Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 6849

DATED 24 Dec 1897

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Rec 7626/97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Minor Irrigation Works. Rs. of the Land
Revenue (Rev. Sett., Land Records & Agri.) Dept.
reviewing Statements showing the expenditure
incurred during 1896-97, Comptd. & the Chief Engineer
for Irrn.

[V.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed.

BACK PAPERS.

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Public works (1897) department

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Current No: 6776

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. 12. 7. }
Regd. 12. 7. } 1897.

Enclosures

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Printed July th.

Proceedings, 30th June 1897, No. 478.

40.

No 684 d/ 26.7.97

JUNE.

Communicated to the Chief Eng for Irrigation.

To the Chief Eng I.S. All Supt Engrs. I bale ~~with~~ # II & 60 bale with 20 copies and ~~III~~ bale with 10 copies. ... 20/7/87

Minor Irrigation Works.—Reviewing statements showing the expenditure on — during 1896-97.

Done WH 20.7.97

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following papers :—

From the Collector of	Anantapur,	dated	9th Feb.	1897,	Dis.	No.	759.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	9th Mar.	,,	Ref. on	,,	92-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	10th ,,	,,	Dis.	,,	1914.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	28th April	,,	,,	,,	2283.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	28th ,,	,,	,,	,,	2284.
,, ,,	of Arcot, North	,,	10th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	273-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	13th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	488-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	1st May	,,	,,	,,	879-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	20th ,,	,,	Ref. on C.	,,	872-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	10th June	,,	Dis.	,,	1195-Eng.
,, ,,	of Arcot, South	,,	9th Feb.	,,	Ref.	,,	49-V.P.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	9th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	78-V.P.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	3rd May	,,		,,	928-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	19th ,,	,,	Dis.	,,	26-Tour.
,, ,,	of Bellary	,,	10th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	830.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	1360.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	15th April	,,	,,	,,	2156.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	25th ,,	,,	,,	,,	2404.
,, ,,	of Chingleput	,,	11th Feb.	,,	Ref.	,,	96-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	12th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	117-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	16th April	,,	,,	,,	136-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	4th May	,,	Dis.	,,	1230.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	28th ,,	,,	,,	,,	1439.
,, ,,	of Coimbatore	,,	11th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	491-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	815-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	21st April	,,	,,	,,	1330-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	23rd ,,	,,	,,	,,	1384-Rev.
,, ,,	of Cuddapah	,,	6th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	694-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	1835-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,,	9th April	,,	,,	,,	2685-Rev.

From the Collector of	Ganjám,	dated 11th Feb.	1897,	Dis.	No	334-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 7th Mar.	,,		,,	48-Pl. Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 19th May	,,	Dis.	,,	978-Ver.
,, ,,	of Gódávari	,, 16th Feb.	,,		,,	475-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 30th Mar.	,,		,,	1089-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 1st May	,,		,,	1464-Ver.
,, ,,	of Kistna	,, 14th Feb.	,,	Ref. on P.C.	,,	105-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 16th Mar.	,,	C.	,,	2-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 21st April	,,	Ref. on P.C.	,,	129-Ver.
,, ,,	of Kurnool	,, 6th Feb.	,,		,,	403-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 5th Mar.	,,	Dis.	,,	658-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 14th April	,,	,,	,,	1057-Eng.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 9th May	,,	,,	,,	1277-Eng.
,, ,,	of Madras	,, 3rd Mar.	,,		,,	367.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 26th Feb.	,,		,,	368.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 22nd Mar.	,,		,,	394.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 22nd ,,	,,		,,	395.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 26th April	,,		,,	36.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 26th ,,	,,		,,	38.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 26th ,,	,,		,,	39.
,, ,,	of Madura	,, 11th Feb.	,,	Ref. on C.	,,	48-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	63 (a)-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 22nd April	,,	,,	,,	91-Pl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 25th May	,,	,,	,,	138-Pl.
,, ,,	of Malabar	,, 11th ,,	,,		,,	——.
,, ,,	of Nellore	,, 5th Feb.	,,		,,	353-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 6th Mar.	,,		,,	730-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 9th April	,,		,,	1190-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 23rd ,,	,,		,,	1331-Ver.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 22nd ,,	,,		,,	1284-Ver.
,, ,,	of Salem	,, 9th Feb.	,,		,,	559,
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 8th Mar.	,,		,,	1125.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 8th April	,,		,,	1918.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 24th ,,	,,		,,	2194.
,, ,,	of Tanjore	,, 8th Feb.	,,	Ref. on P.R.	,,	122-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 8th Mar.	,,		,,	1017-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 15th April	,,		,,	1792-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 8th May	,,		,,	2150-Rev.
,, ,,	of Tinnevelly	,, 6th Feb.	,,	Ref. on Per.	,,	50-Gl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 6th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	66-Gl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 13th April	,,	,,	,,	78-Gl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 3rd May	,,	,,	,,	78-Gl.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 15th ,,	,,	Dis.	,,	970-Gen.
,, ,,	of Trichinopoly	,, 9th Feb.	,,	L.	,,	208-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	380-Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 9th April	,,	Ref. on C.	,,	183-Pl. Rev.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 14th ,,	,,	,,	,,	1312-Rev.
,, ,,	of Vizagapatam	,, 9th Feb.	,,	Dis.	,,	527-Acct.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 6th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	814-Acct.
,, ,,	of ,,	,, 29th April	,,	,,	,,	1563-Acct.
,, Examiner of Public Works Accounts,		,, 18th May	,,		,,	1542-D.B.

RESOLUTION—dated 30th June 1897, No. 478.

A sum of Rs. 4,50,000 was originally sanctioned by Government in its order, No. 957, dated 4th December 1895, Financial, for expenditure on minor irrigation works during 1896-97. Adding to this, the additional allotment of Rs. 37,500 sanctioned in G.O., No 208, Financial, dated 5th March 1897, the total grant amounted to Rs. 4,87,500. Out of this sum, Rs. 35,000 were placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department for works which had to be executed by professional agency (*vide* G.Os., No. 1050, dated 31st December 1895, and No. 446, dated 31st July 1896, Financial), and Rs. 13,691 were surrendered towards the close of the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,38,809 for works to be undertaken by the Revenue Department. The actual expenditure incurred by this department amounted to Rs. 4,06,934 or Rs. 31,875 less than the available grant. The subjoined statement shows the transactions for the several districts.

Districts.	Allotment for 1896-97.	Expenditure during 1896-97 including establishment charges and contingencies.	Increase or decrease of expenditure over allotment.	Percentage of increase or decrease on the allotment.	Total charges on account of establishment and contingencies.	Percentage of establishment charges on the outlay on minor irrigation works.
	RS.	RS.	RS.		RS.	
1. Ganjám	18,517	18,517	..	..	1,650	9·78
2. Vizagapatam	16,000	15,917	— 83	— 0·52	1,519	10·55
3. Gódávari	32,469	27,604	— 4,865	— 14·98	1,412	5·39
4. Kistna	14,100	14,000	— 100	— 0·71	1,145	8·91
5. Nellore	18,000	16,939	— 1,061	— 5·89	2,825	20·02
6. Cuddapah	30,180	29,610	— 570	— 1·89	3,355	12·78
7. Anantapur	33,000	27,826	— 5,174	— 15·68	3,032	12·23
8. Bellary	13,300	5,297	— 8,003	— 60·17	1,706	47·51
9. Kurnool	11,800	10,219	— 1,581	— 13·40	919	9·88
10. Madras	720	660	— 60	— 8·33	34	5·43
11. Chingleput	26,255	25,761	— 494	— 1·88	2,365	10·11
12. North Arcot	55,000	54,700	— 300	— 0·55	3,773	7·41
13. South Arcot	64,312	63,987	— 325	— 0·51	4,253	7·12
14. Tanjore	5,500	5,382	— 118	— 2·15	428	8·64
15. Trichinopoly	18,647	18,097	— 550	— 2·95	1,828	11·24
16. Madura	14,835	15,445	+ 610	+ 4·11	1,523	10·94
17. Tinnevelly	38,700	37,399	— 1,301	— 3·36	4,662	14·24
18. Coimbatore	1,939	1,545	— 394	— 20·32	..	..
19. Salem	18,250	17,849	— 401	— 2·20	2,070	13·12
20. Malabar	210	180	— 30	— 14·29	..	..
Board's reserve	7,075	..	— 7,075	..	..	..
Total ..	4,38,809	4,06,934	—31,875	— 7·26	38,499	10·45
Amount placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department.	35,000	22,027	—12,973	— 37·07	..	..
Grand Total ..	4,73,809	4,28,961	—44,848	— 9·47	38,499	9·86

The sum of Rs. 7,075 shown as reserve at the Board's disposal represents two amounts of Rs. 7,000 and Rs. 75 surrendered by the Collectors of Cuddapah and Chingleput towards the close of the year. The Collector of the former district applied for an additional allotment of Rs. 7,000 for expenditure on minor irrigation works to be undertaken as famine-relief works. But subsequently, he reported that the amount applied for by him was not required, as under G.O., No. 668, Revenue, dated 25th November 1896, all relief works were placed under charge of the Public Works Department. In Chingleput, the amount represents the balance that remained unallotted after allotting Rs. 200 to the Trichinopoly district out of the sum of Rs. 275 surrendered by him in his letter, No. 336-Gl., dated 17th March 1897.

2. Work to the value of Rs. 1,060 had been executed but not paid for at the close of the year in the marginally-noted districts. In the following districts, the expenditure reported by the Collectors differs from the figures furnished by the Accountant-General :—

	RS.
Anantapur	355
Kurnool	650
Trichinopoly	55
Total ...	1,060

Districts.	Expenditure. As per Collector's return.	Expenditure. As per Accountant-General's return.	Difference.	Particulars as far as known.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Vizagapatam ..	15,916 9 0	16,138 3 3	+ 221 10 3	83 7 0 Balance out of the district allotment. 138 3 3 Excess expenditure over the allotment. 221 10 3 The Collector explains that a sum of Rs. 421-10-3 was debited to "43. Minor Irrigation Works," being the cost of earthernware pipes supplied by the Consulting Architect to Government, and that if this amount is added to the expenditure returned by him, the total expenditure would amount to Rs. 16,338-3-3; but that if the sum of Rs. 200 originally drawn from the treasury by the Tahsildar of Golgonda for purchasing pipes locally but subsequently refunded by him on arrival of the pipes from Madras is deducted, the net expenditure would come to only Rs. 16,138-3-3. This explanation is not clear. If, as stated by the Collector, the advance of Rs. 200 was debited to 43. Minor Works and credited to the same head, when the amount was refunded, it is not understood why the amount should be deducted from the gross expenditure. The Collector is requested to report further on the matter. The amount does not appear, however, to have been credited to "43. Minor Works" in the Accountant-General's return showing receipts.
Gódávari ..	27,604 5 4	27,569 9 6	— 34 11 10	The difference is composed of the following items :— RS. A. P. 33 11 10 In his progress report for July 1896, the Collector reported that the amount was expunged in the treasury account as being cash recoveries. The explanation is not understood. The amount should not have been taken in abatement of charges as appears to have been done, but should have been credited to the proper head. 1 0 0 The figure returned by the Accountant-General in his statement for September is less by one rupee than that reported by the Collector for the same month. 34 11 10 14 14 5 Deducted by the Collector from the gross expenditure in January 1897, being the amount recovered as overpayment made in December 1896 on account of repairs executed to certain work. The amount properly appears as a credit in the Accountant-General's return for January 1897. 8 7 3 Deducted by the Accountant-General in the return for March 1897. 6 7 2
Cuddapah ..	29,610 2 7	29,616 9 9	+ 6 7 2	
South Arcot ..	63,987 2 3	64,230 5 10	+ 243 3 7	The difference is composed of the following items :— RS. A. P. 112 5 3 Additional expenditure reported by the Accountant-General in his return for September 1896. 130 14 4 Additional expenditure reported by the Accountant-General in his return for December 1896. 243 3 7
Tanjore ..	5,381 14 5	5,381 10 5	— 0 4 0	0 4 0 Deducted by the Accountant-General in his return for June 1896.
Tinnevelly ..	37,399 2 10	37,829 11 3	+ 430 8 5	The difference is composed of the following items :— RS. A. P. 170 4 9 Additional expenditure reported by the Accountant-General in his return for September 1896. 18 6 11 Do. do. for November 1896. 14 9 3 Do. do. for December 1896. 234 4 3 Do. do. for March 1897. 437 9 2 0 0 9 Deduct the amount shown by the Collector as charge for carrying M.I. forms. 437 8 5 7 0 0 Adjusted by the Collector in his accounts for March 1897 in accordance with the Accountant-General's instructions. 430 8 5

The Collectors concerned are requested to explain these variations in communication with the Accountant-General, if necessary.

3. The expenditure which amounted to 92·74 per cent. of the allotment was on the whole satisfactory. It exceeded the allotment in Madura and Ganjám. In Vizagapatam, Kistna, North Arcot and South Arcot, the balance left unexpended was less than 1 per cent. The expenditure in the marginally-noted districts was not so satisfactory, the unexpended balance having ranged from 13·40 per cent. in Kurnool to 60·17, per cent. in Bellary. The large balance in the last-named district appears, however, to be due to the circumstance that an additional allotment of Rs. 7,200 placed at the disposal of the Collector in B.P., dated 20th March 1897, No. 237, was left unutilized as the works for which they were granted were, along with certain other works, placed in charge of the Public Works department to be executed as famine-relief-works. The balance in Coimbatore is attributed to the non-execution of repairs to a certain tank owing to the existence of water therein, and, that in Anantapur, to difficulty experienced in obtaining the services of a maistry to supervise the works in the Penukonda taluk. The Collector of Kurnool attributes the balance to the non-completion of certain works in the Nandyal taluk and has called for explanation from the officer concerned. The Collector of Gódávari has not explained the large unexpended balance in his district which amounted to Rs. 4,865. He will be requested to do so now.

Anantapur.
Gódávari.
Kurnool.
Bellary.
Coimbatore

4. The annexed statement furnished by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts shows the outlay on minor irrigation works incurred by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Revenue department:—

Statement showing the Expenditure incurred on Minor Works, Revenue Department, during the year 1896–97.

Districts.	Amount placed at the disposal of Public Works Department (works and Repairs).	Amount expended.	Differences.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bellary	945	1,228	— *283*
Chingleput	316	317	— *1*
Coimbatore	1,970	1,635	335
Cuddapah	2,387	2,486	— *99*
Kistna	1,910	1,840	70
Kurnool	330	792	— *462*
Madura	3,486	2,112	1,374
Nellore	2,744	2,734	10
North Arcot	3,756	2,510	1,246
Salem	3,155	1,425	1,730
Tanjore	965	959	6
Trichinopoly	2,381	2,560	— *179*
Vizagapatam	791	622	169
South Arcot	1,280	807	473
Total ..	26,416	22,027	4,389

Note.—The figures in italics in column 4 denote excesses over the amounts placed at the disposal of Public Works Department.

It is presumed that the amount shown in column 2 of the above statement is exclusive of the allotment made for charges on account of establishment, tools and plant.

5. The total establishment and contingent charges for works in charge of the Revenue department amounted to Rs. 38,499 or 10·45 per cent. of the actual outlay on works. As in preceding years, no establishment was entertained in Coimbatore. In Nellore and Bellary the charges exceeded the limit of 15 per cent. of the net outlay

on works prescribed in G.O., No. 1029, dated 23rd November 1886. The Collector of Nellore has not explained the circumstances under which the charges were allowed to exceed the limit. He is requested to do so now and to see that such excess does not occur in future. As explained in the review for the preceding year, the abnormal expenditure in Bellary represents the pay of the Tungabhadra channel superintendents debited to the minor irrigation grant under B.P., dated 13th October 1894, No. 432.

6. The number of works repaired by the Tank Restoration Scheme Parties and handed over to the Revenue department during the year has been reported from the following districts only.

Districts.	Number of Tank Restoration Work handed over to Revenue Department.
Ganjám	*Nil.*
Vizagapatam	4
Nellore	*Nil.*
Anantapur	*Nil.*
Kurnool	*
Chingleput	64
North Arcot	*Nil.*
South Arcot	46
Tanjore	*Nil.*
Trichinopoly	46
Madura	57
Tinnevelly	*Nil.*
Coimbatore	141
Salem	*Nil.*
Malabar	

* Information promised by the Collector.

It is presumed that in the remaining districts no works were handed over to the Revenue Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

Second Assistant.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ the „ „ Public Works Department.
„ all Collectors, except those of South Canara and Nilgiris.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Exd. P. Seetharam.

P. 420

Government { 1897 } of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897.
Regd. }

Enclosures

Spare copies 5

5u 67014/97

G.O., No. 488, 25th June 1897.

R. 6858 & A. P. 9

Communicated to the officers concerned.

2 The Supdg Engr to Circle will expedite the submission of his report on the Moulhana Reservoir Project.

(Sd) W. H. J

C. E. for S.
S. E. IV

JUNE.

Recording with remarks, the joint report of the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, and the Third Member of the Board of Revenue on Famine Relief Estimates, Famine Tools, &c., in the North Arcot District.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following letter from the Hon'ble Colonel D. M. CAMPBELL, R. E., Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, and H. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Esq., Third Member, Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, dated Camp Nellore, 10th June 1897, No. D.

In continuation of our letter C dated June 7th, 1897, we have the honor to submit the following report regarding the District of North Arcot:—

1. *General condition of the District.*—The Collector, Mr. Wynne has been in charge of the District for two years, and is acquainted with all parts of it. He had come in 30 miles from his Jamabandi camp to meet us. He estimates that last year's "dry" crops, taken all round, did not yield more than an eight-anna harvest. The yield of "wet" crops was also decidedly below the average.

2. *Rainfall.*—The following statement shows the rainfall from April 1st to May 31st, compared with the average of 25 years ending 1894:—

Stations.	Rainfall from April 1st to May 31st.	Average.	Remarks.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Kangundi	3·59	4·12	— 0·53
Venkatagirikota	2·86	3·46	— 0·60
Palmaner	4·01	3·77	+ 0·24
Punganur	0·94	3·19	— 2·25
Chendragiri	2·05	2·33	— 0·28
Tirupati	0·32	1·88	— 1·56
Chittoor	2·54	3·75	— 1·21
Gudiyatam	3·08	3·29	— 0·21
Vellore	3·48	4·12	— 0·64
Polur	3·74	2·92	+ 0·82
Arni	1·61	2·54	— 0·93
Wandiwash	0·47	3·37	— 2·90
Tiruvettiyur	1·01	Not available.	
Arcot	1·46	3·42	— 1·96
Walajah	0·60	3·08	— 2·48
Arkonam	2·88	2·27	+ 0·61
Tirutani	2·33	2·49	— 0·16
Puttur	2·01	2·81	— 0·80
Kalahasti	0·65	2·08	— 1·43
District Average ...	2·09	3·31	— 1·22

3. A strip along the eastern margin of the District to the east of the Eastern Ghauts, including parts of the Chendragiri, Kalahasti and Karvetinagar Zemins, and of the Walajah, Arcot and Wandiwash Taluks has up to date received no rain.

Fortunately, this locality had an excellent North-East Monsoon in 1896, and there is still water in most of the tanks in the Government taluks. The tract depends mainly on the North-East Monsoon, and the Collector believes that a failure of the South-West Monsoon would not occasion any immediate distress. In the Punganur Zemin, on the North-West of the District, there has also been a fall of less than one inch up to the end of May. Remarks on this tract will be found further on.

In the rest of the District, the pre-monsoon showers have been generally but not seriously below the average.

4. *Prices.*—The following statement shows the prices of the chief food grains at the end of May, as compared with normal, warning and scarcity rates.:—

Stations.	Rice.				Ragi.				Cholam.				Cumbu.			
	End of May.	Normal rate.	Warning rate.	Scarcity rate.	End of May.	Normal rate.	Warning rate.	Scarcity rate.	End of May.	Normal rate.	Warning rate.	Scarcity rate.	End of May.	Normal rate.	Warning rate.	Scarcity rate.
Kangundi ...	10·1				21·8				...				21·0			
Venkatagirikota ...	9·4				18·5				...				...			
Palmaner ...	9·4				18·5				...				...			
Punganur ...	8·5				20·2				19·8				...			
Chandragiri ...	11·3				16·2				...				...			
Tirupati ...	9·0				19·1				15·4				14·0			
Chittoor ...	10·8				18·8				16·4				...			
Gudiyatam ...	10·3				19·7				15·5				14·9			
Vellore ...	12·1				19·1				15·9				15·8			
Polur ...	13·1	15·2	11·2	8·4	18·2	29·9	24·0	16·0	...	26·1	19·5	13·0	16·6	25·3	20·0	13·5
Arni ...	12·1				16·4				17·4				15·8			
Wandiwash ...	13·1				16·4				...				...			
Arcot ...	11·1				18·2				...				17·5			
Walajah ...	12·1				16·4				...				...			
Arkonam ...	12·1				16·4				...				...			
Tirutani ...	11·5				21·8				...				...			
Puthur ...	11·0				18·2				15·4				13·9			
Kalahasti ...	10·1				21·4				...				...			
District Average ...	10·9				18·6				16·5				16·2			

Rice was at scarcity rates in Punganur Zemindari; but this is of no importance as the staple food grain is râgi, which was selling at 20·16 seers, *i.e.*, half way between warning and scarcity rates, and 33 per cent. above the normal.

Rice was cheaper than the warning rate in 8 out of 18 of the price recording stations. It is dearest where it is little used, and is no where near the scarcity rate, with the exception noted above.

Râgi, the chief staple of the poorer classes, had almost reached the scarcity rate at Chendragiri, Arni, Wandiwash, Walajah and Arkonam, and its average District price was more than 37 per cent. above the normal, cholam and cumbu where they could be got, stood about half way between warning and scarcity rates.

5. *Exports of grain.*—From the end of February 1897 to the 5th instant, 2·78 lakhs of maunds of grain have been exported by rail, and 1·25 lakhs have been imported, large quantities of grain were exported towards the close of 1896: exportation then slackened until the beginning of May, since when the exports have again considerably exceeded the imports. The recent increase is probably in great measure due to the harvest of second crop paddy and of cholam in the South-East of the District.

Large quantities of paddy are brought to Vellore from outside the District and are there pounded into rice which is re-exported. This trade probably accounts for a considerable portion of the grain imported and exported.

There is no record of export and import by road, and it is difficult to draw any conclusions from the rail-borne figures in the absence of similar statistics for normal years.

6. Notwithstanding the high prices, the Collector believes that the only large tract in the District which need cause immediate anxiety, in case of a failure of the South-West Monsoon, is the North-West corner, comprising the Punganur Zemin, the Pâlayams of Kallur and Pulicharla and the Pâkala Firka of the Chendragiri taluk. This is, roughly speaking, the tract in which relief works were opened in 1892. Both monsoons last year, in this tract, were bad, Punganur, in particular, depends for its râgi crop (which is the staple) on the South-West Monsoon. Should the South-West Monsoon fail, the Collector believes that the agricultural labouring classes will find no work and will require relief.

7. The population of the Punganur Zemin is 92,000, and of the two Pâlayams 17,000. Including the Pâkala Firka, the population of the tract is perhaps about 1¼ lakhs.

The labouring classes of these parts hate road-work, and will not, in ordinary seasons, engage in it. The contractors for the repair of Local Fund roads habitually import their labour from the Government taluks to the South.

When relief works were opened in 1892, the price of ragi averaged 17·5 seers, the present price being over 20 seers. In 1891, Punganur had had a rainfall of only 14·53 inches, whereas last year it was over 18 inches.

District Manual, Vol. II, Page 87.

Present prospects are thus not as bad as in 1892, and an approximate idea of the numbers likely to join as relief workers may be got from the fact that in 1892 the maximum daily average of relief workers in the worst month was under 1,800.

Should the dreaded failure of the South-West Monsoon occur, the necessary relief can be afforded to the tract in question without any great strain.

8. The Collector believes, and so far as we can judge, he is right, that no other large portion of the District is likely to require the opening of relief works supposing that the ensuing North-East Monsoon is normal.

9. *Famine Programme.*—The Famine Programme provides for works to the amount of Rs. 36,15,485 which is sufficient to give employment to about 23 per cent. of the population of 2,200,000 persons for 3 months.

10. The estimates may be divided as follows :—

Sanctioned	Rs. 11,46,556
Ready	„ 4,87,709
Proposed but not ready	„ 19,81,220

With the exceptions noted below in the margin, all the sanctioned estimates were laid before us and we are satisfied that they are available for immediate execution, should necessity arise.

They comprise—

Local Fund roads	Rs. 7,83,425
(a) Municipal works	„ 86,777
Minor Local Fund works such as deepening drinking water ponds, forming village roads, clearing village sites, &c.	„ 2,68,724
(b) Irrigation works under the D. P. W.	„ 7,630
Total	11,46,556

(a) These were in the Municipal Office and not available for inspection.

(b) In the Sub-Division Office and could not be produced.

This is sufficient to give employment to 152,874 persons, or 6·9 per cent of the population for 3 months. This, we believe, is ample to provide for all contingencies that may arise before next November.

11. In the parts most likely to be affected by a failure of the South-West Monsoon, *viz.*, Punganur and a part of Chendragiri, the amount of the estimates sanctioned and actually ready for execution is Rs.2,53,201, and the population of the tract being about 125,000, this will afford employment for 28 per cent. of the population for 3 months or for 14 per cent. for 6 months, which we believe to be ample. As regards the estimates shown as ready and amounting to Rs 487,709, many of them were laid before us, but others were not available for inspection. These only require to be submitted to the proper sanctioning authority and the Collector has promised that this shall be done as soon as possible. The balance of the estimates entered in the programme and amounting to Rs. 19,81,220, only includes proposed works and need not be considered till the result of the South-West Monsoon is seen, as it would evidently be a waste of time and money to prepare great numbers of estimates that are not likely to be required. There are no big works, costing over one lakh of rupees, on which a large amount of labour could be concentrated, except the Morthana Reservoir Project in the Gudiyatam taluk (estimate Rs. 3,00,000). This work has been under investigation for some time, but nothing definite has been settled, and the detailed estimate will take some months to prepare. Perhaps the Chief Engineer for Irrigation might be asked to give his opinion regarding the Project.

12. Should the North-East Monsoon fail and the distress become very severe, there are the following two works on which we think large bodies of coolies might be massed with advantage :—

1. Clearing silt from Kaveripak tank bed,
2. Clearing the Kaveripak tank supply channel,

the estimates for both of these works could be prepared in a week and they would afford very suitable employment for famine labour.

The Kaveripak tank has silted up about 11 feet in the worst part, and its capacity is thereby much reduced, the discharge in the supply channel is also greatly diminished by the deposit of sand to a depth of 4 or 5 feet, so that both works would be useful : the cost would probably be about two lakhs of rupees and the Executive Engineer has been ordered to prepare an estimate.

13. *Tools.*—On our arrival at Chittoor, we discovered that all the famine tools belonging to the North Arcot District are stored at Vellore, and as the Executive Engineer has been personally engaged in counting them for some days past and will shortly complete the work, we did not think it desirable to prolong our tour by paying a visit to Vellore specially for the purpose of examining these tools.

Axes, felling	69
Axes, pick	40,578
Buckets	8
Chains, "iron" galvanised ...	10
Crowbars	23,406
Forks	93
Sledge hammers	193
Stone breaking hammers ...	4,921
Bill hooks	640
Thorn sickles	1,172
Iron water carts	3
Jumpers	720
Mamooties	33,269
Iron Rammers	973
Country picks	233
Shovels	99

N.B.—Tools shown as at Arni in the statement have since been removed to Vellore.

There seems no reason to doubt that, as was the case in the Coimbatore and Salem Districts, the number of tools will be found to agree with that shown in the margin entered in the statement showing actual distribution of Famine tools as compared with the reserve, prescribed in G.O. No. 3116 W, dated 2nd December 1893. We recommend that the same number and description of tools be provided for this District as we stated to be necessary in the case of Salem.

It will be seen from the statement above referred to, that the number of some description of tools is much in excess of what we consider necessary and the excess can be transferred to make up deficiencies in other Districts. The number of stone breaking hammers is seriously deficient as is the case in the other Districts we have visited.

14. In North Arcot, as elsewhere, the prime difficulty to be met in case the existing drought and famine in the Deccan should continue and spread, will be the provision of the necessary extra establishments.

Of the District Revenue Staff, 24 persons have been already transferred for famine duty in the affected Districts, along with 6 of the 12 officers and subordinates forming the normal strength of the D.P.W. establishment. The Collector informs us that he has been, by advertising and enquiry, unable to obtain any one qualified to fill the post of Overseer of Minor Irrigation works, and we apprehend that should it become necessary to engage overseers in large numbers, there will be no alternative but to employ unpassed, and more or less unqualified, men.

Government is already fully alive to this difficulty, and we regret that we have at present no useful suggestions to make for meeting it. When we shall have visited the eight Districts which we have been directed to report upon, we propose to submit to Government a brief general report in which we will attempt to combine and correct the hurried observations which we are submitting on each District.

ORDER—No. 488, DATED 25TH JUNE 1897.

Recorded.

2. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation will be requested to favour Government with his opinion regarding the Morthana Reservoir Project now under investigation.

3. The Executive Engineer, N. Arcot, who counted the famine tools stored at Vellore will be requested in the P. W. D. to report whether they are all in a serviceable condition or require repairs before they can be made ready for use.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Settlement).
" Public Works Department (W. & I.).

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

Printed July 9th.

Proceedings, 30th June 1897, No. 478.

No. 6842 24 7 97
Communicated to the
Chief Engr. for Irrigation.
for W. H.
J.

JUNE.

To
The Ch. Eo for I
all Supdg. Engrs
The Exer P.W. Accts.

Minor Irrigation Works.—Reviewing statements showing the expenditure on — during 1896–97.

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Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Settlement).
" Public Works Department (W. & I.).

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1897.

Board of Revenue

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MADRAS.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

Printed July 9th.

Proceedings, 30th June 1897, No. 478.

No. 6843/24/97
Communicated to the
Chief Engr for Irrigation.
for W. & I.

JUNE.

To
The Ch. E. for I.
all Supdg Engrs
The Exec. P.W. Accts.

Minor Irrigation Works.—Reviewing statements showing the expenditure on — during 1896–97.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—the following papers :—

From the Collector of Anantapur,	dated	9th Feb.	1897,	Dis.	No.	759.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	9th Mar.	,,	Ref. on	,,	92-Pl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th ,,	,,	Dis.	,,	1914.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	28th April	,,	,,	,,	2283.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	28th ,,	,,	,,	,,	2284.
,, ,, of Arcot, North	,,	10th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	273-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	13th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	488-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	1st May	,,	,,	,,	879-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	20th ,,	,,	Ref. on C.	,,	872-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th June	,,	Dis.	,,	1195-Eng.
,, ,, of Arcot, South	,,	9th Feb.	,,	Ref.	,,	49-V.P.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	9th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	78-V.P.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	3rd May	,,		,,	928-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	19th ,,	,,	Dis.	,,	26-Tour.
,, ,, of Bellary	,,	10th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	830.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	1360.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	15th April	,,	,,	,,	2156.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	25th ,,	,,	,,	,,	2404.
,, ,, of Chingleput	,,	11th Feb.	,,	Ref.	,,	96-Pl
,, ,, of ,,	,,	12th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	117-Pl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	16th April	,,	,,	,,	136-Pl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	4th May	,,	Dis.	,,	1230.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	28th ,,	,,	,,	,,	1439.
,, ,, of Coimbatore	,,	11th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	491-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	815-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	21st April	,,	,,	,,	1330-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	23rd ,,	,,	,,	,,	1384-Rev.
,, ,, of Cuddapah	,,	6th Feb.	,,	,,	,,	694-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	1835-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	9th April	,,	,,	,,	2685-Rev.

From the Collector of Ganjám,	dated	11th Feb.	1897,	Dis.	No	334-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	7th Mar.	,,		,,	48-Pl. Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	19th May	,,	Dis.	,,	978-Ver.
,, ,, of Gódávari	,,	16th Feb.	,,		,,	475-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	30th Mar.	,,		,,	1089-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	1st May	,,		,,	1464-Ver.
,, ,, of Kistna	,,	14th Feb.	,,	Ref. on P.C.	,,	105-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	16th Mar.	,,	C.	,,	2-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	21st April	,,	Ref. on P.C.	,,	129-Ver.
,, ,, of Kurnool	,,	6th Feb.	,,		,,	403-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	5th Mar.	,,	Dis.	,,	658-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	14th April	,,	,,	,,	1057-Eng.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	9th May	,,	,,	,,	1277-Eng.
,, ,, of Madras	,,	3rd Mar.	,,		,,	367.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	26th Feb.	,,		,,	368.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	22nd Mar.	,,		,,	394.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	22nd ,,	,,		,,	395.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	26th April	,,		,,	36.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	26th ,,	,,		,,	38.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	26th ,,	,,		,,	39.
,, ,, of Madura	,,	11th Feb.	,,	Ref. on C.	,,	48-Pl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	63 (a)-Pl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	22nd April	,,	,,	,,	91-Pl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	25th May	,,	,,	,,	138-Pl.
,, ,, of Malabar	,,	11th ,,	,,		,,	——.
,, ,, of Nellore	,,	5th Feb.	,,		,,	353-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	6th Mar.	,,		,,	730-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	9th April	,,		,,	1190-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	23rd ,,	,,		,,	1331-Ver.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	22nd ,,	,,		,,	1284-Ver.
,, ,, of Salem	,,	9th Feb.	,,		,,	559,
,, ,, of ,,	,,	8th Mar.	,,		,,	1125.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	8th April	,,		,,	1918.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	24th ,,	,,		,,	2194.
,, ,, of Tanjore	,,	8th Feb.	,,	Ref. on P.R.	,,	122-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	8th Mar.	,,		,,	1017-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	15th April	,,		,,	1792-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	8th May	,,		,,	2150-Rev.
,, ,, of Tinnevelly	,,	6th Feb.	,,	Ref. on Per.	,,	50-Gl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	6th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	66-Gl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	13th April	,,	,,	,,	78-Gl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	3rd May	,,	,,	,,	78-Gl.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	15th ,,	,,	Dis.	,,	970-Gen.
,, ,, of Trichinopoly	,,	9th Feb.	,,	L.	,,	208-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	10th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	380-Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	9th April	,,	Ref. on C.	,,	183-Pl. Rev.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	14th ,,	,,	,,	,,	1312-Rev.
,, ,, of Vizagapatam	,,	9th Feb.	,,	Dis.	,,	527-Acct.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	6th Mar.	,,	,,	,,	814-Acct.
,, ,, of ,,	,,	29th April	,,	,,	,,	1563-Acct.
,, Examiner of Public Works Accounts,	,,	18th May	,,		,,	1542-D.B.

RESOLUTION—dated 30th June 1897, No. 478.

A sum of Rs. 4,50,000 was originally sanctioned by Government in its order, No. 957, dated 4th December 1895, Financial, for expenditure on minor irrigation works during 1896–97. Adding to this, the additional allotment of Rs. 37,500 sanctioned in G.O., No 208, Financial, dated 5th March 1897, the total grant amounted to Rs. 4,87,500. Out of this sum, Rs. 35,000 were placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department for works which had to be executed by professional agency (*vide* G.Os., No. 1050, dated 31st December 1895, and No. 446, dated 31st July 1896, Financial), and Rs. 13,691 were surrendered towards the close of the year, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,38,809 for works to be undertaken by the Revenue Department. The actual expenditure incurred by this department amounted to Rs. 4,06,934 or Rs. 31,875 less than the available grant. The subjoined statement shows the transactions for the several districts.

Districts.	Allotment for 1896–97.	Expenditure during 1896–97 including establishment charges and contingencies.	Increase or decrease of expenditure over allotment.	Percentage of increase or decrease on the allotment.	Total charges on account of establishment and contingencies.	Percentage of establishment charges on the outlay on minor irrigation works.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	
1. Ganjám	18,517	18,517	..	..	1,650	9·78
2. Vizagapatam	16,000	15,917	— 83	— 0·52	1,519	10·55
3. Gódávari	32,469	27,604	— 4,865	— 14·98	1,412	5·39
4. Kistna	14,100	14,000	— 100	— 0·71	1,145	8·91
5. Nellore	18,000	16,939	— 1,061	— 5·89	2,825	20·02
6. Cuddapah	30,180	29,610	— 570	— 1·89	3,355	12·78
7. Anantapur	33,000	27,826	— 5,174	— 15·68	3,032	12·23
8. Bellary	13,300	5,297	— 8,003	— 60·17	1,706	47·51
9. Kurnool	11,800	10,219	— 1,581	— 13·40	919	9·88
10. Madras	720	660	— 60	— 8·33	34	5·43
11. Chingleput	26,255	25,761	— 494	— 1·88	2,365	10·11
12. North Arcot	55,000	54,700	— 300	— 0·55	3,773	7·41
13. South Arcot	64,312	63,987	— 325	— 0·51	4,253	7·12
14. Tanjore	5,500	5,382	— 118	— 2·15	428	8·64
15. Trichinopoly	18,647	18,097	— 550	— 2·95	1,828	11·24
16. Madura	14,835	15,445	+ 610	+ 4·11	1,523	10·94
17. Tinnevelly	38,700	37,399	— 1,301	— 3·36	4,662	14·24
18. Coimbatore	1,939	1,545	— 394	— 20·32	..	..
19. Salem	18,250	17,849	— 401	— 2·20	2,070	13·12
20. Malabar	210	180	— 30	— 14·29	..	..
Board's reserve	7,075	..	— 7,075	..	..	..
Total ..	4,38,809	4,06,934	— 31,875	— 7·26	38,499	10·45
Amount placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department.	35,000	22,027	— 12,973	— 37·07	..	..
Grand Total ..	4,73,809	4,28,961	— 44,848	— 9·47	38,499	9·86

The sum of Rs. 7,075 shown as reserve at the Board's disposal represents two amounts of Rs. 7,000 and Rs. 75 surrendered by the Collectors of Cuddapah and Chingleput towards the close of the year. The Collector of the former district applied for an additional allotment of Rs. 7,000 for expenditure on minor irrigation works to be undertaken as famine-relief works. But subsequently, he reported that the amount applied for by him was not required, as under G.O., No. 668, Revenue, dated 25th November 1896, all relief works were placed under charge of the Public Works Department. In Chingleput, the amount represents the balance that remained unallotted after allotting Rs. 200 to the Trichinopoly district out of the sum of Rs. 275 surrendered by him in his letter, No. 336-GI., dated 17th March 1897.

	Rs.
Anantapur	355
Kurnool	650
Trichinopoly	55
Total ...	1,060

2. Work to the value of Rs. 1,060 had been executed but not paid for at the close of the year in the marginally-noted districts. In the following districts, the expenditure reported by the Collectors differs from the figures furnished by the Accountant-General :—

Districts.	Expenditure. As per Collector's return.	Expenditure. As per Accountant-General's return.	Difference.	Particulars as far as known.
Vizagapatam ..	Rs. A. P. 15,916 9 0	Rs. A. P. 16,138 3 3	Rs. A. P. + 221 10 3	Rs. A. P. 83 7 0 Balance out of the district allotment. 138 3 3 Excess expenditure over the allotment. 221 10 3 The Collector explains that a sum of Rs. 421-10-3 was debited to "43. Minor Irrigation Works," being the cost of earthernware pipes supplied by the Consulting Architect to Government, and that if this amount is added to the expenditure returned by him, the total expenditure would amount to Rs. 16,338-3-3; but that if the sum of Rs. 200 originally drawn from the treasury by the Tahsildar of Golgonda for purchasing pipes locally but subsequently refunded by him on arrival of the pipes from Madras is deducted, the net expenditure would come to only Rs. 16,138-3-3. This explanation is not clear. If, as stated by the Collector, the advance of Rs. 200 was debited to 43. Minor Works and credited to the same head, when the amount was refunded, it is not understood why the amount should be deducted from the gross expenditure. The Collector is requested to report further on the matter. The amount does not appear, however, to have been credited to "43. Minor Works" in the Accountant-General's return showing receipts.
Gódávari ..	27,604 5 4	27,569 9 6	— 34 11 10	The difference is composed of the following items :— Rs. A. P. 33 11 10 In his progress report for July 1896, Collector reported that the amount was expunged in the treasury account as being cash recoveries. The explanation is not understood. The amount should not have been taken in abatement of charges as appears to have been done, but should have been credited to the proper head. 1 0 0 The figure returned by the Accountant-General in his statement for September is less by one rupee than that reported by the Collector for the same month. 34 11 10 14 14 5 Deducted by the Collector from the gross expenditure in January 1897, being the amount recovered as overpayment made in December 1896 on account of repairs executed to certain work. The amount properly appears as a credit in the Accountant-General's return for January 1897. 8 7 3 Deducted by the Accountant-General in the return for March 1897. 6 7 2
Cuddapah ..	29,610 2 7	29,616 9 9	+ 6 7 2	
South Arcot ..	63,987 2 3	64,230 5 10	+ 243 3 7	The difference is composed of the following items :— Rs. A. P. 112 5 3 Additional expenditure reported by the Accountant-General in his return for September 1896. 130 14 4 Additional expenditure reported by the Accountant-General in his return for December 1896. 243 3 7
Tanjore ..	5,381 14 5	5,381 10 5	— 0 4 0	0 4 0 Deducted by the Accountant-General in his return for June 1896.
Tinnevelly ..	37,399 2 10	37,829 11 3	+ 430 8 5	The difference is composed of the following items :— Rs. A. P. 170 4 9 Additional expenditure reported by the Accountant-General in his return for September 1896. 18 6 11 Do. do. for November 1896. 14 9 3 Do. do. for December 1896. 234 4 3 Do. do. for March 1897. 437 9 2 0 0 9 Deduct the amount shown by the Collector as charge for carrying M.I. forms. 437 8 5 7 0 0 Adjusted by the Collector in his accounts for March 1897 in accordance with the 430 8 5 Accountant-General's instructions.

The Collectors concerned are requested to explain these variations in communication with the Accountant-General, if necessary.

3. The expenditure which amounted to 92·74 per cent. of the allotment was on the whole satisfactory. It exceeded the allotment in Madura and Ganjám. In Vizagapatam, Kistna, North Arcot and South Arcot, the balance left unexpended was less than 1 per cent. The expenditure in the marginally-noted districts was not so satisfactory, the unexpended balance having ranged from 13·40 per cent. in Kurnool to 60·17, per cent. in Bellary. The large balance in the last-named district appears, however, to be due to the circumstance that an additional allotment of Rs. 7,200 placed at the disposal of the Collector in B.P., dated 20th March 1897, No. 237, was left unutilized as the works for which they were granted were, along with certain other works, placed in charge of the Public Works Department to be executed as famine-relief-works. The balance in Coimbatore is attributed to the non-execution of repairs to a certain tank owing to the existence of water therein, and, that in Anantapur, to difficulty experienced in obtaining the services of a maistry to supervise the works in the Penukonda taluk. The Collector of Kurnool attributes the balance to the non-completion of certain works in the Nandyal taluk and has called for explanation from the officer concerned. The Collector of Gódávari has not explained the large unexpended balance in his district which amounted to Rs. 4,865. He will be requested to do so now.

Anantapur.	Bellary.
Gódávari.	Coimbatore.
Kurnool.	

4. The annexed statement furnished by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts shows the outlay on minor irrigation works incurred by the Public Works Department on behalf of the Revenue department :—

Statement showing the Expenditure incurred on Minor Works, Revenue Department, during the year 1896–97.

Districts.	Amount placed at the disposal of Public Works Department (works and Repairs).	Amount expended.	Difference.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bellary	945	1,228	— *283*
Chingleput	316	317	— *1*
Coimbatore	1,970	1,635	335
Cuddapah	2,387	2,486	— *99*
Kistna	1,910	1,840	70
Kurnool	330	792	— *462*
Madura	3,486	2,112	1,374
Nellore	2,744	2,734	10
North Arcot	3,756	2,510	1,246
Salem	3,155	1,425	1,730
Tanjore	965	959	6
Trichinopoly	2,381	2,560	— *179*
Vizagapatam	791	622	169
South Arcot	1,280	807	473
Total ..	26,416	22,027	4,389

Note.—The figures in italics in column 4 denote excesses over the amounts placed at the disposal of Public Works Department.

It is presumed that the amount shown in column 2 of the above statement is exclusive of the allotment made for charges on account of establishment, tools and plant.

5. The total establishment and contingent charges for works in charge of the Revenue department amounted to Rs. 38,499 or 10·45 per cent. of the actual outlay on works. As in preceding years, no establishment was entertained in Coimbatore. In Nellore and Bellary the charges exceeded the limit of 15 per cent. of the net outlay

on works prescribed in G.O., No. 1029, dated 23rd November 1886. The Collector of Nellore has not explained the circumstances under which the charges were allowed to exceed the limit. He is requested to do so now and to see that such excess does not occur in future. As explained in the review for the preceding year, the abnormal expenditure in Bellary represents the pay of the Tungabhadra channel superintendents debited to the minor irrigation grant under B.P., dated 13th October 1894, No. 432.

6. The number of works repaired by the Tank Restoration Scheme Parties and handed over to the Revenue department during the year has been reported from the following districts only.

Districts.	Number of Tank Restoration Work handed over to Revenue Department.
Ganjám	*Nil.*
Vizagapatam	4
Nellore	*Nil.*
Anantapur	*Nil.*
Kurnool	*Nil.*
Chingleput	*
North Arcot	64
South Arcot	*Nil.*
Tanjore	46
Trichinopoly	*Nil.*
Madura	46
Tinnevelly	57
Coimbatore	*Nil.*
Salem	141
Malabar	*Nil.*

* Information promised by the Collector.

It is presumed that in the remaining districts no works were handed over to the Revenue Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. GOVINDA MENON,
Second Assistant.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ the „ „ Public Works Department.
„ all Collectors, except those of South Canara and Nilgiris.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Exd. P. Seetharam.