

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 4
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 31.7.90
 (3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் [Signature]

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

(197)

P.W. 1 துறை

அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	1441	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் :	26 - 5 - 1891	198 /

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

21/11

2 Sheets

1441
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12TH MAY 1891, No. 420, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 4th May 1891, No. 262 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from O. WOLFE-MURRAY, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Kesapuram, 30th April 1891, No. 60-Extra :—

I have the honour to reply to paragraph 2 of Board's Proceedings, dated 14th April 1891, No. 209, calling on me to report the area, situation and extent of the distress in Rayachóti taluk.

2. I submit a sketch-map of the taluk, in which are shown the 27 villages where workmen require work; their population may be taken at 40,000. Their area is 188,446 acres, but of course a large proportion of this always was, is, and will be, waste land.

3. The map shows the affected area to be in the centre, north-west and north and south-west of the taluk.

4. The physico-geographical features of the country have a great deal to do with its condition. The centre is an undulating plain, hills rise on the south-west from 2,500 feet to 3,500 feet; and all the west of the taluk is hill and dale. The cultivation being in the valleys, villages down the valleys have crops and water in the wells, but at the head of the valleys on the high ground they are not so well off. There is a remarkable difference in the condition of even villages close together for this reason. Paddy is flourishing in some, and a mile or two away all is bare.

5. The villages here also are not like the ordinary village. Many of them have from 30 to 40 hamlets, some hamlets will be naturally better off than others. Of the 27 villages in the list, I have visited 13 villages, those marked V on the map, and shall

* Two visited to-day. visit the other five * marked e in the next few days. Of course I have also visited a vast number of other hamlets and villages to satisfy myself of the people's requirements. The tract coloured yellow shows the ground I have been or shall shortly have been over, a hard and hot task with the thermometer touching 100° in the shade on most days.

6. As to the extent of the distress, it is rather a vague phrase and not capable of a definite answer. I estimate that from 7,000 to 9,000 persons in these 27 villages have or had no work to do, and would be glad of it. On questioning them they say they are taking half or three-quarter meals daily, but I must say they do not as yet look reduced, though here and there one sees a thin child, not a rare sight in this country however; but I see nothing of the absolutely under-fed look about them. The Railway Engineers complain still they cannot get enough labour though they are offering high rates. The people from here will not go there, they say it is too far, they will not leave their children, who cannot walk so far in the hot sun; this, though the railway is within 25 miles of where I now am. I have only seen one really thin case, a girl beggar of the Baliya caste. I ordered her to be sent to the hospital, but I believe she heard of it and made off; she has her own parents alive.

7. There is no doubt, however, that many are crying out for work, though the cholam harvest, now on in parts, is giving some employment for the next two weeks.

8. I append the Tahsildar's remarks:—"The distress has not yet commenced, but the poorer cooly classes are not able to earn their two meals for want of work owing to the failure of paddy-crop. First rice crop was scarcely harvested, and the second crop was not even half. Most of the wet lands were waste. It is said that many of the poor people are taking only one meal during the whole day and night. In some villages harvest of some extent of cholam crop has given a little means to cooly classes for a fortnight time."

9. The following remarks will answer Board's Resolution, dated 24th April 1891, No. 239, Press, and will show what is being done.

10. The Board will have by now understood from the 2nd list of works forwarded to me by the Executive Engineer and by me to the Board with my letter, dated 22nd April 1891, Extra No. 36, that the Hastinapuram tank earth-work requires an expenditure of only Rs. 1,500, the balance is masonry work up to Rs. 6,000. It is well to commence the earth-work, and it is now in progress. The overseer informs me, he can employ more than 100 coolies daily, and I have directed him to employ 250: it can be seen that there are several distressed villages near the work. This and Kanchalamma cheruvu are the only major works ready.

11. I recommended the latter as this is a locality of partial rainfall and this tank is supplied from a stream rising or passing close to two large blocks of hills reaching 3,500 feet. These hills, my experience of the past ten days tells me, catch and condense every passing shower. Hence the tank would have every chance of stopping a lot of water that must often run to waste. No doubt it would commit Government to a large expenditure, but it is better to spend money on our own people freely than send it to be frittered away outside the Presidency. Kanchalamma tank too is handy to Ráyachóti, 2 miles, and relief work there could be cheaply done. Still there is no doubt that the repair of minor irrigation works and the improvement of wells are more suitable, because these give the people what they like best, work near their own homes. This work has already commenced on those tanks sanctioned for this year, and I have two Revenue Inspectors and the Minor Irrigation overseer out preparing estimates for the further works, for which I asked an allotment of Rs. 10,000. Due particulars of these will be sent if desired. It will, of course, depend on the season whether the whole of this will be required. This and the wells improvement on which a special man has been placed, should be ample to provide for all unless the south-west monsoon fails us altogether. These last six days dust and thunder-storm have been frequent in various parts of the taluk, but the rain does not seem to fall on the just and unjust alike, for I have had none but a few cents at Ráyachóti; it has been heavier in other parts and particularly in the west must be helping the water-supply. Yesterday as I came here, I saw puddles in the road, a gratifying sight.

12. I do not consider that, whatever rain falls, there will be much occupation for a good many weeks for the coolies, apart from our irrigation and well works: nothing can go on except ploughing and the classes in need of work are not mainly ploughmen. After ploughing will come sowing and later on weeding and transplanting, but it must certainly, if it is an ordinary year, be quite two months yet before there is full work for all in the agricultural line.

Resolution—dated 4th May 1891, No. 262.

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 24th April 1891, No. 239.

2. As a result of his careful inspection and inquiry in the Ráyachóti taluk, the Collector reports that about twenty-seven villages situated in the centre and southern portion of the taluk are rather seriously affected. The area of the tract is about 290 square miles with a population of some 40,000 souls, of whom about 7,000 to 9,000 persons are said to be without employment. The poorer classes of people in these villages appear to be living on reduced rations, but they are unwilling to go

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to the Railway works which are being carried on at a distance of 20 to 25 miles. The cholam harvest which is going on in some villages will give employment to a limited number for the next two weeks. The earth-work on the Hastinapuram tank has already been commenced, but the estimated cost of it is only Rs. 1,500, the balance of the estimate of Rs. 6,000 being for masonry work. The overseer in charge of the work states that he can employ more than 100 coolies daily, and the Collector has instructed him to employ 250. This is approved. The Collector has also ordered repairs to a few minor irrigation works to be carried on and has arranged for estimates being prepared for others. These and some Local Fund road repairs should be commenced as soon as possible to afford relief to those who may be in need. The number of minor and major works that may be started and the number employed on them on the last day of the week should be shown in the weekly season reports.

3. The Commissioner hopes to be able to meet the Collector at Ráyachóti on Friday next, the 8th instant, when the advisability of commencing work on the Kanchalamma tank will be further considered.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with map.
" Collector of Cuddapah.

ORDER—dated 12th May 1891, No. 420, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Board's instructions are approved.

3. The Commissioner's report after personal inspection regarding the advisability of commencing work on the Kanchalamma tank is awaited.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. A. Aubert:

95 Copies.

P.W. Current 5655

Rev. 3874/1-5-91
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" 1261/15-5-91
" 785/18-3-91

Govt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

B/
No. 1441 W of 26 May 1891

Communicated to
the Supply Engineers III
circle.

Issued.

Recd. 22-5-91

Encl.

G.O., 12th May 1891, No. 420.

MAY.

Season.

Board's Proceedings submitting, with remarks,
letter from the Collector of Cuddapah reporting
on the area, situation and extent of the distress
in Rayachoti taluk, recorded with remarks.

Copies made for
Famine files.

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With order
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Govt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 12th May 1891, No. 420.

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Govt. of {1891} Madras

No. 1441 Wd/26 May 1891

communicated
to the S.E. III circle.

(2d) A.C.S.

W

S.E. III circle

Ch. Engr. J. J. J.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
POLITICAL.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 12th May 1891, No. 420.

MAY.

Season.

Board's Proceedings submitting, with remarks, letter from the Collector of Cuddapah reporting on the area, situation and extent of the distress in Ráyachóti taluk, recorded with remarks.

No. 1441 Wd/26 May 1891

Communicated
to the S.E. III circle.

(Id) A.C.S.

W

S.E. III circle

Ch. Engr. J. J. J.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., &c., 24th April 1891,
Nos. 215, 216.

APRIL.

Officers lent to Native States.

Ordering that the Secretary of State be addressed in connection with the returns of — for the quarter ending 31st December 1890, and that copy of the despatch be forwarded to the Government of India.

No. 1442 Wd/26 May 1891

Recorded with the remark that Colonel Bowen's name was entered in the return for the quarter ending 31st Decr 1890 with a view to furnish the information (Statement A, Column 7) required by G.O. No 13 Political 4/13 Jan'y 1891.

(Id) A.C.S.

W

To.
The Political Dept.