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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
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11. 11. 1872 196 .

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 29th October 1872.

Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 28th September 1872, No. 296:—

WITH reference to the Board's official memorandum, dated 15th March 1872, No. 397, I have the honour to forward the answers of the Division Officers and Tahsildars to the questions asked in Dr. Day's report on the fisheries and fish of the fresh waters of India. You will see from these that some of the Tahsildars think the fish have decreased of late years: they seem in some cases to have mistaken the question, and confined themselves only to one year, and account for the small quantity of fish by the want of rain in that year. The question is a difficult one, as, with a large and increasing population, the supply might be increasing, yet compared with the population it might seem to be decreasing.

2. It would seem from Mr. Stuart's report that there is an abundant supply of fish.

3. I do not see how the sale of the fry of fish can be prohibited. Mr. Pearse remarks that Magistrates could not with any certainty distinguish between certain small fish and the fry of larger ones.

4. It is not easy to compare the prices of fish and mutton. Mutton is not to be bought in every village in which fish is common: mutton is generally sold by weight, and fish very seldom.

5. I do not think it would do to make any rule about the size of the mesh of nets.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1.

Replies by A. J. Stuart, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to questions put by Dr. Day respecting Fisheries.

1 and 2.—The fish in roc and the fry of several fish are largely destroyed, the former when they come up the Godavery river to spawn during the flood season and more particularly towards the end of the season when their ascent past the anicut is impeded and they are killed in the pools below: the latter in all the channels and tanks communicating with the Godavery river. The river for a short distance below the anicut is the only place which can be particularized, but destruction goes on more or less throughout the district wherever there are fishermen, that is in almost every village.

3.—No restriction is put on the size of meshes; the smallest size in use is about that of a 4-anna piece.

4.—The difficulties in the way of regulating the size of the nets are in my opinion insuperable because there are many marine and fresh water animals caught only with small meshed nets, the catching of which is not injurious and which form apart at some seasons the chief part of the food of the fisherman class.

5.—I do not consider that any restriction can be placed on the size of the mesh.

6.—As regards the small fry I do not see any necessity for prohibiting the fishermen either from catching or selling them in the bazaar. The numbers that come down the Godavery to the sea are very great and all the efforts of all the fishermen along the river bank can have but a small effect in diminishing the number that eventually reach the sea. Moreover, in a large river like the Godavery, it is not easier to catch a small fish in a net than a large one; in fact it is more difficult

because nets of a small mesh cannot well be made of sufficient extent to cover any large section of the water. The chief destruction of small fry probably takes place in the channels and tanks, and as the number which enter the channels would not be large as compared with the numbers that reach the sea by the river, I do not think they need be considered. Of course, if it were shown that the fry only come down the river towards the sea after the water has ceased to flow over the anicut the case would be different; but I am not aware that this is the case, and think it decidedly improbable.

7.—The capture or the sale of fish in roe might be prohibited under a small penalty, or that of certain fish at certain seasons, as when they are known to come up the river in roe. In that case a small body of river police would be required to patrol the river in boats during those months, and see that the regulations were obeyed. Practically I am of opinion that it will be sufficient to prohibit and prevent the killing of fish in roe in the pools within a few miles of and below the anicut, towards the end of the season when the river falls. In all other cases the fish has a fair chance. Perhaps the portion to be guarded at this season might be extended to the part of the river below the anicut as far as Gannaveram on one branch and Kotah on the other, below which points the tide rises daily two feet at least. Attempts to construct fish ladders on the Kistna having so far failed that they were not used by the fish which congregated in the pool below, I think one of the first things to be done and one which would help to mitigate the pressure of any regulations which may be placed on the profession, would be to employ at the proper season a considerable body of fishermen to catch fish in roe below the anicut and to put them into the river again above. Nothing can be more simple than such a measure, and I believe no other arrangement could be so effective or so cheap. The numbers that come up to this point in roe indicate that they do not find the river lower down suited for spawning purposes. I regard the measure I propose therefore as important. If this were done on a large scale, it might be found necessary to assist the fish on its way down again after spawning, either keeping open one under-sluice on either side of the river, or if they were found to congregate in great numbers in the pools above by again catching and lifting them over the anicut.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Replies by E. L. Pearse, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to questions put by Dr. Day respecting Fisheries.

1.—There are no breeding fish in this division either in the Godavery or the smaller streams. In the latter, and I suppose in the former too, the fish breed away in the uplands (though there is a belief prevalent that the greater Godavery fish breed in the sea); some fishermen of this (Ellore) neighbourhood say that they spare the young fry, but the Godavery men make no such profession.

2.—Generally, whenever and wherever caught, especially on the subsidence of water after the rainy season is past.

3.—There is no restriction. I have seen nets with meshes of one-fourth of an inch, and I believe there are smaller.

4.—A large proportion of the fish caught consists of kinds of fish which never grow much bigger than minnows, viz., Royepichu, Bédisaya, Pottiparige, etc.

5.—I would not advise restriction, (except perhaps in the great rivers).

6.—Magistrates could not with any certainty distinguish between the small fish above named and the fry of larger fish.

(True Copy)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Replies by Baru Raja Row, Acting Deputy-Collector, to questions put by Dr. Day regarding Fisheries.

1.—They are destroyed, but not to a great extent.

2.—By nets and snares made of wicker works. In salt creeks, lakes, tanks, rivers, canals, swamps and channels. They are destroyed chiefly in rainy season and partly in cold season.

3.—The smallest size of the mesh is reported to be one-thirtieth part of an inch.

4.—The size of the mesh of the nets cannot be conveniently regulated, as the sizes of fish are numerous, and cannot be definitely stated.

5.—The same size as that of one side of the mesh.

6.—There is no objection against prohibiting the sale of the fry of fish, since it is not reported that this sale has caused any injury to the health of the people.

7.—As the taluqs of this division do not consist of any hill tracts, no answer can be given.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Memorandum of answers given by Patri Subbarow, Tahsildar of Peddapur Taluq, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are about 500 men, of whom those known by the name of Toddy-drawers draw toddy from palm and date trees; those called Bestas hire themselves as palanquin bearers; and those known as Pallis employ themselves in selling curries, etc., besides fishing. With the exception of these men, many other Sudras catch fish for their own use when tanks and channels dry and rivers are in high freshes.

2.—Bestas, Pallis, Toddy-drawers, and Vaddis.

3.—Fish are brought for sale from other taluqs, those caught in this taluq being insufficient to meet the local wants.

4.—The price of a large fish is about 8 Annas, while small fish are sold at 20 or 30 per pie. Mutton of the first sort is not procurable here; that of the second sort sells at 2 Annas and 8 Pies per seer.

5.—Two-thirds of the population eat fish.

6.—Fish decreased last year owing to want of rains.

7.—Yes; they are caught by hooks, cast-nets, purse-nets, baskets, and other snares.

8.—About a double-anna piece.

9.—Not generally.

10.—Baskets, cast-nets, hooks, harpoons, and other snares are used in fishing. The following are the Native names of different kinds of nets:—

Ullu (ఉల్లు); Valalu (వల్లు); Mavulu (మవల్లు); Tokavalalu (తోకవల్లు); Mocheti valalu (మోచెటివల్లు); Galamulu (గళముల్లు); Uthulu (ఉత్తుల్లు); Pandrakolalu (పండ్రకోల్లు).

11.—No other information can be afforded.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.

Memorandum of answers given by T. Venkatachellam, Superintendent of Sea-Customs at Narsapur, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are about 1,800 men; they also take up service as Lascars on boats, and employ themselves in agricultural and other operations.

2.—Pallies in particular, and men of the Rajah caste, Telugas, Toddy-drawers, Bestas, Vaddies and Parias in general.

3.—The local markets are fully supplied with fish during eight months of the year. A limited quantity of fish is supplied during the remaining four months, viz., from March to June, when more could be purchased.

4.—The price of a large fish varies from 1 Rupee to 2 Annas, whereas that of a small one differs from 3 Annas to 6 Pies. Moreover the small fish are sold in heaps, the price of which varies from 1 to 3 Pies. Mutton of the first sort is sold at 3 Annas per seer, while that of second sort sells at 2 Annas and 8 Pies.

5.—Three-fourths of the people eat fish.

6.—Fish increased last year, but have decreased this year.

7.—Yes. They are caught by round nets.

8.—It is equal to the size of a red-gram.

9.—Yes.

10.—Baskets, traps, stake-nets, arrows, round-nets, cast-nets, drag-nets and other snares are employed to catch fish, and the following are their native names:—

Uta (ఉత); Tirri (తిరి); Gari (గారి); Bonu (బోను); Gidasa vala (గిదాసా వాల); Ucha vala (ఉచా వాల); Konta vala (కొండా వాల); Mocheti vala (మోచెటి వాల); Katti vala (కాట్టి వాల); Duda vala (దుదా వాల); Jarugu vala (జరుగు వాల); Panda vala (పాండా వాల).

11.—Fish are also caught in channels and tanks in certain villages by means of harpoons, arrows, and hooks.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 6.

Memorandum of answers given by U. Hanumanta Row, Deputy-Tahsildar of Pittapur, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are about 1,000 men. They also employ themselves as servants on ships for some time, and as daily laborers at other times.

2.—Pallies, Jalaries, Bestas, Vádavállu, and Gudalu.

3.—Local markets are fully supplied with fish. More could not be sold.

4.—The price of a large fish is 4 Annas. Small ones are sold at a quantity of ten dubs weight per dub. The first and second sorts mutton is sold at 4 and 2 Annas per seer respectively.

5.—Fifteen-sixteenths of the population eat fish.

6.—The fish have increased this year.

7.—Yes. They are caught by small nets.

8.—It is about one inch.

9.—Bestas catch small fish.

10.—Purse-nets, hooks, baskets, and other snares are employed in fishing. The native names are as follows:—

Vala (వాల); Bonu (బోను); Utchu (ఉచ్చు).

11.—Small fish called Nettalu ensnare in nets in large quantities from the full moon of Karticam (November) until the Pongul feast. They could be preserved until the new moon of Chytram (April). Shoal fish and those called Sanidulu, Sudamulu, and Porasalu are preserved for a month and then sold.

Large fish are caught by purse-nets, and they are immediately sold.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 7.

Memorandum of answers given by K. Seshaya, Tahsildar of the Narsapur Taluq, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are two thousand men. They employ themselves in catching fish and also take up the employment of Lascar in ships and boats.

2.—Men of the fishermen caste known as Pallis and Bestas as well as Vaddies.

3.—Markets in coast villages are fully supplied with fish. Fish are not often brought for sale at the markets in other villages. From coast villages fish are taken for sale at the villages in which fairs are held weekly.

4.—The price of large fish is about 2 or 3 Rupees each. The smallest fish are sold at 3 Pies per lb. Mutton of the first and second sorts is sold at 2 Annas and 1½ Anna per seer respectively.

5.—Eighty per cent. eat fish.

6.—Fish have decreased this year from failure of rains.

7.—Yes. They are taken by nets.

8.—One-sixtieth part of an inch.

9.—Not in this taluq.

10.—Fish are caught by stake-nets in the Godavery in which salt-water flows, as well as in salt creeks, and by drag-nets, cast-nets, and baskets in the sea. The following are the native names of several kinds of nets employed in this taluq:—

Kanti vala (కాంతి వాల); Mocheti vala (మోచెటి వాల); Gidasa vala or Toka vala (గిదాసా వాల) (తోకా వాల); Kattu vala (కాట్టు వాల); Galilu (గలీలు); Vuda (వూడా); Tirri (తిరి).

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

Memorandum of answers given by A. Ramanna, Tahsildar of Amalapur, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are more than 1,000 men. They do not pursue other occupations.

2.—Pallis and Vaddis of the fishermen caste live on fishing. Parias, Toddy-drawers, etc., rarely fish for their own use.

3.—Weekly markets are fully supplied with fish.

4.—Fishermen say that the price of a large fish is 2 Annas, and that of a small one is 1 Anna. Mutton of the first and second sorts is sold at 2 Annas and 1 Anna per seer respectively.

5.—Three-fourths of the population eat fish.

6.—Fishermen say that fish have decreased this year owing to want of rains, but I think that they have remained stationary.

7.—Yes. They are taken by small nets and baskets.

8.—The smallest size of the mesh of nets would be equal to the circumference of a single or double-anna piece.

9.—Yes. They are caught by ryots and their workmen for domestic consumption, but not for sale.

10.—Hand-nets, cast-nets, purse-nets, baskets, and other snares are employed in fishing. The following are the native names:—

Cheti vala (చెటి వాల); Mocheti vala (మోచెటి వాల); Pedda vala (పెద్దా వాల); Tirri (తిరి); Uda (ఉడా).

11. No other information can be afforded.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.

Memorandum of answers given by D. Verabhaddraiyar, Tahsildar of Ellore Taluq, to questions regarding Fisheries.

THERE are about 80 men. Bestas employ themselves also as palanquin bearers. Vaddies pursue no other occupation.

2.—Bestas and Vaddies.

3.—Local markets are fully supplied with fish except in hot season. More fish could not be sold.

4.—The price of a large fish is about 2 Annas. Small ones are sold at the rate of ten per dub. Mutton of the first sort is sold at 4 Annas per pakka seer, while that of the second sort at 3 Annas.

5.—Fifteen-sixteenths of the population eat fish.

6.—Fish have decreased of late years.

7.—Yes. They are caught by nets and snares.

8.—The smallest size of the mesh of the net is given in the margin.

9.—No.

10.—Cast-nets, baskets, and harpoons are the means by which large and small fish are caught, and the following are the native names:—

Pedda vala (పెద్దవల); Nanu vala (నానువల); Sanna vala (సన్నవల); Anuku vala (అనుకువల); Mavulu (మావలు); Tirrulu (తిర్రలు); Udalalu (ఉదలలు); Pantakolalu (పంతుకలలు)

11.—Collér, in which fish are abundant, lies in the vicinity of Ellore; the fishing in the same is rented out, and the renters have the fish taken out, and sell them to Vaddies and Bestas of Ellore. These people generally live on fishing as stated in answer to question No. 2. Besides these men, Parias, who are the servants of ryots, occasionally catch fish in tanks by baskets, etc., for their own use. Raw fish are not procurable in sufficient quantities in hot weather. In tanks small fish are available in small quantities. Fish caught in Collér and dried are extensively in the summer. Even these dry fish are not procurable to all (80) the men referred to in the answer to first question; the renters of the Collér usually sell fish to only 30 of them.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 10.

Memorandum of answers given by A. Sundara Raz, Tahsildar of Tanuku Taluq, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are about 500 men, some of whom employ themselves in agricultural operations, while others deal in timber.

2.—Tiruvaddis and Jundhiyala vaddis, wearing thread.

3.—With the exception of the weekly market of Attili, the fairs of Pentapad, Penagonda, Nidadole, and Relunji are insufficiently supplied with fish and more could be purchased if obtainable.

4.—The price of large fish varies from 1 to 1½ Anna. The small ones sell at ½ of a seer per quarter Anna. Mutton of the first sort sells at 2½ Annas a seer and of the second at 2 Annas.

5.—Three-fourths of the people eat fish.

6.—Of late years fish have decreased.

7.—They are taken in small quantities by baskets.

8.—The smallest size of the mesh of the net is not larger than half an inch.

9.—Yes. They are caught by baskets, snares, etc.

10.—Nets, baskets, hooks, and cast-nets are the means by which fish are caught, and the following are their native names:—

Valalu (వలలు); Udalalu (ఉదలలు); Mavulu (మావలు); Tirulu (తిరులు); Gelamulu (గేలములు); Mocheti valalu (మోచేతివలలు); Garlu (గర్లు); Konte vala (కంటేవల).

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 11.

Memorandum of answers given by Mahomed Rahim Odeen, Tahsildar of Bhimavaram Taluq, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—About 100 men. They also engage themselves in agricultural operations and in rearing and selling ducks.

2.—Vaddies and fishermen known as Pallis generally fish in this taluq.

3.—Weekly markets are held in five or six villages of this taluq, in which small quantities of raw-fish and large quantities of dry fish are sold. It is reported that sufficient quantity of fish are supplied to the people resorting to the markets. With the exception of these markets, there are no towns in this taluq in the markets of which fish are always sold.

4.—The price of a large and dry salted fish is either 1½ or 1¼ Rupees, and of a small one is 1 or 2 Annas. Raw small fish are sold at 1 Anna, 1½ Annas, and 2 Annas. Mutton is not sold in any village in this taluq: it is brought from Palcole to the weekly markets at Viravasaram and sold there at 3 Annas per seer weighing 80 Rupees.

5.—Three-fourths of the population eat fish.

6.—It is reported that the fish have now decreased.

7.—They are caught by baskets.

8.—The mesh of the nets would be so much as would tightly fit the tip of the little finger of an ordinary-sized person.

9.—Yes.

10.—Nets, baskets, hooks, and other snares are employed in fishing, and their native names are as follows:—

Valalu (వలలు); Mavalu (మావలు); Udalalu (ఉదలలు); Tirrilu (తిర్రలు); Garrelu (గర్లలు); Gelamulu (గేలములు).

11.—No other information can be afforded.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 12.

Memorandum of answers given by Swarna Subrahmanyam, Deputy-Tahsildar of Coringa, to questions regarding Fisheries.

1.—There are about 1,000 men. They rarely take up also other work.

2.—Men of the fisherman caste known as Pallies, always catch fish. Vadayallu, another class of the same caste, Toddy-drawers, and Pariahs rarely fish.

3.—Local markets are always fully supplied with fish except on a few occasions.

4.—The price of a large fish is 1 Rupee. Small fish are sold at sixteen or twenty per ½ Anna. Mutton of the first and second sorts is sold at 4 and 3 Annas per seer respectively.

5.—Two-thirds of the population eat fish.

- 6.—The fish have decreased of late years.
- 7.—Craw fish are caught in large quantities by nets.
- 8.—It is so small that an ant can go through.
- 9.—Small fish are trapped in irrigated fields.
- 10.—Drag-nets are cast for taking fish in the sea. Nets are employed for fishing in salt creeks. The following are the native names of nets :—
Vaddi vala (వడ్డివల); Toka vala or Gidasa vala (తోకవల) (గిడసవల); Payila (పాయిల); Konti vala (కొంటివల); Mocheti vala (మోచేతివల); Dobburayila vala (డొబ్బరాయిలవల); Ettuvala (ఎత్తువల).
- 11.—When fields are supplied with irrigation small fish come down by stream, and are caught by baskets, hooks, and hands. In fresh water channels, tanks, ponds, etc., fish are caught by Sudras, Toddy-drawers, Pariahs and other castes by means of hooks and the nets above-mentioned. When water is deep, round-nets are employed.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 13.

Memorandum of answers given by S. Venkatagopal Row, Tahsildar of Ramachendrapur, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—There are about 500 men, of whom about 100 employ themselves also in agricultural and other operations.
- 2.—Pallies and Bestas.
- 3.—The local markets are not fully supplied with fish. More could be purchased.
- 4.—The price of a large fish is one Rupee, and six Pies is the value of a small one. Mutton of the first and second sorts is sold at three Annas and two Annas per seer respectively.
- 5.—Seven-eighths of the population eat fish.
- 6.—Fish have now decreased.
- 7.—Yes. They are caught in the Godavery by cloths of red colour.
- 8.—The smallest size of the mesh is equal to the circumference of a single-anna piece.
- 9.—Yes.
- 10.—Drag-nets, round-nets, cast-nets, purse-nets, baskets, harpoons, hooks, and other snares are employed in fishing. The following are the native names of different kinds of nets :—
(1) Idupu vala or Konte vala (ఐదుపువల) (కొంటేవల); (2) Pattu vala (పట్టువల); (3) Mocheti vala (మోచేతివల); (4) Jaruga vala (జరుగువల); (5) Alivi vala (అలివివల); (6) Udi or Uta (ఉడి) (ఉట); (7) Tirri (తిరి); (8) Pantrakota (పాన్త్రకోట); (9) Golum (గొలం).
- 11.—Ryots and other caste men catch fish in the Godavery, tanks, and channels by means of baskets and other snares, and retain them for their own use.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 14.

Memorandum of answers given by B. Narayanamurthy, Superintendent of Sea-Customs at Coringa, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—About 1,000 men. They rarely employ themselves also in other work.
- 2.—Men of the fisherman caste known as Pallies always catch fish. Vádaválu, a class of the same caste, Toddy-drawers and Pariahs rarely fish.

- 3.—Local markets are always fully supplied with fish except on a few occasions.
- 4.—The price of a large fish is one Rupee. Small fish are sold at 16 or 20 per quarter Anna. Mutton of the first and second sorts is sold at 4 and 3 Annas per seer respectively.
- 5.—Two-thirds of the population eat fish.
- 6.—The fish have decreased of late years.
- 7.—Craw fish are caught in large quantities by nets.
- 8.—It is so small that an ant can go through.
- 9.—No.
- 10.—Drag-nets are cast for taking fish in the sea. Nets are employed in fishing in salt creeks. The following are the native names of nets :—
Vaddi vala (వడ్డివల); Toka vala or Gidasa vala (తోకవల) (గిడసవల); Paiyila (పాయిల); Konte vala (కొంటేవల); Mocheti vala (మోచేతివల); Dobburayila vala (డొబ్బరాయిలవల); Ettu vala (ఎత్తువల).
- 11.—When fields are supplied with irrigation, small fish come down by stream, and are caught by baskets, hooks and hands. In fresh-water channels, tanks, ponds, etc., fish are caught by Sudras, Toddy-drawers, Pariahs, and other castes by means of hooks and the nets above-mentioned. When water is too deep round nets are employed.

Small nets, purse-nets, cast-nets and other snares are employed to catch large and small fish both in fresh and salt waters.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 15.

Memorandum of answers given by K. Applacharlu, Deputy-Tahsildar of Tuni Division, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—About fifty men. They employ themselves also in selling mango fruits, as well as in other professions.
- 2.—Men of the fishermen caste known as Pallies and Vádaválu.
- 3.—The local markets are fully supplied with fish.
- 4.—The price of a large fish is 4 Annas and that of a small one is 1 Anna. Mutton of the first sort is sold at 3 Annas, and of the second sort at 2 Annas per seer.
- 5.—Three-fourths of the population eat fish.
- 6.—The fish have remained stationary.
- 7.—They are caught by hooks in tanks, etc., and by nets in the sea.
- 8.—The smallest size of the mesh is equal to that of a Bengal-gram corn.
- 9.—Yes.
- 10.—Nets, baskets, hooks and snares are employed in fishing. The following are the native names :—
Valalu (వలలు); Udalú (ఉడలు); Gelamulu (గేలములు); Mavulu (మావలు).
- 11.—It is reported that fishermen rarely catch fresh-water fish in tanks, channels, etc., in some localities, and sell them; that it has been usual for Sudras, Pariahs, and Chucklers to catch fish for their own consumption in tanks, etc., when water decreases in them; and that as this division is not on the coast, the fishermen here proceed every day to Pentakota and other maritime villages, purchase from Pallis and Vádaválu the fish caught by them in the sea, and bring them here for sale.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 16.

Memorandum of answers given by P. Venkataranga Charlu, Tahsildar of Rajahmundry, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—About 200 men. These men employ themselves also as kavady and workmen.
- 2.—Vaddies and Bestas, Pallis and Jalaries, being the different classes of the fishermen caste.
- 3.—No. More could be purchased.
- 4.—The price of large fish varies from 4 Annas to 1 Rupee. The small fish are sold in heaps at one Anna or half Anna each. First sort mutton is sold at 4 Annas and second sort at 3 Annas per seer.
- 5.—Two-thirds of the population eat fish.
- 6.—The fish have now decreased.
- 7.—Small fish also are caught by nets during rains.
- 8.—The smallest size of the mesh is equal to the circumference of an inch.
- 9.—They are rarely trapped in some localities.
- 10.—Nets, hooks, and baskets are employed for fishing. The following are the native names:—
Valalu (వలలు); Udalul (ఉదలు); Gelamulu (గెలములు).
- 11.—No other information can be afforded.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 17.

Memorandum of answers given by G. Venketraz, Superintendent of Sea-Customs at Cocanada, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—About 250 men. They do not pursue their other occupations.
- 2.—It is reported that among the people called Vádavallu and Pallis, and some of the Jalars, Bestas, Vaddis, men of scavenger's caste, washermen and toddy-drawers catch fish in this district.
- 3.—It is reported that the local markets are not fully supplied with fish and that more would be purchased.
- 4.—The price of a large fish is about one Rupee. Small fish are sold at about a seer per quarter of an anna. The price of first sort mutton is 2½ Annas per Pukka seer. Second sort mutton is sold at 2 Annas per Pukka seer.
- 5.—Three-fourths of the population eat fish.
- 6.—Fish have decreased subsequent to the construction of the Godavery anicut.
- 7.—Yes. They are taken by nets, round-nets, baskets, and other snares.
- 8.—It is so small that a corn of Raggy or Nacheni would easily fit it.
- 9.—It is reported that fish are caught in irrigated fields by round nets, baskets, and other snares.
- 10.—Fish are caught by ordinary nets, round-nets, baskets, and other snares. I think that the following are the native names:—

Bonu (బోను); Vala (వల); Utchu (ఉచ్చు).

- 11.—No other information can be afforded.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 18.

Memorandum of answers given by E. Venkenna, Tahsildar of Yernagudem, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—About 322 fishermen. Besides fishing, they net, sell fishing snares and hooks, cut and sell the lotus leaves, drag timber rafts for hire, serve on boats, and employ themselves in agricultural and other occupations.
- 2.—Bestas, Vaddies, and Gudalu Vullu.
- 3.—Local markets are not fully supplied with fish and more could be purchased if obtainable.
- 4.—As this taluq is not on the coast, large fish cannot be had. The largest of those that are obtained is sold at 4 Annas, while small fish are sold at 3 Pies each. Mutton (first and second sorts) is sold at 3 and 2 Annas per seer respectively.
- 5.—About three-fourths of the people eat fish.
- 6.—They have remained stationary.
- 7.—Yes. They are caught by cast-nets and baskets.
- 8.—The smallest size of the mesh is either equal to, or a little less than, half an inch.
- 9.—Yes.

10.—River-nets, purse-nets, small-nets, cast-nets, baskets, nooses, wickerworm snares, harpoons, and other snares, are the means by which fish are caught, and the following are the native names:—

Eti vala (యెటివల); Pedda vala (పెద్దవల); Chinna vala (చిన్నవల); Mocheti vala (మోచెటివల); Ucha vala (ఉచావల); Pandiremavulu (పందిరెమావులు); Sannamavulu (సన్నామావులు); Toka vala (తోకవల); Tirrelu (తిరెలు); Utalu (ఉతలు); Utchulu (ఉచ్చులు); Pandrakolalu (పంద్రాకోలలు); Gelamulu (గెలములు).

- 11.—Night lights and stake-nets are also employed to catch fish.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 19.

Memorandum of answers given by K. Purushottam, Deputy-Tahsildar of Cocanada, to questions regarding Fisheries.

- 1.—There are about 300 men. Some of them also take up the service of Lascars on ships and boats, while a few others employ themselves as daily laborers at the harvest.
- 2.—Pallies, Vádavallu, and Jalaries.
- 3.—Fish are not procurable in sufficient quantities in the months of Vysakhram (May), Jesh-tam (June), Kartikam (November), and Margasiram (December). During the other months of the year, local markets are fully supplied with fish.
- 4.—The price of large fish is 1 Rupee each. Small ones are sold at three-quarters of a seer per dub. The first sort flesh of a goat is sold at 3½ Annas per seer. Mutton of the first sort sells at 6 Annas per seer. Butchers say that second sort flesh is not obtainable.
- 5.—Seven-eighths of the population eat fish.
- 6.—They have decreased.
- 7.—They are not caught.
- 8.—The smallest mesh will hold a red-gram.
- 9.—No.

10.—Cast-nets, purse-nets, hooks, baskets, traps, snares, and harpoons are the means by which fish are caught. The following are the native names :—

Vala (వల); Gelam (గేలం); Udu (ఉడు) Mavu (మావు); Vuchu (వుచ్చు); Tirrilu (తిర్రిలు); Bonu (బోను); Pantrakola (పంక్రకోల.)

11.—No other information can be afforded.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) W. S. FOSTER,
Acting Collector.

COMMUNICATED to Dr. Day in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated
30th September 1872, No. 1,936.

(True Copies and Extract.)

H. E. Stokes

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To Dr. F. Day, Inspector-General of Fisheries.

Copy to the Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ to the Acting Collector of the Godavery District.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

Received 7th Nov.

OCTOBER.
No. 2,089.

Fish and Fisheries.—Letter from Collector of Godavery District, forwarding replies of Divisional Officers and Tahsildars to certain questions contained in Dr. Day's report on—, forwarded to that officer.

PROCEEDINGS, 29TH OCTOBER 1872, No. 2,089.

20/12/591007/12
Encl.

BOARD of REVENUE,
MADRAS.

1872.

19-3572

13-12-95

Revenue Dept.

Original

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