

Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., Nos 77-77A

Dated 7th February

[Despatch Abstract.]

Receiving P.P. sub^d letter from
the Col^d of Tinuvelly reporting the state
of season in the district & informing
him by wire that the concessions re-
commended are sanctioned.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Statement showing the rainfall for October, November, and December averaged for a series of years and for the current year by stations.

Stations	October		November		December		Total		Rainfall in inches 1898	Remarks
	Average for 1892-96	Actual for 1897	Average for 1892-96	Actual for 1897	Average for 1892-96	Actual for 1897	Average for 1892-96	Actual for 1897		
1. Virudupatti	8.45	5.32	5.55	3.15	2.7	0.15	16.88	8.62	0.34	
2. Saffur	7.02	6.3	4.85	4.30	1.82	0.00	12.4	10.43	0.60	
3. Kilakidulani	7.01	3.77	5.13	3.15	1.9	0.18	14.09	7.10	0.72	
4. Ottapidaram	5.46	3.11	6.65	5.12	1.94	0.22	14.05	8.45	1.07	
5. Arasadi	4.52	7.17	4.05	3.22	2.69	0.21	11.26	10.60	1.77	
6. Tuticorin	4.69	4.74	5.50	3.71	2.67	0.07	12.86	8.52	1.36	
7. Vartanayiruppu	5.86	9.07	7.06	12.49	1.83	0.00	14.75	21.58	0.13	
8. Srivilliputtur	3.93	4.75	2.86	7.20	1.18	0.00	7.97	11.95	0.25	
9. Sankaranamarkoil	6.96	3.25	5.76	5.45	2.99	0.07	15.71	8.77	0.68	
10. Jankasi	6.07	3.42	6.21	9.62	4.51	0.32	16.99	13.36	1.89	
11. Kumbasanundram	4.99	1.69	9.93	6.68	7.30	1.45	22.22	9.82	6.61	
12. Palamcottah	5.82	3.36	9.64	3.76	4.19	1.05	19.65	8.17	1.94	
13. Srivankuntam	6.52	2.34	6.62	5.88	4.99	0.46	18.13	8.68	1.65	
14. Kayalpatnam	4.97	1.00	8.35	2.52	4.55	0.42	17.87	3.94	1.78	
15. Kulasegarapatnam	5.01	1.63	9.72	3.07	5.90	2.42	20.63	7.12	2.64	
16. Nanguneri	4.30	5.03	8.56	4.40	6.48	3.56	19.24	12.99	6.70	
17. Radhapuram	4.69	1.05	9.18	6.10	5.71	2.62	19.58	9.77	6.83	
18. Kuthankuli	3.21	1.16	7.38	4.69	5.33	2.07	19.92	7.92	4.45	
19. Kiriannur	"	1.32	"	2.82	1.99	0.42	"	4.56	1.65	
Total for the District	100.61	69.31	126.51	97.33	69.80	15.69	296.92	182.33	42.06	* includes 114 in Sivanthi, which was separately registered in the year 1892-93.
District average	5.53	3.65	6.88	5.12	3.88	0.82	16.25	9.60	2.21	② 271 0.7, 1890 0.51 80.
25 years' average	"	5.52	"	7.07	"	3.43	16.02	"	"	

Imuvally, Collector's Office
26 January 1898

(True copy)
R. V. Sundaram
Secretary

Signature of R. V. Sundaram
acting Collector

Re
5,000

8

1896

Statement showing the area of dry and wet

Cultivation to the end of December

Taluk	Fasli 1300 1890-91		Fasli 1302 1892-93		Fasli 1896-
	dry	wet	dry	wet	dry
Tinnevely	47921	40390	34626	37570	40582
Vanguneri	100762	24513	90132	20427	126700
Ambasamudram	27949	46687	27539	50142	33651
Tenkasi	46713	20771	45283	25429	54178
Sankaranainarkovil	87393	7532	60850	6926	93171
Srivilliputhur	1141581	19229	124992	16547	139694
Sattur	136905	3479	131169	3324	138513
Attapideram	128797	2443	76097	1026	128605
Srivaikuntam	93374	50182	76990	49932	127577
Total	811395	215226	667698	211323	882671

Taluk	Average of 5 years ending 1896-97		Fasli 1307 1897-98		Remarks
	Wet	dry	Wet	dry	
Tinnevely	45584	40756	42568	36523	46818
Vanguneri	37168	105617	29785	94422	37336
Ambasamudram	53398	33841	52355	25730	52868
Tenkasi	32015	52069	29346	50969	31805
Sankaranainarkovil	12805	87237	11564	79271	11771
Srivilliputhur	18743	138997	22418	133183	27146
Sattur	3940	139557	3848	135688	3859
Attapideram	2553	121867	2301	125114	2042
Srivaikuntam	54626	105192	54634	105215	61383
Total	260832	825133	248819	786115	275030

Tinnevely Collector's Office }
26th January 1898

(Sd) Robert B. Clegg.
Acting Collector.

(True copy.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

Copy
31/1/98



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated. 28 January — 1898.
No. 629 dis

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, Ref.
on cur. No. 2298/31 of 1897, dated 26th January 1898:—

The Board is aware that the state of the season in the District has for some time past been one of anxiety owing to the scanty rainfall from October to December 1897. By a circular dated 19th December 1897, I called on Tahsildars and Divisional Officers for a detailed report based on personal inspection as far as possible. The rainfall in the current month has considerably improved prospects in certain parts of the District, but it has not materially affected the condition of certain taluks.

2. Rainfall. The rainfall from April to September 1897, as will be seen from the figures given below, exceeded both the 25 years' average and the figures of the previous year.

	25 years average.	1896-	1897.
April to September	10.27	8.40	11.80
October	5.52	6.74	5.65
November	7.07	12.89	5.12
December	3.43	7.59	0.82
Total of 3 months	16.02	27.02	9.59.

There was however a considerable deficiency in the rainfall from October to December, which was little more than a third

of the rainfall in the corresponding period of 1896 and little more than half of the 25 years average. The rainfed-tanks had consequently little or no supply in December, and a portion of the rainfed area was left waste and the crops also failed or are failing on a portion of it. The rains which have happily fallen this month have had a most beneficial effect in some places and altered the situation for the better. It will be seen from the accompanying statement that although the rainfall was heavy in the taluks of Ambasamudram and Nanguneri and fair in Tenkasi and Tinnevely, it was scanty in other taluks, particularly in the northern taluks. Even in Ambasamudram the rainfall is said to have been insufficient in parts. The remissions which were estimated at Rs. 120,000 before the 10th January have now been reduced to Rs. 80,000.

3. Progress of cultivation. The total cultivation up to December 1897 is compared in the annexed table with the figures of the previous year and the average of the last 5 years including Fasli 1306. It will be observed that the total dry cultivation was less than that of Fasli 1306 and the quinquennial average, being 786,115 acres, against 862,671 and 825,135 acres respectively. The dry cultivation in the corresponding period of faslis 1300 and 1302 which were unfavourable years was 811,395 and 667,698 acres respectively. The decrease in dry cultivation is wholly attributable to the deficient rainfall. Under wet there is an increase of 6 percent over the previous year, the area being 275,030 acres against 260,832 acres. As compared with the average, there was an increase of 26,211 acres. This result is mainly due to the favourable character of the previous year and of the South-West monsoon in the current year. Several tanks had a fair supply in the beginning of the year and the ryots were able to cultivate a larger extent in the first half of the year than usual. It may also be noted that this advance in cultivation was partly due to the expectation of a favourable North-East monsoon.

General condition of the District. The taluks chiefly affected by the failure of the monsoon are those of Sankaranainarkoil,

Satur

Satur and Ottappidaram and the recent rainfall has not materially benefited the first two taluks. The lands under river irrigation in Ambasamudram, Tinnevely, Srivaikuntam and Tenkasi taluks are practically safe, but portions of these taluks under rainfed tanks suffer. Nanguneri, regarding which there was anxiety, has been improved considerably by the recent rain, but prior to it some crops had already withered. The condition of each taluk is described in detail below. The palmyrahs are generally in a thriving condition throughout.

Tinnevely. The dry crops and wet crops under rainfed tanks were fading, but the recent rains saved the standing dry crops in general and wet crops under rainfed-tanks in some parts of the taluk. The rainfed tanks in the ^{western portion of the} taluk have received a supply of 1 to 2 months, but those in the rest of the taluk have received little or no supply. Particulars regarding the area harvested have not been furnished by the Tahsildar, but it is reported that the outturn of dry crops was very poor.

Nanguneri:- Out of the total wet holding of 30,251 acres, 28,486 acres were cultivated to the end of December with a second crop on 8,850 acres. Of the dry holding of 256,748 acres, the area cultivated was 910.26 acres with second crop on 5,396 acres. The cultivation of dry lands was less than that of the previous year and less than the average. There is generally a large extent of dry waste in this taluk, due to cultivation by rotation and other causes. The total extent of dry crops harvested is 11,646 acres and more than three-fourths of this area yielded only a crop of one to four annas only. The recent rainfall was general throughout the taluk and all the tanks have had a good supply, which, it is expected, will induce the ryots holding lands under them to cultivate waste and the lands on which crops have withered.

Ambasamudram:- As already noted, some of the rainfed tanks have not received a sufficient supply. Portion of the dry

lands

lands and the wet lands which were left waste on account of the deficient rainfall are being ploughed and will be cultivated with gingelly. Of the dry crops nearly 4000 acres have been harvested and the outturn was 4 annas. The standing crops will, it is believed, yield a fair outturn.

Tankasi:- Out of the total extent of 50,969 acres of dry,

19,000 acres have been harvested and the outturn was fair.

The standing dry crops, horsegram and black-gram are also said to have been benefited by the recent rain.

Sankaranainarkoil. Out of the total wet-holding of 13,849 acres, an extent of 100,70 acres has been cultivated, and a second crop raised on 1,701 acres against the average of 10,038 acres and 1,526 acres respectively. Out of the dry-holding of 122,584 acres, 76,837 acres have been cultivated with first crop and 2,454 acres with second crop against the average of 83,640 acres and 3,597 acres respectively. Information regarding area harvested has not been furnished. It is apprehended that nearly half the extent may fail and the remissions are estimated at Rs. 13,000. The recent rains brought some supply to tanks near the hills, but tanks in other parts have had no supply at all. A portion of the lands is kept up by well-irrigation. It is also reported that crops in some villages have been affected by blight, known as 'Kattai noi' and 'Sendanai noi'. Ragi has been harvested and the yield is said to be good. Cambu crop was damaged by locusts locally known as Vittil and consequently the yield was very low. There was a poor outturn from Varagu and the early-sown samai and horsegram, while the late-sown samai failed altogether. The late sown horse-gram and cotton have profited to some extent by the recent rain. Dry crops under wells are in excellent condition, and the loss to ryots in other respects has, to some extent, been compensated by the large yield of chillies and the high price at which the article is sold.

Srivilliputtur: All the tanks except one are said to contain a fair supply for the present. The recent rain was not of much use to this taluk. A further supply will, it is said, be needed in some parts in March or April, the cultivation having been late.

The

The condition of the standing crops is reported to be good. Of the total extent of dry cultivation of 133,133 acres, nearly 47,000 have been harvested and the outturn was one to four annas in respect of 16,695 acres, 26,292 acres yielded 5 to 8 annas and 5,826 acres 9 to 12 annas.

Satur:- The rainfall in this taluk was not general and was scanty. There was no rainfall worth the name in some parts. The extent of wet holding is small in this taluk, being only 5738 acres, of which 3,417 acres were cultivated with first crop and 442 acres with second crop against 3,681 and 259 acres in fasli 1306. The condition of standing crops has to some extent been improved, but portions have already withered. The dry-holding is 143,713 acres, of which 133,948 acres have been cultivated up to December with 1st crop and 1,740 acres with second crop against 137,800 acres and 713 acres in fasli 1306. About 30,000 acres have been harvested, and of this, 12,400 acres yielded an outturn of one to four annas, 14,825 acres 5 to 8 annas, and 3000 acres 9 to 12 annas. The principal standing crops are Cambu (20,000 acres) cholam (15,000 acres) Varagu (10,000 acres) and cotton (48,000 acres). The condition of these crops is said to be not altogether satisfactory and further rain is required. The yield is likely to be low if there is no further rain.

Ottapidaram:- This taluk is also chiefly a dry taluk. The wet-holding is 5,746 acres, of which 1,963 acres have been cultivated with 1st crop and 79 acres with second crop. The supply to tanks has not been sufficient and nearly half the ayacut is waste. The cultivated area has partly withered. The extent of dry holdings is 166,056 acres, of which 125,114 acres have been cultivated. About 7000 have been harvested and the yield was 4 to 8 annas. The bulk of the standing crop consists of cambu (45,000 acres) and cotton (40,000 acres). They are generally in a better condition than in Satur. The cotton crops were chiefly sown late in November and are young and will take about 2 months to bear.

These

These are in good condition at present but will require further rain.

Srivailkuntam:- The cultivation under both dry and wet was above the average, but the dry area was 12,000 acres less than in the previous year and there were heavy floods in the Tanbraparni and the riverbed area is safe. Of the rainfed area about 3000 acres have been left waste, about 1000 acres have withered and about 1000 acres are said to have yielded a nominal crop which will not cover even the cost of reaping. The rainfed tanks have not received any supply. The standing dry crops, Cumbu, Cotton &c, have been benefited by recent rains.

Prices:- The question of prices has been fully dealt with in this office, No.1649 dated 24th August 1897, recorded in Board's

M.C. Proceedings No.8022 H.S. dated 29th September 1897. There are

	Price	Cholam	Engal	Cambu
W.E.21-8-97.	9.4	15.1	13.5	13.7
W.E.22-1-98.	9.13	13.17	14.55	12.41

slight variations between the price quoted therein for week ending 21st August 1897 and those for week ending 22nd January 1898 shown in the margin. There has been a slight and gradual rise in the prices of cholam and cumbu.

General. The previous two years were generally favourable years and the people are, I think, better fortified than is often the case to meet a bad season. There is said to be sufficient employment for labourers at present. In consideration of the partial failure of crops under rainfed-tanks, of the fact that the supply received in many cases is not sufficient to enable ryots to grow wet, and of the fact that dry crops have not been successful and the condition of the standing crops doubtful, I recommend that the following concessions may be granted to ryots. These concessions

were also granted in faslis 1300 and 1302 (Vide Board's Proceedings Nos.9 dated 6th January 1891 and 24 dated 18th January 1893).

(a). The concession to grow dry crops on wet lands under rainfed tanks which have been left waste or on which crops have withered with the assurance that dry-rate only will be charged even though a sufficient supply be received later on. This concession will.

will be really useful to the taluks of Sankaranainarcoil, Satur, Ottappidaram and Srivailkuntam and portions of Ambasamudram and Tinnevely. In Manguneri all the tanks have received a full supply and the ryots are likely to grow a wet crop in preference to a dry crop. In Tentasi the concession is not considered an absolute necessity. I would not however draw a distinction between the various taluks, because the supply has even in the same taluk not been equally distributed and because I am assured that the ryots will not abuse the privilege by growing a dry crop in preference to a wet crop and thereby waste the water available. It is proposed that the concession should apply to cultivation brought to account from February. The grant of this concession will stimulate the cultivation of gingelly over a large area.

(b). Permission to grow Vellarikkai (cucumber) in the beds of rainfed-tanks on payment of the highest dry rate of the village subject to a maximum of one rupee. This concession will benefit poor ryots and labourers, particularly in the Satur Taluk. I solicit the favor of very early orders by telegram.

Resolution.

The following telegram will be despatched to the Collector of Tinnevely:-

"Your letter dated 26th instant, concessions recommended are sanctioned."

(True copy and Extract.)

R. V. Srinivasan
Secretary.

To

The Collector of Tinnevely.
Copy to the Secretary to Government,

Government (1898) of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd. } 1898. Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., Nos. 77, 77A, 7th February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Season.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting letter from the Collector of Tinnevely reporting the state of — in the district, and informing him by wire that the concessions recommended are sanctioned.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 629, dated 28th January 1898 :—

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 26th January 1898, Ref. on Cur. No. 2298 Gl. of 1897 :—

The Board is aware that the state of the season in the district has, for some time past, been one of anxiety owing to the scanty rainfall from October to December 1897. By a circular, dated 19th December 1897, I called on Tahsildars and Divisional-officers for a detailed report based on personal inspection as far as possible. The rainfall in the current month has considerably improved prospects in certain parts of the district, but it has not materially affected the condition of certain taluks.

2. *Rainfall*.—The rainfall from April to September 1897, as will be seen from the figures given below, exceeded both the twenty-five years' average and the figures of the previous year :—

	Twenty-five years' average.	1896.	1897.
April to September	10.27	8.40	11.80
October	5.52	6.74	3.65
November	7.07	12.89	5.12
December	3.43	7.39	0.82
Total of three months ..	16.02	27.02	9.59

There was, however, a considerable deficiency in the rainfall from October to December, which was little more than a third of the rainfall in the corresponding period of 1896 and little more than half of the twenty-five years' average. The rainfed tanks had consequently little or no supply in December, and a portion of the rainfed area was left waste and the crops also failed, or are failing, on a portion of it. The rains which have, happily, fallen this month have had a most beneficial effect in some places and altered the situation for the better. It will be seen from the accompanying statement that, although the rainfall was heavy in the taluks of Ambásamudram and Nángunéri and fair in Tenkási and Tinnevely, it was scanty in other taluks, particularly in the Northern taluks. Even in Ambásamudram the rainfall is said to have been insufficient in parts. The remissions which were estimated at Rs. 1,20,000 before the 10th January have now been reduced to Rs. 80,000.

3. *Progress of cultivation*.—The total cultivation up to December 1897 is compared in the annexed table with the figures of the previous year and the average of

the last five years including fasli 1306. It will be observed that the total dry cultivation was less than that of fasli 1306 and the quinquennial average, being 786,115 acres, against 882,671 and 825,133 acres, respectively. The dry cultivation in the corresponding period of faslis 1300 and 1302, which were unfavourable years, was 811,395 and 667,698 acres, respectively. The decrease in dry cultivation is wholly attributable to the deficient rainfall. Under wet there is an increase of 6 per cent. over the previous year, the area being 275,030 acres against 260,832 acres. As compared with the average, there was an increase of 26,211 acres. This result is mainly due to the favourable character of the previous year and of the south-west monsoon in the current year. Several tanks had a fair supply in the beginning of the year, and the ryots were able to cultivate a larger extent in the first-half of the year than usual. It may also be noted that this advance in cultivation was partly due to the expectation of a favourable north-east monsoon.

4. *General condition of the district*.—The taluks chiefly affected by the failure of the monsoon are those of Sankaranayinárkóvil, Sattúr and Ottappidáram, and the recent rainfall has not materially benefited the first two taluks. The lands under river irrigation in Ambásamudram, Tinnevely, Srívaikuntam and Tenkási taluks are practically safe, but portions of these taluks under rainfed tanks suffer. Nángunéri, regarding which there was anxiety, has been improved considerably by the recent rain, but prior to it some crops had already withered. The condition of each taluk is described in detail below. The palmyras are generally in a thriving condition throughout.

Tinnevely.—The dry crops and wet crops under rainfed tanks were fading, but the recent rains saved the standing dry crops in general and wet crops under rainfed tanks in some parts of the taluk. The rainfed tanks in the western portion of the taluk have received a supply of one to two months, but those in the rest of the taluk have received little or no supply. Particulars regarding the area harvested have not been furnished by the Tahsildar, but it is reported that the outturn of dry crops was very poor.

Nángunéri.—Out of the total wet holding of 30,251 acres, 28,486 acres were cultivated to the end of December with a second crop on 8,850 acres. Of the dry holding of 236,748 acres, the area cultivated was 91,026 acres with second crop on 3,396 acres. The cultivation of dry lands was less than that of the previous year and less than the average. There is generally a large extent of dry waste in this taluk, due to cultivation by rotation and other causes. The total extent of dry crops harvested is 11,646 acres, and more than three-fourths of this area yielded only a crop of 1 to 4 annas only. The recent rainfall was general throughout the taluk and all the tanks have had a good supply, which, it is expected, will induce the ryots holding lands under them to cultivate waste and the lands on which crops have withered.

Ambásamudram.—As already noted, some of the rainfed tanks have not received a sufficient supply. Portion of the dry lands and the wet lands which were left waste on account of the deficient rainfall are being ploughed and will be cultivated with gingly. Of the dry crops, nearly 4,000 acres have been harvested and the outturn was 4 annas. The standing crops will, it is believed, yield a fair outturn.

Tenkási.—Out of the total extent of 50,969 acres of dry, 19,000 acres have been harvested and the outturn was fair. The standing dry crops (horsegram and blackgram) are also said to have been benefited by the recent rain.

Sankaranayinárkóvil.—Out of the total wet holding of 13,849 acres, an extent of 10,070 acres has been cultivated, and a second crop raised on 1,701 acres against the average of 10,038 acres and 1,526 acres, respectively. Out of the dry holding of 122,384 acres, 76,837 acres have been cultivated with first crop and 2,434 acres with second crop against the average of 83,640 acres and 3,597 acres, respectively. Information regarding area harvested has not been furnished. It is apprehended that nearly half the extent may fail and the remissions are estimated at Rs. 13,000. The recent rains brought some supply to tanks near the hills, but tanks in other parts

have had no supply at all. A portion of the lands is kept up by well-irrigation. It is also reported that crops in some villages have been affected by blight, known as "kattai noi and sendandu noi." Ragi has been harvested and the yield is said to be good. Cumbu crop was damaged by locusts, locally known as vittil, and consequently the yield was very low. There was a poor outturn from varagu and the early-sown samai and horsegram, while the late-sown samai failed altogether. The late-sown horsegram and cotton have profited to some extent by the recent rain. Dry crops under wells are in excellent condition, and the loss to ryots in other respects has, to some extent, been compensated by the large yield of chillies and the high price at which the article is sold.

Srivilliputtur.—All the tanks except one are said to contain a fair supply for the present. The recent rain was not of much use to this taluk. A further supply will, it is said, be needed in some parts in March or April, the cultivation having been late. The condition of the standing crops is reported to be good. Of the total extent of dry cultivation of 133,183 acres, nearly 47,000 have been harvested, and the outturn was 1 to 4 annas in respect of 16,695 acres; 26,292 acres yielded 5 to 8 annas; and 5,826 acres, 9 to 12 annas.

Sattūr.—The rainfall in this taluk was not general and was scanty. There was no rainfall worth the name in some parts. The extent of wet holding is small in this taluk, being only 3,738 acres, of which 3,417 acres were cultivated with first crop and 442 acres with second crop, against 3,681 and 259 acres in fasli 1306. The condition of standing crops has to some extent been improved, but portions have already withered. The dry holding is 143,713 acres, of which 133,948 acres have been cultivated up to December with first crop and 1,740 acres with second crop against 137,800 acres and 713 acres in fasli 1306. About 30,000 acres have been harvested: and of this, 12,400 acres yielded an outturn of 1 to 4 annas; 14,825 acres, 5 to 8 annas; and 3,000 acres, 9 to 12 annas. The principal standing crops are cumbu (20,000 acres), cholum (15,000 acres), varagu (10,000 acres) and cotton (48,000 acres). The condition of these crops is said to be not altogether satisfactory and further rain is required. The yield is likely to be low if there is no further rain.

Ottappidāram.—This taluk is also chiefly a dry taluk. The wet holding is 3,746 acres, of which 1,963 acres have been cultivated with first crop and 79 acres with second crop. The supply to tanks has not been sufficient and nearly half the ayacut is waste. The cultivated area has partly withered. The extent of dry holdings is 166,056 acres, of which 125,114 acres have been cultivated. About 7,000 have been harvested and the yield was 4 to 8 annas. The bulk of the standing crop consists of cumbu (43,000 acres) and cotton (40,000 acres). They are generally in a better condition than in Sattūr. The cotton crops were chiefly sown late in November and are young and will take about two months to bear. These are in good condition at present, but will require further rain.

Srivaikuntam.—The cultivation under both dry and wet was above the average, but the dry area was 12,000 acres less than in the previous year and there were heavy floods in the Tambraparni and the riverfed area is safe. Of the rainfed area about 3,000 acres have been left waste, about 1,000 acres have withered, and about 1,000 acres are said to have yielded a nominal crop which will not cover even the cost of reaping. The rainfed tanks have not received any supply. The standing dry crops, cumbu, cotton, &c., have been benefited by recent rains.

5. **Prices.**—The question of prices has been fully dealt with in this office No. 1649, dated 24th August 1897, recorded in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 8022, dated 29th September 1897. There are slight variations between the price quoted therein for week ending 21st August 1897 and those for week ending 22nd January 1898 as shown in the margin. There has been a slight and gradual rise in the prices of cholum and cumbu.

	Rice, 2nd sort.	Cholum.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
Week ending 21st August 1897.	9-4	15-1	13-55	13-7
Week ending 22nd January 1898.	9-13	13-17	14-55	12-41

6. **General.**—The previous two years were generally favourable years and the people are, I think, better fortified than is often the case to meet a bad season. There is said to be sufficient employment for labourers at present. In consideration of the partial failure of crops under rainfed tanks, of the fact that the supply received in many cases is not sufficient to enable ryots to grow awet, and of the fact that dry crops have not been successful and the condition of the standing crops doubtful, I recommend that the following concessions may be granted to ryots. These concessions were also granted in faslis 1300 and 1302 (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 9, dated 6th January 1891, and No. 24, dated 18th January 1893).

(a) The concessions to grow dry crops on *wet lands under rainfed tanks* which have been left waste or on which crops have withered with the assurance that dry rate only will be charged even though a sufficient supply be received later on. This concession will be really useful to the taluks of Sankaranayinarkóyil, Sattūr, Ottappidāram and Srivaikuntam and portions of Ambāsamudram and Tinnevely. In Nāngunéri, all the tanks have received a full supply and the ryots are likely to grow a wet crop in preference to a dry crop. In Tenkāsī the concession is not considered an absolute necessity. I would not, however, draw a distinction between the various taluks, because the supply has even in the same taluk not been equally distributed and because I am assured that the ryots will not abuse the privilege by growing a dry crop in preference to a wet crop and thereby waste the water available. It is proposed that the concession should apply to cultivation brought to account from February. The grant of this concession will stimulate the cultivation of gingelly over a large area.

(b) Permission to grow *vellarikkai* (cucumber) in the beds of rainfed tanks on payment of the highest dry rate of the village subject to a maximum of one rupee. This concession will benefit poor ryots and labourers, particularly in the Sattūr taluk. I solicit the favour of very early orders by telegram.

ENCLOSURES.

STATEMENT showing the Rainfall for October, November and December averaged for a series of years and for the current year by stations.

Stations.	October.		November.		December.		Total.		Jan. Rainfall 1898.
	Average for 1892-96.	Actuals for 1897.	Average for 1892-96.	Actuals for 1897.	Average for 1892-96.	Actuals for 1897.	Average for 1892-96.	Actuals for 1897.	
1. Virudupatti	8-45	5-32	5-55	3-15	2-7	0-15	16-08	8-62	0-34
2. Sattūr	7-02	6-13	4-85	4-30	1-82	0-00	13-69	10-43	0-60
3. Vilāttikulam	7-01	3-77	5-13	3-15	1-95	0-18	14-09	7-10	0-72
4. Ottappidāram	5-48	3-11	6-65	5-12	1-94	0-22	14-05	8-45	1-07
5. Arasudi	4-52	7-17	4-05	3-22	2-69	0-21	11-26	10-60	1-77
6. Tuticorin	4-69	4-74	5-50	3-71	2-67	0-07	12-86	8-52	1-36
7. Vattirāyiruppa	5-86	9-07	7-06	12-49	1-83	0-00	14-75	21-56	0-13
8. Srivilliputtur	3-93	4-75	2-86	7-20	1-18	0-00	7-97	11-95	0-25
9. Sankaranayinarkóyil	6-96	3-25	5-76	5-45	2-99	0-07	15-71	8-77	0-68
10. Tenkāsī	6-07	3-42	6-41	9-62	4-51	0-32	16-99	13-36	1-89
11. Ambāsamudram	4-99	1-69	9-93	6-68	7-30	1-45	22-22	9-82	6-61
12. Palamcottah	5-82	3-36	9-64	3-76	4-19	1-05	19-65	8-17	1-94
13. Srivaikuntam	6-52	2-34	6-62	5-88	4-99	0-46	18-13	8-68	1-65
14. Kāyalpatnam	4-97	1-00	8-35	2-52	4-55	0-42	17-87	3-94	1-78
15. Kulasekarapatnam	5-01	1-63	9-72	3-07	5-90	2-42	20-63	7-12	2-64
16. Nāngunéri	4-30	5-03	8-56	4-40	6-48	3-56	19-24	12-99	5-70
17. Rādhāpuram	4-69	1-05	9-18	6-10	5-71	2-62	19-58	9-77	6-83
18. Kuttankuli	8-21	1-46	7-38	4-69	5-33	2-07	19-92	7-92	4-45
19. Kiranur	..	1-33	..	2-82	1-99	0-42	..	4-56	1-65
Total for the district ..	100-61	69-31	126-51	97-33	69-80	15-69	296-92	182-33	42-06
District average ..	5-53	3-65	6-85	5-12	3-88	0-82	16-25	9-60	2-21
Twenty-five years' average ..	..	5-52	..	7-07	..	3-43	16-02	..	..

* Includes 1-14 for Tinnevely which was separately registered in two years 1892 and 1893.
† Do. 2-71 do. do.
‡ Do. 0-51 do. do.

STATEMENT showing the Area of Dry and Wet Cultivation to the end of December.

Taluka.	Fasli 1300 (1890-91).		Fasli 1302 (1892-93).		Fasli 1306 (1896-97).		Average of five years ending 1896-97.		Fasli 1307 (1897-98).	
	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.	Wet.
Tinnevely	ACS. 47,921	ACS. 40,390	ACS. 34,626	ACS. 37,570	ACS. 40,582	ACS. 45,584	ACS. 40,756	ACS. 42,568	ACS. 36,523	ACS. 40,818
Nanganeri	100,762	24,613	90,132	20,427	126,700	37,168	105,617	29,785	94,422	27,336
Ambasamudram ..	27,949	46,687	27,559	60,142	33,651	53,398	33,841	52,353	25,730	52,868
Tenkasi	46,713	20,771	45,283	25,429	54,178	32,015	52,069	29,346	50,969	31,805
Sankaranayinarakóvil ..	87,393	7,532	60,850	6,926	93,171	12,805	87,237	11,564	79,271	11,771
Srivilliputtur	141,581	19,229	124,992	16,547	139,694	18,743	138,997	22,418	133,183	27,146
Sattur	136,905	3,479	131,169	3,324	138,513	3,940	139,557	3,848	135,688	3,859
Ottapidaram	128,797	2,443	76,097	1,026	128,605	2,553	121,867	2,301	125,114	2,042
Srivaikuntam	93,374	50,182	76,990	49,932	127,677	54,626	105,192	54,634	105,215	61,385
Total	811,395	215,226	667,698	211,323	882,671	260,832	825,133	248,819	786,115	275,030

Resolution—Mis. No. 629, dated 28th January 1898.

The following telegram will be despatched to the Collector of Tinnevely:—
 “Your letter dated 26th instant. Concessions recommended are sanctioned.”

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
 Secretary.

To the Collector of Tinnevely.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—No. 77, Revenue, dated 7th February 1898.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
 Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
 Land Records and Agriculture).

Endorsement No. 77A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

(Signed) N. E. MARJORIBANKS,
 Ag. Assistant Secretary to Government.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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