

Revenue (189) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2/5

DATED 15th Jan 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording B.P. submitting to Govt with request
for fortnightly narrative of the Vizagapatnam &
for the period ending 12th Dec 1896.

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. 10

The Hon. Mr. George C. D. E.
The Hon. Mr. Osler C. D. E.
His. Ex. Mr. Governor.



From

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

Read also Cno 106 of 1896
Order No. 215 of 15th Jan 1897

Recorded

11/1/97

13.1.97

19/1/97

No. 466 Recd

Dated 28th December 1896

Received 7th January 1897

Registered 8th

Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Submitting to Government,
with remarks, — of the
Vizagapatam District
for the period ending
12th Dec 1896.

100
8/1/96

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 28TH DEC. 1896, No. 466.

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

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Vizagapatam District during the period ending 12th December 1896 :—

State of the country—Rainfall and water-supply.—Rainfall—*nil*. Water for cultivation only from wells, under which sugar-cane is being matured and in a few places pyri ragi is being transplanted. Water-supply under river channels in Palkonda taluk is reported to be sufficient to mature the crop under them which is still standing and some of which is now being harvested.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—Paddy being harvested in Palkonda, where alone there is an appreciable outturn in the river-side villages. The following shows the estimated outturn :—

	ACS.	ACS.
Total wet area of taluk	25,190	
Left waste	690	
Cultivated	24,500	25,190
Crop totally lost	8,000	
Area in which some outturn is expected	16,500	24,500

Yield estimated :—

4 annas and under	2,500	
8 "	2,000	
12 "	8,000	
16 "	4,000	16,500

This is more favourable than I had expected from Mr. Elwin's report that wet crops were a total failure in fifty-six villages. Postponement of wet kists in the localities of total failure has been ordered and the Principal Assistant Collector is now ascertaining the details of the villages to which this order will need to be extended.

In other taluks, the wet crop failure is, as already reported, almost total. Standing dry crops are scarce and poor and the outturn is from poor to bad.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder is scarce, but withered paddy is being cut and stacked as such. Pasture is for the present sufficient in Gulgonda, Sarvasiddhi, Anakapalle, and portions of Veeravilli, owing to the recent rain, and in Palkonda there is still some. Elsewhere it does not exist. Cattle do not yet appear to be suffering. They are worst off in the zemindari taluks where we can do nothing for them, but the zemindars' hills are almost without exception open to grazing; and free cutting will be permitted in the forests of the three Government taluks as soon as necessary.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

PRICES of principal food-grains at principal markets in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 12th December 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Cholum.		Ragi.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
1. Párvatipuram ..	9.84	9.84	13.60	16.80	17.17	18.72	16.80	16.80
2. Sálur ..	9.43	9.43	16.00	16.00	17.28	17.28	17.50	17.50
3. Palkonda ..	9.04	9.04	15.12	14.04	16.16	16.16	23.26	22.77
4. Gagapatinagaram ..	9.84	9.84	..	..	17.76	17.76	17.28	17.28
5. Chipurapalle ..	8.20	8.20	..	..	15.12	15.12	17.28	17.28
6. Vizianagram ..	9.04	9.04	..	15.68	17.87	16.68	16.83	16.33
7. Vizagapatam ..	7.91	7.91	11.34	11.34	14.64	15.15	13.86	13.86
8. Chódavaramu ..	8.50	8.50	..	..	19.11	19.11	18.48	18.48
9. Anakápalle ..	10.00	9.50	..	..	16.83	16.83	..	..
10. Yellamanchili ..	8.50	9.00	..	..	15.41	18.20	..	..
11. Narasapatnam ..	8.46	9.40	..	..	15.12	16.80	16.20	16.20
District Average ..	8.97	9.07	14.01	14.76	16.55	17.07	17.49	17.38

1. *Activity of Trade.*—Trade in all grains is active, and stocks in the district are believed to be amply sufficient.

2. *Imports by rail or sea.*—By rail 9,124 maunds food-grains for fortnight ending 6th. By sea, Nil. By road from Jeypore, 6,239 cartloads for fortnight ending 12th.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—On the Local Fund ordinary works in progress the condition of the coolies is quite normal.

(2) *In villages.*—All Divisional Officers report their failure to find any case of deteriorated condition.

Sickness and mortality.—At present the district is as healthy as usual.

Measures of relief on works.—There are no relief works.

In Palkonda taluk, the Executive Engineer started the repair of the Padmasagaram tank, a large work, by daily labour and petty piece-work. After it had been open a week he reported that the maximum number of coolies coming for employment on any one day was ten. Work is evidently not required in this taluk at present.

The Narsapatnam-Waddadi road—a large work commanding Golconda and Veeravilli taluks—has been opened on the same system for three weeks. The number of coolies has never reached 200 and lately fell to 40. It has been closed for the present.

In Yellamanchili taluk, metal-breaking at six quarries along the trunk road has been open for three weeks. The largest number employed at any one quarry on the last day of the fortnight was 285 at Yellamanchili itself, where there is a large and poor pariah village. The total for the six quarries was 968.

In Chipurapalle taluk, the Chipurapalle-Laveru road, connecting the trunk road with the railway, has been opened. Return of coolies is not to hand. The Local Fund Engineer is about to proceed there. I since hear there are 240 coolies.

In Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks, work has been in hand for a fortnight at metal-breaking at six quarries on the trunk and Vizianagram-Modavalasa roads. Here the demand for employment seems to have been tapped, as we have 2,011 coolies at work, the largest number being at Pendur—892. I visited these last week and found them all well and cheerful. They have been paid ordinary cooly rates, but the Local Fund Board cannot afford to employ indefinite numbers at that price, and under section 37 of the Famine Code I have reduced wages by 25 per cent.

I learn from enquiries among contractors and others that cooly hire has been generally cut down and that they are paying reduced rates. No wonder, therefore, that our work at full rates was getting over-crowded. This work I propose shortly to convert into a test relief work at Famine Code rates, and to relieve the pressure on it. I am transferring the overseer from the closed Narsapatnam-Waddadi road to open metal-breaking on the Vizianagram-Kottavalsa road, which will tap the labour of Srungavarapukota taluk. Before opening a regular test work, the present reduction of cooly will operate as an intermediate test and prepare the minds of the coolies for worse things to come. I hear from Mr. Weir that on his test work, famine Code rates do not attract labour.

Gratuitous relief.—Nil.

Private charity.—None organised.

Loan transactions.—Nil.

Inspections of the Collector.—Just returned from a five weeks' tour round the district. Inspected the coolies on the trunk road quarries at Pendur, proposed work of the Landing and Shipping Committee at Vizagapatam port, and the work of preparing site for removal of fishing village, also the Kasimkóta estate—all its irrigation works and many of its villages—also parts of Anakápalle and Yellamanchili and Vizagapatam taluks.

General Remarks.—The situation remains much as it was. The principal matter on hand at present is the gauging of the demand for employment. I await the Board's orders on the question of the grain on which famine wages are to be calculated. I am suffering from an unusual influx of Agency sessions cases, which occupy my time in office to the detriment of other work. Prices show a yielding tendency. In fact, if the normal price of common rice was taken at 14 instead of 16 seers, which former much more nearly represents the facts, that grain would not now be above scarcity rate. I received only this morning Board's Proceedings, No. 396, dated 5th December 1896, in which the submission of this narrative was directed.

VIZAGAPATAM,
15th December 1896.

(Signed) W. O. HORNE,
Acting Collector.

WEEKLY Season Telegram for the Vizagapatam District for the week ending December 19th.

Food-grains exported by sea 208 bags, imported from Jeypore 3,799 carts. Railway returns not received. Emigrants to Burma 835. Water for cultivation nil except a little by baling from river channels and wells; for drinking insufficient in parts, and Taluk Boards are sinking temporary wells. Ragi sown in three and transplanted in five taluks. Wet crops lost except under river channels in Palkonda and Nimmakotta in Golconda; dry crops withered in southern taluks, bad elsewhere. Harvested paddy in eleven taluks; outturn bad, except in parts of Palkonda; cholum in four, ragi and red-gram each in one; outturn in all poor. Pasture obtainable in southern taluks; very scarce elsewhere. Fodder decreasing. Cattle not suffering. Prospects depressing. Public health good.

Telegram from the Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 22nd December 1896.

My season telegram yesterday. Railway figures just received; food-grains exported for week ending 19th December 14,770 maunds, imported 6,312 maunds.

RESOLUTION—dated 28th December 1896, No. 466.

Submitted to Government.

2. There has been no change in the prospects of the district, and so far as it appears from the returns received from the Collector, in Government villages the harvest returns give the following results:—

Crop.	Area of failure.	Area yielding 12 annas or more.	Area yielding less than 12 annas.	Average yield of area in column 4.	Area standing.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Paddy	ACS. 15,894	ACS. 5,310	ACS. 25,474	5	ACS. 17,392
Ragi	775	50	8,810	3	4,056
Cholum	129	..	3	4	6,598
Cumbu	33	627	25,102	5	156
Other food-grains	1,625	1,009	21,746	5	18,757
Gingelly	1,108	624	21,481	5	..
Sugarcane	9	145	618	8	958
Other crops	99	445	4,131	5	6,932
Total	19,672	8,210	107,365	5	54,849

The standing paddy crop is mostly withered in the Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks; in a few parts of the latter taluk it may yield an 8-anna crop and in Sarvasiddhi a 4-anna crop. Other crops may yield an 8-anna crop in a few parts and a 4-anna crop in others. The returns, so far as they relate to Palkonda, are believed not to be accurate, as the whole crop had not been harvested by the end of November.

5. Prices became slightly easier during the period under report, and have since become slightly cheaper still. Except at Vizagapatam itself, the dry grains did not touch the scarcity rate for the district, and there only was that level reached in the case of cumbu. Trade in food-grain appears to be active and large imports are being made from Jeypore. The people continue in normal condition, and as yet there has been no particular demand for employment, except in the Vizianagram, Bimlipatam and Vizagapatam divisions, but it has yet to be seen whether, when the works in progress are converted to test-works under the Code, the coolies will still flock to the works. The Board has already—B.P., No. 430 of 1896—issued instructions as to the manner in which wages on relief works are to be calculated in the district, and the result of the conversion will be awaited.

4. Under section 46 of the Famine Code, the Collector's fortnightly narratives should relate to the periods ending on the 15th and last day of each month.

(True Copies and Extract.)

R. J. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of Vizagapatam.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

„ „ Collector of Ganjam.

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

APPENDIX.

ABSTRACT of outturn of early crops in Vizagapatam.

Crop.	Taluks.	Areas on which the crop yielded.			Average rate of yield of area in column 5.	Area standing.	Condition of standing crops.
		0 (Failed).	12 annas and more.	1 to 12 annas.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Paddy	Palkonda	10,075	5,310	23,929	6	..	Paddy mostly withered in the Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks. In a few parts of the latter taluk it may yield an 8-anna crop and in Sarvasiddhi a 4-anna crop. Other crops may yield an 8-anna crop in a few parts and a 4-anna crop in others.
	Golgonda	2,681	..	1,274	4	11,674	
	Sarvasiddhi	3,137	..	269	4	5,766	
	Anakapalle	..	..	..	..	..	
	Veeravilly	..	..	..	..	..	
	Total	15,893	5,310	25,472	5	17,391	
Ragi	Golgonda	564	49	5,095	3	2,100	
	Sarvasiddhi	210	..	3,709	4	1,865	
	Veeravilly	..	..	4	6	..	
	Total	774	49	8,808	3	4,056	
Cholam	Golgonda	129	..	1	7	5,712	
	Sarvasiddhi	..	..	1	2	885	
	Total	129	..	2	4	6,598	
Cumbu	Golgonda	32	278	14,798	5	155	
	Sarvasiddhi	1	348	10,299	6	..	
	Veeravilly	..	..	4	6	..	
	Total	33	626	25,101	5	155	
Other food-grains including pulses.	Palkonda	39	978	10,959	7	4,391	
	Golgonda	1,557	30	9,265	3	11,702	
	Sarvasiddhi	28	..	1,521	4	2,663	
	Total	1,624	1,008	21,745	5	18,756	
Sugar-cane	Palkonda	3	144	618	8	15	
	Golgonda	4	..	..	..	604	
	Sarvasiddhi	1	..	..	..	286	
	Veeravilly	..	..	..	..	1	
	Total	8	144	618	8	956	
Gingelly	Palkonda	748	4	2,353	3	..	
	Golgonda	359	617	13,501	4	..	
	Sarvasiddhi	..	1	5,621	6	..	
	Veeravilly	..	..	4	6	..	
	Total	1,107	622	21,479	5	..	
All others	Palkonda	20	234	902	6	3,424	
	Golgonda	51	152	2,074	4	1,767	
	Sarvasiddhi	27	57	1,151	6	1,733	
	Veeravilly	..	..	2	2	..	
	Anakapalle	..	..	..	..	4	
	Total	98	443	4,129	5	6,931	

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January th, 1897.

Proceedings, 28th Dec. 1896, No. 466.

Fortnightly narrative.—Submitting to Govern-
ment, with remarks, ~~the~~ of the Vizagapatam
district for the period ending 12th December
1896.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 10



From

The Board of Revenue

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

Order

No. 471 Press

Dated 31st Dec 1896

Received 7th January 1897

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Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Test work

Approving, with remarks,
the proposal of the Collector
of Vizagapatam to open a
— and a kitchen at
Pendur.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 31st DEC. 1896, No. 471.

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

READ—the following letter from W. O. HORNE, Esq., Acting Collector, Vizagapatam District, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 21st December 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 4931:—

I have the honour to report that I consider it is necessary under section 17 of the Famine Code to open a test-work. The Board is aware that I have for the last few weeks provided work at various places in the district on Local Fund roads, which I have been able to do owing to the stoppage of all ordinary repairs for want of rain.

2. In the Palkonda taluk works under the Public Works Department, which were thrown open to daily labour and widely made known, have failed to attract labour. Similarly in the Golconda and Viravilli taluks, the Narasapatnam-Waddadi road was but little patronised. In the Vizagapatam, Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks, however, there is a keen demand for employment at the quarries between Pendur on the Trunk road and Vizianagram, and this I have proved by cutting down the ordinary cooly rates, as advised in section 37, which has not caused the coolies to give up work to any appreciable extent. Works in other taluks have attracted only moderately.

3. I therefore propose to open a test-work at a large quarry at Pendur, which lies at the crossing point of the Vizagapatam-Bowdara and the Trunk road, and in the neighbourhood of which there are villages containing large numbers of coolies, who at present have no work and at which point the collection of metal for road mending will be useful. I am arranging to open the work in the first week of January under the supervision of the Local Fund Engineer and the Divisional Officer, and I request the Board's sanction to this measure.

4. As ordered by the Commissioner in other districts, a kitchen will be opened along with the work. Some hut accommodation will also be provided. On the success or failure of this work will depend the determination of the necessity or otherwise for an extension of works of this character, as this appears to be the place where there is most want of employment.

5. The District Board will provide funds for the work and the District Board staff will supervise it. The kitchen will, I presume, be a charge against Provincial Funds to be accounted for as laid down in Chapter XIII of the Code.

RESOLUTION—dated 31st December 1896, No. 471.

The Collector's proposal to open a test-work at Pendur is approved, as also is the opening of a kitchen for the gratuitous relief of the young children and infirm dependants of the relief workers.

2. The necessary application for funds to meet charges for gratuitous relief should be submitted.

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2 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 31st DEC. 1896, No. 471.

3. The object of a test-work is to ascertain, as a fact, whether the coolies are really so distressed as to work for a famine wage, and, while the tasks should be fair, they should on a test-work be, if possible, more closely supervised and exacted than on an ordinary relief work. When coolies come to a test-work from neighbouring villages only, it is not always easy to decide whether they are really at the end of their resources, or whether they are only husbanding their resources. When coolies come from some distance, say, five miles or more, and do full and fair tasks for a famine wage, there can be no doubt of the existence of distress.

4. The following telegram will be sent to the Collector:—

"Your No. 4931 of 21st. Start work and kitchen as proposed under careful supervision."

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

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

Exd. P. Seetharam.

P.T.O.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January 6th, 1897.

Proceedings, 31st December 1896, No. 471.

Test-work.—Approving, with remarks, the
proposal of the Collector of Vizagapatam to open
— and a kitchen at Pendur.

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