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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

[illegible] DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1511	Press Mis.
[illegible]		
Dated	21-7-	1875.

3/4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Local Funds—Tolls.

No. 141. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th June 1875, No. 1540:—

Read the following letter from D. BUICK, Esq., Acting President of the Local Fund Boards, Malabar District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 26th May 1875, No. 174:—

In connection with Proceedings of the Board of Revenue of the 30th April and 11th May last, Nos. 1,103 and 1,229, I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of the Board, the accompanying letter from the Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad, regarding the title of the Calicut Local Fund Board to a share in the Seegur Ghaut tolls, and to request that it may be submitted for the information of Government when considering the Proceedings above quoted.

Enclosure No. 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. KENNEDY, Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad, to D. BUICK, Esq., Acting President of the Local Fund Boards, Malabar District, dated Luckadie, 24th May 1875, No. 424.

Had I seen the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1,103, dated 30th April 1875, before, I could have represented matters in a light a good deal at variance with the supposition that the traffic along the piece of road in question is so very greatly in excess for the use of Wynaad. In the first place, the whole of the traffic between the Nilgiris and Mysore that goes up the Seegur ghaut passes along this piece of road without paying any toll to the Calicut Circle; secondly, a very great proportion of the timber from the Mudamallai forest, the revenue from which goes to the credit of the Nilgiri Commissionership, although the forest is entirely in Malabar; thirdly, all grain supplies and supplies of every sort for the coffee estates in the Ouchterlony Valley at the foot of the Seegur Ghaut, Kulhutty, and other places on that ghaut are carried along the same road, and the traffic so caused is certainly in itself not so much less than what is taken by the parts of Wynaad dependent on that route.

2. It must also be remembered that the Calicut Circle has to bear the whole cost of the construction and upkeep of the road from Goodalore to the Coast, and that at least three-fourths of the traffic on that route is from the Ouchterlony Valley estates and others that I have named in connection with the Seegur ghaut, while of the part of Wynaad which belongs to Malabar and contributes to its revenue, none of the coffee from the south of Cherambady, and only a part even of that from Dawallabut, is carried by way of the Tambercherry Ghaut, so that the Carcoor Ghaut, and the expensive road below it, is, so far as the coffee interest is concerned, merely for the use of those estates which belong to the Nilgiris, so much so that the Carcoor ghaut has come to be nick-named the "Ouchterlony Ghaut."

3. Under these circumstances, seeing how much the Nilgiri Circle owes to that of Calicut, it is but fair that a piece of road which has been so much neglected should be given over to us in good order, for I must dispute its having yet been in good order at any time of the year, while in the monsoon it has been always impassable, and that the Nilgiri Circle should contribute half the cost of its upkeep.

4. Failing this, I would propose that the toll now established about three miles on the Mysore side of Goodalore should be removed to the junction between the roads leading to Goodalore and Seegur Ghaut, and that a double gate be established at the junction between those leading to

Ouchterlony Valley and the town of Goodalore, with the stipulation that carts paying toll at either of the other two places should receive a free pass for the gate to Goodalore bazaar.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. BUICK,
Acting President.

The Board observe that the question of the transfer of the piece of road, *without any conditions*, has been approved in G.O., Financial Department, dated 14th May 1875, No. 1,048, communicated in the Board's Proceedings, 3rd June 1875, Miscellaneous No. 4,890.

2. Colonel Kennedy's suggestions do not seem to have been considered by the Local Fund Board, but these papers will be submitted to Government with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 11th May 1875, No. 1,220, which are now before them. The only principle on which charges for the maintenance of local roads can be regulated without interminable and profitless disputes is that each shall pay for roads situated within its own limits.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 142. ORDER THEREON, 21st July 1875, No. 1511.

The Local Fund Board, Nilgiri Circle, will submit their views on Colonel Kennedy's proposals.

(True Extract.)

Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, President of the Local Fund Board, Nilgiri Circle.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of {187} Madr.

Finl

G.O. 21st July 1875. No 1511.

Nos. 141 – 142.

Lo. H. Tolls – The Belgaum Board's views called for on a letter from the Dpty. Executive Engineer Nd respecting the title of the Calicut-Cicle to share in the Beragum Ghaut-Tolls.