

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 1159W

DATED 5th May 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine

Proceedings, Revenue Dept, recording Board's Proceedings submitting the fortnightly - narrative of the Godavari district for the period ending 25th February 1897, communicated to the S.E. I circle.

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E. Current No: 4110

N. 1030 W of 12-4-97
271 W of 27-1-97

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G.O., No. 246, 13th April 1897.

N^o 7754 W of 5. 5-97

Commenced to

APRIL.

~~Rev~~ J. S. I. Cullen

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S. S. I. / *cuin*
with 5th

Q 7/5/77 Revises to 10/5/77

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Gódávári district for the period ending 25th February 1897.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 24th March 1897, No. 245. :—

Read—the following fortnightly narrative of the Special Assistant Agent's Division, Gódvári, from 11th February to 25th February 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Crops—*Bhadráchalam*.—Harvest completed. Results already reported. *Polavaram*.—Harvest castor plants standing; poor. *Yellavaram*.—There are good tobacco and dumpa gardens. *Chódavaramu*.—Tobacco and castor plants are flourishing.

Fodder—*Bhadráchalam*.—Sufficient. *Polavaram*.—Sufficient. *Yellavaram*.—Deficient. *Chódavaramu*.—Barely sufficient.

Water-supply—*Bhadráchalam*.—Deficient in the interior villages for drinking purposes. The people have to go a long way for water and there can only get it in small quantities. *Polavaram*.—Sufficient for drinking purposes; inadequate for agricultural purposes. *Yellavaram*.—Many villagers have to go a long way and get water for drinking purposes. *Chódavaramu*.—Many villagers have to go a long way and get water for drinking purposes.

Agricultural Operations—*Bhadráchalam*.—Podus are being cut for next year's cultivation. *Polavaram*.—Nil. *Yellavaram*.—Nil. *Chódavaramu*.—Podus are being cut.

Cattle—*Bhadráchalam*.—In good condition. *Polavaram*.—Generally in good condition, but cattle diseases prevail in some places. *Yellavaram*.—There are cattle diseases in Dutcharti Mutta. *Chódavaramu*.—In fair condition.

General remarks on above subjects.—The Deputy Tahsildar of Yellavaram reports there was no rain during the fortnight. Elsewhere the rain that fell between the 17th and 21st has somewhat improved prospects. In Bhadráchalam the outturn of Ippa flowers can now be looked forward to with more confidence. In Polavaram the difficulty of getting drinking water has been diminished. The rain also was good for roots of all kinds. At Bhadráchalam itself over one inch and a half of rain fell. The amounts at other places are unknown.

CONDITION OF PEOPLE.

On works.—There are not many works going on at present in the division. Where there are such, the condition of the people employed is satisfactory.

In villages.—The jungle people are living on roots—chiefly the root of the black wood tree—, toddy, &c., and a little grain. To get some annas so as to buy grain, the Koyas sell firewood, leaves, jungle grass, &c. Their condition is fairly good.

Mortality.—Nil.

Sickness.—Fevers are prevalent.

Remarks.—There should be no anxiety about the people of Chódavaramu and Yellavaram divisions. The jungles there are splendid and the hill people should certainly be able to live on the produce. In Polavaram there is ample work available for those who want it and there is easy communication with Rajahmundry which tends to keep prices steady. As for Bhadráchalam, please *vide* the separate report which has been called for.

RELIEF MEASURES.

Relief works.—None in the fortnight under report.

Remarks.—A test-relief work has been opened since at Kolanugudem in Bhadráchalam taluk close to Chinnampeta. It was opened on the 3rd March. The work proposed was a road to Lachigudem mere cutting through the jungle. Only twenty-nine people (Koyas) came the first day, but on hearing the wages they shouldered their axes and went off. No one has come since up to date (6th). I intend to keep the work open a week or ten days. It will then be closed and a full report sent.

GRAIN SUPPLY.

Private trade active or not; whether in rice or dry staple food-grain.—Private trade is, on the whole, active both in rice and cholom. But at Dumagudem and Bhadráchalam large quantities of cholom cannot be bought.

State of the imports by rail or sea of rice or other staple food-grain.—Nil.

Known or estimated stock in taluks.—*Bhadráchalam*—10 putties rice, 2 putties cholom. *Dumagudem*—15 putties rice, 3 putties cholom. *Yellavaram*—50 candies. Elsewhere brought in as required from plain taluks.

STATE OF MARKETS.

Prices at chief markets of principal food-grains.

	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.	Cumbu.	Rising at	Falling at	Stationary at
Bhadráchalam	10	14 in Bhadráchalam. 18 in Marigudem. 20 in Rekapalle.	..	..	..	..	Addatigela in
Polavaram	10	16	18	..	..	..	Yellavaram
Yellavaram	10	14	16	..	..	..	division.
Chódavaramu	9 or 10	..	..	..	..	..	

Taluks or places visited by the Special Assistant Collector during the fortnight.—Woddigudem, Kunavaram, Murmur, Gowridevipetta, Bhadráchalam.

The delay in submitting this is due to the fact that two of the narratives were not received by me till I got to Kolanugudem on the 3rd of March.

Endorsement by V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Gódvári, dated Dharmavaram, 13th March 1897, Dis. No. 879-Ver.

Forwarded. The total failure of the test relief work opened at Kolanugudem in the Bhadráchalam range of that taluk up to date seems to indicate that famine relief works are not required. The work is being kept open a little longer to give every one in want of employment a chance of coming to it, but there is no likelihood of their doing so, if the Ippa flower crop turns out to be a fair one, and this now seems likely, I am glad to see. The Special Assistant Agent, who is now in the Manigudem range, informs me demi-officially that he will open a test relief work there also, if on inquiry of the village headmen and others he thinks there is the least chance of such a work succeeding, as, however, he informs me at the same time that what distress there is, is most severe in the northern part of the Bhadráchalam range and prices are there higher. I don't think such a work if he opens one will succeed in attracting labourers. He has been directed to keep the Kolanugudem test relief work open until the 12th instant at any rate and then only to close it if there appears to be no longer any danger of the Ippa flower crop proving a failure.

Resolution—dated 24th March 1897, No. 245.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rains that fell between the 17th and 21st February have improved prospects in Bhadrachalam, although, in the interior villages, the water-supply is still deficient for drinking purposes.

3. The Ippa flower crop which threatened to become a failure, has revived, and if the crop turns out to be a fair one, as seems likely, there need be no further anxiety on account of the condition of the taluk.

4. The cattle are in good condition and fodder is generally available.

5. As reported in the review of the last fortnightly narrative, the test work opened in the Bhadrachalam range of the taluk failed to attract labourers, but the Collector has ordered that the work should be kept open until the success of the Ippa flower crop is assured. It is also proposed to open, if it be found necessary, another test work in the Manigudem range, where however, matters are not so bad as in the Bhadrachalam range. It is not certain whether the Koyas understood the terms on which the test work was opened; that their wives and children over seven would be received on the work and that their children under seven would be fed. If this was not clear to them their refusal to work was not unnatural.

6. The report is not prepared in the prescribed form (*vide* form K, appendix II to the Famine Code), printed copies of which were supplied to the Collector with B.P., dated 10th February 1897, No. 1026.

7. The Collector would do well to ask Mr. Ward to keep an eye on the Koyas in the affected tract of Bhadrachalam, and to report if he considers that they are falling off in condition for want of work.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

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

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 246, Revenue, dated 13th April 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Adm. Secy.

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.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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Government {1897} of Madras.
REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 246, 13th April 1897.

Order thereon No. 1154 of 1897
communicated to
the Suptg. Engineer I circle.
(True extract)
/s/ D. M. C.

APRIL.

I.
The Suptg. Engineer I Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Gó dávari district for the period ending 25th February 1897.

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Agricultural Operations—*Bhadrácalam*.—Podus are being cut for next year's cultivation. *Polavaram*.—Nil. *Yellavaram*.—Nil. *Chódavaramu*.—Podus are being cut.

Cattle—*Bhadrácalam*.—In good condition. *Polavaram*.—Generally in good condition, but cattle diseases prevail in some places. *Yellavaram*.—There are cattle diseases in Dutcharti Mutta. *Chódavaramu*.—In fair condition.

General remarks on above subjects.—The Deputy Tahsildar of Yellavaram reports there was no rain during the fortnight. Elsewhere the rain that fell between the 17th and 21st has somewhat improved prospects. In *Bhadrácalam* the outturn of Ippa flowers can now be looked forward to with more confidence. In *Polavaram* the difficulty of getting drinking water has been diminished. The rain also was good for roots of all kinds. At *Bhadrácalam* itself over one inch and a half of rain fell. The amounts at other places are unknown.

CONDITION OF PEOPLE.

On works.—There are not many works going on at present in the division. Where there are such, the condition of the people employed is satisfactory.

In villages.—The jungle people are living on roots—chiefly the root of the black wood tree—, toddy, &c., and a little grain. To get some annas so as to buy grain, the Koyas sell firewood, leaves, jungle grass, &c. Their condition is fairly good.

Mortality.—Nil.

Sickness.—Fevers are prevalent.

Remarks.—There should be no anxiety about the people of *Chódavaramu* and *Yellavaram* divisions. The jungles there are splendid and the hill people should certainly be able to live on the produce. In *Polavaram* there is ample work available for those who want it and there is easy communication with Rajahmundry which tends to keep prices steady. As for *Bhadrácalam*, please *vide* the separate report which has been called for.

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Relief works.—None in the fortnight under report.

Remarks.—A test-relief work has been opened since at Kolanugudem in *Bhadrácalam* taluk close to Chinnampeta. It was opened on the 3rd March. The work proposed was a road to Lachigudem mere cutting through the jungle. Only twenty-nine people (Koyas) came the first day, but on hearing the wages they shouldered their axes and went off. No one has come since up to date (6th). I intend to keep the work open a week or ten days. It will then be closed and a full report sent.

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Private trade active or not; whether in rice or dry staple food-grain.—Private trade is, on the whole, active both in rice and cholum. But at Dumagudem and *Bhadrácalam* large quantities of cholum cannot be bought.

State of the imports by rail or sea of rice or other staple food-grain.—Nil.

Known or estimated stock in taluks.—*Bhadrácalam*—10 putties rice, 2 putties cholum. *Dumagudem*—15 putties rice, 3 putties cholum. *Yellavaram*—50 candies. Elsewhere brought in as required from plain taluks.

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*Order thereon No. 1159 W of 5.5.9
Communicated to the*

Supy. Engineer I Circle

(True extract)

15/4/97

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To

The Supy. Engineer I Circle.

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