

(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.	2274	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	6-8-	4875-195-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th August 1875.*

No. 104.

Read the following papers :—

No. 104-A.	From Supg. Engineer, Kistna,	dated 18th March 1875, No. 161.
No. 104-B.	From do. Tanjore,	" 13th April " " 211.
No. 104-C.	From District Engr., Godavery,	" 6th " " " 57.
No. 104-D.	From Offg. Supg. Engr., Nellore,	" 21st June " " 29.
No. 104-E.	From District Engr., North Arcot,	" 15th Feb. " " 3,294.
No. 104-F.	From Supg. Engineer, Chingleput,	" 18th " " " 3,935.
No. 104-G.	From District " South Arcot,	" 25th May " " 48.
No. 104-II.	From " " Tinnevely,	" 5th April " " 2.

No. 104-I.

No. 869

MEMORANDUM.

THE replies of the Public Works Officers named in paragraph 3 of G. O., 11th February last, No. 380, together with a Precis of their opinions and notes thereupon are submitted to Government.

OOTACAMUND,
30th July 1875.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Offg. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

P R E C I S .

IN G. O., No. 380, dated 11th February 1875, the Government directed the preparation of a Bill for the conservancy of rivers by the Advocate-General, in communication with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and the Board of Revenue; and, in order that no really important details might be overlooked, invited the opinions of certain selected local officers of the Revenue and Public Works Departments in connection with the rivers of their several districts.

Replies from the Public Works Officers have now been received, and the following is an abstract of their contents in the order in which the officers are mentioned in the Government Proceedings.

Notes by the Officiating Chief Engineer.

*From District Engineer, Kistna,
dated 18th March 1875,
No. 161.*

The bed of a river should be defined to be that part submerged in ordinary floods; i. e., up to the lip of the lunka washed by the stream. Where the edge of the bank is not clearly defined, the sand bank should be acquired up to the level of the adjacent lunka margins. Planting of lunka grass should be prohibited, also of topes and plantain gardens, except with the permission of the river conservancy officer. The construction, without sanction, of buildings, either permanent or temporary, between the river banks should also be prohibited.

Planting within the limits of the river bed thus defined should be absolutely prohibited except under the orders of the conservancy officers.

Planting of topes, trees, or other permanent vegetation between flood embankments and the river margin should be allowed only with the concurrence of the conservancy officers and with special permission of the Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th August 1875.*

Notes by the Officiating Chief Engineer.

*From Superintending Engineer,
Tanjore, dated 13th April 1875,
No. 211.*

In addition to the provisions of Colonel Mullins' Memorandum, "competent authority" to grant a puttah or title deed to any land within the levees of any river or large distribution channel should include the conservancy officers. Construction of permanent work in any river, stream or channel without the concurrence of the conservancy officer should be prohibited; and margins of land outside as well as inside all flood banks or levees acquired, in order to obtain material for repair of banks. Copies of the draft Act might be circulated when the following objectionable practices might be provided against:—Gradual encroachments on banks by shifting of fences, within which planting is frequently carried on. Cutting trenches on the river side of plantain gardens for deposit of river silt too near the foot of the banks. (No trench should be cut nearer than 10 yards from foot of banks.) Tracks made across river banks by passage of bandies, cattle, &c., (depression of banks caused thereby should be filled up by the villagers before the floods come down in case of minor crossings, and by Government with ramps in case of more important crossings). Mud and sand banks being thrown across the bed of rivers. Raising of mud platforms adjoining banks for picotahs connected with a channel from the main stream. Cutting of river banks for laying down temporary sluices.

*From the District Engineer, Godavery, dated 6th April 1875,
No. 57.*

The defined channel within which the waters of the Godavary

Land outside the flood banks, if required, would be regularly taken up and retained.

This would be an ordinary encroachment. It may best be guarded against by clear demarcation of land belonging to embankments, and it has been suggested that lines of palmyra or other trees would be a good and economical way of showing the boundary.

No interference with the details of cultivation of a kind not prohibited could be allowed, such margins as it may be considered should not be left in private hands must be taken up for the purposes of river conservancy.

Points of crossing for all kinds of traffic should be paid and provided with ramps at suitable gradients, with fencing to confine traffic to the pathways.

No work of either a permanent or temporary character will be allowed to be constructed within the river boundaries or bed. Whatever work of the latter kind may be necessary with reference to irrigation requirements will have to be regularly recorded, and permission given to the supervising village officer to carry it out in a certain way.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th August 1875.*

Notes by the Officiating Chief Engineer.

(River bed.) The embankments may be far removed from the river bed, and it is not intended to acquire any rights over the lunkas or berms generally, but only when these are so narrow as to be needed entirely for conservancy purposes.

Appeal to the District Engineer would be of little use after the Range Officer had rooted up the grass. The uprooting on lands deemed to be private property and situated outside the river bed would only be necessary occasionally, and when it may be so special authority would have to be obtained, and compensation given. Within the river bed full power is proposed to be given to conservancy officers, on certain terms yet to be finally settled.

This case is already provided for, and if referred to in the Conservancy Act it would be only as a matter of convenience.

Anything can be done at present if the emergency be such as to justify it.

ordinarily flow should be assumed to be the [space from embankment to embankment]. Range Officers should be empowered, subject to appeal to District Engineer, to uproot lunka grass, to prevent lunka grass planting, and to make lunka grass plantations wherever necessary. Land required for protective works should be acquired free of cost, and no payment made for uprooting grass from a proprietary lunka or shoal. In the case of land with standing crops being taken on emergency, Revenue Authorities to decide, subsequently, amount of compensation for loss of crop. Conservancy officers should be authorized to take up land for protective works, in emergent cases, in anticipation of sanction. Conservancy operations for protection of private property carried out at request of the owner should be paid for by the party interested, the nature of the work necessary being left to the discretion of the conservancy officer. Permission of conservancy officer to be obtained for protective works or nanel grass planting on private property, in default cost of removal of objectionable works to be recovered from proprietor with such fine as may be laid down in the Act.

*From Superintending Engineer,
Nellore, dated 21st June 1875,
No. 29.*

This definition would not do. The bed is the whole space between the banks where these are defined and the equivalent line on the same level where there is no defined margin.—*Vide* Superintending Engineer's, Kistna, definition. A maximum ordinary flood, if capable of definition, would be a misnomer.

Such islands should have their proper outlines determined, and thereafter they should be restricted thereto, and, as far

The bed of a river should be defined to be that portion between the banks which is liable to be submerged by maximum ordinary floods. No cultivation should be allowed within these limits without special authority.

All inhabited islands within the banks of rivers, and islands

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th August 1875.*

Notes by the Officiating Chief Engineer.

as possible, maintained up to those limits by the conservancy officers.

This would have to be decided upon the merits in each case. But seldom would private individuals wish to embank at their own cost.

Not as a rule. What land is really necessary to conservancy should be acquired. The rest should be left to its owners.

Of course not any more than any other trespass.

Power might be given to conservancy officers to repair and recover expenditure after lapse of reasonable notice. This could only however be in the case of conduits built on these terms after formation of embankments. Those required for channels existing before the flood banks would have to be constructed and maintained by the conservancy officers.

Perhaps not, but the distance must be prescribed—50 feet from toe of bank would do.

Included in provision against all work within river bed.

All rivers or parts of rivers which spill in high floods—vide memorandum No. 49 I (a). We cannot attempt the conservancy of all the rivers of the Presidency throughout their whole course.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
29th July 1875.
Offg. Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

that are not liable to be submerged, by maximum ordinary floods, should be confined to their existing limits. The embanking of the latter should not be allowed. As a rule all land between the artificial embankments of a river and its natural banks should belong to the State. The planting of vegetables should not be allowed on river embankments. Where picottahs, or other appliances for raising water are situated between the margin of a river and its embankment, the owners should be held responsible for the repair and working order of the conduits that pass the water under the embankment. Suitable ramps should be provided for the local traffic, where necessary in the line of river embankments, and any attempt to cross them, at other places, should be considered an infringement of the proposed Act. Where the water stands several feet above the surface of the country in floods wells should not be allowed in the immediate vicinity of the outer slopes of river embankments. No weir to be constructed across a river without the sanction of Government.

From District Engineer, North Arcot, dated 15th February 1875, No. 3,294.

Provisions indicated in Colonel Mullins' Memorandum include all that is required with regard to rivers of North Arcot District, but legislative action should not be confined to "deltaic" rivers, but embrace all rivers.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th August 1875.*

Notes by the Officiating Chief Engineer.

From Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, dated 18th February 1875, No. 3,935.

Do. do.

From District Engineer, South Arcot, dated 25th May 1875, No. 48.

The notes of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation touch upon all the really important points in connection with the subject of river conservancy.

From District Engineer, Tinnevely, dated 5th April 1875, No. 2.

No special circumstances connected with the rivers of the Tinnevely District require consideration in framing an Act.

No. 105. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1875, No. 2,274.

IRRIGATION, No. 1-C.

ORDERED that these papers be communicated to the Advocate-General and Board of Revenue in continuation of

Proceedings, Madras Government, No. 380, of the 11th February 1875.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Superintending Engineer, Kistna.
" " " Tanjore.
" District Engineer, Godavery.
" " Nellore.
" " North Arcot.
" " Chingleput.
" " South Arcot.
" " Tinnevely.
" Advocate-General.
" Revenue Department.
" Judicial "

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

No. 1203
48

Revenue Survey Office.

Chapaut.
25th April 1876.

From

Apt.
The Superintendent Revenue Survey.

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

SIR,

*As requested by you, I have
the honour to forward 4 copies of the
District map of Godavery on a scale of
1 mile to 1 inch prepared for the
District manual.*

*I have the honour to be
Sir*

*Your Most Obedt. Servant
Chd. Rajeev Captain
Apt. Superintendent Revenue Survey.*

L.P.

No 24 ... Sigsbee Engineering Office
... Engineers B. April 1895
...
B. No 109 A - ... 138

Chief Engineer Irrigation Letter M161-18-3-75
Taken By Irrigation Deptt - Vincastermy hasoo
23/4/87

Yours very truly
J. W. D.

In reference to G.O. No. 388,
dated 11 February 1875, I have
the honor to state that the provi-
sions of the proposed Act for
the Conservancy of River Channels,
sketched out in Colonel Mullins'
Memorandum, No 49, dated 11th
January 1875, seems to include
all that is required.

2 The only addition that strikes me as necessary is that "Competent authority" to grant a patent or title deed to any land within the limits of any River or large distributing channel should include the concurrence of the Conservancy Officers.

3. It should I think
also prohibit the construction
of

5793-Hawkey 22 Dec 20

Yarrow L. 12731

The District and Superior Courts

Ordinary

To the Secretary to the

Hand of Heaven

Dated 26th 1873

Adm. 28 Apr 1876

1203
148

in 2 hundred years

Discontinued & covered

The District may of

Godavari on a century

for the District Manual

100

5

Mrs. J. H. H. H.

1

4887

One copy of the

Supp. supplied with ice

sent to the Collector

the Foreman Duties

With a request that he

will furnish the Board no

known as possible. With

Young Men's Society

may wish to make.

The copy will also

you went to New Haven

omnia per his humilis.

14

of any permanent work in the
any river, stream, or channel
without the concurrence of the
the Conservancy Officers, and
it would be well if provision
was made for the acquisition
of margins of land outside
as well as inside all flood
banks or dunes from which
to obtain materials for the
repair of the banks.

4. If copies of the
draft Act were circulated
before it is brought before
the Legislative Council, some
more useful suggestions might
than be obtained than it is
feasible to offer on the
subject now.

5. For instance, there
are one or two points of detail
which I think ought to be
included in the Act, and which
appear hardly to come under any
of the provisions proposed.
1st - There is the encroachment
on the banks which is attempted
almost everywhere; the Mira-
sidar concerned commences first
by

by constructing a modest fence
at the foot of the slopes of the
bank - Sometimes on one side,
sometimes on both; next year,
not contented with this, he cuts
a foot or so of the bank and
advances his fence, and, if not
prevented, will gradually so
advance till he has cut 4 or 5
feet of the bank, and when the
slope is nearly undermined,
he will boldly carry his fence
to the top of the bank, and
plant it there at the edge.
This sort of a thing is a per-
fect nuisance in this District,
and ought to be put a stop to.
2^d - In paduways or plantain
gardens on the land side of
banks, Mirasidars are in the
habit of cutting trenches in
which the mud-silt from rivers
and channels is deposited;
this silt is used as a sort
of manure and also to raise
the land. There is no objection
to such trenches being cut, so
long as they are not cut danger-
ously near the foot of the
banks.

banks as they too often are.
No trench of this sort ought,
I think, to be cut nearer than
10 yards from the foot of the
slopes.

6. There is one other point
to which I wish to call atten-
tion, and that is the tracks
made across River banks by
the passage of bandies, cattle, &c.
These passages are extremely
numerous, and their position may
be seen on inspection by the
fact of the bank at these
passages being lower than the
rest of the bank, and, in many
cases dangerously so.

7. People and cattle must
of course be allowed to cross,
but I think that a provision
should be introduced in the
Act to force the villagers con-
cerned to fill up these tracks
before the floods of the year
come down. At the more im-
portant of such crossings,
when a bank is
being repaired, provide ramps
so as to prevent the lowering
of

of the bank as much as possible,
for the minor crossings ramps
must be made by the villagers,
or the villagers must be made
to fill up the tracks when the
floods come down.

8. I may add that there
are several other points of
detail that I could descant
on, but that it would make
this letter too long. I refer
to the mud and sand banks
thrown across the bed of the
River; the raising of mud
platforms adjoining the banks
for fixing piccotts connected
with a channel cut through
the paduzays from the main-
stream, whereby deep pools
are formed immediately under
the slopes of the river banks,
and lastly the cutting of river
banks for laying down tem-
porary sluices.

9. An Act for the con-
servancy of Rivers will be a
great boon, and will no doubt
put a stop to the constant
disputes now occurring between
Mirasidars

IV.
5.

[illegible]

18.

QW

From.

District Engineer
Godavery District

To.

Secretary to Government D. P. W.
MADRAS

SLR.

2. As the Godavery is embanked artificially for a distance of about 70 miles inland to prevent its overflowing in high freshes into the Deltas, I recom.

This would warrant that in this case the defined channel within the embankment must as a rule be explained to be the space from embankment to embankment, be natural or artificial.

3. It is of the greatest importance in the case of this river, so far as I am yet acquainted with it, that the Range Officer should be empowered, subject to appeal to the District Engineer, to uproot lunka grass, to prevent lunka grass planting, and to make lunka

graw

Mr. J. S. Clark
Box 49, No 211.
Farm
The Superior & Oregon
Stores
1/2 of Sec 24 & 25 Cont.

Adrian.

Revised 18th April 1875

Sept 6 August 1781 to 27th
State land, with

Reform exception; the

variations of the topography

Letter for the Comptroller
of Public Affairs

Seems to include.

all that is required.

grass plantations wherever necessary to preserve the best alignment.

4. It is specially in regard to uprooting lunka grass, or forbidding its removal, that special powers are needed. At present I cannot interfere with a landowner, lunka or sand shal either to hinder the proprietor uprooting, or to uproot it, if he objects, without rendering myself or Government responsible for any amount of compensation that may be settled by the Tahsildar. This often causes great delay in applying a remedy to special sets of the river when much mischief might be prevented by prompt action. Government is also unfairly taxed for compensation when its officers have been working only for the public benefit.

5. Government should not have to pay compensation for the land required for protective works, or for uprooting grass from a proprietary lunka or shal, but when in case of emergency, owing to a fresh set suddenly taking place, or a breach in the embankment, land has to be taken up on which crops are then growing, it may be left to the Revenue authorities to decide, subsequently, the amount of compensation to be given for the loss of crops.

with
Act I think
Grass & lunka
authority

6. The conservancy officers should be authorized to take up the land required for protective works, in emergent cases, without waiting for the action of the Revenue authorities; a reference being first made, when practicable, to the District Engineer.

7. It has also been suggested to me that the cost of conservancy operations for the protection of the property of a private individual should be borne by the party himself, and not by Government, where those operations have been carried out at the request of the land owner, and all directions as to the nature of the work necessary in such a case should be left to the Conservancy Officer.

8. Private individuals should be held responsible that haue planting or protective works of any kind are not carried out on their land without written permission from the Conservancy officer and should such works or planting be done without authority, and be in the opinion of the Conservancy Officers of an objectionable nature, those Officers should be empowered to recover from the proprietor the cost of removing such works, together with such fine as may be laid.

What I
suggested

See 30.7.71 (Bibb)

I The bed of a river is, in my
opinion, that portion, between
the banks, which is liable to be
submerged by maximum —
ordinary

ordinary floods.

II No cultivation should be allowed within the above limits, unless specially authorized.

III All inhabited islands, within the banks of rivers, and islands that are not liable to be submerged by maximum ordinary floods, should be confined to their existing limits.

The embanking of the latter should not, I think, be allowed.

IV As a rule all land between the artificial Embankments of a river and its natural banks, should belong to the state.

V The planting of vegetables should not be allowed on river embankments.

Where

VI Where picottas, or other appliances for raising water, are situated between the margin of a river and its Embankment the owners should be held responsible for the repairing and working order, of the conduits that pass the water under the Embankment.

VII Suitable ramps should be provided for the local traffic, where necessary, in the line of river Embankments, and any attempt to cross them, at other places, should be considered an infringement of the proposed Act.

VIII Where the water stands several feet above the surface

of the Country in floods, Wells
should not be allowed in the
immediate vicinity of the
outer slopes of river Embankments.
IX. No Weir to be constructed across a river
without the sanction of Government.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant

W. H. Smith

Chief Assistant
Engineer

W. H. Smith

No. 3294.

North Arcot,

North Arcot,
DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE,

Vellore 15th February 1875.

From

The DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NORTH ARCOT.

To

The Chief Engineer.
For Irrigation

Sir,

Madras.

With reference to G.O. No. 380
of 11th instant. I have the honour to
observe that the provisions indicated
in your Memorandum No. 49 of 11th
ultimo appear to include all that is
required with regard to the rivers of
this district.

2. It is however doubtful -
whether these rivers would be included
by the definition of "deltatic" given in your
Memorandum (they certainly would not
by the ordinary meaning of the word)
because a difference might arise
as to the meaning of the expression
"lower parts of rivers." If it is necessa-
ry to limit the class of rivers to which
the

+ Pending
for G.O. No. 380
11 Feb 75

4011: 467/75 by 250-252.

P. W. 1875 Sept.
From
The Offg. District Engineer
To
The Offg. Secretary
Government
Fort Saint George

Dated 25th June 1875
B.P. 22
Recd 26th or
" 1st July -
" 29

With reference to G.O.
No. 380 dated 11th February/75
submit observations
regarding the conservancy
of Rivers.

No. 104. D.
Cii - 30.7.75
P. W. 31 July
Recd 30.7.75

G.O. - 6 August - 75
3/7
K 2274

the proposed legislation should apply, it would be advisable to omit the word "lower" in your definition; but it does not seem clear why any limit should be named, and it would probably be better to include all rivers alike.

3. Causes of encroachment on the beds of rivers are by no means unknown in this District, and it is desirable that the Government should have the same means of preventing them here as they have in the deltas proper.

4. The definition of the bed given in para 3 of your Memorandum appears sufficiently clear, and I do not think any difficulty would ever be likely to arise upon this point.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servant.

Benjamin I Captain R. E.

District Engineer
North Arcot

43935

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT ENGR'S OFFICE,
 Guindy, 18th February, 1875.
 Recd 19th Feb 1875

17

FROM
 THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
 Chingleput.

TO
 The Chief Engineer
 for Irrigation

SIR:—Referring to G.O. No. 380 dated 11th instant, I have the honor to suggest that the proposed act should include all rivers. The Palar, Cothar, &c. are scarcely Lettice. But their proper management is very important. I see nothing else that requires to be mentioned.

I have the honor to be,
 Sir,
 Your most obedient Servant,
 Colonel, R. E.,
 District Engineer Chingleput.

From
 C.E. 315

To
 The District Engineer,
 North Arcot.

The Chief Engineer
 for Irrigation
 Madras

Dated 15th February 1875.

Received 17th " "

No. 3294.

Enclosure None.

Subject.

Submitted observations
 regarding the Lettice
 Rivers of the District.

C.E. Chingleput 17542274.

24/2/75

No. 104, Q.

C.E. 307.75-2426.8.75

22. March 31/75

File in the office.

Mr. 55549

2/7/75

Measure

W. ARSOT. No. 48

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

Camp *Bennurthy*
Dated *25th May* 1875.

From

The District Engineer,

South Arcot.

To

Th

Chief Engineer
for Irrigation.

Enclosures.

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 380 of the 11th February 1875, on the subject of the Conservancy of Deltaic Rivers of the Madras Presidency, I have the honor to report that the Vellam, Ponnai, and Guddallund are the three Rivers in this District of any importance.

2. Not any of these are navigable, and with the exception of the Ponnai the two others have throughout their course very defined banks.

3. I am not aware that any objection has ever been made here when the removal of any land formations in the bed of the River has been found necessary, in fact

measures

CR/368

From

Super
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,

CRISTIAN

1875

RECEIVED
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE

THE *Chief Engineer*
for Irrigation

Dated *18th February* 1875
Received *19th Feb*

No. 2035

ENCLOSURE

Suggests that the proposed act should include all Rivers.

G.O. to Engineer/75-22274

Mr. 5154/75
4/75

No. 104.35

Ci-30.7.75
6.8.75
Robert 31 July

measures taken by the Department
in connection with the Conservancy
of Rivers have always been carried
out without opposition.

148-70

4. The necessity for legislation
in connection with the Conservancy
of Rivers appears however desirable
in order to avoid difficulties, and
the notes of the Chief Engineer for
Irrigation, I think touch upon
all the really important points of
the question under discussion.

I have the honor to be

Tr
Your Most Obedt. Servt.

Alfred
Off. Dist. Engineer

District Eng^s Office
Palamcottah 5 April 1875

No 2.
From J. W. Randall Esq^r
District Engineer
To Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.
with reference to G.O. No 392
of the 11th February last, regarding the
Act proposed to be introduced for
the Conservancy of Rivers, I have
the honor to state, that there are
not any special circumstances
connected with the Rivers of this
District, which require consideration
in framing the proposed Act.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Yours truly
J. W. Randall

District Engineer

From SOUTH ARCOT D. P. W.
The District Engineer
South Arcot.
To The District Engineer for
navigation
Dated 25th 3rd May 1875
Despatched 26th 3rd May 1875
Received 27th 3rd May 1875

No. 45
Enclosures

Regarding the
subject of the Conservan-
cy of the District of
South Arcot

10/10/75

Cd - 31.7.75 - 6-8-75
No. 31/75

31-6-75
1/2/75

Specis

... In G.O. No. 380
dated 17th February 1875
the Govt directed the
preparation of a Bill
for the conservation of
rivers by the Advocate
General in communication
with the Chief Engineer
for Irrigation and
the Board of Revenue,
directing that no
really important details
might be overlooked
invited the opinions
of certain selected
local officers of the
Revenue and Public

Works

A. N. 1875 B.L.K.
No. 2269
the District Magistrate
to the Secretary to
Govt. of India
Dated 17/5/75
Recd. Secy 23 April 1/75

What is that there
are not any special
circumstances con-
sistent with the River,
the generally being
regarded as a
man in farming &
act for conservation
of River -

Ce. 81.7.75 (22/1/75)
M. 11/1/75

river or large distribu-
tion channel should
include the Conservancy
officers. Construction of
permanent work in any
river, stream, or channel
without the concurrence
of the Conservancy officer
should be prohibited.

and margins of land
outside, all flood banks
or Levees acquired in
order to obtain material
for repair of banks.

Copies of the draft act
might be circulated
when the following
objectionable practices
might be provided against.

Gradual encroachments
on banks by shifting of
fences

Land outside the flood
banks if required, would
be regularly taken up and
retained.

This would be an ordinary
encroachment. It may
be guarded against
by clear demarcation of
land belonging to

embankments,
and it has been
suggested that
lines of palisades or other
trees would be a good and
economical way of
showing the boundary.

No interference with the details
of cultivation of a kind not
prohibited, could be allowed.
Such matters as it may be
considered should not be
left in private hands
must be taken up for
the purposes of river
conservancy.

Points of crossing for
all kinds of traffic should
be fixed and provided
with ramps at suitable
gradients, with provision
to compel traffic to the
pathways.

fences, within which
planting is frequently
carried on. Cuttings
trenches on the river side
of plantain gardens
for deposit of river
silt too near the foot
of the banks. (No trench
should be cut nearer
than 10 yards from foot
of bank.) Tracks made
across river banks by
passage of bullocks,
cattle &c. (Depression
of banks caused thereby
should be filled
up by the villagers
before the floods come
down in case of minor
crossings, and by Govt
with ramps in case of
more important crossings.)

Mud

in Mud and sand banks
to being thrown across the
the bed of rivers. Raising
of mud platforms etc.
joining banks for
in pottahis connected
with a channel from
of the main stream. Cutting
of river banks for lay-
ing down temporary
in sluices.

The defined channel
within which the waters
of the Gadavery ordina-
rily flow should be
assumed to be the space
from embankment to
embankment. Range
Officers should be em-
powered, subject to an

appeal

No work of either
a permanent or
temporary character will be
allowed to be constructed
within the river boundaries
or be done without work of
the latter kind may be
necessary with reference to
irrigation requirements, will
have to be regularly recorded
and permission given to the
superintending officer
to carry it out in a certain
way.

It is not intended to
acquire any rights over
the land or be so generally
but only when there are
so narrow as to be needed
entirely for convenience of
purposes.

From Dist. Engr. Gadavery
No. 57 of 1st April 1885

(prescribed?) The
bankments may be far
removed from the river bed
and it is not intended to
acquire any rights over
the land or be so generally
but only when there are
so narrow as to be needed
entirely for convenience of
purposes.

appeal to the District
Engineer would be of little
use after the Range Officer
has rooted up the grass.
The uprooting on lands
deemed to be private property
and situated outside the
river bed would only be
necessary ^{occasionally} and when it
may be so special authority
would have to be obtained,
and compensation given.
Within the river bed full
power is proposed to be given
to Conservancy Officers, on
certain terms yet to be
finally settled.

This case is already
provided for and if
referred to in the Conservancy
Act it would be
only as a matter of
convenience.

appeal to District
Engineer, to uproot lands
grass to prevent lands
grass planting, and
to make lands grass
plantations wherever
necessary. Land re-
quired for protective
works should be ac-
quired free of cost,
and no payment made
for uprooting grass
from a proprietary
lands or shoals. In
the case of land with
standing crops being
taken on emergency,
Revenue authorities
to decide, subsequent-
ly, amount of compen-
sation for loss of crops.
Conservancy

Conservancy officers
should be authorized
to take up land for
protective works, in
emergent cases, in
anticipation of sanction.
Conservancy operations
for protection of private
property carried out
at request of the owner
should be paid for
by the party interested,
the nature of the work
necessary being left to
the discretion of the
Conservancy Officer.
Permission of Con-
servancy officer to be
obtained for protective
works or canal grass
planting.

Anything can be done
at present if the
emergency of the case is to
justify it.

planting on private
property, in default
cost of removal of ob-
jectionable works to be
recovered from proprietor
with such fine as may
be laid down in the act.

From Supp. Engrs. Nellore.

29 & 21 June 1875

The bed of a river
should be defined to
be that portion between
the banks, which is
liable to be submerged
by maximum ordinary
floods. No cultivation
should be allowed on
ordinary flood, if capable within these limits with-
out special authority.
In pty. Engrs. Nellore, definition - A maximum
ordinary flood, if capable within these limits with-
out special authority.
minimum.

All inhabited islands
within the banks of river,
and thereafter they should
be restricted thereto, and islands that are
as far as possible maintained
up to these limits by the Con-
servancy officers.

not liable to be submerged, by maximum ordinary floods, should be confined to their existing limits. The embanking of the latter should not be allowed.

As a rule all land between the artificial embankments of a river and its natural banks should belong to the state. The planting of vegetables should not be allowed on river embankments. Where pistachos, or other appliances for raising water are situated between the margin of a river and its embankment the owners

This would have to be decided upon the merits in each case. But seldom would private individuals wish to embark at their own cost. Not as a rule. What land is really necessary to Conservancy should be acquired. The rest should be left to its owners.

Of course not any more than any other tree trees.

Power might be given to Conservancy officers to repair and recover expenditure after lapse of reasonable notice. This could only however be in the case of conduits built on their terms after formation of embankments. Those required for channels existing before the flood banks would have to be constructed and maintained by the Conservancy officers.

owners should be held responsible for the repair and working order of the conduits that pass the water under the embankment. Suitable ramps should be provided for the local traffic, where necessary in the line of river embankments, and any attempt to cross them, in at other places, should be considered an infringement of the proposed Act. Where the water stands several feet above the surface of the country in floods, wells should not be allowed in the immediate vicinity

vicinity of the outer slopes of river embankments - No weir to be constructed across a river without the sanction of Govt.

Perhaps not, but the distance must be prescribed - 50 feet from toe of bank would do.

Included in provisions against all work within river bed.

Provisions indicated from Dist. Eng. North West in Colonel Mullins' Memorandum include all that is required with regard to rivers of North West District - but legislative action should not be confined to "deltic" rivers, but embrace all rivers.

Do Do

All rivers or parts of rivers which exist in high flood - vide Memo No 49 I (d) - for cannot attempt the conservancy of all the rivers of the Presidency throughout their whole course.

From Supg. Eng. Chinglepat No. 3935 of 18th Feb. 1875.

The notes of the Chief From Dist. Eng. South West No. 48 of 25th May 1875.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation touch upon all the really important points in connection with the subject of river conservancy.

From Dist. Eng. Trinnevelly No. 2 of 5th April 1875. No special circumstances connected with the rivers of the Trinnevelly District require consideration in framing an act.

Inspection

No. 869

Memorandum 38

The replies of the Public Works Officers named in para 3 of G.O. 11th February last, No. 380, together with a series of their opinions and notes thereupon are submitted to Government.

Wm. Jenkins Lt. Col. R.E.
Offg. Chief Engineer
P.W.D.

Col. Command
30th July 1875

No. 5158/75

U

ad.

Go. 28 Aug 1/74, Nos 697-699
" 11 July 1/75 - 250-252

P. W. 1875 Dept.

From No: 5158.

The Offg. Chief
Engineers

Dated 30 July 1875.
Recd. 3 Aug 1875.

E. S. W. No: 869.

Submitting the replies
of certain P. W. Officers
together with a recap
of their opinions regarding
maintenance of Rivers.

No 104-S.

G. C. B. (Aug 1/75)

No 2274

Public Works Dept.

No 2274

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 1st Aug. 1875

Read the following

From

The Supg. Engr. Kistna (H.C. No 161 of 18th March 1875)

" " " " " " 211 " 13th April 1875

" Dist. Engr. Gadareny (" " 57 " 6th " ")

" Off. Supg. Engr. Nellore (" " 29 " 21st June ")

" Dist. Engr. N. K. K. (" " 3294 " 15th July 1875)

" Supg. Engr. Chingleput (" " 3935 " 18th " ")

" Dist. Engr. South Arcot (" " 48 " 25th May ")

" " " " " " 2 " 5th April ")

Memo. by Chief Engr. P. W. D. (" " 869 " 30th July ")

Ordered that these
papers be communicated
to the Advocate General
and Board of Revenue
in continuation of Proceeding
Madras Govt. No 380 of the

MS
4/8

25. 8. 75 11

11th February 1875.

4. 30/7

- 5 To The Chief Engr. for Surveys
9 . Sup. Engr. Kistna
7 8 Tanjore
9 . Dist. Engr. Godavari
6 Bellary
6 N. Arcot
6 Chingleput
6 S. Arcot
5 Trinnevelly
3 . Advocate General
21 . Revenue Dept
7 . Judicial Dept

104/5

S.C. Dept
26. 8. 75

X¹ atty

2383 ✓
2269 ✓
4189 ✓
2499 ✓
Oct. 5/58.
Govt. of 1875, Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Chief Engr.
for India.

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 6 Aug 1875, No. 227/4

No. 104 - 105

Curraney of Rivers.
Madras Presidency. Order
that the papers containing
the opinions of certain
local officers on a Bill
prepared for the
Council of the Madras
General & Co. of Rivers.

unyp