6170, 9411. 9460.

Public Works (1896) Department.

G.O., No. 3114 W

DATED 30th October 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Ootacamund Lake Reclamation: Approving the suggestion to increase the rate for earthwork on the project from Rs. 11 to Rs 13/8 per 1000 cubic feet, the proposal to employ a regiment of Pioneers having fallen through; and directing the submission of a revised estimate for the work, ~~with~~

T.C. 30/10.   5/11

[P.W. 25.
2,000—23-10-96.]

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

H.E.

82

Ootacamund Lake reclamation

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

No. 3114 W d/ 30th October 1896.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following

Endt. from the Suptg: Engr: IV. Circle No. 322. W d/7-7-96, on letter from the E.E. Coimbatore Dn No. 2075 d/25-6-96.

From the Dy: Adjt: Genl: Madras Command No. 13/13 6135 d/21-7-96

From the Ex: Engr: Coimbatore Dn No. 2847 d/29-8-96

Pros: of Govt: Political dept: No. 729 d/ 14-10-96.

A.S.H
29.10.96

The proposal to employ a regiment of Pioneers on the Ootacamund Lake reclamation project having fallen through, the alternative suggestion to increase the rate for earthwork from Rs 11 to Rs 13/8 per 1000 cubic feet is approved. The increased rate should be included in the revised estimate for the work, which should be resubmitted for sanction by the Suptg: Engr: with the least possible delay.

1st Reminder issued 10.12.96

28/10/Ph

S.E. IV. Circle. Id 30/10 Cu

[P. W. 40. / 50—2-9-96.]

CH3B 28/10 96.

T. Ah
B

C. No 9460

I.

Do you recollect if the revised estimate for the Ooty lake reclamation scheme provided for increased rates under earthwork, & if so, what rate is proposed?

The estimate has gone back to the S.E., but if your notes, if you have any rough copies will probably show.

Ch
27.10.96

Secy/

The revised estimate did provide for increased rates under earthwork. I think the rate entered is Rs 13.8.. per 1000 cft. please see my note on the revised estimate of Rs 1,11,500 and Comments No. 6006.

I retain no rough notes.

Aho.
27.x.96

6) Department.

CURRENT No. 9460

From
The Political Department

No. 729

Dated 14th } October 1896.
Received 21st }
Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Telegraphing to the Government of India that there is no objection to the Fourth Pioneers leaving Trichinopoly for work on Mandalay Kunlon Railway

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[G / 53]
500—16-8-94.

Political Department.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT, MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following ~~paper:—~~

Telegram from the Government of India, Military Department, dated 10th October 1896 No. 1916 C.

Engineer in Chief Mandalay Kunlon Railway asks for services of a pioneer regiment for work on railway during ensuing open season. Lieut:-General Commanding Madras recommends fourth Pioneers from Trichinopoly be sent. Please wire if there is any objection.

Order No. 729 dated 14th October 1896.

The following telegram will be despatched to Military, Simla:

616. Your telegram 1916 C tenth. No objection despatch Fourth Pioneers for work on Mandalay Kunlon Railway.

(True Extract)

W W Phillips
Ag: Assistant Secretary
for Chief Secretary

13/16/10

Copy to the Public Works department.

Govt. of {189 } Madras.

To

Proceedings, dated 189
No.

Subject.

W C. No 9411

Kallai Reclamation Work

O.S380
G.C. 9/10

The information called for in Memo No: 976 D of 5 Aug. has been supplied, but reply to Memo No: 990 D of 6 Aug. has not yet been received. In the latter Memo, the S.E. was called on to report, under instructions from the Hon. Mr. Bliss, the terms of Mr. Irwin's "contract, and whether there was a time limit and a penalty.

It would appear that the contract is a "piece work" contract. The ordinary form of such a contract fixes no time, and enforces no penalty, but the Ex. Engr. has full power to terminate the agreement if proper progress is not made. Vide Form No K-2 p 296 in the Book of Forms. It may, I think, be assumed that this is the form actually signed by

3. ~~Orders are solicited as to whether this increased rate may be allowed.~~

4. The proposal to bring up Pioneers has since been droppe The cost will be too great even if the men were available, and there are practical difficulties as to house accommodation. Mr. Irwin, it ould appear, is now negotiating ith the Collector of Malabar fo Moplah coolies.

S.

W

E

For a letter from the E.E. IV Cir D. 2847 of 29.8.96

HC.

A.

~~Please~~ ask Press to expedite printing of G.O. on letter from the Supdg Engineer IV Circle D-362 W of 23 July 1896, regarding the accomodation for Secretariat clerks in the buildings at Ootacamund. C.A.W. requires ~~this~~ the orgl urgently which please send up after issue ~~Please therefore arrange to send it at once after issue, original wanted,~~

For HC.
31.8.96.

Tri
31.8.96.

H.C/O.

The paper has been sent to press marked "print emergently."

R.V.
3/9

again write HC 15-9-96

V.E.

H.C.

HC.

M.E.

I wrote to you on the 31.8.96 to ask the press to expedite printing of G.O. on letter from the Supdg Engr. IV Cir D-362 W of 23 July 1896 regarding the accomodation for Secretariat clerks in the buildings at Ootacamund. You replied on the 3rd to the effect that the paper had been ~~marked~~ sent to press marked "print emergently." Since it has not yet been received ~~you have not yet complied with~~. Please ~~expedite~~ send it by return of post CAW requires it urgently.

Maj

HC 15-9-96

Herewith a copy G.O. 2559 W/3.9.96. A copy was ~~put~~ sent up in C.A.'s personal file yesterday. The G.O. has not issued yet as the copies sent to D.S. for signature have not come back yet. 17/9.

write again

Tri

A.C.

Ex. Engr. Coimbatore Dt. letter No. 2847 of 29 Aug 96.

This letter was received on the 31st August, and it has only now reached me referenced. What is the cause of the delay?

R.S.
25 Sep 96

D.W.

This letter was received here on the 31st August and was sent to you the same day.

You wanted to see S.E.'s letter No: $\frac{362}{W}$ d/23-7-96 quoted on Memo: No. 990 D d/6-8-96 and on being told that this was sent to Madras with an A. order you directed that the original of this order should be called for from Madras. A requisition for the early printing of the G.O. and its early return was accordingly sent to Madras on the same day viz 31 August 1896.

The original was received last night and the papers were submitted this morning. The accompanying slips will show that there was not the least delay here.

W.
25/9/96

great delay in [illegible]

The delay was in the Press. It will be seen from the attached slips that the officers did what they could to get the G.O. out. R.S. 1-Oct-96.

HC.

V.E.

Please say with ref to your note of 17-9-96 whether the G.O. 2559 W of 3 Sep 1896 has been issued. A letter from Mr. [illegible] is lying over for the last 21 days. Kindly therefore arrange to send up the original as soon as possible.

Maj

HC
21-9-96.

H.C/O

Herewith. R.V. 23/9/96.

HC
Herewith
S.P.
23-9-96

Tri

R.V.

Will you kindly send me the original
R.V.
23/9

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

~~Grose CE~~

Lake Reclamation READ the following :—

Letter from the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore Dn,
No. 2847 dated Aug 29. 1896.

FOR ORDERS.

× flag A.

1. Ser.
2. Hon. Members should see this.

A.L.H. 11.10.96

22/10/96

* flag B.

24/10/96

+ flag C.

In His Excellency's note ×
dated 2d. August 1896 informat
was called for as to the relatio
act of employing Pioneers on the
Ootacamund Lake Reclamati
work and of raising the rates
of wages to coolies, and, in a
* note in the file of G.O. No. 2559
dated 3d. September 1896 the
Hon'ble Mr. Bliss enquired
whether the contractor, Mr. Spr
was bound to time under
penalty. The information ask
for by the Hon'ble Mr. Bliss
was called for on the † 6. Aug
1896, but no direct reply to
this call has yet been recei
It is, however, clear from the
Executive Engineer's letter No. 2847
29. Aug: 1896 that the contract
entered into with Mr. Sprin

G.C. 9/10 43—50006-3-91. R 16/10 SMC 27 Oct 96 is what in the Public Works Dept is technically known as "piece work" contract, under which payment is made for work done at a stipulated rate only, without reference to a total quantity, or time; but the Executive Engineer has complete ~~con-~~ ~~trol~~ power over the piece worker, and is at liberty to terminate the ontract at any time should he onsider the rate of progress, ~~and~~ or the uality of work or materials to be nsatisfactory. _Vide_ conditions on ‡page 298 of the Book of Public Works Forms.

‡ flag D.

FOR ORDERS.

Considering the difficulties Mr rwin has had to contend with in tarting the work and the unusually et season; he has, I think, done s well as can be expected. With resent rates it will take about months to complete the work, but the rates of earthwork are increased, s proposed by the Executive Engineer, rom Rs 11 to Rs 13/8 per 1000 bic feet, it is stated that more bour could be ~~[illegible]~~ procured, d the rate of progress accelerated; difference in cost would be as llows:-

of 5,685,800 c.f. @ Rs 11 per 1000 c.f Rs 62,543 . 12 . 10
——— @ Rs 13/8 " " 76,758 . 4 . 10
Excess Rs 14214 . 8

3. There is no doubt that the present rates are too low and a revised estimate is now under check in this office.

4. The proposal to bring up Pioneers has since been dropped. The cost will be too great even if the men were available, and there are practical difficulties as to house accommodation. Mr Irwin, it would appear, is now negotiating with the Collector of Malabar for Moplah coolies.

8/10/86

R.S.

W

Public Works (1896) Department.

CURRENT No. 9411

Order

From The Ex: Engineer
Coimbatore Dn.

No. 2847

Dated Aug: 29. } 1896.
Received " 31 }
Enclosures Regd: 20.10.96
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Ootacamund Lake.

=

Submits information in connection with the reclamation of the,

[P. W. 25. / 1,000—4-9-96.] OS360

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	3684W	21.11.88	✓
	1080W A	23.4.89	✓
	2013W	26.7.89	✓
	2066W	29.7.90	✓
	490D	3.7.91.	✓
	1462W	11.5.92	✓
	2076C	13.4.92	✓
	752D	28.8.93	✓
	867D	18.9.93	✓
	2590W	13.10.93	✓
	979W	25.4.95	✓
	1176W	15.5.95	✓
	2889C	5.10.95	✓
	3445C	13.11.95	✓
	3246W	19.12.95.	✓
	846W	7.3.96	✓
	862W	9.3.96	✓
	1494C	17.3.96	✓
	1600C	21.3.96	✓
	1724D	27.3.96	✓
	1141W	31.3.96	✓
	1793W	17.6.96	✓
	976D	5.8.96	✓
	990D	6.8.96	✓
	2589W	3.9.96	✓

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 2847

Executive Engineer's Office,
Coimbatore 29th August 1896

FROM

F. W. Ashpitel Esq

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
COIMBATORE DIVISION.

TO

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. Department
Madras

Enclosures.

SIR,

With reference to your Memo No. 976 D dated the 5th instant I have the honor to inform you that

(1) it will take about 20 months to complete the lake work at the present rate of progress.

(2) If rates are increased more labour could be procured. I regard Rs 13-8-0 per 1000 cubic foot as the minimum rate at which the pieceworker can work at a profit and if rapid work is required the rate should be still further increased.

500—20-3-94.

I do not think that Rs 7000, added to the rates would enable the piece worker to make more rapid progress as in my opinion Rs 13-8-0 per 1000 cft should be given.

(4) Mr Irwin is a piece worker and no doubt the work could legally be taken from him, though morally there could be no excuse for such action. Mr Irwin has stuck to the work and made excellent progress considering the state of the weather and the long continued uncertainty about rates. The quantity of work done is much greater than is visible as large quantities of earth have disappeared into the water. Whatever is done with the revised estimate I request that the increased rate for earthwork may be sanctioned as soon as possible.

2 I may here remark that

the

the rates will not apparently stan a pioneer regiment being brought to Ootacamund as the men requi so many comforts in addition to working pay of 4 annas per day. Mr Irwin is now negotiating with the Collector of Malabar for Moplah coolies and it is believed that he will be able to obtain them in a short time. This action on the part of the pieceworker is, I believe approved by Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt Servt

Executive Engineer

SG. 26/8

PAPERS

P. W. D.

P W CNo

From

The Executive Engineer,
Coimbatore Division.

Recd 31/8/96

To

The Chief Engineer P.W.D.
Ootacamund

Dated 29th
Despatched 29th
Received
August 1896

No. 2847

ENCLOSURES.

SUBJECT.

Ootacamund Lake -
Gives information on certain points in connection with the speedly completion of the reclamation of the -

360

O 71

The question is as follows
At the present rate of progress it is taken
2 years to fill up the lake
as imported coolies cannot
be induced to stay for the
rates offered, for according to
Mr Ashpitel the E.E. the
Nilgiri Railway Co pay double
the rates we offer.
There are objections to a Contractor
dealing directly with the Regiment
& I believe it would lead to
disputes & unpleasantness, I
therefore intend asking Mr Irwin
the present Contractor if he
will be willing to give up half
the work & have it carried
out under Govt.
The accommodation is insufficient
for a whole Regiment as the
detachment of Native Infantry at
Stonehouse Hill cannot be moved
the difficulty can be overcome by
only having 300 pioneers here instead of

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

READ the following :—

Circle, No. 322 W d/7th July 1896.
dras Command, No. B/B. 6135, dated
21st July 1896.

FOR ORDERS.

The question is as follows: At the present rate of progress it will take 2 years to fill up the lake as imported coolies cannot be induced to stay for the rates offered, for, according to Mr. Ashpitel, the Executive Engineer, the Nilgiri Railway Co. pay double the rates we offer.

2. There are objections to a contractor dealing directly with the Regiment, and I believe it would lead to disputes and unpleasantness, I, therefore, intend asking Mr. Irwin, the present contractor, if he will be willing to give up half the work and have it carried out under Govt.

3. The accommodation is insufficient for a whole Regiment as the detachment of Native Infantry at Stonehouse Hill cannot be moved; the difficulty can be overcome by only having 300 pioneers here instead of the

the whole Regiment. 300 men could easily be accommodated on Stonehouse Hill, and with the coolies now -- employed, ought to be able to finish the work in 9 months.

4. It is also doubtful if the 21st Pioneers can be employed on the -- work as the question of moving them to Belgaum is under consideration, but there are other Pioneer Regiments, such as the 4th at Trichinopoly, that perhaps might be spared for the work. I may mention that it will be expensive to employ -- Military labour on the work as their travelling expenses at least one way (Rs. 2500 about ~~almost~~) will have to be paid, and there is also compensation for cost of rice, working pay to officers &c., but if the filling of the lake is to be carried out in a reasonable time it seems necessary either that the rates be increased or Military labour employed.

22/7/96

W.

~~The Hon. Mr. J. Bliss C.I.E.~~ &

~~H.E. the Governor~~

Pioneer Regiment for the Ootacamund Reclamation Works

CAW 3/8

G.C. 24/7

HEADING Special and Miscellaneous

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Ootacamund,
21st July 1896.

It is requested that the heading, number, and date of this communication may be quoted in any subsequent correspondence on this subject.

No. B / B. 6135

From

THE DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL,
MADRAS COMMAND,

To

THE Secretary to the Government
of Madras.
Public Works Department

SIR,

In returning the enclosure of your endorsement No. 759 D of the 15th Instant, I am desired to state that the Lieutenant General Commanding has no objection to the employment of a pioneer regiment on the work referred to therein and, considers that the 21st Pioneers now at Bangalore would be the best regiment to employ, but no particular regiment can enter into arrangements with a Contractor independently of Command Head Quarters, and the proposal to move an entire regiment for the purpose will require the sanction of Army Head Quarters.

2. His Excellency is also of

opinion

C. / 6 400 / 28-10-95.

opinion that it would be more satisfactory if the arrangement for the employment of a pioneer regiment were entered into with the local Government, or at any rate that the payment for the work performed was guaranteed by that Government, it cannot be a transaction between a regiment and the Contractor.

3. As regards quarters for the regiment in this station, I am to state that the Detachment of Native Infantry at Stonehouse cannot be displaced, as it is required for Guard and Orderly duty, and firing salutes, for which the pioneers being at work, would not be available.

4. In this connection, I may mention that since the proposal under reference arose, the question of moving the 21st Pioneers from Bangalore to Belgaum is under consideration

consideration with Quarter Mast General India.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant

S. E. Rolland Colonel
Asst. Quarter Master General
for Deputy Adjutant Genl.

P.W. C No.

Encl 1.

Recd. 21/7

15.7.96. 759 D.
17.6.96. 1793 W
31.3.96. 1141 W
27.3.96. 1729 C.
17.3.96. 1494 C
11.5.92. 1462 W
13.4.92. 2076 C.
29.7.90. 2066 W
26.7.89. 2073 W
23.4.89. $\frac{1080}{A}$ W
21.11.88. 3684 W

Os 27

No. 2075.

Executive Engineer's office,
Coimbatore Division,
Coimbatore, 25th June 1896.

From,
F. W. Ashpitel, Esq.,
Executive Engineer,
Coimbatore Division,

To,
The Superintending Engineer,
Fourth Circle, Coimbatore.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that it is quite impossible for the Contractor to import sufficient labor for the filling the Ootacamund Lake so long the Nilgiri Railway Company pay double the rates of labor, which we can-not afford to give. It has been suggested, therefore, that it would be a good thing to obtain the services of a Pioneer Regiment and I request that you will make a formal application to Government for 600 men or for as many as we can provide accommodation for.

2. There will be no difficulty in providing quarters on Jail Hill and in the Sepoy lines on Stone House Hill provided that the military authorities will allow the Pioneers to displace

the

the detachment of Native Infantry now at Ootacamund.

3. Mr Irwin, the Contractor, has, I believe, seen the Commanding Officer of the 21st Pioneers at Bangalore and has discussed with him the rate to be paid. The Pioneers will merely be required to excavate and roughly fill to the required level leaving all sectioning, levelling and other work to be done by the Contractor.

I have &ca.
(Sd) F. W. Ashpitel,
Executive Engineer

No 361/C.J., dated 28th June 1896.

To, The Executive Engineer
Coimbatore Division.

Is it to be understood that the Contractor will settle and disburse the working pay of the Pioneers and all questions as to outturn of work by them.

The undersigned's experience of a Company of Sappers at Ootacamund was not satisfactory. They gave endless trouble, did little work and Constant disputes arose as to their working pay

pay which was claimed under all circumstances.

(Sd) J. C. Larminie,
Supg. Engineer, 4 Circle.
28/6/96.

No 2142, dated 1st July 1896.

To,
The Superintending Engineer
IV Circle.

The Pioneers are, I believe, to undertake the work by Sub Contract from Mr Irwin. We shall have nothing to do with their pay.

(Sd) F. W. Ashpitel,
Executive Engineer.

No 322/IV dated 7th July 1896.

Copies - forwarded to the Chief Engineer, P.W. Department, for such action as he may consider necessary.

J C Larminie
Supg. Engineer, 4 Circle.
7/7

6479

From,

The Supg. Engr
4th Circle

Ans. 9.7.96

Dated 7:
Rd } July 1896

No. 1753w, d/ 17-6-96
" 1141w, d/ 31-3-96
" 1729e, d/ 29-3-96
" 1600e, d/ 21-3-96
" 1495e, d/ 17-3-96
" 1494e, d/ 17-3-96

No. 322/w.

Enc:—

Ootacamund Lake—

Forwards copies of correspondence regarding a Pioneer Regiment for filling in—

OL-S.2444