[$\frac{6}{12}$]—1,000—10-7-97.

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 676

DATED 6th August 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording the — of the Vizagapatam Dt. for the period ending 30th June 1897, with the remarks that Govt. has already issued orders for placing the services of the Salt officers selected for famine duty wholly at the disposal of the Famine Commr. and that it has received the information of the relief given to the poor by Raja Gajapati Rao with great satisfaction.

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: 6443

The Hon: Sir Charles Cox
H. E. the Governor

Pl. 6/9/97

From No. 676 of 6th Aug. 1897. The Board of Revenue, Lett.

Order (Press) 1/9/97. 2/8/97

Recorded

No. 514.

2. Orders have already been issued that officers of the S. and A. Dept selected for famine duty should be placed wholly at the disposal of the Famine Comr. Govt has received the information of the relief given to the poor of Rangoon & appears has with great satisfaction

3/20.7.97.

RS 29-7-97

Dated 20th July 1897.
Received 2-8-97
Registered
Enclosures
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SUBJECT.

Submitting fortnightly narrative of the Rangoon Dist. for the period ending 30th June 1897

To
The Famine Commr
" F. D.
" A-C.
" P. W. D.
" Loan Dept

Circulated 17/8/97

30/6

31/7/97
5/8/97

MSG 29.7

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

SECT. GOVT. MADRAS 29 JUL 97 REV. DEPT.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

Printed July th.

Proceedings, 20th July 1897, No. 514.

JULY.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks,— of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 30th June 1897.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam District during the period ending 30th of June 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

District Rainfall	Actual rainfall in inches.	Expected rainfall in inches.
In the fortnight	2·40	5·12
Up to the fortnight	7·61	11·53

The rainfall has been very bad and much below expectations in most parts of the district. What occurred fell mostly at the beginning of the fortnight, and the last week has been rainless in many places. Trouble about water-supply is recommencing in the Vizagapatam taluk.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Paddy cultivation has not begun except in a very few favoured spots. Dry cultivation is forward, but the holding off of the rain has done much damage to the crops of ragi, cumbu and gingelly, which were otherwise very promising. There will be a fair gingelly crop in many places if it only get some light showers, but much more rain is wanted for recently-sown and transplanted dry grains, and to enable those, which are ready in the seed-beds to be transplanted. The condition of the early standing dry crops is almost everywhere critical and they have withered in not a few places. In Párvatípuram, Bobbili, Chípurupalle, Vizianagram and parts of Palkonda in which I have been during the fortnight, there is what would be a very good gingelly crop if it could only get some rain, but the abnormal heat is baking it up.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder is in some parts not procurable and is everywhere very dear. This is a matter of minor importance if the pasture supply keeps up, but the latter is again failing in Vizagapatam and adjacent taluks, though it is ample in the Northern taluks, which I have inspected during the fortnight.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The state of the country is backward for the time of year. The favourable weather of late may have encouraged early sowings which have suffered much. The position is critical in the extreme. If rain does not come soon there will be something like disaster, but it is not too late for the position to be largely retrieved.

FOOD-SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 30th of June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Párvatipuram	8·61	7·87	12·63	11·59	14·00	..	The rise in prices has been slightly checked, but I am afraid it will now continue for want of rain.
2 Sálúru	8·20	8·20	10·80	11·52	10·50	10·50	
3. Palkonda	8·47	8·24	12·12	11·11	11·88	12 87	
4. Gajapatinagram ..	8·20	8·20	11·10	11·10	10·80	10·80	
5. Chipurupalle	7·79	7·38	11·52	11·04	11·52	11·52	
6. Vizianagram	8·13	8·47	10·60	11·11	..	..	
7. Vizagapatam	7·68	7·34	12·32	12·12	12·37	11·88	
8. Chódavaramu ..	9·00	9·00	15·47	13·65	14·96	..	
9. Anakápalle	8·50	8·50	12·28	12·74	13·20	..	
10. Yellamanchilli ..	9 00	8·50	11·37	10·92	..	..	
11. Narasapatam	9·00	7·50	11·76	11·37	12·96	13·20	
Average ..	8·41	8·10	11·99	11·66	12·46	11·79	

Activity of Trade—

	Exports.	Imports.
	MDS.	MDS.
By sea, for the period ending 26th June 1897	...	4,198
By rail, do. do.	540	45,666
	CARTS.	CARTS.
By road, from Jeypore for the period ending 26th June 1897. ...	...	4,424

Trade is fairly active on the whole. Komatics in remoter places show some inclination to hold up stocks.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally satisfactory according to reports, but I have been busy during the fortnight in seeing as much as possible of the taluks recently affected and organizing relief in them; so I have inspected only the Pendur work.

In villages.—The general population in the villages is well enough. I have examined many villages in detail this fortnight. The lowest classes are feeling the pinch. In the north of the district there are large numbers of "Rellies," a Panchama caste, which lives by trading with the hills in jungle produce, fruit, firewood and such, and this class is very generally distressed. They are a lazy and improvident set, do not work in the fields and seem to be very prolific. Our kitchens are filled with swarms of their children. Circle inspection is now organized over the whole of Vizagapatam and Bimlipatam taluks, nearly all Sringavarapukota, parts of Vizianagram, Chípurupalle, Sarvasiddhi, Sálúru, Bobbili, Párvatípuram and Palkonda. There is distress of some severity among the hillmen of the Palkonda agency. It is impossible to work that country by ordinary means, but I have started a kitchen, grain doles, and an agency road by daily labour, and also distributed nearly Rupees 10,000 for seed-grain from the Charity fund. This should meet their requirements for the present.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera is prevalent almost everywhere in a scattered sort of way.

Remarks.—The state of the district is such as to cause me the most serious anxiety. If this monsoon fails, there will be a calamity, which it will require all our resources to cope with.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Relief Works.			
I. Vizianagram—			
(1) Pusapatirega	4,018	5,009	There was a large increase on all works immediately after the Jubilee holiday, which seems to have impressed the workers immensely. High prices and consequent high wages also contribute to the increase.
II. Bimlipatam—			
(1) Dakmarri	2,642	2,883	
(2) Padmanabham	2,796	4,025	
III. Vizagapatam—			
(1) Gazuvaka	995	1,658	
(2) Pendur	2,046	3,768	
Total ..	12,497	17,343	
Test Relief Work.			
I. Chípurupalle—			
(1) Ranastalam	547	..	Closed, and coolies transferred to Chípurapalle.
Total ..	547	..	
Grand Total ..	13,044	17,343	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwies—

Taluks.	Number relieved.							
	At Kitchens.				In Poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight	This fortnight.
I. Párvatípuram—								
1. Kitchen at Párvatípuram	..	..	357	592	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Duggi	..	..	..	150	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Garugubille	..	..	..	182	..	..	..	..
4. Do at Bandabippi	..	..	..	223	..	..	..	..
II. Bobbili taluk—								
1. Kitchen at Bobbili	..	..	..	419	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Seetanagram	..	..	..	343	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Chintada	..	..	..	187	..	..	..	..
III. Chípurapalli taluk—								
1. Kitchen at Ranastalam	85	..	226	218	..	..	..	..
IV. Vizianagram taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
1. Kitchen at Pusapatirega	114	137	74	93	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Vizianagram	..	..	297	292	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Kota Gandredu	..	..	..	205	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Gantyada	..	..	..	283	..	..	..	..
V. Bimlipatam taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
1. Kitchen at Dakmari	253	301	27	42	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Padmanabbam ..	154	162	144	170	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Bhogapuram	..	..	165	165	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Tallavalasa	..	..	823	412	..	..	..	..
5. Do. at Soutyam	..	..	..	433	..	..	..	..
VI. Sringavarapukota taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	248
1. Kitchen at Tummikapalli ..	..	..	152	190	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Sringavarupukota ..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..
VII. Vizagapatam taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	891
1. Kitchen at Gazuvaka	21	271	211	23	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Pendur	225	388	40	17	..	..	..	..
VIII. Sarvasiddhi taluk—								
1. Kitchen at Kondakerla	..	..	336	515	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Uddandapuram ..	..	..	..	829	..	..	..	..
Total ..	852	1,259	2,352	5,498	..	..	1	1,165
Raja Gajapati Rao's kitchens—								
I. Vizagapatam	..	..	284	332	..	..	..	..
II. Anakapalle	..	..	173	340	..	..	..	..
III. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	716	1,308	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	1,173	1,980	..	..	..	..

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers Relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Palkonda	..	* 1	..	426	..	..

* This is the number of depôts. In future the number of villages in which weavers are working will be given.

Private charity.—The private charities which I have hitherto reported continue to be administered.

Rajah Gajapati Rao has handed over his kitchens to Government from the 1st July. The Rajah's charity has done much good and saved the Government much expense. He has maintained his kitchens for 3 months and has spent about Rs. 8,000. He certainly deserves thanks.

General Remarks.

Prospects have got much worse during the latter half of June, owing to the fact that nothing but hot-weather showers have been received, and nothing in the nature of monsoon rain. I hope it is only delayed. A failure of this monsoon is unprecedented, so far as I know, in this district, and the results will hardly bear contemplation. All officers are working at high pressure. Kitchen and relief circles are being opened everywhere. A new relief work has been opened in the Chípurupalle taluk and another in Bobbili, but the Public Works Department is almost at the end of its resources. I have already asked for assistants to relieve me and the Principal Assistant Collector, and expect I shall have to do the same for the Head Assistant Collector to whose division I go to-night. The Senior Assistant Collector can manage for the present, as his ordinary work is light. Mr. Merriman, the Deputy Commissioner, Salt and Abkári, has been most helpful in lending me Sub-Inspectors of his department for circle inspectors, but even with his help I shall not be able to do without assistance from outside, and I hope some men may be sent to this district from other departments. I will write separately about this.

The weakness of the instruments available to one's hand is a constant source of trouble. Some of the taluk officers are working exceedingly well, but others are absolutely useless in an emergency. I have put Mr. Heaney, Assistant Collector, to do the duties of taluk relief officer of Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks, but I think one taluk is enough for one officer. Similarly, Mr. Irving Brown, Inspector of Bobbili Circle, Salt and Abkári, is doing duties of relief officer of Bobbili and Párvatípuram, but I think Bobbili alone will prove enough for him. I have asked for a special Deputy Tahsildar to enable me to extend weavers' relief, by opening other depôts. I hope I may get this. If I have to go on extending relief as fast as I am doing, I must also have taluk relief officers, and these, with the exception of the salt officers, kindly placed at my disposal in their own circles, I cannot find within the district. Things are moving very fast at present, and all in the wrong direction. We are, however, moving pretty fast too. Within the fortnight, about 15 new kitchens and a weavers' depôt have been started, and 20 circle inspectors appointed, who are all setting to work at once.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	..	3
2. Sarvasiddhi	4	900	3	350	6	2,820	3	800	3	800	16	4,435	7	1,700	6	1,150	22	7,255	..	..
3. Golgonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	625	5	625	13	3,550	5	625	5	625	13	3,550	..	..
4. Srungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	400	2	400	2	100	2	400	2	400	2	100	..	..
5. Pârvatipuram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2,300	..	..	..	..	4	2,300	..	..
Total ..	4	900	3	350	6	2,820	17	2,825	17	2,825	46	12,455	21	3,725	20	3,175	52	15,275	..	3

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.						
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39		
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	(a) 15	540	(a) 15	540	..	..	11,781	252	11,781	242	18,590	252	11,781	252	11,781	242	18,590		
2. Sarvasiddhi	2	112	2	112	2	110	3	135	10,112	279	43,942	189	10,399	137	10,224	281	44,052		
3. Golgonda	(b) 862	16,308	862	16,308	(b) 371	10,293	(b) 862	862	20,270	(b) 371	14,211	(b) 862	36,678	862	36,678	(b) 371	24,504		
4. Srungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
5. Pârvatipuram ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Total ..	879	16,960	879	16,960	373	10,403	1,251	1,249	42,163	892	76,743	1,253	58,758	1,251	58,683	894	87,146		

(a) These applications are included in the figure shown in column 28. (b) In all those cases, fodder, seed-grain and cattle were applied for in one and the same application.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluks and Places visited.

Principal Assistant Collector—

Vizianagram taluk ... Gantyada (started kitchen).
Kota Gandredu (kitchen).
Vizianagram (kitchen).

Chípurupallo taluk ... Chípurupalle.

Palkonda taluk ... Rajam (started weavers' depôt and kitchen).
Palkonda (kitchen).
Viraghattam (kitchen and circle).
Boddam and Kancharam (inspected weavers).
Sitampeta agency (started kitchen and road work and distributed seed-grain, money).
Donavayi agency (grain doles; also other villages).

Senior Assistant Collector—

Párvatípuram taluk ... Duggi (kitchen).
Parasurampuram.
Kottavalasa.
Narsipuram.

Bobbili taluk ... Seetanagram (kitchen and circle).
Gutchimi.
Appayapeta.
Autipeta.
Latsayapeta.
Chinna Bhogili.
Jagannadhapuram.
Komatipalli.
Kaluru.
Chintada (kitchen).
Mittavalasa.

Sálúru taluk ... ... Ramabhadrapur (kitchen).

Head Assistant Collector—

Sarvasiddhi taluk ... Yellamanchili (kitchen).
Kottali.
Janguluru.

Anakápalle taluk ... Narsingabilli.
Tallapalam.
Kasimkota.
Sabbovaram, and 12 other villages.

Viravilli taluk ... ... Chodavaram and 16 villages.
Koduru and 7 villages.

Huzur Deputy Collector—

Most of Vizagapatam and Srungavarapukota taluks.

Collector—

Vizagapatam taluk ... Pendurti (work and kitchen).
Bimlipatam taluk ... Soutyam (kitchen and circle).
Chípurupalle taluk ... Chípurupalle.

Palkonda taluk ... Rajam (weavers and kitchen) and several villages in the neighbourhood.
Viraghattam (kitchen and circle).
Palkonda and several villages between Viraghattam and Palkonda.

Sálúru taluk ... ... Ramabhadrapur (kitchen).

Bobbili taluk ... ... Bobbili (kitchen and circle).
Chintada (kitchen).
Seetanagram (kitchen and circle), and other villages.

Párvatípuram taluk ... { Párvatípuram (kitchen and circle). Duggi (kitchen) and other villages.

RESOLUTION—dated 20th July 1897, No. 514.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight under report was less than half the average, while the fall up to date, from April 1st, is deficient by 25 per cent. What rain there was, fell at the commencement of the fortnight; since then, there has been a cessation. The early crops were consequently suffering. The Collector says, "If rain does not come soon, there will be something like disaster, but it is not too late for the position to be largely retrieved." Since the submission of the report rain has fallen, giving an average of rather over an inch for the whole District. The fall was good and general in Yellamanchili but deficient in Vizagapatam and the neighbourhood.

It is feared that many of the early sowings must be lost by this time. The supply of water is again running short in the Vizagapatam taluk and neighbourhood, and pasture is again failing in the same area.

3. Prices rose again, and ragi, the staple of the district, has touched the price of 1878.

The relative position of prices is recorded hereunder:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity	9·0	14·0	15·0
Current	18·1	11·7	11·8
June 1892	10·1	15·8	16·5
„ 1878	7·2	11·7	12·3

Trade was fairly active, and a large amount of grain was imported.

4. The condition of the people is said to have been generally fair. The numbers on relief-works increased by nearly 33 per cent., while those on gratuitous relief increased by 144 per cent. The Collector's remark about the closure of the Ranastalam work, and the transfer of the coolies to Chípurupalle is not clear, as there is no mention of the latter among the relief works. He has also mistaken the object of the column "Number of villages in which relief was given"; it should give information as to the number of villages in which persons have been gratuitously relieved. The position is very critical, and a large influx, both to works and gratuitous relief, is to be anticipated if the rain continues to hold off. Two Special Assistants have been posted to the district in the Gazette of June 13th, and the Collector's application for a Special Assistant to relieve the Head Assistant Collector was recommended to Government in B.P., dated 10th July 1897, Mis. No. 5198; the Salt and Abkári Department has placed the services of four of its inspectors at the disposal of the Collector for taluk relief work, in addition to their ordinary duties. The Famine Commissioner is inclined to think that it will be necessary to relieve the four inspectors of their ordinary work. He takes this opportunity of placing on record his appreciation of the manner in which all officers of the Salt and Abkári Department from the Commissioner downwards have shown their readiness to give the Collector all the help in their power.

Sanctioned in P. 5555 12-7-97.

5. The Famine Commissioner also desires to bring to the notice of Government the liberality of Raja Gajapati Rao, who has maintained three kitchens feeding large numbers during the past three months. This gentleman is, however, one of many whose names will have to be submitted to Government at the close of operations, as having distinguished themselves by charitable efforts.

6. The following figures show the progress of loans work:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount. RS.
June 5th	44,940
„ 12th	48,690
„ 19th	52,633
„ 26th	61,543

Progress is not as fast as it might be. Applications for loans for the purchase of fodder, cattle and seed-grain are considerable, and should be disposed of promptly.

7. The prospect is decidedly gloomy and gives cause for painful anxiety. As the Collector says, "If this monsoon fails, there will be a calamity which it will require all our forces to cope with."

(True and copy Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

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

Sanctioned by Com. with P. 3766 13-7-97. 757

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.	} 1897.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O., No. 676, 6th August 1897.

AUGUST.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording the — of the Vizagapatam district for the period ending 30th June 1897, with the remarks, that Government has already issued orders for placing the services of the Salt officers selected for famine duty wholly at the disposal of the Famine Commissioner and that it has received the information of the relief given to the poor by Raja Gajapati Rao with great satisfaction.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 20th July 1897, No. 514:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Vizagapatam District during the period ending 30th of June 1897:—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply—

District Rainfall	Actual rainfall in inches.	Expected rainfall in inches.
In the fortnight	2·40	5·12
Up to the fortnight	7·61	11·53

The rainfall has been very bad and much below expectations in most parts of the district. What occurred fell mostly at the beginning of the fortnight, and the last week has been rainless in many places. Trouble about water-supply is recommencing in the Vizagapatam taluk.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—Paddy cultivation has not begun except in a very few favoured spots. Dry cultivation is forward, but the holding off of the rain has done much damage to the crops of ragi, cumbu and gingelly, which were otherwise very promising. There will be a fair gingelly crop in many places if it only get some light showers, but much more rain is wanted for recently-sown and transplanted dry grains, and to enable those, which are ready in the seed-beds to be transplanted. The condition of the early standing dry crops is almost everywhere critical and they have withered in not a few places. In Párvatípuram, Bobbili, Chípurupalle, Vizianagram and parts of Palkonda in which I have been during the fortnight, there is what would be a very good gingelly crop if it could only get some rain, but the abnormal heat is baking it up.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—Fodder is in some parts not procurable and is everywhere very dear. This is a matter of minor importance if the pasture supply keeps up, but the latter is again failing in Vizagapatam and adjacent taluks, though it is ample in the Northern taluks, which I have inspected during the fortnight.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The state of the country is backward for the time of year. The favourable weather of late may have encouraged early sowings which have suffered much. The position is critical in the extreme. If rain does not come soon there will be something like disaster, but it is not too late for the position to be largely retrieved.

Food-supplies and the state of the Markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 30th of June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		Cumbu.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
1. Párvatipuram	8·61	7·87	12·63	11·59	14·00	..	The rise in prices has been slightly checked, but I am afraid it will now continue for want of rain.
2. Sálúru	8·20	8·20	10·80	11·52	10·50	10·50	
3. Palkonda	8·47	8·24	12·12	11·11	11·88	12 87	
4. Gajapatinagram ..	8·20	8·20	11·10	11·10	10·80	10·80	
5. Chipurupalle	7·79	7·38	11·52	11·04	11·52	11·52	
6. Vizianagram	8·13	8·47	10·60	11·11	..	..	
7. Vizagapatam	7·68	7·34	12·32	12·12	12·37	11·88	
8. Chódavaramu ..	9·00	9·00	15·47	13·65	14·96	..	
9. Anakápalle	8·50	8·50	12·28	12·74	13·20	..	
10. Yellamanchilli ..	9·00	8·50	11·37	10·92	..	..	
11. Narasapatam	9·00	7·50	11·76	11·87	12·96	13·20	
Average ..	8·41	8·10	11·99	11·66	12·46	11·79	

Activity of Trade—

	Exports. MDS.	Imports. MDS.
By sea, for the period ending 26th June 1897	...	4,198
By rail, do. do.	540	45,666
	CARTS.	CARTS.
By road, from Jeypore for the period ending 26th June 1897. ...		4,424

Trade is fairly active on the whole. Komaties in remoter places show some inclination to hold up stocks.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally satisfactory according to reports, but I have been busy during the fortnight in seeing as much as possible of the taluks recently affected and organizing relief in them; so I have inspected only the Pendur work.

In villages.—The general population in the villages is well enough. I have examined many villages in detail this fortnight. The lowest classes are feeling the pinch. In the north of the district there are large numbers of "Rellies," a Panchama caste, which lives by trading with the hills in jungle produce, fruit, firewood and such, and this class is very generally distressed. They are a lazy and improvident set, do not work in the fields and seem to be very prolific. Our kitchens are filled with swarms of their children. Circle inspection is now organized over the whole of Vizagapatam and Bimlipatam taluks, nearly all Sringavarapukota, parts of Vizianagram, Chípurupalle, Sarvasiddhi, Sálúru, Bobbili, Párvatípuram and Palkonda. There is distress of some severity among the hillmen of the Palkonda agency. It is impossible to work that country by ordinary means, but I have started a kitchen, grain doles, and an agency road by daily labour, and also distributed nearly Rupees 10,000 for seed-grain from the Charity fund. This should meet their requirements for the present.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera is prevalent almost everywhere in a scattered sort of way.

Remarks.—The state of the district is such as to cause me the most serious anxiety. If this monsoon fails, there will be a calamity, which it will require all our resources to cope with.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Relief Works.			
I. Vizianagram—			
(1) Pusapatirega	4,018	5,009	There was a large increase on all works immediately after the Jubilee holiday, which seems to have impressed the workers immensely. High prices and consequent high wages also contribute to the increase.
II. Bimlipatam—			
(1) Dakmarri	2,642	2,883	
(2) Padmanabham	2,796	4,025	
III. Vizagapatam—			
(1) Gazuvaka	995	1,658	
(2) Pendur	2,046	3,768	
Total ..	12,497	17,343	
Test Relief Work.			
I. Chípurupalle—			
(1) Banastalam	547	..	Closed, and coolies transferred to Chípurapalle.
Total ..	547	..	
Grand Total ..	13,044	17,343	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwies—

Taluks.	Number relieved.							
	At Kitchens.				In Poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
I. Párvatípuram—								
1. Kitchen at Párvatípuram	..	..	357	592	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Duggi	..	..	..	150	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Garugubille	..	..	..	182	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Bandabippi	..	..	..	223	..	..	..	..
II. Bobbili taluk—								
1. Kitchen at Bobbili	..	..	..	419	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Seetanagram	..	..	..	343	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Chintada	..	..	..	187	..	..	..	..
III. Chípurapalli taluk—								
1. Kitchen at Banastalam	85	..	226	218	..	..	..	..
IV. Vizianagram taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
1. Kitchen at Pusapatirega	114	137	74	93	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Vizianagram	..	..	297	292	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Kota Gandredu	..	..	..	205	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Gantyada	..	..	..	283	..	..	..	..
V. Bimlipatam taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
1. Kitchen at Dakmari	253	301	27	42	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Padmanabbam ..	154	162	144	170	..	..	..	..
3. Do. at Bhogapuram	..	..	165	165	..	..	..	..
4. Do. at Tallavalasa	..	..	323	412	..	..	..	..
5. Do. at Soutyam	..	..	..	433	..	..	..	..
VI. Sringavarapukota taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	248
1. Kitchen at Tummikapalli ..	..	..	152	190	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Sringavarupukota ..	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..
VII. Vizagapatam taluk—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	891
1. Kitchen at Gazuvaka	21	271	211	23	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Pendur	225	388	40	17	..	..	..	..
VIII. Sarvasiddhi taluk—								
1. Kitchen at Kondakerla	..	..	336	515	..	..	..	..
2. Do. at Uddandapuram ..	..	..	..	329	..	..	..	..
Total ..	852	1,259	2,352	5,498	..	..	1	1,165
Raja Gajapati Rao's kitchens—								
I. Vizagapatam	..	..	284	332	..	..	..	..
II. Anakapalle	..	..	173	340	..	..	..	..
III. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	716	1,308	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	1,173	1,980	..	..	..	..

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Weavers Relief.			
			Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Palkonda	..	* 1	..	426	...	..

* This is the number of depôts. In future the number of villages in which weavers are working will be given.

Private charity.—The private charities which I have hitherto reported continue to be administered.

Rajah Gajapati Rao has handed over his kitchens to Government from the 1st July. The Rajah's charity has done much good and saved the Government much expense. He has maintained his kitchens for 3 months and has spent about Rs. 8,000. He certainly deserves thanks.

General Remarks.

Prospects have got much worse during the latter half of June, owing to the fact that nothing but hot-weather showers have been received, and nothing in the nature of monsoon rain. I hope it is only delayed. A failure of this monsoon is unprecedented, so far as I know, in this district, and the results will hardly bear contemplation. All officers are working at high pressure. Kitchen and relief circles are being opened everywhere. A new relief work has been opened in the Chípurupalle taluk and another in Bobbili, but the Public Works Department is almost at the end of its resources. I have already asked for assistants to relieve me and the Principal Assistant Collector, and expect I shall have to do the same for the Head Assistant Collector to whose division I go to-night. The Senior Assistant Collector can manage for the present, as his ordinary work is light. Mr. Merriman, the Deputy Commissioner, Salt and Abkári, has been most helpful in lending me Sub-Inspectors of his department for circle inspectors, but even with his help I shall not be able to do without assistance from outside, and I hope some men may be sent to this district from other departments. I will write separately about this.

The weakness of the instruments available to one's hand is a constant source of trouble. Some of the taluk officers are working exceedingly well, but others are absolutely useless in an emergency. I have put Mr. Heaney, Assistant Collector, to do the duties of taluk relief officer of Bimlipatam and Vizianagram taluks, but I think one taluk is enough for one officer. Similarly, Mr. Irving Brown, Inspector of Bobbili Circle, Salt and Abkári, is doing duties of relief officer of Bobbili and Párvatípuram, but I think Bobbili alone will prove enough for him. I have asked for a special Deputy Tahsildar to enable me to extend weavers' relief, by opening other depôts. I hope I may get this. If I have to go on extending relief as fast as I am doing, I must also have taluk relief officers, and these, with the exception of the salt officers, kindly placed at my disposal in their own circles, I cannot find within the district. Things are moving very fast at present, and all in the wrong direction. We are, however, moving pretty fast too. Within the fortnight, about 15 new kitchens and a weavers' depôt have been started, and 20 circle inspectors appointed, who are all setting to work at once.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Other purposes.						Repair and construction of wells.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	900	3	350	6	2,820	7	1,000	7	1,000	11	2,070	..	3
2. Sarvasiddhi	..	..	..	..	6	2,820	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	800	3	800	22	7,255	..	..
3. Golgonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	625	5	625	13	3,550	..	..
4. Srungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	400	2	400	2	100	..	..
5. Párvatipuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2,300	..	..
Total ..							4	900	3	350	6	2,820	17	2,825	17	2,825	52	15,275	..	3

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Purchase of fodder.						Total.							
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	22	23	30	31	32	33	24	25	26	27	28	29	34	35	36	37	38	39		
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
1. Palkonda	(a) 15	540	(a) 15	540	242	18,590	..	..	.. 2	..	252	11,781	252	11,781	252	11,781	242	18,590		
2. Sarvasiddhi	2	112	2	112	279	43,942	139	10,399	137	110	137	10,257	139	10,399	137	10,224	281	44,052		
3. Golgonda	(b) 862	16,303	862	16,303	(b) 871	14,211	(b) 862	36,678	(b) 862	10,293	(b) 862	20,270	(b) 862	36,678	862	36,678	(b) 871	24,504		
4. Srungavarapukota ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
5. Párvatipuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Total ..	879	16,960	879	16,960	892	76,743	879	16,960	873	10,403	1,251	42,338	1,253	58,758	1,251	58,553	894	87,146		

(a) These applications are included in the figure shown in column 23. (b) In all these cases, fodder, seed-grain and cattle were applied for in one and the same application.

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and Places visited.

Principal Assistant Collector—

Vizianagram taluk ... Gantyada (started kitchen).
Kota Gandredu (kitchen).
Vizianagram (kitchen).

Chipurupallo taluk ... Chipurupallo.

Palkonda taluk ... Rajam (started weavers' depôt and kitchen).
Palkonda (kitchen).
Viraghattam (kitchen and circle).
Boddam and Kancharam (inspected weavers).
Sitampeta agency (started kitchen and road work and distributed seed-grain, money).
Donavayi agency (grain doles; also other villages).

Senior Assistant Collector—

Párvatipuram taluk ... Duggi (kitchen).
Parasurampuram.
Kottavalasa.
Narsipuram.

Bobbili taluk ... .. Seetanagram (kitchen and circle).
Gutchimi.
Appayapeta.
Autipeta.
Latsayapeta.
Chinna Bhogili.
Jagannadhapuram.
Komatipalli.
Kaluru.
Chintada (kitchen).
Mittavalasa.

Sálúru taluk ... ... Ramabhadrapur (kitchen).

Head Assistant Collector—

Sarvasiddhi taluk ... Yellamanchili (kitchen).
Kottali.
Janguluru.

Anakápalle taluk ... Narsingabilli.
Tallapalam.
Kasimkota.
Sabbovaram, and 12 other villages.

Viravilli taluk ... ... Chodavaram and 16 villages.
Koduru and 7 villages.

Huzur Deputy Collector—

Most of Vizagapatam and Srungavarapukota taluks.

Collector—

Vizagapatam taluk ... Pondurti (work and kitchen).
Bimlipatam taluk ... Soutyam (kitchen and circle).
Chipurupalle taluk ... Chipurupalle.

Palkonda taluk ... Rajam (weavers and kitchen) and several villages in the neighbourhood.
Viraghattam (kitchen and circle).
Palkonda and several villages between Viraghattam and Palkonda.

Sálúru taluk ... ... Ramabhadrapur (kitchen).

Bobbili taluk ... ... Bobbili (kitchen and circle).
Chintada (kitchen).
Seetanagram (kitchen and circle), and other villages.

Párvatípuram taluk ... { Párvatípuram (kitchen and circle). Duggi (kitchen) and other villages.

Resolution—dated 20th July 1897, No. 514.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight under report was less than half the average, while the fall up to date, from April 1st, is deficient by 25 per cent. What rain there was, fell at the commencement of the fortnight; since then, there has been a cessation. The early crops were consequently suffering. The Collector says, "If rain does not come soon, there will be something like disaster, but it is not too late for the position to be largely retrieved." Since the submission of the report rain has fallen, giving an average of rather over an inch for the whole District. The fall was good and general in Yellamanchili but deficient in Vizagapatam and the neighbourhood.

It is feared that many of the early sowings must be lost by this time. The supply of water is again running short in the Vizagapatam taluk and neighbourhood, and pasture is again failing in the same area.

3. Prices rose again, and ragi, the staple of the district, has touched the price of 1878.

The relative position of prices is recorded hereunder:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Normal	15·0	28·0	30·0
Warning	12·0	21·0	22·5
Scarcity	9·0	14 0	15·0
Current	8·1	11·7	11·8
June 1892	10·1	15·8	15·5
„ 1878	7·2	11·7	12·3

Trade was fairly active, and a large amount of grain was imported.

4. The condition of the people is said to have been generally fair. The numbers on relief works increased by nearly 33 per cent., while those on gratuitous relief increased by 144 per cent. The Collector's remark about the closure of the Ranastalam work, and the transfer of the coolies to Chípurupalle is not clear, as there is no mention of the latter among the relief works. He has also mistaken the object of the column "Number of villages in which relief was given"; it should give information as to the number of villages in which persons have been gratuitously relieved. The position is very critical, and a large influx, both to works and gratuitous relief, is to be anticipated if the rain continues to hold off. Two Special Assistants have been posted to the district in the Gazette of June 15th, and the Collector's application for a Special Assistant to relieve the Head Assistant Collector was recommended to Government in B.P., dated 10th July 1897, Mis. No. 5198; the Salt and Abkári Department has placed the services of four of its inspectors at the disposal of the Collector for taluk relief work, in addition to their ordinary duties. The Famine Commissioner is inclined to think that it will be necessary to relieve the four inspectors of their ordinary work. He takes this opportunity of placing on record his appreciation of the manner in which all officers of the Salt and Abkári Department from the Commissioner downwards have shown their readiness to give the Collector all the help in their power.

5. The Famine Commissioner also desires to bring to the notice of Government the liberality of Raja Gajapati Rao, who has maintained three kitchens feeding large numbers during the past three months. This gentleman is, however, one of many whose names will have to be submitted to Government at the close of operations, as having distinguished themselves by charitable efforts.

6. The following figures show the progress of loans work:—

Up to end of week ending	Amount. RS.
June 5th	44,940
„ 12th	48,690
„ 19th	52,633
„ 26th	61,543

Progress is not as fast as it might be. Applications for loans for the purchase of fodder, cattle and seed-grain are considerable, and should be disposed of promptly.

7. The prospect is decidedly gloomy and gives cause for painful anxiety. As the Collector says, "If this monsoon fails, there will be a calamity which it will require all our forces to cope with."

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

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

Order—No. 676, Revenue, dated 6th August 1897.

Recorded.

Miscellaneous.

2. Orders have already been issued that the services of officers of the Salt and Abkári Department selected for famine duty should be placed wholly at the disposal of the Famine Commissioner.

3. Government has received the information of the relief given to the poor by Raja Gajapati Rao with great satisfaction.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.

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