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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>2240</u>	Press.
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Dated	<u>19.4.1877</u>	<u>197</u>

✓
Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Confidential

From the Collector of Madras, to the Ag
Chief Secretary to Government, dated 29th
March 1847, No 1058.

With reference to the Confidential
Memorandum, Financial Dept, No 286, dated
7 February, I have the honor to report that the
position of the ryots in regard to seed grains
will depend very much upon whether the early
rains are copious in April and May, or not.
If these rains fail or are deficient, matters will
be very serious indeed.

2. I shall state the probable position
of the ryots in each part of the District, if the
cultivation season, commencing next month,
opens favorably.

3. In the Mieragunah Zemindary,
even the poorer ryots have still some supply
of grain reserved for seed, and when rain falls,
credit will revive, and grain hoarded by the
richer ryots will be disposed of. There may be
some deficiency in the dry grains, but ragi
is being pretty extensively cultivated now
under

under wells, and in some part of the estate, a crop, though small, was obtained of ragi, Cumbu and Tarago. As soon as rain falls, it is probable that ragi will be extensively sown, as it requires much less water than paddy, and only $\frac{1}{30}$ instead of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crop is payable to the zemindari under the Varam system. Rice is being imported and there will be enough of that for those ryots who have money or credit.

4 - In Ramnad, Mr. Lee Warner thinks that the position of the poorer ryots, with regard to seed, will be as bad as it can be. South Ramnad is nearly depopulated, but I have always believed that the people there, being accustomed to famines all their lives, know how to take care of themselves. One proof of this is to be found in the scorn with which they still treat our relief works, though remuneration work being ready, the highest scale of wages is payable. It is possible even in this year that those immigrants who hold lands, will re-appear when rain falls, not entirely destitute of money and credit. At the same time this is the part of the District where advances of seed grain are most likely to be necessary.

5 - In Madurai and Tirumangalam Talooks, there

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there may be difficulty regarding dry grains but not to such an extent as to call for Govt. aid unless the early rains fail. In Arcot, the state of affairs is rather better. In the Central, Western & Southern parts of the Taluk, ragi and Cholam are being cultivated under wells, and all but the poorer ryots are certainly in possession of grain at present. In Periakulam, there will be no want of seed for Kumbad lands, but the poorer ryots will find it very difficult to obtain seed for their dry lands.

6. In the last division, no serious deficiency of seed is anticipated in the Shindigudi Taluk but in the north & west of Palni Taluk, where the failure of crops was total, those ryots who have no wells, have saved nothing for seed and will find considerable difficulty in supplying themselves when the time comes for sowing.

The villages which are most off are twenty-five in number, and the area in them cultivated with dry grains last year, was as follows.

Cholam	9430	Acre
Cumbu	6222	"
Ragi	2360	"
Samai	8391	"
Grain	15,726	"
	<u>42,129</u>	"

For

For these villages, between three and four
hundred tons of seed grain, will be necessary

Copy forwarded to the
Revenue Department.

J. H. C. M.
Secretary.

To
The Revenue Department

Revenue 1877 Sept^r

N^o 2183

From

The Off^r. Chief Sec^y.

Sec^y Gen^l

Dated

Rec^d 18

} April

Forwarding copy
of letter from the Coll^r.
of Madras on the
subject of seed grains.

No 2240.

Comm^d to the
Board of Revenue

19 April 77.

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1. To the Sec^y of Revenue 20-4-77