

325
103
190

M.R.O. 1-77,006-8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 20

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	254 (W)	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	26.1.	1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 494.

Read the following papers :—

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., c.s., Acting Postmaster-General, Madras, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 11th March 1876, No. 12,616-1,877.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for your information, copies of the letters as per margin to and from the District Engineer, North Arcot, relative to a proposal for the erection of a small Post Office at Punganoor, which is necessary for the better working of that office.

Letter from the District Engineer, North Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, No. 2,940, dated 8th November 1875.

Letter from the Postmaster-General, to the District Engineer, North Arcot, No. 10,818-1,877, dated 22nd January 1877.

Letter from the District Engineer, North Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, No. 3,968, dated 19th February 1876.

2. It will be perceived that the District Engineer, North Arcot, states that a Post Office of the seventh-class cannot be built for less than Rupees 3,400, and that the only way that the estimate can be reduced is either by reducing the accommodation or by the use of inferior materials.

3. The Punganoor Post Office is a very small one and is held in a private building, for which a rent of Rupees 3 per mensem is paid at present. If Rupees 3,400 is spent for the proposed building, the rent value of even 20 Rupees per month is six times greater than the rent now paid for the present building.

4. I am at a loss to know what should be done in the matter, especially as a higher class, viz., fifth-class Post Offices, were lately built by the Public Works Department at Trivellore (Chingleput District) for Rupees 1,750, and at Virdooputty (Tinnevely District) for Rupees 1,550, and shall thank you to state what you would advise under the circumstances.

From the District Engineer, North Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 8th November 1875, No. 2,940.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 6,551-1,877, dated 20th ultimo, to the address of the Collector of this district, I have the honor to forward a plan and estimate, with an abstract amounting to Rupees 3,400, for constructing a Post Office with out-houses and compound wall at Punganoor.

From the Postmaster-General, Madras, to the District Engineer, North Arcot, dated 22nd January 1876, No. 10,818-1,877.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 2,940, of the 8th November 1875, I have the honor to inform you that it is not intended to spend so large a sum as Rupees 3,400, which represents a rent value of about 30 Rupees per mensem on so small a Post Office as that of Punganoor, and for which a rent of only 3 Rupees is paid at present.

2. Your plan and estimate for Rupees 3,400 are herewith returned, and I request the favor of your furnishing me with others instead for a less costly building, so as not to exceed Rupees 1,500.

3. I may mention that Post Offices of a higher class, viz., fifth-class, were lately built by the Public Works Department at Trivellore for Rupees 1,750, and at Virdooputty for Rupees 1,550.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th January 1877. No. 254.*

From the District Engineer, North Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 19th February 1876, No. 3,968.

WITH reference to your letters noted in the margin, I have the honor to state that the cost of the building in question can only be reduced either by reducing the accommodation provided or by the use of materials inferior to those allowed for in the estimate.

No. 10,818-1,877, dated 22nd January 1876.
No. 11,737-1,877, dated 16th February 1876.

2. The accommodation to be provided is a matter which can only be settled by your department; that allowed in the estimate was based upon the sketch plan received through the Collector, but it can of course be reduced to any extent you may think proper.

3. The cost of the buildings might be greatly reduced by the use of brick in mud for the walls, country wood timber, bamboo reapers, and thatch for the roof; but must be clearly understood that this office does not advise or approve the use of such materials, which in the long run cost more than superior ones, owing to the expense of repairs and more rapid deterioration of the building.

4. The plan is returned herewith in order that you may mark on it any reductions in extent that you may consider proper; any further saving can only be effected in the manner indicated in the last paragraph.

5. I must observe that a first cost of Rupees 3,400 does not represent a rent value of Rs. 30, but of about Rupees 20; 7 per cent. annually is a fair rate for "pucka" buildings to cover depreciation and cost of repairs. No doubt buildings rented from private individuals pay a higher percentage, because in the first place they are constructed of inferior materials, deteriorate quicker, and require more repair, so that a higher percentage must be charged on them while they last, and in the second the owner requires a profit, in addition to the natural interest of his capital.

No. 494-A. From Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, to H. G. TURNER, Esq., c.s., Acting Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 6th May 1876, No. 768.

I HAVE the honor to remark on the subject of your letter, No. 12,616, of 11th March, that the sum of Rupees 3,400 objected to by you provides for a great deal more than the accommodation laid down in Post Office Standard Plan No. VII. That accommodation is estimated by the District Engineer, North Arcot, to cost Rs. 1,700 only. But two rooms for clerks and runners, each costing Rupees 610, and a compound wall costing Rupees 480, the whole aggregating as much as the Post Office itself, have been provided. I observe also that the site adjoins wet land, and the nature of the soil is stated to be soft; so that basements and foundations of disproportionate height, depth, and width, and proportionate extra cost for so small a building have had to be allowed.

2. Considerable reduction of basements and foundations may be effected by a change of site. The height of the walls may also be reduced to 7½ or 8 feet; and, as the District Engineer has pointed out, inferior materials may be substituted for the very pucka and durable work that has been allowed. For my own part I consider cut-stone, venetian doors and windows, teakwood timbers and fixtures, rather out of place in such an insignificant building. The locality is one at which, I presume, rather high rates must be allowed.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th January 1877. No. 254.*

No. 494-B. From H. G. TURNER, Esq., c.s., Acting Postmaster-General, Madras, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 26th October 1876, No. 6,853-876.

I HAVE the honor to submit copy of a letter* from the District Engineer of North Arcot, and the plan and estimate for Rupees 1,740 therein referred to for the construction of a seventh-class Post Office at Punganoor; also copy of a letter† from

* No. 1,957, dated 18th September 1876.

† No. 4,436, dated 13th October 1876.

the Director-General of the Post Offices of India according sanction to the measure, and request that you will be so good as to move the Government to pass orders for the allotment of the necessary funds from the grant for Minor Works of the Postal Department in this circle for 1877-78, so that the work may be executed as early as possible after 1st April next.

From the District Engineer, North Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 18th September 1876, No. 1,957.

IN continuation of my letter, No. 1,505, of the 11th August 1876, I have the honor to forward a plan and estimate of Rupees 1,740 for constructing a Post Office with-out-houses at Punganoor. The amount of the estimate has been reduced from Rupees 3,400 to 1,740 with reference to the Chief Engineer's instructions furnished with your letter, No. 1,466—876, dated 17th May last.

From the Director-General of the Post Offices of India, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 13th October 1876, No. 4,436.

IN returning the plan and estimate received with your letter, No. 762—2,271, dated 27th September 1876, I beg to sanction the sum of Rs. 1,740 for the construction of a seventh-class Post Office at Punganoor, the charge being debitable to the Minor Works grant for 1877-78.

No. 495. ORDER THEREON, 26th January 1877, No. 254.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 28-A.

(*) *Heads of Service.*—Imperial.
Fund.—Ordinary.
Class.—Original Works.
Main-head.—Other Services.
Sub-head.—Civil Buildings.
Section.—Postal.
Name of Work.—Constructing a seventh-class Post Office at Punganoor.
Amount.—Rupees 1,740.
To be carried out by the Public Works Department.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council sanctions the estimate of Rupees 1,740 for constructing a Post Office of the seventh-class at Punganoor in the North Arcot District.

2. The District Engineer will include the work in his Statement of Demands against the Reserve of 1877-78 to be submitted in April next.

3. This sanction has been registered as Imperial No. 123-W. of 1876-77.
(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, North Arcot.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Postmaster-General.
" Financial Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

Print in the margin of G.O. V. 254 of 26-1-77-

With reference to your letter
No 6551 dated 20th ultimo to the address of
Collector of this District, I have the
honor to forward a plan and estimate
with an abstract amounting to
Rupees 3400 for constructing a Post
office with out houses and compound
wall at Ponganoor.

Copy of a communication
from the Postmaster General Madras
to the District Engineer North Arcot
No 10810 dated 22nd January 1876.
1877

With reference to your
letter No 2940 of the 8th November 1875:
I

I have the honor to inform you that it is not intended to spend so large a sum as Rs 3400 which represents a rent value of about 30 Rs per mensem or so small a Post office as that of Punganoor and for which a rent of only 3 Rs is paid at present.

Your plan and estimate for Rs 3400 are herewith returned and I request the favor of your furnishing me with others instead for a less costly building so as not to exceed Rs 1500

I may mention that Post offices of a higher class viz 5th class were lately built by the Public Works Department at Tiruvellore for Rs 1750 and at Piddiputty for Rs 1850.

S P 964

Copy of a Communication from the District Engineer
South Arcot to the Postmaster General, Madras,
No. 3968, dated 19th February, 1876.

With reference to your letter noted in the margin I have the honor to state that the cost of the building in question can only be reduced either by reducing the accommodation provided or by the use of materials inferior to those allowed for in the estimate.

The accommodation to be provided is a matter which can only be settled by your department; that allowed in the estimate was based upon the sketch plan received through the Collector; but it can of course be reduced to any extent you may think proper.

The cost of the buildings might be greatly reduced by the use of brick instead for the walls, country wood timbers, bamboo papers, and thatch for the roof; but it must be clearly understood that this officer does not advise or approve the use of such materials, which in the long run cost more than superior ones owing to the expense of repairs

and

No 10810 dated 22nd January 1876

No 10811 dated 16th February 1876

PTW 1930/15

and more rapid deterioration of the building.

The plan is returned herewith in order that you may mark on it any reductions in extent that you may consider proper; any further saving can only be effected in the manner indicated in the last para.

I must observe that, as first cost of Rupees 3400, does not represent a rent value of Rupees 30, but of about Rupees 20, 7 per cent annually is a fair rate for "pucka" buildings, to cover depreciation and cost of repairs. No doubt buildings rented from private individuals pay a higher percentage, because in the first place they are constructed of inferior materials, deteriorate quicker, and require more repair, so that a higher percentage must be charged on them while they last, and in the second the owner requires a profit, in addition to the natural interest of his capital.

(True copies)

H. Turner
Ag Postmaster General

12

Letter from the District Engineer North Arcot to the Postmaster General No 2940

dated 8 November 1875

Letter from the District Engineer North Arcot to the District Engineer North Arcot No 1877 dated 22 January 1876

Letter from the District Engineer North Arcot to the Postmaster General No 2968 dated 19 February 1876

12616

1877

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Madras, 11 March 1876.
No 15-3-76.

To The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department
Fort St George

SIR,
I have the honor to forward for your information copies of the letters as per margin to and from the District Engineer North Arcot relative to a proposal for the erection of a small Post office at Punganoor which is necessary for the better working of that office.

It will be perceived that the District Engineer North Arcot states that a Post office of the 7th class cannot be built for less than Rs 3400 and that the only way that the estimate can be reduced is either by reducing the accommodation or by the use of inferior materials.

The Punganoor Post office is

is a very small one and is held in a private building for which a rent of Rupees 3 per mensem is paid at present. If Rupees 3400 is spent for the proposed building, the net value of even 20 Rs per month is six times greater than the rent now paid for the present building.

I am at a loss to know what should be done in the matter especially as a higher class viz 5th class Post offices were lately built by the Public Works Department at Tiruvellur (Chingleput District) for Rs 1750 and at Velloreputty (Tiruvellur District) for Rs 1500 and shall thank you to state what you would advise under the circumstances.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

H. Turner
As Postmaster General

R

Cin 22-1-77 N: 1194-
Dep 26 Oct (Sun) 26-6-76

C.E. Letter No 758 dated 6 May 1895
 To the Postmaster General, Madras
 I have the honor to acknowledge
 on the subject of your letter No.
 12616 of 11-5-1895, that the
 sum of Rs. 3400 apportioned to
 your provision for a great deal
 more than the Post Office structure
 laid down in that account
 Plan No. III -
 expenditure is estimated by
 the Post Office No. 11, West Street
 at Rs. 1700 only - But 2
 rooms for clerks and 2
 men, each costing Rs. 610,
 and a compound wall cost-
 ing Rs. 400; The whole approx-
 imately as much as the Post
 Office itself; have been pro-
 posed - I observe also that
 the site is virgin wet land,
 and the nature of the soil
 is stated to be soft & disproportionately
basement of granite
 height, depth, and width, and for
 foundation 4 ft. cost, for 2
 small buildings have been
 to be framing allowed -
 considerable reduction of
 basements and foundation
 may be effected by a small
structure

of site - The height of the
walls of the room may be con-
sidered to $7\frac{1}{2}$ or 8 ft, and
as the District Engr. has
pointed out, information con-
cerning the same may be obtained
from the very few but
most valuable work that
has been collected - For
my own part I consider
the stone, work of masonry in
general, including the
doors and windows, the
wooden beams and
fixtures, in the
out of place in such an
inconspicuous building -
The locality is one in which
a permanent building
might be erected -

N^o 494 W

Depd Secy (Gen) 26-6-76

Copy of a communication from the District Engineer,
North Arcot to the Postmaster General, Madras,
No. 1957 dated 18th September 1876

In continuation of my letter
No 1505 of the 11th August 1876. I have the
honour to forward a plan and estimate of
Rupees 1740 for constructing a post office with
cut houses at Punganam. The amount of the
estimate has been reduced from Rupees 3400 to 1740
with reference to the Chief Engineer's instructions
furnished with your letter No 466 dated 17th May last.

Copy of a communication from the Director General
of the Post Office of India to the Postmaster General
Madras, No 4431 dated 13th October 1876.

In returning the plan and estimate
received with your letter No 282, dated 27th September
1876, I beg to sanction the sum of Rs 1740/- (No one
thousand seven hundred and forty) for the construction

of a 7' flap Post Office at Pungam, the charge
being debitable to the Minor works grant for 1877/78.

(True copies)

P.W.D.

9 176

No. 8104

Ag. Postmaster General.

No.

6853.
876

FROM

H. G. Turner Esq. C.S.

Ag. Postmaster General,

MADRAS.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Public Works Department,

FORT SAINT GEORGE.

SIR,

No 1987 dated 18th
September 1876.

No 4435 dated 13th
October 1876.

I have the honor to submit copy of a
letter from the District Engineer of North Arcot
and the Plan and Estimate for Rs 1740-⁰⁰ therein
referred to for the construction of a 7' flap Post Office
at Pungam, also copy of a letter from the Director
General of the Post Office of India, according sanction
to the measure, and request that you will be so good
as to move the Government to pass orders for the allot-
ment of the necessary funds from the grant for
Minor Works of the Postal Department in this Circle
for 1877-78, so that the work may be executed as early
as possible after 1st April next.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

H. G. Turner
Ag. Postmaster General

C-2 64695-4-76
762-3-5-76

P.W.D.
9476
No 5104

No 103 - P.W.D. - 1876 - 250

Dated 26th Dec 1876
Received 187

SUBJECT

The Secretary
to Government, P.W.D.

The Postmaster General,
MADRAS.

From
Department

187 - 7

Regarding the
the Govt. place order for
the all the necessary
funds for the construction
of Post Office at Punganam

No 694B

Cir 22-1-77

No 254

Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

UNDER date the 26 Jan/77
Read the following:-

From
The Postmaster General (No 12616 of 11th March 1876)
" Chief Eng^r P. W. D. (No 768 of 6th May -)
" Dist. Eng^r North Arcot } (No 1957 of 18th Sept -)
to the Postmaster Genl.
" Postmaster General (No 6853 of 26th Oct -)
1876

His Grace the
Governor in Council sanc-
tions the Estimate of
Rs 1740 for constructing
a Post Office of the
7th Class at Punganam
in the North Arcot
District.

2. The District Engineer
will include the work
in his Statement of
Demands

C-2 64695-4-76
762-3-5-76

P.W.D.
9476
No 5104

No 103 - P.W.D. - 1876 - 250

Dated 26th Dec 1876
Received 187

SUBJECT

The Secretary
to Government, P.W.D.

The Postmaster General,
MADRAS.

From
Department

187 - 7

Regarding the
the Govt. place order for
the all the necessary
funds for the construction
of Post Office at Punganam

No 694B

Cir 22-1-77

No 254

Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

UNDER date the 26 Jan/77
Read the following:-

From
The Postmaster General (No 12616 of 11th March 1876)
" Chief Eng^r P. W. D. (No 768 of 6th May)
" Dist. Eng^r North Arcot } (No 1957 of 18th Sept)
to the Postmaster Genl.
" Postmaster General (No 6853 of 26th Oct)

His Grace the
Governor in Council sanc-
tions the Estimate of
Rs 1740 for constructing
a Post Office of the
7th Class at Punganam
in the North Arcot
District.

2. The District Engineer
will include the work
in his Statement of
Demands

104 520
19

Demands against the Reserve
of 1877-78 to be submitted
in April next.

Gobt. of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the D. & North Arcot

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 25th Jan^y 1877, No. 2521

Nos. 192-295

Post Office of the
7th Class at Punganam
in the North Arcot Dist.

The Estimate of Rs
1740 for constructing
a —, sanctioned.

Contd. in file

M. North Arcot C.

P. O. N. A.

Postmaster General.

Finl. Dept.

Decd 8-2-77.

3. This sanction has
been registered as Imperial
No. 1234 of 1876-77.

[Signature]
22.1.77

[Faint handwritten notes]

7.10.77
Cm 22-1-77.