

Marine (189) Department.

G.O., No. 430 Mar

DATED 26 May 98

N. 7.
544 May 20, 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Works at Mansfield. P.W. Nos:
Sanctioning the deviation. Statement for
in the Zennervell Dt, as submitted by
the Supt of Works Lt House Dr.; the increasing
the amount of the estimate for Rs 46250
to Rs 51230, Communicated to the
Resident Officer, a Contn a t of Rs 592 Mar
82797

Dr

Recd and 3/6/98

Marine Dept.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government {1898} of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1137 W., 9th May 1898.

MAY.

*No. 430 Marine of 26 May 1898.
Communicated to the
P.O. Office in Continuation of G.O.
592 Marine, of 2nd July 1897.
(2d) A.S.R.
D.W.
The P.O.*

Works at Manapaud

The deviation statement for — in the Tinnevely district, as submitted by the Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division, sanctioned and the amount of estimate increased from Rs. 46,250 to Rs. 51,230.

No. 1137 W., 9TH MAY 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers:—

From F. W. ASHPITEL, Esq., Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 16th April 1898, No. 968.

I have the honour to forward, herewith, for favour of sanction, a deviation statement for works at Manapaud.

2. The principal deviation, viz., the substitution of brick in cement mortar for sandstone in chunam, has already been verbally approved by you. The other deviations, as explained in my inspection notes herewith forwarded, are principally due to an increase of rates owing to labour difficulties and to the retention of the existing native lightkeepers' quarters as kitchens and godowns which reduces the value of materials to be obtained from old buildings.

3. There are no deviations in quantities except in concrete for the tower so that the estimates are not resubmitted.

ENCLOSURE.

Inspection Notes, Manapaud Lighthouse, to end of March 1898.

The following materials have been collected:—

Sandstone about 4,000 stones.
Lime 300 cubic feet.
Cement 30 tons.
All woodwork.
Sand 3,000 cubic feet.

The work has been much delayed owing to the very indifferent labour which is available and to the jaggery season, but I hope our troubles in this respect are now at an end. The foundations for the tower and one set of quarters are being excavated. The chief difficulty is sandstone which, besides not being of so good quality as was expected, is very difficult to obtain for want of labour. There is, as a rule, a very limited demand for this stone and, consequently, a limited number of stone-cutters, and we find it very difficult to get the men to work regularly. The estimate allowed Rs. 9-11-0 per 100 cubic feet and was based upon the prices ordinarily paid in the village and said to be ample. When contracts were given out, however, at this rate, it was found that there was a local custom that all stones, no matter what shape, must be taken and paid for; and we were told that stones 6" thick at one end and 2" at the other had always been accepted as 4" thick, and, if we did not do so, the stone-cutters would not work. The result of rejecting these stones was a general strike which lasted for a considerable time. I have now raised the rate to 6 annas per 15 stones of the proper thickness or about Rs. 13 per 100 cubic feet allowing the stone-cutters to sell rejected stones and have undertaken the cost of conveyance to works at 4 annas per 100 and agreed to sharpen tools without charge. This last concession is necessary as otherwise coolies waste half their time in the village getting their tools repaired. With all these concessions I do not think we shall get more than 300 stones per working day and it will take 10 months to get the full supply. Under these circumstances, I propose to construct the tower of brick in cement mortar 1 to 3 as already explained in person and to raise the rate for sandstone in chunam from Rs. 23 to Rs. 28 per 100 cubic feet. The proposal to construct the tower of brick in cement mortar is however chiefly based on the fact that on further examination of existing buildings I do not feel justified in retaining sandstone in chunam for this important

No. 1137 W., 9TH MAY 1898.

work. The sandstone is not of particularly good quality and we have failed to find the harder stone we believed to be available. The mortar also in existing buildings does not seem particularly good. The effect of these proposals is as follows:—

	Original estimate.	Revised estimate.	Remarks.
	RS.	RS.	
Tower	32,500	35,800	
Constructing lightkeepers' quarters	8,200	8,900	
Reconstructing do.	2,200	3,200	Value of old materials reduced.
Inspecting officers quarters	2,200	2,600	
Cook-house	900	480	One cook-house not required.
Oil store	250	250	
Total	46,250	51,230	

or a total excess of Rs. 4,980, which is still Rs. 8,770 below the provision made for this light in column 17, page 15, of the report printed with G.O., No. 245, Marine, dated 8th April 1896. I regret that these alterations in the estimate are necessary, but no large work has been carried out in the neighbourhood before and rates are not easy to determine beforehand for departmental work. The extra amounts allowed for provide additional sums for sheds (Rs. 500) as the construction of these has had to be of a much more permanent nature than is customary owing to the exposed site. I have also reduced the value of materials from old building partly because they do not appear on further inspection to be worth Rs. 1,000 or anything like it, the sandstone of which they are constructed being very inferior, but also because it is now proposed to retain the old native lightkeepers' quarters and convert them into kitchens and godowns. Godowns appear to be very necessary as the keepers must bring firewood in considerable quantities and store it for use. I have marked out the buildings on the assumption that the retention of the godowns will be approved having obtained the approval of the Presidency Port Officer.

Deviation statements are submitted for sanction.

Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

Manapaud is in a very inaccessible locality, where little work has ever been carried out, and skilled labour is difficult to procure and still more difficult to retain. The data for determining rates have in consequence been hitherto both scanty and uncertain. The substitution of brick in cement mortar in place of sandstone is very necessary, and is recommended, together with the increase of rates proposed by the Superintendent of Works, for the sanction of Government.

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Ag. Chief Engineer.

29th April 1898.

ORDER—No. 1137 W., dated 9th May 1898.

The deviation statement for works at Manapaud in the Tinnevely district, as submitted by the Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division, is sanctioned and the amount of estimate increased from Rs. 46,250 to Rs. 51,230.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division, with one enclosure.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Marine Department.

Exd. C. M. Thumbasawmy.

Marine Dept.

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CIVIL WORKS.

Government {1898} of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd.

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G.O., No. 1137 W., 9th May 1898.

No. 430 Marine, dt 26 May 1898

Communicated to the P. P.

MAY. *offer in continuation of G.O.*
592 Marine, dt 2nd June, 1897.

(sd) A.S.R.

S.W.

no P.P.O.

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