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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2779	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17-10	1876.
		195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No 252. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Ootacamund, 9th October 1876, No. 217 W :—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 29th September 1876, No. 98.

Uncultivated Ayacuts, Cuddapah District.

I HAVE the honor to ask you whether you think that anything can be done to promote the cultivation of tank ayacuts this year, and if so, to bring the subject to the notice of Government.

2. I have received news to-day, as you will see below, which determines me to write at once on the subject ; though I must write now without a full knowledge of the subject, and may be in error on some points. But since I only suppose that a little discretionary power granted to the Collectors is necessary, any errors will be thoroughly corrected by them. The fact that thousands of acres of the best rice land under the canal are lying waste, which may be cultivated if immediate steps be taken, seems to me to justify me in laying my imperfect information before you.

3. On the 9th August, owing to a remarkably dry July, all the tanks were still empty, and only about half the dry crops sown. I then asked Mr. Daniels' attention to a dozen tanks in the Cuddapah District, the whole or part of whose ayacut (and in some cases the tanks themselves) are commanded by the canal. He caused inquiries to be made; but informed me on the 31st August that, so far as he could learn, none of the ayacut holders could agree to ask for canal supply; Mr. Daniels then himself visited the localities, I believe with a like want of result.

So far as I am informed, matters now is in the following position :—The latest customary time for paddy sowing in the Cuddapah District is over, and the usual time for raggy sowing under tanks has arrived. These times, I must explain, have been fixed long before the canal existed, and are based on experience of the seasons, and there is no sound reason for adhering to them now. Perhaps even now ryots could be persuaded to sow paddy; but so conservative are ryots, it should be considered improbable. The ryots, if I understand aright, if they sow either paddy or raggy on an ayacut by direct irrigation will have to pay full canal rate, viz., Rupees 6 or 4 an acre, or at least the rate under Rule VI, Clause 8, respectively, and also the full consolidated assessment, just as if the water were supplied from their tank; if they have the tank filled by canal water, then they will have to pay only two-thirds of the full canal rate under Rule VI, Clause 9, and also the full consolidated assessment as before. They decline either alternative, because they say the payment required is excessive. This seems reasonable, for the Board of Revenue have expressed an opinion that the canal rates are high, many too high; and since the consolidated assessment exceeds, and is often double, the canal rate, the ryots may have to pay two or three times the canal rate, if they cultivate.

My impression is that the conditions fixed by Government for levying the combined rate from the ryots were so fixed to suit cases where the tank only partly fails; and the water given to supplement the tank would be small in quantity, and only need a small payment. This year the failure of tank supply has been total, and I

have heard of no cultivation of any ayacut except under natural springs, and in Nandial and Bayah Gudon (Kurnool District) under direct irrigation from the canal. It appears that if any water should run into a tank in the Cuddapah District, after cultivation has commenced under direct irrigation from the canal, then the ryots get no remission.

I suggest the following order to be issued, to apply to the current season, and until permanent rules be made.

Kurnool District.—That cultivation under direct irrigation from the canal be allowed at canal rates, Rule VI, Clause 8, of Rupees $1\frac{1}{2}$ a-month for 1st-class and Rupee 1 a-month for 2nd-class, but the total rate never to exceed a maximum of Rupees 6 and 4 respectively. That if the tank fill from rain, then the tank supply be used as far as it will go instead of that from the canal.

In this district the ayacuts pay land dry assessment and also a water-rate. If the tank be never filled by rain water, this water-rate should be remitted entirely for all land which the tank cannot irrigate at all. If it be filled enough to complete the irrigation of any portion of the ayacut, then that portion only should be so completed by the tank; the canal water-rate on that portion would cease from the date the tank supply began, and Government would levy the full Government water-rate only from it. Government would be recouped for the canal rate chargeable on this portion by the dry and water assessments it would pay.

Cuddapah District.—The rule for this district would be similar, except that for the "Government water-rate" or "water assessment" would be read "the difference between the consolidated assessment and dry assessment."

It is possible that the Collectors, in communication with Government, have already adopted the above, or some better plan; but, up to the 27th instant, I am informed of no tank ayacut being cultivated in Cuddapah District, except under springs, and one betel garden supplied by direct irrigation from the canal.

SUBMITTED for the consideration of Government.

Under the peculiar circumstances of the present season in Kurnool and Cuddapah, it appears to be desirable that the Government tanks should be supplied with water from the canal under arrangements which will make the ryots willing to make use of the water.

2. Rule VI, Clauses 8, 9, and 13, refer to such supplies, and probably the most effectual arrangement would be to instruct the Collectors to apply for water at once to fill or partially fill the tanks as may seem expedient, and to inform the ryots that they will have to pay only the consolidated or wet assessment of their lands. The canal might receive credit at the rate of 1 Rupee for every 1,440 cubic yards supplied; this rate being that settled in modification of Clause 9 by G.O., No. 1,430, dated 25th May 1875. Practically the Government would lose little or nothing by the arrangement, and substantial relief would be afforded to the ryots.

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

No. 253.

ORDER THEREON, 17th October 1876, No. 2,779.

IRRIGATION, No. 32-A.

THESE papers will be communicated to the Revenue Department for the issue of such orders as may be considered desirable.

2. The Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, will be requested to arrange for the immediate supply of water to Government tanks on receiving an intimation from the Collector that water is required, and it will facilitate arrangements if Mr. Latham will be good enough to send to the Collectors at once lists of the tanks he is prepared to supply with a rough estimate of their capacity, and the Collectors will then be the better able to state what quantity of water is to be thrown into each from the canal in the first instance, while a request for further supplies conditional on the state of the weather might be made by the Revenue Officers at the same time.

(True Extract)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

116
176
No 90
Immediate

Madras Irrigation & Canal Co.:
Chief Engineer & Manager's Office
Kurnool 29th Sept-1876

To Lt. Col J. Mullins, R.E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Sir.

Uncultivated ayacuts - Cuddapah District.

I have the honour to ask you whether you think that anything can be done to promote the cultivation of tank Ayacuts this year; & if so, to bring the subject to the notice of Govt.

I have received news today, as you will see below, which determines me to write at once on the subject. ~~As~~ ^{though} I must write now without a full knowledge of the subject, and may be in error on some points. But since I only suppose that a little discretionary power granted to the Collectors is necessary, any errors will be thoroughly corrected by them. The fact that thousands of acres of the best rice land under the Canal are lying waste, which may be cultivated if immediate steps be taken, seems to me to justify me in laying my imperfect information before you.

On the 9th August, owing to a remarkably dry July all the tanks were still empty, & only about half the dry crops sown. I then asked Mr Daniels' attention to a dozen tanks in the Cuddapah District, the whole or part of whose ayacut (& in some cases the tanks themselves) are commanded by the Canal. He caused inquiries to be made; (but

but informed me on the 3rd August that, so far as he could learn, none of the ayacut holders could agree to ask for Canal supply. Mr Daniels then himself visited the localities, I believe with a like want of result.

So far as I am informed, matters now lie in the following position:— The latest customary time for paddly sowing in the Cuddapah District is over, & the usual time for Raggi sowing under tanks has arrived. These times, I must explain, have been fixed long before the Canal existed, & are based on experience of the seasons, and there is no sound reason for adhering to them now. Perhaps even now ryots could be persuaded to sow paddly; but, so conservative are ryots, it should be considered improbable. The ryots, if I understand aright, if they sow either paddly or raggy on an ayacut by direct irrigation will have to pay full Canal rate, viz. Rs 6 or 4 an acre respectively, and also the full consolidated assessment, just as if the water were supplied from their tank: if they have the tank filled by Canal water, then they will have to pay only $\frac{2}{3}$ of the full Canal rate under Rule vi Clause 9, and also the full consolidated assessment as before. They decline either alternative because they say the payment required is excessive. This seems reasonable; for the Board of Revenue have expressed an opinion that the Canal rates are high, many too high; and since the consolidated assessment exceeds, & is often double, the Canal rate, the ryots may have to pay 2 or 3 times the Canal rate, if they cultivate.

Or, at least, the rate under Rule vi clause 8.

My impression is that the conditions fixed
(6)

by Govt for levying the combined rate from the ryots, were so fixed to suit cases where the tank only partly fails; & the water given, to supplement the tank, would be small in quantity, & only need a small payment. This year the failure of tank supply has been total, & I have heard of no cultivation of any ayacut except under natural springs, and in Nandial & Bayash Gudem (Kurnool District) under direct irrigation from the Canal. It appears that if any water should run into a tank in the Cuddalore District, after cultivation has commenced under direct irrigation from the Canal, then the ryots get no remission.

I suggest the following order to be issued, to apply to the current season, & until permanent rules be made:—

Kurnool District. That cultivation under direct irrigation from the Canal be allowed at Canal rates Rule vi clause 8 of R $\frac{1}{2}$ a month for 1st class & R1 a month for 2nd class — but the total rate never to exceed a maximum of R6 a4 respectively. That if the tank fill from rain, then the tank supply be used as far as it will go instead of that from the Canal.

In this District the ayacuts pay land dry appointment, & also a water-rate. If the tank be never filled by rain water, this water rate should be remitted entirely for all land which the tank cannot irrigate at all. If it be filled enough to complete the irrigation of any portion of the ayacut, then that portion only should be so completed by the tank: the canal water rate on that portion would cease from the date the tank supply began, (and

110
and Govt would levy the full Govt water rate only
from it. Govt would be recompensed for the Canal
rate chargeable on this portion by the ~~land~~ dry
& water assessments it would pay.

Cuddalore District. The rule for this district
would be similar except that for the "Govt water
rate" or "water assessment" would be read "the
difference between the consolidated assessment
and dry assessment."

It is possible that the Collectors, in com-
munication with Govt, have already adopted
the above, or some better, plan: but up to the
27th inst, I am informed of no tank again
being cultivated in Cuddalore District, except
under springs, & one Betel garden supplied by
direct irrigation from the Canal.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

John Hathorn.

Chief Engineer & Manager

30.4 Aug 174 - 50 84.
 7 Aug 175. 57.
 20 Aug 175. 140
 25 Aug 175. 1480.

P.W.D.
 100170
 No 7524

N^o 252

From the Chief Manager, S.W.D. No 984 of 5
 29 Sept 176
 N^o 217-W.

Encls. 1

Submitted for the consideration
of Government.

Under the peculiar circum-
 stances of the present season in
 Kurnool and Maddur, it appears
 to be desirable that the Government
 tanks should be supplied with
 water from the canal under
 arrangements which will make
 the ryots willing to make use
 of the water.

2. Incls VI Clauses 8, 9 and 13
 refer to such supplies and pro-
 bably the most effectual arrange-
 ment would be to instruct
 the collectors to apply for water
 at once to fill or partially fill
 the tanks as may seem expedient,
 and to inform the ryots that they
 will have to pay only the con-
 solidated or wet assessment of
 their lands. The canal might
 receive credit at the rate of 1 Rupee

for every 1440 cubic yards supplied.
This rate being that settled in
modification of clause 9 by S.O.
No 1430 dated 25th May 1875. Practically
the Government would lose
little or nothing by the arrange-
ment; and substantial relief
would be afforded to the ryots.

Wm. H. M. M. M.
Chief Engineer for Irriga.

Atacamund
9th Oct. 1876 }

ESTD
176
7524

From
The Chief Engineer for
2nd
The Secy. to Govt.
P. W. L.

Dated 9 Oct. 1876.

Encls. 1

No. 217-W.

Uncultivated Agents - Cudd-
pah & Kurnool Districts - Sub-
mits letter from the Ch. Secy.
Manager. In I.C.C. suggesting ar-
rangements for promoting cultiva-
tion of tank Agents -

No. 252

No. 2779 Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 14th Oct. 1876.
Read the following:—

Endorsement of the
Ch. Engr. for the
& No. 217-W of 9 Oct. 1876

These papers
will be communicated
to the Revenue Depart-
ment for the issue of
such orders as may
be considered desirable.

2. The Chief Engineer
and Managers, Dist. C.E.s
will be requested to
arrange for the im-
mediate supply of
water to Government
Tanks on receiving
an intimation from

the Collector that water

is required, and
will supply it.

ments if Mr Latham
will be good enough
to send to the collectors
at once lists of the
Tanks he is prepared
to supply, with a rough
estimate of their capacity,
and the collectors will
then be the better able
to state what quantity
of water is to be thrown
into each from the
canal in the first in-
stance, while a request
for further supplies
conditional on the
state of the weather
might be made by
the Revenue officers at
the same time.

14/9/10

252/3

Recd Sept 15
C. E. J. D.
C. E. J. D. C. L.

Sept. 2-11-76

7524(A)

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To *The Revenue Dept.*

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 17th Oct. 1876, No.

Nos. 252/3

Tank Agents
Cuddalore & and
Thiruvallur Districts

Passing orders on
Endorsement of the Chief Engr
for direct submitting
letter from the ~~Agent~~ Chief
Eng & Manager in Dcco
suggesting arrangements
for promoting cultivation

7 —

*Recd in D.P.
8-11-76*

replied