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(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2166	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	7-8-	C874 195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 138. Read the following letter from J. W. RUNDALL, Esq., District Engineer, Tinnevely, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Palamcottah, 5th June 1874, No. 35:—

WITH reference to your memorandum, forwarding petition No. 2,771 of 1873, and requesting me to furnish certain information regarding the Melakal channel and Tenkarai tanks in this district, I have the honor to state that on receipt of your memorandum I applied to the Collector for information as to the area and revenue under the Melakal and the tanks supplied by it, and on the 6th ultimo received a statement giving the required information.

2. By this statement I found that the area irrigated by the channel was Acres 9,161, with a revenue of Rupees 1,19,323.

3. Believing in the correctness of the figures given in Mr. Puckle's Report on the irrigation of this district, I had previously calculated the area under this channel at Acres 13,000. I therefore had to refer again to the Collector to know whether there was any error in his statement, which showed but little more than 9,000 acres. In reply I am informed that the 13,000 odd acres include much of the area under the Kadumbah tank now supplied by the Streevigundum anicut.

4. Ever since I have been in the district, the Collector, Mr. Puckle, and the villagers of Alwar Tinnevely (Tenkarai tank) have been urging me to deepen the Melakal channel. I cannot however see that there is any necessity for so doing. It is true that irrigation is said to be somewhat precarious under the Vellore and Tenkarai tanks, but this is not due to the channel being of insufficient capacity, for it will, with water at level of the Murdur anicut crest, carry in its first two miles 135,000 cubic yards per hour. The real reason why there are complaints is that the channel receives water only during freshes in the Tambrapoorney, and that its ordinary water-supply is small. The tanks have in the course of years become somewhat shallower, while, by improvements higher up the river, the supply, except during freshes, has been diminished. Hence I have no doubt cultivation is more difficult under the Vellore and Tenkarai tanks than it used to be, and the villagers in their ignorance think that if the channel were deepened their supply would improve. The available surface fall in the channel between the anicut and Vellore tank is 23.97 feet, and the distance being $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles, an average of 1.77 feet per mile results. This fall, however, is somewhat unequally distributed, being small in the first $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and considerable in the last 5 miles. The channel is not silted much. A portion of the channel bed was cleared two years ago, and the head is being cleared this year.

5. When the head sluice is completed, it will, I think, be possible to raise the Vellore and Tenkarai calingulabs, the combined lengths of which are ample to pass all land drainage. These could not with safety be raised as long as they had to discharge flood-water from the Tambrapoorney in addition to land drainage. This raising would practically increase the capacity of both the tanks slightly.

6. As regards the Tenkarai tank itself, the ayacut is Acres 2,179, and the average cultivation during the last ten years has been Acres 2,159 or only Acres 20 less.

7. The ayacut assessment is Rupees 21,417, and the average revenue of last ten years Rupees 23,934, showing clearly that the villagers' complaints as to loss of crop and revenue are not true. The expenditure on repairs to channel, Tenkarai tank and anicut during the past eleven years are shown in the accompanying statement.

8. With regard to the capacity of the head sluice, I regret that I should have formerly misled you as to the area under the channel, but as the sluice now under construction will only supply with water at anicut crest what the channel is capable of carrying, and as it is desirable that full advantage should be taken of every flood, I do not think the increased area is to be regretted.

No. 139.

ORDER THEREON, 7th August 1874, No. 2,166.

IRRIGATION, No. 9.

CERTAIN Mirassidars of Tenkarai and other villages in Tinnevely, irrigating lands under the Murdur anicut

channel, having complained that their water-supply was inadequate, and the irrigation works not as efficient as they should be, and it appearing that their representations to the local officers of the Public Works Department had not been attended with the results they desired, the District Engineer was called upon by endorsement to a petition dated the 20th November 1873, to report on the circumstances, and from his reply it appears, first, that the capacity of the channel from the Murdur anicut, which is capable of conveying nearly 15 cubic yards per acre per hour for the whole area of irrigation under it is ample; secondly, that as soon as the head sluice to this channel now under construction shall have been completed the storage of the Vellore and Tenkarai tanks can be somewhat increased by raising their escapes, which could not safely have been done while the anicut channel had an open head; thirdly, that the cultivation under the Tenkarai tank has averaged only 20 acres less than the full ayacut, while the revenue has exceeded the ayacut by about 2,500 Rupees on the average.

2. From the statement of outlay for maintenance on the Tenkarai tank, it is probable that as much attention as is desirable, taking the large amount of revenue into account, has not been paid to it, for the expenditure has amounted to not much more than half per cent. on the revenue.

3. All the irrigation works under the Murdur anicut require to be formed into a group, and of course the same remark applies to each of the other anicuts with its irrigation, in order that all the component works may be systematically dealt with, and that it may be possible to see whether a reasonable portion of the repair grant has been devoted to them.

4. Similarly arrangements should be made as soon as possible for recording the actual supply received by all important channels, because in no other way can it be satisfactorily determined whether such supply has been adequate, nor can it be decided what measures may be requisite for rendering it sufficient, should the record prove its inadequacy.

5. It is further very desirable that the necessity for ascertaining the proportion of storage to total supply required by the areas irrigated should not be lost

sight of. The areas of many of the tanks connected with the Tambrapoorney channels have, it is believed, been ascertained, and a very little additional work would enable their capacities to be calculated. The District Engineer would then be able to determine what improvements are necessary, and it must be observed that even where the enlargement of tanks may not be practicable, possibly something may be done to increase the quantity of water available during the season by adjusting the dimensions of the supply channels.

6. Ordered that the following endorsement be made on the petition of Perien Alwar Iyengar and others, and that it be forwarded to them through the District Engineer:—

"The Government have considered and passed orders on a report of the District Engineer, Tinnevely, on the circumstances of the water-supply of the tanks in which the petitioners are interested. It is doubtful how far the supply can be improved, depending as it does upon freshes in the Tambrapoorney, which are uncertain in number and duration, but instructions have been sent to the District Engineer, and such outlay on the tanks as may be requisite to render them as efficient as possible will be made. It is observed that the particulars of cultivation and revenue for the last ten years appear to show that the water-supply has been throughout tolerably good, and that but little land has been left uncultivated, or revenue lost by failure of the crops."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. District Engineer, Tinnevely.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

Petition No 1538 of 1873.

From

Mr. Ranga Sengar residing at Alwar Siru
Mangari Puthurai Punnivelly.

Dated 13th

Received 18th } June 73.

Abstract.

Brings to notice that the tank of Alalacherri
Sallur village is out of repair from a very long
time that the ryots could not receive in it suffi-
cient quantity of water for fear that the em-
bankment which is in a dangerous condition,
might give way, that in consequence all the
lands under the tank could not be cultivated
and that the produce of those which are cul-
tivated prove short of the quantity which might
be harvested under other favorable circumstances.
Prays therefore for orders to the Collector as well as
to the Eng^r for the early repair of the tank.

Endorsement

Public Works.

Forwarded with No 1538 to the
District Engineer for such notice as may be
required.

(signed) J. Sturrock
14 July 1873

Petition N^o 1539 of 73

From

Mr. Pungu Sengar Mirasidar of
Sunkarai residing at Atwar Eru
magari Sunkarai Pinnerelly

Abstract.

States that the large tank of Sunkarai has
not been from a very long time repaired,
that its bund is in a dangerous condition
so that the ryots could not reserve in it
sufficient water for the irrigation of the fields
under it, which are in consequence laid
waste or do not produce the usual quantity
of grain that in consequence the Gov^t as
well as the ryots are subjected to heavy
loss. that the complaint of the Mirasidars
and ryots proved ^{ineffectual} ~~inefficient~~, that if the
tank be repaired it would yield a
revenue of 27000 Rs a year to Government,
Prays that the Collector and the Eng^r
may be advised to improve the bund &c.

Public Works

Endorsement

Forwarded with 1539 to the District Eng^r
for such notice as may be required

17 July 1873

(Signed) J. S. S. S.

Statement showing the expenditure from 1862.63
to 1872.73 on the undermentioned works.

Murdu Ancient			Murdu Milakal			Vellore Tank.			Sunkarai Tank.		
Rs	a	P	Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P	Rs	A	P
1862.63	66	.	.	.	.	100	13	2	48	.	.
1863.64	331	15	8	2308	14	5	148	.	148	.	.
1864.65	.	.	.	358	7	7	.	.	.	.	.
1865.66	.	.	.	732	11	7	.	.	270	14	.
1866.67	.	.	.	277	12	8	.	.	1499	1	1
1867.68	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	299	12	10
1868.69	.	.	.	190	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1869.70	.	.	.	1193	.	.	700	.	.	.	.
1870.71	.	.	.	29	13	6	.	.	.	.	.
1871.72	11	70	.	801	.	.	262	.	200	.	.
1872.73	.	.	.	122	.	.	320	.	.	.	.
1867 15 8			9109 7 9			1130 13 2			1165 1 11		

1868
9109
1231
1455
11 13272
1241

18.26.7.14

... ..
... ..

... ..
... ..

1862.63 to 1872.73 and
within mentioned works.

Statement showing
the expenditure from
1862.63 to 1872.73 and
within mentioned works.

Mr. L. S. 88/74

1862.63 to 1872.73

1862.63 to 1872.73

... ..

the narrowness and shallowness of the Canal which supplies them with water from the river Tambravani their lands were either laid waste or the crops on them failed during the last four years; that their several applications on the subject to the Sd. Engineering authorities proved unsuccessful; that Mr. Rendall informed them last year that there was no money to undertake the repair of the Canal and the tanks which is, however, not right as they annually pay about Rs 4000

CS 27/1089/74
Government of Madras
P. Works DEPARTMENT.
Petition No. 2771 of 1873.
From Parian, Silver Agan-
sar, Ramaswami Pillay and others.
Occupation. Mirasidars.
The Villages. Venkarai, Adina
Talook. Venkarai.
District. Tinnevely.
Dated. 20th November
Received. 26th 1873.
Enclosures. 1
P. S. 7/1089/74
Abstract
Bring to notice that
owing to the deficiency of water in their village tanks in consequence of the

1869. calculated the area under this channel

Rs 4000 as water-cess;
that if the repair be delayed
any longer; their wet
fields will be fit only
for the raising of dry
crops; that no reply
has been granted on
the petition presented
in June last by all
Rungienzan, the Illia
aidar of Tenkarai
in the subject.

Pray, therefore,
for orders, that the
canal may be widened
and deepened; that the
tanks may be repaired
and that their bunds
may be revetted with
stones.

No 35 District Engineer's Office, Tinnevely
Palamcottah. 5th June 1874

From, J. W. Randall Esquire
District Engineer Tinnevely.

To, Lieut. Colonel J. Mullins R. E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Enclosures. 2
1. Statement
1. Petition no. 2771 of 1873
Sir, With reference to your Memo forward-
ing petition No. 2771 of 1873 and requesting
me to furnish certain information regarding
the Melakal Channel and Tenkarai Tanks
in this District, I have the honor to state
that on receipt of your Memo I applied to
the Collector for information as to the area
and Revenue under the Melakal and the
Tanks supplied by it, and on the 6th Ultimo
received a Statement giving the required
information.

2. By this Statement I found that the
area irrigated by the Channel was acres
9,161 with a Revenue of Rs. 11,932.

3. Believing in the correctness of the
figures given in Mr. Puckles Report on the
Irrigation of this District, I had previously
calculated the area under this Channel at

Printed with
S.O. no 365 of
the 14 Feb 1869.

acres 13,000. I therefore had to refer again to the collector to know whether there was any error in his statement which showed but little more than 9,000 acres. In reply I am informed that the 13,000 odd acres include much the area under the Hadam-bah Tank, now supplied by the Shieva-gundam, Ancient.

Ever since I have been in the District, the collector Mr. Puckle and the Villagers of Alur's Tinnelly (Tunkarai Tank) have been urging me to deepen the Milakal bham-mel. I cannot however see that there is any necessity for so doing. It is true that irrigation is said to be somewhat precarious under the Vellore and Tunkarai Tanks, but this is not due to the channel being of insufficient capacity, for it will with water at level of the Mundis, Ancient crest carry in its first two miles 135,000 cubic yards per hour. The real reason why there are complaints is that the channel receives water only during freshes in the Tambapurni, and that its ordinary water supply is small. The Tanks have in the course of years become somewhat shallower, while by improvements higher up the River, the supply except during freshes has been diminished. Hence I have

no doubt cultivation is more difficult under the Vellore and Tunkarai Tanks than it used to be, and the villagers in their ignorance think that if the channel were deepened their supply would improve. The available surface fall in the channel between the Ancient and Vellore Tank is 23.97 feet and the distance being $13\frac{1}{2}$ miles an average of 1.77 feet per mile results. This fall however is somewhat unequally distributed being small in the first $8\frac{1}{2}$ and considerable in the last 5 miles. The channel is not silted much. A portion of the channel bed was cleared two years ago and the head is being cleared this year.

5. When the Head Sluice is completed, if will I think be possible to raise the Vellore and Tunkarai balingulabs, the combined lengths of which are ample to pass all land drainage. These could not with safety be raised as long as they had to discharge flood water from the Tambapurni in addition to land drainage. This raising would practically increase the capacity of both the Tanks slightly.

6. As regards the Tunkarai Tank itself the Agent is acres 2,79 and the average

cultivation during the last 10 years has been 2150 acres or only 20 acres less.

7. The Ayacut afeement is Rs. 21417

and the average Revenue of last 10 years

Rs. 23984, showing clearly that the Villagers

complaints as to loss of crop and Revenue

are not true. The expenditure on Repairs

to the channel, Tankarai Tank and Aqueduct

during the past 11 years are shown in the

accompanying Statement.

8. With regard to the capacity of the

Head Sluice, I regret that I should have

formerly misled you as to the area under

the channel, but as the sluice now under

construction will only supply what the chan-

nel is capable of carrying and as it is

desirable that full advantage should be

taken of every flood I do not think the

increased area is to be regretted.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Yours Most Obedt Servt

J. W. Prindall

District Engineer

Petition No. 2771 of 1873.

Forwarded to the District Engineer Timmerly for report, as it appears that no information has been received by Mr. Bimjengar of Tankarai as to the District Engineer's decision upon the representations contained in Nos. 1538 & 1539, which were transmitted to him on the 1st July last for such notice as might be required.

2. It should be reported -
*Mundurkhin what are the Ayacut acreage
West Canal and Revenue under the Canal
Tankarai. and Tank referred to, & what

cultivation during the last 10 years was

The date and amount

P. W. 1874 Sept 39
No: 4588

The District Engineer
Generally

And
The Chief Engineer
for irrigation

Dated 5th June 1874.
Recd 9th
Recd 26th
No 35.
Encls: 2

Reports on the petition
received with his memo
No 2771 of 73 and
furnishes the required
information.

Ch 138

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the

187

Read the following:-

From
The Bt Engr Generaly (P. O. No 35 dated 5 June 1874)

Certain petitioners
of Seetharai and other
villages in Sivakasi,
irrigating lands under
the hundred acre
channel, having com-
plained that their water
supply was inadequate
and the irrigation works
not as efficient as they
should be, and it ap-
pearing that their repre-
-ations

108
13-7

Representations to the
local officers of the Pub-
lic Works Department
had not been attended
with the (desired) results, the District Engineer
was called upon by en-
dorsement to a petition
dated the 20th November
1873 to report on the cir-
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his reply it appears
1st that the Capacity
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is capable of conveying
nearly 15 Cubic yards per
acre per hour for the whole
area of irrigation under
it, is ample;
2nd that as soon as the

head sluice to the chan-
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2. From the stake
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as is desirable, taking
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has not been paid to it,
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than half per cent on
the Revenue.

3. All the irrigation
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And of course the same
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season by adjusting
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the dimensions of the supply
channels.

Ordered that
the following movement
be made on the petition
of Perian Alwaraygar
and others, and that it
be forwarded to them
through the District Engi-
neer.

The Government have
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orders on a report of the
District Engineer
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Tanks as may be re-
-quisite to render
them as efficient
as possible will be
made. It is observed
that the particulars

Received by the
District Engineer
on 11/10/05
at the District
Engineer's Office
11/10/05

of cultivation and
revenue for the last
10 years appear to
show that the water
supply has been
throughout tolerably
good and that but
little land has been
left uncultivated,
or revenue lost by
failure of the crops."

W. 18/6/74

W.M.

To the Chief Comptroller
of the C. & L. Indus.
S. Copies despatched 15/8/74.

Returned a/c to the
S. & L. Indus. Co. Ltd.
Account of the S. & L. Indus.
of the C. & L. Indus. Co. Ltd.
28/8/74

138-139

Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, in the center of the page.

Q 24/9/74
Cir 20/6/74 Rtd 22/7/74

4588

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Chief Engineer
Irrigation

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 2

G. O. 7 Aug 1874. No. 2166

Nos. 108-109.

Irrigation - Papering orders.

An letter from the S. Eng.,
Sivareddy, reporting on
the petition from certain
Siddars complaining of the
inadequate supply of
water to their lands
~~and~~ through inefficiency &
praying for the improve-
ment of the irrigation works.

B24/2/74
20/6/74 Rtd 22/7/74