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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 435 Press / Mis.

113/14 Dated 29 — 2 — 1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

V

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, for the month of February 1860.

No. 113. Read the following letter from Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer; to the Secretary to Government, dated 8th February 1860, No. 10074.

Referring to order of Government No. 218, 27th January, regarding the Húvenhadgalli táluq kach'hári, I have the honor to report, that when addressing Government on the subject in my letter No. 7895 of the 2nd December last, I was not aware of the order of Government of the 12th March 1858, No. 441, which I find authorizes the commencement of the Húvenhadgalli táluq kach'hári, and upon which doubtless the District Engineer acted, though, with a want of attention too common among the local officers, he did not quote the authority.

2. The fault of the District Engineer thus appears to be limited to his proceeding with the kach'hári on a plan which had not been duly authorized. He so acted, as I have said, in conjunction with the Collector, and there was no apparent intention of violating or neglecting any order, since these officers were not informed of the opinion of the Board of Revenue till some months later. There was an irregularity which was decidedly very blameable; but I think that upon consideration of the facts now reported, the Government will be disposed to take a more lenient view of the case than that which is exprest in the order under reference.

No. 114. ORDER THEREON, 29th February 1860, No. 435.

In this letter, the Chief Engineer points out with reference to the order of the 27th ultimo No. 218, that application had been made and authority obtained for the commencement of the new táluq kach'hári at Húvenhadgalli in Bellary, conditionally sanctioned on the 10th February 1857 No. 289, at an estimated cost of Rupees 4,220; and that the only irregularity in the case, on the part of the District Engineer, was the adoption, without the previous sanction of Government of a more expensive plan than that which they had approved.

Order 12th March 1858]No. 441.

2. The District Engineer has urged, in explanation, that he proceeded with the work under the impression that, as an estimate for a still more costly building had been intermediately submitted, there could be no objection to his adopting a less expensive one and commencing operations at once. His explanation is totally inadmissible. Under no circumstances, as the District Engineer cannot but know, does the simple fact of the submission of an estimate justify the commencement of the work to which it relates; and in the present case he had been expressly informed by the Chief Engineer, a short time previously, that the sanction of Government must be obtained if the adoption of another plan would involve additional expenditure. As he had not received intimation that his second or highest estimate had been sanctioned or even that it had been recommended by the Chief Engineer for sanction, it was his duty to have sent up his third estimate and to have awaited the result before incurring any expenditure on account of the work.

3. The Government declined to sanction the estimate of Rupees 8,760 on the ground that orders had not been given for the commencement of the building. It has now been shown that the work had been specially exempted from the operation of the restrictive orders—and that the plan which has been adopted has been approved by both the Collector and the Board of Revenue, though the sanction of the latter was not sought until such progress had been made with the building as to render any alteration of the plan impracticable. It must be clear, however, that the order of Governmant 12th March 1858, can be regarded only as conveying sanction for proceeding with the work at the estimate Rupees 4,220 entered in the budget, and that neither the Collector nor the Board of Revenue have authority to sanction a larger expenditure. The District Engineer might very properly be held responsible for the excess of the present estimate or Rupees 4,540, and the Government will certainly exact the recovery should the District Engineer offend in like manner again. As it is they sanction the revised estimate Rupees 8,760 and request that the Chief Engineer will communicate the foregoing remarks to the District Engineer of Bellary.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Central Office of P.W.
Lepakkam
8th February 1860.

No. 10074

From
The Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Sir,

Revenue
Buildings

Referring to Order of Government No. 218, 2nd January regarding the Navenhadgalu Paluy Kachiri, I have the honor to report, that when addressing Government on the subject in my letter No. 7895 of the 2nd December last, I was not aware of the Order of Government of the 12th March 1858 No. 441 which did authorize the commencement of the Navenhadgalu Paluy Kachiri, and upon which doubtless the District Engineer acted, though, with a want of attention too common among the local Officers, he did not quote the authority.-

2. The fault of the District Engineer
thus

previous

thus appears to be limited to the proceedings with the Machine or a plan which had not been duly authorized. He so acted, as I have said, in conjunction with the Collector, and there was no apparent intention of violating or neglecting any order, since these Officers were not informed of the opinion of the Board of Revenue till some months later. There was any irregularity which was decidedly very blameable, but I think that upon consideration of the facts now reported, the Government will be disposed to take a more lenient view of the case than that which is expressed in the order under reference.-

Sirpúrkamp
8th February 1860

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedt Servant
M Kell Colonel
Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

P Khan

№435

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 29th July 60.

Read the following letter
from the Chief Engineer.

Intimating in reference to Proc.s: №218 of the 27th Ultimo that by G.O.C. №281 of the 12th March 1858 the commencement of the Navankadgali Tank Tailing Kaichári was authorized that the error of the District Engineer was in altering the plan whereby the amount of the Estimate was doubted.

(Here enter 8th July 60 №1074)

Headquarters
Kaichári

In this letter, the Chief Engr. points out with reference to the order of the 27th ult.o №218, that application had been made and authority obtained for the commencement of the new Tailing Kaichári at Navankadgali in Bellári, conditionally sanctioned on the 10th Feby 1857 №259. at an estimated cost of Rs 4220, and that the only irregularity in the case, on the part of the Dist Engr. was the adoption, without the previous

Bellary
the 12th March 1858

Dated 29th January 1858.

Rec.d 3rd February.

Copy of a Letter from Lieut.t Colonel A. Cotton Chief Engineer & Secretary to Government Public Works Department.

To

The Secretary to Government
Fort St George.

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that I have received a letter from the Collector of Bellary No 12 of the 25th January 1858 forwarding a letter from the Executive Engineer of the Bellary Division No 35 of the 22nd January 1858 reporting that the Tailing Kaichári of the Navankadgali Tank in the Bellary District, which was sanctioned by Government in Proceedings of the 10th February 1857 №259. at an estimated cost of Rupees 4220, has been executed at a cost of Rupees 5,000 and upwards.

2. The Executive Engineer states that the error in the estimate was discovered by the Assistant Engineer in charge of the work, and that the measurement of the Estimate was made by Mr Kelly

Copy of a Letter from the Collector of Bellary No 12 of the 25th January 1858.

Enc.d 31st January & c. to Govt. 12 Copies

Rec.d 3rd February

Dated 29th January 1858.

To

The Chief Engineer
Fort St George

Sir

Dated 22nd January 1858.

Received 30th do

Acknowledged 1st February

Copy of a Letter from the Executive Engineer Bellary Division to the Collector of Bellary.

To

The Collector of Bellary

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that I have received a letter from the Collector of Bellary No 12 of the 25th January 1858 forwarding a letter from the Executive Engineer of the Bellary Division No 35 of the 22nd January 1858 reporting that the Tailing Kaichári of the Navankadgali Tank in the Bellary District, which was sanctioned by Government in Proceedings of the 10th February 1857 №259. at an estimated cost of Rupees 4220, has been executed at a cost of Rupees 5,000 and upwards.

2. The Executive Engineer states that the error in the estimate was discovered by the Assistant Engineer in charge of the work, and that the measurement of the Estimate was made by Mr Kelly

Dated 24th Feby 58

No 1141.

previous sanction of Govt. for some expenditure below that which they had approved.

The Chief Engr has urged, in explanation, that he proceeded with the work under the impression that, as an estimate for a still more costly building has been intermediately submitted, there could be no objection to his adopting a less expensive one & commencing operations at once. His explanation is totally inadmissible, & he had been expressly informed by the Ch: Engr:, a short time previously, that the sanction

+ or the Director Genl's

Under the circumstances + does the submission of the fact of the estimate justify the commencement of the work to which it relates: and in the present case

of Govt must be obtained if the adoption of another plan would involve additional expenditure, as the Chief had not received intimation that his 2d or highest estimate had been sanctioned or even that it had been recommended by the Ch: Engr: for sanction, it was the his bounden duty to have sent up his third estimate & to have awaited the result before incurring any expenditure on account of the work.

The Govt. declined to sanction the estimate of Rs 8760 on the ground that orders had not been given for the commencement of the building. It has now been

been shown that the work had been specially exempted from the operation of the restrictive orders - and that the plan which has been adopted has been approved by both the C.E. & the Board of Rev. tho' the sanction of the latter was not sought until such progress had been made with the building as to render any alteration of the plan impracticable. In these circumstances, the Jail will not, I hope, withhold their sanction, and in case according it. They request that the Ch. Engr. will communicate the foregoing remarks to the D. E. of Ballari.

10 Copies - Chief Engr. Civil & P.

It must be borne in mind that it was not only on account of the 12 months 1858 during which the work was suspended in pursuance of the Govt. orders that the Board of Revenue sanctioned an increase of Rs 4220 on the original estimate - but also because the Superintending Engineer considered that the Jail could not be built, and kept secure for less than the sum sanctioned. The Superintending Engineer is now of opinion that the Jail cannot be built for less than Rs 8760 - and he has therefore prepared a revised estimate for that amount which will be submitted for the sanction of the Board of Revenue - as soon as the Chief Engineer has passed it.

Public Works 1860 Dept. No.
Pro: of Govt 29th February.

No 435.

Pro: of the Madras Govt:
Dt 29th February 1860

From the Chief Secy:
29th May 1860. No. 1327.

Reviewing the observations of the Dist. Engineer Bellary and sanctioning the revised Estimate of Rs 8,760 for the new Taluq Kacheharri at Hirekuhadgelli.

No 113 & 114.