

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 431	Press ~~Mis~~
<u>357-352</u>	
Dated 15 th February 1918	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th February 1869.*

No. 351. Read the following letter from the Officiating Conservator of Forests, to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Camp at Ootacamund, 11th December 1868, No. 1,046 :—

1. I have the honor to report the completion by Lieutenant Gosling, Deputy Conservator, of the Ghaut road from the foot of the Annamallays up to the entrance of the Teak Forests, or head of the Timber slip, (sanctioned in the Government Order, No. 1,141, dated 20th of April last,) and to forward, herewith, Lieutenant Gosling's report upon the same.

2. I inspected the operations when in progress, and carefully went over the ghaut last month, when it was just being completed, and I consider that the work has been done very cheaply and well. This new ghaut will, I think, entirely supercede the old timber slip; it is of an easy gradient for carts to bring down timber, and it will be a great saving to the timber itself, as many planks used to be injured during the operation of slipping.

3. A ghaut has been long talked of, but the Department of Public Works estimated the cost of construction at 20,000 to 25,000 Rupees, and it was not considered that such an outlay was authorized when we only had the forest upon a short lease; the renewal of the lease for ninety-nine years from last January, and the stoppage of the advance system to the Contractors, rendered the ghaut a necessary undertaking, and I am glad to be able to report that Lieutenant Gosling has so ably carried out the work.

4. The amount sanctioned by Government for the work was Rupees 5,000; it has been completed for Rupees 4,009-7-10.

From the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Annamallay Range, to the Officiating Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund, dated 7th December 1868, No. 1,105.

1. I have the honor to report the completion of the Ghaut from the foot of the Annamallay Hills to the Teak Forest above, thereby connecting the existing Forest roads with the low country.

2. The construction of this road was authorized by Government, in their Proceedings No. 1,141, dated 28th April 1868, and the sum of Rupees 5,000 allotted for it.

3. The formation of a Ghaut to the Teak Forest on the Annamallays was first recommended by Lieutenant (now Major) Michael in the year 1848, "when he traced a pass down the hill side at a slope practicable for carts. The length of his trace was about six miles, but though Colonel F. Cotton, late Madras Engineers, went over the

Extract from letter No. 163, dated 26th November 1856, to the Collector of Coimbatore, from Lieutenant Michael, Superintendent, Annamallay Forest. line with him and approved of it, he considered it too great an expense to incur at that early stage

of Forest work; and the timber has hitherto been slipped down the side of the mountain, constantly damaging the planks in their descent through striking against rocks laid bare by the heavy rains; for, in spite of attempts made to drain the slip, it sometimes becomes a complete torrent. Captain Francis estimated the probable cost of Lieutenant Michael's Ghaut at 25,000 Rupees." Colonel F. Cotton, of the Madras Engineers, was of opinion, in 1850, "that though Lieutenant Michael had traced a Ghaut at such a slope that the heaviest logs might be taken down it with safety on wheels,

yet the nature of the hill side rendered this a every expensive undertaking," and recommends that the slip be adhered to. This opinion is

communicated to the Chief Secretary to Government, in a letter No. 776, dated 22nd August 1850, by the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Department Public Works.

and

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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ANNAMALLAY GHAUT ROAD EXPENDITURE.

ABSTRACT.

	Amount.	Description of work.	Particulars.	Amount.	Total.
	RS.			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Sanctioned in the Proceedings of the Madras Government, No. 1,141, dated 28th April 1868.	5,000				
		Earth Work...	192½ Maistries, at 7 annas per diem 6,942½ Men, at 6 annas per diem 1,986 Women, at 3 annas per diem 822½ Boys, at 2 annas per diem	81 3 6 2,603 5 6 372 6 0 103 13 6	
		Blasting...	253 Holes bored to ½ yard depth each and blasted, at 12 annas per hole...	189 12 0	3,162 12 6
		Bridges, building and clearing.	574 Mulcers, at 4 annas per diem 3 do. at 3 annas per diem	113 8 0 0 9 0	189 12 0
		Superintendence...	1 Temporary Overseer's salary from 4th July to 7th December 1868, at 100 Rupees per mensem...	512 14 4	141 1 0
					512 14 4
			Total expenditure...		4,009 7 10
			Balance...		990 8 2
			Total...		5,000 0 0

CAMP ANNAMALAY,
7th December 1868.

(Signed) H. M. GOSLING, Captain,
Deputy Conservator of Forests.

No. 352.

ORDER THEREON, 19th February 1869, No. 431.

Forest, No. 9.

1. The construction of a Ghaut road from the foot of the Annamallay Hills to the entrance of the Teak Forests on the summit, has been under consideration ever since 1850; but the expense of a properly constructed ghaut road, (estimated by the Public Works Department at Rupees 20,000 to Rupees 25,000,) and the fact that the lease of the Timber forest was of short duration, have for some years operated to prevent the commencement of the work.

2. When the lease of the forest was renewed in the early part of the past year, the Deputy Conservator of Forests, in charge of the Range, Captain Gosling, proposed to undertake the construction of a rough cart road up the ghaut, and estimated that this could be done for an outlay of about Rupees 5,000.

3. The Deputy Conservator's proposal received the support of the Acting Conservator, Major Beddome, who explained that under the existing system much of the timber was seriously injured in being dragged down the rough timber slip, and that the construction of a cart road in lieu of the slip would cause a considerable saving of elephant labor, and would make the Hills generally much more accessible. The Government accordingly sanctioned the outlay of Rupees 5,000 on the work, in their Order under date 1st April 1868, No. 858.

4. The Acting Conservator now reports the completion of the ghaut, at a cost of Rupees 4,009-7-10, and states that he has inspected the work, and that it has been done cheaply and well. Major Beddome also forwards Captain Gosling's own

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th February 1869.*

report on the subject. It appears that the ghaut is two and a half miles in length, that the work was commenced in July and was completed on the 7th December last, and that the only extra superintendence employed by Captain Gosling was a temporary Overseer for five months at a salary of Rupees 100 per mensem. Captain Gosling also explains in detail, the advantages which the Forest Department will derive from the construction of the ghaut, as facilitating the work of contractors, who have been hitherto difficult to obtain on these Hills, and rendering the supply of labor more certain and regular.

5. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is of opinion that the expeditious, economical, and successful construction of this ghaut is highly creditable to Captain Gosling; and resolves to direct the Acting Conservator to communicate the same to that Officer.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests,
,, the Board of Revenue.

Erd. G. A. Terton.

and

Revenue Department

No 431

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 19th February 1869

Read the following letter
from the Off^g. Conservator of
Forests

Reporting completion of the
Annamalai ghant road at a cost of
Rupees 7.10, and submitting Lieutenant
Gosling's report on the same.

(Here enter 11th December 1868) No 46

The construction
of a Ghant road from the
foot of the Annamalai Hills
to the entrances of the Forests on the summit, has
been under consideration
ever since 1850, but the
expense of a properly
constructed ghant road,
estimated by the Public
Works Department at
Rupees 20,000 to Rs 25,000,
and

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REVENUE.

THE OFFICIATING CONSERVATOR

OF FORESTS.

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Dated February, 1868.

Recd.

Recd.

G. O., 19th February 1869, No. 431.

MEMORANDUM.

Nos. 351-352.

Report of the completion of the Ghant Road from the foot of the Annamalai Hills to the entrances of the Forests on the summit. Report of its completion recorded with the observation that its expediency, economical, and successful construction is highly creditable to Captain Gosling.

Received by the Conservator of Forests
on 21st May 1869

and the fact that the lease of the Timber forest was of short duration; have for some years operated to prevent the commencement of the work. —

2. When the lease of the Forest was renewed in the early part of the present year, the Deputy Conservator of Forests in charge of the Range, Captain Hasting, proposed to undertake the construction of a rough cart road up the ghaut, and ^{to} ~~propose~~ that this could be done for an outlay of about Rs 5000. —

3. The Deputy Conservator's proposals received the support of the Acting Conservator, Major Beddome, who explained that under the

510
the existing system much of the timber was seriously injured, in being dragged down the rough timber slip, and that the construction of a cart road in lieu of the slip would cause a considerable saving of elephant labor, and would make the Hills generally much more accessible.

The Government accordingly sanctioned the outlay ^{of Rs 5000 in the work} in their order under date 1st April 1868, No 558. —

4. The Acting Conservator now reports the completion of the ghaut, at a cost of Rs 4000-7-10, and states that he has inspected the work, and that it has been done cheaply and well. Major

Beddome

Beddenie also forwards
Captain Gosling's own
report on the subject. It
appears that the ghaat
is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, that
the work was commenced
in July and was completed
on the 7th December ^{last} and
that the only extra super-
intendence employed by
Captain Gosling, was a
temporary Overseer for 5
months, at a salary of
Rs 100 per mensem.
Captain Gosling also
explains in detail, the
advantages which the
Forest Department will
derive from the construc-
tion of the ghaat, viz.
facilitating the work of
contractors, who have
been hitherto difficult
to obtain on these hills,
and

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and rendering the supply
of labor more certain and
regular. -

5. The Right
Honorable the Governor
in Council is of opinion
that the expeditious, econo-
mical, and successful
construction of this
ghaat is highly creditable
to Captain Gosling, and
resolves to direct the
Acting Conservator
to communicate the
same to that Officer. -

[Signature]

190 Apr. 5th Office of Secy of Forests and Wildlife Dept 20
14/1/1905 *[Signature]*

[Signature]

144
Conf. to the
Assembly, 1861
1862

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Respect