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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1409	Press Mis.
45309	
Dated 28/8	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd May 1871.*

No. 403. Read the following letter from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Irrigation,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 27th March 1871, No. 108-I:—

In reply to your letter No. 2,336, dated 28th September 1870, I am directed to offer the following remarks, and to convey, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the sanction of the Governor-General in Council to the estimates therewith submitted, amounting to Rupees 9,45,400.

2. The estimates provide for the complete irrigation of the Eastern Sections of the Godavery Delta, with the exception of the lands under what is termed the bank channel, which runs parallel with the Godavery from Dowlaishweram to the Pringa river.

3. Provision is also made for improving the navigable capabilities of the canals rendered necessary by the large and continually increasing traffic. The estimates recommended for sanction amount to Rupees 9,45,400 as follows; that for the bank channel having been excluded and reserved for further consideration.

The items are as follow:—

	RS.
1.—Improvements to head-sluiice	17,890
2.—" to main duct	28,060
3.—" to Cocanada Canal	1,86,800
4.—" to Mundcepett	74,100
5.—" to Coringa	74,300
6.—" to Injeram	28,050
7.—Biccavole Drain	65,000
8.—Tooliabaga ,, ...	1,38,100
9.—Takee ,, ...	2,66,300
10.—Rest-houses	10,000
11.—Compensation for land	56,800
Total	9,45,400

4. It is explained that these estimates are necessary for the purpose of enlarging the capacity of the respective canals, in order to provide water for the remaining portion of the lands in the Eastern Section as yet unirrigated. The ultimate area, according to the Engineers, is stated to be 188,170 acres, of which 123,000, or rather less than two-thirds, are at present irrigated, leaving 65,170 acres yet to be taken up. The Revenue Officers estimate the present irrigated area at 18,000 acres, and the total future area at 6,460 acres, less than that stated by the Engineers. It is unsatisfactory that, after a lapse of 20 years, there should still be any room for doubt on this point. The Governor-General in Council hopes that the steps which have been taken by the Madras Government to procure accurate information will secure at an early date definite arrangements being made for ascertaining exactly the area annually irrigated.

5. The most important portion of the present project is that which concerns the drainage. The estimates amount, inclusive of compensation for land, to Rupees 5,06,566. It appears to His Excellency that the subject of the drainage

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has been too long deferred, and that the drainage works which should have progressed simultaneously with the development of irrigation have apparently been neglected. It seems to be doubtful whether the sum provided is not more than will be found absolutely necessary, and the Chief Engineer thinks that a sum of Rupees 40,000 might be saved, but instead of reducing the estimate by that amount, it will be more prudent to adopt the course recommended, namely, to let the drains be excavated so as to provide for a smaller discharge at first, and after carefully watching the result, to excavate gradually only such additional width as may be found to be absolutely necessary.

6. As regards the size of the locks, the dimensions which were originally arranged for, and stated in paragraph 10 of the Chief Engineer's Note to be 105 feet long and 15 feet broad, should be adhered to.

7. It is observed that the Superintending Engineer states in his Report* that

* Vide paragraph 20.

"there is a tendency amongst the

"people to construct and use a far

"more handy boat, and one of less tonnage, than in former years. Boats of 15 or 20 tons are far more common now than the ungainly dhonies in use before." A reduction in the size of boat can scarcely be considered an improvement, and if such had taken place, it would have indicated that the canals were less fitted for navigation than formerly, but judging from the tables furnished with Major Fischer's Report, it would seem, if the tonnage has been therein correctly stated, that so far from having diminished, the size of the boats has been steadily increasing.

The following appear to be the facts:—

	Tons.
In 1866, the boats carried on an average...	17.5
" 1867, "	20.7
" 1868, "	31.0
" 1869, "	30.0
and if the boats using the Cocanada canal only be reckoned, the tonnage carried by the laden boats appears to have been—	
	Up. Down.
In 1866	16.8 16.9
" 1867	19.4 17.1
" 1868	28.4 20.1
" 1869	33.8 26.1

8. As regards the financial aspect, the proposed outlay will, as shown by the Government of Madras, prove adequately remunerative, and as the returns from the Godavery works have unquestionably been so satisfactory, the Governor-General in Council has no hesitation in sanctioning their extension, with a view to embracing those portions of the delta which have not hitherto been provided for.

9. I am at the same time to express the regret of His Excellency in Council at the apparent want of precise knowledge as to the area irrigated, for it cannot but affect the accuracy of the estimate of returns, and to add that as the Government of India has resolved to establish a thorough and accurate system of accounting for all works carried out from Loan Funds, His Excellency hopes no delay will be allowed to occur in obtaining such precise information on all points connected with the outlay and results of these and other great works in Madras, as will admit of the returns being exhibited in a clear and reliable manner.

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10. This sanction has been registered as No. 26C of 1870-71. That accorded in this Office letter No. 2551 of the 16th June 1870, to the extent of Rupees 1,19,680, is cancelled.

11. The estimates and plans received with your letter under reply are returned.

No. 404.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd May 1871, No. 1,409.

IRRIGATION, No. 23.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division with reference to the Proceedings of Government under date 28th September 1870.

2. The Superintending Engineer's attention will be directed to the instructions contained in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the above letter and to paragraph 8 of G. O., No. 2,335 in the Proceedings above referred to.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,

Acting Joint-Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
.. Controller of Public Works Accounts.
.. Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. Revenue Department.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

Public Works Department
No. 1409
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 22nd May 1871

Read the following
From The Govt. of India. H. C. No. 108.I. of 27th March
1871

Communicated
to the Superintending
Engineer 1st Division
with reference to the
Proceedings of Government
under date 28th Sept 1870

The Supy En-
gineers' attention will
be directed to the instruc-
tions contained in para-
graphs 5 and 6 of the
above letter and to para

Document No 2335 in
the Proceedings above re-
ferred to.

1691

Further No 123 of 6-5-71

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To The Supr Engr
3 " Controller
3 " Chief Engr for Inspr
21 " Revenue Dept

Recd 25/5/71

1503
Govt of 1871 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

1. *Asstg Superintending Engr*
1st Division

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 22 May 1871, No. 11,09

Nos. 408 & 1024

Government of India. Letter from
the Secy to the Govt of India
to the Secy of the Govt of Madras
re: Report on the progress of the
work done in the year 1870
under the system of irrigation in the
Eastern section of the Madras
Province. (See also the report of the
Asstg Engr to the Secy of the Govt of
Madras on the same subject.)