

Marine (1898) Department

G.O., No. 798 Marine

DATED 16 Sept 1898.

Light House Oil Store at Mangalore [Despatch Abstract.]

From: S.W. Dept. Sanchoring
An Estimate of Rs. 6910 for constructing a new —
in the S. Canara Dist, Communicated to the
Dist-Port Officer.

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

Government (1898) of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies

1898

G.O., No. 2166 W., 25th August 1898.

AUGUST. Officer

Communicated to
the Presidency Post—

1. Officer. *LL* *LLS*
2. The P.P.Q. *16 9.50*
names

Estimate of Rs. 6,910 for constructing a new — in the South Canara district, sanctioned.

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, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department (through the Presidency Port Officer, Madras), dated Madras, 18th May 1898, No. 1021.

I have the honour to forward herewith plans and estimates for a lighthouse and oil-store at Mangalore for favour of early sanction.

2. If you approve of the designs I request permission to put the collection of materials, especially the cutstone steps, in hand at once, so as to have them ready before the working season commences after the rains.

3. The estimate amounts to Rs. 6,940 against an approximate estimate of Rs. 6,000 printed in table I, page 13 of the report printed with G.O., No. 245, Marine, dated 8th April 1896. The excess of Rs. 940 is due to the provision of an oil-store which was not previously contemplated, but which has been provided at the request of the Presidency Port Officer.

No. 186 G.

Forwarded.

MADRAS,
20th May 1898.(Signed) H. A. STREET, Commander, R.I.M.,
Presidency Port Officer.

No. 2979 C.

The estimate is returned to Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse division, for revision with reference to the following remarks:—

(1) Data should be given in each case for the enormous rates entered for concrete, brick in surki mortar, &c.

(2) No reason is given for using concrete in cement. To use such expensive stuff under an oil-store is absurd, and it seems quite unnecessary to use anything more than surki under the tower.

(3) Cement floors are not approved. Mangalore tiles should be used instead.

(4) Laterite need not be plastered with cement for more than 2 feet above ground; pointing should be substituted for the remainder.

(5) The timber need not be teak. There are many excellent woods obtainable from A. Brown & Co., Calicut, at much less cost.

2. Stone, bricks and laterite can be collected in anticipation of sanction to the estimate.

27th June 1898.

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

From F. W. ASHPITEL, Esq., Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 13th July 1898, No. 1148.

With reference to your No. 2979 C., dated 27th June 1898, I have the honour to return, herewith, the plans and estimates for a lighthouse and oil-store at Mangalore with the following remarks and a data sheet.

2. I regret that you should have thought it necessary to describe the rates as "enormous" and am inclined to think that you used the word under a misapprehension of the conditions and rates on the West Coast.

3. I have allowed Rs. 40 to Rs. 48 for concrete in cement mortar and notice that, in the schedule of rates for the Consulting Architect's division for the half-year ending March 1897, the rate in Madras town for cement concrete varied from Rs. 50 in this office schedule to Rs. 58 per 100 c. ft. Rates for labour on the West Coast are, as a rule, considerably higher than in Madras.

4. I have allowed Rs. 42 for brickwork in surki mortar, and my estimate is based on a task of 25 c. ft. per brick-layer per day. The price of bricks is the actual cost at the Basel Mission. I do not think the rate is excessive as I see that the West Coast schedule allows Rs. 33 for this class of work, exclusive of conveyance of materials, and is based on Basel Mission bricks at Rs. 15 per 1,000 and Re. 1 extra for surki. The Basel Mission now charge Rs. 16 per 1,000 for bricks, and I have not so far been able to obtain any quotation for surki at the rate I have allowed though I hope to do so eventually. The brickwork at Mangalore lighthouse is also not all straightforward work.

5. The rate allowed for laterite in mortar is based on a task of 33 c. ft. per mason per day and is, I believe, the ordinary district rate.

6. The reason I propose to use cement concrete for the oil-store and tower is that the quantity of concrete required is small and that in tidal water cement concrete even for small works is, in my opinion, to be preferred to surki unless the foundation is unwatered. Personally I have not the same confidence in surki as I have in cement concrete and the cost of unwatering the foundation would be greater than the saving effected by making the proposed change. Under the circumstances, I shall be glad if you will allow the small provision for cement concrete to remain in the estimate. Ordinary concrete costs about Rs. 22 at Mangalore.

7. I allowed cement plastering for buildings on the West Coast after seeing the state of a building at Calicut which had merely been pointed. On the West Coast it is usual, I believe, during the monsoon, to protect exposed walls by mats and other temporary expedients, and I provided for cement plaster in order to avoid this annual charge. The whole provision in the estimate for plastering laterite is only Rs. 96 and pointing would cost about 50 per cent. of this amount. I have not made any alteration in the estimate pending your consideration of this explanation.

8. The substitution of Mangalore tiles for cement flooring has been made in the estimate and also country wood for teak wood. The total saving amounts to Rs. 30 as the quantity of teak wood in the estimate is small.

9. I would point out that labour at Mangalore is very dear, the ordinary brick-layer being paid from As. 12 to Re. 1 per day against As. 6 to As. 10 in Madras and others in proportion, especially during the coffee season.

No. 3402 C.

With reference to the estimate of Rs. 6,910 for constructing a new lighthouse and oil-store at Mangalore, the undersigned is directed to enquire whether a tower 21½ feet high is necessary for the drop of weights working the machinery, and if not, why a smaller tower could not be built part of the way up the hill on which the present lighthouse stands, and so secure the necessary elevation above sea level.

No. 2166 W., 25th August 1898.

2. Also, in his report at page 30 of G.O., No. 245, Marine, dated 8th April 1896, the Superintendent of Works says that the change of lighthouse need not be made until the scheme for the improvement of Mangalore harbour is sanctioned. It is not clear what the two have to do with each other. The Superintendent of Works is requested to explain.

3rd August 1898.

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

From F. W. ASHPITEL, Esq., Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division,
to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 6th August
1898, No. 1191.

With reference to your No. 3402 C., dated 3rd August 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the site for the proposed lighthouse at Mangalore was selected after inspection of the locality and is believed to be the best possible. The existing light is located on the top of the hill and is obstructed by trees and, at any intermediate site, the light would be still more obstructed. The proposed light is on the beach and is not obstructed in any way and the height is, in my opinion, necessary to secure proper ventilation. A change of site would also, it is believed, necessitate compensation being paid for land which would amount to considerably more than the suggested reduction in height.

2. When the remarks referred to in paragraph 2 of your letter were written, it was intended to establish the light on the sand spit, the maintenance of which is believed to have formed a part of the scheme for improvement of Mangalore harbour. It was pointed out, however, that this scheme might not be sanctioned for years and that an equally good and more convenient site could be obtained in the marine yard and, therefore, any reason for postponing the change of site disappeared. I would point out that, if the proposed permanent burner is a success, and letters received recently from the Engineer to Trinity House report that this is the case, a considerable saving in establishment charges can be effected when the new light is exhibited as a single keeper will suffice for the maintenance of the light.

3. I would also point out that materials for this lighthouse are now being collected and that, owing to the delay in the sanction of estimates, I am incurring expenditure on establishment which, in the absence of sanction to estimates, is not fully utilized. I have already lost the whole of the working season of 1897-98 on the West Coast and it is difficult for me to work my division economically or to the best advantage if these delays continue. I would, therefore, request that the estimates may be sanctioned as soon as possible, as the delay is costing much more than a few feet in height of the small tower and the uncertainty must have a very prejudicial effect on the work of the subordinate in charge.

ORDER—No. 2166 W., dated 25th August 1898.

The estimate, amounting to Rs. 6,910, for constructing a new lighthouse and oil-store at Mangalore, in the South Canara district, is sanctioned.

2. This sanction accorded in paragraph 1 has been registered as Excluded Local, No. 18 W. of 1898-99, and classified as Miscellaneous Public Improvements—Original Works.

(True Extract.)

A. K. M. S.

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent of Works, Lighthouse Division,
with sixteen enclosures.

„ Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ Marine Department.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Marine Dept

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government {1898} of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd.

Regd.

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G.O., No. 2166 W., 25th August 1898.

No 198 Marine of 16-7-98.
Communicates to the
Presidency Port Officer.
AUGUST. *(sd) W.B. de W.*

P.P.O.

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