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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

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1/1199

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
19th May 1875.

Local Funds—Roads.

Read the following papers :—

No. 151. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th February 1875, No. 471 :—

Read the following letter from W. H. COMYN, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Tinnevelly, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 28th January 1875, No. 42 :—

WITH reference to my letter quoted in Board's Proceedings, No. 3,618, dated 14th December, on the recent floods in this district, I have the honor to forward a resolution of the Local Fund Board of the Tinnevelly Circle on the estimates laid before the meeting for emergent repairs, applying for a special grant of Rupees 14,282 from Government out of Provincial Funds to restore the roads of the Circle to their former condition. The estimates requiring the sanction of the Board of Revenue are forwarded with a separate letter.

Copy of resolution.

2. The available funds of the Circle for the current year are already exhausted, and there is no source open to the Local Fund Board from which money can be provided for the present emergency. At the beginning of the year there was a deficit in the Road and the General Funds, amounting to Rupees 8,000, instead of the estimated balance of Rupees 18,000. The unallotted portion of the reserves of the Road Fund and the General Fund, together with the savings effected by cutting down the budget allotments for works, will but just suffice to meet this deficiency. The cost of the Vaccine Establishment, which was increased without reference to the Local Fund Board, has already exceeded the budget estimate, and the want of funds to meet urgent demands for educational grants has already been brought to the notice of the Board and of Government (*vide* G. O., No. 1,835, dated 27th October 1874). The expected contribution of Rupees 5,000 from the Shermadevi Local Fund Circle cannot be paid without causing a deficit in that Circle, and in my letter No. 39, dated 28th instant, I have been compelled to seek for a modification of the order of Government (No. 1,479, dated 3rd September 1874) regarding it.

3. The following list shows the damages sustained and the amount of the estimates for emergent repair :—

	By D. P. W.	By other Agency.
	RS.	RS.
1. Repairing and closing breaches on Road No. 3 from Palamcottah to Tuticorin	920	...
2. Repairing and closing breaches on Road No. 4 from Palamcottah to Coilpatnam, east and west of Pudugudi	2,680	...
3. Repairing and closing breaches on Road No. 4 between Tentiruperi and Kurumbur	1,350	...
4. Repairing and closing breaches on Road No. 4 between the 1st and 10th miles	850	...
5. Repairing and closing breaches on Road No. 4-D, Yeral branch ...	1,300	...
6. Do. do. do. on Road No. 23 from Strivaikuntam to, Arumugamangalam...	1,500	...
7. Repairing and closing breaches on Munnirpallam branch No. 6-B ...	...	87

	By D. P. W.	By other Agency.
	Rs.	Rs.
8. Repairing and closing breaches on Viraragavapuram *vid* Kurukuturai and south round Road No. 7-D	...	150
9. Repairing and closing breaches on Road No. 10 from Tinnevelly to Strivaikuntam	...	245
10. Repairing and closing Velur branch No. 4-A	...	830
11. Do. do. Nazareth branch No. 4-B.	...	450
12. Do. do. Ahtur branch No. 4-C.	...	930
13. Do. do. breaches on Road No. 10 from Tinnevelly to Strivaikuntam	...	580
14. Repairing and closing breaches on Mangalakurichi and Yeral branch No. 23-B	...	230
15. Repairing and closing breaches on Mukkani and Ahtur branch No. 23-C	...	385
16. Repairing and closing breaches on road from Pudukudi to Road No. 4 along the channel bund	...	240
17. Repairing and closing breaches on road from Road No. 4 at Lakshmaratope to Tirukalur	...	340
18. Repairing and closing breaches on road from Road No. 4 at Lakshmaratope to Kalvai Village	...	550
19. Repairing and closing breaches on road from Strivaikuntam to Mulakarai	...	190
20. Repairing and closing breaches on road between Periakulam Tank and mud fort at Strivaikuntam...	...	375
21. Repairing and closing breaches on road between Karungulam and the river bank	...	100
Total...	8,600	5,682

4. Of the foregoing roads, No. 3 is the main line to the sea-coast at Tuticorin, and was badly damaged for about a mile east of the Tambrapurni, and all wheeled traffic was for a time suspended. Road No. 4 is the main line to the coast south of the Tambrapurni, and runs through the richest portions of the Tenkarai Taluq. It has been seriously injured in three different places, and the three estimates for its repair together amount to Rupees 4,880. The two main lines north of the river running east through the Tenkarai Taluq, Nos. 4-D and 23, have also sustained much damage, and the estimates amount to Rupees 1,300 and Rupees 1,500, respectively. Of the roads under the supervision of the Revenue Authorities, No. 10, an important line, follows the north bank of the river from Tinnevelly to Strivaikuntam, and is carried along the banks of a series of tanks. The two estimates for its repair amount to Rupees 245 and 580, respectively. The remaining roads are all in the Tinnevelly and Tenkarai Taluqs; they are of the greatest use, and have most of them been constructed since the formation of the Local Fund Board.

5. The foregoing facts show that the Tinnevelly Circle is in an unfortunate condition, and being altogether unable to provide the necessary funds, is urgently in need of special assistance; and I therefore beg that the Board of Revenue will be pleased to support the present application for a special grant from Government to meet the present emergency.

Enclosure No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Board.

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Submitted for the favorable consideration and early orders of Government.

2. The fund is undoubtedly in considerable straits, and cannot provide for the emergency which has arisen. Delay in the repairs which are required will probably increase the cost, besides causing great present inconvenience.

3. The Board have addressed Government in separate Proceedings regarding the payment of the instalment due by the Shermadevi Circle to Tinnevelly in the current year, which cannot possibly be made good.

4. The Board are the more inclined to give this application their strong support in that they think that the grant for the Tinnevelly District originally assigned in the distribution of the grant from Provincial was scarcely adequate to its claims.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 152. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th March 1875, No. 2,505 (Miscellaneous):—

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot and President of the Local Fund Board, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ranipett, 16th March 1875, No. 133:—

The Board of Revenue have been already acquainted with the extent of the serious damages caused by the rains of October last to the most important public works in the district, especially to the bridge across the Palar River near Vellore, involving the total destruction of sixteen arches on the north side of the river, and it now only remains for me to bring to the Board's notice the means by which the respective Local Fund Boards propose to remedy the injury to their work, and the great inconvenience thereby caused to the general public.

2. The arrangements to be carried out were fully discussed by the Chittoor and Vellore Boards at their meetings held on the 19th November and 31st October 1874, and a copy of the minutes of their Proceedings on the subject is enclosed for information.

3. It is at present impossible to tell what the exact cost of restoring the bridge would be until the foundations of the fallen piers have been thoroughly examined, inasmuch as the cost of the work will depend a good deal on the amount of new foundation found necessary. The District Engineer, however, calculates that the sum is not likely to exceed Rupees 65,000 if the bridge be restored to the former design, or Rupees 75,000 if iron girders be used in place of arches. The question whether the bridge be reconstructed according to the original plan, or whether iron girders may be supplied with greater advantage as respects the saving of time, has been deferred for discussion until after the necessary detailed estimates have been submitted by the District Engineer.

4. Then comes the most important question, *viz.*, the source from which the enormous amount of money so speedily required is to be met. The Acting

4th November 1874, No. 782.

Sub-Collector in his letter quoted in the margin has already solicited the liberal support of Government, and says: "I have little doubt that Government will acquiesce in the reasonableness of the hope which we venture to entertain, that a liberal contribution will be made from Imperial Funds towards the restoration of that important work" (the Vellore Bridge), "and the Government in their order in the Revenue Department, No. 1,451, dated 24th November 1874, promised to give consideration in the Financial Department to the above request. But as regards the scheme of dividing the cost, *viz.*, what share the Local and Municipal Boards should contribute, and to what extent the support of the Government is called for, as yet no details have been submitted. After careful consideration the following proportion was voted by the two Boards as a fair division:—

Government	One-half.
Vellore Municipality	One-tenth.
Chittoor Circle	One-fifth.
Vellore ,, ...	One-fifth.

5. Bearing in mind the great value of the piece of the road from Katpady to Vellore as a Railway feeder, and the importance of the town of Vellore itself as a large and populous town and a military station, their claim to Government aid does not seem unreasonable; and, considering the demand for money at this crisis to repair the alarming damages and breaches caused to their roads throughout the Circles, the extent of the relief sought for is no doubt fair, while if the Government do not agree to render the Local Funds the assistance so greatly required, the Local Fund Board will, without doubt, be seriously crippled for many years to come.

6. As some delay will, of course, take place before permanent accommodation is afforded to the traffic by the complete restoration of the bridge, the Local Fund Boards have sanctioned, for the temporary crossing of the river, the construction of a bund across the northern portion of the river, some forty yards above the bridge with its top nine feet above the river-bed, and joining on to the uninjured portion by a ramp or slope of one in twenty, thus utilizing the uninjured portion of the bridge for traffic. For this purpose, and for examining the foundation of the piers, &c., the District Engineer has applied for Rupees 8,000 as an advance, of which Rupees 7,382-12-6 have been spent up to the end of last month. As there are only a few days of the current official year before us, it is necessary that an allotment of the above sum of Rupees 8,000 should be speedily sanctioned, which amount may be met from the savings of Rupees 17,334 in the Chittoor Circle, shown in the accompanying statement received from the District Engineer.

7. No estimate is, herewith, submitted for the above sum, as it is proposed to include the same in the general estimate for the reconstruction of the bridge.

Submitted for the consideration and orders of Government as regards the proposals for sharing the cost of the restoration of the bridge.

2. Under the circumstances represented in the foregoing letter, the Board resolve to authorize an allotment of Rupees 8,000 from the savings in the current year's grants for certain roads, as detailed in the statement furnished by the Presi-

dent for the construction of a bund across the northern portion of the Palar River to utilize the uninjured portion of the bridge for traffic, and for examining the foundations of the piers.

3. The Board do not doubt that no time is being lost in the matter of preparing estimates for the restoration of the bridge.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 153. ORDER THEREON, 19th May 1875, No. 1092.

An application has been made to the Government of India for a special grant to meet the charges for repairing the damage done by the floods of November last.

	Rs.	
* Government share of work	37,500	
Proportion of establishment	9,375	
Total ...	46,875	

	Rs.	
† Works to be executed by Department of Public Works	8,600	
Establishment at 25 per cent.... ...	2,150	
Works to be executed by Other Agency...	5,680	
Total ...	16,430	

2. In the mean time, and subject to adjustment hereafter, the Accountant-General will advance Rupees 46,875* and Rupees 16,430† to the Chittoor and Tinnevelly Local Fund Boards, respectively, from the undistributed balance of the Rupees 11,40,000 assigned in the Provincial Budget under 12, Public Works, which has been increased by Rupees 64,000 under G.O., dated 27th April 1875, No. 944.

(True Extract.)

Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. W. H. French.

Rev: 4/5 : 24

№ 313 — 1212

Govt. of [1875] Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated May, 19th.

Issued June 2d

Recd. " 5th Encl.

G.O., 19th May 1875, No. 1092.

MAY.

Nos. 151—153.

Local Funds—Roads.—Subject to adjustment hereafter, advances of Rupees 46,875 and Rupees 16,430 ordered to be given from the Provincial balance under 12, Public Works, to the Chittoor and Tinnevelly Circle Boards, respectively, for repairing the damage done by floods in November last.

№ 1199 Revenue

5 June 75.

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