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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	228	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	16-2-1876	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th February 1876.*

No. 196. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th January 1876, No. 212:—

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 18th December 1875, No. 681:—

I HAVE the honor to state that a few weeks ago, I directed the Tahsildar of the Palmanair Taluq to inspect and bring me certain information regarding the new Sub-Magistrate's cutcherry now being constructed at Venkatagherrikota, of which division he was then in charge. The Tahsildar who proceeded to the place returned to say that he was not permitted to enter into the building by the Public Works Department peon in charge of it, who first falsely informed him that he had not the keys of the building, and then said in a very insulting manner that, although he had the key, he would not comply with the Tahsildar's request, as he had no instructions from his superiors to do so. I then in my letter, No. 541, dated 23rd ultimo, copy of which is herewith forwarded, brought the conduct of the peon to the notice of the District Engineer, who, in justification of the man's conduct, tells me that the Tahsildar had no authority to inspect a building under construction by his department. Copy of that officer's letter, No. 3,225, dated 7th instant, on the subject is enclosed.

2. I am unable to agree with Captain Pennycuick in his opinion that a revenue officer of the Tahsildar's position, acting under special orders from the Collector, has no authority to enter or inspect a building that is under construction by the Public Works Department, for the eventual use of the Revenue Department. On the contrary, it appears to me that revenue officials should have the freest right of access to such buildings while in course of erection, for the remarks they make would, in many instances, prevent future correspondence and alterations of the buildings after completion by the Public Works Department.

3. I have therefore the honor to request that you will be good enough to obtain an expression of the views of the Board and Government in this matter.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer of North Arcot, dated Chittoor, 23rd November 1875, No. 541.

It has been brought to my notice by the Tahsildar of Palmanair, that a few days ago when he was at Venkatagherrikota, of which division he is now in charge, he proceeded to inspect the new cutcherry now being built there; and finding the doors locked, he asked the Department of Public Works peon in charge to open them, but was told that the keys were not with him. This, on inquiry, was at once found to be false, and the peon, by name Mahomed Sahib, replied in a very insolent manner that it was true he had the keys of the cutcherry in his charge, but that he had no instructions to allow the Tahsildar to enter the building. The Tahsildar, whom I had specially instructed to bring me certain information about the cutcherry, returned to me and explained his inability to tell me what I wanted. I feel sure that I have only thus to inform you of the peon's impertinence to ensure your taking prompt notice of the same.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
16th February 1876.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to W. S. WHITESIDE,
Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Palmanair, 7th December 1875, No. 3,225.

In reply to your letter No. 541, of 23rd instant, I regret to say that I am unable to concur in your view of the circumstances mentioned therein.

2. The Tahsildar has no authority to inspect a building under construction by another department, and the peon was perfectly right in preventing him from doing so.

3. Any information which you may wish for, regarding this or any other work under the charge of the Public Works Department, can be obtained by application to this office.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. It seems to the Board that Mr. Whiteside's view of the case is quite correct, and that the Tahsildar was entitled as of right to inspect the building. At all events in common courtesy, he should have been allowed to do so. It can scarcely be expected that good feeling should exist between the departments when acts, similar to that complained of, are supported by the authority of District Engineers.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 197.

ORDER THEREON, 16th February 1876, No. 228.

Miscellaneous.

It will be considered in the Public Works Department, whether there was any justification for the conduct of

Captain Pennycuick complained of by the Collector. The action taken by the Public Works Department will be communicated in due course to the Collector through the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Public Works Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

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No. 212.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 25th January 1876.

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 18th December 1875, No. 681:—

I HAVE the honor to state that a few weeks ago, I directed the Tahsildar of the Palmanair Taluq to inspect and bring me certain information regarding the new Sub-Magistrate's cutcherry now being constructed at Venkatagherrikota, of which division he was then in charge. The Tahsildar who proceeded to the place returned to say that he was not permitted to enter into the building by the Public Works Department peon in charge of it, who first falsely informed him that he had not the keys of the building, and then said in a very insulting manner that, although he had the key, he would not comply with the Tahsildar's request, as he had no instructions from his superiors to do so. I then in my letter, No. 541, dated 23rd ultimo, copy of which is herewith forwarded, brought the conduct of the peon to the notice of the District Engineer, who, in justification of the man's conduct, tells me that the Tahsildar had no authority to inspect a building under construction by his department. Copy of that officer's letter, No. 3,225, dated 7th instant, on the subject is enclosed.

2. I am unable to agree with Captain Pennycuick in his opinion that a revenue officer of the Tahsildar's position, acting under special orders from the Collector, has no authority to enter or inspect a building that is under construction by the Public Works Department, for the eventual use of the Revenue Department. On the contrary, it appears to me that revenue officials should have the freest right of access to such building while in course of erection, for the remarks they make would, in many instances, prevent future correspondence and alterations of the buildings after completion by the Public Works Department.

3. I have therefore the honor to request that you will be good enough to obtain an expression of the views of the Board and Government in this matter.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer of North Arcot, dated Chittoor, 23rd November 1875, No. 541.

It has been brought to my notice by the Tahsildar of Palmanair, that a few days ago when he was at Venkatagherrikota, of which division he is now in charge, he proceeded to inspect the new cutcherry now being built there; and finding the doors locked, he asked the Department of Public Works peon in charge to open them, but was told that the keys were not with him. This, on inquiry, was at once found to be false, and the peon, by name Mahomed Sahib, replied in a very insolent manner that it was true he had the keys of the cutcherry in his charge, but that he had no instructions to allow the Tahsildar to enter the building. The Tahsildar, whom I had specially instructed to bring me certain information about the cutcherry, returned to me and explained his inability to tell me what I wanted. I feel sure that I have only thus to inform you of the peon's impertinence to ensure your taking prompt notice of the same.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

7 June 1910/87

Original

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Secy. to Govt.

Under Secretary, 18th.

Head.

Encl.

G.O., 16th February 1876, No. 228.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 196-197.

Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry in course of construction at Venkatagherrikota, in North Arcot.— Requesting Public Works Department to consider, with reference to the complaint of the Collector against the peon of the Public Works Department who refused to allow the Palmanair Tahsildar to inspect the — whether there was any justification for the conduct of Captain Pennycuick in detaining the man's conduct.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Captain J. PENNYCUICK, R.E., District Engineer, North Arcot, to W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Palmanair, 7th December 1875, No. 3,225.

In reply to your letter No. 541, of 23rd instant, I regret to say that I am unable to concur in your view of the circumstances mentioned therein.

2. The Tahsildar has no authority to inspect a building under construction by another department, and the peon was perfectly right in preventing him from doing so.

3. Any information which you may wish for, regarding this or any other work under the charge of the Public Works Department, can be obtained by application to this office.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. It seems to the Board that Mr. Whiteside's view of the case is quite correct, and that the Tahsildar was entitled as of right to inspect the building. At all events in common courtesy, he should have been allowed to do so. It can scarcely be expected that good feeling should exist between the departments when acts, similar to that complained of, are supported by the authority of District Engineers.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Calcutta
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
To the Collector of North Arcot.

No 228

Exd. W. H. French.

It will be considered in the P.W. Dept whether there was any justification for his conduct of cap. Pennycuick comm. planned of by the Collector. The action taken by the P.W. Dept will be communicated in due course to the Collector through the

*14th Dec. 1875
15th Dec. 1875
16th Dec. 1875*

16 February 1876

BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 25TH JANUARY 1876, No. 212.

Copy to Sub-Inspector

3 Glob. Encl.

Received 3rd Feb.

JANUARY.
No. 212.

Sub-Magistrate's Culcherry—in course of construction at Venatagherikote, in North Arcot District.—Submitting for orders of Government letter from Collector complaining of the Public Works Department peon refusing to allow the Palmanair Tahsildar to enter and inspect the —, and of his conduct having been supported by the District Engineer.

Ch. Sec. 16 February 1876