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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	158	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	22-1-1876	196

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd December 1875.*

No. 22. Read the following endorsement of the District Engineer of Cuddapah, dated 24th November 1875, No. 1,814:—

Copy of letter from the Officer in charge of Cuddapah Range, to the District Engineer of Cuddapah, dated Moodanoor, 18th November 1875, No. 685.

AFTER due deliberation I feel it my duty to submit the accompanying petition from Madar Saib, lately a Contractor in this range, for favorable consideration.

2. The petitioner has not personally executed any work under my immediate orders, but I have made inquiry as to his character and antecedents after the receipt of the enclosed petition in my office, and from what I can learn he always appears to have given satisfaction to his professional superiors, and is, I learn, in addition, considered a competent workman.

3. I am very imperfectly acquainted with the circumstances which rendered it necessary for Government to issue the orders prohibiting his employment in future, but I understand that his misconduct was occasioned in a great measure by the fault of the departmental subordinates, who were supposed to control his proceedings, and to the objectionable practice of permitting this man to undertake the whole of the work within the range, which necessitated him to employ agents over whom he could exercise only limited control.

4. I believe also that the Government prohibiting order has only had limited effect, inasmuch as the accounts show that immediately this man (as well as others) were deprived of work, their relatives stepped in and have executed the greater portion of the work performed by contract in recent years. The consequence of this is that I find works are in very unsatisfactory progress, particularly in the neighbourhood of Cuddapah, and if I employ the relatives of the petitioner as hitherto (which appears to me objectionable) I find they do not possess any professional knowledge, and having these men it is difficult to get work done satisfactorily at all.

5. The delay in executing works has been the subject of frequent comment, and several works in my Progress Report have been in the hands of two and even three Contractors without bringing them to satisfactory completion, and in consequence I find that one man (Mahommed Saib) is getting the whole of the work into his own hands, and exerting undue influence adverse to others and stifling all competition.

6. To put a stop to this objectionable state of things, I respectfully request that the orders of Government prohibiting the employment of petitioner may be cancelled, and that he may be allowed to compete for contract works in this range, and considering the time that has elapsed since the prohibitory orders were issued, I am disposed to recommend that permission may be accorded to employ any other persons who have been prohibited from taking contract in this district (after obtaining your special sanction in each case), to encourage competition and increase the out-turn of work.

SUBMITTED for the favorable consideration of Government with reference to G.O., No. 632, of 27th February 1873.

(Signed)

A. S. MOBERLY, Colonel, R.E.,
District Engineer of Cuddapah.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd December 1875.*

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, 2nd December 1875, No. 3,424.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 1.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is not prepared to cancel his Order No. 632, of 27th February 1873, in favor of Madar Sahib. The Cuddapah Range Officer (supposed to be Mr. Seton) will be instructed to inform himself fully as to the circumstances which necessitated the issue of that order, and which are clearly recorded therein, and in the previous orders, Nos. 1,376 and 2,963 of 3rd June and 14th December 1872.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is very unfavorably impressed by the letter from the Cuddapah Range Officer as to the entire dependence of the Executive Officers of the Public Works Department in the Cuddapah District on particular Contractors for the execution of the works for which they are answerable. No improvement would appear to have occurred since 1872 and 1873, when, from the appendices to the Contractor's petition, Messrs. O'Ratigan and Hunter seem to have been entirely dependent upon him, and destitute of any independent departmental agency.

3. The Government look to the District Engineer to inaugurate a more healthy state of affairs amongst the Executive Officers under his orders.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Cuddapah.

Ed. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies


Govt. of [1875] Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
CUDDAPAH.

Dated December 2nd.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 2nd December 1875, No. 3,424.

Rm 788/6

DECEMBER.

Nos. 22-23

Contractor Madar Sahib of Cuddapah District.
Declining to comply the General
Order prohibiting any Government contracts
being in future entrusted to —

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th January 1876.

No. 29. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th
December 1875, No. 3,333:—

Read the following letter from W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to
H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
Bramhannayerragudi, 15th November 1875, No. 238.

I HAVE the honor to submit my report on public works in this district for
the official year 1874-75.

2. The following abstract statement exhibits the outlay on imperial and
provincial works in 1874-75 compared with the budget grants for the same year:—

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th January 1876.*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th January 1876.*

	Grant.	Outlay.	
	RS.	RS.	
Imperial Works	67,790	61,114	
Provincial Works	36,428	45,712	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

the expenditure in the year under review exceeded the grant by Rupees 2,608 and is above the outlay of 1873-74 by Rupees 41,981.

Total ...	1,04,218	1,06,826	4. The new as
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Expenditure.

	1873-74.	1874-75.	Increase.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Imperial Works.	34,470	61,114	26,644
Provincial Works.	30,375	45,712	15,337
Total ...	64,845	1,06,826	41,981

4. The new agricultural works consisting of the construction of waste weirs and sluices are of no importance. The Idupulapai Channel, which I noticed as an unfinished work last year, is in the same state. After the floods in October 1874, water remained for an unusual length of time in the river Papagni and prevented any work being done.

5. Three taluq cutcherries are, as they were last year, in progress. The Sidhout Cutcherry has been handed over, and is now occupied. I trust that the building in Kadiri will be completed this year, as, since the rains in October 1874, it has been discovered that the old cutcherry is not as stable a building as it was hitherto supposed to be. Cutcherries are very much required at Pulivendla and Voilpaud, but as yet nothing has been done in spite of my remarks on this subject last year. The Eudwail Taluq Cutcherry has also been discovered to be a very inferior building, and a new cutcherry should be built. Money is thrown away when employed in patching up these old buildings.

6. Several tanks were breached and damaged by the rains last year. Some of them have been repaired. With others, such as the Chintakunta Tank, it is a question whether their repairs can profitably be undertaken. The Chintakunta Tank, I am afraid, must be abandoned. The river channels destroyed by the floods have nearly all of them been restored by Tahsildars and villagers, the work being afterwards examined and paid for by the Public Works Officers. The amount of repair-work which has been got through in this way has been very large, and it has been very economically done. Work of this description cost Rupees 12,445.

7. From what I have seen during the past year I am more than ever convinced that the present system of entrusting agricultural works to contractors, whose sole object is to make as much money as they can and who take no interest in the character and stability of their work, is a mistake. The contractor spends as little as he can on the work, and pockets the rest. The villagers would put all the money in the work in order that their lands might derive every possible benefit from the work, and the result would be advantageous to the Government and the ryot. If this system were followed, rates would be very much reduced, and there would be a still greater saving. At present a contractor has not only to leave a margin for himself, but he has to provide for payments to overseers and maistries, and this he cannot manage at rates representing the actual cost of the work. That the rates are now unnecessarily high has become very apparent since the practice has been introduced of entrusting petty local works to Tahsildars.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th January 1876.

defective. I have alluded to this subject before, but nothing has been done owing, I believe, to want of money.

The expenditure in the year under review was Rupees 1,06,826. It exceeded the grant by Rupees 2,608 and the outlay of the previous year by Rupees 41,981. This indicates very satisfactory general activity. The Collector has omitted to furnish a statement of expenditure in the form prescribed in Circular Order, dated 14th October 1874, No. 1,678.

2. None of the new agricultural works were of much individual importance. The outlay amounted to only Rupees 630. In repairs there was a total expenditure of Rupees 54,278. The Collector gives little information as to particular works, but states that much tank and channel repair-work was done in an economical way by the rayuts.

3. The outlay on civil buildings was taken over for occupation, and the expenditure of Rupees 54,278. The Collector gives little information as to particular works, but states that much tank and channel repair-work was done in an economical way by the rayuts.

4. The report might have been submitted much earlier. The expenditure under Local Funds should have been noticed. The Collector's attention is called to G.O., dated 16th July 1874, No. 1,174, Financial Department.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 30.

ORDER THEREON

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 4.

great reliance of the Public Works Establishment, No. 3,424, of 2nd December 1875.

(True Extract.)

C. A. Galton Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Cuddapah.

„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Revenue Department, with G.O., No. 3,424, of 2nd December 1875.

Ed E. C. Shunker.

20 Spare Copies

Revenue Department
1888

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
CUDDAH. &c. &c. &c.

Dated January 4th.

Issued

Recd. 19th

Encl.

G. O., 4th January 1876, No. 15.

S. M. S.

JANUARY.

Nos. 29 30

Report on Public Works executed in the
Cuddapah District during 1874-75.—Pro-
ceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting
Collector's —, communicated with remarks
to the District Engineer, Cuddapah, and the
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 158

Forwarded to the
Board of Revenue

22nd Jan 1876

145th Board of Revenue 1876