

(1) Number of pages 6.
(2) Date of repair 28. 11. 81.
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	5706.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	28. 9. 1877. 197.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

3rd September 1877, No. 287 I.

Irrigation.

Account.

Read the following papers:—

No. 15. From Captain G. P. SKIPWITH, R.E., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Irrigation,) to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, dated Simla, 19th July 1877, No. 197 I.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3,453 of December 16th, 1876, and in reply to communicate the following remarks.

2. In March 1868 the Government of India sanctioned an estimate, amounting to Rupees 4,12,100, for various works connected with the extension of irrigation in the Nellore District from the Pennair anicut, and in September 1868 permission was given by the Supreme Government to carry out with Loan or Extraordinary Funds the works marginally noted, in addition to those included in the estimate which has just been mentioned.

<i>Pennair Canals, Irrigation.</i>	rs.
Canals from Nellore to Kistnapatam	59,600
Connection between Samapally and Jafir Sahib's Canal	92,630
Estimate sanctioned in March 1868	4,12,100
Total ...	5,64,330
Revised estimate now submitted ...	2,07,245
Total Extraordinary ...	7,71,575

3. The revised estimate submitted with your letter under reply amounts to Rupees 2,07,245, and in the Order of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, No. 2,962, dated October 16th, 1875, the total capital outlay on the project for extension of Nellore Irrigation up to March 31st, 1875, was shown to have been Rupees 11,75,471. As the estimate under consideration was not sanctioned until June 1875, the expenditure incurred under it may be taken as additional to the total of capital outlay just quoted, and the capital expenditure to date may be estimated at 13½ lakhs of Rupees, of which 7¼ lakhs would be debitable to Extraordinary Funds in the event of its being decided to classify the expenditure on extension of the anicut as "Extraordinary."

4. Irrespective of the fact that a portion of the outlay is "Extraordinary," which of itself necessitates a reference to the Secretary of State, the outlay on the project exceeds ten lakhs, and is invalid without the sanction of the Secretary of State, no specific sanction of the Secretary of State exists for the general project of which the extension of the Pennair anicut forms an essential part, and in order to admit of the case being submitted to the Home Government in a proper manner, it is essential that the Government of India be furnished with a definite and reliable statement showing the total estimated expenditure that will be required to complete the works required for the full extension of irrigation on the southern or right bank of the Pennair in the Nellore District, in addition to the outlay that will have been incurred on the completion of the works contemplated in the present revised estimates. I am accordingly directed to request the submission of such a statement, and also to draw your attention to paragraph 1 of this office letter No. 71 A.L., dated February 11th, 1876, in which the Government of India regretted its inability to remove the prohibition against classifying the expenditure upon extension of the anicut as "Extraordinary" until furnished with Capital and Revenue Accounts of the system of Irrigation dependent upon the weir which could be accepted as reliable and conclusive.

No. 15-A. From J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Nellore, 18th July 1877, No. 1,395.

In reference to paragraph 11 of my report* on the Sungum project forwarded to you on the 1st July 1877, I have the honor to forward copies of correspondence

* No. 1,109.

that has passed between the Collector and myself on the subject of the extraordinary low rate of assessment on lands irrigated by the Pennair anicut, the average being only Rupees 3-12-0 per acre; while, in paragraph 142 of Mr. Randall's report on the Revenue Settlement of Nellore, the proposed consolidated assessment is on the average Rupees 5-12-0 per acre; the result being that in 1873-74, for instance, 53,462 acres at Rupees 3-7-10 per acre yielded only Rupees 1,86,519 instead of Rupees 3,07,406-8-0, or Rupees 1,20,887-8-0 less than what should according to the Revenue Settlement rates have been collected. The amount collected is even less than the water rate alone, and of course the work is not getting anything like the credit to which it is entitled in the shape of increased revenue. If the rate of assessment after the construction of the anicut was even as much as it was before the anicut was commenced, the result would be about 20 per cent more favorable than it is, and this would make a very great difference in favor of the Sungum project in taking the results of the Nellore anicut as a guide to what may be expected from the Sungum project.

From J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Collector of Nellore, dated 2nd July 1877, No. 1,128.

I beg to draw your attention to the enclosed copies of statements of revenue under the Pennair anicut which I have obtained from your department.

It appears from these statements that the revenue before the anicut was built was about Rupees 4-8-0 per acre, during the construction of the anicut it was Rupees 4, and after the construction of the anicut only Rupees 3-1-0 per acre, while the amount fixed by Revenue Settlement Department appears to be from Rupees 5-1-0 to about Rupees 6 an acre.

There is also the curious anomaly of 23,81 acres in 1855-56 yielding a revenue of Rs. 1,10,634, while in 1861-62, 33,140 acres yield a revenue of only Rupees 1,12,422, that is to say, an excess of 9,520 acres yields only Rupees 1,788 or about 3 Annas an acre.

I shall be much obliged if you will let me know, for the information of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, if the statements are correct, and if so, to what cause the anomalies noticed can be assigned.

From J. GROSE, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, dated 14th July 1877, No. 3,418.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1,128, dated 2nd instant, requesting to be informed whether the statement enclosed therein is correct.

2. Some of the entries are not correct. Enclosed is a revised statement, in which the figures are entered with reference to the statement submitted to the Board for 1873-74 with letter No. 3,027, dated 18th December 1874, copy of which was furnished to your office with foot-note No. 3,028.

3. As regards the anomaly pointed out in your letter, it will be seen that the results of 1861-62 show an increase of 10,967 acres in the area and of Rupees 5,494 in the revenue as detailed in the margin.

	ACRES.	RS.
1861-62	33,140	1,10,634
1855-56	23,81	1,12,422
Difference	10,967	5,494

4. The increase in the revenue compared with the increase in the area is a little more than 8 Annas per acre, and not 3 Annas as given in your letter calculated on wrong entries.

5. The area irrigated consists of fields assessed at various rates, and the results of each year depend on the rates of lands irrigated. The enclosed statement gives the rate per acre for each year, and it will be observed that there is nothing peculiar about the results of 1861-62.

6. The incidence of the old assessment in the Nellore Taluk was very unequal as will be seen from the enclosed extract, paragraph 8 of G.O., dated 18th October 1874. This accounts for the variation of the rate per acre every year.

A.

Area and Revenue of lands to be irrigated by the Nellore Anicut during the four years before the work was commenced.

Year.	Area irrigated.	Revenue collected.	Rate per Acre.
	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1851-52	26,154	1,21,543 0 0	4 8 2
1852-53	23,600	1,07,609 0 0	4 8 1
1853-54	11,857	52,397 0 0	4 6 9
1854-55	18,153	79,941 0 0	4 6 6
Total of 4 years	79,763	3,61,490 0 0	...
Average for 1 year	19,941	90,372 8 0	4 8 6

B.

Area and Revenue of lands under the influence of the Nellore Anicut during the construction of the work.

Year.	Area irrigated.	Revenue collected.	Rate per Acre.
	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1855-56	24,567	1,14,207	4 8 2
1856-57	28,224	1,30,051	4 8 1
1857-58	19,842	81,211	4 1 6
1858-59	30,382	1,24,523	4 1 7
1859-60	30,778	1,28,714	4 2 11
1860-61	23,980	1,09,148	3 3 5
1861-62	35,534	1,19,701	3 5 11
Total of 7 years	203,307	8,07,555	...
Average for 1 year	29,044	1,15,365	3 15 6

C.

Area and Revenue of lands under the Nellore Anicut for 12 years after construction.

Year.	Area irrigated.	Revenue collected.	Rate per Acre.
	ACRES.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1862-63	36,091	1,37,777	3 12 9
1863-64	39,577	1,59,719	4 8 9
1864-65	41,086	1,72,779	4 3 3
1865-66	41,204	1,73,200	4 3 3
1866-67	53,278	1,97,662	3 11 4
1867-68	51,856	1,81,326	3 7 11
1868-69	57,860	1,97,108	3 6 6
1869-70	55,128	2,00,838	3 12 11
1870-71	58,159	2,04,797	3 8 4
1871-72	52,667	2,00,380	3 12 9
1872-73	54,638	1,94,328	3 8 11
1873-74	53,462	1,86,519	3 7 10
Total of 12 years	595,006	22,15,433	45 8 6
Average for 1 year	49,584	1,84,619	3 12 0

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Collector.

Extract from G.O., dated 16th October 1874, No. 1,333.

8. The inequality in rates, which has given rise to the present difficulty, is explained in paragraphs 66-69. Formerly when the assessment was considered too high reductions were made by Mr. Smalley, but his operations only extended to parts of Nellore and Gudur, and the villages so dealt with were, therefore, better off than the rest of the district. When a subsequent measure of relief was afforded, it was given in the shape of a general reduction all round, so that the already-favored villages again benefited by having "their assessments reduced beyond all reason" (paragraph 68). The result of the strict scrutiny set on foot by the Settlement Department was that this discrepancy was brought to light, and these highly-favored villages called upon to pay an increase in some cases exceeding 100 per cent., while in rare cases individual holdings were assessed at treble the original amounts.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Collector.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 3rd September 1877, No. 287 I.

In order that the information regarding the Pennair anicut system required by the Government of India may be made full and complete, the following instructions should be carefully attended to.

2. First, the further expenditure required to complete the system has to be determined. The revised estimate for the Survapully section of the project which has long been awaited will, it is understood, include provision for nearly all the work remaining to be done, and this should be submitted with the least possible delay; but beyond this it is now necessary that the District Engineer, Nellore, should state clearly whether any works not included therein will be required, and if so, he will enumerate the works in a properly classified statement, and show against each the approximate cost. It is to be understood that all works of distribution or drainage, for providing adequate facilities of communication across the channels, of a description properly chargeable to the system, or for any other purpose are to be included in this statement.

3. In the next place the capital expenditure on the system up to the end of 1876-77 should be made up by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts as soon as possible; and the total found should be explained by an appendix showing the several sanctions under which outlay has been incurred, the amounts of the sanctions and the expenditure against each.

4. The Revenue Board will be requested through the Revenue Department to determine the increase of revenue resulting from the construction of the anicut and works connected with it, and in giving this information to explain the nature and effect of the revisions of assessment which appear to have been made since the anicut came into operation. It should further be stated what the effect of the recent resettlement of the assessment of lands irrigated by the anicut channels will be, and when this effect will begin to influence the returns.

5. It will be seen that the Government of India attach much importance to the early completion of reliable and conclusive Capital and Revenue Accounts for this system, and whatever difficulties there may be in preparing them, these will not be lessened by delay, and should therefore be solved as soon as possible. The Board of Revenue and the Examiner of Public Works Accounts should report when the

information to be prepared in their offices respectively may be expected to be ready for compilation.

(True Extract.)

Whitcomb

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

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

Exd. A. Grubert.
20 Spare Copies

Revenue Department
No 4054

IRRIGATION
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

VCA 1968/17

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THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

NEELORE.

No 5706

Communicated
to the Board of Revenue
for information and
guidance with reference
to paras 4 & 5.

Further to 1968/17

Recd 25-9-77 No 5706

25 Sep/77

CPM

18 September

G. O. and September 1877, No 271

SEPTEMBER

No 15-16.

92 to Bd of Revenue 26-9-77

Under the System of the District
issues instructions with the view of affording
the Government of India the information
desired regarding the

With Order