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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No. 884 A

Press / Mis.

(521A – 522)

Dated 1.3.1877 197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st March 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 52[illegible] Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated [illegible] February 1877, No. 51[illegible]

Read the following :—

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 4th January 1877, No. 3, submitting Acting Sub-Collector's report on the distress in the Dindigul Taluq.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 4th January 1877, No. [illegible], submitting report of Acting Sub-Collector on the distress in the Palni Taluq.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 4th January 1877, No. 4, submitting Acting General Duty Deputy Collector's report on the distress in Madura and Tirumangalam Taluqs.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 4th January 1877, No. [illegible], submitting statements giving all the information required by the Government of India telegram.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 5th January 1877, No. [illegible], submitting Temporary Deputy Collector's report on distress in the Melur Taluq.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 6th January 1877, No. [illegible], submitting extract from the Head Assistant Collector on the condition of his division.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 6th January 1877, No. 6, submitting report on the distress in the district.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 9th January 1877, No. [illegible], forwarding two statements connected with distress.

The Board have already forwarded to Government the detailed reports on the taluqs of the Madura District which were called for by the Government of India. They now submit three statements giving statistics of area, revenue, cultivation, course of prices, and expenditure on relief works, together with a short account of the condition of the distressed taluqs.

2. The district contains an area of 8,700 square miles and a population of two and a quarter millions. A large portion of the district (3,900 square miles) with a population of somewhat less than a million consists of the Zemindaris of Ramnad and Shivaganga, the first of which is administered by the Court of *Wards on behalf of the Zemindar who is a minor.* The rest is divided into six Government Taluqs. The total revenue is a little over thirty-six lakhs of Rupees, of which Rupees fourteen lakhs are derived from permanently-settled estates and shotriem villages, and the remainder from ryotwari lands.

3. The season of 1875-76 was unfavorable, and the poorer classes were therefore at the commencement of 1876-77 not prepared to meet a famine, though their condition was not such as to call for Government interference. Had the north-east monsoon been copious, the district would have been safe. The cultivation figures show how largely it depends upon the north-east monsoon rain for maturing the crops sown in July, August, and September, and for the cultivation of the great

[illegible] of the dry lands. [illegible] month of October [illegible]menced pro[illegible] [illegible] with a fall of rain of nearly three inches, but since then there has been [illegible] absence of rain, with the exception of a few light showers here and [illegible] of no consequence. By 15th November the state of the district became critical. The cultivation had not been commenced in several localities, and the crops were everywhere withering. The Collector then reported that the fields were dried up in [illegible] and parts of Melur and Dindigul, and that a yield could be expected only in portions of the last-named two taluqs if rain soon fell. The state of Tirumungalum and Periacolam Taluqs was not better, and that of [illegible] was much worse. The dry crops had by that time to a great extent been lost. The wet crops might have been saved if rain had fallen at least at the end of November, but none came. In the south-west of the Ramnad Zemindari and the north of the Pulni and Dindigul Taluqs especially there has been almost total failure of crops, and consequently the pressure is most severe at present in these places. In the other portions of the district there is great distress caused by high prices, scarcity of grain in village markets, and want of employment for the laboring classes; and greater intensity is expected.

(a) *Rainfall, cultivation, and crops.*—The average rainfall of the district during the last three years was 28·7 inches, of which 12·6 inches fell during the south-west monsoon between the months of April and September and 15 inches during the north-east monsoon between October and December.

The rainfall during the south-west monsoon averaged only 10·7 in the current year, but the fall was capricious, and while some taluqs got the full average, others fell far short, and the north-east monsoon has been almost a complete failure, being a little over 6 inches against an average of 15. The deficiency under both monsoons has been greatest in the Pulni and Tirumungalum Taluqs.

No statistics of cultivation are available for the Zemindaris. The average extent of cultivation during last five years in the Government Taluqs is about 778,000 acres, of which 137,300 acres, or about 18 per cent., is wet, and the remainder dry. The distribution between the two monsoons is as follows:—

Period.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
April to September, south-west monsoon	300,700	[illegible],200	351,900
October to December, north-east do.	312,100	78,200	390,300
January to March	27,900	[illegible]	35,800
Total ...	640,700	137,3[illegible]	778,000

The cultivation under the two monsoons during the current year has been—

Period.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
April to September, south-west monsoon	30[illegible]	42,010	344,683
October to December, north-east do	271,[illegible]	56,070	327,713
Total ...	574,[illegible]6	98,080	672,396

[illegible] of cultivation, however, cannot be [illegible] as a guide of [illegible] of the season. In the south-west monsoon there was rain in some of the [illegible], Tirumungalum and Madura during the sowing season which stimulated dry cultivation, so much so that the total extent [illegible] which [illegible] months of April and September is higher than the average, [illegible] yield any crop is far below the average. The dry cultivation under the north-east monsoon and the wet cultivation under both the monsoons show a large decrease. The outturn of crops estimated by the local officers varies from 9 to 2 Annas for irrigated and 8 to 1½ Annas for unirrigated [illegible]. The rainfall during the south-west monsoon in parts of the Dindigul Taluq was much below the average, and, as three-fifths of the wet cultivation was undertaken during the earlier months, a 9-anna crop appears to have been obtained. The rain, however, as registered at Dindigul, which is in the neighbourhood of the Karandamalai and Sirumalai Hills, [illegible] the Sub-Collector [illegible] much less in the northern and [illegible] distant part of the taluq. In the Pulni Taluq two-thirds of the wet [illegible] place during the north-east monsoon, and as it was almost a total failure, rainfall being one-third of the average, the estimate of 5 Annas [illegible] taluq appears a high one. The estimates for wet crops in the other taluqs seem carefully made. As regards the dry crops which constitute the bulk of the cultivation in this district, the Board would be inclined to think that an estimated outturn of 2¼ Annas in the Dindigul Taluq too low, considering that rather more than half the dry cultivation is undertaken during the earlier months, and that the south-west monsoon was not much below the average, but the fact above noted [illegible] distribution of the fall explains the estimate which the Sub-Collector has made in his careful report. [illegible] to be remembered, however, that in many situations two crops are obtained from dry lands, and in such places throughout the district the sufficient, o[illegible] sufficient, early rains must have given a first crop. The estimate [illegible] of 5 Annas for the Melur Taluq appears to the Board to be low. [illegible] received more than the usual quantity of rain during the south-west monsoon, and the statistics of cultivation show that 67·2 per cent. of the dry cultivation is undertaken between the months of April and September. The Collector has been asked to report whether the estimate [illegible] season is now too far advanced for any further dry cultivation. There may be some [illegible] cultivation for a third crop under wells, if rain [illegible] to replenish them; but the extent cannot be great.

Taluqs.	Outturn of Crops.	
	Irrigated.	Unirrigated.
	AS.	AS.
Dindigul ...	9	2¼
Pulni ...	5	1½ to 3
Periacolum ...	6	3
Tirumungalum	4	4
Madura... ...	1 to 8	2 to 8
Melur	3	5
Ramnad ...	[illegible]	3

(b) *Remissions.*—The total remissions for the district are estimated at Rupees 10,17,000. [illegible] amount appears too high. Owners of dry lands which have yielded any crop should not get remission, and the Board [illegible] whether five lakhs will not suffice. The Zemindaries of Shivagunga and the [illegible] of Wards on [illegible] Sunnad have requested permission, in consideration of the adverse nature of the season, to postpone the payment of the peishcush due on the Zemindaries till next season.

(e) [illegible] Cattle, &c.—There does not appear to have been any mortality among cattle and agricultural stock as yet except to a small extent in the Pulni Taluq. The rains at intervals and especially slight showers in December have kept up the pasture, and in most taluqs the cattle are driven to the hills where they graze on the slopes. The Government Forest reserves have also been thrown open and [illegible] crops furnish to some extent a supply of fodder. It is believed that there is [illegible] stored for about two months more, but, if the drought should continue longer, there must be a great mortality. In Pulni 1,000 deaths among cattle and 2,500 among sheep are reported. Large numbers of cattle are sent to the Pulni and the Anamalai Hills. The Sub-Collector has proposed a scheme for [illegible] cattle about Amravati and Shanmuganadi Rivers and forming fodder depots, but the scheme has not appeared practicable. Endeavours are being made to demonstrate to the ryots the possibility of keeping the cattle alive on prickly-pear.

(d) [illegible].—The River Vigai, the Amravati skirting the western [illegible] of the Pulni [illegible] jungle streams, tanks and wells are the usual sources of water-supply in the district. The tanks and rivers are dry, but there is no scarcity of water in wells at present, and failure of supply is not apprehended hereafter [illegible] of the Madura Taluq. Measures have been taken for digging new [illegible] localities where water [illegible] signs of failing.

(e) [illegible].—The prices of cholum, cumboo, and raggy, the principal dry grains of the district, on 7th October 1876, as compared with the average prices of previous years are as follow :—

Taluqs.	Cholum.		Cumboo.		Raggy.	
	On 7th October 1876.	Average Price in October of four previous years.	On 7th October 1876.	Average Price in October of four previous years.	On 7th October 1876.	Average Price in October of four previous years.
Dindigul	21·6	28·3	24·1	31·4	26·2	33·2
Pulni	20	22·2	22·1	24·5	23·3	25·8
Periacolum	22	27·1	22·5	27·9	25·7	30·9
Tirumungalum... ...	[illegible]	35·2	22·1	35·7	[illegible]	30·6
Madura	[illegible]	[illegible]	24·6	39·6	27·9	31·6
Melur	22·6	38·2	36·0	42·2	28·5	35·9
Average ...	[illegible]	28·7	25·6	30·5	[illegible]	31·3

Owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon the prices in the beginning of the month of October were very high compared with the usual prices; and, when the north-east monsoon showed also signs of failing about the 3rd week in October, the rise was sudden and heavy. From this point till the second week in November

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prices continued to rise steadily when there was another [illegible] The quotations on 23rd December were as follow :—

Taluqs.	Cholum.		Cumboo.		Raggy.	
	23rd Dec. 1876.	Average of previous years in December.	23rd Dec. 1876.	Average of previous years in December.	23rd Dec. 1876.	Average of previous years in December.
Dindigul	7·8	28·1	10·4	30·7	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pulni	7·7	24·5	10·3	27·1	[illegible]	30·1
Periacolum	11·3	30·4	10·3	[illegible]	[illegible]	31·6
Tirumungalum... ...	16·2	[illegible]	8·8	27·0	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madura	8·1	26·3	9·7	31·0	9·7	[illegible]
Melur	16·5	32·8	10·5	[illegible]	[illegible]	36·1
Average ...	11·3	31·2	10·0	[illegible]	[illegible]	33·0

The quotations for second-sort rice on 7th October and 23rd D[illegible] were as shown below :—

Taluqs.	7th October 1876.	Average Price of four previous years in the month of October.	23rd Dec. 1876.	[illegible] Price of four [illegible]
Dindigul	11·0	13·5	5·9	[illegible]
Pulni	13·1	13·5	7·2	[illegible]
Periacolum	12·3	14·0	6·8	[illegible]
Tirumungalum	11·8	13·1	5·6	[illegible]
Madura	12·3	13·6	7·4	[illegible]
Melur	12·0	15·9	[illegible]	[illegible]

(f) Stock of Grain.—The local officers seem all agreed that the stocks of grain in the district are low. A few of the ryots have grain sufficient for their own use for about six months, but the majority have none. As the last season was not a good one, and the high prices which obtained in September and October induced the ryots to part with their grain, it is of course difficult to form even an approximate estimate of the quantity. The railway runs through or near almost every Government Taluq, and, except in the seaboard tracts, the roads are good, so that there are great facilities for the transport of grain. The Dindigul Taluq draws its supplies from Madura, Tanjore, and Tinnevelly. Grain may also be got from Tuticorin or Tondi on the Eastern Coast [illegible] Madras Railway. The Pulni Taluq derives [illegible] Dindigul and Periacolum Taluqs and the irrigated villages under the Amravati [illegible] last two sources will probably soon cease, and Pulni will have to depend [illegible] Dindigul market [illegible] but grain may also be brought [illegible] and other stations on the Madras Railway. The South Indian [illegible] through the taluqs of Dindigul, Tirumungalum, and Madura, and grain can be brought to these places from Madras, Tanjore, or Tuticorin. Melur gets its supplies from the Madura, Tanjore, and Trichinopoly Districts. In Ram

The figures fluctuate greatly, but the decrease on the 6th and 13th January are probably due to the Pongal feast and to strictness as regards admission of applicants. It is also reported that one of the relief-houses and two of the [illegible] works had to be closed owing to the prevalence of cholera.

(*b*) *Probable number of persons on relief-works, &c., hereafter.*—The number of persons likely to be on relief-works on the 1st March in the taluqs of Tirumangalam, Melur, Dindigul, and Pulni is estimated at 33,000. No estimates have been furnished for the other taluqs. The estimates are certainly not excessive. It is yet too early to form a reliable estimate of numbers who may require relief on 1st May or 1st July.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 52-B. ORDER THEREON, 1st March 1877, No. 884-A.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) [illegible] GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Public Works Department.

[illegible] L. F. Zephir.

Govt. of (1877) [illegible]

REVENUE.

[illegible] BOARD OF [illegible]

[illegible] Department.

[illegible]edings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th F[illegible]

Read letter from the Collector of Madura, dated [illegible] January 1877, [illegible] statement containing information on all points specified in G[illegible] telegram; letter [illegible] lector, dated 4th January, 1877, No. 2, submitting Acting [illegible] Collector's report on distress in Palni Taluq; also letter dated 4th January, No. 3, submitting Sub-Collector's letter on distress in certain other taluqs; letter dated 4th January 1877, submitting General Deputy Collector's letter reporting on distress in Madura and Tirumangalam Taluqs; letter dated [illegible] January, No. 5, submitting Temporary Deputy Collector's report on distress in Melur [illegible]; letter dated 6th January, No. 6, submitting information called for with [illegible] Taluq; letter dated 6th January, 1877, No. 8, submitting [illegible] Acting Head Assistant Collector's letter on the condition of his division. Read also [illegible] from the Acting Sub-Collector, dated 9th January, 1877, No. 23, forwarding two statements in reply to call from Government of India.

The Board have already forwarded to Government the detailed reports on the Taluqs of the Madura District which were called for by the Government of India. They now submit three statements giving statistics of area, revenue, cultivation, course of prices and expenditure on [illegible] works together with a short account of the condition of the distressed Taluqs.

2. The district contains an area of 8,790 square miles and a population of [illegible] millions. A large portion of the district (3,009 square miles) with a population of somewhat less than a million consists of the Zemindaries of Ramnad and Shivagunga, the first of which is administered by the Court of Wards on behalf of the Zemindar, who is a minor. The rest is divided into 6 Government Taluqs. The total revenue is a little over 36 lakhs of Rupees, of which Rs. 14 lakhs are derived from Permanently Settled Estates and Shrotriem villages and the remainder from Ryotwari lands.

3. The season of 1875-76 was unfavourable, and the [illegible] classes were, therefore, at the commencement of 1876-77, not prepared to [illegible] though their condition was not such as to call for Government interference. Had the north-east monsoon been copious, the district would have been safe. The cultivation figures shew how largely it depends upon the north-east monsoon rains for maturing the crops sown in July, August and September and for the cultivation of the great bulk of the dry lands. The month [illegible] commenced propitiously with a fall of rain of nearly three inches [illegible] but since then there has been an [illegible] failure of rain with the exception of a few light showers here and there of no consequence. By 15th November the state of the district became [illegible] cultivation had not been commenced in several [illegible] and the crops were everywhere withering. The Collector then reported that the [illegible] in Madura and parts of Melur and Dindigul and that a yield [illegible] expected only in parts of the last named two taluqs if rain soon fell. The [illegible] of [illegible]

7. Periyakulam taluq was not better[illegible] crops had by that time, to a great extent been lost a[illegible] [illegible] rain had fallen at [illegible] the end of November [illegible] the [illegible] the distressed [illegible] North of the [illegible] and [illegible] taluq especially, there has been almost total failure of crops [illegible] pressure is most [illegible] present in these [illegible] the [illegible] is great distress caused by [illegible] villages [illegible] want of employment for the labouring classes and [illegible] tensity [illegible]

(a) [illegible] cultivation, dry crops.—The average rainfall of the district during last 3 years was 28·7 inches, of which 12·8 inches fell during the S. W. [illegible] the months of April and September, and 15 inches during the [illegible] monsoon between October and December.

The rainfall during the S. W. monsoon averaged only 1[illegible]7 inches in the current year but the fall was capricious; and while some taluqs got the full average, others fell far short and the N. E. monsoon has been almost a complete failure, being a little over 8 inches against an average of 15. The deficiency under both monsoons has been greatest in the Palni and Tirumangalam taluqs.

No statistics of cultivation are available for the Zemindaries. The average extent of cultivation during last 5 years in the Government taluqs is about 778,000 acres, [illegible] acres or about 18 per cent. is wet and the remainder dry. The distribution [illegible] the two monsoons is as follows :—

Period.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
April to September, S. W. monsoon...	300,700	51,200	[illegible]
October to December, N. E.	312,100	78,200	390,300
January to March	27,900	7,900	35,800
Total.........	640,700	137,[illegible]	778,000

The cultivation under the 2 monsoons during the current year has been,

Period.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
[illegible] September, S. W. monsoon...	302,673	[illegible]2,010	344,683
October to December, N. E.	271,643	[illegible]6,070	327,713
Total.........	574,316	98,080	672,396

The extent of cultivation, however, cannot be depended upon as a guage of the [illegible] the season. In the S. W. monsoon there was rain in some of the taluqs, [illegible] Tirumangalam and Madura, during the sowing season which stimulated dry cultivation [illegible] the total extent cultivated between the months of April and September [illegible] higher than the average, but the extent which yielded any crop is far [illegible] the average. The dry cultivation under the N. E. monsoon and [illegible] cultivation under both the monsoons, shews a large decrease.

The [illegible] in the [illegible] Collector [illegible] annas [illegible] during the [illegible] average [illegible] of the [illegible] is under [illegible] the [illegible] 9-anna crop [illegible]

The rain, however, in [illegible] which [illegible] in the [illegible] of the Dindigul [illegible] and [illegible] Sub-Collector, stating that the [illegible] lands are distressed parts of the Taluq. In the Palni Taluq [illegible] cultivation takes place during the N. E. monsoon, and as it has almost [illegible] rainfall being only a third of the average [illegible] taluq [illegible]. The estimates of [illegible] crops [illegible] carefully made. As regards the dry crops [illegible] the [illegible] tion in this district, the Board would be inclined [illegible] that an estimated out-turn of 2½ annas in the Dindigul Taluq too [illegible] considering that rather more than half the dry cultivation is undertaken during the [illegible] months and that the S. W. monsoon was not much below the average, but the [illegible] distribution of the fall, explains the estimate which the Sub-Collector [illegible] his careful report. It is to be remembered, however, that in many situations crops are obtained from dry lands and in such places throughout the [illegible] sufficient or nearly sufficient, early rains [illegible]. The estimate for dry crops of 5 annas for the Melur Taluq [illegible] September [illegible] to be low. This taluq received more than the usual quantity [illegible] during the S. W. monsoon, and the statistics of cultivation shew that [illegible] per cent. of the dry cultivation is undertaken between the months of April and September. The Collector has been asked to report whether the estimate is correct. The season is [illegible] far advanced for any further dry cultivation. There may be some wet cultivation for a third crop under wells, if rain falls soon to replenish them, but the extent cannot be great.

(b) *Remissions.*—The total remissions for the district are estimated at R[illegible] 10,[illegible]7,000, but the amount appears too high. Owners of [illegible] lands which have yielded any crop should *not get* remission; and the Board doubt [illegible] will not suffice. The Zemindari of Shivagunga and the Court of Wards on behalf of the Zemindar of Ramnad have requested permission, in consideration of the adverse nature of the season, to postpone the payment of the Peishcush [illegible] the Zemindaries till next season.

(c). *Mortality of Cattle, &c.*—There does not appear to [illegible] among cattle and agricultural stock [illegible] to a small extent [illegible] Taluq. The rains at intervals and especially the [illegible] showers in December [illegible] kept up the pasture, and in most [illegible] they graze on the slopes. The Government [illegible] open and withered crops furnish to some [illegible] that there is fodder stored for about two months more, but [illegible] continue longer, there must be a great mortality. In [illegible]

[illegible] among sheep are reported. [illegible] the Pulni and the Annamalay Hills. The Sub-Collector [illegible] grazing cattle about Amravati and Shanmuganadi rivers [illegible] proposal [illegible] scheme has not appeared practicable. [illegible] and Dindigul [illegible] to the ryots the possibility of keeping cattle [illegible]

(d). *Water-supply.*—[illegible] or Vigay, the Amravati [illegible] in the [illegible] *Pulni taluq, jungle streams, tanks and wells* [illegible] usual [illegible] *in the district.* [illegible] rivers are dry [illegible] there is [illegible] wells at present, and failure of supply is not apprehended [illegible] except in parts of the Madura Taluq. Measures have been taken for [illegible] wells in the [illegible] where water shows signs of failing.

(e). *Prices.*—The prices of cholum, cumbu and [illegible] the district, on 7th October 1876, as compared with the average prices of previous years, are as follow:—

Taluq.	Cholum. On 7th October 1876.	Cholum. Average price in October of 4 previous years.	Cumbu. On 7th October 1876.	Cumbu. Average price in October of 4 previous years.	Ragi. On 7th October 1876.	Ragi. Average price in October of 4 previous years.
Dindigul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pulni	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Periacolam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tirumangalam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madura	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Melur	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Average	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Owing to the failure of the south-west monsoon the prices in the beginning of the month [illegible] very high compared with the usual prices, and when the north-east monsoon shewed also signs of failing about the third week in October, the rise [illegible]. From this point till the second week in November, prices [illegible] rise steadily when there was another sudden rise. The prices current on 23rd December were as follows:—

Taluq.	Cholum. 23rd December 1876.	Cholum. Average of previous years in December.	Cumbu. 23rd December 1876.	Cumbu. Average of previous years in December.	Ragi. 23rd December 1876.	Ragi. Average of previous years in December.
Dindigul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pulni	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Periacolam	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

The quotations for [illegible] on 7th October and 23rd December 1876 were as shown below:—

[illegible]	7th [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dindigul	11·0	13·5	5·9	[illegible]
Pulni	12·1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Periacolam	12·3	14·0	[illegible]	14·4
Tirumangalam	11·8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madura	12·3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Melur	12·0	[illegible]	6·0	[illegible]

(f). *Stock of Grain.*—The local officers seem all agreed that the stocks of grain in the district are low. A few of the [illegible] own use for about 6 months, but the majority [illegible] not a good one, and the high prices which obtained in September [illegible] induced the ryots to part with their grain, it is, of course [illegible] to form even an approximate estimate of the quantity. The Railway [illegible] through [illegible] Government Taluq, and except in the [illegible] roads are good, so that there are great facilities for the transport of grain. The Dindigul Taluq draws its supplies from Madura, Tanjore and Tinnevelly. Grain may [illegible] got from Tuticorin or Tondi on the eastern coast [illegible] on the Madras Railway. The Pulni Taluq derives its supplies [illegible] colam Taluq and the irrigated villages under the Ambravati [illegible]. These sources of supply must soon cease and Pulni will have to [illegible] market principally; but grain may also be brought [illegible] stations on the Madras Railway. The South Indian Railway [illegible] Taluqs of Dindigul, Tirumangalam and Madura, and grain can be brought to these places from Madras, Tanjore or Tuticorin. Melur gets its supplies from [illegible] Madura [illegible] Trichinopoly Districts. In Ramnad, foreign grain [illegible] arriving through the ports of Devipatam, Keelukarai and [illegible] the state of things in Shivaganga. It [illegible] are some rich merchants in the district, [illegible] enterprise will probably keep at least the larger markets sufficiently [illegible]. Bengal rice has been recently imported via Negapatam and Tuticorin, [illegible] slight fall in prices. Owing to a deficiency of local stocks, [illegible] grain [illegible] the remote [illegible] markets is apprehended and indications [illegible]

(e) *Population.*—The population of the district [illegible] according to caste is as follows:—

Hindus—	
Brahmins	[illegible]
Kshatriyas	[illegible]41
Chetties	[illegible],996
Other classes	[illegible],416
	21,38,216
Mahomedans	122,8[illegible]
Europeans and Eurasians	[illegible]
Other	[illegible]
	22,66,[illegible]

The male adult population classified with reference to professions is as shown below:—

Learned professions, Government and Military service	14,544
Domestic service	19,916
Commercial	38,310
Agricultural	462,867
Industrial	52,979
Daily labor	125,191
Property	512
Non-productive and others	3,792
	7,18,11[illegible]

The population is mostly of low caste and poor. A very large portion about ⅔ is composed of Agriculturists and Agricultural laborers. The district contains also a considerable number of persons of the Kallar (robber) caste, especially in the [illegible] Tirumangalam taluqs and the Ramnad and Shivaganga Zemindaries. The Zemindar of Shivaganga appears to be anxious to benefit the estate and to provide employment to the labouring classes by carrying out the repair of long neglected irrigation works and, to secure the necessary funds, has requested permission to postpone the payment of Peishkash. A similar application has been made also by the Court of Wards on behalf of the Zemindar of Ramnad, in which estate considerable sums are being expended by the Court in repair of irrigation works. There are 3 more Zemindaries of considerable size and importance under the management of the Court of Wards in this district, and in these, measures are being taken to alleviate distress with due regard however to the means at their disposal and the interests of the proprietors on whose behalf the estates are administered. But from none of the other Zemindaries can any material assistance to their distressed ryots be looked for. They are few in number and either in involved circumstances themselves or on bad terms with their tenants.

(h) *Emigration.*—[illegible] already contributed to emigration [illegible]. There is always demand for labor in the Coffee estates [illegible] and [illegible] population of Madura are quite accustomed to leaving their [illegible] favourable seasons. The exact extent of emigration during the present season [illegible] known, but there seems to be [illegible] than those of the previous years. It is reported that the number of persons who left for Ceylon at Pamben [illegible] November alone was [illegible],000 or 4 times the usual number; and it is known that large numbers go to [illegible] and there emigrate. Great numbers, however, have returned to their homes [illegible] demand for labor in Ceylon is more than met by the [illegible] year.

(i) *Relief Works.*—Rs. 93,748 have been sanctioned for relief works, but the actual appropriation on account of special works appears from the last returns submitted by the Collector to amount to Rs. [illegible]4,070. This is exclusive of allotments made for Local Fund Works which amount to [illegible],000 chiefly for the improvement of water-supply. Relief works have been started in Palni and Tirumangalam Taluqs. In Dindigul, they have been found necessary hitherto only to a small extent, the ordinary coolies having had work about their villages in collecting fodder for their cattle and reaping such harvest as there was. The pressure on relief works was expected to arise about the end of January. In Madura taluq the necessary preliminaries for starting works have been arranged and they have been [illegible] being commenced. For the other taluqs, works have been selected and [illegible] taken up as soon as necessity arises. They consist chiefly of repairs of [illegible] works, village improvements and the repair of village roads and Railway [illegible]. The expenditure on works up to 20th January was Rs. [illegible]. A large number of irrigation works are being repaired in the estates under the Court of Wards.

(j) *Gratuitous Relief.*—Houses for the distribution of gratuitous relief have been opened in each of the two taluqs of Palni and Dindigul, where the distress is most severely felt, and General Orders have been issued to Village Munsiffs to see that no deaths by starvation occur within their villages. The expenditure up to 20th January on gratuitous relief is Rs. 1,078. The number of [illegible] relief works on 20th January was 6,[illegible], and those receiving [illegible]. The following table shows the number of men, women and children [illegible] and those fed gratuitously on 16th, 23rd, 30th December, and [illegible] January.

Dates.	Relief Works.		
	Men.	Women.	[illegible]
16th December	838	1,26[illegible]	[illegible]
23rd "	1,438	2,3[illegible]	[illegible]
30th "	2,872	3,4[illegible]	[illegible]
6th January	3,729	[illegible]	[illegible]
13th "	1,766	[illegible]	[illegible]
20th "	2,124	[illegible]	[illegible]
27th "	2,175	[illegible]	[illegible]

The figures fluctuate greatly, but [illegible] the 6th and 13th January [illegible] probably due to the Pongal feast and to [illegible] as regards admission of applicants. It was also reported that one of the [illegible] houses and two of the relief works had to be closed owing to the prevalence of cholera.

(k). *Probable number of persons on relief works, &c., hereafter.*—The number of persons likely to be on relief works on the 1st March in the Taluqs of Tirumangalam, Melur, Dindigul and Palni is estimated at 45,000. No estimates have been furnished for the other taluqs. The estimates are certainly not excessive. It is yet too early to form a reliable estimate of numbers who may require relief on 1st May or 1st July.

(True Extract).

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To
The Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with 8 original letters and their enclosures *to be returned*, and 3 statements.

MADURA

Taluqs.	Grants of Funds sanctioned for relief works up to 6th January, 1877.	Probable cost of works or sum sanctioned for their execution.	Outlay since the commencement of distress.		Number of coolies employed on 13th January 1877.				Number of persons on receipt of gratuitous relief on 13th January 1877.				Number of persons likely to be employed on relief works on			Number of persons likely to be gratuitously fed on		
			On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	1st March 1877.	1st May	1st July	1st Mar. 1877.	1st May 1877.	1st July 1877.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.														
Madura		25,048	124		97	101	29	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	Not given			Not given		
Tirumangalam		[illegible]	1,704		682	190	96	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	10,000	15,000	[illegible]		
Melur		5,264	1,239		131	96	42	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	20,000	20,000	Not given		
Dindigul		11,575	919	[illegible]	40	51	5	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	12,000	2,500	[illegible]	
Palni		55,166	7,766	[illegible]	2,527	1,456	[illegible]	[illegible]	53	77	711	841	Not given		10,000	[illegible]		2,500
Ramnad		[illegible]	2,039			247	[illegible]		...	...	...	...						
Total...	[illegible]	111,5[illegible]	14,7[illegible]	678	3,729	2,171	294	6,424	53	77	711	841						

[illegible] Office,
Madras, [illegible] January, 1877.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

District.	Name of the Taluq.	Area—sq. miles.	Population.	Permanently settled and Shrotriem land.	Ryotwar & Miscellaneous.	Total.	Period.	Rough proportion of early and late cultivation: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	Average of net cultivation during last 5 years: April to September: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	October to December: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	January to March: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	Total: Wet.	Dry.	Total.
				RS.	RS.	RS.																
Madura.	Dindigul	1091	324,368	64,754	4,61,954	5,26,708	Apr. to Sep. Oct. to Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2,364	[illegible]	[illegible]	4,800	51,900	60,400	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Palni	994	184,85[illegible]	49,798	3,27,114	3,76,912	Apr. to Sep. Oct. to Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4,000	22,600	[illegible]	7,000	63,000	70,000	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Periacolum	1200	217,418	[illegible]	3,48,705	3,86,953	Apr. to Sep. Oct. to Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	11,900	25,300	[illegible]	7,200	64,700	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Terumangalam	619	241,215	[illegible]	3,88,258	4,31,488	Apr. to Sep. Oct. to Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4,100	74,300	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Madura	416	231,418	21,707	4,14,154	4,35,861	Apr. to Sep. Oct. to Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12,800	37,300	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Melur	582	128,[illegible]	1,808	2,95,361	2,97,169	Apr. to Sep. Oct. to Mar.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	6,500	46,000	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Sivaganga Zemy	1537	434,[illegible]	444,751		4,44,751																
	Ramnad do.	2351	504,131	716,892		7,16,892																
	Total.	8790	22,66,615	13,80,188	22,38,516	36,16,734																

(Continued.)

District.	Name of the Taluq.	Actual cultivation of current year: April to September: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	October to December: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	Total: Wet.	Dry.	Total.	Average rainfall during the last 3 years: April to Sep.	Oct. to Dec.	Jan. to March.	Total.	Rainfall of current year: April to Sep.	Oct. to Dec.	Total.	An estimate of the amount (if any) of the crop saved calculated in annas, on the assumption of an average yield being represented by 12 annas; also whether there is any prospect of further sowings: Irrigated.	Unirrigated.	Remissions.		
Madura.	Dindigul	5,655	93,118	98,773	[illegible]	72,907	78,635	10,483	166,925	177,408	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12·4	4·7	17·1	9 annas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	164,228
	Palni	3,769	[illegible]	19,003	3,887	50,976	54,843	7,633	66,213	73,846	[illegible]	[illegible]	0·6	24·6	5·7	3·7	9·4	5 annas	[illegible]	35,663	90,042	[illegible]
	Periacolum	9,115	26,854	35,969	6,631	51,854	58,485	15,746	78,708	[illegible]	10·4	[illegible]	2·3	27·5	7·1	6·3	13·4	6 annas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Terumangalam	4,215	82,310	86,525	7,119	[illegible]	87,964	11,334	163,155	[illegible]	[illegible]	16·8	1·0	34·6	8·5	4·5	13·0	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Madura	7,957	36,961	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	25,258	[illegible]	46,492	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	13·8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Melur	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	42,51[illegible]	[illegible]	72,6[illegible]	[illegible]	19·0	15·9	[illegible]	35·5	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	327,715	[illegible]	574,816	[illegible]												
	Sivaganga										8·2	12·6	[illegible]	22·0	[illegible]	4·7	18·6	Not known.				
	Ramnad										6·3	12·6	2·2	21·	5·8	[illegible]	14·9	3 annas	3 annas			
											[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8·2	18·[illegible]					

Revenue Board, [illegible]
Madras, [illegible]
9th February [illegible]

(Signed) E. S[illegible]
Acting S[illegible]

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F. No. 383.

Revenue {1877} Department.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 9th }
Desp. 9th } February, 1877.
Recd. 10th }

Enclosures 11.

Send copy to the [illegible]
the [illegible]
[illegible]

Submitting Board's review of the detail Famine Reports of the Madura District.

Lawrence Asylum Press—1877.

A 884 R
Recorded
J.A.J
1 March 1877

Revenue Deptt.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 9 February 1877

Read letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 4th Jan: 1877, no. 1, forwarding statements containing information on all points specified in G. I. telegram; letter from Collector of 4th Jan: 1877 no. 2 submitting Ag. Sub Collector's report on distress in Periar Taluq; also letter of 4th Jan: no. 3, submitting Ag. Sub Collector's letter on distress in certain other taluqs; letter of 4th Jan: 1877 submitting Genl. Dy Collr's letter reporting on distress in Madura & Tirumangalam Taluqs; & letter of 5th Jan: no: 5, submitting Temporary Dy Collector's report on distress in Melur Taluq; letter of 6th Jan: no. 6, submitting information called for with regard to [illegible] Taluq; letter dated 6th Jan: 1877 no: 8, submitting abstract from Ag. Head Asst. to Collr's letter on the condition of the [illegible]. Read also letter from the Ag. [illegible] Collector of 9th Jan: 1877, No. 23, forwarding Statements in reply to call from Govt of India

The Board have already forwarded to Government the detailed report on the Taluqs of the Madura District which were called for by the Government of India. They were submit 3 statements giving statistics of area, revenue, cultivation, course of prices & expenditure on relief works together with a short account of the condition of the distressed Taluqs.

2. The District contains an area of 8790 sq. miles & a population of 2¼ millions. A large portion of the District (3909 s. miles) with a population of somewhat less than a million consists of the Zemindaries of Ramnad & Shivaganga, the first of which is administered by the Court of Wards on behalf of the Zemindar, who is a minor. The rest is divided into 6 Govt. Taluqs. The [illegible] revenue is a little over 3½ lacs of Rupees of which Rs 1¼ lacs are derived from permanently settled estates & Inam villages & the remainder from Ryotwari land.

3. The season of 1875-76 was unfavorable & the poorer classes were, therefore, at the commencement of 1876-77 not prepared to meet a famine though their condition was not such as to call for Government interference. Had the N.E. monsoon been copious the district would have been safe. The cultivation figures show how largely it depends upon the N.E. monsoon rains for maturing the crops sown in July, August and September for the cultivation of

the great bulk of the dry land. The
middle of October commenced propi-
tiously enough with a fall of rain
of nearly 3 inches but since then
there has been an absolute failure
of rain with the exception of a few
light showers here & there, of no con-
sequence. By 15th November, the state
of the District became critical. The
cultivation had not been commenced
in several localities and the crops
were everywhere withering. The
Collector then reported that the fields
were dried up in Madura and parts
of Melur & Dindigul, and that a
yield could be expected only in
parts of the last named two taluqs

of rain ever fell. The state of Tirumangalam
& Periacolum taluqs and [illegible] of
Palni was much worse. The dry crops
had by that time to a great extent been
lost & the wet crops might have been
saved if rain had fallen at least at
the end of November, but none came.
In the S.W. of the Tirumangalam
& the North of the Palni & Dindigul
taluqs especially, there has been almost
total failure of crops & consequently
the pressure is most severe at present in
these places. In the other portions of
the District, there is great distress caused
by high prices, scarcity of grain in
the village markets & want of employment
for the labouring classes, & further in-
tensity is expected.

(2) Rainfall, cultivation and crops

The average rainfall of the District during the last 8 years was 28.7 inches of which 12.6 inches fell during the S. W. monsoon between the months of April & September & 15 in. during the N. E. monsoon between October & Dec.

The rainfall during the S. W. monsoon averaged only 10.7 in. in the [illegible] but the fall was capricious & while some taluqs got the full average others fell far short & the N. E. monsoon has been almost a complete failure being a little over 6 inches against an average of 15. The deficiency under both monsoons has been greatest [illegible] & Tirumangalam taluqs

No statistics of [illegible] are available for the Zemindaris [illegible] average extent of cultivation in the Government taluqs in past 5 years is about 778,000 acres of which 137,300 acres or about 18 p.c. is wet & the remainder dry. The distribution between the two monsoons is as follows:

Period	Dry	Wet	Total
April to September S. W. monsoon	300,700	51,200	351,900
October to December N. E.	312,100	78,200	390,300
January to March	27,900	7,900	35,800
Total	640,700	137,300	778,000

The cultivation under the 2 monsoons during the current year has been:

Period	Dry	Wet	Total
April to September S. W. monsoon	302,673	42,010	344,683
October to Dec: N. E.	271,[illegible]	56,070	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	98,080	[illegible]

The extent of cultivation, however, [illegible] be depended upon as a gauge of the

Effects of the season. In the S.W. monsoon there was rain in some of the Taluqs e.g. Tirumangalam [illegible] during the sowing season which stimulated dry cultivation so much so that the total [illegible] cultivated between the months of April & September is higher than the average but the [illegible] which yielded any crop is far below the average. The dry cultivation under the N. E. monsoon & the wet cultivation under both the monsoons shows a large decrease.

The [illegible] of crops estimated by the local officers varies from [illegible] for irri- [illegible] & 8½ as for un-irrigated lands. The rainfall

	Out-turn of crop	
Taluq	Irrigated	Unirrigated
Dindigul	7 as	2½ as
Palni	5	1½ to 3.
Periakulam	6	3
Tirumangalam	4	4
Madura	4 to 8	2 to 8.
Melur	3	5
Ramnad	2	3.

during the S.W. monsoon in parts of the Dindigul Taluq [illegible] below the average & as $\frac{3}{5}$ ths of the [illegible] -vation is undertaken during the earlier months, a general crop appears to have been obtained. The rain, however, as registered at Dindigul which is in the neighbourhood of the [illegible] & Sirumalai hills. The Sub Collector states that the fall was much less in the Northern [illegible] of the Taluq. In the Palni Taluq $\frac{2}{3}$rds of the wet cultivation takes place during the N. E. monsoon & [illegible] was [illegible] a total failure the rainfall being [illegible] third of the average, the [illegible] of [illegible] the taluq appears a high one. The estimates for wet crops in the other Taluqs seem carefully made. As regards the dry crops which constitute the bulk of the cultivation in this district, the Board would be inclined to think that an estimated out-turn of 2½ annas in the Dindigul Taluq is too low considering that rather more than half the dry cultivation is undertaken during the Earlier months & that the S.W. monsoon was not much below the average, but the facts above noted as to the dis-tribution of the fall explains the Estimate which the Sub Collector has

made in his careful report [illegible] remarked however [illegible] a very extensive [illegible] [illegible] from dry land & in [illegible] [illegible] Dindigul the district, the [illegible] or nearly sufficient; early rains must have given a fair crop. The [illegible] for dry crops of 5 annas for the Melur Taluq appears to the Board to be low: this taluq received more than the average [illegible] of rain during the [illegible] monsoon & the statistics of cultivation show that 67.2 per cent of the dry [illegible] undertaken in the [illegible] months of April & September. The [illegible] been asked to report whether the estimate is correct. The season is now too far advanced for any further dry cultivation. There may be some wet cultivation for a third crop under wells, if rain falls soon to replenish them; but the extent cannot be given.

(b) Remissions

The total remissions for the district are estimated at Rs 10,17,000, but the amount appears too high. Owners of dry lands which have yielded any crop should not get remission; and the Board doubt whether 5 lacs will not suffice. The [illegible] of Shivaganga & the Court of Wards on behalf of the Zemindar [illegible] have requested permission in consideration of the adverse state of the season to postpone the payment of the Peishcush due in the Zemindaries till next season.

Mortality of Stock

There does not appear to have been any mortality among cattle and agricultural stock as yet, except a small extent in the Palni Taluq. The rains at intervals & especially slight showers in December have kept up the pasture in most taluqs. The cattle are driven to the hills where they graze on the slopes. The Government forest areas have also been thrown open & [illegible] crops furnish [illegible] extent a supply of fodder. The Collector thinks there is fodder [illegible] for a[illegible]

2 months more but if the drought should continue longer there must be a great mortality. In Palni 1500 deaths among cattle & 2500 among sheep are reported. Large numbers of cattle are sent to the Palnis & the Annamalay Hills. The Sub Collector has proposed a scheme for moving cattle about the [illegible] & Shanmuganadi rivers & forming fodder depôts but the scheme has not appeared practicable. Experiments are being made to demonstrate to the ryots the possibility of keeping cattle alive on prickly pear.

(d) Water Supply

The river Vaigai, the Amaravati skirting the western portion of the Palni taluq, people at some tanks and wells are the usual sources of water supplying the District. The tanks & rivers are dry but there is no present scarcity of water in wells at present and failure of supply is not apprehended hereafter except in parts of the Madura taluq. Measures have been taken for digging new wells in those localities where water shows signs of failing.

(c) Prices

The prices of cholum, cumbu & ragi the principal food grains of the District, on the 7th October 1891 as compared with the average prices of previous years are as follows:

Taluq	Cholum		Cumbu		Ragi	
	[illegible]	Average price in October of previous years	[illegible]	Average price in October of previous years	[illegible]	Average price in October of previous years
Dindigul	21.6	28.3	26.1	31.4	[illegible]	[illegible]
Palni	20.3	22.2	22.1	30.2	23.3	25.8
Periacolum	22.7	27.7	[illegible]	[illegible]	23.7	30.3
Tirumangalam	27.0	25.2	22.1	[illegible]	23.3	30.6
Madura	21.9	27.3	26.3	[illegible]	27.9	31.6
Melur	22.5	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Average	22.8	28.7	25.8	31.0	25.5	31.8

owing to the failure of the S. W. monsoon the prices in the beginning of the month of October were very high compared with the usual prices & when the N. E. monsoon showed also signs of failing about the 3rd week in October, the rise was sudden & heavy. From this point till the second week in November prices continued to rise steadily when there was another sudden rise. The quotations on 23rd December were as follows:

Taluqs	Cholum 23rd December	Cholum Average of previous years in December	Cumboo 23rd Decr	Cumboo Average of previous years in December	Ragi 23rd Decr	Ragi Average of previous years in Decr
Dindigul	7.8	28.1	10.4	30.7	9.0	33.4
Palni	7.7	24.5	10.3	27.1	9.3	30.1
Periakulam	11.3	30.4	10.3	31.3	10.9	34.6
Tirumangalam	[illegible]	45.3	8.8	27.0	10.1	30.0
Madura	9.1	28.3	9.7	31.0	9.7	33.8
Melur	16.0	32.8	10.5	39.0	9.8	36.1
Average	11.3	31.2	10.0	31.0	9.8	33.0

The quotations for 2nd sort rice on 7th October and 23rd December 1876 were as shown below:

Taluqs	7th October	Average price of 4 previous years in the month of October	23rd Decr	Average price of 4 previous years in the month of December
Dindigul	11.0	13.5	5.9	14.3
Palni	13.1	14.5	7.2	14.7
Periakulam	12.3	14.0	6.8	14.4
Tirumangalam	11.8	13.1	5.6	13.0
Madura	12.3	13.6	7.4	14.9
Melur	12.0	15.9	6.0	15.5

(b) Stock of grains. The local officers all agreed that the stocks of grain in the District are lower.

[illegible] of the ryots have grain sufficient for their own use for about 6 months but the majority have none. As the last season was not a good one and the high prices which obtained in September and October induced the ryots to part with their grain; it is, of course, difficult to form even an approximate Estimate of the quantity. The Railway runs through or near

almost every firka [illegible] & except with the sea board tracts the roads are good so that there are great facilities for the transport of grain. The Dindigul Taluq draws its supplies from Madura, Tanjore & Trichinopoly: grain may also be got from Salem or Tinnevelly on the eastern coast & [illegible] nearly on the Madras Railway. The Palni Taluq [illegible] its supplies from [illegible] Periacolam Taluq [illegible] the irrigated villages under [illegible] The [illegible] [illegible] of supply [illegible] Palni will have to depend upon the Dindigul market principally but grain may also be brought through [illegible] depending on the others standing. The trade from [illegible] is through the taluqs of [illegible] navigation & that more grain can be brought to this place from [illegible], Tanjore or Trichinopoly. Melur gets its supplies from the [illegible] Tanjore & Trichy [illegible]. In Ramnad, foreign grain is reported to be coming through the ports of Devipatnam, Kilakarai & Pamban. The Collector has not reported on the state of things in Shivaganga. It is probably similar to that in Melur. There are some rich merchants in the district & private enterprise will probably keep at least the larger markets sufficiently supplied.

[illegible] has recently imported a [illegible] quantity of [illegible] & this has caused a slight fall in prices. Owing to a deficiency of local stocks a scarcity of grain in the inland villages markets is apprehended & indications of this will be carefully watched.

(g) Population. The population of the district arranged according to caste is as follows.

Hindoos

Brahmins	39073
Kshatriyas	5021
Chetties	66496
Other classes	2022816
	2133216
Mohammedans	127843
Europeans & Eurasians	341
Others	215
	2261615

The male adult population classified with reference to Professions is as shown [illegible] as follows:

Learned Professions	14244
Govt & Village Servants	
Domestic Service	1772
Commercial	38210
Agricultural	452867
Industrial	52979
Cooly Labor	125194
Property	512
Nonproductive & others	3792
	718114

The population is mostly of low caste & poor. A very large portion about 3/4 is composed of agriculturalists & agricultural labors. The District contains also a considerable number of persons of the Kaller (robber) caste especially in the Melur, Tirumangalam Taluqs & the Ramnad & Shivaganga Zemindaries. The Zemindari of Sivaganga appears to

[illegible] anxious to benefit the estate & to provide subsistence to the laboring classes by carrying out the repairs of long neglected irrigation works & having the necessary funds has [illegible] permission to postpone the payment of Peishkush. A similar application has been made also by the Court of Wards on behalf of the Zemindar of Ramnad in which estate considerable sums are being expended by the Court in repairs of irrigation works. There are 3 more Zemindaries of considerable size & importance are in the management of the Court of Wards in this district [illegible] in these measures are being taken to alleviate distress

with due regard however to
the means at their disposal
& the interests of the proprie-
tors on whose behalf this
Estates are administered. But
from none of the other Zemin-
dars can any material assistance
to their distressed ryots be look-
ed for. They are few in number
& rather involved circumstances
themselves [illegible] on bad terms
with their tenants.

There has been a heavy (h) Emigration
consisting of emigration to
Ceylon. There is always de-
mand for labor in the Coffee
estates of Ceylon & the poorer
population of Madura are
quite accustomed to leaving
their homes for a time in un-
favorable seasons. The exact

extent of emigration during
the present season is not known
[illegible] it seems to be little
smaller that it is very much
larger than those of the pre-
vious years. The report that
the number of persons who
left Ceylon at Paumben
between the 1st & 23rd Novem-
ber alone was nearly 1000 or
thrice the usual number,
[illegible] large
& it is known [illegible]
numbers go to Tinnevelly & there
embark. Great numbers how-
ever have returned to that
port showing that the demand
for labor in Ceylon is more
than met by the annual
emigration [illegible] this year

(i) Relief works. Rs 93[illegible] have been
sanctioned for relief works

but the [illegible] appropriation
on account of [illegible] works
appear[illegible] from the [illegible]
submitted by the Collector to
an amount to Rs [illegible]. This is exclu-
more
sive of [illegible] for Local Fund
works which amount to nearly
30000 chiefly for the impro-
vement of water supply. Relief
works have been started in the
[illegible] Tirumangalam Taluq
& in Dindigal, they have been
[illegible] very [illegible] hitherto only
to a small extent, the ordina-
ry coolies having had work
about their villages in collect-
ing fodder for their cattle
[illegible] and harvest as there
was. The pressure on relief
works was expected to arise
at [illegible] the end of January. In
Madura Taluq there [illegible]
preliminaries

preliminaries for starting works
have been arranged. They have
been [illegible] commenced
for the other [illegible] works have
been selected [illegible] will be
taken up as soon as [illegible]
arises. They consist chiefly of
[illegible] village
[illegible] for [illegible]
improvements & [illegible] feeder
village roads &c. [illegible]
The expenditure [illegible]
20th January was Rs [illegible]. A large
number of [illegible] works
are being [illegible] the [illegible]
are being repaired [illegible] wards.
under the [illegible] the Dis-
[illegible] Madura township Houses [illegible] have
tribute [illegible]
-lief have been opened [illegible] the
of the two Taluqs [illegible]
Dindigal where [illegible]
is most severely felt [illegible]

but [illegible] [illegible] village
orders have been [illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible] to be [illegible] within
[illegible] [illegible] The expendi-
ture [illegible] ending on [illegible]
[illegible] relief [illegible] 1873 [illegible]
[illegible] persons on relief
[illegible] [illegible] was 555[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] The following ta[illegible]
[illegible] the number of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] on relief works
& those [illegible] gratuitously on the
23 30th [illegible] 6th 13th 20th & 27th
January.

	Relief works				gratuitous relief			
	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total
[illegible]	838	1267	603	2708				103
[illegible]	1[illegible]8	2385	999	4812				1360
[illegible]	2[illegible]72	3494	782	7148	68	130	817	1015
[illegible]	2729	2171	524	5424	53	77	711	841
[illegible]	1766	3092	299	5157	55	72	58	185
[illegible]	2124	3181	253	5558	50	76	463	589
[illegible]	2175	2147	71	4393	54	125	152	331

the [illegible] [illegible] actually
but the [illegible] on the 13th
[illegible] fortnightly on to
[illegible] [illegible]
the
Porgal [illegible] [illegible]
as regards [illegible] of supply
[illegible]. It is also reported that
one of the Relief [illegible]
of the Relief works [illegible] to be
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
of cholera.

(k) Probable number of persons on relief &c. hereafter.

The number of persons likely to be
on relief [illegible] the 1st
March in the [illegible] of [illegible]
remaining alone, Medak Division
[illegible] & Palvi [illegible] estimated
at 3300 [illegible] [illegible] have
been furnished for further
[illegible]. The [illegible]
certainly not [illegible]
is yet too early to [illegible]

Lands &c. or [illegible] of mem-
bers who may require relief
on 12th day or 1st July.

(Two Sheets)

30 Letters

Asst Secretary

To the Asst Secretary to forward
[illegible] & any others &
their enclosures to Secretary
& Statements.

Rev: 1877: 34c
F. N. 383

Reviewing of the
Board of Rev.

Letter 9th Feby/77
Depd 9 — 11/77
Recd 19 —
in # 319 —

f.a. 1 March/77 No 884

Submitting Board's
review of the Detail
Campaign Report of
the Madura district

			Total Land Revenue Demand (permanent &c.) July 1880			Rough cultivation and			
Name of the Taluqs	Area Sq. Miles	Population	Permanently settled Shotriem Jodi	Ryotwari & Inams	Total	Period	Wet	Dry	
Dindigul	1091	322361	44754	481954	526708	Aprl to Octr & Jany	400	400	4.9
Palni	994	184831	49798	327114	376912	Aprl to Octr & Jany	2400	2500	750
Periacolam	1,200	217118	38248	348705	386953	Aprl to Octr & Jany	1000	500	1250
Tirumangalam	[illegible]	241915	42230	389258	431488	Aprl to Octr & Jany	400	500	900
Madura	446	231418	21709	414152	435861	Aprl to Octr & Jany	1200	3300	1800
Melur	532	128783	1808	295361	297169	Aprl to Octr & Jany	2700 10300	1300 7900	500 279
Sivaganga Zemindary	1557	434253	444751	-	444751				
Ramnad do	2,351	500131	716892	-	716892				
Total	8,790	22,66,515	13,80,188	22,36,546	36,16,732				

District	Name of the taluqs	Area Sq. miles	Population	Total Land Revenue Demand (permanent & ryotwari areas) Fasly 1288			Rough cultivation during past 5 years and [illegible] January to [illegible]					Total			Rainfall current year		An estimate of the amount of yield of the crops raised calculated in annas on the assumption of an average yield being represented by 12 annas also whether there is any prospect of further sowings	
				Permanently settled & Shotriem Jodi	Ryotwari & Inams	Total	Period	[illegible]al	Wet	Dry	Total	Wet	Dry	Total	October & December	Total	Irrigated	Unirrigated
Madura	Dindigul	1091	324361	64,754	461954	526,708	April to Octr & [illegible]	400	400	4,900	5,300	15,200	180,000	195,200	4·7	19·1	9 Annas	2½ Annas
	Palni	994	184831	29,798	327114	356,912	April to Octr & [illegible]	[illegible]	2000	7300	9300	14,500	93,900	108,400	3·7	9·4	5 Annas	1½ to 3 Annas
	Periacolam	1,200	217,118	38,248	348,705	386,953	April to Octr & [illegible]	[illegible]000	500	12,500	13000	19700	105,500	125,200	6·9	13·4	6 Annas	3 Annas
	Tirumangalam	[illegible]	241,215	42,230	389,258	431,488	April to Octr & [illegible]	[illegible]00	500	900	1400	16,600	142,600	159,200	4·5	13·0	4 Annas	4 Annas
	Madura	446	231418	21707	412154	433861	April to October & [illegible]	[illegible]00	3300	1800	5100	38,800	50300	89,100	7·7	19·1	1 to 8 Annas	2 to 8 Annas
	Melur	532	128923	1,808	295361	297,169	April to Sept & October [illegible]	[illegible]700	1200	500	1700	32500	68400	100,900	9·3	29·6	3 Annas	5 Annas
								[illegible]0300	7900	27900	35,800	137,300	640,700	778,000				
	Sivaganga Zemindary	1557	436253	444751	-	444751									4·7	18·3	Not known	
	Ramnad Do	2,351	500,131	716892	-	716892									9·1	14·9	2 Annas	3 Annas
	Total	8,770	2266615	1380188	2236546	3616734									6·2	16·9		

Enclosure in
Bd's Pro: 9th Feb: 77
to the Addl Sec: to
Govt Rev

J. Rev $\frac{16}{383}$/77

Recd 1 March 1877
L. [illegible]

Enclosure in Board's
Proceedings dated 9th
February 1877, to the
additional Secretary
to Government R.D.

Madras

Taluqs	Grants of funds	Outlay since the commencement of distress on Gratuitous relief	Works relief	Number of coolies employed on the 13th January 1877 Men	Women	Children	Total	Number of persons on receipt of gratuitous relief on 13th January 1877 Men	Women	Children	Total	Number of persons likely to be on relief works on 1st March 1877	1st May	1st July	Number of persons likely to be gratuitously fed on 1st March 1877	1st May 1877
Madras	25943	194	"	97	101	23	221	"	"	"		Not given			Not given	
mangalam	4992	1704	"	682	190	96	968	"	"	"		5000	10000	15000	Not given	
tur	3264	1239	"	131	96	42	269	"	"	"		10000	20000	20000	Not given	
indigal	11575	919	250	40	51	5	96	"	"	"		10000	Not given	12000	2500	Not given
Palney	55566	7760	628	2587	1486	32	07	53	77	711	841	8000	Not given	10000	2[illegible]00	Not given
mad	10000	2939	"	192	247		13	"	"			not given			Not given	
Total 95748	111340	14755	878	3729	2171		14	53	77	711	841					

Madras
9th Febru

Ag. Secretary

Enclosure in
Bd's No. 8 a Feby. 17/72
to the Actg. Secy. to
Govt. R.D.

7 Rev 11/1383

[illegible] 1 March /72
L1522

Memo

4 Copies of the Board's
review of the Collector's
Report on the condition
of the Madura District
are herewith circulated.
Three copies being
for the use of the Members
of Government and the
4th for recording their
remarks ~~there~~on.

11/7/72

Rec

Madras

4062

17-2-77