

14TH NOVEMBER 1885, No. 164, LEGISLATIVE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., Superintendent of Works in charge of II Circle, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Bezvada, 21st October 1885, No. 1436-K.S.

In respectfully inviting attention to the subject of the cutting of the river bank at Puligedda by an individual named Mandali Ramaswami, in my letter, No. 993-K.S., of the 15th August last, wherein I pointed out the necessity for some special legislative action on the part of Government to put a stop to such injurious and mischievous acts, I have the honor to forward, herewith, copy of a report by Delta Superintendent, Chendrasekhara Row, of another instance of ryots cutting breaches in tank banks and supply-channel banks without obtaining the permission of any officer, either of this, or of any other department.

2. I beg to invite your particular attention to Mr. Grant's remarks at the foot of the report, and as this has reference to the case reported in my letter, to which I have invited your attention, I trust you will be able to furnish me with early instructions on the same.

3. The banks of large and dangerous rivers like the Kistna and Pennér, and the bunds of tanks and channels on which the supply of water to many acres of land depend, cannot, I submit, be allowed to be tampered with at the caprice of any individual who may conceive his little land, or property, or even life, is endangered by the height of the waters. Still less can such a person be allowed to do so merely that his fields may be supplied with more water. In justice to *all*, some one must have the controlling power which he can legally carry out : it matters not in whose hands it is invested.

ENCLOSURE.

From M.R.Ry. K. CHENDRASEKHARA ROW PANTULU, Delta Superintendent, to the
Officer in charge, Southern Sub-Division, Kistna, dated Viswanadhapalli, 3rd October
1885, No. 93.

I beg to inform your honor that there are no lists of palmyra sluices put in tank bunds in Devi. Ryots cut breaches in tank banks and supply-channel banks without application and taking permission from any officer. These breaches are left open without putting any palmyra spouts or pendals over it. They gradually become wider and cause hindrance to people walking over the banks. Your honor has seen some of these breaches.

2. I therefore request to know what is to be done when I see such breaches. If the ryots are to take permission before they breach the banks for taking water for irrigation purposes, I request to publish the same in the District Gazette for general information.

No. 267.

Forwarded to the Divisional officer for orders.

(Signed) J. INGLIS,
Asst. Engineer Sn. Sub-Division.

6th October 1885.

Irrigation and Navigation Bill.

Communicating to the Select Committee papers from the Public Works department on the subject of the cutting of breaches in tank banks and supply-channel banks without permission.

With order

No. 2312.

Forwarded to the Superintending Engineer for orders. The High Court having ruled that it is no crime to cut the river bank, our efforts to stop such mischievous acts are, of course, of no avail.

BEZVADA,
8th October 1885.

(Signed) J. D. GRANT,
Executive Engineer.

No. 94-E.W.

Transferred to the Chief Engineer, Public Works department, in continuation of this office No. 83-E.W., dated 7th September 1885.

CHEPAUK,
30th October 1885.

(Signed) A. W. SMART, Captain, R.E.,
for Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 1807-C.

Transferred to the Legislative department, in continuation of No. 616-E., dated 18th September 1885.

CHEPAUK,
10th November 1885.

(Signed) D. McN. CAMPBELL, Captain, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

ORDER—dated 14th November 1885, No. 164, Legislative.

Communicated to the Select Committee on the Irrigation and Navigation Bill.

(True Extract.)

H. A. STUART,
Ag. Asst. Secy. to Govt.

(True copy)

H. A. Stuart.

Ag. Asst. Secy. to Govt.

Legislative Dept.

To the Honorable Members of the Select Committee
on the Irrigation and Navigation Bill.

"the Public Works Dept."