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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.*Despatches to England.*

<i>Dep</i> G.O. No. <u>14</u>	Press Mis.
Dated <u>4-4-</u>	<u>18</u> 60.

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

No. 14 of 1860.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

RIGHT HONORABLE SIR,

We have the honor to acknowledge your Despatch of the 26th January in this Department, No. 6, replying to ours of the 26th October last, respecting works to be undertaken at the Sintarala barrier in the Gódávári river, and authorizing the commencement of the operations under certain contingencies; and also enclosing copy of a Despatch addressed to the Government of India, urging the importance of bringing to a speedy and successful issue the negotiations pending with His Highness the Nizam, for the removal of certain political obstacles to the navigation and to the improvement of the river.

2. The conditions accompanying your permission to commence work are:—

1st. That the negotiations ordered to be opened for obtaining from the Nizam the possession of the North bank of the river at the point in question, shall be successful; and,

2nd. That funds for the work shall be available out of the amount allowed by the Government of India on our Budget statements for expenditure on Public Works in general in this Presidency.

3. With respect to the former of these conditions, an important part of the works proposed by Captain Haig consists in a Canal on the North bank to turn the barrier; it is essential, therefore, that this part at least of the North bank shall be British Territory, or at least exclusively under British jurisdiction, before the works are commenced. It is, therefore, extremely important to press the negotiation with His Highness the Nizam, in order to the completion of such cession or arrangement at the earliest possible time. The instructions contained in your Despatch to the Government of India, appear to us to meet the case, and we trust they will be fully acted on.

4. With regard to the other condition, viz., that funds for the work shall be available out of the amount allowed to this Presidency for expenditure on Public Works generally, we beg to urge that the works for improving the Upper Gódávári ought to be specially provided for by a special grant.

5. Our reasons for this recommendation are not simply the smallness of the sum allowed on the Budget for new works, though that alone might be sufficient. We were directed by the Government of India to limit the whole amount of our Public Works Estimates for 1860-1 to 75 lacs of Rupees, including Establishments; and we have done so. But excluding the sums allowed for necessary repairs, and for Military and other State works, the amount set down for new Public Works proper of all kinds, is no more than Rupees 9,26,944; and by far the largest part of this sum is for works already in progress or for numerous small works which could not conveniently be postponed. The entire amount set down for new works of magnitude, viz., exceeding the Estimate of 25,000 Rupees each, omitting State works, is no more than Rupees 1,03,180. You will see then how impossible it would be to provide adequately out of the Budget sanction for the Upper Gódávári improvements, even if the whole amount applied for should be granted by the Government of India, which, however, is not certain.

6. But it appears to us that there are other reasons for asking for a special provision for these improvements. The works themselves are certainly special in their character. Not only are they on an extensive scale, but their object is not local to this Presidency, but affects Central India and even England more than any part of the Madras Territories. It is certainly true that the Rajahmundry Delta will greatly benefit by the opening of the navigation; that

addressed to the Government

the Salt Revenue and other branches of the Revenue will gain largely; and that the Government will also profit by the cheap and rapid transport of Troops and Stores on the river. But the great object is to give cheap carriage to the Cotton and other products of Berar—to the immense profit of that country, and the great benefit of the manufacturers and the public in England.

7. We hope, therefore, that it will be admitted that the opening of the river ought not to be left dependent on the small sums that can be spared for it from the Public Works funds of this Presidency.

8. We cannot close this Despatch without earnestly pressing the importance of taking advantage of the present time when Captain Haig is available to carry out his own designs. This Officer is eminently fitted for the work. His talents are of a very high order; and he possesses also an energy, and a singleness of purpose, not less distinguished. No Officer is so well acquainted with the river and its requirements; and he has matured his judgment by a study of what has been done in other countries to improve similar rivers. He is now on the spot in health and vigour for the work, and anxious to devote himself to it; but no one can tell how long he may continue so, and it appears to us to be of the utmost importance to turn his valuable qualities to account in their own peculiar field without delay.

9. Under the circumstances above stated we trust that you will see fit to place funds at our disposal to commence the works vigorously, as soon as the command of the North bank of the river shall have been obtained.

We have the honor to be,

Right Honorable Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
4th April 1860.

Exd. Wm. Thomas.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

*Letter to the Right Honorable
the Secretary of State for India,
Dated 4th April,
No. 14 of 1860.*

Acknowledging the receipt of Despatch No. 3, on the subject of the proposed operations, at the first or Sinterála barrier in the Gódávári river, and requesting to place funds at the disposal of this Government to commence the works as soon as the command of the North bank of the river shall have been obtained.

addressed to the Government

Public Works Dept

No 14 of 1860.

To The Right Honorable
The Secretary of State for
India

Right Honorable Sir,

We have the honor
to acknowledge your Despatch
of the 26th January in this De-
partment, No 3, replying to
ours of the 26th October last
respecting works to be
undertaken at the Antara
barrier in the Godavari river,
and authorizing the commence-
ment of the operations under
certain contingencies, and also
enclosing copy of a Despatch
addressed to the Government
of

G.

Godavari

RAM

of India, urging the importance of bringing the speedy and successful issue the negotiations pending with His Highness the Nizam, for the removal of certain political obstacles to the navigation and to the improvement of the river.

2 The conditions ~~the~~ accompanying ^{your} permission to commence work are. 1st That the negotiations ordered to be opened for obtaining ^{from} the Nizam the possession of the North bank of the river at the point in question, shall be successful, and

2nd That funds for the work shall be available out of the amount allowed by the Government of India on our Budget Statements for expenditure on Public Works in general in this Presidency.

We beg to represent that these conditions as effectually preclude any early action, as a direct prohibition would do.

3 With respect to the former of these conditions, an important part of the works proposed by Captain Haig consists in a Canal on the North bank to turn the ^{32^m} carrier; it is essential therefore that this part at least of the North bank shall be British Territory, or at least exclusively under British jurisdiction, before the works are commenced. It is, therefore, extremely important to press the negotiation with His Highness the Nizam, in order to the completion of such cession or arrangement at the earliest possible time. The instructions contained in your Despatches to the Government

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to us to meet the case, and
we trust they will be fully
acted on.

4- With regard to the
other condition, vizt that ~~the~~
funds for the work shall be
available out of the amount
allowed to this Presidency for
expenditure on Public Works
generally, we beg to ^{urge} ~~call your~~
~~attention to the request con-~~
~~tained in our letter of~~

That the works
for improving the upper Po-
-clavari ought to be specially
provided for by a special grant.

5 Our reasons for this
recommendation are not simply
the smallness of the sum
allowed on the budget for
new works, though that
alone might be sufficient.
We were directed by the
Government of India to
limit

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limit the whole amount of
our Public Works Estimates
for 1860/61 to 75 lacs of
Rupees, including Establish-
ments; and we have done
so. But excluding the sums
allowed for necessary repairs,
and for Military and other
State works, the amount
set down for new public
works proper of all kinds,
is no more than Rs. 2,69,444,
and by far the largest part
of this sum is ^{for} works already
in progress or for numerous
small works which could
not conveniently be postponed.
The entire amount set
down for new works of
magnitude, vizt exceeding
the estimate of 25,000 Rupees
each, omitting State works, is no
more than Rs. 1,03,180. You
will see then how impossible
it would be to provide
adequately

adequately out of the Budget
Sanction, for the upper Goda-
vari improvements, even if
the whole amount ^{applied for} should
be granted by the Government
of India, which, however,
is not certain.

6 But it appears to
us that there are other reasons
for asking for a special
provision for those ^{improvements} ~~works~~.

The works themselves are
certainly special in their
character. Not only are
they on ^{an extensive} ~~a large~~ scale,
but their object is not local
to this Presidency, ~~but~~
~~but~~ it affects central
India and even England
~~much~~ more than any part
of the Madras Territories.
It is certainly true that the
Rajahmundry Delta will
greatly benefit by the opening
of the navigation; that

the

the Salt revenue and other
branches of the Revenue
will gain largely; and
that the Government
will also profit by the
cheap and rapid transport
of troops and stores on
the river. But the great
object is to give cheap
carriage to the Cotton and
other products of Bengal,
to the immense profit
of that Country, and the
great benefit of the manu-
facturers and the Public
in England.

7 We hope, therefore,
that it will be admitted
that the opening of the
river ought not to be left
dependent on the small
sums that can be spared
for it from the Public
Works funds of this
Presidency.

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8 We cannot close this
Despatch without earnestly
pressing the importance of
taking advantage of the pre-
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tured his judgment by a
study of what has been
done in other Countries
to improve similar Rivers.
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work, and anxious to devote
himself

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importance to have his
valuable qualities to
account in their own
peculiar field without
delay.

9. Under the circum-
stances above stated we
trust that you will see
fit to place funds at our
disposal to commence the
works vigorously, as soon
as the command of the
north bank of the River
shall have been obtained.

Fort George,
4th April 1860.

J. H.

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P. W. L.

N^o 14.

Letter to the Right Honble
The Secretary of State for India

Dated 4 April 1860.

Right Copy of Bombay Overland
Express 4 April 1860

After acknowledging the
receipt of Despatch of 13 on the
subject of the proposed operations,
at the first or Silarala Barrier
in the Godavari river and requesting
to place funds at the disposal of
that Government to commence the
works as soon as the Command
of the North bank of the river
shall have been obtained.

Answered 25 May 1860 N^o 30.

Copy to the Govt. of India 18 April 1860
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