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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th December 1872.

Read the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq., 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.

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

Name of works.	Estimate.	Expenditure during 1871-72.
	RS.	RS.
Widening Pullair from Cowtaram Lock to Pawarru	17,000	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 Pullair from Kankipad to the head of Polurazcodu	27,900	3,532

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

	Estimate.	Expenditure during 1871-72.
	RS.	RS. A. P.
Excavating a new channel along the western side of Masulipatam Canal...	49,860	4,003 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 Pullair near Marrivada.
- (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.
10. 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.

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.		BAPADIA TALUQ.		TOTAL.	
	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.	Land.	Assessment.
1265	...	...	2,131	2,339	...	...	...	...	318	1,836	2,449	4,285
1266	...	...	4,851	6,814	...	...	...	...	4,737	28,336	10,150	39,702
1267	...	...	5,086	7,367	...	...	...	...	7,257	42,114	17,076	72,566
1268	...	...	5,833	10,071	...	...	...	...	7,444	44,602	25,570	1,21,464
1269	...	...	6,180	17,512	...	...	...	...	8,505	50,614	35,504	1,82,826
1270	...	...	5,559	15,989	...	...	...	...	7,451	44,414	33,643	1,73,754
1271	...	...	6,957	21,142	...	...	...	...	7,197	43,071	38,539	1,97,590
1272	...	...	8,827	28,929	...	...	...	...	9,062	48,113	45,971	2,27,884
1273	...	...	11,834	33,763	...	...	...	...	10,652	63,039	61,039	2,98,744
1274	...	...	14,337	53,051	...	...	...	...	12,567	73,401	64,113	3,18,220
1275	...	...	16,038	68,279	...	...	...	...	12,888	74,794	65,546	3,45,175
1276	...	...	14,101	83,419	...	...	...	...	12,762	73,973	62,911	3,60,547
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	...	...	...	...	11,076	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	3,71,511	20,44,821	1,63,329	9,42,154	7,65,034	40,47,156
Averaged...	34	124	10,463	46,948	3,240	16,270	23,219	1,27,801	9,607	55,420	45,002	2,38,068

From the above, it will be seen that there is an increase of dry land cultivated wet in Gudivada and Bapatla as compared with the results of last year. Bezwada and Repalli 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 Fasli 1280, 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

	Rs.
Military	440
Civil Buildings	180
	620

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 Rupees 300 is shown in the Range Report as "Rent of private quarters occupied by the Commissariat Serjeant." The total, therefore, exceeds the allotment by Rupees 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>		
	RS.	RS.
Civil buildings	2,932	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

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

(1). Improving the Ponnur Sub-Magistrate's Catcherry 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 Catcherry which was formerly a Travelers' Bungalow; an attempt has been made to adopt it for an Office building.

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

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

With reference to the last part of paragraph 4 of Government Order, No. 663, 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 Bezwada 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

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.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. G. Gode
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ to the Acting Collector of the Kistna District.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

10 Board of Rev. Dec 15 Jan 73

Public Works—of Kistna District.—Report of Collector on progress made in—during 1871-72, submitted to Government with remarks.

DECEMBER.
No. 2,424.

Received

23. Dec

Encl.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH DECEMBER 1872, No. 2,424.

Dec 20 1872

BOARD of REVENUE,
MADRAS.

Rev. 1872. Dec 1

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