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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2385 Press / Mis.

306-07

Dated 17-9 1907.

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## MEMORANDUM.

K 1

REQUESTED for reference the under-mentioned papers

Letter No. 2385 – 19th September 1871 with Plans and Estimates connected in it.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGR FOR IRRIGATION,
P. W. Department,
11—3—1874.

Head Clerk.

To

*The Registrar of the* P.W. Secty.

No 3,297

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, 8th August 1871.

Read the following letters—

From J A. C BOSWELL, Esq , Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Repalli, 16th June 1871, No 1,753.

IN my letter, dated 11th October 1870, No. 4,486, I reported to the Board the serious losses occasioned by the heavy freshes in the Kistna in August last, loss then in the Divy Division was estimated to amount to Rupees 6,169, houses, crops and grain, and I submitted certain proposals of Captain Smalley for the protection of the Divy property until the scheme for its regular irrigation can be taken up These were—

(1). The regulation of the water-supply at the channel heads
(2) The repair of the new bunds
(3) The planting of Lunka grass in all exposed positions
(4) The erection of bunds around the exposed villages

2 The Board of Revenue, in their Proceedings, dated 19th November 1870, No. 6,748, forwarded these proposals to Government, with the recommendation that the river embankment and tank bunds, still weak from the efforts of the cyclone of 1864 should be strengthened, and the channel heads brought under better control They added that much, if not all this work, would be equally required when the anicut irrigation was introduced

3 Government, in their Order, dated 3rd December 1870, No 2,937, Public Works Department, communicated their Proceedings to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, with a view to his reporting, after communication with the Superintending Engineer, what measures it would be feasible to carry out for the protection of the Divy Division from high freshes, remarking that the transport and deposit of stone at the heads of all channels and tanks alone appeared to be of doubtful practicability on account of its expense, the others seeming to fall within the scope of works for which the Superintending Engineer was empowered to allot funds from his repair assignments

4 The views of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, were detailed in his Memorandum, dated 11th January 1871, No 7, paragraph 26, embodied in Government Order, dated 10th March 1871, No. 722

5. Major Mullins considered all the measures proposed by Captain Smalley perfectly feasible, and some of them desirable, if money could be made available The bunding of the separate villages, he considered, not to be properly chargeable to Works or Repairs Agricultural

6 As to the river embankments, he roughly estimated that "15 miles of embankment must be maintained on the west of the island and 15 miles on the north and east, of the former, 10 miles are partly embanked and of the latter, 7 miles So 13 miles of new embankments" he wrote "are needed About Rupees 28,000 would be needed for the repair of the existing banks, and Rupees 38,610 for the new banks, or together Rupees 66,610 Both banks must be greatly enlarged and raised, and about Rupees 3,000 yearly would be the total grant available for irrigation works in Divy, taking the present total grant for the Presidencies as a guide to the allotment"

7. With regard to the channel heads, Major Mullins wrote—"Something may at once be done to prevent large quantities of water entering at the regular channel heads, of these there are 12 A rough palmyra framing, dividing the opening into vents of 3 or 4 feet in width, and about the same in height, can easily be constructed, and if faced by waling pieces and strutted, it will make a pretty good temporary head sluice, it should have a rough stone flooring, 6 yards wide, and the sides also should be revetted."

8 The planting of lunka grass as a simple means of protection and regulation of the margin of the river, Major Mullins recommended, should be carefully and annually carried out.

9 His views were finally summed up as follows —"I would recommend that, until the works for bringing Divy under the Kistna anicut are carried out, which should be at the latest at the beginning of 1872, the improvements be confined to the make-shift sluices at the heads of the channels, to such moderate repairs of the existing embankments without raising them above their general level as may be necessary, and to planting Lunka grass The last two items can be carried out from Repairs, Agricultural, but for the first, the Superintending Engineer will need an extra grant under Minor New Works"

10 Government in their Order, dated 10th March 1871, No. 722, Public Works Department, agreed with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, that such minor improvements as the construction of the make-shift sluices at the head of the channels, and the immediate repair of the embankments might advantageously be undertaken, and the Superintending Engineer was directed to give his attention to the subject.

11 I have now the honour to forward, copy of letter from Superintending Engineer, dated 30th May 1871, No 54, and to submit, for the sanction of Government, an Estimate, amounting to Rupees 6,700, for the construction of the temporary head sluices recommended by Major Mullins, and also request the allotment of funds. It will be seen that Colonel Moberly, who was from the first opposed to doing any thing for the protection of the Divy Division, to prevent the devastation caused by the heavy freshes of the Kistna, now tries to argue that the villagers on this island, rather like these floods than otherwise, and that, as their lands may be enriched by the overflow of the river, it is a matter of no consequence whatever that their houses should be washed away, their crops, seed-beds, and stores of grain destroyed, and that they should barely escape with their lives by boats sent for their relief as happened last year Colonel Moberly knows all this, but believes that "very little inconvenience or suffering is caused by the freshes passing over Divy" Statements like these do not require serious refutation I will only mention the amount of remission that had to be granted this year in the Divy Division on account of the injury done by the floods

| | RS | A. | P |
|---|---|---|---|
| On full waste wet ... .. ... .. .. | | | |
| For loss of wet crops ... .. .. .. . . | 2,960 | 10 | 0 |
| Assessment remitted on account of lands washed away . .. | 609 | 12 | 0 |
| Total loss of dry crops washed away, specially sanctioned by the Board .. . . . ... .. .. . . | 393 | 5 | 0 |
| | 273 | 2 | 0 |
| | 4,236 | 13 | 0 |

12 I trust that Government will be pleased to direct the Superintending Engineer to have estimates prepared without delay for the repair of the river embankments, as recommended by Major Mullins, and also for planting out the margin of the river with Lunka grass, for which purpose the accumulated balance of the Nanul Grass Fund is immediately available.

13 With regard to the embanking of the several villages most exposed, I beg to propose that if the villagers agree to contribute half the cost, a grant equal to the other moiety be allowed from Local Funds to be debited to Miscellaneous Improvements

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Colonel F J MOBERLY, R E, Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Acting Collector of the Kistna District, dated Masulipatam, 30th May 1871, No. 54

I HAVE the honour to forward estimates for temporary head-sluices at the mouths of the supply channels in the Divy Division, amounting to Rupees 6,700, for your countersignature and the sanction of Government.

5 Detailed and abstract Estimates with
1 General abstract Estimate, Rupees 6,700.
—
6

2. I would point out that these are intended as economical substitutes for the stone heads suggested by Captain Smalley to you, and recommended in your letter (Item 1) No. 4,486, 11th October 1870, to the Board of Revenue Captain Smalley's rough estimate, made with Major Mullins and me, was considerably less than this I have every reason to think that the computed cost of the river bunds (Item 2) Rupees 66,610 is also below the mark

3 The three other items named by you will probably swell the total to nearly or quite 1,00,000 Rupees. I scarcely think that such could be called "simple measure"

4 I take leave to observe that I had myself been in charge of the Eastern Delta in 1854, 1855, 1856, and had had experience of two years freshes in Divy I had examined the sub-division then, and levelled for the supply channel from Bezwara, going on so far with the work as to discuss with Colonel Orr (then Civil Engineer) the means of crossing the river

5 I had therefore personal experience of what freshes in Divy meant before I sent my No 193, 13th September, and cannot but feel hurt that my opinion should have been so utterly rejected, and comments passed both by yourself and the Board of Revenue on your representations, which I submit were not justified by either the state of affairs in Divy, or the means at my disposal to correct them

6 I believe that very little inconvenience or suffering is caused by the freshes passing over Divy, they never remain long on the ground and they fertilize the soil very much There was a loss of revenue in consequence and a loss to the ryots, but unless there is an exceptionally high fresh again this year to destroy their seed-beds, the ryots will probably be more than compensated by the better crops which they will take up this year

7. It is entirely due to the carelessness of the inhabitants that any water gets into the villages, and they are not likely to be cured of their carelessness if they find that all that they have done formerly for themselves will be done in future for them by the State

8 The enclosed estimates, being beyond my means, I must request that you will apply to Government for sanction and allotment of funds

(True Copy)

(Signed) J A C BOSWELL,
Acting Collector

ENCLOSURE No 2.—Estimate

From J A. C. BOSWELL, Esq, Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Repally, 24th June 1871, No 1,834

WITH my letter, dated 16th June 1871, No 1,753, I have the honour to submit, for sanction, estimates amounting to Rupees 6,700, for the construction of temporary head sluice gates to regulate the supply of water to Divy Island and check in some measure the floods which now occur whenever there is an unusually high flood in the Kistna.

2 It will be remembered that among the other protective measures proposed and approved of by the Chief Engineer for irrigation, was the separate bunding of the more exposed villages I have now the honour to submit, herewith, estimates for raising embankments round three of the most exposed villages as below —

| | | Moiety | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | RS | RS. | A | P |
| Chiruvól Lunka ... . ... ... . ... | 1,330 | 665 | 0 | 0 |
| Puligedda ... . . . .. | 1,775 | 887 | 8 | 0 |
| Aswaraopalem .. . ... . .. .. | 475 | 237 | 8 | 0 |
| | 3,580 | 1,790 | 0 | 0 |

I enclose copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer and the endorsement of the Superintending Engineer thereon.

3 As the villagers have agreed to pay half the cost of these embankments, I have the honour to request that a grant of the other moiety may be allowed from Local Funds, Rupees 1,830 on this account being debited to Miscellaneous Improvements

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Captain H. SMALLEY, R E, Executive Engineer, in charge Eastern Delta Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, dated Kykalur, 12th June 1871, No 223

IN reply to your extra No 20 of 3rd instant, forwarding true extract from Collector's letter, No 1,552, dated 30th ultimo, requesting information in submitting marginally noted estimates whether those villages have been selected as on account of their level, their being most exposed to damage on the occurrence of high flood, and whether these embankments proposed sufficient effectually to protect these villages, I have the honour to inform you these villages were selected on account of their having agreed to pay half the cost of the embankment They are all much exposed to floods Chiruvól Lunka is an island in the river Puligedda is not the head of the island of Divy.

| | | | | Rs |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Estimate for constructing an embankment around the village of Chiruvel Lunka, amounting to | | | |
| 1 | Do | do | Puligedda | 1,830 |
| 1 | Do | do | Aswaraopalem | 1,775 |
| | | | | 475 |

Aswaraopalem lies close to a drainage channel which is liable to inundate the village in floods

The proposed embankments are sufficient to keep out high floods and are calculated on the highest flood level of last year.

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No 64.

FORWARDED to the Collector of Kistna with reference to his No. 1,552, dated 30th ultimo. The three estimates are herewith returned duly countersigned

BEZWADA,
15th June 1871.

(Signed) F. J MOBERLY, Col, R E.
Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.

(True Copy)

(Signed) J. A C. BOSWELL,
Acting Collector.

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ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 4 —Estimates

WITH the first of these letters Mr. Boswell submits for sanction an Estimate for Rs. 6,700 for constructing temporary or "makeshift" Head sluices for controlling the flow of water into and out of the Tanks in the Divi Division during the floods in the Kistna

2. The Government approved of the construction of these contrivances in their Order 10th March 1871, No. 722, (Irrigation 17,) and it is now hoped that funds will be made available for the purpose.

3. In the same order Government approved of the proposal to repair at once the embankments raised to protect the country from floods. It is clear that Government intended that the repairs should be confined to those necessary for placing the old embankments in a condition of temporary security and not to the repairs and extensions estimated to cost Rupees 66,610 as shown in Colonel Moberly's letter to Mr Boswell paragraph 2 dated 30th May.

4. The Board resolve to request Government to issue instructions to the Superintending Engineer to prepare estimates in accordance with Major Mullins' recommendation.

5 With the second letter Mr Boswell forwards estimates for protecting three villages by embankments at a cost of Rupees 3,580. One-half of this cost the villagers are willing to contribute and Mr. Boswell thinks the remainder should be paid from Local Funds. Mr Boswell should lay the estimate before the Local Fund Board, and submit it if approved in due course

6 Colonel Moberly's remarks in paragraph 6 of his letter regarding the little inconvenience caused to the inhabitants of Divi by the floods in the Kistna are quite true as respects years of ordinary flood but are by no means applicable to seasons of extraordinary floods such as occurred in August last and will recur periodically

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with one Estimate
" the Acting Collector of the Kistna District, with three Estimates.
Copy to the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.
" to the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Fwd. G. A. Turton.

Rd 9th 1871 Despatch
Pres. Govt for September
No 4124.

# 1871.

## Board of Revenue,

### MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 5TH AUGUST 1871, No 3,227.

Desp. 18 Augt 1871
Encl. 1

Read 21.
Recd. 9 Septr 1871

AUGUST.

No 3,227.

*Temporary head sluices*—for controlling flow of water into and out of tanks in Dhone division of Kistna District during flood—Estimates for, submitted to Government, for sanction, with request to order preparation of estimate for repair of Kistna river embankments—Estimate from Collector for construction of bund round three villages, to be paid from the Local Fund Board

Forwarded
No 2585 Despatched
21.8.71

No 81

The Government
of Madras
Revenue Department
Letter No 2585
dated 18th August 1871
Forwarding the Estimates
amounting to Rupees
6,700 for the construction
of masonry Head
Sluices for controlling
the flow of water into and
out of the Tanks in the
Dhone Division during
the floods in the Kistna
District and requesting
not to be finally
sanctioned

Colonel Hobert
will submit the Schmalt
referred to in Para 1
in accordance with
Major Mullins Re
commendation.

Approved Aug 25

Controller
Res Depts
Chief Engineer

Colonel Roberts
will submit the Estimates
referred to in Para 1
in accordance with
Major Mullins Re=
commendations

Aug 25

C. No. 4124.

Govt of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
2nd Circle

19 Sept. No. 2385.

Nos. 3684 307

Temporary Sluices to the Canals
in Nos. Divn. Dr. Estimates

for Rs 6700 for the con-
struction of temporary head sluices for controlling
the flow of water into and
out of the Canals in the
Divn. Dr. during the floods
in the Kistna and Penner