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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1963

Press
~~Mis~~

Dated

12. 6. 1877.

1921

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
12th June 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 225.

No. 1.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

Miscellaneous.

SIR,—For some weeks there has been a gradual and continuous rise in the prices of rice in the districts of this Presidency generally. This rise has left the prices, which are now generally stationary at the rates marginally shown in terms of seers of 80 tolas to the rupee.

Districts.	Rice.		Cholum.		Ragi.		Cumbho.	
	Week ending 5th June.	Price in May last Year.	Week ending 5th June.	Price in May last Year.	Week ending 5th June.	Price in May last Year.	Week ending 5th June.	Price in May last Year.
Ganjam	18	20.2	19	23.9	21	30.3	21	30.2
Vizagapatnam	11	16.7	17	28.4	19	30.2	20	30.0
Godavery	10	20.9	13	38.1	17	38.0	18	38.0
Kistna	8.45	29.3	11.15	39.2	12.94	35.2	13.28	35.2
Nellore	7.78	15.1	9.64	27.3	11.74	29.5	10.06	29.5
Madras	8.76	11.7	11.90	18.0	10.64	19.3		
Chingleput	5.90	25.0	9.05		10.72	22.6		
South Arcot	8.75	15.4	11	24.4	13.5	23.9	11.75	23.9
Trichinopoly	7.6	14.7	13.2	34.1	10.3	26.3	9.7	26.3
Tanjore	8	14.7	10	27.3	12.18	26.8	10.31	26.8
Madurai	8.2	14.7	10.4	35.1	9.8	30.8	9.7	30.8
Tinnevely	8.25	12.3	11.25	24.4	10.75	25.5	11	25.5
Koruput	6.03	15.2	8.06	26.3	9.51	28.1	8.2	28.1
Gudivada	7.73	14.1	8.66	26.2	9.22	27.2	8.2	27.2
Bellary	6.83	14.8	7.56	25.3	8.25	25.1	7.39	25.1
N. Arcot	7.9	14.5	8.9	23.0	9.8	23.1	1.12	23.1
Palani	7.43	13.2	9	21.7	8.31	23.5	8.61	23.5
Coimbatore	7.49	12.7	8.41	20.3	8.86	23.6	9	23.6
Nigiris	7.4	10.4	8.45	14.2	9	18.6	9	18.6
South Canara	9.73	12.6			11.84	17.7		
Mainbar	9.09	12.5			12.25	19.5		

Has not been authoritatively noted.

2. The Collectors' reports, however, show that while in April all markets were supplied with either raggi, cholum, or cumbho as well as rice, at the end of May in Tanjore no cholum, raggi, or cumbho was obtainable in four markets out of nine, and no cholum or cumbho in two others. In Trichinopoly,

while rice was 7.5 seers to the rupee in these markets.

out of five markets no grain, except rice, was obtainable at Kulitalai, and rice was 6.5 seers the rupee in Udyapolim. In Coimbatore, rice was 2.9 seers the rupee in Collegial Taluq and raggi 6.9, while prices were high generally in Pollachi Taluq. In Salem, prices at Tripatore were rice 6.42 seers the rupee, raggi 2.12, and cumboo 7.44, while in Salem itself rice was 7.68. In Bellary, though prices are stationary, in Kudlighi and Hurpanhully rice is 5.25 seers the rupee and 5.5 in Hadgully, while cholam is 6 to 6.5 seers the rupee. In South Arcot, of eight markets cholam was not quoted in four, nor cumboo in two. In Chingleput, of six markets cholam and cumboo were not quoted each in five markets. In South Canara, cholam and cumboo are not quoted, but are not consumed. In Tinnevely, cholam and cumboo were not quoted in four and three markets out of five. In Malabar, cholam and cumboo are not quoted at all. In Madras, cholam is not quoted in one out of six markets. In Kistna, out of four markets cholam is not quoted in two. On the Nilgiris, of four markets cholam is not quoted in one, cumboo in two. In the Godavari, of six markets cumboo is not quoted in four. While in Kurnool the price of rice was 7.0, while cholam was 7.1, and no other grain was quoted.

3. It thus appears that the prices are at a point which causes a distress.

4. There are doubtless yet considerable stocks in the Presidency, although it is found impossible to obtain certain reliable information; and these are favorable brought forward, but that these stocks are apparent from the fact that while the consumption of the population at 1 lb. per head per diem would equal about 3,849,300 tons, the total import of food-grain into the Presidency from August to April has been only 4,783,9, as shown by the Revenue. The increasing demand is also noticeable, the export of grain

the greater portion of this Presidency is under pressure and continuing increasing

able stocks in the Presidency, although it is found impossible to obtain certain reliable information; and these are favorable brought forward, but that these stocks are apparent from the fact that while the consumption of the population at 1 lb. per head per diem would equal about 3,849,300 tons, the total import of food-grain into the Presidency from August to April has been only 4,783,9, as shown by the Revenue. The increasing demand is also noticeable, the export of grain

	To Mysore.	To Hyderabad.	Total.
From 3rd to 31st March	285.8	911.6	1,197.2
During April	660.0	1,604.2	2,264.2
Up to 26th May	822.1	1,649.9	2,472.0

5. The stock available at the ports for inland transport was ascertained at the end of last month to be—

	Tons.
Madras 25,000	35,000
On sea 10,000	
Negapatam	8,000
Beyport Station (and some in boats)	1,500
	44,500
Says	45,000

this stock will be entirely moved up-country in the usual course of traffic by the end of the current month, and Government are not aware of any considerable further quantity being on its way or ordered, and there is no accumulation at the up-country railway stations. While it is very probable that the price grain has now reached may induce increased importations, yet the Governor in Council deems it his duty to point out that while he is under no apprehension as to the means of the railways to carry the daily supplies, yet if the railway power is not made use of with regularity, there will be very serious ground for apprehension, because the number of trains that can be run is limited by the circumstances of the line and the locomotive power and waggon stock available, if any material diminution of the grain-traffic inland occurs for a fortnight, it will probably be found, in practice impossible to carry up the quantity which will be thus deficient in addition to the ordinary daily demands.

6. For these reasons I am directed to state that the present state of trade causes this Government much anxiety; the pressure of the existing high prices is rapidly adding to the number whose sole dependence must be State aid, not only in these districts which have been noticed as distressed, but even in others; and it is, moreover, reducing to abject poverty very many of those who should and would have maintained themselves throughout, had prices similar to those which generally prevailed in the famine districts of Bengal in 1874 prevailed in this Presidency.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. H. GARSTIN,

General Secretary to Government.

MOVEMENTS OF FOOD

Places within the

Districts are there is no District.

		Ganjam.	Vizagapatam.	Tanjo.	South Canara.	Malabar.	Total.	South Arcot.	Kistna.	Nello.
		TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
August 1876.	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	1,293	818	7,128	16	1,982	14,899	793	7,296	1,...
	Total	1,293	818	7,128	16	1,982	14,899	793	7,296	1,...
September.	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	980	1,155	3,804	166	4,756	4,881	843	5,112	...
	Total	980	1,155	3,804	166	4,756	4,881	843	5,112	...
October	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	172	287	5,888	586	7,216	13,516	892	2,595	...
	Total	172	287	5,888	586	7,216	13,516	892	2,595	...
November	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	902	907	5,162	3,973	8,649	14,548	...	154	...
	Total	902	907	5,162	3,973	8,649	14,548	...	154	...
December	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	6,512	1,639	1,050	4,970	12,438	18,845	1,858	542	2,...
	Total	6,512	1,639	1,050	4,970	12,438	18,845	1,858	542	2,...
January 1877	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	6,272	1,310	766	1,743	27,666	4,507	2,536	420	5,...
	Total	6,272	1,310	766	1,743	27,666	4,507	2,536	420	5,...
February	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	15,248	1,836	1,677	877	21,825	2,582	2,613	205	6,...
	Total	15,248	1,836	1,677	877	21,825	2,582	2,613	205	6,...
March	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	11,903	1,746	352	824	27,844	10,581	6,099	806	3,...
	Total	11,903	1,746	352	824	27,844	10,581	6,099	806	3,...
April	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	4,328	544	10,787	2,345	34,327	36,705	...	617	8,...
	Total	4,328	544	10,787	2,345	34,327	36,705	...	617	8,...
Total	By Rail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	By Sea	47,610	6,325	14,336	15,518	146,515	14,678	10,575	13,871	24,81
	Total	47,610	6,325	14,336	15,518	146,515	14,678	10,575	13,871	24,81

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras, 1st June 1877.

For some months there has been a gradual and continuous rise in prices in the Districts of this Presidency generally. This rise has left the prices which are now generally stationary ^{at the rate} as ^{approximately} shown in terms of ^{1860 prices} 1860 the Rupee.

in three markets. In Trichinopoly no grain except rice was obtainable at Tututalai; and rice was 6.5 seers the rupee in Adiyapolim. In Coimbatore rice was 4.9 seers the rupee in Collegal Talook and raggi 6.9, while prices were high generally in Pollachi Talook. In Salem prices at Chittoore were rice 6.42 seers the rupee, raggi 8.12 and coimbatore 7.44, while in Salem itself rice was 7.68. In Bellary though prices are stationary rice is 5.25 seers the rupee in Kudligi and Harpankaly rice is 5.25 seers the rupee and 5.5 in Heddully, while cholera is 6 to 6 1/2 seers the rupee.

It thus appears that throughout the greater portion of this Presidency prices are at a point which causes a most severe pressure and continually

In 1st part of 8 months cholera was not feared in 4 districts in two. In Chingleput of the 8 months cholera & cholera was not feared each in four months. In 1st Channar cholera & cholera was not feared but cholera in Tiruvilly cholera and cholera was not feared in four and three months out of five. In Madras cholera and cholera was not feared at all. In Madras cholera was not feared in one out of six months. In 1st part of 8 months cholera was not feared in two. In Bellary of four months cholera was not feared in one. In Coimbatore cholera was not feared in one. In the Endurerry out of six months cholera was not feared in four. In Kurnool the prices at Kurnool were 6.0 while cholera was 7.1 and no other prices were feared.

continually increasing distress. There are doubtless yet in considerable stocks in the Presidency, altho it is found impossible to obtain certain information, and which a favorable south-west monsoon may cause to be brought forth, but that some these stocks must be seriously diminished is apparent from the fact that while the consumption of the population at 1lb per head would require about 3849300 tons the total import of food grain to the Presidency from August to April has been only 447839 as is shown by annexed statement prepared by the Board of Revenue. The increasing demand on the stock at Bellary for Mysore territory is also noticeable, the movement of grain being as last

From

shown below

	To Mysore.	To Hyderabad.	Total.
During March.	285.8	911.6	1197.2
During April	565.0	1604.2	2269.2
During May	822.1	1649.9	2472.0
(up to May 1st)	352	1751	2103

The stock available at the ports for inland transport was ascertained at the end of last month to be:

Madras	25,000
On Sea	10,000
Nagapattam	8,000
Beyport	1,500
Total	44,500

which stock will be entirely removed up country in the usual course of traffic by the end of the current month, and Govt. are not aware of any considerable further quantity of grain on its way or ordered.

It is very probable that the price grain has now reached may induce further importations.

yet the Governor in Council deems it his duty to point out that while he would be under no apprehension as to the means of the Railway to carry the daily supplies, yet if the railway power is not made use of with some regularity there will be very serious ground for apprehension because the number of trains that can be run is limited by the circumstances of the line, the locomotive power and wagon stock available, and if any material diminution of the grain traffic inland occurred for a fortnight it would be found in practice impossible to make good the quantity in addition to ordinary demands during such months.

For these reasons I am directed to state that

the present state of trade causes this Govt. much

much anxiety, and the pressure
of the existing high prices is
rapidly adding to the numbers
whose sole dependence must
be State aid, not only in those
Districts which have been
noticed as distressed but
even in others, and is thereby
reducing to abject poverty
very many of those who should
and would have maintained
themselves throughout, had
prices at all corresponding
those which prevailed
in the Famine Districts
of Bengal prevailed in
this Presidency.

9.6.77

13 June 1877

1963
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Circle

Wholesale

Confidential

All letters

to be sent

to the

Director

of the

Revenue

Board

of the

Madras

Presidency

of the

South

India

Revenue

Board

of the

Discrepancies
of the papers put up. that
our Price returns are
not on a uniform system.
Request Rev. B. & Co. that on all occasions
in all cases of reporting
prices of grain, they be
given in terms of the local
of 80. Total to the Revenue.
and same in the other
commis. & other offices.
in the & other offices.
of the & other offices.
of the & other offices.

Cy-677 R 12-1-1)

Rail.

Districts where there						Places beyond the Madras Presidency.				Grand Total
	Gonyam	Vizaga- putam	Godavary	Tanjore	South Canara	Total	4,990	Shore Territory	Total	Tons.
By Rail	"	"	"	"	"	+ 59	- 4,039	+ 2,892	- 1,147	
By Sea	1293	+ 818	- 8744	- 7128	+ 16	+ 6527	"	"	"	- 7872
Total	1293	+ 818	- 8744	- 7128	+ 16	+ 6586	- 4,039	+ 2,892	- 1,147	- 7872
By R	"	"	"	"	"	- 710	- 5168	+ 6094	+ 931	"
By S	- 980	+ 1155	- 5842	- 3804	- 160	+ 5101	"	"	"	+ 220
Total	- 980	+ 1155	- 5842	- 3804	- 160	+ 4391	- 5168	+ 6094	+ 931	+ 220
By R	"	"	"	"	"	- 8035	- 4921	+ 14384	+ 9463	"
By S	- 172	- 287	- 13861	- 5888	- 586	+ 17112	"	"	"	+ 3596
Total	- 172	- 287	- 13861	- 5888	- 586	+ 9077	- 4921	+ 14384	+ 9463	+ 3596
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 1872	- 7951	+ 9912	+ 1961	"
By S	- 102	- 907	- 12253	- 5162	- 3973	+ 10400	"	"	"	+ 25862
Total	- 102	- 907	- 12253	- 5162	- 3973	+ 12282	- 7951	+ 9912	+ 1961	+ 25862
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 8219	- 12281	+ 11267	- 1014	"
By S	- 6512	- 1639	- 17112	- 1050	- 4970	+ 64227	"	"	"	+ 45882
Total	- 6512	- 1639	- 17112	- 1050	- 4970	+ 72446	- 12281	+ 11267	- 1014	+ 45382
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 7837	- 7872	+ 11993	+ 4121	"
By S	- 6272	- 1310	- 10988	- 766	- 1793	+ 88447	"	"	"	+ 94454
Total	- 6272	- 1310	- 10988	- 766	- 1793	+ 96284	- 7872	+ 11993	+ 4121	+ 94454
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 11103	- 10665	+ 9102	- 1563	"
By S	- 15248	- 1835	- 1670	- 1677	- 877	+ 80913	"	"	"	+ 78331
Total	- 15248	- 1835	- 1670	- 1677	- 877	+ 92016	- 10665	+ 9102	- 1563	+ 78331
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 39	- 2226	+ 15484	+ 7258	"
By S	- 11903	- 1746	- 2842	+ 352	- 824	+ 66124	"	"	"	+ 77002
Total	- 11903	- 1746	- 2842	+ 352	- 824	+ 66160	- 2226	+ 15484	+ 7258	+ 77002
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 6205	- 9588	+ 14909	+ 5326	"
By S	- 1328	- 544	- 1192	+ 10787	- 2345	+ 63659	"	"	"	+ 100364
Total	- 1328	- 544	- 1192	+ 10787	- 2345	+ 68864	- 9588	+ 14909	+ 5326	+ 100364
By R	"	"	"	"	"	+ 25539	- 70701	+ 96037	+ 25536	"
By S	- 47610	- 6325	- 77404	- 14336	- 15518	+ 432577	"	"	"	+ 17839
Total	- 47610	- 6325	- 77404	- 14336	- 15518	+ 458106	- 70701	+ 96037	+ 25536	+ 17839

Revenue Board Office
Madras
1st June 1877

signed) H. C. Stokes
Secretary

Movements of food grains by Sea and by the Madras Rail.

Net results for
Places within this Madras Presidency

Districts where there is no distress

Distressed Districts

	Gungam	Nizama	Madanur	Tanjore	South Kanara	Madhav	T. L.	South Arcot	Madhav	T. L.	Cuddalore	Chingleput	Madhav	Chingleput	Madhav	Chingleput	Madhav	Chingleput	Madhav	Chingleput
By Sea	1293	+818	-8744	-7128	+16	+1932	-14399	-798	-7296	-1135			-13976		-116	+1891				
Total	-1293	+818	-8744	-7128	+16	+3023	-13311	-798	-7296	-1135	+703	+2942	-11307	-1008	-116	+1891	+1561	+103	-157	
By R						-221	-221				+646	+4267	-6062	+696			+1109	+664	-242	
By S	-980	+1155	-5842	-3804	-166	+4756	-4881	-246	-5112	-235			+9665		-46	+1675				
Total	-980	+1155	-5842	-3804	-166	+4535	-5102	-846	-5112	-235	+646	+4267	+3603	+696	-46	+1675	+1109	+664	-242	
By R						-1428	-1428				+1763	+7731	-10724	-562			-1021	-108	-512	
By S	-172	-287	-13861	-5888	-586	+7278	-13516	-892	-2595				+18699		+307	+1593				
Total	-172	-287	-13861	-5888	-586	+5860	-14914	-892	-2595		+1763	+7731	+7775	-562	+307	+1593	-1021	-108	-512	
By R						-3833	-3833				+4210	+14615	-12840	-501			-1412	+232	-2402	
By S	-902	-907	-12253	-5162	-3973	+3649	-14548		+154				-39684		+333	+239				
Total	-902	-907	-12253	-5162	-3973	+4316	-18381		+154		+4210	+14615	-12840	-501	+333	+239	-1412	+232	-2402	
By R						-7205	-7205				+9702	+19992	-20638	+5285			+1405	+3810	-1337	
By S	-6512	-1639	-17112	-1050	-4970	+12438	-18845	+1858	+542	+2620					+56135					
Total	-6512	-1639	-17112	-1050	-4970	+5232	-26050	+1858	+542	+2620	+9702	+19992	-25297	+5285	+1712	+1360	+1405	+3810	-1337	
By R						-11958	-11958				+8485	+16802	-26984	+4462			+2237	+3986	-1151	
By S	-6272	-1340	-10988	-766	-1793	+27666	+6507	+2536	+420	+5899					+1366	+2694				
Total	-6272	-1340	-10988	-766	-1793	+19708	-5757	+2536	+420	+5899	+8485	+16802	-48528	+4462	+1366	+2694	+2237	+3986	-1151	
By R						-9540	-9540				+4200	+12023	-19970	+3533			+3338	+3460	-481	
By S	-15248	-1835	-4574	-1677	-877	+12085	-12122	+3613	+205	+5597	+9200	+12023	-48895	+3533	+578	+3065				
Total	-15248	-1835	-4574	-1677	-877	+11085	-12122	+3613	+205	+5597	+9200	+12023	-48895	+3533	+578	+3065	+3338	+3460	-481	
By R						-7297	-7297				+823	+14208	-31671	+4789			+3221	+5492	-1209	
By S	-11903	-1746	-2842	+352	-824	+27814	+10881	+6099	-806	+3531					+46464					
Total	-11903	-1746	-2842	+352	-824	+26547	+3584	+6099	-806	+3531	+8209	+11208	-11993	+4789	+2459	+8374	+3221	+5492	-1209	
By R						-10531	-10531				+5078	+16657	-31201	+2733			+8073	+5238	-773	
By S	-1328	-544	-1192	+10787	-2345	+34327	+36705		+617	+8529										
Total	-1328	-544	-1192	+10787	-2345	+34327	+36705		+617	+8529										
By R						-50925	-50925				+47996	+109287	-176359	+19487			+8073	+5238	-773	
By S	-47610	-6325	-77404	-14336	-15518	+146516	+16673	+10515	-13871	+24811										
Total	-47610	-6325	-77404	-14336	-15518	+135590	+65602	+10515	-13871	+24811										

Places beyond the Madras Presidency	Grand Total
By Sea	+59 -4039 +2892 -1047
By R.	+6537
By S.	+6586 -4039 +2892 -1047
Total	-710 -5168 +6094 +981
By R.	+6101
By S.	+1291 -5168 +6094 +981
Total	-8035 -4921 +14984 +9163
By R.	+17112
By S.	+9077 -4921 +14984 +9163
Total	+1872 -7957 +9912 +1961
By R.	+1010
By S.	+12282 -7957 +9912 +1961
Total	+3219 -12281 +11267 -1014
By R.	+4427
By S.	+73246 -12281 +11267 -1014
Total	+7837 -7872 +11992 +1121
By R.	+9247
By S.	+96244 -7872 +11992 +1121
Total	+11103 -10666 +9102 -1563
By R.	+80913
By S.	+92016 -10666 +9102 -1563
Total	+37 -7526 +10184 +7528
By R.	+66121
By S.	+66160 -7526 +10184 +7528
Total	+5205 -9588 +11409 +5326
By R.	+13659
By S.	+66664 -9588 +11409 +5326
Total	+25539 -70701 +96037 +25539
By R.	+43357
By S.	+465106 -70701 +96037 +25539
Total	+17839

Care

Revenue Board

Confidential

Alb. Stokes

Revenue Board

Madras

June 1877

Disinfranchisement of the papers put up. that our Price returns are not on a uniform system. Request Rev. D. L. Stokes CO. that on all occasions in all cases of reporting prices of grain, they be given in terms of the less of 80. Also to the effect. Last came in from the Comptroller. Rev. D. L. Stokes. It is essential to state in the terms. Both to the Government.

Revenue Board Office
Madras
1st June 1877

(Signed) Alb. Stokes
Secretary

1877 DEPT.

Letter

From
Government of Fort St. George.

D. 12 June 1963
E. Enclosures.
spare copies.

D. No. Progs.
L. No. No. 225

Faintly 127

Informing that
for some weeks there has
been a gradual and
continuous rise in the
prices of grain in the
Districts of the Madras
Presidency generally
and that the present
state of trade causes
much anxiety