

Marine (1899) Department.

G.O., No. 48887 Marine

DATED 3rd June 1899.

W. J. Somerville

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Municipal Hospital & Dispensary
at Negapatam*

*Ordered that the Negapatam Municipality be
asked to furnish certain information in regard
to seamen treated at the ———*

Requested accordingly.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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(d) the net cost to the hospital

clause (d) of the Indian Ports Act of 1889,
and we pray that your Excellency's Govt
will be pleased to direct a substantial
contribution to be paid to this Council
from the Port Funds towards the upkeep
of the Municipal Hospital and Dispensary"

In reply to this part of the Municipal
address, H.E. is reported to have said:-

"In a paragraph of the Municipal
Council's address, I am asked to order that
a contribution should be paid to the
Council from the Port Funds towards the
upkeep of the Municipal hospital and
dispensary. This is a request which has
been made to me in one or two municipalities
in which there are ports, and as is pointed
out in this paragraph of the address,
I understand that there is a legislative
authority for carrying out the measure
which is here suggested. I understand
that in Negapatam the hospital and
dispensary are considerably used by
seamen frequenting the port. It seems
at first sight therefore that the request
is a reasonable one and may possibly
be met under the provisions of the law
referred to. But I should not like
to

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Flag A

Flag B.

x Flag C.

Flag D

"to commit myself further on the
subject at the present moment. I can
only assure you I will cause inquiry
to be made into it and a reply to be
sent in due course."

The one or two municipalities said
to have made a similar request are
probably Cocanada, Cochin and Rambil-
patam mentioned in para 6 of G.O.
149 Financial of 20 February 1897.

The history of contribution to these
hospitals is briefly as follows:-

Cocanada & Cochin - In G.O. No. 107 of 1897

of 12 April 1871, Govt. sanctioned a
contribution of Rs 1440 and Rs 500 p.a.
for the hospitals at these places.
respectively per annum. In 1878
a proposal by the Municipal Council
Rambilpatam, for the imposition of
hospital port dues ^{under Section 59 of Act III of 1875} on vessels calling
at that port in aid of the local hospi-
tal was negatived, and that insti-
tution thereupon asked for a
contribution from Port Funds, citing
the case of Cocanada in support.
On this occasion Govt. withdrew the
contributions of Rs 1440 and Rs 500
made to Cocanada & Cochin as

in the opinion of Govt they could in equity no longer be permitted. If contributions from Port Funds were made to Cocanada & Cochin, all other Coast port hospitals, it had been urged by the Master attendant, were equally entitled to such consideration. It had also been ^{observed} ~~and~~ that ^{Cocanada} ~~the~~ hospitals were charging the Seamen in spite of a contribution from Port Funds.

The Cocanada & Demilipattam hospitals were however granted a contribution from Provincial Funds in consideration of services rendered vide Flag V. & 7. to Public Servants &c as well as Seamen.

In 1897 when the whole question of the reduction or withdrawal of contributions to local hospitals from Provincial Funds was under ^{to} ~~to~~ Flag G consideration, reference had been made to the contributions which Cocanada & Cochin were receiving from Port Funds. It was then decided in the case of the three hospitals mentioned above that the municipalities concerned might

Flag A

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Flag J

x vide Flag L

might address Government with a view to a suitable contribution being ~~paid~~ made from Port Funds. Should any considerable number of Seamen be treated at these dispensaries. But none of these hospitals have come up to Govt for aid from Port Funds on account of treatment to Seamen. The Cocanada hospital charges the Seamen treated and ~~the income~~ it has been admitted that the Seamen are a source of profit rather than loss to the hospital & that no claim could be successfully made on their account for a contribution from Port Funds. This is also borne out by the figures in the Report on Civil hospitals, Flaggs H & I. The scale of rates at which the Seamen are treated in the hospitals is not known, but if the rates given at Flag K continue to be charged at the several ports, it will be seen that at Negapatam the average cost

cost of each diet is only As 1-10¹⁰/₂
and that the rates at which European
and native Seamen are charged
are 10 annas and 3 annas respectively ^{per diem} ~~per diem~~. ~~But~~ It ^{may} ~~will~~ thus be

seen that Seamen who are treated
as inpatients are a source of
gain to the Negapatam Municipi-
pality also. But information
is not available as to whether
Seamen are treated as out-
patients. If so, figures would
be wanted to show the numbers
so treated and the cost to the
hospital on that account. The
Municipality might be asked
to supply the information.

At present ~~the~~ Contribu-
tions are made from Port Funds
towards the pay of a Hospital
Assistant at Tuticorin and
the establishment of the Port
and Marine Dispensary at
Madras.

As regards (2) the question
of the provision of a pier for
the port of Negapatam, ~~the~~
it

Page 2

it was represented that the objections
that had been raised against the
provision of a pier, viz, that the pier
would be liable to be carried away by
a cyclone or bad weather during the
north east monsoon, was opposed to
the experience gained by the Madras
Pier and that a pier was required at
an early date.

The requirements of the
port of Negapatam had already
been considered in G.P. 577
Marine & 30th August 1898. It was
then observed ^{by the Chief Engineer} as follows:—

"There is no doubt whatever that,
"looking to the extreme difficulty of
"keeping the bar open and the river
"clear of silt, a pier would make
"Negapatam independent of all
"such difficulties and be the best
"solution of a very vexed question,
"provided that it would withstand
"the heavy seas to which it would
"be occasionally exposed, and provided
"that boats could work alongside it
"in all ordinary weather."

"I quite admit, however, that if we
cannot

cannot secure more stable conditions in the bar and river, a pier is the only alternative, and the sooner it is constructed, in the interests of this important port, the better."

Certain proposals were made for securing the stable conditions in the bar and river, viz,

- (1) the construction of hurdle groynes to protect the nose of the spit and
- (2) the concentration of as much tidal silt as possible on the river at Negapatam to scour out the sand and silt which is constantly accumulating therein. To effect this, experimental sluices in the canals connected with the river were suggested.

The hurdle groynes have now been completed and the ^{plans for the} second work have been entrusted to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

It was considered by the ^{was convinced} Chief Engineer in January of this year that they must have a pier at Negapatam and wanted to

Flag X

to find out the best and quickest way of giving it to them. The Suptg. Engineer V. Currell has therefore been called upon to put in hand the plans and estimates for the pier, and a provision of Rs 60,000 has been made in the current year's Port and Marine Fund Budget for the work, Rs 30,000 from Port funds and Rs 30,000 from the Landing and Shipping of Dues Fund.

An estimate of Rs 1,000 for expenses connected with the preliminary operations for the erection of the pier has been sanctioned in G.O. 1289 W, d/15th May 1899.

It is understood that the plans & estimates for the pier itself is under preparation in the Suptg. Engineer V. Currell's office.

Just
1st June 1899.

Submitted for orders.

R.S.
1st June 99

* Flag O

See inside.
No action needed
what the pier

L. B. S.
1.6.99

W

Public Works (1899) Department.

D.O. CURRENT No. 32

From The Private Secretary
to
Dr. E. the Governor.
No. .

Dated 9.3.99

Received }
Registered } 11.3.99

Enclosures 1 (H.S.C.)

Spare copies.

16/3/89
SUBJECT.

Forwarding 5 copies of the
Addresses presented to and
replies made by His Excellency
the Governor during his
IX tour.

SAW

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	962	Secy	25-11-97
	939-40	Secy	17-11-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	750	Secy.	8-2-99



GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Madras.
9th March 1899

My dear Colonel Smart,

I enclose 5 copies of the addresses presented to His Excellency the Governor and replies made by him during his ^{IX} tour for such action as may be necessary.

Yours Sincerely

C. W. W.
Received from W.
L. R. M.