

ORDINARY, MS.

<i>Public</i>	DEPARTMENT
G.O., DATED 20-11-91	
No. 713. ✓	

INDEXED.

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

*The Surg^t General
to arrange at once
for such increase of
the ^{Order} Chumput Med-
-ical Staff as may
be necessary —*

FURTHER PAPER, No. 2584/91

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

Govt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

To

The Public Deptt.

H. no.

Order of 20th August 1891 No 713

Dated

Recd. *14/8*

Encl.

Ms. G.O., 13 August 1891, No. 744.

SUBJECT.

14 AUG 91

Recording with remarks
B.P. Sub-vg. report from
the Col. of Chengapat.
on the state of the season
for the Fortnight ending
25 July 1891.

*To B.
15/8.*

*To the Surg. Genl.
Surg. Comd.*

C. P. 1891

*Send to the Surgeon
General, who will
- in conn^{ce} with the Col^l -
arrange at once for
such increase of the
District Medical Staff
as may be necessary.*

2 ad^{ts}

WITH CLIP

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read Proceedings of the Board(Copy attached) of Revenue, Revenue Settlement dated
5th August 1891 No. 488.Order thereon: 13th August 1891 No 744.

Recorded.

2. The attention of the Public Department is invited to the remarks of the Collector in para 2 of his letter. The question raised in para 16 will be considered in the Department of Public Works.

3. The Financial Department has already
Vide G.O No 743 been requested to sanction a sum of
of 13 Aug. 1891. 5000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief.

True Extract,

Secretary to Govt

To.

The Commr Rsd Rs

.. Financial Dept.

.. Public Dept.

Copy.. P.W. Dept.

.. Commrs of L.R

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1891.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed August th.

Proceedings, 5th August 1891, No. 488.

Submitting for the information of Government,
with remarks, report from the Collector of Chin-
gleput on the state of the season in the district for
the fortnight ending 25th July 1891.

Dr. P. C. 2412/91

rainfall in the corresponding period of the past three years which amounted to 2.89 inches. Cultivation, as the Collector shows, is very backward, only 37,000 acres having been sown from the beginning of April as compared with 65,000, the average of the past five years. The average cultivation up to the end of July is, however, but a small proportion of the total cultivation of the year which is 658,000 acres, and it may be trusted therefore that though the south-west monsoon has been a failure up to date, there is yet time during the year to retrieve the losses incurred up to date. Meantime, however, the numbers seeking employment at the hands of Government are increasing, while the numbers unable to work and demanding gratuitous relief are increasing in a still greater ratio. The numbers on Departmental major irrigation works and on minor irrigation works at the end of the previous fortnight were 8,579 and on the 25th, the end of the fortnight under review, they amounted to 8,440. The numbers gratuitously relieved in kitchens at the end of the previous fortnight were 318. On the 25th they had mounted up to 945 and on the 1st instant they were 1,534. The great increase in numbers on gratuitous relief occurred in the Sub-Division where Mr. Mullaly has been admitting a very large number of persons, chiefly children. The Collector states that he is not without apprehension that compassion has outrun discretion, and he has issued strict orders that in admitting to gratuitous relief officers shall act upon no presumptions, but solely upon the physical test. The Collector's order was issued in connection with an expression of opinion by Mr. Mullaly "that it may safely be presumed that the condition of the Pariahs is such that the distribution of kitchen food to the young whether healthy or emaciated and to the infirm is necessary." The Commissioner agrees with the Collector in considering that in the public interests no such presumption should be made. The fact that a child is in good condition must be taken as evidence that his parents are in a condition to support him as they have done hitherto until the contrary is proved.

3. Delay in payment on the major irrigation works under the control of the Public Works Department is still complained of, but the matter is now receiving the earnest attention of that department.

4. Prices continue to rise, that of rice is dearer than the scarcity rate in three reporting stations. Ragi is still very much cheaper than the scarcity rate, but its price is steadily rising. The average for the district on the 1st instant was 17.55 as compared with the scarcity rate of 13.2, but at Sattiavedu, Ponéri and Madurántakam they were much dearer than the district average, being 16.44, 17.13 and 17.10, respectively.

5. The public health as judged by the recorded death-rate was unusually good up to the beginning of June. In that month, however, the recorded deaths exceeded the average of the same month by 300, being 1,860 as compared with the average of 1,560. Cholera has appeared in five taluks, but the mortality up to date is not large.

6. Cattle must suffer largely if the rains hold off much longer.

7. Government is requested to accord sanction to the Collector's application for Rs. 5,000 for expenditure on gratuitous relief.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Collector of the Chingleput District.

For the Collector, Rev. & Agri. Dept.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

4 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 5TH AUG. 1891, No. 488.

persons. I do not disguise the fact that we do not know accurately how soon a well is finished, and these figures must be accepted with reserve. The advances made during the week were:—

	RS.
Ponnéri	800
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Total ...	10,676

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27. Sir Savalai Ramasami Mudaliar has generously sent some 600 cloths to clothe the men, women and children in our kitchens; but it is still better news that he is repairing the irrigation and the drinking water tanks in his zemindari villages. Would that other zemindars and shrotriendars would follow his example!

RESOLUTION—dated 5th August 1891, No. 488.

Submitted for the information of Government.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

READ—the following letter from J. H. A. TREMENHEERE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Saidápet, 28th July 1891, Ref. on No. 2828-Eng. :—

I have the honour to submit to the Board my report on the state of the district for the fortnight ending Saturday 25th July.

2. *Rainfall.*—The registered figures are given in the margin. In the Conjeeveram taluk about half an inch fell at Saidápet 03 Conjeeveram and Sríperumbudur, but did not extend to the north-east where the drought is fiercest. Satyavedu had its usual three or four showers, coming through a gap in the hills, but soon spending their substance, and there were very local showers in Saidápet and Madurántakam. The feature of the record is the succession of rainy days in Ponnéri, even though the aggregate fall did not exceed .65. Late in the year though it is, some ryots there have been bold enough to sow upland soils.

Saidápet	.03
Home's Gardens	.24
Poonamallee	.10
Tiruvallúr	.07
Satyavedu	.50
Ponnéri	.65
Chingleput	Nil.
Madurántakam	.15
Utramérur	Nil.
Conjeeveram	.66
Sríperumbudur	.40

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4. The result of the rain is a slight stay of distress in parts of Ponnéri and Tiruvallúr; agricultural labour is being re-employed, ragi is transplanted under less unfavorable conditions, and grazing will revive. A few days ago, and you should have journeyed from Dan to Beersheba and seen not a blade of grass. It is so now in Chingleput, Madurántakam and east Conjeeveram.

5. *Cultivation.*—Only 37,000 acres have been cultivated since the beginning of April, and nearly all of this under wells, the only important exception being under the river-fed channels. This compares with the five preceding years as 37 with 57; 61; 83; 46; and 80
1890-91—1886-87 ; average 65. But for our wells we should be now counting the thousands in units.

6. *Prices.*—Prices are still rising, the average for "second sort" rice being 10.107 seers a rupee against 10.33 in last week, and for ragi 17.4 against 17.8. Rice is above scarcity rate (10) at the recording stations of Satyavedu (9.05), Poonamallee

(9.44) and Sríperumbudur (9.81); but in remote villages prices are much higher, as at Tirupórá (8.75). This is nearing the famine prices of July 1877 and 1878 (6.83 and 7.07). In ragi however (17.457) we are still far away from the figures of those years (8.04 and 9.88).

7. *Cattle*.—There is not much specific disease among the cattle, but they are dying; and unless pasture and water is soon replenished, will die like flies. Last year's mortality up to June averaged 1,400 a month; this year's averages 2,230, being brought so high by the figures of May and June (2,485 and 3,699). More than twice as many cattle died in June as in June last year.

8. *Public health*.—I have frequently remarked upon the extraordinary healthiness of the season. The average (recorded) mortality *per mensem* up to the end of June was 1,823 last year and is 1,704 now. Until June we had less deaths every month than in last year; now the tide has turned, and the June deaths have risen from 1,560 to 1,860. Our immunity from epidemics has ceased. From cholera in the last 23 days we have 3 deaths in Saidápet, 5 in Tiruvallúr, 6 in Chingleput, 28 in Madurántakam, and 45 in Conjeeveram (including 36 in municipality). I anticipate a most severe outbreak of cholera soon and think the district medical staff should be strongly reinforced.

9. *Inspection*.—Mr. Pinto as usual in Tiruvallúr and Mr. Shanmuga Sundram Pillai in Ponnéri were active in inspection; the Deputy Collector of Saidápet had to be deputed to inspect north and east Conjeeveram, where he did a great deal of good work; and Mr. Mullaly was able with the help of sticks to visit the kitchens in his division. He considers that some help must be given to the Sub-Collector, and indeed this is only a matter of time. The form it should take, however, must be considered with his successor, who to the great detriment of public interests in this district has not yet apparently been ordered to join. I inspected south Saidápet and east Conjeeveram, and the kitchens at Porur, Gollanchavidi, Vandalur and Karunguli.

10. I extract some of the district officers' remarks:—

Sub-Division.

Sub-Collector.—"General prospects have become more gloomy."

Chingleput Tahsildar.—"The rain has held off, and the situation is growing worse."

Conjeeveram Tahsildar.—"Distress which was confined to some of the villages of Pillai Chattram Firka in the centre of the taluk, and some of the villages of Manimangalam Firka in the north-east, has gradually extended itself, and it may now be said that it is felt throughout Sríperumbadur Deputy Tahsildar's division, except in some villages under the irrigation of the big tanks, &c."

Main Division.

Saidápet.—(South and worst portions inspected by me; it is holding its own).

Tiruvallúr.—*Deputy Collector Mr. Pinto*.—"The general prospects as compared with the previous month are decidedly more unfavorable..... The coolies' work has become harder, and their wage less sufficient to maintain the family.....the want of water-supply for men and cattle is day by day felt more keenly." (On this point, see especially Mr. Ramachendrayar's notes from Conjeeveram).

Ponnéri.—*Deputy Collector Mr. Shanmuga Sundram Pillai*.—"The distress is increasing."

The Tahsildar.—"In some cases amongst Pariahs, wives have been deserted by husbands and children by the parents..... One chuckler woman, who had been deserted by her husband, brought her four children and leaving them near the kitchen ran away and has not returned yet..... The health of caste people is steadily being undermined by semi-starvation in their houses..... Something will have to be done in the near future to relieve this sort of people."

11. These extracts are enough to show that the district has entered a darker phase of suffering.

12. *Numbers on works.*—The number of persons on works of all kinds, which last fortnight had risen from 17,812 to 19,802, has now risen to 23,323, but this for the first time includes the figures for Conjeeveram (1,781). The figures are as follows :—

					Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Ponnéri	...	...	...	...	4,892	5,849	Due to the closing of
Tiruvallūr	...	...	...	...	4,814	4,447	salt factories and start-
Saidápet	...	...	...	...	1,833	2,456	ing of Pulicat canal
Madurantakam	...	...	...	...	4,183	4,571	diversion—see paragraph
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	4,080	4,219	below.
Conjeeveram	...	...	...	...	...	1,781	

13. *Departmental works—(a) Canal.*—The diversion of the Buckingham canal near Pulicat has been started, and employs 1,105 persons.

14. *(b) Irrigational.*—The return by taluks must be scrutinized :—

						Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Ponnéri	...	...	...	...	...	1,535	956
Tiruvallūr	...	...	...	...	...	1,936	1,196
Madurantakam	...	...	...	...	...	1,023	1,144
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	385	439

The fall in Ponnéri is due to the rain, to irregular payments admitted by the overseer, and to the fact that the work is at present in the northern corner and subject to competition from Irugam island in the Pulicat lake. The fall of 740 in Tiruvallūr is due to two causes: one a mistake of mine last time in taking Vadamadurai and Yenambakkam as separate works, whereas the latter is the name given to the Vadamadurai channel feeding the tank; this accounts for 540 persons and leaves a fall of 200 to be accounted for. The second may be explained by the report of Mr. Pinto, that the workmen had not been paid fully for over two weeks. I refer the Commissioner to Mr. Pinto's report for details, and beg that the matter may be thoroughly investigated. If the complaint is true, it is time these scandals should cease. The actual fall on Vadamadurai is almost 300, and at one time the people struck work.

15. The departmental work for Saidápet has not yet been started, though I asked for it a fortnight ago, having then given ample warning. These delays dishearten me. I have also asked for a work in north Conjeeveram.

16. It is for Government in the Public Works Department to determine whether one Executive Engineer can efficiently manage the whole district; estimating, starting, supervising, paying and frequently inspecting.

17. In north Tiruvallūr, Pandur is going on; after that *there is only Moparapalli*. It is time then I submit to sanction the estimate for the road mentioned in paragraph 8, Board's Proceedings, dated 20th July, No. 440.

18. *Public Works Department contract works.*—The number of persons on contract works has risen from 478 to 2,025, there being an increase of nearly 1,000 in Tiruvallūr and of 260 in Conjeeveram.

19. The number on ordinary repairs to the Buckingham canal remains at 2,200.

20. *Minor Irrigation.*—Minor irrigation works show little change (fall from 1,500 to 1,400), a falling off in Tiruvallūr and Chingleput being counterbalanced by Conjeeveram newly included.

21. *Local Fund.*—Local Funds now employ 1,500 persons against 900, the increase being mostly on sanitary works and principally in Saidápet.

22. *Land Improvement Loans.*—Six hundred and fifty-six wells have been completed, and 1,607 are reported to be under construction, which may employ 11,249

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V. RAMANATHA IYER

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*DANON

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7. *Cattle*.—There is not much specific disease among the cattle, but they are dying; and unless pasture and water is soon replenished, will die like flies. Last year's mortality up to June averaged 1,400 a month; this year's averages 2,230, being brought so high by the figures of May and June (2,485 and 3,699). More than twice as many cattle died in June as in June last year.

8. *Public health*.—I have frequently remarked upon the extraordinary healthiness of the season. The average (recorded) mortality *per mensem* up to the end of June was 1,823 last year and is 1,704 now. Until June we had less deaths every month than in last year; now the tide has turned, and the June deaths have risen from 1,560 to 1,860. Our immunity from epidemics has ceased. From cholera in the last 23 days we have 3 deaths in Saidápet, 5 in Tiruvallúr, 6 in Chingleput, 23 in Madurántakam, and 45 in Conjeeveram (including 36 in municipality). I anticipate a most severe outbreak of cholera soon and think the district medical staff should be strongly reinforced.

9. *Inspection*.—Mr. Pinto as usual in Tiruvallúr and Mr. Shanmuga Sundram Pillai in Ponnéri were active in inspection; the Deputy Collector of Saidápet had to be deputed to inspect north and east Conjeeveram, where he did a great deal of good work; and Mr. Mullaly was able with the help of sticks to visit the kitchens in his division. He considers that some help must be given to the Sub-Collector, and indeed this is only a matter of time. The form it should take, however, must be considered with his successor, who to the great detriment of public interests in this district has not yet apparently been ordered to join. I inspected south Saidápet and east Conjeeveram, and the kitchens at Porur, Gollanchavidi, Vandalur and Karunguli.

10. I extract some of the district officers' remarks:—

Sub-Division.

Sub-Collector.—"General prospects have become more gloomy."

Chingleput Tahsildar.—"The rain has held off, and the situation is growing worse."

Conjeeveram Tahsildar.—"Distress which was confined to some of the villages of Pillai Chattram Firka in the centre of the taluk, and some of the villages of Manimangalam Firka in the north-east, has gradually extended itself, and it may now be said that it is felt throughout Sríperumbudur Deputy Tahsildar's division, except in some villages under the irrigation of the big tanks, &c."

Main Division.

Saidápet.—(South and worst portions inspected by me; it is holding its own).

Tiruvallúr.—*Deputy Collector Mr. Pinto*.—"The general prospects as compared with the previous month are decidedly more unfavorable..... The coolies' work has become harder, and their wage less sufficient to maintain the family..... the want of water-supply for men and cattle is day by day felt more keenly." (On this point, see especially Mr. Ramachendrayar's notes from Conjeeveram).

Ponnéri.—*Deputy Collector Mr. Shanmuga Sundram Pillai*.—"The distress is increasing."

The Tahsildar.—"In some cases amongst Pariahs, wives have been deserted by husbands and children by the parents..... One chuckler woman, who had been deserted by her husband, brought her four children and leaving them near the kitchen ran away and has not returned yet..... The health of caste people is steadily being undermined by semi-starvation in their houses..... Something will have to be done in the near future to relieve this sort of people."

11. These extracts are enough to show that the district has entered a darker phase of suffering.

12. *Numbers on works.*—The number of persons on works of all kinds, which last fortnight had risen from 17,812 to 19,802, has now risen to 23,323, but this for the first time includes the figures for Conjeeveram (1,781). The figures are as follows :—

					Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Ponnéri	...	...	...	...	4,892	5,849	Due to the closing of
Tiruvallūr	...	...	...	...	4,814	4,447	salt factories and start-
Saidápet	...	...	...	...	1,833	2,456	ing of Pulicat canal
Madurantakam	...	...	...	...	4,183	4,571	diversion—see paragraph
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	4,080	4,219	below.
Conjeeveram	...	...	...	...	...	1,781	

13. *Departmental works—(a) Canal.*—The diversion of the Buckingham canal near Pulicat has been started, and employs 1,105 persons.

14. *(b) Irrigational.*—The return by taluks must be scrutinized :—

							Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Ponnéri	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,535	956
Tiruvallūr	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,936	1,196
Madurantakam	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,023	1,144
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	385	439

The fall in Ponnéri is due to the rain, to irregular payments admitted by the overseer, and to the fact that the work is at present in the northern corner and subject to competition from Irugam island in the Pulicat lake. The fall of 740 in Tiruvallūr is due to two causes: one a mistake of mine last time in taking Vadamadurai and Yenambakkam as separate works, whereas the latter is the name given to the Vadamadurai channel feeding the tank; this accounts for 540 persons and leaves a fall of 200 to be accounted for. The second may be explained by the report of Mr. Pinto, that the workmen had not been paid fully for over two weeks. I refer the Commissioner to Mr. Pinto's report for details, and beg that the matter may be thoroughly investigated. If the complaint is true, it is time these scandals should cease. The actual fall on Vadamadurai is almost 300, and at one time the people struck work.

15. The departmental work for Saidápet has not yet been started, though I asked for it a fortnight ago, having then given ample warning. These delays dishearten me. I have also asked for a work in north Conjeeveram.

16. It is for Government in the Public Works Department to determine whether one Executive Engineer can efficiently manage the whole district; estimating, starting, supervising, paying and frequently inspecting.

17. In north Tiruvallūr, Pandur is going on; after that *there is only Moparapalli*. It is time then I submit to sanction the estimate for the road mentioned in paragraph 8, Board's Proceedings, dated 20th July, No. 440.

18. *Public Works Department contract works.*—The number of persons on contract works has risen from 478 to 2,025, there being an increase of nearly 1,000 in Tiruvallūr and of 260 in Conjeeveram.

19. The number on ordinary repairs to the Buckingham canal remains at 2,200.

20. *Minor Irrigation.*—Minor irrigation works show little change (fall from 1,500 to 1,400), a falling off in Tiruvallūr and Chingleput being counterbalanced by Conjeeveram newly included.

21. *Local Fund.*—Local Funds now employ 1,500 persons against 900, the increase being mostly on sanitary works and principally in Saidápet.

22. *Land Improvement Loans.*—Six hundred and fifty-six wells have been completed, and 1,607 are reported to be under construction, which may employ 11,249

persons. I do not disguise the fact that we do not know accurately how soon a well is finished, and these figures must be accepted with reserve. The advances made during the week were:—

Ponnéri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	RS. 800
Tiruvallūr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,325
Saidāpet	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,800
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,415
Madurāntakam	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,061
Conjeeveram	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	275
Total ...									10,676

23. *Kitchens*.—I am opening two new kitchens—one at Tirupalavanam, north-east of Ponnéri, and one at Pakkam, a little north of Tinnanūr Railway station.

24. Besides these, there are 10 kitchens, of which 4 are old—

	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Puduvayil (Ponnéri)	38	38
Periapalayam (Tiruvallūr)	99	126
Porur (Saidāpet)	54	80
Sembakkam (Chingleput)	125	159
Total ...	316	403

Six are new—

Gummidipundi (Ponnéri)	...	...	...	...	...	81
Ambur (North Tiruvallūr)	...	...	...	...	...	63
Gollanchavadi (Saidāpet)	...	...	...	...	...	37
Vandalur (N.W. Chingleput)	...	...	...	...	...	96
Karunguli (Madurāntakam)	...	...	...	...	...	162
Acharavakkam (Madurāntakam)	...	...	...	...	...	57
						496
						899

25. I have not much fear that the kitchens in the Main Division have admitted too profusely; the difficulty is the other way, the people holding back. In the Sub-Division, however, I found that Pariahs were coming without sufficient reason, and in Karunguli I had to reject 88 out of 225 inmates, a duty in which I had the assistance of the District Medical officer. In the current fortnight, Mr. Mullaly has been admitting a very large number of persons, chiefly children, and I confess I am not without apprehension that compassion has outrun discretion. I cannot visit the southern kitchens again at present, but I shall endeavour in writing as already attempted verbally to impress upon him that we are to act upon no presumptions, but solely on the physical test.

26. The application in paragraph 25 of my last report for Rs. 5,000 to be formally sanctioned for gratuitous relief has perhaps been overlooked.

27. Sir Savalai Ramasami Mudaliar has generously sent some 600 cloths to clothe the men, women and children in our kitchens; but it is still better news that he is repairing the irrigation and the drinking water tanks in his zemindari villages. Would that other zemindars and shrotriendars would follow his example!

RESOLUTION—dated 5th August 1891, No. 488.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the district up to the week ending 1st August has been 3.56 inches as compared with 11.39 inches, the average of the same period for the past three years. The rain in the past week also compares very unfavorably with the