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4.2.2000

Public Works (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 1072 S.

DATED 18 December

19/12/96

[Despatch Abstract.]

Flood Damages: Note by the Chief Engineer
for Irrigation on the — in the Srinai-
Kuntam ancient System Caused
by the heavy rains in November,
Recorded.

85/11

19/12

INDEXED 19/12

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the — in the Srīvaikuntam anicut system caused by the heavy rains in November, recorded.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.
Account.

READ—the following papers :—

From Mr. P. WHITBREAD, Sub-Divisional Officer, Srivaikuntam, to the Executive Engineer, Tinnevely Division, dated Tuticorin, 20th November 1896, No. E.

I have the honour to report the damages caused by the cyclone of the 14th instant, as seen by myself and as reported to me.

Korampallam tank.—In Uppar odai dam, seven vents have been washed away in the centre of the dam and two others much damaged. The water in the tank rose to 9.2 feet on the floor of the freshwater channel head sluice on the 14th instant evening.

Freshwater channel.—Owing to the byewash of the Korampallam tank having been opened to save the tank from breaching, the water passing through it overtopped the banks of this channel and breached them in several places within a mile from its head.

Regarding these damages, I got information for the first time at 7-30 P.M. on the 15th instant and was on the spot on the 16th evening.

On the 17th, I arranged and started closing the leading channel to the Korampallam tank and to retain the remaining water in it. Much of the cross bund was finished that day, but it was washed away by another fresh down the odai by the rainfall of that night. On this date the Revenue Inspector, karnam of Korampallam, another village munsif and two peons from the Tahsildar gave some help to collect coolies. On the 18th, I re-started the cross bund and finished it by the evening. This day none of those who helped me on the previous day to collect coolies turned up, although I requested the Revenue Inspector that the karnam, village munsif and peons should be ordered to be present, as coolies in these parts were difficult to be collected. I had consequently to start work at 10 A.M. and not before. Another fall of rain on the evening of the 18th instant along the course of the odai brought down another fresh and carried away 15 feet in length of cross bund. On the morning of the 19th instant, I inspected the bund and seeing its state and the water being lost, I ordered the Superintendent, North Main channel, to write a Tamil letter to the karnam of Korampallam requesting his attendance to help to collect coolies, and he replied to say that he would collect the necessary coolies the next day. I have, however, collected coolies without his help and made safe the cross bund and stored 4.75 feet water this day, against 5 feet on the 16th instant.

Freshwater channel.—I have started closing these breaches from the 19th instant with coolies obtained from Eral and hope to close them within three days.

The Puckle's drain.—This also breached near the 4th mile stone of the Tuticorin-Pudukkottai road, and I have arranged to close also the breach in the same.

On the 13th instant when I was at Srivaikuntam, I observed the weather to be suspicious from 3 P.M. of that date. I at once opened fifteen sand vents of the Srivaikuntam anicut and closed the North and South Main channel head sluices. There was then about one foot depth of water in the river. The rain was continuous all night and next day, 14th instant; it blew very strong from north-east or thereabouts, and was dissolving the new bank of the closed breaches near the Srivaikuntam town.

This I observed at 6-30 A.M. and immediately went to the Post office to inquire by wire if there was any flood at Tinnevely, but I was told that telegraphic communication ceased since the 13th instant. After this I went over to the house of the Tahsildar and made arrangements with that officer to collect coolies to put the new bank dissolving all night and make it safe. After much trouble we arranged to collect a few coolies and make the weakest portion safe by mid-day. The wind abated in violence by 11 A.M. I obtained more coolies and made the remaining weak portions of the new bank at Srivaikuntam safe, against 17 feet flood by evening. On the next day (15th) I made it still more safe.

Srivaikuntam Periyakulam.—The new banks at breaches settled a little, but they were safe. The tank received much of the drainage down the Kilakal channel. This channel I inspected on the 15th instant and saw the bank between Manakarai and Alwarkarkulam being overtopped, and made a small cut at a safe place and thus relieved the channel.

The water down the Kilakal channel was drainage water only as the head sluice was closed.

The strong wind that prevailed blew down many trees both in the town and along the roads. One palmyra tree fell on the top of one of the out-houses of the present rest-house at Puthukudi and damaged the roof. The rest-house at Poriur was saved by the Sub-Collector, who happened to camp in it, tying down a tree in the act of falling on the building.

New north flood bank below Srivaikuntam anicut.—All the breaches have settled a little but they are perfectly safe. At the $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile, the Muhammadans living at Thoppur were seen cutting the bank and prevented by the villagers living on the opposite side from doing it. I was not able to find out the names of the men who tried to do this mischief.

North Main channel.—Except a few high level breaches in the 11th and 12th miles, there are no other damages to the channel banks. The Chettikulam, I hear, has breached.

The south section overseer reports that, owing to the Seidukuvoitan villagers not vacating their houses to admit of the formation of the diversion bank to connect both ends, the fresh in the river rose high and passed through the east end of this village and carried away 340 feet in length of the newly-formed river bank on the east side of the village, besides re-opening the breaches in the Athur channel at the end of the Seidukuvoitan tank. I will inspect these works very soon and make further report. The cost of re-closing these breaches will be much, as good earth is not obtainable in any place close by, but it will have to be brought from a very great distance.

The overseer, south section, further reports that the following tanks have also breached :—

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| (1) Kánamkulam tank. | (3) Ávudiarkulam tank. |
| (2) Thulukenkulam tank. | (4) Árumuganeri tank. |

I have requested the Sub-Collector to issue orders to the village authorities to throw in ring bunds in front of breaches. I will inspect these breaches also very shortly and make a further report.

Telegram from the Superintending Engineer, dated 14th, I received on the 17th instant.

Telegram from the Executive Engineer, dated 14th, I received on the 19th instant.

No. 5056.

Submitted to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, for information.

30th November 1896.

(Signed) A. JOYCE,
Executive Engineer.

5-12-96

4. The beached turtles are small ones connected with the Shwankumtan Ancient System. The birds are of very bad material but cannot be protected except at prohibitive cost.

to 12-96. W.H.

Recorded

17/1/87

To The Chief Engineer for Irrigation

• Luftzug vi cinde haus

14/12

142

Letter from Mr. P. Whitbread, Sub. Divi.
- sional Officer, Srivathur to the
Executive Engineer, Tirunelveli Division,
dated Tuticorin, 20th November 1896,
No. E:-

I have the honor to report the
damages caused by the cyclone of the
14th Instant as seen by myself and
as reported to me.

Korampallam tank.

In Uppear Odai Dam, 7 vents-
have been washed away in the centre
of the Dam and two others much damaged.
The water in the tank rose to 9.2 feet on
the floor of the Fresh Water Channel
Head Sluice on the 14th Instant evening.

Fresh water channel.

Owing to the byewash of the Koram-
-pallam tank having been opened to save
the tank from breaching the water passing
through it overtopped the banks of this
channel and breached them in several
places within a mile from its head.

Regarding these damages I
got information for the 1st time at
7-30 P. M. on the 15th Instant and was

on the spot on the 16th evening.

On the 17th I arranged and started closing the leading channel to the Korampallam tank and to retain the remaining water in it. Much of the cross bund was finished that day, but it was washed away by another fresh down the Odai by the rainfall of that night. On this date the Revenue Inspector, Kurnam of Korampallam, another village Munsiff and two peons from the Tahsildar gave some help to collect coolies. On the 18th I restarted the cross bund and finished it by the evening. This day none of those who helped me on the previous day to collect coolies turned up although I requested the Revenue Inspector that the Kurnam, village Munsiff and peons should be present as coolies in these parts were difficult to be collected. I had consequently to start work at 10. A.M. and not before. Another fall of rain on the evening of the 18th Instant along the course of the Odai brought down another

2
another fresh and carried away 15 feet in length of cross bund. On the morning of the 19th Instant, I inspected the bund and seeing its state and the water being lost, I ordered the Superintendent, North Main Channel to write a Tamil letter to the Kurnam of Korampallam requesting his attendance to help to collect coolies and he replied to say that he would collect the necessary coolies the next day. I have however collected coolies without his help and made safe the cross bund and stored 4.75 feet water this day against 5 feet on the 16th Instant. Fresh water channel.

I have started closing these breaches from the 19th Instant with coolies obtained from Eral and hope to close them within 3 days.

The Puckle's Drain.

This also breached near the 4th mile stone of the Inticorin Paducottah road and I have arranged to close also the breach in the same.

On the 13th Instant when I was at

Srinivasaiah

Srivaikuntham. I observed the weather to be suspicious from 3 P. M. of that date. I at once opened 15 sand vents of the Srivaikuntham ancient and closed the North and South main channel Head Sluices. There was then about 1 foot depth of water in the river. The rain was continuous all night and next day 14th Instant, it blew very strong from North East or thereabouts and was dissolving the new bank of the closed breaches near the Srivaikuntham town. This I observed at 6.30 A. M. and immediately went to the Post Office to enquire by wire if there was any flood at Trimmelly but I was told that telegraphic communication ceased since the 13th Instant. After this I went over to the house of the Tahsildar and made arrangements with that Officer to collect coolies to put the new bank dissolving all night and make it safe. After much trouble we arranged to collect a few coolies and make the weakest portion safe by mid-day. The wind abated in violence by 11 A. M. I obtained more coolies

coolies and made the remaining weak portions of the new bank at Srivaikuntham safe, against 17 feet flood, by evening. On the next day 15th I made it still more safe.

Srivaikuntham Periakulam.

The new banks at breaches settled a little but they were safe. The tank received much of the drainage down the Kilakal channel. This channel I inspected on the 15th Instant and saw the bank between Manakurai and Alwartharkulam being overtopped, and made a small cut at a safe place and thus relieved the channel.

The water down the Kilakal channel was drainage water only as the Head Sluice was closed.

The strong wind that prevailed blew down many trees both in the town and along the roads. One palm tree fell on the top of one of the out-houses of the present rest house at Puthukudi and damaged the roof. The rest house at Porur was saved by the Sub-Collector who happened to

camp

camp in it tying down a tree in the
act of falling on the building.

New North flood bank below S. A.

All the breaches have settled a
little but they are perfectly safe.
At the $3\frac{1}{2}$ mile the Mahomedans
living at Thoppur were seen cutting
the bank and prevented by the villagers
living on the opposite side from doing
it. I was not able to find out the
names of the men who tried to do this
mischievous work.

North Main Channel.
Except a few high level breaches in
the $11\frac{1}{2}$ and $12\frac{1}{2}$ miles there are no other
damages to the channel banks. The
Chettikulam, I hear, has breached.

The South Section Overseer reports
that owing to the Seidukuvaitan
villagers not vacating their houses to
admit of the formation of the diversion
bank, to connect both ends the fresh
in the river rose high and passed
through the east end of this village
and carried away 340 feet in length of
the newly formed river bank on the east
side

side of the village besides re-opening
the breaches in the Athur channel at the
end of the Seidukuvaitan tank. I will
inspect these works very soon and
make further report. The cost of re-
closing these breaches will be much
as good earth is not obtainable
in any place close by but it will
have to be brought from a very great
distance.

The Overseer South Section
further reports that the following
tanks have also breached.

- (1) Kanambulam tank.
- (2) Thulukukulam tank.
- (3) Avudiarikulam tank.
- (4) Arumuganeri tank.

I have requested the Sub. Col.
- lector to issue orders to the village
authorities to throw in ring bunds in
front of breaches. I will inspect these
breaches also very shortly and make
a further report.

Telegram from the Superintending
Engineer dated 14th I received on the
17th Instant.

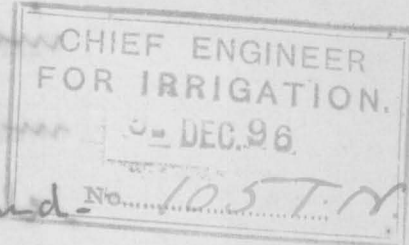
Telegram from the Executive Engineer
dated

Dated 14th I received on the 19th instant.

No. 5056

30-11-96

Despatch 1-12-96.



Submitted to the Superintendent.

ing Engineer, 6th Circle for information.

Signed A. Joyce

Executive Engineer.

No. 1332 T.N.

Copy, submitted to the Chief

engineer for Irrigation, in continu-

-ation of this Office No. 1272 T.N. dated 4th Nov 96.

16th November 1896.

Trichinopoly 3
4th Dec 1896

O. B. W. ddy

Lieut. Col. R. E.

Superintending Engineer

6th Circle.

Public Works (1896) Department.

CURRENT No. 591 J.

Order

From

Government
P. W. D.

No. 997 J.

Dated 25th November/96.

Received 26th 11/11/96

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Oppau Odai Dam
Breach - Recording
report from the
Supt. N. Main Ch.
Tumvelly on the

26-11-96

Record
27/11

Copy of urgent telegram from Superintendent, North
Main Channel, dated 14th November 1896, to the Executive Engi-
neer, Tinnevely Division.

Opparodai. dam washed away, four afternoon. Report follows".
"Very heavy rain. Odai water high, centre eight vents of

(True copy)

R. S. Gons

Head Clerk, P.W.D.