

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No.

716 J

DATED

17th Sept '98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Kurnool - Cuddapah Canal

From: Sec. Dept. regarding
From: of the B. of R. Submitting report of the
Special Dy. Secy. — for the half-year ending
31st Dec 97, recorded.

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

Recd. 9. 9. } 1898.
Regd. 9. 9. }

Enclosures

Spare copies 10

G.O., No. 467, 23rd August 1898.

AUGUST.

Order thereon No: 716. J & 17.9.

Recorded

To The Chief Eng^r for Irrigⁿ
" Sup^d Eng^r - 3rd Class. *with 4 men & 4 bullocks*
Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government report of the Special Deputy Collector, —, for the half-year ending 31st December 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 210, dated 17th June 1898 :—

Read—the following letter from M.R.Ry. K. SUBBARAYUDU PANTULU Garu, Rao Bahadur, Canal Special Deputy Collector, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture (through the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah), dated Camp Pamulapad, 10th March 1898, No. 63 :—

Referring to the latter part of paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 964, Revenue, dated 7th November 1893, communicated with Board's Proceedings, No. 87, dated 16th February 1894, I have the honour to submit the following report for the half-year ending 31st December last.

2. During the half-year under report, I moved twice up and down the canal attending as usual (a) to the preparation of the preliminary and final lists of canal-commanded lands fit (1) to be permanently transferred to wet and (2) to be recommended for imposition of the famine insurance rate at the next re-settlement, the said lists having been required by the Public Works Department in connection with paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 18, Revenue, dated 18th January 1896, (b) to the inspection of canal irrigated lands especially in quarters noted for surreptitious irrigation, (c) to the requirements of ryots of canal villages for fresh channels required and for repairs to existing channels, &c., and (d) to endeavours in the direction of inducing the ryots of the Kurnool district to raise experimental crops and of securing capitalists from outside to take up waste lands yet available under the canal under the amended block rules. In the beginning of September last, the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement went down the canal inspecting it, and I was present with him during his tour. In all, 161 out of 184 days of the half-year were spent by me out of head-quarters.

3. I beg to enclose a villagewar statement showing the extents actually canal-irrigated in faslis 1305 (1895-96) and 1306 (1896-97) under the first and second crops, and those irrigated in the current fasli up to the end of December last; and it will be seen from this statement that the extents irrigated under the canal up to the end of December last are as exhibited in the subjoined abstract in the different canal taluks of both the districts, when compared with the actual figures for faslis 1305 and 1306. The reason why in the above statement I have chosen to compare the current fasli figures with the figures of both the last two faslis is no other than that the last fasli 1306 was a famine, and consequently an abnormal, year.

District.	Taluks.	Actual extent of.					
		Fasli 1305.			Fasli 1306.		
		First crop.	Second crop.	Total.	First crop.	Second crop.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Kurnool	1. Ramallakot ..	1,687.80	431.76	2,119.56	2,681.89	771.74	3,453.63
	2. Nandikotkur ..	5,100.98	693.51	5,794.49	25,298.88	1,421.58	26,720.46
	3. Nandyal ..	2,668.87	762.47	3,431.34	12,997.94	1,334.43	14,332.37
	4. Sirvel ..	3,361.77	178.75	3,540.52	14,324.79	441.98	14,766.77
	5. Koilkuntla ..	333.48	70.72	404.20	6,204.88	140.27	6,345.15
	District Total ..	13,152.90	2,137.21	15,290.11	61,508.38	4,110	65,618.38
Cuddapah	6. Jammalamadugu ..	172.31	..	172.31	738.4	..	738.4
	7. Proddatur ..	5,923.6	1,019.47	6,942.53	8,504.55	1,580.35	10,084.90
	8. Cuddapah ..	7,215.67	3,158.33	10,374.00	8,326.17	2,459.47	10,785.64
	District Total ..	13,311.4	4,177.80	17,488.84	17,568.76	4,039.82	21,608.58
	Canal Total ..	26,463.94	6,315.1	32,778.95	79,077.14	8,149.82	87,226.96

District.	Taluks.	Extent in fasli 1307 up to the end of December last.	Column 9 compared with.				
			Column 3.	Column 5.	Column 6.	Column 8.	
			9	10	11	12	13
		ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Kurnool	1. Ramallakot ..	2,981.69	+ 1,293.89	+ 862.13	+ 299.80	— 471.94	
	2. Nandikotkur ..	8,311.89	+ 3,210.91	+ 2,517.40	+ 16,986.99	— 18,408.57	
	3. Nandyal ..	4,575.60	+ 1,906.73	+ 1,144.26	— 8,422.34	— 9,756.77	
	4. Sirvel ..	6,700.04	+ 3,338.27	+ 3,159.52	— 7,624.75	— 8,066.73	
	5. Koilkuntla ..	639.34	+ 305.86	+ 235.14	— 5,565.64	— 5,705.81	
	District Total ..	23,208.56	+ 10,055.66	+ 7,918.45	— 38,299.82	— 42,409.82	
Cuddapah	6. Jammalamadugu ..	141.22	— 31.9	— 31.9	— 596.82	— 596.82	
	7. Proddatur ..	7,995.14	+ 2,072.8	+ 1,052.61	— 509.41	— 2,089.76	
	8. Cuddapah ..	7,599.42	+ 333.75	— 2,774.58	— 726.75	— 3,186.22	
	District Total ..	15,735.78	+ 2,424.74	— 1,753.6	— 1,832.98	— 5,872.80	
	Canal Total ..	38,944.34	+ 12,480.40	+ 6,165.39	— 40,132.80	— 48,282.62	

4. Compared with the first-crop figures of fasli 1305, it will be observed that all the taluks excepting Jammalamadugu, which is an insignificant canal taluk, show rather large increases, the total increase in extent in the case of the Kurnool district being acres 10,055.66 and the total net increase in the case of the Cuddapah district being acres 2,424.74, thus making a total net increase of acres 12,480.40 for the entire canal. Even when compared with the total actual figures of both the first and second crops of fasli 1305, the figures for the current fasli up to the end of December last show increase in all the taluks excepting Jammalamadugu and Cuddapah, the total increase in the Kurnool district being acres 7,918.45, and there appearing a total net decrease of acres 1,753.6 against the Cuddapah district, thus resulting in a total net increase of acres 6,165.39 for the entire canal.

5. Compared with the first-crop actual figures of fasli 1306, all the canal taluks excepting Ramallakot show decrease, the total net decrease against the Kurnool district being acres 38,299.82 and the total decrease against the Cuddapah district acres 1,832.98, thus making a net total decrease of acres 40,132.80 for the whole canal. Compared with the total actual figures of both crops of fasli 1306, all the

eight canal taluks show decrease in the current fasli figures up to the end of December last; and the reason why, when compared with fasli 1306, the current fasli thus results in heavy decrease is no other than that canal water was very extensively used for dry crops in fasli 1306 (1896-97) in consequence of the highly adverse nature of the season, whereas the extent of dry crops, for which it was found necessary to use canal water in the current year, was comparatively very limited. The reason why, on the other hand, the Ramallakot taluk shows some small net increase when the current fasli figures are compared with the first-crop figures of fasli 1306 is that some extent of second-crop paddy which has applied for water is included in the current year's figures up to the end of December last, whereas all the second-crop paddy extent of fasli 1306 was registered after December and thus happened to be included in the statement for the second half of that fasli.

6. The rather large increase which the figures for the current fasli up to the end of December last show over the first-crop figures of fasli 1305 in all the taluks except Jammalamadugu, which shows a small decrease of acres 31.9, is due (a) partly to the necessity found by ryots to irrigate chiefly their "Bagayet" or Rs. 3 rate and "Mundla" or coarse paddy crops in consequence of the almost continued absence of rains from about the middle of October last, although it was not found necessary to irrigate dry or the Re. 1 rate crops to any large extent as in fasli 1306 (1896-97); (b) partly to ryots having generally gone in for larger extents of paddy and other wet crops considering the high prices prevailing and expecting fasli 1307 to turn out an equally bad year with fasli 1306; (c) partly to extension of irrigation under some new channels given here and there and (d) partly to some villages not hitherto using canal water at all having newly gone in for wet crops with the aid of canal water in the light of their bitter experience of fasli 1306 and considering it always safe to have at least some wet crops under the canal in addition to their rain-sown dry crops.

7. Taken talukwar, it will be observed that, so far as the current fasli figures in the enclosed statement go, the Nandikotkur taluk, with acres 8,311.89, takes the first place this time, beating the Cuddapah and Proddatur taluks which occupied the first and second places, respectively, in fasli 1305; that the Proddatur taluk comes second with acres 7,995.14; that the Cuddapah taluk stands third with acres 7,599.42; that the remaining four canal taluks of the Kurnool district relatively occupy the same places that they held in fasli 1305, namely, Sirvel, the fourth place; Nandyal, the fifth; Ramallakot, the sixth and Koilkuntla, the seventh; and that, as usual, the Jammalamadugu taluk stands last with a hundred and odd acres. By the end of the fasli, however, the taluks, especially the first three, may change their places again as it is usual for the Cuddapah and Proddatur taluks to bring large extents under dry season or second-crop indigo. It is also a point worth consideration in this connection that the Canal Revenue Inspectors are still going on with their "azmoish" or inspection and measurements, and that the completion of their "azmoish" work is also expected to produce alterations in the figures now given, the general result of "azmoish" being the discovery of surreptitious cases and some increase in consequence. Even in cases where water is duly applied for, it is often noticed that ryots generally choose to apply for water for smaller extents than what they eventually and actually take water for, so that "azmoish" by Canal Revenue Inspectors often results in increase also from this cause.

8. Turning to villagewar particulars, it will be observed that, compared with the first-crop figures of fasli 1305, all the first ten villages of the Ramallakot taluk show increase, whereas Kurnool which used to appear as a nominal canal village down to fasli 1306 ceased to be a canal village, the pipe system for supply of filtered water to the town for drinking purposes having been introduced; and, with it, the old subterranean channels which used to take down unfiltered water to the town for drinking purposes, as also for irrigating small topes in the backyards of houses, &c., having been abandoned. In the Nandikotkur taluk there are altogether 45 canal villages including the three appertaining to His Highness the Nizam; and, of these, only six show decrease; but the decrease is small in the case of five villages and calls for no explanation. The heavy decrease of acres 203 appearing against Pamulapad is nominal, and seems due to the block lands of the

village having not been brought to account by the karnam by the end of December pending "azmoish" of the village by the Canal Revenue Inspector. Of the thirty canal villages of the Nandyal taluk, it will be seen that only two show decrease, and the decrease is small in both the cases. In the Sirvel taluk, the canal villages are thirty-six in number; and, of these, only three show decrease. The decrease against Nallagatla is small and calls for no remarks, and that appearing against Kotakandukur and Rampally, which is acres 90 and acres 47, respectively, is expected to be partly made up when the "azmoish" of the villages due yet by the end of December last is finished by the Canal Revenue Inspector of the taluk. There are eleven canal villages in the Koilkuntla taluk and only one of these shows a small decrease of acres 12. Of the seven canal villages of the Jammalamadugu taluk, Peddamudiyum alone shows a decrease of acres 147; but this extent represents a time-expired block land which, according to the old block rules, paid a minimum water-rate of one rupee an acre in the previous faslis and thus happened to be included in the figures for fasli 1305, and a similar charge will, of course, be made on the extent at the water-rate settlement of the current fasli, so that the decrease in this case also is nominal. The Proddatur taluk has thirty-one canal villages; and, of these, only one Annalur shows a small decrease of 21 acres. In the Cuddapah taluk, which is the last under the canal, the number of canal villages is twenty-nine; and, of these, only six show decrease. The decrease appearing against four out of these six is trifling, and that appearing against Tudumuladinne and Chennur, which is acres 68 and acres 122, respectively, is expected to be made up when the "azmoish" of the villages is completed by the Canal Revenue Inspector.

9. In taking a previous year for comparison in paragraphs 6 to 8 *supra*, fasli 1305 was taken omitting the immediately preceding fasli 1306, since the latter was a regular famine year when canal water was very extensively taken for dry crops resulting in abnormally high first-crop figures, and comparison with such abnormal figures is considered redundant.

Ratewar comparison of the current year's irrigation up to the end of December last with the actual irrigation of fasli 1306 (1896-97).

10. The subjoined statement compares the extents of the current fasli down to the end of December last with the actual figures of fasli 1306 (1896-97) according to crops of different rates,

[illegible]

• Compounded.

It will be seen from the above statement that the variations in the different canal taluks under the Rs. 6 rate crops are small the result of comparison being a net decrease of acres 23·86 in the Kurnool district and of acres 7·78 in the Cuddapah district, or a total net decrease of acres 31·64 under the entire length of the canal; and even this decrease is expected to be more than made up before the close of the current fasli. Under the Rs. 4-rate, which represents first crop good paddy, only the Nandyal and Cuddapah taluks show a decrease of acres 112·93 and acres 360·46, respectively; but even these deficiencies will be made up when the Canal Revenue Inspectors complete their "azmoish" or inspection and measurement. It will be observed that, under this rate, there is a net increase of acres 788·49 in the Kurnool district and a net decrease of acres 73·17 in the Cuddapah district, the result when the entire length of the canal is taken being a net increase of acres 715·32 and the taluks which chiefly contributed to this increase are Nandikótkur, Proddatur, Sirvel and Rámallakót in the order of their mention. Under the Rs. 3-rate crops, which mean the "bagayet" or garden crops and second-crop paddy, the Rámallakót, Nandikótkur and Nandyal taluks of the Kurnool district and all the three taluks of the Cuddapah district show decrease; but the decrease in the case of the Kurnool district canal taluks and of Jammalamadugu of the Cuddapah district is small and is expected to be more than made up before the close of the fasli. The decrease appearing against the Proddatur and Cuddapah taluks is acres 992·78 and acres 2,130·21, respectively, and it is mainly due to the dry season indigo and other "bagayet" crops usually raised in those taluks rather extensively, subsequent to December having yet to be included in the current year's figures. Should the supply of water in the canal during the second half of the current fasli be at least what it was last year, even the above decrease in the Proddatur and Cuddapah taluks will, I feel sure, be more than made up. Under the Rs. 2-rate or the coarse "mundla" or tailed paddy, which is to be found in six out of the eight canal taluks, only the Nandyal taluk shows a decrease of acres 85·08, the net increase in the case of the Kurnool district being acres 235·89 and in the Cuddapah district acres 50·49. Under the Re. 1-rate, which means dry crops irrigated, all the eight canal taluks naturally and necessarily show decrease when the comparison is with a famine year like 1306, and it is consequently needless to institute any comparison under this rate between the figures of the current fasli and of fasli 1306. It is mainly under this rate that fasli 1306 showed abnormally high figures and it is, moreover, a rate the extents under which generally fluctuate more or less even in normal years.

11. Calculating on the extents irrigated down to the end of December last and

The probable water-rate revenue of the canal in the current fasli from *direct* irrigation.

* Extent.	Rate.	Amount.
ACS.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
279·31	6 0 0	1,675 13 9
10·58	9 0 0	95 3 6
16,869·01	4 0 0	67,476 0 8
573·71	6 0 0	3,442 4 2
8,856·25	3 0 0	26,568 12 0
237·63	4 8 0	1,069 5 4
3,236·80	2 0 0	6,473 9 7
133·69	3 0 0	401 1 1
7,644·41	1 0 0	7,644 6 7
1,102·95	1 8 0	1,654 6 10
38,944·34	..	1,16,500 15 6

12. During the half-year under report, seed ground-nut for about 10 acres was

Cultivation of experimental crops in the Kurnool district.

villages of the Kurnool district with instructions as to how to raise the crop as a "bagayet" crop with the aid of canal water. Of the ryots to whom seed ground-nut was so distributed, some 22 have carried on experiments on about 7 acres of land, and the crops which are yet standing are as under:—

shown in the enclosed statement, the probable water-rate revenue earned by the canal from *direct* irrigation during the first-half of the current fasli comes to Rs. 1,16,500-15-6 as detailed in the margin * and to this amount another Rs. 13,500 may, I think, be expected to be added during the second half of the fasli, so that the total water-rate revenue of the canal from *direct* irrigation in fasli 1307 will be about Rs. 1,30,000 against Rs. 1,02,486-5-2 of fasli 1305 and Rs. 1,67,647-15-2 of fasli 1306, or Rs. 58,000 more than the average of the eleven years ending fasli 1298 (1888-89).

Taluk.	Village.	Number of experiments.	Approximate extent.	Nature of soil.	Condition of crop.
Rámallakót	Nidazur	1	ACS. 0·50	"Tuvva" or Sandy.	Good.
	Munagalapad	1	0·20	Do.	Middle.
	Kallur	1	0·20	Do.	Poor from neglect.
	Padidempad, hamlet of Rudravaram.	2	1·30	Do.	Good.
	Allur	1	1·40	Do.	Do.
	Vellala	2	0·20	Mixed	Middle.
Nandikótkur	Virapuram	3	0·65	Do.	Do.
	Ganapavaram	2	1·00	Reddish	One good the other bad.
	Pagidyal	1	0·10	Do.	Came on well but neglected by the ryot.
	Jupad	1	0·20	Soft reddish soil	Good.
	Valpunur	1	0·50	Mixed	Failed.
	Regadigudur	1	0·20	Do.	Do.
Nandyal	Korrapalur	1	0·13	Blackish	Do.
	Bojanam	1	0·20	Sandy	Moderate, neglected.
	Santajatur	1	0·02	Do.	Good.
	Kottapalli	2	0·10	Reddish	Moderate.
	Total	22	6·90		

Some of the ryots who tried the experiments, notwithstanding clear instructions given them on the subject, put down the crop rather late, and that seems to be the reason why one case in Ganapavaram is bad, while the other in the same village is tolerably good. The instructions given to ryots about the method of raising the crop, &c., are based mainly on replies obtained by me from the Tahsildars of the taluks of (1) Tirukkóyilúr, (2) Cuddalore, (3) Tindivanam, (4) Villupuram, (5) Kallakurchi, and (6) Vriddhachalam of the South Arcot district, where the crop seems to be extensively grown both as an irrigated crop and as rainfed; and, at the same time, I have also got with me a copy of Mr. C. K. Subba Row's Bulletin No. 28. The reason why, although I had the Bulletin with me, I addressed the Tahsildars of the chief ground-nut-growing taluks of the South Arcot district on the subject and got their replies to a set of queries put to them by me, was, I thought, I had better collect from them information as to the practical method or methods now in vogue there touching the kinds of soil used, the manures applied, the time and method of sowing the seed, weeding and other operations following, &c., and, although it was generally stated that "tuvva" or sandy loam is the best for its cultivation and next to it come soft red or reddish soils, the Tahsildar of Tindivanam says that it can be successfully raised even on black cotton soils. All the ryots that offer to carry on experiments do not unfortunately pay the same amount of care and attention to the experiments throughout, and this is chiefly why the condition of the crop ultimately happens to be good in some cases, and moderate or bad in others. The ryot who tried ground-nut on acres 1·40 at Allur this year told me that he would try the crop on 5 or 6 acres in fasli 1308 with his own seed; and, as to obtain seed from remote districts will be unnecessarily costly, endeavours will be made to induce the ryots now experimenting to secure as much seed as possible from the current fasli outturns for use in the coming fasli, both by themselves and by others.

13. Like fasli 1306 the current fasli was also unfavourable for the cultivation of cummin seed in consequence of the almost continuous absence of rains from about the middle of October last; and, even in the Cuddapah district where it used to be extensively raised under the canal down to fasli 1305 (1895-96), it has been raised on a comparatively small and limited extent in the current fasli. The comparatively high prices ruling for food-grains and fodder during the half-year under report and the consequent tendency of ryots to prefer going in for grain crops, such as ragi, korra, &c., was also a reason to some extent for cummin seed extent being comparatively less in the Cuddapah district in the current fasli. Even the crop put down there seems to have been attacked with disease in several places. In the Kurnool district, only a dozen individuals tried experiments in cummin seed this year on about 8 acres

in all notwithstanding the unfavourable nature of the season for its cultivation, and here also the crop was attacked with disease; and the best case is said to have yielded an outturn of about 10 maunds an acre which means about Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 in money. In normal seasons the best outturn of the crop ranges from 20 to 25 maunds an acre, and it rarely reaches even 30 maunds; but dryness of season and absence or deficiency of chills seem generally to affect the crop and bring on diseases for it.

14. Considering the rather high prices ruling for paddy, the ryots of Kottapalli and other places who used to try dry season or second-crop indigo in the Kurnool district in the last two faslis went in for second-crop paddy this year on a more extensive scale than in any of the previous years, utilizing even the indigo lands of the previous years for paddy; and there is thus no likelihood of their trying dry season indigo this year in the Kurnool district. In fact, indigo seems to have had very little attraction for the agricultural classes in the current fasli; and, as far as my enquiries and observation go, the extent under that crop has considerably fallen off even as a rain-fed crop in villages along the canal. The raising of second-crop or dry season indigo under the canal in the Cuddapah district depends of course on how the ryots found the supply of water in the canal within the limits of the Proddatur and Cuddapah taluks from and after February last.

15. The subjoined statement shows the total extent of waste lands under the canal granted to individuals from different parts of the Presidency under the old and the amended block rules since the creation of the special office:—

Where the waste land is situated.			Extent granted.	Particulars about the block applicants.	
District.	Taluk.	Village.		Name.	District to which he belongs.
Kurnool	Nandikotkur	1. Pudur	10-20	Subbayya	Kurnool.
Do.	Do.	2. Pamulapad	209-20	Ramasubba Iyer	Do.
Do.	Do.	3. Bhanumukkala	270-71	Narayana Iyer alias Nanu Sastri	Tinnevelly.
Do.	Do.	4. Do.	17-56	R. Narasimha Iyer	Tanjore.
Do.	Do.	5. Do.	17-63	Ramasubba Iyer	Tinnevelly.
Do.	Do.	6. Do.	12-31	R. Narasimha Iyer	Do.
Do.	Do.	7. Allur	13-79	Virigadu	Do.
Do.	Do.	8. Rudravaram	11-8	Rami Reddi	Kurnool.
Do.	Do.	9. Korrapolur	39-83	Venkatraju and Sangaraju	Do.
Do.	Nandyal	10. Pesaravayi	71-35	Srinivasa Row	Godavari.
		District total	673-66		Tinnevelly.
Cuddapah.	Proddatur	11. Madur	335-36	Ganapathi Rangasawmi and Co.	Vizagapatam and Tanjore.
Do.	Do.	12. Do.	40-33	Natesa Iyer	Tanjore.
Do.	Do.	13. Maidukur	121-51	Audimulam Mudaliar	Kistna.
Do.	Do.	14. Badripalli	54-44	Lakshminarayana Sastri	Tinnevelly.
Do.	Do.	15. Do.	37-41	Mr. Howell	Cuddapah.
Do.	Do.	16. Do.	158-19	Nawab Nizam-ud-dowla Rustumja, Nawab of Bander.	Madras.
Do.	Do.	17. Velavali	81-28	P. Venkayya and others	Godavari.
Do.	Do.	18. Do.	30-11	S. Chinnabbi and others	Cuddapah.
Do.	Do.	19. Do.	15-46	Subbadu and four others	Do.
Do.	Do.	20. Chiyapad	42-60	Ramaswami Iyer	Tanjore.
Do.	Do.	21. Chintakunta	36-50	Gopalaswami Iyer	Do.
Do.	Do.	22. Alladupalli	279-50	Tsalla Nagayya and five others	Cuddapah.
Do.	Cuddapah	23. Tudumladinne	81-15	Nawab Nizam-ud-dowla Rustumja, Nawab of Bander.	Madras.
Do.	Do.	24. Do.	102-12	Gopala Iyer and others	Tinnevelly.
Do.	Do.	25. Do.	14-71	Seshadrinatha Iyer	Do.
Do.	Do.	26. Yetur	41-72	Korathalwar Iyengar	Madras.
Do.	Do.	27. Tavvaripalli	86-93	Appaswami Iyengar	Chingleput.
		District total	1,559-32		
		Canal total	2,232-98		

16. Of the 27 blocks mentioned in the above statement, work was going on during the current fasli on blocks Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 24 and 26; and particulars of work done or of crops raised and their estimated

outturns will be furnished in the fasli report, i.e., in the report for the half-year ending June next. The holders of blocks Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19 have been working with their own bullocks, while those of blocks Nos. 14, 15, 17, 24 and 26 used hired bulls. The holder of block No. 3 being single handed and a man apparently not of much substance recently transferred half of his block to a well-to-do individual of Tinnevelly, who intends commencing work from the next fasli; and block No. 7 was only recently granted and work will be begun on it also from the next fasli. Block No. 9 was taken up in the current fasli by two Kshatria ryots of the Godavari district, and they have written to me to say that they would come and commence work from fasli 1308. Block No. 10 was originally taken up by one Venkataramana Iyer of Tinnevelly, who, after spending nearly a couple of hundreds of rupees on it towards its clearance, &c., transferred it to another individual of the same district; and the latter has now come here to arrange for its cultivation from fasli 1308. Nos. 16 and 23 are blocks recently taken up by Nawab Nizam-ud-dowla Rustumja, Nawab of Bander, who writes to say that he intends bringing in some families of ryots from his jaghires in the Banganapalle estate and getting the block lands cultivated by them from the next fasli. In addition to these two blocks the Nawab has acquired by transfer also block No. 24 of Tudumladinne from its former holders. Blocks Nos. 20 and 21 were only recently taken up by the individuals mentioned against them and they had hardly time to prepare the lands and raise any crops on them in the current fasli. I believe work will be commenced on them from the next fasli. No. 22 is a big block very recently granted to a set of ryots of shrotriem Lingaladinne of the Proddatur taluk, who finding the rates of assessment charged by their shrotriendar exorbitantly high and oppressive, and finding also the lifting of water from the shrotriem wells, the supply in which is itself precarious at times, difficult and expensive, resolved to take up the block in question and cultivate it from and inclusive of fasli 1308, shifting themselves from the shrotriem altogether with all their belongings, and building houses on the block itself and settling down upon it; and, although the actual applicants for the block are only six, at least some twenty families of ryots in all are expected to come and settle themselves upon and cultivate this block. Blocks Nos. 25 and 27 were taken up by the individuals set against them, the former in fasli 1306 and the latter in the current fasli; but, considering the indifference subsequently shown by their holders, I am afraid these two blocks making up a total of 101-64 acres may be relinquished by them for fasli 1308.

17. Besides the above blocks already granted, applications received for another extent of 352-17 acres as detailed below are pending disposal, being under correspondence with other offices and they will be disposed of in due course:—

Applicant's name.	Where the land is situated.		Extent applied for.
	Taluk.	Village.	
A. Thirumala Row and others.	Nandikotkur	Allur	10-55
Saraf Razalli Khan	Do.	Muchumarri	101-8
P. Venkayya	Proddatur	Dhoor	25-42
R. Seshachari and others	Do.	Alladupalli	137-81
Umaphathi	Cuddapah	Yetur	64-55
Tiruvengkatachari	Do.	Tavvaripalli	12-76
		Total	352-17

18. A notice announcing the existence of irrigable waste lands under this canal and mentioning also the fact that they will be granted under the concessional block rules to applicants having capital at command and desirous of taking up and cultivating them has, subsequent to the creation of the special office, already been got published once in the Gazettes of all the districts in the Presidency, together with translations thereof in the respective vernaculars of the districts; and, at the same time, printed villagewar and fieldwar lists of waste lands available under the canal have also been got struck off at the District Presses of Kurnool and Cuddapah, respectively, and copies thereof supplied to the Collectors of the different districts for supply to important ryots and individuals in their districts; and it was only after

the publication of the said notice that applicants came from different districts and inspected the available waste lands and took up the blocks specified in the statement given in paragraph 15 *supra*, and that other applications are coming in. Now that it is about a couple of years since the above notice was got published, steps will be taken to have the notice similarly published once more.

19. No doubt, some thousands of acres of irrigable waste are yet available under the canal here and there in the Kurnool district, but a large portion of the extent is unfortunately of a nature rather unfit for cultivation, being either rocky or hard and gravelly; and, besides the 2,500 and odd acres of land which has already been selected and applied for by applicants from different quarters since the creation of the special office, there may be in all a total extent of from 1,500 to 2,000 acres more of soft and tolerably good cultivable waste yet available under the canal; but it will be in rather small blocks for the most part and not in big compact blocks coming up to hundreds of acres in any one place.

20. As already expressed by the Board in paragraph 6 of its Proceedings, No. 58, dated the 5th February last (R. S., L. R. and Agri.), it is too early now to form an opinion as to the suitability or otherwise of the revised block rules, they having come into force only in the latter part of fasli 1306.

As stated above in paragraphs 15 and 17, people are coming in and taking up available blocks here and there; and, although the endeavours of all the block-holders cannot naturally be expected to be attended with equal success, I feel sure that some of them at least will stick up to their blocks with continued zeal and interest and succeed in turning their blocks into paying concerns. The holders of the big blocks of Pamulapad (209.20 acres) and Madur (335.36 acres), Nos. 2 and 11 in the statement given in paragraph 15 *supra*, have been working with zeal and some system, and I do not think they would fail; and, among the other big blocks, I expect great and early success to attend block No. 22 (279.50 acres) of Alladupalli, where about twenty families of ryots themselves are to go and settle on the block itself and cultivate it with irrigated garden and other crops from the beginning of fasli 1308. As regards the three blocks Nos. 16, 23 and 24 (158.19, 81.15 and 102.12 acres, respectively) acquired by the Nawab of Bander, it remains to be seen how far he will fulfil his promise to bring in a number of families from his jaghire villages in the Banganapalle estate and settle them on the blocks which, he says, he will do from fasli 1308; and, if he succeeds in doing that, I feel sure success will attend those blocks also. The case of block No. 17 of Velavali (81.28 acres) taken up by certain ryots of the Gódavari district is also a hopeful one. I am sorry, however, that the holder of block No. 13 of Maidukur (121.51 acres) seems rather unfortunate, inasmuch as, although he well cleared and ploughed up about half the extent of his block and partly manured it and although he has been raising different crops on it both wet and dry for the last two years, his endeavours have not yet been attended with proportionate success, some unforeseen accident or other, such as a heavy fall of rain immediately after irrigation of his crops, or want of water in the canal at a time when he badly wanted it for his second-crop or dry season indigo occurring, and seriously affecting the outturn of his crops. He must have spent at least from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 in connection with his block, and even now he maintains three pairs of bullocks of his own with which he works on the block; and my own humble opinion is that such rare cases of failure require sympathetic consideration and encouragement from the local officers in the shape of remission of even the dry assessment for the first few years of *proved* failure. Over and beyond sympathetic consideration and encouragement from local officers in working them, say in the first five years and of course only in well-known and deserving cases and under reasonable circumstances, the revised block rules do not at present seem to my humble mind to call for any suggestions for their improvement; and, in fact, it would be difficult to say in what respects they require improvement till after the fifth year when the term for compulsory payment of half the wet rate on the entire extent of the block commences.

21. As regards irrigation under the channel given by the Public Works Department for blocks Nos. 23 and 24 of Tudumuladinne of the Cuddapah taluk and referred to in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 880, dated the 7th February last, I beg to

submit that, as already stated in paragraph 5 of my letter No. 246 of 10th November 1897, canal water was taken in the current fasli for about 20 acres of the blocks; and what irrigation there will be under this channel in the coming fasli 1308 will be duly mentioned in the half-yearly reports for that fasli. It will be observed that these two are among the blocks recently acquired by the Nawab of Bander; and, as already stated above, it is for these and for the Badripalli block No. 16 that he proposes to get ryots from his jaghire villages in the Banganapalle estate and bring the block under cultivation from the next fasli.

22. I have already stated in paragraph 17 of my last half-yearly report, No. 261, dated 3rd December last, that the wet and famine insurance lists required by the Public Works Department were prepared for 96 villages in all; and since then the lists of 25 more villages have been prepared thus making a total of 121 villages up to date; and, of the lists thus ready, those for 116 villages have already been handed over to the special Sub-divisional officer for the fields being duly coloured on village plans as required by the Superintending Engineer.

Endorsement by the Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated 31st March 1898.

Forwarded.

Endorsement by the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 6th April 1893.

Forwarded.

Resolution—No. 210, dated 17th June 1898.

With the endorsements read above, the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah forward the report of the Special Deputy Collector, Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal, for the half-year ending 31st December 1897.

2. The Deputy Collector spent 161 days in camp, out of 184 days in the half-year.

3. In discussing the progress of irrigation, the Deputy Collector has compared the areas irrigated up to 31st December in the current fasli with those irrigated during the entire year in the two previous faslis. Such a comparison must be misleading. The following statement shows the extents brought under irrigation in the current fasli up to the 31st December last in comparison with the areas irrigated during corresponding periods in the two previous faslis:—

District.	Taluk.	Extent in		
		fasli 1305 up to the end of December 1895.	fasli 1306 up to the end of December 1896.	fasli 1307 up to the end of December 1897.
		ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Kurnool	Ramallakot	1,578	2,658	2,982
	Nandikotkur	4,895	24,616	8,312
	Nandyal	3,144	12,065	4,576
	Sirvel	3,462	11,849	6,700
	Koilkuntla	356	5,167	639
	District total	13,435	56,355	23,209
Cuddapah	Jammalamadugu	156	486	141
	Proddatur	5,573	8,632	7,995
	Cuddapah	7,020	7,943	7,599
	District total	12,749	17,061	15,735
	Canal total	26,184	73,416	38,944

4. The figures for the current year, though showing a large decrease as compared with those for the corresponding period in 1896, are much higher than those for 1895. The decrease as compared with 1896 is due to the exceptional failure of rains in that year which induced ryots to avail themselves largely of canal irrigation. The increase as compared with fasli 1305 must also to some extent be due to a similar cause, as the rainfall during the current fasli was very scanty from about the middle of October.

5. *Experimental Cultivation of Special Crops—Ground-nut.*—The Deputy Collector states that he procured seed from North Arcot and instructed the ryots as to the method of raising the crop, obtaining the necessary information from the Tahsildars of those taluks in South Arcot, in which the crop is extensively grown. The cultivation of ground-nut is reported to have been experimentally carried on by 22 ryots on about 7 acres of land scattered in 16 villages in the Kurnool district. It is stated that the crops were all standing on the ground at the close of the year and were generally in fair condition.

Cummin Seed.—There was a considerable falling off in the extent to which cultivation of cummin seed was carried on, only 12 ryots having tried the cultivation on 8 acres, against 100 ryots on about 75 acres in the preceding year. The Deputy Collector attributes the falling off to continuous absence of rains from about the middle of October and the preference shown by ryots for food crops in consequence of the high prices secured for them. For the same reasons there was a decrease also in the cultivation of dry-season indigo.

6. The extent of waste lands granted under the block rules in both the districts during the half-year was 383.47 acres. Besides this extent, the Deputy Collector states that applications have been received for an aggregate area of 352.17 acres. The Deputy Collector's report does not show how much of the area granted has been brought under cultivation.

7. The lists of fields proposed to be classed as wet or to be charged with famine insurance rates were completed for 25 villages in the half-year, raising the total number of villages completed, to 121. The number of villages in which there is irrigation under the canal being 197 according to the Deputy Collector's present report, there remain 76 villages for which the lists have still to be prepared.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with statement in original.

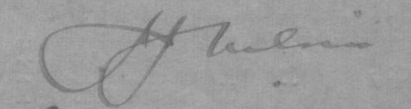
Copy to the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah
(Divisional officers—Tahsildars).
" " Special Deputy Collector, Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal.
" " Land Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 467, Revenue, dated 23rd August 1898.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded. ✓

(True Extract.)


for Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records, and Agriculture) with statement.
" the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" the Public Works Department (Irrigation Branch).

Exd. Shaik Karim.

70 Copies.