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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2568	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	8.9.	1875.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th September 1875.*

Read the following —

No 170	No 999
No 1,604, dated 28th July 1875, from the District Engineer, Madura	
„ 1,969, „ 14th Aug „ from do do	
„ 882, „ 6th „ „ to do do	

SUBMITTED for the consideration of Government at the special request of Colonel Fischer

2 The late Major Ryves' opinions, as given in paragraph 3 of the Note by Major Oakes, printed in Proceedings, Madras Government, No 1,193, of the 30th April last, by no means support Colonel Fischer's views as to the value of the Vigay, a very short river under the influence of the north-east monsoon only, is not a reliable source of irrigation. Above the Perrany anicut the length of the river is stated to be 33 miles, and apparently the average breadth of its basin is slightly under 40 miles. Probably, judging from other north-east monsoon districts, the 1,300 square miles of drainage basin would suffice to irrigate on the average 40,000* to 50,000 acres, or

* That is 30 acres per square mile
one-fifth to one-fourth of the area supposed in paragraph 3 of the District Engineer's letter, No 1,604. This view is supported by the circumstance that it is "affirmed by good authority that in an average year not a drop of Vigay water reaches the sea," which statement, though Major Ryves deemed it to be hardly sufficiently well established to be accepted as a fact, at any rate indicates that the water-supply of the river is already to a very great extent utilized. Moreover, as has been already pointed out, what is wanted is much more accurate knowledge than is now available of what becomes of the Vigay water.

Paragraph 6 of memorandum in Proceedings
Madras Government, No 2,005, 14th July 1875

3 In the next place, supposing the reservoir to be constructed on the upper waters at a cost of 60 lakhs, as estimated by Colonel Fischer, and there would apparently be the distributaries as well, the outlay on which would be considerable, a gross return of 5 lakhs would be necessary to warrant the outlay, and if, as has been supposed above, the river be incapable of irrigating more than 50,000 acres in ordinary seasons in the part of the country belonging to Government, and commanded by the Perrany anicut, it follows that the additional irrigation will be only some 13,000 acres and the return 65,000 Rupees or thereabouts. There does not seem to be the smallest probability of irrigating 100,000 acres additional from the Vigay, and that is the area that would be required to warrant an outlay of 60 or 70 lakhs.

4 Again, the Government could not entertain a proposal for the construction of a reservoir on this river of a capacity such as is contemplated by Colonel Fischer, until the present circumstances of the irrigation under it and the way in which its waters are disposed of have been ascertained. There are already manifold interests in existence which would have to be considered, the waters irrigate not only Government but Zemindary lands, and of course nothing can be done to interfere with the supply of the latter without, at the same time, making arrangements satisfactory to the proprietors.

5 The investigations which have been made for distributing the proposed supply of Perryaur water will afford a good deal of useful information regarding the part of

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th September 1875

the district intended to be brought under the influence of that project, and this should be supplemented so as to include the whole area now connected with the Vigay

6 The foregoing remarks will show that, in the opinion of the undersigned, there was nothing to warrant the District Engineer in seeking to re-open the subject of the proper treatment of the irrigation works of the Vigay valley instead of attending to the instructions conveyed in G O, No 2,005, of the 14th July 1875

7 It may be necessary to add that, in the absence of the requisite data, the calculations of water passing the Madura causeway in October to December 1874 cannot be examined, but it is believed that an accurate estimate at that causeway is a matter of difficulty, and it is considered that the Perrany and Chittany ariquets would afford better means of ascertaining the supply available

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut-Colonel, R E,
28th August 1875 Chief Engineer for Irrigation

No 171 ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1875; No 2,568

IRRIGATION, No 16-A.

RECORDED with the remark that the Government see no cause for any modification of the orders already given in G O, No 2,005 of the 14th July 1875

(True Extract)

Major-General, R E.,
Secretary to Government

To the Revenue Department
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation
.. District Engineer, Madura

Exd S T Austin.

Spate Copies

11999.
No 1604. 23rd July 1875 from D. E. Madura
" 1967- 14th August " " do
" 382. 6th do " " do

Submitted for the consideration of
Government at the special request of
Colonel Fischer.

2- The late Major Ryves' opinions, as given in para 3 of the note by Major Oakes printed in Pro. Madras Gaz. No 1193 of the 30th April last, by no means support Colonel Fischer's views as to the value of the Vigay - a very short river under the influence of the North East monsoon only is not a reliable source of irrigation. Above the Perrany ariquet the length of the river is stated to be 23 miles and apparently the average breadth of its basin is slightly under 40 miles - (Probably judging from other North East monsoon districts the 1300 square miles of drainage basin

20 20 April 1875 Nos 692-703
14 July - " 390-391

P W. 1875 Sept.

No: 5812

From

The Chief Engr.
for Irrigation

Dated 28 Aug. 1875.
Recd. 10 Sept. 1875.

No. 599

Note on the proposals
of the St. Engr. Madras
for utilizing the waters
of the Kyzgair river and
states that the feasi-
bility of the project is
more than doubtful

S. 6. 2568. 8-9-75.

12170

No 2568 S.H.B. (2)

Proc. of the Madras Government

No order date the 8th Sept 75

Read the following.

From the Chief Engineer
for Irrigation } (No. 6. 2568 of 23rd Sept 75)

Recorded with the
remark that the Govern-

ment see no cause
for any modification
of the orders already
given in S. O. No. 2005
of the 14th July 1875.

by 3/8
G.M.

Per Dept
Chgo for Engr
S. 6. Madras

0156

27-9-75

11-2-18 B.H.

11-2-18
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
PUBLIC WORKS.

The New Dept.

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Organic River Machine
Et. - Note to the Chief
for irrigation submitting
the proposals of the
fertilizing the water
of the —, according
with remarks.