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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1128 (2)	Press	<i>Original</i>
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis.~~	
Dated	30. 4.	1957	1874

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th April 1874.*

No. 444. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Punrooty, 13th March 1874, No. 75:—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 3rd March 1874, No. 31.

In reference to G. O., No. 463, of 24th February, I have the honour to say that the decrease of cultivation this season at Kurnool, Nundial, and perhaps Cuddapah (this last is doubtful), though it is so clearly marked as to call for explanation, is very surprising to me. If I attempt to give my impression about it in reply to the Order of Government, I must guard against that attempt being considered a decided judgment on the matter.

2. Up to the end of last month the following were the increases and decreases in wet cultivation of first and second crops of 1873-74 compared with 1872-73, as shown in the similar returns of each season kept in my office:—

In Ramalakota Taluq...	...	...	...	619 acres decrease.
„ Nandikotakur „	...	...	...	756 „ increase.
„ Nandial „	...	...	...	50 „ decrease.
„ Sirwel „	...	...	...	480 „ increase.
„ Koilkuntla „	...	...	...	93 „ „

This includes all in the Kurnool District; the extent under irrigation in the Cuddapah District is not so accurately known, and I think has probably increased in every taluq.

3. My impression is that the chief Cutcherry towns exercise a considerable influence on the irrigation, and I am inclined to attribute this to their being centres of information as to the wishes and expected action of Government, and centres of capital in use. Dead capital buried in a hole can have no influence, but that of soucars and speculators of all sorts must have an influence. So in a country village where the cultivators cannot read and do not travel much, the information they get is generally through their taluq town, and this being further removed from the centre of intelligence and information, affords them much less, and less credited, news than is obtained by the ryots whose Cutcherry is at a chief town.

4. The facts seem to show that the thick-headedness of the country ryots is more favourable to irrigation than the clear-sightedness of those whose jumma-bundi is in a chief town. The following is the population under the canal in each taluq, and the wet cultivation under the canal in that taluq:—

		1873-74		Acres per cent. of Population.	
Kurnool population	...	29,211, acres	978-67	3-35	Upper Sections.
Nandikotakur „	...	25,278, „	2,686-39	10-63	
Nandial „	...	30,421, „	261-90	0-86	Lower Sections.
Sirwel „	...	14,512, „	798-95	5-50	
Koilkuntla „	...	22,860, „	292-70	1-28	

I really see no remedy except perseverance. But no doubt it is important that the Government should at all their Cutcheries connected with the canal render it impossible for uncertain rumours, or discouraging silence, to be used for the purposes of speculation for depreciating irrigation. The Government officials

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will best serve the ryot by giving clear, full, and decisive information, both by notices posted up, and by word of mouth; and if, from any mistaken notion of leaving the ryots unfettered, they are ambiguous or uncertain in the information they give, it is possible that the ryot may get a wrong impression, and be at the mercy of speculators or others whose interests are not the same as his own.

5. It is right that I should not omit my impression that the success of irrigation in the neighbourhood of these chief towns is very independent of the personal bias and action of the Collector or Deputy Collector, the Revenue Officers of highest rank there; but that it does depend very much on the tales circulated by their subordinates, I allude to the lower class of subordinates, and the hangers on of the Cutcherry. Such tales being often plausible and in great detail, though false. I do not therefore consider that there is any such personal question involved. On the contrary, I consider that the trouble and interest taken by the Collector and Deputy Collector in the canal irrigation render this singularity in the extent cultivated the more marked and worthy of consideration.

From Chief Engineer and Manager, No. 31,
dated 3rd March 1874.

(Signed)

SUBMITTED to Government with
reference to G. O., No. 463, of the 24th
February 1874.
J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 445.

ORDER THEREON, 30th April 1874, No. 1,128.

IRRIGATION, No. 29.

THE Government have no doubt that fuller and better information than has as yet been available to the ryots generally will have a beneficial effect; and, as soon as the new rules and regulations, in connection with the Company's Canal, now under consideration, have been finally approved, their publication in all villages and at the canal stations will ensure their provisions being known by all interested.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

" " and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

No. 75.

Submitted to Government with

from Chief

Engineer

11th 8/3 Mar 74

reference to G. O. No. 463 of the 24th

February 1874

Camp at

13th March 1874

13th March 1874

13th March 1874

13th March 1874

13th March 1874

Submitted to Government with

reference to G. O. No. 463 of the 24th

February 1874

13th March 1874

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13th March 1874

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13th March 1874

To
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Dept.

11/28
Public Works Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation. } H.E. No. 75 of 13th March 1914

The Government have no doubt that fuller and better information, than has as yet been available to the ryots generally, will have a beneficial effect; and, as soon as the new rules and regulations, in connection with the Company's Canal, now under consideration, have been finally approved; their publication in all villages and at the Canal Stations will ensure their provisions being known by all interested.

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class with

To, The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
do and Manager
M. J. & Co. V
S. Copies despatched to him 9/5/14

My 13/3/24

W.M.

For his attention
The Secretary
M. &

12-75-

Dated 13th
Recd. 1883 March 14.

Encl. 1

G.O. No. 1128-30-4-74.

Submits info.
from the Chief Engineer
for Irrigation in 11/28.
10-30-12-4-63-14
7th 74. asking for
information in his
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the ryots generally
with the view of

There has been
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10/4/14
10/26/14
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10/26/14

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Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Chief Eng^r.
for
Irrigation.

Dated

Recd.

Encls. 1

G. O. 30th April 1874, No. 1128

Nos. 444-445

Madras Irrigation & Canal
Company -

Passing orders on the
explanation submitted
by the Chief Eng^r & Manager
of the Co. ~~on the subject~~
& with reference to his
remark that while a
considerable general increase
of cultivation under the Canal
has taken place, a decrease
has occurred in every Taluk
in which there is a Catchment
for Coll^r or 5th Coll^r