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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1081	(W)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	29-4-	1876	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th April 1876.*

No. 448. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 13th April 1876, No. 180 :—

In forwarding, for the consideration and orders of the Government, the accompanying letter from the Executive Engineer, Madura Range, I have the honor to state the Acting Magistrate has made no complaints to this office of the obstructions on the roads which he has ordered the Police to prosecute this department for.

2. From Mr. Paynter's report it appears that sufficient room has been allowed for two carts to pass in all cases, and in this district, where the roads pass through wet cultivation particularly, the ryots have been allowed by the Revenue Department to cultivate up to the side slopes of the roads, and there are few or no places left on which materials can be stacked.

3. In the meantime I have ordered the Range Officer to use up the materials as soon as possible to avoid loss, but it is absolutely necessary for some orders or instructions to be obtained from the Government in this matter, as the Acting Magistrate has called in the intervention of the Police without attempting to establish the fact that two carts cannot pass each other, or preferring any complaint here.

From L. W. PAYNTER, Esq., Executive Engineer, Madura Division, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated Camp at Nagarry, 11th April 1876, No. 93.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for your consideration and orders, the accompanying copy of a letter, No. 4, dated 4th April 1876, from the Meylore Overseer.

1 Copy of letter.
1 Original yadast, to be obligingly returned.

2. It was the custom in this range to collect the road material for repairs in nearly every instance on the road surface, leaving only a narrow passage for traffic. I have done my utmost to stop this practice, but in some cases it is almost impossible to avoid placing the materials on the road surface where the road runs as an embankment through wet cultivation, when no margin is allowed; and in other parts where the cultivation has encroached up to the road side.

3. I have done and shall do my utmost to obstruct traffic in the least possible way, but it will be extremely inconvenient and an increase of expense if in no case material is to be collected on the road surface. Of course a passage wide enough for two carts to pass would always be allowed, and the material would be used up as soon as possible.

From R. NAGALINGUM PILLAY, Taluk Overseer, Department of Public Works, to L. W. PAYNTER, Esq., Executive Engineer, Madura Range, dated Meylore, 4th April 1876, No. 4.

I beg to inform you that a yadast of the Tahsildar of Meylore, stating that unless the materials, viz., stones and gravels, put on the sides of roads be removed from all roads

One Yadast.

within fifteen days' time the Acting Collector has ordered that the Police should be requested to charge the Public Works Department for obstruction.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th April 1876.*

2. With reference to the above yadast I also hear that the Acting Tahsildar has requested the Police station officers to charge the maistries and mile coolies with having caused obstruction, if the materials be not removed within the time mentioned in the yadast; and in consequence of which the mile coolies and maistries are afraid to bring materials to the road.

3. In obedience to your order great quantities of stones and gravel have been procured and laid for the thorough repair of the road. In parts where there are places available adjacent to the road materials have been heaped close to the road.

In parts where there are no places available adjacent to the road, the cultivated fields and tanks extending up to the very slope of roads, the materials have been put on the sides of roads.

4. Although it is quite apparent that the materials have been procured and laid to repair the roads for the convenience of the public, yet the Acting Collector seems to be of opinion that materials cannot be heaped on the sides of roads, as they occupy a part of the space of road-way, and thus make the less useful as such.

5. In order to avoid at present the criminal prosecution with which the Acting Magistrate threatens the Public Works Department, I beg you will be good enough to let me know, as soon as possible, what to do with the materials placed on the sides of roads, whether to spread them on the roads or to bring them to places available whatever the distances may be.

6. In case of removing the materials now and bring it to the requisite places whenever required, an extra expenditure will have to be incurred.

7. In some parts, especially in Roads Nos. 9 and 12, the road-way is not more than 4 or 5 yards, and the adjacent grounds being in the possession of ryots paying teervah to Government, we are prohibited even from taking earth to strengthen the slopes of roads.

8. In order that the Public Works Department may not incur the displeasure of Magistrates, and for the safe carrying out of our work and for the convenience of the public, and for the safe protection of the roads, I suggest that there ought to be a space of 8 yards for the road-way and 7 yards either sides for the use of avenues, heaping materials, for taking earth to strengthen and widen the roads, and for allowing proper drainage, and thus making in all 22 yards. If a uniform breadth of 22 yards were allowed for the roads, the road works may safely be carried out, and the Public Works Department will be safe from the threatenings of Magistrates with criminal trespass and obstruction, &c.

9. In case of my above suggestion be deemed proper, I request you will be good enough to represent the matters to the District Engineer so that he may take proper steps for the purpose. The yadast above referred to is herewith forwarded for your perusal.

No. 449.

ORDER THEREON, 29th April 1876, No. 1,081.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 33.

THE Magistrate will be called on in the Judicial Department for an immediate explanation of his proceedings in connection with this case.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,

Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

*Letter from the District Engineer Madras
No. 180 dated 13th April 1876.*

FOR ORDERS.

Enclosed Major Gault etc.

Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

*This seems to me an example
of the very reprehensible practice
that is growing up of departmental
antagonism & want of free
intercommunication. It is
intolerable that the Magistrate
should set the Police to work
against the P.W.D. - In some
cases such as a Roadway across
wet cultivation - there must
necessarily be some obstruction
to traffic during Road Repair
but this if of long duration
is a proper subject for com-
munication between the depts
not for such action as seems to
have taken place. I do call
for an immediate report from
the Magistrate & if the facts
are as stated I will take
warning action if the Mage's
conduct is bad.*

N^o 93

Madura Range Office
Camp Nagary 11th April 1876

From

The Executive Engineer,
Madura Division,

To

The District Engineer,
Madura

Enclos: 2

1 copy of letter

1 original

3 adact, to be

obliquely returned

Sir,

I have the honor to
forward for your considera-
tion and orders the accom-
panying copy of a letter
N^o 14 dated 4th April 1876
from the Melkore Quersera.

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3. I have, and shall, do my utmost to obstruct traffic in the least possible way, but it will be extremely inconvenient, and an increase of expense, if in no case material is to be collected on the road surface. Of course a passage wide enough for 2 carts to pass would always be allowed, and the material would be used up as soon as possible. -

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Yours Most Obedt Servt

[Signature]

Executive Engineer,
Madras Division.

No 1081

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

29 April 76

Drawn the following

No 98.

2/4

The metals & gravel are heaped in the roads to the great inconvenience of the Cart & foot traffic. The Acting Collector has ordered to remove them within a period of 15 days & if not done so to charge by the Police after that prescribed time. Under these circumstances the Acting Tahsildar of Maypore late requests the Quarter of the same his pro- Lality to take immediate steps to remove the stones & gravel out of their present site.

Maypore } signed R. Anantharam
31-3-76 } Ag. Tahsildar.
(A true translation)

ial Dept

Detd 5/5/76

allowed; and in other parts where the cultivation has encroached up to the road side.

3. I have, and shall continue to do, all that is possible.

inconvenient, and the expense, and the loss of the crops, and the loss of the land.

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Public Works Department.

No 1081

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 29 April 76.

Read the following:—

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April 1876

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By J. J. J.

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Detd 5/5/76

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D. H. ...
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Govt. of Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Judicial Dept

By Order

45 Am

Date

Time

Place

29th Feb. 1876 No. 1081

No. 448/9

Obstruction on Roads.

The Magistrate of Madurai
to be called on in the Judicial
Dept for explanation of his
proceedings in connection with
the prosecution ordered to
be instituted by him against
the PWD for certain alleged
obstruction on roads.

Ent. no 1081
8-5-76

448/9