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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1127	(9)	Press Mis.
Dated 4-4-		1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th April 1877. No. 1,127.*

No. 58. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 22nd March 1877, No. 156 W:—

No. 58-A. From Major J. BEATTY, R.E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, Godavery District, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 10th March 1877, No. 3,551.

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith an approximate abstract of Irrigation Registers for Fasli 1286 (1876-77) as directed in G.O., No. 1,901, of 26th July 1876, together with a report on the

One Abstract.

" Report No. 473 of 25th ultimo.

irrigation in the Western Delta, the first part of which gives full explanation of the difficulties that Delta Range Officers now meet with in their endeavours to obtain correct information regarding the extent of cultivation. For the reasons given by Lieutenant Dorward the statements now furnished are mere approximations. It is simply impossible for this department at present to obtain a correct statement.

2. With a view to carrying out the orders of Government as laid down in the Government Order above mentioned, I arranged a meeting with the Acting Collector in the beginning of October last at Chettipett. On that occasion the utter worthlessness for any practical purpose of the returns previously furnished by the Tahsildars, and known as "monthly statements of cultivation commenced up to the month and during the month," was pointed out. It was also arranged, in order to simplify as much as possible the task of the Revenue Department, and in hopes of getting a statement of some value, that they should merely give Range Officers the areas of cultivation by villages, i.e., that the statement of cultivation to 30th November should merely give the total areas cultivated up to that date for each village. It was considered best that the Revenue officials should no longer attempt to allot the areas to canals, as they had always failed to do this correctly up to that date. The Collector issued a circular to this effect, and this is what Lieutenant Dorward refers to when he states that "the Revenue Department arranged to supply us with the irrigated area of each village up to the end of November."

3. I shall now again point out to the Collector that Government expect the officers of this department to possess at all times a complete knowledge of the state of the irrigation, that we have no means of obtaining this except from the statements furnished by the Revenue Department, and that these have hitherto been useless, being mere approximations. I shall ask him if he can undertake to have correct statements furnished to us, and send you a copy of his reply.

4. At present a knowledge of the state of the cultivation can only be obtained through the Tahsildars and Revenue Divisional Officers from the Kurnums of villages, and these Kurnums now will not, or cannot, give information of any value. Correct information, month by month, of the extent of cultivation, as Lieutenant Dorward observes, would be invaluable; but when given by guess it is useless.

5. It will be observed that the total areas obtained by the Range Officers are as follows:—

	ACRES.
Eastern Delta	127,503
Central "	81,115
Western "	270,053

The total given for the Eastern Delta shows a further decrease of 496 acres, as compared with the figures previously obtained by the Range Officers in the Central

Delta there appears to be a falling of 9,871 acres; and in the Western Delta an increase of 239 acres. In the Eastern and Central Deltas further inquiries are being made as to the cause of decrease, and it must be remembered that the figures obtained for 1876 represent only the extent of first crop; as the canals have been kept open the figures finally given by the Collector as the result of the Jumma-bundi will doubtless include much second crop.

6. According to the reports received up to date, the season of 1876 has been a particularly bad one, as to *extent* of cultivation, for two causes, (1) the very low price of paddy at the beginning of the cultivating season; and (2) because the river did not rise to full supply level until 10th July. On the other hand, the crop in the Eastern Delta was everywhere reported as having been exceptionally fine, in fact such a crop as had not been seen for many years; and the same is stated to have been the case in many parts of the Western Delta. And when paddy began to sell at famine prices and dry crops required watering to keep them alive, ryots who had cultivated dry crops on land previously wet in numerous instances expressed their great regret at the blunder they had committed. This famine will thus, I trust, prove a salutary lesson to many against giving up the certainty of a good crop where land is well commanded by the canals; that it will result in a large increase of the irrigated area in 1877 is universally expected.

From Lieutenant A. R. F. DORWARD, R.E., Assistant Engineer in charge, Western Delta Division, Godavery District, to Major J. BEATTY, R.E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, Godavery, dated Camp, Viravaseram, 25th February 1877, No. 473.

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith a statement showing the irrigated areas under
One Statement.
canals in this range for last irrigation season.
I have not

I have not yet got the detailed information statement by distributaries in about a week. There has been considerable rain in this range for last irrigation season. I shall be able to forward a

There has been considerable delay in forwarding this statement, but that delay has been due to circumstances over which I had no control.

As you are aware the Revenue Department arranged to supply us with the irrigated area of each village up to the end of November. We were then to portion off those areas correctly against the various distributaries, and submit to you a statement of irrigation by distributaries by the 1st of February. Had the Revenue Department done their part of the work properly there would have been no difficulty in this. What happened was as follows:—

Instead of submitting to me the statement of village areas irrigated up to the end of November by the middle of December, as arranged, I did not get the information from all taluqs till after the first week in January. On adding up the figures given I found that the total area of irrigation in the range came to 241,915 acres. I knew that no such large decrease in irrigated area as these figures would show had taken place, and on examining the statement I found that not only were the figures against several villages manifestly wrong, but that about forty villages had been missed out of the list altogether. No notice had been taken at all of the Kistna land irrigated by our canals. Under these circumstances, I had no option but to throw over the statements sent by the Revenue Department altogether as useless and to send the Delta Superintendents to the village Kurnums as was done last year. The statement now submitted to collect information from the Kurnums as was done last year. The statement now submitted has been prepared from figures so collected, and as the whole thing has been done in a hurry it can only be considered as approximate. Village Kurnums when asked to explain the difference between the figures they gave to the Delta Superintendents and to the Revenue Department, almost invariably said that the figures given to the latter were merely

guessed at. On this I wrote to the Deputy Collector on general duty, asking him if he could tell me the reason of the errors in his figures, and informing him of what the Kurnums said.

The Deputy Collector did not answer that letter, so I wrote again. He then sent me what was said to be a correct statement of village areas for the Bhimavaram Taluq, but said he could not at present furnish one for the Narsapur Taluq. He sent me letters from the Narsapur and Bhimavaram Taluq Tahsildars, stating that the figures first submitted to me were merely approximate, and that the reason of their not having given correct figures was simply that correct figures were unknown.

Under these circumstances, I would submit that it is not possible for Delta Officers to possess at all times a complete knowledge of the state and condition of irrigation in their deltas, as Government expect them to do.

What we want is accurate information showing the progress of irrigation in each village, month by month, throughout the irrigation season. Under the present system of things we cannot get such information. The monthly statements now sent by the Revenue Department are simply worthless, and, even if fairly trustworthy, are received much too late to allow them to be of use.

An arrangement which would ensure our receiving in the first week of every month a correct statement of the irrigated area in the previous month would be invaluable.

The second and third columns of the statement now submitted contain the irrigated areas as ascertained by this department. The fourth column contains the Collector's figures (sent to me by you demi-officially) for the year 1875-76. I still cannot explain the difference between the Collector's figures and my own. Part of the difference is due to the second crop irrigation between December and April, which is included in the Collector's statement, not in mine. Perhaps land in this district irrigated by the Kistna canals is included in the Collector's statement. Were this the case, and were the Kistna District land irrigated by this Range canals missed out of the Collector's statement, the difference between the two statements would be explained.

For the above reason it is not possible to satisfactorily compare the irrigated area shown by me for this year with the Collector's figures for last year, more especially as the areas under the different canals are wrongly shown by the Collector.

In the following remarks, therefore, I will refer only to the figures shown in columns 2 and 3 of the statement.

Main Canal.—There has been a small decrease of 74 acres under this canal. That amount of land was voluntarily relinquished by cultivators. It is zemindari land. There is a considerable area of second crop irrigation under this canal.

Kakraparru Canal.—There has been a decrease of 1,200 acres under this canal. This represents land last year cultivated as wet, and this year converted into dry. Almost all the land watered by the Kakraparru canal is well suited for the production of dry crops, and there is a general tendency among ryots, throughout the range, to grow dry crops in preference to wet on such land.

Narsapur Canal.—There has been an increase of 1,400 acres under the Narsapur canal. This I cannot at present explain. It includes about 300 acres of dry crops watered, and about 300 acres of land, in ordinary years swamp, which owing to the small rainfall of last year was cultivable. The Government will probably be granted for about 500 acres of land on which the crop failed, and which will be watered by the canal.

Remission will probably be granted for about 500 acres of land on which the crop failed, owing to the complete failure of the north-east monsoon and to the generally low state of the river. During the last fortnight in October and the first week in November the crops under this canal were in a very critical position. The Peravalli weir shutters were kept clear of water, and water was passed through the lock culvert valves, of course seriously interfering with navigation. Each reach in the canal was flushed in turn, and an intricate system of turns to channels and parts of channels was introduced. The difficulty was to save crops at the end of long channels, and that such crops were saved is in great part due to the energy and activity of Taluk Overseer Mr. Mahony, who had special charge of the working of the arrangements introduced for this canal. The want of a regulating work at or near the head of the bank canal was much felt, as during the time of the greatest scarcity of water the bank canal had a more than sufficient supply.

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4th April 1877. No. 1,127*

Mukkamala Canal.—There has been a decrease of 800 acres under this canal. The decrease is due to the improvement of the drainages connected with the irrigation under it; land that was in the previous year unfit for dry cultivation and cultivated wet being last year converted into dry.

Bank Canal.—The irrigated area under this canal has decreased by 200 acres. Five hundred acres of land under the Mukkamala, Pittala Vemaram and other channels were converted into dry cultivation, and an increase of 300 acres of land took place among the villages at the end of the canal. About 1,400 acres of dry cultivation, not included in the 17,499 acres shown as irrigated, were watered in December by the bank canal distributaries.

Gostanadi and Velpur Canal.—There has been an increase of 350 acres under this canal. This is due to there having been over 2,000 acres of dry crops watered by it in November. About 1,800 acres that were last year supplied by this canal were watered this year by the Attili canal. Till the beginning of August the supply to the Velpur canal was very poor. The head weir of Gostanadi was unable to pass a sufficient supply, owing to the abnormally low level of water at the head of the Kakrapurru canal, due to the low state of the water in front of the range head sluices, caused by the existence of a large shoal at Wadapilli. Last year full supply level could not be attained in the main canal till the 25th of July. The land at the end of Viravasaram west side channel did not get any water at all till the end of July.

Attili Canal.—There has been an increase of 3,500 acres under this canal, 1,100 acres of this increase represent dry crops watered, 1,800 acres formerly under the Gostanadi were irrigated by the Ralinghi channel, about 900 acres of land were newly brought under cultivation, while 300 acres were converted from wet into dry under the Duvva and Tetalli channels.

The irrigation under this canal gave very little trouble, and the crops were never in danger.

Ellore Canal.—There has been a slight increase of about 350 acres under this canal. Had the water-supply in June and July been good, there would have been an increase of over 1,000 acres.

In October, as there were no means of flushing this canal by reaches, the irrigation was in a bad way. The canal was not two feet deep at the end. Shutting the upper sluices was resorted to in order to send water down to the end, but the establishment available for the supervision of the sluices was not sufficient to prevent them being opened by ryots interested. Much of the irrigation too is supplied by temporary sluices, which it was impossible to keep closed. At the beginning of November it was evident that about 1,000 acres of land could not be saved, and part remission will probably have to be granted for about 1,500 acres more. The shoal in the canal at Bhimadole helped to prevent water being got down to the end of the canal.

Venkia Canal.—There is a falling off of over 300 acres under this canal, due entirely to the voluntary relinquishments of ryots.

Wyeru Canal.—There is a large decrease of 2,600 acres shown under this canal. The canal did not get a fair supply of water till August, and the labor available in the villages at the end of the Wyeru was insufficient to plant out all the land they wished to cultivate. This was principally due to the prevalence of cholera in that part of the delta.

Undi Canal.—There was a decrease of 300 acres under this canal. The state of irrigation under it was brought to notice in my No. 298 of 10th October 1876, recommending the building of an extra head sluice to the canal. I have nothing more to say now.

Yenamadurru Drain.—There were 99 acres irrigated under this drain last year. The land belonged to Komurru village. Water backing up a branch drain was taken advantage of to irrigate a low piece of ground. It was done without my knowledge, but there was no objection to it, as it did not in any way endanger the drain banks.

General Remarks.—The past season has shown us that the quantity of water usually given by us for irrigation is much in excess of that absolutely required, and probably is even detrimental to the crops. The Bhimavaram ryots state that they have never had such a fine crop of rice as this year, and the Deputy Collector on general duty told me that the Narasapur Taluk ryots had got a crop much in excess of the average.

The season was a very bad one. Full supply could not, owing to the low state of the river and the Wadapilli shoal, be got into the canals till the 25th of July, a month later than usual. I found on my return from leave in July that Lieutenant Langley and Mr. deWinton had had

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4th April 1877. No. 1,127.*

great difficulty in supplying water even for seed-beds to many channels, and on examining the daily water reports I was surprised to find that they had been able to do as much as they had done. In August and September, although the rain almost invariably fell at a time when the river was in fresh and held off when it was low, we had a fairly good supply. Not a drop of rain fell after the 5th of October and the river fell steadily. At the end of that month every one in the range had an anxious time of it.

GODAVERY DISTRICT.

*Approximate Abstract of Irrigation Registers for Fasli 1286 or 1876-77.
FIRST CROP.*

Canals	Area of Villages.	Probable ultimate area to be irrigated.	Area irrigated in Fasli 1286 as given by the Kurnums to the Delta Superintendents.	AREA IRRIGATED IN FASLI 1285 AS PER COLLECTOR'S STATEMENT.				Remarks
				Area.	Assess-ment.	Water-tax.	Total.	
<i>Eastern Delta.</i>								
Cocanada Canal	279,207	39,527	36,939	*38,576	..	..	..	*The areas given in this column for 1285 include second crop where there was any
Coringa "		33,232	24,067	26,261	..	..	..	
Mundapetta "		32,155	21,932	24,975	..	..	..	
Injeram "		16,897	9,297	11,927	..	..	..	
Bank "		40,399	9,333	8,050	..	..	..	
Samulcotta "		27,973	25,935	26,368	..	..	..	
Total ..	279,207	190,183	127,503	135,147	..	..	..	
Area reported by the Delta Superintendents for 1285.	..	..	127,999	..	..	..	..	
Decrease ..	..	..	496	..	..	..	..	
<i>Central Delta.</i>								
Nagarani Main Canal	269,806	84,766	34,968	30,757	37,175	..	..	
Bendomurlunka "		31,487	10,535	9,617	10,345	..	..	
East Bank "		67,532	22,293	21,074	22,526	..	..	
Amalapur "		65,843	28,553	17,981	23,414	..	..	
Gunnaram "		18,413	6,250	1,686	2,790	..	..	
Ralle or Main "		11,765	330	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	269,806	102,929	81,115	96,250	..	..	..	
Area reported by the Delta Superintendents for 1285.	..	..	90,986	..	..	..	..	
Decrease ..	..	..	9,871	..	..	..	..	
<i>Western Delta.</i>								
Nursapur Canal	542,600	62,500	58,920	60,082	..	..	..	
Velpur "		36,200	30,664	31,763	..	..	..	
Gostanuddy "		23,800	2,050	15,264	..	..	..	
Mukkamala "			17,499	7,084	..	..	..	
Bank "		34,200	27,574	24,195	..	..	..	
Attili "		32,500	43,748	49,411	..	..	..	
Venkiah and Wyeru Canal		58,900	42,007	45,183	..	..	..	
Undi High-level Canal		48,200	99	..	..	..	..	
Yanamadurru Drainage			46,892	47,443	..	..	..	
Ellur Canal			800	565	..	..	..	
Main "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Total ..	542,600	296,300	270,253	283,990	..	..	..	
Area reported by the Delta Superintendents for 1285.	..	..	270,014	..	..	..	..	
Increase ..	..	..	239	..	..	..	..	
Grand Total ..	1,091,613	689,412	478,871	515,387	..	..	..	
Do. Area reported by the Delta Superintendents for 1285.	..	..	438,999	..	..	..	..	
Decrease ..	..	..	10,128	..	..	..	..	

DOWLAISHWERAM,
March 1877.

(Signed) J. BEATTY, Major, R.E.,
Offg. Superintending Engineer, Godavery.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th April 1877. No. 1,127.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., No. 1,901, of the 26th July 1876.

The approximate abstract of irrigation registers of the Godavery Delta for Fasli 1286 (1876-77) is of little value, owing, as detailed in the correspondence, to the absence of reliable information as to the areas actually irrigated. It will be seen that the District Engineer consulted with the Collector as to the way in which such information should be obtained, and as to the form in which it should be given; and it was agreed that the area in each village up to the end of each month should be furnished to the Range Officers; but the results were eminently unsatisfactory, and the areas reported manifestly too incorrect to be of use. Information was then obtained by Delta Superintendents direct from Village Kurnums and some of the causes of the incorrectness of the former information were thus ascertained.

2. It would be of little use to attempt to draw any conclusions from the figures which at present are available, and the question of practical value is this. How are Range Officers to obtain information which can be used to guide their management of the water-supply throughout the irrigation season? As the Western Delta Range Officer says, particulars of the area of irrigation of each village up to the end of each month, if received within a few days of the close of the month would be invaluable, and it is certain that without such information no proper system of regulation can be maintained. Perhaps Mr. Wilson could devise means of ensuring the compilation and regular transmission to Canal Officers of the information required. It is clear that at present the subordinate Revenue Officers are without proper information, and it is equally clear that very important public and private interests must suffer while this ignorance lasts.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
22nd March 1877.

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

No. 59.

ORDER THEREON, 4th April 1877, No. 1,127.

IRRIGATION, No. 4.

THESE papers will be communicated to the Revenue Department in order that means may be devised for ensuring the record and communication to Canal Officers month by month, and by the earliest possible date in each month, of the area of irrigation in each village up to the close of the preceding month. This information will do for the present, but as soon as possible it will be necessary to show not only the area of irrigation in each village, but also that under each source of supply where the lands of a village are supplied from more than one source, and there should be no difficulty in arranging for this additional and very necessary information being given.

(True Extract)

To the Superintending Engineer, Godavery.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department.

Ed. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

Lieut.-Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 3557 District Engineer's Office, God.
Dowlaiswaram 10 March 1877

From,
The Offg. Superintending Engineer
Godavery District.

To,
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation,
Madras.

Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith an approximate abstract of Irrigation Registers for fasli 1286 (1876/77) as directed in G.O. No. 1901 of 26th July 1876 together with a report on the irrigation in the Western Delta the first part of which gives full explanation of the difficulties that Delta Range Officers now meet with in their endeavours to obtain correct information regarding the extent of cultivation. For the reasons given by Lieutenant Forward the statements now furnished are mere approximations. It

is simply impossible for this Department at present to obtain a correct statement -

2. With a view to carrying out the orders of Government as laid down in the G.O. abovementioned, I arranged a meeting with the Acting Collector in the beginning of October last at Chettipett. On that occasion the utter worthlessness for any practical purpose of the returns previously furnished by the Tahsildars and known as "Monthly Statements of cultivation commenced up to the month and during the month," was pointed out. It was also arranged in order to simplify, as much as possible, the task of the Revenue Department, and in hopes of getting a statement of some value, that they should merely give Range Officers the areas of cultivation by Villages; i.e., that the statement of cultivation to 30 November should merely give the total areas cultivated up to that date for each

each village. It was considered best that the Revenue officials should no longer attempt to allot the areas to Canals, as they had always failed to do this correctly up to that date. The Collector issued a Circular to this effect, and this is what Lieutenant Dornard refers to when he states that, "The Revenue Department arranged to supply us with the irrigated area of each village up to the end of November" -

3. I shall now again point out to the Collector that Government expect the Officers of this Department to possess at all times a complete knowledge of the state of the irrigation, that we have no means of obtaining this receipt from the Statements furnished by the Revenue Department, and that these have hitherto been useless being mere approximations. I shall ask him if he can undertake to have correct statements furnished to us, and send you

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5. It will be observed that the total areas obtained by the Range Officers are as follows:-

Eastern Delta — 1,27,503 acres

Central Delta — 81,115 — "

Western Delta — 270,053 — "

The total given for the Eastern Delta shows a further decrease of 496 acres, as compared with the figures previously obtained by the Range Officers; in the Central Delta there appears to be a falling of 9871 acres; and in the

Western Delta an increase of 239 acres. In the Eastern and Central Deltas further enquiries are being made as to the cause of decrease and it must be remembered that the figures obtained for 1876 represent only the extent of first crop; as the Canals have been kept open the figures finally given by the Collector as the result of the jumlabandi will doubtless include much second crop - 6

6. According to the reports received up to date the season of 1876 has been a particularly bad one as to extent of cultivation, for two causes, (1) the very low price of paddy at the beginning of the cultivating season; and (2) because the river did not rise to full supply level until 10th July. On the other hand the crop in the Eastern Delta was everywhere reported as having been exceptionally fine, in fact such a crop as had not been seen for many years; and the same is stated to have been

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their great regret at the blunder they
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thus, I trust, prove a salutary les-
-son to many against giving up the
certainty of a good crop where land
is well commanded by the Canals;
that ^{it} will result in a large increase
of the irrigated area in 1877 is uni-
-versally expected.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedt Servt

E. Beatty, Major R.E.

Offr. Superintending Engr. Genl.

26.7.76. Norway.



11/1/77

P.W.D.
25 MAR 77
3133

Submitting approval
=mate Abstract of
Irrigation Registers
for file 12860
1876/77 -

Date 10th March 1977
Recd No 3557

From,
The Chief Engineer
Irrigation
for the
Maitia
District
The Chief Engineer
Irrigation
for the
Maitia
District

16th April 1977

Handwritten notes and tables on the right page, including a large table with multiple columns and rows of data, and a signature at the top right.

Godavary District.
Approximate abstract of Irrigation Registers for Years 1286 or 1876-77.
1st Crop.

Area of Villages	Probably Area irrigated in 1286 or 1285 as estimated by the Revenue Officer of the District	Area irrigated in 1285 as per collector's statement	Water Tax	Total
<u>Eastern Delta.</u>				
Bocanada Canal	39527	36939	38576	
Coringa Canal	33232	24067	26261	
Alundapatta Canal	32155	21932	24975	
Hydrabad Canal	16897	9297	11927	
Bank Canal	40399	9333	8050	
Damulsetta Canal	27973	25935	25358	
Total 279207 190183 127503 135147				
Area reported by the Delta Deptt for 1285				
		127999		
		Revenue 1496		

The areas given in this column for 1285 include 2nd crops where there was any.

<u>Central Delta.</u>	
Jagaram Chain Canal	84766 34968 30757 37175
Bendamuranka	31487 10535 9617 10345
East Bank	57532 22293 21074 22526
Amalapur	65823 28553 17987 23414
Gumaram	18413 6250 1686 2790
Baller or Pranis	11765 330 . .
Total 269806 102929 87115 96250	
Area reported by the Delta Deptt for 1285	
	90986
	Revenue 9871

<u>Western Delta.</u>	
Juvvapur Canal	62500 58920 60082
Wajpur	36200 30664 34763
Eastamudry	2050 15264
Mulhanala	23800 17499 7084
Bank	542600 34200 27574 24195
Attiti	32500 43748 49411
Vaithal & Mysore	58900 42007 45183
Under High Level Canal	99
Yanamachuru Drainage	46892 47443
Bellar Canal	48200 800 565
Chain	
Total 542600 296300 270257 283990	
Area reported by the Delta Deptt for 1285	
	270014
	Revenue 239

<u>Grand Total.</u>	1091613 589412 478871 515387
Area reported by the Delta Deptt for 1285	488999
Revenue	10128
March 1877	

L. Davis. Major R.E.
 Offg. Superintending Engineer Godavary



7719.4

MAR 77
3131

Approximate Abstract
of Irrigation Registers
for years 1286 or 1876-77

40412 spm/11.13.58

No. 473.

Western Delta Division
Office Godz
Camp. Viravassam
Dated 25th February 1877

From

The Officer in Charge
Western Delta Division
Godavery District

To

The Off^r Superintending
Engineer Godavery

10

Encls: one
statement

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
herewith a statement shewing the
irrigated areas under Canals in this
Range for last irrigation season.
I have not yet got the detailed
information necessary to shew the
irrigated area under each distributary
but I shall be able to forward a
statement by distributaries in
about a week.

There has been Considerable
delay

delay in forwarding this statement, but that delay has been due to Circumstances over which I had no Control.

As you are aware the Revenue Department arranged to supply us with the irrigated area of each village up to the end of November. We were then to portion off those areas Correctly against the various distributaries and submit to you a statement of irrigation by distributaries by the first of February. Had the Revenue Department done their part of the work properly there would have been no difficulty in this. What happened was as follows-

Instead of submitting to me the statement of villages areas irrigated up the end of November by the middle of December, as arranged, I did not get the information from all Taluqs till after the first week in January. On all doing up the

the figures given I found that the total area of irrigation in the Range came to 2,44,915 acres. I knew that no such large decrease in irrigated area as these figures would show had taken place, and on examining the statement I found that not only were the figures against several villages manifestly wrong but that about 100 villages had been missed out of the list altogether. No notice had been taken at all of the Kistna land irrigated by our Canals. Under these Circumstances I had no option but to throw over the statements sent by the Revenue Department altogether as useless and to send the Delta Superintendents to the villages to collect information from the Karnams as was done last year. The statement now submitted has been prepared from

from figures so collected and as the whole thing has been done in a hurry it can only be considered as approximate. Village Karnams when asked to explain the difference between the figures they gave to the Delta Supts. and to the Revenue department almost invariably said that the figures given to the latter were merely guessed at. On this I wrote to the Deputy Collector on General Duty asking him if he could tell me the reason of the errors in his figures and informing him of what the Karnams said.

The Deputy Collector did not answer that letter. So I wrote again. He then sent me what was said to be a correct statement of village areas for the Bhimavaram Taluq but said he could not furnish one for the Narsapur Taluq. He sent me letters from the Narsapur

IV
Narsapur and Bhimavaram Taluq Tahsildars, stating that the figures first submitted to me were merely approximate and that the reason of their not having given correct figures was simply that correct figures were unknown.

Under these circumstances I would submit that it is not possible for Delta Officers to possess at all times a complete knowledge of the state and conditions of irrigation in their Deltas, as Government expect them to do.

What we want is accurate information showing the progress of irrigation in each village month by month throughout the irrigation season. Under the present system of things we cannot get such information. The monthly statements now sent by the Revenue Department are

are simply worthless and, even if fairly trustworthy, are received much too late to allow them to be of use.

An arrangement which would ensure our receiving in the first week of every month a correct statement of the irrigated area in the previous month would be invaluable. X

The 2nd and 3^d Columns of the statement now submitted contain the irrigated areas as ascertained by this department. The 4th Column contains the Collector's figures (sent to me by you demi-officially) for the year 1875-76. I still cannot explain the difference between the Collector's figures and my own.

Part of the difference is due to the 2nd Crop irrigation between December and April which is included in the Collector's statement, not in mine. Perhaps land in this district irrigated by the Kistna Canals

is included in the Collector's statement. Were this the case and were the Kistna district land irrigated by this Range Canals missed out of the Collector's statement, the difference between the two statements would be explained. 13.

For the above reason it is not possible to satisfactorily compare the irrigated area shown by me, for this year with the Collector's figures for last year, more especially as the areas under the different Canals are wrongly shown by the Collector.

In the following remarks therefore I will refer only to the figures shown in Columns 2 & 3 of the statement.

Main Canal.

There has been a small decrease of 74 acres under this Canal. That amount of land was voluntarily relinquished by Cultivators. It is Zemindari land. There is a

Considerable area of 2^d Crop irri-
-gation under this Canal.

There has been a decrease ^{Kakaraparru} Canal.
of 1,200 acres under this Canal. This
represents land last year Cultivated
as wet and this year Converted into
dry. Almost all the land watered
by the Kakaraparru Canal is well
suited for the production of dry Crops
and there is a general tendency among
Ryots, throughout the Range, to
grow dry crops in preference to wet
on such land.

There has been an increase ^{Narsapur} Canal.
of 1400 acres under the Narsapur Canal.
This I cannot at present explain.
It includes about 300 acres of dry
Crops watered, and about 300 acres
of land, in ordinary years swamp,
which owing to the small rainfall
of last year was Cultivable.

Permission will probably
be granted for about 500 acres of
land on which the crop failed
owing

131 7
owing to the Complete failure of
the North-east Monsoon and to the
generally low state of the river. During
the last fortnight in October and
the first week in November the crops
under this Canal were in a very
critical position. The Peravalle weir
shutters were kept clear of water
and water was passed through
the Rock Culvert valves, of course,
seriously interfering with navigation.
Each reach in the Canal was
flushed in turn and an intricate
system of turns to Channels and
ports of Channels was introduced.
The difficulty was to save Crops at
the end of long Channels and that
such Crops were saved is in great
part due to the energy and activity
of Taluk Officer Mr Mahony
who had special charge of the
working of the arrangements -
introduced

introduced for this Canal. The want of a regulating work at or near the head of the Bank Canal was much felt as during the time of the greatest scarcity of water the Bank Canal had a more than sufficient supply. ^{Temporary} ^{to the} ^{insufficient} ^{supply}

There has been a decrease of 800 acres under this Canal. The decrease is due to the improvement of the drainages connected with the irrigation under it, land that was in the previous year unfit for dry Cultivation and Cultivated wet being last year converted into dry.

The irrigated area under this Canal has decreased by 200 acres. 500 acres of land under the Allukkamala, Pittala Vempuram and other Channels were converted into dry Cultivation and an increase of 300 acres of land ^{Bank} ^{Canal}

10
took place among the villages at the end of the Canal. About 1400 acres of dry Cultivation, not included in the 17,499 acres shown as irrigated, were watered in December by the Bank Canal distributaries.

Gostanadi
and Volpur
Canal

There has been an increase of 350 acres under this Canal. This is due to there having been over 2000 acres of dry crops watered by it in November. About 1800 acres that were last year supplied by this Canal were watered this year by the Attali Canal. Till the beginning of August the supply to the Volpur Canal was very poor. The head weir of Gostanadi was unable to pass a sufficient supply owing to the abnormally low level of water at the head of the Kakrapur Canal, due to the low state of the water

water in front of the Rings -
Head sluices, Caused by the existence
of a large shoal at Kodipilli. * the evil
Last year full supply level could be attained in the main Canal up to the
till the 25th of July. The land at the end of Virasasaram west side of the
Channel did not get any water at all till the end of July. at Kodipilli
the river's bed
has been
seriously
lowered
this year

There has been an increase of 3500 acres under this Canal. 1100 acres of this increase represent dry crops watered, 1800 acres formerly under the Gostanadi were irrigated by the Ralinghi Channel, about 900 acres of land were newly brought under Cultivation, while 300 acres were converted from wet into dry under the Devva and Pottalli Channels.

The irrigation under this Canal gave very little trouble and the crops were never in danger.

More
Canal -

1511
There has been a slight increase of about 350 acres under this Canal. Had the water supply in June & July been good there would have been an increase of over 1000 acres.

In October, as there were no means of flushing this Canal by reaches, the irrigation was in a bad way. The Canal was not two feet deep at the end. Shutting the upper sluices was resorted to in order to send water down to the end, but the establishment available for the Supervision of the sluices was not sufficient to prevent them being opened by ryots interested. Much of the irrigation too is supplied by temporary sluices which it was impossible to keep closed. At the beginning of November it was evident that about 1000 acres of land could not

not be saved and part remission
will probably have to be granted
for about 1500 acres more. The
shoal in the Canal at Bhimadole
helped to prevent water being got
down to the end of the Canal.

There is a falling off of ^{Nyepia} ~~Canal~~
over 300 acres under this Canal, due
entirely to the voluntary relinquish-
ments of Ryots.

There is a large decrease ^{to Nyepia} ~~Canal~~
of @ 600 acres ~~shewn~~ under this
Canal. The Canal did not get
a fair supply of water till August
and the labour available in the
villages at the end of the season
was insufficient to plough out
all the land they wished to culti-
vate. This was principally due
to the prevalence of Cholera in
that part of the Delta.

There was a decrease ^{of} ~~Canal~~
of

The land
under the
Canal is under
construction.

Yenamadurn
drain

of 300 acres under this Canal. The
state of irrigation under it was
brought to notice in my No 298
of 10/10/76 recommending the building
of an Extra head sluice to the Canal.
I have nothing more to say now.

16.
There were 97 acres irrigated
under this drain last year. The
land belonged to Komurra village.
Water backing up a branch drain
was taken advantage of to irrigate
a low piece of ground. It was
done without my knowledge,
but there was no objection to it,
as it did not in any way en-
danger the drain banks.

General
Remarks

The past Season has shown
us that the quantity of water
usually given by us for irrigation
is much in excess of that,
absolutely

absolutely required and probably
is even detrimental to the crops.
The Bhimavaram ryots state that
they have never had such a fine
crop of rice as this year and the
Deputy Collector on General Duty
told me that the Narasimha Sagar
ryots had got a crop much in
excess of the average.

The season was a
very bad one. Full supply
could not, owing to the low
state of the river and the
Wadapalli shoal, be got into
the Canals till the 25th of July, ^{x the water}
a month later than usual. ^{was not}
I found on my return from leave ^{shoal}
in July that Lt. Langley and
Mr de Winton had had great
difficulty in supplying water
even for seed beds to many Channels
and on examining the daily
water

water reports I was surprised
to find that they had been
able to do as much as they had
done. In August and September,
although the rain almost invari-
ably fell at a time when the
river was in fresh and held off
when it was low, we had a fairly
good supply. Not a drop of rain
fell after the 5th of October &
the river fell steadily. At the
end of that month every one in
the Range had an anxious time
of it.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
A. R. Howard, Lieutenant
Assistant Engineer in Ch.
Western India Division



11719.4

W.D.
23 MAR 77
No. 3133

From

The Officer in charge
Western Delta Division

To

The Offg. Supt. Engineer
Coaching District

March 25th

Received 27 February 1877

No. 473

Irrigation under Canals
Statement showing - during
1875/76 and 1876/77 - Sonna's
with explanation of cause
of delay -

G. C. 4. 2. April 77 B.L. 58

126

No. 156 W.

Recd. 3

Submitted to Government with
reference to G. O. No. 1901 of the 26th July
1876.

The approximate abstract of
irrigation registers of the Godavary
Delta for July 1286 (1876-77) is of
little value owing, as detailed in the
correspondence, to the absence of re-
liable information as to the areas
actually irrigated. It will be seen
that the District Engineer consulted
with the Collector as to the way
in which such information should
be obtained, and as to the form
in which it should be given, and
it was agreed that the areas in
each village up to the end of each
month should be furnished to the
Range Officers, but the results were
eminently unsatisfactory and the
areas

areas reported manifestly too incorrect to be of use. Information was then obtained by Delta Superintendents direct from Village Kurnums and some of the causes of the incorrectness of the former information were thus ascertained.

2 It would be of little use to attempt to draw any conclusions from the figures which at present are available, and the question of practical value is this. How are Range officers to obtain information, which can be used to guide their management of the water supply throughout the irrigation season? At the Western Delta Range officer says particulars of the area of irrigation of each village up to the end of each month, ^{freely} within a few days of the close of the month would be

50 17
invaluable and it is certain that without such information no proper system of regulation can be maintained. Perhaps Mr. Wilson could devise means of ensuring the compilation and regular transmission to Canal officers of the information required. It is clear that at present the subordinate revenue officers are without proper information and it is equally clear, that very important public and private interests must suffer while this ignorance lasts.

Fort Saint George

22 March 1877

W. H. Mullins
Lieut. Col. R. S.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

W. H.

PA

Irrigation.

E. I. Form No. 22.

No 1127

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 4 April 77

Read the following:—

Endorsement of the C.E. for C.E. No 156 - W. 9/22 Mar 77

Dated 22 March 18
Despt 28

Encls.

W 156-W

Irrigation Registers for Truchi
(1576-77) - Gaduany District.
Submits approximate abstract
— with demand that no extra
information is given as to the
actually irrigated.

These papers will be
communicated to the
Revenue Department in
order that means may
be devised for ensuring
the record and commu-
nication to canal officers
month by month, and
by the earliest possi-
ble date in each
month

4 (C. 11) April 77) S.B. 2-58

6-23/3/77

month of the area of
irrigation in each vil-
lage up to the close
of the preceding month.
This information will
do for the present, but
as soon as possible
it will be necessary
to show not only the
area of irrigation in
each village but also
that under each source
of supply where the
lands of a village
are supplied from
more than one source,
and there should be
no difficulty in ar-
ranging for this ad-
ditional

additional and very
necessary information
being given.

W. W. 22

Dr. Hishiah / Drpd 10-7-77

S. Chodany - ✓
Ch. E. pa - ✓
Rev. Dept - ✓

Drpd 19-4-77

S. H.

Ar 23/33

Govt. of 1877: Alia ruz.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Mr. S. B. Gardner

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. *Ar 23/33* April 1877, No 1127

Nos. 5 P-5

*Area of irrigation under
the Delta Canals in each
Village. The Rev. Dept.
requested to issue orders
to Canal Officers for sub-
mission by them monthly
of the*

*Arrange for
communication of
to Canal Officers at
earliest possible date
in each month.*

Ar

Ar 23/33

Ar 23/33