

Public Works (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 15-214

DATED 14th May 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Irrigation: Procs. in the Irrigation Branch
communicating to S.E., to circle, and
in the Rev. Dep't on Board's Procs.
submitting a report from the Collector of
~~Malabar~~ Madras on — above
Perandai anicut from the rivers in
which the Periyar water will pass,
recorded.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

Read—the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 39, dated 9th March 1896.

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Madura, dated 3rd March 1896, Ref. on C. No. 436-G1.

I have the honour to report as follows regarding irrigation above Peranai from the rivers in which the Periyár water will run.

2. The only lands so irrigated in Dindigul taluk are 25.49 acres in the zemin village of Ettilodu. The Sub-Collector estimates that 2,460 acres in this and four other zemin villages might be brought under irrigation, but that there is no scope for extension of cultivation in Government villages.

3. In Periyakulam the existing cultivation is as follows in Government villages:

				First Group.	Second Group.
Irrigated from channels direct	...	...	...	5,360.91	757.18
Do. from tanks, channel fed	...	...	...	2,802.23	851.32
Total	...	...	...	8,163.14	1,608.50

The enhancement of assessment, if second group is raised to first group, will be from Rs. 8,345-6-0 to Rs. 10,006-2-0, or an increase of Rs. 1,660-12-0. I have asked the Sub-Collector to report if the enhancement is justifiable in the present fasli. There are also 760.85 acres of cultivation in the two zemin villages of Kuchanur and Uppukottai.

4. The Sub-Collector reports that 1,993 acres of Government and 186 of zemin land can be brought under irrigation without the construction of any new works, and that by the construction of new works 5,944 acres of Government and 1,260 of zemin lands could also be brought under cultivation.

5. The number of tanks that could be dispensed with is 24 and the area 1,256 acres.

The above shows roughly what scope there is for the extension of wet cultivation in Periyakulam, and it is presumed that further information is not required in order to settle the general point whether extension of cultivation there is to be permitted or not. If it is decided to encourage such extension, a detailed investigation will have to be made as in Madura and Málur taluks. The rough sketch forwarded by the Sub-Collector is forwarded for reference, to be kindly returned.

6. As for the coming second crop, for which water will be let down on March 15th, it had been my intention to place no restriction upon the cultivation of second crop in Periyakulam taluk, and the Superintending Engineer informed me that the water-supply at the head sluice of the channels would be regulated by arranging to maintain the tanks in which the channels end at a certain fixed level, and that no assistance or information from the Revenue Department would be required. The last reports from Periyár, however, show that unless rain falls, all we can expect is a constantly diminishing supply beginning with not

more than 500* cubic feet. It will therefore be unsafe to allow any extension of second crop cultivation beyond the mamul area, and I am issuing orders accordingly. Regulation of supply by maintaining

* a letter just received the supply is likely to be about 350 cubic feet at first.

tanks at a fixed level will therefore be impracticable. The Public Works Department officers will be furnished with information as to the area of mamul second crop under each channel, and will have to regulate the supply of calculation, corrected by experience with reference to information to be afforded by the Revenue Department, as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the water.

Resolution—No. 39, dated 9th March 1896.

Submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 16 of Board's Proceedings (Revenue Settlement), No. 29, dated 22nd February 1896.

2. The most recent information as to the quantity of water at present available in the reservoir is disappointing.

3. The Commissioner considers that a qualified officer of the Department of Public Works should be directed to inspect the area irrigable under each of the anicuts above the Peranai anicut, and to report what extension of wet cultivation is practicable, what tanks should be dispensed with, and whether there is any sufficient reason why the fullest possible use should not be made of the Periyár water in the Periyakulam taluk.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

Mis. No. 1091, Revenue.

The Board's proposal is approved and will be transferred to the Public Works Department for the issue of the necessary orders.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
18th March 1896.

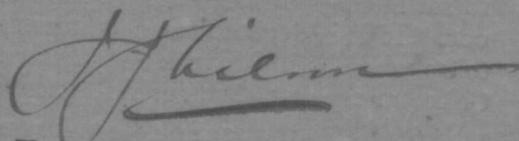
(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Ag. Under Secretary to Govt.

ORDER—No. 321 I., dated 2nd April 1896.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, for early report.

2. Separate orders will be issued in the General branch regarding the establishment applied for by the Executive Engineer, Madura Division, in his letter No. A/3, dated 11th February 1896, to Mr. H. M. Winterbotham.

(True Extract.)



Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Superintending Engineer, VI Circle,
" Superintendent of Works, No. I Periyár Division.
" Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department (General,
Buildings and Roads Branch).

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy Pillay.

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