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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2247 Press Mis.

22-28

Dated 3—12—1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 22. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 19th November 1857, No. 5321.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward, for the information of Government, the accompanying letter from the District Engineer of Bellary under date the 30th October 1857, No. 269, describing the insufficiency of the sum allotted for the repairs of certain Roads in the Bellary District, and submitting an estimate for an increase to the extent of Rupees (7,384) seven thousand three hundred and eighty-four.

1 Letter from the District Engineer Bellary No. 269, dated 30th October 1857 with 1 enclosure.
1 Traffic return.

2. It appears from Lieutenant Fisher's letter that, the allowance of Rupees 7,600, and Rupees 2,400 for the maintenance of the whole road from the Mysore frontier to Humpsaugor, via Bellary and Hospett, with its branch through Ramandroog, is totally inadequate, partly through the insufficiency of the rates allowed, and partly through an under estimate of distance to the extent of six miles. He calculates that instead of Rupees 100 per mile, at least Rupees 161 will be necessary, and from the return of traffic which he gives, and which is herewith forwarded, he is borne out, except on two of the more insignificant portions of the road. I do not feel at liberty to offer any recommendations for additional outlay at the present conjuncture but still less if possible do I feel at liberty to suppress the representations of the Local Officers, on a matter of so much importance, and likely to lead to increased expenditure hereafter, I have to request therefore that I may be honored with the orders of Government.

Letter from Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp Pengondah, 30th October 1857, No. 269.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward the estimate called for in Extract from your proceedings No. 3835, dated 21st September 1857, together with a Traffic return and a letter from Mr. Supervisor Porter.

2. Last year I had observed the bad state of this road in places from Bellary to Herryhall and near Hospett, in both parts the road passess over black cotton soil and apparently this stuff has been used in making the road and a coating of gravel added. I particularly pointed this out to Captain Babington and requested him to make what improvement he could with the maintenance allowance he had, but this remedy not being sufficient I directed Mr. Porter to make out a fresh estimate amounting to Rupees 1406, and submitted the same to you in my Ordinary list for the month of April 1857, this has not yet been sanctioned.

3. Lieutenant Drever repeatedly asked me to apply for increased maintenance allowance, I directed that Officer to be good enough to execute a mile or two of road work covering it with 6 inches of broken stone and the same depth of gravel furnishing a Statement shewing the cost, this he failed to do, repeating his application for increased maintenance allowance however in his general observations for the month of August 1857.

4. Captain Walker estimated the distance from Herryhall to Bellary, Ramendroog and Humpsaugor at 100 miles, according to Mr. Porter the distance is 106 miles thus making him Rupees 600 short in his road maintenance allowance: his present allowance being Rupees 7,600 whereas according to distance it would be Rupees 8,200, and to this and the badly constructed portions of the road I have noted I feel inclined to attribute partly the deficiency that has been felt.

5. Captain Walker calculated the expense of road maintenance at Rupees 8-5-4 per mile and directed it to be employed as follows.

	Rs.	A.	P.
2 Coolies at Rupees 3-2	6	4	0
Superintendence	1	0	0
Repairs of tools &c.	1	1	4
Total Rupees...	8	5	4

6. Carts are seldom or ever used on the roads in Bellary, I cannot therefore give the first item called for in your proceedings accurately : the usual charge for broken stone is one anna a cubic yard delivered on the road and the same for gravel : at this rate supposing the road to be covered 4 yards wide with broken stone on an average 4 inches thick and a coating of gravel put on this 6 yards wide and 3 inches thick. I calculated the cost of maintenance then as below.

	Rs.	A.	P.
800 Cubic yards of broken stone at one anna per cubic yard...	50	0	0
880 Do. of gravel at the same rate	55	0	0
Superintendence	27	0	0
Earthwork	20	0	0
Repairs of tools &c.	12	0	0
Rupees...	164	0	0

7. The three last items I have taken as directed to do in your proceedings they are very different from what we are now working upon and I think much more likely to give satisfactory results being the rates fixed by the late Superintendent of roads : the road maintenance allowance for this road at the above rates will then be increased as below.

	Rs.
106 miles of road from Herryhall to Bellary, Ramendroog and Humpsaugor at Rupees 164 per mile	17,384
Present maintenance allowance	10,000
Increase Rupees...	7,384

8. With reference to the famine roads I do not consider the present maintenance allowance at all sufficient : it will be seen from para. 5 of this letter how badly off we are according to the rates given in your proceedings, the coolies are employed in looking after trees, keeping the side channels open and filling in any ruts &c. but they have never done any metalling, the superintendence allowance is very small and I think should be increased to Rupees 27 a mile per annum.

Letter from Mr. W. PORTER, Supervisor; to Lieutenant J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary, dated Camp Camalapoor, 12th October 1857.

SIR,

I beg to forward you in compliance with your memo. of the 28th September No. 883, (and framed agreeably to the E. P. of the Chief Engineer No. 3835) an estimate for the repairs of the roads in my charge. You will perceive that the total length of road is 82 miles, and I have divided that length into certain portions agreeably to the form in which the traffic returns are kept. For the road from Hospett to Ramandroog and from Ramandroog to Bavenhully there is not any Traffic return kept. I have therefore estimated for it at Rupees 100 per mile and I am of opinion that this will give a greater sum per mile than if an estimate were prepared according to traffic (this sum will be enough to keep them in repair if something more were allowed to build better bridges on the Hospett Ghaut Road which at present are constructed of wood and rough stone revetments) regarding those portions of road for which I have estimated according to traffic. I would beg to remak that the increase gained by framing the estimates from that data is a mere trifle and that if it was the intention of Government to sanction a sum adequate for the thoroughly repairing and metalling the roads this estimate will fall far short of the required amount, I have in my office Traffic returns for the last 4 months only and from them I have averaged the Traffic which I think has hitherto been estimated at a far higher rate than the actual returns will warrant. If the necessity for metalling the road from the Mysore frontier to Hospett could be proved, the sum required to perform the work would be Rupees 500 or 600 per mile at the lowest rate. The road from Bellary to the Mysore frontier is traversed by the Mail Cart and to keep it in good repair the sum of Rupees 116½ per mile the amount of the present estimate is insufficient my opinion is that it requires mettalling once in every 4 or 5 years and Rupees 200 per mile (Rupees 3000 total) for the intermediate years.

Rupees 26,000 to 30,000.

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, No. 2249; dated 3rd December 1857.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is unable, under the existing financial restrictions, to sanction the increase applied for in the above letter, to the maintenance allowance for the Humpsaugor, Herryhall and Ramandroog roads, in the Bellary District; but authorizes the continuance of the grant of Rupees 10,000 for those roads, which was sanctioned for the term of one year only in Extract Minutes Consultation of 29th September 1855, No. 614.

2. The Chief Engineer, it is observed, refers to two allowances of Rupees 7,600 and Rupees 2,400; but in disregard of the repeated orders of Government, omits to quote the dates of sanction for the grants; nor has it been practicable to trace the same in the records of this Office.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 5321. Central Office of R.W.
Fort St. George 19 November 1857.

From The Chief Engineer

To The Secretary to Government
R.W. Department

Bellary District.
Public Communications.
Roads.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for the information of Government, the accompanying letter from the District Engineer of Bellary under date the 30 October 1857. No. 269, describing the insufficiency of the sums allotted for the repairs of certain Roads in the Bellary District, and submitting an Estimate for an increase to the extent of Rupees 7384 / Seven thousand three hundred and eighty four.

Enclosures:
1 Letter from the D. Engr. Bellary No 269 dated 30 Octr 1857
1 Estimate

2. It appears from Lieutenant Fisher's letter that the allowance of Rupees 7,600 and Rupees 2,100 ... for the maintenance of the whole road from the Mysore frontier to Humpsaugur, via Bellary and Hospett, with its branch through Ramandroog, is totally inadequate, partly through the insufficiency of the rates allowed, and partly through an under Estimate of distance to the extent of six miles. He calculates that instead of Rupees 100 P mile, at least Rupees 164 will be necessary, and from the return of traffic which he gives, and which is herewith forwarded, he is borne out, except on two of the more insignificant portions of the

shall

the road.- I do not feel at liberty to offer any recommendations for additional outlay at the present conjuncture, but still less if possible do I feel at liberty to suppress the representations of the Local Officers, on a matter of so much importance and likely to lead to increased expenditure hereafter. I have to request therefore that I may be honored with the orders of Government.-

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your most Obed.t Servant
W.H. Foster Colonel
Chief Engineer

W.H.

Central Office of Ords
Fort St George
19 November 1837.

Answd

KSP

Public Works Department

No. 2249.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 3d. December 1857.

Read the following

Letter from the Chief Engineer

(November 19th Nov. 1857 No. 5321)

To the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is unable, under the existing financial restrictions, to sanction the increase applied for in the above letter, to the maintenance allowance for the Bunsposangor, Henry-hall

Public Works Dept. No. 2249.
From the Chief Engineer
To the Secretary to Government
Rec'd Cuttack 5th December 1857.

Read 11th December 1857.

No. 5321.
From Lieut. Col. Cotton, R.E.
Chief Engineer.
To B. Colvin, Esq.
Secretary to Government.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the consideration of the Most Noble the Governor in Council the accompanying Petition from the Inhabitants of the Bunsposangor Pergunnah for the maintenance of the Bridge and Road from Bypore Station to Khunjeer via Bellary and Hingilla with the Remarks

No. 522.

C26 Nov. 1857

hali and Ramandroog roads,
in the Bellary District; but
authorizes the continuance
of the grant of Rupees 10,000
for these roads, which was
sanctioned for the term of
one year only in Extract
Minutes Consultation
of 29th September 1855 No. 114.

2. The Chief Engineer,
it is observed, refers to two
allowances of Rupees 7,600
and Rupees 2,400, but in
disregard of the repeated
orders of Government,
omits to quote the dates
of sanction for these
grants, nor has it
been practicable to
trace the same in the
records

records of this Office.

EH

I Copies to the Chief Engr. Dist.

Public Works 1857 Deptt.
Dr. to Cons 8th Decr.

No 2249.

Extract Mins of Cons.
Dy 3d Decr /57.

P&C 8619/61

Declining to sanction under the existing financial restrictions the increase applied for to the maintenance allowance for the Nemplaya or Sherghatta Ramandroog Roads in the Bellary District and authorizing the continuance of the Grant of Rs 10000 for those roads which was sanctioned for the term of one year only in the order of the 29th Septr /55.

No 2223.

c26/Mem 1230