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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<u>1355</u>	Press Mis.
<u>49-50</u> Dated	<u>26-5-1938</u>	1850

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 1st to 10th June 1859.*

No. 49. Read the following Petition from MEER MAHOMED HOOSSAIN, Supplier in the Civil Architect's Office; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esquire, Secretary to Government, dated 21st April 1859.

I beg leave with due respect and submission to address you in order to solicit you will have the goodness to bring to the notice of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that I was the general supplier of materials, &c., for Public Works, under the Superintending Engineer, Presidency Division, for several years and was recently deprived of it most unjustly without my having done any fault or given any cause for it. Feeling exceedingly aggrieved at this unmerited deprivation of my means of livelihood particularly where there is no grounds to justify such deprivation, I beg to be permitted to submit a statement of my case for the just and favorable consideration of Government, in the humble hope that redress will be afforded me for the injury and ill treatment that have been inflicted on me.

I beg to state that in 1851, I succeeded my father-in-law, the late Ukheem Ally Saib as general supplier to the Superintending Engineers Department, and from that time to 1858 have performed my duty with diligence, attention, and correctness, to the perfect satisfaction of the Superintending Engineer, as the Certificate hereto attached granted by Colonel Atkinson will amply shew, in addition to which I beg to refer to a communication addressed to Government by the same Officer in 1856, bringing to notice the highly satisfactory manner in which I had performed my duty as well as the saving effected to the State by having employed my late father-in-law and afterwards me as general supplier to the Department; I may also state that I rendered similar satisfaction to Colonel Atkinson's immediate successor, Captain Rawlins, as Garrison Engineer, and continued to do so under the other Garrison Engineers who succeeded him.

I beg also to state that on the organization of the new Department of Public Works, the Superintending Engineer's Department was divided into that of Garrison Engineer and Civil Architect, afterwards new Officers having succeeded Colonel Atkinson and Captain Rawlins, the Managers of those two Departments, from avaricious motives and interested views misrepresented matters to the heads of those Departments and made a suggestion to dispense with my services, and to engage other suppliers instead of me with the view of benefitting themselves by fraudulent practices. They accordingly succeeded in carrying this measure into effect by depriving me of the suppliership without my having done any fault, and engaged my under suppliers in my stead, parties who were my servants and who afterwards proved deceitful and became combined with the aforesaid Managers in order to supplant me and carry their fraudulent practices into effect. In consequence of being so deprived of the suppliership, my affairs which were somewhat confused owing to the changes that were made on the organization of the Department Public Works, and the subsequent cessation of Public Works, large outstandings being also due by the under suppliers, it has thrown me into great difficulties and totally ruined me.

With the view of seeking redress and re-obtaining the suppliership, I submitted to the Chief Engineer two Petitions, dated 7th January last (herewith enclosed) containing a statement of my case and solicited enquiry, and justice to be rendered. It will be seen from those Petitions that my services were not dispensed with on the ground of negligence, misconduct or any fault on my part, but it was done without assigning any reason, in fact not even mentioning that my services were not further required, whilst the Security I had lodged when engaged as supplier was not returned but has been held in deposit up to this time and other parties engaged to supply materials, &c., but that Officer declined to interfere on the ground that the subject complained of did not appear to be a matter in which the Chief Engineer could interfere, as per Extract from Proceedings of the Chief Engineer No. 7084, dated 17th January 1859, herewith forwarded.

On receipt of this reply I addressed another Petition to the Chief Engineer, dated 17th March 1859, bringing to notice certain circumstances and malpractices which were going on in the two Engineer Departments, and solicited that an investigation may be made, but I regret to state that in reply even to this, the Chief Engineer declined to interfere, as the matters set forth

*I beg to refer to a communication addressed to Government
same Officer in 1856 bringing to notice the highly satis-
factory*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government Public Works Department,
from 1st to 10th June 1859.*

in the Petition principally affect an Officer not under the Chief Engineer's control, Vide Extract from Proceedings of the Chief Engineer No. 8955, dated 24th March 1859 herewith forwarded.

It will be seen from the aforesaid Petitions that malpractices of a fraudulent nature are going on in the two Engineer Departments, and that the subject of dispensing with my services was to carry the ends of the Managers into effect, as they could not do so while I continued as supplier; I could bring many other circumstances and facts to notice to shew the extent of the fraudulent practices going on between the Managers and present suppliers but I refrain from entering further into the subject from a fear of occupying too much of the time of the Governor in Council.

From the foregoing statement of my case and of the circumstances brought to notice in the aforesaid Petitions, I trust it will be perceived that I have been unjustly deprived of the suppliership, and therefore earnestly beg the Honorable the Governor in Council will be pleased to refer the matter to the Government Solicitor, Mr. Boyson, who is well acquainted with the case as well as to the Garrison Engineer, Captain Rawlins, and on receipt of their reports, I earnestly beg the Government will see the justice of directing my re-obtaining the suppliership in order that I may adjust the balance due by me as well as obtain my means of livelihood, of which I have been unjustly deprived.

For which act of justice and kindness I shall be extremely thankful.

No. 50.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd June 1859, No. 1353.

This is a Petition from the individual who lately held the office of general supplier to the Superintending Engineer of the Presidency Division. He complains that after the division of that Officer's duties between the Civil Architect and the Garrison Engineer, the privilege of supplying materials was taken from him and divided similarly between two of his agents, one for each office; and he attributes this change, which he asserts to have caused him much loss to corrupt intrigues on the part of the managers of those offices.

2. The change of system may have been made in a manner too little regardful of Petitioner's established interests, and of the engagements which he might have contracted on the faith of his long employment. But the Government are not of opinion that it would be for the good of the public service that they should interfere to give him redress by the method he desires, viz. by restoring him to his former functions.

3. This application has however attracted the attention of Government to discussions which have passed on former occasions respecting the system of executing work and obtaining materials at the Presidency. This system was examined in detail by the late Commissioners of

• Section IV Part I.

† Section IV Part II.

‡ Order August 14th 1856
No. 1432.

§ Order February 9th 1859.
No. 361.

Public Works in their second Report; it was found to contain many objectionable practices, and a variety of suggestions were made for its improvement.† Again in 1856 the subject came before Government and the attention of the Chief Engineer was called to the improvements proposed by the Commissioners;‡ and he was desired to lay before Government a scheme in accordance with those recommendations. The subject dropped, however, and it does not appear that any material improvement has taken place in the system. Only a few months ago a case of extensive fraud and overcharge was brought to the notice of Government in the execution of work at the Presidency.§

4. The Government are now desirous that the Chief Engineer should give his attention to this subject. He has at the Presidency a number of able Officers both in the Executive Department and elsewhere; and His Excellency in Council believes that with their assistance and advice it will be in Colonel Bell's power to introduce a really efficient and economical system.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

21/59

J. D. Bourdillon Esquire

*Secretary to Government D. P. W.
Fort St. George.*

Sir

I beg leave with due respect and submission to address you in order to solicit you will have the goodness to bring to the notice of The Honorable the Governor in Council that I was the General Supplier of Materials &c for Public Works under the Superintending Engineer Presidency Division for several years and was recently deprived of it most unjustly without my having done any fault or given any cause for it. Feeling exceedingly aggrieved at this unmerited deprivation of my means of livelihood particularly where there is no grounds to justify such deprivation. I beg to be permitted to submit a statement of my case for the just and favorable consideration of Government in the humble hope that redress will be afforded me for the injury and ill treatment that have been inflicted on me.

I beg to state that in 1851 I succeeded my father in law the late Ukheim Ally Saib as General Supplier to the Superintending Engineer's Department and from that time to 1858 have performed my duty with diligence, attention, and correctness, to the perfect satisfaction of the Superintending Engineer as the Certificate hereto attached granted by Colonel Alkinson will amply shew, in addition to which I beg to refer to a communication addressed to Government by the same Officer in 1856 bringing to notice the highly satisfactory

satisfactory manner in which I had performed my duty as well as the saving effected to the State by having employed my late father in law and afterwards me as General Supplier to the Department. I may also state that I rendered similar satisfaction to Colonel Atkinson's immediate successor Captain Rawlins as Garrison Engineer, and continued to do so under the three Garrison Engineers who succeeded him.

I beg also to state that on the organization of the new Department of Public Works, the Superintending Engineer's Department was divided into that of Garrison Engineer and Civil Architect. afterwards new Officers having succeeded Colonel Atkinson and Captain Rawlins, the Managers of those two Departments from avaricious motives and interested views misrepresented matters to the heads of those Departments and made a suggestion to dispense with my services, ^{and} to engage other Suppliers instead of me with the view of benefitting themselves by fraudulent practices. They accordingly succeeded in carrying this measure into effect by depriving me of the Suppliership without my having done any fault, and engaged my Under Suppliers in my stead, parties who were my servants and who afterwards proved deceitful and became combined with the aforesaid Managers in order to supplant me and carry their fraudulent practices into effect. In consequence of being so deprived of the Suppliership my affairs which were some what confused owing to the changes that were made on the organization of the D. P. W. and the subsequent cessation of Public Works, large outstandings being also due by the Under

Under Suppliers, it has thrown me into great difficulties and totally ruined me.

With the view of seeking redress and re-obtaining the Suppliership I submitted to the Chief Engineer two Petitions dated 7th January last (herewith enclosed) containing a statement of my case and solicited enquiry, and justice to be rendered. It will be seen from those Petitions that my services were not dispensed with on the ground of negligence, misconduct or any fault on my part, but it was done without assigning any reason, in fact no even mentioning that my services were not further required, whilst the security I had lodged when engaged as Supplier was not returned, but has been held in deposit up to this time and other parties engaged to supply Materials &c. but that officer declined to interfere on the ground that the subject complained of did not appear to be a matter in which the Chief Engineer could interfere as per Extract from Proceedings of the Chief Engineer No 7084 dated 17th January 1859 herewith forwarded.

On receipt of this reply I addressed another Petition to the Chief Engineer dated 17th March 1859 bringing to notice certain circumstances and small practices which were going on in the two Engineer Departments and solicited that an investigation may be made, but I regret to state that in reply even to this, the Chief Engineer declined to interfere as the matters set forth in the Petition principally

principally affect an officer not under the Chief Engineers Control. Vide Extract from Proceedings of the Chief Engineers No 8955 dated 24th March 1859 herewith forwarded.

It will be seen from the aforesaid Petitions that mal practices of a fraudulent nature are going on in the two Engineer Departments, and that the subject of dispensing with my services was to carry the ends of the Managers into effect as they could not do so while I continued as Supplier. I could bring many other circumstances and facts to notice to show the extent of the fraudulent practices going on between the Managers and present Suppliers but I refrain from entering further into the subject from a fear of occupying too much of the time of the Governor in Council.

From the foregoing statement of my case and of the circumstances brought to notice in the aforesaid Petitions I trust it will be perceived that I have been unjustly deprived of the Suppliership, and therefore earnestly beg the Honorable the Governor in Council will be pleased to refer the matter to the Government Solicitor Mr. Boyson who is well acquainted with the case as well as to the Garrison Engineer and on receipt of their reports. I earnestly beg the Government will see the justice of directing my re-obtaining the Suppliership in order that I may adjust the Balance due by me as well as obtain my means of livelihood, of which I have been unjustly deprived.

For which act of justice and kindness I shall be extremely thankful.

I remain

Sir

Your most humble servant
J. S. S.

Madras 2
21st April 1859

P. W. Depart

N. 1353

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 8th July 1859

Read the following
Petition from Meer
Mahomed Hoosain

(Here entered 21st April 1859)

This is a petition
from the individual who
lately held the office of
general supplier to the
Superintending Engineer
of the Presidency Division.
He complains that after
the division of that Office

This "Office" of "General Supplier"
and "privilege of supplying materials"
indicate a low state of administration.
Why are not the materials required
for public works - especially at the
Presidency being obtained by a well
regulated system of public competition?
The public money must not be
wasted under any other arrangement

[Signature]

[Signature]

309 North 1859 O. J. J. J.

Case 10th June

Shiraz Ali Muhammad

Proccain

Obated 21st July 1859

Enclod 8 O. J. J. J. 1859

Request order for
the 2nd column in the
supply list of which the
was originally refused.

At 12 1859 - 3 - June 1859.

219th June 1859

him and divided similar
- lary between ~~two~~
his agents, one for each
Office, and he attri-
- butes ~~the~~ change,
which he asserts to have
caused him much loss
to corrupt intrigues on
the part of the managers
of those offices.

2 The change of system
may have been made in
a manner too little regard-
- ful of Petitioner's established interests,
and of the engagements
which he might have
contracted on the faith of his
long employment. But the
Government are not of
opinion that it would
be for the good of the
public service that they
should interfere to give
him redress by the method

he

11=
he desires, viz. by resto-
- ring him to his former
functions.

3 This application
has however attracted
the attention of Govern-
ment to discussions which
have passed on former
occasions respecting the
system of executing works
and obtaining materials
at the Presidency. This
system was examined in
detail by the late Com-
missioners of Public Works
in their second Report,
it was found to contain
many objectionable prac-
- tices, and a variety of
suggestions were made
for its improvement.
again in 1856 the subject
came before Government
and the attention of
the

* Section IV Part I.

Section IV Part II.

the Chief Engineer was called to the improvements proposed by the Commissioners; and he was desired to lay before Government a scheme in accordance with those recommendations.

The subject dropped, however, and it does not appear that any material improvement has taken place in the system. Only a few months ago a case of extensive fraud and overcharge was brought to the notice of Govt. in the execution of work at the Presidency.

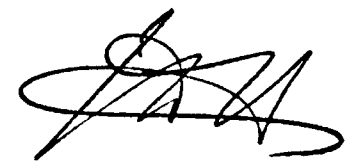
4 The Government are now desirous that the Chief Engineer should

* Order August 14th/56 No. 1432.

* Order, Feb 7th/57 No. 361.

132
should give his attention to this subject. He has ~~been~~ at the Presidency a number of able Officers both in the Executive Department and elsewhere, and His Excellency in Council believes that with their assistance and advice it will be in Colonel Bell's power to introduce a really efficient and economical system.

10 Copies to the Chief Eng^r. Dated 14th
Copy of P.O. to Meer Mahomed
Hossain.



60 1208

Public Works 1859 Dept^{to}.
Cons 10th June.

No 1353.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
Df 3^d June 1859.

From the Sp Chief Engineer Df 3rd
August 1859 Lt 2043 m Cons.

Chief Engineer to introduce
with the assistance of able
officers under him at the
Presidency both in the Executive
Department and elsewhere
an efficient and economical
system of supplying ma-
terials to the Superintending
Engineer at the Presidency -

No 49 + 50.

May 12 30th