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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	250 W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	21-1-1879	197 .

S.G.M.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

21st January 1879, No. 250 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper:—

No. 206. Endorsement of the Acting Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated Dowlaishvaram, 11th January 1879, No. 43 G.M.
From T. D. HARRIS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Ganjam Division, to the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated Berhampore, 29th December 1878, No. 379.

I HAVE the honor to submit, herewith, copy of a report received from the Acting Sub-divisional Officer, Chicacole, on the subject of the late heavy rains and floods, and to inform you that in the north no damages have occurred except the portion of trunk road between Ganjam and Rumbah which has been damaged partially.

2. Estimates for filling up the breaches, &c., on roads and irrigation works, and for constructing bridge in the 31st mile trunk road south reported to have been carried away, have been called for and will be submitted to you for sanction.

3. Repairs absolutely necessary for restoring the traffic have been done, but much could not be attempted owing to the restriction of outlay and limited funds at my disposal.

4. I request that all the grants now taken away be made available early in the next year, or otherwise the estimates for emergent repairs now under preparation cannot be met out of the usual budget grants.

From Supervisor J. CORMAC, Officer in charge of Chicacole Sub-division, to the Executive Engineer in charge of Ganjam Division, Berhampore, dated Chicacole, 27th December 1878, No. 30.

I BEG to report the occurrences of a very severe storm at this station which lasted from the 4th to the 9th instant.

2. On the 4th we had a little rain which was not thought much of except as being likely to spoil a part of the crop; on the 5th the rain was a little heavier, and it was then thought that the rain would seriously injure the paddy crops. On the morning of the 7th (the rain having been pouring down all through the night) the country was flooded and the embankment of the trunk road between Chicacole and Byree was being overtopped; all during the day the rain continued to fall heavily, and on the morning of the 8th matters looked very serious indeed; three-fourths of the town of Chicacole was then flooded, all communications with outlying villages was stopped, and the higher ground in the town was occupied by hundreds of people who had been compelled to leave their houses; the rain continued during the 8th to fall heavily, and I feared very much that the whole town would be swept completely away. During the whole of the day much anxiety was felt, but in the evening a slight subsidence of the flood was observed which dissipated apprehensions of any greater disaster than had already occurred.

3. During the 9th the rain continued, and the sky was so cloudy that it was impossible to say when the rain would cease; the flood was, however, subsiding, though as yet it was not possible to hold any communication with villagers outside.

4. On the morning of the 10th the rain ceased, and I was able by wading up to my knees to see the portion of the town which had been (and still was partially) flooded. I calculated that about 300 thatched and 20 tiled houses had been utterly ruined, whilst many were more or less damaged; the misery of the people thus rendered houseless was most pitiable, and it is probable that many deaths have occurred from exposure to such long continued rain.

5. The damage done by the storm has been very great; every road has been breached more or less, and in places the road coverings of metal and gravel have been swept off in lengths

of one mile; the trunk road was seriously breached in the 3rd, 11th, 21st, and 26th miles (all these breaches have since been made practicable for carts), and in the 31st mile a bridge of 3 arches 15 feet span has been destroyed. At this place it has been found necessary to make a temporary roadway round the breach caused by the fall of the bridge, the depth of water for some distance above and below the bridge site rendering it impossible to do anything for the present at or near the breach.

6. Many tanks and embankments of channels have been breached and much damage done to masonry works, of works of tanks, &c. Details of these will be known as estimates are submitted; lists of damaged works are now under preparation and will be submitted on receipt.

7. The damage done to public works has been great, and the people have suffered very severely in the loss of cattle, sheep having died from exposure by hundreds; very many huts in villages and towns which were not flooded having been exposed to such severe rain and wind have collapsed.

8. I beg to append a statement showing the rainfall during the days named:—

Rainfall from 4th to 9th December 1878.

	At Chicacole.	
December 4th	0.32	
" 5th	1.21	
" 6th	4.40	
	5.93	
December 7th—		
From 7 A.M. to noon	1.35	
" noon to 3 P.M.	2.50	
" 3 P.M. to 6 P.M.	1.90	
" 6 P.M. to 7 A.M.	7.65	
	13.40	
December 8th—		
From 7 A.M. to noon	0.75	
" noon to 4 P.M.	0.80	
" 4 P.M. to 6 P.M.	1.0	
" 6 P.M. to 7 A.M.	5.0	
	7.55	
December 9th—		
From 7 A.M. to noon	1.80	
" noon to 6 P.M.	1.60	
" 6 P.M. to 7 A.M. (10th)	1.01	
	4.41	
	31.29	

Copy forwarded for the information of Government in continuation of endorsement, No. —, dated 30th December 1878.

(Signed) B. H. YOUNG,
Asst. Engineer,
for Ag. Supp. Engr., First Circle.

No. 207.

ORDER THEREON, 21st January 1879, No. 250 W.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

To the Superintending Engineer, First Circle.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. C. Howarth.
Spare Copies

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

250/
72

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1879) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
FIRST CIRCLE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 21st

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 21st January 1879, No. 259 W.

JANUARY.

Nos. 206-207.

Recent floods in Chicacole. — Ganjam
Divisional Officer's report regarding the
recorded.

Ganjam Divisional Office
Berhampore
29th December 1878

No 379

From

The Executive Engineer
Ganjam Division

To

The Superintending Engineer
1st Circle

Dowlaiswaram

Sir

I have the honor to submit herewith
Copy of a report received from the Ag. Sub-Divisional
Officer Chicacole on the subject of the late
heavy rains and floods and to inform you
that in the north no damages have occurred
except the portions of Trunk Road between
Ganjam and Pumbak which has been
damaged partially

2. Estimates for filling up the breaches
&c. on roads and Irrigation works and for
Constructing Bridge in the 3rd Mile Trunk
Road south reported to have been carried
away

away, have been called for and will be submitted to you for sanction.

3. Repairs absolutely necessary for restoring the traffic have been done but much could not be attempted owing to the restriction of outlay and limited funds at my disposal.

4. I request that all the grants now taken away be made available early in the next year or otherwise the Estimates for emergent repairs now under preparation cannot be met out of the usual Budget grants.

I have &c

(Signed) J. D. Harris

Executive Engineer

1243 G.M. Ganjam

Copy forwarded for the information of Government in continuation of endorsement No. dated 30th December 1878.

B. H. Young

Asstt Engineer

Asstt to the Supg. Engrs for 49. Supg. Engrs 1st Circle

Saccharishum

11 January 1879

Compd by 1879

250
4

From
The Deputy Engineer
Mircle

To
The Chief Engineer
P.W.D.

Dated 11th Jan 1879
Recd 12th 4.3 P.M.

Chicacole - Late heavy
rains & floods in -
Submitting for inform-
ation Ganjam Divn Office
report with its enclosure
regarding the -

No 250 is per Jany
Decided

eat

7/1

17/12/78

L. E. F. J. L.
Recd. M. L. 17

No 30

Chicacole Sub-Division Office

27th December 1878.

From
The officer in charge of
Chicacole Sub-Division

To
The Executive Engineer
In charge of Ganjam Division
Berhampore

Sir

I beg to report the occurrences
of a very severe storm at this station which
lasted from the 4th to the 9th instant.

On the 4th we had a little rain
which was not thought much of except as being
likely to spoil a part of the Crop; on the 5th
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thought that the rain would seriously injure
the paddy Crop; on the morning of the 7th
(the rain having been pouring down all through
the night) the Country was flooded and the
embankment of the Trunk road between
Chicacole and Bypore was being overtopped;
all during the day; the rain continued to
fall heavily and on the morning of the 8th
matters

matters looked very serious indeed; three-fourths of the town of Chicacole was then flooded; all Communications with outlying villages was stopped; and the higher ground in the town was occupied by hundreds of people who had been Compelled to leave their houses; the rain continued during the 8th to fall heavily and I feared very much that the whole town would be swept completely away; during the whole of the day much anxiety was felt, but in the evening, a slight subsidence of the flood was observed which dissipated apprehensions of any greater disaster than had already occurred.

During the 9th the rain continued and the sky was so cloudy that it was impossible to say when the rain would cease; the flood was however subsiding though as yet it was not possible to hold any Communication with villagers outside.

On the morning of the 10th the rain ceased and I was able by wading up to my knees to see the portion of the town which had been (and still was partially) flooded. I calculated that

that about 300 thatched and 20 tiled houses had been utterly ruined whilst very many were more or less damaged; the misery of the people thus rendered houseless was most pitiable and it is probable that many deaths have occurred from exposure to such long continued rain.

The damage done by the storm has been very great, every road has been breached more or less and in places the road Coverings of metal and gravel have been swept off in lengths of one mile, the trunk road was seriously breached in the 3rd 11th 21st and 25 Miles (all these breaches have since been made practicable for Carts) and in the 31st Mile a bridge of 3 arches 15 ft. span has been destroyed, at this place it has been found necessary to make a temporary road way round the breach caused by the fall of the bridge, the depth of water for some distance above & below the bridge site rendering it impossible to do any thing for the present at or near the breach.

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Channels have been breached and much damage done to masonry works of works of tanks &c details of these will be known as estimates are submitted; lists of damaged works are now under preparation and will be submitted on receipt.

The damage done to public works has been great and the people have suffered very severely in the loss of Cattle, sheep having died from exposure by hundreds, very many huts in villages and towns which were not flooded, having been exposed to such severe rain and wind, have collapsed.

I beg to append a statement showing the rain-fall during the days named.

Rain-fall from 4th to 9th December 1878
at Chicacole

4 th December	0.32.	0.32.
5 th " "	1.21.	1.21.
6 th " "	4.40.	4.40.
7 th " "		
From 7 A.M. to Noon	1.35	
Noon to 3 p.M.	2.50	
3 p.M. to 6 p.M.	1.90	
6 p.M. to 7 A.M.	7.65	
	<u>13.40</u>	

From 7 th A.M. to Noon	0.75
Noon to 4 p.M.	0.80
4 p.M. to 6 p.M.	1.0
6 p.M. to 7 A.M.	5.0
9 th	<u>7.55</u>

From 7 th A.M. to Noon	1.30
Noon to 6 p.M.	1.60
6 p.M. to 7 A.M. (10 th)	1.01
	<u>4.41</u>
Total	31.29.

I beg to remain
Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant
(Signed) J. Cormac
Supervisor
Ag. Sub-Divisional Officer

(True Copy)
(Signed) J. D. Harris
Executive Engineer
Ganjamo Division
(True Copy)

B. K. Young Asst. Engineer

Compd. by
B. K.

Asst. to the Supg. Engr. for Ag. Insp. Engr. 1st Circle

no 21 of aug 179 - to 250th

250/21

C. 294

Vol. of 1879 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

*Vol 234
5-M*

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 21 Jan'y 1879. No. 250W

Nos. 206-207

Recent floods in
Chicacole Kanjam
Divisional Officers
report regarding the
accidents