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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 85 ~~Press~~
~~B.P. No.~~ Mis.

Dated 12. 7. 1873 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 26th June 1873.

Read the follow[illegible] papers:—

No. 408. Endorsement of the Reve[illegible]epartment, dated 11th June 1873.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, [illegible] 23rd April 1873, Miscellaneous No.

From H. SEWELL, Esq., Acting C[illegible] North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of [illegible] dated Chittoor, 21st March 1873, No. 187.

THE Cauverypauk Tank in the W[illegible]luq is, as the Board are aware, one of the largest and most important irri[illegible]ks in the district. Its bund, which is four miles in length, is covered [illegible]k undergrowth of shrubs, bushes, creepers, and prickly-pear. Unless this [illegible]emoved it is impossible for the Department Public Works to inspect the state of the bund and to ascertain what are its present requirements. The present condiion of the tank has already been brought to the notice of the Board in Mr. Whiteside's communication of the 10th February last, No. 88. It appears to me very desrable that the bund should be cleared at once, and this, I am of opinion, could not be executed by Kudimaramut, but should be carried out by paid labour. The w[illegible], which will take some seven or eight months to complete, has been estimated [illegible]ost Rupees 4,000.

2. I have, therefore, the honour t[illegible]quest that the Board will be pleased to sanction its execution from the Jungle [illegible]servancy Fund. When the bund has been thoroughly cleared it is propose[illegible] replant it with suitable trees for its protection.

3. Such of the clearings as are useful for fuel, etc., will be sold, and the proceeds credited to Jungle Conservancy Fund. The villagers will, when the bund is fully cleared, be called on to see that the shrubs, etc., which may grow in future on the bund are removed from time to time.

4. I have, in anticipation of the Board's sanction, authorized the execution of the work in question, and have also placed Rupees 500 at the disposal of the Head Assistant Collector to meet the current month's expenditure.

THE clearance of tank bunds is an Imperial work, and should be done out of the Agricultural allotment.

2. The object being one that is alien to the Jungle Conservancy Fund, and the charge without precedent, the Board do not understand how the Collector could think himself justified in authorizing the execution of the work before getting sanction for it.

3. He will report what sum is expected from "such of the clearings as are useful for fuel, etc."

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th May 1873.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 3rd April 1873, Miscellaneous No. 2,458, on letter from the Collector of North Arcot, No. 187, of 21st March 1873, requesting Board's sanction for the expenditure of certain sum from the Jungle Conservancy Fund for clearing away prickly-pear and other thorny bushes growing on the Cauverypauk Tank bund.

Read also the following letter from R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Collector of North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Vellore, 15th May 1873, No. 275.

WITH reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Miscellaneous No. 2,458, dated 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to submit that the Head Assistant Collector in his letter, No. 201, dated 5th instant, informs me that the undergrowth which has at present been cleared away from the Cauverypauk Tank bund will, if sold, fetch little or nothing, as it consists of prickly-pear and thorny bushes. The work has however been stopped on receipt of the Proceedings under reply. The amount expended up to date for the clearing of the undergrowth is stated to be a little more than 500 Rupees.

2. As this work is one of great importance, inasmuch as the real state of the bund and the repairs necessary to it cannot be ascertained till it is cleared, I trust that the Board will accord sanction for an allowance from Agricultural allotment of Rupees 4,000 for completing the work. Rupees 500 have been spent on clearing one mile, and three miles remain to be cleared, but the thickest undergrowth is in the remaining three miles, and I consider, therefore, that about Rupees 3,500 will be required. The District Engineer has informed me that the work has been well done so far, and he is very anxious that it should be carried on without delay.

3. I understand that Mr. Whiteside, just before going on leave, proposed the advance from the Jungle Conservancy Fund, as it was intended to replant the bund with useful trees which would also assist in strengthening it, and on taking charge I sanctioned the advance as an emergent case and wrote at once to the Board.

IT appears that it is necessary, with a view to discovering faulty parts in the bund of the Cauverypauk Tank, to clear it from jungle, etc., (*vide* paragraph 3 of the Memorandum by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, recorded with Government Order, 6th May 1873, No. 1,275, Public Works Department.) The work will last seven or eight months, and cost about Rupees 4,000.

2. There can be no doubt but that this work should be provided for from the Agricultural allotments, but Mr. Whiteside thought it might be done from the Jungle Conservancy Fund, and it has been commenced as emergent and Rupees 500 expended on it.

3. It is obvious that the only reason for [illegible], viz., that the bund may be planted with trees after the jungle has been removed, is not a sufficient reason for making the Jungle Conservancy Fund pay the cost of preparing the bund for examination.

4. The Board accordingly resolve to request Government to sanction the refund of the money already spent, and to direct the District Engineer to proceed with the work in the usual way.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

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

No. 367

No 408A. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

THE Cauverypauk Tank Bund is only one out of hundreds in the North Arcot District which require extensive clearances of prickly-pear, bushes, and scrub jungle to be made. I believe that it was formerly customary for all such work as these clearances to be done by Kudimai, and the neglect of this custom will involve a large outlay. However, as there appears to be no intention to revive customs which have been allowed to die out, the alternative is to instruct District Engineers to provide from Agricultural Repair Funds for clearing tank and channel bunds, and the District Engineer of North Arcot can accordingly refund to the Collector the sum advanced by that officer from Jungle Conservancy Funds.

2. I have already informed Captain Pennycuick that directly the question of the incidence of the cost of clearances is settled, it would be requisite to take vigorous measures for rendering the irrigation works accessible. I found it quite impossible to inspect several of these works, and the supply-channel of the Doosy Mamudoor tank breached in several places apparently at the only places where it could be crossed, the rest of its left bank for a long distance being a dense mass of prickly-pear.

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
16*th June* 1873. *Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

No. 409. ORDER THEREON, 26th June 1873, No. 1,671.

IRRIGATION, No. 38.

UNDER the circumstances brought to notice in these papers the Government, while regretting that the Cauverypauk and other tank bunds have become so much overgrown with prickly-pear and bushes, and that it appears to be impracticable to effect the requisite clearances by customary labour, sanction the application of such work from Agricultural

Repair Funds, and also the refund to the Collector of North Arcot of the sum advanced from Jungle Conservancy funds for the partial clearance of the Cauverypauk tank bund.

(Telegraphic Extract.)

Lieutenant-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

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

No. 85.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

2 July 73

Exd. S. T. Austin.

20, Spare Copies.

11 To the Board

Dis 15 July 73

Revenue 1873 Dept
No 2046

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR

IRRIGATION.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated June 26th.

Recd July 11th 1873 Encl.

G. O., 26th June 1873, No. 1,671.

JUNE

Nos. 408-409

Cauverypauk, etc., Tank Bunds.—Sanctioning the clearance of prickly-pear and bushes from the tank bunds, and also the refund to the Collector of North Arcot of the sum advanced from Jungle Conservancy Funds for partial clearance.

With Order
No 85 - 12th July 73.