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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

165

Press
Mis.

Dated

24-3-1873 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

7. The revenue that may be expected therefrom is Rupees 1,252, on an outlay of Rupees 6,250, gives a return of Rupees 20 per cent.; but making every allowance for bad seasons, 15 per cent. may, I think, be fairly calculated upon. The estimate is higher than when it was last submitted, but this is due to extra masonry works required by the French Authorities.

8. When I inspected the line of channel with the French Authorities, it was admitted by Mr. Carriall, the French Engineer, that no French land except at the tail end of the channel would be commanded by it, and very little is even then available for cultivation in French limits. I am therefore of opinion the channel will supply all the water that will be required.

9. The masonry works in this channel are few in number and unimportant, and do not need to be specially described here.

No. 106.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 430A. In November 1869, the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, submitted an estimate, amounting to Rupees 4,720, for cutting a channel from the Pooniar in South Arcot for the irrigation of certain lands in Ooppalavady and other villages. It appears that this project has at different times during the last thirty-three years been under consideration; but it being necessary to carry a part of the channel through French territory, difficulty was experienced in settling the arrangements, and it was not until 1869 that the line to be followed was agreed upon.

2. The information submitted with the project of 1869 not being sufficiently complete, a reference was made to the Superintending Engineer, and now, with his letter No. 42 of the 6th February 1873, the present District Engineer has sent up a revised scheme, the estimated cost of which is Rupees 6,250, supported by a revenue statement, a copy of the convention with the French Government, and the usual estimates and plans of details. The survey and sections do not, as they should have done, show the exact line to be followed by the channel, as certain small modifications, made at the suggestion of the French Authorities, do not appear therein, and it would seem moreover that this survey is not the plan which was before the parties to the convention at the time the latter was drawn up. As, however, the convention itself appears to be sufficiently precise, it has not been thought requisite to delay any longer the submission of the project to Government.

3. The scheme provides for supplying water to 219 cawnies or about 290 acres by means of a channel having a bottom width of $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, to which it is anticipated that the river will afford water to a minimum depth of one foot during the time necessary to irrigate the lands concerned without the aid of tanks, which are not available. With the intended fall of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet a mile, this channel will carry about 1,080 cubic yards per hour, which, as the actual quantity likely to be required for the acreage is but 580 cubic yards per hour, at the rate of 2 cubic yards per acre, may be accepted as a sufficient allowance to compensate for fluctuations in the supply, and to provide for the branch channel which will probably be constructed by the French Government, and which, by the convention, is to be allowed a head sluice with a vent $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and water sufficient for one-third of the area of the Ooppalavady lands (by which one-fourth of the whole supply appears to be intended), so that the channel may be taken as designed to supply 387 acres, and the allowance per acre per hour at the supposed minimum depth of

water is nearly 2.80 cubic yards. The information regarding the water supply in the Pooniar is not as definite as is desirable, and it would have been preferable had the discharge at the Pooniar bridge been gauged and the minimum supply during the season of irrigation ascertained. Colonel Foord, however, appears to have entertained no doubt as to water being sufficiently abundant, and Mr. Norfor says (end of paragraph 6) that the river at the bridge is never without a very fair summer stream.

4. The revenue statement shows that the expected returns from the project will be derived from $48\frac{1}{2}$ cawnies of land classed as nunjah, but which at present have no artificial supply, and from $171\frac{1}{2}$ cawnies of punjah to be converted into nunjah, and subjected to an additional assessment of Rupees 5 an acre. The money returns are thus estimated at Rupees 1,252-1-6, or about 20 per cent. on the amount required for carrying out this scheme.

5. The project appears likely to be fairly useful and remunerative, and its sanction is therefore recommended.

CHINTACOONA,
19th February 1873.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 431.

ORDER THEREON, 18th March 1873, No. 844.

IRRIGATION, No. 18.

THE Government sanction the estimate of Rupees 6,250 for cutting a channel from the Pooniar to supply 290 acres of land in Ooppalavady and other villages in South Arcot, and they approve of the arrangements which have been made with the French Government at Pondicherry, whereby, in consideration of the grant of permission to carry the channel through French territory, that Government is to be allowed to cut a branch channel, in conformity with Article 4 of a Convention dated the 21st December 1872.

2. The expected returns from this project amount to about 20 per cent. on its estimated cost, and they afford a sufficiently wide margin for contingencies due to unfavourable seasons, etc., which, for a work of this kind, cannot be very accurately calculated.

3. Funds for carrying out this scheme are not likely to be available in 1873-74, and the District Engineer will accordingly enter the work in his Budget list for 1874-75.

(True Extract.)

W. Mullins Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, South Arcot.
.. Controller of Public Works Accounts.
.. Revenue Department.
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Newcome Vep.

871.

Gobt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, SOUTH

ARCOT.

&c. &c. &c.

Dated March 18th.

Recd. on 24th.

G. O., 18th March 1873, No. 844.

As

MARCH

Nos. 430-431

19th to 24th March of 1873

Channel.—Passing orders on Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation submitting estimate for the Coppelavady Channel Project, South Arcot District.

Comd. L. H. S. of Rev.

24th March 1873