Public Works (1897) Department.

Urgent

G.O., No. 1587 W

DATED 11 June 1897

Today

This wanted for Monday morning

11/5

[Despatch Abstract.]

Ootacamund Lake reclamation project: Ap-
proving the proposal to pay Mr Irwin for earthwork
in connection with the — at the rate mentioned; Requesting
H.E. the Lieut General Commanding the Forces to be so good as to state
whether the services of the IV Pioneers can be placed at the dis-
posal of the Ex. Engineer for employment on the lake works
and if so to arrange for its removal to Ootacamund
as early as possible and referring for consideration in
the Local & Municipal & Financial Depts the application
for an addl grant of Rs. 40,000 for the current official year

150/8

9C 691
11

11/6

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government (1897) of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*
Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 1587 W., 11th June 1897.

JUNE.

Ootacamund Lake Reclamation Project

Approving the proposal to pay Mr. Irwin for earthwork in connection with the — at the rate mentioned; requesting His Excellency the Lieutenant General Commanding the Forces to be so good as to state whether the services of the 4th Pioneers can be placed at the disposal of the Executive Engineer for employment on the lake works, and, if so, to arrange for its removal to Ootacamund as early as possible; and referring for consideration in the Local and Municipal and Financial Departments the application for an additional grant of Rs. 40,000 for the current official year.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read—the following paper :—

Report on the Ootacamund Lake-filling by Mr. J. F. Somers-Eve, Executive Engineer.

I took charge of this work on Tuesday the 25th. The plans, sections and revised estimate are under check in the Coimbatore division office, and will not be up here until about 31st. After that I shall like to go into them before submitting them.

2. The work is now being carried on by Mr. Irwin as a piece-worker. He has apparently no agreement, either written or verbal, but he has been working under the understanding that he should obtain a fair profit. He has apparently been unable to obtain much imported labour, and the little he has got, has been unable to keep. This I ascribe to the fact that he has not been able to offer a sufficiently high rate, and has perhaps not given them sufficient comforts. There have been other difficulties such as cholera, obstructions by Municipality and Collector, &c., all of which have made importation somewhat hazardous.

3. In G.Os., Nos. 1709 C. and 125 D., it is stated that "progress is unsatisfactory" and "that something should be done to hasten the work."

I therefore considered the various ways to increase the labour, all of which necessitated winding up accounts with the present piece-worker.

The ways I found were three—

(1) Entering into a contract with a reliable contractor with a time-limit.
(2) Bringing up a regiment of the Pioneers (4th) and utilizing local labour on piece-work.
(3) Throwing the work open to petty piece-work.

I am in correspondence with Mr. Collin Mackenzie as to No. I, but I fancy he will want a considerably higher rate than the one now proposed.

The third way will be indefinite, of course, as to results and will give considerable trouble as to accounts, and will be expensive in the way of hutting if much imported labour comes up, as the maximum number to be allowed in the Native Jail is 200. The second scheme seems to me to be the most favourable, and I therefore enquired of the Military authorities if the services of the 4th Pioneers could be made available. The attached demi-official letter from the Deputy Adjutant-General shows that this is the case.

I entered into correspondence with Colonel Stevens, the Officer Commanding the 4th Pioneers, and he agreed to take up the work on piece-work. The accompanying rough draft agreement will show that this department will have to incur no other expenses than Rs. 1,000 for hutting, and that the usual difficulties attending the employment of Military labour on Civil works will thus be obviated.

In addition to this labour, which will amount to 600 (probable working strength 500), I propose to utilize the local labour under Mr. Irwin or other piece-worker. This should give a working strength of at least 1,000.

4. The Chief Engineer in his G.O., No. 125 D., sanctions the rate of Rs. 15 on the condition that that strength is maintained, and this is the rate I have, therefore, offered.

5. Mr. Irwin, although he has no agreement, should be fairly and properly dealt with, and the Superintending Engineer considered that it was necessary to come to an amicable and satisfactory agreement with him before other arrangements were made, or he was finally settled with.

The only unsettled question was the rate for earthwork, all other minor items having been agreed to by Mr. Irwin and the Executive Engineer, Mr. Malet, and the Superintending Engineer.

Mr. Malet proposes a rate of Rs. 15 for earthwork, and gives data and comparisons for similar work on the plains.

Mr. Irwin was good enough to produce his books before me at short notice, and, after careful examination, I find that if he is paid at that rate he will make a profit of about Rs. 4,500 or 17 per cent. on his expenditure. This I consider not by any means too much for the work done and trouble taken by him, and I therefore recommend its payment, in anticipation of the sanction of the revised estimate. Mr. Irwin states that he is satisfied with the measurements as recently arrived at by Mr. Malet, and agrees to settle up finally on the rates recently fixed up to 29th May. All work he may do hereafter will be settled up finally month by month.

6. It will be necessary before applying for the Pioneers to ensure that there is a sufficiency of money. The budget grant for the year is Rs. 53,069, being the unexpended balance of the old estimate, whereas the revised estimate will be some Rs. 40,000 in excess, requiring an additional grant of Rs. 40,000.

7. It is of vital importance that the Pioneers should reach here before the monsoon breaks, and there is little time to lose. The following points therefore require immediate orders and sanction :—

(a) Permission of the Chief Engineer to pay present piece-worker at the rate of Rs. 15 per 1,000 for earthwork in anticipation of sanction of the revised estimate.
(b) To provide for an additional grant of Rs. 40,000 for the current official year.
(c) To apply for the services of the 4th Pioneers, through Government, on the enclosed terms.

(Signed) J. F. SOMERS-EVE,
Executive Engineer on Special Duty.

28th May 1897.

Enclosure.

In the event of it being decided that the services of the 4th Pioneer Regiment can be employed on the Ootacamund Lake-filling, the following are the draft terms of contract between the Officer Commanding and the Executive Engineer in charge of the work :—

1. *Payments*—(a) Earthwork at Rs. 15 per 1,000 cubic feet.
(b) Blasting rock at Rs. 55 per 1,000 cubic feet.

2. *Tools.*—Mamooties, crowbars and pick-axes will be supplied as far as possible. Jumpers, spoons and explosives to be provided by the Pioneers. If supplied by the Public Works Department, the rate will be lowered proportionately, providing that in no case will the regiment be expected to pay more than Rs. 500 for tools (not explosives).

3. *Plant*—will be provided as far as available and must be maintained by the regiment.

4. *Carriage of troops*—will be paid by the regiment, but an advance for expenses in coming up will be made by the Executive Engineer. Such advance to be recovered in three monthly instalments.

5. *Quarters*—will be provided in the European and Native Jails as personally shown to Major Stevens. Rs. 1,000 will be granted for the purpose of making latrines, forming beds, &c. This is to be spent at the will of the Commanding Officer, subject to the condition that proper sanitary arrangements are made.

6. No other charge whatever will be met from Public Works Department funds, other than payments made for work done, tools and the above lump sum. All other expenses to be met by the regiment.

7. Payments to be made fortnightly or monthly as desired, but the monthly payment is to be a final one. Measurements will be taken by the Executive Engineer or those deputed by him in consultation with the Officer Commanding the Regiment, and the Executive Engineer's decision to be considered as final.

I concur in the above.

Ootacamund,
28th May 1897.

(Signed) G. B. STEVENS, Major,
Offg. Commandant, 4th Madras Pioneers.

No. 292 W.

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer for consideration of Mr. Somers-Eve's proposals.

29th May 1897.

(Signed) J. HANNAN,
Superintending Engineer.

Order—No. 1587 W., dated 11th June 1897.

In the report read above Mr. Somers-Eve, Executive Engineer in charge of the Ootacamund Lake reclamation project, applies—

(1) for permission to pay Mr. Irwin, the present piece-worker, at the rate of Rs. 15 per 1,000 cubic feet for earthwork;
(2) for the services of the 4th Pioneers for employment on the work; and
(3) for an additional grant of Rs. 40,000 for the current official year.

2. The proposal to pay Mr. Irwin for earthwork at the rate mentioned is approved.

3. His Excellency the Lieutenant General Commanding the Forces will be requested to be so good as to state whether the services of the 4th Pioneers can be placed at the disposal of the Executive Engineer for employment on the lake work on the terms mentioned in the draft agreement drawn up by the Executive Engineer in consultation with the Officer Commanding the Regiment; and, if so, to arrange for its removal to Ootacamund as early as possible. It is very desirable that the regiment should arrive before the monsoon breaks.

4. The application for an additional grant of Rs. 40,000 for the current official year will be considered in the Local and Municipal and in the Financial Departments.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle.
" Deputy Adjutant-General, for the information of His Excellency the Lieutenant General Commanding the Forces.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Financial Department, } with copy of note by the Hon'ble Mr. Bliss.
" Local and Municipal Department, } with copy of note by the Hon'ble Mr. Bliss.

Exd. W. D'Moss.

A

From orders

Urgent - 6 P

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

B & R
Civil works

Read the following

Endorsement of the Supdg. Engineer, IV Circle, No. 292/W dated 29th May 1897 forwarding Report on the Ootacamund Lake Filling by Mr. J. F. Somers Eve, Executive Engineer.

No: ~~1078~~ 1587 W d/ 11. 6. 97

Done 11/6/97

In the report read above Mr. Somers Eve, Executive Engineer in charge of the Ootacamund Lake reclamation project, applies

(1) for permission to pay Mr. Irwin the present piece-worker, at the rate of Rs 15 per 1000 cubic feet for earthwork,

(2) for the services of the IV Pioneers for employment on the work, and

(3) for an additional grant of Rs 40,000 for the current official year.

To
The Chief Secy
" Secy, L & M Dept. } For favour of counter-initials

2. The proposal to pay Mr. Irwin for earthwork at the rate mentioned is approved.

3. His Excy. the Lieut.-General commanding the Forces will be requested

(40—4,000—14-3-95.)

requested to be so good as to state whether the services of the IV Pioneers can be placed at the disposal of the Executive Engineer for employment on the lake work on the terms mentioned in the draft agreement drawn up by the Executive Engineer in consultation with the Officer commanding the regiment; and if so, to arrange for its removal to Ootacamund as early as possible. It is very desirable that the regiment should arrive before the monsoon breaks.

4. The application for an additional grant of Rs 40,000 for the current official year will be considered in the Financial ② and in the Local ① & Municpl. Depts.

C.H.B.Y.
Dw
4/6/97.

5/6/97

8/6/97

Rw.

Note L & M. must first consider whether the grants of last year can be diverted as proposed by H.E.

A.W.B.
4/6/97

To

The Suptg. Engr., IV Circle
" Dy Adjutant-General for the information of H.E. the Lieut-Genl. commanding the Forces.
" Examiner, P.W. Accounts.
" Financial Dept } with copy of note by the Hon'ble Mr. Bliss
" L & M Dept. }

18/6/97

H.E. 4 Circ

P. W. Department.

Read the following:—

From the Suptg. Engineer, IV Circle, No. - dated 29th May 1897.

FOR ORDERS.

The arrangements proposed by Mr. Somers Eve are good and will ensure the rapid completion of the work.

(i) The rate of Rs. 15 per 1000 cubic feet proposed to be ~~given~~ paid to Mr. Irwin is fair and I request permission to pay him at that rate pending sanction of the revised estimate.

This rate comes to 6 a. 8 p. nearly per c. yd & seems to me decidedly high even allowing for the lead. But of course I haven't seen the data on which it is calculated
BS

Appd.
A.S.H.
J.G.

(ii) 3. The agreement made with the Officer Commanding the 4th Pioneers is satisfactory and I would recommend that the Military authorities be requested to allow the regiment to come here and take up the work as soon as possible, as it is very desirable that it should arrive before the monsoon sets in.

Appd.
A.S.H.
BS
J.G.

(iii) 4. As regards the extra money required, viz. Rs. 40,000 on account of excess on original estimate, it is certainly desirable that, if possible, that

This matter must be considered in "Financial".
A.S.H.

I don't at present see where more money is to come from except that perhaps we might divert some of the ⊗

43—500-22-1-96.

H.M.S.(U) & (2) 2.6.97 R. 3.6.97
H.E. 31.5.97 R. 2.6.97

that

FOR ORDERS.

that sum should be provided this year; but if this cannot be done, there is ~~still~~ a balance of about Rs. 40,000 to be expended out of this year's grant, and it would still be worth while getting at a regiment of Pioneers.

31/5/97

C. W.

This being the case, I think i and ii may be proceeded with at once, and not necessarily await a decision on iii.

A. H.
1.6.97

BS
3/6/97

3/6/97

(X) large grants were made last year & the year before to the Military for water works, most of which is still unspent. The point should be considered in fin. L. & M. Depts & be submitted [illegible]

BS

O.S. 3/6

The arrangements proposed [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] are good and will ensure the rapid completion of the work.

The rate of Rs 15 per 1000 etc. proposed to be given to the Pioneers is fair and I propose permission to pay him at that rate pending sanction of the revised estimate.

The agreement made with the officer commanding the 4th Pioneers is satisfactory & I would recommend that the Military authorities be requested to allow the regiment to come here & take on the work as soon as possible as it is very desirable that it should commence before the monsoon sets in.

As regards the extra money required this year on account of the [illegible] revised estimate, it is certainly desirable that if possible that sum should be provided this year; but if this cannot be done, there is still a balance of about Rs 40.000 to be expended out of this year's grant and is also due to [illegible]

getting a [illegible] of Persons.

31/5/97

Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 5675

Order

From The Supdg: Engineer
IV Circle

No. 292 W

Dated 29th May 1897

Received 31st — do —

Despd: 11.6.97

Enclosures 2.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Ootacamund Lake. Forwards for favour of orders certain proposals made by Mr Somers Eve in connection with the filling in of the ——

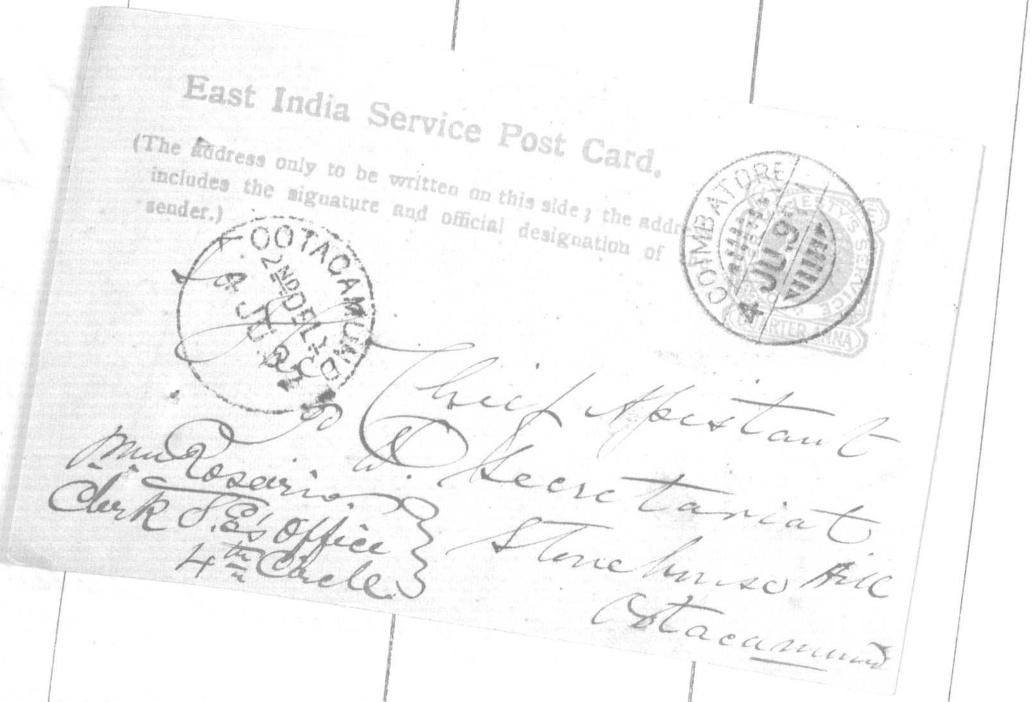
[P. W. 29. / 2,000—16-11-96.] O.S. 3/6

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.



East India Service Post Card.

(The address only to be written on this side; the addr... includes the signature and official designation of sender.)

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE QUARTER ANNA

COIMBATORE 4 JU 9

OOTACAMUND 2ND DEL 4 JU 97

Chief Assistant
to Secretariat
Stonehouse Hill
Ootacamund

Mr Rosario
Clerk S.E.'s Office
4th Circle

DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL MADRAS COMMAND

(A)

OOTACAMUND.
26th May 1897.

1587 W

Dear Somers-Cue

The question of bringing the 4th Madras Pioneers from Trichinopoly to Ooty has been submitted to Sir Mansfield Clarke and I am desired to inform you that if you will move the Govt. of Madras to apply officially for the services of the Regt., His Excy will recommend the proposal to the Commander-in-Chief in India.

If the Regt. comes to Ooty it will be necessary to have a fund

17782

BAC FURTHER PAPERS

No.

of 100 men at Trichinopoly, which will leave for work here about 600 men. It is presumed that this will be enough.

In submitting the official application, it would be well to mention details as to accommodation, payment Etc Etc.

Yours sincerely
G Simkson
D.A.G.

have been other difficulties such as Chola

14786

04.8.2
5675/57

1 P

Report on the Ooty Lake Filling by Mr. J. F. Somers Eve, Executive Engineer.

Pri

Office copy
for supplying

I took charge of this work on Tuesday the 25th. The plans, sections, and revised estimate are under check in the Coimbatore Division Office, and will not be up here until about 31st. After that I shall like to go into them before submitting them.

2. The work is now being carried on by Mr. Irwin as a Piece-worker. He has apparently no agreement either written or verbal, but he has been working under the understanding that he should obtain a fair profit. He has apparently been unable to obtain much imported labour, and the little he has got, has been unable to keep. This I ascribe to the fact that he has not been able to offer a sufficiently high rate, and has perhaps not given them sufficient comforts. There have been other difficulties such as Cholera, obstructions by Municipality and Collector &c &c. all of which have made importation somewhat hazardous.

3. In G.O.s No.s 1709C and 125D it is stated

that

that "progress is unsatisfactory" and "that something should be done to hasten the work."

I therefore considered the various ways to increase the labour, all of which necessitated in winding up accounts with the present piece-worker.

The ways I found were three

(1) Entering into a contract with a reliable Contractor with a time limit.

(2) Bringing up a regiment of the Pioneers (4th), and utilizing local labour on piece-work.

(3) Throwing the work open to petty piece-work.

I am in correspondence with Mr Collin Mackenzie as to No I, but I fancy he will want a considerably higher rate than the one now proposed.

The third way will be indefinite, of course, as to results and will give considerable trouble as to accounts, and will be expensive in the way of hutting if much imported labour comes up, as the maximum number to be allowed in the Native jail is 200.

The

The 2nd Scheme seems to me to be the most favourable, and I therefore enquired of the Military authorities if the services of the 4th Pioneers could be made available.
(A.)× The attached D.O.× letter from the D.A.G. shows that this is the case.

I entered into correspondence with Colonel Stevens, the Officer Commanding the 4th Pioneers, and he agreed to take up the work on piece-
(B) × -work. The accompanying× rough draft agreement will show that this Department will have to incur no other expenses than Rs 1000 for hutting, and that the usual difficulties attending the employment of Military labour on civil works will thus be obviated.

In addition to this labour which will amount to 600 (probable working strength 500) I propose to utilize the local labour under Mr Irwin or other piece-worker. This should give a working strength of at least 1000.

4. The Chief Engineer in his G.O. 125 D, sanctions the rate of Rs 15 on the condition that that strength is maintained, and this is the rate I have therefore offered.

5.

5. Mr Irwin, although he has no agreement, should be fairly and properly dealt with, and the Superintending Engineer considered that it was necessary to come to an amicable and satisfactory agreement with him before other arrangements were made, or he was finally settled with.

The only unsettled question was the rate for earthwork, all other minor items having been agreed to by Mr Irwin and the Executive Engineer Mr Malet and the Supg. Engineer. Mr Malet proposes a rate of Rs 15 for Earthwork, and gives data, and comparisons for similar work on the plains.

Mr Irwin was good enough to produce his books before me at short notice, and after careful examination I find that if he is paid at that rate he will make a profit of about Rs 4500 or 17 per cent on his expenditure. This I consider not by any means too much for the work done and trouble taken by him, and I therefore recommend its payment, in anticipation of the sanction of the Revised Estimate. Mr Irwin states that he

is

is satisfied with the measurements as recently arrived at by Mr Malet, and agrees to settle up finally on the rates recently fixed up to 29th May. All work he may do hereafter will be settled up finally month by month.

6. It will be necessary before applying for the Pioneers to ensure that there is a sufficiency of money. The budget grant for the year is Rs 53,069, being the unexpended balance of the old Estimate, whereas the revised Estimate will be some Rs 40,000 in excess, requiring an additional grant of Rs 40000

7. It is of vital importance that the Pioneers should reach here before the monsoon breaks, and there is little time to lose. The following points therefore require immediate orders and sanction.

a. Permission of the Chief Engineer to pay present piece-worker at the rate of Rs 15 per 1000 for earthwork in anticipation of sanction of the revised Estimate.

b. To provide for an additional grant of Rs 40,000 for the current

official

Official year.

C. To apply for the services of the 4th Pioneers through Government, on the enclosed terms.

J. F.
28-5-97
Executive Engineer,
on Special Duty.

Note – The Chief Engineer personally directed me to submit this note thro' the Supg. Engineer.

A/1

No. 292/W d/ 29 May 1897

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer for consideration of Mr Lomer's Exe's proposals

V Hamilton
Sup. Engr

29.5.97

(B)

Priv. 4 S.P.

In the event of it being decided that the services of the 4th Pioneer Regiment can be employed on the Ooty Lake Filling the following are the draft terms of Contract between the Officer Commanding and the Executive Engineer in charge of the work.

1. Payments.

a. Earthwork at Rs 15 per 1000 Cft

b. Blasting Rock at Rs 55 per 1000 Cft.

2. Tools

Mamoties, Crowbars and pick axes will be supplied as far as possible. Jumpers, spoons & explosives to be provided by the Pioneers. If supplied by the D.P.W. the rate will be lowered proportionately Providing that in no case will the Regiment be expected to pay more than Rs 500 for tools (not explosives).

3. Plant will be provided as far as available and must be maintained by the Regiment.

4. Carriage of troops, will be paid by the Regiment, but an advance for expenses in coming up will be made by the Executive Engineer. Such advance to be recovered in three monthly

monthly instalments

5. Quarters. will be provided in the European and Native Jails as personally shown to ~~Colonel~~ Major Stevens. Rs 1000 will be granted for the purpose of making latrines, forming beds &c. &c. This is to be spent at the will of the Commanding Officer, subject to the condition that proper sanitary arrangements are made.

6. No other charge whatever will be met from D.P.W. funds, other than payments made for work done, tools & the above lump sum. All other expenses to be met by the Regiment.

7. Payments to be made fortnightly or monthly as desired, but the monthly payment is to be a final one. Measurements will be taken by the Executive Engineer or those deputed by him in consultation with the Officer Commanding the Regiment and the Executive Engineer's decision to be considered as final.

(True copy)
J. F. [illegible]
Executive Engineer
On Special Duty.

I concur in the above.

tacamund }
8: May 1897. }

(Sd) G. B. Stevens, Major
Offg. Commt. IV Madras Pioneers