Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 433 W

DATED 13 February 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jammu: Rs: Revenue Depth receiving with remarks thereon of the Jammu Div^n for period ending 31st December 96 Comp^g C & S.E. III Circle for report on certain point.

=

T.C. 13/2/97

[P.W. 28. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 15/2

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

urgent

Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1472

Telephoned for 8c

B

From

The Revenue department.

Order No. 433N, d. 13-2-97.

Communicated to
the Supdg Engineer III Circle
for report in regard to para
2 of the order of Govt. in
the Revenue Dept.

No. 595.

Dated 22 February 1897.

Received 10-2-97

Registered 10-2-97

Enclosures one.

Spare copies

11/2/97

The S. E. III Circle 10/3/97

K.S.

SUBJECT.

Recording with remarks
fortnightly narrative, Kurnool,
for the period ending 31st
December 1896.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool district during the period ending 31st December 1896 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

	INCHES.
Rainfall in rain-registering stations	*Nil*
Rainfal up to the period from 1st April 1896	15·66
Average rainfall expected in the period	*Nil*
Average rainfall expected up to the period from 1st April 1896 ...	27·14

There was no rain during this fortnight.

Water-supply.—Generally sufficient for drinking purposes, but insufficient at Sripathirowpet, hamlet of Atmakúr, Nandikotkur division, and diminishing in parts of Kurnool and Nandyal divisions. The supply is insufficient for irrigation purposes, except in canal villages almost all the tanks except those on the Cumbum division having run dry.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Agricultural operations still continue to a certain extent, though sowings have almost ceased throughout the district. In the Kurnool division, they are almost over except in the canal villages of the Ramallakota taluk where paddy is either being harvested, or where it has already been harvested, the land is prepared for a second crop. Weeding of cotton is going on in parts of Pattikonda taluk. In the Nandikotkur division, paddy under canal and a few tanks, indigo, horse-gram and oil-seeds in parts harvested. Lands under the canal and under wells in Atmakúr firka where paddy has been harvested, are prepared for second crop. Transplantation of ragi and garden crops is going on in parts. The tank-bed lands in the Atmakúr firka are being cultivated.

In the Nandyal division, paddy is harvested with an outturn of 16 to 20 annas in Nandyal and other canal villages and with an outturn of 8 to 16 annas under Koonoo-koontla tank and of 4 to 12 annas in Timmanayanipet firka of Koilkuntla taluk. Lands are prepared for second crop in canal and spring channel villages. Transplant-ation and weeding of ragi under wells in Kalva division and Sirvel taluk. Jonna is also sown in wet lands in the Kalva division. Regar lands are also being ploughed in parts for next year's sowings. Paddy, horse-gram, cholum and cotton are harvested in the Sirvel taluk.

In the Cumbum division, wheat, pulses, white cholum and variga are sown in the Cumbum taluk, where lands are also being ploughed for fresh sowings. Wet lands are being prepared for paddy and ragi in Markapur taluk, while the transplantation of the latter is going on under wells.

State of standing crops.—In the Kurnool division, cholum, red-gram, castor and cotton are generally good and paddy under wells in the Pattikonda taluk is expected to yield an eight-anna crop.

The standing crops in the Nandikotkur division are in good condition everywhere, especially white cholum which promises a very good outturn. Paddy under tanks has already mostly withered away. White cholum and horse-gram in *Thuvva* lands in the Atmakúr division are in need of rain.

In the Nandyal division, the standing crops are generally good except in sixteen villages of the Koilkuntla firka, the villages around Owk and parts of Kalva division and Paniem firka. Cotton is reported to be excellent in many parts of Sirvel taluk. The late sown crops raised after the November rains are already wiltered in parts and even those that are green for the present are expected to fade away if there is no rain in the near future.

In the Cumbum division, paddy, pulses and variga are fair and oil-seeds very good. Ragi and arika are thriving. In places where the supply of water in tanks is insufficient, the future of paddy is doubtful.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—*Pasture* sufficient for the present in the Cumbum division, in canal and spring channel villages and some of the villages of Pyapalli firka, and scarce elsewhere. *Fodder* is sufficient for the present in the Cumbum division and has greatly increased elsewhere by the recent harvests except in the regar villages of Pattikonda and Ramallakota taluks and in the villages at the foot of the Nallamalas in the Nandikotkur taluk, where the supply is scanty. Hill grass is being extensively used as fodder everywhere.

The condition of cattle is generally good in Cumbum division and fair elsewhere. They are weak in Koilkuntla and in parts of Pattikonda and Ramallakota and Sirvel taluks. Rinderpest is prevalent in parts of Ramallakota, Nandikotkur and Nandyal taluks. It is very severe in the Nandyal taluk and a Stock Inspector has been directed to proceed there at once and ascertain and report the causes of the disease, taking steps to mitigate it.

General remarks on above subjects.—The November rains were very beneficial to the standing crops everywhere, and it is reported that the yield of white cholum in the Nandikotkur taluk is expected to be above the average for normal years. Tank-bed lands were given freely to the poorer ryots for temporary cultivation.

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 31st December 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholum.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
Pattikonda ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	15·45	12·36 (W) 15·45 (Y)	..	..	Prices are falling at Kurnool, Nandikotkur, Atmakúr, Nandyal, Koilkuntla, Owk and Allagadda; rising at Giddalore and Markapur and stationary elsewhere.
Pyapalli	8·64	8·64	..	..	14·42	16·48 (Y)	..	..	
Kurnool	7·86	8·58	12·90	14·19	15·75	15·07 (W) 17·81 (Y)	11·87	11·87	
Nandikotkur ..	8·58	9·29	..	..	14·30	16·44 (Y and W)	..	..	
Atmakúr ..	8·58	9·29	..	..	16·44	15·07 (Y) 16·44 (W)	11·25	..	
Nandyal	8·93	9·29	16·12	17·41	15·07	15·07 (Y) 15·75 (W)	12·50	13·12	
Kalva	7·86	7·86	..	..	16·44	16·44 (W) 17·81 (Y)	12·50	..	
Koilkuntla ..	9·13	9·13	15·00	15·00	13·43	12·64 (Y) 13·43 (W)	10·15	13·05	
Owk	8·30	9·13	13·50	15·00	11·06	13·43 (Y) 14·22 (W)	..	..	
Allagadda ..	8·58	8·58	14·83	15·48	11·64	13·01 (Y)	..	..	
Giddalore ..	9·36	8·71	21·00	15·80	18·96	15·01 (W)	17·40	14·50	
Markapur ..	10·79	10·79	18·75	18·00	..	..	15·20	14·50	
Average ..	8·77	8·99	16·01	15·84	14·81	15·02 (W) 15·32 (Y)	12·98	13·41	

W=White. Y=Yellow.

Activity of trade.—Trade is comparatively active throughout the district and grain is freely exposed for sale in the markets. Large quantities of grain are imported into this district from Guntur, Narsaraopet, Palcole (Gódávari district) and Tadpatri. There were also some exports to Bellary, Cuddapah, Sholapur and Banganapalle State.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—The condition of people on the several works was good and the usual sanitary arrangements continued under the supervision of the medical subordinates in charge. The following works were in progress during the fortnight:—

(1) (i) Owk village roads.
(ii) Owk-Tadpatri road.
(iii) Owk-Banganapalle road.
(2) Koilkuntla-Nossam road near Puchakayapalli.
(3) Bellary road near Kodumur.

In accordance with G.O., No. 678, dated 30th November 1896, the Public Works Department were asked on 7th December 1896 to take charge of all the works; but, as they did not do so, I again addressed the Superintending and Executive Engineers in the matter on the 21st December. In reply, the Superintending Engineer stated that it was quite impossible for him to take over the works and organize them properly until he knew what works he had to take over and what staff will be required for them. I accordingly sent him a list of the above works now in progress and of the following under contemplation, viz:—

(1) Road from Allagadda to Koilkuntla, *viâ* Chintagunta and Dornipad.
(2) Koilkuntla-Nandyal road.
(3) Railway feeder from Pattikonda, *viâ* Hosur in Pattikonda taluk to Molagavalli railway station on the Madras Railway.
(4) Railway feeder from Maddikera to Nancherla station on the Madras Railway.
(5) Repairs to the Alamoor tank.
(6) Road from Panyam to Banganapalle frontier.
(7) Road from Banganapalle frontier to Koilkuntla.
(8) Kodumur-Nagalavaram road near Kuruva-Nágalápuram.
(9) Road from Garladinne to Racherla, Pyapalli Division.
(10) Kalva-Betamcherla road.
(11) A forest work near a Chenchu gudem, Markapur taluk.
(12) A forest work near Mutyalpad, Sirvel taluk.

The Koilkuntla-Nossam road work was all along under the charge of the Public Works Department; and the first and third sections of the Owk works were taken charge of by the Assistant Engineer on the 25th December 1896 and the Superintending Engineer says that he cannot take over any further relief works until he has a sufficient staff for the purpose.

The number of coolies on all the three works at Owk fell to 2,913 on 31st December 1896 owing to the harvests that are going on in their villages. The number relieved at the kitchen was only nine.

(2) The Koilkuntla-Nossam road work was hitherto carried on near Puchakayapalli at the 14th mile, 3rd furlong. As a sufficient quantity of metal had been collected at that spot, the Assistant Engineer put one gang to spread and consolidate metal and shifted the other gang to the 15th mile for breaking and stacking metal there. As already anticipated by the Assistant Engineer in his report, a copy of which was forwarded with my last fortnightly, all the coolies left work, and consequently there was no work from the 23rd December 1896. Subsequently, however, on the 28th December 1896, 24 coolies came to work at the 15th mile and the latest report shows that only 35 coolies are on the work.

(3) The Kodumur work is still under the supervision of the Minor Irrigation Overseer, as the Public Works Department have not yet taken charge of it, although

I wired to the Executive Engineer to take charge as far back as the 14th December. The number of coolies on this work has increased to 740. It is very important that the Public Works Department should take charge immediately.

With reference to the Board's telegram, dated 2nd current, requiring information regarding the extent of fining against the provisions of the fourth sentence of section 106 of the Famine Code, I have to state that no deductions below the minimum wages were made during the fortnight in the Kodumur works, nor in the Owk works, so long as they were in charge of the Local Fund Engineering establishment; but after two of the sections of the last work were taken over by the Public Works Department, deductions varying from $\frac{1}{5}$ to $\frac{2}{5}$ of C class wages were made for only six of the gangs, thus reducing the wages slightly below the minimum. In the Puchakayapalli works, deductions varying from $\frac{1}{5}$ to $\frac{2}{5}$ of C class wages were made for one or both of the gangs on six days for short work.

(2) *In villages.*— Condition of people in the Cumbum division is good at present. The special report called for by the Board will be submitted as soon as information is received from the Divisional Officer.

The condition of people in the Nandikotkur taluk has greatly improved since the November rains, which did immense good to the standing white cholum crops and encouraged sowings in all parts. The Tahsildar reports that there is no real distress in any part of his taluk at present. He states that the white cholum crop has mostly come to ears and large numbers of labourers have been engaged in watching the crops and wherever the demand for labour is not fully met locally, enough work is likely to be had in canal villages where paddy is about to harvest. This will be followed by the harvest of white cholum in all the villages of the taluk, and the Deputy Collector reports that the outturn will be far above the average for normal years.

The Kurukunda and Guvalakunta tank works (treated as ordinary works under Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 6562, dated 14th December 1896) are situated in the most affected villages of the taluk and yet there were only 78 coolies on the works on the 31st December. This indicates that there is sufficient demand for labour throughout the taluk. This taluk may therefore be considered as unaffected for the present and excluded from the affected area in this district.

The condition of the people in the Kurnool division is generally good except in the black soil villages of Pattikonda. This received my best attention during my last tour of inspection. When I camped at Karivemula, some of the villagers complained to me that they were in need of work. The Tahsildar was accordingly directed to ascertain and report the number of coolies that may resort to work if one was opened near the village. He reports that none are willing to work at famine wages at present as they are engaged in the fields in picking cotton and gathering chillies, &c., where they earn double the famine wages and a test relief work is at present unnecessary. As the Tahsildar represented that the poorer classes of Hosúr, Puchakayalamada, Peravali, Chinna Hulthi, Pedda Hulthi, Devarabunda, Buruzula and Pattikonda needed relief, their crops having almost entirely failed, I inspected Hosúr and requested the Executive Engineer to start work there as soon as possible taking immediate steps for preparing an estimate for the construction of a road from Pattikonda to Molagavalli Railway station *via* Hosúr. I also ordered the Tahsildar to prepare, in the meanwhile, lists of coolies who would come from all the villages. The Tahsildar has since reported that only 80 persons are willing to come to work at famine wages from all the above-mentioned villages. He states that this is due to nine well-to-do ryots of Hosur having undertaken to dig new wells and repair old wells which gives employment for 200 persons. About 200 persons more are engaged in the removal of nuth grass. The Tahsildar therefore doubts whether a sufficient number will come forward to work at famine wages. While at Maddikera, some people asked for work; I accordingly requested the Executive Engineer to take steps to start work on the railway feeder road from Maddikera to Nancherla station on the Madras Railway. The Tahsildar has also submitted a list which shows that about 655 people are ready to join the relief work. It remains to be seen whether they will work for famine wages. I am again writing to the Executive Engineer to open this work at once.

The Deputy Collector has been requested to carefully watch the condition of the black soil villages and propose such other measures of relief as may be found necessary in course of time. The condition of the people in the hill villages of Racherla, Munimadugu, Jaladurgam and Garladinne in the Pyápali firka is also reported to be bad. Some of the poorer people of these villages are engaged in bringing hill grass and selling it in the village. This occupation will, it is said, cease in ten days. Steps are being taken to open a work on the Racherla-Garladinne road to afford relief to these people. In accordance with paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings, No. 398, dated 5th December 1896, steps will be taken for the eventual re-opening of the work at Kurava-Nágalápuram.

In the Nandyal division, the condition of the people of the Nandyal taluk is generally fair except in Paniem firka, where the Executive Engineer has been requested to start work on the Paniem-Banganapalle road and Alamur tank. As regards the villages of Oravakal and Tammarayapalli (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 361, dated 21st November 1896), the Deputy Tahsildar of Kálava reports that the condition of the people of Oravakal has much improved since the November rains, which greatly benefited the white jonna and cotton crops sown in October, revived agricultural operations and reduced the prices of grains. Nearly 100 coolies are engaged in transplanting and weeding ragi and jonna under wells, and this will be followed by picking cotton, harvesting ragi, collection of onions, &c. These operations may occupy the coolies for nearly four months. As regards the village of Tammarayapalli, it is reported that though the rain did not materially alter the condition of the people, yet it put heart into them and they at present make their cattle a source of income or borrow grain from their rich neighbours. Some of them are also engaged in firewood dealing. The Deputy Tahsildar reports that none of the coolies are at present willing to work at famine wages.

The condition of the people in Koilkuntla and Owk firkas is reported to be bad. The Executive Engineer has again been asked to expedite the preparation of the estimate for the Allagadda-Koilkuntla road which will give relief to the affected villages of Koilkuntla and Allagadda firkas. On receipt of a letter from a Missionary at Kalavatala, dated 22nd November 1896, bringing to notice that the low class people of certain villages of Timmanageripeta required relief, the Head Assistant Collector reports that their condition has been since improved by the November rains and that the labourers find employment in fields as paddy and ragi are being harvested. The Head Assistant Collector, however, proposes certain repairs to the road from Timmanaynipet to Perusomula and the taking up of repairs to certain kuntas and wells if necessary. As for the people of Moyalur included in the Missionary's letter, the Head Assistant Collector reports that they can find employment at Puchakayapalli work and the small number of coolies on that work shows that no great distress exists in those parts.

I inspected the metal and gravel quarries at Moyalur in company with the Assistant Engineer and Tahsildar on the 2nd December for the purpose of starting work, if necessary, but no applicants for labour at famine wages came forward.

The Tahsildar of Sirvel reports that the people of Mutyalpad require some relief work and suggests that collection of metal on the Chagalmarri-Mutyalpad road may be put in hand. But the District Forest Officer has since opened a forest work near Mutyalpad as suggested in Board's Proceedings, No. 379, dated 1st December 1896, and the result of this may be watched. The Tahsildar reports that, after the closure of the Boyalakunta works, he has inspected the surrounding villages and found the cotton and cholum crops in a very excellent condition. The poorer classes appear to find some work in fields at the usual wages in the shape of picking cotton, harvesting cholum and transplanting ragi in the adjoining villages; but the demand is not sufficiently met and many low class people are still reported to stand in need of work.

No weavers in Kurnool town have yet come forward to avail themselves of the scheme sanctioned for their relief.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths reported from want of food. Small-pox prevalent in parts of Nandikotkur, Ramallakota and Koilkuntla taluks.

Remarks.—Nil.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Koilkuntla	3,573	2,974
Pattikonda	370	740
Total ...	3,943	3,714

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens. This fortnight.	Last fortnight.
Koilkuntla	32	50
Pattikonda	50	18
Total ...	82	68

Private Charity.—Nil.

Remarks.—Nil.

INSPECTIONS OF THE COLLECTOR.

Taluks and places visited.—Kodumur, 16th and 17th; Pattikonda, 18th halting midway at Karivemula and inspecting fields of Machapuram, Devarabanda, Kapatralla, Devanakonda and Dudekonda. On 19th I inspected Hosúr and its surroundings. On 20th I reached Maddikera inspecting the villages of Puchakayalamada and Bruzula.

On the 21st I returned to Kurnool *viâ* Dhone. On the 28th I inspected Salkapuram, Gokulapaud, Parla and Gudipaud, all of Ramallakota taluk.

General remarks.—The Circle Relief Inspector for Owk was appointed during the fortnight and he and the Circle Relief Inspector of Allagadda have been directed to report on the necessity or otherwise of granting gratuitous relief in villages.

(2) The Tank Restoration Party is working in the Pattikonda taluk and all works under it will be treated as ordinary works.

(3) The importance of loans has often been impressed upon all officers concerned and strict orders issued for prompt disposal of applications. In the Pattikonda taluk 182 applications involving Rs. 28,745 have been received under the Land Improvement Loans Act, and they are receiving the attention of the Tahsildar. To ensure the speedy disposal of these applications, the Deputy Collector has directed the Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors to submit to him weekly progress reports in future.

In the Nandikotkur taluk only three applications have been received under the Land Improvement Loans Act, and twenty-four applications under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.

In the Nandyal division thirty-three applications involving Rs. 9,500 have been received under the Land Improvement Loans Act.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes. Repair and construction of wells. Applications accepted. Number	Applications accepted. Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Loans disbursed. Amount	Applications pending. Number	Applications pending. Amount	Purchase of fodder. Applications accepted. Number	Applications accepted. Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Loans disbursed. Amount	Applications pending. Number	Applications pending. Amount	Cattle and seed-grain. Applications accepted. Number	Applications accepted. Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Loans disbursed. Amount	Applications pending. Number	Applications pending. Amount	Total. Applications accepted. Number	Applications accepted. Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Loans disbursed. Amount	Applications pending. Number	Applications pending. Amount	Number of wells. Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.				Rs.				Rs.				Rs.				Rs.		Rs.
Kurnool Division																		8	1,725		1																	
Nandikotkur																		2	400																			
Nandyal Division		1	250			33	9,500					2	400		1			33	9,500																			
Markapur						14	3,050											14	3,050																			
Total		1	250			55	14,275					2	400		1			57	14,675		1																	
Kurnool Division																																						
Nandikotkur																																					24	1,120
Nandyal Division																																						
Markapur																																						
Total																																					24	1,120

RESOLUTION—dated 14th January 1897, No. 34.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. Again the Board regrets that the Collector's fortnightly narrative has not been submitted on the date prescribed in section 46 of the Famine Code. He has been requested to see that such delays do not again recur. His report is also again far more diffuse than necessary, and much of the matter regarding each particular work is out of place in the fortnightly narrative, which is intended to be a brief summary of the condition of the district. Such matter as is alluded to should form the basis for a special report.

3. The agricultural outlook in the eastern section of the district is reported to be fair. In the central section, the yield of white cholum is expected to be fully up to average in Nandikotkur, although on the light soils of the Atmakur division the crop needs more rain and is unlikely to get any. In the three southern taluks of this section, however, the outlook is not favourable, although in parts, and especially under the canal and canal-fed tanks, the crops are good. The area protected by the canal in this section is, according to the latest figures available:

Taluk.	Wet paddy.	Dry crops.	Garden crops.
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Nandikotkur	3,612	18,064	1,152
Nandyal	4,183	9,002	588
Sirvel	1,153	9,559	1,103
Koilkuntla	219	4,717	89

or in all about 53,000 acres. The worst portion of this section lies on its eastern side in the Nandyal and Koilkuntla taluks, which enclose a large portion of the Banganapalle State, regarding which no information is given, but the condition of which can scarcely differ much from that of the British territory adjoining.

In the western section, there is a narrow belt adjoining the Tungabhadra, in which about 2,400 acres of crop is protected by the canal, whilst in the Pattikonda taluk some crop under wells is in fair condition. The worst portion of this section, however, lies on the Bellary frontier, and towards Alúr the crop has almost entirely failed.

4. The outlook for the cattle is fair except in the last mentioned area, and in the Owk division of Koilkuntla. The Collector, however, states that near the foot of the Nallamalas in Nandikotkur fodder is also scarce, though this is difficult to understand seeing that the Nallamala jungles are so easily accessible from that tract.

5. Prices became slightly easier during the period under report, but were still extremely high in Pattikonda, Koilkuntla and Sirvel. Imports are reported to be active, but the Board regrets that it has been unable to obtain any details of the movement of grain by the Southern Mahratta Railway since the middle of December.

6. The condition of the people in the eastern section of the district and in the Nandikotkur taluk is reported to be good. A copy of B.P., Mis. No. 6562 of 1896, under which sanction was given for treating works in the latter area as ordinary works, is appended. In the remainder of the central section, the people are reported to be in bad condition throughout the greater part of the Koilkuntla taluk, near Chagalamari in Sirvel and in the Paniem firka of Nandyal, although as yet some employment is available in canal villages and in cotton picking.

In the western section, except on the Bellary frontier, and amongst the hills to the north-east of Gooty, the people are said to be in good condition.

7. Works are now open only in three localities—Owk, and near Nossam in Koilkuntla, and Kódúmur in Pattikonda. The Collector has, however, called upon the Public Works Department to open more works near Pattikonda and on the Racherla-Garladinne road, also in that taluk, and the District Forest Officer is stated to be opening a forest work near Mutyalapad in Sirvel. The Public Works Department appears to be unable to undertake all the duties required of it at present, and the Board would urge the necessity for its being immediately strengthened so as to cope fully with the situation.

8. From the Collector's remarks made in reference to the provision of section 106 of the code, it appears that fining below the minimum wage has been carried on both at Owk and Puchakayalapalle in Koilkuntla, for fines of one-fifth and two-fifths of the C class wage have been imposed on a number of gangs, whilst a fine of one-eighth C class wage brings it down to the minimum permitted by the code. It is probable that this severe fining may have had much to do with the desertion of the latter work, where also, as shown in the previous fortnightly narrative, the Assistant Engineer found that the standard task exacted was excessive.

The Board considers that more works are required and should be opened as soon as possible in Pattikonda, Koilkuntla, Sirvel and the Paniem firkah of Nandyal and that, if the Public Works Department is unable to undertake them at once, it is the duty of the district staff to organise them to the best of its ability. The Collector should remember that even test works, opened under section 17 of the code, must be managed strictly in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VII thereof. Such works appear to be required at several of the places mentioned by the Collector in the Pattikonda taluk, whilst no information whatever is given by the Collector as to the condition of the people in that portion of the taluk lying between the Kurnool-Bellary road and its northern frontier towards Adóni. The Collector's inspection in fact appears to have been almost confined to the main line of road from Kódúmur to Pattikonda, and his return to Kurnool direct without inspecting the hill villages towards Owk is much to be regretted.

9. Mr. Mullaly's inspections during December appear to have been as follows:—

December 1st—Owk to Koilkuntla.
Do. 2nd—Puchakayalapalle and back.
Do. 5th—Koilkuntla to Nandyal.
Do. 6th—Nandyal to Kurnool.
Do. 14th—Kurnool to Kódúmur.
Do. 18th—Kódúmur to Pattikonda.
Do. 19th—Hosur.
Do. 20th—Pattikonda to Maddikerra.
Do. 21st—Returned to Kurnool.
Do. 28th—Salkápuram, Gókulapád, Parla and Gudipad near Kurnool.

This touring is not such as is expected from the head of a district in famine times.

The Collector gives no information as to the work of inspection done by the Divisional Officers in the affected areas. This omission should not recur.

10. Loan operations still languish in the district, and the Collector's statement thereof does not give talukwar details. It is, moreover, defective, as it appears that 182 applications for land improvement loans are pending in Pattikonda, which do not find place in that statement. On telegraphic reference to the Collector, the Board learns that he desires that an extra Revenue Inspector may be appointed to dispose of these applications rapidly, and it recommends that this may be sanctioned. The Collector will submit the necessary proposition statement forthwith.

11. The reports of the Circle Inspector appointed in Sirvel and of the Tahsildar regarding the fate of the people who deserted the works in Sirvel should be expedited.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

APPENDIX.

PROCEEDINGS of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th December 1896, Mis. No. 6562.

READ—the following paper :—

From W. B. DEWINTON, Esq., Superintending Engineer, III Circle, No. 2866-W., dated 8th December 1896.

In reply to your No. 4517-C. of 30th November 1896, I have the honour to report that I am, of course, prepared to treat all the available works in Nandikotkur taluk as relief works if it is so desired, but I cannot say that I consider it advisable to do so, and I do not understand the necessity for practically closing all the ordinary works of this department when famine is supposed to be imminent.

2. I would, indeed, do the exact opposite of this. When distress is anticipated, the operations of this and the Local Fund Department should, in my opinion, be greatly developed everywhere, work being given out at ordinary rates, possibly a little raised to meet high rates for grain. By so doing we should attract to the works all the able-bodied men and women requiring relief, and they would earn enough, as they do under ordinary circumstances, to maintain the weakly adults and children of their families. The work would be ordinary task work, and would require little more than normal supervision, sufficient to ensure prompt payments.

3. Whereas when a relief work is started under the provisions of the Famine Code, what is the result.

(1) We have a herd of useless coolies of all ages and sexes on the work, half of them unaccustomed to the task given them.

(2) They know that however little they do, they will get the minimum wage ; so they do as little as possible and become completely demoralized. The amount of earthwork turned out by famine labour is ludicrously small.

(3) The amount of supervision required is enormous, every work opened requiring an Overseer or Sub-Overseer in charge, not to mention maistries, paymasters, &c. This practically closes all Minor Irrigation works (the most useful class) for famine relief purposes, because we should want an hundred Upper Subordinates in each division to supervise them ; and the only method of working the Famine Code is to mass the coolies on large works of doubtful utility.

4. I, therefore, strongly recommend that we may be permitted to carry on all works, or at any rate those costing less than Rs. 2,000 at ordinary rates and in the ordinary manner. There is no fear of attracting coolies to works so carried out, unless they are hard pushed to earn their livelihood elsewhere. The difficulty in these Ceded Districts is to obtain labour for our works, as the population so much prefers agriculture.

Endorsement No. 4795-C.

Copy of the Superintending Engineer's letter forwarded to the Board of Revenue with reference to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 361, dated 21st November 1896.

(Signed) D. McN. CAMPBELL, Colonel, R.E.,
10th December 1896. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

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

Resolution—dated 14th December 1896, Mis. No. 6562.

The Chief Engineer will be informed that the Board has at present no objection to the tank repairs in Nandikotkur being carried out as ordinary works, so long as they are not given over to contractors, and provided that, if there be any large influx of coolies in search of employment, the Public Works Department be prepared to convert them to relief works at any time. The works in question were converted to test works under the orders of the Collector, but there does not appear at present to be any considerable demand for employment in the locality.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Chief Engineer.
„ Collector of Kurnool.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 20th.

Proceedings, 14*th Jan.* 1897, *No.* 34.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting, for the information of Government, — of the Kurnool district for the period ending 31st December 1896.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

—— : ——

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,&c) dated 14th January 1897,No.34.Press.

Order thereon,No. 595 Mis.d/3rd February 1897.

Recorded with the following remarks :-

(i) The Board is not quite correct in saying that test works opened under section 17 of the Code must be managed as laid down in Chapter VII thereof. They are to be so only in regard to tanks and wells.

(ii) From the Collector's remarks on page 6 of the Board's Proceedings it appears that two Circle Relief Inspectors have been appointed, though such appointments were considered to be premature in G.O.No. 285, dated 16th January 1897. The Collector should report why the services of the Inspectors are needed at present.

(iii) The appointment of an additional Inspector for dealing with loan applications is sanctioned as recommended by the Board of Revenue.

2. The attention of the Public Works Department will be drawn to the remarks of the Collector on page 5 of the Board's Proceedings and to the failure of the Superintending Engineer to comply with the orders of Government.

(True Extract)

G. Stokes.

Ag: Secretary to Government.

To the Board (Revenue Settlement,&c)
To the Financial Department.
To the Public Works Department.

Office copy

Public Works Department.

P R O C E E D I N G S O F T H E M A D R A S G O V E R N M E N T .

Read the following :-

Revenue Department.

P R O C E E D I N G S O F T H E M A D R A S G O V E R N M E N T .

× Copy attached

Read Proceedings of the Board of ~~the~~ Revenue (Revenue Settlement,&c) dated 14th January 1897, No:34 Press. ×

Order thereon, No:395 Mis. dated 2nd February 1897.

Recorded with the following remarks:-

(1) The Board is not quite correct in saying that test works opened under section 17 of the Code must be managed as laid down in Chapter VII thereof. They are to be so only in regard to tasks and wages.

(ii) From the Collectors remarks on page 6 of the Board's Proceedings it appears that two Circle Relief Inspectors have been appointed, though such appointments were considered to be premature in G.O. No:255, dated 16th January 1897. The Collector should report why the services of the Inspectors are needed at present. ✓

(iii) The appointment of an additional Inspector for dealing with loan applications is sanctioned as recommended by the Board of Revenue.

2. The attention of the Public Works Department will be drawn to the remarks of the Collector on page 5 of the Board's Proceedings and to the failure of the Superintending Engineer to comply with the orders of Government.

True

(True Extract)

(signed) G. Stokes.

Ag. Secretary to Government.

Order thereon No: 433 dated 13th February 1897.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer III Circle for report in regard to para 2 of the order of Government in the Revenue Department.

(True Extract)

(signed) D.McNeil Campbell. Colonel. R.E.

Secretary to Government.

To

The Superintending Engineer III Circle.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool district during the period ending 31st December 1896 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

	INCHES.
Rainfall in rain-registering stations	*Nil*
Rainfal up to the period from 1st April 1896	15·66
Average rainfall expected in the period	*Nil*
Average rainfall expected up to the period from 1st April 1896 ...	27·14

There was no rain during this fortnight.

Water-supply.—Generally sufficient for drinking purposes, but insufficient at Sripathirowpet, hamlet of Atmakúr, Nandikotkur division, and diminishing in parts of Kurnool and Nandyal divisions. The supply is insufficient for irrigation purposes, except in canal villages almost all the tanks except those on the Cumbum division having run dry.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Agricultural operations still continue to a certain extent, though sowings have almost ceased throughout the district. In the Kurnool division, they are almost over except in the canal villages of the Ramallakota taluk where paddy is either being harvested, or where it has already been harvested, the land is prepared for a second crop. Weeding of cotton is going on in parts of Pattikonda taluk. In the Nandikotkur division, paddy under canal and a few tanks, indigo, horse-gram and oil-seeds in parts harvested. Lands under the canal and under wells in Atmakúr firka where paddy has been harvested, are prepared for second crop. Transplantation of ragi and garden crops is going on in parts. The tank-bed lands in the Atmakúr firka are being cultivated.

In the Nandyal division, paddy is harvested with an outturn of 16 to 20 annas in Nandyal and other canal villages and with an outturn of 8 to 16 annas under Koonoo-koontla tank and of 4 to 12 annas in Timmanayanipet firka of Koilkuntla taluk. Lands are prepared for second crop in canal and spring channel villages. Transplantation and weeding of ragi under wells in Kalva division and Sirvel taluk. Jonna is also sown in wet lands in the Kalva division. Regar lands are also being ploughed in parts for next year's sowings. Paddy, horse-gram, cholum and cotton are harvested in the Sirvel taluk.

In the Cumbum division, wheat, pulses, white cholum and variga are sown in the Cumbum taluk, where lands are also being ploughed for fresh sowings. Wet lands are being prepared for paddy and ragi in Markapur taluk, while the transplantation of the latter is going on under wells.

State of standing crops.—In the Kurnool division, cholum, red-gram, castor and cotton are generally good and paddy under wells in the Pattikonda taluk is expected to yield an eight-anna crop.

The standing crops in the Nandikotkur division are in good condition everywhere, especially white cholum which promises a very good outturn. Paddy under tanks has already mostly withered away. White cholum and horse-gram in *Thuvva* lands in the Atmakúr division are in need of rain.

In the Nandyal division, the standing crops are generally good except in sixteen villages of the Koilkuntla firka, the villages around Owk and parts of Kalva division and Paniem firka. Cotton is reported to be excellent in many parts of Sirvel taluk. The late sown crops raised after the November rains are already wiltered in parts and even those that are green for the present are expected to fade away if there is no rain in the near future.

In the Cumbum division, paddy, pulses and variga are fair and oil-seeds very good. Ragi and arika are thriving. In places where the supply of water in tanks is insufficient, the future of paddy is doubtful.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—*Pasture* sufficient for the present in the Cumbum division, in canal and spring channel villages and some of the villages of Pyapalli firka, and scarce elsewhere. *Fodder* is sufficient for the present in the Cumbum division and has greatly increased elsewhere by the recent harvests except in the regar villages of Pattikonda and Ramallakota taluks and in the villages at the foot of the Nallamalas in the Nandikotkur taluk, where the supply is scanty. Hill grass is being extensively used as fodder everywhere.

The condition of cattle is generally good in Cumbum division and fair elsewhere. They are weak in Koilkuntla and in parts of Pattikonda and Ramallakota and Sirvel taluks. Rinderpest is prevalent in parts of Ramallakota, Nandikotkur and Nandyal taluks. It is very severe in the Nandyal taluk and a Stock Inspector has been directed to proceed there at once and ascertain and report the causes of the disease, taking steps to mitigate it.

General remarks on above subjects.—The November rains were very beneficial to the standing crops everywhere, and it is reported that the yield of white cholum in the Nandikotkur taluk is expected to be above the average for normal years. Tank-bed lands were given freely to the poorer ryots for temporary cultivation.

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 31st December 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholum.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
Pattikonda ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	15·45	12·36 (W) / 15·45 (Y)	..	..	Prices are falling at Kurnool, Nandikotkur, Atmakúr, Nandyal, Koilkuntla, Owk and Allagadda; rising at Giddalore and Markapur, and stationary elsewhere.
Pyapalli	8·64	8·64	..	..	14·42	16·48 (Y)	..	..	
Kurnool	7·86	8·58	12·90	14·19	15·75	15·07 (W) / 17·81 (Y)	11·87	11·87	
Nandikotkur ..	8·58	9·29	..	..	14·30	16·44 (Y and W)	..	..	
Atmakúr ..	8·58	9·29	..	..	16·44	15·07 (Y) / 16·44 (W)	11·25	..	
Nandyal	8·93	9·29	16·12	17·41	15·07	15·07 (Y) / 15·75 (W)	12·50	13·12	
Kalva	7·86	7·86	..	..	16·44	16·44 (W) / 17·81 (Y)	12·50	..	
Koilkuntla ..	9·13	9·13	15·00	15·00	13·43	12·64 (Y) / 13·43 (W)	10·15	13·05	
Owk	8·30	9·13	13·50	15·00	11·06	13·43 (Y) / 14·22 (W)	..	..	
Allagadda ..	8·58	8·58	14·83	15·48	11·64	13·01 (Y)	..	..	
Giddalore ..	9·36	8·71	21·00	15·80	18·96	15·01 (W)	17·40	14·50	
Markapur ..	10·79	10·79	18·75	18·00	..	..	15·20	14·50	
Average ..	8·77	8·99	16·01	15·84	14·81	15·02 (W) / 15·32 (Y)	12·98	13·41	

W=White. Y=Yellow.

Activity of trade.—Trade is comparatively active throughout the district and grain is freely exposed for sale in the markets. Large quantities of grain are imported into this district from Guntur, Narsaraopet, Palcole (Gódávari district) and Tadpatri. There were also some exports to Bellary, Cuddapah, Sholapur and Banganapalle State.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—The condition of people on the several works was good and the usual sanitary arrangements continued under the supervision of the medical subordinates in charge. The following works were in progress during the fortnight:—

(1) (i) Owk village roads.
(ii) Owk-Tadpatri road.
(iii) Owk-Banganapalle road.
(2) Koilkuntla-Nossam road near Puchakayapalli.
(3) Bellary road near Kodumur.

In accordance with G.O., No. 678, dated 30th November 1896, the Public Works Department were asked on 7th December 1896 to take charge of all the works; but, as they did not do so, I again addressed the Superintending and Executive Engineers in the matter on the 21st December. In reply, the Superintending Engineer stated that it was quite impossible for him to take over the works and organize them properly until he knew what works he had to take over and what staff will be required for them. I accordingly sent him a list of the above works now in progress and of the following under contemplation, viz:—

(1) Road from Allagadda to Koilkuntla, *viâ* Chintagunta and Dornipad.
(2) Koilkuntla-Nandyal road.
(3) Railway feeder from Pattikonda, *viâ* Hosur in Pattikonda taluk to Molagavalli railway station on the Madras Railway.
(4) Railway feeder from Maddikera to Nancherla station on the Madras Railway.
(5) Repairs to the Alamoor tank.
(6) Road from Panyam to Banganapalle frontier.
(7) Road from Banganapalle frontier to Koilkuntla.
(8) Kodumur-Nagalavaiam road near Kuruva-Nágalápuram.
(9) Road from Garladinne to Racherla, Pyapalli Division.
(10) Kalva-Betamcherla road.
(11) A forest work near a Chenchu gudem, Markapur taluk.
(12) A forest work near Mutyalpad, Sirvel taluk.

The Koilkuntla-Nossam road work was all along under the charge of the Public Works Department; and the first and third sections of the Owk works were taken charge of by the Assistant Engineer on the 25th December 1896 and the Superintending Engineer says that he cannot take over any further relief works until he has a sufficient staff for the purpose.

The number of coolies on all the three works at Owk fell to 2,913 on 31st December 1896 owing to the harvests that are going on in their villages. The number relieved at the kitchen was only nine.

(2) The Koilkuntla-Nossam road work was hitherto carried on near Puchakayapalli at the 14th mile, 3rd furlong. As a sufficient quantity of metal had been collected at that spot, the Assistant Engineer put one gang to spread and consolidate metal and shifted the other gang to the 15th mile for breaking and stacking metal there. As already anticipated by the Assistant Engineer in his report, a copy of which was forwarded with my last fortnightly, all the coolies left work, and consequently there was no work from the 23rd December 1896. Subsequently, however, on the 28th December 1896, 24 coolies came to work at the 15th mile and the latest report shows that only 35 coolies are on the work.

(3) The Kodumur work is still under the supervision of the Minor Irrigation Overseer, as the Public Works Department have not yet taken charge of it, although

I wired to the Executive Engineer to take charge as far back as the 14th December. The number of coolies on this work has increased to 740. It is very important that the Public Works Department should take charge immediately.

With reference to the Board's telegram, dated 2nd current, requiring information regarding the extent of fining against the provisions of the fourth sentence of section 106 of the Famine Code, I have to state that no deductions below the minimum wages were made during the fortnight in the Kodumur works, nor in the Owk works, so long as they were in charge of the Local Fund Engineering establishment; but after two of the sections of the last work were taken over by the Public Works Department, deductions varying from $\frac{1}{5}$ to $\frac{2}{5}$ of C class wages were made for only six of the gangs, thus reducing the wages slightly below the minimum. In the Puchakayapalli works, deductions varying from $\frac{1}{5}$ to $\frac{2}{5}$ of C class wages were made for one or both of the gangs on six days for short work.

(2) *In villages.*—Condition of people in the Cumbum division is good at present. The special report called for by the Board will be submitted as soon as information is received from the Divisional Officer.

The condition of people in the Nandikotkur taluk has greatly improved since the November rains, which did immense good to the standing white cholum crops and encouraged sowings in all parts. The Tahsildar reports that there is no real distress in any part of his taluk at present. He states that the white cholum crop has mostly come to ears and large numbers of labourers have been engaged in watching the crops and wherever the demand for labour is not fully met locally, enough work is likely to be had in canal villages where paddy is about to harvest. This will be followed by the harvest of white cholum in all the villages of the taluk, and the Deputy Collector reports that the outturn will be far above the average for normal years.

The Kurukunda and Guvalakunta tank works (treated as ordinary works under Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 6562, dated 14th December 1896) are situated in the most affected villages of the taluk and yet there were only 78 coolies on the works on the 31st December. This indicates that there is sufficient demand for labour throughout the taluk. This taluk may therefore be considered as unaffected for the present and excluded from the affected area in this district.

The condition of the people in the Kurnool division is generally good except in the black soil villages of Pattikonda. This received my best attention during my last tour of inspection. When I camped at Karivemula, some of the villagers complained to me that they were in need of work. The Tahsildar was accordingly directed to ascertain and report the number of coolies that may resort to work if one was opened near the village. He reports that none are willing to work at famine wages at present as they are engaged in the fields in picking cotton and gathering chillies, &c., where they earn double the famine wages and a test relief work is at present unnecessary. As the Tahsildar represented that the poorer classes of Hosúr, Puchakayalamada, Peravali, Chinna Hulthi, Pedda Hulthi, Devarabunda, Buruzula and Pattikonda needed relief, their crops having almost entirely failed, I inspected Hosúr and requested the Executive Engineer to start work there as soon as possible taking immediate steps for preparing an estimate for the construction of a road from Pattikonda to Molagavalli Railway station *via* Hosúr. I also ordered the Tahsildar to prepare, in the meanwhile, lists of coolies who would come from all the villages. The Tahsildar has since reported that only 80 persons are willing to come to work at famine wages from all the above-mentioned villages. He states that this is due to nine well-to-do ryots of Hosur having undertaken to dig new wells and repair old wells which gives employment for 200 persons. About 200 persons more are engaged in the removal of nuth grass. The Tahsildar therefore doubts whether a sufficient number will come forward to work at famine wages. While at Maddikera, some people asked for work; I accordingly requested the Executive Engineer to take steps to start work on the railway feeder road from Maddikera to Nancherla station on the Madras Railway. The Tahsildar has also submitted a list which shows that about 655 people are ready to join the relief work. It remains to be seen whether they will work for famine wages. I am again writing to the Executive Engineer to open this work at once.

The Deputy Collector has been requested to carefully watch the condition of the black soil villages and propose such other measures of relief as may be found necessary in course of time. The condition of the people in the hill villages of Racherla, Munimadugu, Jaladurgam and Garladinne in the Pyápali firka is also reported to be bad. Some of the poorer people of these villages are engaged in bringing hill grass and selling it in the village. This occupation will, it is said, cease in ten days. Steps are being taken to open a work on the Racherla-Garladinne road to afford relief to these people. In accordance with paragraph 7 of Board's Proceedings, No. 398, dated 5th December 1896, steps will be taken for the eventual re-opening of the work at Kurava-Nágalápuram.

In the Nandyal division, the condition of the people of the Nandyal taluk is generally fair except in Paniem firka, where the Executive Engineer has been requested to start work on the Paniem-Banganapalle road and Alamur tank. As regards the villages of Oravakal and Tammarayapalli (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 361, dated 21st November 1896), the Deputy Tahsildar of Kálava reports that the condition of the people of Oravakal has much improved since the November rains, which greatly benefited the white jonna and cotton crops sown in October, revived agricultural operations and reduced the prices of grains. Nearly 100 coolies are engaged in transplanting and weeding ragi and jonna under wells, and this will be followed by picking cotton, harvesting ragi, collection of onions, &c. These operations may occupy the coolies for nearly four months. As regards the village of Tammarayapalli, it is reported that though the rain did not materially alter the condition of the people, yet it put heart into them and they at present make their cattle a source of income or borrow grain from their rich neighbours. Some of them are also engaged in firewood dealing. The Deputy Tahsildar reports that none of the coolies are at present willing to work at famine wages.

The condition of the people in Koilkuntla and Owk firkas is reported to be bad. The Executive Engineer has again been asked to expedite the preparation of the estimate for the Allagadda-Koilkuntla road which will give relief to the affected villages of Koilkuntla and Allagadda firkas. On receipt of a letter from a Missionary at Kalavatala, dated 22nd November 1896, bringing to notice that the low class people of certain villages of Timmanageripeta required relief, the Head Assistant Collector reports that their condition has been since improved by the November rains and that the labourers find employment in fields as paddy and ragi are being harvested. The Head Assistant Collector, however, proposes certain repairs to the road from Timmanaynipet to Perusomula and the taking up of repairs to certain kuntas and wells if necessary. As for the people of Moyalur included in the Missionary's letter, the Head Assistant Collector reports that they can find employment at Puchakayapalli work and the small number of coolies on that work shows that no great distress exists in those parts.

I inspected the metal and gravel quarries at Moyalur in company with the Assistant Engineer and Tahsildar on the 2nd December for the purpose of starting work, if necessary, but no applicants for labour at famine wages came forward.

The Tahsildar of Sirvel reports that the people of Mutyalpad require some relief work and suggests that collection of metal on the Chagalmarri-Mutyalpad road may be put in hand. But the District Forest Officer has since opened a forest work near Mutyalpad as suggested in Board's Proceedings, No. 379, dated 1st December 1896, and the result of this may be watched. The Tahsildar reports that, after the closure of the Boyalakunta works, he has inspected the surrounding villages and found the cotton and cholum crops in a very excellent condition. The poorer classes appear to find some work in fields at the usual wages in the shape of picking cotton, harvesting cholum and transplanting ragi in the adjoining villages; but the demand is not sufficiently met and many low class people are still reported to stand in need of work.

No weavers in Kurnool town have yet come forward to avail themselves of the scheme sanctioned for their relief.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths reported from want of food. Small-pox prevalent in parts of Nandikotkur, Ramallakota and Koilkuntla taluks.

Remarks.—Nil.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Koilkuntla	3,573	2,974
Pattikonda	370	740
Total ...	3,943	3,714

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens. This fortnight.	Last fortnight.
Koilkuntla	32	50
Pattikonda	50	18
Total ...	82	68

Private Charity.—Nil.

Remarks.—Nil.

INSPECTIONS OF THE COLLECTOR.

Taluks and places visited.—Kodumur, 16th and 17th; Pattikonda, 18th halting midway at Karivemula and inspecting fields of Machapuram, Devarabanda, Kapatralla, Devanakonda and Dudekonda. On 19th I inspected Hosúr and its surroundings. On 20th I reached Maddikera inspecting the villages of Puchakayalamada and Bruzula.

On the 21st I returned to Kurnool *viá* Dhone. On the 28th I inspected Salkapuram, Gokulapaud, Parla and Gudipaud, all of Ramallakota taluk.

General remarks.—The Circle Relief Inspector for Owk was appointed during the fortnight and he and the Circle Relief Inspector of Allagadda have been directed to report on the necessity or otherwise of granting gratuitous relief in villages.

(2) The Tank Restoration Party is working in the Pattikonda taluk and all works under it will be treated as ordinary works.

(3) The importance of loans has often been impressed upon all officers concerned and strict orders issued for prompt disposal of applications. In the Pattikonda taluk 182 applications involving Rs. 28,745 have been received under the Land Improvement Loans Act, and they are receiving the attention of the Tahsildar. To ensure the speedy disposal of these applications, the Deputy Collector has directed the Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors to submit to him weekly progress reports in future.

In the Nandikotkur taluk only three applications have been received under the Land Improvement Loans Act, and twenty-four applications under the Agriculturists' Loans Act.

In the Nandyal division thirty-three applications involving Rs. 9,500 have been received under the Land Improvement Loans Act.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells. Total. Applications accepted. Number	Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Amount	Applications pending. Number	Amount	Number of wells. Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Other purposes. Total. Applications accepted. Number	Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Amount	Applications pending. Number	Amount	Number of wells. Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Cattle and seed-grain. Total. Applications accepted. Number	Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Amount	Applications pending. 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
		Rs.				Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.				Rs.
Kurnool Division ..					8	1,725		1									57	14,675		1		
Nandikotkur ..	1	250			2	400						400	1	250								
Nandyal Division ..					33	9,500																
Markapur					14	3,050																
Total ..	1	250			57	14,675		1				400	1	250			57	14,675		1		

Taluks.	Total. Applications accepted. Number	Amount	Loans disbursed. Number	Amount	Applications pending. Number	Amount
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Rs.				Rs.	
Kurnool Division ..					1,120	
Nandikotkur ..						
Nandyal Division ..					1,120	
Markapur						
Total ..					1,120	

Taluks.	Total. Applications pending. Number	Amount	Number of wells. Under construction or repair.
38	39	40	41
		Rs.	
Kurnool Division ..			
Nandikotkur ..	24	1,120	
Nandyal Division ..			
Markapur			
Total ..	24	1,120	

Resolution—dated 14th January 1897, No. 34.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. Again the Board regrets that the Collector's fortnightly narrative has not been submitted on the date prescribed in section 46 of the Famine Code. He has been requested to see that such delays do not again recur. His report is also again far more diffuse than necessary, and much of the matter regarding each particular work is out of place in the fortnightly narrative, which is intended to be a brief summary of the condition of the district. Such matter as is alluded to should form the basis for a special report.

3. The agricultural outlook in the eastern section of the district is reported to be fair. In the central section, the yield of white cholum is expected to be fully up to average in Nandikotkur, although on the light soils of the Atmakur division the crop needs more rain and is unlikely to get any. In the three southern taluks of this section, however, the outlook is not favourable, although in parts, and especially under the canal and canal-fed tanks, the crops are good. The area protected by the canal in this section is, according to the latest figures available:

Taluk.	Wet paddy.	Dry crops.	Garden crops.
	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.
Nandikotkur	3,612	18,064	1,152
Nandyal	4,183	9,002	588
Sirvel	1,153	9,559	1,103
Koilkuntla	219	4,717	89

or in all about 53,000 acres. The worst portion of this section lies on its eastern side in the Nandyal and Koilkuntla taluks, which enclose a large portion of the Banganapalle State, regarding which no information is given, but the condition of which can scarcely differ much from that of the British territory adjoining.

In the western section, there is a narrow belt adjoining the Tungabhadra, in which about 2,400 acres of crop is protected by the canal, whilst in the Pattikonda taluk some crop under wells is in fair condition. The worst portion of this section, however, lies on the Bellary frontier, and towards Alúr the crop has almost entirely failed.

4. The outlook for the cattle is fair except in the last mentioned area, and in the Owk division of Koilkuntla. The Collector, however, states that near the foot of the Nallamalas in Nandikotkur fodder is also scarce, though this is difficult to understand seeing that the Nallamala jungles are so easily accessible from that tract.

5. Prices became slightly easier during the period under report, but were still extremely high in Pattikonda, Koilkuntla and Sirvel. Imports are reported to be active, but the Board regrets that it has been unable to obtain any details of the movement of grain by the Southern Mahratta Railway since the middle of December.

6. The condition of the people in the eastern section of the district and in the Nandikotkur taluk is reported to be good. A copy of B.P., Mis. No. 6562 of 1896, under which sanction was given for treating works in the latter area as ordinary works, is appended. In the remainder of the central section, the people are reported to be in bad condition throughout the greater part of the Koilkuntla taluk, near Chagalamari in Sirvel, and in the Paniem firka of Nandyal, although as yet some employment is available in canal villages and in cotton picking.

In the western section, except on the Bellary frontier, and amongst the hills to the north-east of Gooty, the people are said to be in good condition.

7. Works are now open only in three localities—Owk, and near Nossam in Koilkuntla, and Kódúmur in Pattikonda. The Collector has, however, called upon the Public Works Department to open more works near Pattikonda and on the Racherla-Garladinne road, also in that taluk, and the District Forest Officer is stated to be opening a forest work near Mutyalapad in Sirvel. The Public Works Department appears to be unable to undertake all the duties required of it at present, and the Board would urge the necessity for its being immediately strengthened so as to cope fully with the situation.

8. From the Collector's remarks made in reference to the provision of section 106 of the code, it appears that fining below the minimum wage has been carried on both at Owk and Puchakayalapalle in Koilkuntla, for fines of one-fifth and two-fifths of the C class wage have been imposed on a number of gangs, whilst a fine of one-eighth C class wage brings it down to the minimum permitted by the code. It is probable that this severe fining may have had much to do with the desertion of the latter work, where also, as shown in the previous fortnightly narrative, the Assistant Engineer found that the standard task exacted was excessive.

The Board considers that more works are required and should be opened as soon as possible in Pattikonda, Koilkuntla, Sirvel and the Paniem firkah of Nandyal and that, if the Public Works Department is unable to undertake them at once, it is the duty of the district staff to organise them to the best of its ability. The Collector should remember that even test works, opened under section 17 of the code, must be managed strictly in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VII thereof. Such works appear to be required at several of the places mentioned by the Collector in the Pattikonda taluk, whilst no information whatever is given by the Collector as to the condition of the people in that portion of the taluk lying between the Kurnool-Bellary road and its northern frontier towards Adóni. The Collector's inspection in fact appears to have been almost confined to the main line of road from Kódúmur to Pattikonda, and his return to Kurnool direct without inspecting the hill villages towards Owk is much to be regretted.

9. Mr. Mullaly's inspections during December appear to have been as follows:—

December 1st—Owk to Koilkuntla.
Do. 2nd—Puchakayalapalle and back.
Do. 5th—Koilkuntla to Nandyal.
Do. 6th—Nandyal to Kurnool.
Do. 14th—Kurnool to Kódúmur.
Do. 18th—Kódúmur to Pattikonda.
Do. 19th—Hosur.
Do. 20th—Pattikonda to Maddikerra.
Do. 21st—Returned to Kurnool.
Do. 28th—Salkápuram, Gókulapád, Parla and Gudipad near Kurnool.

This touring is not such as is expected from the head of a district in famine times.

The Collector gives no information as to the work of inspection done by the Divisional Officers in the affected areas. This omission should not recur.

10. Loan operations still languish in the district, and the Collector's statement thereof does not give talukwar details. It is, moreover, defective, as it appears that 182 applications for land improvement loans are pending in Pattikonda, which do not find place in that statement. On telegraphic reference to the Collector, the Board learns that he desires that an extra Revenue Inspector may be appointed to dispose of these applications rapidly, and it recommends that this may be sanctioned. The Collector will submit the necessary proposition statement forthwith.

11. The reports of the Circle Inspector appointed in Sirvel and of the Tahsildar regarding the fate of the people who deserted the works in Sirvel should be expedited.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. Srinivasiar,
Secretary.

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

APPENDIX.

PROCEEDINGS of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 14th December 1896, Mis. No. 6562.

READ—the following paper :—

From W. B. DEWINTON, Esq., Superintending Engineer, III Circle, No. 2866-W., dated 8th December 1896.

In reply to your No. 4517-C. of 30th November 1896, I have the honour to report that I am, of course, prepared to treat all the available works in Nandikotkur taluk as relief works if it is so desired, but I cannot say that I consider it advisable to do so, and I do not understand the necessity for practically closing all the ordinary works of this department when famine is supposed to be imminent.

2. I would, indeed, do the exact opposite of this. When distress is anticipated, the operations of this and the Local Fund Department should, in my opinion, be greatly developed everywhere, work being given out at ordinary rates, possibly a little raised to meet high rates for grain. By so doing we should attract to the works all the able-bodied men and women requiring relief, and they would earn enough, as they do under ordinary circumstances, to maintain the weakly adults and children of their families. The work would be ordinary task work, and would require little more than normal supervision, sufficient to ensure prompt payments.

3. Whereas when a relief work is started under the provisions of the Famine Code, what is the result.

(1) We have a herd of useless coolies of all ages and sexes on the work, half of them unaccustomed to the task given them.

(2) They know that however little they do, they will get the minimum wage ; so they do as little as possible and become completely demoralized. The amount of earthwork turned out by famine labour is ludicrously small.

(3) The amount of supervision required is enormous, every work opened requiring an Overseer or Sub-Overseer in charge, not to mention maistries, paymasters, &c. This practically closes all Minor Irrigation works (the most useful class) for famine relief purposes, because we should want an hundred Upper Subordinates in each division to supervise them ; and the only method of working the Famine Code is to mass the coolies on large works of doubtful utility.

4. I, therefore, strongly recommend that we may be permitted to carry on all works, or at any rate those costing less than Rs. 2,000 at ordinary rates and in the ordinary manner. There is no fear of attracting coolies to works so carried out, unless they are hard pushed to earn their livelihood elsewhere. The difficulty in these Ceded Districts is to obtain labour for our works, as the population so much prefers agriculture.

Endorsement No. 4795-C.

Copy of the Superintending Engineer's letter forwarded to the Board of Revenue with reference to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 361, dated 21st November 1896.

(Signed) D. McN. CAMPBELL, Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

10th December 1896.

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

Resolution—dated 14th December 1896, Mis. No. 6562.

The Chief Engineer will be informed that the Board has at present no objection to the tank repairs in Nandikotkur being carried out as ordinary works, so long as they are not given over to contractors, and provided that, if there be any large influx of coolies in search of employment, the Public Works Department be prepared to convert them to relief works at any time. The works in question were converted to test works under the orders of the Collector, but there does not appear at present to be any considerable demand for employment in the locality.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Chief Engineer.
" Collector of Kurnool.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Public Works Department

Communicated to the Supdg. Engr: III circle for report in regard to para 2 of the order of Govt in the Revenue Department.

sdy D.E.C
W.

S.E. III circle.

Printed January 20th.

Proceedings, 14*th Jan.* 1897, *No.* 34.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting, for the information of Government, — of the Kurnool district for the period ending 31st December 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly narrative for the Kurnool district during the period ending 15th of January 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

	INCHES.
Rainfall in rain-registering stations	·06
Do. up to the period from 1st April 1896	15·72
Average rainfall expected in the period	·03
Do. do. up to the period from 1st April 1896 ...	27·17

There were 52 cents and 25 cents of rain at Giddalore and Markapur, respectively, on the 2nd and 3rd currents. One-eighth *padami* of rain was also reported during the fortnight in the villages of Gullasingavaram, Ramavaram and Mettupalli near Owk, as also some showers in a few villages to the north of Nandyal. Water-supply generally sufficient for drinking purposes except at Sripathirowpet, a hamlet of Atmakur and Gutupalli of Kalwa division, and diminishing in parts of Kurnool and Nandyal divisions. The supply is insufficient for irrigation purposes except in canal villages. None of the tanks in the Kurnool and Nandikotkur divisions have received any supply. But in the Nandikotkur division the supply in the Bhavanasi and private wells is sufficient. In the Nandyal division water in spring channels is sufficient for flooding dry crops raised on wet lands. Owk tank has dried up, as also all the tanks in the Koilkuntla taluk except that of Uppalapad, which has only a few days supply. In the Cumbum division the Kanchipalli tank has received a fresh supply and the Cumbum tank has two months' supply. Canal-fed tanks have full supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Agricultural operations still continue. In the *Kurnool division*, picking cotton is going on in some of the villages of Pattikonda taluk, while land under canal and wet land in Dhone are being prepared for second crop paddy and in some other villages fields on which the early crops have been harvested are being ploughed and kept ready for next year in the Ramallakota taluk. In the *Nandikotkur division*, sowings of the second crop paddy, black gram, Bengal-gram and transplantation of ragi under canal and private wells are going on in parts. In the Atmakur firka tank-bed lands are cultivated.

In the *Nandyal division*, paddy, horse-gram, cholum and cotton are harvested and ragi under wells transplanted in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks. Second crop paddy is raised under canal and spring channels in the Nandyal taluk. White cholum is sown on wet lands in the Kalwa and Owk divisions. Cholum and cotton generally and paddy under Kumikuntla are harvested in the Koilkuntla taluk.

Cotton picking is going on in several villages of Sirvel taluk.

In the *Cumbum division*, harvests are nearly complete in the Cumbum taluk, but Bengal-gram is still being sown in a few villages, while ragi and onions are planted under wells. Lands are also prepared in the taluk for fresh sowings and in the Markapur taluk for fresh cultivation of ragi under wells.

State of standing crops.—In the *Kurnool division*, white cholum is good in some parts but wiltered in others of Ramallakota taluk; cotton and indigo are fair but linseed and other crops have generally failed. In some villages of Gonegundla and Pattikonda firkas of Pattikonda taluk, Bengal-gram and cholum have not germinated and the standing crops generally require rain before a good outturn can be expected.

In the *Nandikotkur division*, all the standing crops are in good condition except white cholum and horse-gram in *thuvva* lands in the Atmakur division which require some more rain. White cholum sown after the November rains is reported to be wiltering.

In the *Nandyal division*, standing crops in the Nandyal taluk are generally good, except those raised after the November rains, which have wiltered. In Sirvel the standing crops are all in good condition, but the dry crops raised after the November

rains, though still fresh, require another rain. In Koilkuntla the dry and wet crops under the wells and canal are good. Variga and cholum sown recently are fading.

The standing crops except korra in Markapur are good in the *Cumbum division*; paddy, oil-seeds and ragi have come to harvest in the Markapur taluk.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture sufficient for the present in Cumbum division on hills in canal and spring channel villages and some villages of Pyápali firka and not available elsewhere.

Fodder sufficient for the present in the Cumbum division, in some villages of Nandikotkur division, in Nandyal and Sirvel taluks and in some villages of Koilkuntla taluk, but running short elsewhere except in canal villages and red-soil villages of Pattikonda taluk. Fodder is, however, sold dear everywhere and scarcely available for sale in villages. Hill grass continues to be used extensively.

Condition of cattle good in Cumbum division and normal elsewhere except in parts of Koilkuntla, Ramallakota, Pattikonda and Sirvel taluks, where they are becoming weak. Rinderpest is prevalent in parts of Pattikonda, Nandikotkur and Nandyal taluks, but not so severe as in the last fortnight.

General remarks on above subjects.—The sky was cloudy for many days, but there was no rain actually except a little in the Cumbum division.

The few showers in the Nandyal division were not very beneficial to the standing crops. The late-sown crops will not, it is apprehended, come to maturity.

Tank-bed lands were freely given to poorer ryots for cultivation.

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 January 1897—

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholum.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of this fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of this fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of this fortnight.	
Pattikonda ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	12·36 (W) 15·45 (Y)	13·39 (W) 15·45 (Y)	..	..	*In rice*—falling at Atmakur, Nandyal, Kalwa, Koilkuntla and Owk and stationary elsewhere. *In ragi*—falling at all stations except Kurnool and Giddalore. *In cholum*—falling at Pattikonda, Atmakur, Nandyal, Koilkuntla and Owk and stationary elsewhere. *In cumbu*—falling at Nandyal and stationary elsewhere.
Pyápali ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	16·48 (Y)	16·48 (Y)	..	..	
Kurnool ..	8·58	8·58	14·19	14·19	15·07 (W) 17·81 (Y)	15·07 (W) 16·44 (Y)	11·87	11·87	
Nandikotkur ..	9·29	9·29	..	..	16·44 (W and Y)	16·78 (W) 16·44 (Y)	..	..	
Atmakur ..	9·29	10·01	..	..	15·07 (Y) 16·44 (W)	16·44 (W and Y)	..	..	
Nandyal ..	9·29	10·01	17·41	18·06	15·07 (Y) 15·75 (W) 16·44 (W)	17·12 (W) 16·09 (Y) 16·40 (W)	13·12	14·37	
Kalwa	7·86	8·58	..	..	17·81 (Y)	17·81 (Y)	..	..	
Koilkuntla ..	9·13	9·96	15·00	17·25	12·64 (Y) 13·43 (W)	14·22 (Y) 14·22 (W)	13·05	13 05	
Owk	9·13	9·96	15·00	16·50	13·43 (Y) 14·22 (W)	15·40 (Y) 15·80 (W)	..	11·60	
Allagadda ..	8·58	8·58	15·48	16·12	13·01 (Y)	13·01 (Y)	..	..	
Giddalore ..	8·71	8·71	15·80	15·00	15·01 (W)	15·01 (W)	14·50	14·50	
Markapur ..	10·79	10·79	18·00	19·50	..	..	14·50	14·50	
Average ..	8·99	9·31	15·84	16·66	15·02 (W) 15·32 (Y)	15·59 (W) 15·78 (Y)	13·51	13·31	

W = White. Y = Yellow.

Activity of trade.—Trade is comparatively active and grain is freely exposed for sale in the markets. Imports into and exports from Kurnool and Nandyal are extensive. In the Nandikotkur taluk there is not much demand for grain in the markets; hence trade is somewhat inactive there.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

1. *On works.*—The condition of people on the several works was good and the usual sanitary arrangements and medical aid continued. The following works were in progress during the fortnight:—

(1) Owk-Tadpatri road.
Owk-Banganapalli road.
Owk Union roads.
(2) Koilkuntla-Nossam road.
(3) Bellary road near Kodumur.

The remaining section of the Owk works was also taken over by the Public Works Department on the 3rd instant.

(2) (1) The number of coolies on all the three works at Owk again fell to 2,071. This is mostly due to harvests in their villages. Another kitchen was opened in connection with the Owk Union road works during the fortnight. The Head Assistant Collector has been asked to open a kitchen in connection with the third work also. The number fed at the two kitchens was 52.

(2) The work on the Koilkuntla-Nossam road has practically proved a failure. The number of coolies fell to 17 and it was not considered worth while to keep the work open; it was accordingly ordered to be transferred to the Koilkuntla-Allagadda road.

(3) The Kodumur work is still in charge of the Minor Irrigation Overseer. The number of coolies attending this work has gradually increased, and it is therefore important that the Public Works Department should take charge without further delay.

(3) No information has as yet been received from the District Forest-Officer regarding the forest work reported to have been opened near Mutyalpad in spite of two reminders. His explanation has been called for.

2. *In Villages.*—Condition of people in the Cumbum Division continues to be good. The special report called for by the Board has not yet been received from the Divisional Officer. As already explained in my last fortnightly the condition of people in the Nandikotkur Division also gives no cause for anxiety. There is sufficient demand for labour throughout the taluk on account of the harvests and sowings in canal villages, watching the standing crops and cutting hill grass which is stored up in large quantities in hill side villages by the ryots.

The condition of people in the Kurnool division is generally good except in black soil villages of Pattikonda taluk, though in some of them the poorer classes are engaged partly in harvests and partly in the removal of nuth-grass and in sinking wells. As it was reported that the poorer classes about Maddikera are in urgent need of work, the Executive Engineer was again asked to start work on the Maddikera-Nancherla station road with the least possible delay. The work has since been opened by the Head-quarter Public Works Department Sub-Divisional Officer, to whom also orders by wire have been issued to open at once work at Pattikonda on the Pattikonda-Molagavalli station road. To give relief to the affected hill villages of Pyápali firka, the Deputy Collector recommended that repairs to the Racherla tank may be undertaken as a test relief work after investigation by the Tank Restoration Party, promising to submit further proposals after another personal inspection. The Executive Engineer has been requested to take steps to open the work at a very early date. The village officers of some of the villages in Ramallakota taluk appear to have reported that there is no work for labouring classes, but the Tahsildar is of opinion that, as none came to the test work opened at Kuruva-Nagalapuram, there must be some local demand for labour. The Executive Engineer has, however, been requested to re-open the work at Kuruva-Nagalapuram as desired by the Board in B.P., No. 398, dated 5th December 1896.

In the Nandyal division.—The condition of the people of Nandyal taluk is generally good. The Head Assistant Collector now reports that the condition of people in Paniem firka has greatly improved since the harvests have begun and the needy have migrated to Nandyal and other canal villages where they get from 2 to 3 annas a day. The Tahsildar reports that none would go to relief work unless paid 2 annas a day. Under these circumstances, the Head Assistant Collector thinks that there is no necessity for opening the relief work on the Paniem-Banganapalli road referred to in the last fortnightly, until the harvesting season is over. The condition of people in Koilkuntla and Owk firkas is reported to be bad and the result of the work ordered to be opened near Koilkuntla (vide *supra*) may be watched.

The condition of people in Sirvel taluk is generally good, as labour is available to some extent owing to harvests and other agricultural operations.

None have yet come forward in Kurnool town to accept the relief sanctioned for weavers.

Mahazars having been received from the weavers of Nossam in Koilkuntla taluk and Kolleru, Doddavada and Padakantla, Sirvel taluk, the Head Assistant Collector has been asked to submit detailed proposals for their relief and also to report why the scheme sanctioned for Jammalamadugu weavers should not be introduced into these villages.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths have been reported from want of food. Small-pox slightly prevalent in parts of Nandikotkur. Public health is generally good.

Remarks.—Except in the most affected villages detailed above, there need not be much anxiety about the condition of the people in general till about the beginning of March when all harvests will have ceased. The condition has improved owing to fall in prices of food-grains, harvests and demand for labour which is locally met in several parts.

The Divisional Officer of Cumbum states that there is a superstitious belief current in villages that a three years' famine is in store. This also appears to be the common belief everywhere.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers:—

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Koilkuntla	2,974	2,089
Pattikonda	740	888
Total ...	3,714	2,977

REMARKS.—Fall is due to harvests.

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise:—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens. This fortnight.	Last fortnight.
Koilkuntla	68	32
Pattikonda	32	50
Total ...	100	82

(3) *Private charity.*—Nil.

Remarks.—The Circle Inspectors of Allagadda and Owk are continuing their enquiries regarding the grant of relief in villages and preparing a list of destitute persons requiring relief.

INSPECTIONS OF THE COLLECTOR.

Taluks and places visited.—On the 14th I inspected Chinna Tekur in the Ramallakota taluk and the fields on the way.

General Remarks—Loans.—The Deputy Collector of Pyápali reports that 238 applications involving Rs. 37,350 are pending disposal in the Pattikonda taluk. The sanction for the appointment of a special Revenue Inspector asked for in my telegram, dated 8th January 1897, may be expedited to ensure the speedy disposal of the applications. As regards the Ramallakota taluk and the Nandyal division, the Divisional Officers promise further detailed reports which are awaited. Strict orders have issued from this office from time to time for the prompt disposal of all applications and the submission of weekly progress reports by the Tahsildars. A more satisfactory progress is expected in the near future.

2. The Superintending Engineer has wired to the Chief Engineer for the posting of four Upper Subordinates to the Kurnool division.

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 accepted.		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	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Markapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	2,650	..	..
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	400	..	..	2	400	..	..

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.								Purchase of fodder.							
	Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	32	33	30	31	28	29	8	9	26	27	24	25	22	23	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Markapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	1,120	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Taluks.	Total.															
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Number of wells.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.		
1	34	35	36	37	38	39	6	7	16	17	18	19	20	21		
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				
Markapur	..	..	..	..	24	1,120	24	..	..	..	13	2,650	..	..		
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	400	..	..		

RESOLUTION—dated 25th January 1897, No. 55.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The cultivation returns for December, which were available when the Collector's report was written, show that, with the November rainfall, much of the deficiency in the area put under crop had been made good, and that in no taluk was the deficiency *in the area sown* up to December very serious. On the other hand, the report on the outturn of the early crops harvested up to November shows that on more than one-third of the area the early sowings failed entirely, whilst from about 423,000 acres, the crops harvested yielded only from 2-4 anna crops on the average. The returns from the Sirvel taluk, however, are very defective and the Collector is requested to take due notice of the neglect to furnish the return. Abstracts of the statements submitted by the Collector are appended.

From the above statements, it will be seen that the cultivation figures afford but a partial view of the success of the agricultural operations of the season, for not only has there been a widespread loss of early crop, but the late sowings, it now appears, will not, it is apprehended, come to maturity even in the Nandikotkur division (*vide* paragraph 3, B.P., No. 34 of 1897); the white cholum sown after the November rain is reported to be wiltering. Under the canal, and for the most part in the eastern section of the district, the crops are good; elsewhere they are poor or bad.

3. Pasture is generally scarce, and fodder is dear everywhere, and in some places not available, and the cattle are suffering in parts of the central and western sections of the district.

Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee on

Grain.	December 19th.	January 2nd.	January 16th.
Cholam ..	14·6	15·1	15·8
Ragi	15·9	15·8	16·6

Taluks.	Numbers on works on		
	December 19th.	January 2nd.	January 16th.
Koilkuntla	3,661	2,773	1,655
Pattikonda	508	765	906

4. Prices are easier than they were a month ago, and grain now appears to be brought freely to market.

5. The condition of the people is reported to be generally good, and the Collector considers that no anxiety need be felt until the harvests are over. This must occur this year much earlier than usual. The numbers on the relief works have been decreasing rapidly of late in Koilkuntla, but increasing in Pattikonda. The decrease in the former is attributed to harvest work, but this appears doubtful, and is partly attributable to the closing of the Nossam works. In Pattikonda, the increase has taken place entirely at Kodamur, and, seeing that this place is only about 20 miles from head-quarters, it is to be regretted that the Collector could not even get so far during the period. Chinna-Tekur is only 9 miles from Kurnool and is the only place visited by the Collector. This is the second fortnight successively in which the Collector's touring has given cause for remarks. In other parts of Pattikonda, works are urgently required and only since the close of the period under report do they appear to have been opened. Although the Public Works Department has been placed in executive charge of relief works, this step in no way relieves the Collector and his Divisional Officers of their responsibility for seeing that they are adequate and that relief is afforded at once when it is required. To ensure this, it in necessary that the district officers should be specially active at a period such as the present. As the condion of the people in Koilkuntla is reported to be bad, it should receive the immediate attention of the Collector, especially as they are deserting the relief works. If, where the gross work is short of the task assigned by only 4 per cent., fines of from 10 to 50 per cent. are inflicted, it is no wonder that coolies desert the works.

6. The starting of a relief work in Sirvel should be no longer delayed and the reports called for in B.P., No. 461 of 1896, should be expedited.

7. The Collector's loan statement is again incomplete and not in accordance with his general remarks on the subject.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

APPENDIX A.

STATEMENT of outturn of early crops during 1896 in the Kurnool District.

Taluks.	Outturn. 0.	Outturn. Over 12 annas.	Outturn. 1 to 12 annas.	Average outturn of area in column 4.	Extent of crop standing.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Paddy.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Pattikonda	2,692	..	774	3	961
Ramallakota	495	8	613	6	2,154
Nandikotkur	4,717	1	12	5	6,218
Nandyal	5,195	..	7	2	6,601
Koilkuntla	954	..	117	4	1,854
Sirvel	5,316	..	..	..	3,518
Cumbum	63	6	112	7	9,215
Markapur	115	..	1	6	1,543
Total ..	19,547	15	1,636	4	32,064
Cholum.					
Pattikonda	30,006	237	74,819	3	2,253
Ramallakota	7,492	68	37,837	3	..
Nandikotkur	1,131	11	5,264	4	82,266
Nandyal	3,668	60	11,392	2	56,145
Koilkuntla	3,737	143	4,649	4	75,997
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	422	659	15,063	4	368
Markapur	1,421	18	2,176	3	5,286
Total ..	47,877	1,196	151,200	3	222,315
Korra.					
Pattikonda	50,771	..	35,320	2	136
Ramallakota	10,517	137	46,456	2	12
Nandikotkur	12,083	405	23,878	3	3,450
Nandyal	3,849	40	4,190	3	2,254
Koilkuntla	5,084	36	4,162	2	5,966
Sirvel	3,723	..	5,933	2	5,774
Cumbum	683	316	32,329	3	48
Markapur	5,538	..	10,444	2	11,375
Total ..	92,248	934	162,712	3	29,015
Arika.					
Pattikonda	7,370	..	1,581	2	1,990
Ramallakota	2,122	..	2,422	2	1,660
Nandikotkur	12,058	..	1,556	2	5,348
Nandyal	6,547	20	739	3	2,407
Koilkuntla	715	..	46	6	1,666
Sirvel ..	13,940	..	831	2	5,289
Cumbum	96	..	316	2	11,583
Markapur	872	..	..	..	14,747
Total ..	43,720	20	7,491	2	44,690
Sajja or Cumbu.					
Pattikonda	3,546	..	14,443	2	..
Ramallakota	1,374	..	11,661	2	..
Nandikotkur	2	..	90	4	..
Nandyal	7	1	139	2	65
Koilkuntla	..	..	11	5	10
Sirvel ..	25	..	263	2	2
Cumbum	246	399	15,740	4	..
Markapur	1,173	717	17,562	4	116
Total ..	6,373	1,117	59,909	3	193
Ragi.					
Pattikonda	96	6	45	2	175
Ramallakota	24	..	44	3	159
Nandikotkur	125	1	31	4	235
Nandyal	130	..	108	2	366
Koilkuntla	50	..	82	3	1,249
Sirvel ..	547	..	37	2	994
Cumbum	634	..	1,611	4	11,677
Markapur	446	..	10	10	5,196
Total ..	2,052	7	1,968	4	20,051

Statement of outturn of early crops during 1896 in the Kurnool District—*cont.*

Taluks.	Outturn. 0.	Outturn. Over 12 annas.	Outturn. 1 to 12 annas.	Average outturn of area in column 4.	Extent of crops standing.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Other food-grains including pulses.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Pattikonda	6,281	..	1,856	2	19,817
Ramallakota	3,955	..	3,643	2	15,851
Nandikotkur	368	..	154	2	9,124
Nandyal	8,485	..	9,170	2	9,718
Koilkuntla	168	..	19	5	3,789
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	2	2	419	3	7,557
Markapur	187	..	1	2	6,398
Total ..	19,446	2	15,262	2	72,254
Cotton.					
Pattikonda	3,003	..	..	..	16,998
Ramallakota	..	..	..	..	24,123
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	21,539
Nandyal	237	..	..	..	34,724
Koilkuntla	727	..	..	..	52,547
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	3	..	..	..	3,280
Markapur	90	..	..	..	7,902
Total ..	4,060	..	..	..	161,113
Indigo.					
Pattikonda	306	34	1,193	5	444
Ramallakota	1,722	..	3,979	2	2,250
Nandikotkur	2,852	..	5,044	3	4,106
Nandyal	1,139	..	3,613	3	1,816
Koilkuntla	220	89	161	9	2,338
Sirvel	258	..	996	5	1,486
Cumbum	60	152	1,553	6	435
Markapur	145	7	108	3	301
Total ..	6,702	282	16,647	3	13,176
Castors.					
Pattikonda	149	..	2,845	2	37,561
Ramallakota	8	..	940	5	21,181
Nandikotkur	333	..	..	..	4,104
Nandyal	17	..	..	..	6,854
Koilkuntla	52	..	30	6	1,483
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	1	..	..	..	4,310
Markapur	141	..	..	..	13,404
Total ..	701	..	3,815	2	88,897
All Others.					
Pattikonda	1,404	..	1,382	2	4,775
Ramallakota	467	..	570	3	8,704
Nandikotkur	376	30	76	4	16,397
Nandyal	77	..	2	2	5,764
Koilkuntla	3	40	72	5	1,222
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	2	..	95	5	1,086
Markapur	20	10	14	5	853
Total ..	2,349	80	2,211	2	38,801

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing the extent occupied by and the outturn of the early crops harvested during 1896 in the Kurnool district.

Principal crops.	Area harvested up to 30th November 1896 on which the outturn was			Total area harvested.	Average outturn of area in column 4.	Area of standing crops at the end of November.
	0.	13 annas and upwards.	1 to 12 annas.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ANNAS.	ACS.
Paddy	19,547	15	1,636	21,198	4	32,064
Cholum	47,877	1,196	151,200	200,273	3	222,315
Korra	92,248	934	162,712	255,894	3	29,015
Arika	43,720	20	7,491	51,231	2	44,690
Cumbu	6,373	1,117	59,909	67,399	3	193
Ragi	2,052	7	1,968	4,027	4	20,051
Other food-grains including pulses ..	19,446	2	15,262	34,710	2	72,254
Cotton	4,060	..	..	4,060	..	161,113
Indigo	6,702	282	16,647	23,631	3	13,176
Castor-oil and lamp-oil seeds	701	..	3,815	4,516	2	88,897
All others	2,349	80	2,211	4,640	2	38,801
Total ..	245,075	3,653	422,851	671,579	3	722,569

APPENDIX C.

Prospects of the standing crops in Kurnool at the end of November.

Taluks.	Remarks.
Pattikonda	In the Pyapalli firka the condition of the standing crops is indifferent. In other firkas paddy under wells, castors, cotton, red gram and chillies have revived by recent rains and may yield 6 to 8 annas.
Ramallakota	Paddy and garden crops under the canal and wells are good; red gram, white cholum, castors and cotton have improved somewhat by recent rains and a fair outturn expected.
Nandikotkur	Paddy, white cholum and cotton are in excellent condition everywhere and an outturn from 8 to 16 annas is expected. The other standing crops are young and are likely to yield an outturn of 4 to 12 annas.
Nandiyal	The standing crops are generally in good condition; but those sown after the recent rains are not thriving in many villages, as the soil did not receive sufficient moisture. In some of the villages of the Paniem firka, the crops are very bad.
Koilkuntla...	The standing crops are in good condition and, with some rain about the end of the month, are expected to yield 8 to 12 annas. All the crops under the canal and wells are in good condition. In six villages adjoining Koilkuntla, the soil is reported to have not got sufficient moisture even for sowing variga.

Prospects of the standing crops in Kurnool at the end of November—cont.

Taluks.	Remarks.
Sirvel	Information incomplete; but so far as is known, paddy and arika under the canal and cholum, cotton and horse-gram are in good condition.
Cumbum	All the standing crops except ragi and arika are thriving, while the latter two are reviving after the rains.
Markapur	The standing crops, arika, cotton, gingelly, castor and dholl are greatly improved. Paddy is likely to yield a fair outturn in some villages.

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT showing the areas sown in the Kurnool district in 1896 up to December compared with the averages for five years up to that date and the averages for the whole year.

Taluks.	First crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to December		Annual average.	Up to December		Annual average.
	1896.	Average.		1896.	Average.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Markapur	112,901	122,023	128,142	2,056	4,399	5,444
Cumbum	116,357	118,933	118,596	10,785	11,787	13,286
Sirvel	168,834	177,085	177,209	4,630	3,435	3,483
Koilkuntla	193,429	191,383	212,883	3,833	3,287	3,980
Nandyal	191,238	207,431	207,297	5,557	5,926	5,929
Nandikotkur	222,941	237,322	238,666	4,734	4,599	4,610
Ramallakóta	289,734	305,884	306,435	1,458	2,306	2,108
Pattikonda	341,952	357,403	363,482	3,743	3,216	4,375
Total ..	1,637,386	1,717,464	1,752,710	36,796	38,955	43,215

Taluks.	Second crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to December		Annual average.	Up to December		Annual average.
	1896.	Average.		1896.	Average.	
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Markapur	3,427	2,941	9,253	85	195	688
Cumbum	4,610	2,341	7,309	735	147	3,469
Sirvel	865	1,793	2,198	53	658	338
Koilkuntla	573	1,319	1,177	188	98	1,027
Nandyal	639	1,875	2,337	101	62	1,941
Nandikotkur	2,827	2,930	3,156	90	87	403
Ramallakóta	4,093	1,610	1,638	88	108	702
Pattikonda	6,398	2,187	3,507	174	176	1,037
Total ..	23,432	16,996	30,575	1,514	1,531	9,605

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 28th,.

Proceedings, 25*th Jan.* 1897, *No.* 55.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks,—of the Kurnool District for period ending 15th January 1897.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly narrative for the Kurnool district during the period ending 15th of January 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

	INCHES.
Rainfall in rain-registering stations	·06
Do. up to the period from 1st April 1896	15·72
Average rainfall expected in the period	·03
Do. do. up to the period from 1st April 1896 ...	27·17

There were 52 cents and 25 cents of rain at Giddalore and Markapur, respectively, on the 2nd and 3rd currents. One-eighth *padami* of rain was also reported during the fortnight in the villages of Gullasingavaram, Ramavaram and Mettupalli near Owk, as also some showers in a few villages to the north of Nandyal. Water-supply generally sufficient for drinking purposes except at Sripathirowpet, a hamlet of Atmakur and Gutupalli of Kalwa division, and diminishing in parts of Kurnool and Nandyal divisions. The supply is insufficient for irrigation purposes except in canal villages. None of the tanks in the Kurnool and Nandikotkur divisions have received any supply. But in the Nandikotkur division the supply in the Bhavanasi and private wells is sufficient. In the Nandyal division water in spring channels is sufficient for flooding dry crops raised on wet lands. Owk tank has dried up, as also all the tanks in the Koilkuntla taluk except that of Uppalapad, which has only a few days supply. In the Cumbum division the Kanchipalli tank has received a fresh supply and the Cumbum tank has two months' supply. Canal-fed tanks have full supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Agricultural operations still continue. In the *Kurnool division*, picking cotton is going on in some of the villages of Pattikonda taluk, while land under canal and wet land in Dhone are being prepared for second crop paddy and in some other villages fields on which the early crops have been harvested are being ploughed and kept ready for next year in the Ramallakota taluk. In the *Nandikotkur division*, sowings of the second crop paddy, black gram, Bengal-gram and transplantation of ragi under canal and private wells are going on in parts. In the Atmakur firka tank-bed lands are cultivated.

In the *Nandyal division*, paddy, horse-gram, cholum and cotton are harvested and ragi under wells transplanted in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks. Second crop paddy is raised under canal and spring channels in the Nandyal taluk. White cholum is sown on wet lands in the Kalwa and Owk divisions. Cholum and cotton generally and paddy under Kumikuntla are harvested in the Koilkuntla taluk.

Cotton picking is going on in several villages of Sirvel taluk.

In the *Cumbum division*, harvests are nearly complete in the Cumbum taluk, but Bengal-gram is still being sown in a few villages, while ragi and onions are planted under wells. Lands are also prepared in the taluk for fresh sowings and in the Markapur taluk for fresh cultivation of ragi under wells.

State of standing crops.—In the *Kurnool division*, white cholum is good in some parts but wiltered in others of Ramallakota taluk; cotton and indigo are fair but linseed and other crops have generally failed. In some villages of Gonegundla and Pattikonda firkas of Pattikonda taluk, Bengal-gram and cholum have not germinated and the standing crops generally require rain before a good outturn can be expected.

In the *Nandikotkur division*, all the standing crops are in good condition except white cholum and horse-gram in *thuvva* lands in the Atmakur division which require some more rain. White cholum sown after the November rains is reported to be wiltering.

In the *Nandyal division*, standing crops in the Nandyal taluk are generally good, except those raised after the November rains, which have wiltered. In Sirvel the standing crops are all in good condition, but the dry crops raised after the November

rains, though still fresh, require another rain. In Koilkuntla the dry and wet crops under the wells and canal are good. Variga and cholum sown recently are fading.

The standing crops except korra in Markapur are good in the *Cumbum division*; paddy, oil-seeds and ragi have come to harvest in the Markapur taluk.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture sufficient for the present in Cumbum division on hills in canal and spring channel villages and some villages of Pyápali firka and not available elsewhere.

Fodder sufficient for the present in the Cumbum division, in some villages of Nandikotkur division, in Nandyal and Sirvel taluks and in some villages of Koilkuntla taluk, but running short elsewhere except in canal villages and red-soil villages of Pattikonda taluk. Fodder is, however, sold dear everywhere and scarcely available for sale in villages. Hill grass continues to be used extensively.

Condition of cattle good in Cumbum division and normal elsewhere except in parts of Koilkuntla, Ramallakota, Pattikonda and Sirvel taluks, where they are becoming weak. Rinderpest is prevalent in parts of Pattikonda, Nandikotkur and Nandyal taluks, but not so severe as in the last fortnight.

General remarks on above subjects.—The sky was cloudy for many days, but there was no rain actually except a little in the Cumbum division.

The few showers in the Nandyal division were not very beneficial to the standing crops. The late-sown crops will not, it is apprehended, come to maturity.

Tank-bed lands were freely given to poorer ryots for cultivation.

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 January 1897—

Stations.	Rice. End of last fortnight.	Rice. End of current fortnight.	Ragi. End of last fortnight.	Ragi. End of this fortnight.	Cholum. End of last fortnight.	Cholum. End of this fortnight.	Cumbu. End of last fortnight.	Cumbu. End of this fortnight.	Remarks.
Pattikonda ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	12·36 (W) 15·45 (Y)	13·39 (W) 15·45 (Y)	..	..	
Pyápali ..	8·64	8·64	..	..	15·48 (Y)	16·48 (Y)	..	..	
Kurnool ..	8·58	8·58	14·19	14·19	15·07 (W) 17·81 (Y)	15·07 (W) 16·44 (Y)	11·87	11·87	
Nandikotkur ..	9·29	9·29	..	..	16·44 (W and Y)	16·78 (W) 16·44 (Y)	..	..	
Atmakur ..	9·29	10·01	..	..	15·07 (Y) 16·44 (W)	16·44 (W and Y)	..	..	
Nandyal ..	9·29	10·01	17·41	18·06	15·07 (Y) 15·75 (W)	17·12 (W) 16·09 (Y)	13·12	14·37	
Kalwa	7·86	8·58	..	..	16·44 (W) 17·81 (Y)	16·40 (W) 17·81 (Y)	..	..	
Koilkuntla ..	9·13	9·96	15·00	17·25	12·64 (Y) 13·43 (W)	14·22 (Y) 14·22 (W)	13·05	13·05	
Owk	9·13	9·96	15·00	16·50	13·43 (Y) 14·22 (W)	15·40 (Y) 15·80 (W)	..	11·60	
Allagadda ..	8·58	8·58	15·48	16·12	13·01 (Y)	13·01 (Y)	..	..	
Giddalore ..	8·71	8·71	15·80	15·00	15·01 (W)	15·01 (W)	14·50	14·50	
Markapur ..	10·79	10·79	18·00	19·50	..	..	14·50	14·50	
Average ..	8·99	9·31	15·84	16·66	15·02 (W) 15·32 (Y)	15·59 (W) 15·78 (Y)	13·51	13·31	

In rice—falling at Atmakur, Nandyal, Kalwa, Koilkuntla and Owk and stationary elsewhere.
In ragi—falling at all stations except Kurnool and Giddalore.
In cholum—falling at Pattikonda, Atmakur, Nandyal, Koilkuntla and Owk and stationary elsewhere.
In cumbu—falling at Nandyal and stationary elsewhere.

W = White. Y = Yellow.

Activity of trade.—Trade is comparatively active and grain is freely exposed for sale in the markets. Imports into and exports from Kurnool and Nandyal are extensive. In the Nandikotkur taluk there is not much demand for grain in the markets; hence trade is somewhat inactive there.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

1. *On works.*—The condition of people on the several works was good and the usual sanitary arrangements and medical aid continued. The following works were in progress during the fortnight:—

(1) Owk-Tadpatri road.
Owk-Banganapalli road.
Owk Union roads.
(2) Koilkuntla-Nossam road.
(3) Bellary road near Kodumur.

The remaining section of the Owk works was also taken over by the Public Works Department on the 3rd instant.

(2) (1) The number of coolies on all the three works at Owk again fell to 2,071. This is mostly due to harvests in their villages. Another kitchen was opened in connection with the Owk Union road works during the fortnight. The Head Assistant Collector has been asked to open a kitchen in connection with the third work also. The number fed at the two kitchens was 52.

(2) The work on the Koilkuntla-Nossam road has practically proved a failure. The number of coolies fell to 17 and it was not considered worth while to keep the work open; it was accordingly ordered to be transferred to the Koilkuntla-Allagadda road.

(3) The Kodumur work is still in charge of the Minor Irrigation Overseer. The number of coolies attending this work has gradually increased, and it is therefore important that the Public Works Department should take charge without further delay.

(3) No information has as yet been received from the District Forest-Officer regarding the forest work reported to have been opened near Mutyalpad in spite of two reminders. His explanation has been called for.

2. *In Villages.*—Condition of people in the Cumbum Division continues to be good. The special report called for by the Board has not yet been received from the Divisional Officer. As already explained in my last fortnightly the condition of people in the Nandikotkur Division also gives no cause for anxiety. There is sufficient demand for labour throughout the taluk on account of the harvests and sowings in canal villages, watching the standing crops and cutting hill grass which is stored up in large quantities in hill side villages by the ryots.

The condition of people in the Kurnool division is generally good except in black soil villages of Pattikonda taluk, though in some of them the poorer classes are engaged partly in harvests and partly in the removal of nuth grass and in sinking wells. As it was reported that the poorer classes about Maddikera are in urgent need of work, the Executive Engineer was again asked to start work on the Maddikera-Nancherla station road with the least possible delay. The work has since been opened by the Head-quarter Public Works Department Sub-Divisional Officer, to whom also orders by wire have been issued to open at once work at Pattikonda on the Pattikonda-Molagavalli station road. To give relief to the affected hill villages of Pyápali firka, the Deputy Collector recommended that repairs to the Racherla tank may be undertaken as a test relief work after investigation by the Tank Restoration Party, promising to submit further proposals after another personal inspection. The Executive Engineer has been requested to take steps to open the work at a very early date. The village officers of some of the villages in Ramallakota taluk appear to have reported that there is no work for labouring classes, but the Tahsildar is of opinion that, as none came to the test work opened at Kuruva-Nagalapuram, there must be some local demand for labour. The Executive Engineer has, however, been requested to re-open the work at Kuruva-Nagalapuram as desired by the Board in B.P., No. 398, dated 5th December 1896.

In the Nandyal division.—The condition of the people of Nandyal taluk is generally good. The Head Assistant Collector now reports that the condition of people in Paniem firka has greatly improved since the harvests have begun and the needy have migrated to Nandyal and other canal villages where they get from 2 to 3 annas a day. The Tahsildar reports that none would go to relief work unless paid 2 annas a day. Under these circumstances, the Head Assistant Collector thinks that there is no necessity for opening the relief work on the Paniem-Banganapalli road referred to in the last fortnightly, until the harvesting season is over. The condition of people in Koilkuntla and Owk firkas is reported to be bad and the result of the work ordered to be opened near Koilkuntla (vide *supra*) may be watched.

The condition of people in Sirvel taluk is generally good, as labour is available to some extent owing to harvests and other agricultural operations.

None have yet come forward in Kurnool town to accept the relief sanctioned for weavers.

Mahazars having been received from the weavers of Nossam in Koilkuntla taluk and Kolleru, Doddavada and Padakantla, Sirvel taluk, the Head Assistant Collector has been asked to submit detailed proposals for their relief and also to report why the scheme sanctioned for Jammalamadugu weavers should not be introduced into these villages.

Sickness and Mortality.—No deaths have been reported from want of food. Small-pox slightly prevalent in parts of Nandikotkur. Public health is generally good.

Remarks.—Except in the most affected villages detailed above, there need not be much anxiety about the condition of the people in general till about the beginning of March when all harvests will have ceased. The condition has improved owing to fall in prices of food-grains, harvests and demand for labour which is locally met in several parts.

The Divisional Officer of Cumbum states that there is a superstitious belief current in villages that a three years' famine is in store. This also appears to be the common belief everywhere.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Koilkuntla	2,974	2,089
Pattikonda	740	888
Total ...	3,714	2,977

REMARKS.—Fall is due to harvests.

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise :—

Taluks.	Number relieved at kitchens. This fortnight.	Last fortnight.
Koilkuntla	68	32
Pattikonda	32	50
Total ...	100	82

(3) *Private charity.*—Nil.

Remarks.—The Circle Inspectors of Allagadda and Owk are continuing their enquiries regarding the grant of relief in villages and preparing a list of destitute persons requiring relief.

INSPECTIONS OF THE COLLECTOR.

Taluks and places visited.—On the 14th I inspected Chinna Tekur in the Ramallakota taluk and the fields on the way.

General Remarks—Loans.—The Deputy Collector of Pyápali reports that 238 applications involving Rs. 37,350 are pending disposal in the Pattikonda taluk. The sanction for the appointment of a special Revenue Inspector asked for in my telegram, dated 8th January 1897, may be expedited to ensure the speedy disposal of the applications. As regards the Ramallakota taluk and the Nandyal division, the Divisional Officers promise further detailed reports which are awaited. Strict orders have issued from this office from time to time for the prompt disposal of all applications and the submission of weekly progress reports by the Tahsildars. A more satisfactory progress is expected in the near future.

2. The Superintending Engineer has wired to the Chief Engineer for the posting of four Upper Subordinates to the Kurnool division.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Cattle and seed-grain.								Repair and construction of wells.								Purchase of fodder.								Total.								Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				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.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			Under construction or repair.	Constructed or repaired.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			8	9	10	11	12	13			14	15	16	17	18	19			20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39		
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.					
Markapur					11	2,650							2	400																											
Nandikotkur																																							
					11	2,650							2	400																											

Resolution—dated 25th January 1897, No. 55.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The cultivation returns for December, which were available when the Collector's report was written, show that, with the November rainfall, much of the deficiency in the area put under crop had been made good, and that in no taluk was the deficiency *in the area sown* up to December very serious. On the other hand, the report on the outturn of the early crops harvested up to November shows that on more than one-third of the area the early sowings failed entirely, whilst from about 423,000 acres, the crops harvested yielded only from 2-4 anna crops on the average. The returns from the Sirvel taluk, however, are very defective and the Collector is requested to take due notice of the neglect to furnish the return. Abstracts of the statements submitted by the Collector are appended.

From the above statements, it will be seen that the cultivation figures afford but a partial view of the success of the agricultural operations of the season, for not only has there been a widespread loss of early crop, but the late sowings, it now appears, will not, it is apprehended, come to maturity even in the Nandikotkur division (*vide* paragraph 3, B.P., No. 34 of 1897); the white cholum sown after the November rain is reported to be wiltering. Under the canal, and for the most part in the eastern section of the district, the crops are good; elsewhere they are poor or bad.

3. Pasture is generally scarce, and fodder is dear everywhere, and in some places not available, and the cattle are suffering in parts of the central and western sections of the district.

Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee on

Grain.	December 19th.	January 2nd.	January 16th.
Cholam ..	14·6	15·1	15·8
Ragi	15·9	15·8	16·6

Taluks.	Numbers on works on		
	December 19th.	January 2nd.	January 16th.
Koilkuntla	3,661	2,773	1,655
Pattikonda	508	765	906

4. Prices are easier than they were a month ago, and grain now appears to be brought freely to market.

5. The condition of the people is reported to be generally good, and the Collector considers that no anxiety need be felt until the harvests are over. This must occur this year much earlier than usual. The numbers on the relief works have been decreasing rapidly of late in Koilkuntla, but increasing in Pattikonda. The decrease in the former is attributed to harvest work, but this appears doubtful, and is partly attributable to the closing of the Nossam works. In Pattikonda, the increase has taken place entirely at Kodamur, and, seeing that this place is only about 20 miles from head-quarters, it is to be regretted that the Collector could not even get so far during the period. Chinna-Tekur is only 9 miles from Kurnool and is the only place visited by the Collector. This is the second fortnight successively in which the Collector's touring has given cause for remarks. In other parts of Pattikonda, works are urgently required and only since the close of the period under report do they appear to have been opened. Although the Public Works Department has been placed in executive charge of relief works, this step in no way relieves the Collector and his Divisional Officers of their responsibility for seeing that they are adequate and that relief is afforded at once when it is required. To ensure this, it in necessary that the district officers should be specially active at a period such as the present. As the condion of the people in Koilkuntla is reported to be bad, it should receive the immediate attention of the Collector, especially as they are deserting the relief works. If, where the gross work is short of the task assigned by only 4 per cent., fines of from 10 to 50 per cent. are inflicted, it is no wonder that coolies desert the works.

6. The starting of a relief work in Sirvel should be no longer delayed and the reports called for in B.P., No. 461 of 1896, should be expedited.

7. The Collector's loan statement is again incomplete and not in accordance with his general remarks on the subject.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

APPENDIX A.

STATEMENT of outturn of early crops during 1896 in the Kurnool District.

Taluks.	Outturn. 0.	Outturn. Over 12 annas.	Outturn. 1 to 12 annas.	Average outturn of area in column 4.	Extent of crop standing.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Paddy.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Pattikonda	2,692	..	774	3	961
Ramallakota	495	8	613	6	2,154
Nandikotkur	4,717	1	12	5	6,218
Nandyal	5,195	..	7	2	6,601
Koilkuntla	954	..	117	4	1,854
Sirvel	5,316	..	..	..	3,518
Cumbum	63	6	112	7	9,215
Markapur	115	..	1	6	1,543
Total ..	19,547	15	1,636	4	32,064
Cholum.					
Pattikonda	30,006	237	74,819	3	2,253
Ramallakota	7,492	68	37,837	3	..
Nandikotkur	1,131	11	5,264	4	82,266
Nandyal	3,668	60	11,392	2	56,145
Koilkuntla	3,737	143	4,649	4	75,997
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	422	659	15,063	4	368
Markapur	1,421	18	2,176	3	5,286
Total ..	47,877	1,196	151,200	3	222,315
Korra.					
Pattikonda	50,771	..	35,320	2	136
Ramallakota	10,517	137	46,456	2	12
Nandikotkur	12,083	405	23,878	3	3,450
Nandyal	3,849	40	4,190	3	2,254
Koilkuntla	5,084	36	4,162	2	5,966
Sirvel	3,723	..	5,933	2	5,774
Cumbum	683	316	32,329	3	48
Markapur	5,538	..	10,444	2	11,375
Total ..	92,248	934	162,712	3	29,015
Arika.					
Pattikonda	7,370	..	1,581	2	1,990
Ramallakota	2,122	..	2,422	2	1,660
Nandikotkur	12,058	..	1,556	2	5,348
Nandyal	6,547	20	739	3	2,407
Koilkuntla	715	..	46	6	1,666
Sirvel ..	13,940	..	831	2	5,289
Cumbum	96	..	316	2	11,583
Markapur	872	..	..	..	14,747
Total ..	43,720	20	7,491	2	44,690
Sajja or Cumbu.					
Pattikonda	3,546	..	14,443	2	..
Ramallakota	1,374	..	11,661	2	..
Nandikotkur	2	..	90	4	..
Nandyal	7	1	139	2	65
Koilkuntla	..	..	11	5	10
Sirvel ..	25	..	263	2	2
Cumbum	246	399	15,740	4	..
Markapur	1,173	717	17,562	4	116
Total ..	6,373	1,117	59,909	3	193
Ragi.					
Pattikonda	96	6	45	2	175
Ramallakota	24	..	44	3	159
Nandikotkur	125	1	31	4	235
Nandyal	130	..	108	2	366
Koilkuntla	50	..	82	3	1,249
Sirvel ..	547	..	37	2	994
Cumbum	634	..	1,611	4	11,677
Markapur	446	..	10	10	5,196
Total ..	2,052	7	1,968	4	20,051

Statement of outturn of early crops during 1896 in the Kurnool District—*cont.*

Taluks.	Outturn. 0.	Outturn. Over 12 annas.	Outturn. 1 to 12 annas.	Average outturn of area in column 4.	Extent of crops standing.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Other food-grains including pulses.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Pattikonda	6,281	..	1,856	2	19,817
Ramallakota	3,955	..	3,643	2	15,851
Nandikotkur	368	..	154	2	9,124
Nandyal	8,485	..	9,170	2	9,718
Koilkuntla	168	..	19	5	3,789
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	2	2	419	3	7,557
Markapur	187	..	1	2	6,398
Total ..	19,446	2	15,262	2	72,254
Cotton.					
Pattikonda	3,003	..	..	..	16,998
Ramallakota	..	..	..	..	24,123
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	21,539
Nandyal	237	..	..	..	34,724
Koilkuntla	727	..	..	..	52,547
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	3	..	..	..	3,280
Markapur	90	..	..	..	7,902
Total ..	4,060	..	..	..	161,113
Indigo.					
Pattikonda	306	34	1,193	5	444
Ramallakota	1,722	..	3,979	2	2,250
Nandikotkur	2,852	..	5,044	3	4,106
Nandyal	1,139	..	3,613	3	1,816
Koilkuntla	220	89	161	9	2,338
Sirvel	258	..	996	5	1,486
Cumbum	60	152	1,553	6	435
Markapur	145	7	108	3	301
Total ..	6,702	282	16,647	3	13,176
Castors.					
Pattikonda	149	..	2,845	2	37,561
Ramallakota	8	..	940	5	21,181
Nandikotkur	333	..	..	..	4,104
Nandyal	17	..	..	..	6,854
Koilkuntla	52	..	30	6	1,483
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	1	..	..	..	4,310
Markapur	141	..	..	..	13,404
Total ..	701	..	3,815	2	88,897
All Others.					
Pattikonda	1,404	..	1,382	2	4,775
Ramallakota	467	..	570	3	8,704
Nandikotkur	376	30	76	4	16,397
Nandyal	77	..	2	2	5,764
Koilkuntla	3	40	72	5	1,222
Sirvel ..	Not reported.				
Cumbum	2	..	95	5	1,086
Markapur	20	10	14	5	853
Total ..	2,349	80	2,211	2	38,801

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing the extent occupied by and the outturn of the early crops harvested during 1896 in the Kurnool district.

Principal crops.	Area harvested up to 30th November 1896 on which the outturn was			Total area harvested.	Average outturn of area in column 4.	Area of standing crops at the end of November.
	0.	13 annas and upwards.	1 to 12 annas.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ANNAS.	ACS.
Paddy	19,547	15	1,636	21,198	4	32,064
Cholum	47,877	1,196	151,200	200,273	3	222,315
Korra	92,248	934	162,712	255,894	3	29,015
Arika	43,720	20	7,491	51,231	2	44,690
Cumbu	6,373	1,117	59,909	67,399	3	193
Ragi	2,052	7	1,968	4,027	4	20,051
Other food-grains including pulses ..	19,446	2	15,262	34,710	2	72,254
Cotton	4,060	..	..	4,060	..	161,113
Indigo	6,702	282	16,647	23,631	3	13,176
Castor-oil and lamp-oil seeds	701	..	3,815	4,516	2	88,897
All others	2,349	80	2,211	4,640	2	38,801
Total ..	245,075	3,653	422,851	671,579	3	722,569

APPENDIX C.

Prospects of the standing crops in Kurnool at the end of November.

Taluks.	Remarks.
Pattikonda	In the Pyapalli firka the condition of the standing crops is indifferent. In other firkas paddy under wells, castors, cotton, red gram and chillies have revived by recent rains and may yield 6 to 8 annas.
Ramallakota	Paddy and garden crops under the canal and wells are good; red gram, white cholum, castors and cotton have improved somewhat by recent rains and a fair outturn expected.
Nandikotkur	Paddy, white cholum and cotton are in excellent condition everywhere and an outturn from 8 to 16 annas is expected. The other standing crops are young and are likely to yield an outturn of 4 to 12 annas.
Nandiyal	The standing crops are generally in good condition; but those sown after the recent rains are not thriving in many villages, as the soil did not receive sufficient moisture. In some of the villages of the Paniem firka, the crops are very bad.
Koilkuntla...	The standing crops are in good condition and, with some rain about the end of the month, are expected to yield 8 to 12 annas. All the crops under the canal and wells are in good condition. In six villages adjoining Koilkuntla, the soil is reported to have not got sufficient moisture even for sowing variga.

Prospects of the standing crops in Kurnool at the end of November—cont.

Taluks.	Remarks.
Sirvel	Information incomplete; but so far as is known, paddy and arika under the canal and cholum, cotton and horse-gram are in good condition.
Cumbum	All the standing crops except ragi and arika are thriving, while the latter two are reviving after the rains.
Markapur	The standing crops, arika, cotton, gingelly, castor and dholl are greatly improved. Paddy is likely to yield a fair outturn in some villages.

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT showing the areas sown in the Kurnool district in 1896 up to December compared with the averages for five years up to that date and the averages for the whole year.

Taluks.	First crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to December		Annual average.	Up to December		Annual average.
	1896.	Average.		1896.	Average.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Markapur	112,901	122,023	128,142	2,056	4,399	5,444
Cumbum	116,357	118,933	118,596	10,785	11,787	13,286
Sirvel	168,834	177,085	177,209	4,630	3,435	3,483
Koilkuntla	193,429	191,383	212,883	3,833	3,287	3,980
Nandyal	191,238	207,431	207,297	5,557	5,926	5,929
Nandikotkur	222,941	237,322	238,666	4,734	4,599	4,610
Ramallakóta	289,734	305,884	306,435	1,458	2,306	2,108
Pattikonda	341,952	357,403	363,482	3,743	3,216	4,375
Total ..	1,637,386	1,717,464	1,752,710	36,796	38,955	43,215

Taluks.	Second crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to December		Annual average.	Up to December		Annual average.
	1896.	Average.		1896.	Average.	
	8	9	10	11	12	13
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Markapur	3,427	2,941	9,253	85	195	683
Cumbum	4,610	2,341	7,309	735	147	3,469
Sirvel	865	1,793	2,198	53	658	338
Koilkuntla	573	1,319	1,177	188	98	1,027
Nandyal	639	1,875	2,337	101	62	1,941
Nandikotkur	2,827	2,930	3,156	90	87	403
Ramallakóta	4,093	1,610	1,638	88	108	702
Pattikonda	6,398	2,187	3,507	174	176	1,037
Total ..	23,432	16,996	30,575	1,514	1,531	9,605

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 28th,.

No 433 W a/13-2-97

Proceedings, 25*th Jan.* 1897, *No.* 55.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks,—of the Kurnool District for period ending 15th January 1897.