Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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

G.O., No. 374, 22nd May 1897.

No: 16 [illegible] 6.27

Communicated to the Supdg. Engr. I Circle.

MAY.

fdg C.H.B.B. DW

To

The S.E. I Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th April 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 6th May 1897, No. 341 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th of April 1897.

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	0·51	0·47
Up to the fortnight	0·51	0·47

There has been from half an inch to an inch of rain at most stations in the plains and very much more in Párvatípuram, where I hear all the tanks and wells are full and for some days much of the country was semi-flooded. The rainfall was as usual lightest round about Vizagapatam and the coast. There is still trouble about drinking-water in Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Yellamanchili taluks and it will recur on the coast of Bimlipatam failing more showers.

There is water for irrigation in many tanks, but nothing is being done towards cultivation under them. It is too early.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Ploughing is still general. There has been a very little sowing of gingelly and cotton, and planting of sugarcane. Paira ragi has been harvested with a very fair outturn.

Standing crops, gingelly, green-gram, indigo and chillies, though not extensive, are doing well. Agricultural operations are as yet few and scarce. The season is the deadest of the year.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder remains, and must continue, very scarce and dear, but is generally available to those who can pay for it, and many ryots have some in store.

Pasture is now in the great majority of places as good as or better than it generally is at this season.

Cattle are now in no danger. The uncared-for village herds, which were getting very poor, can now pick up a living and all cattle of value are in good condition. The cutting and selling of grass provides numbers of the poorer classes with a living, so that the scarcity of fodder is to some a benefit. Even in Vizagapatam taluk, which is and always has been the worst and driest, there is now no general danger to the cattle.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Prospects are everywhere improved to the extent of better water-supply and pasture and the ploughing of dry lands for the early crop has been pushed forwards. The improvement has been great in the Párvatípuram division, where the Senior Assistant Collector reports his apprehensions largely relieved. Cultivation is early in that division and the quantity of unattached labour is not great. In the more affected parts of the district immediate prospects for the class which comes on relief are no better and cannot be so for another month at least, but the ryots regard the season as promising so far.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee for the period ending 15th of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Párvatípuram ..	10·25	9 84	18·00	17·28	17·50	17 50	Prices are, on the whole, very steady and fluctuations local. I do not think that any considerable rise in prices need now be expected, though they will, no doubt, touch their highest at end of May or beginning of June.
2. Sálúru	11·48	11·48	19·74	21 24	18·90	17·50	
3. Palkonda	9·60	9·60	16·16	16·16	19·80	19·80	
4. Gajapatinagaram ..	9·84	9·84	17·76	17·76	17·28	17·28	
5. Chipurupalle	9·84	9·84	15·84	15·84	17·28	17 28	
6. Vizianagram	9·60	9·60	16·66	16·16	14·85	14·85	
7. Vizagapatam	9·26	9·04	16·66	16·16	13·86	12·87	
8. Chodavaram	9·50	9·50	19 11	19·11	18·48	18·48	
9. Anakápalle	9·00	9·00	16·38	16·38	..	..	
10. Yellamanchili ..	9·50	9·00	14·56	14·56	..	..	
11. Narasapatnam ..	10·34	10·34	16·80	16·80	17·01	16·20	
Average ..	9·83	9·73	17·06	17·04	17·21	16·86	

		Exports.	Imports.
		MDS.	MDS.
Activity of trade.	By sea for the period ending 10th April 1897 ..	2,420	...
	By rail for the period ending 10th April 1897 ...	248	14,545 carts.
	By road from Jeypur for the period ending 10th April 1897		5,650

Trade active and markets sufficiently supplied. Grains are obtainable in all villages. I have noticed that relief workers seldom buy at the bazaars near the works but take their wages away to their villages.

Condition of the people.

On works.—I have within the fortnight inspected the works at Pendarti, Gazuvaka and Dakmarri. The general condition of the workers is, I think, satisfactory. In a very large proportion of cases it is positively good, particularly the women. The men who come to our works are all, I have no doubt, driven to them by necessity and are those who want employment and cannot at this season get it elsewhere, but even among these it is only the aged and feeble who show distinctly bad condition in some cases. Boys of from 10 to 14 often look thin, but seldom the small children. I am pleased to report that Dr. Leapingwell, after inspection of over 3,000 coolies at Dakmarri, considers their condition satisfactory, and that both he and I noticed people who, since we saw them on the same work exactly a month previously, had improved in a marked manner. Still there are places which are not reached by our works, which I hope to extend.

In villages.—There is no general deterioration noticeable in the condition of people in villages. Beggars and such are in bad condition in some cases, but are being fed in kitchens. In Vizagapatam and Vizianagram many beggars prefer their precarious livelihood to the certainty of two meals a day in the kitchen and will have nothing to do with it.

Sickness and Mortality.—There is cholera scattered about the district, but it has not spread seriously anywhere. Mortality is not at all above normal.

Measures of Relief.

On works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
1. Bimlipatam—			
Dakmarri test-work ..	2,258	3,078	The increase is due to the opening of more works and to the increasing want of employment. It will continue to appear as we get more works open.
2. Vizagapatam—			
Gazuvaka test-work ..	835	1,180	One is being opened at Pusapati Rega to-day. I have also, however, very grave doubts whether the wage is not more attractive than it ought to be for women. There are plenty of women in distress to whom the opportunity of earning a wage is a benefit, but it is equally certain that very many of them are attracted merely by the fact that the famine wage of B class is from 1 to 3 pies higher than the ordinary female cooly wage of the district at this season anywhere else than in large towns. There are scores of women on the works whose husbands are not there and are getting comfortable pay elsewhere. The proportion of women in anything but good condition is very small. These remarks in no way apply to men workers, who I think never come to the works unless driven to them by necessity. Mr. Allen, Executive Engineer, joined the district at the beginning of last week, and is taking over the works as he gets staff. He is doing every thing possible to organize them properly.
Pendur test-work ..	310	1,487	
3. Sarvasiddhi—			
Kondakarla test-work..	..	1,444	
Total ..	3,403	7,189	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise :—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In village.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Government—								
1. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	53	69	..	..	..	..
2. Vizianagram	..	..	..	124	..	..	..	..
3. Bimlipatam	230	255	..	14	..	..	..	..
4. Vizagapatam.. ..	..	213	132	26	..	..	..	..
5. Sarvasiddhi	..	20	..	54	..	..	..	..
Total ..	230	488	185	287	..	..	..	..
Rajah Gajapatirow's kitchens—								
1. Vizagapatam	..	..	..	67	..	..	..	..
2. Anakápalle	..	..	85	53	..	..	..	..
3. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	151	255	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	236	375	..	..	..	..
Grand Total ..	230	488	421	662	..	..	..	..

Weaver's relief—Nil.

Private charity.—Private charity on a considerable scale is dispensed by the Maharajah of Vizianagram, the Rajah of Bobbili, M.R.Ry. Perla Narayana Chetti Garu, M.R.Ry. K. Venkanna Garu, and the Rani of Wadhwan and Rani Ankitam Atchayamma.

Rajah Gajapatirow is most generously providing funds for kitchens under my management at Vizagapatam, Anakápalle, Yellamanchili and Nakkapalli.

General Remarks.—During the fortnight the work at Dakmarri has been transferred to the Public Works Department and staff is awaited to take over the other works. The Head Assistant Collector has opened a test work at Kondakarla, where in a few days 1,400 people collected, but the wages are, for women, excessively high compared with the market price of labour, and I am doubtful of the efficacy of the test. Mr. Elwin reports the workers are in "the best of condition and spirits," which is satisfactory, but as the Public Works Department expects to start ample ordinary earthwork in the immediate vicinity at once, the continuance of this work may require consideration. I shall go there as soon as I have finished with the Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks. The Dakmarri work has been getting overcrowded and owing to the laziness and incompetence of the Deputy Tahsildar, Bimlipatam, the kitchen and pay arraugements got into a mess. I sent Mr. Heany who has put them pretty straight and I am now there myself. A further work is wanted in this taluk. I have had the greatest difficulty in selecting one, as all this part is zamindari and there is nothing available but roads or metal-breaking. However, after much riding about the country, Mr. Allen and I have selected a good place near Padmanabham, where much work can be done on a railway feeder road and there is good water-supply available. We hope to start this next week and it will relieve the Dakmarri work, where not only is the crowd excessive but water supply may not hold out, and much useless road metal is being accumulated. Mr. Scott is opening a work at Pusapati Rega to-day. These measures may not meet all requirements and I surmise that more works yet ought to be opened, but we are at least doing it as quickly as can efficiently be managed.

There is no great rush for gratuitous relief at the kitchens. In fact most of the paupers make rather a favour of going there. Mr. Allen has since his arrival done a very great deal in the way of putting in hand ordinary work in Sarvasiddhi taluk, which obviates the necessity for relief work there.

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.		
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1,500	..	..	..	..	2	1,500	..	..
3. Golgonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	2	1,500	7	1,000	7	1,000	2	1,500	..	..

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Purchase of fodder.						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.		
	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.		
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	635	11	635	..	..	11	635	11	635	..	..	..	930
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	635	..	..	11	930	13	635	..	..	11	930	939	67,253
3. Golgonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	1,270	11	635	11	930	24	1,270	11	635	11	930	969	68,183

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector has been at Dakmarri, Pusapati Rega and Bhogapuram, at the first and last of which works were in execution, and at the second of which one is being started to-day.

The Head Assistant Collector has been engaged moving about Sarvasiddhi taluk and opening test work at Kondakarla.

The Senior Assistant Collector has visited a large number of places in Bobbili, Párvatípuram and Bayaghada.

The Huzur Deputy Collector has been engaged with the works at Pendur and Gazuvaka and has examined villages in the neighbourhood.

I myself inspected Nakkapalli, Yellamanchili and Anakápalle kitchens, Gazuvaka and Pendur works, Vizagapatam kitchen, Vizianagram kitchen and Dakmarri work. I have also been about a good portion of Bimlipatam taluk to select another work which I have succeeded in doing.

Resolution—dated 6th May 1897, No. 341.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight under report was slightly above the average but was insufficient in the Coast taluks, which constitute the affected area, to bring about any immediate improvement in the condition of the country. The showers, however, have relieved anxiety as to other parts of the district, and have encouraged ryots to prepare their fields for the next crop. Pasture is reported to be as good as, or better than, it generally is at this season, and cattle are now out of danger, though fodder remains, and must continue, very scarce and dear. The village herds have not yet quite picked up in condition, but there need be no further anxiety about the cattle in this district or in Ganjám.

3. Prices are, on the whole, steady, but, owing to local variations, show a slight tendency to rise. Their position is shown in the annexed table:—

	Measures per rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal rate	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning rate	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity ,, ...	9·0	14·0	15·0
Last fortnight	9·8	17·1	17·2
This ,, ...	9·7	17·0	16·9
April 1892	10·3	16·7	17·5
,, 1878	8·1	12·9	13·4

Trade is active and markets are sufficiently supplied.

4. With the exception of beggars, the condition of the people is satisfactory, but that there is a want of employment in parts is shown by the fact that the numbers on relief-works more than doubled during the fortnight, reaching 7,189 on 15th April. The Collector, however, thinks that these figures do not tell an altogether true tale, for he considers that the wage for women is more attractive than it should be, being 1 to 3 pies higher than the ordinary woman's wage "There are", he says, "scores of women on the works whose husbands are not there and are getting comfortable pay elsewhere." The proportion of women to men on relief-works in Vizagapatam is 3 : 1, while it is 2 : 1 in the Deccan districts, and in Bellary, where distress is perhaps most accentuated, it is slightly greater. It is the general experience that, in the earlier stages of distress, women are more ready to attend relief-works than men. There is, no doubt, the fact that the famine wage for women is slightly higher than the normal

wage in this district, but the inference is somewhat discounted by the fact that, at present prices, the famine wage will not buy what the normal wage buys in ordinary times.

5. The Board notes that some ordinary works are being started by the Public Works Department in Sarvasiddhi, and probably the Collector may be able to close the Kondakerla work.

6. The Commissioner inspected the kitchen and some 2,000 coolies on the work at Pusapati Rega. The kitchen inmates were generally in fair or good condition. There were no persons, who come up to the level of emaciation, seen frequently in Ganjám, but some eight children required to be placed on special kitchen diet—section 123, Famine Code. Of the 2,000 persons on the work, the great mass were in fair or good condition. There was a weak gang; but the cause of weakness was age, &c., and not attributable to famine. The girls of 7 to 14 were in a great many cases in very poor condition, and there were some children—perhaps a dozen in all—who, both from age and bad health, ought to have been in the kitchen under treatment. It is very difficult to keep children who are about 7, or a little short of it, off the works, and the Revenue officer on the spot should do his best to get them to the kitchen.

7. Prices are lower in Vizagapatam than in any of the other distressed districts, and the distress there is less marked. The condition of the district is some degrees better than Ganjám, and there is no cause for anxiety about it. The weather is promising and the people are hopeful. Mr. Horne is doing all that is necessary.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 374, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(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.

30 Copies.

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Government {1897} of Madras.

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2. Anakápalle	..	..	85	53	..	..	..	..
3. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	151	255	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	236	375	..	..	..	..
Grand Total ..	230	488	421	662	..	..	..	..

Weaver's relief—Nil.

Private charity.—Private charity on a considerable scale is dispensed by the Maharajah of Vizianagram, the Rajah of Bobbili, M.R.Ry. Perla Narayana Chetti Garu, M.R.Ry. K. Venkanna Garu, and the Rani of Wadhwan and Rani Ankitam Atchayamma.

Rajah Gajapatirow is most generously providing funds for kitchens under my management at Vizagapatam, Anakápalle, Yellamanchili and Nakkapalli.

General Remarks.—During the fortnight the work at Dakmarri has been transferred to the Public Works Department and staff is awaited to take over the other works. The Head Assistant Collector has opened a test work at Kondakarla, where in a few days 1,400 people collected, but the wages are, for women, excessively high compared with the market price of labour, and I am doubtful of the efficacy of the test. Mr. Elwin reports the workers are in "the best of condition and spirits," which is satisfactory, but as the Public Works Department expects to start ample ordinary earthwork in the immediate vicinity at once, the continuance of this work may require consideration. I shall go there as soon as I have finished with the Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks. The Dakmarri work has been getting overcrowded and owing to the laziness and incompetence of the Deputy Tahsildar, Bimlipatam, the kitchen and pay arrangements got into a mess. I sent Mr. Heany who has put them pretty straight and I am now there myself. A further work is wanted in this taluk. I have had the greatest difficulty in selecting one, as all this part is zamindari and there is nothing available but roads or metal-breaking. However, after much riding about the country, Mr. Allen and I have selected a good place near Padmanabham, where much work can be done on a railway feeder road and there is good water-supply available. We hope to start this next week and it will relieve the Dakmarri work, where not only is the crowd excessive but water supply may not hold out, and much useless road metal is being accumulated. Mr. Scott is opening a work at Pusapati Rega to-day. These measures may not meet all requirements and I surmise that more works yet ought to be opened, but we are at least doing it as quickly as can efficiently be managed.

There is no great rush for gratuitous relief at the kitchens. In fact most of the paupers make rather a favour of going there. Mr. Allen has since his arrival done a very great deal in the way of putting in hand ordinary work in Sarvasiddhi taluk, which obviates the necessity for relief work there.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Purchase of fodder.								Cattle and seed-grain.								Total.							
	Applications accepted.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Number of wells		Loans.		Applications pending.	
	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.	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.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1. Palkonda					7	1,000	..	..			7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..											11	635	..	..			11	635	11	635	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi					..	..	2	1,500			..	..	..	..	..	..											13	635	..	..	11	930	13	635	11	635	2	939	930
3. Golgonda					..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..											..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	67,253
Total ..					7	1,000	2	1,500			7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..											24	1,270	..	..	11	930	24	1,270	11	635	2	969	68,183

Trade is active and markets are sufficiently supplied.

4. With the exception of beggars, the condition of the people is satisfactory, but that there is a want of employment in parts is shown by the fact that the numbers on relief-works more than doubled during the fortnight, reaching 7,189 on 15th April. The Collector, however, thinks that these figures do not tell an altogether true tale, for he considers that the wage for women is more attractive than it should be, being 1 to 3 pies higher than the ordinary woman's wage "There are", he says, "scores of women on the works whose husbands are not there and are getting comfortable pay elsewhere." The proportion of women to men on relief-works in Vizagapatam is 3 : 1, while it is 2 : 1 in the Deccan districts, and in Bellary, where distress is perhaps most accentuated, it is slightly greater. It is the general experience that, in the earlier stages of distress, women are more ready to attend relief-works than men. There is, no doubt, the fact that the famine wage for women is slightly higher than the normal

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector has been at Dakmarri, Pusapati Rega and Bhogapuram, at the first and last of which works were in execution, and at the second of which one is being started to-day.

The Head Assistant Collector has been engaged moving about Sarvasiddhi taluk and opening test work at Kondakarla.

The Senior Assistant Collector has visited a large number of places in Bobbili, Párvatípuram and Kayaghada.

The Huzur Deputy Collector has been engaged with the works at Pendur and Gazuvaka and has examined villages in the neighbourhood.

I myself inspected Nakkapalli, Yellamanchili and Anakápalle kitchens, Gazuvaka and Pendur works, Vizagapatam kitchen, Vizianagram kitchen and Dakmarri work. I have also been about a good portion of Bimlipatam taluk to select another work which I have succeeded in doing.

Resolution—dated 6th May 1897, No. 341.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight under report was slightly above the average but was insufficient in the Coast taluks, which constitute the affected area, to bring about any immediate improvement in the condition of the country. The showers, however, have relieved anxiety as to other parts of the district, and have encouraged ryots to prepare their fields for the next crop. Pasture is reported to be as good as, or better than, it generally is at this season, and cattle are now out of danger, though fodder remains, and must continue, very scarce and dear. The village herds have not yet quite picked up in condition, but there need be no further anxiety about the cattle in this district or in Ganjám.

3. Prices are, on the whole, steady, but, owing to local variations, show a slight tendency to rise. Their position is shown in the annexed table :—

	Measures per rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal rate	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning rate	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity ,, ...	9·0	14·0	15·0
Last fortnight	9·8	17·1	17·2
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wage in this district, but the inference is somewhat discounted by the fact that, at present prices, the famine wage will not buy what the normal wage buys in ordinary times.

5. The Board notes that some ordinary works are being started by the Public Works Department in Sarvasiddhi, and probably the Collector may be able to close the Kondakerla work.

6. The Commissioner inspected the kitchen and some 2,000 coolies on the work at Pusapati Rega. The kitchen inmates were generally in fair or good condition. There were no persons, who come up to the level of emaciation, seen frequently in Ganjám, but some eight children required to be placed on special kitchen diet—section 123, Famine Code. Of the 2,000 persons on the work, the great mass were in fair or good condition. There was a weak gang; but the cause of weakness was age, &c., and not attributable to famine. The girls of 7 to 14 were in a great many cases in very poor condition, and there were some children—perhaps a dozen in all—who, both from age and bad health, ought to have been in the kitchen under treatment. It is very difficult to keep children who are about 7, or a little short of it, off the works, and the Revenue officer on the spot should do his best to get them to the kitchen.

7. Prices are lower in Vizagapatam than in any of the other distressed districts, and the distress there is less marked. The condition of the district is some degrees better than Ganjám, and there is no cause for anxiety about it. The weather is promising and the people are hopeful. Mr. Horne is doing all that is necessary.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 374, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(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.

Erd. Shaik Karim.

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REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies* 16

OW 5689/97

G.O., No. 374, 22nd May 1897.

MAY.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th April 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 6th May 1897, No. 341 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th of April 1897.

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	0·51	0·47
Up to the fortnight	0·51	0·47

There has been from half an inch to an inch of rain at most stations in the plains and very much more in Párvatípuram, where I hear all the tanks and wells are full and for some days much of the country was semi-flooded. The rainfall was as usual lightest round about Vizagapatam and the coast. There is still trouble about drinking-water in Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Yellamanchili taluks and it will recur on the coast of Bimlipatam failing more showers.

There is water for irrigation in many tanks, but nothing is being done towards cultivation under them. It is too early.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Ploughing is still general. There has been a very little sowing of gingelly and cotton, and planting of sugarcane. Paira ragi has been harvested with a very fair outturn.

Standing crops, gingelly, green-gram, indigo and chillies, though not extensive, are doing well. Agricultural operations are as yet few and scarce. The season is the deadest of the year.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder remains, and must continue, very scarce and dear, but is generally available to those who can pay for it, and many ryots have some in store.

Pasture is now in the great majority of places as good as or better than it generally is at this season.

Cattle are now in no danger. The uncared-for village herds, which were getting very poor, can now pick up a living and all cattle of value are in good condition. The cutting and selling of grass provides numbers of the poorer classes with a living, so that the scarcity of fodder is to some a benefit. Even in Vizagapatam taluk, which is and always has been the worst and driest, there is now no general danger to the cattle.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Prospects are everywhere improved to the extent of better water-supply and pasture and the ploughing of dry lands for the early crop has been pushed forwards. The improvement has been great in the Párvatípuram division, where the Senior Assistant Collector reports his apprehensions largely relieved. Cultivation is early in that division and the quantity of unattached labour is not great. In the more affected parts of the district immediate prospects for the class which comes on relief are no better and cannot be so for another month at least, but the ryots regard the season as promising so far.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee for the period ending 15th of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Párvatípuram ..	10·25	9·84	18·00	17·28	17·50	17·50	Prices are, on the whole, very steady and fluctuations local. I do not think that any considerable rise in prices need now be expected, though they will, no doubt, touch their highest at end of May or beginning of June.
2. Sálúru	11·48	11·48	19·74	21·24	18·90	17·50	
3. Palkonda	9·60	9·60	16·16	16·16	19·80	19·80	
4. Gajapatinagaram ..	9·84	9·84	17·76	17·76	17·28	17·28	
5. Chipurupalle	9·84	9·84	15·84	15·84	17·28	17·28	
6. Vizianagram	9·60	9·60	16·66	16·16	14·85	14·85	
7. Vizagapatam	9·26	9·04	16·66	16·16	13·86	12·87	
8. Chodavaram	9·50	9·50	19·11	19·11	18·48	18·48	
9. Anakápalle	9·00	9·00	16·38	16·38	..	..	
10. Yellamanchili ..	9·50	9·00	14·56	14·56	..	..	
11. Narasapatnam ..	10·34	10·34	16·80	16·80	17·01	16·20	
Average ..	9·83	9·73	17·06	17·04	17·21	16·86	

		Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
Activity of trade.	By sea for the period ending 10th April 1897 ..	2,420	...
	By rail for the period ending 10th April 1897 ...	248	14,545 carts.
	By road from Jeypur for the period ending 10th April 1897		5,650

Trade active and markets sufficiently supplied. Grains are obtainable in all villages. I have noticed that relief workers seldom buy at the bazaars near the works but take their wages away to their villages.

Condition of the people.

On works.—I have within the fortnight inspected the works at Pendarti, Gazuvaka and Dakmarri. The general condition of the workers is, I think, satisfactory. In a very large proportion of cases it is positively good, particularly the women. The men who come to our works are all, I have no doubt, driven to them by necessity and are those who want employment and cannot at this season get it elsewhere, but even among these it is only the aged and feeble who show distinctly bad condition in some cases. Boys of from 10 to 14 often look thin, but seldom the small children. I am pleased to report that Dr. Leapingwell, after inspection of over 3,000 coolies at Dakmarri, considers their condition satisfactory, and that both he and I noticed people who, since we saw them on the same work exactly a month previously, had improved in a marked manner. Still there are places which are not reached by our works, which I hope to extend.

In villages.—There is no general deterioration noticeable in the condition of people in villages. Beggars and such are in bad condition in some cases, but are being fed in kitchens. In Vizagapatam and Vizianagram many beggars prefer their precarious livelihood to the certainty of two meals a day in the kitchen and will have nothing to do with it.

Sickness and Mortality.—There is cholera scattered about the district, but it has not spread seriously anywhere. Mortality is not at all above normal.

Measures of Relief.

On works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
1. Bimlipatam—			
Dakmarri test-work ..	2,258	3,078	The increase is due to the opening of more works and to the increasing want of employment. It will continue to appear as we get more works open.
2. Vizagapatam—			
Gazuvaka test-work ..	835	1,180	One is being opened at Pusapati Rega to-day. I have also, however, very grave doubts whether the wage is not more attractive than it ought to be for women. There are plenty of women in distress to whom the opportunity of earning a wage is a benefit, but it is equally certain that very many of them are attracted merely by the fact that the famine wage of B class is from 1 to 3 pies higher than the ordinary female cooly wage of the district at this season anywhere else than in large towns. There are scores of women on the works whose husbands are not there and are getting comfortable pay elsewhere. The proportion of women in anything but good condition is very small. These remarks in no way apply to men workers, who I think never come to the works unless driven to them by necessity. Mr. Allen, Executive Engineer, joined the district at the beginning of last week, and is taking over the works as he gets staff. He is doing every thing possible to organize them properly.
Pendur test-work ..	310	1,487	
3. Sarvasiddhi—			
Kondakarla test-work..	..	1,444	
Total ..	3,403	7,189	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise :—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In village.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Government—								
1. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	53	69	..	..	..	..
2. Vizianagram	..	..	..	124	..	..	..	..
3. Bimlipatam	230	255	..	14	..	..	..	..
4. Vizagapatam.. ..	..	213	132	26	..	..	..	..
5. Sarvasiddhi	..	20	..	54	..	..	..	..
Total ..	230	488	185	287	..	..	..	..
Rajah Gajapatirow's kitchens—					..	..	..	..
1. Vizagapatam	..	..	..	67	..	..	..	..
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Total ..	..	..	236	375	..	..	..	..
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Taluks.	Repair and construction 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.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	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	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.
1. Palkonda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	635	11	635	..	..	11	635	11	635	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	635	..	..	11	930	13	635	..	..	11	930
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Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	1,270	11	635	11	930	24	1,270	11	635	969	68,183

Taluks.	Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells Constructed or repaired.	Number of wells Under construction or repair.
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda ..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi ..	..	..	..	..	2	1,500	..	..	..	..	2	1,500	..	..
3. Golgonda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7	1,000	7	1,000	2	1,500	7	1,000	7	1,000	2	1,500	..	..

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5. The Board notes that some ordinary works are being started by the Public Works Department in Sarvasiddhi, and probably the Collector may be able to close the Kondakerla work.

6. The Commissioner inspected the kitchen and some 2,000 coolies on the work at Pusapati Rega. The kitchen inmates were generally in fair or good condition. There were no persons, who come up to the level of emaciation, seen frequently in Ganjám, but some eight children required to be placed on special kitchen diet—section 123, Famine Code. Of the 2,000 persons on the work, the great mass were in fair or good condition. There was a weak gang; but the cause of weakness was age, &c., and not attributable to famine. The girls of 7 to 14 were in a great many cases in very poor condition, and there were some children—perhaps a dozen in all—who, both from age and bad health, ought to have been in the kitchen under treatment. It is very difficult to keep children who are about 7, or a little short of it, off the works, and the Revenue officer on the spot should do his best to get them to the kitchen.

7. Prices are lower in Vizagapatam than in any of the other distressed districts, and the distress there is less marked. The condition of the district is some degrees better than Ganjám, and there is no cause for anxiety about it. The weather is promising and the people are hopeful. Mr. Horne is doing all that is necessary.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 374, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(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.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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

G.O., No. 374, 22nd May 1897.

MAY.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting the — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th April 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 6th May 1897, No. 341:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th of April 1897.

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply.

District rainfall.

	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	0·51	0·47
Up to the fortnight	0·51	0·47

There has been from half an inch to an inch of rain at most stations in the plains and very much more in Párvatípuram, where I hear all the tanks and wells are full and for some days much of the country was semi-flooded. The rainfall was as usual lightest round about Vizagapatam and the coast. There is still trouble about drinking-water in Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Yellamanchili taluks and it will recur on the coast of Bimlipatam failing more showers.

There is water for irrigation in many tanks, but nothing is being done towards cultivation under them. It is too early.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Ploughing is still general. There has been a very little sowing of gingelly and cotton, and planting of sugarcane. Paira ragi has been harvested with a very fair outturn.

Standing crops, gingelly, green-gram, indigo and chillies, though not extensive, are doing well. Agricultural operations are as yet few and scarce. The season is the deadest of the year.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder remains, and must continue, very scarce and dear, but is generally available to those who can pay for it, and many ryots have some in store.

Pasture is now in the great majority of places as good as or better than it generally is at this season.

Cattle are now in no danger. The uncared-for village herds, which were getting very poor, can now pick up a living and all cattle of value are in good condition. The cutting and selling of grass provides numbers of the poorer classes with a living, so that the scarcity of fodder is to some a benefit. Even in Vizagapatam taluk, which is and always has been the worst and driest, there is now no general danger to the cattle.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Prospects are everywhere improved to the extent of better water-supply and pasture and the ploughing of dry lands for the early crop has been pushed forwards. The improvement has been great in the Párvatípuram division, where the Senior Assistant Collector reports his apprehensions largely relieved. Cultivation is early in that division and the quantity of unattached labour is not great. In the more affected parts of the district immediate prospects for the class which comes on relief are no better and cannot be so for another month at least, but the ryots regard the season as promising so far.

Food supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts in seers of 80 tolahs per rupee for the period ending 15th of April 1897.

Stations.	Rice. End of last period.	Rice. End of current period.	Ragi. End of last period.	Ragi. End of current period.	Cumbu. End of last period.	Cumbu. End of current period.	Remarks.
1. Párvatípuram ..	10·25	9·84	18·00	17·28	17·50	17·50	Prices are, on the whole, very steady and fluctuations local. I do not think that any considerable rise in prices need now be expected, though they will, no doubt, touch their highest at end of May or beginning of June.
2. Sáluru	11·48	11·48	19·74	21·24	18·90	17·50	
3. Palkonda	9·60	9·60	16·16	16·16	19·80	19·80	
4. Gajapatinagaram ..	9·84	9·84	17·76	17·76	17·28	17·28	
5. Chipurupalle	9·84	9·84	15·84	15·84	17·28	17·28	
6. Vizianagram	9·60	9·60	16·66	16·16	14·85	14·85	
7. Vizagapatam	9·26	9·04	16·66	16·16	13·86	12·87	
8. Chodavaram	9·50	9·50	19·11	19·11	18·48	18·48	
9. Anakápalle	9·00	9·00	16·38	16·38	..	..	
10. Yellamanchili ..	9·50	9·00	14·56	14·56	..	..	
11. Narasapatnam ..	10·34	10·34	16·80	16·80	17·01	16·20	
Average ..	9·83	9·73	17·06	17·04	17·21	16·86	

		Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
Activity of trade.	By sea for the period ending 10th April 1897 ..	2,420	...
	By rail for the period ending 10th April 1897 ...	248	14,545
	By road from Jeypur for the period ending 10th April 1897		carts. 5,650

Trade active and markets sufficiently supplied. Grains are obtainable in all villages. I have noticed that relief workers seldom buy at the bazaars near the works but take their wages away to their villages.

Condition of the people.

On works.—I have within the fortnight inspected the works at Pendarti, Gazuvaka and Dakmarri. The general condition of the workers is, I think, satisfactory. In a very large proportion of cases it is positively good, particularly the women. The men who come to our works are all, I have no doubt, driven to them by necessity and are those who want employment and cannot at this season get it elsewhere, but even among these it is only the aged and feeble who show distinctly bad condition in some cases. Boys of from 10 to 14 often look thin, but seldom the small children. I am pleased to report that Dr. Leapingwell, after inspection of over 3,000 coolies at Dakmarri, considers their condition satisfactory, and that both he and I noticed people who, since we saw them on the same work exactly a month previously, had improved in a marked manner. Still there are places which are not reached by our works, which I hope to extend.

In villages.—There is no general deterioration noticeable in the condition of people in villages. Beggars and such are in bad condition in some cases, but are being fed in kitchens. In Vizagapatam and Vizianagram many beggars prefer their precarious livelihood to the certainty of two meals a day in the kitchen and will have nothing to do with it.

Sickness and Mortality.—There is cholera scattered about the district, but it has not spread seriously anywhere. Mortality is not at all above normal.

Measures of Relief.

On works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
1. Bimlipatam—			
Dakmarri test-work ..	2,258	3,078	The increase is due to the opening of more works and to the increasing want of employment.
2. Vizagapatam—			It will continue to appear as we get more works open.
Gazuvaka test-work ..	835	1,180	Pusapati Rega to-day. I have also, however, very grave doubts whether the wage is not more attractive than it ought to be for women. There are plenty of women in distress to whom the opportunity of earning a wage is a benefit, but it is equally certain that very many of them are attracted merely by the fact that the famine wage of B class is from 1 to 3 pies higher than the ordinary female cooly wage of the district at this season anywhere else than in large towns. There are scores of women on the works whose husbands are not there and are getting comfortable pay elsewhere. The proportion of women in anything but good condition is very small. These remarks in no way apply to men workers, who I think never come to the works unless driven to them by necessity. Mr. Allen, Executive Engineer, joined the district at the beginning of last week, and is taking over the works as he gets staff. He is doing every thing possible to organize them properly.
Pendur test-work ..	310	1,487	
3. Sarvasiddhi—			
Kondakarla test-work..	..	1,444	
Total ..	3,403	7,189	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise :—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In village.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Government—								
1. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	53	69	..	..	..	..
2. Vizianagram	..	..	..	124	..	..	..	..
3. Bimlipatam	230	255	..	14	..	..	..	..
4. Vizagapatam.. ..	..	213	132	26	..	..	..	..
5. Sarvasiddhi	..	20	..	54	..	..	..	..
Total ..	230	488	185	287	..	..	..	..
Rajah Gajapatirow's kitchens—								
1. Vizagapatam	..	..	..	67	..	..	..	..
2. Anakápalle	..	..	85	53	..	..	..	..
3. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	151	255	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	236	375	..	..	..	..
Grand Total ..	230	488	421	662	..	..	..	..

Weaver's relief—Nil.

Private charity.—Private charity on a considerable scale is dispensed by the Maharajah of Vizianagram, the Rajah of Bobbili, M.R.Ry. Perla Narayana Chetti Garu, M.R.Ry. K. Venkanna Garu, and the Rani of Wadhwan and Rani Ankitam Atchayamma.

Rajah Gajapatirow is most generously providing funds for kitchens under my management at Vizagapatam, Anakápalle, Yellamanchili and Nakkapalli.

General Remarks.—During the fortnight the work at Dakmarri has been transferred to the Public Works Department and staff is awaited to take over the other works. The Head Assistant Collector has opened a test work at Kondakarla, where in a few days 1,400 people collected, but the wages are, for women, excessively high compared with the market price of labour, and I am doubtful of the efficacy of the test. Mr. Elwin reports the workers are in "the best of condition and spirits," which is satisfactory, but as the Public Works Department expects to start ample ordinary earthwork in the immediate vicinity at once, the continuance of this work may require consideration. I shall go there as soon as I have finished with the Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks. The Dakmarri work has been getting overcrowded and owing to the laziness and incompetence of the Deputy Tahsildar, Bimlipatam, the kitchen and pay arrangements got into a mess. I sent Mr. Heany who has put them pretty straight and I am now there myself. A further work is wanted in this taluk. I have had the greatest difficulty in selecting one, as all this part is zamindari and there is nothing available but roads or metal-breaking. However, after much riding about the country, Mr. Allen and I have selected a good place near Padmanabham, where much work can be done on a railway feeder road and there is good water-supply available. We hope to start this next week and it will relieve the Dakmarri work, where not only is the crowd excessive but water supply may not hold out, and much useless road metal is being accumulated. Mr. Scott is opening a work at Pusapati Rega to-day. These measures may not meet all requirements and I surmise that more works yet ought to be opened, but we are at least doing it as quickly as can efficiently be managed.

There is no great rush for gratuitous relief at the kitchens. In fact most of the paupers make rather a favour of going there. Mr. Allen has since his arrival done a very great deal in the way of putting in hand ordinary work in Sarvasiddhi taluk, which obviates the necessity for relief work there.

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

Talaks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Purchase of fodder.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.	
	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	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1. Palkonda ..	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	7	1,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	635
2. Sarvasiddhi ..	..	..	..	..	2	1,500	2	1,500	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	635
3. Golgonda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	7	1,000	7	1,000	2	1,500	7	1,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	1,270

Talaks.	Cattle and seed-grain.								Repair and construction of wells.								Purchase of fodder.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.	
	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	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1. Palkonda ..	11	635	11	635	..	..	11	635	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi ..	13	635	..	..	11	930	13	635	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Golgonda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	24	1,270	11	635	11	930	24	1,270	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Talaks.	Total.								Number of wells	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Under construction or repair.	Constructed or repaired.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda ..	11	635	11	635	..	..	11	635	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi ..	13	635	..	..	11	930	13	635	11	930	..	..
3. Golgonda ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	{ 939 19	{ 67,253	..	..
Total ..	24	1,270	11	635	11	930	24	1,270	969	68,183	..	..

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector has been at Dakmarri, Pusapati Rega and Bhogapuram, at the first and last of which works were in execution, and at the second of which one is being started to-day.

The Head Assistant Collector has been engaged moving about Sarvasiddhi taluk and opening test work at Kondakarla.

The Senior Assistant Collector has visited a large number of places in Bobbili, Párvatípuram and Kayaghada.

The Huzur Deputy Collector has been engaged with the works at Pendur and Gazuvaka and has examined villages in the neighbourhood.

I myself inspected Nakkapalli, Yellamanchili and Anakápalle kitchens, Gazuvaka and Pendur works, Vizagapatam kitchen, Vizianagram kitchen and Dakmarri work. I have also been about a good portion of Bimlipatam taluk to select another work which I have succeeded in doing.

Resolution—dated 6th May 1897, No. 341.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight under report was slightly above the average but was insufficient in the Coast taluks, which constitute the affected area, to bring about any immediate improvement in the condition of the country. The showers, however, have relieved anxiety as to other parts of the district, and have encouraged ryots to prepare their fields for the next crop. Pasture is reported to be as good as, or better than, it generally is at this season, and cattle are now out of danger, though fodder remains, and must continue, very scarce and dear. The village herds have not yet quite picked up in condition, but there need be no further anxiety about the cattle in this district or in Ganjám.

3. Prices are, on the whole, steady, but, owing to local variations, show a slight tendency to rise. Their position is shown in the annexed table:—

—	Measures per rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal rate	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning rate	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity ,, ...	9·0	14·0	15·0
Last fortnight	9·8	17·1	17·2
This ,, ...	9·7	17·0	16·9
April 1892	10·3	16·7	17·5
,, 1878	8·1	12·9	13·4

Trade is active and markets are sufficiently supplied.

4. With the exception of beggars, the condition of the people is satisfactory, but that there is a want of employment in parts is shown by the fact that the numbers on relief-works more than doubled during the fortnight, reaching 7,189 on 15th April. The Collector, however, thinks that these figures do not tell an altogether true tale, for he considers that the wage for women is more attractive than it should be, being 1 to 3 pies higher than the ordinary woman's wage "There are", he says, "scores of women on the works whose husbands are not there and are getting comfortable pay elsewhere." The proportion of women to men on relief-works in Vizagapatam is 3 : 1, while it is 2 : 1 in the Deccan districts, and in Bellary, where distress is perhaps most accentuated, it is slightly greater. It is the general experience that, in the earlier stages of distress, women are more ready to attend relief-works than men. There is, no doubt, the fact that the famine wage for women is slightly higher than the normal

wage in this district, but the inference is somewhat discounted by the fact that, at present prices, the famine wage will not buy what the normal wage buys in ordinary times.

5. The Board notes that some ordinary works are being started by the Public Works Department in Sarvasiddhi, and probably the Collector may be able to close the Kondakerla work.

6. The Commissioner inspected the kitchen and some 2,000 coolies on the work at Pusapati Rega. The kitchen inmates were generally in fair or good condition. There were no persons, who come up to the level of emaciation, seen frequently in Ganjám, but some eight children required to be placed on special kitchen diet—section 123, Famine Code. Of the 2,000 persons on the work, the great mass were in fair or good condition. There was a weak gang; but the cause of weakness was age, &c., and not attributable to famine. The girls of 7 to 14 were in a great many cases in very poor condition, and there were some children—perhaps a dozen in all—who, both from age and bad health, ought to have been in the kitchen under treatment. It is very difficult to keep children who are about 7, or a little short of it, off the works, and the Revenue officer on the spot should do his best to get them to the kitchen.

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(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

ORDER—No. 374, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(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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Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 407, 28th May 1897.

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MAY.

To
The S.E. I Circle
do III Circle

Affected districts in the Madras [illegible] dency.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Governmer[illegible] opy of the monthly report for April 1897 on the — sent to the Government of India.