Rec'd 1869 Despatch
No 2955

Govt. of [illegible] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

1st Division.

&c. &c. &c.

[illegible]

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a Statement of Public Works in the Ganjam District during the month of August 1869.

2. The Statement is accompanied by a Report on the progress of the Works, and by a Memorandum of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue reviewing the Report of the Collector on the progress of Public Works in the Ganjam District during the month recorded.

RECORDED.

I have &c.

[illegible]

[illegible]

AUGUST.

Nos. 632-633

Progress of Public Works in the Ganjam District. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue reviewing the Report of the Collector on the progress of Public Works in the Ganjam District during the month recorded.

No. 632. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th August 1869, No. 5,749 :—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Ganjam, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 12th June 1869, No. 486.

I HAVE the honour to submit the report on the Public Works of the district for the past official year 1868-69.

2. Having but recently taken charge of the district, I can offer no opinion on the state of the roads, buildings, or other "works" in the district.

3. When classifying the roads of the Madras Presidency, the Government, in paragraph 11 of their Revenue Order of the 11th November 1868, directed that in the annual reports on the progress of Public Works, the mileage and other particulars should be given respecting each class of Imperial roads. This information is, as far as possible, now furnished; but I should add that with the exception of the roads in the Maliahs, and a bit of the Grand Trunk Road, all the roads classified as Imperial are completed and only require to be maintained in good order.

(a.) The Grand Trunk Road is about 130 miles long, and is in comparatively good order; that portion (about 13 miles) from Teckaly Raghunathpore to a point near Cassiboogah is, the Board are aware, now being properly made. The whole of this road is being widened or otherwise improved. From the Berhampore Range [illegible] for March last, I find that "from the 20,000 Rupees allotted," Rupees 2,386-2-0 have been spent in "improvements" to this road from Berhampore to the Bengal frontier, and from Berhampore southward to the Mahendra river. In the remaining or Chicacole portion nothing further than the usual annual repairs have been made to the completed section of the line.

(b.) The road from Gopalpore to the north-eastern frontier, *via* Berhampore, Aska, and Russelcondah is about 86 miles in length, and is in good order.

(c.) The information respecting the mileage of the roads in the Khond Maliahs leading to Surada will be furnished hereafter. Other particulars respecting these roads are given in paragraph 13 of this report.

(d.) The Soorla salt pans road, about 4 miles long, is in good condition.

(e.) The Nowpada salt road from Jagannadhapore to Jurjungy, a distance of 23 miles, is not in fair order.

(f.) The road from Nowpada to Teckaly, about 6 miles in length, is in good order.

(g.) That from Calingapatam to Chicacole, about 14 miles long, is also in fair condition.

(h.) The 25 miles of road from Chicacole to Palcondah are maintained in tolerably good order.

4. THE SUNKERCOLE ROAD LEADING INTO THE BENGAL TERRITORIES.—The Board are aware that the reference made to this road in the report for 1867-68 re-opened with the Bengal Government a correspondence which terminated with the Lieutenant-Governor's expressing his inability to provide funds or establishment for

this road, and the Madras Government not being in a position to make any provision for the prosecution of the work, have, in Government Order, Public Works Department, of the 25th February last, deferred the consideration of the subject. In connection with this project, I give for future easy reference a place in this report to a letter addressed on the 5th May last to the Superintending Engineer by Captain Beckley, R.E., a copy of which has been forwarded to me by that Officer.

"With reference to G. O., No. 622, dated 25th February 1869, I have the "honour to inform you that I do not consider that the best line for a road from "the Ganjam Coast to Sonepore and Sumbulpore in the Nagpore Territories lies "through Russelcondah, a road by that route taken through the Khond hills would "be very expensive and difficult to construct, and would be troublesome to keep in "repair.

"I consider that the proper line commencing from Ganjam should pass through "Purushottapore, Bullepudra, Kurcholy, Sonepore, and Sumbulpore. The road "from Ganjam up to Kurcholy, a distance of 57 miles, is made and bridged. I "believe it was supposed that Kurcholy was on the frontier of the Bengal territory, "but it is in reality 9 miles this side; these 9 miles of road we could easily make, "but it hardly appears worthwhile doing so, unless the Bengal Government take "up the work on the other side.

"There are no ghauts or serious obstruction in the way of this road, as I learnt "from some bandymen at Ganjam salt pans who were going the whole way to "Sumbulpore with heavy loads of salt. During the dry "this road is very heavy; according to late returns the daily average being:

"Laden bandies	215
"Unladen do.	186
"Laden bullocks	184
"Unladen do.	158

"Were the road made, this heavy traffic of grain and salt would be increased and "continued throughout the year.

"This road should be made also on military grounds, being the direct com- "munication between Berhampore and Sumbulpore. The 31st Madras Light "Infantry is at present divided between these two stations."

5. Works of Irrigation.—The partial failure in last year of the north-east monsoon was doubtless a great strain on all works of Irrigation. Rupees 21,395 were expended in Petty Construction and Repairs of irrigating channels, tanks, river embankments, &c. With the exception of a few calingulahs, costing no more than 255 Rupees each, no new works of irrigation of any importance were executed during the past year. Nothing has been heard of the scheme for improving the Cotapilly Tampara Gara channel mentioned in last year's report.

6. Captain Beckley's projects for irrigating North Ganjam.—On the 26th December last, was laid before the Board the report on irrigation works in North Ganjam by Captain Beckley, R.E., specially deputed to examine the capabilities of the district in this respect. It is hoped that Government will, after receipt of Captain Beckley's report on the resources of the southern portion of the district, allot funds for the prosecution of the projected works in North Ganjam.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 31st August 1869.

7 Ganjan Town Improvements.—A sum of Rupees 2,402 has been expended, with benefit in clearing tanks and luxuriant vegetation, filling up ditches, opening drains, and otherwise improving the sanitary condition of this ancient town.

8. The Chilka canal.—During the past official year, Rupees 19,511 were expended on this canal. The whole line has been excavated to from 3 to 4 mean sea level. On the 15th February last, the canal was bunded to make a slight diversion from the ridge of the Ganjam end, and to deepen the bed wherever possible. This portion of the work has been completed. Ferry boats have been provided. The road made good from the trunk road to the canal landing, and the bridge over the Canee Gedda Salt Creek to the canal, restored. The five casuarina topes planted on the sand drifts are thriving.

9. Civil Buildings.—With the exception of the District Moonsiffs Court-house at Aska, no other Civil building of importance appears to have been completed during the past year. Alterations and additions to the Berhampore District Jail are still being made. Rupees 9,555 were expended in 1867-68, and Rupees 2,419 in last year 1868-69. Additions and alterations to all the Subsidiary Jails in the district were going on. Sanction for these works was, it would appear, received too late in the season to admit of much progress being made. Several of the Civil buildings throughout the district have been repaired at a trifling cost.

10. Travellers' Bungalows.—No expenditure was incurred last year in repairing travellers' bungalows. On the 5th December last, a special report on the requirements of this district in respect to travellers' bungalows, was submitted to the Board, recommending the construction of bungalows at Berhampore, Narsannapettah, Chicacole. On the 22nd ultimo, the Board called for further information. This will be furnished as soon as the particulars are received from the Range Officers and from the Principal Assistant Collector.

11. No works of public utility were constructed by private individual as during the past year.

12. Works in the Sub-division.—The report of the Acting Principal Assistant Collector on Public Works in the Sub-division is annexed.

Buildings.—No new buildings have been erected during the past year. The conversion of the old Jail of Chicacole into a Talook Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail is being proceeded with. The estimate includes a new Court-house for the Talook Sub-Magistrate, a new Subsidiary Jail, and the raising of the walls of the old Jail wards by one foot for the accommodation of clerks and records respectively. The Jail Hospital which had been condemned for some years has been at last removed, and the materials (which were comparatively new) utilised in the construction of the new Cutcherry. The Subsidiary Jail at Narsannapettah is nearly completed, and materials are being collected for the Subsidiary Jail at Raghunadpur. These works were sanctioned by the Government on the recommendation of the Subsidiary Jail Committee.

The following buildings were put in repair during the past year:—

1. Tahsildar's Cutcherry at Chicacole.
2. Police Hospital at Chicacole.
3. Sea Custom-house at Calingapatam.
4. Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry at Narsannapettah.
5. Do. do. at Raghunadpur.
6. Police Hospital at Purlah Kimedy.

The other public buildings are in good order, with the exception of the Post Office which has been unoccupied for about three years. I drew attention to the state of this building in last year's report.

Agricultural works.—The Julmur and Looklam main channels were repaired and are reported to be in good order. Three masonry calingulahs and four sluices were constructed at a cost of Rupees 1,097. The Polaky channel is under repair, and the repairs will soon be completed. Repairs are required for the Nagarikatakam, Purushottapore, Byree, Nowry, and Doosy channels, all of which are to be attended to next year. Of all the irrigation works of the Chicacole Talook, the Wadada channel is the most important, watering, as it does, land yielding a revenue of about Rupees 16,000 annually. At present it is somewhat out of repair; but an estimate has, I am informed, been forwarded for it. During the scarcity of water a few months ago, the ryots collected Rupees 350 among themselves and got this channel supplied with water by throwing an earthen dam across the Nangoolia river.

The tanks are all reported to be in good order.

Communications.—The roads are generally speaking in good order. The state of the trunk Road, however, 50 miles of which are in the Sub-division, calls for remark. While very good in some places, in others it is as bad as possible. Several miles near Nowpada it can only be described as a mere sandy-track over heavy sand. At Byree to where the road crosses the Wumsadhara river, carts and passengers have to traverse about a mile of heavy sand, besides having to ford the river.

The roads from Alikam to Hiramandalum and from Raghunadpur to Caseeboogah are in progress. The work of repairing the roads this year has been sadly crippled by the failure of the rains. The new coatings of gravel laid in anticipation of the rains have therefore not amalgamated with the former coatings, and the roads are very dusty in consequence.

The timber bridges on the Jagannadpur road are reported to be in a very dilapidated state. The Supervisor states that he made a representation last year to the Superintending Engineer on the subject, but that the repair of the bridges has not yet been sanctioned.

Travellers' Bungalows.—There are three in the Sub-division at Gopalpore, Pata Teckaly, and Caseeboogah. The Hurripore bungalow, though included in the Chicacole Public Works Range, is not properly within the Sub-division. The Gopalpore and Caseeboogah bungalows are both apparently in good order. But as regards the Pata Teckaly bungalow, white-ants have made a large hole in one corner, and this will necessitate, I am afraid, the removal and reconstruction of a considerable part of two side-walls.

I have already drawn attention to the great need of travellers' bungalows at Chicacole and Narasannapettah, (*Vide* my letter* No. 139 of 19th November 1868).

* *Note.*—Included in the general peport sent to the Board, dated 5th December 1868.

13. Roads, &c., in the Gumsoor Maliahs.—Rupees 7,200 were well spent on roads and buildings in the hills. The following memorandum on the state of public buildings and roads in those tracts supplied by Captain Lys, the Acting Junior Assistant Agent, is subjoined for the information of the Board:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31*st August* 1869.

New works.—Among these may be included the Mahasinghy bridge, and the road up to Dakpala ghaut. The bridge is now finished and seems to be well and strongly built; its durability will be tested during the ensuing rains. The new road from Birkote up the Dakpala ghaut is also finished. It is in fair order all the way from Birkote to Baliguda. It is proposed to keep a small gang of labourers on the road throughout the rainy season.

Old works.—A serious mistake was made in roofing the large bungalow at Baliguda with iron. It will be impossible with unskilled labour to stop the leaking, and the noise when it rains is almost unbearable. It is proposed to remove the iron roofing and replace it with thatch for the present; the thatch will eventually be replaced by tiles.

A gang of labourers has been employed since November 1868, on the road between Baliguda and Tumeribund, parts of which are still in very bad order. A new bridge has been built over the river Raul.

Owing to the heavy expenditure on the Mahasinghy bridge, funds have not been available for the repairs of the old roads from Udayagiri, *via* Sarungudda to Baliguda, and from Baliguda, *via* Darungabady to Chodakia. These roads are in very bad order, nearly all the bridges are broken.

The old bungalow at Baliguda has been thoroughly repaired and whitewashed. The buildings occupied by the office establishment are likewise being repaired."

14. Respecting this bridge over the river Mahasinghy, a few miles from Baliguda, the head-quarters of the Maliahs, the late Agent, Mr. Carmichael, in his last report says—"It is the first pucka bridge that has been constructed in the hills, and is an object of great astonishment and interest to the people."

15. The Comparative Statement of estimate and expenditure during 1867-68 and 1868-69. The Budget allotment will be submitted as soon as received from the Superintending Engineer, who has been this day again requested to expedite its despatch. A copy of this report will also be furnished him for information, and his special attention called to the remarks of the Principal Assistant Collector.

16. The Salt Deputy Collector has also been this day desired to submit, at an early date, his report for the last year on the salt works and roads under his charge.

Enclosure No. 1.

GANJAM DISTRICT.

Comparative Statement of estimates and expenditure during the years 1867-68 and 1868-69.

Works.	Expenditure in 1867-68.	Expenditure in 1868-69.	Difference. Increase.	Difference. Decrease.	Budget allotment or estimate of 1868-69.	Remarks.
New Works.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Irrigation	4,230	3,136	.....	1,094	2,767	
Communications...	1,20,265	63,077	.....	57,188	70,975	
Buildings...	22,374	23,888	1,514	.....	26,472	
Repairs.						
Irrigation...	16,964	20,535	3,571	.....	24,132	
Communications	46,237	47,827	1,590	.....	49,377	
Buildings...	2,374	2,225	.....	149	2,999	
Total. ...	2,12,444	1,60,688	6,675	58,431	1,76,722	

(Signed) J. F. FISCHER, Captain R.E.,
Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

18*th June* 1869.

List of works, the estimated cost of which exceeds Rupees 500 *each, completed during the year* 1868-69, *and of those in progress.*

Works.	Estimate.	Total expenditure up to 31st March 1869.	Remarks.
WORKS COMPLETED.			
Buildings.	RS.	RS.	
Additional District Moonsiff's Court-house at Aska ...	1,450	1,640	
Do. do. do. at Berhampore ...	637	637	
Communications.			
Metalling Aska and Berhampore Road...	14,500	14,434	
WORKS IN PROGRESS.			
Buildings.			
Clearing and improving Ganjam town	13,000	2,402	
Additions and alterations to Zillah Jail at Berhampore.	24,418	16,800	
Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail at Narsannapettah...	.....	2,900	Estimate not yet sanctioned.
Do. at Ragoonadpur	... ..	400	Do.
Do. at Purlah Kimedy	.....	2,336	Do.
Converting Chicacole Jail into Talook Cutcherry ...	.....	1,000	Do.
Alterations, &c., to Subsidiary Jail at Chetterpore ...	.....	168	Do.
Subsidiary Jail and Talook Cutcherry at Berhampore...	.....	2,304	Do.
Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry at Sompetta	.....	540	Do.
Alterations and additions to Subsidiary Jail at Purushottapore	.....	116	Do.
Alterations and additions to Subsidiary Jail at Ganjam.	.....	202	Do.
Subsidiary Jail at Russelcondah...	.....	2,943	Do.
Do. at Aska	.....	835	Do.
Do. at Soorada	.....	271	Do.
Police Stations at Buttely and Warnassy	1,984	1,984	This is the amount paid to Superintendent of Police in 1868-69.
Powder Magazine at Baleguda	750	750	
Communications.			
Roads in Maliahs...	17,600	2,000	This is the amount paid to Collector in 1868-69.
Road from Aska to Ganjam Port and Salt pans ...	62,700	61,986	
Branch Road between Berhampore and Aska and Berhampore and Itchapore Roads...	7,648	4,362	
Improving Trunk Road No. 6, between Chicacole and Bengal frontier...	.....	10,209	Estimate not yet sanctioned.
Chilka Canal works	1,61,110	76,896	
Road from Aska to Darangabady...	47,690	40,428	
Road from Aska to Russelcondah, *via* Bullepadra, &c.	44,610	42,603	

DOWLAISHVERAM,
19th June 1869.

(Signed) J. F. FISCHER, Captain, R.E.,
Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st August 1869.

THE foregoing letter containing the report from the Acting Collector of Ganjam, on the Public Works of his district for 1868-69, will be submitted to Government.

2. COMMUNICATIONS.—The Imperial lines through the district below the ghauts are reported to be completed with the exception of parts of the Grand Trunk Road, a large section of which has been energetically taken in hand during the year. They appear to be in fair order, except when under construction and in part of the Sub-division.

3. Salt roads are in general favorably reported of; the Collector will have the goodness to explain the cause of the unsatisfactory condition of the Nowpada salt line.

4. The attention of Government should be drawn to Captain Beckley's suggestion as to the best line for the road to Sambalpore, with a view to the selection of the best line in communication with the Government of Bengal. The importance of opening a line through that country has already been urged, but the work was deferred on account of want of funds, in Government Order, 25th February 1869, No. 622.

5. The work of opening roads through the Khond Maliah has been continued. The Mahasinghy river was bridged last year. The road from Birkote to Baleguda and from Baleguda to Tummerabund have been pushed forward, but owing to inadequate funds several of the old roads have deteriorated.

[illegible]tion Works.—Captain Beckley had made a comprehensive report on the requirements of the district preparatory to the more extensive development of irrigation. In the meantime no new works of importance were in progress. Rupees 21,398 were expended in the repair of irrigation and agricultural works.

7. The Collector should report whether the Chilka lake canal is open throughout, and if possible obtain a statement of the traffic on it.

8. The Board hope that the statements referred to in paragraph 15 will soon be submitted.

No. 633. ORDER THEREON. 31st August 1869, No. 2,839.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 50. ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.