

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	16	Press
		~~Mis.~~
29.30		
Dated	4 — 1 —	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 29. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th December 1867, No. 7,993.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd October 1867, No. 295 :—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th September, communicating Government Order, Revenue Department, dated 21st September 1867, No. 2,214.

2. I am glad that the issue is now likely to be settled, viz., whether two departments are to undertake one work, the Department of Public Works the masonry works and laying out the roads, the Revenue Department doing the earth works.

3. Under the impression that it was the wish of Government and the Board of Revenue that all Local Fund roads should to some extent be made by the Revenue Department, on the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board, No. 718, dated 5th February 1867, communicating Government Order, No. 3,213, dated 23rd November 1866, I wrote to Major Moberly, asking him for plans and estimates of the roads hitherto proposed, and informing him that there would be from the Road Cess 90,000 Rupees available, and recommended roads from Ramalakota to Yeldurti, Pattikonda, and Maddekerra, Dupad, and Mantral ghaut, and asked him at the same time for plans and estimates, stating these latter works might be carried out by the Revenue Department, and the former by the Department of Public Works.

4. The Board, in paragraph 13 of the Board's Proceedings, referring to paragraph 30 of the Government Order, saw no reason why a considerable portion of ordinary work should not be done by the Revenue Department. I have again referred to paragraph 30 of the Government Order, and see that the Government consider repairs might have been carried out by the Revenue Department. The whole misunderstanding, (for I can call it nothing else,) therefore, between Major Moberly and myself, has arisen from an idea that the Revenue Department might do original works, whereas the Government seem only to contemplate repairs. But as the Board referred to their Standing Circular, No. 75, there is much excuse for the confusion which has taken place.

5. In reply to my letter, No. 20, Major Moberly casts reflections on the Revenue Department of so severe a kind, that I felt it my duty to refer the matter to the Board in my letter, No. 70, dated 30th March. On this the Board passed Proceedings, No. 2,430, dated 16th April 1867, upholding the idea existing in my mind that the Revenue Department was to carry out the earth work on roads, the Department of Public Works tracing the lines and undertaking the masonry works.

6. I have told Major Moberly the idea was not my own, and that I was only carrying out what I considered to be the wish of Government and the Board, and that, as far as I am concerned, I am only too willing his department should construct all the roads.

7. After receipt of these later Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, I had a reminder that I must send in my Supplemental Budget as quickly as possible, as it was due soon after March; but as I considered a Supplemental Budget without plans and estimates useless, I wrote privately to the Secretary asking him what

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8. I forward a copy of my letter to Major Moberly replying to his objections to the Supplemental Budget I sent in. ~~own, and that it was only~~

9. I do not understand why Major Moberly brings Road No. 4 in paragraph 9 of his letter, No. 1,625, dated 9th September, prominently forward, as a mistake apparently on my part for having recommended it, for, the idea is purely his own, as will be seen in his letter to me, No. 3,461, dated 25th March 1867, in which he objected because I had "omitted one of the most important lines of road required in the Kurnool District, viz., from Jonagherry via Pyapally and Rampur Pass to the Nandikanama Pass."

10. I regret I have not personally Major Moberly's acquaintance, and that we have not met, for I feel convinced that half an hour's conversation would have settled the whole of this matter agreeably, and have rendered this lengthy correspondence unnecessary. He was lately in Kurnool, but I was then absent at Cumbum, and when he came to Ayalur, it was impracticable for me to go and have an interview with him.

11. My Local Fund Budget for 1868-69 is due now and I am loath to send it, because I have not been able to settle with the Superintending Engineer regarding the works I would enter in it. I do not see, however, from the Board's Orders regarding Local Funds that it is necessary to send the Budget for the previous sanction or approval of the Superintending Engineer. I have sent a list of works in the same as in the Supplemental Budget, and have received no plans or estimates, except for a culvert and a road dam on the Asperi and Ghooty road, which should be done with funds sanctioned in the Supplemental Budget.

12. Am I to wait for plans or estimates, or am I to send in, as in the case of this last Supplemental Budget, probable receipts and proposed expenditure.

13. It would be a good plan to make it compulsory on the Superintending Engineer to meet the Collector of each District within his range, certainly within about three months previous to the submission of the Budget, in order that the Budget as regards local works may be a conjoint Statement for which both Collector and Superintending Engineer are responsible, and regarding which there is some agreement before it leaves the District.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Superintending Engineer, Third Division, Bellary, dated 18th September 1867, No. 68.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 12th August, No. 1,454. I sent up copy of my letter No. 185, dated 18th June, just previous to starting on a tour of inspection to Cumbum and elsewhere, under a wrapper according to Rule VIII. I see from the records, Mr. Turner also by Docket No. 60, dated 5th September, informed you that the same roads as at present were intended for next year. The copy of my letter you received with Government Order, No. 2,362, of the 5th August 1867, was my report on progress of Public Works and not on Local Funds.

2. I do not know why the Statement of works necessary and the probable amounts available was not sent you in 1866, when I was not in the District. But its not being furnished does in no way account for much of the delay in furnishing plans and estimates; the real cause of which is the course adopted formerly of lump sums being allotted to District Roads which were carried out without plans and estimates being furnished. This the Government now object to, and are unwilling to allow works to be carried out till the plans and estimates have been approved of.

3. I am very willing that the portion of the Kistamshettipally and Cumbum road leading towards the Cuddapah frontier should be made by means of Local Funds, and wrote to you yesterday asking you to let me know from what other allotment you would recommend the sum required to be transferred.

4. I cannot quite understand why you should object so much to the Pyapally and Jonagherry road. It has been partly completed by means of famine funds, and is the only road in this District connecting Pyapally with Patticonda. If this road is not finished, the only way from Pyapally would be via Gooty which involve an extra distance of some ten or twelve miles. Pyapally too is the head-quarters of the Deputy Collector who has charge of Patticonda, and certainly it is necessary that he should have an accessible road there as well as persons from Patticonda to Pyapally who have work to do with him.

If you object professionally to construct the road between Jonagherry and Maddekerra, I have nothing to oppose to your objection, and am quite willing that in its stead a road should connect Patticonda and Maddekerra.

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If you object professionally to construct the road between Jonagherry and Maddekerra, I have nothing to oppose to your objection, and am quite willing that in its stead a road should connect Patticonda and Maddekerra.

5. As regards your paragraph 8, I do not see why you draw my attention to the map. I am convinced the roads might have originally been carried through or near all the larger towns in the district; but as they have not been, it is useless writing on the subject, and all that remains to be done is to connect the towns with the roads at such places as it is necessary. The real reason why the larger towns were not approached nearer by the roads was, for sanitary purposes, for Regiments on the march, for all the chief roads in the district were formerly looked upon as Military roads.

6. I have no objection to have all the roads and public works carried out by your department. My allotments have been made on the Board's order approved of by the Government that the Revenue authorities are to do the earth work, and the Public Works Department to lay out the roads and construct the masonry works.

If you still object, it might be as well to refer the subject to Government, with a request to have it clearly defined whether parts of works are to be carried out by the Revenue and parts by the Public Works Department, or whether, as you say, the Revenue Department should only carry out such works as come under Rule XVII of the Board's Standing Circular, No. 80.

7. Should this question be soon settled, I shall feel obliged if you will let me have a budget of works for next year as you consider it ought to be, to enable me to send a Budget in November to the Board regarding which we both agree.

1. In their Order of the 21st September last, Revenue Department, No. 2,214, Government communicated for the Board's remarks, after reference to the Collector of Kurnool, a letter from the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division regarding the current official year's Supplemental Road Fund Budget of that district.

2. Major Moberly, in the first place, inquires whether he is to have any voice in the selection of works. A reference to the District Road Fund Rules would have rendered this question superfluous. Rule VII distinctly declares that "the selection of works shall be the duty of the Collector." It is, however, the Superintending Engineer's duty by Rule IX to advise the Collector professionally in regard to any work projected by that Officer, and to suggest such works as may occur to himself. Rule X renders it obligatory on the Collector to postpone and refer for the orders of Government any work to which the Superintending Engineer objects on professional grounds. On the other hand, the rules vest the execution of all works in the Superintending Engineer.

3. By this arrangement, as remarked in paragraph 24 of the Order of Government, Revenue Department, dated 4th March 1864, No. 392, "each section of duty is intrusted to the person best qualified to perform it satisfactorily, and the responsibility of each is clear."

4. In point of fact, the Board give due attention to all remarks and objections of Superintending Engineer, and the case of the road from Irunapad towards the foot of the Matticondah ghaut in the very Budget under consideration, is a proof in point. In this instance, though Major Moberly's objections were not of a professional nature, the Board pointed out to the Collector that his views seemed to be sound. The Board passed no decision on the matter, because the information before them was insufficient; but they called for further information, and pending its submission, removed the work from the Budget.

5. The Board think that any alteration of the Rules would be highly prejudicial. The Collector must of necessity know the wants of his district better than the Superintending Engineer, who can only occasionally visit, and has, therefore, but very limited means of knowing its requirements, and the wishes of those who pay the road tax.

6. Major Moberly next objects to sums being allotted for both the Revenue and Public Works Departments on the same line of road. On this point, the Rules are quite clear. Rule XVII declares that, "with the concurrence of the Superintending Engineer," the Collector may himself undertake any work not requiring professional skill. Without such concurrence, the execution of all works rests, (Rule XVI,) as a rule, with the Public Works Department. Mr. Chase, in the letter recorded at the head of these Proceedings, explains that the proposal to execute earth work generally by means of the Revenue Department was made by him under the impression that such was the wish of Government and the Board. There must be very much work of the most ordinary description which the Revenue Department can do well enough, but the Board are of opinion that the Rule had better be strictly adhered to, so that the responsibility may be clearly defined.

7. The Board would also point out that up to the present time they have not received a single plan or estimate, and that the best part of the season is likely to be lost. It is much to be regretted that instead of losing valuable time in the discussion of questions, which did not press for settlement, Major Moberly did not rather arrange a meeting with the Collector and personally discuss the subject with him. As matters are, the Road Fund work of Kurnool is almost at a stand-still.

8. As regards Major Moberly's criticisms on the works included in Part I. of the Supplemental Budget, the Board observe that Mr. Chase has already written to that Officer on the subject. The Board now hope that the Collector and the Superintending Engineer will be able to meet and discuss and settle the points in which they differ.

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1868, No. 16.

Local Funds, No. 1.

Civil Works.

1. The Government concur in opinion with the Board that more careful reference to the Rules for the administration of the District Road Fund, which

expressly provide that "the selection of works shall be the duty of the Collector,

and he shall be responsible for the same," and that "it shall be the duty of the "Superintending Engineer to advise the Collector professionally in regard to any "work projected by him," "to suggest the execution" of any desirable works, to cause plans and estimates to be prepared on the application of the Collector, and to arrange for "the execution of all work" save what with his concurrence is undertaken by the Collector, would have removed Major Moberly's doubts and rendered unnecessary any reference to Government.

2. The delay that has been caused in the progress of the works is greatly to be regretted.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Department Public Works.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

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3. By this arrangement, as remarked in paragraph 24 of the Order of Government Revenue Department, dated 4th March 1864, No. 392, "each section of duty is intrusted to the person best qualified to perform it satisfactorily, and the responsibility of each is clear."

4. In point of fact, the Board give due attention to all remarks and objections of Superintending Engineer, and the case of the road from Irunapad towards the foot of the Matticondah ghaut in the very Budget under consideration, is a proof in point. In this instance, though Major Moberly's objections were not of a professional nature, the Board pointed out to the Collector that his views seemed to be sound. The Board passed no decision on the matter, because the information before them was insufficient; but they called for further information, and pending its submission, removed the work from the Budget.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

W. H. H. H.
Secretary.

the Superintending Engineer, Third Division.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

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82.16.

W.D. The for. Commission in office in 1872

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Passing remarks on letter from Collector of Kurnool on the subject of certain works entered in Local Fund Budget for 1867-68, and expressing a hope that the points in which they differ will be personally discussed and settled by the Collector and Superintending Engineer.

No. 7,993.

Dated 11th December 1867.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No. 2409

1867.

Department.