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DRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2985 Press Original

~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Misc~~

Dated 23. 10 195 1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 23rd October 1875.

Read the following papers :—

No. 338. From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Raneepett, 20th September 1875, No. 2,414.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 2,662, of 16th instant, I have the honor to state that I must decline to take charge of a range in addition to my regular duties; the suggestion appears to me to go beyond the limits of what is reasonable.

2. Neither Lieutenant Smither nor Mr. Vincent is likely to be at liberty for another six months at least, and it is out of the question to place an Overseer in charge of the Wallajah Range; I have therefore directed Lieutenant Bevan to take charge of it, and placed Overseer Seetharam Naidoo in charge of the Polur Range; he is not, in my opinion, qualified for such a charge, but he approaches nearer to the necessary qualification than any other Overseer in the district, and he has the advantage of an intimate knowledge of the principal taluq in the range. The date of Seetharam Naidoo's taking charge of the Polur Range will be reported hereafter with a view to his being appointed to act as Supervisor from that date.

3. I must observe that the expenditure in this district during the current year is more than half as much again as during ordinary years, while the alteration in the district staff now consists of the addition of two young Asssitant Engineers and the removal of an old and experienced Supervisor; under these circumstances, although I need not say that I shall do my best to keep work going, I cannot undertake to be responsible for shortcomings.

4. The case of a Range Officer having to go away on leave is one of the every day contingencies of administration, and if it be the case that the establishments, in order to bring their cost down to a purely arbitrary percentage of the expenditure on works arrived at no one knows how, have been so cut down that the ordinary working of the department can only be provided for by asking an officer to take charge of two offices at once (on the pay of the lower), or by placing an Overseer in a position which ought to be filled by a Commissioned Officer, it is surely time that some steps were taken to provide a remedy for such a state of affairs.

No. 339. From the District Engineer, North Arcot, dated 27th September 1875, No. 2,509.

No. 340. ORDER THEREON, 23rd October 1875, No. 2,985.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 18-A.

OVERSEER SEETHARAM NAIDOO is appointed to act as Supervisor vice Appasawmy Pillay from the 25th September until such time as the Chief Engineer may be able to supply his place by promotion of a duly qualified Overseer, Seetharam Naidoo not being considered by the District Engineer, North Arcot, as fit for charge of a range.

2. The District Engineer is informed that it is his duty to make the best of the executive agency which the Government are able to place at his disposal, and if neces-

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd October 1875.

sary, and directed by the Chief Engineer, to take occasional charge of a range in addition to his district work. Had the Government raised such objections as he is now making he would not have been able to take the privilege leave he has lately enjoyed.

3. His Excellency the Governor in Council notices with dissatisfaction the tone of Captain Pennycuick's letter of the 20th September last.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" District Engineer, North Arcot.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.
pare Copies

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NORTH ARCOT,
District Engineer's Office,
Vellore 27th September 1875.

No. 2509

From

The DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NORTH ARCOT,

To,

The Chief Engineer,
Public Works Department
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 2644 of 20th instant, I have the honour to report that Overseer Seetaram Naidoo received charge of the Polur Range from Lieutenant Devan on the 25th instant

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

J. Pennycuick Captain R.E.
District Engineer, North Arcot.

No. 2414.

North Arcot,
DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
20th September 1875.

From

The DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NORTH ARCOT.

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 2662 of 16th Instant, I have the honor to state that I must decline to take charge of a Range in addition to my regular duties; the suggestion appears to me to go beyond the limits of what is reasonable.

2. Neither Lieutenant Smither nor Mr Vincent is likely to be at liberty for another six months at least, and it is out of the question to place an Overseer in charge of the Vellayah Range; I have therefore directed Lieutenant Beran to take charge of it, and placed Overseer Seetharam Naidoo in charge of the Polur Range; he is not, in my opinion, qualified for such a charge, but he approaches nearer to the necessary qualification than any other Overseer in the District, and he has the advantage of an intimate knowledge of the principal talug in the Range. The date of

No. 2414
Rec'd 28 Sept 75

From
The District Engineer,
North Arcot,

To
The Collector & Engineer,
Public Works Department,
Madras.

No. 2512
Dated 27th September 1875.
Received 28th do.

Enclosure —

Subject:
Reports that Overseer Seetharamiah cannot be spared from his charge at present to take charge of the Polur Range.

G. O. No 2985 - 25-10-75

of Seetharam Naidoo taking charge of the Polur Range will be reported hereafter, with a view to his being appointed to act as Supervisor from that date.

3. I must observe that the expenditure in this District during the current year is more than half as much again as during ordinary years, while the alteration in the District staff now consists of the addition of two young Assistant Engineers and the removal of an old and experienced Supervisor; under these circumstances, although I need not say that I shall do my best to keep work going, I cannot undertake to be responsible for shortcomings.

4. The case of a Range Officer having to go away on leave is one of the every day contingencies of administration, and if it be the case that the establishments, in order to bring their cost down to a purely arbitrary percentage of the expenditure on works, arrived at no one knows how, have been so cut down that the ordinary working of the Department can only be provided for by asking an Officer to take charge of two Offices at once (on the pay of the lower) or by placing an Overseer in a position which

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ought to be filled by a Commissioned Officer, it is surely time that some steps were taken to provide a remedy for such a state of affairs.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

Captain R.E.
District Engineer North Arcot

Estab.

Public Works Dept.

9 C

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Public Works Dept.

Under date the

Received the following Memo

from the Dist. Engr. [illegible] No. 2414 dated 20th Sept.

Madras Rains of 1875

---do--- (No. 2589 — 21st Sept.)

G.O. No. 2985 dt. 23rd Oct. 1875

Bunds &c. Tanks

Madras &c. Famine

to act as suggested

vide Mr. Chairman's

Public from the 25th

Sept. from the Collector

Sept. 22nd

time as the Collector

Guntur may be able to

supply this Office by

Transmission

Ex. 2336

Ex. 27-Aug. 1875 No. 492-493.

From

No. 6053

The District Engineer,

North Arcot.

To

The Secretary to Govt.

Public Works Dept.

Dated 20th September 1875.

Received 22

No. 2414

Enclosure

Subject.

Informs about the arrangements made with reference to

G. O. No. 2662 of 16th Instant.

Cir - 12.10.75

Despatch 22-9-75

G.O. No 2985. 23. 10. 75

promotion of a duly qualified Overseer. Secretaram Naidas not being considered by the District Engineer North Arcot as fit for charge of a Range.

The District Engineer is informed that it is his duty to make the best of the executive agency which the Govt. are able to place at his disposal, and if necessary and directed by the Chief Engineer, to take occasional charge of a Range in addition to his District work. Had the Govt. passed such objections as he is now making he would not have been able to take the Privilege Leave he has lately enjoyed.

His Excellency the Governor in Council regrets to find that Captain Pennycuick has in the former of the letters under review resumed the reprehensible tone which characterized much of his

Returns with dispatisfaction the tone of Captain Pennycuicks letter of the 20th Sept. last.

his former correspondence, but which it was hoped that he had dropped. It will be as well that he should continue to desist from it, and receive the orders of Govt with proper respect.

Contribs — 5
d° Engr & Acct 5
Postage 5-11-75

Ac 338/40

x° Attchs

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Cost. of 1875 Statist.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To Cons. R.W. Rects

Abstract 2.

Extract

Rect. Ext.

G. O. 23rd Oct 1875 No. 2955

Nos. 338-340

Arrangements made for the relief of Superintendent Aspasawmy Pillay of the North Arcot Dtr.

Passing orders on letters from the Dtr. Engr. relative to the ____

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 26th October 1875.

(1)

No. 341. Read the following endorsement of the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 14th October 1875, No. 581:—

Read the following letter from Captain J. H. TAYLOR, R.N.R., Acting Master Attendant, Administrative Department, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Marine Department, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 9th October 1875, No. 6,413.

REFERRING to Proceedings of Government in the Marine Department, No. 325, of 21st ultimo, I have the honor to point out that the coal godown belonging to this department has 835 tons of coal in it ready for issue, and it is indispensable that our supply of coal should be stored within easy and convenient distance for issue to transports, men-of-war, &c., as may be required.

2. It does not appear that the godown is urgently required for the Harbour Works, but that it is simply conveniently situated for utilization as a cement store, and I therefore respectfully submit that it is undesirable to disturb existing arrangements for storage of our coal, and that should it be found necessary to make over the godown to the Harbour Works Engineer, he may be directed to provide a building of the same nature and capacity in an equally convenient situation for the use of this department, defraying the expense of transfer.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, for consideration with reference to that department Order No. 2,628, dated 13th September 1875,

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

No. 342. ORDER THEREON, 26th October 1875, No. 2,986.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 24.

THE building at present occupied as a marine store shed is essentially necessary for the Harbour Works. Another shed will be erected by the Harbour Superintendent for the purpose on such convenient site as may be secured by the Master Attendant.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Works, Madras Harbour.
" Master Attendant, Administrative Department.
" Marine Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies