

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 1274 W

DATED 17. May 1897

one copy taken for
ms 4965/97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Lamine: Pros: Avenue Dept reading,
with remarks Board's Pros. Submitting
the for insight - narrative of the
Caujan & Co for period ending 15th March
1897 Compt. to S.E. I. C. C.

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

O.L.S. 87
R-14.5

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 26th March 1897, No. 253 :—

Read—the following fortnightly narrative of the District of Ganjám for the fortnight ending 15th March 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

District rainfall.						Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
In the fortnight	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Up to the fortnight from April	...	...	...	...	...	34.06	44.60

Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—No rain. On the 8th instant there was prospect of good rainfall but the high wind which then prevailed drove away the clouds. Drinking water-supply is generally sufficient, except in a few villages where steps are taken to sink pits or wells. Water-supply for irrigation purposes is insufficient. Rs. 87 have been sanctioned by the Taluk Board on account of water-supply during the fortnight. *Berhampur division.*—Rainfall nil. Water is getting more and more scarce. The worst feature Mr. Rice has noticed is, that even where water remains it is getting filthy and stinking owing to the imprudence of the people. There is no supply for irrigation except where enterprising ryots have dug wells. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.*—Rainfall nil; but owing to the good rainfall in the previous fortnight in the zemindari tracts and in Purushottapur the ryots have ploughed up the fields. Most of the tanks have received a good supply both for irrigation and drinking purposes. In places where there was no rain arrangements are being made to dig pits in beds of tanks for drinking purposes. *Chicacole division.*—Rainfall nil. The supply is diminishing in river, channels, tanks and wells. Some wells and most tanks are dried up. In Parlákimedi water is sufficient for drinking purposes except in a few villages.

AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS AND CONDITION OF STANDING CROPS.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—Ploughing operations are carried on at places. Ragi and green-gram are in good condition. *Berhampur division.*—The people are deepening fields in many places, and this employs a small amount of labour. Standing crops under wells, the only source of irrigation, are fair; but with the exception of tobacco near Jarada Mr. Rice has only noticed isolated patches of ragi, cholum and sugarcane. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.*—Fields are being repaired to a small extent. Summer ragi, chillies and sugarcane are the standing crops. Ragi crop in parts has been slightly damaged by insects; but with this drawback which is not much, it is in good condition. *Chicacole division.*—Agricultural operations nil. Summer ragi, chillies, tobacco and onions are thriving in some villages. Green-gram and gingelly in the Chicacole taluk have been almost entirely destroyed by caterpillars in the last few days.

SUPPLY OF FODDER AND PASTURE AND CONDITION OF CATTLE.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—Fodder is sufficient but pasture is insufficient. Condition of cattle is generally good and mortality among them is on the decrease. *Berhampur division.*—Fodder is still procurable and no complaints are made. Cattle show no signs of deterioration but pasture is getting scarce. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.*—Pasture is scarce and fodder can be had freely. Forage is reviving where there has been rain. The condition of cattle is good. *Chicacole division.*—Fodder and pasture in Chicacole are scanty. The condition of

cattle is not reported as bad. In other taluks fodder is available but pasture is scarce; and the condition of cattle is reported to be good.

General remarks on the above subjects.—Ragi and green-gram have come to perfection in places. The price of ragi has slightly fallen in expectation of a good harvest and is likely to fall much more when the new crop comes to market. The water-supply is a grave anxiety and every effort is being made to repair tanks to sink temporary and permanent wells and to dig pits in tank beds. This has been done in a good many villages where there has been no rain and works are in progress in several more, especially in Berhampur division.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in seers of 80 tolas per rupee for the week ending 13th March 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
1. Russellkonda ..	12.00	12.50	15.93	15.93	The price of rice fell at six stations. The importation of some cart-loads of paddy from Banapur and Nayaghar as reported by the Head-quarters Deputy Collector and of some rice from Jeypore side as reported by the Parlákimedi Deputy Tahsildar may have caused the fall. The price of ragi also fell at five stations which appears to be due to new supply at some and want of demand at others. The rise at Berhampur may be due to insufficient supply to the market but I am calling for explanation.
2. Suradá ..	9.25	10.17	15.44	15.44	
3. Aska ..	9.79	10.22	12.80	13.40	
4. Purushottapur ..	12.50	12.50	14.50	14.50	
5. Chatrapur ..	9.50	9.50	12.50	12.50	
6. Berhampur ..	10.00	10.50	16.53	16.08	
7. Ichchhapuram ..	9.50	9.50	14.40	14.40	
8. Sompéta ..	10.72	10.72	14.65	14.98	
9. Parlákimedi ..	9.75	10.50	15.60	17.55	
10. Takkali ..	10.10	10.10	15.22	15.22	
11. Narasannapet ..	10.50	10.87	16.25	16.90	
12. Chicacole ..	9.73	9.73	15.02	16.41	
Total ..	123.34	126.81	178.84	183.31	
Average ..	10.28	10.57	14.90	15.28	

ACTIVITY OF TRADE.

(1) *Private trade, active or not, whether in rice or dry staple food-grains.*—Supplies are available at the rates quoted in the various marts, but it is reported that the trade within the district is generally dull. Some cart-loads of paddy have been imported into the district from Banapur and Nyaghar.

(2) *Imports and exports by rail or sea of rice or other staple food-grains.*—Exports and imports of food-grains by rail are as follow :—

	Maunds.
Exports	4,790
Imports	1,578

Three thousand nine hundred and forty-two maunds of food-grains and pulses have been exported and 7 maunds imported by sea, respectively.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—The condition of the people on Kaliyapalli test-work, which has been converted into an ordinary work during the fortnight under report, was excellent.

(2) *In villages.*—The people are still getting on without relief and the majority show no signs of distress although they are beginning to stint themselves in the matter of food. Weavers are struggling hard to maintain themselves. A good many old and infirm persons will no doubt feel the stoppage of grain doles as they absolutely decline to come to kitchens. The condition of the lower classes of people in zemindaries is reported to be bad.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Labouring classes are beginning to feel want of employment but still demand ordinary wages. Fevers slightly exist in certain parts. Small-pox exists in parts of Goomsur, Aska and Suradā taluks but is not so virulent as before. Cholera, deaths 8. *Berhampur division.*—No deaths are due immediately to starvation, but one or two suicides are reported indirectly due to want of food. Fever and small-pox are prevalent here and there. Cholera, deaths 8. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.*—No deaths from starvation are reported. There is small-pox and cholera in places. Cholera, deaths 36. *Chicacole division.*—No deaths from starvation. Cholera and small-pox are still generally prevalent. Cholera, deaths 63.

Remarks.—Statement showing the number of prisoners in jails of the Ganjam district:—

Stations.	Number of admissions in the present fortnight.	Average of the numbers of the corresponding periods of the three previous years.
1. District Jail, Berhampur	25	14
2. Hill Jail, Russellkonda	2	6
3. Sub-jail, Chatrapur	3	3
4. Do. Purushottapuram	11	4
5. Do. Aska	16	31.6
6. Do. Suradā	1	3.3
7. Do. Ichchhāpuram	12	8.66
8. Do. Sompéta	75	8
9. Do. Tekkali	6	3
10. Do. Parlākīmedi	14	5.6
11. Do. Narsannapéta	3	6
12. Do. Chicacole	4	5
13. Do. Balliguda	3	4.6
14. Do. Udayagiri	1	13
15. Do. Ramagiri	4	6

116 emigrants including children under the Act, and

125 free emigrants including children to ports beyond the Presidency but within British India;

1 free emigrant to a port within the Presidency, and

340 free emigrants including children to ports in British Burma.

Total ... 582 have emigrated from the district.

Large sums are still being remitted from Burma by emigrants to their families remaining in the district.

The Oriyas would rather die than go to kitchens or bring their women for work. Mr. Rice, however, intends starting test-works in two or three places in his division in the course of the next fortnight. He reports that there are 2,000 to 3,000 coolies engaged on the salt works at Surla and that tank repairs and water-supply, the ordinary works of Local Funds and the Public Works Department employ a certain amount of labour. The following kitchens have been opened in the district during the fortnight:—

- 2 kitchens in Tekkali taluk.
- 1 kitchen in Ichchhāpuram taluk.
- 1 do. in Sompéta taluk
- 1 do. in Ganjam do.
- 1 do. in Suradā do.

Total ... 6

and some more kitchens are under construction and will be opened during the next fortnight. Mr. Rice reports that kitchens cannot in any sense be considered a substitute for grain doles, as no caste people will come.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

On works.—The Kaliyapalle test-work having been converted into an ordinary work during the fortnight under report, the number employed thereon is not given here.

GRATUITOUS RELIEF.

Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluk.	Number relieved						Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of relief workers' children, infirm dependents receiving money doles.	
	At kitchens.		In poor houses.		In villages.		This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.
	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.				
Purushottapuram	..	..	..	..	12	29	6	4	..	..
Ganjam	..	..	..	..	..	116	..	18	..	..
Suradā	..	..	..	..	..	41	..	12	..	..
Bodogoda	..	..	..	..	..	35	..	6	..	..
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	317	..	61	..	..
Sompéta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Parlakimedi	..	..	..	..	1	* 279	1	..	..	..
Tekkali	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	8	..	..
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	2	..	..
Ichchhāpuram	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	..	..	..
Aska	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..
Narsannapéta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	344	..	..	..	18	846	..	111	..	..

* This figure was for last day of the week ending 27th February 1897.

REMARKS.—Figures entered in each column headed "this fortnight" are for the last day of the fortnight, viz., 13th, the date on which the Divisional Officers closed their reports.

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work. The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that some gentlemen at Russellkonda and Aska are giving a single meal to 25 and 35 beggars, respectively.

Remarks.—Weavers require advances, but have not as yet come forward to work for C class famine wages. It is expected that they will agree in some places in the next week.

Inspections.—The Deputy Collector, Goomsur, visited 20 villages, the Senior Assistant Collector 16 villages and the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 7 villages in their divisions. The Principal Assistant Collector was in the Parlākīmedi Agency from 1st to 5th and inspected Rayaghada, Komalasingi, Serango, Gumma and Gyba. From 5th to 8th he was in Parlākīmedi and Narsannapéta taluks and visited Haddubangi, Parlākīmedi and Narsannapéta.

The Collector has visited the following places during the fortnight:—

- (1) Berhampur.
- (2) Ichchhāpuram.
- (3) Kanchili.
- (4) Sompéta.
- (5) Ganjam.
- (6) Humma.

Taluka.	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		
Goonsur ..	..	..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	..	Rs. ..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	..	..		
Chicacole ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1,625	..	..	..	..	6	1,625		
Bahampur ..	..	..	..	..	2	300	..	..	2	250	707	61,385	..	..	2	250	709	64,835		
Telaka.	Purchase of fodder.				Cattle and seed-grain.				Total.											
	Constructed or re-paired.		Under construction or repairs.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.					
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Goonsur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	715	13	600	637	30,127	19	715	13	600	637	30,127
Chicacole ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	525	..	..	..	..	10	525
Bahampur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,836	1,02,544	..	..	..	1,835	1,02,544	

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rains of the previous fortnight have somewhat improved the prospects and the situation is not so bad as it was in January last. Agricultural operations are carried on to some extent and the standing crops are generally in good condition. Pasture is still scarce, but sufficient fodder is available. Prices have become easier and the fall in the price of ragi, which is stated to be caused by the expectation of a good harvest, is likely to continue. Trade is reported to be generally dull, but the markets are well supplied. The net balance of trade is on the side of exports.

3. The condition of the people is good and the majority show no signs of distress. Relief on works is not availed of, and the only test work that was in operation has been converted into an ordinary work. The grant of gratuitous relief has been, as explained in previous reports, restricted to the offer of cooked food in kitchens, and, on the last day of the fortnight under review, 344 persons were fed in kitchens and 18 persons relieved in villages apparently by grant of grain doles. Six kitchens have been opened, and it is proposed to open some more shortly. Considering the strong prejudice evinced by the Uriyas against the acceptance of cooked food, the Board considers it desirable to authorise the Collector to grant grain doles in really deserving cases. The question of when to hold off and when to give in to caste prejudices in Ganjām has always been a difficult one, and the Collector, on whom the responsibility rests, should have a certain latitude. He should give in before the strain approaches to breaking point.

The condition of the lower classes in zamindaris is reported to be bad. The Collector should cause careful enquiries to be made and propose such measures of relief as may be necessary.

It is stated that one or two suicides are reported as due indirectly to want of food.

4. The weaving classes have not yet availed themselves of the scheme of weavers' relief approved for the district in B.P., dated 5th March 1897, No. 191.

5. No further figures regarding the jail population need be submitted. Those reported, however, for Sompéta, an affected tract, are not without significance.

6. The report recorded has some gleams of light, and the recent rainfall, which will no doubt be further supplemented, has encouraged cultivation in parts. The disposal of loans should be pushed on. As is usual in Ganjām, these will not be all recovered, but the majority will, and anything which gives an impetus to agricultural work and helps to employ the poor is of present value.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASAR,
Secretary.

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

ORDER—No. 271, Revenue, dated 27th April 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government is of opinion that in extreme and exceptional cases, such as in Ganjam, where the people will not go to kitchens nor allow their women to work at relief works, the difficulty should be met

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by entrusting petty works such as the digging and cleaning of wells to village headmen. The Board of Revenue is requested to issue instructions accordingly. Under G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, the Collector has discretion to give gratuitous relief either by the grant of grain doles or by the offer of cooked food at kitchens.

(True Extract.)

A. M. H. S. S.

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).

„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Mrd. Shaik Karim.

70 Copies.

Government (1897) of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 271, 27th April 1897.

Order thereon No. 127 of 17-5-97

Communicated to the
Supts. Engineer I Circle.

APRIL.

(True extract)

W. D. R. C.

To
The Supts. Engineer I Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Ganjam district
for the period ending 15th March 1897.

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and some more kitchens are under construction and will be opened during the next fortnight. Mr. Rice reports that kitchens cannot in any sense be considered a substitute for grain doles, as no caste people will come.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

On works.—The Kaliyapalle test-work having been converted into an ordinary work during the fortnight under report, the number employed thereon is not given here.

GRATUITOUS RELIEF.

Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise —

Taluks.	Number relieved						Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of relief workers' children, infirm dependents receiving money doles.	
	At kitchens.		In poor houses.		In villages.					
	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.
Purushottapuram	..	..	..	..	12	29	6	4	..	..
Ganjām	..	3	..	..	..	116	..	18	..	..
Suradā	..	3	..	..	..	41	..	12	..	..
Bodogoda	..	..	..	..	..	35	..	6	..	..
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sompéta	..	27	..	..	..	317	..	61	..	..
Peddakimedi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tekkali	..	302	..	..	1	* 279	1	..	..	..
Goamsur	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	8	..	..
Ichchhāpuram	..	9	..	..	..	11	..	2	..	..
Aska	..	..	..	..	3	..	2	..	..	..
Narsannapéta	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..
Total	..	344	..	..	18	846	..	111	..	..

* This figure was for last day of the week ending 27th February 1897.

REMARKS.—Figures entered in each column headed "this fortnight" are for the last day of the fortnight, viz., 13th, the date on which the Divisional Officers closed their reports.

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work. The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that some gentlemen at Russellkonda and Aska are giving a single meal to 25 and 35 beggars, respectively.

Remarks.—Weavers require advances, but have not as yet come forward to work for C class famine wages. It is expected that they will agree in some places in the next week.

Inspections.—The Deputy Collector, Goomsur, visited 20 villages, the Senior Assistant Collector 16 villages and the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 7 villages in their divisions. The Principal Assistant Collector was in the Parlākimedi Agency from 1st to 5th and inspected Rayaahada, Komalasingi, Serango, Gumma and Gyba. From 5th to 8th he was in Parlākimedi and Narsannapéta taluks and visited Haddubangi, Parlākimedi and Narsannapéta.

The Collector has visited the following places during the fortnight:—

(1) Berhampur.	(4) Sompéta.
(2) Ichchhāpuram,	(5) Ganjam.
(3) Kanchili.	(6) Humma.

Taluk.

Submitted for the information of Government.

3. The condition of the people is good and the majority show no signs of distress. Relief on works is not availed of, and the only test work that was in operation has been converted into an ordinary work. The grant of gratuitous relief has been, as explained in previous reports, restricted to the offer of cooked food in kitchens, and, on the last day of the fortnight under review, 344 persons were fed in kitchens and 18 persons relieved in villages apparently by grant of grain doles. Six kitchens have been opened, and it is proposed to open some more shortly. Considering the strong prejudice evinced by the Uriyas against the acceptance of cooked food, the Board considers it desirable to authorise the Collector to grant grain doles in really deserving cases. The question of when to hold off and when to give in to caste prejudices in Ganjām has always been a difficult one, and the Collector, on whom the responsibility rests, should have a certain latitude. He should give in before the strain approaches to breaking point.

It is stated that one or two suicides are reported as due indirectly to want of food.

4. The weaving classes have not yet availed themselves of the scheme of weavers' relief approved for the district in B.P., dated 5th March 1897, No. 191.

5. No further figures regarding the jail population need be submitted. Those reported, however, for Sompéta, an affected tract, are not without significance.

6. The report recorded has some gleams of light, and the recent rainfall, which will no doubt be further supplemented, has encouraged cultivation in parts. The disposal of loans should be pushed on. As is usual in Ganjam, these will not be all recovered, but the majority will, and anything which gives an impetus to agricultural work and helps to employ the poor is of present value.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

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

ORDER—No. 271, Revenue, dated 27th April 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government is of opinion that in extreme and exceptional cases, such as in Ganjām, where the people will not go to kitchens nor allow their women to work at relief works, the difficulty should be met

by entrusting petty works such as the digging and cleaning of wells to village headmen. The Board of Revenue is requested to issue instructions accordingly. Under G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, the Collector has discretion to give gratuitous relief either by the grant of grain doles or by the offer of cooked food at kitchens.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).

„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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