M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 10

(2) Date of repair 30.11.1965

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 86	~~Press~~
~~B.P. No.~~	Mis.
Dated 15.1.1973196 .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 137. From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 9th October 1872, No. 3,165.

In reference to G. O. No. 2,031, dated 26th August 1872, I have the honour to report that no action has yet been taken upon the matter referred to in G. O. No. 3,555, dated 6th November 1869; and I think it very improbable that any action can be taken in this connection, unless an establishment is specially organized to collect and compile the information required.

2. It appears to me that this view of the question is beyond argument, inasmuch as every member of the Range establishments has already more work on his hands than he can get through properly; and to compile the voluminous statements now required by Government would take the whole time of these establishments for a year or more.

3. With regard to the alleged delay on the part of Superintending Engineers in furnishing the Collectors "with the necessary information," I take leave to state that as the whole of the information was already on the records of the Collectors' offices, but only a part of the same in this office, the simplest plan was for the Collectors to prepare the statements and refer doubtful questions to this office. As no information was solicited by these gentlemen, none was furnished from this office.

4. With regard to paragraph 13 of G. O. dated 30th April 1872, No. 1,102, I would suggest that the Southern Range, Tinnevelly, be divided into one group for the Tambrapoorney Irrigation, and one for the Chittaur; minor channels with their tanks and the rain-fed tanks might form two separate groups under the heads of their respective taluqs.

5. The Northern Range of the Tinnevelly District is intersected with rivers and streams of all kinds, and there ought, of course, to be a correct survey of each river, showing all dams thrown across it and each channel carried off from it. I need scarcely say, however, that in this forgotten region nothing of the kind has been done. But were such a survey made, I would then look upon each channel so carried off with all the tanks which are filled by it as a group with a regular designation, thus *Chittaur River*, *Pursecolum Dam and Channels*, *Tank* Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and so on. All revenue from these tanks would be credited to this group, and all expenditure from new works, repairs, etc., be debited to it.

6. For rain-fed tanks they are mostly so utterly insignificant that, after the above tanks are deducted, the number remaining will not be very large, and they might all, therefore, be lumped into one item for each taluq, and be called *Sattoor rain-fed group*, for instance, and to which all receipts and expenditure would be shown as required.

7. The Madura Range naturally divides itself into three groups; one being irrigation under anicuts, the Paranay and Chittanay being the most important thereof, another that under tanks supplied from channels taken off the Vigay, and the other a group of rain-fed tanks as above explained.

Read the following papers:—

No. 137. From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 9th October 1872, No. 3,165.

In reference to G. O. No. 2,031, dated 26th August 1872, I have the honour to report that no action has yet been taken upon the matter referred to in G. O. No. 3,555, dated 6th November 1869; and I think it very improbable that any action can be taken in this connection, unless an establishment is specially organized to collect and compile the information required.

2. It appears to me that this view of the question is beyond argument, inasmuch as every member of the Range establishments has already more work on his hands than he can get through properly; and to compile the voluminous statements now required by Government would take the whole time of these establishments for a year or more.

3. With regard to the alleged delay on the part of Superintending Engineers in furnishing the Collectors "with the necessary information," I take leave to state that as the whole of the information was already on the records of the Collectors' offices, but only a part of the same in this office, the simplest plan was for the Collectors to prepare the statements and refer doubtful questions to this office. As no information was solicited by these gentlemen, none was furnished from this office.

4. With regard to paragraph 13 of G. O. dated 30th April 1872, No. 1,102, I would suggest that the Southern Range, Tinnevelly, be divided into one group for the Tambrapoorney Irrigation, and one for the Chittaur; minor channels with their tanks and the rain-fed tanks might form two separate groups under the heads of their respective taluqs.

5. The Northern Range of the Tinnevelly District is intersected with rivers and streams of all kinds, and there ought, of course, to be a correct survey of each river, showing all dams thrown across it and each channel carried off from it. I need scarcely say, however, that in this forgotten region nothing of the kind has been done. But were such a survey made, I would then look upon each channel so carried off with all the tanks which are filled by it as a group with a regular designation, thus *Chittaur River*, *Pursecolum Dam and Channels*, *Tank* Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and so on. All revenue from these tanks would be credited to this group, and all expenditure from new works, repairs, etc., be debited to it.

6. For rain-fed tanks they are mostly so utterly insignificant that, after the above tanks are deducted, the number remaining will not be very large, and they might all, therefore, be lumped into one item for each taluq, and be called *Sattoor rain-fed group*, for instance, and to which all receipts and expenditure would be shown as required.

7. The Madura Range naturally divides itself into three groups; one being irrigation under anicuts, the Paranay and Chittanay being the most important thereof, another that under tanks supplied from channels taken off the Vigay, and the other a group of rain-fed tanks as above explained.

8. The Dindigul Range divides itself into two sub-divisions, the Vigay basin and that of the Cauvery; the former would include the Periacolum Taluq and the southern portion of Dindigul. If still further sub-division were required, the valley of the Vigay could be divided into those of the Sooroolly and Vigay proper, while the Amravathy (including the Shunmooganuddy) would form a natural sub-division of the Cauvery drainage.

From the same Officer, dated Madura, 30th October 1872, No. 3,493.

ADVERTING to your memorandum No. 183, dated 5th September 1872, calling for a report as to progress made in the preparation of Irrigation Registers, I have the honour to report as follows:—

Four letters (in original).

2. *Madura Range.*—Registers for Fasli 1280 or 1870-71 are under preparation, and will be sent to the Collector when received from the Range Officer, Assistant Engineer Mr. Leggatt.

3. *Dindigul Range.*—Registers for 1869-70 were despatched to the Collector on the 7th November 1871. On the 16th February 1872, with letter No. 463, Assistant Engineer Mr. Lyon forwarded the Registers for 1870-71, which contained such works only as had been operated upon during that year—an arrangement made by the then Collector Mr. J. R. Arbuthnott. The present Collector has, however, pointed* out that the Registers should include all tanks, etc., above 10 cawnies, whether repaired or not, and he has requested me to furnish complete Registers. The Range Officers have been accordingly directed to prepare the Registers in question.

* Letter No. 1,271, dated 12th July 1871.

4. On the 27th May 1872 I requested the Dindigul Range Officer to expedite the despatch of the Irrigation Register for 1870-71, and Captain Pennyquick sent me the enclosed letter,† explaining the difficulties attending the preparation of these Registers; and to a subsequent call that officer reports‡ "that no progress has been made in this" (Dindigul) "Range towards the completion of the Irrigation Registers referred to, and I do not see any prospect of any being made." I propose addressing you further on this subject.

† No. 134, dated 31st May 1872.

‡ No. 412, dated 1st October 1872.

5. *Southern Range, Tinnevelly.*—The following Registers were forwarded to the Collector on dates specified against each:—

Nangoonary Taluq for Faslis 1278 and 1279 on the 20th July 1871.
" " Fasli 1277 on the 10th August 1871.
Tinnevelly " " 1279 on the 28th " "
Tenkarai " " " " " " "
Ambasamoodrum Taluq " " " 23rd Sept. "
Nangoonary Taluq for Fasli 1280 on the 13th June 1872.
Tinnevelly " " " 26th July "
Tenkarai " " " 26th Sept. "

6. Mr. Rundall reports "that draft Registers for Fasli 1281 have been prepared for all the taluqs; these have been sent" (before the 10th August) "to the Tahsildars concerned for entry therein of the Revenue details; these have not been received back from any taluq. As soon as they are received, they will be forwarded to the Sub-division Officers for the entry of the remarks regarding the state of the work * * *. I hope, if they are quickly returned by the Tahsildars, that these Registers for last year will all be completed and ready for submission * * during December."

7. *Northern Range, Tinnevelly.*—The following Registers were despatched to the Collector on the 13th June 1872.

Ootapedarum Taluq for Fasli 1278.
Sattoor Taluq for Fasli 1278.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 9th January 1873.

Sunkerninarcovil Taluq for Fasli 1280.
Strivullipootoor Taluq for Fasli 1280.

Mr. McNair writes, "Irrigation Registers for the four taluqs of this range have been prepared * * for the official years from 1867-68 to 1871-72, of which the following Registers are now in the Range Office:—

Strivullipootoor Taluq for 1867-68, 1868-69, 1869-70, 1870-71, and 1871-72.
Sunkerninarcovil Taluq " " " " "
Sattoor Taluq for 1867-68, 1868-69, 1869-70 and 1870-71.
Ootapedarum " " " "

8. Registers for the Sattoor and Ootapedarum Taluqs have been forwarded to the Tahsildars on the 16th instant for the revenue information being entered therein.

9. Mr. McNair adds, "Of the Registers at present in the office as above, those of the four taluqs for 1867-68 are printed, the others are in manuscript, but they are all complete."

10. Registers for the under-mentioned taluqs are published in the District Gazettes on dates noted opposite to each taluq in the Madura and Tinnevelly Districts, namely:—

Madura District, Madura Taluq, for Fasli 1277 on the 13th May 1871.
" Pareacolum Taluq " " " 2nd Sept. "
" Melur Taluq " " " 30th " "
" Ramnad Zemindary for Fasli 1277 on the 17th Aug. 1872.
" " " 1278 " 14th Sept. "
Tinnevelly District, Nangoonary Taluq, " 1277 " 4th Nov. 1871.
" Tinnevelly " " " " 3rd Feb. 1872.
" Tenkarai " " " " 2nd March "
" Ambasamoodrum Taluq, for Fasli 1279.

11. I beg to enclose the under-mentioned correspondence, in original, for your perusal and obliging return to this office, when no longer required by you.

Letter from the Collector of Madura, No. 1,274, dated 12th July 1871.
" to " " " 2,822, " 7th Nov. "
Letter from Assistant Engineer Mr. Lyon, No. 463, dated 16th Feb. 1872.
" " Captain Pennycuick, R. E., " 134, " 31st May "

From the Acting Collector of Madura, to the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated Periacolum, 12th July 1871, No. 1,274.

WITH reference to your letter No. 1,059, dated 29th June, I have the honour to inform you that under the Circular Order of the Board No. III. of 1869 numbers have been assigned to each irrigation work in the taluqs which should never be altered, and therefore the order in which the works are now entered cannot be altered in order to arrange them alphabetically.

2. I take this opportunity to invite your attention to the correspondence noted in the margin, from which you will observe that the Irrigation Registers should show the condition of all works whether repaired or not, whereas a few of them only which are repaired yearly find a place in the Registers received from your department.

1. From the Executive Engineer in charge of Superintending Engineer's Office, 8th Division, dated 13th October 1868, No. 1,565.
2. To the Officiating Superintending Engineer, dated 21st January 1869, No. 97.
3. To do., dated 17th December 1869, No. 2,065.
4. From Do., dated 7th January 1870, No. 2,302.
5. Board's Proceedings, dated 19th February 1870, No. 1,159.
6. To the Officiating Superintending Engineer, dated 5th March 1870, No. 385.
7. From do., dated 15th March 1870, No. 2,921.

3. As requested in my letter No. 580 of the 29th March last, I request you will be good enough to expedite the transmission of the Irrigation Registers of the Dindigul, Pulney, and Periacolum Taluqs for 1869-70.

4. I further request you will instruct the Range Officers not to include in their Registers tanks, etc., below 10 cawnies.

No. 2,424.

Copy forwarded to the Assistant Engineer in charge of the Madura Range and the Overseer in charge of the Dindigul Range for information and guidance, in continuation of memorandum from this Office No. 2,945, dated 19th March 1870.

2. Serjeant Hamilton should lose no further time in forwarding the Irrigation Registers for the Dindigul, Pulney, and Periacolum Taluqs for the year 1869-70.

SHERMADEVI,
3rd October 1871.

(Signed) R. A. ROBERTS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

From the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Collector of Madura, dated 7th November 1872, No. 2,882.

As requested in your letter No. 1,666, dated 9th September 1871, I have the honour to forward herewith the Irrigation Registers of the Dindigul and Pulni Taluqs for the year 1869-70, and to state that the Registers contain only such works as have been operated upon during that year, as proposed* by the late Officiating Superintending Engineer Captain Prendergast, R.E., and approved† of by the then Officiating Collector Mr. J. R. Arbuthnott.

Two Irrigation Registers.

* Letter No. 1,565, dated 13th October 1868.

† Letter „ 97, „ 21st January 1869.

2. The Register for the Periacolum Taluq for the above-mentioned year has been returned to the Range Officer for the filling in of certain information which had been omitted, and it will be despatched to you so soon as it is received back in this office.

3. I may mention that the Irrigation Registers for subsequent years will be prepared, including the names of *all* works in the several taluqs, showing their condition, whether repaired or not, as laid down in the correspondence quoted in paragraph 2 of your letter No. 1,274, dated 12th July 1871.

No. 2,883.

Copy forwarded to the Assistant Engineers in charge of the Madura and Dindigul Ranges for information and guidance in continuation of memorandum from this office No. 2,424, dated 3rd October 1871, on the subject of preparation of Irrigation Registers.

2. Mr. Leggatt and Mr. Lyon are requested to hasten as much as possible the despatch of the Irrigation Registers for 1870-71.

MADURA,
3rd November 1871.

(Signed) R. A. ROBERTS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

From H. LYON, Esq., Assistant Engineer in charge of 2nd Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated Boodinaikanoor, 16th February 1872, No. 463.

I have the honour to forward the Irrigation Registers for 1870-71 of the three taluqs in this Range.

2. In paragraph 3 of your letter No. 2,882 of 7th November 1871, addressed to the Collector and communicated to me in your memorandum No. 2,883 of 7th November 1871, you state that "the Irrigation Registers for the subsequent years will be prepared, including the names of *all* works in the several taluqs showing their condition, whether repaired or not as laid down in the correspondence quoted in paragraph 3 of your letter No. 1,274, dated 12th July 1871," but the Registers now forwarded include only those works upon which repairs have been executed.

3. As in the published Irrigation Registers all works with their condition are given, it will be evident that all those that do not appear in the enclosed Registers were not repaired during 1870-71.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 9th January 1873.

4. I need scarcely inform you that the preparation of an Irrigation Register for *all* the works in each taluq would occupy a considerable portion of valuable time, and while Registers have already been published, I would beg to submit that the information really useful and necessary relates only to those works upon which repairs have been executed.

5. As you have more than once called for these Registers, I have taken this opportunity of submitting them as have received them rather than delay for the two or three months which would be necessary to send a complete Register.

From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R. E., Executive Engineer in charge of Dindigul Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated Kasavaputty, 31st May 1872, No. 134.

With reference to your memorandum No. 835 of 27th instant, I have the honour to observe that information for compiling the Registers required has to be obtained by the Taluq Overseers from the Tahsildars.

2. The returns from any one taluq have not yet been received in this office, and when they do come in they will have to be compiled and copied—a work which will take some time, with the ridiculously insufficient establishment which the Range Office has.

3 I must say that the constant succession of "Returns" and "Statements" which are now being called for is rapidly becoming (or perhaps I should rather say has become) a very serious obstacle to the proper conduct of executive work.

4. Every day some new form, or some addition to an old one, is asked for, but I do not hear of any proposals to increase the office establishments.

5. This office has already more on its hands than it can get through, and in a very little while, at the present rate, our whole time will be taken up in the preparation of "Returns," leaving us none whatever for executive work or current correspondence.

From the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Madura, 12th November 1872, No. 3,748.

In reference to paragraph 4 of my letter No. 3,493, dated 30th October 1872, I have the honour to inform you that the Dindigul Range Officer has reported that he will require a Writer of Rupees 40 per mensem for six months to enable him to complete the Irrigation Registers of his Range for the years 1870-71 and 1871-72; and to request therefore that you will be so good as to obtain the early orders of Government for the entertainment of a Writer as requested by Captain Pennycuick, R.E.

No. 289.

No. 138. *Note by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

In letter No. 3,165 of 9th October the Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division reports that no action has been taken on G. O. No. 3,555 of 6th November 1869, relative to the preparation of statements affording accurate information as to the remunerative character of expenditure in India on irrigation works and called for by the Secretary of State for India.

2. The first step towards the preparation of the statements required is the preparation of Irrigation Registers, and the progress made with regard to these is given in letter No. 3,493 of 30th October 1872. It would appear, however, that in the preparation of these Registers the natural order of things is being reversed in the 8th Division. The Registers, it appears, are being prepared by the Range Officers, and when prepared are sent to the Collector. The information required to prepare the Registers must, in the first instance, be obtained from the Revenue Department; hence the Revenue Department should prepare the Registers and send

them to the Department of Public Works to have certain columns filled in by that department, but the original Registers should not be prepared by the Public Works Department.

3. The Registers for one year for each of the taluqs appear to have been prepared, hence the preparation of future Registers ought to be a comparatively simple matter, the names of all the works having been once obtained, blank forms showing all the works should be struck off, and these should be sent to the Range Officers in order that the expenditure incurred in subsequent years may be entered in the form as early as possible after the close of the official year, and be forwarded to the Collector, columns 10 and 11 being filled in for all the works repaired, and for as many others as the Range Officer or his subordinates may have had an opportunity of examining, as a rule but slight modifications of the original entries in column 10 would have to be made, and the complete revision year by year of those entries for every work, whether repaired or not, would be unnecessary.

4. It would appear that manuscript copies of the Registers have now to be prepared by the Executive Engineers, and the Collector of Madura requests that all works, whether repaired, etc., or not, may be included in the Registers; this, of course, throws a great deal of labour on the Range Offices, which is entirely unnecessary.

5. Were blank forms of the Registers sent to the Range Officers the entries in the Registers might be filled up month by month as works were completed, and the entire Register completed within six weeks of the termination of the official year. The entries of assessment, etc., having been filled in, in the Collector's Office, the entries in column 9 would be computed in that office.

6. In letter No. 3,748, dated 12th November 1872, Colonel Roberts applies for a Writer for six months on a salary of Rupees 40 to complete the registers in the Dindigul Range. In No. 3,165 he applies for a special establishment to collect and compile the information required to prepare the statement called for by the Secretary of State. So far as the information required consists in the preparation of the Registers, very trifling aid, if any, would be required in the Superintending Engineer's Office now that one Irrigation Statement has been prepared, if blank forms are printed but if manuscript copies are prepared annually of all the works, and columns 10 and 11 of the Register are to be filled in year by year for all works by the Range Officer, as the Collector of Madura appears to desire, a permanent addition must be made to the office establishment of each Range. At present I would suggest the sanction of the entertainment of a Writer in the Dindigul Range or in the Superintending Engineer's Office for a period of six months; the mere entry in the blank Register of expenditure could probably be made in the latter office from the Progress Reports.

7. In paragraph 4 of No. 3,165 Colonel Roberts makes his suggestions relative to the grouping of the works in the Tinnevelly District. He would divide the Southern Range as follows:—

1. Tambrapoorney Irrigation.
2. Chittaur.
3. Minor channels with their tanks, and
4. Rain-fed tanks.

8. This classification appears to be judicious, it being understood that the irrigation under the rivers Tambrapoorney and Chittaur includes that under all channels and tanks supplied by those rivers, and hence that no channels from those rivers are included under No. 3. The Tambrapoorney should, however, be divided into two groups, the one comprising the Streevigoontum anicut and its subsidiary works, and the other the irrigation independent of that anicut.

9. In the absence of surveys of the rivers in the Northern Range the Superintending Engineer does not state the groups into which he would divide that Range, but suggests how the Range might be divided into groups, namely, that all cultivation under each stream, whether dependent upon channels or tanks supplied from the main stream, should be regarded as a group, even in the absence of surveys of the rivers. With one Irrigation Register complete the village authorities would have no difficulty in marking the works appertaining to each main stream or group, and hence the grouping might be commenced at once. Main streams and the subsidiary works which distribute the water from them and the tanks which receive the water being grouped separately, minor streams and their tanks forming a separate group and rain-fed tanks forming a group by themselves.

10. In the Madura District the irrigation under the Vigay might form a group with that under its tributaries forming sub-groups. The Cauvery valley might form a second group, minor streams and tanks supplied by them, a third, and rain-fed tanks, a fourth.

11. It does not appear whether the Collectors have been consulted relative to the grouping proposed, or whether that grouping has been considered or classified with reference to the knowledge extant relative to the outlay on the original works; if these points have been satisfied the grouping as given above may be approved, and the information required to admit of the financial statements being prepared should be collected and compiled as early as possible.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
23rd November 1872.

(Signed) R. F. OAKES, Major, R.E.,
Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 139. From the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Cokracolum, 2nd December 1872, No. 4,055.

IN continuation of my letter No. 3,165, dated 9th October 1872, I have the honour to bring to the notice of Government that the several Range Officers in this Division have represented that if the elaborate statements mentioned in G. O. No. 3,555, dated 6th November 1869, are required to be prepared by them, the under-mentioned temporary establishment will be necessary for the purpose. I respectfully solicit therefore the orders of Government on the subject.

2. I have in my letter quoted above already reported that it is quite impossible for Range Officers, with their present establishment, to collect and compile the information required; and I have nothing more to add save that if the Government

be pleased to sanction the entertainment of the temporary establishment now applied for, the work will be set in hand at once.

MADURA RANGE.—One Writer and Accountant on a salary of Rupees 30 per mensem for four months.

DINDIGUL RANGE.—One Writer on Rupees 30 per mensem for six months.

SOUTHERN RANGE, TINNEVELLY.—One Writer on Rupees 30 per mensem for three months.

NORTHERN RANGE.—

Streevellipoottoor Sub-Division.

One Accountant on Rupees 30 per mensem for three months.
One Writer on Rupees 15 per mensem for three months.

Sattoor Sub-Division.

One Accountant on Rupees 30 per mensem for three months.
One Writer on Rupees 15 per mensem for three months.

No. 140. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1873, No. 71.

IRRIGATION, No. 16.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council resolves to communicate the above Note by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation to all District Engineers; His Excellency hopes that under the new organization, these officers may find their establishment sufficient to enable them to fill in the information required for the Public Works Department without any additional assistance.

2. The remarks in paragraph 2 will be considered in the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To District Engineers.
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue 1873 Deptt

Govt. of {1873} Madras,

PUBLIC WORKS.

No 102

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEERS,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 9th.

Read. 15th *Encl.*

G. O., 9th January 1873, No. 71.

JANUARY

Nos. 137-140

Irrigation Registers.—Passing orders on Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the preparation of Irrigation Registers.

No 86.

15 Jany 73

13 Ldrs, 10 Copies Dup (Ollers &c, 20 Jany