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DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

138

B.P. No.

Press

Mis.

Dated

21-1-1875

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 301. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Suramungalam, 7th December 1874, No. 1,015:—

From Major J. BEATTY, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Dowlaishweram, 25th November 1874, No. 2,691.

WITH reference to the Under Secretary's docket, No. 848, of 30th ultimo, on G. O., No. 189, of 25th September 1874, regarding extracts from certain Telugu newspapers, I have the honor to report as follows:—

I.—The statement of the Editor of the *Sudhi Ranjani*, that the Cocanada canal was under repair for ten months, is simply untrue. That canal was closed on the 1st February 1874 for repairs, and in order to carry out certain improvements sanctioned by Government; it was re-opened on 15th July 1874. Of this closure ample notice was given by advertisement in the *District Gazette*, so that the public might not be inconvenienced. But although that canal was closed from 1st February, communication by water between Cocanada and Dowlaishweram by the Samulcottah line (the alternative route) was kept open until 15th April; and as to irrigation there is none at that season of the year. The *Sudhi Ranjani* therefore gives an incorrect and exaggerated account of the state of the canal.

The purport of the latter part of the extract from the *Sudhi Ranjani* is not clear. The complaint appears to be at the number of bridges and other means of crossing the canal for baggage-laden cattle is insufficient. There are four bridges and eight ferry boats on the Cocanada canal; in fact, that canal is at present better supplied with crossing of the two kinds than any other canal in the district. If the complaint be that a bridges are needed, the people who specially feel this want should make the complaint to the Local Fund Board, who will no doubt give it every consideration.

II.—In regard to the statements in the *Purusharthaprathaini*, I quite agree with the Range Officer that they appear to be absurdly untrue. Of course in providing means of distribution, under the different irrigation channels, it is not always possible to meet the wishes of individual landholders, who sometimes make unreasonable demands; it is believed, however, that the crops under the Ellore Canal, to which the complaint is supposed to refer, were never finer than they are this year. But owing to the vague nature of the statements made it is impossible to give a very definite reply.

I send herewith the Range Officers' replies to the reference I made them on the subject.

From Captain R. R. E. BROCKMAN, R.E., Officer in charge No. 1 or Eastern Delta Range, Godavery District, to Major J. BEATTY, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery District, dated Camp at Chintapilly, 13th November 1874, No. 382.

WITH reference to the remarks in the Telugu paper *Sudhi Ranjani* regarding the Cocanada canal, communicated to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for report in G. O., No. 189, dated 25th September 1874, I have the honor to state that the first portion of the paragraph extracted from the paper is false. The Cocanada canal was closed on the 1st February 1874, and re-opened on the 15th July 1874.

2. The purport of the latter portion of the paragraph is not clear. It may, however, refer to the want of over-bridges on the canal at as frequent intervals as the ryots would wish to have them.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th January 1875.

From G. T. WALCH, Esq., Executive Engineer No. III. Range, Godavery District, to Major J. BEATTY, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery District, dated 15th November 1874, No. 494.

With reference to your No. 2,568, and its enclosures, I have the honor to state that paragraph No. 2, extracted from a native newspaper, seems to me to be an absurdity, and if it refers to the Ellore canal in this range, I can assure you the statements contained therein are false.

2. No representations such as stated have been made to this office; and water has not been wasted. The crops under the Ellore canal were never finer than they are this year. I would respectfully express my surprise that it should be thought worthwhile occupying the time of officers in dealing with anonymous statements in a petty paper.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. While the extensive improvements in the delta now in progress are being carried out, there will no doubt be more or less inconvenience experienced, but, in the opinion of the undersigned, the Range Officers deserve much credit for the way in which they manage to continue irrigation and to keep open navigation; and so far as their arrangements have come under notice, these have appeared to

* 1871-72	...	...	...	ACRES
1872-73	...	...	...	456.4
1871-72	...	...	...	RS.
1872-73	...	...	...	14,00.9
				14,84.1

be very judicious. Not only has the former area of irrigation been supplied with water, but a considerable extension* has taken place, and a material addition has been made to the revenue.

2. The question of the sufficiency

Proceedings Madras Government, 13th November 1874, No. 3,219.

or otherwise of the means of crossing the Cocanada canal may very properly be considered by the Collector and District Engineer. Considering that this canal runs along the country which was formerly occupied by the old Tooliabaga, and that this country was well-nigh impassable for much of the year, it is certain that means of communication have been very greatly improved, but it is not necessary to suppose therefore that further improvements are not desirable.

3. As regards the Ellore Canal, whether under the Godavery or Kistna portion, facts are opposed to the statements in the *Purusharthaprathaini* :—

		1871-72.		1872-73.	
		ACRES.	RS.	ACRES.	RS.
		32,704	1,00,213	41,515	1,17,580
Ellore Canal, Godavery...	...	11,777	34,002	13,114	34,228
Do. Kistna	...	44,481	1,34,215	54,629	1,51,808

and in the Kistna the floods of October 1872 had probably much to do with the want of proportion between the increase of area and that of revenue.

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

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th January 1875.

No. 302.

ORDER THEREON, 18th January 1875, No. 143.

IRRIGATION, No. 34.

September 1874; also to the Revenue Collector of Godavery.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

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

Erd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

N^o 192
Revenue Department
Govt. of 1875 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE CHIEF ENGINEER for IRRIGATION,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 18th.

Recd. - 19^a Encl.

G. O., 18th January 1875, No. 143.

JANUARY.

Nos. 301 302

To Mr.

14 To Mr. D. O. 2 of Dec 22 Jan 17

Cocanada and Ellore Canals.—Report submitted by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation regarding certain remarks in Telugu newspapers with reference to the canals, communicated to the Public Department with reference to the Order in that department, dated 17th September 1874, No. 1,626; also to the Revenue Department for communication to the Collector of Godavery.

N^o 138.
Comm^d to the
Board of Revenue
21 January 1875

N^o 192
Revenue Department
Sbdt. of 1875 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE CHIEF ENGINEER for IRRIGATION,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 18th.

Recd. - 19^a Encl.

G. O., 18th January 1875, No. 143.

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N^o 138.
Comm^d to the
Board of Revenue
21 January 1875 *W.H.*

14 To the Secy. of Govt. Secy. 22 Jan. 7