M.R.O. 1—39,000—18-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2865 Press
~~Mis.~~
265-268

Dated 14th November 1968

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following :—

No. 265. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th February 1868, No. 900.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Tadpatri, 6th January 1868, No. 4.

1. I have the honor to request the sanction of the Board of Revenue for transferring the District Post Runners from Humpasaugur, Huvinhudgully, and Hurpanhully, to Kudlighi, Hurpanhully, and Huvinhudgully.

2. The present arrangement works badly. Ramandroog General Post Office is the forwarding office; there is a District line from Ramandroog to Kudlighi. The General Post Runners take, or often do not take, the letters which come from Hurpanhully viâ Hudgali to Humpasaugur. Five days often lapse in the receipt of Hurpanhully letters at Bellary viâ Ramandroog. Twenty-five miles are carried by the General Post Runners from Ramandroog to Humpasaugur, but there is no Post Office there, and the runners are not supervised, as regards bringing the Hurpanhully and Hudgali letters from Humpasaugur.

3. From Humpasaugur to Huvinhudgully is 10 miles; the District Post from Huvinhudgully is carried from Humpasaugur to Bellahoonsi, and thence to the Ramandroog by the Dharwar line.

4. There would be the 10 miles from Huvinhudgully to Humpasaugur to be put against the 28 miles from Kudlighi to Hurpanhully, shewing an increase of 18 miles. Three runners, at Rupees 5 = Rupees 15 × 12 = Rupees 180, would be the increased annual expense. The post would come through established offices, and no longer be liable to delays.

5. I propose a saving by abolishing the District Post line from Anantapur to Bellary; that District Post has a direct communication, viâ Ooravaconda, with Bellary; but in point of fact, the letters take longer by that direct route, than by the general post route, viâ Gooty.

6. From Gooty to Ooravaconda is 27 miles. From Anantapur, viâ Ooravaconda, to Bellary is 60 miles.

	No.	RS.	RS.
Runners	12 × 5 Rupees	= 60 × 12 =	720 annually.
Deduct from Gooty to Ooravaconda.	5 × 5 „	= 25 × 12 =	300 „
		Total saving ...	420
Increased expenses of the District Post from Bellary to Hurpanhully, viâ Kudlighi			180
		Net decrease ...	240

7. The reason why I would abolish the District Post at Anantapur is, that there is a General Post Office there. If letters are sent from Anantapur to Bellary direct, viâ *District Post* by Ooravaconda, they take two days longer; they are sometimes lost; the runners cannot be fined, or they resign, and others cannot be got. This post I have found by experience to be simply mischievous as a direct communication between Bellary and the Sub-division; people put in letters at Anantapur

District Post Office for Gooty, and by this post they have been carried round by Bellary, going 110 miles instead of 32.

8. The saving made by my plan will help to form an asset for increasing the pay of the District Post Runners. When an able-bodied man for an ordinary day's work gets Rupees 7 and 8 per mensem, it is vain to expect that we can get efficient runners to go 10 or 12 miles every day in the year, at Rupees 5 per mensem. The very inefficient state of the District Post is attributable to the insufficient salaries; these runners if fined for delay resign, and their places cannot be filled by any better men.

9. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Postmaster General, for his remarks.

The Board await the receipt of the Postmaster General's remarks alluded to in the concluding part of the Collector's letter.

No. 266. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th April 1868, No. 3,096.

Read again letter from the Collector of Bellary, dated 6th January 1868, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, dated 6th February 1868, No. 900.

Read also the following letter from the Postmaster General, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 19th February 1868, No. 4,926-8,170.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board, No. 900, of the 6th instant.

2. I find that, on the extension of the Railway to Tadpatry or Gooty, the line between Ramandroog and Humpasaugur will be unnecessary as a general post line, for the very few general post packets that pass upon it could conveniently be sent round by the Railway, viâ Bangalore and Hurryhur. If this line is abolished, as I propose to do, it will in no way interfere with Mr. Wedderburn's plan for improving the District Post lines; but it will be necessary for him to provide an establishment of District Post Runners instead of the General Post Runners between Ramandroog and Humpasaugur.

3. With regard to his proposal for the abolition of the direct District Post line between Bellary and Anantapur, viâ Ooravaconda, and the abolition of the District Post Office at Anantapur, he has, in another letter to me, No. 1,475, of the 20th December last, proposed the abolition of the General Post line between Gooty and Anantapur, and the opening in its stead of a General Post line between Tadpatry and Anantapur, and the transfer of the Imperial Post Office from the latter to the former station. I fully approve of these arrangements, except that I intend to continue the General Post Office at Anantapur, and open a new one at Tadpatry, to which the Railway is about to be extended very soon.

4. I am about to submit a proposal for the closing of District Post Offices at all stations where Regular Post Offices are now maintained, and I see no objection to the District Post Office at Anantapur being closed at once.

In the first of the foregoing papers, the Collector of Bellary proposes to dispense with the District Postal line between Humpasaugur and Huvinhudgully, and to open a new line connecting Kudlighi with Hurpanhully. He also proposes to entertain three extra runners on the latter line, at a cost of Rupees 180 per annum, besides transferring the two runners now entertained on the line proposed to be dispensed with. To meet this additional cost, he suggests the abolition of

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14th November 1868.

the District Post between Anantapur and Bellary, as the general post from the former place, viâ Gooty, carries the packets much more expeditiously than the direct District Post. The Postmaster General, to whom the Collector's letter was forwarded for remarks, observes that, on the extension of the Railway to Tadpatry or Gooty, the line between Ramandroog and Humpasaugur will be unnecessary. He also proposes certain other changes in the lines. Before passing final orders on the Collector's letter, the Board resolve to request that the Collector will re-consider his proposition with reference to the remarks of the Postmaster General, and submit a matured scheme for final orders.

2. In paragraph 6 of his letter, the Collector states that there are at present twelve runners on the lines from Gooty to Ooravaconda and Anantapur to Bellary, viâ Ooravaconda. This number is one less than the number allowed under Mr. Pelly's scheme, where three runners are given for the one, and ten for the other line.

3. The Board are not disposed to entertain the Collector's proposal in paragraph 9 of his letter, in regard to increasing the pay of the runners, as the scale of pay has been finally fixed for the several districts of the Presidency.

No. 267. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th October 1868, No. 7,266.

Read again letter from the Collector of Bellary, dated 6th January 1868, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, dated 6th February 1868, No. 900.

Read again letter from the Postmaster General, Madras, dated 19th February 1868, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, dated 28th April 1868, No. 3,096.

Read also the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 30th July 1868, No. 177.

1. As directed in paragraph 1 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,096, of the 28th April, I have the honor to submit a revised scheme for the improvement of the District Postal arrangements in the Western Division.

2. The appended sketch will serve to illustrate the proposed arrangements.



There is at present an Imperial Post Office at Ramandroog, and a General Postal line of communication between it and Humpasaugur; but as the Postmaster General has intimated his intention of doing away with this line, we need not take it into calculation. There is also a District Post from Ramandroog which diverges from the Humpasaugur road at Tamberhully and goes on to Hudgali and Hurpanhully. There is also another postal line between Ramandroog and Kudlighi; but there is no postal communication between the two cusbahs of Kudlighi and Hurpanhully, and a letter from the latter to the former place has to go all the way round by Hudgali and Ramandroog, and *vice versa*, a distance of seventy-six miles, although the two places are only twenty-eight miles apart.

3. It is now proposed to abolish the line between Ramandroog and Huvinhudgully, and to send the mails for the latter place, viâ Kudlighi and Hurpanhully. This will involve the opening of a new line between Kudlighi and Hurpanhully, distance twenty-eight miles, which set against the thirty-nine miles to be abolished gives a saving of eleven miles. Six runners are now employed between Ramandroog and Hudgali, and these it is proposed to transfer to the new line between Kudlighi and Hurpanhully, and to give an extra runner (there are now three) between Ramandroog and Kudlighi. There will thus be ten runners on the forty-eight miles between Ramandroog and Hurpanhully, each having a stage either way of about five miles. It is necessary that these stages should be short, as the bags will be heavy owing to their containing the mails for three cusbahs. No alteration is necessary on the line connecting Hurpanhully with Hudgali, as the bags will not be heavy between those places.

4. It is intended that the mails for Kudlighi, Hurpanhully, and Huvinhudgully shall be made up at the Imperial Post Office at Ramandroog, and despatched each morning at 8 o'clock, or, as soon after as the Bellary mail may arrive, so as to reach Kudlighi at 10 A. M., and Hurpanhully on the evening of the same day. They will remain there for the night, and go on to Hudgali early the following morning, where they ought to arrive about 10-30. The return mail will be arranged so as to arrive at Ramandroog immediately before the despatch of the Imperial post to Bellary. The additional annual cost entailed by this arrangement will be Rupees 60 per annum, for which there is ample provision if Mr. Wedderburn's other suggestion is carried out.

5. This proposal is to dispense with the District line between Bellary and Anantapur, viâ Ooravaconda, as those places are already connected by an Imperial line, viâ Gooty. To avoid delay, I had all my letters forwarded to me by this route, during my recent tour in the Sub-division. By its abolition a saving of Rupees 600 per annum will be effected, and it is really not required.

6. A portion of the money thus saved I propose to utilize with the sanction of the Board in the re-establishment of a District Postal line between Bellary and the Cusbah of Allur. Letters for the latter place and for Adony were, up to about a year ago, conveyed by the Imperial line connecting Bellary and Kurnool; but since its abolition the mail for Allur has been conveyed by Revenue Peons who cannot any longer be spared from their legitimate work. The distance is twenty-eight miles, over which I propose to employ six runners, at an annual cost of Rupees 360. I do not think the duty could be efficiently performed with a less number, as, at one of the stages, the Huggry river has to be crossed at its broadest part, and a mile of drift sand was to be traversed as well. The financial results of the proposed arrangements will be as follow:—

Dr.	RS. A. P.		*Cr.* RS. A. P.
To additional runner between Ramandroog and Kudlighi.	60 0 0	By abolition of Bellary and Anantapur line	600 0 0
To six do. at Rupees 60 between Bellary and Allur ...	360 0 0		
To saving to Government ...	180 0 0		
	600 0 0		600 0 0

7 In an extensive district like Bellary, I need hardly point out how important it is to have efficient postal communication, and although the reason of its having been a byeword hitherto is mainly in consequence of the insufficient remuneration of the runners, there are other causes for the delay in the transmission of letters which are susceptible of remedy, if the Board are prepared to support me on what I am going to propose. At present, not only public letters and Gazettes are carried by the District Post, but the runners are over-weighted with large bundles of puttahs, stamped-papers, Muchilkas, &c., &c., so that the wonder is not that the post is delayed, but that it ever arrives at its destination. I think that documents of this description should be forwarded by cooly, the hire being charged in a Contingent Bill, and I trust that the Board will take the same view. If the weight of the mail bags is unrestricted, it is a positive injustice to fine the runners (ill-paid as they are) for not carrying rapidly a load which they can barely stagger under. The restrictions as to weight and size in force on the Imperial Postal lines should be applied to the District Post; above that the packets should be treated as parcels and forwarded by cooly.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. In the first of the papers above recorded, the Collector proposed to dispense with the District Post between Humpasaugur and Huvinhudgully, and to open a new line connecting Kudlighi with Hurpanhully. He also proposed certain other alterations; but the Board in their Proceedings, dated 6th February 1868, deferred passing any orders on the subject, till the Postmaster General's remarks on the Collector's propositions were received.

3. In the second letter recorded above, the Postmaster General proposed certain other changes consequent on the proposed extension of the Railway to Tadpatry or Gooty, and this letter was referred to the Collector for his re-consideration and submission of a matured scheme for final orders.

4. In his letter of the 30th July, Mr. Sullivan submits his final proposals for the alterations to be made in the District Postal arrangements of his district. The first of the changes he proposes is; the abolition of the line between Ramandroog and Huvinhudgully, and the despatch of mails for the latter place, viâ Kudlighi and Hurpanhully, which involves the opening of a line between the two last places, a distance of twenty-eight miles. The Collector proposes to transfer the six runners now employed between Ramandroog and Hudgali to the line between Kudlighi and Hurpanhully, and to employ an additional runner on the line between Ramandroog and Kudlighi. The Board are not disposed to acquiesce in this last measure, as there are at present four runners on the line, and not three as stated by the Collector.

5. The Collector's next proposal is to dispense with the District Post between Bellary and Anantapur, viâ Ooravaconda, as those places are already connected by an Imperial line, viâ Gooty. The abolition of this line will effect a saving of 600 Rupees per annum, and the Collector proposes to utilize a portion of this amount in the re-establishment of a District Post line between Bellary and the Cusbah of Allur: since the abolition of the Imperial Post between Bellary and Kurnool, the packets are carried by Revenue Peons, who cannot any longer be spared

from their proper duties. The length of the new line now proposed is twenty-eight miles, and Mr. Sullivan considers that six runners will be needed. The Board agree with the Collector in the necessity of this new line, and accordingly request the sanction of Government for the entertainment of six runners, at an annual cost of Rupees 360, the charge being met from the saving of Rupees 600 effected by the abolition of the line between Bellary and Anantapur. They also request sanction for the transfer of the six runners now employed between Ramandroog and Hudgali to the line between Kudlighi and Hurpanhully.

6. In the concluding paragraph of his letter, Mr. Sullivan brings to notice that the runners are over-loaded with large bundles of puttahs, stamp-papers, &c., which often delays the post; these packages are said to be frequently lost, and the Collector suggests their transmission by coolies. He also proposes to restrict the weight and size of the District Post packets as in the case of the Imperial Post. The Board are not prepared to adopt the Collector's suggestions on this point. Puttahs and stamp-papers are not transmitted every day, and when large quantities have to be sent they might conveniently be made up in packets of small sizes, and transmitted by two or three instalments, the size and weight of the daily mail being strictly regulated. The Collector can, of course, issue such orders as may be necessary for preventing the runners being over-weighted, and it is his duty to take care that they are not unjustly fined.

No. 268. ORDER THEREON, 14th November 1868, No. 2,865.

Miscellaneous.

1. Agreeably to the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, the Government sanction the following alterations in the District Dâk lines of the Bellary District:—

(1.) The abolition of the line between Ramandroog and Huvinhudgully.

(2.) The opening of a new line between Kudlighi and Hurpanhully, transferring to it the runners hitherto employed between Ramandroog and Huvinhudgully.

(3.) The abolition of the line between Bellary and Anantapur, viâ Ooravaconda.

(4.) The re-establishment of the line between Bellary and the Cusbah of Allur, entertaining six runners at an annual cost of Rupees 360, to be met out of the saving of Rupees 600 effected by the abolition of the line between Bellary and Anantapur.

2. The Government observe that the financial result of these arrangements will be a saving of Rupees 240 per annum.

3. In paragraph 6 of their Proceedings, the Board disapprove the Collector's suggestion that large bundles of puttahs, stamp-papers, &c., which often delay the post, should be transmitted by coolies. The Board have apparently overlooked the Order of Government, dated 28th November 1860, No. 2,263,* which contains a ruling on the subject. In paragraph 6 of that Order the Government remarked, that one of the causes of delay "is the transmission by District Dâk of heavy dufters or baskets," and directed that "such heavy dufters should not be sent

* Board's Standing Order No. 24.

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14th November 1868.

by Dâk;" that "they should be sent by toties or coolies;" and that "the mail should not be allowed to exceed the weight of eighteen pounds." This Order meets the difficulty stated by Mr. Sullivan, and his attention should be directed to it. The alternative course suggested by the Board, viz., that when large quantities of puttahs and stamp-papers have to be sent, they might conveniently be made of small sizes, and transmitted by two or three instalments, the size and weight of the daily mail being strictly regulated, should be followed whenever practicable, but the quantity of puttahs requiring to be transmitted at certain times of the year must occasionally be too large to be divided as proposed. Stamp-papers should, as a rule, be sent by post.

4. In paragraph 7 of the Order above referred to, the Government remarked that "another cause of delay is the abuse of the privilege of franking, public servants sending private letters, and even packets, free, and so over-loading the mails," and suggested measures for stopping this practice. The Board of Revenue will be requested to report whether any rules have been laid down on the subject for the guidance of the District Officers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 14th.

Read.

Encl.

G. O., 14th November 1868, No. 2,865.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 265-268.

Bellary District Dak lines.—Alterations recommended by the Board of Revenue sanctioned. Board to report whether any rules have been laid down to prevent the abuse of the privilege of franking.

Y

Revenue Department

No. 2865.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 14 ~~October~~ Novr 1868.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting for orders correspondence containing proposals for improvement of Postal arrangements in Bellary District. (H.E. 12th Octr/68 No. 7266)

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Board of Revenue, the Government sanction the following alterations in the District Dak lines of the Bellary District.

(1) The abolition of the line between Ramandrug and Huvinhudgully.

The

(2) The opening of a new line between Kudlighi and Aunpanhully, transferring to ~~this line~~ it the runners hitherto employed between Ramandrug and Aunihedgully.

(3) The abolition of the line between Bellary and Avantapur via Ooravacondah.

(4) The re-establishment of the line between Bellary and the cusbah of Allur, entertaining six runners at an annual cost of Rs. 360 to be met out of the saving of Rs. 600 effected by the abolition of the line between Bellary and Avantapur.

2. The Government observe that the financial result of these arrangements will be a saving of Rs. 240 per annum.

3 In para 6 of their Proceedings the Board disapprove ~~the suggestion~~ of the Collectors suggestion that

that large bundles
of Puttahs, Stamp
papers, &c. which
often delays the post
should be transmitted
by coolies. The Board
have apparently
overlooked the order of
Govt dated 28th
November 1860, No 2263, which
contains a ruling on the
subject. In para 6 of
that order the Govt re-
marked that one of
the causes of delay" is
the transmission by Dak Dâk
of

x Bks St. Order No 24
Revised edition of the Bd's
C. O. Page 11.

Mere - always quote the
number of the St. Order - There
are five editions of the book
and the pagings is different in
each.

4

of heavy duffers or baskets"
and directed that "such
heavy duffers should not
be sent by Dak, that
"they should be sent by
toties or coolies" and that
"the mail should not be
allowed to exceed the
weight of eighteen pounds".
This order meets the dif-
ficulty stated by Mr
Sullivan, and his attention
should be directed to it.
The alternative course suggested by the Bd.
viz, that when large quan-
tities of puttahs and
stamp papers have to
be sent, they might con-
veniently be made of
small sizes, and trans-
mitted by two or three
instalments

instalments, the size and
weight of the daily mail
being strictly regulated
should
(may) be followed when-
ever practicable, but the
quantity of matters re-
quiring to be transmitted
at certain times of the
occasionally
year must be too large
to be divided as proposed
~~into two or three small packets for~~
~~transmission by post.~~
should as a rule, be
Stamp papers ~~may be~~
sent by post, but when
ever coolies are unavoid-
ably employed, care
should be taken to
guard against their
loss.

Lord Comd Mus -

N.

4. In para 4 of the
above referred to
order the Govern-
ment remarked that
"another cause of delay
is the abuse of the pri-
vilege of franking. Public
servants sending private
letters and even packets
free, and so overloading
the mails, and suggested
measures for stopping
this
practice. The Board of
Revenue will be re-
quested to report
any rules have been
laid down on the sub-
ject for the guidance of
District Officers
the ~~Collectors~~

Shortly

14. Bd of Revr. Sept 1800 No
6 Acct Genl 51

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Ed Accts &c

Revenue 1868 Dept.

No. 2865

Proceedings of the
Madras Government

Dated 14th November 1868.

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