

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 2/30 W

DATED 23rd August '98

Intelligence Narrative [Despatch Abstract.] Pres: Rev. Dept
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of the Revenue D^t: for period ending 15th July '98,
Recorded.

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Enclosures

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G.O., No. 437, 5th August 1898.

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C. S.

Handwritten signature: W. S. R.

Fortnightly Narrative

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting — of the Nellore district for the period ending 15th July 1898.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 252, dated 18th July 1898 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Nellore District for the period ending 15th July 1898 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

Sub-Collector's Division—Rainfall :—

	INCHES.
Ongole	0.25
Addanki	0.03
Darsi	0.23
Podili	0.10
Kanigiri	0.18
Kandukur	"

About 40 cents of rain fell in almost all the villages of Nandanavanam range, Kanigiri taluk. *Water-supply.*—Water-supply is generally insufficient for irrigation. In the Ongole taluk, tanks are empty and those in the Darsi Division contain a week's supply. Three tanks in the Podili Division contain about a month's supply and six other tanks have a few days' supply, while the rest are empty. In the Kandukur Kanigiri taluk, the Kanigiri tank has two months' supply, Peda Irlapad tank three weeks' and Gurvajipet tank one week's supply. Water-supply for drinking purposes is generally sufficient except in a few villages where new wells are being dug and old wells repaired.

Atmakur Deputy Collector's Division—Rainfall—

	INCHES.
Atmakur	0.05
Udayagiri	0.26

Water-supply—Atmakur taluk.—Sufficient for irrigation in river channels, but insufficient in tanks :—

One tank contains	Full supply.
One "	Two months'.
Seven tanks contain	One month's.
One tank contains	Twenty-four days'.
One "	Twenty days'.
One "	Ten days'.

Drinking-water is generally sufficient. *Udayagiri taluk.*—One tank contains a month's supply and another fifteen days' supply and three tanks ten days' supply. Supply in wells is beginning to fail throughout the taluk for purposes of irrigation. Drinking-water is generally sufficient.

2. *Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Sub-division.*—In Ongole and Kanigiri taluks, lands are being ploughed for dry crops. In Darsi Division almost the whole of the dry area has been ploughed; in about half the extent dry crops—cholan, cumbu, castor-oil and indigo have been sown. Lands under tanks in the Division containing a partial supply are being ploughed. In the Podili Division, dry crops—cholan, hemp, cumbu, korra and pulses are being sown. No agricultural operations are being carried on in the Kandukur taluk.

Standing crops—Ongole taluk.—Pálápu cholam and cumbu under wells are thriving. Cumbu recently sown has sprouted-up.

Darsi.—Dry crops recently sown are green.

Podili.—The dry crops recently sown have sprouted, but are in urgent need of rain.

Kanigiri.—Cumbu and cholam are thriving. The yield is estimated to be between four and eight annas.

Kandukur.—Cumbu and pálápu cholam under wells are fair, but the area covered is small.

Harvested crops.—No crops were cut during the fortnight in Ongole, Kandukur and Darsi taluks. In Podili, pálápu cholam was cut with a poor outturn. Cumbu yielded a fair outturn. Korra raised on a small area gave an yield of six annas. In Kanigiri taluk, cumbu and cholam yielded between two and eight annas.

Atmakur Division—Atmakur taluk.—Lands are being prepared for sowing dry crops. Cumbu is being sown.

Udayagiri taluk.—Kesari paddy is being sown under Iskadamerla tank. Cumbu is being sown and transplanted in garden lands under wells containing supply. Some of the dry lands are being ploughed up.

Standing crops.—*Atmakur taluk.*—Pálápu cholam, cumbu, korra and indigo are thriving under river channels and wells. The outturn is estimated at eight annas.

Udayagiri taluk.—Yerra cholam, cumbu and indigo are the standing crops. These are expected to yield a four-anna crop. Pitchika cumbu and pálápu cholam and indigo have been harvested partly. The first two crops gave an outturn of eight annas and the third four annas.

3. *Supply of fodder and pasture, and condition of cattle—Sub-division.*—Pasture not available; but where there have been good showers, it is said to be sprouting-up; fodder insufficient and obtainable at high prices. In Kandukur, fodder is imported from Nellore and Kavali taluks. Condition of cattle is reported to be good.

Atmakur Division.—Fodder is available but dear in the Atmakur taluk. In the Udayagiri taluk, it is available to a limited extent. Some ryots are purchasing fodder from the eastern taluks. Pasture is not available in the Atmakur taluk and is fading in the Udayagiri taluk. Condition of cattle is generally fair, except in a few villages of Udayagiri taluk where there is not enough of water for drinking purposes. Cattle diseases prevail in four villages of Atmakur and three villages of Udayagiri taluks.

4. *General remarks on the previous subjects—Sub-division.*—Rain is urgently wanted everywhere in the Division both for standing crops and for sowing early dry crops. It is stated generally that the standing crops will hold on for about a fortnight or so more.

Atmakur Division.—Rain is urgently wanted everywhere in the Division both for standing crops and for sowing early dry crops. It is stated generally that the standing crops will hold on for about a fortnight or so more.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

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

Stations.	Rice, second sort.		Cholan.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	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.	
Kandukur	7.52	7.52	13.12	13.12	16.15	16.15	11.55	11.96	Scar- Warn- city ing rates. rates.
Ongole	9.87	9.87	13.95	13.50	16.15	15.30	11.55	11.55	
Addanki	9.40	9.40	14.40	13.95	17.00	17.00	11.48	11.48	
Darsi	9.40	9.40	14.48	14.48	15.30	15.30	11.48	13.12	Rice .. 8.40 11.20
Podili	9.40	9.40	15.39	14.03	17.00	16.15	11.55	11.55	Cholan. 13.00 19.50
Kanigiri	7.52	7.52	14.48	14.48	15.30	15.30	11.55	11.55	Ragi .. 14.00 21.00
Udayagiri			15.84	15.39	16.58	16.15	13.94	14.70	Cumbu. 12.00 18.00
Atmakur	8.70	8.70	14.48	15.39	17.00	17.85			
Average	8.83	8.83	14.52	14.29	16.31	16.15	11.92	12.39	

6. *Activity of trade.*—The price of rice is stationary at all stations and that of cholam has risen in Ongole, Addanki, Podili and Udayagiri, while there is a fall in Atmakúr. The price of ragi has also risen in Ongole, Podili and Udayagiri, while it has fallen in Atmakúr taluk. The price of cumbu has fallen in Ongole, Podili and Udayagiri taluks. The rise in prices is generally attributed to the absence of rain having led the merchants to raise the prices. The markets are well supplied with food-grains.

7. *Condition of the people*—

On works.—Fair.

In villages.—Fair.

8. *Sickness and Mortality.*—No deaths from starvation.

There has been cholera in thirteen villages of the sub-division with 57 attacks and 31 deaths. Small-pox exists in five villages of the Atmakúr taluk. It has abated in the Udayagiri taluk, where fever is prevalent.

9. *Remarks.*—In Podili Division about 500 labourers, mostly Madigas, are engaged in collecting Tangedu bark.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
<i>Kanigiri Taluk.</i>			
Pamur	395	459	The number on the work rose to 596 on the 5th instant. Since then there has been a gradual fall, the number on the 13th being 334. The decrease is reported to be due to the dissatisfaction of the labourers with the rates allowed.
<i>Udayagiri Taluk.</i>			
Narravada	270	342	Intermediate system with a kitchen. The increase is due to the temporary cessation of rains.
Total ..	665	801	

11. *Gratuitous Relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved			
	At kitchens.			
	Dependants.		Others.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
<i>Udayagiri Taluk.</i>				
Narravada	20	22	..	..

12. *Private charity.*—The amount received from the Famine Charitable Relief Fund is being distributed to the needy.

Thirty-four coolies are working on a zamindari tank in the Podili Division.

13. *General remarks.*—There was slight rain in the affected parts in the fortnight, but it can have done little good, and the prices of cholam and ragi consequently show a tendency to rise in Podili and Udayagiri. The price of cumbu fell, however, considerably in both these taluks. Prices were unchanged in Darsi and Kanigiri, while there was a good fall in the prices of cholam and ragi at Atmakúr. Rain is urgently wanted in all the affected taluks.

(2) The number of labourers on the work at Narravada has increased slightly, while the number on the Pamur work is decreasing. The rates have been slightly reduced at Pamur by the Executive Engineer with my approval, but they are the same as the rates at Narravada.

I do not think the rates are so low that fair wages cannot be earned and the decrease in the numbers on the work simply shows that the coolies are being made to work properly, which they do not expect on a famine work.

The works will have to be continued until there is more rain.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the																						
Taluka.	Other purposes.												Total.				Number of wells.					
	Repair and construction of wells.						Applications accepted.						Total.		or	Under construction or repair.						
	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.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Kandukur	..	..	10	700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	700	10	700	..	..	..	..		
Kanigiri	..	..	2	75	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	75	2	75	..	..	..	..		
Udayagiri	..	..	53	830	21	3,070	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	5,565	8	930	21	3,070	..	55		
Atmakur	..	..	..	860	6	1,850	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..	8	850	7	1,950	..	30		
Total	70	6,340	28	2,555	27	4,920	..	..	..	..	1	100	70	6,340	28	2,555	28	5,020	..	85		
Total.																						
Taluka.	Cattle and seed grain.										Total.				Number of wells.							
	Purchase of fodder.					Applications accepted.					Total.		or	Under construction or repair.								
	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.		
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41		
Kandukur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Kanigiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Udayagiri	27	618	40	1,120	43	2,024	10	530	13	850	6	790	37	1,148	53	1,950	49	2,814	..	..		
Atmakur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Total	27	618	40	1,120	43	2,024	10	530	14	890	7	910	37	1,148	54	2,010	50	2,934	..	..		

(a) First instalment.

Inspections of the District Officers—Taluk and places visited—

SUB-COLLECTOR.		
Podili Division.	Ongole.	Kanigiri Taluk.
Pedarikatla.	Cheemakurti.	Challagarigala.
Podili.	Santanutalapad.	
Chinarikatla.	Pernamitta.	
Talamalla.		
Uppalapad.		
ATMAKUR DEPUTY COLLECTOR.		
Atmakur Taluk.	Udayagiri Taluk.	
Vasili.	Sankavaram.	
Virur.	Gundemadakala.	
Gollapalli.	Yerukollu.	
Boilechiruvella.	Kammavaripollem, hamlet of Dutta-	
Arevedu.	lur.	
Dubagunta.	Duttalur.	
Yerraballi.	Narravada.	
Chintalapalem.		
COLLECTOR.		
Atmakur Taluk.	Atmakur Taluk—cont.	
Kambampad.	Bodipad.	
Timmayapalem.	Chegirala.	

Resolution—No. 252, dated 18th July 1898.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. During the period covered by the report, there have only been a few light showers in the affected portion of Nellore, and though ploughing is going on, the sowing of the early crops is retarded by want of rain. Such crops as have been already sown are also in need of rain. Prices of ragi and cholam have risen at Podili, and slightly at Udayagiri, but are cheaper than the scarcity rate at all stations within the affected area. Cumbu is still, as usual, dearer than the other dry grains; but fell considerably in price, and is now, on an average of all the stations, cheaper than the scarcity rate.

3. The people are in fair condition, and, in Kanigiri, are leaving the relief work being dissatisfied with the rates allowed. In Udayagiri the number of relief workers is, however, increasing slightly. The Collector considers that the works must be kept open till there is more rain; but if, as he asserts, the rates paid on the intermediate system are such as to admit of a fair wage being earned, the test would seem to show that there is little or no necessity for relief operations. No information, however, is given as to the average earnings of the gangs.

4. The loan statement submitted shows a considerable number of applications pending in Udayagiri, but the particulars shown against Atmakur and Kandukur are not understood. In the former taluk, the statement shows nine loans disbursed, but no applications accepted; in the latter that the amount of the first instalments paid on ten loans is equal to the amount for which ten loans have been granted. In Kanigiri, only two loans have been made.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. BENSON,
for Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Collector of Nellore (Divisional-officers—Tahsildars).
" Copy to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 437, Revenue, dated 5th August 1898.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Shahin.
for

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.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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