

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 6
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 10/10
 (3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 10/10

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

PWD துறை

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அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். 808	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் : 11-3-1882	198.

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

3 Sheets

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3RD MARCH 1892, No. 208, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 20th February 1892, No. 133:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following fortnightly narrative for Badvel and Sidhout taluks for the fortnight ending with 13th February 1892, dated 14th February 1892, Disposal No. 319:—

STATE OF COUNTRY—*Crops—Badvel taluk.*—Both wet and dry crops have withered in several places except under wells.

Sidhout taluk.—Dry crops under wells fair. Those on dry lands moderately fair in the northern portion of the Obalam valley and in the Kondur firka, i.e., the northern portion of the taluk. Almost withered in some places in the south of the taluk.

Fodder—Badvel taluk.—Very scanty. People are getting hill grass in some places. Ragi straw obtained under wells and paddy straw where the crop withered, but the quantity is very small.

Sidhout taluk.—Except in some villages in the northern part of the taluk fodder is becoming scarce.

Water-supply—Badvel taluk.—No water in tanks and channels. In most of the agricultural wells too water is getting low. Even drinking water for men and cattle has become scanty in several places. Great difficulty is felt in Badvel and Porumamilla towns. Three wells are being sunk in Badvel under the Collector's orders.

Sidhout taluk.—Almost all the tanks are empty. Only one or two in the northern part of the taluk have a little supply. There is water in the wells in that tract. Supply getting scanty in wells to the south of the Pennér.

Agricultural operations—Badvel taluk.—Cholum harvested in about three or four villages bordering the Sidhout taluk. Yield between 4 and 8 annas.

Sidhout taluk.—The harvesting of cholum and ragi has commenced in some villages in the northern portion of the taluk.

Cattle—Badvel taluk.—Becoming weak for want of fodder and water. Some are being sold at low prices.

Sidhout taluk.—The condition of cattle is fair in the northern part of the taluk. They suffer for want of fodder and pasturage to the south of the Pennér. No disease.

General remarks on the above subjects—Badvel taluk.—It is hoped that the three drinking-water wells now undertaken will, when completed, greatly relieve the difficulty which is now being felt. I tried to feed cattle with prickly-pear in Badvel, but did not succeed. I will, however, make some more experiments.

Sidhout taluk.—The cholum harvest will afford labour to the working classes in the north of the taluk for some time. People from the south also will go there and to the Pullampet taluk.

CONDITION OF PEOPLE—*On works—Badvel taluk.*—Good.

Sidhout taluk.—Good.

In villages—Badvel taluk.—No material change in the condition of the people in the fortnight under review, except, perhaps, that a pretty large number of people of Badvel and surrounding villages had relief on road works which were started at the end of the fortnight. I found some people of this taluk returning from the Sidhout and Cuddapah taluks whither they had been for cooly for the harvest there. Between 60 and 70 people are engaged in cutting hill grass in the Rekulakunta valley under the Forest department.

Sidhout taluk.—Generally good, except in Sidhout town, where cholera prevails in a mild form.

Mortality—Badvel taluk.—There were no other than natural deaths.

Sidhout taluk.—Two deaths from cholera.

Sickness—Badvel taluk.—None.

Sidhout taluk.—Cholera in two villages. Number attacked 9, died 2.

Remarks—Badvel taluk.—The first day (12th instant) on which road works were started there were 423 coolies. The next day the number increased to 452. It is very likely that the number would go on increasing. This day, *i.e.*, 14th, the number nearly doubled itself.

Sidhout taluk.—The Tahsildar reports that the poor people have gone to the Kondur firka of the taluk, as labour is now available there during the harvest time and that others have been ordered to go there. He evidently means the poor people in some of the places in the southern portion of the taluk.

RELIEF MEASURES—*Relief works—Badvel taluk.*—Road works have been started in Badvel town on the 12th instant; number of coolies employed on the 13th, 452. The prickly-pear clearance there is almost completed. There were 427 coolies in the beginning and 50 at the end of the fortnight. There is also some labour available on minor irrigation works (31). The number of coolies on these works was 452.

Sidhout taluk.—Eight minor irrigation works have been put in hand. Number of coolies not reported by the Tahsildar.

Poor-houses—In what places open and the number at each.—Badvel and Sidhout taluks—nil.

VILLAGE RELIEF—*Number of villages in each taluk for which reports have been received.*—Nil in both taluks.

Number of cases of death for want of food with brief note of circumstances if possible.—Nil.

Remarks.—Nil.

GRAIN SUPPLY—*Private trade, active or not, whether in rice or dry staple food-grain—Badvel taluk.*—Active in rice, ragi and cholum.

Sidhout taluk.—Private trade not very active. There was not much importation. Some exportation of dry staple food-grains to Badvel.

State the imports by rail or sea of rice or other staple food-grains—Badvel taluk.—Very little by rail. Large imports from Cuddapah, Proddatur, Cumbum of Kurnool district and Nellore, &c.

Sidhout taluk.—No imports to any appreciable extent by rail.

KNOWN OR ESTIMATED STOCKS IN TALUKS—*Badvel taluk.*—The stock with merchants is not large. That with the ryots is not exposed for sale. Grain is imported from outside.

Sidhout taluk.—About 3,400 putties of 400 measures of 132 rupees weight.

STATE OF MARKETS—*Price at chief markets of principal food-grains.*—There are no weekly markets in either of the two taluks. The prices given below were those ruling in the Tahsildars' head-quarter stations:—

SEERS OF 80 TOLANS.

Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.	Cumbu.	Rising at	Falling at	Stationary at	Remarks.
<i>Badvel taluk.</i>							
8-25	..	..	..	..	Badvel	..	The fall is due to large importations.
..	13-81	..	..	..	Do.	..	
..	..	15-67	..	..	Do.	..	
..	..	..	13-81	..	Do.	..	
<i>Sidhout taluk.</i>							
7-83	..	..	..	..	Sidhout	..	The fall is due to the harvest now going on in the taluk.
..	13-61	..	..	..	Do.	..	
..	..	14-85	..	..	Do.	..	
..	..	..	13-20	..	..	Sidhout.	

Endorsement by the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Camp Midathur, 18th February 1892, Ref. on Cur. No. 31-Perdl.

Forwarded.

The condition of Badvel taluk is as before. To relieve the water scarcity in Badvel town three new wells have been commenced and water has been found at no great depth. I have already explained why the old wells in the town could not be conveniently deepened.

The road works were opened on the 12th under the supervision of the Local Fund Engineer; 452 were employed on the first day. The latest information I have was of the number on the 16th close on a thousand. I wired to Government on the 15th that 500 attended on the first day; the actual figures had not then reached me in camp, and I took my information from the Police Superintendent's diary, he being then on the spot; hence the difference in the figures. The numbers will no doubt increase as the knowledge that works are open spreads through the taluk; but the Deputy Collector, in a note this morning, says that all the coolies, disgusted at receiving famine wages at third-class rates (none received below this rate), left the works. They will, of course, return; the same thing happened shortly after the prickly-pear works were opened at the same rates.

2. As showing the condition of people in Badvel, I refer to my "grain register." This contains information of the amount of grain found in every house in the district on search by the Police for any cause. It is instructive to compare the taluks with each other. In nil returns of grain, Badvel easily heads the list; nil returns are, in fact, quite the exception in all other taluks; I begin to be of opinion that many people are hoarding against the "Nandana year." In a "dancing girl" caste person's house, the north centre of Vayalpad taluk, were found 1,500 measures of grain of sorts, much of it paddy. The following castes in Badvel often have no grain—Baliga, Golla, Kapu, Dudekula, Boya, Maharatta, Mala, Madiga and Patraju.

3. During the fortnight I inspected a large number of villages in the taluk, chiefly the southern two-thirds. I have detailed at length the results in previous letters. The area round Badvel itself and the valley on the south-west seem the worst. I met, on leaving the taluk, persons making their way for harvesting in the north of Sidhout; this will keep some of the relief works, for, of course, the grain wages there obtainable are far preferable than to the famine wage. The Badvel people seem to be more mobile than many others, and I am endeavouring to encourage their occasional migration to the coffee gardens in west Mysore; perhaps it is doubtful if they will go so far, but they are to be found in the far west of the district and perhaps also on the Penukonda Railway.

4. *Sidhout taluk.*—The concluding days of the fortnight I spent here. The contrast between the north of this and Badvel itself is marvellous. The fields are all covered with crops in fair condition. The numerous wells contain water and there

are no complaints at all, at least, I heard none. Harvest was just commencing. I also spent some days in the south of the taluk. Along the Pennér the well crops look splendid. At Vontimitta when in December there was an outcry for work; there is now none. Laborers have gone to harvest in north Sidhout and more expressed their intention of doing so. Some said they went to Pullampet taluk, but found the labour market there already full. I met the District Forest-officer here (Vontimitta) and it was arranged to commence walling a forest reserve as a relief work as soon as is found needful. It will be supervised departmentally, and the numbers who apply for work will form a fair test of the condition of the people. I inspected some of the villages in the south also; I saw no indication of serious distress. There are many wells in those villages with crops under them; this supply, however, is getting scanty.

5. I also selected for repair a well at Vontimitta, where water is also scarce; this will be executed from Local funds, but at famine rates. I had an estimate prepared on the spot. Thus it will be seen I spent the whole fortnight in the division in question.

In Badvel taluk during the fortnight Rs. 1,817-8-0 were distributed for the construction and repair of wells under special and ordinary well rules, the amount granted up to the fortnight being Rs. 8,197-8-0 for 64 wells, whilst in Sidhout Rs. 250 were distributed during the fortnight for the purpose, the total amount up to the fortnight being Rs. 1,400 for 11 wells.

Resolution—dated 20th February 1892, No. 133.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. There has been no change in the condition of Badvel, but in Sidhout the Collector's more extended inspection shows that the area seriously affected is comparatively small, and he detected no signs of serious distress in any part; whilst, in the northern parts of the taluk and along the Pennér and in other places where there are wells, there is much crop. The people also in Sidhout do not seem to need work at present. In Badvel a road work was opened on the 12th current, when 452 persons were taken on. The number rose to nearly 1,000 by the 16th. It, however, appears from the return of the 13th that the number employed in clearing prickly-pear at Badvel on the 30th January (439) sank to 105 on the 13th February. On the latter date the total numbers employed were as shown on the margin, on the different classes of works opened.

Taluk.	Irrigation works.		Other works.	
	30th January.	13th February.	30th January.	13th February.
Badvel ..	364	871	439	528
Sidhout ..	416	295	33	36

The irrigation works repairs have been given on contract.

3. Prices in the taluks have become considerably easier though the price of cholum is still above the scarcity rate in Sidhout:—

Seers of 80 tolas per rupee.									
	Rice, 2nd sort.		Cholum.		Cumbu.		Ragi.		
	Sidhout.	Badvel.	Sidhout.	Badvel.	Sidhout.	Badvel.	Sidhout.	Badvel.	
30th Jan. 1892 ..	7-0	7-8	11-8	12-6	11-6	11-8	13-5	13-7	
13th Feb. ..	7-8	8-2	12-6	13-3	12-0	12-2	13-5	14-2	
Do. { Last famine ..	7-5	7-0	6-1	8-5	8-0	6-7	9-4	8-2	
Do. { Normal ..	13-6	14-9	22-2	25-3	22-9	23-1	27-3	26-3	
Scarcity rates ..	9-7		13-7		13-1		14-7		

4. The Collector's remarks in regard to the quantity of grain found in houses searched by the Police for any cause and which almost lead him to the belief that many people are hoarding against the *Nandana* year are interesting. It would seem, however, that in Badvel very many houses are without any grain whatever.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of Cuddapah.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

ORDER—dated 3rd March 1892, No. 208, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Chettur
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. C. M. Brisson.

75 Copies.

Govt. of {1892} Madras.
REVENUE.

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Encl.

G.O., 3rd March 1892, No. 208.

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Season, Sidhout and Badvel taluks,
Cuddapah.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting
fortnightly report from the Collector of Cud-
daph on the state of — for the period ending
18th February 1892.

with order

S. E. Circle

R. S.

14/3/92
B. H. J.
14/3
J. C. 14/3