

(1) Number of pages 32
(2) Date of repair June 1987
(3) Initials of the Referencer bars

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PW

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1845(W)	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	3. 7. 1987	198.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1845
T

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers :—

From J. P. DAVIDSON, Esq., Executive Engineer, Coimbatore Division, to the
Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, dated Coimbatore, 13th June 1883,
No. 417.

I have the honor to forward, for orders, true copy of letter from the Sub-division
Officer, South Canara.

- 1 Copy of the Sub-divisional Officer's letter, with its three enclosures. 2. The Sub-division Officer is anxious to re-open the southern mouth of the

Mangalore backwater, and proposes spending Rs. 500 on the work.

3. As stated in the postscript of his letter, Lieutenant West wired to me for instructions, and I replied that he was to do nothing. The southern mouth, while open last year, was no doubt a great convenience, but at the same time local opinion was very much divided as to the suitableness of the position, the majority being in favor of a position further south at Ulaul, more directly opposite the point where the Netrávati enters the backwater.

4. The chief object in cutting the new mouth so far north last year was to get it near the Custom House, and thus avoid the necessity of shifting this building which, if the mouth was far south, it was considered would be necessary.

5. During the visit, however, of the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, and the Master Attendant in February last, I understood the Port Officer to say that there was no object in keeping the mouth close to the Custom House, and that the Ulaul position would be the best for the new mouth.

6. It was then decided by Colonel Sankey and Captain Taylor to do nothing more towards closing the old mouth (Gurpur gap) or keeping the new mouth open; and, moreover, if this new mouth closed, it was decided to incur no further expenditure in re-opening it, but to leave nature to do her own work.

7. I do not, under the circumstances, consider it advisable to assist the river in breaking out at the new mouth of last year, and I do not agree with the Sub-division Officer's arguments in paragraph 2 of his letter, nor his remarks regarding loss of life, &c., in paragraph 5; the flooding of the lower parts of Mangalore is not uncommon in high floods, and I do not think the cut suggested by the Sub-division Officer would make any appreciable difference in the height of these floods, which, of course, reach their highest level when the tide is coming in, and the discharge through the mouths is to a great extent checked.

8. I have instructed the Sub-division Officer to do no work and incur no expenditure pending orders from you. I request you will therefore give early instructions on the subject.

ENCLOSURE.

From Lieutenant W. C. S. WEST, Assistant Engineer, South Canara Sub-division, to the Executive Engineer, Coimbatore Division, dated Mangalore, 6th June 1883, No. 166.

In continuation of my telegram of the 4th instant, I have the honor to report that my attention having been drawn by the Collector and Port Officer to the present state of the new harbour mouth at Mangalore, I inspected it, and now beg to submit the results of my inspection on the subject.

- 1 Detailed Estimate.
- 1 Abstract Estimate for Rs. 500.
- 1 Survey and Sections.

2. I believe the Netrávati River will certainly overtop the low sandspit thrown up by the sea across the new mouth since April last and make an opening for itself. This I believe will be easily effected, even with a moderate flood of 2 feet. But most probably there will be 3½ to 4 feet flood in July or August, and instead of a deep channel, the river may make a broad and shallow opening. This opening will tend to reduce the action of the river on the old bar, which is positively dangerous during rough weather, and Mangalore may have next season two bad openings instead of one good one.

3. I would therefore respectfully suggest that a channel be cut to guide the course of the Netrávati River over the deepest water on the bar, and to help it to scour out a good depth for itself; so that if we get good floods, as occurred last year, the new opening may be successful and permanent. The outlay this year will be very moderate, and will not exceed Rs. 500.

4. You are aware that the portion of the backwater a little north of the new mouth is silted up, and the basin between the old mouth and old bar shallow; all this sand from the backwater will therefore be driven towards the old mouth, which it must shallow and reduce in width, and, may be, help the closing of the old mouth easily, at a moderate cost, next season. In short, with the new mouth open again this year, the river must push more of its sand northwards towards the old mouth and tend to improve the new opening. There will be no difficulty in opening and carrying out the little work that is now indispensably necessary; the large waves break on the new bar, which is stationary, and there are comparatively very small waves in the bay, near the proposed guide channel, which will not interfere with the work. Moreover, it is very deep in the bay near the new cut, so that there is no likelihood of the sea throwing up more sand and raising this part of the sandspit.

5. Under these circumstances, I believed it my duty to telegraph to you on the subject, and now have the honor to submit, for your very favorable consideration and recommendation, an estimate, amounting to Rs. 500, for the proposed guide channel, together with a survey and sections showing flood levels, &c. I fully believe, if the little work I now propose is carried out, that the new mouth will prove more successful than on the last occasion. Even should it close again after nine months, as it did in April last, which I doubt, the money will be well spent, and it will be a great convenience to all craft passengers, boatmen, and freight by steamers, and last, but not least, a check to the inundations, loss of life and property on the margin of the river near Mangalore.

6. As the channel will take some time to excavate, and it is not easy collecting labor during the rains, also as I would wish to have the heavy part of the work completed before floods come down, I therefore beg early sanction by telegram may be accorded to the estimate.

N.B.—Since writing the above I have had your telegram to "Do nothing and spend no money on the new mouth." In reply I now report that no expenditure has been incurred, and that nothing will be done till sanction is accorded.

I would, however, beg a reconsideration of the subject in the interests of the public service.

No. 245 E.W.

Endorsement on the above.

Forwarded for the information of the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

2. The undersigned has approved the action of the Executive Engineer in forbidding any expenditure on the bank of sand across the new mouth of the Netrávati, as this was in accordance with the decision come to by the Master Attendant, Administrative Department, and the Chief Engineer when they visited Mangalore in February last.

OOTACAMUND,
17th June 1883.

(Signed) J. BEATTY, Colonel, R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle.

From J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.R., Master Attendant, Administrative Department, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 23rd June 1883, No. 5635.

I have the honor to inform you that, after an interview with Mr. Wicks, the Port Officer of Mangalore, who takes a very intelligent interest in the port, and was present at all the operations last season connected with opening a new mouth, and endeavouring to close the old one, of the river at Mangalore, I am of opinion that, as a very narrow cut is only required to re-open the new mouth, and the expense, viz., Rs. 500, very small, and as nearly Rs. 6,000 have been retrenched from the estimate for closing the old mouth, the matter of finance need not stand in the way. The question of prudence in again interfering with nature may be argued in favor of a new attempt, on the ground that, as shown by Mr. Wicks, much of the new channel remains *in situ*, and a small cut would open it out in a direction pointed out by nature as the most favorable. It is possible that the very unusual force of last year's monsoon may have defeated our intention by preventing any silting of the old mouth, and so have made the new one less able to contend with it. It seems considered by most observers of the situation that it cannot be long before nature reverts to the old situation for an opening, and is unlikely to make it in the place most suited to the purposes of the port. From this point of view it would be advisable to keep up the preliminary action which is induced by the new opening.

2. The only argument against the attempt is the possibility of having two bad bars instead of one good one, a matter of some consequence to the native vessels, but this would only be if both continued open; there was no difficulty that I know of this last fine season. I believe that deep as the pot-hole to the northern opening is, it would very soon fill up if nature approved of the change. I would not advocate attempting to close it, but careful observation be made of its change, if any.

ORDER—dated 3rd July 1883, No. 1845 W., Public Works.

The Master Attendant, Madras, having since recommended to the Chief Engineer the expenditure of Rs. 500 from Port Funds on renewing the experiment of last year for opening the cut through the new mouth of the Mangalore backwater, authority has been communicated by telegram for at once proceeding with the work.

2. The Accountant-General will be instructed in the Financial Department to place the sum above named at the disposal of the Public Works Department, together with the usual charges on account of Establishment and Tools and Plant.

3. The result should be reported in due course.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, Fourth Circle, with three Enclosures.
" Master Attendant, Madras.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Financial Department.
" Marine do.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated July, 3rd.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 3rd July 1883, No. 1845 W.

JULY.

New mouth of the Mangalore Harbour

Sanctioning the opening of a cut through the —, and the Accountant-General, to place the necessary funds at the disposal of the Public Works Department.

No 417

From

To

Sir,

Executive Engineer's Office

Coimbatore 13th June 1883.

The Executive Engineer
Coimbatore Division

The Superintending Engineer
4th Circle

Enclosures

1 copy of the
Sub D. officer's
letter with it

3 Enclosures.

I have the honor to forward
for orders true copy of letter from the
Sub Division officer South Canara.

1. The Sub Division officer is anxious
to reopen the southern mouth of the
Mangalore Backwater, and proposes spend-
ing Rs 500 on the work

3. As stated in the postscript of his
letter, Lieut West wired to me for instruc-
tions, and I replied that he was to do
nothing. The southern mouth, while open
last

last year, was no doubt a great convenience, but at the same time local opinion was very much divided as to the suitability of the position; the majority being in favor of a position further south at Ulaut, more directly opposite the point where the Netravathi enters the back water.

4. The chief object in cutting the new mouth so far north last year, was to get it near the Custom House, and thus avoid the necessity of shifting this building which, if the mouth was far south, it was considered would be necessary.

5. During the visit, however, of the Chief Engineer P.W.D., and the Master Attendant in February last, I understood the Port Officer to say that there was no object in keeping the mouth close
to

P 2
to the Custom House, and that the Ulaut position would be the best for the new mouth.

1845
6. It was then decided by Colonel Sankey and Captain Taylor to do nothing more towards closing the old mouth (Gurpur gap) or keeping the new mouth open; and moreover, if this new mouth closed, it was decided to incur no further expenditure in reopening it, but to leave nature to do her own work.

7. I do not under the circumstances consider it advisable to assist the river in breaking out at the new mouth of last year, and I do not agree with the Sub Division officer's arguments in para 2 of his letter nor his remarks regarding loss of life &c in para 5; the flooding of the lower parts of Mangalore is not
uncommon

uncommon in high floods, and I do not
think the cut suggested by the Sub
Division officer would make any ap-
preciable difference in the height of
these floods, which, of course, reach
their highest level when the tide is
coming in, and the discharge through
the mouths is to a great extent checked.
8 I have instructed the Sub Division
officer to do no work and incur no
expenditure, pending orders from you,
I request you will therefore give early
instructions on the subject.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

your most obedient servant

R Davidson

Executive Engineer

L.M.

3.
1845
7

5257
11 JUN 83
P.M.D.

From J.W.C. No. 5247

The Supy Engr.
Fourth Circle

Dated 17
Rs 22 } June 1883.

St. 245

Encls. 5 (1 Plan)

New Harbour Mouth
Mangalore.

Forwarding estimate
survey level & amount
ing to Rs 500 for re-open-
ing (southern)

W/O 24/6

O.L. 1. 38-6.
Ar 26/6 R 20/6
Ar 27/6 R 20/6

No 166

S. Canara Sub Divl Office

Mangalore 6th June 1883

From

The Assistant Engineer
S. Canara Sub Division

To

The Executive Engineer
Coimbatore Division

Sir,

In continuation of my telegram
of the 4th instant, I have the honor to
report that my attention having been drawn
by the Collector and Port officer, to the
present state of the new Harbour Mouth
at Mangalore, I inspected it, and now beg
to submit the results of my inspection
on the subject.

1. I believe the Netravetti river
will certainly overtop the low sand spit,
thrown up by the sea across the new

Encls: 3

- 1 Detailed Estimate
- 1 Abstract Estimate
made for Rs 500
- 1 Survey and
sections

3

mouth since April last; and make an opening for itself. This I believe, will be easily effected, even with a moderate flood of 2 feet. But, most probably, there will be $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 feet flood in July or August; and instead of a deep channel, the river may make a broad and shallow opening. This opening will tend to reduce the action of the river on the old bar which is positively dangerous during rough weather and Mangalore may have, next season, two bad openings, instead of one good one.

3 I would therefore, respectfully suggest that a channel be cut to guide the course of the Netravetti river, over the deepest water on the bar; and to help to it to scour out a good depth for itself; so that if we get good floods, as occurred last year, the new opening

may be successful and permanent. The outlay this year will be very moderate and will not exceed Rs 500. 1845

4. You are aware that the portion of the backwater, a little north of the new mouth is settled up; and the basin between the old Mouth and old bar shallow; all this sand from the backwater will therefore be driven towards the old Mouth; which, it must shallow and reduce in width; and may be, help the closing of the old Mouth easily, at a moderate cost, next season. In short, with the new Mouth open again this year, the river must push more of its sand northwards towards the old Mouth and tend to improve the new opening. There will be no difficulty in opening and carrying out

the little work, that is now indispensably necessary; the large waves break on the new bar, which is stationary; and there are comparatively very small waves in the bay, near the proposed guide channel; which will not interfere with the work. Moreover, it is very deep in the bay near the new cut, so that there is no likelihood of the sea throwing up more sand, and raising this part of the sandspit.

5. Under these circumstances, I believed it my duty to telegraph to you on the subject; and now have the honor to submit for your very favorable consideration and recommendation, an Estimate amounting to Rs 500- for the proposed guide channel; together with a survey and sections showing flood levels &c. I fully believe if the little work I now

propose, is carried out, that the new Mouth will prove more successful, than on the last occasion. Even ¹⁸⁴⁵ should it close again, after nine months, as it did in April last - which I doubt - the money will be well spent, and it will be a great convenience to all craft passengers, boatmen, and freight by steamers and last but not least, a check to the inundations, loss of life, and property, on the margin of the river near Mangalore.

6. As the channel will take some time to excavate, and it is not easy collecting labor during the rains; also, as I would wish to have the heavy part of the work completed, before floods come down, I therefore beg early sanction by telegram, may be accorded to the

estimate.

I have &c

(Signed) W. C. S. West Lieut

Assistant Engineer

N. B. Since writing the above, I have had your telegram to "Do nothing and spend no money on the new mouth." In reply I now report that no expenditure has been incurred, and that nothing will be done till sanction is accorded.

I would, however, beg a reconsideration of the subject, in the interests of the Public service.

(Signed) W. C. S. West Lieut

Assistant Engineer

(True copy)

H. Davidson
Executive Engineer

S.M.

1845
11

In a letter from the
Executive Engineer
Coimbatore Dn
No 417 dated 13th June/83



Copy of Sub
Division Officer's
letter with estimate &c

No. 245
E. W.

Supy. Engineer's Office, 4th Circle.
Camp Coimbatore, 17th June 1883.

Endorsement on the above 1845
12

Forwarded for the information of the

Enclosures 5: Chief Engineer, P. W. D.

2. The undersigned has approved the
action of the Executive Engineer in forbidding
any expenditure on the bank of sand across
the new mouth of the Mettravatti, as this was
in accordance with the decision come to by
the Master Attendant, Administrative Depart-
ment, and the Chief Engineer when they
visited Mangalore in February last.

P. Beatty - Colonel, R.E.,
Supy. Engineer, 4th Circle.

To

The Chief Engineer,
P. W. D.

From
The Executive Engineer
Coimbatore D.



N^o 417
Dated 13th June 1883
Desp. d 14 00

Enclosure 4
New Harbour Mouth
Mangalore

Forwards for orders
Copy of Sub Division Officer's
letter with survey level
detail and abstract
estimate Rs 500 for
reopening (Southern)
and requests in-
structions.

Administrative Department.

No. 5635

MADRAS,
Marine Office,
23rd June 1883.

From

J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., LIEUT., R.N.R.,

Master Attendant,
Administrative Department,
Madras.

To

The Honorable Colonel R. H. Sankey C.B.

Chief Secretary to Government,
Public Works ~~Marine~~ Department,
Fort Saint George.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that,
after an interview with Mr. Wicks, the Port
Officer of Mangalore, who takes a very in-
telligent interest in the Port, and was pre-
sent at all the operations last season
connected with opening a new mouth,
and endeavouring to close the old one, of
the river at Mangalore, I am of opinion
that as a very narrow cut is only required
to reopen the new mouth, and the expense
viz Rupees (500) five hundred, very small,
and as nearly Rupees (6000) six thousand
have been retrenched from the estimate for
closing

closing the old mouth, the matter of fi-
-nance need not stand in the way.

The question of prudence in again in-
-terfering with nature may be argued
in favor of a new attempt on the ground
that as shown by Mr. Wicks much of
the new channel remains in situ, and
a small cut would open it out in a direc-
-tion pointed out by nature as the most
favourable. It is possible that the very
unusual force of last year's monsoon
may have defeated our intentions by pre-
-venting any silting of the old mouth,
and so have made the new one less
able to contend with it. It seems con-
-sidered by most observers of the situa-
-tion that it cannot be long before
nature reverts to the old situation for
an opening, and is likely to make it in
the place most suited to the purposes of
the

the port. From this point of view it would
be advisable to keep up the preliminary ac-
-tion which is induced by the new opening.

2 The only argument against the
attempt is the possibility of having two
bad bars instead of one good one, a mat-
-ter of some consequence to the native ves-
-sels, but this would only be if both con-
-tinued open, there was no difficulty that
I know of this last fine season. I

believe that deep as the port hole to the
northern opening is it would very soon
fill up if nature approved of the change.
I would not advocate attempting to close
it, but careful observation be made of
its change if any.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

W. Taylor

Master Attendant
Administrative Department.

(188) DEPARTMENT.

P.W.C. No 5550

From

THE MASTER ATTENDANT,
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT,

Madras,

To

THE CHIEF SECY. TO GOVERNMENT,

O.M. MARINE DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

No. 5635

Dated

23 June, 1883

Received

No.

Subject.

Suggests the reopening
of the new Harbours
Mouth at Mangalore.

1845-46 23. June

Memo

1845

All that is advanced
by his Ex^{ty} Supreme & P.E.
is in my opinion correct
but as his Master Attendant

on the representation
of Capt. Wicks the port-
Office, has written to me
expressing his readiness
to expend Rs. 500 for the
port-funds in renewing the
embankment of last year I
have already approved by
telegram for the expenditure
being renewed - Found
Sanction may transfer be
given and the result
awaited

Atte

25/6

B No 2719 W of 2-11-81

A No 501 W of 24-2-81

" " 225 Y W of 2-9-82

B No 2479 W of 25-9-82

G No 2718 W of 18-10-82

1523 L of 18-12-82

2411 C of 27-12-82

77 C of 10-1-83

G No 241 W of 20-1-83

343 C of 2-2-83

404 D of 22-2-83

R No 1313 W of 5-5-83

G No 1444 W of 18-5-83

No 176 E of 23-6-83

Ords

1845

An additional Voucher
the accy. draft order is
submitted for approval
initials. It is necessary
that the money should be
formally placed at
disposal.

Cu

3/7

Very truly
yours
C. J.

No. 1845-4 23rd July/83

Public Works Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following:

Letter from the Chftg. Engr. ¹⁸⁴⁵
Fourth Circle A.C. No. 245 of 17th June/83
Do. from the Master
attendant, Madras } E.W. 5635 of 23rd "

10

The Master
attendant, Madras, having
since recommended to
the Chief Engineer the
expenditure of Rs 500 from
Port Funds on renewing
the experiment of last
year for opening the cut
through the new mouth
of the Mangalore Back-
water, authority has been
communicated by telegram
for at once proceeding with
the

L.S. 38-6
C. 26/6 R 28/6

the work.

§ 3. The result should be reported in due course.

2. The act gen will be instructed in the financial Dept to place the sum above named at the disposal of the P. W. Dept together with the usual charges on acct. of salaries & tools & plant.

Att
25/6
guc

CV
3/7

18/5

Sum
Money
1/7

2 w
11/7

Suply. Engr. South Circle
with 3 enclos. as per
Master Attendant. Madras
Examiners. M. accounts
Finance Dept.
Marine Dept.

(The Chaf Secty for counterintell)

RS
Encl. Cn 26/6 R28/5

Govt. of [1883] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated

(16)

From

To

30 July 1883, No. 125

For

New mouth of the
Mangalore Harbour

Sanction of the opening of
a cut through the
sett General to place
the necessary funds at
the disposal of the P.W.D.

65