

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT

|          |         |               |
|----------|---------|---------------|
| G.O. No. | 739     | Press<br>Mis. |
| Dated    | 15/5/58 | 18/5/58       |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

15TH AUGUST 1882, No. 739, PENSION.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Endorsement of the Public Works Department, dated 3rd August 1882.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding letter from the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, dated 7th July 1882, No. 1298.

From Colonel H. L. PRENDERGAST, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Chepauk, 7th July 1882, No. 1298.

1 letter in original, No. 114, of 17th June 1882,  
from Supervisor-Serjeant Ward.  
1 application for extraordinary gratuity.

I have the honor to report that a cooly-lad was drowned at the Pelandorai Anicut works on the morning of the 25th May 1882.

2. The enclosed report from Supervisor Ward gives full particulars of the occurrence. The facts are, briefly, that a party of coolies were crossing the anicut; and at a gap, over which planks were laid, one of them slipped, fell into the water on the lower side, and disappeared in a pool below the apron; he is said to have been a strong lad, and a good swimmer.

3. The accident was at once reported to the Tahsildar and to the nearest Police officer.

4. It cannot be said that there was any extraordinary bodily risk, and I do not myself consider that there is good ground for supporting a claim to a gratuity under Section 152 of the Pension Code. But the Executive Engineer "strongly recommends that a gratuity of about 12 rupees be sanctioned to the parents. The labor difficulty experienced at Pelandorai is well known. If the indulgence now recommended is sanctioned, it will be an encouragement or inducement for other coolies."

5. I therefore forward, for your consideration, Major Smith's recommendation for a gratuity of Rs. 12, a sum which is less than six months' wages.

From Mr. R. W. WADE, Superintendent of Public Works, in charge of Pelandorai Anicut, dated Pelandorai, August, 17th 1882, No. 114.

In reply to your letter of 12th instant, I beg to report that on the morning of the 25th ult., the boy referred to lost his life.

2. On the morning of the 25th ult., I mustered the coolies at 7 a.m. as usual. There was then 3 feet of water flowing over the lowered crest, so that the planks laid across the gap in

the dam is crossed were out of water for the greater part of their length, and there was merely an inch or two passing over the centre. There was therefore no danger to be apprehended in crossing the river, but I nevertheless selected fourteen of the strongest women and young boys (at 1½ annas) I could get to go over, employing the remainder on this side of the river. No small coolies were sent over. Among those selected was the lad Narayanan. He was one of the most vigorous young lads there, and a good swimmer. As soon as the coolies were mustered, they went to the store for tools, and then went over the river. Meantime I was engaged in measuring materials received near the store. The lad Narayanan was the last to leave the store and go over the planks. As he reached the centre plank, he suddenly slipped and fell into the water on the apron, and was carried by the water into the pool below. Here he struggled for a moment or two until he got out of his depth, when his hands appeared above water for a second and he then disappeared altogether. This happened in a very brief space of time. I was within a hundred yards of the dam, and as soon as he fell, I heard the shouts of the people standing near and immediately ran to see what was the matter. When I reached the dam, however, the lad was no more to be seen. I immediately called all the Anicut Lascars who could swim, and some others who were near, and by their help, I searched for the body without intermission for a full hour and then as it seemed to have been carried away, sent men down stream to look out for it. The search was unsuccessful, until the next day when the lascar who was searching for the body on the left bank, saw it among some weeds on the left side of the stream near the village of Venkarumboor. He returned and reported the matter to me, and an inquest was held by me, the result of which I enclose.

3. As will be seen, it was ascertained that the boy's death was the result of a pure accident for which it was impossible to assign a cause and for which no one could be blamed, and I am sure that the truth in respect of the cause of the accident was elicited as far as was possible. The above are all the circumstances attending this unfortunate accident, and I beg to point out with reference to paragraph 152 of Chapter XI, Civil Pension Code, that the lad was not engaged in the performance of any duty attended with *extraordinary bodily risk* as is shown by the fact that all the other work people passed safely over without the least hesitation or mishap. It was an ordinary accident due to want of care on the part of deceased, and therefore not pensionable. Also with reference to paragraph 153, I beg to state that the lad had no one dependent solely upon him for support, as he was himself dependent upon his father, though he doubtless contributed to the support of the family. With reference to the precautions taken to prevent accident, I beg to point out that no precautions were possible or were needed. The gap in the anicut is crossed by two rows of planks placed side by side forming a pathway 3 feet wide. This is so safe that coolies pass and repass it at all times of the day and night without the least fear of accident whenever the water is below the planks and it did not appear to me that merely an inch or two of water passing over the centre plank was sufficient to cause danger. Had there been a foot or more over the planks it would have been different. But as the case stood, there was really no risk at all to people accustomed to crossing. As to the possibility that a plank might be carried away, I may mention that they are strongly fastened with rope and retain their position even when covered by 2 or 3 feet of water. They were all plainly visible. There was therefore no reason to fear that an inch or two of water would disturb them, and if it had, the fact would have been at once observed.

4. In conclusion I beg to forward the forms duly filled up, but I would respectfully represent that the application for pension is uncalled for and is contrary to the paragraphs of the Civil Leave Code above quoted.

Submitted with letter to the Executive Engineer.

(Signed) A. C. SMITH, Major, R.E.,  
Executive Engineer.

Ozora—dated 15th August 1882, No. 739, Pension.

Under Section 157 of the Civil Pension Code (5th Edition) the Right Honorable the Governor's Council is pleased to sanction payment of a gratuity of Rs. (12) twelve to the parents of Kandi Narayanan, a lad employed on the Pelandorai Anicut, who lost his life by falling into the water whilst on duty.

2. This application should have been submitted through the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

(True Extract.)

J. D. REES,  
Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Accountant-General.  
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.  
" Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Gobt. of (1882) Madras  
PENSION.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 15th August 1882, No. 739.

AUGUST.

Gratuity.

Sanctioning payment of a — of Rs. 12 to the parents of K. Narayanan, a lad employed on the Pelaudurai Anicut, who lost his life by falling into the water whilst on duty.

50.  
List of names of the surviving kindred of  
Kondi Narayanan.

|           | Names              | Date of birth by<br>Christian era |
|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Widows    | "                  |                                   |
| Daughters | "                  |                                   |
| Father    | Kondi Rama Padayag | About 1842                        |
| Mother    | Chinnamah          | About 1847                        |

Plaudurai  
17<sup>th</sup> June 1882

Admiral Major R. Co.  
Executive Engineer

70  
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,  
5TH CIRCLE, MADRAS,  
Chepauk, 27<sup>th</sup> July 1882.

No. 1298

From Colonel H. L. Prendergast C.B.  
THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,  
5TH CIRCLE,

To THE Chief Engineer  
for Irrigation.

SIR,

Enclosures. 2

1 Letter Original  
No. 114 of 17<sup>th</sup> June  
1882 from Supervisor  
Supt. Ward.  
1 Application for  
extraordinary gratuity

I have the honor to report that a  
coolly lad was drowned at the Pelandorai  
Anicut Works on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup>  
May 1882.

2. The enclosed report from Supervisor  
Ward gives full particulars of the occurrence.  
The facts are briefly that a party of  
coolies were crossing the anicut; and at  
a gap, over which planks were laid, one  
of them slipped, fell into the water on  
the lower side, and disappeared in a pool  
below the apron; he is said to have been  
a strong lad and a good swimmer.

Don't know as the  
the following is  
of 20 June 1882 from  
the Supt. Ward and  
of 20 June 1882 from  
the Supt. Ward and

3. The accident was at once reported to the Tahsildar and to the nearest Police Officer.

4. It cannot be said that there was any extraordinary bodily risk, and I do not myself consider that there is good ground for supporting a claim to a gratuity under Section 152 of the Pension Code. But the Executive Engineer "strongly recommends that a gratuity of about 12 Rupees be sanctioned to the parents. The labor difficulty experienced at Chandosai is well known: if the indulgence now recommended is sanctioned, it will be an encouragement or inducement for other coolies."

5. I therefore forward for your consideration Major Smith's application for a gratuity of Rs 12, a sum which is less than 6 months wages.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt Servant

Wm. Sanderjit Coll. P.E.

Super. Engineer, P. & F. S.

From

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

5TH CIRCLE,

To

THE

Chief Engineer  
For Irrigation  
Madras

Dated

Recd.

7<sup>th</sup> July 1882.

ENCLOSURES. 2

No. 1298.

Accident at the Pelaw-  
darai Ancient Works in  
the South Arcot Dist on  
the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1882.

Reports regarding  
the occurrence of —  
caused by the cracking of  
a Colylade.

No. 114

No. 176

Pelawdarai Ancient Works

17<sup>th</sup> June 1882.

From

The Supervisor in charge of  
Pelawdarai Ancient Works.

To

The Officer in charge of  
Pelawdarai Sub-Division.

Sir

In reply to your No. 175 of 12<sup>th</sup> Instant  
I beg to report the circumstances under which the  
boy referred to lost his life.

On the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> Instant, I  
mastered the coolies at 7 A.M. as usual. There  
was then 3 ft of water passing over the lowered  
crest, so that the plants by which the gap in the  
Dam is crossed were out of water for the greater  
part of their length and there was speedily an  
or two passing over the center. There was therefore  
no danger to be apprehended in crossing the river,  
and I immediately selected fourteen of the strongest  
women and young boys (all 17 years of age), I could  
not get to go over, employing the remainder on this side  
of the river, the work being done on the other.

During the work, one of the boys, Kanyanar,  
who was one of the most expert, was killed by the  
falling of a large mass of earth from the top of the  
dam, which was caused by the cracking of a Colylade.

Dec 1877

13519 E

Letter from the  
Superintending Engineer  
Fifth Circl no. 1298  
d/7 July 1882.

Transferred to  
the Pension Dept.  
with a view to the  
issue of the requisite  
orders.

Directed  
Ag. J. Secty. to Genl.  
S. W. Dept  
Cal R.E.

Colarand

Sept 1882

1/4

To the Pension Dept with  
draft passed by the  
Hon R.E. Lathrop

No 909

From

Public Works Department

No. 5198.

Dated

3<sup>rd</sup>

Reed.

7<sup>th</sup>

August 1882

Encls 5.

SUBJECT.

Transferring Public Works G.O. sanctioning the gratuity of Rs. 12 to the family of Kandi Narayan Lal cook, drowned at the Palanokai Anicut Works South West Dist. A request for the issue of necessary orders for the payment of the same.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following letter

Endorsement of the Public Works Department dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1882 forwarding letter from the Superintending Engineer S. Circle dated 7<sup>th</sup> July 1882 N<sup>o</sup> 1298.

Order thereon 15<sup>th</sup> Aug 1882 N<sup>o</sup> 739

Under Section 187 of the Civil Pension Code (5<sup>th</sup> Edition) the Right Honble the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction payment of a gratuity of Rs. (12) Twelve to the parents of Kandi Narayan Lal a cook employed on the Palanokai Anicut who lost his life by falling into the water whilst on duty.

This application was duly submitted through the Secretariat

To the Accountant General of Public Works  
- Secretary of Public Works Department  
- Public Works Department  
2009

Richardson's seal  
to the [illegible]

[Not from school]

Seal

DC

B77  
8/1/00  
8/10/00  
20/3/13 ✓

Simon

(1882) DEPARTMENT.

From  
J. H. M. J. J.  
24-12-1881

Warrant

No. 739

Dated 15- August 1882  
Recd 24-

SUBJECT.

Gratuity Sanctioning  
payment of a gratuity of  
£12 to the parents of  
R. Va against a bid  
employed in the Island  
I have not received his bid  
as he was in the water when  
he was killed.