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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 321
B.P. No.

Press
Mis.

Dated 5-2-1876

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

102

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th February 1875.

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 Wontimitta, 2nd February 1875, No. 26:—

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 2,820, dated 30th September 1874, I addressed the Postmaster-General, who referred me to the Inspecting Postmaster to arrange for the transfer of the District Post from the Revenue to the Imperial Post.

2. At the commencement of the year the Inspecting Postmaster suggested the transfer, and I approved of the changes which he proposed to introduce. The matter fell through for a time in the Postal Department, and has been lately revived by the Postmaster-General addressing the Government on the subject. Experience will show whether some of the Inspecting Postmaster's proposals will not hereafter require to be modified. It will be a great convenience, and it will be economical to make Raichoti in the sub-division a postal centre. The postal line between Kadiri and Madanapalli can be done away with, and the latter place can be served from Raichoti by the Cuddapah and Madanapalli post. The mails are now conveyed in a very irregular manner from Pulivendla to Cuddapah *via* the Yerraguntla railway station. It is now proposed to connect Pulivendla with Cuddapah by the railway at Muddanur. This will be a better line, as, being more frequented, there will not be the difficulties experienced along the present route in procuring good runners. The Papagni river crosses the new line between Kadiri and Raichoti. The mails will be passed over during the heaviest floods by an arrangement of posts and wires. There are other modifications in the existing lines which require no notice.

3. Letter-boxes are to be placed at convenient stations, and are to be connected with Post Offices by runners. District letter peons will be in charge of some of these boxes, and will deliver and receive letters within a radius of three miles of the boxes. These letter-boxes are an entirely new feature in the postal arrangements of the district, and a great improvement will be effected in the delivery of letters in the out-villages.

4. These improvements cannot be carried out without a large increase in expenditure. The postal grant for 1874-75 is Rupees 4,820. For the system proposed a grant of Rupees 10,000 will be required. It will, however, be money well laid out, as nothing can be worse than the existing arrangements. The

* With a copy of letter from the Inspecting Postmaster, dated 9th December 1874, No. 3,941. enclosed statement* will show how the money is to be laid out, and how the increased expenditure will arise. With

such an extended system as now proposed, there must be an establishment for supervising its working. Hitherto such an establishment has not existed, and that now required will cost Rupees 120 per mensem. In this is included Rupees 50, a monthly payment to the Inspecting Postmaster, and this charge I strongly recommend may be sanctioned, as a great deal of additional work will be thrown

upon the Inspecting Postmaster. The cost of working the mail lines will cause an increased monthly expenditure of Rupees 100. At present there are neither box-stations nor runners, and these will require a monthly outlay of Rupees 177. In the statement are mentioned two stations which do not belong to this district. They are Nossum and Chagal Marri. The charges connected with these stations ought to be met by the Kurnool District. The annual postal charges are at present Rupees 3,192. The proposed scheme will cost Rupees 9,933.

5. A sketch-map of the district showing the postal lines as they exist and as proposed is with the Inspecting Postmaster. I have asked him to send it direct to the Board.

ENCLOSURE No 1.

From H. D. THEOBALD, Esq., Inspecting Postmaster, Nellore Division, to W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, dated Nundalore, 9th December 1874, No. 3,941.

With my letter under date 24th January 1874, No. 3,711, I had the honor of submitting, for your approval, a scheme drawn up for placing the Cuddapah District Post on an efficient footing in the event of its transfer to Imperial management.

2. You were pleased to approve of the proposals in your letter, No. 22, dated 13th February 1874, and the papers were accordingly sent up to the Postmaster-General of Madras with my No. 4,166, dated 21st February 1874; but, in consequence of restrictions placed upon expenditure on account of the famine in Bengal, the papers were ordered to lie over, and were again transmitted on the 8th July 1874 with No. 1,338 to the Postmaster-General.

3. What further steps were taken after this is not apparent. The subject was, however, revived in the correspondence which followed your letter, No. 175, dated 19th October last, and which was referred to me by the Postmaster-General for report.

4. The main point for consideration at this period of the official year is with reference to the allotment for district postal purposes, showing a probable large unexpended balance, which must lapse unless some immediate action is taken to utilize the same. Each measure as I will proceed to show to be carried out necessarily requires the early transfer of the management of the district post, and at the same time needs sanction to the proposals contained in accompanying tabular statement, as the utilization of the probable balance of the current year's grant has, for its object, the expenditure of the money on a part of the scheme for 1875-76.

5. The following particulars have been ascertained from the Treasury Department.

Grant* 1874-75, Rupees 4,800 + 20†	RS.	
Expenditure up to 31st October 1874, Rupees 1,945 + 12		= 4,820
		= 1,957
Balance available		2,863
Probable expenditure on account of salaries, etc., for November and December 1874, at Rupees 270 per mensem, or up to time of anticipated transfer		540
Balance		2,323

6. If the transfer is not effected by 1st January 1875, deducting Rupees 540 for January and February salaries, etc., also from above balance of Rupees 2,323, there would be a lapse of funds to the extent of Rupees 1,783.

* Vide Proceedings of Board of Revenue, No. 1,590, dated 26th June 1874.
† Contingencies.

7. The tabular statement submitted to you on the 24th January 1874 was drawn up—vide details in Column "Present Scale"—with reference to the grant* for 1873-74.

8. The actual expenditure at the same monthly average rate of Rupees 26³ for the current year 1874-75 does not exceed this, although the Budget Estimate, as shown in paragraph 5 *supra*, is Rupees 4,820, or monthly Rupees 401-10-8. I have, therefore, retained the particulars of expenditure in 1874-75 as given for 1873-74.

9. Under "Proposed Scale" it will be observed that several additional items have been entered as compared with the tabular statement submitted in January 1874.

The following statement shows this:—

Heads of Items.	Statement of January 1874.			Present Statement.			Difference.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
I.—Mail Lines	240	0	0	300	0	0	60	0	0
II.—Letter-box Peons	90	0	0	116	0	0	26	0	0
III.—Box-station Runners	10	0	0	61	0	0	51	0	0
IV.—District Letter Peons	78	0	0	108	0	0	30	0	0
V.—District Post Gumastahs	44	0	0	44	0	0			
VI.—Subordinate Supervision	54	0	0	120	0	0	66	0	0
VII.—House-rent	4	8	0	4	0	0	0	8	0
VIII.—Contingencies	6	4	0	6	12	0	0	8	0
IX.—Ferries	60	0	0	68	0	0	8	0	0

10. It may be considered unnecessary I should enter into great details regarding these increases. I shall, therefore, refer only to those which show a high difference and which are of sufficient importance to be noticed in this report.

11. *Mail Lines, increase Rupees 60.*—In the proposals sent in, and which were sanctioned, the runner establishments for the Poremamilla and Chitwail offices were paid from Imperial Funds. After the usual period of experiment, it was found that these offices did not yield revenue sufficiently high to ensure their permanency. Considering the importance of these offices, and of their being of benefit to the district alike for officials as well as for the public, it was proposed to enlist the aid of the district funds for their upkeep: hence the entries. For the line from Peelair to Voilpaud the entry for runners was by an oversight omitted.

There appears to be some difficulty about connecting Vanupully to Raichoti on account of the Papugnee river and the hills. Until it is seen that these difficulties can be overcome, the line is proposed to be taken from Vanupully *via* Pulivendla to Moodanoor. Under an arrangement which will constitute Rajempett (present receiving house) into a regular office, and having a runner line between Rajempett and Pullampett, and thereby ensure the earlier delivery of letters at the latter station when night-trains resume running, the services of the Mail Guard between Cuddapah and Reddypully stations will be dispensed with. Wontimitta then being the only one station to be served through day-trains under orders of the Postmaster-General, a district peon has been provided.

12. *Letter-box Peons, increase Rupees 26.*—The first tabular statement has only provided for thirteen peons. Further inquiry and advice add to experience gained of the advantages of these boxes in a district: an addition of six boxes has been made. I only wish I could add a few more to this number, as I have reason to be confident of their paying for their upkeep, and benefiting the district very greatly as they are taken over, on result being satisfactory, to Imperial, and would probably, as there have been instances, so improve as to be replaced by post offices. An intelligent runner will be kept at Govalchervu stage to deliver letters to officials proceeding on tour.

13. *Box-station Runners, increase Rupees 51.*—For reasons urged above, and to extend the sphere of usefulness of the box-peons in speedily receiving and delivering letters, it has been

* Lees.

considered necessary to have runners to several more of the boxes, situated at distances from six miles upwards than at first contemplated. It is not unreasonably hoped that the revenue of the boxes to which these runners are attached will pay, as the trading community particularly begin to appreciate the convenience of speedy despatch of their letters and receive the replies thereto, and not the least of this arrangement is to ensure to district officials on tour every speedy convenience possible in despatching and receiving their covers.

14. *District Letter Peons, increase Rupees 30.*—After due consideration, and how greatly benefited certain parts of the district would be by the proposed system of post offices and boxes, the delivery of correspondence in more remote villages needs earnest attention. The district is large, and I do not think that, in now proposing to have eighteen instead of only thirteen district delivery peons, one too many has been provided for.

15. *District Post Gumastah, Rupees 44.*—No increase appears. Eventually I hope to have receiving houses or branch offices to replace these district post offices. This would also relieve the district funds to the full extent of the sum now provided for under this head.

16. *Subordinate Supervision, increase Rupees 66.*—It would be, I consider, impossible to get a gumastah on Rupees 12 a-month to travel about with the Sub-Inspector who is to be appointed on the transfer of the district post being sanctioned. Rupees 15 has, therefore, been provided. A peon for myself and for the Sub-Inspector I find will be absolutely necessary. The greatest inconvenience is experience of want of a peon, and from experience I can say that at times my own offers of price have failed to get me ordinary provisions for myself and servants and fodder for cattle. It is strange, but nevertheless the fact, that a man with a belt would be more fortunate.

The district allowance entered is a point which personally affects me. The amount bears small upon the expenditure (Rupees 10,000), and I feel this consideration would not be denied when the amount of work to be got through is regarded as being onerous and responsible. I can not, however, leave the matter in your hands and with the sanctioning authorities.

17. *House-rent, decrease Annas 8.*—This reduction will be carried out with reference to the district gumastah of Cuddapah who will be attached to the post office.

18. *Contingencies, increase Annas 8.*—Ordinary for certain box-peons.

19. *Ferries, increase Rupees 8.*—The re-arrangement of lines in reference to Papugnee near Vaimpully, and also of the river near Peelair has caused this. A provision for crossing Papugnee near Balasamudram also bears upon this.

20. The total increase is detailed—

	RS.
As per accompanying tabular statement	9,933
As per Budget 1874-75	4,820

Proposed Increase... 5,113

I confidently hope that the grant will, for future years, be fixed at Rupees 10,000. It must be apparent, from all the correspondence which has taken place, it is highly desirable that matters should for once be placed on a satisfactory footing at the start, and fluctuations in grant for one and other years be avoided as tending to interfere with an organized system which, when once established, is understood, and promotes confidence.

21. Referring to copy of my letter, No. 3,469, dated 11th November 1874, to the Postmaster-General, forwarded to you on the 26th idem, and with reference to probable balance of Rupees 2,323, which may lapse to the extent of Rupees 1,783 (please see paragraph 6 of this report), if some immediate action is not taken, I shall do myself the honor of again addressing you in a day or two, so that, while the negotiation is going forward with the sanctioning authorities for the transfer at once, the preliminary arrangements may at the same time be proceeded with, and, if possible, a fair start made from the 1st January 1875.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. D. HORSLEY,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Statement.

THE scheme submitted by the Collector for the improvement of Postal Communication in the Cuddapah District is altogether too costly. The cost is set down at Rupees 9,933, and a grant of Rupees 10,000 per annum is applied for, the grant for the current year being only Rupees 4,820.

2. The cost of the existing establishment is Rupees 3,192, and the principal items of the increase are as follows:—

- Twenty additional runners at Rupees 5 each.
- The establishment of 19 box-stations, with a letter peon on Rupees 6 at each, and the entertainment of 11 box-station runners on Rupees 5 each and one on Rupees 6.
- The increase of the number of district delivery peons from seven on Rupees 5 to eighteen on Rupees 6.
- An additional charge of Rupees 120 per mensem for subordinate supervision.
- Ferry Establishment—Rupees 68.

3. The extension of Postal Communication contemplated by the Collector is no doubt very desirable, but it cannot be effected at once, and the scheme must be revised, so that the annual charges on account of the District Post shall not exceed the Budget grant for the current year, viz., Rupees 4,820, as there is little prospect of additional funds being available, having regard to the requirements of other districts. No mention is made of the sum which will be set free by the transfer of the District Post to the Postmaster-General; the charges for extension must be limited to the savings resulting from this arrangement together with the unutilized portion of the present Postal grant. The Lines and Post Offices which it is proposed to hand over to the Postmaster-General should be specified, the establishment employed in connection with them being stated. The sketch-map alluded to in the last paragraph of the Collector's letter has not yet reached the Board; it should be submitted with the Collector's revised proposals, which should have the concurrence of the Postmaster-General.

4. As regards the charge for subordinate supervision, it is a question for the decision of the Postmaster-General, as the Board believe that the requisite inspecting staff will be entertained by the Postmaster-General directly the transfer is sanctioned and paid from Imperial funds.

5. No provision appears to have been made to meet the cost of letter-boxes, and the necessity for including places beyond the limits of the district in the list of letter-box stations to be established should be explained.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

To the Collector of Cuddapah.

Copy to the Postmaster-General.

Erd. J. W. Fischer.

MISCELLANEOUS No. 905.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 31 January 1876.

Read the following

No. 3

From

M. D. Horsley Esq.
Collector of Cuddapah.

To

H. E. Stokes Esq.
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

I sanctioned the employment
of an additional postal runner
in the Voilpand Taluk to
accelerate the passage of the
mail between Cuddapah and
Madanapalle. As has been
the usual practice in such
cases, I sanctioned on this
account the additional
monthly.

1875.

BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 24TH FEBRUARY 1876, No. 443.

Encl.

Received

Rev 4/4/76

FEBRUARY.

No. 443.

Postal Communication—in Cuddapah District.—Remarks passed on the scheme proposed for the improvement of —, and Collector requested to revise it with reference to the instructions, so that the annual charges on account of the District Post shall not exceed the Budget grant for current year.—Information called for on certain points connected with the subject.

Monthly Expenditure of Rs. 5
 from September last without
 reference to the [redacted] as there
 was ample provision for the
 charge in the current year's
 budget. As the Accountant
 General objects to the charge,
 without the Board's sanction,
 I beg that the same may be
 accorded.

Cuddalore (Madras) House
 8 January 1875 } (to) M. Ramaswamy
 Dy. Mr. Secy. Coltr.

Submitted for the sanction of
 Government.

2. The Budget provision is Rs. 3 3/2
 and

and the cost of the printing
 Establishment appears from
 Board's Proceedings, dated 24th
 February 1875, No. 443, to be Rs. 3192
 per annum. The Board still
 await the revised scheme of
 Postal Establishment called
 for in the Proceedings quoted,
 the submission of which should
 be expedited.

(True copy & back)

S. Calcutta
 Ag. Secretary
 The Secretary to Government R.D.
 with copy of Bd's Procs.
 dated 24th February 1875,
 No. 443.

[Signature]

No 321

Sanctified

5 Feb 1876

To The Board of Revenue
Assistants } On 8-2-76.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
OF REVENUE.

Dec 1875
1876

Dated 31 Dec 1875

Despatched 31 Dec 1875

SUBJECT

No 321 - 5 Feb 1876

Sanctified

for the Sanctification of the
Latter House of the Lord.

request of the Board for the
Sanctification of the Lord.

Sanctification of the Lord.

Sanctified

Sanctified