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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>11556</u>	Press
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st July 1875.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 3. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Officiating Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Guindy, 8th June 1875, No. 894 :—

One Statement.

Superintending Engineer's No. 2,529, dated 24th October 1874.

Collector's No. 515, dated 9th December 1874.

Superintending Engineer's No. 3,264, dated 12th December 1874.

Collector's No. 533, dated 16th December 1874.

Superintending Engineer's No. 3,381, 5th January 1875.

Collector's No. 8, dated 15th January 1875.

REFERRING to Memorandum, No. 553, dated 22nd May, I have the honor to bring to your notice that the spaces between stones of calingulabs of the tanks named in the enclosed statement were closed before the 1st December, and were breached probably in consequence of the obstruction to waterway.

2. These were seen by members of the Public Works Department and reported to the Revenue Department. I dare say many more were similarly closed and damaged, but we have no personal knowledge.

3. In District Gazette of 7th February 1874 a notice was published forbidding the construction of any dam between 1st December and 31st March. These dates were fixed by the Revenue Officers in modification of those proposed by me, viz., 1st December and 15th January.

4. After 15th January no water is likely to enter the tank, or to be of any service; but, if gaps are closed during May, the tanks are liable to be endangered by cyclonic storm.

5. There is, I think, great risk in putting up any obstruction before 1st December.

6. But the Revenue Officers are unwilling to abide by even the dates fixed by themselves. I beg to enclose a correspondence for the notice of Government showing how the subject is viewed by us.

Statement showing the tanks which have been breached owing to the existence of obstructions between upright stones in 1874-75.

Talugs.	Names of Tanks, &c.
Ponnary	Arnee tank. Chinnambedu tank. Cattavur tank. Guduvanchary tank. Arasoor tank.
Trivellore	Rashanagaram tank. Thunneercolam tank. Ponthavakum tank. Therookundalum tank. Poothur tank.
Sydapet	Athambakam tank. Poonamallee tank. Pooliarany tank. Thamaram tank. Poothandalam tank. Koonnur tank. Avady tank. Umbathur tank.

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Taluq.	Name of Tanks, &c.
Chingleput	Gooruvambedu tank. Thementchur tank. Paranur tank. Gundur tank. Terutany tank. Anur tank. Karumbakum tank. Chellepunniam tank.
Madranticium	Paukam tank.
Conjeveram	None.

GUINDY,
8th June 1875.

(Signed) F. J. MOBERLY, Colonel, R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq.,
Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Guindy, 24th October 1874, No. 2,529.

I HAVE the honor to report that I observed on the 15th instant the calingulah of Parandore tank, and on the 10th that of the Woyalur Kadapery, Chingleput Taluq, blocked up, contrary to order published in Circular of 7th February 1874, District Gazette, page 41.

2. Mr. Lowry informs me that on the 10th instant he brought to the notice of the Sub-Collector the closing of the Gundur tank in the immediate neighbourhood of the town of Chingleput, but that up to the 16th no notice had been taken of his report. This calingulah was cleared by the Overseer a short time before, but was dammed up again by the villagers. The roads to Sadras and the South India Railway are both immediately under it.

3. Chembaukum tank calingulah was also opened by Overseer Lord about 21st September. We found it closed again on the 19th instant. This tank is close to the road from Chingleput to Tirporur.

4. Poonamallee tank calingulah is also closed.

From C. S. CROLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Chingleput, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq.,
Collector of Chingleput, dated Camp at Karanguli, 29th November 1875, No. 658.

WITH reference to Mr. Stokes' docket, dated 27th ultimo, No. 1,660, I have the honor to enclose two arzis, with their enclosures, received from the Tahsildars of Conjeveram and Chingleput, dated respectively, 10th instant, No. 642, and 14th idem, No. 425.

2. It will be seen from them that the calingulahs of Parandore tank were not dammed as stated by Colonel Moberly, though the statement of the Curnam makes this point somewhat doubtful. The villagers pray that the calingulahs should be kept closed, as otherwise the crops will perish for want of water.

3. It will further be seen that Olalur Kadapery calingulah, which was partially dammed, was then and there cleared as per orders of the Overseer. The village officials state that is usual to bund up the calingulah.

4. It appears that the Chembaukum tank calingulah was not closed.

5. The Gundur tank was opened on the 21st ultimo.

No. 515.

FORWARDED to the District Engineer, Chingleput, with reference to his letter, No. 2,529, dated 24th October 1874.

SYDAPETT,
9th December 1874.

(Signed) R. W. BARLOW,
Collector.

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From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Guindy, 12th December 1874, No. 3,264.

REFERRING to your endorsement, No. 515, dated 9th instant, on the Sub-Collector's No. 658, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honor to point out that I informed you in my No. 2,529, dated 24th October, that I had seen the closed calingulahs of Parandore and Olalur tanks in Chingleput taluq.

2. I know nothing of the village in Conjeveram taluq; the calingulah I am speaking of is close to the southern road.

3. Further I informed you that, on the 19th, I found the Chembaukum tank calingulah closed, and described its position.

4. I cannot, therefore, but express my surprise at the flat contradiction given to my statements by the Sub-Collector.

5. It appears that eleven days were allowed to pass before the second clearing of the Gundur tank was made after Mr. Lowry reported it.

6. This tank lies between the town and Mr. Lowry's house; its water stands back to the southern road; its surplus flows to the Sadras road and the railway.

7. The Government have in Order No. 1,766, of 9th July 1873, refused to allow any discretionary power to villagers; they cannot have any reason for such a claim as Mr. Crole makes in paragraph 2 in such a season as the current ones.

8. I trust that Mr. Crole will reconsider his letter, and that some action will be taken to stop the injury caused by this continued disobedience of orders.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, dated Sydapett, 16th December 1874, No. 533.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, No. 3,264, I have the honor, with reference to paragraph 7, to observe that, though the villagers have no discretion, the Revenue officials have. You are aware that Mr. Crole was all along opposed to hard and fast dates being fixed as was done by me, regarding the opening or closing of calingulahs; and, if he thought that in any case special treatment was necessary to avoid loss of revenue, he was right to bring it to my notice; though under the positive opinion expressed by you to the contrary, I shall not sanction his proposal.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Guindy, 5th January 1875, No. 3,381.

REFERRING to your No. 533, dated 16th instant, I have the honor to point out that the Revenue Board in paragraph 6 of No. 869, dated 26th May 1873, suggested that Revenue officials, with those of the Department Public Works, should have discretionary power regarding closing of tank calingulahs, and the Government over-ruled it in Order No. 1,766, dated 9th July.

2. My report stated facts which the Sub-Collector flatly contradicted. I do not understand that he has made any proposal, or what you intend to disallow.

3. I shall be obliged by your re-perusing the previous papers.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending and District Engineer, Chingleput, dated Camp at Chenilmedu, 15th January 1875, No. 8.

IN reply to your No. 3,381, dated 5th instant I have the honor to point out that my No. 533, of the 16th ultimo, was only in reply to paragraph 7 of your No. 3,264 which refers to discretionary power as to closing calingulahs. Paragraphs 3, 4, and 5 of the same referred to

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Mr. Crole's contradictions, and on these I did not then touch. On re-perusal I see nothing further in my letter calling for explanation.

2. Adverting to paragraph 1 of your's under reply, I must observe that, though the Board in communicating the Government Order simply direct that Collectors shall see that calingulabs are closed before the first burst of the monsoon, yet neither the Government nor the Board have prescribed any date; further the re-damming of the stones after the monsoon is again left discretionary as regards time, and must depend upon the character of the season. I have fixed, after communication with you, certain dates for the opening and closing of calingulabs, but it may be necessary to modify them hereafter. Mr. Crole is, I believe, already of this opinion, and considers that the strict enforcement of the notice will lead to loss of revenue as the seasons vary so much.

No. 3-A.

No. 636.

MEMORANDUM.

THE correspondence submitted by the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, shows that the order of the 9th July 1873, No. 1,766, regarding the clearing of tank calingulabs before the setting in of the monsoon, have not been properly carried out in the Chingleput District, and that the Revenue Officers, even in particular cases in which inattention to the order was brought to their notice, did not take the measures necessary for the imperative enforcement of the order, although danger was imminent. Instead of the full authority of the superior and Taluq Revenue Officers being brought promptly to bear on the Village Officers for the preservation of the tanks from injury,

the Sub-Collector, Mr. C. S. Crole, questions the correctness of facts witnessed by the Superintending Engineer, e.g., the Parandore tank, and immediately adds remarks which show that he had not any reliable evidence to justify this improper proceeding. The Collector apparently is not disposed* to keep his subordinate in order, nor does he appreciate the importance of the clearance of calingulabs. There is no risk whatever of loss of revenue by this clearance; such loss may be incurred by delay inclosing them subsequently, but there is great risk of loss of revenue and of waste of money as well in the repair of unnecessary damage by the omission to attend to the orders on the subject.

2. The Superintending Engineer has transmitted a list of breached tanks, the calingulabs of which are known to have been closed, and he believes that many others were similarly uncleared, though necessarily personal knowledge of the state of more than a few was out of the question. The order of Government may be expected to be almost entirely disregarded so long as the Revenue Officers are allowed to consider its enforcement optional.

OOTACAMUND,
12th June 1875.

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

No. 4.

ORDER THEREON, 1st July 1875, No. 1,831.

IRRIGATION, No. 1.

THESE papers will be communicated to the Revenue Department for disposal.

2. The Superintending Engineer will not pass estimates for repair of tanks which may have been breached through the omission to clear the calingulabs, without obtaining the sanction of Government

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thereto, and in submitting them he will take care that the explanations of the Revenue Officers are full and complete, especially as to the way in which the neglect of the villagers may have been dealt with.

3. Orders will be issued in the Revenue Department for the transmission by Collectors to the heads of all tank villages of a notice requiring the clearance without fail of all calingulabs at least a fortnight before the usual date of the setting in of the periodical rains, and warning them that remissions will be withheld if this duty be neglected.

(True Extract.)

Extract

Major, R.E.,

Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.

To all Superintending Engineers and District
To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department.

Erd. A. Grubert.

100 Extra Copies

G.O. 19 July 1875 No. 137

17-11-97

[Signature]

707 3501/75

13/7/75

81 Secy. Board of Dir. 24 July 75
Refer to the Board of Revenue for report
They will give the necessary instructions
with reference to para 3 of the G.O. in the Public Works
Department.

No. 1553

Rev. 1875: 24th
N. 2662

G.O. of 1875 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
ALL SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS
AND DISTRICT ENGINEERS,
Ac., Ac., Ac.

30 Oct 75

Dated July 1st.

Issued

Recd. July 10th Entd.

G. O., 1st July 1875, No. 1,631.

[Signature]

JULY.

Nos. 3-4

Tanks in the Chingleput District breached
in consequence of closed calingulaks.—Passing
orders on memorandum by the Chief En-
gineer on letter from the Superintending
Engineer, Chingleput, regarding

Ch 1553. 24 July 1875
With Order