

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 719 J

DATED 19 Sep '98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Moozi flood bank

Pres: J. P. D. Dept. withdrawing
the additional Police force sanctioned for guarding
the ^{the} ~~the~~ prevalence of the M. R. Monsoon
floods, Communicated to the Officer concerned for
information.

Indexed.

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No.

721 J

DATED

20th Sep '98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bhavani Reservoir.

J. C. Larmine Hol. Directing Messrs B. B. D. W. Smith
A. Co. Smart & Co. to form
themselves into a Committee to inspect the
various dam sites for the ^{the} ~~the~~ Submish
report for the final order of work.

Dr

Indexed.

[P. W. 25.
1,000-23-6-98.]

[P. W. 25.
1,000-23-6-98.]

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

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

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

READ the following:—

The humble Servt of Yours
 J. M. Smith

Blavatti Reservoir

FOR ORDERS

I was first employed, as an
Abbott Engineer, early in 1870
on investigations connected
with this project.

The question submitted for decision is, whether the Bhauani project should be designed solely for the benefit of Tanjore, or partly for the benefit of Tanjore and partly for the benefit of Coimbatore. I will only say that I have before me strong representations from my predecessors as to our duty to improve the irrigation and drainage of the Tanjore District. He says he thinks "we are bound in honour" to do this. I have always understood that this was the primary object of the Bhauani scheme. I should be obliged if Mr. De Kinton, Mr. Carmichael and Col. Smart would form themselves into an informal Committee, to go over the history of the project, and having done so, to state clearly, for the assistance of Govt., their views on the question at issue, when Govt. will be able to give a final decision. V

The question of the location of the dam is a technical and professional one, and should be decided by the experts.

Handwritten: J. L. H. / R. E. H.
H.E. 6.9.98

Again in 1892, when in charge
of the Cambotone Division
I subsequently of the IV Circle
I resumed ^{my} the ~~subject~~ ^{Project},
which had in consequence
always been one of great
interest to me. I had I could
had sufficient opportunity
I believe I should have
pushed the ^{investigation} ~~scheme~~ ^{far} to
completion long ago.

Since assuming charge
of the Brigadier's Chief Engineer
office I have once again
taken up the subject.

As I find that the basis
on which the Project is now
being worked out, appears
open to question. I submit
the general ~~details~~ ^{proposed} for
consideration & discussion
before much time has been
devoted to details, which
might subsequently have
to be modified.

About the years 1883-1884 (3)

(The late) Capt Bramley F.E.
was employed on special
duty surveying the proposed
alternatives sites for the
bureaus & in framing
approximate estimates.
His report will be found
printed with G.O. No 9331 of 15/10/84.

& the general idea was to
construct a bureau of a
capacity sufficient to irrigate
a large area (50000 to 75000 ^{acres} in the
Coimbatore District, having
an & lying above the areas
now irrigated by the Thadabully
& Kalingarayam Channels.

In addition to this, it was (4)
proposed to store sufficient water

FOR ORDERS.

Serial No 3
Flagged

x 16000 MCF
Combined suitable

FOR ORDERS.

to enable some 20000 millions
of cubic feet, being passed
down to Lalgore, to tide
over a period of sometimes
deficient supply, in August
& September.

(5) It may however here be noted
that since the completion of
the new Canals & Bureau
regulators in 1887 the average
annual remissions in Lalgore
for the years ending
196-197 have been only Rs 13000
or a net remission of Rs 33,134.82
(or only 0.39% after deductions & remissions)

(6) It would consequently
appear that there is no
very great necessity for
considering Lalgore at
all, in this connection.
There exists however a
feeling, that in consequence
of the recent increase of
assessment in Lalgore
something or other, should
be done to enhance the
already ~~naturally~~ great
advantages of that naturally

highly favored District.
but ~~it seems to be a~~ ⁽⁷⁾ FOR ORDERS.
~~to observe, that neither~~ ^{are} the
East of India ^{or} the Secretary
of State ^{is} likely to
accord sanction
to an expenditure of possibly
100 lakhs on any scheme,
carried out as it were, for
a present to Lajpore?
A District which can, as it now
stands, bear its increased
allotment with ease.

Besides large estimates have
already been sanctioned &
more are in course of preparation,
which will materially improve
irrigation in Lajpore & the
condition of its rivers &
drainages.

But I now find, that in (8)
addition to all this, the
Bhaasani Buraair Project
is being designed & only for
the benefit of Lajpore!
to the exclusion of the
barren trichies & arid
tracts in Coimbatore
which were originally intended
to be included in the scope of
the project.

For calculating a return from (9)
the scheme, it is expected that

(2)

100000 acres of second crop
can be irrigated, ^{in Lajpore} & that
50000 acres of new wet
crop will be started in
the Raturkottai Taluk ^(in Lajpore)
But ~~the~~ ^{it was first proposed}
~~the~~ ^{to irrigate this very same}
50000 acres from one
or more smaller reservoirs
supplied ^{thru a channel from the Penu} by the surplus
water from the Canavery;
& constructed in Raturkottai
itself. Col Smart has been
& is now engaged working
out this latter scheme,
which if practicable, seems
a much simpler & less expensive
mode of irrigating the land in
question, than by the
construction of a gigantic
reservoir ^{some} 170 miles away
from the area to be supplied.

x The 100000 acres 2nd crop
would not, alone, justify
its construction

Approved Subject

(10) The question therefore, of
including Coimbatore in
the scope of the project,
instead of far away Raturkottai,
is one of the fullest
consideration.

P

Hughes' readiness for preferring
any one - as stated in the
rough draft of his report
(not completed) are severely
sufficiently conclusive, he
states

"A channel for direct irrigation
from the Krishna (it is in
Carnataka) has been surveyed
but the course along the
Contour was found to be
extremely winding & could not
be much shortened without
heavy cutting or tunnelling.
The ground moreover, for a long
distance from the Krishna,
could not be made fit
for irrigation except at great
expense."

I have just obtained at Calcutta (12)
the surveys of the Channel -
The above remarks apply to a
low level line, which for a
tortuous length of 105 miles ^{would} only
command ~~at~~ 50000 acres,
but no allusion has been made by Mr. Hughes
to an alternative high level
line, which for a length of
55 miles commands 100000

(11)

acres & could be still further
extended. The latter line is
far away the better & it is about
that generally projected by
Major Montgomerie.

(13) There is no doubt however,
regarding the character of
the ground & the quality
of the soil to be irrigated.

The country is undulating
rising & falling in regular and
small & hollows, while the
soil varies from a light
sandy loam, to a heavier
quality, mixed with quartz
boulders - as may be seen
passing along the S I R below
Grade. Country of this ^{sort} ~~kind~~
would require considerable
preparation to fit it for
irrigation, while soil of the
kind would - for several
years at all events, absorb
a great deal of water.

On my recent inspection of the
valley along the upper reach of the
projected high level ^{channel}, I was surprised
to see the number of new wells which
had recently been excavated,
an indication of the value
a water supply would be

*

The successful results
obtained from local
irrigation on this kind
of soil can be seen all
over Karnataka

See local opinion
at Sattyamangalam
Kannara

P The only reliable measure short (14)
 I can find bearing on the
 question is that by the Sub
 Collector of Coimbatore
 (then Mr. Fremdel) dated
 the 10/12/99 printed as appendix
 G page 30 of Major Montgomerie's
 report GO No 1196 of 6/5/90,
 page 10 of this report also contains
 some remarks on the subject.
 This then is the question for
 decision - Shall the Bhavani
 Reservoir be designed & estimated for,
 solely for the benefit of Lurgur,
 - a District the richest in India -
 to the exclusion of Coimbatore where
 there is a great scope for improvement
 every way?
 There is a further question connected (16)
 with the site to be selected for the
 Reservoir - This is more technical,
 but as measure details connected with
 the character & extent of the land
 to be submerged, are also involved.
 it will be treated in a separate
 note.

JCL
 19/8/98

Serial No 1
 flagged

P. I. Form No. 22.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

Read the following :-

Notes dated 2^d September 1898 by the As. Joint
 Secy to Govt. P. W. D. Irrigation Branch
 on the question as to whether Coimbatore
 should be included in the irrigating
 scope of the Bhavani Reservoir Project
 in preference to Pattukottai and on the
 relative advantages of alternative
 sites proposed for the Reservoir dam

No. 721 L of 20. 9. 98

Issue

JCL
 16/8

His Excellency the
 Governor-in-Council
 directs that Messrs
 W. B. de Winton, J. C. Larmine
 and Colonel A. W. Smart
 R.E. form themselves
 into a Committee to
 inspect the various
 dam sites for the Bhavani
 Reservoir and after a
 discussion of the various
 professional pros & cons
 of each, submit a report
 which should enable
 Government to pass final
 orders on this question

Note
 Connected papers not
 recd from D.O.

to Mr. de Winton Esq.
 J. C. Larmine Esq.
 Col. A. W. Smart R.E.

Copies to C. P. W. D.

J. C. Larmine
 16/9/98 Asg. S.