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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 537 Press / Mis.

411-412

Dated 22-3-1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 22nd March 1862.

No. 111. Read the following Endorsement of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated 10th March 1862, No. 11,338.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd March 1862, No. 1,452.

Read the following letter from E. B. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 27th February 1862, No. 48:—

SIR,

1. In reply to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 21st instant, No. 1,252, I beg to inform you that it is desirable that the sum of 30,000 Rupees applied for, should be sanctioned as early as practicable, in order that the works upon which it is proposed to be spent, may be undertaken immediately.

2. This amount should be laid out in the repair of roads* and tanks generally, but more particularly in the Táluqs noted in the margin, where the pressure of the high prices of grain is aggravated by the almost entire failure of dry crops.

* Without Estimate.

Coimbatore	1
Pulla Poor	2
Pollachy	3
Chuckrayherry	4

3. As the work will chiefly consist of earth and gravel work, such as raising and strengthening the bund of tanks, metalling roads, clearing drains on either side of them, &c., &c., no immediate superintendence of a professional character, appears necessary, and consequently the whole amount may be held at the disposal of the Collector to be expended by the Tahsíldárs, the District Engineer will of course be consulted before undertaking any large work.

4. Any small establishment which may be required to superintend the repairs can be paid from the sanctioned amount, and a correct account of expenditure will be eventually rendered to the Department of Public Works.

5. If the Board are of opinion that the sum proposed is too great to be spent by the Collector, half of it might be placed at his disposal as previously recommended, leaving 15,000 Rupees in the hands of the District Engineer, to be laid out in any repairs he deems best.

6. The high prices of grain, the failure of dry crops in some of the Táluqs, the decreasing expenditure in the Railway Department, render the immediate disbursement of the proposed amount, very desirable.

7. Some may be also beneficially spent in deepening dry Wells for drinking water; employing the *poor* for labor and only at *large* common wells, or Teppacolums, not private Wells, 3,000 to each Táluq might be sent (12,000), to be so employed most usefully—reports having come in from several directions, that the springs are failing and drinking water, for both the villages and cattle, hardly attainable, many large public Wells on which the community depends, are already dry.

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1. Ordered to be communicated to the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, with reference to his letter dated 15th February 1862, No. 10,585, with the Board's request that no time may be lost in rendering the sum asked for, available for employment in the District.

2. The Board consider it most desirable that the Collector and the District Engineer should act together in this matter, but at the same time as the first object is to afford work to the suffering poor, and to secure the earliest and largest amount of relief by this expenditure, the agency of the Tahsíldárs will probably be found the most economical and efficient.

3. The Board specially approve of the proposal to devote a considerable portion of the grant to the improvement of public Wells.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 22nd March 1862.

1 Original Proceedings of Executive Board, No. 1,152, dated 3rd March 1862.
1 Letter from District Engineer, No. 693, dated 3rd March 1862.

1. Submitted for the orders of Government, with reference to their Proceedings No. 150, dated 7th February 1862.

2. Government will observe that the Board of Revenue are of opinion that the Collector and District Engineer should act together in this matter; but that as the main object is to find employment to the poorer classes, and to secure the earliest and largest amount of relief by the proposed outlay of Rupees 30,000, they consider that the agency of the Tahsildars will probably be found the most economical and efficient.

3. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, begs to recommend that the whole amount (Rupees 30,000) may be placed at the disposal of the District Engineer for expenditure upon such works, as the Collector and he may decide upon, making advances if necessary to the Tahsildars for giving effect to the object in view.

4. As there is no other source from whence the required funds may be obtained, the Deputy Chief Engineer would suggest that the amount* may be sanctioned from the Reserve Fund for 1862-63.

* Rupees 3,500

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel,
Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle.

No. 412. ORDER THEREON, 22nd March 1862, No. 557.

1. As it is evident from the Collector's letter, No. 18, dated 27th February 1862, as well as from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue thereon, that immediate action is necessary with a view to afford relief to the suffering poor in the Coimbatore District, the Chief Engineer will be requested to state whether funds are available from other Districts for transfer to Coimbatore, and if so, to what extent. In the meantime to avoid delay the Government sanction a grant of Rupees 10,000 from the Reserve Fund of the current year, provided it can be spared to be laid out in the manner recommended by the Board of Revenue.

2. The Reserve Fund for 1862-63 will not be available until the 1st May next, and the Government are therefore unable at the present time to sanction the grant from that source of the sum of 30,000 Rupees referred to in the Deputy Chief Engineer's Endorsement.

3. Colonel Birdwood will be requested to report immediately for the information of Government the amount expended by the District Engineer, Coimbatore, up to the latest date for which accounts have been received, and how much remains at the disposal of that Officer for the remainder of the current official year, and whether some portion of this balance might not also be expended in the way suggested by the Board of Revenue.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

District Engineer's Office,
Ootacamund 3rd March 1862

No. 393

From,

Captain L. Goddard
District Engineer of Coimbatore

To,

Colonel W. I. Birdwood
Deputy Chief Engineer &c. &c.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward Proceedings of Deputy Chief Engineer Southern Circle No. 10587, dated 15th February 1862 I am required to report upon the proposition of the Collector of Coimbatore conveyed to Board of Revenue in his Letter No.— dated 27th January 1862 which formed the subject of Proceedings Madras Government No. 204 dated 5th February 1862.—

2. The Collector reports that the wet burn of Punja crops in places will be less than one third the usual produce and in others a failure on account of Drought.—

3. I have the honor to report that

Sir

The above Statement of causes of grievance which
have a tendency to Excite Serious Disquietude, and
the consequences necessarily follow— I believe
there will be a great deficiency in the Revenue
in the District this year in the above mentioned
by. I am sorry to be the person chosen by
the Collector of Jessore, that the Orders
of Government will be disregarded and
thought not immediately—

5. I am of the same opinion. The
causes of this is, that the Collector
has been harassed with Repeated demands
of payments at present have for a short time—

6. The Collector suggests the propriety
of suspending for the Present Resolving
Roads and Cantonments Duties—

7. In regard to this there will and be the
highest difficulty— The amount and
sum more might be expended with great advan-
tage to Government and to the Inhabitants—

I should have to be
Sir
Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
Richard Lushington
Collector

No 11338

Submitted for the orders of Government, with reference to their Proceedings No 159, dated 7th February 1862.

2 Government will observe that the Board of Revenue are of opinion that the Collector and District Engineer should act together in this matter; but that as the main object is to find employment to the poorer classes, and to secure the earliest and largest amount of relief by the proposed outlay of Rupees 30,000, they consider that the Agency of the Tahsildars will probably be found the most economical and efficient

3. The Deputy Chief Engineer Southern Circle begs to recommend that the whole amount (Rupees 30,000) may be placed at the disposal

Govt Public No 11338
Dated 14th March 1862

From C. Pihl Esq
Acting Secretary to Government

To
The Deputy Chief Engineer
Southern Circle

Dated 3rd March 1862

Received 6th Do

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward herewith a letter from the Collector of Salem, No 1558 dated 15th February 1862, with its enclosure, and to request that you will favour the Board with your opinion as to the practicability of the proposal contained in the latter, and the probable cost of the works.

Fair plans for the proposed works are considered necessary with the Collector's letter.

I have the honor, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
C. Pihl
Acting Secretary

6/3/62

Application of the Executive Engineer for expenditure upon public works, as ~~suggested~~ the Collector may decide upon, ~~of necessary~~ making advances if necessary to the Tahsildars for giving effect to the object in view -

4 As there is no other source from whence the required funds may be obtained, the Deputy Chief Engineer would suggest that the amount may be sanctioned from the Reserve Fund for 1862/63 *

Dy Chf. Engrs Office &c
Chepauk
10th March 1862

W. Thomas Colonel
Deputy Chief Engineer &c

To
Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Horsley
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.
Fort Saint George

* Rupees 30,000

X. W.T.

Ry. Ledy 1862 Nos 112 - 113.
22 Inwards — 419 . 420

No. 4110/412

Coimbatore up to the latest date for which accounts have been received, and how much remains at the disposal of the Officer for the Remainder of the Current Offl. Year and whether some portion of this balance might not also be expended in the way suggested by the ~~Collector~~ Board of Revenue

7 Copies
To the Chief Engr & Secy Dept 22nd
13 — Ry Chief Engrs &c.
13 — Bd of Revenue 27. 1. 62
8 — Revenue Department
3 — Accts Seal Fort St. Geo 22 March 1862.

Public Works 1862 Dept
Copies of Govt Order & Report
From No. 688.

The Deputy Chief Engr &c

To The Secy: to Govt. Pub. Dept
Fort Saint George

Dated 19 March 1862
Rec'd 22nd March 1862
No 537 - 2½ Enclosures
Written Order 11230
Reports, with reference
to Pro: Govt No 159
dated 7th February 1862,
upon the Collector's
proposition suggesting
the expediency of spending
Rs 30,000 in repairing
roads & tanks in the
Dt of Coimbatore in order
to afford relief to the
poorer classes

* to avoid delay the Govt sanction a grant of Rs 1,00,000 from the Reserve Fund of the Current year provided it could be spared in the Coimbatore District

No 537.

As it is evident from the Collr's letter No 48 of 27th February 1862, as well as from the Rot of the Board of Revenue thereon, that immediate action is necessary with a view to afford relief to the suffering poor in the Coimbatore District, the Chief Engr will be requested to State whether funds are available from other Districts for transfer to Coimbatore, and if so, to what extent. In the meantime to *

The Reserve fund for 1862/63 will not be available until the 1st May next, and the Govt are therefore unable at the present time to sanction the Grant from that source of the sum of 30,000 Rs referred to in the Deputy Chief Engineer's Endorsement.

Colonel Birdwood will be requested to report immediately for the information of Govt the amount expended by the District Engineer Coimbatore