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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

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B.R. 67

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th September 1876.
Read the following letter from J. HOPE, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ellore, 31st July 1876, No. 228 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit my report on the Public Works executed in the district during the official year 1875-76, together with Statement No. 1 and List No. 2 in the forms circulated with the Board's Circular Memorandum, dated the 7th December last, No. 2,044.

2. The Statement (No. 1) has been prepared by the District Engineer and the list (No. 2) by me as usual from the Progress Reports of the Range officers.

2. The Budget allotments for the works were Rupees 7,85,750 and the revised allotments Rupees 8,64,648, while the expenditure amounted to Rupees 8,42,471 as particularized below :—

Items.	Budget Allotments.	Revised Allotments.	Expenditure.	Difference of Columns 3 and 4.
1	2	3	4	5
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Imperial	5,45,000	5,93,761	6,16,680	+ 22,919
Provincial	39,650	29,659	27,038	— 2,621
Local	2,01,100	2,41,228	1,98,753	— 42,475
Total	7,85,750	8,64,648	8,42,471	— 99,177

The percentage of the short expenditure to the revised Budget allotments is too small to call for an explanation.

4. An abstract of Statement No. 1 is given below, showing the expenditure incurred during the year under report as compared with that in the preceding year :—

Items.	Expenditure of 1874-75.	Expenditure of 1875-76.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
<i>New Works.</i>					
Irrigation	3,44,730	3,96,445	51,715	45,632	* Including 115 Rupees spent on workshop in the Central Jail.
Communications	1,80,396	1,34,764	2,017		
Civil Buildings	3,838	5,855	3,278		
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	2,291	6,069		524	
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	6,921	6,297			
Total by Department of Public Works ...	5,38,576	5,49,430	57,010	46,156	Net Increase, 10,854.
Civil Buildings	3,400	638		2,762	Net Increase, 7,942.
Educational	150			150	
Total by Other Agency ...	3,550	638		2,912	
Total New Works ...	5,42,126	5,50,068	57,010	49,068	

Items.	Expenditure of 1874-75.	Expenditure of 1875-76.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6
<i>Repairs.</i>					
Irrigation.....	Rs. 1,70,978	Rs. 2,15,277	Rs. 38,299	Rs. 1,717	
Civil Buildings.....	4,119	2,402			
Communications.....	45,507	60,824	17,317	3,866	
Miscellaneous Public Improvements.....	5,203	1,337			
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	11,244	11,977	733		
Total by Department of Public Works ...	2,41,051	2,91,817	56,349	5,583	Net Increase, 50,766.
Civil Buildings	805	389		416	
Educational.....		197	197		Net Decrease, 210.
Total by Other Agency ...	805	386	197	416	
Total Repairs ...	2,41,856	2,92,493	56,546	5,999	Net Increase, 50,547.
Grand Total ...	7,83,982	8,42,771	1,13,556	55,067	Net Increase, 58,489.

5. NEW WORKS—*Irrigation*.—There is an increase of Rupees 51,715 under this head owing to many important improvements having been made during the year especially to the Bank Canal and the Teki Main Drain which are connected with the Eastern Delta Completion Project.

6. NEW WORKS—*Communications*.—The falling off in the expenditure on Communications is Rupees 45,632 as shown in the above abstract, but Rupees 12,051 which are included in the abstract according to the District Engineer's statement under the expenditure of 1874-75, and which were actually spent in that year on the Kotipalli road by the Salt Deputy-Collector, have to be entered in this year's expenditure under the instructions of the Board of Revenue. This will reduce the decrease to Rupees 33,581, which is due to larger expenditure in the year 1874-75 on certain roads, such as the road from Tallapudi to Aswarowpetta, from Amalapur to Gannavaram, from Vijesweram to Polaveram, &c.

7. NEW WORKS—*Civil Buildings*.—The increase in the Civil Buildings is consequent on the construction of a Range office at Chettipeta at a cost of Rupees 4,810.

8. NEW WORKS—*Miscellaneous Public Improvements*.—The large item in the Miscellaneous Public Improvements is the cost of coal-boring operations at Bedadanole, Rupees 3,241.

9. NEW WORKS (BY OTHER AGENCY)—*Civil Buildings*.—Rupees 3,400 were spent last year by the Police on New Works as stated in last year's report. There has been no such item in the year under report; hence the decrease under that head.

10. REPAIRS—*Irrigation*.—Now, as regards the variations under repairs. The increase under Irrigation is due chiefly to the large expenditure on the repairs of the anicuts themselves and on the execution of other works for the safety of the anicuts, which were rendered necessary by the unusually high freshes received by the river during the year under report.

11. REPAIRS—*Communications*.—The increase of Rupees 17,317 in the communications is owing to important repairs having been executed to the Northern Trunk

Road, the road from Samulcotta to Kattipudi, roads in the Rumpah country, &c., in the year under report.

12. REPAIRS—*Miscellaneous Public Improvements*.—Rupees 5,203 were spent in 1874-75 on dredging the Cocanada Harbour and repairing the north groyne of the Cocanada River. There has been no such charge this year; hence the falling off under this head.

13. GENERAL REMARKS.—It will be noticed that Rs. 1,74,380 and Rs. 1,64,191 were spent during the year on the extension of the Eastern and Western Delta Completion Projects. The following are the other important New Works carried out this year:—

	Amount. RS.
1. Raising the river embankment from Rajahmundry Provincial School to Purushottapatnam	13,212
2. River embankment road on the western side of the Godavery between Vijesweram and Polaveram... ..	6,090
* 3. Road from Amalapur to Medurlanka opposite to Yanam.	10,411
4. The Great Northern Road from Rajahmundry to Tuni.	15,326
5. Road from Rahitapur to Purushottapatnam	8,329
6. Road along canal bank from Dowlaishweram to Samulcotta	15,773
7. Road from Vooddoor bridge via Ramachendrapur to Medapadu	6,540
8. Graveling road from Cocanada to Kotipalli... ..	17,043
9. Road from Attili to Todepalligudam on Ellore Canal ...	9,444
10. Graveling road along East Bank of Narsapur Canal from Narsapur to Perevalli lock	8,018
11. Road from Todepalligudam to Nallacherla	6,550
12. Road from Tallapudi to Aswarowpetta	9,833
† 13. Road from Razole to Muktesweram	4,130

14. Of these, the road along the Samulacota canal (No. 6) was made long ago from the Imperial Funds, but Rupees 15,773 payable by the Local Fund Board have been paid this year on the application of the District Engineer.

15. Rupees 7,529 were spent during the year on the construction of the protective works round the Polaveram Island against Rupees 12,040 in the last year, but the work was then stopped under orders of Government†.

16. The only item under Repairs calling for notice is the repair of the anicuts to which I have alluded in paragraph 10.

17. The Taluq Cutcherry buildings at Peddapur and Rajahmundry have been reported by the Divisional Officers as fully answering the purpose for which they were intended, but the Assistant Collector in reporting on the Cutcherry at Peddapur suggests that the verandahs be widened and the eaves of the roof be lowered in height from the ground, as the Cutcherry is built on raised ground and the rain is apt to beat into the rooms in consequence. He also recommends that the record-room should be provided with inner wooden doors as well as the present iron ones through the bars

* The Sub-Collector remarks that this is a good natural road and has been bridged throughout; only requires graveling to be an excellent road.

† The Sub-Collector remarks that the portion north of Amalapur towards Muktesweram is very bad. The other half is an excellent road.

of which dogs can easily get in. I have addressed the District Engineer on these subjects, and will, if necessary, recommend the alterations hereafter.

18. The Sub-Collector, Mr. Kelsall, in speaking of the repairs of roads, says: "I have no special remarks to make about them. They are of course good in some places and worse in others. But I think the money so far as it would go has been carefully and judiciously expended. The roads in the Rajahmundry Taluq are specially good".

19. Mr. Kelsall remarks that "a great deal of money is wasted in making expensive roads in the delta. They are very expensive; for (1) the land to be taken up is very valuable, (2) innumerable small bridges have to be built over the irrigation channels occurring almost every few yards, and (3) all the road material has to be brought from a distance as the delta soil is a rich mud and when made they are of comparatively little use in considering the expense. All the traffic is by canal; when these are dry, goods are carried by pack ponies and bullocks. I do not think that in all the deltaic villages (one-half at least of the sub-division) twenty-five bandies can be found. We must, of course, finish the roads we have begun, but I strongly urge that no further extension may be considered. The best way of spending the money in the delta is to strengthen the canal banks and widen them at the top or even gravel them. These banks are already a half-made road well raised above the fields, and if these are improved and where necessary short feeders made from the village to them, we shall have done all that is called for. I have frequently been encamped by these delta roads and not a wheeled vehicle has passed down them for days".

20. I quite agree with Mr. Kelsall in his proposal to utilize the canal banks as roads, strengthening and even widening them wherever necessary, and I have no doubt that the subject has already attracted the attention of the officers of the Public Works Department. But I cannot think with Mr. Kelsall that no more roads are required in the delta. It is only the banks of the important canals that can be utilized as roads, but there are villages which are far away from them in the interior, and there can be no question that they require roads. Of course, the Local Fund Boards do not waste their money on roads where they are not required.

21. In the preparation of the list of works (No. 2) the instructions given by the Board in their Memorandum, dated the 7th December last, No. 2,044, have been attended to; all original works the estimates for which did not exceed 1,000 Rupees and repairs the estimates for which did not exceed Rupees 2,500, as also repairs out of the maintenance grant, have been excluded.

22. In conclusion, I may remark that from what I have seen during the half-year I have been in the district, I consider that the Public Works are well executed.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. Judged by the expenditure the work of the year has been quite satisfactory, Rupees 8,42,471 having been spent out of an allotment of Rupees 8,64,648.

3. The Board concur with the Collector in the views expressed by him regarding the development of the traffic in the delta. Carts do not now exist in any number,

for the reason that wheels must have roads to travel on; if roads be made carts will be procured.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Cardinal
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,
with two Statements, to be returned.

„ the Acting Collector of the Godavery District.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Dated

196

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BOARD of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH SEPTEMBER 1876, No. 2,369.

27 Sept 1876 Encl.

Further

Received

30th Sept.

SEPTEMBER.

No. 2,369.

Public Works—executed in Godavery District during 1875-76.—Submitting to Government Collector's report on—, and concurring in the views expressed by that officer regarding development of traffic in the delta.

20 Sept 1876
Signed