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Review of the Administration Report
of the Punjab Public Works Depart-
ment, Buildings and Roads
Branch, for the year
1942-43

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Proceedings of the Punjab Government in the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, No. 2943-G, dated the 1st July 1944.

CONCERNING

The Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1942-43.

Expenditure—The total expenditure on works for the year 1942-43 was Rs. 1,18 lakhs in round figures as compared with Rs. 1,45 lakhs in the previous year while there was an increase in the percentage expenditure on establishment from 8.73 to 10.71 due to less works outlay.

Communications—Despite difficulties in obtaining men, material and money the Department managed to go on vigorously in improving the communications of the Province. At the end of the year under report there were under the charge of the Department 4,547.84 miles of metalled and 1,587.44 miles of unmetalled roads against 4,294.49 miles of metalled and 1,796.48 miles of unmetalled roads last year.

The total expenditure during the year on the maintenance of roads, accommodation for travellers, arboriculture, boat bridges and ferries amounted to Rs. 43,68,195, against the original budget grant of Rs. 50,22,000. In addition to the above lengths of roads there were in the Province 695.11 miles of metalled and 6,751.28 miles of unmetalled Class II roads in charge of District Boards.

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

- (1) Redecking and strengthening the road bridge over the river Jhelum on the Grand Trunk Road, Arterial No. 1 in Jhelum district.
- (2) Improving and metalling Arterial No. 25—Dera Ghazi Khan-Mithankot Road—Section Kot Chutta-Jampur.
- (3) Improving and metalling the road from Mianwali to Talagang Section of Arterial No. 10 in Mianwali and Attock districts.
- (4) Improving the road from Chakwal to Kallar Kahar in Jhelum district.
- (5) Improving and metalling the road from Khushab to Mianwali Section of Arterial No. 2 Lahore-Sargodha-Mianwali-Kalabagh-Bannu Road in Shahpur and Mianwali districts.
- (6) Metalling Lak-Jhawrian Section of Sargodha Mari Lak-Jhawrian Dhak Ferry Road in Shahpur district.

- (7) Constructing a bridge on the Sohan River at Dhok Pathan in Attock district with an approach road to link with Khaur-Dhullian Road in mile 33.
- ✓(8) Improving, metalling and tarring certain miles and constructing bridges in Section Tarnaul to Khushalgarh-Arterial No. 9—Rawalpindi-Khushalgarh-Kohat Road.
- (9) Metalling and surfacing Sohawa-Chakwal Road in Jhelum district.
- (10) Metalling unmetalled portion of Jhang-Bhakkar-Darya Khan Road. Section of Lahore-Lyallpur-Jhang-Bakkar-Dera Ismail Khan Road, Arterial No. 3.
- (11) Improving and metalling Muzaffargarh-Alipur-Panjnad-Bahawalpur Road, Arterial No. 24 in Mazaffargarh district.
- (12) Strengthening boat bridges over Indus at Ghazi Ghat and connected works.
- (13) Metalling and tarring the road from Chakwal to Pindigheb *via* Talagang :—
 - (i) Section Chakwal to Talagang.
 - (ii) Section Talagang to Dhok Pathan.
 - (iii) Section Dhok Pathan to Dhullian.
 - (iv) Section Dhullian to Pindigheb.
- (14) Improving, metalling and tarring Tarbela-Hazro-Campbellpur-Pind Sultani Road.
- (15) Widening Grand Trunk Road, Arterial No. 1—
 - Miles 97—101.
 - Miles 158—160 and 165—167.
 - Miles 173 to 191.
 - Miles 192 to 229.
- (16) Improving and metalling the road from Khushab to Chakwal *via* Katha Saghral.
- (17) Improving the decking of Shershah bridge in connection with the development of Multan-Quetta Road.
- (18) Constructing approaches to Kalabagh and Kurram Railway Bridges on Mianwali-Kalabagh-Kurram River Road.
- (19) Reconditioning Dighal-Beri-Chuchakwas Road in Rohtak District.
- (20) Metalling Sirsa-Dabwali Section of Delhi-Multan Road (Arterial No. 6) in Hissar District.

(21) Metalling Malout-Abohar Section of Delhi-Multan Road in Ferozepore District (Arterial No. 6).

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. 3,38,955 were distributed as grants-in-aid to various District Boards in the Province. Technical sanction was given to 47 road projects of the various District Boards aggregating Rs. 2,03,656 by the Engineer Secretary to the Board.

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. 2,93,955, while a sum of Rs. 45,000 was spent on development works during the year under review.

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. 27,21,188. General Administration buildings formed the largest item followed by those for Civil Works, Medical and Jails and Police. 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)	1,07,018	..
General Administration (Voted)	4,61,846	6,214
Administration of Justice	6,226	—2,863
Jails and Convict Settlements	3,40,565	14,759
Police	3,23,848	—120
Education	2,63,991	21,280
Medical	3,83,181	1,999
Public Health	2,126	..
Agriculture	96,526	31,500
Veterinary	45,362	..
Co-operation	2,633	..
Industries	46,563	..
Civil Works	3,94,690	21,757
Stationery and Printing	266	..
Miscellaneous Departments	1,51,821	..
Land Revenue
Excise
Forest
Total	26,26,662	94,526

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

- (i) Providing additional accommodation at Ellerslie, Simla-E.
- (ii) Proposed additional buildings at the New Sub-Jail, Gujrat.
- (iii) Extensions to the Nurses Home of the Mayo Hospital, Lahore, to provide accommodation for nurses and menial staff.
- ✓(iv) Constructing 8 temporary barracks with subsidiary buildings in the Police Lines, Rawalpindi, for the accommodation of the Provincial Police Force.
- (v) Conversion of the Birdwood Lines at Kaithu, Simla, into married quarters for the Police staff.
- (vi) Construction of a new Police Station with married quarters at Ambala Cantonment.
- (vii) Constructing M. Sc. Technical University Laboratory in the Punjab College of Engineering and Technology, Lahore.
- (viii) Cooly quarters at site A near Chaura Maidan Post Office, Simla (4-storeyed block).
- (ix) Cooly quarters at site B near Imperial Bank, Simla, (3 storeyed block).
- (x) Constructing a combined tahsil and thana building at Vehari, Multan District.

Public Health Circle—During the year the Public Health Circle continued to shoulder heavy responsibilities relating to the execution of emergency A. R. P. Works in addition to the normal Public Health engineering works. Preliminary and detailed major projects estimated to cost Rs. 23,46,108, and Rs. 37,35,947, 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, 28 important schemes were commenced and 36 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 7,000,000 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 2,325.

Electrical Engineering—As in previous year the Electrical Engineer and his staff had to work at full pressure this year as well.

A large number of electrical works was executed during the year and also several Government buildings in Lahore and outside were rewired as the old installations were considered unsafe.

Estimates for electrical works in connection with the Lahore Sewerage Scheme for over a lakh of rupees were prepared during the year and some of the works were actually taken in hand. Estimates were also prepared for provision of electric installation in certain buildings under the control of the Irrigation Branch and a few deposit works carried out on behalf of municipalities and private institutions on payment of the usual departmental charges.

Engineering Education.—The cost of engineering education during the year was Rs. 3,34,077.

(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, 283 candidates competed for the normal 31 vacancies, while in the 'B' Class (Engineering mechanics class) 102 candidates competed for 40 vacancies. In the 'C' class, namely, the Apprentice Class for training young men in the college workshops to be skilled artizans, 45 were called for interview of whom 40 only attended. Thirty-five were found suitable for enrolment and were offered admission but 8 failed to join leaving 27 actually enrolled.

The results of the final examination in 1942 were again very satisfactory. Out of 34 'A' Class students who sat for the B. Sc. (Engineering) Degree final examination of the Punjab University 28 were successful. Owing to the keen demand in war work for trained men, very few of the 'C' Class students completed the 3 year course but instead went into war employment before doing so.

Employment of students presents no problem now-a-days. On the contrary, the demands for trained Engineers and Workshop Operators exceed supply and every student and apprentice who qualifies from the College in any of the classes and possesses a good character, can find good employment forthwith both within and without the Fighting Services.

The general health of both the staff and students has on the whole been satisfactory.

(b) *Government School of Engineering, Punjab, Rasul*—Competition for entrance to the school continued to be keen, no less than 296 candidates competing for 115 vacancies. Of the successful candidates 100 were admitted to the Overseer Class and 15 to the Draftsman Class.

The result of the final examination for Overseers continued to be very satisfactory. Of the 68 students who sat 54 obtained the 'A' certificate (7 with "Honours" and 47 with "Credit") and 14

obtained the 'B' certificate. In the final examination at the end of second year for Draftsman Class 10 students appeared and all passed. Of these 8 obtained the 'A' certificate (1 with "Honours" and 7 with "Credit") and 2 obtained the 'B' certificate. Of the 51 Overseers and 9 Draftsmen who took the special course in Reinforced Concrete only one draftsman failed. All 20 students in the Bricklayer Artizan Class qualified. Five of these students were admitted to the Road Inspector Class.

Fifteen passed students were recruited in the year under review by the Punjab Irrigation Branch and four by the Buildings and Roads Branch in the Subordinate Engineering Service. The school continues to maintain priority lists of Overseers, Draftsmen and Tracers and recommends men for vacancies which occur in the Punjab Public Works Department. Over 442 men have obtained employment through the school during the year.

The general health of both the students and the staff has been good.

Town Planning—Mr. U. A. Coates, B. Arch. (Hons.), F. R. I., B.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., and Mr. Habib J. A. Somjee, B.A., Dip. Arch. (Lond.), A.R.I.B.A., C.T.P. (Lond.), who was appointed in December 1942.

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 Municipal Committees, including the requisite surveys;
- (b) advising Commissioners and Government in connection with the town planning schemes submitted by local authorities, and
- (c) the preparation of development schemes for land owned by Government and various Municipalities.

Administration—Mr. R. Trevor-Jones, C.I.E., 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 wishes to record its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Trevor-Jones and acknowledges the good work put in by the staff during a year of stress.

L. A. FREAK

Secretary to Government, Punjab
P. W. D., Buildings and Roads Branch



