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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2401 Press
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Dated 12-11-1875 ~~196~~ .

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2401

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, *February*, 6th 1875.

No. 167.

No. 338.

FROM

COLONEL G. W. WALKER, R.E.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Public Works Department.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 12.

SIR,—I am directed to request the attention of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council to the subject of a line of communication which it is very desirable to complete between the northern frontier of the Ganjam District of this Presidency at Sankarakole and Sonepore on the Mahanaddi. It was brought to the notice of the Government of India by the Government of Bengal, on the joint representation of this Government and that of the Central Provinces in a letter No. 2,883, of 7th June 1865; wherein its length was stated at 51 miles, and its probable cost at Rupees 87,500. It is now again recommended to the notice of the Government of India as calculated greatly to enhance the Imperial Salt Revenue levied in Ganjam by facilitating the transport of that article to the large emporium of Sonepore; and as being important on military grounds.

2. It requires no argument to prove the necessity of providing at least one good line of communication available for cart traffic between the Central Provinces at Sambalpore and the Ganjam ports for commercial purposes; and the above-mentioned 51 miles of road, if opened out, will complete such a communication; the route from Sankarakole by the Kalingia Ghaut, Aska, and Berhampore to Gopaulpore, being reported as already practicable for wheeled vehicles.

3. For military purposes it is necessary that Berhampore should be connected with the Central Provinces by a practicable cart road. The 31st Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, now stationed at Raipore, had to reach Sonepore two years ago, *vid* Khondah and the Mahanaddi, a detour of about 100 miles, much of it (along the Mahanaddi) being unmade road. And Sambalpore being held by a wing of the Madras Native Infantry Regiment stationed at Berhampore, the propriety of making the two stations accessible to each other is apparent.

4. Under these circumstances it is hoped by His Excellency the Governor in Council that steps will be taken at an early date for completing this link in a line of communication which is of importance as concerns Imperial interests.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

Govt. of 1875 Madras

PUBLIC WORKS

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

OF INDIA.

Dated February 6th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 6th February 1875, No. 338.

FEBRUARY.

No. 167

Rev 4383/75

REQUESTING attention to the subject of a line of communication which it is very desirable to complete between the northern frontier of the Ganjam District of the Madras Presidency at Sankarakole and Sonepore on the Mahanaddi.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department
27th October 1875.

No. 432. Read the following letter from Captain G. T. SKIPWITH, R.E., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Communications,) to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 19th October 1875, No. 307 C. :—

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 338, of the 6th February last, expressing a hope that early steps may be taken for completing the road between the northern frontier of the Ganjam District at Sankarakole and Sonepore on the Mahanaddi, and in reply to convey the following remarks.

2. The Government of Bengal having been addressed on the subject, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has remarked that he is aware of the advantages of the proposed line of road, but that owing to the present low state of Provincial Funds he is at a loss to find the requisite means, and for this reason alone he hesitates to promise to undertake the work at present, but will bear the matter in mind if any funds become available and which could be devoted to the purpose.

3. Referring to the necessity urged for completing the road on military grounds, I am to say that as Sambalpore is on the Jubbulpore and Cuttuck road, and as there is regular communication between is on the Kamptee and Cuttuck road, and as there is regular communication between the latter place and Berhampore, the Government of India do not consider the proposal to connect Berhampore with Sambalpore a necessity on military grounds, though a shorter route than the existing one would doubtless be a convenience.

4. Next, with reference to the statement that by completing the road in question the Imperial Salt Revenue in Ganjam would be greatly enhanced, I am to state that the Governor-General in Council is of opinion that this is questionable, so that under the circumstances His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council will no doubt see that the completion of the road must be held in abeyance until such time as the Government of Bengal are in a position to undertake the work from Provincial Funds, as alluded to in the 2nd paragraph.

No. 433. ORDER THEREON, 27th October 1875, No. 3,032.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 28.

ORDERED to be communicated to the Judicial, Revenue, and Military Departments, with copy of the letter to which it is a reply.

(True Extract.)

G. T. Walker Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department.
„ Revenue „
„ Military „

Exd. S. T. Austin.

20 Spare Copies

G.O. 17 April 75 No 217-18
22 Sept — 109 Letter
2 October — 2043 Letter

Revenue 1875 Dept to
No 4383
Govt of {1875} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 27th.

Read

Rec'd Nov 11

Ent.

G. O., 27th October 1875, No. 3,032.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 432-433

Road between the northern frontier of the Ganjam District at Sankarakole and Sonepore on the Mahanaddi.—Letter from the Government of India offering remarks regarding the —, communicated to the departments concerned.

No 2401
Comm^d to the
Board of Revenue
12 Nov 75

14 Oct Board's Rec Dec 19 Nov