

[L & M.]
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Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1091 M

DATED 1st July 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Anantapur tank.

Communicating to the Municipal Council Anantapur,
G.O., Public Works Department directing the Chief Engineer for Irrigation to submit a practicable scheme for diverting the sub-soil water of -----.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 1614 W., 28TH MAY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Sanitary Board, No. 11, dated 24th June 1895.

Read—the following letter from J. F. SOMERS-EVE, Esq., Executive Engineer, Bellary Division, to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Anantapur, dated Ramandrug, 16th May 1895, No. 2251 :—

With reference to your No. 57 C. of 23rd April 1895, I regret to say I can make no suggestions except the following, which I imagine you will consider impracticable. Removal of the tank, town or wet cultivation.

ENCLOSURE.

From Surgeon-Major H. M. HAKIM, Chairman, Municipal Council, Anantapur, to the Executive Engineer, Bellary.

In view to divert the sub-soil water under pressure from the Anantapur tank from entering into the inhabited area, it was suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner that a cutting should be made that would accommodate at a safe depth ordinary agricultural drain tiles, or that the tank be made water-tight by placing a wall of puddled clay behind the bund along its whole length and extending down to the rock below. Both these have been found not feasible, the former by this Municipality and the latter by your Department. But at the same time in the interests of public health, it being expedient that this sub-soil percolation should be prohibited, I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to suggest any feasible means by which it could be done. I request the favour of an early reply.

Ref. on C. No. 57.

Communicated to the Sanitary Commissioner with copy of this office letter No. 57, dated 23rd May 1895, with reference to paragraph 3 of his notes of inspection of this Municipality, No. 326 S., dated 16th February 1895.

(Signed) H. M. HAKIM, Surgn.-Major,
Chairman.
31st May 1895.

No. 1015 S.

Referred to the President, Sanitary Board, for favour of discussion at the meeting of the Board at Ootacamund. Undersigned considers it improbable that any remedial measure is impracticable to the extent suggested by the Executive Engineer, Bellary.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgn.-Lt.-Col.,
Ag. Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
7th June 1895.

No. 11.

Resolved that the subject be transferred to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, for favour of investigation.

(True Extract.)

24th June 1895.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgn.-Lt.-Col.,
Secy. (Genl. Sanitation Dept.), Sany. Bd.

No. 5 S.

Referred to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for favour of remarks.

(Signed) D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
President, Sanitary Board.

No. 37.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

It does not appear from these papers that any attempt has been made to deal with this question on the lines suggested by the Sanitary Commissioner. Until this has been attempted, no decision can be arrived at. The Superintending Engineer should be called upon for an opinion.

(Signed) R. R. E. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, Col., R.E.,
27th January 1896. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 788 C.

Referred to the Superintending Engineer, III Circle, for report.

11th February 1896.

(Signed) D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

From W. B. DeWINTON, Esq., Superintending Engineer, III Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Bellary, 5th May 1896, No. 360.

With reference to your endorsement No. 788 C. of 11th February 1896, herewith returned, I have the honour to report that I inspected the town of Anantapur on 14th, 15th and 16th of March.

2. The Sanitary Commissioner appears to me to have painted a very highly coloured picture of the insanitary condition of this town. I passed through it twice at 6 A.M., and found it unusually free from bad smells and vapours, and the Collector assures me that it is by no means unhealthy.

3. The town is however undoubtedly situated in an unhealthy position, immediately below the high bund of a big tank, and sub-soil water must always stand at a high level (I found it within 5 feet of ground level on the date of my inspection when water in the tank was 10 feet below F.T.L.) and the circulation of air must be greatly impeded by the presence of the bund.

4. For this state of things the only remedy likely to be of permanent effect is the removal of the town to a healthier site. The Collector informs me that one is available and has been offered to the town's people, and the removal should not be difficult as the town is a compact one of small area and does not contain a large number of houses.

5. If, however, this is considered impracticable and it is thought necessary to attempt some remedial measures, I would suggest either of the two following courses (*vide* site plan, sections and estimates herewith):—

(1) To remove the existing bund from A *via* C to E and reconstruct it on the straight line A E with a catch drain from A to D immediately in rear of it. This would have the advantage of removing the bund from the vicinity of the town and would greatly improve the circulation of air without diminishing the capacity of the tank to an undesirable extent; but as the new bund would be laid on the silt in bed of tank, it might be undermined, and if the work is ever executed, it would probably be found necessary to remove the silt and carry the new earth down to solid ground, which would greatly increase the already large estimate now submitted.

(2) To dig a catch drain 12 feet deep and 3 feet wide on the line C B immediately in rear of the existing bund, lay 6-inch drain pipes at the bottom of this, and cover them with 3 feet of dry rubble loosely laid, filling in the remainder with earth. This drain would have a fall of about 1 in 600 feet, and might so cut off the tank from the town as to considerably reduce the level of sub-soil water in the latter and improve its sanitary condition.

6. The cost of both of these schemes is heavy, and the benefit to be derived from them is, in my opinion, very problematical, so I do not personally recommend either. I would, however, in the case of this town and of all others in the Presidency, prohibit wet cultivation of all kinds within a radius of not less than half a mile from the centre of the town, this distance to increase with the size of the town. In the case of small villages it might be reduced to quarter mile. I am perfectly convinced that the present custom of allowing wet cultivation to be carried on up to the very walls of the houses is the most potent factor in the prevailing unhealthiness of the towns of the Presidency; and I think the Sanitary Commissioner would have no difficulty in showing that the health of towns where wet cultivation does not exist—they are not many, I fear—is vastly superior to that of towns surrounded by it.

P.S.—The amount of estimate No. 2 has worked out less than I expected, as I originally intended to fill the whole trench with stone. It might be worth while to spend this amount in an attempt to drain the sub-soil, but I am not very sanguine of its success.

Office-note from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 9th May 1896.

ORDER—No. 1614 W., dated 28th May 1896.

In his notes * of inspection of the Anantapur Municipality on the 5th of April 1890, the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner brought to notice that, owing to leakage from the large tank above the town, the sub-soil was water-logged, that the health of the inhabitants was affected, and that their habitations were rendered unsafe. Certain suggestions for the amelioration of this state of affairs were made, which the Government approved and remitted to the Municipal Council for consideration.

2. In September 1893, the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner brought to notice after another inspection, † that nothing had been done to prevent the water from this tank leaking out and soaking the whole sub-soil of the inhabited area. He added: "As the tank is an irrigation one and under the charge of the Public Works Department, I would suggest that they be asked to render their tank water-tight." The Government remarked thereon that the Public Works Department should be addressed with reference to the suggestions of the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner for preventing the percolation of water from the tank.

3. The Superintending Engineer, who had been referred to, considered that the suggestions of the Sanitary Department were not feasible. The Sanitary Commissioner thereupon proposed that the Superintending Engineer should be called upon to state how he would divert the sub-soil water.

4. A scheme has now been submitted by the Superintending Engineer in compliance with the request of the Chief Engineer, to whom the matter was referred in his capacity of President of the Sanitary Board. The scheme being one for the diversion of the sub-soil water of a tank which is an irrigation work, the matter was referred to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for remarks. That officer replies as follows:—

"I regret I cannot pronounce upon this scheme. It has been roughly got up, and no correlation exists between the plan and the cross or longitudinal sections."

5. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation will now take the matter up and revise the project in any manner which he may consider suitable, and thereafter to submit a practicable scheme for the orders of Government.

(True Extract.)

C. H. D. D. D. D.

Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, with enclosures.
" Superintending Engineer, III Circle.
" Local and Municipal Department. ✓

Exd T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.
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BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Gobt. of {1896} Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

1734/M.

*N.
misc*

order No 1091 Mmmdy 1-7-96

*Communicated to the Municipal
Council, Anantapur.*

*hws
27-5-96*

Dated May, 28th.

Recd. 19 JUN. 96

Encl.
6-3c.

G.O. No. 1614 W., 28th May 1896.

*LR
25-5-96*

MAY.

Leakage

The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
directed to submit a practicable scheme
for protecting the town of Anantapur from
the effects of — from the tank above.

To

The Chairman, M.C. Anantapur

Order - 27/5/96

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When examined
When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO O. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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