

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 8
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 8/90
 (3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 10/90

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

(46)

P.W. 1 துறை

அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	1146	அச்சகம் பலவகை
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11TH APRIL 1891, No. 301, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 31st March 1891, No. 180:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from W. J. H. LE FANU, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Chetput, 28th March 1891, No. 18-C:—

I have the honor to submit the following report on the general prospects in this district during the month of March 1891.

2. The aggregate rainfall registered during the month was 4.54* inches, which, ranging from 7 cents at Puttur to 1.95 inches at Palmanér, averaged 24 cents for 19 recording stations. Mr. Buckley and the Deputy Tahsildar of Maderpak have both reported that on the 10th March,

* Punganúr ...	0.50	Palmanér ...	1.95
Puttur ...	0.07	Kangundi ...	0.20
Tirutani ...	0.05	Pólúr ...	0.40
Arkónam ...	0.10	Wandiwash ...	1.27

there was a thunderstorm at Pennalurpet and in the villages within a radius of about three miles round it, the fall being estimated at about an inch. There does not appear to have been any fall at Maderpak, the station at which the rain-gauge is kept, and hence the above fall has not been brought to account. As I have already reported from time to time and particularly in my letter, Reference Board No. 437, dated 27th February 1891, printed in the Board's Proceedings, No. 138, dated 13th March 1891, the only parts of the district to which attention should, for the present, be concentrated, are Wandiwash taluk and the Kálahasti zemindari. The taluk of Pólúr which was formerly included as a partially-affected tract having had a welcome fall of rain during January and February, has materially improved in condition, though, of course, waste and shavi remissions will have to be granted to an appreciable extent. This taluk has been ordered by the Board to be excluded from the affected tracts—*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 88, dated 20th February 1891. The rainfall in Wandiwash taluk and Kálahasti zemindari, though quite beyond anything which could have been reasonably, and seasonably, hoped for, cannot be said to have effected any great change worth speaking of.

3. In Wandiwash, the recent fall was confined to a limited tract and has served mainly to refresh the standing crops and to give relief to the ryots for a few days from working at the pakotas. In some villages, the rain enabled ryots to plough some lands and sow cholum, gingelly and ragi to some extent; but it was too late for paddy, which either became already shavi, or, where dependent on wells, was already harvested. The physical condition of the laboring classes has not undergone any change for the present; but children and old and infirm people depending for support on poor relations have begun to show signs of weakness for want of sufficient nourishment, especially the former, when a family consists of many members. Since the submission of the report for February, I have received information from the District Surgeon to the effect that out of 18 cases of prisoners admitted into the Nellore Central jail from Wandiwash taluk, 10 were in an indifferent state of health and 5 were bad. The harvest of ground-nut and varagu in which the people were

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hitherto engaged, and the small stock of grain which they had laid by, being now nearly over, the laboring classes have begun to resort to the works opened to provide employment for them. The number employed on works on the 17th instant was 1,729. The market has at present a sufficient supply of the chief food-grains, rice and ragi. The price of rice has remained stationary, while that of ragi has recently fallen from 11 to 12 measures (local) owing to the recent harvest of that crop and to the large sale by ryots to pay up their kista.

4. In the Kálahasti zemindari, no fall of rain was registered in either of the two recording stations, but it is reported that there was a thunderstorm on the 10th at Pennalurpet, in Maderpak division, which was confined to a small radius around that village. This rain is believed to have benefited that tract which was hitherto considered to be one of the worst of the affected portions. A report has been called for about the actual effects of this rain, and it will be submitted to the Board in due course. Things have not in any way improved in the tract called the Lokki valley, and in a few villages to the south-east of Maderpak, as also in the part known as the Ragi Gunta valley in the Kálahasti division. Even well-to-do ryots are reported to have mostly exhausted their stock of grain and to have begun to borrow and to sell their cattle. The District Surgeon who visited certain villages in the Maderpak division, reports that he found a very large percentage of the children there suffering from a form of gradual or chronic starvation in various stages, and, in two cases, the effects had so far advanced as to produce dropsy. The men and women, though not as robust and healthy looking as in times of prosperity, are said to have been not so much affected as children. The class of people suffering most were found to be besides the Pariahs and Enadis, who have no means of subsistence at present, people of some of the higher castes, viz., Yellamas, who, though poor, belong to the same class as the Raja of Kálahasti, and who are not inured to hard labor in fields, are also affected for want of food, and that several families are actually leading a life of starvation. Estimates for some of the works in the affected centres have been prepared, and labor is also employed on a few of them. In consideration of the delay involved in providing work for all those requiring it, an advance of Rs. 10,000 has been recently placed at the disposal of the Dewan of Kálahasti to enable him to commence at once some of the minor irrigation works in the affected villages.

5. His Excellency the Governor having been satisfied, after personal inquiries at Wandiwash and Chetput, and from Mr. Buckley's reports embodied in the Board's Proceedings, No. 101, dated 24th February 1891, and No. 133, dated 11th March 1891, that the time has arrived for the distribution of gratuitous relief in Wandiwash taluk and the Kálahasti zemindari, it has been decided in G.O., No. 222, dated 19th March 1891, that gratuitous relief should be given to a limited extent and that kitchens should be opened in those tracts for the relief of destitute children and men and women physically incapable and having no well-to-do relations to support them. Instructions have been issued to carry out the orders of Government, and the result of the working of these kitchens will be reported in due course. A statement showing the general prospects in tabular form in each taluk is herewith submitted.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Taluk and zemindari divisions.	General prospect as compared with the preceding month.	Condition of the people.	State of market.	Prices (in the denomination of 80 tola measure).	Remarks as to places where work have been started or are being maintained for giving employment to laborers.		General remarks.
					Number of works.	Number of coolies.	
Chittoor taluk	No rain in Chittoor during the month of March, but there was a slight fall in the south-eastern parts of the taluk which was not enough to give any fresh supply to tanks or to materially save the withering crops. Some of the crops in the north-eastern, eastern and southern parts of the taluk are withering for want of rain.	No distress in the taluk. The laboring classes find employment in picking ground-nut, harvesting paddy and manufacturing jaggery. Labor is employed also on the minor irrigation works and the Railway. Sufficient food-stock available in villages.	No alarm in the market. Supply steady and sufficient to have risen slightly in northern, western parts.	Last month. This month. Rice. 11-28 11-28 Ragi. 23 94 24 79	10	860	
Palmanér taluk	There was a good fall of 1-95 inches which was confined to a small area around Palmanér.	No distress is felt in this taluk.	The supply in market is steady.	Slight rise in the price of ragi.			
Pungánér	Rainfall, on 9th March 1891, of 0-50 inches. The easternmost parts of the division are reported to be in want of rain. The above rain has done some good to the standing crops, though no supply of water was received in tanks.	No distress. The laborers find ample work in collecting tamarind and manufacture of jaggery.	No scarcity of supply in the market. Rice and ragi have become cheaper as compared with last month.	Rice. 11-28 and 11-28 Ragi. 30-24 and 30-24			
Póúr							There was a good fall of rain in January and February which has improved the condition of this taluk. There is at present generally no distress felt. This taluk has been ordered to be excluded from even partially affected tracts—vide Board's Proceedings, No. 88, dated 20th February 1891.

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Taluka and zemindari divisions.	General prospect as compared with the preceding month.	Condition of the people.	State of market.	Prices (in the denomination of 80 tola measure).	Number of works.	Number of coolies.	General remarks.
Wandiwash taluk ..	<i>Rainfall.</i>—There was a good fall of rain on the 9th instant, the quantity registered being 1.27 inches, and it lasted for half an hour. The rain was partial and did not extend over a large area. <i>Extent of cultivation.</i>—The extent of standing crops, both wet and dry, to the end of January last was 28,255 acres. The area brought under cultivation in February is 1,615. The rain in February enabled the ryots to sow cholam, gingley and ragi to some extent. <i>Effect of rain.</i>—The fall in this month was not beneficial to paddy, as the crop dependent on rainfall had already been either harvested or become chavi. The young cholam and gingley on the ground sown after the January rains were however benefited by it. The ground-nut, cholam and varagu crop reported to have been on the ground in the last report have almost been harvested. The extent harvested in the month is estimated at 17,000 acres. The present standing crops are paddy and ragi in wet lands, and cholam and gingley in both wet and dry. The recent rains in February and March have been advantageous to the cultivation of ragi, cholam and gingley. Drinking water ponds also received small supplies. The fall of the 9th has enabled the ryots to plough up and manure a portion of their fields.	<i>Physical condition.</i>—The physical condition of the laboring classes has not undergone any change; but children dependent on their poor parents, and old and infirm people on their needy relations, have begun to show signs of weakness for want of sufficient nourishment, especially the former when the family consisted of many members. 2. The harvest of ground-nut and varagu which engaged the coolies till the beginning of this month and which had enabled them to lay by small stocks of grain, being now completely over, they begin to resort to the work provided for them on major and minor irrigation works. 3. Drinking water both to men and cattle is generally available. No disease of any kind prevails at present except small-pox here and there.	The market has at present sufficient supply of rice and ragi. The prices of staple food-grains are stationary, except that of ragi which has slightly fallen from 20-02 to 21-81 measures due to the recent harvest of crop and sales to pay the kist.	Major .. 4 Minor .. 19 23	609 1,120 1,739	The Public Works Department propose opening works in several places in view to provide labor for groups of villages around them, and arrangements are in progress. The above represents the number employed on the 19th March 1891.	

Taluka and zemindari divisions.	General prospect as compared with the preceding month.	Condition of the people.	State of market.	Prices (in the denomination of 80 tola measure).	Number of works.	Number of coolies.	Remarks as to places where works have been started or are being maintained for giving employment to laborers.	General remarks.
Arrot, Vellore and Gudiyatam and Kandugudi zemindari.	<i>Sub-Collector's Division.</i> The prospects are fair. No rain fell during the month and things are not in any way altered from what they were in the previous month, except that the amount of remissions estimated in Gudiyatam require to be raised from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000. No distress is apprehended anywhere. There was a thunderstorm in and around Pennalurpet in Maderpak division on the 10th March 1891, the rainfall being estimated at about an inch. There does not appear to have been any fall at Maderpak, the station at which rainfall is recorded. Some parts of the zemindari were benefited by the rainfall in January and February; but things are reported to have not in any way improved in the tract called "the Lokki valley," in about 10 villages to the south-east of Maderpak and in certain villages in the neighbourhood of Pennalurpet. The thunderstorm of the 10th near Pennalurpet might have done some good there and a report has been called for about this. In Kalahasti division, the tract known as Ragigunta valley which is situated to the south-east of Kalahasti town is reported to be more affected than the rest of the division. Even the well-to-do ryots are said to have mostly exhausted their food-stock and to have begun to borrow and sell their cattle owing to failure of	The general condition of the people is reported to be fair. Though there has been a failure of crop over some areas in Arrot and Gudiyatam taluks, the laboring classes have got sufficient work in the fields and there is not much need for special works to be started for the present. In Arrot taluk cholera has made its appearance in a few villages, though its effects are not yet severe. The District Surgeon, who visited a portion of the Maderpak division, reports that he found a very large percentage of the children, in certain villages which he visited, suffering from a form of gradual or chronic starvation in various stages, and in two cases, the effects had so far advanced as to produce dropsy. The men and women, though not as robust and healthy looking as in times of prosperity, are said to have been not as bad as the children. The classes suffering most were found to be Pariahs and coolies. In Kalahasti division, the Special Deputy Collector reports that, besides the Pariahs and Yemadies, people of some of the higher castes, viz., Yelamas, who belong to the same clan as the Rajah of Kalahasti and who are not inured to hard labor in fields, are also affected for want of food, and that several families are actually leading a life of starvation. Drinking-water supply is also said to be scarce in the Ragigunta valley.	There is nothing alarming in the prices of grain as yet. The markets are reported to be fairly supplied. There has been no diminution in the supply in markets, but this is not the chief criterion from which to gauge the amount of distress.	In Gudiyatam, Arrot and Kandugudi there has been a slight rise in the prices, but in Vellore they have remained stationary. The prices have remained stationary both in Kalahasti and Maderpak Divisions.				Estimates for the five works, three of which are important, have been prepared by the Special Executive Engineer of Kalahasti; and labor has been already employed on all of them. Besides the major works to be carried out under the supervision of the Public Works Department, minor works in affected tracts will shortly be opened by the Dewan himself to whom an advance of Rs. 10,000 has been recently sanctioned for the purpose, and this sum has been ordered to be placed at his disposal.

Wandiwash taluk,
Chandragiri taluk and
Kavetnagar zemindari and Arni Jaghire.

No change in the state of affairs as reported in the last month's report.

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Resolution—dated 31st March 1891, No. 180.

Recorded pending the preparation of the general report called for in G.O., dated 2nd February 1891, No. 68.

2. In Wandiwash there was a good fall of rain (1.27 inches) on the 9th March, but it was confined to a limited tract. It served to refresh the standing crops and enabled the ryots to sow cholam, ragi and gingelly to some extent. The physical condition of the laboring classes is said not to have "undergone any change for the present; but children and old and infirm people depending for support on poor relations have begun to show signs of weakness for want of sufficient nourishment, especially the former, when a family consists of many members." It is presumed that the Collector has taken steps to see that all "poor relations" who may be able to work are freely admitted on the Minor Irrigation and the Public Works Department works which have been started in the taluk. If this is properly attended to, the working members of the family will soon be able to find means of supporting themselves and their children and dependents and the distribution of gratuitous relief on any large scale will become unnecessary. People must know where and when they can find work and for this purpose constant inspection by the local officers is necessary. No report of village inspections made by the Divisional officer has been submitted to the Board since 17th February. These reports should be submitted regularly in future. As yet the numbers on relief works in this taluk have not risen above 1,729.

3. In the Kālahasti zemindari no rain was registered either at Kālahasti or Maderpak, but at Pennalurpet in the latter division, there was a thunderstorm on the 10th March which "is believed to have benefited that tract which was hitherto considered to be one of the worst of the affected portions." In the other tracts there has been no improvement, and even well-to-do ryots are said to be beginning to feel the pressure of high prices. The results of the District Surgeon's inspection have already been noticed in Board's Proceedings, dated 26th March 1891, No. 172.

4. The price of ragi has appreciably fallen in the Wandiwash taluk.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

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

ORDER—dated 11th April 1891, No. 301, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Board's instructions are approved.

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. C. A. Munisawmy.

95 Copies.

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Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

P.W. C.N. 44 81

Recd 20.11.91

24-4-91

No 1146 W of 24 April 1891

Communicated to the
Suptg. Engineer for the
Circle.

Ad
24/4/91

Issued

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Encl.

G.O., 11th April 1891, No. 301.

APRIL.

Season.

Board's Proceedings submitting, with remarks,
the report of the Collector of North Arcot on
the general prospects in the district during the
month of March 1891, recorded.

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to 2007

S. E. South Circle 24/4/91
C. E. for S.

L. P. 24/4/91

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