M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 160 — Press

~~B.P. No.~~ — Mis.

Dated 28-10-1872 196 .

*Not to be folded or roughly handled*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 22nd October* 1872.

No. 391. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th September 1872, No. 1,815 :—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 15th August 1872, No. 347.

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 27th October 1868, No. 7,689, which heads the list of references received but remaining unanswered up to date, I have the honour to observe that I have no complete information before me to furnish the report called for by the Board.

2. I enclose copy of the last letter on the subject, received from the Superintending Engineer, in reply to a reminder from this Office. The statements therein alluded to do not nearly contain all the information required by the Board, and I request, therefore, that I may be permitted to strike off the reference from the unanswered list.

3. The most complete list is perhaps that furnished by Mr. Fane, embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 5,837, dated 9th August 1869, though it relates only to special funds.

4. I may, however, mention that while the tanks in the district are being annually repaired at a large outlay, as far as earth-work is concerned, many of them are entirely without calingulas or sluices; or where such exist they are often almost in ruins, so as to require re-construction and not simple repair. The annual grant for masonry works is very small, being generally only Rupees 5,000 a year, against Rupees 90,000 or so for repairs (though the latter sum is scarcely sufficient for what is required), which gives each taluq only about Rupees 800, barely enough for the restoration of three or four works, and this inadequacy had been noticed in almost every annual report on the progress of Public Works.

| Taluqs. | Sluices. | | Calingulahs. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number. | Amount of Estimate. | Number. | Amount of Estimate. |
| | | Rs. | | Rs. |
| Trivellore ... ... | 121 | 20,489 | 29 | 17,965 |
| Ponneri ... ... | 68 | 17,172 | 8 | 10,185 |
| Sydapet ... ... | 77 | 8,839 | 12 | 5,656 |
| Conjeveram ... | 96 | 14,170 | 31 | 15,405 |
| Chingleput ... | 49 | 6,082 | 19 | 6,171 |
| Madarantakum.. | 34 | 5,700 | 6 | 1,746 |
| Total... | 445 | 72,452 | 105 | 57,128 |
| Total Sluices & Calingulas ... | ... | ..... | 550 | 1,45,580 |

5. I have now in my hands 550 estimates, aggregating in cost Rupees 1,45,580, as per margin, for new masonry works and re-construction. Unless, therefore, the grant is increased and a large lump allotment is given in addition, the state of the Irrigation works in this district must remain pretty much in its present unsatisfactory condition.

6. If the information called for in 1868 is still required, I will circulate forms to be filled in by the Range Officers, giving the required information with reference to the present state of things.

From the Superintending Engineer in charge of the 4th Division, to the Acting Collector of Chingleput, dated Madras, 11th August 1870, No 1,986.

In reply to your letter No. 130, dated 4th June 1870, I have the honour to forward, herewith, two Statements, showing the Irrigation repairs and Minor New Works which have been brought specially to your notice, prepared by the Executive Engineers of Nos. 1 and 2 Ranges of the Chingleput District, with their remarks attached, from which it will be seen that the estimates for the whole of the works entered therein have been either sanctioned or are still with you, with the exception of three works, as per margin. The estimates for the first two works are herewith sent, and the one for the third work will be forwarded shortly.

2 Statements. Plans.
2 Estimates. 453 Estimates.

| | Rs. |
|---|---|
| Constructing sluices to Soolamany tank, in Trivellore Taluq ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 160 |
| Repairing Palavedoo tank, in Sydapet Taluq ... ... | 1,283 |
| Timmanore tank ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 13,000 |

2. In addition to the above, I have also the honour to forward four plans and fifty-three estimates, as requested in Mr. Fane's letter No. 57, dated 17th February 1869, for completing the irrigation works already taken in hand in 1868-69, as required by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings No. 7,689, dated 27th October 1868, the list of which was entered in the statement furnished to you by the Executive Engineer, No. 1 Range, Chingleput District, in pursuance of Mr. Thornhill's letter No. 255, dated 30th October 1868.

3. The estimates for certain masonry works entered in the Statement already furnished to you by the Officers of Nos 3 and 4 Ranges have not as yet been received in this Office. These Range Officers have been written to again on the subject.

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The Collector is authorized to strike the Proceedings alluded off the unanswered list in his office. No good purpose would be answered by the submission of the return now.

2. At the same time the Board resolve to submit this letter to Government with reference to the statements made in paragraphs 4 and 5.

3. The Collector therein points out that although the annual allotment for Agricultural repairs in his district is liberal, the allowance for Minor New Works, *e. g.*, for re-constructing sluices and calingulas, has for years past been quite inadequate.

4. The Statement in the margin of paragraph 5 shows how urgently works of this nature are required. The want of them has been pointed out by every successive Collector, but no sufficient allowance has ever been made.

5. The Board submit that, if it is not in the power of Government to grant an additional sum for sluices and calingulas, at least one-third of the present allotment for earthwork, viz., Rupees 90,000, should be transferred to Minor New Works.

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Transferred to the Department Public Works.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Secretary to Government, R. D.*

*23rd September* 1872.

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No. 392. Order thereon, 22nd October 1872, No. 2,487.

IRRIGATION, No. 26.

From the letter from the Acting Collector of Chingleput forwarded with the Revenue Board's Proceedings, dated

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*22nd October* 1872.

12th September, No. 1,815, it appears that estimates for masonry works under Agricultural, amounting to no less than Rupees 1,45,580, are lying in his office. The number of estimates is 550; it is clear, however, from the details given that some of the estimates must amount t pwards of Rupees 750 each, and this being the limit of the amount up to which timates for Minor New Works under Agricultural may be passed by the local officers and be provided for from the allotments for Minor New Works, some of the estimates should have been submitted to Government through the Chief Engineer Irrigation and would, if approved, have been provided for from the Reserve.

2. It is not so stated, but it is probal that some of the estimates provide for the restoration of portions of existing works, and if so, as such restorations may be provided for under Repairs under G. O., No. 754, dated 10th March 1870, such estimates should not be regarded as for New Works.

3. It does not transpire during what period the 550 estimates referred to have been accumulating in the Collector's office; he will report upon this point and will submit a list of the works; it will then be possible to determine under what head the various works should be carried out, and which of them require the sanction of Government.

4. When an estimate for a minor masonry work is submitted to a Collector, if all information relative to the work is furnished with it, as it should be, and the Collector is satisfied that the work is necessary, he should countersign and return the estimate and leave it to the Superintending Engineer to arrange for the provision of funds and should on no account retain such an estimate in his office, and the Superintending Engineer should be held responsible that in the estimates submitted provision is made for the minor new works which are most urgently required.

5. If estimates are retained in the Collector's offices for an indefinite period it is impossible for the Superintending Engineers to make arrangements for the expenditure of their allotments for minor new works or for repairs.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
*Acting Joint Secretary to Government.*

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
To all other Superintending Engineers.
To the Revenue Department.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Rev. Dept

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To No. 3459.

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

4TH DIVISION.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 22nd.

Recd. 28 Encl.

G. O., 22nd October 1872, No. 2,487.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 391-392

Ld Blue

In Rols Ogs of Clan Sec 4 Nov 1872

*Funds.*—Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue bringing to notice the remarks of the Collector regarding insufficiency of the allowance for Minor News Works under Agricultural in the Chingleput District.

No. 100

28 Oct 72