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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1414	Press
502-503	~~Mis.~~
Dated 26 — 5	1865 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th May 1865.*

No. 502. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India, (Public Works,) to His Excellency the Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 7th April 1865, No. 11. —

SIR,

1. I have had under consideration in Council the Despatch from your Excellency's Government, dated December 22nd (No. 88), 1864, on the subject of roads in the Wynad District.

2. In my Despatch dated May 16th (No. 8), 1863, I approved of the proposed annual expenditure of Rupees 60,000 on the provision of means of communication on the Wynad plateau, and, at the same time, expressed a hope that the programme of your Government for the formation of the required roads would be thoroughly carried out.

3. It appears that little has as yet been done towards this end. The annual sum of Rupees 60,000 has not been appropriated as proposed, and much of the smaller amount, actually allotted for the roads above the ghauts, has been injudiciously applied.

4. I infer, however, from your Excellency's Minute, recorded after a personal inspection of the district, and from the orders of Government subsequently issued, that serious intentions are now entertained of placing these communications in an efficient state.

5. During the current season, it is proposed to complete an assignment of Rupees 60,000 for roads on the plateau, by supplementing the Budget Grant for that purpose with part of the funds designed for the Lawrence Asylum, and, with these means, it is to be hoped that considerable progress will be made.

6. What is now being done will, however, be comparatively of little avail, unless it is systematically followed up. In framing the Public Works Budget for future years, the requirements of the Wynad District must be attended to; and care should also be taken that the expenditure sanctioned should proceed upon some pre-arranged and well matured plan, such as is sketched out in your Excellency's Minute. It might be desirable to order quarterly reports on the progress of the works in Wynad to be transmitted to your Government, with accounts of the expenditure and of the actual work done.

7. An examination of former reports on the Wynad roads clearly shows that there has been a habit of drawing up statements so that they may appear satisfactory, in a manner not borne out by the actual state of affairs. For instance, one road was reported as bridged throughout in 1863, which is not even now in working order. Such inaccurate reports are calculated to bring discredit on the Department, and to mislead the Government.

8. It is most important that the Engineer in charge of Wynad should concentrate all his available force on one or two roads, and, beginning at one end, work steadily on until the whole line is completed. Orders to this effect have been issued, but the present state of the roads shews that they have not been sufficiently kept in mind. I desire that, henceforth, your orders on this subject may be strictly enforced. While new roads are in course of construction, the roads which they are designed to supersede must be prevented from becoming prematurely impassable.

9. The works on the Tambracherry Ghaut should be pushed forward with as much despatch as possible. Unless a cart road is made down this ghaut, there seems to be imminent danger that, at the present rate of increase of production, it will be impossible to convey the coffee crop to the ports of shipment. The party of Sappers who have been at work on this ghaut deserve great credit for what they have already accomplished. The courage and energy that have been displayed by both Officers and men are most praiseworthy, and I am assured that the cart road up the Tambracherry Ghaut, when completed, will not lose by comparison with any work of the kind in Europe. I trust that the exigencies of the public service will admit of the Company of Sappers continuing to be employed on this work

ment should be forwarded

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until it is finished. I am glad to hear that the Carcoor Ghaut is already in a forward state, and that the South-Eastern Division of Wynad is expected to be provided with efficient means of communication without much delay.

10. I think it right to draw your attention to the importance of avoiding, as much as possible, changes in the Public Works Department in Wynad. Such changes are sometimes inevitable; but it should be borne in mind that it takes a season for an officer to become acquainted with his district, and that both delay and loss must necessarily arise from the frequent substitution of one officer for another.

No. 503. ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1865, No. 1,414.

CIVIL WORKS, No 73.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, for information and guidance.

2. With reference to the suggestion in the latter portion of paragraph 6, the Government resolve to direct that a Statement, in the form herewith transmitted, may be prepared and submitted to them monthly, with a view to keeping them acquainted with the progress of the works in Wynad. This Statement should be forwarded without fail in time to reach the Government by the 20th of the month succeeding that to which it refers.

3. The Superintending Engineers of Divisions will be directed to submit similar Statements of works in progress in their Divisions, the estimated cost of which exceeds Rupees 20,000. The points to be attended to in the preparation of the Statements are given in a note appended to the form accompanying these Proceedings.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
„ all other Superintending Engineers.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Civil Works

Pub Works Dept

*No 1414
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 26th May 1865
Read the following*

*From the Right Honble the
Secretary of State for
India.*

*Passing orders on Despatches
No 88 dated 11. December 1864, (Here enter 7 April 1865)
on the subject of the Road in
the Wynad District.*

*Communicated to the Suby.
Engineer 7th Dⁿ for information
and guidance.*

*With reference to the
suggestion in the latter portion
of Para 6, the Government
resolve to ^{direct} ~~request~~ that a
Statement, in the form herewith
transmitted, may be prepared
and submitted to them monthly
with a view to keeping them
acquainted with the progress of
the works in Wynad. This State-
ment should be forwarded*

— a p p r o p r i a t e —
— a p p r o p r i a t e —

It will only I think, be settled
- say that the statement
showed to be correct to us.
The House has considered
in the Senate and I think
it will be his duty to
bring before us every
statement or other
matter to be
to be made - and
the limits - delin-
quency of the
extreme - in
off

Handwritten signature

To
The Supreme Court
All other, I enclose.

N B.—The object of the information called for in the column of Remarks is to afford a satisfactory answer to the question, what is the present state of such a bridge, road, canal, gail, barrack, &c. The description of the work should correspond with that in the order sanctioning the estimate, and in the event of regular estimates not having been submitted and sanctioned for any particular work, the authority under which the work is being carried on without an estimate should be stated in column 3. In cases in which no allotment of funds has been made the circumstances under which unauthorized expenditure has been incurred should be explained at the foot of the Statement. No covering letters will be required.

[illegible]

May.

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one single
All other

copy of May.

[illegible]

11

The object of the information called for in the column of Remarks is to afford a satisfactory answer to the question - What is the present state of such as bridge, road, Canal, port, Barracks &c. The descriptions of the works should correspond with that in the order sanctioning the estimate, & in the extent of regular estimates not having been submitted & sanctioned for any particular work, the authority under which the work is being carried on without an estimate should be stated in Col: 3. In cases in which an allotment of funds has been made the circumstances under which unauthorised expenditure has been incurred should be explained at the foot of the statement. No covering letters will be required. -

J. W. 1865 Department
Pro: of Govt for May

No 1414
Pro: of the Madras Govt
Df 26 May 1865

Despatch from the
Secretary of State on the sub-
ject of roads in the Mysore
Malabar &c. with order
thereon.