M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2228 Press

B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 22.10.1875 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th October 1875.

No. 55. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Ootacamund, 27th September 1875, No. 1,121 :—

From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Caverypauk, 21st September 1875, No. 2,424.

With reference to G. O., No. 2,090, of 23rd July 1875, and your Note, No. 603, of 21st June 1875, printed therewith, I have the honor to request that the items shown in the enclosed list, for which sanction has been withheld, may be allowed to stand.

2. These works, the Menil tank especially, were urgently required, and in order to avoid losing a great part of the year and risking injury to the tanks during the monsoon, it was necessary to put them in hand in anticipation of sanction, and a considerable portion of the work provided for has been already done.

3. In the case of the Menil tanks the revetment and turfing are, in my opinion, absolutely necessary for the safety of the tanks, which are immediately above the railway.

4. In deference to the opinions expressed by you in these and other instances, every endeavour will be made in future to reduce the quantity of stone revetment provided for tanks as much as possible, but I greatly doubt the possibility of using nanel as a substitute to any great extent.

5. For some reason or other nanel does not appear to thrive well on tank bunds in this district; the truth, I believe, is that it requires more looking after at first planting than we can give it. The works here are so numerous and so scattered that we are obliged to shorten as much as possible the time during which attention has to be given to each individual work. It is obvious that if the actual repair of a tank takes three months, and we have then to look after it for nine months more to keep the nanel growing, this is equivalent to quadrupling the number of works which we have to attend to at any given moment. The village officers no doubt might do something to help us, but they do not, and will not. Moreover, it is to be borne in mind that nanel requires a certain amount of moisture, and that the great majority of the smaller tanks are dry for three or four months in the year.

6. The other points referred to in your note under reply will receive careful attention. There has always been considerable difficulty in getting estimates from the Wallajah Range prepared in the careful and complete way now considered necessary, and those under reference were rather worse than usual. I am bound to say, however, that although not put on paper in the neatest possible manner, they are for the most part carefully considered and well carried out.

Submitted for the orders of Government, with a recommendation that under the circumstances reported the following sanctions may be accorded in addition to those given in G. O., No. 2,090, of the 23rd July 1875 :—

	Capital.	Revenue.
Kaniyoor Tank	Rupees 1,630	...

It is to be noticed that new work like this revetment, costing very nearly two years' average revenue of the tank, ought not to have been commenced in anticipation of sanction.

	Capital.	Revenue.
Menil large Tank	Rupees ...	1,400

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4th October 1875.

In this case objection was taken to the item for reconstruction of revetment on the ground that no section showing how the work was to be carried out had been submitted as required by the rules. The District Engineer should have transmitted the section with his letter. Revetments frequently give way owing to faulty construction, and the rule is a necessary one and should always be attended to. It may be noticed also that for the guidance of the work-people it is essential that sections, showing how the work is to be done, should be drawn out.

Circular No. 35.

	Capital.	Revenue.
Kurnavoor Tank	Rupees ...	893

Similar remarks are applicable to this work, and the District Engineer has omitted to give any explanation regarding the high rate for turfing, which is three times that which obtains in some districts.

2. With regard to the use of nanel as a protection to the interior slopes of tank bunds, and as a substitute for the expensive stone revetments, it has to be remarked that nanel is only one kind of suitable grass, and that the kuskus, koray and other grasses are more hardy and need less moisture, and may be used with advantage, though they are not so good as well grown nanel.

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

No. 50. Office Circular, 4th October 1875. No. 2,850.

IRRIGATION, No. 6.

Account.

The following additional estimates are sanctioned in continuation of C. O., No. 2,000, of the 23rd July 1875:—

	Capital.	Revenue.
Kurnavoor Tank	Rupees 1,650	
Masonry do	...	1,100
Do nanel do	...	893

2. It is observed that the information furnished with the estimates was, and in some respects still is, defective; and it should be understood that for the future sanctions will not be given until the rules of the department have been fully attended to. The District Engineer will take care also that large expenditure on new work, such as the Kurnavoor Tank revetment, is not incurred in anticipation of sanction.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer, Navy Asst
" (Last Section) for Irrigation.
Controller of Public Works Accounts
Reserve Department.
Officiating Secretary.

Rec'd 8-10-1875.

Rev: 1875-2nd
2397

Govt. of [1875] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NORTH ARCOT.
&c., &c., &c.

Read

Read Letter No. 1,800, dated 4th October 1875, No. 3,800.

OCTOBER
Nos. 55-56

No. 2228
Communicated to the Board of Revenue

Copy to the North Arcot District—Sanctioning, with remarks additional estimates, amounting to Rs. 3,920, for certain modifications of G. O., No. 2,090 of 23rd July 1875.

Put files