M.R.O. 1—90,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 778 Press ~~Mis.~~

542-543

Dated 8 R. March 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th March 1869.

No. 542. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th March 1869 :—

Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Trevandrum, 25th January 1869, No. 1,140.

1. With reference to the forest roads, in the Salem District, I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Deputy Conservator of that district, and would now suggest that the roads should be completed as forest roads by Lieutenant Walker as he proposes with the 3,500 Rupees at his command, plus the 1,000 Rupees already sanctioned from the District Road Fund, and request that the Board will recommend the same for the sanction of Government.

* No. 264 of 16th January 1869.

2. I think that the maintenance of the Denkenacottah and Penagara road had better remain under our Department for the present; as this road will be of great advantage to the country generally, an allotment for this purpose might be sanctioned from Local Funds, the sum annually necessary will be about 200 Rupees, and of this, 100 Rupees might be entered annually in our Budgets.

From the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Salem and South Arcot, to the Officiating Conservator of Forests, dated Camp, at Chengum, 16th January 1869, No. 264.

1. With reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 8,763, dated 14th ultimo, I have the honor to submit the following proposals regarding the Forest roads in the Denkenacottah Range.

2. I presume that we may now consider that no help can be obtained from the District Road Fund beyond the Rupees 1,000 already sanctioned. We have in addition, a sanction from our own funds of Rupees 4,000, out of which I have, as already reported, disbursed Rupees 500 for the maintenance of Road No. 1 (from Denkenacottah to Candiketta). This leaves Rupees 3,500 Forest Funds, making, if we add the allotment from Local Fund, Rupees 4,500 at disposal.

3. I am prepared out of this amount to complete the two roads from Penagara (Nos. 2 and 3) to Cauvery and Chenar rivers respectively, and also to construct a Forest road, sufficient for our purposes, from Coondacottah, or an adjacent point on road No. 1, as far as *Sevenhully* (*vide* Forest Map). These three lines will serve all the purposes of our department for many years to come, leaving the question of their extension for future consideration.

4. Roads No. 2 and 3 can be completed within the current year, in fact, I imagine that Road No. 3 (to Chenar) is all but finished now, as some tunnels, for which we have supplied the timber were all that was required by the last report I have received from the Executive Engineer.

5. I have already reported that I had transferred some Rupees 1,200 from allotment of Road No. 2 to No. 3, and the Executive Engineer informs, that he can complete No. 2, if this sum is replaced at his disposal, making the total expenditure on this line Rupees 6,000 as originally sanctioned.

6. The question of maintenance remains to be considered.

I should prefer if possible retaining the roads in our own hands, as I am convinced that we can maintain them better and cheaper, than either the Department Public Works or Local Fund Establishments, as we are more immediately interested and have establishments constantly on the spot.

7. Something should however be done to recoupe us for the expenditure incurred in constructing and maintaining the roads. I fail to see the objection to tolls which the Board express in paragraph 17 of their Proceedings under reference. At the end of all these roads there is a large

native town (Denkenacottah and Penagara) where there is a Sub-Magistrate and Forest Overseer, and I see no more reason to apprehend oppression in this instance than in others.

8. I am convinced that the Land Revenue will be doubled in a very few years by the opening out of these roads, and the boon to the people in general is great and fully appreciated by them. The Road Cess and Rents of Avenue trees will produce a certain amount of Revenue, and it is for the Board to decide, whether we shall be credited with these sums undertaking the maintenance of the roads, or whether they shall be carried to the credit of Local Funds as elsewhere, an allotment in this case being made from the same fund for maintenance, which I would suggest should in any case be carried out by the Forest Officer.

9. I shall feel much obliged by your informing me if the scheme for the construction of the roads meets with your and the Board's approval, as if so, I shall at once draw the Rupees 1,000 from Local Fund, and request the Executive Engineer to proceed with the work on Road No. 2, in order that it may be finished before the end of the official year.

SUBMITTED for the Orders of Government, with reference to the Board's Proceedings dated 14th December 1868, No. 8,763.

2. The Board recommend that Major Beddome's proposed arrangements for the construction of the road be sanctioned. They will provide an annual maintenance allowance of Rupees 100 in the Road Fund Budget to be expended by the Forest Officer, on the understanding that the use of the road is free to the people.

3. On the subject of tolls, the Board adhere to the views expressed in paragraph 17 of their Proceedings.

No. 543. ORDER THEREON, 20th March 1869, No. 778.

Forests, No. 17.

The arrangements proposed by the Acting Conservator of Forests and recommended by the Board of Revenue for the construction and maintenance of certain forest roads in the Denkenacottah Forest Range, are approved and sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, *the Officiating Conservator of Forests.*
,, *the Accountant General.*

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

From

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March, 20th.

Read.

&c.

G. O., 20th March 1869, No. 778.

MARCH.

Nos. 542-543.

Forest roads in Pershmaddick Range—Arrangements proposed by the Conservator of Forests for their construction and maintenance sanctioned.

No. 778. Revenue Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 20th March 1869.—

Read the following
Pro. of the Board of Revenue
(B. & 15th March 1869 No.)

The arrangements proposed
by the Asst Commissr of
and recommended by the B.C. of Rs.
Forests for the construction
and maintenance of certain
Forest roads in the Pershmaddick
cottah Forest Range are
approved and sanctioned

Ans
20 March 69

List

14 Copies to Mr. Conservator Forests
13 —— Offg Conservator Forests
6 —— Asst Commissr

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