

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 737	Press <i>Mia</i>
191-192	
Dated 9-23-	1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 191. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 8th February 1870, No. 3,883 :—

ADVERTING to paragraph 3 of G. O. of the 27th January 1870, No. 341, I have the honour to observe it does not appear by that Order if the Government consider the tanks referred to should be dealt with as "Repair Works" or as new; if the former, I beg to observe I do not appropriate funds for works the repairs of which are likely to be in excess of the revenue obtained during the preceding five years; but if the tanks are to be dealt with as new works, we require a survey establishment to undertake the preparation of the necessary surveys and sections.

2. I would beg to suggest being allowed to treat these works in the same manner as I did similar works in Bellary. It took us three years, and cost between three and four lacs of rupees to put the Bellary tanks into thorough working order, but then the area of cultivation was very soon doubled, and the annual repair reduced to some Rupees 20,000.

3. The Bellary tanks are certainly much larger than any in this district, and they are scattered over a much larger area, but then the tanks here are such shapeless things. I have estimated their repairs at about the same amount, and, if funds can be provided, I have no doubt with Mr. Horsfall's assistance, we could soon get them into proper order.

4. And now to the question of raising the necessary funds, and these I think should be obtained partly from the "Local Funds" of the district, so that at the same time that the means of conveying the produce of a district away are afforded, the people would obtain every facility for raising it. The one without the other is only a very partial good, but if both are provided I do not see why the people should pay locally for one and not the other, as they would enjoy the advantages of both equally, if not in a greater degree, with the Government, now that so much reduction has been made in the land assessment.

5. Considering the difficulty of obtaining labour in the dry talooks of this district, if the Government give Rupees 25,000 for tank repairs and the Local Funds an equal amount, a very great deal might be done towards improving these irrigation works; half a lac is perhaps as much as we could get through in a year circumstanced as we are, and the half of this sum is not a heavy demand to make on the Local Funds of the Godavery District, and I do not think these could be applied to better purposes, and we cannot do more than we are doing for roads with such an establishment as now exists.

6. The delta works will remain debitable to Imperial Funds, as these pay a heavier rate of assessment, and they have already, I fear, starved the rest of the district by absorbing all attention to themselves. The cost for these will be, I expect this year, about one and-a-half lac out of the grant of Rupees 1,70,000; thus leaving only Rupees 20,000 for the dry talooks, for the delta must be attended to first, and there are several parts of the river banks which require to be far more carefully protected.

7. I find the average expenditure in the dry talooks has been only Rupees 13,000 a year, the amount above mentioned is not much in excess of this sum;

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th March 1870.*

that this is insufficient is quite apparent from the condition of the works and the complaints so frequently made by all the Revenue authorities. I beg very respectfully to observe it would be worse than useless to go back to any records of these works, when we know what the remedy to adopt should be, and the means for doing this are at hand; it is only to do here what was so successfully done in Bellary, and similar results must follow as all the circumstances are the same. When our grant stood at two lacs for Agricultural repairs, I was able to afford half a lac for the tanks of the district, and work was in vigorous progress; but after the reductions ordered in September and October last this was checked, and is now at a stand-still almost at the best time of the year. With Rupees 20,000 alone of course little more than what has been done, on an average, in former years can be effected, for it is chiefly earthwork we have to pay for, and in such a matter as this the training or ability of an Engineer Officer can effect nothing to reduce the cost in quantities, I trust, therefore, the Government will be pleased to receive favourably the suggestions I have ventured to submit.

No. 192. ORDER THEREON, 9th March 1870, No. 737.

IRRIGATION, No. 13.

THE Government observe that there are no Local Funds which can be appropriated to the restoration or improvement of Agricultural works belonging to the State.

2. The course which the Superintending Engineer should follow has been already pointed out in paragraph 3 of the Order, No. 341, of the 27th ultimo. It seems probable that the tanks may be examined by existing establishments as fast as is necessary, taking into account the present limited funds available; but, should such not be the case, the Government will be prepared to consider an application for the services of one or more surveyors on Major Fischer giving such information as may be necessary to show that there is urgent need for the early improvement of these works, and that there is no one who can attend to them. Much of the information required is specified in the paragraph 3 referred to above.

3. With regard to the 6th paragraph of the Superintending Engineer's letter, it is necessary to remark that the funds allotted for repairs under Agricultural should be distributed equitably, in accordance with the requirements of the works, and the Revenue dependent upon them.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Major, R. E.,
Acting Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

Exd. E. C. Shunkur.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION

DOWLAISHWARUM, 8th February 1867/0

No. 3883

From

Major J. P. Fischer R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer

1st Division

To

Colonel C. A. O. R. B.

Secretary to Government D. P. W.

Madras

SIR,

I directing to para 3 of G. O. of the 27th January 1870, No. 341, I have the honour to observe, it does not appear, by that order, if the Government consider the tanks referred to should be dealt with as "Repair Works" or as new; if the former, I beg to observe, I do not appropriate funds for works the repairs of which are likely to be in excess of the revenue obtained during the preceding 5 years; but if the tanks are to be dealt with as new works, we require a Surveying establishment to undertake the preparation of the necessary Surveys and Sections. 2. I would beg to suggest being allowed to treat these works in the same manner

applied to better purposes and we cannot
do more than we are doing for roads with
such an Establishment as now exists.

6. The Dells works will remain
debitable to Imperial funds as there pay
a heavier rate of assessment, and they
have already, I fear, starved the rest of
the District by absorbing all attention to
themselves. The cost for them will be,
I expect this year, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lacs out
of the grant of Rupees 1,70,000, thus leaving
only 20,000 for the dry taluqs, for the
Dells must be attended to first, and
there are several parts of the river banks
which require to be far more carefully pro-
tected.

7. If the average expenditure
in the dry taluqs has been only Rs. 13,000
a year, the amount above mentioned is
not much in excess of this sum, that this
is insufficient, is quite apparent from the
condition of the works and the complaints

so frequently made by all the Revenue
Authorities. They may respectfully be
observed, it would be worse than useless
to go back to any records of these works,
when we know what the remedy to adopt
should be, and the means for doing this
are at hand, it is only to do here what
was so successfully done in Bellary and
similar results must follow as all the
circumstances are the same. When our
grant stood at 2 lacs for Agricultural
repairs, I was able to afford $\frac{1}{2}$ lac for
the banks of the District, and work was
in vigorous progress, but after the res-
trictions ordered in September and October
last, this was checked and is, at a
stand-still, almost at the best time
of the year. With Rupees 20,000 alone
of course little more than what has
been done on an average in former years

can be expected for it is chiefly earthwork
we have to pay for and in such a matter
as this, the training or ability of an
Engineer Officer can affect nothing to
reduce the cost in quantities, I trust
therefore the Government will be pleased
to receive favorably the suggestions I
have ventured to submit.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Yours Most Obedt Servt

Wm. T. Richards - Major R.E.

Asst. Superintending Engineer ¹⁸⁸⁴

1. No. 1877-9th March
Recd of Govt. 13883
from The A. S. Supg Engineer
1st Division

86 No. 12612.
to Secretary
to Government. P. W. D.
Madras

Dated 8th February 1870
Recd 15

Offers with reference
to G.O. No. 341 dated 27th
January 1870. Certain sug-
gestions on the works of
Byana Calingalah in
the Godavery District.

No. 737-9th March 1870

No. 191

C. 21st Feb 1870 P. 285

P. W. Dept

No. 737

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the February 1870
Read the following

from the A. S. Supg Engineer, P. W. D. No. 612 of 8 Feb 1870.
1st Division

The Government have
decreed that there are no Local
Funds, which can be appro-
priated to the restoration or
improvement of Agricultural
works belonging to the State.

2. The course which the
Supg Engineer should follow
has been already pointed out
in para 3 of the order, No. 341
of the 27th Ultans. It seems
probable that the tanks may
be repaired by existing es-
tablishments as fast as

is

is necessary, taking into account the present limited funds available; but, should such not be the case, the Govt. will be prepared to consider an application for the services of one or more Surveyors on major works giving such information as may be necessary to show that there is urgent need for the early improvement of these works, and that there is no one who can attend to them. Much of the information required is specified in the paragraphs referred to above.

3. With regard to the 5th paragraph of the Lake Engineer's letter, it is necessary to remark that the funds allotted for

for repairs under Agricultural should be distributed equitably in accordance with the requirements of the works, and the Revenue dependent upon them.

May 15/20

C. B.

To Lake Engr. 14th June

Recd. 12/2/20

C. 21st July 1870 D. 281

680 612

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Superintending Eng^r
1st Division

9 March 1871

191-192

Tan Rs. Passing orders
on Major Fisher's proposals
for obtaining funds for
the entertainment of an
establishment in connection
with the repair of certain
tan Rs in the Godavari
District.