

(1) Number of pages 8(2) Date of repair 7-12-38(3) Initials of the Referencer 27**MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.****Government of Madras.***Police* **DEPARTMENT.***Encl. 15. 15. 1. 6*

G.O. No.	<u>215</u>	Press Mis.
Dated	<u>8-2-186</u>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of February 1860.*

No. 118. Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated the 8th February 1860, No. 315.

Ordered that the following despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India be communicated to the Financial Railway Department

9th May 1859 No. 255.
2nd Aug. " " 415.
10th Sept. " " 499.

with reference to the Proceedings of Government in that department noted in the margin; and to the Chief Engineer with reference to his letter No. 5105 under date the 16th September 1859.

2. With respect to the remarks at the conclusion of the despatch, there would seem to be some misapprehension. The Madras south-west railway touches the Ponáni river, a canal from Bépúr to Ponáni would therefore be merely competitive to the railway. Neither is there now at Ponáni a line of backwater extending to Cochin and Alleppey. On the contrary, what is at present wanted is water communication from Ponáni to Chetwyre, from which point only is the backwater towards Cochin navigable. Were a canal cut from Ponáni to Chetwyre, with some trifling improvements in a few bends of the backwater, there would then be uninterrupted water communication from the Ponáni river and the railway station on it to Quilon, which, by a few miles of heavy cutting, might be extended to Trivándram.

3. The question of perfecting the water communication between Ponáni and Cochin has already been fully discussed and the importance and necessity of the work admitted by Government. The cost of the undertaking, and of adapting the canal to the passage of light steamers has been estimated at two lakhs including the value of land taken up or deteriorated; and in their despatch to the Home Government 8th March 1859 No. 3, this Government strongly urged that the work might at once be undertaken and be placed in special charge of an officer to be deputed for that duty. They suggested, however, at the same time that the irrigation and canal company should be invited to undertake the project. Her Majesty's Government appear to have confined their attention to this suggestion, for, in reply to the despatch they merely intimated that the company had declined to undertake the work except on conditions which it was not deemed expedient to concede.

Financial Railway Order 3rd March
1859 No. 125.

No. 40.

INDIA OFFICE,
London, 1st December 1859.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL FORT SAINT GEORGE.

1. I have had under consideration in Council your further letter No. 53, of the 27th September last, relative to the proposed formation of a boat harbor at Bépúr.

2. My views on this subject have been greatly modified by the additional information now furnished. The estimate for the project has more than trebled; the depth of the harbor would only suffice for very small vessels; and great doubts are entertained whether even steamers could safely anchor off it during the monsoon months, the only period in which it would be of much use. In these circumstances it is to be hoped that the sanction for which you applied to the Supreme Government has been withheld, and, in any case, I must direct that the undertaking be suspended for the present. Before an outlay of £36,000 on the improvement of the port of Bépúr, can be permitted, all doubt as to the accessibility of the port at all seasons must be removed, and even then it may be a question whether every essential object might not be better attained by other means than those now proposed. I should be disposed to prefer the formation of a short canal from Bépúr to Ponáni, where it would join the line of backwaters extending to Cochin and Alleppey, ports which whether, as regards their actual condition or prospective capabilities, are, by all accounts, incomparably superior to Bépúr.

(Signed) C. WOOD.

(True Extract and Copy.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

J.W.D.

315

32

Proceedings of the Madras Port
Under date the 8th February 1860

Ordered that the
following despatch from
the Rt. Hon. the S. of S.
for I be communicated
to the Financial Railway
Dept. with reference to
the Pros. of Port in that
dept. noted in the mar-
gin; and to the Ch. Engr.
with ref. to his Letter No.
5105 under date the 18th
Sep. 1859.

G

W

9 May 1859 SP 255.
2 Aug . . . 415
10 Sep . . . 499

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Terminal Railway Order
3 Mar 1859 p. 125

50
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4. It is observed that the Govt. of S. Lowe not yet replied to the application for sanction to the formation of the proposed Boat Harbor at Bepur.

Wiedersg d 1^{er} Dec 1859.

Relative to the
proposed formation
of a Coal Railroad
Bepur. J. P.
26th July 1864

11 Copies to the Chief Engr.
 Dis.^d 4
 4 - - - - - Rail Road Report

Public North of 1860 by Mr.
D. of Gov. 1860 February

21.3/5.

No. of the Atlantic Coast
of 1860 February 1860.

Relative to the proposed
formation of a boat in
harbour at Regim.
Communicated to the
Stimulus Railway Dept
and to the Chief Engineer

No. 118.