

Public Works (1899) Department.

CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA
AND INDIAN STATES.

G.O., No.

2454 W

DATED

18 September 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Groynes at Vypren, Cochin.

Pres. Inas. Dep'tt. stating that the
proposal, that the Cochin Govt. should
be asked to contribute one-third of the
cost of maintaining the groynes which
protect the Vypren foreshore, will be
considered in the Politi. Dep'tt. commd
to the S.E. Circle

Copies sent to only

P. W. 2
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G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

19/90. L.S. 482

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From A. H. GARRETT, Esq., Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (through the Presidency Port Officer), dated Coimbatore, 7th July 1899, No. 374 W.

Referring to G.O., No. 565 W., dated 3rd March 1898, I have the honour to submit the following report on the incidence of the expenditure on protecting the Vypeen foreshore from erosion.

2. The accompanying tracing shows the narrow strip of land known as Vypeen mouth which separates the backwater from the open sea and lies to the north of the harbour mouth.

3. The ten groynes H to N₁ are in British territory. From groyne N₁ to the Cruz Milagre dam the foreshore belongs to the Cochin Sircar.

4. I presume the Presidency Port Officer does not question the propriety of using Port funds for the maintenance of the ten groynes at the mouth of the harbour. If these groynes were not kept up the harbour mouth would be constantly changing its size and position and at times would probably be closed by a bar.

5. The protection of the foreshore to the north of groyne N₁ is equally necessary in the interests of the port, the entrance to which is now kept open by the tidal ebb from the great area of backwater lying to the north and south. The scour which now goes on and prevents the formation of a bar would of course be reduced in proportion to the size of the breach which might take place to the north of groyne N₁ and a very large breach would undoubtedly have a most disastrous effect.

6. There can, therefore, I think, be no doubt that the cost of protecting the Vypeen foreshore is a fair charge against Port funds, but, at the same time, I think a contribution might fairly be demanded from the Cochin State, which must be interested in maintaining the harbour in a state of efficiency and in protecting its own territory from erosion.

7. It will be seen from the tracing that the erosion has been steadily increasing and that protective measures must be immediately taken. This subject will be treated in a separate report.

187/180 P.W.

Forwarded, observing that hitherto the cost of maintaining the groynes which protect the Vypeen foreshore has been entirely met from Port funds, but in view of the protection afforded to Sirkar territory also by the upkeep of these groynes, I think the Superintending Engineer's proposal in paragraph 6 is a reasonable one and a contribution by the Sirkar of one-third of the cost of future repairs and of any new groynes that may become necessary hereafter would be fair.

MADRAS,
28th July 1899.

(Signed) T. G. R. FINNY, Comdr., R.I.M.,
Presidency Port Officer.

Endorsement thereon in the Public Works Department, dated 9th August 1899, No. 848 D.

ORDER—No. 795, Marine, dated 22nd August 1899.

The proposal that the Cochin Government should be asked to contribute one-third of the cost of maintaining the groynes which protect the Vypeen foreshore will be considered in the Political Department.

(True Extract.)

J. H. M.
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Political Department, with one tracing (to be returned)
and copy of G.O., No. 87, Marine, dated 2nd February 1898.
" Presidency Port Officer.
" Public Works Department. ✓