Number of pages. 6
Date of repair 24. 4. 3
Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—82 406—29-11-80

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 12.5.57

G.O. No. 881 Press Mis.

Dated 7 — 5 — 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 12th May 1857.

No. 20. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 13th April 1857, No. 11680.

SIR,

On the 25th of September 1856, No. 218, the Officiating District Engineer of Tinnevelly forwarded an estimate amounting to Rupees (6,780) for the re-construction of an Annicut, across the Varuttaur in the limits of Canseedurmum a village of the Thencansee Talook, and recommended its being sanctioned, on emergency as the work was necessary to the efficiency of the irrigation channel, leading from it.

2. As the annual revenue, from the lands irrigated, was only 631-15-2 and the Annicut was unusually high, the estimate was returned, as too expensive, and attention was drawn, to the fact, that the Annicut was 6 yards, while most works of this description, are only from 2 to 4 yards in height.

From the Acting Civil Engineer 8th Division No. 218, dated 28th September 1856.
Do. District Engineer Tinnevelly No. 29 of the 19th March 1857.

3. It now appears, from a letter No. 29, dated 19th March received from the present Acting, District Engineer, that if channel head, be carried 260 yards up the river, an Annicut 7½ feet in height will prove as effective, as the proposed one of 18 feet in height, it appears also, that the Annicut 7½ feet in height together with the extension of the channel, and the construction of a new surplus sluice, will only cost Rupees (3670) three thousand, six hundred and seventy, the revenue of the irrigated lands, being 631-15-2 or about 16 per cent upon this amount it appears however that the extension of the channel, and the new Annicut, will be in the Travancore territory which accounts for the apparent want of judgment, on the part of the original constructions of the old work. The Collector of Tinnevelly has written to the resident of Travancore, for permission to construct the Annicut, within the Travancore territory but no answer was received previous to 19th of March, which is the date of the District Engineer's letter, to my address.

4. Under these circumstances I have the honor to recommend, the construction of the proposed Annicut, 7½ feet in height with the extension of the channel, and the surplus sluice, provided the Resident of Travancore, is able to say, that this is allowable.

5. Should the Resident, report that the work cannot be placed in Travancore, without injustice to the Ryots of that province, or should he state, the pecuniary remuneration which will cover their losses, to be greater than the difference between (6,780) Rupees the amount required for the Annicut in the Tinnevelly District, and Rupees (3,670) the amount required for the Annicut, and its auxiliaries in Travancore I should of course have to recommend, the expenditure of Rupees (6,780) in justice to the ryots, whose income depends upon the amount of care bestowed on the irrigation works by Government.

6. It is not probable however that much more than Rupees (3,670) will be required of this work, and at the same time, it is desirable that sanction should be obtained for the repair as soon as possible, I have therefore the honor to recommend immediate sanction for the expenditure of Rupees (3,670) three thousand six hundred and seventy. If he have this sanction, the executive Officer will be able to commence work as soon as the Resident of Travancore, communicated the consent of the Travancore Government. The project is supported by the Collector, and the rates are moderate, but sufficient.

7. In conclusion I have the honor to remark, that I recommend the immediate execution of this work,, on the ground that if it be not sanctioned immediately it will be postponed until May 1858, and the villagers will in the mean time, suffer the loss of water for their fields, and consequently, of one years income from their irrigated lands, this result is not I think one, which Government can with justice bring about, inasmuch as it is from its position, at present, the only constructor and repairer of Irrigation works in the country, and when it omits this duty, there is seldom, if ever any are also able to perform it.

Travancore

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 12th May 1857.

No. 21. ORDER THEREON, No. 881 ; dated 7th May 1857.

With this letter, the Chief Engineer forwards an estimate amounting to Rupees 3,670 for constructing an annicut across the Varuttaur in the Tinnevelly District, extending the Irrigation channel leading from it, and constructing a surplus sluice. The old annicut is reported to have been destroyed by an accident in November 1855, and the one now proposed it is intended to build at a different and preferable site within the Travancore Territory. The project has the support of the Collector, and is stated to be urgently required in order to ensure a proper supply of water to the tanks fed by the channel, and to secure a Revenue to Government of upwards of 600 Rupees per annum. On these grounds, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council grants authority for the execution of the work on emergency at the estimated cost of Rupees (3,670) three thousand, six hundred and seventy. He observes that this case is somewhat similar to that of the Nundyaur annicut recently* permitted by the Government of India, to be continued as an emergent work.

* Telegraph Message dated 13th April 1857.

2. The sanction above granted will not be acted upon until the application made to the Resident of Travancore for permission to construct the work within that Territory, shall have been acceded to.

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

Public Works Dept

No 881

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Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 7th May 1857.

Read the following letter

from the Chief Engineer

(Here enter 13th April 1857 No 1080.)

With this letter the Chief

Engineer forwards an Estimate

amounting to

Rupees 3670 for constructing an

annicut across the Varuttaur

in the Tinnevelly District,

extending the Irrigation chan-

-nel leading from it, and con-

-structing a surplus sluice. The

old Annicut is reported to have

been destroyed by an accident

in November 1855, and the one

now proposed is intended to

build at a different and pre-

-ferable site within the

Travancore

Travancore Territory. The
Project has the support of the
Collector, and it is stated to be
urgently required in order
to ensure a proper supply of
water to the tanks fed by the
Channel, and to secure a
Revenue to Government of
upwards of £ 600 Rupees per
annum. On these grounds,
the Right Honorable the Go:
=vernor in Council grants
authority for the execution of
the work on emergency at
the estimated cost of Rupees
(3670) Three thousand six hundred
and seventy. He observes that
this case is somewhat similar
to that of the Nundyam Anicuts
recently permitted by the Go:
=vernment of India to be con=
=tinued as an emergent work.

The sanction above
granted will not be acted
upon until the application
made to the Resident of
Travancore for permission to
construct the work within
that Territory, shall have
been acceded to.

J R

I Copies to the Chief Engr
with Sketch Dispatch

+ Tel: Dispt: dated 13th April 1857.

The

Public Works 1857 Dept.
Dy. to Cons: 12th May.

No. 881.

Extract Mins of Cons:
Dated 7th May 57

No. 21.

Authorizing the reconstruction of an Anicut Ba across the Vaniltaur river in the Sinnevelly District on emergency, at the estimated cost of Rs. 2,670 and observing, that the sanction will not be acted upon until the application made to the Resident of Travancore for permission to construct the work within that Territory, shall have been acceded to.

c/ Pay 84.