M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 4'

(2) Date of repair 11. 3. 66

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 133 Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 19. 8. 1873 196 .

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Read the following letters :—

No. 156. From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Vellore, 23rd June 1873, No. 1,000.

In reply to your memorandum, No. 231 of 18th instant, I have the honour to report that the full balance of the revised estimate, Rupees 15,266 or Rupees 7,766, in addition to the allotment in the Provincial Budget, can be utilized on the Poloor Taluq Cutcherry.

2. At Coopum I do not think I can spend more than the allotment already given.

3. Estimates, amounting to Rupees 5,600 and Rupees 3,900, respectively, for Subsidiary Jails, etc., at Poonganoor and Maderpak, will be submitted as soon as the latter is returned by the Collector, to whom it has been forwarded for counter-signature, and if funds are available I shall be glad to receive an allotment for these buildings.

No. 157. From Colonel E. A. FOORD, R.E., Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 7th July 1873, No. 733.

I have the honour to forward, for the sanction of Government, an estimate of Rupees 1,980 for completing the Subsidiary Jail and the improvements to the Taluq Cutcherry at Wandiwash in the North Arcot District.

1 Estimate.
1 Comparative Statement.

2. The work was commenced in 1868 on an estimate of Rupees 9,000, and after some progress had been made, was stopped in accordance with the orders of the Government of India. In April 1872, the Superintending Engineer forwarded revised estimates for this and several other Cutcherries, and Government, in their Order of the 6th May 1872, No. 675, Judicial Department, sanctioned the sum of Rupees 7,020 for the Wandiwash Cutcherry.

3. From the comparative statement which accompanies the estimate, it will be seen that the difference between the two estimates is caused principally by the difference in the rates for teakwood, 4½ Rupees per cubic foot in the original and 3 Rupees in the revised estimate. The present District Engineer reports that the teakwood had already been purchased at the higher rate, and that consequently the work cannot now be completed for the reduced estimate.

4. A sum of Rupees 3,000 is provided in this year's Budget for this work. The expenditure to the close of last year was Rupees 3,702, so that in order to complete the building an additional sum of Rupees 2,298 will be required.

No. 158. From Captain J. PENNY[illegible]ICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WA[illegible]ER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, da[illegible]ellore, 21st July 1873, No. 1,364.

With reference to G. O., No. 1,71[illegible]2nd instant, and my letter No. 1,000 of 23rd ultimo, I have the honour t[illegible]rt that having lately inspected the

Taluq Cutcherry at Poloor and consulted personally with the Range Officer, I am of opinion that we shall not be able to utilize more than Rupees 10,000 (Rupees 2,500 more than the present allotment) on that work in this year.

2. On the Coopum Cutcherry, as already reported, we cannot spend more than the present allotment of Rupees 7,500.

No. 159. ORDER THEREON, 11th August 1873, No. 1,997.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 8.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council sanctions the sum of Rupees 9,000 for the improvements to the Taluq Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail at Wandiwash; that being in fact the amount of the original estimate for the work, which was reduced in the Superintending Engineer's Office to Rupees 7,020 by adoption of a rate for teakwood less than that which the Range Officer had already paid for it.

2. As this is the third estimate for similar buildings in North Arcot for which Government have been called on to sanction revised estimates; as several more are understood to require revision; and as the necessity for such revision appears to have prevented last year's allotments being availed of, the subject is one which appears to require review with the object of forcibly calling the attention of the present District Engineer and Range Officers to the mismanagement which has so long prevailed.

3. Six Cutcherries in North Arcot were originally provided for in the Budget of 1872-73, with sums aggregating Rupees 43,760. Provision for a seventh was made by transfer from that amount, in the same Order of 6th May 1872, which sanctioned all the revised estimates. In the letter recorded with that order the Superintending Engineer asked for an additional allotment of Rupees 51,657, or a total of Rupees 95,417; but the total provision eventually made was Rupees 51,760, divided amongst ten Cutcherries.

4. Out of that number one only appears to have been completed at a supposed cost of Rupees 1,605, the exact balance allotted; and Rupees 7,993 were spent on three others, leaving six untouched, and Rupees 42,162 unspent. Of these six the Government learn from the District Administration Report that four were not put in hand for want of revised estimates, *i.e.*, from mismanagement in the Public Works Offices, and the other two from Revenue mismanagement in not placing at the disposal of the Executive Officers, till February or March 1873, the sites of buildings for which materials had been collected to the value of Rupees 10,000 in 1869-70.

5. The present District Engineer will doubtless by this time have arrived at more accurate conclusions with reference to the true causes of the inaction prevalent in North Arcot throughout the year 1872, than those stated in his Administration Report, sent in when he was new to the district; and the Government rely confidently on a more satisfactory result from his administration. Rupees 50,500 were placed at his disposal in the Budget of 1873-74, for eight out of the nine unfinished Cutcherries above mentioned, and Rupees 2,150 out of the Reserve for completing the ninth; and now, in full reliance that requisitions to that effect have been well considered and will be justified by the result of the season's work, His

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th August 1873.

Excellency the Governor in Council will order the sums of Rupees 2,500 and Rupees 2,300 to be provided for the Poloor and Wandiwash Cutcherries out of a further appropriation of Provincial Funds that will shortly be made for Public Works operations.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, North Arcot.
" Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings.
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Judicial Department.
" Revenue do.

20 Spare Copies.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Revenue 1873 Depr
No 2523

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, NORTH ARCOT.

&c., &c. &c.,

Dated August 11th.

Read in 19 8 1873 Encl.

G. O., 11th August 1873, No. 1,997.

AUGUST.

Nos. 156-159

GO-19 August/73 No 137

Taluq Cutcheries and Sub-Jails in the North Arcot District.—Passing orders on estimate for improvements to the Taluq Cutcherry and Sub-Jail at Wandiwash and on the application for funds for certain Sub-Jails.