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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1100-W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	25-4-1981	197

R.R.
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1100
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

26th April 1881, No. 1,100 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper:—

No. 86. From A. B. SAMPSON, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (General,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 19th April 1881, No. 572 G.

IN reply to your endorsement No. 2,561 W., dated 8th November 1880, I am directed to state that the Government of India is pleased to confirm the action of the Madras Government sanctioning the extension, to Public Works Department Officers, subordinates and employes of all description employed on the Potinghy ghât, of the special allowances granted to similar establishments employed in the Wynaad.

No. 87. ORDER THEREON, 26th April 1881, No. 1,100 W.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, First Circle.
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

copy sent for Nyl

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

RECEIVED
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
MADRAS
26 APR 1881

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Gobt. of (1881) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
FIRST CIRCLE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 26th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 26th April 1881, No. 1,100 W.

APRIL.
Nos. 86-87.

Special allowances to Public Works Department Officers, Subordinates and Employés of all description employed on the Pottinghy Ghât.
—Letter from the Government of India confirming the sanction accorded to the grant of the —, recorded.

1100
2

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

8th November 1880, No. 2,561 W.

General
Establishment.

Read the following papers:—

No. 28. From the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated 18th June 1880, No. 945.

No. 28-A. Endorsement of the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated Madras, 1st October 1880, No. 2,062.

From T. D. HARRIS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Vizagapatam Division, to the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated Waltair, 20th September 1880, No. 1,947.

REFERRING to your foot-note No. 1,605, dated 14th August, to letter No. 298, dated 10th August 1880, from the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, I have the honor to offer as follows my reasons for recommending that paragraph 673 of the Madras Public Works Code, granting 50 per cent. on salary to employés of all descriptions in the Wynaad Hills, be extended to those of the Jeypore Ghât.

2. The prices of articles of food appear to be one and the same in several respects in both the localities; but in some instances they are even higher here than those of Wynaad. Pottinghy Ghât is quite an out-of-the-way place, where nothing can be got, and therefore all provisions will have to be carried from Sálúr, Vizianagram or Vizagapatam, and when the cost of carriage is added the difference of prices of articles becomes considerably greater on the Pottinghy Ghât.

3. The travelling expenses on the ghât are more costly than those of Wynaad, for carts can travel whenever officers are employed in Wynaad, but here the ghât road is not yet practicable for carts, and hence coolies must be employed to carry everything.

4. As regards climate, I can certify from my own experience of both the localities that Wynaad is healthier and far preferable to this. The climate on the ghât here is very feverish and of a very severe type.

5. It must not be forgotten that additional wages will have to be paid to all servants, and that the employment of additional number of servants is nothing but compulsory on the ghât. I am obliged to have two sets of servants every time I go on the ghât, and must give also double batta to them as well as coolies.

6. I enclose copies of communications from Conductor Milne and Sub-Conductor J. Cormac for your information. The former has been employed in Wynaad, and from what he says it can be easily seen that the employés in Wynaad are evidently under much more favorable circumstances than those on the Pottinghy Ghât here.

7. Under the above circumstances I trust you will support this my application, and recommend that the privilege there enjoyed be extended to the ghât here until it is opened to wheel traffic; it is a very heavy work and I beg your powerful support to aid me in getting over the difficulties that have to be encountered.

From Conductor A. MILNE, Sub-Engineer, to Mr. J. CORMAC, Sub-Engineer, Potinghy Ghât, dated Vizianagram, 8th September 1880, No. 12.

In reply to your letter No. 150, dated 31st August 1880, inquiring my experience of inconveniences, &c., at the Potinghy Ghât as compared with Wynaad, I beg to state as follows:—

Price of articles of food.—The only things I know of that are cheaper at the ghât than in Wynaad are rice and grain; bread, tea, coffee, &c., have all to be brought from Vizianagram or Vizagapatam at a greater cost than in Wynaad. I enclose a list of articles that I got while at the ghât with the Wynaad prices written in red. You will see that in every case the prices are quite up to the Wynaad ones and in several cases higher, when 7-5 per cent. is added for carriage the difference becomes still greater.

Travelling Expenses.—I do not know that there is any difference when everything is considered, but the inconvenience on the ghât is much greater on account of there being no cart-road and no bungalows.

Climate.—The climate of Wynaad is pleasant yet feverish, very feverish in some places, but these very feverish places are passed through as quickly as possible. No avoiding fever in this way can be practiced on the Potinghy Ghât. The climate on the ghât is anything but pleasant, and it is more feverish, I think, than Wynaad; certainly the fever is of more severe type, I say so from my own experience of two attacks. I cannot say with any certainty the ratio of coolies laid up with fever as I had not anything to do with the working of them. The impression left on me is that it is quite as great as Wynaad, and if the reports that were going about are true it is much greater. I should mention that all my servants were laid up more than once and that I found it necessary to have extra ones.

P.S.—Speaking generally, I am of opinion that the ghât is a much more unfavorable place than Wynaad.

From Mr. J. CORMAC, Sub-Engineer, to T. D. HARRIS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Vizagapatam Division, dated Sâlar, 13th September 1880, No. 173.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 1,672, to the letter from the Chief Engineer, regarding the difficulties under which officers of this department labor whilst working in this locality, I beg to state that I have not any personal experience of Wynaad. I am not therefore in a position to make any comparison between the conditions under which work is done in the two divisions.

Conductor Milne, who has been working in both localities, has however been kind enough to express an opinion on the subject. I beg to enclose a copy of his letter.

Mr. Milne also enclosed a list of prices of articles whilst here with prices paid also showing the cost of similar provisions in Wynaad; as he says the Wynaad prices are not in any one instance higher than here, and in several instances are much lower; when cost of carriage is added the difference becomes considerably greater.

With reference to travelling expenses, Mr. Milne seems to think that the cost in the two instances are about equal. I do not concur with him in this opinion, because, as he states, carts can travel whenever officers are employed in Wynaad, whilst I have to employ coolies here to carry all my baggage, the ghât road not yet being practicable for carts; I do not think it can be supposed that the hire of a cart is anything like the cost of sixteen coolies who carry my baggage, office records and cash-chest. It is hardly necessary to say any more on this point as the difference of cost of travelling must be apparent.

With regard to climate, Mr. Milne considers that of Wynaad much preferable to this and much more healthy. Mr. Milne was also at work for a length of time in Wynaad without any serious illness; twenty days after his arrival here he was prostrated by fever, which left him in such a condition that he has not been able to resume work. Mr. Milne is not the only instance of the effects of the climate. One European was buried at Sunki, one at Potapad, and the third died on the way down from Sâlar to Vizianagram and was buried at the latter place; these deaths occurred in the time of Mr. Nordmann; as for natives it is not known what number have died, it is however known that many have succumbed to this fever; but even were not such the case the labor being drawn from the hill country and vicinity the people must be held to be more or less acclimatized and therefore less likely to suffer from it.

I would also mention that I am obliged to pay higher wages to my servants than Mr. Milne paid his, though they come with him from Ootacamund, and owing to the unhealthiness of the place I am obliged to employ extra servants to work when others are prostrated with fever.

Mr. Milne states that much inconvenience is felt here owing to there not being any bungalows; with regard to this I do not complain. I can hardly expect to have bungalows at every place where I may have to work; when I say that I found no shelter whatever when I came here at first, it will be understood that the inconvenience I have experienced are far beyond any which may exist in Wynaad.

As I stated at the commencement of my letter, I am not able to institute a comparison between the Wynaad and this locality, but I think taking the letter of Mr. Milne into consideration, that it will be conceded by the Chief Engineer that the conditions under which I am working here are not as favorable as those under which officers work in Wynaad.

SUBMITTED to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with reference to his letter No. 298, dated 10th August 1880.
One original letter with enclosure.

2. The Executive Engineer asks for the allowance of 50 per cent. upon salary on the Potinghy Ghât, on comparison of the general hardship of service there being as great or greater than in the Wynaad.

3. The points brought forward are the dearness of supplies carried from a distance, the liability to fever, the expense of keeping servants and providing extra servants on account of sickness, and the necessity for high charges in coolie hire as there is no road for bandies.

(Signed) H. L. PRENDERGAST, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, First Circle.

No. 28-B. Endorsement in the Judicial Department, dated 30th October 1880, No. 2,089.

No. 29. ORDER THEREON, 8th November 1880, No. 2,560 W.

In consideration of the present inaccessible and very feverish character of the locality, His Grace the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the extension of paragraph 673 of the Madras Public Works Code to the Public Works Executive Officers and subordinates and employes of all descriptions while employed on the Potinghy Ghât, in lieu of the allowances admissible under paragraph 671 (a).

2. Copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded to the Government of India for confirmation.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

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

No. 30. (DOCKET No. 2,561 W., dated 8th November 1880.)

FORWARDED to the Government of India.

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of [1880] Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Dated November, 8th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 8th November 1880, No. 2561 W.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 28-30.

FORWARDING for confirmation copy of P.
ceedings sanctioning the extension of pa-
graph 673 of the Madras Public Works Co.
to the Public Works Executive Officers &
subordinates and employees of all description
employed on the Potinghy Ghat.

No. 572 S.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras
Public Works Department

Simla, 19 April, 1881.

Sir,

In reply to your endorsement No. 2561 W. of
dated 8th November 1880, I am directed to state that
the Government of India is pleased to confirm &
the action of the Madras Government sanctioning
the extension, to Public Works Department Officers,
Subordinates and employees of all description
employed on the Potinghy Ghat, of the special
allowances granted to similar establishments
employed in the Wynad.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servant,

W. L. Simpson

Under Secy to the Govt of India

8. 11. 80 No 2567 W

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Pr. C. No 2522

Pr. 25 April

General
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A No 1100 W 26 April 80
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S. S. 1st Circle ✓

En P. W. a ✓ Desk

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2522.

Govt. of (1881) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 26 April 1881, No. 11002
1881

Nos. 86-87

Special allowances to V h
Officers, subordinates and
employees of all descriptions
employed in the Pottingy
Letter from the Govt. con-
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to the grant of the
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(1) Number of pages 84
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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D DEPARTMENT

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D. DEPARTMENT

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