

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 1390 W

DATED 2nd June '98

[Despatch Abstract.]

In briefly Narrative. Pro: Rev. Dept
According Board's Pro: Submitting
of the Memo. for the period ending
15th April 98, Communicated to
Supr: A. A. C. C.

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

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, Revenue Department, — of the
Nellore district for the period ending 15th April 1898.

2/6/98

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 156, dated 23rd April 1898:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Nellore district for the period ending 15th April 1898:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—

Rainfall.—Nil.

Water-supply—*Sub-Collector's Division*.—Water-supply is insufficient for irrigation. It is generally sufficient for drinking purposes except in the western villages where steps are being taken to improve the supply.

Atmakūr Deputy Collector's Division.—No supply in tanks. Supply in wells is inadequate for irrigation purposes. Drinking-water is generally sufficient.

2. *Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops*.—The only agricultural operations in progress are the preparation of garden lands in some villages of Kanigiri and Podili for cumbu and cholam and the harvest of garden ragi in Kandukur, Podili and Ongole.

Crops—Kandukur taluk.—The standing crops ragi, cumbu and korra are fair. Ragi has been harvested with an outturn of 12 to 16 annas.

Kanigiri taluk.—The standing crops paddy, cholam and cumbu are withering. Tobacco is fair. Ragi has been harvested with an outturn of 8 annas.

Podili Division.—The standing crops, cholam and cumbu, are in good condition. Ragi has been harvested with a fair outturn.

Darsi Division.—Cumbu, korra and cholam are on the ground and are fair. Ragi yielded an 8 anna outturn.

Ongole taluk.—Standing crops—Nil. Ragi has been harvested with an outturn of 12 to 16 annas.

Atmakūr Deputy Collector's Division.—No agricultural operations are in progress in the Atmakūr taluk, while in Udayagiri lands are being prepared in a few cases for palapu cholam and pitchika cumbu which have already been sown in parts under private wells. Ragi under wells is being harvested.

Standing crops.—Paddy, second crop, under river-channels in Atmakūr taluk is thriving and is expected to give an outturn of 8 annas. Ragi under garden wells is good in both taluks. Expected outturn is 8 to 12 annas in Atmakūr taluk and 4 to 12 annas in Udayagiri taluk. In the latter taluk early ragi is being cut in some places; late ragi is in ears and is not very promising. Tobacco in Udayagiri is now a month old.

3. *Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Sub-Collector's Division*.—Fodder available, but becoming scanty in Kandukur, Kanigiri and Podili. Pasture dried up and not available. Condition of cattle is generally good. Epizootic apthia and rinderpest exist in some of the villages of Kanigiri taluk. The former also prevails in Darsi and Addanki divisions.

Atmakūr Deputy Collector's Division.—Pasture is nil in both the taluks. Fodder is sufficient in Atmakūr taluk but scarce in Udayagiri. Condition of cattle generally fair. Rinderpest and dysentery prevail in some villages of Atmakūr and Udayagiri taluks.

4. FOOD-SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.—

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th April 1898.

Stations.	Rice, second sort.		Cholam.		Ragi.		Cumbu.	
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.
Ongole ..	9.40	9.40	12.60	12.60	11.90	13.60	11.55	11.55
Addanki ..	9.40	8.93	12.60	12.60	..	15.30	11.55	10.72
Darsi ..	9.40	9.40	12.67	12.67	14.45	14.45	10.66	10.66
Podili ..	9.40	9.40	13.58	13.57	15.30	15.30	11.48	10.07
Kandukur ..	7.99	7.99	12.67	12.67	14.03	14.02	11.48	12.67
Kanigiri ..	7.52	7.52	14.48	14.48	17.00	15.30	12.38	11.55
Atmakūr ..	9.40	9.40	14.48	14.48	13.60	14.45	..	..
Udayagiri ..	..	..	15.39	14.48	12.75	14.45	12.30	13.12
Average ..	8.93	8.86	13.56	13.44	14.15	14.61	11.63	11.48

REMARKS—

	Scarcity rates.	Warning rates.
Rice ..	8.40	11.20
Cholam ..	13.00	19.50
Ragi ..	14.00	21.00
Cumbu ..	12.00	18.00

The Sub-Collector reports that the rise in the prices of cumbu and ragi in Kanigiri, Podili and Addanki was due to the paucity of imports from other districts.

5. *Activity of trade—Sub-Collector's Division*.—Trade is active and markets are well stocked in the food-grains.

Atmakūr Deputy Collector's Division.—Private trade is active. Dry grains, cholam, ragi and cumbu are imported from Cuddapah. Paddy is being exported to Nellore taluk from certain villages in the Atmakūr taluk.

6. CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.—

On Works.—Generally good.

In Villages.—Generally good.

Sickness and Mortality—Sub-Collector's Division.—Normal. No deaths from starvation or cholera.

Atmakūr Deputy Collector's Division.—No deaths from starvation. Cholera has subsided in the Udayagiri taluk, while in the Atmakūr taluk there are still cases in four villages. The total number of deaths from cholera was 22 out of 47 attacks. Small-pox continues in a few villages of both the taluks.

7. *Remarks—Sub-Collector's Division*.—The labouring classes in Addanki division are, the Sub-Collector states, in want of work; applications for loans for about Rs. 8,000 have been received.

Atmakūr Deputy Collector's Division.—Labour is at present procurable on account of harvest of cholam and ragi. Prices are almost stationary.

8. MEASURES OF RELIEF.—

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

Taluka.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Kanigiri Taluk.			
Narramarella near Pamur	915	181	The figure represents the numbers working on the 11th instant, and the fall was due to the transfer of the work to the intermediate system. The numbers have since risen and were 347 on the 12th. This work was closed on the 12th.
Nandanavanam	127	50	
Podili Division.			
Podili-Cumbum road	1,663	1,233	Task work with a kitchen. The fall in numbers is attributed by the Podili Deputy Tahsildar, partly to ragi harvest and partly to the approach of the hot weather.
Udayagiri Taluk.			
Nellatur	480	..	Work closed. The fall is as elsewhere due to ragi harvest.
Narravada	703	366	
Total ..	3,888	1,830	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluka.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.			
	Dependents.		Others.		In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
<i>Kanigiri Taluk.</i>								
Narramarella	61	47	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Podili Division.</i>								
Pedarikatla	41	30	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Udayagiri Taluk.</i>								
Narravada	47	43	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	149	120	..	..	..	..	..	..

9. Private Charity.—Calls for no remarks. The works in progress in the Venkatagiri estate are—

- (1) The repairs of the Kankanampad tank in Kanigiri taluk,
- (2) Rajampalli tank, and
- (3) Polelapad tank.

10. General Remarks.—This report deals only with the Sub-Collector's and Atmakur Deputy Collector's divisions. There has been a considerable fall in the number of labourers, due I think, almost entirely to harvest operations.

There has been little change of any importance in prices. Ragi is now below scarcity rate in all stations.

The work at Narramarella was transferred to the intermediate system on the 7th instant, and I have asked the Public Works Department to take over charge. I have also ordered the closure of the kitchen attached to this work with effect from the 15th instant as I found on my inspection on the 13th, that only children from two villages close at hand were going to it. I do not also think it is really required for the present,

now that the work has been transferred to the intermediate system, and as non-dependents cannot be admitted. The people on the work were all in good condition at the time of my inspection. I also inspected the Pedarikatla work during the fortnight. There, too, the condition of the people was satisfactory. I noticed, however, some babies in a village about seven miles from the work in a very bad state. The parents were attending the work, but the children had not been going to the kitchen. The work was, as already reported in this office letter, No. 26, camp, dated 12th April, transferred to the Podili-Cumbum road on the 7th instant. I have since introduced the intermediate system retaining the kitchen as I think it is necessary. I toured through some of the villages in the south-west of the Kanigiri taluk during the fortnight, and saw no signs of distress anywhere and I consider that any relief necessary in this taluk before the South-West monsoon will be much less than was hitherto anticipated. I was at the Narravada work on the 14th instant. A few of the workers did not look very fit, but generally there was nothing in their condition to call for remarks. I visited the kitchen and afterwards inspected the houses of some of the children who did not look as if they were getting quite enough to eat. The number of houses inspected was four and the results are given below:—

Name of head of family.	Caste.	Members in the family.	Whether on work or not.	Whether at kitchen or not.	Available food in the house.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kallu Pottivadu ..	Mala ..	Father	On work.	..	(1) Cholan ears equal to 20 seers of cholam. (2) 1 seer of paddy. (3) 8½ seers of ragi flour. (4) Ragi 13½ seers. (5) Cholam flour 3 seers. (6) Cumbu ½ seer. (7) Cholam 20 seers.
		Mother			
		A child aged 6			
		A child aged 4			
		A child aged 2			
		A cripple aged 50 at home ..			
Nanda Pichivadu ..	Do. ..	Father	On work.	..	140 tolas of cholam flour. A small pot of onions. Weaver at home.
		Mother			
		Son aged 9			
		Son aged 15			
		Child aged 5			
		Child aged 3			
Pokur Lakshmugodu.	Do. ..	Child aged 2	On work ..	..	140 tolas of cholam and ragi flour. 41 seers of ragi. 1 seer of oil-seeds. 2 seers of cholam. 10 seers of aruka.
		Uncle aged 30			
		His son aged 9			
		Father			
		Son aged 6			
		Son aged 4			
Harala Narisigodu ..	Madiga.	Son aged 2	On work ..	..	1 seer of ragi flour. 8 eggs. 3 tolas of tamarind.
		Daughter aged 15			
		Daughter aged 10			
		Son aged 6			
		Aunt			
		Grandmother—old and blind at home.			

Taluka.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.				Number of wells.			
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Kandukur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kanigiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atmakur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Udayagiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	26	4,090	36	2,590	95	13,870	..	..	..	..	12	1,550	26	4,090	36	2,590	107	15,420	..	30

Taluka.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.				Applications pending.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Number.	Amount.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Kandukur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kanigiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atmakur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Udayagiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluka and places visited.

Sub-Collector—		Collector—	
Podili division	Chinarikatla.	Podili division	Podili.
	Pernamitta.		Pathapad.
Ongole taluk	Santanutalapad.		Challagirigela.
	Cheemakurti.		Kanigiri.
	Uppalapadu.		Sankavaram.
Podili division	Talamalla.		Mogallur.
	Podili.	Kanigiri taluk	Musunur.
	Kambalapad.		Chendrasekarapuram.
Deputy Collector of Atmakur—			Dubagunta.
	Chinamachanur.		Nagalavaram.
Udayagiri taluk	Udayagiri.		Pamur.
	Duttalur.	Udayagiri taluk	Duttalur.
	Narravada.		Narravada.
	Yepulagunta.		Ramapuram.
	Nandavaram.		Variguntapad.

Resolution—No. 156, dated 23rd April 1898.

Submitted to Government.

2. During the fortnight there was no material change in the situation.

3. The Board is entirely unable to reconcile the statement that in Podili “the standing crops—cholan and cumbu—are in good condition,” and that in Darsi “cumbu, korra and cholam are on the ground and are fair,” either with previous reports, or with the statement that there are no such standing crops in Ongole or Atmakur. If, as the Board surmises, the reference is to small areas recently sown under wells, this should have been clearly stated. Every care should be taken to make the information regarding harvests and standing crops intelligible.

4. Prices are fluctuating. The price of ragi has fallen, while that of other grains has risen. The Collector's remark that the prices are almost stationary in the Atmakur division is not understood; cholam was dearer by nearly a seer per rupee in Udayagiri; ragi cheaper by more than three-quarters of a seer in Atmakur and about one and three-quarter seers in Udayagiri, and cumbu cheaper by three-quarters of a seer in Udayagiri.

5. There was a large decrease in the numbers on works, from 3,888 in the previous fortnight to 1,830 in the fortnight under review. Later reports show that the numbers fell to 876 on the 16th instant. The large decrease is ascribed by the Collector almost entirely to harvest operations. The intermediate system appears to have reduced the numbers very considerably at first on the Narramarella work. The remark that the fall in numbers on the Podili-Cumbum road was due partly to the approach of the hot weather is not understood. The Collector has introduced the intermediate system on this work, but has retained the kitchen as he considers it necessary.

The Rajah of Venkatagiri appears to have started three tank-repair works in his estate, one of the tanks being stated to be in Kanigiri taluk. The situation of the two other tanks should be reported, as also the numbers on the works, if ascertainable.

6. The condition of the people is reported by the Collector to be generally good.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Collector of Nellore.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 271, Revenue, dated 12th May 1898.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

S. S. Roberts
for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Erd. Shaik Karim.

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