(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 12

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 5/5/89

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

62

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

PWD துறை

அரசாணை எண். / மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	1436	அச்சகம் / பலவகை

நாள் : 31. 5 1989

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

6 Sheets

ஆவண கா-1—18,000—15-6-87.

1436

30TH APRIL 1889, No. 324, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 10th January 1889, No. 13 :—

W. WILSON, ESQ., M.A., C.S.

READ—the following G.O., dated 8th November 1888, No. 777, Revenue :—

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on telegram from J. H. Garstin, Esq., regarding the grant of famine batta at Ganjam.

Resolution—dated 10th January 1889, No. 13.

The Board beg to submit the accompanying statements A and B, the former showing (1) the total area cultivated on the average of the five years 1883-84 to 1887-88 in each district of the Presidency, (2) the percentage of that area under food-grains and pulses, (3) the average area cultivated during the same period with food-grains and pulses only, and (4) the percentage of the several cereals and pulses to the area in (3); the latter giving the average prices of the various food-grains and pulses during the same series of years.

2. For the determination of what is the cheapest grain in ordinary use among the people it is necessary—

(1) to compare the prices of the various grains under similar conditions, that is to say, husked with husked, and unhusked with unhusked;

(2) to consider their comparative importance judged by the area covered by them.

3. The Board will therefore consider the facts of each district in turn—

Ganjam.—In Ganjam the cheapest food-grain is varagu, the average price of which was 34·4 imperial seers for a rupee. It is followed by second-sort paddy with 33·9 seers; next come cumbu with 33·6 and ragi with 31·8 seers. Varagu, however, represents only ·1 per cent. of the area covered by food-grains and pulses and cumbu only 1 per cent. Judged by their extent therefore neither of these grains, though cheaper than either second-sort paddy or ragi, has any title to be regarded as a staple of the district. As between second-sort paddy and ragi the former is the cheaper of the two, but no comparison of the respective areas covered by each is possible, for the distinction between first and second sort paddy is one made by the grain merchant and salesman, not by the ryot. The rice crop represents on the whole 66·7 per cent. and ragi 19·4 per cent. of the total area under food-grains and pulses. Ragi is largely and commonly consumed by the agricultural and laboring population, and, being cheaper than second-sort paddy, should be adopted as the staple for Ganjam for the purposes of famine batta.

Vizagapatam.—The cheapest grain in Vizagapatam is cumbu, which sold at 30·1 seers for the rupee, the prices of ragi and second-sort paddy for the same period being, respectively, 28·7 and 28·4 seers for the rupee. It moreover represents 19 per cent. of the area covered by cereals and pulses, and is distinctly a staple of the district and in common use by the people of it. Rice represents 41·5 and ragi 13·2 per cent. of the food-crop area, but cumbu being cheaper than both should be adopted as the staple for famine batta.

Godávari.—Ragi is the cheapest grain in the Godávari, selling at 29·9 seers for the rupee. The great staple of the district is rice, representing 71·2 per cent. of the area under food-crops, but it is very much dearer than ragi as is also cholum—26·5 seers for the rupee—which is the only other cereal that exceeds ragi in area. Ragi therefore should be adopted for the Godávari.

Kistna.—The cheapest grain in the Kistna is ragi, selling at 29·7 seers for the rupee. Judged by its area (28·4 per cent.), cholum is the most important crop in the district, more important even than rice (26·6 per cent.), but its price, 22·6 seers for the rupee, was very much higher than that of ragi, which, therefore, should be taken as the staple for purposes of famine batta.

Nellore.—In Nellore by far the cheapest grain is varagu, which sold at 37·3 seers for the rupee; next to cholum (32 per cent.) it is the chief dry staple of the district and represents 8 per cent. of the food-crops. Cholum is very much dearer, selling at 24·8 seers for the rupee. For Nellore, therefore, varagu should be taken as the staple.

Cuddapah.—In Cuddapah, too, varagu is the cheapest grain, selling at 40·1 seers for the rupee; it represents 2·4 of the food-crop. The next cheapest grain, viz., ragi, is very much dearer, selling at 32·9 seers for the rupee; it stands for 9·6 per cent. of the food-crop. The most important staples of the district, viz., cholum (18·3 per cent.), cumbu (16·6 per cent.) and paddy (11 per cent.) are all very much dearer than either, selling at 28·9, 29·6 and 27 seers for the rupee, respectively. Varagu should be adopted as the standard for Cuddapah.

Anantapur.—Ragi is the cheapest grain in Anantapur, selling at 33·7 seers for the rupee; the next cheapest is cholum, the chief (25·2 per cent.) dry staple of the district. Ragi stands for 6·8 per cent. of the food-crop. Prices are not recorded for korra, which represents 19 per cent. of the crop. Ragi should be taken as the staple in Anantapur.

Bellary.—The cheapest grain in Bellary is ragi, which sold at 34·4 seers for the rupee. The next cheapest is cholum, which sold at 30. Ragi stands for 2·7 per cent. of the food-crop, while cholum, the great dry staple of the district, represents 53·1 per cent. For the next staple in order of area, viz., korra (17·1 per cent.), prices are not recorded, while the price of cumbu (5·3 per cent.), the only other staple that exceeds ragi in area is very much higher than that of either ragi or cholum by 25·8 seers for the rupee. Ragi should be adopted as the standard for Bellary.

Kurnool.—The cheapest grain in Kurnool is varagu, which sold at 39 seers for the rupee. It represents 10·8 per cent. of the food-crop. For the staple next above it in importance, viz., korra, prices are not recorded, while the price—28·8 seers for the rupee—of cholum, which is the chief (46·2 per cent.) staple of the district, is very much higher than that of varagu, which should be adopted as the staple for Kurnool.

Madras.—The cheapest grain in the city of Madras is ragi, which sold at 27·2 seers for the rupee; second-sort paddy, which is under existing orders (G.O., No. 1853, dated 29th May 1877) the standard for purposes of compensation for dearness of food, was dearer, selling at 24·3 seers for the rupee. Ragi should be adopted as the standard in Madras.

Chingleput.—The cheapest grain in Chingleput is second-sort paddy, selling at 27·5 seers for the rupee. It is closely followed, however, by ragi at 27·3 seers for the rupee, while husked paddy on the data assumed in the Board's replies to the Famine Commission (p. 97) would sell at some 18 seers for the rupee when second-sort rice was selling at 16·2. Ragi as food is therefore the cheaper of the two, and though it covers hardly a tenth of the area represented by rice, it should, as a grain in common use, be adopted as the standard.

North Arcot.—Varagu is the cheapest grain in North Arcot, selling at 34·5 seers for the rupee. It stands for 9 per cent. of the food crop. The next cheapest grain is ragi, which sells at 31·6 seers for the rupee and represents 16·2 per cent. of the crop. It is considerably dearer than varagu, which should be adopted as the standard.

South Arcot.—The cheapest grain in South Arcot is varagu, which sold at 48·4 seers for the rupee and represents 23 per cent. of the food-crop. The next cheapest is cholum, which sold at 31·9 seers for the rupee, but represents only 3·1 per cent. of the food-crop. The main (24 per cent.) dry staple of the district, viz., cumbu, was much dearer, selling at 29·5 seers for the rupee. Varagu should be adopted as the standard.

Tanjore.—By far and away the cheapest grain in Tanjore is varagu, which sold at 50·3 seers for the rupee. It is the chief dry staple of the district and represents 6·6 per cent. of the food-crop. The main staple of the district, viz., rice (84 per cent.), is very much dearer, second-sort paddy selling at 27·7 seers for the rupee. Varagu should be taken as the standard for Tanjore.

Trichinopoly.—The cheapest grain in Trichinopoly is varagu, which sold at 44·4 seers for the rupee. It represents 16 per cent. of the food-crop. The crops which from their area may be regarded as more important than varagu, viz., rice (22·4 per cent.), cumbu (19 per cent.) and (cholum 17·1 per cent.), are all dearer than varagu, which should be adopted as the standard for Trichinopoly.

Madura.—The cheapest grain in Madura is varagu, which sold at 46·1 seers for the rupee and represents 12·2 per cent. of the food-crop. The next cheapest is cholum, which sold at 32·7 seers for the rupee. Cholum is the only dry staple which exceeds (22·7 per cent.) varagu in area. Varagu should be adopted as the standard for Madura.

Tinnevelly.—The cheapest grain in Tinnevelly is varagu, which stands for 7·3 per cent. of the food-crop. The next cheapest, viz., ragi, selling at 27 seers the rupee, stands for 4·8 of the food-crop. The prices of the other chief staples, viz., paddy, cholum and cumbu, are all much higher than that of varagu, which should be taken as the standard.

Coimbatore.—In Coimbatore varagu is the cheapest grain, selling at 29·9 seers for the rupee. It represents, however, only ·3 per cent. of the food-crop. It is closely followed in price by ragi, which sold at 29·1 seers for the rupee and represents 11 per cent. of the food-crop. The prices of the main staples of the district, viz., cholum (33·3 per cent.) and cumbu (31·8 per cent.), are both higher than that of ragi, which should be taken as the standard.

Nilgiris.—The cheapest grain on the Nílgiris is varagu, which sold at 25·2 seers for the rupee, but it represents only ·5 per cent. of the food-crop. For the chief staple of the district, viz., shamai, prices are not recorded, but ragi, which is the next in cheapness to varagu (22 seers to the rupee), represents 7 per cent. of the food-crop and is next to shamai, the chief dry product of the district. Ragi should be adopted as the standard.

Salem.—The cheapest grain in Salem is varagu, which sold at 34·9 seers for the rupee and represents 7 per cent. of the food-crop. The next cheapest is ragi, which sold at 31·9 seers for the rupee. Ragi stands for 22·2 per cent. of the food-crop, but varagu is the cheaper by a good deal and is undoubtedly in common use as food. Varagu should therefore be adopted as the standard.

South Canara and Malabar.—A glance at the figures in statements A and B will show that the only possible standard for the two districts is second-sort rice.

4. The following is the sum of the foregoing recommendations:—

(i) *Second-sort rice* should be the standard for the purposes of compensation in—

(1) Canara. | (2) Malabar.

(ii) *Varagu* should be the standard in—

(1) Nellore.
(2) Cuddapah.
(3) Kurnool.
(4) North Arcot.
(5) South Arcot.
(6) Tanjore.
(7) Trichinopoly.
(8) Madura.
(9) Tinnevelly.
(10) Salem.

(iii) *Ragi* should be the standard in—

(1) Ganjam.
(2) Godávari.
(3) Kistna.
(4) Anantapur.
(5) Bellary.
(6) Madras.
(7) Chingleput.
(8) Coimbatore.
(9) Nilgiris.

(iv) *Cumbu* should be the standard in Vizagapatam.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ all Collectors.

14 Jan 89

APPENDIX A.

Districts.	Average of the total extent of cultivation for five years.	Average extent of cultivation under the principal food-grains and pulses calculated for five years (1883-84 to 1887-88).								Percentage of the area under the principal food-grains, including pulses, to the total extent of cultivation calculated on the average of five years (1883-84 to 1887-88).					
		Rice.	Cholum.	Cumbu.	Tenai or korra.	Ragi.	Samai or chamalu.	Varagu or arikalu and varagu.	Pulses.	Rice.	Cholum.	Cumbu.	Tenai or korra.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
Ganjam	488,171	287,804	1,408	4,231	84	183,763	2,295	640	50,175	58·9	·3	·8	..		
Vizagapatam	171,539	53,748	5,559	24,597	1,464	17,136	5,149	4,339	16,979	31·3	3·2	14·3	·8		
Godávari	1,006,311	567,174	85,344	9,901	6,264	22,328	9,441	15,412	73,366	56·3	8·5	·9	·6		
Kistna	1,958,232	391,691	415,500	165,491	52,705	21,673	119	247,339	110,970	20·	21·4	8·4	2·7		
Nellore	1,097,905	247,819	300,367	58,226	4,985	51,351	3,663	75,222	106,436	22·5	27·3	5·3	·4		
Cuddapah	1,654,316	142,869	241,408	213,304	103,281	27,217	8,080	32,567	345,739	8·6	14·6	13·2	6·2		
Anantapur	1,292,604	76,592	255,086	63,146	200,466	68,773	25,290	22,876	285,816	5·9	19·8	4·9	15·5		
Bellary	1,777,770	32,057	772,648	76,748	264,738	38,963	25,149	278	187,279	1·8	43·5	4·3	14·3		
Kurnool	1,784,052	62,927	631,787	80,924	268,423	16,988	6,449	148,387	148,042	3·5	35·4	4·5	15·0		
Madras	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Chingleput	681,456	458,706	7,144	14,179	137	43,789	45	44,596	5,440	67·3	1·1	2·1	2·1		
North Arcot	876,164	336,764	49,584	83,855	229	18,196	3,995	65,531	59,073	38·5	5·6	9·6	..		
South Arcot	1,347,847	369,618	34,123	259,093	12,913	20,801	1,713	250,436	31,258	27·4	2·6	19·2	1·		
Tanjore	1,262,120	986,079	16,245	32,125	201	25,339	615	77,797	24,702	78·1	1·3	2·5	..		
Trichinopoly	1,000,605	193,550	148,293	164,205	6,759	84,418	38,056	138,063	90,539	19·3	14·8	16·4	·6		
Madura	986,346	155,622	188,276	98,462	7,698	92,824	89,768	101,405	89,389	15·7	19·7	9·9	·7		
Tinnevelly	1,361,151	277,864	103,332	189,968	2,911	48,912	125,408	74,207	178,141	24·8	7·6	13·9	·3		
Coimbatore	2,312,706	95,746	641,716	611,179	31,640	11,856	87,271	5,317	236,750	4·3	27·7	26·4	1·4		
Nilgris	70,096	3,134	21	..	37	2,241	6,509	179	278	4·4	..	..	..		
Salem	1,337,207	111,382	74,987	296,491	20,061	65,113	77,886	83,056	257,744	8·3	5·6	22·2	1·5		
South Canara	678,313	485,439	..	..	..	3,500	52	..	40,921	83·9	..	..	..		
Malabar	973,037	586,016	157	29	..	4,143	7,125	..	12,144	60·2	..	..	..		

3

APPENDIX A—*cont.*

Districts.	Percentage of the area under the principal food-grains, including pulses, to the total extent of cultivation calculated on the average of five years (1883-84 to 1887-88)—*cont.*							Per centage of the area under the principal food-grains, including pulses, to the total extent of cultivation under cereals and pulses only, each being calculated on the average of five years (1883-84 to 1887-88).							Average extent of cultivation for five years under cereals and pulses only.
	Ragi.	Samai or chamalu.	Varagu or arikalu.	Pulses.				Rice.	Cholum.	Cumbu.	Tenai or Korra.	Ragi.	Samai or chamalu.	Varagu or arikalu.	Pulses.
	15	16	17	18				20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19
Ganjam ..	17·1	·5	·1	10·3				66·7	..	1·0	..	19·4	·5	·1	11·6	431,130
Vizagapatam	10·	3·	2·5	9·3				41·5	·4·3	19·	1·1	13·2	4·	3·3	12·4	129,461
Godavari	2·2	·9	1·5	7·2				71·2	10·7	1·2	1·	3·	1·2	2·	9·2	796,963
Kistna	1·1	..	13·6	5·7				26·6	28·4	11·2	3·6	1·5	..	18·1	7·5	1,473,368
Nellore	4·7	·3	6·8	9·7				26·3	32·0	6·2	·5	5·4	·4	8·	11·8	942,097
Cuddapah	7·7	·5	1·9	20·9				11·0	18·3	16·6	8·	9·6	·6	2·4	26·3	1,315,730
Anantapur	6·3	1·9	1·7	22·1				7·5	25·2	6·2	19·	6·8	2·5	2·2	26·3	1,068,834
Bellary ..	2·2	1·4	..	10·6				2·2	53·1	5·3	17·1	2·7	1·7	..	13·0	1,437,991
Kurnool ..	15·0	·3	8·3	8·3				4·6	46·2	6·9	19·6	1·2	·4	10·8	11·0	1,368,497
Madras ..	..	..	..	..				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chingleput ..	6·4	..	6·5	·8				79·1	1·3	2·6	..	7·6	..	..	·9	675,019
North Arcot	13·5	·4	7·5	6·7				46·3	6·3	11·5	..	16·2	·5	7·8	8·1	727,379
South Arcot	9·7	·1	18·6	9·3				84·0	3·1	24·0	1·2	12·	·2	9·0	3·	1,092,847
Tanjore ..	2·8	1·4	6·2	1·9				84·0	1·4	2·7	..	3·	..	23·0	2·1	1,173,798
Trichinopoly	8·4	..	13·8	·9				92·4	17·1	19·	1·	9·7	4·	6·6	10·6	864,017
Madura ..	9·4	3·8	10·3	9·1				92·4	22·7	11·8	1·	11·1	..	16·0	10·5	831,819
Tinnevelly ..	3·6	9·1	6·4	13·1				75·5	10·2	18·8	·3	4·8	4·4	16·0	10·7	1,008,709
Coimbatore ..	9·1	9·2	·2	10·2				4·0	33·3	31·8	1·7	11·	10·8	12·2	17·6	1,925,191
Nilgiris ..	8·2	3·7	·3	·3				9·8	..	..	..	7·	12·4	7·3	12·3	31,869
Salem ..	19·8	9·3	6·2	19·3				9·	·8·	24·9	1·7	22·2	4·5	·3	1·	1,192,586
South Canara	·6	5·8	..	6·9				92·	..	..	..	1·	20·4	·5	21·6	629,012
Malabar ..	·4	..	..	1·2				95·4	..	..	..	1·	6·6	7·	7·5	613,702
													1·1	..	2·0	

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing the average prices of food-grains of the five years from 1883-84 to 1887-88 in the Presidency of Madras.

Districts.	Rice, 1st sort.	Rice, 2nd sort.	Paddy, 1st sort.	Paddy, 2nd sort.	Cholum.	Cumbu.	Ragi.	Varagu.	Horse-gram.
	Government seers of 80 tolas per rupee.								
Ganjam	16·0	17·2	31·8.	33·9	27·8	33·6	31·8	34·4	35·0
Vizagapatam	13·3	15·0	26·6	28·4	26·5	30·1	28·7	..	37·1
Godávari	13·6	15·4	24·3	25·9	26·5	29·2	29·9	29·6	30·1
Kistna	13·1	14·7	23·5	24·6	22·6	23·2	29·7	28·3	26·5
Nellore	13·2	15·0	22·7	25·2	24·8	24·2	29·0	37·3	24·6
Cuddapah	13·8	15·3	24·1	27·0	28·9	29·6	32·9	40·1	28·2
Anantapur	13·6	15·2	23·5	25·6	30·8	27·7	33·7	..	34·0
Bellary	12·1	13·6	21·3	24·0	30 0	25·8	34·4	..	29·9
Kurnool	11·7	13·3	21·3	23·9	28·8	24·9	29·3	39·0	26·7
Madras	12·5	14·1	23·1	24·3	21·8	23·4	27·2	16·5	24·5
Chingleput	14·6	16·2	25·3	27·5	22·8	21·5	27·3	16·8	21·6
North Arcot	14·9	16·3	26·2	28·5	28·6	27·0	31·6	34·5	25·9
South Arcot	14·6	16·2	25·1	27·5	31·9	29·5	30·3	48·4	26·1
Tanjore	14·3	16·0	24·6	27·7	26·7	26·7	29·2	50·3	23·6
Trichinopoly	13·9	14·9	24·7	27·2	40·6	27·5	30·3	44·4	25·8
Madura	13·4	15·0	23·6	26·5	32·7	28·6	30·7	46·1	27·4
Tinnevelly	12·7	13·4	21·0	23·3	25·0	22·8	27·0	37·6	26·1
Coimbatore	12·9	14·7	22·2	24·6	23·8	27·9	29·1	29·9	29·7
Nilgiris	10·5	11·8	12·2	14·2	20·9	17·8	22·0	25·2	22·4
Salem	14·1	15·7	24·1	26·7	28·7	27·7	31·9	34·9	31·4
South Canara	12·4	14·6	21·3	23·0	..	..	20·6	..	18·8
Malabar	13·1	14·1	23·0	25·1	24·3	..	23·4	..	23·3

READ—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 26th March 1889, No. 145 :—

W. WILSON, ESQ., M.A., C.S.

Read—the following letter from H. G. TURNER, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 14th March 1889, No. 654 :—

In paragraph 3 of their Proceedings, dated the 10th January last, No. 13, the Board were pleased to propose that cumbu should be adopted in the Vizagapatam district as the staple for famine batta.

2. But I respectfully beg to point out that ragi and not cumbu is the largest cultivated and the largest consumed dry grain, taking the district as a whole, although, so far as the Government taluks of Golgonda and Sarvasiddhi are concerned, our accounts show that cumbu is cultivated on a larger area. Everywhere ragi is the chief food-grain of the poorer classes. Copies of my General Duty and Huzur Deputy Collectors' letters on the subject are herein enclosed for the Board's information.

3. The statistics of crops embodied in the Board's Proceedings quoted in paragraph 1 *supra* refer only to the three Government taluks of Golgonda, Sarvasiddhi and Pálkonda and to a few isolated resumed inams in the zemindari tracts, and these statistics show no information whatever regarding the cultivation of the extensive tracts of the zemindari and proprietary estates which the district mostly consists of.

The whole of the Vizagapatam district including the hill tracts comprises 16,992 square miles as per figures communicated in the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th February 1888, No. 64. Of this, the area of the Government taluk is as follows :—

	ACS.	SQ. MILES.
Golgonda taluk ... ... } Sarvasiddhi do. ... ... }	1,146,394	= 1,791
Rented estates of Pálkonda and Honjaram comprising the Pálkonda taluk	47,012	= 73
		1,864

Thus, the area of the Government taluks is only about one-ninth of the entire district. Ragi is grown throughout the whole of the Agency tracts and cumbu hardly at all.

Even in the Government taluks the cultivation statements are not available for the hill tracts; in the village accounts referring to plains the survey area not having as yet been adopted, the figures shown in our cropwar statements for Government taluks are only figures of estimate in point of area and they are therefore far from being accurate.

4. It is considered by the Board that cumbu is cheaper in this district.

Although it may be so at the time of harvest, yet its stock is exhausted in a few months afterwards.

On the other hand, ragi is stored to meet the public demand and always procurable throughout the year. Next to paddy ragi is more largely imported than any other food-grain.

Cumbu is cultivated only once in a year when the south-west monsoon sets in, but ragi is cultivated not only in that season, but also in all other seasons under wells and other irrigation sources. Again, different qualities of ragi are grown on wet lands in this district under the names of "buradachodi" and "pyrachodi," while cumbu is not grown on wet lands. Poorer classes of people in the district are more accustomed to consume ragi than cumbu.

5. Also, in paragraph 9 of the Board's Proceedings (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 24th September 1888, No. 525, it was proposed that ragi alone should be the standard for dry lands in the settlement of the Pálkonda taluk as it was for the adjacent Chicacole taluk of Ganjam.

As regards Golgonda and Sarvasiddhi taluks, it is true that cumbu represents higher percentage than ragi as shown in the following table:—

Taluks.	Percentage of the crops out of the dry cultivation.		
	Cumbu.	Ragi.	—
Golgonda	15	9	
Sarvasiddhi	39	14	

But, as the Vizianagrum Deputy Collector points out, the crops grown only on dry lands were taken into consideration in the scheme prepared by the Settlement Department for the purpose of fixing the rates of assessment for dry land, and these figures cannot give an idea of the extent of ragi grown on wet lands.

6. The Deputy Collector, Vizianagrum, estimates that ragi and cumbu are grown and consumed in the district on the whole in the proportion of 2 to 1, while the Huzur Deputy Collector considers that in most of the taluks in the ordinary tracts the percentage of cumbu is only 19·5 against 76·17 of ragi.

7. For all these reasons I solicit that the substitution of ragi for cumbu as the staple dry grain in this district may be recommended to Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From M.R.Ry. T. RAMAMURTI PANTULU, Garu, Huzur Deputy Collector, Vizagapatam, to the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 25th February 1889, No. 60.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 20th instant, Extra No. 1, relating to the comparative cultivation and consumption of the dry grains, viz., cholum, cumbu and ragi.

2. In reply, I have no hesitation whatever to say that ragi is the largest cultivated and the largest consumed dry grain in the district. Except in a bad year, like the present one, cholum is but sparsely cultivated. Cumbu is cultivated largely, but its outturn is very small compared with the outturn of ragi. It takes a much larger extent to produce the same quantity than ragi. It is grown only once during the year, and only on dry lands, whereas ragi is cultivated both on dry lands and wet lands and at any and every season of the year. There are rarely any months in the year during which ragi is not on the ground in one stage or other, and in

some seasons one will find it in all its stages. I have seen ragi being sown in one place, transplanted in another, and harvested in a third at the same time.

3. I would fix the outturn of cholum, ragi and cumbu as follows as far as my division is concerned, and I think the same proportion will apply to most if not all the other taluks in the ordinary tracts:—

Cholum	4·78
Cumbu	19·05
Ragi	76·17
	100·00

4. Ragi is the chief food-grain of the poorer classes.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From M.R.Ry. V. JAGANNADHA ROW, General Duty Deputy Collector, Vizianagrum Division, to the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated Vizianagrum, 9th March 1889, No. 143.

Referring to your letter of the 20th ultimo, Extra No. 1, inquiring in what proportion cholum, cumbu and ragi are cultivated in the ordinary tracts of my division, and which of them can be regarded as the principal food-grain of the people, I have the honor to submit the following remarks.

2. The Revenue Settlement Department have recently worked out these for the Pálkonda, Sarvasiddhi and Golgonda taluks, and the elaborate calculations they made for the purpose of fixing the standard grains on which to lease the money rates for lands afford a sufficient data for our present purposes.

3. To avoid recapitulation of the information already available in print, I beg to invite your attention to the following:—

Board's Proceedings, dated 24th September 1888, No. 525, Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.

(1) Paragraphs 49 and 50, 55 to 57 of Colonel Stuart's report, pages 27 and 29.

(2) Paragraphs 19 to 22 and 23 (*b*) of Mr. W. Wilson's comments thereon, pages 5, 6, and 8.

(3) Paragraph 3 of Board's Resolution, dated 5th November 1888, No. 628, Revenue Settlement, containing report on the outturn of the principal crops during 1887-88.

4. The result of the investigation made by the Settlement Department or rather by the Commissioner is this—

"Ragi alone should be the standard for dry lands in Pálkonda as it was for the adjacent Chicacole taluk of Ganjam."

For Golgonda and Sarvasiddhi, "cumbu and ragi are properly taken as standards, but for the proportion adopted by Colonel Stuart, viz., half each, should be substituted that of 2 to 1, which more accurately represents their actual conditions." Further on Mr. Wilson observed: "For dry, the standard grains adopted are ragi and cumbu; the former alone for Pálkonda, but both for Golgonda and Sarvasiddhi, ragi in the proportion of one-third and cumbu of two-thirds."

5. It follows from this that cholum has been ignored as too insignificant a crop in this district.

6. The Commissioner based his conclusions on the following figures:—

Taluks.	Percentage of the crops out of the total dry cultivation.		
	Cumbu.	Ragi.	Cholum.
Pálkonda	2	13	..
Golgonda	15	9	7
Sarvasiddhi	39	14	3

7. These calculations may be right enough for the purpose of fixing the rates of assessment for dry land, but they are fallacious in giving an exact idea of the proportion or extent of the

crops grown or consumed. For the figures quoted by the Commissioner represent only the crops grown on *dry* lands. Enormous quantities of ragi are grown on *wet* lands in this district under the names of "buradachodi" and "pyrachodi," whereas cumbu is not grown on wet lands at all. I am inclined to think that it would be more correct to say that ragi and cumbu are grown and consumed in this district on the whole in the proportion of 2 to 1. At the very least, Colonel Stuart's approximation of half each may be safely adopted. Cholum may be ignored altogether as too insignificant.

8. Now, to take up another source of information, I solicit your attention to the following figures taken out of Board's Resolution, dated 5th November 1888, No. 628, Revenue Settlement. These represent the proportion of the area contributed by each district in this Presidency under the principal food-grains and cotton :—

Vizagapatam—

	ACS.
(1) Paddy	
(2) Cholum	1·0
(3) Cumbu	0·1
(4) Ragi	1·1
(5) Cotton	1·1
	0·4

9. These figures show that cumbu and ragi are grown in equal proportions, and that cholum is comparatively very insignificant.

10. The poorer classes, as a rule, prefer ragi to cumbu, although they eat both when they cannot get the former in sufficient quantity.

11. As regards the zemindari tracts, the condition is not very different from that of Golgonda and Sarvasiddhi, and what is true of them is also true of the bulk of the zemindari lands within my division.

12. On the whole, the proportions of ragi, cumbu and cholum which may be adopted for my division, excepting Pálkonda, are, respectively, 3, 2 and 1, and for Pálkonda ragi alone. It must be remembered that in Pálkonda * the dry area is only 50 per cent. of the wet.

	ACS.
* Dry	13,811
Wet	23,922

13. If any one crop out of the three is to be regarded as the staple crop of the poorer classes of this district, it is ragi, not cumbu or cholum.

Resolution—dated 26th March 1889, No. 145.

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, No. 13, dated 10th January 1889.

2. The recommendation of the Board that cumbu should be taken as the standard for famine batta purposes was based on the conditions ruling in the three Government taluks of Vizagapatam as it was the cheapest grain ordinarily consumed in them. So far as they and probably the whole of the plain zemindaries are concerned, there is not, in the Board's opinion, any ground for modifying their recommendation, but from what the Collector now reports ragi would seem to be the more proper grain for all the hill tracts.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Collector of Vizagapatam.

ORDER—dated 30th April 1889, No. 324, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

In paragraph 9 of their Resolution, dated 28th March 1888, No. 1648, printed in G.O., dated 7th May 1888, No. 2717, Revenue Department, the Government of India have ruled that the compensation to be granted to servants of Government for dearness of food-grains

in each district should be regulated with reference to the prices of the cheapest food-grain which forms *the common staple food of the district*. In making the recommendations contained in the Proceedings read above, the Board, however, have been guided solely by the prices of the different grains without giving sufficient consideration to the question how far the cheapest grain selected can be regarded as forming the staple food of the district. On a careful consideration of the acreage of the several kinds of food-crops shown in the appendix to the present Proceedings of the Board and of the prices of the staple food-grains ordinarily in use in each district, a list of which is given in the Board's Proceedings printed in G.O., dated 11th September 1880, No. 1137, His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the following grains should be adopted as the standard in each district for regulating the grant of famine batta :—

Ragi.—Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godávari, Madras, Chingleput, North Arcot, Tanjore, Nílgiris, Salem.
Cholum.—Kistna, Nellore, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Trichinopoly, Madura, Tinnevelly.
Cumbu.—South Arcot, Coimbatore.
Second-sort rice.—South Canara and Malabar.

2. With the exception of the two west coast districts, the grains selected as the standards are, it will be seen, the staple dry grains, commonly used as food by the people, which are cheaper than rice. In several districts, however, *e.g.*, Madras, Chingleput, Tanjore, all classes of Government servants are habitually rice-eaters, who will not ordinarily eat dry grains to which they are unaccustomed even under the pressure of severe distress. In these cases, the strict application of the rule laid down by the Government of India causes hardship by deferring the dispensation of relief in the shape of famine batta until long after the necessity for it has arisen. Wherever this is the case His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the rule laid down should be modified so as to admit of the grant of famine batta being regulated with reference to the prices not of the cheapest staple food-grain of the district but of the cheapest staple food of the servants to whom it is intended to afford relief.

3. Ordered that the Government of India be addressed.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
„ the Commissioners of Land Revenue.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Public, &c., Departments.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Military Department.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.

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REVENUE.

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Recd. Encl.

G.O., 30th April 1889, No. 324.

APRIL.

Famine Batta.

Prescribing the grains which should be adopted as the standard crops in the several districts for regulating the grant of — and considering that the batta should be regulated with reference to the prices not of the cheapest staple food-grain of the district but of the cheapest staple food of the servants to whom it is intended to afford relief.

No 186 May 22-6-88
- 149 " May 21-5-88

Communicated to offices of the Public Works Department in continuation of G.O. 1886 dated 22d June 1886.

6

R.F. ✓
C.E. for I ✓
C.E. for Rys ✓
S. Engrs ✓
C.M. & Gen. ✓
Ex Engrs ✓
Ex Ry Accts ✓