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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<u>646</u>	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	<u>19-5-1876</u>	196— .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 184. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th March 1876, No. 733 :—

Read the following papers :—

From A. J. STUART, Esq., Ag. Collector of Tinnevely, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th January 1876, No. 18.

I HAVE the honor to submit the statements called for in G.O., No. 149, dated 23rd November 1874, showing—

- (1.) The gross and net revenue for a series of years prior to the commencement of the Striviguntum Anicut.
- (2.) The area of irrigation and the revenue of each year subsequent.
- (3.) An estimate of the ultimate area and revenue.

2. As regards the two first, the only point of importance is the date at which the anicut should be considered to have begun to take effect. It was built by degrees, and portions of it rose above the river-bed at different times; but, in communication with the District Engineer, this date has been fixed as commencing with Fasli 1281 when the anicut was—for 500 feet of its length $5\frac{1}{4}$ feet high, for 500 feet of its length 4 feet high, for 380 feet of its length 1 foot high.

As regards the third point, I beg to submit an account showing the wet holdings, the cultivation distinguishing 1st and 2nd crop, and the revenue of the lands affected by the Striviguntum Anicut for the past four faslis, upon which and upon observations made during a tour over that part of the district and after consulting the Tahsildar, I have formed the following opinion as to the ultimate area which will be watered from that work.

3. I think that the limit of the water-supply in the river for ear or 2nd crop has already been reached, and that it is improbable that there will be any considerable extension of 2nd-crop cultivation. It will be observed that the 2nd-crop cultivation of Fasli 1284 is still 1,000 Acres behind the 1st-crop cultivation of Fasli 1281, and that there are 2,600 Acres of 1st-crop land now cultivated in excess of the area of 2nd-crop land; much of this land is undoubtedly capable of 2nd-crop cultivation, and would be cultivated if there were sufficient water as there is in the 1st-crop season. I had complaints made to me on several occasions to the effect that the irrigation in the 2nd or ear crop was already extended so far that the yield over the whole area was much diminished. Of course, this would be the result of too great a rush made on all sides upon a limited supply of ear water; the excessive extension of cultivation would result in a deficient supply of water throughout and a decrease in the yield of all lands.

4. I am not satisfied that this complaint is established, but I think it is not improbably true at least in some measure, and that the further extension of ear cultivation should be prevented except in special cases until further experience shows whether the original area of 2nd-crop cultivation is not being injured by the extension of 2nd crop beyond the capability of the river to supply properly. The Tahsildar, on the other hand, thinks that the 2nd-crop cultivation can and will be extended to the extent of 2,500 Acres more than at present without fear of injury, and the opinion of the Engineer in charge coincides with that of the

Tahsildar. I beg to quote an extract from paragraph 86 of Mr. Rundall's (late District Engineer) report to be found in Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 1st October 1875, No. 2,831, in which he gives the result of his experience and observation.

"Experience has shown us that even the present cultivation (and there has not as yet been much extension) is always in difficulties except under the Kadamba and Arumugamangalam Tanks in September and March. This is in some measure due to the ryots not cultivating early enough. Last year the Arumugamangalam and Paykulam Tanks were full at the end of June, but the ryots neglected to commence cultivation till the end of July and beginning of August. It is inexplicable, but such was the fact."

The Assistant Engineer in charge at present thinks that the ryots will gradually learn to cultivate earlier in the season, and by so doing, be able to extend the ear cultivation. I think this is possible, but not to be depended upon.

5. As regards the 1st or peshanam crop, it will be seen that the ryots, eager to compete one with another for every chance of water, are already holding as wet nearly 4,000 Acres more than they could cultivate in the last season, and I think that, adding perhaps 1,000 Acres to this, will give the safest figure at which to put the ultimate area of 1st-crop cultivation under the anicut, supposing that no new works are undertaken, but that considerable sums are expended annually as minor new works and for the repair, restoration, and improvement of existing tanks and channels. The Tahsildar thinks about 5,500 Acres will be added to the cultivation for peshanam.

6. There can be no doubt that the area which can be supplied by direct channel irrigation, whether for 1st or 2nd crop, has been long ago reached and that the only way in which cultivation can now be extended further is by the enlargement and improvement of the channel-supplied tanks, and possibly the construction of new ones.

7. It appears to me possible that with a large additional outlay in widening the main channels and in constructing new tanks as well as in drainage works in the neighbourhood of Trichendur and Tuticorin, a further area of perhaps 4,000 or 5,000 Acres might eventually be brought under cultivation, but I do not think the returns would pay the interest of the works which would be required. This land could only be supplied for one crop, peshanam, and the rate of assessment would have to be low, as most of the land is swampy and inferior in quality, as well as situated in a thinly-populated neighbourhood. The Tenkarei Tahsildar estimates this figure at 3,650, but speaks of the Tenkarei Taluq alone; I allow also for about 2,000 Acres near Tuticorin in the Ottapidaram Taluq.

8. On the whole, I think it would be rash to calculate upon a larger ultimate area under the present condition of supply than 5,000 Acres more than the figures for 1284, and that for one crop cultivation only. This will certainly not be reached without a liberal expenditure in repairs, improvement, and enlargement of existing tanks and minor channels, and even with this, I should be sorry to express myself as by any means confident of the result. I think that 3,000 Acres for one crop may be considered a safe figure, and 2,000 more may be considered probable for 1st crop and 2,500 possible for 2nd crop.

The repairs, enlargements, and improvements required to secure this will not require an addition to the original estimate, but may, I think, be provided by a liberal allotment for agricultural repairs and minor new works.

A heavy addition to the original estimate would probably in time, but not at first, produce a further addition of 3,000 to 4,000 Acres for one crop.

9. I would take the average assessment of one crop land at Rupees 5 per acre and the average of 2nd-crop charge at Rupees 5, as the single-crop land is mostly poor and far away from the source of supply, while the 2nd-crop cultivation would be on land already in cultivation for first crop.

On this assumption we should have safe ultimate figure—

	ACRES.	RS.
For 1st-crop cultivation...	3,000	15,000
Probable, 1st crop ...	5,000	25,000
Possible, 2nd crop ...	2,500	12,500
And with a heavy addition to the original estimates—		
Probable figure, 1st-crop cultivation...	5,000	25,000
10. The totals for last year were—		
1st crop ...	13,678	assessed at 1,49,930
2nd crop ...	10,728	
Do. waste charged ...	263	1,660
Dry converted into wet ...	144	643
Inam and Zemindari lands ...	1,442	2,398
Total ...	26,255	1,54,631
A safe estimate of the ultimate area will add		
1st crop ...	3,000	15,000
	29,255	1,69,631
A probable further addition will give 1st crop.	2,000	10,000
	31,255	1,79,631
And a possible 2nd crop increase of ...	2,500	12,500
	33,755	1,92,131
With heavy addition to the estimate, the figures would in all probability rise in time to ...	5,000	25,500
Total ...	38,755	2,17,631

11. As regards the time within which the above results may be expected, I think that five years is a safe and reasonable figure for all the increase to be got by improvement, enlargement, and extension of existing works without additions to the original estimate, and five years from the completion of the new works for the increase which may be obtained by a large addition to the original estimates.

12. I beg to recommend that discretion be allowed to the Collector in dealing with all lands newly brought into cultivation to levy one-fourth assessment the first year, half the second, and so on; much of the land requires a considerable outlay in levelling and manuring before it can produce the crop which it will afterwards carry without extraordinary labor; and, as the assessment is calculated upon what the land is likely to produce when properly brought into cultivation, this arrangement appears fair. It will certainly encourage enterprise.

Statement showing the irrigated Area and Revenue under the Striviguntum Anicut in the Tinnevely District for 15 years previous to the construction of the Work.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th May 1876.

Folio.	GOVERNMENT LAND CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.						INAM LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.				ZEMINDARI LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.				TOTAL.			Amount of Outlay on the Re- pairs of Tanks and Channels now mer- ged in the Strivi- gum- Anticut Scheme.	Net Revenue.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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Tinnevely,
13th January 1876.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Collector.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th May 1876.

Statement showing the Irrigated Area and Revenue under Striviguntum Anicut for the four years subsequent to the construction of the Work.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Folio.	GOVERNMENT LAND CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.						INAM LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.			ZEMINDARI LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.			TOTAL.				Deduct Amount of Repairs of Tanks and Channels now merged in the Striviguntum Anicut Scheme.	Net Revenue.
	Dry.			Wet.			Extent.	Old Jodi rent payable to Govern- ment.	Charge for Water, &c.	Extent.	Charge for Water, &c.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.	Total As- sessment or Gross Revenue.				
	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
1281	61	29	290	19,947	1,23,660	7,179	1,214	2,062	113	...	...	21,222	1,25,751	7,582	1,88,338	2,896	1,30,437	
1282	100	68	462	15,955	99,738	5,274	1,128	2,062	130	...	...	17,183	95,858	5,866	1,01,724	10,040	91,684	
1283	131	43	614	21,240	1,37,114	...	1,277	2,064	331	...	...	22,648	1,39,221	945	1,40,166	6,957	1,34,109	
1284	144	144	499	24,669	1,51,590	...	1,442	1,811	537	...	...	26,255	1,53,545	1,086	1,54,631	80,491	1,34,140	

Tinnevely,
13th January 1876.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.
Statement showing the Ryot's Holdings and Cultivation in the Villages under Striviguntum Anicut.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Fasli.	Ryot's Holdings, WET.	ACTUAL CULTIVATION.	WASTE CHARGED.	TOTAL OF COLUMNS 3 AND 4.	DRY CONVERTED INTO WET.	IMAM LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.	ZEMINDARI LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.	TOTAL.
	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.
	Assessment.	Assessment.	Assessment.	Assessment.	Assessment.	Assessment.	Assessment.	Assessment.
	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.	1st. crop. Pesha-nam.
	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.	2nd. crop. Car.
	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
1281 ..	13,338	1,95,633	18,748	1,20,957	1,30,839	1,214	2,175	1,33,833
1282 ..	13,849	1,86,525	11,967	97,748	99,002	1,128	2,192	1,01,724
1283 ..	18,377	14,891	11,977	1,34,716	1,37,114	1,277	2,395	1,40,166
1284 ..	17,358	1,82,625	13,673	1,49,930	1,51,500	1,442	2,398	1,54,631

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Collector.

TINNEVELLY,
13th January 1876.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 14th February 1876, No. 408,
Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating G.O., dated 29th January 1876, No. 270, Public Works Department, and calling for report on paragraph 1 thereof requesting to ascertain when definite information regarding the irrigation on the north or left bank of the Tambrapoorney under the Striviguntum Anicut will probably be available.

IN the foregoing letter the Collector submits the information called for by Government in their Orders, dated 23rd November 1874, No. 149, and 14th February 1876, No. 408, regarding the Striviguntum Anicut.

2. The revenue realized from irrigated lands in the tract affected by the anicut prior and subsequent to Fasli 1281, when it is considered to have begun to take effect, was as shown below:—

	North Side.	South Side.	Total Gross Revenue.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Average of fifteen years prior to Fasli 1281	49,104	69,749	1,16,983
Do. of seven " " to " 1281	58,263	75,070	1,33,333
Revenue of " " to " 1282	42,126	59,598	1,01,724
Do. of " " to " 1283	63,029	91,602	1,40,166
Do. of " " to " 1284			1,51,631

3. It is not stated how much of the area irrigated from Fasli 1281 to Fasli 1284 was formerly under occupation as Dry and what revenue was derived therefrom. The Board, however, presume that most of the lands newly brought under irrigation were formerly waste, and even if they had been under occupation as Dry, the revenue they yielded must have been trifling. Assuming, therefore, that the entire difference between the average revenue prior to Fasli 1281 and the revenue of subsequent years may fairly be credited to the project, the Board observe that in Fasli 1284 there was an increase of Rupees 21,853 on the southern side and Rupees 13,925 on the northern side of the anicut over the average of seven years prior to Fasli 1281.

4. This compared with the estimated expenditure gives the following results:—

	Estimated Expenditure.	Increase of Gross Revenue.	Percentage of Increase on the Expenditure.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
North side... ..	7,30,361	13,925	1.9 per cent.
South "	4,07,726	21,853	5.3 "
Total ..	11,38,087	35,778	3.14 per cent.

5. It must be here remarked that in calculating the increase of revenue, allowance has not been made for the annual repairs for the up-keep of the works. If the net revenue for Fasli 1284 (i.e., after deducting outlay on Repairs), viz.,

Rupees 1,24,140, is compared with the average net revenue for the seven years previous to the construction of the anicut, *viz.*, Rupees 1,10,528, the increase is reduced to Rupees 13,612 only, or 1·2 per cent. on the estimated expenditure. The Board observe, however, that four years is too short a series on which to base a calculation of the average outlay that will be required, and that in two out of the four years included in the series, the outlay appears to be abnormally high. Information is probably available in the Public Works Department which will enable an estimate to be framed of the amount which may be fairly debited on this account. As the Board have no materials for arriving at a decision on the point, they have based their conclusions on the gross revenue, leaving the determination of the deduction to be made for up keep for consideration in the Department of Public Works.

6. In paragraph 5 of their Proceedings, dated 10th May 1875, No. 1,217, G. O., dated 19th July 1875, No. 1,085. the Board observed that the revenue of Fasli 1284 from river-irrigated lands on the southern side of the anicut exhibited an increase of Rupees 45,515, or 9 per cent. on the expenditure taken at 5 lakhs, whereas according to the figures given in the last paragraph, the increase is only Rupees 21,853, or 4·37 per cent. on the assumed expenditure (5 lakhs). This difference has arisen from two causes, firstly, from the present revenue being now compared with the average

* Rupees 69,749.

	RS.
Deduct average remissions ...	† 71,291
	7,236
Remainder ...	64,055

† Rupees 91,602.
§ Rupees 1,09,570.

was taken *inclusive* of remissions. The latter course was adopted on the supposition that with improved anicut irrigation, no remissions would be necessary. Mr. Stuart does not explain why large remissions, such as those granted in Fasli 1284, were called for, but they appear to have been granted chiefly on lands left waste for want of early rains. The total assessment of the holdings on both sides of the river

	RS.
Government. { Wet... ..	1,82,625
Inam, &c. ... { Dry into wet	643
	2,398
Total ...	1,85,666

¶ Rupees 31,035.

necessary in future, and so the present actual revenue on both sides of the anicut may be taken at Rupees 1,80,000 in round numbers, as shown below :—

	RS.
Assessment of wet land under occupation	1,82,625
Dry converted into wet	643
Quit-rent and water-rate on inam and zemindari lands ...	2,398
	1,85,666
Deduct probable annual remissions (The average remissions prior to Fasli 1284 were only Rupees 7,236) ...	5,666
Remainder ...	1,80,000

Deducting from the above, the average revenue* of seven years prior to

* Rupees 1,18,853.
† Rupees 11,38,087.

Paragraph 3, Board's Proceedings, dated 10th May 1875, No. 1,217.

on the southern side likely to be effected by the anicut, the percentage of profit amounts to 7·1.

7. It must be observed, however, that in the above calculations the Board have taken into account only the revenue derived from river-irrigated lands.

	Fasli 1279.	Fasli 1284.
	RS.	RS.
† Revenue from river-irrigated lands	71,291	1,09,570
Other lands, wet	9,467	6,967
Do. dry	5,788	14,898
	86,546	1,31,435
Deduct fixed remissions (356) and other items not known (539) ...	895	85,651
Difference		,784

Mr. Puckle, in calculating the increase† (Rupees 45,784) on the southern side of the anicut, took into account the increase obtained on *all* classes of land, *Dry* and *Wet*, brought under settlement in the villages under the influence of the anicut, as the increase is stated to have resulted solely from the anicut, though it is not explained how this was the case, and the Board are not satisfied that the assumption is altogether justified. The revenue so included amounts to

Rupees 6,610. The Board think that the indirect advantages may be left out of account.

8. As for the future increase, Mr. Stuart's estimate differs widely from that formed by Mr. Puckle as shown below :—

	TOTAL AREA LIKELY TO BE IRRIGATED.		INCREASE OVER THE ACTUALS OF FASLI 1284.	
	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.	Revenue.	Revenue.
	ACRES.	ACRES.	RS.	RS.
Mr. Stuart's "safe estimate"	17,922	11,333	1,69,631	15,000
Do. "possible estimate"	19,922	13,833	1,92,131	37,500
Mr. Puckle's estimate (<i>vide</i> his letter recorded in G. O., dated 2nd August 1872)	27,926	27,798	2,92,793	1,38,162

9. Mr. Stuart's estimate appears to be too low. His safe estimate (Rupees 1,69,631) is less than the assessment of the lands now under occupation, which amounts to Rupees 1,85,666. This can hardly be correct. His possible estimate is also too low, it being only Rupees 6,465 over the revenue of the present holdings.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th May 1876.*

10. According to the District Engineer's Reports there were in 1873-74 and 1874-75, 468 and 383 millions of cubic yards of water available for supply which are sufficient to irrigate two crops on more than 33,500 Acres, the area originally* estimated, the actual extent now under occupation for irrigation being only 18,924 Acres.

* *Vide* paragraph 7 of the Chief Engineer's Memorandum recorded in G.O., dated 8th June 1874, Department of Public Works, No. 1,498.

11. It is thus clear that there is water enough to irrigate a much larger area than that estimated by Mr. Puckle, and there is also a considerable area of available waste for extension of cultivation: the great difficulty is to compute the period within which it will be brought under the plough, and the information furnished by Mr. Stuart is not sufficient to enable the Board to form an opinion on this point. They have little doubt, however, that Mr. Puckle's estimate carefully framed as it was and based on an intimate acquaintance with the locality will be realized in course of time; the question within what time the full return may be looked for must be matter for conjecture. Mr. Puckle himself stated in regard to the

Paragraph 12 of Mr. Puckle's letter recorded in G.O., dated 19th July 1875, No. 1,085.

southern channel that "the area now held on putta is as much as the people can manage with the present scanty

labor-supply; but, as population increases, the entire area commanded will be irrigated." It appears that in Fasli 1284 the ryots held nearly 4,000 Acres of nunjah more than they cultivated. Under these circumstances, the Board are not sanguine of any considerable immediate increase over the present revenue (Rupees 1,80,000); but, as it is, the results are satisfactory. They show a return according to the Board's calculations of 7 per cent. on the expenditure—*vide* paragraph 6 *supra*. Mr. Stuart, however, has omitted to furnish any particulars regarding the population of each village under the influence of the anicut on each side, the area available for irrigation, the extent of the present holdings, and the general condition of the ryots, without which information it is impossible for the Board to judge of the correctness of his estimate, nor does he explain how far the revision of assessment on the northern side of the river is likely to enhance the revenue. He will now be requested to go thoroughly into the whole matter without delay and supply the omissions above noted. He should explain the necessity for the large remissions granted in Fasli 1284 on lands under the work and state how far they will recur in future.

12. Meanwhile these Proceedings will be submitted for the information of Government with reference to the orders quoted in the first paragraph, and a copy furnished to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th May 1876.*

No. 185.

ORDER THEREON, 19th May 1876, No. 646.

Irrigation, No. 2.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works Department. The Government await the further report called for by the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
,, the Board of Revenue.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 14th March 1876.

Read the following papers:—

From A. J. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevely, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th January 1876, No. 18.

I HAVE the honor to submit the statements called for in G. O., No. 149, dated 23rd November 1874, showing—

- (1.) The gross and net revenue for a series of years prior to the commencement of the Striviguntum Anicut.
- (2.) The area of irrigation and the revenue of each year subsequent.
- (3.) An estimate of the ultimate area and revenue.

2. As regards the two first, the only point of importance is the date at which the anicut should be considered to have begun to take effect. It was built by degrees, and portions of it rose above the river-bed at different times; but, in communication with the District Engineer, this date has been fixed as commencing with Fasli 1281 when the anicut was—for 500 feet of its length 5½ feet high, for 500 feet of its length 4 feet high, for 380 feet of its length 1 foot high.

As regards the third point, I beg to submit an account showing the wet holdings, the cultivation distinguishing 1st and 2nd crop, and the revenue of the lands affected by the Striviguntum Anicut for the past four faslis, upon which and upon observations made during a tour over that part of the district and after consulting the Tahsildar, I have formed the following opinion as to the ultimate area which will be watered from that work.

3. I think that the limit of the water-supply in the river for ear or 2nd crop has already been reached, and that it is improbable that there will be any considerable extension of 2nd-crop cultivation. It will be observed that the 2nd-crop cultivation of Fasli 1284 is still 1,000 Acres behind the 1st-crop cultivation of Fasli 1281, and that there are 2,600 Acres of 1st-crop land now cultivated in excess of the area of 2nd-crop land; much of this land is undoubtedly capable of 2nd-crop cultivation, and would be cultivated if there were sufficient water as there is in the 1st-crop season. I had complaints made to me on several occasions to the effect that the irrigation in the 2nd or ear crop was already extended so far that the yield over the whole area was much diminished. Of course, this would be the result of too great a rush made on all sides upon a limited supply of ear water; the excessive extension of cultivation would result in a deficient supply of water throughout and a decrease in the yield of all lands.

4. I am not satisfied that this complaint is established, but I think it is not improbably true at least in some measure, and that the further extension of ear cultivation should be prevented except in special cases until further experience shows whether the original area of 2nd-crop cultivation is not being injured by the extension of 2nd crop beyond the capability of the river to supply properly. The Tahsildar, on the other hand, thinks that the 2nd-crop cultivation can and will be extended to the extent of 2,500 Acres more than at present without fear of injury, and the opinion of the Engineer in charge coincides with that of the

Obdt. of 1876

REVENUE.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

do, do, do

Dated May, 1914.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 1914 May 1876, No. 646.

MAY,
Nos. 184-185.

Striviguntum Anicut, in the Tinnevely District.
—Communicating to the Public Works Department Proceedings of the Board of Revenue furnishing the information required by Government regarding the —, and awaiting the further report called for by the Board on certain points connected with the subject.

Tahsildar. I beg to quote an extract from paragraph 86 of Mr. Rundall's (late District Engineer) report to be found in Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 1st October 1875, No. 2,831, in which he gives the result of his experience and observation.

"Experience has shown us that even the present cultivation (and there has not as yet been much extension) is always in difficulties except under the Kadamba and Arumugamangalam Tanks in September and March. This is in some measure due to the ryots not cultivating early enough. Last year the Arumugamangalam and Paykulam Tanks were full at the end of June, but the ryots neglected to commence cultivation till the end of July and beginning of August. It is inexplicable, but such was the fact."

The Assistant Engineer in charge at present thinks that the ryots will gradually learn to cultivate earlier in the season, and by so doing, be able to extend the car cultivation. I think this is possible, but not to be depended upon.

5. As regards the 1st or peshanam crop, it will be seen that the ryots, eager to compete one with another for every chance of water, are already holding as wet nearly 4,000 Acres more than they could cultivate in the last season, and I think that, adding perhaps 1,000 Acres to this, will give the safest figure at which to put the ultimate area of 1st-crop cultivation under the anicut, supposing that no new works are undertaken, but that considerable sums are expended annually as minor new works and for the repair, restoration, and improvement of existing tanks and channels. The Tahsildar thinks about 5,500 Acres will be added to the cultivation for peshanam.

6. There can be no doubt that the area which can be supplied by direct channel irrigation, whether for 1st or 2nd crop, has been long ago reached and that the only way in which cultivation can now be extended further is by the enlargement and improvement of the channel-supplied tanks, and possibly the construction of new ones.

7. It appears to me possible that with a large additional outlay in widening the main channels and in constructing new tanks as well as in drainage works in the neighbourhood of Trichendur and Tuticorin, a further area of perhaps 4,000 or 5,000 Acres might eventually be brought under cultivation, but I do not think the returns would pay the interest of the works which would be required. This land could only be supplied for one crop, peshanam, and the rate of assessment would have to be low, as most of the land is swampy and inferior in quality, as well as situated in a thinly-populated neighbourhood. The Tenkarei Tahsildar estimates this figure at 3,650, but speaks of the Tenkarei Taluq alone; I allow also for about 2,000 Acres near Tuticorin in the Ottapidaram Taluq.

8. On the whole, I think it would be rash to calculate upon a larger ultimate area under the present condition of supply than 5,000 Acres more than the figures for 1284, and that for one crop cultivation only. This will certainly not be reached without a liberal expenditure in repairs, improvement, and enlargement of existing tanks and minor channels, and even with this, I should be sorry to express myself as by any means confident of the result. I think that 3,000 Acres for one crop may be considered a safe figure, and 2,000 more may be considered probable for 1st crop and 2,500 possible for 2nd crop.

The repairs, enlargements, and improvements required to secure this will not require an addition to the original estimate, but may, I think, be provided by a liberal allotment for agricultural repairs and minor new works.

A heavy addition to the original estimate would probably in time, but not at first, produce a further addition of 3,000 to 4,000 Acres for one crop.

9. I would take the average assessment of one crop land at Rupees 5 per acre and the average of 2nd-crop charge at Rupees 5, as the single-crop land is mostly poor and far away from the source of supply, while the 2nd-crop cultivation would be on land already in cultivation for first crop.

On this assumption we should have safe ultimate figure—

	ACRES.	RS.
For 1st-crop cultivation...	3,000	15,000
Probable, 1st crop ...	5,000	25,000
Possible, 2nd crop ...	2,500	12,500
And with a heavy addition to the original estimates—		
Probable figure, 1st-crop cultivation...	5,000	25,000

10. The totals for last year were—

1st crop ...	13,678	assessed at 1,49,930
2nd crop ...	10,728	
Do. waste charged ...	263	1,660
Dry converted into wet ...	144	643
Inam and Zemindari lands ...	1,442	2,398
Total ...	26,255	1,54,631
A safe estimate of the ultimate area will add		
1st crop ...	3,000	15,000
	29,255	1,69,631
A probable further addition will give 1st crop.	2,000	10,000
	31,255	1,79,631
And a possible 2nd crop increase of ...	2,500	12,500
	33,755	1,92,131
With heavy addition to the estimate, the figures would in all probability rise in time to ...	5,000	25,500
Total ...	38,755	2,17,631

11. As regards the time within which the above results may be expected, I think that five years is a safe and reasonable figure for all the increase to be got by improvement, enlargement, and extension of existing works without additions to the original estimate, and five years from the completion of the new works for the increase which may be obtained by a large addition to the original estimates.

12. I beg to recommend that discretion be allowed to the Collector in dealing with all lands newly brought into cultivation to levy one-fourth assessment the first year, half the second, and so on; much of the land requires a considerable outlay in levelling and manuring before it can produce the crop which it will afterwards carry without extraordinary labor; and, as the assessment is calculated upon what the land is likely to produce when properly brought into cultivation, this arrangement appears fair. It will certainly encourage enterprise.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement showing the Irrigated Area and Revenue under the Striviguntum Anicut in the Tinnevely District for 15 years previous to the construction of the Work.

Falls.	GOVERNMENT LAND CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.						INAM LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.			ZEMINDARI LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.			TOTAL.				Net Revenue.
	Dry.			Wet.			Extent.	Charge for Water, &c.	Old Jodi and Quit-rent.	Charge for Water, &c.	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.	Assessment or Gross Revenue.	Amount of Outlay on the Repairs of Tanks and Channels now merged in the Striv-guntam Aicut Scheme.		
	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.											
																ACRES.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1266...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1267...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1268...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1269...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1270...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1271...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1272...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1273...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1274...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1275...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1276...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1277...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1278...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1279...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1280...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TINNEVELLY,
13th January 1876.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Statement showing the Irrigated Area and Revenue under Striviguntum Anicut for the four years subsequent to the construction of the Work.

Falls.	GOVERNMENT LAND CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.						INAM LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.			ZEMINDARI LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.			TOTAL.				Deduct Amount of Outlay on Repairs of Tanks and Channels now merged in the Striviguntum Anicut Scheme.	Net Revenue.
	Dry.			Wet.			Extent.	Charge for Water, &c.	Old Jodi and Quit-rent payable to Govern-ment.	Extent.	Charge for Water, &c.	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.	Total As- sessment or Gross Revenue.			
	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.	Extent.	Assessment exclusive of Remission.	Charge for Water, &c.												
																2		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
1281 ...	...	29	290	19,947	1,33,680	7,179	1,214	2,062	113	...	...	21,222	1,35,751	7,552	1,33,333	2,896	1,30,437	
1282 ...	...	68	462	15,955	98,728	5,274	1,128	2,062	130	...	...	17,183	95,858	5,866	1,01,724	10,040	91,684	
1283 ...	...	43	613	21,240	1,37,114	...	1,277	2,064	331	...	...	32,648	1,39,321	945	1,40,165	5,057	1,34,109	
1284 ...	...	144	499	24,669	1,51,590	...	1,442	1,811	587	...	...	26,255	1,53,545	1,086	1,54,631	30,491	1,24,140	

TINNEVELLY,
13th January 1876.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Collector.

Statement showing the Ryots' Holdings and Cultivation in the Villages under Striviguntum Anicut.

1.	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9								
	RYOTS' HOLDINGS, WET.	ACTUAL CULTIVATION.	WASTE CHARGED.	TOTAL OF COLUMNS 3 AND 4.			DRY CONVERT- ED INTO WET.	INAM LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.	ZEMINDARI LANDS CHARGED AS IRRIGATED.	TOTAL								
Fasli.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.	Extent.			Assess- ment and Charge for Water.	Quit- rent and Charge for Water.	Charge for Water.	Assess- ment and Charge for Water.								
	Assess- ment.	Assess- ment.	Assess- ment.	1st- crop Pesh- nam.	2nd- crop Car.	Total.	Ex- tent.	Ex- tent.	Ex- tent.	Ex- tent.								
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	RS.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.								
	1st- crop Pesh- nam.	2nd- crop Car.	Total.	1st- crop Pesh- nam.	2nd- crop Car.	Total.	RS.	ACS.	RS.	ACS.								
1281 ...	13,338	1,35,532	18,748	1,20,957	874	325	1,199	9,881	12,790	7,157	19,947	1,30,839	61	319	1,914	2,175	21,922	1,33,333
1282 ...	13,349	1,36,524	11,967	97,748	546	63	609	1,251	12,513	3,442	15,955	99,002	100	580	1,128	2,192	17,183	1,01,724
1283 ...	13,377	14,891	11,977	97,748	546	63	609	1,251	12,513	3,442	15,955	99,002	100	580	1,128	2,192	17,183	1,01,724
1284 ...	17,333	1,82,625	13,678	1,34,716	238	29	267	2,398	12,305	9,035	21,340	1,37,114	131	657	1,277	2,395	22,648	1,40,166
				1,49,930	255	8	263	1,666	31,933	10,736	24,669	1,51,590	144	643	1,442	2,398	26,255	1,54,631

TINNEVELLY,
13th January 1876.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Collector.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 14th February 1876, No. 408, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating G. O., dated 29th January 1876, No. 270, Public Works Department, and calling for report on paragraph 1 thereof requesting to ascertain when definite information regarding the irrigation on the north or left bank of the Tambrapoorney under the Striviguntum Anicut will probably be available.

In the foregoing letter the Collector submits the information called for by Government in their Orders, dated 23rd November 1874, No. 149, and 14th February 1876, No. 408, regarding the Striviguntum Anicut.

2. The revenue realized from irrigated lands in the tract affected by the anicut prior and subsequent to Fasli 1281, when it is considered to have begun to take effect, was as shown below:—

	North Side.	South Side.	Total Gross Revenue.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Average of fifteen years prior to Fasli 1281 ...	49,104	69,749	1,16,983
Do. of seven " " to " 1281 ...	58,263	75,070	1,33,333
Revenue of " " " to " 1282 ...	42,126	59,598	1,01,724
Do. of " " " to " 1283 ...	...	...	1,40,166
Do. of " " " to " 1284 ...	63,029	91,602	1,54,631

3. It is not stated how much of the area irrigated from Fasli 1281 to Fasli 1284 was formerly under occupation as Dry and what revenue was derived therefrom. The Board, however, presume that most of the lands newly brought under irrigation were formerly waste, and even if they had been under occupation as Dry, the revenue they yielded must have been trifling. Assuming, therefore, that the entire difference between the average revenue prior to Fasli 1281 and the revenue of subsequent years may fairly be credited to the project, the Board observe that in Fasli 1284 there was an increase of Rupees 21,853 on the southern side and Rupees 13,925 on the northern side of the anicut over the average of seven years prior to Fasli 1281.

4. This compared with the estimated expenditure gives the following results:—

	Estimated Expenditure.	Increase of Gross Revenue.	Percentage of Increase on the Expenditure.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
North side... ..	7,30,361	13,925	1.9 per cent.
South "	4,07,726	21,853	5.3 " "
Total ...	11,38,087	35,778	3.14 per cent.

5. It must be here remarked that in calculating the increase of revenue, allowance has not been made for the annual repairs for the up-keep of the works. If the net revenue for Fasli 1284 (*i.e.*, after deducting outlay on Repairs), *viz.*,

Rupees 1,24,140, is compared with the average net revenue for the seven years previous to the construction of the anicut, *viz.*, Rupees 1,10,528, the increase is reduced to Rupees 13,612 only, or 1·2 per cent. on the estimated expenditure. The Board observe, however, that four years is too short a series on which to base a calculation of the average outlay that will be required, and that in two out of the four years included in the series, the outlay appears to be abnormally high. Information is probably available in the Public Works Department which will enable an estimate to be framed of the amount which may be fairly debited on this account. As the Board have no materials for arriving at a decision on the point, they have based their conclusions on the gross revenue, leaving the determination of the deduction to be made for up keep for consideration in the Department of Public Works.

6. In paragraph 5 of their Proceedings, dated 10th May 1875, No. 1,217, G. O., dated 19th July 1875, No. 1,085. the Board observed that the revenue of Fasli 1284 from river-irrigated lands on the southern side of the anicut exhibited an increase of Rupees 45,515, or 9 per cent. on the expenditure taken at 5 lakhs, whereas according to the figures given in the last paragraph, the increase is only Rupees 21,853, or 4·37 per cent. on the assumed expenditure (5 lakhs). This difference has arisen from two causes, firstly, from the present revenue being now compared with the average revenue* of seven years previous to Fasli 1281, while in the Proceedings above referred to, it was compared with the revenue of Fasli 1279;† and, secondly, from the revenue‡ of Fasli 1284 being now taken *exclusive* of remissions, while on the previous occasion the demand§ was taken *inclusive* of remissions. The latter course was adopted on the supposition that with improved anicut irrigation, no remissions would be necessary. Mr. Stuart does not explain why large remissions, such as those granted in Fasli 1284, were called for, but they appear to have been granted chiefly on lands left waste for want of early rains. The total assessment of the holdings on both sides of the river in Fasli 1284 was Rupees 1,85,666,|| while the assessment of the extent cultivated and waste charged was only Rs. 1,54,631, the difference¶ having been remitted. The Board presume that such large remissions will not ordinarily be necessary in future, and so the present actual revenue on both sides of the anicut may be taken at Rupees 1,80,000 in round numbers, as shown below.

* Rupees 69,749.	
De duct average remissions ...	RS. † 71,291 7,236
Remainder ...	64,055
‡ Rupees 91,602.	
§ Rupees 1,09,570.	
Government. { Wet... ..	RS. 1,82,625
Inam, &c. ... { Dry into wet... ..	643
	2,398
Total ...	1,85,666
¶ Rupees 31,035.	
Assessment of wet land under occupation ...	RS. 1,82,625
Dry converted into wet ...	643
Quit-rent and water-rate on inam and zemindari lands ...	2,398
	1,85,666
Deduct probable annual remissions (The average remissions prior to Fasli 1284 were only Rupees 7,236) ...	5,666
Remainder ...	1,80,000

Deducting from the above, the average revenue* of seven years prior to Fasli 1281, the remainder amounts to Rupees 61,147 which is 5·3 per cent. on the estimated expenditure.† If to this be added Rupees 20,000, the estimated saving in reduction in the assessment on the southern side likely to be effected by the anicut, the percentage of profit amounts to 7·1.

7. It must be observed, however, that in the above calculations the Board have taken into account only the revenue derived from river irrigated lands. Mr. Puckle, in calculating the increase‡ (Rupees 45,784) on the southern side of the anicut, took into account the increase obtained on *all* classes of land, *Dry* and *Wet*, brought under settlement in the villages under the influence of the anicut, as the increase is stated to have resulted solely from the anicut, though it is not explained how this was the case, and the Board are not satisfied that the assumption is altogether justified. The revenue so included amounts to Rupees 6,610. The Board think that the indirect advantages may be left out of account.

8. As for the future increase, Mr. Stuart's estimate differs widely from that formed by Mr. Puckle as shown below:—

	TOTAL AREA LIKELY TO BE IRRIGATED.		INCREASE OVER THE ACTUALS OF FASLI 1284.	
	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.	Revenue.	Revenue.
Mr. Stuart's "safe estimate" ...	ACRES. 17,922	ACRES. 11,333	RS. 1,69,631	RS. 15,000
Do. "possible estimate" ...	19,922	13,833	1,92,131	37,500
Mr. Puckle's estimate— <i>vide</i> his letter recorded in G. O., dated 2nd August 1872 ...	27,926	27,798	2,92,793	1,38,162

9. Mr. Stuart's estimate appears to be too low. His safe estimate (Rupees 1,69,631) is less than the assessment of the lands now under occupation, which amounts to Rupees 1,85,666. This can hardly be correct. His possible estimate is also too low, it being only Rupees 6,465 over the revenue of the present holdings.

10. According to the District Engineer's Reports there were in 1873-74 and 1874-75, 468 and 383 millions of cubic yards of water available for supply which are

* *Vide* paragraph 7 of the Chief Engineer's Memorandum recorded in G.O., dated 8th June 1874, Department Public of Works, No. 1,498.

sufficient to irrigate two crops on more than 33,500 Acres, the area originally* estimated, the actual extent now under occupation for irrigation being only 18,924 Acres.

11. It is thus clear that there is water enough to irrigate a much larger area than that estimated by Mr. Puckle, and there is also a considerable area of available waste for extension of cultivation: the great difficulty is to compute the period within which it will be brought under the plough, and the information furnished by Mr. Stuart is not sufficient to enable the Board to form an opinion on this point. They have little doubt, however, that Mr. Puckle's estimate carefully framed as it was and based on an intimate acquaintance with the locality will be realized in course of time; the question within what time the full return may be looked for must be matter for conjecture. Mr. Puckle himself stated in regard to the

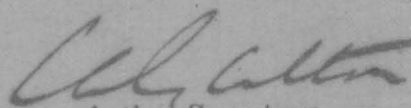
Paragraph 12 of Mr. Puckle's letter recorded in G.O., dated 19th July 1875, No. 1,085.

southern channel that "the area now held on putta is as much as the people can manage with the present scanty

labor-supply; but, as population increases, the entire area commanded will be irrigated." It appears that in Fasli 1284 the ryots held nearly 4,000 Acres of nunjah more than they cultivated. Under these circumstances, the Board are not sanguine of any considerable immediate increase over the present revenue (Rupees 1,80,000); but, as it is, the results are satisfactory. They show a return according to the Board's calculations of 7 per cent. on the expenditure—*vide* paragraph 6 *supra*. Mr. Stuart, however, has omitted to furnish any particulars regarding the population of each village under the influence of the anicut on each side, the area available for irrigation, the extent of the present holdings, and the general condition of the ryots, without which information it is impossible for the Board to judge of the correctness of his estimate, nor does he explain how far the revision of assessment on the northern side of the river is likely to enhance the revenue. He will now be requested to go thoroughly into the whole matter without delay and supply the omissions above noted. He should explain the necessity for the large remissions granted in Fasli 1284 on lands under the work and state how far they will recur in future.

12. Meanwhile these Proceedings will be submitted for the information of Government with reference to the orders quoted in the first paragraph, and a copy furnished to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

(True Copies and Extract.)


Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ the Collector of Tinnevely, with copy of G.O., dated 29th

January 1876, No. 270, Public Works Department.

„ Copy to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. A. Grubert.

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21 For the Publick Works, Sept. 29 June
111. The Board of Recs

No 1439
 Received 1876. *Sept*
 Board of Revenue,
 MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 14TH MARCH 1876, No. 733.

Wiederhol

Encl.

Received

10. Advice / 75

MARCH.

No. 733.

Striequantum Aneut Project—in Time-
vally District.—Submitting to Government cer-
tain statements furnished by Collector in
connection with —, and requesting Collector to
furnish further information on certain points
in connection with the subject.

220646

Can we ever catch fortune? No, we
 kept: the first arrival in the
 Republic called for by the gods.

19 May 1876