

Public Works (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 2728

DATED 20-3-96

[Despatch Abstract.]

Irrigation Works in Baluchistan. Govt of India Resolution reviewing the revenue report of the — for 1894-95, sent to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 37 I.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL WORKS.

Irrigation.

Calcutta, the 26th February 1896.

Review of the Revenue Report of the Irrigation Works in Baluchistan for the year 1894-95.

Read—

Revenue Report of Irrigation Works in Baluchistan for the year 1894-95, forwarded with letter No. 7638, dated the 15th November 1895, from the Secretary to the Agent to the Governor General, Baluchistan, Public Works Department.

OBSERVATIONS.—There are two Minor Works in Baluchistan of which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept, *viz.*, the Shebo Canal and the Khushdil Khan Reservoir.

2. The Capital outlay on the two works during and up to the end of 1894-95 was as follows:—

	Number of works.	DURING THE YEAR 1894-95.						Total direct and indirect to end of 1894-95.
		Works.	Establishment.	Tools and Plant.	Total direct charges.	Indirect charges.	Total direct and indirect charges.	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Minor Works and Navigation.								
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept (Account head 43)	2	48,091	2,551	...	50,642	358	51,000	16,12,782

The outlay on the Shebo Canal during 1894-95, including indirect charges, amounted to Rs. 12,847, of which Rs. 12,671 was on works, Rs. 154 on establishment, and Rs. 22 on account of leave and pension allowances. The works outlay of Rs. 12,671, however, includes a sum of Rs. 12,000 paid in settlement of the claims of certain maliks for compensation for a channel which, existing before the construction of the canal, has since been diverted into it.

On the Khushdil Khan Reservoir, the Capital outlay during the year, including indirect charges, amounted to Rs. 38,153, of which Rs. 35,420 was on works, Rs. 2,397 on establishment, and Rs. 336 on account of leave and pension allowances. The sum of Rs. 35,420 charged to works includes Rs. 25,000 paid to Mr. Hitchens, contractor, in satisfaction of his claim against Government for work done on the Khushdil Khan Bund. The principal works undertaken during the year chargeable to Capital were (1) heightening and strengthening banks of main line, (2) constructing new falls on main and Karbella branches, and (3) a central channel in Barshore Feeder cut.

3. The following statement shows the actual financial results of the year under review:—

WORKS.	Total Capital outlay to end of year including indirect charges.	GROSS REVENUE COLLECTED.			WORKING EXPENSES.			Net revenue.	Percentage of net revenue on Capital at end of year.
		Irrigation revenue.	Miscellaneous receipts.	Total.	Direct.	Indirect.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
<i>Minor Works and Navigation.</i>									
Shebo Canal	6,77,231	5,485	94	5,579	6,265	165	6,430	—851	...
Khashdil Khan Reservoir	9,35,551	15,597	...	15,597	6,787	178	6,965	8,632	0.92
TOTAL	16,12,782	21,082	94	21,176	13,052	343	13,395	7,781	0.48
Figures for 1893-94	15,61,782	48,838	72	48,910	21,716	600	22,316	26,594	1.70

The working of the Shebo Canal during the year under review resulted in a loss instead of a profit. It is stated that this is mainly due to the system of collecting revenue in kind instead of in cash. During the year under review the crops were poor both in quality and quantity owing to blight, and prices were very low compared with those of the previous year. The result has been a heavy loss of revenue. It was remarked in the report of the previous year that it was hoped that a proper settlement survey would soon be made, and that a 'cash rate' of from Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 per acre would then be fixed, replacing the existing cumbrous system of 'batai' or 'division of the crop,' and it was explained that in this way much time and trouble would be saved, the 'expenses of collection' would be largely reduced, and Government would be ensured its fair share. In the present report the 'batai' system is again referred to as 'cumbrous and expensive,' but no hope of its early replacement is now held out. The Government of India trust that proposals to remedy this very unsatisfactory state of affairs may soon be matured and submitted for consideration.

The net return from the Khashdil Khan Reservoir amounted to Rs. 8,632, or 0.92 per cent. on the capital expended, against 2.20 per cent. during the previous year. The cause of the decrease is explained as due to poor crops and a fall in the prices of grain and bhoosa.

There were no remissions and no arrears of revenue due at the end of the year 1894-95, with the exception of Rs. 4,459 due from the Forest Department on account of water supplied to the Shebo plantations, and this has since been recovered and will be shown in the accounts for 1895-96.

On the Shebo Canal, the yield per acre during the year was—wheat 5.32 maunds and barley 8.71 maunds against the previous year's yield of 6.67 and 11.12 maunds, respectively, and the revenue realized from the irrigation of these crops was Rs. 2.75 for wheat and Rs. 3.38 for barley per acre, as compared with Rs. 4.78 and Rs. 5.75 in 1893-94. On all cultivated lands the average revenue collected was Rs. 2.75 per acre against Rs. 4.88 per acre in the preceding year. The average rate charged for the Forest plantation was Rs. 2.85 per acre. It is stated that the year under review was deficient in regard both to rain and snow falls, the rainfall being only about one-third of that of the previous year, and that this was the cause of the small produce per acre.

On the Khashdil Khan Reservoir, the yield per acre was 8.47 maunds of wheat and 15.52 maunds of barley, against the preceding year's yield of 11.50 and 14.45 maunds, respectively. The revenue realized was—wheat Rs. 4.26 per acre and barley Rs. 6.37 per acre, against Rs. 9.59 and Rs. 7.82 realized in the preceding year.

4. The area irrigated by the Shebo Canal during the year amounted to 1,993½ acres, including 64 acres irrigated by the Forest Department, but excluding 1,566 acres of Forest plantation, against 2,520 acres irrigated in the preceding year, of which 44 acres were irrigated by the Forest Department. The Khashdil Khan Reservoir irrigated 2,902½ acres during the year (of which 37½ acres were kharif crops) against 3,731 acres irrigated during 1893-94. All irrigation is by flow.

5. The following table shows the details of the working-expenses exhibited in the statement in para. 3:—

	Repairs.	Establishment.	Tools and Plant.	Total.	Indirect charges.	Total working-expenses.	Area irrigated.	Rate per acre.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Shebo Canal	5,086	1,179	...	6,265	165	6,430	1,993	3.2
Khashdil Khan Reservoir	5,518	1,269	...	6,787	178	6,965	2,902	2.4
Total	10,604	2,448	...	13,052	343	13,395	4,895	2.7
Figures for 1893-94	17,315	4,288	113	21,716	600	22,316	6,251	3.6

There was a reduction in the charges for Revenue Establishment on both the Shebo Canal and the Khashdil Khan Reservoir, as compared with the previous year.

The outlay on repairs on the Shebo Canal amounted to Rs. 5,086 and on the Khashdil Khan Reservoir to Rs. 5,518, but no details of this expenditure have been furnished in the report under review.

6. The rainfall at Quetta and Shirinai during 1894-95 was 7.33 and 5.49 inches, respectively, as compared with 14.87 and 19.50 inches in the previous year. The rainfall at Khashdil Khan was 6.32 inches and at Pishin 7.35 inches against 14.67 and 16.26 inches in the preceding year.

7. A statement showing the monthly distribution of the rainfall has been incorporated in the report under review.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Review be forwarded to the Agent to the Governor General and Chief Commissioner, British Baluchistan, Public Works Department, for information and guidance.

Also that a copy of the Review and of the report be forwarded to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab in the Public Works Department for information.

Also that a copy of the Review and of the report be forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.

Also that the Review be published in the *Gazette of India*.

Ordered further, that a copy of this Review and of the report be forwarded to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India for information.

John W. Otter
Colonel,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

*To. The Secy to the Govt of Madras.
P.W. Departt.*

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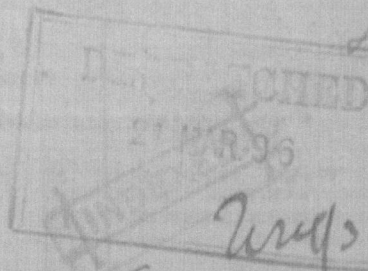
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No 272. Id 20 March 96.
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Communicated to
the Chief Engineer for Irriga-
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The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
with report.

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No. 149 I.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
CIVIL WORKS.

Irrigation.

Simla, the 27th May 1895.

Review of the Revenue Report of the Irrigation Works in
Baluchistan for the year 1893-94.

READ—

Revenue Report of Irrigation Works in Baluchistan for the year 1893-94, forwarded with letter No. 963, dated 16th February 1895, from the Secretary to the Agent to the Governor General, Baluchistan, Public Works Department.

OBSERVATIONS.—There are two Minor Works in Baluchistan of which both Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept, viz., the Shebo canal and the Khushdil Khan Reservoir.

2. The capital outlay on the two works during and up to the end of 1893-94 was as follows:

	Num-ber of works	DURING THE YEAR 1893-94.							Total direct and indirect to end of 1893-94.
		Works.	Estab-lishment.	Tools and Plant.	Suspense Account.	Total direct charges.	Indirect charges.	Total direct and indirect charges.	
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION.									
Works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept (Account head 43).	2	7,251	1,668	47	517	8,449	234	8,683	15,61,782

The outlay on the Shebo canal during 1893-94, including indirect charges, amounted to Rs. 8,067, of which Rs. 6,766 was on works, Rs. 1,556 on establishment, Rs. 44 on Tools and Plant, and Rs. 218 on account of leave and pension allowances. There was a credit to suspense account of Rs. 517 during the year.

On the Khushdil Khan Reservoir, the capital outlay during the year, including indirect charges, amounted to Rs. 616, of which Rs. 485 was on works, Rs. 112 on establishment, Rs. 3 on Tools and Plant, and Rs. 16 on account of leave and pension allowances.

3. The following statement shows the actual financial results of the year under review:—

Works.	Total capital outlay to end of year, including indirect charges.	GROSS REVENUE COLLECTED.			WORKING EXPENSES.			Net Revenue.	Percentage of net revenue on capital at end of year.
		Irrigation revenue.	Miscellaneous receipts.	Total.	Direct.	Indirect.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MINOR WORKS AND NAVIGATION.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Shebo Canal	6,64,384	15,354	60	15,414	8,350	252	8,602	6,812	1'03
Khushdil Khan Reservoir	8,97,398	33,484	12	33,496	13,366	348	13,714	19,782	2'20
TOTAL	15,61,782	48,838	72	48,910	21,716	600	22,316	26,594	1'70
Figures for 1892-93	15,53,099	39,455	73	39,528	15,510	1,842	17,352	22,167	1'45

As compared with the previous year, there is a decrease in the net revenue of the Shebo canal. During the year under review the return was 1'03 per cent. on the capital outlay against 1'40 per cent. in the preceding year. It is explained however that these figures are somewhat misleading as the falling off in the year under review is solely due to an alteration in the rates paid by the Forest Department, for had the old rates been in force, the return on the capital outlay would have been 1'79 per cent. It is suggested that it would be better in future to have proper gauges fixed, and for the Forest Department to pay according to the quantity of water received and thus avoid these large fluctuations in the revenue.

The net return from the Khushdil Khan Reservoir amounted to Rs. 19,782 or 2'20 per cent. on the capital expended, against 1'45 per cent. during the previous year.

There were no arrears of revenue due from the villagers at the end of the year 1893-94, nor any remissions except in the case of the Shadezai villagers, who pay one-sixth of the share of produce as Government revenue instead of one-third as the other villagers do. The Irrigation Revenue is in both cases collected in kind. With regard to this it is remarked that it is to be hoped that a proper settlement survey will soon be made, and a cash rate of from Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 per acre fixed, replacing the present cumbrous system of 'batai' or 'division of the crop.' It is explained that in this way much time and trouble would be saved and the expenses of collection very largely reduced whilst Government would be sure of getting its proper share.

The information as to the area irrigated by the Shadezai villagers referred to in paragraph 3, sub-paragraph 5 of the Review on the Revenue Report for 1892-93, has not been furnished in the report under review.

On the Shebo canal, the yield per acre during the year was—wheat 6'67 maunds and barley 11'12 maunds against the previous year's yield of 3'35 and 4'85 maunds, respectively. The revenue realized from cultivated lands was Rs. 4'88 per acre against Rs. 3'03 in the preceding year, and Rs. 3,050 were paid by the Forest Department. The rates charged to the Forest Department were Rs. 1-8-0 per acre for 1,672 acres, Rs. 1-4-0 per acre for 20 acres, and Rs. 3-8-9 per acre for 40 acres, against Rs. 5 and Rs. 3 per acre shown in previous year's report as charged to that Department. It is stated that the revenue realized per acre of wheat amounted to Rs. 4'78 and of barley to Rs. 5'75 against Rs. 2'21 and Rs. 1'9 realized during 1892-93.

On the Khushdil Khan Reservoir, the yield per acre was 11'50 maunds of wheat and 14'45 maunds of barley, against the preceding year's yield of 3'10 and 6'02 maunds, respectively. The revenue realized was—wheat Rs. 9'59 per acre and barley Rs. 7'82 per acre, against Rs. 2'38 and Rs. 3'09 realized in the preceding year.

4. The area irrigated by the Shebo canal during the year amounted to 2,520 acres, including 44 acres irrigated by the Forest Department, but excluding 1,732 acres of Forest plantation. It is stated that no reason is known for the decrease in the area of irrigation as compared with the previous year unless it be that the former measurements were incorrect. The Khushdil Khan Reservoir irrigated 3,622 acres, in addition to 109 acres irrigated under kharif crops, against 6,344 acres irrigated during 1892-93. All irrigation is by flow.

5. The following table shows the details of the working expenses exhibited in the statement in paragraph 3:—

	Repairs.	Establishment.	Tools and Plant.	Total.	Indirect charges.	Total working expenses.	Area irrigated.	Rate per acre.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs.
Shebo Canal	6,506	1,802	42	8,350	252	8,602	2,520	3'4
Khushdil Khan Reservoir	10,809	2,486	71	13,366	348	13,714	3,731	3'6
Total	17,315	4,288	113	21,716	600	22,316	6,251	3'6
Figures for 1892-93	11,609	3,702	208	15,519	1,842	17,361	10,485	1'6

There was a reduction in the charges for Revenue establishment on the Shebo canal, and a considerable increase in that of the Khushdil Khan Reservoir, as compared with the previous year.

The outlay on repairs on the Shebo canal and the Khushdil Khan Reservoir amounts to Rs. 6,506 and Rs. 10,809, respectively. The large expenditure on revenue account is attributed to the cracks in the banks of the tanks and canals caused by the excessive heat of the summer which necessitated extra expenditure.

6. The rainfall at Quetta and Shirinao, respectively, during 1893-94 was 19'50 and 14'87 inches as compared with 18'37 and 16'09 inches in the previous year. The rainfall at Khushdil Khan during the year was 14'67 inches and at Pishin 16'26 inches against 13'29 and 18'11 inches in the preceding year.

7. The statement showing the monthly distribution of the rainfall referred to in paragraph 6 of the Review on the Report for 1892-93 has not been supplied. This should be incorporated in future Revenue reports.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Review be forwarded to the Agent to the Governor General and Chief Commissioner, British Baluchistan, Public Works Department, for information and guidance.

Also that a copy of the Review and of the Report be forwarded to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab, in the Public Works Department, for information.

Also that a copy of the Review and of the Report be forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information.

Also that the Review be published in the *Gazette of India*.

Ordered further, that a copy of this Review and of the Report be forwarded to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India for information.

John W. Cotton

Lieutenant-Colonel, R.E.,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 37 P. W. D.—28-5-95.—150.

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To

The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
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