1. Number of pages.
2. Date of repair. 17-6-37
3. Number of References

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 24-3-57

G.O. No.	521	Press Mis.
54-55		
Dated	21 · 3 ·	1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

17-6-37

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 24th March 1857.

No. 54. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 27th January 1857, No. 9800.

Read the following from Major E. Lawford.

States his opinion on the subject of the transfer of the Executive duties of South Arcot District from the Revenue to the Engineer Department. } (Here enter 24th January 1857, No. 2.)

Resolved to forward a copy of Major Lawfords report of the 24th January 1857, for the orders of Government, with an expression of the Chief Engineers opinion, that the Executive duties of South Arcot should be made over to the D. P. W., from the 1st May next. It is observed that Mr. Norfor senior is placed on the supernumerary list of Assistant Engineers and is thus available for employment in South Arcot.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 55. ORDER THEREON, No. 521; dated 21st March 1857.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council sanctions the transfer of the Executive duties of the District of South Arcot to the District Engineer from 1st May next. The transfer is to be complete. Major Lawford's remark at the close of his letter regarding emergent works to be executed by the Revenue Department, must be understood to have reference only to those cases of sudden emergency for which provision is made in para. 3 Minutes of Consultation, dated 7th October 1856, No. 1826.

2. Colonel Faber will be good enough to submit at an early date a detailed list of the proposed executive divisions of the South Arcot District.

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

№ 2 of 1857

From

Major E. Lawford

Superintending Engineer Southern Circle

To.

Colonel C. E. Faber

Chief Engineer D. P. W.

Sir.

Having had frequent opportunities of communication with the Collector and District Engineer of South Arcot, on the subject of the transfer of the executive duties from the Revenue, to the Engineer Department, I have been led to form a decided opinion in favour of the measure taking place as soon as a proper and adequate establishment can be organized.

2. The District requires division into four Executive Circles, each under a European Officer, only three of whom are now available, unless the services of Mr. B. I. Norfor can be permanently secured, in which case the distribution might be made immediately on Lieut.t Hamilton's joining the District, so that every Officer may take up his post, and acquaint himself with the works before they are finally placed under his entire charge.

Captain Paxton
Lieut.t Hamilton
Mr. Wright
Mr. Norfor.

3. With respect to the Subordinates.

I

I think that Lieutenant Foords present allot-
-ments of their services, chiefly to the maintenance
of roads cannot well be continued (though I
admit it has advantages) and that the Overseers
must be attached to the several Circles for general
duties in the same manner as the Officers.

4. The number of Overseers however now
in the District is quite insufficient, and I do not
see how the duties can be efficiently performed
with less than one subordinate to each Talook, for I am
persuaded, that at present the works of irrigation
are in a most deteriorated and inefficient state
from want of timely attention and repair. The
amount of ordinary repairs set down for South
Arcot in Budget statement No. 3 is Rupees
48,000, a sum which experience shows to be
totally inadequate to the wants of the District,
and I am sure that 60,000 would scarcely suffice
to keep in proper repair the numerous tanks, An-
-nicuts and Channels scattered over this Province.
It may therefore be fairly assumed, that each
Talook will require an average expenditure of
5,000 Rupees in repairs alone, and for this out-
-lay besides that on roads, and improvements
the services of an Overseer are necessary.

5. The proposition therefore I would
now beg to submit is that the four available

executive

Executive Officers be at once placed in the four
Circles, with an Overseer in each Talook, that as
soon as possible after the 1st May next, all new
works of every kind including Ordinary but not
emergent repairs, should be performed by the
Engineer Department; I believe that it will not
be safe to relieve the Revenue Officers from the
obligation of providing for emergent works, which
often require the enforcement of duties on the
village communities, which they will not volun-
-tarily perform.

6. I have fixed on the 1st May as the
date for full and final transfer, because by
that time all the important repairs of the
season, except in the Southern Talooks should
be completed, and there will be time for the
several Officers and Subordinates to make
themselves fully acquainted with their Circles.

7. The present uncertainty that exists
in regard to this measure is I beg to assure you
most injurious to the Public Service, and it
is necessary that the question should be set
at rest as soon as possible.

8. All works in actual progress
under the Revenue Officers should be
completed, but no new ones except on

emergency

ergency should be undertaken by them from
May next.

I have the honor to be Sir
Camp Kunakuran Chuttrum
24th January 1857.
Signed E. Lawford
Supt Engr South Circle.

(True Copy.)

Lieutenant
Asst to the Chief Engineer.

94

O.W.D

No 521

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Undersdate the 27th March 1857.
Read the following
Extract from the Proceedings
of the Chief Engineer.

(Here enter 27th January 1857 No 6805)

The Right Honorable
the Governor in Council sanctions the transfer of the executive duties of the District of South Arcot to the District Engineer from 1st May next. The transfer is to be complete. Major Lawford's request that the charge of the Cuddalore ~~labour market and attached~~ Division of Public Works ~~ought to be~~ executed by the Revenue Department. ~~The~~ Board

Enclosure in an Extract
from the Proceedings of
the Chief Engineer
&
the Secy: to Govt
Pub: Works Dept

Dated 27th January 1857
Rec'd
Encls:

No. 1758/57

Copy of a letter from the Superintending Engr Southern Circle stating his opinion on the subject of the transfer of the Executive duties of South Arcot District from the Revenue Department to the Engineer Department

must be understood
~~such exception is intended~~
to [illegible] ~~necessary~~ ~~The Field officers~~
~~and the General Officers are~~
~~required to provide only~~
Horse called of
~~for~~ sudden emergencies
~~for which provision is made~~
~~as directed~~ in para 3 of
Minutes of Consultation
dated 9th October 1826 Mr 1826.

2 Colonel Faber
will be good enough to
submit at an early date
a detailed list of the
divisions
proposed executive ~~circles~~
of the South arcot District.

[illegible]

[illegible]

9. Copies to the Chief Engr
Dirs 23d
1 — Bd of Revs
1 — Accts Genl
1 — Civil Auditor

: which of undertakes
this duty that they
receive augmented
allowances for it.
and thus it is
the Revenue Officers
are ever and any
Retreat —
I shall say to
Commissioner next
his return

is to make that the
new rules of taking
Rent will not be subject
to ~~the~~ District
Engineers until
they have fully
taken charge of
the Mahaul &c:
- Instructions from
the Revenue Officers
I believe make a
subsequent visit

Public Works 1857 Dep.t
D.to Cons 24.th March.

No. 521.

Extract Mins of Cons.
D.d 24.th March 57.

Memo the Chief Engineer &c
d/18.th Feb.y 57 C.t 779
in Cons: 5 May

Sanctioning the transfer of the Executive duties of the District of South Coast, to the District Engr.s from 1.st May next, & requisiting the Chief Engr. to submit a detailed list of the proposed Executive divisions of that District.

No 54+55.

C. & E. Read 18.th