Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 44-45 W

Dated 6. January

[Despatch Abstract.]

Exchange Compensation Allowance. Orders that a Statement showing the revised and budget Estimates & payments on account of — for 1896-97 & 1897-98 respectively, be forwarded to the Govt of India.

[P.W. 25. 5,000—20-11-96.]

Indexed.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

No. 44 Wdy 6.1.97
Revised & Budget estimates of payments on account of Exchange Compensation allowance for 1896-97 & 1897-98

P. W. Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

From the Examiner P.W. Accounts, No. 4406 D/3 dy 19th December 1896.

The revised estimate of payments on account of Exchange Compensation allowance under "45. Provincial Limit Works" for 1896-97 and the budget estimate for 1897-98 will be fixed at Rs 72,000 and Rs 75,000 respectively as proposed by the Examiner of P.W. Accounts.

2. Ordered that the following letter be sent to the Govt of India P.W. Department.

H.E. No 45 Wdy 6.1.97

To

The Secretary to the
Govt. of India.
P.W. Dept.

Sir,

With reference to endorsement from the Govt. of India No 22 A.G. dated 11th February 1896

I

To The Exar P.W. Accts

B.SH 5.7.96

B.SH 5.7.96

[P. W. 40. 1,040—11-11-96]

I am directed to append below a statement showing the revised and budget estimates of payments on account of Exchange Compensation allowances for 1896-97 and 1897-98 respectively.

Head of Classification	Actuals 1895-96	Budget Estimate 1896-97	Revised Estimate 1896-97	Budget Estimate 1897-98	Remarks.
45. Provincial Civil Works	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	
Payment on account of Exchange Compensation allowance	1,01,535	"	72,000	75,000	

I have &c

4/1/97

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B Gulp

Maj
H.E. 4/1RG/1.

Public Works (1896) Department.

CURRENT No. 11610

Order

From The Examiner
P. W. Accounts
Madras

No. 4406 Dy

Dated 19 Decr/96.
Received 21.12.96
Enclosures Rd 2-1-97 at 4-30 P.M.
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Exchange. Compensation allowance. Communicating figures that may be adopted for the revised Estimate for 1896-97 & Budget Estimate for 1897-98 on account of——

B

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1287 W	"	20-4-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

E. No. 27.
1,000—9-12-95.

KEEP-WITH CURRENT No. GOVT. OF MADRAS. 1896. P. W. DEPT.

dated 189 .

EXAMINER, P. W. ACCOUNTS,

Madras, 19 December 1896.

OFFICE NOTE No. 4406 96

To

W.

With reference to G.O.No.1287 W dated 20th.April 1896, I beg to note below the figures that may be adopted for the revised estimate for 1896-97 and the budget estimate for 1897-98 on account of Exchange compensation allowance under "45 Civil Works Provincial".

	Revised Estimate for 1896-97.	Budget Estimate for 1897-98.
45 Civil Works Provincial.....	72,000	75,000

actuals for 1896-96 1,01,535 obtained from C's office in person, to avoid delay that would arise if the information should be called for officially

C.

19/12

Public Works Departme
Proceedings of the Madras Government—P
Read the following—

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Badvel, 28th November 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810-Rev. :—

In continuation of this office letters, Reference on Current No. 6810, dated 29th October 1896, and 17th November 1896, I have the honour to report on the effect of the recent rains with special reference to (*a*) demand for labour, (*b*) standing crops, (*c*) the extension of cultivation, (*d*) the supply received in tanks, and (*e*) the prices of food-grains. I will deal with the taluks in the order adopted in the Statistical Atlas.

EASTERN SECTION.

2. I arrived here on the 23rd instant with the intention of starting a test work at Gopavaram, but was informed by the Tahsidar and Deputy Collector, as reported already, that there was no necessity to do so, as good rain had fallen and people would get employment in the fields.

Rainfall.—The rainfall in the three taluks of this section has been very good and well distributed as shown in the subjoined statement :—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on								
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	25th.	Total.
1. Chitvel	0·11	0·33	0·81	0·20	0·46	0·28	..	2·24	4·43
2. Rajempett	..	0·50	0·17	0·12	0·28	0·23	..	0·37	1·67
3. Sidhout	..	0·31	0·94	0·12	0·30	0·40	0·01	0·42	2·50
4. Badvel	0·38	0·08	0·90	0·15	0·13	0·85	0·05	1·76	4·30

On the 26th and 27th there was a fall of 20 cents and 99 cents, respectively, at Badvel. The reports from other stations have not yet reached me. In some of the outlying tracts, the fall has been heavier than at the registering stations.

3. *Pullampet Taluk.*—Before the rainfall of the 17th instant, the situation in Pullampet was not so bad as in Sidhout and Badvel ; it has now received 1 inch and 30 cents up to 24th instant, and no fears are entertained regarding the ability of the cooly classes to get their livelihood in fields. Dry and wet lands (hitherto waste) are being ploughed ; jonna and horse-gram are being sown in parts and ragi is being transplanted. The Deputy Collector is going shortly to this taluk and I shall then be able to give more complete information regarding the situation there. The rain has been general, the villages in Kodur and Chitvel firkas having received most. The rain is too late to revive some of the paddy crop that had already withered, but the wet crops that were about to wither have been saved though the yield will be between 4 and 8 annas. Dry crops such as arika, ragi, pulses are in good condition and have been much benefited and will thrive well. There have been no freshes in rivers. The supply received in tanks is small ; only six are reported to have supplies ranging from 2 to 20 days and, of course, no wet crops will be raised unless a considerably larger quantity is received. The condition of cattle has also improved, and there will be no complaint of want of pasture for two or three months more.

4. *Sidhout Taluk.*—In Sidhout taluk, the rainfall, though general, has been heavier in the northern and eastern portion of the taluk than in the central and southern parts. Out of 101 tanks in this taluk, 56 received supplies ranging from four days to one month. All these are situated in the Obalam valley and Kondur circle. The heavy rainfall on the Lankamalas brought moderate supplies to most of the tanks in the latter tract. The Tahsildar expects that the greater portion of the standing paddy crops in these two firkas—which was withering and which was given up by the ryots as hopeless—will revive by this rainfall. Doubtless, the standing ragi, which was also fading, has been exceedingly benefited, and tender cholum crops, which stood in great need of rain, have been saved beyond expectation. In Sidhout firka, the largest tanks, viz., those of Gangaperur and Vontimitta have not received any supply. The extent of waste under both these tanks is nearly 900 acres. About 30 acres of paddy raised under the former tank withered long ago and 30 acres of korra and indigo yielded a poor outturn. Under Vontimitta tank 20 acres of ragi raised under wells is in good condition. This part of the taluk has not been much benefited by the rainfall. If the rain ceases at present, the moisture will be just sufficient to enable ryots to raise cholum crop on a large area, but if it continues for some days longer and brings an appreciable quantity of water into the tanks, ragi or inferior paddy will be sown. In either case there will be plenty of field labour for coolies. The rainfall has generally encouraged the cultivating classes. Pasture has improved considerably and all anxiety about cattle for the present has disappeared.

5. *Badvel Taluk.*—In Badvel taluk 55 tanks received supply ranging from two days to two months. Under the big tank of Badvel, a large extent of paddy withered and the shavi was also recently cut and removed. It has now received about two months' supply, and, if the rain, which is still falling, brings in a further supply, the ryots will grow black paddy or ragi on a large area. I rode out from Badvel to Porumamilla and inspected the tanks shown below and found them to contain the supply noted against each on the 26th instant:—

Rangasamudram	2 months.
Gopavaram	1 month.
Govindarajupalli	1½ months.
Sirigipalli	1 month.
Payalakuntla	1 month.
Godaganur	15 days.
Peddacheruvu	1 month.
Pedullapalli	20 days.
Puttulodducheruvu	1½ months.
Gorlakunta	1 month.
Nijiramkunta	full (said to possess a small ayacut).

The wet ayacut under Porumamilla tank is 2,660 acres—both inam and circar. Paddy has been raised on 1,325 acres and ragi on 475 acres. The paddy is three months' old and is all quite green at present. But for this timely rainfall, the whole of it would have been lost. At present the tank contains only about 15 or 20 days' supply; this quantity requires to be largely augmented, as the crop cannot be harvested for another three months. The ayacut of the other tanks inspected by me is 1,205 acres, both inam and circar. Racheruvu of Madakalavaripalle and Bethayapalle tank of Gopavaram have each between one and two months' supply. The wet ayacut of all these tanks is 4,000 acres, or about 20 per cent. of the total wet ayacut of the taluk. As I am writing this, I hear that the main Vanka is flowing into the tank. The Sagilér is in full fresh and is unfordable; my camp that was going on to Sidhout had to return at 6 P.M. on the 27th, and it has been raining steadily during part of the night and all this early morning. I doubt if I shall be able to cross the river to-day. I think it most probable that the Porumamilla tank has by this time got 1½ months' supply. In the remaining tanks the existing supply is not at present sufficient to enable the ryots to raise paddy on waste lands. Cholum or ragi can be grown. The agricultural classes will have sufficient employment in the fields for two months more. Pasture will improve, and the condition of cattle will give no cause for anxiety for some time to come.

6. In consequence of the recent rains, there is no need to start any test works at present in any of these three taluks.

Northern Section.

7. The rainfall registered at the registering stations of the northern section is given below:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on							
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	Total.
Cuddapah	..	0·02	0·08	0·10	0·60	0·23	0·01	1·04
Kamalápuram	0·03	0·11	0·44	0·24	0·50	..	..	1·32
Proddatur	..	..	0·13	..	0·11	1·03	0·10	1·37
Jammalamadugu	..	..	0·11	..	0·29	0·70	0·15	1·25
Pulivendla	..	0·03	0·08	0·11	0·03	0·95	0·05	1·25

Cuddapah Taluk.—This section was the least favoured of all in the district. Except on the 22nd and 23rd, there was no rain worth mentioning in Cuddapah. Kamálapuram registered a little more than an inch on three days. At the remaining stations the only rain that was of any use was that registered on the 23rd. The standing crops have no doubt been benefited to some extent, but the tanks received no supply. In Cuddapah the river and spring channels contain sufficient supply for the standing crops, and the Deputy Collector reports that the labouring classes are largely employed in weeding and in repairing and deepening channels. He also states that the rain is sufficient to begin cultivation on all but black-cotton soil, and that after the fields get a little dry, ryots will sow ragi and variga. Sufficient rain has not fallen to cultivate the black-cotton soil; but as prices are falling, there is no clamour for work at present.

Proddatur Taluk.—In Proddatur taluk, the Tahsildar reports that advanced cholum crop has been affected with disease owing to recent rains and so also cotton which is in flower. Late-sown cholum and cotton, which has not yet borne flower, will be much benefited by the rain. The same may be said of Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla taluks. The numbers on the work on the 21st were as shown in the margin. Owing to the rains, work was interfered with on one or two days and the numbers fell on the 24th both at Pulivendla and at Bollavaram to 1,697 and 1,168, respectively. I have received no report about the numbers at Jammalamadugu probably owing to the fact that on the 23rd the work was to be continued at another place on the Jammalamadugu-Muddanur road immediately south of the Pennér river.

21*st November* 1896.	
Pulivendla	2,866
Jammalamadugu	2,678
Proddutur	1,323

Pulivendla Taluk.—I have also heard nothing from Pulivendla, but the rainfall up to date being very deficient, I do not think that it will be possible for the labourers to get on without help. Unless I hear a good account from this taluk in a few days, I shall go there and see if it is necessary to extend relief operations.

Southern section.

8. The rainfall registered at the registering stations of this section is appended:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on							
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	Total.
Kadiri	..	..	0·36	0·01	0·15	0·97	..	1·49
Ráyachóti	..	1·07	..	..	0·46	..	..	1·53
Vayalpad	0·87	0·14	..	0·01	0·53	..	..	1·55
Piler	0·71	0·84	..	0·06	0·56	0·47	..	2·53
Madanapalle	0·65	0·27	0·49	0·07	0·78	1·90	0·04	4·20

Madanapalle Taluk.—In this section the heaviest rainfall was registered at Madapalle, the aggregate fall amounting to 4·20 inches on seven days. The Tahsildar reports that the rain in the outlying localities was less than at the taluk kasbah. In Kothakotta firka, where he had been touring since the commencement of the rain, there was mere drizzling except on two days, viz., the 17th and 19th, when there was 0·50 inch and 1 inch in some of the villages of the firka. The big tanks received no supply whatever, but some of the smaller ponds had one or two days' supply. No rivers or channels flowed. The Tahsildar learns on enquiry that a similar state of things prevailed in the other firkas. The general effect of the rain will be to benefit standing sugarcane, pulses, oil-seeds and horse-gram. Ragi that had withered has already been removed, cut, and the small area on which it is still standing will yield nothing but fodder. Fresh land will, however, be ploughed for sowing cholum.

Ráyachóti Taluk.—In Ráyachóti also, the rainfall was not, on the whole, satisfactory. There was drizzling throughout the taluk for three or four days without any heavy downpour. The standing crops consisting chiefly of oil-seeds, pulses and horse-gram will revive in parts. Paddy, which is just beginning to fade, will not be benefited much unless the rainfall is much heavier. In some villages the ryots have begun to plough up the land for raising dry crops for the next season in the hope of getting more rain. Pasture will improve and drinking-water will be available for cattle. Tanks have received no supply.

Kadiri Taluk.—In Kadiri taluk the rainfall in the outlying stations was heavier than at the registering station. The Papagni flowed knee-deep and one tank (Danayani cheruvu) received fourteen days' supply. The standing crops, such as ragi, oil-seeds, sugarcane, cotton, horse-gram and korra, are reviving and ryots have commenced ploughing and manuring the lands in expectation of more rain. The prices of staple food-grains have fallen considerably.

Vayalpad Taluk.—In Vayalpad the rainfall was general throughout the taluk, several tanks having received fifteen to twenty days' supply. The Vayalpad river flowed slightly on the 18th instant, as also the Piler river. The standing crops, horse-gram, pulses, castor-oil seeds and paddy have been much benefited by these rains, and prices have also fallen considerably.

Piler sub-division of Vayalpad Taluk.—The prospects in Piler division are more encouraging than in the rest of the taluk, and the agricultural classes are hopeful. As the rains have stimulated sowing operations, I do not think that there is any need for starting any works at present in this section; but I am awaiting a definite report on the subject from the Deputy Collector who on the 19th instant took charge of the sub-division.

9. On the whole, the recent rains have been effectual in bringing down the prices of food-grains as will be seen from the following figures:—

—	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholum.		Cumbu.	
	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.
Badvel	8·25	9·07	13·50	19·50	10·50	16·59	10·50	15·22
Proddatur	..	..	13·02	14·03	10·31	11·55	..	..
Kadiri	7·45	8·90	14·85	19·80	13·20	14·03	13·20	19·80
Vayalpad	8·66	8·90	14·85	19·80	..	..	13·20	19·80

The figures for the remaining stations have not yet reached me: but there is no doubt that the prices are cheaper now than in the previous week. In Porumamilla, I found four merchants selling grain, whereas before the 17th only one was doing any business. Ragi had fallen from nine to thirteen measures and jonna and cumbu from eight and a half to eleven. In Badvel merchants who protested that they had no stocks of grain have suddenly produced them and are selling freely. I have no doubt that the same phenomenon has been observed in other big villages.

10. I have dealt with the subject as fully as I can with the information at hand, shut up as I am in Badvel, where there is no telegraph and where the post from Madanapalle or Kadiri takes at least four days to reach me. It is still raining* in Badvel and owing to the freshes in the Sagilér, I am prevented from going to Cuddapah. The statistics of cultivation due to the effect of this rainfall will not be available till about the latter part of December. Meanwhile, I have instructed all Tahsildars to encourage dry cultivation as much as possible and also wet cultivation consistently with the supply available in tanks. If any further information than that which has now reached me is received, I shall embody it in the fortnightly narrative due to the Board on the 1st December 1896.

*One inch 17 cents up to 8 this morning.
28th November 1896. (Intld.) A. T. F.

Read—also the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Cuddapah District during the period ending 30th November 1896:—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—Eastern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is noted below:—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during the month of November 1896.	Average for the month.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Rázampét	6·98	8·38
Chitvélu	8·61	6·99
Sidhout	7·66	4·73
Badvel	6·66	5·17

In some of the outlying tracts the fall has been much heavier than at the registering stations, especially in Pullampet taluk. There was no rain up to the 17th instant. From the 18th the fall has been general throughout the section. In Pullampet taluk, the villages in Kódúru and Chitvélu firkas have had heavy rain. The Gungana was in unusually heavy flood with the result that two railway bridges on the Madras Railway line—one between Kódúru and Peddapádu and the other between Peddapádu and Ballipalle—were entirely washed away, and all railway communication stopped for a whole day. The mails from Raichur and Madras do not proceed beyond Cuddapah and Rénigunta, respectively, and passengers in local trains, which are the only ones now allowed to run between Cuddapah and Rénigunta, are transhipped at the breaches. Some tanks in Anantarazpet firka have received full supply, while others contain a fair supply. River and spring channels are freely flowing. In Sidhout taluk, the rainfall, though general, has been heavier in the northern and eastern portion of the taluk than in the central and southern parts. Out of 101 tanks in this taluk more than 60 have received supply, ranging from four days to one month. All these are situated in the Obalam valley and Kondur circle. The Vontimitta tank also received a fair supply. In Badvel taluk 55 tanks got supplies, ranging from two days to two months. The big tank at Badvel received about two months' supply. The main vanka of Pórumámilla is flowing into the tank, which also got about two months' supply. The Sagiléru was in full freshes on one day and flowing moderately on the other days.

Northern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is noted below :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during November 1896.	Average for the month.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Cuddapah	4·08	3·82
Kamalápuram	2·74	3·73
Proddatur	3·55	2·22
Jammalamadugu	2·18	1·82
Pulivendla	3·75	2·49

The rainfall was general throughout the taluks. It was fairly distributed all over the division. In Proddatur taluk, " the land has been well moistured and rendered fit for ploughing." There were rains all over Jammalamadugu taluk. In Pulivendla taluk, there was one inch of rain in most places, while in others it ranged from half to three-fourths inch. The Deputy Collector who examined the land near Royalapuram, Pulivendla taluk, reports that he found that land was not moistured to a depth of more than four inches in the cotton soil while it was moistured about a cubit in ordinary land.

Water-supply.—Very few tanks received any supply.—One tank in Proddatur and two in Pulivendla are reported to have received ten days' supply. In Jammalamadugu taluk, thirteen tanks received one to two months' supply. The Kundu is in fresh and the Pennér and other rivers had slight freshes. Irrigation channels have not received additional supplies.

Drinking-water.—Good in Pulivendla; in Proddatur, there was not considerable improvement. It is reported that the two wells dug at Bollavaram quarry in Proddatur taluk for the use of relief-workers are resorted to by the people of Chinnasettipalli and Pattipad, where there is scarcity of drinking-water.

Southern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is shown in the subjoined statement :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during November 1896.	Average for November 1896.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Kadiri	3·06	2·59
Ráyachóti	2·77	4·15
Vayalpad	2·79	4·41
Pílér	3·12	3·65
Madanapalle	5·27	4·32

In Kadiri, there has been a fall of two inches in the interior of the taluk. A few tanks have received supply varying from fifteen days to one and a half months. The Pápaghni is flowing knee-deep. Channels have begun to flow for the last five days. There is sufficient water in wells. In Ráyachóti, all channels are flowing though tanks are still dry. In Vayalpad, the fall registered at the registering station was fairly distributed in the interior of the taluk. Some tanks received ten to twenty days' supply. The Babuda and Pílér rivers flowed slightly. River channels are flowing and water is rising in wells. In Madanapalle, a very few small tanks received supply from one to fifteen days.

Agricultural operations—Condition of Standing Crops.

Eastern section.—In Pullampet, dry and wet lands, hitherto left waste, are being ploughed. Jonna and horse-gram are being sown in parts and ragi is being transplanted. Under tanks, which have received good supply, paddy will also be sown. The standing dry crops, such as arika, ragi and pulses, are in good condition and have been much benefited and will thrive well. The rain is too late to revive some of the paddy crops that is already withered, but the wet crops, that were about to wither, have been saved. In Sidhout, a great portion of the standing paddy crops in the Obolam and Kundur firkas, which was withering and which was given up by the ryots as hopeless,

will revive by the rainfall. The standing ragi, which was fading and tender, and cholam, which stood in great need of rain, has been saved beyond expectation. In Badvel taluk, the paddy crop on an extent of nearly 1,325 acres and ragi raised on 475 acres would have been lost. Ploughing operations are going on and ragi and jonna are being sown.

Northern section.—In Cuddapah taluk bariga and palazama are being sown in parts, while in others lands are being ploughed for sowing the above crops. Paddy and ragi under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, channels and wells are fair. Horsegram and cotton are also in good condition. In the black cotton soil taluks, lands are being or will be shortly ploughed for sowing Bengal gram, wheat, kusuma (oil-seeds), bariga, gundujonna (white cholam). Weeding and transplanting is going on under wells. The crops on lands traversed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal are in good condition. Cholam, korra and arika have withered in most places. Cholam in ears is reported to be diseased in parts. Early sown cotton is dropping its flowers owing to rains.

Southern section.—In Kadiri, Ráyachóti and Voyalpad, the standing crops are paddy, sugurcane, horse-gram, cotton, sama and oil-seeds. Most of these are reviving. The lands are being ploughed for cholam. Ragi is being harvested in parts. In Madanapalle, standing dry crops are reported to have withered completely in most places, while in other places the crops look green on account of the recent rains.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.

Eastern section.—The condition of cattle has improved and there will be no complaint of want of pasture for two or three months more. Fodder continues insufficient.

Northern section.—The condition of cattle is good. Pasture has improved considerably in Cuddapah taluk and has removed all anxiety about cattle for the present, though fodder is insufficient and is sold very dear. In the black cotton soil taluks, pasture is very scarce still. The cholam crops, still lingering in parts, may furnish a supply of fodder. Fodder is scarce. During the fortnight certain reserves have been thrown open for the free cutting of grass and this concession is said to have been largely taken advantage of in Proddatur. Rinderpest prevails in two villages of Proddatur taluk.

Southern section.—The condition of cattle is fair and pasture is improving. Fodder is available in all taluks except in Kadiri, where it is insufficient. All fear about the condition of cattle has been removed for the present.

General Remarks on the above subjects.

Eastern section.—In the taluks of this section no fears are entertained regarding the ability of the cooly classes to get their livelihood in fields, as agricultural operations are progressing on a large scale; and in consequence of this there is no need to start any test works at present in any of the three taluks.

Northern section.—In Cuddapah taluk, the prospects of the season have greatly improved; and the anxiety of ryots and cooly classes has diminished; there will be sufficient employment for the cooly classes in the fields as soon as the lands become a little dry and fit for sowing operations.

As regards Jammalamadugu, Proddatur and Pulivendala, I consider that agricultural operations will not give employment to all who ask for labour and that for some time longer, relief works must be kept open. In the other taluks of this section, withered crops have almost everywhere been already removed from the ground. In their anxiety to provide fodder for their cattle and in the fear that withered crops might yield nothing after all, the ryots cut and removed the crops earlier than they should have done. What remains on the ground will no doubt be benefited by the recent rains. Cholam has been cut and removed and where it still exists, can only yield fodder. The recent rains have, however, improved the situation of the division considerably and the dry lands will be irrigated with bariga, pulses and oil-seeds. The

rain is unfavourable to the early cotton crop, but late sown cotton and indigo will thrive well. For wet crops, the irrigation sources not having received supplies, much good cannot be said to have resulted from the present rainfall.

Southern section.—The recent rains have contributed much to the improvement of pasture and standing crops, though they are insufficient for raising wet crops.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

STATEMENT of prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Rázampét	8·30	8·71	15·00	15·00	..	..	11·60	11·60
Chitvélu	8·30	8·30	15·00	15·00	15·80	15·80	10·87	10·87
Sidhout	8·25	8·25	20·62	19·80	16·50	13·20	..	14·85
Badvel	8·25	9·07	13·50	19·50	12·64	16·59	11·62	15·22
Cuddapah	7·88	8·30	12·00	17·25	10·27	13·82	9·42	15·22
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	12·37	18·17	10·72	14·85	..	..
Proddatur	8·25	9·09	20·62	19·08	10·72	14·02	13·61	16·05
Jammalamadugu	7·47	8·30	12·00	19·50	10·27	13·43	10·50	11·20
Pulivendla	7·87	9·13	10·50	18·00	11·85	13·05	..	14·22
Kadiri	8·30	9·96	14·63	18·00	12·25	14·22	10·87	13·05
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·96	15·75	18·75	13·82	18·96	12·91	18·00
Vayalpad	9·13	10·79	13·87	24·00	12·64	..	12·32	17·40
Piler	10·72	10·72	22·50	22·50	..	..	21·75	21·75
Madanapalle	8·30	10·79	13·50	22·50	14·22	17·01	12·32	17·40
District average ..	8·6	9·3	14·6	19·1	12·5	15·0	12·6	15·1

There is a fall in prices in all the stations except Chitvelu.

Private trade active in towns both in rice and in dry staple food-grains. Two waggons of ragi have been imported into the Pulivendla taluk. Proddatur is getting ragi and cholum from Bangalore, Chittor, Madras, Tirupati and Karúr. In Jammalamadugu, ragi and cholum were being received until a week ago from Salem. Cholum being imported into Cuddapah from Nellore and rice from Salem and Nellore, though in small quantities when compared with the previous fortnight. The merchants who had stored grain in large quantities and were unwilling to sell freely a week ago, have now exposed their stock for sale without reserve. Owing to revival of hope in consequence of the rains, the prices have considerably fallen. There are abundant stocks of grain everywhere: in Jammalamadugu, 70 waggons; in Proddatur, 29,600 bags of 50 local measures.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On Works.*—No works have been opened in any taluk except in Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. The condition of people at the test works is good.

(2) *In Villages.*—The cooly classes have sufficient employment in the fields and no State relief is called for at present except in the three taluks above mentioned. In these it will probably be necessary to expand works unless heavy rain is received soon.

Eastern section.—The condition of people is good.

Sickness and mortality—Northern section.—In Cuddapah town, fever and small-pox are prevailing. There are no deaths from want of food. In Proddatur, there is fever and small-pox. Cholera is still lingering in one village of Pulivendla taluk. There were four attacks, all of which were fatal. There were no attacks since the 24th instant. There are no deaths from starvation.

Southern section.—There is fever in parts of Vayalpad and Madanapalle.

Remarks—Eastern section.—There is no anxiety in regard to this section. The recent rains have stimulated sowing operations and there is no necessity to open any test works for the employment of labourers, who now find no difficulty in finding labour in fields.

Northern section.—In the black cotton soil taluks where test works were opened, work was interfered with owing to the rains and there was an appreciable decrease in the number of labourers that resorted to the work as reported in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810, Revenue, dated 28th November 1896. The decrease appears to be temporary. The rainfall up to date being very deficient, I do not think that it will be possible for the labourers to get on without help. The Local Fund Engineer was asked to take advantage of the recent rains to consolidate the Jammalamadugu-Proddatur road and the Pulivendla-Muddanúru road. The estimate for the Peddapasupula project asked for by the Board has been submitted to-day. The Executive Engineer states that he is ready to start the work. Early sanction is requested. I think it will be well attended. The execution of repairs to Sivapuram and Settivaripalli tanks have had to be postponed for a week more as the ground is wet and does not at present admit of earthwork being done.

Southern section.—In Ráyachóti, labourers are reported to find employment in the fields and in Vayalpad no body is said to require relief. In the other taluks the pinch has not been felt by the people yet. People are busy preparing the land for sowing dry crops.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Taluks.	Numbers employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	1,162 (14th)	1,235 (26th)	Since the close of the last fortnight the number of relief workers gradually increased. The maximum number employed in the Proddatur taluk was 1,361 on the 18th, in Pulivendla 2,995 on the 22nd, and Jammalamadugu 2,678 on the 19th. In Pulivendla there was actual cessation of work on 27th and 28th owing to incessant rains. The large decrease in the number of labourers at all the works at the end of the current fortnight is due to the continuous fall of rain from the 20th.
Jammalamadugu	2,303 (15th)	1,397 (26th)	
Pulivendla	1,242 (15th)	560 (27th)	

Gratuitous relief—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Numbers relieved.		Remarks.
	At kitchens.		
	This.	Last.	
Proddatur	83 (26th)	46 (13th)	A few infirm people were also admitted.
Jammalamadugu	46 (26th)	192 (15th)	
Pulivendla	31 (27th)	64 (15th)	

Private charity—Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section.—In Proddatur a merchant distributed food to the poor every night for some days. Some merchants distributed quarter measure of ragi for one day. Another merchant of the same station is reported to have supplied cloths to the small naked children of the relief workers. As a charitable deed this is deserving of all praise, but I saw no children going naked who were of older age than what one sees any day in any village.

Tuluks and places visited.—Inspections of the Divisional Officers and Collector—

Deputy Collector, Cuddapah.	Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu.	Collector.
Chennur.	Jammalamadugu taluk—	Jammalamadugu.
Chinnamachupalle.	Muddanúru.	Muddanúru.
Chinnacheppalle.	Jammalamadagu.	Cuddapah.
Ellareddipalle.	Gorigannr.	Sidhout.
Latepalle.	Mallambhavi.	Badvel.
Alidina.	Pulivendla taluk—	Pórumámilla.
Podadurti.	Tondur.	
Kamalápuram.	Rayalapuram.	
Peddacheppalle.	Tummalapalle.	
Animala.	Pulivendla.	
Shrotriem Pillivaripalle.		
Chabali.		
Matchannr.		
Yerraguntla.		

Remarks.—The effect of the recent rains in regard to the Northern section has still to be watched. If cultivation, with the help of the recent rains, is fairly commenced, there will be no doubt a falling off in the number of coolies, but it seems hardly likely that all the coolies now employed will be absorbed in the field work. The continuance of the works seems to me therefore necessary. The relief to weavers will be required until the demand for the cloths in the Central Provinces and Bombay revives.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	6	1,310	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1,310
Proddatur	1	150	1	75	9	1,250	..	..	..	..	2	200	1	150	1	75	11	1,450
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	*	600	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	600
Total ..	1	150	1	75	15	3,160	..	..	..	..	2	200	1	150	1	75	17	3,360

Taluks.	Number of wells.		Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
			Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
				RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190

* The number of applications pending has not been reported by the Deputy Collecter in charge.

READ—also the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 5th December 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810-Rev. :—

I have the honour to state that I have already submitted a report on the effect of the recent rains in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810, dated 28th November 1896, and furnished such further information as was available subsequently in the fortnightly narrative sent on the 1st instant.

2. The Jammalamadugu division, which is the most affected area, has not been materially benefited by the rains except the eastern portion of the Proddatur taluk. I had arranged to start the Settivaripalli and Sivapuram tanks but the Tahsildar and the Sub-Divisional Officer who went to the spot to start the works have reported that no labourers have attended as they find employment in agricultural operations. So also in the tract near Pallavolu of this taluk. The Tahsildar says that the work in the fields will give the people sufficient employment for a fortnight. In the western part of the taluk the rains have been somewhat lighter and though even here the ryots are busy sowing their lands with bariga, &c., there are still nearly 600 on the Bollavaram work. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu taluks, the rainfall has been extremely deficient. The ground has not become sufficiently moist to allow of sowings being proceeded with on any large scale. The numbers on works in these taluks on the 4th are given in the margin.*

* Jammalamadugu 1,660
Pulivendla 2,280

These numbers show that agricultural operations will not absorb the whole of the labouring population; in fact I take it that roughly the numbers that will now resort to work will be about 60 or 70 per cent. of the numbers that would have come before the rain fell. I am of opinion that the starting of more works is necessary in these two taluks to meet the demand for employment and request the sanction of the Board for starting the works noted in the margin. † The estimate for Peddapasapula project was submitted to the Board with this office reference on Cur. No. 7851-Rev., dated 3rd December 1896. If Government has sanctioned this work, I request that it may be communicated to me by wire. Mr. Morren, the new Assistant Engineer appointed for the charge of relief works in this district, has arrived here and is ready to start work. The Muddanur tank estimate is herewith submitted. ‡ The Superintending Engineer informs me that the estimate for Lingala tank is almost ready and will be sanctioned at once and that the Devatapuram tank will be investigated at once.

† 1. Peddapasapula project.
2. Muddanur tank.
3. Lingala tank.
4. Devatapuram tank.

‡ Estimate will follow.

3. I am going to Pulivendla shortly and after personal inquiries propose, if necessary, to start the repairs to the road from Royalapuram to Simhadripalle pending the sanction of Government for the Public Works Department works mentioned above. The estimate for this work is ready and it is in the famine programme.

RESOLUTION—dated 10th December 1896, No. 413.

Submitted to Government.

2. In his first letter read above, Mr. Forbes reviews the effect of the late rainfall in Cuddapah, and in his fortnightly narrative amplifies that review. It may be said that this rainfall has removed present anxiety regarding the state of the eastern and southern sections of the district, although as regards the latter, the gloomy report submitted by Mr. Wynne regarding the condition of the Punganúr zemindari adjoining shows that it needs most careful inspection and watching. Everywhere the rain has removed present anxiety regarding the supplies of drinking-water and for the time being as to the supply of fodder for the cattle. In the northern section of the district, however, although there has been a temporary alleviation of the pressure, the

rainfall has been inadequate to remove it. It has been too light to allow of extensive sowings on the heavy black cotton-soil, and too late to enable the ryots to put in any crops save the most rapid growing ones, or cholum for fodder. Much crop had, it must be remembered, been irretrievably damaged, and much removed before the rain came.

3. Although prices fell very rapidly, when the rain came, they have already risen again almost as rapidly, and the Collector, in his weekly season report for the 5th December, states that he anticipates a further rise. The average price of the dry grains is dearer than the scarcity rate except in the case of ragi, and the Board is inclined to believe that the Collector's forecast will come true. Thus though, for the time being, the agricultural labourers may find a little private employment, this is not likely to be for long and considerably increased numbers may be expected to resort to the relief works. Already in the last week, the numbers have increased again after a temporary decrease. In his letter, dated the 5th December, read above, the Collector applies for sanction to start additional relief works in the Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla taluks, and states that the Special Engineer appointed to the district has arrived. The sanction of Government has been sought for the Peddapasapula project, and the Collector will be requested to arrange for opening the work as soon as it is received. It is requested that orders may be communicated by wire to the Collector. The Muddanur tank estimate will also be submitted on receipt. Meanwhile the Collector should extend the road works in both taluks, if there be any considerable influx of relief workers.

Grains.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.			
	On November			On December
	14th.	21st.	28th.	5th.
Rice	8·6	8·6	9·3	9·0
Ragi	14·6	14·8	19·1	17·0
Cholum	12·5	12·4	15·0	13·0
Cumbu	12·6	12·8	15·1	14·0

Taluks.	Number of relief workers.			
	On November			On December
	14th.	21st.	28th.	5th.
Pulivendla ..	1,107	2,800	560	2,280
Jammalamadugu ..	2,151	2,678	1,397	1,660
Proddatur ..	1,139	1,353	1,235	577
Total ..	4,397	6,831	3,192	4,517

4. The scheme for the relief of the weavers of Jammalamadugu, at their trade, has been returned to the Collector for revision, and should be resubmitted at an early date.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Order thereon

Communicate to the Superintending Engineer III Circle who will arrange accordingly at an early date.

(True extract)

Under Secretary

To

~~The Superintending Engineer III Circle~~

Public Works Department

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed December 17th.

Proceedings, 10*th Dec.* 1896, *No.* 413.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Cuddapah district for period ending 30th November 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Badvel, 28th November 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810-Rev.:—

In continuation of this office letters, Reference on Current No. 6810, dated 29th October 1896, and 17th November 1896, I have the honour to report on the effect of the recent rains with special reference to (*a*) demand for labour, (*b*) standing crops, (*c*) the extension of cultivation, (*d*) the supply received in tanks, and (*e*) the prices of food-grains. I will deal with the taluks in the order adopted in the Statistical Atlas.

Eastern Section.

2. I arrived here on the 23rd instant with the intention of starting a test work at Gopavaram, but was informed by the Tahsidar and Deputy Collector, as reported already, that there was no necessity to do so, as good rain had fallen and people would get employment in the fields.

Rainfall.—The rainfall in the three taluks of this section has been very good and well distributed as shown in the subjoined statement:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on								
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	25th.	Total.
1. Chitvel	0·11	0·33	0·81	0·20	0·46	0·28	..	2·24	4·43
2. Rajampett	..	0·50	0·17	0·12	0·28	0·23	..	0·37	1·67
3. Sidhout..	..	0·31	0·94	0·12	0·30	0·40	0·01	0·42	2·50
4. Badvel	0·38	0·08	0·90	0·15	0·13	0·85	0·05	1·76	4·30

On the 26th and 27th there was a fall of 20 cents and 99 cents, respectively, at Badvel. The reports from other stations have not yet reached me. In some of the outlying tracts, the fall has been heavier than at the registering stations.

3. *Pullampet Taluk.*—Before the rainfall of the 17th instant, the situation in Pullampet was not so bad as in Sidhout and Badvel; it has now received 1 inch and 30 cents up to 24th instant, and no fears are entertained regarding the ability of the cooly classes to get their livelihood in fields. Dry and wet lands (hitherto waste) are being ploughed; jonna and horse-gram are being sown in parts and ragi is being transplanted. The Deputy Collector is going shortly to this taluk and I shall then be able to give more complete information regarding the situation there. The rain has been general, the villages in Kodur and Chitvel firkas having received most. The rain is too late to revive some of the paddy crop that had already withered, but the wet crops that were about to wither have been saved though the yield will be between 4 and 8 annas. Dry crops such as arika, ragi, pulses are in good condition and have been much benefited and will thrive well. There have been no freshes in rivers. The supply received in tanks is small; only six are reported to have supplies ranging from 2 to 20 days and, of course, no wet crops will be raised unless a considerably larger quantity is received. The condition of cattle has also improved, and there will be no complaint of want of pasture for two or three months more.

4. *Sidhout Taluk.*—In Sidhout taluk, the rainfall, though general, has been heavier in the northern and eastern portion of the taluk than in the central and southern parts. Out of 101 tanks in this taluk, 56 received supplies ranging from four days to one month. All these are situated in the Obalam valley and Kondur circle. The heavy rainfall on the Lankamalas brought moderate supplies to most of the tanks in the latter tract. The Tahsildar expects that the greater portion of the standing paddy crops in these two firkas—which was withering and which was given up by the ryots as hopeless—will revive by this rainfall. Doubtless, the standing ragi, which was also fading, has been exceedingly benefited, and tender cholum crops, which stood in great need of rain, have been saved beyond expectation. In Sidhout firka, the largest tanks, viz., those of Gangaperur and Vontimitta have not received any supply. The extent of waste under both these tanks is nearly 900 acres. About 30 acres of paddy raised under the former tank withered long ago and 30 acres of korra and indigo yielded a poor outturn. Under Vontimitta tank 20 acres of ragi raised under wells is in good condition. This part of the taluk has not been much benefited by the rainfall. If the rain ceases at present, the moisture will be just sufficient to enable ryots to raise cholum crop on a large area, but if it continues for some days longer and brings an appreciable quantity of water into the tanks, ragi or inferior paddy will be sown. In either case there will be plenty of field labour for coolies. The rainfall has generally encouraged the cultivating classes. Pasture has improved considerably and all anxiety about cattle for the present has disappeared.

5. *Badvel Taluk.*—In Badvel taluk 55 tanks received supply ranging from two days to two months. Under the big tank of Badvel, a large extent of paddy withered and the shavi was also recently cut and removed. It has now received about two months' supply, and, if the rain, which is still falling, brings in a further supply, the ryots will grow black paddy or ragi on a large area. I rode out from Badvel to Porumamilla and inspected the tanks shown below and found them to contain the supply noted against each on the 26th instant:—

Rangasamudram	2	months.
Gopavaram	1	month.
Govindarajupalli	1½	months.
Sirigipalli	1	month.
Payalakuntla	1	month.
Godaganur	15	days.
Peddacheruvu	1	month.
Pedullapalli	20	days.
Puttulodducheruvu	1½	months.
Gorlakunta	1	month.
Nijiramkunta	full (said to possess a small ayacut).	

The wet ayacut under Porumamilla tank is 2,660 acres—both inam and circar. Paddy has been raised on 1,325 acres and ragi on 475 acres. The paddy is three months' old and is all quite green at present. But for this timely rainfall, the whole of it would have been lost. At present the tank contains only about 15 or 20 days' supply; this quantity requires to be largely augmented, as the crop cannot be harvested for another three months. The ayacut of the other tanks inspected by me is 1,205 acres, both inam and circar. Racheruvu of Madakalavaripalle and Bethayapalle tank of Gopavaram have each between one and two months' supply. The wet ayacut of all these tanks is 4,000 acres, or about 20 per cent. of the total wet ayacut of the taluk. As I am writing this, I hear that the main Vanka is flowing into the tank. The Sagilér is in full fresh and is unfordable; my camp that was going on to Sidhout had to return at 6 P.M. on the 27th, and it has been raining steadily during part of the night and all this early morning. I doubt if I shall be able to cross the river to-day. I think it most probable that the Porumamilla tank has by this time got 1½ months' supply. In the remaining tanks the existing supply is not at present sufficient to enable the ryots to raise paddy on waste lands. Cholum or ragi can be grown. The agricultural classes will have sufficient employment in the fields for two months more. Pasture will improve, and the condition of cattle will give no cause for anxiety for some time to come.

6. In consequence of the recent rains, there is no need to start any test works at present in any of these three taluks.

NORTHERN SECTION.

7. The rainfall registered at the registering stations of the northern section is given below:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on							
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	Total.
Cuddapah	..	0·02	0·08	0·10	0·60	0·23	0·01	1·04
Kamalápuram	0·03	0·11	0·44	0·24	0·50	..	..	1·32
Proddatur	..	..	0·13	..	0·11	1·03	0·10	1·37
Jammalamadugu	..	..	0·11	..	0·29	0·70	0·15	1·25
Pulivendla	..	0·03	0·08	0·11	0·03	0·95	0·05	1·25

Cuddapah Taluk.—This section was the least favoured of all in the district. Except on the 22nd and 23rd, there was no rain worth mentioning in Cuddapah. Kamálapuram registered a little more than an inch on three days. At the remaining stations the only rain that was of any use was that registered on the 23rd. The standing crops have no doubt been benefited to some extent, but the tanks received no supply. In Cuddapah the river and spring channels contain sufficient supply for the standing crops, and the Deputy Collector reports that the labouring classes are largely employed in weeding and in repairing and deepening channels. He also states that the rain is sufficient to begin cultivation on all but black-cotton soil, and that after the fields get a little dry, ryots will sow ragi and variga. Sufficient rain has not fallen to cultivate the black-cotton soil; but as prices are falling, there is no clamour for work at present.

Proddatur Taluk.—In Proddatur taluk, the Tahsildar reports that advanced cholum crop has been affected with disease owing to recent rains and so also cotton which is in flower. Late-sown cholum and cotton, which has not yet borne flower, will be much benefited by the rain. The same may be said of Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla taluks. The numbers on the work on the 21st were as shown in the margin. Owing to the rains, work was interfered with on one or two days and the numbers fell on the 24th both at Pulivendla and at Bollavaram to 1,697 and 1,168, respectively. I have received no report about the numbers at Jammalamadugu probably owing to the fact that on the 23rd the work was to be continued at another place on the Jammalamadugu-Muddanur road immediately south of the Pennér river.

21*st November* 1896.	
Pulivendla	2,866
Jammalamadugu	2,678
Proddutur	1,323

Pulivendla Taluk.—I have also heard nothing from Pulivendla, but the rainfall up to date being very deficient, I do not think that it will be possible for the labourers to get on without help. Unless I hear a good account from this taluk in a few days, I shall go there and see if it is necessary to extend relief operations.

SOUTHERN SECTION.

8. The rainfall registered at the registering stations of this section is appended:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on							
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	Total.
Kadiri	..	..	0·36	0·01	0·15	0·97	..	1·49
Ráyachóti	..	1·07	..	..	0·46	..	..	1·53
Vayalpad	0·87	0·14	..	0·01	0·53	..	..	1·55
Piler	0·71	0·84	..	0·06	0·56	0·47	..	2·58
Madanapalle	0·65	0·27	0·49	0·07	0·78	1·90	0·04	4·20

Madanapalle Taluk.—In this section the heaviest rainfall was registered at Madapalle, the aggregate fall amounting to 4·20 inches on seven days. The Tahsildar reports that the rain in the outlying localities was less than at the taluk kasbah. In Kothakotta firka, where he had been touring since the commencement of the rain, there was mere drizzling except on two days, viz., the 17th and 19th, when there was 0·50 inch and 1 inch in some of the villages of the firka. The big tanks received no supply whatever, but some of the smaller ponds had one or two days' supply. No rivers or channels flowed. The Tahsildar learns on enquiry that a similar state of things prevailed in the other firkas. The general effect of the rain will be to benefit standing sugarcane, pulses, oil-seeds and horse-gram. Ragi that had withered has already been removed, cut, and the small area on which it is still standing will yield nothing but fodder. Fresh land will, however, be ploughed for sowing cholum.

Ráyachóti Taluk.—In Ráyachóti also, the rainfall was not, on the whole, satisfactory. There was drizzling throughout the taluk for three or four days without any heavy downpour. The standing crops consisting chiefly of oil-seeds, pulses and horsegram will revive in parts. Paddy, which is just beginning to fade, will not be benefited much unless the rainfall is much heavier. In some villages the ryots have begun to plough up the land for raising dry crops for the next season in the hope of getting more rain. Pasture will improve and drinking-water will be available for cattle. Tanks have received no supply.

Kadiri Taluk.—In Kadiri taluk the rainfall in the outlying stations was heavier than at the registering station. The Papagni flowed knee-deep and one tank (Danayani cheruvu) received fourteen days' supply. The standing crops, such as ragi, oil-seeds, sugarcane, cotton, horse-gram and korra, are reviving and ryots have commenced ploughing and manuring the lands in expectation of more rain. The prices of staple food-grains have fallen considerably.

Vayalpad Taluk.—In Vayalpad the rainfall was general throughout the taluk, several tanks having received fifteen to twenty days' supply. The Vayalpad river flowed slightly on the 18th instant, as also the Piler river. The standing crops, horse-gram, pulses, castor-oil seeds and paddy have been much benefited by these rains, and prices have also fallen considerably.

Piler sub-division of Vayalpad Taluk.—The prospects in Piler division are more encouraging than in the rest of the taluk, and the agricultural classes are hopeful. As the rains have stimulated sowing operations, I do not think that there is any need for starting any works at present in this section; but I am awaiting a definite report on the subject from the Deputy Collector who on the 19th instant took charge of the sub-division.

9. On the whole, the recent rains have been effectual in bringing down the prices of food-grains as will be seen from the following figures:—

—	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholum.		Cumbu.	
	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.
Badvel	8·25	9·07	13·50	19·50	10·50	16·59	10·50	15·22
Proddatur	..	..	13·02	14·03	10·31	11·55	..	..
Kadiri	7·45	8·90	14·85	19·80	13·20	14·03	13·20	19·80
Vayalpad	8·66	8·90	14·85	19·80	..	..	13·20	19·80

The figures for the remaining stations have not yet reached me: but there is no doubt that the prices are cheaper now than in the previous week. In Porumamilla, I found four merchants selling grain, whereas before the 17th only one was doing any

business. Ragi had fallen from nine to thirteen measures and jonna and cumbu from eight and a half to eleven. In Badvel merchants who protested that they had no stocks of grain have suddenly produced them and are selling freely. I have no doubt that the same phenomenon has been observed in other big villages.

10. I have dealt with the subject as fully as I can with the information at hand, shut up as I am in Badvel, where there is no telegraph and where the post from Madanapalle or Kadiri takes at least four days to reach me. It is still raining* in Badvel and owing to the freshes in the Sagilér, I am prevented from going to Cuddapah. The statistics of cultivation due to the effect of this rainfall will not be available till about the latter part of December. Meanwhile, I have instructed all Tahsildars to encourage dry cultivation as much as possible and also wet cultivation consistently with the supply available in tanks. If any further information than that which has now reached me is received, I shall embody it in the fortnightly narrative due to the Board on the 1st December 1896.

*One inch 17 cents up to 8 this morning.

28th November 1896. (Intld.) A. T. F.

Read—also the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Cuddapah District during the period ending 30th November 1896:—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—Eastern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is noted below:—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during the month of November 1896.	Average for the month.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Rázampét	6·98	8·38
Chitvélu	8·61	6·99
Sidhout	7·66	4·73
Badvel	6·66	5·17

In some of the outlying tracts the fall has been much heavier than at the registering stations, especially in Pullampet taluk. There was no rain up to the 17th instant. From the 18th the fall has been general throughout the section. In Pullampet taluk, the villages in Kódúru and Chitvélu firkas have had heavy rain. The Gungana was in unusually heavy flood with the result that two railway bridges on the Madras Railway line—one between Kódúru and Peddapádu and the other between Peddapádu and Ballipalle—were entirely washed away, and all railway communication stopped for a whole day. The mails from Raichur and Madras do not proceed beyond Cuddapah and Rénigunta, respectively, and passengers in local trains, which are the only ones now allowed to run between Cuddapah and Rénigunta, are transhipped at the breaches. Some tanks in Anantarazpet firka have received full supply, while others contain a fair supply. River and spring channels are freely flowing. In Sidhout taluk, the rainfall, though general, has been heavier in the northern and eastern portion of the taluk than in the central and southern parts. Out of 101 tanks in this taluk more than 60 have received supply, ranging from four days to one month. All these are situated in the Obalam valley and Kondur circle. The Vontimitta tank also received a fair supply. In Badvel taluk 55 tanks got supplies, ranging from two days to two months. The big tank at Badvel received about two months' supply. The main vanka of Pórumámilla is flowing into the tank, which also got about two months' supply. The Sagiléru was in full freshes on one day and flowing moderately on the other days.

Northern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is noted below :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during November 1896.	Average for the month.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Cuddapah	4·08	3·82
Kamalápuram	2·74	3·73
Proddatur	3·55	2·22
Jammalamadugu	2·18	1·82
Pulivendla	3·75	2·49

The rainfall was general throughout the taluks. It was fairly distributed all over the division. In Proddatur taluk, " the land has been well moistured and rendered fit for ploughing." There were rains all over Jammalamadugu taluk. In Pulivendla taluk, there was one inch of rain in most places, while in others it ranged from half to three-fourths inch. The Deputy Collector who examined the land near Royalapuram, Pulivendla taluk, reports that he found that land was not moistured to a depth of more than four inches in the cotton soil while it was moistured about a cubit in ordinary land.

Water-supply.—Very few tanks received any supply.—One tank in Proddatur and two in Pulivendla are reported to have received ten days' supply. In Jammalamadugu taluk, thirteen tanks received one to two months' supply. The Kundu is in fresh and the Pennér and other rivers had slight freshes. Irrigation channels have not received additional supplies.

Drinking-water.—Good in Pulivendla; in Proddatur, there was not considerable improvement. It is reported that the two wells dug at Bollavaram quarry in Proddatur taluk for the use of relief-workers are resorted to by the people of Chinnasettipalli and Pattipad, where there is scarcity of drinking-water.

Southern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is shown in the subjoined statement :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during November 1896.	Average for November 1896.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Kadiri	3·06	2·59
Ráyachóti	2·77	4·15
Vayalpad	2·79	4·41
Pílér	3·12	3·65
Madanapalle	5·27	4·32

In Kadiri, there has been a fall of two inches in the interior of the taluk. A few tanks have received supply varying from fifteen days to one and a half months. The Pápaghni is flowing knee-deep. Channels have begun to flow for the last five days. There is sufficient water in wells. In Ráyachóti, all channels are flowing though tanks are still dry. In Vayalpad, the fall registered at the registering station was fairly distributed in the interior of the taluk. Some tanks received ten to twenty days' supply. The Babuda and Pílér rivers flowed slightly. River channels are flowing and water is rising in wells. In Madanapalle, a very few small tanks received supply from one to fifteen days.

Agricultural operations—Condition of Standing Crops.

Eastern section.—In Pullampet, dry and wet lands, hitherto left waste, are being ploughed. Jonna and horse-gram are being sown in parts and ragi is being transplanted. Under tanks, which have received good supply, paddy will also be sown. The standing dry crops, such as arika, ragi and pulses, are in good condition and have been much benefited and will thrive well. The rain is too late to revive some of the paddy crops that is already withered, but the wet crops, that were about to wither, have been saved. In Sidhout, a great portion of the standing paddy crops in the Obolam and Kundur firkas, which was withering and which was given up by the ryots as hopeless,

will revive by the rainfall. The standing ragi, which was fading and tender, and cholam, which stood in great need of rain, has been saved beyond expectation. In Badvel taluk, the paddy crop on an extent of nearly 1,325 acres and ragi raised on 475 acres would have been lost. Ploughing operations are going on and ragi and jonna are being sown.

Northern section.—In Cuddapah taluk bariga and palazama are being sown in parts, while in others lands are being ploughed for sowing the above crops. Paddy and ragi under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, channels and wells are fair. Horse-gram and cotton are also in good condition. In the black cotton soil taluks, lands are being or will be shortly ploughed for sowing Bengal gram, wheat, kusuma (oil-seeds), bariga, gundujonna (white cholam). Weeding and transplanting is going on under wells. The crops on lands traversed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal are in good condition. Cholam, korra and arika have withered in most places. Cholam in ears is reported to be diseased in parts. Early sown cotton is dropping its flowers owing to rains.

Southern section.—In Kadiri, Ráyachóti and Voyalpad, the standing crops are paddy, sugurcane, horse-gram, cotton, sama and oil-seeds. Most of these are reviving. The lands are being ploughed for cholam. Ragi is being harvested in parts. In Madanapalle, standing dry crops are reported to have withered completely in most places, while in other places the crops look green on account of the recent rains.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.

Eastern section.—The condition of cattle has improved and there will be no complaint of want of pasture for two or three months more. Fodder continues insufficient.

Northern section.—The condition of cattle is good. Pasture has improved considerably in Cuddapah taluk and has removed all anxiety about cattle for the present, though fodder is insufficient and is sold very dear. In the black cotton soil taluks, pasture is very scarce still. The cholam crops, still lingering in parts, may furnish a supply of fodder. Fodder is scarce. During the fortnight certain reserves have been thrown open for the free cutting of grass and this concession is said to have been largely taken advantage of in Proddatur. Rinderpest prevails in two villages of Proddatur taluk.

Southern section.—The condition of cattle is fair and pasture is improving. Fodder is available in all taluks except in Kadiri, where it is insufficient. All fear about the condition of cattle has been removed for the present.

General Remarks on the above subjects.

Eastern section.—In the taluks of this section no fears are entertained regarding the ability of the cooly classes to get their livelihood in fields, as agricultural operations are progressing on a large scale; and in consequence of this there is no need to start any test works at present in any of the three taluks.

Northern section.—In Cuddapah taluk, the prospects of the season have greatly improved; and the anxiety of ryots and cooly classes has diminished; there will be sufficient employment for the cooly classes in the fields as soon as the lands become a little dry and fit for sowing operations.

As regards Jammalamadugu, Proddatur and Pulivendala, I consider that agricultural operations will not give employment to all who ask for labour and that for some time longer, relief works must be kept open. In the other taluks of this section, withered crops have almost everywhere been already removed from the ground. In their anxiety to provide fodder for their cattle and in the fear that withered crops might yield nothing after all, the ryots cut and removed the crops earlier than they should have done. What remains on the ground will no doubt be benefited by the recent rains. Cholam has been cut and removed and where it still exists, can only yield fodder. The recent rains have, however, improved the situation of the division considerably and the dry lands will be irrigated with bariga, pulses and oil-seeds. The

rain is unfavourable to the early cotton crop, but late sown cotton and indigo will thrive well. For wet crops, the irrigation sources not having received supplies, much good cannot be said to have resulted from the present rainfall.

Southern section.—The recent rains have contributed much to the improvement of pasture and standing crops, though they are insufficient for raising wet crops.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

STATEMENT of prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Rázampét	8·30	8·71	15·00	15·00	..	..	11·60	11·60
Chitvélu	8·30	8·30	15·00	15·00	15·80	15·80	10·87	10·87
Sidhout	8·25	8·25	20·62	19·80	16·50	13·20	..	14·85
Badvel	8·25	9·07	13·50	19·50	12·64	16·59	11·62	15·22
Cuddapah	7·88	8·30	12·00	17·25	10·27	13·82	9·42	15·22
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	12·37	18·17	10·72	14·85	..	..
Proddatur	8·25	9·09	20·62	19·08	10·72	14·02	13·61	16·05
Jammalamadugu	7·47	8·30	12·00	19·50	10·27	13·43	10·50	11·20
Pulivendla	7·87	9·13	10·50	18·00	11·85	13·05	..	14·22
Kadiri	8·30	9·96	14·63	18·00	12·25	14·22	10·87	13·05
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·96	15·75	18·75	13·82	18·96	12·91	18·00
Vayalpad	9·13	10·79	13·87	24·00	12·64	..	12·32	17·40
Piler	10·72	10·72	22·50	22·50	..	..	21·75	21·75
Madanapalle	8·30	10·79	13·50	22·50	14·22	17·01	12·32	17·40
District average ..	8·6	9·3	14·6	19·1	12·5	15·0	12·6	15·1

There is a fall in prices in all the stations except Chitvelu.

Private trade active in towns both in rice and in dry staple food-grains. Two waggons of ragi have been imported into the Pulivendla taluk. Proddatur is getting ragi and cholum from Bangalore, Chittor, Madras, Tirupati and Karúr. In Jammalamadugu, ragi and cholum were being received until a week ago from Salem. Cholum being imported into Cuddapah from Nellore and rice from Salem and Nellore, though in small quantities when compared with the previous fortnight. The merchants who had stored grain in large quantities and were unwilling to sell freely a week ago, have now exposed their stock for sale without reserve. Owing to revival of hope in consequence of the rains, the prices have considerably fallen. There are abundant stocks of grain everywhere: in Jammalamadugu, 70 waggons; in Proddatur, 29,600 bags of 50 local measures.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On Works.*—No works have been opened in any taluk except in Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. The condition of people at the test works is good.

(2) *In Villages.*—The cooly classes have sufficient employment in the fields and no State relief is called for at present except in the three taluks above mentioned. In these it will probably be necessary to expand works unless heavy rain is received soon.

Eastern section.—The condition of people is good.

Sickness and mortality—Northern section.—In Cuddapah town, fever and small-pox are prevailing. There are no deaths from want of food. In Proddatur, there is fever and small-pox. Cholera is still lingering in one village of Pulivendla taluk. There were four attacks, all of which were fatal. There were no attacks since the 24th instant. There are no deaths from starvation.

Southern section.—There is fever in parts of Vayalpad and Madanapalle.

Remarks—Eastern section.—There is no anxiety in regard to this section. The recent rains have stimulated sowing operations and there is no necessity to open any test works for the employment of labourers, who now find no difficulty in finding labour in fields.

Northern section.—In the black cotton soil taluks where test works were opened, work was interfered with owing to the rains and there was an appreciable decrease in the number of labourers that resorted to the work as reported in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810, Revenue, dated 28th November 1896. The decrease appears to be temporary. The rainfall up to date being very deficient, I do not think that it will be possible for the labourers to get on without help. The Local Fund Engineer was asked to take advantage of the recent rains to consolidate the Jammalamadugu-Proddatur road and the Pulivendla-Muddanúru road. The estimate for the Peddapasupula project asked for by the Board has been submitted to-day. The Executive Engineer states that he is ready to start the work. Early sanction is requested. I think it will be well attended. The execution of repairs to Sivapuram and Settivaripalli tanks have had to be postponed for a week more as the ground is wet and does not at present admit of earthwork being done.

Southern section.—In Ráyachóti, labourers are reported to find employment in the fields and in Vayalpad no body is said to require relief. In the other taluks the pinch has not been felt by the people yet. People are busy preparing the land for sowing dry crops.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Taluks.	Numbers employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	1,162 (14th)	1,235 (26th)	Since the close of the last fortnight the number of relief workers gradually increased. The maximum number employed in the Proddatur taluk was 1,361 on the 18th, in Pulivendla 2,995 on the 22nd, and Jammalamadugu 2,678 on the 19th. In Pulivendla there was actual cessation of work on 27th and 28th owing to incessant rains. The large decrease in the number of labourers at all the works at the end of the current fortnight is due to the continuous fall of rain from the 20th.
Jammalamadugu	2,303 (15th)	1,397 (26th)	
Pulivendla	1,242 (15th)	560 (27th)	

Gratuitous relief—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Numbers relieved.		Remarks.
	At kitchens.		
	This.	Last.	
Proddatur	83 (26th)	46 (13th)	A few infirm people were also admitted.
Jammalamadugu	46 (26th)	192 (15th)	
Pulivendla	31 (27th)	64 (15th)	

Private charity—Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section.—In Proddatur a merchant distributed food to the poor every night for some days. Some merchants distributed quarter measure of ragi for one day. Another merchant of the same station is reported to have supplied cloths to the small naked children of the relief workers. As a charitable deed this is deserving of all praise, but I saw no children going naked who were of older age than what one sees any day in any village.

Taluks and places visited.—Inspections of the Divisional Officers and Collector—

Deputy Collector, Cuddapah.	Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu.	Collector.
Chennur.	Jammalamadugu taluk—	Jammalamadugu.
Chinnamachupalle.	Muddanúru.	Muddanúru.
Chinnacheppalle.	Jammalamadagu.	Cuddapah.
Ellareddipalle.	Gorigannur.	Sidhout.
Latepalle.	Malambhavi.	Badvel.
Alidina.	Pulivendla taluk—	Pórumámilla.
Podadurti.	Tondur.	
Kamalápuram.	Rayalapuram.	
Peddacheppalle.	Tumulapalle.	
Animala.	Pulivendla.	
Shrotriem Pillivaripalle.		
Chabali.		
Matchanur.		
Yerraguntla.		

Remarks.—The effect of the recent rains in regard to the Northern section has still to be watched. If cultivation, with the help of the recent rains, is fairly commenced, there will be no doubt a falling off in the number of coolies, but it seems hardly likely that all the coolies now employed will be absorbed in the field work. The continuance of the works seems to me therefore necessary. The relief to weavers will be required until the demand for the cloths in the Central Provinces and Bombay revives.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	6	1,310	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1,310
Proddatur	1	150	1	75	9	1,250	..	..	..	..	2	200	1	150	1	75	11	1,450
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	*	600	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	600
Total ..	1	150	1	75	15	3,160	..	..	..	..	2	200	1	150	1	75	17	3,360

Taluks.	Number of wells.		Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
			Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190

* The number of applications pending has not been reported by the Deputy Collector in charge.

READ—also the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 5th December 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810-Rev. :—

I have the honour to state that I have already submitted a report on the effect of the recent rains in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810, dated 28th November 1896, and furnished such further information as was available subsequently in the fortnightly narrative sent on the 1st instant.

2. The Jammalamadugu division, which is the most affected area, has not been materially benefited by the rains except the eastern portion of the Proddatur taluk. I had arranged to start the Settivaripalli and Sivapuram tanks but the Tahsildar and the Sub-Divisional Officer who went to the spot to start the works have reported that no labourers have attended as they find employment in agricultural operations. So also in the tract near Pallavolu of this taluk. The Tahsildar says that the work in the fields will give the people sufficient employment for a fortnight. In the western part of the taluk the rains have been somewhat lighter and though even here the ryots are busy sowing their lands with bariga, &c., there are still nearly 600 on the Bollavaram work. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu taluks, the rainfall has been extremely deficient. The ground has not become sufficiently moist to allow of sowings being proceeded with on any large scale. The numbers on works in these taluks on the 4th are given in the margin.* These numbers show that agricultural operations will not absorb the whole of the labouring population; in fact I take it that roughly the numbers that will now resort to work will be about 60 or 70 per cent. of the numbers that would have come before the rain fell. I am of opinion that the starting of more works is necessary in these two taluks to meet the demand for employment and request the sanction of the Board for starting the works noted in the margin.† The estimate for Peddapasapula project was submitted to the Board with this office reference on Cur. No. 7851-Rev., dated 3rd December 1896. If Government has sanctioned this work, I request that it may be communicated to me by wire. Mr. Morren, the new Assistant Engineer appointed for the charge of relief works in this district, has arrived here and is ready to start work. The Muddanur tank estimate is herewith submitted.‡ The Superintending Engineer informs me that the estimate for Lingala tank is almost ready and will be sanctioned at once and that the Devatapuram tank will be investigated at once.

* Jammalamadugu	1,660
Pulivendla	2,280

† 1. Peddapasapula project.
2. Muddanur tank.
3. Lingala tank.
4. Devatapuram tank.

‡ Estimate will follow.

3. I am going to Pulivendla shortly and after personal inquiries propose, if necessary, to start the repairs to the road from Royalapuram to Simhadripalle pending the sanction of Government for the Public Works Department works mentioned above. The estimate for this work is ready and it is in the famine programme.

RESOLUTION—dated 10th December 1896, No. 413.

Submitted to Government.

2. In his first letter read above, Mr. Forbes reviews the effect of the late rainfall in Cuddapah, and in his fortnightly narrative amplifies that review. It may be said that this rainfall has removed present anxiety regarding the state of the eastern and southern sections of the district, although as regards the latter, the gloomy report submitted by Mr. Wynne regarding the condition of the Punganúr zemindari adjoining shows that it needs most careful inspection and watching. Everywhere the rain has removed present anxiety regarding the supplies of drinking-water and for the time being as to the supply of fodder for the cattle. In the northern section of the district, however, although there has been a temporary alleviation of the pressure, the

Public Works Department

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed December 17th.

Proceedings, 10*th Dec.* 1896, *No.* 413.

Order thereon 46 W dt 7-1-97
Communicates to the Superintending Engineer III Circle who will arrange accordingly at an early date.
/True extract/
/Ld/ DG.
M

To
The Superintending Engineer
III Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Cuddapah district for period ending 30th November 1896.

rainfall has been inadequate to remove it. It has been too light to allow of extensive sowings on the heavy black cotton-soil, and too late to enable the ryots to put in any crops save the most rapid growing ones, or cholum for fodder. Much crop had, it must be remembered, been irretrievably damaged, and much removed before the rain came.

3. Although prices fell very rapidly, when the rain came, they have already risen again almost as rapidly, and the Collector, in his weekly season report for the 5th December, states that he anticipates a further rise. The average price of the dry grains is dearer than the scarcity rate except in the case of ragi, and the Board is inclined to believe that the Collector's forecast will come true. Thus though, for the time being, the agricultural labourers may find a little private employment, this is not likely to be for long and considerably increased numbers may be expected to resort to the relief works. Already in the last week, the numbers have increased again after a temporary decrease. In his letter, dated the 5th December, read above, the Collector applies for sanction to start additional relief works in the Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla taluks, and states that the Special Engineer appointed to the district has arrived. The sanction of Government has been sought for the Peddapasapula project, and the Collector will be requested to arrange for opening the work as soon as it is received. It is requested that orders may be communicated by wire to the Collector. The Muddanur tank estimate will also be submitted on receipt. Meanwhile the Collector should extend the road works in both taluks, if there be any considerable influx of relief workers.

Grains.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.			
	On November			On December
	14th.	21st.	28th.	5th.
Rice	8·6	8·6	9·3	9·0
Ragi	14·6	14·8	19·1	17·0
Cholum	12·5	12·4	15·0	13·0
Cumbu	12·6	12·8	15·1	14·0

Taluks.	Number of relief workers.			
	On November			On December
	14th.	21st.	28th.	5th.
Pulivendla ..	1,107	2,800	560	2,280
Jammalamadugu ..	2,151	2,678	1,397	1,660
Proddatur ..	1,139	1,353	1,235	577
Total ..	4,397	6,831	3,192	4,517

4. The scheme for the relief of the weavers of Jammalamadugu, at their trade, has been returned to the Collector for revision, and should be resubmitted at an early date.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Order thereon No. 753 Press Date 26 December 1896.

Recorded with the remark that the Public Works Department will take charge of the works at an early date and enforce the task as it ought to be enforced.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

(True extract)
(Sd) Lionel Davidson
Under Secy. to Govt

Remarks—Eastern section.—There is no anxiety in regard to this section. The recent rains have stimulated sowing operations and there is no necessity to open any test works for the employment of labourers, who now find no difficulty in finding labour in fields.

Northern section.—In the black cotton soil taluks where test works were opened, work was interfered with owing to the rains and there was an appreciable decrease in the number of labourers that resorted to the work as reported in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810, Revenue, dated 28th November 1896. The decrease appears to be temporary. The rainfall up to date being very deficient, I do not think that it will be possible for the labourers to get on without help. The Local Fund Engineer was asked to take advantage of the recent rains to consolidate the Jammalamadugu-Proddatur road and the Pulivendla-Muddanúru road. The estimate for the Peddapasupula project asked for by the Board has been submitted to-day. The Executive Engineer states that he is ready to start the work. Early sanction is requested. I think it will be well attended. The execution of repairs to Sivapuram and Settivaripalli tanks have had to be postponed for a week more as the ground is wet and does not at present admit of earthwork being done.

Southern section.—In Ráyachóti, labourers are reported to find employment in the fields and in Vayalpad no body is said to require relief. In the other taluks the pinch has not been felt by the people yet. People are busy preparing the land for sowing dry crops.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Taluks.	Numbers employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	1,162 (14th)	1,235 (26th)	Since the close of the last fortnight the number of relief workers gradually increased. The maximum number employed in the Proddatur taluk was 1,361 on the 18th, in Pulivendla 2,995 on the 22nd, and Jammalamadugu 2,678 on the 19th. In Pulivendla there was actual cessation of work on 27th and 28th owing to incessant rains. The large decrease in the number of labourers at all the works at the end of the current fortnight is due to the continuous fall of rain from the 20th.
Jammalamadugu	2,303 (15th)	1,397 (26th)	
Pulivendla	1,242 (15th)	560 (27th)	

Gratuitous relief—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Numbers relieved.		Remarks.
	At kitchens.		
	This.	Last.	
Proddatur	83 (26th)	46 (13th)	A few infirm people were also admitted.
Jammalamadugu	46 (26th)	192 (15th)	
Pulivendla	31 (27th)	64 (15th)	

Private charity—Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section.—In Proddatur a merchant distributed food to the poor every night for some days. Some merchants distributed quarter measure of ragi for one day. Another merchant of the same station is reported to have supplied cloths to the small naked children of the relief workers. As a charitable deed this is deserving of all praise, but I saw no children going naked who were of older age than what one sees any day in any village.

Taluks and places visited.—Inspections of the Divisional Officers and Collector—

Deputy Collector, Cuddapah.	Deputy Collector, Jammalamadugu.	Collector.
Chennur.	Jammalamadugu taluk—	Jammalamadugu.
Chinnamachupalle.	Muddanúru.	Muddanúru.
Chinnacheppalle.	Jammalamadugu.	Cuddapah.
Ellareddipalle.	Goriganur.	Sidhout.
Latepalle.	Mallambhavi.	Badvel.
Alidina.	Pulivendla taluk—	Pórumámilla.
Podaduru.	Tondur.	
Kamalápuram.	Rayalaporam.	
Peddacheppalle.	Tummalapalle.	
Animala.	Pulivendla.	
Shrotriem Pillivaripalle.		
Chabali.		
Matchanur.		
Yerraguntla.		

Remarks.—The effect of the recent rains in regard to the Northern section has still to be watched. If cultivation, with the help of the recent rains, is fairly commenced, there will be no doubt a falling off in the number of coolies, but it seems hardly likely that all the coolies now employed will be absorbed in the field work. The continuance of the works seems to me therefore necessary. The relief to weavers will be required until the demand for the cloths in the Central Provinces and Bombay revives.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	6	1,310	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1,310
Proddatur	1	150	1	75	9	1,250	..	..	..	..	2	200	1	150	1	75	11	1,450
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	*	600	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	600
Total ..	1	150	1	75	15	3,160	..	..	..	..	2	200	1	150	1	75	17	3,360

Taluks.	Number of wells.		Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
			Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
				RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	190

* The number of applications pending has not been reported by the Deputy Collecter in charge.

Read—also the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 5th December 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810-Rev. :—

I have the honour to state that I have already submitted a report on the effect of the recent rains in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810, dated 28th November 1896, and furnished such further information as was available subsequently in the fortnightly narrative sent on the 1st instant.

2. The Jammalamadugu division, which is the most affected area, has not been materially benefited by the rains except the eastern portion of the Proddatur taluk. I had arranged to start the Settivaripalli and Sivapuram tanks but the Tahsildar and the Sub-Divisional Officer who went to the spot to start the works have reported that no labourers have attended as they find employment in agricultural operations. So also in the tract near Pallavolu of this taluk. The Tahsildar says that the work in the fields will give the people sufficient employment for a fortnight. In the western part of the taluk the rains have been somewhat lighter and though even here the ryots are busy sowing their lands with bariga, &c., there are still nearly 600 on the Bollavaram work. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu taluks, the rainfall has been extremely deficient. The ground has not become sufficiently moist to allow of sowings being proceeded with on any large scale. The numbers on works in these taluks on the 4th are given in the margin.*

* Jammalamadugu	1,660
Pulivendla	2,280

These numbers show that agricultural operations will not absorb the whole of the labouring population; in fact I take it that roughly the numbers that will now resort to work will be about 60 or 70 per cent. of the numbers that would have come before the rain fell. I am of opinion that the starting of more works is necessary in these two taluks to meet the demand for employment and request the sanction of the Board for starting the works noted in the margin.† The estimate for Peddapasapula project was submitted to the Board with this office reference on Cur. No. 7851-Rev., dated 3rd December 1896. If Government has sanctioned this work, I request that it may be communicated to me by wire. Mr. Morren, the new Assistant Engineer appointed for the charge of relief works in this district, has arrived here and is ready to start work. The Muddanur tank estimate is herewith submitted.‡ The Superintending Engineer informs me that the estimate for Lingala tank is almost ready and will be sanctioned at once and that the Devatapuram tank will be investigated at once.

† 1. Peddapasapula project.
2. Muddanur tank.
3. Lingala tank.
4. Devatapuram tank.

‡ Estimate will follow.

3. I am going to Pulivendla shortly and after personal inquiries propose, if necessary, to start the repairs to the road from Royalapuram to Simhadripalle pending the sanction of Government for the Public Works Department works mentioned above. The estimate for this work is ready and it is in the famine programme.

Resolution—dated 10th December 1896, No. 413.

Submitted to Government.

2. In his first letter read above, Mr. Forbes reviews the effect of the late rainfall in Cuddapah, and in his fortnightly narrative amplifies that review. It may be said that this rainfall has removed present anxiety regarding the state of the eastern and southern sections of the district, although as regards the latter, the gloomy report submitted by Mr. Wynne regarding the condition of the Punganúr zemindari adjoining shows that it needs most careful inspection and watching. Everywhere the rain has removed present anxiety regarding the supplies of drinking-water and for the time being as to the supply of fodder for the cattle. In the northern section of the district, however, although there has been a temporary alleviation of the pressure, the

business. Ragi had fallen from nine to thirteen measures and jonna and cumbu from eight and a half to eleven. In Badvel merchants who protested that they had no stocks of grain have suddenly produced them and are selling freely. I have no doubt that the same phenomenon has been observed in other big villages.

10. I have dealt with the subject as fully as I can with the information at hand, shut up as I am in Badvel, where there is no telegraph and where the post from Madanapalle or Kadiri takes at least four days to reach me. It is still raining* in Badvel and owing to the freshes in the Sagilér, I am prevented from going to Cuddapah. The statistics of cultivation due to the effect of this rainfall will not be available till about the latter part of December. Meanwhile, I have instructed all Tahsildars to encourage dry cultivation as much as possible and also wet cultivation consistently with the supply available in tanks. If any further information than that which has now reached me is received, I shall embody it in the fortnightly narrative due to the Board on the 1st December 1896.

* One inch 17 cents up to 8 this morning.

28th November 1896. (Intld.) A. T. F.

Read—also the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Cuddapah District during the period ending 30th November 1896 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—Eastern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is noted below :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during the month of November 1896.	Average for the month.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Rázampét	6·98	8·38
Chitvélu	8·61	6·99
Sidhout	7·66	4·73
Badvel	6·66	5·17

In some of the outlying tracts the fall has been much heavier than at the registering stations, especially in Pullampet taluk. There was no rain up to the 17th instant. From the 18th the fall has been general throughout the section. In Pullampet taluk, the villages in Kódúru and Chitvélu firkas have had heavy rain. The Gungana was in unusually heavy flood with the result that two railway bridges on the Madras Railway line—one between Kódúru and Peddapádu and the other between Peddapádu and Ballipalle—were entirely washed away, and all railway communication stopped for a whole day. The mails from Raichur and Madras do not proceed beyond Cuddapah and Rénigunta, respectively, and passengers in local trains, which are the only ones now allowed to run between Cuddapah and Rénigunta, are transhipped at the breaches. Some tanks in Anantarazpet firka have received full supply, while others contain a fair supply. River and spring channels are freely flowing. In Sidhout taluk, the rainfall, though general, has been heavier in the northern and eastern portion of the taluk than in the central and southern parts. Out of 101 tanks in this taluk more than 60 have received supply, ranging from four days to one month. All these are situated in the Obalam valley and Kondur circle. The Vontimitta tank also received a fair supply. In Badvel taluk 55 tanks got supplies, ranging from two days to two months. The big tank at Badvel received about two months' supply. The main vanka of Pórumámilla is flowing into the tank, which also got about two months' supply. The Sagiléru was in full freshes on one day and flowing moderately on the other days.

Northern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is noted below :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during November 1896.	Average for the month.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Cuddapah	4·08	3·82
Kamalápuram	2·74	3·73
Proddatur	3·55	2·22
Jammalamadugu	2·18	1·82
Pulivendla	3·75	2·49

The rainfall was general throughout the taluks. It was fairly distributed all over the division. In Proddatur taluk, " the land has been well moistured and rendered fit for ploughing." There were rains all over Jammalamadugu taluk. In Pulivendla taluk, there was one inch of rain in most places, while in others it ranged from half to three-fourths inch. The Deputy Collector who examined the land near Royalapuram, Pulivendla taluk, reports that he found that land was not moistured to a depth of more than four inches in the cotton soil while it was moistured about a cubit in ordinary land.

Water-supply.—Very few tanks received any supply.—One tank in Proddatur and two in Pulivendla are reported to have received ten days' supply. In Jammalamadugu taluk, thirteen tanks received one to two months' supply. The Kundu is in fresh and the Pennér and other rivers had slight freshes. Irrigation channels have not received additional supplies.

Drinking-water.—Good in Pulivendla; in Proddatur, there was not considerable improvement. It is reported that the two wells dug at Bollavaram quarry in Proddatur taluk for the use of relief-workers are resorted to by the people of Chinnasettipalli and Pattipad, where there is scarcity of drinking-water.

Southern section.—The rainfall registered at the registering stations is shown in the subjoined statement :—

Stations.	Rainfall registered during November 1896.	Average for November 1896.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
Kadiri	3·06	2·59
Ráyachóti	2·77	4·15
Vayalpad	2·79	4·41
Pílér	3·12	3·65
Madanapalle	5·27	4·32

In Kadiri, there has been a fall of two inches in the interior of the taluk. A few tanks have received supply varying from fifteen days to one and a half months. The Pápaghni is flowing knee-deep. Channels have begun to flow for the last five days. There is sufficient water in wells. In Ráyachóti, all channels are flowing though tanks are still dry. In Vayalpad, the fall registered at the registering station was fairly distributed in the interior of the taluk. Some tanks received ten to twenty days' supply. The Babuda and Pílér rivers flowed slightly. River channels are flowing and water is rising in wells. In Madanapalle, a very few small tanks received supply from one to fifteen days.

Agricultural operations—Condition of Standing Crops.

Eastern section.—In Pullampet, dry and wet lands, hitherto left waste, are being ploughed. Jonna and horse-gram are being sown in parts and ragi is being transplanted. Under tanks, which have received good supply, paddy will also be sown. The standing dry crops, such as arika, ragi and pulses, are in good condition and have been much benefited and will thrive well. The rain is too late to revive some of the paddy crops that is already withered, but the wet crops, that were about to wither, have been saved. In Sidhout, a great portion of the standing paddy crops in the Obolam and Kundur firkas, which was withering and which was given up by the ryots as hopeless,

will revive by the rainfall. The standing ragi, which was fading and tender, and cholam, which stood in great need of rain, has been saved beyond expectation. In Badvel taluk, the paddy crop on an extent of nearly 1,325 acres and ragi raised on 475 acres would have been lost. Ploughing operations are going on and ragi and jonna are being sown.

Northern section.—In Cuddapah taluk bariga and palazama are being sown in parts, while in others lands are being ploughed for sowing the above crops. Paddy and ragi under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, channels and wells are fair. Horse-gram and cotton are also in good condition. In the black cotton soil taluks, lands are being or will be shortly ploughed for sowing Bengal gram, wheat, kusuma (oil-seeds), bariga, gundujonna (white cholam). Weeding and transplanting is going on under wells. The crops on lands traversed by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal are in good condition. Cholam, korra and arika have withered in most places. Cholam in ears is reported to be diseased in parts. Early sown cotton is dropping its flowers owing to rains.

Southern section.—In Kadiri, Ráyachóti and Voyalpad, the standing crops are paddy, sugurcane, horse-gram, cotton, sama and oil-seeds. Most of these are reviving. The lands are being ploughed for cholam. Ragi is being harvested in parts. In Madanapalle, standing dry crops are reported to have withered completely in most places, while in other places the crops look green on account of the recent rains.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.

Eastern section.—The condition of cattle has improved and there will be no complaint of want of pasture for two or three months more. Fodder continues insufficient.

Northern section.—The condition of cattle is good. Pasture has improved considerably in Cuddapah taluk and has removed all anxiety about cattle for the present, though fodder is insufficient and is sold very dear. In the black cotton soil taluks, pasture is very scarce still. The cholam crops, still lingering in parts, may furnish a supply of fodder. Fodder is scarce. During the fortnight certain reserves have been thrown open for the free cutting of grass and this concession is said to have been largely taken advantage of in Proddatur. Rinderpest prevails in two villages of Proddatur taluk.

Southern section.—The condition of cattle is fair and pasture is improving. Fodder is available in all taluks except in Kadiri, where it is insufficient. All fear about the condition of cattle has been removed for the present.

General Remarks on the above subjects.

Eastern section.—In the taluks of this section no fears are entertained regarding the ability of the cooly classes to get their livelihood in fields, as agricultural operations are progressing on a large scale; and in consequence of this there is no need to start any test works at present in any of the three taluks.

Northern section.—In Cuddapah taluk, the prospects of the season have greatly improved; and the anxiety of ryots and cooly classes has diminished; there will be sufficient employment for the cooly classes in the fields as soon as the lands become a little dry and fit for sowing operations.

As regards Jammalamadugu, Proddatur and Pulivendala, I consider that agricultural operations will not give employment to all who ask for labour and that for some time longer, relief works must be kept open. In the other taluks of this section, withered crops have almost everywhere been already removed from the ground. In their anxiety to provide fodder for their cattle and in the fear that withered crops might yield nothing after all, the ryots cut and removed the crops earlier than they should have done. What remains on the ground will no doubt be benefited by the recent rains. Cholam has been cut and removed and where it still exists, can only yield fodder. The recent rains have, however, improved the situation of the division considerably and the dry lands will be irrigated with bariga, pulses and oil-seeds. The

rain is unfavourable to the early cotton crop, but late sown cotton and indigo will thrive well. For wet crops, the irrigation sources not having received supplies, much good cannot be said to have resulted from the present rainfall.

Southern section.—The recent rains have contributed much to the improvement of pasture and standing crops, though they are insufficient for raising wet crops.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

STATEMENT of prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Rázampét	8·30	8·71	15·00	15·00	..	..	11·60	11·60
Chitvélu	8·30	8·30	15·00	15·00	15·80	15·80	10·87	10·87
Sidhout	8·25	8·25	20·62	19·80	16·50	13·20	..	14·85
Badvel	8·25	9·07	13·50	19·50	12·64	16·59	11·62	15·22
Cuddapah	7·88	8·30	12·00	17·25	10·27	13·82	9·42	15·22
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	12·37	18·17	10·72	14·85	..	..
Proddatur	8·25	9·09	20·62	19·08	10·72	14·02	13·61	16·05
Jammalamadugu	7·47	8·30	12·00	19·50	10·27	13·43	10·50	11·20
Pulivendla	7·87	9·13	10·50	18·00	11·85	13·05	..	14·22
Kadiri	8·30	9·96	14·63	18·00	12·25	14·22	10·87	13·05
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·96	15·75	18·75	13·82	18·96	12·91	18·00
Vayalpad	9·13	10·79	13·87	24·00	12·64	..	12·32	17·40
Piler	10·72	10·72	22·50	22·50	..	..	21·75	21·75
Madanapalle	8·30	10·79	13·50	22·50	14·22	17·01	12·32	17·40
District average ..	8·6	9·3	14·6	19·1	12·5	15·0	12·6	15·1

There is a fall in prices in all the stations except Chitvelu.

Private trade active in towns both in rice and in dry staple food-grains. Two waggons of ragi have been imported into the Pulivendla taluk. Proddatur is getting ragi and cholum from Bangalore, Chittor, Madras, Tirupati and Karúr. In Jammalamadugu, ragi and cholum were being received until a week ago from Salem. Cholum being imported into Cuddapah from Nellore and rice from Salem and Nellore, though in small quantities when compared with the previous fortnight. The merchants who had stored grain in large quantities and were unwilling to sell freely a week ago, have now exposed their stock for sale without reserve. Owing to revival of hope in consequence of the rains, the prices have considerably fallen. There are abundant stocks of grain everywhere: in Jammalamadugu, 70 waggons; in Proddatur, 29,600 bags of 50 local measures.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On Works.*—No works have been opened in any taluk except in Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. The condition of people at the test works is good.

(2) *In Villages.*—The cooly classes have sufficient employment in the fields and no State relief is called for at present except in the three taluks above mentioned. In these it will probably be necessary to expand works unless heavy rain is received soon.

Eastern section.—The condition of people is good.

Sickness and mortality—Northern section.—In Cuddapah town, fever and small-pox are prevailing. There are no deaths from want of food. In Proddatur, there is fever and small-pox. Cholera is still lingering in one village of Pulivendla taluk. There were four attacks, all of which were fatal. There were no attacks since the 24th instant. There are no deaths from starvation.

Southern section.—There is fever in parts of Vayalpad and Madanapalle.

Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following:—

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Badvel, 28th November 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 6810-Rev.:—

In continuation of this office letters, Reference on Current No. 6810, dated 29th October 1896, and 17th November 1896, I have the honour to report on the effect of the recent rains with special reference to (*a*) demand for labour, (*b*) standing crops, (*c*) the extension of cultivation, (*d*) the supply received in tanks, and (*e*) the prices of food-grains. I will deal with the taluks in the order adopted in the Statistical Atlas.

EASTERN SECTION.

2. I arrived here on the 23rd instant with the intention of starting a test work at Gopavaram, but was informed by the Tahsidar and Deputy Collector, as reported already, that there was no necessity to do so, as good rain had fallen and people would get employment in the fields.

Rainfall.—The rainfall in the three taluks of this section has been very good and well distributed as shown in the subjoined statement:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on								
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	25th.	Total.
1. Chitvel	0·11	0·33	0·81	0·20	0·46	0·28	..	2·24	4·43
2. Rajempett	..	0·50	0·17	0·12	0·28	0·23	..	0·37	1·67
3. Sidhout	..	0·31	0·94	0·12	0·30	0·40	0·01	0·42	2·50
4. Badvel	0·38	0·08	0·90	0·15	0·13	0·85	0·05	1·76	4·30

On the 26th and 27th there was a fall of 20 cents and 99 cents, respectively, at Badvel. The reports from other stations have not yet reached me. In some of the outlying tracts, the fall has been heavier than at the registering stations.

3. *Pullampet Taluk.*—Before the rainfall of the 17th instant, the situation in Pullampet was not so bad as in Sidhout and Badvel; it has now received 1 inch and 30 cents up to 24th instant, and no fears are entertained regarding the ability of the cooly classes to get their livelihood in fields. Dry and wet lands (hitherto waste) are being ploughed; jonna and horse-gram are being sown in parts and ragi is being transplanted. The Deputy Collector is going shortly to this taluk and I shall then be able to give more complete information regarding the situation there. The rain has been general, the villages in Kodur and Chitvel firkas having received most. The rain is too late to revive some of the paddy crop that had already withered, but the wet crops that were about to wither have been saved though the yield will be between 4 and 8 annas. Dry crops such as arika, ragi, pulses are in good condition and have been much benefited and will thrive well. There have been no freshes in rivers. The supply received in tanks is small; only six are reported to have supplies ranging from 2 to 20 days and, of course, no wet crops will be raised unless a considerably larger quantity is received. The condition of cattle has also improved, and there will be no complaint of want of pasture for two or three months more.

4. *Sidhout Taluk.*—In Sidhout taluk, the rainfall, though general, has been heavier in the northern and eastern portion of the taluk than in the central and southern parts. Out of 101 tanks in this taluk, 56 received supplies ranging from four days to one month. All these are situated in the Obalam valley and Kondur circle. The heavy rainfall on the Lankamalas brought moderate supplies to most of the tanks in the latter tract. The Tahsildar expects that the greater portion of the standing paddy crops in these two firkas—which was withering and which was given up by the ryots as hopeless—will revive by this rainfall. Doubtless, the standing ragi, which was also fading, has been exceedingly benefited, and tender cholum crops, which stood in great need of rain, have been saved beyond expectation. In Sidhout firka, the largest tanks, viz., those of Gangaperur and Vontimitta have not received any supply. The extent of waste under both these tanks is nearly 900 acres. About 30 acres of paddy raised under the former tank withered long ago and 30 acres of korra and indigo yielded a poor outturn. Under Vontimitta tank 20 acres of ragi raised under wells is in good condition. This part of the taluk has not been much benefited by the rainfall. If the rain ceases at present, the moisture will be just sufficient to enable ryots to raise cholum crop on a large area, but if it continues for some days longer and brings an appreciable quantity of water into the tanks, ragi or inferior paddy will be sown. In either case there will be plenty of field labour for coolies. The rainfall has generally encouraged the cultivating classes. Pasture has improved considerably and all anxiety about cattle for the present has disappeared.

5. *Badvel Taluk.*—In Badvel taluk 55 tanks received supply ranging from two days to two months. Under the big tank of Badvel, a large extent of paddy withered and the shavi was also recently cut and removed. It has now received about two months' supply, and, if the rain, which is still falling, brings in a further supply, the ryots will grow black paddy or ragi on a large area. I rode out from Badvel to Porumamilla and inspected the tanks shown below and found them to contain the supply noted against each on the 26th instant:—

Rangasamudram	2 months.
Gopavaram	1 month.
Govindarajupalli	1½ months.
Sirigipalli	1 month.
Payalakuntla	1 month.
Godaganur	15 days.
Peddacheruvu	1 month.
Pedullapalli	20 days.
Puttulodducheruvu	1½ months.
Gorlakunta	1 month.
Nijiramkunta	full (said to possess a small ayacut).

The wet ayacut under Porumamilla tank is 2,660 acres—both inam and circar. Paddy has been raised on 1,325 acres and ragi on 475 acres. The paddy is three months' old and is all quite green at present. But for this timely rainfall, the whole of it would have been lost. At present the tank contains only about 15 or 20 days' supply; this quantity requires to be largely augmented, as the crop cannot be harvested for another three months. The ayacut of the other tanks inspected by me is 1,205 acres, both inam and circar. Racheruvu of Madakalavaripalle and Bethayapalle tank of Gopavaram have each between one and two months' supply. The wet ayacut of all these tanks is 4,000 acres, or about 20 per cent. of the total wet ayacut of the taluk. As I am writing this, I hear that the main Vanka is flowing into the tank. The Sagilér is in full fresh and is unfordable; my camp that was going on to Sidhout had to return at 6 P.M. on the 27th, and it has been raining steadily during part of the night and all this early morning. I doubt if I shall be able to cross the river to-day. I think it most probable that the Porumamilla tank has by this time got 1½ months' supply. In the remaining tanks the existing supply is not at present sufficient to enable the ryots to raise paddy on waste lands. Cholum or ragi can be grown. The agricultural classes will have sufficient employment in the fields for two months more. Pasture will improve, and the condition of cattle will give no cause for anxiety for some time to come.

6. In consequence of the recent rains, there is no need to start any test works at present in any of these three taluks.

Northern Section.

7. The rainfall registered at the registering stations of the northern section is given below:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on							
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	Total.
Cuddapah	..	0·02	0·08	0·10	0·60	0·23	0·01	1·04
Kamálápuram	0·03	0·11	0·44	0·24	0·50	..	..	1·32
Proddatur	..	..	0·13	..	0·11	1·03	0·10	1·37
Jammalamadugu	..	..	0·11	..	0·29	0·70	0·15	1·25
Pulivendla	..	0·03	0·08	0·11	0·03	0·95	0·05	1·25

Cuddapah Taluk.—This section was the least favoured of all in the district. Except on the 22nd and 23rd, there was no rain worth mentioning in Cuddapah. Kamálapuram registered a little more than an inch on three days. At the remaining stations the only rain that was of any use was that registered on the 23rd. The standing crops have no doubt been benefited to some extent, but the tanks received no supply. In Cuddapah the river and spring channels contain sufficient supply for the standing crops, and the Deputy Collector reports that the labouring classes are largely employed in weeding and in repairing and deepening channels. He also states that the rain is sufficient to begin cultivation on all but black-cotton soil, and that after the fields get a little dry, ryots will sow ragi and variga. Sufficient rain has not fallen to cultivate the black-cotton soil; but as prices are falling, there is no clamour for work at present.

Proddatur Taluk.—In Proddatur taluk, the Tahsildar reports that advanced cholum crop has been affected with disease owing to recent rains and so also cotton which is in flower. Late-sown cholum and cotton, which has not yet borne flower, will be much benefited by the rain. The same may be said of Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla taluks. The numbers on the work on the 21st were as shown in the margin. Owing to the rains, work was interfered with on one or two days and the numbers fell on the 24th both at Pulivendla and at Bollavaram to 1,697 and 1,168, respectively. I have received no report about the numbers at Jammalamadugu probably owing to the fact that on the 23rd the work was to be continued at another place on the Jammalamadugu-Muddanur road immediately south of the Pennér river.

21*st November* 1896.	
Pulivendla	2,866
Jammalamadugu	2,678
Proddutur	1,323

Pulivendla Taluk.—I have also heard nothing from Pulivendla, but the rainfall up to date being very deficient, I do not think that it will be possible for the labourers to get on without help. Unless I hear a good account from this taluk in a few days, I shall go there and see if it is necessary to extend relief operations.

Southern section.

8. The rainfall registered at the registering stations of this section is appended:—

Stations.	Rainfall in November in inches on							
	18th.	19th.	20th.	21st.	22nd.	23rd.	24th.	Total.
Kadiri	..	..	0·36	0·01	0·15	0·97	..	1·49
Ráyachóti	..	1·07	..	..	0·46	..	..	1·53
Vayalpad	0·87	0·14	..	0·01	0·53	..	..	1·55
Piler	0·71	0·84	..	0·06	0·56	0·47	..	2·58
Madanapalle	0·65	0·27	0·49	0·07	0·78	1·90	0·04	4·20

Madanapalle Taluk.—In this section the heaviest rainfall was registered at Madapalle, the aggregate fall amounting to 4·20 inches on seven days. The Tahsildar reports that the rain in the outlying localities was less than at the taluk kasbah. In Kothakotta firka, where he had been touring since the commencement of the rain, there was mere drizzling except on two days, viz., the 17th and 19th, when there was 0·50 inch and 1 inch in some of the villages of the firka. The big tanks received no supply whatever, but some of the smaller ponds had one or two days' supply. No rivers or channels flowed. The Tahsildar learns on enquiry that a similar state of things prevailed in the other firkas. The general effect of the rain will be to benefit standing sugarcane, pulses, oil-seeds and horse-gram. Ragi that had withered has already been removed, cut, and the small area on which it is still standing will yield nothing but fodder. Fresh land will, however, be ploughed for sowing cholum.

Ráyachóti Taluk.—In Ráyachóti also, the rainfall was not, on the whole, satisfactory. There was drizzling throughout the taluk for three or four days without any heavy downpour. The standing crops consisting chiefly of oil-seeds, pulses and horsegram will revive in parts. Paddy, which is just beginning to fade, will not be benefited much unless the rainfall is much heavier. In some villages the ryots have begun to plough up the land for raising dry crops for the next season in the hope of getting more rain. Pasture will improve and drinking-water will be available for cattle. Tanks have received no supply.

Kadiri Taluk.—In Kadiri taluk the rainfall in the outlying stations was heavier than at the registering station. The Papagni flowed knee-deep and one tank (Danayani cheruvu) received fourteen days' supply. The standing crops, such as ragi, oil-seeds, sugarcane, cotton, horse-gram and korra, are reviving and ryots have commenced ploughing and manuring the lands in expectation of more rain. The prices of staple food-grains have fallen considerably.

Vayalpad Taluk.—In Vayalpad the rainfall was general throughout the taluk, several tanks having received fifteen to twenty days' supply. The Vayalpad river flowed slightly on the 18th instant, as also the Piler river. The standing crops, horse-gram, pulses, castor-oil seeds and paddy have been much benefited by these rains, and prices have also fallen considerably.

Piler sub-division of Vayalpad Taluk.—The prospects in Piler division are more encouraging than in the rest of the taluk, and the agricultural classes are hopeful. As the rains have stimulated sowing operations, I do not think that there is any need for starting any works at present in this section; but I am awaiting a definite report on the subject from the Deputy Collector who on the 19th instant took charge of the sub-division.

9. On the whole, the recent rains have been effectual in bringing down the prices of food-grains as will be seen from the following figures :—

—	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholum.		Cumbu.	
	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.	On 17th November 1896.	On 21st November 1896.
Badvel	8·25	9·07	13·50	19·50	10·50	16·59	10·50	15·22
Proddatur	..	..	13·02	14·03	10·31	11·55	..	..
Kadiri	7·45	8·90	14·85	19·80	13·20	14·03	13·20	19·80
Vayalpad	8·66	8·90	14·85	19·80	..	..	13·20	19·80

The figures for the remaining stations have not yet reached me: but there is no doubt that the prices are cheaper now than in the previous week. In Porumamilla, I found four merchants selling grain, whereas before the 17th only one was doing any

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1896.

Board of Revenue

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rainfall has been inadequate to remove it. It has been too light to allow of extensive sowings on the heavy black cotton-soil, and too late to enable the ryots to put in any crops save the most rapid growing ones, or cholum for fodder. Much crop had, it must be remembered, been irretrievably damaged, and much removed before the rain came.

3. Although prices fell very rapidly, when the rain came, they have already risen again almost as rapidly, and the Collector, in his weekly season report for the 5th December, states that he anticipates a further rise. The average price of the dry grains is dearer than the scarcity rate except in the case of ragi, and the Board is inclined to believe that the Collector's forecast will come true. Thus though, for the time being, the agricultural labourers may find a little private employment, this is not likely to be for long and considerably increased numbers may be expected to resort to the relief works. Already in the last week, the numbers have increased again after a temporary decrease. In his letter, dated the 5th December, read above, the Collector applies for sanction to start additional relief works in the Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla taluks, and states that the Special Engineer appointed to the district has arrived. The sanction of Government has been sought for the Peddapasapula project, and the Collector will be requested to arrange for opening the work as soon as it is received. It is requested that orders may be communicated by wire to the Collector. The Muddanur tank estimate will also be submitted on receipt. Meanwhile the Collector should extend the road works in both taluks, if there be any considerable influx of relief workers.

Grains.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.			
	On November			On December
	14th.	21st.	28th.	5th.
Rice	8·6	8·6	9·3	9·0
Ragi	14·6	14·8	19·1	17·0
Cholum	12·5	12·4	15·0	13·0
Cumbu	12·6	12·8	15·1	14·0

Taluks.	Number of relief workers.			
	On November			On December
	14th.	21st.	28th.	5th.
Pulivendla ..	1,107	2,800	560	2,280
Jammalamadugu..	2,151	2,678	1,397	1,660
Proddatur ..	1,139	1,353	1,235	577
Total ..	4,397	6,831	3,192	4,517

4. The scheme for the relief of the weavers of Jammalamadugu, at their trade, has been returned to the Collector for revision, and should be resubmitted at an early date.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
„ Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.