

Political (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 397

DATED 24-6-88

INDEXED.

4

[Despatch Abstract.]

Forwarding to the Resident
in T.C. for the necessary action, pros. and
requesting him to arrange for the recovery
from the Cochin Darbar of a moiety of
the expenditure incurred since 1884 on
repairs & improvements to the Enamahal
Dawar, & issuing certain further orders in
connection therewith.

BACK PAPERS.

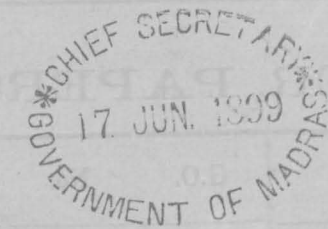
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

IRRIGATION.

Government {1899} of Madras. PUBLIC WORKS.



Recd. {17-6-} 1899.
Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 451 I., 25th May 1899.

397 of 24-6-99.
Communicated to the

Resident in Travancore and
MAY. Cochin for the necessary
action.

Resist do C (sero)

(Acct (sero))

Ca
P.D. has come
to Sub. P.D. -
this seems unnecessary -
Therefore R.
No. 12. would know his

Enamakal Dam

Requesting the Resident in Travancore and Cochin to arrange for the recovery from the Cochin Darbar of a moiety of the expenditure incurred since 1884 on repairs and improvements to the —; calling on the Superintending Engineer to see that all claims on the Cochin Darbar are made, in future, without any delay, and that all unusual expenditure has the prior sanction of both the Governments, and directing that the Rs. 595 claimed by the Darbar for expenditure on the inner dam be paid at once.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, dated 13th February 1899, No. 42 I.

From F. A. NICHOLSON, Esq., Acting Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bolghatty, 13th March 1899, Ref. on C. No. 643.

I have the honour to solicit the orders of Government on a claim for Rs. 10,443, preferred by the Executive Engineer, West Coast division, against the Cochin Sirkar on account of a moiety of the cost of works done by the British Government to the Enamakal dam since the year 1884 and which the Darbar is unwilling to admit.

2. In March 1898, the Dewan of Cochin forwarded to my predecessor a statement of expenses incurred by the Cochin Darbar in connection with the erection of the inner earthen bund at the Enamakal dam in the year 1896-97 amounting to Rs. 600, and asked him to address the Collector of Malabar with a view to obtain payment of Rs. 300, being the moiety due to that State. My predecessor accordingly wrote to the Collector for the repayment of the amount.

3. In April 1898, another letter was received from the Dewan for the recovery of Rs. 295, being the moiety of the cost of erecting an inner earthen bund at the Enamakal dam for the year 1897-98. This claim was also communicated to the Collector in due course.

4. The Collector, however, forwarded a copy of a letter, dated 30th July 1898, No. 990 M., from Mr. Wood, Executive Engineer, West Coast division, and a statement prepared by the latter officer showing the amount of estimates sanctioned and expenditure incurred on repairs and improvements to the Enamakal dam from 1884-85 to 1898-99. Copy of the Executive Engineer's letter and its enclosure are herewith forwarded.

5. In the above communications, the Executive Engineer advances a claim for Rs. 10,443 against the Cochin Darbar on account of the expenditure incurred by the British Government on the dam during the past fourteen years.

6. I addressed the Dewan on the subject, but he is unwilling to admit the claim. In his letter, Ref. on C. No. 292, dated 15th October 1898 (copy enclosed), while admitting the mutual liability of the two Governments to contribute a moiety of the expenditure incurred by either party for all repairs and improvements to the dam proper and the earthen bund connected with it, he contends that a sum of Rs. 9,913 has already been contributed by the Sirkar during the above period of fourteen years on account of the dam, and that as no information was given to the Darbar of the works executed in connection with it from time to time, nor of the probable expenditure thereon, it seems improper now to demand this large sum and, as regards most of it, at a considerable distance of time.

7. I also pointed out to the Collector that, from the statement of expenditure on the dam since 1883, furnished by Mr. Wood, it would appear that whenever any large outlay was made as in the construction of revetments and other works of restoration to the dam, the moiety of the expense was promptly demanded by the British authorities and paid by the Darbar then and there as in the years 1887 and 1892. It also appears that the cost of annual maintenance and repairs had not been demanded since 1884, i.e., from the time the Sirkar was put to the necessity of constructing the inner bund which effectually stopped the influx of salt-water. It may be that the British Government refrained from pressing the demand, because the dam put up by them proved ineffectual.

8. At any rate, the British Government not only did not ask for any contribution towards the annual maintenance of the dam, but they sanctioned an annual contribution of the moiety of the amount spent by the Cochin Sirkar on the inner bund (*vide* G.O., No. 161 I., Public Works, dated 3rd March 1888).

9. When the last contribution was demanded and received from the Darbar in February 1896, all claims and liabilities up to that date should have been finally adjusted or due intimation given regarding claims still outstanding. But the British authorities have failed to do so.

10. The Collector and the Executive Engineer are unable to explain why such claims for contribution towards the maintenance of the dam were not demanded for so many years. The latter says that the reason is not traceable in the records of his office.

11. As regards the contribution of Rs. 595 now due to the Cochin Sirkar on account of repairs to the inner earthen bund, during the last two years, I think it should be paid as usual, since G.O., No. 161 I., Public Works, dated 3rd March 1888, above quoted, authorises such payment, and the moiety of charges has always been regularly paid since that year; there appears to be no reason why it should not be paid in the present instance.

12. Moreover, in 1894-95, when it was found that the single bund usually erected was not strong enough to protect the cultivation of the lake, the Cochin Government constructed two additional bunds of the same dimensions at a cost of Rs. 1,536-5-0 and claimed a moiety, viz., Rs. 768-2-6. The Executive Engineer objected to pay anything more than Rs. 300 or the normal expenditure as no previous notice was given of the extra work found necessary. When the Dewan, however, proved that the average annual outlay was Rs. 600, the Collector paid the moiety of Rs. 768-2-6 and said that, for the future, when it is likely that the annual expenditure will exceed Rs. 600, previous intimation should always be given to the Executive Engineer—*vide* copy of Malabar Collector's letter, Ref. on C. No. 4986/P-95, dated 11th May 1896, herewith submitted.

The moiety now claimed by the Cochin Government amounts to only Rs. 595 for the past two years, i.e., less than the average fixed. I request therefore that Government will be pleased to pass early orders for the payment of the same to the Cochin Sirkar.

13. I also request that orders may be passed regarding the payment or non-payment of the contribution of Rs. 10,443 claimed by the Executive Engineer, West Coast division, on behalf of the British Government and which the Cochin Darbar is unwilling to admit.

No. 63 I.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The Enamakal dam in the Malabar district is an old work built to keep the salt water out of a large lake east of Trichūr. A great portion of the bed of this lake is, during the dry season, cultivated; during the rains it is covered with fresh water which, when sufficiently high, escapes over the dam. The land protected by the dam belongs to British and Cochin ryots, and these Governments have for some years shared the cost of the maintenance of the dam.

This dam has always leaked, and for many years a ring bund of clay between piles has been constructed yearly close above the dam. After the fresh water has subsided, the crest is raised by means of wooden boxes filled with clay, half the cost of this is paid by this Government and half by the Cochin Darbar.

Owing to the unsound state of the dam, the Cochin Darbar found it necessary to put up annually from 1883 an inner temporary bund, a moiety of the cost of which is met by this Government under the sanction accorded in G.O., No. 161 I., dated 3rd March 1888.

With his letter read above the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, forwards correspondence regarding the non-payment by the Cochin Darbar of the moiety of the expenditure incurred by this Government during the past fourteen years on repairs and improvements to the dam.

From this it would appear that the contributions from the Darbar were paid up to 1884 and discontinued thereafter, except in the case of the estimates for improvements sanctioned in the marginally-noted orders.

G.O., No. 491 I., dated 12th July 1886.
 " No. 493 I., " 11th Oct. 1889.
 " No. 440 I., " 8th June 1894.

The Resident reports that the Dewan of Cochin is not inclined to admit the claim of Rs. 10,443 now advanced by the Executive Engineer, though he admits the mutual liability of the two Governments towards contributing a moiety of the expenditure incurred by either party for all repairs and improvements to the dam proper and the earthen bund connected with it. The Dewan contends that, during the above period, the Darbar having contributed Rs. 9,913 already for expenditure on the dam, it seems unfair that a large sum of money should now be demanded for work done, but of which no intimation was given to the Darbar. No explanation can be afforded by the local officers why the usual contribution was not claimed from the Darbar every year. The Dewan infers that no claims were made obviously in recognition of the fact that this Government failed to do what was afterwards successfully accomplished by the Darbar since 1883 by putting up a bund annually to effectively keep out the influx of salt water.

The Superintending Engineer asks that it may be decided whether, under the above circumstances, it would be advisable to press the claim.

He also brings to notice that the contributions from the two Governments should be proportionate to their respective interests in the work. As shown in the report printed in Proceedings of Madras Government, No. 440 I., dated 8th June 1894, the area of British irrigation is 2,126 acres and that of Cochin irrigation 6,116 acres. The Dewan states that the latter area was only 4,310 acres in 1896-97 and that, after making certain necessary deductions, it would be found that there is not any glaring disproportion in the contributions. It would appear that the Cochin portion of the lake is now under survey and correct figures can be given only when the survey is over. It does not seem necessary to discuss this matter further.

15th March 1899.

(Signed) W. HUGHES,
 Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

ORDER—No. 451 I., dated 25th May 1899.

From page 17 of the Malabar District Manual it is observed that ever since the idea of constructing the new dam proposed in 1858 was abandoned, the present dam has been maintained at the joint cost of the British Government and the Cochin Darbar. This Government therefore considers that it would not be equitable to waive the claim for a moiety of the expenditure actually incurred since 1884, merely because the contribution due by the Cochin Darbar towards the cost of repairs and improvements to the Enamakal dam and the earthen bund connected with it was not, through inadvertence, claimed annually. The Resident in Travancore and Cochin will be requested to arrange for the contribution due by the Darbar being paid into the Government treasury and credited to the Public Works Department.

2. The Superintending Engineer will see that all claims on the Cochin Darbar for expenditure on the maintenance of the dam are made in future without delay and in case of any unusual expenditure being contemplated the prior sanction of both sides should be taken.

3. The Rs. 595 claimed by the Cochin Darbar for expenditure on the inner dam should be paid at once.

(True Extract.)

A. S. S. S. S.
 Under Secretary to Government,
 Irrigation Branch.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

When given for copying
When copied
When examined 25/6 } 1897.
When signed

READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED
189 ,

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO U. No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING WANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
C = Copy heading only.