M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2923 Press ~~Mis.~~

659-660

Dated 29—10—1866.

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

No. 659. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Coonoor, 18th October 1866, No. 149:—

1. In reply to your Memorandum, No.—, of 10th October, I have the honor to observe that the Coorg frontier road has not hitherto been regarded by the Collector of Malabar or myself as one which we could correctly class in our Imperial list, although it has found an entry in the District List, and is the only District road in Wynaad on which I have consented to depart from the orders of Government, restricting the operations of the Public Works Department to certain main lines of communication. Strictly speaking, it is a District road of the class, to carry out which Government contemplated the passing of a District Road Act, viz., a communication of vital importance to a certain planting District, and only incidentally useful to the country at large. And in ordering that a pack-bullock road be undertaken when funds are available, I do not conceive that the Home Government had in contemplation such an outlay of Imperial funds as would open the road in a style to suit the real necessities of the planters, and in accordance with which its trace and bridle-path are now said to be nearly completed. These necessities involve the construction of at least a dry weather cart road twelve feet wide on tolerable gradients, to the details of which I have given my personal attention on the spot.

Mr. Ballard's letter, No. 132, of 2nd October 1866, with endorsement of 10th October thereon.

2. On receipt of G. O., No. 3,176, of 5th October, I have made an entry in the Imperial Budget of 1867-68 of the sum of Rupees 37,500, being for fifteen miles of road cut three yards out of the solid, with minor bridges and drains complete, but I conceive that any allotment of Imperial Funds thereon will only be so much money deducted from other Imperial works of more immediate and general importance. Seeing that the Forest Department has some interest in this work, I should propose that its cost be defrayed equally by Local Funds, Forest Funds, and private contributions, that is to say, with Rupees 12,500 each from the Local and Forest Funds, I would open the dry weather communication for carts to the fullest extent possible, leaving to the planters hereafter to perfect the road as they may think fit. The Collector's proposal to transfer from it the Local Fund assignment of the current year I look upon as tantamount to proposing to delay the work for another season. The local allotments of the past and present year's aggregate Rupees 5,000, to which, if Rupees 2,500 from Local Reserve, and Rupees 7,500 from Forest Funds were added, a good show could be made in the current year. Balances of Rupees 5,000 of each Fund will be required for the next year.

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1. Referred to the Revenue Department for consideration.
2. The road appears to be essentially a District line.

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

Fort Saint George,
*22nd October* 1866.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*29th October* 1866.

No. 660. ORDER THEREON, 29th October 1866, No. 2,923.

Miscellaneous.

1. The road is clearly one which should be constructed from Local Funds if any such, raised in Wynaad, are available. On this point the Board will report.

2. The Conservator of Forests will state how far his Department is interested in the road, and what would be a fair contribution on this account.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 2923.

The Road is clearly one which should be constructed from Local Funds if any such - raised in Wynaad - are available. On this point the Bd will report.

The Conservator of Forests will state how far his Dept is interested in the road & what would be a fair contribution on this account.

J D S

19 Oct. 66.

11 Octr. To the Bd of Revenue
21 " Public Works Dept
4 " Conservator of Forests