

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1902	Press
B.P. No.		Mis. —
Dated	26-7	1876
		— 195 —

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 453. From Captain L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 11th July 1876, No. 106-W.

With reference to G.O., No. 1,465, of 13th June 1876, I respectfully request that some definite ruling may be passed by Government as to the meaning of the terms *Original Work* and *Repair* when applied to works of River Conservancy.

2. The works sanctioned in the Government Order above referred to are classed as *Repairs*. But the Note of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation printed with these Proceedings, though it nowhere specifies the works to be executed, seems to indicate that the works are such as are usually called *Original*.

3. In such a case as this, where a work is sanctioned by Government, the question is simply one of classification; but in relation to District Engineers the same question becomes a question of *power of sanction*. A District Engineer has unlimited powers of sanctioning repairs, and *nominally* very limited powers of sanctioning *Original Works*; but District Engineers not unfrequently sanction as repairs works which, in my opinion, are *Original Works*, and which, if treated as *Original Works*, could not be sanctioned by District Engineers.

No. 109-W.

No. 453-A. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

THERE is some difficulty in drawing a distinct line between *Original Works* and *Repairs* under River Conservancy. The following is believed to be the best guide that can be given :—

1st.—ORIGINAL WORKS—

- (1.) Permanent groynes whether of stone or other durable material.
- (2.) Revetments of masonry, stone, concrete, &c., whether for the protection of river banks or for the establishment of spurs at the bifurcation of rivers.

2nd.—REPAIR WORKS—

- (1.) Nanel or wild cane planting for the protection of river banks, the regulation of the margin of the river, the maintenance of a proper point of division between rivers at their bifurcation, and for other similar purposes.
- (2.) Construction of groynes with perishable materials.
- (3.) Construction of modussils and other temporary protection to river banks.
- (4.) Grass revetments (nanel usually).
- (5.) The restoration to efficiency of permanent works which have suffered injury or wear and tear.

2. The distinction it will be seen is based, except as regards Repairs (5), upon the nature of the material used rather than upon the character and object of the work to be done. The reason for this is that in river conservancy the ordinary basis of distinc-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th July 1876. No. 1,902.*

tion between Original Works and Repairs is inapplicable. A repair is properly the restoration to its original condition of a work which has been at some previous period constructed, and practically a repair is usually understood to mean the placing of an existing work in a serviceable state whether in carrying out the repair the former arrangements be strictly adhered to or not.

3. In the case of river conservancy the river itself is the original work which has to be dealt with, and ordinary and comparatively inexpensive measures for maintaining the river in a safe and proper condition may properly be classed as Repairs, while works which are in themselves more costly or which are intended to effect a radical change of long established circumstances should be treated as Original Works, and the more so that these usually do not need to be carried out without delay and will generally be the better for ample investigation and discussion of objects to be attained, &c.

4. It may be added that river conservancy is as a rule confined to the Deltaic or embanked parts of rivers, and conservancy of other parts of rivers is usually, and should continue to be, carried out only on Government sanction.

5. In future, distinct Budget provision will have to be made for river conservancy as a sub-head of Ordinary Agricultural Works for which no Capital or Revenue Account is kept, and District Engineers will be required to explain fully any unusual proposed outlay under Repairs, while Original Works except to a very limited extent will always need the sanction of Government.

OOTACAMUND,
15th July 1876.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 454.

ORDER THEREON, 26th July 1876, No. 1,902.

IRRIGATION, No. 50-A.

The definition of River Conservancy works which should be classed as Original Works and Repairs, respectively, as given in the foregoing Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation is approved, and these Proceedings will be communicated to the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, and to all District Engineers for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D. Colonel,

To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
„ all District Engineers.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Spare Copies

[Cr. Wks. Form No. 2.]

No. 1062

From

THE CONTROLLER,
PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNTS.

To

*The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
FORT SAINT GEORGE, 11th July 1876.*

Sir,

With reference to Government Order No. 1465 of 15 June 1876, I respectfully request that some definite ruling may be passed by Government as to the meaning of the terms Original Works and Repair when applied to works of river conservancy.

2. The works sanctioned in the Government Order above referred to are classed as Repairs. But the note of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation printed with these Proceedings, though it nowhere specifies the works to be executed, seems to indicate that the works are such as are usually called Original.

3. In such a case as this, where a work is sanctioned by Government, the question is simply

simply one of classification, but in relation to
District Engineers the same question becomes
a question of power of sanction. A District
Engineer has unlimited powers of sanctioning
repairs, and nominal very limited powers of
sanctioning Original Works; but District
Engineers not unfrequently sanction as repairs
works which, in my opinion, are Original Works,
and which, if treated as Original Works, could
not be sanctioned by District Engineers.

I have the honor to be,

Sir
Your most Obedient Servant.

Lowrey-Sodon.

Chambers P. M. Accounts

Y^{rs}
11/16

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P. W. 1876 Department

From ~~S. 11988~~

The Engineer
P.W. Accounts

To
The Secretary to Government
P.W. Department.

N. 106 H.

W. 11. 3 July '76.
Recd 11. 3
Received 12. 3

P. W. 5388/46

Requests to be furnished with
information as to the meaning of
the terms Original Works and
Repairs when applied to
River Conservancy.

N. 453

Recd. 24.7.76 O. 26.7.76
Cir. 19.7.76 P. 24.7.76
Recd. 6. 12.7.76.

E. I. Form No. 18.

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION,

Calcutta
P. W. George, July 15. 1876.

11-109-W.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Enclosure 1.

There is some difficulty in draw-
ing a distinct line between Original
Works and Repairs under River
Conservancy. The following is believed
to be the best guide that can be given.

1st Original works.

- (1) Permanent groynes whether of
stone or other durable material.
- (2) Retirements of masonry, stone,
concrete &c. whether for the pro-
tection of river banks or for
the establishment of spur at
the bifurcation of rivers.

2d Repair Works.

- (1) Canal or wild cane planting
for the protection of river banks,
the regulation of the margins
of the river, the maintenance
of a proper point of division
between rivers at their bifurcation.

and for other similar purposes.
(2) Construction of groynes with
perishable materials.

(3) Construction of mounds and
other temporary protection to
river banks.

(4) Grass revetments (manually)

(5) The restoration to efficiency of
permanent works which have
suffered injury or wear and tear.

2. The distinction it will be
seen is based, except as regards
Repairs (5), upon the nature of the
material used rather than upon
the character and object of the work
to be done. The reason for this
is that in river conservancy the
ordinary basis of distinction
between Original works and
Repairs is inapplicable. A repair
is properly the restoration to its
original condition of a work which
has been at some previous period
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is usually understood to mean the
placing of an existing work in a
serviceable state whether in carrying
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be strictly adhered to or not.

3. In the case of river conservancy
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Revenue Account is kept, and
District Engineers will be required
to explain fully any unusual pro-
posed outlay under Repairs, while
original works except to a very
limited extent will always need the
sanction of Government.

W. L. Williams
St. Colonel
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To
The Secretary to Govt P.W.D.

P. W. 1876 Department

Form No. 18.

P-5388

From
The Chief Engineer for Irrigation,

To
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

Dated 15 July
Despatched 17 July
Received 21 July } 1876.

ENCLOSURE 1 ✓

No. 189-W.

Subject.

Regarding the meaning
of the terms "original
works" & "Repairs" when
applied to River Con-
servancy.

N 4530

Recd - 24.7.76
Cir. 19.7.76

21.7.76

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

From Examiner of P.W.D. No. 106 W d. 11.7.76
Rate by the Chief Engineer
for Irrigation } d. 15.7.76 -

FOR ORDERS.

Under Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

21/7

No 1902

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 26 July 1906

READ the following:—

From Examiner P.W.D. & H.L. No 106 of 11 July 1906.

Note by the Chief Engr for Engrs. & " 109 of 15 do.

The definition of River Conservancy works which should be classed as Original Works and Repairs, respectively, as given in the foregoing Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation is approved, and these Proceedings will be communicated to the Examiner of P.W.D. and to all District Engineers for information and guidance.

Engr of P.W.D.
H. S. Engrs
10-8-06

22/7

Amr

5388
4288
Govt. of 1876
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The Examined of P. & H.

Date
Issued
Loc
G. O. 26th July 1876, No. 1702

Nov. 4th 76.

Private Consuancy Notes

Passing orders on Note
by the Chief Engineer
for Inigation relative
to the classification
of ———

Not in P. & H.
No. 1702