

1-12-65

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3446

DATED 21st July

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comm^d to the P. of Rev. Pres. P. W. D. ordering
that the D. of Telegraphs be addressed on the
subject of the extension of the Telegraph line
from Rajahmundry to Bhadrachalam in
the Godavari Dt.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	C. m 2240/98						

So 1182 Res
22.6.97

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government { 1897 } of Madras. PUBLIC WORKS.



Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1844 W., 8th July 1897.

G. O. miss. no 3746 of 20th July 97
Communicated to
the Board of Revenue.

JULY.

ALL
21.2.97

15 to the Board (L.R.)
Sd. 26-7-97

Telegraph line

Ordered that the Director-General of Telegraphs be addressed on the subject of the extension of the — from Rajahmundry to Bhadrachalam in the Godavari district.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 2156, dated 14th June 1897.

Read—the following letter from V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Gódvári, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Cocanada, 19th May 1897, Ref. on C. No. 813/Ver.

I have the honour to report for the Board's information that the Agency tracts of this district are altogether unconnected with the rest of the district by telegraph, and that a letter posted at my head-quarters (Cocanada) reaches Bhadráchalām on or after the fourth day in the dry weather, and takes a longer time in the rains. Information required from that taluk on a matter, even of the highest importance, cannot be had within eight days after it is called for. The difficulty is most perceptible in times of distress like the present, or in times of disturbance. Chódavaramu is no doubt nearer to the plains, but the want of telegraphic communication is equally felt in the case of that division consisting of the Rampa portion of the Agency. If possible, I would like to have speedy means of communication with Yellavaram and Polavaram also, but this is not so indispensably necessary and Yellavaram would be brought considerably nearer than it is by a line through Chódavaramu. For purposes of administrative convenience it is, I think, absolutely necessary however to extend the telegraph line to Bhadráchalām *via* Gokavaram, Chódavaramu and Kunavaram.

2. I must admit that this proposed line cannot possibly be worked at a profit. The cost can however be minimised by having combined post and telegraph offices at Chódavaramu, Kunavaram and Bhadráchalām instead of separate telegraph offices, and the Manager of the Coal Mining Company working in the Bhadráchalām taluk offers to guarantee Rs. 30 per mensem in the case of the telegraph office at Bhadráchalām so long as the Company continues to work there. This will go a great way to meet the extra cost of establishment (of combined offices) and towards interest on the cost of the required materials also. There are also public offices of the Revenue, Forest, Police, Public Works, and Educational Departments, besides missionaries and merchants in the Bhadráchalām taluk, and I am sure that a combined post and telegraph office there will be more or less self-supporting, though I do not think that the question of cost should affect the decision in the present case. The office at Chódavaramu cannot be equally successful, but that the cost of a combined office cannot be very heavy. I have been touring in the Agency division for six weeks now. Even telegraphic instructions received from the Board or Government at my head-quarters cannot reach me in less than four days, and a full week is wasted in calling for and obtaining any information or paper from head-quarters. To obviate this serious inconvenience I would strongly urge that the Telegraph Department may be moved to construct a telegraph line to Bhadráchalām from Rajahmundry *via* Gokavaram, Chódavaramu and Kunavaram with the least possible delay. No cost should, I submit, be considered prohibitive in view to opening up the Agency tracts to communication, but at the same time I do not think such a line will be very expensive as there

is only one river to cross—the Sabari—at Kunavaram and it is not excessively wide there. Whether the line can be carried on from Bhadráchalām *via* Sironcha to connect with Chanda in the Central Provinces I must leave the Telegraph Department to decide; but, if so, I believe Dumagudem will be the nearest point of communication for the large and important Native State of Baster whilst Kunavaram would probably serve a large part of Jeypore. To the Public Works Department such a line would be of especial value, as during the rains it is often of consequence to know whether the river is going to rise or fall and nearly 24 hours information ahead would always be available were there telegraphic communication between Rajahmundry and Bhadráchalām.

Transferred to the Land Revenue Department.

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAH,
Secretary.

2nd June 1897.

Resolution—Mis. No. 2156, dated 14th June 1897.

Submitted to Government for orders.

2. The Board supports the Collector's proposal.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) N. S. BRODIE,
Acting Secretary.

Endorsement R. No. 1182, Revenue.

Transferred to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

22nd June 1897.

ORDER—No. 1844 W., dated 8th July 1897.

The Director-General of Telegraphs will be addressed.

[Here enter No. 1845 W., dated 8th July 1897.]

(True Extract.)

C. M. S. Under Secretary
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
" Superintending Engineer, I Circle.

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.