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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 890 Press Mis.

1-2

Dated 1— 8— 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st May 1862.

No. 1. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 23rd April 1862, No. 633:—

Requesting to place at the disposal of the Agent to Governor in Ganjam from Public Works Budget for 1862-63, Rupees 5,000 for the construction of certain roads in the Hill Tracts inhabited by certain tribes called Khond, &c., and 2,000 Rupees for the erection of three buildings in the same country for Police and Magisterial purposes. (Vide Judicial Proceedings, 23rd April 1862, Nos. 168-169.)

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, 1st May 1862, No. 890.

1. Communicated to the Deputy Chief Engineer, Northern Circle, for information and guidance.

2. The sum of Rupees 7,000 granted in the above order will be placed at the disposal of the District Engineer, Ganjam, from the Reserve Fund of 1862-63, and that Officer will take the necessary steps in communication with the Collector to cary into effect the roads and buildings therein referred to, furnishing plans of the latter for the information of Government.

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

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from G. S. FORBES, Esq., Agent to Governor in Ganjam; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Chetterpoor, 2nd April 1862, No. 64.

Paragraph 1. I have the honor to submit the report called for in Order of Government, No. 64, dated the 14th January 1862, regarding the Meeriah Agency.

2. Much careful consideration on the part of the Inspector General Mofussil Police and myself, aided by the fullest information from Captain McNeill late Agent for the Hill Tracts, has been employed in deciding on the system best calculated to secure the objects indicated by the Supreme Government in their Order of the 18th December 1861, Home Department, namely, the suppression of barbarous rites and customs among the Khonds and the maintenance of peace and good order in their country.

3. It is obvious that these objects can only be secured by surveillance and timely interference, whether the occasion be a Meeriah sacrifice or a hostile collision consequent on such tribal feuds as have lately been brought under the notice of Government. Hence it follows that the duties involved are chiefly such as belong to the Department of Police; our chief attention therefore has been given to the strength, organization and location of an armed Police in the Maliahs. The details of which scheme will be fully and completely brought before the Government by the Inspector General in the report which he is now preparing. I need scarcely add that these details have my entire concurrence.

Letters to Government, dated 4th and 27th February last, Nos. 11 and 13.

4. I will now specially request the attention and instructions of Government as to the footing on which my own functions and those of the Assistant Agent in Goomsur should be exercised in the tracts which are now to be brought under our jurisdiction more closely and effectually than has ever been [illegible]

5. The Government are acquainted with the relation the Khond Highlands bear to this district. In those tracts which were formerly appendages of the Goomsur and Soorda Zemindaries, the Government stand in the Zemindars' place, but in the districts which are nominally joined to the Bodagudda, Chinna Kimedy and Pedda Kimedy Zemindaries and to the petty chief of Corada, our authority is in virtue of the position of Government towards those Zemindars who are its dependants and tributaries.

6. The authority of the last named Zemindars over the Hill country has always been of the loosest and most ineffective character, and no steps have hitherto been taken to exercise Magisterial or Police functions there on the part of Government. In the Goomsur Maliah however a Sub-Magistrate has been stationed since the year 1852 at a place called Poornaghur.

7. The only other authority brought to bear upon the Khonds has been that of the Agent for the Hill Tracts whose annual tour extended over tracts of country far beyond the Khond Highlands of Ganjam.

8. The outlines of the scheme for Police occupation as now proposed by Mr. Robinson and myself are as follows: We have selected three posts, viz., Subernagherry a central position in the Chinna Kimedy Maliah; Mahasinghee an important village lying due North from Subernagherry and conveniently situated for the control of the country towards Kalahnudy (now under the Nagpore Commissioner) and Oodiagherry which is a healthy station sufficiently near to the infanticidal tribes of the Soorada Maliah to render surveillance or interference effectual. At each of these posts an Inspector of proved character and steadiness will be in charge of not less than 50 men, who will remain there either permanently or during the greater part of the year.

9. The Police duties of the country (to the extent within which we propose to confine our earlier administration) being thus laid out, I consider that its Magisterial Agency will be sufficiently provided for by the establishment of two well paid Sub-Magistrates, one at Oodiagherry (instead of the present establishment at Poornaghur) and a second to remain during a

part of the year at Subernagherry and the rest of the time at Mahasinghee. This arrangement has reference partly to the supposed unhealthiness of Subernagherry during the rains and the hot months preceding them.

10. There will be little of strictly Magisterial duty, because our principal task is the prevention of crime of a special kind and of internal feuds, and though heinous crimes will be brought to justice the present system is not adapted to, or aimed at, petty offences. I propose therefore merely to add to these arrangements a yearly visit by my Assistant in Goomsur or by myself during one or two months with a view to general supervision.

11. The suppression of female infanticide will be attempted by taking a yearly census of the villages where the crime is supposed to exist, by securing as far as possible the co-operation of Khond head men (through an Agency to which I shall presently advert) and by prompt and signal punishment in cases of conviction. The census will be the special duty of the Sub-Magistrate of Oodiagherry.

12. The entertainment of a stipendiary village Police to which I have adverted above as a valuable Agency in dealing with the crime of infanticide as well as of human sacrifice was suggested to us by Captain McNeill, his idea was to take into Government pay the "Digalo" of each "Moota" or sub division of the Maliah districts a circle including several hamlets and villages.

13. The "Digalo" is found in Khond communities occupying the position of servant and counsellor to the Khond head man or Moliko—he is of the Pano caste, a race possessing more cunning than the Khond and exercising much indirect influence in consequence.

14. The Panos are thieves and kidnappers and officiate as priests at Meeriah rites. It is scarcely necessary to add that their influence is exercised usually for evil.

The total cost of this establishment is given in detail by the Inspector General.

15. The trifling monthly pay of 1½ Rupees is considered to be amply sufficient to secure the services of these men who would thenit constute a sort of village Police valuable to us as sources of intelligence and disposed to use such influence as they possess so as to meet rather than thwart our wishes.

16. Of essential importance to the successful working both of the Police and Magistracy in the Hill Tracts is the establishment of main lines of communication between our out posts and the head quarters of the armed Police at Russelcondah.

17. Already a road from Russelcondah to Sohunpoor on the Mahanuddy passes through the northern corner of the Goomsur Maliah and affords easy access to that extremity of the country. The extreme length of the tracts we are about to occupy is from north to south a distance of nearly 90 or 100 miles with a mean breadth of about 35 miles. A main line of road should traverse the country through its centre from Godairy in the south to Poornaghur in the north. On this line are situated both Subernagherry and Mahasinghee and we propose to unite Russelcondah with these two points by three lines of road. The southernmost of which will proceed viâ Sooradah, Katungia, Seerampur, &c., to Subernagherry crossing the country beyond that place in the direction of Dandpore a large and important town in the territories of the Kharonde* Rajah. The second line will ascend the Doho Ghat and crossing the Deegee valley and the tracts occupied by the infanticidal tribes of the Soorada Maliah, will terminate at Subernagherry, and the third will connect the summit of the Doho Ghat with Oodiagherry crossing seven miles of perfectly open country and passing on over similar tracts to Mahasinghee.

* A dependency of Nagpoor.

18. These three posts will therefore be in direct communication with each other and with Russelcondah. Probably 100 Rupees per mile will suffice to render the three first mentioned lines easily practicable for loaded Bullocks, Horses and Elephants, and the last mentioned line by Oodiagherry may be made at half that cost. The three first of these roads should be undertaken as early as the season permits.

Main line from Godairy 100 miles, Rupees	10,000	
Cross do. by Cuttingiah 60 miles, "	5,000	
Do. do. by Doho Ghat 50 miles, "	5,000	
		20,000
Do. do. from Oodiagherry to Mahasinghee 25 miles	1,250	
	21,250	

19. It will also be desirable to erect substantial buildings at Oodiagherry, Subernagherry and Mahasinghee which will be available as temporary residences and as Cutcherries for the Officers of the Police and Agency. The cost of these would be about 500 Rupees each, smaller buildings at one or two necessary halting places are also desirable.

Supposed total cost Rupees 2,000.

20. I subjoin a memorandum of the cost of establishment for the two Sub-Magistrates I have recommended.

2 Sub-Magistrates at 150 Rupees each	300	
2 Goomastahs at 25 Rupees each	50	
4 Peons at 6 Rupees each	24	
	374	
Yearly cost		4,488
Clothing for Peons		50
Saderward		50
		4,588
Deduct present establishment at Poornagur		1,464
	Total	3,124

21. In carrying out these arrangements it will be our endeavour to provide for as many as possible of the establishment of the late Agency.

P. S.—I find I have omitted in detailing these arrangements to suggest that the allowances of the Assistant Agent in Goomsur should be somewhat raised to meet the cost of his visits to the Hill Tracts and to compensate him for the increased responsibility, labour and risk to health which the new arrangements involve. The expense to him of travelling in the Maliahs will be barely covered by 10 Rupees a day [illegible] kind must be taken from the plains, and carriage must be permanently engaged to accompany the camp.

I have confidence in Captain Marshall's zeal, temper and judgment, and am satisfied he will do his best to carry out the new duties which will devolve upon him. His present consolidated pay is Rupees 558-5-4. I would suggest its being raised to the full allowances of a Head Assistant, viz., Rupees 810-5-4. Captain McNeill's Assistant drew Rupees 850.

The total permanent Magisterial charge consequent on the transfer of the Hill Tracts to this district will be as follows:—

Establishments of Native Sub-Magistrates inclusive of Saderward	Rs.	3,124	0	0
Additional allowance to Military Assistant in Goomsur	"	3,024	0	0
		6,148	0	0

ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1862, No. 633.

The consideration of this letter will be deferred, until the Government have before them the report of the Inspector General of Police—but meanwhile Rupees 5,000 will be placed at the disposal of the Agent from the Public Works Budget of 1862-63 for the roads, and Rupees 2,000 from the same source for the buildings referred to in his letter. Mr. G. Forbes will commence these works as soon as the season permits and push them on as vigorously as possible.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
" Government Agent, Ganjam.
" Inspector General of Police.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Public Works 1862 24
Pro: of Govt for delay

No. 1231

Pro: of Govt in the
Civil Deptt

Dated 26 Feb 1862
Received 28 Feb 1862

No. 603.

Further Cy 1119/63.

With an order

Requesting to place at the
disposal of the Lieut Governor in Ganjam from
P.W.D. Budget for 1862-63 Rs
5000 for the construction of
certain Roads in the Bell
Straits inhabited by certain
tribes called Khonds &
and 2000 Rupees for the
erection of three Buildings
in the same Country for
Police and Magisterial
purposes
No. 660-1 dated 7th May.

No. 1-2.

Sundry Papers

No. 840.

Communicated to the Off.
Chief Engineer S.C. for information
and guidance.

The sum of Rs 7000 granted
in the above order will be placed at
the disposal of the District Engineer
Ganjam from the Revenue Fund of
of 1862-63 and that Officer will
take the necessary steps in Communica-
tion with the Collector to carry into
effect the proposed Buildings there
in referred to in furnishing Plans of the

Copies to the Chief Engr
The Ag Ch Engr at C Hyd
Accountant General

Letter for the information of Govt
4th March 1862 Chief