M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 4

(2) Date of repair 7-6-67

(3) Initials of the Referencer SPE 6/10/67.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	12	Press / Mis.
Dated	1-6	~~1961~~ 1874

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd May 1874.

Read the following papers :—

No. 507. Endorsement of the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Madras, 31st March 1874, No. 8,745.

From Major H. R. MEAD, R.E., District Engineer, Tanjore, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Tanjore, 26th March 1874, No. 1,167.

With reference to your memorandum No. 200 to No. I. Range Officer and another memorandum to No. II. Range Officer, returning 1 and 4 completion certificates respectively, I have the honour to bring to your notice that G. O., No. 1,014 dated 2nd April 1873, directs that only completion certificates of works handed over to civil departments should be countersigned by a Judge, Collector, etc., not of inferior standing to the executive officer of the Public Works Department.

2. I do not think that Government intended it to apply to small petty repairs as in the Military Department. Receipt or certificates were never given (when I was in charge, now some years ago, of a Military station,) by the Military Authorities except in cases of new buildings, or when the building had been formally handed over to the Public Works Department for repairs or alterations, and was as formally handed back, on completion, to the Military Authorities.

3. In the cases of the completion certificates now returned there is only one in which the certificate can be countersigned, and this is that for building a shed for Combaconum College, Rupees 135; this I have sent to the Range Officer, and requested him to obtain the signature of the Principal of the College, but I can hardly think it is necessary under the Government Order quoted by you.

4. In the case of the other, 4, the Range Officers are unable to obtain countersignatures, as both Combaconum and Tanjore taluq, in which the works are situated, were at the time of the completion of the works under charge of the Collector, who lives at Vallum, 29 miles from Combaconum and 14 from Triviaur, where the works are, and there is no officer of senior rank to the executive officers. I request therefore that you will pass the completion certificates,* and I think it would be as well to lay down definite rules for the future regarding the countersignatures being required or not.

* Enclosed.

Transferred, for the orders of Government, with reference to the concluding portion of the District Engineer's letter and the Proceedings of Government marginally noted. As remarked in the correspondence printed with G. O., 2,598, above quoted, completion certificates for *repairs* are also countersigned by departmental officers concerned, under the rules of the Government of India.

No. 2,598 of the 5th November 1872.
No. 1,014 of the 2nd April 1873.

2. It is not for purposes of account that the countersignature of departmental officers (Military and Civil) is necessary to completion certificates, and therefore, perhaps, District Engineers, and not the Controller of Public Works Accounts, should be required to decide in what cases completion reports should be accepted without the countersignature of officers of other departments. If this be ordered the Office of the Controller of Public Works Accounts would accept, unquestioned,

all completion reports that may bear the initials of District Engineers, in token of those officers being satisfied of the sufficiency of the completion reports in all respects.

(Signed) T. MOSS,
Officiating Controller of P. W. Accounts.

No. 508. From Major J. BEATTY, R.E., District Engineer, Vizagapatam, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Waltair, 8th April 1874, No. 48.

In G. O., No. 1,014 of 2nd April 1873, Government decided that on the completion of a civil building and its transfer to a civil department, the completion certificate should bear the countersignature of an officer of the department to which the building is made over.

2. That order appears to me to refer only to the case of new works, but the Controller now requires the signature of the Civil Authorities in the case of repairs also; and as there will of course be a dozen repairs for every new work, the Controller's interpretation will add very greatly to the correspondence of the executive officers, whose office establishments are at present far from sufficient.

3. I have therefore the honour to request that Range Officers may not have the fresh burden thrown upon them of entering into correspondence with each Civil Department on the completion of any petty repair, as proposed by the Controller, especially as it appears to me that such was not the intention of Government in the order referred to.

No. 509. ORDER THEREON, 23rd May 1874, No. 1,305.

ACCOUNT, No. 26.

THE Government Order referred to by the District Engineers, Tanjore and Vizagapatam, taken in connection with the preceding Orders, Nos. 2,598 of 5th November and 2,853 of 5th December 1872, evidently intends that completion certificates for repairs to Civil Buildings as well as for Minor New Works should be countersigned by suitable officers of Civil Departments if they are available to do so. But having in view the additional labour entailed by this arrangement, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, on reconsideration, to direct that countersignature of completion certificates for mere repairs of a petty nature be dispensed with; and that it be required only in cases of new buildings, or on the completion of repairs or alterations to buildings which may be formally handed over to the Public Works Department for the purpose, and as formally handed back on completion.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To District Engineers.
To the ~~Inspecting Engineer for Buildings.~~
,, Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Executive Engineer, Wynaad.
,, Public etc., Department.
,, Military do.
,, Revenue do.
Ext. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No. 1745.
Revenue Department
Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

DISTRICT ENGINEERS.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 22nd.

Recd. 28 June 74. Encl.

G. O., 22nd May 1874, No. 1,605.

176

MAY.

Nos. 507-509

Completion Certificates.—Directing that [illegible] of completion certificates for [illegible] repairs of a petty nature be dispensed with, and that it be required only in cases of new buildings, or on the completion of repairs or alterations to buildings which may be formally handed over to the Public Works Department for the purpose, and as formally handed back on completion.

No. 17 Communicated to the Board of Revenue
1 June '74

2 Encl. to Revenue Dept. Govt. 6 June 74