

Revenue

(1997)

Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1071

Dated 18th December

[Despatch Abstract.]

Addressing the G. of S explaining the
high ratio of numbers on relief in the
Bellary & Kurnool Ds to the population of
these Ds.

[illegible][illegible]

Recd. 15th Nov. } 1897.
Regd. 16th Nov. }

Printed November th.

Proceedings, No. 681, 21st October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Numbers on relief.—Submitting to Government report on the high ratio of — in the Bellary and Kurnool districts to the population of those districts.

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

W. J. H. LEFANU, ESQ.
(Famine Commissioner).

Read—the following G.O., No. 782, Revenue, dated 14th September 1897:—

Read—the following letter from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 2850 F/60-19, dated 26th August 1897:—

In continuation of my letter, No. 2456/60-14 F., dated 9th July 1897, I am directed to say that the Government of India observe from the Madras Famine Report for July, submitted by the Board of Revenue in its letter, No. 565, dated 13th August 1897, that over 40 per cent. of the total population of the distressed areas in the Kurnool and Bellary districts was in receipt of relief during July, and that 10 per cent. of the total population was gratuitously relieved.

2. In view of the attention directed to the high ratio of persons relieved in certain districts in paragraph 4 of my letter of the 9th July, the Government of India feel some surprise that no explanation of the Kurnool and Bellary figures for July has been given by the Revenue Board in their present report. I am to request that the Revenue Board may be instructed to communicate my letter of the 9th July to the Famine Commissioner, if this has not been already done, and to request him to explain why the ratios to the total population of relief of all kinds and of gratuitous relief in the Kurnool and Bellary districts have attained their present abnormal height. It will be within the knowledge of the Government of Madras that the Famine Commission anticipated that about 10 per cent. of the total population would represent the maximum number of persons likely to require relief in a distressed area. This ratio has been exceeded during the present year for a short time in tracts where famine has been most acute, but not to the extent represented by the Bellary and Kurnool figures. In the worst district of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the percentage of persons gratuitously relieved on the total population has not exceeded 5 per cent. and in less distressed districts has not exceeded 3 per cent.

3. The Government of India will be glad to learn the result of the reference to the Famine Commissioner.

Order thereon—No. 782, Revenue, dated 14th September 1897.

Forwarded to the Famine Commissioner for report, with reference to paragraphs 2 and 3.

2. Copies of G.O., Nos. 660 and 661, dated 2nd August 1897, will be furnished to him.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner with copy of G.O.,
No. 660, dated 2nd August 1897, and of letter,
No. 631, dated 2nd August 1897.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

G.O., No. 660, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1897:—

Read—the following letter from T. W. HOLDERNESS, Esq., I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India (Department of Revenue and Agriculture—Famine), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, the 9th July 1897, No. 24. —60—14:—

The Government of India, on perusing the Madras famine report for the month of May submitted by the Board of Revenue, observe that in Ganjam the numbers on gratuitous relief are relatively larger than in other districts of the Presidency, and that this is attributed to the peculiar conditions of the district. I am directed to ask that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the Government of India may be informed what these conditions are to which the Board of Revenue refer.

2. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Board of Revenue report, the Government of India will be glad to learn whether the Board of Revenue have been informed that the Government of India in their letter, No. 2266, dated the 14th June 1897, have dissented from the proposal to do away with classes C and D of relief workers.

3. The proportion of persons in receipt of relief (a) on the 29th May, (b) on the 26th June in each district to the total population of the affected tract as given in column 5 of famine statement A is shown in the appended table:—

District.	Population of affected area.	Numbers on relief on 29th May.	Percentage.	Numbers on relief on 26th June.	Percentage.
Ganjam	908,000	47,588	5.24	85,276	9.39
Vizagapatam	455,000	17,049	3.74	25,126	5.52
Godavari	42,000	500	1.19	288	.63
Kurnool	340,000	101,632	29.89	147,285	43.31
Bellary	518,000	115,698	22.33	131,210	25.33
Anantapur	584,000	48,662	8.33	68,404	11.71
Cuddapah	391,000	69,910	17.87	101,210	25.88

• Incomplete.

4. The proportion of the population on relief is very high in the affected area of Kurnool and high in Cuddapah and Bellary. It is also observed that the women and children resort to the works in the Madras Presidency in much larger proportions than the men. In the Bombay Presidency it has been held that such disparity in numbers indicates an absence of acute general distress and the utilization of the works by many persons not in absolute want for the purpose of supplementing the resources of their households during the idle months of the year. This may not be the case in the affected districts of the Madras Deccan, but the difficulty which has been encountered in Bombay points to the necessity for making labour tests stringent and effective. The delay in the establishment of the south-west monsoon doubtless makes the contraction of relief operations at present impracticable, but should more favourable conditions prevail, the Government of India hope to see a considerable reduction in the numbers of the relief population in Madras. They are aware that His Excellency the Governor in Council is fully alive to the importance of keeping the relief operations within close bounds, and they are assured that he agrees with them that, while actual suffering must of course be met and relieved, the contingency of relief demoralising the people must equally be guarded against. This is an aspect of the question which is not peculiar to the Madras Presidency, but common to the whole of India, and in inviting attention to it the Government of India are anxious to disclaim the imputation of any remissness in Madras; they wish, however, to emphasize the necessity everywhere existing of recalling the people to their ordinary avocations as soon as ordinary conditions are re-established.

ORDER—No. 660, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. G. STOKES, I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 661, dated Ootacamund, 2nd August 1897.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Holderness's letter, No. 2456-F-60-14, dated 9th July 1894, embodying the observations of the Government of India on the Madras famine report for May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

2. In reply to paragraph 1 of the letter, I am to say that the distressed parts of Ganjam are inhabited mainly by Uriyas—a very conservative people extremely difficult to deal with. They are as a class averse to sending their women to labour at the relief works, and none but the lowest classes would allow their children to be fed at the kitchens attached to the works; and it was feared that these prejudices would make of distress rather than accept relief on works. Every effort has from the first been, and is now being made to break down these prejudices, which are becoming less and less strong with the deepening of distress, and to reduce the numbers on gratuitous relief. I am also to observe that the failure to recognise these prejudices during the famine of 1889 led to a considerable deterioration in the condition of the population in the early part of that year and to a large increase in mortality, and that the numbers to whom it was subsequently found necessary then to afford gratuitous relief were nearly five times the numbers relieved on works.

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of the letter, I am to say that orders have been issued directing a reversion to the Code classification of relief workers, and to enclose copy of the Proceedings of this Government, No. 616, dated 24th July 1897, giving effect to the decision of the Government of India communicated in Mr. Holderness's letter, No. 2266, dated 14th June 1897.

4. This Government fully accepts the views of the Government of India expressed in paragraphs 3 and 4, and has issued orders with the object of giving effect to them.

RESOLUTION—No. 681, dated 21st October 1897.

The Famine Commissioner begs to submit the report called for in the Government Order read above.

2. In paragraph 2 of the letter of the Government of India, surprise is expressed that, in view of the attention directed to the high ratio of persons relieved in certain districts during May, no explanation of the high figures in Kurnool and Bellary during July was given in the report for that month. The Famine Commissioner regrets that no explanation of the high figures was offered; he was, at the time, unaware that such an explanation was desired, for the letter of the Government of India, in which attention was drawn to this matter, was communicated to him only on 17th September, with the Government Order now under reply.

3. While premising that the distress of the present year has been less acute than that of 1877, it is probable that the areas of distress during the present year have been more definitely localised than in 1877, and there seems reason to believe, without wishing for a moment to detract from the noble work done in 1877, that the

measures of relief undertaken during the present year have been more adequate and efficacious than in the period of severer distress. For these reasons, the Famine Commissioner respectfully submits that a comparison of the percentages of the population on relief in the two periods is not a wholly safe guide.

4. With regard to the percentage of the total population which should be taken to represent the maximum number of persons likely to require relief in a distressed area, the Famine Commission stated, in paragraph 75 of its report, Part I, "on this presumption, it may be estimated that the largest population likely to be severely affected by famine at one time may be put at 30 millions. To arrive at the numbers likely to come on relief, we may safely take a proportion slightly lower than that of the Behar famine, say 15 per cent., or $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions, as the maximum number likely to be in receipt of relief in the worst months." In making this statement, the Famine Commission had in view no small isolated area, but the whole of India. That this is so is clear from the figures quoted in the above extract, and from the fact that the Commissioners had before them the reports of the numbers relieved in Kurnool and Bellary in June and July 1877, during which months the percentages ranged from 26 to 28. Moreover, the maximum number referred to was not the maximum number of a day, but the average during the severest months of distress.

5. In the Proceedings of the Government of India, Revenue Department, dated 21st March 1892, Circular No. 8—52, rules were communicated for the maintenance of a programme of famine relief works. In the second of these rules, the Government of India left it to the local authorities to decide the number of persons for whom relief works were likely to be required for three months, in the event of serious famine. With the experience of the distress of 1891-92, and of the great famine before him, the late Mr. Clogstoun, then in charge of famine operations, considered that work should be found for not less than 20 per cent. of the total population, and this decision was approved by the local Government and the Government of India.

6. In order to arrive at any true comparison of the percentages of the numbers on relief, in Kurnool and Bellary, in the present year and in 1877, it is necessary to consider the Kurnool and Bellary districts as they were constituted in the latter year, viz., the area now embraced by the three districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur.

7. It so happens that the number on relief on the last Saturday of the month—the number which is furnished to the Government of India in the monthly report—has been higher during the months of June and July than the average of the months, as calculated from the figures reported at the close of each week. The figures are subjoined—

District.	Population of the affected area.	June.					July.				
		Relief workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total relieved.	Percentage.		Relief workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total relieved.	Percentage.	
					Columns 2 and 4.	Columns 2 and 5.				Columns 2 and 9.	Columns 2 and 10.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Number on last Saturday of the month.</i>											
Kurnool	612,000	117,782	32,871	150,653	6.4	29.4	170,796	51,962	222,758	10.1	43.5
Bellary	518,000	110,599	23,191	133,790	4.4	25.8	158,579	43,328	206,907	9.3	39.9
Anantapur	584,000	51,273	11,598	62,871	1.9	10.7	67,620	16,074	84,294	2.8	14.4
Total	1,614,000	279,654	67,660	347,314	4.1	21.5	396,995	110,964	513,959	7.2	31.8
<i>Average number during the month.</i>											
Kurnool	612,000	104,752	22,998	127,750	4.4	24.7	160,613	46,839	207,452	9.0	40.5
Bellary	518,000	104,101	20,187	124,288	3.8	23.9	144,364	26,769	171,133	5.1	33.0
Anantapur	584,000	51,258	12,132	63,390	2.0	10.8	64,578	11,777	76,355	2.0	13.0
Total	1,614,000	260,111	55,317	315,428	3.4	19.5	369,555	85,385	454,940	5.2	28.1

Taking the latter figures, and considering only the total number on relief, the ratio of those on relief to the population of the affected area was, in June, 20 per cent. and in July 28 per cent., or during the period of two months 24 per cent. If the full area of distress (omitting Bhadrachalam), viz., Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah, be considered, the ratio is about 13 per cent. Next, taking the figures of gratuitous relief alone for the districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, the ratio of those gratuitously relieved to the total population of the affected area was in June 3.4 per cent. and in July 5.2 per cent., or, for the whole period, 4.3 per cent. If the figures of 1877 are taken, it will be found that during the months of June and July, 27 per cent. of the population was on relief and 8 per cent. on gratuitous relief. Leaving aside the comparison between the present year and 1877, and taking the figures of Kurnool and Bellary (as now constituted), the percentage of the total numbers on relief to the population of the affected area during June and July, the two months of severest distress, was 31, while the percentage of those on gratuitous relief similarly calculated was less than 6.

8. In paragraph 2 of its letter, No. 2850-F.—60—19, dated 26th August 1897, the Government of India states that "this ratio (1:10) has been exceeded during the present year for a short time in tracts where famine has been most acute, but not to the extent represented by the Bellary and Kurnool figures. In the worst districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the percentage of persons gratuitously relieved to the total population has not exceeded 5 per cent." The Famine Commissioner is unable to reconcile the above statement with the official returns of the numbers on relief published in the Gazette of the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh during May and June of the present year. Taking the figures reported for the districts of Banda and Jalaun, as shown below, it is found that, during May and June, the numbers relieved were 35 per cent. of the total population, while the numbers on gratuitous relief were 10 per cent. or 1:10 for this form of relief alone:—

Districts.	Total population by census of 1891.	Average of the month.			Percentage of total population.	
		Relief workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total relieved	Columns 2 and 4.	Columns 2 and 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Banda	705,832	190,350	66,141	256,491	9.37	36.34
Jalaun	396,361	79,614	41,978	121,592	10.59	30.67
Total	1,102,193	269,964	108,119	378,083	9.80	34.30
June.						
Banda	705,832	198,613	70,729	269,342	10.02	38.15
Jalaun	396,361	81,783	40,203	121,986	10.14	30.77
Total	1,102,193	280,396	110,932	391,328	10.06	35.50

The Famine Commissioner fears that the true facts of the position may have been obscured by the manner in which the district figures have been tabulated in the Gazette of the Government of India when exhibiting the numbers against each Presidency and Province. Recipients of relief are differentiated in that table as those (a) relieved on works and (b) relieved gratuitously; under the former heading are included not only actual workers, but all those who, while attending works and receiving, as dependants of workers, a daily dole, do not work at all, and should, as non-workers, be properly classed under the head "relieved gratuitously."

9. From the above figures, it will be seen that, during the months of severest distress, the percentages on relief in the most seriously affected districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh were actually higher than the corresponding figures in this Presidency. It should be clearly understood, too, that the percentages calculated for the districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh are based upon the population according to the census of 1891 for the whole districts, while those of Madras are

based only upon the population of those local areas in the districts within which distress has been officially declared. It may be that the whole of the districts of Banda and Jalaun have been officially declared distressed; but unless this is the case, the percentages shown against them above must necessarily be increased.

10. With these preliminary remarks, the Famine Commissioner will proceed to explain the cause of the high percentage on relief in the districts of Kurnool and Bellary. The necessity for the introduction of relief measures in the Deccan districts has already been explained in B.P., No. 256, dated 29th March 1897, but, for the purpose of the present report, it is necessary to go somewhat deeper into the matter. The districts of Kurnool and Bellary suffered most severely in the famine of 1877. In 1881, 1884 and 1885 in Bellary, and in 1884 in Kurnool, the season was most unfavourable, while both districts suffered from famine in 1891-92. Thus, before they had fully recovered from the shock of the great famine, they were called upon to meet the difficulties of the present year. The Famine Commissioner proposes to deal firstly with the three districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur (officially declared distressed in the present year), and secondly with the taluk of Pattikonda in Kurnool, and the taluks of Alur and Adoni in Bellary, which have chiefly contributed to the high percentages of the present year, and suffered severely in 1877. It is necessary to go back three decades to trace the rise and fall in population and cultivation, in the areas under reference.

11. The subjoined statement shows the population of these three districts, according to the census figures of 1871, 1881 and 1891:—

Districts.	1871.	1881.	1891.
Kurnool	959,640	709,305	817,811
Bellary	1,668,006	1,336,696	900,126
Anantapur			708,549
Total	2,627,646	2,046,001	2,426,486

It will be seen that the population of these districts in 1891 was 8 per cent. less than that of 1871. It was calculated by Mr. (now the Honourable Mr.) G. Stokes, the Census Superintendent of 1881, that these districts lost during the great famine nearly three-quarters of a million people, or about quarter of their population. It is probable that these figures are an understatement of the case; the Census Superintendent of 1891 puts forward good reasons for considering Mr. Stokes' annual percentage of increase too low. Dealing now only with the Pattikonda taluk of Kurnool and the Adoni and Alur taluks of Bellary, the losses are shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Population in			Actual decrease between 1871-1881.	Percentage of column 5 on column 2.
	1871.	1881.	1891.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Pattikonda taluk ..	173,118	105,438	138,703	67,680	39.1
Adoni	179,640	122,085	160,795	57,555	32.0
Alur	94,945	65,588	88,088	29,369	30.9

Making an allowance for the increase of population between 1871 and 1876, these taluks combined must have lost two-fifths of their population or more, and Pattikonda probably over half.

12. The area of cultivation in the Bellary district has, in the last few years, exceeded the area of cultivation in 1871, but in Kurnool this is not yet the case, as is seen from the following statement:—

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Districts.	Area of cultivation in			
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1896.
Kurnool	2,062,000	1,515,553	1,911,935	1,878,983
Bellary	3,497,000	1,467,804	2,126,030	2,189,474
Anantapur		1,169,765	1,348,051	1,551,709
Total	5,559,000	4,143,122	5,386,016	5,720,166

13. The nature of the season in 1896 has already been described in Board's Proceedings, No. 256, dated 29th March 1897, when reporting on the ordinary economic condition of the districts. It will be interesting to trace the later course of prices in those portions of Kurnool and Bellary officially declared distressed. Cholan is the staple food-grain of the area, and in normal times is to be purchased for 30 seers a rupee, while the scarcity rate is fixed at 15 seers to the rupee. The scarcity rate was first passed in both districts on 31st October 1896, and in July 1897 the grain was available only at 215 per cent. above the normal rate, and 58 per cent. dearer than the price at scarcity rate. Monthly variations are given below:—

Measures of cholam to be obtained for a rupee.									
	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.
Kurnool	12.4	13.7	14.7	13.5	13.2	12.7	12.4	11.9	9.7
Bellary	11.8	13.5	13.4	12.7	12.3	11.8	11.5	11.0	9.3

14. Of the early and late food-crops of 1896-97, a very large proportion withered, and the remainder yielded but a nominal crop. The first burst of the monsoon in June 1897 lasted only 3 or 4 days after which there was a break of about five weeks, when further rain fell, but the monsoon was not established before the end of August. General agricultural operations, which ceased with the harvesting of the late crops in the first weeks of this year, were not recommenced till the early rains. But with the high prices prevailing, ryots could not, as a rule, afford to employ coolies in their fields to same extent as usual, and did most of the work themselves, farm servants to a very considerable extent being turned adrift. Labourers in other occupations were also thrown out of employ. When drought succeeded the early rains, and crops began to fail once more, the people became demoralised, gave up all hope and flocked to relief.

15. The number of day labourers and weavers and their percentages to the total population, as recorded at the census of 1891, are shown below:—

Districts.	Population.	Agricultural labourers.	Other labourers.	Weavers.	Total.	Percentage.
Kurnool	817,811	108,536	78,513	48,376	235,425	29
Bellary	900,126	109,827	65,237	52,629	227,693	25

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* Kurnool	Rs. 64,388
Bellary	65,126
Total	1,29,514
Population which these pattadars represent, fixed at the low rate of 3 a family	3,88,542

It will be seen that the percentages of such classes correspond very closely to the percentages of persons on relief. If to these figures are added the number* of petty pattadars (with their families) who pay less than Rs. 10 per annum to Government, a class that must have felt actually the failure of the season, the explanation for the large number on relief is not far to seek.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing average numbers relieved in June and July 1877 in the Madras Presidency.

Districts.	Total population.	June.				
		Relief other than gratuitous.	Gratuitous relief.	Total.	Percentage.	
					Columns 2 and 5.	Columns 2 and 4.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kistna	1,452,374	2,014	591	2,605	0.18	0.04
Nellore	1,376,811	61,510	25,271	86,781	6.30	1.84
Cuddapah	1,351,194	103,757	47,525	151,282	11.20	3.52
Bellary	1,668,006	282,954	153,765	436,719	26.18	9.22
Kurnool	959,640	208,557	58,892	265,449	27.66	6.14
Chingleput	938,164	23,861	31,303	55,164	5.88	3.34
North Arcot	2,015,278	54,893	24,999	79,892	3.96	1.24
Madura	2,266,615	10,555	13,864	24,419	1.08	0.61
Coimbatore	1,763,274	25,166	33,448	58,614	3.32	1.90
Salem	1,960,995	49,775	82,891	132,666	6.74	4.21
Total	15,753,351	821,042	472,549	1,293,591	8.21	3.00

					July.				
Districts.					Relief other than gratuitous.	Gratuitous relief.	Total.	Percentage.	
								Columns 2 and 10.	Columns 2 and 3.
								8	9
					3,334	2,096	5,430	0.37	0.14
Kistna					65,860	31,790	97,650	7.09	2.31
Nellore					134,575	90,574	225,149	10.66	6.70
Cuddapah					303,703	164,761	468,464	28.15	9.82
Bellary					208,421	64,257	272,678	28.41	6.70
Karnool					28,790	52,548	81,338	8.67	5.60
Chingleput					51,504	51,378	102,882	5.11	2.55
North Arcot					11,456	28,190	39,646	1.75	1.24
Madura					29,094	71,616	100,710	5.72	4.05
Coimbatore					40,527	105,852	146,379	7.44	5.38
Salem									
Total ..					877,264	603,062	1,540,326	9.77	4.20

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 9183

From

The Board of Revenue,
Revenue, Sett. Land Eds. & Agri.
Madras.

No. 681 Press.

In Order

The Famine Commissioner
submits the explanation required
by the Govt of India recorded
in G.O. $\frac{782}{14-9-97}$ as to the high
ratio of the population on
relief in Kurnool and Bellary
to the total population of
these two districts

2. He begins by premising that
(1) the measures of relief under-
taken during the present year
have been more adequate and
efficacious than in 1877, ^{and} that
consequently a comparison of
the percentages of the population
on relief in the two periods is
not wholly a safe guide

Dated 21st October 1897.

Received 25

Registered 25

Enclosures 3

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Numbers on relief.

Submitting to Government report
regarding the high ratio of -----
in the Bellary and Kurnool district
in consideration of the population
of those districts.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

A

Districts	Population of the affected area	June				July			
		Relief workers		by private		Relief workers		by private	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Removal	5,12,000	117,782	23.0%	32,871	6.4%	170,796	33.3%	51,562	10.1%
Bellary	5,18,000	110,599	21.3%	28,191	5.4%	158,579	30.6%	48,328	9.3%
Channarayana	5,84,000	51,272	8.8%	11,898	2.0%	67,620	11.6%	16,674	2.8%
Total	16,14,000	279,653	17.3%	72,960	4.5%	396,995	24.6%	116,564	7.2%
Removal	5,12,000	104,752	20.5%	22,998	4.5%	160,613	31.4%	46,839	9.2%
Bellary	5,18,000	104,101	20.1%	20,187	3.9%	144,364	27.9%	26,769	5.1%
Channarayana	5,84,000	81,258	13.9%	12,132	2.1%	66,578	11.4%	11,777	2.0%
Total	16,14,000	290,111	18.0%	55,317	3.4%	371,555	22.9%	85,385	5.3%

65/2/10

9193

Statement showing Average numbers received in June and July 1877.

District	June					July					
	Total population	Relief Other than gratuitous	Gratuitous Relief	Percentage		Total	Relief Other than gratuitous	Gratuitous relief	Percentage		
				Total Columns 2 and 3	Column 4				Column 2 and 3	Column 4	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mitna	1452374	1854	382	2,236	0.15	.02	3,283	827	4,110	0.28	.05
Mellore	1,376,811	28,002	20,322	48,324	3.50	1.47	20,094	27,034	47,128	3.41	1.96
Cuddapah	1,351,194	94,961	33,629	128,590	9.51	2.48	119,440	64,652	184,092	13.62	4.78
Bellary	1,668,006	268,030	139,886	407,916	24.45	8.38	302,928	154,071	456,999	27.39	9.23
Larubol	959,640	205,208	60,611	265,819	27.69	6.31	212,516	56,199	268,715	28.00	5.85
Chingaleput	938,164	18,819	19,662	38,481	4.10	2.09	28,555	42,924	71,479	7.61	4.50
North Arcot	2,015,278	51,420	20,622	72,042	3.57	1.02	47,715	38,939	86,654	4.29	1.93
South Arcot	1,755,817	622	4,530	5,152	0.29	.25	91	12,663	12,754	0.72	.72
Madura	2,266,615	18,445	11,448	24,893	1.09	.50	13,228	18,101	31,329	1.38	.89
Coimbatore	1,763,274	25,439	24,713	50,152	2.84	1.40	29,696	52,664	82,360	4.67	2.98
Salem	1,966,995	53,387	74,238	127,625	6.48	3.77	41,799	103,720	145,519	7.36	5.27
	17,514,168	761,187	410,043	1,191,230	7.00	2.00	819,345	571,794	1,391,139	8.00	3.00

Average

efficacious than in the period of severer distress. For these reasons, the Famine Commissioner & respectfully submits that a comparison of the percentages of the population on relief in the two periods is not a wholly safe guide.

4. With regard to the percentage of the total population which should be taken to represent the maximum number of persons likely to require relief in a distressed area, the Famine Commission stated, in para 75 of its report, Part 1, "on this presumption it may be estimated that the largest population likely to be severely affected by famine at one time may be put at 30 millions. To arrive at the numbers likely to come on relief, we may safely take a proportion slightly lower than that of the Behar famine, say, 15 per cent, or 4½ millions, as the maximum number likely to be in receipt of relief in the worst months". In making this statement, the Famine Commission had in view no small isolated area but the whole of India. That this is so is clear from the figures quoted in the above extract, and from the fact that the Commissioners had before them the reports of the numbers relieved in Kurnool and Bellary in May, June and July 1877, during which months the percentages ranged from 21 to 28. Moreover the maximum number referred to was not the maximum number of a day, but the average during the severest months of distress.

5. In the Proceedings of the Government of India, Revenue Department, dated 21st March 1892 Circular No. 8-52, rules were communicated for the maintenance of a programme of famine relief works. In the second of these rules, the Government of India left it to the local authorities to decide the number of persons for whom relief works were likely to be required for 3 months in the event of serious famine. With the experience of distress of 1891-92, and of the great famine before him, the late Mr. Clogston, then in charge of the famine operations, considered that work should be found for not less than 20% of the total population, and

this decision was approved by the Local Government and the Government of India.

6. In order to arrive at any true comparison of the percentages of the numbers on relief, in Kurnool and Bellary, in the present year and in 1877, it is necessary to consider the Kurnool and Bellary districts as they were constituted in the latter year, viz, the area now embraced by the 3 districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur.

7. It so happens that the number on relief on the last Saturday of the month - the number which is furnished to the Government of India in the monthly report - has been higher during the months of June and July than the average of the months, as calculated from the figures reported at the close of each week. The figures are subjoined.

X
Copy
attached.

(Here enter statement A)

Taking the latter figures and considering only the total number on relief, the ratio of those on relief to the population of the affected area was, in June 20% ^{and in July 28%} or during the period of 2 months 24%. If the full area of the distress (omitting Bhadrachallam) viz, Canjam, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddalore, be considered the ratio is 11 per cent. Next taking the figures of gratuitous relief alone for the districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, the ratio of those gratuitously relieved to the total population of the affected area was in June 5.4% and in July 5.2 per cent, or, for the whole period, 4.5%. If the figures of 1877 are taken, it will be found that during the months of June and July, 27% of the population was on relief and 8% on gratuitous relief. Leaving aside the comparison between the present year and 1877, and taking the figures of Kurnool and Bellary (as now constituted) the percentages of the total numbers on relief to the population of the affected area during June and July, the two months of severest distress, was 31 while the percentage of those on gratuitous relief similarly calculated was less than 6.

Vide Statement B.
attached.

the Census

8. In para 2 of its letter No. 2850 F/60-19, dated August 1897, the Government of India states that "this ratio (1 : 10) has been exceeded during the present, for a short time in tracts where famine has been most, but not to the extent represented by the Dellary and Fa figures. In the worst districts of the North-Western Pro and Oudh, the percentage of persons gratuitously relieved to the total population has not exceeded 5 %". The Famine Commissioner is unable to reconcile the above statement with the official returns of the numbers on relief published in the Gazette of the Government of the North-West Province Oudh during May and June of the present year. Taking the figures reported for the districts of Banda and Jalaun shown below, it is found that, during May and June, the numbers relieved were 35 % of the total population, while the numbers on gratuitous relief were 10 % or 1 : 10 in form of relief alone.

X

(Here enter statement C.)

Copy
attached

1. The Famine Commissioner fears that the true facts of the position may have been obscured by the manner in which district figures have been tabulated in the Gazette when exhibiting the numbers against each Presidency Province. Recipients of relief are differentiated as follows: (a) relieved on works and (b) relieved gratuitously; under the former heading are included not only workers, but all those, while attending works as dependants of workers, a daily dole, do not work at should, as nonworkers, be properly classed under the "relieved gratuitously".

9. From the above figures, it will be seen, in months of severest distress, the percentages on relief in most seriously affected districts of the North-West and Oudh were actually higher than the corresponding percentages calculated for the districts of the West Provinces and Oudh are based upon the population described in para 2.

Percentage of column	Percentage of column
39	39
32	32
30	30

According to the Census of 1891 for the whole district, while those of Madras are based only upon the population of those local areas in the districts within which distress has been officially declared. It may be that the whole of the district of Banda and Jalaun have been officially declared distressed but unless this is the case, the percentages shown against them above must necessarily be increased.

10. With these preliminary remarks, the Famine Commissioner will proceed to explain the cause of the high percentage on relief in the districts of Kurnool and Bellary. The necessity for the introduction of relief measures in the Deccan districts has already been explained in Board's Proceedings No. 256 dated 29th March 1897, but, for the purpose of the present report, it is necessary to go somewhat deeper into the matter. The districts of Kurnool and Bellary suffered most severely in the famine of 1877. In 1881, 1884 and 1888 in Bellary and in 1884 in Kurnool, the season was most unfavorable, while both the districts suffered from famine in 1891-92. Thus before they had fully recovered from the shock of the great famine, they were called upon to meet the difficulties of the present year. The Famine Commissioner proposes to deal firstly with the three districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Santapur (officially declared distressed in the present year) and secondly with the taluk of Pattikonda in Kurnool, and the taluks of Alur and Adoni in Bellary, which have chiefly contributed to the high percentages of the present year and suffered severely in 1877. It is necessary to go back several decades to trace the rise and fall in population and cultivation in the areas under reference.

The subjoined statement shows the population of three districts, according to the Census figures of 1881 and 1891.

Districts	1871	1881	1891
Kurnool.	9,59,640	7,09,505	8,17,811
Bellary	16,68,006	15,56,696	9,00,126
Santapur.			7,08,549
Total.	2,627,646	2,046,601	2,426,486

It will be seen that the population of these districts in 1891 was 8% less than that of 1871. It was calculated by Mr. (now the Honorable Mr.) C. Stokes, the Census Commissioner of 1881, that these districts lost during the great famine nearly three-quarters of a million people, or about $\frac{1}{4}$ of their population. It is probable that these figures are an understatement of the case; the Census Commissioner of 1891 puts forward good reasons for considering Mr. Stokes' annual percentage of increase too low. Dealing now only with the Pattikonda taluk of Kurnool and the Adoni and Alur taluks of Bellary, the losses are shown in the subjoined statement.

	Population in			Actual decrease between 1871 & 1891	Percentage of columns 4 on column 5
	1871	1881	1891		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Pattikonda Taluk	173,118	105,438	138,703	67,680	39.1
Adoni	179,640	122,088	160,795	57,555	32.1
Alur	94,955	65,586	88,088	29,369	30.9

Making an allowance for the increase of population between 1871 and 1876, these taluks combined must have lost two-fifths of their population or more, and Pattikonda probably over half.

12. The area of cultivation in the Bellary district has in the last few years exceeded the area of cultivation in 1871, but in Kurnool this is not yet the case, as is seen from the following statement.

District	1871 Acres	Area of cultivation	
	1881 acres	1891 acres	
1	2	3	4
Kurnool	20,62,000	15,15,553	1,91,935
Bellary	3,497,000	1,457,804	2,126,030
Anantapur		1,169,765	1,348,051
Total	5,559,000	4,143,122	5,386,016

13. The nature of the season in 1896 has as described in Board's Proceedings No. 256, dated

1897, when reporting on the ordinary economic condition of the districts. It will be interesting to trace the latter course of prices in those portions of Kurnool and Bellary officially declared distressed. Cholam is the staple food grain of the area, and in normal times is to be purchased for 30 seers a rupee, while the scarcity rate is fixed at 15 seers to the rupee. The scarcity rate was first passed in both the districts on the 31st October 1896 and in July 1897 the grain was available only at 215 % above the normal rates, and 58 % dearer than the price at scarcity rate. Monthly variations are given below:-

	Measures of Cholam to be obtained for a rupee							
	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Kurnool	12.4	13.7	14.7	13.5	13.2	12.7	12.4	11.9
Bellary	11.8	13.5	13.4	12.7	12.3	11.6	11.5	11.0

14. Of the early and late food crops of 1896-97, a very large proportion withered, and the remainder yielded a nominal crop. The first burst of the monsoon in July 1897 lasted only 3 or 4 days after which there was a break of about 5 weeks, when further rain fell, but the monsoon not established before the end of August. General agricultural operations, which ceased with the harvesting of the late crops in the first weeks of this year, were not resumed till the early rains. But with the high prices prevailing ryots could not, as a rule, afford to employ coolies in the fields to same extent as usual, and did most of the work themselves, farm-servants to a very considerable extent being thrown out of employ. When drought succeeded the early rains and crops began to fade once more, the people gave up all hope and flocked to relief.

15. The number of day labourers and weavers and their percentage to the total population as recorded at the Census of 1891 is shown below:-

District	Population	Agricultural labourers	Other labourers	Weavers	Total	Percentage
Kurnool	817,811	108,536	78,513	48,376	235,425	29
Bellary	900,126	109,827	65,237	52,629	227,693	25

It will be seen that the percentages of such classes correspond very closely to the percentages of persons on relief. If to these figures are added the number of petty pattadars (with their families) who pay less than Rs 10 per annum to Government, a class that must have felt actually the failure of the season, the explanation for the large number on relief is not far to seek.

Kurnool. 64558
Bellary. 65126
Total 129514

Population which these pattadars represent fixed at the low rate of 3 a family. 388,542.

(True Extract)

Handwritten signature
23/10
Famine Secretary.

To.

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Handwritten note
23/10

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Record-keeper.

Regular
- Miscellaneous No. 107 918-12 of 1897.

FOR WHAT CURRENT.		To whom given.	When taken out.
No.	Year.		
~~4535~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4536~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4537~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
4534	98	Am. R. Co.	14/2/98
~~4535~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
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~~4537~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
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~~4542~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
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~~4552~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4553~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4554~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4555~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4556~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4557~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4558~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4559~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4560~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4561~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4562~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4563~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4564~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4565~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4566~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4567~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4568~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4569~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4570~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4571~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4572~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4573~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4574~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4575~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
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~~4577~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
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~~4579~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4580~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4581~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4582~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4583~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4584~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4585~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4586~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
~~4587~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~
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~~4592~~	~~98~~	~~Am. R. Co.~~	~~14/1/98~~

D 1,000-8-4-97.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C No. 9183

- 1 Am. Nat. Mus. C.F.
- 2 Am. Mus. Nat. Hist. C.F.
- 3 H.E. Van Emden

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

The Famine Commissioner submits the explanation required by the Govt: of India in its letter recorded in G.O.782,d/14th Sept:'97 as to the high ratios of the populations on relief in Kurnool and Bellary to the total populations of these two districts.

2. He begins by premising that ~~the~~
(A) the measures of relief adopted in
the present year have been more adequate
and efficacious than in 1877 and that a
consequently a comparison of the percen-
tages of the population on relief in ~~the~~
the two periods is not wholly a safe
guide,

(B) that if such a comparison is made on the basis of the figures given in Para 75 of the report of the Famine Commission, Part II it is well to bear in mind that the maximum assumed by the Famine Commission as likely to come on relief is not the maximum number on any single day but the average during the severest months of distress, and that the commission had not in view any small isolated

In the letter to Wm we have now
to reply, the G of I say that the numbers
on Relief & Gratuitous Relief in
July in Billary & Runoor were very
high, exceeding ^{the percentage}
in the Famine Comm. deemed
likely to cause a relief, & that
Wm it was found necessary to relieve
in the worst districts of the NW P
& Outh. ^{during the recent famine} It desires, accordingly,
that the Famine Comm. should be
called on to explain why the numbers
were ~~so~~ as high, & the result reported
to it

The Famine Comm^{tee} has ex-
plained, & we have to report the
results. I do not think we sh^d do
so, by communicating the Famine
Comm^{tee} R^{pt}; because, in the first
place, it irritates the G^{ov} & I. when
it expects information, & when
we are proper to be referred to
another; &, in the second place,
because it always creates a
row, when it is stated at greater

long the - than it need be, & a large
 portion - Mr. L. & Mrs. is taken
 up with the letter. We have only an
 answer to the question
 asked, & the answer is the question
 and it contains an-
 swer to the question.

lated area but the whole of India, and
 at it is therefore incorrect to compare the figures FOR ORDERS.
 given in the last July Famine Report which
 represent the numbers on the last Satur-
 day of the month with the above maximum;
 (C) he also points out that in the rules
 prescribed in this Presidency for the main-
 tenance of programmes of relief works it
 is assumed that work may have to be found
 for not less than 20 % of the population
 for 3 months in case of severe distress,
 the inference which he intends to be
 drawn from this being that the possibility
 of the Famine Commission's maxima being largely
 exceeded is contemplated by Govt.:.

He then compares the percentages
 of the population on relief in Kurnool,
 Bellary and Anantapur in June and July which
 were the severest months of the present
 distress with the percentages in 1877
 and furnishes figures which show that
 the percentages were

(i) Total numbers on relief-20 in June
 and 28 in July or an average of 24
 against 27 in June and July in 1877.

(ii) Gratuitous relief-June 3.4, -July 5.2
 or an average of 4.3 against 8 in 1877.

He also states that the total numbers
 on relief in the affected area through-
 out the Presidency averaged 11 % of the
 affected population in June and July, and
 that in the districts of Bellary and Kurnool
 it averaged 31 while those gratuitously
 relieved in these two districts were less than
 3 % of the affected population.

In regard to the statement of the
 Govt. of India that in the worst districts
 of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh

*I believe that Govt. Ministry
 in its own name. It will be
 a grave mistake, however,
 if we enter on any general
 defence of our Famine policy.
 This will be premature. We shall,
 probably, have to do it before long,
 & it will only weaken our
 hands then, if we show our
 cards now. It seems better,
 therefore, that the Sec. is
 wrong in saying that we ought
 to show that our Famine
 Administration has been ho-
 norably efficient, & that our
 rates of deaths & crimes have
 'hardly' increased. This will be
 altogether irrelevant; first
 is quite consistent with the
 great a percentage of relief
 & too great an expenditure.*

*We must first deal
 with the comparison of our
 percentages with the number
 the Famine Comm., appointed
 in 1877, though we need not
 & the extent of relief found
 necessary in the N.W.P. This
 may be done -*

*By reminding the Govt.
 that the Famine Comm. was
 calculating not with
 to the number that
 as relief on a par*

*The Famine Commission
 maximum has never*

as a small area of the Famine
 stricken portions of the Country
 but the facts reported to the
 average number that would
 want relief in the whole
 affected area during all the
 time of severe distress.

2. By stating that,
 though the percentages referred
 to by the Govt. are undoubtedly
 great, Govt. does not think
 my comparison so bad as the
 Home Sec. supposed with the
 percentages of the N.W.P.
 Statute A (N.W.P. Statute C)
 has been compiled from the
 official returns published in
 the Gazette of the N.W.P. &
 Oudh. It shows that the per-
 centage of numbers on relief
 to the popⁿ of affected tracts
 in Bellary Anantapur & Kurnool
 in July was -

Total relief 31.8 %
 Gratuitous — 7.2 %

In Kurnool & Bellary the
 percentages to the total popⁿ
 of the districts where it was
 highest was -

Total relief (May) 38.2 %
 Gratuitous R. (May) 10.6 %

*Govt. has the
 position of a man who is much
 up with the numbers
 mentioned in the Famine 7/1877
 asked, & he is a very
 prominent one.*

exceeded anywhere else?
 Such a large extent as it has
 been in Kurnool and Bellary
 and that the percentage
 of persons gratuitously
 relieved has not exceeded
 5 p.c in the worst districts
 of the N.W.P. and 3 p.c in the
 less distressed districts, the
 Famine Comm. says that
 the statement is not borne
 out by the figures published
 in the official gazettes, and
 furnishes a statement com-
 piled from these figures
 which shows that the per-
 centage in the N.W.P. has
 in some cases exceeded
 that of Kurnool.

With these preliminary
 observations he proceeds
 to explain the causes of the
 high ratios of the population
 on relief in Kurnool and
 Bellary.

(i) These two districts suf-
 fered most severely in the
 famine of 1877; the severity was
 most unfavorable in May
 in 1881, 1884 and 1885, and

Kurnool: 1884. a. d. both

only 27 p.c of the total population, and if to these are added the feebly ryots class who form another 23 p.c the explanation of the high ratios is not far to seek.

4. The Famine Commis preliminary observation summarized in nearly one call for some population

A there is the ^{the percentages} population in 1891 was still 8 p.c less than in 1871; the taluks of Alur and Adoni in Bellary and of Pattikonda, combined must have lost two-fifths of their population or more in 1877, and that of Pattikonda probably over one-half

(b) The area under cultivation ~~is~~ is still less than in 1871 in Kurnool, and has exceeded that of 1871 in Bellary only within the last few years

of 96/97 (Para 14 of Mr Le 7's report)

4. The number of day labourers we have on all putabak dair (Para 15 of Mr Le 7's report)

19/11/97
I agree. I would add that it seems absurd to compare the theoretical percentages of the Famine Comm with the practical results of famine adminⁿ

19/11/97

except the Hon. Mr. Le 7's note.

Theory must give way to fact. The Famine Commission probably based its estimate on the mean of large areas, part good and part bad, - not on the worst portion of a small area, wholly bad.

21.11.97

by the Commission on the basis of the experience of 1877, but they were taken at double the numbers that came on relief then. The correct reply to the Govt is that contained in para 3 of the B.P and marked ⁱⁿ 2 of this note food-crops average number district statements or yielded but the B.P as on turn. The B.P of 1897 was not established till the end of August, and prices which had passed the security rules so early as Oct 1896, and ^{rose still higher} the staple food of these districts was available only 213 p.c above the normal rates. Agricultural laborers could find little employment in the fields and even permanent farm servants were turned adrift to a considerable extent by the ryots; the labouring population and the weavers of these districts form

July 27 p.c. of the total
population, and if to these
are added the fully-ryed
class who form another 23
p.c. the explanation of the
high ratios is not far to
seek.

If the Famine Comm's
preliminary observations
summarized in para 2 above
call for some remarks:—

A There is no doubt that
relief was better organized
during the past distress
and was more adequate
and efficacious than in 1877;
but the Govt I makes no
comparison of the numbers
on relief in the present
year with those in 1877 and
the Famine Comm. apparently
intends his remarks as a
reservation with which
the comparison which he
himself makes later on shd
be accepted. All that the
Govt I says is that the present
percentages have exceeded
the Famine Commission's
maxima; these maxima
were no doubt arrived at

by the Commission on the
basis of the experience of
1877, but they were taken
at double the numbers that
came on relief then. The
correct reply to the Govt I
is that contained in para
3 of the B.P. and marked
B in para 2 of this note.

D The average number
given in the statement
appended to the B.P. as on
relief in June and July
1877 are not the averages
of these two months but those
on relief on the last day of
the first week of each month;
the averages are somewhat
higher than these figures. Further,
the worst month of 1877 was
August when the numbers rose
still higher. The percentages
of the averages have been
marked out in the statement
appended to this note which
should be substituted for
statement B of the Famine
Comm.

E The figures given
by the Famine Comm. in para

of the Procs and Statement
have been verified and
are correct. The comparison
with 1877 and the N.W.P. then
stands as follows:

	Percentages in the worst months.		
1	2 ^{Angulapur} Bellary and Kurva 1897.	3 Banda + Jalaun 1897	4 Bellary, and Kurva 1877.
May	19.5 (3.4)	34.30 (9.8)	
June	28.1 (5.2)	35.30 (10.06)	23 (8)
by			28.6 (8.7)
August.			30.2 (10.8)
	On the last ~~Saturday~~ day of the worst month		
	31.8 (7.2) (July)	38.21 (10.05) (May)	32.4 (August)
	Red ink	figures relate to grain houses not	

In the above comparison it is
to be remembered that the per-
centages are calculated on the
total population of the districts
in column 3 & 4, but only
on the affected population
in column 2.

5 In regard to the ex-
planation summarized
in para 3 above. It is an
admitted fact that the
districts of Bellary and Kur-
va suffered disastrously in
the great famine, but is it true
that they have not yet sufficed

Keep the whole of the two N.W.P. districts
was distressed that, since we do not
know, there is no basis of comparison
at all, so far as I can see.

But this is famine
yes; but it differs but little from
famine or less than in its effects on
the people.
Rd.

recovered from the effects
of the shock? The famine &
among other things ^{say that the}
population in 1891 was 8 p.c. less
than in 1871, and that the area
under cultivation is still less
in Kurva than in 1871; but an
~~abstract~~ examination of the
population and cultivation sta-
tistics does not support the
view that the districts have not
yet recovered from the effects
of the great famine.

It is a well-known fact
that the years of the greatest
comfort and prosperity ~~to~~
the people and in which the
country shows the greatest
elasticity are those following
a great national calamity
such as plague ~~or~~ pestilence,
which ~~not~~ while reducing
the population leaves the accu-
mulated wealth of the country
~~undiminished~~ undiminished.
The reduction in the population
renders the struggle for ex-
istence less severe, the lands
on the margin of cultivation
are abandoned with the

fact that the average yield per acre is greater than before, and the ~~laboring~~ laboring population who are generally the most affected by the calamity and whose numbers consequently undergo the largest reduction are better remunerated than before and have an opportunity of becoming landholders. This is peculiarly so in India the main cause of whose poverty is over population, and, ~~if~~ other things being equal, a famine which causes a large reduction in the population should be followed by a period of comfort and prosperity; the only injury done by the famine to accumulated wealth is the loss of live stock, but this is repaired in two or three years at the most. ~~and it may be argued that among backward peoples as those of India a sure index to prosperity is a rapid increase of population; has there been a rapid increase? Yes there has been.~~

The populations of Bellary, Kurnool and of the taluks of Alur, Adoni

Anti India poor? I should say not, for an Asiatic country. And if it is poor, is the cause overpopulation? I should say not, but the want of energy (very likely due to the climate) and the many cases the laziness of the people. And was the only injury done by the famine of '76-'78 to accumulated wealth the loss of live stock? I would rather say the loss of the people of this Presidency. Some 12 millions sterling for imported grain - has that injury to their accumulated wealth? As to the loss of live stock, it may seem paradoxical, but I am sure that much of that apparent loss was not in reality again -

This is quite true. Increase in population & culture and area does not show that the districts have not recovered from the famine of '77, so far as the existing population is concerned. There may, however, be a want of recovery as regards live stock & the storing up of grain to meet emergency.

Not much possibility of population increase in the districts.

more money (including jewels, precious metals) is not wanted in the sense in which that term is used in the note. Cattle, implements of husbandry, irrigation works &c - these are the wealth of an agricultural population, and they were unaffected by the first injury to the population (except the loss of money by the survivors). The loss of money would not affect the productive power of the soil or the annual production of such annual products as depend on the comfort & happiness of the population taken as a whole.

	1871	1881	1891	P. C.
Kurnool	7,09,305	8,17,811	1891	20.52
Bellary & ~~Adoni~~	721,534	900,126	24.74	
~~Adoni~~	13,36,696	16,08,675	11.8	
Incense in the rest of the Presy			88088	25.7
Alur		65,586	160,795	31.5
adoni		122,085	138,703	31.5
Pattakonda		105,438		

It means that the area has not recovered so far as land revenue is concerned.

and Pattikonda are noted the margin. It will be seen from them that in the last 10 years 1881 to 1891 the ^{population of} Bellary increased 24.74 p.c and that of Kurnool 20.52 p.c against an average increase of less than 12 p.c in the rest of the Presy; the increases in the three taluks specified above were 25.7, 31.5 and 31.5 respectively. These percentages indicate a period of prosperity not of the lingering effects of the great famine.

6 The fact that the area under cultivation is still less than in 1871 means nothing apart from the population which that area supports. Taking the two together the cultivated area per head of the population ^{in Kurnool} was 2.15 acres in 1871, 2.13 acres in 1881, and 2.34 in 1891; the figures for Bellary being 2.10 acres, 1.96 and 2.16 respectively; and when it is remembered that when the cultivated area ~~diminishes~~ diminishes the average

of old increases, these averages
show a larger income ^{per head in 1891}
than in 1871.

7 The argument in para 10
of the R.P. that Bellary and
Kurnool had suffered in
the famine of 1891-92 is
~~probably~~ a sound one, but
the other circumstance noted
in the same para that they
had a number of unfavor-
able seasons between 1881 and
1891 loses much of its signi-
ficance when it is remembered
that in India on an average
every fourth year is a year
of drought, though not always
one of such severe drought
as to necessitate relief measures.

The rest of the R.P. calls for
no remarks.

8 It is submitted that for
the reasons stated above the
Famine Comm's explanation
cannot be forwarded to
India in its present form,
~~and that perhaps some~~
~~explanation it would be~~
~~better for the Govt. to~~
~~omit it altogether~~

much, but not all
28

and that perhaps it may
be better ~~for the Govt.~~ to send
one drafted in the Govt. office.
If this suggestion is approved
orders are solicited as to the
~~main~~ main argument
which the draft
it should set forth.

RS The answer which we th:
65-11-97 made to the Govt. of India
shows that the people were
in relief because they needed it.
and if in the h.w. P. the people
were not in relief in equal numbers
with ours it is because they did not
need relief so much then as here.
What we must show is that all
the elements of distress are
present as of a poor country
exhausted by previous droughts.
with prices as high as in 1877. in
some instances and that that
distress was met by a thoroughly
efficient organization for relief
so much so that the death rate
was ^{or crime} hardly increased. Details are
not necessary but we must not
lingering. The aply of the Famine
Comm: seems to me weak and

It seems to me to supply all the
information needed for the simple
matter under consideration. It
is not meant as a general defence
of our famine policy, that was not asked for.

strong and meeting me
 mainly the ^{first} ^{month} ^{of} ^{the} ^{year} ^{is}
 desirable -

16/10/17

Statement showing the average daily numbers on relief during each of the months of June, July, & August 1871

District	Total Population	June.				July.				August.						
		On Works	Grati- tous Relief	Percentage-		On Works	Grati- tous Relief	Percentage-		On Works	Grati- tous Relief	Percentage-				
				Col. 245	Col. 244			Col. 240	Col. 249			Col. 245	Col. 244	Col. 240	Col. 249	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Koelna	1452374	2320	549	2869	0.4	-19	3751	2368	6119	.17	42	13245	6657	19902	.46	1.37
Nellore	1376811	28503	24281	52784	1.76	3.83	18919	31292	50211	1.76	3.11	30320	54090	84410	3.90	6.20
Cuddalore	1357194	106931	44746	151677	3.31	11.22	137032	90575	227607	6.70	16.84	145164	129431	274595	9.58	20.32
Bellary	1668006	286807	150989	437796	9.05	26.25	310240	164761	475001	9.88	28.48	296962	210470	507432	12.62	30.41
Mumot	969640	206818	59236	266054	6.17	27.73	212456	64257	276713	6.69	28.84	213545	74243	287788	7.74	25.99
Chingleput	938164	27703	26432	54135	2.82	5.77	29044	52537	81581	5.60	8.69	28245	78489	106734	8.37	11.37
N. Arcot	2015278	52720	24124	76844	1.20	3.82	53401	51378	104779	2.55	5.20	62573	99271	161844	4.93	8.03
S. Arcot	1755817	210	7674	7794	4.3	4.4	79	19439	19518	1.11	1.11	853	75455	76308	4.29	4.35
Madura	2266615	10422	13381	23803	.59	1.05	16569	28189	44458	1.24	1.09	24606	50653	75259	2.24	3.32
Chimbalur	1763274	25875	31704	57596	1.80	3.32	29658	71616	101274	4.06	5.74	29211	138775	167986	7.87	9.97
Salem	1966995	48501	81161	129662	4.13	6.13	42211	105852	148063	5.31	7.53	51317	165737	217054	8.43	11.00
	17574168	796810	464174	1260984	2.65	7.19	853360	682264	1535624	3.90	9.77	896041	1083271	1979312	6.18	11.30

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Talukis.	Population according to Census of 1871	July 1877.				Population according to Census of 1891	July 1897.			
		No. of Religious	Number of Brahmins	Total	P.C. of Col. 5 to Col. 2.		Number of Religious	Number of Brahmins	Total	P.C. of Col. 5 to Col. 2.
Adoni	181,583	111,882	47,309	159,191	87.6	160,795	53,604	65,95	60,199	37.4
Aliur	98,230	37,217	13,407	50,624	51.5	88,088	51,280	7,561	58,841	66.8
Batti Konda	173,434	25,471	8,464	33,935	19.5	138,703	50,944	9,509	60,453	43.6
Koilkuntla	98,844	26,630	8,501	35,131	35.5	86,544	40,634	9,684	50,318	58.1
Ramallakst. Koonam.	146,195	37,431	13,726	51,157	34.9	124,971	30,940	16,491	47,431	37.9
Total	698,286	238,631	91,407	330,038	47.2	599,101	227,402	49,840	277,242	46.3

Districts.	On last Saturday of the month				Average for the month.			
	C. R.	Total	C. R.	Total	C. R.	Total	C. R.	Total
Bellary	June 4.4	25.8	July 9.3	39.9	June 3.8	23.9	July 5.1	33.0
Kurnool	6.4	29.4	10.1	43.5	4.4	24.7	9.0	40.5
average	5.4	27.6	9.7	41.6	4.2	24.4	7.1	35.5
	May		June		May		June	
Banda	10.05	42.14	10.71	29.19	9.37	36.34	10.02	38.15
Talam.	10.05	31.20	10.29	30.53	10.59	30.67	10.14	30.77
average	10.05	39.21	10.56	29.67	9.80	34.30	10.06	35.50

Districts	Population 1871	Population 1881	Decrease h. c.
Bellary	926751	736807	20.4
Kurnool	959640	709305	26.1
Total	1886391	1446112	23.5
Talukhs	Population 1871	Population 1881	Decrease h. c.
Adoni	181583	~~188777~~ 99646	45.0
Alur	98230	~~88088~~ 65586	33.2
Pattikonda	173434	105438	39.1
Rammale	146195	74369	49.1
Koilkuntla	98844	76296	23.0
Total	698286	421333	40.0

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talukhs

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1. 1940年10月1日，国民党政府成立，标志着国民党在大陆的统治开始。 2. 1945年8月15日，日本投降，结束了长达八年的抗日战争。 3. 1949年10月1日，中华人民共和国成立，标志着新中国的诞生。 4. 1954年9月，第一届全国人民代表大会召开，通过了《中华人民共和国宪法》。 5. 1956年，社会主义改造基本完成，中国进入了社会主义初级阶段。 6. 1978年12月，十一届三中全会召开，开启了改革开放的新时期。 7. 1989年6月，六四事件发生，标志着中国进入了一个新的历史时期。 8. 1997年7月1日，香港回归祖国，结束了英国对香港的殖民统治。 9. 1999年12月20日，澳门回归祖国，结束了葡萄牙对澳门的殖民统治。 10. 2001年12月11日，中国加入世界贸易组织（WTO），标志着中国对外开放进入了一个新的阶段。 11. 2008年5月12日，汶川大地震发生，给中国带来了巨大的灾难。 12. 2012年11月，党的十八大召开，提出了科学发展观和“中国梦”。 13. 2013年12月，十八届三中全会召开，全面深化改革。 14. 2017年10月，党的十九大召开，提出了新时代中国特色社会主义思想。 15. 2020年12月，十九届五中全会召开，提出了“十四五”规划和2035年远景目标。	1. 1940年10月1日，国民党政府成立，标志着国民党在大陆的统治开始。 2. 1945年8月15日，日本投降，结束了长达八年的抗日战争。 3. 1949年10月1日，中华人民共和国成立，标志着新中国的诞生。 4. 1954年9月，第一届全国人民代表大会召开，通过了《中华人民共和国宪法》。 5. 1956年，社会主义改造基本完成，中国进入了社会主义初级阶段。 6. 1978年12月，十一届三中全会召开，开启了改革开放的新时期。 7. 1989年6月，六四事件发生，标志着中国进入了一个新的历史时期。 8. 1997年7月1日，香港回归祖国，结束了英国对香港的殖民统治。 9. 1999年12月20日，澳门回归祖国，结束了葡萄牙对澳门的殖民统治。 10. 2001年12月11日，中国加入世界贸易组织（WTO），标志着中国对外开放进入了一个新的阶段。 11. 2008年5月12日，汶川大地震发生，给中国带来了巨大的灾难。 12. 2012年11月，党的十八大召开，提出了科学发展观和“中国梦”。 13. 2013年12月，十八届三中全会召开，全面深化改革。 14. 2017年10月，党的十九大召开，提出了新时代中国特色社会主义思想。 15. 2020年12月，十九届五中全会召开，提出了“十四五”规划和2035年远景目标。
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Government (1897) of Madras. REVENUE.

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1897.

Enclosures

Regd.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1071, 18th December 1897.

DECEMBER.

Numbers on Relief.

Addressing the Government of India explaining the high ratio of — in the Bellary and
Kurnool districts to the population of those districts.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 681, dated 21st October 1897:—

W. J. H. LEFANU, Esq.
(Famine Commissioner).

Read—the following G.O., No. 782, Revenue, dated 14th September 1897:—

Read—the following letter from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 2850 F/60-19, dated 26th August 1897:—

In continuation of my letter, No. 2456/60-14 F., dated 9th July 1897, I am directed to say that the Government of India observe from the Madras Famine Report for July, submitted by the Board of Revenue in its letter, No. 565, dated 13th August 1897, that over 40 per cent. of the total population of the distressed areas in the Kurnool and Bellary districts was in receipt of relief during July, and that 10 per cent. of the total population was gratuitously relieved.

2. In view of the attention directed to the high ratio of persons relieved in certain districts in paragraph 4 of my letter of the 9th July, the Government of India feel some surprise that no explanation of the Kurnool and Bellary figures for July has been given by the Revenue Board in their present report. I am to request that the Revenue Board may be instructed to communicate my letter of the 9th July to the Famine Commissioner, if this has not been already done, and to request him to explain why the ratios to the total population of relief of all kinds and of gratuitous relief in the Kurnool and Bellary districts have attained their present abnormal height. It will be within the knowledge of the Government of Madras that the Famine Commission anticipated that about 10 per cent. of the total population would represent the maximum number of persons likely to require relief in a distressed area. This ratio has been exceeded during the present year for a short time in tracts where famine has been most acute, but not to the extent represented by the Bellary and Kurnool figures. In the worst district of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the percentage of persons gratuitously relieved on the total population has not exceeded 5 per cent. and in less distressed districts has not exceeded 3 per cent.

3. The Government of India will be glad to learn the result of the reference to the Famine Commissioner.

Order thereon—No. 782, Revenue, dated 14th September 1897.

Forwarded to the Famine Commissioner for report, with reference to paragraphs 2 and 3.

2. Copies of G.O., Nos. 660 and 661, dated 2nd August 1897, will be furnished to him.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner with copy of G.O.,
No. 660, dated 2nd August 1897, and of letter,
No. 681, dated 2nd August 1897.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Read—the following G.O., No. 660, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1897:—

Read—the following letter from T. W. HOLDERNESSE, Esq., I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India (Department of Revenue and Agriculture—Famine), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, the 9th July 1897, No. 2456-F.—60—14:—

The Government of India, on perusing the Madras famine report for the month of May submitted by the Board of Revenue, observe that in Ganjam the numbers on gratuitous relief are relatively larger than in other districts of the Presidency, and that this is attributed to the peculiar conditions of the district. I am directed to ask that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the Government of India may be informed what these conditions are to which the Board of Revenue refer.

2. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Board of Revenue report, the Government of India will be glad to learn whether the Board of Revenue have been informed that the Government of India in their letter, No. 2266, dated the 14th June 1897, have dissented from the proposal to do away with classes C and D of relief workers.

3. The proportion of persons in receipt of relief (a) on the 29th May, (b) on the 26th June in each district to the total population of the affected tract as given in column 5 of famine statement A is shown in the appended table:—

District.	Population of affected area.	Numbers on relief on 29th May.	Percentage.	Numbers on relief on 26th June.	Percentage.
Ganjam	908,000	47,583	5.24	85,276	9.39
Vizagapatam	455,000	17,019	3.74	25,126	5.52
Godavari	42,000	500	1.19	268	.63
Kurnool	340,000	101,632	29.89	147,285	43.31
Bellary	518,000	115,698	22.33	131,210	25.33
Anantapur	584,000	48,662	8.33	68,404	11.71
Cuddapah	391,000	69,910	17.87	101,210	25.88

* Incomplete.

4. The proportion of the population on relief is very high in the affected area of Kurnool and high in Cuddapah and Bellary. It is also observed that the women and children resort to the works in the Madras Presidency in much larger proportions than the men. In the Bombay Presidency it has been held that such disparity in numbers indicates an absence of acute general distress and the utilization of the works by many persons not in absolute want for the purpose of supplementing the resources of their households during the idle months of the year. This may not be the case in the affected districts of the Madras Deccan, but the difficulty which has been encountered in Bombay points to the necessity for making labour tests stringent and effective. The delay in the establishment of the south-west monsoon doubtless makes the contraction of relief operations at present impracticable, but should more favourable conditions prevail the Government of India hope to see a considerable reduction in the numbers of the relief population in Madras. They are aware that His Excellency the Governor in Council is fully alive to the importance of keeping the relief operations within close bounds, and they are assured that he agrees with them that, while actual suffering must of course be met and relieved, the contingency of relief demoralising the people must equally be guarded against. This is an aspect of the question which is not peculiar to the Madras Presidency, but common to the whole of India, and in inviting attention to it the Government of India are anxious to disclaim the imputation of any remissness in Madras; they wish, however, to emphasize the necessity everywhere existing of recalling the people to their ordinary avocations as soon as ordinary conditions are re-established.

Order—No. 660, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that the following letter be despatched to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. G. STOKES, I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 661, dated Ootacamund, 2nd August 1897.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Holderness's letter, No. 2456-F-60-14, dated 9th July 1894, embodying the observations of the Government of India on the Madras famine report for May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

2. In reply to paragraph 1 of the letter, I am to say that the distressed parts of Ganjam are inhabited mainly by Uriyas—a very conservative people extremely difficult to deal with. They are as a class averse to sending their women to labour at the relief works, and none but the lowest classes would allow their children to be fed at the kitchens attached to the works; and it was feared that these prejudices would make the people stint and starve themselves to a highly dangerous degree in the early stages of distress rather than accept relief on works. Every effort has from the first been, and is now being made to break down these prejudices, which are becoming less and less strong with the deepening of distress, and to reduce the numbers on gratuitous relief. I am also to observe that the failure to recognise these prejudices during the famine of 1889 led to a considerable deterioration in the condition of the population in the early part of that year and to a large increase in mortality, and that the numbers to whom it was subsequently found necessary then to afford gratuitous relief were nearly five times the numbers relieved on works.

3. With reference to paragraph 2 of the letter, I am to say that orders have been issued directing a reversion to the Code classification of relief workers, and to enclose copy of the Proceedings of this Government, No. 616, dated 24th July 1897, giving effect to the decision of the Government of India communicated in Mr. Holderness's letter, No. 2266, dated 14th June 1897.

4. This Government fully accepts the views of the Government of India expressed in paragraphs 3 and 4, and has issued orders with the object of giving effect to them.

Resolution—No. 681, dated 21st October 1897.

The Famine Commissioner begs to submit the report called for in the Government Order read above.

2. In paragraph 2 of the letter of the Government of India, surprise is expressed that, in view of the attention directed to the high ratio of persons relieved in certain districts during May, no explanation of the high figures in Kurnool and Bellary during July was given in the report for that month. The Famine Commissioner regrets that no explanation of the high figures was offered; he was, at the time, unaware that such an explanation was desired, for the letter of the Government of India, in which attention was drawn to this matter, was communicated to him only on 17th September, with the Government Order now under reply.

3. While premising that the distress of the present year has been less acute than that of 1877, it is probable that the areas of distress during the present year have been more definitely localised than in 1877, and there seems reason to believe, without wishing for a moment to detract from the noble work done in 1877, that the

measures of relief undertaken during the present year have been more adequate and efficacious than in the period of severer distress. For these reasons, the Famine Commissioner respectfully submits that a comparison of the percentages of the population on relief in the two periods is not a wholly safe guide.

4. With regard to the percentage of the total population which should be taken to represent the maximum number of persons likely to require relief in a distressed area, the Famine Commission stated, in paragraph 75 of its report, Part I, "on this presumption, it may be estimated that the largest population likely to be severely affected by famine at one time may be put at 30 millions. To arrive at the numbers likely to come on relief, we may safely take a proportion slightly lower than that of the Behar famine, say 15 per cent., or 4½ millions, as the maximum number likely to be in receipt of relief in the worst months." In making this statement, the Famine Commission had in view no small isolated area, but the whole of India. That this is so is clear from the figures quoted in the above extract, and from the fact that the Commissioners had before them the reports of the numbers relieved in Kurnool and Bellary in June and July 1877, during which months the percentages ranged from 26 to 28. Moreover, the maximum number referred to was not the maximum number of a day, but the average during the severest months of distress.

5. In the Proceedings of the Government of India, Revenue Department, dated 21st March 1892, Circular No. 8—52, rules were communicated for the maintenance of a programme of famine relief works. In the second of these rules, the Government of India left it to the local authorities to decide the number of persons for whom relief works were likely to be required for three months, in the event of serious famine. With the experience of the distress of 1891-92, and of the great famine before him, the late Mr. Clogstoun, then in charge of famine operations, considered that work should be found for not less than 20 per cent. of the total population, and this decision was approved by the local Government and the Government of India.

6. In order to arrive at any true comparison of the percentages of the numbers on relief, in Kurnool and Bellary, in the present year and in 1877, it is necessary to consider the Kurnool and Bellary districts as they were constituted in the latter year, viz., the area now embraced by the three districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur.

7. It so happens that the number on relief on the last Saturday of the month—the number which is furnished to the Government of India in the monthly report—has been higher during the months of June and July than the average of the months, as calculated from the figures reported at the close of each week. The figures are subjoined—

District.	Population of the affected area.	June.					July.				
		Relief workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total relieved.	Percentage.		Relief workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total relieved.	Percentage.	
					Columns 2 and 4.	Columns 3 and 5.				Columns 2 and 8.	Columns 9 and 10.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Number on last Saturday of the month.</i>											
Kurnool	512,000	117,782	32,371	150,653	6.4	29.4	170,796	51,962	222,758	10.1	43.5
Bellary	518,000	110,599	23,191	133,790	4.4	25.8	158,579	48,328	206,907	9.3	39.9
Anantapur	584,000	51,273	11,598	62,871	1.9	10.7	67,620	16,674	84,294	2.8	14.4
Total	1,614,000	279,654	67,660	347,314	4.1	21.5	396,995	116,964	513,959	7.2	31.8
<i>Average number during the month.</i>											
Kurnool	512,000	104,752	22,998	127,750	4.4	24.7	160,613	46,839	207,452	9.0	40.5
Bellary	518,000	104,101	20,187	124,288	3.8	23.9	144,364	26,769	171,133	5.1	33.0
Anantapur	584,000	51,258	12,132	63,390	2.0	10.8	64,578	11,777	76,355	2.0	13.0
Total	1,614,000	260,111	55,317	315,428	3.4	19.5	369,555	85,385	454,940	5.2	28.1

Taking the latter figures, and considering only the total number on relief, the ratio of those on relief to the population of the affected area was, in June, 20 per cent. and in July 28 per cent., or during the period of two months 24 per cent. If the full area of distress (omitting Bhadrachalam), viz., Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah, be considered, the ratio is about 13 per cent. Next, taking the figures of gratuitous relief alone for the districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, the ratio of those gratuitously relieved to the total population of the affected area was in June 3.4 per cent. and in July 5.2 per cent., or, for the whole period, 4.3 per cent. If the figures of 1877 are taken, it will be found that during the months of June and July, 27 per cent. of the population was on relief and 8 per cent on gratuitous relief. Leaving aside the comparison between the present year and 1877, and taking the figures of Kurnool and Bellary (as now constituted), the percentage of the total numbers on relief to the population of the affected area during June and July, the two months of severest distress, was 31, while the percentage of those on gratuitous relief similarly calculated was less than 6.

8. In paragraph 2 of its letter, No. 2850-F.—60—19, dated 26th August 1897, the Government of India states that "this ratio (1:10) has been exceeded during the present year for a short time in tracts where famine has been most acute, but not to the extent represented by the Bellary and Kurnool figures. In the worst districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the percentage of persons gratuitously relieved to the total population has not exceeded 5 per cent." The Famine Commissioner is unable to reconcile the above statement with the official returns of the numbers on relief published in the Gazette of the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh during May and June of the present year. Taking the figures reported for the districts of Banda and Jalaun, as shown below, it is found that, during May and June, the numbers relieved were 35 per cent. of the total population, while the numbers on gratuitous relief were 10 per cent. or 1:10 for this form of relief alone:—

Districts.	Total population by census of 1891.	Average of the month.			Percentage of total population.	
		Relief workers.	Gratuitously relieved.	Total relieved.	Columns 2 and 4.	Columns 2 and 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>May.</i>						
Banda	705,832	190,350	66,141	256,491	9.37	36.34
Jalaun	396,361	79,614	41,978	121,592	10.59	30.67
Total	1,102,193	269,964	108,119	378,083	9.80	34.30
<i>June.</i>						
Banda	705,832	198,613	70,729	269,342	10.02	38.15
Jalaun	396,361	81,763	40,203	121,966	10.14	30.77
Total	1,102,193	280,376	110,932	391,308	10.06	35.50

The Famine Commissioner fears that the true facts of the position may have been obscured by the manner in which the district figures have been tabulated in the Gazette of the Government of India when exhibiting the numbers against each Presidency and Province. Recipients of relief are differentiated in that table as those (a) relieved on works and (b) relieved gratuitously; under the former heading are included not only actual workers, but all those who, while attending works and receiving, as dependants of workers, a daily dole, do not work at all, and should, as non-workers, be properly classed under the head "relieved gratuitously."

9. From the above figures, it will be seen that, during the months of severest distress, the percentages on relief in the most seriously affected districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh were actually higher than the corresponding figures in this Presidency. It should be clearly understood, too, that the percentages calculated for the districts of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh are based upon the population according to the census of 1891 for the whole districts, while those of Madras are

based only upon the population of those local areas in the districts within which distress has been officially declared. It may be that the whole of the districts of Banda and Jalaun have been officially declared distressed; but unless this is the case, the percentages shown against them above must necessarily be increased.

10. With these preliminary remarks, the Famine Commissioner will proceed to explain the cause of the high percentage on relief in the districts of Kurnool and Bellary. The necessity for the introduction of relief measures in the Deccan districts has already been explained in B.P., No. 256, dated 29th March 1897, but, for the purpose of the present report, it is necessary to go somewhat deeper into the matter. The districts of Kurnool and Bellary suffered most severely in the famine of 1877. In 1881, 1884 and 1885 in Bellary, and in 1884 in Kurnool, the season was most unfavourable, while both districts suffered from famine in 1891-92. Thus, before they had fully recovered from the shock of the great famine, they were called upon to meet the difficulties of the present year. The Famine Commissioner proposes to deal firstly with the three districts of Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur (officially declared distressed in the present year), and secondly with the taluk of Pattikonda in Kurnool, and the taluks of Alur and Adoni in Bellary, which have chiefly contributed to the high percentages of the present year, and suffered severely in 1877. It is necessary to go back three decades to trace the rise and fall in population and cultivation, in the areas under reference.

11. The subjoined statement shows the population of these three districts, according to the census figures of 1871, 1881 and 1891:—

Districts.		1871.	1881.	1891.
Kurnool		959,640	709,305	817,811
Bellary		1,668,006	1,336,696	900,126
Anantapur				708,649
Total		2,627,646	2,046,001	2,426,486

It will be seen that the population of these districts in 1891 was 8 per cent. less than that of 1871. It was calculated by Mr. (now the Honourable Mr.) G. Stokes, the Census Superintendent of 1881, that these districts lost during the great famine nearly three-quarters of a million people, or about quarter of their population. It is probable that these figures are an understatement of the case; the Census Superintendent of 1891 puts forward good reasons for considering Mr. Stokes' annual percentage of increase too low. Dealing now only with the Pattikonda taluk of Kurnool and the Adoni and Alur taluks of Bellary, the losses are shown in the subjoined statement:—

	Population in			Actual decrease between 1871-1881.	Percentage of column 5 on column 2.
	1871.	1881.	1891.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Pattikonda taluk	173,118	105,438	138,703	67,680	39.1
Adoni	179,640	122,085	160,795	57,555	32.0
Alur	94,995	65,586	88,088	29,409	30.9

Making an allowance for the increase of population between 1871 and 1876, these taluks combined must have lost two-fifths of their population or more, and Pattikonda probably over half.

12. The area of cultivation in the Bellary district has, in the last few years, exceeded the area of cultivation in 1871, but in Kurnool this is not yet the case, as is seen from the following statement:—

Districts.	Area of cultivation in			
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1896.
Kurnool	ACS. 2,062,000	ACS. 1,513,553	ACS. 1,911,935	ACS. 1,878,983
Bellary	3,497,000	1,457,804	2,126,030	2,189,474
Anantapur		1,169,765	1,348,061	1,651,709
Total	5,559,000	4,143,122	5,386,016	5,720,166

13. The nature of the season in 1896 has already been described in Board's Proceedings, No. 256, dated 29th March 1897, when reporting on the ordinary economic condition of the districts. It will be interesting to trace the later course of prices in those portions of Kurnool and Bellary officially declared distressed. Cholan is the staple food-grain of the area, and in normal times is to be purchased for 30 seers a rupee, while the scarcity rate is fixed at 15 seers to the rupee. The scarcity rate was first passed in both districts on 31st October 1896, and in July 1897 the grain was available only at 215 per cent. above the normal rate, and 58 per cent. dearer than the price at scarcity rate. Monthly variations are given below:—

Measures of cholam to be obtained for a rupee.									
	November.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.
Kurnool	12.4	13.7	14.7	13.5	13.2	12.7	12.4	11.0	9.7
Bellary	11.8	13.5	13.4	12.7	12.3	11.6	11.5	11.0	9.3

14. Of the early and late food-crops of 1896-97, a very large proportion withered, and the remainder yielded but a nominal crop. The first burst of the monsoon in June 1897 lasted only 3 or 4 days after which there was a break of about five weeks, when further rain fell, but the monsoon was not established before the end of August. General agricultural operations, which ceased with the harvesting of the late crops in the first weeks of this year, were not recommenced till the early rains. But with the high prices prevailing, ryots could not, as a rule, afford to employ coolies in their fields to same extent as usual, and did most of the work themselves, farm servants to a very considerable extent being turned adrift. Labourers in other occupations were also thrown out of employ. When drought succeeded the early rains, and crops began to fail once more, the people became demoralised, gave up all hope and flocked to relief.

15. The number of day labourers and weavers and their percentages to the total population, as recorded at the census of 1891, are shown below:—

Districts.	Population.	Agricultural labourers.	Other labourers.	Weavers.	Total.	Percentage.
Kurnool	817,811	108,536	78,513	43,376	235,425	29
Bellary	900,126	109,827	65,237	52,629	227,693	25

* Kurnool	Rs. 64,388
Bellary	65,126
Total	1,29,514

Population which these pattadars represent, fixed at the low rate of 3 a family ... 3,88,542

It will be seen that the percentages of such classes correspond very closely to the percentages of persons on relief. If to these figures are added the number * of petty pattadars (with their families) who pay less than Rs. 10 per annum to Government, a class that must have felt actually the failure of the season, the explanation for the large number on relief is not far to seek.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing average numbers relieved in June and July 1877 in the Madras Presidency.

Districts.	Total population.	June.				
		Relief other than gratuitous.	Gratuitous relief.	Total.	Percentage.	
					Columns 2 and 5.	Columns 2 and 4.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Kistna	1,452,374	2,014	591	2,605	0.18	0.04
Nellore	1,376,811	61,510	25,271	86,781	6.30	1.84
Cuddapah	1,351,194	108,757	47,525	156,282	11.20	3.52
Bellary	1,668,006	282,954	153,765	436,719	26.18	9.22
Kurnool	959,640	206,537	58,892	265,449	27.66	6.14
Chingleput	938,164	23,861	31,303	55,164	5.88	3.34
North Arcot	2,015,278	54,893	24,999	79,892	3.96	1.24
Madura	2,266,615	10,555	13,864	24,419	1.08	0.61
Coimbatore	1,763,274	26,166	33,448	59,614	3.32	1.90
Salem	1,966,995	49,775	82,891	132,666	6.74	4.21
Total	15,758,351	821,042	472,549	1,293,591	8.21	3.00

Districts.]	July.				
	Relief other than gra- tuitous.	Gratuitous relief.	Total.	Percentage.	
				Columns 2 and 10.	Columns 2 and 5.
				8	9
Kistna	3,334	2,098	5,430	0.37	0.14
Nellore	65,860	31,790	97,650	7.09	2.81
Cuddapah	134,575	90,574	225,149	16.66	6.70
Bellary	303,703	164,761	468,464	28.15	9.82
Karnool	208,421	64,257	272,678	28.41	6.70
Chingleput	28,790	52,548	81,338	8.67	5.60
North Arcot	51,504	51,378	102,882	5.11	2.55
Madura	11,456	23,190	34,646	1.75	1.24
Coimbatore	29,094	71,616	100,710	5.72	4.06
Salem	40,527	105,852	146,379	7.44	5.38
Total ..	877,264	663,062	1,540,326	9.77	4.20

10

No. 1071, REVENUE, 18TH DECEMBER 1897.

ORDER—No. 1071, Revenue, dated 18th December 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that the Government of India
be addressed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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