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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	614	(J)	Press
~~B.P. No.~~			~~Mis.~~
Dated	3. 3		1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd March 1875.*

Read the following papers —

No 110. From Lieutenant-Colonel J F FISCHER, R E, District Engineer, Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel J MULLINS, R E, Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Madura, 2nd December 1874, No 3,754.

ADVERTING to G. O, of the 18th November 1874, No 3,259, I have the honor

1 Letter with two Enclosures
1 Plan
2 Rainfall Registers

to forward the Executive Engineer's detailed report and data therein referred to for your consideration and disposal

2 I beg to add I have examined

the Pulney Tank supply-channel throughout its length, and it will be very easy to make all necessary repairs to it from "Repairs Agricultural" One small regulating sluice is required for a distributing channel, which can be provided for from Minor New Works But the main work required on this side of the Shamuganuddy is, I consider, to see if the water-supply to this tank and others fed from its surplus cannot be greatly improved by leading a channel, as marked on the accompanying sketch map, from one of the main drainages of the Pulney Hills

3. The three or four Government tanks Mr Bliss wishes to supply from another of these large drainages can get an increased supply of water if a Zemindar will allow us to pass the water through one of his tanks I have personally inspected the project, and reported the matter in full to the Sub Collector.

4. Whilst I was in Pulney in October last I prospected a good deal of the country between the Shamuganuddy and the Ambravutty rivers, and from the levels I was able to get I think it is quite feasible to lead a supply-channel from an existing anicut marked A in the sketch map and to supply a large tank about 50 feet in depth, to be constructed at the point B, in one of the subsidiary valleys of the Shamuganuddy, to irrigate all the land lying within the fork of these rivers as marked in the sketch map By this arrangement I am in hopes we shall be able to dispose very satisfactorily of the rainfall of the Pulneys, as there is a large area of land, not less than 10,000 acres, which I believe can be all brought under irrigation in the locality I have indicated.

5. I beg to forward two statements showing the rainfall at Kodicanal kindly furnished to me by Mr. Levinge The drainage area contains about 180 square miles or 540 millions square yards of exceedingly steep scarped hills, Kodicanal itself is 7,200 feet above the sea level, and by Aneroid readings I make Pulney to be only 1,160 feet, so that the fall per mile of the country generally is about 200 feet per mile or 1 in 26, down which the rainfall runs off very rapidly If one inch only of rainfall passes off in a month from this drainage area the yield would be 15 millions cubic yards of water, and allowing 1,000 cubic yards a month as sufficient for an acre of land, we have, I consider, by means of storage reservoir, sufficient to irrigate fully 15,000 acres of land on both sides of the valley of the Shamuganuddy. Some of the tanks are in existence but require to be improved, but one entirely new one is required on the left bank, as shown on the accompanying sketch map.

6 It will be observed from the rainfall registers that the fall of rain occurs throughout the year; it is small in January, February, and March, but increases very much in April, May, and June, during the prevalence of the south-west monsoon. The fall is not so great by any means as one would have expected,

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3rd March 1875.*

but in September, October, and November the supply is most abundant, and I trust, then, by means of these storage reservoirs to be able to furnish enough water for irrigation purposes all the year round.

7. As regards establishment, I think the project requires the services of an Assistant Engineer to make the scheme complete. Mr Hawksworth is hardly active enough for such duties, and appears to find the work of the range too much for him, as I have lately had to report to Government. A good deal of field work will have to be done on both sides of the valley, but an active young officer with two Surveyors will probably be able to submit the project complete in six months.

No 147-B

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation

No 111

In his letter No 3,754, of the 2nd December last, the District Engineer, Madura, in accordance with the directions contained in G O, dated 18th November 1874, No 3,259, transmitted to this office information regarding the projects he proposed to investigate, and it then appeared that he was desirous of rendering efficient certain existing irrigation works, and also of investigating a scheme for turning the drainage of the Pulneys to account, constructing a large tank 50 feet deep in one of the subsidiary valleys of the Shamuganaddy, etc.

2 In reply Lieutenant Colonel Fischer was informed that it being the wish of Government that all existing works of irrigation should be rendered safe

and efficient before new schemes are taken up, the Shamuganaddy project should be deferred, at the same time a survey establishment was sanctioned for ascertaining what work was required to be done to the Vyapoory channel and tanks to render them efficient. It appeared also from the papers that the Range Officer, without at any rate any objection being raised by the District Engineer, had commenced surveying for the new project in anticipation of sanction, and the latter officer was informed that no recommendation for the passing of the charges incurred would be made by this office.

3 The District Engineer in his letter No 4,074, of the 24th December, states that he is quite prepared to undertake the investigation of the Shamuganaddy project if a survey establishment of Rupees 100 a-month for six months be placed at his disposal, and he wishes the orders of Government on the subject to be taken. The correspondence is consequently submitted, and it appears to be unnecessary to do more than remark that, however promising the project may be, it is not desirable to divert the time and attention of Public Works establishments thereto so long as any tanks are unsafe, any supply-channels inefficient, and, in short, any existing irrigation works less effective than they can and should be made. The Government have not yet got money for the more pressing needs of existing works, it will be still more difficult to obtain funds for new projects of an ordinary description, and only in cases in which the welfare and security of the population are concerned in the carrying out of such projects does it appear to be desirable under existing circumstances to undertake their investigation.

FORT ST GEORGE,
— February 1875.

(Signed)

JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd March 1875.*

No 112.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd March 1875, No 614.

IRRIGATION, No 7.

His Excellency the Governor in Council recognizes the useful suggestions made by Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer

in respect to the irrigation of the Pulney valley, but is not at present able to divert money or subordinate agency for their investigation.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Madura
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Exd S T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No 3754

District Engineer's Office
Madras 2nd December 1914

From

Lieutenant Colonel J. G. Fisher R.E.
District Engineer Madras

To

Lieutenant Colonel J. Mullins R.E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation
Madras

Enclosures

- 1 Letter with
- 2 enclosures
- 1 Plan
- 2 Rainfall registers

Referring to GO of the
November 1914 No 3259 I have the honor
to forward the Executive Engineer's despatch
report and data therein referred to for
consideration and disposal.

I beg to add I have examined the
Pulney Tanks Supply Channel through-
out its length and it will be very easy
to make all necessary repairs to it
from "Repair Agricultural" One small
regulating sluice is required for a dis-
tributing channel which can be pro-
vided for from Minor New Works. But

the

The main work required on the sides
of the Shannugamuddy is I consider
to see if the water supply to the tanks
and others fed from its surplus, cannot
be greatly improved by leading a
channel, as marked on the accompanying
Sketch map, from one of the main
drainages of the Pulni hills.

The 3 or 4 Government Tanks which
supply from another of these large
drainages can get an increased supply
of water if a summer well allows
to pass the water through one of
the tanks. I have personally in-
spected the project and reported the
matter in full to the Sub-Collector.

While I was in Pulni in
October last I prospected a good deal
of the country between the Shannugamuddy
and the Subavetty rivers and from
the levels I was able to get I think
it is quite feasible to lead a supply
channel from an existing creek

marked

marked, A, in the sketch map and
to supply a large tank, to be con-
structed at the point, B, in one of the
subsidiary valleys of the Shannugamuddy
to irrigate all the land lying within
the forks of these rivers as marked in
the sketch map. By this arrangement
I am in hopes we shall be able to dis-
pose very satisfactorily of the rain fall
of the Pulni, as there is a large area
of land not less than 1000 acres
I believe can be all brought under
irrigation in the locality I have indicated.

I beg to forward 2 statements
the rain fall at Rodicamal, kindly
furnished to me by Mr. George. The
drainage area contains about 10000 ¹⁰⁰ square miles
or 540 million sq. yards of exceedingly
steep, scarped hills. Rodicamal itself
is 7200 feet above the sea level and by
meroid readings the Pulni hole only
is 1800 feet so, that the fall per mile of the
country generally is about 200 ^{per mile} feet, or

1 in 26 down which the rain-fall runs
off very rapidly. If one inch only
of rain-fall passes off in a month
from the drainage area the yield
would be 15 Million Cubic Yards
of water and allowing 1000 Cubic
Yards a month as sufficient for an acre
of land we have & consider by
means of storage reservoirs sufficient
to irrigate for 15,000 acres of land
on both sides of the valley of the Sham-
munga maddy. Some of the tanks are
in Ruaknee but require to be improved
but one entirely new one is required on
the left bank as shown on the accom-
panying sketch map.

6 It will be observed from the
rain-fall registers that the fall of
rain occurs throughout the year; it
is small in January February and
March but increases very much in
April May and June during the
prevailing

prevailing of the W. Monsoon. The fall
is not so great by any means as we
would have expected, but in September
October and November the supply is
most abundant and I trust then
by means of these storage reservoirs
to be able to furnish enough water
for irrigation purposes all the year
round.

7 As regards Establishment I think
the project requires the services of an ^{Asst.} Engineer
to make the scheme complete.
Mr Tewkesworth is hardly active enough
for such duties and appears to find the
work of the Charge too much for him
as I have lately had to report to Govern-
ment. A good deal of field work will
have to be done on both sides of
the Valley but our active young officers
with 2 Surveyors will probably be able
to submit the project complete in
6 months.

2

Shew the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedt Servt

Wm. L. Tucker Lieut Col.

District Engineer
Memphis

To D.S. Madura
N^o 1026 B 9 Dec 74.
To Comd^g N^o 1026 B
9 Dec 74.

From ^{N^o 3754}
The District Engineer
Madura

To
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

Dated 2 Dec 1874
Received 5th " "

Enc 6

Reports regarding
the Irrigation
Projects in
the Pulney Talook

P. W. 847/75

N^o 110

N^o 147 B

Not by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation

In his letter N^o 3754 of the 2^d December
last the District Engineer, Madura, in
accordance with the directions contained
in Government Order dated 18th November
1874, N^o 3259, transmitted to this Office in-
formation regarding the projects he
proposed to investigate, and it then appeared
that he was desirous of rendering effe-
-cient certain existing irrigation works,
and also of investigating a scheme for
turning the drainage of the Pulneys to
account, constructing a large tank 50 feet
deep in one of the subsidiary valleys of
the Shanuganaddy.

2 In reply Lt Colonel Fischer was
informed that it being the wish of
Government that all existing works of
irrigation should be rendered safe and
efficient before new schemes are taken
up, the Shanuganaddy project should
be

N^o 1026 B
9th December

be deferred, at the same time a survey establishment was sanctioned for ascertaining what work was required to be done to the Vyapoory channel and Lanks to render them efficient. It appeared also from the papers that the Range Officer without at any rate any objection being raised by the District Engineer, had commenced surveying for the new project in anticipation of sanction, and the latter Officer was informed that no recommendation for the passing of the charges incurred would be made by this Office.

3 The District Engineer in his letter of 24th of the 26th December states that he is quite prepared to undertake the investigation of the Shanunganaddy project if a survey establishment of Rs 100 a month for 6 months be placed at his disposal, and he wishes the orders of Government on the subject to be taken. The correspondence is consequently submitted, and it appears to be unnecessary to do more than remark, that however promising the project may be,

it is not desirable to divert the time and attention of Public Works establishments there to so long as any Lanks are unsafe, any supply channels inefficient, and in short any existing irrigation works less effective than they can and should be made. The Government have not yet got money for the more pressing needs of existing works; it will be still more difficult to obtain funds for new projects of an ordinary description, and but in cases in which the welfare and security of the population are concerned in the carrying out of such projects does it appear to be desirable under existing circumstances to undertake their investigation.

Fort St George }
February 1875

Wm. L. C. E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

11 Sep
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Read the following

From
 The Chief Engineer for Irrigation (L.R. No 147/13 of 3rd Feby/75)

614

The Governor at Council ^{ring} the

Remains of the Chief Engineer for
 Irrigation decide against the
 present investigations of any new
 projects for irrigation works, im-
 brought forward under very ex-
 ceptional circumstances, and
 desires that the attention of the
 District Engineer and of his offi-
 cials should be given to the
 sent to the effective treatment &
 maintenance of all the existing
 irrigation works of the Madras
 District. When the condition of
 these works may have been
 rendered as that is desirable

10.3.84
 18.4.84

18.7.84
 14.7.84
 18.8.84

The Chief Engineer
 for Irrigation

The Secretary to
 Government
 P.W.D.

18.8.84
 18.8.84

18.8.84
 18.8.84

There will be no objections to some of the
time of the P.W. officers being given to
projects for utilizing the water
supply available and not yet turn
over to account.

W.W. May 6/25

Not over in buying &
water what he believes to
be a valuable project. I'd
like to know more about it -
but I'm merely say -

Not - the Gov. recognize
the useful suggestions made
by Col 7 in respect to the
wastage to the irrigation of
the Pulney Valley - but is
not at present able to
dewest money or laborable
Army for their investigation
or to make the effort
Col 7's work will show
the feeling of the head of
the Dept. 10/2

At the G. M. T. re-
cognized the use-
ful suggestions
made by Col 7
Discher in respect
to the irrigation
of the Pulney Val-
ley; but is not
at present able
to dewest money
or laborable
agency for their
investigation.

10/2
21/2
To P. E. Chandra
Chief of
for 6 years
6/2/25
10/2-3-75

Nov 10 - 112.

Revision of the Policy

Policy - Recognizing the
useful suggestions
made by Mr. J. H. Fischer
respect to the _____

and intimating that as
resent no money or
ordinate agency can
be diverted for their
investigation -