

R E P O R T
ON THE
A D M I N I S T R A T I O N

OF
P U D U K K O T T A I

FOR THE YEAR

1912-1913
Fasli 1322.

P U D U K K O T T A I,

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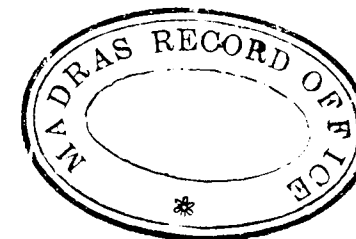
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INTRODUCTORY AND PERSONNEL.

1. PUDUKKOTTAI is the third in importance of the Native States in direct political relations with the Government of Madras. It is bounded on the north and west by Trichinopoly, on the south by Ramnad and Madura, and on the east by Tanjore.

The area of the State is 1,178 square miles, and the population at the last Census, 4,11,878. Pudukkottai (population 26,852), the only town in the State, is situated centrally 33 miles south of Trichinopoly. The State is agricultural and dependent on a somewhat precarious rainfall.

2. His Highness the Raja, whose full name is SRI BRIHADAMBA DAS RAJA SIR MARTHANDA BHAIRAVA TONDAIMAN BHADUR, G. C. I. E., is eighth in descent from Ragunatha Tondaiman, the founder of the family. He is entitled to a salute of 11 guns. His Highness, who is 37 years of age and unmarried, succeeded his grand-father Ramachandra Tondaiman in 1886 and was invested with powers of administration in 1894.

3. The Collector of Trichinopoly is ex-officio Political Agent for Pudukkottai. The administration of the State, under His Highness the Raja, is entrusted to a State Council of three members, a Superintendent, Dewan and Councillor. The various departments are constituted on the British India model.

4. His Highness the Raja returned to Pudukkottai from Europe in November, 1912. The improvement in His Highness' health enabled His Highness to stay in India much longer than on former occasions and to devote his full attention to the affairs of his State. His Highness the Raja paid a State visit to His Excellency the Governor at Madras in December, 1912. His Highness paid an official visit to the Benares State in January, 1913 and in February, 1913 to Bikanir. The latter visit was in response to the invitation from His Highness the Maha Rajah of Bikanir to be present at the entertainment given by him to Native Chiefs in honour of the Silver Jubilee of his reign. His Highness left for Europe on the 15th March, 1913 after a stay of four months and a half.

5. The most memorable event of the year was the celebration of THE SILVER JUBILEE OF HIS HIGHNESS' RULE which happily synchronised with the bestowal of the distinction of G. C. I. E. upon His Highness the Raja by HIS MAJESTY THE KING-EMPEROR OF INDIA. The event was celebrated with the widest expression of loyalty and enthusiasm by all classes of His Highness' subjects. His Highness the Raja on this occasion graciously announced his intention to remit for a period of 3 years the taxes known as *kenakkucari* and *moturpha* amounting to Rs. 30,000 per annum, to take steps to promote the agricultural education of his subjects, to make a special grant annually of a sum of Rs. 5,000 for 3 years for the construction of buildings for elementary schools and to establish an Advisory Legislative Council for the State composed of officials and non-officials elected and nominated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

121. The State is entirely agricultural and there are no manufactures of importance.

The principal articles of import were sea-salt and timber from Negapatam and paddy from the Cauvery delta.

Exports consisted chiefly of minor forest produce (such as accacia bark for distilleries and avaram bark for tanneries), of ground-nuts, and of silk cloths woven in one of the suburbs of Pudukkottai. The State is rich in deposits of high grade magnetic ore, but until a Railway is opened the cost of transport renders the commercial exploitation of the mineral impracticable.

The following table shows the average scale of wages in Pudukkottai and the three Taluk stations :—

Stations.	Skilled Labourers.					Unskilled Labourers.	
	Bricklayer. Annas.	Stone- cutter. Annas.	Carpenter. Annas.	Smith. Annas.	Painter. Annas.	Man cooly. Annas.	Woman cooly or chitto. Annas.
Town ...	10	12	12	12	10	4	2½
Tirunayyam.	10—14	12—Re. 1	12—Re. 1	12—Re. 1	10—14	4—6	2½—3½
Alangudi ...	10	12	12	12	10	4	2½
Kolattur ...	10	12	12	12	10	4	2½

REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

122. The meeting held in 1912 was dealt with in the report of last year. The meeting for 1913 is to be held on October 24th.

DARBAR OFFICE, PUDUKKOTTAI,
13th October, 1913.

STATEMENT I—(Para. 6 of report).

Names of high officials in the Pudukkottai State, showing changes in the personnel during Fasli 1322 (1912—1913).

Name of officer.	Appointment.	Period.		Remarks.
		From	To	
Mr. G. T. H. Bracken, I. C. S.	Superintendent and President of the State Council.	1—7—1912	23—2—1913	On combined leave.
Mr. J. T. Gwynn, I. C. S.,	Do.	24—2—1913	30—6—1913	
M. R. RY. Vijaya Raghunatha Durai Rajah Avergal, B.A.	Dewan	1—7—1912	30—6—1913	
M. R. RY. C. Rajagopala Pillai Avl., B.A. B.L.	(Chief Judge) Ex-officio Member.	1—7—1912	30—6—1913	

