

Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 112

Dated 25th February

[Despatch Abstract.]

According to the remarks of the Board of Pious:
submitting for the 10th narrative of the
Nellore Co. to the period ending 31-1-98.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1394

From

The Board of Revenue,
Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and
Agriculture,
Madras
No. 85 Press.

Order

Dated 15th February 1898.

Received 14

Registered 17

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Fortnightly Narrative
Submitting to Government,
with remarks, — of the
Mellore District for the
period ending 31st January
1898.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
807/15		71	
644/15		22-78	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), No. , TH FEB. 1898. PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Nellore district during the period ending 31st of January 1898.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—There has been no rainfall in any portion of the district during the fortnight.

Water-supply—Sub-division. Ongole taluk.—All the tanks in the taluk except seven are empty. These latter contain supplies varying from twenty to five days. Water for drinking purposes is generally sufficient.

Kandukur taluk.—Out of the 71 tanks in this taluk one has a month's supply. Fourteen have fifteen days' supply, nine ten days', nine below ten days' and the rest none. Water in irrigation wells is for the present sufficient. Water for drinking purposes is sufficient.

Kanigiri taluk.—The Kanigiri tank contains one and a half month's supply. Pedda Irlapad tank four days', all other tanks are empty. Drinking-water is still available though wells are beginning to fail.

Podili.—No supply in irrigation tanks, while that in garden wells is running short. Drinking-water is sufficient except in some of the western villages.

Darsi.—Water-supply generally sufficient for drinking purposes and also sufficient for irrigation under wells. Elsewhere is insufficient except under the Pulipad tank which has one month's supply. Another tank in the division has a week's supply, but all other tanks are dry.

Atmakur Division. Atmakur taluk.—The Anantasagaram tank contains a supply of about three months, which is sufficient for the standing crops under it. Two other tanks, Uppalapad and Kaluvoya, contain two months' supply each. Two tanks contain more than a month's supply. Two others fifteen days' supply and two ten days'. Three tanks contain supply below a week and the rest are empty. The supply under river channels is sufficient and garden wells have a fair supply for the present. Some of the wells in the Atmakur firka are being repaired by the ryots to increase the supply in them. Water for drinking purposes is sufficient in all villages except five or six, where it is obtained with some difficulty.

Udayagiri taluk.—Drinking-water is generally sufficient throughout except in the Udayagiri town where the supply is scanty. There is a month's supply in the Iskadamerla tank. Five days' supply in the Kaniampad tank and ten days' supply in the Janakamma tank of Duttalur. All other tanks are dry.

Head-quarter Division. Nellore taluk.—The Kanigiri reservoir contains six feet six inches of water and the Nellore tank has no irrigable supply. The supply for drinking purposes is sufficient.

Kavali taluk.—Eleven tanks are reported to contain four to fifteen days' supply. The rest are empty. Drinking water is sufficient.

Head Assistant Collector's Division. Gudur taluk.—Water-supply is still sufficient for irrigation in the Muthukur firka, in the Kanupur firka except under a few rain-fed tanks and in most villages of the Gudur firka. It is exhausted in about ten villages of the Kota firka and in the western villages of the Sriharikota firka.

Rapur.—There is still a small supply for irrigation in eight tanks.

Polur division.—Only a few of the larger tanks have any supply.

Venkatagiri division.—There is a fair supply in about a dozen villages visited by the Deputy Tahsildar. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has not been able to get satisfactory information about the Zamindari as a whole. It seems impossible to get anything from the Zamindari officials.

Sub-division—Ongole taluk.—Ragi is being transplanted under wells. Early crops, viz., pedda cholam, indigo, cumbu, korra and Velavadam paddy were harvested during the fortnight. The standing crops are (1) paddy, (2) variga, (3) paira cholam, (4) oil-seeds, (5) chillies, (6) tobacco, (7) cotton, (8) coreander-seeds and (9) pulses. Paddy under twelve tanks wholly and under six other tanks partially and under doruvu wells in Padarti yielded well. The crop under the Nidamanur tank withered. That under the Ongole tank is young and in good condition.

The early cholam yielded well and gave a 12-anna outturn. The late cholam is in ears and is good. It is estimated to yield 8 annas. Early variga also yielded well with a 12-anna outturn. The late variga is fair in some places and bad in others owing to want of rain. In about twenty-one villages it was badly damaged by insects. Oil-seed is fair except in seven villages where it has suffered from blight. Chillies, tobacco, cotton and coreander-seed are good everywhere with an anticipated outturn of 8 to 12 annas. Red-gram and horse-gram are expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas, while green-gram has withered everywhere.

Kandukur.—Ploughing has entirely stopped. Kesari paddy is being cut and is expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas. Cholam gave a poor outturn of 4 annas and below. Paira cholam has in some villages been destroyed by grasshoppers. The rest may yield 4-anna outturn. Aruka has withered in more than half the extent, while the rest yielded only 2-anna outturn. Ragi had given an outturn of less than 4 annas. The young ragi under wells should give an 8-anna outturn. Variga, oil-seeds and cotton will not return more than 4 annas.

Kanigiri.—Paddy harvested; outturn 12 annas. Other crops withered. Cotton, oil-seeds and horse-gram are withering.

Podili.—Agricultural operations are almost nil. Ragi under wells is fair for the present. Oil-seeds, cotton, horse-gram, &c., are fading. Paddy under the Podili and Marripad tanks is being harvested with an average outturn of 8 annas.

Darsi.—Ragi under wells is thriving. Paddy except under wells is fading. Castor-oil failed. Cotton is stunted.

Atmakur Division—Atmakur taluk.—Agricultural operations almost nil. Paddy under river channels and under the Anantasagaram, Kaluvoya, &c., tanks and under some wells is thriving. The crop under river-channels is being cut. Outturn 16 to 4 annas.

Cholam.—Early cholam is expected to give an outturn of 16 to 4 annas. Late sown cholam is not fair and any outturn is doubtful.

Cotton and Oil-seeds.—Fair. Outturn 8 to 4 annas.

Aruka.—Fair. Outturn 8 to 2 annas. Ragi fair. Oil-seeds in some villages blighted.

Udayagiri.—Transplantation of ragi and tobacco under wells is still going on. The former is nearing completion.

Cholam.—What has been left on the ground after damage by insects is fair except in parts. Ragi under wells is thriving. Aruka was completely withered except in five villages in the first and second ranges. Oil-seeds and cotton are bad in the second and third ranges and indifferent to fair in the first range. Horse-gram is bad in two ranges and fair in one. Paddy yielded some outturn in five villages and withered elsewhere.

Head-quarter Division—Nellore taluk.—Ploughing for sowing ragi and kesari paddy is in progress in the deltaic tracts. The standing crops are paddy, cholam, ragi and oil-seeds. Paddy in delta villages is in good condition and has withered elsewhere. The dry crops are in fair condition.

Kavali.—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted under wells. The standing crops are paddy, cholam, aruka, ragi, cotton, indigo and oil-seeds. Out of a total extent of 21,951 acres of paddy, it is reported that crop in 4,000 acres has withered or is withering. Elsewhere it is expected to yield from 4 to 12 annas. Cholam is generally good except in a few villages in the north-west and is expected to give an outturn of from 4 to 12 annas. Aruka is bad. Ragi and the other crops are reported to be thriving.

Head Assistant Collector's Division—Gudur taluk.—Harvesting operations are in full swing in the delta villages and to a less considerable extent elsewhere in the Gudur taluk. Some second crop is being sown in the delta villages. Standing crops are in fair condition except under a few rain-fed tanks in Kanupur range and two or three in Gudur range, in about ten villages of the Kota range and four or five in Srīharikōta range.

Rapur.—Paddy is being harvested in two or three villages. The early-sown cholam is in good condition save in two or three villages where it is said to be blighted. It will be harvested next month. The late cholam is beginning to fade for want of moisture and is not likely to yield unless there is some rain. In the Zamindari Divisions of Pōlūr and Venkatagiri, paddy is being cut in some villages. In others where the crop is still green, it will probably yield.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Sub-Division.—Fodder generally sufficient except in Kandukur, Kanigiri and Podili. Pasture is getting scarce. Condition of cattle generally good except in four villages of Ongole taluk, where there have been 108 attacks and 45 deaths from cattle disease. There were also a few deaths in Kanigiri taluk from rinderpest.

Atmakūr Division.—Fodder is not available except in a few villages of the Atmakūr taluk on the Pennar river and where paddy has been harvested. Pasture is becoming scarce everywhere. Condition of cattle generally good, though there have been cattle diseases in a few isolated villages.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Fodder insufficient. Pasture is scarce. Condition of cattle generally good. There is cattle disease in a few villages.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Fodder is not yet exhausted in Gudur and Zamindari Divisions, but pasture is getting scarce. Condition of cattle is still good. In Rapur fodder seems exhausted and pasture scanty.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The fortnight under review has produced no signs of distress in any fresh localities. In fact the Head Assistant Collector's report of the state of things in his Division is more re-assuring than his previous reports. The Sub-Collector suggests the throwing open to free grazing of fodder reserves in Kanigiri taluk, and the subject will receive attention. This has already been done in Udayagiri.

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.

Stations.	Rice, 2nd sort.		Cholam.		Ragi.		Cunbu.		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.	
Ongole ..	8-46	8-46	10-80	10-80	12-75	12-75	9-90	10-73	Scarcity rates. Warning rates. Rice 8-40 11-20 Cholam 13-00 19-50 Ragi 14-00 21-00 Cumbu 12-00 18-00
Addanki ..	7-52	7-52	11-70	11-70	..	..	9-90	10-31	
Darsi ..	9-40	9-40	..	..	12-75	13-60	12-30	12-30	
Podili ..	8-46	8-46	10-86	10-86	12-75	12-75	13-12	13-12	
Kandukur ..	7-99	7-99	11-31	11-31	12-33	12-33	10-46	10-46	
Kanigiri ..	7-52	7-52	..	..	11-90	11-90	9-90	9-90	
Atmakūr ..	8-46	8-93	10-86	..	11-90	11-90	10-66	..	
Udayagiri ..	..	..	10-86	11-77	11-90	11-90	10-66	10-66	
Kavali ..	9-40	9-40	10-86	10-86	11-90	11-90	11-28	10-66	
Nellore ..	9-01	9-01	11-33	11-33	12-48	13-44	10-34	11-75	
Allūr ..	8-48	8-48	..	..	11-52	11-52	..	..	
Gudur ..	8-48	8-48	12-36	12-36	12-48	13-44	..	11-28	
Kotah ..	9-54	7-42	..	..	16-80	11-52	10-73	..	
Pōlūr ..	8-48	8-48	..	..	..	..	11-75	..	
Rapur ..	..	..	..	10-80	..	..	..	10-73	
Venkatagiri ..	8-22	8-43	..	..	13-44	14-40	..	11-28	
Average ..	8-53	8-43	11-22	11-31	12-68	12-57	10-92	11-10	

4

Subscription

Activity of trade—Sub-Division.—Private trade is reported to be active except in Kandukur where it is comparatively dull in respect of food-grains other than rice. Paddy, rice and ragi are being imported from the Northern districts and ragi also from Bellary.

Atmakur Division.—Private trade active in Udayagiri, where rice, paddy and dry grains are being imported from Nellore, Madras and Cuddapah. In Atmakur it was dull, there having been no imports.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Private trade is very active and grains are easily procurable.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Imports of food-grains into the division from Madras and Nellore continue, but private trade is said to be not very active.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally fair, except at Narravada where a number of young children and babies are looking very thin. Some of the labourers on this work are also in poor condition and show signs of insufficient nourishment.

In villages.—Generally good.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

No deaths from want of food.

Sub-division.—Cholera in Ongole, Kandukur and Kanigiri taluks, with 88 attacks and 42 deaths.

Atmakur Division.—Cholera still exists in both the taluks of Atmakur and Udayagiri. In the former taluk there were 33 attacks in 7 villages and 22 deaths. In Udayagiri there have been 55 attacks with 27 deaths in two villages. Small-pox also prevail in many villages. There were 17 deaths from small-pox in Udayagiri taluk.

Head-Quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Cholera and small-pox are prevalent. There were 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Kavali taluk from cholera.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Cholera in Rapur and Gudur taluks. Also small-pox in some villages.

Remar.—Special measures are being taken to depute Hospital Assistants to tracts affected by cholera and to send vaccinators to tracts infected by small-pox. The following Hospital Assistants have already been deputed:—

One Hospital Assistant to Atmakur taluk.

Do. to Nellore taluk.

Do. to Nellore town.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
<i>Kanigiri taluk.</i>			
Narramarella near Pamur	388	660	This work is under the task work system with a kitchen. This was changed from a task work to the intermediate system on 22nd January 1898 when the labourers refused to continue working and left the work.
Nandanavanam	1,496	..	
<i>Podili Division.</i>			
Pedda Arikatla	1,882	2,727	Task work, with kitchen.
<i>Udayagiri taluk.</i>			
Udayagiri	342	..	This work was closed on 19th January 1898 as a work was started at Nelatur only 6 miles from Udayagiri. On the intermediate system. On the intermediate system since 18th January 1898. The kitchen is kept open with reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 461, dated 21st January 1898. This work was opened under the intermediate system on 8th January 1898, but the workers refused to continue working at the rates allowed on 12th January 1898.
Nelatur	..	259	
Narravada	925	1,299	
Sitarapuram	469	..	
Total	5,502	4,945	

in 60.72
7.2.98

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise.—

Taluka.				Number relieved.								
				At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.		
				Dependents.		Others.						
				Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
<i>Kanigiri taluk.</i>												
Nararamella				4	31	19	17	..	..	..	..	..
Nandanavanam				45	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Podili Division.</i>												
Pedda Arikatla				9	7	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Udayagiri Taluk.</i>												
Udayagiri				144	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Naravada				44	60	11	11	..	..	..	..	..

General Remarks—Sub-Collector's remarks.—Want of labour is much felt in Darsi. Many of the labouring classes of Darsi Division have migrated into other districts for want of employment. Gollagandi and Garuga seeds have taken the place of food-grains in Darsi division. Even in Ongole and Kandukur where the recent harvest gives some employment to the cooly population, want of work will be a complaint a month hence. The railway works in Kandukur taluk are affording some labour to the poorer classes. About 100 people are employed on the repairs to Kankanampad tank of the Venkatagiri Zamindary.

Atmakur Deputy Collector's remarks.—The condition of the cholam crop has considerably improved. In Atmakur taluk cooly classes are engaged in reaping aruka and paddy and by the time this work would be over, early-sown cholam and other dry crops will be ready for harvesting.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's remarks—Nellore taluk.—Labour is procurable in the Delta villages in the harvesting of paddy, and in some non-deltaic villages in the transplantation of ragi. Wells have been sanctioned by the Taluk Board in the following villages:—

	RS.
South Mopur	250
Cherudugunta	152
Vella. ti	113
Komarapudi	214
Amencherla	99
Dontali	140
Kakutur	113
Graddagunta	190

Kavali taluk.—The condition of the people is generally good. Sufficient work is available on railway ballast work and on the repairs to tanks at Gudavallur and Chinna Annalur.

Head Assistant Collector's remarks.—The condition of the people is nowhere such as to call for works being started at present.

Collector's remarks.—The situation remains unchanged, though the Head Assistant Collector gives a more re-assuring account of his Division especially of the Gudur taluk. I have not yet been able to visit the taluk. The Penubarti Nalla tank work of Rapur was started and abandoned as no coolies resorted to it—*vide* this office reference letter, No. 274-Vel., dated 31st January 1898. The reports furnished about the Zamindary Divisions of Polur and Venkatagiri are very meagre, and I am calling upon the Deputy Tahsildars to make more careful personal inspections and hope to be able to furnish fuller particulars in my next report. The Rajah of Venkatagiri has been asked to start the repairs of the railway affecting tanks in his division, notices under the Railway Protection Act having been sent to him.

A number of ordinary works have been sanctioned in the Kavali taluk and the supply of labour is sufficient for the present in the Head-quarter Deputy Collector's division.

The Udayagiri test-work was transferred to Nellatur on 20th January 1898 when work was opened on the intermediate system. Though the numbers on the work are at present small, the increase is steady. The Narravada work has also been changed to the intermediate system. The numbers at first fell from 1,116 to 759, as the workers did not at first take to the system, but gradually rose to 1,683 on the 31st January 1898. The kitchen there is being continued. The work at Sitarampuram has not yet been started, as no coolies have resorted to it as already reported. I inspected the works at Narravada and Nelatur during the fortnight. The condition of the labourers at Narravada was far from satisfactory and there were a number of babies and little children in a most distressing condition. This was no doubt partly the result of the introduction of the intermediate system and the absurd conduct of some labourers in refusing to work, and partly due to irregularity in paying the coolies. At Nelatur the condition of the labourers and their children was good.

A number of minor irrigation works are in progress in the Atmakur taluk and with the supply channel to the Anamasamudram tank from the Beeraperu there should be no need for more works for some time.

The Narramarella work in the Kanigiri taluk is being continued on the task-work system, and the people on the work, which I inspected during the fortnight, are in good condition. The Executive Engineer has reported that the Nandanavanam tank work has been closed as the coolies are getting work in transplanting ragi, &c., and as they objected to work under the intermediate system. I have, however, requested the Engineer to re-open the work after a week. Only a small proportion of the working men and women can find work in transplanting ragi and in repairing wells, and I believe most of the labourers would have stayed on the work, had matters been clearly explained to them. The same thing would have occurred at Narravada had I not happened to be there myself on the 24th January 1898. The Pedda Arikatla work in the Podili Division is attracting large numbers and is being continued on the task-work system with the kitchen. I am afraid, however, that this work is not being properly conducted and I have directed the Sub-Collector to go there at once and report on it. The road works in Darsi and Podili referred to in my last report have not been opened nor the work in the Kandukur taluk. I had originally requested the Executive Engineer to open these works having regard to the orders of the Board in its Proceedings, Mis, No. 225 dated 15th January 1898, that all works should be managed by the Public Works Department. This order, having, however, been vetoed by Government (*vide* B.P., Mis., No. 598 dated 28th January 1898), I shall have to make other arrangements to start the works. The Executive Engineer does not appear to have taken any steps yet to open the works.

n.c

361
24-1-98

(One up
with another
current)

⑧ Stating that the Govt will amount the receipt of the report of the ^{Set. Commr's} personal inspection of the affected tracts in Nellore before deciding to convert certain test works into relief works and to hand over the same to the P.W.D.

2

Subbaya

LOAN TRANSACTION.—Nil.
INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluks and places visited.

Sub-Collector—

Kandukuru taluk ... { Yelurpad.
Singarayakonda.

Atmakur Deputy Collector—

Atmakur taluk ... { Vannavodu.
Dharmarowche-
ruvupalli.
Timmayapalem.
Nandipad.
Udayagiri.
Nelatur.
Udayagiri taluk ... { Duttalur.
Narravada.
Dasaripalli.
Byravaram.
Nallagonda.

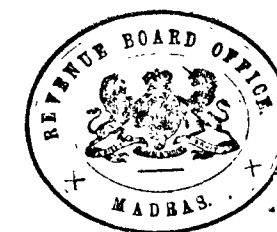
Head-Quarter Deputy Collector—

Nellore taluk ... { Kakatur.
Chemudugunta.
Dontali.
Kavali.
Kavali taluk ... { Rudrukota.
Musunur.
Maddurpad.

Head Assistant Collector— Nil.

Collector—

Udayagiri taluk ... Narravada.
Kanigiri taluk ... Narramrella.
Udayagiri.
Nelatur.
Udayagiri taluk ... { Nandipad.
Duttalur.
Sarvadabad.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

Dated 15th February 1898

No. 85 Press.

HEAD...

Copy (proof) attached

Fortnightly Narrative for period
ending 31st January 1898. Submitted
by the collector of Bellare.

Resolution.

Submitted to Government.

2. There has been no rainfall during
the fortnight, and the water-supply
for irrigation is getting exhausted and
is insufficient for the standing crops.
Dearth of drinking water is reported
from parts of Attakur and Idayagiri.
There was slight rainfall after the
close of the fortnight but this is reported
to have been of little use.

3. The standing crops are withering almost everywhere, and the harvests except in Angole and in the deltaic villages yielded generally a poor outturn.

4. Pasture and fodder are getting scarce everywhere but the condition of the cattle is on the whole still good. The fodder reserves of Udayagiri have been thrown open to free grazing and it is in contemplation to extend the concession to Hanigiri.

5. Prices have on the whole remained stationary though there was a slight tendency to fall in parts. The comparative position of prices is shown below: -

Rates	Rice	Ragi	Sholenn	Lumbur
Normal	14.0	28.0	26.0	24.0
Warning	11.2	21.0	19.5	18.0
Scarcity	8.4	14.0	13.0	12.0
Current	8.4	12.6	11.3	11.1
January 1897	11.7	20.8	19.6	16.2
" 1892	9.5	13.6	13.0	11.8
" 1877	7.0	8.1	8.0	7.3

note.

Attracted

6. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair except at Narrauda relief work in Udayagiri taluk where the labourers and children are stated to show signs of insufficient nourishment. This is ascribed by the collector to the introduction of the intermediate system of work and the absurd conduct of some labourers in refusing to work and partly to irregularity in paying the coolies. It is hoped that the last mentioned cause has since been removed. The collector recently submitted a separate report on the unsuitability of the intermediate system of works and he has been called upon to report further on the subject. There were four works open at the close of the fortnight under review, two of which were conducted on the intermediate system. The numbers on these works showed an increase during the fortnight.

of 55 per cent but the labourers on ~~three other~~ works struck work when the intermediate system was substituted for task work. The collector has been directed to discontinue feeding at kitchens those who are not dependants of workers and to open no more kitchens until the Government is satisfied that the test-work stage is past and actual relief works are necessary. The Board begs to repeat the request already made that the works in the district may be ordered to be taken over by the Public Works Department.

(True Extract)

Gamine Secretary.

The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,

with a proof copy of the manuscript

in B.P. $\frac{125}{15.1.98}$
22.1.98 $\frac{361}{24.1.98}$

Para 2 of B.O. $\frac{71}{4.2.98}$ A

Para 3 of B.O. $\frac{72}{7.2.98}$ B

* Where is it?
With the Secy.
18.2.98

Read Cus 1397/98
Fortnightly manuscript of the Village
District for the period ending 31.1.98

How

The Board of P.W. has been asked to submit detailed reports showing
(1) why the labourers who refused to work under the intermediate piece-work system on certain works and

(2) ^{whether} ~~how~~ the relief works in the district are being carried out under stringent Code Conditions. These reports may be awaited before any orders are passed as to whether pronounced distress exists in the district. In his report recording the results of his personal inspection of the affected tracts in the district, the Settlement Commissioner has stated that such distress exists, but has not furnished sufficient data to warrant the assertion.

see

ms.

It was not received

Under disjunctive? (Klein 1968)
where?
with the large
and
11-2-98

the detailed reports we
asked for. But meantime
the intermediate work may
I think be transferred to
the DPL to be conducted on
the principles applicable
to such work.

87
19/4/88

Read Cno 1397/28.

Order Dns. No 112 of 25th Feb 1898

Recorded.

2. The submission of the detailed reports called for in C.O. No 71/4.2.98 and No 72/7.2.98 should be expedited. Meanwhile, ~~as~~ ~~will issue in~~ the P.W. Dept ~~will take~~ ~~for taking~~ over charge of all the works in the district which are being carried out under the intermediate piece-work system and ~~will conduct them~~ ~~other~~ ~~same on~~ ~~principles applicable to such system.~~

11/6
28/2/98

Srom
24.2.98

1/3
Done

23/2/98
To

The Board of Rs. Lett. No. 24/2
" P.W. D. 28/2/98
" Fin. Dept.
" A-C
" Srom 24.2.98

Print
and at once
25-2-98
To the effect of the P.W.
have been done
27/2/98

To the Public Works Dept
for forwarding the same

Goverment {1898} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 112, 25th February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Record, with remarks, Board's Proceedings submitting — of the Nellore district for
the period ending 31st January 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 85, dated 15th February 1898 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Nellore district during the period ending 31st of January 1898.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—There has been no rainfall in any portion of the district during the fortnight.

Water-supply—Sub-division. Ongole taluk.—All the tanks in the taluk except seven are empty. These latter contain supplies varying from twenty to five days. Water for drinking purposes is generally sufficient.

Kandukur taluk.—Out of the 71 tanks in this taluk one has a month's supply. Fourteen have fifteen days' supply, nine ten days', nine below ten days' and the rest none. Water in irrigation wells is for the present sufficient. Water for drinking purposes is sufficient.

Kanigiri taluk.—The Kanigiri tank contains one and a half month's supply. Pedda Irlapad tank four days', all other tanks are empty. Drinking-water is still available though wells are beginning to fail.

Podili.—No supply in irrigation tanks, while that in garden wells is running short. Drinking-water is sufficient except in some of the western villages.

Darsi.—Water-supply generally sufficient for drinking purposes and also sufficient for irrigation under wells. Elsewhere is insufficient except under the Pulipad tank which has one month's supply. Another tank in the division has a week's supply, but all other tanks are dry.

Atmakur Division. Atmakur taluk.—The Anantasagaram tank contains a supply of about three months, which is sufficient for the standing crops under it. Two other tanks, Uppalapad and Kaluvoya, contain two months' supply each. Two tanks contain more than a month's supply. Two others fifteen days' supply and two ten days'. Three tanks contain supply below a week and the rest are empty. The supply under river channels is sufficient and garden wells have a fair supply for the present. Some of the wells in the Atmakur firka are being repaired by the ryots to increase the supply in them. Water for drinking purposes is sufficient in all villages except five or six, where it is obtained with some difficulty.

Udayagiri taluk.—Drinking-water is generally sufficient throughout except in the Udayagiri town where the supply is scanty. There is a month's supply in the Iskadamerla tank. Five days' supply in the Kaniampad tank and ten days' supply in the Janakamma tank of Duttalur. All other tanks are dry.

Head-quarter Division. Nellore taluk.—The Kanigiri reservoir contains six feet six inches of water and the Nellore tank has no irrigable supply. The supply for drinking purposes is sufficient.

Kavali taluk.—Eleven tanks are reported to contain four to fifteen days' supply. The rest are empty. Drinking water is sufficient.

Head Assistant Collector's Division. Gudur taluk.—Water-supply is still sufficient for irrigation in the Muthukur firka, in the Kanupur firka except under a few rain-fed tanks and in most villages of the Gudur firka. It is exhausted in about ten villages of the Kota firka and in the western villages of the Sriharikota firka.

Rapur.—There is still a small supply for irrigation in eight tanks.

Polur division.—Only a few of the larger tanks have any supply.

Venkatagiri division.—There is a fair supply in about a dozen villages visited by the Deputy Tahsildar. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has not been able to get satisfactory information about the Zamindari as a whole. It seems impossible to get anything from the Zamindari officials.

Sub-division—Ongole taluk.—Ragi is being transplanted under wells. Early crops, viz., pedda cholam, indigo, cumbu, korra and Velavadam paddy were harvested during the fortnight. The standing crops are (1) paddy, (2) variga, (3) paira cholam, (4) oil-seeds, (5) chillies, (6) tobacco, (7) cotton, (8) coreander-seeds and (9) pulses. Paddy under twelve tanks wholly and under six other tanks partially and under doruvu wells in Padarti yielded well. The crop under the Nidamanur tank withered. That under the Ongole tank is young and in good condition.

The early cholam yielded well and gave a 12-anna outturn. The late cholam is in ears and is good. It is estimated to yield 8 annas. Early variga also yielded well with a 12-anna outturn. The late variga is fair in some places and bad in others owing to want of rain. In about twenty-one villages it was badly damaged by insects. Oil-seed is fair except in seven villages where it has suffered from blight. Chillies, tobacco, cotton and coreander-seed are good everywhere with an anticipated outturn of 8 to 12 annas. Red-gram and horse-gram are expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas, while green-gram has withered everywhere.

Kandukur.—Ploughing has entirely stopped. Kesari paddy is being cut and is expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas. Cholam gave a poor outturn of 4 annas and below. Paria cholam has in some villages been destroyed by grasshoppers. The rest may yield 4-anna outturn. Aruka has withered in more than half the extent, while the rest yielded only 2-anna outturn. Ragi had given an outturn of less than 4 annas. The young ragi under wells should give an 8-anna outturn. Variga, oil-seeds and cotton will not return more than 4 annas.

Kanigiri.—Paddy harvested; outturn 12 annas. Other crops withered. Cotton, oil-seeds and horse-gram are withering.

Podili.—Agricultural operations are almost nil. Ragi under wells is fair for the present. Oil-seeds, cotton, horse-gram, &c., are fading. Paddy under the Podili and Marripad tanks is being harvested with an average outturn of 8 annas.

Darsi.—Ragi under wells is thriving. Paddy except under wells is fading. Castor-oil failed. Cotton is stunted.

Atmakur Division—Atmakur taluk.—Agricultural operations almost nil. Paddy under river channels and under the Anantasagaram, Kaluvoya, &c., tanks and under some wells is thriving. The crop under river-channels is being cut. Outturn 16 to 4 annas.

Cholam.—Early cholam is expected to give an outturn of 16 to 4 annas. Late sown cholam is not fair and any outturn is doubtful.

Cotton and Oil-seeds.—Fair. Outturn 8 to 4 annas.

Aruka.—Fair. Outturn 8 to 2 annas. Ragi fair. Oil-seeds in some villages blighted.

Udayagiri.—Transplantation of ragi and tobacco under wells is still going on. The former is nearing completion.

Cholam.—What has been left on the ground after damage by insects is fair except in parts. Ragi under wells is thriving. Aruka was completely withered except in five villages in the first and second ranges. Oil-seeds and cotton are bad in the second and third ranges and indifferent to fair in the first range. Horse-gram is bad in two ranges and fair in one. Paddy yielded some outturn in five villages and withered elsewhere.

Head-quarter Division—Nellore taluk.—Ploughing for sowing ragi and kesari paddy is in progress in the deltaic tracts. The standing crops are paddy, cholam, ragi and oil-seeds. Paddy in delta villages is in good condition and has withered elsewhere. The dry crops are in fair condition.

Kavali.—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted under wells. The standing crops are paddy, cholam, aruka, ragi, cotton, indigo and oil-seeds. Out of a total extent of 21,951 acres of paddy, it is reported that crop in 4,000 acres has withered or is withering. Elsewhere it is expected to yield from 4 to 12 annas. Cholam is generally good except in a few villages in the north-west and is expected to give an outturn of from 4 to 12 annas. Aruka is bad. Ragi and the other crops are reported to be thriving.

Head Assistant Collector's Division—Gudur taluk.—Harvesting operations are in full swing in the delta villages and to a less considerable extent elsewhere in the Gudur taluk. Some second crop is being sown in the delta villages. Standing crops are in fair condition except under a few rain-fed tanks in Kanupur range and two or three in Gudur range, in about ten villages of the Kota range and four or five in Srīharikōta range.

Rapur.—Paddy is being harvested in two or three villages. The early-sown cholam is in good condition save in two or three villages where it is said to be blighted. It will be harvested next month. The late cholam is beginning to fade for want of moisture and is not likely to yield unless there is some rain. In the Zamindari Divisions of Pōlūr and Venkatagiri, paddy is being cut in some villages. In others where the crop is still green, it will probably yield.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Sub-Division.—Fodder generally sufficient except in Kandukur, Kanigiri and Podili. Pasture is getting scarce. Condition of cattle generally good except in four villages of Ongole taluk, where there have been 108 attacks and 45 deaths from cattle disease. There were also a few deaths in Kanigiri taluk from rinderpest.

Atmakūr Division.—Fodder is not available except in a few villages of the Atmakūr taluk on the Pennar river and where paddy has been harvested. Pasture is becoming scarce everywhere. Condition of cattle generally good, though there have been cattle diseases in a few isolated villages.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Fodder insufficient. Pasture is scarce. Condition of cattle generally good. There is cattle disease in a few villages.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Fodder is not yet exhausted in Gudur and Zamindari Divisions, but pasture is getting scarce. Condition of cattle is still good. In Rapur fodder seems exhausted and pasture scanty.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The fortnight under review has produced no signs of distress in any fresh localities. In fact the Head Assistant Collector's report of the state of things in his Division is more re-assuring than his previous reports. The Sub-Collector suggests the throwing open to free grazing of fodder-reserves in Kanigiri taluk, and the subject will receive attention. This has already been done in Udayagiri.

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.

Stations.	Rice, 2nd sort.		Cholam.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Ongole ..	8.46	8.46	10.80	10.80	12.75	12.75	9.90	10.73	
Addanki ..	7.52	7.52	11.70	11.70	..	..	9.90	10.31	
Darsi ..	9.40	9.40	..	..	12.75	13.60	12.30	12.30	
Podili ..	8.46	8.46	10.86	10.86	12.75	12.75	13.12	13.12	
Kandukur ..	7.99	7.99	11.31	11.31	12.33	12.33	10.46	10.46	
Kanigiri ..	7.52	7.52	..	..	11.90	11.90	9.90	9.90	Scarcity rates.
Atmakūr ..	8.46	8.93	10.86	..	11.90	11.90	10.68	..	Warning rates.
Udayagiri ..	..	..	10.86	11.77	11.90	11.90	10.68	10.68	Rice 8.40 11.20
Kāvali ..	9.40	9.40	10.86	11.90	11.90	11.90	11.28	10.66	Cholam 13.00 19.50
Nellore ..	9.01	9.01	11.33	11.33	12.48	13.44	10.34	11.75	Ragi 14.00 21.00
Allūr ..	8.48	8.48	..	..	11.52	11.52	..	..	Cumbu 12.00 18.00
Gudur ..	8.48	8.48	12.36	12.36	12.48	13.44	..	11.28	
Kotah ..	9.54	7.42	..	..	16.80	11.52	10.73	..	
Pōlūr ..	8.48	8.48	..	..	..	..	11.75	..	
Rapur ..	..	..	..	10.80	..	..	..	10.73	
Venkatagiri ..	8.22	8.48	..	..	13.44	14.40	..	11.28	
Average ..	8.53	8.43	11.22	11.31	12.68	12.57	10.92	11.10	

Activity of trade—Sub-Division.—Private trade is reported to be active except in Kandukur where it is comparatively dull in respect of food-grains other than rice. Paddy, rice and ragi are being imported from the Northern districts and ragi also from Bellary.

Atmakūr Division.—Private trade active in Udayagiri, where rice, paddy and dry grains are being imported from Nellore, Madras and Cuddapah. In Atmakūr it was dull, there having been no imports.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Private trade is very active and grains are easily procurable.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Imports of food-grains into the division from Madras and Nellore continue, but private trade is said to be not very active.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally fair, except at Narravada where a number of young children and babies are looking very thin. Some of the labourers on this work are also in poor condition and show signs of insufficient nourishment.

In villages.—Generally good.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

No deaths from want of food.

Sub-division.—Cholera in Ongole, Kandukur and Kanigiri taluks, with 88 attacks and 42 deaths.

Atmakūr Division.—Cholera still exists in both the taluks of Atmakūr and Udayagiri. In the former taluk there were 33 attacks in 7 villages and 22 deaths. In Udayagiri there have been 55 attacks with 27 deaths in two villages. Small-pox also prevail in many villages. There were 17 deaths from small-pox in Udayagiri taluk.

Head-Quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Cholera and small-pox are prevalent. There were 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Kavali taluk from cholera.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Cholera in Rapur and Gudur taluks. Also small-pox in some villages.

Remarks.—Special measures are being taken to depute Hospital Assistants to tracts affected by cholera and to send vaccinators to tracts infected by small-pox. The following Hospital Assistants have already been deputed:—

One Hospital Assistant to Atmakúr taluk.
Do. to Nellore taluk.
Do. to Nellore town.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
<i>Kanigiri taluk.</i>			
Narramarella near Pamur	388	660	This work is under the task work system with a kitchen. This was changed from a task work to the intermediate system on 22nd January 1898 when the labourers refused to continue working and left the work.
Nandanavanam	1,496	..	
<i>Podili Division.</i>			
Pedda Arikatla	1,882	2,727	Task work, with kitchen.
<i>Udayagiri taluk.</i>			
Udayagiri	342	..	This work was closed on 19th January 1898 as a work was started at Nelatur only 6 miles from Udayagiri. On the intermediate system.
Nelatur	925	1,299	
Narravada	..	..	On the intermediate system since 18th January 1898. The kitchen is kept open with reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 461, dated 21st January 1898. This work was opened under the intermediate system on 8th January 1898, but the workers refused to continue working at the rates allowed on 12th January 1898.
Sitarampuram	469	..	
Total	5,502	4,945	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependents.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
<i>Kanigiri taluk.</i>								
Narramarella	4	31	19	17	..	..	..	..
Nandanavanam	45	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Podili Division.</i>								
Pedda Arikatla	9	7	..	1	..	..	..	..
<i>Udayagiri Taluk.</i>								
Udayagiri	144	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Narravada	44	60	11	11	..	..	..	..

General Remarks—Sub-Collector's remarks.—Want of labour is much felt in Darsi. Many of the labouring classes of Darsi Division have migrated into other districts for want of employment. Gollagandi and Garuga seeds have taken the place of food-grains in Darsi division. Even in Ongole and Kandukur where the recent harvest gives some employment to the cooly population, want of work will be a complaint a month hence. The railway works in Kandukur taluk are affording some labour to the poorer classes. About 100 people are employed on the repairs to Kankanampad tank of the Venkatagiri Zamindary.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's remarks.—The condition of the cholam crop has considerably improved. In Atmakúr taluk cooly classes are engaged in reaping aruka and paddy and by the time this work would be over, early-sown cholam and other dry crops will be ready for harvesting.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's remarks—Nellore taluk.—Labour is procurable in the Delta villages in the harvesting of paddy, and in some non-deltaic villages in the transplantation of ragi. Wells have been sanctioned by the Taluk Board in the following villages:—

	RS.
South Mopur	250
Chemudugunta	152
Vellanti	113
Komarapudi	214
Amencherla	99
Dontali	140
Kakutur	113
Graddagunta	190

Kavali taluk.—The condition of the people is generally good. Sufficient work is available on railway ballast work and on the repairs to tanks at Gudavallur and Chinna Annalur.

Head Assistant Collector's remarks.—The condition of the people is nowhere such as to call for works being started at present.

Collector's remarks.—The situation remains unchanged, though the Head Assistant Collector gives a more re-assuring account of his Division especially of the Gudur taluk. I have not yet been able to visit the taluk. The Penubarti Nalla tank work of Rapur was started and abandoned as no coolies resorted to it—*vide* this office reference letter, No. 274-Ver., dated 31st January 1898. The reports furnished about the Zamindary Divisions of Polur and Venkatagiri are very meagre, and I am calling upon the Deputy Tahsildars to make more careful personal inspections and hope to be able to furnish fuller particulars in my next report. The Rajah of Venkatagiri has been asked to start the repairs of the railway affecting tanks in his division, notices under the Railway Protection Act having been sent to him.

A number of ordinary works have been sanctioned in the Kavali taluk and the supply of labour is sufficient for the present in the Head-quarter Deputy Collector's division.

The Udayagiri test-work was transferred to Nellatur on 20th January 1898 when work was opened on the intermediate system. Though the numbers on the work are at present small, the increase is steady. The Narravada work has also been changed to the intermediate system. The numbers at first fell from 1,116 to 759, as the workers did not at first take to the system, but gradually rose to 1,683 on the 31st January 1898. The kitchen there is being continued. The work at Sitarampuram has not yet been started, as no coolies have resorted to it as already reported. I inspected the works at Narravada and Nelatur during the fortnight. The condition of the labourers at Narravada was far from satisfactory and there were a number of babies and little children in a most distressing condition. This was no doubt partly the result of the introduction of the intermediate system and the absurd conduct of some labourers in refusing to work, and partly due to irregularity in paying the coolies. At Nelatur the condition of the labourers and their children was good.

A number of minor irrigation works are in progress in the Atmakúr taluk and with the supply channel to the Anamasamudram tank from the Beeraperu there should be no need for more works for some time.

The Narramarella work in the Kanigiri taluk is being continued on the task-work system, and the people on the work, which I inspected during the fortnight, are in good condition. The Executive Engineer has reported that the Nandanavanam tank work has been closed as the coolies are getting work in transplanting ragi, &c., and as they objected to work under the intermediate system. I have, however, requested the Engineer to re-open the work after a week. Only a small proportion of the working men and women can find work in transplanting ragi and in repairing wells, and I believe most of the labourers would have stayed on the work, had matters

been clearly explained to them. The same thing would have occurred at Narravada had I not happened to be there myself on the 24th January 1898. The Pedda Arikatla work in the Podili Division is attracting large numbers and is being continued on the task-work system with the kitchen. I am afraid, however, that this work is not being properly conducted and I have directed the Sub-Collector to go there at once and report on it. The road works in Darsi and Podili referred to in my last report have not been opened nor the work in the Kandukur taluk. I had originally requested the Executive Engineer to open these works having regard to the orders of the Board in its Proceedings, Mis. No. 225, dated 15th January 1898, that all works should be managed by the Public Works Department. This order having, however, been vetoed by Government (*vide* B.P., Mis. No. 598, dated 28th January 1898), I shall have to make other arrangements to start the works. The Executive Engineer does not appear to have taken any steps yet to open the works.

LOAN TRANSACTION.—Nil.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluk and places visited.

Sub-Collector—		Head-Quarter Deputy Collector—	
Kandukur taluk	... { Yelurpad. Singarayakonda.	Nellore taluk	... { Kakatur. Chemudugunta. Dontali.
Atmakur Deputy Collector—		Head Assistant Collector—Nil.	
Atmakur taluk	... { Vannavodu. Dharmarowche- ruvupalli. Timmayapalem. Nandipad. Udayagiri. Nelatur. Duttalur.	Kavali taluk	... { Kavali. Rudrukota. Musunur. Maddurpad.
Udayagiri taluk	... { Narravada. Dasaripalli. Byravaram. Nallagonda.	Collector—	
		Udayagiri taluk	... Narravada.
		Kanigiri taluk	... Narramrella.
		Udayagiri taluk	... { Udayagiri. Nelatur. Nandipad. Duttalur. Sarvadabad.

Resolution—No. 85, dated 15th February 1898.

Submitted to Government.

2. There has been no rainfall during the fortnight, and the water-supply for irrigation is getting exhausted and is insufficient for the standing crops. Dearth of drinking water is reported from parts of Atmakur and Udayagiri. There was slight rainfall after the close of the fortnight but this is reported to have been of little use.

3. The standing crops are withering almost everywhere, and the harvests except in Ongole and in the deltaic villages yielded generally a poor outturn.

4. Pasture and fodder are getting scarce everywhere, but the condition of the cattle is, on the whole, still good. The fodder reserves of Udayagiri have been thrown open to free grazing and it is in contemplation to extend the concession to Kanigiri.

5. Prices have, on the whole, remained stationary though there was a slight tendency to fall in parts. The comparative position of prices is shown in the margin. Trade continues active.

Rates.	Rice.	Ragi.	Cholam.	Cumbu.
Normal	14-0	28-0	26-0	24-0
Warning	11-2	21-0	19-5	18-0
Scarcity	8-4	14-0	13-0	12-0
Current	8-4	12-6	11-3	11-1
January 1897 ..	11-7	20-8	19-6	16-2
Do. 1892	9-5	13-6	13-0	11-8
Do. 1877	7-0	8-1	8-0	7-3

6. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair except at Narravada relief work in Udayagiri taluk where the labourers and children are stated to show signs of insufficient nourishment. This is ascribed by the Collector to the introduction of the inter-

mediate system of work and the absurd conduct of some labourers in refusing to work

and partly to irregularity in paying the coolies. It is hoped that the last-mentioned cause has since been removed. The Collector recently submitted a separate report on the unsuitability of the intermediate system of works and he has been called upon to report further on the subject. There were four works open at the close of the fortnight under review, two of which were conducted on the intermediate system. The numbers on these works show an increase during the fortnight of 55 per cent., but the labourers on three other works struck work when the intermediate system was substituted for task work.

The Collector has been directed to discontinue feeding at kitchens those who are not dependents of workers and to open no more kitchens until the Government is satisfied that the test work stage is past and actual relief works are necessary.

The Board begs to repeat the request already made that the works in the district may be ordered to be taken over by the Public Works Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

ORDER—No. 112, Revenue, dated 25th February 1898.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The submission of the detailed reports called for in G.Os., No. 71, dated 4th February and No. 72, dated 7th February 1898, should be expedited. Meanwhile, the Public Works Department will take over charge of all the works in the district which are being carried out under the intermediate piece-work system, and will conduct them on the principles of that system.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

Same as C. No. 1397 of 1898.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

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

Recd.

Regd.

1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

Printed February th.

Proceedings, No. 85, 15th February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

G.O. 112 of 25-2-98

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, the — of the Nellore district for the period ending 31st January 1898.

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

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Nellore district during the period ending 31st of January 1898.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—There has been no rainfall in any portion of the district during the fortnight.

Water-supply—Sub-division. Ongole taluk.—All the tanks in the taluk except seven are empty. These latter contain supplies varying from twenty to five days. Water for drinking purposes is generally sufficient.

Kandukur taluk.—Out of the 71 tanks in this taluk one has a month's supply. Fourteen have fifteen days' supply, nine ten days', nine below ten days' and the rest none. Water in irrigation wells is for the present sufficient. Water for drinking purposes is sufficient.

Kanigiri taluk.—The Kanigiri tank contains one and a half month's supply. Pedda Irlapad tank four days', all other tanks are empty. Drinking-water is still available though wells are beginning to fail.

Podili.—No supply in irrigation tanks, while that in garden wells is running short. Drinking-water is sufficient except in some of the western villages.

Darsi.—Water-supply generally sufficient for drinking purposes and also sufficient for irrigation under wells. Elsewhere is insufficient except under the Pulipad tank which has one month's supply. Another tank in the division has a week's supply, but all other tanks are dry.

Atmakur Division. Atmakur taluk.—The Anantasagaram tank contains a supply of about three months, which is sufficient for the standing crops under it. Two other tanks, Uppalapad and Kaluvoya, contain two months' supply each. Two tanks contain more than a month's supply. Two others fifteen days' supply and two ten days'. Three tanks contain supply below a week and the rest are empty. The supply under river channels is sufficient and garden wells have a fair supply for the present. Some of the wells in the Atmakur firka are being repaired by the ryots to increase the supply in them. Water for drinking purposes is sufficient in all villages except five or six, where it is obtained with some difficulty.

Udayagiri taluk.—Drinking-water is generally sufficient throughout except in the Iskadamerla tank. Five days' supply in the Kaniampad tank and ten days' supply in the Janakamma tank of Duttalur. All other tanks are dry.

Head-quarter Division. Nellore taluk.—The Kanigiri reservoir contains six feet six inches of water and the Nellore tank has no irrigable supply. The supply for drinking purposes is sufficient.

Kavali taluk.—Eleven tanks are reported to contain four to fifteen days' supply. The rest are empty. Drinking water is sufficient.

Head Assistant Collector's Division. Gudur taluk.—Water-supply is still sufficient for irrigation in the Muthukur firka, in the Kanupur firka except under a few rain-fed tanks and in most villages of the Gudur firka. It is exhausted in about ten villages of the Kota firka and in the western villages of the Sriharikota firka.

Rapur.—There is still a small supply for irrigation in eight tanks.

Polur division.—Only a few of the larger tanks have any supply.

Venkatagiri division.—There is a fair supply in about a dozen villages visited by the Deputy Tahsildar. The Head Assistant Collector reports that he has not been able to get satisfactory information about the Zamindari as a whole. It seems impossible to get anything from the Zamindari officials.

Sub-division—Ongole taluk.—Ragi is being transplanted under wells. Early crops, viz., pedda cholam, indigo, cumbu, korra and Velavadam paddy were harvested during the fortnight. The standing crops are (1) paddy, (2) variga, (3) paira cholam, (4) oil-seeds, (5) chillies, (6) tobacco, (7) cotton, (8) coreander-seeds and (9) pulses. Paddy under twelve tanks wholly and under six other tanks partially and under doruvu wells in Padarti yielded well. The crop under the Nidamanur tank withered. That under the Ongole tank is young and in good condition.

The early cholam yielded well and gave a 12-anna outturn. The late cholam is in ears and is good. It is estimated to yield 8 annas. Early variga also yielded well with a 12-anna outturn. The late variga is fair in some places and bad in others owing to want of rain. In about twenty-one villages it was badly damaged by insects. Oil-seed is fair except in seven villages where it has suffered from blight. Chillies, tobacco, cotton and coreander-seed are good everywhere with an anticipated outturn of 8 to 12 annas. Red-gram and horse-gram are expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas, while green-gram has withered everywhere.

Kandukur.—Ploughing has entirely stopped. Kesari paddy is being cut and is expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas. Cholam gave a poor outturn of 4 annas and below. Paria cholam has in some villages been destroyed by grasshoppers. The rest may yield 4-anna outturn. Aruka has withered in more than half the extent, while the rest yielded only 2-anna outturn. Ragi had given an outturn of less than 4 annas. The young ragi under wells should give an 8-anna outturn. Variga, oil-seeds and cotton will not return more than 4 annas.

Kanigiri.—Paddy harvested; outturn 12 annas. Other crops withered. Cotton, oil-seeds and horse-gram are withering.

Podili.—Agricultural operations are almost nil. Ragi under wells is fair for the present. Oil-seeds, cotton, horse-gram, &c., are fading. Paddy under the Podili and Marripad tanks is being harvested with an average outturn of 8 annas.

Darsi.—Ragi under wells is thriving. Paddy except under wells is fading. Castor-oil failed. Cotton is stunted.

Atmakur Division—Atmakur taluk.—Agricultural operations almost nil. Paddy under river channels and under the Anantasagaram, Kaluvoya, &c., tanks and under some wells is thriving. The crop under river-channels is being cut. Outturn 16 to 4 annas.

Cholam.—Early cholam is expected to give an outturn of 16 to 4 annas. Late sown cholam is not fair and any outturn is doubtful.

Cotton and Oil-seeds.—Fair. Outturn 8 to 4 annas.

Aruka.—Fair. Outturn 8 to 2 annas. Ragi fair. Oil-seeds in some villages blighted.

Udayagiri.—Transplantation of ragi and tobacco under wells is still going on. The former is nearing completion.

Cholam.—What has been left on the ground after damage by insects is fair except in parts. Ragi under wells is thriving. Aruka was completely withered except in five villages in the first and second ranges. Oil-seeds and cotton are bad in the second and third ranges and indifferent to fair in the first range. Horse-gram is bad in two ranges and fair in one. Paddy yielded some outturn in five villages and withered elsewhere.

Head-quarter Division—Nellore taluk.—Ploughing for sowing ragi and kesari paddy is in progress in the deltaic tracts. The standing crops are paddy, cholam, ragi and oil-seeds. Paddy in delta villages is in good condition and has withered elsewhere. The dry crops are in fair condition.

Kavali.—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted under wells. The standing crops are paddy, cholam, aruka, ragi, cotton, indigo and oil-seeds. Out of a total extent of 21,951 acres of paddy, it is reported that crop in 4,000 acres has withered or is withering. Elsewhere it is expected to yield from 4 to 12 annas. Cholam is generally good except in a few villages in the north-west and is expected to give an outturn of from 4 to 12 annas. Aruka is bad. Ragi and the other crops are reported to be thriving.

Head Assistant Collector's Division—Gudur taluk.—Harvesting operations are in full swing in the delta villages and to a less considerable extent elsewhere in the Gudur taluk. Some second crop is being sown in the delta villages. Standing crops are in fair condition except under a few rain-fed tanks in Kanupur range and two or three in Gudur range, in about ten villages of the Kota range and four or five in Srīharikōta range.

Rapur.—Paddy is being harvested in two or three villages. The early-sown cholam is in good condition save in two or three villages where it is said to be blighted. It will be harvested next month. The late cholam is beginning to fade for want of moisture and is not likely to yield unless there is some rain. In the Zamindari Divisions of Pōlūr and Venkatagiri, paddy is being cut in some villages. In others where the crop is still green, it will probably yield.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Sub-Division.—Fodder generally sufficient except in Kandukur, Kanigiri and Podili. Pasture is getting scarce. Condition of cattle generally good except in four villages of Ongole taluk, where there have been 108 attacks and 45 deaths from cattle disease. There were also a few deaths in Kanigiri taluk from rinderpest.

Atmakūr Division.—Fodder is not available except in a few villages of the Atmakūr taluk on the Pennar river and where paddy has been harvested. Pasture is becoming scarce everywhere. Condition of cattle generally good, though there have been cattle diseases in a few isolated villages.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Fodder insufficient. Pasture is scarce. Condition of cattle generally good. There is cattle disease in a few villages.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Fodder is not yet exhausted in Gudur and Zamindari Divisions, but pasture is getting scarce. Condition of cattle is still good. In Rapur fodder seems exhausted and pasture scanty.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—The fortnight under review has produced no signs of distress in any fresh localities. In fact the Head Assistant Collector's report of the state of things in his Division is more re-assuring than his previous reports. The Sub-Collector suggests the throwing open to free grazing of fodder-reserves in Kanigiri taluk, and the subject will receive attention. This has already been done in Udayagiri.

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.

Stations.	Rice, 2nd sort.		Cholum.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Ongole ..	8-46	8-46	10-80	10-80	12-75	12-75	9-90	10-73	
Addanki ..	7-52	7-52	11-70	11-70	..	..	9-90	10-31	
Darsi ..	9-40	9-40	..	..	12-75	13-60	12-30	12-30	
Podili ..	8-46	8-46	10-86	10-86	12-75	12-75	13-12	13-12	
Kandukur ..	7-99	7-99	11-31	11-31	12-33	12-33	10-46	10-46	
Kanigiri ..	7-52	7-52	..	..	11-90	11-90	9-90	9-90	
Atmakūr ..	8-46	8-93	10-86	11-90	11-90	11-90	10-66	..	Scarcity rates.
Udayagiri ..	..	..	10-86	11-77	11-90	11-90	10-66	10-66	Warning rates.
Kāvali ..	9-40	9-40	10-86	11-90	11-90	11-90	11-28	10-66	Rice 8-40 11-20
Nellore ..	9-01	9-01	11-33	11-33	12-48	13-44	10-34	11-75	Cholam 13-00 19-50
Aller ..	8-48	8-48	..	..	11-52	11-52	..	..	Ragi 14-00 21-00
Gudur ..	8-48	8-48	12-36	12-36	12-48	13-44	..	11-28	Cumba 12-00 18-00
Kotah ..	9-54	7-42	..	..	16-80	11-52	10-73	..	
Pōlūr ..	8-48	8-48	..	..	..	..	11-75	..	
Rapur ..	..	..	..	10-80	..	..	..	10-73	
Venkatagiri ..	8-22	8-48	..	..	13-44	14-40	..	11-28	
Average ..	8-53	8-43	11-22	11-31	12-68	12-57	10-92	11-10	

Activity of trade—Sub-Division.—Private trade is reported to be active except in Kandukur where it is comparatively dull in respect of food-grains other than rice. Paddy, rice and ragi are being imported from the Northern districts and ragi also from Bellary.

Atmakūr Division.—Private trade active in Udayagiri, where rice, paddy and dry grains are being imported from Nellore, Madras and Cuddapah. In Atmakūr it was dull, there having been no imports.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Private trade is very active and grains are easily procurable.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Imports of food-grains into the division from Madras and Nellore continue, but private trade is said to be not very active.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally fair, except at Narravada where a number of young children and babies are looking very thin. Some of the labourers on this work are also in poor condition and show signs of insufficient nourishment.

In villages.—Generally good.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

No deaths from want of food.

Sub-division.—Cholera in Ongole, Kandukur and Kanigiri taluks, with 88 attacks and 42 deaths.

Atmakūr Division.—Cholera still exists in both the taluks of Atmakūr and Udayagiri. In the former taluk there were 33 attacks in 7 villages and 22 deaths. In Udayagiri there have been 55 attacks with 27 deaths in two villages. Small-pox also prevail in many villages. There were 17 deaths from small-pox in Udayagiri taluk.

Head-Quarter Deputy Collector's Division.—Cholera and small-pox are prevalent. There were 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Kavalī taluk from cholera.

Head Assistant Collector's Division.—Cholera in Rapur and Gudur taluks. Also small-pox in some villages.

Remarks.—Special measures are being taken to depute Hospital Assistants to tracts affected by cholera and to send vaccinators to tracts infected by small-pox. The following Hospital Assistants have already been deputed:—

One Hospital Assistant to Atmakūr taluk.
Do. to Nellore taluk.
Do. to Nellore town.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers			
Taluka.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
<i>Kanigiri taluk.</i>			
Narramarella near Pamur	388	660	This work is under the task work system with a kitchen. This was changed from a task work to the intermediate system on 22nd January 1898 when the labourers refused to continue working and left the work.
Nandanavanam	1,496	..	
<i>Podili Division.</i>			
Podda Arikatla	1,882	2,727	Task work, with kitchen.
<i>Udayagiri taluk.</i>			
Udayagiri	342	..	This work was closed on 19th January 1898 as a work was started at Nelatur only 6 miles from Udayagiri. On the intermediate system since 18th January 1898. The kitchen is kept open with reference to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 461, dated 21st January 1898. This work was opened under the intermediate system on 8th January 1898, but the workers refused to continue working at the rates allowed on 12th January 1898.
Nelatur	925	259	
Nairavada	..	1,299	
Etirampuram	469	..	
Total ..	5,502	4,945	

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluka.	Number relieved							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependents.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
<i>Kanigiri taluk.</i>								
Narramarella	4	31	19	17	..	..	..	..
Nandanavanam	45	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Podili Division.</i>								
Pedda Arikatla	9	7	..	1	..	..	..	..
<i>Udayagiri Taluk.</i>								
Udayagiri	141	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Narravada	44	60	11	11	..	..	..	..

General Remarks—Sub-Collector's remarks.—Want of labour is much felt in Darsi. Many of the labouring classes of Darsi Division have migrated into other districts for want of employment. Gollagandi and Garuga seeds have taken the place of food-grains in Darsi division. Even in Ongole and Kandukur where the recent harvest gives some employment to the cooly population, want of work will be a complaint a month hence. The railway works in Kandukur taluk are affording some labour to the poorer classes. About 100 people are employed on the repairs to Kankanampad tank of the Venkatagiri Zamindary.

Atmakur Deputy Collector's remarks.—The condition of the cholam crop has considerably improved. In Atmakur taluk cooly classes are engaged in reaping aruka and paddy and by the time this work would be over, early-sown cholam and other dry crops will be ready for harvesting.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector's remarks—Nellore taluk.—Labour is procurable in the Delta villages in the harvesting of paddy, and in some non-deltaic villages in the transplantation of ragi. Wells have been sanctioned by the Taluk Board in the following villages:—

	RS.
South Mopur	250
Chemudugunta	152
Vellanti	113
Komarapudi	214
Amencherla	99
Dontali	110
Kakutur	113
Graddagunta	180

Kavali taluk.—The condition of the people is generally good. Sufficient work is available on railway ballast work and on the repairs to tanks at Gudavallur and Chinna Annalur.

Head Assistant Collector's remarks.—The condition of the people is nowhere such as to call for works being started at present.

Collector's remarks.—The situation remains unchanged, though the Head Assistant Collector gives a more re-assuring account of his Division especially of the Gudur taluk. I have not yet been able to visit the taluk. The Penubarti Nalla tank work of Rapur was started and abandoned as no coolies resorted to it—*vide* this office reference letter, No. 274-Ver., dated 31st January 1898. The reports furnished about the Zamindary Divisions of Polur and Venkatagiri are very meagre, and I am calling upon the Deputy Tahsildars to make more careful personal inspections and hope to be able to furnish fuller particulars in my next report. The Rajah of Venkatagiri has been asked to start the repairs of the railway affecting tanks in his division, notices under the Railway Protection Act having been sent to him.

A number of ordinary works have been sanctioned in the Kavali taluk and the supply of labour is sufficient for the present in the Head-quarter Deputy Collector's division.

The Udayagiri test-work was transferred to Nellatur on 20th January 1898 when work was opened on the intermediate system. Though the numbers on the work are at present small, the increase is steady. The Narravada work has also been changed to the intermediate system. The numbers at first fell from 1,116 to 759, as the workers did not at first take to the system, but gradually rose to 1,683 on the 31st January 1898. The kitchen there is being continued. The work at Sitarampuram has not yet been started, as no coolies have resorted to it as already reported. I inspected the works at Narravada and Nelatur during the fortnight. The condition of the labourers at Narravada was far from satisfactory and there were a number of babies and little children in a most distressing condition. This was no doubt partly the result of the introduction of the intermediate system and the absurd conduct of some labourers in refusing to work, and partly due to irregularity in paying the coolies. At Nelatur the condition of the labourers and their children was good.

A number of minor irrigation works are in progress in the Atmakur taluk and with the supply channel to the Anamasamudram tank from the Beeraperu there should be no need for more works for some time.

The Narramarella work in the Kanigiri taluk is being continued on the task-work system, and the people on the work, which I inspected during the fortnight, are in good condition. The Executive Engineer has reported that the Nandanavanam tank work has been closed as the coolies are getting work in transplanting ragi, &c., and as they objected to work under the intermediate system. I have, however, requested the Engineer to re-open the work after a week. Only a small proportion of the working men and women can find work in transplanting ragi and in repairing wells, and I believe most of the labourers would have stayed on the work, had matters been clearly explained to them. The same thing would have occurred at Narravada had I not happened to be there myself on the 24th January 1898. The Pedda Arikatla work in the Podili Division is attracting large numbers and is being continued on the task-work system with the kitchen. I am afraid, however, that this work is not being properly conducted and I have directed the Sub-Collector to go there at once and report on it. The road works in Darsi and Podili referred to in my last report have not been opened nor the work in the Kandukur taluk. I had originally requested the Executive Engineer to open these works having regard to the orders of the Board in its Proceedings, Mis. No. 225, dated 15th January 1898, that all works should be managed by the Public Works Department. This order having, however, been vetoed by Government (*vide* B.P., Mis. No. 598, dated 28th January 1898), I shall have to make other arrangements to start the works. The Executive Engineer does not appear to have taken any steps yet to open the works.

LOAN TRANSACTION.—Nil.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Taluka and places visited.

Sub-Collector—		Head-Quarter Deputy Collector—	
Kandukur taluk ..	{ Yelurpad. Singarayakonda.	Nellore taluk ..	{ Kakutur. Chemudugunta. Dontali.
Atmakur Deputy Collector—			
Atmakur taluk ..	{ Vannavodu. Dharmarowche- rurupalli. Timmayapalem. Nandipad. Udayagiri. Nelatur. Duttalur.	Kavali taluk ..	{ Kavali. Rudrukota. Musunur. Maddurpad.
Udayagiri taluk ..	{ Narravada. Dasaripalli. Byravaram. Nallagonda.	Head Assistant Collector—Nil.	
		Collector—	
		Udayagiri taluk ..	{ Narravada. Narramarella. Udayagiri. Nelatur.
		Kanigiri taluk ..	{ Nandipad. Duttalur. Sarvadabad.
		Udayagiri taluk ..	

RESOLUTION—No. 85, dated 15th February 1898.

Submitted to Government.

2. There has been no rainfall during the fortnight, and the water-supply for irrigation is getting exhausted and is insufficient for the standing crops. Dearth of drinking water is reported from parts of Atmakur and Udayagiri. There was slight rainfall after the close of the fortnight but this is reported to have been of little use.

3. The standing crops are withering almost everywhere, and the harvests except in Ongole and in the deltaic villages yielded generally a poor outturn.

4. Pasture and fodder are getting scarce everywhere, but the condition of the cattle is, on the whole, still good. The fodder reserves of Udayagiri have been thrown open to free grazing and it is in contemplation to extend the concession to Kanigiri.

5. Prices have, on the whole, remained stationary though there was a slight tendency to fall in parts. The comparative position of prices is shown in the margin. Trade continues active.

Rates.	Rice.	Bagi.	Cholam.	Cambu.
Normal	14-0	28-0	26-0	24-0
Warning	11-2	21-0	19-5	18-0
Scarcity	8-4	14-0	13-0	12-0
Current	8-4	12-6	11-3	11-1
January 1897 ..	11-7	20-8	19-6	16-2
Do. 1892	9-5	13-6	13-0	11-8
Do. 1877	7-0	8-1	8-0	7-3

6. The condition of the people is reported to be generally fair except at Narasada relief work in Udayagiri taluk where the labourers and children are stated to show signs of insufficient nourishment. This is ascribed by the Collector to the introduction of the intermediate system of work and the absurd conduct of some labourers in refusing to work and partly to irregularity in paying the coolies. It is hoped that the last-mentioned cause has since been removed. The Collector recently submitted a separate report on the unsuitability of the intermediate system of works and he has been called upon to report further on the subject. There were four works open at the close of the fortnight under review, two of which were conducted on the intermediate system. The numbers on these works show an increase during the fortnight of 55 per cent., but the labourers on three other works struck work when the intermediate system was substituted for task work.

The Collector has been directed to discontinue feeding at kitchens those who are not dependents of workers and to open no more kitchens until the Government is satisfied that the test work stage is past and actual relief works are necessary.

The Board begs to repeat the request already made that the works in the district may be ordered to be taken over by the Public Works Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" Collector of Nellore.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

First copy sent to the Secretary.

Returned for signature.

Not attached in print.

Not attached in print.

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