

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 671	Press
129-130	Mis.
Dated 5-3-	1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th March 1864.*

No. 129. Read the following letter from Captain T. E. GAHAGAN, R. E., Executive Engineer in charge of 5th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Salem, 23rd February 1864, No. 2,041:—

SIR,

1. In reply to G. O. No. 210 of the 20th ultimo, calling for a report on the present condition of the Salem and Trichinopoly road, I have the honor to state, that of the forty miles* which lie within the limits of the 5th Division, twenty-nine are reported by the Range Officers concerned, to be in a very good state, four more to be in fair order throughout, four to be generally in fair order and now under repair, and three (the 6th, 7th, and 8th miles from Salem) to be very rough and uneven in parts for short distances.

2. I inspected the worst portions of the road on the 13th instant, and believe that there will be no difficulty in repairing them thoroughly within the first month or six weeks of the coming official year. Want of money and of water will prevent our doing it sooner. There would be no difficulty in driving a mail cart over any portion of the road, even as it now is.

3. The Executive Agent in charge of the Attur Range, within the limits of which are twenty-nine miles of this road, states that the present annual allowance of Rupees 250 per mile is ample for the maintenance of his section.

I do not, for my own part, think that less than 300 Rupees per mile will be found sufficient in 1864-65 for the repair and maintenance of the section (eleven miles) in the Salem Range; for this portion of the road has undoubtedly deteriorated to some extent since February 1863 (when it was in good order throughout). It is, however, probable that any extra outlay which may be required for this section in 1864-65 will be easily met by a (local) transfer from the allotment for the section in the Attur Range.

4. The deterioration in the Salem Range section of the road is due in some measure to the repairs having been without proper and regular supervision during the first quarter of the current official year (owing to a very sudden and material reduction in the executive strength of the Department), and partly to mismanagement on the part of the newly appointed Taluq Overseer,

† Muneappa Mudaliar, an old Sub-Overseer, who took charge of the road in July last. The Overseer states that he did his best, but could not in the face of very heavy rain and heavy traffic make up for lost time, but, having on several occasions had to censure him for want of economy and attention to my orders regarding this work, I am of opinion that he might have done much better.

5. I have been unable to furnish this report before, as the report from the Attur Range did not reach me until this morning.

No. 130. ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1864, No. 671.

1. Communicated to the Military Department and to the Post Master General in continuation of Proceedings No. 508, dated 19th February 1864.

2. The Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, will be informed that the Government will be prepared to consider any application which may hereafter be submitted for increasing the maintenance allowance for 1864-65 of that portion of the Salem and Trichinopoly road which lies within the limits of the Salem Range by a corresponding reduction in the allotments for other works.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.

„ Military Department.

„ Post Master General.

Etd, S. T. Augustin.

no 671. 2

in charge 3rd Division
in charge Engineer

1. Communicated to the Milg^y Depart^t and to the Post Master General in continuation of Proc: at: 508 dated 19th February 1864.
2. The Sup^y Eng^r 3rd Divⁿ will be informed that the Gov^t will be prepared to consider any application which may hereafter be submitted for increasing the maintenance allowance for 1864/65 of that portion of the Salem and Trichinopoly Road which lies within the limits of the Salem range by a corresponding reduction in the allotments for any other works.

To the Sup^y Eng^r 3rd Divⁿ
Milg^y Dept^t
Post M^t Gen^l

X-87
Recd 7th March
Chepauk 2
5th March 64
A.B.

With an Order

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No 1864 Dept

Pro. of Govt for March

From No 823

The Asst. Engineer in charge 5th Division

To The Secretary to Govt
A. D. N.

Dated 23 February 1864
Recd 23

No 2041

Reporting on the state of that portion of the Salem and Trichinopoly Road which lies in the Salem District.—

No. 671—5th March

No 129. 180.

With an Order