

Revenue (189⁸) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2003

DATED 7th May.

[Despatch Abstract.]

*the Colls of Coimbatore to explain fully
Requesting that an estimate of
the increase of second crop charge under the M. H. K. L. A.
Project.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1304

Part 20
12/3/98

From

The Board of Revenue,
Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and
Agriculture
Madras
No. 982 Mis.

Order

Dated 11th February 1898.

Received 14

Registered 15

Enclosures 24

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government
the report on the financial
aspect of the Muthukolam
Project in the Coimbatore
District.

- (2) Water-rate on drylands in Coimbatore
Erode, and Palladam Taluks 1163
- (3) Enhanced rates which the ryots
have agreed to pay in Coimbatore,
Erode, and Palladam Taluks. 26,330
- (4) Reduction of the remissions which
have to be granted on the average $\frac{15,000}{49,436}$
or in round figures Rs 50,000.

2. Mr Bradley has left on record the following note, with reference, apparently, to Mr Hughes' note of the 25th November 1896:-

"But the note of the Chief Engineer for
"Irrigation is rather misleading. He assumes
"that the run-off is only a portion of the
"rainfall, whereas the registered figures
"show that it is greater than the registered
"rainfall owing to the fact that the rain
"is heavier on the slopes of the hills than
"down low where the gauge stands. I
"believe as a matter of fact the water
"supply will be ample for all existing
"irrigation. The remarks of the Chief
"Engineer about the Coimbatore water
"supply are also misleading. My
"meaning was not that we shall have

"a water-supply scheme, but that we shall
"have the tanks full every year and,
"therefore, the wells in the town full"

3. I regret the delay in submitting this report. The particulars received from the Taluks had to be sent back several times for amplification and revision and the last replies have only recently come in.

4. The C. O. and the enclosures received with the Board's Proceedings under reply and the C. O. is received with Board's Proceedings No 92 dated 28th January 1898 are herewith returned.

Resolution

Submitted to Government, with reference to C. O. No 137 His. Revenue dated 9th January 1897.

(True Copy and Extract)

R. V. Shivadasan
Secretary

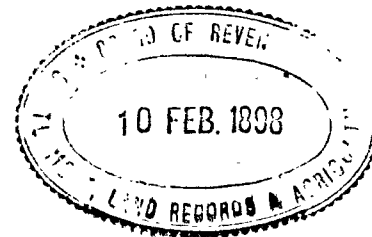
The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
with original Enclosures.

Encl
14/1/98



In a Letter from the Collector of Coimbatore to the Board of
Revenue, Land Revenue, dated 5th February 1898,
Disposal no. 405. Rev. of 1898.

Enclosure to
G.R. No. 519 of the Land Rev.
Department.



328
RECEIVED
1304

Enc. No. 1304 to D^g General Reg. No. 904 of 1898.

Handwritten notes in the top left corner, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.

*for enclosed
document 13.5.93
Lumberton*

page 2 of Mr. Ashpitale's
report 13.5.93 M.

letter dt 21-3-93 No 2173
C Sub

Read again Co. 137
C No 1307 of 1898 9.1.97
B.P. (L.R.) No 990 dt 11.2.98

For orders

The papers read above relate to the financial aspect of the Muthukulam project ^{which was} ~~was~~ under investigation by the P. W. Department.

2. The project is to form a Reservoir at Muthukulam in the Malabar District by damming the head waters of the Siruvani, a branch of the Bhavani river and to increase the supply in the Noyel river in the Coimbatore District by means of a tunnel thro' the hills which separate the two Districts.

3. In 1893, the Hon^{ble} Mr Sturrock, then Collector of Coimbatore, wrote to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation about ^{expected} the financial results of the Scheme as follows:—

"The first effect of the improved water supply which may

3
"may be anticipated from
"the project will be the more
"certain realization of a good
"outturn from the lands now
"actually under cultivation.
"This will not affect the
"Govt. Revenue as we only
"give remission in the case
"of total failure of crops
"but the holders of lands
"have recognized this and
"have stated their willing-
"ness to pay an extra assess-
"ment of Rs 2 per acre, at
"a formal agreement to this
"effect. Can no doubt be
"drawn up without infring-
"ing the principles of the
"provision of the Board's
"standing order no 184 and
"inconveniently binding Govt,
"but I can do nothing with-
"out orders on the subject.
"Roughly speaking, I should
"think most of the ryots
"holding the 10,000 acres
"of wet lands in the Coim-
"batore Taluk would be
"willing to pay the extra
Rupees

3
"Rupees 2 in which case
"we would count on an in-
"crease of Rs 20,000 equiva-
"lent to an income of 4 per
"Cent on a capital outlay
"of five lakhs.
"The saving of the average
"annual remission of ^{Rs} 6,000
"would justify a further
"outlay of say a lakh and
"a half and if there is water
"enough to bring under wet
"cultivation the 1,639 acres
"recently transferred from
"wet to dry, a further revenue
"of Rs 7,500 may be anti-
"cipated. There are also still
"lying waste as many as
"2500 acres of wet land
"assessed at Rs 19,000, many
"of which are waste simply
"for want of water."
4. In May 1896, the Exe-
cutive Engineer, Mr. Asphale
who submitted for the sanc-
tion of Govt in the P.W. Dept.
an estimate of Rs 25,000
for investigating the
project, worked out the
revenue

anticipated therefrom,
 on the assumption that
 out of the total area
 of 18,582 acres under the
 Noyel river basin, the
 extent of 11,338 acres which
 was ~~entirely~~ under culti-
 vation would pay an
 additional rate of Rs 2
 per acre in consideration
 of the certain and increased
 supply which would be
 afforded by the project,
 and that the remaining
 area of 7,000 and odd
 acres could be brought under
 irrigation and would bring
 in Rs 36,120 for water
 alone. He accordingly
 estimated the return from
 the project at Rs 58,796,
 i.e. 5 per cent on an outlay of
 11 3/4 lakhs and observed
 that there was every reason
 to believe that the pros-
 pects of the project would
 be extremely favourable.

(According to the Tank Restoration
 Scheme Memoirs)

Page 188 P in Mr.
 Ashpitel's
 report of 13.5.11

11,338 acres at 2 Rs.	22676
7224 acres at 5 Rs.	36120
	<u>58796</u>

ENST. No 93 D 727-5-96 Q.

5. The Superintending
 Engineer, Mr Larminie
 however

however, pointed out that
 the water available would
 hardly be sufficient for a
 six months crop on the 7000
 and odd acres which Mr.
 Ashpitel thought could be
 newly brought under culti-
 vation and that there would
 be consequently be no water
 for the 11,338 acres which
 were expected to pay an
 additional assessment of
 Rs 2 per acre. Mr Larminie
 therefore reduced the estimate
 of anticipated receipts
 to Rs 36,120, i.e. 5 per cent
 on a capital outlay of about
 7 1/4 lakhs, and observed
 as follows:—
 "As a paying investment
 I have great doubts of
 the project, the Catchment
 area being so small coupled
 with the impossibility of
 forming a Reservoir larger
 than will contain more than
 1 1/2 months supply for the
 aforesaid 7,224 acres while
 the quantity of water avail-
 able

instead of continuing

"would not justify the
 Construction of a reservoir
 on the Coimbatore side."
 When these papers were
 submitted to H.E. by the
 Chief Engineer with his note
 dated the 7th July 1896
 No. 162, H.E. did not
 approve of the proposal
 to spend the large sum
 of Rs. 25,000 in the investiga-
 tion of the project in the
 absence of more detailed
 information as to the work
 which had to be done & H.
 E. ordered that the work
 which had been commenced
 in anticipation of sanction
 should be stopped and,
 among other things, remarked
 that the estimated revenue
 and indeed the whole
 project should be referred
 to the Collector for report.
 Mr. Bradley, the then
 Collector to whom a re-
 ference was accord-
 ingly made by the Super-
 intending Engineer, however,
 stated

flag D.

[Letter dt 15.9.96 No 3130 of 1896
 Rev

7
 stated that he could not
 furnish any opinion about
 the financial aspect of the
 project as he had not been
 furnished with even a rough
 estimate of the cost of the
 project and as there was
 no reliable information
 as to the extent which could
 be irrigated by it. He
 at the same time,
 referred the Superintend-
 ing Engineer to Mr. Sturrock's
 letter above quoted and
 added as follows: -
 "It has, I believe, been re-
 presented that the greater
 part of the lands under the
 "Noyel being inam lands,
 "no additional assessment
 "on them can be levied even
 "if the project is ~~to be~~ carried
 "out. But this is not the
 "Case. The Govt has
 "never undertaken to im-
 "prove the irrigation of
 "inam lands without levy-
 "ing an additional assess-
 "ment charge, vide Board's
 "S.O. No 123 para 2. The
 in-

method of counting

"Lands under the Noyel in the
 "Coimbatore Taluk amount
 "to acres 2,187 out of
 "acres 12,381. I have little
 "doubt that the landlords
 "will be ready to bind
 "themselves to pay Rs 2
 "per acre in excess of their
 "present liabilities if the
 "project is carried out.
 "H. Generally speaking,
 "the project will be of
 "very great advantage to
 "the proprietors under the
 "Noyel sinner. Almost
 "annually now, there is a
 "heavy loss of crops which
 "would be saved if the pro-
 "ject were even in a moder-
 "ate degree successful.
 "I enclose a statement
 "showing the remissions
 "granted under the Noyel
 "during the last 8 years
 "which shows an average
 "annual remission of
 "over 15,000 rupees the
 "whole of which would be
 "saved."

N & N.

6 On the

the submission of this letter
 to the P. W. Dept. by the
 Superintending Engineer, the
 Chief Engineer drew up a
 note dated the 25th Novr 96.
 Therein, Mr Hughes roughly
 estimated the cost of the
 Scheme at 7 lakhs and ob-
 served that it would be
 remunerative if it paid
 5 per cent or Rs. 35,000 a year.
 As regards the water which
 would be available and the
 return which might be anti-
 cipated, he remarked:—
 "Bearing in mind that the
 "principal Sircuanai supply
 "would be received when
 "water is scarce on the plains
 "and that there
 "would be but little when
 "the Peshnam crop is
 "cultivated I am of
 "opinion that no extension
 "of cultivation should be
 "allowed. The Sircuanai
 "water will not save all
 "the crops when there is
 "a general failure of
 "the

wet cultivation?

"the usual rains on the
"plains. It will only a
"have a portion of the remissions,
"which have usually been
"granted and return for
"the outlay must be sought
"in this and an extension
"of the double crop area.
"with perhaps a general
"increase of assessment
"at the next settlement
"if the ryots cannot be held
"to their promise to pay Rs 2
"Extra at once on the works
"being carried out. It is
"very doubtful if they could
"be bound by their promise
"as the works will certainly
"not realize all that they
"expect. The project can
"probably pay if the
"assessment can be in-
"creased even $1\frac{1}{2}$ Rs an
"acre."

7. On this note of the Chief
Engineer, His Excellency
observed that it would
apparently be safe
to assume that the
Scheme

I

Scheme would not result
in additional land being
cultivated and that re-
turns for the expenditure
must be looked for (1) in
the decrease of the remission
which seemed to be chronic
and (2) in the increase of
assessment. H. E. added.
"The remission average over
"8 years is Rs 15,000 a year.
"An increase of Rs 2 per acre
"on the assessment would, I
"understand, give about Rs
"26,000. This would make
"Rs 41,000. A return of Rs
"35,000 would yield 5 per
"cent on the estimated cost of
"the work. But I fear we
"could not count on saving
"the whole of the remission
"of Rs 15,000 and it seems
"doubtful whether we can
"impose an increased assess-
"ment on the portion of land
"which is inam or get the
"consent of all the other
"owners to the enhanced
"rates. These points should
"be

noted

12
"be considered and reported
"upon by the Revenue Depart-
"ments to which Mr Hughes'
"note and the papers should
"be referred."

8. In accordance with H.E.'s
instructions, Mr Hughes'
note and the connected
papers were forwarded
to this Department for
necessary action with
Ord. No 64 W 87 9.12.96.

Thereupon, the points in which
information was required
were indicated in G.O. No
137 87 9.1.97 and the Board
of Revenue was asked to
which the Chief Engineer's
note and the connected Corres-
pondence were sent, was
asked to submit a re-
port.

9. With the current read
above the Board of Revenue
submits without any re-
marks of its own, a letter
from the Collector of
Coimbatore, in which
he has given very brief
Answers

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V

N. & N'

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V

answers to the points referred
to in G.O. No 137 87 9.1.97.

10. The Collector says that the
area Commanded by the project
is reported to be 27,666 acres.
It is not clear how this figure
has been arrived at. From
the Collector's statement dated
the 17th September 1896,
it would appear that the
total ^{area of irrigation} ~~irrigation~~ under the Noyel
river basin ^{was ranging} ~~was ranging~~
between 13,225 to 13,303 -
acres during the 8 faslis
ending with 1304, and if
the supply from the project
is, as stated by the Chief
Engineer, sufficient only
to ~~irrigate~~ ^{supplement} the
~~existing~~ ^{irrigation} of this area, would
not permit of any extension
of cultivation, it is not
understood how the total
area Commanded by the project
could be fixed at 27,666
acres.

wet cultivation?

11. Dudley the Collector says
that a return of Rs 59,000
may be expected from
the

material

the following sources:

1. Increase in the form Rs
of second crop charge - 6943
 2. Water rate on dry
lands in Coimbatore
Erode and Palladam
Talukhs. ——— 1163
 3. Enhanced rate
which the ryots have
agreed to pay in
Coimbatore, Erode
and Palladam Talukhs 26,330
 4. Reduction of the
remissions which
have to be granted
on the average 15,000
- 49,436

With regard to item (1), the Collector does not say what is the existing area under the second crop cultivation and what fresh area, he hopes, would be cultivated with a second crop, on completion of the project. It seems therefore difficult to ~~the~~ form an opinion as to ^{how} far the Collector's estimate can be accepted. My
As regards item (2), it is not understood ~~to~~ how this has

$$\frac{1163 \cdot 2903}{4}$$

has been fixed. The Collector apparently expects ^{that} some dry lands (perhaps about 300 acres) could be irrigated by the project.

As to item no (3), it ^{is} ~~from~~ to be noted that the amount of Rs 26,330 which the Collector says the ryots have agreed to pay in Coimbatore, Erode and Palladam Talukhs, ^{consists} of two separate items ~~there~~ viz (1) the payment by the inam-dars (2) the payment by the ryotwari holders. H. E. doubted whether we ~~could~~ ^{can} impose an increased assessment on the portion of land which is inam or get the consent of all the other owners to the enhanced rates. It is submitted that G.O. No 2095 of 25.6.77 directing the reservation of the rights of the State to revise the settlement rates in the event of means of irrigation being materially extended or improved at public cost, having been

X

been issued prior to the
settlement of the Coimbatore
District, the Govt has
apparently the power to
raise the ~~the~~ rates ^{on ryotwari lands,} in
view of the improvements
which would be effected
by the Muthukulam project.
Even if the ryots do not
consent to pay the additional
charge. As regards
inamudars, ~~however,~~ ^{it appears} ~~that the Collector~~
~~has~~ ^{that} Mr Bradley has
as already stated ^{by Mr Bradley,} ~~that~~ Govt.
is not bound to improve the
irrigation of the inam lands
without demanding an
extra charge and there
seems to be therefore no ob-
jection to the inamudars
^{being made to} ~~binding~~ themselves to
pay the extra rate of Rs 2
per acre.

Lastly as regards the re-
missions which would be
saved by the project, the
Collector fixes the amount
at Rs 15,000, the ~~the~~ average
of the remissions for the
8

8 faalis ending 1304. The
Chief Engineer however thought
that a portion of this amount
alone could be saved and H.E.
also remarked 'we can't not
'count upon saving the whole
'of the remission of Rs 15,000'.
The Collector does not give any
reason as to why he takes the
maximum figure, but apparently
it is the result of the view
of Mr. Bradley's view quoted
in para 2 of the letter, that
'the water supply will be
'ample for all existing irriga-
tion!'

Mr
27/3/28

Ser

It is submitted that no
definite conclusions can
be drawn from the Collector's
present report, unless his
figures ~~from the~~ are to be
accepted without question.
From the Chief
Engineer's note (Fly T) of
25 Nov 96, it would
appear that we cannot
hope to enter into the
matters.

Existing registered area
for wet cultivation.

~~Assuming~~

Assuming that

the whole ^{registered} wet area will
be sufficiently irrigated

Govt. might be able to
15000 Rs. ^{by saving} from cesses.

~~How~~ How much of
this wet area is ^{registered} double
crop & how much of

the remainder is likely

to pay 2nd crop charge
(In view of that area which pays it now - on the average) after the completion of

the project does not
appear. The Collector
merely reports Rs 43 Rs
as the estimated gain from
this ~~very~~ source.

It is submitted that the
Collector may be asked
to explain how he
arrives at this figure.

As to subsidizing the charge on
wheat in dry lands, it

is submitted that an miandan
is entitled to water

sufficient for two crops for
so much of his land as is
entered as double crop ^{well} land

in his title deed, & to water
sufficient for a first
crop on so much of his
land as is entered as
single crop wet in his
title deed. It does not

appear therefore how
any extra charge could
be got from the
miandan except by
claim of improved

supply to their wet lands
except from 2nd crop
charge and any increase
from this source

is apparently included
in the Collector's estimate
of Rs 6943 Rs given above.

As for the Govt. rights,
Govt. has clearly reserved
to itself the right to
raise the assessment

if improved irrigation
is effected. But, ~~as by the~~
the improvement is to
consist of giving water

where now water usually
fails, & this is ~~not~~
paid for, & deducting
the wet assessment
instead.

Except by voluntary
agreement it is
very doubtful if they
will consent to do this
877

So far the wet agnabul
has been considered.
As for dry lands, the
C.E. note seems to
^(as stated above)
say that we cannot
depend on the project
enabling any extension
of wet cultivation
or any conversion of
dry into wet. Therefore
then does not seem to
be any use in calculating
any increase from
the assessment on dry
lands.

The expected ^{increase in} ^{the} ^{area in}
the expected ^{the} ^{area in}
is a comparatively small
item.

I submit that the
Collector should be called
on explain clearly
the details by which
he arrived at the
various items of his
estimate & the Bd requested
to scrutinise his report
carefully before submitting
it to the Govt.

M. C. R. for the Govt. P. V. C.

in the above letter to the Govt. Dept.
of the Govt. P. V. C.

21
It might also be made
certain whether C.E. (Smith)
has been correctly
taken to ^{mean} state that
the improved supply
will not ~~be sufficient~~
to suffice for more
than the existing
registered wet area,
which is apparently
about 13,300 acres.

M. C. R.
for the Govt.

- 11 But is not the area of
13,300 ryotwari lands
(2) What is the inam area
under the Rajal basni?

S. P. R.

- 11 As observed by the Chief Engineer
in para 3 of his note (flagged T.)
dated 25.11.96, it is not clear
whether the ~~the~~ total extent of
13,300 and odd acres entered in the
Statement which accompanied
the Collector's letter of 15.9.96 No
3130 of 96 includes inam lands.
N/ I/ Res.
From the fact that the total
extent of the extent in the Govt.

Taluk is ~~entered~~ given as 12,381
acres, in the para 3 of the Collector's
letter of 15.9.36 and is entered
as 9800 ^{or 9900 acres} and odd in Column 2
of the Statement ^{of remissions} it seems likely
that the entries in the latter
excludes the extent of inam
land in all the Taluks.

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2. The total ~~extent~~ area of
inam lands under the Nozel
river does not appear from the
records submitted, but the Collector
says in para 3 of his letter dated
15.9.36 that it is 2187 acres
in the Coimbatore Taluk alone.

I

Mr. 28/4/38 Secy
No definite
information is given on
the points referred to
by the Secy. This is what
makes the Collector's
estimate seem so arbitrary
& unsatisfactory.

~~Mr. 28/4/38~~
The Collector might be asked
categorically

(1) to state the registered
azaphat of the Nozel system
(a) ngolwari
(b) inam;
or more or less

of the ~~best~~ ngolwari area
is (a) registered double crop
(b) registered single crop

(3) to state how much
of the registered single crop
ngolwari area para 2nd
crop charge on the average;

(4) to state how much
of the main area is
(a) registered as double crop
in the little deed
(b) registered as single crop
in do.

(5) to state how much
of the registered inam single
crop ^{area} para 2nd crop charge
on the average.

(6) to give his estimate of
the increase that may be
expected under the items
referred to in (3) & (5) with
his reasons.

~~Q~~ The Chief Engineer
may then be asked whether
it may be correctly assumed
that the wet azaphat
cannot be extended beyond
the area ^{given} reported by the
Collector in (1) (a) & (b)

might be conveniently exhibited
in the following form

Area now occupied under the No. 10 Reclamation Bill, to be affected by the project	Reclamation				Draw	
	Double cut	Single cut	Total	Double cut	Single cut	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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It is the account in cols 14 & 16 + the estimated saving
in cut emissions (which are deductions from the amount in col 6)
+ some slight items in account of water rate for dry land
will represent the in case to be expected from the project
it is if the C.E. decides that the area under col 5 cannot be
improved.

The C.E. will ^{table} state whether
any extension of water
cultivation beyond an
area = sum of areas in
cols 5, 7, & 8 may be expected.
If any such extension
can be expected it will be
an increase to the extent
of assessment entered in
cols 3 & 4

the info will be useful
to a final decision
1/17/78

DN ^{10/11/78}
10/11/78
17/5/78

Read B.P. 3/4/78
11 February 1898
(C.L. 13079/1898)

E.O. case No: 2003 d/7th May 1898

The Collector has
neither given any data for
his estimates nor explained
how he arrived at the
figures furnished. He is
accordingly requested to
explain his estimates
fully and the Bd is
requested to scrutinize
them carefully before
submitting them to the Govt.
The Collector is ^{also} requested
to exhibit his estimate
of the increase of 2nd
crop charge in the
appended form.

Hs. form in col 1.

1/17/78
1/17/78

1/17/78
1/17/78
1/17/78

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No.

DATED

189 ,

CURRENT No.

RECORDS TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

.. A A A A A A A

TER OF GOVERNMENT.

EMENT WITH DITTO.

PERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.