Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 552 W

DATED 25 February 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Affected districts: Pro: Rev: Dept on Board's Prod:

Submitting to the Govt of India a special telegraphic summary of the situation in the — & the arrangements for relief therein & instructing Collectors concerned to furnish information for future reports, Comt to S.Es I & III Circles.

7.C. 25/2/97.

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 26/2/97

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. 1995

B.

From The Mew: Dept.

Order No 552 W dt 25.2.97
Communicated to
the Supty Engineers I + III
Circles.

No. 970 Mis

Dated 18th Feby: 1897

Received 23. 2. 97

Registered —

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

23/2/97

S. Es I + III Circles ✓

K.S. D 25/2/97

SUBJECT.

Stating that the classification adopted by the Board in the special telegraphic summary describing the situation in the affected districts and the arrangement for the necessary relief therein, submitted to Govt. of India is correct and observing that the number of weavers relieved may be noted in the telegram and that the Collectors should be instructed to give the number of dependants separately when reporting the number fed at kitchens-

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 10TH FEB. 1897, No. 122.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following G.O., Mis. No. 702, Revenue, dated 8th February 1897 :—

Read—the following letter from the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture (Famine), dated 25th January 1897, Circular No. 9 F.-1–16 :—

In continuation of my telegram No. 92 F.-1—3, dated the 2nd January 1897, I am directed to inform you that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India has directed the submission in future, once a month, of a detailed telegraphic summary describing the situation in the affected districts of each province, and the arrangements made in it for the relief of distress.

2. I am accordingly to request that, on the 10th February next and the subsequent dates marginally noted, in addition to the weekly crop and weather telegram, the Government of India may be furnished with a separate and supplementary telegram containing the following statistical information for the province :—

10th March.	5th May.
7th April.	9th June.

There are relief works with workers and dependants, and poor-houses open with inmates, besides others on gratuitous relief in districts ; area distressed square miles ; population thousands. Also there are open test works with workers and dependants, and poor-houses open with inmates, besides others on gratuitous relief in districts ; area affected square miles ; population thousands.

3. Besides containing the statistical information above specified, the separate and supplementary telegram should report generally—

(1) on the adequacy of arrangements for relief ;
(2) on the condition of the people of the affected tracts and of the people on works ;
(3) as to the adequacy of food supplies ; and
(4) as to the classes on relief, whether low castes, labourers, cultivators or others.

Order—Mis. No. 702, dated 8th February 1897.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue for compliance.

2. A copy of the report should also be submitted to Government for information.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.).

Resolution—dated 10th February 1897, No. 122.

The following telegram will be despatched to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department :—

"Your No. 9-F, dated 25th Jannuary. There are 33 relief works with 36,291 workers and 2,915 mostly dependants gratuitously relieved at kitchens besides 7,732 weavers relieved at their trade in the four Deccan districts. No poor-houses. Area distressed 9,829 square miles, population 1,440 thousands. Also there is open one test work with 1,098 workers, no dependants besides 127 others on gratuitous relief in Ganjám, area affected 603 square miles, population 245 thousands. In Deccan districts generally relief arrangements adequate, but more works are required in some places to afford convenient and suitable employment to people who are reported in some places not to be in good condition, whilst relief wage has been reported inadequate by Sanitary Commissioner. No difficulty about food-supplies felt, and though general trade is dull the local markets are well supplied. Most of the relief-workers are low caste labourers, petty cultivators and weavers."

2. Copy will be submitted to Government as directed, with the remark that the Board has not found it possible to adhere strictly in the wording of the first part of the telegram, to that indicated by the Government of India for the following reasons :—

(1) *Dependants.*—These are relieved at kitchens only, but no separation or distinction is made as to kitchen inmates.

(2) *Other gratuitous relief.*—There is none, but the relief offered to weavers, which the Board observes, from the last *Gazette of India*, has been considered gratuitous, has been specifically noted.

(3) *Area "distressed" and area "affected."*—It is not clear what these terms are intended to mean. The Board has treated the whole area shown in column 4 of monthly famine statement A for January as the area "distressed," and the area reported by the Collector of Ganjám as specially affected as "affected." The Collector's telegram was as follows :—

"Whole district, excluding Maliahs, more or less affected. Area 4,884, population 1,589. Organised relief only in Tekkali zemindari division, area 253, population 127, where two Circle Inspectors appointed; and in Ganjám division, area 350, population 118, where test works."

The areas are given in square miles, the population in thousands.

3. The Board requests that, before another special report is due, it may receive revised instructions, if its report does not meet the requirements of the Government of India. The order read above was only received by it on the 9th current, and too late to admit of any special reports being called for. Collectors of the affected districts will, however, now be instructed to submit on the dates noted in the margin a brief special telegraphic summary of the situation in their districts in reference to the points noted in paragraph 3 of the Government of India letter, together with any statistical details of the kind shown in paragraph 2 that have not been given in their weekly season telegram for the Saturday preceding.

March 8th.	May 3rd.
April 5th.	June 7th.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. GOVINDA MENON
Second Assistant.

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

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed February 16th.

Proceedings, 10*th Feb.* 1897, *No.* 122.

Affected Districts.—Submitting to the Government of India a special telegraphic summary of the situation in the — and the arrangements for relief therein, and instructing Collectors concerned to furnish information for future reports.

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

× Copy attached. Read Proceedings × of the Board of Revenue, Rev. Sett., No. 122 Press, dated 10th February 1897.

ORDER thereon, No. 970 Mis., d/ 18th Feby. 1897

With reference to para 2 (1) the Government is of opinion that the Board should furnish all the details required by the Government of India and should instruct Collectors to give the number of dependants separately when reporting the numbers fed at kitchens.

2. The number of weavers relieved may be noted specifically in the telegram.

3. The Government thinks from the form of the telegram that "distressed area" means areas in which relief works have been opened and that "affected area" means areas in which test works have been started and that the classification adopted by the Board in its telegram therefore correct.

(True Extract)

G. Stokes.

Ag. Secretary to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue, ~~Lands~~ Revenue, Settlement
" L. & M. Dept.
" P.W. Dept.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

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Order—Mis. No. 702, dated 8th February 1897.

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2. A copy of the report should also be submitted to Government for information.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.).

Resolution--dated 10th February 1897, No. 122.

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Second Assistant.

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

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

No. 552 dy 25.2.97

Communicated to the Supt.g: Engineers I & III circles.

(sd) D. C. W.

Supt.g: Engineer I & III Circles.

Printed February 16th.

Proceedings, 10*th Feb.* 1897, *No.* 122.

Affected Districts.—Submitting to the Government of India a special telegraphic summary of the situation in the — and the arrangements for relief therein, and instructing Collectors concerned to furnish information for future reports.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following letter from R. H. SHIPLEY, Esq., Acting Collector of Gódávari, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Cocan ada, 21st December 1896, Ref. No. 3825-Ver. :—

With reference to paragraph 4 of Board's Proceedings, No. 386, dated 3rd December 1896, I have the honour to enclose copies of the Special Assistant Agent's report on the state of affairs in the Bhadráchalam taluk, No. 25, dated 3rd December 1896, and the Bhadráchalam Tahsildar's arzi, No. 637, dated 5th November 1896. I concur with the Special Assistant Agent as to the necessity of starting a test relief work in the northern part of the Bhadráchalam taluk in the month of January.

2. In his letter, No. 1538-G.D., dated 10th November 1894, the Superintending Engineer I Circle, requested the Collector to inform him whether the proposed improvement, as per margin, to a tank in Nallamilli (a zemindari village), in the Bhadráchalam taluk, would yield any additional revenue to Government. The Special Assistant Agent reported that the tank belongs to the superior proprietor of Nallamilli, and as the zemindari lands to an extent of acres 55 have been irrigated under the tank for a long time, the said extent had to be classed as mamul wet. The tank, if repaired, might irrigate an extent of acres 250 of Government land, also fetching a water-tax of Rs. 750 at Rs. 3 per acre. But the former Special Assistant Agent having reported that it was doubtful whether any water-tax could be levied from Government ryots for the use of water even if the tank were repaired by Government, because of the fact that As. 8 is all that should be levied from Government ryots in the Bhadráchalam taluk for an acre of wet land (*vide* Mr. D. Carmichael's minutes, paragraph 23), the Superintending Engineer was informed in 1895 that, even if the tank were acquired and repaired, no enhancement of the established wet rate seemed possible. The question was thus dropped. The present Special Assistant Agent now reports that the ryots owning Government lands, which can be irrigated by the tank if repaired, have consented to pay water-tax at the rate of Rs. 3 per acre if Government should repair it. He states that the so-called established rate of As. 8 per acre is the rate of land on which wet crops are raised by means of rain water. In this very taluk of Bhadráchalam there is a tank called Gangole tank (major work in charge of the Public Works Department) on the ayacut of which water-tax is being collected at Rs. 3. The Special Assistant Agent, therefore, recommends the acquisition and repairs of Nallamilli tank also by Government. Copy of his letter, Dis. No. 1743, dated 3rd December 1896, together with the Tahsildar's report, Tour Dis. No. 6, dated 14th July 1896, is enclosed for perusal.

	Rs.
(1) Improving Nallamilli tank and its supplying channel...	1,430
(2) Constructing a masonry sluice ...	480
(3) Do. an earthenware pipe.	210
Total ...	2,120

3. As to the financial aspect of the work, I agree with the Special Assistant Agent in considering that the outlay expended on its repairs, together with the cost of acquisition of land required for the tank, would be recouped in about five years. I have the honour to recommend, therefore, that the work may be taken up as a famine relief work, and request that the Government may be addressed to call for the estimates already prepared by the Public Works Department and sanction the same with the necessary allotment of funds. I further request that orders may be passed for the execution of the work by the Public Works officers, the Revenue officers, of course, doing their part of the work as laid down in the Famine Code. To avoid delay, I am myself also writing to the Executive Engineer, Eastern Delta, to submit the plans and estimates of this work for the early sanction of Government.

4. The superior proprietor is being asked if he has any objection to the Government repairing the tank, and the result will be communicated to the Board. It is improbable that he will object.

5. The Executive Engineer has reported that a Special Surveyor has been appointed to make surveys required in connection with the road from Parnasala to Gurrapujhari. I request that orders may also be issued for the speedy preparation of the estimates for this and other works referred to in the Special Assistant Agent's report, Tour No. 25, dated 3rd December 1896, so that they may be also started, when necessary, in the course of the next few months.

Enclosure No. 1.

Fortnightly Narrative of the Special Assistant Agent, Gódávari District, from 16th November to 30th November 1896.

State of the Country.

Water-supply.—Drinking supply getting deficient in the interior. *Nil* for irrigation purposes.

Agricultural operations.—*Nil.*

Crops.—I have only received the fortnightly report from the Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam; but I have some information from the Deputy Tahsildars of Chódavaram and Yellavaram up to 15th November 1896. The information now given is compiled therefrom. The chief standing crops are manjonnah and kondajonnah. Manjonnah may yield from 4 to 8 annas crop, but the kondajonnah, on which the hill people mainly rely, is withered or withering away—in fact a good deal of it is now being sold as fodder. Green-gram suffered badly from want of rain. Please *vide* supplementary remarks on page 3.

Fodder.—Reported *nil* in Yellavaram division, elsewhere sufficient for the present.

Cattle.—Good.

Condition of People.

In villages.—The hill people generally are living on roots, &c., the stock of which is getting exhausted in Bhadráchalam.

Mortality.—Nil.

Sickness.—Nil.

Grain Supply.

Private trade.—Fairly active in rice—not in other grains. No rice, however, is being exported from Bustar State or even Central Provinces.

Imports by rail or sea of rice or other staple food-grains.—Rice is being imported into Bhadráchalam taluk from Rajahmundry.

Known or estimated stock in taluks.—Bhadráchalam—30 putties rice at Dumagudem.
10 " at Gauridevipeta.
5 " at Bhadráchalam and Waddigudem.
Yellavaram—About 50 putties.
Polavaram and Chódavaram—Not known.

State of Markets.

Price at chief markets of principal food-grains in seers per rupee.

Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.	—
	seers.	seers.	
8 seers	12	14	At Bhadráchalam.
9 "	15	16	Yellavaram.
	Elsewhere not known.		

Taluks or places visited by the Special Assistant Collector during the fortnight.—Bhadráchalam taluk.

Enclosure No. 2.

From J. W. HUGHES, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Gódávari district, dated Dumagudem, 3rd December 1896, Tour No. 25-S.A.A.

Supplementary remarks.—It is to be regretted that the fortnightly narrative has not been submitted to me on the due date by my Deputy Tahsildars. This may be due to the fact that I am touring in Bhadráchalam, if not I shall punish the officers concerned. I send, however, this report to avoid any further delay. The information contained therein is compiled from my own observation and enquiries, the report of the Bhadráchalam Tahsildar and information received from the Deputy Tahsildars of Yellavaram and Chódavaram too late to be incorporated in my last report.

In my opinion, it will be necessary to start relief works in Bhadráchalam taluk early in January. The cultivators in the river-side villages will not suffer so much, but the cooly class of these villages and all the Koyas of the interior villages are bound to feel the greatest distress. They have no stocks of grain at all. They depend on kondajonna which, for all practical purposes, has entirely failed. It is being used as fodder. The Koyas have not got money and cannot, therefore, buy grain even if it is in the market. Just at present, members of them are being employed in cutting and carting timber. But considering the abnormal lowness of the Gódávari now, this work will not be continued long. The Koyas even now are living on roots, &c., the stock of which is fast becoming exhausted in the taluk. In January, it may safely be estimated, there will be no work and no food for them.

There are no works of the current year's budget which can be taken up at famine rates. I recommend, therefore, most strongly that (i) the road from Bhadráchalam to Latchigudem, (ii) the repairs to the tank of Nallamilli, (iii) the repairs to the tank of Mahadevapuram, may be undertaken in the beginning of January as relief works for this taluk. There are estimates ready for each. These may be taken as initial works—they will not be sufficient and I shall submit further proposals if approved. The works will give some occupation to the inhabitants of the northern part of the taluk where the distress is not felt. In the parts round Répalle the jungle is much thicker and the produce will, therefore, last longer.

The first work consists chiefly of jungle cutting and the second and third of each digging, &c. The Koyas can do both. I am sending you a separate communication on the subject of work No. 2.

In Chódavaram, I do not anticipate any necessity to start relief works. The jungle there is very thick and the hill people are accustomed to live on jungle products.

As for Yellavaram and Polavaram, I can give no definite opinion at present in the absence of the necessary information for which I have now called.

Enclosure No. 3.

From M.R.Ry. A. APPARAO, Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam, to the Collector of Gódávari, dated 5th November 1896, Dis. No. 637-Tour.

I beg to submit herewith as directed in your Ref. No. 3825-Ver. of 1896, dated 26th ultimo, which reached me on the 1st instant, a rough sketch drawn to scale of 8 miles to the inch, duly noting thereon the works already proposed for famine relief for 1896–97.

2. The famine relief works proposed are—

	Rs.
(1) Metalling the road from Parnasala to Kanavaram and constructing bridges and tunnels where necessary	75,000
(2) Metalling the road from Waddigudem to Gurrupujhari and constructing tunnels and bridges where necessary	25,000
Total value of the works ...	1,00,000

3. In G.O., No. 1763 W., dated 15th June last, the Government sanctioned the entertainment of a temporary establishment consisting of a Surveyor on Rs. 100 per mensem, a Draftsman on Rs. 50 per mensem and six lascars each on Rs. 6 per mensem for preparing estimates and plans. This establishment has not yet been entertained, but I find from the advertisements published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* that the Executive Engineer, Eastern division, has invited applicants.

4. It appears from paragraph 2 of the Executive Engineer, Mr. DeMorgan's letter embodied in the said Government Order "that it will take at least six months for the proposed establishment to do the required work." Judging from the state of the season at present and the condition of "Kondajonnah" and cholum crops which are the chief staple crops in the taluk, famine may in all probability set in at the latest in the month of January, which is the month of harvests generally. The estimates of the proposed relief work will not, therefore, be ready in time for

opening the relief works. I beg to take this opportunity, therefore, to submit for your honour's consideration whether the contemplated improvement of tanks at Nallamilli and Mahadevapuram may be commenced as famine relief works. The works are on the Dumagudem side. The estimate for the former is now ready and is with the Executive Engineer. Levels have been taken already for the other work and the Supervisor at Dumagudem tells me that he can prepare the estimate for this latter work also in time so as to commence it as a relief work. This work may cost 5,000 or 6,000 rupees. In all, the amount that will be available on these two irrigation works for famine labour will be about Rs. 8,000. I respectfully submit, therefore, that the Executive Engineer, Eastern division, may be consulted in the matter of opening these two works as famine relief works, should occasion require it and in view to give the necessary instructions beforehand to the Supervisor.

5. The famine rates of wages paid in kind and cash may not exceed As. 2 and pies 5 per head. These works, if sanctioned as famine relief works, may afford employment to 590 men for three months. These works are very conveniently situated being in the vicinity of several Koya villages lying between Parnasala and Narsapuram an area of about 60 square miles. Nallamilli and Mahadevapuram, where the tanks are situated, are within a distance of three miles to Dumagudem, which is the head-quarters of the Supervisor and he can supervise these two works without much difficulty.

6. Besides these two works to be carried out in the Public Works Department, there are the civil agency works budgeted for the next year, *i.e.*, 1897–98, the estimates of these works are also ready. The aggregate amount applied for is Rs. 3,535.

7. A sketch marked "B showing these different works is submitted herewith.

8. The population of this taluk according to the last census is 42,336, or in round figure 42,000. The population in the 68 Telaga villages on the Gódávari is 18,000. The people living in these 68 villages are comparatively better circumstanced and can afford to keep themselves or even during the time of famine. The remainder, viz., 24,000 represents the number of Koyas and Reddies living in the other 324 villages of the taluk. About half of them according to the figures given in the census statement are females. The number of able-bodied male members is approximately 12,000.

The Koyas mostly live on "Pôdu" cultivation, and to some extent, after the harvest of crops, on cooly derived by cutting and carting bamboos and other kinds of timber as the timber merchants may order from time to time. Unlike the agricultural labourers and other labouring classes in the lower district, the Koyas are unaccustomed to hard work. They are an indolent class of men always indulging in liquor manufactured from the "Ippa flower" and wandering through the forest for digging up this and that root.

When the pôdu cultivation fails and the soil becomes too hard to be cut, the whole of the Koya population (24,000 approximately, including females) must find some labour. If the present state of season should continue and the prevailing scarcity deepen into famine, the Koya people may probably have to live on cooly for nine months to come.

9. Under the impression that the famine relief work proposed for 1896–97 cannot be taken up now, and that the value of the work may not be sufficient, I ventured to submit for consideration the works alluded to in paragraphs 4 and 6 *supra*.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

From J. W. HUGHES, Esq., Special Assistant Agent, Gódávari, to the Collector of Gódávari, dated Dumagudem, 3rd December 1896, Dis. No. 1743-S.A.A.

In the correspondence ending with your No. 1161-Ver., dated 4th April 1895, it was considered inadvisable to get the tank of Nallamilli (a zemindari village) in Bhadráchalam taluk repaired by the Public Works Department as, even if the tank were acquired and repaired, no enhancement of the established rate 8 annas per acre of wet land seemed possible.

2. I submit, however, there can be no doubt that, if Government supplies water to its ryots, it can charge what it thinks fit for the benefit. As a matter of fact, the so-called established rate of 8 annas is the rate for land on which wet crops are raised by rain water and a water rate of Rs. 3 is actually charged for lands under Gangole tank in this very taluk.

3. Again the inhabitants and ryots of Peda Nallamilli, &c., five villages presented a petition to this office stating that about 2,000 acres of Government land would be brought under wet cultivation, if the tank be repaired and that they are ready to pay water-rate on the extent irrigated according to the rates fixed for the upland villages.

4. The present Acting Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam strongly advocates the taking up of the work and I thoroughly support him. His report, Tour Dis. No. 6, dated 14th June 1896, with enclosures is enclosed for perusal. Not only can water-rate be legally charged, but the ryots also have agreed to pay Rs. 3 water-rate.

5. We will now, therefore, consider the financial aspect of the work. Acres 114·25 of land are to be acquired. The estimated value of that land is Rs. 705. I fancy, however, that estimate will be found too low. It may be taken roughly for the purpose of this letter to be Rs. 1,500. To this amount must be added Rs. 2,120 the cost of putting the tank in order according to the estimate of the Public Works Department—*vide* Superintending Engineer's letter, No. 1538-G.D., dated 10th November 1894, communicated with your Ref. on C. No. 4618-Ver., dated 28th November 1894.

6. Two hundred and fifty acres of land, the Acting Tahsildar states, will be irrigated and the water-tax is estimated to be Rs. 750 at Rs. 3 an acre. About five years' income is sufficient to cover the amount to be spent for the acquisition of the land and repairs of the tank.

7. The project is, therefore, bound to be a financial success. I recommend that it be taken up as a famine relief work. It is eminently suitable for the purpose. I am writing to the superior proprietor to find out whether he has any objection to Government repairing the tank. If he agrees and you approve, the work may be started in January.

8. The tank will be D.P.W. and the Public Works Department will have to repair it.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

From the Acting Tahsildar of Bhadráchalam, to the Acting Special Assistant Agent, Gódávari District, dated Kunavaram, 14th July 1896, Dis. No. 6-Tour.

In reference to your honour's order, Ref. on Petition No. 55 of 1896, dated 6th March last, on the collective petition from certain inhabitants of China Nallamilli and Peda Nallamilli, I beg to report that acres 114 and cents 25 of land is likely to be acquired for the bed and bunds of the Nallamilli tank, if restored, as prayed for by the petitioners. It is made up of—

(1) Acres 11·29, Moursi land;
(2) Acres 15·57, land originally classed as Moursi, but since relinquished; and
(3) Acres 87·39 of zemindari land belonging to the superior proprietor.

2. The cost of acquisition is estimated at Rs. 705, a detailed calculation of which is given in the enclosed report of the Revenue Inspector No. 8, dated 5th instant. There is no established or known market value for these lands. The figure given by the Revenue Inspector is about the sum that is likely to be settled as compensation under Board's Standing Order No. 11.

3. With reference to your remark in paragraph 2 of the above order and that of the Government Agent contained in his Proceedings, No. 1161-Ver. of 4th April last, that "8 annas is all that is usually levied from Government ryots in Bhadráchalam taluk for an acre of wet land" and that "no enhancement of the wet rate is possible," I respectfully beg to state that it is the rate fixed on lands cultivated wet by means of rain water. The wet lands under Gangole tank restored to order by the Public Works Department have been paying Rs. 3 per acre, which rate is apparently based on the table given in the Board's Standing Order No. 4, and so would any other land that becomes irrigable under a tank on which the Government may lay out any capital.

4. In the present case the petitioners agree to pay the usual or prescribed water-rate; please *vide* paragraph 2 of the petition. I have seen the Nallamilli tank, its present wet ayacut and the lands of the proposed ayacut. The Koyas of Nallamilli, Veerabhadravaram and Khasimnagram have cleared off a large extent of Government unreserved forest land and have been endeavouring their utmost to grow paddy in it though, for want of sufficient and timely supply of water, the outturn of crop is not very encouraging. There is about 50 or 60 acres of zemindari land under this tank and this extent, of course, is entitled to the free use of water even in future. All the remaining extent is liable to charge and the land-owners will be quite as willing to pay Rs. 3 as they are now to pay 8 annas, the present supply of water being so very precarious. If required, the ryots of Nallamilli holding lands of the unreserved forest will furnish written statements to this effect. Besides these lands, there is a block of 1,036 acres of Khasimnagram which was once under a clearance lease. The lease ran out long ago, but the tenure of the land remained the same. This extent is not in any way entitled to the water in the Nallamilli tank, and the lands that may be occupied in this block may be assessed at the proper rates now if water is supplied. Acres 309 of this block are already under occupation. It is all classed as wet and pattas are shortly to be granted to the occupiers. I have gone over all this tract of land with some of the Koya ryots of Khasimnagram and Nallamilli. The soil is good and in some plots the soil is superior to the paddy-growing lands of the plains. It is fit only for paddy cultivation, but as it is, the ryot is not sure of getting sufficient supply of water. He would not mind, therefore, paying water-rate for water supplied. Besides the cultivating classes, there are some sowcars of Dumagudem and some inhabitants of that place who are willing to convert the whole of the land formerly under the "clearance lease" into a paddy-growing land, as the soil is so beautifully adapted to it. Several coolies, who have settled down at Dumagudem, having originally been

taken there for the Public Works Department works, are very desirous of taking up the whole of the unreserved forest if they can have any assurance from Government for the supply of water. To estimate in the least, therefore, 250 acres may be brought under wet cultivation if the tank is repaired, and water-tax payable may be estimated at Rs. 750.

5. The Koyas and some of the merchants of Dumagudem told me that, when the Chief Engineer for Irrigation arrived there for the inspection of the tank, they expressed to him their willingness to take up the land on payment of water-rate. In the Superintending Engineer's letter, No. 1538-G.D., communicated with the Government Agent's endorsement Ref. on Cur. No. 4618-Ver. of 1894, dated 28th November 1894, it is stated that the Rs. 2,120 is all the amount required to get the tank in order, whereas the annual revenue that may be realized in the shape of water-rate, viz., Rs. 750, is enough to cover a capital of Rs. 12,500 or nearly six times the amount now proposed to be spent.

6. From what I have been able to gather, I found that the paddy locally grown in these parts is hardly sufficient for local consumption for two months. The traffic boats will be constantly bringing in rice from Rajahmundry, and, if from any unforeseen cause, the boats should not ply for two months as experienced in summer especially, the price of paddy rises. There is a large extent of virgin land fit for cultivation, but it is not utilized for want of water. The Koya ryots living in the inmost part are aware of only one method of cultivation, viz., "Pôdu" cultivation; but those that are in close and frequent contact with the Telagas and the somewhat advanced cultivators have learnt to carry on wet cultivation and have realized the benefit arising from it. The ruder Koyas may gradually follow their example and extend the wet cultivation into those villages. The country will thus be opened up.

7. I submit, therefore, in conclusion, that the Government Agent may be addressed once more, as the tank project is one worth trying. It is no financial error to spend at present Rs. 2,000. It will, on the other hand, be found as a resource to Government rev enue, and lastly it would tend to raise the condition of the Koyas as agriculturists of the country.

8. The petition under reference is returned with the connected papers.

Resolution—dated 8th January 1897, No. 18.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The report submitted by the Collector as to the state of Bhadráchalam is neither so full nor definite as the Board would desire. It appears, however, that the cholum crop on which the Koyas depend has failed, and they have few resources, though for the present they obtain employment in cutting and carting timber, which, owing to the low state of the river, is not likely to continue long.

3. The Collector concurs in thinking it necessary to open a test relief work in the taluk during the current month, and the Board approves of this being done. It has, however, no information regarding the tank work mentioned by the Collector, and requests that the Public Works department may be asked to give immediate attention to the matter. As some time must necessarily elapse before the estimates for this work can be disposed of and sanctioned and it appears that road works are available, the Collector should arrange to start one of the latter as a test work.

4. In his next report, he should give as clear and distinct account of the condition and prospects of the taluk as possible.

5. The Public Works department should be instructed to impose fair tasks and, with due regard to the condition of the workers, who are unaccustomed to this kind of labour, and generally in poor condition, to enforce them, so that none but the actually destitute will come to the works. The resources of the local population are probably greater than the local officers estimate. In the great famine, a scare was raised about the condition of the Koyas, which Mr. Foster, the then Collector, found to be quite unjustified by facts. The condition of the Koyas is, in all times, poor, but they know their jungles, and can make much of them, not only in the way of collecting roots, &c., for food, but also in the collection of jungle produce for food. If Mr. Ward is still in Bhadráchalam he would be able to do much in the way of informing the authorities as to the wants of the Koyas, and also in finding them employment on legitimate forest work for which there is ample scope in the Agency. The Collector does not appear to have turned to the Forest department for counsel and assistance. He would do well to do so now.

6. Wherever works are started kitchens should be established. The children are likely to suffer first.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Gódávari.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.
" " Land Revenue Department (Forest Branch).

Ext. P. Seetharam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 15th.

Proceedings, 8*th Jan.* 1897, *No.* 18.

Relief in the Bhadráchalam taluk.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, report on the condition of and necessity for —, Gódávari district.

Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 147, 15th February 1897.

Order thereon 5566/26-2-97

Communicate to Officers concerned.

FEBRUARY.

(Gen extract)
HLG Dm C

To The Supdg Engineer III Circle
" Examiner P.W. Accounts

Relief Works in Bellary.

Authorising the Accountant-General to place a sum of Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department for — from savings under *45. Civil Works.*

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

G.O., Mis. No. 646, Revenue, dated 4th February 1897.

Read—the following papers :—

Telegrams from the Collector of Bellary, dated 1st and 4th January 1897, requesting to issue orders to place Rs. 40,000 at the disposal of the Executive Engineer, Bellary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 6th January 1897, Mis. No. 65.

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, through the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 3rd January 1897, Ref. on Cur. G.B. No. 1852 :—

I have the honour to forward herewith the post-copy of the telegram, dated 1st January 1897.

2. The Executive Engineer, Bellary division, has already taken charge of some of the relief works and is arranging to shortly take charge of the rest. He estimates the monthly requirements at Rs. 40,000 and requests that the allotment for the current month be placed at his disposal at once. The Board has, in its Proceedings, No. 437, dated 16th December 1896, already requested the Government to make a grant of Rs. 3,60,000 for relief works in this district, and I have the honour to request that the Accountant-General may be directed to provide the Executive Engineer at once with a sum of Rs. 40,000 out of this grant.

Resolution—dated 6th January 1897, Mis. No. 65.

Submitted for the orders of Government, in continuation of the Proceedings quoted.

2. As most of the works are Local Fund works and payments are all to be made by the Revenue Department, it appears to the Board, on reconsideration, that the funds should be placed at the disposal of the Collector, who will arrange to keep the paying officers in funds through his Tahsildars.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 363.

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Government {1897} of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Recd.
Regd. } 1897.
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P. W. 145/97

G.O., No. 147, 15th February 1897.

FEBRUARY.

Relief Works in Bellary.

Authorising the Accountant-General to place a sum of Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department for — from savings under *45. Civil Works.*

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Authorising the Accountant-General to place a sum of Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department for — from savings under *45. Civil Works.*

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Secretary.

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Read—also G.O., No. 125, Revenue, dated 9th January 1897.

Resolution—dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 363.

The order last read above will be communicated to the Collector of Bellary for information.

2. It will be pointed out to Government that no orders have yet been passed on the Collector's request submitted in the proceedings first read above that funds may be placed at his disposal for carrying on relief works.

3. With reference to the last sentence of paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, Press No. 437 of 1896, the Board observes that, under the orders communicated in G.O., No. 750, Revenue, dated 26th December 1896, these charges will now appear against sub-head "4. Relief to people employed otherwise than on relief work" under "33. Famine Relief."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 381.

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, dated 15th January 1897, Ref. on Current No. 153 :—

Referring to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Mis. No. 65, dated 6th January 1897, I have the honour to state that the Executive Engineer requests that a further sum of Rs. 20,000 may be placed at his disposal for the current month. I request that the orders of Government may be obtained at a very early date to provide the funds required.

Resolution—dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 381.

Submitted for the orders of Government, in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 65 of 1897.

2. Under the orders of the Government of India communicated in G.O., No. 750, Revenue, dated 26th December 1896, all charges for works carried out by the Public Works Department are to be brought to account final in the books of that department, and the recommendation made in the Proceedings above quoted must therefore be withdrawn, though it is not clear how far the instruction was intended to apply to District Board works.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th January 1897, Mis. No. 740.

Read—the following letter from the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Madras, to the Executive Engineer, Bellary Division, dated 21st January 1897, No. 29-A—C. L. :—

In continuation of Accountant-General's (Public Works Department (Circular No. 1, dated 7th January 1897 (copy forwarded to you on the 18th instant), I have the honour to invite your attention to paragraphs 134, &c., of Public Works Department Code, Volume II, and to request that early steps may be taken to obtain grants for all famine relief works carried out in your division and thus prevent expenditure on famine works incurred without grant being reported objectionable.

Read—also G.O., No. 125, Revenue, dated 9th January 1897.

Resolution—dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 363.

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(True Extract.)

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(True Copy and Extract.)

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Read—the following extract from the Executive Engineer's letter, to the Collector of Bellary, dated 26th January 1897, No. 517 B :—

Extract paragraph 1 forwarded to the Collector of Bellary, for information, in continuation of this office No. 453 B., dated 23rd January 1897, and with a request that necessary allotments may be placed at the disposal of this department through the proper channel for the relief works already undertaken by this department as per list forwarded with the above reference.

Read—also the following endorsement thereon by the Collector of Bellary, dated 27th January 1897, Ref. on C. No. 348 :—

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement) in continuation of this office letter, Ref. on Cur. G. and B. No. 1852, dated 3rd January 1897, Ref. on C. No. 153, dated 15th January 1897, and with reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 381, dated 18th January 1897. The undersigned requests that the Government may be moved to place funds at the disposal of the Public Works Department at an early date for relief works.

Resolution—dated 27th January 1897, Mis. No. 740.

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Mis. Nos. 65 and 381, dated 6th and 18th January current, with the request that the necessary orders may be issued at a very early date.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

Order—Mis. No. 646, Revenue, dated 4th February 1897.

Orders will issue in the Financial Department for placing Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department out of Provincial funds as recommended by the Collector of Bellary and the Board of Revenue in the papers read above.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, &c.)
" Financial Department.

Order—No. 147, Financial, dated 15th February 1897.

The Accountant-General is authorised to place a sum of Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department from savings under *45. Civil Works.*

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Read—also G.O., No. 125, Revenue, dated 9th January 1897.

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Resolution—dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 381.

Submitted for the orders of Government, in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 65 of 1897.

2. Under the orders of the Government of India communicated in G.O., No. 750, Revenue, dated 26th December 1896, all charges for works carried out by the Public Works Department are to be brought to account final in the books of that department, and the recommendation made in the Proceedings above quoted must therefore be withdrawn, though it is not clear how far the instruction was intended to apply to District Board works.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th January 1897, Mis. No. 740.

Read—the following letter from the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Madras, to the Executive Engineer, Bellary Division, dated 21st January 1897, No. 29-A—C. L. :—

In continuation of Accountant-General's (Public Works Department (Circular No. 1, dated 7th January 1897 (copy forwarded to you on the 18th instant), I have the honour to invite your attention to paragraphs 134, &c., of Public Works Department Code, Volume II, and to request that early steps may be taken to obtain grants for all famine relief works carried out in your division and thus prevent expenditure on famine works incurred without grant being reported objectionable.

Read—the following extract from the Executive Engineer's letter, to the Collector of Bellary, dated 26th January 1897, No. 517 B :—

Extract paragraph 1 forwarded to the Collector of Bellary, for information, in continuation of this office No. 453 B., dated 23rd January 1897, and with a request that necessary allotments may be placed at the disposal of this department through the proper channel for the relief works already undertaken by this department as per list forwarded with the above reference.

Read—also the following endorsement thereon by the Collector of Bellary, dated 27th January 1897, Ref. on C. No. 348 :—

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement) in continuation of this office letter, Ref. on Cur. G. and B. No. 1852, dated 3rd January 1897, Ref. on C. No. 153, dated 15th January 1897, and with reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 381, dated 18th January 1897. The undersigned requests that the Government may be moved to place funds at the disposal of the Public Works Department at an early date for relief works.

Resolution—dated 27th January 1897, Mis. No. 740.

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Mis. Nos. 65 and 381, dated 6th and 18th January current, with the request that the necessary orders may be issued at a very early date.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

Order—Mis. No. 646, Revenue, dated 4th February 1897.

Orders will issue in the Financial Department for placing Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department out of Provincial funds as recommended by the Collector of Bellary and the Board of Revenue in the papers read above.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, &c.)
" Financial Department.

Order—No. 147, Financial, dated 15th February 1897.

The Accountant-General is authorised to place a sum of Rs. 60,000 at the disposal of the Public Works Department from savings under *45. Civil Works.*

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Raitt.

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Read—also G.O., No. 125, Revenue, dated 9th January 1897.

Resolution—dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 363.

The order last read above will be communicated to the Collector of Bellary for information.

2. It will be pointed out to Government that no orders have yet been passed on the Collector's request submitted in the proceedings first read above that funds may be placed at his disposal for carrying on relief works.

3. With reference to the last sentence of paragraph 5 of Board's Proceedings, Press No. 437 of 1896, the Board observes that, under the orders communicated in G.O., No. 750, Revenue, dated 26th December 1896, these charges will now appear against sub-head "4. Relief to people employed otherwise than on relief work" under "33. Famine Relief."

(True Extract.)

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Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 18th January 1897, Mis. No. 381.

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Referring to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Mis. No. 65, dated 6th January 1897, I have the honour to state that the Executive Engineer requests that a further sum of Rs. 20,000 may be placed at his disposal for the current month. I request that the orders of Government may be obtained at a very early date to provide the funds required.

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