102/3

M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 6

(2) Date of repair 11—11—65

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	102	Press / Mis.
Dated	16-11-1872	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 208. Petition from B. SINGARAVALOO MOODELLIAR, late Imperial Petty Maistry, Public Works Department, Madanapully Range, Bellary District.

Praying for restoration to the post which he formerly held in the Public Works Department. } (Here enter, No. —— dated 26th May 1872.)

No. 209. From the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bellary, 30th September 1872, No. 1,538.

As I am about handing over charge of the division, I consider it advisable I should dispose of that part of paragraph 8 of G. O., No. 1,376, dated 3rd June 1872, which calls for certain document and other information with reference to the estimate for Rupees 5,882 for the Tungatoor Gungareddy Channel without waiting for the Collector's report.

2. The information called for is with reference to the following :—

I.—To report on the two Maistries and Taluq Writer.

II.—To forward for inspection the original copy of the estimate passed by the Superintending Engineer.

III.—To forward a copy of the estimate held by Serjeant Ward, the present Taluq Overseer.

IV.—To forward the copy of the estimate in possession of the Overseer's Writer.

V.—To forward the original copy of the estimate on record in the Range Office ; and

VI.—To report by whom each copy of the estimate was written.

3. (I.)—Of the two Maistries, P. Rungasawmy Naidoo belongs to the Local Fund Establishment and appears to have been in no way connected with the preparation of the estimate in question as far as I can ascertain ; moreover, being on the Local Fund Establishment, there is a probability of this being the case, as he should have nothing to do with work which is "Imperial."

The Taluq Writer distinctly states that this particular estimate was prepared by the other Maistry, B. Singaravaloo Moodelliar, who was on the Imperial Establishment, and this statement is borne out by Mr. Wade, the late Overseer, who states that the Range Officer (Mr. Cowley) appointed this man and another Maistry (name not given) to prepare Irrigation estimates. The routine followed was for the Taluq Writer to put the estimate into proper form or, in other words, *copy* the measurements, etc., *in form* and give it to the Overseer.

There is nothing in the papers before me to show, nor have I heard, of any thing which would attach blame to the Taluq Writer J. Wood (a Native Christian). As a subordinate of the Overseer, he appears to have followed the routine usually required of Taluq Writers. I have had reports of his incompetency ; he is certainly not bright, but as he has some nine years' service, I intend giving him a chance in another taluq.

4. (II.)—I forward a copy of the estimate on record in this office. It was copied by the third Accountant A. Eshavara Row of the Pullumpett Range in the ordinary course of business.

5. (III.)—Serjeant Ward, the present Overseer of the Pullumpett Taluq, holds a copy of the detail and abstract estimate which was furnished to him in February 1872. It is explained that the estimate which is dated 1*st June* 1871, and which should have been in the Overseer's Office, could not be traced. The reason attributed is that the Maistries of the taluq had access to the records of the Overseer's office. These records were in a desk (box ?) which had no key; it is, therefore, presumed that this particular estimate was abstracted. This is quite probable. At present we are in the dark as to who actually prepared the estimate. We have the Taluq Writer's statement that this estimate was prepared by Maistry Singaravaloo, and Mr. J. Wade's mention that such duty was entrusted to this Maistry, shows pretty plainly the culprit. Further, the production of these measurements which were taken by Singaravaloo Moodelliar would be the best possible proof in a criminal prosecution against him. It is quite possible that the taluq office copy of the estimate was kept with the measurement statement, and it, therefore, becomes pretty plain that in abstracting the latter, which was of much importance to the Maistry, he must have removed the estimate also.

6. (IV.)—The copy said to have been in the possession of the writer, and which was in his own hand-writing, is not forthcoming. Explanation has been called for, as it is doubtful whether the writer includes the copy he had with that belonging to the taluq office.

7. (V.)—This is forwarded herewith. It is in the hand-writing of the Taluq Writer J. Wood, but it is in the usual course that all papers issuing from an Overseer's Office must necessarily be written by the writer of the taluq.

The report (marked x in blue pencil) at foot is in the hand-writing of Mr. Wade, the Overseer. The interlineation of the words "silted up during last monsoon" (in darker ink) is in Mr. Cowley's hand-writing.

8. (VI.)—This information is recorded in the disposal of each case.

9. When at Cuddapah in the beginning of June, I made a point of seeing the Head Assistant Collector and asking him when the report would be ready. Mr. Hardinge informed me that it would be submitted in a week. A few days after I learned that Mr. Hardinge had obtained a sick certificate and was about to proceed to Europe on leave. I asked the Collector to write and begged that the report might be submitted at once. The answer to this which I saw was that the report would be sent in prior to departure.

10. I have since several times both officially and by private letters reminded the Collector on the subject, but without result.

11. I have now just received a private letter from the Collector, the contents of which, of course, I cannot make known; but I may state that the Collector is now in the Pullumpett Taluq where the transactions occurred, and that from his having made personal inquiries, his report, when submitted, will possess additional value.

No. 210. From the same Officer, dated Bellary, 18th October 1872, No. 1,651.

In reply to your memorandum No. 141, dated 7th October 1872, I have the honour to inform you that Maistry B. Singaravaloo Moodelliar was employed as a temporary Maistry on the Toongabuddra river channels under Mr. Wade, and was

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th November 1872.

dismissed by Serjeant Barnes who succeeded him. He was subsequently employed again by Mr. Wade in the Bellary, Cuddapah, and Kurnool Districts, when opportunity offered on the temporary establishment.

2. When the irregularities in the Pullumpett Taluq were laid before Government by Colonel Moberly, the Maistry was transferred to Madanapully Range and afterwards, in April, suspended pending inquiries regarding his share in the transactions connected with the Tungatoor Gungareddy channel estimate. The Superintending Engineer dismissed him on the 8th May 1872, and he is believed to be in Hyderabad.

3. The copy of the estimate forwarded to Serjeant Ward, the Overseer who succeeded Mr. Wade in the Pullumpett Taluq, was made in the Range Office when Mr. Assistant Engineer Hunter had temporary charge of the Pullumpett Range, from the original estimate signed by Messrs. Cowley and Wade. It was copied by Head Accountant Venkiah Naidoo. The document was sent to Government with Major Vertue's letter of the 30th ultimo, No. 1,538, to which your memorandum has reference.

4. As regards paragraph 6 of the same letter, the only explanation I can furnish is that afforded in a memorandum from the Cuddapah Range Officer dated 3rd September last, who states that there is only one copy of the estimate in the possession of the Overseer's Writer J. Wood, and is in his own hand-writing. I enclose this copy, and I find it was sent to the Overseer of the taluq from the office by his writer on the 18th March 1872, and the document is called by him the *office* copy of the estimate.

5. I have again addressed the Collector of Cuddapah regarding the early submission of his report on the inquiries made into the transactions connected with the preparation of the estimate, and his reply shall be forwarded to you.

No. 211. Order thereon, 13th November 1872, No. 2,673.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 12.

His Excellency the Governor in Council concurs with the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division in acquitting the Pullumpett Taluq Overseer of complicity in the fraud attempted with reference to the Tungatoor Gungareddy Channel. The Local Fund Maistry is also exculpated from participation in the transaction. The Imperial Maistry Singaravaloo Moodelliar is identified as the person who took the measurements, not only by the testimony of the Overseer and Overseer's Writer, but by his own admission in a registered petition dated the 26th May. He has already been dismissed by the Superintending Engineer, and is now declared by His Excellency the Governor in Council to be ineligible for further employment in the Government service in any capacity. The practice of intrusting measurements to Maistries who are entertained specially to assist in the execution of works is wrong, and no estimates should be accepted by Range Officers, the measurements of which are not certified by the Overseer to be his own, or to have been checked by him, so that he is personally responsible for them.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th November 1872.

2. The Collector will be requested, in the Revenue Department, to expedite his report on this subject.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To Superintending Engineers.
,, Major R. B. Kennedy.
To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Military do.
,, Public do.
,, Consulting Engineer for Railways.
,, Examiner of Railway Accounts.
,, Consulting Architect.

Go. 5 June/72 No. 30 Mis.

Revenue Despatch

No. 3683.

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November 1872.

Read. 14th Inst. Encl.

G. O., 13th November 1872, No. 2,673.

NOVEMBER

Nos. 208 211

Des Misc

13. Govt of Madras. Des 18

Tungatoor Gungareddy Channel.—Passing orders on certain irregularities connected with the Tungatoor Gungareddy Channel.

No. 102.

Communicated to the Collector of Cuddapah through the Bd of Rev:

No. 15/12

16th Nov 1872.