

12

(1) Number of pages 24
(2) Date of repair 18/5/86
(3) Initials of the Referencer lwa ✓

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	4-5.(W)	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	5-1-1883	198.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Barney
Archives I--10,006 I -80.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 4.

READ—the following docket from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Communication,) dated Fort William, 16th December 1882, No. 495 C. :—

Copy of the following, with copy of its enclosure, forwarded to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, for early report.

(By Order.)

(Signed) G. F. L. MARSHALL, Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURES.

Despatch from the Most Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Most Honorable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 9th November 1882, Public Works, No. 62.

I transmit herewith for your Excellency's information copy of an application* addressed to me by a firm of merchants in this country, Messrs. Bradbridge, Jenkins and Company of 2,

Fen Court, E.C., and of Colombo, for permission to cut a ship canal across the island of Ramesvaram between the coasts of India and Ceylon, and for the lease of such canal to them for a term of years. In return for this concession the firm offer to form a Company to carry out the work.

2. I have caused the applicants to be informed that no definite reply can be made to their application till I am in possession of the views of your Government on the proposal, and I request, therefore, that I may be furnished in due course with your opinion on the merits of the scheme.

From Messrs. BRADBIDGE, JENKINS AND COMPANY, to the Under Secretary of State, India Office, dated 2, Fen Court, Fenchurch Street, London, 26th October 1882.

We wish to address you with reference to granting us a concession for cutting a ship canal through the island of Ramesvaram which will enable mail and other large steamers to pass from the Gulf of Manaar to Palk's Straits and *vice versa* (instead of going round the island of Ceylon), and thereby save about three days' steamings both ways in the passage of vessels bound from England or Colombo for any port in the Bay of Bengal.

We do not ask for any pecuniary assistance from the Madras or Home Governments, but simply permission to cut the canal. We with other friends will form a Company with capital sufficient to carry out the work, according to the plans proposed by Mr. J. Stoddart, Government Engineer at Colombo, and shown in the Parliamentary Papers upon the Pamban Channel, marked C 761, 1873. Mr. Stoddart's plans will be adopted with any modifications which may be shown to be of advantage.

But before taking definite steps in forming the Company it is necessary for us to have a concession granted for a long lease, and we shall therefore be glad to know that the Government are prepared to grant our request, and that an agreement may be entered into forthwith.

5TH JANUARY 1883, No. 4 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

On September 6th our Colombo partner, Mr. Barton Grindrod, addressed a letter to Mr. Grant Duff, Governor of Madras, upon the subject, and received a reply to the effect that our proposal was read with interest and his views would be forwarded to the authorities at Home. Mr. Grindrod has also had a long interview with Sir James Longden, Governor of Ceylon, who fully approves of the scheme and also promised to report favorably. We shall be pleased to call upon you with reference to the above proposal and to give any information in our power to facilitate the Government coming to a favorable decision. We wish to add that shortening the voyage to Calcutta, Madras, &c., cannot but be of great service to all ship-owners, passengers and merchants.

No. 5.

ORDER—dated 5th January 1883, No. 4 W., Public Works.
Ordered that the following reply be sent.

2. The further report expected from the Master Attendant should be submitted as soon as possible.

(Here enter No. 5 W., dated 5th January 1883.)

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Master Attendant, Madras.
" Marine Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated January, 5th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 5th January 1883, No. 4 W.

JANUARY.

Nos. 4-5.

Ramesvaram Island.

Regarding the proposed ship canal across —

5TH JANUARY 1883, No. 5 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 6.

LETTER—from

COLONEL R. H. SANKEY, R.E., C.B.,

Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your endorsement, No. 495 C., dated 16th December 1882, forwarding copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State in regard to an application which has been made by a firm of merchants in England for permission to cut a ship canal across the island of Ramesvaram.

2. In reply I am to forward, for the information of the Government of India, copies of the correspondence quoted in the margin, from which it will be observed that the Ceylon representatives of the firm have addressed this Government direct in the matter, and that they have been informed that no objection will be raised by the Madras Government to the grant of a general concession, involving

no pecuniary guarantee, for cutting a canal, but that the land required to be taken up, being all private property, will have to be acquired by direct negotiation with the owners.

3. It has been further stipulated that before any definite agreement is come to, it will be necessary to submit for the approval of Government the scale of dues proposed to be levied for the use of the canal.

4. I am to add that the Master Attendant will shortly proceed to further investigate the passage, and the result of this, with the definite opinion of this Government, will be communicated to the Government of India.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
5th January 1883.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

4/4

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS

Dated January, 5th.

Recd.

Encl.

5th January 1883, No. 5 W.

JANUARY.

No. 6.

Ramesvaram Island.

REGARDING the proposed ship canal
ACROSS —.

To Mr

18/1

Pencil additions
to draft order & letter
submitted for approval
with reference to the
H.M.'s remarks.

Cs

31/1/82

Approved

For Mr. Secretary

4/1

Att

Please see the appended
letter from Mr. S. J. about
the proposals now before
Government for cutting a
ship canal through the
island of Ramesvaram
into the draft of reply.

I am not sure that
the letter is a sufficient
disposal of the points
referred to particularly
as the concluding words
of the S. J.'s despatch
ask for an opinion of
this Govt. as to the
"merits of scheme".

There have been partly
very some into in two
or three previous S.O.s
and an adverse opinion
arrived at, but as
Captain Taylor has
believe already started
on his tour into the
English Strait of further
investigation one or
two points connected

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1883) Madras

PUBLIC WORKS

Rameswar and.
REGARDING the proposed ship canal
ACROSS — .

Mr. R. E. Sullivan
1883-1884 *4/6*
Please see the appended
letter from the S of S about
the proposals now before
Government for cutting a
ship canal through the
island of Rameswaram
into the draft of reply.

I am not sure that
the letter is a sufficient
disposal of the points
referred to particularly
as the concluding words
of the S of S's dispatch
ask for the opinion of
this Govt. as to the
"merits of scheme".

There have been pretty
many more into in two
or three previous S.O.s
and on a diverse opinion
arrived at, but as
Captain Taylor has
believe already started
on his tour into the
District Agent of further
investigation one or
two points connected

with the practicability
of the scheme it appears
to me that if it is
intended to deal spe-
-cifically with the merits
of the scheme in the
reply to the Govt. to India
it would be advisable
to await the Director
Attendants report which
cannot be long delayed

Att

28/12/82

I think the Draft will
do very well but would
add that Taylor is
now making a further
investigation the result
gathered with the definite
portion of the first bill
be communicated.

Taylor might be told
that a communication
from the S.S. has been
received and that his
further report should
be submitted as
soon as possible.

The firm look as if they
mean business

29/12

H.C.

495

No. 495 C.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Civil Works.
Communication.

Fort William, 16th December 1882.

Copy of the following, with copy
of its enclosure, forwarded to the
Government of Madras, P.W. Dept.
for early report. - By order,

G. F. L. Marshall Major R.E.

Under Secy to the Govt. of India

India Office, London.
9th November 1882

Public Works.

A. 62.

My Lord Marquis,

I transmit herewith for your
Excellency's information copy of an
application addressed to me by a
firm of merchants in this Country,
Messrs Bradbridge Jenkins & Co., of
2 Fen Court, E. C., and of Colombo,
for permission to cut a ship Canal
across

*Dated 26th Oct/82

across the Island of Ramaseram
between the Coasts of India and
Ceylon, and for the lease of such
Canal to them for a term of years.

In return for this concession the
firm offer to form a company to
carry out the work.

2. I have caused the applicants
to be informed that no definite reply
can be made to their application,
till I am in possession of the
views of your Government on the
proposal and I request, therefore,
that I may be furnished in due
course with your opinion on the
merits of the scheme.

I have &c
(Sd) Hartington,

It is Excellency the Most Honble
The Govt Genl of India in Council.

Co. 2883. h. 4. 11. 62
2884
" 2982. h. 13. 11. 62
2983
" 3210. h. 6. 12. 62
" 3429. h. 26. 12. 62
3430

2 Jew Court,
Fenchurch Street.
London, 26th Oct 1882.

The Under Secretary of State.
India Office.

Sir,

We wish to address you with
reference to granting us a concession
for cutting a ship Canal through the
Island of Ramaseram which will
enable mail and other large steamers
to pass from the gulf of Manasar to
Palk's Straits and vice versa (instead
of going round the island of Ceylon)
and thereby save about 3 days steaming
both ways in the Passage of vessels
bound from England or Colombo, for
any Port in the Bay of Bengal.

We do not ask for any pecuniary
assistance from the Madras or Home
Govts, but simply permission to cut
the Canal. We with other friends
will form a Company with capital
sufficient to carry out the work,
according to the plans proposed by
Mr J. Stoddart, Govt Engineer at
Colombo

Colombo, and shewn in the Parliamentary Papers upon the Pamban Channel marked C 761-1873. - Mr Stadthart's plans will be adopted with any modifications which may be shewn to be of advantage.

But before taking definite steps in forming the Company it is necessary for us to have a concession granted, for a long lease, and we shall therefore be glad to know that the Govt are prepared to grant our request, and that an agreement may be entered into forthwith.

On Sept 6th our Colombo Partner Mr Barton Lindrod addressed a letter to Mr Grant Duff, Governor of Madras upon the subject, and received a reply to the effect that our proposal was read with interest and his views would be forwarded to the authorities at Home.

Mr Lindrod has also had a long interview with Sir James Longden, Govt of Ceylon, who fully approves of the scheme and also promised to report favourably. We shall be pleased

pleased to call upon you with reference to the above proposal and to give any information in our power to facilitate the Government coming to a favorable decision. -

We wish to add that shortening the voyage to Calcutta, Madras, &c, &c, cannot but be of great service to all ship owners, passengers and merchants.

We are &c
Wm Bradbridge Jenkins &c

No 4 W

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 5th Jan'y/83.
Read the following.

From the Government of India

P. W. Dept (148 No 4950 of 16 Decr'y)

Ordered that the following

2. The further report expected from the Master attendant should be submitted as soon as possible.

reply be sent.
(148 No 5 W of 5th Jan'y/83)

To
The Secretary to the
Government of India
P. W. Dept

Sir,

I am directed to
acknowledge receipt of
your endorsement No. 4950
dated 16 December 1882.
Forwarding copy of Des-
patch from the Secretary
of State in regard to an
application which has

To the Master Attendant
Marine Dept

been made by a firm
of merchants in England
for permission to cut a
Ship Canal across the
Island of Rameswaram

2. In reply I am to
forward for the information
of the Government of India
Copies of the correspondence
quoted in the margin from
which it will be observed
that the London representa-
tives of the firm have
addressed the Govern-
ment direct in the matter,
and that they have been
informed that no objection
will be raised by the
Madras Government to the
grant of a general concession,
involving no pecuniary
guarantee, for cutting
a Canal, but that

h. 2883 W of 14. Nov 1892
2184 W of 10. Nov 1892
2982 W of 13. Nov 1892
2983 W of 13. Nov 1892
3210 W of 6. Dec 1892
3429 W of 26. Dec 1892
3430 W of 26. Dec 1892

with an enclosure

the land required to be
taken up, being all
private property, will have
to be acquired by direct
negotiation with the owners.

3. It has been further
stipulated that before
any definite agreement
is come to, it will be
necessary to submit for
the approval of Government
the scale of dues proposed
to be levied for the use
of the Canal.

4. I am to add that the
Master Attendant will shortly
proceed to further investigate
the passage, & the result of
this, with the definite opinion
of the Govt will be commu-
nicated to the Govt of India.

28/12/92

4/1/93

R.A.

31-7-07

8908

Govt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

Print from
1-1-83
G. O. 5th Jan'y 1883. No. 4. W.
5. W.

Nos. 4-5
6

Rameswaram Island

Regarding the proposed
ship canal across—

9
Ditto

35
4

28

20/11
Entered in Receipt Book