Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 1473 W

DATED 31.5.97.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine: Pros: Revenue Dept. recording with remark Board's Pros: submitting the fortnightly narrative of the Ganjam Dt. for period ending 31st March 1897, Cont'd 6 S.E. / Circle.

Gc 1/6(97)

[. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 2/6

BACK PAPERS.

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

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

Public works (1897) Department

Current No: 4965

Government (1897) of Madras.

REVENUE.

No. 1274 W d/ 17-5-97
1046 W d/ 14-4-97

Recd. & Regd. { 20-5— } 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies 16

G.O., No. 305, 7th May 1897.

B/ No: 1473 W d/ 31-5-97

MAY.

Communicated to the Supdg Engr I Circle.

[illegible] 25/5/97

S. E. I Circle
[illegible]
2 copies to [illegible]

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with a remark, Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st March 1897.. — —

0. L S. 134
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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 26th April 1897, No. 315 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the District of Ganjám for the fortnight ending 31st March 1897 :—

State of the country.

Rainfall and water supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	1·06	·40
Up to the fortnight from April	35·12	45·00

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—There has been rain in the division as noted below :—

	INCHES.
Russellkonda	·45
Aska	·28
Suradá	·15

This rain also extended over many villages of the Chinna Kimedi, Serugada, and Dhárakóta estates and the Goomsur taluk. On the 27th instant clouds formed again. Water-supply is generally sufficient for drinking purposes, except in a few villages, where steps are taken to sink pits or wells. Water-supply is, however, insufficient for irrigation purposes.

Berhampur Division.—There has been rain in the division as noted below :—

	INCHES.
Berhampur	·53
Sómpéta	1·03
Ichchhápuram	·55

The Manager of Pedda Kemedi reports that there has been a good fall of rain at Digupudi and its environs. The Senior Assistant Collector Mr. Rice reports that water-supply is still very insufficient and steps are being taken in a number of villages to improve it.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.—There has been 44 cents of rain at Chatrapur, 2 cents at Purushottapuram and 30 cents at Rambha. The rain appears to have been general throughout the division. This has enabled the ryots to begin ploughing operations wherever there is moisture. Water-supply is becoming scarce in places and steps are taken to dig pits in beds of tanks.

Chicacole Division.—

	INCHES.
Chicacole	5·01
Tekkali	1·28
Narasannapet	1·98
Parlákimedi	1·23

Water-supply has been greatly improved by the heavy rains on the 24th and 25th instant. Tanks near Chicacole have a good supply of water now and in other parts, the wells are not likely to fail.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—Ploughing operations are still carried on. Ragi and sugar-cane are thriving in places. Green-gram and ragi are being harvested. Outturn middling. *Berhampur Division.*—There is a good deal of land improvement going on and new bunds are to be seen everywhere. The rain coming, as it has, in February and March just when things began to look gloomy, has had an excellent effect in retarding serious results. The ryots have turned out to plough up the ground while it is soft to sow gingelly and sama and to prepare the land for paddy. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—Fields are being repaired to a small extent. Summer ragi, chillies, sugar-cane and oil-seeds are the standing crops and they are all in a moderate condition. *Chicacole Division.*—In Tekkali ploughing after the rains is beginning and the ragi under wells is in good condition. In Narasannapeta, ragi, tobacco, gingelly and sugarcane are thriving. In Chicacole rain has slightly damaged the gingelly but improved the ragi and castor-oil. In Parlákimedi standing crops are good and ploughing will begin soon.

Supply of fodder and Pasture and condition of cattle.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—Fodder is sufficient but pasture is rare ; condition of cattle is generally good but cattle diseases exist in parts of Goomsur taluk. *Berhampur Division.*—Fodder is still to be had and the outlook of pasture is certainly improved owing to recent rains. Haripur and its neighbourhood is full of springs and down there grass is abundant. Cattle have not shown signs of deterioration. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—Forage is reviving and fodder is sufficient. The condition of cattle continues to be good. *Chicacole Division.*—Fodder is available. Pasture is scarce, but improving ; condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on above subjects.—The rainfall has been general in the district and heavy in the sub-division. Cattle are in excellent condition. General prospects are much improved. From what I have seen on my tours, there need now be no further anxiety on the score of want of pasturage. The country round Parlákimedi is as green as it is in monsoon time, while at Rambha in the north, there is no want of grass. Ploughing is generally in progress. Water-supply greatly improved. Summer ragi under wells middling to fair. Summer paddy in Parlákimedi Agency in good condition.

Food-supplies and the Market.

Prices of Principal food-grains at principal markets in seers of 80 tolas per rupee for the week ending 27th March 1897.

Stations.	Rice. End of last fortnight, raw.	Rice. End of current fortnight. Raw.	Rice. End of current fortnight. Boiled.	Ragi. End of last fortnight.	Ragi. End of current fortnight.	Remarks.
1. Russelkonda	12·50	*12·50	..	15·93	15·93	The price of rice is stationary at all the stations except Aska where it fell and the fall may be due to the import of some paddy from Nyaghur, *viâ* Aska-Korchilli road. The price of ragi rose at three stations and fell at two. These fluctuations are probably due to the quantities available for sale in the markets.
2. Suradá	10·17	10·17	11·37	15·44	14·62	
3. Aska	10·22	11·12	12·56	13·40	14·25	
4. Purushottapuram ..	12·50	12·50	12·50	14·50	14·50	
5. Chatrapur	9·50	9·50	11·78	12·50	12·50	
6. Berhampur	10·50	10·50	11·50	16·08	15·19	
7. Ichchhápuram ..	9·50	9·50	10·00	14·40	14·40	
8. Sómpéta	10·72	10·72	11·81	14·98	14·98	
9. Parlákimedi	10·50	10·50	..	17·55	16·90	
10. Tekkali	10·10	10·10	..	15·22	16·00	
11. Narasannapéta ..	10·87	10·87	..	16·90	16·90	
12. Chicacole	9·73	9·73	..	16·41	16·41	
Total ..	126·81	125·71	81·52	183·31	182·58	
Average ..	10·57	10·47	11·65	15·28	15·21	

* This may be a mistake for boiled rice. The Tahsildar has been asked to report prices of both raw and boiled rice.

Activity of Trade.

(1) *Private trade.*—Supplies are available at the rates quoted in the various marts, but it is reported that the trade within the district is generally dull. Hundred and twenty cart-loads of paddy are reported to have been imported into the district from Nyaghur *viâ* Aska-Korchilli road.

(2) Exports and imports of food-grains by rail are as follow :—

	Mds.
Exports	5,942
Imports	2,406

Two hundred and sixty-eight maunds of food-grains and pulses have been exported by sea. No imports by sea.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—The condition of the people on test works opened in the fortnight under report is generally good.

(2) *In villages.*—The condition of the lower classes of people in zamindaries requires careful watching. The classes which feel the distress most are (*a*) professional beggars, (*b*) Pariahs, such as Dandasees, Bavuries and the like. The mass of the people show no signs of emaciation. The ryot classes are in fact strong or robust, both children and adults.

Sickness and Mortality.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Labouring classes do not find sufficient employment, but still demand ordinary wages. Fevers slightly exist in certain parts. Small-pox exist in parts of Goomsur, Aska and Suradá taluks, but it has much abated now. Cholera deaths 12. *Berhampur Division.*—No deaths from want of food have been reported, but owing to bad water, cholera and small-pox are still found in several villages. The cholera is sporadic and Mr. Rice reports that it has not been introduced from Puri and that it generally runs a short and sharp course in a village. Cholera deaths 28. *Headquarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Small-pox is prevalent in places. Cholera deaths 11. *Chicacole Division.*—No deaths from starvation. Small-pox is prevalent here and there. Cholera is severe in Parlakimedi. Cholera deaths 88 :—

Statement showing the number of prisoners in jails of the Ganjám 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	27
2. Hill Jail, Russelkonda	2	12
3. Sub-Jail, Chatrapur	4	7·3
4. Do. Purushottapuram	20	4
5. Do. Aska	38	3·6
6. Do. Suradá	...	...
7. Do. Ichchhápuram	22	17
8. Do. Sómpéta	74	23·3
9. Do. Tekkali	...	1·6
10. Do. Parlákimedi	9	8
11. Do. Narsannapet	4	1·6
12. Do. Chicacole	...	13·3
13. Do. Balleguda	1	·3
14. Do. Udayagiri	5	13
15. Do. Ramagiri	8	·3

3 free emigrants to ports within Presidency.
210 emigrants including children under the Act ; and
34 free emigrants including children to ports beyond the Presidency, but within British India.
604 free emigrants including children to ports in British Burma.

851 have emigrated from the district.

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

The last rain has had a good effect in keeping the small-pox and cholera in check and the present rain will also do much good. The following kitchens have been opened in the district during the fortnight under report :—

One kitchen at Barwa, Sómpéta taluk.
Do. in Berhampur,
Do. in Parlákimedi.

And some more kitchens are under construction and will be opened during the next fortnight. Those who are fed in kitchens are either professional beggars or children belonging to the lowest and poorest classes of the people, but since the majority of the people including ryots and labourers appear to be in their normal condition it is clear that the distress is not yet severe.

Measures of Relief.

On works.—Work is wanted but wanted on piece-work system and not at famine rates. A small Local Fund work at Chammakhandi near Chatrapur started at rates slightly below normal on piece-work system attracted 2,470 labourers. According to piece-work these turned out slightly in excess of a B task. They worked hard and brought their meals with them. The estimate was exhausted in a week. There is no other Local Fund work available in this part. Estimates for extension of Rushikulya canal are under preparation in the Public Works Department. This will provide work for 2,000 coolies for one month. This and earthwork for railway from Gopalpur to Berhampur (if there is any chance of the latter) would afford sufficient labour in a part where work is most required. Two test works have been opened, one at Daigam near Purushottapuram and the other at Padmanabhapuram near Digupudi. Number on these test works on the last day not reported. The Head-quarters Deputy Collector reports that the latest particulars received regarding the former were for the 23rd instant and according to it 96 adults and 87 children were employed on that date. Mr. Rice reports that the latter work has since failed as the coolies did not work on famine wages. The Public Works Department officials with the Deputy Tahsildar of Tekkali opened a test work at Kotabommali to supply ballast for the East Coast Railway and the people refused to work on famine wages, as they get about As. 3 daily from contractors for breaking stone. A test work at Gottipally in Narasannapet taluk for the repairs of the Rajulu tank under the Local Fund Department was opened on the 17th instant, but this also totally failed and had to be abandoned and will be done on contract.

An attempt to re-open the test work at Bendikonda quarry in Tekkali taluk on the 29th failed signally. Not a single cooly appeared. The people are receiving large remittances from Rangoon, and ordinary work is sufficiently available. At Kasibugga 4 miles off, I could not get coolies to come to build a kitchen at less than As. 3 a day.

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 dependants receiving money doles.		Remarks.
	At kitchens.		In poor-houses.		In villages.						
	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	
Purushottapuram	..	..	..	..	19	12	7	6	..	..	The figures entered in column "This" are for the last day of the week ending 27th March 1897.
Ganjám	..	3	..	..	19	..	1	..	..	..	
Suradá	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Bodogada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Aska	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	2	..	..	
Berhampur	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Ichchhápuram	10	9	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	
Sómpét	50	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Tekkali	385	302	..	..	27	1	8	1	..	..	
Narasannapet	..	..	..	..	11	2	6	1	..	..	
Parlákimedi	89	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	558	344	..	..	80	18	24	10	..	..	

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work, but the Zamindar of Kallikóta and Attagada estates opened a kitchen at Haradamali near Kallikóta on the 12th March. The number that attended the kitchen on the 18th March was eleven. The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that some gentlemen at Aska and Russellkonda are giving a single meal to 25 and 20 beggars respectively. The Deputy Tahsildar of Aska reports that at Khalingi, an Uriya Brahmin feeds ten souls a day on the average. The grain dealers at Battili in the Parlákimedi taluk are reported to be feeding 250 people daily, but I doubt this statement. The Deputy Tahsildar has been ordered to verify it.

Some 3,500 coolies are daily employed on works in the Parlákimedi zemindari, at a daily wage of As. 1–6. No specific task being exacted.

Remarks.—The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that there is no necessity to open kitchens at Russellkonda and Aska. The kitchens recently opened at Chatrapur and Suradá have been abolished as even the low caste people refuse to attend them. Nothing has been spent in the fortnight under report on account of advances to weavers as they have not yet accepted Government relief. At Patapatnam (near Kimedi) weavers were in good condition and all looms fully employed.

Inspections.—The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, visited 29 villages, the Senior Assistant Collector 14 villages, the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 35 villages, and the Principal Assistant Collector four villages in their respective divisions.

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

1. Rambha.
2. Berhampur.
3. Biridi.
4. Sabilia.
5. Kondathevula.
6. Purushottapur.
7. Raipur.
8. Augu.
9. Bagala.
10. Koratholi.
11. Chammakhandi.
12. Jaganathapur.
13. Gopalpur.
14. Mansurkota.
15. Kasibagga.
16. Bendikonda quarry.
17. Parlákimedi.
18. Patapatnam.
19. Tembur.
20. Tekkali.

General Remarks.

Green fodder plentiful after the recent rains. General prospects much improved. Ryot classes generally seem fairly well and the children well nourished both amongst Uriyas and Telugus. I found that these classes were not stinting themselves in meals; except that in some few cases a reduction of one-fourth was made in the evening meal.

The classes amongst whom signs of distress and emaciation were observed in almost all places were the low Pariah classes, Dandasies, Bavaries, &c., and who have no land or no work.

Though immediate anxiety has been to some extent relieved by the recent general rainfall, yet the condition of the poor classes still requires careful watching, and in order to do this Deputy Tahsildars must be relieved of their magisterial duties. I request that sanction by wire may be accorded for the entertainment of the additional Special Sub-Magistrates applied for in this office letter, No. 514-F., dated 23rd March 1897, and for the additional clerks required for famine work in Huzur and Divisional offices.

Loan transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.								Purchase of fodder.								Cattle and seed grain.								Other purposes.								Total.								Number of wells		
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			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			20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33			34	35	36	37	38	39		
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.					
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..			22	2,345	22	1,000	767	36,248			54	2,345	22	1,000	767	36,248			767	* 36,248
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	2	300		10	730	12	1,670	99,104	10			12	730	12	1,670	1,102	99,404			150	150	300	2,000	2,812	1,27,080			3	150	300	2,000	2,812	1,27,080			2,312	1,27,080
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	4	1,600			..	..	..	..	4	1,600			..	..	..	..	14	630			..	..	..	..	14	630			14	630

* This includes 32 applications amounting to Rs. 1,345 which are pending disbursement and 118 applications amounting to Rs. 4,136 which have been rejected.

Resolution—dated 26th April 1897, No. 315.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was considerably in excess of the average, especially in the southern portion of the district. The supply of water for drinking is reported to be generally sufficient except in parts of the Senior Assistant and Headquarters Deputy Collectors' Divisions. Although the supply was insufficient for irrigation, the rain encouraged ryots to plough their fields and prepare them for cultivation. What crops were standing, were in good to moderate condition, while gram and ragi, harvested in Goomsur, yielded a middling outturn.

3. The condition of cattle has not yet begun to fall off; fodder is generally available, and the Collector is of opinion that the recent rains have removed all anxiety as to pasturage. There are some poor looking cattle, but this is probably owing to age or sickness. The breed of cattle in Ganjám is probably all round inferior to those of all other districts in the Presidency.

4. Prices, on the whole, were fairly firm, though local variations are reported. The prices of raw rice and ragi are 10·47 and 15·21 measures per rupee as against 11·2 and 18·8 measures in March 1889, the scarcity rates being 10·2 and 15·0, respectively. Trade within the district was dull, but the district continues to export more than it imports.

5. The condition of the people, in the mass, was good. The ryot classes are reported strong and robust, both children and adults, but the pinch is being felt by professional beggars and the lowest classes. The condition of such classes affords an excellent criterion of the intensity of distress in its earlier stages, and the facts that their condition attracts attention, and that the labouring classes do not find sufficient employment, emphasize the necessity for the Collector and his subordinates to exercise the greatest watchfulness during the next few months. It must not be forgotten that with a peculiar people, such as Ganjám possesses, abstention from work is not a proof of the absence of distress. The Collector reports that labourers refuse to attend relief-works, as they yet receive As. 3 a day when they work under contractors. It is not clear from the narrative whether all the conditions of relief are sufficiently realised. The worker is paid a low wage, but this wage is intended for the sustenance of himself alone, while the State undertakes to relieve him of the burden of supporting the members of his family who are unable to work themselves. The Collector does not state that kitchens were ready for the relief of the dependants of test-workers, but the Board presumes that he complied with the provisions of the Code in this respect. Up to this time, the relief of dependants has been provided for by the offer of cooked food in public kitchens, but such an offer can scarcely be considered in Ganjám an "effectual" offer, owing to the foolish idea of the people that they will be degraded by the acceptance of it. The Board will watch with interest—an interest greater in Ganjám than elsewhere—the effect of the introduction of the system of relieving dependants by doles, directed by Government in its order No. 216 of 1897. The Collector's report for the end of March is somewhat *couleur de rose*, and Government may look for a very different state of things in his report for the last fortnight of April. Distress is deepening very rapidly, and there are distinct signs in many places of falling off in condition. There are many cases of advanced emaciation.

6. The Collector's application for additional hands has been recommended to Government with a slight modification, and a second application for still further hands has since been forwarded to Government for sanction. It is hoped that, pending the issue of orders, he will derive sufficient assistance from the Circle Inspectors whose appointment has been recently sanctioned. The Board must, however, observe that the Collector is in great difficulties as to procuring Circle Inspectors for the Uriya country.

7. Endeavours should be made to dispose of the numerous applications for loans as soon as possible. It is doubtful whether the applications for advances for purchase of cattle and seed-grain in Berhampur are *bonâ fide*.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Ganjám.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Collectors of other affected districts.

Order—No. 305, Revenue, dated 7th May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The additional establishments referred to in paragraph 6 have been sanctioned and the Collector informed accordingly by wire.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

70 Copies.

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.	} 1897.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

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

Order thereon No. 1274 W 4/17.5.97
Communicated to the
Supdg Engineer I Circle.
(True extract)
fdg D-ku-c

APRIL.

To *The Supdg. Engineer I circle.*

Fortnightly Narrative.

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

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. End of last fortnight.	Rice. End of current fortnight.	Ragi. End of last fortnight.	Ragi. End of current fortnight.	Remarks.
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. Ichchhápuram ..	9·50	9·50	14·40	14·40	
8. Sómpéta	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 Suradá 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 Ganjám 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
4. Do. Purushottapuram	11	4
5. Do. Aska	16	31·6
6. Do. Suradá	1	3·3
7. Do. Ichchhápuram	12	8·66
8. Do. Sómpéta	75	8
9. Do. Tekkali	6	3
10. Do. Parlákimedi	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 Ichchhápuram taluk.
1 do. in Sómpéta taluk
1 do. in Ganjám do.
1 do. in Suradá 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—

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 fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.
Purushottapuram ..	..	..	..	..	12	29	6	4	..	..
Ganjám	3	..	..	..	..	116	..	18	..	..
Suradá	3	..	..	..	..	41	..	12	..	..
Bodogoda	..	..	..	..	..	35	..	6	..	..
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sómpéta	27	..	..	..	..	317	..	61	..	..
Peddakimedi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tekkali	302	..	..	..	1	* 279	1	..	..	..
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	18	..	8	..	..
Ichchhápuram	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 Parlákimedi Agency from 1st to 5th and inspected Rayaghada, Komalasingi, Serango, Gumma and Gyba. From 5th to 8th he was in Parlákimedi and Narsannapéta taluks and visited Haddubangi, Parlákimedi and Narsannapéta.

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

(1) Berhampur.
(2) Ichchhápuram.
(3) Kanchili.
(4) Sómpéta.
(5) Ganjám.
(6) Humma.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	..	Rs. ..	..	..	..	Rs. ..	..	Rs. ..
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1,625	..	..	..	..	5	1,625
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	2	300	..	..	2	250	707	64,385	..	..	2	250	709	64,685

Taluks.	Number of wells		Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total					
			Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repairs.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	Rs. 715	13	Rs. 600	637	Rs. 30,127	19	Rs. 715	13	Rs. 600	637 *	Rs. 30,127
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	525	..	..	..	..	10	525
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,335	1,02,544	..	..	..	..	1,335	1,02,544

* This includes 6 cases amounting to Rs. 115 which are pending attendance of parties to obtain loans and 23 cases amounting to Rs. 827 which have been rejected. The amount sanctioned for disbursement under Agriculturists' Loans Act is Rs. 1,000. One application for Rs. 500 presented before the General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, was reported to be under inquiry.

Resolution—dated 26th March 1897, No. 253.

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 Ganjám 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 Sómpéta, 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 Ganjám, 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. SRINIVASIAR,
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 Ganjám, 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 head-men. 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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REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*
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G.O., No. 216, 30th March 1897.

No. 1046 W D 14.4.97
Communicated to officers of the P.W.D. for information and guidance.
[signature]

MARCH.

[illegible]
CE for Dept.

Famine Relief.

Passing orders on certain questions connected with the administration of —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

ORDER—No. 216, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

In the orders issued hitherto in connection with the relief of distress, the Government has insisted on a rigid adherence to the provisions of the Famine Code. It has, however, borne in mind that these provisions, notably those about wages and tasks, have undergone material modifications since the distress of 1891–92, and has carefully watched their operation. The reports made by the Sanitary Commissioner on his inspections of the population of the affected districts, together with the examination made by His Excellency the Governor of the relief works in operation in the Deccan districts during his last tour, and the information gathered by him on the spot from district officers and others, tend to show that some of the provisions of the Code require to be relaxed and that the time has now arrived for the organization of village relief and the taking of other special measures in all the affected tracts.

2. The modification of the provisions relating to wages requires the sanction of the Government of India and that Government will be addressed separately on the subject. In the meantime the Board will issue such instructions to district officers as will enable the latter to pay the labourers the full value of the wages permissible under the Code. The prices ruling at the villages near the relief work should be taken for calculating the money value of the wages, not the prices ruling at the Cusbah of the taluk which, as a rule, are lower; further, the prices should be those of mature grain of medium quality, not those of light immature grain which weighs less measure for measure than the standard grain of the conversion tables. The Collectors should be authorized whenever necessary to calculate the wages on the money value of each item of the ration under clause 3 of section 120 of the Code. The Government of India has already been addressed as to the grain portion of the wage and the quantities of other items to be allowed to B and C class labourers, and till receipt of a reply from that Government, the following quantities may be adopted: B class; grain—$1\frac{1}{4}$ lb., other items—the maximum in the section: C class; grain—$1\frac{1}{8}$ lb., other items—average of the maximum and minimum. The Government observes from the fortnightly task returns that a considerable number of gangs are placed in class C. This class is intended to include such sections of the community as weavers, petty traders, &c., who are unaccustomed to manual labour of the kind required on the works, or whose occupation, if any, is more or less sedentary. The relief of weavers has been separately provided for, and the other sections of the community likely to come under this class have not yet resorted to relief works to any extent. As labourers have to be classified under the section according as they are accustomed to labour or not, the Government does not think it right to place any body of relief workers in this division at the present stage. Instructions should therefore be issued that all persons seeking employment on relief works should, until further orders, be placed as a rule in class A or class B. The very weak, those who can do only nominal work and who will not resort to kitchens, may, however, be placed in class C.

3. *Tasks.*—The standard tasks given in form F of appendix III are fairly suitable on the whole, but they are average tasks and must be modified to suit local conditions, such as hardness of material and varying leads and lifts. This modification has already been made in Bellary and the Board should see that revised task tables are drawn up at once for the other affected districts also. The following considerations should be borne in mind in tasking gangs and labourers:—

(i) *Composition of gangs.*—The Code tasks are for typical gangs consisting of certain proportions of men and women and children, and include work which can be done only by adult males. If therefore a gang unavoidably contains a preponderance of women and children, the unit task for the gang should be adjusted to its capacity. To take an illustration: supposing a C class gang to consist of 10 men, 50 women and 40 children, the task for embankment in gravelly soil according to the Code will be 45 cubic yards which gives the excessively high task of 4·5 cubic yards for each of the men in the gang. In such a case, endeavours should be made to divert the gang to some other work which would give all its members full employment, or to alter its composition by the addition of more men; but till this is done the work of digging exacted should not be more than can be executed by the men, though the result may be that sufficient digging is not done to occupy the rest of the gang in filling and carrying.

The Code directs that persons of 12 years and upwards should be treated as adults. The Government is of opinion that an exception may be made in the case of boys of 12 to 16 years who cannot turn out as much work as an adult, but whose growing frames require as much food as adults. These should be taken as equivalent to two or three child units for work, but should nevertheless receive the wage of an adult male.

(ii) *Excessive tasks.*—When the tasks prescribed appear to be excessive, the case should be met by a reduction of the task under section 107, not by reducing the class of the gangs under section 97. A similar reduction should be made when gangs turn out short work owing to the absence of tools or to inexpertness in the handling of tools. It is well to point out here that "Collector" in section 107 includes Divisional-officers, and that "the Engineer officer in charge" means the Overseer in charge.

(iii) *Weakness.*—The case of weakly gangs should also be met by a reduction of the task and not of the class or wage. The Government has already pointed out in its orders, Nos. 43, dated the 26th January 1897, and 108, dated the 19th February 1897, that Collectors can do this under section 107, and Divisional-officers should freely exercise this power so as to suit the tasks to the capacity of weakly coolies till these recover their health, when the full task of their class should be demanded.

(iv) *Distance.*—As a rule shelter should be provided for the labourers at or near the works. Where this has not been done, the distance which the workers have to walk both to and from the work should be allowed for on a suitable time scale and thus form a portion of the day's task; a walk of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles may be taken as the equivalent of an hour's work.

4. *Fining.*—Fining should be resorted to only in clear cases of malingering or of insubordination, and even then not so as to reduce the wage below that of the D class nor for more than one week continuously without the special permission of the Divisional-officer.

Rule 8 in appendix VI should be modified so as to allow of half the wage being given for half a day's work as under the old Code. Late attendance not justified by the coolies having to come from a distance should be met by a small fine not exceeding a quarter of a day's wage to be imposed at the discretion of the officer in charge.

5. *Dependants.*—The children and the infirm dependants of labourers are now relieved gratuitously at the kitchens attached to the works. But often the dependants will not from caste objections, or cannot on account of the distance, attend these kitchens, and have in consequence to be supported by the earning members out of their wage. In the case of dependants who attend at the works but are prevented owing to caste objections from partaking of cooked food, the dole prescribed in section 122 may take the form of an extra wage to the actual worker. The case of dependants who cannot attend at the works may, at the discretion of the Collector, be dealt with under section 64 or by the distribution of grain doles under sections 83 and 85.

6. *Circle Inspectors.*—The appointment of Circle Inspectors was sanctioned in G.O., No. 115, dated the 23rd February 1897, in certain parts of Kurnool and Bellary where the distress was more severe than in other parts of the affected districts. The Government is of opinion that the time has now arrived for the organization of village-relief on a wider and more extended scale, and empowers the Board to appoint Circle Inspectors wherever these are considered to be necessary in the affected districts. The appointments as made should be reported for the information of Government and the relief given should be in the form of grain doles or of cooked food at kitchens. Money doles should be given only in cases where grain doles or ration tickets are found impracticable.

7. *Weavers.*—Revised task tables are now under preparation for the relief of weavers in the affected districts. The enquiries made by His Excellency the Governor in his recent tour tend to show that the scale adopted at Adóni is not too low, the earnings of weavers with single looms being hardly sufficient for bare subsistence in cases where they have families dependent on them. If the tasks adopted at other places be higher than at Adóni they should probably be reduced. An officer has been placed on special duty to be in charge of weavers' relief in the affected Deccan districts, whose first duty will be to visit the various weaving centres rapidly and bring the tasks and rules into some degree of uniformity; a special Tahsildar or Deputy Tahsildar should also be appointed for each district to work under him.

8. *Loans.*—(i) Two special Tahsildars with the requisite clerical assistance have recently been sanctioned for each of the districts of Bellary and Anantapur for the speedy disposal of loan applications. The Board is authorized to afford, if necessary, in anticipation of sanction, similar assistance to the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah.

(ii) Every encouragement should be given to the taking of loans for village improvements. The Government of India has forwarded copy of rules promulgated in the North-Western Provinces for the undertaking and control of village-relief works. Enquiries will be made in the Local and Municipal Department as to whether the Local Fund Boards would work on the lines indicated therein by means of small loans to ryots for petty village works, such as improvement of tanks and wells, &c. The Board of Revenue is also requested to report on this.

9. *Public Works Department.*—It must be distinctly understood that the Public Works Department staff engaged in connection with relief works is under the control of Collectors in all but technical matters, and that the details of the Public Works establishment should be seen and passed by the Collectors before they are sent up to the Board or Government for sanction.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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Public Works Department.

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REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

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G.O., No. 305, 7th May 1897.

No: 1473 W, 31.5.97

Communicated to the Supt. Engr. I circle.

H. D. M. C.

W

MAY.

To the S. E. ~~III~~ I circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with a remark, Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st March 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 26th April 1897, No. 315 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the District of Ganjám for the fortnight ending 31st March 1897 :—

State of the country.

Rainfall and water supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	1·06	·40
Up to the fortnight from April	35·12	45 00

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—There has been rain in the division as noted below :—

	INCHES.
Russellkonda	·45
Aska	·28
Suradá	·15

This rain also extended over many villages of the Chinna Kimedi, Serugada, and Dhárakóta estates and the Goomsur taluk. On the 27th instant clouds formed again. Water-supply is generally sufficient for drinking purposes, except in a few villages, where steps are taken to sink pits or wells. Water-supply is, however, insufficient for irrigation purposes.

Berhampur Division.—There has been rain in the division as noted below :—

	INCHES.
Berhampur	·53
Sómpéta	1·03
Ichchhápuram	·55

The Manager of Pedda Kemedi reports that there has been a good fall of rain at Digupudi and its environs. The Senior Assistant Collector Mr. Rice reports that water-supply is still very insufficient and steps are being taken in a number of villages to improve it.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.—There has been 44 cents of rain at Chatrapur, 2 cents at Purushottapuram and 30 cents at Rambha. The rain appears to have been general throughout the division. This has enabled the ryots to begin ploughing operations wherever there is moisture. Water-supply is becoming scarce in places and steps are taken to dig pits in beds of tanks.

Chicacole Division.—

	INCHES.
Chicacole	5·01
Tekkali	1 28
Narasannapet	1·98
Parlákimedi	1·23

Water-supply has been greatly improved by the heavy rains on the 24th and 25th instant. Tanks near Chicacole have a good supply of water now and in other parts, the wells are not likely to fail.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—Ploughing operations are still carried on. Ragi and sugar-cane are thriving in places. Green-gram and ragi are being harvested. Outturn middling. *Berhampur Division.*—There is a good deal of land improvement going on and new bunds are to be seen everywhere. The rain coming, as it has, in February and March just when things began to look gloomy, has had an excellent effect in retarding serious results. The ryots have turned out to plough up the ground while it is soft to sow gingelly and sama and to prepare the land for paddy. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—Fields are being repaired to a small extent. Summer ragi, chillies, sugar-cane and oil-seeds are the standing crops and they are all in a moderate condition. *Chicacole Division.*—In Tekkali ploughing after the rains is beginning and the ragi under wells is in good condition. In Narasannapeta, ragi, tobacco, gingelly and sugarcane are thriving. In Chicacole rain has slightly damaged the gingelly but improved the ragi and castor-oil. In Parlákimedi standing crops are good and ploughing will begin soon.

Supply of fodder and Pasture and condition of cattle.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—Fodder is sufficient but pasture is rare ; condition of cattle is generally good but cattle diseases exist in parts of Goomsur taluk. *Berhampur Division.*—Fodder is still to be had and the outlook of pasture is certainly improved owing to recent rains. Haripur and its neighbourhood is full of springs and down there grass is abundant. Cattle have not shown signs of deterioration. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—Forage is reviving and fodder is sufficient. The condition of cattle continues to be good. *Chicacole Division.*—Fodder is available. Pasture is scarce, but improving ; condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on above subjects.—The rainfall has been general in the district and heavy in the sub-division. Cattle are in excellent condition. General prospects are much improved. From what I have seen on my tours, there need now be no further anxiety on the score of want of pasturage. The country round Parlákimedi is as green as it is in monsoon time, while at Rambha in the north, there is no want of grass. Ploughing is generally in progress. Water-supply greatly improved. Summer ragi under wells middling to fair. Summer paddy in Parlákimedi Agency in good condition.

Food-supplies and the Market.

Prices of Principal food-grains at principal markets in seers of 80 tolas per rupee for the week ending 27th March 1897.

Stations.	Rice.			Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight, raw.	End of current fortnight.		End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
		Raw.	Boiled.			
1. Russelkonda	12·50	*12·50	..	15·93	15·93	The price of rice is stationary at all the stations except Aska where it fell and the fall may be due to the import of some paddy from Nyaghur, *viâ* Aska-Korchilli road. The price of ragi rose at three stations and fell at two. These fluctuations are probably due to the quantities available for sale in the markets.
2. Suradá	10·17	10·17	11·37	15·44	14·62	
3. Aska	10·22	11·12	12·56	13·40	14·25	
4. Purushottapuram ..	12·50	12·50	12·50	14·50	14·50	
5. Chatrapur	9·50	9·50	11·78	12·50	12·50	
6. Berhampur	10·50	10·50	11·50	16·08	15·19	
7. Ichchhápuram ..	9 50	9·50	10·00	14·40	14·40	
8. Sómpéta	10·72	10·72	11·81	14·98	14·98	
9. Parlákimedi	10·50	10·50	..	17·55	16·90	
10. Tekkali	10·10	10·10	..	15·22	16·00	
11. Narasannapéta ..	10 87	10·87	..	16·90	16·90	
12. Chicacole	9·73	9·73	..	16·41	16·41	
Total ..	126·81	125·71	81·52	183·31	182·58	
Average ..	10·57	10·47	11·65	15·28	15·21	

* This may be a mistake for boiled rice. The Tahsildar has been asked to report prices of both raw and boiled rice.

Activity of Trade.

(1) *Private trade.*—Supplies are available at the rates quoted in the various marts, but it is reported that the trade within the district is generally dull. Hundred and twenty cart-loads of paddy are reported to have been imported into the district from Nyaghur *viâ* Aska-Korchilli road.

(2) Exports and imports of food-grains by rail are as follow :—

	mds.
Exports	5,942
Imports	2,406

Two hundred and sixty-eight maunds of food-grains and pulses have been exported by sea. No imports by sea.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—The condition of the people on test works opened in the fortnight under report is generally good.

(2) *In villages.*—The condition of the lower classes of people in zamindaries requires careful watching. The classes which feel the distress most are (*a*) professional beggars, (*b*) Pariahs, such as Dandasees, Bavuries and the like. The mass of the people show no signs of emaciation. The ryot classes are in fact strong or robust, both children and adults.

Sickness and Mortality.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Labouring classes do not find sufficient employment, but still demand ordinary wages. Fevers slightly exist in certain parts. Small-pox exist in parts of Goomsur, Aska and Suradá taluks, but it has much abated now. Cholera deaths 12. *Berhampur Division.*—No deaths from want of food have been reported, but owing to bad water, cholera and small-pox are still found in several villages. The cholera is sporadic and Mr. Rice reports that it has not been introduced from Puri and that it generally runs a short and sharp course in a village. Cholera deaths 28. *Headquarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Small-pox is prevalent in places. Cholera deaths 11. *Chicacole Division.*—No deaths from starvation. Small-pox is prevalent here and there. Cholera is severe in Parlakimedi. Cholera deaths 88 :—

Statement showing the number of prisoners in jails of the Ganjám 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	27
2. Hill Jail, Russelkonda	2	12
3. Sub-Jail, Chatrapur	4	7·3
4. Do. Purushottapuram	20	4
5. Do. Aska	38	3·6
6. Do. Suradá	...	...
7. Do. Ichchhápuram	22	17
8. Do. Sómpéta	74	23·3
9. Do. Tekkali	...	1·6
10. Do. Parlákimedi	9	8
11. Do. Narsannapet	4	1·6
12. Do. Chicacole	...	13·3
13. Do. Balleguda	1	·3
14. Do. Udayagiri	5	13
15. Do. Ramagiri	8	·3

3 free emigrants to ports within Presidency.
210 emigrants including children under the Act ; and
34 free emigrants including children to ports beyond the Presidency, but within British India.
604 free emigrants including children to ports in British Burma.

851 have emigrated from the district.

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

The last rain has had a good effect in keeping the small-pox and cholera in check and the present rain will also do much good. The following kitchens have been opened in the district during the fortnight under report :—

One kitchen at Barwa, Sómpéta taluk.
Do. in Berhampur.
Do. in Parlákimedi.

And some more kitchens are under construction and will be opened during the next fortnight. Those who are fed in kitchens are either professional beggars or children belonging to the lowest and poorest classes of the people, but since the majority of the people including ryots and labourers appear to be in their normal condition it is clear that the distress is not yet severe.

Measures of Relief.

On works.—Work is wanted but wanted on piece-work system and not at famine rates. A small Local Fund work at Chammakhandi near Chatrapur started at rates slightly below normal on piece-work system attracted 2,470 labourers. According to piece-work these turned out slightly in excess of a B task. They worked hard and brought their meals with them. The estimate was exhausted in a week. There is no other Local Fund work available in this part. Estimates for extension of Rushikulya canal are under preparation in the Public Works Department. This will provide work for 2,000 coolies for one month. This and earthwork for railway from Gopalpur to Berhampur (if there is any chance of the latter) would afford sufficient labour in a part where work is most required. Two test works have been opened, one at Daigam near Purushottapuram and the other at Padmanabhapuram near Digupudi. Number on these test works on the last day not reported. The Head-quarters Deputy Collector reports that the latest particulars received regarding the former were for the 23rd instant and according to it 96 adults and 87 children were employed on that date. Mr. Rice reports that the latter work has since failed as the coolies did not work on famine wages. The Public Works Department officials with the Deputy Tahsildar of Tekkali opened a test work at Kotabommali to supply ballast for the East Coast Railway and the people refused to work on famine wages, as they get about As. 3 daily from contractors for breaking stone. A test work at Gottipally in Narasannapet taluk for the repairs of the Rajulu tank under the Local Fund Department was opened on the 17th instant, but this also totally failed and had to be abandoned and will be done on contract.

An attempt to re-open the test work at Bendikonda quarry in Tekkali taluk on the 29th failed signally. Not a single cooly appeared. The people are receiving large remittances from Rangoon, and ordinary work is sufficiently available. At Kasibugga 4 miles off, I could not get coolies to come to build a kitchen at less than As 3 a day.

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 dependants receiving money doles.		Remarks.
	At kitchens.		In poor-houses.		In villages.						
	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	
Purushottapuram	..	..	..	..	19	12	7	6	..	..	The figures entered in column "This" are for the last day of the week ending 27th March 1897.
Ganjám	..	3	..	..	19	..	1	..	..	..	
Suradá	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Bodogada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Aska	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	2	..	..	
Berhampur	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Ichchhápuram	10	9	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	
Sómpét	50	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Tekkali	385	302	..	..	27	1	8	1	..	..	
Narasannapet	..	..	..	..	11	2	6	1	..	..	
Parlákimedi	89	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	558	344	..	..	80	18	24	10	..	..	

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work, but the Zamindar of Kallikóta and Attagada estates opened a kitchen at Haradamali near Kallikóta on the 12th March. The number that attended the kitchen on the 18th March was eleven. The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that some gentlemen at Aska and Russelkonda are giving a single meal to 25 and 20 beggars respectively. The Deputy Tahsildar of Aska reports that at Khalingi, an Uriya Brahmin feeds ten souls a day on the average. The grain dealers at Battili in the Parlákimedi taluk are reported to be feeding 250 people daily, but I doubt this statement. The Deputy Tahsildar has been ordered to verify it.

Some 3,500 coolies are daily employed on works in the Parlákimedi zemindari, at a daily wage of As. 1–6. No specific task being exacted.

Remarks.—The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that there is no necessity to open kitchens at Russelkonda and Aska. The kitchens recently opened at Chatrapur and Suradá have been abolished as even the low caste people refuse to attend them. Nothing has been spent in the fortnight under report on account of advances to weavers as they have not yet accepted Government relief. At Patapatnam (near Kimedi) weavers were in good condition and all looms fully employed.

Inspections.—The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, visited 29 villages, the Senior Assistant Collector 14 villages, the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 35 villages, and the Principal Assistant Collector four villages in their respective divisions.

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

1. Rambha.
2. Berhampur.
3. Biridi.
4. Sabilia.
5. Kondathevula.
6. Purushottapur.
7. Raipur.
8. Augu.
9. Bagala.
10. Koratholi.
11. Chammakhandi.
12. Jagannathapur.
13. Gopalpur.
14. Mansurkota.
15. Kasibagga.
16. Bendikonda quarry.
17. Parlákimedi.
18. Patapatnam.
19. Tembur.
20. Tekkali.

General Remarks.

Green fodder plentiful after the recent rains. General prospects much improved. Ryot classes generally seem fairly well and the children well nourished both amongst Uriyas and Telugus. I found that these classes were not stinting themselves in meals; except that in some few cases a reduction of one-fourth was made in the evening meal.

The classes amongst whom signs of distress and emaciation were observed in almost all places were the low Pariah classes, Dandasies, Bavaries, &c., and who have no land or no work.

Though immediate anxiety has been to some extent relieved by the recent general rainfall, yet the condition of the poor classes still requires careful watching, and in order to do this Deputy Tahsildars must be relieved of their magisterial duties. I request that sanction by wire may be accorded for the entertainment of the additional Special Sub-Magistrates applied for in this office letter, No. 514-F., dated 23rd March 1897, and for the additional clerks required for famine work in Huzur and Divisional offices.

Loan transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells	
	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.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
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.		
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	2	300	10	730	12	1,670	1,100	99,104	10	730	12	1,670	1,102	99,404	..	..
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,600	..	..	..	..	4	1,600	..	..

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
								Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	2,345	22	1,000	767	36,248	54	2,345	22	1,000	767	* 36,248
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	150	300	2,000	2,312	1,27,080	3	150	300	2,000	2,312	1,27,080
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	630	..	..	..	..	14	630

* This includes 32 applications amounting to Rs. 1,345 which are pending disbursement and 118 applications amounting to Rs. 4,136 which have been rejected.

Resolution—dated 26th April 1897, No. 315.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was considerably in excess of the average, especially in the southern portion of the district. The supply of water for drinking is reported to be generally sufficient except in parts of the Senior Assistant and Headquarters Deputy Collectors' Divisions. Although the supply was insufficient for irrigation, the rain encouraged ryots to plough their fields and prepare them for cultivation. What crops were standing, were in good to moderate condition, while gram and ragi, harvested in Goomsur, yielded a middling outturn.

3. The condition of cattle has not yet begun to fall off; fodder is generally available, and the Collector is of opinion that the recent rains have removed all anxiety as to pasturage. There are some poor looking cattle, but this is probably owing to age or sickness. The breed of cattle in Ganjám is probably all round inferior to those of all other districts in the Presidency.

4. Prices, on the whole, were fairly firm, though local variations are reported. The prices of raw rice and ragi are 10·47 and 15·21 measures per rupee as against 11·2 and 18·8 measures in March 1889, the scarcity rates being 10·2 and 15·0, respectively. Trade within the district was dull, but the district continues to export more than it imports.

5. The condition of the people, in the mass, was good. The ryot classes are reported strong and robust, both children and adults, but the pinch is being felt by professional beggars and the lowest classes. The condition of such classes affords an excellent criterion of the intensity of distress in its earlier stages, and the facts that their condition attracts attention, and that the labouring classes do not find sufficient employment, emphasize the necessity for the Collector and his subordinates to exercise the greatest watchfulness during the next few months. It must not be forgotten that with a peculiar people, such as Ganjám possesses, abstention from work is not a proof of the absence of distress. The Collector reports that labourers refuse to attend relief-works, as they yet receive As. 3 a day when they work under contractors. It is not clear from the narrative whether all the conditions of relief are sufficiently realised. The worker is paid a low wage, but this wage is intended for the sustenance of himself alone, while the State undertakes to relieve him of the burden of supporting the members of his family who are unable to work themselves. The Collector does not state that kitchens were ready for the relief of the dependants of test-workers, but the Board presumes that he complied with the provisions of the Code in this respect. Up to this time, the relief of dependants has been provided for by the offer of cooked food in public kitchens, but such an offer can scarcely be considered in Ganjám an "effectual" offer, owing to the foolish idea of the people that they will be degraded by the acceptance of it. The Board will watch with interest—an interest greater in Ganjám than elsewhere—the effect of the introduction of the system of relieving dependants by doles, directed by Government in its order No. 216 of 1897. The Collector's report for the end of March is somewhat *couleur de rose*, and Government may look for a very different state of things in his report for the last fortnight of April. Distress is deepening very rapidly, and there are distinct signs in many places of falling off in condition. There are many cases of advanced emaciation.

6. The Collector's application for additional hands has been recommended to Government with a slight modification, and a second application for still further hands has since been forwarded to Government for sanction. It is hoped that, pending the issue of orders, he will derive sufficient assistance from the Circle Inspectors whose appointment has been recently sanctioned. The Board must, however, observe that the Collector is in great difficulties as to procuring Circle Inspectors for the Uriya country.

7. Endeavours should be made to dispose of the numerous applications for loans as soon as possible. It is doubtful whether the applications for advances for purchase of cattle and seed-grain in Berhampur are *bonâ fide*.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Ganjám.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
" Collectors of other affected districts.

Order—No. 305, Revenue, dated 7th May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The additional establishments referred to in paragraph 6 have been sanctioned and the Collector informed accordingly by wire.

(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 Financial Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

70 Copies.

Public Works Department.

Government (1897) of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 305, 7th May 1897.

No: 1473 W. Dt. 31.5.97

Communicate to the Supdg. Engineer I circle

[illegible]

MAY.

To the S. E. I circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with a remark, Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st March 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 26th April 1897, No. 315:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the District of Ganjám for the fortnight ending 31st March 1897:—

State of the country.

Rainfall and water supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	1·06	·40
Up to the fortnight from April	35·12	45 00

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—There has been rain in the division as noted below:—

	INCHES.
Russellkonda	·45
Aska	·28
Suradá	·15

This rain also extended over many villages of the Chinna Kimedi, Serugada, and Dhárakóta estates and the Goomsur taluk. On the 27th instant clouds formed again. Water-supply is generally sufficient for drinking purposes, except in a few villages, where steps are taken to sink pits or wells. Water-supply is, however, insufficient for irrigation purposes.

Berhampur Division.—There has been rain in the division as noted below:—

	INCHES.
Berhampur	·53
Sómpéta	1·03
Ichchhápuram	·55

The Manager of Pedda Kemedi reports that there has been a good fall of rain at Digupudi and its environs. The Senior Assistant Collector Mr. Rice reports that water-supply is still very insufficient and steps are being taken in a number of villages to improve it.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.—There has been 44 cents of rain at Chatrapur, 2 cents at Purushottapuram and 30 cents at Rambha. The rain appears to have been general throughout the division. This has enabled the ryots to begin ploughing operations wherever there is moisture. Water-supply is becoming scarce in places and steps are taken to dig pits in beds of tanks.

Chicacole Division.—

	INCHES.
Chicacole	5·01
Tekkali	1 28
Narasannapet	1·98
Parlákimedi	1·23

Water-supply has been greatly improved by the heavy rains on the 24th and 25th instant. Tanks near Chicacole have a good supply of water now and in other parts, the wells are not likely to fail.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—Ploughing operations are still carried on. Ragi and sugar-cane are thriving in places. Green-gram and ragi are being harvested. Outturn middling. *Berhampur Division.*—There is a good deal of land improvement going on and new bunds are to be seen everywhere. The rain coming, as it has, in February and March just when things began to look gloomy, has had an excellent effect in retarding serious results. The ryots have turned out to plough up the ground while it is soft to sow gingelly and sama and to prepare the land for paddy. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—Fields are being repaired to a small extent. Summer ragi, chillies, sugar-cane and oil-seeds are the standing crops and they are all in a moderate condition. *Chicacole Division.*—In Tekkali ploughing after the rains is beginning and the ragi under wells is in good condition. In Narasannapeta, ragi, tobacco, gingelly and sugarcane are thriving. In Chicacole rain has slightly damaged the gingelly but improved the ragi and castor-oil. In Parlákimedi standing crops are good and ploughing will begin soon.

Supply of fodder and Pasture and condition of cattle.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—Fodder is sufficient but pasture is rare; condition of cattle is generally good but cattle diseases exist in parts of Goomsur taluk. *Berhampur Division.*—Fodder is still to be had and the outlook of pasture is certainly improved owing to recent rains. Haripur and its neighbourhood is full of springs and down there grass is abundant. Cattle have not shown signs of deterioration. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—Forage is reviving and fodder is sufficient. The condition of cattle continues to be good. *Chicacole Division.*—Fodder is available. Pasture is scarce, but improving; condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on above subjects.—The rainfall has been general in the district and heavy in the sub-division. Cattle are in excellent condition. General prospects are much improved. From what I have seen on my tours, there need now be no further anxiety on the score of want of pasturage. The country round Parlákimedi is as green as it is in monsoon time, while at Rambha in the north, there is no want of grass. Ploughing is generally in progress. Water-supply greatly improved. Summer ragi under wells middling to fair. Summer paddy in Parlákimedi Agency in good condition.

Food-supplies and the Market.

Prices of Principal food-grains at principal markets in seers of 80 tolas per rupee for the week ending 27th March 1897.

Stations.	Rice. End of last fortnight, raw.	Rice. End of current fortnight. Raw.	Rice. End of current fortnight. Boiled.	Ragi. End of last fortnight.	Ragi. End of current fortnight.	Remarks.
1. Russelkonda	12·50	*12·50	..	15·93	15·93	The price of rice is stationary at all the stations except Aska where it fell and the fall may be due to the import of some paddy from Nyaghur, *viâ* Aska-Korchilli road. The price of ragi rose at three stations and fell at two. These fluctuations are probably due to the quantities available for sale in the markets.
2. Suradá	10 17	10·17	11·37	15·44	14·62	
3. Aska	10·22	11·12	12·56	13·40	14·25	
4. Purushottapuram ..	12·50	12·50	12·50	14·50	14·50	
5. Chatrapur	9·50	9·50	11·78	12·50	12·50	
6. Berhampur	10·50	10·50	11 50	16·08	15·19	
7. Ichchhápuram ..	9 50	9·50	10·00	14·40	14·40	
8. Sómpéta	10·72	10·72	11·81	14·98	14·98	
9. Parlákimedi	10·50	10·50	..	17·55	16·90	
10. Tekkali	10·10	10·10	..	15·22	16·00	
11. Narasannapéta ..	10 87	10·87	..	16·90	16·90	
12. Chicacole	9 73	9·73	..	16·41	16·41	
Total ..	126·81	125·71	81·52	183·31	182·58	
Average ..	10·57	10·47	11·65	15·28	15·21	

* This may be a mistake for boiled rice. The Tahsildar has been asked to report prices of both raw and boiled rice.

Activity of Trade.

(1) *Private trade.*—Supplies are available at the rates quoted in the various marts, but it is reported that the trade within the district is generally dull. Hundred and twenty cart-loads of paddy are reported to have been imported into the district from Nyaghur *viâ* Aska-Korchilli road.

(2) Exports and imports of food-grains by rail are as follow :—

	Mds.
Exports	5,942
Imports	2,406

Two hundred and sixty-eight maunds of food-grains and pulses have been exported by sea. No imports by sea.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—The condition of the people on test works opened in the fortnight under report is generally good.

(2) *In villages.*—The condition of the lower classes of people in zamindaries requires careful watching. The classes which feel the distress most are (*a*) professional beggars, (*b*) Pariahs, such as Dandasees, Bavuries and the like. The mass of the people show no signs of emaciation. The ryot classes are in fact strong or robust, both children and adults.

Sickness and Mortality.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's Division.—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Labouring classes do not find sufficient employment, but still demand ordinary wages. Fevers slightly exist in certain parts. Small-pox exist in parts of Goomsur, Aska and Suradá taluks, but it has much abated now. Cholera deaths 12. *Berhampur Division.*—No deaths from want of food have been reported, but owing to bad water, cholera and small-pox are still found in several villages. The cholera is sporadic and Mr. Rice reports that it has not been introduced from Puri and that it generally runs a short and sharp course in a village. Cholera deaths 28. *Headquarters Deputy Collector's Division.*—No deaths from want of food have been reported. Small-pox is prevalent in places. Cholera deaths 11. *Chicacole Division.*—No deaths from starvation. Small-pox is prevalent here and there. Cholera is severe in Parlakimedi. Cholera deaths 88 :—

Statement showing the number of prisoners in jails of the Ganjám district.

Stations.	Number of admissions in the present fortnight.	Average of the numbers of the corresponding periods of the three previous years.
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2. Hill Jail, Russelkonda	2	12
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4. Do. Purushottapuram	20	4
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9. Do. Tekkali	...	1·6
10. Do. Parlákimedi	9	8
11. Do. Narsannapet	4	1·6
12. Do. Chicacole	...	13·3
13. Do. Balleguda	1	·3
14. Do. Udayagiri	5	13
15. Do. Ramagiri	8	·3

3 free emigrants to ports within Presidency.
210 emigrants including children under the Act ; and
34 free emigrants including children to ports beyond the Presidency, but within British India.
604 free emigrants including children to ports in British Burma.

851 have emigrated from the district.

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

The last rain has had a good effect in keeping the small-pox and cholera in check and the present rain will also do much good. The following kitchens have been opened in the district during the fortnight under report :—

One kitchen at Barwa, Sómpéta taluk.
Do. in Berhampur.
Do. in Parlákimedi.

And some more kitchens are under construction and will be opened during the next fortnight. Those who are fed in kitchens are either professional beggars or children belonging to the lowest and poorest classes of the people, but since the majority of the people including ryots and labourers appear to be in their normal condition it is clear that the distress is not yet severe.

Measures of Relief.

On works.—Work is wanted but wanted on piece-work system and not at famine rates. A small Local Fund work at Chammakhandi near Chatrapur started at rates slightly below normal on piece-work system attracted 2,470 labourers. According to piece-work these turned out slightly in excess of a B task. They worked hard and brought their meals with them. The estimate was exhausted in a week. There is no other Local Fund work available in this part. Estimates for extension of Rushikulya canal are under preparation in the Public Works Department. This will provide work for 2,000 coolies for one month. This and earthwork for railway from Gopalpur to Berhampur (if there is any chance of the latter) would afford sufficient labour in a part where work is most required. Two test works have been opened, one at Daigam near Purushottapuram and the other at Padmanabhapuram near Digupudi. Number on these test works on the last day not reported. The Head-quarters Deputy Collector reports that the latest particulars received regarding the former were for the 23rd instant and according to it 96 adults and 87 children were employed on that date. Mr. Rice reports that the latter work has since failed as the coolies did not work on famine wages. The Public Works Department officials with the Deputy Tahsildar of Tekkali opened a test work at Kotabommali to supply ballast for the East Coast Railway and the people refused to work on famine wages, as they get about As. 3 daily from contractors for breaking stone. A test work at Gottipally in Narasannapet taluk for the repairs of the Rajulu tank under the Local Fund Department was opened on the 17th instant, but this also totally failed and had to be abandoned and will be done on contract.

An attempt to re-open the test work at Bendikonda quarry in Tekkali taluk on the 29th failed signally. Not a single cooly appeared. The people are receiving large remittances from Rangoon, and ordinary work is sufficiently available. At Kasibugga 4 miles off, I could not get coolies to come to build a kitchen at less than As 3 a day.

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 dependants receiving money doles.		Remarks.
	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	..	..	..	..	19	12	7	6	..	..	The figures entered in column "This" are for the last day of the week ending 27th March 1897.
Ganjám	..	3	..	..	19	..	1	..	..	..	
Suradá	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Bodogada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Aska	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	2	..	..	
Berhampur	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Ichchhápuram	10	9	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	
Sómpét	50	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Tekkali	385	302	..	..	27	1	8	1	..	..	
Narasannapét	..	..	..	..	11	2	6	1	..	..	
Parlákimedi	89	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	558	344	..	..	80	18	24	10	..	..	

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work, but the Zamindar of Kallikóta and Attagada estates opened a kitchen at Haradamali near Kallikóta on the 12th March. The number that attended the kitchen on the 18th March was eleven. The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that some gentlemen at Aska and Russellkonda are giving a single meal to 25 and 20 beggars respectively. The Deputy Tahsildar of Aska reports that at Khalingi, an Uriya Brahmin feeds ten souls a day on the average. The grain dealers at Battili in the Parlákimedi taluk are reported to be feeding 250 people daily, but I doubt this statement. The Deputy Tahsildar has been ordered to verify it.

Some 3,500 coolies are daily employed on works in the Parlákimedi zemindari, at a daily wage of As. 1–6. No specific task being exacted.

Remarks.—The Goomsur Deputy Collector reports that there is no necessity to open kitchens at Russellkonda and Aska. The kitchens recently opened at Chatrapur and Suradá have been abolished as even the low caste people refuse to attend them. Nothing has been spent in the fortnight under report on account of advances to weavers as they have not yet accepted Government relief. At Patapatnam (near Kimedi) weavers were in good condition and all looms fully employed.

Inspections.—The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, visited 29 villages, the Senior Assistant Collector 14 villages, the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 35 villages, and the Principal Assistant Collector four villages in their respective divisions.

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

1. Rambha.
2. Berhampur.
3. Biridi.
4. Sabilia.
5. Kondathevula.
6. Purushottapur.
7. Raipur.
8. Augu.
9. Bagala.
10. Koratholi.
11. Chammakhandi.
12. Jaganathapur.
13. Gopalpur.
14. Mansurkota.
15. Kasibagga.
16. Bendikonda quarry.
17. Parlákimedi.
18. Patapatnam.
19. Tembur.
20. Tekkali.

General Remarks.

Green fodder plentiful after the recent rains. General prospects much improved. Ryot classes generally seem fairly well and the children well nourished both amongst Uriyas and Telugus. I found that these classes were not stinting themselves in meals; except that in some few cases a reduction of one-fourth was made in the evening meal.

The classes amongst whom signs of distress and emaciation were observed in almost all places were the low Pariah classes, Dandasies, Bavaries, &c., and who have no land or no work.

Though immediate anxiety has been to some extent relieved by the recent general rainfall, yet the condition of the poor classes still requires careful watching, and in order to do this Deputy Tahsildars must be relieved of their magisterial duties. I request that sanction by wire may be accorded for the entertainment of the additional Special Sub-Magistrates applied for in this office letter, No. 514-F., dated 23rd March 1897, and for the additional clerks required for famine work in Huzur and Divisional offices.

Loan transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
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.		
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	2	300	10	730	12	1,670	1,102	99,404	22	730	12	1,670	1,104	99,704	..	..
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,600	4	730	..	..	4	1,600	..	..

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain.						Purchase of fodder.						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	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39		
		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	2,345	22	1,000	767	36,248	54	2,345	22	1,000	767	36,248		
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	150	300	2,000	2,812	1,27,080	3	150	300	2,000	2,812	1,27,080		
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	630	..	..	..	..	14	630		

* This includes 32 applications amounting to Rs. 1,345 which are pending disbursement and 118 applications amounting to Rs. 4,136 which have been rejected.

Resolution—dated 26th April 1897, No. 315.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was considerably in excess of the average, especially in the southern portion of the district. The supply of water for drinking is reported to be generally sufficient except in parts of the Senior Assistant and Headquarters Deputy Collectors' Divisions. Although the supply was insufficient for irrigation, the rain encouraged ryots to plough their fields and prepare them for cultivation. What crops were standing, were in good to moderate condition, while gram and ragi, harvested in Goomsur, yielded a middling outturn.

3. The condition of cattle has not yet begun to fall off; fodder is generally available, and the Collector is of opinion that the recent rains have removed all anxiety as to pasturage. There are some poor looking cattle, but this is probably owing to age or sickness. The breed of cattle in Ganjám is probably all round inferior to those of all other districts in the Presidency.

4. Prices, on the whole, were fairly firm, though local variations are reported. The prices of raw rice and ragi are 10·47 and 15·21 measures per rupee as against 11·2 and 18·8 measures in March 1889, the scarcity rates being 10·2 and 15·0, respectively. Trade within the district was dull, but the district continues to export more than it imports.

5. The condition of the people, in the mass, was good. The ryot classes are reported strong and robust, both children and adults, but the pinch is being felt by professional beggars and the lowest classes. The condition of such classes affords an excellent criterion of the intensity of distress in its earlier stages, and the facts that their condition attracts attention, and that the labouring classes do not find sufficient employment, emphasize the necessity for the Collector and his subordinates to exercise the greatest watchfulness during the next few months. It must not be forgotten that with a peculiar people, such as Ganjám possesses, abstention from work is not a proof of the absence of distress. The Collector reports that labourers refuse to attend relief-works, as they yet receive As. 3 a day when they work under contractors. It is not clear from the narrative whether all the conditions of relief are sufficiently realised. The worker is paid a low wage, but this wage is intended for the sustenance of himself alone, while the State undertakes to relieve him of the burden of supporting the members of his family who are unable to work themselves. The Collector does not state that kitchens were ready for the relief of the dependants of test-workers, but the Board presumes that he complied with the provisions of the Code in this respect. Up to this time, the relief of dependants has been provided for by the offer of cooked food in public kitchens, but such an offer can scarcely be considered in Ganjám an "effectual" offer, owing to the foolish idea of the people that they will be degraded by the acceptance of it. The Board will watch with interest—an interest greater in Ganjám than elsewhere—the effect of the introduction of the system of relieving dependants by doles, directed by Government in its order No. 216 of 1897. The Collector's report for the end of March is somewhat *couleur de rose*, and Government may look for a very different state of things in his report for the last fortnight of April. Distress is deepening very rapidly, and there are distinct signs in many places of falling off in condition. There are many cases of advanced emaciation.

6. The Collector's application for additional hands has been recommended to Government with a slight modification, and a second application for still further hands has since been forwarded to Government for sanction. It is hoped that, pending the issue of orders, he will derive sufficient assistance from the Circle Inspectors whose appointment has been recently sanctioned. The Board must, however, observe that the Collector is in great difficulties as to procuring Circle Inspectors for the Uriya country.

7. Endeavours should be made to dispose of the numerous applications for loans as soon as possible. It is doubtful whether the applications for advances for purchase of cattle and seed-grain in Berhampur are *bonâ fide*.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Ganjám.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Collectors of other affected districts.

Order—No. 305, Revenue, dated 7th May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The additional establishments referred to in paragraph 6 have been sanctioned and the Collector informed accordingly by wire.

(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 Financial Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Ext. Shaik Karim.

70 Copies.