Sectt. I (i)-I—10,006—7-10-70.

(1) Number of pages 76

(2) Date of repair 18. 4. 72

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~	856.	Press / ~~Mis.~~
Dated	27. 2. 1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th February 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 852. From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, Public Works Department, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Bombay Castle, 13th February 1877, Famine No. 295.

I AM directed to forward a set of copies, complete up to date, of the weekly statements sent by this Government to the Secretary of State for India. In future, weekly statements will be forwarded as they are prepared; and this Government will be glad if you will, with the permission of His Grace the Governor of Madras, supply them with copies of the Madras weekly reports from the commencement and as they are issued.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
27th February 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 853.

856.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

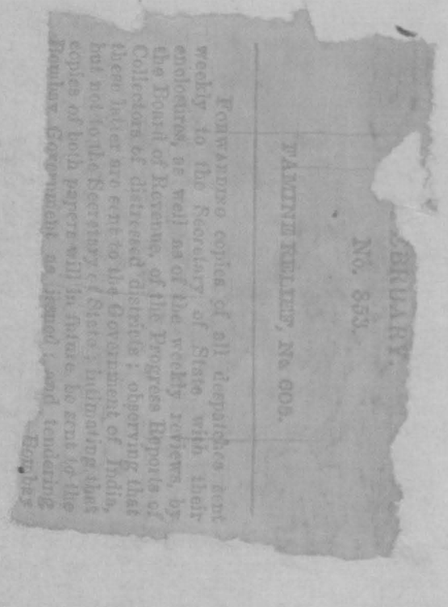
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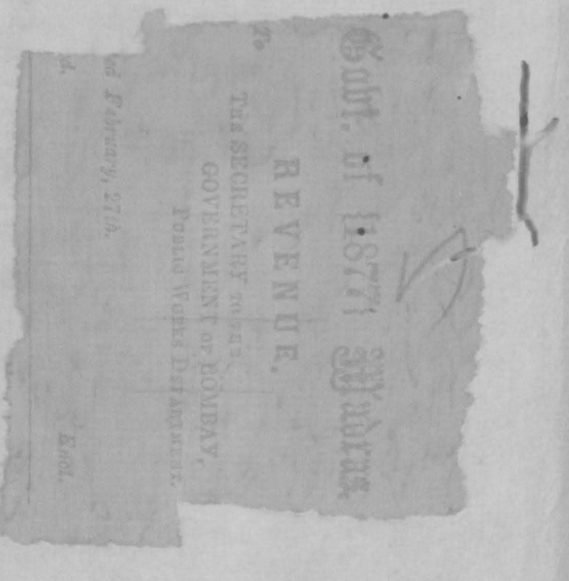
SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, No. 295, I am directed to forward you copies of all the despatches sent by the Madras Government weekly to the Secretary of State with their enclosures, as well as of the weekly reports of the Board of Revenue reviewing the weekly progress reports submitted to them by the Collectors of distressed districts. These latter are sent by this Government to the Government of India, but not to the Secretary of State.

2. Copies of both papers will in future be forwarded to you as issued; and I am, in conclusion, to express the obligation of His Grace in Council to the Bombay Government for the transmission of their weekly summaries.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.





Govt. of India.
REVENUE.
To the SECRETARY to the
GOVERNMENT of BOMBAY,
Public Works Department.
Dated 2nd February, 1878.
Sir,
FAMINE RELIEF, No. 853.
No. 603.
FEBRUARY.
Forwarding copies of all despatches sent weekly to the Secretary of State with their enclosures, as well as of the weekly reviews by the Board of Revenue, of the Progress Reports of Collectors of distressed districts; observing that these latter are sent to the Government of India, but not to the Secretary of State, intimating that copies of both papers will in future be sent to the Bombay Government as issued, and tendering

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PRELIMINARY MEMORANDUM REGARDING THE SCARCITY OF 1876-77 IN THE DISTRICTS OF THE DECCAN AND SOUTHERN MARATHA COUNTRY, BOMBAY PRESIDENCY.

About the middle of August, the previous rainfall having been scanty, some apprehensions began to be felt regarding the state of the crops in certain of the Deccan and Southern Maratha Country Collectorates, especially Ahmednagar, Násik, Sholápur, Belgaum, and Dharwar, but it was not till the month of September was well advanced that serious fears were entertained lest in much of the Deccan and Southern Maratha Country the kharif crops would be a total failure, and little or no rabi could be sown; before the end of September it became probable that Government might have to carry out relief works for the distressed cultivators, to provide food for such persons as were too infirm to work or too poor to buy it, and generally to take steps to alleviate distress and preserve the lives of the people, and thus to avert the worst consequences of famine.

To secure this end and to keep Government informed of the progress of affairs, the several Collectors were instructed to submit weekly reports regarding the state and prospects of their districts, and the following summary is compiled from these reports and other materials available in the Secretariat. This portion of the narrative includes from the beginning of September to the end of October, it not being worth while entering into details for the weeks previous to this month, up to which time nothing more than partial, though numerous failures of kharif crops were anticipated any where.

Khandesh—(16 talukas 3 pethas).—Week ending 9th September.—In the greater part of the district there was owing to a fall of rain a general reduction of prices, bájri selling at 10½ and jowári at 13 seers per rupee. The crops were fair and ryots were employed in sowing a second crop of bájri where owing to previous lack of moisture the first had failed. But in the talukas noted in the margin the kharif crops in the villages of Sauda lying along the Tápti had been completely lost, and employment on the Sauda—Gáta and Jalgaon—Nasirabad roads was being found for about 1,150 of the poorer cultivators and labourers, and fears were expressed that it would be necessary to provide extensive relief works in these talukas.

1st Period.
2nd—9th September.

1. Sauda.
2. Yáwal (Petha).
3. Ráver (Petha).
4. Chopra.
5. Nasirabad.
6. Jámner.

Násik—(11 talukas and Peint State).—Week ending 9th September.—Little rain fell during the week, but up to the 4th, crops were generally reported good, though the prospects of the kharif crop were likely to be interfered with unless rain fell soon. The prices of grain were not mentioned, and it may be presumed they were normal or nearly so.

Ahmednagar—(11 talukas). Week ending 5th September.—Reports had been received previously for the weeks ending 15th, 22nd, and 29th August, reporting the crops to be suffering for want of rain and cattle to be in danger from failure of fodder, but that some rain had fallen in various talukas which might do good if continued. The report, however, for the week ending 5th September showed that rain had not been general, and that people were beginning to suffer distresss, while at the same time they were unable to prepare their ground for rabi. In most of the districts the kharif crops were regarded as perished.

Poona—(8 talukas).—Week ending 3rd September.—There was good rain in the talukas of Junnar, Khed and Máwal, but in Indápur and Bhimthari the young crops had perished, and throughout the eastern part of the district fodder was very scarce and great difficulty was found in procuring it, while prices of the staple grains—jowári and bájri—had risen to some 17 to 20 seers per rupee.

Sholápur—(7 talukas).—Week ending 6th September.—There was no rain this week and the fall previously had been so scanty that the entire kharif crop was reported to have failed. Great distress was prevalent in all talukas except Sholápur and Bársi, and local relief works were actually begun. Prices were everywhere rising, and the ground had not been prepared for rabi owing to the want of rain.

Satara—(12 talukas).—Week ending 4th September.—The kharif crop was withering generally, and a want of pasture for cattle was being felt in three talukas, but no apprehension of general scarcity was evident.

Kaládgi—(8 talukas). Week ending 9th September.—The kharif crop throughout the district was considered almost gone, but this being for the most part a rabi district, hopes were entertained that the Madras monsoon, of which there were signs, would do much to improve the circumstances of the district. Prices of grain began to rise considerably owing to demands from the neighbouring district of Dharwar.

Belgaum—(7 talukas).—Week ending 5th September.—Previous to this date there had been one report submitted in August stating that the scarcity of rain though not much felt up to date was beginning now to be serious, and though no great injury to crops had hitherto happened, still the further holding off of showers would cause considerable distress and want. Up to 5th September the crops in the immediate neighbourhood of Belgaum were still fair, and hopes were held out that if rain fell at once much of those in the northern and eastern parts of the district might be saved, though in Gakák, Athni, and parts of Chikodi, want of fodder and water was beginning to be felt. Grain still continued to be procurable at moderate prices.

Dharwar—(15 talukas).—Week ending 6th September.—The latest report received in August showed the crops in the western part of the district to be in moderate condition, while in the eastern talukas the kharif sown had mostly withered, and some little difficulty was experienced in procuring water for drinking purposes and fodder for cattle. Still nothing like famine was apprehended as there was reported to be grain in the district. Certain local works were proposed for execution by those classes of labourers who could not buy food, and hopes held out that late rains would give good rabi crops.

For the week ending 6th September prospects were rather worse. In only three or four talukas were the crops in fair condition. Elsewhere throughout the district they were withering for want of rain, prices were rising, scarcity of water and fodder was felt, and some of the poorer classes began to emigrate. Cotton sowing, too, was generally delayed throughout the district owing to want of rain.

General Remarks—The general state of affairs throughout these 9 collectorates was that if rain fell, much of the kharif could still be saved and a fairly good rabi crop be secured, but that if no showers came the kharif would generally be destroyed and there would be difficulty in preparing the ground for the rabi crops, in securing a supply of drinking water, and of fodder for cattle. Much depended on what the next few days would bring forth.

2nd Period. 10th—19th September.

Khandesh—(Week ending 16th September).—No rain to speak of fell throughout the district, and though in certain talukas, viz., Chopra, Jámner, Amalner, Páchora, and Shirpur prospects were still fair, yet in the remainder the crops were withering from want of rain, prices were beginning to rise, and it was necessary to provide labour on the Ghát road for upwards of 1,000 labourers.

Násik—(Week ending 15th September).—No rain except slight showers in Igatpuri, and prospects of kharif crops throughout the district looked gloomy unless rain fell immediately. In Niphád and Yeola talukas employment was

found on the road between the two towns of that name for some of the distressed labourers whose crops had failed, and steps were being taken to provide work for the Bheels in the Dang districts by having the annual forest cuttings done at this season instead of later on.

Ahmednagar—(week ending 12th September).—Scarcely any rain throughout the district, and what there was was so partial as only slightly to benefit a few villages. The Ghát crops were still doing fairly, but in the deshi, (or inland plain), talukas the kharif crops were nearly all gone, and there was such scarcity of fodder that in many places the cattle were turned out into the fields to graze on the remnants of the crops. Scarcity of water reported in five or six talukas, and relief works appeared to be imminently required. The sum of Rs. 1,000 was placed by the Government at the disposal of the Mámlatdárs of Karjat, Sangamner and Shrigonda for aiding emergent wants.

Poona—(weeks ending 10th and 17th September).—Little or no rain throughout the district in the eastern parts of which the kharif crops had withered away, though those in the Ghát districts were still doing well. Measures were taken to carry out Local and Provincial works, and sanction was requested for additional works of this nature. The sowing of the rabi crops was delayed for want of rain, drinking-water was becoming scarce, prices of grain were rising and fears entertained that the poorer classes would become disorderly.

Sholápur—(week ending 13th September).—With the exception of the Málsiras Taluka no rain of importance fell anywhere throughout the district, and the ground could not be prepared for the rabi crop. There was no change for the better in the district generally. Famine relief works were progressing satisfactorily, the small works going on being provided from local funds.

Satara.—(weeks ending 10th and 18th September).—The crops were flourishing except in the eastern talukas, but rain was required everywhere during the former of these two periods. During the latter, except at Malcolm Peth, there was no rain, and though the crops in the western talukas were still fair, yet it began to be evident that unless rain fell at once they would be destroyed. Those in the taluka of Khatau were gone, and those in Tásgaon, Mán, and Khánápur were in a bad way, while it was impossible throughout the district to prepare the ground for rabi sowing.

Kaládgi—(week ending 14th September).—No rain to speak of fell and the kharif crops generally were regarded as perished, while the same difficulty as to sowing rabi prevailed as in other districts. Fodder was becoming dear and scarce and grain rising in price except in Badámi. Local Fund works were in progress in the district in order to give temporary relief to the ryots.

Belgaum—(weeks ending 12th and 19th September).—In the former period there was no rain throughout the district, but though the crops were withering there were hopes of their reviving if rain fell. Water and fodder, specially in Athni and Gokák were growing scarce. In the latter period no rain fell and alarm began to be general, the kharif crops in Athni, Gokák and eastern part of Chikodi having failed. Cattle were reported to be dying and the people were feeding them on the withered crops. Employment was being given to ryots on local works as much as possible.

Dharwar—(week ending 13th September).—No rain fell throughout the district, and the early crops throughout the district were reported as withering or withered, only those beneath tanks and in the western portions of the collectorate being in fair or middling condition. In some parts emigration had commenced. The excavation of the Nawalgund tank and work on the Dambal—Hesrur road were giving employment to some people. Grain had risen considerably, owári at Ron being 8 seers the rupee.

General Remarks—Matters generally were, in consequence of rain still holding off, rather worse than in the first period, but still there were hopes that the later rains, especially in the Southern Maratha Country, would serve not only to save some of the kharif crops but to enable the rabi crops to be sown. In several districts, notably Sholápur, Ahmednagar, and Dharwar, relief works from local funds were started. Great anxiety was felt everywhere, as it was evident that unless rain fell very shortly, the scarcity and distress would be severe.

Third Period. 17—26th September.

Khandesh—(week ending 23rd September).—Except in Sauda, where there was a little rain, scarcely any fell throughout the district. In Virdel, Shirpur Nandurbar, Sháháda, and Taloda, kharif was still fair, but elsewhere it was fast withering or had perished. Relief works were in operation in many parts of the districts, upon which 2,684 people were employed. Bájri and jowári were still obtainable at from 12 to 16 seers respectively, per rupee.

Násik—(week ending 22nd September).—Five inches of rain fell at Igatpuri and 3·80 at Peint, and there were one or two light showers elsewhere which did a certain amount of good, but in parts of Niphád, Yeola, and Sinnar the whole kharif crop had failed. People were clamouring for work in Sinnar, and the Niphád and Yeola road was being carried on.

Ahmednagar—(week ending 19th September).—A few light showers fell in one or two talukas, and at Sheogaon there was a good fall of over 4 inches which benefited kharif. Elsewhere the little which fell did no good. The kharif generally had failed, the rabi was not sown, cattle were dying for want of fodder, and prices were rising very high.

Poona—(week ending 24th September).—There were slight showers in a few places, but the failure of kharif in the eastern villages of the district was complete, and that of the kharif in the western villages was probable. Rabi sowing was generally delayed, and want of water for drinking was beginning to be severely felt in Indápur and Bhimthari, where forage was so scarce that cattle were dying in numbers. Prices were rapidly rising.

Sholápur—(week ending 21st September).—No rain except a slight shower in one or two places. The kharif crop had perished, and the ground could not be prepared for rabi owing to want of rain.

Satara—(week ending 25th September).—No rain during the week. Kharif crops had failed throughout the talukas of Mán, Khatau, Khánápur, and Tásgaon. Elsewhere they were still generally good, but rain was required to save them and for sowing of rabi. Jowári was selling at Satara for 9 seers, and wheat 8 seers per rupee.

Kaládgi—(week ending 21st September). Slight rain in a few villages but not sufficient to do good. Kharif crops generally withered away and no rabi sown for want of rain; fodder scarce and dear, and prices beginning to rise. Local Fund works were in operation throughout the district but more were needed. Signs of rain from the south-east.

Belgaum—(week ending 26th September.)—No rain in the district, and kharif crops reported generally to have perished in Athni, Gokák, and east and Chikodi. Though rain, which was expected, might partially save them in other talukas, fodder for cattle had become so scarce, specially in Gokák, that the Collector had directed the Forest authorities to remove their prohibitions regarding cutting the branches of "ashi" in the jungles, this being excellent fodder.

Dharwar—(weeks ending 17th and 24 September).—In the first of these periods a few slight showers fell in one or two places, but crops were reported generally to be worse or to have perished: drinking-water was growing scarce.

Some 800 people were employed on road works, and people were generally asking for labour. In the following week no rain having fallen distress was much aggravated. The kharif had generally perished: great scarcity of drinking-water was felt in parts. Fodder was difficult to procure, grain was rising in price, no rabi was sown, and local relief works had to be started to give immediate employment.

General Remarks.—The state of affairs was that in Khandesh, Násik, Satara, and Belgaum only, did there appear any prospect of saving any of the kharif crops, and only in portions of these districts was there a chance of this if rain fell soon. In all the other districts the kharif was generally regarded as gone, but it was still hoped that in the Southern Maratha Country the Madras monsoon might enable the rabi crop to be sown.

Khandesh—(up to 7th October).—In this report in the form of a memorandum is the result of Mr. Propert's, (the Collector), personal inspection of the Central and Eastern talukas of his district. The kharif crop had failed in Sauda and Bhusáwal generally, and to a great extent in Jalgaon, Páchora, Bhadgaon, and Párola. In Jalgaon and Párola there was great scarcity of drinking-water, and grass was everywhere scanty and poor. In the remaining talukas the kharif crops were withering, but the scarcity was hardly felt so much yet, though prices rose greatly in Dhulia, while in four talukas—Pimpalner, Nandurbár, Sháháda, and Taloda the crops were much better than elsewhere. There was in general but little prospect of a rabi crop. There were relief works, principally road-making, being carried on in the distressed talukas, and the chief outcry everywhere was for additional works and remissions of revenue. No rain fell. *Fourth Period. 27th September to 7th October.*

Násik—(week ending 29th September).—There was a general fall of rain throughout the district which did much good especially in the Dangs where cause of anxiety on account of the hill-men and Bhils was said to be removed. In Niphád, Yeola, Chándor, Sinnar and part of Kalwan the bájri crop had failed, and though the rabi prospects there were not good, they were improved. Elsewhere they were fair.

(Week ending 6th October).—No rain fell and the rabi prospects generally were much injured, while the kharif harvest promised to be very irregular. In Sinnar, Niphád, and Yeola about 2,500 people were employed on relief works which were reported not to be absolutely necessary elsewhere.

Ahmednagar—(week ending 3rd October).—There were trifling showers in several talukas which did a little good to late-sown kharif, but throughout the district generally the kharif was reported as having failed; in many parts there was little or no fodder procurable, cattle were consequently dying in numbers and people were driving them to the hills and themselves migrating in search of food and work. The time for sowing rabi had nearly expired, and very little was sown anywhere. Relief works from local funds were in progress or authorized in all talukas except Sheogaon, Newása, and Páhuri.

Poona—(week ending 1st October).—There were slight showers of rain in Haveli, Bhimthari, and Indápur, but the only part of the collectorate where kharif crops were doing well was in the Máwal taluka. They were withering in Junnar, Khed, and Haveli, and had absolutely perished in the eastern districts. Rabi sowing was delayed throughout the collectorate; prices of grain were rising, and in Indápur and Bhimthari cattle dying in numbers from starvation. In these two talukas relief works were commenced.

Sholápur—(ending 4th October).—There was no rain throughout the week and there were no hopes of any falling. Kharif had absolutely failed, no rabi was sown, and labour was being provided for all comers.

Satara—(week ending 1st October).—Little or no rain fell throughout the district; the kharif and sugarcane crops were withering, while rabi sowing was delayed for want of it. The only place where the crops were doing well was Malcolm Peth. Grain was rising in price generally.

Kaládgi—(week ending 30th September.) —Rain fell capriciously throughout the district being heaviest at Kaládgi 2·47 inches, Bágalkot 1·97 inches, Hungund 1·79, and Sindgi 1·32. There were signs and hopes that more would speedily fall, and though the kharif had failed, yet the rabi was in many places sown in the hope of more rain causing it to grow. Bazar rates generally had not fallen, and fodder and drinking-water were everywhere scarce.

Belgaum—(week ending 3rd October).—In Belgaum rain fell to the amount of 1·28, and in Sampgaon 1·88 on 28th September, but in the other talukas there was little or none. All signs of the Madras monsoon had passed off at the date of the report, and no rabi had been sown, so that great distress was generally anticipated in at least three or four talukas.

Dharwar—(ending 30th September).—In Dharwar there fell 2·9 inches, in Nargund, 2·14, in Kod 2·5, and in Karajgi 1·5. In many other places rain fell but only to a small extent. What there was however did good to the standing crops and encouraged the ryots to sow rabi, while drinking-water was procured in many places where it was urgently wanted. More rain was expected and much needed. Prices of grain fell to some extent and cotton sowing was extensively begun. People generally, however, were seeking employment.

General Remarks.—The collectorates which benefited most by the rain which fell in this period were Násik, Kaládgi, Belgaum and Dharwar, and only in the last of these was there much real good done in securing water-supply for some months and enabling the ground to be prepared for rabi crops. The rain-fall in Násik was only sufficient to encourage ryots to hope for more and these hopes were destroyed towards the end of this period. In Káladgi there were hopes of more rain but none in Belgaum, while in Khandesh, Ahmednagar, Poona, Sholápur, and Satara prospects were very gloomy.

5th Period. 7th—14th October.

Khandesh—(ending 14th October).—The only taluka in which the kharif was good was Sháháda, where sowing for rabi was also going on. In Chálisgaon crops were middling, in Sauda, Dhulia, and Pimpalner the kharif crops had perished, and in the remaining talukas a kharif crop of 4 annas to 6 annas was the utmost expected anywhere. Cotton which had been sown was suffering from drought, and in the district where rabi was planted it was dying. There was no rain in the week under notice.

In the Dhulia, Sháháda, Taloda, Nandurbár, and Chálisgaon talukas the ryots and labourers were still employed in finishing their kharif harvest. In other talukas relief works were started or arrangements had been completed to begin them shortly. Over 2,000 people were employed.

Násik—(ending 13th October).—The kharif harvest was coming in and was expected to be about a half-crop, but little or no rabi was sown throughout the district. No rain fell. Four thousand people employed in Yeola, Niphád, and Sinnar on road works.

Ahmednagar—(ending 10th October).—In the Newása and Ankola talukas the kharif yield was estimated at 8 annas and in Jámkhed at 6 annas, elsewhere the kharif crops had perished or were withering. Rabi was not sown generally. Where it had been the young sprouts were withering for want of rain. Cattle were dying for want of fodder throughout the district and were being removed elsewhere. The Godávari was reported from Kopargaon to be running as low as in the hot weather. People were generally employed on relief works.

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Poona—(weeks ending 8th, and 15th October).—There was no rain throughout the district. The kharif crops were withering even in the western talukas and were being cut for forage. In the eastern talukas there was great difficulty in obtaining drinking-water, while cattle were being offered for sale for nominal prices. No rabi was sown throughout the district. Migration had begun from several places, and extensive relief works were started.

Sholápur—(ending 11th October).—No rain; cattle being sent away, those which remained dying of starvation; grain very dear and supplies urgently asked for.

Satara—(ending 8th and 15th October).—There was a little rain at Wái but not elsewere in the former of these two weeks. Hopes were entertained that more would fall to save the withering kharif crops and help the rabi in the few cases where it had been sown. Throughout the district kharif had nearly perished, and rabi was only in a few cases sown in hopes of rain falling shortly. These hopes were disappointed, for, in the second week the clouds which had gathered passed away, and everywhere the kharif was being given up as perished, the cattle were being fed on the withered stalks, or sent away, while grain had risen greatly in price.

Kaládgi—(ending 7th and 14th October).—In the first week there was rain in small showers at Bagewári, Bijápur, and Badámi, which, however, did little good owing to the parched state of the ground rendering it impossible to be prepared for rabi sowings. There was great and general distress for want of food and water for men and fodder for cattle. Prices were rising largely, and crimes attributable to the dearth were reported from one or two places. Relief works from Local Funds were going on throughout the district. In the second week no rain having fallen the distress was intensified, cattle were being removed to graze on the Ghats so that there was difficulty in procuring carriage. People were migrating from Indi and elsewhere. There were some signs of rain about. Great scarcity of drinking-water reported in places.

Belgaum—(ending 11th October).—No rain throughout the district. Kharif withered and rabi generally unsown. In the northern talukas the people were moving about in search of work and sending their cattle to the Ghats for pasturage. Scarcity of grain in Belgaum market, but it was hoped that the supplies coming in from the coast and distant villages would lessen this.

Dharwar—(ending 7th and 14 October).—In the former period there was a shower at Hángal, and in the latter slight rain at Kalghatghi and Mugud, which, however, was so local that it failed to do much good. In five talukas the crops were reported as bad to middling. In the remainder of the district they were withering or had withered, and where cotton had been sown it was fast perishing. Grain was rising greatly in price, and there was great scarcity of fodder for cattle and drinking-water in some places. Cholera had made its appearance in a few places.

In the second period the rain still holding off, the distress of the previous week was intensified. Crops everywhere were worse, and in Ránibennur and Gadag the well-to-do people were feeding poor persons. Grain was rising in price and dealers refusing to sell. Relief works from Local Funds being carried on. There were signs of rain about.

General Remarks.—The distress, owing to the want of rain, seems to have been more general and widespread in all the nine districts, and from these reports it became evident that a serious calamity was impending, as very much of the kharif had perished and scarcely any rabi crops been sown. Local Funds were freely spent in local works, but the condition of parts of Ahmednagar,

6th Period. 15th—24th October.

Poona, Sholápur, Kaládgi, Belgaum, and Dharwar plainly showed that it would soon be necessary to start relief works on a large scale and from more plentiful resources than Local Funds.

Khandesh—(ending 21st October).—Throughout Sauda, Nasirabad, Chopra, Sháháda, Taloda, Amalner, Erandol, Páchora and Virdel the sowing of the rabi crops had been completed, and in those districts where they had come up the young shoots were withering for want of rain. In Taloda only was there a good kharif crop. In the rest of the district it ranged from very bad to middling, in some parts there being none at all. The rabi prospects generally were very bad. Over 2,600 people employed on relief works, mostly repairs of roads and tanks. There was one small shower of rain at Nasirabad.

Násik—(ending 20th October).—The kharif crop was estimated at less than a half one throughout the district, and was particularly bad in Yeola and Sinnar talukas. The nágli crop on the ghát was said to have gone to dust instead of to grain in the ear, and unless rain fell shortly the whole of the ghát crops must suffer severely. Rabi prospects everywhere were bad. No rain fell in the week.

Ahmednagar—(ending 17th October).—What small kharif crop there was had been reaped, and the little rabi, mostly jowári, which had been sown and had germinated was withering for want of rain. Throughout the district relief works were in progress. Cattle were being or had been removed elsewhere for pasture. There was no rain.

Poona—(ending 22nd October).—There was one slight shower of rain at Haveli, but no change for the better had taken place. Including the Mutha Canal some 6,000 people were employed on relief works, more of which it was anticipated must shortly be taken in hand.

Sholápur—(ending 18th October).—No rain during the week. Some 20,000 cattle taken into the Nizam's territory. Many villages deserted. Over 32,000 people employed on relief works.

Satara—(ending 15th and 23rd October).—No rain in either of these weeks except a slight shower at Koregaon and at Islámpur on 21st. The kharif crops which were standing were fast withering and the bare stalks being cut down for fodder. Rabi sowing was generally suspended. The report for the week ending 23rd October shows that in Koregaon, Satara, Karád, and Wálwa the kharif crops were very fair; they were not so good in Wai, Pátan, and Jauli and in Khatau, Mán, and the greater part of Khánápur and Tásgaon they had entirely perished; while throughout the district the rabi either was not sown or where sown had begun to wither from want of rain. Fodder was very scarce and grain so dear that local arrangements had to be made with a Satara merchant to import it and sell it in the Khánápur and Tásgaon talukas at cost price plus half seer per rupee for profit. The irrigation work at Pingli was delayed in consequence of cholera near there.

Kaládgi—(ending 22nd October).—One inch of rain fell at Kaládgi on the 19th, but at the date of despatch, the taluka reports as to whether the rain had been general had not come in. Meanwhile the previous distress continued in an intensified form, price of grain was rising, fodder not procurable, water scarce and cattle dying. Relief works progressing.

Belgaum—(ending 17th and 24th October).—In the former week no rain fell, and the kharif crops in Gokák, north part of Chikodi and Athni except in a few villages on the Krishna were regarded as having perished. From all other talukas the reports were most unfavourable; complaints of want of water, fodder and grain were made, and merchants feared to import, alleging the unsafety of the roads. Local Fund works in progress insufficient to relieve the distress. In the latter week nearly 3 inches of rain fell in Parasgad, and over

one inch at Belgaum which did good to the surviving kharif crops. Showers also fell in some villages of Gokák and Chikodi, and in many places the cultivators were enabled to sow their rabi crops. Grain was more plentiful in the Belgaum market.

Dharwar—(ending 21st October).—Good rain fell at Ron and Dharwar but was not general over the district. In the two talukas mentioned the ryots have been enabled to sow rabi to some extent, but a good crop was not anticipated from them, and from all other talukas reports were received that the crops were worse than in the previous week, and great general distress was expected.

General Remarks.—The districts which were worst off were Násik, where less than a half kharif crop was anticipated, and little or no rabi; Ahmednagar, where the greater part of the kharif had perished and scarcely any rabi was sown; Poona, where a similar state of affairs prevailed; Sholápur, where kharif had entirely gone and no rabi had been sown; and Dharwar, where the rain which fell was only partial and did but little good. In Belgaum and Kaládgi it was hoped that a considerable amount of rabi would be sown. In Satara and Khandesh the kharif crops had been got in, and though in the former there was not much hope for the rabi, yet in the latter it had been pretty generally sown, and if rain fell might yet do fairly.

The condition of affairs in all the districts subsequent to the 24th October is shown in the summary published by Government and submitted to the Secretary of State and the Government of India on the 2nd November last, in which also were sketched out the arrangements made by Government to avert the consequences of what can now only be regarded as a famine in the nine districts mentioned above. Similar summaries are to be published weekly, giving a short statement of the progress of the famine and the nature of the operations undertaken to relieve the want and distress unhappily prevalent.

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay, 20th November 1876.

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BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

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SUMMARY of the Measures taken in relation to the scarcity in the Deccan and the Southern Mahratta Country in the Bombay Presidency up to 31st October 1876.

1. From the following Table may be gathered the extent and population of the country affected, the average ordinary rainfall and that of the current year, the average ordinary prices of the staple foods and those at present prevailing, and the number approximately of cattle :—

Names of Districts.	Area in square miles.	Population	Average rain-fall for six years.	Rain-fall in 1876.		Ordinary average price of Staple Grain.	Present average price of Staple Grain.	Number of Cattle.
Khandesh	10,162	10,28,642	23·83	June ... ... 4·66 July ... ... 4·73 August ... 2·95 September ... 0·80 October	13·14	*Bájri*—14 seers per rupee. *Jowári*—18 seers.	7½ seers per rupee 9 seers.	6,15,783
Násik	8,140	7,34,386	29·41	June ... ... 2·04 July ... ... 6·24 August ... 4·10 September ... 0·58 October	12·98	*Bájri*—26 seers per rupee. *Nagli*—28 seers per rupee.	13½ seers. 15 seers.	5,17,658
Ahmednagar... ...	6,647	7,73,938	27·99	June ... ... 3·24 July ... ... 2·30 August ... 1·28 September ... 1·82 October	8·64	*Bájri*—31 seers per rupee.	10 seers 77 tolas per rupee.	5,37,100
Poona...	5,099	9,07,235	33·10	June ... ... 5·02 July ... ... 5·76 August ... 2·82 September ... 0·68 October ... 0·52	14·80	*Bájri*—21¾ seers per rupee. *Jowári*—28½ seers.	11¼ seers. 14½ do.	5,13,594
Sholápur	4,496	7,18,034	28·35	June ... ... 2·05 July ... ... 2·36 August ... 3·60 September ... 0·54 October ... 0·26	8·81	*Bájri*—16 seers per rupee.	5 seers per rupee.	3,71,651
Satara...	4,988	10,61,002	40·4	June ... ... 3·55 July ... ... 23·10 August ... 3·91 September ... 0·23 October	30·79	*Bájri*—18½ seers per rupee. *Jowári*—21 seers.	9 seers. 10½ seers.	5,70,018
Kaládgi	5,695	8,16,037	23·53	June ... ... 9·60 July ... ... 1·00 August ... 0·10 September ... 2·53 October ... 1·03	14·26	*Jowári*—28 seers per rupee.	9 seers.	5,24,342
Belgaum	4,591	9,33,750	41·88	June ... ... 6·06 July ... ... 19·18 August ... 2·71 September ... 2·14 October ... 1·19	31·28	*Jowári*—20 seers per rupee.	8 seers.	3,98,588
Dharwar	4,564	9,88,037	32·34	June ... ... 2·06 July ... ... 8·92 August ... 1·48 September ... 1·84 October ... 0·67	14·97	*Jowári*—18 seers per rupee.	7½ seers.	5,41,237
Total ...	54,392	79,66,061						45,39,971

2. The average rainfall for the last six years has been compiled from records in the Secretariate. The monthly falls during 1876 are from a return published by the Public Works Department for the first six Collectorates. Those for the last three have not been included in the Public Works Department's publication, and are prepared from the Sanitary Commissioner's returns in the Secretariate.

3. The areas and population are taken from Vol. III. of the Census Report of 1872; but in Satara and Sholápur there is a difference in the area and population as shown in the Report, owing to the recent transfer of the Málsiras Taluka from Satara to Sholápur, decreasing the former and increasing the latter. There ought also to be a corresponding decrease and increase of the cattle in the respective districts, but exact data are not available to show how much this is. The totals, however, are not materially affected.

4. It is specially noticeable that in all the districts the rains have entirely failed in September and October. The districts in the Southern Maratha Country have had a few showers in October from the Madras monsoon; but they have been partial and slight, and have had no effect, as a rule, in enabling the ground to be prepared for the rabi crops; while in the strictly Deccan districts there has either been no rain at all in September and October, or so little as practically to be of no use whatever. The general result may be stated that the kharif crops have withered from want of timely moisture, and that the ground for rabi crops has either not been prepared for sowing, or, where crops have been sown, they have, if they have come up at all, every prospect of total failure from drought. In a few villages of Belgaum, Kaládgi and Dharwar, perhaps a scanty rabi crop may be the result of recent showers.

5. From the prices of staples grains, it will be seen that, as compared with the ordinary average price at this season, they have risen in all the districts at least cent per cent, and in several—Ahmednagar, Sholápur, and Kaládgi to wit—two hundred per cent; which simply means that whereas in ordinary years a man could buy from 20 to 30 seers of bájri or jowári for one rupee, he can this year obtain but from 7½ to 10 or 11 seers. There is much difference of opinion as to the quantity of grain in store in the country; but it is certain that as the current year's crops could, under no circumstances, have as yet been harvested, there can, up to the present time, be no deficiency of supply. Government are most averse to interfere directly with the grain market. They have invited tenders for the supply of grain to the workpeople employed on the Mutha Canal near Poona, and for the supply of rations to the Native Regiments stationed at Belgaum, Dharwar, Ahmednagar, and Sholápur. These measures, they hope, will enable them to judge whether the existing rates are the results of combination. In the outlaying district of Kaládgi, the Collector has been informed that if there is a positive absence of sufficient stock, or if it can be established that the dealers are unduly combining, then Government will be prepared to import. Similar intimation has been made to the Collector of Dharwar.

6. In the months of August and September it became evident that unless rain fell plentifully, and soon, distress would prevail extensively through the districts named above; and the Collectors were thereupon called on to submit direct to His Excellency the Governor weekly reports regarding the state of their districts, and to forward proposals for relief works as they became necessary. While there was still some hope that rain might avert some of the worst consequences, Government were anxious not to indent upon Imperial resources for famine expenditure, and in their Resolution No. 138 C. W.—709, dated 3rd October 1876, laid down the following principles in respect to relief works:—

1*st*.—All possible re-appropriations to be made from the current year's Local Fund Budget items, irrespective of the Talukwar restriction.

2*nd*.—All balances of Local Funds not yet appropriated, *i.e.*, not budgetted against, to be made available.

3*rd*.—Where the current year's Budget credits and the balances not yet budgetted against have been exhausted, Government will provide such other funds as may be clearly required to afford the necessary relief.

7. Upon the principles thus laid down Resolutions were passed from time to time in the Public Works Department, sanctioning reappropriations and expenditure in the various districts specified, and it was only when the funds thus provided were exhausted that application was made to the Government of India for further allotments. The following statement shows the amounts thus sanctioned and expended:—

Statement showing Sums sanctioned for Expenditure from Local Funds in accordance with the principles of Government Resolution No. 138 *C. W.*—709, *dated 3rd October* 1876.—*This includes advances to Local Funds repayable next year.*

Districts.	Irrigation.	Roads and Repairs.	Contribution to Imperial Establishment.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Khandesh	...	7,400	...	7,400
Násik	...	10,000	...	10,000
Ahmednagar	...	8,500	...	8,500
Poona	...	...	...	No Local Funds available.
Sholápur	12,750	13,860	...	26,610
Satara	2,000	62,000	...	64,000
Kaládgi	20,302	18,475	1,969	40,746
Belgaum	41,100	56,175	...	97,275
Dharwar	...	19,730	...	19,730
Total ...	76,152	1,96,140	1,969	2,74,261

8. Government further authorized the Collectors of six of the worst districts to expend, at their discretion, a sum of Rs. 25,000 each in providing employment near their homes, in the shape of digging wells, clearing tanks, removing and burying prickly-pear, for those who were too weak or too poor to join the works above mentioned. The Collectors were also told to apply this money, in cases of extreme necessity, in the form of gratuitous charitable relief:—

	Rs.	
Poona	25,000	Government Resolution No. 5890, dated 16th October 1876.
Ahmednagar	25,000	Ditto ditto.
Sholápur	25,000	Ditto ditto.
Dharwar	25,000	Government Letter 26 P, dated 17th idem.
Satara	25,000	Government Resolution 5907, dated 17th idem.
Kaládgi	25,000	Government Letter 31 P, dated 23rd idem.
Total Rs...	1,50,000	

9. In their Resolution of the 16th October Government represented to the Government of India that "Local resources were virtually exhausted," and sanctioned the expenditure of a sum of Rs. 58,000 in addition to the budget allotments of Rs. 30,000 for relief works, consisting entirely of roads in the Ahmednagar district. They further recommended and strongly urged the construction of the Dhond and Manmár Railway as a work which would pass through the worst parts of Sholápur and Ahmednagar.

10. On 27th October, in their Resolution No. 6152 in the Revenue Department, Government, acting upon the authority conveyed to them in the Government of India telegrams dated 4th and 16th idem, sanctioned the general scheme of works submitted to them by the Public Works Department. Paras. 3 and 4 of the Resolution show the sums sanctioned for expenditure up to date, a summary of which is shown below :—

Districts.	Irrigation Works, Comprising Canals, Tanks, and Wells.	Roads and Repairs thereto.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Khandesh	38,500	.....	38,500
Násik	10,000	.....	10,000
Ahmednagar	18,624	30,200	48,824
Poona	1,36,000	30,164	1,66,164
Sholápur	13,268	1,00,260	1,13,528
Satara	26,717	15,000	41,717
Kaládgi	.....	.....	.....
Belgaum	.....	28,000	28,000
Dharwar	38,124	60,000	98,124
Total Rs...	2,81,233	2,63,624	5,44,857

The Government of India declined to sanction for the present the construction of the Dhond and Manmár Railway, deeming that it was "not advisable to embark on any large project which will involve the continuance of heavy expenditure after the emergency has ceased;" and adding, "the Railway question must be decided on its merits from a financial and political point of view, and is not yet ripe for decision."

11. Under the same Resolution the Bombay Government is prepared to sanction as required the expenditure given below :—

Districts.	Irrigation Works, Canals, Tanks, and Wells.	Roads and Repairs thereto.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Khandesh	3,63,912	1,50,000	5,13,912
Násik	75,000	50,000	1,25,000
Ahmednagar	20,000	2,12,000	2,32,000
Poona	5,09,878	2,37,000	7,46,878
Sholápur	3,64,000	2,52,255	6,16,225
Satara	7,75,000	2,00,000	9,75,000
Kaládgi	1,75,000	4,36,000	6,11,000
Belgaum	.....	4,00,000	4,00,000
Dharwar	1,53,886	6,66,000	8,19,886
Total... ...	24,36,676	26,03,255	50,39,931

The figures in both these tables are liable to certain alterations according as expenditure exceeds the estimates or the reverse. The general nature of the relief works undertaken may be summarized in few words. They consist chiefly of making roads which shall be feeders either to the Railway or to the main lines of road in the respective districts; of tanks and tank repairs, of the Mutha

Canal in the Poona and Sholápur districts. In a summary of this sort it would obviously be impossible to enter into details for each district and taluka of all the works sanctioned and proposed.

12. The attention of the Government has also been turned to the possibility of bringing about the emigration of the people to other parts of India, such as Berar and Central India, where the crops have been good and where an increase of population is desirable, while steps are being taken by throwing open certain forest reserves to preserve some of the stock of cattle for which there is nowhere fodder to be found. The danger of a water famine, as well as of grain and fodder, is to be feared, and in the selection of works to be undertaken in the future much attention will have to be paid to this point.

13. The ordinary Taluka Establishments in the three Collectorates of Poona, Ahmednagar, and Sholápur, have been strengthened by the distribution amongst them of one entire Revenue Survey Party. On the recommendation of the Collector of Poona, the Mámlatdárs of two talukas (Indápur and Bhimthari) have been relieved of their ordinary duties and their services made available for superintending relief works and inquiring into the condition of the people. Government are prepared to render similar aid to such other Collectors as may consider themselves in need of it. Inquiries have been instituted into the probable amount of past years' grain in stock in the several districts; but on this most important point it is very difficult to obtain anything approaching reliable information. The Collectors have also been authorized to make Tagai advances to cultivators for the purpose of enabling them to carry on their operations and maintain their cattle.

14. In conclusion, it may be said that the situation at present is thus :—

(1.) The kharif crops have almost entirely failed, and there is scarcely any hope of any rabi except in one or two parts of the Southern Mahratta Country, where recent showers may enable the cultivators to secure a partial and scanty crop.

(2.) In many places the people are already suffering from want of water, and the cattle are dying for want of it and of food.

(3.) On relief works Local Funds have been expended to the amount of Rs. 2,74,261.

(4.) From Imperial and Provincial Funds, including the Rs.1,50,000 sanctioned to the six Collectors named in para. 8, Rs. 6,94,857 have been spent or sanctioned for expenditure.

(5.) From Imperial Funds the expenditure of Rs. 50,39,931 remains to be sanctioned as needed.

F. S. CHAPMAN.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

B 497—b

Progress Statement No. II. regarding the scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Maratha Country, together with a summary of the orders issued during the week ending 7th November 1876.

In the summary published by Government for the week ending 31st October, statistics regarding the area, population, average and actual rain-falls, and number of cattle were given, which it is unnecessary here to repeat. In the following table are shown briefly the state of the weather and crops in each district up to the latest available dates:—

District.	Weather Report by Telegram.	State of Corps by Written Report.	Price of Staple Food Grains.	
			Past Week.	Present Week.
Khandesh	*8th Nov.*—No rain; rabi crops drying up.	*5th November.*—The probable extent of failure of crops cannot be stated with certainty till the Assistants have completed their inquiries. The western talukas are fair. In about 8 or 9 talukas only a 4 or 6-anna crop is expected.	Bájri 7½ seers Jowári 9 seers	7½ seers. 9½ seers.
Násik	*8th Nov.*—No rain; rabi crops withering; health good.	*3rd November*—There was no rain, water and fodder scarce in parts; prospects gradually growing worse.	Bájri 13½ seers Jowári not stated Nágli 15 seers	14½ seers. 17½ seers. 15½ seers.
Ahmednagar	*8th Nov.*—No rain.	*31st October.*—Rabi crops scarcely sown at all. Where they are sown, they are perishing for want of rain, none of which has fallen in the district.	Bájri 11 seers Jowári 14 seers	11 seers. 13 seers.
Poona	*7th Nov.*—No rain; crops drying up.	*5th November.*—No change for the better from previous week; crops drying up. What rabi was sown dying for want of moisture.	Bájri 11⅔ seers Jowári 14½ seers	9½ seers. 11¼ seers.
Sholápur	*8th Nov.*—No rain; no crops or fodder.	*1st November.*—No rain or hope thereof. The crops have hopelessly and completely perished.	Bájri 5 seers. *N.B.*—The seer in Sholápur is believed to be about 3 lbs.	4½ seers.
Satara	*8th Nov.*—No rain; weather cloudy; withered crops used as fodder.	*30th October.*—Kharif crop estimated at 10 annas in Pátan, 8 annas in Wai and Karád, less than 4 annas in all others; rabi 8 annas in Wálwa, and almost complete failure in central and eastern talukas; prospects gloomy.	Bájri 9 seers Jowári 10½ seers Wheat	9 seers. 10½ seers. 7¾ seers.
Kaládgi	*6th Nov.*—No rain; rabi sowing season nearly over; what is sown withering.	Nothing fresh to state. If rain comes benefit even yet to rabi will be great; fodder scarce; cattle dying.	Bájri 9¾ seers Jowári 9 seers	9 seers. 9½ seers.
Belgaum	*8th November.*—No rain. Kharif crops mostly withered except on banks of rivers: little or no rabi sown.	*31st October.*—The condition of all the crops is very unfavourable. Almost entire failure of kharif in Gokák and Athni. Three-fourths gone in Chikodi and Párasgad, and there may be a six-anna crop in the rest of the district.	Jowári 8 seers	8 seers.
Dharwar	*8th Nov.*—No rain; scarcity of food grain, water, and fodder increasing.	*28th October.*—Slight rain in Náwalgund Hángal, and Kod. In the villages, where rain fell in previous week the crops are reviving, but generally throughout the district they are worse than in previous week.	Jowári 7½ seers	7½ seers.

Note.—The Collectors have been asked always to state the amount of grain purchaseable for a rupee in pounds, not seers, for the future.

2. Regarding the state of the grain supply it appears that in Khandesh, Násik, Ahmednagar, Poona, and Satara it is as yet obtainable partly from private importation by traders and partly by the small harvest from the kharif crops. In Khándesh and Násik His Highness the Scindia has sent as a contribution to these districts Rs. 6,000 worth of jowári, half for each district. Its despatch has been notified to the Collectors, who have been directed to take charge of it and distribute it according to their discretien. In Kaládgi the Collector reports that there is great distress for actual want of grain, that traders will not import, and that it will be necessary for him to obtain supplies direct. He has been authorized to make temporary arrangements for *immediate* supplies, but has been directed to report what amounts will be required for each month, and to give other details so as to enable Government to advertize for tenders. It is hoped that when the knowledge of this step becomes general, traders will awake to their own interests. In Belgaum the Collector reports by telegram, dated 8th instant, that all grain is scarce, especiacilly jowári, which is not procurable in sufficient quantities for the labourers on relief works. His written report up to 31st October states that though grain is imported by sea it mostly passes through Belgaum to Dharwar, Kolhápur, and the Patwardhan States, where better prices are thought probable.

* *Vide* Government Resolution No. 6368, dated 7th November 1876.

In Sholápur there is plenty of grain which has been imported by rail, but it is difficult as yet to get it distributed in the districts. This ought to be overcome in a few days. From Dharwar grain is reported as scarce and difficult to obtain in places. Public meetings have been held in Poona, Ahmednagar, and Bombay, at which large sums have been subscribed for the benefit of sufferers from the famine, and it is hoped that full details of their proceedings will shortly be available for publication.

3. The present condition and movements of the people are stated to be as follows:—

Khandesh.—Up to 21st October over 2,600 persons are employed on famine relief works, such as roads, tanks, &c., while the greater part of the agricultural population are getting in the scanty kharif harvest, and trying in some places to sow rabi.

Násik.—The Revenne Commissioner, N. D., Mr. Ashburner, has recently made a tour through these districts, and from his note dated 30th October thereon, it appears that there are about 4,000 people employed on relief works, roads in Sinnar, Yeola and Niphád Talukas, that in the town of Yeola there is a class of Mussulman weavers, many of whom have returned to their native country, Benares, but that the remainder, together with certain classes of Mussulmans in Chándor and Násik are ashamed to beg and unable to work, and that it will be necessary to support them. The people generally are very patient, and though petty thefts of grain take place, no great degree of crime is prevalent.

Ahmednagar.— The Collector, writing on 31st October, says that the cultivators and labouring classes generally throughout his district are in the greatest distress and suffering much. There are many thousands employed upon relief works, as will be shown in the paragraph treating of relief works. People in several talukas are further reported to be migrating *en masse* to the Nizam's territory.

Poona (*1st November*).—The people throughout the district are suffering great distress from want of water, and are extensively employed

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on the various relief works. A great many are also said to have migrated to the Nizam's territory.

Sholápur (*1st November*).—Large numbers are employed on the relief works. Many villages are entirely deserted, their inhabitants having emigrated with their cattle to the Nizam's territory.

Satara (*4th November*).—Matters are not yet quite so bad here with the people, who still are employed in gathering their scanty harvest, and therefore hesitate to come to the relief works. As soon as the grain is got in it is expected they will flock in large numbers to these works.

Kaládgi (*4th November*).—A migration of cultivators in large numbers has taken place in the direction of the Nizam's country, and many are employed upon relief works. Those who remain suffer much from want of food.

Belgaum (*31st October*).—Owing to the scarcity of food and the want of water the Coltector reports the people to be growing unruly. Four large dacoities implicating 84 prisoners and two thefts of grain in which 43 prisoners were concerned have occurred, and a feeling of great insecurity is generally felt by travellers in the district. Many people are employed on relief works.

Dharwar (*1st November*).—The poorer classes are suffering severely from want of water, so much so even in Dharwar itself that some 300 people pave been thrown out of employ at the Dharwar tank. They are extensively engaged on relief works, but are reported in some parts to be growing desperate. As yet, however, no serious crime is reported.

The great outlet, after emplyoment upon the various relief works, appears to be in Násik, Ahmednagar, Poona, Sholápur, and Kaládgi, for the people to emigrate to the Nizam's territory, and this movement will doubtless spread to the Belgaum and Dharwar districts.

The chief relief works now in progress in the various districts are shown below:—

District.	Nature of Work.	Number of people employed thereon.	Allotments granted.	Remarks.
			Rs.	
Khandesh	Roads in Párola	2,600 persons employed.	3,000	Sanctioned under Government Resolution No. 707, dated 3rd October 1876.
	,, Sauda		4,400	
Násik	Roads in Niphád and Yeola	4,000 on both works.	39,712	Rs. 10,000 only are alloted, but further allotments will be made as need arises.
	,, Kaprála Ghát.....		22,158	
Ahmednagar...	Roads, local, in various taluks ...	20,439 employed on the various works.	4,500	
	,, Kardí and Kashti		4,000	
	,, Provincial repairs		10,000	
Poona	3 Roads in Bhimthari Taluka ...	About 12,000 on the different works.	24,303	
	3 ,, in Indápur.....	.....	15,509	No specific allotment has been made. It is presumed the full amount of estimate will be granted.
	Repairs to roads in do.			
	Mutha Canal Right Bank	.....	1,23,586	

District.	Nature of Works.	Number of people employed thereon	Allotment granted.	Remarks.
Sholápur.....	7 Roads in Mádha Taluka.....	Upwards of 40,000 employed on works in the district.	8,760	
	4 ,, in Karmála ,, ...		5,000	
	1 ,, in Sángola ,, ...		1,400	
	2 ,, in Málsiras ,, ...		2,100	
	4 ,, in Pandharpur ,, ...		8,300	
	3 ,, in Sholápur ,, ...		35,000	
	2 Tanks in Sholápur Taluka ...		8,944	
	1 ,, in Bársi ,, ...		28,360*	* Rs. 18,000 from Municipal Fund. Balance from Imperial grant. Rs. 1,000 from Municipal Funds.
	2 ,, in Pandharpur ,, ...		11,200†	† Rs. 1,000 from Municipal Funds.
	1 ,, in Mádha ,, ...		1,500	
	3 ,, in Karmála ,, ...		5,650	
	3 ,, in Málsiras ,, ...		7,600	
	Clearing prickly-pear in Karmála.		5,000	
Satara.....	3 Roads in Satara, Tásgaon, and Shirgaon.	Only about 1,000 employed as yet; many more shortly expected.	62,000	No specific allotment has been made, but the works have been ordered to be proceeded with.
	Ner Tank in Khatao Taluka ...		2,21,800	
	Pingli Tank in Mán ,, ...		1,89,600	
	Islámpur water-supply works in		2,000	
Kaládgi	16 Local roads, talukas not specified.	No data available to show number employed.	17,725	
	6 Tanks, talukas not specified.		19,552	
Belgaum.....	2 Roads in Athni Taluka.....	2,400 persons employed in Gokák. Returns for the other talukas not yet received by the Collector.	15,500	
	1 ,, in Gokák ,, ...		1,26,306	
	5 ,, in Parasgad Taluka ...		17,025	
	10 Tanks in Athni ,, ...		11,000	
	8 ,, in Gokák ,, ...		10,000	
	1 ,, in Parasgad ,, ...		2,500	
	1 Well in Athni ,, ...		1,000	
	Wells in Gokák ,, ... (Not specified).		6,000	
	Wells and tanks in Parasgad Taluka. (Not specified).		10,000	
Dharwar.....	Road from Gadag *viá* Dambal to Hesrur.	4,000 people are employed on Dambal and Hesrur road.	30,000	
	Road from Hubli and Kaládgi...		10,000	
	8 other roads, talukas not specified.		19,730	
	Herikerur Tank		11,675	
	Dambal ,, ...		.....	The amount of cost is not specified, but the work has been begun pending estimates.

These works, many of which are simply intended for relief and are not provided for in any sanctioned budget or by any sanctioned re-appropriations of budget credits, are to be undertaken from time to time as occasion arises on the requisitions of the Collectors; such requisitions to certify distinctly that the works are needed to afford relief to persons suffering from scarcity of food and from the rise in prices of grain (Government Resolution, Public Works Department, No. 166-c.w.—792, dated 4th November 1876). The rates of payment are laid down at 2 annas a man, 1½ a woman, 1 anna a child capable of working, but matters will be so arranged as to ensure each labourer receiving in part payment a certain quantity of food without reference to its cost.

6. *General Measures.*—For the preservation of cattle in the various districts Government have sanctioned Mr. Ashburner's proposal to have those of Khandesh and Násik driven to the Highlands of the Central Provinces; in cases were there is not fodder procurable in these districts, the Forest officers have been instructed to allow leaves of trees to be cut for forage, and, as already

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noted last week, the Forest officers in all districts have been directed to assist cultivators liberally and freely in the support of their cattle by throwing open many of the forest reserves for grazing. It is hoped in this way that the cattle in and near all the ghâts will be saved, while emigration and removal of cattle into the Nizam's territory will be of much aid to the ryots in the eastern portion of the districts.

As the relief works will necessarily attract large congregations of labourers certain important points connected therewith, such as sanitary precautions, supply of water as well as food, &c., have to be considered. The Sanitary Commissioner has been directed to draw up simple sanitary rules of easy application, which will be circulated for the use of officers in charge of relief works. Arrangements are also made for the attendance of a medical subordinate, in whose hands the sanitary arrangements will be placed under the general direction of the chief superintending officer on the works, and peons will be attached to see that the orders given are properly carried out.

As regards water-supply, the principle laid down is to commence the works at places where the supply, though scanty, is now present, leaving those parts where it is more abundant for later treatment, but much will have to be left to the common sense and judgment of the officers concerned. The question is one which causes grave anxiety, and will need careful and circumspect management.

7. The question of soldiers' rations, batta to peons and menial servants of Government is one which has engaged the attention of Government. Tenders for the supply to native troops at Ahmednagar, Sholápur, Belgaum, and Dharwar for two months from the 15th November of the provisions required for their daily use have been advertised for, and the provisions will be furnished daily on requisitions signed by the commanding officer of each corps. Payments are to be made weekly to the contractors, and disputes as to quality are to be decided by the Collector.

With regard to peons, menials, &c., of various departments sanction has been given to allowing them batta temporarily.

8. The unfortunate condition of affairs has rendered it necessary that the hands of administrative officers should be strengthened as much as possible in the affected districts, and Government have therefore been compelled to issue orders forbidding all leave except upon medical certificate in all Departments and under express sanction of Government. In Sholápur, Ahmednagar, Poona, and Kaládgi, besides additional Assistants and Deputies, the Collectors have been authorized to depute upon relief duty the Mámlatdárs of the talukas worst affected, filling up their places by acting appointments. The Public Works Department have been requested to increase the staff employed in districts where it is reported to be insufficient, Kaládgi for instance, and under Government Resolution No. 166-c.w.—792, dated 4th November, in that department, Superintending Engineers have been directed to report what additional upper subordinates they require, while as regards inferior superintendence temporary sub-oversees are to be engaged, as well as such additional clerical establishment as is necessary.

In the Násik and Khandesh districts, on the proposal of the Police Commissioner, military guards have been, or will be substituted for the police in certain places, with the view of giving confidence to the grain dealers, while it seems probable that some such step will be required in the districts of the Southern Mahrata Country, whence dacoities, grain thefts on a large scale, stack firing, and similar crimes have been reported.

9. On the important questions of importation of grain by Government and free trade between the various districts, the views of Government have been laid

down in their Resolution No. 6375, dated 7th instant, in the Revenue Department, as follows:—"Circumstances which have lately been brought under the notice of Government render it necessary, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, to impress on all officers serving under Government in the distressed districts the obligation to discourage to the best of their ability all attempts to impede the free trasfer of grain from one part of the country to another, whether it be from one Collectorate to another, from one taluka to another, or between a native state and some other territory. It is certain that large supplies of grain are now passing by rail and sea into the distressed districts under the direction of private traders, and nothing could so injuriously affect these enterprises as the creation in the minds of the traders of an apprehension that they would not be at liberty to carry their porperty to the market likely to afford the largest profit. The Government trust that the Collectors will use their best endeavours to make these instructions generally known, and to take care to explain to their subordinates the real object of their issue. Government also desire that the Collectors will use their best efforts to contradict the rumours which appear to have been spread to the effect that Government contemplate interfering with the ordinary grain trade and attempting to regulate prices."

10. In conclusion, it may be said (1) that there is, and will now probably be, as far as the crops are concerned, no improvement upon their condition as reported last week.

(2.) The grain supply is in all districts but those of Kaládgi, Belgaum, and Dharwar, sufficient and likely to remain so, while in those three it is hoped that steps which have been taken will shortly improve the supply.

(3.) Relief works are in progress in all the districts, and many thousands of people are employed on them.

(4.) Cattle have been removed to the hill districts, to the Central Provinces, and to the Nizam's territory for pasturage.

(5.) Migration to the Nizam's territory has been freely resorted to by the people in the districts bordering thereupon.

(6.) The greatest cause for anxiety remaining now to Government is the supply of drinking water in the distressed districts and upon the relief works.

11. Government hope to be able to supply in the next week information which may be very useful in estimating the means which will be available in the future.

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

8th November 1876.

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STATEMENT No. III. regarding the scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the Week ending 14th November 1876.

District.	Weather Report by Telegram.	State of Crops by written Report.	Price of Staple Food-Grains.	
			Past Week.	Present Week.
Khandesh ...	*15th November.*—No rain, distress increasing, rabi prematurely drying up. Bájri 11½ seers. } per Jowári 14 „ } Re.	*9th November.*—In Shahada, kharif is good, and rabi sowings have been completed. In Nandurbar, kharif is fair, except on poor soil. In Dhulia, Pimpalner, Taloda, Chopra, Nasirabad Jamner, Virdel, and Shirpur, kharif harvest is in progress; yield unequal but generally scanty. In Amalner, Erandol, Pachora, Chaligaon, Sauda and Bhusawal kharif ranges from middling to bad. Rabi generally withering for want of rain.	Bájri 7½ seers ... Jowári 9¼ „ ... These represent the average prices throughout the whole district.	8½ seers. 10⅛ „
Násik ...	*15th November.*—30 to 40 cents rain in Násik, Sinnar, Niphad, Chander. What little rabi sown withering. Bájri 11 to 12 seers.	*10th November.*—Kharif crops have largely failed. Rabi in many places still unsown; in some localities where these crops have been sown they are fairly promising, but their ultimate fate depends on rain falling soon. Water for irrigating purposes failing in many places.	Bájri 14½ seers ... Jowári 17¼ seers... Wheat ... ... Nagli, 15½ seers ...	12½ seers. 14½ „ 11½ „ 17⅞ „
Ahmednagar.	*15th November.*—Fall of rain benefited rabi slightly in some places. Bájri 19½ lbs. } per Jowári 22½ „ } Re.	Report not received up to date.	Bájri 11 seers ... Jowári 13 „ ...	*Vide* Col. 3
Poona ...	*14th November.*—Slight rain in 4 talukas. Great distress. Bájri 18 lbs. } per Jowári 20 „ } Re.	*12th November.*—Outturn of kharif estimated at 1 to 3 or 6 annas in the rupee. The rabi partially sown is withering for want of rain. There were showers of 3 cents, 8 cents, and 16 cents registered at Patas, Indápur and Khed, respectively, during the week. The wells in the eastern talukas were fast drying up.	Bájri 19 lbs ... Jowári 22 „ ...	18½ lbs. 21¼ „
Sholápur ...	*15th November.*—7 cents rain in Málsiras, nonee lsewhere. Crops as before. Jowári 17 lbs. } per Rice 14 „ } Re.	*8th November.*—There has been no rain, and there is no change from previous week for the better.	Jowári 4½ seers ... By a clerical error bájri was entered last week as the staple. It should have been jowári.	4? seers.
Satara ...	*14th November.*—Rain 35 cents in Satara; showers in Khatao and Pátan. Bájri 13 to 19lbs } per Re. Jowári 16 to 20 „ } Wheat 8 to 17 „ }	*6th November.*—In Koregaon, kharif is good, loss estimated at 4 annas only. In the rest of the district the estimate given last week remains undisturbed. Rabi where sown is considered to be a failure; in many parts, in the south and east, drinking water is failing.	Bájri 9 seers ... Jowári 10½ „ ... Wheat 7¾ „ ...	7⅞ seers. 9 „ 7¼ „
Kaládgi ...	*14th November*—No rain, kharif nearly reaped, scarcely any outturn. No improvement in rabi. Water-supply failing. Jowári 6 seers per rupee.	*11th November.*—No rain, weather cloudy. Nothing fresh to state about crops; water-supply failing generally, and cattle dying in large numbers for want of fodder.	Bájri 9 seers ... Jowári 9½ „ ...	8 seers. 8 „

District.	Weather Report by Telegram.	State of Crops by written Report.	Price of Staple Food-Grain. Past Week.	Present Week.
Belgaum ...	*15th November.*—No rain. No change in condition of crops. Jowári 14 lbs. Bájri 15 „ Rice 13 „ Wheat 13 „ } per Re.	*7th November.*—A six-anna crop is expected in Belgaum, Sampgaon, Bidi, West and South Chikodi. In North Chikodi and Parasgad the crop is estimated at 1 to 2 annas' outturn, while in Gokak and Athni the failure is complete. Cattle are dying in great numbers from want of fodder and water. Scarcely any rabi has been sown, and what has come up is withering for want of moisture.	Jowári 8 seers ...	6 seers.
Dharwar ...	*15th November.*—67 cents in Dharwar doing good in northern villages of the taluka. Price of food not stated.	*13th November.*—No rain during the week ending 4th November. In a few villages in six talukas, where rain has fallen, the late-sown rabi is in middling condition, but wants rain. Elsewhere it has withered. Water and fodder for cattle scarce throughout the district.	Jowári 7½ seers ...	Jowári 4 seers throughout the district.

With reference to the state of the grain-supply, it appears from the returns to be as follows :—

Khandesh (telegram, 15th instant).—Exportation of grain was decreasing owing to rise in local prices, while there were slight importations from Berar and the North-West Provinces in a few towns on the railway.

Násik (telegram, 15th instant).—There are fair stocks of grain, but dealers were supposed to be holding back. From Násik and Yeola exports to the amount of 350 khandis were made, and imports to about the same quantity into Násik, Chandor, and Málegaon.

Ahmednagar (telegram, 15th instant).—The imports of grain were sufficient for present consumption, and scarcity was not anticipated on this account.

Poona (telegram, 14th instant).—The stock of grain in Poona itself was large, and importations were still going on freely. The market there was declining, but rising somewhat in the outlying taluka towns.

Sholápur (telegram, 15th instant).—Except in the Málsiras and Sángola talukas, where grain was scarce, the supply was plentiful elsewhere throughout the district. The value of grain imported was estimated at Rs. 75,000, and of exports Rs. 40,000.

Satara (telegram, 14th instant).—The stock of grain in the district was insufficient, but large importations were taking place from other parts.

Kaládgi (telegram, 14th instant).—Great distress was prevalent owing to the supplies of grain being withheld from the markets, which were very scantily supplied. No private importation was going on.

Belgaum (telegram, 15th instant).—The market at Belgaum itself was plentifully supplied; but in the talúkas of Gokak and Athni the supply was insufficient for the demand, owing to the political authorities having forbidden exports from Mudhol and Jamkhandi States, (*vide* Collector's written report dated 9th instant). Complaints were also made about the insufficient supply to labourers on relief works, though grain was coming in freely from the coast for export to Kaládgi.

Dharwar (telegram, 15th instant).—There was no change in the crops from previous week, but the Collector gives no information as to the state of the grain

trade. It appears, however, from a telegram (alluded to below) from Kanara that large quantities were being imported by sea into Dharwar *viâ* Karwar.

On the subject of importation of grain, Government Resolution No. 6407, dated 8th instant, in the Revenue Department, directs, upon papers forwarded by the Collector of Dharwar, that, with a view to assist private dealers, escorts are to be furnished on one day in each week for the protection of grain convoys from Karwar to Dharwar, Hubli, and Gadag; the dealers to send in their applications two days beforehand, the grain to remain in their charge or that of their servants. Deposits of not less than Rs. 500 will be received from dealers for safe custody in the Government treasuries, but no liability to attach to Government in case of loss. Escorts will also, if necessary, be furnished to dealers sending consignments of coin to Karwar to pay for imports. *Apropos* of this subject, the Collector of Kanara telegraphs (15th instant) that large imports of grain are being landed at Karwar for Dharwar.

By Government Resolution 185 C. W.—826, dated 14th instant, in the Public Works Department, the attention of officers employed on relief works has been drawn to the fact that some of the grain imported in the various districts is so bad in quality as to be unfit for human consumption, and they are directed to use their personal influence to prevent its being bought or used by the labourers, while the Magistrates are requested to prevent its sale by such legal means as are in their power.

The gift of grain, to the value of Rs. 6,000, mentioned last week as having been made by H. H. Holkar for the benefit of the Násik and Khandesh districts, has been changed for a sum of Rs. 6,000 in cash, to be applied generally for relief operations.

Their Highnesses the Maharajah and Maharani of Baroda have presented Government with the sum of Rs. 10,000 as a contribution to alleviate the distress, and this sum has, under Government Resolution 6428, dated 9th instant, Revenue Department, been divided equally between the Collectors of Ahmednagar, Poona, Sholápur, Satara, and Kaládgi, to be expended solely on alms.

Details of the public meetings held in Ahmednagar, Poona, and Bombay have not as yet reached Government, and the information regarding their proceedings, which was promised last week, is, therefore, not available.

3. Regarding the condition and movements of the people, it may be said generally that they are little altered from last week. In detail it will be seen that in *Khandesh* there are about the same number of people employed on famine works as last week, and except in the Sauda and Virdel talukas most of the cultivators find work in their fields.

In *Násik* the people are in good health, but despondent about rabi crops. The numbers employed upon relief works have largely increased.

In *Ahmednagar* in many villages people have gone elsewhere in search of employment, and many thousands are on the relief works.

In *Poona* there is great distress in four talukas, and many thousands are engaged on relief works.

In *Sholápur* there is no change from last week, except that, as grain is more plentiful and relief works are being extensively carried out, it may be presumed there is no danger of anything like starvation. Migration in large numbers to the Nizam's territory goes on.

In *Satara* the distress is increasing, and people are coming in greater numbers to the relief works, as the kharif is mostly harvested and there is little or no rabi attend to. Cholera, which had prevailed so extensively at Dahiwári as to prevent the Pingli tank being begun, had ceased, and that work is shortly to be carried out.

In *Kaládgi* the condition of the people appears to be very bad, as the supply of grain in this remote district is very insufficient, the water-supply is scanty and

failing, cattle dying of starvation, thefts of grain frequent and the people are migrating to Nizam's territory and elsewhere without definite aim apparently. Relief works and charity on a large scale are in operation however, and will, it is hoped, amend this.

In *Belgaum* the distress in Athni and Gokak, which border on the Kaládgi districts, is very great and increasing. There are many complaints of thefts of grain throughout the district, and the people are migrating to Dharwar District and Mysore territory. Many have been attracted by the relief works.

In *Dharwar* the greatest distress prevails in the Ron Taluka, where many villages are being deserted by their inhabitants for Kanara. The harvest work in Dharwar, Kalghatgi, Bankápur, Hángal, Kod, Karajgi, and Ránibennur talukas is giving a good deal of employment of a temporary nature.

4. As regards migration of the people generally, Government, in their Resolution 6409, dated 9th instant, addressed the Collectors of Ahmednagar, Poona, and Sholápur as follows upon receipt of a communication from the Chief Commissioner Central Provinces to the effect that he was prepared to assist Government in any scheme having for its object the migration of families belonging to the labouring classes from Bombay territory to that of the Central Provinces. The Collectors were directed to ascertain—

(1). Whether any entire *families* of *bonâ fide* cultivators were willing to migrate to the Central Provinces.

(2). To explain to the cultivators that the proposed locality for the colony was near Hoshangábád, and that Government would pay the cost of their removal, and advance funds to purchase the necessary farming stock.

(3.). To inquire whether Patels or members of influential families would head the movement, and to explain that a party of about 200 would be the number requisite to form a nucleus of one of the new village communities.

The Commissioner of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts had been addressed by Government previously on this subject, and in his reply, which is now under the consideration of Government, he states that he is not prepared to encourage actively extensive migration from the distressed districts into Berar territory: that, however, many people have already moved thither; and that he will aid those who have come.

5. Referring to the question of remisssions upon a reference made by the Collector of Násik, Government have decided that the broad principles to go upon are, while showing the utmost consideration for the people not needlessly to forego Government demands, and have, therefore, laid down as a guiding rule that where the loss has been less then 8 annas in the rupee no remission should be granted, where it is more than 8 annas and less than 12 annas one instalment may be remitted, and where it above 12 annas the whole may be remitted as the Collector and his Assistants may think proper. This will be more fully alluded to next week in discussing the Resolution No. 6557, dated 15th instant, from which the above is summarized.

6. Turning to the question of relief works in the various districts, the following statement shows additions or alterations in the list which have been made since last week:—

District.	Nature of Works.	Number of People employed thereon.	Allotment granted.	Remarks.
			Rs.	
Khandesh	Tank at Dhulia	2,000	5,000	These are in addition to the roads mentioned last week
	Do. at Parola		28,500	
	Repairs		5,000	
	Bhosáwal—Tapti road.....		411	

District.	Nature of Works.	Number of People employed thereon.	Allotment granted.	Remarks.
			Rs.	
Násik	Niphád—Yeola roads	7,000	6,450	The amount of the estimate was erroneously entered last week. The remarks showed the allotments.
	Kapralá Ghát roads		4,150	
	Palkher Canal Dindori.....		1,000	These are additional.
	Repairs		9,000	
Ahmednagar ...	Khardeh and Kashti road	28,932	8,200	Of this 4,200 is an additional allotment.
	Bári Ghát road		5,000	Additional.
	Bhatsodi tank		12,624	Do.
	Ojhar Canal		5,000	Do.
	Repairs		1,000	Do.
Poona	Road Bárámáti to Moregaon ...	15,000	9,655	Additional.
	Irrigation Work repairs in Indápur Taluka.		6,000	Do.
	Road repairs do.		8,000	Do.
Sholápur.....	Road in Málsiras	40,000	1,600	By a clerical error 2,100 was entered last week.
	Tank in Karmála	.....	2,500	Additional.
	Road repairs Tanghát to Pandharpur.	.....	2,400	Omitted in last week's statement.
	Road repairs in the Sholápur Taluka.	.....	10,000	Additional.
	Repairs to Irrigation Works; talukas not specified.	.....	3,000	Do.
Satara.....	Adarki Ghát road	3,750	10,000	The information supplied last week from the P. W. Department not being given in detail, an amended statement of all the works to which allotments are at present made is here entered.
	Approaches to Krishna at Bhiláudi.	.....	1,313	
	Metalling mail road	.....	15,000	
	Road-side tree pits and miscellaneous in Tásgaon.	.....	12,000	
	Road-side tree pits in Khandála Petha.	.....	1,172	
	Nehr tank	.....	1,50,000	
	Pingli do.	.....	1,75,000	
	Pátas do.	.....	4,190	
	Maini do. Khatáo	.....	7,000	
	Yeela Irrigation, Nehr Tank, Khatáo.	.....	14,293	
	Repairs general	.....	5,424	
	Miscellaneous relief works to be specified hereafter.	.....	50,000	
...aládgi	Tank at Kerne	Returns of people on relief works imperfect; will be furnished next week.	5,000	These are all in addition to the works which were entered in last week's table.
	Do. Hungund		3,000	
	Do. Mudebihál		6,000	
	Do. Mulwad		2,500	
	Road repairs, Bijápur and Bágewádi.		3,900	
	Hubli and Sholápur road continuation through the district, 108 miles.		1,08,000	
	Bellari and Sholápur road through the district, 103 miles.		3,06,000	
	Road from Hungund towards Belgaum, 18 miles.		72,000	
Belgaum.....	Road repairs in Athni	8,000	4,000	These are additional.
	Do. do. Gokak.....	.....	5,064	Do.
	Metalling mail road	.....	28,000	Do.
Dharwar.....	Tank at Herikerur	Returns of people on relief works not given by the Collector.	9,753	The amount entered last week was the estimate, not the allotment.
	Tank at Dambal		46,460	The amount was not specified last week.
	Metalling mail road		15,000	Additional from last week.
	Improving Tenai Ghát road ...		15,000	
	Yelwigi tank, Bankápur		9,204	
	Mawenkop tank, Dharwar		6,944	
	Teliwali tank, Hangal.....		5,355	
	Madag tank, Kod		5,330	
	Other works and repairs		1,538	

7. For the preservation of the cattle which form the most real portion of a cultivator's wealth, it has been found necessary to take systematic steps, and the arrangements which have been sanctioned in Dharwar have been, or will at once be, extended to Belgaum, Satara, Poona, Násik, and Khandesh. These arrangements are, briefly, that the cattle are to be sent in herds in charge of owners or their servants, and under the certificate of the Máinlatdárs, to certain specified forests, where they will be received by the Inspectors, under whom special foresters will be employed to detail off the cattle to the different jungles where they may graze. Wherever the grazing has been sold, arrangements for the payment of fees will be made with the farmer, and elsewhere fees will be taken by the Forest Department. The Collectors are authorized, however, to use their discretion in remitting the grazing fees. Other detailed arrangements on this subject need not be given here.

Another step, which, however, is experimental only, will be tried in various districts where fodder is not, and where prickly-pear abounds plentifully, viz., to feed the cattle on the leaves of the prickly-pear, which, according to the statement of Messrs. Harvey and Sabapathey of Bellari, has been found highly nutritious to stock. A set of simple instruments for removing the thorns from the leaves has been sent along with the letter of these gentlemen, and the experiment will probably have a full trial in inland districts.

8. The Sanitary Commissioner has drawn up a set of rules, which are now under the consideration of Government and will probably be issued in the ensuing week, setting out the principles upon which gangs of labourers employed on relief works should be housed, what sanitary precautions enforced, and various other measures which will be noticed more fully when the rules have been issued.

9. Inquiries have been made regarding the probable water-supply of the affected districts; and, though reports have not been received from all the Collectors, it will be as well to state here what the opinion is regarding this important subject.

Khándesh.—Report not yet received.

Násik is well watered by rivers, which issue from its hills and flow through the district; but during the hot weather there will be much scarcity, as even now rivers are low and nullahs are dry. People removed from the large rivers will suffer greatly, but it is anticipated that by digging temporary wells in the beds of nullahs and streams a limited supply will be obtained.

Ahmednagar is somewhat the same style of country as a great part of Násik, and similar measures will have to be taken by digging "ziras" in the beds of rivers, and clearing out wells which have a good supply of water, to ensure even a limited supply in the hot season.

Poona.—In the eastern districts there is already great scarcity of water, and, should rain not fall soon, this will necessarily be severer. Though during the hot weather people may have to go long distances for water, the Collector does not anticipate an absolute failure of the supply.

Sholápur.—The supply is scanty generally, but two talukas, Sholápur and Pandharpur, being well off for water, owing to their having two rivers flowing through them, and a large tank each. In Karmála, Malsiras, and Mádha water will be obtained throughout the year by digging in the beds of rivers and nullahs. Bársi and Sángola are very badly off.

Satara.—There is already great difficulty in the eastern districts in getting water, and, should rain not fall heavily before the hot season, it cannot be doubted that there will be a water-famine there. It is presumed that the digging wells in rivers and nullahs will have the effect of giving a limited supply.

Kaládgi.—The water-supply is in many places very scanty, and has already failed in some, which have consequently been deserted. Should rain not fall soon, there will be no certain supply except in villages situated near rivers.

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Belgaum.—Report not yet received.

Dharwar.—Report not yet received.

10. Summing up, it may be said—

(1.) That the condition of the crops remains much as last week, except that in many districts the rabi crop which has been sown is worse than then.

(2.) That the only districts which can now be said to be badly off for grain are Kaládgi and the north-east portion of the Belgaum District adjoining Kaládgi; but that it is anticipated that the supplies which are now coming in from sea will shortly relieve the scarcity. The fact is, that the famine is one of money and employment.

(3.) That satisfactory arrangements are in progress for the removal of cattle to the Ghát districts.

(4.) That there is at present a sufficient water-supply in most of the affected districts, and that in part of Kaládgi and the eastern portion of Satara only is it anticipated there will be an absolute failure.

11. In conclusion, Government have in their Resolution No. 6513, dated 13th instant, in the Revenue Department, come to the decision to transfer the entire correspondence and management of affairs relating to the famine districts to the Public Works Department, on the ground that it is necessary "that the whole "correspondence connected with the matter of relief should be concentrated in "one department; and bearing in mind the great preponderance, in point of im-"portance, which must inevitably attach to operations of the Department of Public "Works, the Government have decided that, for the future, all communications "which public officers may have to address to Government in connexion with the "prevailing distress shall be addressed to and dealt with in that department. "It will, as heretofore, be the duty of the Revenue Commissioners and the Collec-"tors to take care that the wants of the people receive all practicable attention, "and Government trust that by the cordial co-operation of the Revenue Officers "with those of the Public Works Department they will be greatly aided in the "performance of the arduous task they have before them."

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay, 15th November 1876.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

STATEMENT No. V. regarding scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Maharatta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the Week ending 29th November 1876.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed.	Allotments granted, exclusive of the cost of schemes for large works sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 6152 of 27th October 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	PRICES OF STAPLE GRAIN IN lbs. Ordinary Price.	PRICES OF STAPLE GRAIN IN lbs. Prices during the past Week.	PRICES OF STAPLE GRAIN IN lbs. Prices during the present Week.	Average Rainfall during the past season of all the Talukas.	Average Rainfall *i.e.*, the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Remarks.
				Collector's Report by telegram dated 27th to 29th November 1876.										
Khandesh ...	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	No rain; rabi crops mostly dried up; fever prevailing in two talukas; grain exports none; imports limited.	Roads .. Tanks .. Miscellaneous, such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, and metal breaking.	4,300	48,511	10,121	Jowari ...66 Bajri ...64	Jowari ...31 Bajri ...26	Jowari ...32 Bajri ...25	24·94	14·4	
Nasik ...	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	No rain, and no change in prospects of crops; imports limited.		10,400	91,960	31,032	Jowari ...47 Bajri ...47	Jowari ...29 Bajri ...26	Jowari ...28 Bajri ...26	26·29	27·66	
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,938	No rain, and no change in prospects of crops; imports sufficient, but dealers in some places disinclined to sell. 11 cases of cholera and 5 deaths.		35,770	67,824	71,948	Jowari ...22½ Bajri ...66		Jowari ...25 Bajri ...24	24·3	10·65	
Poona ...	5,099	2,500	9,07,235	No rain, and no change in prospects of crops; large grain importation and market falling.		29,000	2,21,383	64,224	Jowari ...65 Bajri ...51		Jowari ...18½ Bajri ...18½	30·6	20·76	
Sholapur ...	4,496	4,496	7,18,034	No rain, and no change in prospects of crops; grain imports Rs. 1,67,780; exports Rs. 54,275. Cholera in two talukas.		68,000	3,84,504	1,77,088	Jowari ...60		Jowari ...17	25·21	8·11	
Satara ...	4,988	2,632	10,64,002	No change in prospects of crops; extensive importation of grain continues. 22 deaths from cholera.		7,745	1,44,063	27,828	Jowari ...39 Bajri ...35		Jowari ...16 Bajri ...17	64·60	25·43	
Kaladgi ...	7,655	5,636	8,16,037	No rain, and no change; jowari expected from Belgaum.		Ditto.	3,37,438	12,461	Jowari ...56		Jowari ...12	22·43	6·13	
Belgaum ...	4,291	2,660	9,38,750	No change in prospects of crops; large importation of grain from Coast and exportations to country markets.		Ditto.	1,66,059	17,425	Jowari ...43 Rice ...29 Wheat ...30		Jowari ...16 Rice ...14 Wheat ...15	30·48	21·34	
Dharwar ...	4,664	3,000	9,88,037	No rain, and no change in prospects of crops; grain imports sufficient. Bad cholera in two villages.		Ditto.	1,64,314	41,249	Jowari ...43		Jowari ...13	26·39	13·81	
Total ...	64,355	33,818	79,63,927	49,81,616		1,91,741	16,36,198	4,43,376						

A new form has been adopted, showing the proportion the distressed areas and population bear to the whole areas and population of the several districts, contrasting the normal and present state of each Collectorate as regards rainfall and the prices of grain, and giving the latest information received by telegraph regarding the condition of each district, and the number of persons employed upon relief works.

It will be seen that the affected is more than half the total area and population of the nine districts.

The rainfall has been about half the average, and prices are about three times as high as in ordinary years.

No rain has fallen during the week, but grain is slightly cheaper; taking jowári as the staple, its average price, through the nine affected districts, is 20 lbs. the rupee, as compared with 19½ lbs. last week. The greatest fall is in Ahmednagar and Sholápur, namely, from 22¾ to 25 and from 17 to 19 lbs. respectively.

The number of persons on relief works is 1,91,741 against 1,43,477 last week.

2. Some of the poorer classes in the Poona District have expressed their willingness to emigrate to the Central Provinces under the scheme referred to in Statement No. III., but before doing so are anxious to send delegates to report upon their prospects there, and Government have agreed to this arrangement.

Orders are in preparation for the valuation of each relief work immediately on its completion, and information will thus be obtained as to the actual value received for money expended during the present distress.

3. The hill crops have to some extent failed in parts of Kolába, Ratnágiri, and North Kanara, and this, added to the fact of some emigration from the more distressed districts into these Collectorates, will necessitate relief works being commenced in them, though, as far as is yet known, not on any considerable scale.

The present distress has extended to the Nizam's dominions, and from information that has courteously been communicated by that Government, it has been learnt that the measures ordered by His Highness's Government are very similar to those adopted by the Government of Bombay. No restrictions are to be placed upon grain movements, nor is any attempt to be made to fix a price at which it is to be sold. Relief is to be afforded mainly in the shape of public works.

Distress is also felt in many of the Southern Mahratta Native States, and Government hope to be able next week to state what measures have been adopted for its alleviation.

4. With regard to the movements of food grains, 4,711 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta Ports during the week ending November 22nd, and the G. I. P. Railway carried 7,929 tons to the various stations between Poona and Sholápur and Násik and Bhusáwal, during the week ending November 18th. This is a falling off compared with last week; but all the ports and railway stations are now blocked with grain, and the falling off in actual deliveries must not be taken to indicate any check in the trade movements of grain.

The question of water-supply is not a cause at present of any grave apprehension. Villages near rivers have a supply sufficient to meet the wants of the people, and the few cattle still remaining within the distressed area. Other villages have perennial springs in their neighbourhood, and the remainder have, as a rule, water sufficient to last till fresh wells are dug or old ones deepened. Tank clearances form a considerable portion of the relief works.

Cattle continue to be sent westwards, and Government hope there will be no very serious loss of the better class of animals. The veneration in which cattle are held prevents the destruction of the old and useless, and the result is that numbers of worthless animals are kept in every village. At the present juncture most of these will, in all probability, die, or be sold for slaughter for trifling sums; but the cultivators will, it is hoped, in the majority of cases succeed in preserving their milch-cows and draft bullocks either in their villages or by sending them to the western jungles. The arrangements made by Government to facilitate this emigration have already been noticed in Statements Nos. III. and IV.

5. On the 21st November the Sanitary Commissioner inspected the works on the Mutha Canal near Poona, on which 12,870 people were then employed on the relief wages of 2 annas a man, 1½ anna a woman, and 1 anna a child. He reports that the sanitary arrangements made were, on the whole, very judicious, but that he recommended a few improvements in minor details. As regards the physical condition of the people, the Sanitary Commissioner says: "I was struck with the entire absence of anything like starvation in the bodies of the labourers. The men, women and children seemed, if not plump, yet certainly not pinched." A few cases of cholera have unfortunately occurred on the work, but not of a severe type; the sufferers have been isolated, and the disease has not spread.

6. On the whole, the prospects of the crops show no improvement, and the number of persons employed on relief works has increased by 48,264 during the week. On the other hand, grain has slightly fallen in price, and the public health is generally good.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

STATEMENT No. VI. regarding the scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the Week ending 8th December 1876.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Collector's Report by Telegram dated 4th to 8th December 1876.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed. During the past Week.	Number of People employed. During the present Week.	Allotments granted, exclusive of the cost of schemes for large works sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 6162 of 27th October 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. Ordinary Price.	Prices during the past Week.	Prices during the present Week.	Average Rain-fall, i.e., the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Average Rain-fall during the past season of all Talukas.	Remarks.
Khandesh ...	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	6,46,944	No rain, and no change in crop prospects. Importation of grain moderate, no exportation.	Roads Tanks Miscellaneous, such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, and metal breaking.	4,300	4,965	48,511	25,659	Jowári .56 Bájri ...54	32 25	31 27	24·94	14·4	
Násik ...	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	2,50,000	No rain, and no change in prospects or prices.	Ditto.	10,400	12,000	91,950	36,586	Jowári ... Bájri ...47	28 26	28 26	35·29	27·55	
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,938	6,40,000	No rain, and no change in crop prospects. Grain imports enough. Cholera in two talukas, 26 cases and 19 deaths.	Ditto.	35,770	39,119	1,05,824	85,440	Jowári ... Bájri ...66	25 24	26 25	24·3	10·65	
Poona	5,099	2,500	9,07,235	3,18,601	No rain. Grain importation large, market declining in districts; slight rise at Poona itself.	Ditto.	29,000	35,000	2,67,145	79,091	Jowári .65 Bájri ...51	20½ 20	18½ 20	30·6	20·76	
Sholápur ...	4,496	4,496	7,18,034	7,18,034	No rain, and no change. Grain imports Rs. 95,606; exports Rs. 58,848: supply good; slight cholera in two talukas.	Ditto.	68,000	80,639	3,96,504	2,12,796	Jowári ...66	19	21	25·21	8·1	
Satara ...	4,938	2,682	10,64,002	4,61,000	No change in crop prospects, scarcity of fodder increasing. Large grain importations. 7 deaths from cholera.	Ditto.	7,745	11,414	2,04,846	33,033	Jowári .39 Bájri ...35	17 16½	17 16	54·60	25·4	
Kaládgi ...	5,695	5,695	8,16,037	8,16,037	Distress continues, but grain being imported. Slight cholera in one taluka.	Ditto.	3,660	3,844	1,61,377	13,110	Jowári ...56	12	12	22·43	6·2	
Belgaum ...	4,591	2,660	9,38,750	5,61,000	No change in crop prospects. Grain is largely imported, and the markets are full of it.	Ditto.	13,500	13,880	1,80,428	30,757	Jowári .43 Rice ...29 Wheat .30	15 14 15	16 16 16	30·48	21·24	
Dharwar ...	4,564	3,000	9,88,037	6,30,000	No rain, and no change in crop prospects. Large imports of grain. Cholera less.	Ditto.	19,366	21,361	1,74,314	49,111	Jowári ...43	13½	13½	26·39	13·81	
Total...	54,355	33,873	79,63,927	49,81,616			1,91,741	2,22,222	16,30,899	5,66,183						

A column has been added to the Form, contrasting the number of persons on relief works during the present and the past week.

There has been no rain during the week, but grain has again slightly fallen in price.

The number of persons on relief works is 2,22,222 against 1,91,741 last week.

From the commencement of the present distress about Rs. 5,000 have been expended in charity towards the relief of poor persons, who, from age, infirmity, or sickness, are unable to support themselves by labour. This expenditure has hitherto been very moderate, but it is an item which must increase as the distress becomes more widely spread. Future returns will show the sums spent weekly under this head.

2. Orders have been issued for the valuation of each relief work immediately on its completion.

With a view to setting free for grain-escort and other similar duties as many police as possible, Government have where practicable substituted Military for Police Treasury and Jail Guards. Temporary additions to the Police Force have also been sanctioned in several Districts.

A set of simple sanitary rules for practical application has been prepared by the Sanitary Commissioner, and has been sent to the officers responsible for sanitary arrangements on relief works.

An estimate has been made of the probable cost which will be incurred in relieving distress in this Presidency, based on the assumption that 20 per cent of the population of the distressed area will at the worst period of the year require relief in some shape. It is supposed that the demand for employment resulting from the scarcity will culminate in April, just before the May showers, which usually usher in the monsoon, begin to fall, and will then gradually decrease until it ceases by the end of September, when it is assumed that matters will have resumed their normal state.

3. *Ratnágiri and Colába.*—Reports have been received from these districts of extensive failure of the Warkus crops, especially Harik, on which the mass of the hill people depend for their food supply. On the urgent representations of the Collectors of the two districts, relief operations on a limited scale have already been authorized, but from recent reports now under consideration it is anticipated that more extended measures of relief will soon be absolutely necessary.

Kanara.—In this district no failure of crops has been reported, but considerable numbers of people and cattle (from the last report 4,000 human beings and 13,000 cattle) have come into it from Dharwar, Kaládgi and the eastward, many of these persons have arrived in a feeble and destitute condition, and on the urgent application of the Collector, small relief works have been sanctioned, in order to give them employment and enable them to buy food.

Native States.—Relief works have been commenced in Sáwant Wári and in Kolhápur and the smaller States in the Southern Mahratta Country under the Kolhápur Agency. Details of the former have not yet been received, but in the latter 5,658 persons are on relief works, and an expenditure of Rs. 14,516 has been incurred. Future statements will give full particulars regarding relief operations in the Native States.

4. With regard to the movements of food grains, 5,005 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta Ports during the week ending November 29th, and during the same week, or rather the week ending November 25th, 9,317 tons were carried by the G. I. P. Railway to stations on the Poona-Sholápur and Násik-Bhosawal lines. The statement below shows the quantity of grain sent by

sea and rail in October and November to the Southern Mahratta Ports and the Railway Stations in the distressed districts. It will be seen that the total amount sent during these two months was 77,821 tons, or sufficient to support about two millions of persons for three months :—

Food-grains sent to	October 1876.	November 1876.	Grand Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	
Southern Mahratta Ports	7,675	19,226	
Poona-Sholápur and intermediate stations	11,683	30,014	
Násik-Bhosawal and intermediate stations	4,447	4,776	
Total ...	23,805	54,016	77,821

5. On the whole the prospects of the crops show no improvement, and it is now too late to hope for any great change in the worst districts even if rain should fall. The number of persons employed on relief works has increased by 30,481 during the past week. On the other hand there has again been a slight fall in grain, and the public health is generally good.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY : PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

STATEMENT No. VII. regarding the scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the Week ending 15th December 1876.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Collector's Report by Telegram dated 11th to 13th December 1876.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed. During the past Week.	Number of People employed. During the present Week.	Allotments granted, exclusive of the cost of schemes for large works sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 6152 of 27th October 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. Ordinary Price.	Prices during the past Week.	Prices during the present Week.	Average Rain-fall, i. e. the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Average Rain-fall during the past season of all Talukas.
Khandesh ...	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	6,46,944	No change in crop prospects. No exportation of grain, 1,430 tons imported.	Roads ... Tanks ... Miscellaneous.*	4,965	6,400	1,57,233	31,808	Jowári .56 Bájri ...54	31 27	31 29	24·94	14·4
Násik ...	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	2,50,000	No change in crop prospects; prices easier.	Ditto.	12,000	12,500	91,950	45,864	Jowári .54 Bájri ...47	28 26	32 28	45·29	27·55
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,938	6,40,000	No change in crop prospects. Imports of grain enough.	Ditto.	39,119	38,672	1,05,824	1,01,218	Jowári .76 Bájri ...66	26 25	2[illegible] 2[illegible]	24·3	10·65
Poona	5,099	2,500	9,07,235	3,18,601	No change in crop prospects. Grain importation large, market declining in Districts; slight rise at Poona itself.	Ditto.	35,000	36,000	2,67,145	1,03,817	Jowári .65 Bájri ...51	18½ 20	18 20	30·6	20·76
Sholápur ...	4,496	4,496	7,18,034	7,18,034	No change in crop prospects. Grain importations Rs. 1,03,382; exportations Rs. 34,482: supply good. No cholera.	Ditto.	80,639	87,500	3,96,504	2,64,517	Jowári .66 Bájri ...60	21 ...	21 ...	25·21	8·11
Satara ...	4,988	2,682	10,64,002	4,61,000	No change in crop prospects. Stock of grain abundant. Two deaths from cholera.	Ditto.	11,414	14,263	2,04,846	47,715	Jowári .39 Bájri ...35	1[illegible] 16	18 [illegible]	54·60	25·43
Kaládgi ...	5,695	5,695	8,16,037	8,16,037	No change in crop prospects. Grain being imported; public health good.	Ditto.	3,844	17,000	1,61,377	22,283	Jowári .56 Bajri ...76	12 ...	15½ 15½	22·[illegible]3	6·13
Belgaum ...	4,591	2,660	9,38,750	5,01,000	No change in crop prospects. Grain importations on a large scale continue. Cholera in four Talukas.	Ditto.	13,880	18,000	1,80,428	45,281	Jowári .43 Rice ...29 Wheat .30 Bájri ...54	16 16 16 ...	17 14 16 ...	30·43	21·34
Dharwar ...	4,564	3,000	9,88,037	6,30,000	No change in crop prospects. Grain importations steady, supply sufficient.	Ditto.	21,361	24,661	1,74,314	67,011	Jowári ...43	13½	15½	26·39	13·81
Total...	54,355	33,873	79,63,927	49,81,616			2,22,222	2,54,996	17,39,621	7,29,514					

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, and metal-breaking.

No rain has fallen during the week, but grain has again declined in price: taking jowári as the standard, its average cost through the nine distressed districts is 21¼ lbs. the rupee as compared with 20⅓ lbs. last week, and 19½ lbs. for the week ending November 22nd. There has therefore been a fall of 2 lbs. in rather less than a month, and it is satisfactory to notice the increased cheapness in Dharwar and Kaládgi. Should there be a few heavy showers before the end of the year, the rábi crops, where such exist, will be benefited, and prices will probably continue to decline, but should there be none, it seems unlikely that any great improvement in prices can take place, except perhaps in the Districts of Kaládgi, Belgaum, and Dharwar, whose distant markets have scarcely yet felt the full influence of the importation of foreign grain into the Presidency. The more accessible markets vary very little; the prices of corn there are determined by the rates at which foreign grain can be laid down in them, and this influence seems now to have approached its full development.

The number of persons on relief works is 2,54,996 against 2,22,222 last week.

The Sanitary Commissioner has visited the two largest works in the Satara Collectorate (the Nehr and Pingli Tanks), where 8,000 people are employed, and reports as follows:—"The people certainly did not present any symptoms of starvation, and were not more pinched in appearance than ordinary. I was particularly glad to notice this fact, as it shows that the action taken by Government has not been delayed until it would have been too late, when the people would have been too weak to work, and would have fallen ready victims to disease, which is the certain attendant on famine. No cholera, fever, diarrhœa or other sickness has appeared among the labourers."

It may be noticed that, both at the Nehr and Pingli Tanks and on the Muta Canal (where the Sanitary Commissioner, as mentioned in Statement No. VI., reports the people to be in very far from a starving condition), grain is not cheaper than 18 lbs. the rupee.

2. In Statement No. IV. the orders of Government in the case of grain being at any relief work dearer than 16 lbs. the rupee were noticed, and a similar sliding scale has, for the sake both of consistency and economy, been introduced where grain is 18 lbs. the rupee or cheaper.

Looking to the large and increasing number of people at this early period on relief works, Government are inclined to think that these works are becoming too attractive, either owing to the rate of wages or the want of sufficient supervision for such large numbers of labourers or to a combination of these two causes. The sliding scale just referred to will, it is anticipated, tend to remove the first defect, and steps are being taken to strengthen the hands both of Collectors and Executive Engineers, by increasing their establishments.

Further orders have been given by Government to facilitate the movement of serviceable cattle towards the west, but the advisability of getting rid of worthless animals has been impressed upon all owners, and instructions have been given to refuse admission to such animals into Government Forests. This measure has been found to be absolutely necessary to preserve the limited grazing for the more valuable animals.

Forms of returns, similar to those submitted by Collectors, have been called for from all Political Agents within whose charge distress exists, and the Chiefs of States have been informed that Government expect and require them to take all steps necessary to avert suffering and disorder among their people, and to be guided in such matters by the advice of the Political Agents.

3. The following table shows the amounts expended up to date in Native States, and the number of persons employed during the past week on Relief Works:—

Names of States.	Expenditure up to last known date.	No. of persons employed.
Kolhápur and Southern Mahratta Country...	24,318	5,590
Phalton	2,000	379
Akalkot	5,000	712
Sáwant Wári	30	87
Total...	31,348	6,768

4. With regard to the movements of food-grain, 9,909 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta Ports during the week ending December 7th; and during the week ending December 2nd, 7,665 tons were carried by the G. I. P. Railway to stations on the Poona-Sholápur and Násik-Bhusáwal lines, making a total of 95,395 tons, conveyed by these means since 1st October up to the last ascertained date. This movement is entirely due to private enterprise, Government having carefully abstained from interfering with the trade in any way.

5. On the whole, there is no improvement in the prospects of the crops, and the number of persons employed on relief works has increased by 32,774 during the past week. On the other hand, there has been a considerable fall in grain, and the public health is general y good.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.

STATEMENT No. VIII. regarding the scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the Week ending 22nd December 1876.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Collector's Report by Telegram dated 18th to 20th December 1876.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed. During the past Week.	Number of People employed. During the present Week.	Allotments granted, exclusive of the cost of schemes for large works sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 6152 of 27th October 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. Ordinary Price.	Prices during the past Week.	Prices during the present Week.	Average Rain-fall, *i. e.*, the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Average Rain-fall during the past season of all Talukas.
Khandesh ...	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	6,46,944	Exportation of grain slight: 200 tons imported. Fever in several Talukas.	Roads ... Tanks ... Miscellaneous.*	6,400	4,150	1,57,233	35,517	Jowári .56 Bájri ...54	31 29	31 28½	24·94	14·4
Násik ...	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	2,50,000	Grain supplies good. Fever and small-pox increasing.	Ditto.	12,500	14,000	91,950	55,276	Jowári .54 Bájri ...47	32 26	33 28	35·9[illegible]	27·55
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,938	6,40,000	Imports of grain enough. People still emigrating westwards with their cattle. Cholera in one Taluka, 15 cases, and 4 deaths.	Ditto.	38,672	37,262	1,05,824	1,16,548	Jowári .76 Bájri ...66	26 25	28 28	24·8	10·65
Poona	5,099	2,500	9,07,235	3,18,601	Large grain importations. Cattle going westwards. Public health good.	Ditto.	36,000	43,000	2,75,676	1,22,185	Jowári .65 Bájri ...51	18¼ 20	20½ 20	30·6	20·76
Sholápur ...	4,496	4,496	7,18,034	7,18,034	Grain supply good. Rs. 1,11,912 of grain imported, and Rs. 83,630 exported. No cholera.	Ditto.	87,500	85,247	3,96,504	3,19,885	Jowári .66 Bájri ...60	21 ...	20 ...	25·21	8·11
Satara ...	4,988	2,682	10,64,002	4,61,000	Grain supply sufficient. Cattle being taken to the Konkan for grazing. One death from cholera.	Ditto.	14,263	17,512	2,04,846	60,296	Jowári .39 Bájri ...35	18 17	19 19½	54·60	25·43
Kaládgi ...	5,695	5,695	8,16,037	8,16,037	Grain supply improving	Ditto.	17,000	18,348	1,61,377	34,244	Jowári .56 Bajri ...76	15½ 15½	16 ...	22·43	6·13
Belgaum ...	4,591	2,660	9,38,750	5,01,000	The grain trade is brisk, and the markets full. Cholera in 3 Talukas, 117 deaths.	Ditto.	18,000	20,000	1,86,928	64,214	Jowári .43 Rice ...29 Wheat .30 Bájri ...54	17 14 16 ...	18 20	30·48	21·34
Dharwar ...	4,564	3,000	9,88,037	6,30,000	Grain importation abundant, limited only by cost of carriage; migration to forests continues, but some people returning unable to bear the climate. Cholera continues.	Ditto.	19,661	13,398	1,87,826	77,035	Jowári ...43	15½	17½	26·39	13·81
Total...	54,355	33,873	79,63,927	49,81,616			2,49,996	2,52,917	17,68,164	8,85,200					

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, and metal-breaking.

There has been no rain, but grain has again fallen in price, jowári now averaging 22½lbs. the rupee, through the nine distressed Districts as compared with 21½lbs. last week. It is satisfactory to notice the increasing cheapness in Kaládgi and Dharwar.

Owing to a mistake in the information received from the Collector of Dharwar, the number of persons on relief works in that District last week was given as 24,661 instead of 19,661 in Statement No. VII. The correct total for that week was therefore 2,49,996.

The number of persons now on relief works is 2,52,917 ; there has therefore been an increase of only 2,921 during the week, and Government hope that the measures they have taken to prevent relief works becoming too attractive will continue to check the rapid increase of work-people noticed in the last Summary. It is of course necessary to provide employment for all persons really requiring work at wages sufficient to prevent physical deterioration, but, at the same time, it is also most essential not to attract to relief works people able to support themselves without Government assistance, but who, at the present slack season, would rather earn a trifle with little exertion than sit idly in their houses. The practical difficulty is to distinguish between these two classes, but Government hope that the measures alluded to in para. 2 of Statement No. VII., together with stricter attention on the part of local officers, to the classification noticed in para. 2 of Statement No. IV. will, without bearing with unnecessary severity upon the very poor, render the relief works unattractive to persons able to subsist independently of them.

2. Government have printed and distributed, for the information of local officers, copies of the rules laid down by the Government of India, as "measures to be adopted in time of famine."

An entire survey party was sent by Government into the Indápur Taluka of the Poona Collectorate to make statistical inquiries, and the following table shows the chief results of their labours :—

Indápur Taluka.

Population and Cattle.						Water-supply.					Remarks.
Normal Population.	Normal number of Cattle.	Persons emigrated.	Persons dead.	Cattle emigrated.	Cattle dead.	Total number of Villages in Taluka.	Riverside villages.	Villages with perennial springs.	Villages having supply of water till February.	Villages already in want of water.	
66,937	44,214	40,239	479	31,445	1,619	86	40	17	23	6	Wells are in progress in 7 villages. The emigrants are said to have gone to Poona and the hill ranges of the Poona District, to Khandesh, Gungúndi and the Nizam's Territory, generally with an idea of returning by the rains.

The emigration is to a great extent a cattle movement. Steps are being taken to provide water in the 29 villages in actual or prospective want of it.

3. The following table shows the amounts expended up to date in Native States, and the number of persons employed during the past week on relief works :—

Names of States.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Number of people employed.
	Rs.	Rs.
Kolhápur and Southern Mahratta Country States	26,254	2,086
Phaltan	2,000	.....
Akalkot	6,091	1,608
Sáwant Wári	62	80
Total ...	34,407	3,774

With regard to the movements of food-grains 4,716 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta Ports during the week ending December 15th, and during the week ending December 9th 6,066 tons were carried by the G. I. P. Railway on the Poona—Sholápur and the Násik—Bhosawal lines.

5. On the whole, there is no improvement in the prospects of the crops, but the number of people on the relief works has increased by only 2,921, and there is again a considerable fall in the price of grain, while the public health, except at Belgaum, is generally good.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

STATEMENT No. IX. regarding the Scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Maharatta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the Fortnight ending 5th January 1877.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Collector's Report by Telegram, dated 2nd to 4th January 1877.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed. During the Week last reported upon.	Number of People employed. During the present Week.	Allotments granted, exclusive of the cost of schemes for large works sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 6152, of 27th October 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. Ordinary Prices.	Prices during the Week last reported upon.	Prices during the present Week.	Average Rain-fall, *i. e.*, the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Average Rain-fall during the past season of all the Talukas.
Khandesh	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	6,46,944	1,000 tons of grain imported. Fever in several Talukas.	Roads ... Tanks ... Miscellaneous*	4,150	3,341	1,57,233	44,039	Jowari ...56 Bajri 54	31 28½	30 28½	24·94	14·4
Násik	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	2,50,000	Cattle dying of foot-rot in two Talukas.	Ditto.	14,000	18,000	91,950	78,904	Jowari ...54 Bajri 47	33 28	32 28	35·29	27·55
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,938	6,40,000	Grain imports enough.	Ditto.	37,262	30,087	1,36 934	1,77,375	Jowari ...76 Bajri 66	28 28	30 27	24·3	10·65
Poona	5,099	2,509	9,07,235	3,18,601	Large grain importations; prices steady. Public health good.	Ditto.	43,000	47,000	2,75,676	1,89,699	Jowari ...65 Bajri 51	20¼ 20	22 23	30·6	20·76
Sholápur	4,496	4,496	7,18,034	7,18,034	Grain supply good; Rs. 1,34,622 of grain imported, and Rs. 1,40,290 exported. No Cholera.	Ditto.	85,247	93,120	4,29,565	3,83,197	Jowari ...66 Bajri 60	20 ...	20 ...	25·21	8·11
Satara	4,988	2,682	10,64,002	4,61,000	Grain imports continue. Public health good.	Ditto.	17,512	21,108	2,09,338	90,904	Jowari ...39 Bajri 35	19 19½	20½ 19½	54·60	25·43
Kaládgi	5,695	5,695	8,16,037	8,16,037	Grain importation continues throughout the District. Cholera in two Talukas; 23 deaths.	Ditto.	18,348	27,239	1,61,377	56,936	Jowari ...56 Bajri 76	16 ...	17½ 17½	22·43	6·13
Belgaum	4,591	2,660	9,38,750	5,01,000	Grain supply plentiful. Cholera continues; 192 deaths; medical aid provided.	Ditto.	20,000	25,000	1,90,297	96,213	Jowari ...43 Bajri 54	18 20	20 21	30·48	21·34
Dharwar	4,564	3,000	9,88,097	6,30,000	Grain importations continue, and the market is steady. Sporadic Cholera in 4 Western Talukas.	Ditto.	13,398	22,353	1,87,826	98,092	Jowari ...43	17½	19	26·39	13·81
Total...	54,355	33,873	79,63,927	49,81,616			2,52,917	2,87,848	18,40,196	12,15,359					

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, and metal-breaking.

No rain has fallen during the past fortnight, but grain has declined in price, the average of jowari throughout the nine affected Districts being now 23½ lbs. per rupee as compared with 22½ lbs. at the date of the last report.

The number of persons on relief works is 2,87,848 against 2,52,917 for the week ending December 22nd.

The Sanitary Commissioner has visited the works on the Poona-Pow d Road, on which upwards of 2,000 people are employed, and reports that the labourers there presented no symptoms of loss of physical condition, but were, on the contrary, particularly healthy.

It may be interesting to notice the principal relief works in execution at the end of the year 1876.

The largest is the Sholapur-Hubli Road in the Kaladgi Collectorate, where 18,075 persons were employed on December 30th. On the same date, the Moota Canal in the Poona District employed 17,175 people.

In the Satara Collectorate, 6,601 and 6,539 labourers were engaged upon the Nehr and Pingli Irrigation Tanks, respectively.

In the Nasik Collectorate, 6,676 labourers were on the Kupralla Ghaut Road, and 8,512 on the road leading from Niphar to Deoghur.

In Sholapur, 8,742 persons were on the Barsi-Yedsi Road, and in Dharwar, the road from Hubli to Kaladgi employed 12,453 persons.

There were, therefore, on the 30th December 1876, 84,773 persons on eight relief works, employing each five thousand and upwards.

The number of smaller works upon which 2,03,075 people were employed amounted to 571, *i. e.*, 186 roads, 136 tanks, and 249 miscellaneous works.

2. A holiday, with wages, was given on the First of January—The Proclamation Day—to all persons engaged on relief works.

The attention of Government has, for some time, been directed to the probability of a serious failure of fodder throughout the more easterly districts in the course of the next two months. At present it is very dear, and by affecting cart-hire, its scarcity adds considerably to the price of foreign grain delivered at all eastern markets remote from a railway. Should the fears of Government, regarding a failure over any considerable length of road, be realized, the transport of grain into the locality will become difficult or impossible, and Government have, therefore, determined to lay down pressed grass on some of the main grain thorough-fares in the eastern districts. Grass, much of which would otherwise be burnt, can now be obtained in abundance on the slopes of the Ghauts, and cutting it will afford employment to the hill-men whose Nachni and Harik have failed; it will be pressed at convenient depots, and forwarded thence to its destination. This grass is meant for the use of the grain traffic only, and the stacking it is not intended to arrest the migration of cattle to the forests, and will not have that effect. Should it not be needed in connection with the grain traffic, it will be available for general sale, and will, probably, realize sufficient to save Government from any loss on the transaction.

3. The following table shows the amounts expended up to date in Native States, and the number of persons employed during the past week on relief works:—

Names of States.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Number of people employed.
	Rs.	Rs.
Kolhapur and Southern Maharatta Country States	34,585	7,628
Phaltan	2,359	2,533
Akalkot.....	10,026	3,421
Sawant Wari	103	0
Total..	47,073	13,582

4. With regard to the movements of food-grains, 5,629 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Maharatta Ports during the fortnight ending December 23rd; and during the same fortnight, 9,715 tons were carried by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to stations upon the Poona-Sholapur, and the Nasik-Bhosawul lines.

5. On the whole, there is no improvement in the prospects of the crops; and the number of people on the relief works has increased by 34,931, or an average of 17,465½ per week. On the other hand, there is again a fall in the prices of grain; while the public health, except at Belgaum, where medical aid has been promptly provided, is generally good.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SECRETARIAT PRESS.

STATEMENT No. XII. regarding the Scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the week ending 2nd February 1877.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Works in progress.	Number of People EMPLOYED.		Grants, including the large works authorized in Government Resolution No. 6152, of 27th Oct. 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee.			Average Rain-fall, i. e., the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Average Rain-fall during the past season of all the Talukas.
						During the past Week.	During the present Week.			Ordinary Prices.	Prices during the past Week.	Prices during the present Week.		
Khandesh	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	6,46,941	Slight grain importations; no exportations. Rabi crops throughout the District much injured by the rain, and hail-stones last week. Small-pox in some Talukas.	2,881	3,557	2,29,233	59,963	Jowari ...54 Bajri ...47	29½ 29	28½ 29	24·94	14·4
Násik	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	2,50,000	No change.	17,600	16,100	1,13,750	1,17,182	Jowari ...54 Bajri ...47	32 29	32 29	35·29	27·65
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,938	6,10,000	Grain imports enough.	26,944	27,449	3,11,076	2,38,673	Jowari ...76 Bajri ...66	29 26	26 24	24·3	10·65
Poona	5,099	2,500	9,07,285	3,18,601	Grain importation continues; prices steady. Public health good.	54,000	52,000	8,34,649	3,18,280	Jowari ...65 Bajri ...51	22 23	22½ 23½	30·6	20·76
Sholápur	4,196	4,196	7,18,034	7,18,034	Grain supply good; imports Rs. 22,198; exports Rs. 1,03,928. Slight cholera in two Talukas.	94,617	70,181	11,08,178	5,17,285	Jowari ...66 Bajri ...60	20 ...	20 ...	25·21	8·11
Satara	4,988	2,682	10,64,002	4,61,000	Grain supply satisfactory. No cholera. Small-pox continues at Nehr Tank.	18,994	19,469	5,71,338	1,71,682	Jowari ...39 Bajri ...35	20 19½	20 20	54·60	25·43
Kaládgi	5,693	5,693	8,16,037	8,16,037	Grain importation continues; supply sufficient. Cholera in four Talukas; 113 deaths.	46,020	48,023	6,60,750	2,57,721	Jowari ...56 Bajri ...76	17 17¼	17½ 17½	22·13	6·18
Belgaum	4,291	2,660	9,38,750	2,01,000	Grain supply plentiful. 114 deaths from cholera.	29,049	25,000	4,05,518	1,76,722	Jowari ...43 Bajri ...54	18 19	19 19	30·48	21·34
Dhárwar	4,561	3,000	9,88,037	6,30,000	Grain importation continues; market steady. Cholera in every Talúka. Scarcity of drinking water very general.	34,830	28,128	7,98,782	1,54,828	Jowari ...43	18	18	26·39	13·81
Total...	61,353	38,873	79,63,927	49,81,616		3,24,938	2,90,537	50,35,274	20,12,616					

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, &c.

No more rain has fallen. Prices have slightly declined since last week; jowari now averaging 23½ lbs. throughout the nine affected districts.

The number of people upon Relief Works is 290,537, against 324,938 last week, and there are also 5,765 hill-men and immigrants employed in Kanara and Ratnagiri. This decrease is partly due to the orders reducing wages, and restricting admission to relief, noticed in Statement No. X., but is also, to some extent, nominal, as about 8,000 people in Sholapur happened to be in course of transfer from completed works on the day for which the information was furnished. It will be necessary to watch the working of measures, instituted for economical reasons, which have for their object the reduction of wages, and the limitation of relief to cases of urgency, and carefully to avoid pushing such measures to a dangerous extent.

The following table gives the average number of men, women, and children employed, respectively, under Civil Agency and the Public Works Department during the week ending the 13th January, the latest date for which complete information on the point is available:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Civil Agency	58,333	57,816	19,793	135,942
Public Works Agency.	80,281	83,761	30,625	194,667
Total..	138,614	141,577	50,418	330,609

The children included are seven years old and upwards: younger children whose parents are on Relief Works, are not employed, but receive 3 pies, or ¼ anna, per diem.

These figures, which are averages obtained from the Weekly Progress Returns, do not exactly correspond with those given in Statement No. X., which were taken from the Weekly Telegrams. Endeavours are being made to transfer as many of the people as possible from works under Civil, to works under Public Works, Agency. On the latter, the control and organization is better, and more work is exacted in return for higher rates of pay.

2. Cholera continues prevalent in the three Southern Collectorates of Belgaum, Dharwar, and Kaladgi. There have been many fatal cases, and, should the disease spread, the difficulty of the present position will be greatly augmented. The necessary medical aid has been provided, and Government hope that the progress of the disease will be checked.

3. A map accompanies this Summary, showing by tints,
(*a*) the Collectorates and States in which distress exists,
(*b*) their slightly affected area,
(*c*) their more affected area,
(*d*) their seriously affected area,
and showing, also, the principal Relief roads, tanks, and canals. This map is little better than a diagram. The scale, 10 miles to an inch, is too small to admit of anything more than the general position and direction of the principal Relief Works being roughly indicated, and on it only the chief towns are shown. No better map was available, except on a scale that would have been unwieldy.

4. The following table gives the expenditure by Government on charity:—

District.	Average number of persons relieved during the Week.	Expenditure incurred previously.			Expenditure during the Week ending 27th January 1877.			Total Expenditure.		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Khandesh	..	295	14	6	..	..	..	295	14	6
Nasik	17	118	6	4	11	4	6	129	10	10
Ahmednagar.....	914	3,693	13	7	212	13	1	3,906	10	8
Poona	Return not received.	3,376	8	5	Return not received.	..	..	3,376	8	5
Sholapur	940	10,117	10	4	1,133	11	7	11,251	5	11
Kaladgi.....	235	412	9	10	92	6	11	505	0	9
Belgaum	449	1,068	1	10	179	12	3	1,247	14	1
Dharwar	184	1,165	4	4	206	8	5	1,371	12	9
Total ..	2,739	20,248	5	2	1,836	8	9	22,084	13	11

5. A table is appended showing the condition of the affected Native States.

6. With regard to the movements of food-grains, 4,071 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta Ports during the week ending 23rd January 1877, and during the same week 5,399 tons were carried by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to Stations upon the Poona-Sholapur and Nasik-Bhosawul lines, making a total of 9,470 tons for the week.

7. On the whole, there is no improvement in the prospects of the crops; and the public health in the south of the Presidency is not good. On the other hand, grain has slightly declined in price, and there is a marked diminution in the number of people upon Relief Works.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT SECRETARIAT PRESS.

STATEMENT No. XIII. regarding the Scarcity in the Deccan and Southern Maharatta Country, together with a Summary of Government Orders issued during the week ending 9th February 1877.

District.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of District.	Affected Population.	Collectors' Reports by Telegram, dated 6th 7th and 8th February 1877.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed. During the past Week.	Number of People employed. During the present Week.	Grants, including the large works authorized in Government Resolution No. 6152, of 27th Oct. 1876.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. Ordinary Prices.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. During the past Week.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. During the present Week.	Average Rain-fall, i. e., the average of all the Talukas for five years.	Average Rain-fall during the past season of all the Talukas.
Khandesh	10,162	5,500	10,28,642	6,40,941	Slight grain importation; no exportation. Small-pox and fever continue. 12 cents of rain.	Roads ... Tanks ... Miscellaneous*	3,537	3,480	Rs. 2,29,239	Rs. 63,363	Jowari ...56 Bajri ...54	34½ 28½	31½ 28½	21·91	14·4
Nasik	8,113	2,000	7,29,252	2,50,000	Small-pox decreasing. Rain falling at Nasik ...	Ditto.	16,400	17,000	3,59,272	1,21,837	Jowari ...47 Bajri	32 29	32 29	35·29	27·25
Ahmednagar ...	6,647	5,340	7,73,338	6,10,000	Grain imports enough	Ditto.	27,419	22,716	4,05,090	2,58,990	Jowari ...76 Bajri ...66	26 24	27 24	21·3	10·65
Poona	5,099	2,500	9,07,335	3,18,601	Grain importation continues; prices steady. Public health good.	Ditto.	52,000	49,700	8,43,131	3,13,425	Jowari ...65 Bajri ...51	23½ 23½	24 23	30·6	20·76
Sholapur	4,196	4,196	7,18,034	7,18,034	Grain supply good; imports Rs. 33,140; exports Rs. 76,104. 65 deaths from cholera.	Ditto.	70,181	49,115	11,08,178	5,61,307	Jowari ...66 Bajri ...60	20 ...	20 ...	25·21	8·11
Satara	4,988	2,682	10,61,002	4,61,000	Grain supply plentiful. Small-pox at Nehr Tank ...	Ditto.	19,469	14,391	5,71,338	1,92,322	Jowari ...39 Bajri ...35	20 20	20½ 20	54·60	25·43
Kaladgi	5,696	5,695	8,16,037	8,16,037	Grain importation continues; supply sufficient; exportation from two Talukas. 115 deaths from cholera.	Ditto.	48,023	50,835	6,60,760	2,40,142	Jowari ...56 Bajri ...76	17½ 17½	18 18	22·43	6·13
Belgaum	4,791	2,666	9,33,750	5,01,000	Grain supply plentiful. 118 deaths from cholera...	Ditto.	25,000	12,034	4,27,328	1,99,719	Jowari ...43 Bajri ...54	19 19	20 20	30·18	21·34
Dharwar	4,564	3,000	9,88,037	6,30,000	Grain importation continues; and market steady. 581 deaths from cholera.	Ditto.	28,128	26,587	8,08,590	1,64,868	Jowari ...43	18	18	26·39	13·81
Total ...	64,325	33,879	79,63,927	49,81,616			2,90,537	2,40,138	54,43,240	21,49,273					

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, &c.

STATEMENT regarding the condition of Native States.

Native States.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of State.	Affected Population.	Reports from Political Agents.	Works in progress.	Number of People employed. During the past Week.	Number of People employed. During the present Week.	Allotments granted.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. Ordinary Prices.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. During the past Week.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee. During the present Week.
Kholapur and Southern Maharatta Country States	5,408	2,999	13,73,938	6,20,182	Cholera in a few villages. Public health generally good. Fodder for cattle being imported.	Roads ... Tanks ... Miscellaneous*	18,294	16,342	1,96,241	81,003	Jowari ...51 Bajri ...44	18½ 19	18 18½
Akalkot	198	198	373	78,222	28,000	No change	Ditto.	2,938	2,421	24,228	17,525	Jowari ...61	20½	20½	20½
Jath	884	879	64,000	63,628	Report not received	Ditto.	...	518	12,413	9,852	Jowari ...63	17	17	†
Phaltan	397	397	29,124	29,124	29,124	No change	Ditto.	...	†	12,000	3,802	Jowari ...24	26 7/10	29½
Total ...	7,187	63,372	16,75,284	8,01,284			...	...	2,50,912	1,11,987				

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, &c. † Reports not received.

2. There has been rain in Khandesh and Nasik, and it appears probable that it has fallen in other Districts since the Collectors' reports were despatched. It can now do nothing but harm to any, except irrigated, crops, and while it will, on the one hand, improve the water-supply, it will, it is feared, be the cause of considerable sickness among the labourers employed upon Relief Works in exposed situations.

3. Prices have again slightly declined this week, jowari now averaging 23¾ lbs. throughout the nine affected Districts.

4. The number of people upon relief works is 249,158, against 290,537 last week, and there are also 7,136 hill-men and immigrants employed in Kanara and Ratnagiri, making a total of 256,294. This decrease is mainly due to a stand made by the people of Sholapur against the orders of Government reducing the pay on works under Civil Agency, and insisting on moderate tasks, and to the endeavours made to transfer able-bodied people from Civil works to those under Public Works Department supervision. The people in Sholapur are "on strike," are acting in bodies and in concert, and are probably under influences which are not apparent. Some of them are, no doubt, sufficiently well off to be able to decline work, and these it is the object of Government to get rid of, but others are not in this position, and it is possible that before the stronger and more robust, who sustain the movement, are brought to reason, some of the weakly may suffer. Occupation and the means of earning wages are open and available to all, and the District Officers have been ordered to be vigilant as regards scattered cases of distress, and at once to afford relief. Those persons, who are really in need of relief, cannot, of course, hold out long, and will shortly return; but, at present, they are reported to be unwilling either to work properly on the unchanged rates of pay under the Public Works Department, or to accept the altered and lower rates under Civil Agency.

5. The Government of India have entirely removed the restrictions previously placed upon large relief works, and have entrusted the Government with the powers of commencing such works, whenever satisfied of their necessity. The powers delegated to Collectors, from time to time, to order the actual commencement of certain relief works which had previously been provisionally sanctioned by the Government, have, under instructions from the Government of India, been withdrawn. It is to be noted that Collectors were never invested with powers to commence relief works which had not previously been provisionally sanctioned by the Government.

6. Sanction has been received from the Government of India to commence the earth-works of the Dhond-Manmad Railway. The work will be begun at once, and will prove of the utmost importance in meeting the distress in Ahmednagar, Nasik, Poona, and Sholapur. The Government of India are also considering a suggestion of this Government for commencing the earth-works of the Karwar and Bellary Railway, for the purpose of relief in the southern parts of this Presidency.

7. This Government have also sanctioned the commencement of the Gokak Canal, in the Belgaum District.

Government have taken further steps in connection with the laying down of pressed hay upon the principal grain thoroughfares in those affected Districts which are remote from the sea coast, and from railway communication.

8. Abstracts of the information supplied to the Government of India from every Taluka of the affected area accompany this report.

9. A map is not forwarded with this Summary, as it would only be a repetition of that sent last week: when any material change takes place, a fresh map will be furnished.

10. The following table gives the expenditure by Government upon charity, both in the relief of the aged and infirm poor, and in payments made to the young children of labourers employed upon Relief Works:—

District.	Collectors' Discretionary Grant.				Expenditure incurred on account of children under 7 years of age whose parents are upon Relief Works.	
	Average number of persons relieved during the Week.	Expenditure during the Week ending 3rd February 1877.	Expenditure incurred previously.	Total Expenditure.	Average number of Children, and of women taking care of them.	Expenditure.
	No.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	No.	Rs.
Khandesh	46	14	396	410	486	118
Nasik	12	8	135	143	7,847	1,584
Ahmednagar	1,408	386	3,907	4,293	2,545	603
Poona	1,946	838	4,780	5,618	18,758	6,404
Sholapur	892	1,075	11,251	12,326	3,396	1,279
Satara	51	28	1,043	1,071	4,300	1,066
Kaladgi	122	62	505	567	..	..
Belgaum	491	186	1,248	1,434	..	..
Dhagwar	Return not received.	Return not received.	1,372	1,372	..	..
Total ..	4,968	2,597	24,637	27,234	37,332	11,054

11. A table is appended, showing the condition of the affected Native States.

12. With regard to the movements of food grains, 4,933 tons were exported from Bombay to the Southern Mahratta ports during the week ending 31st January 1877, and during the same week 3,322 tons were carried by the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to stations upon the Poona-Sholapur, and Nasik-Bhosawal lines, making a total of 8,255 tons for the week. The table below shows the quantity of grain sent by sea and rail in October, November, December, and January, to the Southern Mahratta ports, and the Railway

Stations in the distressed districts. It will be seen that the total amount delivered up to the end of the year was 154,760 tons:—

Food-grains sent to	October 1876.	November 1876.	December 1876.	January 1877.	Grand Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Southern Mahratta Ports..	7,675	19,228	17,312	13,459	57,674
Poona, Sholapur, and intermediate Stations	11,683	30,014	25,498	15,467	82,662
Nasik, Bhosawul, and intermediate Stations	4,447	4,776	3,606	1,595	14,424
Total..	23,805	54,018	46,416	30,521	1,54,760

13. On the whole, the present week is one of some anxiety, the public health in the south of the Presidency, and particularly in Dharwar, is far from good, and the position of affairs in Sholapur is unsatisfactory. On the other hand, the grain supply continues abundant, and the large works which are now sanctioned will enable this Government to make better sanitary arrangements than have hitherto been possible, and, at the same time, to exact a reasonable amount of labour from all able-bodied people seeking relief.

M. K. KENNEDY, Major-General, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

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STATEMENT regarding the condition of Native States.

Native States.	Area in Square Miles.	Affected Area in Square Miles.	Population of State.	Affected Population.	Reports from Political Agents.	Works in progress.	Number of People Employed		Allotments granted.	Expenditure up to latest known date.	Prices of Staple Grain in lbs. per Rupee.	
							During the past Week.	During the pre-sent Week.			Ordinary Prices.	During the past Week.
									Rs.	Rs.		
Kolhapur and Southern Mahratta Country States	5,408	2,999	1,373,938	620,482	Report not received	Roads ... ... Tanks ... ... Miscellaneous* ...	16,342	18,047	2,09,485	87,527	Jowari ..... 51 Bajri 44	18½ 19
Akalkot	498	373	78,222	58,666	Grain slightly dearer, otherwise no change	Ditto.	2,421	2,008	24,228	19,172	Jowari..... 61	20⅝
Jath	884	879	64,000	63,628	Report not received	Ditto.	548	3,078	19,100	13,472	Jowari 63	†
Phaltan	397	397	59,124	59,124	No change	Ditto.	531	366	15,000	4,683	Jowari 54	29⅝
Total ..	7,187	4,648	1,575,284	801,934			19,942	23,499	2,67,813	1,24,854		

* Such as digging and repairing wells, prickly-pear clearances, &c. † Reports not received.

Fho 14/559/77

Ref. 27 February 1877

Remo:

With reference to the accompanying letter from the Bombay Govt. I request permission to send to that Govt. copies of the Govt. despatches to the Secy. of State & the monthly reports of the Revd. Board.

16/2/77

Send according copies of the despatches & of the Revd. Board's monthly reports with the letter &c. Secy. of St.
21/2/77

Weekly 5-1-

Chief. I send Sec, - conclusion, to
Expire the Regulation of the process
Council to the Bombay Sat for the
Remainder of this week summons

24/2/37

6/37

C 16-2-37 R 19-2-37

Letter
to
Bombay

No. 295 T. of 1877.

856
37

Public Works Dept.

Bombay Castle 13th February 1877

To

The Addl. Secretary to the Govt.
of Madras
Revenue Depart.

Sir,

I am directed to forward a set of copies, complete up to date, of the Weekly Statements sent by this Government to the Secretary of State for India. In future, Weekly statements will be forwarded as they are prepared; and this Government will be glad if you will, with the permission of His Grace the Governor of Madras, supply them with copies of the Madras Weekly Reports from the commencement, and as they are issued.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servt.

Major Genl.
Secretary to Govt. Rl.

Rev: 1877 Dept.

7 Rs 559.

From.

The Govt of Bombay
P W Dept.

Dated 13
Recd 16 } Febmary 1877

Rs 2957.

10 Encs

Forng a set of copies of the Weekly Statements sent by that Govt to the Secy of State for India; stating that in future weekly statements will be prepared as they are prepared and requesting to be furnished with copies of the Madras Weekly Reports from the commencement and as they are issued.

GO 27 Febmary/77 No 856

No 852.—

(16-2-77) (19-2-77)