

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 879

Dated 21st October

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording P. P. submitting for the
renewal of the Bellary Dt for the
ending 15th Sept. 1897.

RAUP PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

7-09734/97

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18 4,000-19-7-97.

Revenue (1897) Department

CURRENT No. 8785

The Hon Mr Lysons C.T. &

From

The Board of Revenue
Seth

made Order 118798/21st Oct. 1897.
28
16/10/97

Recorded

No. 648

11/10/97

Dated 5th Oct. 1897

Received 12-10-97

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Enclosures

Spare copies.

The Finance Comm
The F W Dept
The L & M Dept
The F and Dept
The Acct & Genl

rd
12-10-97

11-11-97

SUBJECT.

Fortnightly narrative

Subing. —
of the Bellary St for the
period ending 15.9.97.

15/10/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

Printed October th.

Proceedings, No. 648, 5th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Fortnightly narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th September 1897.

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

W. J. H. LEFANU, Esq.,
(Famine Commissioner.)

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th September 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply.—

Station.	In the fortnight.	From 1st April up to the end of the fortnight.	Average of 3 years excluding 1896.	
			In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.
Yemmiganuru	7.38	18.29	2.63	14.98
Adóni	4.66	13.26	2.71	17.87
Alur	4.54	16.95	1.81	16.32
Siruguppa	3.29	15.56	3.12	18.14
Kampli	8.93	21.87	1.52	14.07
Bellary	5.09	10.41	1.96	13.35
Rayadrug	5.34	16.93	3.08	9.92
Hospet	6.47	26.31	1.15	19.67
Kúdligi	4.27	24.68	2.38	20.34
Harpanahalli	2.94	15.22	0.40	14.57
Hadagalli	2.35	13.59	0.73	10.77
Sandúr	10.05	23.25	..	..

The rainfall during the fortnight was copious and general throughout the district. The quantity registered during the fortnight is far in excess of the average of the previous three years excluding 1896, though the total up to the end of the fortnight is short of the average in Adóni, Siruguppa and Bellary. The rain has been most seasonable, and the sowing of cotton and korra has been going on briskly in all the black cotton lands. It has also revived the wilting mungari crops; and cholam which appeared to be hopeless has come on again in a wonderful manner. The water-supply for drinking and irrigation purposes is generally sufficient for the present. The Adóni Municipality, for the first time for many months, allowed the water from the reservoir to flow into the pipes during the whole day. The Daroji tank in the Hospet taluk, the largest in the district, is full, and has only just been saved from breaching. Almost all the tanks have received a good supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—*Adóni taluk.*—On the black cotton soils, the cotton is being rapidly put in. Weeding is also in progress, and the demand for labour, especially that of women coolies, is on the increase. The condition of the mungari crop has improved immensely, and the withered cholam in the Adóni firka has recovered in the most marvellous way. Korra has not recovered so well as the cholam, but the area covered by it is very limited. Everywhere except near Adóni, the mungari is expected to yield from a full to bumper crop. *Alúr taluk.*—Cotton and korra are being sown in black soils. The standing Mungari crops have been much improved by the recent rains. *Bellary division.*—The early crops, which were wilting, have revived. Garden crops are in good condition. Cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, cumbu, mixed crops and horse-gram in red and mixed soils, ragi and cholam under wells, and paddy under tanks and channels. *Hospet division.*—Dry crops under some private wells in Hospet are being harvested with a middling outturn. Castor seeds are being picked in parts of Kúdligi. Cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, and horsegram in other soils. Early crops, reported to have been wilting, have revived. Even in Antapur valley, the most affected tract of the Hospet taluk, an 8-anna crop is expected. Dry, wet and garden crops are all thriving. The gingelly crop in Harpanahalli, however, has suffered from a blight called Karijigi. Gingelly has also suffered in Hadagalli for want of rain. Cholam is just coming into ear in Harpanahalli, and cholam, korra and cumbu in Kúdligi.

Sandúr State.—Sowing and weeding were held in abeyance on account of the continued rain. The condition of the standing crops is greatly improved.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—*Adóni taluk.*—Fodder is still scarce and dear. Good green grass is available everywhere. The price of bullocks has increased, Rs. 40 being asked for animals of fair quality on the last market day at Adóni. *Alúr taluk.*—Fodder is very scarce. Pasture is available in small quantities at present, but in a fortnight's time there will be plenty. The demand for fodder at the Charitable Fund depôts has slackened, partly owing to the heavy rainfall, which has rendered the black soils so wet that the ryots cannot get carts across them, and partly owing to grass and pasture being available. The condition of the cattle is improving. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is now available to some extent, and, in about a week or so, it will be ample. Fodder is scanty. Paddy straw is imported into the Bellary taluk from Hospet, Kampli and Anegondi. The condition of the cattle is improving. *Hospet division.*—Pasture is generally available, though still scanty in villages where the rain was received late. In a fortnight, it will be plentiful everywhere. The fodder supply is limited owing to large exports of paddy straw from the riverside villages in Hospet to Bellary and the Nizam's territory. The condition of the cattle is improving.

Sandúr State.—No fodder. Pasture is plentiful. It is becoming available even in the plains. The condition of the cattle has considerably improved. Foot and mouth disease prevails amongst the cattle, but the deaths are very few.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall has been all that could be desired. It threatened at one time to be excessive, but the clouds suddenly disappeared, and we have had excellent growing weather. Rain fell again on the 16th, and a little more will be welcome towards the end of the month, but for the present we have had all we wanted.

Loans for relief of distress and the purchase of seed-grain, and grants from the Famine Fund are enabling even the poorest ryots to sow their lands, and we shall, probably, have a great breadth of cultivation this year. Here and there I have heard of men being employed to drag the seed drills, but Mr. Rama Row assures me that this is due to an abnormal desire to get the seed in at once, not to a great scarcity of cattle. Thanks to the Government loans, the grants made for the purchase of fodder by the District Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and the fodder depôts established by the Madras Committee at Guntakal, Kuditini, Aspari, Nancherla and Kosigi; there has been very little cattle mortality.

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 15th of September 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	7-56	8-10	8-50	9-79	9-79	11-07	12-61	14-55	Prices have generally fallen. Since the close of the fortnight, there has been a considerable fall in prices in Alor, where yellow cholam now sells at 14-42 Imperial seers for a rupee, and ragi at 15-52 seers.
Alór	7-02	7-02	8-50	8-24	9-79	10-30	12-61	11-64	
Bellary	7-56	7-56	8-24	9-27	..	12-36	12-61	13-58	
Hospet	8-10	8-64	..	11-33	9-79	11-33	11-64	13-10	
Kudligi	7-56	7-56	..	..	9-79	11-07	11-64	13-58	
Harpanahalli	7-56	7-56	..	..	11-33	11-85	13-10	13-58	
Hadagalli	7-56	7-56	..	..	10-30	11-33	12-61	13-58	
Sandur	7-56	8-10	..	..	9-79	12-88	12-13	13-58	
Average	7-56	7-74	8-63	9-99	10-11	11-62	12-45	13-42	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active. There has been a net import by rail of 56,852 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 45,311 maunds during the previous fortnight.

On account of the fall in prices in Adóni, the export to Northern India has again begun.

The Divisional-officer, Bellary, reports that the ryots have opened their grain pits, and I found the same hopeful sign in the Alór taluk.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Generally good. I always make it a point to examine the Mala and Madiga houses when I visit a village, and Divisional-officers and Tahsildars do the same, and I have seldom found any signs of privation, though there has been a good deal of fever. The mortality in July was high, and inquiries are being made in a few typical villages in Alór and Adóni. Fever, measles, cholera and choleraic diarrhoea account for a good many of the deaths, and there is no doubt that the season has been a very unhealthy one. The absence of rain, and the undue prolongation of the period of high winds, are believed by the people themselves to be the cause of the unusual amount of sickness.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera still prevails in parts of Adóni, Alór and Bellary. The number of attacks and deaths during the last week is noted below :—

	Attacks.	Deaths.
Adóni	307	151
Alór	132	54
Bellary	53	29

All possible steps are being taken to check the spread of the disease, but it exists in a large number of villages, and it is very difficult to deal with all.

There were five attacks from small-pox in Harpanahalli, eleven in Hadagalli, and nine in Sandur. None of them proved fatal.

Remarks.—Surgeon-Major-General Sibthorpe examined the inmates of the Bellary and Moka kitchens, and the workers on the Bellary-Moka relief work during the fortnight. Of the 92 Mala and Madiga children in the Brucepetta kitchen, he found 85 in good condition, six thin and one emaciated. Eight of these children have "scorbutic gums." The other 101 children were examined only with a view to ascertain whether any of them were emaciated. None were found in that condition. Ten nursing mothers were examined; nine were found in good condition, and one was classed as thin. At Cowle Bazaar kitchen, 87 Malas and Madigas were examined in

detail; 85 of them were found to be in good condition, while the other two were thin. The seven nursing mothers were all classed as good. At Moka kitchen, all the children were found to be in good condition. Of the relief workers, all the men and all the nursing mothers, 95·71 per cent. of the other women, and 93·75 per cent. of the children were classed as good; the remainder of the other women and children were put down as thin. I do not think better results would be obtained among the labouring population in any time or any country; indeed, it would be surprising, if this proportion of thin persons were not found among a group of well-to-do people, European or Indian. The babies with the nursing mothers were not so satisfactory; 83·87 per cent. were in good condition, 12·90 per cent. were thin, and 3·23 per cent. were emaciated. The emaciation, however, was not due to famine, for, as already stated, all the nursing mothers were in good condition. There was no sign of scurvy on this work, and only 1·43 per cent. were anæmic—a remarkably small proportion when the relative number of women and young girls is taken into consideration.

There was a slight decrease in the number of weavers in receipt of relief. The recent orders of Government will cause a further fall under this head.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluka.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	42,371	21,278	The numbers are rapidly falling, and this is mainly due to a demand for labour for agricultural operations. The fall has been greater among men than women. Last fortnight the proportion of the sexes was 1,770 women to 1,000 men; this fortnight it is 2,030 to 1,000. In the population, as a whole, the proportion is 961 females to 1,000 males. The Madhavaram section of the Adóni-Madhavaram road, the Chinnakotur section of the Alór-Aspari road, the Herchalur road, and the Gowripur-Kudligi road work have been closed during the fortnight, as it was found possible to give employment to the workers on other works near at hand. On the 15th instant the workers on the Devagondanahalli work struck on being required to do the task of the task-table. I have since closed the work and called for an explanation as to why full tasks were not set before. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work also, there was a partial strike because the metal-breaking gangs were put to dig side channels; but I had arranged to close this work before I heard of the strike.
Alór	53,554	40,060	
Bellary	26,771	17,556	
Hospet	12,690	8,071	
Kudligi	2,021	1,450	
Hadagalli	12,334	8,235	
Total	149,741	96,650	
Sandur	1,369	901	

called for an explanation as to why full tasks were not set before. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work also, there was a partial strike because the metal-breaking gangs were put to dig side channels; but I had arranged to close this work before I heard of the strike.

Central kitchens were opened at Kampli and Vaddahatti where the numbers in receipt of grain-doles are large. It is in the end much cheaper to give cooked food than to give grain-doles, for people will continue to accept grain long after they will cease to go to a kitchen.

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluku.	Number relieved					
	At kitchens.				In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.			
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
A4óni	1,690	1,369	1,499	1,406	3,683	3,568
Alur	2,734	2,560	350	408	2,952	2,907
Bellary	1,043	807	1,032	989	5,284	4,954
Rayadrug	144	118	..	..	22	22
Hospet	617	738	271	445	3,383	3,211
Kúdligi	49	41	10	11	282	399
Hadagaki	303	252	38	35	1,623	909
Total	6,580	5,885	3,200	3,294	17,234	15,970
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	166	140

Taluku.	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.
Adóni	186	180	4,750	4,698	2,450	43,326
Alur	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	147	149	1,305	1,329	655	3,662
Rayadrug	10	10	2,477	2,465	1,959	4,825
Hospet	60	67	..	..	..	..
Kúdligi	55	54	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	33	34	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	9	8	..	..	..	..

* Yemmiganuru figures not received.

Private charity.—Grants for the purchase of cattle and seed-grain are being made from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and fodder is still being sold at Kosgi, Adóni and Aspari, and also at Guntakal.

General Remarks.—Up to the end of August, the area cultivated was below the average being 763,000 acres against 807,000. The deficiency occurs in all taluks except Kudligi, Hadagalli and Harpanahalli, where there was a considerable increase. A very large area, however, has been sown since the August accounts were closed, and I anticipate an appreciable increase in the total breadth of cultivation.

The fall in numbers on relief works still continues, and the latest figures now available show a further decline of 18,000 on works, since the last season report was despatched. The fall is mainly due to the demand for labour that is springing up, but the greater strictness which now characterises the management of relief works has given a useful impetus at a favourable moment. The fall in prices, and consequent fall in wages, has also had something to do with it. There has been a decline in the numbers on gratuitous relief, but I have impressed on all the Divisional officers the necessity for caution in contracting the scope of gratuitous relief, and I have pointed out that it may even be advisable to enlarge the village lists in consequence of the abolition of kitchens on works that have been closed. If departure from a relief work means the loss of meals for the children as well as wages for the parents, the latter will be less willing to go, and it is better to feed the children only than to feed both children and parents. On the other hand, all grain dole lists are being carefully scrutinised, and all dependents of persons who are now in a position to support them are being removed.

There has been some delay in payments in Bellary. Matters have been set right, and the Deputy Collector, Mr. Rama Row, is now enquiring into the cause of it.

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

Taluku.	Total.										Total.									
	Repair and construction of wells.					Other purposes.					Cattle and seed-grain.					Purchase of fodder.				
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	Applications pending.	Number of wells.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	Applications pending.	Number of wells.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.	Applications pending.	Number of wells.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	
Adóni	13	2,910	11	1,370	11	157	13,420	154	13,010	45	170	16,330	165	14,380	12	3486	12	3,486	12	12
Alur	44	11,330	44	8,705	36	1,499	162,170	1,485	1,61,465	3	1	1,543	1,529	1,70,170	10	2,600	44	44	44	44
Bellary	47	6,724	47	6,724	36	945	92,168	945	92,168	236	87,214	992	98,892	272	1,04,827	272	1,04,827	43	43	43
Rayadrug	86	19,172	80	11,944	32	535	44,640	52	42,695	115	15,295	421	63,812	177	23,555	177	23,555	80	80	80
Hospet	22	4,870	22	2,660	18	62	3,975	52	3,975	15	1,850	74	8,845	33	6,635	33	6,635	12	12	12
Kúdligi	1	100	1	50	2	60	7,165	53	6,805	37	3,975	61	7,265	64	6,355	36	7,240	1	1	1
Harpanahalli	14	1,575	12	787	16	124	15,135	120	14,595	29	5,800	138	16,810	132	15,382	45	10,450	9	9	9
Hadagalli	223	46,941	217	32,240	158	8,172	3,38,673	3,137	3,34,213	436	1,4,679	3,400	3,35,614	3,354	3,66,453	594	1,63,073	201	201	201
Total	223	46,941	217	32,240	158	8,172	3,38,673	3,137	3,34,213	436	1,4,679	3,400	3,35,614	3,354	3,66,453	594	1,63,073	201	201	201

* Good work was done in Alur during the fortnight, Rs. 13,000 having been distributed as loans for relief of distress. These small loans are much appreciated, and I hope the whole of the allotment will be disbursed before the despatch of my next report. In Bellary, nearly Rs. 10,000 were advanced for the purchase of fodder.

† Two cases for a sum of Rs. 350 were erroneously shown in the previous fortnight's narrative under other purposes instead of under "Repair and construction of wells."

‡ Explanation of all if for the decrease in the amount disbursed as compared with the previous fortnight.

Government (1897) of Madras. REVENUE.

8 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), No. 648, 5TH OCT. 1897.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluk and places visited—By the Collector.—Námakkal, Alúr-Chippagiri road (both sections) and the kitchens attached to them. Bellary-Moka road and the kitchen, Herchal road, Bellary-Siruguppa road, southern section. Bellary kitchens and various villages in the Alúr and Bellary taluks.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Malapalli work and the two kitchens, Kupgal work, Peddatumbalam kitchen, Koutalum work and the two kitchens at Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alúr-Chippagiri road (both sections), Alúr section of Alúr-Adóni road, Alúr-Moka road (both sections), Alúr-Aspari road work, the kitchens at Námakkal, Kuruvallu, Halaharvi (2), Peddahotur, Chippagiri (2), Alúr and the villages of Nagaradona and Aspari.

Deputy Collector, Bellary.—Herchal road work, Gooty road work, Moka road work, and the southern section of Siruguppa road work, the kitchens at Bellary, Moka, Korlagondi, Kappagal, Paramadevanahalli and Kolur, and the villages of Sirivaram, Jobbinchi, Tagginabudihal, Amarapuram, Bevinahalli, Bisalahalli and Kakkabevinahalli.

Head Assistant Collector.—Narayanadevarakeri (grain doles), Marabbihal (relief work), Hospet (kitchen), Chitwadigi, Hosur and Daroji.

RESOLUTION—No. 648, dated 5th October 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was copious and general, and at one time even threatened to be excessive. 'Cultivation' was progressing apace, and pasture was improving.

3. Prices exhibited a decided fall, and it is said that the ryots have opened their grain pits. The comparative position of prices is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.
Normal	13.2	30.0	..
Warning	10.6	22.5	..
Scarcity	7.9	15.0	..
Current	7.7	10.8	13.4
September 1892	11.0	22.9	26.2
„ 1877	5.5	6.1	6.7

4. The condition of the people was generally good, though the rate of mortality has shown a considerable increase since the monsoon commenced. The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to give his opinion as to the cause of the rise. The Surgeon-General will be requested to favour the Famine Commissioner with a copy of his report upon his inspections in Bellary. The number on works and gratuitous relief fell by about 35 and 7 per cent., respectively. The instructions which the Collector reports, in paragraph 2 of his general remarks, that he has issued with regard to gratuitous relief, are approved.

5. Good work was done under the Loans Acts during the fortnight. Disbursements are shown below:—

Up to week ending.	Amount disbursed.
August 28th	RS. 5,89,608
September 4th	6,07,936
„ 11th	6,28,436
„ 18th	6,51,282

(True Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department. ✓
„ Collector of Bellary.
„ Surgeon-General.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
Exd. Md. Pabliwan.

Recd. } 1897. Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 879, 21st October 1897.

OCTOBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting — of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th September 1897, recorded.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 648, dated 5th October 1897:—

W. J. H. LEFANU, Esq.
(Famine Commissioner).

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STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

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Station.	In the fortnight.	From 1st April up to the end of the fortnight.	Average of 3 years excluding 1896.	
			In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.
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			..	..

The rainfall during the fortnight was copious and general throughout the district. The quantity registered during the fortnight is far in excess of the average of the previous three years excluding 1896, though the total up to the end of the fortnight is short of the average in Adóni, Siruguppa and Bellary. The rain has been most seasonable, and the sowing of cotton and korra has been going on briskly in all the black cotton lands. It has also revived the wilting mungari crops; and cholam which appeared to be hopeless has come on again in a wonderful manner. The water-supply for drinking and irrigation purposes is generally sufficient for the present. The Adóni Municipality, for the first time for many months, allowed the water from the reservoir to flow into the pipes during the whole day. The Daroji tank in the Hospet taluk, the largest in the district, is full, and has only just been saved from breaching. Almost all the tanks have received a good supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops.—*Adóni taluk.*—On the black cotton soils, the cotton is being rapidly put in. Weeding is also in progress, and the demand for labour, especially that of women coolies, is on the increase. The condition of the mungari crop has improved immensely, and the withered cholam in the Adóni firka has recovered in the most marvellous way. Korra has not recovered so well as the cholam, but the area covered by it is very limited. Everywhere except near Adóni, the mungari is expected to yield from a full to bumper crop. *Alúr taluk.*—Cotton and korra are being sown in black soils. The standing Mungari crops have been much improved by the recent rains. *Bellary division.*—The early crops, which were wilting, have revived. Garden crops are in good condition. Cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, cumbu, mixed crops and horse-gram in red and mixed soils, ragi and cholam under wells, and paddy under tanks and channels. *Hospet division.*—Dry crops under some private wells in Hospet are being harvested with a middling outturn. Castor seeds are being picked in parts of Kúdligi. Cotton and korra are being sown in black soils, and horsegram in other soils. Early crops, reported to have been wilting, have revived. Even in Antapur valley, the most affected tract of the Hospet taluk, an 8-anna crop is expected. Dry, wet and garden crops are all thriving. The gingelly crop in Harpanahalli, however, has suffered from a blight called Karijigi. Gingelly has also suffered in Hadagalli for want of rain. Cholam is just coming into ear in Harpanahalli, and cholam, korra and cumbu in Kúdligi.

Sandúr State.—Sowing and weeding were held in abeyance on account of the continued rain. The condition of the standing crops is greatly improved.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.—*Adóni taluk.*—Fodder is still scarce and dear. Good green grass is available everywhere. The price of bullocks has increased, Rs. 40 being asked for animals of fair quality on the last market day at Adóni. *Alúr taluk.*—Fodder is very scarce. Pasture is available in small quantities at present, but in a fortnight's time there will be plenty. The demand for fodder at the Charitable Fund depôts has slackened, partly owing to the heavy rainfall, which has rendered the black soils so wet that the ryots cannot get carts across them, and partly owing to grass and pasture being available. The condition of the cattle is improving. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is now available to some extent, and, in about a week or so, it will be ample. Fodder is scanty. Paddy straw is imported into the Bellary taluk from Hospet, Kampli and Anegondi. The condition of the cattle is improving. *Hospet division.*—Pasture is generally available, though still scanty in villages where the rain was received late. In a fortnight, it will be plentiful everywhere. The fodder supply is limited owing to large exports of paddy straw from the riverside villages in Hospet to Bellary and the Nizam's territory. The condition of the cattle is improving.

Sandúr State.—No fodder. Pasture is plentiful. It is becoming available even in the plains. The condition of the cattle has considerably improved. Foot and mouth disease prevails amongst the cattle, but the deaths are very few.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The rainfall has been all that could be desired. It threatened at one time to be excessive, but the clouds suddenly disappeared, and we have had excellent growing weather. Rain fell again on the 16th, and a little more will be welcome towards the end of the month, but for the present we have had all we wanted.

Loans for relief of distress and the purchase of seed-grain, and grants from the Famine Fund are enabling even the poorest ryots to sow their lands, and we shall, probably, have a great breadth of cultivation this year. Here and there I have heard of men being employed to drag the seed drills, but Mr. Rama Row assures me that this is due to an abnormal desire to get the seed in at once, not to a great scarcity of cattle. Thanks to the Government loans, the grants made for the purchase of fodder by the District Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and the fodder depôts established by the Madras Committee at Guntakal, Kuditini, Aspari, Nancherla and Kosigi; there has been very little cattle mortality.

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 15th of September 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	7-56	8-10	8-50	9-79	9-79	11-07	12-61	14-55	Prices have generally fallen. Since the close of the fortnight, there has been a considerable fall in prices in Alór, where yellow cholam now sells at 14-42 Imperial seers for a rupee, and ragi at 15-52 seers.
Alór	7-02	7-02	8-50	8-24	9-79	10-30	12-61	11-64	
Bellary	7-56	7-56	8-24	9-27	..	12-36	12-61	13-58	
Rayadrug	8-10	8-64	..	11-33	9-79	11-33	11-64	13-10	
Hospet	7-56	7-56	9-27	11-33	10-30	12-36	13-10	13-58	
Kudligi	7-56	7-56	..	..	9-79	11-07	11-64	13-58	
Harpanahalli	7-56	7-56	..	..	11-33	11-85	13-10	13-58	
Hadagalli	7-56	7-56	..	..	10-30	11-33	12-61	13-58	
Sandur	7-56	8-10	..	..	9-79	12-88	12-13	13-58	
Average	7-56	7-74	8-63	9-99	10-11	11-62	12-45	13-42	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active. There has been a net import by rail of 56,852 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 45,311 maunds during the previous fortnight.

On account of the fall in prices in Adóni, the export to Northern India has again begun.

The Divisional-officer, Bellary, reports that the ryots have opened their grain pits, and I found the same hopeful sign in the Alór taluk.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Generally good. I always make it a point to examine the Mala and Madiga houses when I visit a village, and Divisional-officers and Tahsildars do the same, and I have seldom found any signs of privation, though there has been a good deal of fever. The mortality in July was high, and inquiries are being made in a few typical villages in Alór and Adóni. Fever, measles, cholera and choleraic diarrhoea account for a good many of the deaths, and there is no doubt that the season has been a very unhealthy one. The absence of rain, and the undue prolongation of the period of high winds, are believed by the people themselves to be the cause of the unusual amount of sickness.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera still prevails in parts of Adóni, Alór and Bellary. The number of attacks and deaths during the last week is noted below:—

	Adóni	Alór	Bellary	Attacks.	Deaths.
Adóni	...	...	...	307	151
Alór	...	...	...	132	54
Bellary	...	...	...	53	29

All possible steps are being taken to check the spread of the disease, but it exists in a large number of villages, and it is very difficult to deal with all.

There were five attacks from small-pox in Harpanahalli, eleven in Hadagalli, and nine in Sandur. None of them proved fatal.

Remarks.—Surgeon-Major-General Sibthorpe examined the inmates of the Bellary and Moka kitchens, and the workers on the Bellary-Moka relief work during the fortnight. Of the 92 Mala and Madiga children in the Brucepetta kitchen, he found 85 in good condition, six thin and one emaciated. Eight of these children have "scorbutic gums." The other 101 children were examined only with a view to ascertain whether any of them were emaciated. None were found in that condition. Ten nursing mothers were examined; nine were found in good condition, and one was classed as thin. At Cowle Bazaar kitchen, 87 Malas and Madigas were examined in

detail; 85 of them were found to be in good condition, while the other two were thin. The seven nursing mothers were all classed as good. At Moka kitchen, all the children were found to be in good condition. Of the relief workers, all the men and all the nursing mothers, 95-71 per cent. of the other women, and 93-75 per cent. of the children were classed as good; the remainder of the other women and children were put down as thin. I do not think better results would be obtained among the labouring population in any time or any country; indeed, it would be surprising, if this proportion of thin persons were not found among a group of well-to-do people, European or Indian. The babies with the nursing mothers were not so satisfactory; 83-87 per cent. were in good condition, 12-90 per cent. were thin, and 3-23 per cent. were emaciated. The emaciation, however, was not due to famine, for, as already stated, all the nursing mothers were in good condition. There was no sign of scurvy on this work, and only 1-43 per cent. were anæmic—a remarkably small proportion when the relative number of women and young girls is taken into consideration.

There was a slight decrease in the number of weavers in receipt of relief. The recent orders of Government will cause a further fall under this head.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	42,371	21,278	The numbers are rapidly falling, and this is mainly due to a demand for labour for agricultural operations. The fall has been greater among men than women. Last fortnight the proportion of the sexes was 1,770 women to 1,000 men; this fortnight it is 2,030 to 1,000. In the population, as a whole, the proportion is 961 females to 1,000 males. The Madhavaram section of the Adóni-Madhavaram road, the Chinnakotur section of the Alór-Aspari road, the Herchalu road, and the Gowripur-Kudligi road work have been closed during the fortnight, as it was found possible to give employment to the workers on other works near at hand. On the 15th instant the workers on the Devagondanahalli work struck on being required to do the task of the task-table. I have since closed the work and do the task of the task-table. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work also, there was a partial strike because the metal-breaking gangs were put to dig side channels; but I had arranged to close this work before I heard of the strike.
Alór	53,554	40,060	
Bellary	26,771	17,556	
Hospet	12,690	8,071	
Kudligi	2,021	1,450	
Hadagalli	12,334	8,235	Central kitchens were opened at Kampli and Vaddahatti where the numbers in receipt of grain-doles are large. It is in the end much cheaper to give cooked food than to give grain-doles, for people will continue to accept grain long after they will cease to go to a kitchen.
Total	149,741	96,650	
Sandur	1,369	901	

called for an explanation as to why full tasks were not set before. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work also, there was a partial strike because the metal-breaking gangs were put to dig side channels; but I had arranged to close this work before I heard of the strike.

Central kitchens were opened at Kampli and Vaddahatti where the numbers in receipt of grain-doles are large. It is in the end much cheaper to give cooked food than to give grain-doles, for people will continue to accept grain long after they will cease to go to a kitchen.

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved					
	At kitchens.				In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.			
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,690	1,369	1,499	1,406	3,683	3,568
Alor	2,734	2,560	350	408	2,952	2,907
Bollary	1,043	807	1,032	989	5,284	4,954
Rayadrag	144	118	..	..	22	22
Hospet	617	738	271	445	3,383	3,211
Kudligi	49	41	10	11	282	399
Hadagalli	303	252	38	35	1,623	909
Total	6,580	5,885	3,200	3,294	17,234	15,970
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	166	140

Taluku.	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.
Adóni	186	180	4,750	4,698	• 2,450	43,326
Alór	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bollary	147	149	1,305	1,329	655	3,662
Rayadrag	10	10	2,477	2,465	1,959	4,825
Hospet	60	67	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	55	54	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	33	34	..	..	..	..
Sandur	9	8	..	..	..	..

* Yemmagalur figures not received

* Yennigauara figures not received.

Private charity.—Grants for the purchase of cattle and seed-grain are being made from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, and fodder is still being sold at Kosgi, Adóni and Aspari, and also at Guntakal.

General Remarks.—Up to the end of August, the area cultivated was below the average being 763,000 acres against 807,000. The deficiency occurs in all taluks except Kudligi, Hadagalli and Harpanahalli, where there was a considerable increase. A very large area, however, has been sown since the August accounts were closed, and I anticipate an appreciable increase in the total breadth of cultivation.

The fall in numbers on relief works still continues, and the latest figures now available show a further decline of 18,000 on works, since the last season report was despatched. The fall is mainly due to the demand for labour that is springing up, but the greater strictness which now characterises the management of relief works has given a useful impetus at a favourable moment. The fall in prices, and consequent fall in wages, has also had something to do with it. There has been a decline in the numbers on gratuitous relief, but I have impressed on all the Divisional officers the necessity for caution in contracting the scope of gratuitous relief, and I have pointed out that it may even be advisable to enlarge the village lists in consequence of the abolition of kitchens on works that have been closed. If departure from a relief work means the loss of meals for the children as well as wages for the parents, the latter will be less willing to go, and it is better to feed the children only than to feed both children and parents. On the other hand, all grain dole lists are being carefully scrutinised, and all dependents of persons who are now in a position to support them are being removed.

There has been some delay in payments in Bellary. Matters have been set right, and the Deputy Collector, Mr. Rama Row, is now enquiring into the cause of it.

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

Loan Transactions. —Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the head of —	Taluka.	Repair and construction of wells.		Other purposes.	Total.	Cattle and seed-grain.		Purchase of fodder.	Taluka.	Total.																									
Number of wells	Constructed or Under constr.	Applications accepted.	Number.	Loans disbursed.	Number.	Applications pending.	Number.	Applications accepted.	Number.	Applications pending.	Number.	Applications accepted.	Number.	Applications pending.	Number.	Applications accepted.	Number.	Applications pending.	Number.	Applications accepted.	Number.	Applications pending.	Number.	Applications accepted.	Number.	Applications pending.	Number.								
2	21	Amount.	3	Amount.	4	Amount.	5	Amount.	6	Amount.	7	Amount.	8	Amount.	9	Amount.	10	Amount.	11	Amount.	12	Amount.	13	Amount.	14	Amount.	15	Amount.	16	Amount.	17	Amount.	18	Amount.	19
20	21	Number.	3	Amount.	4	Number.	5	Number.	6	Number.	7	Number.	8	Number.	9	Number.	10	Number.	11	Number.	12	Number.	13	Number.	14	Number.	15	Number.	16	Number.	17	Number.	18	Number.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.	14	Rs.	15	Rs.	16	Rs.	17	Rs.	18	Rs.	19
20	21	Rs.	3	Rs.	4	Rs.	5	Rs.	6	Rs.	7	Rs.	8	Rs.	9	Rs.	10	Rs.	11	Rs.	12	Rs.	13	Rs.											

* Good work was done in Alor during the fortnight. Rs. 13,000 having been distributed as loans for relief of distress. These small loans are much appreciated, and I hope the whole of the allotment will be disbursed before the despatch of my next report. In Bellary, nearly Rs. 10,000 were advanced for the purchase of fodder.

† Two cases for a sum of Rs. 350 were erroneously shown in the previous fortnight's narrative under other purposes instead of under "Repair and construction of wells."

‡ Explanation called for for the decrease in the amount disbursed as compared with the previous fortnight.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluks and places visited—By the Collector.—Námakkal, Alúr-Chippagiri road (both sections) and the kitchens attached to them. Bellary-Moka road and the kitchen, Herchal road; Bellary-Siruguppa road, southern section. Bellary kitchens and various villages in the Alúr and Bellary taluks.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Malapalli work and the two kitchens, Kupgal work, Peddatumbalam kitchen, Koutalum work and the two kitchens at Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alúr-Chippagiri road (both sections), Alúr section of Alúr-Adóni road, Alúr-Moka road (both sections), Alúr-Aspari road work, the kitchens at Námakkal, Kuruvallu, Halaharvi (2), Peddahotur, Chippagiri (2), Alúr and the villages of Nagaradouna and Aspari.

Deputy Collector, Bellary.—Herchal read work, Gooty road work, Moka road work, and the southern section of Siruguppa road work, the kitchens at Bellary, Moka, Korlagondi, Kappagal, Paramadevanahalli and Kolur, and the villages of Sirivaram, Jobbiuchi, Tagginabudihal, Amarapuram, Bevinahalli, Bisalahalli and Kakkabevinahalli.

Head Assistant Collector.—Narayanadevarakeri (grain doles), Marabbihal (relief work), Hospet (kitchen), Chitwadigi, Hosur and Daroji.

Resolution—No. 648, dated 5th October 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was copious and general, and at one time even threatened to be excessive. 'Cultivation' was progressing apace, and pasture was improving.

3. Prices exhibited a decided fall, and it is said that the ryots have opened their grain pits. The comparative position of prices is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.
Normal	13.2	30.0	..
Warning	10.6	22.5	..
Scarcity	7.9	15.0	..
Current	7.7	10.8	..
September 1892	11.0	22.9	13.4
" 1877	5.5	6.1	26.2
			6.7

4. The condition of the people was generally good, though the rate of mortality has shown a considerable increase since the monsoon commenced. The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to give his opinion as to the cause of the rise. The Surgeon-General will be requested to favour the Famine Commissioner with a copy of his report upon his inspections in Bellary. The number on works and gratuitous relief fell by about 35 and 7 per cent., respectively. The instructions which the Collector reports, in paragraph 2 of his general remarks, that he has issued with regard to gratuitous relief, are approved.

5. Good work was done under the Loans Acts during the fortnight. Disbursements are shown below:—

Up to week ending.	Amount disbursed.
August 28th	RS. 5,89,608
September 4th	6,07,936
" 11th	6,28,436
" 18th	6,51,242

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
" Surgeon-General.
" Sanitary Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 879, Revenue, dated 21st October 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exl. Shaik Karim.

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