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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	549	Press Mis.
Dated	4-8-1881.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

21st February 1881, No. 299.

Local Funds—Roads.

Read the following papers:—

No. 51. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th November 1880, No. 13,149 (Miscellaneous).*

Read the following letter from the President of the Local Fund Board, Nilgiris, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th November 1880, No. 52:—

I have the honor to invite the attention of the Board and Government to the very unsatisfactory state of the road between Ootacamund and Naduvatam.

2. This road was opened for traffic in 1869. It has never yet been metalled. During the rains it is simply impassable for traffic, and, until properly made, will always remain so. The meagre mileage allotment, which the Local Fund Board can spare, contributes in no way to its permanent improvement. The repairs are no more than patch-work, which the ensuing rains rapidly and entirely obliterate. Such expenditure is of a wasteful character, and has the further defect of being impracticable in the heavy rains, and feasible only when the dryness of the weather materially contributes to the restoration of the road to trafficable order.

3. The hopeless state of this road in the rains is personally so well known to His Grace the Governor and to at least one other member of the Government, that I need go into no further details.

4. I would beg leave to point out that the Government have a special interest in the good order of this road for the sake of the Cinchona Plantations at Naduvatam. At present the bark from these estates has to be kept there for months after it is ready for transport to Ootacamund and thence to the home market. It must also be borne in mind that this is the main road to the Wynaad and to the Mysore frontier.

5. Under these circumstances, I venture to hope that the Government will see fit to sanction a grant of the amount required for the proper construction and macadamization of the road throughout its entire length. The Government are aware that this Circle Board are not in a position to allot money for this purpose. I would suggest that the necessary funds be provided from the Cinchona Revenue, which, for each of the past two years, has given a nett profit of upwards of three lakhs of rupees, and by a special Provincial allotment.

6. The cost is estimated by the Local Fund Executive Engineer at Rs. 4,000 a-mile, or Rs. 84,000 for the twenty-one miles of road.

Submitted for the favorable consideration of Government.

2. The road forms an important line of communication, and, in the interests of Government as well of the general public, it should be maintained in good order, and, as Local Funds are insufficient to meet the exceptional cost of the work, Government may be prepared to make a grant-in-aid from Provincial Funds.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary.

No. 52. *From the President of the Local Fund Board, Nilgiris, to the Under Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 25th January 1881, No. 1.*

In reply to your official memorandum, No. 136, dated 21st instant, I have the honor to enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter received from the Local Fund Engineer informing me that Rs. 40,000 can be spent in one year on the road from Ootacamund to Naduvatam.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., C.E., Local Fund Engineer, Nilgiri District, to the President of the Local Fund Board, Nilgiris, dated Ootacamund, 25th January 1881, No. 193.

In reply to your endorsement of this date on Under Secretary Maclean's Memorandum, No. 136, dated the 21st instant, I have the honor to report that Rs. 40,000 can be spent in one year on the road from Ootacamund to Naduvatam.

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1881, No. 299.

It appears from the account of Provincial Services for December 1880 (the last which has been submitted to Government) that the amount expended up to date from the Provincial grant (Rs. 75,000) on Local Fund Works for the current year is Rs. 16,125. As there is thus a considerable balance left, the Governor in Council resolves, under the circumstances represented in the foregoing papers, to sanction an allotment of Rs. (10,000) ten thousand from the current year's provision, and a grant of equal amount in 1881-82, towards the construction of the road between Ootacamund and Naduvatam.

2. The Government of India will be requested to accord their sanction to a provision of Rs. 30,000 being made at once in the Cinchona Budget Estimate for 1881-82 as a contribution towards the work.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant-General.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. J. Wright

Revenue 881 Dept.
No. 128
Govt. of (1881) Madras.
FINANCIAL.

Miss. No. 549
Communicated to the

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
Secy. Secy. Secy.

Conservator of Forests

Des. No. 3/3

and the Commissioner of
Nilgiris.

Dated February, 21st.

Issued

Recd.

24

G.O., 21st February 1881, No. 229.

List:

in March 1881

1. To the Conservator of Forests & Depts.
1. The Commissioner of Nilgiris.

FEBRUARY.
Nos. 51-54.

Local Funds—Roads—An allotment of Rs. 10,000 from the current year's Provincial grant, and a grant of equal amount in 1881-82, towards the construction of the road between Ottumund and Nedavattam, sanctioned.

No. 549. G. P. March 1881

W. H. M. M. M.