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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue, DEPARTMENT

G O No ~~B.P No~~	166	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	17-1-1877	~~199~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Thenaguny	Slight rain in some villages on the evening of the 16th	Crops, watering & Slight cultivation	Ah Redi, Rama Veliamma and Madhavi Coral Kharif	Ky	9	10½	10½	Good	1st / 160	
			Pada-pisalu & Co Redi	Ky	9½	10	9½			
			Cumbu & Co Redi	Ky	15	19	15	15		
			Vargoo	Ddy	1st Fortt		11			
			Ca		2nd		12			
			Redi				10			
			Cumbu				15			
			Var							
Tirucheroly		Crops all drooping							Some day labourers find in a certain work which they procure from fields	
Mudukulattur	Drizzling in Mudukolattoor & other villages. No good rain	In some parts the crops have already withered in others are drooping	Ah Redi	Ky	7½	Sorh	9	Good		
			Padi		2nd		10			
			Cumbu				9	Slight Small pox in Perumar goods		
			Varagu				11			

E. Nicholson
Sub Assistant Collector

The Collector
Ramnad

Crop Returns for the week ending 23rd Sept 1896

Rainfall for the week ending the 23rd Sept 1896 = Nil

The crops are in the same condition as last week

Sub Assistant Collector

Tabular Report on the State of the Season in the Ad Agency ta

1876

at Collectors Dis for the week ending 11th September 21/165

Name of the Dt	Rainfall	State of the crops	Prices	General health	Remarks
Ramnad	Rainfall in Ramnad on the 8th & 9th 1.88 inches Rain has also fallen in Keelakarai Devipatam, Kilakkadu Uttarakosamangai & other villages	The punja & nanja crops have suffered from want of rain, but some parts the nanja have dried up the present fall of rain will improve both these crops & punja crops	Ad to 1st Sort per Kn 11½ Paddy 2nd Do 12½ Do 9½ Cumbu 19 Varagu Keelakarai Paddy 13 Cumbupatam Paddy 13 Ragy 12 Paramben Ad - - 15 Paddy - - - 6½ Ragy - - - 12 Rice Ramaswaram Ragy 1st Sort - 14 Ad 2nd - 11 Paddy - 12 Do - 12 Cumbu Pantapam Ragy - 14 Ad - 7 Paddy 1st Sorts 12 Rice 2nd 15 Paddy 11 Do 10 Cumbu Varagu Paddy 1st Sorts 10½ 2nd 11½ Paddy 11 Do Ragy	Health of people and cattle good	Markets well supplied
Paramben	Heavy rain on the 7th 8th 9th & 10th in all 10½ inches	Crops at Ragy chi Madam and Rameswaram thrive well.			
Ervvadanai	Light rain here & there. Tolerably good rain at the Sorts & Sarts of Ervvadanai	In the Vadakku vattagai villages & Akkayal ke villages punja crops good. Generally not very flourishing		Garden	
Lemsattoor	Rain the 10th for a touch rest 15 days worth supply in some villages drizzling	In one village punja crops good Rainy crops drooping		Good Stock Cholera 2 villages	

Agency

3/156 10

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 24th November 1876

Read the following

Extract from Lt Col A G Forsyth Esquire
Asst Collector of
Madura

To J H Stokes Esquire
Asst Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir, I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of the Board's
Proceedings of the 15th Instant upon
my letter of the 7th Instant reporting
upon the State of the Season in this
District

I trust that my subsequent
letters have fully explained to
the

the Board me very advers notice
of the season and the urgent neces-
-sity there is for immediate and
very extensive relief works I have
just now come into the Perakolam
Taluq and expect to find that
Pamps are not much better here
than elsewhere, the dry crops are
nearly all lost and the Nunjah
Crops are in a critical condition
and will be lost in this Taluq
also if rain does not fall in
10 or 15 days at the latest. The season
is described by one and all
as the worst that has ever been
known. The Punjah and Nanjah
Crops

may be said to have both
failed universally and this is very
unknown hitherto to Mr Nicholson's
Subsequent report as to the Ramnad
division is not favorable. I for-
ward it with its enclosure Mr
Martin is away in the Palni Taluq
and I have no more recent infor-
-mation from him but am Expect-
-ing to hear from him daily and
will submit his letter to the Board
the moment it is received.
The Temporary Deputy Collector who
is now in the Melur Taluq reports
privately most unfavorably of that
portion of the Melur Taluq which
he has just inspected and
urges

urse immediate relief works.
It is impossible for me to estimate
at the present moment deficiencies &c
returns showing the result of the
inspection made by the Revenue
Officers and Tahsildars are received
what the out-turn of the whole
District will be. So far as I have
been able to see for myself the
out turn of dry crops is not more
than ⅛th; and this including lands
watered from wells. I form this
opinion after carefully going through
the Dindegal, Melur, Madura,
Tirumangalam, and Peraikolam
Talugs. Palni is reported to be
in

a very bad state. In which I
have not been able to visit as yet,
and with regard to Ramnad and
Sheva Gunga I have reason to believe
as already stated in my previous
letter that Mr Nicholson was too
sanguine. In Dindegal, Madura
and Tirumangalam I may say
that wet crops are entirely lost.
In Palni I have no reason to
suppose that they are better off.
In Melur and Peraikolam there
may be a yield of one fourth,
not more, and this too is contingent
upon a good fall of rain within
the next fortnight. I regret that
I

I have not any positive information about Sivagunga and Ramnad, but I do not expect these districts to be much better off than Madura and Periakolam in this respect. The cultivation season is passing and unless rain falls soon I fear that Ramnad will be no better off for wet cultivation than Madura itself.

3 On receipt of the Board's Proceedings under reply I wrote at once to the Deputy Collector at Madura directing him to telegraph to the Board present prices in Madura. I also forwarded below the prices ruling here in the market held to-day -

They

They are 2d sort per 5 measures per Rupee

Raggy —	9½
Cumbu -	8½
Cholam 1st sort	8½
Black gram —	12
Sauce —	10
Varagu —	none

4 P

6/166

I can only suppose that in forming their Estimate the Board have compared the prices ruling in October 1875 with those of October 76 and would respectfully submit that to arrive at a just conclusion the Board will be pleased to compare the prices ruling in November of last year with those which may be reported by Telegram by the Deputy Collector. I have to remark too that the year 1875 was by no means a favorable year.

I

4 I have directed the Deputy Collector to forward direct to the Board the information called for in paragraph 4 as I am unable to furnish it myself Out of the 12,000 Rupees reserved by the Board 8,000 Rupees have been already allotted and the demands Mills urged to press on the Execution of the works. I expect that the balance will be allotted at the meeting of the Local Fund Board to be held at Madura to day -

5 In proposing that large Sums should be expended upon metalling the roads in the District I was of opinion that this really was a most useful form of relief. Especially for the inhabitants of our large

large towns. Such as Madura, Dindigul, Tirumungalam, Palni and Melur. The metalling of roads will facilitate and cheapen the carriage of supplies, the work being done on existing lines of Communication will be easily accessible to all, Such work is multiform. It includes the collection of Stones and Gravel, the breaking and packing of Stones, the Spreading of Gravel and watering and tamping. This will give employment to male and female young and old and to large numbers on a small space. I reserved consider that this work is of a re-productive character inasmuch as it

Such

must reduce the Cost of Carriage and at the same time lessen, I am informed by the District Engineer, the cost of maintenance in future -

6 In addition to roads there are innumerable tanks throughout the District which more or less require repairs and I hope shortly to have a list of such works ready. The District Engineer reports that the grant for Agricultural repairs for this year is already allotted to works and that the greater portion of it has been expended - I have an Emergent measure sanctioned the immediate Commencement of relief works of the following works in the Seruvancattam Taluq for which Estimates have been received from the District Engineer but for which no funds are available. ₹166

1	Repairing Valandoor large tank	Rs. 872
1	do Poolancolam Tank	928
1	do Allesandrum Peruvaimmoy tank	375
1	do Adayikolam Tank & Channel	502
1	do Muchcolam Tank	645
1	do Kulkolam Tank & Channel	462
1	do Alady Tank	182
1	do Arasacolam Tank	282
1	do Kilavanary Tank	248
		4,236

I trust my action in this matter will meet with the Board's approval. I hope in a few days to be able to direct the Commencement of works in other Taluqs where most needed and earnestly solicit that Government will be pleased to place funds at my disposal for this purpose.

I

7 I have an interview with the Deputy Conservator of Forests opened the reserve forests alluded to by the Sub Collector to Cattle for grazing. I have previously issued a notice to the ryot allowing them to cultivate Panjah Crops on their Panjah lands, and am so far as I am able doing everything in my power to meet the demands of the season and to alleviate the distress of the people.

8. I have as permitted by the Board instructed Tahsildars to suspend the issue of all Coercive process and I assume to elect permission to postpone the collection of the Kist which falls due on the 15th proximo I believe that the suspension of the

- cise

use of Coercive process will absolutely result in the non-payment of the 9/166 Kist and that not a ryot of the District will voluntarily come forward with his Kist this year but the knowledge that the Government is paying attention to their condition and the knowledge that the collection of the Kist is post-poned will go a long way towards reassuring the ryots and encourage them to cultivate their lands when an opportunity occurs. I trust that the Board will not hesitate to sanction this measure and give me early information of the same that I may make it generally known throughout the District.

9 I will submit hereafter my

my proposals as to the Punjab
transmissions to be granted, but may
say that they must be very large

Madura Collr's Office, Camp
Sendapatty Village Penakolandabrm
25th November 1876

I have &c
Sd J G Bonstall
Asst Collector

Enclosure

Rammad
Hd Asst Collr's Office
15th November 1876

No 454

From The Asst Hd Asst Collector
of Madura

To The Asst Collector of Madura

Sir, I have the honor to
forward a report in a tabular form
on the rain fall, State of Crops,
and market prices in this Division
for the week ending 11th instant

I

I regret that unfavorable 10/16
as regards Swadeshi, Madukullas
-toor and Seruchoky which have
had little or no rain though one
good rain would probably save the
crops in the latter two divisions -
The other divisions have been more
fortunate -

The present state of the weather
appears to be against any prospect
of rain -

I have &c
Sd J Nicholson
Asst Hd Asst Collector

Submitted to Government
in Continuation of Boards' Proceedings
dated 15th November No 2838/1876.

The

The price of rice is much the same as in Madras but the prices of dry grain are comparatively moderate.

The Board approve of the measures taken by the Collector to abate of the cultivation of dry grain on the lands usually irrigated and to stay the issue of Coercive processes. Should the season still continue unfavorable the collection of the last half falls due on the 15th proximo may be stayed.

The Board do not wish to fetter the Collector in selecting works of relief but as a rule Earth work for the formation of roads and tanks is preferable to metalling roads

Attention must also be paid to simple works of village improvement. Expenditure on sanctioned Estimates for irrigation repairs is approved and a grant of Rs 4236 is sanctioned. The Board await the Collector's proposals for a remission of dry assessment

I have &c &c &c

H Elstone
Asst Secretary

To The Secretary to Government Rd
With one Enclosure to be returned.

Encl SP

13/166

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th January 1877

No 384 Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th November 1876 —

Read the following letter from J G HORSFALL, Esq, Acting Collector of Madura, to H E STOKES Esq, Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Periakolam, 20th November 1876, Extra No 3 —

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings of the 15th instant upon my letter of the 7th instant reporting upon the state of the season in this district

2 I trust that my subsequent letters have fully explained to the Board the very adverse nature of the season and the urgent necessity there is for immediate and very extensive relief works I have just now come into the Periakolam Taluq and regret to find that things are not much better here than elsewhere, the dry crops are nearly all lost, and the nunjah crops are in a critical condition and will be lost in this taluq also if rain does not fall in ten or fifteen days at the latest The season is described by one and all as the worst that has ever been known The punjah and nunjah crops may be said to have both failed universally, and this is a thing unknown hitherto Mr Nicholson's subsequent report as to the Ramnad Division is not favorable I forward it with its enclosure Mr Martin is away in the Pulni Taluq and I have no more recent information from him but am expecting to hear from him daily and will submit his letter to the Board the moment it is received The Temporary Deputy Collector, who is now in the Melur Taluq, reports privately most unfavorably of that portion of the Melur Taluq which he has just inspected and urges immediate relief works It is impossible for me to estimate at the present moment, and until the Returns showing the result of the inspection made by the Divisional Officers and Tahsildars are received, what the outturn of the whole district will be So far as I have been able to see for myself the outturn of dry crops is not more than one eighth, and this including lands watered from wells I form this opinion after carefully going through the Dindigul Melur, Madura, Tirumungalum, and Periakolam Taluqs Pulni is reported to be in a very bad state though I have not been able to visit it yet, and with regard to Ramnad and Shevagungah, I have reason to believe, already stated in my previous letter, that Mr Nicholson was too sanguine In Dindigul, Madura, and Tirumungalum I may say that wet crops are entirely lost In Pulni I have no reason to suppose that they are better off In Melur and Periakolam there may be a yield of one fourth, not more, and this, too, is contingent upon a good fall of rain within the next fortnight I regret that I have not any precise information about Shevagungah and Ramnad, but I do not expect these divisions to be much better than Melur and Periakolam in this respect The cultivation season is passing, and unless rain falls soon I fear that Ramnad will be no better off for wet cultivation than Madura itself

3 On receipt of the Board's Proceedings under reply I wrote at once to the Deputy Collector at Madura directing him to telegraph to the Board present price in Madura I also give below the prices ruling here in the market held to day

They are—

Second sort rice	5 measures per Rupee
Ragy	9½
Cumboo	8½
Cholum first sort	8½
Black gram	12
Samei	10
Varagu	None

I can only regret that in forming their estimate the Board should have compared the prices ruling in October 1876 with those of October 1876, and would respectfully submit that to arrive at a just conclusion the Board will be pleased to compare the prices ruling in November of last year with those which may be reported by telegram by the Deputy Collector I have to remark, too, that the year 1876 was by no means a favorable year

4 I have directed the Deputy Collector to forward direct to the Board the information called for in paragraph 4 as I am unable to furnish it myself Out of the 12,000 Rupees referred to by the Board, 8,000 Rupees more have been already allotted and the Divisional Officers urged to press on the execution of the works I expect that the balance will be allotted at the meeting of the Local Fund Board to be held at Madura to day

5 In proposing that large sums should be expended upon metalling the roads of the district I was of opinion that this really was a most useful form of relief especially for the inhabitants of our large towns, such as Madura, Dindigul, Tirumungalum, Pulni, and Melur The metalling of roads will facilitate and cheapen the carriage of supplies, the work being done on existing lines of communication will be easily accessible to all, such work is multiform It includes the collection of stones and gravel, the breaking and packing of stones, the spreading of gravel, and watering and tamping This will give employment to male and female, young and old, and to large numbers on a small space Moreover, I consider that this work is of a reproductive character, inasmuch as it must reduce the cost of carriage and at the same time lessen, I am informed by the District Engineer, the cost of maintenance in future

6 In addition to roads there are innumerable tanks throughout the district which more or less require repairs and I hope shortly to have a list of such works ready The District Engineer reports that the grant for agricultural repairs for this year is already allotted to works and that the greater portion of it has been expended I have, as an emergent measure sanctioned the immediate commencement as relief works of the following works in the Tirumungalum Taluq, for which estimates have been received from the District Engineer, but for which no funds are available —

			Rs
(1)	Repairing	Valandoor Large Tank	817
(1)	Do	Poolancolam Tank	905
(1)	Do	Allegolum Perieummoy Tank	315
(1)	Do	Oodayikolam Tank and Channel	307
(1)	Do	Muchiolam Tank	645

			Rs
(1)	Repairing	Kulkolam Tank and Channel	462
(1)	Do	Alady Tank	182
(1)	Do	Arasacolam Tank	282
(1)	Do	Kilavanary Tank	248
		Total	1,236

I trust my action in this matter will meet with the Board's approval I hope in a few days to be able to direct the commencement of works in other taluqs where most needed, and earnestly solicit that Government will be pleased to place sums at my disposal for this purpose

7 I have already, in consultation with the Deputy Conservator of Forests, opened the reserve forests alluded to by the Sub Collector to cattle for grazing I have further issued a notice to the ryots allowing them to cultivate punjah crops on their punjah lands, and am, so far as I am able, doing everything in my power to meet the demands of the season and to alleviate the distress of the people

8 I have, as permitted by the Board, instructed Tahsildars to suspend the issue of all coercive process and I again solicit permission to postpone the collection of the kist which falls due on the 15th proximo I believe that the suspension of the issue of coercive process will absolutely result in the non payment of the kist and that not a ryot of the district will voluntarily come forward with his kist this year, but the knowledge that the Government is paying attention to their condition, and the knowledge that the collection of the kist is postponed, will go a long way towards reassuring the ryots and encourage them to recultivate their lands when an opportunity occurs I trust that the Board will not hesitate to sanction this measure and give me early information of the same that I may make it generally known throughout the district

9 I will submit hereafter my proposals as to the punjah remissions to be granted, but may say that they must be very large

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ENCLOSURE No 1

From F A NICHOLSON Esq Acting Head Assistant Collector to the Acting Collector of Madura dated Ramnad 15th November 1876 No 401

I HAVE the honor to forward a report in a tabular form on the rain fall state of crops and market prices in this division for the week ending 11th instant I regret that it is unfavorable as regards Shevagungah Mudukullattoor and Tiruchooly which have had little or no rain though one good rain would probably save the crops in the latter two divisions The other divisions have been more fortunate

2 The present state of the weather appears to be against any prospect of rain

TABULAR Report on the state of the Sea on in the Head A sistant Collector s District for the Week ending 11th Novemb r 1376

Name of the Division	Rain fall	State of the Crops	Prices		General Health	Remarks
Ramnad	Rain fall in Ramnad on the 8th 9th 10th and 11th 1 86 inches Pain has also fallen in Keelakari Dev patam Kilakadu Uttarakosaman gai &c villages	The punja and nunja crops have suffered from want of rain In some parts the nunja have dried up The present fall of rain will improve both the nunja and punja crops	At Ramnad—	Measures per rupee	Health of people and cattle good	Markets well supplied
			Paddy 1st sort	11½		
			2nd do	12⅓		
			Cumboo	9⅓		
			Varagu	19		
			At Kilakarai—			
			Rangoon paddy	13		
			At De ipatam—			
			Rangoon paddy	13		
			Country paddy	12		
Paumben	Heavy rain on the 7th 8th 9th and 10th in all 10½ inches	Crops at Thangachimadam and Rameswaram thriving v ell	At Paumben—			
			Paddy	15		
			Rice	6¹		
			Raggy	12		
			At Rameswaram—			
			Paddy 1st sort	14		
			2nd do	16		
			Cumboo	12		
			Raggy	12		
			At Mantapam—			
			Paddy	14		
			Rice	7		
Tiruvadanai	Slight rain here and there Tolerably good rain to the north and south of Tiruva danai	In the Vadakkupatt gai villages and Akkayal &c villages punja crops good Generally not very flourishing	Paddy 1st sort	12	Good	
			2nd do	13		
			Cumboo	11		
			Varagu	18		

TABULAR Repor on the state of the Season in the Head Assistant Collector s District for th Week ending 11th November 1876—(*Continued*)

Name of the Divi ion	Rain fall	State of the Crops	Prices		General Health	Remarks
				Measures per Rupee		
Tirupattoor	Rain on the 10th Some tanks received 15 days or 1 months supply In some villages drizzling	In some villages nunja crops good punja crops drooping	Paddy 1st sort	10¾	Good Slight cholera in two villages	
			Do 2nd do	11¹		
			Raggy	11¼		
Shivagungah	Slight rain in some villages on the evening of the 10th	Crops withering Slight culti vation	At Shivagungah—		Good	
			Elhangudi Mana Madura and Kalaar Covil —			
			Paddy 9 10¹ 10⅜ and 10 respectively			
	Drizzling in Mudukolattoor and other villages No good rain		Cumboo 9¼ 10 3 and 10 re pectively			
			Varagu 15 19 15 and 15 re pectively			
Tiruchooly		Crops all drooping	Paddy 1st sort	11		Some day laborers live on a certain root which they procure from fields
			2nd do	12		
			Cumboo	10		
			Varagu	1ɔ		
Mudukollattoor	Drizzling in Mudukolattoor and other villages No good rain	In some parts the crop have already withered in others are drooping	At Mudukollattoor—			
			Paddy 1 t sort	9	Good Slight small pox in Permagoodi	
			2nd sort	10		
			Cumboo	9		
			Varagu	17		

(Signed) T A NICHOLSON
Ag Head Asst Collector

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 15th November, No 2,838 1876 The price of rice is much the same as in Madras, but the prices of dry grain are comparatively moderate The Board approve of the measures taken by the Collector to allow of the cultivation of dry grain on the lands usually irrigated and to stay the issue of coercive processes Should the season still continue unfavorable the collection of the kist that falls due on the 15th proximo may be stayed

2 The Board do not wish to fetter the Collector in selecting works of relief, but, as a rule, earth work for the formation of roads and tanks is preferable to metalling roads Attention might also be paid to simple works of village improvement Expenditure on sanctioned estimates for irrigation repairs is approved, and a grant of Rupees 4,236 is sanctioned The Board await the Collector's proposals for a remission of dry assessment

(True Copies and Extract)

(Signed) H E STOKES
Acting Secretary

No 385 ORDER THEREON, 17th January 1877, No 166

Miscellaneous

RECORDED

(True Extract)

(Signed) J H GAPSTIN,
Acting Secretary to Government

To the Board of Revenue
the Financial Department
the Public Works Department
the Inspector General of Police

Ixd A S Rodger

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Dated 196

(Mark of [illegible])

PEVLHUE

[illegible]

[illegible]

JANUARY

No 381 865