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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	3304	Press. / Mis.	

Dated 12-6-1877 1977.

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GOVERNMENT MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS PARTMENT.

25th May 1877, No. 39 I.

Irrigation.

Read the following paper:—

No. 75. Endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Fort St. George, 12th May 1877, No. 18 I.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 5th May 1877, No. 412.

I have the honor to bring to your notice the great difficulty which we have in framing estimates for Irrigation works in consequence of the delay in removing prickly-pear, &c., from their banks.

One list.

One copy of a letter from the Assistant Engineer, Secular Range, No. 129, dated 30th April 1877.

One copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer, Mount Range, No. 259, dated 30th April 1877.

2. Since the issue of G.O. No. 1,895 of 5th July 1875, I have applied to the Collector to get cleared the tanks, &c., mentioned in the enclosed list. They have not been touched so far as I can learn.

3. I have again and again urged that such work was very much suited for the persons employed by the Revenue Department from Famine Relief Funds, and that their work would be beneficial in itself and enable the Public Works Department to proceed with their regular work.

4. I enclose copy of a letter from Lieutenant Smither which will shew the difficulty we labor under. This is only one of several letters from him and the other Range Officers complaining that their time has been wasted in going to the tanks, sometimes on reports that they were cleared, sometimes in the hope that they might be cleared.

5. I am anxious to get on with the Irrigation works in regular course for the employment of the able-bodied population, as they are doubtless in distress and require assistance for which they ought to do remunerative work, whereas I learn from my Range Officers and others that the work turned out in relief camps is very costly.

6. I have seen troops of capable people going in to the camp at the Red Hills who would not come to our work. I can only conclude that the tasks set were much lighter than our piece-work. I would suggest that G.O. No. 1,895 of 5th July 1875 be relaxed for at least some time to enable us to clear the prickly-pear away.

Submitted to Government.

2. The Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, reports that the preparation of estimates for the repair of Irrigation works is delayed, because the Collector has failed to clear the tanks and channels for which estimates have to be prepared, although intimation was conveyed to him by the Superintending Engineer in some cases so far back as February 1876.

3. The clearance of prick … the bunds of tanks and channels appears … to be a work on which famine … could be very usefully employed, and it … is work for which there can be … y in obtaining superintendence.

4. The Superintending … ks for the relaxation of the rule which … requires all clearances of prickly-pear to … be effected by the Revenue Officers, but … if the rule is ever to be acted upon the … present time is not suited to its s… seeing that the Collector has an abundant … supply of labor at his disposal and … en in need of useful employment for it.

G.O. No. 2,353, 21st Aug. 1
" " 1,895, 5th July "

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

To the Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.

No. 76. ORDER THEREON, 25th May 1877, No. 39 I.

On a consideration of the inconvenience which may arise from the Order of the 5th July 1875, No. 1,895, so far as it relates to prickly-pear clearances from Irrigation works being made through the officers of the Revenue Department being deemed obligatory, His Grace the Governor in Council resolves to rule that, while it is desirable that such clearances should be carried out by Revenue Officers with funds supplied by Public Works Officers, whenever this arrangement can conveniently be made, the officers of the Public Works Department may consider themselves at liberty to effect clearances under their own orders whenever it may be necessary to get them done quickly, either for the purpose of preparing estimates, or in connection with the execution of sanctioned work.

2. The Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, will accordingly make his own arrangements for effecting clearances.

3. Preliminary estimates should, as directed in G.O. No. 1,304, dated 24th April 1877, in connection with tank sluices be sanctioned for the partial clearances necessary to allow of estimates being framed.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Ex'd. E. C. Shanker.
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