(1) Number of pages 4

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No.	529	Press. Mis.
Dated	7-2-1879	~~197~~.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—10,006—19-4-79.

39/1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

21st January 1879, No. 250 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper:—

No. 206. Endorsement of the Acting Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated Dowlaishvaram, 11th January 1879, No. 43 G.M.

From T. D. HARRIS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Ganjam Division, to the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated Berhampore, 29th December 1878, No. 379.

I HAVE the honor to submit, herewith, copy of a report received from the Acting Sub-divisional Officer, Chicacole, on the subject of the late heavy rains and floods, and to inform you that in the north no damages have occurred except the portion of trunk road between Ganjam and Rumbah which has been damaged partially.

2. Estimates for filling up the breaches, &c., on roads and irrigation works, and for constructing bridge in the 31st mile trunk road south reported to have been carried away, have been called for and will be submitted to you for sanction.

3. Repairs absolutely necessary for restoring the traffic have been done, but much could not be attempted owing to the restriction of outlay and limited funds at my disposal.

4. I request that all the grants now taken away be made available early in the next year, or otherwise the estimates for emergent repairs now under preparation cannot be met out of the usual budget grants.

From Supervisor J. CORMAC, Officer in charge of Chicacole Sub-division, to the Executive Engineer in charge of Ganjam Division, Berhampore, dated Chicacole, 27th December 1878, No. 30.

I BEG to report the occurrences of a very severe storm at this station which lasted from the 4th to the 9th instant.

2. On the 4th we had a little rain which was not thought much of except as being likely to spoil a part of the crop; on the 5th the rain was a little heavier, and it was then thought that the rain would seriously injure the paddy crops. On the morning of the 7th (the rain having been pouring down all through the night) the country was flooded and the embankment of the trunk road between Chicacole and Byree was being overtopped; all during the day the rain continued to fall heavily, and on the morning of the 8th matters looked very serious indeed; three-fourths of the town of Chicacole was then flooded, all communications with outlying villages was stopped, and the higher ground in the town was occupied by hundreds of people who had been compelled to leave their houses; the rain continued during the 8th to fall heavily, and I feared very much that the whole town would be swept completely away. During the whole of the day much anxiety was felt, but in the evening a slight subsidence of the flood was observed which dissipated apprehensions of any greater disaster than had already occurred.

3. During the 9th the rain continued, and the sky was so cloudy that it was impossible to say when the rain would cease; the flood was, however, subsiding, though as yet it was not possible to hold any communication with villagers outside.

4. On the morning of the 10th the rain ceased, and I was able by wading up to my knees to see the portion of the town which had been (and still was partially) flooded. I calculated that about 300 thatched and 20 tiled houses had been utterly ruined, whilst very many were more or less damaged; the misery of the people thus rendered houseless was most pitiable, and it is probable that many deaths have occurred from exposure to such long continued rain.

5. The damage done by the storm has been very great; every road has been breached more or less, and in places the road coverings of metal and gravel have been swept off in lengths

of one mile; the trunk road was seriously breached in the 3rd, 11th, 21st, and 25th miles (all these breaches have since been made practicable for carts), and in the 31st mile a bridge of 3 arches 15 feet span has been destroyed. At this place it has been found necessary to make a temporary roadway round the breach caused by the fall of the bridge, the depth of water for some distance above and below the bridge site rendering it impossible to do anything for the present at or near the breach.

6. Many tanks and embankments of channels have been breached and much damage done to masonry works, of works of tanks, &c. Details of these will be known as estimates are submitted; lists of damaged works are now under preparation and will be submitted on receipt.

7. The damage done to public works has been great, and the people have suffered very severely in the loss of cattle, sheep having died from exposure by hundreds; very many huts in villages and towns which were not flooded having been exposed to such severe rain and wind have collapsed.

8. I beg to append a statement showing the rainfall during the days named :—

Rainfall from 4th to 9th December 1878.

	At Chicacole.	
December 4th	0·32	
„ 5th	1·21	
„ 6th	4·40	
		5·93
December 7th—		
From 7 A.M. to noon	1·35	
„ noon to 3 P.M.	2·50	
„ 3 P.M. to 6 P.M.	1·90	
„ 6 P.M. to 7 A.M.	7·65	
		13·40
December 8th—		
From 7 A.M. to noon	0·75	
„ noon to 4 P.M.	0·80	
„ 4 P.M. to 6 P.M.	1·0	
„ 6 P.M. to 7 A.M.	5·0	
		7·55
December 9th—		
From 7 A.M. to noon	1·80	
„ noon to 6 P.M.	1·60	
„ 6 P.M. to 7 A.M. (10th)	1·01	
		4·41
		31·29

COPY forwarded for the information of Government in continuation of endorsement, No. ——, dated 30th December 1878.

(Signed) B. H. YOUNG,
Asst. Engineer,
for Ag. Supg. Engr., First Circle.

No. 207. ORDER THEREON, 21st January 1879, No. 250 W.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

E A Bird Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, First Circle.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd. C. Howarth.

20 Spare Copies

Revenue Depat

No 1101.

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1879) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Rev Mis d/7 Feby/79 No. 529

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
FIRST CIRCLE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 21st.

Issued

Recd. 6th Feby 79 Recd.

G. O., 21st January 1879, No. 220 W.

To Board of Revenue Dd 10/2

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[illegible]

No 529
Commd. to the
Board of Revenue

7 Feby 79

529