Rec'd 5 March 1869 ℔ 116-7

Rev. 1869 Dept
№ 2570
Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

1st Division.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July 29th.

Recd. 6-31st Encl.

G. O., 29th July 1869, No. 2,496.

JULY.

Nos. 716-717

Read.—The line proposed by Captain Beckley for the road from Ganjam towards Sonepore, considered undesirable, for the reasons given.

№ 34

Communicated to the Revenue Board

14 Letter Ord. Dn. with Ord. Dn. 24 Dec. 1868 Dept. № 2570

No. 716. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 28th May 1869, No. 847 :—

Sketch Map.

THE Executive Engineer on special duty at Ganjam, to whom copy of G. O., No. 622, dated the 25th February last, was communicated, informs me that he does not consider that the best line for a road from the Ganjam coast to Sonepore and Sumbalpore in the Nagpore territories, lies through Russelcondah, as a road by that route taken through the Khond Hills would be very expensive and difficult to construct, and would be troublesome to keep in repair, but that the proper line of communication should pass through Poorshotapore, Bullipudra, Kurcholly, Sonepore, and Sumbalpore; the road from Ganjam up to Kurcholly, a distance of fifty-seven miles, having been already made and bridged.

2. Captain Beckley believes, that under some misapprehension it is supposed that the village of Kurcholly lies on the Bengal frontier, whereas in reality it is nine miles this side of it, and that this nine miles of road can be easily made, but would hardly be worthwhile doing so, unless the Government of India take up the work on the other side.

3. It is further reported that there are no ghauts or serious obstructions on the line of this road from the fact of carts, with heavy loads of salt, going the whole way to Sumbalpore. During the dry weather the traffic on this road is very heavy. According to late returns the daily average being—

Laden bandies, ...	215
Unladen do, ...	186
Laden bullocks, ...	184
Unladen do, ...	158

and were the road made, this heavy traffic of grain and salt would be increased and continued throughout the year.

4. Captain Beckley is moreover of opinion that this road should be made also on Military grounds, being the direct communication between Berhampore and Sumbulpore, and further as the 31st Madras Light Infantry are at present divided between these two stations.

5. A sketch map of the line of road proposed by Captain Beckley is herewith forwarded, and if Government are pleased to take up the matter now, the survey and estimate for the remaining portions in the Madras territories will be put in hand as soon as possible.

No. 717. ORDER THEREON, 29th July 1869, No. 2,496.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 105.

As it has been definitively decided that the imperial road from Ganjam towards Sonepore should follow the line by Russelcondah, Mojagodoo, Durgapersaud, Kalingiah and Sunkerkole, up to which place the road has been nearly completed with a heavy outlay, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers it undesirable to undertake the construction

of a new line of communication in the direction indicated by Captain Beckley, while money is so greatly required for the completion of much needed roads throughout the Presidency.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.