Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2984 W

DATED 23. October 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jamine, Ros: Revenue Dept^t^ sending Boards Ros: Submitting with remarks the Dy Conservator's Narrative of the Kaukaina Dist^t^ for the period ending 31^st^ August 1897, Encls 6 & 2. Encl.

P.W. 25.
5,000—30-11-96.

Indexed.

P. W. department

Current No:- 10264

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Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Cu 9039

Recd. { 16-10- } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies* 16

G.O., No. 843, 5th October 1897.

Fr. 2484 W & 23-09-97

OCTOBER.

To Communicated to the Inspector General of Police

Mr. 11.10.97

S.S. I and II sections

R 7/11/97

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st August 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 628, dated 20th September 1897: —

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

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Ganjám District for the period ending 31st of August 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	4·62	3·78
Up to the fortnight from April	21·12	22 59

There was a good rainfall during the fortnight. Water is sufficient for drinking as well as irrigation purposes, except in some parts of Ganjám, Ichchhápuram, Narasannapeta, Chicacole and Goomsur taluks, where more rain is wanted for rain-fed lands. There were freshes in rivers and nallas during the fortnight. Prospects are very good. Water in Russellkonda reservoir rose 31 inches between the 21st and 28th August 1897.

Agricultural Operations and Condition of the Standing Crops.—Transplantation of ragi has been completed, and that of paddy is going on briskly in many parts of the district. The standing crops are paddy, ragi, gingelly, sugarcane and chamalu. All these are thriving, except gingelly and ragi in certain localities, where they are reported to be poor. Summer ragi and chamalu are being harvested in Berhampur taluk; their outturn is reported to be fair. The ragi crop in the Chicacole taluk is said to be suffering from disease, and only a four-anna crop is expected.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.—Fodder is scarce and dear, but chamalu straw is available in many places. Pasture is abundant. Condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall during the fortnight has been more general than heretofore. On the whole the prospects are exceedingly encouraging. Water has been stored up in many tanks and wells. Agricultural operations are being pushed on vigorously. In fact the rains in the fortnight have done immense good to the country, and with a normal north-east monsoon there should be no anxiety for the future. Transplantation is almost completed, except for some tracts of rain-fed lands.

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 28th of August 1897.

Stations.	Rice. End of last period. Raw.	Rice. End of last period. Boiled.	Rice. End of current period. Raw.	Rice. End of current period. Boiled.	Ragi. End of last period.	Ragi. End of current period.	Corresponding prices of 1889. Rice.	Corresponding prices of 1889. Ragi.	Remarks.
Russellkonda ..	7·50	9·00	7·50	9·00	11·72	10·31	10·00	17·00	The fluctuations in the price of raw rice as compared with that of the previous fortnight, are probably due to the state of the local markets. The price of rice is falling at Chatrapur and Sómpéta while it is rising at Berhampur. The fall in the price of ragi is due partly to the harvest of early ragi.
Surádа	7·40	8·31	7·40	8·75	8·93	9·75	10·00	18·00	
Aska	7·22	7·95	7·22	7·95	8·90	8·90	10·00	16·29	
Purushottapur ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	11·00	11·00	10·50	26·00	
Chatrapur	6·50	7·00	7·00	7·75	9·50	10·00	10·00	18·00	
Berhampur	7·50	8·50	7·00	8·00	10·20	11·05	10·25	20·00	
Ichchhápuram ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	10·80	10·80	9·00	19·00	
Sompéta	7·83	8·66	8·25	..	10·12	11·31	10·40	18·00	
Parlákimedi ..	6·81	6·75	6·81	6·75	10·40	12·00	11·25	21·00	
Tekkali	7·10	..	7·10	..	10 20	11·42	9·00	17·00	
Narasannapeta ..	7·50	..	7·50	..	10·40	10·62	12·00	19·50	
Chicacole	7·17	..	7·17	..	12·65	11·97	10·50	25·00	
Total ..	87·53	72·17	87·95	64·20	124·82	129·13	122·90	234·79	
Average ..	7·29	8·02	7·33	8·02	10·40	10·76	10·24	19·57	

Activity of trade.—Trade within the district is reported to be dull. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, reports that 398 cart-loads of paddy has been imported from Nyaghar. Imports from Orissa still continue. 200 bales of rice and 70 of ragi are reported to have been exported from Narasannapeta to places within the district. Rice cannot be had in some villages, partly owing to merchants withholding their stock in expectation of better prices.

Exports and imports of food-grains by rail and by sea are as follow :—

	Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
By rail	1,113	22,233
By sea		4,317

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Condition of people on works is generally good, but the proportion of weakly gangs and nursing mothers to the total number of workers has largely increased, owing to the able-bodied persons on tasked labour finding employment in the fields.

In villages.—The condition of people in villages is improving. There is now demand for labour in fields. Only those in absolute need of relief are being given doles. The condition of Kapu Savarahs in Parlákimedi taluk is still bad. These are either fed at kitchens or given grain doles.

The following remittances are reported from emigrants to Burma through the post offices noted below :—

	RS.
Kasibugga	3,149
Tekkali	574
Kotabommali	647
Jalmoor	48
Total ...	4,418

Sickness and Mortality.—Fever and small-pox are generally prevalent. Cholera has been subsiding.

	Cholera deaths.
Goomsur division	
Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division	62
Berhampur division	40
Chicacole division	78
	132
Total ...	312

Remarks.—The following kitchens and relief works are closed during the fortnight:—

Kitchens.

- Goomsur taluk ... Bellugunta.
- Chicacole do. ... Chicacole. Srikurnam.
- Ganjám do. ... Rambha.
- Sómpéta do. ... Jalantra. Kolluru. Gopalpur. Saba. Jayantipuram.
- Tekkali do. ... Nandigámma.

Relief works.

- Ganjám taluk ... Bandivanulu tank. Pothara.
- Sómpéta taluk ... Jillunda. Chodialanji. Jinkibhadra. Palavalsa. Haripur.
- Berhampur taluk ... Golantra test work.
- Ichchhápuram taluk. Rudda Hill quarry. Purushottapur quarry. Khojiria quarry.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Rushikulya surplus.			
1. Channel (Chammakhandi), Berhampur taluk ..	1,619	..	Closed.
2. Guntubanda (B. Branch) do. ..	1,238	748	
3. Ankoli, Berhampur taluk	1,585	664	
4. Peddakimedi, Berhampur taluk	972	..	
5. Rajapur quarry, Peddakimedi taluk	..	..	No workers as the overseer has resigned through illness.
6. Rudda Hill quarry, Ichchhápuram taluk	816	..	Closed.
7. East Coast Railway quarry, Ichchhápuram taluk ..	2,325	423	
8. Purushottapur Hill quarry do.	889	..	Closed.
9. Khojiria gravel quarry do.	1,566	..	Do.
10. Rothini Hill quarry do.	421	530	
11. Kundikota or Haripur, Sómpéta taluk	1,091	..	Closed.
12. Jinkibhodra, Sómpéta taluk	1,459	..	Do.
13. Jillunda do.	383	..	Do.
14. Kanchili quarry, Sómpéta taluk	868	246	
15. Chodialanji do.	1,174	..	Closed.
16. Palavalsa do.	1,496	..	Do.
17. Johomi, Ganjám taluk	644	553	
18. Santhoshapur, Ganjám taluk	736	98	Since closed.
19. Sabulia, Ganjám taluk	596	..	Do.
20. Pothara do.	893	..	Closed.
21. Bandivanulu tank, Ganjám taluk	249	..	Do.
22. Hill quarry, Ganjám taluk	3,370	1,781	
23. Sorasingi, Purushottapur taluk	754	734	
24. Mukundapur do.	779	632	
25. Boirani do.	1,147	837	
26. Bhatkumarada do.	603	433	
27. Hinjilli do.	2,423	1,569	
28. Mottosorosingi do.	..	344	
29. Pattamahadevi tank (Tekkali taluk)	268	..	Closed.
30. Ura tank, Tekkali taluk	216	..	Do.
31. Construction of a feeder road from Kotabommali Railway Station to Trunk road, Tekkali taluk.	180	..	Do.
Total ..	30,760	9,592	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses		In villages	
	Dependants		Others					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Russellkonda	..	..	340	66	..	..	4,781	1,662
Surada	..	..	112	33	..	..	1,535	98
Aska	..	..	153	61	..	..	3,496	1,917
Bodogodo	..	..	93	31	..	..	944	334
Peddakimedi	..	..	377	281	..	..	4,276	859
Berhampur	..	..	449	275	..	..	18,029	4,468
Sómpéta	148	7	533	210	..	..	5,355	833
Ichchhápuram	23	33	142	95	..	..	7,022	1,846
Ganjám	..	..	57	18	..	..	3,665	1,815
Purushottapur	..	..	151	160	..	..	4,155	1,712
Tekkali	..	..	653	369	..	..	1,398	407
Narasannapeta	..	..	950	381	..	..	232	56
Parlakimedi	..	25	2,239	793	..	..	4,748	571
Chicacole	..	..	454	..	..	..	128	72
Total ..	171	65	6,704	2,773	..	..	59,764	16,650

Taluks.	Weavers' relief.					
	Number of villages in which relief was given		Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Russellkonda	294	257	784	689	359	1,429
Surada	44	24	..	..	..	..
Aska	219	207	1,760	1,680	1,338	8,761
Bodogodo	95	74	..	..	..	..
Peddakimedi	225	133	216	152	999	999
Berhampur	223	446	423	691	946	4,283
Sómpéta	398	245	2,303	1,909	5,730	30,659
Ichchhápuram	215	191	140	609	677	761
Ganjám	136	218	212	214	1,049	5,131
Purushottapur	310	206	1,338	1,784	1,503	8,523
Tekkali	131	60	1,713	2,005	537	1,993
Narasannapeta	16	17	1,820	2,492	1,773	3,442
Parlakimedi	..	137	50	42	..	..
Chicacole	9	12	63	767	468	2,140
Total ..	2,315	2,227	10,822	13,034	15,379	68,121

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work. The zemindar of Kallikot and Atagada feeds about 98 persons in his kitchen at Haradamali. He has also opened a relief work at Maridi. The number employed thereon was 109 on the 25th August. Some gentlemen at Aska are still feeding from 22 to 40 persons a day. The Chinnakimedi zemindar also continues to give relief in some of the villages of his zemindari. The proprietrix of Urlám feeds about fifty persons daily in her choultry at Devadi.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	168	18,105	147	14,515	541	58,473	168	18,105	147	14,515	543	58,773
Goomsur	,, 4	,, 720	,, 4	,, 720	,, 1	,, 125	,, 4	,, 720	,, 4	,, 720	,, 1	,, 125
Chicacole	172	18,825	151	15,235	542	58,598	172	18,825	151	15,235	544	58,898
Total												

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.				Purchase of fodder.				Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		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.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
								Rs.						Rs.						Rs.
Berhampur	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	2	300	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419
Goomsur	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597
Chicacole	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494
Total	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	2	300	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510

Taluks.	Number of wells				Purchase of fodder.				Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Constructed or repaired.		Under construction or repair.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		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.
	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.
Berhampur	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419
Goomsur	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597
Chicacole	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494
Total	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510

Note.—The Senior Assistant Collector and the General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, have been called upon to explain variations as compared with the figures reported in the weekly season report.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector visited five villages. The Senior Assistant Collector visited five villages. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, 36 villages and the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 23 villages in their divisions. The annual toddy sales have detained Divisional officers at head-quarters during the fortnight to a considerable extent. I have visited the following places :—

Tekkali. * † ‡
Tunbur. *
Parlákimedi. *
Maliaput. *
Jadupalli.
Kasibugga. *
Haripur. *
Kanchili. †
Sómpéta. * ‡
Ichchhápuram. * † ‡
Berhampur. * ‡
Ankoli. †
Guntubanda. †

* Kitchen. † Relief work. ‡ Weavers' depôt.

On the whole there has been a great improvement in the condition of the district during the fortnight. Rainfall has been constant and general, except for a few rain-fed areas. Transplantation has been nearly completed. There has been a large decrease in the numbers both on works and in receipt of gratuitous relief. I anticipate, however, that there will be a rise under all heads, except weavers, in the course of the next fortnight, when those who have been employed in transplantation will return to works. It may be necessary to re-open some of the works that have been already closed.

Though prospects are greatly improved, I would add a word of warning. I do not wish the Board to imagine that famine or distress has ceased to exist. It does exist, and in an extremely acute form, amongst the Kapu Savarahs of Tekkali and Parlákimedi, and the Samanthas of the Udanam, or sea-board, in Ichchhápuram, and amongst the Mohiri Khonds. The taluk relief officer, Ganjám and Chatrapur, writes as follows in his diary :—

Owing to the reduced circumstances of most of the people, labour is sparingly employed. They have to get through their work themselves, though it is sufficiently heavy to require the employment of extra labour. The Chatrapur Circle Inspector reports people to be in a bad condition; this is chiefly due to the great dearness of food, which is the chief factor at present in continuing distress, but he supplements this by the following statement :—"I have found so far considerable reduction to be feasible, not because previous selection had been indiscriminate or even unnecessarily sympathetic, but on account of the improvement in the season and labour afforded by agricultural operations."

Now that there is likely to be a temporary lull in those operations, a further increase may be looked for especially in Sómpéta, Tekkali and Parlákimedi, unless there is a considerable fall in prices.

At present, prices show a slight downward tendency, but it is not very marked. The price of rice is nearly 50 per cent., and of ragi 90 per cent., over the prices at the corresponding period of 1889.

Rice has risen at one station, fallen in two, and remains stationary in 9. Ragi has risen in two, fallen in seven, and remained stationary in three.

I regret that I was unable to spend a longer time in Parlákimedi as Mr. Gooch, the Taluk Relief officer, was suffering from sunstroke and not fit for active work. I had, however, to proceed rapidly to meet the Board First Member at Palasa. Mr. Parsons has now gone on tour in the Parlákimedi and Tekkali taluks.

I have issued orders for the immediate closing of the weavers' depôts at Chicacole and Narasannapeta, where sufficient work is now available for the weaving classes. Other depôts will also be shortly closed, as found desirable. The present stock of twist will probably suffice for all future requirements.

Eleven works and ten kitchens were closed during the fortnight. The hill quarry work at Chatrapur has been converted from a Local Fund work to a railway ballast quarry.

It has been found possible now to dispense with the services of several Circle Inspectors by the consolidation of circles.

Resolution—No. 628, dated 20th September 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good and general, and materially improved the prospects of the district, which are now encouraging. More rain was, however, wanted, in parts, for rainfed lands. Agricultural operations were generally brisk. The grain crops were generally thriving, except in the case of ragi in Chicacole. Pasture was available.

3. The price of rice remained stationary, but there was a slight fall in the price of ragi, due partly to the harvesting of the early crop. Both grains are considerably dearer than the scarcity rate. The following figures show the comparative positions of prices :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.	
	Rice.	Ragi.
Normal	17·0	30·0
Warning	13 6	22·5
Scarcity	10 2	15·0
Current	7·7	10·8
August 1889	10·5	18·3
August 1878	8·4	12·4

The import of grain continued considerable.

4. The condition of the people is reported to be generally good or improving, though the Kapu Savaras of Parlákimedi are still in bad condition. The numbers on works fell by 69 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 71 per cent. Ten kitchens and eleven relief works are said to have been closed during the fortnight. The Collector gives two lists of works closed, one under "Condition of the people—Remarks," and the other under "Measures of relief—Works." The lists do not correspond with one another. The decrease in the numbers on relief is said to be temporary, as many, who have left the works for employment in the fields, are expected to return as soon as transplantation is over, unless there is a considerable fall in prices. The Collector reports, as has been found to be the case elsewhere, that the ryots are not employing field labour to the usual extent.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
August 14th	65,324
Do. 21st	66,749
Do. 28th	68,854
September 4th	70,349

The pace is slow ; much remains to be done in Berhampur.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 843, Revenue, dated 5th October 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.	} 1897.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O., No. 843, 5th October 1897.

Nr-2984 Wy 23-09

Communicated to the Supdg. Engr. I Circle.

fdg W.B. dt. W

W

OCTOBER.

To

The S.E. I Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st August 1897.

Sickness and Mortality.—Fever and small-pox are generally prevalent. Cholera has been subsiding.

	Cholera deaths.
Goomsur division	62
Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division	40
Berhampur division	78
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Remarks.—The following kitchens and relief works are closed during the fortnight:—

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- Tekkali do. ... Nandigámma.

Relief works.

- Ganjám taluk ... Bandivanulu tank. Pothara.
- Sómpéta taluk ... Jillunda. Chodialanji Jinkibhadra. Palavalsa. Haripur.
- Berhampur taluk ... Golantra test work.
- Ichchhápuram taluk. Rudda Hill quarry. Purushottapur quarry. Khojiria quarry.

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26. Bhatkumarada do.	603	433	
27. Hinjilli do.	2,423	1,569	
28. Mottosorosingi do.	..	344	
29. Pattamahadevi tank (Tekkali taluk)	268	..	Closed.
30. Ura tank, Tekkali taluk	216	..	Do.
31. Construction of a feeder road from Kotabommali Railway Station to Trunk road, Tekkali taluk.	180	..	Do.
Total ..	30,760	9,592	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses		In villages	
	Dependants		Others					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Russellkonda	..	..	340	66	..	..	4,781	1,662
Surada	..	..	112	33	..	..	1,535	98
Aska	..	..	153	61	..	..	3,496	1,917
Bodogodo	..	..	93	31	..	..	944	334
Peddakimedi	..	..	377	281	..	..	4,276	859
Berhampur	..	..	449	275	..	..	18,029	4,468
Sómpéta	148	7	533	210	..	..	5,355	833
Ichchhápuram	23	33	142	95	..	..	7,022	1,846
Ganjám	..	..	57	18	..	..	3,665	1,815
Purushottapur	..	..	151	160	..	..	4,155	1,712
Tekkali	..	..	653	369	..	..	1,398	407
Narasannapeta	..	25	950	381	..	..	232	56
Parlakimedi	..	..	2,239	793	..	..	4,748	571
Chicacole	..	..	454	..	..	..	128	72
Total ..	171	65	6,704	2,773	..	..	59,764	16,650

Taluks.	Weavers' relief.					
	Number of villages in which relief was given		Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Russellkonda	294	257	784	689	359	1,429
Suráda	44	24	..	..	..	..
Aska	219	207	1,760	1,680	1,338	8,761
Bodogodo	95	74	..	..	..	..
Peddakimedi	225	133	216	152	999	999
Berhampur	223	446	423	691	946	4,283
Sómpéta	398	245	2,303	1,909	5,730	30,659
Ichchhápuram	215	191	140	609	677	761
Ganjám	136	218	212	214	1,049	5,131
Purushottapur	310	206	1,328	1,784	1,503	8,523
Tekkali	131	60	1,713	2,005	537	1,993
Narasannapeta	16	17	1,820	2,492	1,773	3,442
Parlakimedi	..	137	50	42	..	..
Chicacole	9	12	63	767	468	2,140
Total ..	2,315	2,227	10,822	13,034	15,379	68,121

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work. The zemindar of Kallikot and Atagada feeds about 98 persons in his kitchen at Haradamali. He has also opened a relief work at Maridi. The number employed thereon was 109 on the 25th August. Some gentlemen at Aska are still feeding from 22 to 40 persons a day. The Chinnakimedi zemindar also continues to give relief in some of the villages of his zemindari. The proprietrix of Urlám feeds about fifty persons daily in her choultry at Devadi.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 628, dated 20th September 1897: —

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

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Ganjám District for the period ending 31st of August 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	4·62	3·78
Up to the fortnight from April	21·12	22 59

There was a good rainfall during the fortnight. Water is sufficient for drinking as well as irrigation purposes, except in some parts of Ganjám, Ichchhápuram, Narasannapeta, Chicacole and Goomsur taluks, where more rain is wanted for rain-fed lands. There were freshes in rivers and nallas during the fortnight. Prospects are very good. Water in Russellkonda reservoir rose 31 inches between the 21st and 28th August 1897.

Agricultural Operations and Condition of the Standing Crops.—Transplantation of ragi has been completed, and that of paddy is going on briskly in many parts of the district. The standing crops are paddy, ragi, gingelly, sugarcane and chamalu. All these are thriving, except gingelly and ragi in certain localities, where they are reported to be poor. Summer ragi and chamalu are being harvested in Berhampur taluk; their outturn is reported to be fair. The ragi crop in the Chicacole taluk is said to be suffering from disease, and only a four-anna crop is expected.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.—Fodder is scarce and dear, but chamalu straw is available in many places. Pasture is abundant. Condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall during the fortnight has been more general than heretofore. On the whole the prospects are exceedingly encouraging. Water has been stored up in many tanks and wells. Agricultural operations are being pushed on vigorously. In fact the rains in the fortnight have done immense good to the country, and with a normal north-east monsoon there should be no anxiety for the future. Transplantation is almost completed, except for some tracts of rain-fed lands.

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 28th of August 1897.

Stations.	Rice.				Ragi.		Corresponding prices of 1889.		Remarks.
	End of last period.		End of current period.		End of last period.	End of current period.	Rice.	Ragi.	
	Raw.	Boiled.	Raw.	Boiled.					
Russellkonda ..	7·50	9·00	7·50	9·00	11·72	10·31	10·00	17·00	The fluctuations in the price of raw rice as compared with that of the previous fortnight, are probably due to the state of the local markets. The price of rice is falling at Chatrapur and Sómpéta while it is rising at Berhampur. The fall in the price of ragi is due partly to the harvest of early ragi.
Suráda	7·40	8·31	7·40	8·75	8·93	9·75	10·00	18·00	
Aska	7·22	7·95	7·22	7·95	8·90	8·90	10·00	16·29	
Purushottapur ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	11·00	11·00	10·50	26·00	
Chatrapur	6·50	7·00	7 00	7·75	9·50	10·00	10·00	18·00	
Berhampur	7·50	8·50	7·00	8·00	10·20	11·05	10·25	20·00	
Ichchhápuram ..	7 50	8·00	7·50	8·00	10·80	10·80	9·00	19·00	
Sompéta	7·83	8·66	8·25	..	10·12	11·31	10·40	18·00	
Parlákimedi ..	6·81	6·75	6·81	6·75	10·40	12·00	11·25	21·00	
Tekkali	7·10	..	7·10	..	10 20	11·42	9·00	17·00	
Narasannapeta ..	7·50	..	7·50	..	10·40	10·62	12·00	19·50	
Chicacole	7·17	..	7·17	..	12·65	11·97	10·50	25·00	
Total ..	87·53	72·17	87·95	64·20	124·82	129·13	122·90	234·79	
Average ..	7·29	8·02	7·33	8·02	10·40	10·76	10·24	19·57	

Activity of trade.—Trade within the district is reported to be dull. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, reports that 398 cart-loads of paddy has been imported from Nyaghar. Imports from Orissa still continue. 200 bales of rice and 70 of ragi are reported to have been exported from Narasannapeta to places within the district. Rice cannot be had in some villages, partly owing to merchants withholding their stock in expectation of better prices.

Exports and imports of food-grains by rail and by sea are as follow :—

	Exports.	Imports.
	MDS.	MDS.
By rail	1,113	22,233
By sea		4,317

Condition of the People.

On works.—Condition of people on works is generally good, but the proportion of weakly gangs and nursing mothers to the total number of workers has largely increased, owing to the able-bodied persons on tasked labour finding employment in the fields.

In villages.—The condition of people in villages is improving. There is now demand for labour in fields. Only those in absolute need of relief are being given doles. The condition of Kapu Savarahs in Parlákimedi taluk is still bad. These are either fed at kitchens or given grain doles.

The following remittances are reported from emigrants to Burma through the post offices noted below :—

	Rs.
Kasibugga	3,149
Tekkali	574
Kotabommali	647
Jalmoor	48
Total ...	4,418

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	168	18,105	147	14,515	541	58,473	168	18,105	147	14,515	543	58,773
Goomsur	4	720	4	720	1	125	4	720	4	720	1	125
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	172	18,825	151	15,235	542	58,598	172	18,825	151	15,235	544	58,898

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	2	300	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494
Total	..	..	..	..	2	300	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510

Taluks.	Number of wells	Purchase of fodder.						Total.					
	Constructed or re-paired.	Under construction or repair.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	20	21	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
			22	23	24	25	26	27	34	35	36	37	38	39
				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	2,274	51	2,059	27	1,494
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,406	64,547	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510

Note.—The Senior Assistant Collector and the General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, have been called upon to explain variations as compared with the figures reported in the weekly season report.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector visited five villages. The Senior Assistant Collector visited five villages. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, 36 villages and the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 23 villages in their divisions. The annual toddy sales have detained Divisional officers at head-quarters during the fortnight to a considerable extent. I have visited the following places :—

Tekkali. * † ‡
Tunbur. *
Parlákimedi. *
Maliaput. *
Jadupalli.
Kasibugga. *
Haripur. *
Kanchili. †
Sómpéta. * ‡
Ichchhápuram. * † ‡
Berhampur. * ‡
Ankoli. †
Guntubanda. †

* Kitchen. † Relief work. ‡ Weavers' depôt.

On the whole there has been a great improvement in the condition of the district during the fortnight. Rainfall has been constant and general, except for a few rain-fed areas. Transplantation has been nearly completed. There has been a large decrease in the numbers both on works and in receipt of gratuitous relief. I anticipate, however, that there will be a rise under all heads, except weavers, in the course of the next fortnight, when those who have been employed in transplantation will return to works. It may be necessary to re-open some of the works that have been already closed.

Though prospects are greatly improved, I would add a word of warning. I do not wish the Board to imagine that famine or distress has ceased to exist. It does exist, and in an extremely acute form, amongst the Kapu Savarahs of Tekkali and Parlákimedi, and the Samanthas of the Udanam, or sea-board, in Ichchhápuram, and amongst the Mohiri Khonds. The taluk relief officer, Ganjám and Chatrapur, writes as follows in his diary :—

Owing to the reduced circumstances of most of the people, labour is sparingly employed. They have to get through their work themselves, though it is sufficiently heavy to require the employment of extra labour. The Chatrapur Circle Inspector reports people to be in a bad condition ; this is chiefly due to the great dearness of food, which is the chief factor at present in continuing distress, but he supplements this by the following statement :—"I have found so far considerable reduction to be feasible, not because previous selection had been indiscriminate or even unnecessarily sympathetic, but on account of the improvement in the season and labour afforded by agricultural operations."

Now that there is likely to be a temporary lull in those operations, a further increase may be looked for especially in Sómpéta, Tekkali and Parlákimedi, unless there is a considerable fall in prices.

At present, prices show a slight downward tendency, but it is not very marked. The price of rice is nearly 50 per cent., and of ragi 90 per cent., over the prices at the corresponding period of 1889.

Rice has risen at one station, fallen in two, and remains stationary in 9. Ragi has risen in two, fallen in seven, and remained stationary in three.

I regret that I was unable to spend a longer time in Parlákimedi as Mr. Gooch, the Taluk Relief officer, was suffering from sunstroke and not fit for active work. I had, however, to proceed rapidly to meet the Board First Member at Palasa. Mr. Parsons has now gone on tour in the Parlákimedi and Tekkali taluks.

I have issued orders for the immediate closing of the weavers' depôts at Chicacole and Narasannapeta, where sufficient work is now available for the weaving classes. Other depôts will also be shortly closed, as found desirable. The present stock of twist will probably suffice for all future requirements.

Eleven works and ten kitchens were closed during the fortnight. The hill quarry work at Chatrapur has been converted from a Local Fund work to a railway ballast quarry.

It has been found possible now to dispense with the services of several Circle Inspectors by the consolidation of circles.

Resolution—No. 628, dated 20th September 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good and general, and materially improved the prospects of the district, which are now encouraging. More rain was, however, wanted, in parts, for rainfed lands. Agricultural operations were generally brisk. The grain crops were generally thriving, except in the case of ragi in Chicacole. Pasture was available.

3. The price of rice remained stationary, but there was a slight fall in the price of ragi, due partly to the harvesting of the early crop. Both grains are considerably dearer than the scarcity rate. The following figures show the comparative positions of prices :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.	
	Rice.	Ragi.
Normal	17·0	30·0
Warning	13·6	22·5
Scarcity	10·2	15·0
Current	7·7	10·8
August 1889	10·5	18·3
August 1878	8·4	12·4

The import of grain continued considerable.

4. The condition of the people is reported to be generally good or improving, though the Kapu Savaras of Parlákimedi are still in bad condition. The numbers on works fell by 69 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 71 per cent. Ten kitchens and eleven relief works are said to have been closed during the fortnight. The Collector gives two lists of works closed, one under "Condition of the people—Remarks," and the other under "Measures of relief—Works." The lists do not correspond with one another. The decrease in the numbers on relief is said to be temporary, as many, who have left the works for employment in the fields, are expected to return as soon as transplantation is over, unless there is a considerable fall in prices. The Collector reports, as has been found to be the case elsewhere, that the ryots are not employing field labour to the usual extent.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
August 14th	65,324
Do. 21st	66,749
Do. 28th	68,854
September 4th	70,349

The pace is slow ; much remains to be done in Berhampur.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 843, Revenue, dated 5th October 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Public Works Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. Enclosures

Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 843, 5th October 1897.

No. 2984 W. 23 Oct 97

Communicated to the Supdg. Engr. I circle.

OCTOBER. Secy W.B. dt. 11

To The S.E. I circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st August 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 628, dated 20th September 1897: —

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

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Ganjám District for the period ending 31st of August 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.

	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	4·62	3·78
Up to the fortnight from April	21·12	22 59

There was a good rainfall during the fortnight. Water is sufficient for drinking as well as irrigation purposes, except in some parts of Ganjám, Ichchhápuram, Narasannapeta, Chicacole and Goomsur taluks, where more rain is wanted for rain-fed lands. There were freshes in rivers and nallas during the fortnight. Prospects are very good. Water in Russellkonda reservoir rose 31 inches between the 21st and 28th August 1897.

Agricultural Operations and Condition of the Standing Crops.—Transplantation of ragi has been completed, and that of paddy is going on briskly in many parts of the district. The standing crops are paddy, ragi, gingelly, sugarcane and chamalu. All these are thriving, except gingelly and ragi in certain localities, where they are reported to be poor. Summer ragi and chamalu are being harvested in Berhampur taluk; their outturn is reported to be fair. The ragi crop in the Chicacole taluk is said to be suffering from disease, and only a four-anna crop is expected.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.—Fodder is scarce and dear, but chamalu straw is available in many places. Pasture is abundant. Condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall during the fortnight has been more general than heretofore. On the whole the prospects are exceedingly encouraging. Water has been stored up in many tanks and wells. Agricultural operations are being pushed on vigorously. In fact the rains in the fortnight have done immense good to the country, and with a normal north-east monsoon there should be no anxiety for the future. Transplantation is almost completed, except for some tracts of rain-fed lands.

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 28th of August 1897.

Stations.	Rice.				Ragi.		Corresponding prices of 1889.		Remarks.
	End of last period.		End of current period.		End of last period.	End of current period.	Rice.	Ragi.	
	Raw.	Boiled.	Raw.	Boiled.					
Russellkonda ..	7·50	9·00	7·50	9·00	11·72	10·31	10·00	17·00	The fluctuations in the price of raw rice as compared with that of the previous fortnight, are probably due to the state of the local markets. The price of rice is falling at Chatrapur and Sómpéta while it is rising at Berhampur. The fall in the price of ragi is due partly to the harvest of early ragi.
Surada	7·40	8·31	7·40	8·75	8·93	9·75	10·00	18·00	
Aska	7·22	7·95	7·22	7·95	8·90	8·90	10·00	16·29	
Purushottapur ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	11·00	11·00	10·50	26·00	
Chatrapur	6·50	7·00	7·00	7·75	9·50	10·00	10·00	18·00	
Berhampur	7·50	8·50	7·00	8·00	10·20	11·05	10·25	20·00	
Ichchhápuram ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	10·80	10·80	9·00	19·00	
Sompéta	7·83	8·66	8·25	..	10·12	11·31	10·40	18·00	
Parlákimedi ..	6·81	6·75	6·81	6·75	10·40	12·00	11·25	21·00	
Tekkali	7·10	..	7·10	..	10·20	11·42	9·00	17·00	
Narasannapeta ..	7·50	..	7·50	..	10·40	10·62	12·00	19·50	
Chicacole	7·17	..	7·17	..	12·65	11·97	10·50	25·00	
Total ..	87·53	72·17	87·95	64·20	124·82	129·13	122·90	234·79	
Average ..	7·29	8·02	7·33	8·02	10·40	10·76	10·24	19·57	

Activity of trade.—Trade within the district is reported to be dull. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, reports that 398 cart-loads of paddy has been imported from Nyaghar. Imports from Orissa still continue. 200 bales of rice and 70 of ragi are reported to have been exported from Narasannapeta to places within the district. Rice cannot be had in some villages, partly owing to merchants withholding their stock in expectation of better prices.

Exports and imports of food-grains by rail and by sea are as follow :—

	Exports.	Imports.
	MDS.	MDS.
By rail	1,113	22,233
By sea		4,317

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Condition of people on works is generally good, but the proportion of weakly gangs and nursing mothers to the total number of workers has largely increased, owing to the able-bodied persons on tasked labour finding employment in the fields.

In villages.—The condition of people in villages is improving. There is now demand for labour in fields. Only those in absolute need of relief are being given doles. The condition of Kapu Savarahs in Parlákimedi taluk is still bad. These are either fed at kitchens or given grain doles.

The following remittances are reported from emigrants to Burma through the post offices noted below :—

	RS.
Kasibugga	3,149
Tekkali	574
Kotabommali	647
Jalmoor	48
Total ...	4,418

Sickness and Mortality.—Fever and small-pox are generally prevalent. Cholera has been subsiding.

	Cholera deaths.
Goomsur division	62
Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division	40
Berhampur division	78
Chicacole division	132
Total ...	312

Remarks.—The following kitchens and relief works are closed during the fortnight:—

Kitchens.

- Goomsur taluk ... Bellugunta.
- Chicacole do. ... Chicacole. Srikurnam.
- Ganjám do. ... Rambha.
- Sómpéta do. ... Jalantra. Kollura. Gopalpur. Saba. Jayantipuram.
- Tekkali do. ... Nandigámma.

Relief works.

- Ganjám taluk ... Bandivanulu tank. Pothara.
- Sómpéta taluk ... Jillunda. Chodialanji Jinkibhadra. Palavalsa. Haripur.
- Berhampur taluk ... Golantra test work.
- Ichchhápuram taluk. Rudda Hill quarry. Purushottapur quarry. Khojiria quarry.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Rushikulya surplus.			
1. Channel (Chammakhandi), Berhampur taluk ..	1,619	..	Closed.
2. Guntubanda (B. Branch) do. ..	1,238	748	
3. Ankoli, Berhampur taluk	1,585	664	
4. Peddakimedi, Berhampur taluk	972	..	
5. Rajapur quarry, Peddakimedi taluk	..	..	No workers as the overseer has resigned through illness.
6. Rudda Hill quarry, Ichchhápuram taluk	816	..	Closed.
7. East Coast Railway quarry, Ichchhápuram taluk ..	2,325	423	
8. Purushottapur Hill quarry do.	889	..	Closed.
9. Khojiria gravel quarry do.	1,566	..	Do.
10. Rothini Hill quarry do.	421	530	
11. Kundikota or Haripur, Sómpéta taluk	1,091	..	Closed.
12. Jinkibhodra, Sómpéta taluk	1,459	..	Do.
13. Jillunda do.	383	..	Do.
14. Kanchili quarry, Sómpéta taluk	868	246	
15. Chodialanji do.	1,174	..	Closed.
16. Palavalsa do.	1,496	..	Do.
17. Johomi, Ganjám taluk	644	553	
18. Santhoshapur, Ganjám taluk	736	98	Since closed.
19. Sabulia, Ganjám taluk	596	..	Do.
20. Pothara do.	893	..	Closed.
21. Bandivanulu tank, Ganjám taluk	249	..	Do.
22. Hill quarry, Ganjám taluk	3,370	1,781	
23. Sorasingi, Purushottapur taluk	754	734	
24. Mukundapur do.	779	632	
25. Boirani do.	1,147	837	
26. Bhatkumarada do.	603	433	
27. Hinjilli do.	2,423	1,569	
28. Mottosorosingi do.	..	344	
29. Pattamahadevi tank (Tekkali taluk)	268	..	Closed.
30. Ura tank, Tekkali taluk	216	..	Do.
31. Construction of a feeder road from Kotabommali Railway Station to Trunk road, Tekkali taluk.	180	..	Do.
Total ..	30,760	9,592	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses		In villages	
	Dependants		Others					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Russellkonda	..	..	340	66	..	..	4,781	1,662
Surada	..	..	113	33	..	..	1,635	98
Aska	..	..	153	61	..	..	3,496	1,917
Bodogodo	..	..	93	31	..	..	944	334
Peddakimedi	..	..	377	281	..	..	4,276	859
Berhampur	..	..	449	275	..	..	18,029	4,468
Sómpéta	148	7	533	210	..	..	5,355	833
Ichchhápuram	23	33	142	95	..	..	7,022	1,846
Ganjám	..	..	57	18	..	..	3,665	1,815
Purushottapur	..	..	151	160	..	..	4,155	1,712
Tekkali	..	..	653	369	..	..	1,398	407
Narasannapeta	..	25	950	381	..	..	232	56
Parlákimedi	..	..	2,239	793	..	..	4,748	571
Chicacole	..	..	454	..	..	..	128	72
Total ..	171	65	6,704	2,773	..	..	59,764	16,650

Taluks.	Weavers' relief.					
	Number of villages in which relief was given		Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Russellkonda	294	257	784	689	359	1,429
Suráda	44	24	..	..	..	..
Aska	219	207	1,760	1,680	1,338	8,761
Bodogodo	95	74	..	..	..	..
Peddakimedi	225	133	216	152	999	999
Berhampur	223	446	423	691	946	4,283
Sómpéta	398	245	2,303	1,909	5,730	30,659
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Tekkali	131	60	1,713	2,005	537	1,993
Narasannapeta	16	17	1,820	2,492	1,773	3,442
Parlákimedi	..	137	50	42	..	..
Chicacole	9	12	63	767	468	2,140
Total ..	2,315	2,227	10,822	13,034	15,379	68,121

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work. The zemindar of Kallikot and Atagada feeds about 98 persons in his kitchen at Haradamali. He has also opened a relief work at Maridi. The number employed thereon was 109 on the 25th August. Some gentlemen at Aska are still feeding from 22 to 40 persons a day. The Chinnakimedi zemindar also continues to give relief in some of the villages of his zemindari. The proprietrix of Urlám feeds about fifty persons daily in her choultry at Devadi.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.				Total.			
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	168	18,105	147	14,515	541	58,473	168	18,105
Goomsur ..	.. 4	720	.. 4	720	.. 1	125	.. 4	720
Chicacole ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	172	18,825	151	15,235	542	58,598	172	18,825

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of fodder.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
							Rs.					
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	168	147	14,515	541	58,473
Goomsur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. 4	.. 4	720	.. 1	125
Chicacole ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	300	172	151	15,235	542	58,598

Taluks.	Number of wells	Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	20	21	Number. 22	Amount. 23	Number. 24	Amount. 25	Number. 26	Amount. 27	Number. 28	Amount. 29	Number. 30	Amount. 31	Number. 32	Amount. 33
										Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,059	50,165	840	41,140	804	52,419
Goomsur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	292	12,108	240	10,345	307	18,597
Chicacole ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	2,274	61	2,059	27	1,494
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,406	64,547	1,181	53,544	1,138	72,510

Note.—The Senior Assistant Collector and the General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, have been called upon to explain variations as compared with the figures reported in the weekly season reports.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector visited five villages. The Senior Assistant Collector visited five villages. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, 36 villages and the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 23 villages in their divisions. The annual toddy sales have detained Divisional officers at head-quarters during the fortnight to a considerable extent. I have visited the following places :—

Tekkali. * † ‡
Tunbur. *
Parlákimedi. *
Maliaput. *
Jadupalli.
Kasibugga. *
Haripur. *
Kanchili. †
Sómpéta. * ‡
Ichchhápuram. * † ‡
Berhampur. * ‡
Ankoli. †
Guntubanda. †

* Kitchen. † Relief work. ‡ Weavers' depôt.

On the whole there has been a great improvement in the condition of the district during the fortnight. Rainfall has been constant and general, except for a few rain-fed areas. Transplantation has been nearly completed. There has been a large decrease in the numbers both on works and in receipt of gratuitous relief. I anticipate, however, that there will be a rise under all heads, except weavers, in the course of the next fortnight, when those who have been employed in transplantation will return to works. It may be necessary to re-open some of the works that have been already closed.

Though prospects are greatly improved, I would add a word of warning. I do not wish the Board to imagine that famine or distress has ceased to exist. It does exist, and in an extremely acute form, amongst the Kapu Savarahs of Tekkali and Parlákimedi, and the Samanthas of the Udanam, or sea-board, in Ichchhápuram, and amongst the Mohiri Khonds. The taluk relief officer, Ganjám and Chatrapur, writes as follows in his diary :—

Owing to the reduced circumstances of most of the people, labour is sparingly employed. They have to get through their work themselves, though it is sufficiently heavy to require the employment of extra labour. The Chatrapur Circle Inspector reports people to be in a bad condition ; this is chiefly due to the great dearness of food, which is the chief factor at present in continuing distress, but he supplements this by the following statement :—"I have found so far considerable reduction to be feasible, not because previous selection had been indiscriminate or even unnecessarily sympathetic, but on account of the improvement in the season and labour afforded by agricultural operations."

Now that there is likely to be a temporary lull in those operations, a further increase may be looked for especially in Sómpéta, Tekkali and Parlákimedi, unless there is a considerable fall in prices.

At present, prices show a slight downward tendency, but it is not very marked. The price of rice is nearly 50 per cent., and of ragi 90 per cent., over the prices at the corresponding period of 1889.

Rice has risen at one station, fallen in two, and remains stationary in 9. Ragi has risen in two, fallen in seven, and remained stationary in three.

I regret that I was unable to spend a longer time in Parlákimedi as Mr. Gooch, the Taluk Relief officer, was suffering from sunstroke and not fit for active work. I had, however, to proceed rapidly to meet the Board First Member at Palasa. Mr. Parsons has now gone on tour in the Parlákimedi and Tekkali taluks.

I have issued orders for the immediate closing of the weavers' depôts at Chicacole and Narasannapeta, where sufficient work is now available for the weaving classes. Other depôts will also be shortly closed, as found desirable. The present stock of twist will probably suffice for all future requirements.

Eleven works and ten kitchens were closed during the fortnight. The hill quarry work at Chatrapur has been converted from a Local Fund work to a railway ballast quarry.

It has been found possible now to dispense with the services of several Circle Inspectors by the consolidation of circles.

Resolution—No. 628, dated 20th September 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good and general, and materially improved the prospects of the district, which are now encouraging. More rain was, however, wanted, in parts, for rainfed lands. Agricultural operations were generally brisk. The grain crops were generally thriving, except in the case of ragi in Chicacole. Pasture was available.

3. The price of rice remained stationary, but there was a slight fall in the price of ragi, due partly to the harvesting of the early crop. Both grains are considerably dearer than the scarcity rate. The following figures show the comparative positions of prices :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.	
	Rice.	Ragi.
Normal	17·0	30·0
Warning	13·6	22·5
Scarcity	10·2	15·0
Current	7·7	10·8
August 1889	10·5	18·3
August 1878	8·4	12·4

The import of grain continued considerable.

4. The condition of the people is reported to be generally good or improving, though the Kapu Savaras of Parlákimedi are still in bad condition. The numbers on works fell by 69 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 71 per cent. Ten kitchens and eleven relief works are said to have been closed during the fortnight. The Collector gives two lists of works closed, one under "Condition of the people—Remarks," and the other under "Measures of relief—Works." The lists do not correspond with one another. The decrease in the numbers on relief is said to be temporary, as many, who have left the works for employment in the fields, are expected to return as soon as transplantation is over, unless there is a considerable fall in prices. The Collector reports, as has been found to be the case elsewhere, that the ryots are not employing field labour to the usual extent.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
August 14th	65,324
Do. 21st	66,749
Do. 28th	68,854
September 4th	70,349

The pace is slow; much remains to be done in Berhampur.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 843, Revenue, dated 5th October 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Rvd. Shaik Karim.

40 Copies.

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. Enclosures

Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 843, 5th October 1897.

No-2984 W, 23.6.97
Communicated to the
Supdg. Engr I circle.

OCTOBER.

Fdg W.B. dt W

To the S.E. I circle.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Ganjám district for the period ending 31st August 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 628, dated 20th September 1897: —

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

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Ganjám District for the period ending 31st of August 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.	Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
	INCHES.	INCHES.
In the fortnight	4·62	3·78
Up to the fortnight from April	21·12	22 59

There was a good rainfall during the fortnight. Water is sufficient for drinking as well as irrigation purposes, except in some parts of Ganjám, Ichchhápuram, Narasannapeta, Chicacole and Goomsur taluks, where more rain is wanted for rain-fed lands. There were freshes in rivers and nallas during the fortnight. Prospects are very good. Water in Russellkonda reservoir rose 31 inches between the 21st and 28th August 1897.

Agricultural Operations and Condition of the Standing Crops.—Transplantation of ragi has been completed, and that of paddy is going on briskly in many parts of the district. The standing crops are paddy, ragi, gingelly, sugarcane and chamalu. All these are thriving, except gingelly and ragi in certain localities, where they are reported to be poor. Summer ragi and chamalu are being harvested in Berhampur taluk; their outturn is reported to be fair. The ragi crop in the Chicacole taluk is said to be suffering from disease, and only a four-anna crop is expected.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle.—Fodder is scarce and dear, but chamalu straw is available in many places. Pasture is abundant. Condition of cattle is generally good.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall during the fortnight has been more general than heretofore. On the whole the prospects are exceedingly encouraging. Water has been stored up in many tanks and wells. Agricultural operations are being pushed on vigorously. In fact the rains in the fortnight have done immense good to the country, and with a normal north-east monsoon there should be no anxiety for the future. Transplantation is almost completed, except for some tracts of rain-fed lands.

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 28th of August 1897.

Stations.	Rice.				Ragi.		Corresponding prices of 1889.		Remarks.
	End of last period.		End of current period.		End of last period.	End of current period.	Rice.	Ragi.	
	Raw.	Boiled.	Raw.	Boiled.					
Russellkonda ..	7·50	9·00	7·50	9·00	11·72	10·31	10·00	17·00	The fluctuations in the price of raw rice as compared with that of the previous fortnight, are probably due to the state of the local markets. The price of rice is falling at Chatrapur and Sómpéta while it is rising at Berhampur. The fall in the price of ragi is due partly to the harvest of early ragi.
Surádá	7·40	8·31	7·40	8·75	8·93	9·75	10·00	18·00	
Aska	7·22	7·95	7·22	7·95	8·90	8·90	10·00	16·29	
Purushottapur ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	11·00	11·00	10·50	26·00	
Chatrapur	6·50	7·00	7·00	7·75	9·50	10·00	10·00	18·00	
Berhampur	7·50	8·50	7·00	8·00	10·20	11·05	10·25	20·00	
Ichchhápuram ..	7·50	8·00	7·50	8·00	10·80	10·80	9·00	19·00	
Sompéta	7·83	8·66	8·25	..	10·12	11·31	10·40	18·00	
Parlákimedi ..	6·81	6·75	6·81	6·75	10·40	12·00	11·25	21·00	
Tekkali	7·10	..	7·10	..	10·20	11·42	9·00	17·00	
Narasannapeta ..	7·50	..	7·50	..	10·40	10·62	12·00	19·50	
Chicacole	7·17	..	7·17	..	12·65	11·97	10·50	25·00	
Total ..	87·53	72·17	87·95	64·20	124·82	129·13	122·90	234·79	
Average ..	7·29	8·02	7·33	8·02	10·40	10·76	10·24	19·57	

Activity of trade.—Trade within the district is reported to be dull. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, reports that 398 cart-loads of paddy has been imported from Nyaghar. Imports from Orissa still continue. 200 bales of rice and 70 of ragi are reported to have been exported from Narasannapeta to places within the district. Rice cannot be had in some villages, partly owing to merchants withholding their stock in expectation of better prices.

Exports and imports of food-grains by rail and by sea are as follow :—

	Exports.	Imports.
	MDS.	MDS.
By rail	1,113	22,233
By sea		4,317

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Condition of people on works is generally good, but the proportion of weakly gangs and nursing mothers to the total number of workers has largely increased, owing to the able-bodied persons on tasked labour finding employment in the fields.

In villages.—The condition of people in villages is improving. There is now demand for labour in fields. Only those in absolute need of relief are being given doles. The condition of Kapu Savarahs in Parlákimedi taluk is still bad. These are either fed at kitchens or given grain doles.

The following remittances are reported from emigrants to Burma through the post offices noted below :—

	RS.
Kasibugga	3,149
Tekkali	574
Kotabommali	647
Jalmoor	48
Total ...	4,418

Sickness and Mortality.—Fever and small-pox are generally prevalent. Cholera has been subsiding.

	Cholera deaths.
Goomsur division	62
Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division	40
Berhampur division	78
Chicacole division	132
Total ...	312

Remarks.—The following kitchens and relief works are closed during the fortnight:—

Kitchens.

- Goomsur taluk ... Bellugunta.
- Chicacole do. ... Chicacole. Srikurnam.
- Ganjám do. ... Rambha.
- Sómpéta do. ... Jalantra. Kolluru. Gopalpur. Saba. Jayantipuram.
- Tekkali do. ... Nandigámma.

Relief works.

- Ganjám taluk ... Bandivanulu tank. Pothara.
- Sómpéta taluk ... Jillunda. Chodialanji. Jinkibhadra. Palavalsa. Haripur.
- Berhampur taluk ... Golantra test work.
- Ichchhápuram taluk. Rudda Hill quarry. Purushottapur quarry. Khojiria quarry.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed: Last fortnight.	Number employed: This fortnight.	Remarks.
Rushikulya surplus.			
1. Channel (Chammakhandi), Berhampur taluk ..	1,619	..	Closed.
2. Guntubanda (B. Branch) do. ..	1,238	..	
3. Ankoli, Berhampur taluk	1,585	748	
4. Peddakimedi, Berhampur taluk	972	664	
5. Rajapur quarry, Peddakimedi taluk	..	..	
6. Rudda Hill quarry, Ichchhápuram taluk	816	..	No workers as the overseer has resigned through illness.
7. East Coast Railway quarry, Ichchhápuram taluk ..	2,325	423	Closed.
8. Purushottapur Hill quarry do.	889	..	Closed.
9. Khojiria gravel quarry do.	1,566	..	Do.
10. Rothini Hill quarry do.	421	530	
11. Kundikota or Haripur, Sómpéta taluk	1,091	..	Closed.
12. Jinkibhodra, Sómpéta taluk	1,459	..	Do.
13. Jillunda do.	383	..	Do.
14. Kanchili quarry, Sómpéta taluk	868	246	
15. Chodialanji do.	1,174	..	Closed.
16. Palavalsa do.	1,496	..	Do.
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28. Mottosorosingi do.	..	344	
29. Pattamahadevi tank (Tekkali taluk)	268	..	Closed.
30. Ura tank, Tekkali taluk	216	..	Do.
31. Construction of a feeder road from Kotabommali Railway Station to Trunk road, Tekkali taluk.	180	..	Do.
Total ..	30,760	9,592	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved: At kitchens. Dependants. Last fortnight.	Dependants. This fortnight.	Others. Last fortnight.	Others. This fortnight.	In poor-houses. Last fortnight.	In poor-houses. This fortnight.	In villages. Last fortnight.	In villages. This fortnight.
Russellkonda	..	..	340	66	..	..	4,781	1,662
Suráda	..	..	113	33	..	..	1,535	98
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Parlákimedi	..	..	2,239	793	..	..	4,748	571
Chicacole	..	..	454	..	..	..	128	72
Total ..	171	65	6,704	2,773	..	..	59,764	16,650

Taluks.	Weavers' relief. Number of villages in which relief was given. Last fortnight	This fortnight.	Number of persons relieved. Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Number of cloths manufactured. In the period.	Up to date.
Russellkonda	294	257	784	689	359	1,429
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Total ..	2,315	2,227	10,822	13,034	15,379	68,121

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work. The zemindar of Kallikot and Atagada feeds about 98 persons in his kitchen at Haradamali. He has also opened a relief work at Maridi. The number employed thereon was 109 on the 25th August. Some gentlemen at Aska are still feeding from 22 to 40 persons a day. The Chinnakimedi zemindar also continues to give relief in some of the villages of his zemindari. The proprietrix of Urlám feeds about fifty persons daily in her choultry at Devadi.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	168	18,105	147	14,515	541	58,473	168	18,105	147	14,515	543	58,773
Goomsur	..	720	..	720	1	125	..	720	..	720	1	125
Chicacole	4		4				4		4			
Total	172	18,825	151	15,235	542	58,598	172	18,825	151	15,235	544	58,898

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	27	28	29	30	31	32	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Berhampur	..	1,059	..	840	804	52,419	..	1,059	..	840	804	52,419
Goomsur	..	292	..	240	307	18,597	..	292	..	240	307	18,597
Chicacole	..	55	..	51	27	1,494	..	55	..	51	27	1,494
Total	..	1,406	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510	..	1,406	1,131	53,544	1,138	72,510

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of fodder.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Number of wells	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.
								Under construction or repair.	Constructed or repaired.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.							
Berhampur	..	..	..	..	2	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Goomsur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicacole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	..	2	300	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Note.—The Senior Assistant Collector and the General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, have been called upon to explain variations as compared with the figures reported in the weekly season report.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.—The Principal Assistant Collector visited five villages. The Senior Assistant Collector visited five villages. The General Deputy Collector, Goomsur, 36 villages and the Head-quarters Deputy Collector 23 villages in their divisions. The annual toddy sales have detained Divisional officers at head-quarters during the fortnight to a considerable extent. I have visited the following places :—

Tekkali. * † ‡
Tunbur. *
Parlákimedi. *
Maliaput. *
Jadupalli.
Kasibugga. *
Haripur. *
Kanchili. †
Sómpéta. * ‡
Ichchhápuram. * † ‡
Berhampur. * ‡
Ankoli. †
Guntubanda. †

* Kitchen. † Relief work. ‡ Weavers' depôt.

On the whole there has been a great improvement in the condition of the district during the fortnight. Rainfall has been constant and general, except for a few rain-fed areas. Transplantation has been nearly completed. There has been a large decrease in the numbers both on works and in receipt of gratuitous relief. I anticipate, however, that there will be a rise under all heads, except weavers, in the course of the next fortnight, when those who have been employed in transplantation will return to works. It may be necessary to re-open some of the works that have been already closed.

Though prospects are greatly improved, I would add a word of warning. I do not wish the Board to imagine that famine or distress has ceased to exist. It does exist, and in an extremely acute form, amongst the Kapu Savarahs of Tekkali and Parlákimedi, and the Samanthas of the Udanam, or sea-board, in Ichchhápuram, and amongst the Mohiri Khonds. The taluk relief officer, Ganjám and Chatrapur, writes as follows in his diary :—

> Owing to the reduced circumstances of most of the people, labour is sparingly employed. They have to get through their work themselves, though it is sufficiently heavy to require the employment of extra labour. The Chatrapur Circle Inspector reports people to be in a bad condition ; this is chiefly due to the great dearness of food, which is the chief factor at present in continuing distress, but he supplements this by the following statement :—"I have found so far considerable reduction to be feasible, not because previous selection had been indiscriminate or even unnecessarily sympathetic, but on account of the improvement in the season and labour afforded by agricultural operations."

Now that there is likely to be a temporary lull in those operations, a further increase may be looked for especially in Sómpéta, Tekkali and Parlákimedi, unless there is a considerable fall in prices.

At present, prices show a slight downward tendency, but it is not very marked. The price of rice is nearly 50 per cent., and of ragi 90 per cent., over the prices at the corresponding period of 1889.

Rice has risen at one station, fallen in two, and remains stationary in 9. Ragi has risen in two, fallen in seven, and remained stationary in three.

I regret that I was unable to spend a longer time in Parlákimedi as Mr. Gooch, the Taluk Relief officer, was suffering from sunstroke and not fit for active work. I had, however, to proceed rapidly to meet the Board First Member at Palasa. Mr. Parsons has now gone on tour in the Parlákimedi and Tekkali taluks.

I have issued orders for the immediate closing of the weavers' depôts at Chicacole and Narasannapeta, where sufficient work is now available for the weaving classes. Other depôts will also be shortly closed, as found desirable. The present stock of twist will probably suffice for all future requirements.

Eleven works and ten kitchens were closed during the fortnight. The hill quarry work at Chatrapur has been converted from a Local Fund work to a railway ballast quarry.

It has been found possible now to dispense with the services of several Circle Inspectors by the consolidation of circles.

Resolution—No. 628, dated 20th September 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good and general, and materially improved the prospects of the district, which are now encouraging. More rain was, however, wanted, in parts, for rainfed lands. Agricultural operations were generally brisk. The grain crops were generally thriving, except in the case of ragi in Chicacole. Pasture was available.

3. The price of rice remained stationary, but there was a slight fall in the price of ragi, due partly to the harvesting of the early crop. Both grains are considerably dearer than the scarcity rate. The following figures show the comparative positions of prices :—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.	
	Rice.	Ragi.
Normal	17·0	30·0
Warning	13·6	22·5
Scarcity	10·2	15·0
Current	7·7	16·8
August 1889	10·5	18·3
August 1878	8·4	12·4

The import of grain continued considerable.

4. The condition of the people is reported to be generally good or improving, though the Kapu Savaras of Parlákimedi are still in bad condition. The numbers on works fell by 69 per cent., and on gratuitous relief by 71 per cent. Ten kitchens and eleven relief works are said to have been closed during the fortnight. The Collector gives two lists of works closed, one under "Condition of the people—Remarks," and the other under "Measures of relief—Works." The lists do not correspond with one another. The decrease in the numbers on relief is said to be temporary, as many, who have left the works for employment in the fields, are expected to return as soon as transplantation is over, unless there is a considerable fall in prices. The Collector reports, as has been found to be the case elsewhere, that the ryots are not employing field labour to the usual extent.

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

Up to end of week ending.	Amount disbursed.
	Rs.
August 14th	65,324
Do. 21st	66,749
Do. 28th	68,854
September 4th	70,349

The pace is slow; much remains to be done in Berhampur.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 843, Revenue, dated 5th October 1897.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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