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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press Mis.
Dated	18 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 215. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th July 1870, No. 5,104:—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Tinnevely, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 29th June 1870, No. 286.

I HAVE the honour to submit my annual report on the Salt roads of the district for the past official year 1869-70.

2. VAIPAR.—The Imperial road at this pan was damaged to some extent by the floods of November last, and an estimate of Rupees 910 has been prepared by the Department Public Works for repairing the same. The important breaches of this road were, however, closed by a small outlay of Rupees 80 from the special grant of one lac sanctioned by Government. If this sum is deducted from the total amount of estimate, sanction will be required for Rupees 830; but as the Board, in paragraph 4 of the Proceedings, No. 3,253, dated 13th May 1870, sanctioning the list of Petty Construction and Repairs, have directed Collectors not to apply for sanction for any works "not provided for in the list," I have deferred submitting the estimate for sanction in this year. For want of funds no progress was made on this road during the current year. The local road from this pan to Ottapedaram is in progress, and a sum of Rupees 10,000 has been allotted for the current year. The completed portion is in good order.

3. ARASADI.—This road also was injured by the rains of last year, but such trifling repairs as required immediate attention were executed at a cost of Rupees 50 from the special grant. The maintenance allowance of Rupees 550 sanctioned during the year having been already expended, an estimate of Rupees 1,080 has been prepared for improving this road. This estimate provides for the construction of a new masonry road dam, in lieu of the bridge alluded to by the Salt Deputy Collector in his report; but, as there are no funds available, this estimate will be included in the next year's Budget. Meanwhile, arrangements will be made for making the road passable from the maintenance grant of Rupees 1,000 sanctioned for the current year.

4. TUTICORIN.—The inland trade of this pan being limited, the services of a large portion of the establishment have been dispensed with—*Vide* Board's Proceedings, 12th May 1870, No. 3,206. The necessity of a good road at this pan will be considered when the Railway is completed.

5. COILPATAM.—This is the most important Salt station in the district; a large revenue is realized. These pans are connected with the Palamecottah and Trichendoor roads by a short branch from Nallur. In Proceedings, No. 3,140, dated 9th December 1869, Government promised to make provision in the current year for widening and improving this road in the list of Petty Construction and Repairs, but this was not fulfilled. By the floods of last year the road suffered very severe damages, and a sum of Rupees 700 was spent from special grant towards the repair of the most important breaches. The slopes of the road were washed away in many places, and almost all the masonry works injured. The repair of these is very necessary, for, if not, loss of *increase* of Salt Revenue will ensue. An estimate of Rupees 4,500 has been prepared for the above repairs

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13th September 1870.*

and will be submitted separately for special sanction. The sum of Rupees 1,000 sanctioned for the current year will be spent in the up-keep of the road throughout.

6. **VIZIAPATI AND KUTTANKALI.**—An estimate of Rupees 16,600 has been sanctioned for a road from these pans to Yeirvadi in Government Order, No. 3,140, dated 9th December 1869, and there is a grant of Rupees 16,600 for the road in the current year's Budget. The work is now under progress.

7. Copy of the Salt Deputy Collector's report is herewith submitted.

From the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department, to the Acting Collector of Tinnevely, dated Trichendoor, 14th May 1870, No. 52.

I HAVE the honour to submit my annual report on the Salt roads of this district for the past official year 1869-70.

2. I regret my having been obliged to make an unfavourable report for this year, as the unusual high flood and heavy rain, which this district had in last November, have done considerable damages to most of the roads and tunnels generally.

3. **VAIPAR.**—In this road an inverted bridge was broken, the tunnels and parapet walls on them have been injured, and the road itself was breached in many places. Breaches have, however, been closed, and repairs to the earthwork have been done since, but the other works are still to be carried out. The proposed extension of the road in my last report has not yet been made owing to want of funds, and so the completed portion of it is just the same as it was in last year.

4. **MANJANKOLAM.**—This road was, agreeably to the directions of the Board given in last year, abandoned, and no sum was expended on it. The road, however, having been subsequently damaged by the rain as well as the other road, it had been repaired at his own cost by Sankarakumaru Pillay, the purchaser of the salt of this pan, as he was to be benefited by it.

5. **ARASADI.**—A maintenance allowance of Rupees 550 was sanctioned for this road during the year under report, and by which the whole extent of it was kept in pretty good order until the late flood, which has breached it in two or three places and washed away the side slopes of the road to a great extent. A certain portion of the road which was not sufficiently raised was under water for many days, and consequently it had been sunk low, and the stones, gravels, etc., have been turned, which now requires to be raised, re-metalled, and re-gravelled. The pavement of the several masonry dams on the road has also been much injured. Of these, such works which needed immediate repairs have been done, and the rest are postponed till the fund is provided for. The bridge alluded to in my last report has not yet been constructed, and I would beg to urge its construction as speedily as possible, as the sale in this pan is on the increase, and during the year under review it amounted to nearly three lacs of Rupees. The traders are put to great inconvenience by the non-construction of this bridge, as they have to cross this portion with very great difficulty, owing to the soil being very muddy and full of loamy sand, and becomes impassable when the rain falls. The road otherwise is tolerably in good order, but an annual maintenance allowance of not less than Rupees 500 is required for keeping this up in good state.

6. **TUTICORIN.**—This road and the bridge on it are in the same condition as they were reported in last year; but the inland trade in this pan having been very slack and fallen down very low since my last report, I was compelled to recommend to close the inland sale altogether in this, and to reduce the establishment from the commencement of this official year, and so I do not think it would be prudent now in me to suggest anything towards their repairs, or to spend

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any money on them, till the decision of the Board, before whom the above subject is now pending, is known. The question of having a good road and a well-constructed bridge over the swamp to this pan will have to be taken into consideration when the proposed Railway from Madura to Tuticorin is completed, and when it shows a necessity for re-opening this pan for inland traffic.

7. **COILPATAM.**—This is the most important and the largest pan in the whole district, and yields a Salt Revenue of about three and a half lacs of Rupees annually; but I beg leave to state that its road is not in as satisfactory a state as it should be for such an important Salt Division. No sum was provided in the Budget for its maintenance during the year, nor was any money spent for its up-keep until after the late heavy rain had done considerable damages to it. The eastern portion of the road, to a very great extent, has been carried off; the side slopes in many places have been washed away, several large breaches of very dangerous character have taken place, almost all the masonry works have been more or less injured, and a greater portion of the road was much damaged by having been covered with water for many days together. Of these, the repairing of earthwork, such as closing breaches, filling in ruts, etc., has been soon done and the road made passable out of a sum placed by you at my disposal from the special grant made for the emergent public works; but the metalling, gravelling, raising, and improving the road and repairing the masonry works have not yet been carried out. In order to ascertain the exact amount that may be required for putting the road in thorough repair, I have had an estimate prepared by the Overseer of the Range, which amounts to Rupees 4,500. This being too large a sum to be defrayed out of a small maintenance allowance that may be allotted in the Budget of this year for this road, and putting it in a better state as quickly as possible being very necessary, I beg you most earnestly, but very respectfully, to obtain special sanction of Government for the estimate, or to make such arrangements as you may deem proper to provide funds for carrying out the work as soon as practicable. I need not now point out to you, as you are already aware, that even the sum of Rupees 3,650, allotted for this road during the year 1867-68, was not fully spent, owing to causes assigned by you in your last report to the Board. I beg to state that unless the road is now well constructed, put in first-rate order, and a maintenance allowance of not less than 500 or 600 Rupees be given annually, it cannot be expected to be in good order, as it runs through a low ground of black soil, where the surplus water of many drainage channels and tanks is stored for the greater portion of the monsoon weather, and by which the road and its sides chiefly are constantly damaged.

8. **KUTTANKALI AND VIZIAPATI.**—This road has not received much injury from the late rain, except a small piece washed off near Kuttankali; but the platform bridge, which was built of stone over the Salt creek between the northern and southern sections of the Salt pans at Kuttankali, has been broken, and five out of six vents have been carried off. An estimate for re-building this will be included in the next year's Budget, but in the meantime, or till this manufacturing season is over, I beg to propose that a temporary wooden platform bridge might be constructed for the convenience of the ryots and Salt officials who have to go often from one section to the other, and who are now put to much difficulty in crossing the creek when it is in high tide; and should this meet with your approval, I request you to be good enough to give me Rupees 60, which I roughly estimated, for carrying out the work out of the sum that may be allotted for the Petty Construction and Repairs of this district, or from any other fund you can spare. The road from this to Yeirvadi or Valliyur has not yet been made. Rupees 10,000 was allotted for it in the last year's Budget, but after the late heavy rain it has been transferred to some other works, which were considered to be more important than this. Rupees 6,600 is again allowed in this year and from which I think a portion of the road will be constructed. The Salt road from Viziapati to Kuttankali, though in tolerably good order, yet is in want of repairs, as no maintenance allowance was given for it.

9. I annex a statement showing the amount received and expended on account of each Salt road during the year under report, and solicit you to be pleased to allow in future, in the Budget

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of every year, a small maintenance allowance for these, as it is done to other imperial and district roads :—

Names of the Salt roads.	AMOUNT RECEIVED.			Amount expended.
	Maintenance allowance sanctioned.	Grant from special fund for emergent works	Total.	
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Vaipar	550	80	80	80
Arasadi		50	600	600
Tuticorin		700	700	700
Coilpatam		15	15	15
Kuttankali and Viziapati... ..				
Total...	550	845	1,395	1,395

10. The estimate for Coilpatam Salt road is herewith forwarded.
(True Copy.)
(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government, with reference to their Order in the Revenue Department, dated 2nd October 1865, No. 2,379.

2. In paragraph 5 of his letter the Collector brings to notice the immediate necessity for widening and improving the Salt road from Nalloor to Coilpatam. In consequence of the very limited amount sanctioned by Government for Petty Construction and Repairs during the current year, the Board were unable to provide for this item, although they had promised to do so. A sum of Rupees 4,500 appears to be needed for the purpose. The Board hope that Government will be able to make arrangements to allot the requisite amount from the Public Works grant for the current year, as it is stated that if the repairs are not done in time, the increase of Salt Revenue that might otherwise be expected will not be realized. In the meantime the Collector will be requested to submit an estimate for the same for the Board's sanction.

REFERRED to the Public Works Department.
(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.
Ooty,
23rd August 1870.
No. 216.

ORDER THEREON, 13th September 1870, No. 2,199.
CIVIL WORKS, No. 17.
THE Government regret that they have no funds at their disposal for appropriation to the road referred to in

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paragraph 2, and which they observe is not amongst the Salt roads noted at foot of paragraph 9 of Revenue Proceedings of the 11th November 1868, No. 2,831.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunley.

On 2 October 1868 - 25-26
 " 9 December 1869 - 126-27
 " 23 June 1870 - 277-78
 At 18 May 1870 No 325-8. -

Referred to the Pub.
 lic Works Deptt.

23rd July 1870
 J. M. S. to Govt

1870.
 Board of Revenue,
 MADRAS
 PROCEEDINGS, 20th JULY 1870, No. 5,104.

Recd 8 Aug 1870. Encl.
 Recd 29

JULY.
 No. 5,104.

Salt roads—in Tinnevely District.—Collector's report on condition of, for 1869-70, submitted to Government, with remarks regarding provision of funds for widening and improving salt road from Nallur to Coilpatam.—Collector requested to forward an estimate for this work for Board's sanction.

Ch 2/5

2199-13 Sept 1870

Public Works Department
 No 2199 9C
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 13th Sept 1870
 And the following

No. of the Board of Revenue (H.E. No 5104 of 29th July 1870)

The Government regret that they have no funds at their disposal for appropriation to the road referred to in para 2, ^{and they are} which is not amongst the salt roads noted at foot of para 9 of Revenue Proceedings of the 11th Nov 68. No 2831.

35

219th Rev. Deptt
 Recd 14/9/70

[Signature]

No 3387

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Revenue Department

10-6

Printed

Reed.

22

13 Sept. 1899.

215-216

Salt Roads. Papering orders
in the form of the Board of
Revenue receiving the report
of the Collector on the Salt
Roads in the Tirunelveli
District during 1889-90.