

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Jenune DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 578

Press

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264.265

Dated

25.3.1963

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th March 1863.*

No. 264. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th March 1863:—

Read the following letter from JAMES INNES MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Kurnool on circuit Yerrachelma, 5th March 1863.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for the consideration of the Board, copies of correspondence which has just past between the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Company and myself, with reference to his desire that the influence of the servants of the Government should be brought to bear upon the Ryots to induce them to convert their dry lands into wet cultivation, such being the only meaning that can be given to the request contained in his letter of the 25th ultimo.

2. In my reply, I have pointed out that I consider such influence should be exerted only when there is a certainty that irrigation can be supplied, and I do not consider that such certainty exists for the villages to the eastward of Kurnool, to which it is the desire of the Chief Engineer to bring water during the current season.

3. At the close of the month of January I inspected the whole line of the Canal now under progress, and from what I saw of the work I consider it hardly possible that water can with safety be brought down this season to Nagatoor.

4. For one mile of the line, I believe near Alloor, the work had not at that date been commenced, and in many places the embankments required are so high, that I do not think they can be completed within four more months, and be so constructed as to pass the water safely throughout the cultivating season.

5. Although it is proposed to complete the cuttings to only a third of their full extent, the embankments must be raised to their full height at once, to allow of water being carried along the intended line.

6. Considering the magnitude of the interests involved, I trust I may be permitted to suggest the advisability of the works being inspected by the Consulting Engineer, or other competent Officer of Government, before permission to let water into the Canal be granted to the Chief Engineer of the Company.

7. It must be borne in mind that the loss from any delay in obtaining returns from the Company's works falls upon the Government alone, and as an Officer of Government I cannot but desire to shorten that delay as much as is consistent with other equally important considerations.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the consideration and decision of Government.

2. The Board agree with Mr. Minchin in thinking it highly inexpedient that any official influence should be used to induce the preparation of dry land for wet cultivation while the supply of water is so uncertain, and would support his recommendation for the inspection of the Canal works by the Consulting Engineer prior to the admission of water.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, Secretary.

From Colonel H. C. COTTON, Chief Engineer Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, dated Kurnool, 25th February 1863, No. 594.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Government Order of 9th instant, No. 283, Revenue Department, third paragraph, may I ask what steps are taken to proclaim the decision of the Government with respect to the assessment of the lands referred to.

2. I trust you will publish it in the Kurnool Gazette, and I shall be much obliged if you will instruct the Tahsildars of Ramalakotta and Nundikotkoor Talooks to make the arrangement

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generally known amongst the landholders, and to countenance and assist as much as possible the Officers of the Company's establishment, who will be pointing out along the line of Canal the particular tracts which can be irrigated.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN, *Collector.*

From J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to Colonel H. C. COTTON, Chief Engineer Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, Kurnool, dated on circuit Yerrachelma, 5th March 1863.

Sir,

1. With reference to your letter No. 594 of the 25th ultimo, I beg to refer you to the District Gazette of the 28th ultimo, which contained the Notification regarding the decision of the Government with respect to the assessment of lands that may this year be brought under irrigation by the Canal.

2. You are doubtless aware that in the case of existing dry cultivation, if a Ryot after preparing his field for irrigation fails to obtain water, dry cultivation for that year becomes impossible; and where a Ryot were to incur loss by thus preparing his field on the representations of Officers of the Government, or the Company, whose promise of a supply of water that season were not fulfilled, such Officer would unquestionably be liable for the loss incurred, by Civil Action.

3. Irrespective of personal responsibility by the Officers, higher considerations would prevent my permitting the influence of the servants of Government to be used with the Ryots to induce them to prepare their dry lands for wet cultivation, until the certainty of a water supply in the current season removed all possible risk of loss to the cultivator.

4. I consider that such certainty now exists for the villages between Soonkasala and Kurnool, and shall be happy to exert the influence of the servants of Government to induce the Ryots in those villages to prepare for the immediate conversion of their dry lands into wet, upon your informing me that it is your decided intention to bring water into the Canal as far as Kurnool under any circumstances.

5. The prospect of bringing water this season as far as Nagatoor appears to me so doubtful, that the immediate preparation of dry lands for irrigation to the eastward of Kurnool is, in my opinion, too hazardous an operation for it to be right that the servants of Government should use their influence with the cultivators to induce them to undertake it.

6. I need hardly say that perfect freedom will be accorded to any Ryot who may choose of his own accord to incur this risk; though the Government demand can of course not be forgiven upon any land which may during this season be left uncultivated on this account.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN, *Collector.*

No. 265.

ORDER THEREON, 25th March 1863, No. 578.

1. With these Proceedings the Board of Revenue forward for orders a letter from the Collector of Kurnool with copies of correspondence between the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Company and that Officer, relative to a desire apparently entertained by the Chief Engineer that the influence of the servants of the Government should be brought to bear upon the Ryots to induce them to convert their dry lands into wet cultivation.

2. The Board consider with the Collector that it is highly inexpedient that such influence should be used while the supply of water is so uncertain, and they support that Officer's recommendation for the inspection of the Canal works by the Consulting Engineer prior to the admission of water.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th March 1863.*

3. The Government desire that their decision as to the assessment to be temporarily charged

G. O. dated 24th March 1863, No. 573.

on lands irrigated from the Company's works be made known not merely by publication in the District Gazette (as has been done by the Collector), but also by proclamation in every village within the scope of the Company's works; and that their Officers afford to the Company's Officers every legitimate assistance and countenance. But "official influence" practically is compulsion, and this the Governor in Council cannot allow as regards Government or private projects. If the water is really available, and the Government assurance of a moderate assessment duly made known, there need be no apprehension of the Ryots being so blind to their own interests, as to refuse to take water. But while "official influence" is to be deprecated, care must be taken to show the Ryots not only that there is no antagonism between Government and the Company, but that the Government are directly interested in the success of the Company's operations as advantageous alike to the State and the people. The Ryots must, however, be distinctly informed at the same time that the Government do not guarantee them water, and that they must use their own judgment as to the probability of water reaching their fields this year.

4. The Government agree with the Collector and the Board that the works should be inspected by the Consulting Engineer before water is let into the Canal, and they direct that orders to this effect be issued in the Public Works Department.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

I agree with the Collector & the Board that the Govt is not in a state to
take action in the matter - if we receive the report of the surveyors who are
should we not supply them with water we shall lose the day's preparation for
the day - all that we can do is stated by the Govt. but we cannot
prevent the water from being used for the purpose of the survey.

For Order. The decision is put
as to the assessment
to be charged a/c, I think,
to be made known not merely
publication in the District Gazette
but also by proclamation in
every village within the limits of
the Company's works and the
Jnt. Officers should afford to the
Company's Officers every legitimate
assistance and countenance.
But "Official influence" is prac-
tically only an euphonious expression
for Official compulsion & this
should be disallowed
as opposed to no less than private
projects. If the water is really
available and the Jnt. assurance

Pro. 9th Feb. 1863 No. 123
126
Copy in a letter to England
of 26th March 1863

Rev. 1863 Oct.
Pro. of Govt. for 392.
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue.

Dated 12th
Sup. 12
Rev. 13th March 1863
C. 2. 8th

S.O. No. 578. 25 March

Submitting a letter from
the Coll. of Tirunelveli, forwarding
copy of correspondence with
the Chief Engineer, Madras
Irrigation Company, concern-
ing the servants of Govern-
ment exerting their influ-
ence to interfere with cul-
tivation in the current
season.

Copy in a letter to England
of 26th March 1863
C. 2. 8th

Rev. Depart

No. 578.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Under date the 25th March 1863

Read the following Proga
of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting a letter
from the Collector of Tirunelveli,
forwarding copy of correspond-
ence with the Chief Engineer,
Madras Irrigation Company, (See order 12 March 1863.)
concerning the servants of Govt.
exerting their influence to in-
terfere with cultivation in
the current season.

With these Proceedings
the Board of Revenue for-
ward for orders a letter
from the Collector of Tirunelveli
with copies of correspondence
between the Chief Engineer
of the Irrigation Company
and that officer, relative
to a desire expressed by
the Chief Engineer that
the influence of the ser-
vants of the Government
should be brought to bear
upon

Ad. M.

It is hereby entertained by the Chief Engineer that
the influence of the ser-
vants of the Government
should be brought to bear
upon

upon the Ryots to induce them
to convert their dry lands
into wet cultivation.

2 The Board consider
with the Collector that it is
highly expedient that such in-
fluence should be used while
the supply of water is so
uncertain and they sup-
port that Officers recom-
mendations for the inspec-
tion of the canal works
by the Consulting Engi-
neer prior to the admis-
sion of water.

3 The Government
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as to the assessment to
be temporarily charged
on lands irrigated
from the Company's
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District

G.O. D²⁴ March 1883
N^o 573.

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But while "official influ-
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the ryots not only that
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tween Gov^t and the Com-
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are directly interested in the
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tions as advantageous alike
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The Ryots must, however,
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the probability of water
reaching their fields this
year.

4 The Gov^t agree with
the Collector and the Co-
Board that the works
should be inspected by the
Consulting Engineer before
water is let into the Canal,
and they direct that orders
to this effect be issued in
the Public Works Department.

14. Copy of R.O. Dated 28th
21 - P.W. Dept.
13. D. R. R. R. R.
1. Colony R. R. R.

This must have
a later date
I never know
the other don't fix
the rate - J.S.

Copy in a Letter to England.
20th March 1863

Revenue 1863 Dept^{to}
Pro. of Gov^t for March

No. 578.

Pro. of the Madras Gov^t.
25th March 1863.

Pro. of the Board of Rev. 57
13 April 1863 C. No. 845 vi
From Consulting Eng^r 4 July 1863 C. No. 1610.

Pro. P.^d of Rev^t sub.
mitting the correspondence
held between the Coll^r of
Kurnool and the Chief
Engineer I. & C. Company
regarding the servants of
Government exhorting their
influence to introduce wet
cultivation in the current
season, with orders thereon.

No. 264 + 265.

Pro. of M. Gov^t in P.W.D. dated
25 July 1863 C. No. 1764.