

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2405 W

DATED 30 August 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Remits, withdrawing a sum of Rs. 60000 from the grant to the Chundale Mysore Road in the West Coast Dist. and surrendering it to the Financial Dept. in view of the amount being placed at the disposal of the Resident & Board, Malabar for improving & maintaining the Calicut-Vayittiri Road.

20/30/97

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

2/9/97

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., No. 416 L., dated 26th February 1897.

Read—the following letter from the President, District Board, Malabar, dated Calicut, 16th December 1896, No. 1093-L.F.—Dis. :—

Paragraph 16.— . . . The remaining sum of Rs. 26,370 is the amount of provincial grant required for putting the Calicut-Vayittiri road in order and for reconstructing the Talipoya bridge. This road was handed over to the district board, *volens volens*, in April last by the Public Works Department and it was handed over in bad order. The ordinary maintenance charges are estimated at Rs. 22,600, of which Rs. 6,500 will be covered by the provincial grant as in the current year. But in addition to this, the District Engineer estimates that it will cost Rs. 5,870 to put the road into that condition in which the district board expected to find it when it was made over by the Public Works Department. A further sum of Rs. 14,000 is also estimated for reconstructing the Talipoya bridge. It is not likely to stand more than a year or two, and the Public Works Department, knowing that the road was to pass out of their hands, merely propped it up as a temporary measure. These expenses should have been borne by Government, and I would respectfully request that they may not be shifted on to local funds. In this connection I may state that His Excellency the Governor was addressed on the subject while on tour in Malabar by the Wynaad Planters' Association. In reply, His Excellency was pleased to observe that "he recognised the extreme necessity of having the road in good order. Personally he was inclined to think that in the maintenance of roads like this, which is an arterial highway, the provincial revenues should come to assistance and they should not be left entirely to the district board. If it was necessary somewhat to supplement the grant His Excellency did not think there would be any difficulty in the matter."

Order—No. 416 L., dated 26th February 1897.

Paragraph 3. Receipts.— . . . Paragraph 16 of the President's letter will be referred to the Public Works Department for remarks, and in the meantime the grant of Rs. 26,370 from Provincial funds towards the cost of maintenance of the Calicut-Vayittiri road and the reconstruction of the Talipoya bridge, for which credit has been taken, will be struck out.

READ—also the following papers :—

From G. W. DANCE, Esq., I.C.S., President, District Board, Malabar, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Calicut, 18th June 1897, C. No. 1897-L.F.

With reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 416 L., dated the 26th February 1897, I have the honour to inquire whether the remarks of the Public Works Department have yet been received with reference to the additional allotments applied for from Government for the maintenance of the Calicut-Vayittiri road and the reconstruction of the Talipoya bridge.

2. I beg at the same time to enclose an extract from the District Board Engineer's diary of the week ending Saturday the 22nd May 1897.

"The ghât is badly and deeply tracked throughout and quite worn away in places. A special estimate is now necessary for filling in the tracks in addition to the full allotment required for it this season, which, I trust, may still be sanctioned, or else, the ghât will, no doubt, be ruined."

3. I would again submit that unless the Government can help the board to the extent requested, the road will go to pieces and the Talipoya bridge will fall. If the Government should be pleased to sanction the allotments applied for, it should be soon, or the season for repairs will have passed. Unless road work is done at the proper time in this district it is best left undone. All the metal required for the repair of the Calicut-Vayittiri road ought to have been at the road side by the end of last month. Unless it is collected by the end of August at latest, the work will have to be postponed till next year.

4. In conclusion, I submit that the Government has not only disallowed the special allotment for which the board asked, but it has also struck out the grant of Rs. 6,500 which was given last year.

Endorsement, in the Public Works Department, No. 648-D., dated 29th June 1897.

Read—the following letter from J. HANNAN, Esq., Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 24th June 1897, No. 338-W. :—

With reference to G.O., No. 1014, dated 10th April 1897, I beg to offer the following remarks on paragraph 16 of the President's letter.

2. I consider that the statement made by the District Engineer that it only requires Rs. 5,870 to put the Calicut-Vayittiri-Gudalur road in that condition in which the district board expected to find it when it was made over to them by the Public Works Department a most satisfactory testimony to the good condition of this road, considering that its length is 76 miles and considering also the nature of the climate.

3. I find nothing on record about the Talipoya bridge. But the present division officer Mr. Wood informs me that he has inspected the bridge that it has been propped up as described by the President and that it requires reconstructing. I consider that the President's request that the sum of Rs. 5,870 above referred to as well as the sum of Rs. 14,000 required for reconstructing this bridge should be provided by Government is a reasonable one.

4. I regret very much the delay in submitting this report which was due to the Government order having been lost sight of.

Endorsement—No. 648-D., dated 29th June 1897.

Transferred to the Local and Municipal Department, with reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 416 L., dated 26th February 1897.

(Signed) D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

ORDER—No. 1434 L., dated 26th July 1897.

In the circumstances stated in paragraph 16 of the President's letter forwarding the budget for 1897-98, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction a grant of Rs. 20,000 from Provincial funds towards the cost of improving and maintaining the Calicut-Vayittiri road and reconstructing the Talipoya bridge. Of this amount, Rs. 10,000 will be met from the allotment of Rs. 1,25,000 placed at the disposal of this department under G.O., No. 891, Financial, dated 18th December 1896,

and orders will be issued in the Public Works Department regarding the source from which the remaining sum of Rs. 10,000 is to be transferred. The balance of Rs. 6,370 required for these works should be provided by the district board.

(True Extract.)

H. H. H.
for Secretary to Government.

To the President, District Board, Malabar.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.
" Financial Department.