

Revenue (189) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 102

DATED 7th Jan'y '97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly narrative
for period ending 15. 12. 96-1897
Mantapur DC, recorded

BACK PAPERS.

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

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Revenue (1896) Department.

CURRENT No.

Mr. Hon. Mr. J. S. E.
H. E. the Governor

No. 102874 Jan 1897

Order issued
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From
The Board of Revenue
(Rev. Sett., L. R. & Agri.).

No. 453.

Dated 21st December 1896

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Enclosures

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SUBJECT.
Fortnightly narrative.
Submitting to Government
with remarks, — of the
Anantapur District for
period ending 15th
December 1896.

c. 5/1/97
R. 7/1/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 21ST DEC. 1896, No. 453.

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

READ—the following fortnightly narrative of the Anantapur District during the period ending 15th December 1896.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply.—Rainfall during the fortnight was *nil* as against an expected average of 0.12 inches. The aggregate fall up to the fortnight is 14.35 inches against an expected quantity of 24.33 inches, the average of the preceding five years excluding the famine year 1891. Water-supply is sufficient for drinking purposes except in parts of Kanaganapalli and Putlur firkas of Dharmavaram and Tadpatri taluks. It is insufficient for irrigation purposes everywhere except under river channels and springs. All the big tanks continue to be dry. The scanty supplies received during the previous fortnight are only sufficient to aid well irrigation. The supply, in nalas and wells, has slightly improved after the recent rains.

Agricultural operations and condition of crops.—In the black soils of Gooty, Tadpatri and parts of Anantapur and Kalyandrug, white cholum, bengal-gram, linseed, and wheat are being sown as already reported. Sowings of horse-gram are in progress in red-soil. Wet lands, dependent on tanks (having supplies), nalas and wells are being ploughed up and sown for spring crops, viz., paddy, ragi and cholum. Ragi is being transplanted in parts of Tadpatri and Anantapur taluks. Tank-bed lands are also being sown in parts of Madakasira, Hindupur, Kalyandrug and Gooty with cholum, wheat, bengal-gram and cucumbers. In unirrigated lands, cumbu, korra, arika and chama and dholl are being harvested in Kalyandrug and the three southern taluks of Dharmavaram, Penukonda and Madakasira. The yield is estimated at 1 to 8 annas; cotton is being picked in parts of Tadpatri taluk; outturn from bad to middling in parts and fair in others. Harvest of paddy and ragi is going on in wet lands, under channels and wells, throughout the district, the outturn ranging from fair to average. Under tanks the little paddy there is in the central and southern taluks, is also being harvested, the yield varying from bad to fair.

Standing crops both on unirrigated and well lands such as castor, cotton, indigo, horse-gram, paddy, cholum and ragi are all thriving and have revived after the recent showers. Cholum in Dharmavaram and other tank-beds is reported to be in a very good condition. The horse-gram lately sown in red soils is said to have sprouted up and doing well.

Supply of pasture and fodder and condition of cattle.—Pasture is scarce, but sprouting after the late rains: without the help of another shower it is not likely to grow up luxuriantly. Fodder is procurable with difficulty, but the harvest operations now going on will supplement the present stocks. The condition of draught cattle is generally good. Non-working cattle put on a feeble appearance in the two northern taluks for want of sufficient fodder. The recent growth of pasture has slightly improved their condition, which is not one of deterioration for the present. Rinderpest is prevalent in parts of Gooty, Dharmavaram and Madakasira taluks.

General Remarks.—In spite of their misgivings the ryots in parts of Anantapur and Kalyandrug have largely resorted to the sowing of horse-gram in red soils with the aid of the recent rains and the Divisional Officer, Anantapur, reports that the cultivation has been successful in the villages visited by him and that the crop is thriving. More rain is, however, required to bring this and other standing crops in other localities to maturity.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

PRICES of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th December 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Cholum, white.		Cholum, yellow.		Ragi.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Tadpatri	8-64	8-64	15-45	13-39	16-48	14-42	21-34	15-52
Yadiki	8-64	7-56	Nil.	..	16-48	13-39	17-46	14-55
Gooty	8-00	8-10	..	11-33	16-00	14-70	16-00	14-13
Uravakonda ..	8-40	8-00	18-90	13-00	21-00	15-00	23-10	16-00
Anantapur ..	9-72	8-64	17-51	12-36	20-60	14-42	19-40	15-52
Kalyandrug ..	10-80	9-72	18-54	12-36	26-78	16-48	25-22	15-52
Dharmavaram ..	8-64	7-56	18-39	12-36	14-52	13-39	19-40	15-52
Penukonda ..	9-72	9-18	14-42	13-39	..	..	23-28	17-46
Hindupur ..	9-67	9-67	17-20	17-20	..	..	34-40	21-50
Madakasira ..	10-80	9-72	..	..	..	..	25-22	19-40
Average ..	9-30	8-60	16-48	13-20	18-83	14-50	22-48	16-50

Activity of trade.—(1) Private trade has slackened considerably in all the taluks of the Head Assistant Collector's division. It is active in Anantapur and Kalyandrug where the merchants are evidently anxious to make the best of the present season. In the Gooty division also it appears to be somewhat brisk in the import and export of staple articles such as cholum, ragi and even second sort rice.

Exports and Imports.—(2) *Vide* accompanying table with regard to the Gooty division. For the others no figures have been furnished:—

Station from	Station to	Rice.	Paddy.	Ragi.	Cholum.	Cumbu.	Others.
<i>Imports.</i>							
Cuddapah, Bellary, Gooty, &c.	Vanganur	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.
	Tadpatri	301	26	1,890	576	141	324
	Penner	..	..	..	139	..	..
	Royalcheruvu ..	..	..	321	35	..	..
	Gooty	..	..	..	..	..	23
<i>Exports.</i>							
Vanganur	Kondapuram ..	5	..	..	12	..	..
Tadpatri	Yerraguntla, Cuddapah, &c.	542	..	678	157	..	..
Penner	Maddikera, Tuggali, &c.	..	..	..	52	..	..
Royalcheruvu ..	Tadpatri and Vanganur ..	2	17	..	8	..	9
Gooty	Nandyal, &c.	20	..	68	38	..	13
Patakottacheruvu ..	Bellary	5	4	..	7	..	2
Thimmancherla ..	Tadpatri, Vanganur, &c.	..	..	..	351	..	..
Guntakal	Reddipalle and Yerraguntla.	..	..	154	20	..	33

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—Fair in the Putlur work in the Tadpatri taluk which is the only work now going on. In Bhogasamudram in the same taluk no coolies appeared on the work which was proposed to be opened under the Commissioner's orders. A few of the coolies in the former work have been found to be rather weak by the Deputy Collector who visited it.

(2) *In villages.*—Generally good.

Sickness and Mortality.—Cholera is still prevalent in parts of Gooty and Dharmavaram taluks in a mild form. Slight small-pox also in a few villages of Penukonda and Dharmavaram taluks.

Remarks.—Nil.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

On works.—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers—

	Number employed.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Tadpatri	1,025	537
Gooty	123	..
Anantapur	97	..
Dharmavaram ..	65	..
Total	1,310	537

REMARKS.—Please *vide* this office letter, Ref. on C. No. 3622, dated 9th December 1896, in which the reasons for the non-attendance of coolies at the last three works have been reported.

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

	Number relieved at kitchens.	
	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.
Tadpatri	65	51
Gooty	..	20
Total	65	71

REMARKS.—The decrease is due to the closing of the kitchen at Velpamadugu in Gooty taluk.

General Remarks.—This fortnight has already witnessed a rapid rise in prices—almost as rapid and remarkable as the fall in the previous one. Before the rains the merchants had stored up or purchased large quantities of grain in the hope of selling at famine rates, with the expectation of a prolonged scarcity, but when the showers commenced there was a rush, so to speak, due to a panic amongst them, to dispose of their accumulated stocks as quickly as possible. The disappearance of the cloudy weather once more altered the situation, though but temporarily it is hoped, and indeed, within a very short time, partly owing to combination and partly owing to the character of the season which has now become fairly pronounced, the prices have almost leaped up to their former level. In consequence of the harvests and sowings, field labour is now largely available and continues to attract the villagers who are now able to earn better wages, mostly paid in kind, ranging from three to four seers of grain per head. In garden and wet land, and also to a large extent in unirrigated land, where korra, sama, cumbu and cotton are being reaped, labour is available at far more favourable terms than the famine wages. Well sinking and the deepening of old wells are also contributing thereto in no small measure. On the whole, I am of opinion that until the middle of next month or thereabouts it would be premature to expect the coolies to come to relief works at famine rates.

The condition of weavers has also been duly enquired into during the fortnight. The weavers at Dharmavaram, Tadpatri and Uravakonda (Gooty taluk) have all of them unanimously declined to accept State relief on the terms provided for in the Famine Code. Some of them (*e.g.*, Uravakonda weavers) have openly acknowledged that their cloths now find a ready sale in the local markets. The Head Assistant Collector has reported that the Dharmavaram weavers persisted in their refusal to accept relief on the terms offered, though the rules were clearly explained to them. He adds, "I explained to them that many weavers in the adjoining districts were receiving help on the same terms, and told them to think over the matter for a few days. I asked them how they managed to live for the last month without any work, and they said they had been selling their females' jewels. The suggestion that it would be better for them to earn even small wages from Government than to part with all their jewels did not strike them as reasonable. They returned to me on the 10th instant when I again halted at Dharmavaram and definitely declined to accept help for the present."

There is no doubt that, if the weavers had really been reduced to desperation, they would not have failed to readily avail themselves of the help so offered, and their refusal is at all events a sufficient criterion of the fact that the hand of distress is not yet upon them. The weavers at Uravakonda are said to be earning daily wages of 2 annas for an adult male or female and one anna for every child in the employment of labour for the manufacture of their cloths. Those at Belaguppa in the Kalyandrug taluk, who manufacture cumblies or blankets, are reported to make a profit of 6 to 8 annas per cumby, to manufacture which it takes them two days, and the Deputy Collector has ascertained that they have received large advances from the merchants and expect more and that their cumblies find a good sale in the adjoining district of Bellary. All the Divisional Officers have also reported that the weavers in other parts, where they are found in large numbers, require no help for the present.

Private charity.—In Gooty, Anantapur, Hindupur and Penukonda some charitable inhabitants have arranged to sell food-grains to the poorer classes at some what cheaper rates than the bazaar prices. In Dharmavaram, according to an article in the "Hindu," the local gentry appear to have resolved in a public meeting to open a kitchen. I have called on the Head Assistant Collector to report full particulars as to the circumstances under which this was decided upon, as the article mentions that he (the Head Assistant Collector) was also present at the meeting and subscribed towards the object.

TALUKS AND PLACES VISITED.

Anantapur taluk.—Akuthotlapalli, Itikalapalli, Manilla, Yerrayapalli, Mustoor, Sanjivapuram, Pappur, Malyavantam, Nadimidoddi, Singanamalla, Garladinna, Bondaledu, Kesapalli, Chakrayapeta, Korrapadu, Bodigandoddi and Bukkarayasamudram.

Gooty taluk.—Pamidi, Gooty. After returning from Gooty, where I met the Commissioner, I had to remain at Anantapur as a number of revenue appeals were pending, there having been no time for their disposal in November.

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

Taluka.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.							
	Applications accepted.			Loans disbursed.			Applications pending.			Loans disbursed.			Applications pending.			Applications accepted.			Loans disbursed.			Applications pending.			Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21						
Tadpatri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Gooty	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Kalyandrug	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Penukonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Hindupur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Madakasira	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Total	182	20,993	62	6,810	590	116,165	8	1,850	8	1,850	264	53,740	190	2,23,477	70	8,660	854	1,68,905	20	68						

Taluka.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed grain.						Total.						Applications pending.					
	Applications accepted.			Loans disbursed.			Applications pending.			Loans disbursed.			Applications accepted.			Applications pending.			Number.	Amount.				
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39							
Tadpatri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gooty	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kalyandrug	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dharmavaram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Penukonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hindupur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madakasira	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1	100	1	100	223	1,90,070	..	..	..	..	15	805	1	100	1	100	238	19,875						

* It is found that the figures given in this office fortnightly statement for November, i.e., one well under construction and nine wells under construction, is wrong. The figures given here are correct.
† One case for Rs. 100, shown in the last statement, is omitted, because it relates to relief of distress.

RESOLUTION—dated 21st December 1896, No. 453.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. No rain having fallen during the period reported on, there has been no further improvement in the state of the district. The water-supplies, except in channels and wells, are very poor for irrigation and in two localities for drinking purposes also. In regard to the latter, the Taluk Boards should give attention to the deepening of the wells or such other measures as may be advisable for improving the supplies. The effect of the November rainfall is now being more clearly seen, and the ryots appear to have made more extensive sowings after it than the Collector at first anticipated, but it is as yet far too soon to say "that the cultivation has been successful." The cultivation returns for November are now available and an abstract thereof is appended. They show a deficiency of 141,459 acres on the dry and 10,877 acres on the wet land up to that month for the whole district, and whilst in the southern taluks there was an excess under dry, in the north the deficiencies are very large. How far these deficiencies may have been made good will not be known until the middle of January.

Such standing crops as had survived the drought have been revived, but how much of the early crop yielded any appreciable outturn has not yet been reported. The report should be expedited. It was due on the 15th current.

3. Prices rose very rapidly during the period, and are now nearly as dear as they were before the late rainfall.

4. The people appear to continue in fair condition, and as yet find a sufficient amount of employment in the fields, but they must soon again need relief, unless prices fall. The coolies near Bhogasamudram explained that they only delayed to come to the work for a few days as there was some employment in transplanting ragi. Well-sinking affords a certain amount of employment and there is a considerable number of applications for loans pending in most taluks. Every effort should be made to dispose of these rapidly. The work in this direction is, however, more forward in Anantapur than in any of the other Deccan districts.

5. The Collector states that the weavers nowhere require special relief. Their condition should be watched.

6. These reports should show the places visited by Divisional officers as well as those visited by the Collector.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" Collector of Anantapur.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

APPENDIX.

COMPARATIVE statement of the areas sown in 1896 with the average.

Taluka.	First-crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to November.		Average annual cultivation.	Up to November.		Average annual cultivation.
	1896.	Average.		1896.	Average.	
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Madakasira	70,063	62,061	63,104	10,134	2,704	11,664
Hindupur	50,471	50,448	56,816	11,546	13,738	19,845
Yennakonda	81,439	75,516	86,626	7,654	8,471	13,927
Dharmavaram	109,747	168,300	180,199	4,284	7,160	10,447
Kalyandrug	127,270	* 61,703	181,097	4,165	* 11,055	9,583
Anantapur	180,895	204,530	208,335	8,043	9,548	11,631
Gooty	270,914	359,523	373,179	6,560	7,996	9,570
Tadpatri	163,177	213,354	218,546	7,365	2,956	9,074
Total	1,053,976	1,195,435	1,259,244	59,751	70,828	88,792

* Average approximate.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed December 1896.

Proceedings, 21st Dec. 1896, No. 453.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Govern-
ment, with remarks, — of the Anantapur district
for period ending 15th December 1896.

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