Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 1157 W

DATED 5th May 1897

Previously taken for consideration 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine

Proceedings, Revenue Dept, recording with remarks Board's Proceedings submitting the fortnightly narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st January 1897, & its proposals for the grant of money doles to infirm dependants of relief workers, Communicated to the S.E. III circle.

[P.W. 20. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 17/5 20 6.5.97

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Public Works (1897) Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Current No: 4109

Recd. & *Regd.* {26-4-} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 218, 30th March 1897.

No. B 1157 W of 5.5.97

Communicated to the S.E. III circle.

30/4/97

S.E. III circle 5/6

MARCH.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st January 1897, and its proposals for the grant of money doles to infirm dependants of relief workers, recorded with remarks.

O.L.S. 31

R3/5

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 2nd February 1897, No. 88 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st January 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—Rain *nil.*

Drinking water-supply is failing in some villages of the Ramadurgam and Peddahotur firkas of the Alúr taluk, a few black cotton-soil villages of the Bellary division and in several villages of Kúdligi, Hadagalli and Hospet taluks. Elsewhere generally sufficient.

There is no supply for irrigation purposes except under river channels, Kannalapur tank in Hospet taluk, and Kanekal tank in Rayadrug taluk; but two tanks in Hadagalli, a few tanks in Cherenur range of Kúdligi taluk and several in Harpanahalli taluk contain a little water still. Irrigation wells contain a moderate supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

Adóni Division.—Cotton pickings are going on. Standing cotton on light, low-lying and well-tilled soils is fair; castor plants are doing fairly well in Adóni but in Alúr they are not thriving well. Bulk of white cholum is already withering in Adóni and has withered in many villages of Alúr and is not likely to live.

Bellary Division.—Second-crop paddy under the Hagari channels and the Kanekal tank, cholum, korra and tobacco under wells in the Rayadrug taluk are being sown. Wet crops are in good condition in both the Bellary and Rayadrug taluks. In the Bellary taluk late sown crops have altogether withered in some villages and in some others are withering, but in a few villages in the Moka and Bellary ranges they are doing well and promise a pretty good harvest. This is generally the case where the crops were sown before the November rains. In Rayadrug taluk oil-seeds, red gram and cotton are in good condition, while Bengal-gram and white cholum are drooping in a few villages in Kanekal and Uddihal firkas. Paddy harvested in Rayadrug taluk with an outturn of 10 annas and cotton and oil-seeds of 5 annas.

Hospet Division.—Pickings of castor-oil seeds are being made in parts where it is worth picking. Cotton is being harvested in Hadagalli and Harpanahalli. In Kúdligi sugarcane under tanks supplemented by well irrigation is being harvested, outturn being 4 to 8 annas. Land is being ploughed up for next year's crop where this has not already been done, and in a few places the ryots are engaged in clearing the soil of *nuth* grass. Wheat, cholum, chillies and onions under wells are in good condition. So also is sugarcane under river channels. White cholum and other *hingari* (late) crops which have not the benefit of irrigation have withered or are withering except in Kottur firka of Kúdligi taluk.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.

Adóni Division.—Pasture is not available. Fodder may last for about three months in Adóni and is scanty in Alúr. Condition of stall-fed cattle is generally fair and of others is tolerable in Adóni and bad in Alúr. Cattle disease is reported from Hebbatam in Alúr taluk with 25 deaths during the fortnight. Out of 700 head of cattle brought to sale in Adóni market, 45 were bought by butchers for prices ranging from Rs. 5 to 7, 40 by agriculturists from Rs. 8 to 25 each, 80 by others from Rs. 10 to 30 and the remaining 535 found no sale.

Bellary Division.—Pasture available to a limited extent. Fodder is scarce in Bellary, while in Rayadrug taluk it is abundant in wet villages and insufficient in dry villages. Prickly-pear, hill grass and even date leaves are being used for fodder in Bellary taluk. Cattle are in good condition in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary. Several herds of cattle have been sent to Sandur and other surrounding hills for grazing.

Hospet Division.—Pasture is diminishing in Harpanahalli and practically *nil* elsewhere. Except in Hospet there is a supply of fodder sufficient for a period varying from one to three months from the straw of *mungari* crops (that failed more or less) supplemented by a little hill grass in parts. In Kúdligi cattle find a little scanty herbage round rocks in the hilly parts of the taluk. A good deal of dry grass has been brought from the Sandur hills in Kúdligi and in south of Hospet.

General remarks on above subjects.—Night dews are stated to be insufficient for *hingari* crops in the Hospet division. In the majority of the villages the fate of the *hingari* crops is settled and there will be an almost entire loss. The Hospet Taluk Board has no funds to deepen the wells, the supply of which is running short and the District Board will have to make special arrangements to improve the water-supply.

Food-supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 31st of January 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
Adóni	9·67	9·67	12·90	12·90	14·51	13·97	16·12	16·12	The fall in the price of rice in Hospet is probably due to harvest of paddy there. The prices of articles are generally stationary but cholum and ragi show a tendency to rise.
Alúr	9·18	9·18	11·85	11·85	13·39	13·39	..	..	
Bellary	9·18	9·18	12·36	11·33	14·42	14·42	15·52	15·52	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	13·91	13·39	15·45	14·42	16·49	15·52	
Hospet	8·64	9·72	13·39	12·36	14·94	13·39	16·49	16·50	
Kúdligi	8·64	8·64	..	..	16·48	16·48	17·46	17·46	
Harpanahalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	15·37	16·48	20·86	20·37	
Hadagalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	15·45	15·45	..	..	
Average ..	9·30	9·44	12·88	12·36	15·07	14·75	17·15	16·91	

Activity of Trade.—Private trade is dull in Bellary, as also in cholum at Hospet, normal in Adóni and Alúr and sufficiently active in other taluks.

Adoni.

	Exports. Bags.	Imports. Bags.
Wheat	150	27
Cholum	714	211
Rice	203	102
Gram	100	854
Cumbu	...	56

Condition of the People.

(1) *On Works.*—Generally fair, except some cases of sore-eyes in Hospet division. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Bellary, addressed for medical aid. The condition being carefully watched by the Tahsildars and Divisional Officers, and Medical Subordinates have been deputed to the chief works.

(2) *In Villages.*—Generally good. The condition of some of the lower orders such as Malas, Madigas and Boyas in the villages is not universally good. The Headquarter Deputy Collector states that he has met some weakly persons among them. They generally live by begging or on the famine wages earned by their people on relief works or on the scanty remittances which their relations, who have left their homes, make. These weakly persons though able to go to the kitchens on the relief works refuse to do so.

Sickness and Mortality.—No sickness. The public health is generally good. There are no cases of death reported from starvation. No epidemics. Some malarial fever prevails in Bellary town. The death-rate is increasing in Alúr, the number of deaths in December being 190 against the average of 114. The Tahsildar has been directed to make special inquiries and report the result. The reports called for in connection with the central kitchens and village relief have not yet been received from the Divisional Officers and they have been reminded to expedite their reports.

Remarks.—Two more works have been started during the fortnight, viz., the Aspari-Alúr road in Alúr taluk and the Nandavaram-Nagaladinne road in the north-eastern portion of Adóni taluk. The Commissioner having considered it desirable that Narayanadeverakeri tank work should not be closed, it is being continued. The Head Assistant Collector having reported it necessary to open test works near Antapur in Hospet taluk and Bellahansi in Hadagalli taluk, orders have been issued to start the work of removing prickly-pear on Antapur anicut and of collection of materials on Bellahansi road. These works with those already in existence will, it is considered, be sufficient to provide labour for the present in all the affected parts of the district. Orders have also been issued for making necessary arrangements for starting weavers' relief operations at Kampli.

Measures of relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers.

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	Number employed. This fortnight.	Remarks.
Adóni—			
Municipal road works	738	1,119	The fall in Balasaladoddi tank work is due to women coolies having been transferred to the Madhavaram road work close by. The increase on all the works is due to the cessation of agricultural operations and is likely to continue.
Balasaladoddi tank	401	131	
Adóni-Madhavaram road	1,916	3,264	
Nandavaram-Nagaladinne road	..	342	
Alúr—			
Alúr-Chippagiri road, Northern section ..	2,283	2,525	
Do. do. Southern section ..	2,253	2,623	
Halharvi-Moka road	2,543	3,516	
Harivanam-Raravi road	848	1,087	
Alúr-Adóni road	577	1,516	
Aspari-Alúr road	..	1,183	
Bellary—			
Bellary-Siruguppa road	866	1,419	
Bellary-Moka road	801	1,193	
Hospet—			
Daroji-Metri road	653	828	
Narayanadeverakeri tank	73	133	
Gadiganur road	204	471	
Hadagalli—			
Devagondanhalli tank	375	404	
Total ..	14,531	21,754	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved. At kitchens. This fortnight.	At kitchens. Last fortnight.	Weavers. This fortnight.	Weavers. Last fortnight.	Remarks.
Adóni	635	505			The increase is due partly to the opening of additional number of kitchens and partly to the gradual disappearance of the prejudice of relief-workers against sending their children to kitchens.
Alúr	793	506			
Bellary	183	112			
Hospet	174	50			
Total ..	1,785	1,173			
Adóni			745	774	Decrease due to revival of trade.

(3) *Private charity.*—The number fed in the kitchen opened by the Bellary public is 185 against 204 at the end of the last fortnight, while that fed by Paramma is nearly 300 every day as in the last fortnight.

Remarks.—Migration to Mysore and other places is still going on even from the villages which are within easy reach of the relief works. The reason assigned by the people is that the famine wage is quite insufficient. Those left behind are generally weakly persons, women and young children, and are subject to considerable privation. The case of the relief-workers who have such dependants and who share their wages with them is difficult to deal with. I am trying to give kitchen relief to these dependants, but it is impossible to have a kitchen in every village and people will not go any great distance to kitchens. Kitchen relief has this great drawback that it cannot reach all who want it, and the result is that in extreme cases a whole family has to live on a single famine wage. It is these dependants in villages that give rise to the real difficulty in administering famine relief.

The Head Assistant Collector states that there is very little employment for labourers, but that they are unwilling to go to work at a distance from their homes. The Famine Commissioner inspected the works in Hospet taluk between 13th and 23rd January. The existing relief works will suffice for the present. More central kitchens will probably have to be opened. I hope that village relief will not be found necessary for some months to come. A portion of the new famine fund could be usefully employed in purchasing and distributing cloths to relief workers.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Adóni and Daroji and the relief works there. This is my last fortnight in charge of the district, and having had to break up my establishment, preparatory to going on furlough, I have not been able to make a regular tour. I shall be relieved by Mr. Stuart on the 2nd or 3rd February.

Deputy Collector, Adóni.—Adóni works, Chagi, Naranapuram and Dhanapuram in Adóni taluk. Alúr-Aspari work, Harivanam-Siruguppa road work, Aspari, Peddahotur, Chinnahotur and Harivanam in Alúr taluk and Adóni water-works and weaving experiment.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Kudatini, Haragandona, Janikunta, Timmagur, Yeluhenchi, Siddammanahalli, Yerragudi, Patnasaragu, Guttiganur, Orvy, Emipanur, Nalludi, Havinhal, Gundiganur, Kadigihal, Sirigeri, Siddarampur, Dasapur, Konchigeri, Sanvaspur, Hosahalli, Hagalur, Darur, Sindigeri, Bylur, Somasamudram, Moka, Tambrahalli, Gollanaganahalli, Bylachinta, Sidiginamola, Meenahalli, Paramadavanahalli, Koggal, Lingadevanahalli, Yálpi, Kuntanahal, Tolamamidi, Kammarchedu, Sandur, Rupanagudi, Rayapur, Chilgurki, Karakal, Joladarasy, Karékal, Virapur-Siruguppa road work and Moka road works and the kitchens attached to them in Bellary taluk.

Head Assistant Collector, Kúdligi taluk.—Kakuppi, Ramadurgam, Nagarahunsi, Gudakota, Mahadevapuram, Kalsagaram, Appainahalli, Mathayyanhalli, Tummaguddi, Jiginihatti, Hirehall, Hirakerijaginhalli, Bandri, Katinkamba, Mallapuram, Potulukunta, Saliyyappanhalli, Chinnapuram, Sirakanpalli, Choranur, Yerrainahalli, Kolungiri, Jogihalli, Nedugurti, Kondapuram. *Hospet taluk.*—Hospet, Danayakenkeri, Gouripur, Chilakanahatti, Vyasankeri.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of Loan Transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.										Purchase of fodder.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Total.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Total.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	
							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	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Adóni ..	..	..	..	..	232	13,410	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	6,800	..	..	..	..
Alúr ..	..	..	..	..	1,615	2,50,855	77	7,775	62	6,785	..	..	..	..	70	25,250	..	..	..	..
Bellary ..	77	7,775	62	5,785	804	1,09,405	2	275	2	275	..	..	..	..	57	9,250	1	1	..	..
Rayadrug ..	1	150	1	150	50	12,700	13	1,960	4	325	..	..	..	..	12	750	9	1,375	..	..
Hospet ..	9	1,300	..	..	32	1,680	3	550	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,100	..	..	..	..
Kúdligi ..	..	..	..	..	1	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	750	17	350	..	..
Harpanahalli ..	17	2,340	5	500	40	4,190	17	2,340	5	500	..	..	..	..	22	3,810	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli ..	..	..	..	..	99	16,975	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Total ..	104	11,565	68	6,435	2,873	4,08,240	112	12,890	73	6,885	8	1,325	5	450	218	49,370	104	11,540	13	1,785

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain and iron ploughs.										Total.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Total.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Total.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	
							Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.							Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39								
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.								
Adóni ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..								
Alúr ..	13	1,785	16	1,995	3	1,875	33	2,022	25	2,220	108	8,751								
Bellary ..	..	..	..	..	221	8,740	..	..	..	..	221	8,740								
Rayadrug ..	..	..	..	..	8	400	..	..	..	..	8	400								
Hospet ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77	2,939								
Kúdligi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	1,375								
Harpanahalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	350								
Hadagalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..								
Total ..	13	1,785	16	1,995	227	11,015	23	2,022	25	2,220	451	22,555								

The necessity for promptness in the disposal of applications for loans is being repeatedly impressed on the attention of Divisional Officers and Tahsildars. The Special Revenue Inspectors are busily engaged in inquiring into applications. I expect to show much better progress during the coming month.

Resolution—dated 2nd February 1897, No. 88.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The fate of the late sown crops on which the eastern taluks chiefly depend is now sealed, and, except in the rare cases where seed was sown before the rain came at the end of November, the crops have been lost. In these taluks, an added difficulty is arising in the failure of the supplies of drinking water, which are always bad in the black cotton-soil tract. To this matter the attention of the District Board should be given, and as the Local Fund Engineer has been to a great extent relieved of the charge of special relief works, the matter may be placed in his hands. The Collector observes that the Taluk Boards have no funds. This is the same for the road works, but, as the provision of drinking water is a proper object for famine expenditure, the funds can be obtained from Provincial sources if the District Board is also bankrupt.

3. The supplies of fodder in the eastern half of the district are generally scanty, and it is to be feared that much loss of cattle will ensue.

4. The Collector gives no statistics regarding the jail population—*vide*, B.P., Mis. No. 435, dated 21st January 1897.

5. Prices are again hardening, and trade appears to be dull, though there is now no complaint of the supplies in the bazaars being deficient.

6. The condition of the people is reported to be fair, but the Collector's report shows that in the villages there are a number of weakly persons, dependants, who are living, at least in part, on the subsistence wages earned by the able-bodied on the relief works. For these dependants, the only form of relief offered is in the shape of cooked food at kitchens situated some distance from their homes—distances are great in Bellary, between villages, and often the march to and from a kitchen would represent a fair day's work. The people will not go these distances, and therefore those able to work have to share their wage with their dependants. This must inevitably result in general deterioration, whilst already the mortality figures in Alúr for November and December show a large increase. The Board, in these circumstances, most respectfully requests that the Government will be pleased to reconsider its order (G.O., No. 255, dated 16th January 1897) regarding the appointment of Circle Inspectors, and the making of inquiries regarding destitute persons in the villages. In the meanwhile, the report on the results of the inquiries made by the Revenue Officers under section 75 of the Famine Code should be expedited.

	Number of deaths reported.	
	Average.	1896.
November	124	176
December	114	190
Total ...	238	366

7. The attention of the Government will be drawn to the charitable endeavours of the Bellary public, and especially to those of Paramma, which are mentioned in the narrative. These operations have been going on for some time past.

The Collector's request for a grant of clothing to relief-workers from the new "Famine Relief Fund" also deserves attention.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th February 1897, Mis. No. 1535:—

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 24th February 1897, No. C.

In making enquiries as to the circumstances of relief workers, I have met with a few cases of individuals who were compelled to share their wage with some dependant who was physically unable to attend a kitchen. It seems to me that such cases could be most suitably and economically dealt with by the grant of a money dole, to be paid to the relief worker who is saddled with dependants of this kind.

2. The grant of money doles is permitted by section 92 of the Famine Code, but in other sections this form of relief seems to require the sanction of Government.

3. To enable me to test the genuineness of such cases of distress, I shall probably require some extra staff, and I therefore have the honour to request that I may be permitted to entertain Circle Inspectors from time to time as may be found necessary. I beg to assure the Board that I will not engage a single one until I am convinced that he is needed, but it would facilitate work if I were free to employ them without the delay inseparable from an application for and grant of sanction by the Government. As a case in point, I would instance the delay that has occurred in sanctioning special Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars for dealing with applications for loans.

Resolution—dated 27th Febuary 1897, Mis. No. 1535.

Submitted for the orders of Government with an expression of the Board's concurrence in the view of the Collector that special measures are necessary to relieve the labourers on works from the strain of supporting their dependants.

2. Enquiries as to the existence of infirm dependants and other destitutes in villages should, in the first place, be prosecuted by the village officers and the ordinary revenue staff; but the latter are at present overburdened with revenue work, and the required investigation should be made by an officer of higher rank than an ordinary Revenue Inspector if the interests of the public purse are to be safe-guarded. In G.Os., No. 760, Revenue, dated 30th December 1896, and Mis. No. 255, dated 16th January 1897, the Government has laid it down that the employment of Circle Inspectors is at present unnecessary. The Board respectfully request that these orders may be reconsiderd.

3. In a separate Proceedings, the Board has requested information as to the bearing of G.O., No. 67, Revenue, dated 3rd February 1897, on the grant of money doles under section 92 of the Code. The Board does not recommend the grant of such doles, but rather of grain doles under section 83 in cases such as those specified by the Collector of Bellary.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Bellary.

Order—No. 218, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded, with reference to G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897.

2. Orders have been issued for the appointment of Circle Inspectors wherever necessary.

3. The young and infirm dependants who attend at the works but will not go to the kitchens attached may be given money doles which may be paid to the actual worker. Dependants that do not attend at the works may, at the discretion of the Collector, be dealt with under section 64 or sections 83 and 85; money doles should not be given in these cases except when kitchen relief or grain doles are found to be quite impracticable.

4. The charitable endeavours of Paramma and of the Bellary public deserve commendation.

5. The attention of the Committee of the Charitable Famine Relief Fund will be drawn to the Collector's remark about cloths to relief-workers in his fortnightly narrative for the period ending 31st January.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Honourary Secretaries, Charitable Famine Relief Fund.

Exd. Md. Pahilvan.

80 Copies.

Cus 3932

Fortnightly narrative of the Bellary Dt. — Rev. Dept. Secondary A.D. Pro's tabbg with remarks &c — for the period ending 28.2.97.

The above current was sent to [illegible] on 26-4-97

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 218, 30th March 1897.

Order thereon No. 1157 W of 5.5.97
Communicated to the
Supt. Engr. III Circle
(True extract)
[illegible]

MARCH.

To
The Supt. Engr. III Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st January 1897, and its proposals for the grant of money doles to infirm dependants of relief workers, recorded with remarks.

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There is no supply for irrigation purposes except under river channels, Kannalapur tank in Hospet taluk, and Kanekal tank in Rayadrug taluk; but two tanks in Hadagalli, a few tanks in Cherenur range of Kúdligi taluk and several in Harpanahalli taluk contain a little water still. Irrigation wells contain a moderate supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

Adóni Division.—Cotton pickings are going on. Standing cotton on light, low-lying and well-tilled soils is fair; castor plants are doing fairly well in Adóni but in Alúr they are not thriving well. Bulk of white cholum is already withering in Adóni and has withered in many villages of Alúr and is not likely to live.

Bellary Division.—Second-crop paddy under the Hagari channels and the Kanekal tank, cholum, korra and tobacco under wells in the Rayadrug taluk are being sown. Wet crops are in good condition in both the Bellary and Rayadrug taluks. In the Bellary taluk late sown crops have altogether withered in some villages and in some others are withering, but in a few villages in the Moka and Bellary ranges they are doing well and promise a pretty good harvest. This is generally the case where the crops were sown before the November rains. In Rayadrug taluk oil-seeds, red gram and cotton are in good condition, while Bengal-gram and white cholum are drooping in a few villages in Kanekal and Uddihal firkas. Paddy harvested in Rayadrug taluk with an outturn of 10 annas and cotton and oil-seeds of 5 annas.

Hospet Division.—Pickings of castor-oil seeds are being made in parts where it is worth picking. Cotton is being harvested in Hadagalli and Harpanahalli. In Kúdligi sugarcane under tanks supplemented by well irrigation is being harvested, outturn being 4 to 8 annas. Land is being ploughed up for next year's crop where this has not already been done, and in a few places the ryots are engaged in clearing the soil of *nuth* grass. Wheat, cholum, chillies and onions under wells are in good condition. So also is sugarcane under river channels. White cholum and other *hingari* (late) crops which have not the benefit of irrigation have withered or are withering except in Kottur firka of Kúdligi taluk.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.

Adóni Division.—Pasture is not available. Fodder may last for about three months in Adóni and is scanty in Alúr. Condition of stall-fed cattle is generally fair and of others is tolerable in Adóni and bad in Alúr. Cattle disease is reported from Hebbatam in Alúr taluk with 25 deaths during the fortnight. Out of 700 head of cattle brought to sale in Adóni market, 45 were bought by butchers for prices ranging from Rs. 5 to 7, 40 by agriculturists from Rs. 8 to 25 each, 80 by others from Rs. 10 to 30 and the remaining 535 found no sale.

Bellary Division.—Pasture available to a limited extent. Fodder is scarce in Bellary, while in Rayadrug taluk it is abundant in wet villages and insufficient in dry villages. Prickly-pear, hill grass and even date leaves are being used for fodder in Bellary taluk. Cattle are in good condition in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary. Several herds of cattle have been sent to Sandur and other surrounding hills for grazing.

Hospet Division.—Pasture is diminishing in Harpanahalli and practically *nil* elsewhere. Except in Hospet there is a supply of fodder sufficient for a period varying from one to three months from the straw of *mungari* crops (that failed more or less) supplemented by a little hill grass in parts. In Kúdligi cattle find a little scanty herbage round rocks in the hilly parts of the taluk. A good deal of dry grass has been brought from the Sandur hills in Kúdligi and in south of Hospet.

General remarks on above subjects.—Night dews are stated to be insufficient for *hingari* crops in the Hospet division. In the majority of the villages the fate of the *hingari* crops is settled and there will be an almost entire loss. The Hospet Taluk Board has no funds to deepen the wells, the supply of which is running short and the District Board will have to make special arrangements to improve the water-supply.

Food-supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 31st of January 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
Adóni	9·67	9·67	12·90	12·90	14·51	13·97	16·12	16·12	The fall in the price of rice in Hospet is probably due to harvest of paddy there. The prices of articles are generally stationary but cholum and ragi show a tendency to rise.
Alúr	9·18	9·18	11·85	11·85	13·39	13·39	..	..	
Bellary	9·18	9·18	12·36	11·33	14·42	14·42	15·52	15·52	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	13·91	13·39	15·45	14·42	16·49	15·52	
Hospet	8·64	9·72	13·39	12·36	14·94	13·39	16·49	16·50	
Kúdligi	8·64	8·64	..	..	16·48	16·48	17·46	17·46	
Harpanahalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	15·37	16·48	20·36	20·37	
Hadagalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	15·45	15·45	..	..	
Average ..	9·30	9·44	12·88	12·36	15·07	14·75	17·15	16·91	

Activity of Trade.—Private trade is dull in Bellary, as also in cholum at Hospet, normal in Adóni and Alúr and sufficiently active in other taluks.

Adoni.

	Exports. Bags.	Imports. Bags.
Wheat	150	27
Cholum	714	211
Rice	203	102
Gram	100	854
Cumbu	...	56

Condition of the People.

(1) *On Works.*—Generally fair, except some cases of sore-eyes in Hospet division. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Bellary, addressed for medical aid. The condition being carefully watched by the Tahsildars and Divisional Officers, and Medical Subordinates have been deputed to the chief works.

(2) *In Villages.*—Generally good. The condition of some of the lower orders such as Malas, Madigas and Boyas in the villages is not universally good. The Head-quarter Deputy Collector states that he has met some weakly persons among them. They generally live by begging or on the famine wages earned by their people on relief works or on the scanty remittances which their relations, who have left their homes, make. These weakly persons though able to go to the kitchens on the relief works refuse to do so.

Sickness and Mortality.—No sickness. The public health is generally good. There are no cases of death reported from starvation. No epidemics. Some malarial fever prevails in Bellary town. The death-rate is increasing in Alúr, the number of deaths in December being 190 against the average of 114. The Tahsildar has been directed to make special inquiries and report the result. The reports called for in connection with the central kitchens and village relief have not yet been received from the Divisional Officers and they have been reminded to expedite their reports.

Remarks.—Two more works have been started during the fortnight, viz., the Aspari-Alúr road in Alúr taluk and the Nandavaram-Nagaladinne road in the north-eastern portion of Adóni taluk. The Commissioner having considered it desirable that Narayanadeverakeri tank work should not be closed, it is being continued. The Head Assistant Collector having reported it necessary to open test works near Antapur in Hospet taluk and Bellahansi in Hadagalli taluk, orders have been issued to start the work of removing prickly-pear on Antapur anicut and of collection of materials on Bellahansi road. These works with those already in existence will, it is considered, be sufficient to provide labour for the present in all the affected parts of the district. Orders have also been issued for making necessary arrangements for starting weavers' relief operations at Kampli.

Measures of relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers.

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni—			
Municipal road works	738	1,119	The fall in Balasaladoddi tank work is due to women coolies having been transferred to the Madhavaram road work close by. The increase on all the works is due to the cessation of agricultural operations and is likely to continue.
Balasaladoddi tank	401	131	
Adóni-Madhavaram road	1,916	3,264	
Nandavaram-Nagaladinne road	..	342	
Alúr—			
Alúr-Chippagiri road, Northern section ..	2,283	2,525	
Do. do. Southern section ..	2,253	2,623	
Halharvi-Moka road	2,543	3,516	
Harivanam-Raravi road	848	1,087	
Alúr-Adóni road	577	1,516	
Aspari-Alúr road	..	1,183	
Bellary—			
Bellary-Siruguppa road	866	1,419	
Bellary-Moka road	801	1,193	
Hospet—			
Daroji-Metri road	653	828	
Narayanadeverakeri tank	73	133	
Gadiganur road	204	471	
Hadagalli—			
Devagondanhalli tank	375	404	
Total ..	14,531	21,754	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved				Remarks.
	At kitchens.		Weavers.		
	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	
Adóni	635	505			The increase is due partly to the opening of additional number of kitchens and partly to the gradual disappearance of the prejudice of relief-workers against sending their children to kitchens.
Alúr	793	506			
Bellary	183	112			
Hospet	174	50			
Total ..	1,785	1,173			
Adóni			745	774	Decrease due to revival of trade.

(3) *Private charity.*—The number fed in the kitchen opened by the Bellary public is 185 against 204 at the end of the last fortnight, while that fed by Paramma is nearly 300 every day as in the last fortnight.

Remarks.—Migration to Mysore and other places is still going on even from the villages which are within easy reach of the relief works. The reason assigned by the people is that the famine wage is quite insufficient. Those left behind are generally weakly persons, women and young children, and are subject to considerable privation. The case of the relief-workers who have such dependants and who share their wages with them is difficult to deal with. I am trying to give kitchen relief to these dependants, but it is impossible to have a kitchen in every village and people will not go any great distance to kitchens. Kitchen relief has this great drawback that it cannot reach all who want it, and the result is that in extreme cases a whole family has to live on a single famine wage. It is these dependants in villages that give rise to the real difficulty in administering famine relief.

The Head Assistant Collector states that there is very little employment for labourers, but that they are unwilling to go to work at a distance from their homes. The Famine Commissioner inspected the works in Hospet taluk between 13th and 23rd January. The existing relief works will suffice for the present. More central kitchens will probably have to be opened. I hope that village relief will not be found necessary for some months to come. A portion of the new famine fund could be usefully employed in purchasing and distributing cloths to relief workers.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Adóni and Daroji and the relief works there. This is my last fortnight in charge of the district, and having had to break up my establishment, preparatory to going on furlough, I have not been able to make a regular tour. I shall be relieved by Mr. Stuart on the 2nd or 3rd February.

Deputy Collector, Adóni.—Adóni works, Chagi, Naranapuram and Dhanapuram in Adóni taluk. Alúr-Aspari work, Harivanam-Siruguppa road work, Aspari, Peddahotur, Chinnahotur and Harivanam in Alúr taluk and Adóni water-works and weaving experiment.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Kudatini, Haragandona, Janikunta, Timmagur, Yeluhenchi, Siddammanahalli, Yerragudi, Patnasaragu, Guttiganur, Orvy, Emipanur, Nalludi, Havinhal, Gundiganur, Kadigihal, Sirigeri, Siddarampur, Dasapur, Konchigeri, Sanvaspur, Hosahalli, Hagalur, Darur, Sindigeri, Bylur, Somasamudram, Moka, Tambrahalli, Gollanaganahalli, Bylachinta, Sidiginamola, Meenahalli, Paramadavanahalli, Koggal, Lingadevanahalli, Yálpi, Kuntanahal, Tolamamidi, Kammarchedu, Sandur, Rupanagudi, Rayapur, Chilgurki, Karakal, Joladarasy, Karékal, Virapur-Siruguppa road work and Moka road works and the kitchens attached to them in Bellary taluk.

Head Assistant Collector, Kúdligi taluk.—Kakuppi, Ramadurgam, Nagarahunsi, Gudakota, Mahadevapuram, Kalsagaram, Appainahalli, Mathayyanhalli, Tummaguddi, Jiginihatti, Hirehall, Hirakerijaginhalli, Bandri, Katinkamba, Mallapuram, Potulukunta, Saliyyappanhalli, Chinnapuram, Sirakanpalli, Choranur, Yerrainahalli, Kolungiri, Jogihalli, Nedugurti, Kondapuram. *Hospet taluk.*—Hospet, Danayakenkeri, Gouripur, Chilakanahatti, Vyasankeri.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of Loan Transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		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.		
1	9		10		12	13			2	3	4	5	6	7			8		16	17	18	19	20	21
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Adóni ..	..	..	..	..	232	13,410			..	..	..	..	43	6,800			..	..	..	..	275	20,210	1	..
Alúr ..	..	..	62	5,785	1,615	2,50,855			77	7,775	..	..	70	25,250			77	7,775	62	5,785	1,685	2,76,105	..	..
Bellary ..	..	..	1	150	804	1,09,405			2	275	1	125	57	9,250			2	275	2	275	861	1,18,655	..	..
Rayadrug ..	..	..	..	..	50	12,700			13	1,950	4	325	2	750			13	1,950	4	325	52	13,450	..	1
Hospet ..	..	..	..	..	32	1,680			3	550	..	..	12	1,660			3	550	..	..	44	3,340	..	..
Kúdligi ..	..	..	..	..	1	25			..	..	..	..	7	1,100			..	..	..	..	8	1,125	..	..
Harpanahalli ..	..	..	5	500	40	4,190			17	2,340	..	..	5	750			17	2,340	5	500	45	4,940	..	..
Hadagalli ..	..	..	..	..	99	15,975			..	..	..	..	22	8,810			..	..	..	..	121	19,785	..	..
Total ..	11,565		68	6,435	2,873	4,08,240			112	12,890	5	450	218	49,370			104	11,565	73	6,885	3,091	4,57,610	1	1

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain and iron ploughs.								Purchase of fodder.								Total.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
	28	29	30	31	32	33			22	23	24	25	26	27			34	35	36	37	38	39		
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Adóni ..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..		
Alúr ..	13	1,785	16	1,995	3	1,875			10	237	9	225	106	6,876			23	2,022	25	2,220	108	8,761		
Bellary ..	..	..	..	..	221	8,740			..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	221	8,740		
Rayadrug ..	..	..	..	..	3	400			..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	3	400		
Hospet ..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	77	2,939			..	..	..	..	77	2,939		
Kúdligi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	36	1,375			..	..	..	..	35	1,375		
Harpanahalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	7	350			..	..	..	..	7	350		
Hadagalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..		
Total ..	13	1,785	16	1,995	227	11,015			10	237	9	225	224	11,540			23	2,022	25	2,220	451	22,555		

The necessity for promptness in the disposal of applications for loans is being repeatedly impressed on the attention of Divisional Officers and Tahsildars. The Special Revenue Inspectors are busily engaged in inquiring into applications. I expect to show much better progress during the coming month.

Resolution—dated 2nd February 1897, No. 88.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The fate of the late sown crops on which the eastern taluks chiefly depend is now sealed, and, except in the rare cases where seed was sown before the rain came at the end of November, the crops have been lost. In these taluks, an added difficulty is arising in the failure of the supplies of drinking water, which are always bad in the black cotton-soil tract. To this matter the attention of the District Board should be given, and as the Local Fund Engineer has been to a great extent relieved of the charge of special relief works, the matter may be placed in his hands. The Collector observes that the Taluk Boards have no funds. This is the same for the road works, but, as the provision of drinking water is a proper object for famine expenditure, the funds can be obtained from Provincial sources if the District Board is also bankrupt.

3. The supplies of fodder in the eastern half of the district are generally scanty, and it is to be feared that much loss of cattle will ensue.

4. The Collector gives no statistics regarding the jail population—*vide*, B.P., Mis. No. 435, dated 21st January 1897.

5. Prices are again hardening, and trade appears to be dull, though there is now no complaint of the supplies in the bazaars being deficient.

6. The condition of the people is reported to be fair, but the Collector's report shows that in the villages there are a number of weakly persons, dependants, who are living, at least in part, on the subsistence wages earned by the able-bodied on the relief works. For these dependants, the only form of relief offered is in the shape of cooked food at kitchens situated some distance from their homes—distances are great in Bellary, between villages, and often the march to and from a kitchen would represent a fair day's work. The people will not go these distances, and therefore those able to work have to share their wage with their dependants. This must inevitably result in general deterioration, whilst already the mortality figures in Alúr for November and December show a large increase. The Board, in these circumstances, most respectfully requests that the Government will be pleased to reconsider its order (G.O., No. 255, dated 16th January 1897) regarding the appointment of Circle Inspectors, and the making of inquiries regarding destitute persons in the villages. In the meanwhile, the report on the results of the inquiries made by the Revenue Officers under section 75 of the Famine Code should be expedited.

	Number of deaths reported.	
	Average.	1896.
November	124	176
December	114	190
Total ...	238	366

7. The attention of the Government will be drawn to the charitable endeavours of the Bellary public, and especially to those of Paramma, which are mentioned in the narrative. These operations have been going on for some time past.

The Collector's request for a grant of clothing to relief-workers from the new "Famine Relief Fund" also deserves attention.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th February 1897, Mis. No. 1535:—

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 24th February 1897, No. C.

In making enquiries as to the circumstances of relief workers, I have met with a few cases of individuals who were compelled to share their wage with some dependant who was physically unable to attend a kitchen. It seems to me that such cases could be most suitably and economically dealt with by the grant of a money dole, to be paid to the relief worker who is saddled with dependants of this kind.

2. The grant of money doles is permitted by section 92 of the Famine Code, but in other sections this form of relief seems to require the sanction of Government.

3. To enable me to test the genuineness of such cases of distress, I shall probably require some extra staff, and I therefore have the honour to request that I may be permitted to entertain Circle Inspectors from time to time as may be found necessary. I beg to assure the Board that I will not engage a single one until I am convinced that he is needed, but it would facilitate work if I were free to employ them without the delay inseparable from an application for and grant of sanction by the Government. As a case in point, I would instance the delay that has occurred in sanctioning special Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars for dealing with applications for loans.

Resolution—dated 27th Febuary 1897, Mis. No. 1535.

Submitted for the orders of Government with an expression of the Board's concurrence in the view of the Collector that special measures are necessary to relieve the labourers on works from the strain of supporting their dependants.

2. Enquiries as to the existence of infirm dependants and other destitutes in villages should, in the first place, be prosecuted by the village officers and the ordinary revenue staff; but the latter are at present overburdened with revenue work, and the required investigation should be made by an officer of higher rank than an ordinary Revenue Inspector if the interests of the public purse are to be safe-guarded. In G.Os., No. 760, Revenue, dated 30th December 1896, and Mis. No. 255, dated 16th January 1897, the Government has laid it down that the employment of Circle Inspectors is at present unnecessary. The Board respectfully request that these orders may be reconsiderd.

3. In a separate Proceedings, the Board has requested information as to the bearing of G.O., No. 67, Revenue, dated 3rd February 1897, on the grant of money doles under section 92 of the Code. The Board does not recommend the grant of such doles, but rather of grain doles under section 83 in cases such as those specified by the Collector of Bellary.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Bellary.

Order—No. 218, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded, with reference to G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897.

2. Orders have been issued for the appointment of Circle Inspectors wherever necessary.

3. The young and infirm dependants who attend at the works but will not go to the kitchens attached may be given money doles which may be paid to the actual worker. Dependants that do not attend at the works may, at the discretion of the Collector, be dealt with under section 64 or sections 83 and 85; money doles should not be given in these cases except when kitchen relief or grain doles are found to be quite impracticable.

4. The charitable endeavours of Paramma and of the Bellary public deserve commendation.

5. The attention of the Committee of the Charitable Famine Relief Fund will be drawn to the Collector's remark about cloths to relief-workers in his fortnightly narrative for the period ending 31st January.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Honourary Secretaries, Charitable Famine Relief Fund.

Exd. Md. Pahilvan.

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Public Works Department

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REVENUE.

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Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 218, 30th March 1897.

Order thereon No. 1157 W of 5.5.97

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer

MARCH. III Circle

(True extract)

[signature] D.E.C

To

The Supdg. Engineer III Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st January 1897, and its proposals for the grant of money doles to infirm dependants of relief workers, recorded with remarks.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 2nd February 1897, No. 88 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st January 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—Rain *nil.*

Drinking water-supply is failing in some villages of the Ramadurgam and Peddahotur firkas of the Alúr taluk, a few black cotton-soil villages of the Bellary division and in several villages of Kúdligi, Hadagalli and Hospet taluks. Elsewhere generally sufficient.

There is no supply for irrigation purposes except under river channels, Kannalapur tank in Hospet taluk, and Kanekal tank in Rayadrug taluk; but two tanks in Hadagalli, a few tanks in Cherenur range of Kúdligi taluk and several in Harpanahalli taluk contain a little water still. Irrigation wells contain a moderate supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

Adóni Division.—Cotton pickings are going on. Standing cotton on light, low-lying and well-tilled soils is fair; castor plants are doing fairly well in Adóni but in Alúr they are not thriving well. Bulk of white cholum is already withering in Adóni and has withered in many villages of Alúr and is not likely to live.

Bellary Division.—Second-crop paddy under the Hagari channels and the Kanekal tank, cholum, korra and tobacco under wells in the Rayadrug taluk are being sown. Wet crops are in good condition in both the Bellary and Rayadrug taluks. In the Bellary taluk late sown crops have altogether withered in some villages and in some others are withering, but in a few villages in the Moka and Bellary ranges they are doing well and promise a pretty good harvest. This is generally the case where the crops were sown before the November rains. In Rayadrug taluk oil-seeds, red gram and cotton are in good condition, while Bengal-gram and white cholum are drooping in a few villages in Kanekal and Uddihal firkas. Paddy harvested in Rayadrug taluk with an outturn of 10 annas and cotton and oil-seeds of 5 annas.

Hospet Division.—Pickings of castor-oil seeds are being made in parts where it is worth picking. Cotton is being harvested in Hadagalli and Harpanahalli. In Kúdligi sugarcane under tanks supplemented by well irrigation is being harvested, outturn being 4 to 8 annas. Land is being ploughed up for next year's crop where this has not already been done, and in a few places the ryots are engaged in clearing the soil of *nuth* grass. Wheat, cholum, chillies and onions under wells are in good condition. So also is sugarcane under river channels. White cholum and other *hingari* (late) crops which have not the benefit of irrigation have withered or are withering except in Kottur firka of Kúdligi taluk.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.

Adóni Division.—Pasture is not available. Fodder may last for about three months in Adóni and is scanty in Alúr. Condition of stall-fed cattle is generally fair and of others is tolerable in Adóni and bad in Alúr. Cattle disease is reported from Hebbatam in Alúr taluk with 25 deaths during the fortnight. Out of 700 head of cattle brought to sale in Adóni market, 45 were bought by butchers for prices ranging from Rs. 5 to 7, 40 by agriculturists from Rs. 8 to 25 each, 80 by others from Rs. 10 to 30 and the remaining 535 found no sale.

Bellary Division.—Pasture available to a limited extent. Fodder is scarce in Bellary, while in Rayadrug taluk it is abundant in wet villages and insufficient in dry villages. Prickly-pear, hill grass and even date leaves are being used for fodder in Bellary taluk. Cattle are in good condition in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary. Several herds of cattle have been sent to Sandur and other surrounding hills for grazing.

Hospet Division.—Pasture is diminishing in Harpanahalli and practically *nil* elsewhere. Except in Hospet there is a supply of fodder sufficient for a period varying from one to three months from the straw of *munyari* crops (that failed more or less) supplemented by a little hill grass in parts. In Kúdligi cattle find a little scanty herbage round rocks in the hilly parts of the taluk. A good deal of dry grass has been brought from the Sandur hills in Kúdligi and in south of Hospet.

General remarks on above subjects.—Night dews are stated to be insufficient for *hingari* crops in the Hospet division. In the majority of the villages the fate of the *hingari* crops is settled and there will be an almost entire loss. The Hospet Taluk Board has no funds to deepen the wells, the supply of which is running short and the District Board will have to make special arrangements to improve the water-supply.

Food-supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 31st of January 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
Adóni	9·67	9·67	12·90	12·90	14·51	13·97	16·12	16·12	The fall in the price of rice in Hospet is probably due to harvest of paddy there. The prices of articles are generally stationary but cholum and ragi show a tendency to rise.
Alúr	9·18	9·18	11·85	11·85	13 39	13·39	..	..	
Bellary	9·18	9·18	12·36	11·33	14·42	14·42	15·52	15·52	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	13·91	13·39	15·45	14·42	16·49	15·52	
Hospet	8·64	9·72	13·39	12·36	14·94	13·39	16·49	16·50	
Kúdligi	8·64	8·64	..	..	16·48	16·48	17·46	17·46	
Harpanahalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	15·97	16·48	20·86	20·37	
Hadagalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	15·45	15·45	..	..	
Average ..	9·30	9·44	12·88	12·36	15·07	14·75	17·15	16·91	

Activity of Trade.—Private trade is dull in Bellary, as also in cholum at Hospet, normal in Adóni and Alúr and sufficiently active in other taluks.

Adoni.

	Exports. Bags.	Imports. Bags.
Wheat	150	27
Cholum	714	211
Rice	203	102
Gram	100	854
Cumbu	...	56

Condition of the People.

(1) *On Works.*—Generally fair, except some cases of sore-eyes in Hospet division. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Bellary, addressed for medical aid. The condition being carefully watched by the Tahsildars and Divisional Officers, and Medical Subordinates have been deputed to the chief works.

(2) *In Villages.*—Generally good. The condition of some of the lower orders such as Malas, Madigas and Boyas in the villages is not universally good. The Head-quarter Deputy Collector states that he has met some weakly persons among them. They generally live by begging or on the famine wages earned by their people on relief works or on the scanty remittances which their relations, who have left their homes, make. These weakly persons though able to go to the kitchens on the relief works refuse to do so.

Sickness and Mortality.—No sickness. The public health is generally good. There are no cases of death reported from starvation. No epidemics. Some malarial fever prevails in Bellary town. The death-rate is increasing in Alúr, the number of deaths in December being 190 against the average of 114. The Tahsildar has been directed to make special inquiries and report the result. The reports called for in connection with the central kitchens and village relief have not yet been received from the Divisional Officers and they have been reminded to expedite their reports.

Remarks.—Two more works have been started during the fortnight, viz., the Aspari-Alúr road in Alúr taluk and the Nandavaram-Nagaladinne road in the north-eastern portion of Adóni taluk. The Commissioner having considered it desirable that Narayanadeverakeri tank work should not be closed, it is being continued. The Head Assistant Collector having reported it necessary to open test works near Antapur in Hospet taluk and Bellahansi in Hadagalli taluk, orders have been issued to start the work of removing prickly-pear on Antapur anicut and of collection of materials on Bellahansi road. These works with those already in existence will, it is considered, be sufficient to provide labour for the present in all the affected parts of the district. Orders have also been issued for making necessary arrangements for 'starting weavers' relief operations at Kampli.

Measures of relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers.

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	Number employed. This fortnight.	Remarks.
Adóni—			
Municipal road works	738	1,119	The fall in Balasaladoddi tank work is due to women coolies having been transferred to the Madhavaram road work close by. The increase on all the works is due to the cessation of agricultural operations and is likely to continue.
Balasaladoddi tank	401	131	
Adóni-Madhavaram road	1,916	3,264	
Nandavaram-Nagaladinne road	..	342	
Alúr—			
Alúr-Chippagiri road, Northern section ..	2,283	2,525	
Do. do. Southern section ..	2,253	2,623	
Halharvi-Moka road	2,543	3,516	
Harivanam-Raravi road	848	1,087	
Alúr-Adóni road	577	1,516	
Aspari-Alúr road	..	1,183	
Bellary—			
Bellary-Siruguppa road	866	1,419	
Bellary-Moka road	801	1,193	
Hospet—			
Daroji-Metri road	653	828	
Narayanadeverakeri tank	73	133	
Gadiganur road	204	471	
Hadagalli—			
Devagondanhalli tank	375	404	
Total ..	14,531	21,754	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved. At kitchens. This fortnight.	At kitchens. Last fortnight.	Weavers. This fortnight.	Weavers. Last fortnight.	Remarks.
Adóni	635	505			The increase is due partly to the opening of additional number of kitchens and partly to the gradual disappearance of the prejudice of relief-workers against sending their children to kitchens.
Alúr	793	506			
Bellary	183	112			
Hospet	174	50			
Total ..	1,785	1,173			
Adóni			745	774	Decrease due to revival of trade.

(3) *Private charity.*—The number fed in the kitchen opened by the Bellary public is 185 against 204 at the end of the last fortnight, while that fed by Paramma is nearly 300 every day as in the last fortnight.

Remarks.—Migration to Mysore and other places is still going on even from the villages which are within easy reach of the relief works. The reason assigned by the people is that the famine wage is quite insufficient. Those left behind are generally weakly persons, women and young children, and are subject to considerable privation. The case of the relief-workers who have such dependants and who share their wages with them is difficult to deal with. I am trying to give kitchen relief to these dependants, but it is impossible to have a kitchen in every village and people will not go any great distance to kitchens. Kitchen relief has this great drawback that it cannot reach all who want it, and the result is that in extreme cases a whole family has to live on a single famine wage. It is these dependants in villages that give rise to the real difficulty in administering famine relief.

The Head Assistant Collector states that there is very little employment for labourers, but that they are unwilling to go to work at a distance from their homes. The Famine Commissioner inspected the works in Hospet taluk between 13th and 23rd January. The existing relief works will suffice for the present. More central kitchens will probably have to be opened. I hope that village relief will not be found necessary for some months to come. A portion of the new famine fund could be usefully employed in purchasing and distributing cloths to relief workers.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

By the Collector.—Adóni and Daroji and the relief works there. This is my last fortnight in charge of the district, and having had to break up my establishment, preparatory to going on furlough, I have not been able to make a regular tour. I shall be relieved by Mr. Stuart on the 2nd or 3rd February.

Deputy Collector, Adóni.—Adóni works, Chagi, Naranapuram and Dhanapuram in Adóni taluk. Alúr-Aspari work, Harivanam-Siruguppa road work, Aspari, Peddahotur, Chinnahotur and Harivanam in Alúr taluk and Adóni water-works and weaving experiment.

Deputy Collector, Bellary Division.—Kudatini, Haragandona, Janikunta, Timmagur, Yeluhenchi, Siddammanahalli, Yerragudi, Patnasaragu, Guttiganur, Orvy, Emipanur, Nalludi, Havinhal, Gundiganur, Kadigihal, Sirigeri, Siddarampur, Dasapur, Konchigeri, Sanvaspur, Hosahalli, Hagalur, Darur, Sindigeri, Bylur, Somasamudram, Moka, Tambrahalli, Gollanaganahalli, Bylachinta, Sidiginamola, Meenahalli, Parmadavanahalli, Koggal, Lingadevanahalli, Yálpi, Kuntanahal, Tolamamidi, Kammarchedu, Sandur, Rupanagudi, Rayapur, Chilgurki, Karakal, Joladarasy, Karékal, Virapur-Siruguppa road work and Moka road works and the kitchens attached to them in Bellary taluk.

Head Assistant Collector, Kúdligi taluk.—Kakuppi, Ramadurgam, Nagarahunsi, Gudakota, Mahadevapuram, Kalsagaram, Appainahalli, Mathayyanhalli, Tummaguddi, Jiginihatti, Hirehall, Hirakerijaginhalli, Bandri, Katinkamba, Mallapuram, Potulukunta, Saliyyappanhalli, Chinnapuram, Sirakanpalli, Choranur, Yerrainahalli, Kolungiri, Jogihalli, Nedugurti, Kondapuram. *Hospet taluk.*—Hospet, Danayakenkeri, Gouripur, Chilakanahatti, Vyasankeri.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of Loan Transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Other purposes.				Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Adóni	..	..	..	232	13,410	..	..	..	..	275	20,210	1	..
Alúr	..	..	62	5,785	2,50,855	77	7,775	62	5,785	1,685	2,76,105	..	..
Bellary	..	..	1	150	1,09,405	2	275	2	275	861	1,18,665	..	..
Rayadrug	..	..	..	..	12,700	13	1,950	4	325	62	13,450	..	..
Hospet	..	..	..	..	1,680	3	550	..	..	44	3,340	..	1
Kúdligi	..	..	..	..	25	..	..	..	..	8	1,125	..	..
Harpanahalli	..	..	5	500	4,190	17	2,340	5	500	45	4,940	..	..
Hadagalli	..	..	..	..	16,975	..	..	..	..	121	19,785	..	..
Total	..	..	68	6,435	2,873	4,08,240	112	12,890	73	6,885	3,091	4,57,610	1	1

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain and iron ploughs.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Adóni	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alúr	1,785	16	1,995	3	1,875	23	2,022	25	2,220	108	8,761	
Bellary	..	..	..	221	8,740	..	..	..	..	221	8,740	
Rayadrug	..	..	..	8	400	..	..	..	..	3	400	
Hospet	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77	2,939	
Kúdligi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	1,375	
Harpanahalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	350	
Hadagalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total	1,785	16	1,995	227	11,015	23	2,022	25	2,220	451	22,565	

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending inquiry.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29				
	Rs.			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				
Adóni	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Alúr	10	237	9	225	106	6,876	13	1,785				
Bellary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Rayadrug	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Hospet	..	..	..	..	77	2,939	..	..				
Kúdligi	..	..	..	..	35	1,375	..	..				
Harpanahalli	..	..	..	..	7	350	..	..				
Hadagalli	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Total	10	237	9	225	224	11,540	13	1,785				

The necessity for promptness in the disposal of applications for loans is being repeatedly impressed on the attention of Divisional Officers and Tahsildars. The Special Revenue Inspectors are busily engaged in inquiring into applications. I expect to show much better progress during the coming month.

Resolution—dated 2nd February 1897, No. 88.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The fate of the late sown crops on which the eastern taluks chiefly depend is now sealed, and, except in the rare cases where seed was sown before the rain came at the end of November, the crops have been lost. In these taluks, an added difficulty is arising in the failure of the supplies of drinking water, which are always bad in the black cotton-soil tract. To this matter the attention of the District Board should be given, and as the Local Fund Engineer has been to a great extent relieved of the charge of special relief works, the matter may be placed in his hands. The Collector observes that the Taluk Boards have no funds. This is the same for the road works, but, as the provision of drinking water is a proper object for famine expenditure, the funds can be obtained from Provincial sources if the District Board is also bankrupt.

3. The supplies of fodder in the eastern half of the district are generally scanty, and it is to be feared that much loss of cattle will ensue.

4. The Collector gives no statistics regarding the jail population—*vide*, B.P., Mis. No. 435, dated 21st January 1897.

5. Prices are again hardening, and trade appears to be dull, though there is now no complaint of the supplies in the bazaars being deficient.

6. The condition of the people is reported to be fair, but the Collector's report shows that in the villages there are a number of weakly persons, dependants, who are living, at least in part, on the subsistence wages earned by the able-bodied on the relief works. For these dependants, the only form of relief offered is in the shape of cooked food at kitchens situated some distance from their homes—distances are great in Bellary, between villages, and often the march to and from a kitchen would represent a fair day's work. The people will not go these distances, and therefore those able to work have to share their wage with their dependants. This must inevitably result in general deterioration, whilst already the mortality figures in Alúr for November and December show a large increase. The Board, in these circumstances, most respectfully requests that the Government will be pleased to reconsider its order (G.O., No. 255, dated 16th January 1897) regarding the appointment of Circle Inspectors, and the making of inquiries regarding destitute persons in the villages. In the meanwhile, the report on the results of the inquiries made by the Revenue Officers under section 75 of the Famine Code should be expedited.

	Number of deaths reported.	
	Average.	1896.
November	124	176
December	114	190
Total ...	238	366

7. The attention of the Government will be drawn to the charitable endeavours of the Bellary public, and especially to those of Paramma, which are mentioned in the narrative. These operations have been going on for some time past.

The Collector's request for a grant of clothing to relief-workers from the new "Famine Relief Fund" also deserves attention.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th February 1897, Mis. No. 1535:—

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 24th February 1897, No. C.

In making enquiries as to the circumstances of relief workers, I have met with a few cases of individuals who were compelled to share their wage with some dependant who was physically unable to attend a kitchen. It seems to me that such cases could be most suitably and economically dealt with by the grant of a money dole, to be paid to the relief worker who is saddled with dependants of this kind.

2. The grant of money doles is permitted by section 92 of the Famine Code, but in other sections this form of relief seems to require the sanction of Government.

3. To enable me to test the genuineness of such cases of distress, I shall probably require some extra staff, and I therefore have the honour to request that I may be permitted to entertain Circle Inspectors from time to time as may be found necessary. I beg to assure the Board that I will not engage a single one until I am convinced that he is needed, but it would facilitate work if I were free to employ them without the delay inseparable from an application for and grant of sanction by the Government. As a case in point, I would instance the delay that has occurred in sanctioning special Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars for dealing with applications for loans.

Resolution—dated 27th Febuary 1897, Mis. No. 1535.

Submitted for the orders of Government with an expression of the Board's concurrence in the view of the Collector that special measures are necessary to relieve the labourers on works from the strain of supporting their dependants.

2. Enquiries as to the existence of infirm dependants and other destitutes in villages should, in the first place, be prosecuted by the village officers and the ordinary revenue staff; but the latter are at present overburdened with revenue work, and the required investigation should be made by an officer of higher rank than an ordinary Revenue Inspector if the interests of the public purse are to be safe-guarded. In G.Os., No. 760, Revenue, dated 30th December 1896, and Mis. No. 255, dated 16th January 1897, the Government has laid it down that the employment of Circle Inspectors is at present unnecessary. The Board respectfully request that these orders may be reconsiderd.

3. In a separate Proceedings, the Board has requested information as to the bearing of G.O., No. 67, Revenue, dated 3rd February 1897, on the grant of money doles under section 92 of the Code. The Board does not recommend the grant of such doles, but rather of grain doles under section 83 in cases such as those specified by the Collector of Bellary.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Bellary.

Order—No. 218, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded, with reference to G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897.

2. Orders have been issued for the appointment of Circle Inspectors wherever necessary.

3. The young and infirm dependants who attend at the works but will not go to the kitchens attached may be given money doles which may be paid to the actual worker. Dependants that do not attend at the works may, at the discretion of the Collector, be dealt with under section 64 or sections 83 and 85; money doles should not be given in these cases except when kitchen relief or grain doles are found to be quite impracticable.

4. The charitable endeavours of Paramma and of the Bellary public deserve commendation.

5. The attention of the Committee of the Charitable Famine Relief Fund will be drawn to the Collector's remark about cloths to relief-workers in his fortnightly narrative for the period ending 31st January.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Honourary Secretaries, Charitable Famine Relief Fund.

Exd. Md. Pahilvan.

80 Copies.