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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	106	~~Press~~
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	16-1-1875	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th January 1875.*

No. 126. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Tuticorin, 2nd November 1874, No. 891-A:—

From Major J. BEATTY, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Dowlaishweram, 12th October 1874, No. 2,195.

As requested in your memorandum, No. 732 of 21st ultimo, I have the honor to report on the points noticed in the letter of the Acting Collector of this District to the Board of Revenue, No. 127 of 5th May 1874, on which Government require information.

2. The Cocanada canal was closed for navigation in 1871-72 from December 1871 to March 1872, in 1872-73 during the whole year, and in 1873-74 from 1st February 1874 to March 1874.

3. In the present official year communication by canal between Cocanada and Dowlaishweram was stopped from 15th April to the end of June, a period of two and a half months, in order that repairs and improvements might be proceeded with in the main canal.

4. The Executive Engineer, Eastern Delta Range, informs me that, prior to the closing of the head sluices in April 1874, according to the records of his office they had not been closed since 1865, *i.e.*, there had been constant water communication by one or other of the canals between Cocanada and Dowlaishweram for about nine years, and when a stoppage took place it was only for two and a half months.

5. In regard to paragraph 12 of the Acting Collector's letter, so far as I can learn, no complaints have ever been made to this department that tanks were "being allowed to fall into disorder because the ayacut is now irrigated by channels" under the Godavery Anicut, and the Range Officers are not aware of the existence of any such tanks. I have therefore applied to the Acting Collector for a list of them. The Godavery supply will doubtless be ample, and perfectly reliable when the works of the completion project have been carried out, but it has been suggested to me that where such tanks have existed it may possibly be advisable to repair them as regulating reservoirs.

6. I send herewith copy of the Superintending Engineer's letter regarding Bayana Calingulah, No. 2,856, of 9th November 1872, with its enclosure, for your information. That appears to have been the last action taken in the matter, probably in consequence of the repeated changes of Range Officer; Lieutenant Dorward fell into bad health and went away on leave, and since he left Overseer Vigor had charge for a time, then Supervisor Baker, then Sub-Engineer Akojee Ramiah, and now Mr. Assistant Engineer Martin has again been placed in charge of it. I have requested Mr. Martin to get the additional information required as soon as possible, in order that an estimate may be prepared of such works as may be necessary to improve the supply to the channel.

7. I shall report further on the subject of paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Collector's report as soon as I have made necessary inquiries.

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9th January 1875.*

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Dowlaiswaram, 9th November 1872, No. 2,856.

With reference to G. O., No. 1,489, dated 18th June 1870, I have the honor to forward herewith for your information copy of a letter received from the Executive Engineer in charge No. 4 Range, Godavery, informing that the surveys and levels of the Bayana Calingulah have been fair copied and forwarded to the Head Assistant Collector to supply the revenue information. I beg to inform this work has been so long in hand owing to the very unhealthy locality in which it is situated, and, though often put in hand, it has only recently been completed by the Range Officer.

From Lieutenant J. F. DORWARD, R.E., Executive Engineer, No. 4 Range, Godavery District, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, dated Ellore, 18th October 1872, No. 325.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the surveys and levels of the Bayana Calingulah channels, taken by Surveyor G. Ramasastoorloo, have been fair copied, and that the plan has been sent to the Head Assistant Collector to ascertain whether the irrigated areas thereon shown agree with the Revenue Accounts.

2. I make this report in order to keep you aware of what is being done; it will probably be some time before an answer is received from the Revenue Department.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

Had the Collector of the Godavery communicated with the District Engineer

5th May 1874, No. 127.

before writing his remarks about the Cocanada Canal, he would no doubt

have received such information as might have convinced him

1st.—That however inconvenient it may be, it is necessary sometimes to close head sluices.

2ndly.—That the Eastern Delta Main Canal had not been closed with undue frequency.

For nine years, from 1865 to 1874, there had been no closure of the main canal, and consequently no entire stoppage of water communication between Dowlaiswaram and Cocanada, though probably at times from the water in the river being low the navigation has been indifferent.

The completion estimates provide for the enlargement of this main canal, and for this purpose and for clearances it was closed from the 15th April to the end of June, or for two and a half months.

The Cocanada canal has been enlarged, provided with new locks from end to end, and otherwise improved since 1870. These extensive works have necessitated its closure for navigation, but irrigation has been carried on as usual. There is but little remaining to be done. For navigation there is the alternative route by Samulcottah whenever the main canal is open.

2. It is quite certain that none of the navigable canals of the delta can be closed without inconvenience, but the extensive improvements sanctioned unfortunately require them to be closed, but I have noticed that the sites for the new locks have, whenever practicable, been chosen so as to admit of the old ones being used until they were ready, but in some cases such an arrangement has not

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been possible. I think the Chintapilly lock on the Cocanada Canal was one instance in which navigation had to be stopped to allow of the new lock being built.

3. As a rule I should say that tanks which have virtually been superseded by the delta canals should not be maintained. The supply from the river is generally all that is to be desired; there is little or no second crop cultivation, and the supply lasts for a much longer period than is required for the single crop. There may be special cases in which such tanks should be kept up, and no doubt if these be specified the circumstances will be carefully inquired into, but to maintain obsolete tanks generally would entail a very unnecessary expenditure of money, which had much better be devoted to tanks which are absolutely essential to the cultivation of the lands under them, and of these there are many thousands to be attended to. G. O., of the 18th August 1874, No. 2,290, appears not to have been communicated to the Superintending Engineer, Kistna. A copy has now been sent to him with reference to these tanks, some of which are under the Kistna portion of the Ellore Canal.

4. The Bayana Calingulah arrangements have been delayed in a very unsatisfactory manner. In some way or another the matter ought to have been disposed of long ago, and it may be hoped that Major Beatty will be able to ensure this being done immediately.

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

No. 127.

ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1875, No. 53.

IRRIGATION, No. 18.

THE explanations regarding the closure of the Main and Cocanada Canals are deemed satisfactory, and all due

care appears to have been taken to lessen as far as possible the unavoidable inconveniences attending the carrying out of the extensive improvements to the delta canals, now under execution.

2. The proper plan in dealing with the tanks, which have been more or less superseded by the delta canals, is to consider and dispose of each case on its merits, and to ascertain these the circumstances must be discussed by the Collector and District Engineer.

3. The Government look to Major Beatty to take care that no further delay is allowed to occur in rendering the irrigation under the Bayana Calingulah efficient; what is necessary should be determined at once, and then done.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" District Engineer, Godavery.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

16 July/74 No. 127
28 Aug/74 - 152 } Min

No 95
Revenue Dept
Govt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 9th.

Recd.

12th

Encl.

G. O. 9th January 1875, No. 53.

For Miss

JANUARY.

Nos. 126-127

No. 106

Communicated to the
Board of Revenue with reference
to G.O. 21st Aug 1874 No. 152

16 Jan/75

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Cocanada Canal.—The explanations regarding the closure of the Main and Cocanada Canals considered satisfactory, and the District Engineer, Godavery, requested to take care that no further delay is allowed to occur in rendering the Irrigation under the Bayana Calingulah efficient.

With Meen

VCA, 630/76

17 To the Secy. to Govt. 18 Jan 75