

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th April 1875.*

No. 308. Read the following endorsement of the District Engineer, Salem, dated Yercaud, 2nd April 1875, No. 2:—

From the Officer in charge of No. 2 or Oosoor Range, Salem District, to Major J. N. HUNTER, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, dated Oosoor, 23rd March 1875, No. 2,058.

I HAVE the honor, with reference to your No. 1,115, dated 16th instant, endorsement on G. O., No. 657, dated 8th instant, to submit the following explanation.

2. The two goomastahs and a watchman under a charge of Rupees 31, noticed by the Deputy Controller in his paragraph 4, were employed in the Range Office; the former to assist in the checking of station books of works in progress and Overseers' accounts of works generally. The latter was employed exclusively to look after the tools, stores, instruments, and office records, as the lascars cannot be made responsible for any loss, or the care of the records through being continually on the move and travelling with me or going on other errands.

3. The goomastah employed in the Kristnagherry taluq is very seldom in office, and generally superintends work and assists the Overseer on out-door work.

4. The goomastah employed in the Darampoory taluq was absolutely necessary to help the Overseer to keep up the sub-heads of two large works, Pennagaram Cutcherry and Topoor Chuttrum. His work was more out-door work, having to help in keeping up the station books.

5. The goomastah employed on the experiments connected with the rice cultivation experiment devotes the whole of his time exclusively to that work alone, and occasionally, when he is at leisure, assists the Oosoor Overseer in trifling office work, but I never found him absent attending the Overseer's office; in fact, what he may do is done on the work he is employed upon.

6. The Deputy Accountant seems to have just guessed what these men were employed upon, as he literally knows nothing of what was going on in the range, having always travelled with me and fair copied the correspondence while on circuit; and only took temporary charge of the Range Office on the 13th January 1875, seven days before the Deputy Controller examined the accounts of the range, which I reported to Mr. Mills; his statements, therefore, should have been received with caution.

7. Goomastahs, as a rule, although employed on out-door work, invariably visit the Range and Overseers' offices to do their in-door work, so that they may have the assistance of superior men, and prepare their accounts of works correctly under the superintendence of the Range Officer, Overseer, Head Accountant, or Taluq Writer; and I cannot see how these men can get on otherwise, and have the accounts explained to them. In passing, I cannot help but notice that goomastahs' posts are so temporary that there are frequent removals and new hands. The Range and Overseers' offices being the head-quarters of the works in progress, it is natural that goomastahs will be ordered to attend office to get the accounts of the works compiled correctly. Moreover, the Range Officer or Overseer on visiting a work cannot devote that time in giving instructions

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14th April 1875.

regarding accounts that they could do at their offices. The charges for these men, though shown to be employed in the Range and Overseers' offices, have quite a different meaning than that put down; they are men employed on the works, whether on a separate work or on several works, or at any time in an office their work generally is regarding station books and accounts of works in progress (an out-door account). Of course, if these men have done their legitimate work, they will be otherwise made use of to the benefit of the State, instead of idling their time. I respectfully beg to offer the above to show that goomastahs cannot but be employed in offices at times without great inconveniences, delays, confusion and disorder of accounts, if the order prohibiting their working in the offices is strictly attended to.

8. Also that there is no other way of charging this temporary establishment but to works in progress.

9. As my predecessor was in the habit of employing extra establishment to clear off accumulated work of accounts and arrears, I did not think I was doing wrong in doing the same; as since I have been in the department, I have always seen such charges made under similar circumstances; but, on receipt of G. O., No. 2,786, dated 2nd October 1874, finding such was prohibited in paragraph 4, I discontinued the practice.

10. Having, therefore, acted in good faith for the benefit of the public service, I respectfully beg I may be excused for having made the charge.

SUBMITTED to the Secretary to Government with reference to paragraph 5 of G. O., No. 657, dated 8th March 1875.

2. The report called for in paragraph 3 shall be submitted as soon as the undersigned visits the Oosoor Range Office.

(Signed) J. N. HUNTER, Major, R.E.,
District Engineer, Salem.

No. 309.

ORDER THEREON, 14th April 1875, No. 1,006.

ACCOUNT, No. 12.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Salem.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

205th in Oosoor Range Office,
14th March 1875.
Through the Officer in Charge of the
N.E. Oosoor Range
Salem District.
Under the District Engineer in
Salem.
in the Oosoor Range Office with
reference to the G.O. No. 2,786 dated 2nd October 1874
instant, and the G.O. No. 657 dated 8th March 1875, I
submit the following explanation.
The two goomastahs and a
victualler under charge of the
works. I have been the Deputy
Controller in his para 4 where
employed in the Range Office; the
purpose to assist in the checking
of station books of works in
progress and Overseers' accounts
of works generally. The latter
was employed exclusively to look
after the tools, stores, instruments
and

and offer records, as the ~~Land~~
comptroller is responsible for
any loss, or the care of the records
this being continually on the move
and travelling with me or going
on other errands.

The ~~Gondak~~ employed in the
Kishnagerry Station is very active
in office, but generally superintends
work and assists the overseer in
out door work.

The ~~Gondak~~ employed in
the ~~Damodur~~ Station, ~~was~~
lately necessary to help the ~~overseer~~
to keep up the ~~Books~~ of the
Range over the ~~Survey~~ and ~~Settlement~~
and ~~Topographical~~ ~~Chitties~~. He would
and more out door work, ~~working~~
to help in keeping up the ~~Station~~
~~Books~~.

The ~~Gondak~~ employed in
the experiments connected with the
rice cultivation experiment studies
the whole of his time exclusively
to that work alone, and occasionally
helps when he is not ~~engaged~~

visit the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
giving ~~off~~ ~~work~~ but, ~~and~~
found him absent attending the
revenue office; in fact, what he
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employed upon.

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charge of the Range Office on the
23rd January 18, seven days before
the Dy. Assistant resumed the
accounts of the Range, which I
reported to Mr. ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~
must therefore should have
been received with caution.

Gondak as a rule
although employed in out door
work, invariably visit the Range
and Revenue Office to do their
instrument, so that they may
have

have the accounts of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~works~~ ^{works}
and prepare their accounts of work
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of the Range Officer, Overseer,
head accountant or book
writer; and I cannot see how
these men can get on otherwise,
and have the accounts explained
to them by ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Range Officer~~ ^{Range Officer}
help but notice that ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Range Officer~~ ^{Range Officer}
posts are so temporary that
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new hands. The Range and Overseer
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the work in progress, it is natu-
ral that Groomshutts will be
ordered to attend office to get the
accounts of the work completed
correctly. Moreover, the Range
Officer or Overseer on visiting
a work cannot devote that time
in giving instructions regarding
accounts that they would do at
their offices. The ~~Range Officer~~ ^{Range Officer}
there

these men; tho' should be employed
in the Range and Overseers offices,
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whether on a separate work, or
on several works, or at any
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Books and accounts of work
in progress (as out door accidents).
Of course, if these men have
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will be otherwise made use of to
the benefit of the state, instead
of idling their time. I respectfully
beg to offer the above to show that
groomshutts cannot but be
employed in offices at times,
without great inconveniences,
delays, confusion and disorder
of accounts, if the order pro-
hibiting their working in the
offices is strictly attended to.
Also

Also that there is no other
way of charging this temporary
establishment but to work in
progress.

As my predecessor was in
the habit of employing extra
establishment to clear off accu-
mulated work of accounts and
others, I did not think of
his doing so, in doing the
same service. I have been for
the Department, I have already
been over to charges made under
similar circumstances, but in
receipt of Government order
of 2nd October 1876,
finding such was prohibited
in paragraph 1, I discontinued
the practice.

Having therefore acted
in good faith for the benefit
of the Public Service, I respect-
fully beg I may be excused
for

for having made the charge.

I have &c
(Signed) W. C. S. West,
Executive Agent.

W. C. S.

District Engineer's Office,
Yerba Buena, April 1876.

Submitted to the Secretary
to Government with reference
to para 5 of G. O. N. 857 dated
8th March 1876.

The report called for in para
3 shall be submitted as soon as
the undersigned visits the Cooper
Range office.

J. W. Butler Major, U.S.A.,

District Engineer, Salem.

The Secretary to Government,
D. P. W.

W. C. S.

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receipt of Government order
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finding such was prohibited
in paragraph 10 I discontinued
the practice.

Having therefore acted
in good faith for the benefit
of the Public Service, I respect-
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I have &c
(Signed) W. C. S. West,
Executive Agent.

W. C. S.

District Engineer's Office,
Yerghand, 2nd April 1876.

Submitted to the Secretary
to Government with reference
to para 5 of G. O. No. 887 dated
8th March 1875.

The report called for in para
3 shall be submitted as soon as
the undersigned visits the Copson
Range Office.

J. L. Butler Major, R.E.,

District Engineer, Salem.

The Secretary to Government,
D. P. W.

W. C. S.

To the Hon. Secy of the Navy
Washington D.C.

Wm. L. Allen
The Secy of the Navy
Washington D.C.

To the Hon. Secy of the Navy

Wm. L. Allen

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Govt. of 1873 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

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Rallone

Recd.

G. O. 14 April 1873. No. 008

Nos. 308. 309.
Petty Reestablishment
Chargis. ~~Letter~~ ^{Explanation},
the Submitted by the
At Ruz, from the Range
Officer, Coopor, relative
to the unauthorized
entry of ~~the~~ against
works, recorded.