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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	5653	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	21. 9. 1877	197

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

5th September 1877, No. 298 I.

Irrigation
Account.

Read the following paper :—

No. 37. From Major P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp, Toppur, 10th August 1877, No. 33 S.L.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 32 S.L., dated the 16th ultimo, requesting me to report at my earliest convenience to what extent it will be feasible, if necessary, to employ famine relief labor during the next six months on irrigation works, I have the honor to inform you with regret that I am unable to furnish you with the information required in the statistical manner desired by you, as there is absolutely no information in my office regarding the number of irrigation works in each taluq or the area and revenue under them, the district irrigation registers, from which alone this information could be taken, not having been furnished by the Revenue Department.

2. In my letter of the 21st ultimo and reminder of the 3rd instant I have applied to the Collector of the district for the necessary information; but as I have not yet received any reply, and as most valuable time is passing, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the repairs of nearly all the Government irrigation works in the Salem and Tripatore Ranges have been put in hand, and that most have been completed, so that we cannot reckon on employing more than about 7 or 8,000 people on them even if they are all able to work at the revetments and surplus weirs.

3. There are, however, as you are aware, very many and important Mittah and Dusabandam tanks and irrigation works throughout the district. Most of those which I have examined are in a highly dilapidated condition, and they are consequently a source of extreme danger, not only to the Government roads and railways, but to all irrigation works under them, and their repair and maintenance must sooner or later be taken in hand. If authority is at once given to us to take up the repairs of these works, leaving the adjustment of the expenditure to a future date, I have no doubt we should be able to employ in the most useful manner about 20 or 30,000 people in these two ranges alone.

4. I have already reported in my letter, No. 27 S.L., dated 23rd ultimo, what field exists for the improvement of irrigation works in the Darampoory Taluq and the arrangements I am making for work in that quarter.

5. And, with reference to the Oosoor and Kistnagherry Taluqs, I am in hopes that, now that the Range Officer has been relieved of a portion of his range, he will be in a position to take up vigorously the improvement of irrigation works in these two taluqs, very many of which are mittah.

6. The statistical information desired will be submitted as soon as a reply has been received from the Collector.

No. 38.

ORDER THEREON, 5th September 1877, No. 298 I.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council learns with much dissatisfaction from the letter of the District Engineer, Salem, how very incomplete is the information in the office of the latter regarding the irrigation works of the district. Although the irrigation registers may not, owing to changes of form having been ordered, be complete, there must, it is believed, be the old registers, which for several years were kept posted up in many districts and probably also in Salem, and these would afford sufficiently accurate information for the purpose required. The District Engineer should ascertain at once what has become of the old registers.

2. His Excellency in Council is not prepared to sanction the repair and improvement of Mittah and Dasabandam tanks and irrigation works, unless it be found impracticable to provide employment on Government works of irrigation for the famine labor for which work is needed; if, however, the Collector and District Engineer are satisfied that the number of Government works remaining to be repaired is, or will be, inadequate to absorb such labor usefully, estimates for the repair of other such works including private tanks may be prepared and submitted for sanction to be carried out from Famine Relief Funds with full explanation of the reasons for selecting each such work. The question of the recovery from owners of the value of work done at normal rates will be considered in the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Salem.

- " Collector of Salem.
- " Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
- " Consulting Engineer for Railways.
- " Revenue (Famine) Department.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

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Rev 1877 Dept
No 8130

IRRIGATION
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of 1877, Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

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To

The DISTRICT ENGINEER,

SALEM,

&c. &c. &c.

Dated September 5th.

Issued

Recd. — 20th Sept/77

Recd.

G. O., 5th September 1877, No. 298 L.

SEPTEMBER

Nos. 37-38.

M. 40. 45653.

Communicated to the Board of
Revenue and the Collector of Salem.

21 September 1877

Millah and Dasabandun Tanna, Salem District. — Orders on the subject of the repair and improvement of ...

To the Board of Revenue
Collector of Salem