

(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.	2402	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	9-9-1876	195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 117. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Ootacamund, 28th August 1876, No. 173-W. :—

From Major H. L. PRENDERGAST, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Vellore, 12th July 1876, No. 1,205.

I AM sorry to say that the instructions given in your memorandum, No. 14 N.A., dated 20th June 1876, cannot now, in a great measure, be carried out. The work at the Poorasay tank, both original and repair, was put in hand in anticipation of sanction in February, and by this time a great deal of the work has already been executed.

2. The Range Officer has been directed at once to discontinue work, except to the extent authorized in your paragraph 16. But he reports that the bund has been carried up to a top width of 6 yards instead of 5, and the temporary road made and paid for.

The rebuilding of the revetment is also nearly completed.

3. I have directed the Range Officer not to pull down more of the old revetment, but only to rebuild any portion where the stone work has been actually taken down, in order that the bund may not be exposed, as an accession of water may take place any day at this season.

The Sub-Engineer adverts to the time that it will take him to have the contour taken at F.T.L. in accordance with your paragraph 10; but I have told him that the estimate of work to be done is not to be delayed on this account, though the contour work will have to be done.

4. The revised estimates must now of necessity be prepared to show what has been actually done, and for the remainder in compliance with your directions.

No. 117-A. 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, 19th August 1876, No. 183-W. (Through the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.)

I HAVE the honor to bring to the notice of Government that expenditure to a large amount has been, and is still being, incurred on repairs and improvements to the Poorasay tank in North Arcot (Poloor Division).

2. Expenditure is being incurred against two estimates aggregating Rs. 22,500. The total expenditure to the end of July has been Rs. 6,101, viz., Rs. 1,277, against an estimate of Rupees 13,200 for improvements, and Rupees 4,824 against an estimate of Rupees 9,300 for repairs, neither of which estimates has apparently yet been sanctioned.

3. The District Engineer states that the work is being carried out with the knowledge of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation; but the Chief Engineer for Irrigation has certainly no authority to sanction the estimate for improvements, and, I believe, the estimate for repairs is also beyond his power of sanction. At any rate, it has not been sanctioned. Nor is there anything to show that the Chief Engineer is aware of the extent to which expenditure is being incurred without sanction.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th September 1876. No. 2,402.*

I brought the matter to his notice on the 25th July 1876, when the outlay to the end of May (Rupees 2,808) was known, and he has not intimated his approval of the proceedings.

4. The District Engineer also stated that in the Chief Engineer's (for Irrigation) note printed with G.O., No. 1,462, dated 13th June 1876, these works are mentioned as being in progress. These Proceedings have not been officially communicated to me, but I have had an opportunity of perusing them, and I cannot find that the Chief Engineer's (for Irrigation) note contains anything which can be regarded as a formal report of the circumstances. Indeed, unless previously aware of the circumstances, I should not have gathered from the 10th paragraph of the Chief Engineer's (for Irrigation) note that any work was under execution.

5. I think it my duty therefore to bring the circumstances prominently to the notice of Government. The practice of commencing works without sanction is by no means uncommon, and it seems to me that the necessity of having such proceedings confirmed by competent authority is not generally appreciated. I am aware that it may often be necessary to commence works in anticipation of sanction in cases of real emergency; but even in such cases immediate steps should, I think, be taken to obtain confirmation of such proceedings. When the sanction of Government is not obtained until a work is so far completed that Government have no alternative but to sanction, the application for such sanctions becomes almost a matter of form.

6. In the present case the works have been in progress for six months, no estimate has yet been sanctioned, whether approximate or detailed; no report even, as far as I am aware, has yet been made to Government. The estimate of Rupees 13,200 for improvements has not been included in the Budget, without which, according to the rules laid down by the Government of India, the work should not have been commenced; indeed, no appropriation of funds has been made for either of these works estimated to cost in the aggregate Rupees 22,500.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The proceedings in connection with the Poorasay tank, as noticed by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, have been very irregular. Work had been commenced prior to the inspection made by the undersigned in March last, and objection was taken to some of the details and particularly to that part of the work which was not a repair or essential to the safety of the tank, as noticed in paragraph 10 of the Notes of Inspection, and it was believed that the then District Engineer had been clearly informed as to the work to which all immediate expenditure should be confined.

3. On the review of the estimates which had been submitted by the District Engineer prior to the inspection, detailed instructions were given in this office memorandum, No. 14 N.A., dated 20th June last, and the present District Engineer reported on the 12th ultimo, that a great deal of work which ought not to have been done had been carried out.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th September 1876. No. 2,402.*

4. The revised estimates have not yet been received.

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

No. 118. ORDER THEREON, 9th September 1876, No. 2,402.

IRRIGATION, No. 15.
Account.

THE District Engineer, North Arcot, will lose no time in completing and submitting the revised estimates for the Poorasay tank, and he will in submitting them explain why so much work which was not of an emergent character was undertaken in anticipation of the sanction of the estimates.

(True E. tract.)

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

To the District Engineer, North Arcot.
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker
Spare Copies

From Examiner P.W. 20 183 20 - 19th August 1876.

N^o 173 - W.

Submitted for the information
of Government.

Encls. 2

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No 1262 of
June 1876

3. On the review of the estimates which had been submitted by the District Engineer prior to the inspection, detailed instructions were given in this office Memo N^o 116. N. A. dated 20th June last, and the present District Engineer reported on the 12th ultimo that a great deal of work which ought not to have been done had been carried out.

1205

4. The revised estimates have
not yet been received.

Dacca 28 August 1876

Colonel R. C.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

1876 P.W.D.
11 SEP 76

From No. 5555
The Chief Engineer for Engrs.
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

Dated 28 August 1876
Desp. 5 Sep. 76

Encls 2
N. 173-W.

Pooracay Tank. N. Dist. Dist.
— Submits for information with
remarks, letter from the S. P. M. C. C.
bringing to notice the irregular
proceedings in connection with
the — & states that the revised
estimate for the — has not
yet been received.

N. 117-148

Retd 8. 9. 76.
Cir. 1-9. 76. Th. Chut 3 Septe-

E. I. Form No. 22.

No. 2402

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 9th Sept 76

Read the following:—

Endorsement by the Ch. Engr. & M. C. C. 21/7/76 d. 28th Aug 76
for Engrs.

The District Engineer
North Arcot will have no
in completing & submitting
the revised estimates for
Pooracay tank, and he
in submitting them except
why so much work was
was not of an emergency
character was undertaken
in anticipation of the same
of the Estimates.

S. E. M. C. C.
C. E. for S. M. C. C. 2 Encls
En. P. W. D.

Decd 30/9/76

6665-CH.

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The H. E. South Street

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 9th Sept. 1876, No. 2112

Nos.

Recd. in P. O.
2-10-76

Torrasay Tank

North Arcot R.

The
The Govt. is anxious to
use of time the water Co
tenders for the — & to see
how ~~any~~ why so much
work which was not of an
urgent character was
taken in anticipation of the
completion of the Coleroon