

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2553	Press ~~Mis.~~
367-368	
Dated	19-10-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th October 1865.*

No. 367. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue:—
Submitting, with remarks, letter from the Collector of North Arcot reporting on the operations of the Department Public Works during 1864-65. (Here enter 7th October 1865, No. 6,318.)

No. 368. ORDER THEREON, 18th October 1865, No. 2,553.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

No. 6,318.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 7th October 1865.

Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to R. A. DALLYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 28th August 1865, No. 160 :—

1. I have the honor to submit my Report upon the operations of the Public Works Department, during the official year 1864-65.
2. The subjoined abstract statement shows the expenditure incurred during the year under report, as compared with the outlay during the previous season :—

... the ... during the previous season :—					
Works.	Expenditure of 1863-64.	Expenditure of 1864-65.	DIFFERENCE		E-timate of 1864-65
			Increase.	Decrease.	
NEW WORKS.					
Irrigation	Rs. 84,442	Rs. 81,824	Rs. ...	Rs. 2,618	
Communication	12,196	41,772	29,576	...	
Buildings	5,917	13,484	7,567	...	
	1,02,555	1,37,080	37,143	2,618	
REPAIRS.					
Irrigation	34,823	71,654	36,831	...	
Communication	47,030	49,083	2,053	...	
Buildings	5,523	4,235	...	1,288	
	87,376	1,24,972	38,884	1,288	
Total...	1,89,931	2,62,052	76,027	3,906	
Net Increase...	...	...	72,121		
Irrigation Works, N.					

Irrigation Works, New.

Palar anicut	Rs. 29,490
Poincy do.	11,900
Cheyar do.	29,589
	60,979

3. A sum of Rupees 81,824 was laid out on these, of which Rupees 60,979 were specially appropriated for the extension and improvement of the net work of channels dependant upon the Palar, Poincy, and Cheyar anicuts, under the several allotments noted in the margin.

The balance, Rupees 20,845, was devoted to projects of minor importance.

4. In connection with the anicut projects the principal works executed during the year are as follow :—

Palar project.

(1.) *Raising the body of the anicut at an outlay of Rupees 7,700.*—I inspected the work, which has been substantially and economically executed.

(2.) *Strengthening the apron.*—This is still in progress.

(3.) *Formation of the Chaeramullur canal.*—An important addition. It was progressing satisfactorily when I saw it in the earlier part of the year, and is reported to be now nearly complete.

(4.) *Widening and removing rock and other obstacles in the bed of the Mahendravadi channel.*—This has been completed as far as Valluvembakam village, and is an important improvement.

(5.) *Large channel from the northern calingulah of the Mahendravadi store tank excavated at a cost of Rupees 8,500.*

(6.) *Do. from the southern calingulah at a cost of some Rupees 9,000.*—Both channels are reported to be nearly complete, and are very necessary adjuncts to the original project.

(7.) *Further improvement of the Dusemamandur channel.*—The tank which this feed is one of the largest in the District, and should be brought as rapidly as funds will admit into complete “rapport” with the Palar anicut.

Poiney anicut project.

5. The extension of the southern channel from Lalapet to Saravantangal, and the improvement of the calingulah of the Ammur store tank, are the two principal contributions of the year to the Poiney anicut project. I inspected them when in those parts, and consider them very valuable additions to our irrigation works.

Cheyar anicut project.

6. The works connected with the Cheyar anicut project are reported to be progressing. I am not so well acquainted with this as with the two other anicut projects, but there can be no question that it admits of being further developed with most remunerative results.

7. The minor new works executed during the year were the ordinary sluices, calingulahs, dams, and channels, upon which the maintenance and improvement of the revenue so mainly depend.

Irrigation repairs.

8. On irrigation repairs, Rupees 71,654 were laid out. This will always be a heavy but most necessary item of expenditure in this District, where the revenue so largely depends on the good order of the numberless small tanks with which it is studded. I regret that I am not yet in a position to render any precise information respecting the actual profits resulting from such outlay, but statistics are being collected, and these, when compiled, will show the results with some fair degree of accuracy.

9. The year shows an increased expenditure of Rupees 36,831 over that of the preceding season. This is due to increased activity in the Department of Public Works, and in some degree to the character of the season, which, closing with an unusually heavy monsoon, necessitated a good deal of emergent and other precautionary work. But still, notwithstanding all this, a vast amount of work still remains to be done in this direction; and in making the distribution of the inadequate Budget allotment, Rupees 61,000 for the current year, my attention has been painfully drawn to the long list of requirements which must stand over from mere lack of funds.

Increase under anicuts.

10. The subjoined statement shows the progressive growth of the revenue under the Palar, Poiney, and Cheyar anicuts during the year under review:—

Anicuts.	Taluks.	INCREASE OF REVENUE.								
		Up to Fasli 1273.			In Fasli 1274.			Total.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Palar anicut...	Wallajah	9,274	14	0	69	5	2	9,344	3	2
	Arcot	27,646	3	6	7,906	11	9	35,552	15	3
		36,921	1	6	7,976	0	11	44,897	2	5
Poiney anicut ...	Wallajah	9,582	10	3	1,342	4	11	10,924	15	2
Cheyar anicut ...	Wandawash...	33,915	3	7	6,480	0	9	40,395	4	4

New communications.

11. The year's expenditure on the formation of new roads was Rupees 41,772. The more important items are these:—

1. Feeder connecting the Melpatty (next west of Gudiattam) Railway station to the Satghur road 4,700
2. Branch road connecting Arcot with the Arni road 4,400
3. Road from the Tripatty Railway station to Tripatty 1,600

This last short but important branch was in a wretched state when I last rode over it, but it had just been put into new and skilful hands, and is, I hear, now in excellent order.

12. Under this head of expenditure there is an increase of Rupees 29,576 in excess of the outlay in 1863-64. Of this amount, Rupees 28,100 is the sum paid to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., in connection with tramway operations on account of bridges, &c., on the road from Arconam to Conjeveram. In the Progress Report, in which this large item finds place under the head “New Communications,” the Superintending Engineer quotes the Order of Government, dated 6th April 1865, No. 937. As I have never received a copy of this Order, nor been in any way consulted respecting the arrangement, I am unable to give the Board any information on the subject.

13. The Zemindar of Kalahastri made a donation of Rupees 1,600 towards the improvement of the road between Tripatty and his own Capital, which was placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department for that purpose. On referring to the Progress Reports, I observe that a sum of Rupees 1,600 has been debited under the head “Imperial Fund” on account of that portion of the line which lies between Tripatty and the Railway station. This contribution would, with more propriety, have been laid out on that part of the road east of the station, which passes through the donor's own estate; nor do I understand how it has been entered in the Departmental accounts as a debit under Imperial Fund. I observe there are similar items of debit in the accounts rendered of repairs executed to certain tanks of some Inam villages. The Superintending Engineer has been requested to explain on what principle these items have been so entered.

Repairing communications.

14. A sum of Rupees 40,083 was laid out during the year on the repair of roads. Of this amount, Rupees 70 were appropriated to the repair of public Bungalows, and the item has been brought to account in my Local Fund Report for 1864-65. The balance was expended to good purpose, on the maintenance and improvement of the trunk and other imperial roads.

Dated 28th July 1865, No. 137.

15. Under the instructions conveyed in the Board's Circular, No. XVII., dated 7th March last, the subjoined local lines have been transferred to the list of imperial communications. This transfer was only actually effected from the beginning of the current official year. The roads thus transferred are:—

1. Road from Perunganje to the Arcot Railway station.
2. Road from Sholinghur to Sholinghur Railway station.
3. Road from Caverepak to the Sholinghur Railway station.
4. Road from Poiney to the Arcot Railway station.
5. Road from Gudiattam to the Gudiattam Railway station.
6. Road from Nelvoy to the Gudiattam Railway station.

16. I have had an opportunity of seeing all the roads of importance in the principal Division, and was pleased to observe a very marked improvement upon their state in the previous year.

New Buildings.

17. A sum of Rupees 13,484 was spent in the construction of new buildings during the year; of these, the additions to my Huzur treasury building, the Punganur Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and Police station, and the Subsidiary Jails at Chittoor, Palmanair, and Vellore are the most important.

Repair of Buildings.

18. A further sum of Rupees 4,235 was laid out in the repair of buildings, of which Rupees 2,300 were appropriated to Military, and the balance to Judicial buildings, &c. The decrease under this head of expenditure, as compared with that of the previous year, does not appear to call for remark.

Submitted for the information of Government. The progress of the three Anicut projects is satisfactory. The Collector should have entered more at length into the wants of his District. Attention will be requested to his remarks in paragraphs 12 and 13 of his Report. The Order referred to in paragraph 12 has not been communicated to the Board.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

W. H. Hudleston

Acting Secretary.

To Colonel C. A. Orr, R. E., Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
„ W. Hudleston, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.
„ J. D. Robinson, Esq., Collector of North Arcot.

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Exd. J. Wright.

... to the Board of Revenue

1865
Department
for the Board of Revenue

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
No. 2883.

Dated 7th October 1865.

Recd 12/10/65

Chas. of 1865 (P. 26) 1865 23 Oct 1865
165-23012.

No. 6,318.

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of North Arcot, reporting on the operations of the D. P. W. during 1864-65.

RECORDED.