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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2432 W	Press.
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Dated	21. 10. 1980	1980.

PLM

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

21st October 1880, No. 2,432 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 96. From F. N. THOROWGOOD, Esq., M. INST., C.E., Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 13th October 1880, No. 46 W.

I HAVE the honor to state that I have received further information from Mr. Parkes regarding the cost of the proposed Pier Heads, but he has not sent me any more detailed information as to the design, so I am preparing to construct as much of his first proposal as is evidently practicable. In obedience to G.O., No. 1,812 W., of July 29th, I submit at some length the substance of Mr. Parkes's communication to me.

2. In the first place I regret to state that Mr. Parkes does not approve of my having prepared or submitted to Government an estimate of any kind whatever for the Pier Heads, as he points out to me that my duty is to construct the harbour, not to correct or revise estimates. For the estimate and cost of the work he is responsible, and any matter that materially affects either should be referred to him and not to me.

3. But, in addition to his disapproving of my having submitted the estimates accompanying my letter No. 25 W., of June 25th, 1880, he also points out items in the estimates themselves to which he objects, and as his objections affect the total cost of the Heads, I venture to quote what he says at full length as follows :—

"With regard to your estimates for Pier Heads furnished to Government, under date 25th June, I cannot but think it was premature to furnish any estimates whatever. In reporting to the Madras Government, on the 25th February 1879, I said that the alteration of the form of entrance would not involve any extra cost, as the lengths of pier to be made were not increased. On further consideration, however, I found that the new conditions introduced would require rather more costly Pier Heads, and in reporting to the India Office, on the 13th November 1879, I thought it right to state this by way of correction of my former statement, and without pledging myself to details I named £3,000 to £4,000 additional for each pier as likely to be required. Such an addition would not involve any new appropriation of funds, for we had, in round numbers, two lakhs of rupees already saved on the pier works, which saving has not been since materially drawn upon, and there is therefore no reason for raising any question about the Pier Heads on the ground of cost. The sketch I sent to you on the 25th March was simply intended to explain certain questions for your and Captain Taylor's consideration and report to me, and was in no way a definite proposal. No official action of any kind ought to have been based upon it. Your "modification" is still further from being in a state for Government consideration, for I have not given any sanction to even its first principles. These estimates therefore must be altogether withdrawn.

"I should have been willing to leave the matter at this point were it not that the mere withdrawal of the estimates will not withdraw from the minds of the authorities the very exaggerated idea of the ultimate cost of the Pier Heads which your estimates convey. You appear to have overlooked some most material considerations. In estimating for the proposed works you take the cost of a cubic yard of concrete in place at 14 rupees, notwithstanding that in the six months from September to March last the actual cost was Rs. 10 and from March to June (a bad quarter) Rs. 10½.

"Again, in estimating the deductions you assume that the original estimate provided for no special work at the Head. A reference to the estimate however as re-arranged by me, on the 24th January 1879, will show that 50 feet extra length was allowed between K and the end, the length by estimate being 1,370 feet, by plan only 1,320. You should therefore have deducted 210 of normal section at Rs. 520 instead of 160.

"With these corrections the estimates would be as follows:—

	RS.
<i>Mr. Parkes's design—</i>	
Rubble base, 26,000 tons at Rs. 2	52,000
Concrete blocks, 9,725 cubic yards at Rs. 10½	1,02,112
	<u>1,54,112</u>
<i>Deduct—</i>	
210 lineal feet at Rs. 520	1,09,200
	<u>44,912</u>
Extra for one pier	89,824
For both piers	
<i>Superintendent's modification—</i>	
Rubble base, 31,700 tons at Rs. 2	63,400
Concrete blocks, 13,875 cubic yards at Rs. 10½	1,45,687
	<u>2,09,087</u>
<i>Deduct—</i>	
265 lineal feet at Rs. 520	1,37,800
	<u>71,287</u>
Extra for one pier	1,42,574
For both piers	

"From these amounts, however, Rs. 40,000 may be further deducted as the widened Pier Heads will form bases for the lighthouses, for which £2,000 each was allowed in the original estimate. I took credit for this last saving in November 1879 and again in my recent report of 26th August last, in which last I have shown in another way that we have an ample margin of estimate to cover any possible additions to the Pier Heads."

4. With regard to my having taken the cost per cubic yard of concrete blocks at Rs. 14, I can only explain that this was the originally estimated rate and was certainly on the safe side to allow for contingencies in construction. With regard to the 50 feet extra length already allowed for by Mr. Parkes, I was not aware that he had introduced it into his estimate.

5. It will be seen from Mr. Parkes's more accurate estimate that the extra cost for the two piers (according to his design which has not been superseded with his authority) is Rs. 89,824, or, deducting the Rs. 40,000 saved on the Light-houses, only Rs. 85,824, instead of Rs. 2,09,900 as made out by me.

6. I respectfully ask that Mr. Parkes's figures may be allowed to supersede my own in future reference to the cost of the Pier Heads.

No. 97.

ORDER THEREON, 21st October 1880, No. 2,432 W.

THE Government are unable to admit the dictum of Mr. Parkes, that the Superintendent of the Harbour Works is not to reply to all the legitimate demands which they may find it necessary to make.

2. In the present instance, misconception has been caused by the lack of the complete information which Mr. Parkes was bound to afford to this Government.

(True Extract.)

Major R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt. P.W.D.

To W. Parkes, Esq., M. Inst. C.E., through India Office.
To the Superintendent of Madras Harbour Works.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1880) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
W. PARKES, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Dated October, 21st.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 21st October 1880, No. 2,432 W.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 96-97.

Pier Heads, Madras Harbour Works.—
Passing orders on letter from the Superin-
tendent submitting observations of Mr.
Parkes regarding the cost of the proposed

GOVT.
OF MADRAS. }

188 .

{ P. W.
DEPT.

SECRETARY. 2432
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Chepauk,

13^o Oct

1880.

OFFICE NOTE.

To

W

For orders, in continuation
of previous papers sent
up—

The Government will
hardly admit Mr Parkes
right to restrain them
from committing the
Superintendent when they
think proper, or the
letter from replying to
the references is made—

L

Mr W. Henderson

For order

It is satisfactory to
find that Mr. Parker
is enabled to show
that his plan would
add sensibly less
to the cost of the
harbour than was
at first supposed, at
the same time he
may be informed with
the H. M. & approved
but Government cannot
admit his dictum that
Mr. Thompson is not
to reply to all the
legitimate demands
they may wish it may
to make

In the present instance
misconception will have
been avoided had Mr.
Parker explained as fully
as he was bound to do
his reasons for adding 50%
in length to each pier the
cost of which it seems he in-
tended as a set-off against
the pier works

15-10-80

Cir 10-10-80

No. 46 W.

81

From

THE SUPERINTENDENT,

MADRAS HARBOUR WORKS.

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To

Colonel R. H. Sankey, R. B., R. C.
Secretary to Government, P. W. Dept
Buildings & Roads
Madras MADRAS, October 1890

SIR,

I have the honor to state that I have
received further information from Mr. Parker
regarding the cost of the proposed Pier Heads,
but he has not sent me any more detailed
information as to the design, so I am pre-
paring to construct as much of his first
proposal as is evidently practicable. In
obedience to G.O. No. 1812 W of July 29th, I
submit at some length the substance of
Mr. Parker's communication to me. -

2. In the first place I regret to state
that Mr. Parker does not approve of
my having prepared or submitted to
Government an estimate of any kind
whatever for the Pier Heads, as he points

out

out to me that my duty is to construct the Harbour not to correct or revise estimates.

For the Estimate and cost of the work he is responsible and any matter that materially affects either should be referred to him and not to me.

3. But in addition to his disapproving of my having submitted the estimates accompanying my letter No. 2510 of June 25th 1880 he also points out items in the estimates themselves to which he objects, and as his objections affect the total cost of the Heads, I venture to quote what he says at full length as follows:—

"With regard to your estimates for
"Pier heads furnished to Government
"under date 25th June I cannot but think
"it was premature to furnish any estimates whatever. In reporting to the
"Madras Government on the 25th February
"1879 I said that the alterations of the
"form of entrance would not involve
any

2432/5 12

"any extra cost, as the lengths of pier to be
"made were not increased. On further
"consideration however I found that the
"new conditions introduced would require
"rather more costly pier heads, and in
"reporting to the India Office on the 13th
"November 1879 I thought it right to
"state this by way of correction of my
"former statement, and without pledging
"myself to details I named £3000 to
"£4000 additional for each pier as likely
"to be required. Such an addition would
"not involve any new appropriation
"of funds for we had in round numbers
"2 lacs of rupees already saved on the
"pier works which saving has not been
"since materially drawn upon and
"there is therefore no reason for raising
"any question about the Pier Heads on
"the ground of cost. The sketch I sent
"to you on the 25th March was simply
intended

"intended to explain certain questions
"for your and Captain Taylor's considera-
"tion and report to me, and was in no
"way a definite proposal. No official
"action of any kind ought to have been
"based upon it. Your "modification" is
"still further from being in a state for
"Government consideration for I have not
"given any sanction to even its first
"principles. - These estimates therefore
"must be altogether withdrawn. -

"I should have been willing to leave
"the matter at this point were it not that
"the mere withdrawal of the estimates
"will not withdraw from the minds of
"the authorities the very exaggerated
"idea of the ultimate cost of the pier
"heads which your estimates convey.
"You appear to have overlooked some
"most material considerations. In
"estimating for the proposed works you
"take the cost of a cubic yard of concrete

in

2432
6 13

"in place at 14 rupees, notwithstanding
"that in the six months from Septem-
"ber to March last the actual cost
"was Rs 10 and from March to June
"(a bit greater) Rs 10½ -

"Again in estimating the deductions
"you assume that the original estimate
"provided for no special work at the
"head. A reference to the estimate how-
"ever as rearranged by me on the
"24th January 1879 will shew that
"50 feet extra length was allowed be-
"tween K and the end, the length by
"estimate being 1370 feet, by plan only
"1320. You should therefore have
"deducted 210 of normal section at
"Rs 520 instead of 160. -

"With these corrections the estimates
"would be as follows. -

Mr. Parker's design	Rupees
Rubble Base 26000 tons at Rs 2.	52000
Concrete blocks 9725 cbrs at Rs 10½	102112
	154112

15-10-80

Rupees

Deduct		
" 210 link feet at Rs 520	154,112	109,200
" Extra for one pier	44,912	
" For both piers	89,824	

Superintendent's Modification

" Rubble base 31,700 tons at Rs 2	63,400
" Concrete blocks 13,875 cbrds at Rs 10 1/2	145,687
Deduct	
" 265 link feet at Rs 520	209,087
" Extra for one pier	137,800
" For both piers	71,287
	142,571

" From these amounts however Rs 40,000 may
 " be further deducted as the widened pier
 " heads will form bases for the lighthouses
 " for which £2000 each was allowed in the
 " original estimate. I took credit for this
 " last saving in November 1879 and
 " again in my recent report of 26th August
 " last in which I have shown in
 " another way that we have an ample
 " margin of estimate to cover any possible
 " additions to the Pier heads."

14. With regard to my having taken the
 cost per cubic yard of concrete blocks at Rs 14
 I can only explain that this was the originally
 estimated

15-10-80

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estimated rate and was certainly on the safe
 side to allow for contingencies in construction.
 With regard to the 50 feet extra length already
 allowed for by Mr. Parker I was not aware
 that he had introduced it into his estimate.

5. It will be seen from Mr. Parker's
 more accurate estimate that the extra
 cost for the two piers (according to his
 design which has not been superseded with
 his authority) is Rs 89,824 or deducting the
 Rs 10,000 saved on the Lighthouses only Rs 5,824
 instead of Rs 2,09,900 as made out by me.

b. I respectfully ask that Mr. Parker's
 figures may be allowed to supersede my
 own in future reference to the cost of the
 Pier Heads.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

J. H. Harrowgood. M. Inst. C.E.
 Superintendent
 Madras Harbour Works

64/22

Inis No 1435 W. 18.6.80 orib
G.D. 1812 W. 29.7.80.

Buildings & Roads

From

The Superintendent

Madras Harbour Works

P.W.D.

12 OCT 1880

NA 6484

No 46 W

Dated 13th October 1880.

Recd 13th Dec

No of Enclosures —

Pier Heads

Submits observations of Mr.
Parkes regarding the cost of the
Proposed —

Cir 16.10.80. Rtd 19.10.80.

O-14-10-80 Rtd 21-10-80

15-10-80 Rtd

14-10-80

No 2432 W 24³²/8

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 21 Oct 1880

Read the following:—

From

The Supt. M.H. Works (H.C. No 46 W of 13th Oct 1880)

The Gvt. are un-
able to admit the dictum
of Mr. Parkes that the
Supt. of the Harbour Works
is not to reply to all the
legitimate demands which
they may find it necessary
to make.

2. In the present instance,
misconception has been
caused by the lack of
the complete information
which Mr. Parkes was
bound to afford to this

Government.

AM

19-10-80

W.P.
15/10

despd 4/11/80

W. Parkes Esq. M.C.C. ✓
(thru India office.)

Supt. M. H. Works.

Desd

29-10-80 *Print*

15-10-80 *W.P.*

15-10-80

0484.

Gobt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 21st Oct 1880 No. 24326

Nos.

96597

Pier Heads, Muttwoods.

Passing orders on
letter from the Dnpts
on the observations of
Mr Parkes regarding
the cost of the proposed

25
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