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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3770	Press.
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Dated	4. 7. 1877	197.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

14th June 1877, No. 1709.

Tolls.

Read the following paper:—

No. 112. *From Major T. G. CLARKE, Officiating Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bangalore, 28th May 1877, No. 2053-26.*

With reference to your office letter, No. 1600, dated 4th September 1876, to the address of the Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department, wherein a claim is put forward to a share of the net proceeds of the tolls proposed to be levied on the Bhund and Agumbe Ghaut Roads, on the ground that about one-half of their length was originally made and is still maintained from Madras funds, I am directed by the Chief Commissioner to forward, herewith, for submission to His Grace the Governor in Council, copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, No. 1064, dated 10th April 1877, and of its enclosure, and to draw attention to the circumstance stated in paragraph 2 of Colonel Johnson's letter, that the Madras authorities have, for some time past, established the levy of tolls at the foot of the ghaut roads in question, and that no portion of those collections has been assigned to this Administration, though, as shown in the enclosure, a large expenditure has been incurred by the Mysore State in the formation of these ghaut roads as well as in their subsequent maintenance.

2. I am to request the favor of being informed whether, under the explanation now afforded, His Grace in Council adheres to the opinion conveyed in Mr. Hudleston's letter under reference.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. JOHNSON, Temporary Chief Engineer of Mysore, to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, dated Bangalore, 10th April 1877, No. 1064.

As requested in your No. 9147-1482, dated 7th December 1876, I have the honor to forward, herewith, copy of a letter, No. 534, of the 18th February 1877, from the Superintending Engineer, Roads and Buildings, regarding the expenditure, &c., incurred and to be incurred by the Mysore Government on the construction and maintenance of the Agumbe and the Bhund Ghauts, from which it is I think sufficiently apparent that when the works are completed, Mysore will have expended fully as much as the Madras Government on these works.

2. Another point that should not be lost sight of is that tolls have already for some time been levied by the Madras authorities at the foot of these ghauts, no portion of which has been shared by the Mysore Government.

3. I may add that when the Coorg Budget was cut down in 1870-71, an application was made to the Madras Government for a half share of the tolls collected by the Madras authorities at the foot of these ghauts, at the Soolia and Irrity Bridges, and this having been conceded by the Madras Government, the half of one year's receipts was actually paid over to us. Owing, however, to representations from the Collectors of Malabar and Canara, the payment of the half share of these tolls was again stopped, and we were told that if we chose we might ourselves put our own tolls on the ghauts and make what we could.

4. Under the above circumstances, I do not see that the Madras authorities have any right, either to object to our establishing tolls on the Agumbe or Bhund Ghauts, or to demand any portion of the receipts therefrom.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Captain C. BOWEN, R.E., Officiating Superintending Engineer of Mysore, Roads and Buildings Branch, to the Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, dated Agumbe, 18th February 1877, No. 534.

With reference to your docket, No. 2542-4232, of the 8th December, calling for certain information regarding the Bhund and Agumbe Ghaut Roads, I have the honor to submit the following.

2. From the gate at summit of Bhund Ghaut near Kotigar to the boundary, the distance is nine miles, and thence to Chamundi, the foot of ghaut, is seven miles. The nine miles within Mysore limits are maintained at a rate of Rupees 515 per mile. Further, in addition to this annual-repair allotment an estimate of Rupees 50,500 for widening and improving the upper portion (sanctioned by Government of India in No. 45-C of 16th February 1876) is now being rapidly worked out.

3. The Agumbe Ghaut is seven miles in length, of which three miles in Mysore. This is counting from the natural head of the ghaut. The maintenance of the above three miles is at the rate of Rupees 180 per mile, with 5 per cent. for petty establishment. But in addition to the repairs, it is now proposed to spend Rupees 40,000 on rectifying the gradients on the above three miles, and under Item No. 59 of the Forecast Programme, provision has been made for this project.

4. I have no information as to the original cost of these ghauts in Mysore, but, judging from the character of the country traversed, I should say that the outlay incurred in this province must have been considerably more than the cost of the Madras portions. At this distance of time since the original formation of the ghauts, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to trace the exact proportions of outlay under each Administration.

5. In proposing that the Madras Government should share in the proceeds of tolls sanctioned to be levied at the head of these ghauts, the important fact has apparently been lost sight of, that tolls have for a long time been established at the foot of the ghauts in Madras territory. If then, any arrangement is to be entered into, surely the most equitable settlement would be for the two Governments to share the net proceeds of both tolls—those at the head and those at foot of ghauts—share and share alike, or in the proportion of the annual outlay incurred by each for the upkeep of the ghaut.

No. 113. To the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, dated Fort St. George, 14th June 1877, No. 1709.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dated the 28th ultimo, No. 2053-26, I am directed to state that, under the explanation now afforded, the Madras Government do not wish to press their claim for a share of the net proceeds of the tolls proposed to be levied on the Bhund and Agumbe Ghaut Roads.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

(*Recd. Off.*)

J. Linnell
Under Secretary.

To the Revenue Dept.

Exd. J. Wright.

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378/2

No 3770
Communicated to the Board
of Revenue

3. To the Bd of Revenue
4. July 17

Revenue Department

No 3026

Cost of 1877: MYHURUS.

FINANCIAL.

TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF
MYSORE

Dated June 14th.

Issued

Recd 23 June

G.O. 14th June 1877, No. 1709.

Price 4-7-77 No. 3770.

JUNE.

Nos 112-114

Note.—Stating that, under the explanation
afforded, this Government do not wish to press
their claim for a share of the net proceeds of the
tolls proposed to be levied on the Band and
Agumbe Grant Roads.

With Respects