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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2369	Press
B.P. - No.		Mis.
Dated	30.8.	195
		1873

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 686. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Ootacamund, 23rd August 1876, No. 161-W:—

From Captain R. R. E. BROCKMAN, R.E., District Engineer, Tanjore, to Lieut.-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Cabistalam, 14th August 1876, No. 1,497.

I HAVE the honor to report that a flood came down the river Cauvery on the morning of the 29th July last, when 11 feet 10 inches and 11 feet 7 inches were registered at the south and north end gauges, respectively, of the dam. The rise to the maximum thus registered was 49 inches in the 48 hours preceding the morning of the 29th ultimo.

2. The left banks of the rivers Vettaur and Vennaur, about 10 and 15 miles due east of Tanjore, were breached. That in the Vettaur was not very serious as a good berm or padugay intervened between the deep bed and the bank of the river, but that which occurred in the Vennaur unfortunately took place at a point where there was no padugay and where the lands in rear are on a comparatively low level. The breach here is about 60 yards in width, and the depth of water in the scoured portions could not have been less than 18 feet at the time the river was in full flood. Fortunately the river subsided nearly as rapidly as it rose. Measures are being taken for closing this breach, that in the Vettaur having been rendered safe against a further rise in the river.

3. Other minor breaches in the Vettaur more to the eastward have been reported, but are, comparatively speaking, of little importance.

4. The banks of the rivers in the delta at their heads require a large amount of strengthening, aligning and improvement. The tendency apparently has been to incur a large expenditure further down the streams where they are small in section and in carrying capacity, leaving those sections where the bulk of the waters are carried comparatively unattended to. It stands to reason, however, that the larger streams more to the westward should first be put into a state of carrying efficiency, as a breach, when it does occur, is the more difficult to be closed owing to the greater depth and larger quantity of water to be dealt with. My attention shall be directed to putting the more westward portions of the rivers into safe condition first, and trust my proposal will meet with your approval.

—

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

Though a serious breach in the Vennaur is much to be regretted, it is considered that the fact that only two breaches of sufficient importance to be specially mentioned occurred from a fresh of $11\frac{2}{3}$ feet, is, if the former state of the Tanjore delta rivers be considered, a not unsatisfactory result of the work of the past ten years.

2. With regard to the Vennaur breach, 15 miles east of Tanjore would be near Needamungalum and apparently below the regulators recently constructed at the head of the Pamaniyaur and Corayaur. The District Engineer should see whether the flood-waters were properly distributed at these and other regulators.

3. The Vennaur used to be liable to serious breaches higher up the river. In 1863 there was a very bad one in the right bank, 3 miles east of the bridge on

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th August 1876. No. 2,309.

the Saliangalum and Papanassum road, and before that a bad breach at which Lieutenant Moore was drowned.

4. Seeing that the river embankments in Tanjore measure many hundreds of miles, and that though much has been done of late years there must remain very much to be done, it appears to be necessary—

1st.—To attend to exceptionally dangerous places.

2ndly.—To proceed regularly with the general work of reformation.

5. The District Engineer has addressed another letter to the undersigned on the treatment of these embankments and instructions will be sent to him shortly.

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

No. 687.

ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1876, No. 2,309.

IRRIGATION, No. 70.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,

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

To the District Engineer, Tanjore.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. T. O'Connor.
Spare Copies

Encls!

Submitted for the information
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Astacumund 3 Wendenburg, Lt. Colonel 1876
23^d August 1876 Chief Engineer for Oregon

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P.W.D.
2 SEP 76
No. 1353

From
The Chief Engineer for Drainage
To
The Secretary to Govt
P.W.D.

Dated 23 August 1876
Despatch 2nd do
Encls 1

No. 161-W.

Flood in the Cauvery - Tanjavur District - Submits, with several letters from the D.E., reporting the occurrence of a — on the 29th and the consequent breach of the Vennams & Vettams.

K 686

7a
No 2309
Public Works Department.
PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 30 Aug 76.
Read the following:—

Note by the Ch. Engr. {
for Survey { M. S. 111 W. of 23 Aug 76.

Recorded.

W. 2578

L. Engr. Tanjavur.
C. Engr. with 1 Encl V
Dated 19/9/76

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6353

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The N. & S. S. S. S.

Dated

Issued

Recd

Encl.

G. O., 305, No. 2309

Nos. 66/67

Recd. in the
29-7-76

Flood in the Cauvery
Donjon St - Endorse
ment of the Chief Eng. for
Drugs, submitting with
remarks letter from the St.
Dr. Eng. reporting the occur-
rence of — on the 29 July/76
& the consequent breaching
of the Vinnar Vettar
Record -