

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	367	Press Mis.
<i>179-80</i> Dated	10-2-	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th February 1868.*

No. 179. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st February 1868, No. 809.

Read the following letter from the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madura, 23rd January 1868, No. 2,103:—

1. With reference to letter No. 28, of the 18th instant, from the Collector of Tinnevely to your address, I have the honor to make the following remarks:— Mr. Puckle proposes to open out a channel with a head sluice on the right bank of the Tambrapoorney river opposite Streeviguntum, which being excavated for about three miles, will throw water into the present channel leading into the Kadamba tank, and irrigate the lands below the Kadamba tank, and the other tanks dependent on it, from the commencement of the cultivating season: whereas, at present these lands receive an uncertain supply from the Murdoor anicut, by a channel which has to fill several tanks on its course before the water reaches the Kadamba tank. The object is to secure a revenue on 6,217 acres, in the group of villages, the Nunjah assessment of which is Rupees 67,616, and in which the average annual remission for failure of crop has been Rupees 6,000. The work now proposed is a part of the Streeviguntum anicut project, according to which a main channel of thirty-six feet bottom width is to be taken off the right bank of the river, to supply the Kadamba tank and others beyond; while the Collector would have the channel excavated at first to a width of twelve feet only; the work then being carried out, at the reduced rate of one Anna per cubic yard, as agreed to by the ryots, might be completed by the time the first freshes of the south-west monsoon come down the river, for the amount of subscriptions that the Collector has in hand, viz., Rupees 18,450. This work would thus cost nothing to the Government, but, on the contrary, from the offer of the people interested to carry it out at a low rate of payment, there would be a saving to Government, on the estimated cost, of upwards of Rupees 30,000.

2. So far the scheme is perfectly practicable, the same channel, only with a greater sectional area, having been sanctioned by Government, on Colonel Horsley's estimate, many years ago. There is the contingent advantage to the Government, in the prospect of there being no remissions, and great benefit to the people of the villages concerned.

3. The main objection to the proposal is, that the work is a part of the anicut project, which the Government will not allow to be put in hand before formal sanction is accorded. The Collector meets this objection by suggesting a temporary head sluice in the river bank, a short distance above the site where the larger permanent head sluice would be built, so that there would hereafter be no need of disturbing the temporary head to admit of the permanent works being put in hand.

Again, the Collector's proposal, if treated as distinct from the general anicut scheme, amounts to a new irrigation project, expected to cost about 18,000 Rupees. Such projects are, in the usual course, intrusted to the Public Works Department, and in the ordinary routine, contribution funds would be placed to the credit of the Public Works Department for the execution of the works. Now the Collector

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is particularly anxious that this course should not be followed, at least I presume so from his letter of the 13th November 1867, but that he should lay out the funds under his own management (paragraph 5 of letter) with Lieutenant Shepherd for the supervision of the work (paragraph 13 of letter). This Officer, however, has much to do in working up the general project; he could spare time only for a casual visit, but could not devote himself to a regular superintendence of the work.

4. Hence it is my opinion that, assuming the undoubted benefit to be derived from the works proposed by the Collector, the excavation of the channel should be considered as a separate work in itself, being in fact the restoration of the old native channel, and that application should be made to Government for its being sanctioned in an exceptional manner, the management being in the hands of the Collector, while an Overseer would be required to superintend the details of execution of the work.

1. Submitted to Government, in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 24th January 1868, No. 614.

2. The Board concur in the Superintending Engineer's proposals as expressed in the concluding paragraph of his letter. The very exceptional circumstance that the ryots will themselves bear the expense of this work, though the State will also profit largely by it, is quite sufficient ground for exceptional treatment.

No. 180. ORDER THEREON, 10th February 1868, No. 367.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded, with reference to G. O.,
dated 29th January 1868, No. 254.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Department Public Works.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 809.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 1st February 1868.

Read the following letter from Captain H. L. PRENDERGAST, R. E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, Eighth Division, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd January 1868, No. 2,103:—

1. With reference to letter No. 28, of the 18th instant, from the Collector of Tinnevely to your address, I have the honor to make the following remarks:—Mr. Puckle proposes to open out a channel with a head sluice on the right bank of the Tambrapoorney river opposite Streeviguntum, which being excavated for about 3 miles, will throw water into the present channel leading into the Kadamba tank, and irrigate the lands below the Kadamba tank, and the other tanks dependent on it, from the commencement of the cultivating season: whereas, at present these lands receive an uncertain supply from the Murdoor anicut, by a channel which has to fill several tanks on its course before the water reaches the Kadamba tank. The object is to secure a revenue on 6,217 acres, in the group of villages, the Nunjah assessment of which is Rupees 67,616, and in which the average annual remission for failure of crop has been Rupees 6,000. The work now proposed is a part of the Streeviguntum anicut project, according to which a main channel of thirty-six feet bottom width is to be taken off the right bank of the river, to supply the Kadamba tank and others beyond; while the Collector would have the channel excavated at first to a width of twelve feet only; the work then being carried out, at the reduced rate of one anna per cubic yard, as agreed to, by the ryots, might be completed by the time the first freshes of the south-west moonsoon come down the river, for the amount of subscriptions that the Collector has in hand, viz., Rupees 18,450. This work would thus cost nothing to the Government, but, on the contrary, from the offer of the people interested to carry it out at a low rate of payment, there would be a saving to Government, on the estimated cost, of upwards of Rupees 30,000.

2. So far the scheme is perfectly practicable, the same channel, only with a greater sectional area, having been sanctioned by Government, on Colonel Horsley's estimate, many years ago. There is the contingent advantage to the Government, in the prospect of there being no remissions, and great benefit to the people of the villages concerned.

3. The main objection to the proposal is, that the work is a part of the anicut project, which the Government will not allow to be put in hand before formal sanction is accorded. The Collector meets this objection by suggesting a temporary head sluice in the river bank a short distance above the site where the larger permanent head sluice would be built, so that there would hereafter be no need of disturbing the temporary head to admit of the permanent works being put in hand.

Again, the Collector's proposal, if treated as distinct from the general anicut scheme, amounts to a new irrigation project, expected to cost about 18,000 Rupees. Such projects are, in the usual course, intrusted to the Public Works Department, and in the ordinary routine, contribution funds would be placed to the credit of the Public Works Department for the execution of the works. Now the Collector is particularly anxious that this course should not be followed, at least I presume

so from his letter of the 13th November 1867, but that he should lay out the funds under his own management (paragraph 5 of letter) with Lieutenant Shepherd for the supervision of the work

(paragraph 13 of letter). This Officer, however, has much to do in working up the general project; he could spare time only for a casual visit, but could not devote himself to a regular superintendence of the work.

4. Hence it is my opinion that, assuming the undoubted benefit to be derived from the works proposed by the Collector, the excavation of the channel should be considered as a separate work in itself, being in fact the restoration of the old native channel, and that application should be made to Government for its being sanctioned in an exceptional manner, the management being in the hands of the Collector, while an Overseer would be required to superintend the details of execution of the work.

1. Submitted to Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 27th January 1868, No. 614.

2. The Board concur in the Superintending Engineer's proposals as expressed in the concluding paragraph of his letter. The very exceptional circumstance that the ryots will themselves bear the expence of this work, though the State will also profit largely by it, is quite sufficient ground for exceptional treatment.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

W. Balyell

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Tinnevely.

„ to the Superintending Engineer, Eighth Division.

Ed. T. Cartledge.

Ed. T. Cartledge

Rev.

1868

Department

to the Government Secretary

No. 395.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 1st February 1868

1868-69

No. 809.

Submitting to Government letter from Off-
cating Superintending Engineer 8th Division,
recommending that proposed excavation of a
channel on the right bank of Tambraipoorny ri-
ver in Tinnevely district may be considered as
a separate work in itself.

1868-69

1868-69