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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 739	Press Mis.
89-90	
Dated 5-3	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
5th March 1866*

No. 89. Read the following letter from the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 16th February 1866 :—

1. We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Order of Government, dated 1st instant, Public Works Department, No. 405, at paragraph 45 of which we are requested, as we have been authorized to levy tolls under Sections 21 to 24 of Act IX. of 1865, from 1st January 1866, to provide the necessary funds for the maintenance and repair for the ensuing year of the roads noted in the margin, for which we have hitherto received an allowance from Government of Rupees 27,397 per annum.

Mount Road.
Powder Mills Road.
Poonamallee Road.
South Beach Road.
Esplanade Roads.

2. On the 13th September 1864 we furnished Government with full particulars of the circumstances and stipulations under which the maintenance of all Government roads was entrusted to this Department, and pointed out that the majority traverse the Esplanades of the Fort and Black Town, and were specially excluded by Section V. of Act XIV. of 1856, from the roads vested in and belonging to the Municipal Commissioners, which exclusion is repeated in Section 78 of the present Municipal Act No. IX. of 1865.

3. On the 22nd March 1865, Government passed the following order on our said report :—

“ Keeping in view the heavy demands upon the Municipality, owing to the large area within their limits, and adverting to the circumstance that a considerable portion of the Police expenditure, not less, probably, than Rupees 1,03,000, will shortly be made chargeable upon that body, necessitating a considerable increase to the present rate of assessment, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the grant now made to the Municipal Commissioners for the maintenance of the roads within the limits of the Presidency cannot at present be reduced.”

4. In their Order dated 1st instant, now under acknowledgment, Government advance as their reason for burdening the Municipality with the maintenance of the roads in question, first, the authority granted to levy tolls on carriages and other vehicles under Sections 21 to 42 of Act IX. of 1865; and, secondly, that the Government of India have called upon this Government to take measures for charging to funds derived from local sources the cost of maintaining many, if not all, of the roads within Municipal limits, for which an annual grant has heretofore been provided from Imperial Funds.

5. We would, however, beg to remind Government that the introduction of tolls was proposed by us so far back as the 6th June 1864, in consequence of the considerable yearly increase in our outlay for the maintenance of the Municipal roads, in the expediency of which proposal Government were then disposed to concur, but on further consideration (15th August 1864) were of opinion that a toll at the entrance of a town is likely to be productive of grave inconvenience, and doubted whether this would be compensated for by the amount likely to be obtained.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
5th March 1866.*

6. On the 25th January 1865, we renewed our application for authority to levy tolls, and set forth the insufficiency of the Municipal fund to meet the varied demands upon it; and Government (21st March 1865), after careful consideration of the arguments so advanced, concurred that such a measure "is absolutely necessary" in order to the proper maintenance of the roads under our charge, and requested us, in communication with the Law Officers of Government, to prepare a Bill for legalizing the levy of such tolls.

7. We trust we have thus shown that the levy of tolls was sanctioned with the view of providing funds for the proper maintenance of the Municipal roads, and irrespective altogether of the annual grant for the maintenance of the Government roads.

8. We would also respectfully urge that the exclusion of the latter from the charge falling upon the Municipality is attributable to the Fort and Town Esplanades, being, for purposes of defence, kept free from buildings of any sort, so that no assessment is derived from those localities; and secondly, because the buildings within the Fort have always been exempted from assessment.

9. The receipts from tolls since the 1st January last amount only to Rs. 5,471-2-0, which is far below the estimate we submitted to Government on the 25th January 1865; and the establishment we are obliged to keep up is a very expensive one, so that the net revenue derivable from this source will not, we fear, more than cover the extra expenditure for maintaining the Municipal roads.

10. The tax on professions and callings is estimated to produce Rs. 1,50,000 per annum, and the collecting establishment Rupees 10,000, so that after paying a moiety of the cost of the Town Police, there will be but a comparatively small amount available for sanitary improvements, which the public naturally expect us to carry out to a large extent, now that they are subjected to increased taxation.

11. Under all these circumstances, we respectfully solicit a re-consideration of the subject, and trust Government will see cause to abide by their resolution of 22nd March 1865, not to reduce the annual grant for the maintenance of their roads.

No. 90.

ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1866, No. 739.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 12.

Before passing orders on this letter, the Government request the Municipal Commissioners to be good enough to furnish a statement of the outlay during the past three years on each of the under-mentioned roads for which a grant of Rs. 12,007 has heretofore been provided in the Public Works Budget:—

1. Anderson's (Esplanade road).
2. Benfield's do. do.
3. China Bazaar do. do.
4. Clive's Battery road.
5. Govindapah Naick's street.
6. Hospital Gate road.
7. North Beach (Esplanade) road.
8. Thumboo Chetty do. do.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th March 1866.*

9. Thieving Bazaar do. do.
10. Wall Tax west road.
11. Basin Bridge do.
12. Cochrane's Basin do.
13. Mint Gate or Cuttevaukum road.
14. Monegar Choultry road.
15. Manar Sawmy Covil street.
16. Royapooram Esplanade road.
17. Washermen Pettah do.
18. Basin Esplanade road.
19. Burial Ground, Penitentiary road.
20. Canal road.
21. Elephant Gate and Bridge road.
22. Expense Magazine road.
23. Hospital Bridge road.
24. Northern Erkenjeiry do.
25. Salt Cotaur do.
26. Body Guard do.
27. Band Practice do.
28. Cooum Bar do.
29. Codumbaukum do.
30. Island do.
31. Mount Road (north end) between the Government and Wallajah Bridges.
32. Wallajah Esplanade road.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Municipal Commissioners.

- " Public Department.
- " Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
- " Controller of Public Works Accounts.
- " Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Municipal Commissioners' Office.
MADRAS, 16th February 1866.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

1. We have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the order of Government dated 1st instant O. B. D. No. 405, at para 45 of which we are requested, as we have been authorized to levy tolls under Sections 21 to 24 of Act IX of 1865 from 1st January 1866, to provide the necessary funds for the maintenance and repair for the ensuing year of the roads noted

Mount Road
Powder Mills Road
Gooniamallee Road
South Beach Road
Esplanade Road

in the margin, for which we have hitherto received an allowance from Govern-

ment of Rupees 27,397 per annum.

2. On the 13th September 1864, we furnished Government with full particulars of the circumstances and stipulations under which the maintenance of all Government Roads was entrusted to this Department and pointed out that the majority traverse the Esplanades of the Fort and Black Town, and were specially excluded by Section V of Act XIV

of

of 1856. from the roads vested in and
belonging to the Municipal Commission,
which exclusion is repeated in section
of the present Municipal Act No. 18 of 1865.

3. On the 22nd March 1865, Government
passed the following order on our said
report:-

"Keeping in view the heavy demands
upon the Municipality, owing to the
large area within their limits, and
adverting to the circumstance that a
considerable portion of the Police
expenditure - not less, probably, than
Rupees 1,00,000 - will shortly be made
chargeable upon that body, necessitat-
ing a considerable increase to the
present rate of assessment, the Governor
in Council is of opinion that the grant
now made to the Municipal Commission
for the maintenance of the roads within
the limits of the Presidency, cannot
at present be reduced."

4. In their order dated 1st April, now
under acknowledgment, Government
advance no objection for burdening
the Municipality with the maintenance
of the Roads in question, first the
authority granted to levy tolls on
Carriages

Carriages, and other Vehicles under
Section 21 to 42, of Act IX of 1865, and
secondly that the Government of India
have called upon this Government
to take measures for charging to funds
derived from local sources the cost of
maintaining many, if not all, of the
Roads within Municipal limits, for
which an annual grant has heretofore
been provided from Imperial Funds.

5. We would, however, beg to
remind Government that the introduction
of tolls was proposed by us so far back
as the 6th June 1864, in consequence of
the considerable yearly increase in
our outlay for the maintenance of the
Municipal Roads, in the expediency
of which proposal Government were
then disposed to concur, but on further
consideration (15th August 1864) were
of opinion that a toll at the entrance
of a Town is likely to be productive
of grave inconvenience, and doubted
whether this would be compensated for
by the amount likely to be obtained.

6. On the 25th January 1865, we
renewed our application for authority
to levy tolls and set forth the insufficiency
of

of the Municipal fund to meet the varied demands upon it; and Government, (21st March 1865) after careful consideration of the arguments so advanced, concurred that such a measure "is absolutely necessary" in order to the proper maintenance of the roads under our charge, and requested us in communication with the Law Officers of Government, to prepare a bill for legalizing the levy of such tolls.

7. We trust we have thus shown that the levy of tolls was sanctioned with the view of providing funds for the proper maintenance of the Municipal Roads, and irrespective altogether of the Annual grant for the maintenance of the Government Roads.

8. We would also respectfully urge that the exclusion of the latter from the charge falling upon the Municipality is attributable to the Fort and Town Esplanades, being, for purposes of defence, kept free from buildings of any sort, so that no assessment is derived from those localities; and secondly, because the buildings

buildings within the Fort have always been exempted from assessment.

9. The receipts from tolls since the 1st January last amount only to Rupees . . . , which is far below the estimate we submitted to Government, on the 25th January 1865; and the establishment we are obliged to keep up is a very expensive one, so that the net revenue derivable from this source will not, we fear, more than cover the extra expenditure for maintaining the municipal roads.

10. The tax on Professions & callings is estimated to produce Rupees 150,000- per annum, and the collecting establishment Rupees 10,000-, so that after paying a moiety of the cost of the Town Police, there will be but a comparatively small amount available for sanitary improvements, which the Public naturally expect us to carry out to a large extent, now that they are subjected to increased taxation.

11. Under all these circumstances, we respectfully solicit a reconsideration of the subject, and trust Government will see cause to abide by their resolution.

resolution of 22nd March 1865, not to
reduce the annual grant for the
maintenance of their roads.

We have the honor to be
Sir

Your Most Obedient Servants

Wm. L. P. President
Madras

S. S. S. S.

S. S. S. S.

S. S. S. S.

Municipal Commissioners
for the Town of Madras

Public Works Department
 No 739
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 5th March/66
 Read the following.

From the Municipal Comm.
 Commissioners for the Town of
 Madras.

Requesting for reasons
 stated that the annual grant
 towards the maintenance of Govt. N. E. 16th February 1866
 Roads may be continued as heretofore

(Before passing order
 on this letter, the Govern.
 ment request the Municipal
 Commissioners to be
 good enough to furnish
 a statement of the outlay
 during the past 3 years
 on each of the under-
 mentioned roads for
 which a grant of Rs.
 12,000 has heretofore been
 provided in the Public
 Works Budget.)

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Requesting for reasons
 stated that the annual
 grant towards the maintenance
 of Government Roads may
 be continued as heretofore.

No 739 - 5th March 1866.

1866.

- 1 Anderson's Esplanade Road.
- 2 Bengalee _____ do _____ do
- 3 China Bazar _____ do _____ do
- 4 Ghee's Bazaar Road
- 5 Govindasah Naick's Street
- 6 Hospital Gate road
- 7 North Beach (Esplanade) Road
- 8 Thumboo Chetty _____ do _____ do
- 9 Theiving Bazar _____ do _____ do
- 10 Wall Face West Road
- 11 Basin bridge _____ do
- 12 Cochrane's basin _____ do
- 13 Mint gate or Catteranham road
- 14 Monkar Choultry Road
- 15 Monar Luong Civil Street
- 16 Rongpooram Esplanade - Road
- 17 Washermen's Bazar _____ do
- 18 Basin Esplanade _____ Road
- 19 Burial ground, Penitentiary Road
- 20 Canal Road
- 21 Elephant gate and bridge road
- 22 Expense Magazine - road
- 23 Hospital bridge road
- 24 Northern Exchange - do.
- 25 Salt Colours _____ do.
- 26 Body Guard _____ do.
- 27 Canal premises _____ do.
- 28 Coombar _____ do.
- 29 Coolambanham _____ do.
- 30 Island _____ do.

Mount

31 Mount Road (North end) be.
between the Government and
Wallajah Bridges.

32. Wallajah Esplanade road.

[Signature]

3. Municipal Commr.

11. Pub Dept ✓

6. P. Dept 4th Div ✓

4. Civil Dept ✓

3. Road Dept ✓ Despatch March

37/6

O W W b Dept
Pro: of Govt for March

No 739
Pro: of the Mayor's Govt
Of 5th March 1888

Roads within the Muni-
cipal limits of Madras—
The Municipal Commissioners
are instructed to furnish
certain information, before
orders can be passed on their
letter requesting that the
annual grant for the
maintenance of— may
not be reduced.

No 89.70