$\frac{0}{9}$ 2,000—5-8-98.

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1987

DATED 6 May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording pending further report &c P.
submitting report from the Collector of Kistna
on the state of season in his District.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cur.	3894/98						
G.O.	2529	Revenue	16-6-98				

Dr 6/5/98

Revenue (1898) Department.

At para 5 of the D.C's report pen note in the margin that a "manika" = 144 tolas. In Narasaraopet (Para 9) a day's wage is given as 2 manikas = 288 tolas!

Show me the authority for the key to weight of a manika. ~~...~~

[illegible] 1/5

Put up a map — [illegible]

The note appears to have been made in the Board's office. According to the conversion tables the Vinukonda manika should be only 120 tolas, but there is reason to believe that the prescribed standard is not being conformed to (vide abstracts of B.P's 2964/19-5-93 & 1849/17-3-9 in the volume)

CURRENT No. RS

Put up
RS.
3-5-98

From The Board of Revenue, Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, Madras.

Order mis No: 1957 of 16th May 1897
[illegible]

[illegible] 4/5/98

Recorded pending further report

No. 158 Press.

RS
29-4-98

The Bd (Sett)
~~[illegible]~~
~~[illegible]~~

Recd. 9/5/98

Cur.
3574/98
[illegible]
3156

[illegible] 16/5/98

Dated 25th April 1898

Received 27th "

Registered 27th "

Enclosures 3 inray — 6

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

State of season.

Submitting to Government with remarks, report from the Collector of Kistna on the —— in his District.

C 4/5/1898.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
60	930	22-2-98	
"	772	30-1-97	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(Sett. 22—2,000—11 8-97.)

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE. MADRAS.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 25th April 1898

No. 158 Press. ~~series~~

READ the following letter from the Collector of Kistna, Ref. No: 168/B4 of 1896 dated 4th April 1898:-

I have the honour to submit the report called for in Para 4 of Board's Proceedings, Revenue Settlement, No: 925 Miscellaneous dated 8th February 1898.

60 930 / 22-2-98

2. Since the first week of February last, I have been in Tenali and Bapatla Taluks for Jamabundi and could not therefore visit the upland tract. I had already done so in December and January and

and the reports of my divisional officers have not been such as to cause me to think it necessary that I should do so again. These reports show that the season has been good in the deltaic portion and the upland tract except the Narasarowpeta Deputy Collector's ~~of~~ division particularly the Vinukonda taluk. Copies of the reports Ref. on Current No. 260/Hazur of 1898 dated 1st March 1898 and 19th March 1898 received from the Deputy Collector are submitted for favour of perusal.

3. The only tract for which any anxiety need be felt is as already stated the Vinukonda Taluk out of the 20 villages visited by the Deputy Collector, some of them being to the south of the Gundlakamma; the condition of the labouring classes in 4 villages is said to be far from satisfactory. Even here the people

Tamess C No. 3135 of 98.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

Printed June th.

Proceedings, No. 158, 25th April 1898.

APRIL.

State of season.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, report from the Collector of Kistna on the — in his district.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following letter from R. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of Kistna, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Masulipatam, 4th April 1898 Ref. No. 168-B.G.:—

I have the honour to submit the report called for in paragraph 4 of B.P., Mis. No. 925, Revenue Settlement, dated 8th February 1898.

2. Since the first week of February last, I have been in Tenali and Bápatla taluks for jamabandi and could not therefore visit the upland tract. I had already done so in December and January and the reports of my Divisional officers have not been such as to cause me to think it necessary that I should do so again. These reports show that the season has been good in the deltaic portion and the upland tract except the Narasaraopet Deputy Collector's division—particularly the Vinukonda taluk. Copies of the reports, Ref. on C. No. 260-Huzur, dated 1st and 19th March 1898, received from the Deputy Collector are submitted for favour of perusal.

3. The only tract for which any anxiety need be felt is, as already stated, the Vinukonda taluk. Out of the twenty villages visited by the Deputy Collector, some of them being to the south of the Gundlakamma, the condition of the labouring classes in four villages is said to be far from satisfactory. Even here, the people are not willing to work for famine wages. The further report promised by the Deputy Collector will be awaited before orders are issued for the starting of test relief works. Mr. Bryant, who settled the Vinukonda taluk, says in his letter, Dis. No. 4, Revenue, dated 3rd March 1898: "If this state of things be allowed to continue and if care be taken not to excite the apprehensions of the people by alarmist rumours or premature relief operations, I am of opinion that there will be no cause for anxiety."

4. The Deputy Collector proposes the removal of prickly-pear as the immediate famine work that can be started. I think this would be a mere waste of money. The plant will be allowed by the villagers to spread again. An estimate for Rs. 49,730 for repairs to the Guntúr-Chintalacheruvu road, section III, was sanctioned last year as a famine-relief work; this could give employment to 6,630 persons for three months. The Deputy Collector will, if necessary, be instructed to start this work on the intermediate system as soon as distress becomes acute.

5. There is, however, ample work in the delta for labourers if they will only go there. During this and next month, the canals have to be cleared of silt, and there is ample employment for all. The rate of wages is high in consequence of the difficulty in attracting labourers. It is not the policy of Government, I believe, to institute small relief works close to the labourers' houses, but rather to collect them on large works where they can be properly supervised. It seems to me that in these silt clearance operations, we have just the sort of works that are required. Some of the Vinukonda coolies have shown their willingness to go to the delta, and there is no good reason why others should not go too. When the silt clearance is over, these labourers will find employment at home in preparing the fields for cultivation in the monsoon.

6. Referring to paragraph 3 of the B.P., I beg to state that the estimate, that 20 per cent. of the population of the tract to the south of the Gundla-kamma river would require State relief, was not mine, but the Tahsildar's.

Enclosure No. 1.

Memorandum on the state of the season in the Narsaraopet division, Kistna district, dated 1st March 1898.

1. *Cultivation.*—Figures are not available at present for the Palnad taluk. The total area cultivated in the Narsaraopet taluk in the current fasli exceeds the average of the previous five faslis, but there is a fall in the Vinukonda taluk where the area cultivated in the current fasli is the smallest in the last six years.

	Average of faslis. 1302—1306	Fasli 1307
Narsaraopet, 252,148	189,886	159,282
Vinukonda, 148,756		

2. *Outturn.*—In the Palnad taluk, the average outturn of each crop is from 8 annas upwards.

Cholam, which is the principal food crop, yielded about half the average and *korra*, *variga* and *cumbu* are better. Cotton, which is the staple industrial crop of the taluk, is rather poor and is not expected to yield more than half the average outturn. The state of things is worse in the Narsaraopet and Vinukonda taluks. The staple food-crops in these taluks are *cholam*, *cumbu*, *variga* and *korra*.

Narsaraopet.	Vinukonda.
Acs.	Acs.
47,812 / 252,148	24,096 / 148,756
66,469 / 252,148	22,334 / 148,756
38,674 / 252,148	41,920 / 148,756
15,373 / 252,148	18,574 / 148,756
20,841 / 252,148	18,582 / 148,756
18,612 / 252,148	..
6,186 / 252,148	6,100 / 148,756
2,559 / 252,148	3,427 / 148,756
6,234 / 252,148	Included in miscellaneous 9,987.

Note.—In the above quotations, the figure above the line represents the cultivation under the particular crop referred to and the figure below the line represents the total cultivation of the taluk.

Cholam has failed almost entirely owing to blight, the estimated yield being from *nil* to 4 annas.

Variga, which is more largely cultivated in Narsaraope than in Vinukonda, has yielded an eight-anna crop in the former taluk and is slightly worse in the latter.

The outturn of *cumbu* is better; it being 12 annas in Narsaraopet and 8 annas in Vinukonda.

Korra has yielded a full or sixteen-anna crop in Narsaraopet, but it is only middling in Vinukonda.

The principal industrial crops in both taluks are *castors*, *indigo* and *cotton*.

The most important of these is castors which has yielded an eight-anna crop in Narsaraopet, but is very much worse in Vinukonda.

In several villages in the latter taluk, the plants have been entirely eaten away by caterpillars called "Jangapurugu" and, in other villages, the outturn is not more than 4 annas. In the Narsaraopet taluk, indigo comes next to castors, but it has yielded only a four-anna crop. There is very little indigo in Vinukonda.

The next important crop in both taluks is *cotton*, whose outturn is 8 annas in Narsaraopet and not much above 4 annas in Vinukonda.

Both in point of extent of land cultivated and in point of outturn, Palnad stands first and Vinukonda last. But the belief throughout the division is that the current year is worse than the last year. On the 10th and 11th ultimo, good showers fell throughout the division; they do good to the standing ragi crop, of which there is not, however, much in this division. On the other hand the land is said to damage tobacco by washing away the flavour-giving *grease* on the leaves and to do no good to cotton.

3. *Food stocks.*—There is no lack of food-grains in the Palnad taluk which exports cholam both to Narsaraopet and Vinukonda. There is little or no cholam in Narsaraopet and Vinukonda and the quantity of cumbu also is small. Both these taluks are importing large quantities of cholam, cumbu and ragi, chiefly the first two, from other districts, notably from Hindupur, Adoni, Gooty, Kurnool road and Nandyal railway station. Cholam is also imported on a smaller scale from Palnad. Although a portion of the imported grain is exported to the Nellore district, the bulk is consumed in the division. So long as the imports are kept up, there will be no lack of food-grains in the division. The bulk of the cultivators have food stocks which will last the whole year and some have more, but in view of the apprehended distress in the future, they are reluctant to sell any portion of their grain. This is notably the case in Narsaraopet and Vinukonda.

4. *Prices.*—Till the end of January, the prices were high, but since the beginning of the last month they have shown a tendency to fall, owing to large imports from other districts, and it is said that merchants are now selling grains more freely than a month ago. The average of the prices for the first 15 days of the last month is as follows:—

Seers of 80 tolas each.		Cholam.	Cumbu.
	Palnad	15·66	12·64
	Narsaraopet	11·13	11·96
	Vinukonda	13·23	14·14

The comparative cheapness of cholam in Palnad is due to the inferior quality of the grain, and, if allowance is made for this, the price of this article in this taluk will not be much lower than in Vinukonda.

The scarcity rate approved by Government for the district is 13 seers the rupee both for cholam and cumbu. In the Narsaraopet taluk, both the grains are dearer than the scarcity rates, and the same is the case with cumbu in Palnad. The prices in Vinukonda and the price of cholam in Palnad are slightly lower than the scarcity prices. It would seem that the prices of these grains in this district are the highest in the Presidency.

5. *Condition of the people.*—What with the partial failure of crops and the high prices, people in general find themselves in somewhat straightened circumstances, but none of the cultivating classes are likely to need State relief, nor will their pride allow them to avail themselves of it, if offered, except as a last resort. The classes that suffer most from high prices are the labouring classes In the Palnad taluk, cotton-picking will give them employment till about the middle of April and if the next south-west monsoon should set in punctually in June, there will be no difficulty in that taluk. In the Narsaraopet and Vinukonda taluks, the harvesting season has practically come to a close and there will be no work in the fields till the setting in of the monsoon. Labourers from some villages are reported to have gone to the Delta taluks of the district in search of employment. Those that remain can, the Tahsildars report, live on their savings till the next cultivation season and are not likely to need relief except, perhaps, in a few villages bordering on the Nellore and Kurnool districts. The villages that have fared worst in the Vinukonda taluk are the following:—

(1) Uppalapaud.
(2) Chintalacheruvu.
(3) Murtuzapuram.
(4) Putchanutala.
(5) Kanamalacheruvu.
(6) Gandiganamala.

In these villages crops have failed largely, and the labouring classes are reported to have no employment. But the Tahsildar thinks that there will be no need for relief "if the prices fall and the monsoon sets in favourably in June." I should think, however, that, unless prices fall appreciably in the meantime, work will have to be found for the people in these villages from April to middle of June. The works that can be taken in hand at once are (1) removal of prickly-pear which abounds in most villages, (2) repairs to the Guntúr-Chintalacheruvu road, section (iii) and (3) minor irrigation works. The first affords employment for about a fortnight. For the second work, the Local Fund Engineer has an estimate ready for Rs. 56,000, which is expected to give employment for 8,000 persons for about three months.

The marginally-noted minor irrigation works have been proposed to the Board of Revenue for execution in 1898–99. They can be started immediately after the sanction is received. A number of large irrigation works have been included in the list of Famine Relief Programme, but it is not known whether estimates have been prepared for them by the Public Works Department. The Superintending Engineer has been addressed on the subject and his reply is awaited. The works which are really to be started are sufficient to give employment to men really in distress for not less than four months. In the Narsaraopet taluk, the worst villages are:—

	Rs.
(1) Andugulapaud	200
(2) Kanamalacheruvu	300
(3) Gandiganamala	200
(4) Vellatur	200
Total ..	900

(1) Dronadula.
(2) Darisi.
(3) Konanki.
(4) Babbepalli.
(5) Marutur.
(6) Punoor, &c.

These are situated near the Nellore frontier. The Tahsildar reports that tobacco, chillies and similar industrial crops are grown in these villages in preference to food-grains. Owing to this cause and to high prices, the labouring classes are likely to require employment in April and May. The works ready to be executed in these parts are (1) removal of prickly-pear, (2) repairs of Yeddanapudi tank, (3) minor irrigation works and (4) repairs to the Great Northern Trunk road. Removal of prickly-pear is estimated to cost Rs. 500, Yeddanapudi tank about Rs. 3,000 and minor irrigation works Rs. 300. For repairs to the Great Northern Trunk road, the Local Fund Engineer has got an estimate ready for Rs. 50,000. All these works will furnish employment to the really distressed for not less than four months.

6. *Drinking-water.*—Drinking-water is sufficient generally, but in parts it is getting scarce. The Taluk Board is doing what it can in the matter, and if necessary, it intends applying for contribution from the District Board Funds.

7. *Health of the people.*—The health of the people is generally good. There are no epidemics either in Palnad or in Narsaraopet. Cholera exists in two villages of the Vinukonda taluk, and the certificated Sanitary Inspector has been deputed to distribute medicines. A sort of informal inspection is being made at Pondugal and Dachepalli of persons coming from His Highness the Nizam's territories in view of the contingency of the plague being introduced. At present the plague is reported only from the Naldroog district in the Hyderabad territory. It is as yet premature to institute elaborate inspections.

8. *Condition of the cattle.*—The condition of the cattle is good in the Palnad taluk. From some villages of the Narsaraopet and Vinukonda taluks, cattle diseases are reported, chiefly dysentery. Pasture is or is getting scarce, but fodder is abundant.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From M.R.Ry. J. RAMAYYA PANTULU Garu, B.A., B L., General Deputy Collector, Narsaraopet, to the Collector of Kistna, dated Kondavidu, 19th March 1898, Ref. on C. No. 260—Huzur.

In continuation of my letter, R. C. No. 260, dated 2nd March 1898, I have the honour to report that I visited the following villages in the Vinukonda taluk, namely:—

1. Dondapadu.
2. Perurpadu.
3. Kanamalacheruvu.
4. Gutlapalli
5. Koppukonda.
6. Neelagangavaram.
7. Kottapalem.
8. Murtuzapuram.
9. Tangirala.
10. Lingamukkupalli.
11. Peddavaram.
12. Inavole.
13. Panudipadu.
14. Burripalem, } Hamlets of Putsanutala.
15. Mekapadu, }
16. Ravvanaram, }
17. Gotlagatla, }
18. Nuzendla, }
19. Vetrayuni, Appapuram.
20. Uppalapadu.

I will note down below my observations about these villages under each of the heads given in your letter, R. C. No. 168, dated 24th February 1898.

2. *Condition of crops and their harvest.*—A statement giving this information is appended to this letter.

Cholam has been a general failure throughout the taluk, and is worse in Murtuzapuram, where it has not produced even fodder. The other food crops have yielded in varying degrees, but castors have failed entirely in Uppalapadu and Neelagangavaram. The only standing crop is ragi, which is chiefly grown in the river side villages where it is doing well. In Murtuzapuram it is withering away in parts for want of water. All the crops except ragi, and perhaps cotton in a very few places, have been harvested. The early sown ragi is being harvested and the late sown will be on the ground for another twenty days or so.

3. *Demand for labour for poorer classes.*—Generally speaking there is very little demand for labour. Now what little of harvesting there is, is being done mostly by the ryots themselves and the other members of their families for economy. When a cooly is engaged, he is now paid a manika of grain a day, its value being about two annas. Several persons of the labouring classes have gone to the Tenali and Bápatla taluks in search of employment. Want of demand for labour is the usual characteristic of this part of the year and the labouring population should not have felt it but for the high prices.

4. *Water-supply.*—The river side villages depend upon the rivers for supply of drinking-water which never fail. When the flow ceases, small wells are dug in the bed of the stream at little or no cost. Inconvenience arising from want of good drinking-water is being felt in.—

1. Murtuzapuram,
2. Koppukonda,
3. Mekapadu,
4. Ravvanaram (Malas), and,
5. Kotta Uppalapadu,

where the existing fresh water wells have been filled up. The Tahsildar has been asked to submit to the Taluk Board estimates for deepening these wells, and the Taluk Board will sanction the works in due course. There is scarcity of water in Vetrayuni Appapuram Agraharam also, the fresh water well in which, is silted up. The well is the private property of the Agraharamdar who is too poor either to repair it or to make it over to the Taluk Board. The Tahsildar has been asked to submit proposals for acquiring the well or digging a fresh well in the village. There is no difficulty on this score in the other villages.

5. *Food stocks.*—Food stocks in the villages may be said to be on the whole insufficient in the sense that they will not last till the harvest season. The richer ryots have enough for themselves and perhaps more, but the average ryots' stock is small. This is the result not only of the decrease in the produce of food grains but also of the decrease in the produce of the chief industrial crops, viz., castors and cotton, which decrease has necessitated the sale, for payment of Government revenue of a portion of food grains which would otherwise have been reserved. I have examined ten houses in Neelagangavaram and six in Kotta Uppalapadu and the quantity of grain I found therein was nothing compared to what I thought the ryots should possess considering the extent of their hordings and the number of their cattle. Murtuzapuram and Putsanutala (with its hamlets) are of the same class. The remaining villages are better, but even then there must be several even among the ryot population who will have to buy their grain before the next crop is harvested. But plenty of imported grain is available in Vinukonda, and also in 2 or 3 centres of the taluk. One of which is Vellatur; Kanamalacheruvu, and the neighbouring villages get their supplies from Vellatur, Gutlapalli, and Neelagangavaram from Manepalli and some other villages in the Markapuram taluk, Murtuzapuram from Kurucheda and the other villages from Vinukonda direct. For the reason that grain goes from Vinukonda to the villages, it is cheaper in Vinukonda than in the villages. The average price of sazza may be taken at eight manikas a rupee, while cholam is cheaper by from ½ to ¾ manika a rupee. Vinukonda has, I believe, decent stocks of all dry grains. Owing to the fall in prices early in last month, imports have decreased. The prices are, however, to rise again in the next few months, and I dare say the imports will revive also. On the whole, the demand for food-grains may be trusted to be met by private trade.

6. *Pasture and Fodder.*—There is little or no pasture, but fodder is generally sufficient. The cattle are in good condition.

7. *Indications of Famine.*—This question has been, to some extent, dealt with incidentally in what has been said above. I will deal with each village separately.

Taking Kanamalacheruvu first, there are about 70 persons who live by labour in this village. They are mostly Malas and Madigas. At the time of my first visit, some were working in the ragi fields and others were engaged in selling fuel which they cut in the neighbouring forest on payment. Fuel-selling seems to be the chief occupation of the women of these classes when they have no more remunerative employment. I found the men, women and children in good condition. They did not complain of want of food, nor did they come to me till I sent for them. There are about ten Lambadi families who live mainly by tending cattle sent here for grazing from the delta taluks. At the time of my visit the male members of these families had gone to those taluks to get advances from cattle owners. Some of the men own land also. On the whole, I think there is not much cause for anxiety about this village before June.

The cooly population of *Gutlapalli* consists almost entirely of Madigas who have not complained to me of want of employment, and who are, I am informed by the village officers, entirely supported by the ryot population for whom they make shoes and mhotes, there being in the village a large extent of ragi cultivation carried on with Kalleru water raised by mhotes.

The poorer classes in the following villages are by no means bad and nothing need be done for them now, viz. :—

(1) Dondapadu.
(2) Perurpadu.
(3) Koppukonda.
(4) Kottapalem.
(5) Tanjirala.
(6) Linjamukkupalli.
(7) Peddavaram.
(8) Inavole.
(9) Panudipadu.
(10) Nuzundla.
(11) Vetrayani Appapuram Agraharam.

In the following villages the condition of the labouring classes is far from satisfactory :—

(1) Neelagangavaram.
(2) Murtuzapuram.
(3) Putsanutala with its hamlets of—
  (*a*) Mekapadu.
  (*b*) Ravvanaram.
  (*c*) Burripalem.
  (*d*) Gotlagatla.
  (*e*) Ramidipalem.
  (*f*) Mupparazuvaripalem.
(4) Uppalapadu.

Several men from these villages have already emigrated to the Tenali and Bapatla taluks in search of employment, the demand for which must be getting scarce even there now. There are still a large number living in the villages. I append in the margin a statement showing the number that have already emigrated and the number still remaining in the villages. These people are certainly living from hand to mouth. They are said to have consumed wild grains of sorts. I could not find these grains in their houses; they said they had exhausted them. In some places fruits of the prickly-pear

Name of village.	Number of persons that emigrated.	Number still remaining in the village.
Pamidipadu	13	14 families.
Neelajangavaram	14	56 persons.
Nuzandla	..	100 ,,
Putchanutala	..	280 ,,
Savalyapuram	137	283 ,,

are freely eaten. At Mekapad I saw Mala women and children carrying these fruits in baskets from the fields. Except that they are not nutritious, these fruits are said to do no harm. These people asked for employment, but they want 2 annas a day. They are, as a rule, unwilling to work for famine wages which are after all more favourable to them as they include free feeding of the old, the young, and the infirm. I think that these people will come round in a few weeks and accept the famine wages but until they do so, it is useless starting any test relief works for them. I have asked the Tahsildar to visit these villages again in the first week of April and report at the end of that week how far the cooly population is willing to work for famine wages, and I shall submit my report in due course. Savalyapuram and Agnigundala are reported to be more or less in the same predicament as the other villages just disposed of, and they will be dealt with in the further report to be sent in the second week of April.

8. *Proposals to meet Famine.*—If test relief works have to be opened, removal of prickly-pear is the one thing that can be started immediately in all the villages. This will give employment for a fortnight on the average. As for big works, there is the Agnigundala tank scheme included in the famine relief programme.

The Executive Engineer says that earth-work for about Rs. 4,000 is available for famine relief and that the work can be started immediately. This will give employment to the people of Agnigundala and the Savalyapuram people must also go there. As regards the other villages, the only big works which I can think of as eligible from a famine point of view, are two roads from Vinukonda—one *via* Timmayapalem, Surepalli, Sivapuram, Andugulapadu and Neelagangavaram to meet the Kurnool frontier at Ummadivaram on the Gundlakamma, and the other *via*, Uppalapadu, Talarlapalli, Nuzendla and Pustamitala to join the Darsi division at Mupparazuvaripalem on our side of the frontier. These are good cart-tracks along with these lines and I am informed that there is good traffic on them. The traffic between Darsi and Potakamuru on the one side and Vinukonda on the other which is not inconsiderable, all passes along the second line sketched above, and the line lies among villages which are the first to be affected in a bad year. The proposed road will, therefore, make a good famine work. The first road may not be so very useful though there are no statistics to judge by, but it is also very well adopted for a famine work in that part of the taluk. I have accordingly requested the Local Fund Engineer to have estimates prepared for these two works as early as practicable, and I request that my action may be approved.

9. In the Narsaraopet taluk I have visited the following villages which are among those mentioned to me by Rev. Powell as villages in which the Pariah population was suffering for want of work :—

Konanki, Martur, Dagaramudi and Tatapudi. In these and the neighbouring villages of Deonadula, Polur, Kolalapudi, &c., chillies and tobacco are grown largely and in preference to food grains, and these crops have yielded very well this year. The ryots thereof are in a good condition and the cooly population still finds employment in tobacco-curing, &c. The daily wage paid to a cooly here is two manikas a day which is double of what his Vinukonda brother gets. I was therefore not surprised to find that the cooly population who came when sent for did not agree to work for famine wages. I have instructed the Tahsildar to again visit these villages and also those along the Madras-Hyderabad road south of Kommalapadu in the first of April. Myself intend visiting the second set of villages early in April. If any works have to be started here, repairs to the roads for which estimates have already been prepared by the Local Fund Engineer would be the best and they can be started without delay.

APPENDIX.

STATEMENT showing the area cultivated under different crops in Vinukonda taluk.

Names of villages.	Cumbu.		Cholam.		Varigu.		Korra.		Paddy.		Ragi.		Castors.		Cotton.		Miscellaneous crops.	Total cultivation up to the end of December 1897.	Population.	Deaths during the year 1897.	Percentage.
	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.	Extent.	Outturn.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	ACS.	ANS.	ACS.	ANS.	ACS.	ANS.	ACS.	ANAS.	ACS	ANNAS.	ACS.	ANNAS	ACS.	ANNAS.	ACS.	ANNAS	ACS.	ACS.			
1. Dondapand	726·37	12	332·42	4	85·05	4	333·34	4	12·35	..	32 00	4	242·18	4	210·37	4	63·99	2,687·07	1,168	83	3
2. Perurpaud	742 57	8	179·21	..	164 20	4	313 83	4	..	..	36 50	4	334·76	4	131·12	4	24·14	1,926·53	966	27	3
3. Kannamelacheruvu.	182·18	8	29·47	4	43·46	4	60 41	4	..	..	16·76	8	34·72	4	14·85	..	12·37	418·89	284	6	2
4. Gutkapalli	337·04	8	69·61	4	94 97	4	289·76	9	24 18	4	196 21	16	102 95	12	92·14	..	164·51	1,871·87	1,227	23	2
5. Koppukonda ..	704 86	8	16 00	4	100 00	4	200·60	4	22 58	..	91 59	..	60·00	..	23·86	4	123·01	1,881·46	1,671	28	1
6. Neelagangavaram ..	187·15	12	63·14	..	65·40	..	86 99	..	..	..	16 43	4	141·96	..	71·13	..	37·41	895·01	575	10	1
7. Kottapalem ..	622·71	4	370 51	4	32 38	4	312·39	4	21 02	16	47·19	8	472·64	4	351·48	4	41·02	2,103·98	1,036	19	2
8. Murtuzapuram ..	265 11	8	476·80	..	69 03	8	181 79	..	..	..	64·12	..	236·02	4	237·45	4	71·03	1,602·65	678	12	2
9. Tangirala	108 82	4	88 49	4	60·11	8	53 38	4	72 54	..	13·52	8	96·28	4	87·18	4	7·53	516·31	460	7	1
10. Linganmukkapalli ..	808 90	4	874 16	4	207·45	4	283·49	4	..	4	103·07	4	672·81	4	626·35	4	281·26	3,789·03	1,450	23	2
11. Peddavaram ..	81 10	8	167 84	4	20·65	4	142 63	4	..	..	24·10	8	63·66	4	2·00	8	2·61	494 39	871	..	..
12. Ainavolu	1,609·26	8	763 64	4	39·67	8	285 67	8	27 68	4	148·26	..	365·78	4	283·30	4	276·12	3,952·20	2,047	29	1
13. Pamidipadu ..	968·63	8	933·29	4	122·92	8	430 98	8	..	..	26 98	4	30·00	4	236·42	4	321·29	3,919·26	1,091	28	3
14. Burripalem ..	1,293·68	8	1,025 19	..	12·95	8	383·27	8	..	..	29·04	..	707·98	4	192·14	4	25·47	3,852·73	1,561	38	2
15. Mekapadu											45·86	..	674·29	4	192·14	4	149·72	2,698·62	1,165	20	2
16. Ravvavaram ..											111·69	..	331·38	4	163·61	4	8·01	972·87	1,201	15	1
17. Gollagatla ..											..	..	219 86	4	53·20	8	204·47	2,148·59	906	12	1
18. Nujendla	400 00	8	336 38	..	800 00	12	300 00	8	..	..	15·73	4	294·49	..	161·67	4					
	243·13	4			196·94	4	165 72	4	..	..											
19. Vetrayuni	200·00	8	180 86	..	65 68	4	184 06	4	..	..											
Appapuram ..	76·92	4		..		..		..	..	..											
20. Uppalapadu ..	406 02	4	411·99	..	340 56	4	233·66	4	..	..											

RESOLUTION—No. 158, dated 25th April 1898.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., Mis. No. 930, dated 22nd February 1898.

2. The price of both cholam and cumbu (the staple food-grains) is dearer than the scarcity rate in Narasaraopet taluk; but the Collector considers that it is in Vinukonda, where prices are slightly easier, that the pressure of bad crops and high prices is most felt. Portions of this taluk bordering on the Kurnool and Nellore districts are reported to be in a critical state. Even in the worst affected villages, however, the labourers are stated to be not yet willing to work for famine wages.

Silt clearing from the delta canals affords room for the employment of large numbers in April and May, and, as remarked by the Collector, there is no reason why this resource should not be freely availed of by such as are in real want. Some of the labouring classes have already proceeded to the delta in search of work.

3. The Collector awaits a further report from the Deputy Collector, on receipt of which he will decide as to the need for starting test relief works. In case the opening of relief works becomes necessary, the Collector's proposal in paragraph 4 of his letter to start the repairs to the Guntúr-Chintalacheruvu road, section III, on the intermediate system, may be approved.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. B. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three enclosures in original to be returned. (Mss. Copy already sent)

" Collector of Kistna (Divisional officers—Tahsildars).

Exd. C. Parthasarathy.

people are not willing to
work for famine wages. The
further report promised by the
Deputy Collector will be awaited
before orders are issued for
the starting of Test Relief
Works. Mr Bryant who
settled the Venukonda Taluk,
says in his letter Dis No: 4
Revenue of 1898 dated 3rd
March 1898 "If this state
of things be allowed to con-
tinue and if care be taken
not to excite the apprehensions
of the people by alarmist rumours
or premature relief operations,
I am of opinion that there
will be no cause for anxiety."

4. The Deputy Collector
proposes the removal of
prickly pear as the immediate
famine work that can be
started. I think this would
be a mere waste of money
the plant will be allowed by
the villagers to spread again
An estimate for Rs 49,730
for

for repairs to the Guntur - Chintalachervu road section III was sanctioned last year as a famine relief work; this Could give employment to 6630 persons for 3 months. The Deputy Collector will, if necessary be instructed ~~asked~~ to start this work in the intermediate system as soon as distress becomes acute.

5. There is however ample work in the Delta for labourers if they will only go there. During this and next month the Canals have to be cleared of silt and there is ample employment for all. The rate of wages is high in Consequence of the difficulty in attracting ~~lab~~ labourers. It is not the policy of Government, I believe, to institute small relief works close to the labourer's houses but rather to Collect them on large works where they Can be properly supervised. It seems to me that in these silt clearance operations, we have just the work of works that are required. Some of the Venkonda Coolies have shown their willingness to go to the Delta and there is no good reason why others should not go too. When the silt clearance is over, these labourers will find employment at home in preparing the fields for cultivation in the monsoon.

6. Referring to Para 3 of the Board's Proceedings, I beg to state that the estimate that 20 percent of the population of the track to the south of the Gundlakamma river would require ~~to~~ State relief was not mine but the Tahsildar's.

Resolution.

Submitted to Government with reference to Government Order, 930 this dated 22nd February 1898.

2. The price of both cholam and cumbu (the staple food grains) is dearer than the scarcity rate in Narasaraopet Taluk; but the Collector considers that it is in Vinukonda where prices are slightly easier that the pressure of bad crops and high prices is most felt. Portions of this taluk bordering on the Kurnool and Nellore Districts are reported to be in a critical state. Even in the worst affected villages, however the labourers are stated to be not yet willing to work for famine wages. Silt clearing from the Delta Canals affords room for the employment of large numbers in April and May, and as remarked by the Collector, there is no reason why this resource should not be freely availed of by such as are in real want. Some of the labouring classes have already proceeded to the Delta in search of work

3. The Collector awaits a further report from the Deputy Collector, on receipt of which he will decide as to the need for starting test relief works. In case the opening of relief works becomes necessary, the Collector's proposal in Para 4 of his letter to start the repairs to the Guntur-Chintala cheruvu road section III or the intermediate system may be approved.

(True copy and Extract)

K. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To,
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with 3 enclosures in original to be returned.

The Collector of Kistna.

Ext 21/6

URGENT.

CIRCULATION.

Season in Kistna

3 His Excellency The GOVERNOR.

2 The Honourable Sir HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

1 The Honourable Mr. GROSE, C.I.E.

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STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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