

- (1) Number of pages 16
(2) Date of repair 17-12-1970
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	212	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17-1-1977	196.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th January 1877.*

No. 475. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th January 1877 :—

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 20th December 1876, No. 570.

In paragraph 2 of my letter, No. 540, dated 25th November last, I have explained the importance of the Suriagunta tank in the town of Vellore and the necessity of improving it in a thorough manner; and in the list of relief works which accompanied the above letter a sum of Rupees 2,000 was provided for the above work (item No. 12). That amount having been expended within a few days, owing to the enormous number of people who applied for work (upwards of 5,000), I provided, in consultation with the Sub-Collector and the District Engineer, an additional sum of Rupees 5,000 in the list of relief works which I placed before the Government during my recent conference with the Governor in Council on the subject of the state of the district, &c. The supplemental list of relief works for the whole district which I submitted on the above occasion, including the work in question, will shortly be laid before the Board of Revenue.

2. In the meantime, however, I have the honor to forward, herewith, copy of letter, No. 14, dated 12th instant, received from the Sub-Collector on the subject, from which the Board will learn that the sum of Rupees 7,000 above referred to will very shortly be expended, and that the work is being carried on.

3. The completion of the removal of the silt from the Suriagunta tank is an absolute necessity, and the work is found to be one of much greater magnitude than was at first anticipated. It affords excellent work for a very large body of people, chiefly females, who cannot be drafted off for work on the roads in progress at distant parts of the taluq.

4. I therefore request that the Board of Revenue will be good enough to approve of the outlay of Rupees 7,000 already incurred on the work in question and to sanction a further allotment of Rupees 4,000.

5. Under the circumstances stated, and in anticipation of sanction, I have requested the Sub-Collector not to stop the work.

6. I may add that the entire amount of Rupees 7,000, already spent as stated above, and the further allotment of Rupees 4,000 now applied for do not, in reality, show the expenditure on Suriagunta work *alone*. The works which have been actually carried on from the above funds are as follow :—

(1.) Suriagunta work proper.

(2.) Its supply of channel.

(3.) Removal of silt which has been removed in prodigious quantities from time to time in past years and stored on the bank of the tank and on the neighbouring open ground. These mounds of silt were of such height as seriously to interfere with the ventilation of the lines of the 14th Regiment N.I. situated close by; and both Dr. Kearney, in medical charge of the regiment, and Colonel Drayner, commanding it, strongly protested not very long ago against its being allowed to remain on the spot any longer, as by obstructing the passage of air it was injurious to the health of

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th January 1877.*

the sepoys. It was therefore decided to remove the silt and use it in filling up the pits and raising the level of the low-lying land which intervenes between the lines and the Cusba channel.

(4.) The clearing of the Cusba channel and repairing its bank.

Each of these four items should, properly speaking, be treated as a separate relief work; but, through an unexplained oversight on the part of the local officers, they have all been treated as one work (Suriagunta tank), and expenditure has been incurred promiscuously on all of them. I have, however, now called upon the Sub-Collector to ascertain the amount expended on each of the said works separately and on receipt of the information will communicate the same to the Board of Revenue. I think the amount of actual expenditure on the Suriagunta work alone will really not have exceeded 2,000 Rupees up to date; but on this point I will very shortly submit accurate information.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. P. AUSTIN, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Vellore, 12th December 1876, No. 14.

I have the honor to bring to your notice that the sum already sanctioned for executing repairs to the Suriagunta in the Vellore Town is 7,000 Rupees. Of this amount Rupees 4,000 have already been spent up to the 10th instant. At present there are 3,150 coolies engaged in the

in the construction of the two new roads of the Vellore Taluk is small, as the same is steadily increasing day by day I think it would be impossible to transfer the Suriagunta coolies after the balance is expended to the above road works. As there is an immense quantity of silt still in the Suriagunta, it will take at least two or three months with the present number of coolies to remove the same and the earth on the banks. I beg, therefore, to suggest that a further sum may be allotted to keep the coolies engaged at Suriagunta, or I request you will be good enough to inform me as to how I am to provide for the above coolies after the lapse of these ten or twelve days.

The great outlay that has been incurred on this work would have been obviated by the enforcement of task-work from the first, and the Collector is requested to give attention to future works in his district being marked out and petty contractors arranged for prior to coolies being admitted to work.

2. The further sum asked for is granted on the understanding that it is laid out in task-work. The work done should be measured up and the detailed accounts promised by the Collector should be furnished as soon as possible.

3. The attention of the Collector is requested to the preparation of rough estimates for all projected works before the necessity arises for their commencement. Rules have just been issued on the point, and the Collector will be good enough to see that they are observed.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed)

H. E. STOKES,

Acting Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
January 17th 1877.*

No. 476.

ORDER THEREON, 17th January 1877, No. 212.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Financial Department.
" the Accountant-General.
" the Public Works Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

No. 14. ^{3/4} North West Subcollector's
Office. Vellore 12th December 1874.

From W. P. Austin Esq.

Ag. Subcollector of North West

W. S. Whitfield Esq.

Collector of North West

Sir, I have the honor to bring to your
notice that the sum already sanctioned
for executing repairs to the Sooryaguntala
in the Vellore Taluk is 7000 Rs. Of this
amount Rs. 4,000 have already been spent
up to the 10th instant. At present there
are 3,150 coolies engaged in the work of
clearing the Sooryaguntala and its channels.
The balance of Rs. 3,000 will be sufficient
to keep the coolies engaged 10 or 12 days. Although
at present the number of coolies working
in the construction of the two new roads
of the Vellore Taluk is small as the
same is steadily increasing day by day.

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I think it would be impossible to transfer
the Sooyaguntah coolies after the balance
is expended to the above road works. As
there is an immense quantity of silt still
in the Sooyaguntah, it will take at least
2 or 3 months with the present number
of coolies to remove the same and the earth
on the banks. I therefore suggest that
a further sum may be allotted to keep
the coolies engaged at Sooyaguntah, or I
request you will be good enough to inform
me as to how I am to provide for the
above coolies after the lapse of these 10
or 12 days.

I have yes

(Sd) W. P. Austin
Ag. Sub Collector

(True Copy)

(Sd) W. S. Whideside
Collector
(True Copy)

Wm

Ag. Secretary

Wm

Revenue Department
Resolutions of the Board of Revenue
dated 5th January 1877

No 570 Read the following

From

W. J. Whitehead Esq.
Collector of North Arcot

To H. E. Stokes Esq.
City Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,
In para 2 of my letter
No 540 dated 25th November
last, I have explained the
importance of the Survey agency
sanct in the Town of Villor
and the necessity of improving
it in a thorough manner; and
in the list of Relief works
which accompanied the
above letter a sum of Rs 2000
was

Enclaved in No:

of the Board of Revenue
dated 5th January 1877
to Government No 120

Dec: 1908/77

was provided for the above work (item no 12)
That amount having been expended
within a few days owing to the enormous
number of people who applied for work
(upwards of 5000) I provided, in
consultation with the Sub-Collector and
Lt. District Engineer, an additional
sum of Rs 5000 in the list of Relief
Works which I placed before the
Government during my recent confer-
-ence with the Governor in Council
on the subject of the state of the
District &c. The supplemental
list of Relief Works for the
whole District which I submitted
on the above occasion, including
the work in question will shortly
be laid before the Board of
Revenue.

2. In the meantime, however I have
the honor to forward herewith
copy of letter to the dated 12th Instant
received from the Sub-Collector on
the subject, from which it will be seen
will learn that the sum of Rs 7000
above referred to will very shortly
be expended, and that a further
allotment is required.

3. The completion of the removal
of the Silt from the Surajgumpha tank

is an absolute necessity, and the work is
found to be one of much greater magni-
-tude than was at first anticipated.
It affords excellent work for a very large
body of people, chiefly females who
cannot be drafted off for work on
the roads in progress at the same parts
of the Valley.

4. I therefore request that the Board
of Revenue will be good enough to
approve of the outlay of Rs. 7000 al-
ready incurred on this work in pre-
-vision, and to sanction a further allot-
-ment of Rs. 4000.

5. Under the circumstances stated
and in anticipation of sanction, I have
requested the Sub-Collector not to stop
the work.

6. I may add that the entire amount
of Rs 7000, already spent as stated
above, and the further allotment of
Rs 4000 now applied for, do not in
reality, skew the expenditure on Surajgumpha.

misadventure. The works which have been actually carried on from the above funds are as follows:-

- (1) Suragunta work proper
 - (2) Supply of channel.
 - (3) Removal of silt which has been moved in prodigious quantities from time to time in past years and stored on the bank of the tank and in the neighbouring open ground. These mounds of silt were of such height as seriously to interfere with the ventilation of the lines of the 14th Regiment. A J. situated close by, and to the Dr. Surgeon in medical charge of the Regiment, and Colonel Draynor commanding it, having protested not very long ago against its being allowed to remain in the spot any longer, as by obstructing the passage of air, it was injurious to the health of the Sepoys. It was therefore decided to remove the silt,
- and

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and use it in filling up the pits and raising the level of the low lying land which intervenes between the Lines & the Gusta channel.

- (4) The clearing of the Gusta channel & repairing its bank.

Each of these four items should, properly speaking, be treated as a separate Relief Work; but through an unexplained oversight on the part of the local officers, they have all been treated as one work (Suragunta tank) & expenditure has been incurred promiscuously on all of them. I have however, now called upon the Local Collector to ascertain the amount expended on each of the said works separately & on receipt of the information, will communicate the

same to the Board of Revenue. I think the amount of actual expenditure on the ^{work} ~~task~~ alone will really not have exceeded 2000 Rs up to date; but on this point, I will very shortly submit accurate information.

N. West, Collr's Office } Have re
 Canton } W. Whiteide
 20 Dec 1876 } Collector

The great outlay that has been incurred on this work would have been obviated by the enforcement of task work from the first & the Collector is requested to give attention to future works in his District ^{being} ~~making~~ out and petty contractors arranged

for prior to coolies being admitted to work.
 2. The further sum ask for is granted on the understanding that it is laid out in task work. The work done should be measured up & the detailed accounts promised by the collector should be furnished as soon as possible.
 3. The attention of the Collector is requested to the preparation of ^{rough} estimates for all projected works before the necessity arises for their commencement. Rules have just been issued on this point & the Collector will be good enough to see that they are observed.

(In copy of the back)
 H. B. Stokes
 12/12/76
 As Secretary
 To the Collector of North West (In copy)
 H. B. Stokes
 As Secretary

142 Buffle
 5 Full Buffle
 6 Ant. Gull
 21 Ant. Buffle

8/27-1/77

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Dec: 1899
 No 190

Record
 Record of the

Oct 5/1897

Oct 12/1897

1897

Dec 1897

8/1/77

Dec 1897
 Dec 1897

Dec 1897

No 1000
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