

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 326 (W)	Press Mis.
Dated 29-6-1877.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th June 1877, No 326 W.

Buildings and Roads
Civil Works

Read the following —

No. 288.

NOTE.

In paragraphs 11 and 12 of their orders on the Madras Imperial Public Works Budget Estimate for 1877-78, the Government of India requested to be furnished with information as to the reasons which led to the provision for construction and maintenance of the Vedarniem Canal and for the up-keep of the East Coast Canal being made from the Ordinary grant for Imperial Civil Works. And in paragraph 6 of G.O., No 86 W, dated 16th May 1877, a separate note was promised to be drawn up explaining the circumstances

2. As regards the Vedarniem Canal the Collector of the Tanjore District reported in June 1873 that, owing to the canal being in parts shallow, the traffic in salt to Negapatam was attended with obstruction and delay, more especially in the dry season. He was of opinion that, in order to throw salt into the market at a reasonable cost, it was necessary that this water communication should be perfected so as to render it available for the passage of boats of ordinary size at all seasons of the year

3 The whole cost of the canal in 1873, including the amount spent on its maintenance, was Rupees 1,68,362, of which about two-fifths had been already recovered by the saving in the cost of transporting the Vedarniem salt to Negapatam. The total quantity of salt conveyed to Negapatam by the canal between its first opening in 1867 and the year 1873 was 824,620 Indian maunds or 6,872 garces, and, taking the difference between the cost of carriage by sea and that by the canal to be Rupees 10 a garce, the saving was estimated by the Collector at Rupees 68,780 in favor of the canal route. Considering, moreover, that the salt trade was capable of further expansion the Collector was of opinion that another lakh of rupees or so spent on the improvement of the canal would be most usefully laid out and prove a decidedly remunerative outlay.

4 On these representations the Government decided on the improvements to the canal being undertaken and called for the necessary plans and estimates.

5. The work being solely in the interests of the salt traffic, it was considered a legitimate charge against Salt Imperial, and as the project has been entrusted to the Public Works Department for execution, it was budgetted for in the Imperial Public Works Budget Estimate under salt works

6. The maintenance of the canal is considered to be a proper charge against salt which benefits so largely by its construction, and following the course recently adopted of bringing forward in the Public Works Budget all appropriations for salt works which are to be spent by Public Works Officers, the grant has this year been shown in the Budget of this department.

7. In respect to the East Coast Canal the provision of Rupees 7,000, which appears under Part II in the Budget, is the Imperial share of maintenance of a particular

section which is the main line of carriage for salt from the pans to the depôt at Madras, and is based on the average expenditure of the previous five years. Grants for the cost of maintenance have hitherto been made under Petty Construction and Repairs, and have been disbursed by Civil Officers. This arrangement was found inconvenient and ineffective. It was thought best therefore to entrust the work to Public Works Officers and allow the maintenance grant to appear in the Imperial Public Works Budget.

8. Previous to this being done it was brought to the notice of Government that the canal was so shallow that boats were stranded at low tide. The salt which was conveyed from the pans to the platforms in boats was thus detained, and a large quantity wasted through exposure to the rains.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No 288-A.

ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1877, No. 326 W.

ORDERED that this Note be forwarded for the information of the Government of India in continuation of the papers transmitted with docket No. 87 W, dated 16th May 1877.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

P. D. D.
Buildings
Roads.

Note

In paras 11 and 12 of their orders on the Madras Imperial Public Works Budget Estimate for 1877-78 the Government of India requested the furnished with information as to the reasons which led to the provision for construction and maintenance of the Vedatnam Canal and for the upkeep of the East Coast Canal being made from the ordinary grant for Imperial civil works. And in para 6 of G. O. No. 864 dated 16 May 1877 a separate note was promised to be drawn up.

up explaining the
circumstances.

As regards the Vedar-
nium Canal the Collector
of the Tanjore District
reported in June 1873
that owing to the Canal
being in parts shallow
the traffic in salt to
Negapatam was attended
with obstruction and
delay, more especially
in the dry season. He
was of opinion that
in order to throw salt
into the market at a
reasonable cost it was
necessary that this water
communication should
be perfected so as to
render it available for
the passage of boats of
ordinary size at all seasons
of

of the year.

The whole cost of the
Canal in 1873, including
the amount spent on
its maintenance was
Rs 1,68,362, of which
about two-fifths had
been already recovered
by the saving in the
cost of transporting
the Vedarnium salt
to Negapatam. The
total quantity of salt
conveyed to Negapatam
by the Canal between
its first opening in 1867
and the year 1873 was
8,24,620 Indian Maunds
or 6872 Sars; and, taking
the difference between the
cost of carriage by sea
and that by the Canal
to be Rs 10 a Sars, the
saving

saving was estimated by the Collector at Rs 68,780 in favor of the Canal route. Considering moreover that the salt trade was capable of further expansion the Collector was of opinion that another lakh of Rupees or so spent on the improvement of the Canal would be most usefully laid out and prove a decidedly remunerative outlay.

On these representations the Government decided on the improvements to the Canal being undertaken and called for the necessary plans and estimates.

The work being solely in the interests of the salt

1-3
salt traffic it was considered a legitimate charge against Salt Imperial, and as the project has been entrusted to the Public Works Department for execution it was budgetted for in the Imperial Public Works budget estimate under Salt Works.

The maintenance of the Canal is considered to be a proper charge against salt which benefits so largely by its construction; and, following the course recently adopted of bringing forward in the Public Works

Budget all appropriations for salt works which are to be spent by Public Works officers, the grant has this year been shown in the budget of this Department.

In respect to the East Coast Canal the provision of Rs 7,000 which appears under Part II in the

budget is the Imperial share of maintenance, based on the average expenditure of the previous five years. Grants for the cost of maintenance have hitherto been made under Petty Construction and Repairs and have been disbursed by Civil officers. This arrangement was found inconvenient and ineffective. It was

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passing for salt from
the point to the West
at Mundra. It is

thought best therefore to entrust the work to Public Works Officers and allow the maintenance grant to appear in the Imperial Public Works Budget.

Previous to this being done it was brought to the notice of Government that the Canal was so shallow that boats were stranded at low tide. The salt which was conveyed from the pans to the platforms in boats was thus detained, and a large quantity wasted through exposure

to

to the same.

E A M. J. L. L. L.
Secretary to Government.
P. M. D.

18. Sept/73 No 142 a.
11. Oct " " 2494
19. May 174 " 99
3rd July 176 " 1670
19. Sept " " 2507
18. Oct " " 2806 a orig.
16. May 177 " 86087 w. orig.

No ³²⁶ 23rd W of 29 June 77

Ordered that this
note be forwarded for
the information of the
Government of India
in continuation of the
papers transmitted with
document No. 87 W. dated
16th May 1877.

L/S

P. E. No. ³²⁷ 23rd W of 29 June 77

Copy of the above for-
warded to the Government
of India -

Depd - 11-7-77

cut 25/5

E. E. L. S. 28-6-77

Gobt. of 1877 Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd

Encl

G O. 29th June 1877, No

Nos. 288

Vedarnem & E. J. Canals.

Ordered that the note by
the Secy to Govt ^{with} ~~off~~
forwarding explanation as to the
provision of funds from
the ordinary grant for
Empl. Civil works for the
— be forwarded to the
Govt of India.

Forwarding note by
the Secy to Govt ^{with} ~~off~~
explanation as to the provision of
funds from the ordinary grant for
Empl. Civil works for the

Vedarnem & E. J. Canals.

28-6-77