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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	5572	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	18. 9. 1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

31st August 1877, No. 276 I.

Irrigation.

Read the following papers :—

No. 124. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 10th August 1877, No. 1,789.

I HAVE the honor to enclose copies of a letter which I addressed to the Collector and of his reply regarding the execution of work on the channels to supply Utramalur and Cholaveram tanks, and one from the north end of the Tamarapak anicut to irrigate land in Ponnery.

2. I made the offer on a suggestion from Mr. Garstin, and trust that the Government will give me the necessary authority to carry on these works when I learn that laborers are in want of employment.

3. The first and last of these works have been approved in general terms by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to whom I submitted such sketches as I was able to prepare. He has himself proposed the channel to Cholaveram after certain investigation now in progress.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput District, to R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, dated Sydapett, 5th August 1877, No. A.

REFERRING to your No. 536 of 2nd instant, which was delivered at my house last evening, I have the honor to observe that the width of a channel (on which in very great measure all other dimensions depend) can be decided only when the probable acreage to be irrigated by it is known.

2. On hearing that the Utramalur tank supply channel was accessible, I desired the Sub-divisional Officer to mark it out with a bottom width of 60 feet and berm which could allow of 20 feet more cutting if it should be found necessary, and I informed you on the 17th ultimo that I had made these preparations for the employment of any persons whom you might have on your hands. I hear from Mr. Laskey that the work can be begun immediately, as the alterations which I have made towards cutting off bends, &c., are very slight.

3. Meanwhile the Additional Secretary to Government asked me if I would undertake the execution of the three works which I had named, and on my assenting requested me to "offer to work your coolies." I presume that Mr. Garstin has authority for making this suggestion, which is opposed to G.O. No. 681 of 15th February 1877, but if you accept my offer I will begin work at once on my own responsibility and apply to Government for formal orders.

4. I trust that the sketch sent you will enable you to inform me shortly as to the land which can be taken up on both sides of the branch channels to Edamachi and Tandrai, as they will afford employment hereafter if I could decide on their dimensions.

5. They will give off water to tanks in each mile or two of their length, and must be made smaller consequently in area; the main canal, as far as Auditangal, gives off no water, and will be of

one width, but even this depends on the quantity of water which it will have to deliver to Uramelur tank and the branch channels; estimates cannot therefore be prepared till I am informed as to the acreage irrigable under all.

6. This remark will also apply to the channel from Thamarapak anicut into Ponnery. I am writing on Sunday morning at my house, and therefore cannot refer to records and can only use general terms, which will I hope enable you to decide whether you will send and relieve Mr. Laskey of his charge or enable me to give him orders to set the coolies to cut on the lines which he has laid out.

7. As suggested by Mr. Garstin, I send a copy of this to the Board of Revenue for their information.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Collector, Chingleput District, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput District, dated Sydapet, 7th August 1877, No. M.

In reply to your No. A, dated the 5th instant, I have the honor to inform you that, so far as I am concerned, I am quite willing that you should execute the three works alluded to from Famine Relief Funds under the Public Works Department as soon as possible.

2. I have informed the Board of this when asking definite orders on your letter; this I feel bound to do, as the course proposed involves the alteration of Government orders.

3. As regards Thamarapak anicut channel and the Cholaveram distribution channels, I request that you will inform me of any assistance or information of mine you may require in view to putting them in hand at an early date.

No. 145 I.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 124-A.

The three works with which the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, asks for authority to proceed are—

- (1). Improvements to the supply channel of the Uramelur tank.
- (2). Improving the supply channel of the Cholaveram tank, Madras Water Works.
- (3). Cutting a channel on the left bank of the Corteliar from the Thamarapak anicut to supply tanks in the Ponnery taluq.

None of the works are ready to receive labor. As regards the first it is probable that levels have been taken, as an estimate for that purpose was sanctioned in September 1876, No. 71 C.N., but three-fourths of the amount were surrendered at the beginning of March last. The Superintending Engineer appears not to have decided yet what the arrangements of this channel are to be, and though he has proposed that a part of it should be made 60 feet wide, there is nothing to show that this width is at any rate the information on which he proposes to do anything should be detailed, and an estimate for the work, intended to be done immediately, completed and sanctioned by competent authority.

In respect of the second work, instructions were given to the Superintending Engineer in this office No. 92 C.N. of the 25th ultimo. The information asked for as to the present and proposed widths of the lower part of the channel has not yet reached the undersigned, but the raising of the left bank of the channel above the Busykal surplus weir is a part of the Madras Water Works project, which had to be provided for directly the surplus arrangements and the maximum water-level in the channel had been settled, and this was done long ago, so all the details and the estimate ought to be ready.

For the third work there is at present no information in readiness beyond the levels of the country through which the channel is to pass. The leading features of the scheme have yet to be determined, viz:—

- (1). The quantity of water the channel is to carry and in what period. This has to be based on the number of tanks to be supplied and the areas under or to be irrigated from them.
- (2). The level of the head of the channel which must be so placed as not to take off water when the Corteliar is low.
- (3). The dimensions and fall of the channel down to the first and between the several off-takes.
- (4). The alignment of the channel.
- (5). Whether it can be carried out without at the same time embanking the Corteliar on its left side from the anicut to the Nellore road, which again has to be settled upon, at any rate, an arrangement of some sort.

2. Famine labor equally with ordinary labor must be set to do some definite work, and so far, in connection with the three works referred to, there is nothing to show that the work to be done has been defined.

ERODE, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Colonel, R.E.,
25th August 1877. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

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

No. 125.

ORDER THEREON, 31st August 1877, No. 276 I.

The Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, will be informed that before labor can be employed on either of the works referred to in the foregoing letter the estimates must be prepared and sanctioned. Their submission should be expedited as much as possible. The order of the 15th February 1877, No. 681, in the Revenue Department, referred to in Colonel F. Moberly's letter No. A of the 5th August, has on the points

No. 196 I, dated 29th July 1877.
" 483 W, " 27th " "

concerned been superseded by several later orders, among which those marginally quoted are the more important, and Colonel Moberly should have been aware of this.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department (Famine)

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

20 Spare Copies

18 September 1877

Rev 1077 Dept
Fr No 7565

IRRIGATION.

Govt. of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

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

Vide Fr. N. 8777/77

Dated August 31st.

Issued

Recd. 8th September.

Effct.

G. O. 31st August 1877. No. 276 I.

AUGUST.

Nos 124-125.

Ms. Q. 18 September 1877. N. 5572

Uramelur Tank (Cholaveram Tank Channel)
and channel on left bank of Corlehar, Chingleput
District. — Before labor can be employed on
the works the Superintending Engineer
instructed to prepare and submit the estimates for the —