

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 6
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 8/8
 (3) ஆதரங்குறிப்பவர் கருக்கொப்பம் 10/8

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

(21)

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

P. W. D. துறை

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(18)

11TH APRIL 1891, No. 294, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 25th March 1891, No. 165 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from F. A. NICHOLSON, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Tinnevely, 23rd March 1891, No. 207 :—

I have the honor to submit my special season report for the month ending 20th current. My previous report is printed in Board's Proceedings, No. 107, dated 25th February 1891.

2. *General.*—The prospects have very greatly improved since the previous report. Rain has fallen abundantly in all taluks except Nāngunéri where it has been much lighter; in Tenkási and the black soils it has almost been in excess, but elsewhere it has been most beneficial, especially in Sankaranainārkoil and Srivilliputtur. There is little remaining cause for anxiety except in Nāngunéri, and perhaps parts of Sankaranainārkoil. Between the 20th February and 20th March there has been rain as follows :—

Table.

Date.	GROUP I.		GROUP II.				GROUP III.		
	Sátár.	Otapidáram.	Tinnevely.	Ambásamudram.	Tenkási.	Tenkarai.	Sankaranainārkoil.	Srivilliputtur.	Nāngunéri.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
February 23rd..	..	..	0.12	0.75	0.15	..	0.62	0.25	1.10
March 8th..	..	..	0.32	0.40	2.10	..	2.72	0.35	0.25
Do. 9th..	..	..	..	..	0.40	..	0.95	0.95	..
Do. 10th..	..	..	..	..	0.05	..	..	..	..
Do. 11th..	..	..	..	..	2.20	..	..	..	..
Do. 12th..	..	..	..	..	..	0.20	..	..	0.12
Do. 13th..	..	0.40	..	..	..	0.35	0.05	1.10	0.05
Do. 14th..	0.30	0.50	0.30	..	1.60	..	0.05	..	0.50
Do. 15th..	0.60	1.25	0.25	..	0.35	0.90	0.50	0.60	..
Do. 16th..	..	1.30	2.85	1.20	0.55	..	..	..	..
Do. 17th..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.99	3.25	2.02
Do. 18th..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total..	0.60	3.45	3.84	2.35	7.40	1.45	..	..	..

The general result of the rains is a great growth of pasture, so that the district is unusually provided; brisk agricultural operations for a hot-weather crop, both dry crops—and even wet crops—on wet land, garden crops and a moderate area of dry crops on ordinary dry land: the cotton crop assured everywhere; the wells improved; palmyras saved and revived and yielding toddy much as usual. The condition of the people is everywhere normal; there is no sign of lack of food or lack of employment, even in Nāngunéri. I am now proceeding to this latter taluk to inspect for myself. Prices remain as before. Crime is normal.

3. *Group I.*—The two taluks of Sâtar and Otapidâram need no longer be reported on; the only present risk is that of damage to crop and harvest by rain; the cotton harvest has now begun, while the plants are also in full flower; more rain would damage the yield and probably bring insect pests. The recent rains now seem to have cleared off.

4. *Group II—Tinnevely.*—This taluk is practically safe; the rainfall of the 10th to 17th February mentioned in my previous report had its effect, as stated in paragraph 4; that has been followed by rain in the period under report to the amount of 3.84 inches, so that agricultural operations are now vigorously going on: about 10,000 acres of gingelly are reported as sown, besides other crops, such as cholam, kathi-kenni, &c.; pasture and water are abundant; the Tâmbraparni valley harvest is over and has produced nearly an ordinary crop; fodder is consequently abundant and even in the merely rain-fed portions there is little room for anxiety.

5. *Ahâdscandram.*—Paragraph 6 of my previous report was very hopeful; the subsequent rains, 2.35 inches, have still further improved the outlook, and all cause for apprehension may be said to have passed. This taluk need not be mentioned in future reports.

6. *Tenkâri.*—The same may be said of this taluk which, in addition to the abundant rainfall mentioned in paragraph 6 of my previous report, has since received 7.40 inches. Tanks are so full in some parts that the dry crops planted with the first supplies have been destroyed by the ryots to make room for paddy. This taluk may also be omitted from future reports.

7. *Tenkârai.*—The fresher mentioned in paragraph 7 of my previous report filled all the tanks under the Srivaikuntham aicut except those on the extreme east under the south main channel: on the north the water reached and nearly filled the last tank (Korampallam) which supplies Talicorin town. It is reported that there will now be only 1,500 acres of waste and withered under river-fed villages. Gingelly is being sown on wet lands under rain-fed tanks; cotton and palmyras are in excellent condition. The rainfall at Kulasekharapatnam and the palmyra tract in that neighbourhood was more abundant than at Tenkârai. The people are all in good condition.

8. *Group III—Sankaranainârkoil.*—The Deputy Collector now considers this taluk to be no longer a cause for serious anxiety. Paragraph 8 of the previous report showed that in January certain parts of the taluk got rain and supplies of water, and that from 11th to the 17th February general rain fell, amounting to 2.69 inches at head-quarters, but less in the southern parts. Further inspection showed that even these southern parts had considerably benefited, lands having been ploughed, a little water received in the wells and tanks, and pasture revived. In the period now under report more copious and general rains have fallen: that at head-quarters was 3.99 inches, and as the bulk of it was in one or two heavy falls, the tanks have received water varying from one week to thirty days' supply. Agricultural operations are general; the old standing crops, principally cotton and castor-oil, are secured; pasture has revived and dry crops will now be put down wherever there is a little water in the tanks; the wells will also be replenished. The Tahsildar in fact reports that 10 days' hot sun are necessary to invigorate the cholam and gingelly recently sown, both on wet and dry lands. The condition of the people is satisfactory. Minor irrigation works are in progress, and Rs. 5,000 have been advanced for wells. No special works have been started or are needed.

9. *Srivilliputur.*—As stated in paragraph 9 of my previous report, the then condition of Srivilliputur was similar to, but rather better than, Sankaranainârkoil, for the rain was rather better, and many parts of the taluks, especially the Watrap valley and the 40,000 acres of cotton, were never in real danger. During the period now under report, good and seasonable rains have everywhere fallen, 3.25 inches having been gauged at head-quarters; tanks have received varying supplies, and the people are busy both on wet and dry lands in putting down dry crops, such as cholam, cumbu, gingelly, &c.; the numerous wells are of course much benefited. Prices have slightly fallen, and prospects are hopeful; on the black soil tracts rain would now be the reverse of beneficial. No special works have been started.

10. *Nângunéri.*—My report on this taluk, though less encouraging than that on others, is more hopeful than that of last month. Portions of the taluk had a sharp shower on the 23rd February, which put water into a number of small tanks near Nângunéri and revived the palmyras greatly; the north, west and sea-coast were also benefited. But the central tract south of Nângunéri and north of Râdhâpuram, stretching from Valliyur on the west to Vizianarayanam on the east, was almost rainless; fortunately, that is the least populous portion of the taluk. In March there were more general showers; Nângunéri, however, only got 0.92 inches, Râdhâpuram 1.95 and other areas varying quantities. Small though this is, it has been timely and beneficial: the palmyras are largely saved in those tracts where they were dying, and their crop is beginning; toddy pots are seen on many trees, and sweet toddy is being sold by the wayside; the jaggery crop is now expected to be fair, and, as a matter of fact, the price is about the normal (Rs. 17½ as against Rs. 16 to 20). Many tanks received small supplies even in the Valliyur and Vizianarayanam divisions which form the worst tract. Dry crops, especially gingelly, are being put down on wet lands even in the worst tract, and the Tahsildar cannot even yet find laborers for his ordinary minor irrigation works. The condition of the people generally satisfactory, though the Deputy Tahsildar of Râdhâpuram states that there are cases of distress in some villages, but he is absolutely vague and gives no details. He has been called on for immediate and detailed report. Prices are slightly cheaper; crime and the death-rate normal. The Head Assistant Collector considers that the north-west and north-east of the taluk may now be considered safe from famine, while the actual trouble and prospective danger are distinctly reduced in the other parts; the sea-coast has never been very bad. I am proceeding immediately to Nângunéri on a tour of inspection.

11. There is no present cause for anxiety: even in the worst parts of Nângunéri, now a limited area, there is no present lack of food or employment; in fact the Government irrigation works cannot get labor. This is no doubt partly due to emigration, but it is not an abnormal emigration, but the normal flow of laborers to the harvests of the Tâmbraparni valley and to Ceylon. Many small works are ready for commencement, and numerous others are now being estimated for and will be ready in a few days time.

12. *Food supply.*—Stocks are, of course, still small, but the railway is able to cope with the demand.

13. Prices are slightly cheaper.

Resolution—dated 25th March 1891, No. 165.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall in February and March has so materially improved the prospects in this district that there is, the Collector states, little remaining cause for anxiety anywhere, except in Nângunéri taluk and perhaps parts of Sankaranainârkoil. Even in Nângunéri the palmyras which form the mainstay of the people have been largely saved and dry crops, chiefly gingelly, are being sown on wet lands, and the local officers find difficulty in procuring labor on the minor irrigation works which were ordered to be started with a view to test the actual demand for labor.

3. The condition of the people continues satisfactory; prices are slightly falling and imports are brisk.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Collector of Tinnevely.

11TH APRIL 1891, No. 294, REVENUE.

ORDER—dated 11th April 1891, No. 294, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded with the remark that the
Government is glad to receive so favorable
a report.

(True Extract.)

Ch. C. C.
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
„ the Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Henricus.

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