

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2153	Press ~~Mis.~~
¹⁸⁷⁻⁹⁸ Dated	12 - 8 -	N 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th August 1868.*

No. 187. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Works Department :—

Communicating to the Superintending Engineer, }
2nd Division, Board's Proceedings regarding } (Here enter 8th August 1868, No. 2,548.)
the alleged unsatisfactory condition of the }
roads in Nellore District.

No. 188. ORDER THEREON, 12th August 1868, No. 2,153.

Local Funds, No. 8.

<i>Establishment.</i>

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th August 1868.*

No. 184. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th July 1868, No. 5,209:—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd June 1868, No. 1,645.

1. I have the honor to submit the annual report on Public Works executed in this district during the past official year 1867-68.

2. The following Statement exhibits the expenditure incurred during the past year in comparison with the previous year:—

Works.	Expenditure of 1866-67.	Expenditure of 1867-68.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
<i>New Works.</i>				
1. Communications	RS. 48,458	RS. 35,944	RS.	RS. 12,914
2. Irrigation	21,813	88,691	63,818	.....
3. Buildings	5,977	3,990	.....	1,987
Total ..	79,678	1,28,625	63,848	.....
<i>Repairs.</i>				
1. Communications	44,376	44,311	.....	65
2. Irrigation	27,408	42,883	15,475	.....
3. Buildings	1,775	1,214	.....	561
Total ..	73,559	88,408	15,475	.....
Grand Total ..	1,53,237	2,17,033	79,343	.....

3. COMMUNICATIONS.—The expenditure under this head amounted to Rupees 35,944, or Rupees 12,914 below that of the previous year. Out of this sum Rupees 11,002 were laid out in prosecuting the construction of an embanked road and masonry works across the Musunur Valley, referred to in paragraph 3 of the last report. During the year under report the Pillavagu, Mungantur, and Musanur bridges have been completed; the metalling laid on more than half of the embankment; and the foundations of the Ubbalivagu bridge have been dug. The work, it is supposed, will be completed in 1868-69. The bridge across the river Paidernu on Trunk Road No. VI. at the one hundred and nineteenth mile has been completed, during the year under report, at an expenditure of Rupees 4,176.

4. For improving the portion of Trunk Road No. VI. between the forty-ninth and ninety-fifth miles Rupees 4,952 were expended, whilst Rupees 4,079 were laid out in constructing masonry works on the same line of road, and Rupees 710 on similar works on the road from the foot of the Rapur Ghaut.

5. On Salt roads Rupees 11,025 were laid out, of which Rupees 9,047 was on the road from the Dornal Pass via Nellore to the beach at Kristnapatnam; Rupees 1,475 on the road from Dugarazupatnam to the Salt Kotar; and Rupees 593 were laid out in constructing a portion of the road and three tunnels between Koppolu to the Vinayakuni salt platforms near Bitramgunta.

6. REPAIRS TO COMMUNICATIONS.—Under this head Rupees 44,311, or only Rupees 65 less than last year was expended. This consisted chiefly of the usual annual grants allowed by Government at a certain rate per mile. For the repairs on Trunk Roads Nos. VI. and VII. Rupees 28,750 were laid out; and the remainder Rupees 15,561 for the repairs on the road from Ongole to Cumbum; the road from

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Ongole to Kottapatnam; the road from Dornal Pass via Nellore to Kristnapatnam; the road from the foot of the Rapur Ghaut to Gudur; and the road from Gudur to Dugarazupatnam, besides minor repairs.

7. IRRIGATION WORKS.—In the year under report, Rupees 88,691 were laid out on new works of irrigation, being Rupees 63,848 more than in the previous year. On the Sarvepalli Irrigation Project alone Rupees 57,168 were laid out. On repairs the expenditure amounted to Rupees 42,883, or an increase of Rupees 15,475 over the previous year.

8. The subjoined is a comparative Statement showing the aggregate expenditure both for new works and repairs on works of irrigation compared with the revenue:—

Names of Talooks.	Area irrigated and the assessment as adjusted for 1867-68.		Expenditure under the Public Works Department during 1867-68 on works of irrigation.		Total.	Comparison of expenditure with revenue.	
	Area.	Assessment.	New Works.	Repairs.		On Repairs.	Total.
	Acres.	RS.	RS.	RS.		Per cent.	Per cent.
Gudur	45,177	1,77,254	10,656	3,661	14,317	2	8
Rapur	7,447	13,191	984	2,526	3,510	19	25
Nellore	92,851	3,18,017	6,270	15,674	21,944	5	7
Atmakur	24,245	75,318	705	5,731	6,436	8	9
Kavali	18,717	77,890	632	5,974	6,606	8	8
Udayagiri	2,093	3,474	28	192	220	6	6
Ongole	2,907	16,360	203	1,712	1,915	10	12
Kandubet	12,543	69,084	2,237	2,419	4,656	4	7
Kanigiri	346	2,893	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total...	2,06,279	7,54,284	21,715	37,889	59,604	.....	.....
Expenditure on the Pennair Ancient distributed over two talooks ... ..	.....	.....	91	1,787	1,878	.....	.....
Do. do. Jafer Sahib's Channel ... ..	.....	.....	.....	2,757	2,757	.....	.....
Do. on improvements to Sarvepalli Channel in connection with Nellore Ancient Krishnapatnam Canal. Pennair embankments.	.....	.....	57,168	.....	57,168	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	5,125	450	5,575	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	4,592	.....	4,592	.....	.....
Total ..	.....	.....	66,976	4,994	71,970	.....	.....
Grand Total...	2,06,279	7,54,284	88,691	42,883	1,31,574	6	17½

9. BUILDINGS.—The expenditure on buildings amounted to Rupees 3,990. This sum was laid out towards completing the improvements to the Nellore Jail; completing the new Talook Cutcherry at Ongole; constructing lightning conductor to the Nellore Police Magazine; constructing Salt Cutcheries at Kristnapatnam and Kanuparti, and Sea Custom-house at Kottapatnam; and constructing a Range Office at Buchireddipallem.

10. The outlay on repairs to buildings was Rupees 1,214. Repairs were done to the Engineer Store-yard at Nellore, to the Nellore Jail, and Session Court, and to the Record-room of the Moonsiff's Court at Gudur; repairs were also done to the Nellore Collector's Cutcherry, Udayagiri Talook Cutcherry, Sub-Magis-

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trate's Court at Venkatagiri, and the Ongole Barracks used as Police Office and Hospital.

11. With reference to the Board's Standing Circular, No. LXXXI., dated 7th November 1865, the reports received from the Sub-Collector, and Acting Head Assistant Collector, of the progress of Public Works in their respective ranges, during the year under report, are herewith forwarded.

12. The state of communications in this district is far from satisfactory. I have personally inspected nearly all the roads throughout the district myself. The only roads to be retained as Imperial lines are Trunk Roads Nos. VI. and VII., and the road from Nellore to Cuddapah over the Dornal Pass and certain salt roads. I trust that the large grant made this year for Trunk Road No. VI. will go a good way in putting it into a good condition. The bridge across the Kalinaganadi, at Sulurpett, is about to be commenced immediately; the Musunur Valley works are in fair progress, but the northern portion of the road is very bad. The District Road Fund will probably provide about Rupees 50,000 a-year. Estimates have been sanctioned and put in hand for several important roads, and these will afford labour to a good number of coolies in this time of distress.

13. The present system of Range Offices does not work satisfactorily, and requires revision. All work should be under the supervision of experienced Executive Officers.

14. The Irrigation works of the district are generally in a tolerable state of repairs. The Sarvepalli Irrigation Project is being vigorously prosecuted, and during the past year Mr. R. Smith, Executive Engineer, has been engaged entirely in developing the Sangam scheme to irrigate a large extent of country from the northern bank of the Pennair. These works will be of the utmost benefit to the country. The extension of the East Coast Canal from Dugarazupatnam to Krishnapatnam has also been commenced.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Collector of Nellore, dated 13th May 1868, No. 104.

I have the honor to report upon the Public Works in my division.

1. ROADS.—The Trunk Road No. VI. in the Kavali Talook is in fair order, except about a mile and a half near Rudrakota, at the northern boundary of the talook. This portion is in a shameful state, and is so cut up as to be almost impossible for vehicles on springs. Repairs are also much wanted between Musunur and Kavali. The road at the Musunur Valley is not yet completed; but as more than half of it is now metalled the inconvenience to the traffic has been lessened. The new road to the Dornal Pass through the Udayagiri Talook is in the same state as when I last reported, nothing having been done since. The ghaut itself is of course worse. Very little traffic follows the new line, the main reason being the scarcity of water. From Chernvapalli to the foot of the ghaut at Kadrinelipadu, a distance of about eighteen miles, there is no water to be got for nine months of the year within a mile of the road on either side. It would almost seem that the line had been marked out with the express object of avoiding the villages and so creating the special difficulty. I do not think that, even if the new line were completely metalled, the traffic would wholly forsake the old line to the southward which has villages and consequently water every four or five miles. Money devoted to sinking a few good wells and planting a few trees round them, on the piece of road abovementioned, would be well spent.

2. IRRIGATION WORKS.—The monsoon not having been heavy, the tanks were not subjected to extraordinary pressure, and very few injured. On the other hand about a dozen important tanks have been repaired, and the condition of the irrigation works is, therefore, much better than last year. Much, however, still remains to be done.

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3. **BUILDINGS.**—The Cutcherry at Udayagiri has been put into as good repair as an old building like it could be. It has been re-roofed, and other needful repairs have been executed. That at Kavali is in good order. The Salt Cutcherry at Tummalpenta is tumbling down. The Public Bungalow at Mamilladoruvu wants some slight repairs regarding which I have addressed the Range Officer.

4. Annexed is a Statement of the Public Works expenditure to 31st March in my division according to the Progress Reports. I cannot include the expenditure for maintenance of the Kavali portion of the trunk road, and it is not shown separately from that on the Nellore portion in the Range Progress Report:—

COMMUNICATIONS.—New Works.

	RS.	A.	P.
Cavali Talook...Trunk Road No. VI., Musunur Valley ...	11,002	5	11
Udayagiri. ...Nandavaram and Udayagiri road ...	7,537	2	10

IRRIGATION.—Minor New Works and Repairs.

Kavali ...	6,606	5	6
Udayagiri ...	240	0	1

BUILDINGS.—Repairs.

Udayagiri Talook Cutcherry...	162	5	6
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Total... 25,528 3 10

From A. C. BURNELL, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Collector of Nellore, dated Ramapatam, 14th May 1868, No. 107.

1. I beg to report on the operations of the Public Works Department in the Sub-division for the official year 1867-68.

2. The works that have been carried out are small, and of little importance. There is nothing on the list that an ordinary Maistry could not have done; it is useless, therefore, to mention them, as the Progress Report* supplies all possible information.

* Herewith returned.

3. The Ongole Talook Cutcherry belongs rather to the year before last, but Rupees 957-9-3 has been expended during the past year. I regret to say that the floor is completely broken up and destroyed, owing (I am told) to the badness of the chunam. It should be re-placed as soon as possible.

4. About eighty miles of the Great Northern Trunk Road passes through the Sub-division, according to reports and maps; greater part of this, however, is a mere track, and I doubt if wheeled vehicles could possibly go from Tetta to Addanki in the wet weather, even if the rivers could be passed. There is a spot near Singarayakonda, which, in the best weather, cannot be passed without the assistance of coolies. I examined the place and came to the conclusion that a very small embankment would remedy this. There are several other obstructions of the same description between Singarayakonda and Ongole.

5. I observe in the report several sums for carting jelly, &c. I cannot see the use of this, except the jelly is at once used for making the road; but this is certainly not the case at present, for miles round Ongole, on the trunk and Cumbum roads, two-thirds of the way is taken up by heaps of jelly. In many places there is barely room for a country cart to pass. I examined some of the heaps, and found the jelly spoiled by long exposure, and unfit for road-making. I am unable to say how long these heaps had been there, but I should say upwards of two years. I observed thistles and other such plants growing out of the heaps, and dead stalks of the same kind of plants a foot or more high, which evidently belonged to the last year.

6. We want roads in the Sub-division; and this is the chief want. I do not know a single road which is better than a village track for more than five miles of its length. Mr. Sharp proposed a road from Podile to Kanigiri; this is very much required. A road from Kanigiri to Singarayakonda is also urgently needed; a beginning towards this has been made in a few places.

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7. The nature of the country does not admit of irrigation works except in the Kandukuru Talook, and nothing new has been done there. The Tahsildar a long time ago drew up a plan for an anicut across the Mannaru, by which a large number of tanks could be filled; this scheme was, I believe, highly approved of by some of my predecessors, but nothing has as yet been done. This scheme I believe would not involve a large expenditure; it would make the sea coast of the Kandukuru Talook, which seems most liable to drought, perfectly secure, and would also pay well. I beg to recommend this scheme for your favorable consideration at once.

8. The necessity of a proper Cutcherry for the Sub-Collector's Office, I have already urged on you. I trust that the new Cutcherry at Kanigiri will soon be commenced. The building at Mogalluru is totally insufficient. The Police take up a considerable part of the wretched shed used by the Tahsildar, which will hardly allow room for his establishment, and it is not surprising that unseemly disputes and delay of business should, in consequence, be perpetually occurring.

9. There is a vast amount of work to be done in this neglected Sub-division. An energetic and intelligent Officer of the Department of Public Works, with sufficient sums at his disposal, could do a great deal of permanent good. The sum of Rupees 28,002 was sanctioned, being a trifle more than was allowed the year before. Of this a sum of Rupees 24,980 was expended. I do not see why so large a balance as Rupees 3,000 should be left.

10. In conclusion, I would beg to recommend that some permanent work, a bridge or a few miles of good road, should be undertaken and carried out during the next official year, and all the resources and energy of the Department of Public Works concentrated on it. For years, the whole sums allowed have been frittered away. A mile of road has been made after a fashion in one place, and a culvert (which can never be used, because there is no road up to it) in another; a series of trifling repairs is always going on, but we have nothing to show for it, and everything appears to be no better, but perhaps a little worse; in short, there is no system; and, therefore, no hope that what is left undone this year, will be done next.

1. Resolved that the foregoing letter be submitted for the information of Government.

2. When forwarding the report from Nellore, last year, the Board felt it incumbent on them to notice the unsatisfactory state of the roads in the district. They regret to find, from the reports both of the Sub-Collector and Head Assistant, that no improvement appears to have taken place in this respect. The state of affairs revealed in paragraph 5 of the Sub-Collector's letter is very discreditable.

No. 185. ORDER THEREON, 8th August 1868, No. 2,548.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 18.1

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division with a view to his submitting such explanations as he may have to offer on the remarks in paragraph 5 of Mr. Burnell's letter, and on the alleged unsatisfactory condition of the roads in the Nellore District.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

