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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public (Misc.) DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 355 Press Mis.

Dated 5-2 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Minute by His Excellency the Governor

In two Minutes dated respectively April 22d and September 1st 1866. I submitted for the consideration of Government my opinion that the combined scheme for irrigation in the vicinity of Madras, for the delivery of multiplus water at the Spur Tank, and for the distribution of water in the city, so ably projected by W. Fraser, should be entrusted for execution to a single Company.

My proposal was based on the following reflections. I considered that the distribution portion of the work would be extremely expensive, that the Municipality would not be able to undertake it from the Town revenues, that a local Company could scarcely be formed without a Municipal or Imperial guarantee, that neither the Municipality nor the Government would be inclined to grant such a guarantee except in case of absolute necessity and that in the certain ~~profits~~ deficits of the Irrigation branch of the project as well as in the contribution of Government on account of the supply of the Public Establishments

Desp. 6/2/67

the company would have secure sources of profit which would enable them to dispense with a guarantee. In short the irrigation project was to float the distribution project.

3. It also appeared to me that if a Company could be formed in England for this purpose their operations at Madras might eventually be extended in connection with the imperfect canal system of the Presidency which stands in much need of development.

4. The proposals submitted by me having been referred to the consideration of Her Majesty's Government the Secretary of State for India has informed this Government by his letter in the Public Works Department No. 22. of Nov. 24. 1866. that it is not thought desirable that the irrigation and water supply part of the project should be entrusted to a company. The Secretary of State advises that the ~~water~~ agricultural and water supply works should be executed directly by Government leaving the Municipality to deal with the distribution portion of the scheme.

5. The Secretary of State at the same time liberally ~~liberally~~ remarks that "if any "difficulty were found in raising funds for the "distribution works Government would apparently "incur little or no risk in advancing the "money on the security of water rates fixed "sufficiently high to be likely to pay off "principal and interest within a limited "period."

The question of water supply having been thus placed on a distinct basis I have the honor to submit the following proposals to Council with a view to further action on the subject.

1. I propose that Government shall address the Secretary of State for India soliciting authority for the Supreme Government to raise a loan of eight lacs to be allotted to the construction of the works necessary, under Mr. Fraser's project for the irrigation of 8671. acres of ground and for the

Desp. 6/2/67

supply of the contemplated amount of water at a reservoir within the Municipal limits of Madras.

2. That the correspondence which has occurred on this subject be communicated to the Municipal Commission and the Public with a view to the discussion of measures for the construction of the distributive works.

The irrigation and water supply works are in the mean time being actively prosecuted under the direction of Mr. Fraser from an appropriation of one lac for the year 1865.66. They can be continued from an appropriation of two lacs which has been inserted in the budget of 1867.68. There is no danger that the design will be relaxed or abandoned. It is nevertheless of the last importance that the execution of this reproductive work by means of a loan should be sanctioned. All our current available resources can be most usefully applied to the prosecution of improvements of a remunerative character while by the highest importance both to the

physical and moral welfare of the community, improvements at this moment suspended for want of funds. In case the Secretary of State for India should sanction these views the funds already spent by Government under cover of Extraordinary Expenditure for the irrigation and water supply scheme would be recovered and devoted by Government to other salutary purposes. The project for the benefit of Madras which we have now at heart if executed by the application of current revenue would probably not be completed in less than four years. If funded for by loan it could be finished in two years.

Napier

I am no objection to apply to the Secretary of State for sanction to obtain a loan in the manner proposed by H.E. but I cannot say that I am very sanguine of success.

Dep. 6/2/67

Examined in the Accountant General's Office and compared with the Original Minute, and found to be a true Copy of the whole thereof.
Fort St. George, 6th February 1867.

Public Works Deptt

No 353

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 5th February 1867.

Read the following

From the Rt Hon the Secy of State for India } No 24 dated 16, Rec'd 22

Minute by the Right Hon'ble the President

(Recorded 28th January 1867)

Resolved that the Minute above read be laid before the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.

Ordered also that Copies of these Proceedings and of the papers marginally noted be communicated to the Municipal Commissioners and be laid on the Editors Table with reference to Para 5 of Lord Napier's Minute.

G. O. 1102 of 20 April 66
Minute by the Right Honorable the President of 22 apl 66
Letter to Govt of India 1376 - 30 Apl 66
G O No 2374 - 27 Aug 66.
G O No 2925 - 13 Sept 66 with Minutes
G O - 3298 - 16 Octr 66.
Letter to Govt of India No 3299 - 16 Octr 66
~~G O No~~
Despatch Secretary of State No 46 - of 13 Sept 66.

To Munl Commrs
" Editors Table

Copies

Despr 6/2/67

Copy in a Letter to England of 8th February 1867 No 7.

Rec'd 27 Feby 1867 Dep'd
Proc's of Govt of 5th February
No 299.

Minute by His Ex: the Governor.

Rec'd 28th January 1867.

Proposing that the Secretary of State be addressed on the subject of raising a loan for the prosecution of the Madras Water Supply Project.

No 71

ex No 353 - 5th Feby 1867.

Copy in a Letter to England
Dt 8th February 1867 No 7.

Pub: Works 1867 Department

Pro: of Govt for February

No 353

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dt 5th February 1867

Papers orders on a
Despatch from the Secretary
of State and a minute by
His Lordship the Governor
relative to the execution
of Madras Water Supply
Project.

No 70 & 72