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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. /46

Press
Mis.

Dated 23 / 1 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd January 1871.*

Read again Miscellaneous G. O., 4th January 1871, No. 2 :—
No. 301. Read also the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, in
the Public Works Department.

Orders on the Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, regarding the preparation of registers of irrigation works. } (Here enter 6th January 1871, No. 32.)

No. 302. ORDER THEREON, 23rd January 1871, No. 146.

Irrigation, No. 4.

THESE papers have been already
communicated to the Board of Revenue,
and the Government now request them

to impress on all Collectors the importance of their using their best endeavours, in
conjunction with the Public Works Department, to ensure the most useful appli-
cation of the funds which may be at the disposal of Government for employment
on repairs of irrigation works.

2. The field for work is so large, the fund is so limited, and Government are
so entirely dependant on local officers for its good administration, that they can
scarcely too strongly urge on these officers the responsibility which attaches to
them in the matter.

3. But interested as they all are in the progress of their districts, and
anxious to effect all improvements appearing to be needed, it is not to be supposed
that the comprehensive view of the requirements of the district necessary to enable
them accurately to weigh comparative claims can be obtained without careful and
joint consideration with the officers of the Department Public Works of complete
evidence as to the existing state of the whole of the works with which they have to
deal, the expenditure requisite to place them in repair, and the results to be attained
by such expenditure.

4. The registers, to the early preparation of which the Government attach
the highest importance, will afford this evidence, and without it all concerned
must be working in the dark. The Government therefore rely on the Collectors
to expedite their completion by all the means in their power, and to insist on their
being carefully maintained up to date.

5. The detailed arrangements which Major Mullins suggests for ensuring the
effective disposal of individual projects commend themselves to Government, and
they are anxious to see them introduced, but the registers are the basis of the
whole, and in their absence it would be vain to expect thoroughly satisfactory
results. The Government, therefore, desire that where they are incomplete the
Board will call on Collectors to submit monthly progress reports as to the advance
made in their preparation, in a simple tabular form, giving the information for
each taluq, and showing the dates on which they were furnished to the Depart-
ment Public Works.

6. Some progress in the classification of the works, with reference to their
importance and the urgency of their needs may be made as the returns for each
taluk are available, and for this purpose, as well as for the disposal of the occasional

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd January 1871.*

lists of works to be immediately taken in hand, the Collectors will arrange with the Superintending Engineers for their meeting and discussing the individual cases in the manner contemplated in Major Mullins's Note.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
the Public Works Department.

Wm. L. Webb of 1871.

Read the following papers.—
 Endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated Fort Saint
 7th November 1870.

the Acting Collector of Chingleput, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 3rd September 1870, No. 363.

2. The statement was prepared by the Sub-Collector, in communication with Mr. Leggatt, and is somewhat incomplete, as the expenditure on the Minor Works entered at the foot of the statement is not given, it being stated by the Range Officer to be "not known."

Registers of Irrigation Works.—Order in the Public Works Department regarding their preparation, with orders thereon.

Cont. of 1871

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THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

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Hotel Junbury, 23rd.

Rec'd.

Index

W. O., 23rd January 1871, No. 146

JANUARY.

Nos. 301-302.

Names of the sources of irrigation.		Revenue dependent on them.	EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS FROM 1864-65 TO 1868-69.		Remarks.
			New Works.	Repairs.	
The ten largest tanks.	1. Maduranticum Tank...	Rs. 11,375	Rs. A. P. *19,769 1 10	Rs. A. P. 3,261 10 4	*This includes the amount spent on the project for utilizing the surplus water.
	2. Orate do.	2,074	.....	1,782 14 7	
	3. Orappakam do.	2,053	.....	81 6 6	
	4. Megaral do.	2,406	.....	479 5 8	
	5. Ubramallore do.	15,778	.....	1,034 0 11	
	6. Pennagar do.	2,182	.....	.....	
	7. Malayankulam do.	2,499	.....	3,671 13 3	
	8. Arunbilyur do.	6,001	.....	.....	
	9. Azisur do.	2,054	.....	3,634 13 6	
	10. Edamichi do.	3,233	.....	.....	
Total...		49,635	19,769 1 10	13,949 0 9	
Palur River Channels.	1. Ralipparakovil Channel	556	.....	.....	
	2. Vattalum do.	692	.....	.....	
	3. Sazarakam do.	433	.....	1,829 9 2	
	4. Patur do.	317	.....	.....	
	5. Pulhput do.	2,078	.....	1,017 0 1	
	6. Pagamattur do.	1,411	.....	.....	
	7. Mamandu do.	2,779	.....	.....	
	8. Thandurai do.	493	.....	.....	
	9. Penayur do.	1,524	.....	.....	
	10. Sathananjeri do.	522	.....	.....	
	11. Chittanakkavur do.	193	.....	.....	
	12. Assur do.	600	.....	.....	
	13. Ongambakum, etc. do.	2,689	.....	.....	
	14. Do. an.	1,304	.....	.....	
	15. Vichur do.	364	.....	1,510 0 0	
	16. Tiruvankovil do.	1,084	.....	.....	
	17. Kalyapetta do.	2,472	.....	.....	
	18. Kavithandalum do.	35	.....	.....	
	19. Karunguzpatti do.	1,590	.....	.....	
	20. Pullambakum do.	1,079	.....	.....	
	21. Thummanoor do.	3,750	.....	.....	
	22. Buthur do. ....	.....	.....	.....	
Tanks ... { 23 } ..		96	5,430 2 6	53,782 8 11	

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th January 1871.*

Return showing the expenditure for the last five years, etc.—(C)

Names of the sources of irrigation.		Revenue dependent on them.	EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS FROM 1861-65 to 1865-69.		
			New Works.	Repairs.	
The remainder.	Irrigation sources yielding a revenue of 1,000 Rupees and upwards ...	40	58,254		Rupees was spent in re- the spring had the Ungambakun lage; this Office has information regard- ing the revenue dependent thereon.
	Do. 500 Rupees do. ...	78	53,652		
	Do. 200 " do. ...	152	50,566		
	Do. below 200 Rupees ...	346	80,118		
			Not known ...		

CHINGLEPUT,
19th August 1870.

(Signed) W. LEGGATT,
Executive Engineer, 4th Range.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) C. S. CROLE,
Acting Sub-Collector.

THE return submitted with this letter is incomplete and unsatisfactory. Leaving out the Maduranticum tank it shows that 5 per cent. of the revenue has been annually spent in repairing the other nine of the largest tanks in the Maduranticum Talook, and 3.4 per cent. in repairing the twenty-three Palar river channels.

2. It gives the expenditure of the last five years on 119 tanks as Rupees 5,430 on New Works, and Rupees 53,783 on Repairs, which is at the rate of Rupees 100 per tank per annum, but it does not state the amount of revenue involved. This could certainly have been obtained from the revenue records.

3. It declares that the expenditure for the last five years on 616 sources of irrigation, with a dependent revenue of Rupees 1,91,990, is "not known." Surely the information has been recorded by the Department of Public Works somewhere, if not in Mr. Leggatt's office.

4. Altogether the statement adds little or nothing to the information already laid before Government in the report, recorded with Government Order, 19th March 1869, No. 900.

5. As, however, a new Budget is now under preparation, the Board resolve again to call the attention of Government to the necessities of the Maduranticum Talook. They were informed last year that 50 per cent. of the irrigation works were without the masonry, which is essential to their safety; that the masonry in 75 per cent. of the remainder was in bad order; that estimates aggregating a lac of Rupees were in abeyance for want of funds; and that very many tanks (some of which had already become quite useless) were silting up rapidly.

6. With regard to this last evil it is worthy of consideration whether silt in tank beds might not in some cases be removed inexpensively by an adaptation of the method employed by Mr. McIvor in moving soil on the Neilgherries, the silt being carried through breaches made with that object in the bund, by directing the inflow in channels upon such breaches.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th January 1871.*

No. 234.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The reason why the Executive Engineer, 4th Range, was unable to afford information regarding expenditure required to complete the statement submitted to the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings, No. 6,191, of the 18th October 1869, appears to be that his office does not contain records showing the revenue dependent upon the several works of irrigation, and, therefore, he could not divide the expenditure between the works yielding 1,000 Rupees of revenue and upwards, Rupees 500 and upwards, etc.

2. From this it may be concluded that the Range Officer is not in possession of the irrigation register, which is essential to the proper management of such works, and, until he is furnished with such a record, it is almost a waste of time to institute desultory enquiries on the subject of the amount and distribution of expenditure on repairs. The late Chief Engineer for Irrigation having found that the registers prescribed by Chapter V., paragraphs 38, 45, and 49 of the Public Works Code had, in many districts, not been kept up, brought the subject to the notice of Government, and in G. O., No. 2,234, dated 13th July 1868, it was directed that the registers should be prepared, and afterwards printed and published in the District Gazettes.

3. The Superintending Engineers were called upon to report the progress made in carrying out these instructions, and according to the accounts received it is evident that, in many districts, the importance of the early completion of the registers has not been sufficiently recognized, and I would suggest that the Local Officers be required to allow no further delay to take place.

Districts.	Date of report.	State of the Registers.
Ganjam	28th October 1869 ...	Under preparation.
Vizagapatam	7th September ..	3rd and 4th Range registers prepared and sent to the Collector for publication in the District Gazette.
Godavery	Do. " "	Under preparation.
Kistna	Do. " "	Under preparation.
Nellore	24th August ..	Public Works portions under preparation and nearly ready. Revenue portions have not yet been received.
Cuddapah	15th October ..	Under preparation.
Kurnool	21st " "	No portion completed.
Bellary	1st April 1870 ...	Public Works portions under preparation. Revenue portions completed.
Madras	No report received...	.....
North Arcot	7th September 1869 ..	Completed and forwarded to the Collector as far as could be done in Public Works Department.
South Arcot	Do. do.	Under preparation.
Salem		
Tanjore		
Trichinopoly		
Coimbatore		
Neilgherries		
Malabar		
Wynaad		
South Canara		
Madura		
Tinnevely		

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th January 1871.*

With regard to the condition and requirements of the works, year by year, a fair share of the grant for the Presidency general office can only recommend district allotments, leaving their districts to the Local, Revenue, and Public Works Officers.

5. I am quite convinced that the general grant for the Presidency has and will for 1871-72* be, inadequate and I feel assured that a loss of revenue

* Rupees 12 lacs.
to an amount which would yield a very satisfactory return on a more ample expenditure, and perhaps a better return than outlay on all but a few of the most promising new projects, is being incurred. Evidence in support of this opinion does come before Government at intervals, but it is generally in such a disconnected and incomplete shape that it is not surprising that the importance of making the proper up-keep of existing works a primary duty, and one to be enforced by all means, has not been fully understood, or made the basis of steady and sustained effort.

6. The question is a large one, for it is intimately connected with a very considerable portion of the State Revenue, and with the prosperity of a large part of the agricultural population. Before this question can be properly taken up and satisfactorily disposed of, it is, in my opinion, absolutely necessary that the Public Works Establishment should be both strengthened and re-arranged, and that Collectors should make accessible, by means of the irrigation registers, the revenue information without which any systematic outlay of the funds which may be available is impossible. The proper course would then be—

1st.—To ascertain from the personal examination of the irrigation works in each Talook by a competent officer, the requirements of each work, and, as it is clear that all requirements cannot be met at once, the order, in which repairs and improvements should be taken up and carried out, must at the same time be noted down.

2ndly.—To see from the information afforded by the registers, coupled with an inspection, what works are from any cause so circumstanced that it is doubtful whether they can be repaired and afterwards maintained at a cost at all proportionate to their irrigating capabilities and value. When a list of such works has been prepared each one should be considered by itself by the Revenue and Public Works Officers in consultation, and it should be decided, with reference to all the circumstances of the case, whether a recommendation should be made for its abandonment as a Government work, or for its maintenance at a relatively disproportionate cost. Probably a good deal might be done in this direction during the annual Jummalbund, when all interested might give evidence and information. These investigations will involve a vast amount of hard work, but they are essential to an intelligent management of the works, as also for the collection of such evidence as will enable the Government to determine what funds should be provided.

7. Circulars Nos. 20 and 25 from this Office will show the Government what instructions have been issued on this subject. The one was intended to induce a more systematic management of irrigation works, the other to afford information as to the actual results. I am sure, however, that only a very partial attention can

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6th January 1871.*

these instructions so long as the irrigation registers are in the hands of the Range Officers, and until, by the reduction of the Ranges, each part of the Presidency is placed under the immediate charge of an officer of some standing and experience. I would earnestly recommend therefore that if the general re-organization of the Department, in connection with the report of the Public Works Commission of last year, can be immediately carried out, at least the re-arrangement and re-distribution of the existing establishments, necessary to place executive charges in competent hands, may be sanctioned at once. This will involve no expense, and I believe it could be carried out without much difficulty, and before the close of the current official year. Some office establishments would have to be divided between, or absorbed by, others, and it might be advisable to modify the numbers of Accountants, Writers, Draughtsmen, etc., but otherwise the change would be confined to enlarging the area and reducing the number of executive charges; to giving these to officers of some experience, and to distributing to them as a working staff the younger officers and the subordinates.

8. Returning to the 4th Range of the Chingleput District it will be noticed that, in paragraph 7 of the letter, printed in G. O. of the 19th March 1869, No. 900, Mr. Leggatt asks for a yearly allotment of—

10,000 Rupees for Minor New Works, Agricultural.
40,000 „ for Repairs, do. do.

for his Range, which is confined to the Maduranticum Talook, the irrigation revenue of which is, in round numbers, 2 lacs of Rupees, and consequently the sum asked for for improvements would be 5 per cent., and that for repairs 20 per cent. on the revenue.

	RS.	Per-centage
For 1870-71 the allotment for the whole district was for Minor New Works	8,000	0 85
Repairs	85,000	9 06

and for 1871-72, the total grants for the Presidency being likely to be the same, the allotments to the Chingleput District will not be capable of any material alteration.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
18th November 1870.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Major, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 61. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1871, No. 32.

IRRIGATION, No. 3.

THIS note will be communicated to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings, dated 18th October 1870, No. 6,191.

2. The Government are disappointed to learn from paragraph 3 that, though the preparation of registers of irrigation works by Revenue Officers in concert with those of the Public Works Department was ordered so long ago as July 1868, the progress made has been far from satisfactory. Attaching the greatest importance to these registers, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to direct that measures be adopted for completing them without delay. When this has been

ings of the Madras Government Public Works Department.
6th January 1871.

arrangements of the nature of those suggested in paragraph 1, Mullins' note will probably ensure a more profitable expenditure of the funds which are annually available for the maintenance of irrigation works. In the absence of complete registers it is possible. Those arrangements will be considered in the Revenue Department with reference to Proceedings, No. 1000 of 10th December 1870.

3. The question of reducing the number of executive charges and redistributing existing establishments, suggested by Major Mullins in paragraph 7, will be deferred till the general one of the re-organization of the Public Works Department is settled.

(True Extract.)



Colonel, R.E.

Secretary to Government.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Revenue Department. ✓
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Krd. R. C. Shunker.

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&c. &c.

Dated January 6th.

Recd. 9th — Encl.

G. O., 6th January 1871, No. 32.

JANUARY.

Nos. 60-61

S. O. 146. 23rd Jan 71

Irrigation Works.—Passing order
the note by the Chief Engineer for Ir-
rigation regarding the preparation of regis-
ter of irrigation works.

Irrigation

Revenue Department

W. 146.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 23rd Jan 1871

Read again Mr. G. O.

14th Jan 1871. N^o 2.

Read, also the following

Pro: of Govt. D. O. W.

Passing orders on the note by
the Chief Eng^r for Irrigation regard-
ing the preparation of Registers
of Irrigation Works.

(H. E. 6th January 1871 N^o 32)

[Signature]

These papers have
been already communicated to
the Board of Revenue, and the
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to impress on all Collectors the
importance of their using
their

No. 301

2-5-1871

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L.B.

14 To the D.P.W. and Despt 24
21 - P.W.D. Engr

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*Preparation of
Registers of Im-
migration North*

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