M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 10.

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1932	Press Mis.
97-98	97-98
Dated 13-11-	18 76.

6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

S.J.M.

No. 97. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th October 1874, No. 3089 :—

Read the following letters :—

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, South Arcot District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 31st July 1874, No. 67.

With reference to paragraph 48 of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th December 1873, No. 2,544, I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter from the Vice-President of the Virdachellum Circle, dated 25th instant, No. 93, from which it will be seen that there is only one canal in that Circle, the Khan Sahib Vaikal, running from the Veeranum Tank to the Vellar River opposite Porto Novo. There are three locks on it, but it is not now much used as a means of communication. Considering that the chief value of the canal is its capacity as an irrigation work, I am of opinion that the cost of keeping the locks in repair should be borne by "Agricultural Revenue."

2. I have therefore the honor to request that the sanction of Government may be obtained for transferring this item from the Local Fund to the Imperial Budget.

Enclosure No. 1.

From A. L. LISTER, Esq., Vice-President of the Local Fund Board, Virdachellum Circle, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, South Arcot, dated Cuddalore, 25th July 1874, No. 93.

In reply to your letter, No. 258, of the 20th June last, I have the honor to inform you that the Khan Sahib Vaikal is the only canal fitted with locks in this Circle ever used as a means of communication. It was of great use when the iron manufactory at Porto Novo was working, as it was a means of bringing down iron ore from the west. But it is much less frequently resorted to now. Paddy is sometimes taken in boats to Porto Novo by the Khan Sahib Vaikal, and a small traffic is carried on therewith, while palmyra rafters, etc., are taken up the country in the same way.

2. It does not appear on the whole that more than 300 freighted boats pass by the Khan Sahib Vaikal for a year ; there is no passenger traffic on it.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
President.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, South Arcot District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 12th September 1874, No. 84.

With reference to the Revenue Board's Official Memorandum, dated 15th ultimo No. 1,275, asking for information as to what use has been made of the Khan Sahib's Channel as an irrigation work, and what is the average revenue involved, and calling for the District Engineer's opinion with regard to the transfer of the cost of repairing it to Provincial Funds, I have the honor to enclose, herein, copies of the letters from the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, and the District Engineer, dated 27th July 1872, No. 156, and 28th August 1874, No. 159, respectively.

2. It will be seen from the above letters that, though from time to time provision has been made in the Local Fund Budgets of the Virdachellum Circle for "Repairs to locks and canals," none of the allotment has ever been utilized for that purpose; but that whatever repairs have been done to them have been carried out at the cost of Imperial Funds, and this course, Mr. Sage considers, may be permitted to continue.

3. I concur with him, as the canal irrigates about 4,300 Acres of Government land assessed at 20,000 Rupees, besides 942 Acres of Inam lands.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Colonel E. A. FOORD, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the President of the Local Fund Boards, South Arcot District, dated Ahtoor, 27th July 1872, No. 156.

IN reply to your letter of the 19th July, No. 87, I have the honor to inform you, that the Velligal Channel is an irrigation work, and there is no objection to its being repaired as such, that is, from the grant for Repairs, Agricultural.

2. During some months of the year the channel is navigable, and there has hitherto always been an allotment in the budget for the repairs of canals and locks under the head "Communications," but it was an imperial and not a local charge.

3. It has not been customary hitherto to levy tolls on the boats using the canal. The traffic is very limited, and the state of the canal is not such as to justify the levy of tolls.

4. The communication from the Coleroon at the lower anicut to the Vellar at Porto Novo is first by the Vadavar, which is the supply channel of the Veeranum Tank, then by the Velligal, which is the surplus channel into the Khan Sahib Channel, an old native work.

5. Some locks, built between the Veeranum Tank and Porto Novo, have rendered the canal navigable, but its chief use is as an irrigation channel, and as such it yields a very large revenue; but as a means of communication it is comparatively of little value, for its course is very crooked, and it is not provided with a turning path. The Kistna and Godavery Channels were designed from the first to serve for both navigation and irrigation.

6. The improvement of the Khan Sahib Channel is one of the great works remaining to be carried out in the Chellumbrum Taluq. The coast canal from Cuddalore to Porto Novo was partly excavated in 1855-56. The work was stopped the following year, and has not been since resumed.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
President.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From G. S. SAGE, Esq., District Engineer, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, South Arcot, dated Cobus Choultry, 28th August 1874, No. 159.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 325, of the 25th instant, I have the honor to request your attention to letter, No. 156, of 27th July 1872, from the late Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, and I see no reason to differ from Colonel Foord's opinion therein conveyed.

2. Although provision has been made in the Local Fund Budgets of the Circle for "Repairs to locks and canals," it would appear that this has never been utilized for the purpose; but, on the contrary, the canals and locks have been hitherto repaired from Imperial (Agricultural Repairs) Funds. I see no objection to this course being followed, since the canal in question serves chiefly as an irrigation work, and as such it yields a very large revenue.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
President.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
13*th November* 1874.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, South Arcot District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 18th September 1874, No. 85.

WITH reference to paragraph 3 of my letter of 12th instant, No. 84, I have the honor to state that, from the return just received from the Tahsildar, it appears that the Khan Sahib's Canal irrigated in Fasli 1283 Acres 9,537-46, assessed at Rs. 47,250-4-1, including tirwajasti and fasaljasti. The figures given in the above paragraph were taken from the Irrigation Register prepared from the accounts received for Faslis 1277 and 1278, since which time the area irrigated by the canal has much increased. The number of villages now irrigated by the canal is twenty-four.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. In the Virdachellum Local Fund Budget, there appears from year to year an allotment of Rupees 1,930 for repairs to canals and locks.

3. The only canal in the Circle is the Khan Sahib's Canal, which is an important irrigation work seldom used for carrying goods and never for passenger traffic.

4. In a letter, dated the 27th July 1872, Colonel Foord, then Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, said: "Some locks built between the Veeranum Tank and Porto Novo have rendered the canal navigable, but its chief use is as an irrigation channel, and as such it yields a very large revenue; but as a means of communication it is comparatively of little value, for its course is very crooked, and it is not provided with a turning path." The present District Engineer of South Arcot agrees with Colonel Foord and says: "Although provision has been made in the Local Fund Budgets of the Circle for repairs to locks and canals, it would appear that this has never been utilized for the purpose; but, on the contrary, the canals and locks have been hitherto repaired from Imperial (Agricultural Repairs) Funds."

5. In Fasli 1283, Khan Sahib's Canal irrigated Acres 9,537, assessed at Rupees 47,250, and the area has increased since.

6. Under these circumstances, the Board think the allotment in the present budget should be transferred to the Road Fund Reserve, and that no provision should be made for repairs to canals and locks in future Local Fund Budgets of the Virdachellum Circle.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
13th November 1874.

No. 98. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1874, No. 1932.

The recommendation made in paragraph 6 of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue is approved.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 13th.

Recd. Read.

G.O., 13th November 1874, No. 1932.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 97-98.

Local Fund Budget Estimate of Virdachellum Circle, 1874-75.—The recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the allotment in the Budget for repairs to canals and locks should be transferred to the Road Fund Reserve, and that no such provision should be made in future Local Fund Budgets of the Circle, approved.

Financial Department
(Road Fund)

1874.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 24TH OCTOBER 1874, No. 3,089.

Dep^t 29 Nov^r 1874

Encl.
25

Received 6th November 1874

OCTOBER.
No. 3,089. R. 2308

Local Fund Budget Estimate—of Virdachellum Circle, South Arcot District, for 1874-75.—Opinion expressed that the allotment in—for repairs to canals and locks should be transferred to the Road Fund Reserve, and that no such provision should be made in future Local Fund Budgets of the Circle for certain reasons.

With order.

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Fin.l

To,
The Board of Revenue,
&c.

G. O. 13 Nov.r, 1874, No. 1932.

Nos. 97-98.

Local Fund Budget-Estimate of Cuddapah Taluk for 74/75.

Re recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the allotment in the Budget for repairs to canals and locks should be transferred to the Road Fund Reserve and that no such provision should be made in future Local Fund Budgets of the Taluk, approved.