

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

III

Read the following

From the Public Works Department;
dated 14 January 1884 No. 84 B. re-
garding the exemption of D. Venkannash
Aq Anicut Superintendent, Godavari,
from the operation of the Uncovenan-
ted of Civil Service Examination
Rules.

Order thereon 21 January 1884 No. 32
The exemption of D. Venkannash
Aq Anicut Superintendent, from the
examination rules is sanctioned,
so far as regards his present tem-
porary appointment.

/ True Extract /

In the presence of

Chief Secretary

To The Public Works Dept.
with original papers returned

88

No. 2831 G.D

FROM,

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

FIRST CIRCLE.

TO,

THE CHIEF ENGINEER

FOR IRRIGATION.

Camp Amalapir Canal, ²/₁₇ Decr 1833.
DOWLAISHWERAM,

Despt. 22nd Decr 1833

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that D. Venkannah Delta Supt 1st Grade in the Godavari Eastern Division has been appointed by me to act as *Amicut Supt* vice D. Ramanah *Kaid* *Amicut Supt* who has been granted 6 months leave on medical certificate.

2. The Examiner of Public Works Accounts has provisionally passed officiating allowance to D. Venkannah pending information whether he has passed the precise test to entitle him to draw pay above Rs 80 vide para 166 of the P. W. Code.

3. Venkannah has not passed the test in question but I have appointed him to the post on the strength of para 3 of G.O No. 1038 of 22-4-74 where it is stated that the appointment of *Amicut Supt* is to be held by those who are fully qualified and have practical experience of the kind required & not by the

men who have ^{passed} certain tests
4. I request therefore you will
be good enough to obtain the sanc-
tion of Government authorising the
Examiner to pass the claim of D. Vin-
kavah for officiating allowance.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your most obedient St
C. Sivalak
Offg Supr Eng. 1st Circle.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd April 1874.

Read the following paper :—
No. 872A.

No. 265.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Prior to my visit to the Godavery Delta correspondence took place between the District Engineer and this office regarding the appointment of an Anicut Superintendent and the salaries of Delta Superintendents, and on more than one occasion previously the subject of the appointment of permanent Surveyors was mooted, but it was considered advisable then that provision should be made under Temporary Establishments for such work, and this has, up to the present time, been done.

2. During my recent visit opportunity was taken to discuss with the District Engineer and with the Range Officers of the Eastern and Western Deltas also the requirements of the delta as regards Conservancy Establishments, and the results are as follow :—

3. In the first place an *Anicut Superintendent* is necessary. Formerly a Sub-Engineer was in charge and had but little to do beyond what a Superintendent is now required to take up. There is a great deal of work to be done at the anicut and in its vicinity, and it would not be prudent to have this unattended to except by those whose hands are already more than fully occupied. There is so much to be done at Dowlaishweram and in its neighbourhood however, that it is necessary to guard against the Anicut Superintendent being made into a sort of Overseer available for general duties, and so it is to be understood that his employment is to be confined to the anicut and headworks, works connected with the river bed and banks within the limits of the annual charts of the bed, the lime-kilns which are close to the village of Dowlaishweram, the main canal in the Eastern Delta, and concrete experiments. He should not have charge of the quarries which might, and certainly would if properly attended to, engross far more of his time than would be right. As it will be necessary for him to keep himself well informed of, and to lay down upon the charts, all changes in the bed of the river, etc., the Superintendent should be a good Surveyor; indeed, without this qualification, he would be unable to maintain that continuous record of the work done year by year for the regulation of the river, and of the results which was ordered more than two years ago, but which so far has not been attended to. As the Superintendent's work will all lie within moderate geographical limits, it is not necessary that travelling allowance should be provided for him; but, as his duties will be important and the qualifications* required considerable, I think a salary of Rupees 120 a month is not too much to give, and I would recommend that this should be provided.

G. O., 2nd February 1871, No. 331, paragraph 5.

* Overseer, Surveyor, and Draughtsman.

4. *Delta Conservancy Establishment.*—There are at present twenty-seven Superintendents, viz., eight in the Eastern, six in the Central, and thirteen in the Western Delta. In the Eastern Delta I found arrangements in force which are objectionable, inasmuch as they lose sight of the proper duties of this establishment, which are—

(1.) The charge of the canals and distribution works and of the regulating works connected with them.

- (2.) The complete supervision of the irrigation and drainage with the prevention of all interference and the removal of all obstructions.
- (3.) The supervision of the annual clearances and other repairs, and of the construction of minor masonry works and any other constructive work within their charges which will not interfere with their proper duties.

In this range the two Assistant Engineers were not cash disbursers, but two of the Delta Superintendents were so, and these men had the nominal charge of the greater part of the delta between them, the one having four of the other Superintendents, and the other two under him. The two Superintendents of the first class were thus diverted from their proper duties and made to take up the work of the permanent executive establishment. It appears to me that neither press of constructive work nor any other excuse should be accepted for the diversion of establishments from the duties for the performance of which they have been specially appointed. Each Superintendent should have his own separate charge, and should be responsible for everything connected with conservancy and regulation within it. The duties under the first and second heads above noticed involve constant inspections and, in order that Range and Sub-divisional officers may see that these are properly performed, diaries must be kept and submitted at short intervals, perhaps weekly would suffice. Hitherto it would appear that only these Superintendents who draw travelling allowance have kept and submitted such reports, and this should be seen to; the essential thing is to take care that the Superintendents do the work of their appointments thoroughly and systematically; the regulation of travelling allowance is a matter of very secondary importance, and I may here remark that the grant of travelling allowance to men of this class is a mistake; still more so the way in which the grant has been made; for only the first-class Superintendents who draw the highest pay get any, and evidently these require it the least. The appointments involve, as has been already pointed out, constant inspections; they should be held by natives, who are much better fitted for the work to be done than either Europeans or East Indians, and it is not necessary to have a special allowance when there is nothing special by which to regulate it. I beg therefore to recommend that the allowance be continued to present first-class Superintendents, but that it be discontinued to future incumbents.

5. In the Eastern Delta the present nominal charges of Superintendents will, with one exception, do very well; the Junction canal can be added to the Samulcottah canal, of which it is indeed a part, and this will reduce the number of Delta Superintendents from eight to seven, which latter will give on the average an area of about 25,000 acres of irrigation to each Superintendent.

6. In the Central Delta, the present* area of irrigation in which is about

85,000 acres, and the ultimate area expected† but little more, four Superintendents should suffice, viz., one for each of the principal canals, and one for Nagaram. I should have said five, but for the intention to provide Maistries for the river banks and the work connected with these.

* 1871-72.

G. O., No. 1,592, 18th June 1873.

Amalapur	...	...	52,466
Nagaram...	...	...	32,807
			<hr/> 85,273

† Project provides for 87,251 acres.

7. In the Western Delta the existing thirteen charges should be reduced to twelve by dividing the Nursapore canal irrigation between three instead of four Superintendents, viz., one for that on the left bank, and two for the irrigation on the right bank.

8. The number of permanent charges for Delta Superintendents will then be, in the—

Eastern Delta	...	...	...	...	...	7
Central do.	...	...	...	...	...	4
Western do.	...	...	...	...	...	12
						<hr/> Total... 23

The District Engineer's proposition to assimilate the pay of Delta Superintendents to that of Overseers on the regular executive establishment has already

been negatived, but it may be advisable to consider what the pay of, and the numbers in, each class may properly be. At present the twenty-seven Superintendents are classified thus—

	Rs.
3 of the First Class, Rs. 70 ...	210
7 „ Second „ „ 50 ...	350
12 „ Third „ „ 40 ...	480
5 „ Fourth „ „ 30 ...	150
	<hr/> Total .. 1,190

I am of opinion that the pay of the first class is ample, and I would make the differences between the pay of the first and second class and that of the second and third class equal, by raising the pay of the second class from Rupees 50 to Rupees 55; and, lastly, the fourth class may with advantage be abolished, as the pay is too low to secure for any length of time the services of men of the qualifications required, and local knowledge is essential to efficiency.

9. Although it is proposed to diminish by four the number of charges for Delta Superintendents, it is not intended to reduce their numbers, because the large amount of survey work and levelling needed yearly in connection with the river banks, etc., and for the extension and regulation of the distribution and drainage, renders it advisable that there should be some permanent Surveyors attached to the delta. It is also very advisable that when the permanent incumbents of charges are either sick or absent on leave, there should be other Superintendents available to take their places, for the charges have been made as large as is consistent with efficiency, and to double them up, even for a short time, would certainly result in the neglect of the daily requirements of both. There should still, therefore, be twenty-seven Superintendents, and I would recommend that they should be divided into three classes, as follows:—

5 of the First Class, Rs. 70 ...	350
10 „ Second „ „ 55 ...	550
12 „ Third „ „ 40 ...	480
	<hr/> Total... 1,380

against Rupees 1,190 at present.

10. Some of the present Superintendents are by no means efficient. The District Engineer proposes to provide them with employment more suited to their qualifications, and, if such can be found for them, there will be no objection to this

arrangement. It would seem that in the various changes which have occurred in the last fifteen or sixteen years men have been thrown out of employment; and, in the endeavour to avoid hardship to individuals, some have been put into appointments for which they are altogether unfitted, and the statement which the District Engineer has furnished showing the age, period of service, etc., of all the Superintendents shows that the antecedents of some of them would hardly make their efficiency probable. An intelligent performance of their duties, considerable activity, and a complete knowledge of all the works in their charges must be insisted upon, and those who cannot come up to this standard must leave the Conservancy Establishment, whether other employment can be found for them or not. It should therefore be understood that the changes proposed are not for the purpose of giving promotion to men who are not worth the pay they now draw, but to add materially to the efficiency of the establishment by rewarding those who are deserving of encouragement, and by securing the services of others who will be fully equal to the duties to be performed.

11. Another appointment which I find to be greatly needed is a *Superintendent of the floating plant*, who for brevity may be called *Boat Superintendent*. He is wanted on several accounts. First, to ensure that all the floating plant in use is duly repaired and kept in good order, a matter which, notwithstanding former remarks on the state of the plant, has not received sufficient attention, as I shall have occasion, in submitting the memorandum on my tour of inspection, to point out. The out-turn of work done by the plant is materially diminished from this cause, and the wear and tear is seriously increased. Secondly, to regulate the loading of boats with materials at the lime-kilns and several stone wharfs. For want of supervision there are not only considerable delays, but the steamers, which have to take the boats across the river, are kept waiting and have to make the trips without a proper complement of boats. For the most part the Superintendent's duties would be confined to the Dowlaishweram side of the river, but it would be necessary for him to see that no unnecessary delays occurred at the Vijeshweram head on the other bank. The steamers at the close of the day's work should, if intended to be under steam the next day, be visited and examined, both as regards the state of the machinery, and to see that the firewood, etc., for the following day is duly put on board, and other requirements attended to. The boat establishment is a large one, and if it is to be successfully and economically worked, there must be great regularity and punctuality, and that attention to small matters which make so great a difference in results.

As an instance of what is required, the bucket ladders of the dredges have a screw adjustment for lengthening them when the links and link pins become worn, whereby the length of the bucket chain is considerably increased and, if not adjusted, the shoot cannot be kept close enough to receive the dredged material as it falls out of the buckets, and a proportion, sometimes considerable, of every bucket full is discharged outside instead of into the shoot.

I am somewhat in doubt as to the proper salary for this appointment, for the Superintendent should have some knowledge of machinery and be competent to detect any imperfections in the engines of the steamers and dredges, and in the machinery generally of the latter.

On the whole however I think that Rupees 75 a month should suffice, and I accordingly beg to recommend that this be sanctioned.

12. The usual establishments will shortly be required for the new surplus weir at Nundamoor.

From 1st April 1874.	A Superintendent...	...	...	Rs. 8
	A Lascar ...	...	...	6
	Total...			14

The District Engineer proposed three lascars, but this was probably an oversight, as the shutters will be fitted with screw gearing, and the proposed establish-

ment can easily regulate them. For the Gummupad lock on the Attili canal—

From 1st July 1874.	1 Superintendent	...	...	Rs. 10
	1 Lascar	...	...	6
	2 Do. at 5 Rs.	...	...	10
	Total...			26

For the Mogultur tidal lock on the Nursapur canal—

1 Superintendent	...	...	...	...	...	Rs. 12
2 Lascars, at 6 Rs.	...	...	...	...	...	12
3 Do. at 5 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	15
Total...						39

13. The District Engineer has in his letter proposed an increase of Rs. 2 to the pay, Rupees 10, of the Superintendent of the head lock and sluice at Bobbalunka, the head of the Central Delta, on the ground that the duties are responsible, and that the Superintendents at the other heads get Rupees 15; the increase is reasonable and may be granted, though it did not appear to me that the present man had been particularly attentive to his work.

14. In his letter, No. 2,383, of the 6th November, Colonel Fischer proposes to transfer certain fourth-class Delta Superintendents to the petty establishment as Maistries, and to use the Rupees 150 thus made available under conservancy for providing three Surveyors. For the latter part of the arrangement, I have suggested means, and while not prepared to recommend that any transfer of members of the conservancy establishment to the petty establishment, irrespective of their qualifications, should be permitted, I am of opinion that the subordinate executive establishment needs strengthening, and that it will be well to sanction the employment, from the Budget provision for petty establishment, of five Maistries for the river works in the delta, being one for the Eastern, three for the Central, and one for the Western Delta, and they would of course be available for employment on other works close at hand, as for instance on the Bank canals; while, as there are very many important masonry works in progress in the Eastern and Western Deltas, and as the great impediment to the progress of improved distribution arrangements, depending mainly on the construction of numerous small sluices, is the want of supervision, it will be of great advantage and, I think, lead to a more rapid extension of irrigation, if three Maistries be sanctioned for general duty in the Eastern, and four for the Western Delta. I consider that for first-class Maistries, of considerable experience on masonry works, a salary of Rupees 30 may be allowed, for the second class Rupees 25, and third class Rs. 20, and I would give two of the first class and five of the second class for general duty on masonry works, and five of the third class for the river works.

15. The usual tabular statement, showing the alterations of conservancy establishments proposed in this note, is enclosed, and I would recommend that the Ancient and Boat Superintendents be sanctioned as early as possible, and the changes in the classification of the Delta Superintendents from the 1st April, for which the necessary provision can be made in the budget estimates now under preparation.

16. I would also recommend that sanction should be given for the immediate employment of the fifteen Maistries, so that full advantage may be taken of the present working season.

BEZWADA,
6th December 1873.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

11/1/30



Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

11/536/00

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER GODAVERY.

At. Ac. Ac.

Dated April 22nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 22nd April 1874, No. 1, 2, 3.

APRIL

Nos. 265-266

Establishment.—Passing orders on the proposals of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for strengthening and rendering efficient the Conservancy Establishments for Irrigation and Navigation in the Godavary Delta.

See Encl. 18/84

