

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

No 1145 Waj 24 April 1891

Comd. to the Subdy. Engr
to Engr.

No. 100.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 11th April 1891, No. 297.

APRIL.

Kalahasti zemindari.

Board's Proceedings submitting, with remarks,
the inspection notes of the Special Deputy Col-
lector of certain villages in the —, recorded.

P. E. 100
C. E. 100.

11TH APRIL 1891, No. 297, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 28th March 1891, No. 176 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from M.R.Ry. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR, Special Deputy Collector, North Arcot, to the Collector of North Arcot, dated Kálahasti, 1st March 1891, No. 7 :—

1. Muchavelu.
2. Erragoodoopadu.
3. Elavedoo.
4. Pallum.
5. Embedu.

6. Poli.
7. Beemavaram.
8. Ammacheruvu.
9. Thimmavaram.

I have the honor to submit, for perusal, my notes of inspection of the villages named in the margin which are situated on the north-eastern corner of the Kálahasti taluk below the ghâts.

2. A statement showing for each village the population, the extent usually cultivated, the extent of cultivation this year, the loss of crops, the extent of harvest and of standing crop is also enclosed. The first village inspected by me on the 26th February was Muchavelu, 7 miles from Kálahasti. In this village there seems to have been on the whole a fair harvest, though the outturn on a large extent was poor. No division of produce has yet taken place and the ryots are consequently in straitened circumstances. The recent rains brought some supply to the tank, which even now retains more than a month's supply, but the villagers are unwilling to increase the cultivation for fear of losing their seed-grains. The utter absence of wells in these tracts tells much on the prosperity of the ryots. Soon after the rains there was some work in the village. The fields generally have been ploughed and a few acres were sown with cholam or cumbu. The villagers themselves work in the fields and I doubt whether the poorer ryots and the coolies really benefited to any great extent by the rainfall. They complain of want of work, and the majority of them subsist at present by occasional cooly work and by scraping grain from the harvested fields, but their condition will be better when the division of produce shall have taken place in a few days. Even then, I think, about 25 persons will require work in the village. The harvest of cholam crop two months hence will help only the well-to-do villagers.

3. The next village visited on the same day was Erragoodoopadu, 2 miles south of Muchavelu. Here also there was some harvest, but when the division of produce takes place the persons to be benefited will mostly be the well-to-do villagers.

4. There are two families in a destitute condition among the villagers and the village Paracheri has a number of families having nothing to do at present. They eke out an existence by occasional cooly work and by scraping grain in the fields. The sale of firewood does not help them sufficiently. Several men here are only having half rations, and I think about 20 persons require work at present. The village tank received no supply by the recent rains. The villagers are idle at home.

5. The next village visited was Mungalapuram Agraharam village. This has a large extent of standing second crop with water in the tank; the ryots there are better off than their brethren of the neighbouring villages.

6. On the 27th I proceeded to Elavedoo, 3 miles from my first camp. This village has not been badly affected by the season, and the villagers are engaged in harvesting their crop. The outturn was very poor indeed in several fields.

7. Proceeding from Elavedoo, I camped in Pallum, 2 miles off. This village has a good harvest, though the outturn on a large extent was very bad. The hamlet attached to it is bad. Here I found a large number of Pariahs idle in their houses at about 3 P.M. The villagers themselves work in the fields, both male and female, and the Pariahs therefore do not now get cooly work there. They try to find work elsewhere, but many do not get it. Some families here live on half rations or on meals at longer intervals than usual. The laborers, however, will not go to Erpedu for working and want work to be given near their homes. About 20 persons require work here at present.

8. From Pallum I inspected Embedu. This village lost nearly one-third of its crop, and the outturn on the extent harvested was poor. The recent rains brought a supply to the tanks, but the absence of wells has prevented the ryots from raising new crops on a large scale. Cholum has just been sown on a few acres. Agricultural operations are at a stand-still, and the Pariahs, who are the cooly classes of the village, get cooly work elsewhere only occasionally. About 20 men will require work before long.

On the 28th I camped at Poli, a village 4 miles from Pallum. Around this centre, some villages have lost their crop entirely and the recent rains have done little towards improving the condition of the poor pattadars and the cooly classes. A few well-to-do ryots here and there might have employed them for some days after the rains, but all possible ploughing has been done by the villagers themselves and small extents in each village have been sown by them. The daily laborers have been shifting as best as they could.

9. In Poli and in the adjacent village of Beemavaram, several families, chiefly of the cooly class, are without work of any kind and subsist entirely on scraping from harvested fields and by occasional sale of firewood and grass in Venkatagiri. This is hardly enough to support the whole family and the members in consequence are stated to have less than their usual quantity of food. In some families the children alone look healthy. In others the children and the men look healthy and the appearance of the remaining members is far from being satisfactory. I consider that in the four villages of Poli, Beemavaram, Ammachervu and Thimmavaram about 60 persons require work at present.

10. The tanks of these villages are in a very bad state and the repair of some of them may be taken up at once, as other villages beyond the limits of my inspection are also stated to be affected by the season more or less. I have not yet been furnished with a list of the works proposed to be executed in the Kālahasti taluk, and I have therefore requested the Dewan to send me one as early as possible.

Endorsement by W. J. H. LE FANU, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Chetpat, 25th March 1891, No. 1296-Rev. Gl.

Submitted to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture for information.

Resolution—dated 28th March 1891, No. 173.

Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 26th current, No. 172.

2. Now that Mr. Watson's staff has been strengthened and that the Dewan is in a position to start smaller works out of the advance of Rs. 10,000 which has since been placed at his disposal by the Collector, it rests with Mr. LeFanu and his Divisional officers, in consultation with Mr. Watson and the Dewan, to have a sufficient number of works started in convenient centres to give employment to distressed people. Divisional officers should not merely content themselves with reporting that so many people are without work in such and such villages. They should see that work is

started without delay in convenient centres and that the people are informed where and under what conditions employment could be obtained. If they don't choose to go some reasonable distance for work, nothing can be done to help them, for it is impossible to open works in every distressed village.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

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

ORDER—dated 11th April 1891, No. 297, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Board's instructions in paragraph 2 are approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. C. A. Munisawmy.

80 Copies.

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Order the now to :
1145th April 1891

Communicated to
the Deputy Collector: Tr. A. S.
15/4/91

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To be returned when due

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