

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3658

DATED 16<sup>th</sup> July

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comm. to the Comr. of Canals & Irrigation re: the  
prospects of the Mahanadi reservoir project.  
& the Mahanadi channel extension  
being taken up as relief works.

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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# FURTHER PAPERS.

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# Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 5762



From  
The P.W. Department

In Orders.

Please see para 10 of the report in G.O. 486 24-6-97 and para 2 of the G.O. calling for reports in regard to the Bhavani Reservoir & the Haligayagan Channel.

2. Bhavani Reservoir. The site is still under investigation, but there is hope that the one now under trial will be found suitable. This however needs not delay the preparation of limestone and building stone at the quarries behind ~~for~~ this not given.

Leading Channel. No line can be found along which a channel can be cheaply carried, but as direct irrigation from the reservoir is not recommended

No. 7630

Dated 7-7-97

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SUBJECT.

Bhavani Reservoir project & the Haligayagan Channel Extension

Transferring note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for the prospects of the being taken up as relief works

12/7/97

some time must be found. The investigation has been interrupted by ~~the~~ the men engaged on it having been sent on famine duty. May a stip. establishment be undertaken for carrying on the investigation.

3. Kalugarayam Channel Extension  
Extension not advisable unless the existing channel be restricted; the cost of this restricting is under enquiry.

As to storing this water under in the Bhavani Reservoir, it is stated that the reservoir will have to be worked <sup>longer</sup> but no opinion is offered as to whether this is an insuperable objection.

RS 10-7-97 The main point is that within of these works are likely the available for famine relief kept to the extent of store breeding in the Bhavani Reservoir.

12/7/97  
13/7/97  
14/7/97

| BACK PAPERS. |         |                                                                                                             |         |
|--------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| G.O.         | No.     | Department.                                                                                                 | Date.   |
|              | No. 486 | The B. survey on 4 2 4 has been marked for 2 mos in 486 will be able to do all that is necessary at present | 24.6.97 |

| FURTHER PAPERS. |     |             |       |
|-----------------|-----|-------------|-------|
| G.O.            | No. | Department. | Date. |
|                 |     |             |       |

This note may be communicated to the Commr.

13/7/97

Dr. Is.

14/7/97

G.O. no. 3658 of 16th July 97  
The above note will be commd to the Collector of Coimbatore

RS 16-7-97  
The Collector Coimbatore  
The Commr. Coimbatore  
The D. W. S.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

Read the following

Proceedings of Govt. Rev. Dept. No 486. T.R.  
dated 24 June 1897

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation  
dated 1st July 1897

With reference to para 2 of the Govt. order quoted above in which the undersigned's opinion is asked as to the expediency of starting the Bhavani Reservoir work and the extension of the Kalugarayam channel as relief works in the event of relief being necessary, the following information regarding these 2 works is submitted.

2. The extension of the Kalugarayam channel was designed to increase the irrigation under the channel by 10,000 acres, the present area being something over 12,000 acres. The estimate was sanctioned but work not put in hand, at first for want of funds, but afterwards because a doubt arose whether the necessary water could be carried beyond the end of the existing channel.

The

The length of the channel in a straight line is something over 30 miles but it follows so sinuous a course that the actual length is 59 miles and there are hundreds of sluices over the regulation of which there is very imperfect control and the people have always been in the habit of running much larger quantities of water over their lands than can be used, in order to obtain a large amount of the silt on which the land to a great extent depends for its fertility. There is often a difficulty now in getting water down to the end of the channel and apparently no probability of its ever being possible to largely extend the cultivation unless the channel is regulated throughout and only water required for irrigation allowed into the distributaries. The cost of doing this is under inquiry. Should it prove impracticable to carry out the regulation, the extension of the channel must be abandoned. It would be unsafe to calculate on its being available for famine relief.

3. The site which appeared to be the most promising for the Bhavani dam has been fully investigated but the result has not been very satisfactory as the unfissured rock is found to be at a considerable depth - a new

What is the  
minimum fall  
at the dam?

Is the leading  
channel to be  
the reservoir?

site is now being tried and there is good hope that it will prove more economical than the other. The investigation, to be as complete as it should be, will take some time and until it is completed, the dam cannot be designed. The delay in selection of the site need not delay the preparation of limestone and building stone at the quarries. With regard to the question whether the 15000 acres intended to be irrigated from the Kalingarowen channel extension can instead be irrigated from the reservoir, there would apparently be sufficient water but to store what is required for this land would of course necessitate working the reservoir longer than would otherwise be necessary. So far also as investigation has gone, there is found to be no line along which a channel can be cheaply made. Orders have been given to continue the investigation but it is at present hindered by the withdrawal of Establishment to the famine districts. It is much to be feared that it will be found not to pay to attempt irrigation direct from the reservoir.

N<sup>o</sup> 763D

Transferred to the Revenue Dept with reference to para 2 of its order N<sup>o</sup> 486 - Rev. dated 24<sup>th</sup> June 1897.

Approved  
9<sup>th</sup> July 1897 3

W. Hughes  
Joint Secy & Secy. P. W. D.  
Design Branch