

(1) Number of pages 18
(2) Date of repair 20.12.86
(3) Initials of the Referencer long

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	P.W.D. 481	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19-2-1879	197

mk

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. 481

19th February 1879, No. 481 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following paper:—

No. 159. Endorsement of the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, dated Coimbatore, 7th February 1879, No. 378-90.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. KENNEDY, Executive Engineer, Wynad Division, to the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, dated Lakadi, 3rd February 1879, No. A 49.

In face of the distinct and reiterated orders regarding expenditure I find myself placed in a position of considerable embarrassment when to observe those orders to the letter leads not only to entire stoppage of the traffic along a main line of road, but to danger of bodily injury to travellers. For instance, a report reached me that the bridge over the Konoth river was in a dangerous condition, and on inspection I found that a large beam has decayed and broken, and that any one in ignorance of the condition of the bridge passing over it at night would certainly meet with a serious accident; to repair the damage and put the roadway safe will probably cost some Rupees 30—an expenditure that, under ordinary circumstances, would be charged to Maintenance Grant and be passed without question. I have no choice but to shut up the bridge, expose Government to suits for damages, or assume that it is a case to which the restrictions regarding expenditure are not to apply; whether rightly or wrongly, I have chosen the last of these courses, for no temporary crossing at the spot is possible, the bridge being 27 feet high, and the river bank some 20 feet higher, the approach being through a heavy cutting. Although as I have said I have taken the responsibility not to adhere to the strict letter of the orders, it would be more satisfactory to me to have some authority for exercising similar discretion in parallel cases that do not admit of delay, and although the limits within which expenditure was permitted by Government have, in the South Wynad portion of the Calicut Circle, been exceeded, I would ask leave to be allowed to incur it for such emergent work as I have quoted, and I estimate that a total of Rupees 100 per week for the remainder of the official year would meet all such cases, including the feeding of Government bullocks, which under the stoppage of work I am unable to provide for from any allotment.

2. There is another class of expenditure which also I am rather in a difficulty about, viz., that of petty and emergent repairs to Military buildings within the power of the Brigadier-General at Cannanore to order.

3. I shall be much obliged if you will be so good as to refer these queries to Government and obtain decision thereon; you will observe that in the case of Local Fund works the whole amount will not exceed a maximum of eight hundred rupees.

4. The case I have quoted is not the only one; for a few miles beyond Sultan's Battery within the last fortnight a temporary bridge gave way while a cart was passing over, and driver, bullocks, and cart were precipitated into the river, escaping however without fatal injuries. Had an European planter been then sufferer we should certainly have had a suit brought against us.

It is necessary that I should explain why I name a weekly sum for expenditure,—it is owing to the absolute impossibility of obtaining labor just when required and the necessity therefrom of keeping up a gang in readiness for emergent work which otherwise could not be carried out, no matter what the need might be.

FORWARDED to the Chief Engineer as requested in paragraph 3.

2. The Superintending Engineer has approved of Colonel Kennedy's action in repairing the bridge across the Konothe river and requested that any strictly emergent repairs to bridges, &c., may be carried out, the amount of expenditure being reported.

3. From this letter it appears that the Executive Engineer has some bullocks belonging to Government employed which of course must be fed (these bullocks are not shown in the stock returns), and also it would appear a gang of coolies in readiness for emergent repairs to the roads. It is to be regretted that he did not report this before and that even now no particulars are given. A report has been called for.

Owing to the reduction of 18 per cent. of the road allotments the outlay on roads in the Calicut Local Fund Circle has exceeded the allotments by

*In Wynad.

Financial Department, G.O., No. 1,127, of 27th June 1878.

Rupees 5,543; * this has been chiefly incurred in the Tambrachery Ghat road on which in G.O., No. 2,862 W, dated 12th July 1878, extra tolls were sanctioned. It is not known if extra money is available for this road in consequence of extra receipts for tolls, but the President has been written to regarding this.

(Signed) H. R. MEAD, Major, R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle.

No. 160.

ORDER THEREON, 19th February 1879, No. 481 W.

THE action of the Superintending Engineer, as reported in the papers above recorded, is approved.

2. It was never intended that the restrictive orders relative to Local Fund expenditure should hinder the execution of emergent works.

3. It should however be distinctly understood that this exception is not to be construed into any authority for incurring expenditure on Local Fund works in excess of the funds available in any circle. Such a proceeding will entail personal responsibility on the Executive Officers concerned.

4. As a matter of course, the Government bullocks must be fed, although the works to which their up-keep is usually charged have been temporarily stopped.

5. His Grace the Governor in Council considers it very unsatisfactory to find from paragraph 1 of the Executive Engineer's letter that the decay of a large beam in a bridge on an important road should not have been noticed before it became so extensive as to endanger the condition of the whole structure.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Edw. C. Howarth.
Spare Copies

481
2

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
FOURTH CIRCLE.

&c. &c. &c.

Dated February 19th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 19th February 1879, No. 481 W.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 158-160.

Bridge across the Ronaith River, Malabar District. Approves with remark the action of the Superintending Engineer in authorising the repair of the —

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Letter from the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle,
No. 481/3 dated 7 Feb 1879

FOR ORDERS.

EA and L. R. R.

Secy to Govt. Mtd

11 Feb 1879.

Yrs Mtd 14/2-4
Remark that the
decay of a large beam
in a bridge on an
important road so
has been noticed before
it became so extensive

M 14/2

Amended from time to time

Approve L. R. R. action
to know that the order dated
2.7.78 & found to be in force
to construction of the bridge
in the same place. But that
found a L. R. order in
force of L. R. is in the
in any case. But the
personal responsibility
on the Executive Officer
of the work must be
found to be in the
L. R. that is usually

FOR ORDERS.

Chalabadi

17/2 1879 4818-19-27

N. Ch. 49

Wynad Divisional Office,
Cuckady 3rd February 1879.

From

The Executive Engineer
Wynad Division,

To

The Superintending Engineer
4th Circle,

Sir,

In face of the distinct, and reiterated orders regarding expenditure, I find myself placed in a position of considerable embarrassment when to observe those orders to the letter leads not only to entire stoppage of the traffic along a main line of road, but to danger of bodily injury to travellers. For instance, a report reached me that the Bridge over the Honthe River was in a dangerous condition, and on inspection I found that a large beam has decayed, & broken; and that any one in ignorance of the condition of the Bridge passing over it at night would certainly meet with a serious accident. To repair the damage

11-2-79 161512

damage, and put the roadway safe, will probably cost some Rs 30, an expenditure that, under ordinary circumstances, would be charged to maintenance grant, and be passed without question. I have no choice but to shut up the Bridge expose Government to suits for damages, or assume that it is a case to which the restrictions regarding expenditure are not to apply; whether rightly or wrongly, I have chosen the last of these courses, for no temporary crossing at the spot is possible, the Bridge being 27 feet high, and the river bank some 20 feet higher, the approach being through a heavy cutting. Although as I have said I have taken the responsibility not to adhere to the strict letter of the orders, it would be more satisfactory to me to have some authority for exercising similar discretion in parallel cases, that do not admit of delay, and although the limits within which expenditure was permitted by Government have, in the South Wynaad portion of the Calicut Circle, been exceeded, I would ask leave to be allowed to incur it for such

emergent

22
emergent work as I have quoted and I estimate that a total of Rs 100 per week for the remainder of the official year would meet all such cases, including the feeding of Government Bullocks, which under the stoppage of work, I am unable to provide for from any allotment.

2. There is another class of expenditure which also I am rather in a difficulty about, viz: that of petty and emergent repairs to Military buildings within the power of the Brigadier General at Coimbatore to order.

3. I shall be much obliged if you will be so good as to refer these queries to Government, and obtain decision thereon; you will observe that in the case of Local Fund Works, the whole amount will not exceed a maximum of eight hundred rupees.

4. The case I have quoted is not the only one, for a few miles beyond Sultan's Battery, within the last fortnight, a temporary Bridge, gave way while a cart was passing over, & driver, bullocks, and cart were precipitated into the river, escaping however without fatal

fatal injuries, had an European Planter
been then sufferer ~~we~~ should certainly have
had a suit brought against us.

I have &c

Signed/ R. B. Kennedy Esq Colonel

Exe. Engineer.

Wynad Division.

It is necessary that I should explain
why I name a weekly sum for expenditure,
it is owing to the absolute impossibility of
obtaining labor just when required and the
necessity therefore of keeping up a gang
in readiness for emergent work which otherwise
could not be carried out, no matter what
the need might be.

pl

378 (True Copy)
No 90

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer as
requested in para 3.

2 The Supg. Engineer has approved of
Col. Kennedy's action in repairing the Bridge
across the Honath river and requested that
any strictly emergent repairs to Bridges &c
may be carried out the amount of expenditure
being

being reported.

3 From this letter it appears that the
Executive Engineer ^{has} some bullocks belonging
to Government employed which of course
must be fed (these bullocks are not shown
in the stock returns) and also it would
appear a gang of coolies in readiness for
emergent repairs to the roads. It is to be
regretted that he did not report this before
and that even now no particulars are given
a report has been called for.

Owing to the reduction of 18 per cent
of the Road allotments the outlay on Roads
in the Calicut Local Fund Circle has exceeded

x L. Wynaud the allotments by Rs 5043⁺ this has been
chiefly incurred in the Sambrapary Ghant
road on which in G. O. No 2862⁺ dated 12th July
1878 extra tolls were sanctioned. It is not known
if extra money is available for this road
in consequence of extra receipts for tolls
but the President has been written to regarding
this.

Coimbatore 2
7th February 1879

M. M. S. Major R.E.
Superintending Engineer
4th Circle

To The Chief Engineer
M.O.

No. $\frac{378}{90}$

Dated 7th February 1879

GO 12-7-78 No. 2862 M.O.

Bridge over the Konothe River
Copy of Col Kennedy's
letter regarding the
condition of the
road

Gr 11-2-79. R152

lit note
over

No. 481 W

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

19th Feb 1879

Read the following:—

From the Inspectors, Fourth circle (N.E. No. $\frac{378}{90}$ of 7 Feb/79)
with letter from E.E. W. (N.E. No. 449, dated 3-27-79)

The action of the
Sape Engineer as reported
in the papers above re-
corded is approved.

2. It was never intended
that the restrictive orders
relative to Local Fund
expenditure should
hinder the execution of
emergent works.

3. It should however be
distinctly understood
that this exception is not
to be construed into any
authority for incurring
expenditure on Local
Fund works in excess
of the funds available
in any Circle. Such

a proceeding will entail
personal responsibility
on the ~~Executive Officers~~
concerned.

4. As a matter of course
the government bullocks
must be fed although
the works to which their
up-keep is usually charged,
have been temporarily
stopped.

5. His grace the Governor
in Council considers it
very unsatisfactory to
find from para 1 of
the ~~Est. Engrs.~~ letter that
the decay of a large beam
in a bridge on an im-
portant road should not
have been noticed before
it became so extensive
as to endanger the con-
dition of the whole structure.

15.2.79
15.2.79

Recd. 17-2-79 to the
S. B. & Co. Clerk
Genl. of P. & A.

