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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	966-67	Press
~~B.P. No.~~ 677.678-79		Mis.
Dated		18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th March 1873.

No. 677. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account—Irrigation,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, dated Fort William, 12th February 1873, No. 35 A.—I.

In continuation of Public Works Department letter No. 215 A.—I., dated 23rd July 1872, I am now directed to invite attention to the measures that seem necessary to exhibit the financial position of the Irrigation Works under the Government of Madras in a proper light.

2. The question may be considered under two aspects—one of receipts, and the other of expenditure. The question of receipts is mixed up with that of the land revenue. In 1868, the foundation of an adjustment was laid by Colonel (now General) Strachey, and agreed to by the Madras Revenue Officers, but the matter is still under the consideration of the Government of India, and final orders cannot be passed on the subject at present. But the Government of India will be glad to receive at an early date an expression of opinion from the Government of Madras as to the practical steps that should be taken to ascertain and record that portion of the revenue derived from irrigated land which may properly be considered as due to Irrigation Works.

3. As regards the charges, the Government of Madras are aware that the recognized Capital Accounts only represent a portion of the real capital outlay on the principal works. Thus in the case of the Godavery Works and the Upper Coleroon Anicut, no charge has been made against the Capital Account for establishment. The outlay on subsidiary works of regulation in the Cauvery Delta does not appear to have been charged against the works. In the charges against revenue, the amounts do not include outlay on establishment and maintenance. In many cases the amounts shown as expended by the Office of Account do not accord with the outlay as shown in the return of remunerative works. This is strikingly exemplified in the case of the Madras water-supply project, a work which is now in course of execution, but on which the Capital Account shows the outlay to end of 1870-71 to have been Rupees 9,28,678, whereas, according to the accounts rendered by the Controller, the outlay on the work, excluding charges for establishment and tools and plant, has really been Rupees 9,66,728.

4. In regard to the works constructed since the British occupation of the country, it may be possible by a review of the old accounts to arrive at a tolerably correct statement of what should be taken as the real capital and revenue expenditure. It would probably be more difficult to settle the question of the value of numerous tanks and minor works, a few only of which are modern.

5. The course which commends itself to the Government of India, as one that should be adopted in view to ascertaining the capital and revenue charges of the several works, is to appoint an officer of experience in irrigation matters to work out the details and arrange, with all the authorities concerned, the course necessary for harmonious practical working. It is understood that the Govern-

ment of Madras could appoint such an officer. If this be so, I am to request that he may be directed to proceed to Calcutta to confer with the Accountant General in the Public Works Department, as to the results to be sought for in the enquiry as well as to ascertain the progress made in the North Western Provinces and Punjab in arrangements having a similar object in view.

No. 678. ORDER THEREON, 28th March 1873, No. 966.

IRRIGATION, No. 32.

ORDERED that the following letter be sent:—

(Here enter No. 967, dated 28th March 1873.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Joint Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

FORT ST. GEORGE, 28*th March* 1873.

No. 679.

No. 967.

To.

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION, No. 33.

SIR,—In reply to your letter No. 35 A.—I., dated 12th ultimo, I am directed to state that the measures required to exhibit the financial position of the Irrigation Works of this Presidency have been under careful consideration, and I am to transmit for the information of the Government of India a copy of the Proceedings of this Government, dated 17th March, No. 837, in which detailed instructions have been furnished to the Controller and to other officers concerned. I am to add that these instructions have been drawn up with special reference to what is really practicable under the circumstances of the works which have to be dealt with.

2. With regard to the suggestion made in the last paragraph of your letter under reply, that the officer appointed to supervise the Irrigation Accounts should be directed to proceed to Calcutta to confer with the Accountant General in the Public Works Department, I am to say that it is thought advisable that this officer should in the first place learn here what the materials are upon which he will have to work; and when this shall have been done, he will be sent to Calcutta for the purpose mentioned by you.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Joint Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.

Irrigation.

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS,
IN THE P. W. DEPT., IRRIGN. BRANCH.

No. 35 A—I.

Dated February 12, 1873.

Received —o—20"

Suggests the appointment of an Officer for the preparation of Capital and Revenue Accounts of Irrigation Works.

P. W. D. Press—13-2-73—12.

William Order

No 967

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.

Sir,

In reply to your letter
No. 35 A I. dated 12th Ultimo,
I am directed to state that the
measures required to exhibit
the financial position of
the Irrigation works of this
Presidency have been under
careful consideration and
I am to transmit for the
information of the Government
of India a copy of the
Proceedings of this Government
dated 7th March No. 837,
in which detailed instructions
have

have been furnished to the Controller and to other officers concerned. I am to add that these instructions have been drawn up with special reference to what is really practicable under the circumstances of the work which have to be dealt with.

2. With regard to the suggestion made in the last para of your letter under reply, that the Officer appointed to supervise the Irrigation accounts should be directed to proceed to Calcutta to confer with the Accountant General in the Public Works Depart[t], I am to say that it is thought advisable that this officer should in the first place learn here what the materials are upon which he will have to work; and when this shall have been done, he will be sent to Calcutta for the purpose mentioned by you.

Wy. 18/3/73

Govt

Desp 34/4/73 with Copy of Govt No 837 P/7 dated 13.

C/c 1159

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

1. Two Chief Engrs. for Irrigation
2. The Secretary to the Govt of India

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 28th March No. 966-967.

Nos. 677. 678 & 679

Irrigation Works.

Passing Orders on letter from the Govt of India suggesting the appointment of an Officer for the preparation of Capital and Rev. Accounts of Irrigation Works.

No. 577.9.

62 Mar 73 R 26