Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2515 W

DATED 9 September 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jammie, Pros: Revenue Dept recording with remark Board's Pros: Submitting Re for Night - Narrative of the Kurwool DB for the period ending 15th July 1897 Cmth 6 D.E. III Cmth.

Ex 5487

[P.W. 28. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 1019

BACK PAPERS.

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

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

Public Works (1897) Department.

Current No: 8775

Government (1897) of Madras.

REVENUE.

No 225 Irri-4/17-8-97

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G.O., No. 712, 20th August 1897.

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AUGUST.

Communicated to the
S.E. III Circle.
Cn
4/9/97

S.E. III Circle
Collector

Fortnightly Narrative.

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

0 2 5 4 3 8 9 7

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 549, dated 4th August 1897 :—

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

State of the country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

	INCHES.
Rainfall during the period	·20
Average rainfall expected during the period	2·35
Rainfall up to the period from 1st April 1897	4·87
Average rainfall expected up to the period from 1st April 1897 ...	7·05

There was rain at six of the registering stations as shown below :—

	INCHES.
Giddalur	1·03
Markapur	·46
Kurnool	·38
Kalwa	·37
Nandikotkur	·13
Pattikonda	·10

The South-central section, where there was no fall whatever, fared the worst, but the North-central section and the Pattikonda taluk of the Western section were practically in the same plight.

For drinking.—The supply continued to be fairly sufficient in all sections. Some little difficulty was being experienced in the North-central section in the villages lying at the foot of the Nallamalais. Steps to improve wells were being taken. In the Eastern section the supply was diminishing. Famine labour was utilized in deepening wells in the affected tracts.

For irrigation.—There was no supply worthy of mention, except in the canal and the tanks fed by it. The Cumbum tank was virtually dry.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—The preparation for cultivation of lands under the canal was in progress, and the ploughing of black-cotton soils was still going on to some extent throughout the district. Paddy, cholam and korra were sown in the canal villages of the Nandikotkur taluk. Water was let into that portion of the canal, that lies in the South-central section, too late in the fortnight to allow of much being done in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks. Crops standing on red soils in the Cumbum taluk of the Eastern section and in the Western section were still in fair condition, though badly in want of rain in the latter section, while in the two Central sections they had either faded, or were beginning to fade, in most places. Scattered patches of cultivation under wells were in a flourishing state.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder was beginning to run short in the Eastern section, but the supply will last for a considerable time yet in the North-central section. In the affected sections the position was of course unchanged. The Head Assistant Collector, who was engaged for the greater part of the period in distributing to poor ryots in the Nandyal taluk the allotment made by the Famine Fund Committee, is now on his way to Owk and will shortly submit a report as to whether another chance of buying imported straw should be given to cattle owners in that neighbourhood. Two bales were sold a few days back to some ryots who had come into Nandyal from the Koilkuntla taluk, and nine bales remain unsold out of the total consignment of 36. Pasture was practically *nil* in the Eastern and North-central sections, and what was coming on excellently well a month ago in the other sections has almost entirely dried up, except in lowlying places and along the

beds of streams. Cattle were in pretty fair condition in the Eastern and North-central sections, and in poor condition, on the whole, in the other sections. There was a general complaint that the grass in the Nallamalais had not attained sufficient growth to be of much service to anything but sheep.

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 of July 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Pattikonda	7·56	6·52	15·59	13·58	11·33	10·55	15·00	12·22	
2. Pyápalli	7·29	6·12	15·26	13·52	10·81	9·78	12·80	9·40	Prices are rising sharply at all stations, especially in cholam.
3. Kurnool town ..	8·58	8·21	15·48	10·32	12·33	8·56	11·25	8·75	
4. Nandikotkur	9 29	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
5. Atmakúru	9·29	8·58	..	..	13·70	11·30	..	..	
6. Nandyál	8·93	8·21	14·19	12·57	12·33	9·24	..	..	
7. Kalwa	8·58	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
8. Koilkuntla	9·96	8·30	15·00	12·00	12·24	8·69	..	..	
9. Owk	9·96	7·47	15·00	12·00	11·06	8·69	..	..	
10. Allagadda	8·58	7·15	14·19	12·25	11·98	9·59	..	..	
11. Giddalur	8·72	7·47	15·00	13·50	14·22	12·64	11·60	10·87	
12. Markapur	8·30	8·30	16.50	15·00	..	..	12·32	10 87	
Average ..	8·75	7·67	15·13	12·75	12·37	9·84	12·59	10·42	

Activity of Trade.—By the end of the period the state of the local markets was becoming critical. Prices were rising rapidly, and at several stations the taluk officers were finding it extremely difficult to induce the merchants to expose their stocks of cholam for sale. The staple and other dry grains were exported from the principal Railway centres to the Bellary district and also to such distant places as Gadag and Poona.

Condition of the People.

On Works.—The fortnight was remarkable for a slight outbreak of cholera, the first that has occurred in the district since the beginning of distress, on the Joharapuram work just outside the town of Kurnool, resulting up to the close of the period in 27 attacks and 18 deaths amongst the large number of nearly 9,000 labourers. The disease was imported apparently from Hyderabad territory, from which there has lately been a large influx of poverty-stricken people. Every effort to prevent its spread is being made by the District Medical and Sanitary officer in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner; and I have sanctioned the removal of most of the gangs for employment at a distance of two or three miles beyond municipal limits in convenient sections. On other works the general health was fair on the whole.

In villages.—Except for a few sporadic cases of cholera in the Nandikotkur taluk, the condition of the people in villages was moderately good. In the affected taluks destitute persons unable to resort to relief works were almost all in receipt of gratuitous relief from Government; in the Ramallakota taluk, where the numbers on relief appear to be abnormally large, the Divisional and Taluk Officers have been directed to institute careful enquiries regarding the work of the Circle Inspectors. The business of bringing on to our rolls the poor of the Kurnool town, hitherto in receipt of money-doles from the district committee of the Famine Fund, was completed; and this accounts partly for the heavy increase in the figures for the taluk. The ordinary Local Fund works in the Eastern and North-central sections attracted a considerable number of workers—near Markapur, there were 600 coolies at work, and at Cumbum nearly as many, the wages paid for full outturn of work being As. 1—6 a man, 1 anna for a woman, and 6 pies for a child per diem.

Banganapalle State.—The Nawab's subjects were coming to our relief works in crowds. Weavers too belonging to his villages were applying for relief at their own craft, and I request orders as to whether they should be given employment, since there is little or no hope of their receiving aid in the State.

Sickness and Mortality.—No particular remarks beyond those given under the head "condition of people" are called for. The diaries of the Circle Inspectors showed that mortality was almost entirely due to ordinary causes.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Pattikonda	32,947	42,476
Ramallakota	16,233	24,955
Nandyal	11,750	15,191
Koilkuntla	32,389	36,932
Sirvel	15,565	18,940
Total ...	1,08,884	1,38,494

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.
Pattikonda	1,299	1,566	1,101	1,213	..	..	{*1,154 2,682	* 933 4,896
Ramallakota	698	731	10	8	..	..	{1,416 6,638	1,497 † 11,947
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	527	620
Nandyal	457	451	37	39	..	..	{897 2,573	1,157 2,636
Koilkuntla	1,071	1,438	243	175	..	..	{2,550 3,404	3,505 3,159
Sirvel	711	822	18	17	..	..	{949 2,172	1,563 3,364
Total ..	4,236	5,008	* 1,409	1,452	..	..	{7,493 17,466	9,275 26,002

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.
Pattikonda	77	94	3,599	4,310	7,582	36,551
Ramallakota	93	98	2,396	3,744	6,494	19,003
Nandikotkur	3	3	..	..	..	..
Nandyal	110	116	..	..	..	..
Koilkuntla	86	86	1,240	1,414	1,125	2,523
Sirvel	100	100	562	837	678	1,944
Total ..	469	497	7,797	10,305	15,879	60,021

* The first set of figures represent the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

† Includes figures for Kurnool town.

General Remarks.

The situation was becoming alarming by the close of the fortnight, as the numbers on all kinds of relief in the affected tracts had gone up by leaps and bounds, and disquieting reports had reached me from the hitherto unaffected divisions. It is true that there have been a fall of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches of rain at Giddalore and good showers in parts of the Markapur taluk since 15th instant, but unless more rain comes before the end of the month the whole district will, I fear, have to be declared affected. As I expect to meet the Famine Commissioner at Dhone on 20th instant and to obtain the benefit of his advice in respect to many matters that are disturbing my mind, I refrain from raising in this narrative the question of opening new works and kitchens, and of obtaining an increase to the different establishments now working under me.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited—

I was in camp for thirteen days and inspected the following :—

Nandyal taluk.—Rungapuram, Betamcherla.

Ramallakota taluk.—Malkapuram, Karlakunta, Awkatad, and Veldurti.

Pattikonda taluk.—Maddikera, Katarkonda, and Venkatapuram.

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum.

Works.—Rungapuram road, Bhavikanama road, Maddikera-Nancherla road Katarkonda-Kodumur road, Joharapuram road and Betamcherla section of the Kalwa-Betamcherla road.

The Head Assistant Collector was in camp for thirteen days and visited the following places :—

Nandyal taluk.—Panyam, Betamcherla.

Note.—He could not do more inspection work as he had to spend most of his time in the distribution among poor pattadars of the amount sanctioned by the Famine Fund Committee. He had also to come into Kurnool for a couple of days in connection with the Higher Standrad examination.

The Deputy Collector, Pyápalli, inspected the following places :—

Pattikonda taluk.—Yenugamarri, Mettapalli, Ramapuram, Jaladurgam, Utakonda, Garladinne, Munimadugu, Racherla, Burugala, Neraducherla, Maddikera, Nallaballi, Yerragudi and Rollapad.

Ramallakota taluk.—Dhone, Kocheruvu, Chintalapeta and Gosmanipalle.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was in camp for eleven days and inspected the following :—

Nandikotkur taluk.—Atmakúru.

Ramallakota taluk (to which he was ordered to proceed to assist in distributing Famine Fund money to poor pattadars) :—Chinna Tekur, Bastipad, Chetlamallapuram, Nayakallu, Konganapad, Ulindakonda, Mallepalli, Ramallakota, Boyanapalli, Pullagummi, Uyyalavada and Kalugotla.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division visited the following places :—

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum, Kandulapuram and Giddalore.

Markapur taluk.—Gobbur, Tokapalli, Gollavidigi, Kesavanipalli, Dupad, Mallavaram, Tangarallapalli, Idupur, Daremadugu, Gurijepalli, Boyalapalli, Sarvayapolem and Narasayapolem.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Total.								Number of wells	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		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	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	2	3	4	5	6	7	16	17	18	19	20	21						
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Pattikonda	890	93,550	890	98,550	821	1,06,091	1,032	1,30,225	142	36,076	142	22,228	212	52,666	1,032	1,15,778	1,033	1,58,757	..	..	138	
Ramallakota	4	390	4	390	98	12,400	25	5,570	21	5,180	14	3,050	48	13,810	18	3,440	146	26,210	..	..	14	
Nandikotkur	3	450	3	450	1	100	5	850	2	400	2	400	..	..	5	* 850	1	100	..	..	3	
Nandyal ..	20	3,770	20	2,470	103	13,160	35	7,470	10	3,700	9	1,209	12	3,750	29	* 3,678	115	16,910	..	..	9	
Koilkuntla	20	2,500	20	2,500	61	14,550	47	7,065	27	4,565	27	4,565	21	4,850	47	7,065	82	19,400	..	..	27	
Sirvel ..	Explanation is being called for.						..	11,750	Not received from the Tahsildar in spite of orders.				100		..	10,650	..	100	..	..		
Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Total ..	942	1,00,660	937	99,630	1,084	1,46,801	1,144	1,62,930	202	50,520	194	31,451	294	75,176	1,131	1,41,461	1,378	2,21,477	..	..	191	

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain.								Purchase of fodder.								Total.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		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.		
	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	22	23	24	25	26	27	36	37	38	39				
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.			
Pattikonda	53	2,225	53	2,225	166	12,328	912	41,199	859	38,974	859	38,974	1,816	1,40,905	912	41,199	1,982	1,53,283				
Ramallakota	..	..	..	..	130	5,661	5	430	6	430	..	..	359	27,853	..	..	489	33,564				
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50	..	..	1	50				
Nandyal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1,250	11	1,250	9	945	185	12,691	9	945	185	12,691				
Koilkuntla	..	..	..	..	..	..	307	19,180	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	52,154	182	17,550	399	† 52,154				
Sirvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,986	..	..				
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,666	..	..				
Markapur ..	1	40	1	40	3	160	1	40	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	40	3	160				
Total ..	54	2,265	54	2,265	299	18,139	1,236	66,765	1,050	57,469	1,050	57,469	2,760	2,33,658	1,104	68,720	3,059	2,61,792				

* These do not tally with the figures given in the season report. Explanation will be called for.
† The figures do not tally with those given in the last weekly season report, the Tahsildar's figures not having been received in time for inclusion in that report.

Resolution—No. 549, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the period was very deficient, the only fall of any account being one inch at Giddalur; even this, however, was far below the average. The state of the district was, consequently, at the time the Collector wrote his narrative, going from bad to worse, crops and pasture having already begun to show signs of withering after the four weeks' drought. Since then, however, matters have taken a turn for the better, rain having fallen, as noted below, at the undermentioned stations:—

	Inches.		Inches.
Markapur	0·76	Nandyal	5·36
Giddalur	3·77	Atmakúru	4·23
Allagadda	1·62	Nandikotkur...	4·48
Koilkuntla	1·56	Kurnool	3·36
Owk	1·29	Pattikonda	0·31
Kalwa	1·87	Pyápalli	0·88

The dry crops had, however, sustained a shake from which they cannot fully recover. In many cases they have come up so unequally that the outturn is not likely to be more than two to eight annas. The rainfall was, also, somewhat partial. It is to be feared that much sowing was made with inferior seed-corn. Many of the red-soils ought to be re-sown, but the ryots are much stricken in their resources, and the Revenue subordinates, in some places, have been remiss in disposing of applications for loans.

3. Prices rose rapidly during the fortnight, cholam, the staple crop, which was already far above the scarcity rate, showing a marked increase, being available only at 29 per cent. above scarcity prices—more than three times the normal rate. The general position of prices is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholam.	Cumbu.
Normal	13·2	30·0	28·0
Warning	10·6	22·5	21·0
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	14·0
Current	7·7	9·8	10·4
July 1892	9·7	16·3	13·7
Do. 1877	5·4	6·2	5·9

Grain was not freely exposed in the markets, and stocks were reduced by exportations to other districts.

The Famine Commissioner discussed with the Collector the possibility of substituting, as in Cuddapah and Anantapur, wholly or partially, ragi for cholam as a basis of payments, but the result is not encouraging. The people seem to be still altogether cholam-eaters, as an examination of their food on the works showed. The matter will, however, have the Collector's best attention.

4. The condition of the people was said to be, on the whole, good. Cholera broke out on the work near Kurnool town, but was soon stamped out, through the steps taken by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. The numbers on relief works rose by 27 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 36 per cent. The large increase under the latter head can only be efficiently checked by an addition to the district establishment; Government has been requested in B.P., Mis. No. 5866, dated 28th July 1897, to sanction taluk relief officers for Ramallakota and Koilkuntla taluks.

Sufficient relief, in the form of works, was not given in the Ramallakota taluk; hence the large number on gratuitous relief. Had Mr. Mullaly and his Revenue subordinates recognised the position of this taluk in time, this would not have been the case. The Famine Commissioner and Sanitary Commissioner examined some 7,500 out of 10,000 coolies on the Joharapuram work, and their condition was decidedly

unsatisfactory. About half of those examined were in poor condition, and, after eliminating all whose cases, owing to age or disease, were doubtful, there was a large residuum which testifies to the insufficiency of the famine wage over long periods. There were 70 famine babies in an advanced stage of emaciation on this work, and scurvy was rife. So too was anæmia. The question of the numbers on gratuitous relief will be entered into in the Collector's next fortnightly, in view of the recent concern expressed by Government as to the growth of that form of relief. Further remarks are therefore, at present, not necessary.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Rs.
June 19th	1,25,384
„ 26th	1,53,122
July 3rd	1,64,989
„ 10th	2,07,904
„ 17th	2,32,644

The advance since the beginning of the month has been satisfactory, but subject to serious reservations. In a large tract in the Ramallakota taluk the ryots complained that their applications, put in in 1896, for loans, had not been disposed of, to say nothing of those put in in 1897. The Tahsildar alleged that he had disposed of—*i.e.*, rejected—the earlier applications, but it seems to be true, that the ryots had not received a single endorsement on their applications. Comparing this taluk with Pattikonda, it will be seen that this Tahsildar only disbursed 14 loans, amounting to Rupees 3,050, for the construction of wells, against 142 loans for Rs. 22,228 in Pattikonda. For "other purposes" the figures are—

	Loans disbursed. No.	Amount. Rs.
Pattikonda	890	93,550
Ramallakota	4	390

For "fodder" the figures are—

Pattikonda	859	38,974
Ramallakota	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

In Ramallakota 359 applications for Rs. 27,853 are pending at a time when no efforts should have been spared to help the people.

For "cattle and seed grain," Pattikonda gave 53 loans amounting to Rs. 2,225, while Ramallakota, which has 130 applications for Rs. 5,651 pending, has not disbursed one pie. This Tahsildar seems to have neglected his work in other directions—notably in the matter of representing the claims of his taluk to remissions on dry lands. It is very doubtful if he is fit to hold such a responsible appointment. The Collector will go into this matter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 712, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. Three Taluk Relief Officer's have already been sanctioned for Kurnool.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Md. Shaik Karim.

30 Copies.

Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 712, 20th August 1897.

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AUGUST.

To
The S E III Circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

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

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For drinking.—The supply continued to be fairly sufficient in all sections. Some little difficulty was being experienced in the North-central section in the villages lying at the foot of the Nallamalais. Steps to improve wells were being taken. In the Eastern section the supply was diminishing. Famine labour was utilized in deepening wells in the affected tracts.

For irrigation.—There was no supply worthy of mention, except in the canal and the tanks fed by it. The Cumbum tank was virtually dry.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—The preparation for cultivation of lands under the canal was in progress, and the ploughing of black-cotton soils was still going on to some extent throughout the district. Paddy, cholam and korra were sown in the canal villages of the Nandikotkur taluk. Water was let into that portion of the canal, that lies in the South-central section, too late in the fortnight to allow of much being done in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks. Crops standing on red soils in the Cumbum taluk of the Eastern section and in the Western section were still in fair condition, though badly in want of rain in the latter section, while in the two Central sections they had either faded, or were beginning to fade, in most places. Scattered patches of cultivation under wells were in a flourishing state.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder was beginning to run short in the Eastern section, but the supply will last for a considerable time yet in the North-central section. In the affected sections the position was of course unchanged. The Head Assistant Collector, who was engaged for the greater part of the period in distributing to poor ryots in the Nandyal taluk the allotment made by the Famine Fund Committee, is now on his way to Owk and will shortly submit a report as to whether another chance of buying imported straw should be given to cattle owners in that neighbourhood. Two bales were sold a few days back to some ryots who had come into Nandyal from the Koilkuntla taluk, and nine bales remain unsold out of the total consignment of 36. Pasture was practically *nil* in the Eastern and North-central sections, and what was coming on excellently well a month ago in the other sections has almost entirely dried up, except in lowlying places and along the

beds of streams. Cattle were in pretty fair condition in the Eastern and North-central sections, and in poor condition, on the whole, in the other sections. There was a general complaint that the grass in the Nallamalais had not attained sufficient growth to be of much service to anything but sheep.

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 of July 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Pattikonda	7·56	6·52	15·59	13·58	11·33	10·55	15·00	12·22	
2. Pyápalli	7·29	6·12	15·26	13·52	10·81	9·78	12·80	9·40	Prices are rising sharply at all stations, especially in cholam.
3. Kurnool town ..	8·58	8·21	15·48	10·32	12·33	8·56	11·25	8·75	
4. Nandikotkur	9·29	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
5. Atmakúru	9·29	8·58	..	..	13·70	11·30	..	..	
6. Nandyál	8·93	8·21	14·19	12·57	12·33	9·24	..	..	
7. Kalwa	8·58	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
8. Koilkuntla	9·96	8·30	15·00	12·00	12·24	8·69	..	..	
9. Owk	9·96	7·47	15·00	12·00	11·06	8·69	..	..	
10. Allagadda	8·58	7·15	14·19	12·25	11·98	9·59	..	..	
11. Giddalur	8·72	7·47	15·00	13·50	14·22	12·64	11·60	10·87	
12. Markapur	8·30	8·30	16.50	15·00	..	..	12·32	10 87	
Average ..	8·75	7·67	15·13	12·75	12·37	9·84	12·59	10·42	

Activity of Trade.—By the end of the period the state of the local markets was becoming critical. Prices were rising rapidly, and at several stations the taluk officers were finding it extremely difficult to induce the merchants to expose their stocks of cholam for sale. The staple and other dry grains were exported from the principal Railway centres to the Bellary district and also to such distant places as Gadag and Poona.

Condition of the People.

On Works.—The fortnight was remarkable for a slight outbreak of cholera, the first that has occurred in the district since the beginning of distress, on the Joharapuram work just outside the town of Kurnool, resulting up to the close of the period in 27 attacks and 18 deaths amongst the large number of nearly 9,000 labourers. The disease was imported apparently from Hyderabad territory, from which there has lately been a large influx of poverty-stricken people. Every effort to prevent its spread is being made by the District Medical and Sanitary officer in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner; and I have sanctioned the removal of most of the gangs for employment at a distance of two or three miles beyond municipal limits in convenient sections. On other works the general health was fair on the whole.

In villages.—Except for a few sporadic cases of cholera in the Nandikotkur taluk, the condition of the people in villages was moderately good. In the affected taluks destitute persons unable to resort to relief works were almost all in receipt of gratuitous relief from Government; in the Ramallakota taluk, where the numbers on relief appear to be abnormally large, the Divisional and Taluk Officers have been directed to institute careful enquiries regarding the work of the Circle Inspectors. The business of bringing on to our rolls the poor of the Kurnool town, hitherto in receipt of money-doles from the district committee of the Famine Fund, was completed; and this accounts partly for the heavy increase in the figures for the taluk. The ordinary Local Fund works in the Eastern and North-central sections attracted a considerable number of workers—near Markapur, there were 600 coolies at work, and at Cumbum nearly as many, the wages paid for full outturn of work being As. 1—6 a man, 1 anna for a woman, and 6 pies for a child per diem.

Banganapalle State.—The Nawab's subjects were coming to our relief works in crowds. Weavers too belonging to his villages were applying for relief at their own craft, and I request orders as to whether they should be given employment, since there is little or no hope of their receiving aid in the State.

Sickness and Mortality.—No particular remarks beyond those given under the head "condition of people" are called for. The diaries of the Circle Inspectors showed that mortality was almost entirely due to ordinary causes.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Pattikonda	32,947	42,476
Ramallakota	16,233	24,955
Nandyal	11,750	15,191
Koilkuntla	32,389	36,932
Sirvel	15,565	18,940
Total ...	1,08,884	1,38,494

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.
Pattikonda	1,299	1,566	1,101	1,213	..	..	* 1,154 2,682	* 933 4,896
Ramallakota	698	731	10	8	..	..	1,416 6,638	1,497 † 11,947
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	527	620
Nandyal	457	451	37	39	..	..	897 2,573	1,157 2,636
Koilkuntla	1,071	1,438	243	175	..	..	2,550 3,404	3,505 3,159
Sirvel	711	822	18	17	..	..	949 2,172	1,563 3,364
Total ..	4,236	5,008	1,409	1,452	..	..	7,493 17,466	9,275 26,002

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.
Pattikonda	77	94	3,599	4,310	7,582	36,551
Ramallakota	93	98	2,396	3,744	6,494	19,003
Nandikotkur	3	3	..	..	..	..
Nandyal	110	116	..	..	..	..
Koilkuntla	86	86	1,240	1,414	1,125	2,523
Sirvel	100	100	562	837	678	1,944
Total ..	469	497	7,797	10,305	15,879	60,021

* The first set of figures represent the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

† Includes figures for Kurnool town.

General Remarks.

The situation was becoming alarming by the close of the fortnight, as the numbers on all kinds of relief in the affected tracts had gone up by leaps and bounds, and disquieting reports had reached me from the hitherto unaffected divisions. It is true that there have been a fall of 1¼ inches of rain at Giddalore and good showers in parts of the Markapur taluk since 15th instant, but unless more rain comes before the end of the month the whole district will, I fear, have to be declared affected. As I expect to meet the Famine Commissioner at Dhone on 20th instant and to obtain the benefit of his advice in respect to many matters that are disturbing my mind, I refrain from raising in this narrative the question of opening new works and kitchens, and of obtaining an increase to the different establishments now working under me.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited—

I was in camp for thirteen days and inspected the following:—

Nandyal taluk.—Rungapuram, Betamcherla.

Ramallakota taluk.—Malkapuram, Karlakunta, Awkatad, and Veldurti.

Pattikonda taluk.—Maddikera, Katarkonda, and Venkatapuram.

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum.

Works.—Rungapuram road, Bhavikanama road, Maddikera-Nancherla road Katarkonda-Kodumur road, Joharapuram road and Betamcherla section of the Kalwa-Betamcherla road.

The Head Assistant Collector was in camp for thirteen days and visited the following places:—

Nandyal taluk.—Panyam, Betamcherla.

Note.—He could not do more inspection work as he had to spend most of his time in the distribution among poor pattadars of the amount sanctioned by the Famine Fund Committee. He had also to come into Kurnool for a couple of days in connection with the Higher Standrad examination.

The Deputy Collector, Pyápalli, inspected the following places:—

Pattikonda taluk.—Yenugamarri, Mettapalli, Ramapuram, Jaladurgam, Utakonda, Garladinne, Munimadugu, Racherla, Burugala, Neraducherla, Maddikera, Nallaballi, Yerragudi and Rollapad.

Ramallakota taluk.—Dhone, Kocheruvu, Chintalapeta and Gosmanipalle.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was in camp for eleven days and inspected the following:—

Nandikotkur taluk.—Atmakúru.

Ramallakota taluk (to which he was ordered to proceed to assist in distributing Famine Fund money to poor pattadars):—Chinna Tekur, Bastipad, Chetlamallapuram, Nayakallu, Konganapad, Ulindakonda, Mallepalli, Ramallakota, Boyanapalli, Pullagummi, Uyyalavada and Kalugotla.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division visited the following places:—

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum, Kandulapuram and Giddalore.

Markapur taluk.—Gobbur, Tokapalli, Gollavidigi, Kesavanipalli, Dupad, Mallavaram, Tangarallapalli, Idupur, Daremadugu, Gurijepalli, Boyalapalli, Sarvayapolem and Narasayapolem.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Repair and construction of wells.								Total.								Number of wells			
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
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.		Rs.			
Pattikonda	890	98,550	821	1,06,091	1,032	1,30,225	1,032	1,15,778	1,033	1,58,757																	138	
Ramallakota	4	390	98	12,400	25	5,570	18	3,440	146	26,210																	14	
Nandikotkur	3	450	1	100	6	850	5	*850	1	100																	3	
Nandyal	20	2,470	103	13,160	35	7,470	29	*3,678	115	16,910																	9	
Koilkuntla	20	2,500	61	14,550	47	7,065	47	7,065	82	19,400																	27	
Sirvel	Explanation is being called for.					11,760	..	10,650	..	100																		
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..																		
Markapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..																		
Total	937	99,630	1,084	1,46,801	1,144	1,62,930	1,131	1,41,461	1,378	2,21,477																	191	

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain.								Purchase of fodder.								Total.								Number of wells	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		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.	Number.	Amount.
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39								
	Rs.																									
Pattikonda	859	38,974	859	38,974	1,816	1,40,905	53	2,225	53	2,225			166	12,328	912	41,199	912	41,199	1,982	1,58,233						
Ramallakota	6	430	..	..	359	27,853	..	..	..	..			130	6,651	5	430	..	..	489	38,504						
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	1	50	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50						
Nandyal	11	1,250	9	945	185	12,691	..	..	..	..			..	..	11	1,250	9	945	185	12,691						
Koilkuntla	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	52,164	..	..	..	..			..	..	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	† 52,164						
Sirvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	4,666	..	3,986	..	..						
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			..	..	..	..	..	40	..	..						
Markapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..			3	160	1	40	1	..	3	160						
Total	1,182	59,834	1,050	57,469	2,760	2,33,653	54	2,225	54	2,265			299	18,139	1,236	66,785	1,104	63,720	3,039	2,51,792						

* These do not tally with the figures given in the season report. Explanation will be called for.
† The figures do not fally with those given in the last weekly season report, the Tahsildar's figures not having been received in time for inclusion in that report.

Resolution—No. 549, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the period was very deficient, the only fall of any account being one inch at Giddalur; even this, however, was far below the average. The state of the district was, consequently, at the time the Collector wrote his narrative, going from bad to worse, crops and pasture having already begun to show signs of withering after the four weeks' drought. Since then, however, matters have taken a turn for the better, rain having fallen, as noted below, at the undermentioned stations:—

	Inches.		Inches.
Markapur	0·76	Nandyal	5·36
Giddalur	3·77	Atmakúru	4·23
Allagadda	1·62	Nandikotkur...	4·48
Koilkuntla	1·56	Kurnool	3·36
Owk	1·29	Pattikonda	0·31
Kalwa	1·87	Pyápalli	0·88

The dry crops had, however, sustained a shake from which they cannot fully recover. In many cases they have come up so unequally that the outturn is not likely to be more than two to eight annas. The rainfall was, also, somewhat partial. It is to be feared that much sowing was made with inferior seed-corn. Many of the red-soils ought to be re-sown, but the ryots are much stricken in their resources, and the Revenue subordinates, in some places, have been remiss in disposing of applications for loans.

3. Prices rose rapidly during the fortnight, cholam, the staple crop, which was already far above the scarcity rate, showing a marked increase, being available only at 29 per cent. above scarcity prices—more than three times the normal rate. The general position of prices is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholam.	Cumbu.
Normal	13·2	30·0	28·0
Warning	10·6	22·5	21·0
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	14·0
Current	7·7	9·8	10·4
July 1892	9·7	16·3	13·7
Do. 1877	5·4	6·2	5·9

Grain was not freely exposed in the markets, and stocks were reduced by exportations to other districts.

The Famine Commissioner discussed with the Collector the possibility of substituting, as in Cuddapah and Anantapur, wholly or partially, ragi for cholam as a basis of payments, but the result is not encouraging. The people seem to be still altogether cholam-eaters, as an examination of their food on the works showed. The matter will, however, have the Collector's best attention.

4. The condition of the people was said to be, on the whole, good. Cholera broke out on the work near Kurnool town, but was soon stamped out, through the steps taken by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. The numbers on relief works rose by 27 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 36 per cent. The large increase under the latter head can only be efficiently checked by an addition to the district establishment; Government has been requested in B.P., Mis. No. 5866, dated 28th July 1897, to sanction taluk relief officers for Ramallakota and Koilkuntla taluks.

Sufficient relief, in the form of works, was not given in the Ramallakota taluk; hence the large number on gratuitous relief. Had Mr. Mullaly and his Revenue subordinates recognised the position of this taluk in time, this would not have been the case. The Famine Commissioner and Sanitary Commissioner examined some 7,500 out of 10,000 coolies on the Joharapuram work, and their condition was decidedly

unsatisfactory. About half of those examined were in poor condition, and, after eliminating all whose cases, owing to age or disease, were doubtful, there was a large residuum which testifies to the insufficiency of the famine wage over long periods. There were 70 famine babies in an advanced stage of emaciation on this work, and scurvy was rife. So too was anæmia. The question of the numbers on gratuitous relief will be entered into in the Collector's next fortnightly, in view of the recent concern expressed by Government as to the growth of that form of relief. Further remarks are therefore, at present, not necessary.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Rs.
June 19th	1,25,384
„ 26th	1,53,122
July 3rd	1.64,989
„ 10th	2,07,904
„ 17th	2,32,644

The advance since the beginning of the month has been satisfactory, but subject to serious reservations. In a large tract in the Ramallakota taluk the ryots complained that their applications, put in in 1896, for loans, had not been disposed of, to say nothing of those put in in 1897. The Tahsildar alleged that he had disposed of—*i.e.*, rejected—the earlier applications, but it seems to be true, that the ryots had not received a single endorsement on their applications. Comparing this taluk with Pattikonda, it will be seen that this Tahsildar only disbursed 14 loans, amounting to Rupees 3,050, for the construction of wells, against 142 loans for Rs. 22,228 in Pattikonda. For "other purposes" the figures are—

	Loans disbursed. No.	Amount. Rs.
Pattikonda	890	93,550
Ramallakota	4	390

For "fodder" the figures are—

Pattikonda	859	38,974
Ramallakota	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

In Ramallakota 359 applications for Rs. 27,853 are pending at a time when no efforts should have been spared to help the people.

For "cattle and seed grain," Pattikonda gave 53 loans amounting to Rs. 2,225, while Ramallakota, which has 130 applications for Rs. 5,651 pending, has not disbursed one pie. This Tahsildar seems to have neglected his work in other directions—notably in the matter of representing the claims of his taluk to remissions on dry lands. It is very doubtful if he is fit to hold such a responsible appointment. The Collector will go into this matter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 712, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. Three Taluk Relief Officer's have already been sanctioned for Kurnool.

(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 Political Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 712, 20th August 1897.

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Supdg. Engr. III Circle.

AUGUST.

To
The S.E. III Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remark, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Kurnool 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. 549, dated 4th August 1897 :—

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

State of the country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

	Inches.
Rainfall during the period	·20
Average rainfall expected during the period	2·35
Rainfall up to the period from 1st April 1897	4·87
Average rainfall expected up to the period from 1st April 1897 ...	7·05

There was rain at six of the registering stations as shown below :—

	Inches.
Giddalur	1·03
Markapur	·46
Kurnool	·38
Kalwa	·37
Nandikotkur	·13
Pattikonda	·10

The South-central section, where there was no fall whatever, fared the worst, but the North-central section and the Pattikonda taluk of the Western section were practically in the same plight.

For drinking.—The supply continued to be fairly sufficient in all sections. Some little difficulty was being experienced in the North-central section in the villages lying at the foot of the Nallamalais. Steps to improve wells were being taken. In the Eastern section the supply was diminishing. Famine labour was utilized in deepening wells in the affected tracts.

For irrigation.—There was no supply worthy of mention, except in the canal and the tanks fed by it. The Cumbum tank was virtually dry.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—The preparation for cultivation of lands under the canal was in progress, and the ploughing of black-cotton soils was still going on to some extent throughout the district. Paddy, cholam and korra were sown in the canal villages of the Nandikotkur taluk. Water was let into that portion of the canal, that lies in the South-central section, too late in the fortnight to allow of much being done in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks. Crops standing on red soils in the Cumbum taluk of the Eastern section and in the Western section were still in fair condition, though badly in want of rain in the latter section, while in the two Central sections they had either faded, or were beginning to fade, in most places. Scattered patches of cultivation under wells were in a flourishing state.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder was beginning to run short in the Eastern section, but the supply will last for a considerable time yet in the North-central section. In the affected sections the position was of course unchanged. The Head Assistant Collector, who was engaged for the greater part of the period in distributing to poor ryots in the Nandyal taluk the allotment made by the Famine Fund Committee, is now on his way to Owk and will shortly submit a report as to whether another chance of buying imported straw should be given to cattle owners in that neighbourhood. Two bales were sold a few days back to some ryots who had come into Nandyal from the Koilkuntla taluk, and nine bales remain unsold out of the total consignment of 36. Pasture was practically *nil* in the Eastern and North-central sections, and what was coming on excellently well a month ago in the other sections has almost entirely dried up, except in lowlying places and along the

beds of streams. Cattle were in pretty fair condition in the Eastern and North-central sections, and in poor condition, on the whole, in the other sections. There was a general complaint that the grass in the Nallamalais had not attained sufficient growth to be of much service to anything but sheep.

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 of July 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Pattikonda	7·56	6·52	15·59	13·58	11·33	10·55	15·00	12·22	
2. Pyápalli	7·29	6·12	15·26	13·52	10·81	9·78	12·80	9·40	Prices are rising sharply at all stations, especially in cholam.
3. Kurnool town ..	8·58	8·21	15·48	10·32	12·33	8·56	11·25	8·75	
4. Nandikotkur	9 29	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
5. Atmakúru	9·29	8·58	..	..	13·70	11·30	..	..	
6. Nandyál	8·93	8·21	14·19	12·57	12·33	9·24	..	..	
7. Kalwa	8·58	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
8. Koilkuntla	9·96	8·30	15·00	12·00	12·24	8·69	..	..	
9. Owk	9·96	7·47	15·00	12·00	11·06	8·69	..	..	
10. Allagadda	8·58	7·15	14·19	12·25	11·98	9·59	..	..	
11. Giddalur	8·72	7·47	15·00	13·50	14·22	12·64	11·60	10·87	
12. Markapur	8·30	8·30	16.50	15·00	..	..	12·32	10 87	
Average ..	8·75	7·67	15·13	12·75	12·37	9·84	12·59	10·42	

Activity of Trade.—By the end of the period the state of the local markets was becoming critical. Prices were rising rapidly, and at several stations the taluk officers were finding it extremely difficult to induce the merchants to expose their stocks of cholam for sale. The staple and other dry grains were exported from the principal Railway centres to the Bellary district and also to such distant places as Gadag and Poona.

Condition of the People.

On Works.—The fortnight was remarkable for a slight outbreak of cholera, the first that has occurred in the district since the beginning of distress, on the Joharapuram work just outside the town of Kurnool, resulting up to the close of the period in 27 attacks and 18 deaths amongst the large number of nearly 9,000 labourers. The disease was imported apparently from Hyderabad territory, from which there has lately been a large influx of poverty-stricken people. Every effort to prevent its spread is being made by the District Medical and Sanitary officer in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner; and I have sanctioned the removal of most of the gangs for employment at a distance of two or three miles beyond municipal limits in convenient sections. On other works the general health was fair on the whole.

In villages.—Except for a few sporadic cases of cholera in the Nandikotkur taluk, the condition of the people in villages was moderately good. In the affected taluks destitute persons unable to resort to relief works were almost all in receipt of gratuitous relief from Government; in the Ramallakota taluk, where the numbers on relief appear to be abnormally large, the Divisional and Taluk Officers have been directed to institute careful enquiries regarding the work of the Circle Inspectors. The business of bringing on to our rolls the poor of the Kurnool town, hitherto in receipt of money-doles from the district committee of the Famine Fund, was completed; and this accounts partly for the heavy increase in the figures for the taluk. The ordinary Local Fund works in the Eastern and North-central sections attracted a considerable number of workers—near Markapur, there were 600 coolies at work, and at Cumbum nearly as many, the wages paid for full outturn of work being As. 1—6 a man, 1 anna for a woman, and 6 pies for a child per diem.

Banganapalle State.—The Nawab's subjects were coming to our relief works in crowds. Weavers too belonging to his villages were applying for relief at their own craft, and I request orders as to whether they should be given employment, since there is little or no hope of their receiving aid in the State.

Sickness and Mortality.—No particular remarks beyond those given under the head "condition of people" are called for. The diaries of the Circle Inspectors showed that mortality was almost entirely due to ordinary causes.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Pattikonda	32,947	42,476
Ramallakota	16,233	24,955
Nandyal	11,750	15,191
Koilkuntla	32,389	36,932
Sirvel	15,565	18,940
Total ...	1,08,884	1,38,494

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.
Pattikonda	1,299	1,566	1,101	1,213	..	..	{ * 1,154 2,682	* 933 4,896
Ramallakota	698	731	10	8	..	..	{ 1,416 6,638	1,497 † 11,947
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	527	620
Nandyal	457	451	37	39	..	..	{ 897 2,573	1,157 2,636
Koilkuntla	1,071	1,438	243	175	..	..	{ 2,550 3,404	3,505 3,159
Sirvel	711	822	18	17	..	..	{ 949 2,172	1,563 3,364
Total ..	4,236	5,008	* 1,409	1,452	..	..	{ 7,493 17,466	9,275 26,002

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.
Pattikonda	77	94	3,599	4,310	7,582	36,551
Ramallakota	93	98	2,396	3,744	6,494	19,003
Nandikotkur	3	3	..	..	..	..
Nandyal	110	116	..	..	..	..
Koilkuntla	86	86	1,240	1,414	1,125	2,523
Sirvel	100	100	562	837	678	1,944
Total ..	469	497	7,797	10,305	15,879	60,021

* The first set of figures represent the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

† Includes figures for Kurnool town.

General Remarks.

The situation was becoming alarming by the close of the fortnight, as the numbers on all kinds of relief in the affected tracts had gone up by leaps and bounds, and disquieting reports had reached me from the hitherto unaffected divisions. It is true that there have been a fall of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches of rain at Giddalore and good showers in parts of the Markapur taluk since 15th instant, but unless more rain comes before the end of the month the whole district will, I fear, have to be declared affected. As I expect to meet the Famine Commissioner at Dhone on 20th instant and to obtain the benefit of his advice in respect to many matters that are disturbing my mind, I refrain from raising in this narrative the question of opening new works and kitchens, and of obtaining an increase to the different establishments now working under me.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited—

I was in camp for thirteen days and inspected the following:—

Nandyal taluk.—Rungapuram, Betamcherla.

Ramallakota taluk.—Malkapuram, Karlakunta, Awkatad, and Veldurti.

Pattikonda taluk.—Maddikera, Katarkonda, and Venkatapuram.

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum.

Works.—Rungapuram road, Bhavikanama road, Maddikera-Nancherla road Katarkonda-Kodumur road, Joharapuram road and Betamcherla section of the Kalwa-Betamcherla road.

The Head Assistant Collector was in camp for thirteen days and visited the following places:—

Nandyal taluk.—Panyam, Betamcherla.

Note.—He could not do more inspection work as he had to spend most of his time in the distribution among poor pattadars of the amount sanctioned by the Famine Fund Committee. He had also to come into Kurnool for a couple of days in connection with the Higher Standrad examination.

The Deputy Collector, Pyápalli, inspected the following places:—

Pattikonda taluk.—Yenugamarri, Mettapalli, Ramapuram, Jaladurgam, Utakonda, Garladinne, Munimadugu, Racherla, Burugala, Neraducherla, Maddikera, Nallaballi, Yerragudi and Rollapad.

Ramallakota taluk.—Dhone, Kocheruvu, Chintalapeta and Gosmanipalle.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was in camp for eleven days and inspected the following:—

Nandikotkur taluk.—Atmakúru.

Ramallakota taluk (to which he was ordered to proceed to assist in distributing Famine Fund money to poor pattadars):—Chinna Tekur, Bastipad, Chetlamallapuram, Nayakallu, Konganapad, Ulindakonda, Mallepalli, Ramallakota, Boyanapalli, Pullagummi, Uyyalavada and Kalugotla.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division visited the following places:—

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum, Kandulapuram and Giddalore.

Markapur taluk.—Gobbur, Tokapalli, Gollavidigi, Kesavanipalli, Dupad, Mallavaram, Tangarallapalli, Idupur, Daremadugu, Gurijepalli, Boyalapalli, Sarvayapolem and Narasayapolem.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Total.				Number of wells	
	Repair and construction of wells.													
	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.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Pattikonda	142	36,675	142	22,228	212	52,666	890	93,550	890	98,550	821	1,06,091	..	138
Ramallakota	21	5,180	14	3,050	48	13,810	4	390	4	390	98	12,400	..	14
Nandikotkur	2	400	..	..	..	..	3	450	3	450	1	100	..	3
Nandyal	10	3,700	9	1,203	12	3,750	25	3,770	20	2,470	103	13,160	..	9
Koilkuntla	27	4,565	27	4,565	21	4,550	20	2,500	20	2,500	61	14,550	..	27
Sirvel	Not received from the Tahsildar in spite of orders. Explanation is being called for.												..	..
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Markapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	202	50,520	194	31,451	294	75,176	942	1,00,660	937	99,630	1,084	1,46,301	..	191

Taluks.	Cattle and seed grain.								Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
	Rs.			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Pattikonda	53	2,225	53	2,225	166	12,328	912	41,199	912	41,199	912	41,199	1,982	1,53,238
Ramallakota	..	..	..	..	130	5,651	5	430	..	..	..	..	489	33,504
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50	1	50
Nandyal	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1,250	9	945	185	12,691	185	12,691
Koilkuntla	..	..	..	..	..	..	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	† 62,154	399	† 62,154
Sirvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,666	..	3,986	..	..	..	..
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	3	160	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	160
Markapur	1	40	1	40	..	..	1	40	1	40	1	40	..	..
Total ..	54	2,265	54	2,265	299	18,139	1,236	66,765	1,104	63,720	1,098	1,28,084	3,059	2,51,792

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.													
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
	Rs.			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Pattikonda	859	38,974	859	38,974	1,816	1,40,905	912	41,199	912	41,199	912	41,199	1,982	1,53,238
Ramallakota	5	430	..	..	359	27,853	5	430	..	..	..	..	489	33,504
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	1	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50
Nandyal	..	..	..	..	185	12,691	11	1,250	9	945	..	..	185	12,691
Koilkuntla	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	52,154	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	52,154	399	† 62,154
Sirvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,666	..	3,986	..	..	..	..
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Markapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,182	59,834	1,050	57,469	2,760	2,33,653	1,236	66,765	1,104	63,720	1,098	1,28,084	3,059	2,51,792

* These do not tally with the figures given in the season report. Explanation will be called for.
† The figures do not tally with those given in the last weekly season report, the Tahsildar's figures not having been received in time for inclusion in that report.

Resolution—No. 549, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the period was very deficient, the only fall of any account being one inch at Giddalur; even this, however, was far below the average. The state of the district was, consequently, at the time the Collector wrote his narrative, going from bad to worse, crops and pasture having already begun to show signs of withering after the four weeks' drought. Since then, however, matters have taken a turn for the better, rain having fallen, as noted below, at the undermentioned stations:—

	INCHES.		INCHES.
Markapur	0·76	Nandyal	5·36
Giddalur	3·77	Atmakúru	4·23
Allagadda	1·62	Nandikotkur...	4·48
Koilkuntla	1·56	Kurnool	3·36
Owk	1·29	Pattikonda	0·31
Kalwa	1·87	Pyápalli	0·88

The dry crops had, however, sustained a shake from which they cannot fully recover. In many cases they have come up so unequally that the outturn is not likely to be more than two to eight annas. The rainfall was, also, somewhat partial. It is to be feared that much sowing was made with inferior seed-corn. Many of the red-soils ought to be re-sown, but the ryots are much stricken in their resources, and the Revenue subordinates, in some places, have been remiss in disposing of applications for loans.

3. Prices rose rapidly during the fortnight, cholam, the staple crop, which was already far above the scarcity rate, showing a marked increase, being available only at 29 per cent. above scarcity prices—more than three times the normal rate. The general position of prices is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholam.	Cumbu.
Normal	13·2	30·0	28·0
Warning	10·6	22·5	21·0
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	14·0
Current	7·7	9·8	10·4
July 1892	9·7	16·3	13·7
Do. 1877	5·4	6·2	5·9

Grain was not freely exposed in the markets, and stocks were reduced by exportations to other districts.

The Famine Commissioner discussed with the Collector the possibility of substituting, as in Cuddapah and Anantapur, wholly or partially, ragi for cholam as a basis of payments, but the result is not encouraging. The people seem to be still altogether cholam-eaters, as an examination of their food on the works showed. The matter will, however, have the Collector's best attention.

4. The condition of the people was said to be, on the whole, good. Cholera broke out on the work near Kurnool town, but was soon stamped out, through the steps taken by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. The numbers on relief works rose by 27 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 36 per cent. The large increase under the latter head can only be efficiently checked by an addition to the district establishment; Government has been requested in B.P., Mis. No. 5866, dated 28th July 1897, to sanction taluk relief officers for Ramallakota and Koilkuntla taluks.

Sufficient relief, in the form of works, was not given in the Ramallakota taluk; hence the large number on gratuitous relief. Had Mr. Mullaly and his Revenue subordinates recognised the position of this taluk in time, this would not have been the case. The Famine Commissioner and Sanitary Commissioner examined some 7,500 out of 10,000 coolies on the Joharapuram work, and their condition was decidedly

unsatisfactory. About half of those examined were in poor condition, and, after eliminating all whose cases, owing to age or disease, were doubtful, there was a large residuum which testifies to the insufficiency of the famine wage over long periods. There were 70 famine babies in an advanced stage of emaciation on this work, and scurvy was rife. So too was anæmia. The question of the numbers on gratuitous relief will be entered into in the Collector's next fortnightly, in view of the recent concern expressed by Government as to the growth of that form of relief. Further remarks are therefore, at present, not necessary.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Rs.
June 19th	1,25,384
„ 26th	1,53,122
July 3rd	1,64,989
„ 10th	2,07,904
„ 17th	2,32,644

The advance since the beginning of the month has been satisfactory, but subject to serious reservations. In a large tract in the Ramallakota taluk the ryots complained that their applications, put in in 1896, for loans, had not been disposed of, to say nothing of those put in in 1897. The Tahsildar alleged that he had disposed of—*i.e.*, rejected—the earlier applications, but it seems to be true, that the ryots had not received a single endorsement on their applications. Comparing this taluk with Pattikonda, it will be seen that this Tahsildar only disbursed 14 loans, amounting to Rupees 3,050, for the construction of wells, against 142 loans for Rs. 22,228 in Pattikonda. For "other purposes" the figures are—

	Loans disbursed. No.	Amount. Rs.
Pattikonda	890	93,550
Ramallakota	4	390

For "fodder" the figures are—

Pattikonda	859	38,974
Ramallakota	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

In Ramallakota 359 applications for Rs. 27,853 are pending at a time when no efforts should have been spared to help the people.

For "cattle and seed grain," Pattikonda gave 53 loans amounting to Rs. 2,225, while Ramallakota, which has 130 applications for Rs. 5,651 pending, has not disbursed one pie. This Tahsildar seems to have neglected his work in other directions—notably in the matter of representing the claims of his taluk to remissions on dry lands. It is very doubtful if he is fit to hold such a responsible appointment. The Collector will go into this matter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 712, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous..

Recorded.

2. Three Taluk Relief Officer's have already been sanctioned for Kurnool.

(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 Political Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 712, 20th August 1897.

AUGUST.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remark, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Kurnool 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. 549, dated 4th August 1897 :—

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

State of the country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

	Inches.
Rainfall during the period	·20
Average rainfall expected during the period	2·35
Rainfall up to the period from 1st April 1897	4·87
Average rainfall expected up to the period from 1st April 1897 ...	7·05

There was rain at six of the registering stations as shown below :—

	Inches.
Giddalur	1·03
Markapur	·46
Kurnool	·38
Kalwa	·37
Nandikotkur	·13
Pattikonda	·10

The South-central section, where there was no fall whatever, fared the worst, but the North-central section and the Pattikonda taluk of the Western section were practically in the same plight.

For drinking.—The supply continued to be fairly sufficient in all sections. Some little difficulty was being experienced in the North-central section in the villages lying at the foot of the Nallamalais. Steps to improve wells were being taken. In the Eastern section the supply was diminishing. Famine labour was utilized in deepening wells in the affected tracts.

For irrigation.—There was no supply worthy of mention, except in the canal and the tanks fed by it. The Cumbum tank was virtually dry.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—The preparation for cultivation of lands under the canal was in progress, and the ploughing of black-cotton soils was still going on to some extent throughout the district. Paddy, cholam and korra were sown in the canal villages of the Nandikotkur taluk. Water was let into that portion of the canal, that lies in the South-central section, too late in the fortnight to allow of much being done in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks. Crops standing on red soils in the Cumbum taluk of the Eastern section and in the Western section were still in fair condition, though badly in want of rain in the latter section, while in the two Central sections they had either faded, or were beginning to fade, in most places. Scattered patches of cultivation under wells were in a flourishing state.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder was beginning to run short in the Eastern section, but the supply will last for a considerable time yet in the North-central section. In the affected sections the position was of course unchanged. The Head Assistant Collector, who was engaged for the greater part of the period in distributing to poor ryots in the Nandyal taluk the allotment made by the Famine Fund Committee, is now on his way to Owk and will shortly submit a report as to whether another chance of buying imported straw should be given to cattle owners in that neighbourhood. Two bales were sold a few days back to some ryots who had come into Nandyal from the Koilkuntla taluk, and nine bales remain unsold out of the total consignment of 36. Pasture was practically *nil* in the Eastern and North-central sections, and what was coming on excellently well a month ago in the other sections has almost entirely dried up, except in lowlying places and along the

beds of streams. Cattle were in pretty fair condition in the Eastern and North-central sections, and in poor condition, on the whole, in the other sections. There was a general complaint that the grass in the Nallamalais had not attained sufficient growth to be of much service to anything but sheep.

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 of July 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Pattikonda	7·56	6·52	15·59	13·58	11·33	10·55	15·00	12·22	
2. Pyápalli	7·29	6·12	15·26	13·52	10·81	9·78	12·80	9·40	Prices are rising sharply at all stations, especially in cholam.
3. Kurnool town ..	8·58	8·21	15·48	10·32	12·33	8·56	11·25	8·75	
4. Nandikotkur	9 29	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
5. Atmakúru	9·29	8·58	..	..	13·70	11·30	..	..	
6. Nandyál	8·93	8·21	14·19	12·57	12·33	9·24	..	..	
7. Kalwa	8·58	7·86	..	..	13·01	9·59	..	..	
8. Koilkuntla	9·96	8·30	15·00	12·00	12·24	8·69	..	..	
9. Owk	9·96	7·47	15·00	12·00	11·06	8·69	..	..	
10. Allagadda	8·58	7·15	14·19	12·25	11·98	9·59	..	..	
11. Giddalur	8·72	7·47	15·00	13·50	14·22	12·64	11·60	10·87	
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Average ..	8·75	7·67	15·13	12·75	12·37	9·84	12·59	10·42	

Activity of Trade.—By the end of the period the state of the local markets was becoming critical. Prices were rising rapidly, and at several stations the taluk officers were finding it extremely difficult to induce the merchants to expose their stocks of cholam for sale. The staple and other dry grains were exported from the principal Railway centres to the Bellary district and also to such distant places as Gadag and Poona.

Condition of the People.

On Works.—The fortnight was remarkable for a slight outbreak of cholera, the first that has occurred in the district since the beginning of distress, on the Joharapuram work just outside the town of Kurnool, resulting up to the close of the period in 27 attacks and 18 deaths amongst the large number of nearly 9,000 labourers. The disease was imported apparently from Hyderabad territory, from which there has lately been a large influx of poverty-stricken people. Every effort to prevent its spread is being made by the District Medical and Sanitary officer in consultation with the Sanitary Commissioner; and I have sanctioned the removal of most of the gangs for employment at a distance of two or three miles beyond municipal limits in convenient sections. On other works the general health was fair on the whole.

In villages.—Except for a few sporadic cases of cholera in the Nandikotkur taluk, the condition of the people in villages was moderately good. In the affected taluks destitute persons unable to resort to relief works were almost all in receipt of gratuitous relief from Government; in the Ramallakota taluk, where the numbers on relief appear to be abnormally large, the Divisional and Taluk Officers have been directed to institute careful enquiries regarding the work of the Circle Inspectors. The business of bringing on to our rolls the poor of the Kurnool town, hitherto in receipt of money-doles from the district committee of the Famine Fund, was completed; and this accounts partly for the heavy increase in the figures for the taluk. The ordinary Local Fund works in the Eastern and North-central sections attracted a considerable number of workers—near Markapur, there were 600 coolies at work, and at Cumbum nearly as many, the wages paid for full outturn of work being As. 1—6 a man, 1 anna for a woman, and 6 pies for a child per diem.

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Sickness and Mortality.—No particular remarks beyond those given under the head "condition of people" are called for. The diaries of the Circle Inspectors showed that mortality was almost entirely due to ordinary causes.

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

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Total ...	1,08,884	1,38,494

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.
Pattikonda	1,299	1,566	1,101	1,213	..	..	{*1,154 2,682	* 933 4,896
Ramallakota	698	731	10	8	..	..	{1,416 6,638	1,497 † 11,947
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	527	620
Nandyal	457	451	37	39	..	..	{897 2,573	1,157 2,636
Koilkuntla	1,071	1,438	243	175	..	..	{2,550 3,404	3,505 3,159
Sirvel	711	822	18	17	..	..	{949 2,172	1,563 3,364
Total ..	4,236	5,008	*1,409	1,452	..	..	{7,493 17,466	9,275 26,002

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.
Pattikonda	77	94	3,599	4,310	7,582	36,551
Ramallakota	93	98	2,396	3,744	6,494	19,003
Nandikotkur	3	3	..	..	..	..
Nandyal	110	116	..	..	..	..
Koilkuntla	86	86	1,240	1,414	1,125	2,523
Sirvel	100	100	562	837	678	1,944
Total ..	469	497	7,797	10,305	15,879	60,021

* The first set of figures represent the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

† Includes figures for Kurnool town.

General Remarks.

The situation was becoming alarming by the close of the fortnight, as the numbers on all kinds of relief in the affected tracts had gone up by leaps and bounds, and disquieting reports had reached me from the hitherto unaffected divisions. It is true that there have been a fall of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches of rain at Giddalore and good showers in parts of the Markapur taluk since 15th instant, but unless more rain comes before the end of the month the whole district will, I fear, have to be declared affected. As I expect to meet the Famine Commissioner at Dhone on 20th instant and to obtain the benefit of his advice in respect to many matters that are disturbing my mind, I refrain from raising in this narrative the question of opening new works and kitchens, and of obtaining an increase to the different establishments now working under me.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited—

I was in camp for thirteen days and inspected the following:—

Nandyal taluk.—Rungapuram, Betamcherla.

Ramallakota taluk.—Malkapuram, Karlakunta, Awkatad, and Veldurti.

Pattikonda taluk.—Maddikera, Katarkonda, and Venkatapuram.

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum.

Works.—Rungapuram road, Bhavikanama road, Maddikera-Nancherla road Katarkonda-Kodumur road, Joharapuram road and Betamcherla section of the Kalwa-Betamcherla road.

The Head Assistant Collector was in camp for thirteen days and visited the following places:—

Nandyal taluk.—Panyam, Betamcherla.

Note.—He could not do more inspection work as he had to spend most of his time in the distribution among poor pattadars of the amount sanctioned by the Famine Fund Committee. He had also to come into Kurnool for a couple of days in connection with the Higher Standrad examination.

The Deputy Collector, Pyápalli, inspected the following places:—

Pattikonda taluk.—Yenugamarri, Mettapalli, Ramapuram, Jaladurgam, Utakonda, Garladinne, Munimadugu, Racherla, Burugala, Neraducherla, Maddikera, Nallaballi, Yerragudi and Rollapad.

Ramallakota taluk.—Dhone, Kocheruvu, Chintalapeta and Gosmanipalle.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was in camp for eleven days and inspected the following:—

Nandikotkur taluk.—Atmakúru.

Ramallakota taluk (to which he was ordered to proceed to assist in distributing Famine Fund money to poor pattadars):—Chinna Tekur, Bastipad, Chetlamallapuram, Nayakallu, Konganapad, Ulindakonda, Mallepalli, Ramallakota, Boyanapalli, Pullagummi, Uyyalavada and Kalugotla.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division visited the following places:—

Cumbum taluk.—Cumbum, Kandulapuram and Giddalore.

Markapur taluk.—Gobbur, Tokapalli, Gollavidigi, Kesavanipalli, Dupad, Mallavaram, Tangarallapalli, Idupur, Daremadugu, Gurijepalli, Boyalapalli, Sarvayapolem and Narasayapolem.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.										Total.				Number of wells	
	Repair and construction of wells.				Other purposes.				Cattle and seed grain.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		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.		
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.		
Pattikonda	142	36,675	142	22,228	212	52,666	890	93,550	890	93,550	821	1,06,091	1,032	1,15,778	1,033	1,58,757	..	..	138	
Ramallakota	21	5,180	14	3,050	48	13,810	4	390	4	390	98	12,400	18	3,440	146	26,210	..	..	14	
Nandikotkur	2	400	2	400	..	..	3	450	3	450	1	100	1	*850	1	100	..	..	3	
Nandyal ..	10	3,700	9	1,208	12	3,750	25	3,770	20	2,470	103	13,160	29	*3,678	115	16,910	..	..	9	
Koilkuntla	27	4,565	27	4,565	21	4,350	20	2,500	20	2,500	61	14,550	47	7,066	82	19,400	..	..	27	
Sirvel ..	Not received from the Tahsildar in spite of orders.				1	100	..	..	Explanation is being called for.				..	10,650	..	100	..	..	..	
Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	
Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	202	50,520	194	31,451	294	75,176	942	1,00,660	937	99,630	1,084	1,46,301	1,144	1,62,930	1,131	1,41,461	1,378	2,21,477	..	191

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.								Total.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Pattikonda	859	38,974	859	38,974	1,816	1,40,905	53	2,225	53	2,225	166	12,328	912	41,199	912	41,199	1,982	1,58,233
Ramallakota	5	430	..	..	359	27,853	..	..	..	..	130	5,651	5	430	..	..	489	38,504
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	1	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50
Nandyal ..	11	1,250	9	945	185	12,691	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1,250	9	945	185	12,691
Koilkuntla	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	52,164	..	..	..	..	..	..	307	19,180	182	17,550	399	† 52,164
Sirvel ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,666	..	3,986	..	..
Cumbum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	40	1	40	3	160	1	40	1	40	3	160
Markapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,182	59,834	1,050	57,469	2,760	2,33,653	54	2,265	54	2,265	299	18,139	1,236	66,765	1,104	63,720	3,059	2,51,792

* These do not tally with the figures given in the season report. Explanation will be called for.
† The figures do not tally with those given in the last weekly season report, the Tahsildar's figures not having been received in time for inclusion in that report.

Resolution—No. 549, dated 4th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the period was very deficient, the only fall of any account being one inch at Giddalur; even this, however, was far below the average. The state of the district was, consequently, at the time the Collector wrote his narrative, going from bad to worse, crops and pasture having already begun to show signs of withering after the four weeks' drought. Since then, however, matters have taken a turn for the better, rain having fallen, as noted below, at the undermentioned stations:—

	Inches.		Inches.
Markapur	0·76	Nandyal	5·36
Giddalur	3·77	Atmakúru	4·23
Allagadda	1·62	Nandikotkur...	4·48
Koilkuntla	1·56	Kurnool	3·36
Owk	1·29	Pattikonda	0·31
Kalwa	1·87	Pyápalli	0·88

The dry crops had, however, sustained a shake from which they cannot fully recover. In many cases they have come up so unequally that the outturn is not likely to be more than two to eight annas. The rainfall was, also, somewhat partial. It is to be feared that much sowing was made with inferior seed-corn. Many of the red-soils ought to be re-sown, but the ryots are much stricken in their resources, and the Revenue subordinates, in some places, have been remiss in disposing of applications for loans.

3. Prices rose rapidly during the fortnight, cholam, the staple crop, which was already far above the scarcity rate, showing a marked increase, being available only at 29 per cent. above scarcity prices—more than three times the normal rate. The general position of prices is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholam.	Cumbu.
Normal	13·2	30·0	28·0
Warning	10·6	22·5	21·0
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	14·0
Current	7·7	9·8	10·4
July 1892	9·7	16·3	13·7
Do. 1877	5·4	6·2	5·9

Grain was not freely exposed in the markets, and stocks were reduced by exportations to other districts.

The Famine Commissioner discussed with the Collector the possibility of substituting, as in Cuddapah and Anantapur, wholly or partially, ragi for cholam as a basis of payments, but the result is not encouraging. The people seem to be still altogether cholam-eaters, as an examination of their food on the works showed. The matter will, however, have the Collector's best attention.

4. The condition of the people was said to be, on the whole, good. Cholera broke out on the work near Kurnool town, but was soon stamped out, through the steps taken by the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. The numbers on relief works rose by 27 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by 36 per cent. The large increase under the latter head can only be efficiently checked by an addition to the district establishment; Government has been requested in B.P., Mis. No. 5866, dated 28th July 1897, to sanction taluk relief officers for Ramallakota and Koilkuntla taluks.

Sufficient relief, in the form of works, was not given in the Ramallakota taluk; hence the large number on gratuitous relief. Had Mr. Mullaly and his Revenue subordinates recognised the position of this taluk in time, this would not have been the case. The Famine Commissioner and Sanitary Commissioner examined some 7,500 out of 10,000 coolies on the Joharapuram work, and their condition was decidedly

unsatisfactory. About half of those examined were in poor condition, and, after eliminating all whose cases, owing to age or disease, were doubtful, there was a large residuum which testifies to the insufficiency of the famine wage over long periods. There were 70 famine babies in an advanced stage of emaciation on this work, and scurvy was rife. So too was anæmia. The question of the numbers on gratuitous relief will be entered into in the Collector's next fortnightly, in view of the recent concern expressed by Government as to the growth of that form of relief. Further remarks are therefore, at present, not necessary.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Rs.
June 19th	1,25,384
„ 26th	1,53,122
July 3rd	1,64,989
„ 10th	2,07,904
„ 17th	2,32,644

The advance since the beginning of the month has been satisfactory, but subject to serious reservations. In a large tract in the Ramallakota taluk the ryots complained that their applications, put in in 1896, for loans, had not been disposed of, to say nothing of those put in in 1897. The Tahsildar alleged that he had disposed of—*i.e.*, rejected—the earlier applications, but it seems to be true, that the ryots had not received a single endorsement on their applications. Comparing this taluk with Pattikonda, it will be seen that this Tahsildar only disbursed 14 loans, amounting to Rupees 3,050, for the construction of wells, against 142 loans for Rs. 22,228 in Pattikonda. For "other purposes" the figures are—

	Loans disbursed. No.	Amount. Rs.
Pattikonda	890	93,550
Ramallakota	4	390

For "fodder" the figures are—

Pattikonda	859	38,974
Ramallakota	*Nil.*	*Nil.*

In Ramallakota 359 applications for Rs. 27,853 are pending at a time when no efforts should have been spared to help the people.

For "cattle and seed grain," Pattikonda gave 53 loans amounting to Rs. 2,225, while Ramallakota, which has 130 applications for Rs. 5,651 pending, has not disbursed one pie. This Tahsildar seems to have neglected his work in other directions—notably in the matter of representing the claims of his taluk to remissions on dry lands. It is very doubtful if he is fit to hold such a responsible appointment. The Collector will go into this matter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 712, Revenue, dated 20th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. Three Taluk Relief Officer's have already been sanctioned for Kurnool.

(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 Political Department.
„ the Accountant-General.

Md. Shaik Karim.

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