

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2796	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17.5.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 554. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, dated Camp at Karanguly, 19th February 1877, No. 4,017.

I HAVE the honor to bring to your notice that the Range Officers find great difficulty in procuring the clearing of tank sluices for inspection preliminary to estimating as desired in G.O. No. 1,770 of 24th July 1862.

One list of tanks.
" copy of a letter from the Collector, No. 630,
dated 16th December 1876.

2. In one case when the Overseer neglected to insist on this procedure the estimate for a sluice has been found incorrect, and a supplemental estimate has been sent to me raising the charge from Rupees 97 to Rupees 745.

3. Through some misunderstanding of my instructions Captain Smith ordered the Overseer of Sydapett to open the sluices himself; and the first I heard of the matter was on the submission of estimate to cover the expenditure to the amount of Rupees 1,039.

4. I requested the Collector to recover these amounts from the villagers, but I fear he will not succeed. See copy of his reply enclosed.

5. I shall be obliged by your instructing me if the Government will give up the principle, and in that case if I may sanction preliminary estimates for the removal of earth. I would point out that the villagers are emboldened to resist our requisition by the concession made by Government as to the eradication of prickly-pear. No orders have been passed as to the future maintenance of banks, which have been once cleared by the Revenue Department from Irrigation Funds, but the matter is important and will not I trust be dropped.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, dated Sydapet, 16th December 1876, No. 630.

REFERRING to your No. 3,015, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honor to state that I fear there is no chance whatever of the ryots paying the amount (Rupees 1,101) specified in your letter, more especially in these hard times. Even in cases where ryots have agreed in writing to pay the cost of uncovering sluices, Tahsildars have experienced great difficulties in realizing the amount, which was not done in this instance.

No. 186 W.

No. 554-A. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

IN Proceedings, Madras Government, of the 24th July 1862, No. 1,770, the Board of Revenue reported that "ryots may undoubtedly as a general rule with perfect fairness be required to uncover sluices in tank bunds when the sluices require to be repaired." Government agreed with the Board and directed instructions to be issued to Collectors through the Board of Revenue.

2. Since 1862 the performance of any customary labor by villagers on Irrigation Works has become more and more rare, and the Collector of Chingleput now states that his Tahsildars find great difficulty in recovering the value of work done even when the ryots have agreed in writing to pay it. This is not surprising. If

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th April 1877. No. 1,394.*

the ryots are under an obligation, they should do the work themselves, not pay for having it done by the Public Works Department.

3. It may be assumed that generally it will take more trouble and occupy more valuable time to get villagers to do anything of the kind than the value of the work to be done is worth, and it seems therefore advisable to give up attempting to enforce the obligation and to instruct District Engineers to arrange for doing all such work through their Range Officers.

4. As to the way in which it should be done two arrangements are feasible—

(a.) By means of advances to be subsequently adjusted on the sanction of the estimate for the repair of the sluice, in which estimate the amount spent would be included.

This method has two principal advantages. It would probably restrict the cost to the actual value of the work to be done by admitting of a Village Officer being then and there advanced the means of doing it, and it would enable all that would be necessary to be done without delay and possibly while the Public Works officer or subordinate was camped at the village.

It should not lead to long unadjusted advances because the sluice must be repaired, if found to need repair, to prevent danger to the tank from the bund being left open.

2ndly.—It would prevent the multiplication of entries in the progress report.

(b.) By means of an emergent estimate. The chief disadvantage of this method would be the difficulty of making a sufficient and not an excessive provision for the work, and the necessity it would entail of a supplemental sanction were the first inadequate even to the extent of a Rupee or two. This would entail numerous registrations and otherwise multiply office work.

In G.O. No. 2,353 of the 21st August 1874, in connection with prickly pear clearances, it was considered that the best plan would be to get the villagers to do the work on promise of payment when the tank or other estimate was sanctioned, failing this advances adjustable on the sanction of the estimate were to be made. As a matter of fact many preliminary estimates for such work have been sanctioned.

5. Sluices built in accordance with the rules of the Irrigation Department will be capable of inspection without opening the bunds of tanks; but sluices of this kind* cannot be allowed for very small tanks.
*i.e., with tunnels 2 x 2½ feet as a minimum.

6. The Superintending Engineer has not explained the exceptionally high cost of Rupees 423 for opening the Ambatoor tank sluice.

FORT ST. GEORGE, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
14th March 1877. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

No. 39 C.

No. 554-B.

MEMORANDUM.

THE Chief Engineer for Irrigation has the honor to forward, for the perusal of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, a letter No. 4,017, of the 19th ultimo, from the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, with its enclosures, and a note in which ways of providing for the expense of clearing tank sluices for inspection and the preparation

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24th April 1877. No. 1,394.*

of repair estimates are considered, and to request the Examiner to state his opinion on the subject, with a view to the issue of general instructions to the department under the authority of Government.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

14th March 1877.

To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

No. 554-C. From Captain L. CONWAY-ORDON, R.E., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Fort St. George, 7th March 1877, No. 4 E-I.

With reference to your letter No. 39, dated 14th March 1877, I have the honor to state that if the expenditure is incurred in the preliminary examination of works prior to framing estimates such expenditure must be charged to Works. It cannot be charged to 'Miscellaneous Advances' as you proposed; this would be directly contrary to rules, moreover it would very much complicate accounts instead of simplifying them as you suppose. Instead of one entry in the Schedule of Expenditure there would be half a dozen entries in the Schedule of Miscellaneous Advances.

2. I think we may safely assume that the expenditure on preliminary examinations of this sort will not in more than about one case out of a hundred exceed Rupees 50, and up to this limit this office will not object to expenditure without estimate or appropriation provided the special nature of the charge is clearly stated in the Schedule of Expenditure as opening sluices for examination, or whatever it may be. I do not see that there will then be any difficulty requiring special treatment.

3. The papers that accompanied your letter are herewith returned.

No. 555. ORDER THEREON, 24th April 1877, No. 1,394.

IRRIGATION, No. 57.

PRELIMINARY or emergent estimates should be sanctioned by District Engineers for work of the kind referred to in this letter, care being taken that the extent of opening made in the bund is limited to that necessary to get at the part of the sluice believed to be in need of repair.

2. The latter part of paragraph 5 of the Superintending Engineer's letter will be referred to the Revenue Department for consideration with reference to G.O., No. 1,895, dated 5th July 1876.

(True Extract.)

W. Mullins
Lieut.-Col., R.E.,
Joint Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

To District Engineers
To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunkor.

Spare Copies

Revenue Department
No 2458
Govt. of 1877 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

DISTRICT ENGINEER

✓
Viney 465/79.

No 2496

Communicated

to the Board of Revenue

with reference

to the order of 23rd July 1875 No 1844.

of Goot marginally noted,

and for report on the

action taken with reference

to that order.

of the Proceedings

above named.

CLL
16/5/77

17 May 77

10 To the Bd of Revenue 19-5-77

Dated April 24th

Received

10 May 77

G. O., 24th April 1877, No. 1394.

APRIL

Nos. 554-555.

Miss 17-5-77 n 2796.

Clearing of Tank Street
preliminary to estimating
on letter from the Superintendent Engineer
Chingleput, bringing to notice the difficulty in
procuring the

With order

19/5/77