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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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No. 1,984.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 17th July 1878.

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kulasegarapatam, 22nd June 1878, No. 449:—

I HAVE the honor to submit the following extracts from the District Engineer's report on the progress of Public Works in this district for 1877-78, with the statements prepared in the forms prescribed in the Board's Circular Memorandum, No. 2,044, dated the 7th December 1875, together with such remarks as occur to me.

2. The principal irrigation works and buildings, the estimates for which exceed Rupees 2,500, carried out during the year, are as follow:—

3. *Strivaiguntam Anicut Project.*—For the year Rupees 27,263 was allotted to the work, of which Rupees 7,989 was expended, leaving a balance of Rupees 19,281.

4. *Uppar Odai Dam.*—The Uppar Odai dam remains incomplete, the height to which it can eventually be raised being still undecided, but sufficient information has now been collected to permit of a decision being arrived at.

5. *Revetment of Northern Tanks.*—The original estimate amount, so far as considered necessary by the Chief Engineer, has been expended, but the experience of the past year shows that much work beyond what was originally contemplated will be necessary before the tanks can be considered safe. Some of the work at first considered unnecessary has been carried out and much more would have been executed, had it not been that water was urgently required for Tuticorin, then crowded with famine-stricken wanderers, and it was necessary to fill the tank in June and stop work.

6. *South Main Channel.*—An estimate for the improvement of this channel and its head sluice has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, but has not been sanctioned.*

An estimate has also been submitted for a channel to supply the Nallur tank from Purayur channel, but this also is not sanctioned.

7. *REVENUE—EXTENSIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS.*—The only work under this head, viz., embanking the Tuticorin supply channel was mainly carried out from Famine Funds under the supervision of the Revenue Department, the amount to complete it being spent from Agricultural Funds.

8. *REVENUE—MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS.*—The allotment under this head was Rupees 19,010 and the expenditure was Rupees 23,144, being an excess of Rupees 4,134. The principal works carried out are the repairs to—

Tulukankulam Tank, Arumugamangalam Tank, which were completed, of which the earth-work was completed or nearly so, and three sluices repaired; Tuticorin drainage channel, the clearing of which was carried out as far as provided in the estimate.

The excess of Rupees 4,134 is due to the large expenditure incurred in closing breaches in tanks and channels caused by the floods of December 1877. In addition to the above, the following eleven works were carried out:—

Works.	Estimate. RS.	Expenditure. RS.
1. North main channel	24,930	5,731
2. Arumugamangalam tank	3,430	268
3. Korampallam tank	5,960	2,109
4. South main channel	1,400	586
5. Kadamba Tank	1,500	953
6. Nallur Tank Melakulam	2,200	136
7. Nattakulam tank work done but no payment made	1,100	...
8. Uppar Odai embankment work done but no payment made	2,720	...
9. Tuticorin drainage channel	1,170	752
10. Attur old channel	4,050	1,505
11. Do. new channel	1,230	385

In all 62 estimates were commenced, 33 were completed.

9. ORDINARY AGRICULTURAL—ORIGINAL WORKS.—To this head Rupees 11,017 was allotted, of which Rupees 6,876 was spent as follows:—

Tinnevely Channel Head Sluice.—Estimate Rupees 16,520; grant for the year Rupees 4,914; expenditure in the year Rupees 4,841; total to end of the year Rupees 15,363. This work is completed except the gravelling of the flood bank.

Palayam Channel Head Sluice.—Estimate Rupees 15,000; grant for the year Rupees 1,025; expenditure of the year Rupees 501; total to the end of the year Rupees 13,513. This work is entirely completed.

Kolajam Channel Head Sluice.—Estimate Rupees 11,700; grant for the year Rupees 1,418; expenditure of the year Rupees 1,422; total to the end of the year Rupees 11,585. This work is also entirely completed.

Marudur Melakal Head Sluice.—Estimate Rupees 10,500; grant for the year Rupees 120; expenditure of the year Rupees 106; total expenditure of the year Rupees 10,442. On this work there was a small expenditure of Rupees 106, being the compensation paid for land taken up for brick moulding.

Mellakallur Tank on which Rupees 5 only was spent against Rupees 3,540 in making out the ground. The entire allotment could with ease have been spent had orders not been issued by Government to employ only famine labor on budgeted works.

10. ORDINARY AGRICULTURAL—MINOR WORK.—Under this head Rupees 12,500 was allotted, of which Rupees 10,807 was expended, thus leaving a balance of Rupees 1,693 unspent. The number of works carried out during the year was 60, of which 42 were completed.

11. ORDINARY AGRICULTURAL—REPAIRS.—The final grant under this head was Rs. 1,00,400, of which Rupees 92,434 was spent, leaving Rupees 7,967 unexpended. The principal works completed or under repairs are the following:—

Works.	Estimate. RS.	Expenditure. RS.
1. Tenkarai Periakulam tank	4,900	4,605
2. Chattram Pudukulam do.	3,095	3,203
3. Palayam channel	4,320	3,800
4. Tinnevely do.	3,200	2,647
5. Vellur tank	4,500	1,887
6. Karungulam Periakulam tank	2,320	2,200
7. Kandiaperi tank	2,093	1,646
8. Palayam channel embankment	9,476	1,654
9. Palayur anicut	1,776	1,673
10. Palayakal tank	1,165	1,092
11. Marudur anicut	13,890	3,218

Works.	Estimate. RS.	Expenditure. RS.
12. Marudur Kilakal	2,050	651
13. Strivaiguntam tank	4,580	220
14. Palayam channel breaches	...	1,617
15. Gangakondan tank	6,836	175
16. Kollangondan do.	8,257	7,929
17. Sivaneri tank and channel	3,630	3,143
18. Ellenkulam tank	3,120	2,747
19. Kovaneri do.	4,300	2,689
20. Nanguneri Periakulam tank	3,260	2,811
21. Piranjeri tank	3,000	1,063
22. Kunnur anicut and channel	2,490	1,825
23. Tiruvengadam Periakulam tank	1,887	1,877

12. PROVINCIAL CIVIL BUILDINGS—ORIGINAL WORKS.—The grant under this head was Rupees 18,145, against which Rupees 12,169 was expended, leaving a short expenditure of Rupees 5,976.

The principal work in progress is the new Jail* at Palamcottah, on which Rupees 9,800 was spent against a grant of Rupees 16,000.

* As far as I can judge the new Jail is likely to be a very creditable building if it is ever finished; but I grudge the money spent on it while so many of our irrigation works are falling to ruin.—J. P.

The short expenditure on this work was due to the difficulty of keeping up a supply of timber and bricks and to the necessity of withdrawing the establish-

ment to provide supervision for the repair of breached tanks. The work was also for some time stopped on account of the famine.

The condition of the work at present is as follows:—

The enclosure wall is complete throughout to plinth level or two feet above ground. The entrance gate is complete, except stone flooring to basement level. One work shed is complete and another being tiled. The foundations of the two wards are laid and two others are raised to basement level; the boys' ward also is built to the same level.

The minor works completed during the year were the Police Station-house at Murapanad, seven Police Constables' huts at Radapuram, and a Sub-Registrar's office at Shermadevi. Rupees 600 have also been spent in the partial erection of a Police Station-house at Melathattapara.

13. PROVINCIAL—CIVIL BUILDINGS—REPAIRS—MINOR WORKS.—Under this head Rupees 4,545 was granted, of which Rupees 3,450 was expended on the following repairs:—

Works.	Estimate. RS.	Expenditure. RS.
1. Repairs to Taluq Cutcherry at Strivilliputtur	240	240
2. Do. to Munsif's Court at do.	73	73
3. Do. to Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry at Virdupatti	225	225
4. Do. to Sea Customs House at Tuticorin	190	203
5. Do. to Subsidiary Jail at Huzur Cutcherry	600	689
6. Do. to railing round the Protestant Church at Tuticorin	270	270
7. Do. to Church at Palamcottah	350	342
8. Do. to Munsif's Court at Tinnevely	100	98
9. Do. to Police Station-house at Achandaviltan	30	30
10. Do. to Collector's Office at Tinnevely	2,900	686

Of the above ten works, nine were completed.

14. The Local Fund works of importance carried out by the Public Works Department during the year under report are the following:—

15. Original Works—Communications—Road No. IV, Lukshmipura Tope to Nallur.—Estimate Rupees 15,500; grant Rupees 2,314, expenditure Rupees 1,004; total expenditure to end of year Rupees 12,503. Very little work on the road has been

done during year; only some materials collected and some earth-work executed on the 9th mile east of Pudukudi.

Road No. VIII, Tinnevely* to Rajapalayam via Sankaranaimarkovil.—Estimate Rupees 70,900; grant Rupees 10,000; expenditure Rupees 8,090; total expenditure to end of year Rupees 48,655.

* It is one of the best roads I have seen as far as it goes, and would have been completed this year had it not been for the floods.—J. P.

In the Northern Division the road is complete up to Alagiapandian Chuttram or for about thirteen miles, except a little spreading of metal.

In the Northern Division three miles have been metalled, stone and grave collected for three miles more, and four culverts and four road dams constructed.

Much more would have been done in both divisions had the Local Fund Board not put a stop to the work to meet the cost of repairing damages from the floods.

In addition to the expenditure on these two roads, many small bridges, culverts and road dams have been constructed.

16. COMMUNICATIONS—REPAIRS.—Under this head the roads repaired and maintained during the year in the district are detailed in the statement shown below the allotments have been spent in maintaining and in temporarily repairing the damages which occurred in December:—

Number and Names of Roads.	Allotment for 1877-78	Expenditure during the year.	Number of miles maintained in good order during the year.	Number of miles which had special repairs during the year.	Remarks.
<i>Tinnevely Circle.</i>	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Road No. VII.—Tinnevely to Madurai via Sankaranaimarkovil ..	2,780	2,782	37	...	
Do. " XXIV.—Tuticorin to Vembur via Ettiyapuram ..	3,380	3,380	32	...	
Do. " II.—Palamcottah to Vaipar via Ottapidaram ..	10,950	10,097	42	...	
Do. " III.—Palamcottah to Tuticorin ..	5,700	5,434	47	...	
Do. " IV.—Palamcottah to Kayalpattam ..	4,650	4,656	30	...	
Do. over Arumugamangalam tank bund ..	3,760	3,760	26	7	Incomplete Do.
<i>Sheruadevi Circle.</i>	3,540	3,111	...	...	
Road No. XVI.—Ambasamundram to Panagudi ..	2,720	2,558	31	...	
Do. " VII.—Palamcottah to Travancore via Penkasi and Shenkotta ..	5,895	4,161	24	...	
Do. " XV.—Teukasi to Ambasamundram ..	2,770	2,737	21	...	
Do. " VI.—Palamcottah to Kalladakurichi ..	2,640	2,579	15	...	
Do. " V.—Palamcottah to Travancore via Nanguneri ..	4,800	4,799	33	...	

The condition of the roads as a whole is fair, considering that so few have even been properly made, or made at all; but the very serious damage resulting from the exceptional rainfall of December has thrown back the roads very much, and will probably take a year or two to put right.

17. ORIGINAL WORKS—BUILDINGS.—The Chuttram at Tirukurungudi was entirely completed, the expenditure being Rupees 12,030 against an estimate of Rupees 12,000.

18. The works executed by the Revenue Department are—

19. Civil Buildings.—The work of Ramankulam Teppakulam is in progress and Rupees 1,970 was actually spent during the year against the estimated amount of Rupees 6,000 and the allotment of Rupees 2,000 for the year. Only Rupees 97 has been shown in the statement as expended, while Rupees 1,000 spent by Subramaniam Somajiyyar was not brought to account as the taluq accounts of March last in which the expenditure is exhibited were received too late in April following, and the sum will be credited and debited in the accounts of 1878-79.

20. COMMUNICATION—REPAIRS—Roads Nos. I and IV.—Out of Rupees 12,111 expended during the year on Road No. I, Rupees 10,911 has been spent by the Revenue Department and the remainder by the Public Works Department. Of the expenditure of Rupees 3,941 on Road No. IV, a sum of Rupees 181 was spent by the Revenue Department and the remainder by the Public Works Department. The only road which does any credit to the Revenue Department, so far as I have seen, is that part of Road No. I which runs through the Sattur Taluq.

The other new works being below Rupees 1,000 and repairs below Rupees 2,500 call for no remarks.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. In Tinnevely the percentage of expenditure on Public Works to allotment for the year 1877-78 was as under:—

Irrigation	New Works	49.7
	Repairs	98.8
Provincial	New Works	67.0
	Repairs	75.9
Local Funds, Public Works Dept.	New Works	79.7
	Repairs	96.4
Local Funds, Other Agency	New Works	64.3
	Repairs	93.7

3. The proportion of outlay to allotment as regards New Works is very small indeed. It is explained with respect to the work designated "revetment of northern tanks" that the expenditure was unavoidably put a stop to as water was urgently required for the town of Tuticorin, and it is stated that an estimate for the improvement of the south main channel had been forwarded to the Chief Engineer, but had not been sanctioned. The Collector expresses his regret that at another season has been lost. The Board observe that the date on which the estimate was submitted is not mentioned. The failure to spend more than Rupees 5 out of an allotment of Rupees 3,540 for the Melakallur tank is attributed to the Government having directed that only famine labor should be employed on budgeted works.

4. As irrigation works do not fall within the scope of the provincial assignment, the Board are unable to endorse the Collector's marginal note to paragraph 12 beyond drawing the attention of Government to his statement that many of the irrigation works of the district are falling to ruin.

5. The short expenditure on New Works, Communications, is explained in paragraph 15 to be owing to work having been stopped to set funds free for the repair of damage caused by the floods. The allotments for Repairs, Communications, appear to have been fairly utilized. The remarks in paragraph 20 of the Collector's letter may be taken as confirmatory of the opinion expressed in the report for last year and concurred in by the Board, that it is better to leave all the road-work in the hands of the Professional Department.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Shunmugam

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,
with original statement to be returned.

Copy to the Collector of Tinnevely.
Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. A. Grabert.

No. 2416.

1878.

Board of Directors,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 17TH JULY 1878, No. 1, 984.

Aug 3 1877

E. mech.

Received *W. W. Frost* 1/98

JULY.
No. 1,984.

Public Works in Tinnerly District.—Submitting to Government letter from Collector forwarding extracts from District Engineer's report on the progress of — for 1877-8.

26. 1954
 20. 1954
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