M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 528 — Press ~~Mis.~~

153 154

Dated 11 . 3 . 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 11th March 1862.

No. 153. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th February 1862, No. 1,332 :—

Read the following letter from V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Paumben, 22nd August 1861, No. 225.

SIR,

1. In submitting my report, together with a detailed Statement of the progress of public works for the past official year 1860-61, I have the honor to state that Rupees 79,514 was expended on them during the year, viz., Rupees 28,862 on new works, and 53,652 on repairs, and that the expenditure of the year under review exceeds that of the preceding by Rupees 2,955, the particulars of which is shown in the margin; from which it will be seen also that though no new works of irrigation were undertaken, those existing received a greater share of the expenditure than either the communications or buildings.

	Expenditure of 1859-60.	Expenditure of 1860-61.	Comparison. Increase.	Comparison. Decrease.	Estimate of 1860-61.
NEW WORKS.					
Irrigation	0	0	0	0	0
Communications	10,288	18,536	8,248	0	0
Buildings	3,930	10,326	6,396	0	0
	14,218	28,862	14,644	0	0
REPAIRS.					
Irrigation	28,150	36,903	8,753	0	0
Communications	32,788	9,371	0	23,417	0
Buildings	1,403	4,378	2,975	0	0
	62,341	50,652	11,728	23,417	0
Total...	76,559	79,514	26,372	23,417	2,41,417

New Works, Communication.

2. Of Rupees 18,536, spent on communications, Rupees 12,030 was laid out on the high road No. 4 connecting Madura with the two adjacent Districts of Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly, which road is now in very good order from the Trichinopoly frontier to Tirumungalum, 12 miles south of Madura, from thence to the Tinnevelly border, a distance of about 15 miles, it is still in a bad state but its construction is in progress.

3. Rupees 4,655 was spent in cutting the inner angle of the reef channel at Paumben; the progress of this work so entirely depends on the state of the weather that it is impossible to give an opinion regarding the probable completion of the cutting.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amaranady Bridge	307	0	0
Sand bank channel at Paumben	384	0	0
Road No. 18 between Bullagunta and Pullapully.	1,160	0	0

4. Rupees 1,851 was laid out on the three works noted in the margin. The 384 Rupees was not spent on the channel but on repairing the dredge by which the channel is to be repaired. The Batalgoonda road, though still requiring further repair, has been greatly improved by the outlay.

5. I regret that several lines of communications shown in the list accompanying my last report, have not made any progress whatever during the year under notice, owing, I believe, *to want of funds*; but to ensure the salt revenue being as profitable as it can be made, it is absolutely necessary that the roads from the interior to the coast be at once put in repair. The reason for the salt revenue showing a steady increase notwithstanding the rise in price, is owing to the absence of rain along the coast for a distance of 20 miles inland; had the rain which has fallen far inland fallen over the country mentioned above, no bandies for days could have reached the coast, and the decrease in the revenue would probably have been put down to the rise in price whereas it would have been caused by the impossibility of reaching the pans for weeks at a time owing to the want of roads and bridges.

Buildings, Salt Platforms.

6. Estimates were framed in 1859 amounting to Rupees 8,250, of which only Rupees 1,639 was expended in that year for enlarging the Salt platforms. During the year under report nearly the whole estimate has been carried out, but I beg to recommend that in future such work, also all repairs to the

Salt sheds, be carried out by the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt; this course would be a saving to Government, as for such works skilled labour is not required, and thus the pay and expenses of an Overseer might be saved.

Repairs, Irrigation.

7. On irrigation works, a sum of Rupees 36,903 was expended. The greater portion of this expenditure has been incurred on account of securing the existing revenue which, at the same time, benefits the Ryots; many improvements to tanks and water-courses of villages in the Táluqs of Madura, Tirumungalum, Melur and Periakolum were undertaken, on condition that the Ryots would extend their cultivation in some instances, and convert dry lands into wet in others. Almost all of these works are under progress; when completed, the beneficial results arising therefrom will be duly noticed in next year's report.

8. In accordance with the Government instructions issued on my last report, the District Engineer furnishes from October last monthly statements, showing the particulars of expenditure on works below 2,000 Rupees, as well as on those above that sum. I will therefore be enabled in future to ascertain correctly the actual benefits resulting from the expenditure on works of irrigation.

Communications, Repairs.

9. The trifling sum of 9,371 Rupees only has been laid out on repairs to roads during the past year, while the marginal Statement will show that the expenditure on roads, on repairs and new works has been less than last year by 15,169 Rupees; however, I have much pleasure in reporting that the lines of road on which the above has been expended have been greatly improved, several damaged bridges have been repaired, their approaches improved, ruts filled up, and portions of roads gravelled; especially the road to Dindigul from Madura has been put in passable order, the bad state of which was remarked upon by Captain Johnston, Consulting Engineer for Railways, but much still remains to be done in the way of repairs to roads which have been partially constructed to preserve those portions from further damage, especially I allude to embankments which have been cut by the weather, and to preserving the crowns of the arches of bridges from being cut into by bandy wheels passing over them.

	Repairs.	New Works.	Total.
1859-60.....	32,788	10,288	43,076
1860-61.....	9,371	18,536	27,907
			15,169

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1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, and that copy be communicated to the Chief Engineer, whose attention is particularly requested to the Collector's remarks as to the unfinished state of several lines of road in Madura.

2. The Board much regret that the Collector's report having been overlooked in their Office by the Assistant to whom it was entrusted, the Collector's remarks are now out of date, but they observe that the condition of these roads was made the subject of especial notice in Mr. Levinge's Report on Public Works for 1859-60,* and that little or nothing appears to have been done in the interval.

* From Collector 15th, in Cons. 18th August 1861, No. 4,074.

3. It is of primary importance to prevent a decline in the salt revenue, that no further delay should be allowed to occur in putting the roads from the interior to the coast in repair, and the Board therefore request the Collector to report whether any portion of the work can properly be charged on the Local Funds of the District, which, it is observed, amounted in 1860-61 to Rupees 19,643. If so, he will please to arrange for the work as speedily as possible.

4. The Board concur with the Collector in considering it desirable that the construction of Salt platforms and repair of Salt sheds, which do not need skilled superintendence, should in future be undertaken by the Deputy Collectors in charge of the Salt Department, instead of by the Department Public Works; and, for the reasons stated by Mr. Levinge, they resolve to recommend the measure accordingly for the sanction of Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th March 1862.

5. With reference to the concluding sentence of the Collector's letter, the Board consider that the damage done to road embankments by the weather, and to the crowns of arches of bridges by the bandies passing over them, might be easily prevented or repaired if ordinary attention is given to the works.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 154. ORDER THEREON, 11th March 1862, No. 528.

1. Orders will be passed in the Public Works Department on paragraphs 5, 6 and 9 of the Collector's report, and paragraphs 3 to 5 of the Board's Proceedings.

2. The Board have, it is presumed, suitably admonished the Assistant to whose negligence the delay in submitting the Collector's report is attributed.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., with original enclosure.
Copy to Lieut.-Col. W. H. Horsley, Chief Engineer P. W. D., with Copy of Statement.
Copy to V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura.

Exd. J Tulloch.

Rev- 1862. Department.
Pros. of Govt for March

No. 640

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 26th February 1862.
Despatched. 5 March
Received. 7th
E. I. & Cust.

Pros. P.W.D. 377
dat. 6 Dec. 2248

No. 1,332.

From Collector of Madura
Report for Pub. Works 1860-61

Submitting with remarks, for information, a letter from the Collector of Madura reporting the progress of Public Works for the past official year 1860-61.

Nos 153 & 154-

No 528 — 11 March
With an order

8 March 1862

11 Copies to the Pub. Sec. to Govt. with Sec. Mr. Hayes Letter Dated 11th Inst.

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No. 528.
Orders will be passed in the P. W. Dept. on paras 5. 6 & 9 of the Collr. Letter & paras 3 & 5 of the Visr. Jour
The 12th inst
[illegible]

From Lt. Geo. [illegible]
11th March 62

The total roads which are really more or less under the Collr. which would require the [illegible] to be turned over to the Visr. & Municipal Commrs. to be kept in repair. The details of the Collr. Letter [illegible] are [illegible]