

[L. & M.]
[5,000-5-4-99.]

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1702 M

DATED 17-11-99.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bezavada Tank.

Communicating to the Munk. Council of Bezavada. C.D. P.W.D., sanctioning for execution when funds are available, the estimate, amounting to Rs 2700, for draining the — in the Krishna District.

BACK PAPERS.

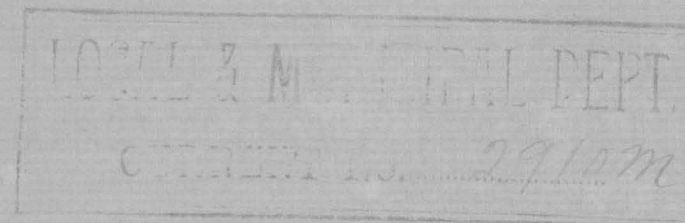
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government {1899} of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.



Recd. 10th Nov }
Regd. } 1899.

Enclosures nil
Spare copies 6

G.O., No. 2742 W., 17th October 1899.

Min. order No. 1702 17.10.99
Communicated to the
Municipal Council of Bezwada.
OCTOBER.

By 16/10/99 16.10.99

To the Chairman, M.C. Bezwada.
16/10/99

Bezwada Tank

The estimate, amounting to Rs. 2,700, for draining the — in the Kistna district, sanctioned for execution when funds are available.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads,
Civil Works.

Read—the following paper:—

G.O., No. 350, Revenue, dated 2nd June 1899.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 2118, Revenue, dated 27th April 1897:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 1297, dated 6th April 1897:—

Read—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 755, dated 26th February 1897:—

Read—the following letter from J. N. ATKINSON, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Kistna, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 3rd February 1897, No. 705 Ver. of 1896:—

In the revenue village of Bezwada there is a tank the bed of which consists of—

D. No.	Extent.	Assessment.
259	2.34	Rs. A. P.
261	38.27	poramboke.
Total	40.61	

It is not an irrigation tank, and there is no tradition of its ever having been so used: nor has it any regular supply channel. A portion of the bed in D. No. 261 is occupied by a forest reserve.

2. This tank for at least a quarter of a century has been one of the principal obstacles to the establishment of any thorough system of sanitation in Bezwada. Successive Collectors, District Surgeons and Sanitary Commissioners have anathematised it, but nothing tangible has ever been done towards abating the nuisance that it undoubtedly causes.

3. Though the bund has gradually sunk to only a few feet in height and though at one point it has been breached, and at another a previously existing sluice has been removed, the bed of the tank is still capable of holding a considerable quantity of water, which soaks in and percolates downwards towards and through the adjacent town. Immediately below the tank and between it and the town, there are a few acres of vacant ground, and so long as the tank holds water this is always marshy and unhealthy. The tank-bed itself and this adjacent vacant ground is a favourite place for the commission of nuisances, and still more favourite for the dumping of sweepings, rubbish and the contents of cess-pools. The Municipal Council itself has been a sinner in this respect, and has covered a large portion of the bed of the tank with municipal sweepings, cess-pool sludge and even night-soil.

4. It may well be imagined how foul is the water that flows or percolates from this bed of corruption, and what a menace the existing state of affairs is to the health of Bezwada—a town the importance of which as one of the gateways of the Presidency cannot be over-estimated.

5. The Sanitary Commissioner once proposed that the municipality should fill the tank with earth from the various spoil banks along the canals; but the cost of this would be absolutely prohibitive. I imagine that what is wanted is (1) to drain the tank and the small area of marshy land below, efficiently once for all; (2) to prevent any further nuisances in its bed.

6. The Municipal Chairman has asked that the whole of the tank-bed should be made over to him free of assessment, and he proposes that the council should then drain the tank. He anticipates that he would recoup a part of the expenditure by the use to which he would put the tank-bed either as a municipal garden or by selling it for building sites. There would be no loss of Government revenue by this course, since only 10 acres of the tank-bed are said to be cultivable, and none of it can be assigned on putta, being less than half a mile from the railway station.

7. But this proposal does not commend itself to me. The municipal council could ill afford the initial cost of draining, and to be well done the work must be carried out by the Public Works Department. Further, I am sorry to say that I have little confidence in the propriety of the uses to which the council would be likely to put the tank. It is the council itself that has for years past been dumping filth in the bed and has thereby more than anyone else helped to befoul the water that passes through the tank. The suggestion of selling the bed for building sites would, I think, be counter to all sanitary principles.

8. I would suggest that the tank be drained by Government at its own expense, and the bund levelled; that the drains when completed be made over to the municipal council to maintain; and that the bed of the tank be made over to the Forest Department, which already is in occupation of a part thereof. It may be said that there is a moral obligation on Government to drain the tank, since it is by the long continued acquiescence of Government officials in the misuse of the tank that the present state of affairs has arisen; nor is it right that one should let one's tenement fall into disrepair and then call on one's neighbour to pay for its restoration.

9. I have had an estimate prepared for the drainage of the tank, and as checked by the Executive Engineer, Kistna Northern division, it amounts to Rs. 2,500. But as the proposed drain admittedly will not carry off all storm waters in periods of heavy rain, and as no provision has been made for lowering the floor of the present culvert through which the drain passes under the railway, the estimate is obviously incomplete; and since nothing is more clear than that if the work is to be done at all it should be thoroughly

Endorsement, Mis. No. 755, dated 26th February 1897.

Forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, for favour of early remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

Read—the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 9th March 1897, R.C. No. 1674:—

[Subject.—Tank at Bezwada.]

[Reference.—Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 755, dated 26th February 1897.]

With reference to the above, I have the honour to state that I agree with every word written by the Collector as to the urgency of the call for reform, for the pestilential nature of the morass is especially noticeable from the Bezwada reserve. Babul (*Acacia Arabica*) grows readily in the plantation near the tank, and several other species of trees also. It would perhaps be advisable to plant up the reclaimed land as quickly as possible and special attention will be given to the matter if the land is handed over.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1297, dated 6th April 1897.

The papers read above will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Board supports the Collector's recommendation that the tank-bed may be drained at the cost of Government and handed over at an early date to the Forest Department which will then plant it with babul. If this recommendation is accepted, it is requested that orders may be issued to the Public Works Department for the preparation of the necessary estimate.

3. The Collector has also proposed to make over the drain to the municipality for maintenance. He will be requested to ascertain the views of the municipal council in this matter and to forward a copy of its resolution.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

Order—Mis. No. 2118, Revenue, dated 27th April 1897.

The Collector's letter referred to in the Board's Proceedings has not been received and should be forwarded for reference.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Read—again G.O., Mis. No. 2636, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1897, on Board's Proceedings, R. No. 1385 A., dated 7th May 1897, forwarding the Collector's letter called for above.

ABSTRACT.—Expressing the desire of Government to have a report from an Engineer on the proposal to drain a certain tank-bed land in Bezwada, Kistna district, especially as regards the cost of draining the tank.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 3093, Revenue, dated 17th June 1897:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 2087, dated 9th June 1897:—

Read—the following letter from J. K. BATTEN, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector of Kistna, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 28th May 1897, Dis. No. 2130 Ver. of 1897:—

With reference to paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 1297, dated 6th April 1897, I have the honour to state that the Municipal council, Bezwada, is unable to say anything definitely until it is furnished with a plan and general description of the drain proposed to be constructed, and to request that the Department of Public Works may be ordered to comply with the council's request.

2. A copy of the municipal council's resolution is enclosed.

Resolution—Mis. No. 2087, dated 9th June 1897.

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1297, dated 6th April 1897, disposed of in G.O., Mis. No. 2636, dated 22nd May 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) N. S. BRODIE,
Acting Secretary.

Order—Mis. No. 3093, Revenue, dated 17th June 1897.

Transferred to the Public Works Department in continuation of G.O., Mis. No. 2636, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1897, for favour of issue of the necessary orders.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Read—again G.O., Mis. No. 1366, Revenue, dated 18th March 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Public Works Department to state whether any and, if so, what action has been taken in regard to the question of draining certain tank at Bezwada.

Read—again G.O., Mis. No. 1709, Revenue, dated 21st April 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Informing the Collector of Kistna that the question of draining the tank in Bezwada is still under reference to the Public Works Department.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 4239, Revenue, dated 1st November 1898:—

Read—the following memorandum from A. S. RUSSELL, Esq., Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 21st June 1898, No. 2939 C.:—

Read—the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, No. 1721 K.E., dated 5th June 1898:—

With reference to your memo. No. 2699 C., dated 23rd May 1898, I have the honour to return the plans and estimates for the draining of the Bezwada tank duly signed. The object in view as explained in the report will, I consider, be attained by the proposed work.

I enclose for your further information copies of correspondence which passed between myself and Captain Ellis regarding this work, from which you will see that although the estimates and plans were submitted unsigned, by an oversight on the part of my office, the scheme was duly scrutinized and considered by me before submitting it for sanction.

MEMORANDUM.

The plans and estimate for draining the Bezwada tank, forwarded by the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, are approved in this department, and are transferred, together with enclosures to Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1297, dated 6th April 1897, to the Revenue Department for orders with reference to G.O. in that Department, Mis. No. 2636, dated 22nd May 1897.

2. It should be noticed that the improvements estimated for are merely to gradually drain the deep bed of the tank, the size of the new drain being fixed with reference to the discharging capacity of the existing culverts. Much heavier outlay would be entailed by making the drain of size sufficient to discharge quickly the flood discharge of the catchment basin of the tank, and this does not appear to be wanted.

(Signed) A. S. RUSSELL,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 2742 W., 17TH OCTOBER 1899.

Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No. 2446, Routine, dated 1st October 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting Government to inform the Collector of Kistna direct of any orders passed on the draining of a tank in Bezwada, Kistna district.

Order—Mis. No. 4239, Revenue, dated 1st November 1898.

The Municipal council, Bezwada, is requested to state what arrangements they would be prepared to make for maintaining the drain and works connected therewith in the event of the Government's undertaking to construct the works at the expense of Provincial funds in accordance with the plans and descriptions forwarded herewith.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

Read—also the following letter from M.R.Ry. S. LINGAYYA, Chairman, Bezwada Municipality, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Collector and the Head Assistant Collector), dated 20th February 1899, No. 2307:—

With reference to G.O., Mis. No. 4239, dated the 1st November 1898, I have the honour to return herewith the enclosures received with the above and inform that the council is resolved to maintain the drain and works connected with the Bezwada tank at a cost of Rs. 200 annually.

2. A copy of council's resolution adopting the proposal is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE.

PROCEEDINGS of the Municipal Council, Bezwada, dated 15th February 1899.

Read—again resolution No. 9, dated 13th December 1898, on the subject of draining Bezwada tank with the opinion of the Executive Engineer, Kistna Eastern division, in his Mis. No. 1713, dated 6th February 1899, thereon.

The municipality is willing to pay for ordinary maintenance, silt clearance, pointing to masonry, etc., not exceeding Rs. 200 a year.

Read—endorsements of the Head Assistant Collector and the Collector, dated 22nd February and 1st March 1899, respectively, forwarding the above.

Endorsement thereon of the Local and Municipal Department, No. 368, dated 27th March 1899.

Transferred to the Revenue Department.

No. 2742 W., 17TH OCTOBER 1899.

Read—also the following letter from Captain W. M. ELLIS, R.E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Bezwada, 8th May 1899, No. 156 I:—

[Your No. 72 K.S. of 1st May 1899, regarding the drain proposed to be constructed to drain Bezwada tank.]

I am of opinion that the proper maintenance of the drain as designed will not involve an average yearly expenditure in excess of Rs. 200. The section line on which the drain is plotted was commenced near the railway above the tank and taken along the existing drain from the Paracherry at Wynchpet. The proposed drain only starts at 2,470 feet along this line. The total length of the drain proposed is therefore (6,500 — 2,470 =) 4,030 feet. The bed fall is 2 feet per mile and bed width 8 feet.

Endorsement by W. HUGHES, Esq., Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, No. 230 D., dated 17th May 1899.

Forwarded to the Revenue Department, with reference to note of 25th April 1899. The allotment of Rs. 200 would appear to be adequate.

Order—No. 350, Revenue, dated 2nd June 1899.

Miscellaneous.

The proposals of the Collector of Kistna for the draining of the Bezwada tank and for the upkeep of the works connected therewith will now be approved and the plans and estimates in respect of these works will be retransferred to the Public Works Department for sanction.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. J. WILSON,
for Secretary to Government.

ORDER—No. 2742 W., dated 17th October 1899.

The estimate, amounting to Rs. 2,700, for draining the Bezwada tank in the Kistna district is sanctioned for execution when funds are available.

2. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No. 72 W. of 1899-1900, and classified as Miscellaneous Public Improvements—Original Works.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, with 14 enclosures.

„ Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Local and Municipal Department. ✓

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed 17/11 _____

189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
189 .

CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DETTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BRING WANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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