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## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## Government of Madras

*Revenue* DEPARTMENTG.O. No.  
B.P. No.

22

Press  
Mis.

Dated

3. 2. 1872 195

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Read the following papers :—

- No. 6. From the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Masulipatam, 23rd October 1871, No. 93.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following remarks regarding the subject of paragraphs 2 and 3 of G. O., No. 2,412, 21st September 1871.

2. Shortly after Mr. Boswell joined this district, I endeavoured to explain to him the state of affairs and the method of procedure, and at my request he issued a notice (copy of which I enclose);

1 Copy of Notice, 31st March 1871.

he has apparently quite lost sight of this, though I have on more than one occasion called his attention to the condition of matters as being still the same.

3. It is true that the Government of India have insisted on the submission of the entire project, but I have not hesitated to urge the execution of any minor portion as soon as I was satisfied that it was complete in itself and could be advantageously carried out—the Budam project for example.

G. O., No. 2,598, 31st October 1870.

4. A great deal of money has been expended in this district without due consideration, in some instances injuriously, to afford water to clamorous applicants; land has been taken up or converted from dry into wet in consequence, and of course at some expense on the part of the cultivators, whose expectations were greatly raised.

5. Unfortunately no calculation had been made as to the capacity of the main canals, and I have seen as much as one foot surface fall (slope of channel bed being 2 inches) in our endeavours to force a large supply down a channel which was nothing like large enough to carry the required quantity.

6. The extension of the channel from Atapaka to the Upatair, mentioned by Mr. Boswell, is a very marked instance of want of consideration in applying. It is the end of a branch from the Polrazkoddu, which takes off from the Pulairu the supply for which is conveyed, partly by the Masulipatam canal; partly by Ryves' channel.

7. The Polrazkoddu is not finished; the Pulairu widening is still in progress; the Ryves' channel head, which is to carry 192,000 of 312,000 cubic yards, is about one-third excavated; not a drop can pass by it, and not a cooly has worked on it from the Gudivada sub-division which is most largely interested in its completion.

8. There is no reason why this channel should be cut in preference to any of the others in the neighbourhood where the ryots are equally pressing; but, on the other hand, the cultivators under the Butlerkoddu, Bantumilly channel, etc., would have a better claim, because they used in former times to get some water from the Kistna flood, and because their land being alluvial would take up less of our supply than the sandy Kykalur country.

9. I do not know what is meant by the statements in the first part of paragraph 9 of Mr. Boswell's letter; there is no pressing necessity for completing the

channel from Vellabhapuram to tide-water. A head-sluice was built at Kullur, and side channel excavated some years ago at the request of the villagers, but not an acre of land has been cultivated under it, and Colonel Winscom closed the sluice; the main channel is large enough for its present purposes; the scheme for draining and irrigating the low ground in the Salavendra swamp is only just matured.

10. The side irrigation channel from Dugirala to Nizampatam was completed long ago; but the balance of the estimate has been reserved to provide a better head for one of the minor branches.

11. Mr. Boswell has entirely omitted to mention the Commamoor channel on which the whole of the Bapatla Taluq depends for its irrigation.

12. The continuation of the Arimanda channel to Budam was sanctioned in October 1870; but only Rupees 8,000 were allotted, and that in February 1871. With all deference to Mr. Boswell, I beg to express my opinion that very good progress was made in the few days before the expiration of the year.

13. I have already reported in my No. 76 of 25th ultimo, on the supply of drinking water to Masulipatam, which I may observe failed for eighteen days only: the town officers having admitted other water, lost twelve days more while baling this out.

14. I do not know what the Government contemplate as regards the transit boats. I have never heard any complaints as to their management. They appear to be very well suited for the ordinary passengers. Europeans do not approve of the accommodation, but they use them so rarely that the owners see no inducement to build more convenient boats; there is no monopoly, and I cannot but think that it would be bad policy on the part of Government to interfere with the carrying trade.

15. The boats convey passengers and light goods to and from all parts of the canal, and the owners, I believe, arrange their hours of starting and arriving in accordance with the requirements of the traffic. I have reason to suppose that the existing competition is very serviceable to the public, who can make their own terms.

16. There is certainly not a towing path in the Kistna District on which animals could be substituted for men. If Mr. Boswell had ever travelled after a heavy fall of rain he would not, I think, have suggested their employment on black cotton soil, nor do I think that horses or oxen could be procured at any moderate cost suited for such work.

No. 5.

No. 7. *Note by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

In letter No. 93, dated 23rd October 1871, the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division replies to the points adverted to by the Collector in his report to the Revenue Board on the progress of Public Works in the Kistna District in 1870-71, to which attention was called in G. O., No. 2,412 of 21st September 1871.

1. The Superintending Engineer points out that there is no pressing necessity for completing the channel from Vellabhapuram to tide-water; the stoppage of which the Collector regrets. Major

In G. O., No. 722, 10th March.

Mullins in his report suggests that a lock

should be built at Kullur to admit of navigation up to Penamudi, which is within miles of the cussah town of Repalli, thereby extending the navigation for five miles, or from twenty-seven to thirty-nine miles from Seetanagarum, but contemplates its extension thence to tidal-water at a future date after the land canal is intended to supply is taken up. The amount of the original estimate has been exceeded, and a supplemental estimate is now under preparation.

3. The Collector appears to have been in error in supposing that the side irrigation channel from Dugirala to Nizampatam had been stopped for want of funds, the fact being that the channel has been completed, but a small balance which is available is to be expended in improving the head of one of the minor branches.

4. With regard to the incapacity of the main canal from Seetanagarum to Dugirala to supply the land which will eventually depend upon it, or which may be demanded by it, the Superintending Engineer states that the canal is sufficiently large for its present purpose, as much of the land which will eventually come under its influence, namely, that in Salavendra swamp is now unfit for cultivation, and though a supply channel was taken from Kullur it was never used.

5. The Collector reports that the Arimanda channel work has not progressed at all, but he appears to have been unaware that funds for the work were not provided till February.

6. With regard to the Divi Purgana the Government, in paragraph 3 of their order No. 722 of 10th March, stated their opinion that it was inexpedient to incur any expense in carrying out works for the protection of that island from the effects of floods, pending the completion of the project for bringing the island under the influence of the Kistna, the project for which is still being matured.

7. In paragraph 12 of his report the Collector states that he has urged the necessity of allowing subsidiary channels to be proceeded with where feasible without interfering with the larger Delta Projects, and, as an instance of such a channel, mentions the extension of the Kykalur from Atapaka to Upatair. The Superintending Engineer, however, points out this very channel as one for the extension of which application has been made without due consideration. The facts being that this channel is a minor branch from Polaykodu, which is itself incomplete, and which depends for its supply on the Pulairu, the widening of which is still incomplete, while the Pulairu is to draw its supply partly from the Masulipatam channel and partly from Ryves' channel, one-third of the latter work only being completed, and it being impossible to carry any water by it.

8. Under the circumstances it is clear that the extension of the Kykalur channel should not be permitted at present; there are other lands nearer the source of supply still unprovided with water, and were the lands under the Kykalur channel supplied one season the supply could not be ensured for the next, for if the water were required for lands nearer to the source of supply, it could not be passed down to Kykalur. The system of excavating the minor channels of distribution before the main channels, which only can bring water to them, should be prohibited, for it is not only likely to lead to disappointment and loss, but it

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
1st February 1872.*

actually retards the completion of the main channels for the excavation of which labour cannot be obtained. There appear to be peculiar difficulties in procuring labour for the execution of new works in the Kistna District, for when work can be executed in the channel beds almost the whole of the available labour is required to clear silt from the existing channels, and if with or without the aid of the Collector the necessary labour to prosecute the works with vigour cannot be obtained in the district, arrangements must be made to obtain labour from neighbouring districts; this will, however, enhance the cost of the works.

9. With regard to the water-supply for the town of Masulipatam, the Superintending Engineer in No. 76, dated 25th September, states that it is at present impossible to supply the town throughout the year owing to the execution of work in the main canal immediately below the head-sluice; when this work is completed it is anticipated that by means of the two channels by which Masulipatam can be supplied it will be possible to maintain an uninterrupted supply to the town independently of reservoirs. The supply last season appears to have failed for eighteen days only, though this town appears to have been without water for thirty days in all owing to some arrangements made by the Municipal Officers; what these were is not very clear.

10. As regards the arrangements for navigation on the canals, the Superintending Engineer deprecates any interference on the part of Government. From Colonel Anderson's memorandum in G. O., No. 3,652, of 21st November 1868, it appears there is a daily service of passenger boats, and that the rates, though nominally fixed, vary according to the competition, and that when the boatmen combine together to demand a high rate their monopoly is broken by competition. The boats appear to be suitable for the conveyance of Native passengers and light goods; and as there seems to be considerable competition, a superior class of boat for passengers would doubtless be introduced were the demand for it really pressing. It appears to be undesirable to interfere with the law of demand and supply as regards the accommodation boats on the Kistna canals. The banks, unless sanded at considerable cost, are unsuitable for the passage of cattle in wet weather.

11. The Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division has lately been asked his opinion relative to any improvements as regards navigation on the Godavari canals, and his reply, when received, will be communicated to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,  
6th January 1872.

(Signed) A. deC. SCOTT, Captain, R.E.,  
For Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, 1st February 1872, No. 305.

IRRIGATION, No. 1.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of  
Revenue, with reference to G. O.,  
No. 2,412, dated 21st September 1871.

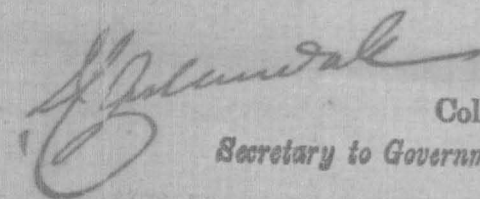
2. For the reasons given in paragraph 8 of the Acting Chief Engineer's note the Government consider that it would be inexpedient to push forward the exten-

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sion of the Kykalur channel as recommended by the Collector in paragraph 12 of his report printed with the Proceedings above quoted, as well as the execution of other minor distribution channels to the detriment of the main sources of supply, operations on which are greatly retarded by the scarcity of labour in the Kistna District. The Superintending Engineer should endeavour to import labourers from the adjoining districts with a view not only to the vigorous prosecution of the irrigation works, but also for the early completion of a permanent water-supply to the town of Masulipatam.

3. The existing arrangements for the conveyance of traffic on the Kistna canals do not at present appear to call for any overt acts of interference on the part of the Government.

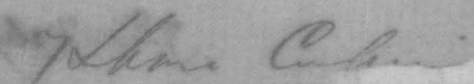
(True Extract.)

  
Colonel, R.E.,  
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ Revenue Department. ✓  
„ Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.  
„ Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.



*Memorandum*

*N. 405.*

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

cc. cc.

Dated February 1st,

Recd.

*39.*

Encl.

G. O., 1st February 1872, No. 205.

*Dis*  
FEBRUARY

NO. 6-8

Public Works.—Passing orders on the note by the Acting Chief Engineer, &c. in pursuance of a letter from the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division, relative to certain points adverted to by the Chief Engineer in his report on Public Works in the District for 1871-72.

*#22*

*Recd. 2*

*32 July 1872*