
Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 15th September 1857.

No. 31. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department (Political) under date the 5th September 1857, No. 1683.

Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Political Department.

Passing orders on a letter from the Resident of Travancore and Cochin, submitting a Statement of the Finances of the Cochin Sirkar for the year 1031, (A. D. 1855-56.) } (Here enter 15th July 1857, No. 549.)

Ordered that copies of paras: 8 and 9 of the above Extract and of the Extract from the Resident's letter which accompanied it be communicated to the Chief Engineer.

2. The Resident will be furnished, through
From Chief Engineer 25th March 1857, the Political Department, with copies of the
No. 11286. correspondence noted in the margin, shewing
Order thereon, 8th April 1857, No. 663. what has passed on the subject of the proposed
Annicut across the Animallee river.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) H. FORBES,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department, dated 8th April 1857, No. 663.

Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 25th March 1857, No. 11286.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar.

(Here enter 25th February 1857, No. 512.)

Resolved, under all the circumstances stated, that copy of the foregoing letter be forwarded to the District Engineer, Malabar, with a request that he will adopt the preliminary measures for thoroughly examining the Anamalay River and its capabilities for irrigation, in order that the project for a Dam across it at the most eligible site be professionally scrutinized and reported on.

2. The Chief Engineer regrets to observe the very long time that this subject has engaged attention to little if any purpose. There is not the least doubt that a work of this kind would produce considerable advantage to the Ryots and the State, and that large pecuniary returns may be calculated on; but the apparently imperfect manner in which the Local Officers have looked into it, compels him to refer the whole matter for the orders of Government.

3. In a letter from this Office, dated 27th May last, No. 3561, the papers connected with the project were forwarded for the examination and report of Captain Ouchterlony, who, after a lapse of four months, recommended the abandonment of the undertaking (on the ground that the increase to be expected to the Revenue did not warrant its prosecution) without even suggesting any measures by which the want of such a work could be otherwise met.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 15th September 1857.

4. In a subsequent letter of the 15th October last, Captain Ouchterlony states that the Revenue Returns anticipated from the operation of the proposed Annicut were received from the Collector himself, and that the project could not be entertained, as the financial and economic results were considered unpromising and inadequate. As a professional Officer the District Engineer in charge should have pointed out, that although the site selected was not the most advantageous, yet that much more eligible places could be found on other points of the River, which therefore might be usefully examined.

5. This omission has now been supplied in the letter from Mr. Robinson, and with the view of obtaining final instructions on the subject, the Chief Engineer resolves to submit copy of the same to Government with a recommendation (in reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, 3rd October, No. 1806) that as the work projected by Assistant Surveyor Martin is apparently unsuitable, authority may be granted for carrying out the suggestion made by Mr. Robinson, for examining the River, and constructing the Dam on a more eligible site.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

Although the erection of a Dam across the Anamalay River was first proposed in 1854, there is no prospect of an early commencement of the work. The Government must express regret at this delay, as well as at Captain Ouchterlony's hurried abandonment of a plan which does not appear to have been sufficiently considered.

2. Under the opinion expressed by the Acting Collector in his letter* to the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council sanctions the thorough examination of the River and its capabilities for irrigation by an Overseer to be employed for the purpose on a monthly salary of Rupees (100) one hundred which Mr. Robinson, reports that the Ryots are willing to contribute. The examination must however be conducted under the directions of the District Engineer.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, No. 760; dated 11th September 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Resident of Travancore and Cochin, with reference to para. 12 of his letter of the 31st May last, No. 28.

Exd. J. A. Wilson

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 21st April 1857.

No. 18. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 25th March 1857, No. 11286.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar.

(Here enter February 25th 1857, No. 512.)

Resolved, under all the circumstances stated, that copy of the foregoing letter be forwarded to the District Engineer Malabar, with a request that he will adopt the preliminary measures for thoroughly examining the Anamulay River and its capabilities for irrigation, in order that the project for a dam across it at the most eligible site be professionally scrutinized and reported on.

2. The Chief Engineer regrets to observe the very long time that this subject has engaged attention, to little if any purpose. There is not the least doubt that a work of this kind would produce considerable advantage to the Ryots and the state, and that large pecuniary returns may be calculated on; but the apparently imperfect manner in which the local Officers have looked into it, compels him to refer the whole matter for the orders of Government.

3. In a letter from this office dated 27th May last, No. 3561 the papers connected with the project were forwarded for the examination and report of Captain Ouchterlony, who after a lapse of four months, recommended the abandonment of the undertaking (on the ground that the increase to be expected to the Revenue did not warrant its prosecution) without even suggesting any measures by which the want of such a work could be otherwise met.

4. In a subsequent letter of the 15th October last Captain Ouchterlony states that the Revenue returns anticipated from the operation of the proposed annicut were received from the Collector, himself, and that the project could not be entertained, as the Financial and economic results were considered unpromising and inadequate. As a professional Officer the District Engineer in charge should have pointed out, that although the site selected was not the most advantageous, yet that much more eligible places could be found on other points of the river, which therefore might be usefully examined.

5. This omission has now been supplied in the letter from Mr. Robinson, and with the view of obtaining final instructions on the subject, the Chief Engineer resolves to submit copy of the same to Government with a recommendation (in reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation 3rd October No. 1806) that as the work projected by Assistant Surveyor Martin is apparently unsuitable, authority may be granted for carrying out the suggestion made by Mr. Robinson for examining the river, and constructing the Dam on a more eligible site.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, No. 663; dated 8th April 1857.

Although the erection of a Dam across the Anamalay river was first proposed in 1854, there is no prospect of an early commencement of the work. The Government must express regret at this delay, as well as at Captain Ouchterlony's hurried abandonment of a plan which does not appear to have been sufficiently considered.

2. Under the opinion expressed by the Acting Collector in his letter† to the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council sanctions the thorough examination of the river and its capabilities for irrigation by an Overseer to be employed for the purpose on a monthly salary of Rupees (100) one hundred which Mr. Robinson reports, that the Ryots are willing to contribute. The examination must however be conducted under the directions of the District Engineer.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

True Copies
H. Forbes
Acting Secy. to Govt.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Political.

No. 1683.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 5th September 1857.

Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Political Department.

Passing orders on a letter from the Resident of Travancore and Cochin, submitting a statement of the Finances of the Cochin Sirkar for the year 1831, (A. D. 1855-56.) (Here enter 15th July 1857, No. 549.)

Ordered that copies of paras. 8 and 9 of the above Extract and of the Extract from the Resident's letter which accompanied it be communicated to the Chief Engineer.

2. The Resident will be furnished through the Political Department, with copies of the correspondence noted in the margin, shewing what has passed on the subject of the proposed annicut across the Animallee river.

From Chief Engineer 27th March 1857, No. 11285.
Order thereon, 8th April 1857, No. 663.

(A true Extract.)



Acting Secretary to Government.

To The Political Department
Recd. 4/9

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