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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1434	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	13-3-1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

27th February 1877, No. 746.

Municipal—Water-supply.

Read the following papers:—

No. 479. *From L. R. BURROWS, Esq., Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 10th February 1877, G. No. 690.*

I have the honor to forward, for the consideration and orders of His Grace the Governor in Council, a plan and estimate, amounting to Rupees 14,705, for a new channel for bringing the water from the deep part of the Red Hills lake up to the Municipal sluice.

2. The present channel is merely a branch from another channel leading to the irrigation sluice of Soorapadoo village, and even in ordinary times, by reason of its being very shallow and having a bottom of very soft slimy mud, it brings water of a very inferior quality to the municipal sluice. Since it became necessary to resort to pumping it has been cut off from the Soorapadoo channel by a bund, and is now used as a sort of high-level reservoir into which the water is pumped from the Soorapadoo channel.

3. The advantages of having a new deep channel are, first, that, in ordinary seasons, the water brought to the sluice will be of a superior quality; second, that, in seasons like the present, a second channel can be used while the other is being deepened, and thus the evil of stirring up the mud in the channel which supplies the pumps can be avoided.

4. The work is one which might be done as a Famine Relief Work under careful supervision such as that established for the junction canal.

5. Mr. Jones, the Engineer of the Municipality, says that the slopes of the cutting require to be at 2 to 1, but should it be found in course of execution that they may be made nearer the perpendicular the cost will be less. Judging, however, from the pits which had been sunk to a depth of 6 feet he does not think there is much likelihood of this.

No. 345.

Referred to the Chief Engineer for his early remarks.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
12th February 1877.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 479-A.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Returned to the Chief Secretary with the remark that the cutting of the proposed channel in the Red Hills tank for the better supply of water to the town channel is unobjectionable if undertaken as a municipal work. It may be worth while, however,

to consider whether this proposed new channel would be of service in the event of its being decided to modify materially the arrangements for obtaining water from the tank for Madras.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Col., R.E.,

15th February 1877.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George.

No. 480. From L. R. BURROWS, Esq., Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 13th February 1877, E. No. 713.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., Financial Department, dated 1st instant, No. 350, and on the question whether the Municipal Fund ought not to bear the charges for excavating a new channel from the deep part of the Red Hills lake to the municipal sluice, I beg leave to state that Government have borne the charge of excavating the irrigation channel leading to the Soorapadoo sluice, and I believe also the branch therefrom to the municipal sluice. If Government provide a channel for a village irrigation sluice they might reasonably be expected to do so for the Municipality which pays a higher rate for its water.

2. The estimate of the work forwarded with my letter of the 10th February 1877, G. No. 690, amounts to Rupees 14,705, a sum which the Municipal Fund as at present constituted is not capable of yielding.

3. As the work will be a permanent improvement of the Red Hills lake, and the water-supply of Madras, and is suitable for execution by a well-organized body of famine coolies, I trust that Government will have no objection to its being put in hand as a Famine Relief Work.

No. 480-A.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

In continuation of the endorsement, dated 15th instant, by the undersigned on the letter, No. 690, of the 10th idem, from the Acting President, Municipal Commission, the following observations are made with a view to the determination of the best way of getting water from the Red Hills tank into the town delivery channel.

First.—It is proposed to cut a channel to a depth of about 8 feet below the sill of that pipe of the offtakes which it is desired to use. This channel is to be cut in a straight line from the offtake to the point in the tank where the desired level is reached. The line selected involves heavy cutting, 16½ feet as a maximum; the bed of the channel is proposed to be 6 feet wide where the cutting is deep and elsewhere 10 feet wide, with 2 to 1 side slopes.

Second.—Apparently the object of cutting the channel throughout at the intended bed-level is to bring water to the present pumping-station. The undersigned cannot say on the information before him whether this arrangement is necessary, or whether it would not be easier to move the pumps to a point much nearer the water.

Third.—Assuming that pumps must be kept where they are a more economical line for the channel could be selected by running it on a contour of the high ground.

Fourth.—If the pumps could conveniently be moved to somewhere near B on the longitudinal section, the water could be raised to any desired level, and then a small channel on an approximate falling contour would suffice to carry it to the offtake. Under this arrangement, supposing the tank not to re-fill as soon as is now contemplated, and the supply consequently needing to be drawn from a lower level, the deepening of the short length of channel beyond the pumps would alone be necessary, and this could without much difficulty be done even were another 6 feet of depth required to be cut.

2. It has not been stated on what data the channel-bed width has been fixed at 6 feet as a minimum, and if a necessity for allowing 2 to 1 slopes exists this would point to its being desirable to choose a line where the cutting will be of much smaller depth.

3. On the subject of the incidence of charge of this work the undersigned is not sure that his opinion is desired. Should it be so, it is to be noticed that the Municipality is alone concerned with such and all works which may from time to time be found necessary for the application of Red Hills tank water to the supply of Madras. These measures are a result of the general arrangements which have been adopted for the conveyance and distribution of water, and irrigation interests have suffered greatly from the unfortunate determination which was come to of endeavouring to supply Madras from a high level so far as the tank is concerned and by gravitation from the tank itself.

4. Government appear to have left the Municipality to do as it thought fit, and handed over a lump sum of Rupees as a grant to aid it in carrying out its own arrangements.

G.O., No. dated

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Col., R.E.,

20th February 1877.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George.

No. 481.

ORDER THEREON, 27th February 1877, No. 746.

The Governor in Council accepts the liability for the work necessary to make the Red Hills tank water available during the present emergency, but does not approve the proposed method of attaining this end, and resolves to refer the question to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation in view to an amended plan being designed for the purpose and carried out with as little delay as possible. Famine relief labor can be employed on it if suitable.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.

- „ Chief Engineer for Irrigation, with plan and estimate.
- „ Public Works Department, with two enclosures.
- „ Revenue (Famine) Department.

Ed. J. Wright.

Recd 1877 28
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Bobt. of 1877
FINANCIAL.

To THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,

Mayor, Aldermen, &c.

Under February 27th.

Issued 1878

Recd. March 13 -

B.O. 37th Street, No. 746.

FEBRUARY
Nos. 473-481.

Municipal Water-supply.—The method proposed to be adopted for making the Red Hills tank water available during the present snow storm, disapproved, and the question referred to the Chief Engineer for investigation in view to an amended plan being assigned for the purpose.

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