1. Number of pages. 116
2. Date of repair. 1963
3 Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—52,400—22-11-60

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con 2nd 1857

G.O. No. 1242	Press Mis.
Dated 26 Feb 18 57	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

B 113

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 20th October 1857.

No. 86. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer ; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 3rd October 1857, No. 4181.

SIR,

1 Letter from the District Engineer Nellore No. 1707, dated 31st August 1857.
1 Letter from the Sub Collector No. 243, dated 29th September.

I have the honor to forward for submission to Government, original letters from the District Engineer and Sub Collector in charge of Nellore, relating to the probable insufficiency of the amount allowed for repairs of Irrigation works in that District.

2. Lieutenant Mullins it will be observed, expresses an opinion, that unless the present allotment of Rupees 53,780 be doubled there will be a loss of between 1½ and 2 lacs owing to the serious injuries sustained in the principal Irrigation Talooks, by the storm of November last.

3. Mr. Minchin states even more strongly the bad condition in which the tanks were left after the monsoon, and declares the allotment to be " clearly inadequate even to place them in a fit state to hold water for the season," and referring to the short time yet remaining for repairs before the monsoon, he recommends, that the works should be partly executed by the Revenue Officers in the present reduced and inefficient state of the D. P. W,

4. I cannot consistently with my duty withhold from Government these deliberate opinions of the local Officers on the inadequate amount and means available for securing the Revenue, nor will I refrain from recommending, that the utmost energy should be exerted in the work of repair, whether by the Revenue Officers or otherwise, as Government may see fit to determine.

Letter from Lieutenant J. MULLINS, District Engineer Nellore ; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Suntavootalapaud, 31st August 1857, No. 1707.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of Extract from your Proceedings No. 3219, of the 27th Instant, and also of your Circular No. 93, I have the honor to inform you that it will not be possible at this advanced period of the year, without endangering a Revenue of several lacs of Rupees, to keep the amount, nominally sanctioned for the repair of Irrigation works, within the sum allotted to this District, as this would necessitate the entire revision and re-submission of more than 200 estimates, a task which, in the present reduced state of the Department, would be quite impracticable, but the Officers of the Department have been fully and particularly informed that although in many cases large amounts have been sanctioned, no expenditure beyond what is absolutely necessary to enable the tanks to hold water is to be made.

2. I cannot at present state whether the sum allotted to this District for repairs of Irrigation works viz., Rupees 53,780 will suffice to execute even the emergent repairs, nor can I inform you what loss of Revenue is likely to result from the limitation, but, as soon as I can obtain the necessary statements from the Executive Engineers, I will transmit them to you. I may however mention that my impression is that unless the amount allowed be doubled, a loss of between 1½ to 2 lacs will be experienced, as in the principal Irrigation Talooks every tank was seriously injured by the storm of November last.

Letter from JAMES INNES MINCHIN, Esq., Sub Collector in charge of Nellore ; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 29th September 1857, No. 243.

SIR,

With reference to your Proceedings of the 10th Instant, calling for the Collector's opinion as to the sufficiency of the amount allotted for the ordinary repairs of the District for this year, I have the honor to state that the detailed information called for by Mr. Taylor on the subject

has not yet been received from the District Engineer, but as I am of opinion that further delay in carrying out the ordinary repairs may be attended with the most serious consequences, I consider it necessary to furnish the opinion called for at once, without waiting for the receipt of the above details.

2. There is no question, that the majority of the Tanks in the District suffered severe injury from the effects of the gale in November last, a very large number were breached, and put into merely temporary repair to hold some water for the season, while those that were not actually breached, were considered after the gale to be in a very precarious state. It may be safely stated that the Tanks of the District as a whole, were never in a worse condition, than when under the above circumstances, the Marahmut was transferred from the Revenue to the Public Works Department.

3. The expenditure on the ordinary repairs of Irrigation works, during the four preceding Fuslies is stated in the margin and there can be no question that to put them into a thorough state of efficiency a much larger outlay than was incurred in any of those seasons would be necessary. With this object, estimates to the amount of 1,45,509 Rupees have been prepared in the Engineers Department for this year, while the amount allotted for the irrigation works of the District is only Rupees 53,780, a sum clearly inadequate even to place the Tanks in such a state that they will hold water for the season.

Amount of repairs to Tanks.	Rs.
1853	67,591
1854	63,716
1855	69,734
1856	1,11,918

4. It is difficult without details to form any exact estimate of the least sum that may suffice for the above purpose, but considering the very bad condition of the Tanks at present, it may be safely stated that an expenditure lower than that of the preceding year would be quite inadequate, and would greatly endanger the Revenue, I would therefore beg to urge strongly that a sum of Rupees 1,00,000 be sanctioned for the ordinary estimates of the year, irrespective of the amount that has been already expended on occasional estimate and I cannot refrain from stating, that the delay which has already taken place in the execution of the ordinary repairs, owing to correspondence on the subject of this letter, renders it of the utmost importance that the immediate sanction of Government should be obtained, and the works vigorously prosecuted.

5. Considering that but one month remains for the repair of the Tanks, before the N. E. Monsoon must be expected in all its violence, I would suggest that under such critical circumstances, a certain portion of the works should be placed in the hands of such Tahsildars, as the Collector can recommend as worthy of full confidence, their operations being of course carried on under the directions of the District Engineer.

6. Considering the reduced state of the Public Works Department, at present, and the urgency of the ordinary repairs at this late period of the year, I am of opinion that the services of no competent Supervisors should be rejected on account of Departmental objections, when the interests of the Government, and people are alike at stake.

7. I would beg to state that your proceedings under reply were only brought to my notice on this day, or I should have forwarded this communication earlier.

No. 87. ORDER THEREON, No. 1968; dated 20th October 1857.

The Chief Engineer submits two letters to his address; one from the District Engineer of Nellore, representing the inadequacy of the sum (Rupees 53,780) allotted for the repair of the irrigation works in that District, consequent on the serious injuries which they have sustained by the storm of November last, and expressing his apprehension that, unless the, amount allowed be doubled, the Revenue will be endangered to the extent of from 1½ to 2 lac, the other from the Sub Collector in charge of the Province, endorsing, in terms of still greater urgency the correctness of the District Engineer's representation, and recommending, with reference to the lateness of the season, and the reduced state of the Public Works Department, that a portion of the repairs should be executed by the Revenue Establishment, under the directions of the District Engineer.

2. Under the circumstances of emergency above represented, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council resolves, with reference to the letter from the Government of India, of the 7th August last No. 3898, to grant, in addition to Rupees 53,780 already allotted, a further sum to the same extent, as now applied for by the District Engineer of Nellore, for the repair of the irrigation works in that District. His Lordship in Council must however observe, that the application has been submitted at too late a date to allow of so large a sum being expended before the monsoon, so as to make the repairs of any use to the present year's cultivation. The District Engineer will therefore be careful not to expend any part of the money on useless repairs, but will remember that it is granted on his own declaration that the Cultivation and Revenue of the present season will suffer if the repairs be not executed, and that consequently he is to spend the money on those works only as that declaration will apply to.

3. With reference to the recommendation of the Sub Collector, that the Revenue establishment should be employed in executing a portion of the repairs, the Government are not disposed to authorize an arrangement of this nature. The system has in Nellore been changed, and it would be very undesirable to revert to the former practice, and thus to unsettle the convictions of the people as to the authorities entrusted with the executive. There are no new works going on in the District, and the whole strength of the Department must therefore be employed in the work of repair.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Central Office of Pub Works,
No 4181 Fort Saint George,
3rd October 1857.

From

The Chief Engineer
D & W.

To H. Forbes Esq

The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.

"Revenue Irrigation"

Sir,

Original Enclosures
1 Letter from the Dt Engr Tellicherry No 1706 dt 31 Augt 57.
1 Letter from the Sub Collector No 243 dated 29 Septr
2

I have the honor to forward for submission to Government, original letters from the District Engineer and Sub Collector in charge of Nellore, relating to the probable insufficiency of the amount allowed for repairs of irrigation works in that District.

2. Lieutenant Mullins it will be observed, expresses an opinion, that unless the present allotment of Rupees 533780 be doubled there will be a loss of between 1/2 and 2 Lacs owing to the serious injuries sustained in the principal Irrigation Tanks, by the Storm of November last.

3. Mr Minchin states even more strongly the bad condition in which the Tanks were left.

left after the Monsoon, and declares the allotment to be "clearly inadequate even to place them in a fit state to hold water for the season", and referring to the short time yet remaining for repairs before the monsoon, he recommends, that the works should be partly executed by the Revenue Officers in the present reduced and inefficient state of the Establishment.

4. I cannot consistently with my duty withhold from Government these deliberate opinions of the local Officers on the inadequate amount and means available for securing the Revenue, nor will I refrain from recommending, that the utmost energy should be exerted in the work of repair, whether by the Revenue Officers or otherwise, as Government may see fit to determine.

Central Office of W.
Fort Saint George
5th October 1857

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
A. Anderson Lieut Colonel
Chief Engineer &c &c.

To
The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

Ext M

913

P.W.D

No. 1968.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 20th October 1857.

Read the following letter
From the Chief Engineer.

(Here enter 3rd October 1857 No. 4181)

The Chief Engineer
submits two letters to his ad-
dress; one from the District
Engineer of Nellore, represent-
ing the inadequacy of the
sum (Rupees 53,780) allotted
for the repair of the irrigation
works in that District, conse-
quent on the serious injuries
which they have sustained
by the storm of November
last, and expressing his ap-
prehension that, unless
the amount allowed be
doubled;

P.W.D. No. 1968. 25th October 1857.
Received 31st October 1857.

From
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

Dated 3rd October 1857.
Received 31st October 1857.

Reference to previous correspondence
No. 1968. 20th October 1857.
Submitting for the
orders of Govt. letters from Exec.
Engr. Nellore, applying for
sufficient funds for the immed.
effecting of the nec. repairs
to the irrigation works
and the Exec. Engr. Guntoor
will be deputed, if Govt. con-
sider it necessary.

No. 86.

To 18th Oct. 1857.

doubled, the revenue will be endangered to the extent of from 1½ to 2 lacs; the other from the Sub Collector in charge of the Province, endorsing, in terms of still greater urgency, the correctness of the District Engineers representation, and recommending, with reference to the lateness of the season, and the reduced state of the Public Works Department, that a portion of the repairs should be executed by the Revenue Establishments, under the directions of the District Engineer.

2 Under the circumstances of emergency as above represented, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council resolves, with reference to the letter from the Government of India of the 7th August last No. 3898, to the grant, in addition to Rupees 53,780 already allotted, a further sum to the same extent as now applied for by the District Engineer of Nellore, for the repair of the irrigation works in that District. His Lordship in Council must however observe, that the application has been submitted at too late a date to allow of so large a sum being expended before the Monsoon, so as to make the repairs of any use to the present year's cultivation. The District Engineer will therefore be careful not to expend any part of the Money on useless repairs, but will remember that

that it is granted on his own declaration that the cultivation and revenue of the present season will suffer if the repairs be not executed, and that consequently he is to spend the money on those works only as those to which that declaration will apply to.

With reference to the recommendation of the Sub Collector, that the Revenue Establishment should be employed in executing a portion of the repairs, the Government are not disposed to authorize an arrangement of this nature. The system hav in Nellore been changed, and it would be very undesirable to

to revert to the former practice and thus to unsettle the convictions of the people as to the authorities entrusted with the Executive. There are no new works going on in the District, and the whole strength of the Department must therefore be employed in the work of repair.

GG

9 Copies to the Chief Engr Civil P.W.D.
Rec'd with 2 Engl Enc 11/11/57.
1 — Accts General. N

Public Works 1857 Dept.
Cons: 20th October.

No. 1968

Extract Minute of Cons:
Of 20th October 1857.
From Lieut. Pollock -
to Rev. 57-No. 2213
in 67 Rev.

Granting in addition
to Rupees 53780 already allotted,
a further sum to the same
extent, as now applied for by
the District Engr. of Pillar
for the repair of the irrigation
Works in that District.

No 86 & 87.

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