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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
27th January 1873.*

No. 542. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th December 1872, No. 2,424.—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 8th November 1872, No. 2,710.

I HAVE the honour to submit my Report on the Public Works of this district for 1871-72, dividing the same into Imperial and Provincial.

2. Owing to the recent classification of Public Works as above, no comparison is instituted between the expenditure of the year under report and that of the year preceding.

3. The following table exhibits the allotments and expenditure of this year under the class Imperial Works:—

Items.		Allotment for 1871-72.	Expenditure for 1871-72, as per Range Reports.	Remarks.
<i>New Works.</i>		RS.	RS.	
Agricultural ...	{ Ordinary... ..	35,965	27,869	
	{ Extraordinary	1,90,000	38,592	
Minor Works ...	Ordinary	5,000	3,806	
Tools and Plant ...	{ Ordinary... ..	1,150	} 4,751	
	{ Extraordinary	2,140		
Total...		2,34,255	75,018	
<i>Repairs.</i>				
Military buildings		440	494	
Civil buildings		180		
Agricultural ...	{ Ordinary	83,000	68,683	
	{ Extraordinary			
Tools and Plant ...	{ Ordinary	200		
	{ Extraordinary			
Total...		83,820	69,177	
Grand Total...		3,18,075	1,44,195	

4. The Superintending Engineer informs me that the large sum of Rupees 1,09,527 was surrendered by him out of the total grant of Rs. 3,18,075; hence the funds expended were Rupees 2,08,548. The great difficulty of getting labour in the district is given as the cause of this surrender. This difficulty is not unfrequently due to the apathy of the ryots; and I have been obliged to give them to understand that no claims to remissions will be attended to, if they have neglected to render that assistance which is in their power in repairing the existing works of irrigation.

5. To the total expenditure shown in the above Statement, is to be added Rupees 2,608 on account of Communications; for which there appears no special grant in the Statement of Allotments for 1871-72 furnished me by the Superintending Engineer. The expenditure is on the towing paths along the Masulipatam and Ellore Canals.

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6. The following works were either almost or nearly completed during the year:—

Name of works.	Estimate.	Expenditure during 1871-72.
Widening Pallair from Cowtaram Lock to Pawarru	RS. 17,000	RS. 3,372
Do. do. above Pawarru	31,250	4,145
Completing the sloping of banks of Masulipatam Canal from 1st to 4th mile	5,210	1,965
Enlarging Pallair from Kankipad to the head of Polurazodu	27,900	3,532

N.B.—The above works form part of the Pallair Project, estimate Rupees 1,83,100.

	Estimate.	Expenditure during 1871-72.
Excavating a new channel along the western side of Masulipatam Canal...	RS. 49,860	RS. 4,003 A. P. 0 0

7. Nothing has been done to the channel from Vallabhapuram to the Tidal water noticed in Mr. Boswell's report (paragraph 9) embodied in the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,320, dated 8th August 1871. The Aramanda Channel has not progressed much; but work was performed during the year almost to the extent of the allotment.

8. Projects for the improved irrigation in the Eastern and Western Deltas are still under preparation; and I do not know what steps are proposed in regard to "the project for the better supply of the lands in the Divi Purgana;" a report on which was called for from the Superintending Engineer, in Public Works Order, No. 874, dated 3rd April 1872—(Vide Board's Proceedings, No. 5,052, dated 15th December 1871.

9. The following works made creditable progress during the year:—

- (1). Enlarging Masulipatam Canal from 4th to 12th mile.
- (2). Constructing a new channel from the head of alternative line.
- (3). Enlarging and improving Ryve's Channel from the second mile to Pallair near Marivada.
- (4). Enlarging the head of Masulipatam Canal for 1,000 yards from anicut to the head of Ellore Bridge.
- (5). Constructing a bridge across the Ellore High Level Canal at Perkied.
- (6). Constructing a fish ladder at Kistna anicut.
- (7). In all Ranges many minor original works have been completed, and a good many others made satisfactory progress.

11. The total expenditure on account of Agricultural Repairs amounted to Rupees 68,683, and was incurred chiefly in putting the Kistna anicut in good repair, constructing protective walls, dredging heads of canals in the Delta, clearing the main and other important canals, and strengthening their banks, and repairing drainage and minor irrigation channels.

12. The total extent of land cultivated wet in Fasli 1281 was Acres 1,43,980, which shows a decrease of Acres 14,738 compared with the cultivation of Fasli 1280. The greater portion of this decrease occurred in the Divi Division where relinquishments of land exceed that taken up, and the chief cause of it was the adverse season.

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13. The following table shows dry land converted into wet in the Delta Taluqs from Fasli 1265:—

Fasli.	BANDER TALUQ.		GUDIWADA TALUQ.		BEZWADA TALUQ.		REPALLY TALUQ.		BAPATLA TALUQ.		TOTAL.	
	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.
1265	...	...	2,131	2,339	...	...	...	318	1,896	2,449	4,235	...
1266	...	...	4,851	6,814	...	...	...	4,737	28,326	10,150	39,702	...
1267	...	...	5,086	7,367	...	...	...	7,257	42,154	17,076	72,566	...
1268	...	...	5,833	10,071	...	...	...	7,444	44,652	25,570	1,21,464	...
1269	...	...	6,180	17,512	...	...	...	8,505	50,614	35,504	1,82,826	...
1270	...	...	5,539	15,989	...	...	...	7,451	44,474	33,643	1,73,754	...
1271	...	...	6,957	21,142	...	...	...	7,197	43,021	38,539	1,97,890	...
1272	...	...	8,827	28,929	...	...	...	9,062	48,163	45,971	2,27,834	...
1273	...	...	11,834	33,763	...	...	...	10,652	63,059	61,039	2,93,744	...
1274	...	...	14,337	53,051	...	...	...	12,567	73,421	64,113	3,18,220	...
1275	...	...	16,038	68,279	...	...	...	12,888	74,754	65,546	3,45,175	...
1276	...	...	14,101	83,419	...	...	...	12,762	78,973	62,911	3,66,547	...
1277	...	...	15,418	91,055	...	...	...	15,062	86,311	68,963	3,94,226	...
1278	...	...	14,603	86,253	...	...	...	11,609	67,632	58,941	3,38,081	...
1279	...	...	13,914	82,279	...	...	...	11,446	63,314	56,311	3,14,226	...
1280	...	...	14,633	86,478	...	...	...	11,676	65,745	57,395	3,21,735	...
1281	...	...	17,572	1,03,380	...	...	...	12,696	70,645	60,913	3,41,231	...
Total...	478	1,739	1,77,874	7,98,120	51,842	2,60,322	8,71,511	20,44,821	1,63,329	7,65,034	40,47,156	...
Averaged...	84	124	10,463	46,948	3,240	16,270	23,219	1,27,801	9,607	45,002	2,38,068	...

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From the above, it will be seen that there is an increase of dry land cultivated in Gudivada and Bapatla as compared with the results of last year. Bezvada and Beapalli Taluqs show a slight decrease, while in the Bander Taluq every dry acre converted into wet has been re-converted to dry. The results of the five taluqs, however, show on the whole an increase in wet of 3,518 acres over that of 1870, the corresponding increase in the assessment being Rupees 19,496.

14. The supply of good water from the Kistna Canals to the Municipal town of Masulipatam has not been continuous, and is still cut off in the hot season when it is wanted most. In G. O., P. W. D., 21st September 1871, No. 2,412, (which I have just seen for the first time) Government directed the Superintending Engineer to present plans and estimates for the purpose of rendering (evidently at the cost of the State) the water-supply permanent and abundant as soon as possible; and this officer (copy of his letter enclosed) has forwarded to the Municipality two schemes, apparently expensive ones, by which he proposes to ensure the water-supply of the town. I would, therefore, recommend that the Government should call upon him to frame and submit the necessary estimates that the whole may be put in hand at once.

15. In my letter dated 18th August 1872, No. 2,153, submitting the report on the Municipalities, I have expressed a hope that the water lying near the surface of the ground in the town, will before long lose its brackishness; but there is no doubt that from a sanitary point of view, it will be infinitely better for the towns' people to have river water to use than to have to resort for two months in the year to shallow wells.

16. No new buildings were constructed during the year from the Imperial Funds. There was an allotment of Rupees 620 granted for repairing certain Military and Civil Buildings, of which Rupees 180 were surrendered by the Superintending Engineer. A sum of Rupees 193 was expended in asphaltting the floor and the terraced roof of the Hospital of the European Barracks in the fort of Masulipatam, while a sum of Rs. 300 is shown in the Range Report as "Rent of private quarters occupied by the Commissariat Serjeant." The total, therefore, exceeds the allotment by Rs. 54.

PROVINCIAL.

17. Provincial works consist of Civil and Police Buildings and certain Miscellaneous Public Improvements.

18. The following Statement shows the allotment and expenditure under each item:—

Items.	Allotment.	Expenditure during 1871-72.
<i>New Works.</i>		
Civil buildings	Rs. 2,932	Rs. 3,465
Police	2,982	121
Minor New Works	2,990	293
Total...	8,904	3,879
<i>Repairs.</i>		
Civil buildings	4,520	4,300
Police	542	...
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	500	141
Total...	5,562	4,441
Grand Total...	14,466	8,320

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19. The sum of Rupees 3,465, was expended on the following works:—

(1). Improving the Ponnur Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry building. The work was sanctioned in G. O., No. 1,476, of 28th August 1871, Revenue Department, and had long to wait for funds. It is now complete; but I propose to add two windows to the Record-room.

(2). Improving Dachapalli Taluq Cutcherry which was formerly a Travellers' Bungalow; an attempt has been made to adopt it for an Office building.

(3). Keeping in repair the old French, Dutch and other Cemeteries.

(4). Constructing additional rooms in connection with, and otherwise improving the Light-house at Point Divi.

20. Under Minor New Works are shown in the Range Progress Reports, improvements and alterations made to a few Travellers' Bungalows.

21. Almost all the buildings that required repair were put into good order.

22. A sum of Rupees 141 was spent in repairing a tank for storing drinking water at Point Divi.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. SMITH, Esq., Officiating Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Masulipatam, dated Bezvada, 26th June 1872, No. 32.

With reference to the last part of paragraph 4 of Government Order, No. 665, dated 22nd May 1872, regarding a continuous supply of good water to the town of Masulipatam, I have the honour to state, for the information of the Commissioners, that it will be a costly undertaking, and, before preparing plans and estimates, I should feel obliged by your letting me know the maximum sum the Municipality are willing to spend on this desirable project.

2. At present I know of but two arrangements that I could recommend, as I think it advisable, that the supply should be independent of the Kistna Channels during the months of April, May and June annually.

3. Annexed are the schemes I am disposed to advocate.

(1). A new canal from Bezvada to the side channel near the Kankipad Lock, with suitable pumping apparatus, at the former place, to raise the required volume of water to the head of the proposed conduit.

(2.) The construction of Reservoirs in the vicinity of Masulipatam, or elsewhere, if eligible sites do not exist there.

(True Copy.)

(Signed)

G. D. LEMAN,

Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The total allotment for expenditure in the Kistna District for the year 1871-72 was Rupees 3,18,075 including nearly 2 lakhs of Loan money. The expenditure according to the table in paragraph 3, was only Rupees 1,44,195, but as stated in paragraph 4 it amounted to Rupees 2,08,548 a discrepancy which should be explained; whichever is correct the amount abandoned was very large and much to be regretted.

3. The difficulty experienced in getting a sufficiency of labour is no doubt the true cause of the slow progress made in the works in this District. The true remedy would be to organize the importation of labour from elsewhere. Now that it is certain that large allotments from Loan Funds will be yearly available there need be no insuperable difficulty about this. During the construction of the

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anicut the Engineers always had a large body of workmen on monthly pay: many of them from Hyderabad, and there does not seem to be any reason why a similar body should not be raised for work in the channels. It must be remembered that until the upper reaches of the canals are enlarged there can be no adequate extension of cultivation down below. The Board do not believe in the apathy of ryots there more than elsewhere. They have probably plenty of work for their farm servants without undertaking channel work and certainly during the cultivation season, coolies can get better wages from the ryots than from the Department Public Works.

4. It is satisfactory to observe from the statement in paragraph 13 that the extent of dry land converted into wet is gradually increasing although still below what it was in Faslies 1273 to 1277.

5. It is desirable that plans and estimates for supplying the town of Masulipatam with fresh water throughout the year should be at once prepared.

No. 543.

ORDER THEREON, 27th January 1873, No. 265.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 34.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, Kistna.

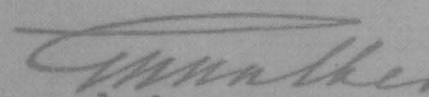
2. The question of the difficulty experienced in procuring labour came under the consideration of Government in G. O. of the 16th December 1872, No. 2,978, and His Excellency the Governor in Council approved of the proposal to invite labour by notifying in the Local Gazettes of the adjoining districts. The Resident at Hyderabad, who was also addressed on the subject, has promised his co-operation by giving similar publicity.

3. The reasons which render it desirable to postpone the completion of the channel from Vellabhapooram to tide water are explained in paragraph 9 of the Superintending Engineer's letter and paragraph 2 of the Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, recorded in G. O. of 1st February 1872, No. 305.

4. The District Engineer will report what progress has been made in maturing the project for the better supply of the lands in the Divi Pergannah since the date of the Superintending Engineer's letter of 10th April 1872, No. 8.

5. Orders have been passed on the subject of perfecting a plan for perpetuating a supply of good drinking water at Masulipatam, under date the 12th December 1872. The Collector will see from that order (No. 103, Public Works Department,) that he is mistaken in assuming that it is intended to carry out the work at the cost of the State.

(True Extract.)

 Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Kistna.

.. Board of Revenue.

.. Revenue Department.

.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

.. Financial Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Revenue Dept.
No. 279.

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, KISTNA.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 27th.

Recd. 30th Encl.

G. O., 27th January 1873, No. 265.

JANUARY.

Nos. 542-543

Public Works in the Kistna District.—
Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue on Collector's report on Public
Works in the Kistna District.

H. 194.
31st Jan/73