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**Administration Report of the Public  
Works Department, Punjab, Buildings  
and Roads Branch, 1941-42**

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**Proceedings of the Punjab Government in the Public Works Department,  
Buildings and Roads Branch, No. 4289-G., dated 4th August, 1943**

Concerning—

The Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1941-42.

*Expenditure*—The total expenditure on works for the year 1941-42 was Rs. 145 lakhs in round figures, while there was a substantial decrease in the percentage expenditure on establishment from 13.04 to 8.73.

*Communications*—Notwithstanding financial stringency the road development programme proceeded unabated and at the end of the year under review there were 4,294.49 miles of metalled and 1,796.48 miles of unmetalled road maintained by the Department. In addition to the above lengths of roads there were in the Province 659.63 miles of metalled and 6,698.47 miles of unmetalled class II roads in charge of District Boards in the Punjab.

The total expenditure during the year on the maintenance of roads, accommodation for travellers, arboriculture, boat bridges and ferries amounted to Rs. 39,99,291 against the original budget grant of Rs. 44,14,000.

Apart from the above the Buildings and Roads Branch was called upon by the Government of India during the year to do extraordinarily heavy road construction work, estimated to cost Rs. 110 lakhs, and within the short period of 12 months more than two-thirds of this work was executed.

Of the several road works pertaining to the road programme completed during the year, mention may be made of the following:—

(1) Remodelling the bridges over Fordwah, Sadiqia and Pakpattan canals at Suleimanke.

(2) Providing four traffic control posts with weigh bridges and police quarters in the Punjab in Third Circle.

(3) Improving and tarring certain miles of Jullundur Hoshiarpur-Dharamsala road.

(4) Redecking bridges and culverts on Hoshiarpur-Una Road.

(5) Construction of a submersible bridge over Ghaggar river on Delhi-Multan road in Hissar district (The bridge was opened to traffic by the Hon'ble Malik Khizar Hayat, Minister of Public Works, on 14th November 1941.)

(6) Metalling and surfacing the unmetalled miles 1—5 of Pind Dadan, Khan-Khewra-Choa Saidan Shah road in Jhelum district.

(7) Improving Khushab-Nurewala-Naushera-Pail-Munara-Kallar Kahar road, Section Kathwai to Kallar Kahar.

(8) Improving Gunjal-Nurpur road in Shahpur district.

(9) Reconditioning the following roads taken over from District Boards:—

(i) Sargodha-Mari Lak.

(ii) Khanna-Samrala-Machhiwara.

(iii) Nuh-Palwal.

(iv) Batala-Dera Baba Nanak.

*Communications Board*—The Board held during the year one regular meeting and one meeting of the Finance Sub-Committee for distribution of grants to District Boards during the year. Funds to the extent of Rs. 2,67,655 were distributed as grants-in-aid to various District Boards in the Province including Lyallpur, which unlike other districts is not on the permanent list, but is considered from year to year for a grant for maintenance of roads. Technical sanction was given to 67 roads projects of the various District Boards aggregating Rs. 5,46,198, by the Engineer Secretary to the Board.

The development works executed during the year under report consisted of improving and metalling, where necessary, existing roads and the construction of certain bridges and culverts. No fresh experiments were made on Soil Stabilization but it is interesting to note that the one carried out by Mr. S. R. Mehra, Executive Engineer, on the Kot Lakhpat Railway approach road near Lahore is still standing well after two years service though the bullock traffic on it is very heavy.

Grants-in-aid for maintenance were made by the Board after the audit of expenditure by Divisional Accountants and inspection of roads by Executive Engineers of the Buildings and Roads Branch. The total expenditure incurred on maintenance of class II roads amounted to Rs. 2,23,418 whilst Rs. 42,854 and Rs. 184 were spent on development and special repairs, respectively, during the year under report.

The combined post of Superintending Engineer (Roads) and Secretary, Communications Board, Punjab, continued during the year with a separate staff for the latter.

*Buildings*—The total expenditure on buildings including cost of maintenance was Rs. 22,60,484. General Administration buildings formed the largest item, followed by those for Education, Medical and Jails and Convict Settlements. The expenditure by minor heads under the following major heads on buildings (Original Works and Repairs) was :—

	MAJOR HEAD	
	50—Civil Works	81—Civil Works not charged to Revenue
	Rs.	Rs.
General Administration (Charged) .. .. .	1,03,030	..
General Administration (Voted) .. .. .	3,56,985	49,632
Administration of Justice .. .. .	9,194	2,863
Jails and Convict Settlements .. .. .	2,24,755	510
Police .. .. .	2,07,579	2,359
Education .. .. .	2,52,932	2,00,000
Medical .. .. .	3,30,052	15,492
Public Health .. .. .	31,691	..
Agriculture .. .. .	93,314	..
Veterinary .. .. .	30,323	..
Co-operative .. .. .	5,894	..
Industries .. .. .	45,011	..
Civil Works .. .. .	1,80,802	..
Stationery and Printing .. .. .	686	..
Miscellaneous Departments .. .. .	1,16,661	..
Land Revenue .. .. .	..	—180
Excise .. .. .	..	..
Forest .. .. .	890	..
<b>Total</b> .. .. .	<b>19,89,808</b>	<b>2,70,676</b>

Amongst the important building works completed during the year may be mentioned the following :—

(i) Constructing cellulaer barracks for 100 prisoners and sleeping barracks for cooks at the Central Jail, Mont gomery.

(ii) Construction of a new Police Station with married quarters at Jabbal n An ritsar district.

(iii) Construction of a Government Vernacular Middle School for Girls at Chauburji Gardens Estate, Lahore.

(iv) Construction of a new Civil Hospital at Alipur in Muzaffargarh district.

(v) Providing accommodation for 20 additional beds in the Lady Willingdon Hospital, Lahore.



*Public Health Circle*—During the year the Public Health Circle had to shoulder heavy responsibilities in directing the policy relating to engineering works connected with the Civil Defence and for the execution of these works in addition to the normal Public Health engineering works. Preliminary and detailed major projects estimated to cost Rs. 15,60,888 and Rs. 52,71,608, respectively, were prepared. In addition, a large number of minor projects and estimates for maintenance and repairs to sanitary and water-supply services were prepared during the year. Besides the works of the Lahore Sewerage Scheme, 29 important schemes were commenced and 11 schemes were completed during the year.

The actual quantities of water, sewerage and sullage dealt with by the various installations in direct charge of the Circle continued to show a considerable increase. The annual quantity of water supply and sewerage dealt with increased from an average of about 2,750,000 to nearly 9,496,200 gallons daily since 1932-33, while the total horse power of installations including those under completion has increased during the same period from 1,295 to 2,376.

*Electrical Engineering*—The Electrical Engineer and his staff remained very busy as usual during the year on account of a large number of electrical works executed and taken in hand in various buildings. Several Government buildings in Lahore and outside were rewired as the old installations were considered unsafe and also old ceiling fans were replaced by new ones where considered necessary.

In addition to the above, inspection work at outstations was also carried out by the Electrical Engineer and his staff and expert technical advice given. Estimates were also prepared by him for provision of electric installation in certain buildings under the control of the Irrigation Branch and a large number of deposit works were carried out on behalf of municipalities, private institutions, etc., on payment of the usual departmental charges.

*Engineering Education*—The cost of engineering education during the year was Rs. 3,26,410.

(a) *Punjab College of Engineering and Technology, Lahore*—The report for the year continues to show the popularity of the college. In the 'A' Class, namely, the Engineering class leading to the B. Sc. (Engineering) Degree of the Punjab University, 297 candidates competed for the normal 30 vacancies, while in the 'B' class (Engineering mechanics class) 115 candidates competed for 40 vacancies. In the 'C' class, namely, the Apprentice Class for training youngmen in the college workshops to be skilled artisans, 58 were called for interview of whom 48 only attended. Forty-two were found suitable for enrolment and were offered admission but 3 failed to join leaving 39 actually enrolled.

The results of the final examination in 1941 were again very satisfactory. Out of 27 'A' class students who sat for the B.Sc. (Engineering) Degree Final Examination of the Punjab University, 22 were successful. Owing to the keen demand in war work for trained men, very few of the 'C' class students completed 3 years' course but instead went into war employment before doing so.

The general health of both the staff and students continued to be satisfactory.

(b) *Government School of Engineering, Punjab, Rasul*—Competition for entrance to the school continued to be keen. No less than 317 candidates competed for 70 vacancies. Of the successful candidates sixty were admitted to the Overseer class and 10 to the Draftsman class. Of these one belonged to N.-W.F. Province, two to Delhi Province and three to Nabha State.

The result of the final examination for overseers continued to be very satisfactory. Of the 65 students who sat, 13 passed with "Honours", 39 with "Credit" and 13 with "Ordinary". In the final examination at the end of the second year for Draftsman class 10 students appeared and all passed, 5 with "Credit" and 5 with "Ordinary". Forty-seven overseers and 5 draftsmen took the special course in Reinforced Concrete and all were successful. All 29 students in the Bricklayer Artisan class qualified.

*Town Planning*—Mr. U. A. Coates, B. Arch. (Hons.) A.R.I., B.A., A.M. T.P.I. continued to hold the post of Provincial Town Planner during the year under review, assisted by Mr. S. A. Rahim, B. Sc. (London), A.M. Inst., C.E.A.M.T.P.I.,

As in the previous year the work of the Department consisted mainly of—

(a) preparing town planning and building schemes under section 192 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, on behalf of the municipal committees, advising Government in connection with the town planning schemes submitted by local authorities ; and

(b) the preparation of development schemes for land owned by Government.

*Administration*—Mr. R. Trevor-Jones, M.C., M. Inst., C.E., I.S.E., continued as Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Punjab, Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, throughout the year under report.

The Punjab Government takes this opportunity to record its appreciation of the hard work put in by the Department in coping with the exceptionally increased activities brought about by the War and wishes to acknowledge in particular the valuable services rendered by Messrs. Trevor-Jones, Vesugar and Abdul Aziz.

R. TREVOR-JONES,  
Secretary to Government, Punjab  
P.W.D., Buildings and Roads Branch



