M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 14

(2) Date of repair 26.10.40

(3) Initials of the Referencer CJ

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1834	Press Mis.
LD 8-149.		
Dated	15-9-	1875.

8/9

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Rumpa Country.

No. 108. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th August 1875, No. 2324 :—

Read the following letter from J. KELSALL, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, in charge of the Godavery District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 15th June 1875, No. 261 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter from the Superintendent of Police on the subject of making roads in the Rumpa country.

2. This letter was considered at a meeting of the Local Fund Board held in January last, and the members, while admitting the great benefit to trade which would result if the country were opened up, were of opinion that "the roads in the Rumpa country should be constructed from Imperial or Provincial Funds."

3. There was an impression at that time that Rumpa contributed nothing to Local Funds. I find, however, that about Rupees 500 is contributed by the tract.

4. The Deputy Inspector-General of Police has, in a demi-official letter, asked me to apply to Government for a grant for this purpose.

5. I beg to refer the Board to the former papers on this subject noted in the margin. From these it will be seen that Government formerly sanctioned Rupees 15,000. This has been spent, and an excellent road has been made from Rajahmundry to Chodaveram, but this is only just the beginning of the Rumpa country.

G.O., 19th September 1862, No. 1,547.
G.O., 1st December 1862, No. 1,940.
G.O., Judicial Department, 26th May 1863, No. 800.
Board's Proceedings, 17th January 1866, No. 404.
Board's Proceedings, 13th February 1867, No. 871.
Board's Proceedings, 5th April 1867, No. 2,158.
Do. 15th May 1867, No. 2,994.
Do. 4th July 1868, No. 4,929.
Do. 28th Aug. 1868, No. 6,194.

6. In their Proceedings, dated 28th August 1868, No. 6,194, the Board would not allow this road to appear in the Road Fund Budget "as the work is an Imperial one."

7. The Superintendent of Police proposes three roads from Chodaveram—one north-west to Valumur, another north to Tadepalli, and the third north-east to Kota.

8. As it is difficult to get men from the other parts of the district to work in these unhealthy jungles, and as the proposed work requires no special knowledge but is only clearing a broad track through the jungles, the Superintendent of Police proposes that the Muttadars should be entrusted with the work. I agree with him, and think the plan of operations he has sketched out quite feasible.

9. The best time for working is from the beginning of the year till the end of April.

10. I have the honor to request that a grant from Provincial Funds may be sanctioned for this purpose. As a beginning, and till we can estimate more exactly what the work will cost, I would suggest Rupees 2,500 for the grant.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Captain C. A. PORTEOUS, Superintendent of Police, Godavery District, to J. KELSALL, Esq., Acting Collector, Godavery District, dated Rajahmundry, 14th October 1874, No. 312.

I HAVE the honor to forward (as suggested by the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Northern Range, on a recent visit to this district), for your consideration, my views regarding roads, &c., for the opening up of the Rumpa country.

1. This part of the district is, as you are aware, covered with dense jungle, which makes it *nearly throughout* the *whole* year, but principally in the rains and cold weather, *very unhealthy*, the people, even those belonging to the country, suffering greatly from fever, although it does not usually attack them in such an aggravated form as it does people proceeding thither from the plains.

Jungle covers the whole country, except in the immediate neighbourhood of the larger villages; there the inhabitants have felled the trees and cleared for themselves sufficient ground to cultivate different kinds of hill grain. Ploughing is commenced soon after the burst of the first rains of the south-west monsoon; grain is sown afterwards, and the people reap their crops in the cold weather. The villages lie generally (nearly all) in the valleys between different ranges of hills, and the soil about them is often very good, growing the finest mango, tamarind, and jack trees. During the rains there is no lack of water, as down the sides of every range of hills run innumerable small rivulets; in the hot weather, however, the people of *many* villages suffer very much for want of water, and their women have often to go three and four miles for it. Situated, as the villages are, in valleys, the present principal tracks, connecting village with village, lie along these valleys, but often, of course, it is necessary to cross by a ghaut or "gundee," a range of hills, to get from one valley to another, and at other places the track makes a considerable detour round the foot of the hills, thus lengthening the distances between the villages. The jungle, too, from its extent and denseness, offers most favorable cover for wild beasts of all sorts, and, after the rains, when vegetation is very rank, the jungle closes over the paths and grows up thick in the immediate neighbourhood of the villages, thus affording man-eating tigers, &c., great facilities for the capture of any luckless travellers or wanderers.

It seems to me that Rumpa requires principally *wide* clear tracks through its jungles rather than *roads*. The ground is naturally already metalled, being hard rock (the people are not troubled with much mud), and, were the trees felled and regularly stubbed up by the roots in many parts, roads would be ready made. On some of the ghauts or "gundees" blasting would be hereafter required, but many of the "gundees" might be made much more easily traversible by an active use of the crowbar and pick.

The tracks should, I think, be twenty-five yards wide, cleared of all bamboos, trees, and stumps, loose stones being rolled off. In the rains it would be necessary to attend to these tracks to prevent jungle springing up again and choking them. With such clear paths communication between villages would be easier and safer.

A good metalled road is now being made up to Chodaveram, the principal police station in Rumpa. Chodaveram is the first village of any importance one comes to in Rumpa, with the exception of Sirkintalupaud, a largish village, close to it on this side; and just beyond Chodaveram (about two miles) is the village of Rumpa, from which the whole tract takes its name.

Chodaveram, moreover, forms a sort of gate to Rumpa; it is near the south frontier of the country and nearly all the principal tracks from the north, north-east and north-west of the country towards the plains lie through it, and the principal traffic to and from Rumpa to Gokarum, &c., passes through it. I think, therefore, Chodaveram a good centre to start from, and would suggest the country being opened up by wide tracks forming radii starting from Chodaveram as a centre. I think this is better as a commencement than making communications from village to village all round; of course, people go from one village or one "mutta" to another to see relatives, attend domestic ceremonies, &c.; but the people travelling thus are few compared to

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
15th September 1875.

those who pass backwards and forwards through the centre (Chodaveram) to the plains, going with tamarinds, pepper, horns, jack and other fruit, &c., and returning with rice, salt, &c.

The first tracks I would propose are as follow:—

1. North-west from Chodaveram through Rumpa, Geddada (large village), and Maradapullee to Valeamoor.
2. North from Chodaveram Tadipilli (large village).
3. North-east from Chodaram through Cheroor to Kota.

Now, as to making these tracks. No amount of profit to be gained will induce laborers from the *plains* to go up and work in Rumpa; a few may be induced to try, but in the end they will fail. Natives from the plains cannot stand the climate of Rumpa; they are very quickly knocked down by fever; so it is needless to think of employing them. I would suggest the tracks being made by the different "Muttadars" within their respective muttas.

The hill people are weak, lazy, and disinclined to work much; but, if any one *can make* them, it is their own Muttadars; every mutta in Rumpa is clearly defined; the people know exactly where their own mutta ends and the next one begins, so that there would be no difficulty (the line of route being determined) in fixing the limits of work required from each Muttadar. Each Muttadar would decide which of his villagers could (and should) work. As a rule, the people are very well-disposed towards their own respective Muttadars, and I think this system of paying the villagers, through their Muttadars, for their work, preferable to any direct payment to the laborers themselves. By adoption of the plan proposed, the Muttadars would see that they were trusted, and confidence placed in them, and they would have some object in taking an interest in the work which, if they were not consulted, but left out in the cold and we treated with laborers direct, they would not have.

Besides which, I think the ideas of fealty which the people have towards their Chiefs would prevent their working properly without their Muttadars' orders or consent. The people in Rumpa have not much to do after taking in their harvest of grain between the cold weather and the south-west monsoon. Then it is, if the people themselves wish to extend the clearings round their villages, that they fell the trees and burn the jungle. The jungle at that time of year, too, is sparest and most easily worked, and it is for *natives* the healthiest season; for these reasons work should be done between 1st February and end of May.

It may be asked why should such work not be done through the Munsubdar, "the lord of the Rumpa Manor," he being really the Zemindar and Chief of the whole tract of country; but, as he is detested by the people and scarcely dare show his face in Rumpa without a strong band of followers, it will be readily understood how little use there would be in employing him. It seems to me that he holds the country on very precarious rights.

I would suggest payments being made monthly direct to the Muttadars by the Sub-Magistrate of Rahitapur, to whom the Muttadars should report regularly work done. As for inspection, I would suggest the Sub-Magistrate of Rahitapur being directed to proceed occasionally to Rumpa to see and report to you progress made, and, if you wished, reports could be furnished by the Rumpa Police Inspector through me; and, lastly, when I visit Rumpa, which I do for two or three weeks once every year at least, I should be glad to report to you direct how far orders were being carried out.

It is difficult to say what would be the cost of clearing jungle in Rumpa in the manner alluded to above, but I would suggest each Muttadar about to be employed receiving an advance of Rupees 100, that he should commence his work with as many (or such) men as he can muster, and at the end of one or two miles that each Muttadar should himself report to the Sub-Magistrate verbally or by letter what the work had cost him, allowing for cooly-hire, supervision, &c.; and from the reports of the different Muttadars engaged we should have some idea of the average cost, and thus be enabled to make a rough estimate.

I do not anticipate the Muttadars' charges being high; a little money goes a long way with these people, and the value of it is greater up there than here.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, 15th September 1875.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. With this letter the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Godavery submits a letter from the Superintendent of Police containing proposals for opening out tracks in the Rumpa country through the agency of the Muttadars, and asks for a grant-in-aid from Provincial Funds of Rupees 2,500 in the current year to begin with.

3. Rumpa is comprised within the Cocanada Local Fund Circle, but the Local Board are of opinion that the present proposal is rather Imperial or Provincial. The scheme appears to be advocated partly from police considerations; and the Local Board, while drawing scarcely any income from the tract, have already spent considerable sums in making a road to afford access to it.

	Rs.
1871-72	1,223
1872-73	5,482
1873-74	4,500
1874-75	4,361
Total ..	15,566

4. The Board think the present scheme well devised, and request for it favorable consideration.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 109. ORDER THEREON, 15th September 1875, No. 1834.

The Governor in Council sanctions a grant-in-aid of Rupees (2,500) two thousand and five hundred, for the purpose stated.

2. No funds can be assigned at present, but it may be found practicable in the Public Works Department in January or February next, when the season for work will commence in the Rumpa country, to assign the requisite funds from savings in allotments for other works.

(True Extract.)

Officiating Chief Secretary

To the Public Works Department.
" Board of Revenue.
" Accountant-General.

Erd. A. S. Rodgers.

Govt. of 1875] Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated September, 15th.
Issued
Read.

G.O., 15th September 1875, No. 1834.

SEPTEMBER.
Nos. 108-109.

Rumpa Country.—A grant-in-aid of Rs. 2,500 for opening out tracks in the Rumpa country, Godavery District, sanctioned, the money being assigned by the Public Works Department in January or February next from savings in allotments for other works.

No. 2,324.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 18th August 1875.

Read the following letter from J. KELSALL, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Godavery District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 15th June 1875, No. 261:—

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2. This letter was considered at a meeting of the Local Fund Board held in January last, and the members, while admitting the great benefit to trade which would result if the country were opened up, were of opinion that "the roads in the Rumpa country should be constructed from Imperial or Provincial Funds."

3. There was an impression at that time that Rumpa contributed nothing to Local Funds. I find, however, that about Rupees 500 is contributed by the tract.

4. The Deputy Inspector-General of Police has, in a demi-official letter, asked me to apply to Government for a grant for this purpose.

5. I beg to refer the Board to the former papers on this subject noted in the margin. From these it will be seen that Government formerly sanctioned Rupees 15,000. This has been spent, and an excellent road has been made from Rajahmundry to Chodaveram, but this is only just the beginning of the Rumpa country.

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G. O., Judicial Department, 20th May 1869, No. 800.
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Do. 4th July 1868, No. 4,929.
Do. 28th Aug. 1868, No. 6,194.

6. In their Proceedings, dated 28th August 1868, No. 6,194, the Board would not allow this road to appear in the Road Fund Budget, "as the work is an Imperial one."

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I do not anticipate the Muttadar's charges being high; a little money goes a long way with these people, and the value of it is greater up there than here.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. With this letter the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Godavery submits a letter from the Superintendent of Police containing proposals for opening out tracks in the Rumpa country through the agency of the Muttadars, and asks for a grant-in-aid from Provincial Funds of Rupees 2,500 in the current year to begin with.

3. Rumpa is comprised within the Cocanada Local Fund Circle, but the Local Board are of opinion that the present proposal is rather Imperial or Provincial. The scheme appears to be advocated partly from Police considerations; and the Local Board, while drawing scarcely any income from the tract, have already spent considerable sums in making a road to afford access to it.

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4. The Board think the present scheme well devised, and request for it favorable consideration.

(True Copies and Extract.)

H R Thomas

Acting Secretary.

To the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department.

Copy to the Acting Collector of the Godavery District.

A. Grubert.

His Lordship in Council is unable to sanction the grant-in-aid sought during the Current Year.

Provision for the purpose will however be made for the purpose in the Public Works Budget for 1876-77.

Public Works Department.
Board of Revenue.

30/8/75.

SO 1834

His Lordship in Council sanctions a grant-in-aid of Rupees (2,500) two thousand five hundred, for the purpose stated.

2 No funds can be assigned at present, but it may be found practicable in the P. W. Dept. in January or February next, when the season for work will commence in the Rampa Country, to assign the requisite funds from savings in allotments for other works.

To the P. W. Dept.
Board of Rev.
Accountant General

dated 28/8/75

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following ~~letter~~ Report from the Board of Revenue dated 18 August 1875 No 2324 Forwarded. Order thereon 15th September 1875 No 1834.

1875.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 18TH AUGUST 1875, No. 2,324.

Despr 26 Aug 1875

Encl.

Received 30 August 75

AUGUST.
No. 2,324.

Rampa Country.—Letter from Collector of Godavery forwarding one from Superintendent of Police containing proposals for opening out tracks in —, and asking for a grant-in-aid of Rupees 2,500 in the current year from Provincial Funds, submitted for favorable consideration of Government.

Wit order.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

To Genl

Dated 15th Sept 1875. No. 1834
Recd.

Nos. 108 109

Rampa County — A grant-in-aid of Rs 2,500 for opening out tracks in this Rampa County Godavery Dist, Sanctioned the money being assigned by the P.W.D. in January or February next, from Savings in allotments for other works.