Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 623 I

DATED 7 July 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Injury to Sluices: Pros: Revenue Dept. referring to the Board of Revenue for early report ~~the~~ certain correspondence regarding the proper method of preventing injury to sluices by the ryots. Comd. to S.E. IV Circle.

Dr

K 2 July 1897

[P.W. 25. / 5,000—80-11-96.]

Indexed. 12/7

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 6147

Order No. 623 d 7th July 1897.

Communicated to the Supt. Engr IV Circle, for information

30/6/97.

W.H. 30.6.97

Issue

W.H. 30.6.97

To

The Chief Engr for I

Supt. Engr IV Circle

8/7/97

ICB 28/6/97

From

The Revenue Department.

No. 1145 R.

Dated the 15th June 1897.

Received 24.6.97

Enclosures 5

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Referring to the Board of Revenue for early report the correspondence from the Public Works Dept. re: the proper method of preventing injury to sluices by the ryots .

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
R	U	C.L.	24-5-97
J	504	D.	11-6-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, No. 1502 mis, dated the 23rd April 1897 on the following papers:—

(1) Letter from Herbert Bradley Esq. Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, Madras, Ref. on C. No. $\frac{1487/J}{Rev}$ of 96, dated the 23rd February 1897.

(2) The following Proceedings of the Revenue Department, No. 177 mis, dated the 2nd March 1897 on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, No 547 mis, dated the 12th February 1897:—

The Government is of opinion that in addition to the course suggested in the Board's Proceedings some special means of watching should be provided by strengthening the ordinary establishment on the channels.

(3) Letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, Ref. on C. 4652(a)/Rev. of 96, dated 6th April 1897.

Resolution:

The Government Order read above

above will be communicated to the Collector of Coimbatore with the request that proposals for strengthening the present Establishment on the channels may be submitted at an early date.

2. The Board does not consider it advisable to charge penal assessment, as suggested by the Collector and the Executive Engineer, when the sluices or other sources of supply are tampered with and where it is impossible to trace the authors of the mischief. The practice in the Kistna and Godavari deltas alluded to in para. 3 of the Collector's letter dated 23rd February 1897 is based apparently on Rule V of the delta-water-rate rules, authorizing the levy of double water-rate when water is taken from a sluice or channel or other source of supply, other than that which is provided or approved by a responsible Officer of the Public Works Department. The sluices in question under the Noyel river system are the recognized sources of supply, and if they have been tampered with, by their level being lowered or in any other way, they cannot be regarded in the same light as unauthorized sources falling within the scope of Rule V above mentioned.

Order thereon, No 2389 Mis, dated 12th May 1897.

Recorded.

Recorded.

(True Extract).

(Signed) G. Stokes,

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To

The Board of Revenue,

Land Revenue, with enclosures.

(True Copy).

For Ag. Secretary to Government.

Coimbatore Collector's Office,
23rd February 1897
Camp, Dharapuram,

Ref: on C. No. 1487/Rev. J of 96

From Herbert Bradley Esq.
Collector of Coimbatore,

To
The Secretary to the Commissioners
of Land Revenue - Madras.

Sir,

With reference to B.P. No. 547 Mis, dated February 12, 1897, I have the honour to state that the Board's presumption in para: 2 is correct.

2. I will do my best to carry out the Board's orders but I think it will be very difficult to do so, unless the establishment is considerably strengthened. Injuries to sluices are nearly always done at night and detection is almost impossible while the offer of rewards may stimulate false complaints.

3. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Malet informs that in the deltas of the Kistna & Godavari the kind of mischief to sluices which it is desired to stop in this district is prevented by charging penal assessments on all the land irrigated by the sluice. This obvious that when a sluice calculated to irrigate any number of acres is broken and the waterway enlarged, the lands under the sluice receive more water than they are entitled to, to the detriment of lands further down the

P.W. E1/6147/47

Coimbatore Collector's Office,
23rd February 1897
Camp, Dharapuram,

Ref: on C. No. 1487/Rev. J of 96

From Herbert Bradley Esq.
Collector of Coimbatore,

To
The Secretary to the Commissioners
of Land Revenue - Madras.

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3. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Malet informs that in the deltas of the Kistna & Godavari the kind of mischief to sluices which it is desired to stop in this district is prevented by charging penal assessments on all the land irrigated by the sluice. This obvious that when a sluice calculated to irrigate any number of acres is broken and the waterway enlarged, the lands under the sluice receive more water than they are entitled to, to the detriment of lands further down

the Channel. The landholders under a sluice can avoid being charged penal assessment when it has been mischievously broken by their enemies, by giving prompt information to the Authorities but if they break it themselves, or fail to give information when it is broken by others, I see no reason why penal rates should not be imposed. The sluices that would be affected are all small ones irrigating small areas.

4. If the Board approves of this arrangement, it could be notified in the District Gazette and effect be given to it from the commencement of the next fasli and I think it would effect a great improvement by materially strengthening the hands of the village establishments.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. Stokes,

For Collector.

P.W. E.Y./614 7/9/97

71 Ka.

Coimbatore Collector's Office,

27th April 1897.

Ref: on C. No. 1487/Revenue of 96.

From

Herbert Bradley Esq.

Collector of Coimbatore,

To

The Secretary to the Commissioners of

Land Revenue, Madras.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose an extract from a letter dated April 18, 1896, No. 1230 from the Executive Engineer drawing attention to the scandalous manner in which the ryots under the Noyil river system have destroyed and injured the sluices.

2. The Executive Engineer proposes as a remedy that the sluices should be once more repaired and the ryots warned that if they destroy them again a punitive Police force will be entertained to look after their safety. I do not know how far the Government would be prepared to go in this matter, but I think it absolutely necessary that something should be done to prevent ryots from interfering with properly regulated sluices.

3. Detection at present is absolutely impossible although it is obvious in every case that the mischief is done for the advantage of some or all of the ryots under the injured sluices. I would therefore propose that written notices should be served upon all the

proprietors

proprietors under the system warning them that if they injure the sluices they will be made to pay for repairing them, otherwise that the water supply will be cut off and no remission granted. By this means it is probable that the authors of the mischief will be discovered as it is not probable that the innocent ryots who can scarcely be ignorant, who the offenders are, will be ready to come forward with information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) Herbert Bradley.

Collector.

P.W. E.3/6147/97

F/16 2,000—26-1-97.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue Land Revenue, No. 547 Mis, d/12th Feb: '97 on the following papers:-

"C"
Copy attached

(1) letter from Herbert Bradley, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, Ref: on C.No.1487/Rev: of '96, d/27th April 1896.

And the following reference thereon, d/29th May 1896:-

The Collector is requested to report what establishment has been provided to look after the sluices in question and whether the establishment is under the control of the Revenue or the Public Works Department.

Copy attached

(2) letter from Herbert Bradley Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, Ref. on Cur. No. 1487 (g) /Rev: of '96, dated the 9th January 1897.

Resolution:-

The Collector's proposal in para. 3 of his letter first read above is in the Board's opinion quite unworkable and cannot be approved. Government has no legal power to cut off irrigation from the lands of persons, whose guilt it is admittedly impossible to bring home to them, and far less to charge such persons for water which is withheld merely because some unknown person or persons have tampered with the sluices. The only possible course appears to the Board to be to enforce the responsibility of village officers for the safety of Government property in their charge and to offer rewards for convictions.

2. It is presumed that the word "probable" occurring after "not" in the last sentence of para 3 of the Collector's letter of the 27th April last, is a clerical error for "improbable".

" improbable.".

Order thereon.No.1177 Misc:,dated the 2nd March 1897.

The Government is of opinion that in addition to the course suggested in the Board's Proceedings, some special means of watching should be provided by strengthening the ordinary establishment on the channels.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) G.Stokes,
Ag.Secretary to Government.

To

The Board of Revenue,Land Revenue.

(True Copy)

A.D.Knapp.

For Ag. Secretary to Government.

P.W. E.4 / 6147/47

Revenue Dept.

Notes under Government Order, No. 1177 Mis.dated the 2nd March 1897.

The Board's recommendation merely shelves the matter for it is certain that as in the past so in the future the damage will go on. The appointment of punitive Police would be legal under Act III of 1882.

(Initialled) G. S.
18/2/97.

This Act has been repealed. The law in force now is contained In India Act VIII of 1895.

(Initialled) J. G.

The cost of the force would be small as a few men could adequately patrol the channel. The arrangement would certainly be effective at small cost but I doubt the political expediency of it except in an extreme case. The inhabitants of the villages under the channels might be warned that it can be put on as proposed by the Collector.

(Initialled) G. S.
18/2/97.

The appointment of punitive Police would be legal, but it was never intended to appoint them under such circumstances, and it would be wrong to use threats which we do not intend to carry out. The danger apparently is that the gearing will be left uncleaned and that mischief will be done to it and the vents. Mr. Ashpitel says this could be prevented

prevented by some "special means of watching". Why could not this be provided by strengthening the ordinary establishment ? I believe the channel is under the Irrigation Cess, so that the people would pay. Besides this, the Board's suggestions as to enforcing the responsibility of the village officers, and offering rewards for convictions should be adopted.

(Initialled) J. G.

21/2/97.

P.W. E.5 / 6/7/97

2|KS.

F/16 2,000—26-1-97.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read Endorsement of the Public Works Department No.504 D, dated the 11th June 1897 on Endorsement of the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, No:91/I, dated the 24th May 1897 forwarding copies of correspondence re: the proper method of preventing injury to sluices by the ryots in the Coimbatore Dn.

Order thereon, No.1145 R, dated the 15th June 1897.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for early report.

(True Extract.)

A R Knapp

For Ag. Secretary to Government.

To

The Board of Revenue, Land Revenue, with papers to be returned.

" Public Works Dept., ✓ with copies of G.O.s Nos. 1177, (with copy of notes) d/2-3-97 and 2389, d/12-5-97

2|KS.