Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2518 W

DATED 9 September 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine: Pro: Revenue Dept recording Board's Pro: submitting with remarks the fortnightly famine narrative of the Vizagapatam Dt. for the period ending 15th July 1897 Contd 6 S.E.T Cards

Indexed. W/9

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Public works (1897) department

Current No: 8772

Government (1897) of Madras.

REVENUE.

No. 236 gw d/26-8-97

Recd. 1.9. } 1897.
Regd. 1.9.

Enclosures -
Spare copies 16

G.O., No. 708, 20th August 1897.

No 25-18 W 9 Sep 97

B

AUGUST.

Communicated to the Suptg. Engr I circle

4/9/97

S. E. I circle
the Supdg
10/9/97

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th July 1897.

0.25438 R 6/9

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 548, dated 4th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall in inches.	Expected rainfall in inches.
In the fortnight	1·74	4·47
Up to the fortnight	9·55	16·00

The rainfall in the fortnight was seriously deficient in most places, and sufficient for irrigation only in a few limited localities.

Drinking water-supply sufficient everywhere except in a few villages of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Sarvasiddhi taluks, particularly Waltair and Vizagapatam.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Transplantation of dry crops has been proceeding wherever there was sufficient rainfall to render it possible. In some places, parts of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle, Sarvasiddhi, Palkonda and Gajapatinagaram especially, the early sown dry crops have withered, but the great bulk of the ragi and cumbu has been just saved by rain coming in time, though much of it is stunted and thin. Gingelly is thin and poor in the Southern taluks. In the Northern inland taluks it was a very good and promising crop, but is being ruined by a plague of caterpillars. The Senior Assistant thinks that from one-third to one-half of it may be taken as totally lost from this cause.

I estimate the cumbu and ragi on the ground as fairly certain to give an eight-anna crop on the average, and better if a very moderate quantity of rain is received.

Paddy seed-beds are being sown in a few places where water is available.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is everywhere fairly good, except in parts of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Sarvasiddhi. Fodder is very scarce. Palmyra leaves are largely used in place of it. Cattle generally in good or fair condition.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—A week ago the agricultural situation was almost desperate, the dry crops were withered or withering, a burning sun was shining and the ryots were in a panic of despair. Since then there has been an improvement and the weather has been cloudy, cool and damp, with frequent drizzles of rain and good falls in a few places. This has saved thousands of acres of cumbu and ragi, revived gingelly and inspirited the ryots. Should this welcome change prove to be the beginning of monsoon weather, the agricultural prospect will rapidly improve. Heavy rain is now wanted for wet cultivation which is very late in beginning. The present weather is extremely favourable for dry crops.

Food Supplies and the State of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th July 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 ..	7·87	8·20	11·59	11·16	..	..	Prices rising everywhere stocks of ragi and cumbu are, no doubt, low, and these grains are sometimes not easy to buy in Palkonda and Chípurupalle taluks.
2. Sálúru	8·20	8·20	11·52	10·98	10·50	10·50	
3. Palkonda	8·24	6·78	11·11	8·68	12·87	..	
4. Gajapatinagaram ..	8·20	7·38	11·10	11·10	10·80	10·80	
5. Chípurupalle	7·38	7·38	11·04	10·80	11·52	11·52	
6. Vizianagram	8·47	7·91	11·11	10·10	..	10·39	
7. Vizagapatam	7·34	7·34	12·12	11·11	11·88	..	
8. Chódavaramu ..	9·00	10·00	13·65	11·83	..	..	
9. Anakapalle	8·50	9·00	12·74	12·28	..	..	
10. Yellamanchilli ..	8·50	8·00	10·92	10·92	..	..	
11. Narasapatam	7·50	8·00	11·37	10·92	13·20	12·32	
Average ..	8·10	8·01	11·66	10·89	11·79	11·01	

Activity of Trade.

	Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
By sea, for the period ending 10th July 1897	...	7,388
By rail, do. do.	1,092	60,445
By road from Jeypore for the period ending 10th July 1897. ...		4,244 (carts).

Trade fairly active, but dull in Palkonda and Chípurupalle.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Good as a general rule.

I have inspected some thousands within the last four days.

In villages.—The general population in villages looks well enough. Certain classes, however, and particularly the children and aged among them, show the marks of the struggle. Circle inspection is now organized over a large portion of the district and village relief is being administered.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera very prevalent.

It attacked the workers on the Chípurupalle–Laveru road and they scattered, the numbers falling from 3,500 to 45. However, due sanitary measures having been taken, it has apparently been suppressed and some 1,200 workers have returned. Other works have been free from it. No other disease or sickness prevalent.

Remarks.—There is a great deal of emigration to Gódávari, where it is the custom of this District to go for work when times are hard. The Collector of Gódávari complains of it, but I do not see how it is to be stopped. We have not work available for all, I am sorry to say, and the tradition of 3 annas a day in Gódávari tempts them.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	Number employed. This fortnight.	Remarks.
Relief works.			
I. Vizianagram—			
(1) Pusapatirega	5,009	5,885	This work was swelled by workers who ran away from the Laveru road where cholera broke out.
II. Bimlipatam—			
(1) Dakmarri	2,883	2,212	Decrease owing to rain on day of report.
(2) Padmanabham	4,025	4,129	
III. Vizagapatam—			
(1) Gazuvaka	1,658	2,446	
(2) Pendur	3,768	4,442	Numbers at Pendur went over 5,000, but dropped on good rain falling in the neighbourhood.
IV. Bobbili—			
(1) Bobbili–Akulakotta road work ..	..	3,271	New work.
V. Chipurupalle—			
(1) Laveru road	..	45	There were over 3,500 on this work, but they dispersed owing to cholera.
Total ..	17,343	22,430	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
I. Bobbili taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	706
1. Bobbili kitchen	..	350	419	304	..	..	..	..
2. Sitanagaram	..	..	343	272	..	..	..	..
3. Chintada	..	..	187	249	..	..	..	..
4. Amiti	..	..	..	332	..	..	..	1,665
II. Parvatipuram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Kitchen at Parvatipuram.	..	..	592	330	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Duggi ..	..	..	150	180	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Gorugubilli ..	..	..	182	224	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Bandaluppi ..	..	..	223	500	..	..	..	..
5. Do. at Komarada ..	..	..	..	205	..	..	..	..
III. Sálúr taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	722
1. Ramabhadrapurkitchen ..	..	..	..	431	..	..	..	..
2. Mamidipalli	..	..	..	359	..	..	..	..
3. Makkuva	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..
IV. Palkonda taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	382
1. Kitchen at Sitampeta ..	..	..	..	107	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Rajam ..	..	..	..	412	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Palkonda ..	..	..	..	187	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Viraghattam ..	..	..	..	335	..	..	..	..
V Chipurupalle taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	298
1. Laveru kitchen	..	189	..	37	..	..	..	..
2. Ranastalam	..	..	218	183	..	..	..	..
VI. Gajapatinagaram taluk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Gajapatinagaram kitchen.	..	..	..	347	..	..	..	..
2. Meraka Mudidam ..	..	..	..	357	..	..	..	..
VII. Vizianagram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	384
1. Pusapatirega kitchen ..	137	174	93	126	..	..	..	..
2. Vizianagram do. ..	..	..	292	356	..	..	..	..
3. Kotagandredu do. ..	..	..	205	293	..	..	..	..
4. Gantyada	..	..	283	255	..	..	..	..
5. Sativada	..	..	..	152	..	..	..	..
VIII. Bimlipatam taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1,361
1. Dakmarri kitchen ..	301	324	42	65	..	..	..	..
2. Padmanabham kitchen ..	162	186	170	227	..	..	..	..
3. Bhogapuram do. ..	..	..	165	171	..	..	..	..
4. Tallavalasa do. ..	..	..	412	401	..	..	..	..
5. Sontyam do. ..	..	..	433	447	..	..	..	..
IX. Srungavarapukótta taluk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	248	1,360
1. Tummikapalli kitchen ..	..	..	190	264	..	..	..	..
2. Srungavarapukótta ..	..	..	15	158	..	..	..	..
X. Vizagapatam taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	841	3,400
1. Gazuwaka kitchen ..	271	384	23	29	..	..	..	..
2. Pendur	388	446	17	8	..	..	..	..
3. Dondaparti	..	..	332	561	..	..	..	..
XI. Anakápalle taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	117
1. Anakápalle kitchen ..	..	..	340	116	..	..	..	..
2. Paravada	..	..	..	136	..	..	..	..
3. Sabbavaram	..	..	..	111	..	..	..	..
XII. Sarvasiddhi taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,153
1. Yellamanchilli kitchen ..	..	..	1,308	454	..	..	..	..
2. Nakkapalli do. ..				357	..	..	..	..
3. Kondakarla do. ..	..	..	515	253	..	..	..	..
4. Uddandapuram	..	..	329	229	..	..	..	..
XIII. Golgonda taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
1. Narsapatam kitchen ..	..	..	..	274	..	..	..	..
2. Guduturu do. ..	..	..	..	121	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,259	2,053	7,478	11,070	..	..	1,115	11,588

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
1. Palkonda	Not reported.		426	1,006	1,011	1,075

Private charity.—Private charity is contracting somewhat rapidly. Mr. P. Narayana Chetti has stopped the money doles which he was giving to Kshatriyas, and such as require it are being taken on the Government relief lists. Mr. Venkanna Chetti of Pondur has stopped his kitchen at that place. A Government one has been opened. Raja G. N. Gajapati Rao, C.I.E., has handed over his kitchens to Government.

General remarks.—The situation grew worse throughout the fortnight till towards the end, when there was a great improvement in the weather and some fairly good rain fell in places. This has saved thousands of acres of dry crops, which were beginning to wither, though some were already beyond help. The prospect has become slightly less gloomy in consequence, up to the time when the weather changed, widespread desolation seemed imminent. Prospects of dry crops are now fair, unless a further extraordinarily protracted drought occurs. Prospects of wet cultivation are still unknown as it is practically not begun. Meanwhile the prices continue abnormal and much distress is felt in consequence. Two or three more relief works will be opened almost immediately. Kitchens are now open everywhere. One weavers' depôt is working and two more being opened. Circle inspection is being organized and is in full swing in about half the District. It is very difficult to get men fit for it, and their various views of what constitutes a person deserving of relief are most extraordinary. Distress will increase or decrease principally as the prices move, and if the season continues as favourable as during the last 3 or 4 days, I expect a fall in prices shortly. There is enough of the dry crop well on the way to harvest to make the Komaties cautious about pushing their combination too far.

I have, by arrangement with the Deputy Commissioner of Salt and Abkári and permission of the Commissioner, now got 4 salt officers, Messrs. I. Brown, Tillard, Wroughton and Flemyng, doing the work of Taluk Relief officers in their respective taluks, and Mr. Heaney, Assistant Collector, is doing it in Vizianagram and Bimlipatam, so far as one man can do two taluks. Taluk Relief officers are almost as essential when circle relief is administered, as very few Circle Inspectors show more than the germs of sense. They exhibit either an adamantine severity or a criminal laxity in admitting to relief, which calls for constant check and supervision. This a Divisional officer with 4 or 5 taluks and 20 to 30 circles cannot give, and the Taluk officers are not always much more discreet than the Circle Inspectors. A relief work was opened at Yellamanchilli on the last day of the fortnight and another will be started in Golgonda and Viravilli taluks immediately.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.				Other purposes.				Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		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.		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.			
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,000	4	1,000	15	3,790	..	4
3. Golgonda	4	900	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	750	7	750	12	3,200	..	..
4. Párvatípuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,800	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	400	2	400	2	100	..	..
Total ..	4	900	4	900	7	3,070	4	450	24	4,950	20	3,150	40	9,160	..	4

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.				Cattle and seed-grain.				Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		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.		
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	* 15	540	* 15	540	..	..	..	..	317	15,283	317	15,283	201	14,053	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	2	112	2	112	..	..	..	..	230	17,234	229	17,219	401	65,437	4	110
3. Golgonda	†1,116	22,115	1,079	21,211	† 137	4,916	..	..	† 1,116	26,368	1,079	25,392	† 137	6,319	..	..
4. Párvatípuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,133	22,767	1,096	21,863	139	5,026	739	57,894	1,663	58,885	1,625	57,894	739	85,809	1,627	79,217

Taluks.	Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
	38	39	40	41	42	43
		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	201	14,053	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	403	65,547	..	..	..	..
3. Golgonda	† 137	14,235	..	..	..	..
4. Párvatípuram	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	741	90,835	1,627	79,217	..	4

* These applications are included in the figure shown in column 28. † In all these cases, fodder, seed-grain and cattle were applied for in one and the same application

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

Principal Assistant Collector—Vizianagram taluk.—Vizianagram (kitchen), Gantyoda (kitchen), Kota Gandredu (kitchen), Satyavada (kitchen) and Pusapatirega (work and kitchen).

Bimlipatam taluk.—Padmanabham and Dakmarri relief-works and kitchens, Bhogapuram (kitchen).

Chípurupalle taluk.—Chípurupalle, Ranastalam (kitchen), Laveru relief-work and kitchen, Pondur (to start weavers' depôt and kitchen).

Palkonda taluk.—Rajam weavers' depôt and kitchen.

Senior Assistant Collector—Párvatipuram taluk.—Duggi, Gorugubilli, Bandalappi, Párvatípuram and Komarada (five kitchens), also 18 other villages.

Bobbili taluk.—Bobbili relief-work; Bobbili, Chintada, Sítanagram and Amit (four kitchens) also nine other villages.

Sálúr taluk.—Ramabhadrapur, Mamidipali and Makkwa (three kitchens) and six other villages.

Head Assistant Collector—Viravilli taluk.—Devarapalli, Madgole (kitchen), and Waddadi and other villages surrounding.

Golgonda taluk.—Narsapatam and Kottakota (Relief circles).

Sarvasiddhi taluk.—Yellamanchilli, Nakkapalli and Uddandapuram (kitchens and Relief circles.

Anakápalle taluk.—Anakápalle (kitchen and circle).

Huzur Deputy Collector.—Gazuvaka and Pendurti relief-works and kitchens and 29 other villages in connection with circle relief.

Collector—Palkonda taluk.—Palkonda and other villages.

Vizianagram taluk.—Vizianagram and Pusapatirega.

Sarvasiddhi taluk.—Yellamanchilli, Nakkapalli, Rayavaram and Uddandapuram.

Golgonda taluk.—Pedda Gummulur.

Anakápalle taluk.—Anakápalle.

Vizagapatam taluk.—Madhuravada.

Bimlipatam taluk.—Tallavalasa, Chittivalasa, Padmanabham and Dakmarri.

Resolution—No. 548, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the fortnight was seriously deficient, being considerably less than half what was to be expected. The period opened dry, and it was not till towards its close that rain was received; since then, however, good falls have been registered, as noted below:—

Stations.	Inches.	Stations.	Inches.
Párvatípuram	4·03	Bimilipatam	1·85
Palkonda	2·63	Korinda	0·46
Bobbili	3·44	Waltair	0·68
Sálúru	1·30	Chódavaramu	1·24
Gajapatinagaram	0·40	Anakápalle	0·16
Chípurupalle	0·95	Balacheruvu	0·50
Kuppili	0 91	Polavaram	0·63
Vizianagram	0·10	Yellamanchilli	1·04
Srungavarappukota ...	0·52	Narasapatnam	0·97

It will be observed that even this rain has been somewhat unequal. The prolonged drought caused a considerable area of the dry crops to wither, and a large proportion of the promising crops in the northern inland taluks was ruined by caterpillars; it is hoped that this pest may have been removed by the recent rains. The dry crops, that have survived, give promise of an 8-anna crop. Wet cultivation had not yet been commenced, but is probably now in progress. The outlook is brighter.

3. Prices continued to rise, in spite of large imports. The rise is probably due to the apprehension of the monsoon failing. The comparative position of prices is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal	15·0	23·0	30·0
Warning	12·0	21 0	22·5
Scarcity	9·0	14·0	15·0
Current	8·0	10·9	11·0
July 1892	9·9	16·1	16·3
July 1878	6·9	11·6	11·3

4. The condition of the people was, on the whole, good, though the very old and very young show marks of the struggle. The numbers on works increased by 29 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 150 per cent. The administration of the latter form of relief is a matter of difficulty without the closest supervision, and it is hoped that more efficient control will be possible, now that four Taluk Relief officers have been appointed, though this number is less than what the Collector thinks necessary.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans:—

Up to end of week ending—	Rs.
June 19th	52,633
„ 26th	61,543
July 3rd	74,237
„ 10th	82,817
„ 17th	88,816

Applications for seed-grain are numerous in Sarvasiddhi, and should be disposed of as soon as possible.

6. The touring in the fortnight was very good. It may seem ungracious, but the Famine Commissioner fears that the District Officers are over-doing it. The strongest constitution cannot stand such constant change, and these officers should remember that they, with their special experience, are of special value at present, and should not over-do inspection. This remark is not likely to be misunderstood, or taken undue advantage of, by any of the officers concerned.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 708, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 708, 20th August 1897.

No 2518 W 9 Sep 97
Communicated to the S. E. I circle.
[signature]

AUGUST.

To
The S. E. I circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th July 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 548, dated 4th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall in inches.	Expected rainfall in inches.
In the fortnight	1·74	4·47
Up to the fortnight	9·55	16·00

The rainfall in the fortnight was seriously deficient in most places, and sufficient for irrigation only in a few limited localities.

Drinking water-supply sufficient everywhere except in a few villages of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Sarvasiddhi taluks, particularly Waltair and Vizagapatam.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Transplantation of dry crops has been proceeding wherever there was sufficient rainfall to render it possible. In some places, parts of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle, Sarvasiddhi, Palkonda and Gajapatinagaram especially, the early sown dry crops have withered, but the great bulk of the ragi and cumbu has been just saved by rain coming in time, though much of it is stunted and thin. Gingelly is thin and poor in the Southern taluks. In the Northern inland taluks it was a very good and promising crop, but is being ruined by a plague of caterpillars. The Senior Assistant thinks that from one-third to one-half of it may be taken as totally lost from this cause.

I estimate the cumbu and ragi on the ground as fairly certain to give an eight-anna crop on the average, and better if a very moderate quantity of rain is received.

Paddy seed-beds are being sown in a few places where water is available.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is everywhere fairly good, except in parts of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Sarvasiddhi. Fodder is very scarce. Palmyra leaves are largely used in place of it. Cattle generally in good or fair condition.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—A week ago the agricultural situation was almost desperate, the dry crops were withered or withering, a burning sun was shining and the ryots were in a panic of despair. Since then there has been an improvement and the weather has been cloudy, cool and damp, with frequent drizzles of rain and good falls in a few places. This has saved thousands of acres of cumbu and ragi, revived gingelly and inspirited the ryots. Should this welcome change prove to be the beginning of monsoon weather, the agricultural prospect will rapidly improve. Heavy rain is now wanted for wet cultivation which is very late in beginning. The present weather is extremely favourable for dry crops.

Food Supplies and the state of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th July 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 ..	7·87	8·20	11·59	11·16	..	..	Prices rising everywhere stocks of ragi and cumbu are, no doubt, low, and these grains are sometimes not easy to buy in Palkonda and Chípurupalle taluks.
2. Sálúru	8·20	8·20	11·52	10·98	10·50	10·50	
3. Palkonda	8·24	6·78	11·11	8·68	12·87	..	
4. Gajapatinagaram ..	8·20	7·38	11·10	11·10	10·80	10·80	
5. Chipurupalle	7·38	7·38	11·04	10·80	11·52	11·52	
6. Vizianagram	8·47	7·91	11·11	10·10	..	10·39	
7. Vizagapatam	7·34	7·34	12·12	11·11	11·88	..	
8. Chódavaramu ..	9·00	10·00	13·65	11·83	..	..	
9. Anakapalle	8·50	9·00	12·74	12·38	..	..	
10. Yellamanchilli ..	8·50	8·00	10·92	10·92	..	..	
11. Narasapatam	7·50	8·00	11·37	10·92	13·20	12·32	
Average ..	8·10	8·01	11·66	10·89	11·79	11·01	

Activity of trade.

	Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
By sea, for the period ending 10th July 1897	..	7,388
By rail, do. do.	1,092	60,445
By road from Jeypore for the period ending 10th July 1897. ...		4,244 (carts).

Trade fairly active, but dull in Palkonda and Chípurupalle.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Good as a general rule.

I have inspected some thousands within the last four days.

In villages.—The general population in villages looks well enough. Certain classes, however, and particularly the children and aged among them, show the marks of the struggle. Circle inspection is now organized over a large portion of the district and village relief is being administered.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera very prevalent.

It attacked the workers on the Chípurupalle–Laveru road and they scattered, the numbers falling from 3,500 to 45. However, due sanitary measures having been taken, it has apparently been suppressed and some 1,200 workers have returned. Other works have been free from it. No other disease or sickness prevalent.

Remarks.—There is a great deal of emigration to Gódávari, where it is the custom of this District to go for work when times are hard. The Collector of Gódávari complains of it, but I do not see how it is to be stopped. We have not work available for all, I am sorry to say, and the tradition of 3 annas a day in Gódávari tempts them.

Measures of relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	Number employed. This fortnight.	Remarks.
Relief works.			
I. Vizianagram—			
(1) Pusapatirega	5,009	5,885	This work was swelled by workers who ran away from the Laveru road where cholera broke out.
II. Bimlipatam—			
(1) Dakmarri	2,883	2,212	Decrease owing to rain on day of report.
(2) Padmanabham	4,025	4,129	
III. Vizagapatam—			
(1) Gazuvaka	1,658	2,446	
(2) Pendur	3,768	4,442	Numbers at Pendur went over 5,000, but dropped on good rain falling in the neighbourhood.
IV. Bobbili—			
(1) Bobbili–Akulakotta road work ..	..	3,271	New work.
V. Chipurupalle—			
(1) Laveru road	..	45	There were over 3,500 on this work, but they dispersed owing to cholera.
Total ..	17,343	22,430	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
I. Bobbili taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	706
1. Bobbili kitchen	..	350	419	304	..	..	..	..
2. Sitanagaram	..	..	343	272	..	..	..	..
3. Chintada	..	..	187	249	..	..	..	..
4. Amiti	..	..	..	332	..	..	..	..
II. Parvatipuram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,665
1. Kitchen at Parvatipuram.	..	..	592	330	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Duggi	..	..	150	180	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Gorugubilli	..	..	182	224	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Bandaluppi	..	..	223	500	..	..	..	..
5. Do. at Komarada	..	..	..	205	..	..	..	..
III. Sálúr taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	722
1. Ramabhadrapurkitchen	..	..	..	431	..	..	..	..
2. Mamidipalli	..	..	..	359	..	..	..	..
3. Makkuva	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..
IV. Palkonda taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	382
1. Kitchen at Sitampeta	..	..	..	107	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Rajam	..	..	..	412	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Palkonda	..	..	..	187	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Viraghattam	..	..	..	335	..	..	..	..
V Chipurupalle taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	298
1. Laveru kitchen	..	189	..	37	..	..	..	..
2. Ranastalam	..	..	218	183	..	..	..	..
VI. Gajapatinagaram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Gajapatinagaram kitchen.	..	..	..	347	..	..	..	..
2. Meraka Mudidam	..	..	..	357	..	..	..	..
VII. Vizianagram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	384
1. Pusapatirega kitchen	137	174	93	126	..	..	..	..
2. Vizianagram do.	..	..	292	356	..	..	..	..
3. Kotagandredu do.	..	..	205	293	..	..	..	..
4. Gantyada	..	..	283	255	..	..	..	..
5. Sativada	..	..	..	152	..	..	..	..
VIII. Bimlipatam taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1,361
1. Dakmarri kitchen	301	324	42	65	..	..	..	..
2. Padmanabham kitchen	162	186	170	227	..	..	..	..
3. Bhogapuram do.	..	..	165	171	..	..	..	..
4. Tallavalasa do.	..	..	412	401	..	..	..	..
5. Sontyam do.	..	..	433	447	..	..	..	..
IX. Srungavarapukótta taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	248	1,360
1. Tummikapalli kitchen	..	..	190	264	..	..	..	..
2. Srungavarapukótta	..	..	15	158	..	..	..	..
X. Vizagapatam taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	841	3,400
1. Gazuwaka kitchen	271	384	23	29	..	..	..	..
2. Pendur	388	446	17	8	..	..	..	..
3. Dondaparti	..	..	332	561	..	..	..	..
XI. Anakápalle taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	117
1. Anakápalle kitchen	..	..	340	116	..	..	..	..
2. Paravada	..	..	..	136	..	..	..	..
3. Sabbavaram	..	..	..	111	..	..	..	..
XII. Sarvasiddhi taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,153
1. Yellamanchilli kitchen	..	..	1,308	454	..	..	..	..
2. Nakkapalli do.	..	..		357	..	..	..	..
3. Kondakarla do.	..	..	515	253	..	..	..	..
4. Uddandapuram	..	..	329	229	..	..	..	..
XIII. Golgonda taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
1. Narsapatam kitchen	..	..	..	274	..	..	..	..
2. Guduturu do.	..	..	..	121	..	..	..	..
Total	1,259	2,053	7,478	11,070	..	..	1,115	11,588

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
1. Palkonda	Not reported.		426	1,006	1,011	1,075

Private charity.—Private charity is contracting somewhat rapidly. Mr. P. Narayana Chetti has stopped the money doles which he was giving to Kshatriyas, and such as require it are being taken on the Government relief lists. Mr. Venkanna Chetti of Pondur has stopped his kitchen at that place. A Government one has been opened. Raja G. N. Gajapati Rao, C.I.E., has handed over his kitchens to Government.

General remarks.—The situation grew worse throughout the fortnight till towards the end, when there was a great improvement in the weather and some fairly good rain fell in places. This has saved thousands of acres of dry crops, which were beginning to wither, though some were already beyond help. The prospect has become slightly less gloomy in consequence, up to the time when the weather changed, widespread desolation seemed imminent. Prospects of dry crops are now fair, unless a further extraordinarily protracted drought occurs. Prospects of wet cultivation are still unknown as it is practically not begun. Meanwhile the prices continue abnormal and much distress is felt in consequence. Two or three more relief works will be opened almost immediately. Kitchens are now open everywhere. One weavers' depôt is working and two more being opened. Circle inspection is being organized and is in full swing in about half the District. It is very difficult to get men fit for it, and their various views of what constitutes a person deserving of relief are most extraordinary. Distress will increase or decrease principally as the prices move, and if the season continues as favourable as during the last 3 or 4 days, I expect a fall in prices shortly. There is enough of the dry crop well on the way to harvest to make the Komaties cautious about pushing their combination too far.

I have, by arrangement with the Deputy Commissioner of Salt and Abkári and permission of the Commissioner, now got 4 salt officers, Messrs. I. Brown, Tillard, Wroughton and Flemyng, doing the work of Taluk Relief officers in their respective taluks, and Mr. Heaney, Assistant Collector, is doing it in Vizianagram and Bimlipatam, so far as one man can do two taluks. Taluk Relief officers are almost as essential when circle relief is administered, as very few Circle Inspectors show more than the germs of sense. They exhibit either an adamantine severity or a criminal laxity in admitting to relief, which calls for constant check and supervision. This a Divisional officer with 4 or 5 taluks and 20 to 30 circles cannot give, and the Taluk officers are not always much more discreet than the Circle Inspectors. A relief work was opened at Yellamanchilli on the last day of the fortnight and another will be started in Golgonda and Viravilli taluks immediately.

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

Taluks.	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	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
1. Palkonda	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	7	1,000	7	1,000	7	1,000	..	..	7	1,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	4	1,000	4	1,000	15	3,790	8	1,900	4	900	4	900	..	..	8	1,900	..	..	..	..	4	1,000	4	1,000
3. Golgonda	7	750	7	750	12	3,200	7	750	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	3,070	..	..	..	..	7	3,070
4. Párvatípuram	4	1,800	4	1,800	..	..	4	1,800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	2	400	2	400	2	100	2	400	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	24	4,950	20	3,150	40	9,160	28	5,850	4	900	4	900	7	3,070	11	3,970	7	3,070	4	450	11	3,070	11	3,520

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.								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.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
1. Palkonda	* 15	640	* 15	640	..	..	* 15	640	317	15,283	317	15,283	201	14,053	317	15,283
2. Sarvasiddhi	2	112	2	112	2	110	4	222	230	17,234	229	17,219	401	65,437	231	17,331
3. Golgonda	†1,116	22,115	1,079	21,211	† 137	4,916	† 1,253	26,127	1,116	26,368	1,079	25,392	† 137	6,319	1,079	46,603
4. Párvatípuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,133	22,767	1,096	21,863	139	5,026	1,272	27,789	1,663	58,885	1,625	57,894	739	85,809	1,627	79,217

Taluks.	Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications pending.		Under construction or repair.	Constructed or repaired.		
	Number.	Amount.				
	38	39	40	41		
		Rs.				
1. Palkonda	201	14,053	..	..		
2. Sarvasiddhi	403	65,547	4	..		
3. Golgonda	† 137	11,235	..	..		
4. Párvatípuram	..	..	..	..		
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..		
Total ..	741	90,835	4	..		

* These applications are included in the figure shown in column 28. † In all these cases, fodder, seed-grain and cattle were applied for in one and the same application

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

Principal Assistant Collector—Vizianagram taluk.—Vizianagram (kitchen), Gantyoda (kitchen), Kota Gandredu (kitchen), Satyavada (kitchen) and Pusapatirega (work and kitchen).

Bimlipatam taluk.—Padmanabham and Dakmarri relief-works and kitchens, Bhogapuram (kitchen).

Chípurupalle taluk.—Chípurupalle, Ranastalam (kitchen), Laveru relief-work and kitchen, Pondur (to start weavers' depôt and kitchen).

Palkonda taluk.—Rajam weavers' depôt and kitchen.

Senior Assistant Collector—Párvatipuram taluk.—Duggi, Gorugubilli, Bandalappi, Párvatípuram and Komarada (five kitchens), also 18 other villages.

Bobbili taluk.—Bobbili relief-work; Bobbili, Chintada, Sítanagram and Amit (four kitchens) also nine other villages.

Sálúr taluk.—Ramabhadrapur, Mamidipali and Makkwa (three kitchens) and six other villages.

Head Assistant Collector—Viravilli taluk.—Devarapalli, Madgole (kitchen), and Waddadi and other villages surrounding.

Golgonda taluk.—Narsapatam and Kottakota (Relief circles).

Sarvasiddhi taluk.—Yellamanchilli, Nakkapalli and Uddandapuram (kitchens and Relief circles.

Anakápalle taluk.—Anakápalle (kitchen and circle).

Huzur Deputy Collector.—Gazuvaka and Pendurti relief-works and kitchens and 29 other villages in connection with circle relief.

Collector—Palkonda taluk.—Palkonda and other villages.

Vizianagram taluk.—Vizianagram and Pusapatirega.

Sarvasiddhi taluk.—Yellamanchilli, Nakkapalli, Rayavaram and Uddandapuram.

Golgonda taluk.—Pedda Gummulur.

Anakápalle taluk.—Anakápalle.

Vizagapatam taluk.—Madhuravada.

Bimlipatam taluk.—Tallavalasa, Chittivalasa, Padmanabham and Dakmarri.

Resolution—No. 548, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the fortnight was seriously deficient, being considerably less than half what was to be expected. The period opened dry, and it was not till towards its close that rain was received; since then, however, good falls have been registered, as noted below:—

Stations.	Inches.	Stations.	Inches.
Párvatípuram ...	4·03	Bimilipatam ...	1·85
Palkonda	2·63	Korinda	0·46
Bobbili	3·44	Waltair	0·68
Sálúru	1·30	Chódavaramu ...	1·24
Gajapatinagaram ...	0·40	Anakápalle	0·16
Chipurupalle ...	0·95	Balacheruvu ...	0·50
Kuppili	0 91	Polavaram	0·63
Vizianagram ...	0·10	Yellamanchilli ...	1·04
Srungavarappukota ...	0·52	Narasapatnam ...	0·97

It will be observed that even this rain has been somewhat unequal. The prolonged drought caused a considerable area of the dry crops to wither, and a large proportion of the promising crops in the northern inland taluks was ruined by caterpillars; it is hoped that this pest may have been removed by the recent rains. The dry crops, that have survived, give promise of an 8-anna crop. Wet cultivation had not yet been commenced, but is probably now in progress. The outlook is brighter.

3. Prices continued to rise, in spite of large imports. The rise is probably due to the apprehension of the monsoon failing. The comparative position of prices is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity	9·0	14·0	15·0
Current	8·0	10·9	11·0
July 1892	9·9	16·1	16·3
July 1878	6·9	11·6	11·3

4. The condition of the people was, on the whole, good, though the very old and very young show marks of the struggle. The numbers on works increased by 29 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 150 per cent. The administration of the latter form of relief is a matter of difficulty without the closest supervision, and it is hoped that more efficient control will be possible, now that four Taluk Relief officers have been appointed, though this number is less than what the Collector thinks necessary.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans:—

Up to end of week ending—	Rs.
June 19th	52,633
„ 26th	61,543
July 3rd	74,237
„ 10th	82,817
„ 17th	88,816

Applications for seed-grain are numerous in Sarvasiddhi, and should be disposed of as soon as possible.

6. The touring in the fortnight was very good. It may seem ungracious, but the Famine Commissioner fears that the District Officers are over-doing it. The strongest constitution cannot stand such constant change, and these officers should remember that they, with their special experience, are of special value at present, and should not over-do inspection. This remark is not likely to be misunderstood, or taken undue advantage of, by any of the officers concerned.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 708, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 708, 20th August 1897.

No 2518 W 9 Sep 97
Communicated to
the S.-G.-I. Circle

AUGUST.

To
The S.-G.-I. Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 15th July 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 548, dated 4th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district during the period ending 15th July 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall in inches.	Expected rainfall in inches.
In the fortnight	1·74	4·47
Up to the fortnight	9·55	16·00

The rainfall in the fortnight was seriously deficient in most places, and sufficient for irrigation only in a few limited localities.

Drinking water-supply sufficient everywhere except in a few villages of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Sarvasiddhi taluks, particularly Waltair and Vizagapatam.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Transplantation of dry crops has been proceeding wherever there was sufficient rainfall to render it possible. In some places, parts of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle, Sarvasiddhi, Palkonda and Gajapatinagaram especially, the early sown dry crops have withered, but the great bulk of the ragi and cumbu has been just saved by rain coming in time, though much of it is stunted and thin. Gingelly is thin and poor in the Southern taluks. In the Northern inland taluks it was a very good and promising crop, but is being ruined by a plague of caterpillars. The Senior Assistant thinks that from one-third to one-half of it may be taken as totally lost from this cause.

I estimate the cumbu and ragi on the ground as fairly certain to give an eight-anna crop on the average, and better if a very moderate quantity of rain is received.

Paddy seed-beds are being sown in a few places where water is available.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is everywhere fairly good, except in parts of Vizagapatam, Anakápalle and Sarvasiddhi. Fodder is very scarce. Palmyra leaves are largely used in place of it. Cattle generally in good or fair condition.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—A week ago the agricultural situation was almost desperate, the dry crops were withered or withering, a burning sun was shining and the ryots were in a panic of despair. Since then there has been an improvement and the weather has been cloudy, cool and damp, with frequent drizzles of rain and good falls in a few places. This has saved thousands of acres of cumbu and ragi, revived gingelly and inspirited the ryots. Should this welcome change prove to be the beginning of monsoon weather, the agricultural prospect will rapidly improve. Heavy rain is now wanted for wet cultivation which is very late in beginning. The present weather is extremely favourable for dry crops.

Food Supplies and the State of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th July 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 ..	7·87	8·20	11·59	11·16	..	..	Prices rising everywhere stocks of ragi and cumbu are, no doubt, low, and these grains are sometimes not easy to buy in Palkonda and Chípurupalle taluks.
2. Sálúru	8·20	8·20	11·52	10·98	10·50	10·50	
3. Palkonda	8·24	6 78	11·11	8·68	12·87	..	
4. Gajapatinagaram ..	8·20	7·38	11·10	11·10	10·80	10·80	
5. Chípurupalle	7·38	7·38	11·04	10·80	11·52	11·52	
6. Vizianagram	8·47	7·91	11·11	10·10	..	10·39	
7. Vizagapatam	7·34	7·34	12·12	11·11	11·88	..	
8. Chódavaramu ..	9·00	10·00	13·65	11·83	..	..	
9. Anakapalle	8·50	9·00	12·74	12·28	..	..	
10. Yellamanchilli ..	8·50	8·00	10·92	10·92	..	..	
11. Narasapatam	7·50	8·00	11·37	10·92	13·20	12·32	
Average ..	8·10	8·01	11·66	10·89	11·79	11·01	

Activity of Trade.

	Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
By sea, for the period ending 10th July 1897	..	7,388
By rail, do. do.	1,092	60,445
By road from Jeypore for the period ending 10th July 1897. ...		4,244 (carts).

Trade fairly active, but dull in Palkonda and Chípurupalle.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Good as a general rule.

I have inspected some thousands within the last four days.

In villages.—The general population in villages looks well enough. Certain classes, however, and particularly the children and aged among them, show the marks of the struggle. Circle inspection is now organized over a large portion of the district and village relief is being administered.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera very prevalent.

It attacked the workers on the Chípurupalle–Laveru road and they scattered, the numbers falling from 3,500 to 45. However, due sanitary measures having been taken, it has apparently been suppressed and some 1,200 workers have returned. Other works have been free from it. No other disease or sickness prevalent.

Remarks.—There is a great deal of emigration to Gódávari, where it is the custom of this District to go for work when times are hard. The Collector of Gódávari complains of it, but I do not see how it is to be stopped. We have not work available for all, I am sorry to say, and the tradition of 3 annas a day in Gódávari tempts them.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	Number employed. This fortnight.	Remarks.
Relief works.			
I. Vizianagram—			
(1) Pusapatirega	5,009	5,885	This work was swelled by workers who ran away from the Laveru road where cholera broke out.
II. Bimlipatam—			
(1) Dakmarri	2,883	2,212	Decrease owing to rain on day of report.
(2) Padmanabham	4,025	4,129	
III. Vizagapatam—			
(1) Gazuvaka	1,658	2,446	
(2) Pendur	3,768	4,442	Numbers at Pendur went over 5,000, but dropped on good rain falling in the neighbourhood.
IV. Bobbili—			
(1) Bobbili–Akulakotta road work ..	..	3,271	New work.
V. Chipurupalle—			
(1) Laveru road	..	45	There were over 3,500 on this work, but they dispersed owing to cholera.
Total ..	17,343	22,430	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
I. Bobbili taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	706
1. Bobbili kitchen	..	350	419	304	..	..	..	..
2. Sitanagaram	..	..	343	272	..	..	..	..
3. Chintada	..	..	187	249	..	..	..	..
4. Amiti	..	..	..	332	..	..	..	1,665
II. Parvatipuram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Kitchen at Parvatipuram.	..	..	592	330	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Duggi ..	..	..	150	180	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Gorugubilli ..	..	..	182	224	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Bandaluppi ..	..	..	223	500	..	..	..	..
5. Do. at Komarada ..	..	..	..	205	..	..	..	..
III. Sálúr taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	722
1. Ramabhadrapurkitchen ..	..	..	..	431	..	..	..	..
2. Mamidipalli	..	..	..	359	..	..	..	..
3. Makkuva	..	..	..	155	..	..	..	..
IV. Palkonda taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	382
1. Kitchen at Sitampeta ..	..	..	..	107	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Rajam ..	..	..	..	412	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Palkonda ..	..	..	..	187	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Viraghattam ..	..	..	..	335	..	..	..	..
V Chipurupalle taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	298
1. Laveru kitchen	..	189	..	37	..	..	..	..
2. Ranastalam	..	..	218	183	..	..	..	..
VI. Gajapatinagaram taluk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Gajapatinagaram kitchen.	..	..	..	347	..	..	..	..
2. Meraka Mudidam ..	..	..	..	357	..	..	..	..
VII. Vizianagram taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	384
1. Pusapatirega kitchen ..	137	174	93	126	..	..	..	..
2. Vizianagram do. ..	..	..	292	356	..	..	..	..
3. Kotagandredu do. ..	..	..	205	293	..	..	..	..
4. Gantyada	..	..	283	255	..	..	..	..
5. Sativada	..	..	..	152	..	..	..	..
VIII. Bimlipatam taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1,361
1. Dakmarri kitchen ..	301	324	42	65	..	..	..	..
2. Padmanabham kitchen ..	162	186	170	227	..	..	..	..
3. Bhogapuram do. ..	..	..	165	171	..	..	..	..
4. Tallavalasa do. ..	..	..	412	401	..	..	..	..
5. Sontyam do. ..	..	..	433	447	..	..	..	..
IX. Srungavarapukótta taluk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	248	1,360
1. Tummikapalli kitchen ..	..	..	190	264	..	..	..	..
2. Srungavarapukótta ..	..	..	15	158	..	..	..	..
X. Vizagapatam taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	841	3,400
1. Gazuwaka kitchen ..	271	384	23	29	..	..	..	..
2. Pendur	388	446	17	8	..	..	..	..
3. Dondaparti	..	..	332	561	..	..	..	..
XI. Anakápalle taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	117
1. Anakápalle kitchen ..	..	..	340	116	..	..	..	..
2. Paravada	..	..	..	136	..	..	..	..
3. Sabbavaram	..	..	..	111	..	..	..	..
XII. Sarvasiddhi taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,153
1. Yellamanchilli kitchen ..	..	..	1,308	454	..	..	..	..
2. Nakkapalli do. ..				357	..	..	..	..
3. Kondakarla do. ..	..	..	515	253	..	..	..	..
4. Uddandapuram	..	..	329	229	..	..	..	..
XIII. Golgonda taluk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
1. Narsapatam kitchen ..	..	..	..	274	..	..	..	..
2. Gudutaru do. ..	..	..	..	121	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,259	2,053	7,478	11,070	..	..	1,115	11,588

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
1. Palkonda	Not reported.		426	1,006	1,011	1,075

Private charity.—Private charity is contracting somewhat rapidly. Mr. P. Narayana Chetti has stopped the money doles which he was giving to Kshatriyas, and such as require it are being taken on the Government relief lists. Mr. Venkanna Chetti of Pondur has stopped his kitchen at that place. A Government one has been opened. Raja G. N. Gajapati Rao, C.I.E., has handed over his kitchens to Government.

General remarks.—The situation grew worse throughout the fortnight till towards the end, when there was a great improvement in the weather and some fairly good rain fell in places. This has saved thousands of acres of dry crops, which were beginning to wither, though some were already beyond help. The prospect has become slightly less gloomy in consequence, up to the time when the weather changed, widespread desolation seemed imminent. Prospects of dry crops are now fair, unless a further extraordinarily protracted drought occurs. Prospects of wet cultivation are still unknown as it is practically not begun. Meanwhile the prices continue abnormal and much distress is felt in consequence. Two or three more relief works will be opened almost immediately. Kitchens are now open everywhere. One weavers' depôt is working and two more being opened. Circle inspection is being organized and is in full swing in about half the District. It is very difficult to get men fit for it, and their various views of what constitutes a person deserving of relief are most extraordinary. Distress will increase or decrease principally as the prices move, and if the season continues as favourable as during the last 3 or 4 days, I expect a fall in prices shortly. There is enough of the dry crop well on the way to harvest to make the Komaties cautious about pushing their combination too far.

I have, by arrangement with the Deputy Commissioner of Salt and Abkári and permission of the Commissioner, now got 4 salt officers, Messrs. I. Brown, Tillard, Wroughton and Flemyng, doing the work of Taluk Relief officers in their respective taluks, and Mr. Heaney, Assistant Collector, is doing it in Vizianagram and Bimlipatam, so far as one man can do two taluks. Taluk Relief officers are almost as essential when circle relief is administered, as very few Circle Inspectors show more than the germs of sense. They exhibit either an adamantine severity or a criminal laxity in admitting to relief, which calls for constant check and supervision. This a Divisional officer with 4 or 5 taluks and 20 to 30 circles cannot give, and the Taluk officers are not always much more discreet than the Circle Inspectors. A relief work was opened at Yellamanchilli on the last day of the fortnight and another will be started in Golgonda and Viravilli taluks immediately.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of fodder.						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.		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.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21						
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	11	2,070	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	4	900	15	3,790	8	1,900	4	450	7	3,070	8	1,900	8	1,450	22	6,860	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
3. Golgonda	..	..	..	..	12	3,200	7	750	..	..	..	..	7	750	7	750	12	3,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,800	..	..	..	..	4	1,800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..	2	100	2	400	..	..	..	..	2	400	2	400	2	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4	900	4	450	40	9,160	28	5,850	24	3,600	47	12,230	28	5,850	24	3,600	47	12,230	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4

Taluks.	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.
1. Palkonda	317	Rs. 15,283	317	Rs. 15,283	201	Rs. 14,053	317	Rs. 15,283	317	Rs. 15,283	201	Rs. 14,053	317	Rs. 15,283	317	Rs. 15,283	201	Rs. 14,053
2. Sarvasiddhi	230	17,234	229	17,219	401	65,437	232	17,346	231	17,331	403	65,547						
3. Golgonda	+ 1,116	26,368	1,079	25,392	+ 137	6,319	+ 1,116	48,483	1,079	46,603	+ 137	11,235						
4. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
5. Srungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Total ..	1,663	58,885	1,625	57,894	739	85,809	1,665	81,112	1,627	79,217	741	90,835						

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of fodder.						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.		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.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21						
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	2,070	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	4	900	..	..	4	450	..	..	7	3,070	8	1,900	8	1,450	22	6,860	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
3. Golgonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	750	7	750	12	3,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Srungavarapukota	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	400	2	400	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4	900	4	450	7	3,070	24	4,960	20	3,150	40	9,160	28	5,850	24	3,600	47	12,230	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4

Taluks.	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.
1. Palkonda	* 15	Rs. 540	* 15	Rs. 540	..	Rs. ..	317	Rs. 15,283	317	Rs. 15,283	..	Rs. ..						
2. Sarvasiddhi	2	112	2	112	..	..	232	17,346	231	17,331	110	4,916						
3. Golgonda	†1,116	22,115	1,079	21,211	+ 137	4,916	+ 1,116	48,483	1,079	46,603	+ 137	..						
4. Párvatípuram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
5. Srungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
Total ..	1,133	22,767	1,096	21,863	139	5,026	1,665	81,112	1,627	79,217	741	90,835						

* These applications are included in the figure shown in column 28. † In all these cases, fodder, seed-grain and cattle were applied for in one and the same application

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

Principal Assistant Collector—Vizianagram taluk.—Vizianagram (kitchen), Gantyoda (kitchen), Kota Gandredu (kitchen), Satyavada (kitchen) and Pusapatirega (work and kitchen).

Bimlipatam taluk.—Padmanabham and Dakmarri relief-works and kitchens, Bhogapuram (kitchen).

Chípurupalle taluk.—Chípurupalle, Ranastalam (kitchen), Laveru relief-work and kitchen, Pondur (to start weavers' depôt and kitchen).

Palkonda taluk.—Rajam weavers' depôt and kitchen.

Senior Assistant Collector—Párvatipuram taluk.—Duggi, Gorugubilli, Bandalappi, Párvatípuram and Komarada (five kitchens), also 18 other villages.

Bobbili taluk.—Bobbili relief-work; Bobbili, Chintada, Sítanagram and Amit (four kitchens) also nine other villages.

Sálúr taluk.—Ramabhadrapur, Mamidipali and Makkwa (three kitchens) and six other villages.

Head Assistant Collector—Viravilli taluk.—Devarapalli, Madgole (kitchen), and Waddadi and other villages surrounding.

Golgonda taluk.—Narsapatam and Kottakota (Relief circles).

Sarvasiddhi taluk.—Yellamanchilli, Nakkapalli and Uddandapuram (kitchens and Relief circles.

Anakápalle taluk.—Anakápalle (kitchen and circle).

Huzur Deputy Collector.—Gazuvaka and Pendurti relief-works and kitchens and 29 other villages in connection with circle relief.

Collector—Palkonda taluk.—Palkonda and other villages.

Vizianagram taluk.—Vizianagram and Pusapatirega.

Sarvasiddhi taluk.—Yellamanchilli, Nakkapalli, Rayavaram and Uddandapuram.

Golgonda taluk.—Pedda Gummulur.

Anakápalle taluk.—Anakápalle.

Vizagapatam taluk.—Madhuravada.

Bimlipatam taluk.—Tallavalasa, Chittivalasa, Padmanabham and Dakmarri.

Resolution—No. 548, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the fortnight was seriously deficient, being considerably less than half what was to be expected. The period opened dry, and it was not till towards its close that rain was received; since then, however, good falls have been registered, as noted below:—

Stations.	INCHES.	Stations.	INCHES.
Párvatípuram	4·03	Bimilipatam	1·85
Palkonda	2·63	Korinda	0·46
Bobbili	3·44	Waltair	0·68
Sálúru	1·30	Chódavaramu	1·24
Gajapatinagaram	0·40	Anakápalle	0·16
Chipurupalle	0·95	Balacheruvu	0·50
Kuppili	0 91	Polavaram	0·63
Vizianagram	0·10	Yellamanchilli	1·04
Srungavarappukota ...	0·52	Narasapatnam	0·97

It will be observed that even this rain has been somewhat unequal. The prolonged drought caused a considerable area of the dry crops to wither, and a large proportion of the promising crops in the northern inland taluks was ruined by caterpillars; it is hoped that this pest may have been removed by the recent rains. The dry crops, that have survived, give promise of an 8-anna crop. Wet cultivation had not yet been commenced, but is probably now in progress. The outlook is brighter.

3. Prices continued to rise, in spite of large imports. The rise is probably due to the apprehension of the monsoon failing. The comparative position of prices is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity	9·0	14·0	15·0
Current	8·0	10·9	11·0
July 1892	9·9	16·1	16·3
July 1878	6·9	11·6	11·3

4. The condition of the people was, on the whole, good, though the very old and very young show marks of the struggle. The numbers on works increased by 29 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 150 per cent. The administration of the latter form of relief is a matter of difficulty without the closest supervision, and it is hoped that more efficient control will be possible, now that four Taluk Relief officers have been appointed, though this number is less than what the Collector thinks necessary.

5. The following figures show the progress made in the disbursement of loans:—

Up to end of week ending—	Rs.
June 19th	52,633
„ 26th	61,543
July 3rd	74,237
„ 10th	82,817
„ 17th	88,816

Applications for seed-grain are numerous in Sarvasiddhi, and should be disposed of as soon as possible.

6. The touring in the fortnight was very good. It may seem ungracious, but the Famine Commissioner fears that the District Officers are over-doing it. The strongest constitution cannot stand such constant change, and these officers should remember that they, with their special experience, are of special value at present, and should not over-do inspection. This remark is not likely to be misunderstood, or taken undue advantage of, by any of the officers concerned.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 708, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.
80 Copies.