Public Works (1896) Department.

SERIAL
No. 61

G.O., No. 601 R

DATED 10th July

[Despatch Abstract.]

Site for a railway station at Oolacamund -

Certain petitioners residing at Melrocherry informed
that the question of a ——— in the South of the
Nilgiri Railway being excluded thereto is under
consideration by His Excellency the Governor in
Council -

[V.W. 25.
6,000—10-11-96.]

Indexed.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S OFFICE SEP 1895

SERIAL No. 7

DEPARTMENT OF Ootacamund

14th September 1895

To

His Excellency
The Governor of Madras
In Coneil
Ootacamund.

Most Respected Excellency

We the undersigned poor Inhabitants living at Meelakany & Willow Bund Road beg most humbly to address your Excellency with a full hope that your humble request will be granted.

The Nilgiri Rigi Railway Co have Surveyed & plaud pegs for Railway Station for House & Land were we (are living). & C.S. Alexander Esqr Executive Engr came on the 10th & 11th September/95 and took the Measurement & when taking the measurement then only we came to know that they are going to take our Land & House for the Railway Station. We therefore humbly pray that if the Station is built where we are living it will cause much head, decase, and hence Cholera will come to the whole Town, besides this the people are suffering much for Water owing to intense heat and if the Station is put in here all the streams will become dry. Our Opinion is this. The Railway Line now comes through the Mysore Rajahs Property through "Awdry House" and close to Burton Cottage land & adjoining Bishopsdown boundary & Grass Land if the Station is built there it will be good for all & we think it is the best place and disease and inconvenience will not arise.

It is a rule that Railway Stations are always built out of the Town & if brought into the town plenty of diseases arrises. The place now marked by the Railway Authorities & Burton Cottage is only 2½ Furlongs and it will not cause a bridge to be built over the Lake and

Savings will be shown to Government &c.
We beg therefore your Excellency will take
this into consideration and order that the Station
is not built in your Excellencys pres. Rice plans
Awaiting your Excellencys early Answer

We beg to remain
Your Excellencys
Most Obed. & humble Servants

Addrd
Shaik Ghand Saib
×
Abdul Kurreem Saib
& others
Pettichetty
Colaramma 3

Capt. Francis Butler
to Colonel Hartfield
D.A.C. Engineers in Chief
S.C. Chinnaswamy Pillay
Interpreting Quartermaster
×
his
Thomas de Silva
T.S. Chinnaswamy Pillay Esqr
Chappani Pillai
V.R. Krishnaswamy Pillay

Copy of Letters
N. Coundreswamy Pillay to Lieut. Genl. Morse
Ditto
D. Arulanandam Pillay
Mr. Lindesamy Pillay
D. Raphael Perera
S. Matha Swamy Pillai
Ditto
Ditto
Ditto

Ootacamund
11th November 1893.

SERIAL
No. 12

To

His Excellency
Governor-in-Council
Fort St. George - Madras.

May it please your Excellency.

We the undersigned residents of Mettoochery Ootacamund, beg most respectfully to approach your Excellency with these few lines, and to inform your Excellency that we have on the 14th September last past addressed your Excellency with a Petition; stating that the authorities of the Nilgiri Rigi Railway Co. have surveyed and have placed pegs on our lands where our houses are built, for the purpose of opening a Railway station there, and our objections thereto, on the grounds that if the station is built on the spot now surveyed and measured, the residents and inhabitants will materially suffer for the want of water, and as the Cold has so considerably decreased within the past few years, and consequently intense heat is now

Ask Engr C. Nilgiri Ry if the plan is ready of Ootacamund station & if he can send us with copy
Engr 20/1

No. 9109

Recd: 19.11.95

will have to be met with, and the greater portion of the people will have to go without homes and, consequently suffer thereby.

Government is supposed at all times to look to the health and comfort of its people, and also to the improvement of the town, but not to see it go to waste and ruins.

Under the circumstances, we humbly beg Your Excellency will be kindly pleased to take our case into your Excellency's most benign consideration & with your wonted benevolence and generosity, to kindly grant our request by having the station built near "awdry House" as prayed for, or at any other place out of Town.

For which act of kindness and charity we shall feel ever grateful.

We beg to Remain your Excellency's

await return of plan from Colombo

Most obedient Servants

Please address

Abdool Carreem Saleh &

Sheik Cham Saleh

Dorettochetty

Colaccamund

prevailing, and notwithstanding this, sickness and diseases of all kinds are daily takings place among the poorer class and inhabitants of the above place. And if Government persists in building the station in the place above referred to, certainly cholera and other diseases will break out in its fullest strength, and thus punt the inhabitants to serious loss and inconvenience. And have therefore suggested the station ought to be built on the Grass or Waste land, between "Andry House" and "Burton Cottage", which is the most suitable place for a station to be built, and will be most convenient for all classes. but regret we have not received a reply to it up to date.

We further beg to inform you, Excellency, that the Bazaar portion of the town is so very small and a limited one, and contains several small houses and huts in four and five families are compelled to live in each house, and if the contemplated station was to be built in the town, serious inconveniences

SERIAL No. 22

Inhabitants of Petition from the

of Matale chiefly Obeyesekere

"

Have petitioned the Collector of Kilpue that the land belonging to the Obeyesekere Mr Station should (wherever it is to be) be removed. After inspection of the ground by the Committee appointed for the purpose, a site was chosen near Kotte-chenay and approved by His Excellency the Governor. The station site, as also the line from Gannoruwa to Matale was then marked out on the ground by the Engineer Officer. The value of the land required for the station site at Obeyesekere is £7,000/-. The site was chosen not on engineering grounds alone but because it was thought the Government a good opportunity to demolish a very dirty and unsanitary portion of the town the intention being to provide for the inhabitants further up the valley.

By the agreement between the Secretary of State and the Kilpue R. Co. the Co. are to get the land free. The indenture also provides for Railway to Gannoruwa but whether the same terminus could be given to an extension to Matale. Now that the new company is floated work on the Matale line will be vigorously pushed and then a good reason why

that the line will be continued
locally as soon as the offered
site is chosen.
Representation has been made that
when sanitation and efficiency
work can be done here has
been done already we
reserve all Govt land on the
offered site at Mootoolery
unless it is considered advisable
in the interests of sanitation to
clear the site at once.
The petitioners can be informed
that in the event of the land
being taken up for railway
purposes they will be given
a site for their houses elsewhere.

EM

H.E. the Govt.
Hon'ble Govt-Blois
Hon'ble Govt-Sloane

Nilgiri Railway

SERIAL No. 245

The question of the extension of the Nilgiri Ry & Coal Company is likely to come up before long, and in anticipation thereof a suitable site for the station has been selected last year by Govt-Officials and approved by H.E. the Govt & by the Engr-in-Chief of the N. Ry. (see Slip D)

The site selected is the triangular plot of low ground near Mootoolery - (it is north of the Willcox Bund, East of the Roman Catholic Church and S.W. of Harvest ~~Godown~~ Godown). There is no doubt that it is the best site available, from both a Railway & a Sanitary point of view, and the only thing against it is the clearing away of the dwellings mentioned in Govt Officials Memo (D) would be a great hardship for the occupants. Some provision accommodation can be found for the occupants elsewhere.

The site was marked out by the Collector was asked to state approximately what the value of the land, taken up, would probably be. Mr Raphin (see Slip E)

The Collector on this subject saw the 25th ulto with Mr. Revs. Collector of the District. Mr Revs told that the site chosen is the best, and he maintains that the estimated compensation of about Rs. 3150 for area is not excessive. Having regard to the fact we must provide for sites in a locality of probably considerably greater value (Rs. 4000 per acre). - I am inclined to agree with Mr. Revs' calculation. Mr. R. tells me there would be great difficulty in finding a suitable place for the people who would be ejected by the requisition of this site. -

It seems to me to ask whether a smaller extent than 8.2.0 acres would not suffice for the proposed Railway Station and its offices surroundings. I think this question

Cir
29.4 R 4/6/86

This is under a claim Rs 67,000
The area is only 8.22 acres
so the assessment is about
Rs 8150/ per acre. What seems
enormous for land that
comprises little but rocks & boulders (clear
stretches of rock garden (clear
stony in case)

Meanwhile the answer
sent in this petition pointing
out the station being located
there (see skp F.O.G.) but on
the unofficial ground. Would
the accommodation can be found
elsewhere for the disputed area
The petitioners have not yet
in answer but if it is
decided to give the petitioners
some relief, they might be
informed.

But cannot something be
done by reducing the enormous
bill for compensation? The
cost, whether it may be, falls
on Govt. which has
some title to the Rly Co. Anyhow
the Municipality might well bear
a share — considering the
improvement to the town
the Govt. Govt. in general
in the budget of the purpose

29/4/96

question should be considered. I understand that the site now proposed would include the land which would be needed in the contemplation that the Railway is to be carried beyond Ootacamund - the Pykara direction. If not other measures to take effect the land be held entirely and entirely by the Company for a contingency which is remote? — entirely by the Company for a contingency which is remote. FEH 1.6.96

Govt 2/6/96

Rs 67,000 is a heavy price to pay, but I think we must get that site.

JG 3/6/96

This and the slip following and if it were the right course to take from Govt. for if not into the unofficial it should be done.

Govt

SERIAL No. 27

Ootacamund
1st June 1896

To

His Excellency
Sir Arthur Havelock
Governor-in-Council
Fort St. George Madras.

Camp: Ootacamund

RECEIVED SECRET 2-JUN. 1896 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

May it please your Excellency.

We the undersigned residents of Willow Bund Road and Mettoocherry Ootacamund beg most respectfully to submit that we have in the months of September 14th and 11th November 1895 during the administration of His Excellency our Lord Wenlock our late Governor presented two petitions which was sent by registered post and duly stamped with an eight annas stamp, re regarding the opening out of a Railway Station in the spot therein referred to, and stating our grounds and objections thereto, and suggesting that the Station may be built either on the "Bishopsdown" boundary, "Orwdry House" or "Burton cottage" to which said two petitions we have not been favored with a reply up to date.

We therefore humbly beg to request that your Excellency will be pleased to call for the production of the said two petitions of the 14th September and 11th November 1895 and peruse the same fully through, wherein your Excellency will find our grievances and circumstances explained in detail.

We further beg to bring to your notice that Cotacamund is not the same as it used to be some years ago, the cold has been considerably reduced in Temperature, and small houses are yearly being built within the Town and Bazzaar Streets, and consequently the native and mahomedan as well as other class of people have considerably increased, thus rendering the place very unhealthy owing to about 5 to 6 members living in each house or hut at much risk and inconvenience to health and body being overcrowded. and in consequence Serious Illness, such as small pox, Cholera, Dysentry and other diseases are constantly taking place from year to year.

We therefore humbly beg that your Excellency will in your present administration as our Governor of this Presidency kindly pays your best attention and consideration to this our petition and grant us the request most humbly solicited.

Awaiting your early and favorable reply.

We beg to Remain your

Excellency's

Most obedient Servants.

1 Shaik Chan. Saib
2 Muthutrishna Konar
3
4
5 A. Francis Pandia
6
7
8
9
10 Arumdorsawy Naidoo

and Several others.

Please address:
C/o Shaik Khan Saib
Fish and Game Supt.
Cotacamund

Reply of Mahomedan Deputn

Reply to the Petition from the Inhabitants of Mahomedan

Reply to the Petition F.

Order No 601 dated

SERIAL No. 31

In reply to their memorials of 14th Sept & 11th November 1895, and 1st June 1896, the Petitioners will be informed that the question of a site for the Railway station at Rohtas, in the event of the Nilpur Rly being extended thereto, is under consideration by H.E. the Governor in Council. That being the case it is not in accordance with the usual practice to make comments in general.

For approval

H.E. the Governor

Hon. W. Blair

Hon. W. Rivaz

F.S.H. 6796

JG 8/7/96

2/7/96

10.7.96

To Sheikh Ahmad Sahib Coetwal
Asst & Grain Supplier
Mahomedan Party

Bf. St. Col. Rdelet 6.7.88

H.2 442 } R 6/7