Public Works (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 3574 W

DATED 12 December

[Despatch Abstract.]

Annexation D.C.: Bos: Rev: Dept passing orders on Bos: of the Board of Revenue submitting with remarks fortnightly narrative Rtte — for period ending 14 Nov 1896 Govt to sanction which I thank Officer directed to take over all Relief Works in the Dt.

[P.W. 25. 6,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 16/12

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

urgent

Public Works (1896.) Department.

CURRENT No. 11301

B

Order:- No: 3574 W. d/12 Decr 96.

Communicated to the Supty Engineer III Circle who will arrange to take over all Relief works in the Anantapur district

From The Revenue Department

No. 702 Press.

Dated 9th Dec. 1896.

Received 12.12.96

Enclosures One

Spare copies

The S.E III Circle 12/12/96

K.S. 12/12/96

S.A.W. Cy/

S.P.

Copy of Proceedings No. 3570 Revenue dt 9th Dec 1896 sent to the S.E III Circle 12/12/96

SUBJECT.

Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board of Rev. submitting to Govt with remarks Fortnightly Narrative of the Anantapur Dt for the period ending 14th Nov 1896

Copy of the above file supplied 15/12/96

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—Fortnightly Narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 14th of November 1896.

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—No rainfall during the fortnight. The average expected during the first fortnight of November is 1·67; that up to the period is 23·99, as against 12 inches during the current year. Water-supply is sufficient for drinking except in parts of Tadpatri and Dharmavaram, and insufficient for irrigation purposes. In the five northern taluks the tanks are dry; so also is the tank at Bukkapatnam which is the largest in the district; and the supply in nalas (spring channels) is decreasing. Supply in wells is going down.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Ploughing is going on in Penukonda, Hindupur and Madakasíra, under tanks, wells and nalas. In Anantapur, lands are being prepared under wells and nalas for the second crop, the first crop under them having been harvested. Tank-bed cultivation has also begun under the orders of the Board recently issued. Ragi is being planted in parts of Gooty and Tadpatri taluks and weeding is going on in paddy fields.

Crops on unirrigated land.—Dry crops have very largely withered in Tadpatri Gooty, Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram taluks, particularly in Patlur and Ellanur (central and eastern part) in Tadpatri and Pamidi and Uravakonda firkas (southern and western parts) in Gooty and the Kanaganapalli firka (western part) in Dharmavaram. They have also withered in Bukkapatnam (Penukonda), Boodali (Hindupur taluk), and Amarapuram firka of Madakasíra taluk. Elsewhere the dry crops are poor. Late horse-gram in Dharmavaram is diseased.

Crops on irrigated land.—Large extents of paddy under Singanamala, Anantapur and Dharmavaram big tanks have withered. Elsewhere it is withering away except in parts of Roddam and Penukonda firkas where paddy is said to be in a fair condition. Paddy under nalas and wells is good.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is practically *nil* everywhere. As regards fodder, dried cholum and ragi stalks available to a moderate extent. In several parts all over the district, withered crops are being removed for fodder for cattle. In the three central taluks, viz., Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram, the cattle are suffering from want of fodder and in several places grass roots are being dug up and used as fodder. In parts of Gooty (Uravakonda division), the Deputy Collector reports that cattle owners have migrated to Mysore with their head of cattle. For want of fodder, prickly-pear is being used in a few villages of Gooty. The Deputy Collector strongly recommended that all the reserves in his division should be thrown open for free grazing and I have addressed the Board in the Land Revenue Department for this concession being urgently granted.

Cattle disease (rinderpest) is prevalent in parts of Madakasíra, Penukonda, Kalyandrug and Gooty taluks and also in Nagasamudram and Kanganapalle firkas of the Dharmavaram taluk.

General remarks on the above subjects.—Owing to the entire failure of rains in October and up to date in November, dry crops have mostly withered. What remains on the ground is expected to wither away shortly except a small percentage near vankas and other favourable localities where too the yield may be very trifling. Much of the late sowings has not even sprouted. Korra, gingelly, cholum, cumbu and early cotton and castor plant have mostly faded away. The prospects on the whole are very gloomy and agricultural operations having almost entirely ceased, the labourers must soon fall back on State relief.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 14th of November 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Cholum white.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
1. Tadpatri	8·10	7·56	13·39	10·81	15·52	14·06	The price of second-sort rice has risen above the scarcity rate in Anantapur. The Deputy Collector, Gooty, has not furnished his fortnightly report in spite of a telegram. The Head Assistant Collector has not quoted the prices of food-grains other than rice; hence the available figures of only the last week have been quoted here. Steps will be taken to enforce the punctual submission of the returns for the next fortnight with complete information. Even as the figures stand they show an abnormal and sudden rise in prices, due to only to the adverse season but also largely to exportation of grain and stiff combination among merchants.
2. Gooty	8·64	8·64	12·20	11·33	17·46	15·88	
3. Anantapur ..	8·64	7·	15·45	12·36	17·46	13·58	
4. Kalyandrug ..	9·72	9·72	16·48	14·42	16·49	15·52	
5. Dharmavaram ..	8·64	8·64	18·54	15·45	19·40	17·46	
6. Penukonda ..	9·72	8·10	16·48	14·42	21·34	16·49	
7. Hindupur ..	9·67	8·60	16·12	12·90	24·75	17·20	
8. Madakasira ..	10·80	9·72	..	..	21·34	19·40	
Average ..	9·24	8.49	15·52	13·09	19·22	16·19	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is dull in Anantapur. Large exports from Madakasira of rice and ragi. In Hindupur, the Head Assistant Collector alludes to local arrangement, whereby it has been arranged by some charitable gentlemen of the place to sell grains at cheaper rates for a month to come.

No imports except in Hindupur, where the Divisional Officer reports there have been considerable imports from the adjoining Mysore territory.

Condition of People.

(1) *On works.*—No official information. Works will have been opened at Putlur and in Uravakonda division on the 13th or 14th.

(2) *In villages.*—Generally fair. Cholera in Gooty, Anantapur and Dharmavaram taluks. Small-pox to a slight extent in Dharmavaram and Penukonda taluks. Owing to the dearness of grain, people (especially lower classes) are stinting in their meals.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths from starvation.

Remarks.—The poorer classes in the two Northern taluks are beginning to feel the pinch of famine rather keenly and test works have been ordered to be started, and it remains to be seen how far they will avail themselves of this opportunity to find labour. In the three central taluks of Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram there is but a limited demand for labour in the removal of withered crops and in harvest operations under wells and nalas. As there is not a sufficient demand for the labouring classes, test works have been ordered to be started in each of these taluks also. From Penukonda a pleader telegraphed that the Madigas and Malas were suffering from starvation, but the Divisional Officer, who was wired to report on the matter, informs me that there

is no starvation, that it was all due to discontent amongst them on account of high prices, and that the Reddi of Panudurti, who has large stores of grain, was expected to bring large exports to the local market last Wednesday and break down the combination among the merchants. Orders have been issued for the opening of the following test works:—

(1) *Tadpatri taluk.*—Tadpatri-Ellanur road *via* Putlur.

(2) *Gooty taluk.*—Collection of materials between the 21st and 30th mile of the Uravakonda-Bellary road, otherwise called the Chittoor-Bombay road.

(3) *Anantapur taluk.*—Almoor tank, 5 miles south-west of Anantapur.

(4) *Kalyandrug taluk.*—Repairs of the Anantapur-Kalyandrug road.

(5) *Dharmavaram taluk.*—Ellakuntla taluk in Kanaganapalli firka. Of these, the first two will have been started by yesterday by the Local Fund Engineer and the Deputy Collector, Gooty, respectively. Necessary arrangements have been made for the execution of these relief works, but the expected reports as to the number of coolies admitted, &c., have not yet reached me. Full information under this head will be furnished in the next fortnightly narrative. As regards the other two works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram, the Executive Engineer, Bellary, has undertaken to carry out those works with his present staff and I have issued necessary instructions to have them started immediately. After organizing the work in Tadpatri, the Local Fund Engineer will start the test work in Kalyandrug.

Gratuitous relief.—Nil.

Private charity.—Nothing worth mentioning under this head has yet been offered for the relief of the poor. The Head Assistant Collector notes that in Penukonda and Panudurti some poor men are being fed by private charity.

Remarks.—Kitchens are proposed to be started in Uravakonda and Dharmavaram. The Divisional Officers have not furnished the required information, and directly on receipt of full particulars I shall address the Board on the subject.

Loan transactions.—Statistics have not been furnished by the Divisional Officers and are not given for this fortnight. Will be furnished in the next report.

Taluks and places visited.

Anantapur.—Raptad, Ramanaipalli, Marur.

Dharmavaram.—Dharmavaram, Patalu, Nagepalli, Chippalacheruvu, Kothakota, Nimalakunta, Basampally, Kanumakkala.

Penukonda.—Kothacheruvu, Bukkapatnam, Kodapaganipalli.

After submitting the report on the 9th instant, I had to remain at head-quarters till the 12th to issue various urgent orders about the opening of relief works simultaneously in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks.

General Remarks.—I came here to ascertain the state of things in this (once a Deputy Tahsildar's) division, as the Head Assistant Collector had reported that relief works would be necessary soon. This division has very few tanks except the one in this village—the largest in the district. It is dry but there is considerable sugarcane cultivation and other crops under wells and a spring channel. About 200 acres of the tank-bed is also sown with jonna. Though it has not had the advantage of as good rainfall as the western parts of Penukonda, still just at present I have reason to think coolies obtain some sort of work in the fields. I went into the quarters inhabited by Boyas, Malas and Madigas. I could see very few able-bodied men. Moreover, the concession for free cutting of grass will give some work for people of these parts; grass is very dear, but can be easily cut in the reserves all about here; cattle in these parts are in better condition. Prices are as bad as elsewhere. A report has been called for and on its receipt the Board will be addressed.

Everywhere the cry is against the very high rise in the prices of food-grains. The failure of early rains means the failure of food crops in this district. This is aggravated by the large exportation that is going on from the southern taluks and the Mysore Province and the consequent unwillingness of merchants to bring their stock into market in expectation of still higher prices.

Though no official information has reached me, there can be no doubt that relief works will have been opened by yesterday in Gooty and Tadpatri. Works in Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram will also be opened during the course of this week. The question of opening kitchens and giving advances to weavers (of whom there are about 4,000 in Uravakonda and 500 in Dharmavaram) is engaging my attention. Applications for loans under Land Improvement Act are coming in and the prompt disposal of these will go a long way to afford labour to a number of labourers near their homes.

Bukkapatnam,
15th November 1896.

(Signed) K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA,
Acting Collector.

Resolution—dated 24th November 1896, No. 370.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. This report does not add much to that submitted with B. P., No. 358 of 1896. Until two days ago there had been no rain in the district since the beginning of the month, and water-supplies were growing more scanty; standing crops were deteriorating more and more rapidly, if not already lost; and agricultural operations were almost at a standstill, except under wells and channels. The cattle were beginning to suffer, and fodder was scarce, whilst the stony wastes which fill up so much of the district afforded little or no pasturage. The rainfall of the last few days may, however, greatly alter the outlook.

3. The statement of prices given by the Collector is not quite clear, and the Board appends one based on the latest available figures which shows an enormous increase in the prices of the staple dry food-grains during the fortnight, but rates have fallen considerably since.

4. The relief work in the Uravakonda division was opened on the 14th, and 978 persons attended. The numbers rose to 1,370 on the 21st, on which date 1,000 persons were working in Tadpatri and 202 on the works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram.

5. With the organisation of relief measures, the district establishment will need strengthening, and engineering assistance will have to be supplied. The Collector should report fully on this point, but the situation may be materially altered by the recent rain.

6. The Collector's report regarding the condition of the weavers in his district will be awaited.

7. The opening of kitchens should take place simultaneously with the opening of test-works. The famine wage is only intended to support those who earn it. The Collector's attention is drawn to the last clause of section 106 of the Famine Code.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Anantapur.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

APPENDIX.

Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee in the Anantapur district.

Stations.	Rice.				Cholum.				Ragi.			
	1896.			1876.	1896.			1876.	1896.			1876.
	October average.	November 14th.	November 21st.	November.	October average.	November 14th.	November 21st.	November.	October average.	November 14th.	November 21st.	November.
Uravakonda	10·5	*	7·3	6·2	18·8	*	13·7	6·9	17·3	*	15·8	7·3
Gooty	9·2	8·0	7·4	7·0	19·3	11·5	12·8	7·7	19·2	12·7	11·0	8·5
Yadiki	9·7	7·6	6·5	7·0	17·5	11·9	10·3	8·2	21·3	14·0	11·6	8·7
Tadpatri	8·6	7·0	7·6	7·0	15·9	10·3	13·4	8·2	17·7	10·7	13·6	8·7
Anantapur	9·3	6·5	8·6	7·0	20·2	11·3	14·9	8·8	21·1	10·7	15·5	9·2
Kalyandrug	10·8	7·6	8·1	6·2	25·0	14·4	12·1	7·2	23·8	12·6	13·6	7·8
Dharmavaram	9·7	7·0	7·0	6·5	26·8	11·3	10·8	8·0	22·3	11·6	11·6	7·8
Penukonda	10·3	7·6	8·1	5·9	..	..	11·3	7·7	26·8	12·6	13·6	8·7
Hindupur	9·8	7·8	8·3	7·3	..	..	12·4	8·2	26·0	14·0	17·2	8·9
Madaksira	11·9	7·6	8·6	6 8	..	..	..	7·7	31·0	14·6	14·6	8·2
District average ..	10·0	7·4	7·8	6·7	20·6	11·8	12·6	7·9	22·7	12·6	13·8	8·4
Warning rate	10·6				22·5				24·0			
Scarcity rate	7·9				15·0				16·0			

* Report not received from Uravakonda.

Govt. P. Seetharam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed November 30th.

Proceedings, 24*th Nov.* 1896, *No.* 370.

Fortnightly Narrative of the Anantapur district.—Sul mitting to Government, with remarks,—for period ending 14th November 1896.

P.W. 4.1. 11301/96

F/16 3,000—14-7-94.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,&c) dated 24th November 1896, No. 370 Ptess.

* Copy attached.

Order thereon, No. 702 Press.d/9th December 1896.

The Board's report read above relating to the fortnight ending 14th November last is dated the 24th idem and reached the Government Office on the 30th. The Board is requested to make special arrangements for famine papers being submitted more expeditiously than at present.

2. It has not been stated whether relief to weavers is necessary and if so, what measures have been taken for that purpose.

3. The Collector should be directed to place all relief works under the control of the Public Works Department as has been done in Cuddapah, G. O. No. 668 dated 25th November 1896.

3427 W.1.12.96

(True Extract)

G. Subbiah

Ag: Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,&c)

To the Public Works Deptt.

14 35740 12.12.96

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

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Revenue Department

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(True extract)

(Signed) G. Stokes

Ag. Secretary to Government

[P. W. 40. 1,000—11-11-96]

Order No. 3574 W dated 12 December 1896.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer III circle who will arrange to take over all Relief Works in the Anantapur district.

/True extract/
/Signed/ D. M. Campbell
Col. RE
Secretary

To

The Superintending Engineer III Circle.

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State of the Country.

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Penukonda.—Kothacheruvu, Bukkapatnam, Kodapaganipalli.

After submitting the report on the 9th instant, I had to remain at head-quarters till the 12th to issue various urgent orders about the opening of relief works simultaneously in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks.

General Remarks.—I came here to ascertain the state of things in this (once a Deputy Tahsildar's) division, as the Head Assistant Collector had reported that relief works would be necessary soon. This division has very few tanks except the one in this village—the largest in the district. It is dry but there is considerable sugarcane cultivation and other crops under wells and a spring channel. About 200 acres of the tank-bed is also sown with jonna. Though it has not had the advantage of as good rainfall as the western parts of Penukonda, still just at present I have reason to think coolies obtain some sort of work in the fields. I went into the quarters inhabited by Boyas, Malas and Madigas. I could see very few able-bodied men. Moreover, the concession for free cutting of grass will give some work for people of these parts; grass is very dear, but can be easily cut in the reserves all about here; cattle in these parts are in better condition. Prices are as bad as elsewhere. A report has been called for and on its receipt the Board will be addressed.

Everywhere the cry is against the very high rise in the prices of food-grains. The failure of early rains means the failure of food crops in this district. This is aggravated by the large exportation that is going on from the southern taluks and the Mysore Province and the consequent unwillingness of merchants to bring their stock into market in expectation of still higher prices.

Though no official information has reached me, there can be no doubt that relief works will have been opened by yesterday in Gooty and Tadpatri. Works in Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram will also be opened during the course of this week. The question of opening kitchens and giving advances to weavers (of whom there are about 4,000 in Uravakonda and 500 in Dharmavaram) is engaging my attention. Applications for loans under Land Improvement Act are coming in and the prompt disposal of these will go a long way to afford labour to a number of labourers near their homes.

BUKKAPATNAM,
15th November 1896.

(Signed) K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA,
Acting Collector.

RESOLUTION—dated 24th November 1896, No. 370.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. This report does not add much to that submitted with B. P., No. 358 of 1896. Until two days ago there had been no rain in the district since the beginning of the month, and water-supplies were growing more scanty; standing crops were deteriorating more and more rapidly, if not already lost; and agricultural operations were almost at a standstill, except under wells and channels. The cattle were beginning to suffer, and fodder was scarce, whilst the stony wastes which fill up so much of the district afforded little or no pasturage. The rainfall of the last few days may, however, greatly alter the outlook.

3. The statement of prices given by the Collector is not quite clear, and the Board appends one based on the latest available figures which shows an enormous increase in the prices of the staple dry food-grains during the fortnight, but rates have fallen considerably since.

4. The relief work in the Uravakonda division was opened on the 14th, and 978 persons attended. The numbers rose to 1,370 on the 21st, on which date 1,000 persons were working in Tadpatri and 202 on the works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram.

5. With the organisation of relief measures, the district establishment will need strengthening, and engineering assistance will have to be supplied. The Collector should report fully on this point, but the situation may be materially altered by the recent rain.

6. The Collector's report regarding the condition of the weavers in his district will be awaited.

7. The opening of kitchens should take place simultaneously with the opening of test-works. The famine wage is only intended to support those who earn it. The Collector's attention is drawn to the last clause of section 106 of the Famine Code.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Anantapur.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

APPENDIX.

PRICES in seers of 80 tolas per rupee in the Anantapur district.

Stations.	Rice. 1896. October average.	Rice. 1896. November 14th.	Rice. 1896. November 21st.	Rice. 1876. November.	Cholum. 1896. October average.	Cholum. 1896. November 14th.	Cholum. 1896. November 21st.	Cholum. 1876. November.	Ragi. 1896. October average.	Ragi. 1896. November 14th.	Ragi. 1896. November 21st.	Ragi. 1876. November.
Uravakonda	10·5	*	7·3	6·2	18·8	*	13·7	6·9	17·3	*	15·8	7·3
Gooty	9·2	8·0	7·4	7·0	19·8	11·5	12·8	7·7	19·2	12·7	11·0	8·5
Yadiki	9·7	7·6	6·5	7·0	17·5	11·9	10·3	8·2	21·3	14·0	11·6	8·7
Tadpatri	8·6	7·0	7·6	7·0	15·9	10·3	13·4	8·2	17·7	10·7	13·6	8·7
Anantapur	9·3	6·5	8·6	7·0	20·2	11·3	14·9	8·8	21·1	10·7	15·5	9·2
Kalyandrug	10·8	7·6	8·1	6·2	25·0	14·4	12·1	7·2	23·8	12·6	13·6	7·8
Dharmavaram	9·7	7·0	7·0	6·5	26·8	11·3	10·8	8·0	22·3	11·6	11·6	7·8
Penukonda	10·3	7·6	8·1	5·9	..	..	11·3	7·7	26·8	12·6	13·6	8·7
Hindupur	9·8	7·8	8·3	7·3	..	..	12·4	8·2	26·0	14·0	17·2	8·9
Madaksira	11·9	7·6	8·6	6 8	..	..	..	7·7	31·0	14·6	14·6	8·2
District average	10·0	7·4	7·8	6·7	20·6	11·8	12·6	7·9	22·7	12·6	13·8	8·4
Warning rate	10·6				22·5				24·0			
Scarcity rate	7·9				15·0				16·0			

* Report not received from Uravakonda.

Engd. P. Seetharam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed November 30th.

Proceedings, 24th Nov. 1896, *No.* 370.

Fortnightly Narrative of the Anantapur district—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — for period ending 14th November 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following letter from K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA, Esq., Acting Collector of Anantapur, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Tadpatri, 31st October 1896, Tour No. 1-F :—

This is the last day of October and we have not had practically a drop of rain. There has been absolutely no change for the better. The crops on purely dry lands have almost all withered. Prices have no signs of falling and I have satisfied myself that the opening of relief works can no longer be postponed. I shall submit a full report on the state of the district, especially the five northern taluks, directly I reach Anantapur—Wednesday or Thursday. Meanwhile I write this with a view to enable the Board immediately on receipt of my report to obtain necessary sanction and issue orders for the entertainment of a sufficient staff for the supervision of relief works. In the first place, I would urge that a separate Executive Engineer should be placed in charge of the district; in the second place, the Local Fund Overseer's staff being short-handed and also in my opinion not quite efficient, I would require one Overseer at least for each taluk. As I am convinced that relief works will have to be opened on a large scale in all the five taluks, I think they should be executed by the officers of the Department of Public Works.

2. With regard to tools, it is necessary to provide for at least a thousand people in each taluk. The nature of the tools will depend on the nature of the work. In Tadpatri-Tadpatri where work has urgently to be started, I have selected the Tadpatri-Yellanoor road to start with. This, I wish to start directly on receipt of Board's sanction. I will next begin work in Gooty and I request that immediate arrangements may therefore be ordered to be made on receipt of formal sanction from Government for the supply of tools as per margin.

(1) Pick-axes	1,000	(7) Baskets	1,000
(2) Mamooties	1,000	(8) Pots	1,000
(3) Hand hammers.	500	(9) Pegs	2,000
(4) Sledge hammers	100	(10) Ropes (*aloe fibre*)	10 maunds.
(5) Bill hooks	50	(11) Yard sticks	15
(6) Felling axes	50		

3. Full particulars for the opening of relief works and all other points relating to this and other taluks will be furnished in my report promised above.

4. I just received in camp the Board's Proceedings directing the submission of fortnightly reports. The report promised above may, I request, be taken for the first report due. The future reports will be submitted on due dates.

Resolution—dated 2nd November 1896, No. 306.

The Collector will be authorized to start a test work under section 17 of the Famine Code in each of the five northern taluks of his district. At each work careful arrangements should be made for the enforcement of adequate tasks, and the Divisional Officers must be instructed to see that proper arrangements are made for the regular payment of the coolies. In this connection his attention is specially drawn to the concluding portion of paragraph 8 of Board's Proceedings, No. 291 of 1896, and to section 92 of the Famine Code.

2. The Board considers that the ordinary district staff should be quite equal to the starting and management of these test-works, and it cannot undertake to support such applications as those made in the letter read above, for additional establishments on the strength of such reports as have yet been received from Anantapur. The probability of the necessity for strengthening the district staff arising will, however, be brought to the notice of the Chief Engineer. The Collector's attention will, however, be drawn to section 111 of the Famine Code.

3. As regards the provision of tools, the Collector should indent on the Public Works Department for supplies * of the first six articles mentioned against paragraph 2 of his letter. As regards the remainder, the Board trusts that the Collector will, on consideration, see the absurdity of indenting for such articles, as they can all be obtained locally and as required.

* See section 42 of the Famine Code.

4. In conclusion, the Board must remark that it considers it most unsatisfactory that it should be asked to sanction the opening of relief works on a report such as that read above; and that, although his attention was drawn, so long ago as August last, to the unfavourable outlook in his district, the Collector of Anantapur, alone amongst the Collectors of the Deccan districts, should have failed so far to present any clear and definite report on his district.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Anantapur.
" Chief Engineer.
" Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. J. P. Oliver.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

N° 3997C. 9-9-11-96.

Printed November 7th.

Proceedings, 2nd *Nov.* 1896, *No.* 306.

Test relief works.—Passing orders on Collector's letter regarding the opening of — in Anantapur district.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—FORTNIGHTLY Narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 14th of November 1896.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply.—No rainfall during the fortnight. The average expected during the first fortnight of November is 1·67; that up to the period is 23·99, as against 12 inches during the current year. Water-supply is sufficient for drinking except in parts of Tadpatri and Dharmavaram, and insufficient for irrigation purposes. In the five northern taluks the tanks are dry; so also is the tank at Bukkapatnam which is the largest in the district; and the supply in nalas (spring channels) is decreasing. Supply in wells is going down.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Ploughing is going on in Penukonda, Hindupur and Madakasíra, under tanks, wells and nalas. In Anantapur, lands are being prepared under wells and nalas for the second crop, the first crop under them having been harvested. Tank-bed cultivation has also begun under the orders of the Board recently issued. Ragi is being planted in parts of Gooty and Tadpatri taluks and weeding is going on in paddy fields.

Crops on unirrigated land.—Dry crops have very largely withered in Tadpatri Gooty, Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram taluks, particularly in Patlur and Ellanur (central and eastern part) in Tadpatri and Pamidi and Uravakonda firkas (southern and western parts) in Gooty and the Kanaganapalli firka (western part) in Dharmavaram. They have also withered in Bukkapatnam (Penukonda), Boodali (Hindupur taluk), and Amarapuram firka of Madakasíra taluk. Elsewhere the dry crops are poor. Late horse-gram in Dharmavaram is diseased.

Crops on irrigated land.—Large extents of paddy under Singanamala, Anantapur and Dharmavaram big tanks have withered. Elsewhere it is withering away except in parts of Roddam and Penukonda firkas where paddy is said to be in a fair condition. Paddy under nalas and wells is good.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is practically *nil* everywhere. As regards fodder, dried cholum and ragi stalks available to a moderate extent. In several parts all over the district, withered crops are being removed for fodder for cattle. In the three central taluks, viz., Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram, the cattle are suffering from want of fodder and in several places grass roots are being dug up and used as fodder. In parts of Gooty (Uravakonda division), the Deputy Collector reports that cattle owners have migrated to Mysore with their head of cattle. For want of fodder, prickly-pear is being used in a few villages of Gooty. The Deputy Collector strongly recommended that all the reserves in his division should be thrown open for free grazing and I have addressed the Board in the Land Revenue Department for this concession being urgently granted.

Cattle disease (rinderpest) is prevalent in parts of Madakasíra, Penukonda, Kalyandrug and Gooty taluks and also in Nagasamudram and Kanganapalle firkas of the Dharmavaram taluk.

General remarks on the above subjects.—Owing to the entire failure of rains in October and up to date in November, dry crops have mostly withered. What remains on the ground is expected to wither away shortly except a small percentage near vankas and other favourable localities where too the yield may be very trifling. Much of the late sowings has not even sprouted. Korra, gingelly, cholum, cumbu and early cotton and castor plant have mostly faded away. The prospects on the whole are very gloomy and agricultural operations having almost entirely ceased, the labourers must soon fall back on State relief.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 14th of November 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Cholum white.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
1. Tadpatri	8·10	7·56	13·39	10·81	15·52	14·06	The price of second-sort rice has risen above the scarcity rate in Anantapur. The Deputy Collector, Gooty, has not furnished his fortnightly report in spite of a telegram. The Head Assistant Collector has not quoted the prices of food-grains other than rice; hence the available figures of only the last week have been quoted here. Steps will be taken to enforce the punctual submission of the returns for the next fortnight with complete information. Even as the figures stand they show an abnormal and sudden rise in prices, due to only to the adverse season, but also largely to exportation of grain and stiff combination among merchants.
2. Gooty	8·64	8·64	12·20	11·33	17·46	15·88	
3. Anantapur ..	8·64	7·	15·45	12·36	17·46	13·58	
4. Kalyandrug ..	9·72	9·72	16·48	14·42	16·49	15·52	
5. Dharmavaram ..	8·64	8·64	18·54	15·45	19·40	17·46	
6. Penukonda ..	9·72	8·10	16·48	14·42	21·34	16·49	
7. Hindupur ..	9·67	8·60	16·12	12·90	24·75	17·20	
8. Madakasira ..	10·80	9·72	..	..	21·34	19·40	
Average ..	9·24	8.49	15·52	13·09	19·22	16·19	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is dull in Anantapur. Large exports from Madakasira of rice and ragi. In Hindupur, the Head Assistant Collector alludes to local arrangement, whereby it has been arranged by some charitable gentlemen of the place to sell grains at cheaper rates for a month to come.

No imports except in Hindupur, where the Divisional Officer reports there have been considerable imports from the adjoining Mysore territory.

Condition of People.

(1) *On works.*—No official information. Works will have been opened at Putlur and in Uravakonda division on the 13th or 14th.

(2) *In villages.*—Generally fair. Cholera in Gooty, Anantapur and Dharmavaram taluks. Small-pox to a slight extent in Dharmavaram and Penukonda taluks. Owing to the dearness of grain, people (especially lower classes) are stinting in their meals.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths from starvation.

Remarks.—The poorer classes in the two Northern taluks are beginning to feel the pinch of famine rather keenly and test works have been ordered to be started, and it remains to be seen how far they will avail themselves of this opportunity to find labour. In the three central taluks of Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram there is but a limited demand for labour in the removal of withered crops and in harvest operations under wells and nalas. As there is not a sufficient demand for the labouring classes, test works have been ordered to be started in each of these taluks also. From Penukonda a pleader telegraphed that the Madigas and Malas were suffering from starvation, but the Divisional Officer, who was wired to report on the matter, informs me that there

is no starvation, that it was all due to discontent amongst them on account of high prices, and that the Reddi of Panudurti, who has large stores of grain, was expected to bring large exports to the local market last Wednesday and break down the combination among the merchants. Orders have been issued for the opening of the following test works:—

(1) *Tadpatri taluk.*—Tadpatri-Ellanur road *viâ* Putlur.

(2) *Gooty taluk.*—Collection of materials between the 21st and 30th mile of the Uravakonda-Bellary road, otherwise called the Chittoor-Bombay road.

(3) *Anantapur taluk.*—Almoor tank, 5 miles south-west of Anantapur.

(4) *Kalyandrug taluk.*—Repairs of the Anantapur-Kalyandrug road.

(5) *Dharmavaram taluk.*—Ellakuntla taluk in Kanaganapalli firka. Of these, the first two will have been started by yesterday by the Local Fund Engineer and the Deputy Collector, Gooty, respectively. Necessary arrangements have been made for the execution of these relief works, but the expected reports as to the number of coolies admitted, &c., have not yet reached me. Full information under this head will be furnished in the next fortnightly narrative. As regards the other two works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram, the Executive Engineer, Bellary, has undertaken to carry out those works with his present staff and I have issued necessary instructions to have them started immediately. After organizing the work in Tadpatri, the Local Fund Engineer will start the test work in Kalyandrug.

Gratuitous relief.—Nil.

Private charity.—Nothing worth mentioning under this head has yet been offered for the relief of the poor. The Head Assistant Collector notes that in Penukonda and Panudurti some poor men are being fed by private charity.

Remarks.—Kitchens are proposed to be started in Uravakonda and Dharmavaram. The Divisional Officers have not furnished the required information, and directly on receipt of full particulars I shall address the Board on the subject.

Loan transactions.—Statistics have not been furnished by the Divisional Officers and are not given for this fortnight. Will be furnished in the next report.

Taluks and places visited.

Anantapur.—Raptad, Ramanaipalli, Marur.

Dharmavaram.—Dharmavaram, Patalu, Nagepalli, Chippalacheruvu, Kothakota, Nimalakunta, Basampally, Kanumakkala.

Penukonda.—Kothacheruvu, Bukkapatnam, Kodapaganipalli.

After submitting the report on the 9th instant, I had to remain at head-quarters till the 12th to issue various urgent orders about the opening of relief works simultaneously in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks.

General Remarks.—I came here to ascertain the state of things in this (once a Deputy Tahsildar's) division, as the Head Assistant Collector had reported that relief works would be necessary soon. This division has very few tanks except the one in this village—the largest in the district. It is dry but there is considerable sugarcane cultivation and other crops under wells and a spring channel. About 200 acres of the tank-bed is also sown with jonna. Though it has not had the advantage of as good rainfall as the western parts of Penukonda, still just at present I have reason to think coolies obtain some sort of work in the fields. I went into the quarters inhabited by Boyas, Malas and Madigas. I could see very few able-bodied men. Moreover, the concession for free cutting of grass will give some work for people of these parts; grass is very dear, but can be easily cut in the reserves all about here; cattle in these parts are in better condition. Prices are as bad as elsewhere. A report has been called for and on its receipt the Board will be addressed.

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Bukkapatnam,
15th November 1896.

(Signed) K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA,
Acting Collector.

Resolution—dated 24th November 1896, No. 370.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. This report does not add much to that submitted with B. P., No. 358 of 1896. Until two days ago there had been no rain in the district since the beginning of the month, and water-supplies were growing more scanty; standing crops were deteriorating more and more rapidly, if not already lost; and agricultural operations were almost at a standstill, except under wells and channels. The cattle were beginning to suffer, and fodder was scarce, whilst the stony wastes which fill up so much of the district afforded little or no pasturage. The rainfall of the last few days may, however, greatly alter the outlook.

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4. The relief work in the Uravakonda division was opened on the 14th, and 978 persons attended. The numbers rose to 1,370 on the 21st, on which date 1,000 persons were working in Tadpatri and 202 on the works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram.

5. With the organisation of relief measures, the district establishment will need strengthening, and engineering assistance will have to be supplied. The Collector should report fully on this point, but the situation may be materially altered by the recent rain.

6. The Collector's report regarding the condition of the weavers in his district will be awaited.

7. The opening of kitchens should take place simultaneously with the opening of test-works. The famine wage is only intended to support those who earn it. The Collector's attention is drawn to the last clause of section 106 of the Famine Code.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Anantapur.
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Stations.	Rice. 1896. October average.	Rice. 1896. November 14th.	Rice. 1896. November 21st.	Rice. 1876. November.	Cholum. 1896. October average.	Cholum. 1896. November 14th.	Cholum. 1896. November 21st.	Cholum. 1876. November.	Ragi. 1896. October average.	Ragi. 1896. November 14th.	Ragi. 1896. November 21st.	Ragi. 1876. November.
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Warning rate	10·6				22·5				24·0			
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Ed. P. Seetharam.

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To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
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APPENDIX.

Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee in the Anantapur district.

Stations.	Rice. 1896. October average.	Rice. 1896. November 14th.	Rice. 1896. November 21st.	Rice. 1876. November.	Cholum. 1896. October average.	Cholum. 1896. November 14th.	Cholum. 1896. November 21st.	Cholum. 1876. November.	Ragi. 1896. October average.	Ragi. 1896. November 14th.	Ragi. 1896. November 21st.	Ragi. 1876. November.
Uravakonda	10·5	*	7·3	6·2	18·8	*	13·7	6·9	17·3	*	15·8	7·3
Gooty	9·2	8·0	7·4	7·0	19·3	11·5	12·8	7·7	19·2	12·7	11·0	8·5
Yadiki	9·7	7·6	6·5	7·0	17·5	11·9	10·3	8·2	21·3	14·0	11·6	8·7
Tadpatri	8·6	7·0	7·6	7·0	15·9	10·3	13·4	8·2	17·7	10·7	13·6	8·7
Anantapur	9·3	6·5	8·6	7·0	20·2	11·3	14·9	8·8	21·1	10·7	15·5	9·2
Kalyandrug	10·8	7·6	8·1	6·2	25·0	14·4	12·1	7·2	23·8	12·6	13·6	7·8
Dharmavaram	9·7	7·0	7·0	6·5	26·8	11·3	10·8	8·0	22·3	11·6	11·6	7·8
Penukonda	10·3	7·6	8·1	5·9	..	..	11·3	7·7	26·8	12·6	13·6	8·7
Hindupur	9·8	7·8	8·3	7·3	..	...	12·4	8·2	26·0	14·0	17·2	8·9
Madaksira	11·9	7·6	8·6	6 8	..	..	..	7·7	31·0	14·6	14·6	8·2
District average	10·0	7·4	7·8	6·7	20·6	11·8	12·6	7·9	22·7	12·6	13·8	8·4
Warning rate	10·6				22·5				24·0			
Scarcity rate	7·9				15·0				16·0			

* Report not received from Uravakonda.

Ed. P. Seetharam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed November 30th.

Fortnightly Narrative of the Anantapur district—Submitting to Government, with remarks,—for period ending 14th November 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—Fortnightly Narrative for the Anantapur district during the period ending 14th of November 1896.

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—No rainfall during the fortnight. The average expected during the first fortnight of November is 1·67; that up to the period is 23·99, as against 12 inches during the current year. Water-supply is sufficient for drinking except in parts of Tadpatri and Dharmavaram, and insufficient for irrigation purposes. In the five northern taluks the tanks are dry; so also is the tank at Bukkapatnam which is the largest in the district; and the supply in nalas (spring channels) is decreasing. Supply in wells is going down.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Ploughing is going on in Penukonda, Hindupur and Madakasíra, under tanks, wells and nalas. In Anantapur, lands are being prepared under wells and nalas for the second crop, the first crop under them having been harvested. Tank-bed cultivation has also begun under the orders of the Board recently issued. Ragi is being planted in parts of Gooty and Tadpatri taluks and weeding is going on in paddy fields.

Crops on unirrigated land.—Dry crops have very largely withered in Tadpatri Gooty, Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram taluks, particularly in Patlur and Ellanur (central and eastern part) in Tadpatri and Pamidi and Uravakonda firkas (southern and western parts) in Gooty and the Kanaganapalli firka (western part) in Dharmavaram. They have also withered in Bukkapatnam (Penukonda), Boodali (Hindupur taluk), and Amarapuram firka of Madakasíra taluk. Elsewhere the dry crops are poor. Late horse-gram in Dharmavaram is diseased.

Crops on irrigated land.—Large extents of paddy under Singanamala, Anantapur and Dharmavaram big tanks have withered. Elsewhere it is withering away except in parts of Roddam and Penukonda firkas where paddy is said to be in a fair condition. Paddy under nalas and wells is good.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is practically *nil* everywhere. As regards fodder, dried cholum and ragi stalks available to a moderate extent. In several parts all over the district, withered crops are being removed for fodder for cattle. In the three central taluks, viz., Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram, the cattle are suffering from want of fodder and in several places grass roots are being dug up and used as fodder. In parts of Gooty (Uravakonda division), the Deputy Collector reports that cattle owners have migrated to Mysore with their head of cattle. For want of fodder, prickly-pear is being used in a few villages of Gooty. The Deputy Collector strongly recommended that all the reserves in his division should be thrown open for free grazing and I have addressed the Board in the Land Revenue Department for this concession being urgently granted.

Cattle disease (rinderpest) is prevalent in parts of Madakasíra, Penukonda, Kalyandrug and Gooty taluks and also in Nagasamudram and Kanganapalle firkas of the Dharmavaram taluk.

General remarks on the above subjects.—Owing to the entire failure of rains in October and up to date in November, dry crops have mostly withered. What remains on the ground is expected to wither away shortly except a small percentage near vankas and other favourable localities where too the yield may be very trifling. Much of the late sowings has not even sprouted. Korra, gingelly, cholum, cumbu and early cotton and castor plant have mostly faded away. The prospects on the whole are very gloomy and agricultural operations having almost entirely ceased, the labourers must soon fall back on State relief.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 14th of November 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Cholum white.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
1. Tadpatri	8·10	7·56	13·39	10·81	15·52	14·06	The price of second-sort rice has risen above the scarcity rate in Anantapur. The Deputy Collector, Gooty, has not furnished his fortnightly report in spite of a telegram. The Head Assistant Collector has not quoted the prices of food-grains other than rice; hence the available figures of only the last week have been quoted here. Steps will be taken to enforce the punctual submission of the returns for the next fortnight with complete information. Even as the figures stand they show an abnormal and sudden rise in prices, due to only to the adverse season but also largely to exportation of grain and stiff combination among merchants.
2. Gooty	8·64	8·64	12·20	11·33	17·46	15·88	
3. Anantapur ..	8·64	7·	15·45	12·36	17·46	13·58	
4. Kalyandrug ..	9·72	9·72	16·48	14·42	16·49	15·52	
5. Dharmavaram ..	8·64	8·64	18·54	15·45	19·40	17·46	
6. Penukonda ..	9·72	8·10	16·48	14·42	21·34	16·49	
7. Hindupur ..	9·67	8·60	16·12	12·90	24·75	17·20	
8. Madakasira ..	10·80	9·72	..	..	21·34	19·40	
Average ..	9·24	8.49	15·52	13·09	19·22	16·19	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is dull in Anantapur. Large exports from Madakasira of rice and ragi. In Hindupur, the Head Assistant Collector alludes to local arrangement, whereby it has been arranged by some charitable gentlemen of the place to sell grains at cheaper rates for a month to come.

No imports except in Hindupur, where the Divisional Officer reports there have been considerable imports from the adjoining Mysore territory.

Condition of People.

(1) *On works.*—No official information. Works will have been opened at Putlur and in Uravakonda division on the 13th or 14th.

(2) *In villages.*—Generally fair. Cholera in Gooty, Anantapur and Dharmavaram taluks. Small-pox to a slight extent in Dharmavaram and Penukonda taluks. Owing to the dearness of grain, people (especially lower classes) are stinting in their meals.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths from starvation.

Remarks.—The poorer classes in the two Northern taluks are beginning to feel the pinch of famine rather keenly and test works have been ordered to be started, and it remains to be seen how far they will avail themselves of this opportunity to find labour. In the three central taluks of Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram there is but a limited demand for labour in the removal of withered crops and in harvest operations under wells and nalas. As there is not a sufficient demand for the labouring classes, test works have been ordered to be started in each of these taluks also. From Penukonda a pleader telegraphed that the Madigas and Malas were suffering from starvation, but the Divisional Officer, who was wired to report on the matter, informs me that there

is no starvation, that it was all due to discontent amongst them on account of high prices, and that the Reddi of Panudurti, who has large stores of grain, was expected to bring large exports to the local market last Wednesday and break down the combination among the merchants. Orders have been issued for the opening of the following test works:—

(1) *Tadpatri taluk.*—Tadpatri-Ellanur road *viâ* Putlur.

(2) *Gooty taluk.*—Collection of materials between the 21st and 30th mile of the Uravakonda-Bellary road, otherwise called the Chittoor-Bombay road.

(3) *Anantapur taluk.*—Almoor tank, 5 miles south-west of Anantapur.

(4) *Kalyandrug taluk.*—Repairs of the Anantapur-Kalyandrug road.

(5) *Dharmavaram taluk.*—Ellakuntla taluk in Kanaganapalli firka. Of these, the first two will have been started by yesterday by the Local Fund Engineer and the Deputy Collector, Gooty, respectively. Necessary arrangements have been made for the execution of these relief works, but the expected reports as to the number of coolies admitted, &c., have not yet reached me. Full information under this head will be furnished in the next fortnightly narrative. As regards the other two works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram, the Executive Engineer, Bellary, has undertaken to carry out those works with his present staff and I have issued necessary instructions to have them started immediately. After organizing the work in Tadpatri, the Local Fund Engineer will start the test work in Kalyandrug.

Gratuitous relief.—Nil.

Private charity.—Nothing worth mentioning under this head has yet been offered for the relief of the poor. The Head Assistant Collector notes that in Penukonda and Panudurti some poor men are being fed by private charity.

Remarks.—Kitchens are proposed to be started in Uravakonda and Dharmavaram. The Divisional Officers have not furnished the required information, and directly on receipt of full particulars I shall address the Board on the subject.

Loan transactions.—Statistics have not been furnished by the Divisional Officers and are not given for this fortnight. Will be furnished in the next report.

Taluks and places visited.

Anantapur.—Raptad, Ramanaipalli, Marur.

Dharmavaram.—Dharmavaram, Patalu, Nagepalli, Chippalacheruvu, Kothakota, Nimalakunta, Basampally, Kanumakkala.

Penukonda.—Kothacheruvu, Bukkapatnam, Kodapaganipalli.

After submitting the report on the 9th instant, I had to remain at head-quarters till the 12th to issue various urgent orders about the opening of relief works simultaneously in Gooty and Tadpatri taluks.

General Remarks.—I came here to ascertain the state of things in this (once a Deputy Tahsildar's) division, as the Head Assistant Collector had reported that relief works would be necessary soon. This division has very few tanks except the one in this village—the largest in the district. It is dry but there is considerable sugarcane cultivation and other crops under wells and a spring channel. About 200 acres of the tank-bed is also sown with jonna. Though it has not had the advantage of as good rainfall as the western parts of Penukonda, still just at present I have reason to think coolies obtain some sort of work in the fields. I went into the quarters inhabited by Boyas, Malas and Madigas. I could see very few able-bodied men. Moreover, the concession for free cutting of grass will give some work for people of these parts; grass is very dear, but can be easily cut in the reserves all about here; cattle in these parts are in better condition. Prices are as bad as elsewhere. A report has been called for and on its receipt the Board will be addressed.

Everywhere the cry is against the very high rise in the prices of food-grains. The failure of early rains means the failure of food crops in this district. This is aggravated by the large exportation that is going on from the southern taluks and the Mysore Province and the consequent unwillingness of merchants to bring their stock into market in expectation of still higher prices.

Though no official information has reached me, there can be no doubt that relief works will have been opened by yesterday in Gooty and Tadpatri. Works in Anantapur, Kalyandrug and Dharmavaram will also be opened during the course of this week. The question of opening kitchens and giving advances to weavers (of whom there are about 4,000 in Uravakonda and 500 in Dharmavaram) is engaging my attention. Applications for loans under Land Improvement Act are coming in and the prompt disposal of these will go a long way to afford labour to a number of labourers near their homes.

BUKKAPATNAM,
15th November 1896.

(Signed) K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA,
Acting Collector.

RESOLUTION—dated 24th November 1896, No. 370.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. This report does not add much to that submitted with B. P., No. 358 of 1896. Until two days ago there had been no rain in the district since the beginning of the month, and water-supplies were growing more scanty; standing crops were deteriorating more and more rapidly, if not already lost; and agricultural operations were almost at a standstill, except under wells and channels. The cattle were beginning to suffer, and fodder was scarce, whilst the stony wastes which fill up so much of the district afforded little or no pasturage. The rainfall of the last few days may, however, greatly alter the outlook.

3. The statement of prices given by the Collector is not quite clear, and the Board appends one based on the latest available figures which shows an enormous increase in the prices of the staple dry food-grains during the fortnight, but rates have fallen considerably since.

4. The relief work in the Uravakonda division was opened on the 14th, and 978 persons attended. The numbers rose to 1,370 on the 21st, on which date 1,000 persons were working in Tadpatri and 202 on the works in Anantapur and Dharmavaram.

5. With the organisation of relief measures, the district establishment will need strengthening, and engineering assistance will have to be supplied. The Collector should report fully on this point, but the situation may be materially altered by the recent rain.

6. The Collector's report regarding the condition of the weavers in his district will be awaited.

7. The opening of kitchens should take place simultaneously with the opening of test-works. The famine wage is only intended to support those who earn it. The Collector's attention is drawn to the last clause of section 106 of the Famine Code.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Anantapur.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

APPENDIX.

PRICES in seers of 80 tolas per rupee in the Anantapur district.

Stations.	Rice. 1896. October average.	Rice. 1896. November 14th.	Rice. 1896. November 21st.	Rice. 1876. November.	Cholum. 1896. October average.	Cholum. 1896. November 14th.	Cholum. 1896. November 21st.	Cholum. 1876. November.	Ragi. 1896. October average.	Ragi. 1896. November 14th.	Ragi. 1896. November 21st.	Ragi. 1876. November.
Uravakonda	10·5	*	7·3	6·2	18·8	*	13·7	6·9	17·3	*	15·8	7·3
Gooty	9·2	8·0	7·4	7·0	19·8	11·5	12·8	7·7	19·2	12·7	11·0	8·5
Yadiki	9·7	7·6	6·5	7·0	17·5	11·9	10·3	8·2	21·3	14·0	11·6	8·7
Tadpatri	8·6	7·0	7·6	7·0	15·9	10·3	13·4	8·2	17·7	10·7	13·6	8·7
Anantapur	9·3	6·5	8·6	7·0	20·2	11·3	14·9	8·8	21·1	10·7	15·5	9·2
Kalyandrug	10·8	7·6	8·1	6·2	25·0	14·4	12·1	7·2	23·8	12·6	13·6	7·8
Dharmavaram	9·7	7·0	7·0	6·5	26·8	11·3	10·8	8·0	22·3	11·6	11·6	7·8
Penukonda	10·3	7·6	8·1	5·9	..	..	11·3	7·7	26·8	12·6	13·6	8·7
Hindupur	9·8	7·8	8·3	7·3	..	..	12·4	8·2	26·0	14·0	17·2	8·9
Madaksira	11·9	7·6	8·6	6·8	..	..	..	7·7	31·0	14·6	14·6	8·2
District average	10·0	7·4	7·8	6·7	20·6	11·8	12·6	7·9	22·7	12·6	13·8	8·4
	10·6				22·5				24·0			
Warning rate	7·9				15·0				16·0			
Scarcity rate												

* Report not received from Uravakonda.

Govt. P. Seetharam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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