M.R.O. 1—50,000—14-10-99.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 571 Press ~~Mis.~~

116 - 117

Dated 5th March ~~19~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

571

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th March 1869.

No. 116. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department :—

Passing orders on the letter from the Government of Bengal, regarding the proposed road from Sunkurkole to Sonepore. } (Here enter 25th February 1869, No. 622.)

No. 117. ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1869, No. 571.

Miscellaneous. Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Cart. of 1869 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

Dated March, 5th.

Recd. Read.

G. O., 5th March 1869, No. 571.

From the Supt. Engineer for Revision of 22 May 1869 No. 2,000 Rs. 7,500 [illegible]

MARCH.

Nos. 116-117.

Road from Sunkurkole to Sonepore.—Order on letter from Government of Bengal regarding its proposed construction, recorded.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 25th February 1869.

No. 619. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, (Communications,) to the Secretary to Government of Fort St. George, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 23rd January 1869, No. 318:—

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 3,817, dated 7th ultimo, regarding the proposed road from Sunkurkole to Sonepore; and in reply I am to observe that the only at all definite engagement entered into by the Bengal Government for the construction of this road appears to be that made in 1865 to provide Rupees 87,500, if the Madras Government would supply all the necessary establishment and any further funds that might be required to carry out the work; (*vide* the accompanying copy of a letter to the Government of India, No. 2,883, dated the 7th June 1865, which perhaps was not communicated to the Madras Government at the time). This arrangement was, however, declined by the Madras Government in Colonel Orr's letter, No. 2,506, dated 29th August 1865.

2. I am further to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor of Madras, that, as the demands on the Government of Bengal for Public Works have greatly increased since the above offer was made, the Lieutenant-Governor regrets that he is not in a position to repeat it; but should the Madras Government desire to construct the road, and be able to provide the requisite funds and establishment, His Honour would gladly co-operate in any other way that might lie in his power.

From the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, (Communications,) to the Secretary to Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 7th June 1865, No. 2,883.

1. In continuation of paragraph 2 of my letter, No. 1,682, dated the 29th March last, I am directed to forward, for submission to the Government of India, a copy of a letter from the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals in Cuttack, No. 14, dated the 9th ultimo, and of its enclosure from the Superintending Engineer of the Cuttack Circle, containing a report regarding the road proposed to be constructed between Sunkurkole on the Madras Frontier, and Sonepore on the River Mahanuddy, which would connect the communication between the Central Provinces and Madras.

2. From the accompanying copy of the communications as per margin from the Government of Madras and from the Central Provinces, it will be seen that both these Administrations attach much importance to the proposed line of road for the purposes of traffic. The Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals is also in favor of the road, chiefly on the ground that it would open up and civi-

From the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, Public Works Department, No. 436, dated the 14th February last, one enclosure.

From Secretary to Chief Commissioner Central Provinces, Public Works Department, No. 7,376, dated the 4th March last.

lize the Kundh Mehals. He further thinks that the road might create an increase of traffic; but it would appear from the last paragraph of his letter that such increase would largely benefit the Central Provinces and Madras, and the road would be more of an imperial than a local nature. The Superintending Engineer of the Cuttack Circle, for the reasons advanced in paragraph 6 of his letter, (a copy of which is now sent,) is opposed to the construction of the road, and he questions whether its commercial advantages would even compensate Government for the large outlay of money that would be required for its formation and for the very high annual expenditure that would be necessary for its maintenance.

3. The Superintending Engineer estimates that to rough out the line will cost Rupees 700 a mile, or for its entire length of fifty-one miles, Rupees 35,700, to which sum, if the cost of making the road over rocky ghats and along hill sides, of sloping nullahs and of providing some small shelter for the establishment employed on the works should be added, the entire cost of the road may be approximately estimated at Rupees 87,500.

4. If the country under the Government of Bengal were alone to be taken into consideration in determining the Lieutenant-Governor's decision in respect to the project, His Honour, with the data before him, would hesitate to recommend to the Government of India a work, the advantages from which to Bengal would not be commensurate with the large expenditure of money on it which would appear to be necessary; but as the Government of Madras and the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces have both pressed attention to the project, the Lieutenant-Governor will be prepared to recommend to the Government of India an expenditure on the road from the funds allotted for Public Works in Bengal of a sum not exceeding that mentioned by the Superintending Engineer, viz., Rupees 87,500, provided the Government of Madras will undertake to provide the establishment and expense required for the survey of the country, as well as the establishment that would be required to carry out the work and any further expenditure that may have to be incurred other than that included in the Superintending Engineer's estimate.

5. I am desired to add that, with reference to the inadequacy of the Budget grant of the current year for the wants of Bengal, the Lieutenant-Governor would be unable to appropriate more than Rupees 20,000 for expenditure on the Sunkurkole and Sonepore road during this year, and this sum will be made available on receipt of orders of the Government of India as soon as the Government of Madras is prepared to commence actual operations on the road on the conditions stated.

No. 650. ORDER THEREON, 25th February 1869, No. 622.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 90.

1. Communicated to the Board of Revenue with reference to paragraph 2 of G. O. dated 7th December 1868, No. 3,816.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 25th February 1869.

2. The Government regret that they are not in a position at present to provide the funds and establishment required for the construction of the road referred to in this letter. The consideration of the subject will accordingly be deferred.

(True Extract)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.
" Judicial do.

Fxd. E. C. Shunker.

Revenue Dept.
No. 641.

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE [illegible] ENGINEER,

[illegible]

Dated [illegible]

Read 1st March.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]