

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 377

DATED 21 Jan'y 1897.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Regarding B.P. subing Fortin & the Narratives
of Gaijan & from latter letter 21st Dec '96.

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. 380

The Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. E.

The Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. E.

H. E. the Governor

Order No. 377 of 21. Jan'y 1897

Recorded. 20/1/97. J. H. 21.1.97

To the Board (Sett.) 25-1-97

17/1/97

From

The Board of Revenue

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

Madras

No. 14 Press

Dated 8th January 1897

Received 15th 15-1-97

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Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Fortnightly Narrative—

Submitting to Government
— of the Ganjam District
for the latter half of Decem
1896.

c-18/1/97
R. 21/1/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
MA	529	8	20-11-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 8TH JAN. 1897, No. 14.

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

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the district of Ganjam for the fortnight ending 23rd December 1896:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply—

District rainfall.						Actual rainfall.	Expected rainfall.
						INS.	INS.
In the fortnight	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.	56
Up to the fortnight from April	...	...	...	...	...	32.46	43.41

The expected rainfall represents the average from April to 31st December 1896, as given in the statement received with Board's Proceedings (Revenue Settlement), M.S. No. 529, dated 23rd November 1895.

Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—There has been no rain during the fortnight. Water for drinking purposes is generally available and where want of water is felt, steps are being taken for the digging of temporary pits and the sinking of wells. Water for irrigation purposes is not available.

Berhampur Deputy Collector's division.—No rain. No water for irrigation purposes. The villages to which Rushikulya canal water has been supplied have sufficient supply for drinking purposes. In several other villages in Mohiri Khandam and in the Ichchhapuram and Sompeta divisions and in most villages in the Pedda Kimedi estate, the present supply will last for about a month. In a few villages in Mohiri and in the Pedda Kimedi estate, scarcity of water supply has begun to be felt. People have been told to dig pits in beds of tanks. Existing wells are being deepened here and there.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector's division.—No rain and no water for irrigation. In a few villages well-water is baled out to irrigate sugar-cane fields and ragi seed beds. Water-supply is getting scarce for drinking purposes too, except in villages which are commanded by the Rushikulya and which adjoin rivers.

Chicacole division.—Rainfall nil. Water-supply for drinking purposes is generally sufficient, except in parts of Parlakimedi, where the Deputy Tahsildar reports that it is scanty and insufficient. In Chicacole, the Tahsildar reports that channels in the villages inspected by him are flowing; but the Deputy Tahsildar, Tekkali, states that sources of irrigation have entirely failed.

Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.—*Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.*—Harvesting of wet paddy is being carried on. Gingelly crop is being harvested still in certain places; the outturn is poor. Red gram is in fair condition and is being harvested in places. Green gram was sown where there was moisture. Castor-oil plants are in fair condition. Horse-gram is bad.

Berhampur Deputy Collector's division.—Standing crops are sugar-cane, horse-gram, castor and red gram. These are very poor in Berhampur taluk and in Pedda Kimedi, and in good condition in Sompeta taluk owing to the digging of wells for irrigation.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector's division.—The reaping of paddy is finished. The withered plants which have totally failed are now being cut for fodder. Paddy is being thrashed. Red gram has also been partly cut. The standing crops are sugar-cane, castor and red gram; but their condition is poor.

Chicacole division.—Reaping is still going on, but almost completed. The Tekkali Deputy Tahsildar reports outturn as middling in some villages of Tarla and Tekkali estates, poor in some villages and nil in most villages. Parlákimedi Deputy Tahsildar reports that outturn of paddy is fair in nearly half the taluk, except in case of rain-fed lands for which outturn is nil.

Supply of Fodder and Pasture and Condition of Cattle—Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—Fodder is sufficient, but pasturage has become scarce. Condition of cattle is generally good, except in Suradá taluk, where cattle-diseases exist; but the Deputy Collector reports that the disease is not virulent.

Berhampur Deputy Collector's division.—Fodder is sufficient, but pasture is becoming scarce. Cattle are in good condition. In Pedda Kimedi, cattle-disease of a mild type is still prevailing.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Pasture and fodder available. Condition of cattle good.

Chicacole division.—Owing to absence of rain, pasture is deficient, but fodder continues to be sufficient. Cattle are generally reported to be in good condition.

General remarks on above subjects.—The Deputy Collector, Goomsur, reports that green gram is largely sown on lands commanded by the Mahanadi canal of the Rushikulya project; elsewhere hardly any crop is being sown. The scarcity of drinking water for men and cattle will probably become acute next hot weather; but in most parts of the district water can be obtained fairly near the surface.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND STATE OF THE MARKETS.

PRICES of principal food-grains in principal markets in seers of 80 tolas per rupee for the period ending 26th December 1896.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Remarks.
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	
1. Russellkonda	11-50	11-50			
2. Suradá	10-10	10-10	15-47	15-47	
3. Aska	10-16	10-20	16-00	16-00	
4. Purnshottapur	12-00	12-00	14-29	14-30	
5. Chatrapur	10-50	10-00	19-20	18-00	
6. Berhampur	10-00	10-00	18-00	15-00	
7. Ichchhapuram	9-40	9-40	16-20	16-00	
8. Sompéta	10-45	10-12	16-00	16-00	
9. Parlákimedi	10-50	10-60	15-11	15-11	
10. Tekkali	10-50	10-50	21-00	19-50	
11. Narasannapet	10-50	10-87	20-00	20-00	
12. Chicacole	9-71	9-73	18-20	18-20	
Average	10-44	10-41	17-21	16-45	Prices have remained nearly stationary with a slight upward tendency, especially in ragi. I do not expect any sharp rise in prices hereafter.

Activity of Trade—(1) Private trade active or not.—Supplies are available at the rates quoted in the various marts, but it is reported that trade is generally dull.

(2) State the imports by rail or sea; of rice or other staple food-grains.—There were neither exports nor imports by sea during the fortnight. Exports and imports of food-grains by train are as follow:—

Exports ...	MDS.
Imports ...	13,300
	2,114

The exports have been mainly from Parlákimedi road station. Large stocks were held in some parts of that zemindari and the holders are taking advantage of the high prices prevailing in Vizagapatam and Gódvári.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—Nil.

(2) *In villages.*—The condition of the people in villages is reported to be as yet generally good.

Sickness and Mortality—Goomsur Deputy Collector's division.—No deaths from want of food. Poor classes in parts are just beginning to feel want of employment. Public health is generally good. Fevers slightly exist in parts. Three cases of cholera of a sporadic nature have been reported from Aska taluk during the fortnight. This has been brought into the villages near Aska by travellers from Berhampur.

Berhampur Deputy Collector's division.—No deaths from want of food; but the Sompéta Deputy Tahsildar reports that he paid 8 days' batta at famine rate to ten emaciated orphan children in two villages and two Sondi families in another village during the week ending 19th instant, and 15 days' batta to an emaciated child of six years old during the week ending 26th idem. A further report has been called for in the matter. No sickness except some isolated cases of cholera and some cases of fever in Berhampur. Fever and small-pox are prevalent in Pedda Kimedi where there were 102 attacks of small-pox and 35 deaths in the fortnight. Cholera deaths 12.

Head-Quarters Deputy Collector's division.—No deaths from starvation. Cholera deaths 16.

Chicacole division.—No deaths from want of food. Cholera deaths 14.

Remarks.—There is as yet no visible sign of emaciation amongst the people, and the Divisional Officers report that the cooly classes are not as yet willing to accept famine wages. Probably relief works will not be generally required until some time in February; but I consider it will be advisable to open test-works again in Tekkali about the middle of January. Thrashing grain and stacking straw is still affording employment to the agricultural labourer and this will last for some time longer.

The number of people who emigrated from the district during the fortnight ending 25th instant is as follows:—

106 to ports beyond Presidency but within British India.
1,464 to ports in British Burma.

Total ... 1,570

Measures of relief.—Nil.

Private charity.—There is no organized private charity at work.

INSPECTION.

The Deputy Collectors of Goomsur and Berhampur have not sent the lists of villages inspected by them. They have been called upon to do so. The Head-quarters Deputy Collector visited thirty-six villages in his division. The Principal Assistant Collector, Mr. Taylor, has only newly joined. Mr. Rice was up to the 17th engaged in the Tekkali taluk over the test-works which were started there, and afterwards attended for budget meeting at Chatrapur, where he remained until relieved by Mr. Taylor. I was on tour in Parlákimedi up to the 17th when I returned to head-quarters. The condition of Parlákimedi I reported upon in my last fortnightly narrative. I have since remained at head-quarters where I have found much to do after my long absence.

READ—also the following Weekly Season Report for the Ganjam district for the week ending January 2nd, 1897:—

No water-supply generally for agricultural operations and getting scarce in several places for drinking. Green-gram and ragi being sown in a few places. Sugar-cane and red-gram in fair condition in places. Paddy harvest mostly completed;

outturn bad, except under channels and largest tanks, where it is fair to average. Pasture scarce, fodder sufficient. Cattle generally good. Prospects unchanged. Markets moderately supplied. Employment still procurable in places owing to paddy harvest. One hundred and twenty cwts. of rice exported by sea to Madras and Bombay. Exports and imports of food-grains by train 2,015 and 655 maunds, respectively; exports mainly from Parlákimedi. Eight hundred and seventy-four free emigrants including children to ports in British Burma in week ending 1st instant. No relief works nor kitchens open. Test works in December failed to attract at famine wages; careful enquiries show that coolies are not yet ready to accept famine wages. Necessity for relief works and gratuitous relief expected to arise in February. Condition of people still generally good, though a few isolated instances of emaciation are coming to notice. Cattle are still in good condition, but pasture is getting very scarce.

RESOLUTION—dated 8th January 1897, No. 14.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. There has been no change in the agricultural outlook of the district, and the water-supplies continue to decrease. So far as drinking water-supplies are concerned what is possible is being done to improve them. Harvests are still going on, but this is now nearly over.

3. The price of rice remains nearly stationary, while that of ragi continues to advance, but the Collector does not anticipate much further rise. Exports of grain by rail are fairly active, but trade generally is dull.

4. The condition of the people generally is reported to be good, and the cooly classes are not as yet so far pressed as to be willing to accept famine wages. Nevertheless some cases of emaciation have been reported, and the Collector should consider the propriety of opening a relief-kitchen in the Sompéta division, if on further report it appears desirable.

His proposal to open a test-work in Tekkali during the current month is approved.

(True Copies and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Collector of Ganjam.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed January th.

Proceedings, 8th Jan. 1897, No. 14.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Govern-
ment — of the Ganjam district for the latter
half of December 1896.

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189.

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189

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CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

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