Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. ~~1905~~ 1970

DATED ~~23~~ 30th April 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Commg. to the P. W. Depart^t B. P. (Settlement) submg. with a remark for the information of Govt. report from the Collector of Vizagapatam on certain test relief works in the Dt.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

Thelton. Mr. Gne CSE
His Exy. the Governor,

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
APR 97
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Dr. 8/11

Order nisi No. 1970 d. 10th April 1897 ~~1980 & dated 97~~

From

The Board of Revenue
Revenue Settlement
Land Records & Agri
Madras

No. 2479. Miscellan

Communicated to the Sec. 9th 7+97

Works. Dept in continuation of G.O.
No 244 Revs d. 9-4-97

Dated 2nd April 1897.

Received

Registered

Enclosures four

Spare copies

Chief Engr. P.W.D.
Supdtg Engr Cen
RS
5-4-97

Sec. 16-4-97

SUBJECT.

Submitting with a remark
for the information of
Government report from
the Collector of Vizagapatam
on certain Cot relief work
in the District.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	cno 2780		
Ms	2352/97		
Ms	330		
Ms	10		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Office of the Principal Asstt. Collector
Vizagapatam 25th March 1897.

From E. Scott. Esquire
Dy Principal Asstt Collector

To The Collector
Vizagapatam

Sir, I have the honor to report as follows.
on the test relief work opened at Dakamarri
on the 9th instant

2. As already reported no labourers came to work
on the 9th and it was not until the 13th that any
Came. On that date 13 persons from Dakamarri
applied for work. They were set to work as soon
as possible, the task set by the Supervisor being
3 Cubic feet per unit. The work done was as follows

Class	men	women	Children	work to be done	work done
B	6	1	6	C ft 96	81

The task set was I think excessive, the workers

This was apparent
Correct, but being
for those assisted by
the public

having both to quarry and break the metal.
No fines were imposed in accordance with your instructions.

3. On the 14th the number of Coolies rose to 178 and they were formed into 2 gangs as follows.

	Class	men	women	Children	Total
1st Gang	B	12	29	37	78
2nd Gang	B	15	56	29	100.

The task set was 2½ c ft per unit, but neither gang was able to work up to this, the first turning out 270 c ft. out of 353 c ft. and the second 405 c ft. out of 493. The task was I think on the whole fair and would easily have been worked up to but for the want of practice of the Coolies. No fines were exacted.

4. On the 15th you were present at the work with the District Surgeon. The numbers on the work rose on this day to 276. Three gangs were formed the task fixed being again 2½ c ft per unit. The work done was as follows:-

	Class	men	women	Children	Total	Total Task	Work done	
1st Gang	B	18	56	22	96	515	334	64%
2nd Gang	B	15	56	21	92	483	475	98%
3rd Gang	B	17	40	31	88	418	244	60%

The second Gang which was becoming accustomed to the work did almost the full task though both the other gangs turned out very much less. You Consequently reduced the task of following day, and there being a number of workers in the gangs unfit to be classed as B class, a D Class gang was ordered to be formed.

5. On the 16th 261 persons were at work in 3 B class gangs and one D Class gang while 106 who came late were directed to come the following day, those who had come from a distance being paid a minimum wage.

6. Since the 8th the attendance has increased daily as shown below.

	men	women	Children	Total
17th	171	423	220	814
18th	236	604	278	1118
19th	293	725	375	1393
20th	341	826	406	1573

I enclose a statement prepared by the Supervisor showing the tasks set for each gang daily and the work turned out.

7 The tasks it will be noted are raised being

raised gradually as each gang becomes accustomed to the work. 2/4 Cubic feet per unit should I think be worked up to in all cases and I am instructing the Supervisor accordingly. The short work of several of these gangs is due to illness in many cases and to laxity on the part of the overseer and head coolies. I found for instance yesterday some gangs with only about 35 percent engaged in breaking metal while the rest were quarrying stones, many of these latter were of course doing nothing. On the 19th fining was first resorted to, three or four gangs being fined 10 percent for short work. No gangs were fined on the 20th.

8. The labourers on the work on the 20th ineland came from the following villages:

Geddapeta	Neelayyachabram	Ravada	It will have been useful if distances of other villages are shown
A.K.Kivaram 7 miles	Ravunnapeta	Mangalapeta	
Golagam.	Podugupeta	Jonnada.	
Savvavarilli	Linganapeta	Ramajogipeta	
Mopada.	Modavalsa	Golaganapeta	
Dakamarri	Valluru.	Akulapeta	
Muddadapeta	Bangarrajupeta	Chelluru	
Gantlam.	Kondrajupeta	Duvvupeta	
		Vizianagram 8 miles	
		Boddavalsa	
		Bapiraju Vallavalsa	

only 8 Coolies came from Vizianagram the most distant place 147 Came from

A.K.Kivaram

It will be made clear to all labourers from the first that the wages given are intended only for the support of the workers alone & that dependents must be fed at home & not brought to the work

20/13/3

The castes to which they chiefly belong are

Kapus 286	Malas 308
Toddy drawers 77	Nagavamsam 169
Weavers 130	Reddikis 181
Gollas 366	Madigas 27

All are in good Condition.

9 The wages paid are

	B Class a p.
Eachman	1 — 4
Woman	1 — 1

The price of rice at the Mopada fair within 1½ miles of the quarry being 17 seers per rupee wages are being paid every second day, except in the case of new gangs which are paid daily.

10. The Kitchen which is about ¼ mile from the work has not attracted many children On the morning of the 17th I had the food carried to the top close to the work and persuaded 2 or 3 mala mothers to allow their children to be fed. Since then about a dozen children have been fed daily all however from Dakamarri village. Several old men unfit for work are also being fed. The only explanation for the small attendance at the Kitchen is I

think that the distress is not very acute yet and parents prefer to feed their children at home as long as they can.

11 Considerable difficulty is being experienced in obtaining a good supply of water. The wells dug near the Kitchen have not been a success though I am still trying to deepen them. Another well is being dug in the bed of a tank between the Kitchen and the work where it is hoped water may be found. At present it is being brought with pots from a tank at Nellayya Chatram, but this found to be unsatisfactory.

12 I am constructing a few huts close to the work so that any Coolies from distant villages such as A.K.Puram may stay there at nights instead of returning to their villages. I am doubtful however if they will be used.

13. The total payments to Coolies upto to date is Rs289-8-0. The expenditure on food at the Kitchen has not yet been reported by the Deputy Tahsildar.

14. The work has been throughout under the Charge of the Local Fund Supervisor who is working well. The Dy Tahsildar has continued to act as paymaster but I propose to appoint a a paid paymaster from Tuesday next. The Vizianagram Overseer has also been at the work throughout, he is a little lax in his management, but on the whole he is giving satisfaction. I have been personally to the work daily except on the 16th and 19th instant.

I have &c.

/signed/ E. Scott.
Ag D. I Collector

/True Copy/

J. L. Braidwood
Forag Collector

The D. T. will be relieved of this

Enclosure to letter Revenue 1155
dated 23d March 1887 from
the Collector of Vizagapatam
to the Secretary to the
Commissioner of Revenue Settlement
Madras.

1/2386/87

Cir. No 1014 of 1887

dated 16-3-87
rec'd 18-3-87

Note on inspection of Road
Work at Pakkimanni.

The work had at the time of the Collector's visit been open for 6 days, but no one had come until the 5th day when 13 came in, and on the 9th day about 150 worked. On the day of the Collector's visit (15th March) 372 coolies were present, viz, 94 men and boys over 12, 150 women and 74 working children. This shows the need of patience in tests of this sort.

Condition of coolies

The condition of the women was normal or good, that of the children less so, there being among the latter a few cases of very bad condition indeed. The men contained among their numbers not more than half a dozen who could be called fully able bodied coolies. They were nearly all old-semi decrepit or sickly, just the class of person who ordinarily subsists on his fellow villagers but cannot do so at present. They were inspected by the District Surgeon whose opinion of them was as above.

Task

The work consists of collection and working of metal and includes a certain amount of quarrying. For the latter reason the standard Famine Code task of metal breaking is excessive, and it has also to be reduced owing to the very poor physique of the men, who count as four units, and the poor working capabilities of the children, as also owing to the fact that all except 102 gang consist of coolies who are new to the work. The Supervisor was therefore instructed to endeavour to ascertain and fix a fair task for each gang by keeping their hand at work and seeing what they really could do and this was done. The coolies of course did not know this. They were told to do a task of 2½ C.ft per unit which was marked out for them

them hard

unit in effect no fines were inflicted. The following tabular statement shows comparison of the gangs. The task at 2½ C. feet per unit, that actually turned out, and the task fixed for the 4th days work on the basis thus obtained.

Gang No.	Men	Women	Children	Total units	Task set 2½ C.ft	Actual out turn 3rd day	Task set 4th day
I	18	56	22	206	515 C.ft	334 C.ft	1¼ C.ft
II	15	56	21	193	482 C.ft	475 C.ft	2 C.ft
III	15	38	31	167	417 C.ft	244 C.ft	1½ C.ft
	48	150	74	566	—	1053 or 1⅞ C.ft per unit — as the average	

The gangs were warned that tasks marked out as double must be done, or cooly should be cut.

Tools

Tools were in sufficient quantity at Nadugaon (Chattiam — near the work. The handles are mostly very bad and rough. One case of head by blistered hands was observed. The Supervisor has been instructed to get smooth handles at once. The Engineer will be requested to send about 100 of the picke axes, which were tried at Bidadi, and the Coolies should be offered the use of them. If they take to them as many as are required must be supplied by the Deputy Tahsildar from the allotment for the work. Baskets should also be provided, but this is not urgent as the coolies bring their own in ample quantity.

Supervision

The Head Coolies must be made more useful and must see that the proportion of breakers and (quarriers) and carriers is right in each gang. They must maintain better order. Women must not be allowed to yell and quarrel. The Collector observed certain self appointed foremen among the coolies who had kept about 3 supervising and did not work. These men are not wanted.

The Head Coolies must do this work. Those selected must be made to do a days work or go. The task must be made to do a days work or go. The task and the rest of the gang. The gangs are working too close together. They get in each others way. Their tasks should be set from 30 to 50 yards apart.

Non-Coolies

On the 4th morning work about 250 non-coolies came in, rather late. By the time they were organised into gangs it was too late for them to do a days work. They were therefore registered, and, except those who came from villages quite close to the work, will be paid the minimum wage and allowed to go for the day. More suitable work must be got and with fewer Coolies, and this will be done the 5th day. The subsistence allowance must be entertained.

Paying

The morning payments for paying on the 3rd day of the Coolies were as hard as they could be. In the first place no attempt was made in good time to get form E written up, so it should be. Consequently, in order to knock off time. Consequently, in order to avoid detaining the Coolies till a very late hour, payment was made from Pulse Book E written up afterwards. This is quite wrong. Form E should be ready by knocking off time. The supply of pice pieces is with the Deputy Tahsildar was insufficient and consequently the objectionable expedient of paying Coolies by twos and threes had in the end to be resorted to. This must not occur. The paying officer should sit at a table with the Muster and form E and pay each gang. The Head Cooly under Supervision

up the overseer, must muster his gang in a line on the left of the paying officer, and the amount of pay, each man receiving his portion of pice in a tin cup with a little earth to this will mark him perfectly. The first 3 gangs having been paid daily for four days, it will be sufficient to pay fortnightly thereafter, the 3 new gangs formed on the 5th to be paid daily until pay day for the first three gangs is arrived again. The Principal Assistant Collector is requested to use his discretion in this matter and make the most suitable arrangement. The 2nd grievance of the Deputy Tahsildar's office may be ? appointed paymaster but the Deputy Tahsildar will be responsible for it until the former is thoroughly instructed.

Discipline & Order These were very bad at first but have improved under pressure. The Head Coolies should be made the principal instruments for preserving it. It has improved.

Children It is most disappointing that only 3 or 4 workers' children have been to the Kitchen though some are in obvious need of it. There is no possible caste objection, but there seems to be a silly prejudice on account of notions of dignity. Every endeavour must continue to be made to induce the parents to have their children fed, and selected women of each caste may be taken from the gangs (with a proportionate deduction of gang task) to look after the children. The Deputy Tahsildar should endeavour to get the old village midwife and any influential native gentleman who is willing to help, to persuade the workers to abandon their foolish objections.

The Kitchen may be moved, temporarily at least, on to the top-right-hand side of the work, which may perhaps prevent the children from being frightened as they seem to be.

D class Coolies Old & decrepit persons must not be included in the ordinary gangs. These assist to raise the task of the gangs without assisting to complete it. They should either be sent to the kitchen or put in a D class gang by themselves - given light labour & paid the minimum wage. Some such were selected by the Collector and District Surgeon and by the Collector's visit. So dealt with on the 2nd day after visit.

Water Supply There is water in pools on the work, but it comes from an unnecessary distance. The well near the work should be cleared out and deepened. Some coolies can be put on the work, proportionate reduction being made in the task of the gang from which they are taken.

Supplies There is no bazaar at the actual work but supplies are stated to be amply available at Neeliya Chattram within a few hundred yards at the same price as at Irupadia Thandy, by which the wages are regulated. This must be watched by the Deputy Tahsildar and Principal Assistant Collector.

In all the above respects there has been a great improvement on the fourth day's work. Discipline is better and the paying arrangements indicated above were carried out successfully. Coolies were mustered in lines within a quarter of an hour of stopping work, and the three gangs were paid off in exactly half an hour - or an average of 10 minutes per gang in spite of some mistakes in names in the E form which had to be rectified.

In two or three days more the Overseer and the Paymaster should be quite capable of running the work without the presence of the Deputy Tahsildar and Supervisor also may be required to open work elsewhere.

The tasks fixed for the fourth day were almost exactly worked up to.

? | Gang no III did more than 20 C.ft over its task and this will be raised to 1¾ C.ft per unit.
Gang no II did 15 cft under its task, but the task was a pretty full one, including yearrying. It was warned that it should be cut in pay next day if task again not worked up to.
Gang no I has only 4 feet under its task and was also warned, but the trifling difference may easily occur in measurement. On the whole the organisation of the work is becoming satisfactory and the Local Fund Supervisor + Overseer are working well + deserve credit.
The Deputy Tahsildar now that he has been put in the right way, seems determined to improve his department. He must perfect the Kitchen + the Pay department.

For Ag Collector

AV

To The Principal Asst Collector (with 5 spare copies)
" All Divisional officers in the plains
" Local Fund Engineer (with 6 spare copies)
" Assistant Collector (Mr Heaney).

Enclosure to letter No 1155 dated 23d March 1897 from the Collector of Vizagapatam to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Rice Settlement &c. Madras.

12986/97
2

1897.

Rec'd 21-3-97
Desp'd 22-3-97

876 of 1897

Inspection Notes on Test Work
at Gajuwaka on 18th, 19th & 21st March.

On the 21st was started on 16th March with about 70 coolies. Now there are about 600 working and another hundred being drafted & registered. The work is being got into good order and should soon be perfectly organised. The Overseer seems now to understand what is required and to be willing to do his best. He must however be ready to meet difficulties which arise and get over them.

2. A sufficient number of coolies, women & children from the gangs to supply water from the well near the Kitchen to be stored in pots under a thatch & handed at the work spot, as is being done. More pots will be required and some clean tins for distribution.

Sanitation. More care must be taken that workers do not foul the neighbourhood. If necessary this order could be enforced by an individual fine on offenders. The Gang Superintendents must attend to this and report offenders to the Overseer. The "Head cooly" of the Bode is difficult to get work to keep out the Cannanis seem to do fairly well. The women "Head coolies" objected to, and should be changed as the works in this district into "Gang Superintendents" which lessens harm to avoid hurting their feelings.

Maistries seem generally difficult to procure, but should be got at the rate of one per 4 gangs, and Head maistry if the number go over 100 or.

A tool depôt should be constructed close to the work. At present there is a waste of time in getting tools for new-comers.

It is important the Pay Extracts & Returns be written up before close of work daily. The Gang Superintendents should be assisted by the Sub-maistry in doing this and the Overseer must fill up the Columns of "work done" and "deduction to be made" (if any) immediately so that there is no delay in paying. The marking off of tasks is being well done by [illegible] and should be adopted at Rajamundry also, the Engineer

will please instruct the Supervisor, who has been mark
by means of cuts on the ground which are soon fi
up. Check measurements of heaps must be made b
Engineer, the Divisional officer and the Taluk of

8. Paying On the 19th paying was done far too slowly
to the "gang superintendents" failing to muster their wo
in proper order before filing past the pay table. Th
makes all the difference possible and must hav
careful attention. They must do this by means of
D muster rolls, while the overseer is filling up the
columns of the E Pay Extract.

9. The Engineer has promised to erect a pay shed
baskets, which will no doubt be very useful.
For this work - kitchen sheds - tool sheds - fencing,
etc, workers may be drawn from the gangs, the last
being proportionately reduced and the fact noted
the Pay Extract is also for women employed to look a
children at the kitchen.

10. A carpenter is being employed to mend & supply
tool handles. This is right and he will be required
periodically, but it is doubtful if he will be nee
continuously. His pay may be met from contingen
of the work from the allotment given to the Taluk.

Good: Will the
Accepted Sales wheel?
28
3 13

H. L. Brain
for Ag Collect

N.V

The Divisional officers
The Local Fund Engineer
The Supervisor
The Assistant Collectors

Endorsement to letter no 1155 dated 23d March 1897 from the Collector of Vizagapatam to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Famine Settlement. Madras.

(2356/97)
3

Camp Gajuwaka
Dated 19th March 1897.

From.

P. B. Arbuthnot Esqre,
District Board Engineer
Vizagapatam District.

To. The Collector of Vizagapatam.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with your orders, I the Hearsey Assistant Collector and myself, proceeded to Gajuwaka 6 miles from Vizagapatam on Sunday 14th March to open a test work at that place.

On Monday morning we met the Huzur Deputy Collector and Deputy Tahsildar who as well as the L.I. Overseer and Sub-overseer had previously advertised the terms of employment in the neighbouring villages, and to the coolies working on L.I. ordinary work, were closed. Between 7 & 8-30 about 45 coolies turned up at the mustering place (which was marked by a red flag) and after a long and patient explanation by the Govendarver some 25 of them registered their names in gang No. 1. They were told to come on the following day and then dispersed.

? first minimum wage

On Tuesday only about 25 of the original lot turned up for work together with 46 new coolies who were drafted into the gang which was then put to work at metal breaking close to our camp. The labourers having under your orders been classed as B. the task as per my table, sanctioned by you was fixed at 1.07 per unit which is practically the same as that of the Famine

when on the railway

Famine Code. The supply of tools was
very poor & them in poor condition with a proportion of
Mahommedan females whose ordinary occupation is grass &
firewood collection. These facts together with the fact subsequently
noticed, that stone was not available in sufficient quantity
without quarrying led to the outturn being considerably less
than the task fixed by me. No deduction however was
made from their pay as circumstances were against them.
The wages fixed by the Deputy Tahsildar were 0-1-1 for
both males and females and this was paid to them at the
close of the day as well as the minimum wage for the
previous day to those who had been present on both occasions.
The actual figures for the day are given below.

Men.	Women	Children	Total units	Tasks	Outturn
21	40	10	174	326:38	250.25.

Was the machine from the pay

On Wednesday I selected a new spot for the operations at
somewhat greater distance for the roads (about 2 furlongs) and
81 coolies having presented themselves. Gang No 1 was made
up to strength and the rest (67) were at once drafted into gang
No 2 and put to work. The 2nd gang contained very few
men and this I think accounts for the fact that they
turned out considerably more than the task fixed for them
while No 1 gang were still considerably under their allotted

work quite impossible that a man should
turn out twice as much as a woman, in fact both Elbe Stanley
and myself have noticed that some boys worked a great deal
harder and broke proportionately more metal than any man
in a gang. No 1 gang were not quite as conveniently
situated as they might have been and towards the end of the
day the stone carriers having exhausted the stone close at hands
had to go some considerable distance for it. This was due to
an error of judgment on my part as I thought that there
was ample stone close to where I had put them. The two
gangs were fully paid upon Wednesday evening.

On Thursday an additional 176 coolies presented
themselves and I regret to say that the experience of these
three days put it beyond doubt that any considerable
scarcity exists in this tract of country which is about the
driest and worst cultivated of any I know in the District.

On this day we completed the numbers of No 2 gang
formed No 3 gang with its full complement and 43 coolies
were drafted into No 4. They were all put to work the
same day so as to allow of their doing some work and earning
their wages instead of giving them the minimum wage for
no work.

The results of the operations on this day was as follows.

	Allow	Women			Earn
No 1 Gang	31	44	10	[illegible]	[illegible].00
No 2 Gang	4	56	39	304.81	336.00
No 3 Gang	20	50	30	392.70	348.20
No 4 Gang	2	18	26	130.90	120.00

It will be seen that No 1 gang still does considerably under the prescribed task which is I think an additional proof that new gangs especially those we have here in which many are old and some feeble cannot turn out the full B class task but that the gangs of women can do so.

I have not inflicted any fines yet for this reason as also for an other that one girl, who is on the roster of this gang was rather badly hurt by a falling stone on Wednesday and that her mother and grandmother were absent from the gang for sometime at my camp with her while I was bandaging and doctoring up the cut on her foot. The other 2 gangs viz 3 & 4 of course began work considerably later than the other as they had been let lie classified and bring their tools from the shed and I therefore ordered that no deductions should be made. I have taken out four waterwomen from these gangs and reduced the tasks accordingly as well as drafted two women to the kitchen to look after the children who are being fed there. I do not know whether this procedure is right and request to be informed, if it is not. I have today sent several coolies to work on erecting pandals, the kitchen clearing the ground for melab places and pay yards which is an urgent necessity as unnecessary confusion has prevailed at payment hour before owing to bad Head coolies who have no authority over their gangs. Great difficulty is also felt for want of Head coolies and 3 have left the works during the past 3 days. The wage of 4 ans does not seem sufficient to attract them. I have not yet succeeded in getting a sub-maistry and I am very much handicapped for the want of these men. To day about 165 Extra coolies have come in but I could only register and classify them as my staff was insufficient and having done this I promised them the minimum wage and ordered them to come on Sunday as tomorrow being Bassa day it has under your orders been treated as a day of rest.

It is evident that just about here as very large demands for labour exists as well as considerable scarcity as otherwise, I imagine the very large number of Mahommedan females who are at work would not be seen here. I have had experience of very large works in this District when on the railway and I have never

ever anything like the number of this class of the community at work before. Some of the coolies more especially the aged ones are in poor condition but nothing very bad has come to my notice.

The kitchen is not being availed of as largely as we might wish as the same prejudice seems to exist here as you noticed at Dakmarri but the number is slowly but surely increasing. A few of the children are in bad condition while the others vary from fair to good. They evidently appreciate the kitchen and enjoy themselves and I heard one little boy yesterday remark as he finished his food. "This is much better business than staying at home." so I hope the numbers will rise.

The kitchen is under the Deputy Tahsildar who seems to be able to instil confidence into the children and overcome their fear which is very apparent at first.

I have &c,

(Signed) P. B. Strathnaik,
Dist Bd Engineer.

(True Copy)

H. Braidwood
Sandy Collector

(23)

Enclosures to letter Rc
no 1155 dated 23d March
1897 from the Collector
of Vizagapatam to the
Secretary to the Commissr
of Revenue Settlement, Land
Records & Agriculture
Madras.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

Dated 2nd April 1897.

No. 2479 Mis.

READ the following letter from the Collector of Vizagapatam dated 23rd March 1897 C. No. 1155 of 1897.

I have the honor to submit Copies of the reports of the Principal Assistant Collector on the Test work at Dakamarri and of the Local Fund Engineer on that at Gazuwaka. I spent two days at Dakamarri last week and 2 mornings and an afternoon at Gazuwaka. The works are being got into order as quickly as possible. I submit also Copies of my remarks on the inspection of the two works. The Board will observe that I was in error in forming a D class gang, but I have since ordered it to be classed as B, but tasked in proportion to its powers.

2. The Tests have failed in the, to me, most surprising manner. That at Dakamarri attracted no workers for 4 days and only 13 on the 5th. That they should have pushed ~~in~~ it at the rate they have done since, while

while previously so shy about it, is some proof that the arrangements are such as not to be unduly hard on them. At the same time it undoubtedly indicates Considerable distress, though perhaps not to the extent which the figures might be taken to indicate. The most important thing to remember is that the female B. Class wage of as1-2/1 is in excess by 1/16 of the Coolie which women can earn on ordinary works in this District at this season. So to that extent it is doubtful whether the Test answers the requirements laid down in the last sentence of para 2 of the Government of India letter printed in B.P $\frac{14-1-97}{No.\ 33}$, viz- whether the work is such as women would not - at this always idle season - willingly perform in exchange for the famine wage unless impelled thereto by want. The fact that the Kitchens are but little availed of is due largely to prejudice. Every effort is being made to Combat this. The Deputy Tahsildar of Vizagapatam has shown Considerable tact and succeeded better than the Deputy Tahsildar of Bimlipatam, but both officers are doing their best. There may also be something in what Mr. Scott says that the workers are not at the end of their resources and Can feed their Children at home - Certainly most of the

(v $\frac{10}{7-97}$)

the women are wearing their ordinary Cheap ornaments. Most of the workers do Come from very manageable distances, but I observe that 8 Came from Vizianagaram which is 8 miles from the work, of course an utterly excessive distance, and a large number Came from a village Called Akkivaram, which Mr. Scott says is 7 miles. It only measures 4½ on the map.

3. The greatest Care has been exercised about tasks, these being fixed in Consideration of all circumstances and only on one day were some gangs fined 10% after proved negligence

4. The difficulties of organising such a quickly accumulating body of labourers have been immense, but all officers have done their best.

5. It is of Course obvious that there must be an extension of work to the North-east of Dakamarri and perhaps on the west nearer to Vizianagaram. I can put another Local Fund overseer at Mr. Scotts disposal, but no subordinate officers. I have requested him to select another place as soon as possible. The trouble in getting mats accentuates the necessity for this.

6. On the 28th instant I wrote asking the Board to take measures to get the works put under the D. P. W. sanctioned in anticipation

anticipation that there would be over 2000 Coolies at work by the end of the week has been more than realized, there being about 2300.

As I have said the Local Famine staff is not quite equal to the work and the Revenue Establishments are amply occupied with general arrangements, pay works and Kitchens. It is certainly impossible to keep the Local Famine Staff tied to Relief works for more than a short time. Now is the season for Collecting materials for road repairs finishing up the inspection of the year and getting in the Accounts, and I earnestly beg that the present arrangement may be considered only Temporary. Whatever is done should be done quickly, and if the Public Works Department cannot at a very early date take over the supervision and management of these works and others which must be opened, I should at least urge that 6 Capable P. W. D. overseers, each with his Clerk, should be placed at my disposal for employment on Famine Works. If this is not done the Divisional officers should be relieved of their ordinary work, the Huzur Deputy Collector and the Principal Assistant Collector first. All are doing this last, but the present

present situation has developed so rapidly that it has to a certain extent got ahead of us.

7. I may be to blame for this for not having foreseen it more clearly but my present object is to cope with the situation as it exists efficiently.

Resolution.

Submitted for the information of the Government

2. Government was already requested in Board's Proceedings No. 2352 of 1897 to transfer all works to the Superintendence of the Public Works Department.

(True Copy & Extract)

Bombay
2/4

To
The Famine Secretary
to Government

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with enclosures in original
to be returned.

HA
2/4

When given for copying ____
When copied ____
When examined ____
When signed ____
} 189.

READ AGAIN G.O., No 189 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT								
STATEMENT WITH DITTO								
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.								

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A = Copy in full.
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