

Political (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 504

Dated 30. 7. 97.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Proceedings, Rev. Depts, on Board's
Proceedings Submitting to Govt. fortnightly
narrative of the Kurnool District for the period
ending 15th June '97, in which it is reported
that the subjects of the Nawab of the Banga-
Napalle state applying for admission to
Govt. famine works are freely admitted.

3/9/97

[illegible]

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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G.O., No. 568, 13th July 1897.

JULY.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording, with remark, Board's Proceedings submitting to Government — of the Kurnool District for the period ending 15th June 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 30th June 1897, No. 477:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool district during the period ending 15th June 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply.—

	INCHES.
Rainfall during the period	1.19
Rainfall up to the period from 1st April 1897	3.20
Average rainfall expected during the period	1.87
Average rainfall expected up to the period from 1st April	3.51

There was good rain at Pyápali (3.25 inches), and Koilkuntla (2.64 inches), and Pattikonda, Atmakúru, Nandyal, and Allagadda each had a fall of over one inch, which is reported to have been general throughout the affected tracts. In the eastern and north-central sections, the unaffected parts of the district, the quantity measured was less than half an inch.

Water-supply—Eastern and north-central sections.—There was sufficient water for drinking, though not for irrigation.

South-central section.—Scarcity of water was felt in the Owk range of the Koilkuntla taluk and in parts of the Sirvel taluk. There was, however, a decided improvement in the supply in most places in this section.

Western section—Pattikonda taluk—There having been about 5 inches of rain throughout between 20th ultimo and 10th instant, the supply was largely improved and there was no longer any great difficulty anywhere for drinking water. Several irrigation tanks received a fair supply.

Ramallakot taluk.—Matters were not so favourable in this taluk, but still there was a slight increase in the water available for drinking.

There were freshes in the Hendri, which flows through this section for several days during the period.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—The preparation of the ground for cultivation continued all over the district. Sowings were restricted almost entirely to the red-soil villages of the affected taluks. In the Pyápali range of the Pattikonda taluk, where there had been early sowings of cholam, the young plants were thriving. The only other standing crops consisting of scattered patches of cultivation under wells and streams were in good condition.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder continued to be sufficient in the eastern and north-central sections and to be generally very scarce elsewhere. Pasture was rapidly improving in the red-soil villages where there was fair rain, but was still practically nil in other regions. No improvement in the state of the cattle can be looked for at present, though the growth of pasture, especially in the now-thrown-open-forest reserves, should afford some relief at an early date.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The monsoon may be said to have fairly set in, and, taking into consideration the reports of further rain received since the close of the fortnight, the season must be considered for the present to be favourable. All anxiety about the drinking-water supply has passed away. Steps to sink temporary wells and to deepen existing wells by the removal of silt continued to be taken

in several villages, famine labour coming in very useful for this purpose in several instances. There was little or no demand for the paddy straw imported from Guntur in spite of the fact that it is readily eaten by the cattle of this district. I spent two days at Dhone in hopes of inducing the ryots of the neighbouring villages to make purchases, but though a number came in and looked at the fodder, hardly any one was willing to buy at Rs. 12-8-0 a ton; the people appear to be under the impression that if they hold off long enough, the price will be greatly reduced, and as they have had fair warning that such will not be the case, arrangements are being made for despatching the straw to Guntakal, where a demand for it is said to exist. Cattle owners are beginning to drive their animals into the forest reserves in large numbers, and I would strongly urge that the concession regarding free-grazing which, under existing orders, will shortly expire, be extended up to the end of July.

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 June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cholam.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	Last fort-night.	This fort-night.	
1. Pattikonda ..	7.56	7.56	15.59	15.59	12.36	12.36	15.00	15.00	The prices of rice and cumbu are stationary, while that of ragi is falling in Koilkuntla and Allagadda. In the case of cholam, the prices are rising at Nandikotkur and Allagadda but falling at Atmakúru, Nandyal, Kalwa and Koilkuntla.
2. Pyápali ..	7.53	7.53	15.26	15.26	12.36	12.36	12.80	12.80	
3. Kurnool town ..	8.58	8.58	15.48	15.48	12.33	12.33	11.25	11.25	
4. Nandikotkur ..	9.29	9.29	..	..	13.70	13.01	..	..	
5. Atmakúru ..	9.29	9.29	..	..	13.01	13.70	..	..	
6. Nandyal ..	9.28	9.28	..	15.48	13.01	13.35	..	..	
7. Kalwa ..	8.58	8.58	..	..	12.33	13.01	..	..	
8. Koilkuntla ..	9.96	9.96	13.50	15.00	12.00	12.24	..	..	
9. Owk ..	9.96	9.96	15.00	15.00	11.85	11.85	..	..	
10. Allagadda ..	8.21	8.58	13.54	14.83	12.67	12.33	..	..	
11. Giddalur ..	8.72	8.72	15.00	15.00	14.22	14.22	11.60	11.60	
12. Markapur ..	8.30	8.30	16.50	16.50	..	..	12.32	12.32	
Average ..	8.77	8.80	14.98	15.35	12.71	12.80	12.59	12.59	

Activity of trade.—Trade was not so active as before, but food-grains were still being freely sold everywhere by the merchants.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—The condition of the relief workers throughout the district was, on the whole, very fair. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer inspected some of the works and his opinion of the state of the health of the people is shown below:—

Work.	State of health.
Luddagiri	All gangs fair; 6.1 per cent. of the workers were in poor condition.
Karivemula	Twenty-three gangs fair, four gangs indifferent, that is, between fair and low; 12.5 per cent. of the workers were in poor condition.
Moolagundum	Thirty-eight gangs fair, two gangs indifferent; 9.1 per cent. of the workers were in poor condition.
Gonegandla	All gangs fair; 8.7 per cent. of the workers were in poor condition.
Belagal	Thirty gangs fair, four gangs indifferent; 9.6 per cent. of the workers were in poor condition.
Penchikalapad	Forty-seven gangs fair, one gang indifferent; 7.9 per cent. of the workers were in poor condition.

In villages.—The condition of the people was good in the eastern and north-central sections and fair in the north, central and western sections. I have arranged for the repairs of certain tanks to be put in hand as ordinary works to afford employment for the people in the north-east corner of the Nandyal taluk reported by the Head Assistant Collector to be in a state bordering on distress. It is hoped that if the season continues favourable no more regular relief works will be required.

There were 25 Circle Inspectors at work in the five affected taluks at the end of the fortnight, and the increase in the number of persons in receipt of grain doles was satisfactory.

Banganapalle State.—All subjects of the Nawab applying for admission to our works are freely admitted.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

No deaths from starvation were reported. The general health continued to be exceptionally good.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Pattikonda	30,787	27,215	The decline in the figures relating to the Pattikonda taluk is due to the commencement of sowing in many places owing to good rain.
Ramallakot	9,688	12,177	
Nandyal	9,348	10,109	
Koilkuntla	25,126	28,473	
Sirvel	12,576	14,129	
Total ..	87,525	92,103	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise :—

Taluku.	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.
Pattikonda	1,658	1,867	449	351	..	..	402 {	* 673 1,448
Ramallakot	463	355	20	20	..	..	471 {	704 3,012
Nandikotkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	580 {	330 ..
Nandyal	393	547	51	264	..	..	1,246 {	199 2,591
Koilkuntla	1,035	855	207	124	..	..	1,133 {	2,067 2,858
Sirvel	1,019	641	30	16	..	..	159 {	830 1,426
Total ..	4,568	4,265	757	775	..	..	3,991 {	4,803 11,335

* The first set of figures in this column represents the number of persons fed in village kitchens and the second set those in receipt of grain doles.

† The figures given under this head are for kitchens attached to the relief works.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Pattikonda	27	55	3,182	2,422	9,245	23,983
Ramallakot	21	89	1,675	1,519	3,920	9,214
Nandikotkur	3	3	..	..	..	..
Nandyal	37	90	..	..	..	..
Koilkuntla	20	82	1,106	1,146	490	944
Sirvel	22	80	479	489	697	945
Total ..	130	399	6,442	5,576	14,352	35,086

* The figure given in the last fortnightly narrative wrongly excluded the cloths manufactured in the Kurnool town.

Private charity.—Nil.

General Remarks.

There are complaints of insufficiency of establishment from almost every office in the district owing to the withdrawal of a large number of clerks on Rs. 15 a month for employment as paymasters on works. It is found almost impossible to fill up the vacancies so caused as, under the provision added last year to article 110 of the Civil Service Regulations, it is only when the temporary appointment or deputation is to last for six months or more that sub. *pro tem.* promotions may be granted in the place of an officer holding a temporary appointment or on deputation within the meaning of article 94, and in consequence but half the pay of the vacant posts, or Rs. 7-8-0 a month, is available for acting men in the majority of cases. I suggest that steps be taken for the temporary relaxation of the above-mentioned provision, so that the full pay of the vacant post may invariably be available for persons appointed to act in low-paid appointments for others employed on famine duty.

* Figures not reported. Explanation called for.

Taluks and places visited—Collector.—I was on tour for six days during the fortnight and visited the following :—

Ramallakṣī Taluk.—Dhone, Nágálápuram, Banchikalapad, Gorantla, Laddagiri, Erradoddi and Amadagunta.

Pattikonda Taluk.—Kaverimula, Varuku, Kodumur and Mudumalagulti.

The Head Assistant Collector was on tour throughout the fortnight in the Nandyal taluk and inspected the following villages, checking the work of the Circle Inspectors:—

Chinnasettipalli, Kalwa Hussainpuram, Kottala, Konthalapad, Guttapad, Oravakal, Tipayapalli, Sekumala, Brahmanapalli, Chenakapalli, Manchalakatta, Gani, Gadi Nemula, Bilakalagudur, Budanur, Grandha Vamula, Chindaku, Gorakallur Rasulabad, Durvesi, Koratamaddi, Tirripad, Gadigarevula, Yerraguntla, Kakanur, Bandiatmakur, Karimeddula, Paramattur, Santajutur, Lingapuram, Narayanapuram, China Devalapuram, Peda Devalapuram, Galichannayapalam, Ramapuram, Singavaram, Emipad and Kadamalakalwa.

The Deputy Collector of Pyápali division was on tour throughout the fortnight and inspected the following places:—

Fattikonda Taluk.—Kodumur and Varukur.

Ramallakot Taluk.—Panchikalapad, Nágálápúram, Salkapuram, Peddapad, Kallur and Kurnool.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector was in camp for one day in the fortnight and visited—

Chelimalla, Jutur, Bannur, Jupad, Mandlem, Nandikotkur, Bokavaram, Brahmanakotkur, and Gadidemadugu.

The Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division inspected the following places :—

Nagireddipalli, Racherla, Somedevipalli, Thoticherla, Giddalur, Makshagandam, Palakavid and Thimmapuram.

Resolution—dated 30th June 1897, No. 477.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall, though below the average for the district, was fair in the affected parts generally, and good in Pyápali and Koilkuntla. This fall, together with what fell at the close of May, has relieved anxiety about drinking-water.

Preparations were made throughout the district for early sowings, but actual sowings were restricted to the red-soil villages. In the latter villages, too, pasture began to revive, and this, with the opening of the forest-reserves, decidedly brightened the outlook for cattle, though immediate improvement is not to be looked for. The Collector has been informed that the concession regarding free-grazing will be continued until pasture resumes its normal condition. Imported fodder having found no market in the district, stocks have been removed to Bellary and Anantapur. It is possible that, owing to the closer proximity of large forest reserves, the want of food for cattle is not felt so keenly in Kurnool as in the districts further west. Prospects during the fortnight brightened decidedly, but, owing to the subsequent cessation of the rains, the fate of the season is still a matter for conjecture.

3. Prices were steady, with a slight tendency to fall in parts. Their comparative positions are shown below:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.			
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Cumbu.
Normal	13.2	32.0	30.0	28.0
Warning	10.6	24.0	22.5	21.0
Scarcity	7.9	16.0	15.0	14.0
Current	8.8	15.3	12.8	12.6
June 1892	9.2	15.1	14.4	12.9
June 1877	6.4	7.4	7.0	7.7

Trade was slackening, but markets were amply supplied.

4. The Collector reports that the condition of relief-workers throughout the district was, on the whole, very fair. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer found from 6 to 12½ per cent. of the workers on six works to be in poor condition. The numbers on works increased by 5 per cent., in spite of a considerable falling off in Pattikonda, due to the commencement of sowing in many places owing to good rain. The administration of village relief was pushed forward with vigour, the numbers relieved being quadrupled during the fortnight.

5. The difficulty, pointed out by the Collector, of obtaining men to take up sub. *pro tem.* appointments on half pay, during the absence of the permanent incumbents on famine duty, is undoubtedly real, and the Famine Commissioner strongly supports the suggestion of the Collector to relax the provisions of the Civil Service Regulations in the case of men appointed to act in low-paid positions, while the permanent men are on famine duty.

6. Loans were disbursed as follows:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount.
	RS.
May 29	91,089
June 5	1,05,939
" 12	1,07,296
" 19	1,25,384

The work during the second week of June was not as good as it should have been. Applications for four lakhs still remain to be disposed of, but it is possible that, if the improvement in the season continues, much of this will not be required.

7. The Collector should visit Cumbum and Markapur, and satisfy himself as to the condition of the working classes in those taluks. There is some anxiety regarding the Chintalapudi division of Gódvári, and, in view of the present unsatisfactory development of the south-west monsoon, the Collector of Kistna should watch his upland taluks.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Kurnool.
" " of Kistna.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 568, Revenue, dated 13th July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. Paragraph 5 will be transferred to the Financial Department for disposal.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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