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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

~~B.P. No.~~

984-B (9)

Press

Mis.

Original

Dated

15.4.195

195

1874

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th April 1874.*

No. 166c. Read letter from the District Engineer, Godavery, dated 17th March 1874, No. 3,757 :—

No. 166d. ORDER THEREON, 15th April 1874, No. 984B.

IRRIGATION, No. 7A.

THIS letter will be recorded. Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer will carry out the instructions conveyed to him in G. O., No. 542, dated 2nd March 1874, without further delay.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Godavery.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

No 3757

District Engineer's Office, Goddard
Dowla Row, around 17 March 1871

From,

Lieutenant Col. J. P. Tucker R.E.

District Engineer's Office

To,
Colonel. J. H. Walker R.E.

Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Madras.

Sir,

Adverting to G.O. of the 2^d March 1871 No 54, I have the honor to observe that I brought forward the proposition to acquire the Gopalspore Limbale in accordance with the definition attached to such property in para 2 of G.O. of the 30th March 1871 No 941, as it is quite impossible to fix the limits of the property - the Range Officer and I had frequently asked the Revenue Department to point out clearly what the boundaries of this really were, and had failed to obtain any information on the subject, it was impossible then to determine what the so-called margins

to be taken up, even which ~~moreover for a~~
Mellai river, ^{and its bank} is a very loose expression
to employ, and likely to lead to endless
disputes, as the margins of such rivers are
liable to change more or less every year.

2. As the Chief Engineer for Brigades
had during his last tour of inspection
personally inspected the locality and
observed the damage already done to
Government lands and property, I did
not expect to find there would have
been any difficulty in explaining the
circumstances to the Government.

3. I am far from wishing to deprive
these people of their lands, or to put the Go-
vernment to any greater expense than can
possibly be avoided, but most serious
injury was being done to the Government
property - the proprietors were constantly
complaining against us for protecting
the Government interests and the Revenue
authorities

authorities would not define the limits
of the Rankab, when I determined to
apply for the whole of it rather than leave
the Government properly exposed to the
damage it was certain to suffer. Mr. Horsfall
has subsequently returned to this District,
and informs me that before he went home
or far to aught, he had prohibited these people
planting Rankab grass and ordered its re-
moval from the bed of a branch of
the river which has been subsequently filled
up and the current diverted on to the west
bank of the river; it is impossible to get
evidence of the actual planting of this grass
so as to fix the responsibility on any
persons; it is really done at night time,
before the freshes and covered with the
sand, immediately the river comes down,
the grass takes root and the river gets the
credit of doing this work in which however
it is very partial as such growth is easily
found to prevail on ^{perennial} ~~perennial~~ ^{or proprietary}
land &c.

lands-

4. The Collector has already sent to the Revenue Board a Surveyor's Measurements of these lands & understands, and if these Authorities will define the areas of the Rankahs or agree to abide by the dimensions given in the Revenue Survey Maps, it may be possible to fix some boundaries, but at present there is nothing to define any limits by, and I have been quite unable to obtain any definite proposition from them in the matter but only a re-iteration of the complaint that we were preventing the extension of the Rankah grass planting.

5. I am acquiring a margin of land along a river bank may give a claim to subsequent accretions, but can by no possibility entitle us to claim existing Rankahs belonging to proprietors and others, and it becomes

necessary to take up margins of these, but until the boundaries of them are fixed by competent authority there are no means of doing so, and I particularly brought this to notice with a view of laying before the Government the difficulties of the case. If orders are given that the Government will hold the Tahsildars responsible for all drainages done to the river banks by the planting of Rankah grass in the Rankahs, there is very little doubt this kind of thing will be put a stop to, but in this case it was a Tahsildar who brought up complaints against us as soon as Mr. Horsfall left the District.

Yours most obedt. Servt.
Wm. T. Turner Esq.
District Engineer, Godavari

984 B-)
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following -

From the Hon. Mr. Goddard (H.E. No. 3757 of 17 March 1874)

This letter will be
recorded. Lieut. Colonel
Fischer will carry out the
instructions conveyed to him
in G.O. No. 542 dated 2nd March
1874 without further delay.
G.M.

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To
The Hon. Mr. Goddard
" Ch. Secy for Dist.
x Subd. Secy S.C. 15/5/74

In S. Secy only to Mr. Secy 15/4/74
S. Copies despatched 28/4/74

File: March 1874 Sept
No: 1716.

The District Engineer

Goddard

On the 2nd of March 1874

Departure of Mr. Goddard

Date: 2nd March 1874

Received 2nd March 1874

No. 3757

Office certain observations

on the proposed or existing

regulations in the

Madras District

S.O. No. 984 B- 15-4-74

166

P.W. Dept
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 From the District Engineer
 Godavery } (H.E. No 3757 of 17 March
 1874)

Must Not Col. Fisher has
 not behaved well through
 this matter and we have
 here a rep. on Govt. of what a
 trouble was with meritorious
 Gov. take no notice of it -
 it should not be printed - but
 merely record. Advise they
 Col. F. will carry out the
 instructions conveyed to him
 - G.O. - without further
 delay -

Wk No 7

The District Engineer
 Godavery, is reminded
 that a chart of the
 river, or a large scale
 survey, whether Revenue
 or other, is needed to
 explain the circumstances
 of the locality to be
 dealt with, and that
 without this no opinion
 can be formed of the
 requirements of the case

2 The margins of
 lunkas may be in
 many instances ill-
 defined, but it will
 be usually easy to fix
 upon a line within the
 margin

margin by which to
divide the land to be
acquired from that
to be left in its present
holders hands, and it
is evident that the greater
the difficulty of identi-
fying land, the greater
the necessity for an
accurate survey, by
which the limit of the
land taken up, at least
on the landward side,
or away from the river,
may always be capa-
ble of recognition.

Wm. 27/3/74

G.M.M.

To The Chief Engineer for
Navigation
— D^r Engineer Goddard.
1. Copies despatched to D. C. Goddard
28/4/74.

1716



Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd. dated 15th April 1874
Dist. Supt.
Godavery

Recd.
15th April 1874 No. 984/B

Go he
Nos. 166C/166D.

Am Kas

Letter from ~~to~~ *to* ~~the~~ *the* ~~Dist. Supt.~~ *Dist. Supt.*
Godavery offering observations
on the proposal for ac-
quiring Gopal poor
Lunkas, recorded
H. L. Fischer requested
to ~~earn out the instructions~~
~~already issued on the subject~~
~~Conferred to him~~
~~No. 22 of 2nd March 1874~~
~~without further delay -~~