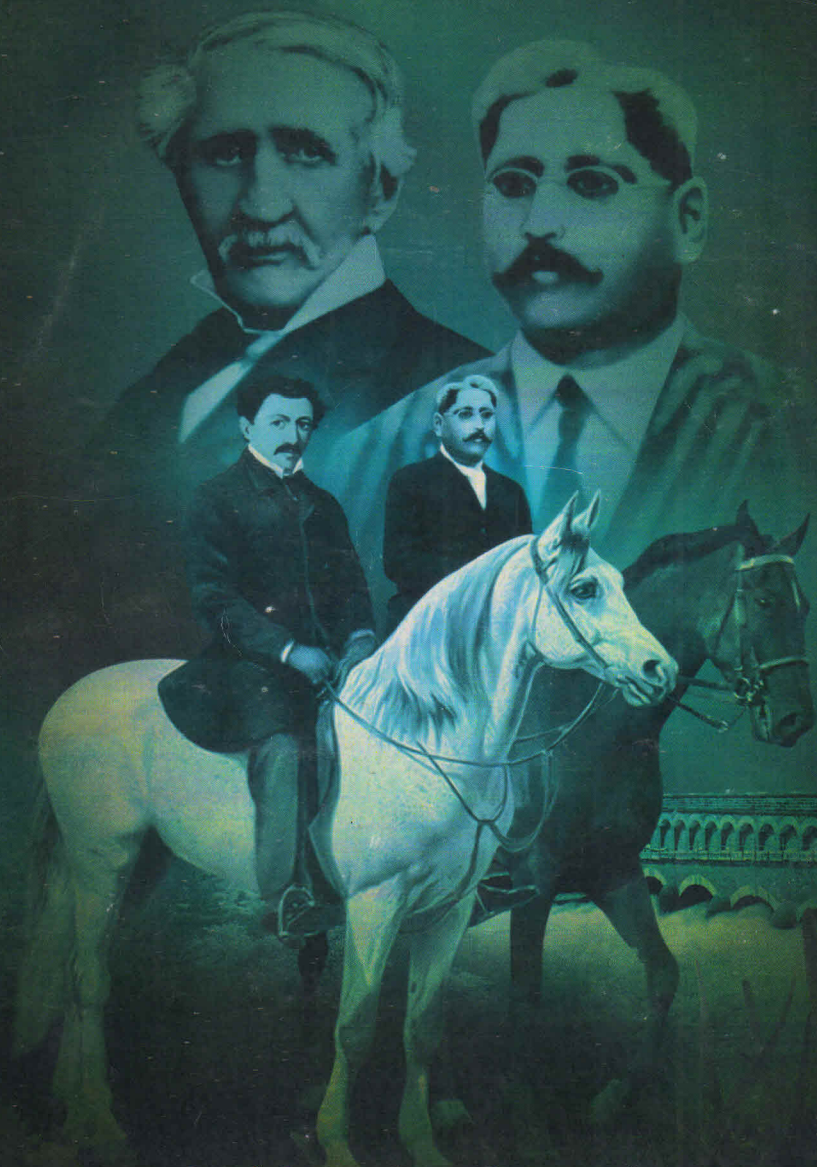


# *Cotton & Veeranna*

The Great Engineers of Godavari Barrage



Buddiga Sai Ganesh

# COTTON & VEERANNA

First Edition : 2015

No. of Copies : 5000

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This book is available for sale at Rs. 100/- each at Publishing Houses and also in the Book Stalls. Also, copies of this book are kept for free distribution for use by future generations at Cotton Museum, Offices of Irrigation Depts and Office of the Chief Engineer/Superintendent Head Lock Office at Dowlaiswaram.

**Cover Page-** Mr. Cotton and Mr. Veeranna inspecting the Godavari Corridor.  
**Back Page-** Erstwhile Barrage constructed at Dowlaiswaram.

Translated By :

**Krishna Kante, M.A. PGD (PMIR)**  
Ex-Defence Civilian Officer, Hyderabad  
Cell : 9849234965



Krishna Kante



Sai Ganesh

*My sincere thanks to Sri Krishna Kante,  
Ex-Defence Civ. Officer who translated  
the Telugu version of this book into English.*

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&

**ANGARA VENKATESWARA RAO (VENKAT)**

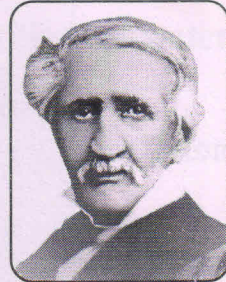
Photo Magic, Main Road, Mandapeta - 533 308,  
Cell : 9885867426, E-mail : photomagic123@gmail.com



## **THERE IS A NECESSITY FOR A LEADER LIKE HIM TO INDIA**

The wealth of India depends mainly on water resources in that country. The future depends on the utilization of water in India. Like in Egypt where the resources of Water gives boost to the development of that country, the India will also become wealthy through the resources of water. There is a necessity for India to have a Genius Person like Lord Dophrickwho developed Egypt. More than other resources, the utilization of water resources should be the main task for India on which the welfare and wealth of the people depend.

- **Sir Arthur Thomas Cotton**
- **20-04-1898**



This matter was written in a letter to his son-in-law on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1898 by Sir Arthur Cotton before one year of his death, citing an important subject in the Report sent to the British Indian Government.

The facsimile of a hand paint Photo of  
**Mr. ARTHUR COTTON**

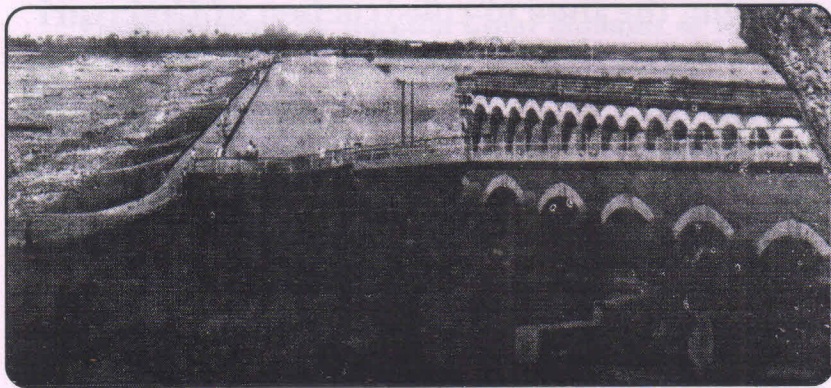
at his age of 44 Years, made at the time of construction of  
Godavari Barrage in the year AD 1847.



There was no Photography technology entered into India  
at that time. As such, the photos of Cotton Dora depicted and  
seen by all of us now are of his age of 76 years.



## PHOTO OF GODAVARI OLD DAM



- ★ It was the First Dam constructed on vital Rivers in the world,
- ★ The wonderful Dam enabled the World to know about irrigation.
- ★ It was an inspiration in India to utilize the water sources for irrigation.
- ★ It was a Road-Cum-Bridge used for transportation through Bullock Carts, Horse Carts.
- ★ Heavy cargo/items were lifted in boats from either side of Godavari and transported through heavy vehicles without using this Dam in those days.
- ★ Afterwards, it was used as National High Way No. 5 till the Road Bridges were constructed In Ravulapalem and Siddantham.

*/// Cotton & Veeranna'////////////////////*

**During the time of construction of Godavari  
Barrage in the year AD 1847.**

**Mr. VEENEM VEERANNA was 50 years old  
when he worked with Mr. ARTHUR COTTON**

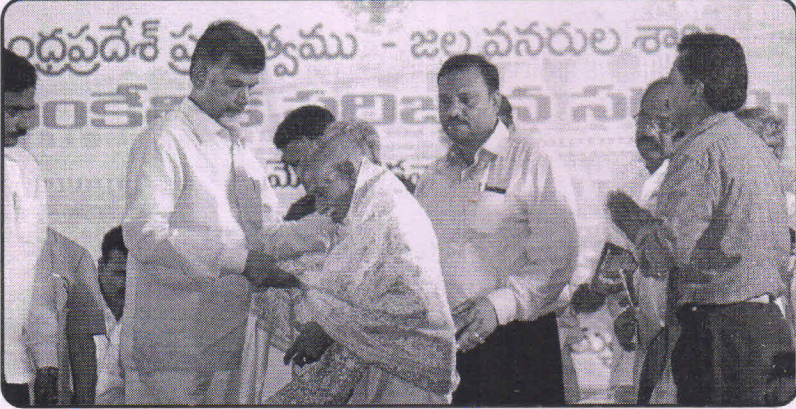


*There was no Photography technology entered into India.*

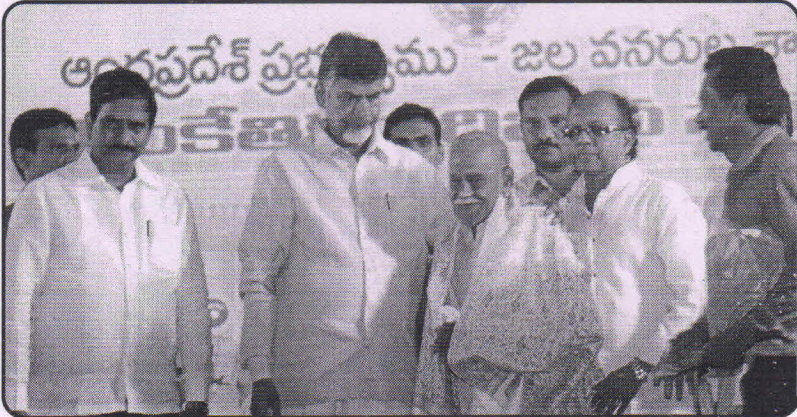
*This photo was hand painted by artist.*



**Felicitation to the Heir of First Telugu Engineer  
Sri Veenem Veeranna and gracious announcement of  
Financial Help by Hon.Ble Chief Minister of A.P.**



Seen in the picture of Felicitation to Sri Veenem Narayana Rao by Hon.Ble Chief Minister are Sri Sugunakara Rao, Superintendent Engineer, Dowlaiswaram Barrage, Sri Akula Satyanarayana Member of Legislative Assembly, Rajahmundry and Sri Veenem Bhaskara Rao, the Heir of 5<sup>th</sup> Generation of Sri VeenemVeeranna.



Hon.ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh felicitated Sri Veenem Venkata Narayana Rao, the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Heir of Sri VeenemVeeranna and announced Financial Help of Rs. 10,00,000/-.  
Seen in the picture are Irrigation Minister Sri Devineni Uma Maheswara Rao and the Writer of the Book Sri Buddiga Sai Ganesh.



## THE FIRST BARRAGE CONSTRUCTED ON RIVER GODAVARI

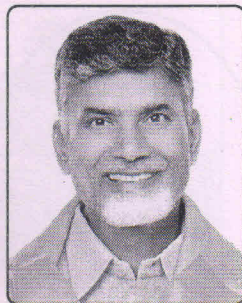


The Barrage constructed with the Plan of Cotton Dora under the supervision of Veeranna during 1847-1852 that looked like this from the side of Village Vijjeswaram, in those days.





**SRI NARA CHANDRABABU NAIDU,  
HON.BLE CHIEF  
MINISTER OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

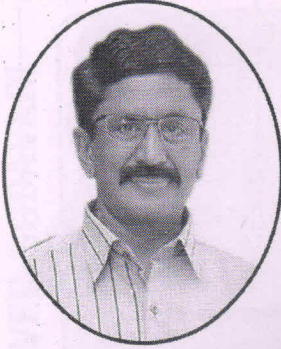


### **GREETINGS AND MESSAGE**

The “man-made” barrage constructed on Godavari in those days was the First Dam constructed in the world on vital rivers which not only made our Country to understand the necessity of irrigation but enabled the world to know about the necessity of irrigation. Not only this, it was a wonderful construction as Road-Cum-Barrage, in those days. This Road was used as National Highway – 5 that starts from Calcutta to Madras, till the period the Road Bridges of Ravulapalem and Siddantham were constructed. Except for public transport vehicles, the barrage was not used for transport of heavy goods/cargo that used to be lifted in boats to either side from East and West sides of Godavari and then transported in Heavy Vehicles, in those days.

I congratulate the Author Sri Buddiga Sai Ganesh for he brought out the forgotten life history and the greatness of the First Telugu Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna who played a great role in the construction of Godavari Dam alongwith Sri Arthur Cotton. It is admirable because the Author has written this book after investigating and analyzing the proofs of real Life Histories of Sri VeenemVeeranna and Sri Cotton Dora which no other Author has done.

**(Nara Chandrababu Naidu)  
Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**



Thanks to

**SRI MAGANTI MURALIMOCHAN, M.P.**

The story of “First Telugu Engineer who showed Godavari to Cotton Dora” from pages 17 to 26 Of this Book were mailed by me to Sri Maganti Muralimohan who immediately paid his attention to the same and called me to his Jayabheri Office at Hyderabad where after verifying the facts of the story

asked me to go to the Chief Engineer Sri Haribabu, Dowlaiswaram whom he would phone up, and show the place of Stone Plate which depicted the name of Sri VeenemVeeranna and get the bushes removed from that place. Sri Murali Mohan showing more anxiety than what I have, has encouraged me in this Program and attended the Meeting of Anniversary of Sri VeenemVeeranna on 12.10.2014 where he unveiled the Old Stone Plate of SreeVeenemVeeranna which was titivated by me and the Board written with the information of the Stone Plate, has also unveiled the Photos of Sri VeenemVeeranna by the side of the Photo of Sri Cotton Dora at the Headlocks. He left no stone unturned to bring the First Telugu Engineer to lime light and he is putting his relentless efforts towards this.

Also, not only he made a promise to erect the statue of the first Telugu Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna at the site of the Stone Plate at Headlock, but also he is working with great zeal towards this. I sincerely hope that he will succeed in his efforts by the time the “Godavari Puskaralu” start and the statue of the First Telugu Engineer will be unveiled by Sri Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Hon.Ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh .

**- Buddiga Sai Ganesh**

Author , Investigator, Director & Producer





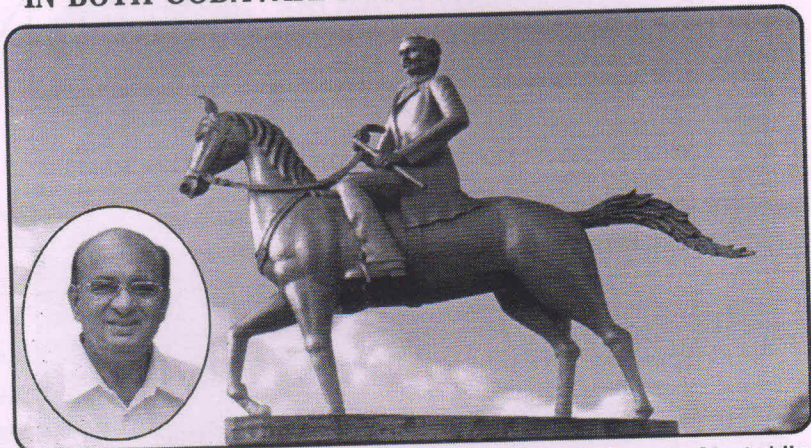
Left side Photo : Author Sri Buddiga Sai Ganesh at the site of Stone Plate of Sri VeenemVeeranna which was erected by East India Company in 1867. Sri Sai Ganesh installed an Iron Board showing the location of Stone Plate of Veenem Veeranna.

Right side Photo : Sri Maganti Murlimohan, M.P who newly unveiled the Stone Plate of VeenemVeeranna.

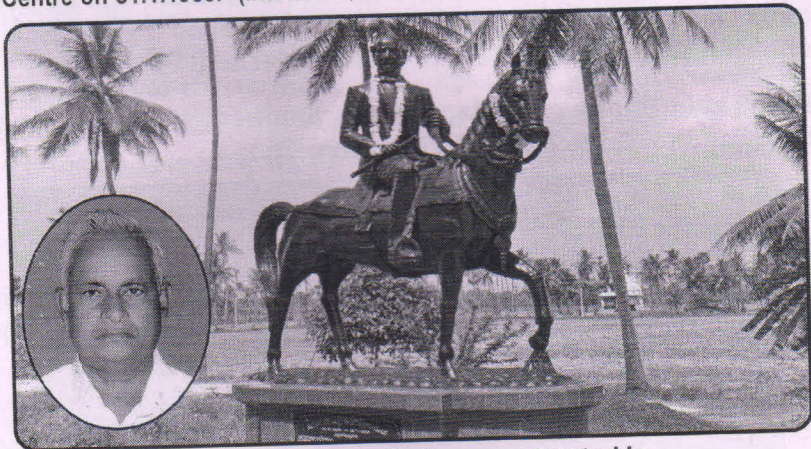




*Cotton & Veeranna*  
**THE FIRST STATUES OF MR. COTTON CONSTRUCTED  
 IN BOTH GODAVARI DISTRICTS IN HIS MEMORY.**



The statue of Mr. Cotton on the horse erected during the tenure of erstwhile President of Godavari Delta System Committee Sri VaddeVeerabhadraRao which was unveiled by Sri Gorantla Buchaiah Chowdhary. at Barrage Centre on 31.1.1989. (Inside Photo is Mr. Gorantla Buchaiah Cowdhary).



First statue of Mr. Cotton constructed in West Godavari District in Kommara Village, Attili Mandal by Sri Mantena KrishnamRaju (Inside Photo) which was unveiled by Smt. Annapurnamma, W/o Sri Kanumuri Bapiraju on 15.6.1997. The noteworthy is that a number of these Statues were constructed in both the Godavari Districts.



## THE JOURNEY OF RIVER GODAVARI FROM WESTERN GHATS TO EASTERN BAY OF BENGAL.

The River Godavari takes its birth as Water groove at **Brahmagiris** located in Western Ghats, **80 KMs** away from Arabian sea and **115 KMs** from Mumbai and starts its journey as an infant and appears at Traimbakam Hills in the form of Water falls where the rain water from hills and other water channels join it at Gangapur and reach Nasik area like Kid Godavari. From here, the other water flows of Dharma Pravara, Mall, Khadrava joins Godavari which then reaches Paithan (Prathistanapuram). Prathistanapuram was an historical city from where imports and exports business was carried out in those days not only with other parts of the Country but also with countries like **Rome, Sumitra, Java, Arabian province**. Prathistanapuram was known as a First City which developed Telugu culture and its customs. Merging the sub-rivers like Manjeera, Vanjeera, Tallakhar, Halivendhi, Sukur, Purnalendhi into it at this place, the young Godavari flowing through the Districts of Nizamabad and Adilabad reaches Basara. Then in the journey, it merges with it the sub-rivers like Penganga/**Bihar**, Vagdha/**Madhya Pradesh, Pranahita/Chattisgarh**, Maneru, Kinnarasani canal and comes to Kaleswaram in Karimnagar District. Then it moves towards Warangal District and merges the river Indravathi/**Orissa** in it at Rekhavalli hills and reaches Bhadrachalam. Then moving further it merges Sileru canal/Visakhapatnam District and Sabari River at Kunavaram and becomes a very forceful river travelled in the width of **2 miles** area and enters in between area of Papikondalu, a narrow strip of **200 feet** which increases its speed rapidly that looks very magnificently. From here, it travels in between both the Godavari Districts (East and West Bank places are named after Godavari River) and enters Rajahmehendravaram, duly

## // Cotton & Veeranna //

merging into it the waters flowing from nearby lakes and thus culminates into as Great Godavari with **7 KMs** radius at Polavaram.

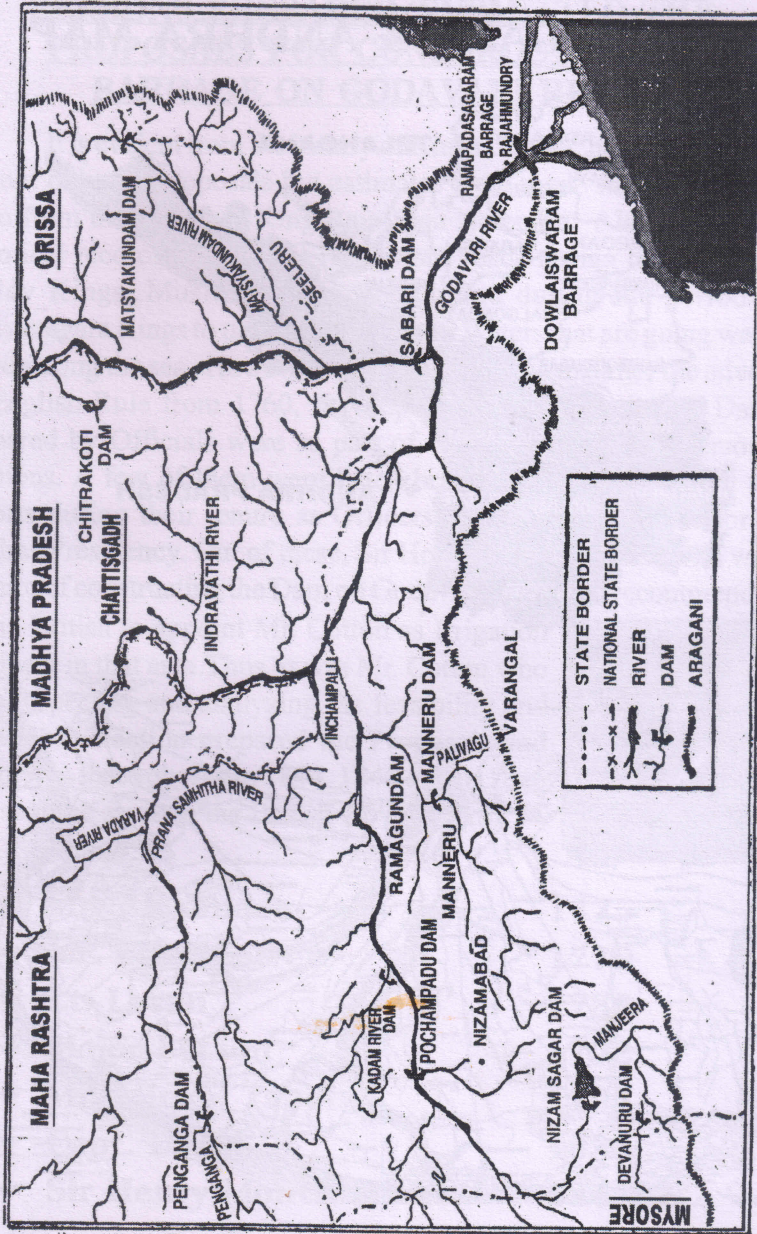
Then the River Godavari appears like a Great Mother at Dowlaiswaram, nearby Rajahmundry at **40 feet** upper side of the ruined Four Parts of Old Barrage constructed by Sir Arthur Cotton and Sri VeenemVeeranna, **125 years** ago over the four islands viz. (1) Pichuchukalanka, (2) Bobbarlanka(3)Maddurulanka (4) Chiduralanka where New Barrage was constructed on the name of Sir Arthur Cotton. The water though flows in four ways from the Dam but joins as One Flow after a little distance and moves further. After flowing further it takes two routes/branches with the name of Vasista, Gouthami. The Eastern side branch moves towards South and after travelling **85 KMs** it joins the sea at the islands of Antharvedhi and Bendamuru. The left side branch moves towards **75 KMs** east and enters the sea through the ports of Kakinada and Korangi. The land in between these two branches is very fertile viz. Godavari Delta which is in a triangle shape. Though it was called as Nagarkhandam in the olden days, it has now become famous as Konaseema. The Godavari river travels 1465 KMs through western ghats, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Chattishgarh, Telangana, border places of Orissa to reach the sea/ Bay of Bengal. The journey of River Godavari involves **770 KMs** distance in Telugu States and it covers **450 KMs in Telangana** and **320 KMs in Andhra**. While the Road and Rail Bridges look like a Necklace to the Godavari, the Road-cum-Rail Bridge adds more beauty to this River like a Gold Belt (Vaddanam). **The important sub-rivers to Godavari are Manjeera, Maneru, Pranahitha, Indravathi, and Sabari.**

- **BUDDIGA SAI GANESH**

Author, Investigator, Director & Producer



# GODAVARI RIVER VIEW

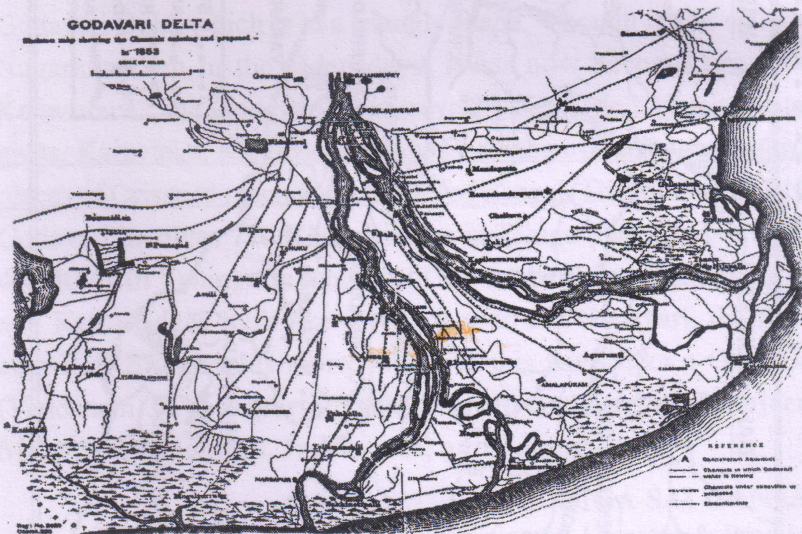




# TELANGANA & ANDHRA MAP



**GODAVARI DELTA**  
Sketch map showing the Godavari delta and project  
in 1955  
Scale of miles





*Cotton & Veeranna*

**PERSONS PREPARED/SUBMITTED THE  
PROPOSALS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF  
BARRAGE ON GODAVARI RIVER**

It is evident from the history of Kings Chola-Chalukya Dynasty that not only the proposals but estimates were made to construct the Dam from the period of King Raja-Raja Narendra. Also, as per the historical records, there were resolutions made during the period of Reddy Kings, Muslim Kings, French and during the period of Vijayanagara Kings to utilize the Godavari Waters that are going waste and entering the sea. However, we have to assume that after the advent of English Rule from 1760, the Reports for construction of Dams prepared by Officials were as part of their duties or their personal opinions. A few of them were listed below who had submitted the reports during their tenure as Officers in Godavari Districts or in Madras Presidency. Out of these, Sir Henry Monti Gomari who with the aim of constructing the Dam on Godavari River had recommended to the British to appoint Mr. Cotton as Irrigation Engineer in that area. Thus, it was Mr. Cotton who after inspecting and analyzing the feasibility and with all dedication prepared the Proposals and Reports in three phases in 1844, 1845 and in 1846 and sent the same to the British Government.



|                          |   |      |
|--------------------------|---|------|
| ☛ Mr. Alexander          | - | 1775 |
| ☛ Mr. John Selven        | - | 1779 |
| ☛ Lt. Leven              | - | 1786 |
| ☛ Major Batson           | - | 1792 |
| ☛ Mr. Mickel Tapping     | - | 1795 |
| ☛ Capt. Bakul            | - | 1839 |
| ☛ Sir Henry Monti Gomari | - | 1844 |



## NAMASUMANJALI TO ALL TELUGU & INDIAN PEOPLES

Our Ancestors thought that water resources are Nation's Wealth source. Duly following this, from the ancient people to present generation, they have implemented a number of schemes/programs and continuing the same. Among them, the Chola Kings in South India were the first and foremost who constructed Dams on Kaveri River in 13<sup>th</sup> Century. So, the Reps of East India Company Englishman Sir Arthur Cotton and the Pride of Telugus Mr. VeenemVeeranna who constructed the Dam on Godavari River in 18<sup>th</sup> Century were noteworthy persons and therefore, the former is treated/known as a replica of Bhagiratha and the latter as Son of Gauthami.

Everybody knows about Sri Arthur Cotton who constructed Godavari Barrage. But, we must agree that nobody knows about the Respectable Telugu Man Sri VeenemVeeranna, a sincere Companion to Sri Arthur Cotton who at every stage gave moral support and worked and walked with the latter. Because, even five Writers who wrote stories, books about Mr. Cotton and the Godavari Barrage did not give proper information about them. They could not elicit the information pertaining to his life journey, Date of his Birth etc. About ten honourable Writers made some mentions, viz. (1) A Teluguman Sri Veeranna played an important role in the construction of Godavari Barrage. (2) His name was carved on a Stone Wall near the Headlocks of the Dam (3) Sri Cotton Dora himself lauded Sri Veeranna at National and International Meetings (4) Appreciating the services of Sri VeenemVeeranna, East India Company bestowed the Award of "RaiBhahadur" to him. (5) In recognition of his services passed the Orders to give the revenues accrued from "Merripadu" village amounting to Rs. 500/- per year (The rate of a rice bag was Rs. 5/- during that time) for not only for his Life time but also to his Heirs .



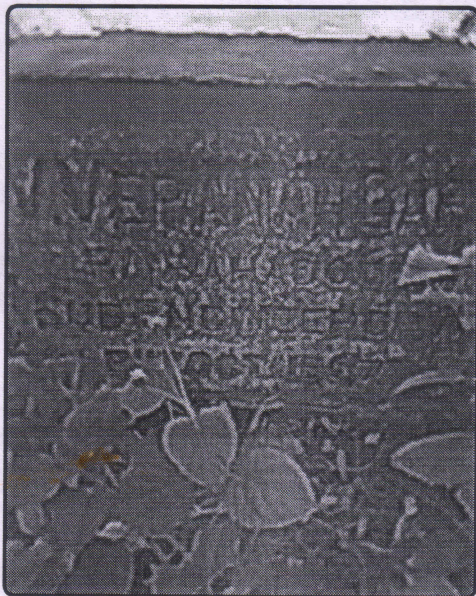
## /// Cotton & Veeranna ///

After the takeover of reigns of India by Queen Victoria after 1860, the Madras Presidency along with Mr. Cotton honored Mr. Veeranna with the title of “Rai Bahadur” which is superior to the title of “Raj Bahadur”. Since then, the Writers, Authors etc. are evincing keen interest to know about Mr. Veeranna’s Place of Birth, Region, Caste, Religion, his Education, his introduction to Mr. Cotton in those days and arrangement of 10,000 Laborers by him and training given to them for Barrage construction etc.

During the year 1860, along with Mr. Cotton, Sri Veenem Veeranna was also honoured by Victoria Queen who took over the reins of India at that time. Since then, the Writers, Authors etc. expressed their desire to know more about Sri Veeranna regarding his Place of Birth, the place he belonged, his caste, his religion, his

education, his introduction to Cotton Dora, his arrangement of Ten thousand Labourers for construction of the Dam and the training given to them etc.

Hence, for the last 30 years, I visited a number of places like Kolkatta, Mumbai, Madras, Maharastra, Orissa, Machilipatnam, Visakhapatnam, Bhadrachalam, Dowlaiswaram and its surrounding areas and now I am bringing out new things in this regard before you which were hitherto not known.



**Stone Plate of Sri Veenem Veeranna  
which was erected by  
East India Company in 1867**



## A BRIEF

It was Mr. Cotton who stopped the natural river waters going into Seas as waste- water by constructing Dams which helped for irrigation and for drinking purposes to crores of people. He played a lead role in the construction of Dam on Kaveri River in Tamilnadu and then in the construction of biggest Dam in the World i.e. on Godavari River and also played important role in the construction of Reservoirs on Krishna River as well as Dams and Reservoirs in the North. With a view to implement his schemes, suggestions in the coming days, a number of State Governments are voicing/discussing these in the respective Forums like Parliament.

The impeccable events in his life history, personal life, his perseverance, enthusiasm, dedication, success accomplished pursuing with British authorities are noteworthy. During the process of these, he had forgone the sweetness of his youthful life, bore the brunt of people who opposed the development in this area allegations made by Corrupt people and curses by atheists. Though the Doctors confirmed that he would live only for short period because of climatic and environmental conditions at the place of his works, he stood steadfast against all these odds and lived for 96 years with qualitative life. He argued in British Parliament for the welfare of India and chalked out many a Plan for the welfare of India , hence he lives for ever in the history of our Country.

The close confidant to such a Gentleman was a Telugu man Mr. VeenemVeerannawhom Cotton Dora himself applauded a number of times saying that without Mr. VeenemVeeranna, I would not have not constructed this wonderful Dam so quickly, so easily and with less expenditure. The selflessness and sacrificial life history of Sri VeenemVeeranna is prepared with factual proofs for Cinema documentary which is made in a Book form with a view to spread this not only to Telugus but also to all Indians and the World.



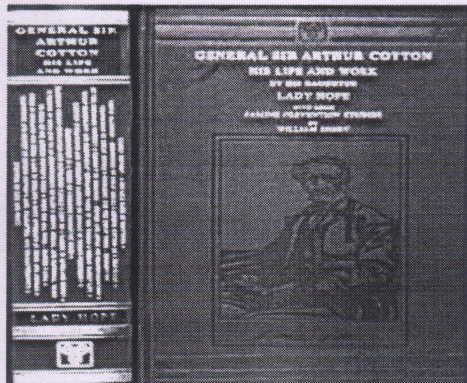
## GRATEFUL THANKS

My sincere thanks to the Officers of Irrigation Department of West Bengal who extended their cooperation in my investigations since 1974, Calcutta Librarians, Senior Officers of Irrigation Department of Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Librarians, Senior Officers of Town Water Departments of Machilipatnam, Vijaywada, Rajahmundry, Visakhapatnam, Sri S. Hari Babu, Chief Engineer, Dowlaiswaram, Sri S. Sugunakar, Superintendent Engineer, Barrage old Supervisor Sri Desika Achari Ananyam Heir who showed the Rai Bahadur Medal and gave the permission to photograph the same, Officials of Cotton Museum who preserved the Sword used by Sri Veeranna and to Sri Veenem Prasad Rao, A.E. I would like to place on record my heartfelt thanks to Dr. M. Gangaiah who gave unstinted support to me in this endeavour, Sri Veenem Suryanarayana who apprised me about the lands of Sri Veenem Veeranna that have gone into the hands of illegal persons stories, To Sri Angara Venkat who not only extended his onerous services for securing proofs for my Investigation for authentication of events but also made the still photographs required in this task & My sincere thanks to Sri G. Venkata Reddy who printed and delivered this book in time. To Sri Rasheed Bhai Who with utmost patience carried out the DTP works of this book, duly incorporating the required changes that have been made, a number of times.

- **Buddiga Sai Ganesh**



**LADY HOPE**



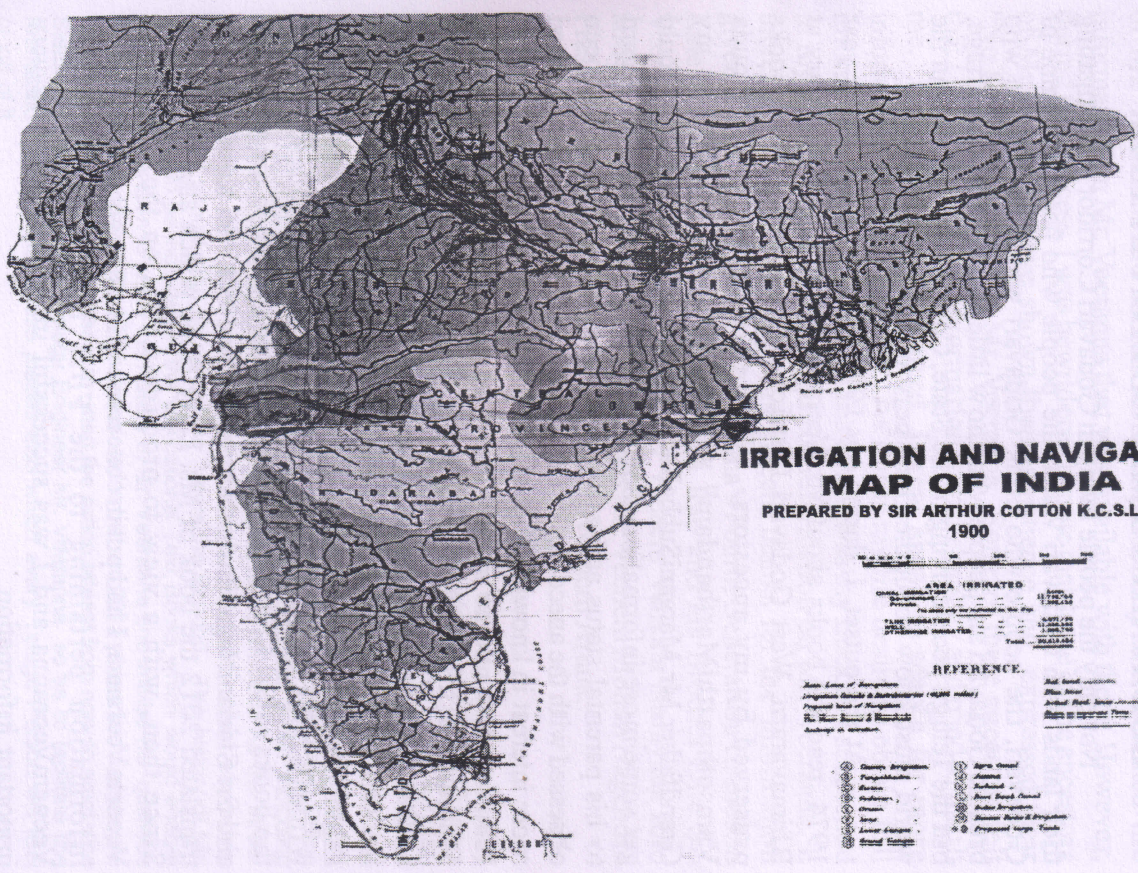
**COTTON HISTORY BOOK**

It was Mr. Cotton's daughter Lady Hope who very interestingly secured/ gathered the subjects of events of her father Mr. Cotton's life and published it. If this was done by her, not only the life history and journey of events of our First Telugu Engineer Sri Veenem Veeranna but also the Journey of Cotton Dora would have gone unnoticed and put to astray of the history. Her book titled "General Sir Arthur Cotton" was published in 1999 which is an inspiration to a number of people. This book was also translated into some other important languages. Some of the contents of this book are printed in these pages, too.









# IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION MAP OF INDIA

PREPARED BY SIR ARTHUR COTTON K.C.S.L., R.E.  
1900



| AREA IRRIGATED      |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Actual Irrigation   | 1,170,000 |
| Proposed Irrigation | 1,000,000 |
| Total               | 2,170,000 |

REFERENCE.

State Lines of Navigation  
Navigation Canals in India (1900-1901)  
Proposed Lines of Navigation  
The River Board & Navigation  
Canals in India

State Lines of Navigation  
River Board  
Canals in India  
Proposed Lines of Navigation

- 1. Ganges Irrigation
- 2. Yamuna Irrigation
- 3. Brahmaputra
- 4. Indus
- 5. Lower Ganges
- 6. Upper Ganges
- 7. Godavari
- 8. Krishna
- 9. Cauvery
- 10. Narmada
- 11. Tapi
- 12. Mahanadi
- 13. Pennar
- 14. Kaveri
- 15. Tungabhadra
- 16. Malaprabha
- 17. Sravasti
- 18. Chambal
- 19. Betwa
- 20. Son
- 21. Ghaghara
- 22. Gandak
- 23. Gomti
- 24. Rapti
- 25. Sonmukhi
- 26. Ghagra
- 27. Gomti
- 28. Rapti
- 29. Sonmukhi
- 30. Ghagra
- 31. Gomti
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- 94. Ghagra
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- 96. Rapti
- 97. Sonmukhi
- 98. Ghagra
- 99. Gomti
- 100. Rapti



**THE VERY FIRST TELUGU INDIAN ENGINEER  
SRI VEENEM VEERANNA WHO SHOWED RIVER  
GODAVARI TO MR. COTTON IN 1844.**

Not only the people living in Godavari Corridor and irrigating their lands with Godavari Water, the people who heard the name of Godavari, the people who drink Godavari water, the people who breathe Godavari air, people who know little about Godavari Barrage, but the Telugu people living in the State, Country and throughout the world must know about the Great person Sri VeenemVeeranna.

At the outset, I, during my 19<sup>th</sup> year of my age in the year 1974 read the books about Mr. VeenemVeeranna in the Library at Bhimavaram, West Godavari District and also the age old books preserved by my ancestors. While reading the book "Gouda VamsothpatthiMarthandam" written in the year 1942 by my Grandfather Mr. MarganiSubbaRao,( resident of Rajahmundry) I could get some more information about Mr. VeenemVeeranna with regard to his parental status and caste. Since then till 1986, having been obsessed with the anecdotes of this great Telugu Engineer, I developed more interest in knowing about him primarily because of my entry in Film Industry. Some of the Prominent Persons of Film Industry at Madras and friends told me that Ms. Lady Hope, daughter of Mr. Cotton Dora had already written a book on the Life History of her father wherein the mention of Mr. Veenem Veeranna was made. Prominent Politician and noted Person Sri Balusu Satyanarayana had written a book on Mr. Cotton Dora before the independence. I read the books of Sri KothapalliVeerabhadraRao written in the year 1989 and Sri SiddaniNagabhushanam written in 1994. Sri Kavana Sarma translated 2012 the book of Ms. Lady Hope which also I had read. Since then, with a view to produce a film on the life of Mr. VeenemVeeranna, I had put in concerted efforts to get the important information pertaining to the First Telugu Engineer Mr. VeenemVeeranna and I was successful in getting this very-very important information.



During the process of obtaining the information on Mr. Veenem Veeranna, I found out the places of the ancestors of fourth generation of Mr. Veeranna and talked to them personally and obtained the information on Mr. Veeranna that was available with them. However, during this process, I was bewildered to note that some of the ancestors of Mr. Veeranna have shown their impatience and expressed their "No Knowledge" about Mr. Veeranna. Some of these ancestors felt that I am obtaining this information to make money and tried to insult me. Nevertheless, undeterred, I went ahead to search for more information on Mr. Veeranna. As it was my life desire to obtain full information on Mr. Veeranna, I felt that it was my Luck as I succeeded in my efforts in getting the required information on Mr. Veeranna. I, therefore, place on record my sincere thanks for the information given in the year 2003 to Mr. Veeranna's Fourth Generation Grandson Late Sri Veenem Subramanyeswara Rao and his Brother Late Sri Veenem Venkateswara Rao and Sri Veenem Venkata Narayana Rao and also to Fifth Generation Grandsons Mr. Veenem Mohan Nagendra Prasad, Mr. Veenem Bhaskara Rao and Veenem Aruna.

### MY HUMBLE APPEAL

It is unpardonable on the part of our Rulers for they kept aside the history of a Great Person Mr. Veeranna who brought to the knowledge of British 170 years ago about the sincerity, affection, sacrificial nature, and honesty the Telugu & Indian People possess. Due to the lethargy on the part of the Government, most of even local people are not aware of this Great First Telugu Engineer Mr. Veeranna.

Therefore, the Government should immediately take action to erect the Statues of Mr. Veeranna at Dowlaiswaram Barrage, at the Gram Panchayat Office of Memipadu village, as well as at the villages located in Godavari Basin including at the places where the statues of Mr. Cotton Dora were erected. As the street where Mr. Cotton Dora lived was named as "Cotton Peta", the street where Mr. Veeranna lived should also be named as "Veeranna Veedhi". The history of Mr. Veeranna should be included in the Educational Text Books which would enable the future generation to know the history of Mr. Veeranna and imbibe his qualities too. Since Godavari Puskaralu are slated to be held 2015 where lakhs of people visit Rajahmundry, it is necessary to start the action atleast from now to erect the Statues of this Great First Telugu Engineer Mr. Veeranna so as to facilitate the Puskaralu Public to visit these places also which every Telugu Person will feel proud of it.



## **LIFE HISTORY OF MR. VEENEM VEERANNA, FIRST TELUGU ENGINEER IN INDIA.**

Mr. VeenemVeeranna was born in the caste of (Gowda Brahmin Shaka, Sistu Karanalu) which belongs to Shaiva Community and Heirs of ParasuraGothram (now being called as Patnaiks, Mahantu in Orissa). His ancestors and his father Sri VeenemKollaiah were the natives of RajahmahendraNagaram. His Great Grandfathers worked as Accountants/Ghanankulu during the period of Rajanarendrudu. His mother Smt. VeeraRaghavamma belonged to Dommagudem Village, nearby Bhadrachalam. Mr. VeenemVeeranna was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1794 and was the first son to his Parents followed by three brothers and one sister. The ancestors of Mr. Veeranna worked in different Departments of East India Company. His father Mr. VeenemKollaiah, because of his employment at Machilipatnam in the Government Office of British Empire, had left Mr. Veeranna during his childhood with mother and therefore he used to commute between Machilipatnam and Rajahmahendri. Having settled in Rajahmahendri, Mr. Veeranna had completed his primary education there.

Subsequently, after completion of Higher education in Anglo Indian College at Machilipatnam, as per the advice of his father, he went to Bengal State which was under the rule of British Empire and completed the Overseer course (Seven subjects) which includes/on par with Engineering Course, there. He then had the training in Engineering Wing under the English Trainers at Madras and as per their advice he joined the Irrigation Department as a small employee in the year 1840 under British Government at Rajahmahendri. During this period, in the year 1844, welcoming Mr. Arthur Cotton who came to Rajamahendri to analyze the Godavari basin Mr. Veeranna introduced himself to Mr. Cotton and then started his career as his Assistant.

Mr. Veeranna married Ms. Venkateswari (Venkayamma) in the year 1820 and had four sons and one daughter viz. Veenem



## *Cotton & Veeranna*

Venkataratnam (first son) Veenem Janardhana Swamy (second son), VeenemKollaiah (third son) VeenemSeetharamSwamy (fourth son) and EluruBapamma (Daughter).

Since then, Mr. Veeranna not only worked as an Assistant to Mr. Cotton Dora but also, moving as a Family Member of the latter had carried out notable works, a few of them were (1) House hold duties of Mr. Cotton (2) Social security to Mr. Cotton (3) Providing Maid Servants and Servants (4) Managing the works of Mr. Cotton during the period of his ill-health. Taking care of these, Mr. Veeranna accompanied and travelled with Mr. Cotton to far of places upto 1500 KMs in Godavari Basin on foot and on Horses for months together when there was no conveyance of Engine Boats, eating only bananas, mangoes and guava fruits. Giving required protection to Mr. Cotton from Way thieves, wild animals and dreaded poisonous snakes Mr. Veeranna continued these works upto 1845. At that time, East India Company provided two Assistants only to Mr. Cotton for carrying out his jobs.

Having prepared the Project Plans, after the Rainy Season, from the month of November till the start of the construction work of Godavari Barrage, both Mr. Veeranna and Mr. Cotton travelled interior places of East and West Godavari Districts and Krishna Districts which were called as Rajahmundry District at that time and enlightened the Farmers, Workers the need for water canals for agriculture purpose and made them to dig water canals through self-help for this purpose. They had put in untiring efforts at times foregoing their food to accomplish the desired results.

Mr. Veeranna was 53 years old while Mr. Cotton Dora was 44 years at the time of inauguration of the construction work of Godavari Barrage in 1847. Though Mr. Cotton Dora was younger to Mr. Veeranna, he treated Mr. Veeranna as his Brother. Mr. Cotton Dora and his wife Ms. Liyamath, an Australian Lady had four years Daughter named Lady Hope at the time of inauguration of this Project.



In the initial days, though the local workers did not come forward to work for the Project, Mr. Veeranna brought workers from Orissa and Bengal states and trained them to work for the Project. The workers were paid proper wages for their daily works which had impressed not only the locals but also the workers of neighboring places of Krishna and Guntur regions who subsequently participated in the construction works of this Project till it was completed. There was no transport except bullock and Horse carts in those days. With the influence his fore-fathers had with the Tribals, Mr. Veeranna was successful in getting the Tribal workers also to work for this Mega Project. He trained them for this work. He declared Sunday as Holiday and paid the wages on Saturday itself which induced confidence in the minds of workers. He constructed shelters for the workers and provided the medical facilities and took care of them in all respects. In this process by the year 1851, he gathered around 10,000 workers who participated in this Mega Project and got the works completed as per the directions of Mr. Cotton Dora.

There were no complaints of corruption nor any deficiency in the administration and in the management with the perfect planning and coordination implemented by Mr. Veeranna. The most important was that there was not a single accident or death occurred during the time of construction of this Mega project. Thus, Mr. Veeranna took a vital role and his contributions were noteworthy in every respect pertaining to Godavari Barrage.

Though in the year 1848 and again in 1851 some delay took place in receipt of the money from East India Company for payment of wages to the workers, Mr. Veeranna managed/gathered the funds and made the payments to the workers with a view to enthuse the workers for continuing the works.

Surprisingly, there were rumors spread by some local Jamindars who had opposed the construction as well as by opponents in English empire that the construction work of the Barrage was



stopped. Despite these rumors, the workers deposing their confidence in Mr. Cotton Dora and Mr. Veeranna continued their works. Not giving cognizance to such rumors, The East India Company having noted the progress of the construction works as well as the sincerity of Mr. Cotton Dora and Mr. Veeranna sent the money and the raw material for continuation of work which ultimately resulted in completion of all Project works by 31 March 1852.

Mr. Cotton Dora had sent a Report to East India Co. stating that without the dedication, enthusiasm, sincerity shown by Mr. Veeranna, his dreams would have not come true in construction of the Barrage. He also made a noting with his own hand writing stating that **“ Had I not got Mr. Veeranna, a Great Hindu, I would have not completed this Great Project, hence I am indebted to Mr. Veeranna through out my life”**. Not only this, Mr. Cotton Dora recommended to East India Co. and requested Queen Victoria to honor Mr. Veeranna suitably for the contributions made by the latter.

In response, the East India Co. had taken a decision to donate the income received from the village “Mernipadu” which is 20 KMS away from the Barrage to Mr. Veeranna. Also, Queen Victoria conferred Mr. Veeranna with the title of “Rai Bahadur”.

Mention may be made here that from 1844 till the project was completed in the year 1852, during the absence of Mr. Cotton Dora who was away to London due to ill health, Mr. Veeranna with his rapport with the English Officers had continued the Project works. Also 1857 after construction of the Barrage, he used to get the required works carried out by the British Administration during the Godavari Floods.

Afterwards, Mr. Veeranna continued to spend his time at Dowlaiswaram Head Locks only till his death in the year 1867. Mr. Veeranna due to overstrain and severe summer at that time, fell sick with Jaundice in the month of July and breathed his last on 12<sup>th</sup> October. As per his wish, his last rites were performed at Head Lock area only









**IN MEMORY OF RAI BAHADUR VENEM VEERANNA GARU**  
**DIED IN OCTOBER 1867**

Worked on the Godavari Anicut works under General Sir Arthur Cotton as a Sub-Engineer with Mental ability and energy. His works were recognized by the Government for having largely Aided for the successful accomplishment of a Great work and in recognition of these services The Government were pleased to grant him encashment of Revenue of the Village Marnipadu near Dolwaiswaram and an Acknowledgement is made in the village of Marnipadu.

This Memorial Tower as well as the statue of Mr. Cotton erected adjacent to it were submerged in the Cyclone Waters at Dowlaiswaram Barrage in 1986. Unnoticed and due to inadvertence, the Officials did not lift these out and constructed the New Barrage leaving them in the submerged waters.



## **BIRTH PLACE OF MR. COTTON HIS PARENTS CHILDHOOD YOUTH PERIOD AND HIS LIFE JOURNEY**

Mr. Cotton was born in Camburg Meer Abhi in England where Christian Priests lived in large number. He was the 10<sup>th</sup> child to his Parents. During his childhood he showed immense interest in water falls, rivers etc. and used to work for providing proper water supply to the Gardens in his colony

At the age of 15<sup>th</sup> year, he joined British Military Training Centre called "Edis Comb" to work in Artillery in India on behalf of England. Subsequently, at the age of 18<sup>th</sup> year, on behalf of East India Company and to work in Madras Presidency he travelled in a ship for more than four months and reached Madras. There used to be number of deaths in ships on account of sea-fevers etc. in those days. After reaching Madras Presidency, he had the training for about one year in Madras Presidency Engineering Division in the rank of Second Lieutenant Engineer and carried out deep surveys on Rivers, water sources in Tamilnadu, Kerala, Karnataka and gave suggestions to the people of those areas for the development. He constructed buildings and Godowns at St. Thomas Mount, Madras for military needs and to store the food grains for the Services. When he was 20 years old, he was the First Lieutenant and took part in the War erupted between East India Company and Burma, The Burma was running their Government with French Cooperation at that time. Mr Cotton in 1824 won this war. **As he killed a number of soldiers in the war, he felt dejected and vowed on the name of God that he will not work to kill the people but work that will give life to the people and therefore worked throughout his life for the people.**

He also worked as Superintendent in the Irrigation Department of Madras Presidency and rose to the rank of Captain. To cut down the travelling distance between Cylone and India, he got the Rambus sea route (Ramasetu) deepened for ship movement which not only reduced the travelling distance but also saved the commuting time



////// Cotton & Veeranna // which improved the business and trade movements between the two countries. On account of these hectic works, he fell ill in 1827 and left for England to take rest for some time.

He came back from England in the year 1830 and constructed two small Dams on Kaveri River which helped East India Company in receiving the maximum revenue from Agriculture in India; thus Mr. Cotton earned the name and fame on account of construction of Dams. While carrying out these strenuous tasks, he again feel ill and this time, he went to Australia to take rest and stayed at Homberth Town Sea shore area. During his stay here, he fell in love with a beautiful and kind-hearted lady named Liyamath. He wanted to marry Liyamath but Doctors treating his illness confirmed that he will not live formore than two years. Undeterred, Liyamath decided to marry him and **'live with him till his death and as such she married him.'** Mr. Cotton lived for 96 years and did a great and commendable service to Indians.



During the construction of Godavari Barrage, Cotton Dora lived in this House With His family which is now on the hillock at Bommuru Village.



House constructed by Brothers-in-law of Mr. Cotton in 1870 in Britain for Mr. Cotton as has no house.



- 1706** : Cyclone hit the Korangi, a very important Port in Godavari Districts. A number of commercial Ships were destroyed and fifteen thousand people lost their lives.
- 1752** : Cyclone hit the Corridor of Visakhapatnam and the loss was enormous.
- 1771** : Due to heavy rains in Upper catchment area, agriculture fields were damaged and heavy losses incurred.
- 1787** : Again, cyclone hit Korangi – Bay of Bengal catchment area. Lot of ships were drowned in the sea and ten thousand people died.
- 1789** : Sunami occurred in another Corridor in Bay of Bengal “Yanam”. Nearly twenty thousand people died and 50 ships were submerged in the sea.
- 1800** : Cyclone hit the catchment area of the sea in Guntur District and 12000 people lost their lives. Godowns with food grains were drowned in the water. Because of shortage of food grains, severe famine took place.
- 1830** : Incessant rains in both the Godavari Districts, Krishna District and Visakhapatnam District rendered the people homeless.
- 1832** : Nearly six thousand people died because of cyclone that had again hit Korangi Port.



## /// Cotton & Veeranna ///

**1839** : Cyclone hit Bay of Bengal and 30,000 people died and Korangi Port completely ruined.

**1844** : Cyclone hit Machilipatnam that submerged a number of Food grain Godowns and ships and about Fifteen thousand people died.

During this period, a number of villages were washed away due to floods, the flood waters were of no use as they ultimately went into the sea. Also, due to severe famine broke out in these areas, there were no crops and no fodder for animals which killed nearly a crore people. Unable to live at these places, people used to migrate to Nizam, Karnataka, Tamilnadu for livelihood and due to non-availability of agricultural labor, the irrigation of lands came to halt. As a result, the Landlords and Jamindars were not able to pay the taxes to British East India Company and used to leave for Calcutta and Madras to spend their time on rest.



**Due to Cyclone and Floods, people are migrating to other places**





## ST. JOHNS CHURCH, VISAKHAPATNAM

DATE 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1844.



A tall man entered the newly constructed Church and sent a message through a British Soldier stationed there to inform to the Sir inside, about his arrival.

Within minutes, a handsome white man of 6 feet who has very shining body with attentive eyes came out of the Church Door whom the Man waiting outside after getting down from his Horse, had saluted him. With true Telugu Culture, Mr. Cotton reciprocated with Namaskaram and asked his name, for which he replied saying "Sir, my name is Veeranna". Mr. Cotton Dora then shook hands with Mr. Veeranna saying Oh. You are Mr. Veeranna. Mr. Veeranna was bewildered noting down the Telugu pronunciation of Mr. Cotton and said that his name is Vatti (only) Veer Anna. Then, Mr. Cotton patted on his shoulder and said to him saying "Then, you are like my Brother".



## /// Cotton & Veeranna ///

The introduction of each other has grown since then leaps and bounds and their close understanding and strenuous services have yielded the desired results in construction of Godavari Barrage which was dedicated to the Nation on 31<sup>st</sup> March 1852.

- ★ The age of Mr. Cotton was 41 years while Sri VeenemVeeranna was 50 years old at that time.
- ★ The East India Company used to get their Representatives acquainted/toughtwith the local languages through the Experts deputed from Calcutta and Madras Presidencies. This is way, Mr. Cotton spoke in perfect Telugu as mentioned above.
- ★ The Madras Presidency had deputed Mr. Cotton to Visakhapatnam in the year 1843 at the time of construction of St. Johns Church as well as East India Company Colony to take appropriate action to protect these from sea erosion.
- ★ Madras Presidency means that to rule the South India consisting of (present Karnataka, Kerala, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh states) East India Company has established its Capital and Secretariat at Madras and at Calcutta as Capital to rule North India.
- ★ Mr. Cotton livedon Dolphin Nose Hill with his One and Half a Year Baby Daughter and Australian wife Eligibethwhom he loved and married at that time.
- ★ Mr. Cotton was less spoken, simple and though loved the Comedy but used to get angry and fight against anybody including his higher officials whom he had the tendency to question sarcastically.



## **12<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 1844 – RAJAMEHENDRI (RAJAHMUNDRI)**

Mr. Cotton travelling from Visakhapatnam landed at Korangi Port where Mr. Veenem Veeranna received and accompanied with him to inspect the Godavari Corridor and surrounding water flows. Then, they both prepared Plans and Reports and sent the same to Madras Presidency and East India Company in London which were approved by the Board of Directors on 23.12.1846. Thereafter, Mr. Cotton and Mr. Veeranna started the construction worksof Godavari Barrage.

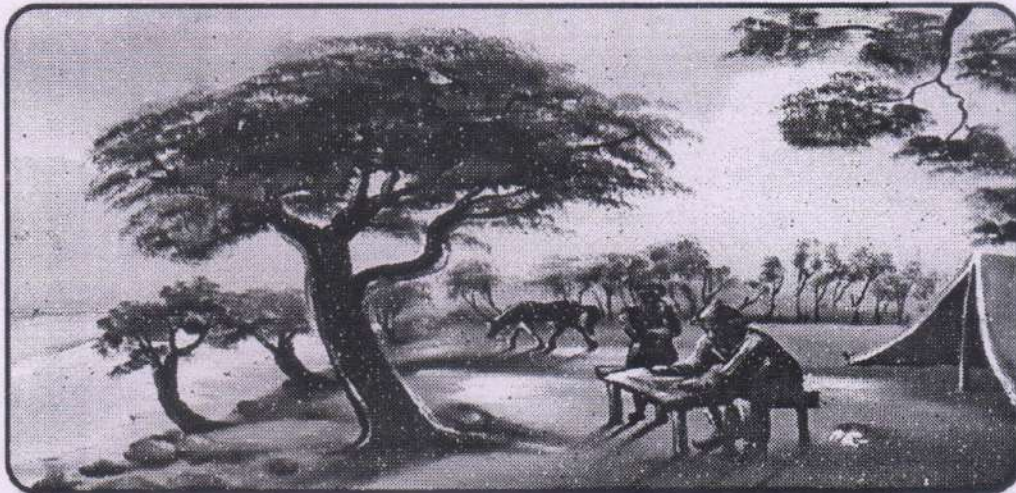


**Though Mr. Cotton desired to construct the Dam at Pattiseema, the then Jamindars of Polavaram opposed the same, thereby Mr. Cotton shelved the project unwillingly.**



**Mr. Cotton selected the Dowlaiswaram Area where four islands are in one line which was suitable for construction of the Dam**





**Confirming his decision and with the cooperation of Sri Veenem Veeranna Mr. Cotton sent the proposal Report to Madras Presidency & London.**

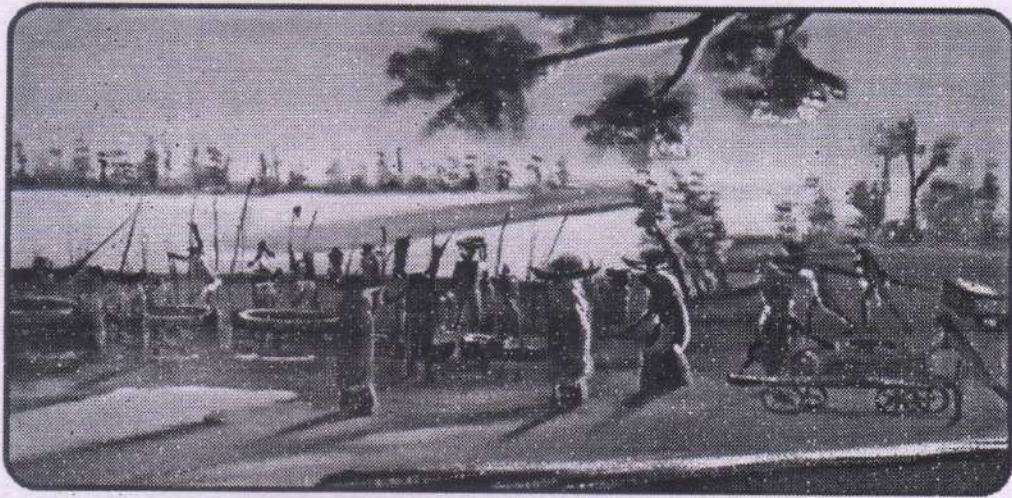


**Mr. Cotton & Mr. Veeranna started the Dam works at the selected place With the available labourers.**



**Mr. Cotton & Mr. Veeranna giving instructions to the Labourers to work On the Machines that were brought from Calcutta and Madras.**





**Building of Dam Foundation in well-shaped Form with the expertise of Mr. Cotton.**



**Carrying the stone slates in local country boats for construction of Dam.**



**Almost completed of construction of Barrage**



## 1852 – SANKRANTHI FESTIVAL DAY WEST GODAVARI DISTRICT – ELURU AREA

During the construction period of Godavari Barrage in 5 years, Mr. Cotton used to go round both Godavari Districts (he stayed 2 years only in India during the time of construction) along with Mr. Veenem Veeranna to meet the farmers, people and conducted meetings to apprise them as to how to utilize the water through digging the canals to improve the agriculture.

After dedicating the Godavari Barrage to the Nation, he integrated the Krishna Delta Canal and paved the way for shipping transportation between Kakinada & Madras. Then, he got the promotion as Chief Engineer and thereafter he inspected a number of rivers and their passages and under his supervision few more Dams



(like Tungabhadra Sunkesula Dam, Krishna Barrage) were constructed. For development of agriculture, not only through Canals constructed like Penna, Kadapa, Kurnool canals but also he gave suggestions for construction of reservoirs on Krishna River at Nandi Konda, on Godavari River at Pochampadu. He retired from service in 1860 and went back to Britain. At that time, the rule of East India Company ceased and Queen Eligibeth took over the reins of India.



*Cotton & Veeranna*

He was bestowed the title "SIR" and received the same from the Hands of the Queen of Britain. This Noble and Great man constructed a number of Dams, but he could not construct a house for self nor for his children. So, Sir Arthur Cotton was a selfless, sacrificial, sincere and true Son of God.

## Mr. COTTON VISITED INDIA REPEATEDLY OUT OF AFFECTION

During the period 1858, 1863 and 1867 as per the requests of British Government, Mr. Cotton came to India for preparing reports and proposals for construction of Dams on river Ganga and on some important rivers in Orissa and he completed these works and submitted the reports to the British Government. He further desired that the rivers from Himalayas to Kanyakumari should be integrated for all round development of India and prepared the Reports and Maps/Plans in this regard.

Taking these reports and maps/plans into account, the present Governments after a lapse of 150 years, are trying to do the needful. Even now, if our Governments implement these reports, suggestions sincerely, our India will develop in all respects and our Country will be a wealthy country in the coming days.

## NOTE

This English Book will have the circulation not only In India but also in Britain, America, Russia, Australia etc. I will be writing one more book on this subject titled **“Cotton-Veeranna”** with 300 pages in Telugu and English soon, if possible by the time Godavari Puskaralu start. Also, I will make a documentary film in Telugu and English so that entire world can see it.

## BUDDIGA SAI GANESH

Author, Investigator, Director & Producer

**Cell : 98480 66771**



## **AFTER CONSTRUCTION OF DOWLAISWARAM BARRAGE**

The construction of Barrage has helped the Farmers immensely so much so that they irrigated their lands for second crops also. The days of depending on rain have gone, the farmers started irrigating their lands with own decisions, with revolutionary and profitable methods that were suitable for agriculture. Their life style has changed from eating cheap rice to top quality food. Their dwellings were converted from thatched houses to Tiled houses and Bungalows. Having reaped the results, they became rich and encouraged cultural and social activities also. Tourism places were developed and tourism has taken new strides. Thus, there were no famine deaths. People stepped into new era with happiness and encouragement. Their lands became fertile with the supply of ample water that helped irrigating their lands in time and thereby their earnings boosted. Since then, the people of both Godavari Districts, Krishna and Visakha Districts are moving towards development including that of social, political and cultural areas.

## **THE REAL FESTIVAL - 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH**

It is because of this Barrage, the Andhra Pradesh has earned the name "Annapurna". The due of Cotton-Veeranna dedicated this great Dam on 31.3.1852 to the Nation. The Districts in particular both Godavari Districts, Krishna and Visakha have become rich. It is to mention here that the ancestors in those days used to pray Cotton & Veeranna before they eat their first morsel of the food. They used to celebrate this Day as a Festival without any difference of caste, creed or religion. But, unfortunately, there is no one who remembers these Great Persons and there is none who atleast try to know about Arthur Cotton and VeenemVeeranna now. Therefore, even now, the people of Andhra Pradesh should raise to the occasion and celebrate 31<sup>st</sup> March as a Festival on this day. The statues and Photos of Sri VeenemVeeranna should also be placed by the side of the statues and photos of Sri Cotton wherever they are existing so as to give due respect to our First Telugu Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna which would be a befitting tribute to him.





**THE OTHER  
ANDHRA STATE  
SCHEMES PREPARED  
BY THE GREAT DUO**



1. To check the Tanks existing in the State for irrigation purpose and to strengthen the Bunds of those Tanks.
2. To construct new Ports in Godavari Corridor upto Madras to meet the Business and the Public. Requirements.
3. To integrate Upper Godavari with Vardha River, construction of 150 Miles Canals for utilization by Ports and for irrigation purpose.
4. To construct/dig 300 Miles Canal to integrate Godavari with Tapathi River for irrigation purpose and to utilize for shipping route from Kurnool to Surat.
5. To construct/dig New Canals for shipping purpose from Krishna River and integrate the Canal routes.
6. To integrate the Canal of Tungabhadra, Kadapa with North Corridor Canal, Nellore for the purpose of irrigation and conveyance and to dig 80 miles canal for this purpose.
7. To construct Reservoir on the left side of Bellary on Tungabhadra to store 300 Cr Cubic water for development of irrigation.
8. To construct/dig very big 800 Miles Canal from Tungabhadra Reservoir to reach Nizam area for its irrigation development via Krishna Beema River at South side of Kaveri, Srirangapatnam.
9. To construct/dig New canals from Krishna River - 40 miles away from Nellore Hillocks near Penna River for the needs of drinking water and irrigation.
10. To construct/dig one main Canal integrating the canals from Eastern Canal of Kakinada so as to irrigate Ganjam District.

Thus, Cotton Dora prepared the Plans and Schemes with the information given by our First Telugu Engineer Sri Veenem Veeranna for the development of Telugu area.



**ASSISTANT ENGINEERS WORKED FOR  
GODAVARI DAM CONSTRUCTION**

1. Mr. Fedrick (Brother of Mr. Cotton)
2. Captain Or (First Asst. Engineer)
3. Captain Alexander (Second Asst. Engineer)
4. Captain Habbison (Third Asst. Engineer)
5. Captain C.V.R. (Fourth Asst. Engineer)
6. Lieutenant Rumdhan (Fifth Asst. Engineer)

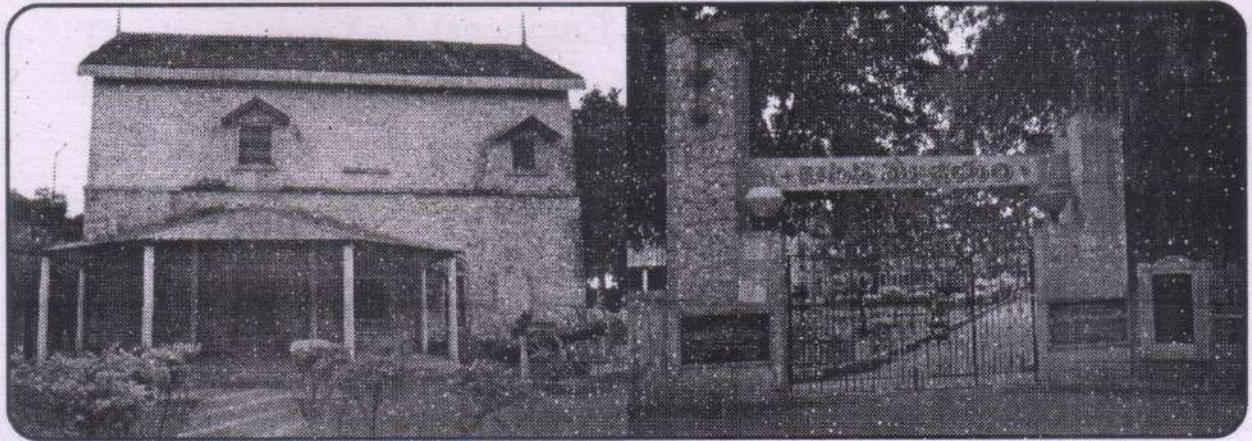
**HEIRS OF MR. VEERANNA IN  
IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT**

1. Sri Veenem Hanumantha Rao (Brother of Sri Veeranna) – Supervisor
2. Sri Kumaraswamy (Grandson of Mr. Veeranna) S/o Sri Seetharamaswami, who was the fourth Son of Mr. Veeranna) – worked as Engineer and subsequently worked as Dist. Agricultural Officer.
3. Sri Kumaraswamy, Son of late Sri Krishna Rao worked as Superintendent in Irrigation Department and his son Sri V.V.G.S. Prasad Rao (Grandson of 4<sup>th</sup> Generation) is now working as Asst. Engineer in W.G.Dt. since 25 years.
4. Mr. Subramanyeswara Rao, S/o Junior Veeranna (Grandson of Sri Seetharamaswamy. Mr. Junior Veeranna was the son of Mr. Seetharamaswamy) worked as Engineer at Nagarjuna Sagar Dam and is no more now.
5. While Late Sri Veenem Satyanarayana worked in Engineering Department late Sri Veenem Venkateswara Rao worked as a Driver in the Steamer which was named after Cotton Dora.
6. Third Veeranna was the son of late Second Seetharamaswamy who was the son of late second Veeranna. Third Veeranna worked and retired from Electrical Branch of the Dowlaiswaram Irrigation Department.



## COTTON MUSEUM

With the consent and determination of Sri Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao and with the efforts of the Chief Engineer Sri Madan Mohan, the Cotton Museum was constructed and inaugurated on 2.2.1988.



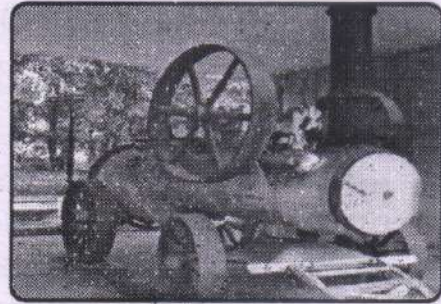
The Cotton Museum with two floors was constructed nearby Dowlaiswaram Dam, the place which Mr. Cotton and Mr. Veeranna used as their Office during the construction of the Dam. This was constructed with granite stones and the top was covered with Bengal tiles. The surroundings of this building are very pleasant. The machinery of 170 years old used In the construction of Dam viz. Rewinding machines, Iron doors that were placed on the Dam, Boring machine, Steam Boilers, Compressors, Sharpening machines were displayed in the Museum. Models of Machines which show the levels of water are displayed in the rooms of First floor. While the photos of Plans prepared for construction of the Dam are displayed in Central Hall, the photos depicting various stages of Godavari water flowing from Rajahmundry till entering the Sea are displayed in other Hall of the First floor. Also, the photos of other Dam works carried out by Mr. Cotton are displayed in First Floor. A marvelous prototype model of Godavari which starts from Nasik till it enters the Sea is kept in the compound of the Museum. Now, these valuable and great items have lost their exaltation because of the misdeeds of the miscreants. Therefore, the locals are of the opinion that this place has become a spot for Lovers.



## MACHINERY USED IN THE FIRST CONSTRUCTED BARRAGE ON GODAVARI RIVER

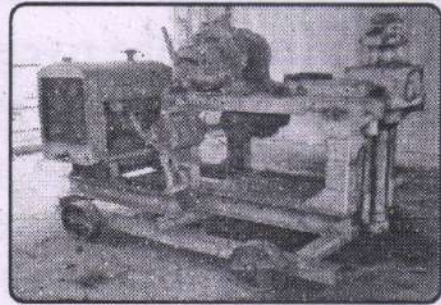
### 1. Steam Production Boiler

This machine worked with the steam that was developed through burning of coal. The machine was used for utilizing other small machinery at the Dam site.



### 2. Core Drill/Punching Machine

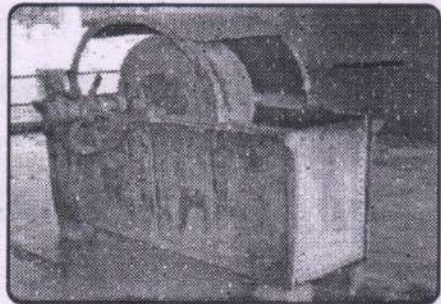
Used for making holes in the well-shaped brick foundations constructed in the river and also for cutting the Iron Doors.



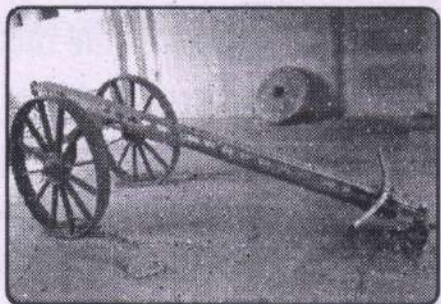
### 3. Air Compressor: Used to fill the sand in Four Inch holes of the Foundations so as to strengthen the Foundations.



### 4. Grinder Machine:- Used for straightening and sharpening the iron and other items that were used in the construction of the Barrage.

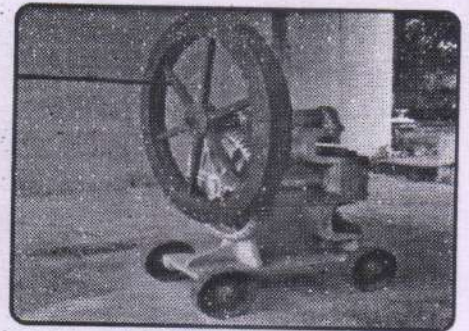


### 5. Metal Travel Vehicle:- Used for transportation of Logs and heavy Stone slates to the Construction site. This vehicle was used to be pulled by Men.





6. **Doors Machine** : Used for strengthening the Doors that were made for fixing at the Barrage.
7. **Rivet Hole Machine** : Used for fixing the rivets in the Doors that were fixed at the top and bottom of the Barrage.
8. **Lock/Shutter Raising Machine** : This machine worked with steam and used for opening and closing the Doors of the Barrage that were fixed in the middle of the Barrage.
9. **Barrage Upper Doors**  
These doors withstood and stopped the full inflows of River waters so as to utilize the waters for irrigation purpose.
10. **Inner Pillars of the then Barrage** These are inner foundations constructed in the Barrage that was constructed by Mr. Cotton and Mr. Veeranna in those days. The barrage was completely ruined on account of heavy cyclones that had hit this area in the years 1964 and in 1986.





## THE IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE LIFE JOURNEY OF MR. COTTON

- 1803 - Born on 15<sup>th</sup> May
- 1818 - Joined in Military Training School in Britain.
- 1819 - Posted as Lieutenant
- 1821 - Reached Madras after travelling for four months on the Sea.
- 1822 - Deepened Fambous sea route to Cylone and reduced the distance between India and Cylone.
- 1824 - As Commandant of Artillery and took part in first Burma War.
- 1825 to 1827 - Worked as Supervisor to supervise the rivers and canals in the surrounding areas of Madras.
- 1828 - Promoted to the grade of Captain.
- 1829 - Prepared Two Plans for construction of Dams on Kavery River.
- 1830 - Left for England on two and half a year's leave.
- 1832 - Returned to India and again went to England for rest as he fell ill.
- 1836 - Completed the construction of Dam on Kaveri river and godowns to store the food grains.
- 1837 - Modernization of Madras port and construction of Church.
- 1838 - Went to Tasmaniya in Australia for rest and fell in love with Liyamath.
- 1840 - Returned to India and completed the assigned tasks.
- 1841 - Married Liyamath in the presence of Elders/Australia.
- 1843 - Returned to India and started the action to protect the catchment areas of Visakhapatnam and constructed the Church .
- 1844 - Inspected the Godavari Catchment area alongwith Mr. VeenemVeeranna.
- 1844, 1845, 1846 - Sent Reports and Plans for construction of Godavari Barrage to Authorities.
- 1846 - Mattildha, beloved second Daughter of Mr. Cotton, died.
- 1846 - Obtained the permission from London Board of Directors for construction of Godavari Dam.
- 1847 - Started the construction works.
- 1848 - Went to Australia due to illness and stayed there for two years alongwith family members for rest.
- 1850 - Returned to India, Promoted to the post of Colonel.
- 1852 - Completed the construction of Dam and dedicated to the Nation.
- 1853 - Left for England in March and returned to India in 1858.
- 1859 - Prepared the Dam Plans and sent it to Irrigation Department of Orissa.



## *Cotton & Veeranna*

- 1860 - Retired from Service and received the title/Decoration of "Sir" from the hands of Victoria Queen in Britain.
- 1863 - As per the requests of the Government, prepared the Reports / Plans for construction of Reservoirs in Bihar, Maharastra and other places in North India.
- 1863 - First son (born in Rajahmundry) died while at England when Mr. Cotton was in India.
- 1866 - Received the Award /title "K.C.S.P".
- 1878 - Prepared the Plans/reports for integration of the rivers from North to South India so as to make India a Wealthy Country and to strengthen the Canals for movement of ships.
- 1879 - Second son Alfred Cotton died while travelling in the Sea.
- 1899 - Breathed his last on 24<sup>th</sup> July.

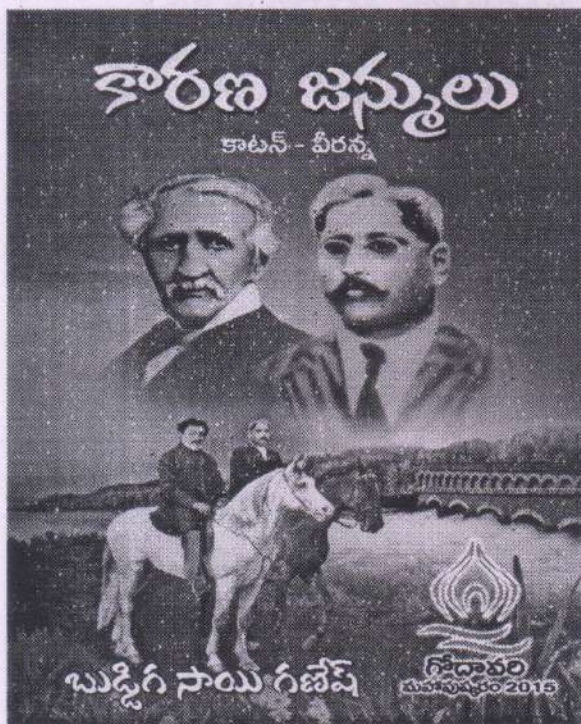
## **IMPORTANT EVENTS IN THE LIFE HISTORY OF SRI VEENEM VEERANNA**

- 1794 - Born on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.
- 1803 - Primary education at Rajahmundry.
- 1811 - High School education at Machilipatnam.
- 1816 - Studied the course "Oversear" at Calcutta.
- 1819 - Trained as Engineer in Madras.
- 1820 - Married to Venkateswari.
- 1822 to 1839 - Worked in Mysore, Orissas & Maharastra.
- 1840 - Irrigation Supervisor in Rajahmundry.
- 1844 - Alongwith Mr. Cotton Dora, carried out inspection of Godavari.
- 1847 - Started the Dam construction works.
- 1848 - Shouldered the responsibilities of construction in the absence of Mr. Cotton.
- 1849 - Construction works of Block/Dam at Vijjeswaram.
- 1850 - Appreciation received from Mr. Cotton for his works.
- 1851 - Pooled up funds for construction of Godavari Dam.
- 1852 - Completed the construction work with 10,000 laborers.
- 1857 - Saved Dam from floods.
- 1858 - Received the Title as "RaiBahadur" from East India Company.
- 1860 - East India Company gave the rights to receive the revenues from village "Mernipadu"
- 1862 - Felicitated by Mysore Maharaja and got the Golden admiration.
- 1867 - October 12th Breathed his last.



## TELUGU VERSION BOOK

## CENTRAL DELTA HEAD SLUES



This book is preserved in all the Reputed Publishing Houses as well in the Irrigation Department and in Engineering Colleges for dissemination of information to future generations.



Supporting Pillars constructed to support the Central Delta head Slues as per the instructions of Sir Arthur Cotton and Sri Veenem Veeranna. While the Eastern Delta Slues are visible in the Photo of Old Dam, the Western Delta Slues were completely washed away in the cyclone in the years 1964 and 1986.

## TOMB OF COTTON'S DAUGHTER

## PLACE OF STONE PLATE AND BOARD WITH DETAILS OF SRI VEENEMVEERANNA.



Tombs of Matildha, 2<sup>nd</sup> Daughter of Mr. Cotton and Catherine Sophia, D/o Mr. John Rohde Eso, intimate friend of Matildha who died of viral fever one day prior to the death of Matildha. Both were buried at one place and these Memorial Tombs were constructed at the place behind Godavari Station Chitrangi Guest House.



Stone Plate and Board with details of First Telugu Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna erected at the place opposite to Dowlaiswaram Head Lock Area on the road leading to Vemagiri village. The Irrigation Dept as well as People's Representatives are now trying to install the statue of Sri VeenemVeeranna here, soon.







## MY EXPERIENCES - OPINIONS

❖ I will never forget the anxiety and happiness when I found the place where the Stone Slate of Sri VeenemVeeranna was installed, which I did without the help/knowledge of the then employees of Dowlaiswaram Barrage Head Lock Office who vehemently objected to my coming to that area for the first time in 1976 to ascertain the exact location of the Stone Slate of Sri VeenemVeeranna that was installed by East India Company in 1867.

❖ Some of the Authors who wrote about Sri VeenemVeeranna mentioned that there are no heirs of Sri VeenemVeeranna which they did without in-depth analysis. To overcome these, I visited places like Dowlaiswaram, Rajahmundry, Vijayanagaram, Visakhapatnam, Machilipatnam, Badrachalam, a number of times without feeling any stress and without bothering for expenditure and met the living families of Sri VeenemVeeranna. I cannot forget the apprehensive nature they expressed to me when I tried to elicit the details of Sri VeenemVeeranna.

❖ I was bewildered to note that the families of heirs of Sri VeenemVeeranna are not in possession of any photos (hand painted etc.) of Sri VeenemVeeranna. However, I was successful in my efforts in tracing out a black and white photo of Sri VeenemVeeranna that was left neglected and lying in a corner of Cotton Museum. I had refurbished this photo and got it changed to color print and handed over the same to the families of Sri VeenemVeeranna.

❖ While I was trying to locate the stone plate/tower erected in 1942 by Sri Balusu Samba Murthy, the then Speaker of Madras Presidency, in different angles, I came to know that the Memorial Stone Plate/Tower of Sri VeenemVeeranna as well as the Statue of Mr. Cotton on the Horse were submerged in the debris of damaged Second Barrage due to heavy cyclone in the year 1986 which were not lifted out by those In-charge Officers of the Dam who repaired the Dam leaving the Statues of these Great Persons in the debris. This has pained me a lot.

❖ I was disappointed to note during my visit to Mernipadu Village, the revenues of which were donated to the Heirs of Sri VeenemVeeranna in recognition of his services, in 1976, 1983, 1989, 1997 and 2014 to elicit



## *Cotton & Veeranna*

the information pertaining to Sri VeenemVeeranna, that only few individuals, say four or five, knew about Sri VeenemVeeranna.

❖ It was an wonderful and great experience to me that the Program on the eve of "Vardhanti Day" was conducted on 12.3.2014 despite heavy down pour/HudHud Cyclone with the family members of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> generation of Sri VeenemVeeranna which was graced by Sri MagantiMuralimohan, Member of Parliament.

❖ It pains me a lot as no person has so far asked me as to how I was able to spend my money approximately Rs. 6.00 lakhs towards the expenditure to prepare hand leaflets giving the information in respect of Sri VeenemVeeranna, to make the Iron Board, to refurbish the old Stone Slate into Gold colour, for distributing the big color photos of Sri Veeranna to different branches of Irrigation Department at the time of celebrating his Birth and Anniversary Days and for conducting the Press Meets and meetings etc. since 1974.

❖ In the process of my bringing out the existence of the First Telugu Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna and carrying out the required programs, I found some persons are talking in the Media taking the inputs of my gathered information from the News Papers without mentioning my name as if they know about the life history of SriVeenemVeeranna which is unwarranted and inhuman.

❖ I am not the Heir of Sri VeenemVeeranna nor his relative or atleast I do not belong to his Caste. As our Rulers paid no heed to bring out the history of our First Telugu Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna and as I am ardent lover of Telugu language I took up this great task but none of his heirs asked me as to how it would benefit me. But, surprisingly, only after the announcement of Donation of Rs. 10.00 lakhs to the Heirs of 4<sup>th</sup> Generation of Sri VeenemVeeranna, a number of people started phoning me up informing that they are the heirs of Sri VeenemVeeranna. These People claiming to be heirs of Sri Veeranna now, have neither paid any tributes to Sri VeenemVeeranna at his Memorial Stone Slate nor celebrated even a single programme in memory of him. Then, what right do they have to claim to be heirs of Sri VeenemVeeranna?

**BUDDIGA SAIGANESH**

Author, Investigator, Director & Producer.



The articles written by me and the details of the Programs were published in Leading Telugu Dailies as shown







## **BIO-DATE**

- Name : **BUDDIGA SAI GANESH** (D.O.B. 17-07-1955)  
(Producer & Director, Artist, Writer)  
A.P. Film Chamber Ex-Vice Chairman
- Native Place : Bhimavaram, West Godavari Dist., A.P. (India)
- Permanent & Present Address : Andhra Pictures New Talent Productions  
Sri Vishnu Priya Films, Sai Ganesh Media  
# 8-2-269/19/152-A, Street No. 6,  
Indira Nagar, Banjara Hills, Road No. 2,  
Hyderabad - 500 033.
- E-mails : buddigasaiganesh@gmail.com  
andhrapictures1@gmail.com  
newtalentproductions@gmail.com
- Experience in field : 35 Years above  
(Cell:9848066771, 8885766771)
- Produced to Stright and Dubbing Telugu Movies : Already Released 17 Movies
- Under Production : Sri Tulasi Mahatyam (Mythological)  
Janda Vandanam (Freedom Fighters Story)

## **HUMBLE WARNING**

I , hereby inform and notify to the Public that anybody, Individual or Company resorting to giving speeches in the meetings, any platform without mentioning my Name as Author of this Book titled Telugu Version "**Karana Janmulu**" in brief and English Version "**Cotton-Veeranna**" in detail, which I only wrote after obtaining every available proofs of Life history, events, achievements of our Telugu First Engineer Sri VeenemVeeranna or using it without my written permission for making film documentaries/film formats, stage plays or discussing it in TV, internet, or using it in other electronic media/print media etc. they shall be liable for action by me as deemed fit in this regard.

I may also hold Press Meets etc. against those Offenders in this regard for which they shall be held responsible. It is, therefore, my humble request to everybody to note the above.

**BUDDIGA SAI GANESH**

Author, Investigator, Cine Director & Producer

Mobile No. 98480 66771

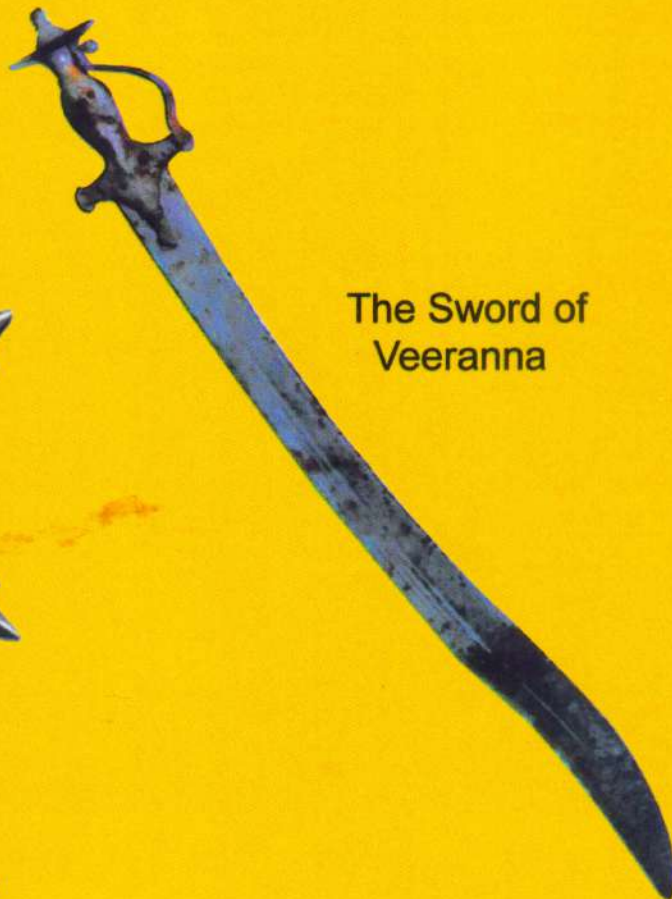




Andhrapradesh Chiefminister Mr.Chandrababu Naidu garlanding the photo of Mr.Veenam Veeranna at Dowlaiswaram.



" Rai Bahaddur " Medal which was presented to Mr.Veeranna by British Government



The Sword of Veeranna





# *Cotton & Veeranna*

The Great Engineers of Godavari Barrage

**By Buddiga Sai Ganesh**

"Mr. Veeranna has been gifted with exceptional qualification for conducting engineering operations as well as for directing and managing large bodies of native labour. If we had not found an Indian of this remarkable qualification, I don't see how the works could have been executed for no European could have supplied his place and no Indian equal to him has appeared.

Mr. Veeranna was felicitated with the title of 'RaiBahadur'."

- Sir Aurthur Cotton

## **About Author :**

Born in Rajahmundry, East Godavari District, brought up in Bhimavaram, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh, worked for some time at Eluru and Vijayawada, the passion to become a Film Director made me to go round the places like Mumbai to get acquainted with the technologies in Film Direction. Thus, not only in the Direction, I became a Producer and an Artiste and produced 17 Telugu films till now.

Continuing the journey in Film field, and on the eve of ensuing Godavari Puskaralu, I wrote this Book titled "Cotton & Veeranna", a historical story which has a number of very interesting subjects that is molded for making a movie. This is not a usually written film story sitting at one place. I have not only thoroughly perused the essays, poems, books written earlier by many a writers on River Godavari and Mr. Cotton but I personally visited those places also mentioned therein to confirm its historical correctness. I, thus transformed the true story of two great personalities who had great zeal, dedication and emulating qualities into a Film Story. Out of these two Great Personalities, one was Mr. Sir Arthur Cotton and the other was Mr. Rai Bahadur Venem Veeranna.

I am, being the only person who made a research on Mr. Veeranna for the first time, presenting his history in short. It is sad to note that neither the statue nor a photo of the Gem of Telugu Dynasty Mr. Venem Veeranna was not placed by the side of the statue of Mr. Arthur Cotton, particularly at Godavari Barrage. It is thus necessary to give a befitting honour to this Telugu Icon and Gem by erecting a statue of Mr. Venem Veeranna at Mernipadu Village which was donated as an "Inam" to him by the Government ruling at that time.





ఇంతటి ఘన చరిత్ర కలిగిన శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న గారి సంపూర్ణ జీవిత చరిత్రను జాతి జనులందరూ తెలుసుకోవాలనే సంకల్పంతో శ్రీ బుడ్డిగ సాయిగణేష్ 30 ఏళ్ళ కృషి, పరిశోధనతో, సాక్షాదారాలతో సహా కాటన్ - వీరన్నల సాహసోపేత గాథను గ్రంథస్థం చేయగా 15-05-2015 శ్రీ నారా చంద్రబాబు నాయుడు గారి చేతుల మీదుగా ఘనంగా ఆవిష్కరించబడినది.



భారతీయ జనతా పార్టీ జాతీయ అధ్యక్షుడు శ్రీ అమిత్ షా గారు మరియు నేటి భారతదేశ ఉపరాష్ట్రపతి శ్రీ ఎమ్. వెంకయ్యనాయుడు గార్ల చేతుల మీదుగా డి. 26-11-2016 తాడేపల్లిగూడెం రైతు మహా సభలో ఆవిష్కరించిన శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న గారి వర్ణ చిత్రం

దేవదాయశాఖా మంత్రి  
శ్రీ పైడికొండల మాణిక్యాలరావు గారు  
డి. 12-10-2015న విడుదల చేసిన  
ఇంగ్లీష్ వెర్షన్ బుక్.



శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న గారి  
ఘనతను  
తెలియచెబుతు  
ప్రచురించిన  
తెలుగు  
మరియు  
ఇంగ్లీష్  
పుస్తకములు



మన తొలి తెలుగు ఇంజనీరు తొలి విగ్రహాన్ని కొవ్వూరు గోష్ఠాద క్షేత్రంలో నేటి ఎక్స్ ప్రెస్ శాఖామంత్రి శ్రీ కె.ఎస్. జోహార్ గారు డి. 03-03-2016న శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న గారి 222 జయంతి సందర్భంగా ఆవిష్కరించిన సందర్భము.

### కాటన్ సరసన వీరన్న



ఉభయ గోదావరి జిల్లాలకు త్రాగునీరు, సాగునీరు అందించే ప్రధాన జలవనరులశాఖ, ధనలేశ్వరం కార్యాలయంలో అప్పటి సూరిడెండెంట్ ఇంజనీరు శ్రీ ఎస్. సుగుణాకర రావు గారి చేతుల మీదుగా 31-03-2016న ఆవిష్కరించబడిన సందర్భము.



**బుడ్డిగ సాయిగణేష్**  
చరిత్ర పరిశోధకులు, రచయిత,  
సిని దర్శక నిర్మాత



**శ్రీ వీణం వి.జి.యస్. ప్రసాదరావు**  
శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న 5వ తరం వారసులు,  
అసిస్టెంట్ ఇంజనీర్, జలవనరుల శాఖ



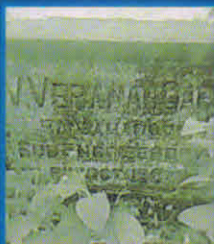


# మన తొలి తెలుగు ఇంజనీరు రాయ్ బహదుర్ శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న

వీణం వీరన్న అనే పురుషోత్తముడు నాకు సహాయ ఇంజనీరుగా లభించకుండా ఉంటే గోదావరి ఆనకట్టను ఇంత వేగవంతంగా, ఇంత సులువుగా, ఇంత తక్కువ ఖర్చుతో నేను ఏనాటికి నిర్మించలేక పోయేవాడిని.



సర్ ఆర్థర్ కాటన్  
31-03-1852



శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న విశిష్టతను తెలుపుతూ ఆనాటి ఈస్టిండియా కంపెనీ ప్రభుత్వం వేయించిన ధవలేశ్వరంలోని హెడ్ లాక్ వద్ద ఉన్న శిలాఫలకం.



నాటి విక్టోరియా మహారాణి శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న గారి కృషిని గుర్తిస్తూ బహుకరించిన రాయ్ బహదుర్ పతకం.

శ్రీ వీణం వీరన్న గారే గనుక ఆనాడు అకింత భావంతో నిజాయితీగా, పట్టుదలతో పనిచేయకుండా ఉంటే నేడు ఆంధ్ర రాష్ట్రానికి అన్నపూర్ణ అనే పేరు వచ్చి ఉండేది కాదు.



శ్రీ బులుసు సాంబమూర్తి గారు  
మన తొలి తెలుగు స్వీకర్  
03-03-1940



శ్రీ బులుసు సాంబమూర్తి గారు ఆనాటి గోదావరి ఆనకట్ట ఒడ్డున వేయించిన శిలాస్థూపం







R

Shot on realme 1  
By gangadhar vv









మన తొలి తెలుగు ఇంజనీరు  
రాయ్ బహదూర్  
శ్రీ బీణం బీరన్న  
విగ్రహ ఆవిష్కరణ

జననం : 03-03-1794 మరణం : 12-10-1967

గౌరవనీయులు

శ్రీ ఎస్.హరిబాబుగారు

మొదట ఆచరించిన  
శ్రీ ఎస్.సుకుమారరావుగారు  
హరిబాబుగారు జాతీయ అసెంబ్లీ సభ్యులు మరియు

ప్రఖ్యాతి ఆర్జీవీఎస్  
నీటిపారుదల శాఖ ఉన్నతాధికారులు  
మరియు నిష్ణాంధులు  
మృత్యు నివాస సాక్షులు



