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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	34 85	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	10 - 12 -	18 75
		195

Original

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th December 1875.*

No. 166. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Political Department, dated 15th October 1875, No. 703:—

ABSTRACT.—Extract paragraphs 148 and 149 of the Report on the administration of Pudukottai referred to the Public Works Department for disposal.

No. 167. ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1875, No. 3,495.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 11-A.

THE proposal that the District Engineer of Trichinopoly should undertake duties of supervision beyond the limits of his own district is opposed to the principle on which the Public Works Department was re-organized on 1st December 1872. In accordance with that principle Superintending Engineers' charges, embracing more than one district, were abolished, and the charges of supervising Engineers strictly limited to one district each.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Political Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
15th October 1875.*

Pudukottai.

Read the following Extract of a letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Political Agent of Pudukottai, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Trichinopoly, 23rd April 1875 :—

148. **PUBLIC WORKS—Roads.**—The state of the roads is just such as to make it not impossible that they *may* have been fifteen or twenty years ago in as good condition as they are described to have been in many of the reports. Many of them are broad and have fine avenues excepting where they run through paddy-land, in which cases they have been seriously encroached upon, and most of them appear to have been very substantially bridged, though the bridges are now too often only monuments of departed glory no longer of any service to the traveller. To judge from their appearance alone, I should be inclined to think that neglect of public works set in at a much earlier period than the Administration Reports would lead us to believe; but at any rate if this is not so, the decay during the last ten years (during the incumbency of the present Serkele in fact) must have been extraordinarily rapid. The most strenuous exertions are required to restore the roads to their original condition and to save some of the bridges and culverts before it is too late. Many of them have been cut through the crown of the arch already, and will have to be rebuilt, and many have fallen in for want of timely attention. I have secured, as overseer, a man who appears to be thoroughly well qualified, on a salary of Rupees 60 a-month, with Rupees 15 as travelling allowance, and if Government will accede to the Rajah's request and allow the District Engineer of Trichinopoly to supervise him *direct* (without the intervention of any Range Officer) as the Rajah suggests, I have great hopes that 30,000 Rupees might be spent very profitably every year. The Rajah proposes to pay the District Engineer at the same rate as the Superintendent of Police, and I agree with him that he should have some remuneration for the extra work, but would prefer to leave the amount to be fixed by Government.

149. If this arrangement is sanctioned I should be inclined to recommend very strongly another proposal of the Rajah's, *viz.*, the imposition of a road-cess (at a very light rate to begin with) and the abolition of what is called *Uliyam* service or unpaid labor on roads. This "Uliyam" service is one of the minor *general* grievances and is a most objectionable system in every way. It is clearly most uneven in its incidence on the people who benefit by the roads, and most inefficient as a means of keeping them in repair, because of course nothing but earthwork is ever done. There is a very general desire for a road-cess in lieu of Uliyam service, and I see no good reason why it should not be allowed. I should mention that Inam lands furnish no Uliyam service, but would of course contribute equally to the road-cess.

ORDER THEREON, 15th October 1875, No. 703.

12. **Public Works.**—The roads are generally neglected: the proposal to systematize new works and repairs through the supervision of the District Engineer of Trichinopoly, who is to be paid for his trouble, will be referred to the Department of Public Works for disposal. The supersession of the unpaid labor of the ryots on the roads by a moderate road-cess is unobjectionable. Nothing is said of tanks and channels.

(True Extract.)

E. J. Lambart
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department,
with paras. 148 and 149 of the Report and 12 of G.O.

No 3495

Public Works Dept

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 10 Decr 75

Read the following:-

Proceedings of Government } (N.S. No 703 dt 15 Oct 1875)
Political Dept

The proposal that the District Engineer of Trichinopoly should undertake duties of superintending beyond the limits of his own District is opposed to the principle on which the P. W. Dept was organized on 1st December 1872. In accordance with that principle Superintending Engineer Charges, embracing more than one District, were abolished, and the charges of superintending Engineers strictly

W. 1875 Sept
No. 6864
Smt. of 1875
POLITICAL.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Desd Oct 10, 1875.

Recd - 23

Recd - 25

G.O., 15th October 1875, No. 703.

OCTOBER.
NOV. 1875.

Noted:- Report on the administration of the P. W. Dept for 1874, No. 448, dated 10th Nov 1874, reviewed, and the Political Dept for the manner in which he had discharged the duty.

Strictly limited to one
district each.

Lyman

To the Political Dept 7

Sept 22-12-175

12-166-167

6864
Govt. of 1875 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Political Dept

DP-1

DP-1

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 1875, No. 3495

No. 166-167

Local Land Works in
Pondicherry - Pending
Orders on Pres. of the Political
Dept. proposing that the Dist
Eng. Machinery should under
- Take the supervision of the