

THE NATURAL HERITAGE OF WETLANDS OF KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT

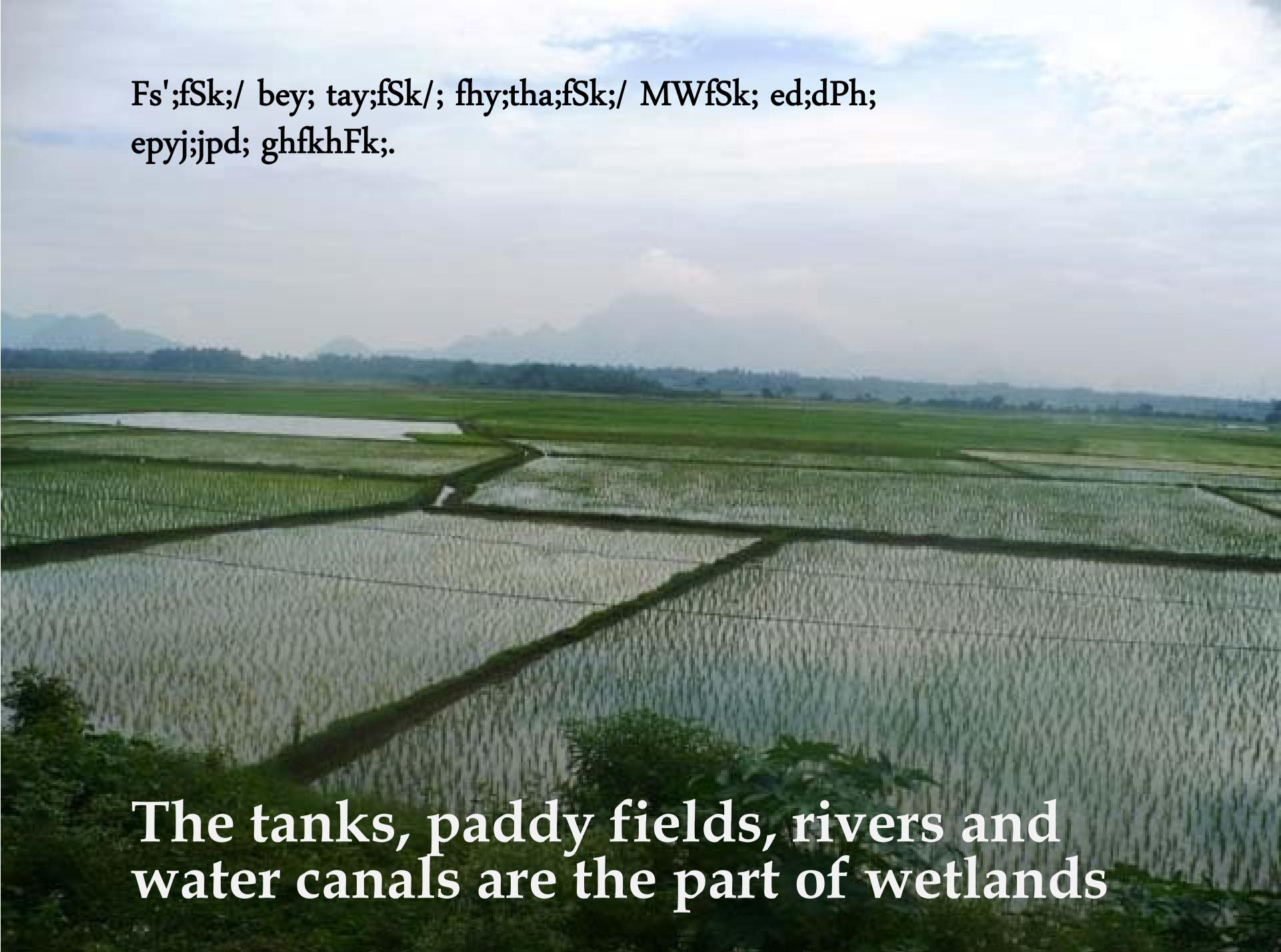
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tuyhw;W Mtz';fs; fd;dpahFkhpapy; ed;dPh; epy';fs;
Mapuf;fzf;fhd Mz;Lfs; gHik tha;e;jJ.



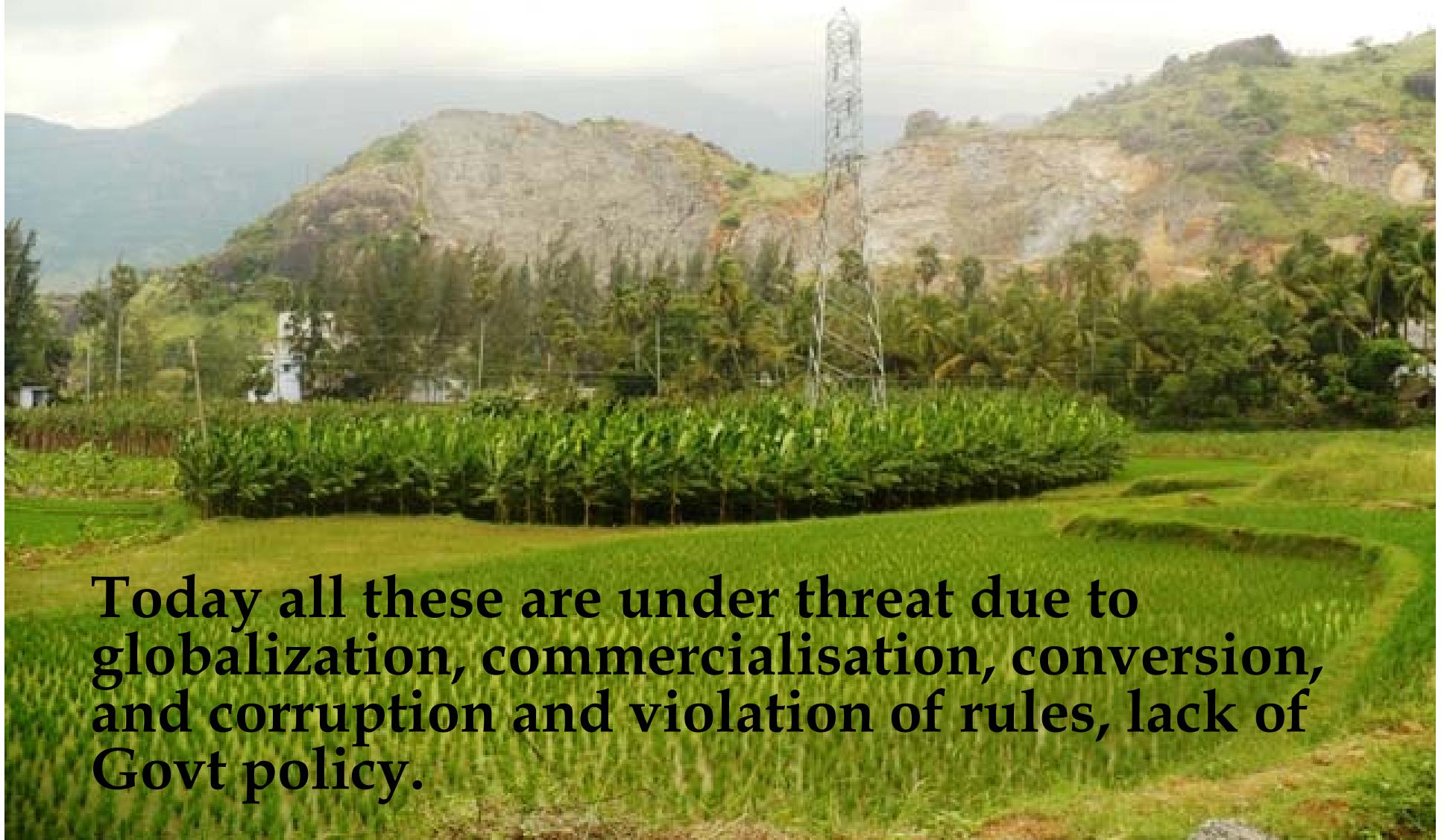
The historical records says that the
Kanniakumari has large area of
ancient wetland

Fs';fSk;/ bey; tay;fSk/; fhy;tha;fSk;/ MWfSk; ed;dPh;
epyj;jpd; ghfkfFk;



The tanks, paddy fields, rivers and
water canals are the part of wetlands

Mdhy; ,d;W ekJ ed;dPh; epy';fs; bgUk; Mgj;ij vjph; nehf;fpa[s;sJ.
cyfkakhFjy; murpd; bfhs;if mw;w nghf;F jhd; ,jw;f;F fhuzk;.

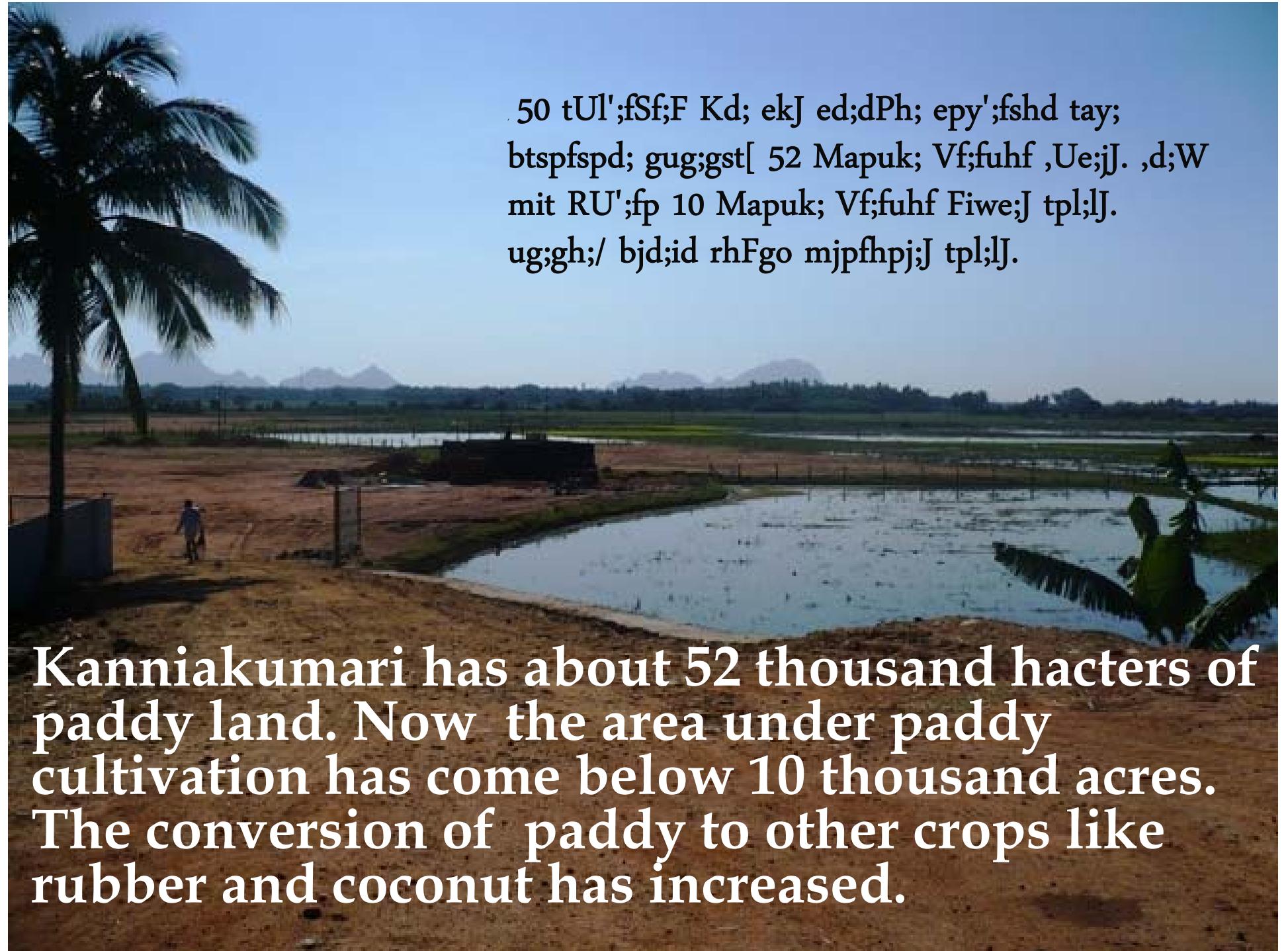


Today all these are under threat due to globalization, commercialisation, conversion, and corruption and violation of rules, lack of Govt policy.

jdhy; ehk; bgUk; jz;zPh; jl;Lg;ghLk;/ czt[gw;whf;Fiwa[k; r\f
bghUshjhu rPuHpit vjph; bfhs;sg ;nghfpnwhk;;



We are going to face great water scarcity, food scarcity, social and political turmoil, ecological disaster because of degradation of the wetlands.



50 tUl';fSf;F Kd; ekJ ed;dPh; epy';fshd tay;
btspfspd; gug;gst[52 Mapuk; Vf;fuhf ,Ue;jJ. ,d;W
mit RU';fp 10 Mapuk; Vf;fuhf Fiwe;J tpl;lJ.
ug;gh;/ bjd;id rhFgo mjpfhpj;J tpl;lJ.

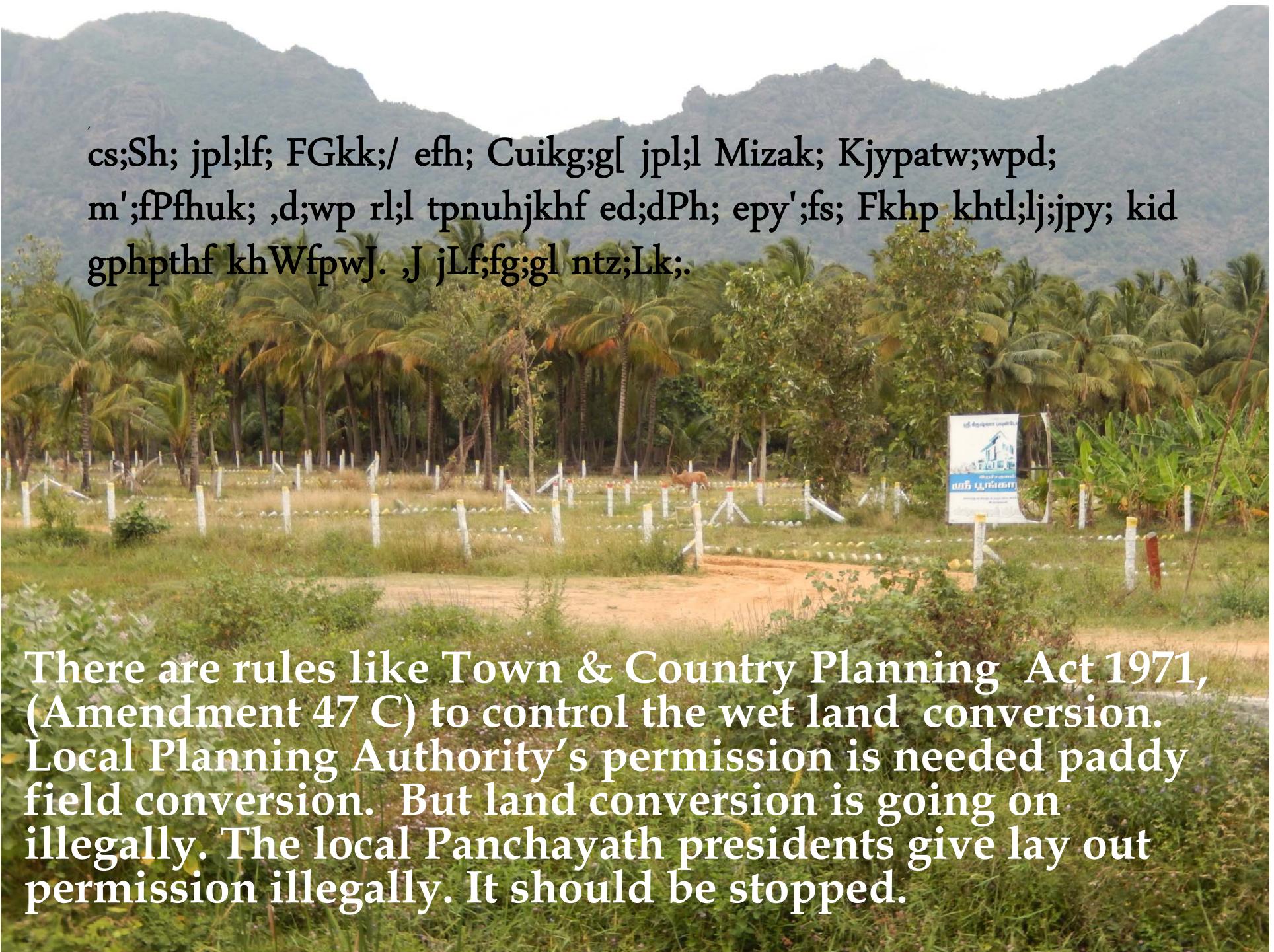
Kanniakumari has about 52 thousand hacters of paddy land. Now the area under paddy cultivation has come below 10 thousand acres. The conversion of paddy to other crops like rubber and coconut has increased.

tay;btspfs; btF Jhpjkhf mHpe;J tUfpwJ. ,ij jLf;f muR ntz;oa elgo
vLf;ftpy;iy. rl;l';fs; kPwg;gLfpwJ. y";rk; ji y tphpj;jhLfpwJ.



The rate of decrease of the wetland is very high in the last 5 years due to conversion of paddy field into housing site.

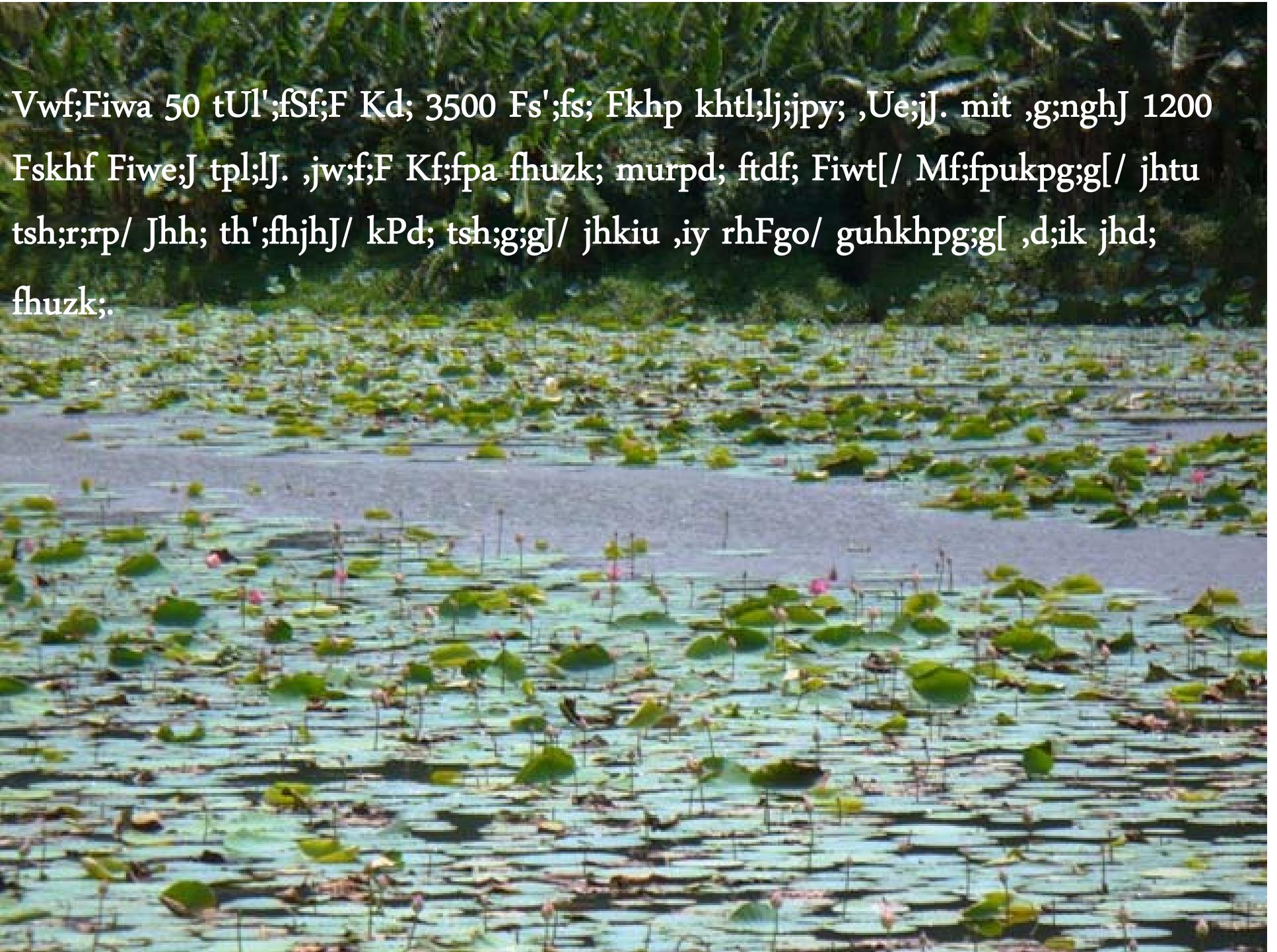
cs;Sh; jpl;lf; FGkk;/ efh; Cuikg;g[jpl;l Mizak; Kjypatw;wpd;
m';fPfhuk; ,d;wp rl;l tpnuhjkhf ed;dPh; epy';fs; Fkhp khtl;jpy; kid
gphpthf khWfpwJ. ,J jLf;fg;gl ntz;Lk;.



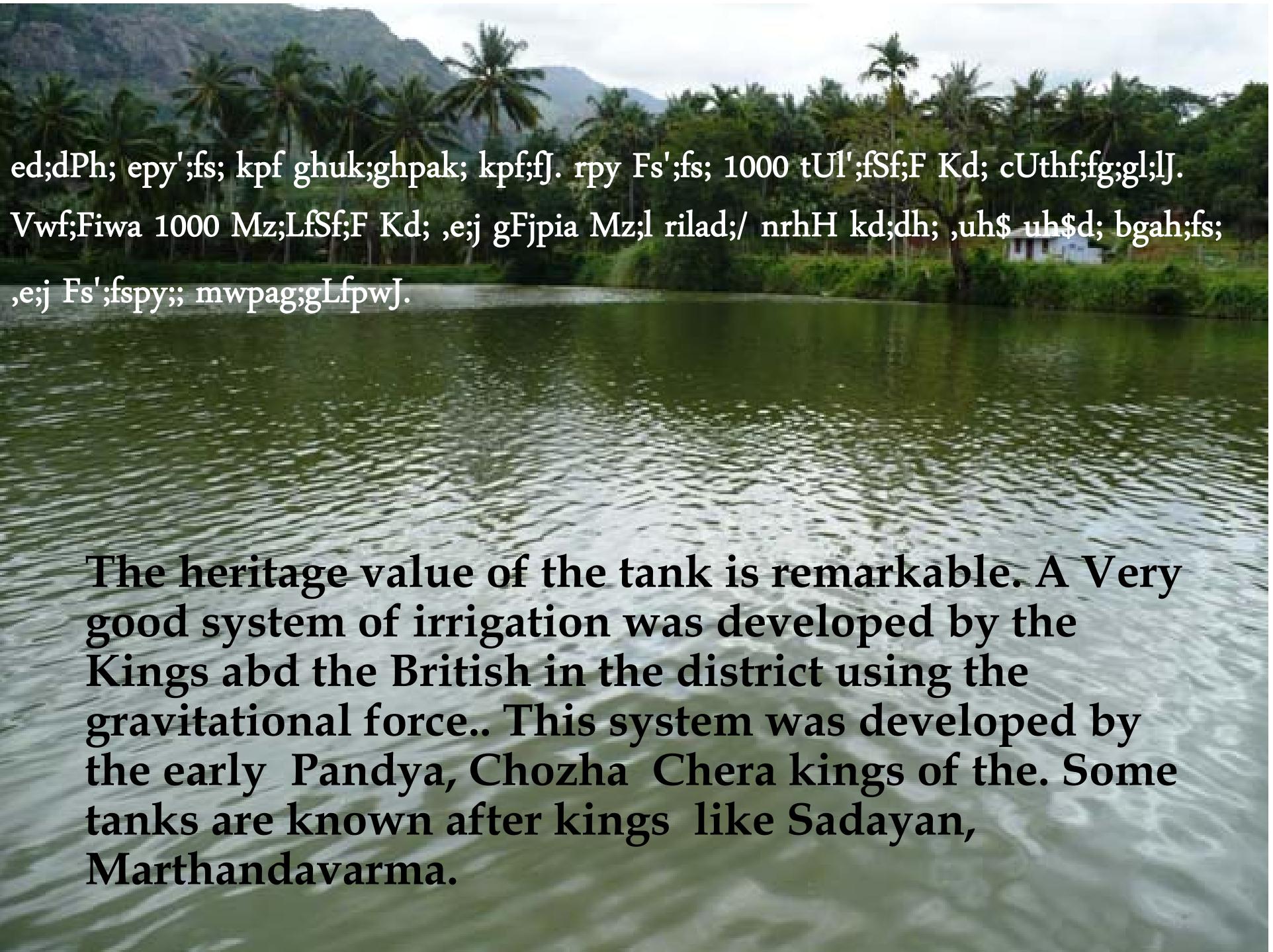
There are rules like Town & Country Planning Act 1971, (Amendment 47 C) to control the wet land conversion. Local Planning Authority's permission is needed paddy field conversion. But land conversion is going on illegally. The local Panchayath presidents give lay out permission illegally. It should be stopped.



The fertile ancient heritage paddy field and Ayacut are converted into housing plots illegally. Along with the paddy fields their canal systems are also destroyed causing irreparable damage to the ground water resources.



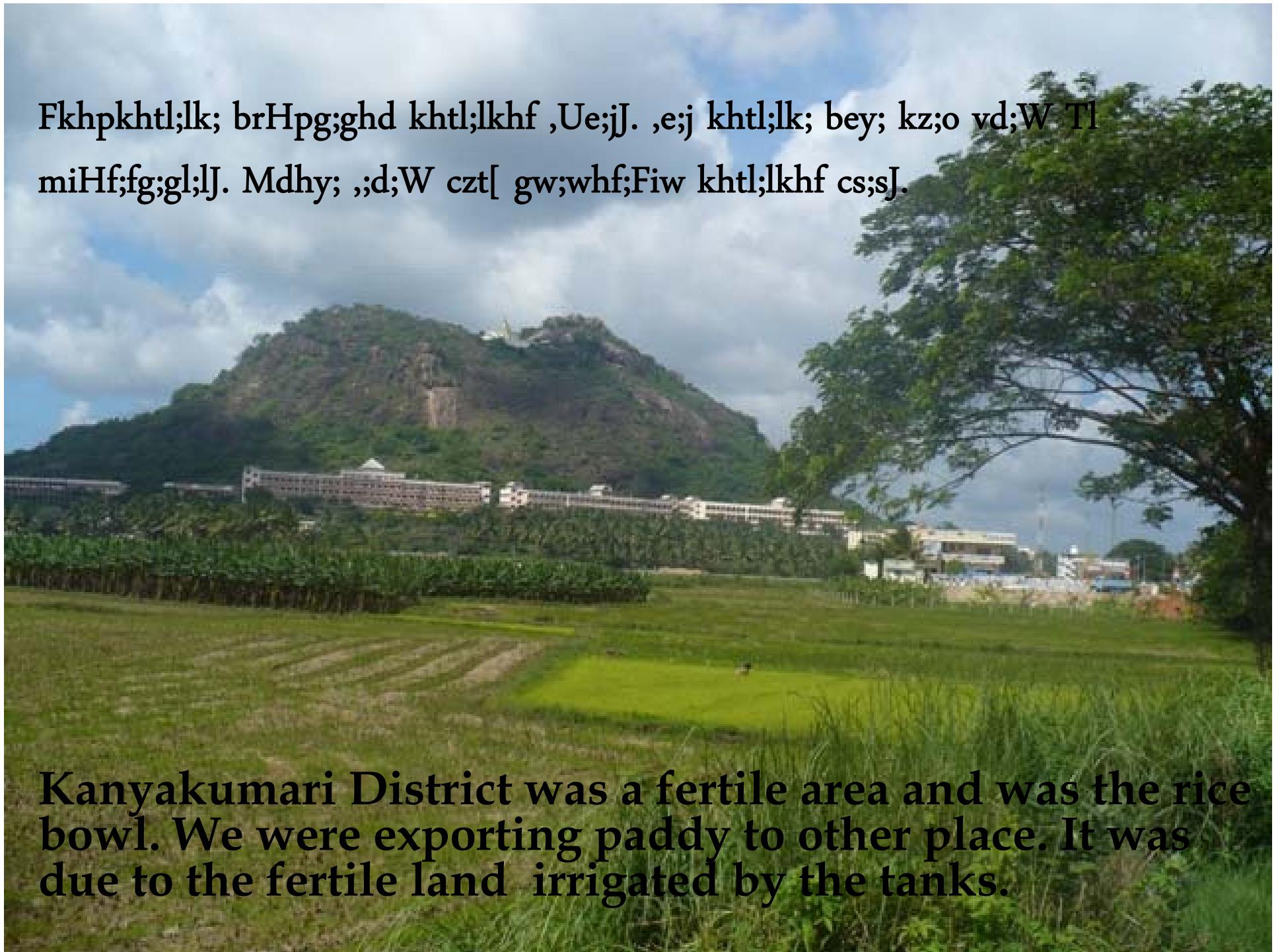
Vwf;Fiwa 50 tUl';fSf;F Kd; 3500 Fs';fs; Fkhp khtl;lj;jpy; ,Ue;jJ. mit ,g;nghJ 1200
Fskhf Fiwe;J tpl;lj. ,jw;f;F Kf;fpa fhuzk; murpd; ftdf; Fiwt[/ Mf;fpukpg;g[/ jhtu
tsh;r;rp/ Jhh; th';fhjhJ/ kPd; tsh;g;gJ/ jhkiu ,iy rhFgo/ guhkhpq;g[,d;ik jhd;
fhuzk;.



ed;dPh; epy';fs; kpf ghuk;ghpak; kpf;fJ. rpy Fs';fs; 1000 tUl';fSf;F Kd; cUthf;fg;gl;lJ.
Vwf;Fiwa 1000 Mz;LfSf;F Kd; ,e;j gFjzia Mz;l rilad;/ nrhH kd;dh; ,uh\$ uh\$d; bgah;fs;
,e;j Fs';fspy;; mwpag;gLfpwJ.

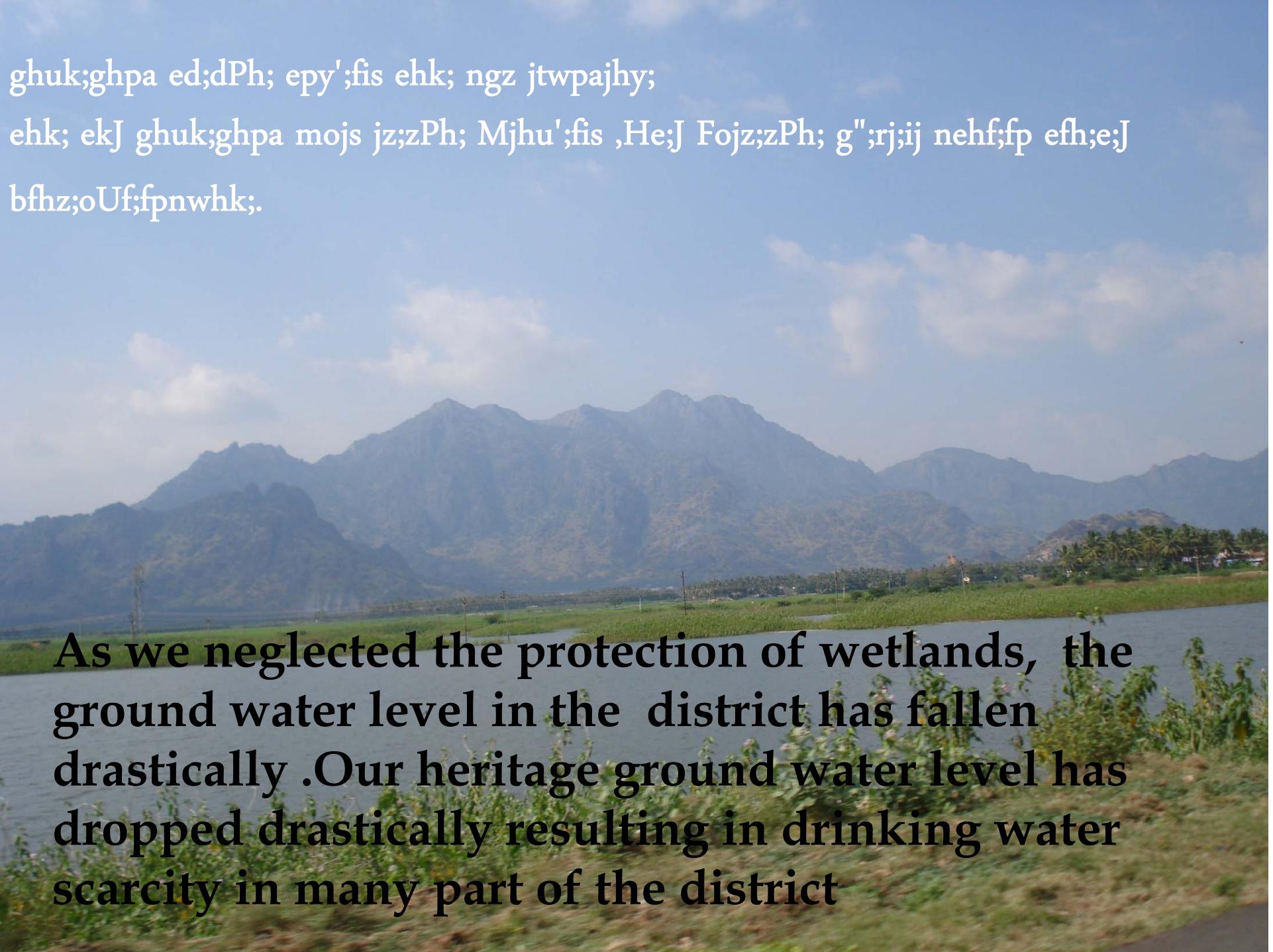
The heritage value of the tank is remarkable. A Very good system of irrigation was developed by the Kings abd the British in the district using the gravitational force.. This system was developed by the early Pandya, Chozha Chera kings of the. Some tanks are known after kings like Sadayan, Marthandavarma.

Fkhpkhtl;lk; brHpg;ghd khtl;lkhf ,Ue;jJ. ,e;j khtl;lk; bey; kz;o vd;W Tl
miHf;fg;gl;lJ. Mdhy; ,;d;W czt[gw;whf;Fiw khtl;lkhf cs;sJ.

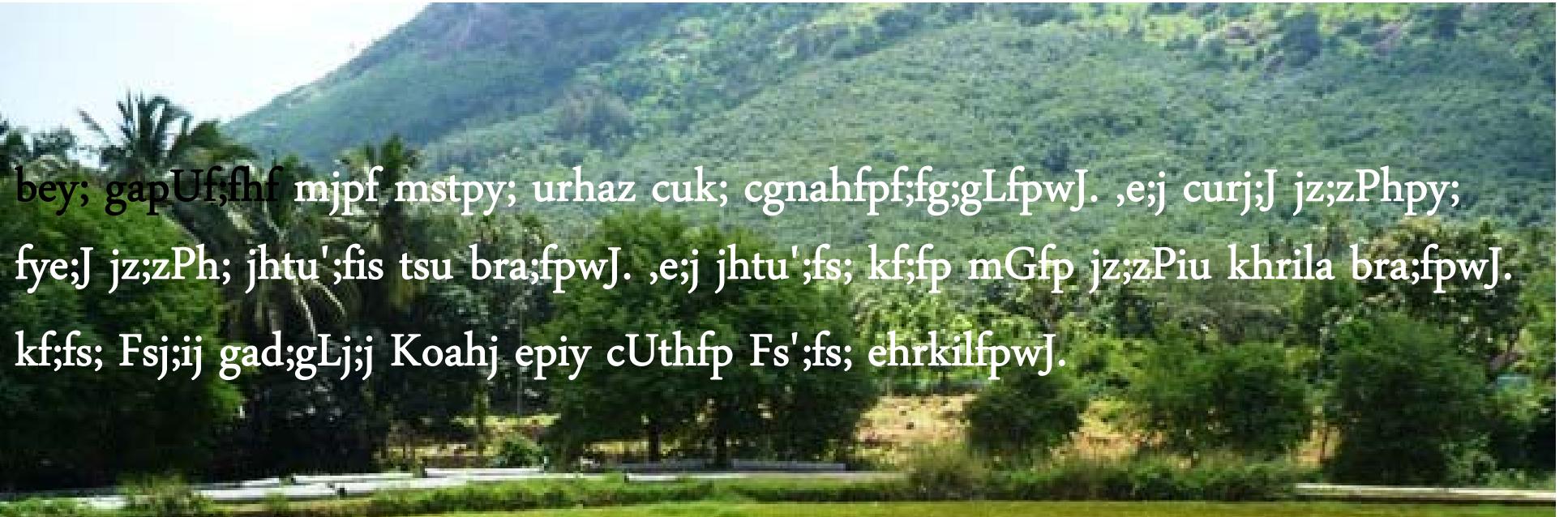


Kanyakumari District was a fertile area and was the rice bowl. We were exporting paddy to other place. It was due to the fertile land irrigated by the tanks.

ghuk;ghpa ed;dPh; epy';fis ehk; ngz jtwpajhy;
ehk; ekJ ghuk;ghpa mojs jz;zPh; Mjhu';fis ,He;J Fojz;zPh; g";rj;ij nehf;fp efh;e;J
bfhz;oUf;fpnwhk;.



As we neglected the protection of wetlands, the ground water level in the district has fallen drastically .Our heritage ground water level has dropped drastically resulting in drinking water scarcity in many part of the district



As we use inorganic fertilizers ,the tanks get high dose of nutrients and develop high density of aquatic plants. These plants decay & spoil the water. People could not bath in the water and the tanks are abandoned & encroached



Fs';fs; Jhh; th';fg;gl ntz;Lk;. Mdhy; xg;ge;jf;fhuh,fspd; rl;l tpnuhj nghf;fhy; mjpf
mstpy; kz; vLf;fg;gl;L Fs';fs; mHptnjhL njhz;lg;gl;;l FHpfspy; rpWth; K';fp
kofpwbh;fs;.



Mfhaj;jhkiu Fs';fspy; bgUk; gpur;rid mit Fsj;jpd; bshs;ssit Fiwf;fpwJ. jz;zPiu
cwp";RfpwJ. koe;J kf;fp jz;zPiu bfLf;fpwJ. ,tw;iw Mfha jhkiu mfw;Wk; ,ae;jpu';fs;
\yk; khw;wyhk;. nfushtpy; ,ej ,ae;jpuk; cgnahf;gLj;jg;gLfpwJ. Fkhp khtl;lj;jpYk; ,it
bray;gLj;jyhk;.

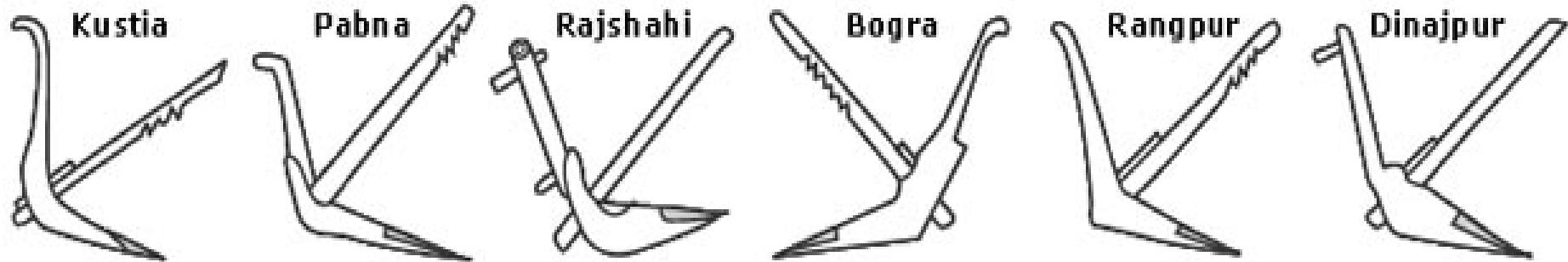
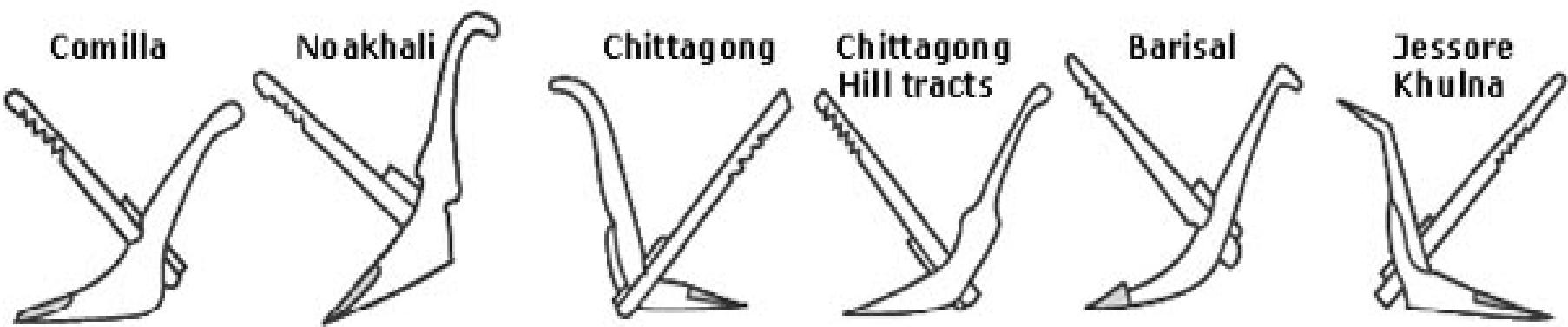
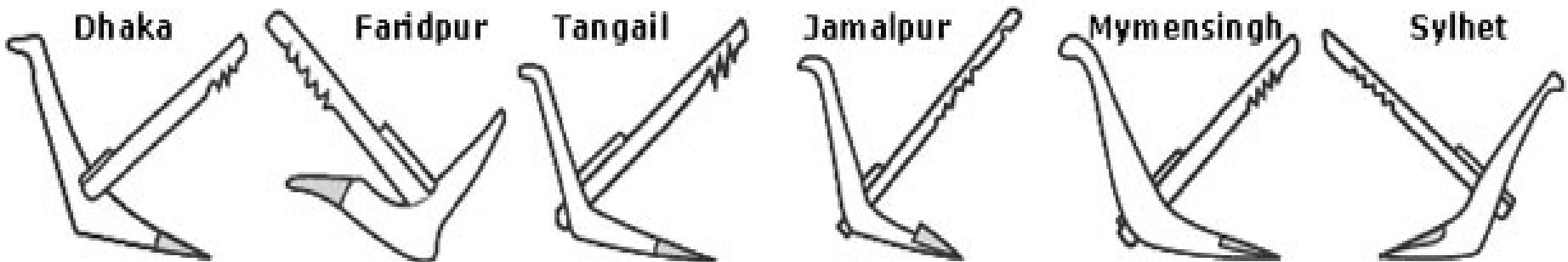


Fkhp khtl;lk; ePh;g;ghrd fhy;tha;fSf;F bgah; nghdJ. ,e;j fhy;tha;fs; Fkhp
khtl;lj;jpd; \$PtehoahFk;. Mdhy; ,it ,d;W Mf;fpukpf;fg;gl;L guhkhpq;g[,d;wp
milf;fg;gl;L kjFfs; milgl;L fhzg;gLfpwJ.



Jhkiu ,iy Fs';fspy; tsh;f;f TlhJ vd;W cah; cr;r ePjpkd;w jPh;g;g[fs; ,Ue;Jk; Fkhp
khtl;l bghJg;gzpj;Jiwa[k; ,e;j ePjpkd;w jPh;g;g[kPWjiy fz;L bfhs;shJ ,Ug;gjhy;
Fs';fspy; jhkiu ,iy rhFgo bra;agl;l Fs';fs; mHpfpwJ. ,jpy; rpy g";rhaj;J jiyth;fSk;
mjpfhhpfSk; cle;ijahFk;.

kf;fspilna Fs';fspd; Kf;fpaj;Jtj;ij gw;wpa tpHpg;g[zh;t[kpf Fiwt[.
mtw;wpd; nrif bghJthdJ. ekJ Fojz;zPh; gw;whf;Fiwia jPh;g;gJ Fs';fs;
bghJg;gzpj;Jiw Fskhf ,Ue;jhYk; jdp kd pj Fskhf ,Ue;jhYk; nfhtpy; Fskhf
,Ue;jhYk; rKjha Fskhf ,Ue;jhYk; Fs';fs; mHpf;fg;gl TlhJ. muRk;
ePjpkd;w';fSk; ,e;j bfhs;ifapy; cWjpahf ,Uf;f ntz;Lk;.



Recommendation:

1. Stop illegal conversion of paddy fields in planning area and non planning area.
tay;btspfs; rl;lkPWjyhf kid gphpthf khw;Wtij jil bra;.
2. Stop Panchayath president in Putheri and other Panchayaths issuing site plan approval in plan & non plan areas.
g";rhaj;J jiyth;fs; tay; btspfis khw;w tiugl mDkjp bfhLg;gij jil bra;.
3. Implement the high court orders on dumping earth on paddy fields.
tay;btspfis rl;lkPWjyhf kz; bfhl;Ltij jLf;Fk; cah;ePjpkd;w Mizia mky;gLj;J.

4. Take action on Govt officials who help the real agents for illegal conversion.

tay;btspfis rl;lkPWjyhf khw;Wk; hpay; v!;nll; egh;fSf;F cle;ijahf ,Uf;Fk; tUtha;j;Jiw
mjpfhhpfs; kPJ fLikahd elgo vL.

5. Implement the tank protection Act in letter & spirit.

Ban construction of houses inside tanks and instruct the Panchayath, Municipalities & local planning authority to be more vigilant & alert.

Fs';fs; ghJfhg;g[rl;lj;ij eilKiwg;gLj;jk; tPLfs;/ Fs';fspd; cs; tUtij jil bra;J g";rhaj;J jiyth;fs;/
efuhl;rp jiyth;fs; cs;Sh; jpl;lf;FGkk; efh; Cuikg;g[jpl;l Mizak;
Fs';fs; gaph; epy';fspy; kidfshf gphpg;gij jLf;f ntz;Lk;.

6. The irrigation canals should be repaired regularly.

ghrd fhy;tha;fs; guhkhp;fg;gl ntz;Lk;. ghrd fhy;thia milg;gth; kPJ elgo vLf;f ntz;Lk;. ,jw;f;fhd epjp xJf;fg;gl;L CHy; ,y,yhky; bray;gLj;j ntz;Lk;.

7. Water hyacinth from the tanks should be removed mechanically as in Kerala.

Mfhaj; jhkiu ,ae;jpu';fs; \ykhf mg;g[gwg;gLj;jp mjw;f;fhd epjp xJf;f ntz;Lk;.

8. Awareness programs should be initiated among the younger generation like schools & colleges to protect our National heritage.

,aw;if ghuk;ghpa';fis ghJfhf;f ntz;oa mtrpaj;ijg; gw;wp ,isa jiyKiwaplk; tpHpg;g[zh;t[cUthf;f ntz;Lk;.

9. Funds should allotted to fill the vacant posts of laskers and other maintenance staff in PWD.

bghJg;gzpj;Jiwapy; fhypahf cs;s Ehw;Wf;fzf;fhd 'y!;fh;' nghd;w gzpapl';fspy; Ml;fs; epakpf;fg;gl ntz;Lk;.

10. Sluice gate of tank should be repaired & made functional

Fs';fspy; cs;s kjFfs; cldoahf brg;gdplg;gl ntz;Lk;.

11.The involve NGOs to prevent corruption & corrupt practice .

jd;dhh;t bjhz;L epWtd';fspd; <LghL Cf;Ftpf;fg;gl ntz;Lk;. ,jdhy; y";rKk; rl;l kPWjy;fSk; jLf;fg;gLk;.

