

(1) Number of pages 4
 (2) Date of repair 6.6.86
 (3) Initials of the Referencer land

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2245	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	20.4.1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 712. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 16th January 1877, No. 3,604.

IN continuation of my No. 3,427, of 8th January 1877, I have the honor to observe that it is still impossible to say to what extent the people of the Chingleput District will require employment to assist them in procuring food.

2. As yet they have clearly not felt the pinch of famine very largely; very many from all the country are under the delusion that Government and charitable natives are feeding the people gratuitously, and I fear that there is yet some ground for this idea in the case of the natives.

3. The embankments of the Naranavaram river require 550,000 cubic yards of earthwork, and some further labor can be employed in clearing bushes.

4. Three hundred and thirty thousand yards are wanted on the Corteliam embankments.

5. From the best information I have been able to procure I reckon on having 10,000 people from Ponnery and 12,000 from Trivellur, the taluqs more immediately interested on these embankments; they will, therefore, give work for only twenty-five days. Up to 30th ultimo the number employed was only 1,061.

6. We may find works on tanks and roads for perhaps half these numbers, and assume that we are in consequence ahead of our work by nearly two months.

7. For further employment in the district I am still somewhat in difficulty as no projects have been brought forward.

8. I may however mention the improvement of the system of irrigation at Utramalur, on the investigation of which Mr. Carless would now have been engaged if he had remained in the district, and a scheme which has occurred to me with reference to G.O., No. 1,025, dated 17th April 1875, of cutting a channel from the north end of the Tamarapak anicut down the Ponnery Taluq for the supply of various tanks which may probably be capable of sufficient improvement to enable us to supersede the Manavary system of irrigation.

9. There would be some heavy cutting near the head of this channel, but after two miles it would be, I think, entirely in embankment. I have not however any means of investigating the project, and I fear that the Revenue Department will find the pressure of famine relief works too heavy to allow of their examining into the financial aspect of the question.

10. An officer or intelligent subordinate might prepare the plans in two months if the project commended itself in the general statement which I have been able to make above.

No. 68—W.

No. 712-A. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

THE letter, No. 3,604, of the 16th instant, from the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, was written in continuation of No. 3,427, of the 8th idem; but as the latter refers to a drain which is not an agricultural work, and the former deals with proposals which are for the most part of this description, it will be convenient to consider the latter separately.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th March 1877. No. 1,061.*

2. *Naranaveram and Corteliar Embankments.*—It will be desirable to limit the amount of labor to be employed on these to that which can be fairly superintended. It may be expected that if a system of task-work be enforced the numbers will not be excessive, and that consequently these works will afford employment for between two and three months to about 6,000 people.

3. *Utramalur Irrigation Works Improvements.* *Channel on left bank of Corteliar from anicut of Madras Water-works.*—Neither of these projects has been as yet designed, and it is improbable that they could be matured in time to be carried out as famine relief works. They must be based on levels, and thereafter the best arrangements have to be determined with reference to the ascertained circumstances. Such projects hastily undertaken would be likely to do harm rather than good, and the undersigned does not, therefore, recommend their being dealt with at present when there is no one who could find time to attend to them properly.

4. In Proceedings of the Madras Government of the 12th January 1877, No. 102, a list of irrigation works is given, for the execution of which from Famine Relief Funds appropriations have been made, and, if a fair outturn of work be exacted in return for the relief afforded, those works will usefully employ five or six thousand people for a month. The Superintending Engineer probably has estimates either sanctioned or awaiting sanction for many similar works, but the difficulty will be to provide for laying out the work or for pointing out to the village officers, or to others charged with the supervision, where and how it should be done. Small scattered works would be most convenient for the people needing relief were arrangements for their supervision practicable, but they are not so, and if it be necessary to undertake them, a large proportion of the money spent will be without useful results.

FORT ST. GEORGE, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Col., R.E.,
24th January 1877. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

No. 713.

ORDER THEREON, 28th March 1877, No. 1,061.

IRRIGATION, No. 48.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

John Mullins
Lieut.-Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

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

Exd. A. Grubert.

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Rev. 1877 Sept
2245 No. 2593

Gobl. of 1877 Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
CHINGLEPUT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated March 28th.

Issued

Recd. *afco*

Encl.

G. O., 28th March 1877, No. 1,061.

MARCH.

Nos. 712-713.

No. 2245

*Communicated to the
Chief Engineer
20 April 77.*

Naranavaram and Corlehar Embankments
and other Relief Works in the Chingleput
District.—Note by the Chief Engineer for
Irrigation on letter from the Superintend-
ing Engineer regarding the employment
of the poor on the —, recorded.

*1/2 The Branch of Revenue & Supply
1 Collection of Chingleput*