

G.O., No. 114

DATED

2nd Feb 99

Periyar Inspect

[Despatch Abstract.]

I beg to inform
 the Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury that the
 Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury has approved
 the recommendation
 of the Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury that the
 Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury should be
 under the
 Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury in all cases
 where the
 Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury is necessary,
 and that the
 Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury be
 communicated to the
 Hon. Secy of the
 Treasury.

Proceedings, Revenue Department, approving the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the task of aligning the smaller distributaries under the — should be undertaken by Government in all cases where the Collector or the Revenue Divisional officer states it to be necessary, communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

Read—the following paper:—

G.O., Mis. No. 324, Revenue, dated 21st January 1899.

Read—the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement), Mis. No. 4668, dated 2nd August 1898.

Read—the following paper:—

From the Collector of Madura, dated 25th July 1898, R.O.C. No. 1887/Genl.

I have the honour to solicit the Board's orders on the following points.

2. The Public Works Department has been ordered to construct all distributaries connected with the Periyár project which are intended to irrigate 50 acres and upwards to be done by the ryots themselves. The question now arises, who should align the latter class of channels—the ryots or the Public Works Department? The Superintendent Engineer thinks that experienced cultivators of wet lands should be able to make as good an alignment as any one else, and that if there should be any difficulty in so doing, the officers of the Public Works Department may be asked to give their assistance. He is of opinion that if these alignments are to be laid out in every case by the Public Works Department, much extra work will be thrown on the officers engaged on the development of the project, and valuable time taken up which can ill be spared.

3. The Special Deputy Collector understands the Government Order quoted above to mean that the alignment of the channels as well as the acquisition of the channels required for all smaller distributaries, otherwise called field channels, intended to irrigate entire and separate blocks of less than 50 acres included in a larger area, should be undertaken by Government in the same way as is done in the case of distributaries intended to irrigate 50 acres and upwards. He is of opinion that the ryots have neither the knowledge required for aligning channels nor the spirit of combination and co-operation necessary to provide lands for the channels. He fears that if there is delay in providing the means of irrigation it will seriously decrease the bids at future sales of Government waste lands and also entail heavy loss on Government in the shape of loss of revenue, as the purchasers of Government assessed waste lands cannot be properly charged with wet assessment if, owing to the refusal of the adjacent landholder to let water flow through his field, he is unable to bring his lands under wet cultivation (*vide* copy of his letter, R.O.C. No. 577 Gl., dated 4th July 1898, herewith submitted).

4. The Deputy Collector's suggestion that the Public Works Department should align channels even for blocks of less than 50 acres is, in my opinion, admissible as the owners of lands through which the channels will have to pass would not obstruct Government officers, and, if the area required for the channels was small, would not be likely to demand compensation. As this work appears to be a most essential point in the success of the project and as waste land will be brought under cultivation sooner and better prices will be realized at future sales when the ryots know that there will be no difficulty about irrigation, I strongly recommended that the work be done by the Public Works Department.

5. The lands required for these small distributaries will be either dry and wet lands long held on patta or lands either newly assigned on darkbast or sold in public auction. Ryots owning patta lands can be compelled to give up the land required for small channels free of cost by threatening to cut off the supply of Periyár water if they objected to give up the lands; at least this is the experience of the Special Executive Engineer, Periyár scheme. In most cases it may be possible for the ryots by mutual agreement or otherwise to get the land required free of cost. When this is not possible small payments will have to be made by way of compensation. In the case of lands assigned under the Periyár Darkbast rules, it was already notified in the District Gazette that the ryots should give up the lands required for these channels free of cost. With regard to lands sold in public auction, the proportionate part of the purchase money has to be refunded if any land is taken for the channels. There will thus be very few cases in which it would be necessary to acquire lands for the channels under the Land Acquisition Act; and for these rare cases, provision must be made for the payment of compensation by Government though the payment of such compensation was not contemplated before. I request that the Public Works Department may be authorized to make the necessary provision for this in their budget.

Resolution—Mis. No. 4668, dated 2nd August 1898.

In the letter read above, the Collector of Madura reports that Public Works Department construes paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 698 I., dated 17th August 1896, as relieving the Engineering staff of all concern with the distributaries intended to irrigate less than 50 acres. It is pointed out by the Collector and his Special Deputy Collector that in many instances it is indispensable that the smaller distributaries should be aligned by professional agency, and that the land which the said distributaries cover should be acquired where the owners object to surrender it without compensation.

2. The alignment of small distributaries will, no doubt, throw much extra work on the officers engaged in the development of the project, but any extra expense in strengthening the staff is a small matter when compared with the urgency of not shaking the confidence of intending purchasers of Government waste that Government will do what is necessary to place the water within their reach. As regards lands already sold, it is also essential that supply channels should be properly aligned and that the strips of land required for them should be acquired if not otherwise available.

3. The Board would therefore strongly support the Collector's recommendation that the Public Works Department be instructed that the task of aligning the smaller distributaries should be undertaken in all cases where the Revenue officers state it to be necessary. The acquisition of the land will be the duty of the Revenue establishment, and the Collector should estimate for his requirements under this head.

4. When the course is marked out and the land is available, the construction of the channels will, in most cases, be performed by the ryots without murmur; but there may be instances in which it would be bad policy to refuse help even in the work of construction, and it would be probably unwise to regard it as a hard-and-fast rule that no outlay should be incurred on the construction of a channel irrigating less than 50 acres.

(M) J. V. Somasundaram
Secretary

Order—Mis. No. 324, Revenue, dated 21st January 1899.

The Government concurs in the views expressed by the Board in its proceedings read above.

2. The Collector's recommendation that the task of aligning the smaller distributaries should be undertaken by Government in all cases where the Collector or the Revenue Divisional officer states it to be necessary, is approved. The necessary instructions will be issued in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

ORDER—No. 114 I., dated 2nd February 1899.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Public Works

(1899) Department.

Irrigation Branch.

CURRENT No. 648

From

The Revenue Department.

Order No. 114 I. of 2.2.99.

Communicated to
the Supt. Eng. VI Circle, for
information & guidance.

No. 324 Mis

Dated 21st January 99

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT,

To
The Chief Engineer, VI Circle.
Supt. Eng. VI Circle.
Ex. S. W. 2.
Rev. Dept.

Passing orders on Bd's Progs.
recommending to Govt. that the
task of aligning the smaller dis-
tributaries under the Periyar Pro-
ject should be undertaken by
Government in all cases where the
Collector or the Revenue Division
Officer states it to be necessary.

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25/1/99

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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4. The Deputy Collector's suggestion that the Public Works Department should align channels even for blocks of less than 50 acres is in my opinion admissible as the owners of lands through which the channels will have to pass would not obstruct Government officers, and if the area required for the channels was small, would not be likely to demand compensation. As this work appears to be a most essential point in the success of the Project and as waste land will be brought under cultivation sooner and better prices will be realised at future sales when the ryots know that there will be no difficulty about irrigation I strongly recommended that the work be done by the Public Works Department.

5. The lands required for these small distributaries will be either dry and wet lands long held on patta or lands either newly assigned on darkhast or sold in public auction. Ryots owing patta lands can be compelled to give up the land required for small channels free of cost by threatening to cut off the supply of Periyar water if they objected to give up the lands; at least this is the experience of the Special Executive Engineer, Periyar Scheme. In most cases it may be possible for the ryots by mutual agreement or otherwise to get the land required free of cost. When this is not possible small payments will have to be made by way of compensation. In the case of lands assigned under the Periyar Darkhast rules, it was already notified in the District Gazette that the ryots should give up the lands required for these channels free of cost. With regard to lands sold in public auction, the proportionate part of the purchase money has to be refunded if any land is taken for the channels. There will thus be very few cases in which it would be necessary to acquire lands for the channels under the Land

Acquisition

Acquisition Act; and for these rare cases, provision must be made for the payment of compensation ^{by Govt. though the payment of such compensation was not contemplated} before. I request that the Public Works Department may be authorized to make the necessary provision for this in their Budget.

Resolution.

In the letter read above, the Collector of Madura reports that Public Works Department construes para.2 of G.O. No.698 I, dated 17th August 1896 as relieving the Engineering staff of all concern with the distributaries intended to irrigate less than 50 acres. It is pointed out by the Collector and his special Deputy Collector that in many instances it is indispensable that the smaller distributaries should be aligned by professional agency, and that the land which the said distributaries cover should be ^{acquired} where the owners object to surrender it without compensation.

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3. The Board would therefore strongly support the Collector's recommendation that the Public Works Department be instructed that the task of aligning the smaller distributaries should be undertaken in all cases where the Revenue Officers state it to be necessary. The acquisition of the land will be the duty of the Revenue Establishment and the Collector should estimate for his requirements under this head.

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The Government concurs in the views expressed by the Board in its Proceedings read above.

2. The Collector's recommendation that the task of aligning the smaller distributaries should be undertaken by Government in all cases where the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer states it to be necessary, is approved. The necessary instructions will be issued in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract)

[Signature]
Secretary to Government.

To

The Board of Revenue (Rev. Sett.)

,, Public Works Department (Irrigation.)