

- (1) Number of pages 64
(2) Date of repair 2-2-70
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1747

Press
Mis.

Dated

22-7-1876

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 70 W.

No. 123.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

IN G.O., of the 11th August 1875, No. 2,322, an estimate of Rupees 17,100 was sanctioned for constructing a set of surplus sluices in the surplus weir of the Red Hills Tank, Madras Water Works, and it was considered so desirable that this work should be carried out as soon as possible that, notwithstanding the desire of the Government of India that expenditure on this project should be restricted as much as possible, and entirely to emergent work, the immediate preparation of materials was authorized "so as to admit of the sluices being completed next working season."

2. In his letter, No. 5,071, of the 28th March last, the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, asked for instructions as to the completion of the sluices in the weir, and, in reply, information was asked for as to the need of instructions, seeing that the intentions of Government appeared to be plain as to the expenditure in 1875-76 on the sluices, and as to the correspondence of the Budget provision of 1876-77 with the requirements of the work for this year.

3. In reply, the Superintending Engineer reports that he understood the order of August 1875 to authorize only the collection of materials; but as the working season commenced as soon as the tank water became low enough, and as this season would be none too long for the completion of the sluices before a fresh supply of water for the tank might be expected to be available, *i.e.*, in July at latest, it is evident that the Superintending Engineer was under a misapprehension, which the wording of the G. O. ought to have prevented. The collection of materials, moreover, was not the expression used in the order, but their preparation; and accordingly the Superintending Engineer did set to work to prepare materials, *viz.*, the cut stone work for the flooring, piers, and abutments. Paragraph 4 of the memorandum on the estimates showed again that the constructive work would require to be undertaken as soon as the water in the tank was low enough and completed as quickly as practicable, and it was to this end that the immediate preparation of materials was authorized.

4. Again, with his letter, No. 1,620, dated 26th July 1875, the Superintending Engineer furnished a list of works for which funds were required in 1875-76, and for these sluices Rupees 17,100 were entered, and accordingly in G.O., No. 3,634, dated 27th December 1875, it was resolved to apply to the Government of India for a supplemental grant under Ordinary for this among other works.

5. It will be seen from the Superintending Engineer's later letter that Rs. 5,575 were expended last year on materials for the sluices, but that his Budget Estimate exhibited no computed expenditure up to the 31st March, and that he made no provision for the completion of the work in 1876-77. He has not explained how this proceeding was in his view reconcilable with the terms of the order of August 1875.

6. In the Budget Orders* of the Government of India, the provision for the

Madras Water Works and Chembrumbau-
kum Tank Project has been reduced to

* Dated 27th March 1876.

Rupees 44,942 conjointly from, for the—

Madras Water Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	RS.
Chembrumbaukum Tank	...	...	...	...	...	...	77,476
							23,496
							1,00,972

The items for the former were—

1. Anicut and head works, anicut extension	...	...	...	...	...	...	RS.
2. Main canals and branches, Cholaveram tank supply channel.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,376
							37,700
<i>N Tanks and Reservoirs.</i>							
Cholaveram tank	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Red Hills tank	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,000
Do, distribution	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,400
							77,476

The sum under anicut extension is the balance of the sanction which included the raising of the wing walls—a work which ought to have been carried out concurrently with the extension.*

* Sanctioned in G.O., No. 2,132, dated 26th August 1873.

The expenditure contemplated on the Cholaveram tank supply channel was for affording adequate means of disposing of surplus, raising and strengthening the channel banks, &c., to prevent a recurrence of the serious and extensive damage sustained by the channel each time that a heavy fall of rain has occurred. The designs and estimates for the requisite works have not yet been submitted, but a draughtsman has been detailed from the beginning of last month to assist in their more speedy preparation.

The sum for the Cholaveram Tank provided for adjusting the level of one of the surplus weirs and clearing and lowering the ground in its neighbourhood, this weir being at present not fully effective.

The entries for the Red Hills Tank were for completing the surplus weir Rupees 4,000, its crest being at present below full tank level, and for improving the drainage or surplus channel Rupees 5,000. For the latter item no estimate has yet been received.

The provision of Rupees 26,400 for distribution works is the amount of estimates prepared but not yet submitted for sanction. The provision in the sanctioned estimate amounts to Rupees 25,000, and Rupees 1,404 are entered in the Budget as computed expenditure up to the 31st March last; so it would appear that 27,404 Rupees are now the estimated cost of the distributaries, or nearly 10 per cent. in excess of the lump sum provision. Nothing can be done towards improving and extending the distribution until the estimates which will form item of the revised estimate for the project have been sanctioned.

7. The Superintending Engineer applies for the following sums:—

Completing the under sluices of the surplus weir, Red Hills Tank,	...	...	...	...	...	...	RS.
being the balance of the sanction	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,525
Completing the surplus weir do.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,800

and it was, as regards the former work for which he had made no provision in his Budget Estimates, incumbent upon him to report from what other items for which provision had been made the transfer of the sum required could be met. The Government of India having reduced the allotment for the project, the Superintending Engineer's omission is not of much consequence, and only an arbitrary apportionment of funds can be made. As far as the undersigned can judge, the allotment for the Chembrumbaukum Project will not need to be large, and the following entry will not be required:—Kesavaram anicut extension Rupees 10,850, as it is not intended to recommend the sanction of the extension, and Rupees 12,000 will probably suffice for all work which must be done this year, leaving Rupees 32,942 for the Madras Water Works.

8. The Government of India have repeated their request that expenditure on the Madras Water Works Project may be restricted to work which is necessary to

Budget Orders, paragraphs 4 and 11. prevent loss arising from operations being suspended, and the undersigned would request orders as to whether the sluices are to be gone on with, and the surplus weir raised to its full height. The difficulty which has been experienced this year in connection with the water supply of Madras appears to render it desirable that the crest of the escape weir should be raised to its full height, so that a full supply of water may be retained, and it will hardly be prudent to retain water to the full level of 15 feet above the former level of the unenlarged tank without at the same time providing by the sluices the means of lowering the water if necessary, and of discharging surplus through the sluices instead of entirely over the weir, which latter arrangement involves the rise of the water above full tank level.

OOTACAMUND, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
11th May 1876. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 123-A. Telegram from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Ootacamund, dated 17th June 1876.

RED HILLS coffer dam finished. Weir masonry removed. Materials ready. Sluices should be completed by end of July.

No. 123-B. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Thamarapakam Anicut, 17th June 1876, No. 989.

IN forwarding copy of a telegram which I have this day sent to your address, I have the honor to report that the wall of the Red Hills Tank weir has been fully opened, and that in the course of to-day I hope the foundation surface will be levelled ready to receive the cut stone floor of the new sluice on Monday.

2. The floor and the abutments and piers are all ready on the adjacent ground, and have only to be carried to the weir and built.

3. I have urged the Range Officer to use expedition, and think that everything may be easily finished by the end of July.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th July 1876. No. 1,727.*

No. 124.

ORDER THEREON, 7th July 1876, No. 1,727.

IRRIGATION, No. 9.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council has given careful consideration to the circumstances under which the construction of the sluices in the surplus weir of the Red Hills Tank, Madras Water Works, is reported to be of urgent importance. They are evidently necessary to its safety and therefore to the security of the water-supply. In G.O., of the 11th August 1875, No. 2,322, the immediate preparation of materials was authorized, and having regard to the expenditure already incurred upon them, and to the fact that it is important that they should be built while the coffer dam erected for the purpose is in good order, and before the autumn monsoon, His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that these sluices should be at once completed. The Superintending Engineer will therefore be instructed to complete the sluices, which it is observed from the telegram recorded in these Proceedings he considers should be finished by the end of July. He will report the date of completion in due course, or should they not be finished as expected, he will report their state of progress on the 1st August.

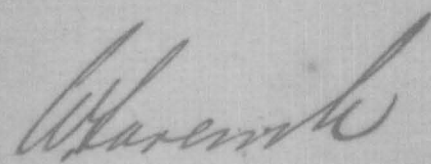
2. According to the Superintending Engineer's Progress Report for March, the expenditure up to the close of the past official year was Rupees 5,575, and the balance of the estimate,* *viz.*, Rupees 11,525 are placed at the Superintending Engineer's disposal from the grant made by the Government of India for the Madras Water Works and Chembrumbaukum Tank in their Budget Orders.

* Rupees 17,100.

Budget Orders, dated 27th March 1876, paragraph 5.

3. Ordered that a copy of these Proceedings be transmitted for the information of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)



Colonel,

Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.

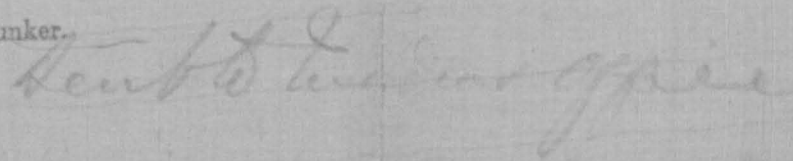
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

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Revenue 1875 Depart 6

Recd. 21 July 1960

relating to the construction of the —
See 1797
 Case in unincorporated Society of Rev.

22 July 1876