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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2502	Press
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Dated	29-11-1875	196 .

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th November 1875.*

Read the following:—

No. 142.

No. 1,260.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The following estimates have been
submitted by the Superintending Engineer,
Chingleput:—

From Superintending Engineer, No. 2,134,
26th August.
To Superintending Engineer, No. 1,070, 16th
September.
From Superintending Engineer, No. 2,941,
14th October.

1. Utakayapakum Tank. Repairs	Rupees 400
Ayacut area	Acres 24
Do. assessment	Rupees 77
Average revenue	" 106
Highest do.	" 136

Rupees 331 were expended on repairs in 1873-74.

The tank has a catchment basin of three-fourths of a square mile; it was badly damaged and breached in 1872 and again in 1874, the outlay incurred in 1873-74 having been confined to simple repairs. It has a calingulah 15 feet long with upright stones which are to be removed, and the future safety of the tank is to be secured by lowering 60 feet of the bund to 1 foot above F.T.L.

No. 3,009, 18th October 1875. 2. Mathaveram Tank. Repairs ... Rupees 750

Ayacut area	Acres 71
Do. assessment	Rupees 280
Average revenue	" 260

Expenditure on repairs in the last four years, Rupees 350.

The catchment basin is reported to be two-thirds of a square mile, which is small for the extent of the irrigation. The tank has an escape of some sort not specified, 25 feet in length, and 40 feet additional are to be provided at a cost of Rupees 5. As the escape is to be protected by navel planting, double the length should be allowed. It is not stated in the report that the tank breached, but one of the sections indicates that it has been so damaged. The position of the tank has not been mentioned, neither has it been stated whether it is connected with other tanks above or below.

3. Goodoovanjairy Hiesu Tank. Repairs	Rupees 2,050
Ayacut area	Acres 473
Do. assessment	Rupees 1,450
Average revenue	" 1,425

Expenditure on repairs in the last four years, Rupees 719.

The tank has a catchment basin of 2 square miles, and a supply channel under regulation from the Narnaveram river. Care should be taken that the head- sluice of the channel is secure from being burned. The tank was breached in the cyclone, and the slopes of this and other tanks should be protected as soon as may be by an ample belt of tank grass or navel. The tank has a 60 feet calingulah which will be converted into a flush escape, and will be supplemented by an escape formerly existing which will be re-opened and extended or levelled for a length of 300 feet.

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6th November 1875.*

The bund is to be 4 feet above F.T.L., which with the large means of disposing of surplus will suffice.

4. Kanaguniput Tank. Repairs	Rupees 190
Ayaut area	Acres 47
Do. assessment	Rupees 109
Average revenue	" 102

There has been no recent outlay.

The drainage basin is said to be a quarter of a square mile, which is small for the area of irrigation. Surplus having been discharged at a cut only 6 feet wide, the tank breached, and the estimate provides for levelling the ground for a length of 23½ feet. As this escape is to be planted, its length had better be made 50 feet.

Shallow tanks of this kind should not have interior slopes of 2½ to 1. Considerably more than one-half of the new earth-work shown in the bund section attached to the estimate is unnecessary. Much money will be saved by looking carefully to this point; it is close planting with nanel or tank grass rather than flat slopes which is required.

5. Goodalore Small Tank. Repairs	Rupees 300
Ayaut area	Acres 24
Do. assessment	Rupees 153
Average revenue	" 102

There has been no outlay for a long time.

The catchment basin is 1 square mile, and so the full ayaut should be irrigated, there being no tank above. The tank is a number of the Madranticum group and breached in 1874. The proposed length, 34 feet, of the levelled ground for the discharge of surplus is to be planted, and so the length should be doubled.

6. Moorapakum Small Tank. Repairs	Rupees 550
Ayaut area	Acres 222
Do. assessment	Rupees 583
Average revenue	" 243

This tank is in the Madranticum group.

The drainage basin above it is 3 square miles, of which two-thirds are intercepted by the large tank of the same village, and half the ayaut is reported to be swamped by the water-spread of the Madranticum Tank. These circumstances indicate that probably the abandonment of this small tank and the irrigation of the lands under the large tank would have been desirable. Some expenditure has been already incurred on emergency, and as it is stated that there has been no previous outlay for some 20 years, the estimate may be passed; but, as has been before pointed out, groups of tanks should be taken up as groups, or as in the present case where the group is a very large one, sub-divisions of the group should be dealt with and the most made of the water-supply and existing means of storage. It is doubtful whether the discharge of surplus over a length of levelled ground will be a satisfactory arrangement for the disposal of so considerable a body of water as the maximum discharge from 3 square miles, but at any rate ample waterway which should be double that, 156 feet, proposed will be a great improvement on the altogether inadequate cut of 6 feet in width, by which surplus has hitherto been attempted to be got rid of; the breaching of the tank in 1874 was of course inevitable.

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7. Koonamkoolathoor Tank. Repairs	Rupees 370
Ayaut area	Acres 125
Do. assessment	Rupees 365
Average revenue	" 139

The catchment basin is 3 square miles, but there are three tanks* above which intercept part of the drainage. Half the ayaut is said to be swamped by the water-spread of the Mamputtoo Tank. The

* One of Nully.

Two of Palidivakum.

circumstances and requirements of the group should have been inquired into and provided for. There is sure to be waste of money on tanks which are not required or which, if retained, need reformation rather than repair, so long as connected irrigation works are treated as though they were isolated. Rupees 26 were spent on the repair of the slight damage sustained in 1872, and in 1874 the tank breached. There is an escape opening of 33 feet, and 162 feet additional have been provided for. If the ground require the protection of tank grass, the length of opening must be doubled.

PORT ST. GEORGE,
26th October 1875.

A. DE C. SCOTT, Major, R.E.,
for Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 143.

ORDER THEREON, 6th November 1875, No. 3,161.

The following estimates are sanctioned:—

IRRIGATION, No. 10.
Account.

Chingleput District.

	Revenue.
Utakayapakum Tank	Rs. 400
Mathavoram do.	759
Goodeovanjairy Hissa Tank	2,056
Kanaguniput Tank	199
Goodalore Small Tank	300
Moorapakum Small Tank	550
Koonamkoolathoor Tank	370

2. The Superintending Engineer's attention should be given to the remarks in the foregoing review of the estimates, and it will be expected that after this monsoon full consideration will be given to the circumstances of all tanks in making proposals for outlay upon them. Sufficient allowance has now been made for the difficulty experienced in dealing with large numbers of damaged tanks; and estimates, the propriety of the provisions of which is frequently doubtful, cannot be sanctioned when the emergency is past.

(True Extract.)

[Signature] Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department.
" Collector of Chingleput.

Exd E. C. Shanker.
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Revenue Department

N^o 4546

Govt. of (1873) India

PUBLIC WORKS.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

GENERAL

Calcutta

Date of Receipt

From

Rs. 25

And

By Order of the Secretary

NOVEMBER

Nos 143-144

N^o 2502

Consolidated to the
State of India

29 Nov 73

By Order of the Secretary
General
Calcutta

10/11/73 Consol. of Revenue & Public Works