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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No:	4420 (2)	Press. / Mis.
Dated	8.8.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—10,006—19-4-79.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

31st July 1877, No. 198 I.

Irrigation.

Read again :—

No. 136. Proceedings, Madras Government, dated 10th July 1877, No. 63 W.

Read also :—

CIRCULAR No. 20 (REVISED).

Irrigation. Repairs and Management.

EVERY Range Officer will draw up about October or November in each year a scheme of expenditure on Repairs and Minor New Works under Ordinary Agricultural for the following year.

2. The scheme will be based on an estimated allotment of funds to each taluq proportioned generally to the nunjah revenue of the taluq, and will provide for the requirements of the range under such of the several main heads into which Ordinary Agricultural Works are divided, viz.,

(1). Irrigation,
(2). River Embankments,
(3). Do. Conservancy,
(4). Drainage Works,
(5). Miscellaneous,

as may be necessary.

3. The preliminary allotments of both funds will be made by District Engineers in consultation with Collectors and will be influenced by—

(1). The amount of work which can probably be carried out with the labor available.

(2). The known general state of the works in each taluq.

(3). The rules requiring connected works to be dealt with by groups.

Circular No. 48.
" " 63.

(4). The rule that every Irrigation work taken up for repair must be made safe and must therefore have all its requirements ascertained and attended to.

Circular No. 68.

(5). The relative importance of individual works, or particular groups of works, whether as regards the revenue involved or their effect on other works to which they may be a source of danger.

(6). The extent to which funds for improvements may be available.

It follows that to draw up a proper scheme of expenditure will require an intimate knowledge of the irrigation or other Agricultural works of a range, and of

their requirements, and that the scheme will be a selection of work to be first undertaken in the interest of the efficiency of the works generally.

The selection will to a considerable extent be made with reference to estimates already prepared, otherwise there will be no assurance that the results desired can be secured by the expenditure of the funds available. The scheme should not absorb more than 75 per cent. of the probable total allotment* to the range for repairs. The remainder of this allotment should be held in reserve to meet unforeseen expenditure, emergent work, &c. The whole probable allotment for improvements (Original Works) may be proposed.

* In the Budget.

4. By the 1st March in each year at latest the scheme of expenditure for each range must be submitted for the Collector's approval, together with the estimates for those works at any rate which it may be intended to carry out during the first-half of the following official year. A day for the discussion of the programme should then be fixed with the Collector, and the Range Officer should be present with his maps, registers, &c., to afford such information as to the bearing of his proposals as may be found necessary.

5. The investigations involved in the grouping of Irrigation works will render available a much more intimate knowledge of the circumstances of Irrigation works than has been the case in the past, and facilitate systematic treatment. It should be clearly understood that every Range Officer is directly responsible for the good order and efficient condition of all Agricultural works in charge of the department. He must therefore be personally acquainted with the works, ascertain what repairs and improvements are required, give the necessary instructions in detail for preparing the estimates which are to provide for such requirements, watch the effect of expenditure, and inquire into all matters affecting the efficiency of the works generally or individually, taking such action thereupon as may be necessary. In making, moreover, such investigations and acting upon the results, Range Officers should not limit the amount of the estimates to be prepared to the grants, actual or even probable, which may be available. It is only by knowing what is required and how far the efficiency of works is affected by the want of repairs or improvements that Government can be in a position to decide whether the usual grants of any district should be increased.

Circular No. 76.

6. Range Officers should encourage villagers to make known their views and wishes at all times, and especially when the tanks or channels, &c., in which they are directly interested are under inspection. At such times moreover much may be done to induce the village officers to look after the works and to stop practices which are injurious to them.

7. Inspection Registers will be of great value in the management of Irrigation works and in preparing and discussing the scheme of expenditure for any year. They should be kept by taluqs generally and for connected works by groups. In the latter case the greater part of the left page will be a transcript from the group lists, and thereafter the columns to be added would be those required to show the hydraulic details, which have to be given in support of all estimates, together with a wide column for remarks. It is as easy to write notes in such a register as in any other book, and thus a permanent record of value for reference at all times, and invaluable to officers on first joining a range, will be gradually compiled.

8. Range Officers should remember that they are not simply executives employed to prepare estimates and to inspect and measure works, but that from them is expected such an intelligent and careful management of irrigation and all Agricultural works as shall result in the greatest benefit to the country and to the State revenue. There is plenty of room for improvement in every direction, though much has been accomplished in some districts during the last few years, and there is much interesting work to be done in acquiring information and making deductions, affecting the management of works in practice therefrom.

9. In very many cases a Range Officer ought, when inspecting an Irrigation work, to consider whether the work ought to be maintained at all, or whether all the irrigating duty desired or expected from it could not be more efficiently or economically done in some other way or by some other tank or channel. Such consideration ought certainly to be given whenever the expenditure necessary to make the work safe and efficient, and the past cost of maintenance, are out of proportion to the revenue.

10. Range Officers should employ their subordinates in carrying out regularly and systematically instructions issued for their guidance, and the preparation of estimates for works not selected by Range Officers and upon definite instructions as to the scope and character of the work to be done, should be permitted only in exceptional cases, as for instance for emergent work. There is much more to be done than the Public Works establishments can accomplish, and it is necessary therefore to take care that every member of the department employs his time in doing that which responsible officers have determined to be requisite.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th July 1877.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 137. ORDER THEREON, 31st July 1877, No. 198 I.

THE revised Circular No. 20 of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation is approved and will be communicated to the Revenue Department, the Revenue Board, and all Collectors.

(True Extract.)

~~Colonel, R.E.,~~
~~Joint~~ Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Revenue Department.
" the Board of Revenue.
" Collectors.
" the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" District Engineers.

Extd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

Revenue Department
No 3575

IRRIGATION.

Govt. of U.S.C.I. States.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated 30th July 1877.

Rec'd

Rec'd 1 August

Entd

G. O., 30th July 1877, No. 198 I.

JULY.

Nos. 136-137.

Repairs and Minor New Works under Ordinary Agricultural.—The revised Circular No. 20 of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation regarding the submission by Range Officers annually of a scheme of expenditure for the following year on ——, approved and communicated to the departments and officers concerned.

No 4420
Lodge
8 Aug