

My No: 66 - 00007.,
Irrigation Department,
Colombo - 7.
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Snr. D.DD./D.DD. in H.O/D.DD Ranges } designations
C.R.EE./R.EE./I.EE.

Sub: Restoration of abandoned breached tanks.

I am greatly perturbed that a number of tank bunds, anicuts, structures built by the Department had breached or got washed off within a year of their construction; this reflects very badly on the Department. It is felt that these failures had occurred mainly due to one or more of the following reasons :-

1. Insufficient and poor investigations.
2. Improper designs.
3. Poor quality of construction.

Hence, when taking up abandoned tanks for restoration, the following instructions should be strictly adhered to :-

- (1) The tank bund must be fully investigated, augur holes should be done at a number of places and a study made of the nature of the existing bund.
- (2) A complete investigation should be ^{done} done on the nature of the soil in the bund and the degree of compaction especially if any Shramadana work had been done earlier.
- (3) The ^{spelling - breached} breach site surveys should include a study of the foundation conditions with the help of the ^{trial} trial pits or augur holes. The depth to which the breach has to be excavated to receive the new fill should be determined with these investigations. The plans should show these.

- (4) All ant hills should be cut open and fully cleaned. All trunks trees should be removed along with the roots.
- (5) All holes and weak spots in the tank bund should be local provision made to open up the bund and ^{refill} these places p
- (6) The storage capacity of the tank should not be increased t than that had been existing.
- (7) Inspection of the tank bed should also be done to check permeability of the tank bed.
* Design section should be taken by Engineering Branch at H/O with their approval.
- (8) After preparation of the plans and proposals, the Divisional I. ^{PI (Range)} the Range D.D. should personally inspect the sites especial tank bunds and anicut sites and satisfy themselves that all the actions have been taken and the proposals are in order. A cert should be given by the Range D.D. and the Divisional I.E. that th had been personally inspected by them and they are satisfied the proposals.

Sgd/.

K.D.P.Perera

DIRECTOR OF IRRIGATION