Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 259

Dated 6th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly narrative

Recording Board's Proc. Submg. to Govt. Their remarks, thereon — of the Nellore district for the period Ending 31st March 1898.

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

FURNISHED PAPERS.

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

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Consult No 324 &.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. 1 May
Regd. 3 "
} 1898.

Enclosures Nil 4/5/98

Spare copies

Printed April th.

Proceedings, No. 154, 22nd April 1898.

H.T. No. 2598 6-5-98

Recorded 8/5/15

APRIL.

The RD (Sett.)
The CCS
The Board
The Land Dept
The A-G
RS
4-5-98

Despts. 17-5-98

8/6

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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Nellore district for the period ending 31st March 1898:—

State of Country.

Rainfall.—Nil throughout the district.

Water-supply—Sub-division—Ongole taluk.—The tanks throughout the taluk are dry. The supply in wells is generally sufficient for the crops under them. Drinking-water is generally available. *Kanigiri and Podili taluks.*—All tanks are dry. Drinking-water is becoming scarce in parts. Steps are being taken to improve the supply where necessary. *Darsi division.*—Drinking-water generally sufficient.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division—Atmakúr taluk.—Only four tanks contain water, three containing 20 days' and one 10 days' supply. Water-supply is inadequate for irrigation purposes except under the Pennér channels. Drinking-water is generally sufficient. *Udayagiri taluk.*—No supply in tanks. Drinking-water is generally sufficient.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division—Nellore taluk.—The Kanigiri reservoir contains a small quantity of water. The Nellore tank is empty, but irrigation is going on under it from river channel. Five tanks in the delta contain 10 days' supply. Water-supply is generally sufficient for drinking purposes. *Kávali taluk.*—All tanks are empty. There is no scarcity of drinking-water.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Water for irrigation purposes is *nil*, except in the Muthukur firka. Wells contain sufficient supply for irrigation. Drinking-water is generally sufficient except in a few villages of the Sríharikóta firka, in some villages in the Gudur taluk and in a few villages in the Rapur taluk. The Gudur Taluk Board President will be requested to sink wells where necessary.

2. Agricultural operations and condition of the Standing crops—*Sub-division—Ongole taluk.*—Chillies, castor-oil, cotton and ragi over small areas of Addanki division are being harvested with an outturn of As. 8, As. 4 to 8, As. 4 to 8 and As. 16, respectively. The standing crops, ragi, cotton and tobacco, are reported to be in fair condition.

Kandukur taluk.—Ragi under wells is being harvested. The outturn ranges from As. 12 to 16. Dry crops have all been cut. The outturn was between As. 2 and 8. *Kanigiri taluk.*—Ragi under wells has been harvested. Dry lands are being ploughed for cumbu and cholam. Tobacco has also been harvested. Harvested ragi and tobacco; yielded generally a good outturn of about As. 12. Cotton, oil-seeds, paddy and cholam have also been cut with an outturn of below As. 4.

Podili division.—Garden ragi is being harvested and second-crop cumbu and Palapu cholam are being sown in the place of ragi. Castor-oil and cotton gave almost no outturn.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division—Atmakúr taluk.—Ragi under wells is being harvested. Standing crops are paddy (second crop) and ragi. Both are expected to yield As. 8 to 12. *Udayagiri taluk.*—Ragi under wells is being cut. What remains on the ground is thriving. The expected outturn is As. 4 to 12. Tobacco is said to be tender. *Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division—Nellore taluk.*—Ploughing operations have ceased. Indigo is being sown in some wet lands, on which paddy has been cut in parts of Kovur firka. Second crop in wet lands is generally withering for want of water. The standing crops are paddy, cholam and ragi. The harvested crops are paddy (outturn As. 4 to 16), cholam, ragi and oil-seeds—outturn As. 4 to 8. *Kávali taluk.*—Paddy and cholam are being cut, and cotton picked. One hundred and sixty-eight acres of paddy and 13,501 acres of cholam were cut during the fortnight. The cholam yielded well. The standing crops are paddy, cholam and ragi. The last two are expected to yield As. 8 to 12.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Most of the paddy and cholam has been harvested. Ragi and tobacco are beginning to be harvested in parts with good results. Indigo is being sown in parts of the Muthukur firka and ragi in the eastern villages of Sríharikóta and elsewhere.

3. *Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Sub-division.*—Fodder is available though at high prices in Kandukur and Kanigiri taluks and is insufficient in Podili division. But little pasture is available. Condition of cattle is generally good. Diarrhœa and dysentery prevail in four villages and epizootic aphtha in many villages of the Darsi division. The last-named disease is also prevalent in one village of the Addanki division. Rinderpest and epizootic aphtha prevail in Kanigiri taluk where milch cows and buffaloes are in poor condition.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division.—Fodder is scarce in Udayagiri taluk and sufficient in Atmakúr taluk. Pasture is *nil* everywhere. Condition of cattle is generally fair except in parts of Udayagiri taluk. Malignant sore-throat and foot and mouth disease prevail in six villages of Atmakúr taluk and two villages of Udayagiri taluk.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Fodder is generally sufficient in the delta villages, but pasture is scanty. Condition of cattle generally good. Rinderpest prevails in Kávali.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Fodder generally available except in parts where crops failed. Pasture is *nil* everywhere.

4. *General remarks on the previous subjects—Sub-division.*—The recent harvest of ragi has to a slight extent improved prospects, but as the extent under ragi is not large, the benefit derived is small and not lasting.

The Head Assistant Collector remarks that though there may have been failure of crops in occasional villages, there can be no distress in the division as a whole or even in any considerable tracts. He also reports as follows:—"There is also ample work in Bezwada-Madras State Railway in breaking ballast, &c., in the Polur taluk, *e.g.*, the demand for labour is greater than supply, and there is keen competition for it among the contractors. The work of clearing silt from the Buckingham canal also continues, though it is stated that it will shortly come to a close; when this happens, it is quite likely that the Sríharikóta villagers may suffer to some extent."

Food supplies and the state of the Markets.

5. *Prices* of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 26th March 1898.

Stations.	Rice, second 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	9·40	9·40	12·60	12·60	14·45	11·90	11·55	11·55	
Addanki ..	9·40	9·40	12·60	12·60	..	..	11·55	11·55	
Darsi	9·40	9·40	12·67	12·67	13·60	14·45	10·66	10 66	
Podili	8·16	9·40	13·58	13·58	13·60	15·20	10·66	11·48	
Kandukur ..	7·99	7 99	12·67	12·67	14·03	14·03	11·48	11·48	
Kanigiri ..	7·52	7·52	14·48	14·48	13 60	17·00	11·55	12·38	
Atmakúr ..	9·40	9·40	14·48	14·48	13·60	13·60	..	..	
Udayagiri ..	..	..	13 58	15·39	12·75	12·75	12·30	12·30	
Kávali	9 40	9·40	13·58	12·67	13·60	14·03	..	..	
Nellore	9·01	10·60	14·42	14·42	14·40	14·40	13·16	13·16	
Allúr	8·48	9·54	..	..	11 52	11·52	..	..	
Gudur	8·48	8 48	..	..	13·44	13·44	..	..	
Kotah	7·42	7·42	..	..	10·56	12·48	10·34	12·22	
Pólúr	8·48	8·48	..	..	11·76	11·76	..	..	
Rapur	..	..	10·80	11·70	..	12·75	10·73	11·55	
Venkatagiri ..	8·48	8·48	..	..	14·40	14·40	13·16	13·16	
Average ..	8·67	8·92	13·22	13·39	13·24	13·59	11·56	11·95	

	Scarcity rates.	Warning rates.
Rice.	8·40	11·20
Cholam.	13·00	19·50
Ragi.	14·00	21·00
Cumbu.	12·00	18·00

The reason for the rise in the price of ragi at Ongole has not been reported.

6. *Activity of trade—Sub-division.*—Private trade is active. Markets are well stocked with grain. Cumbu is being imported to Addanki from Vinukonda. Cumbu and ragi into Podili division from Kurnool and Bellary districts and rice into Podili division from Ongole. Five-hundred candies of ragi, 200 of cholam and 300 of cumbu were imported into Darsi from places not reported.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division.—Private trade is active. Cholam, ragi and cumbu are being imported from Cuddapah. Paddy is being exported to Nellore taluk.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Private trade is active in paddy, which is being exported to Madras by canal.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Private trade is active.

7. CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally fair.

In villages.—Generally good except in parts of Podili division.

8. SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

No deaths from starvation.

Sub-division.—Cholera appeared in one village of Addanki division, with four attacks and no death; in one village of Kandukur taluk with four attacks and two deaths; and in Kanigiri taluk with five attacks and five deaths. There were three cases of small-pox in the Kanigiri taluk, one of which proved fatal.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division.—Cholera in four villages in Atmakúr taluk, with forty-six attacks and thirty-one deaths and in one village of Udayagiri taluk, seven attacks and five deaths. Small-pox, chicken-pox and measles prevail in four villages of Atmakúr taluk; one case of small-pox proved fatal. Small-pox also exists in mild form in Udayagiri taluk, where two deaths occurred.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Cholera in twenty villages of Nellore taluk. Ninety-two deaths occurred out of 156 attacks. Small-pox in one village of Nellore taluk and one village of Kavali taluk. In the former there were two attacks and one death and in the latter thirty attacks and two deaths.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Cholera has subsided considerably though there are still cases in isolated villages.

9. *Remarks.*—Prices are easier than in the previous fortnight due to the importation of fresh grain both from local harvest and from neighbouring districts. Paddy from Kistna and dry grains from Cuddapah are largely imported.

10. MEASURES OF RELIEF.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Kanigiri Taluk.			
Narramarella near Pamur ..	1,151	915	Task work with kitchen.
Nandanavanam	6	127	Intermediate system. No kitchen,
Podili Division.			
Pedarikatla	2,811	1,663	Task work with kitchen. The decrease is due to ragi harvest.
Udayagiri Taluk.			
Nellatur	815	480	Intermediate system. No kitchen. This work has been ordered to be closed.
Narravada	1,130	703	Intermediate system with kitchen. This work has been handed over to Public Works Department. The fall in numbers is attributed to harvesting of ragi and cholam.
Total ..	5,913	3,888	

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.
Kanigiri Taluk.								
Narramarella	60	61	..	..	..	..	..	..
Podili Division.								
Pedarikatla	24	41	..	..	..	..	..	..
Udayagiri Taluk.								
Narravada	42	47	..	..	..	..	..	..
	126	149	..	..	..	..	..	..

11. *General remarks—Atmakur Deputy Collector's division.*—Labour is at present procurable on account of harvest of cholam, ragi, &c.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Labour is abundant in delta villages and the working classes in non-delta villages go to delta villages and railway works in the Nellore taluk. Applications under the Loans Acts are being received and are being enquired into. In the Kavali taluk, labouring classes have sufficient work in harvesting operations and railway ballast work.

12. *Collector's remarks.*—Theaffected area remains the same and I propose, unless the Board disapproves, to restrict future narratives to the Sub-Collector's and Atmakur Deputy Collector's divisions. I shall, however, continue to obtain fortnightly reports from the Head Assistant Collector. The condition of the affected tracts may be said to have slightly improved during the past fortnight. Prices are easier, and in Darsi, Podili and Kanigiri the price of ragi has fallen below scarcity rates while in Udayagiri cholam is much below the scarcity rate. With this fall in prices and the demand for labour for harvesting, the numbers on works have fallen from 5,913 to 3,888. They will, however, increase again, I anticipate, before the end of this month, though not to any very great extent. The attendance at kitchens has increased however, which I think, shows that those on the works are really becoming hard pressed for food. I have been on tour during the fortnight in the eastern portion of the Darsi division, and find the state of things there much less serious than I had been led to believe by the reports of the Sub-Collector and the Deputy Tahsildar. Owing to the continued change in officers, the Sub-Collector has not toured in the division for the past four months and has had to depend entirely upon the statements of the Deputy Tahsildar, whom I have had to remove for general incompetence. In only one or two villages near Darsi was any complaint of want of work made to me and even in these villages examination of the supply of grain existing with the poorer classes showed that they would not, in general, be likely to suffer from want for some time to come. I propose therefore to give up the idea of opening a work at Chendalur, sanctioned in B.P., Mis. No. 1033 (Rev. Sett.), dated 11th February 1898; and should it be found advisable later on to supply any work, I shall do so by increasing the current year's allotment for the Darsi-Kuruchedu road which I found in a disgraceful state and which requires metalling over about the whole length of 12 miles.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Kandukur ...	30	3,220	19	985	21	2,710	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	3,220	19	985	21	2,710
Atmakúru ...	9	710	9	710	60	10,770	...	...	...	...	29	2,820	...	...	...	...	27	2,820	...	...	...	...	13	1,650	9	710	9	710	73	12,420
Udayagiri ...	8	1,500	8	1,000	71	10,760	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	1,070	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1,500	8	1,000	71	10,760
Total ...	47	5,430	36	2,695	152	24,240	...	...	...	...	29	2,820	...	...	...	...	36	3,890	...	...	...	...	13	1,650	47	5,430	36	2,695	165	25,890

Taluks.	Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Kandukur ...	...	...	...	...	...	4,840
Atmakúru ...	...	...	...	...	66	1,070
Udayagiri ...	...	...	...	...	9	6,910
Total ...	...	...	...	...	65	

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

Sub-Collector—
Took charge on 24th March 1898.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector—

Udayagiri taluk ... ...
- Karatampad.
- Dharmarowcheruvupalli.
- Nallagonda.
- Byravaram.
- Agundemadakala.
- Yerukollu.
- Duttalur.
- Nandipad.
- Udayagiri.
- Chinna Machanur.
- Nandavaram.
- Narravada.

Head quarters Deputy Collector—

Kávali taluk ... ...
- Kávali.
- Tallapallem.
- Zuvvaladinne.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector—cont.

Kávali taluk—*cont.* ...
- Annagaripollem.
- Menuganur.
- Kadanoothala.

Collector—

Podili division ... ...
- Podili.
- Rayavaram.

Darsi division ... ...
- Kocherlokota.
- Kuruchedu.
- Darsi.
- Bojanampalli.
- Venkatachellampalli.
- Rajampalli.
- Pittapadu.
- Polipolli.
- Ramapuram.
- Virangapollem.
- Rangoyapollem.
- Chalivendra.

Resolution—No. 154, dated 22nd April 1898.

Submitted to Government.

2. The situation is practically unchanged. There was no rain during the fortnight. In the affected tract—Darsi, Podili, Kanigiri, Udayagiri and part of Atmákúr,—all tanks are empty, but the water-supply from wells still holds out.

3. In the above tract, the crops harvested during the fortnight, and those still standing are mostly small areas under wells, and baling sources, which have yielded fairly.

From the cultivation statements for fasli 1306, the Board notes that the areas under well cultivation in the Government taluks in the affected tract were as follows:—

	Acs.
Kanigiri	8,000
Udayagiri	6,000
Atmákúr	6,400

4. Cotton, castors and cholam, the chief unirrigated crops not completely harvested, appear to have yielded little or nothing.

Outside the affected tract, considerable areas of cholam, cotton and paddy were harvested with a middling outturn.

5. There is very little pasture remaining and fodder is scarce and dear; but the condition of cattle is reported to be normal.

6. Prices were, on the whole, easier than in the preceding fortnight. For the district as a whole, they were slightly cheaper than scarcity-rates in the case of rice and cholam, but dearer in the case of ragi and cumbu. Cholam is the ordinary staple food-grain, and is below the scarcity-rate at most price-recording stations in the affected tract. There are several large fluctuations in price which the Collector should have endeavoured to explain.

7. The condition of the people is said to be still good. There was a further fall in the numbers on works during the fortnight, which is ascribed by the Collector to harvest operations and fall in prices; but the Collector anticipates that the numbers

will increase again before the end of the current month though not to any very great extent. There was a slight increase in the numbers relieved in kitchens attached to the works.

8. The Collector's proposal to confine his remarks in future narratives to the Sub-Collector's and Atmákúr Deputy Collector's divisions, which comprise the whole of the present affected area, is approved. The state of the people in the rest of the district should be vigilantly watched.

9. The disposal of the large number of applications for loans pending in the Atmákúr division should be expedited.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. B. Smiles
Secretary.

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

Rd. Md. Pahilvan.

Government {1898} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.	1898.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O., No. 259, 6th May 1898.

MAY.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, the — of the Nellore district for the period ending 31st March 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

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Ongole	9·40	9·40	12·60	12·60	14·45	11·90	11·55	11·55	
Addanki	9·40	9·40	12·60	12·60	..	..	11·55	11·55	
Darsi	9·40	9·40	12·67	12·67	13·60	14·45	10·66	10·66	
Podili	8·16	9·40	13·58	13·58	13·60	15·30	10·66	11·48	
Kandukur ..	7·99	7·99	12·67	12·67	14·03	14·03	11·48	11·48	
Kanigiri ..	7·52	7·52	14·48	14·48	13·60	17·00	11·55	12·38	
Atmakúr ..	9·40	9·40	14·48	14·48	13·60	13·60	..	..	
Udayagiri ..	..	..	13·58	15·39	12·75	12·75	1·30	12·30	
Kávali	9·40	9·40	13·58	12·67	13·60	14·03	..	..	
Nellore	9·01	10·60	14·42	14·42	14·40	14·40	13·16	13·16	
Allúr	8·48	9·54	..	..	11·52	11·52	..	..	
Gudur	8·48	8·48	..	..	13·44	13·44	..	..	
Kotah	7·42	7·42	..	..	10·56	12·48	10·34	12·22	
Pólúr	8·48	8·48	..	..	11·76	11·76	..	..	
Rapur	..	..	10·80	11·70	..	12·75	10·73	11·55	
Venkatagiri ..	8·48	8·48	..	..	14·40	14·40	13·16	13·16	
Average ..	8·67	8·92	13·22	13·39	13·24	13·59	11·56	11·95	

	Scarcity rates.	Warning rates.
Rice.	8·40	11·20
Cholam.	13·00	19·50
Ragi.	14·00	21·00
Cumbu.	12·00	18·00

The reason for the rise in the price of ragi at Ongole has not been reported.

6. *Activity of trade—Sub-division.*—Private trade is active. Markets are well stocked with grain. Cumbu is being imported to Addanki from Vinukonda. Cumbu and ragi into Podili division from Kurnool and Bellary districts and rice into Podili division from Ongole. Five-hundred candies of ragi, 200 of cholam and 300 of cumbu were imported into Darsi from places not reported.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division.—Private trade is active. Cholam, ragi and cumbu are being imported from Cuddapah. Paddy is being exported to Nellore taluk.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Private trade is active in paddy, which is being exported to Madras by canal.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Private trade is active.

7. Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally fair.

In villages.—Generally good except in parts of Podili division.

8. Sickness and Mortality.

No deaths from starvation.

Sub-division.—Cholera appeared in one village of Addanki division, with four attacks and no death; in one village of Kandukur taluk with four attacks and two deaths; and in Kanigiri taluk with five attacks and five deaths. There were three cases of small-pox in the Kanigiri taluk, one of which proved fatal.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector's division.—Cholera in four villages in Atmakúr taluk, with forty-six attacks and thirty-one deaths and in one village of Udayagiri taluk, seven attacks and five deaths. Small-pox, chicken-pox and measles prevail in four villages of Atmakúr taluk; one case of small-pox proved fatal. Small-pox also exists in mild form in Udayagiri taluk, where two deaths occurred.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Cholera in twenty villages of Nellore taluk. Ninety-two deaths occurred out of 156 attacks. Small-pox in one village of Nellore taluk and one village of Kavali taluk. In the former there were two attacks and one death and in the latter thirty attacks and two deaths.

Head Assistant Collector's division.—Cholera has subsided considerably though there are still cases in isolated villages.

9. *Remarks.*—Prices are easier than in the previous fortnight due to the importation of fresh grain both from local harvest and from neighbouring districts. Paddy from Kistna and dry grains from Cuddapah are largely imported.

10. Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Kanigiri Taluk.			
Narramarella near Pamur ..	1,151	915	Task work with kitchen.
Nandanavanam	6	127	Intermediate system. No kitchen.
Podili Division.			
Pedarikatla	2,811	1,663	Task work with kitchen. The decrease is due to ragi harvest.
Udayagiri Taluk.			
Nellatur	815	480	Intermediate system. No kitchen. This work has been ordered to be closed.
Narravada	1,130	703	Intermediate system with kitchen. This work has been handed over to Public Works Department. The fall in numbers is attributed to harvesting of ragi and cholam.
Total ..	5,913	3,888	

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.
Kanigiri Taluk.								
Narramarella	60	61	..	..	..	..	..	..
Podili Division.								
Pedarikatla	24	41	..	..	..	..	..	..
Udayagiri Taluk.								
Narravada	42	47	..	..	..	..	..	..
	126	149	..	..	..	..	..	..

11. *General remarks—Atmakur Deputy Collector's division.*—Labour is at present procurable on account of harvest of cholam, ragi, &c.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector's division.—Labour is abundant in delta villages and the working classes in non-delta villages go to delta villages and railway works in the Nellore taluk. Applications under the Loans Acts are being received and are being enquired into. In the Kavali taluk, labouring classes have sufficient work in harvesting operations and railway ballast work.

12. *Collector's remarks.*—Theaffected area remains the same and I propose, unless the Board disapproves, to restrict future narratives to the Sub-Collector's and Atmakur Deputy Collector's divisions. I shall, however, continue to obtain fortnightly reports from the Head Assistant Collector. The condition of the affected tracts may be said to have slightly improved during the past fortnight. Prices are easier, and in Darsi, Podili and Kanigiri the price of ragi has fallen below scarcity rates while in Udayagiri cholam is much below the scarcity rate. With this fall in prices and the demand for labour for harvesting, the numbers on works have fallen from 5,913 to 3,888. They will, however, increase again, I anticipate, before the end of this month, though not to any very great extent. The attendance at kitchens has increased however, which I think, shows that those on the works are really becoming hard pressed for food. I have been on tour during the fortnight in the eastern portion of the Darsi division, and find the state of things there much less serious than I had been led to believe by the reports of the Sub-Collector and the Deputy Tahsildar. Owing to the continued change in officers, the Sub-Collector has not toured in the division for the past four months and has had to depend entirely upon the statements of the Deputy Tahsildar, whom I have had to remove for general incompetence. In only one or two villages near Darsi was any complaint of want of work made to me and even in these villages examination of the supply of grain existing with the poorer classes showed that they would not, in general, be likely to suffer from want for some time to come. I propose therefore to give up the idea of opening a work at Chendalur, sanctioned in B.P., Mis. No. 1033 (Rev. Sett.), dated 11th February 1898; and should it be found advisable later on to supply any work, I shall do so by increasing the current year's allotment for the Darsi-Kuruchedu road which I found in a disgraceful state and which requires metalling over about the whole length of 12 miles.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Kandukur	30	3,220	19	985	21	2,710	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	3,220	19	985	21	2,710
Atmakúru	9	710	9	710	60	10,770	...	...	...	...	13	1,650	9	710	9	710	73	12,420
Udayagiri	8	1,500	8	1,000	71	10,760	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1,600	8	1,000	71	10,760
Total ...	47	5,430	36	2,695	152	24,240	...	...	...	...	13	1,650	47	5,430	36	2,695	165	25,890

Taluks.	Number of wells.		Purchase of fodder.				Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
			Rs.			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Kandukur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atmakúru	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,820	...	...	27	2,020	...	...	...	...	56	4,840
Udayagiri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	1,070	...	...	...	...	9	1,070
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,820	...	...	36	3,090	...	...	...	...	65	5,910

Inspections of the District Officers.

Taluks and places visited.

Sub-Collector—
Took charge on 24th March 1898.

Atmakúr Deputy Collector—

Udayagiri taluk ... ... Karatampad, Dharmarowcheruvupalli, Nallagonda, Byravaram, Agundemadakala, Yerukollu, Duttalur, Nandipad, Udayagiri, Chinna Machanur, Nandavaram, Narravada.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector—

Kávali taluk ... ... Kávali, Tallapallem, Zuvvaladinne.

Head-quarters Deputy Collector—cont.

Kávali taluk—*cont.* ... Annagaripollem, Menuganur, Kadanoothala.

Collector—

Podili division ... ... Podili, Rayavaram.

Darsi division ... ... Kocherlokota, Kuruchedu, Darsi, Bojanampalli, Venkatachellampalli, Rajampalli, Pittapadu, Polipolli, Ramapuram, Virangapollem, Rangoyapollem, Chalivendra.

Resolution—No. 154, dated 22nd April 1898.

Submitted to Government.

2. The situation is practically unchanged. There was no rain during the fortnight. In the affected tract—Darsi, Podili, Kanigiri, Udayagiri and part of Atmakúr,—all tanks are empty, but the water-supply from wells still holds out.

3. In the above tract, the crops harvested during the fortnight, and those still standing are mostly small areas under wells, and baling sources, which have yielded fairly.

From the cultivation statements for fasli 1306, the Board notes that the areas under well cultivation in the Government taluks in the affected tract were as follows:—

	Acs.
Kanigiri	8,000
Udayagiri	6,000
Atmakúr	6,400

4. Cotton, castors and cholam, the chief unirrigated crops not completely harvested, appear to have yielded little or nothing.

Outside the affected tract, considerable areas of cholam, cotton and paddy were harvested with a middling outturn.

5. There is very little pasture remaining and fodder is scarce and dear; but the condition of cattle is reported to be normal.

6. Prices were, on the whole, easier than in the preceding fortnight. For the district as a whole, they were slightly cheaper than scarcity-rates in the case of rice and cholam, but dearer in the case of ragi and cumbu. Cholam is the ordinary staple food-grain, and is below the scarcity-rate at most price-recording stations in the affected tract. There are several large fluctuations in price which the Collector should have endeavoured to explain.

7. The condition of the people is said to be still good. There was a further fall in the numbers on works during the fortnight, which is ascribed by the Collector to harvest operations and fall in prices; but the Collector anticipates that the numbers

will increase again before the end of the current month though not to any very great extent. There was a slight increase in the numbers relieved in kitchens attached to the works.

8. The Collector's proposal to confine his remarks in future narratives to the Sub-Collector's and Atmakúr Deputy Collector's divisions, which comprise the whole of the present affected area, is approved. The state of the people in the rest of the district should be vigilantly watched.

9. The disposal of the large number of applications for loans pending in the Atmakúr division should be expedited.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

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

Order—No. 259, Revenue, dated 6th May 1898.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Financial Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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1898

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STATEMENT WITH BILLS

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