M.R. G. 1—B. 609—16-10-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 66 Press Mis.

137-138
Dated 11-1- 19 1931

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th January 1868.

No. 137. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue :—

Public Works Report of Collector of Madras for 1867-68, submitted to Government, with remarks relative to insufficiency of allotment for Irrigation repairs. } (Here enter 21st October 1868, No. 7,552.)

No. 138. ORDER THEREON, 11th January 1869, No. 66.

Miscellaneous. Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

POST OFFICE SERVICE
REVENUE.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
dated January 11th.
read.
G. O., 11th January 1869, No. 66.
JANUARY.
Nos. 137-138.
Public Works in Madras District.—Board's
proceedings submitting the Collector's re
1867-68, recorded.

No. 7,542.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st October 1868.

Read the following letter from G. THORNHILL, Esq., Acting Collector of the Madras district, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 1st October 1868, No. 316:—

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the progress of Public Works in this district for the past official year 1867-68.

2. From the subjoined abstract Statement it will be seen that the expenditure of the year under review exceeds that of the previous year by Rupees 1,87,800:—

Particulars of Works.		Expenditure of 1866-67.	Expenditure of 1867-68.	Difference. Increase.	Difference. Decrease.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Irrigation	New Works	2,792	51,439	48,647	.....
	Repairs	90,564	91,955	1,391	.....
Communication	New Works	7,219	14,537	7,318	.....
	Repairs	94,344	1,36,203	41,859	.....
Buildings	New Works	53,864	1,54,451	1,00,587	.....
	Repairs	33,834	21,832	.....	12,002
Total	New Works	63,875	2,20,427	1,56,552	.....
	Repairs	2,18,742	2,49,990	43,250	12,002
Grand total		2,82,617	4,70,417	1,99,802	12,002
Net Increase		.....	.....	1,87,800	.....

3. IRRIGATION.—*New Works.*—The amount expended on new works of irrigation was Rupees 51,439. Of this Rupees 15,407 has been the outlay on minor new works, such as calingulahs and sluices, etc., and Rupees 11,382 have been laid out on the Neenjal Madugu Project, and Rupees 12,823, in deepening and revetting the bund of the Bungaroo channel for supplying the Chembrumbakum tank, and the remainder in restoring the embankments of the Cortelliar and Arnee rivers, and in improving the supply channel to Nagalapurum tank.

4. I beg here to point out that the grants for minor new works have always been quite inadequate to the wants of the district. Tanks which have had their bunds repaired, have often been left with their sluices and calingulahs out of order, and have never been fully efficient in consequence. I recommend very urgently that an allotment of not less than Rupees 40,000 be made for this head in the next Budget.

5. *Repairs.*—Rupees 91,955 have been expended under this head. None of the repairs are of a character to call for special notice.

6. The wants of this district in respect of this item, have already been repeatedly brought to notice by my predecessors in office, and myself. During the past year something has been done towards repairing them. I would, however, here express a hope that an allotment of two lacs may be given in the next Budget.

7. COMMUNICATION.—*New Works.*—The expenditure on this head has been Rupees 14,537. A portion of this amount, Rupees 4,160, has been spent on a part of the Cuddapah road, and Rupees 9,028 were laid out in excavating Salt channels at Kattupully, Ennore, etc., and the remainder in constructing a road and a bridge across the backwater at Voyaloor.

8. In addition to the old trunk lines of road, the only roads which find a place in the Imperial Budget are the Salt roads from Cheyoor to Chotupauk, and the North Arcot frontier, and from Kalambakum to Chingleput. No money was laid out on these in the year under report, but they both urgently need it, and I trust the Budget allotment proposed by the Superintending Engineer may be passed.

9. The Ootramullore road, alluded to in my last report, being a local line, it will find its place in the Local Fund Budget.

10. *Repairs.*—The sum expended upon "Repairs" is Rupees 1,36,203, which include Rupees 69,447, on trunk roads, Rupees 11,000 on the East Coast Canal, and Rupees 39,466, employed in clearing the Salt channels at Kalambakum, Ennore, Vada Semmunjery, Attiput, Pulidiwak, etc. The remainder was spent on the crosslines.

11. BUILDINGS.—*New Works.*—Under this head Rupees 1,54,451 have been spent, of which, Rupees 80,417 have been laid out on Military buildings at the Mount, Palaveram, and Poonamallee, the Powder Magazines in the first-named station, absorbing Rupees 46,000. The cost of the Civil buildings has been Rupees 74,034, of which Rupees 26,617 were expended on Subsidiary Jails, and in improving the Munsiffs' Courts at Chingleput and Poonamallee; and Rupees 29,350 on the Salt platforms at Madras. The improvements to the Cutcherries at Home's Garden, Ponneri, Madrantacum, and Cheyur, have taken up Rupees 6,989. The works in Guindy Park cost Rupees 2,920, and the cemeteries at the Mount and Pulicat, and the Light-house at the latter station, Rupees 2,158. The remaining amount, Rupees 6,000, was spent on the Talook Cutcherry at Trivellore.

12. *Repairs.*—Of the total expenditure under this head, amounting to Rs. 21,832, the portion consumed by the Military buildings amounted to Rupees 16,610. The Guindy works employed Rupees 3,062, and repairs to Police huts and Lock-ups, Rupees 1,346. The remainder has been spent upon minor repairs to the Munsiff's Court at Trivellore, the Travellers' bungalow at Goommoodipundy, the Talook Cutcherry at Trivellore, and the Burial ground at Saint Thomas' Mount.

13. Notwithstanding the amount laid out on repairs to Irrigation works, supplemented as it has been during the last year by special grants, the state of the district in this respect is still far from satisfactory, and it will require very liberal grants, for many years to come, to bring the tanks, etc., into a fair state of efficiency. Since the close of the year under report, I have had the opportunity of inspecting a large number of the tanks in the north of the District, in No. 1 Range; and although much good work has been done, the number of half-ruined tanks far exceeds those in repair. An excellent system has been introduced by the Public Works Officers, in that part of the district, of giving much of the earth-work on village contract. The advantages of the practice are so great, that it cannot be too widely followed, if it has not been adopted elsewhere. The villagers will, as a rule, always give good measure when their own interests are concerned, and the feeling of confidence and good-will which the system fosters, between the people and the Department of Public Works is most valuable.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The Board agree with Mr. Thornhill that the sum of 90,000 Rupees allowed for irrigation repairs is insufficient.

3. The district is not, as a rule, supplied with streams of a continuous flow, and the success of cultivation, therefore, mainly depends on the efficiency of the tank and its supply channel to secure the maximum advantage of periodical falls of rain, and of its sluices to economize the supply received. As a rule, too, the areas of wet land under tanks is out of all proportion large as compared with the capacity of the tank.

4. The revenue is, therefore, peculiarly exposed to damage from any deficiency of water; and nothing but the greatest perfection in the works can be looked to, to keep it up to its full standard.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Department of Public Works.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" to the Acting Collector of Madras.

Exd. J. Wright.

Pen - 1868. Department.

No. 3390

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 21st *October* 1868.

Rec'd 24 "

Rec'd 26 "

No. 7,542.

Public Works Report—of Collector of Madras for 1867-68, submitted to Government, with remarks relative to insufficiency of allotment for Irrigation repairs.

RECORDED.