Revenue (189) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 4734

DATED 2nd December 189

[Despatch Abstract.]

BACK PAPERS

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No	Department	Date	G O	No	Department	Date.
Cho 2325/05							

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT

Government {1898} of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Read 20/11 } 1898 *Enclosures*
Read } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 2905 W., 16th November 1898.

NOVEMBER. Encl. to No 4734-92 dt 2nd Dec 1898
Communicated to the Board of Revenue
RS 1-12-98 Mc 2.12.98

Lr 1/16 To the Board of Rev (Land Rev) dd 5.12.98 CP 1-12-98

Head-Quarters of the Executive Divisions of the Kistna District

Resolving to transfer the head-quarters of the Kistna Western division permanently to Bezwada, and considering, with remark, that the head quarters of the Kistna Northern division should be retained at Bezwada, and that the present head quarters of the Eastern and Western sub-divisions of the former division should remain at Duggirala and Chebrole, respectively

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

General
Establishment

READ—the following papers —

From J HANNAN, Esq, Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (through the Chief Engineer for Irrigation), dated Camp Addanki, 11th April 1898, No 1051 K.

I have the honour to bring to your notice that the head-quarters of the Executive Engineer, Kistna Western division, is inconveniently situated being at Guntúr outside the limits of his division, Chebrole, the nearest point in his division being some 8 miles distant Duggirala, the former head-quarters, was considered as unhealthy and the transfer to Guntúr sanctioned Please see Government Orders marginally noted, which fully explain the circumstances under which the transfer was made The Executive Engineer's office at Guntúr is located in the old Jail buildings These buildings have now been resumed by the Jail department, and the Executive Engineer has had to vacate them and transfer his office as a temporary measure to the new Taluk cutcherry which has just been completed The arrangement of having the Executive Engineers head quarters at Guntur, which doubtless was the best that could be made at the time, is a very unsatisfactory one and is now no longer necessary I propose, with your approval, to transfer the head quarters next month to Bezwada The advantages of having the head-quarters of this very important division at Bezwada are so obvious that it is unnecessary for me to particularize them

G O, No 3070 W, dated 28th Nov 1893
G O, No 2000 W, dated 13th August 1895

2 I propose transferring the head-quarters of the Kistna Northern division to Guntúr, now that the Munneru project on the eastern side of the river is approaching completion Most of the work will be on the western side and Guntúr will consequently be more central The office is a small one compared with the Western delta, so that accommodation for it at Guntúr will be more easily procurable A couple of years will probably see the completion of most of the works in these upland taluks when the division will probably be abandoned

3 The Division officer, Western division, will occupy the Government quarters now occupied by Captain Ellis, and his office will be located in the kutcha building now used as the Kistna Northern division office, until the new office sanctioned in G.O., No 3004 W, dated 23rd October 1896, is completed I propose submitting a revised plan and estimate for this office It will be exactly of the same design as the fine office contracted at a cost of Rs 16,220 at Duggirala, which I propose to dismantle as it is no longer required, utilizing the materials for the new office at Bezwada The materials which can be utilized are teakwood panel, venetian doors and windows all the teakwood roofing timbers, the tiles, and the cuttstone flooring and teakwood verandah pillars

No 57 E W

Forwarded

2 The advantages of Guntur as head-quarters of the Western division are stated in Mr Malet's letter printed with G O, No 2000 W, dated 13th August 1895, and the only important change of circumstances which has since occurred is that the old Jail buildings are no longer available for offices and that the cutcherry in which they are temporarily accommodated is about to be made over to the Revenue Department The Superintending Engineer now proposes to transfer the Western division head-quarters to Bezwada, giving the Division officer the accommodation which the Northern division now has, and transfer the Northern division head-quarters to Guntur leaving the Executive Engineer to do the best he can for himself and his office I do not think the Superintending Engineer has sufficiently considered the proposals There is just the same reason now as ever for having the Sub-division offices of the Western division in the same place as the Division office, and the objection to having the Sub-division officers living out of the limits of their charge is just as strong as in the case of the Division officer The Superintending Engineer should have stated what he proposes doing about the Sub division officers and whether he can provide accommodation for them at Bezwada The Superintending Engineer was unfortunately absent from Bezwada when I was there a short time ago, or might have discussed the question with me At present I am not satisfied that his proposals are good

OOTACAMUND,
19th April 1898

(Signed) W HUGHES
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Telegram from the Executive Engineer, Kistna Western division, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Ootacamund, dated Tenali, 9th April 1898

Superintending Engineer writes demi official he has proposed to move Division head-quarters to Bezwada from May 1st Please do not settle date till my remarks considered

Telegram from the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, dated 21st April 1898
Petition from M R Rv S Venkatasubbiah, Duggirala, dated 19th April 1898

From J HANNAN, Esq, Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (through the Chief Engineer for Irrigation), dated Bezwada, 17th June 1898, No 1855 K

I have the honour to request the favour of early orders on my No 1051 K, dated 11th April 1898, regarding the transfers of the head-quarters of the Kistna Western and Kistna Northern divisions to Bezwada and Guntur, respectively

No 58 E W

Transferred to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, for favour of disposal with reference to this office No 57 E W, dated 19th April 1898

OOTACAMUND,
24th June 1898

(Signed) W HUGHES,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

From W C LEWIS, Esq, Executive Engineer, Kistna Western division, to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, dated 15th July 1898, No 171 S

With reference to the memorandum from Deputy Chief Engineer, copy of which is forwarded herewith, I have the honour to state that I consider that Bezwada would be the most convenient head-quarters for this division when the Bezwada Madras Railway is opened.

2 The memorandum which I forwarded with the copy of my telegram on April 9th (of which I should be much obliged if you would forward a copy) referred, as you know, only to the immediate necessity for the change and the inconvenience of the date proposed by you

3 I would point out that in G.O., No 2000 W, dated 13th August 1895, fixing the head-quarters of this division at Guntúr, it was assumed that Guntúr would be connected with the Bezwada-Madras Railway by a branch *via* Chebrole As this proposal is now abandoned, the situation is altered

4 Also the re occupation of the Guntúr Jail by the Jail department has deprived this office of the accommodation available there

---

No 2216 K W

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with reference to memo, No 3128 C., dated 11th July 1898

(Signed) J HANNAN,
21st July 1898 Superintending Engineer, II Circle

From W C LEWIS, Esq, Executive Engineer, Kistna Western division, to the Superintending Engineer, II Circle, dated 11th April 1898, No 18 S

I have the honour, with reference to your note saying you have asked for sanction to move the head-quarters of this division to Bezwada from May 1st, to submit the following reasons why the date should be postponed for your consideration

First—This is the working season and the canals are closed, during these months, Guntúr is far more accessible to the delta than Bezwada, as it is the point from which all the roads radiate, while there is no direct road from Bezwada down into the delta and the Bezwada Madras Railway will not be opened for some months yet, and consequently the Executive Engineer's head-quarters will be 2 days much further away from the centre of the delta. This will not apply when the Bezwada-Madras Railway is opened

Second—My office has already practically lost one week in the move out of the Jail premises, and another move to Bezwada will certainly throw back work another fortnight at the busiest season of the year

Third—The re-occupation of the Jail is professedly only temporary, and the Public Works office cannot expect to be allowed to remain in the new Taluk cutcherry indefinitely and consequently there must be another move, either back to the Jail or if that is not to be given up soon, as is very likely, to some other building in the town, and it would be better to postpone the move till the final location of the office in Guntúr is decided.

Fourth—The proposed notice to be given for the transfer of a large office to arrange for transfers of families and furniture to a number of Government servants of all grades including myself is quite inadequate.

I would suggest, if the Government accept your proposal for the transfer, that the 1st July should be fixed as the date, from which the transfer should commence as the rush of measurements and bills for the working season will be over by then I append a copy of a telegram I have sent to the Chief Engineer, as there seems considerable risk that the orders may be passed before these remarks have been considered

---

No 2310 K W

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, in continuation of this office No 2216 K.W., dated 21st July 1898

(Signed) J S WILSON,
1st August 1898. *for* Superintending Engineer, II Circle.

From W. C LEWIS, Esq., Officiating Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated 24th August 1898, No 2626 K W.

[Your No 3611 C. of 16th August 1898]

I have the honour to report, with reference to your first query, that the head-quarters of the Western sub division of Kistna Western division have never been moved to Guntur, but are at Chebrole; and I propose that they should remain there as it is a convenient situation

As for the Eastern sub-division, I found that the Sub-division officer, when I took charge, was not residing in Guntur, but only paid occasional visits and kept his family at Vaddeswaram and consequently seldom saw his clerks, and the advantage of his office being at Guntúr was quite inappreciable Mr G R Venkatarama Iyer, the present Sub-divisional officer, asked me to allow him to use the old Division office at Duggirala which is in a drier part of the compound than the bungalows as his residence, and with Mr Hannan's approval he is now occupying it and has his office there I consider it most important that the Sub-division officers should be in close touch with their canals so as to lose no time in receiving intelligence and issuing orders about water distribution, and the present arrangement of Sub division head-quarters I consider satisfactory

2 With reference to the reasons for changing the head-quarters, I would state that I have been now working the Western division with my head quarters at Guntúr for two years, and I am satisfied that there is a great loss of power by the arrangement In the first place, there is a day lost in all references Then there is considerable trouble in getting to and from the canals, and it is impossible to get in and out to inspect works so quickly and readily as when one has one's boat at one's door At Bezwada, there will be, in addition to the canals, the Bezwada-Madras Railway running right through the delta direct from Bezwada Bezwada is also a much better place for superintending the river conservancy works which want a good deal of looking after At Bezwada, the exact state of the river is always in evidence and orders about water regulation can be given promptly The greater part of the supply of materials and all workshop work being done in Bezwada, these can be seen to, easily, during halts at head quarters

3. As a matter of fact, I myself feel very strongly the disadvantage of a Delta officer being out of touch with his canals, and had Duggirala been a less hopelessly swampy place, I should have recommended the removal of head-quarters back there again, as I found by experience that Chettipet and Ralla were so very convenient in the Gódávari Western and Central divisions for head-quarters on account of the complete touch with the main lines of canals, but Duggirala is a hopeless place to expect European officers and their wives and their families to live in.

Bezwada being in telephone communication with Sithanagram lock is far better than Guntúr in that respect I may mention that Mr. Atkinson, lately Collector of this district, also held that Bezwada was the proper place for head-quarters

4 I myself should prefer also to keep the Kistna Northern division head-quarters in Bezwada, as here the Executive Engineer is on the railway lines leading to both his sub-divisions. If either division is located in Guntúr, considerable expenditure on buildings must be faced as accommodation for a married officer must be provided; whereas at Bezwada there is every reason to expect that one of the three Executive Engineers will be a bachelor, or with his family absent, and would be glad enough to live in a smaller bungalow and pay less rent, and it would not be necessary to build such a large bungalow

---

From W. C. LEWIS, Esq., Officiating Superintending Engineer, II Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated 27th September 1898, No. 3003 K.W

In reference to your No. 4104 C., dated 19th September 1898, I have the honour point out that for several years a provision has been made in the budget for Rs 14,000 for an Executive Engineer's residence at Guntúr. At present, there are, as Executive

Engineer's quarters at Bezwada, two buildings costing Rs. 14,000 each, in round numbers, as well as an Assistant Engineer's house costing Rs. 8,000

2 I consider it would not be necessary to build another house costing Rs. 14,000 as—

First—There is always the great probability that one of the officers at least in charge of the divisions will be glad to live in a smaller house and pay less rent

Second—That in a few years it is almost certain that one of the divisions will be held by a native, or Provincial Engineer, who would be glad to have a small house

3 I would therefore propose to build another house of the Assistant Engineer's type, or a little better, say, costing Rs 10,000 This would set free Rs 4,000 from the Guntúr provision for office accommodation The Western division office at Guntúr is now practically houseless. It cannot be allowed to remain long in the new cutcherry and the old cutcherry is quite unsuitable. The District Jail is at present resumed by the Jail department, and even if the Jail department gives it up again temporarily, the accommodation is quite unsuitable for a division office, the accommodation being in three separate buildings in separate enclosures, and an expenditure of three or four thousand rupees would be necessary to make the accommodation suitable as a permanency.

4. We may, therefore, take it that we shall have seven thousand rupees available towards accommodating the office at Bezwada without incurring additional expenditure

5. There is an estimate sanctioned for Rs 9,550 for accommodating the Kistna Northern division office at Bezwada. As that division is now much reduced owing to the removal of the Head-works sub-division, it will not want such a large building and that accommodation would provide for the Kistna Western division, and the Rs 7,000 would provide sufficient accommodation for the Kistna Northern division office

6. I think we may safely say, therefore, that the removal of the Kistna Western division to Bezwada would not entail any additional expenditure in buildings for the Executive Engineer's residence and office.

ORDER—No. 2905 W, dated 16th November 1898

In G O., No 3070 W, dated 28th November 1893, the transfer of the head-quarters of the Kistna Western division from Duggirala to Guntúr was sanctioned as a temporary measure, pending settlement of the question as to the acquisition of the railway buildings at Seethanagram, where it was then intended to ultimately locate the head-quarters.

2 In June 1895, the advantages of Guntúr as the head-quarters of the division over both Duggirala and Seethanagram having been represented by the Executive Engineer, it was resolved, by Government, in accordance with the unanimous recommendations of the officers concerned, to permanently fix the head-quarters, not only of the division, but also of its Eastern and Western sub-divisions, at that station.

3 The Superintending Engineer, II Circle, in his letter No 1051 K W., dated 11th April 1898, recommended the transfer of the head-quarters of the Kistna Western division to Bezwada, and that of the Kistna Northern division to Guntúr. As the grounds advanced for these proposals were not fully stated, the matter was again referred to the Superintending Engineer for further report.

4. The further explanation called for has been furnished by Mr. Lewis, who was then in charge of the II Circle, in his letter No. 2626 K W., dated 24th August 1898, and after a careful consideration of the whole matter, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to transfer the head-quarters of the Kistna Western division permanently to Bezwada. It is understood that the transfer will not involve any additional expense to Government beyond that already contemplated.

5 With regard to the proposal to transfer the head-quarters of the Kistna Northern division from Bezwada to Guntúr, His Excellency in Council considers that the head-quarters of this division should be retained at Bezwada, which is connected both by railway and canal with both the sub-divisions of the division

6 The present head quarters of the Eastern and Western sub-divisions of the Kistna Western division will remain at Duggirala and Chébrole, respectively, which are very suitable stations for them

7 Among the papers read above is a memorial from S Venkatasubbiah on behalf of the ryots of Tenali taluk, Kistna district, praying for the re-transfer of the head-quarters of the Kistna Western division from Guntúr to Duggirala This re transfer cannot be sanctioned as Duggirala is an unhealthy station, which is admitted in the memorial The requirements of the ryots will however be met, as the head quarters of the Eastern sub division have since been removed to Duggirala

(True Extract)

Under Secretary to Government

To the Superintending Engineer, II Circle
" the Chief Engineer for Irrigation,
" the Examiner, Public Works Accounts
" the Revenue Department
" M R Ry S Venkatasubbiah (paragraph 7 only)

Rao. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed
} 189 .

READ AGAIN G O, No. DATED
189 ,

CURRENT NO

ENCLOSURE TO G NO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only
C = Copy heading only