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1. Number
2. Date of
3. Initials
H.B.O. 1-22,400-22-11

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	879	Press
		Mis.
Dated	19-6-	1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

762

no 46

Commissioner's Office

Dated and 7 June 1877.

no

From

J. W. Bree Esquire

Commissioner

St. George's.

To

Chief Secretary

to Government

Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to report

that the Sanitary Commissioner, the Senior
Medical Officer / Dr. Pearl; the Executive
Engineer / Captain Morant; and I met
yesterday to fix the time for opening the
sluice gate of the Oatnamund Lake in
order to draw off the water to enable the
Convicts to clear away the weeds; excavate
the mud and throw up a chain embankment
on a level with the Reclaimed land
bordering

bordering the Lake.

2

The Executive Engineer

stated that although the sluice was nearly finished the masonry would not be sufficiently set to admit of a rush of water through the sluice until the end of August. He also questioned the propriety of working the Convicts in the water during the monsoon months when driving winds and rains are in full force.

In this the Sanitary Commissioner and Dr. Pearl fully agreed.

They were apprehensive that considerable sickness might ensue if the attempt were made to put the Convicts to such work in the wet season.

3.

The Sanitary Commissioner

was of opinion that we might safely open the sluice gates just before the advent of the October rains to get the advantage of a certain amount of scour during the rains.

The

The October Monsoon may

be expected towards the end of that month when the fall is generally heavy and fetful, not continuous and accompanied with high winds as on the S. W. Monsoon.

The sluice once opened would at intervals in the absence of rain lower the water of the Lake so as to expose a margin of mud which the next fall would wash and scour into deep water.

This process going on during the S. W. Monsoon would, be attended with no inconvenience on sanitary grounds.

4.

In November when the dry cold weather sets in, the exposed margin would be innocuous and would soon be baked by the sun to a consistency sufficiently hard to enable the Convicts to work in comparatively dry ground.

5.

All concurring in this view the Executive Engineer must continue

Continued to fix some wire netting & the
sluice to prevent the escape of fish.

I take the liberty of sending
this letter to the Sanitary Commissioner & the
request that he will be good enough to
send it on with his remarks for the
information of Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient Servant

W. D. P. L.
Commissioner

Sub. 1871 Dept.
From
the Commissioner
Bulghar
To
Chief Secretary
Government
Fort St. George.
Dated 7th June 1871
Received 12th June 1871
N^o 1251
No 46
Enclosed.
Subject
Cattacaman Lake
Submitting Report
regarding the opening
of the sluice gates of
the —

162
Sub 1200 8/11

7

OOTACAMUND
MUNICIPAL BYE-LAWS.

Printed by C. C. C.

Printed 8 July 1871.
L. B. A. 65 1011

No. 697.

Office of Sanitary Commissioner
Madras 10th June 1871.

From

The Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

To,

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that I have visited, as requested, the site of the reclamation works of the Otacamund lake, and have conferred with the local authorities as to the best time of the year for letting off the water from the upper part of the lake. The results of our consultation are embodied in the enclosed letter from the Commissioner of the Nilgherries to your address.

2.

I may here remark that the whole of the upper part of the lake above the willow bund is evidently gradually filling up by the deposit of silt brought in by the main feeding channel of the lake, and drainage channels from the bazaar and station, which open directly into the lake. The substance to be removed from

Enc. 1

the bed of the lake consists mainly of alluvial deposits and roots of aquatic plants growing therein. In a sanitary point of view, perhaps, the best period of the year for disturbing such a deposit would be the season of the South West monsoon, but it has been shown to us by Captain Morant R.E. that the execution of the work in such a season by native labour would be impracticable, and we have therefore come to the conclusion that it would be better to let off the lake water, before the North East monsoon begins, so that the exposed lake bed might be well washed by the heavy local rain which falls in October and November, after which it should be allowed to consolidate and dry, before setting the prisoners to work at the excavations.

3. As regards the effect of letting off the lake water on the health of the station I may observe that the bund has, I believe, on two occasions given away, letting the water escape, without producing any sickness in the station. I do not therefore apprehend any disturbance of public health from this cause.

4. From the amount of labour available, it seems doubtful whether the whole excavations can be completed in one season. If the work is unfinished before the South

South West monsoon comes on again, I should recommend the lake being allowed to fill up repeating the emptying and drying processes during the ensuing cold season.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

W. Cornish F.R.C.S.

Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

162-1684

Under my letter

11

The Sanitary Commission

for Madras

To Mr. W. B. S. S. S.

The Assistant Secretary

to Government

Public Department

Fort St. George

10.12.08

Dated 10.12.08

Encl. "1"

Dec. 12

No. 697

Encl. "1"

Reports upon the time

when the sluice gate

of the Coata canner

lake should be opened.

With an Order.

11/10

Order - 19 June 1891 No. 697.

Recd 11/12/08 and 1200.

The Government approve

the conclusions which have been arrived at as reported in the above letter,

and desire that they may be carried

out in due course.

11/10

The Commission of the Madras Water

Sanitary Commission.

Public Department

11/10 611