Revenue (189/) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1078

DATED 23rd Feb. 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Records the Sanction conveyed in Lr. Legislative Dept. to Govt. of Fort St. George, No. 31 dated 5th Jany 97.

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Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 165

The Hon. Mr. Grose C.S.I. Hon. Mr. Wilson C.S.I.
His Exy. the Governor.

GOVT. OF MADRAS
18 FEB 97
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Dr 23/2 — 22nd Feb. 97.

No. 107 dy 23 Feb. 97.

Order issued 24-2-97 24.2.97

Recorded 19/2/97

From

The Board of Revenue

(Rev. Sett., L. R. & Agri.).

Madras

No. 118 *Press*

Dated 9th February 1897

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Enclosures

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To

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The Fmn. Dept
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9-2-97

C. 19/2/97.

SUBJECT.

Fortnightly Narrative —

Submitting to Government with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for period ending 31st January 1897.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 31st of January 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—No rainfall. Drinking-water is scarce in parts, and wells have had to be sunk or deepened in some villages by the Taluk Boards. For irrigation the only supply is from temporary wells, which are freely used for raising ragi, tobacco and garden crops. There is also some water procurable from river channels in the Palkonda taluk.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Sowings of gingelly, indigo, cotton and green gram took place in the west of the Bimlipatam and borders of Vizagapatam taluk after the showers of the first week of the month. This rain was heavier in the west of Bimlipatam taluk than at any registering station and even put some water in tanks. These crops are doing well at present. Ragi and garden crops are being raised under wells in most villages, and the area so cultivated is larger than usual.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Pasture is very scarce everywhere, and fodder is dear, but the latter appears to have been stored in sufficient quantities.

Cattle disease, foot and mouth apparently, exists in almost every taluk. It appears to have been imported from Jeypore by the bandy bullocks. It was bad some weeks ago in Koraput and Pottanghi taluks, but it is stated to have decreased. In Koraput and Pottanghi I personally saw but few affected cattle. Cattle are reported not to be suffering from starvation anywhere, but the Head Assistant Collector reports their condition to be poor.

General remarks on above subjects.—There is no change in the general situation under the above headings.

FOOD-SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 31st January 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
1. Pârvatîpuram	9·84	10·86	18·72	18·36	18·20	18·20	
2. Sâlûr	11·07	11·07	17·28	17·28	17·50	17·50	
3. Palkonda	9·60	9·60	17·17	17·17	22·77	21·78	Prices are very steady, with a downward tendency in rice.
4. Gajapatinagaram	9·84	9·84	17·76	17·76	17·28	16·84	
5. Chipurupalle	9·02	9·02	15·84	15·84	17·28	17·28	
6. Vizianagram	9·26	9·26	16·66	16·16	16·33	15·84	
7. Vizagapatam	9·60	9·94	15·60	15·65	14·85	14·85	
8. Chódávaram	9·00	9·00	19·11	19·11	18·48	18·48	
9. Anakápalle	10·00	10·00	18·20	17·29	..	..	
10. Yellamanchili	9·50	9·50	18·20	17·29	16·72	..	
11. Narsapatam	9·40	10·34	17·64	18·48	17·64	17·32	
Average ..	9·64	9·85	17·47	17·30	17·70	17·51	

Activity of Trade.—Trade is on the whole very active, principally in rice and paddy, less so in dry grains, but the demand for the latter appears to be met.

Imports—by rail 10,150 maunds for the fortnight ending 16th January 1897.

Imports—by sea 220 bags for the fortnight ending 23rd January 1897.

Imports—by road from Jeypore 11,214 cart-loads for the fortnight ending 23rd January 1897.

The Maharajah of Jeypore has commenced to sell his paddy and the price in Jeypore is falling. Paddy is coming in from Bustar and Kalahandi through Jeypore and from Gódávari by road to Narsapatam.

Condition of the People.

1. *On works.*—Since the test relief works were closed, there are none but ordinary works in progress. Those working are reported to be generally in normal condition.

2. *In villages.*—The Head Assistant Collector reports condition of people to be "good." The General Deputy Collector reports the condition of people in villages to be "good." The Senior Assistant says "normal." The Principal Assistant says it is good in three of his four taluks, but that some of the people in the Kodisa firka of Palkonda require labour. He will be requested to investigate this and report further. The terms of labour on relief works will be carefully made understood. Experience shows that people who would flock to labour for ordinary pay will not work at famine wages.

Sickness and Mortality.—No unusual sickness. Some little small-pox and cholera, but not bad.

Remarks.—The tone of the Divisional Officers is somewhat more hopeful as to the prospects of the people. I am myself in the Agency, where every one looks well and prosperous. An immense amount of money has flowed into Jeypore in exchange for grain.

Measures of Relief.

1. *On Works.*—In what taluks open, and comparison of numbers.

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Bimlipatam	200 (one day)	*Nil.*	Abandoned test work.
Total ..	200 (one day)	..	

2. *Gratuitous Relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.

Taluks.	Number relieved		Remarks.
	At kitchens.		
	~~Last~~ fortnight.	~~This~~ fortnight.	
Bimlipatam	*Nil.*	50 (one day)	Kitchen attached to abandoned test work.
Total ..	..	50 (one day)	

3. *Private charity.*—A native merchant in Bimlipatam is giving one meal a to day about 150 poor.

The Maharajah of Vizianagram feeds about 300 beggars at his poor-house, but this he always does.

The Rajah of Bobbili and other gentlemen are also dispensing charity, but the Divisional Officers have not reported its extent. They have been requested to do so.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

The Manganese mines at Kodur. The road from Vizianagram to Sálúr, thence Sunki, Pottanghi, Sembliguda and Koraput.

The coolies at the Manganese mines are all in normal condition. There are about 3,000 at Kodur in Chípurupalle and Garbham in Gajapatinagaram, but all from villages in the vicinity. The manager told me he could employ more labour if he could get it. On the 16th at Chípurupalle I received the Commissioner's telegram permitting me to proceed on my Agency tour. I returned to Vizagapatam on the 17th, sent off my kit to Sálúr—five days journey—and on the 24th I proceeded from Waltair to Sálúr *viâ* Vizianagram and Gajapatinagaram and thence to Koraput. I am now in Jeypore taluk.

General Remarks.—On the way north from Vizianagram the general impression gathered of the country and the people was that they improved as one went north and towards the hills. I do not expect serious distress in the inland parts of the district. In the Agency every one is prosperous. The tract which requires watching is the central coast portion and this is being carefully watched. This report is late owing to my distance from head-quarters.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.								Cattle and seed-grain.								Purchase of fodder.							
	Total.								Total.								Total.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number of wells.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number of wells.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number of wells.	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1	3	500	..	..	3	500	..	..	3	500	..	..	3	500	..	..	3	500	..	..	3	500	..	..
Sungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Palkonda	..	..	..	..	11	1,665	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1,665	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	1,665	..	..
Total ..	3	500	..	..	14	2,165	..	..	3	500	..	..	14	2,165	..	..	3	500	..	..	14	2,165	..	..
Sungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Palkonda	..	..	..	..	308	28,212	..	..	..	..	..	..	308	28,212	..	..	..	..	..	..	308	28,212	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	308	28,212	..	..	..	..	..	..	308	28,212	..	..	..	..	..	..	308	28,212	..	..

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.								Purchase of fodder.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number of wells.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number of wells.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

READ—also the following season report of the Vizagapatam district for the week ending 6th February 1897 :—

"Food-grains imported by sea 2,501 maunds, exported 1,408 maunds; imported from Jeypore 3,430 carts, also considerable local import from Gódávari by road. Exported by rail 1,853 maunds, imported 10,024 maunds. Emigrants to Burma 409 and to Natal 13. No rain. Rainfall below average, 12·67 Agency, 21·33 Littoral. Water for cultivation only by baling from wells; drinking water insufficient in parts; Taluk Boards sinking temporary wells. Sown gingelly, indigo in one taluk, transplanted ragi in two, chillies in one and sugarcane in one. Wet crops, only sugarcane under wells, dry crops withered except under wells where they are doing fairly. Harvested sugarcane in five taluks, tobacco in four, ragi in two; outturn in all poor to middling; horse-gram in one, poor. Pasture very scarce, fodder very dear but procurable. Cattle not visibly suffering. Prospects bad. Cholera prevailing two taluks, 10 attacks and 6 deaths. Condition of working classes reported good, except in Kodisa firka, Palkonda taluk. Principal Assistant Collector ordered to investigate and report further.

RESOLUTION—dated 9th February 1897, No. 118.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The situation in Vizagapatam shows no material change, but it appears that the area in which distress may arise there is limited to a portion of the littoral section of the district. Prices, however, continue to rise as shown below :—

Grains.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.			
	December average.	On January 9th.	On January 23rd.	On February 6th.
Rice	9·3	9·6	9·8	9·7
Ragi	17·3	17·4	17·3	17·1
Cumbu	17·8	17·7	17·5	17·3

The rise is however slight and confined to the dry grains, while it appears that trade is active and the markets are well supplied. The people are in good condition, and it appears that only in a portion of Palkonda taluk is the want of employment felt, but as yet the pressure is not sufficient to lead them to accept relief.

(True Copies and Extract.)

P. J. Simmonds
Secretary.

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

Ext. P. Seetharam.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed February 16th.

Proceedings, 9th Feb. 1897, *No.* 118.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Vizagapatam district for period ending 31st January 1897.

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