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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	61	~~Press~~
~~B.P.~~ No.		Mis.
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th February 1874.

Read the following letter from W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th December 1873, No. 248:—

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report on Public Works in this district for the past Official year 1872-73.

2. The subjoined comparative abstract Statement exhibits the outlay on Imperial and Provincial Works in the year 1872-73, with reference to the Budget allotments of that year:—

Class of works.	BUDGET GRANT of 1872-73.			OUTLAY IN 1872-73.			COMPARISON BETWEEN GRANT AND OUTLAY.			
	New works.	Repairs.	Total.	New works.	Repairs.	Total.	New works.		Repairs.	
							Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
IMPERIAL										
<i>Agricultural.</i>										
Original Works ..	4,000	...	4,000	219	...	219	...	3,781	...	...
Repairs ..	...	70,000	70,000	...	20,106	20,106	...	...	...	49,894
<i>Tools and Plant.</i>										
New supplies ..	50	...	50	77	...	77	27	...	...	...
Repairs ..	...	50	50	...	60	60	...	...	10	...
Total...	4,050	70,050	74,100	296	20,166	20,462	27	3,781	10	49,894
PROVINCIAL.										
<i>Civil Buildings.</i>										
Original works ..	13,240	...	13,240	4,000	...	4,000	...	9,240	...	...
Repairs ..	...	3,300	3,300	...	2,998	2,998	...	...	...	302
<i>Police Buildings.</i>										
New works ..	2,419	...	2,419	2,278	...	2,278	...	141	...	...
Repairs ..	...	300	300	...	310	300	...	...	...	...
Total...	15,659	3,600	19,259	6,278	3,298	9,576	...	9,381	...	302
Grand total...	19,709	73,650	93,359	6,574	23,464	30,038	27	13,162	10	50,106

The total grant for the year was Rupees 93,353. The outlay amounted to Rupees 30,033. The expenditure during the year is less by Rupees 23,165 than in the year 1871-72.

3. Out of Rupees 4,000 the grant for Imperial Original Works, Rupees 2,500 having been given up, Rupees 1,500 remained for expenditure. The outlay was only Rupees 219. The large sum unexpended is chiefly due to the small amount of work done in the Sub-division Range. The grant for the year in that range was Rupees 1,331. Of that sum, only Rupees 91 have been spent. With so small an allotment, and with so little expenditure, it is scarcely necessary for me to say that the works have been of the most ordinary description, such as constructing tank sluices and survey operations.

4. For Agricultural Repairs Rupees 70,000 were allotted, but of this sum, Rupees 42,792 were available for expenditure. Less than half, viz., Rupees 20,106 have been spent. Here again the Sub-division figures very badly, for out of an allotment of Rupees 5,463, there have been spent only Rupees 477. In one of the two remaining ranges, the expenditure barely exceeds one-third of the grant. The work performed is chiefly in connection with three large tanks at Budvail, Utakoor and Kamalapur. The work on the Budvail tank could not be finished owing to the heavy rains in May, causing a considerable amount of water to flow into the tank. The work on the Utakoor tank which breached badly in 1870 is nearly finished, and the Kamalapur tank bund which was very weak, has been strengthened. The remaining repairs are of no importance.

5. Among Civil buildings, the original works are only three, viz., the new Taluq Office at Jammalamadugu, Sidhout and Kadiri. Some small progress has been made with the two last named buildings. Only the salary of a watchman has been spent on the Jammalamadugu Cutcherry. The Cutcherry at Sidhout is in appearance a very fine building, and far too good for its purpose. Such a building would be even too good for the Cuddapah Taluq. It is very unnecessarily large. That it is not yet finished, is mainly due to the effect of the order stopping all such works. The contractor hurried over his work at the last to get rid of any how of the material he had collected. He has to do his work over again, not so easy a matter now that the skilled labourers have all left the place. The building of the out-houses has commenced with a balance of Rupees 2,000 and odd of the original estimate unexpended. Very little has been done to the Kadiri Cutcherry; out of Rupees 1,603, only Rupees 200 were spent on the building, the remainder having been paid to a contractor for work done prior to the stoppage order. At the close of the year, a large quantity of stone had been collected and the foundations were dug. A few of the public offices have received trifling repairs, costing nearly Rupees 3,000.

6. The result of the year's work is most unsatisfactory. No doubt unexpected rains interfered with work of all kinds, but the small outturn cannot, to any degree, be attributed to that cause. The subordinate officers are complained of as inefficient, and that I can understand, as the district from its unhealthiness and other causes does not attract good men. Then again in the upper ranks perpetual changes are taking place. Divisional Officers leave the district if they

can, and if they do not succeed they get ill. Work must stop when these changes take place, and it is not continued until the new Range Officer finds out where his work is. When vacancies occur they are not filled up, and the District Engineer is obliged to get on as well as he can with Sub-Divisional Officers in temporary charge of ranges, an arrangement which is obviously most unsatisfactory. It cannot be expected that a fair amount of work can be done when there is such an absolute want of proper supervision in the district. But even if this want were supplied, it is necessary that the number of ranges should be increased. Three ranges in this district are not sufficient. It is absurd to expect one Divisional Officer to look after the work in the four large taluqs comprising the Revenue Sub-Division of the district. In the seven taluqs of the main division, two ranges are not enough. The country is hilly, and progress in visiting works is necessarily slow. At this present moment, I may say that the District Engineer is, in addition to his own duties, carrying on the work of two ranges. The vacancy in one range has never been filled up since Mr. Hunter left, a Supervisor being in temporary charge. In the other range, the Sub-Engineer is absent on sick leave and a Taluq Overseer is in charge. In such circumstances, regrets for short work, are unnecessary.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The total grant for the year was Rupees 93,359, of which only Rupees 30,033 were expended. Thus there was a falling off of expenditure in this year as compared with the previous year amounting to Rupees 23,165. The total expenditure of 1871-72 was Rupees 53,203 and in that case also a falling off was expended. Rupees 70,000 were allotted for repair to Agricultural works and this sum remained undisturbed until February 1873 when Rupees 15,000 were

G. O., Public Works Department, dated 8th February 1873, No. 432.

surrendered by the District Engineer and taken by Government.

3. In March, a further sum of Rupees 31,353 was given up to Government, thus reducing the allotment of Rupees 70,000 to Rupees 23,647, of which Rupees 20,106 have been spent.

4. The Collector states in paragraph 4 of his report that Rupees 4,2792 were available for Agricultural repairs but it appears from G. O. of 13th November 1873, No. 2,761, (Public Works Department) that only Rupees 23,647 were available. The Collector in paragraph 6 of his report remarks that the result of the year's work is most unsatisfactory and being most strongly of the like opinion, the Board feel it to be their duty to bring prominently to the notice of Government the want of energy and activity displayed especially in the Southern Division.

5. The state of the irrigation works in this part of the district has been such as to necessitate the sanction of measures of relief. On many occasions, and yet in the face of this circumstance the expenditure on repairs has been becoming yearly less, although ample allotments have been made.

6. The Collector attributes the backward state of work to the paucity of Superintending Officers, constant changes, neglect to fill up vacancies, and an excess of work on the hands of the District Engineer, who is carrying on the work of two ranges in addition to his own duties.

7. The Collector further suggests that the Sub-division should be divided into two ranges, and the main division into more than two.

8. In their Order of the 20th December 1873, No. 3,071, Government remarked that the state of the Public Works Department in Cuddapah is still unsatisfactory though improving.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. A. Turton

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
.. to the Collector of Cuddapah.

Encl. G. A. Turton.

Despatch 1874. Defile
Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

No. 104.

PROCEEDINGS, 24TH FEBRUARY 1874, NO. 410.

Copy 29 March 1874

Encl.

Received

32 March

FEBRUARY.

No. 410.

Public Works—in Cuddapah District.—Col-
lector's report on — for 1872-73, submitted to
Government, with remarks.

Copy 29 March 1874

10. March 1874