

Public Works (1899) Department.

✓ G.O., No.

1021 }
1022 }

2nd December 1899

DATED

Handwritten signature

260/14 30 *Handwritten notes*

[Despatch Abstract.]

Protective irrigation works. ~~Ordered~~ that a copy of the note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation summarizing the projects for the construction of new — in the Madras Presidency be forwarded to the G.O.

Protective irrigation works. Forwarding a copy of the note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation summarizing the projects for the construction of new — in the Madras Presidency.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

READ—the following papers:—

From O. C. LEES, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (Civil Works—Irrigation), to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, dated Simla, the 8th August 1899, No. 817 C.W.I.

With reference to paragraph 580 of the report of the Indian Famine Commission, 1898, recommending the construction of protective irrigation works in those districts and parts of the country which are most exposed to famine, I am directed to request that the Government of India may be informed whether any schemes for the construction of new protective irrigation works in the Madras Presidency can be suggested for examination.

2. I am at the same time to enquire what is the present state of the Tungabhadra project, which the Local Government have had under consideration for some years (*vide* correspondence ending with your No. 852 I., dated 31st October 1898).

No. 216 I.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

In their letter No. 817 C.W.I., dated 8th August 1899, the Government of India ask to be informed whether any schemes for the construction of new protective irrigation works in the Madras Presidency can be suggested for examination.

Excluding the numerous small projects under investigation in several districts, our position in regard to projects which will have to be classed as protective works is as follows:—

NELLORE DISTRICT.

(1) *Gandipalem Project*.—This comprises the restoration of an old breached tank with distributaries to irrigate 5,000 acres. An estimate of Rs. 1,93,150 (for works) has been received, but allows only a nominal sum for the acquisition of the old bund and sluice which are the property of a zamindar. Enquiry is being made as to the terms on which the old work can be acquired.

(2) *Mopad-Machaveram Project*.—This is for improving two tanks and giving an additional supply by a channel from the Maneru across which it is proposed to build an anicut. The expected area of new cultivation is 4,000 acres; amount of estimate, Rs. 4,54,400 for works. The estimate has just been received and is under examination.

(3) *Anangi Project*.—It is reported that 50,000 acres can be commanded by a channel from the Gundlakamma, but the feasibility of supplying it depends on the possibility of constructing a large reservoir on the river. One site has been examined and found unsuitable; an attempt was made to examine another in the early months of this year, but a succession of unseasonable freshes made the attempt abortive. The examination will be resumed early next year. If the site is found suitable, a special establishment with an experienced officer will be required for the investigation of the project.

(4) *Mopad Reservoir*.—This project is for a reservoir on a tributary of the Maneru to irrigate 7,000 acres. The investigation of the site is incomplete.

(5) *Hajeeपुरam Tank*.—Estimate Rs. 2,30,000; proposed irrigation 3,000 acres. The estimate has just been received, and there has not been time to examine it.

Some other suggested schemes in the Nellore district have been examined and found not feasible. This district is very liable to famine, and a special officer was employed to examine all of it north of the Penner. Though there are a good many rivers and much water goes waste, the formation of the country is generally unfavourable to irrigation schemes, and those mentioned above were the only ones found at all promising.

KURNOOL DISTRICT.

The only feasible scheme discovered is what is known as the Thokapalli reservoir. The bed of the stream on which it is proposed to make the reservoir has been examined this year and suitable rock found for building a masonry dam. The possible extent of irrigation is 5,000 acres. The country is feverish and thinly populated and the land poor.

CUDDAPAH DISTRICT.

The only important project is the Chopad project for extending the irrigation under the Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal. The work was begun hurriedly during the late famine and a small amount of work done. A complete estimate amounting to Rupees 3,65,000 has recently been received and will shortly be submitted for sanction.

Two minor projects connected with the Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal are now under investigation, viz., the Velgode and Maidkur projects. The former is a proposal for the excavation of a channel from the 74th mile of the canal to the Peddamallalamma tank, a distance of 22 miles, and for a channel therefrom to connect such of the tanks as do not receive the surplus of this tank. In G.O., No. 190 I., dated 23rd February 1897, sanction to an estimate of Rs. 1,04,380 for the major portion of the work was deferred until it should be required as a famine-relief work. It is expected that an area of 2,454 acres would be irrigated yielding a revenue of Rs. 10,000. The Superintending Engineer reported that the estimate would probably be ready in August next. The latter project is for extending for 11½ miles the Maidkur channel which takes off from the canal above the Penner crossing and make it capable of irrigating 8,000 or perhaps eventually 12,000 acres, the minimum annual revenue from which is estimated at Rs. 20,000. The project will shortly be ready for submission.

ANANTAPUR DISTRICT.

The Hindupur project, for which an estimate of Rs. 2,47,000 was prepared some years ago, is being revised. The project will yield a very small return, but being in a portion of the country very liable to famine, it will perhaps be advisable to sanction it.

TRICHINOPOLY DISTRICT.

The Ponneri project for the supply by flood water from the Cauvery at the Upper Anicut of reservoirs for the irrigation of land on the left bank of the Coleroon was partly investigated about four years ago, and the work subsequently handed over to the Special Superintending Engineer in charge of the Cauvery delta improvements. It is believed that the investigation has since then made little progress and is not likely to be actively taken up until the estimates for the delta are completed.

TANJORE DISTRICT.

Most of the levels in connection with the Pattukkottai project have been taken and some of the works designed. It was hoped that the project could be classed as "Productive," but the estimates of revenue are disappointing and the cost is likely to be much more than expected owing to the large number of zamindari tanks which are mingled with the Government works.

2. From the above it will be seen that there are or will be a sufficient number of estimates to utilise a moderate annual grant, and, if necessary, some special divisions may be formed to push on with projects where the investigation is backward. It cannot be said that the present system of investigation is altogether satisfactory. It is but rarely that any officer can be spared for investigation work. As a rule such work is left to the ordinary division establishments, supplemented, when the projects involve much work, by some permanent or temporary subordinates, and investigation is consequently carried on fitfully and frequently very slowly. The Executive officers do what they can, but their time is generally too much occupied by maintenance work to allow of much being given to working up projects. If projects of importance are to be pushed on, this can only be done by forming special divisions, and it is almost impossible to do this with the present limited staff of officers.

3. The Government of India enquire as to the progress made with the Bellary project. I reported strongly against this project last year and recommended that it should be abandoned, but Government did not consider that the investigation had been sufficient and ordered further investigation which has since been going on. It is believed that the Superintending Engineer intends to send in a report in two or three months.

CHEPAUK,
30th October 1899.

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

ORDER—No. 1021 I., dated 2nd December 1899.

Ordered that a copy of the note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation be forwarded to the Government of India with reference to their No. 817 C.W.I., dated 8th August 1899.

[Here enter No. 1022 I., dated 2nd December 1899.]

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUGHES,
Joint Secy. to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ all Superintending Engineers.
„ the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ the Revenue Department.

ENDORSEMENT—No. 1022 I., dated 2nd December 1899.

Forwarded.

(By order.)

(Signed) W. HUGHES,
Joint Secy. to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

Exd. A. Bungsawmy Aiyangar.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
IRRIGATION BRANCH.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

Read the following

Protective Drain Works - note summarizing the projects for the construction of new - in this Presidency.

From Government of India, No. 817 C.W.I., dated 8th August 1899.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, No. 216 - I, dated 30th October 1899.

Ordered that a copy of the note

by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation

be forwarded to the Government of

India with reference to their

No. 817 C.W.I., dated 8th August 1899.

I can find no mention in the Note, of the Velgode project in the Vannar District. What has become of it?

Endorsement. No. 1022 I., dated 2.12.99.

Forwarded.

It is believed that the Velgode and Maidhen Projects will prove to be within the power of Sanction (2 lakhs) of the Madras Govt. Should definite information regarding probable cost of the Velgode Project be contained in paper with G.O. No. 1902 of 23.2.97. The cost of Rs. 1,04,380 is said to be further project portion of the work - Survey & other work is being done. The

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. S.S. reported that would be ready in August next.
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
All Superintending Engineers.
The Examiner P.W. Accounts.

An additional page has been added attended with

Public Works (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 9482

From

The Chief Engineer for Super.

Order

No. 216 I

Dated 30th October 1899

Received
Registered } 21-11-99

Enclosures one

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Protective Irrigation works.
Note summarizing the projects
for the construction of
new — in this Presidency.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

no 216-J

2 P

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

In their letter No. 317 C.W.I.4 dated 31st August 1899, the Government of India ask to be informed whether any schemes for the construction of new protective irrigation works in the Madras Presidency can be suggested for examination.

Excluding the numerous small projects under investigation in several districts our position in regard to projects which will have to be classed as protective works ^{is} as follows:-

NELLORE DISTRICT.

1. Gandipalem Project. This comprises the restoration of an old breached tank with distributaries to irrigate 5000 acres. An estimate of Rs 1,93,150⁺ has been received but allows only a nominal sum for the acquisition of the old bund and sluice which are the property of a Zemindar. Enquiry is being made as to the terms on which the old work can be acquired.

2. Mopad - Machavaram Project. This is for improving two tanks and giving an additional supply by a channel from the Maneru across which it is proposed to build an Anicut. The expected area of new cultivation is 4,000 acres, amount of estimate Rs 4,54,400 for works. The estimate has just been received and is under examination.

* For works.

possibility of constructing a large reservoir on the river. One site has been examined and found unsuitable; an attempt was made to examine another in the early months of this year but a succession of unseasonable freshes made the attempt abortive. The examination will be resumed early next year. If the site is found suitable a special establishment with an experienced officer will be required for the investigation of the project.

4. Mopad Reservoir. This project is for a reservoir on a tributary of the Maneru, to irrigate 7,000 acres. The investigation of the site is incomplete.

5. Hajipuram Tank. Estimate Rs 2,30,000; proposed irrigation 3000 acres. The estimate has just been received and there has not been time to examine it.

Some other suggested schemes in the Nellore District have been examined and found not feasible. This District is very liable to famine and a special officer was employed to examine all of it north of the Penner. Though there are a good many rivers and much water goes waste the formation of the country is generally unfavourable to irrigation schemes and those mentioned above were the only ones found at all promising.

KURNOOL DISTRICT.

The only feasible scheme discovered is what is known as the Thokapalli reservoir. The bed of the stream on which it is proposed to make the reservoir has been

38
examined this year and suitable rock found for building a masonry dam. The possible extent of irrigation is 5000 acres. The country is feverish and thinly populated and the land poor.

CUDDAPAH DISTRICT.

The only important project is the Chopad Project for extending the irrigation under the Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal. The work was begun hurriedly during the late famine and a small amount of work done. A complete estimate amounting to Rs 365,000 has recently been received and will shortly be submitted for approval.

4
Two minor projects connected with the Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal are now under investigation, viz, the Velgode and Maidkur Projects. The former is a proposal for the excavation of a channel from the 74th mile of the Canal to the Peddamallalamma tank, a distance of 22 miles, and for a channel therefrom to connect such of the tanks as do not receive the surplus of this tank. In G.O. No. 190 I, dated 23rd February 1897, sanction to an estimate of Rs 1,04,380 for the major portion of the work was deferred until it should be required as a famine relief work. It is expected that an area of 2454 acres would be irrigated yielding a revenue of Rs 10,000. The Superintending Engineer reported that the estimate would probably be ready in August next. The latter project is for extending for $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles the Maidkur channel which takes off from the Canal above the Penner crossing and make it capable of irrigating 8,000 or perhaps eventually 12,000 acres, the minimum annual revenue from which is estimated at Rs 20,000. The project will shortly be ready for submission.

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50
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India

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investigation had been sufficient and ordered further investigation which has since been going on. It is believed that the Superintending Engineer intends to send in a report in two or three months.

Chepauk,
30th Oct: 1899.)

W. Hughes

Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

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To

The Joint Secretary to Government,
P.W.D., Irrigation Branch.

Public Works (189 9) Department.

CURRENT No. ^{Enl} 6852
9481/99

From The Govt. of India

Order

No. 817 C.W. I.

Dated 8-8-99

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Protective Irrigation Works

Requesting to be informed whether any schemes for the construction of _____ in districts exposed to famine can be suggested for examination.

FURTHER PAPERS.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL WORKS.
Irrigation

To

The Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.

Simla, the 8th August 1899.

Sir,

With reference to paragraph 580 of the Report of the Indian Famine Commission 1898, recommending the construction of protective irrigation works in those districts and parts of the Country which are most exposed to famine, I am directed to request that the Government of India may be informed whether any schemes for the construction of new protective irrigation works in the Madras Presidency can be suggested for examination.

2. I am at the same time to enquire what is the present state of the Tungabhadra project, which the Local Government have had under consideration for some years, vide correspondence ending with your No.852 I., dated 31st October 1898.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Under Secy.to the Govt.of India.

Documents accompanying:-

Nil.

M.I.

