M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1640 Press Mis.

280-287

Dated 17-7-1865.

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

No. 280. Read the following letter from Captain J. G. RYVES, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Waltair, 3rd July 1865, No. 339:—

SIR,

1. I observe in the sanctioned Budget of Local Funds, that of Rupees 78,834 to be expended in the Godavery District during the current year, Rupees 23,100 is set down as to be expended by the Revenue Officers, and only Rupees 44,796 by the Officers of the Public Works Department.

2. On the 6th January last I addressed the Collector on the question of works to be executed by his Department, and (with reference to paragraph 13 of Proceedings of Government, dated 4th March 1864,) informed him that I proposed to have all new road works sanctioned up to that date executed by the Public Works Officers. That I proposed to do the same with all works that might be sanctioned hereafter: but that each case could be taken up and settled when the sanctions were applied for.

3. Besides new works certain of the road repairs and the greater part of the maintenance and extension of avenues in that District will be under the management of the Public Works Department. The amount to be assigned to this Department for expenditure should therefore be Rupees 60,155, as shewn in the margin.

| | | Rs. | Rs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sanctioned new road works | ... | 49,796 | |
| Reserve for do. | ... | 5,359 | |
| | | | 55,155 |
| Repairs in No. 1 Range | ... | 890 | |
| ,, ,, 2 ,, | ... | 550 | |
| ,, ,, 3 ,, | ... | 300 | |
| ,, ,, 6 ,, | ... | 2,260 | |
| For unforeseen works | ... | 1,000 | |
| | | | 5,000 |
| | Total ... | | 60,155 |

4. The small amount of the assignment of Imperial Funds and consequent disproportion of the regular Establishment to the work (including the 60,000 Rupees worth of Local Funds work) to be done, adds another reason why none of it should be taken out of the hands of the Public Works Department: but apart from this, I am certain that the regular Establishment can do the work better and more cheaply than it would be done under the Collector's Establishment.

5. I have, therefore, the honor to apply for a revision of the amount to be assigned to the Revenue Department for expenditure under (District Road Fund) Rule XVII., with a view to its being reduced from Rupees 23,100 to Rupees 13,100.

6. I take this opportunity to note the fallacy involved in the idea that the Local Funds lose by the charge for share of the Public Works Establishment. The Revenue Officers would have to pay at least 10 per cent. for worse superintendence, or else would lose a larger per-centage by bad work and fraud.

7. Moreover, it appears to me that the sensible way of looking at the question is, that Government has a regular Establishment (not likely to be reduced during the current year) which is capable of doing more than all the work for which the Government can supply funds, whether from the local sources of revenue at its own disposal or from the assignments made to it by the Supreme Government: and that until this Establishment is worked up to its full power, it would be bad economy to have any portion of the work done by any other agency even though that agency might do the work as well at a charge of five instead of ten per cent. Whatever the charge was it would be so much extra charge and loss to Government out of the total amount at its disposal for Public Works.

8. It is also a mistake to suppose that the Officers of the Public Works Department do not take any interest in works of local improvement, or that their knowledge of the wants of the people in this respect and their ability to devise the best means for meeting them, are inferior to the knowledge and ability on these points possessed by the Officers of the Revenue Department. In the Godavery especially the Public Works Officers have, for several years past, taken the lead in works of Public Improvement.

Superintending Engineer, 1st Div.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*17th July* 1865.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
12*th July* 1865.

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
*Secretary to Government, P. W. D.*

No. 281.

ORDER THEREON, 17th July 1865, No. 1,640.

Local Funds.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for report after communication with the Collector.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
*Acting Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.

Ex. T. Augustin.

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= vary especially the Public Works Officers have, for several years past, taken the lead in Works of Public Improve-
= ment.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt

Capt. R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, 1st Div.

~~1865~~ 1885.

From ~~P.S.~~

The Superintending Engr
1st Division

To The Secretary Govt
of Madras

Dated 3d
Recd 10th } July 1865.
Rec'd 13th

No 339

Applies for a provision of the amount to be assigned to Revenue department for Expenditure under District Road Funds in 1865-66. —

No 1640 - 17th July
With an Order

Referred

No. 1640.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for report after communication with the Collector. —

14th July Board of Rev
dated 17th July

17th July 65.

27/3

Referred to the Revenue Dept.

Charles H. M. Colonel, Rg.
Secretary to Govt

Fort St George
12 July 1865

Pro. of the Board of Rev
28th September 65 A 2774

No. 280 & 281.

Encl. Ord.