

Revenue (189) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 57

DATED 28.1.97

Transf.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Relief Works —
Passing orders on the question of the manage-
ment by the P.W.D. of the Local Funds
Relief Works and explaining clearly the
extent of control also exercised by the
the P.W. officers over the famine Relief
Works.

27-9-51

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

NOTE FOR THE SECRETARY

Things don't
The original
is recalled
which the Secretary
28-1-97
wants to modify has been
recalled from the Press
& is submitted.
Copy of order has already
gone in type to the
G. (was despatched
in the 1st) and orders are
issued as to whether
should be recalled now
whether it will be suff
to send the revised
order in due course
2-97

Revenue (1896) Department.

CURRENT No. 9451

Read also C no 4 of 1897

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

Order

The Govt considers that it will be best to place
the relief works under the control of the P.W.
as already ordered: as directed in G.O. No.
Orders will issue in the Financial Dept. for
acing Rs 40,000 at the disposal of the
entire Engineer, Bellary and also such further
amounts as may be applied for by the works up to
limit specified in para 4 of the B.O. viz.
Rs. 1000.

To Board (Settl)
Financial Dept
From orders

No. 437

Dated 16th December 1896.
Received 24.12.96
Registered 24.12.96
Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Relief charges.
Submitting to
Government, with remarks,
application from the Collector
of Bellary for funds to
meet

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 16TH DEC. 1896, No. 437.

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

READ—the following letter from R. H. CAMPBELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 12th December 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 2959 :—

I have the honour to submit my report under sections 13 and 38 of the Famine Code.

2. I have already described in sufficient detail the condition of the district as it stood in the beginning of October.

Station.	June to September.		October to December.	
	Average.	1896.	Average	Up to date.
Yemmiganuru *	15.41	11.34	5.72	1.39
Adóni ..	19.06	13.98	6.62	1.55
Alúr ..	13.80	9.35	6.22	1.14
Siruguppa ..	14.06	11.14	6.26	3.12
Kampli ..	11.35	4.75	7.07	2.14.
Bellary ..	9.93	2.17	6.27	3.94
Rayadrug ..	9.15	8.91	6.73	1.34
Hospet ..	16.96	10.76	7.16	0.66
Kúdligi ..	14.21	8.80	6.66	1.39
Harpanahalli ..	12.74	15.63	6.88	3.47
Hadagalli ..	11.35	7.78	5.92	2.74
Average ..	13.55	9.51	6.38	2.08

Since then there has been some change in parts of the district due to recent rainfall which is noted in the margin.* The rainfall of the 23rd November 1896 was general but not well distributed over the district. It was heavy in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli and parts of Bellary and Rayadrug, moderate in Adóni and Alúr and scanty in Kúdligi and Hospet. The condition of Harpanahalli taluk has been always generally good, and that of Hadagalli and Rayadrug has distinctly improved since the rain. Test works, which were ordered before the rain, were duly started but proved a failure in both the taluks and no anxiety need be felt regarding them for some time to come. The state of Kúdligi is rather unpromising, but both the Tahsildar and the Head Assistant Collector, who is now in the taluk, consider that no relief measures are called for at present beyond a suspension of the December kist, which has been already recommended to the Board. Thus the only tracts which may be said to be in somewhat critical condition are the whole of Alúr taluk and parts of Bellary, Adóni and Hospet taluks. A revised map showing the affected tracts is submitted herewith.

3. The figures relating to cultivation up to October have been reviewed by the Board in its Proceedings, No. 385, dated 3rd December 1896.

Taluk.	April November.				For the corresponding period of previous year.			
	1st crop.		2nd crop.		1st crop.		2nd crop.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
Adóni ..	280,555	1,704	483	22	304,126	2,196	7,493	312
Alúr ..	200,359	..	37	..	325,707	345	6,304	3
Bellary ..	140,009	3,906	152	10	448,120	4,310	3,505	8
Rayadrug ..	91,752	7,975	114	2	211,548	7,501	3	4
Hospet ..	63,136	13,471	26	146	105,400	14,526	151	242
Kúdligi ..	148,609	4,448	..	..	163,876	4,721	95	2
Harpanahalli ..	191,703	3,365	1,069	151	194,805	3,450	2,497	76
Hadagalli ..	226,726	1,178	653	26	243,749	862	577	35
Total ..	1,342,849	36,101	2,534	357	1,997,331	37,911	20,625	682

to it will appear only in the returns for December. The quantity of rain is however

9.0 514 5
14.12.96

insufficient and it is unlikely that the crops that are now being raised will yield anything more than fodder for cattle except in parts of Rayadrug and Bellary. One more heavy shower would greatly improve the prospects, but it is too late now to expect any further rain.

4. It is mainly the high prices ruling in the district that has brought on distress

Taluk.	September 1896.		October 1896.		November 1896.	
	Rice.	Cholum, white and yellow.	Rice.	Average of white and yellow cholum.	Rice.	Average of white and yellow cholum.
Adóni	10.35	25.66	8.29	15.10	7.41	12.13
Alúr	9.25	26.04	7.77	16.51	6.66	11.88
Bellary	9.76	27.11	8.50	15.10	7.38	10.86
Rayadrug	11.98	27.03	9.68	17.62	7.66	12.66
Hospet	9.00	26.50	8.32	18.12	7.10	9.94
Kudligi	10.00	26.50	9.00	19.00	7.00	13.00
Harpanahalli	10.75	34.00	9.00	22.50	6.75	13.00
Hadagalli	10.00	30.87	9.25	21.00	7.00	10.00
Normal rate	12.6	27.4	12.4	27.6	12.4	28.4
Warning rate	10.6	22.5	..	..	..	..
Scarcity rate	7.9	15.0	..	..	..	..

Dec 26

9.0 1.23

5. I was watching the season for sometime, and when prices began to rise very rapidly, I instructed the Local Fund Engineer to expand the ordinary works on reduced wages with reference to sections 16 and 37 of the Famine Code and to convert them into relief works on 1st December, if they were resorted to by large numbers of coolies. I resolved upon adopting this course chiefly because the Famine Code had not been distributed to all officers, the forms had not been supplied, the establishment was not ready and there had not been sufficient time to study the rules. The Board, however, ordered that test works worked strictly according to the provisions of the Famine Code should be opened at once and that order I carried out promptly without stopping to explain or justify my action. I must admit that the event proved that test works were not opened a day too soon, but I would at the same time submit that my original proposals were framed in accordance with the provisions of the Famine Code. The following statement gives a list of the several test relief works that were opened in the district:—

Taluk.	Name of work.	Date of opening.	Number on date of opening.	Maximum number.	Minimum number.	Number at present.	Remarks.
Adóni	Adóni Municipal works	16th Nov. 1896.	588	603	174	547	Can employ not more than 500.
	Adóni-Madhavaram road	23rd " "	600	1,886	1,199	1,771	
	Balasaladoddi tank	15th " "	925	975	289	448	
Alúr	Halabarihi Moka road	16th " "	1,916	2,724	1,916	2,717	
	Alúr-Chippieiri road	16th " "	3,418	4,912	3,418	4,841	
	Harivanum-Raravi road	20th " "	585	1,344	491	1,344	
Bellary	Bellary-Siruguppa road	11th " "	1,463	1,718	691	1,102	
	Bellary-Moka road	16th " "	2,326	3,593	182	512	
Rayadrug	Solapuram kunta	24th " "	36	161	36	..	Closed on 3rd December 1896.
Hospet	Daraji Metri road	20th " "	650	724	159	528	
	Narayanadevarkeri tank and channel.	17th " "	14	228	14	135	Closed on 26th November 1896.
Hadagalli	Devagondanahalli tank	2nd Dec. "	58	150	58	150.	
	Humpasagaram road	25th Nov. "	..	..	..	..	

6. Notes dealing with the history and management of each work are being prepared and will be submitted to the Board. As there has been no material change

for the better in the condition of the people in the taluks of Adóni, Alúr, Bellary and eastern part of Hospet, I think the time has now come for converting the test works into regular famine relief works and applying the Famine Code fully to the affected tract. The works already commenced as test works are well suited for famine labour and will be continued, and when they are finished others will be selected from the programme. A revised list of works included in the programme has been already submitted to the Board with a map.

7. I have travelled more than once through the affected tracts. It is difficult to say whether stocks of grain in these tracts are deficient, all that can be said is that stocks are being held up by owners through fear of a prolonged famine. The stock in villages may run short before long, but no interference on the part of Government will probably be necessary as the country is everywhere easily accessible to traders.

8. The probable number of people requiring relief in each of the taluks under reference is estimated as follows:—

Alúr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
Adóni	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500
Bellary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000
Hospet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,000

The present unfavourable season will last at least till May next, and I have accordingly framed my estimates for a period of five months. At the rate of 2 annas per day for each relief worker the amount of expenditure for this period will be Rs. 3,75,000. This will cover the cost of kitchens that have to be attached to each large relief work. I do not anticipate that poor houses or village relief will be necessary and therefore make no provision for them.

9. Wells are not a success in this district and the people in the western taluks are reluctant to accept any loans from Government for agricultural purposes. Still applications for fodder and well loans are becoming decidedly more numerous. In the eastern taluks, especially in Alúr, there is a demand for loans chiefly for removal of the nuth grass and purchase of fodder and cattle. The amounts that will have to be advanced to the ryots are approximately as follows:—

	Land Improvement		Agriculture.	
	RS.		RS.	
Alúr	12,000	...	10,000	...
Adóni	1,500	...	5,000	...
Bellary	5,000	...	...	...
Hospet	2,000	...	2,000	...
Hadagalli	3,000	...	...	...
Kudligi	2,000	...	...	...
Harpanahalli	2,000	...	...	...
Total	27,500	...	17,000	...

10. Relief to weavers of Adóni has been going on for some time, and though there has been some decrease in their number, it may go up again should the prices rise as in all probability they will do. The ultimate number requiring relief in Adóni is expected to be 1,500 at an estimated cost of Rs. 11,000 per mensem. The weavers in the western taluks may also require relief very shortly. I doubt if many of these people will accept the Salem rules as what they demand are advances in money which are of course not permissible. I have called for reports on the condition of these weavers and can say nothing more definite at present. As prospects are not unfavourable outside the district, the weaving industry is not likely to be dull for very long and probably relief will be required only for about three months. The amount required for this kind of relief may therefore be roughly estimated at Rs. 43,000.

11. I must here mention that as the hands of District Board Engineering staff are full, I have entrusted the Adóni-Madhavaram road work to the Public Works Department, which will require an allotment of Rs. 37,500 for this work alone.

12. The District Board has suspended all ordinary works in the unaffected tracts and has diverted Rs. 30,325 towards famine relief under section 33 of the Famine Code in addition to the grant of Rs. 50,000 specially granted by Government for the repair of certain roads. Of this sum about Rs. 20,000 have been already spent and, I think, the balance should be given back to the District Board for being spent on ordinary works; otherwise the labouring classes, who were earning their livelihood on Local Fund roads in the unaffected tracts and who are now without employment, will suffer. No funds can be spared from allotments for pounds and minor irrigation works.

13. To sum up, the funds required for the relief in this district are—

	RS.
Amount required for the Public Works Department	50,000 *
To be placed at the Collector's disposal for Local Fund works	3,10,000
Municipal works	15,000
Weavers	43,000
Loans—Land Improvement	27,500
Do. Agricultural	17,000

	RS.
* For Adoni-Madhavaram road work	37,500
For Balasaidoddi tank work in the same taluk	1,725
For Narayanadevarakeri tank work in Hospet taluk	3,500
For other works that may be found necessary to transfer as to the management of Public Works Department	7,275

14. An application for the appointment of two additional officers of the Divisional Officers' grade was submitted yesterday and proposals for increasing the subordinate staff will follow in a day or two.

RESOLUTION—dated 16th December 1896, No. 437.

Submitted for the information and orders of Government.

2. In the above letter the Collector of Bellary states that he considers that the time has come to convert the test works, opened in his district, into relief works, and applies for establishments and funds.

3. The Government has already, in G.O., No. 713, dated 11th December 1896, ordered all the works to be handed over to the Public Works Department and to be treated as relief works. This arrangement is, the Board would submit, contrary to the principle laid down in sections 109 and 111 of the Famine Code, for most of the relief works in Bellary must be road works, and therefore works in which the Local Boards are concerned, and though the additional establishments are necessary, it appears advisable that the charges on the different works should pass through the Local Fund accounts, and, if the works be carried out by the Public Works Department, this may lead to confusion. The Board does not press the point, but it should, it thinks, be considered.

4. The Collector estimates that, on the average, 20,000 persons will require relief on works until May next. Bearing in mind the numbers† that have come on the works in the last four weeks, and the experience of 1892, the Board doubts whether the estimate is adequate. In January 1892, the average number of relief workers was 5,586, and in June it was 18,010, and in August 5,429. The difficulty of making a forecast is, however, very great, and the Collector's application for Rs. 3,60,000 to be placed at his disposal

† Week ending—

November 21st	...	14,954
Do. 28th	...	15,249
December 5th	...	13,815
Do. 12th	...	14,092
Do. 19th	...	14,924

for relief works may be accepted as a sufficient provision for the present. In view of the arrangement made in G.O., No. 713, dated 11th December 1896, the funds should, however, be placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department for the execution of works. (2)

5. The Collector has made no separate application for funds for gratuitous relief, which he proposes to confine to the distribution of cooked food at kitchens. As all these charges are debited to "Famine relief," he will be requested to make a separate application for funds for this purpose. He, however, applies for Rs. 43,000 for the relief of weavers at their own trade, and this must also, under section 138 of the Famine Code, be classed as gratuitous relief.

6. The Collector's application for funds for advances under the Land Improvement Loans and Agriculturists' Loans Acts will be dealt with separately, but he will be requested to reconsider his estimates in the light of the experience gained in 1892, when the following sums were advanced:—

	RS.	RS.
Land Improvement Loans—	1,32,650	
For well sinking	93,213	
For other improvements		2,25,881
Agriculturists Loans—	43,920	
For purchase of fodder	374	
For purchase of cattle and seed grain		44,294
Total loans made		2,70,176

Loans of the former class are especially beneficial, and the attention of the Collector of Bellary, as well as that of the Collectors of the other affected districts, will be drawn to the advisability of encouraging the ryots to take loans for agricultural improvements. In Anantapur only, has anything noticeable as yet been done in this direction.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" Collector of Bellary.
" " of Anantapur.
" " of Cuddapah.
" " of Kurnool.
" " of Vizagapatam.
" " of Ganjam.

Edr. C. M. Thumbasawmy.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1896.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed December 21st.

Proceedings, 16th Dec. 1896, No. 437.

Relief charges.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, application from the Collector of Bellary for funds to meet —.

Revenue (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 626.



Mr. Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. E.
Mr. Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. E.
H. E. the Governor

From The Accountant General
Bellary

For Orders

No. 197

Mr. A. G. takes exception to para 4 of G.O. no 660 dated 25-11-96. This para ^(which) is based on rule 23 of Appendix VI to the Famine Code states that all relief works are placed under the control of the P.W. Dept., but that the payment of workers should be made by ~~provisional~~ paymasters ~~entitled~~ ^{the} ~~aid~~ collectors and supplied with funds under his orders. In other words, the famine relief works are civil, not P.W., works and the control to be exercised by Officers of this Dept. extends only to the enforcement of the tasks set under S. 94 of the Code such officers are under the collector's orders.

2. Mr. A. G. points out that the above procedure is at variance with Article 467 of the Account Code and certain recent orders of the Govt. of India. The rules ~~of~~ of the Account Code referred to "regulate" Public Works expenditure by civil

Dated 21 January 1897.

Received 22nd

Registered 22nd

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT

stating that approximately Rs 3,50,000 this year and Rs 6,30,000 next year will be spent upon famine Relief upon operations which will be conducted under the supervision of the P.W.D.

C. 23/1/97
R. 27/1/97.

Officers acting as Public Works disbursements.

In the present case, the expenditure is not

P.W. ~~disbursements~~ expenditure and the pay masters are
not P.W. disbursements. Hence ^{rules} therefore, does not apply.

3. The recent orders of the Govt. of India
appear to be those printed in G.O. no 750 dated
26th December 1896 - para 7 of the Govt. of India
Resol. on page 4 thereof. This also refers to expenditure

"incurred" incurred under the control and manage-
ment of Officers of the P.W. D.

4. Hence it is submitted that the A. G. has not
made out a case for revising the order issued
in G.O. no 660 dated 25-11-96.

KD
22/1/97

I agree

JG

24/1/97

And I. Should play the mischief
if any number of P.W. subordinates
had not left supervision works
but also to pay for them. The double
they should be a valuable check

BS

26/1/97

Yours. A.H. 27.1.97

PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
		He has not made out a case. A.H.	

Bridge

DEPARTMENT.

FORT ST. GEORGE,

Accountant-General's Office,

21st January 1897.

No. 197

From

F. C. Harrison Esq.

ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL TO THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

SIR,

Whilst occupied in an attempt to arrive
at the probable famine expenditure this year
and next, I have the honour to state that I
have been given to understand (verbally) by
the Board of Revenue and Government
that approximately 3,50,000 Rupees this year
and Rupees 6,30,000 Rupees next year will
be spent upon Famine Relief upon operations
which will be conducted under the super-
-vision of the Public Works Department
I am further informed that the procedure
now in force for this money to be drawn
by Collectors and disbursed by their
subordinates - the professional supervision
only being in the hands of the P.W.D.
Staff.

Page 2 of 2

660
25-11-96

Staff. The object of this arrangement is, I believe, to secure a more effective check over the expenditure.

2. The above procedure does not however follow the lines laid down in the Civil Account Code and recent orders. When famine work is proceeding under P.M.D. supervision, the proper course is that the grant should be made to the P.M.D., the expenditure made by it, and audited by it and recorded in its books. As the Board of Revenue report that the work for which this Rupees 3,15,000 is estimated is being carried out under P.M.D. supervision. I have with the recent of Government (verbally requested and accorded) asked the Examiner P.M.D. to provide for it in his revised estimates and I understand he is doing so. In this connection I would respectfully draw the attention of Government to article 467 of the Civil Account Code clauses 105, 107(3) and 108. It is, I submit, my duty to "take measures to stop and recover" any payments irregularly made. I would

be

In the present instance as the matter are those of Government I refer the matter for very early orders. I would respectfully urge that it is improbable that the Govt. of India will reconsider their recent orders. The famine in this Presidency being of relatively small dimensions, and no other Province having apparently ^{found} it necessary to ask for any change of rules.

3. The matter is very urgent for I have received very stringent orders from the Government of India to act in concert with the Examiner of P.M. Accounts, and to see that the expenditure is carefully watched and estimated, for nothing being left out or twice provided for. As matters stand, there is a considerable danger of both the present and future expenditure being in correctly forecasted.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Yours most obedt. servant,

J. L. Harrison

Offy. Accountant General

(189) DEPARTMENT.

From

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,

MADRAS,

To

THE

No.

Dated

Received

No.

Subject.

No. 272 C

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Madras, 16th Jan 1897.

OFFICE NOTE.

From

The Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

To

The Secretary to Govt. Rev.

Department.

Your Office Note No.5 dated

15th January 1897.

The question came up in the Local and Municipal Department and was referred to me for remarks. The following is a copy of my reply -No. 232 C., dated 14th January 1897-

"I am of opinion that the provisions of section 109 of the Famine Code should be maintained, and Local Fund Relief Works carried out by the Engineering Department of the Local Boards, so far as the means at their disposal allow. The resources of the P.W.D. are being heavily taxed in consequence of the order which requires that an Upper Subordinate should be appointed to the sbl- of the

71
Please return
then from d. 11.

VE
18/1/97

P.W.D. C. No. 384
1897
L.D.

18-1-97

charge of each Relief Works, and the
greatest difficulty is felt in providing
the required number of men. If, ^{therefore} however,
Local Boards are in a position to car-
ry on their own Relief Works, it would
be a distinct advantage to allow them
to do so".

The original papers went back to
the Local and Municipal Department
with my reply.

J. R. P. S. S. S. Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

To

The Revenue Department
with 2 files returned.

C. No 9451

For orders:-

In G.O. No 713 of 11.12.14
the Govt. directed that all the
relief works in the Bellary
district should be placed under
the control of the P.W.D. In
para 3 of the current resolution
the Board states that this arrange-
ment is contrary to Section
109 and 111 of the Famine Code
as most of the relief works in
this district are road works
which the Local Boards are
concerned. As the charges have
to pass through the Local Fund
accounts, the Board thinks it
will lead to confusion if
the works are carried out by the
P.W.D.

For orders as to whether and
what remarks should be made
on this point.

2. The Collector estimates that
Rs 3,60,000 would be required
for expenditure on relief works
till May next and the Board
requests that in view of the
arrangement

The one: Mr. G. Rose.
His Excellency the Governor

Local Fund works are only
"as a rule" the carried out
by the L.F. authorities. In this
it usually means that the
L.F.A. must pay for such
staff or provide it when they
carry out the works. The charges
will be met by the L.F.A. & President
under this order and audited by
him. It does not appear where
the confusion can come in.
The charges will under Rs 182 be
drawn by the paymaster in L.F.
bills which will be audited
afterwards by Special Payments
& L.F.A. in the next month.

W. J. S. S. S.
circ. 11.12.14. It will be best to leave all
relief works under the L.F.A. 11.12.14

arrangement made in G.O. No 713 of 11.12.96 the funds should be placed at the disposal of the P.W.D.

2. No orders are required on paras 5 and 6 of the B.P.

27/12/96

In by an oversight in G.O. 713 the words "as in Cuddapah" have been omitted. If these words be added the matter will come under the operation of G.O. No 618 dated 25th Nov. 1896.

Yes JG 27/12/96
31/12/96 J.S.H.
3.1.97

Draft: 41/1/97

The Hon. Mr. G. S. E.
H. E. the Governor.

JG
9/1/97

7th. Other papers These, I believe, raised the question of the expediency of placing under the P.W.D., works which are being carried out by Local Bds. To do so, entails on increase of P.W. establishment, for which I am not sure that sufficient reason is shown.

J.S.H.
14.1.97

C No 9451 of 1896, and Nos 4+36 of 1897.

G.O.

In G.O. No 713 dated 11th December 1896 the Gov. directed that all famine relief works in the Bellary district should be placed under the control of the P.W. Dept. This order was referred to local fund works also. The Board of Rev. takes exception to this course on the ground that it is contrary to the principle laid down in S. 109 and 111 of the Famine Code. The Gov. does not ^{consider} ~~affirm~~ ^{to be correct.} of this contention. The former Section states "local fund works, as a rule, be executed under the supervision of the local fund Engineer and his staff;" but this does not take away the discretion of Gov. to prescribe a different arrangement when it sees fit to do so. The other section merely requires that the local Boards should provide the subordinate staff when they carry out the works.

2. The Gov. does not share in the Board's apprehension that the arrangement will lead to confusion. The Expenditure on relief works may be incurred either by the P.W. Dept or by collectors. In the former case, the amount required ~~and~~ will be obtained and the expenditure accounted ^{for} in accordance with the instructions laid down in S. 105 to 192 of the Famine Code. The Gov. considered that it

31/12/96
41/1/97

expedient that payments to coolies should be made by Officers quite independent of the establishment charged with the supervision and carrying out of the work. rule 23, appendix VII. Orders were accordingly issued in G.O. no 660 dated 25th November 1896, which should be held to apply to the Bellary district also.

Under the system of payments by the collyers, funds will be provided by him under the Famine advance system in the case of all Provincial works, and by the President District Board in the case of local fund works.

Out of local fund balances the expenditure in such cases will be accounted for in accordance with S. 102 II (4), 103 ~~and~~ of the Code. It appears unnecessary, therefore, to place any funds under the disposal of the P.W. Dept. in the case of Bellary as suggested by the Board in para 4 of its Progs.

3. The Collector's estimate of expenditure on relief works, viz Rs 3,60,000, accepted by the Board of Rev is approved. Orders will issue in the Financial Dept authorising the Collyer of Bellary to make advances up to the limit of Rs 40,000.

To the Board of Rev.
.. Financial Dept
.. Collyer of Bellary.

1897

① Relief works in charge of civil officers
The Collyer should be called upon to clarify the amount required under the heads specified in the Gov. of India Resn. Commun. indicated with G.O. no 750 dated 26-12-96. In the meantime,

D
1,000-11-8-96.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C No. 9457 of 1896, and nos 4 & 36 of 1897.
of the note of the P.W. Dept no 272C & 232C dated the 16th 14 instant.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

The Honourable Mr. Justice C.J.E.
The Honourable Mr. Justice C.J.E.
H.E. the Governor.

All 'ordinary' Local Fund works will of course be left entirely to the Local Fund Engineer & his staff, as stated in para 16 of the Code. At the commencement of a Famine his 'ordinary' work may be in

rule below the Chief Engineer's note in the linked file.

created and the manner of execution modified, so as to afford the greatest possible relief to labourers seeking employment, but when 'ordinary' E. & F. works have been turned into Relief Works — where all applicants, however weakly, have to be entertained (Sec 93), where there is only brick work, with no cash acts or mid-dling (95), where there are to be 4 classes

on top of the linked file

+ G.O.

In connection with an application for funds by the Superintending Engineer IIIrd circle for carrying out certain local fund relief works in the Kurnool district, was raised the question whether G.O. no 670 dated 30-11-96 placed all local fund famine relief works also under the control of the P.W. Dept. was raised, and an answer in the affirmative was given. The papers then went up to the Hon. Mr. Justice from the Hon. Local and Municipal Depts. The Hon. Member, while conceding that efficiency would in the long run in the end be promoted by placing all works under the P.W. D., desires that the question should be brought up for formal decision, with the arguments pro and con stated, and the opinion of the P.W. D. and of the Famine Comm. expressed.

2. The H.M.'s remarks were forwarded to the P.W. D., and the Chief Engineer has recorded a note pointing out that the Order in the Rev Dept requiring an upper subordinate to be placed in charge of each work leaving taxes the

resources of that of ~~that~~ Dept and that the greatest difficulty is felt in providing the required number of men. The Chief Engineer suggests that Local Boards should be left to carry on their own works if they are in a position to do so.

3. When the draft order on C. no 9457 of 1896 & no 436 of 1897 was circulated, H. E. the Governor observed "On other papers I have I believe raised the question of the expediency of placing under the P. W. & works which are being carried out by local Boards. To do so entails an increase of P. W. establishment, for which I am not sure that sufficient reason is shown". The P. W. Dept was asked to send the papers, if any, in which this question was raised by H. E. In reply that ~~the~~ Dept. refers to the correspondence with the L. & M. Dept. summarised above.

4. For the arguments in favour of transferring all the works of the L. & M. Dept also to the P. W. Dept. please see paras 7, 14 and para 2D, clause (ii) of the Resolution of the Gov. of the N. W. Provinces. printed in L. O. no 675 dated 27-11-96. The Resn. states that relief works should be entrusted from the outset to the P. W. Dept., except works specially intended for the relief of the agricultural population in the vicinity of their villages; and that these latter should be carried out thro' the agency of the village landlords and head men. The advantages of the system are stated to be the employment of men of some standing as officers in

FOR ORDERS.

of gangs, only one of which consists of ordinary labour (96), where payments are to be made according to the rules of the Famine Code (97-104), where a day of rest with the minimum wage is allowed (105) where special bylaws hospitals children kitchen & hutting are to be provided (113), & where there are to be special arrangements for water supply to (app vi); they must be placed under the P. W. I don't believe the L. & M. Est abt. in any district is equal to these duties. ~~of which the~~ L. & M. Est abt. must not be allowed to remain idle all of it which is not required for maintaining existing works (and more in badly affected districts for almost the first with the nearly the whole of it) and be placed at the disposal of the P. W. of the Govt & President. Even when this is done great expense will have to be incurred in strengthening the P. W., but it will be to prevent as the C. E. fears, & it will be well repaid. As for the funds required for these Relief Works

D
1,000-11-6-96.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

they must be in the hands of the Govt. - not those who is the paymaster - not of the P. W. In the case of Local Fund Relief Works, the Govt will first get money from the Treasury, & after wards from Provincial Funds.

JJ
22/1/97

These notes clear the matter up. The L. & M. Est. will deal with it as long as the works continue "L. & M. works" but when they become relief works the Board can not control them.

21/1/97.

If the P. W. cannot find suitable men in sufficient numbers have the P. W. to do so. There is provision for each Taluk and one for each district. ~~the P. W. to do so~~ If it were a question of doing or not doing the work such arguments might prevail but unfortunately the work must be done.

The Famine Code lays down that all ~~the~~ ^{relief work} must be done

charge of works; the devotion of greater attention to the division of the work into gangs and to the execution of task work. One important advantage is stated to be that District officers were enabled to pay greater attention to ~~pay~~ more important subjects. It may be stated that there can be no objection to local Boards dealing with their works, but the Collector and the Divisional Officers have to attend to them in their capacity of Presidents of District and Taluk Boards.

5. The argument against the transfer of the works appears to be ~~that to~~ ^{that to} find a number of suitable officers to take all the resources of the P. W. It is not known whether there is any objection to local fund Engineers ~~and their~~ subordinates being placed under the orders of the P. W. Dept, so that the difficulty felt may be minimised to some extent.

6. The Hon. Mr. B. has invited an expression of opinion on the subject by the P. W. & the Famine Commr. For the former attention is solicited to ^{the} note by the Chief Engineer on the

C 2/1/97

top of the linked file; the opinion of the famine com. may be gathered from para 2 of its

FOR ORDERS.

Profs no 407 dated 16-12-96 at the bottom of these notes. The famine com. objected to the transfer as being contrary to S. 109 and 111 of the famine code. The objection is not valid as pointed out in para 1 of the draft order, which has been approved by the Hon. member.

7. Orders are solicited.

100
181197

11/21/1897

X with its ordinary works, i.e. with ~~the~~ those provided for in the Budget or, under proper authority, sub. separately, & will carry them out in the ordinary way, as if no famine existed. But, as the Hon. Mr. G. says, when the special conditions of Famine Relief Works have to be enforced, the W.D. will assume control - all L.F. Lts not needed for ordinary L.F. works can be lent to the W.D.

Inasmuch that it is not quite right to agree from what was done in the N.W.P. for the L.F. Lts are there by no means so highly organized as here - more therefore can be left to them here than

23/1/97
I agree. This should be made clear in the draft order suggested F.

by the D.F.W. and that as a rule L.F. works must be done by the L.F. Dept. There are about 10 works open in Bellary taluk in Kurnool. There in Gundlupeta and in the same taluk that 20 2/20 men of the upper subordinates funds can not be found it is feasible in Bellary for example for one upper subordinates to be in charge of two or three works a man of lower grade being put under him on each work. This was what was done in the h.W. L.F. works means works of the nature of the provision in the Budget. A famine relief work lay upon a road is not a L.F. work even though the L.F. balance may ultimately have to pay for it. If L.F. works are left to the L.F. Dept. it will be necessary to explain what such works are. L.F. works in the affected talukas have long since been exhausted. I think may safely be asserted. There can be no objection to the placing of the L.F. Lts of the affected taluks under the order of the D.F.W. Under the existing order there has been no departure whatever from the Famine Code. The order is altogether in accordance with the spirit and letter of that code.

if it be read into fine and at
last as a whole

The function is also raised into
the position of funds. Expenditure
on works may be met either in
the Public Works Dept. or in the
Civil Dept. 14. by the Govt. Vide
Lr 182. If the expenditure is disbursed
by the P.W. it must be treated
as laid down in Section 185-1-
192. If by the Civil Dept. it must
be met as laid down in Lr 182
11. 4 (b) & 183. There is nothing
in the Code which requires that
the expenditure on works shd.
be disbursed by the P.W. and
it has been laid down that
the P.W. shd. work the P.W.
& the Civil Dept. pay them.
Hence the expenditure will fall
on the Civil Dept. and the
Govt. will have to be placed in
funds by a grant. The Govt. of
India have lately laid down
that the Budget system must
be applied to Finance expenditure
and the P.W. has been called upon
to submit such a forecast
accordingly.

I think it well to point.

In relief works have been placed
under the control of the P.W. for
construction only. (Lr 93 94
& 112 P. G.O. no. 668.)

In the works and when the Lt. allotment
of L.F. in the work and such sums as
can be transferred to it have been
exhausted on any particular Lt.
work.

That the function has been
defined in G.O. no 668 dated
25th Mar., in G.O. no 698 dated
25th Mar., in G.O. no 713 dated
11th Sept. 96.

Mr. J. J.

c No. 9457 of 1896 & 626 of 1897 (full.)

Print: _____
From: _____
Date: _____

From
 DP at once
 copies to A.G.
 (The order should
 issue this evening)
 h

Dated

189

~~FOR ORDERS.~~

G.O. Puro 57/d/ 28th June 97

In the orders marginally noted the Govt. directed that all famine-relief works in the four Deccan districts should be placed under the ~~control of~~ control of the P. W. Dept., including break 7 and Work also, though ~~this was not explicitly stated.~~

2. In its Prof read above the Board of
New raises the question whether the transfer of
Local

2. S. 109 of the famine code lays down that ~~any~~ relief works other than local fund works ~~should~~ be executed in times of famine by the P. W. Dept., and that as a general rule local fund works will be executed under the supervision of the local fund engineer and his staff. In its Prog. read above, the Board of Rev. points out that the orders referred to ^{in para 1} are contrary to the principle laid down in the latter portion of the section. It is necessary, therefore, to explain the orders more fully.

~~670.~~
Nos 660 dated 25th November 1896
" 670 " 30th "
" 702 " 9th December 1896
" 713 " 11th "

[illegible]

$\frac{D}{4}$ 1,000-11-6-96.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

From

Dated

189

FOR ORDERS.

provided under 8.113 and special arrange-
ments for mater- supply ~~see~~ under Appendix VI
to the 7 annex code.

The local fund establishments will deal with their ordinary work - is ~~is~~ those which are not relief work & which are provided for in the Budget or included therein whether in the affected area or in adjacent areas. ~~under proper authority subsequently~~ and will carry them out in the ordinary way as if no famine existed. All local fund establishments, which are not required for maintenance ~~work~~, such ~~emergency~~ ^{extraordinary} works should be placed at the disposal of the P.W. & by the Collector and President.

4. The next point on which the orders have to be made clearer relates to as to the extent of control to be exercised by the P. W. Officers ~~is as to the~~ over the Famine relief works. In para 4 of L.O no 668 dated 25th November 1946 this has been laid down in accordance with para 23 of appendix VI to the Famine Code that the P. W. Dept should work the gangs and that the Civil Dept should pay them.

FOR ORDERS.

3. In the first place the section lays down
a general rule, which may be departed from
when the Govt. considers such departure to be
expedient. In the case under consideration
such departure is essential. At the commence-
ment of a famine the Ordinary L. F. works
may be increased, and the manner of their
execution modified, so as to afford the greatest
possible relief to labourers seeking employment (S. 16 of the Famine Code).
The works will of course be left entirely to
the Local Fund Engineer and his staff as stated
in para S. 109. But when ordinary Local Fund
works are turned into Relief works, and the
Special conditions of Famine relief works
have to be enforced, ~~they must be~~
~~placed under the P. W. Dept., as the Govt. does not~~
~~believe that the Local Fund establishment in~~
~~any district is equal to their duties.~~ The conditions of Famine relief works
referred to ^{above} ~~are~~ that under S. 93 all applicants,
however, weakly, have to be ^{admitted;} ~~examined;~~ ^{when} ~~that~~
under S. 95 all relief workers have to be
employed on task work ^{only,} ~~without~~ the intervention
of Contractors and middlemen; ^{when} ~~that~~ under S. 96
they are to be divided into four classes of gangs,
only one of which consists of ordinary labourers;
^{when} ~~that~~ payments to relief workers ^{have to be} ~~are~~ made in
accordance with the rules contained in Ss 97-104,
a day of rest with the minimum wage being
allotted under S. 105; and ^{when} ~~that~~ Special dispensaries,
hospitals, children's kitchens and ^{have to be} ~~are~~ ^{run}

No.

64

From

Dated

189 .

FOR ORDERS.

expenditure on Famine relief works should be disallowed by the P. W. Dept.

b. ~~Under~~ In this connection it is ^{also} desirable to draw the attention of the Board and Collectors to the provisions of Chapter xiii of the Famine code. Expenditure on works may be incurred either in the P. W. Dept or in the Civil Dept, i.e. by the collector (S. 102). In the former case it must be treated as laid down in Ss 105 to 192, and in the latter under S. 102 II (4) and 103.

~~While reference to para 1, above, the~~
~~attention of the District Boards of the four~~
~~Deccan districts will be drawn to the~~
~~necessity for diverting from non-affected~~
~~to affected areas all possible expenditure~~
~~beyond that absolutely necessary for lease~~
~~maintenance and establishment charges,~~
~~and for remodelling the district ^{head qrs} _{in the this}~~
 Obeyes (S.33)

D. Separate orders will be issued on the question of funds for the Bellary district.

FOR ORDERS.

It follows from the above that the control of the P. W. Dept in regard to works extends to execution of works only (vide 93, 94 and 112 of the Famine code). It follows also that the expenditure on ^{such} Famine relief works will fall to be accounted for ⁱⁿ the Civil Dept., and ~~that the same will be placed in~~ funds as follows: —

For local works — by grants from Provincial funds;

For local works on which may be charged funds transferred to local funds.

(i) local funds, and

(ii) Provincial funds, when the resources of the local Boards concerned have been exhausted.

5. In the second paper read above, the A-9 points out that the above procedure is at variance with article 167 of the Civil Accounts Code Vol. I and with certain orders of the Govt. of India. The article quoted regulates "Public Works expenditure by civil officers acting as Public Works disbursements". The expenditure on famine relief works is not P.W. expenditure, and the civil officers who make the payments are not P.W. disbursements. The article does not therefore apply. The recent orders of the Govt. of India are apparently those printed on page 4 of G.O. no 750 dated 26th December 1946. In these also reference is made to ~~public~~ expenditure "incurred under the control and management of Officers of the P.W.D." Further, there is nothing in the Famine Code, which has revised the approval of the Govt. of India, ^{requiring} that the

Qui.

Send an Agent with to Fair &
asking them to deal with the
function of the provision of
funds & the management of
the LK Hospital as required
by Sec 33 of the Finance Code.

*microfiche
of orders
margin
of panel*

To the Board (Settl) 2-97
Financial, & d.t. 7. Depts.
" A-g. der. 5-2-97
der. from orders

D
4-1,000-11-6-96.

FOR ORDERS.

No.

From

Dated

189 .

FOR ORDERS.

*The Hon. Secy. of the
Revenue Dept. in C. O.
of the Government.*

with reference to the Hon.
Member's remarks on L. & M.
Current No. 372.

*Handwritten
H. O. A.*

The only point in which
G. O. 57 ^{Rev. Staff} ~~clashes~~ ^{clashes} with
28-1-97
G. O. 133 ^{Final} is in regard
8-2-97 to the position of paymasters
and the accounting of expenditure
incurred by the P. W. D.
on relief works in their charge.
The former G. O. ruled that the
expenditure should be accounted
for in the Civil Dept., but after
full discussion this position
was abandoned and it was
decided that the accounting
should be done in the P. W. D.
and that paymasters should
be ^{disbursed} ~~disbursed~~ ^{to be} P. W. disburse.
This decision is embodied in
G. O. 133 ^{Final para 4}
8-2-97 which says that so much of the

*c/14/97
15/10/97*

Rev G. L. as is consistent with
the decision is cancelled.
2. Orders are solicited as
to whether anything more
is necessary.

RS
31-3-97.

1/31/97.

FOR ORDERS.

Nothing was seen when reviewed

1.4.97

This is sufficient, I think -
When I wrote my note of 11/2/97
that the G.O. of 8/4/97, No 133,
before me.

RS
1/4/97

A.S.H.
2.4.97

Recd. W.

1/5/97.

To the Local & Municipal Dept
for perusal & return

Submitted to the Secretary

1/13/97

Government {1897} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 57, 28th January 1897.

JANUARY.

Relief Works.

Passing orders on the question of the management by the Public Works Department of
the Local Fund —, and explaining clearly the extent of control to be exercised by the Public
Works officers over the famine-relief works.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 16th December 1896, No. 437 :—

Read—the following letter from R. H. CAMPBELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 12th December 1896, Ref. on Cur. No. 2959 :—

I have the honour to submit my report under sections 13 and 38 of the Famine Code.

2. I have already described in sufficient detail the condition of the district as it stood in the beginning of October. Since then there has been some change in parts of the district due to recent rainfall which is noted in the margin. The rainfall of the 23rd November 1896 was general but not well distributed over the district. It was heavy in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli and parts of Bellary and Rayadrug, moderate in Adóni and Alúr and scanty in Kúdligi and Hospet. The condition of Harpanahalli taluk has been always generally good, and that of Hadagalli and Rayadrug has distinctly improved since the rain. Test works, which were ordered before the rain, were duly started but proved a failure in both the taluks and no anxiety need be felt regarding them for some time to come. The state of Kúdligi is rather unpromising, but both the Tahsildar and the Head Assistant Collector, who is now in the taluk, consider that no relief measures are called for at present beyond a suspension of the December kist, which has been already recommended to the Board. Thus the only tracts which may be said to be in somewhat critical condition are the whole of Alúr taluk and parts of Bellary, Adóni and Hospet taluks. A revised map showing the affected tracts is submitted herewith.

3. The figures relating to cultivation up to October have been reviewed by the

Taluk.	April to November.				For the corresponding period of previous year.			
	1st crop.		2nd crop.		1st crop.		2nd crop.	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
Adóni	280,555	1,704	483	22	304,126	2,196	7,493	312
Alúr	200,359	..	37	..	325,707	345	6,304	3
Bellary	140,009	3,906	152	10	448,120	4,310	3,505	8
Rayadrug	91,752	7,975	114	2	211,548	7,501	3	4
Hospet	63,136	13,471	26	146	105,400	14,526	151	242
Kúdligi	148,609	4,448	..	..	163,876	4,721	95	2
Harpanahalli	191,703	3,365	1,069	151	194,805	3,450	2,497	76
Hadagalli	226,726	1,178	653	26	243,749	862	577	35
Total	1,342,849	36,101	2,534	357	1,997,331	37,911	20,625	682

Board in its Proceedings, No. 385, dated 3rd December 1896. They show a large deficit of 223,000 acres. The statement on the margin shows the cultivation till the end of November 1896, but it must be added that they do not fully include the area cultivated in the month. Rain fell only in the latter part of November and the area cultivated subsequent

to it will appear only in the returns for December. The quantity of rain is however insufficient and it is unlikely that the crops that are now being raised will yield anything more than fodder for cattle except in parts of Rayadrug and Bellary. One more heavy shower would greatly improve the prospects, but it is too late now to expect any further rain.

4. It is mainly the high prices ruling in the district that has brought on distress among the labouring classes. The prices as compared with those in September are given in the margin. That the rise is due chiefly to artificial causes is shown by sudden fall which occurred after the recent rains. It is not so much dearth of grain as speculation, that is keeping up prices. They are now rising again on account of renewal of exportation and the insufficiency of the recent rains.

Taluk.	September 1896.		October 1896.		November 1896.	
	Rice.	Cholum, white and yellow.	Rice.	Average of white and yellow cholum.	Rice.	Average of white and yellow cholum.
Adóni	10.35	25.66	8.29	15.10	7.41	12.13
Alúr	9.25	26.04	7.77	16.51	6.66	11.58
Bellary	9.76	27.11	8.50	15.10	7.38	10.86
Rayadrug	11.98	27.03	9.68	17.62	7.66	12.66
Hospet	9.00	26.50	8.32	18.12	7.10	9.94
Kúdligi	10.00	26.50	9.00	19.00	7.00	13.00
Harpanahalli	10.75	34.00	9.00	22.50	6.75	13.00
Hadagalli	10.00	30.87	9.25	21.00	7.00	10.00
Normal rate	12.6	27.4	12.4	27.6	12.4	28.4
Warning rate	10.6	22.5	..	..	..	..
Scarcity rate	7.9	15.0	..	..	..	..

5. I was watching the season for sometime, and when prices began to rise very rapidly, I instructed the Local Fund Engineer to expand the ordinary works on reduced wages with reference to sections 16 and 37 of the Famine Code and to convert them into relief works on 1st December, if they were resorted to by large numbers of coolies. I resolved upon adopting this course chiefly because the Famine Code had not been distributed to all officers, the forms had not been supplied, the establishment was not ready and there had not been sufficient time to study the rules. The Board, however, ordered that test works worked strictly according to the provisions of the Famine Code should be opened at once and that order I carried out promptly without stopping to explain or justify my action. I must admit that the event proved that test works were not opened a day too soon, but I would at the same time submit that my original proposals were framed in accordance with the provisions of the Famine Code. The following statement gives a list of the several test relief works that were opened in the district :—

Taluk.	Name of work.	Date of opening.	Number on date of opening.	Maximum number.	Minimum number.	Number at present.	Remarks.
Adóni	Adóni Municipal works ..	16th Nov. 1896.	588	603	174	547	Can employ not more than 500.
	Adóni-Madhavarum road ..	23rd " "	600	1,886	1,199	1,771	
	Balasaladoddi tank ..	15th " "	925	975	289	448	
Alúr	Halabaihi Moka road ..	15th " "	1,916	2,724	1,916	2,717	Closed on 3rd December 1896.
	Alúr-Chippiri road ..	16th " "	3,418	4,912	3,418	4,841	
	Harivanum-Karavi road ..	20th " "	585	1,344	491	1,344	
Bellary	Bellary-Siruguppa road ..	11th " "	1,463	1,718	691	1,102	Closed on 26th November 1896.
	Bellary-Moka road ..	16th " "	2,326	3,593	182	512	
	Solapuram kunta ..	24th " "	36	161	36	..	
Hospet	Daraji Metri road ..	20th " "	650	724	159	528	Closed on 26th November 1896.
	Narayanadevarkeri tank ..	17th " "	14	228	14	155	
	and channel ..	..	..	..	..	..	
Hadagalli	Devagondanahalli tank ..	2nd Dec. "	58	150	58	150	Closed on 26th November 1896.
	Humpasagaram road ..	25th Nov. "	..	..	..	..	

6. Notes dealing with the history and management of each work are being prepared and will be submitted to the Board. As there has been no material change

for the better in the condition of the people in the taluks of Adóni, Alúr, Bellary and eastern part of Hospet, I think the time has now come for converting the test works into regular famine relief works and applying the Famine Code fully to the affected tract. The works already commenced as test works are well suited for famine labour and will be continued, and when they are finished others will be selected from the programme. A revised list of works included in the programme has been already submitted to the Board with a map.

7. I have travelled more than once through the affected tracts. It is difficult to say whether stocks of grain in these tracts are deficient, all that can be said is that stocks are being held up by owners through fear of a prolonged famine. The stock in villages may run short before long, but no interference on the part of Government will probably be necessary as the country is everywhere easily accessible to traders.

8. The probable number of people requiring relief in each of the taluks under reference is estimated as follows:—

Alúr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000
Adóni	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500
Bellary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000
Hospet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500
Total									20,000

The present unfavourable season will last at least till May next, and I have accordingly framed my estimates for a period of five months. At the rate of 2 annas per day for each relief worker the amount of expenditure for this period will be Rs. 3,75,000. This will cover the cost of kitchens that have to be attached to each large relief work. I do not anticipate that poor houses or village relief will be necessary and therefore make no provision for them.

9. Wells are not a success in this district and the people in the western taluks are reluctant to accept any loans from Government for agricultural purposes. Still applications for fodder and well loans are becoming decidedly more numerous. In the eastern taluks, especially in Alúr, there is a demand for loans chiefly for removal of the nuth grass and purchase of fodder and cattle. The amounts that will have to be advanced to the ryots are approximately as follows:—

	Land Improvement.							Agriculture.	
	RS.							RS.	
Alúr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,000	10,000
Adóni	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,500	5,000
Bellary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000	...
Hospet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	2,000
Hadagalli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	...
Kúdligi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	...
Harpanahalli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	...
Total									27,500 17,000

10. Relief to weavers of Adóni has been going on for some time, and though there has been some decrease in their number, it may go up again should the prices rise as in all probability they will do. The ultimate number requiring relief in Adóni is expected to be 1,500 at an estimated cost of Rs. 11,000 per mensem. The weavers in the western taluks may also require relief very shortly. I doubt if many of these people will accept the Salem rules as what they demand are advances in money which are of course not permissible. I have called for reports on the condition of these weavers and can say nothing more definite at present. As prospects are not unfavourable outside the district, the weaving industry is not likely to be dull for very long and probably relief will be required only for about three months. The amount required for this kind of relief may therefore be roughly estimated at Rs. 43,000.

11. I must here mention that as the hands of District Board Engineering staff are full, I have entrusted the Adóni-Madhavaram road work to the Public Works Department, which will require an allotment of Rs. 37,500 for this work alone.

12. The District Board has suspended all ordinary works in the unaffected tracts and has diverted Rs. 30,325 towards famine relief under section 33 of the Famine Code in addition to the grant of Rs. 50,000 specially granted by Government for the repair of certain roads. Of this sum about Rs. 20,000 have been already spent and, I think, the balance should be given back to the District Board for being spent on ordinary works; otherwise the labouring classes, who were earning their livelihood on Local Fund roads in the unaffected tracts and who are now without employment, will suffer. No funds can be spared from allotments for pounds and minor irrigation works.

13. To sum up, the funds required for the relief in this district are—

	RS.
Amount required for the Public Works Department	50,000 *
To be placed at the Collector's disposal for Local Fund works	3,10,000
Municipal works	15,000
Weavers	43,000
Loans—Land Improvement	27,500
Do. Agricultural	17,000

	RS.
For Adoni-Madhavaram road work	37,500
For Balasaiadoddi tank work in the same taluk	1,725
For Narayanadevarakeri tank work in Hospet taluk	3,500
For other works, that may be found necessary to transfer as to the management of Public Works Department	7,275

14. An application for the appointment of two additional officers of the Divisional Officers' grade was submitted yesterday and proposals for increasing the subordinate staff will follow in a day or two.

Resolution—dated 16th December 1896, No. 437.

Submitted for the information and orders of Government.

2. In the above letter the Collector of Bellary states that he considers that the time has come to convert the test works, opened in his district, into relief works, and applies for establishments and funds.

3. The Government has already, in G.O., No. 713, dated 11th December 1896, ordered all the works to be handed over to the Public Works Department and to be treated as relief works. This arrangement is, the Board would submit, contrary to the principle laid down in sections 109 and 111 of the Famine Code, for most of the relief works in Bellary must be road works, and therefore works in which the Local Boards are concerned, and though the additional establishments are necessary, it appears advisable that the charges on the different works should pass through the Local Fund accounts, and, if the works be carried out by the Public Works Department, this may lead to confusion. The Board does not press the point, but it should, it thinks, be considered.

4. The Collector estimates that, on the average, 20,000 persons will require relief on works until May next. Bearing in mind the numbers† that have come on the works in the last four weeks, and the experience of 1892, the Board doubts whether the estimate is adequate. In January 1892, the average number of relief workers was 5,586, and in June it was 18,010, and in August 5,429. The difficulty of making a forecast is, however, very great, and the Collector's application for Rs. 3,60,000 to be placed at his disposal

† Week ending—

November 21st	...	...	14,954
Do. 28th	...	...	15,249
December 5th	...	...	13,815
Do. 12th	...	...	14,092

for relief works may be accepted as a sufficient provision for the present. In view of the arrangement made in G.O., No. 713, dated 11th December 1896, the funds should, however, be placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department for the execution of works.

5. The Collector has made no separate application for funds for gratuitous relief, which he proposes to confine to the distribution of cooked Food at kitchens. As all these charges are debited to "Famine relief," he will be requested to make a separate application for funds for this purpose. He, however, applies for Rs. 43,000 for the relief of weavers at their own trade, and this must also, under section 138 of the Famine Code, be classed as gratuitous relief.

6. The Collector's application for funds for advances under the Land Improvement Loans and Agriculturists Loans Acts will be dealt with separately, but he will be requested to reconsider his estimates in the light of the experience gained in 1892, when the following sums were advanced:—

	RS.	RS.
Land Improvement Loans—		
For well sinking	1,32,650	
For other improvements	93,213	
		2,25,861
Agriculturists Loans—		
For purchase of fodder	43,920	
For purchase of cattle and seed grain	374	
		44,294
Total loans made		2,70,176

Loans of the former class are especially beneficial, and the attention of the Collector of Bellary, as well as that of the Collectors of the other affected districts, will be drawn to the advisability of encouraging the ryots to take loans for agricultural improvements. In Anantapur only, has anything noticeable as yet been done in this direction.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" Collector of Bellary.
" " of Anantapur.
" " of Cuddapah.
" " of Kurnool.
" " of Vizagapatam.
" " of Ganjam.

READ—the following letter from F. C. HARRISON, Esq., Officiating Accountant-General to the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Fort St. George, 21st January 1897, No. 197:—

Whilst occupied in an attempt to arrive at the probable famine expenditure this year and next, I have the honour to state that I have been given to understand (verbally) by the Board of Revenue and Government that approximately Rs. 3,15,000 this year and Rs. 6,30,000 next year will be spent upon famine relief upon operations which will be conducted under the supervision of the Public Works Department. I am further informed that, under present orders, the procedure now in force is for this money to be drawn by Collectors and disbursed by their subordinates, the professional supervision only being in the hands of the Public Works Department staff. The object of this arrangement is, I believe, to secure a more effective check over the expenditure.

2. The above procedure does not, however, follow the lines laid down in the Civil Account Code and recent orders. When famine work is proceeding under Public Works Department supervision, the proper course is that the grant should be made to

the Public Works Department, the expenditure made by it audited by it and recorded in its books. As the Board of Revenue report that the work for which this Rupees 3,15,000 is estimated is being carried out under Public Works Department supervision, I have, with the assent of Government (verbally requested and accorded), asked the Examiner, Public Works Department, to provide for it in his revised estimates, and I understand he is doing so. In this connection I would respectfully draw the attention of Government to article 467 of the Civil Account Code, clauses 105, 107 (3) and 108. It is, I submit, my duty to "take measures to stop and recover" any payments irregularly made. In the present instance as the instructions are those of Government I refer the matter for very early orders. I would respectfully urge that it is improbable that the Government of India will reconsider the recent orders, the famine in this Presidency being of relatively small dimensions, and in other province having apparently found it necessary to ask for any change of rules.

3. The matter is very urgent, for I have received very stringent orders from the Government of India to act in concert with the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and to see that the expenditure is carefully watched and estimated, nothing being left out or twice provided for. As matters stand, there is a considerable danger of both the present and future expenditure being incorrectly forecasted.

ORDER—No. 57, Revenue, dated 28th January 1897.

Miscellaneous.

No. 668, dated 25th November 1896.
" 678, " 30th "
" 702, " 9th December "
" 713, " 11th "

that the Collector should pay the gangs. It was intended as stated that these orders should apply to all famine-relief works. It is necessary to bear in mind that under section 57 of the Code "relief works" cannot include local fund works, not even test works to which only the provisions as to tasks and wages are applied and to which none of those provisions referred to in paragraph 3 of this order, and which are mostly gratuitous relief, apply.

2. Section 109 of the Famine Code lays down that relief works other than local fund works should be executed in times of famine by the Public Works Department, and that, as a rule, local fund works will be executed under the supervision of the Local Fund Engineer and his staff. In its Proceedings read above the Board of Revenue points out that the orders referred to in paragraph 1 are contrary to the principle laid down in the latter portion of the section. It is necessary, therefore, to explain the orders more fully.

3. In the first place the section lays down only a general rule, which may be departed from when the Government considers such departure to be expedient. In the case under consideration such departure is essential. At the commencement of a famine, ordinary local fund works may be increased, and the manner of their execution modified, so as to afford the greatest possible relief to labourers seeking employment (section 16 of the Famine Code). Such works will at this stage of course be left entirely to the Local Fund Engineer and his staff as stated in section 109. But when ordinary local fund works are turned into relief works, and the special conditions of famine-relief works have to be enforced, when under section 93 all applicants, however, weakly, have to be admitted, when under section 95 all relief workers have to be employed on task work only, without the intervention of contractors and middlemen, when under section 96 they are to be divided into four classes of gangs, only one of which consists of ordinary labourers, when payments to relief workers have to be made in accordance with the rules contained in sections 97—104, a day of rest with the minimum wage being allowed under section 105, and when special bazaars, hospitals, children's kitchens and hutting have to be provided under section 113 and

special arrangements for water-supply, &c., under Appendix VI to the Famine Code, then it is essential that the construction as defined in section 112 of the Code should be placed under the Public Works Department in the interests of the relief workers that the check against fraud which arises from the entire separation of the construction and paying agency should be enforced in the interests of the Boards and in the interests of the Government itself.

The local fund establishments will deal with their ordinary works which are not relief works and which are provided for in the budget as originally prepared or subsequently modified whether in the affected or nonaffected areas and will carry them out in the ordinary way, i.e., as if no famine existed. All local fund establishments, which are not required for such works, should be placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department by the Collector and President.

4. The next point on which the orders have to be made clearer is as to the extent of control to be exercised by the Public Works officers over the famine-relief works. In paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 668, dated 25th November 1896, it has been laid down in accordance with paragraph 23 of Appendix VI to the Famine Code that the Public Works Department should work the gangs and that the Civil Department should pay them.

It follows from the above that the control of the Public Works Department in regard to works extends to execution of works only (*vide* sections 93, 94 and 112 of the Famine Code). It follows also that the expenditure on such famine-relief works will fall to be accounted for in the Civil Department.

5. In the second paper read above the Accountant-General points out that the above procedure is at variance with article 467 of the Civil Account Code, Volume I and with certain orders of the Government of India. The article quoted regulates "Public Works expenditure by Civil officers acting as Public Works disbursers." The expenditure on famine-relief works is not Public Works expenditure, and the Civil officers who make the payments are not Public Works disbursers. The article does not therefore apply. The recent orders of the Government of India are apparently those printed on page 4 of G.O., No. 750, dated 26th December 1896. In these also reference is made to expenditure "incurred under the control and management of officers of the Public Works Department." Further, there is nothing in the Famine Code, which has received the approval of the Government of India requiring that the expenditure on famine-relief works should be disbursed by the Public Works Department.

6. In this connection it is also desirable to draw the attention of the Board and Collectors to the provisions of Chapter XIII of the Famine Code. Expenditure on works may be incurred either in the Public Works Department or in the Civil Department, i.e., by the Collector (section 182). In the former case it must be treated as laid down in sections 185 to 192, and in the latter under sections 182 II (4) and 183.

7. Separate orders will issue on the question of funds for the Bellary district.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement
Land Records and Agriculture).
,, the Financial, Local and Municipal Departments,
with copies of orders on the margin of paragraph 1.
,, the Accountant-General.

Erd. Shaik Karim.

50 Copies.

copy sent to Press.

igned for signature.

ted in print.

AGAIN G.O., No.

189

MENT No.

CLUSTERS TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

TYPE OF GOVERNMENT.

PERMANENT COPY, DITTO.

NOT FILED UP BEING MEANT FOR DEPOSITION
IN ORIGINAL.

F.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.

NUMBER OF COPIES
REQUIRED.

Order complete.

Letter only.

Order complete with Letter.