

P. W. CURRENT No. 1019

Govt. of (1894) Madras.

Local and Municipal Department.

To

The Public Works Department.

1. 8-90. 2214 ✓

2. 91. 423 ✓

3. 1-94. 303 ✓

Recd. 10-2-94

Proceedings, dated 8<sup>th</sup> February 1894  
No. 137 m(mis)

Subject.

Works

Authorizing the Accountant General to recover from the Bezvada Mandal Council Rs 100, being the charge for the scrutiny of estimate for constructing steps at the Kistna anicut, and observing that no such charge should be levied in the case of the repair of the town school house at Shevapet (Sakur).

J. C. 16/ii

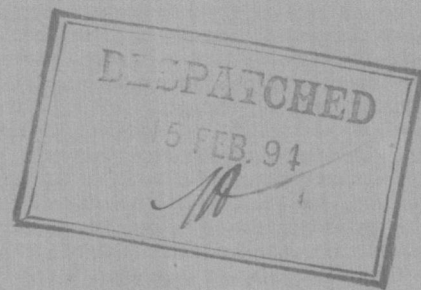
In the order.

No. 407 Wd/14 February '94

Communicated to the Examiner Public Works Accounts with reference to his statement dated 20<sup>th</sup> January 1894.

Supd. 12-2-94

The Exp. W. O. ✓  
L. S.



INDEXED.  
17/2

Code  
Class

SS

INDIAN



TELEGRAPHS.

06309  
Monthly  
Number.

To  
(Office)

Madras

From  
(Office)

Calcutta

Hour

Day

Hour

Minute

Official  
Instructions

To  
(Person)

Madras.

From  
(Person)

Calcutta.

Mily.

Military

461 m. w. your  
wire fifth february Payment  
rupees 1000 to  
Mr. Loll for Prize  
essay Bangalore water supply  
project please furnish parti-  
culars as it is  
not understood why second  
Payment should be made.

64 Word Form.

Lee

13 FEB. 94

Recd. from

LN.

Sent to

LN.

At

Hrs.

Mts. by

At

Hrs.

Mts. by

Telegraph Master.

Government of Madras.

DISPOSAL.

1894.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

No.

dated

CURRENT No. 1121

From

The Military Department

ENCLOS.

No. 910

Dated 13.2.94

Received 14.2.94

SUBJECT.

Mr Standish Lee: Transferring  
telegram from Government  
of India asking for particulars  
in regards to a second payment  
of Rs 1000/- for his prize  
Essay, Bangalore water supply  
project.

20.10.87.2810 W  
16.7.88.2147.48 W  
18.1.90.1524 W  
3.11.93.3677 C  
5.2.94.311 W  
A  
5.2.94.311 W  
B

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 412 W d/14 Febry: '94

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

Telegram from the Govt: of  
India. mily: sept: N.B. N<sup>o</sup>. 461. m. W d/ 12 Febry: '94  
End to thereon by the  
mily: sept: — " " 910 d/ 13 Febry: '94.

Ordered that the  
following reply be sent  
by wire.

(N.B. N<sup>o</sup> W d/ Febry: '94)  
No: 413 W-d/14 Febry: '94  
To

Military  
Calcutta.

Your wire 461. m. W -  
second payment of  
Rupees one thousand  
is due under terms of  
notification calling for  
essays - Mr. Lee's essay

having been adopted  
as foundation of  
scheme actually ap-  
proved.

over  
16.294

D.W.

Nos: 412-13 W-2714 Feb: '94

2.C. 16/11  
R.S.

INDEXED.  
17/2

14TH AUGUST 1893, No. 704 I., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

READ—again the following paper:—  
G.O., dated 6th February 1890, No. 69 I., Public Works.

READ—also the following papers:—

From J. W. MARTIN, Esq., Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 18th July 1893, No. 1026 K.S.

In reply to your memo. No. II/80 K.S., dated 17th May 1893, in the matter of bathing ghât at Bezwada, I have the honour to report that the people were prevented from approaching the anicut by the Executive Engineer until about the middle of March in view to preventing accidents. In March, the Chairman of the Municipal Council brought to my notice that the townspeople considered that they should be allowed to draw water and bathe at the anicut, and immediately I gave orders that they should be admitted to it, but that bathing on the north side of the groyne should not be allowed under rule II approved in G.O., dated 6th February 1890, No. 69 I.

From J. N. ATKINSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kistna, to the Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Masulipatam, 22nd July 1893, Dis. No. 656-Eng.

Your telegram, dated 17th instant, calling for a report on the question of the Bezwada bathing ghâts, reached me only late last evening, having been delayed in following me to and from camp. I have now the honour to submit the following report on the matter referred to. I wish however very respectfully to explain that I have never yet been officially called on for any report. I was aware that the inhabitants of Bezwada had memorialised His Excellency the Governor on the occasion of his last visit to Bezwada on the matter of their being denied access to the anicut for the purpose of bathing and drawing water. I knew that His Excellency had told the memorialists that he would call for a report from me. Thereafter on three separate occasions I asked the Private Secretary whether I should submit my report at once and was informed each time that, in the ordinary course, extracts from the addresses would be communicated to me through the Revenue offices and that I need not report till then. No extracts have reached me up to now. I venture to submit this explanation lest it should be thought that I have been unnecessarily delaying my report.

2. I am unable to procure copies of the addresses presented to His Excellency the Governor in March last, but I believe that the following report will be found to deal with all the grievances therein alleged in regard to the bathing ghât.

3. I enclose herein a plan of the locality, which I request may be returned to me when done with.

4. In the voluminous correspondence connected with this longstanding dispute in regard to bathing and drawing water on the anicut, it is unnecessary to go further back than G.O., No. 69 I., dated 6th February 1890, Public Works. This order approved

of two recommendations made by a committee that had been appointed by Government to discuss the question, and, disapproving of a third recommendation, substituted another rule in place thereof. The three rules thus sanctioned by Government were as follows:—

(1) That, as required by Government, all access by the public to the anicut be regarded as a matter of grace and that the concession made shall be liable to suspension or change whenever necessary either in the interest of public safety or of the management of the works. Such orders as may be necessary in this connection should be issued by the Superintending Engineer, subject to the orders of Government.

(2) That no washing or bathing be permitted on the north side \* of the groyne and that this spot be strictly reserved for drawing water for drinking.

\* Marked B in plan.

(3) That, subject to the reservation of the north side of the groyne exclusively for drawing drinking water from, the detailed arrangements for regulating bathing and drawing water from the anicut and its works shall issue year by year from the Superintending Engineer after consultation with the Municipal Council, whose wishes and recommendations he will endeavour to meet, referring any difference of opinion on important points for the orders of Government.

5. On 14th April 1890 the Municipal Council of Bezwada met and passed the following resolution:—The following detailed arrangements for regulating bathing and drawing water from the Kistna anicut are proposed in anticipation of the Superintending Engineer's approval:—

(i) That no washing or bathing be permitted on the north side of the groyne and that this spot be strictly reserved for drawing water for drinking for Brahmins, Kshatrias, Vysyas and Sudras.

(ii) That the south side of the groyne and the first two hundred feet of the anicut main wall are to be set apart for bathing and washing for the above four classes of people.

(iii) That the groyne below under-sluice be strictly reserved for drawing water for drinking for all other classes as usual.

(iv) That the main wall of the anicut above two hundred feet and the whole length of the anicut below be available for bathing and washing for all other classes as usual.

(v) That the Superintending Engineer be requested, in accordance with paragraph 6 of the committee's report, to look to the following to meet the wishes of the Council —

(a) That roughstone steps be erected all along on both sides of the groyne above under-sluice and on one side of the groyne below under-sluice, on the right side of the anicut, commencing from the apex up to two hundred feet in length.

(b) That clearance of earth be made in front of the anicut main wall up to two hundred feet, also on both sides of the groyne above under-sluice, to render the water more readily available as water goes down to a long distance in hot season.

(c) That iron railing be fixed all along the under-sluice on both sides, from the gate at the entrance up to anicut, and also on two wing walls of the under-sluice to prevent accidents.

6. The Superintending Engineer approved of these proposals with the exception of the last 5 (a), (b) and (c). He considered that these three proposals were not necessary; but he thought that, for the safety of people bathing there, the place might be improved at a small cost by repacking the stone on the upstream side of the anicut (to be carefully distinguished from the groyne) and subsequently an estimate, amounting to Rs. 374, for carrying out these improvements was sent in by the Superintending Engineer. Sanction of Government to the execution of this work at the cost of Municipal funds was accorded in G.Os., No. 714 I., dated 4th December 1890, Public Works, and Mis. No. 1966 M., dated 19th December 1890. The Superintending Engineer has lately in a letter to the Executive Engineer, Kistna Eastern Division,

copy of which he has forwarded to me, noted that "the work proposed by the municipality for some reason which is not on record was stopped," that is to say, that the improvement of the upstream side of the anicut, which was intended to make it a safe and convenient "ghât," was never carried out.

7. I find no trace of any complaints from the public or municipality during 1891, but early in 1892 a largely-signed petition from the people of Bezwada was presented to Mr. Arundel, complaining of the inconvenience that arose from the want of steps on the southern side of the groyne on the upstream side of the anicut. On 15th February 1892 in his letter No. 1569 the Chairman of the Municipal Council wrote to the Collector, complaining that the proposals sanctioned by the Superintending Engineer, viz., Nos. (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in paragraph 5 above, had never been carried out and urging that, until the proposals mentioned in No. (v) (a), (b), (c) in paragraph 5 above were carried out, the first four proposals should not be given effect to.

8. Mr. Arundel referred this letter to the Superintending Engineer for remarks and at the same time informed the Chairman of the Council that by G.O., No. 69 I., dated 6th February 1890, Public Works, "washing and bathing on the north side of the groyne is peremptorily forbidden under all circumstances."

9. To the reference to the Superintending Engineer mentioned in the last paragraph no reply was received until 7th July of this year, when the Officiating Superintending Engineer Mr. Malet forwarded to me a copy of his letter No. 780 K.S., dated 17th June 1893, addressed to the Executive Engineer, Kistna Eastern Division.

(v) (a) That roughstone steps be erected all along on both sides of the groyne above under-sluice and on one side of the groyne below under-sluice, on the right side of the anicut, commencing from the apex up to two hundred feet in length.

(b) That clearance of earth be made in front of the anicut main wall up to two hundred feet, also on both sides of the groyne above under-sluice, to render the water more readily available as water goes down to a long distance in hot season.

(c) That iron railing be fixed all along the under-sluice on both sides, from the gate at the entrance up to anicut, and also on two wing walls of the under-sluice to prevent accidents.

10. At this time the only question in dispute, so far as the correspondence on the subject shows, was as regards the proposals formulated by the Municipal Council as Nos v (a), (b) and (c) in their resolution of 14th April 1890. For convenience of reference I repeat these again in the margin. Mr. Malet in his letter of 17th June to the Executive Engineer, Kistna Eastern Division, accepted these proposals *en bloc*. In a subsequent letter, dated 5th July 1893, No. 915 K.S., to the same officer, he slightly modified this acceptance.

11. Therein he writes "after further consideration and after perusing the demi-official correspondence now brought to notice I am of opinion that for sanitary reasons

\* B in the plan.

no bathing or washing should be permitted on either side \* of the groyne on the upstream side of the anicut and that the whole groyne should be reserved entirely for drawing drinking water." The "sanitary reasons," alluded to by Mr. Malet, are simply that, if people are allowed to bathe on the south side of the groyne in question, they cannot in practice be prevented from bathing on the north side also and thereby contaminating the water which on that side has been set apart for drinking.

12. Mr. Martin, for whom Mr. Malet was acting, has, since the date of Mr. Malet's last quoted letter, returned from leave. Mr. Martin and I have discussed the matter together. We are agreed that it should be and is possible if proper measures be taken to prevent persons bathing on the north side of the groyne; that the few isolated cases of surreptitious bathing that may occur are not likely materially to contaminate so large a body of rapidly flowing water as passes along the northern face of the groyne; and that it is the duty of the Municipal Council, rather than of the Public Works Department, to prevent contamination of drinking water. We are agreed that the proposals made by the Bezwada Municipal Council, as set out in the margin above, may be accepted in their entirety and in accordance therewith the Executive Engineer has been directed to prepare the necessary estimates. In connection with the supposed contamination of the drinking water on the north side of the

groyne, I may add that I have asked the Chairman of the Municipal Council to have samples of water drawn from both sides of the groyne on three different occasions and to forward them to the Chemical Examiner for analysis. If the Chemical Examiner finds that there is contamination, it will be time enough to take action.

13. I may also add that, if once Bezwada were provided with a satisfactory supply of drinking water laid on in the town, there would be no more complaints in regard to prevention of access to the Bezwada anicut. Mr. Spring has shown us how simply, cheaply and effectively Bezwada can be supplied and it is tantalizing in the extreme that the Council should not be allowed to carry out the scheme.

14. The Superintending Engineer having now accepted the whole of the proposals made by the Municipal Council in accordance with the third rule laid down by Government in G.O., No. 69 I., dated 6th February 1890, Public Works, *cadit questio*.

15. There is, however, one further matter which has not been alluded to in the recent correspondence on this troublesome question, viz., the necessity at times of preventing all access to the anicut. In G.O., No. 847 I., dated 23rd October 1883, Public Works, it was laid down that, "whenever, in the opinion of the Executive Engineer, it is dangerous for people to bathe on any part of the anicut, a barrier gate should be erected at the point E to exclude the public." As a matter of fact a gate has been erected at the point referred to in the Government order as a permanent structure. This gate is usually left open, being shut when the Executive Engineer considers bathing on the anicut dangerous. A good deal of irritation has been excited among the public of Bezwada by the closure of the gate at times when there did not appear to be any danger. Mr. Martin and I have considered the matter and recommend that a hard and fast rule should be laid down that the gate will be closed when there is 5 feet of water or upwards passing over the crest of the anicut, the under-sluices being open at the time; when there is less than 5 feet of water on the anicut, or when the under-sluices are closed, the gate will be left open.

ORDER—dated 14th August 1893, No. 704 I., Public Works.

In supersession of the previous orders quoted in the margin, His Excellency the Governor in Council directs that the proposals relative to the public drinking and bathing arrangements at the Kistna

anicut, Bezwada, as agreed to by the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, and the Collector in the foregoing letter No. 656 Eng., dated 22nd July 1893, in accordance with the resolution of the Municipal Council, Bezwada, be sanctioned and that the necessary estimates for the works be expedited.

2. The Collector's recommendation in the last paragraph of his letter read above for the prevention of all access to the anicut, when such access is considered dangerous, is approved. The barrier gate at the point E will accordingly be closed when there is 5 feet or more of water passing over the crest of the anicut, the under-sluices being open at such times.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. R. E. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, Lt.-Col., R.E.,  
Ag. Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.  
" Superintending Engineer, II Circle.  
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.  
" Revenue Department.  
" Local and Municipal Department.

Exd. A. D. Xavier.  
Spare Copies

IRRIGATION.

Govt. of {1893} Madras.  
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated August, 14th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th Aug. 1893, No. 704 I.

AUGUST.

Public Drinking and Bathing  
Arrangements at Kistna Anicut

Proposals relative to the —, Bezwada, sanctioned, and the Collector's recommendation for the prevention of all access to the anicut approved.

Local and Municipal Department.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following paper :—

From the Public Works Department, dated 23rd January 1894, No. 303 C. forwarding statement showing the amounts of estimates for municipal works scrutinized by the P. W. Dept. for the quarter ending 31st December 1893.

Order dated 8th February 1894, No. 137 M. Mis.

The Accountant General will recover the sum of Rs. 100 from the municipal council of Bezwada, and place it at the disposal of the Public Works Department.

2. It is observed that under G.O. 22nd January 1894, No. 135 L, no charge should be levied for the scrutiny of the estimate for item 2 in the statement.

(True extracts)

Lionel Davidson

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Sg. Assistant Secretary.

The Accountant General.

Chairman, municipal council, Bezwada.

Public Works Department.

1158