

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2932-2

DATED 19 October 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Affected District in the various Presy.

Pro: Revenue Dept. Recording Board
Pro: Submitting for a copy of the monthly
Report on the — sent to the Govt of India
Counted to S.E.S.I. and III. Cables.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 618A, dated 13th September 1897:—

W. J. H. LEFANU, Esq.
(Famine Commissioner.)

Resolution—No. 618A, dated 13th September 1897.

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

“With reference to section 48 (VI) of the Madras Famine Code, I am directed to submit herewith the Board's monthly report on the affected area in this Presidency for the month of August 1897. Two copies of the map, prepared as laid down in Rule VII, are appended.”

2. Copy will be submitted for the information of Government with copies of the map.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two copies of map.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner, with a copy of map.
„ to all Collectors.

STATEMENT A for the period ending 28th August 1897.

Districts.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Area affected.	Estimated population for area in column 4 in thousands.	Numbers on relief works on the last day of the period including weavers.				
					Class A.	Class B.	Class C.	Class D.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Circars.</i>									
	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.						
Ganjám	8,369	1,897	4,405	1,324	2,287	4,162	817	2,014	9,280
Vizagapatam	17,242	2,803	2,487	1,096	..	6,323	1,340	1,191	8,854
Gó dá va ri	7,858	2,079	1,328	187	..	..	..	150	150
Total	33,469	6,779	8,220	2,607	2,287	10,485	2,157	3,355	18,284
<i>Deccan.</i>									
Kurnool	7,514	818	4,019	512	5,108	86,871	27,253	20,648	139,880
Bellary	5,975	900	3,963	518	1,107	135,348	13,069	1,227	150,751
Anantapur	4,586	709	4,517	584	1,398	56,664	3,025	955	62,042
Cuddapah	8,731	1,272	2,244	391	773	47,984	14,087	837	63,681
Total	27,106	3,699	14,743	2,005	8,386	328,867	57,434	23,667	410,354
Grand Total	60,575	10,478	22,963	4,612	10,673	337,352	59,591	27,022	434,638

Districts.	Number on gratuitous relief.	Prices of principal food-grains in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.			Monthly death-rate.	Deaths due to starvation.
		Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.		
	11	12	13	14	15	16
<i>Circars.</i>						
Ganjám	21,453	7-8	10-8	10-8	..	..
Vizagapatam	11,566	7-4	10-8	13-3	..	..
Gó dá va ri	6,001	8-3	11-6	11-7	..	..
Total	39,020	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	42,332	7-9	9-7	12-1	..	..
Bellary	26,103	7-6	9-4	12-4	..	..
Anantapur	12,594	7-8	10-3	13-6	..	..
Cuddapah	16,011	7-9	10-8	15-0	..	..
Total	97,040	..	..	..	..	..
Grand Total	136,060	..	..	..	..	..

Area affected—Condition and prospects of.—The area affected fell from 26,073 square miles to 22,963 square miles. There was a slight increase in Gó dá va ri, but a considerable decrease in Ganjám and Vizagapatam. The rainfall at the close of the month was generally good, though it was light in some portions of the Deccan and Vizagapatam.

The condition of cattle continued poor in the Deccan districts, and considerable mortality was reported from parts. All anxiety on this score is now removed.

Prospects are now good in Ganjám, Vizagapatam (except Vizagapatam taluk) and Gó dá va ri; fair in Cuddapah and parts of Kurnool, and moderate in the remainder of Kurnool, and in Bellary and Anantapur. Relief is expected to be closed in the Northern Circars about the end of September or beginning of October, and elsewhere a little later. A test work was opened in Kistna, but was soon closed.

2. *Nature of works.*—As hitherto, the work given consisted chiefly of road construction and repair.

3. *Operations under the Loans Acts.*—In addition to the numbers employed upon State relief works, about 7,092 persons are reported to have been employed on land improvement works, for which Rs. 69,636 were disbursed during the month, as shown in the subjoined table:—

Districts.	Land improvement loans.								Number of wells.		Estimated number of labourers employed.	
	For wells.				Other purposes.				Completed.	Under construction.		
	Accepted.		Disbursed.		Accepted.		Disbursed.					
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Circars.												
Ganjám	..	..	..	..	..	22	1,855	17	1,365	..	..	..
Vizagapatam	..	..	..	..	..	3	1,300	3	1,300	..	4	..
Total	..	..	..	..	..	25	3,155	20	2,665	..	4	..
Kurnool	12	2,955	19	5,077 8 0	151	16,410	146	15,810	..	264	2,995	
Bellary	26	5,828	23	4,538 0 0	53	7,934	106	12,704	..	194	* 577	
Anantapur	119	11,708	152	17,515 0 0	51	4,790	52	6,847	13	1,094	3,070	
Cuddapah	24	6,425	19	3,810 0 0	13	1,410	10	670	2	65	450	
Total	181	26,916	213	30,940 8 0	268	30,544	314	36,031	15	1,617	7,092	
Grand Total	181	26,916	213	30,940 8 0	293	33,699	334	38,696	15	1,621	7,092	

* Figure incomplete.

4. *Wages* were calculated on prices varying from 8½ to 13 seers to the rupee. The majority of workers was in receipt of the B class wage. A great proportion of those on the C wage consisted of weavers.

5. *Gratuitous relief.*—The numbers on gratuitous relief fell to 136,060. The decrease, which was most marked in the Northern Circars and Bellary, was due to the greater strictness introduced with the improvement of the season.

6. *Prices.*—The prices of dry grain fell considerably in Vizagapatam, and rose slightly elsewhere, except in Ganjám and Cuddapah, where they remained fairly steady. Staple grains continued to be available only at rates considerably exceeding scarcity rates.

7. *Imports and Exports.*—The course of trade is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Districts.	Imports and exports by rail.			
	July.		August.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
Ganjám	1. MDS. 26,600	1. MDS. 10,100	1. MDS. 51,800	1. MDS. 3,300
Vizagapatam	136,100	2,600	83,400	14,100
Kurnool	25,300	5,700	24,600	3,400
Bellary	180,200	29,200	114,500	33,900
Anantapur	40,041	46,645	24,833	24,278
Cuddapah	25,194	24,580	13,680	13,243

* Figures incomplete for July.

Gross imports were large in Ganjám, Vizagapatam and Bellary and moderate in Kurnool. In Anantapur and Cuddapah, the balance was about even. Much of the exports from Bellary and Anantapur consisted of Mysore grain. Exportation was fostered by high prices in Bombay.

8. *Condition of the people.*—The condition of the people was, on the whole, fair. Cholera continued, though with less intensity, in the Northern Circars, and was prevalent to a slight extent in the Deccan. The decrease in the numbers on relief which was most marked in Ganjám, Vizagapatam and Cuddapah was due to the improvement in the season, and increased strictness. The condition of jungle tribes in Bhadrachalam taluk of Gódvári district was critical, owing to the peculiar disposition of the people, and the shortness of supplies in the market. It was found necessary for Government to import grain into this area.

9. *Mortality.*—The following table shows the deaths in July 1897 and in the period, October—July 1896–97, and the average rates for such periods:—

Districts.	Number of deaths reported			
	During July		From October to July	
	1897.	Average.	1896–97.	Average.
Ganjám	7,392	2,096	29,075	19,511
Vizagapatam	5,650	3,346	30,826	28,545
Gódvári	..	..	..	..
Kurnool	2,361	1,597	13,357	14,860
Bellary	3,066	2,347	16,859	16,210
Anantapur	1,498	1,350	11,356	10,144
Cuddapah	2,188	1,874	20,417	22,392

* Not reported.

The increase in Ganjám during both periods was partly due to cholera and small-pox, and in Kurnool, during the month, partly to cholera. The cause of the increase in other districts is not yet known.

FAMINE STATEMENT B.

For the period ending Saturday the 28th August 1897.

Districts.	Maximum number for whom relief is estimated to be required in the case of serious famine.	Number for whom relief was provided in programme of famine-relief works.			Maximum number for whom relief can be provided by works remaining in programme on date of report	
		Date of programme.	On large works.	Others.	On large works.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Circars.</i>						
Ganjám	317,800	23rd July 1897.	406,000	114,000	391,901	102,111
Vizagapatam	388,200	10th " "	327,000	196,000	321,767	188,241
Górávari	201,000	30th " "	393,000	100,000	395,000	100,000
Total	907,000		1,128,000	410,000	1,108,668	390,352
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	163,000	21st July 1897.	489,000	180,000	395,145	157,888
Bellary	180,000	11th " "	548,000	84,000	442,401	72,365
Anantapur	141,800	14th " "	161,000	55,000	120,661	47,303
Cuddapah	253,800	11th " "	245,000	89,000	194,985	66,537
Total	738,600		1,443,000	408,000	1,159,192	344,093
Grand Total	1,645,600		2,571,000	818,000	2,267,860	734,445

Districts.	Expenditure from 1st April up to the latest day for which figures are available.			Advances given since 1st April up to the end of the period, under		Revenue suspended beyond current official year.
	Date up to which expenditure is known.	On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agri-culturists' Loans Act.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	
<i>Circars.</i>						
Ganjám	28th Aug. 1897.	Rs. 2,41,000	Rs. 2,99,000	Rs. 15,000	Rs. 52,000	..
Vizagapatam	Do.	1,50,000	99,000	4,000	1,18,000	..
Górávari	31st July 1897.	2,000	1,000	..	..	..
Total		3,93,000	3,99,000	19,000	1,70,000	..
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	28th Aug. 1897.	12,68,000	2,07,000	1,69,000	1,69,000	..
Bellary	Do.	6,30,000	1,27,000	2,59,000	2,22,000	..
Anantapur	Do.	4,84,000	39,000	1,28,000	1,27,000	..
Cuddapah	Do.	7,68,000	65,000	16,000	3,000	..
Total		31,50,000	4,38,000	5,72,000	5,21,000	..
Grand Total		35,43,000	8,37,000	5,91,000	6,91,000	..

ORDER—No. 833, Revenue, dated 30th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.