(19)

(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 38

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 28.9.88

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 29/9/88

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பொதுப்பணித் துறை

அரசாணை எண். 3141(W) அச்சகம் பலவகை

மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.

நாள் : 20.12.1884 198 .

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

ஆவண. கா-1—18,006—15-6-87.

3141
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

READ—the following papers:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 5th December 1884, No. 516 M.D.

With reference to G.O., No. 2697 W., dated 3rd November 1884, and to paragraph 5 of the Assistant Examiner's notes, I have the honor to point out that he is in error in stating that funds for the road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr ghât and for the repair of the Gúdalúr-Peermade ghât (called by the Assistant Examiner, Gúdalúr-Peermade ghât road) are advanced by the Executive Engineer to the Local Fund Engineer.

2. Under G.O., No. 2975 W., dated 10th November 1882, funds for these works are advanced to the President of the Local Fund Board, and the Executive Engineer of course advances funds as called on; he has and can have no knowledge of the President's actual requirements, and all he has to do with the work is to advance money, when called on to do so, to the President and to accept and compile the accounts of road work when sent to him.

3. With regard to paragraph 6 I do not know what the Assistant Examiner alludes to. I have had no correspondence with the Local Fund Board on the subject of further discrepancies with regard to materials handed over by this department to the Local Fund Board, and it is now only that I hear from the Executive Engineer that in June and July last, letters passed between him and the President of the Local Fund Board regarding some materials; the Executive Engineer very properly told the President in his letter, dated 14th July 1884, that he the President should deal with any difference in the quantity or value of the materials as accepted by the Local Fund Engineer Mr. Harington in October 1883, and that he the Executive Engineer had nothing to do with any materials said to be missing by Mr. O'Flaherty (who succeeded Mr. Harington in charge of the work I believe last May). As there has been no further correspondence I suppose the President has settled this difference between the two Local Fund Engineers.

4. I take this opportunity of bringing to your notice that I fear the work of this road has not been done properly. The President has forwarded to me, for my opinion, some letters from Mr. O'Flaherty in which he states that Mr. Harington greatly overpaid the contractor in the item of gravel and that the road was in very bad order. I have given my opinion on the papers submitted to me and also recommended that Mr. Harington should be asked to explain; this was necessary as Mr. O'Flaherty's letters were not clear and certainly some of his statements I could not accept. My impression is that the work has not been properly superintended. I do not know what staff has been on the work, but I do know that there was in the district for some time (and that I believe when the gravelling was in progress) only one Local Fund Engineer who, I suppose, was able to visit the work only at long intervals.

X

Office Note from the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 13th December 1884, No. 679.

Your Office Note No. 2237 D., dated 11th December 1884.

See paragraph 9 of report printed with G.O., No. 1032 W., of 23rd April 1884. The funds demanded from the Executive Engineer are still in excess of what is required by the progress of outlay on the work. It seems immaterial to whom the funds are in the first instance granted seeing that they are for outlay by the Local Fund Engineer on the particular work.

2. The statement in paragraph 6 was made in consequence of what the Executive Engineer was understood to have mentioned at the inspection; it is quite possible there was a misunderstanding.

Order—dated 20th December 1884, No. 3141 W., Public Works.

The Examiner's note will be communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

2. The Superintending Engineer should request the President, Local Fund Board, to restrict his demands for funds to the amount actually required by the progress of outlay on the work.

3. Paragraph 4 of the Superintending Engineer's letter will be communicated to the Financial Department.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Financial Department.

Exd. W. H. French.
Spare Copies

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GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated December, 20th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 20th Dec. 1884, No. 3141 W.

DECEMBER.

Roads

Orders regarding funds for the road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr ghât and for repair of the Gúdalúr-Peermade ghât.

3141/3

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

READ—the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Kodaikanal, 9th May 1884, No. 65 M.D. :—

In forwarding the accompanying correspondence for your perusal, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to obtain the orders of Government to charge off to the estimate for the Gúdalúr-Pirmed ghât, the value of the missing materials at the site of the work, amounting to Rs. 1,262-5-3.

1 Madura divisional officer's orginal letter, No. 2567, dated 4th December 1883.
1 Do. No. 3495, dated 25th February 1884.
(The two original letters to be obligingly returned.)

2. The circumstances of the case are as follows :—

In G.O., No. 153 W., of 18th January 1882, sanctioning the estimate of Rs. 72,148 for the road, the Government directed the execution of the work by the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, and on receipt of this Government order, Colonel Beatty issued orders that the collection of materials, which was then in progress, by this department should be stopped without delay, and payments outstanding should be made at the earliest possible date.

On receipt of this memorandum, arrangements were made to measure up the materials supplied by the contractor and to pay him off. This was done in March 1882.

In June 1882 a statement of materials at site, with a copy of work-voucher for March 1882, was sent to Mr. Hardy by the Executive Engineer; and Mr. Hardy, in his reply, stated that his overseer has taken over charge of all materials collected under petty contract from the overseer of Periyakulam, and that the materials collected by the contractor, Mr. Lee, were found to coincide with the measurements, but the materials collected by departmental agency are not all to be found, and no further steps were taken by Mr. Johnston to verify Mr. Hardy's statement; but in one of his letters to the Vice-President, Local Fund Board, Mr. Johnston states "that Mr. Hardy may use all or none of the materials collected, and that he is responsible neither for the quality nor for any excess which may occur consequent on the utility or otherwise of the materials collected by this department," and states, at the same time, that "knowing as I do all the facts of the case," he does not consider the Periyakulam overseer to be "in the least degree responsible for any short materials."

In October 1883, the present Executive Engineer forwarded to the President, Local Fund Board, a statement of materials at site, and requested him to report whether any of the materials enumerated in that statement were used on the work, and, if so, to what sub-heads they were charged; and the President, in reply to that letter, forwarded the Local Fund Engineer's letter, in which he states that none of the materials has been utilised, and when used he would note the sub-heads of the works to which they should be charged, and concludes by saying that he declines to accept the statement sent by Mr. Grimes except a few items, and that the materials collected departmentally are unfit for use, and some of the materials are not to be found.

25

On receipt of the Executive Engineer's first letter, No. 2567, of 4th December 1883, I called upon him to furnish further information on the subject, and his letter, No. 3495, of 25th February 1884, is the reply, from which you will see that the materials handed over to Mr. Hardy were those collected by the contractor, and that the materials collected departmentally were only pointed out by Mr. Johnston to Mr. Hardy and not finally handed over and a receipt taken as ought to have been done. Mr. Johnston could have easily done this and settled the matter finally when he was on the spot.

From the foregoing facts I believe you will agree with me in considering that serious irregularities and great carelessness have been displayed by all concerned in the execution of the work while in charge of this department. No care seems to have been taken to keep a proper account of materials supplied departmentally, and to distinguish those supplied by the contractor and the department. It is very probable that materials collected by the department and now missing are also included in the contractor's bills and paid for; but as this cannot be proved at this distant date, owing to the change of subordinates and absence of proper vouchers, I request that Government will be pleased to accord their sanction to charge the amount to the work.

In conclusion, I must say that it is very discreditable to Serjeant MacAlister, supervisor, Mr. J. M. Taylor, supervisor, Ramasawmy Pillay, the Periyakulam overseer, and Mr. Johnston, the then Executive Engineer in charge of the division, who were all concerned in the work.

Mr. Johnston evidently knew that materials were missing, and, as Executive Engineer in charge, he ought to have reported the matter as soon as he was aware of it; instead of doing this, he was content to leave the matter alone, and it was not until Mr. Grimes, the present Executive Engineer, had been in charge for some time that the matter came to his notice. Of course, it was then too late for there to be any hope of a satisfactory solution or of being able to fix any responsibility on anybody except Mr. Johnston, the Executive Engineer.

ENCLOSURES.

From J. GRIMES, Esq., Executive Engineer, Madura Division, to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, dated Madura, 4th December 1883, No. 2567.

I have the honor to lay before you the following circumstances in connection with the materials at site of the work "Completion of the road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr ghât," which now amounts to Rs. 4,675, and to request the favor of your orders.

I.—In October 1883, I addressed a letter* to the President, Local Fund Board, pointing out the small outlay that was incurred on the work against the grant of Rs. 20,000 assigned for the current official year, and asking whether he would be able to utilise the full allotment or not; and, at the same time, I forwarded a statement of materials at site and requested him to report whether any of the materials in that statement were used on the work, and, if so, to note the sub-head of the estimate to which charged. In reply the President, Local Fund Board, informed† me that "arrangements have been made to fully utilise the current year's allotment" by the close of the year; and in paragraph 2 of the same letter he stated that the Local Fund Engineer, after personal inspection, will give the required information regarding the materials at site. Subsequently, I received another letter‡ from the President giving cover to a letter§ from the Local Fund Engineer to his address in which that officer states that "none of the materials enumerated in the list has been used on works up to date, or, if used, they have not been brought into the accounts;" but as a few masonry works are in progress on which these materials will be used, an account of them will be rendered in the bills that will be submitted, noting the sub-heads to which they have been charged. Then he goes on to say that "when the materials at site were originally handed over to Mr. Hardy by the Public Works Department, certain deficiencies were found which were then brought to notice by Mr. Hardy." Here he quotes certain correspondence between

* A: No. 2012, dated 27th October 1883.

† B: Letter, No. 758, dated 16th November 1883.

‡ C. No. 777 dated 24th November 1883.

§ No. 53, dated 17th November 1883, with copy of letter, No. 582, dated 10th June 1882, from the Executive Engineer, Madura, to the Vice-President, Local Fund Board, Dindigul, and one statement of materials at site.

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4

Mr. Hardy, the Vice-President, and Mr. Johnston, late Executive Engineer of this division, regarding these deficiencies, which will appear further on in this letter, and further says: "I confess that I cannot understand it, and I must decline to accept the statement sent by Mr. Grimes to you on the 25th ultimo except for the items marked with a star. The materials may have been at site when that statement was prepared, but from what data was it compiled, and when was it made out?" In conclusion, he remarks, with reference to the materials collected departmentally, that the bricks are unfit for use and some of the materials are not to be found.

2. In order that you may understand the reason for the Local Fund Engineer declining to accept the statement of materials at site sent, I must solicit your kind attention to the following points bearing on the case:—

II.—During the time that this division formed a sub-division of the Trichinopoly division, the Superintending Engineer, III Circle, issued a memorandum * to Mr. MacAlister, the then sub-divisional officer, warning him of the fact that no work was to be done by this department on the Gúdalúr ghât, and calling upon him to furnish a detailed report of the progress made in collection of materials, to which Mr. MacAlister replied † that he received a report from Mr. Taylor, overseer, stating that considerable damage was done to the Gúdalúr ghât by the recent heavy rain, and that certain repairs were commenced in anticipation of sanction; he then gives a detail account of what these damages consisted. He further submits a statement showing the progress made in the collection of materials, which amounted to Rs. 783-15-4, and explains the cause of slow progress to be due to the opposition offered by the two head-men of the village, who tried to get the whole work into their hands, and to other difficulties.

* D: No.——, dated 27th May 1881.

† D: No. 201, dated 31st May 1881, with statement of materials.

III.—After this it would appear that the collection of materials was carried on, as at the end of October 1881 the value increased to Rs. 2,216-7-5 according to the list sent by the Executive Engineer, Trichinopoly. In November 1881 this division was re-formed. The list received from the Executive Engineer, Trichinopoly, was sent by the late Executive Engineer of this division with a memorandum ‡ to the sub-divisional officer, Dindigul, to check and measure the materials to be paid for, and to report the result at an early date. The sub-divisional officer, Dindigul, in his reply § reports that of the 40,000 burnt bricks shown only 25,000 could be counted, which includes good and bad bricks, the good being about 15,000 and the remainder being vitrified and broken bricks which may answer for brick jelly and surki; he further states that Mr. MacAlister thinks the missing bricks will be found in the brushwood which has overgrown the place. Again, he says, of the 16,437 unburnt bricks, there are now about 10,500 burnt. In conclusion he reports that the remainder of the materials appears to be correct. On this report, Mr. MacAlister was called ‖ upon for some explanation, who, in reply,¶ says that the 40,000 bricks referred to by Mr. Taylor are those that were made in March 1880, as an experiment, and shows how the experiment was made and with what results. In respect to the number being deficient Mr. MacAlister states "that Mr. Taylor did not count them, neither did he measure the heaps of broken but well burnt pieces; he simply took very rough (but short) measurements of the bricks that were stacked and not even such portions of the stacks that were not raised to the full height, stating that if his measurements should show them near the amount he would consider them as correct, &c.," and that some bricks will no doubt be found covered by the brushwood. He also explains the cause of deficiency in the number of raw bricks.

‡ E: No. 189, dated 3rd December 1881.

§ F: No. 31, dated 4th Jan. 1882, with list of materials.

‖ F: No. 353, dated 6th January 1882.

¶ G: No. 613, dated 14th January 1882.

IV.—There appears to be no further correspondence about the missing bricks. In G.O. No. 153 W.** the work was ordered to be carried out by the Local Fund Department, this department supplying only the funds. This G.O. was communicated †† to the sub-divisional officer, Dindigul, who was ordered to stop the collection of materials and to settle all claims. Steps were then taken to have the materials counted and Mr. Lee, the contractor, paid up. In March 1882 Mr. Lee's accounts ‡‡ were closed and final payments made to him. By this final payment to Mr. Lee the value of materials amounted to

** H.

†† H: No. 681, dated 4th February 1882.

‡‡ I: Contract certificate for Rs. 1,437-13-1.

Rs. 4,087-14-9, adding to this the value, Rs. 592-1-6, of materials collected by the Local Fund Department, and deducting Rs. 5-0-3, adjusted by this office, brings the value to Rs. 4,675 as stated above.

V.—In February 1882 the President addressed * the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the effect that orders should be issued to the Executive Engineer, Madura, to close accounts as soon as possible as Mr. Hardy, who was deputed to take charge of the work, could not do so till the accounts were closed, at the same time enclosing a letter from Mr. Hardy to the same effect. On this the Superintending Engineer instructed † the Executive Engineer to do what was necessary.

* J: Letter No. 82, dated 27th February 1882, with letter from Mr. Hardy.

† J: No. 284 M.D., dated 2nd March 1882.

VI.—In June 1882 ‡ a statement of materials at site with a copy of work-voucher for March 1882 were sent to Mr. Hardy.

‡ K.

VII.—Mr. Hardy in his letter § to the Vice-President, Local Fund Board, states that his "overseer has taken over charge of all materials collected under petty contract from the taluk overseer, Periyakulam, whom the Public Works Department deputed to deliver charge." He then goes on to say that the materials collected by the contractor, Mr. Lee, were found to coincide with the measurements "but the materials collected under departmental agency are not all to be found, and that which remains is unfit for use," and suggests that the amount thus spent on materials and superintendence be reccuped to him. This letter is endorsed ‖ by the Vice-President to the Executive Engineer, Madura, with the remark that he thinks the Periyakulam overseer is responsible. To this Mr. Johnston replies ¶ that Mr. Hardy may use all or none of the materials collected, and that "he is reponsible neither for the quality nor for any excess which may occur consequent on the utility or otherwise of the materials collected by this department," and concludes by saying that "knowing as I do all the facts of the case," he does not consider the Periyakulam overseer to be "in the least degree responsible for any short materials."

§ L: No. 35, dated 5th June 1882.

‖ L. No. 168 dated 7th June 1882.

¶ M: No. 582, dated 10th June 1882.

3. Under the circumstances above recorded, it appears to me unaccountable why no further steps were taken on Mr. Hardy's last letter reporting the deficiency of certain materials. As Mr. Harrington, the present Local Fund Engineer, now declines to accept the materials not marked with a star in the list, and which amounts to Rs. 1,616-7-5, it is necessary that something should be done to remove this value from the books of the office; either the amount must be nominally charged off to some of the sub-heads of the estimate, with the Local Fund Engineer's consent, or the value must be written off to "profit and loss," with the sanction of Government, as it is now too far back to bring home the responsibility to any officer or subordinate of this division.

From the same officer, dated 25th February 1884, No. 3495.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 461 M.D., dated 18th December 1883, I have the honor to state as follows:—

I.—Of the items noted in paragraph 2, the following were not charged to materials at site, but to "contingencies;" hence they were omitted in the statement:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Trimming branches of avenue trees	37	3	0
Work-people's shed	5	0	0
Stacking materials	5	0	0
Total ...	47	3	0

II.—In compliance with paragraph 10, I called ** upon Overseer Ramasawmy Pillay for some explanation in respect to the missing materials, and, in reply,†† the overseer states that the materials were handed over to Mr. Hardy's overseer, Rungabashiam Naidu (now dead), on the 30th and 31st May 1882, and that he recollects a receipt having been signed by him and that overseer, which receipt was submitted to the Dindigul sub-divisional officer.

** 1-A: Letter, dated 21st December 1883, No 2808, with one enclosure.

†† 2-A: Letter, dated 8th January 1884, No. 286.

III.—On receipt of this letter I addressed * Mr. Taylor, who was the sub-divisional officer at that time, on the subject, and from his reply † it will be seen that the materials handed over to Mr. Hardy's overseer were those collected by Mr. Lee, and not those collected departmentally. Those collected departmentally were pointed out to Mr. Hardy by Mr. Johnston himself, Mr. Taylor being present, and it would appear that Mr. Hardy was not satisfied at the time. Mr. Taylor further states that he does not remember whether Overseer Ramasawmy Pillay forwarded a receipt from Rungabashiam Naidu.

* 3-A: Letter, dated 16th January 1884, No. 3009.

† 4-A: Letter, dated 22nd January 1884, No. 248.

IV.—I then called ‡ upon the sub-divisional officer, Dindigul, to submit whatever records were to be found in his office in connection with the materials at site of the Gúdalúr ghât road. The sub-divisional officer in reply § forwards a statement showing the records that were handed over to Mr. Hardy by Mr. Taylor, and a measurement sheet of materials supplied by Contractor Mr. Lee.

‡ 5-A: Letter, dated 27th January 1884, No. 3150.

§ 6-A: Letter, dated 3rd February 1884, No. 1387, with three enclosures.

2. From the above it will be seen that no information whatever can be obtained regarding the materials collected departmentally.

3. In compliance with paragraph 11, I forwarded ‖ a correct statement to the Local Fund Engineer, through the President, Local Fund Board, asking him what materials he accepted and what he did not accept. In reply ¶ the Local Fund Engineer forwards a statement showing what materials he accepts, amounting to Rs. 3,412-10-9, including 133 cubic yards of roughstone.

‖ 7-A: Letter, dated 16th January 1884, No. 3006, with one enclosure.

¶ 8-A: Letter, dated 7th February 1884, No. 127, with one enclosure.

4. As the Local Fund Engineer has now accepted materials to the value of Rs. 3,412-10-9 against the value of Rs. 4,675, as borne on the books of this office, the amount that will have to be written off is Rs. 1,262-5-3.

5. There is nothing on record in this office to show how the materials supplied departmentally were lost, nor can anything be obtained from the subordinates of the division regarding the missing materials; and, under the circumstances, I have the honor to request you will be good enough to obtain the sanction of Government to write off the amount, Rs. 1,262-5-3, to "profit and loss."

6. Enclosures A to M and 1-A to 8-A are herewith forwarded, to be kindly returned when no longer required.

ORDER—dated 23rd May 1884, No. 1289 W., Public Works.

Before according sanction to the proposal of the Superintending Engineer to charge off the value, Rs. 1,263-5-3, of the missing materials, the Government desire to be furnished with such explanations as the Executive Engineer and the subordinates concerned may have to offer.

2. Mr. J. C. Johnston, now in the III Circle, was the Executive Engineer in charge; and the following subordinates are mentioned as having been connected with the work:—

Serjeant MacAlister, Supervisor, IV Circle.
Mr. J. M. Taylor, Supervisor, VI Circle.
N. Ramasawmy Pillay, Overseer, VI Circle.

3. Mr. Johnston will especially explain why he did not effect a satisfactory transfer of the work and adjustment of the outlay incurred under his orders.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, III Circle.
" " " IV "
" " " VI "

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated May, 23*rd*.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 23rd May 1884, No. 1289 W.

MAY.

Cumbum-Gudalur Road

Calling for explanations from the Executive Engineer and the subordinates concerned as regards missing materials at site of the —.

4TH SEPTEMBER 1884, No. 2182 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

3141/6

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Superintending Engineer,	III Circle,	dated 11th June 1884,	No. 509.
„ „ „	IV „ „	9th July „ „	323 E.W.
„ „ „	VI „ „	5th Aug. „ „	230 M.D.

ORDER—dated 4th September 1884, No. 2182 W., Public Works.

The explanations called for in G.O., No. 1289 W., dated 23rd May 1884, as regards certain missing materials on the Gúdalúr-Pirmed ghât, have now been submitted with the papers above recorded.

2. On careful perusal of the correspondence, the Government consider that Mr. J. C. Johnston's explanation exculpates the subordinates concerned from blame in the matter; but that Mr. Johnston is himself greatly to blame for remissness in not taking the necessary steps for the proper adjustment of the outlay incurred by him.

3. The value of the missing materials, Rs. 1,262-5-3, will, as recommended by the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, be written off against the work.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.
„ „ „ III „
„ „ „ IV „
„ Examiner, Public Works Accounts, with copy of G.O., No. 1289 W.

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

6

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated September, 4th.

Recd. *Enc*

G.O., 4th Sept. 1884, No. 2182 W.

SEPTEMBER.

Materials

Orders on explanation submitted by the Executive Engineer as regards certain missing — on the Gúdalúr-Pirmed ghât.

3141/7

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

18th January 1882, No. 153 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following papers :—

No. 90. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. BEATTY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Third Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 30th May 1881, No. 317 T.C.

I HAVE the honor to submit herewith an estimate of Rs. 78,700 for making a first-class road, metalled and bridged throughout, from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr Ghât, in the Madura District.

Enclosures as per accompanying List.
Plans and Estimates sent separately.

2. The estimate was called for in G.O., No. 2828 W., of 7th December 1880, and I regret that I have not been able to submit it sooner. The delay has been due to the reduced state of the establishment and pressure of other work.

3. The piece of road now proposed to be made is about 10 miles long, and is situated at the head of the Cumbum valley. It is of importance as being part of the high road into north Travancore, *viâ* the Gúdalúr Ghât. A gravelled Local Fund road, on which there is considerable traffic, leads from Ammayanáyakanúr on the South Indian Railway, *viâ* Periyakulam, to Cumbum; and I have no doubt when this short but expensive section of the line is completed, and the portion of Gúdalúr Ghât in British territory put in good order, there will be great increase of traffic between Madura and Travancore.

4. The Cumbum-Gúdalúr road will be an expensive one to make for the following reasons :—

I.—Labor and carriage are scarce and dear in that neighbourhood; the head of the Cumbum valley being sparsely populated.

II.—Though the country is open and tolerably free from jungle (with the exception of the lines of the principal streams, which are well clothed with jungle,) it is reputed to be feverish and unhealthy.

III.—One considerable nullah and two minor ones, bearing the drainage of the adjoining hills, and with very steep fall in their leds, cross the line of road; these must become torrents at times of exceptional rain-fall in the hills, and as their banks are thickly fringed with trees and jungle, it becomes necessary to provide for the safety of the masonry works upon them by allowing very ample height and width of waterway.

5. It will be observed, by the longitudinal section of the line, that there is a total fall of 400 feet in the 10 miles from the foot of the ghât to Cumbum. The line had been laid out and partly formed at some time; but having been left unfinished and long neglected, it is now marked chiefly by the traces of side channels and the few small masonry works. It is almost straight; the steepest gradient upon it is one in 21, and that only for a short distance near the foot of the ghât.

6. The three principal streams are now the great obstacles to traffic on the line, owing to their deep channels and steep banks; and of course they are quite impassable when in flood. Otherwise, in dry weather it is, as an unmade road, a very practicable one for country-carts.

7. Between Cumbum and Gúdalúr the road passes over cotton soil; beyond Gúdalúr to the foot of the ghât a red clay, containing kunkur in places, is met with.

Firewood is of course abundant in the neighbourhood, especially on the principal streams.

The most convenient site for brick-making is on the Kuruvanuthu, a little way above the site of the proposed bridge.

The best limestone, so far as yet ascertained, is found between the Shuragam and Kakanodai nullahs, and the best place for burning it will be at the latter stream. The lime-stone is found in the nodular form.

The stone most easily procurable is a kind of gneiss, of a grey colour, which can be burnt off in layers, and broken to sizes for building purposes. It will have to be carted 2½ miles to the large bridges.

There is no good gravel available within many miles, but an inferior description is met with near the village of Gúdalúr. Disintegrated rock is also found near the foot of the hills, and material for metalling in abundance there, and in small quantities all along the line.

8. The works now proposed include the formation of a roadway 24 feet wide at top, of which 18 feet will be gravelled with the best material that may be found near the line, to a thickness of 10 inches. The berms and side slopes, where the road is on embankment, are to be turfed. All streams are to be provided with suitable masonry works.

9. The estimate provides for building the three principal bridges with coursed rubble in chunam, carefully grouted and pointed. The arch-work is to be of brick, faced with cut-stone; the cut-waters also being of large stone, carefully fitted and laid. The foundations of the Kuruvanuthu bridge are to be protected, in the lower part of the bed which is sandy, with a masonry flooring and aprons with retaining walls. Elsewhere the foundations will be protected with floorings and aprons of packed stone, strengthened with piling.

10. The minor masonry works, consisting of sixteen new tunnels and one road dam, are to be built of brick in chunam; covering stones being used instead of arch-work, as these can be obtained at a reasonable price.

11. The existing masonry works, which consist of fifteen road dams, varying from 23 to 74 feet in length between wings, will be repaired and strengthened with rear aprons.

12. In an appendix to this letter I have given an abstract showing the nature and cost of the several items in the estimate now submitted.

13. As recommended in my letter No. 166 T.C. of 6th instant, in the case of the Gúdalúr Ghât repairs, I would suggest that this work also should be handed over to the Local Fund Board of the Dindigul Circle, if they are willing to undertake it on the understanding that it is to be carried out in strict accordance with the plans and specifications that accompany the estimate.

C.E. No. 1402.

REFERRED, in continuation of No. 1242, dated 18th May 1881, to the Revenue Department, for inquiry whether the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, will undertake the work if funds be provided by the Public Works Department.

(Signed) C. C. RAWSON, Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Deputy Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

13th June 1881.

To the Revenue Department, with twenty-four enclosures.

3141/2

No. 90-A. Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department, dated 28th November 1881, No. 1910.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd November 1881, No. 2907.

Read the following letter from H. J. STOKES, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated ———, No. 168.

IN continuation of my letter No. 150 of the 7th instant, I have the honor to forward herewith copy of Mr. Hardy's letter, No. 3 of the 20th idem, submitting proposals for repairing the Cumbum-Gúdalúr roads, &c.

The estimates,* &c., for both the road works are returned.

* 1. Estimate for the repair of the Ghât road.
2. Superintending Engineer's letter, with 24 enclosures, No. 3177 C., dated 30th May 1881, forwarding estimates for the repairs of the Cumbum road.

Read also G.O., Financial Department, dated 8th November 1881, No. 2167.

THE President's letter read above is submitted for the orders of Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 1st November 1881, No. 2582.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, with reference to G.O., No. 2864, dated 16th November 1881.

(Signed) E. S. LAFFAN,
for Chief Secretary.

No. 90-B. From the Superintending Engineer, Sixth Circle, dated 28th November 1881, No. 82 M.D.

No. 90-C. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th December 1881, No. 3210.

No. 90-D. From the Superintending Engineer, Sixth Circle, dated 31st December 1881, No. 135 C.

No. 91. ORDER THEREON, 18th January 1882, No. 153 W.

THE estimate for constructing a first-class road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr Ghât, the amount of which has been reduced by the Chief Engineer from Rs. 78,700 to Rs. 72,148, by limiting the width of metalling to 12 instead of 18 feet, is sanctioned for execution by the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle.

2. A sum of Rs. 13,180 is available for the work in the current year's Provincial Budget, and Rs. 20,000 will be provided in the budget of the ensuing year. The Local Fund Board will be kept in funds by the Superintending Engineer in the manner prescribed in G.O., No. 1375 W., dated 14th June 1880. The petty establishment required by the Local Fund Engineer should be charged to the estimate.

3. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No. 113 W. of 1881-82, and classified as Communications, Original Works.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with twenty-one enclosures.
" Superintending Engineer, Sixth Circle.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts, with duplicate Abstract Estimate.
" Financial Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

3141/9

84

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of {1882} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January, 18*th*.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 18*th January* 1882, *No.* 153 *W.*

JANUARY.

Nos. 90-91.

Road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr Ghât.—Estimate for constructing a first-class — sanctioned for execution by the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle.

3141/10

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 71.

READ—the following paper:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Sixth Circle, to the Acting Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 27th October 1882, No. 401 M.D.—(Through the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.)

In G.O., No. 2864 W., dated 16th November 1881, Rs. 6,820 is sanctioned for the repairs of a portion of the Gúdalúr Ghât, and in G.O., No. 153 W., dated 18th January 1882, Rs. 72,148 is sanctioned for constructing a first-class road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gúdalúr Ghât. These works are being carried out by the Local Fund Board, who have entrusted the work to Mr. Hardy, the Gundamanayakanur Estate Engineer, and this Department provides the funds as ordered in the above Government Orders in the manner prescribed in G.O., No. 1375 W., dated 14th June 1880.

2. Mr. Hardy has been provided with an imprest of Rs. 1,000, and he accounts for the expenditure incurred therefrom to the Executive Engineer, Madura, who incorporates it in his accounts.

Mr. Hardy complains, and I believe fairly, that this imprest of Rs. 1,000 is not sufficient, and that there is considerable delay from the distance he is from the Executive Engineer in the recoupment.

3. The arrangement also adds considerably to the office work in the Madura Division, and as this Department has nothing to do with either the management or check of the work I submit that there is no advantage in this plan, and I request permission to make advances from time to time to the Local Fund Board and that they should make their own arrangements in supplying Mr. Hardy with funds and in carrying out the work.

4. Should this, through account rules, be not allowable, I must ask, under paragraph 1,208, Code, that the sanction of Government may be obtained for Mr. Hardy's imprest to be raised to Rs. 3,000.

No. 71-A.

No. 927 S.E. 6th.

Endorsement on the above.

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with the following remark:—

Paragraph 3.—The Superintending Engineer's suggestion that advances be made to the President, Local Fund Board, may be adopted. The Executive Engineer may be instructed to make advances from time to time, debiting the amounts to "Miscellaneous Advances" in his accounts, and crediting that head and debiting the work as soon as he receives accounts from the President. At present the President is in receipt of an imprest of Rs. 1,000, apparently for the same work, if so, this imprest should be withdrawn.

(Signed) D. C. GORDON,
Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

8th November 1882.

No. 72.

ORDER—dated 10th November 1882, No. 2975 W., Public Works.

The suggestions of the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, are approved for adoption by the Superintending Engineer, Sixth Circle.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Offg. Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Sixth Circle.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Board of Revenue.
" Financial Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

3141/11

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BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of {1882} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated November, 10*th*

Recd. *Encl*

G.O., 10th Nov. 1882, No. 2975W.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 71-72.

Gudulur Ghat Road.

Approving of the proposed arrangement for keeping in funds the officer in charge of the works on the —.

3141/12

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

READ—the following letter from D. C. GORDON, Esq., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 27th October 1884, No. 90 W.:—

I have the honor to submit, for information and orders of Government, notes by Mr. Curry, Assistant Examiner, of his inspection of the office of the Madura division.

2. In paragraphs 8 and 9 of the last report, notice was taken of the matters referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the present report.

3. The office is in good order.

ENCLOSURE.

Notes of Inspection by W. E. CURRY, Esq., Assistant Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Madras, of the Office of the Executive Engineer, Madura Division, on the 13th October 1884.

The Executive Engineer, Mr. J. Grimes, was present, and also the Accountant, Mr. D. M. Dumphy. This office was last inspected in April 1884 (*vide* G.O., No. 1032 W., dated 23rd April 1884.)

2. The pass-book was at the treasury; it should have been present and available for examination.

3. All the accounts, measurement sheets, &c., appear to be well checked; they are very neat and regularly filed.

4. There is no stock in this division. Contractors (who do nearly all the work) are paid for materials delivered as well as for work executed; this involves keeping a "materials at site" account, as noticed in the Trichinopoly division. Contractors' bills, both for work and materials, are always made up by the subordinate in charge of the work.

5. The accounts of the Gúdalúr-Peermade ghât road are now sent up to the divisional office regularly once a month by the Local Fund Engineer, but the funds advanced to him by the Executive Engineer have still been in excess of his requirements.

6. Further discrepancies with regard to materials handed over by this department for the construction of the above road are the subject of correspondence between the Superintending Engineer and the Local Fund Board.

7. This division has now taken over the construction work of the No. I tank division, and also the compilation of the accounts connected therewith.

ORDER—dated 3rd November 1884, No. 2697 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, for the information of the Executive Engineer, Madura division.

2. The Superintending Engineer's attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of the inspection notes.

3. Further information on the subject of paragraph 6 will be awaited.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
Exd. A. Grubert.
Spare Copies

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated November, 3rd.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 3rd Nov. 1884, No. 2697 W.

NOVEMBER.

Notes of Inspection

Orders on —, submitted by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, of the office of the Madura division.

3141/13

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

Read—the following letter from D. C. GORDON, Esq., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 17th April 1884, No. 10 W.:—

I have the honor to submit, for information and orders of Government, notes by Mr. Rainier, Deputy Examiner, of his inspection of the office of the Madura division.

2. The Executive Engineer's attention is necessary to the proper accounting for materials at site, and for issues to works.

3. The result of the Superintending Engineer's action in regard to the discrepancy in materials on the Gúdalúr Ghât Road should be communicated in due course.

—

Enclosure.

Notes of Inspection by H. RAINIER, Esq., Deputy Examiner of Public Works Accounts, Madras, of the office of the Executive Engineer, Madura Division, on the 7th April 1884.

The Executive Engineer, Mr. J. Grimes, and the accountant, Mr. D. M. Dumphy, were present.

2. The office was last inspected by an Accounts officer on the 17th and 18th October 1883, *vide* papers printed with G.O., No. 3196 W., of 12th November 1883.

3. The sub-divisional drawing officers at Dindigul and at Madura send up their accounts regularly and with fair accuracy; the Executive Engineer's general treasury balance on the 31st March 1884 was proved correct.

4. The sub-divisional offices are regularly inspected by the Executive Engineer.

5. The cash accounts, and all relating thereto, were found in very good order.

6. The *works accounts* require some little overhauling in respect of materials.

7. The overseer at the palace, for instance (restoration of Tirumal Naick's palace), only brings into his materials accounts such articles as he has himself bought, omitting all the more important stuff provided by purchase from the Executive Engineer's office, of which no account is kept till the payment for same is made. Steps will now be taken to regularize all accounts of materials on this and other works, as desired at the inspection.

8. With reference to the last part of paragraph 7 of last report, the statement of materials at site of the Gúdalúr Ghât Road since elicited from the Local Fund Board at Dindigul, by the Executive Engineer, shows an aggregate value of Rs. 4,675, of which the Local Fund Engineer admits possession, except Rs. 1,200; this discrepancy is the subject of correspondence now current with the Superintending Engineer, with a view to place the materials balance of the above work on a correct footing.

9. The money applied for by the Local Fund Board, Dindigul, for the above road, has been apparently a great deal in excess of what was spent always, thus sinking the Executive Engineer's available funds to some extent. Care should be taken not to apply for more than will leave a margin of about half a month's normal outlay.

10. The contractor's accounts are in order.

11. The books are all well kept by Mr. Dumphy and his assistant, Narainsawmy Pillay, a very promising man; the *tools and plant* accounts are in order and nothing therein is surplus or unserviceable.

12. The suspense accounts are in a healthy state.

13. The office is in very good order.

ORDER—dated 23rd April 1884, No. 1032 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, for the information and guidance of the Executive Engineer, Madura Division.

2. The report is satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

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

Exd. A. Aubert.
Spare Copies

3141

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated April, 23rd.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 23rd April 1884, No. 1032 W.

APRIL.

Inspection

Passing orders on the notes of — on the Madura divisional office, submitted by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
6TH CIRCLE.

Trichinopoly. 5th December 1884.

No. 516 M.D.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
6th Circle.

3141/15

To

The Chief Engineer
P.W.D.

Sir,

ENCLOSURE.

With reference to G.O. No 2697W dated 3d November/84, and to para 5 of the Asstt Examiner's notes, I have the honor to point out that he is in error in stating that funds for the road from Cumbum to the foot of the Gudalore Ghaut and for the repair of the Gudalore Peermade Ghaut (called by the Asstt Examiner, Gudalore Peermade Ghaut road) are advanced by the Executive Engineer to the Local Fund Engineer.

2. Under G.O. No 2975W dated 10th November/82, funds for these roads are advanced to the President of the Local Fund Board and the Executive Engineer of course advances funds as called on, he has and can have no knowledge

of the President's actual requirements and all he has to do with the work is to advance money when called on to do so to the President and to accept and Compile the accounts of road work when sent to him.

3. With regard to para 6 I do not know what the Asst Examiner alludes to I have had no correspondence with the Local Fund Board on the subject of further discrepancies with regard to materials handed over by this Department to the Local Fund Board, and it is now only that I hear from the Executive Engineer that in June & July last, letters passed between him and the President of the Local Fund Board regarding some materials; the Executive Engineer very properly told the President in his letter dated 14th July / 84 that he the President should deal with any difference in the quantity or value of the materials as accepted by the Local Fund Engineer Mr. Harington in October 1883 and that he the Executive Engineer had nothing to do with any materials said to be missing

by Mr. O. Flaherty (who succeeded Mr. Harington in charge of the work I believe last May). As there has been no further Correspondence I suppose the President has settled this difference between the 2 Local Fund Engineers.

4. I take this opportunity of bringing to your notice that I fear the work of this road has not been done properly. The President has forwarded to me for my opinion some letters from Mr. O. Flaherty in which he states that Mr. Harington greatly overpaid the Contractor in the item of gravel and that the road was in very bad order. I have given my opinion on the papers submitted to me and also recommended that Mr. Harington should be asked to explain, this was necessary as Mr. O. Flaherty's letters were not clear and certainly some of his statements I could not accept. My impression is that the work has not been properly superintended. I do not know what staff has been on

3141 / 16

the work but I do know that there was in the district for some time (and that I believe when the gravelling was in progress) only one Local Fund Engineer who I suppose was able to visit the work only at long intervals.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant.

2 to 1886

Sup.t Engineer, Kandy.

R. N.o 645
11.12.84

Clapham
11th Dec.r 84

No. 2237 D
L. C

Can any explanation be given of the statements made in paras 5 & 6 of the inspection notes printed with Govt. No. 2697 W dd 13th November 84

CB.

DW
10.12.84

P3

No. 679 of 13th Dec.r 84.

To W.

Enc:—

Your O.N. No. 2237 D. dated 11th. December 1884.

See para 9 of report printed with G.O. No. 1032 W. of 23rd. April 1884. The funds demanded from the Executive Engineers are still in excess of what is required by the progress of outlay on the work. It seems immaterial to whom the funds are in the first instance

P. W. D. 6TH CIRCLE.

P.W.C. No 11 of 13

From
The Superintending Engineer,
6th Circle.

To
The Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 516 W.D.

Dated 5th Dec.r 1884.
Received

Enclosure

Kandahar Printed Chart. & Road from Kumbura to the foot of the ghaut.—

Reports on the funds advanced to the President & in regard to materials handed over.

granted seeing that they are for outlay by the Local Fund Engineer on the particular work.

3. The statement in para 6 was made in consequence of what the Executive Engineer was understood to have mentioned at the inspection, it is quite possible there was a misunderstanding.

3141/17 C.

1884.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 10173 — 3141.

From The Supt Engr 1st Circle

ENCLOS.—

No. 576 M.B.

Dated 5-12-84

Received 8-12-84.

SUBJECT.

Gundalur and Perumal Ghaut and road from Cumbum to the foot of the Ghaut — reports on the funds advanced to the L.R. President for

DISPOSAL.

and in regard to materials handed over ~~No.~~ ~~Dated~~ in connection with ——

2697 Wagts Circle

Joc. Can any explanation be given of the statements made in paras 5 & 6 of the inspection notes printed with P.G. No. 2697 W dt 3rd November 84 —

12 of 6B D.W

G.O. 1671 W dy 30-11-82
" 2975 W dy 10-11-82
" 153 W dy 18-1-82

3141/W

No. 3141-W

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 20th December/84

Read the following

Letter from the S.E. VI Circle (No. 516 M.D. dy Dec. 5th 1884)

Office Note from the Ex. Engr. Nat (No. 679 dy 13th inst)

3141/12

The Examiner's note will be communicated to the Supdg Engineer VI Circle.

2. The Supdg. Engineer should request the President L.F. Board to restrict his demands for funds to the amount actually required by the progress of outlay on the work.

3. Para 4 of the Supdg. Engineer's letter will be

18

6

3141/19

communicated to the

Financial dept. ~~for information~~

CS.
20.12.84

Ll.
20.12.84

h
20/12

SE. VI wrote ✓ 21/12/84

Ex. P.W. Kuhn. ✓

Fin. dept ✓

19

10405

Govt. of {1884} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

23/12

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G.O., No. 1884, No. 3141

60

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