M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

(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. / B.P.—No.	1401A.	Press / Mis.—
Dated	26—5	1874 —195—

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 26th May 1874.

Read the following papers:—

No. 518A. From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Vellore, 13th May 1874, No. 432.

I HAVE the honour to report that, up to this morning, I have received intelligence of the breaching of 87 tanks during the late rains, viz., 70 in the Polur Range, 15 in Vellore, and two in Chittoor.

2. The Cheyaur main channel also breached in several places, but, as far as I can ascertain at present, the breaches themselves are not serious, though damage will probably have been done to the crops on the fields submerged.

3. Very heavy freshes came down the Palaur and Poiney, and the anicut on the former river has suffered some damage to the apron and four of the sluice shutters in the body of the anicut have been carried away, but no serious injury has occurred to the works under either anicut.

4. The great Doosy Mamundoor tank has had a very narrow escape; the tank was almost empty and an excavation had been commenced for the examination of the main sluice, which is so leaky as to saturate the bund in its neighbourhood; apparently the construction of a proper ring-bund round the excavation had been deferred until the tank was quite empty, (which would have been in about ten days,) so that earth could be obtained from the inside of the tank, and only a light bund, made with the earth taken out of the excavation, had been constructed. The tank, which is fed by an open channel from the Palaur, filled so rapidly as to threaten to top this bund, when the tank would infallibly have breached. Fortunately the Assistant Engineer in charge of the range was present, and succeeded in getting the excavation filled up in time; he appears to have displayed most praiseworthy energy and promptitude in the matter. The tank has now seven months' supply.

5. The bank of the Cusbah nullah in the town of Vellore breached again, but the water did not spread quite up to the lines, which, however, suffered a good deal from the rain. It is hoped that the estimates for dealing with the drainage of the town and neighbourhood will be sanctioned shortly.

6. The roads appear to have been more or less damaged all over the district, but nothing very serious has happened to them.

7. It will be seen that the southern part of the district has suffered most, and I am going down there at once, and will submit, in due course, such estimates as may be necessary for repairing damages.

8. It is hoped that the additional grant of Rupees 30,000 for repairs, asked for in my telegram of yesterday, will be given; the present budget grant of Rupees 1,20,000 is altogether insufficient for ordinary repairs, and it must be noticed that many of the tanks breached in 1872 have not yet been repaired.

9. I shall probably have to keep on the extra Overseer sanctioned in O. G., No. 1,925-A, of 31st July 1873, longer than I had intended, but beyond that it will probably not be necessary to ask for more assistance.

10. A copy of this letter has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department.
26th May 1874.

No. 518B. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

In repairing the breached tanks special care should be taken to provide ample means of escape for surplus water. Such accidents to tanks as those now reported will continue to be common until this essential requirement has been adequately met.

2. It is not stated to what cause the breaches in the Cheyaur main channel are attributable. As it is provided with a head sluice it is to be hoped that the water of breached tanks, and not that from the river, occasioned the damage.

3. The revolving shutters in the under sluices of the Palaur anicut has been frequently carried away, and they should be replaced by either horizontal or vertical planks.

4. The estimates for the Vellore drainage are before Government.

5. Additional Agricultural Repair Funds cannot, it is considered, at this period of the year, be supplemented; and the District Engineer has been so informed by telegram. Captain Pennycuick should lay out the Budget allotment to the best advantage, and possibly some additional funds may become available thereafter.

OOTACAMUND,
22*nd May* 1874.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 518C. ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1874, No. 1,401-A.

IRRIGATION, No. 51A.

THE Government regret to learn that so many Irrigation works in the North Arcot District suffered from the heavy rains and severe weather of the early part of May.

2. The District Engineer's attention will be called to the remarks of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject of the precautions to be taken when repairing the breached tanks, and on other matters. The provision of ample escape weirs is of primary importance.

3. The retention of the services of the extra Overseer referred to in the 9th paragraph of the District Engineer's letter is approved.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, North Arcot
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Ed. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No. 432.

North Arcot
District Engineer's Office
Vellore 13th May 1874.

From

The District Engineer,
North Arcot.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that up to this morning I have received intelligence of the breaching of 87 tanks during the late rains, namely 70 in the Polur Range, 15 in Vellore, and 2 in Chittoor.

2. The Cheyaur main channel has also breached in several places, but as far as I can ascertain at present the breaches themselves are not serious, though damage will probably have been done to the crops on the fields submerged.

3. Very heavy freshes came down the Palar and Pairey and the Anicut on the former river has suffered some damage to the Apron, and four of the sluice shutters in the body of the Anicut have been carried away, but no serious injury has occurred to the works under either

either Anicut.

4. The great Doosy Mamundoor Tank has had a very narrow escape; the tank was almost empty and an excavation had been commenced for the examination of the main sluice which is so leaky as to saturate the bund in it's neighbourhood; apparently the construction of a proper ring bund round the excavation had been deferred until the tank was quite empty (which would have been in about ten days) so that earth could be obtained from the inside of the Tank, and only a light bund, made with the earth taken out of the excavation, had been constructed. The tank, which is fed by an open channel from the Palar filled in rapidly as to threaten to stop this bund, when the tank would infallibly have breached. Fortunately the Assistant Engineer in charge of the Range was present, and succeeded in getting the excavation filled up in time; he appears to have displayed most praiseworthy energy and promptitude in the matter. The tank has now seven months supply.

The

5. The bank of the Cudbah Tank in the taluk of Tellore breached again, but the water did not spread quite up to the Lines, which however suffered a good deal from the rain. It is hoped that the Estimates for dealing with the drainage of the town and neighbourhood will be sanctioned shortly.

6. The roads appear to have been more or less damaged all over the District, but nothing very serious has happened to them.

7. It will be seen that the southern part of the District has suffered most, and I am going down there at once, and will submit in due course such estimates as may be necessary for repairing damages.

8. It is hoped that the additional grant of Rupees 30,000 for repairs, asked for in my telegram of yesterday, will be given; the present budget grant of Rupees 120,000 is altogether insufficient for ordinary repairs, and it must be noticed that many of the tanks breached in 1872 have not yet been repaired.

I

9. I shall probably have to keep
on the extra Chief recommended in
Dep. Circ. 925A of 31st July 1873 longer
than I had intended, but beyond that
it will probably not be necessary
to ask for more assistance.

10. A Copy of this letter has
been forwarded to the Chief Engi-
neer for Irrigation.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most Obedt. Servt.
Patrick G. Lt. Col. R.E.
District Engineer
Thos. H. Wood.

9 ... I shall probably have to keep

Public Works 1874 Dept
Memorandum from Govt. dated May
the Director Genl.
North Arcot
No: 2881.
To
The Secretary to Govt.
Public Works Deptt.
Madras.

Date 13
Rec'd 15. } May 1874
No. 432
Enclosure.

Report to Govt. the
breaches of tanks in
the North Arcot District,
caused by the late
rains.

C. R. Cotterell A. 26-5/74

No 578 A
Lr 23 Dup.
Dept to Coll 16 May 74.

9

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation

In repairing the breached tanks special care should be taken to provide ample means of escape for surplus water. Such accidents to tanks as those now reported will continue to be common until this essential requirement has been adequately met.

2. It is not stated to what cause the breaches in the Chrysar main channel are attributable. As it is provided with a head sluice it is to be hoped that the water of breached tanks, and not that from the river occasioned the damage

3. The revolving shutters in the under sluices of the Palaur Anicut have been frequently carried away, and they should be replaced by either horizontal or vertical planks.

4. The estimates for the Vellore drainage are before Government.

5. Additional agricultural repair funds cannot, it is considered, at this period of

dated 26th May 74

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the year be supplemented and the Dr Engineer has been so informed by Telegram. Capt: Pennycuick should lay out the Budget allotment to the best advantage, and possibly some additional funds may be come available thereafter.

Bolacamund
22nd May 1874.

Lieut. Col: R.E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To
The Secretary to Govt.
P. W.D.

subject

Pub: Works 1874 Dept:
Ans: 7 Jun May
No: 3052 A

From

The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

No. 22.
Rc. 22. } May 1874.

Regarding
the case of the letter
sri repairing the
tanks which lately
breached in the N.
Arcot District -

R 2. Nos 1660 dt. 26-5-74

A. No. 578 B

G.O. No. 1401 A dated 26th May 1874.

P.W. Department

Pro: of the Board of Revenue

Read the following

From

The Dt. Engineer, N. Arcot } (N.E. Dis. No. 33 Dt. 13th May 1874).

Note Chief Engr. for Irrigation N.E. No. 1 - Dt. 22nd May 74.

The Government regret to learn that so many irrigation works in the North Arcot District suffered from the heavy rains and severe weather of the early part of May.

2. The District Engineer's attention will be called to the remarks of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject

subject of the precautions
then taken when repairing
the breached bank &c, and
on other matters. The
provision of ample
escape weirs is of pri-
-mary importance.

3. The retention of the
services of the extra
Overseer referred to in
the 9th para of the
District Engineer's
letter is approved.

Genl.

5104-518 C.

" 22/5/74

Encls only to Dft Engr & Harbt Street dispr 26/5/74
S. Capier despd to Do 12/6/74.

To The District Engr
North Street
" Contr P.W. Accts
" Chief Engr for Irelds
S. Capies despd to both 18/6/74

subject of the precau

305 2-11
2811 V

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Dc Supr
N. Arcot

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 25th May 1874, No. 1407 A

Nos. 518 A 518 Co.

Damages to Irrigation Works
North Arcot Dt.

Expressing regret that so many irrigation works in the Dt. suffered from the heavy rains and severe weather the early part of May, and requesting attention to the precautions to be taken in repairing the breached Tanks, and approving the retention of the extra Overseers.