

Public Works (1890) Department.

G.O., No. 1338 W

DATED 25 May 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Bridges, Revenue Estt on Pros. of the Govt of Wards
sanctioning with remarks the execution of urgent repairs
to the cauvery - at Ewa samudram at a cost not
exceeding Rs. 3000. Recorded with reference to G.O.
1016 W of 21 April 1898.

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Proceedings of the Court of Wards,

Dated 21st March - 1898.

No. 317 Mis.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore dated 12th March 1898.
 To the R.O.C. No. 52 (C) dated 12th February 1898.
 Cw/97

With reference to the correspondence with this office letter No. 52 (C) dated 27th February 1898, I have the honor to report for the Court's information that I understand from the Deputy Collector that estimates have been prepared for the repairs to the Cauvery bridges though they have not been received by me. The abstract of the estimate obtained by the Deputy Collector herewith sent shows that the estimates amount to Rs 20,880 or including the usual percentage charges for establishment Rs

Rs 25,000 in round figures.

2. The work must be completed before the Cauvery rises in floods i.e. before the third week of June next if possible. Considering the present condition of the bridges there can be no doubt as to the necessity and urgency for executing these repairs as already stated in this office letter No 758(a) of 1897 dated 8th April 1897 and the matter has been regarded as most urgent throughout. I had no reason, however, to anticipate that the estimate would be so large, ^{as} Rs 25,000/ or nearly 5 times the amount first estimated by the Local Fund Engineer when I recommended to the Govt for approval the Executive Engineer's proposal to take steps to estimate and execute the repairs in anticipation of the sanction of Government, and asked the Deputy Collector to place funds from time to time at the disposal of the Executive Engineer pending orders. vide my letter No. ^{52(d)}_{CW.} of 27th February 1898 quoted above.

3. I now find that the funds available are insufficient - only Rs 13,600/-

excluding

excluding the reserve balance of Rs 7,260/- can with some difficulty be spared for the purpose by postponing the expenditures on other works to next year.

4. I may however mention that the village of Satyagal is an endowment to enable the grantee to maintain the bridges in good repairs. The cost of repairs forms the first legitimate charge on the revenues of the village which amount to Rs 10,321 including tolls and forest revenues, and as very little seems to have been spent on the bridges hitherto, we are bound to attend to them now.

5. I have the honor to request that in consideration of the urgency and importance of the work the Govt will see its way to allow me to utilize the reserve balance also, and send me orders by telegram. Meanwhile I have asked the Executive Engineer to expend operations pending the Govt's orders.

6. There will not be much difficulty if the ~~if~~ transfer of the management of the villages in Mysore to the Govt of Madras now under correspondence with the

Mysore

by some barbaric order.

7. I request the Court's orders by wire.

The following reference thereon to the Collector of Coimbatore No. 33 dated 16th March 1898.

The expenditure now reported to be necessary is nearly 5 times as great as the amount of work contemplated, and the Collector is requested to report how he would propose to alter the budget ^{allotments} so as to meet it.

2. It is stated that the work must be completed before the Canvery rises in flood, and the Collector puts this date as the third week in June; but floods in April & May are not unusual, and the Court apprehends that if the work is begun at this late date — there will be considerable risk of its being washed away. It desires to be assured by expert opinion, as to whether this risk should be disregarded.

3. The Court has received no detailed report of the present condition of the bridges, or of the nature of the proposed repairs. It desires to know whether it is possible to postpone the repairs for another year; whether the District Board Engineer adheres to the opinion that the bridges might be put into safe repair for about the figure which he named; and whether —

whether the Collector could not arrange for the essential repairs being executed by the Local Fund Engineering Establishment more cheaply than by the Department of Public Works. Information should be collected at once as to the approximate amount which has been spent on the upkeep of the bridges, say for the last ten years, or for any longer or shorter period, regarding which information ^{can} ~~could~~ be got.

4. It is not clear whether 3 or 4 villages were granted for the upkeep of these bridges, and the total income of the endowment is not given. This point should be cleared up.

5. The Court is aware of the importance of avoiding delay, but it is unable to sanction so heavy an expenditure in the absence of the further information now called for.

Read also the following copy of letter from A. B. G. Malet Esq. Exe. Engineer Coimbatore, to the Collector of Coimbatore No. 1096, dated 17th March 1898.

In reply to your No. ⁵²/_{CS}, dated the 12th current, I have the honor to point out that I did not wish to take up the Sivasaundram bridge work. I inspected the bridge with the Superintending Engineer in January and found that parts of it were likely to give way if not repaired before the next floods and

at the extremely urgent request of your predecessor. Chiefly verbal, and with the approval of the Superintending Engineer I sent up the Erode Sub Divisional officer in the latter half of February to prepare the detailed estimate in accordance with my note and instructions and to ^{start} ~~start~~ work in anticipation of sanction.

2. I wired for and got up the plan, I required from Chaddas. The pillars and capital stones have been prepared and judging by what I have recently heard from the Sub Division officer, the urgent work should now be making good progress. It is evident that unless this urgent work is completed, the subsequent expenditure in repairing the bridge will be much greater, not to mention the great inconvenience to trade and traffic if the bridge gives way during the next flood.

3. The absence of the Sub Division officer on this work has greatly interfered with my ordinary work but putting my personal view of the matter on one side, it would surely be better, now that so much of the Sub Division officer's time has been taken up on the work and since a considerable expenditure has been incurred in plan to finish the urgent work, and

make the bridge comparatively safe.

4. I would much prefer to stop the work and not take it up again. I merely put forward the above view for your consideration as being in my opinion the best that can be adopted considering all the interests involved.

5. Expenditure could be restricted ^{to} say, a maximum of Rs 3000 excluding cost of plant and though I have not got the estimate with me to refer to at present, I believe nearly all the really urgent work could be completed for this amount.

6. My estimate of about Rs 21,000 (which I have not yet finally approved) provides for putting the bridge into complete order and includes some new work. You will be at liberty under the above proposals to alter any or all of the items, with the exception of the urgent work, after you get the estimate.

on the above
Recd the following endorsement of
the Collector of Coimbatore P.O. No. 52/99 int
18. March 1898.

True copy submitted to the Secretary
to the Court of wards for favour of very

early orders with reference to Court of wards proceedings
Proceedings No. 33 dated 16th March 1898.

2. It is requested that these urgent repairs not exceeding Rs. 3000 (excluding cost of plant) may be sanctioned by telegram, as it is evident that unless these are attended to now, the bridge is liable to give way in the next floods, and the cost of future repairs will be increased. There will be no difficulty in providing the sum, as Rs. 5000/- is entered in the budget for repairing the bridges. The Sub-Divisional officer is on the spot and unless the work is carried forward it will mean a good deal of inconvenience to the Executive Engineer.

Resolution

The following deferred telegram will be despatched to the Collector, of Coimbatore:—
"Your right Hon^{ble} Shivasamudram bridge urgent repairs not exceeding rupees three thousand sanctioned."

2. It is noted that the above sanction excludes the cost of plant, and is given in anticipation

anticipation of the sanction of Government to the execution of the work by the Public Works Department.

(True copies attached)

Reed
Secretary.

To. The Collector Coimbatore.

Copy to Govt. in continuation
of Refce. No. 28/105 instant.

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