

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

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G.O., No. 1277

Dated 4-12-96

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Revising Rev^d dept proceedings from orders
on ^{the} proposals of the Collector of Luddupah for
the additional establishment required in
connection with the relief works in Luddupah.

62/16
62/17

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C	1097	1896	

செப்பனிருபவர் பெயர்
செப்பனிருபவர்களின்
செப்பனிருபவர்களின்
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 3/96
செப்பனிருபவர்களின்
செப்பனிருபவர்களின்
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செப்பனிருபவர்களின்
செப்பனிருபவர்களின்

Government {1896} of Madras. REVENUE.

Recd. 25-11-1896. Enclosures
Regd. 25-11-1896. Spare copies — 4 of the current.

G.O., No. 615, 12th November 1896.

NOVEMBER.

Season.

Recording, with remarks, Board's Proceedings on the report of the Collector of the Cuddapah district on the prospects of the — in that district.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 31st October 1896, No. 302 :—

Read—again Proceedings, of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 13th October 1896, Mis. No. 4976.

ABSTRACT.—Calling for a report on the condition of the Cuddapah district.

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 23rd October 1896, Mis. No. 5187.

ABSTRACT.—Season—Reviewing cultivation return from Cuddapah for September 1896.

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 27th October 1896, Mis. No. 5264.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Collector of Cuddapah to arrange to start a test relief work in a part of the Pulivendla taluk where persons are reported to be living on one meal a day.

Read—also the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 29th October 1896, No. :—

With reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 4976, dated 13th October 1896, I have the honour to submit the following report on the state of the season and the agricultural prospects in this district.

2. The district is divided into three distinct sections with reference to their geographical position and physical features. The northern section consists of the taluks of Jammalamadugu, Pulivendla, Proddatur and Cuddapah. The eastern section consists of the three taluks of Badvel, Sidhout and Pullampet forming the Sidhout division and the southern section consists of the four taluks of the sub-division, viz., Rayachoti, Kadiri, Madanapalle and Vayalpad.

3. As the character of the different sections of the district varies with regard to soil, facilities for water-supply and agricultural practices, it will be misleading to deal with the district as a whole, and I therefore propose to describe the position in each section separately in the following paragraphs.

4. *Northern section—Rainfall.* This consists of the three taluks of the Jammalamadugu Deputy Collector's division and Cuddapah taluk. Rainfall is registered at five stations in this tract and the following table compares the rainfall since April 1896 to September 1896 with the average of twenty years from 1870—1889 and the rainfall of the corresponding period in the years 1891 to 1895 :—

Station.	Average rainfall for 20 years, 1870—89.	Rainfall from April to September 1891.	Rainfall from April to September 1892.	Rainfall from April to September 1893.	Rainfall from April to September 1894.	Rainfall from April to September 1895.	Average of five years.	Rainfall from April to September 1896.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Cuddapah	22.24	12.93	32.90	25.50	25.98	21.07	23.67	16.12
Kamalakuram	17.05	12.84	32.98	16.59	22.78	20.22	21.88	12.48
Proddatur	18.85	9.33	29.54	17.80	24.67	26.11	21.49	6.23
Jammalamadugu	14.34	9.03	23.99	10.99	19.98	15.14	15.82	7.89
Pulivendla	18.33	4.22	22.02	12.87	19.34	19.61	16.71	6.12

The above figures show that the rainfall during the south-west monsoon of the current year has been extremely deficient and particularly so in the taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. In Cuddapah taluk the showers in May and June were timely and sufficient, and materially helped the cultivation of dry crops. In July the rains held off, only 1.35 inches of rain having been registered at Cuddapah against an average of 3.86 inches. In August there was a moderate fall amounting to 5.31 inches against an average of 6.16 inches, but the deficiency in September was large, viz., 3.62 inches only having fallen against an average of 7.15 inches. In October 1896 there has been no rainfall up to date, the average due for the month being 6.82 inches. The remaining taluks were much less favoured than Cuddapah, the total quantity registered in the six months from April to September being less than half of what was due for the same period. There has been no rainfall worth mentioning in October and the quantity that may be expected in November and December, with reference to the average of the past years, is very little in this tract. The number of tanks in Cuddapah taluk is 70. There are 30 river channels and 59 spring channels besides 4,181 wells. The Kurnool-Cuddapah canal is a large protective work upon which the crops on over 10,000 acres of this taluk are dependent. At present there is little or no water in 60 tanks. Of the remaining 10 tanks only 7 (of which 4 are supplied by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal) contain a supply of one and a-half months. One tank contains two months' supply and the remaining two tanks contain 10 and 20 days' supply, respectively. As the rivers Papaghni and Pennar have not been in fresh often, the supply in the river and spring channels has diminished to a great extent; and the usual ayacut under them could not be brought under cultivation. The supply in wells is also going down. In the canal, the usual supply has not been let in and there having been, as the Board is aware, loud complaints in consequence, the Executive Engineer has been asked to see that as large a supply as he could arrange for it is let down to the Cuddapah end of the canal, the crops of which were showing signs of being starved. Of the remaining three taluks, Proddatur is also benefited by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal to the extent of 8,860 acres. In this taluk there are only 21 tanks, 9 river channels and 15 spring channels, besides 2,516 wells having separate ayacuts wet or dry, and 547 wells supplementing irrigation from other sources. Of the 21 tanks only 2 contain about a week's supply, the remaining 19 being all empty. In Jammalamadugu taluk there are 33 tanks, 20 river channels and 58 spring channels, in addition to 1,881 wells having independent ayacut and 83 wells serving as auxiliary sources of irrigation. Of the 33 tanks only two have 15 days' supply each, the rest being dry. In Pulivendla there is no water in any of the 69 tanks except one in the village of Mallela which contains a few days' supply. There are 24 river channels and 190 spring channels besides 2,613 wells having independent ayacut and 290 wells supplementing irrigation from other sources. The Divisional Officer says that very few tanks received supplies sufficient to raise crops and that the scanty supplies received have almost run out. Rivers have not received freshes. The Tahsildars of Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla report that the Chitravati and Papaghni did not flow this year at all and consequently the channels excavated from their beds have run short of springs and even with the customary labour, the supply in them has been found insufficient for the ayacut lands, some of which have not been cultivated at all. Springs in wells having gone down, they cannot be expected to supply irrigation to any large extent.

5. *Cultivation.*—The annexed statement compares the cultivation since April 1896 with that of the average of the three previous years and gives the percentage of the cultivation up to September 1896 to the average cultivation.

	Cuddapah.	Proddatur.	Jammalamadugu.	Pulivendla.	Total.
<i>Government Dry.</i>	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
1893-94	113,113	91,673	124,395	151,339	480,430
1894-95	115,338	92,156	130,754	153,731	491,989
1895-96	122,946	93,819	121,545	152,842	491,252
Total	351,397	277,658	376,704	457,912	1,463,671
Average	117,132.33	92,552.95	125,568.00	152,637.33	487,890.33
From April to September 1896 ..	69,527	51,834	62,800	53,043	228,204
Percentage	51.62	56.00	50.00	34.53	46.84
<i>Government Wet.</i>					
1893-94	21,146	6,781	4,853	7,281	43,067
1894-95	17,217	7,399	6,093	8,423	39,372
1895-96	17,495	7,219	6,496	7,839	37,959
Total	55,858	21,612	16,952	23,646	120,398
Average	19,629	7,204	5,151	7,849	40,133
From April to September 1896 ..	7,170	2,540	2,557	2,653	14,920
Percentage	36.53	35.26	49.59	33.80	37.17
<i>Unam Dry.</i>					
1893-94	52,842	51,879	66,610	47,499	217,483
1894-95	69,811	47,035	61,211	47,885	219,002
1895-96	56,223	47,849	59,472	46,352	209,896
Total	178,866	146,915	189,723	141,736	646,381
Average	59,622	48,672	63,241	47,245	215,460
From April to September 1896 ..	27,624	25,060	32,159	17,195	102,859
Percentage	49.66	51.55	51.94	36.39	47.50
<i>Unam Wet.</i>					
1893-94	10,829	2,916	2,401	3,011	19,148
1894-95	8,259	2,911	2,880	3,311	17,401
1895-96	8,730	3,881	2,901	3,482	18,567
Total	27,819	9,711	7,782	9,804	55,116
Average	9,273	3,237	2,594	3,268	18,372
From April to September 1896 ..	3,560	818	1,219	1,156	6,783
Percentage	38.35	25.25	47.38	35.38	36.92

Owing to deficient rainfall as above described, there has been a large decrease in the extent of cultivation both under dry and wet, the fall being very large in Pulivendla. I may at once say that Cuddapah taluk is much better off than the other three taluks as regards the area brought under cultivation, though a large extent of wet and dry land has been left waste. The standing crops in this taluk are reported to be fading except under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal and spring and river channels and wells. In Proddatur the crops on the ground are paddy, cholam, ragi, korra, cumbu, varagu, indigo, turmeric, cotton, horsegram, castor and gingelly. The crops raised under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal are in good condition, while those raised elsewhere have withered or are withering. In Jammalamadugu, the standing crops are indigo, cholam, korra, cotton, varagu and bariga. If there is no fall of rain within a week, indigo, save under wells, is expected to die out. Cholam is still green only on soil which retained moisture and it has faded in other places. I have inspected a considerable portion of cholam crop on the fields bordering the Jammalamadugu-Proddatur road and found that most of the crop has died or where standing is now only fit for fodder. I have not myself seen any cholam that will produce grain. The ground is bare in many places as far as I could see. The standing cholam is being rooted up. Cotton was also found on my inspection to be much stunted in growth; it will, however, go on for another 10 days without rain. In Pulivendla the standing crops are cholam, cumbu, cotton, oil-seeds, korra, chillies, tobacco, indigo,

paddy. Of the above, tobacco and paddy, which were raised under wells and channels, are reported to be in good condition except in two villages. Sajja, which is raised in villages to the east of Papaghni, is reported to be in good condition; but cholam, the most important food crop, is reported to have withered in several places. Cotton and indigo are also said to be withering. To sum up, I may say that in the Proddatur, Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu taluks, cholam, which is the most important crop and was sown in expectation of rain, has been hopelessly lost. Ragi, another important crop, has not been raised in Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. In Proddatur it has been raised presumably under wells or the canal. I also saw during my inspection many fields along the Jammalamadugu-Proddatur road which had not been sown at all. Where land has been cultivated, the seeds have not sprouted in some places, while in others the crop has withered. In the few places where it is still lingering, it requires an immediate fall of rain to keep it up. In some parts of Jammalamadugu the ryots have ploughed up the lands finding the crops withering. The Tahsildar of Pulivendla estimates the area where crops have already withered at 75 per cent. of the total extent of dry land brought under cultivation. The crops on 10 per cent. of the area are said to be withering. The remaining 15 per cent. is either supported by wells or situated in villages lying to the east of the Papaghni where the season is not so bad as elsewhere. The annexed statement shows the names of the crops harvested together with their outturn:—

Jammalamadugu.	Proddatur.	Pulivendla.
Korra, 12 annas	Garden korra, 8 to 12 annas.	Cumbu, 4 to 8 annas in parts and 8 to 12 annas elsewhere.
Indigo, 8		Korra, 12 annas.
Paddy, 8		Red cholam, 8 annas.
Red cholam, 8 annas ..		Indigo, 12 to 16 annas.

The extent covered by each crop has not been reported by the Deputy Collector.

6. *Prices.*—The annexed statement compares the prices of the principal food-grains in each of the stations at which prices are recorded for the week ending 24th October 1896 with that of the previous year:—

Stations.	1895.				24th October 1896.			
	Rice.	Cumbu.	Cholam.	Ragi.	Rice.	Cumbu.	Cholam.	Ragi.
Cuddapah	SEERS. 11.29	SEERS. 28.77	SEERS. 22.86	SEERS. 29.37	SEERS. 8.39	SEERS. 13.65	SEERS. 15.61	SEERS. 18.00
Kannalapuram	13.96	26.40	24.75	31.02	9.09	14.85	..	19.68
Proddatur	15.26	..	..	29.59	9.09	..	14.85	17.32
Jammalamadugu	11.49	22.82	26.53	31.76	9.13	..	14.22	15.60
Pulivendla	12.39	30.52	35.27	35.18	9.54	..	17.77	19.87

The price of rice has exceeded the scarcity rate in all the five stations except Pulivendla. In Jammalamadugu the price of ragi exceeded the scarcity rate as also the price of cumbu in Cuddapah and Kannalapuram. Cholam has exceeded the scarcity rate in Proddatur and Jammalamadugu. The prices of all dry grains are dearer than the warning rates.

7. *Condition of people.*—The harvests in the preceding year, though not plentiful, have been fair. In the Proddatur taluk the harvests in the previous years were generally good. In Pulivendla the harvests were poor only in a few parts. Considering the good harvests in the previous years and the general well-to-do condition of the ryots in this division, their condition is not likely to deteriorate soon. The case of poorer classes is otherwise. The absence of labour in the fields, the decreased demand for labour elsewhere and the high prices considerably aggravate their condition. In Jammalamadugu it is reported that the ryots cannot tide over the present season should there be no rains soon. In Pulivendla it is observed that the failure of crop over an extensive area this year cannot but be regarded as indicative of much distress. In this

taluk, the condition of the poorer classes is reported to be very bad. Some people have emigrated with their families and cattle to other villages either to earn a livelihood or to seek the protection of their well-to-do relations. Some of them are said to have been refused help by their relations. The places which they are reported to have chosen for migration are distant parts, viz., Palnad, Nellore, Mysore and Cumbum. The Tahsildar of Proddatur reports that in two villages he observed people were in need of labour and complained of want of food. I have found on my tour that there is a loud outcry in Jammalamadugu that there is no labour available for the cooly population and the same complaint was made to me yesterday on my way into Proddatur by the villagers of this taluk. All round Jammalamadugu not only the Mala and Madiga population, but also other classes said they were in want of work. In the Proddatur villages also they came out in large numbers and stated they had no food. Malas, Madigas and Bôyas are the chief sufferers and I believe that the lower classes are really stinting themselves of food, but I have called for further authentic information on this head. I have seen the Rev. Mr. Campbell at Jammalamadugu. He has an extensive knowledge of these parts and assured me that the lower classes are in need of help and some are only taking one meal a day. I shall address the Board separately on the question of works very shortly. The extent of the portion affected has not been reported, but it is stated that the north-western and western portions of Pulivendla taluk have been affected. The situation in Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla is now critical. There are no minor irrigation works in progress capable of affording sufficient employment to those who may want it. The opening of test works in these two taluks will be necessary within a week if the season does not improve before that time.

8. The season report for the week ending 24th October 1896 having showed that the people in some of the villages of Pulivendla taluk were living on only one meal a day and were eating devadari and other leaves. I have instructed the Divisional Officer to submit proposals for starting one or two test works in places where people are mostly in want of employment. I have also asked the Local Fund Engineer to prepare estimates for thoroughly gravelling and metalling the Jammalamadugu-Proddatur road including spreading and tamping. In Jammalamadugu town and adjacent villages relief will probably have to be given to weavers. A list of all those who are not supported by merchants and who cannot get employment has been ordered to be drawn up. These will require special relief only in case they will not go to relief work and are still accustomed to weaving. A further report will be submitted on this point after receipt of information from the Deputy Collector.

9. The state of things in Cuddapah taluk is not so serious as in the remaining three taluks of this section. There have been loud complaints about the decrease in water-supply in the Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal, and the Special Deputy Collector, whose attention has been drawn to the matter, has arranged with the Executive Engineer for letting more water into the canal. For the present there is not much anxiety about this taluk, but the Divisional Officer and the Tahsildar have been requested to thoroughly inspect their charges and watch the state of the season carefully.

10. *Condition of cattle.*—The condition of cattle gives no cause for anxiety in Cuddapah taluk, though the price of straw per cart-load has increased considerably. Fodder is reported to be sufficient to meet the requirements of two or three months, and if the season does not take a favourable turn by that time, cattle may suffer. In the remaining taluks of this section, there is hardly any pasture this year and the stock of fodder is reported to have been almost exhausted. The price of fodder per cart-load has increased nearly five times the ordinary rate. Stock-owners offer to sell their stock at nominal prices but find no purchasers. I saw cattle being fed in Jammalamadugu on thatch grass during my inspection on the afternoon of the 26th instant, and the Tahsildar reports that thatch grass is often mixed with margosa or other leaves or husk. In Proddatur the condition of cattle is reported to be generally good, though deteriorating in parts. In Pulivendla their condition is stated to be bad. It is reported by the Tahsildar that some cattle have died of starvation, while others are emaciated. Cattle disease is prevalent in one village. The question of throwing out forest reserves for free grazing is under consideration.

11. *Eastern section.*—This section consists of the three taluks of Badvel, Sidhout and Pullampet. The rainfall is registered at four stations as shown in the annexed comparative statement which gives the quantity registered during the current year as well as the average of the 20 years ending with September 1889 and of 5 years ending with September 1895:—

Stations.	Average rainfall of 20 years 1870-89.	Rainfall from April to September 1891.	Rainfall from April to September 1892.	Rainfall from April to September 1893.	Rainfall from April to September 1894.	Rainfall from April to September 1895.	Average of 5 years 1891-95.	April to September 1896.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Râzampêta	19.24	11.28	23.60	16.72	16.32	17.74	16.93	12.33
Chitvel	16.32	12.70	24.23	14.19	13.42	16.13	16.01	11.19
Sidhout	20.98	14.73	24.23	23.01	25.26	23.09	22.60	14.08
Badvel	15.33	9.60	19.95	13.78	11.07	18.97	14.65	9.98

The above figures show that the rainfall during the south-west monsoon was very deficient in all the taluks and particularly so in Badvel. Taking the figures of monthly rainfall, it is observed that in Badvel there were 4.15 inches in August 1896 and 3.31 inches in September 1896 against 3.97 and 5.10 inches representing the average for above periods, respectively. All the tanks in the taluk except 15 got some supply; that received in 12 tanks was very good; 33 tanks received supplies varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ and 69 tanks had $\frac{1}{8}$ th to $\frac{1}{4}$ th supply. Owing to the absence of any rainfall worth mentioning in October (up to date only 16 cents have been registered), the supply which was exhausted for cultivation purposes was not replenished and at present 104 out of 129 tanks in the taluk are empty, while the remaining 25 tanks retain supplies ranging from one-eighth to three-fourth. Only two tanks in the whole taluk have three-fourths supply. The rainfall in Pullampet taluk amounted to 12.33 inches against the average of 19.24 for twenty years ending 1889 or 16.93, the average of the five years ending 1895. The rainfall in July was moderate; in August, it reached the average in Râzampêta and exceeded it by nearly 2 inches in Chitvel, but in September the fall was very deficient. On the whole, this taluk fared better than Badvel in the south-west monsoon; but the failure of the north-east monsoon up to date is discouraging. In October there has been a fall of only 0.52 inches registered against an average of 10.26 inches due at Râzampêta and out of 78 tanks in the taluk, 68 have already run dry, while the remaining 10 tanks contain only one-eighth supply. There are some river channels in this taluk supplied from the Cheyyar, Gunjana, Gundleru and Pullangeru; but these are reported to be almost dry and cannot irrigate their ayacut as the rivers on which they depend are running very low or are quite dry. In Sidhout taluk the rainfall was deficient in May, June and July; but in August the average was exceeded. There was again a large deficiency in September and up to date the October rainfall has come up only to 1.16 inches against an average of 7.30 inches. In no month has the rainfall been general or evenly distributed so as to put in even half the supply to half the number of tanks in the taluk. It is reported that more than half the number of tanks got no supply, while 26 got only one-eighth supply and 8 only one-fourth. Only two tanks received half supply. There are at present only 6 tanks with one-eighth supply and 4 with one-fourth supply and the remaining 91 tanks are empty.

12. *Cultivation.*—The annexed statements show that the area brought under cultivation up to September bears a small proportion to the average annual area cultivated. The deficiency occurs in all the three taluks. Considering the present state of the tank supply, there is no likelihood of the cultivation being extended, unless the north-east monsoon proves very favourable. In some parts large extents of land have been ploughed and made ready for sowing, but the seed has not been sown as the rain is holding off. In Badvel, cholam and cumbu under wells have been harvested on 364 and 1,087 acres, respectively, but the outturn was poor. The standing crops are chiefly paddy and ragi and as they are withering for want of rain, they will probably yield nothing. In Pullampet taluk, 15,460 acres of cumbu crop have been harvested, of which 240 acres yielded a 16-anna crop and 50.27 acres

yielded a 12-anna crop. On 9,785 acres there was an outturn of eight annas and 408 acres gave a poor yield of four annas. The standing crops are paddy, ragi and cholom. Paddy has been cultivated under two tanks only, in one of which there is absolutely no supply, while in the other the supply is likely to last for a week. Ragi has been cultivated to a small extent under wells which are likely either to fail altogether or contain supplies insufficient for irrigation purposes if no rain comes in the near future. This taluk is mostly under the influence of the north-east monsoon rains; but the absence of rain in October is very discouraging. In Sidhout taluk paddy, ragi, cumbu and cholom have been harvested, the area covered by each crop being 5,055, 11,557, 5,000 and 11,677 acres, respectively. On about 6,300 acres the outturn was only four annas, while the remainder yielded an 8-anna crop. The standing crops are paddy, ragi and cholom. These are situated under tanks which have received some scanty supply as well as under wells. Paddy is withering for want of water; and the probable outturn is estimated at four annas, but even this is contingent on the tank supply being replenished by the expected November rains. Ragi and cholom will also share the same fate if the tanks do not get more supply soon.

Eastern Section.

Cultivation.

Years	Pullampet.	Sidhout.	Badvel.	Total.
<i>Government, Dry.</i>				
1893-94	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
1894-95	59,358	29,240	75,963	147,511
1895-96	58,275	26,670	58,081	115,079
	59,013	31,318	60,267	151,628
Total	177,576	86,248	176,311	440,118
Average	59,222	28,749	58,771	146,742
From April to September 1896	23,313	10,759	23,777	57,649
Percentage	32.68	12.48	13.46	38.85
<i>Government, Wet.</i>				
1893-94	21,161	9,197	11,058	41,324
1894-95	17,681	8,999	12,775	39,455
1895-96	21,700	9,849	12,198	43,747
Total	60,542	28,045	36,031	124,618
Average	20,181	9,348	12,010	41,539
From April to September 1896	6,794	3,682	4,359	14,835
Percentage	33.67	12.71	12.24	37.55
<i>Inam, Dry.</i>				
1893-94	11,669	8,311	18,336	41,349
1894-95	11,112	5,331	18,089	41,146
1895-96	13,996	9,313	19,325	42,634
Total	42,789	23,711	56,350	122,850
Average	14,263	7,904	18,783	41,050
From April to September 1896	6,332	2,771	7,424	16,527
Percentage	44.40	34.83	39.52	39.71
<i>Inam, Wet.</i>				
1893-94	14,384	4,286	11,158	29,828
1894-95	11,681	4,214	9,067	25,462
1895-96	11,251	4,241	9,389	25,881
Total	40,321	12,711	30,114	83,146
Average	13,440	4,237	10,038	27,715
From April to September 1896	4,484	1,354	2,554	8,392
Percentage	33.38	31.88	28.12	31.70

13. *Prices.*—The prices of food-grains have risen high, as the accompanying statement will show:—

Names of stations.		Average for 10 years.	Prices ruling on 24th October 1896.	Warning rate for the district.	Scarcity rate for the district.
Rāzampēta	Rice	13.54	8.30	12.3	9.2
	Ragi	26.58	18.00	24.8	16.5
	Cumbu	23.14	13.77	22.5	15.0
	Cholom	22.23	9.96	22.5	15.0
Chitvel	Rice	12.73	22.50	24.8	16.5
	Ragi	27.17	21.75	22.5	15.0
	Cumbu	22.69	12.67	12.3	9.2
	Cholom	21.67	9.08	24.8	16.5
Sidhout	Rice	25.05	23.35	22.5	15.0
	Ragi	21.18	19.50	22.5	15.0
	Cumbu	20.61	12.63	12.3	9.2
	Cholom	12.63	9.07	24.8	16.5
Badvel	Rice	24.93	19.50	22.5	15.0
	Ragi	20.85	17.40	22.5	15.0
	Cumbu	22.46	18.76	22.5	15.0
	Cholom	22.46	18.76	22.5	15.0

The price of rice has exceeded the scarcity rate in all stations, except Chitvel where it is dearer than the warning rate and is approaching the scarcity rate. Of the dry grains, cholom is not the staple food of people of Pullampet taluk. In the remaining two taluks the prices of this grain is dearer than the warning rate. Ragi and cumbu are also being sold dearer than the warning rates at all the four stations, and in Rāzampēta the price of cumbu has exceeded even the scarcity rate. The rise in prices is due to deficient rainfall and to anxiety about the future, as also to the demand from other places.

14. *General.*—Of the three taluks included in this section, Badvel is the poorest. It suffered seriously during the famine of 1877-78, as also in the recent distress of 1891-92. According to the Tahsildar's report, there are stocks of grain in the taluk sufficient for about six months' consumption. The absence of rain in October and the sharp rise in prices has created a panic among the people. The Deputy Collector reports that the physical condition of the people is good and that there is no reason for apprehending any severe distress for the present. Though no rainfall has been registered at Badvel, the Deputy Collector reports that there were rains recently in the northern part of Badvel from Kalasapad onwards. He also states that, if the November rains are plentiful, all anxiety will be at an end, and that the necessity for starting relief works in this taluk will arise only in the early part of December should there be no rains in the meanwhile.

15. Pullampet taluk is by far the richest of the three taluks both as regards agriculture and trade. The distress of 1891-92 did not affect this taluk, though it suffered like other taluks in 1877-78. This taluk is more exposed to the north-east monsoon; but the failure of the October rains has discouraged people considerably. There is, however, no reason to apprehend any distress until the character of the north-east monsoon is fully declared. The Deputy Collector thinks that, if no rain falls in November, steps will have to be taken to provide employment to labourers in the latter part of December. The condition of Sidhout taluk is similar to that of Pullampet, and I have called for estimates for works likely to be required in all tracts liable to be affected sooner or later.

16. Pasture and fodder are sufficient for the present; but if the prospects take a more unfavourable turn by the failure of November rains, the stock of fodder will run short and grazing grounds will become parched up, when the question of throwing open the forest reserves for free grazing will have to be considered.

Southern section.

17. This section consists of the four taluks of the sub-division, viz., Madanapalle, Vayalpad, Rāyachōti and Kadiri. This portion of the district gives the least cause for anxiety at present. I submit herewith a copy of the report (sent up by me

in my capacity as Sub-Collector) giving detailed information regarding rainfall, cultivation and prices in the several taluks of the division. The Board has, in its Proceedings, No. 5187, dated 23rd October 1896, (Revenue Settlement, Ladd Records and Agriculture), ordered that the Ráyachóti taluk should be included in the tract requiring to be carefully watched at present. I have been in charge of the district since the 1st October and have been touring in the affected tracts of the main division, so that I have not had time to look into the state of things personally in Ráyachóti. From a recent report received from the Tahsildar, it appears that all tanks except three have run dry, that even these three tanks contain water for only a few days, that the supply in river channels and wells is diminishing, and that sajja, the principal crop of the taluk, has totally failed in some parts, while in others the yield was miserably poor. The outlook in this taluk is, no doubt, discouraging, but I am of opinion that there will be no need for starting any relief works till December. In the meanwhile the minor irrigation programme may be expanded.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, to the Collector of Cuddapah, dated 24th October 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 1613-Rev.

Adverting to your endorsement Ref. on Current No. 6810-Rev., dated 17th October 1896, and memorandum Ref. on Current No. 6810-Rev., dated 19th October 1896, I have the honour to report on the state of the season in the sub-division taluks.

2. *Rainfall*.—The subjoined table gives the rainfall up to the end of September 1896, compared with corresponding period of 1893-94, 1894-95 and 1895-96:—

Taluk head-quarters.	Rainfall from April to September.			
	1893-94.	1894-95.	1895-96.	1896-97.
Madanapalle	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Vayalpad	14.71	12.10	17.07	16.12
Piler	13.35	15.12	22.99	15.55
Ráyachóti	19.21	15.74	17.33	12.24
Kadiri	14.34	27.93	24.57	19.75
	12.86	19.86	24.98	12.35

The rainfall has generally been deficient in all the taluks, though in Madanapalle it is not far behind that of last year and exceeds the rainfall in the previous two years 1893-94 and 1894-95. In Vayalpad also, though the fall is much less than that of last year, it compares favourably with that in the two years preceding. The Tahsildar of Madanapalle remarks that, owing to deficient rains, crops have not been getting on well from the beginning of the year, and especially for the last one month the condition of dry crops has not been satisfactory. They were fading in almost all parts of the taluk and again reviving when there was a slight rainfall. This was the case until about ten days ago, but the absolute want of rain during last ten days, i.e., from 10th to 20th, had almost prostrated the crops. On the 18th, 19th and 20th, however, there were falls of 11, 11 and 47 cents, respectively. He says that cumbu may have failed in more than half the area of the taluk, the outturn of the crop being on an average 4 annas, and that ragi, oil-seeds and other cereals have suffered so much that even should there be a good shower of rain, the yield will not be good. As to the first crop the season is almost over. A large extent of wet land has been left waste for want of water in the tanks except a few in Tamballapalli firka, through portions have been cultivated with dry crops. Under Kandakúr big tank, however, wet crops are said to have been raised on about 200 acres. The cultivation under wells is being kept up at great expense.

The Tahsildar of Vayalpad reports that dry grains were not sown in proper season, that after the rains of September last, cumbu was sown on dry land in most of the villages, while in a few others ragi, paddy, cumbu were sown under wells and channels, and that owing to scarcity of rainfall the tanks received little or no supply. Cumbu under wells is in ear, but the crop is fading. Cumbu and ragi sown after the rains are beginning to bear ears. The crops, however, are not in good condition and the outturn is likely to be very poor.

The Tahsildar of Kadiri states that most of the wet fields remain waste and that the standing crops wither for want of rain, the consequence being that the outturn will not be favourable if the season continues to be bad. The agricultural operations going on consist in ploughing lands for horse-gram in a few villages and harvesting ragi under wells. The

Stationary Sub-Magistrate is now in charge of the taluk and he does not seem to deal fully with the condition of standing crops. I have not received any special report from the Tahsildar of Ráyachóti about the state of the season in his taluk. In the season report for the week ending 16th October 1896, he notes that of the standing crops, cumbu has altogether faded away in some parts, while in some parts it is in a middling condition. Only in two villages the tanks are said to contain eight days water. Channels rising in big rivers are reported to be flowing and some wells to contain no sufficient water for irrigation purposes.

3. *Cultivation*.—The annexed statement shows the extent cultivated up to the end of September 1896, compared with the average annual cultivation in the three previous years:—

Taluks.	1893-94.		1894-95.		1895-96.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Madanapalle	ACS. 128,037	31,921	ACS. 129,705	19,642	ACS. 138,102	27,795
Vayalpad	108,363	37,725	102,758	23,366	104,941	27,931
Ráyachóti	135,841	24,176	131,610	25,922	128,741	23,767
Kadiri	209,951	19,239	228,331	19,811	227,045	22,203
Total	582,192	115,061	592,404	88,741	598,829	101,696

Taluks.	Average.		1896-97 from April to September.		Percentage of area brought under cultivation to average annual cultivation.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.		
	8	9	10	11	12	13
Madanapalle	ACS. 131,948	27,452	ACS. 83,679	9,385	63.41	34.18
Vayalpad	105,020	29,674	78,791	7,749	74.31	25.11
Ráyachóti	132,064	24,622	86,443	7,433	65.45	30.18
Kadiri	221,775	20,417	139,051	8,533	62.69	41.79
Total	591,807	102,165	387,964	33,100	65.55	32.37

By the middle of October, generally three-fourths under dry and half under wet should have been sown. The wet cultivation ranges from 26 to 41 per cent. in the four taluks, Vayalpad being the worst. The dry cultivation is more than 62 per cent., but the crops are reported to be withering as noticed above.

4. *Prices*.—The following gives the prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee of food-grains at the head-quarters of the Taluk offices:—

Weeks.	Madanapalle.	Vayalpad.	Piler.	Ráyachóti.	Kadiri.
3rd October 1896.	Rice, 2nd sort .. 13.69	14.11	14.02	12.45	13.28
	Ragi 31.50	27.00	22.50	28.50	31.50
	Cholum 26.07	25.28	..	..	25.28
	Cumbu 23.20	23.20	21.75	26.10	26.10
10th October 1896.	Rice, 2nd sort .. 13.69	12.03	14.02	12.45	13.28
	Ragi 31.50	27.00	22.50	28.50	22.50
	Cholum 26.07	25.28	..	..	23.70
	Cumbu 23.20	23.20	21.75	26.10	21.75
17th October 1896.	Rice, 2nd sort .. 10.79	10.37	14.02	9.54	9.92
	Ragi 27.00	21.00	22.50	19.50	21.00
	Cholum 25.32	26.28	..	18.96	20.54
	Cumbu 23.20	20.30	21.75	18.85	18.85
19th October 1896.	Rice, 2nd sort	16.31	..	..	..
	Ragi	23.10	..	..	..
	Cholum	26.62	..	..	..
	Cumbu	21.45	..	..	..
20th October 1896.	Rice, 2nd sort .. 9.96	..	..	..	..
	Ragi 21.00	..	..	..	..
	Cholum 19.75	..	..	..	..
	Cumbu 17.40	..	..	..	..

The rise in the prices at Madanapalle is said to be due to the export of grains to Mysore and the taluks of the main division. The merchants from these parts offer high prices and the local merchants take advantage of the offer. The Tahsildar says that the drain from outside and the fear of impending unfavourable harvest are the causes of the rise in prices.

The Tahsildar of Vayalpad states that there is a large demand for rice in the north and that people are coming by every incoming train to take large quantities of rice, but the amount of grain exported has not been specified. The merchants and big ryots who keep stock of grain are not willing to bring the grain to the market so soon. The Tahsildar is of opinion that the rise in prices is not so much due to want of rain as to demand from other places, specially the north.

The Tahsildar of Kadiri says the rise is due to demand from Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu taluks.

The Tahsildar of Ráyachóti ascribes the rise to the scarcity of grain. He should have given fuller explanation. It is probable that exports have been made from this taluk to Cuddapah.

5. The Tahsildars have not furnished information regarding stock of grains. But I think that, even after meeting the demand from other places, there is yet enough stock with merchants and big landholders to supply local needs for many months.

6. In Ráyachóti pasture is said not to be available in most of the villages and fodder insufficient. I doubt very much the accuracy of these statements. In Kadiri pasture and fodder are said to be moderately available. In Vayalpad and Madanapalle they are said to be sufficient.

7. The prices of all food-grains have exceeded the warning rates in Ráyachóti taluk. In Kadiri and Madanapalle these rates have also been exceeded, except as regards cholam. In Vayalpad the price of rice has just approached the warning rate. In none of the taluks have the prices approached scarcity rates. The rainfall in October has been, no doubt, deficient, and though the outlook of the season is discouraging, there is yet hope for rains, and we must, therefore, wait at least till the first week of November 1896 before hope should be abandoned. The Tahsildar has been directed to watch carefully for the warning signs that indicate the approach of scarcity and distress.

8. Tahsildars' attention will be drawn to their omission to report on the price of fodder and the sufficiency of stocks with merchants and big ryots.

9. The health of people and cattle is generally good.

Resolution—dated 31st October 1896, No. 302.

Mr. Forbes' useful report will be submitted for the information of Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, No. 276 of 1896. It shows that, in the portions of the Cuddapah district indicated therein, agricultural operations are at a standstill; the standing crops are withered or withering, and the labourers in several places are already in need of employment. The Board has already, in reference to the remarks made in paragraph 7 of Mr. Forbes' letter, ordered the opening of test relief works in the localities mentioned. It had previously ordered the opening of such a work in Pulivendla.

2. The failure of the rainfall in the three separate tracts into which the district is naturally divided is dealt with in the Collector's report, and justifies generally the conclusions arrived at in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings of the 19th October. Details are given in the appendix to these Proceedings. The failure therein alluded to has been continued; for, since the date of these Proceedings, no rain to mention has fallen in the district, except at Madanapalle and Sidhout. The consequences of this failure have been—

In the north-western taluks, that cultivation on dry land has extended to only about half the average area of the three previous years, which were, however, favourable, and in Pulivendla to just over one-third of this average. On the wet land the failure is even greater; but this is not of very great importance save in the Cuddapah taluk. Tanks are not numerous, and most of them are dry or nearly so.

The river channels do not contain their usual supplies. The supply in the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, which irrigates considerable areas in the Cuddapah and Proddatur taluks, failed for a portion of the month, but arrangements have been made to set this right. Of the crops that have been sown on dry land—in Cuddapah taluk they are fair; in Proddatur, they are withered or withering, except where they are protected by canal water; in Jammalamadugu, they are not quite so bad, but in a most precarious state, and much cholam has been lost; in Pulivendla, save in that portion of the taluk lying to the east of the Papaghni, the outlook is very bad. Not only has this been the fate of the sowings under the south-west monsoon, but the continued holding off of the rains has prevented the ryots from making the usual sowings of September and October, and much land is lying waste which ought to be under crop. The statistics given only cover about half of September.

In the eastern section, the sowings of the dry land are even more backward than in the northern section, and those on the wet land as much retarded, and, unless the rainfall of the north-east monsoon be favourable, the latter short fall is not expected to be made up; nearly all the tanks being dry. Some crop under wells has been secured, but, in Badvel, it is reported that the standing crop will probably yield nothing; in Sidhout, some poor and fair crop on dry land has also been secured, and the fate of the standing crop depends on early rain falling; in Pullampet, a pretty extensive cumbu crop yielded fairly, and the fate of the standing crop is in doubt as is that of Sidhout. This taluk usually receives much more rain during the north-east monsoon than the others.

In the southern taluks forming the sub-division, sowings have been much more forward, and, as shown in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 5187, dated 23rd October 1896, it is only in Ráyachóti that the deficiency is serious. The water-supplies in the irrigation works of this division are, however, very bad, and the works are usually very small ones, requiring to be filled more than once. They are very numerous. These taluks also receive rather more rain during the north-east monsoon than the northern taluks. The information regarding the division is not very definite, owing to the fact that it has, for the last month, been left without a Divisional Officer. The Board begs to draw the attention of Government to the advisability of sending an officer to act as Sub-Collector to the district at once. Further information regarding the crops in this division must be awaited. In Ráyachóti, the cumbu crop, which is the staple dry food-grain, appears to have suffered greatly.

3. Prices have, as in the other Deccan districts, advanced most rapidly during the last three weeks, and, on the 24th October, cholam was dearer than the scarcity rate at Proddatur and Jammalamadugu and equal to it at Cuddapah. The only station in the district where the dry grains were at all moderate in price was Chitvel.

4. In the north-western taluks, employment for the labouring classes is reported to be very deficient, but the ryots generally are fairly well-to-do, and have had good seasons of late. In all three taluks, the Boyas, Pariahs and Chucklers are, the Collector believes, already on short-commons, but the most seriously-affected portions are parts of Jammalamadugu and the northern and north-western part of Pulivendla. The latter tract abuts on the Tadpatri taluk of Anantapur, whence no warning has yet been received.

5. In paragraph 8 of his report, the Collector states that he has ordered the preparation of estimates for gravelling and metalling the road from Proddatur to Jammalamadugu, including spreading and tamping as a relief work. It will be pointed out to him that the latter work, unless water be easily available in large amount, cannot be carried out at the beginning of the dry weather.

6. Further information regarding the necessity for affording relief to weavers, at their trade, will be awaited.

7. The condition of Badvel in the eastern section and Ráyachóti in the sub-division demands most careful watching, and in the latter the need for an experienced Divisional Officer is urgent. In all parts of the district a careful selection, from the programme of suitable works as relief works should be made and every arrangement

made to enable such to be started should this prove necessary. Wherever there is likely to be a demand for employment, and the money can be usefully advanced for the purpose, the ryots should be encouraged to apply for land improvement loans, and arrangements should be made for the rapid disposal of their applications.

8. Although pasture is almost non-existent in the cultivated parts, there still appears to be a supply of fodder available for the cattle, and the Collector has already been requested to consider, in consultation with the Conservator of Forests, the propriety of throwing any reserves open to free grazing.

9. In conclusion, the Board begs to draw the attention of Government to the fact that the district is a very large one, and it is therefore the more urgent to afford the Collector assistance to enable him to personally supervise the organisation of relief. On its effective organisation at the commencement will its efficiency and economical conduct greatly depend.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

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

APPENDIX I.

STATEMENT of Rainfall in the Cuddapah district.

Stations.	April and May.			June to August.			September.		
	Average.	1891.	1896.	Average.	1891.	1896.	Average.	1891.	1896.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Chitvelu	2.17	1.00	1.23	9.93	6.15	8.13	3.50	5.55	1.43
Pullampet	2.90	0.08	2.75	10.70	3.28	7.16	4.97	8.22	2.42
Sidhout	2.38	0.75	0.90	13.44	9.84	11.07	5.73	4.14	1.88
Badvel	1.63	1.20	0.46	9.33	4.85	6.21	4.68	2.95	1.55
Cuddapah	1.89	1.25	2.93	13.93	8.24	9.57	6.83	3.44	3.46
Kamalapuram	0.75	1.34	1.91	13.95	9.24	7.06	4.24	2.26	3.45
Proddatur	1.86	0.40	0.75	11.48	6.96	4.72	5.66	1.97	0.69
Jammalamadugu	1.74	0.75	0.32	8.77	7.30	6.44	4.38	0.98	0.76
Pulivendla	2.08	0.03	1.28	7.27	3.11	2.84	4.59	1.08	1.30
Kadiri	2.70	1.20	1.76	9.47	3.24	9.66	4.90	0.72	1.05
Rayachoti	1.92	..	3.48	8.30	2.98	4.96	5.02	1.82	2.17
Pileru	2.07	0.80	1.49	10.01	4.61	4.05	4.28	7.00	6.63
Vayalpad	2.44	1.00	2.46	7.88	5.16	6.97	4.16	2.80	6.69
Madanapalle	3.15	1.22	4.88	7.71	5.76	7.46	4.23	1.13	3.39
District average ..	2.24	0.79	1.67	9.88	5.77	2.03	4.98	3.15	2.98

Stations.	October.			November.		December.	
	Average.	1891.	Up to 24th.	Average expected.	1891.	Average expected.	1891.
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Chitvelu	8.56	4.75	0.30	6.45	1.10	2.19	2.12
Pullampet	9.47	5.20	0.45	7.58	0.81	2.41	0.79
Sidhout	7.02	2.24	1.44	4.64	0.75	1.11	0.72
Badvel	6.57	1.75	0.16	4.87	0.64	1.00	0.53
Cuddapah	6.67	2.65	0.01	3.55	0.22	0.80	..
Kamalapuram	5.63	1.82	..	2.69	0.97	0.27	..
Proddatur	4.75	3.02	0.28	2.27	..	0.41	..
Jammalamadugu	4.53	3.82	0.28	1.82	0.16	0.29	..
Pulivendla	5.19	2.08	0.65	2.48	1.91	0.32	..
Kadiri	6.09	4.22	0.16	2.34	0.20	0.41	0.26
Rayachoti	5.31	2.03	0.30	3.78	..	0.79	..
Pileru	6.98	7.25	0.05	3.67	..	1.26	1.82
Vayalpad	6.33	1.89	0.70	3.95	0.17	1.08	0.74
Madanapalle	6.64	3.42	1.05	4.04	1.56	1.06	1.26
District Average ..	6.30	3.29	0.3	3.81	0.61	0.91	0.56

APPENDIX II.
STATEMENT showing the prices of food-grains in Cuddapah district in acres of 80 tolas per rupee.

	Chirvelu.	Pullampet.	Redvel.	Cuddapah.	Kanaka- puram.	Proddatur.	Jammala- medu.	Pul- vendia.	Koliri.	Mayaboti.	Pilera.	Vayalpad.	Madana- palle.	District average.
June	13.2	11.3	10.8	10.9	12.3	11.2	10.8	12.2	13.4	11.6	14.9	14.9	13.8	12.8
September	13.3	11.0	10.8	10.9	12.3	11.2	10.8	12.2	13.4	11.6	14.9	14.9	13.8	12.8
October 3rd	13.3	11.0	10.8	10.9	12.3	11.2	10.8	12.2	13.4	11.6	14.9	14.9	13.8	12.8
Do. 10th	11.6	11.0	10.8	10.9	12.3	11.2	10.8	12.2	13.4	11.6	14.9	14.9	13.8	12.8
Do. 24th	10.0	8.3	9.1	8.3	9.1	11.1	1.0	10.8	13.3	12.5	11.0	12.0	13.7	12.7
June	30.0	30.0	29.5	29.5	30.0	29.5	29.5	29.5	30.0	29.5	30.0	30.0	30.0	29.5
September	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
October 3rd	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Do. 10th	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Do. 24th	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
June	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7
September	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7
October 3rd	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7
Do. 10th	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7
Do. 24th	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7

ORDER—No. 615, Revenue, dated 12th November 1896.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded with the following remarks.
Paragraph 7 of the Collector's report.—No information is furnished as to whether the stocks of food-grains available are sufficient. If previous harvests have been good, there is no need to do anything at present, except to open test works, which must be worked strictly as such for the current month.

2. Paragraph 8 of the Collector's letter and paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings.—The Government considers that the relief of weavers is called for at an early stage, as weavers are one of the classes at once affected by high prices.

3. Paragraph 10 of the Collector's letter.—In regard to the opening of reserves for grazing, the Collector should be directed to act strictly in accordance with the instructions of the Famine Code.

4. In the southern taluks test works will be sufficient for the present. They should not, however, be too numerous, especially at first; and they should be opened at a few of the more poverty-stricken localities only.

5. Paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings.—It is essential, where possible, to finish road works, digging wells if necessary, provided that there is a probability of getting water, and the wells can be dug without blasting. Every effort should be made to prevent the waste of metal and gravel, which will ensue should they be merely collected and not also spread.

6. Paragraph 9 of Board's Proceedings.—Arrangements will be made to post an additional officer to the Cuddapah district.

(True Extract.)

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
Public Department, with reference to
paragraph (6), with an extract from
the Honourable Mr. Bliss's remarks.

Exd. Shaik Kacim.

35 Copies.

CURRENT

Extract from the Honourable Mr. Bliss's

Note in G. O. No. 615 dated 12th November 1896.

If I remember rightly, Mr. Forbes
is the only European officer in the District. Another
European would seem necessary.

(Intld.) H. W. B.
11/11/96.

Public (1896.) Department.

CURRENT No.

From The Revenue Department

Order

No. 669. Press.

Dated 26th Nov. 1896.

Received 27 - 11 - 96

Registered 27 - 11 - 96

Enclosures - one

Spare copies. -

SUBJECT.

Passing orders on proposals
from the Collector of Cuddapah
for the additional establishments
required in connection with the
relief works started in the district.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	R/1223	Public	28/11/6
	copy of	Pub. C. No. 3956.	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 16TH Nov. 1896, No. 347-A.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following letter from A. T. FORBES, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department (through the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture), dated 11th November 1896, Cur. No. 1655-Rev.:—

I have the honour to invite the attention of Government to the fact that there is no Sub-Collector at present in the district. Owing to the holding off of rain matters have now assumed a very critical aspect in this district and I feel that I cannot adequately deal with the situation unless I am afforded a very substantial measure of assistance.

2. I have been in charge of the district in addition to my own duties as Sub-Collector since October 1st and, had not the season taken a markedly unfavourable turn, I would not have addressed Government on the subject. As it is, however, I must ask Government not only to appoint a Sub-Collector but also to let me have a special Assistant at Head-quarters to attend to the routine work of the office.

3. I have already started three test works in the Proddatur, Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu taluks with kitchens attached for the non-working children of labourers; the numbers attending the works on the first day were 396 males, 336 females and 183 children at Bollavaram; 451 men, 565 women and 301 children at Rayalapuram; and 173 men, 235 women and 121 children at Goriganur, respectively. So far as these taluks are concerned, there is no further need of any test, what is wanted are large works—irrigation for preference—which shall absorb large number of persons while economising the supervising staff. So far, the work has been entirely done by the ordinary Revenue staff assisted by the Local Fund Engineer (Mr. Harley) and two Local Fund Overseers.

4. The northern taluks being black-cotton soil taluks, the length of maintained road is small; hence one Overseer is in charge of two taluks. But these are the taluks which are first affected and will suffer most during the distress which seems unavoidable. The number of works which will have to be started throughout the taluks will require a large and well organised staff. When I state that the coolies working at Bollavaram quarry, all come from within a radius of five miles, I do not think that Government will consider that I am overstating the case when I say that if some large works are opened at once, under the Public Works Department supervision, we should have 10,000 persons on them by the end of the month. A further period of four weeks of the same weather we have been having would raise the number to 20,000.

5. The works that I can carry out with the material at hand will not meet requirements, nor does it seem expedient that Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors should be practically confined to one spot. With the exception of a rapid march to Pulivendla to start the work there, I have myself been compelled to stay and supervise the Bollavaram work for some days. The same will be the case at Jammalamadugu, where I shall see to the Goriganur quarry work and be engaged in devising a scheme for the relief of weavers for approval by the Famine Commissioner. I shall then go on to Badvel whence I have discouraging reports from both official and non-official sources; when doing so I should be glad to have the assurance that the works already started are going on properly and that they do not fall far short of actual requirements. The three taluks first affected are in charge of M.R.Ry. T. Runga Row, Deputy Collector, and he will require the relief contemplated in section 26 of the Famine Code; I request it may be granted at once. The Tahsildars of these three taluks should be similarly relieved to attend to the supervision of the works which must in the near future be multiplied; this

will involve the appointment of Deputy Tahsildars to take entire charge of the Tahsildars' work leaving them free to devote their attention exclusively to relief operations. I must also ask Government to send me an Assistant Engineer and three or four Public Works Department Overseers. The Local Fund staff, which for various reasons is below its sanctioned strength, will have to be brought up to its full complement and probably also augmented. The Executive Engineer is now absent on three months' privilege leave, but returns about the end of this month; meanwhile his place is being filled by a Sub-Engineer temporarily in charge. As soon as I can get the necessary estimates from the Public Works Department, I propose to start some of the works which I shall in another letter send up for approval. I therefore very earnestly request Government to appoint the additional staff now asked for, to enable me to get to work while the coolies are still in good condition.

RESOLUTION—dated 16th November 1896, No. 347-A.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Cuddapah district is, even for ordinary times, under-officered. There is no Sub-Collector. The Executive Engineer is absent on leave, and his office represented by a Sub-Engineer resident at Madapapalle. The district has only one Local Fund Engineer, who, at 56 years of age, cannot be expected to do more than his ordinary work. He has not even a Supervisor under him, and the staff of Local Fund overseers is short. The Acting Commissioner supports all the requests of the Collector, but considers that his application for one Engineer and two or three overseers is quite insufficient. An Engineer is required for each of the three taluks in which works are now open, and at least three or four Overseers for each taluk. It will be necessary to open as many works as possible over this area with the least possible delay, and the Badvel taluk will shortly fall into line; probably Pullampet, Cuddapah and Rayachoti also. It is unfortunate that the distressed area should exactly comprise the black cotton taluks in which irrigation works are very few. There is a project for a canal from Rajoli through the Proddatur taluk which would employ a fair number of coolies. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation will be requested to state whether the estimate is ready, and, if it is, the sanction of Government for its being immediately taken in hand is requested; similarly, with the Peddapasupala project in Jammalamadugu.

3. Government has recently gazetted a Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Narayanasami Pillai Garu, an excellent officer. He can be put in charge of the Proddatur and Jammalamadugu taluks as Relief Officer. He could not look after Pulivendla also. The Collector has not alluded to it, but he desires, and the Commissioner agrees with him as to the necessity for the change, that Deputy Collector T. Ranga Row should take charge of the Head-quarter Treasury and Deputy Collector Said Khader Badshaw Sahib should be posted to General Duty. He could look after the Pulivendla taluk in addition to his other work. Government are requested to authorize the transfer of these officers. The other recommendations of the Collector are not separately alluded to, as the Acting Commissioner supports them all.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Collector of Cuddapah.

Ed. Shaik Karim.

14
1277

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed November 25th.

Proceedings, 16th Nov. 1896, No. 347-A.

Famine-relief.—Submitting to Government letter
from the Collector of Cuddapah applying for
additional establishment in connection with —.

F 3,000—14-7-94.
16

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read.

*Copy attached. READ Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Rev.
Sett., No. 347-A*, dated 16th Novr. 1896.

Order thereon, No. 689 Press, d/ 26th Novr. 1896.

In view of the improved condition of affairs, His
Excellency the Governor in Council does not consider that a
Special Assistant to the Collector is now needed in the
Cuddapah District.

2. Orders have been issued for an officer of the Pub-
lic Works Department, if possible, an Executive Engineer,
with a staff of overseers, being sent to the district to
take charge of all relief works (G.O. No. 688 d/ 25-11-96).

3. The transfers of Deputy Collectors suggested in
para 3 of the Board's Proceedings do not meet with the ap-
proval of Government.

4. A Deputy Collector will be appointed under Sec. 26
of the Famine Code to relieve the Divisional Officer in
charge of Jannalamedugu of his ordinary work.

(True Extract)

Ag. Secretary to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue, Rev. Sett.

Accountant General.

Public Department, (para 1 of the order in continua-
tion of G.O. No. 615 d/ 12/11/96)

W. H. Bliss, C. I. R.
The Governor

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

16

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Current No. 3956 of 1896, dated 12/11, from R.D.

" " 3977 " 1896, " 26/11, " R.D.

" " " 189 , " , "

ORDER.
Mis

N^o 1277 of 4-12-96

Recorded.

Circ
30.11.96

RT
2.12.96

This need not
be circ
RT

Rev. Sept (9)

Note

With reference to the Honble
Mr Bliss' note flagged A it is
submitted that Mr Forbes is at
present the only European officer
in Cuddapah, the Sub Collector's
division being in charge of a
deputy Collector. Mr Tate is,
~~however~~, due on the 21st Dec.

Circ
30.11.96

after the Xmas holidays