

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1620	<u>Press</u> <u>Mis.</u>
Dated	29-6-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th June 1866.*

No. 646. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Works Department:—

Communicating to Superintending Engineer,
8th Division, letter from the Collector of
Madura, and drawing his particular attention
to the remarks in paragraphs 6, 9, and 10 of
the Collector's letter, regarding the condition
of certain salt roads in the District. (Here enter 29th June 1866, No. 2,008.)

No. 647. ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1866, No. 1,610.

Separate Revenue, No. 25.
Salt.

Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 2,008.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th June 1866.*

No. 604. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th June 1866, No. 3,911.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th May 1866, No. 172:—

1. Under the Standing Circular of the Board, No. LXXIV., dated the 16th November 1865, I have the honor to submit my report on the progress made in improving the salt roads in the District during the year 1865-66.

2. The Board are aware it is only the branch salt roads* which are to be transferred to the Salt Deputy Collector, and not the whole of the salt communications in the District, but under the impression that Government call for an annual report on all the salt roads in the District, I would refer to all of them, branch as well as main roads.

3. All the salt roads, whether main or branch, are still under the superintendence of the Public Works Department, and the branch salt roads are only to be made over to the Deputy Collector after they are thoroughly made.

4. I beg to annex a list of the main and branch salt roads in the District:—

Main Salt Roads.

No. 1. Northern road from Vattanam junction with No. 8, *via* Devacottai, Tripatur, to Nattam and to Dindigul.

No. 2. Tondi to Madura.

„ 3. Vyravanadapatam to Paramagudi or Mana Madura.

„ 4. Ramnad to Madura.

„ 5. From Mutturagoonadapatam by Camudi and Trichuli to Madura.

Branch Salt Roads.

No. 1. From Vattanam Salt Pan to Coast Road No. 8.

„ 2. Do. Vyravanadapatam to Coast Road.

„ 3. Do. Auttengarai to Ramnad.

„ 4. Do. Morekolam to Yettivayel on No. 15, Road from Ramnad to Madura.

„ 5. Do. Mutturagoonadapatam to Coast Road.

5. Besides the above, there is another branch road, namely, from the Manakudi salt pan to the coast road, but as that pan is to be done away with, I have not included it in the list, nor is it one of those sanctioned to be transferred to the Salt Deputy Collector.

6. The first main road is an important one for the salt traffic, it is the line through which salt is conveyed to Dindigul and Pulny in this District and to Coimbatore. A sum of 4,000 Rupees has been sanctioned for the repair of the road in 1865 and 1866, and nearly the whole amount has been spent during the year. A maintenance grant of Rupees 6,300 was sanctioned for this road for each of the years 1863-64 and 1864-65, and 21,000 Rupees was laid out on the road in 1863-64. I passed over the road in 1864 and found it in a bad and unfinished state, and

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26th June 1866.*

the Salt Deputy now reports that the salt traders complain of its almost impassable state in many places.

7. A sum of Rupees 8,030 was allotted for making the second road; Rs 1,330 was sanctioned for constructing a bridge, of which Rupees 1,329 has been spent during the past year. Of the amount of the maintenance grant of Rupees 6,700, Rupees 6,199 was laid out, certain portions of the road are in good order, while others require some repairs. The road, however, is in a fair condition. This road was partially made in 1863-64.

Original Works	...	...	...	Rs.
Repairs...	...	...	...	6,700
Total	...	...	...	8,030

8. The third road connects a salt pan with Paramagudi or Mana Madura on road No. 15, or the fourth road. No improvement has been made to it.

9. As regards the fourth road, I beg to quote the words of my Acting Head Assistant, who travelled over the whole length of the road. He says "that nothing could be worse. There is considerable traffic, and numbers of bandies are constantly on the move along this route; but these bandies always make a point of keeping outside of the avenue; they would rather plod along a depth of a foot of loose sand, than use the so-called road. An estimate of Rupees 5,100 has been sanctioned for the repair of this road, and the part between Mana Madura and Paramagudi has been improved, but these repairs seem not to be carried on continuously, either as to time or place. The worst part of the road is between Paramagudi and Ramnad; here nothing had been done a month ago. So much of this road as lies between Madura and Terupavanam is very fair."

10. The sum of Rupees 5,100, referred to in the preceding paragraph, is the maintenance grant for the past year, nearly the whole of which has been spent during the year. A similar sum was laid out in each of the years 1863-64 and 1864-65 in the conservancy of the road, and in 1863-64 nearly 20,000 Rupees was spent on the road, and yet it is in the state described by the Acting Head Assistant Collector.

11. In the fifth road, or that from Mutturagoonadapatam to Madura via Camudi and Teruchuli, no improvement has been made. It is also an important road, and requires repairs.

12. I now come to the branch salt roads. No improvement was made to them with the single exception of the road from Morecolam salt station to Yettivayel on the main road from Ramnad to Madura. A sum of Rupees 3,000 was sanctioned for the road from the Reserve Fund under the Order of Government, dated the 31st August 1865, No. 2,536, in the Public Works Department, conveyed in the Proceedings of the Board, bearing date the 7th September. The Range Officer reports that four miles of the road have been made, and the remainder will be completed during the present year.

13. It is inexpedient that the branch roads should be made over to the Revenue Department before they are thoroughly and completely made. The duty of the Salt Deputy should consist only in conserving them, and therefore necessary estimates should be made to construct these roads as soon as possible. I had requested the Superintending Engineer, before submitting his Budget estimate, to make the necessary provision in it for improving the branch salt roads, which are to be made

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over to the Salt Deputy Collector; but I find no sum was allotted for them in the Public Works Budget, except for the Yettivayel road.

1. Submitted for the information of Government.
2. The report is very unsatisfactory.

Transferred to the Department Public Works.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

11th June 1866.

N. 605. ORDER THEREON, 26th June 1866, No. 2,008.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 94.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division, whose particular attention will be

drawn to the remarks contained in paragraphs 6, 9, and 10 of the Collector's letter, regarding the condition of the undermentioned salt roads in the Madura District.

- I. Northern road from the Vattanam junction with No. 8, to Dindigul.
- II. Ramnad to Madura.

- G. O. No. 855, dated 28th March 1865.
- † Nos. 1 to 4 and 6 and 9.

Main lines.

1. Northern road from Vattanam to Dindigul.
2. Tondi to Madura.
3. Vyravanadapatam Mana. Madura.
4. Ramnad to Madura.

Branch lines.

- 1 From Vattanam salt pan to coast road No. 8.

Vide Part III, page 39 of the Budget.

Government are of opinion that much may be accomplished within this amount towards the improvement and maintenance of both the main and branch salt roads mentioned by the Collector.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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