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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Dr.

2009

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd August 1876. No. 1,963.

No. 35. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th July 1876, No. 1,756 :—

Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th June 1876, No. 248 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit my report on the Public Works of this district, for the official year 1875-76.

2. The grant and outlay under the heads of Imperial and Provincial, as compared with those of 1874-75, are exhibited in the following statement :—

Major Heads to which the Work appertains.	Whether New Works or Repairs, and by what Department the Work was executed.	1874-75.			1875-76.		
		BUDGET ALLOTMENT.		Expendi- ture.	BUDGET ALLOTMENT.		Expendi- ture.
		Original Grant.	Revised Grant.		Original Grant.	Revised Grant.	
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
<i>Imperial.</i>							
Irrigation	Major New Works P.W....	1,170	.....	343	.....	10,241	8,884
	Minor do. do. ...	2,000	.....	3,050	5,000	.....	4,846
	Repairs do. do. ...	30,000	.....	29,147	40,000	.....	38,691
Buildings	New Works do. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	95	95
	Repairs do. ...	70	.....	114	.....	.....	.....
<i>Provincial.</i>							
Buildings	New Works P.W.	28,800	.....	15,668	21,000	22,150	25,067
	Repairs do.	2,940	.....	3,821	500	.....	446
	New Works	31,970	.....	19,091	26,000	32,391	38,797
Total	Repairs	33,010	.....	33,082	40,500	95	39,232
	Total...	64,980	.....	52,173	66,500	32,486	78,029

3. IMPERIAL IRRIGATION.—The total expenditure under the head of Irrigation was Rupees 52,421 against Rupees 32,570 of the previous year. Of the sum of Rupees 52,421, Rupees 13,730 was expended on New Works, and Rupees 38,691 on Repairs.

4. New Works are classed under two heads, *viz.*, major new works and minor new works. The amount spent on major new works was Rupees 8,884, Rs. 8,879 for improving the Nandial Tank, and Rupees 5 for No. 3 Calingula of the said tank. The improvements to the Nandial Tank have not as yet been completed, as only Rupees 15,227 of the sanctioned amount, Rupees 31,725, was spent up to the close of the year. The No. 3 Calingula is also incomplete, and it is stated that it cannot be completed until the bund is raised.

5. MINOR NEW WORKS.—The amount spent on minor new works was Rupees 4,846 against Rupees 3,080 of the previous year. The outlay during the year was for constructing seven waste weirs and eight sluices for tanks, and raising revetment for Kondamayapalli Chennaraju Tank. All the eight sluices have been completed, and of the seven waste weirs, three are incomplete. The revetment to the Chennaraju Tank has also not been completed. Of the sum of Rupees 4,846 spent on minor new works, Rupees 823-7-5 was expended in constructing a new surplus weir to the Owk Tank, Rupees 685-11-0 for Musalamadugu Tank Calingula, Rupees 411-15-1 for a sluice to Somala Tank, Rupees 385-3-3 for the calingula to

Sirwell Nagala Tank, Rupees 360 for a sluice to Saddipuram Tank. The outlay on minor new works was small, and needs no mention.

6. REPAIRS.—The repair of eighty works of irrigation was undertaken in the year, and twenty-four were completely and forty-six partially repaired. The amount spent on the repair of irrigation works was Rupees 38,691 against Rupees 29,147 of the previous year.

7. Only two serious accidents occurred in the year, one to the Cumbum Tank channels and the other to the Yeldurti Tank. The Cumbum Tank escape weir discharged $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet of water, and the channels, not being protected with masonry works, became submerged and breached considerably. A sum of Rupees 689 was spent in closing the breaches, and Rupees 1,336-9-0 in repairing the calingula. The Yeldurti Tank breached on the 10th July 1875, and Rupees 1,115-1-10 was spent in closing the breaches and executing the emergent repairs.

8. The irrigation works in the district are generally reported to be in a bad condition, and some of them are most neglected. The outlay, therefore, on Repairs does not seem to be sufficient.

9. The Cumbum Tank main channels have been neglected for years, the result of which was that the channels have breached in many places and silted up. Moss and other plants have also grown in the channels which affected not only the irrigation from the tank, but also the health of the locality. Estimates for repair of the channels have been submitted to Government.

10. OWK TANK.—The large tank at Owk has been neglected for years. It has an excellent supply, and if the sluices are properly repaired and the eastern calingula raised, there will be a large increase in the area under second-crop cultivation. The sluices of this tank are out of repair, and it was proposed to drain the tank to repair them. I rather objected to this, as I do not like wasting water, and as I thought that ring-bunds might be put up, and the sluices then opened. However, on an urgent report from the Range Officer, I consented to have the tank drained; but the ryots objected to throw away the water, and proved able to put up a ring-bund and thus save the water for their crops. I have invited the serious attention of the District Engineer to the matter; I need not go on now with this, because the subsequent Proceedings took place after the end of the year under report, and I should like to hear the opinion of the District Engineer before I say anything more.

11. PATTIKONDAH TANK has had one of its sluices repaired; but I am sorry to say that a great deal of the work done will have to be altered, as the floor of the sluice is so high that water ceases to flow through it a fortnight or three weeks before the tank is empty. The lands that receive water from this sluice do not, therefore, receive it as long as the lands under the other sluice of the tank.

IMPERIAL.—Buildings.—No sum was spent on New Works. Rupees 95 was spent on Repairs, which was to fit the old Court-house for the Telegraph Office which has removed into the building.

12. PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS.—New Works.—The amount of outlay on New Works in the year was Rupees 25,067. Of this amount, Rupees 9,995 was spent on the Taluq Cutcherry at Koilakuntla, Rupees 5,176 in converting the military

hospital to a Court-house, Rupees 2,681 in removing the old roof and replacing a new one to the Court-house, Rupees 5,046 on the Collector's Cutcherry, and Rupees 1,369 to complete the Sub-jail at Kurnool.

13. TALUQ CUTCERRY AT KOILAKUNTLA.—The walls of this building have been built up to the roof, and the cook-room and latrine for prisoners are being roofed.

14. The re-roofing of the Court-house is being pushed on with great vigor, and it will be completed before the opening of the Court.

15. The Collector's Cutcherry was begun in the year and the work was carried to top of basement level within the year.

16. REPAIRS.—Rupees 446 was spent on sundry repairs to the several offices in the district.

17. EDUCATIONAL.—Repairs.—The Zillah school-house was repaired at a cost of Rupees 145 in the year.

18. LOCAL FUND WORKS.—Communications.—A sum of Rupees 52,354 was spent on Original Works, and Rupees 60,594 on Repairs during the year. The expenditure was 96·7 per cent. of the grant on Original Works, and 99·8 per cent. on Repairs.

19. I beg to give hereunder my remarks on the several works of communication in the district.

Road from Rampur Pass to Nandikanama Ghaut.—This is a road of forty-three miles in length, and it was begun in 1869. The outlay up to the end of the year was Rupees 1,25,063, and that during the year was Rupees 12,998. This sum was spent chiefly in constructing masonry works in the incomplete miles. Thirty-one miles of road were opened for traffic, twenty-nine up to the end of last year, and two during the year. This road is in bad order: it was evidently opened before it was fit to be used: for some miles it was so bad that bandies preferred going by the side of the road: to prevent this, trenches have been dug on these sides where the bandies could go perpendicular to the line of the road, at about 100 or 200 yards distant from each other. This forces the bandies to go on the road. The road in this part is thus worse than useless: it is really a source of trouble and annoyance.

20. Road from Tugli to Maddikera.—This road which is twelve and half miles in length has been almost completed. Seven miles of the road were open for traffic in 1873-74. The remaining five and half miles could not be opened during the year, as the gravelling which was completed rather late in the year has not been consolidated. The outlay on this road was Rupees 5,025 in the year. The whole length of the road will be open for traffic in 1876-77.

21. Road between Ayalur and Nandikanama.—This road extending from sixty-eighth milestone on the Kurnool side to 108th milestone on the Nellore frontier is generally in a good condition. A sum of Rupees 5,000 was spent during the year in constructing masonry works and metalling the road. The total length of road metalled and gravelled is nearly two miles out of the whole length of forty miles. The total estimate for improving the road is Rupees 92,760, and the grant for each year is so small that it is feared it will take many years before it is completed.

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22. *Trunk Road No. XVII.*—A perforated road dam was constructed across Juruvagu at Paniem at a cost of Rupees 3,117, and another road dam with under-vents was built at Balapanur at a cost of Rupees 7,137. Both the road dams have been completed and opened for traffic. This road from Kurnool to Narnur is in a good condition, and the portion between Narnur and Orwakal is so bad that it is feared that it would be impassable in the rainy season. The portion from Orwakal to Paniem is fair, but the portion from Paniem to Nandial is bad.

23. *Road from Kurnool to Bellary.*—This road is fifty-one miles in length, and is in a fair condition. There is not much traffic on the road since the opening of the Bellary Branch Railway.

24. *Road from Tadicherla to Cuddapah Frontier.*—This road is fifteen miles in length, of which ten miles up to the village of Komarole is fully opened for traffic, the remaining portion being in progress. A sum of Rupees 35,430 was sanctioned for this road, and of this amount, Rupees 28,601 was spent up to the close of the year, the outlay in the year being 6,000.

25. *Widening out Road on the Nandikanama Ghaut.*—This work was begun in 1874-75. In the year under report, 14,000 cubic yards of rock were blasted, and the stone revetment completed. The new pass is gravelled and is now ready for use.

26. *Road from Cumbum to Dupad.*—The portion of this road in the Cumbum Taluq is under construction, and that in the Markapur Taluq has not been begun. The road was begun in 1874-75, and the outlay in 1875-76 was Rupees 5,000, which was spent in constructing two tunnels, one of three vents and the other of five vents, and forming road to the length of two miles and 1,000 yards, and cutting side channels.

27. *Gooty Road.*—This road is in a fair condition, and it is crossed by several streams which have an impetuous course and cause great inconvenience to traffic and travellers during the rainy season. The District Engineer submitted estimates, amounting to Rupees 50,268, for constructing five bridges on the road, and this was passed by the Local Fund Board at their meeting held on the 21st March 1876.

28. *Road from No. 5 Sluice, Nandial Tank, to East Gate of old Fort.*—The outlay on this road was Rupees 1,373 in the year, and the length of road completed is 492 yards. This road will eventually be continued right through the town to meet the branch road from the Cuddapah and Kurnool main roads.

29. *Road from Dupad to Dornal.*—Nothing seems to have been done to this road during the year. It would appear that about six miles of the road from Dupad to Tokapalli is of a gravelly soil strong enough to allow free passage for loaded carts and pack-bullocks without substantial repairs for the present except to small portions, where the road has been washed off by rain for want of proper side channels and bridges. The remaining portion of this road runs over a soft soil and requires repair in several places. Four jungle streams running across this road require to be bridged.

30. *Road from Cumbum to Tank Bund, length one and half miles,* is in fair order.

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31. *Road from Cumbum to Tank Calingula* is also in good condition.

32. *Branch Road from Yeldurti to Ramalkota* is in a fair condition, and there is not much traffic on the line.

33. *EDUCATIONAL, CIVIL BUILDINGS.—New Works.*—The outlay during the year was Rupees 6,525, of which Rupees 4,160 was spent on the three completed schools at Peapally, Pattikondah, and Narnur, and Rupees 2,365 on the Nandial School which is not completed. The masters and the villagers do not like the plan of these buildings as they are almost entirely open on all sides with scarcely any protection against wind and rain. Steps will, if possible, be taken to provide funds to remedy this defect.

34. *SANITARY AND MISCELLANEOUS.*—The sole expenditure under this head was Rupees 81 for completing the choultry at Atmakur.

35. The works executed by Other Agency, viz., the Revenue Department, were the village street improvements and repairs to wells and removing silt from them. These works were executed under the supervision of Tahsildars.

36. *Village Street Improvement.*—A sum of Rupees 5,065 was originally sanctioned under this head. Subsequently, Rupees 1,500 was transferred from this amount to the road from the foot of the Nandial Tank to the Nandial Fort which was executed by the Public Works Department. Of the remainder Rupees 3,565, Rupees 3,439 was spent in improvement to village streets.

37. *Repairing Wells and removing Silt therefrom.*—The allotment for these was Rupees 14,176, and the expenditure during the year was 9,077. This sum was spent in repairing forty-three wells and removing silt from eighty wells.

38. The statements prescribed in the Board's Official Memorandum, No. 2,044, dated the 7th December 1875, are herewith submitted.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements.

THE foregoing letter is the Collector's report upon the Public Works carried out in the district during the official year 1875-76. It will be submitted for the information of Government.

2. According to the statement enclosed in the Collector's letter, the total expenditure from Imperial and Provincial Funds amounted to Rupees 77,934 against an allotment of Rupees 77,891, or rather more than 100 per cent. Under the head of Irrigation, the sum of Rupees 52,421 was expended out of an allotment of Rupees 55,241, or nearly 95 per cent. This expenditure was chiefly on Repairs, but Rupees 8,884 (the whole allotment for the year) were laid out upon certain improvements to the Nandial Tank, which work is classed as "Imperial New Works." The expenditure from Local Funds amounted to Rupees 58,879 for New Works and Rupees 77,558 for Repairs. The allotments being Rupees 60,958 and Rupees 82,033, respectively; the percentage laid out was, therefore, 96.6 for New Works and 94.5 for Repairs.

3. Turning to the details of the Collector's report, the Board observe that the state of the channels of the Cumbum Tank has been very lately considered by

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Government, and they have no doubt Mr. Foster will be able to effect considerable improvement in their condition under the authority recently given to him.

4. The statement contained in paragraph 10 of the report is somewhat startling. In order to get at the sluices of the Owk Tank to repair them, the Range Officer proposed to let off the water; the Collector very properly objected to this measure, suggesting that a ring-bund should be constructed; but the Engineer appears to have confessed himself unequal to the task, whereupon Mr. Foster at length gave way. Meanwhile, however, the villagers set to work, constructed a ring-bund and saved the water, thus accomplishing what the Range Officer regarded as impossible. The Collector is in communication with the District Engineer upon the subject. The Board desire a further report, which will be submitted to Government in due course.

5. One of the sluices of the Pattikondah Tank was repaired during the year, but the result as described by Mr. Foster cannot be deemed satisfactory. It appears that the floor of the sluice is so much higher than the bed of the tank that water ceases to flow through it two or three weeks before the tank is dry. This is also a matter which requires further elucidation, and the Board wish to know whether this apparently faulty construction was by design or the result of a blunder.

6. Speaking of Local Fund Works, the Collector states that some miles of the road from Rampur Pass to Nandikena are so bad as to be barely passable by wheeled traffic; such being the case the cart-drivers were until lately in the habit of making a diversion over a side track; recently, however, this has been prevented by trenches being cut across these side tracks, whereby the carts are compelled to use the road. "Thus," says Mr. Foster, "the road in this part is worse than useless; it is really a source of trouble and annoyance." This matter appears to call for notice by Government.

7. Referring to the recently constructed Local Fund Schools, the Collector states that the masters and the villagers do not like the plan of these buildings as they afford no sufficient protection against wind and rain. It is proposed, if possible, to provide funds for remedying this defect. The fault here would seem to lie chiefly with the Local Fund Board, who, it is presumed, accorded their sanction to the plan in the first instance.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 36.

ORDER THEREON, 2nd August 1876, No. 1,963.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 2.

The funds available for expenditure appear to have been fully utilized.

2. Further report on the sluices of the Owk and Pattikondah Tanks will be awaited.

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3. The District Engineer will likewise state who is answerable for the mismanagement alluded to on the Rampur Ghaut Road; and what steps have been taken to introduce better arrangements.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]

Colonel,

Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Kurnool.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department. ✓
" Financial "

Exd. W. H. French.

20 Spare Copies

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PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
KURNOOL,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated August 2nd.

Issued

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AUGUST.
Nos. 35-36.

Report on Public Works carried out in
Kurnool District during 1875-76.—Passing
orders on Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue submitting Collector's—

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Communicated to the Secy of Pub.

22 August 1876

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