

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2602

Press

Mis.

460-461

Dated 24th October 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th October 1865.*

No. 460. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue:—
Submitting, with remarks, letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, reporting on the progress and effect of Public Works during 1864-65. } (Here enter 11th October 1865, No. 6,436.)

No. 461. ORDER THEREON, 24th October 1865, No. 2,602.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th October 1865.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tenkasy, 22nd August 1865, No. 327 :—

1. I have the honor to report on the progress and effect of Public Works in this District, for the official year 1864-65.

2. It will be observed from the subjoined abstract statement, that the total amount expended upon Public Works, during the year 1864-65, exceeds that of the previous year by Rupees 5,326 :—

page 17

Works.	Expenditure of 1863-64.	Expenditure of 1864-65.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
NEW WORKS.				
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Irrigation	560	1,978	1,418	...
Communications	44,007	40,672	...	3,335
Buildings	5,343	3,806	...	1,537
Miscellaneous public improvements	2,461	6,776	4,315	...
Total...	52,371	53,232	5,733	4,872
REPAIRS.				
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Irrigation	49,530	51,783	2,253	...
Communications	59,149	62,272	3,123	...
Buildings	6,128	4,048	...	2,080
Miscellaneous public improvements	1,410	2,609	1,169	...
Total...	1,16,247	1,20,712	6,545	2,080
Grand Total...	1,68,618	1,73,944	12,278	6,952
Net increase...			5,326	

Maintenance of Irrigation Works.

3. The sum laid out upon ordinary and emergent repairs to works of irrigation, during the year under report, for preserving the existing cultivation and revenue, was Rupees 51,783, or Rupees 2,253 in excess of the preceding year. Rupees 1,978 were expended on new works of irrigation. They were all works of a minor nature. No original works of any importance

Small Calingulas and Sluices.

were executed during the year under reference.

4. The Irrigation works in this District are in need of much improvement. The late Collector, Mr. Silver, estimated the amount required for expenditure, during the current official year, at Rupees 1,84,000, whereas the sum of Rupees 48,000 only, has been conceded for agricultural improvements during the current year.

Communications.	
NEW WORKS.	
Tuticorin road	Rs. 21,594
Road No. 4	8,336
Salt roads	6,683
Bridges	4,059
REPAIRS.	
Salt roads	2,075
Other roads	57,618
Bridges	2,579
Total...	62,272
1,02,944	

5. The total expenditure on road improvements amounted, during the year under report, to Rupees 1,02,944; of which Rupees 32,337 from the Imperial Funds, and Rupees 8,335 from the one per cent. Income-tax Local Funds, were laid out on new works, and the remainder, or Rupees 62,272 from the Imperial Funds, on repairs to portions of made roads, damaged by use and weather.

6. Of the new works of communication referred to above, the principal ones requiring notice are mentioned below.

Tuticorin Road.

1. Road No. 8 leading from Palamcottah to Tuticorin.—The estimate for this work amounts to Rupees 1,30,000, of which Rupees 21,591 were laid out during the year under report; adding this sum to that expended in the previous years, viz., 19,020, the total expenditure amounts to Rupees 40,614. Mr. Underwood informs me that twenty miles have been made, that the work is fairly done, but the road appears hardly broad enough. For the current year's expenditure on this road, a sum of Rupees 9,132 was allotted in the Budget for 1865-66, but it was subsequently disallowed by the Government of India—Vide Government Order 24th February 1865, No. 533, Public Works Department.

2. Sattoor Bridge.—This work, the estimate for which amounted to Rupees 22,000, is reported to have been completed during the year under report, at a cost of Rupees 21,814. This bridge, when seen by Messrs. Storr and Underwood some time after its completion in April last, looked well, but I have since heard from Lieutenant Hodges who passed it, after a very heavy fresh about a month ago, that there seem some signs of instability about it. This has been reported to the Superintending Engineer. The road which it bridges, the only made road between Tinnevely and Madura, is one of considerable importance, and bears a large traffic.

3. Road from Arasady salt pans to junction with the trunk cotton road.—For improving this road, an estimate of Rupees 7,650 was sanctioned by Government on the 7th August 1863, and the work is reported to have been completed during the year under reference, at a cost of Rupees 7,592. Mr. Underwood informs me that the work is well done, but the road is still too narrow, and that an estimate has been made for widening it. The salt pan to which it leads, is most popular for cart traffic.

4. Vypar salt road.—For widening and extending this road up to the platform, an estimate of Rupees 4,900 was sanctioned by Government in their Order of 16th August 1864, No. 2,316, and the sum allotted in the Budget of 1864-65 for expenditure on this work, viz., Rupees 3,000, was fully expended during the year under reference, and the Government observe in paragraph 2 of their Proceedings, dated 16th June 1865, No. 1,675, that funds will shortly be provided from the current year's reserve, for the completion of this work. Mr. Underwood reports that the work so far as done is satisfactory, and that the pan to which it leads, the most northern one and on the coast, will come into more importance, on the abolition of the intermediate one between it and Vypar, which is Manjincolam.

Works not undertaken.

1. Road from Arasady salt pans
2. Do. from Karapadu salt pans.
3. Do. from Orrumugutery salt pans.
4. Do. from Coolasegarapatam salt pans to Codengudy.

7. With reference to the Orders of Government, dated 2nd December 1863, No. 2,192, Revenue Department, fresh estimates were prepared for improving and widening the salt roads noted in the margin, and they were sanctioned by Government under date the 23rd July and 12th September 1864, Nos. 2,163 and 2,635 respectively. But the Government now observe in their Order, dated 16th June 1865, No. 1,676, that they are unable to provide funds for the prosecution of the above works during the current official year, and that the estimates should, therefore, be entered in the Budget for the ensuing year.

8. The construction of the road between Manjincolam salt pans and Ettiapuram, has been ordered by Government in their Proceedings of 12th September 1864, No. 2,635, to be deferred, pending the result of the inspection of the salt works by Mr. Clarke.

9. For the same reason, the estimate for constructing the salt road from Palayncoll to Streecycootam, was not submitted to Government for sanction.

10. For constructing the branch cotton road from Shevelpatty to Covilpatty, an estimate of Rupees 47,720 was submitted for sanction, but the Government returned it to the Superin-

tending Engineer with their Order of 8th July 1865, No. 1,928, Public Works Department, with a request to re-submit it at a more favorable time, as there is no prospect of funds being available for some time to come, for the construction of this road.

General state of the roads in the District.

* Major Paxton's letter to late Acting Collector, dated 12th June 1865.

11. As regards the state of the roads in this District generally, I beg to state that none of them have been made throughout,* except the cotton roads. The remaining roads have been made in patches, merely the worst parts taken in hand.

12. Imperial Road No. 1 from Tenkasi to Madura, Mr. Storr states, is in extremely bad condition from Vaudevanalloor to Streecyviliputtoo, his head-quarters; it is one of considerable importance. The District road from Sattoor to Streecyviliputtoo is in good condition.

13. Imperial Road No. 4 from Palamcottah to Madura is in fair condition from Palamcottah to Virudupatty, and stony in places.

14. The made portions of the Imperial lines are kept in good order out of the maintenance allowance sanctioned for the same. The unmade portions are in a wretched state, and it is highly necessary, that these portions should be constructed at an early date, and maintained in good order.

15. After much correspondence and urgent recommendation on the part of the late

Collector, certain office buildings were sanctioned for this District as follows:—

Constructing Sub-Magistrates' Cutcherry and Police station house, with Subsidiary Jail at Virudupatty	2,750
Do. do. at Vilatticolam	2,750
Do. do. at Kytar	2,750
Additions to the old Police Amin's Cutcherry at Wattrap for the accommodation of Sub-Magistrates' Cutcherry, Subsidiary Jails, and Police station house...	1,500
Do. do. at Coolasegarapatam for do. do.	1,500
Do. do. at Rathapuram for do. do.	1,500
Additions to the Taluk Cutcherry at Sattoor for short-sentenced prisoners and Police guards	2,200
Do. do. at Sankerninarcoil for do.	2,200
Do. do. at Ottapedaram for do.	2,200
Do. do. at Tenkasi for do.	2,200
Do. do. at Nanguneri for do.	11,300

Constructing a new Taluk Cutcherry at Ambasamudram

16. But no provision for them was made either in the Imperial Budget of the past or the current official year. Want of these buildings is very much felt, as already reported to the Board by Messrs. Silver and Banbury.

Public Bungalows.

17. No repairs were made to the public Bungalows during the past official year for want of funds; the sum collected from fees being scarcely sufficient to meet the charges of Establishment, and consequently they stand in great need of repair, as reported by Mr. Banbury in the Local Fund Report for 1864-65.

Miscellaneous public improvements.

18. During the year under report, Rupees 9,385 were laid out on miscellaneous public improvements, of which the principal item is the construction of a nursery for breeding pearl oysters in the harbour of Tuticorin, the expenditure on which, during 1864-65, amounted to Rupees 6,776. Considerable injury was done to the commencement of the work by the

Pearl Oyster Nursery commenced.

tides and currents throwing down the wall, by which an increase of the expense will be entailed; three sides of the first enclosure have been completed. For the current year's expenditure a sum of Rupees 11,609-1-10 has been allotted in the Budget.

Rupees 2,609.

19. The balance was expended in repairs to the bank of the Tambrapoorney river, which were necessary and urgent.

1. The foregoing Report will be submitted for the information of Government.
2. The Board regret to learn that this rich District is still so much behind-hand in the way of irrigation works, roads, and buildings, and they trust its more pressing wants may receive due consideration when the Public Works Budget for 1866-67 is framed.

3. The Collector's remarks in paragraph 4 are deserving of the gravest consideration. An annual outlay of less than three per cent. on the revenue from irrigated lands* is evidently not sufficient to keep the irrigation works in a proper state of repair.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

[Signature]

Acting Secretary.

To Colonel C. A. Orr, R. E., Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
 „ W. Hudleston, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, R. D. -
 „ A. Wedderburn, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely.

Exd. J. Wright.

14 Feb 1866

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of Tinnevely reporting on the progress and effect of Public Works during 1864.

No. 6,430.

20th Oct 1865
22.10.65

RECORDED.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
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