuth grass is being removed here and there. In nearly all cases, however, the work is being performed by the members of the cultivators' families and not by paid labour.

Cattle.—Foot and mouth disease in Hospet. No disease anywhere else. Their general condition is miserable except in the case of domestic cattle and cattle used for ploughing. Both these and cattle reared for sale are brought to market in large numbers and are sold at one-eighth to one-fourth of their normal price. During the last week in Adóni cattle fetched a slightly better price owing to dealers coming in from the Nizam's dominions and running up the price against the local butchers who had hitherto had matters pretty much as they liked.

The prices of skins have fallen considerably in Bellary and Hospet probably owing to the large numbers put upon the market. It is probable that the loss of cattle in black cotton soil districts will be very great before the next sowing season sets in, in spite of any amount of taccavi loans that may be granted.

General Remarks.—I hope that Government will sanction the extra hands applied for for assisting Tahsildars in the matter of applications for loans for digging wells and for fodder. The present staff cannot deal with it, and the Head Assistant Collector especially is crying out for help in this direction. The Divisional officers think that there are still large stocks of hoarded grain in villages, and that in most places labour is still available though few regular agricultural operations are being carried on. A number of ryots are having their fields deep-hoed, as they get the work done cheaply in these hard times owing to the laborers' demand for work.

The Head Assistant Collector, on personal inspection, reports more favorably of his division, and I am satisfied that generally there is no need yet for opening works in the south and west, though the need may arise and probably will before long. So far I must admit that Mr. Clogstoun's estimate was better than mine. But there can be no doubt of the need at the places where road works have been opened in Bellary, Alúr and Adóni. The road work at Bommanahall in south of Bellary was attracting many distressed persons and I regret its abandonment. The Public Works Department wroks at Kanekal are too far south and appear not to be resorted to except by a few weavers in great distress. I would recommend that they be closed and opened later on were it not that the work affords relief to these people, who, though few in number, are so hard pressed that they persevere in working on, though against all the disadvantages of blistered hands and strained muscles, for the very small wage we give knowing that their condition will become critical if they do not do so. I request orders. The work is good and remunerative work, and the numbers will undoubtedly increase by and bye. The same may be said about the Daroji works. Only those really in distress, and these were few in number, stuck to the unlovely work of clearing prickly-pear. This will soon be done, and I have proposed to the Superintending Engineer to go on with the silt clearances in the Daroji tank channels. Shall I do so for the benefit of the few in real distress, or wait till later when the numbers in real distress will be largely increased? If the latter course is resolved on, I am afraid that those *now* employed will have suffered by that time so severely as to be unable to turn out good work and that they will be thrown on the State for gratuitous and unremunerative relief in kitchens. Distress in Alúr, Adóni and Bellary is deepening and the numbers on the works are increasing.

CONDITION OF PEOPLE—*On works.*—I saw a few bad cases on the Chippagiri works but not many. Mostly the coolies are in good strong health. At the Bommanahall works the proportion of weakly and debilitated persons was comparatively large. I have alluded to this before. I shall be able to give personal estimate of the Nandavaram works in my next report. The Divisional officer and Tahsildar both speak rather badly of the state of the people.

In villages.—The reports show that things are getting worse in the villages generally, though the Head Assistant Collector, as already stated, reports more favorably than I expected.

No sensible change. Many dependent on agricultural labour are without employment. Their earnings are too small for two meals a day. Gratuitous relief in the shape of grain is afforded in Ráyadrug and Hirehal by private subscription to weavers and others.

Mortality.—The death of one cooly from fever is reported from the Nandavaram road work.

Sickness.—Health good except two villages in Adóni taluk where there were six attacks of cholera but none proved fatal. Fever prevalent in Hospet and on the road work at Nandavaram.

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Remarks.—One of our present difficulties is with the case of the weavers. They have been generally warned that they must go on the works and that no gratuitous relief will be given; but they have a great distaste, born of want of experience, for hard manual labour. This is very natural. To put these men all at once on to tank or road works is like putting a batch of starving Whitechapel tailors to the work of navvies. They have no aptitude for it. Doubtless those who stick to it will find that the work gets easier as their muscles get harder, but at present there are loud complaints from those on the works, and I have seen one or two pitiable cases of old and sickly men, weavers, trying their prentice hands at stone-breaking, with soft hands and flacid muscles, hurting themselves and blistering their fingers and thoroughly tired out with the first two hours' work. They came on the works weak and pulled down and have no strength for it. The weavers that are holding back are getting daily into worse condition in some parts and I am afraid they will greatly suffer. They will try to hold on till they are too emaciated to be of any use at all on the works and possibly some lives will be lost amongst them.

I can at present do nothing for them however but try to induce them to go on the works, for the time has not yet arrived for the opening of any kitchens in or near villages, and my endeavour is to obviate altogether the necessity for village kitchens by inducing *all* distressed persons to go to the works and in time opening kitchens there (and there only) for the very young and very old. If this could be carried out it would save immense cost to the State, but the difficulty here is the question of these weavers. I should be glad if I might be favored with instructions for guidance. I may mention that I received a startling report from the Civil Apothecary at Ráyadrug as to the condition of the weavers there, but I have reason to think it exaggerated.

RELIEF MEASURES—*Works.*—Road work at Nandavaram in Adóni taluk; number of coolies on the 1st of January, 2,186.

Road work at Chippagiri, Alúr taluk; number of coolies on the 3rd, 1,816.

Road work at Tekkalakota, Bellary taluk; number of coolies on 1st January, 228.

Clearance of prickly-pear on Daroji tank, Hospet taluk; number of coolies on 2nd January, 636.

Tank work at Kanekal in Ráyadrug taluk; number of coolies not known. Officers in charge have been directed to send daily post-cards showing the numbers daily on the works:—

Poor-houses	None.
Village relief	None.
Cases of death	

Remarks.—I have already reported on my system of apportionment of tasks and the policy I have advocated and have adopted, pending sanction, of making the professional Executive officers responsible for fixing the task for each gang daily taking into consideration such matters as lead and lift. I am satisfied that no other course is possible and it is the easiest to work and the fairest. I beg to refer to my famine slip No. 22. With the introduction of this policy the coolies have returned to work and are receiving a fair wage, generally up to third-class rate and seldom above it. It is found practically that they cannot work up to the scale laid down at page 61 of the Famine Code in the matter of stone-breaking. Gangs have been watched and kept actively at work and the present scale has been fixed by my professional adviser, the Local Fund Engineer, in consonance with the results obtained. The Superintending Engineer recommends precisely the same system. With reference to this I enclose translation of report by the Tahsildar of Bellary regarding what took place at the Tekkalakota work on the Bellary-Sirugappa road.

The Local Fund Engineer tells me that the metal now at road side at Chippagiri is some of the best he ever saw and far better than what he generally gets from contractors. The stacking is regular and properly placed. The gravel is excellent.

I think therefore that the work done is good work and I hope that the cost will be found moderate. I have asked Mr. McInerny to give me a comparative estimate of cost and value of materials collected by contract labour and by our present famine labour and shall report the result.

It was reported to me at Chippagiri that No. 9 gang had been cheating by putting large stones into their metal stack. I found this true and I promptly dismissed the head cooly, made the whole gang give up their tools, disbanded them and told them I should not allow them to return to the works for a week. They all left for their village and seemed properly ashamed of themselves. I had this treatment of them tom-tommed all along the line of gangs and I think it will have good effect.

Grain Supply—*Private trade, &c.*—Active and sufficient.

Imports—Large quantities are imported by rail.

Stocks.—Believed to be large in most villages, but a good deal was exported to the south earlier in last year.

Markets—

Taluks.	Rice.	White cholum.	Yellow cholum.	Ragi.	Cumbu.	Rising at	Falling at	Stationary at
Bellary	8·64	13·39	13 91	14·07	12·22	..	Bellary.	..
Ráyadrug	8·10	13·39	13·91	14·55	..	..	Ráyadrug.	..
Hospet	7·56	13·39	13·91	15·52	13·30	Hospet.	..	..
Kúdligi	7·56	..	15·45	15·52	..	..	Kúdligi.	..
Hadagalli	7·56	..	13·39	15·52	..	Hadagalli.	..	..
Harpanahalli	7·56	..	14·42	17·46	..	Harpanahalli.	..	..
Alúr	8·10	12·36	13·39	..	..	..	Alúr.	..
Adóni	8·64	13·91	14·42	..	12·35	..	Adóni.	..

Remarks.—Actual figures for 31st December not being available, figures of 2nd January are entered.

Places visited—*By the Collector.*—23rd December, Petah Budehal, Ibrampur, Burinaikanahalli, Yettan Budehal in Bellary taluk, and Bommanahall and Untakal in Ráyadrug taluk; 29th December, Cheppagiri in Alúr taluk; 3rd January, Kosigi, Basavakod, Chintakunta, Pallipad, Sunkesvari, Tinmiapur, Chilkaladona and Nandavaram, all in Adóni taluk.

By Head Assistant Collector.—Hadagalli, Holagondi, Itigi, Kogali, Malvi, Chintrapalli, Anekal, Bylahal, Kattimardi, Hagaribommanahalli, Madoor, Kosakeri, Upparagatti, Hausi, Heré Heggadahal, Kúdligi and Amaradevaragudda.

By Deputy Collector, Adóni.—Chippagiri and Nandavaram.

By Deputy Collector, Bellary.—Havinahal, Konchiganur, Gundiganoor, Sindigeri, Sanwaspuram, Dasapur, Siddarampur, Sirigeri, Ráyadrug, Badanhal and Kallyan.

Enclosure No. 1.

From M.R.Ry. M. V. CHALLAPATHY NAIDU, Tahsildar of Bellary, to the Collector of Bellary, dated 29th December 1891, No. 4121.

With reference to your order No. 5633, dated 24th December 1891, I beg to report as follows.

In accordance with your orders road work at Tekkalakota was started on the morning of the 26th. Local Fund overseer was present. Local Fund supervisor also came the same day noon. Several coolies came to the spot, made inquiries as to the number of persons constituting the gang, the task allotted and the wages to be paid, and most of them went away without coming on the works. Finally, 28 men, 79 women and 22 children offered themselves to come on works. I and the overseer formed 18 men, 54 women and 16 children into a gang and the remaining 10 men, 25 women and 6 children into a separate half gang (short of one woman cooly). The work of breaking stones into metal was commenced on the 27th milestone south of Tekkalakota. Myself and the Local Fund overseer were present till 12 o'clock exacting

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work from them. Again we went with the supervisor at 3 o'clock and stayed on the same duty till 6-30 P.M. and got the work done. The full gang turned out 120 cubic feet and the half gang 62 cubic feet. On calculating the wages in the 3rd class, it was 6 pies to a man, 5 pies to a woman and 3 pies to a child. The total sum earned by the full gang is:—

	Rate. Rs. A. P.	Amount. Rs. A. P.
Men, 18	0 0 6	0 9 0
Women, 54	0 0 5	1 6 6
Children, 16	0 0 3	0 4 0
Total ...		2 3 6

The price of 120 cubic feet of metal (the outturn in the present case) is Rs. 3-5-3 calculated at the rate given in the Local Fund schedule of rates which is Rs. 2-12-5 for 100 cubic feet. Thus it will be seen that the famine rate is heavier than Local Fund rate of wages. The rate of wage for the other half gang also is the same. Calculated as noted above, this half gang has to be paid Rs. 1-0-11 for an outturn of 62 cubic feet, while the price of the same at Local Fund schedule of rates is Rs. 1-11-5.

On the second day although we took great pains, one man and two women came in addition and four men, four women and a child who came on the first day absented themselves on the second day.

On making inquiries as to why the coolies do not freely come, it came to light that those who went to other places in search of livelihood did not return and that they would return on learning the rate of wage earned by those who enlisted themselves on the work, and that Tekkalakota being a village where the crops yielded something, a greater number of coolies did not come. I stopped there two days and returned. Local Fund overseer and supervisor stay there.

The work turned out next day by the full gang was 135 cubic feet instead of the allotted task of 284 cubic feet, and that by the half gang was 81 instead of 171 cubic feet, and thus the wages earned by them are, each man 8 pies, each woman 6 pies, and each child 4 pies. Thus it will be seen that the rates are too low. It appears to me that a great number of coolies will come on works from black-soil villages of the eastern part of the taluk if instead of starting the work at Tekkalakota, it be started at the 18th mile near Sanaspuram northwards and on the 10th milestone northwards near Koloor.

Resolution—dated 13th January 1892, No. 26.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. No change occurred in the agricultural prospects during the fortnight and the almost entire failure of the later crops is confirmed. The scarcity of fodder is becoming more intensified and cattle are being parted with at exceedingly low prices, because their owners are unable to support them. Their general condition is very bad, and it is to be feared that great mortality must occur amongst them before the next monsoon. In the eastern taluks of Bellary, where the scarcity of fodder is greatest, but few breeding cattle are kept. The Collector's application for additional Revenue Inspectors to make inquiries into applications for loans will be disposed of on receipt of information twice called for as to the number of applications pending in each taluk.

3. Prices fell slightly during the fortnight, but the following statement shows how large the recent rise has been. The average price of cholum is now at the scarcity rate for the district and is above it at several stations, the average being reduced by the comparative cheapness of the grain at Adóni, Kúdligi and Harpanahalli. As shown on the margin, the price of this grain is still much below that ruling during October 1876, whilst it is only about half the price for December that year. Large imports of grain are being made by rail and it is believed that large local stocks exist.

Month.	Cholum, seers per rupee in 1876.	1877.	1891.
July	22·0	5·8	26·4
August	20·9	5·6	26·1
September	16·2	6·1	22·7
October	10·2	8·7	21·9
November	7·1	10·9	17·1
December	7·4	11·4	14·2

Stations.	Seers of 80 tolas per rupee.									
	Rice, 2nd sort.					Cholum.				
	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.
	October.	November.	December.			October.	November.	December.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Adóni	9·72	9·18	8·64	12·40	8·6	19·06	15·71	13·90	32·04	14·1
Alúr	10·26	9·45	8·21	13·25	8·10	22·02	18·56	13·27	30·90	12·9
Bellary	9·72	9·24	8·64	13·58	8·6	20·86	16·74	13·68	31·11	13·6
Ráyadrug	11·61	10·26	7·83	15·39	8·1	21·63	17·77	13·39	32·87	13·6
Hospet	9·72	8·64	7·56	11·79	7·6	24·20	16·74	13·90	30·04	13·6
Kúdligi	9·45	8·64	7·0	12·84	7·0	24·20	18·03	15·71	36·05	15·4
Huvinahadgalli	9·72	9·72	7·56	12·24	7·0	22·92	18·54	15·19	34·68	13·4
Harpanahalli	9·72	9·18	..	13·32	7·0	25·75	19·28	15·35	38·11	14·4
District average ..	10·30	9·40	8·1	13·70	8·0	21·90	17·10	14·2	32·03	13·7
Scarcity rates ..	9·7					13·7				

Stations.	Seers of 80 tolas per rupee—*cont.*									
	Cumbu.					Ragi.				
	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.	1891.			Normal for December.	2nd January 1892.
	October.	November.	December.			October.	November.	December.		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
Adóni	16·15	13·78	12·66	23·15	12·3	..	..	..	..	..
Alúr	..	..	..	25·33	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bellary	16·69	14·34	11·98	23·47	12·2	20·86	16·79	14·37	36·13	14·1
Ráyadrug	21·61	15·68	..	30·99	..	22·07	17·95	14·31	40·50	14·6
Hospet	21·85	14·73	11·40	24·46	13·3	27·65	21·58	15·52	38·31	15·5
Kúdligi	19·00	17·10	15·20	28·50	..	24·74	18·92	15·76	44·46	15·5
Huvinahadgalli	..	..	13·30	..	..	..	..	15·52	..	15·5
Harpanahalli	22·56	19·08	16·36	31·96	..	27·16	22·99	18·82	53·46	17·5
District average ..	18·70	15·40	13·0	26·90	12·6	24·50	19·60	15·7	37·20	15·4
Scarcity rates ..	13·1					14·7				

4. No material change in the condition of the people generally is reported, and it is believed that a large number of the agricultural population still find some work to do, but it is difficult to see in what manner. In the south and west of the Head Assistant Collector's division, there is no present necessity for opening relief works, though the Collector thinks the need may arise before long. In the eastern taluks relief works have been begun in Adóni, Alúr, Bellary and Ráyadrug. The numbers reported as resorting to the works were as follows. The reports are not complete:—

Hospet.
Hadagalli.
Kúdligi.
Harpanahalli.

Taluk.	Dec. 19th.	Jan.
Adóni	...	1st, 2,186
Alúr	2,480	3rd, 1,816
Bellary	502	2nd, 864
Ráyadrug	394	Not reported.

There was an intermediate large falling off in the numbers in Alúr owing, the Collector states, to the task having been fixed too highly. The Collector has been authorised to modify the tasks suggested at page 61 of the Famine Code on the principles set forth in section 51 of the code. If this be done, the case of the weavers and others not accustomed to such work as stone-breaking can be duly provided for, separate gangs being formed of incompetent labourers. A report of the nature of that prescribed in section 133 of the Famine Code should be obtained from the District Engineer in regard to the Kanekal tank. This will enable the Collector to decide as to the necessity or otherwise of retaining it as a test work.

If the Collector thinks it absolutely necessary, the road work at Bommanahal may be recommenced if there is no irrigation work in the neighbourhood, but a proper task must be exacted—very weak gangs, if such there should be, being specially treated and given a light task.

The code does not profess to lay down any hard-and-fast line, and it is a matter of course that the task must vary with the length of lead. If—as the Commissioner was urgent in recommending—metal-breaking had been begun where stone was readily obtainable, the task prescribed in the code would have been found suitable. The Commissioner has satisfied himself of this fact both in Salem, in Coimbatore and in Cuddapah. If in Bellary at the spot where the road work was started metal was not obtainable easily within 100 yards, the task should have been modified. If it was, the fact that the gangs did only a third of the prescribed task must be due to the gangs having been specially weak, and there is nothing to show that they were, or it must be due to the idleness of the gangs or the incompetence of the Tahsildar to exact work from them.

The carrying out of the silt clearances of channels at Daroji will also be useful work, and may, the Board considers, be put in hand when necessary.

5. The progress made, if any, in the sinking of wells by the aid of loans should be noticed in future reports.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Bellary.
Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1892.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 21st.

Proceedings, 13th January 1892, No. 26.

Submitting for the information of Government, with remarks, fortnightly narrative on the *state of the season* from 20th to 31st December 1891 from the Collector of *Bellary*.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S. & R. & A.) dated 13 January 1892 No. 26.

Order thereon, 23d January 1892 No. 80.

The Board's instructions are approved.

(True Extract)

Secretary to Government

To

The Comm^r of R.S. & R. & A.

and Public Works Dep^t

P. W. CURRENT No. 761

Govt. of {1892} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The P. W. Deptt.

Dated

Read. 26.1.92

Encl. 1

Mis. G.O., 23 Jany 1892, No. 80

SUBJECT.

Sanctioning the maintenance of the Board of Revenue's relief works Bellary.

Ptn 25 dtd 27 Jany 1892.

Communicated to Commr. Ceded Dists. the Secretary Govt. Revenue III Engineer F. III Circle Cudds

Dis 26.1.92

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