

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 3172 W

DATED 12 Nov 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Report on the Affected Districts, Nos. Revenue
Dept regarding Braids Nos. Submitting to the
Govt of India its monthly ~~Report~~ — in the
charas key, for September 1897, Com to G
S & I and the Rules.

H
12/11/97

13/4/97

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 666A, dated 13th October 1897 :—

W. J. H. LEFANU, Esq., I.C.S.

(Famine Commissioner.)

Resolution—No. 666A, dated 13th October 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 September 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.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT A for the period ending 25th September 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.						
Ganjām	8,369	1,897	3,524	1,067	1,395	3,054	6,028	1,341	11,818
Vizagapatam	17,242	2,803	2,487	1,096	..	2,660	3,218	189	6,067
Górávari	7,858	2,079	911	42	..	..	..	26	26
Total	33,469	6,779	6,922	2,205	1,395	5,714	9,246	1,556	17,911
<i>Deccan.</i>									
Kurnool	7,514	818	4,019	512	507	49,410	13,487	7,937	71,341
Bellary	5,975	900	3,863	517	246	39,630	11,541	1,725	53,142
Anantapur	4,886	709	4,517	584	199	41,093	4,203	894	46,389
Cuddapah	8,731	1,272	2,244	391	..	11,463	10,835	662	22,960
Total	27,106	3,699	14,643	2,004	952	141,596	40,066	11,218	193,832
Grand Total	60,575	10,478	21,565	4,209	2,347	147,310	49,312	12,774	211,743

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>						
Ganjām	9,973	8.1	..	11.6	..	..
Vizagapatam	511	7.7	11.2	13.8	..	..
Górávari	712	8.5	11.7	11.9	..	..
Total	11,196	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	16,351	8.5	12.5	14.1	..	..
Bellary	20,843	7.9	13.0	15.4	..	..
Anantapur	8,346	8.4	12.3	16.0	..	..
Cuddapah	5,256	8.3	12.5	16.1	..	..
Total	50,796	..	..	..	..	..
Grand Total	61,992	..	..	..	..	..

Area affected—Condition and prospects of.—The area affected fell from 22,963 square miles to 21,565; the decrease was mainly due to the elimination of tracts in Ganjām and Górávari.

The rainfall during the month was good and general. Agricultural operations were largely extended, and prospects brightened. The season in all the affected areas is expected to be a good one, though the outturn of ragi and gingelly in the Northern Circars was generally poor.

Cattle improved in condition in the Deccan, and pasture was generally ample.

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 on State relief works, about 6,000 persons are reported to have been employed on land improvement works, for which Rs. 33,711 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.						
	Accepted.		Disbursed.		Accepted.		Disbursed.		Completed.	Under construction	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Circars.</i>											
Ganjām	..	..	..	..	33	2,200	32	4,280	..	..	50
Vizagapatam	..	..	3	1,400	6	1,380	6	1,380	..	7	..
Total	3	1,400	3	700	39	3,580	38	5,660	..	7	50
<i>Deccan.</i>											
Kurnool	16	3,705	11	2,930	9	1,725	11	1,840	..	272	3,425
Bellary	12	3,065	23	3,467	252	20,966	41	5,046	..	207	350
Anantapur	12	7,833	48	9,868	..	..	..	..	25	1,150	1,927
Cuddapah	13	3,105	14	1,760	10	1,510	13	1,840	3	78	270
Total	53	17,708	96	18,025	271	24,201	65	9,326	28	1,707	5,972
Grand Total	56	19,108	99	18,725	310	27,781	103	14,986	28	1,714	6,022

4. *Wages*—were calculated on prices varying from 9 to 15½ seers to the rupee. The majority of the workers, which consisted of agricultural labourers and petty ryots accustomed to labour, but not to the labour required on works, was in receipt of the B class wage. Many of those on the C class wage were weavers. Wages were calculated not upon the price of the staple grain, but on the combined price of the staple and cheapest grains.

5. *Gratuitous relief.*—The numbers on gratuitous relief fell to 61,992. The decrease was due to the improvement in the season.

6. *Prices*—fell considerably in all districts except Ganjám and Gódvári as shown below :—

Districts.	Ganjám.		Vizagapatam.	Gódvári.		Kurnool.	Bellary.	Anantapur.		Cuddapah.	
	Rice.	Ragi.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Cholam.	Cholam.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Ragi.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Monthly average.</i>											
August	7.7	10.4	12.4	11.7	11.7	9.9	9.2	10.2	13.6	10.8	14.5
September	7.9	11.0	13.8	11.6	11.9	11.4	11.3	11.1	15.1	11.8	15.7
Scarcity rate	10.2	15.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	16.0	15.0	16.0

At the close of the month, the price of ragi had fallen in Anantapur and Cuddapah to the scarcity rates.

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

Districts.	Imports and exports by rail.			
	August.		September.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
Ganjám	MDS. 51,800	MDS. 3,300	MDS. 39,900	MDS. 2,300
Vizagapatam	83,400	14,100	70,100	2,200
Kurnool	24,600	3,400	6,700	3,700
Bellary	114,500	33,900	92,600	22,200
Anantapur	24,833	24,278	17,981	11,839
Cuddapah	13,680	13,243	10,275	17,680

Gross imports were large in Ganjám, Vizagapatam and Bellary. Exportation was considerable from Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah, but much of this is believed to be 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, though Bhadrachalam continued to give cause for anxiety. A large number of deaths from cholera was reported; the District Surgeon of Ganjám considers that many of the deaths set down to cholera were due to "famine diarrhoea." The decrease in the numbers on works was mainly due to the improvement in the season.

Grain continued to be imported by Government into the Bhadrachalam taluk, the ordinary roads being impassable owing to the heavy rains, and the high floods in the Gódvári preventing native craft from ascending the river.

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

Districts.	Number of deaths reported			
	During August.		From October to August.	
	1897.	Average.	1896–97.	Average.
Ganjám	5,060	3,413	34,135	20,924
Vizagapatam	4,982	3,352	35,808	31,597
Gódvári	..	..	Information not available.	
Kurnool	3,437	1,795	16,794	16,655
Bellary	4,028	2,052	20,887	18,262
Anantapur	1,197	1,235	12,856	11,379
Cuddapah	2,607	2,069	22,064	21,461

Cholera was the cause of nearly two-thirds of the excess deaths in Ganjám during August, and of nearly half the excess deaths in Vizagapatam, Kurnool and Bellary.

FAMINE STATEMENT B.

For the period ending 25th September 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>						
Ganjām	317,800	23rd July 1897.	406,000	114,000	389,876	101,614
Vizagapatam	388,200	10th do.	327,000	196,000	320,395	187,946
Godāvari	201,000	30th do.	395,000	100,000	395,000	99,928
Total ..	907,000		1,128,000	410,000	1,105,271	389,488
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	163,000	21st July 1897.	489,000	180,000	369,345	153,598
Bellary	180,000	11th do.	548,000	84,000	408,259	72,365
Anantapur	141,800	14th do.	161,000	55,000	112,915	45,803
Cuddapah	253,800	11th do.	245,000	89,000	186,378	66,495
Total ..	738,600		1,443,000	408,000	1,076,897	338,261
Grand Total ..	1,645,600		2,571,000	818,000	2,182,168	727,749

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.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.	
	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Circars.</i>						
Ganjām	25th Sept. 1897.	Rs. 2,60,000	Rs. 3,35,000	Rs. 19,000	Rs. 74,000	..
Vizagapatam	Do.	1,62,000	1,12,000	6,000	1,37,000	..
Godāvari	28th Aug. 1897.	2,000	5,000	..	..	..
Total ..		4,24,000	4,52,000	25,000	2,11,000	..
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	25th Sept. 1897.	14,94,000	2,56,000	1,73,000	2,14,000	..
Bellary	Do.	9,20,000	1,65,000	2,68,000	3,36,000	..
Anantapur	Do.	5,98,000	53,000	1,38,000	1,56,000	..
Cuddapah	Do.	8,33,000	85,000	21,000	9,000	..
Total ..		38,45,000	5,59,000	6,00,000	7,15,000	..
Grand Total ..		42,69,000	10,11,000	6,25,000	9,26,000	..

* Incomplete.

ORDER—No. 900, Revenue, dated 29th October 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

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

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

Erd. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.