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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

4th March 1878, No. 1,082 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper:—

No. 52. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th February 1878, No. 320.

Read the following letter from C. J. KNOX, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, in charge of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th January 1878, No. 26:—

I HAVE the honor to submit my report on the public works in the district for the year 1876-77. The statements prescribed by the Board in their Circular Memorandum, No. 2,044, dated 7th December 1875, are enclosed.

2. *Irrigation*.—The total number of irrigation works in the district is 703, the area under them being 46,671 acres. Of this number it appears that at the beginning of 1876-77, 152 were in need of repair or improvement of some kind. During the year 1876-77, repairs or improvements were carried out from Budget grants to 71 of these works and to 16 others out of Famine Funds. The total expenditure from Budget grants amounted to Rupees 88,932 or 97.4 of the grants, while from Famine Funds 38,767 Rupees in money and 13,782 measures in grain were spent.

3. The principal works undertaken are noted below. The expenditure on them amounted to Rupees 45,335 or to 50 per cent. of the whole outlay in the district:—

- (1). Repairs to Owk Tank.
- (2). Improvements to Cumbum Tank and its Channels.
- (3). Repairs to Patticondah Tank.
- (4). Do. to Nandial Tank.
- (5). Do. to Yeldurty Tank.

4. *Owk Tank*.—The sluices of this tank were thoroughly repaired during the year at a cost of Rupees 5,150. There was great delay in carrying out the work, but it is needless now to go into the matter or endeavour to find out the cause of the delay. The Deputy Collector seems to think that the cost is too high, but I am unable to form any opinion on this point; a Regular Estimate for the work was made by professional men and the amount spent was within that estimate.

5. Besides the work to the sluices repairs were carried out during the year to the bund of this tank which much required strengthening. The repairs were executed by famine coolies under the supervision of the Public Works Department. The supervision seems to have been very lax,

and there was great want of anything like system, for a sum of about Rupees 20,328* was spent and the value of the work turned out was only Rupees 1,023-7-2; the difference is very great even after making all allowances for difficulties experienced at the commencement of the famine. This repair to the bund has been only partly done; it has been estimated that to finish the work and to put the tank into a state of good repair, Rupees 9,774 more will be required.

* Up to the end of official year ...	rs. 19,710
After the official year ...	618

6. *Cumbum Tank Channels*.—During the year under report the distribution channels of this tank were cleared of silt and weeds and the leaks in one of them, the Chinna Cumbum channel, stopped. The tank escape was also repaired, and at the end of the year the three sluices were under repair. The amount spent was Rupees 1,404 by the Public Works Department and Rupees 3,263 by the Revenue Department, and the repairs effected, especially that of clearing out the channels, were of very great use.

7. Among the new works sanctioned in connection with this tank in G.O., No. 1,093, dated 31st March 1877, is the new Nakkalagundy or town channel; a sum of Rupees 4,595 was spent on this work and considerable progress made, 42,000 cubic yards out of 102,000 having been excavated. None of the other works sanctioned have been commenced. Small sums only have been expended in collecting materials.

8. *Pattikonda Tank*.—A sum of Rupees 2,364 from Famine Funds was spent by the Public Works Department in repairing the bund and supply channels of this tank. The work on the channels appear to have been defective as they breached on the first fall of rain; fortunately not much damage was done as the Range officer was on the spot and repaired the breach immediately. The bund and channels are now in fair order.

9. With regard to the new high level sluice constructed to the Pattikonda tank and to which reference was made in the Public Works Report for 1875-76, I beg to refer the Board to the remarks of the District Engineer and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation embodied in G.O., 22nd November 1876, No. 3,146. The old sluice situated at the southern extremity of the bund was able to irrigate all the lands under the tank, but there were two objections to it; first, it was difficult to regulate it with a considerable head of water; and, secondly, it irrigated the high level lands opposite the northern end of the sluice by means of a channel running along the outer slope of the bund, and it was thought that this channel was injurious to the bund. Consequently the second sluice was constructed at the northern extremity, the floor of which is 3 feet higher than that of the other; it, of course, irrigates all the lands and does this without the necessity of a channel running along the bund; but its defect is that it leaves a month's water in the tank owing to its higher level. I think the matter might be settled by leaving the sluices as they are, using the high level one till it ceased to flow and then employing the other one when there would be no great head of water to obstruct its working. During the last month when the old sluice was being worked, of course, the channel objected to would have to be used, but I do not think this would matter much. It will be observed that the District Engineer was of opinion that this channel could not injure the bund.

10. *Nandial Tank*.—This is a very important tank and the next largest to that of Cumbum, the revenue under it amounting to 12,000 Rupees. It had not been repaired for many years and its dilapidated state was a cause of much anxiety. It has now been placed in thorough repair by an expenditure of Rupees 36,834, of which Rupees 20,533 was spent in the year under review; the bund was raised and strengthened, the old calingulah was repaired and a new one constructed and the sluices put in good order. The Deputy Collector reports that the repairs have given great satisfaction to the people of Nandial.

11. *Yeldurty Tank*.—This tank breached in 1874, but the breach was not closed till 1876-77; hence much revenue was lost to Government. During the last three years Rupees 8,800 have been spent on the tank in improving the escape, constructing two anicuts, and closing the breach. Unfortunately, the work has not been done, for the bund breached again in the present year and more revenue is lost. The revenue under this tank amounts to Rupees 812. The late breach has not yet been repaired.

12. I have no special remarks to make on the other irrigation works carried out during 1876-77. As shown in paragraph 2 there were at the close of the year a large number of tanks and channels which required to be repaired, but the year a repairs have been executed to fourteen out of Famine Funds.

13. *Buildings*.—It will be seen from Statement No. 1 that the expenditure on buildings during the year was as follows:—

	Original.	Repairs.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Imperial ... { Public Works	220	610	830
Imperial ... { Other Agency	29,027	2,892	31,919
Provincial ... { Public Works	284	...	284
Provincial ... { Other Agency	...	...	...
Local—Public Works	29,531	3,502	33,033
Total ...	29,531	3,502	33,033

The principal revenue buildings which were in course of construction or repair during the year were the following:—

- (1.) Collector's Cutcherry at Kurnool.
- (2.) Out-house to Sub-Jail.
- (3.) Taluq Cutcherry at Koilkuntla.

14. *Collector's Cutcherry*.—As the present was found to be too small, Government in their Proceedings of 14th May 1875, No. 1,249, sanctioned the construction of another in the same compound, the estimated cost of which was Rupees 29,800. The additions were Collector's Office and private room, Assistant Collector's Office, Shikistadar and Vernacular Clerks' room, and the Treasury and Cashkeeper's room. Up to the end of the year under review Rupees 19,399 have been expended. Fair work has been done and the building is approaching completion. There only remains the floor to be paved with flag-stones.

15. *Sub-Jail*.—A cook-room and a latrine were constructed in connection with the Sub-Jail and the work has been now completed at a cost of Rupees 510.

16. *Taluq Cutcherry at Koilkuntla*.—An estimate for Rupees 64,772 was sanctioned in G.O., No. 3,490, dated 12th December 1874, for this work, and up to the end of 1876-77 a sum of Rupees 54,152 has been expended. The District Engineer reports that the compound wall and out-houses have been completed, the walls of the main building and the stair-case to the Registrar's room raised to a height of 13½ feet, and the wooden posts and teak plantings to the verandah fixed. There still remains therefore a good deal to be done. The Deputy Collector reports that in some places the foundations of the verandahs have sunk and that cracks already appear in the walls. This is somewhat unsatisfactory.

17. No particular remarks seem called for regarding the other works carried out. Trifling repairs were executed to the Head Assistant's Cutcherry and ten Taluq Cutcheries and Sub-Magistrate's offices.

18. *Communications*.—The following statement shows the outlay on roads during the year:—

	Original.	Repairs.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Local Funds ... { By Public Works Department	23,408	47,175	70,581
Local Funds ... { By Other Agency	...	3,331	3,331
Famine Funds ... { By Public Works Department	27,49,668	1,41,289	28,90,957
Famine Funds ... { By Other Agency	...	...	...
Total ...	27,73,074	1,91,795	29,64,869

19. The following extracts from the Divisional officers' reports show the general condition of the roads in the district. The remarks apply to the state of the communications in 1876-77, but since that a large number of roads have been repaired out of Famine Funds.

20. *Extract from Head Assistant Collector's Report.*—"There are seven Local Fund roads in the division and Mr. Farmer during his tour through the division had opportunities of inspecting them. I will notice their condition one by one."

"No. I.—Road from Dupad to Dornal, distance about eighteen miles.—This road has been taken up by the Revenue Department as a famine relief work and is in progress.

"No. II.—Continuation of No. I from Dornal over the Matral Ghaut on the Nallamalays, being a distance of about fifteen miles.—This road requires much repair and has also been sanctioned as a famine relief work.

"No. III.—Road from Cumbum to Dupad, a distance of about thirty miles.—Also commenced as a famine relief work and is progressing.

"No. IV.—Road from Taticherla to Allinagaram towards Cuddapah, fifteen miles.—Nearly thirteen miles finished.

"No. V.—Road from Cumbum to tank-bund, one and a half miles in fair order, but some ruts require to be filled up.

"No. VI.—Road from Cumbum to tank calingulah, one and three-quarter miles.—This also requires attention.

"No. VII.—Trunk Road extending from 68th milestone on the Kurnool side to 108th milestone at the Nellore boundary.—The whole of this road is in a fair condition."

21. *Extract from the Nandial Deputy Collector's Report.*—"General condition of Trunk Road No. XVII between Kurnool and Chagalmurry.—The road from Nampur to Oravakal has been much improved. The first two miles between Tamarazpalli and Oravakal are bad, while the rest is in good condition. The portion between Tamarazpalli and Puncm is fair, while that between the latter village and Ayalar is in very bad order. The same remark is applicable to the road between Ayalar and Yerraguntla (Sirwell Talug) and thence to Allagadda (69th Mile). Between Allagadda and Chagalmurry a bit of five miles is bad, while the rest is in good order."

"The general condition of Road No. VII.—The 40th, 50th, and 51st miles are in good order, while the rest (16 miles from 52nd to 68th miles) is in very bad condition."

"The branch roads are generally in good condition. The Kalwa branch is in first-rate order."

22. *Extract from the Peapally Deputy Collector's Report.*—"Road from Rampur pass to Nandikanama Ghaut.—Much has been written in former reports as to the bad condition of this road. After Mr. Foster wrote his letter of the 26th June 1876, recorded in Board's Proceedings, No. 1,756, dated 10th July 1876, the trenches which had been dug on the sides to compel carts to take to the road were filled up and gravel spread over the road from Pasupala on the 21st Mile to near Garladinne, 18th Mile. This portion is now in a better state than before, but it is not yet fully consolidated. The remaining portions of the road up to Banganpalli are as bad as before, if not worse. The line of road from Garladinne to Rampur was taken up as a relief work and is now approaching completion."

"Road from Tuggali to Maddekera. I believe this road has been completed up to the Vancherla Railway station and is in tolerably good order."

Repairs.—"There are no roads in the Koilkuntla Talug. In Pattikonda the portion of the main road from Gooty to Kurnool which lies in this division (fifteen miles) is in a very fair condition. The road from Bellary (Asperi) to Kurnool requires to be metalled near Devanakonda, Karivemula, and Kodimuru. A large quantity of material was collected since the present Talug Overseer took charge, and further

repairs are being made from relief grants. The very great owing to the prevalence of distress that "The condition of the branch roads is fair."

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government. The allotments under all heads were satisfactorily utilized, the ratio of the total expenditure by the professional department to the Budget grants being 98 per cent. In addition to the expenditure on irrigation works from the Budget provision a considerable sum was laid out in repairs from Famine Funds. The work seems to have been satisfactorily performed except in the case of the repairs to the Owk tank-bund executed by famine labor under the supervision of the Public Works Department. The great disproportion between the outlay Rupees 20,328 and the value of the work performed Rupees 1,023 indicates a reprehensible laxity of supervision calling for notice in the Public Works Department. As regards the Pattikonda tank high level since the defect, which was not clearly explained in the report for the previous year, will probably best be remedied in the manner suggested.

3. The outlay on buildings has been chiefly in connection with the improvements to the Collector's Cutcherry and the construction of a new Taluq Cutcherry at Koilkuntla; inquiry regarding the stability of the latter building seems called for, signs of weakness having already appeared.

On communications a very large sum, amounting to nearly twenty-nine lakhs, has been expended from Famine Funds in addition to the Local Fund grants. The remarks regarding the state of the communications appear to apply to the condition of the roads prior to the large outlay from Famine Funds. Nothing is said as to the value of the work turned out as compared with the cost.

(True Copy and

(Signed)

C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

No. 53.

ORDER THEREON, 4th March 1878, No. 1,082 W.

THE second paragraph of the Board's Proceedings will be considered in the Irrigation Department. The question of the Koilkuntla Cutcherry is now under consideration.

2. The question of the Koilkuntla Cutcherry is now under consideration.
(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

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

Ed. E. C. Shu
Spare Copies

Revenue Department

No 1126

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1878) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

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

Dated March 4th.

Issued

Recd. 12 March

G. O., 5th March 1878, No. 1082 W.

W. M. M.

MARCH

Nos. 52-53.

Public Works in Kurnool District.—Pro-
ceedings, Board of Revenue, submitting
Collector's report on progress of —, recorded
with remarks.

Communicated to the
Board of Revenue.

18th March

14. To the District Engineer, Kurnool.

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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