

Public Works (1895) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 336 R

DATED 7th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Shoranur Cochin Railway. — Order on
the subject of the alignment of the pro-
posed —

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	114	R	1-3-95				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

7TH MAY 1895, No. 336 R., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Railway.

Read again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 1st March 1895, No. 114 R., Public Works.

Read the following paper :—

From the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 2nd February 1895, No. 5490/109 W.

I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of the Government, a copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer, No. C/90, dated the 29th ultimo, on the subject of the new alignment of the proposed Shoranur-Cochin Railway, which it was decided should be adopted at the final survey at a meeting of the Travancore and Cochin officials held at the Residency, Trichur, on the 22nd January last. A copy of the minutes recorded at the meeting as well as a tracing showing the old and the new alignments are also enclosed. According to the new alignment, which meets with the wishes of both the Native States, the length of the proposed line is increased from 61 to 72 miles and a revised estimate prepared on this basis will shortly be submitted.

I have asked the Traffic Manager to prepare a report on the traffic prospects of the line from Shoranur to Trichur as well as from Pattambi.

ENCLOSURES.

From the Chief Engineer, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, dated
Madras, 29th January 1895, No. C/90.

[*Sheranur-Cochin Railway.*]

I beg to advise you that on the 22nd January 1895 the Resident of Travancore and Cochin was good enough to convene a meeting at Trichur at which were present—

Mr. H. B. Grigg, C.I.E., Resident of Travancore and Cochin.

Mr. H. B. Grigg, C.I.E., Resident of Travancore and
M.R.R., V. Subramania Pillai, Dewan of Cochin.

M. R. Ry. V. Subramania Pillai, Dewan of Cochin.
M. R. Ry. T. Raja Rama Row, Dewan Peshcar of Kottayam, Representative of Travancore.

M.B. Ry. T. Raja Ramu Bow, Dewan Poshicar of Kottayam, Repd
Mr. H. W. Hudson, Chief Engineer to the Cochin Government.

Mr. H. W. Hudson, Chief Engineer to the Ceylon
Mr. H. C. West, Chief Engineer, Madras Railway.

Mr. A. B. Strang, Executive Engineer in charge of the Shoranur-Cochin Survey.

2. The object of the meeting was to consider the relative merits of previously proposed extensions of the Railway to Cochin and to decide upon the best route which the survey now in progress should follow south of Trichur with a view to meet the requirements of both the Native States through which the line would pass and to fix the towns at which stations should be provided.

3. It was unanimously agreed that the point of departure on the Madras Railway should be at a point about 1½ miles east of Shoranur station, as the gradients, curves and general configuration of the country rendered this site specially suitable for a junction station and would secure a very favourable crossing of the Ponnánu river about ¼ of a mile above the existing road bridge. It may be probably necessary to transfer the present Shoranur station to the new site ultimately.

4. The alternative proposal to make Pattambi station the point of departure was considered, but was not approved of by either the Resident or the Dewan of Cochin, as the country between this point and Trichur, although to a great extent free of hills, offered such meagre prospects of

traffic. The ground also at each side of Pattambi station has been examined, and it is found that no suitable site for a junction station could be obtained owing to the low level of the land, the difficulty of securing a favourable crossing of the Ponnai river, and the increased mileage from Madras which a junction here would involve.

5. It was also agreed that a line passing through the undermentioned towns (vide accompanying map) would best serve the interests of the railway as well as those of the Travancore and Cochin territories and meet with the sympathy and support of the Governments of both States:—

	Distance from Shoranur.
	MILES.
(1) Mulakaray	5
(2) Wadakan-cherry	8
(3) Mularthankavu	14
(4) Trichur	20
(5) Eddakunni	24
(6) Poolekad	29
(7) Ahtur	36
(8) Shalakudi	40
(9) Kodakulamkaray	47
(10) Chengal (ferry)	53
(11) Perambalur	58
(12) Keelamaad (for Alwaye)	62
(13) Eddapally	69
(14) Ernakulam (Cochin)	72

6. It will be observed that this route differs materially from any line previously surveyed or recommended; it occupies a position further inland than the more direct line to Cochin hitherto advocated and is consequently 72 miles in length as compared with the 62 miles on which the previous estimate submitted for the survey was based. It is desirable here to explain that any line of railway from Shoranur to Cochin must of necessity pass through a large area of Travancore as well as of Cochin, and it would appear that the interests of the former State had not been sufficiently consulted in the alignment followed when the preliminary survey was undertaken in 1871.

7. This point has been satisfactorily settled at the present meeting, and the final location of the line along the revised route indicated on the map will now be carried out during the survey in progress as far as funds will permit. This alignment has been carefully considered with due regard to the most important trade centres and is unquestionably best suited to the altered conditions of the country since the first preliminary survey was undertaken in 1871, or over twenty-four years ago. Owing to the opening out of additional roads, the extension of cultivated area and the general development of traffic in grain and forest produce, the route from all aspects. The detour eastwards in one place, commends itself as the most favourable to avoid traversing the isolated tract of Cochin territory between that town and Alwaye and thus obviate the difficulties in connection with custom dues, but it will accommodate the extensive timber traffic from the north-east portion of Travancore.

8. From an engineering point of view also this alignment possesses many advantages as it avoids the crossing of the large rivers near their mouths where they widen out and fall into the estuaries or backwaters which exist all along the coast. The bridging of these large streams at favourable points more inland will thus be secured, and the stations having been fixed at towns where existing roads meet, it is anticipated that competition from carriage by backwater will thus be averted. The country moreover is not difficult except for a short portion between Shoranur and Trichur and the adoption of this route will, it is hoped, result in economy of construction.

9. The officials present at the meeting approved of the proposal that the bridges over all large rivers should be so designed that they could be easily adapted for cart traffic and foot passengers if found necessary at any time after the opening of the railway, in which case tolls would be levied by the railway in lieu of any contribution being demanded from the States towards the cost of the structures.

10. Attention is here invited to the fact that the alignment now decided upon does not, except for a short length near Trichur, follow any route hitherto investigated by any preliminary survey, and it is evident that the cost of finally locating a line under these conditions must of necessity be costly compared with a route the general direction and particulars of which have been already determined by a preliminary survey. It is proposed therefore to shortly submit a revised estimate for completing a final survey of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway now

increased in length from 61 to 72 miles, and as both the Travancore and Cochin aircars appear anxious for the early construction of the line, it is hoped that funds will be sanctioned to retain the present survey staff to enable the plans and estimates for the complete project to be prepared.

11. I enclose a statement of the minutes recorded at the meeting held at Trichur on the 22nd January 1895 on which the information furnished in the present report has been based.

NOTES of discussion of a meeting held at the Residency, Trichur, regarding the extension of the Madras Railway to Ernakulam and Trichur.

Present.

H. C. West, Esq., Chief Engineer, Madras Railway.
A. B. Strange, Esq., Executive Engineer in charge of the Survey.
M.R.Ry. V. Subramania Pillai, Dewan of Cochin.
M.R.Ry. T. Raja Itama Row, Dewan Peishcar of Cottayam, as Representative of Travancore.
H. W. Hudson, Esq., Chief Engineer, Cochin.
H. B. Grigg, Esq., British Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

Note (1).—The unanimous opinion of the meeting was in favour of Shoranur as the point of departure.

Mr. West informed the meeting that all large bridges will be constructed so as to be adapted for foot passengers and traffic on payment of toll to be fixed by the Railway authorities and that no demand will be made on the States for any contribution towards the outlay for constructing these bridges.

Note (2).—The Shoranur route, as proposed by the Madras Railway, approved.

Note (3).—If portions of the public road are taken up for the railway, the Railway authorities will bear cost of construction of road diversions on fresh sites. States would be consulted.

II. Stations between Shoranur and Trichur to be at—

- (1) The Mulakaray toll-gate, 5 miles from Shoranur.
- (2) Wadakan-cherry, 8 miles from Shoranur.
- (3) A place 6 miles from Trichur (Mularthankavu).

III. Unanimously agreed that the station (Trichur) should be near the canal basin on the nearest spot to it where ample land is available.

IV. Line from Trichur to Ernakulam station—

	Distance from Trichur.
	MILES.
(1) Eddakunni at crossing of roads serves Ullur and Ooragore	4
(2) Poolekad	5
(3) Ahtur serves Mala (at present) and Irinjalakudu	7
(4) Shalakudi	7
(5) Kodakulamkaray	6
(6) Chengal ferry to serve river traffic, more especially timber	3
(7) Perambalur to serve North-east Travancore traffic	6
(8) Keelamaad to serve Alwaye and Valankulam	7
(9) Eddapally	3
(10) Ernakulam	—
Total	52

Intermediate distance.

V. Agreed unanimously that the above line will best serve the interests and elicit the sympathy of both States and that so soon as the trade from Mala to line at Ahtur justifies the expenditure a branch should be run to the backwater at that point.

Ernakulam station to be opposite to Bolghatty. Passengers and goods to be discharged on waters edge and station to be inland behind Anjikalimal Court-house and Jews' quarter so as not to disturb the Jews or interfere with the Court buildings or the station can be placed on north of the jail on land that can be reclaimed.

(Signed) H. B. GRIGG.
(") H. C. WEST.

Trichur,
22nd January 1895.

I would note here that the station proposed to be placed at Kodakulamkaray may perhaps, with greater convenience to the public, be located at Anjimallee which is not far distant.

(Signed) H. B. GRIGG.

Order—dated 1st March 1895, No. 114 R., Public Works.

A revised plan showing the proposed route of the railway now being surveyed between the Madras Railway and Cochin will be forwarded to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin who will obtain the views of the two Durbars as to the relative merits of Pattambi and Shoranur as the junction station with the Madras Railway. Full explanation should also be obtained from the Durbars of the advantages which are expected to accrue from the deviation towards Perambalur which adds 10 miles to the length of the line and avoids Alwaye altogether. It should further be pointed out that if the collection of dues is the only reason for the deviation, the difficulty can be avoided by having no station between Kodakulandai and Alwaye. His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that the present alignment is carried more inland than was the case in the survey of 1871 and that no particular reasons are given for such a great deviation. If, however, the new route is supported by both Durbars, no objection will be raised to their recommendations.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. D. G. SHELLEY, Captain, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Railway Branch.

Read also the following paper:—

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., M.A., C.I.E., Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cochin, 3rd April 1895, Ref. on Circuit No. 17.

With reference to G.O., No. 114 R., dated 1st March 1895, I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of Government, copies of letters from the Durbars of Travancore and Cochin, Nos. 1048/P.W. and 627/P. 81 of the 24th idem and the 2nd instant, respectively, containing their views on the proposed route of the railway now being surveyed between the Madras Railway and Cochin. With reference to the concluding portion of the letter from the Dewan of Cochin, I beg to add that I am addressing an urgent communication to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of British Cochin in order to obtain the views of that body as suggested by the Dewan and I shall submit the same as soon as received.

I regret that I have not been able to reply to the Government Order above quoted earlier, as the Dewan of Cochin did not answer my reference to him on the subject until this morning.

The tracing received with the Government Order is herewith returned.

ENCLOSURES.

From the Dewan of Travancore, to the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, dated Trivandrum, 24th March 1895, No. 1048 P.W.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter, Ref. on C. No. 856, dated the 10th instant, with enclosures, received here on the 11th instant and your telegram of the 22nd idem.

With regard to the starting point of the railway, viz., whether it should be Shoranur or Pattambi and its course up to Trichur, His Highness' Government have hardly any remarks to offer. They, however, observe from the Chief Engineer's letter to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, which forms one of the enclosures to your letter, that Shoranur has far greater facilities for a junction station than Pattambi and that the prospects of traffic on the Pattambi route are very meagre.

In respect of the line this side of Trichur, it seems to me that there can be no difference of opinion in regard to the desirability of avoiding competition with the cheap backwater communication along the coast and at the same time serving the inland traffic of the country. The interior taluks of North Travancore, as you observe in paragraph 85 of your review of the administration report for 1968, abound in rich soil and steps are now being taken to open them out. A northern railway, such as the one proposed to be of any real benefit to this State, should be within easy reach of those taluks if it does not traverse them. Perambalur, situated in the Proverthi of the same name, containing a population of over 14,000 forms the head-quarters of the Kunnathnad taluk and is the principal outlet for the trade of that taluk and the neighbouring

taluks of Thodupuzha and Muvattapuzha and the carrying of the railway to Perambalur or not far away from it would, besides serving the best interests of traffic, conduce materially to the further development of the country. Among the stations proposed, there is one at Keelamad, a village about two miles to the south-east of Alwaye, and this would serve the traffic of the latter place and Vallacolum.

Under the circumstances set forth, His Highness the Maharaja's Government are of opinion that the interests of this State would be best served by the line resolved on at the meeting of the 22nd January irrespective of the questions of the collection of customs dues, and I request you will kindly move the Madras Government in view to obtain their final approval of this line which, besides being beneficial to both the Native States concerned, is preferred by the Chief Engineer of the Madras Railway on account of the many advantages it possesses in an engineering point of view.

I have not received the plan referred to in the order of the Madras Government.

From the Dewan of Cochin, to the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, dated Ernakulam, 2nd April 1895, No. 627/P-81.

With reference to your letter, Ref. on C. No. 856 of the 10th March 1895, I have the honour to forward a copy of Mr. Hudson's letter, dated 25th March 1895.

2. This Government would prefer Shoranur to Pattambi as the junction station with the Madras Railway, because though the distance between each of these places and Trichur would be about the same, yet the principal traffic in passengers and goods on the proposed Cochin Railway would be to and from places east of Shoranur and the adoption of the Pattambi route would involve the unnecessary carrying of this traffic over 7 or 8 miles of railway between Shoranur and Pattambi. Besides this a large cattle and grain market is held weekly 5 or 6 miles north-east of Shoranur at Vaniankulam in Malabar, between which and places in Cochin there is a large trade.

3. As to the line to the south of Trichur, this Government is of opinion that the present alignment, which is more inland than the line surveyed in 1871, should be adopted, as the latter would pass through a large tract of paddy lands or kavals (lakes). It is almost parallel as far as Ahlur passes through Ahlur in the minutes and marked as Autur in the tracing) to the other line. If the line from Ahlur should proceed to Mala instead of Shalakudi and then follow the previously surveyed line to Ernakulam, the length of the line between Shoranur and Ernakulam would be a little over 61 miles or, according to Mr. Hudson, 63 miles. If Perambalur and other places in Travancore are to be served, a branch line may be constructed from the station near Alwaye.

4. As far as the Cochin sircar is concerned, it does not matter much whether the line passes through Mala or Shalakudi, but if it should pass through Shalakudi according to the present alignment, the mileage between Shoranur and Ernakulam and consequently the distance between the junction and the British port of Cochin would be increased by about 10 miles. It may also be noted that if the railway should pass through Mala which is connected with the backwater by a canal, Mala would serve as a station to catch the backwater traffic, and the traffic which would have to be carried by boats to and from Karupadnam if the railway should pass through Shalakudi will be diverted to Mala.

5. As the merchants and inhabitants of British Cochin are interested in the matter, I would suggest that the Chamber of Commerce in Cochin be also invited to express its opinion.

From the Chief Engineer, Cochin Government, to the Dewan of Cochin, Ernakulam, dated Trichur, 25th March 1895, No. 319.

In reply to your letter forwarding original papers with plan (already returned as requested) in reference to the new alignment of the proposed Shoranur-Cochin Railway, I have the honour to inform you, as stated in Mr. West's letter No. C/90, dated 29th January 1895, addressed to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, "it was unanimously agreed at the meeting that the point of departure on the Madras Railway should be at a point about 1½ miles east of the present Shoranur station."

2. The chief reasons for preferring Shoranur to Pattambi are—

(1) The largest cattle and grain market in Malabar is held weekly at Vaniankulam about 5 or 6 miles north-east of Shoranur; there is a large trade at this market with places in Cochin territory.

(2) The principal traffic in passengers and goods (timber, grain, &c.) on the proposed Cochin Railway would be to and from places east of Shoranur; although the mileage from either Pattambi or Shoranur to Trichur would be about the same, the Pattambi route would involve carrying this traffic over the 7 miles of railway (or 8½ miles to the new station) between Pattambi and Shoranur with a corresponding increase of fares, &c.

(3) On the Trichur-Shoranur route the railway would pass through Wadakkanchery which is the centre of the taluk where the Tahsildar's, Munsiff's, Registrar's, and other offices are situated.

(4) A better junction can be made with the main line of the Madras Railway and a better site for the bridge across the Ponnani river can be obtained at Shoranur than at Pattambi.

3. With regard to the line south of Trichur, the reason for taking it further inland was to tap the large village of Oolloor by a station at the junction of the roads at Eddakunni; it was also necessary to avoid the Thomanakoil and Moorecantha lakes with their valuable paddy fields situated between the Curvanoor river and Iringalakadu which was the objection at this point to the line surveyed in 1871 between Pattambi and Ernakulam; the line has been proposed to be taken from Eddakunni through Poodukad on to Shalakudi and Unjal, the Travancore frontier.

4. The line could, however, be shortened by branching off at Ahlur or Ahlur and joining the line surveyed in 1871 at Mala and on to Ernakulam.
The distance would then be—

From Shoranur to Ahlur or Ahlur						MILES.
Do.	Mala	...	...	...	...	36
Do.	Ernakulam	...	...	...	...	42
		...	...	...	...	63

5. By this route Alwaye would be about 5 miles to the east of this line.

6. A branch line could be made if required to Perambalur, the length of which would be about 12 miles.

7. I may mention here that the black dotted line representing the preliminary survey of 1871 between Pattambi and Ernakulam does not seem to have been correctly marked on the plan submitted by Mr. West. I therefore beg to enclose a copy of it with the line corrected in dotted green lines showing the crossing at the junction of the Alwaye and Shalakudi rivers (one bridge would serve the two rivers).

8. It will be observed that the 1871 line passes through the isolated piece of Travancore territory named Puthencherra which it would be well to avoid and which would be avoided if the line is taken from Ahlur to Mala.

9. Cochin has no objection to the line shown on the plan south of Shalakudi as it serves Travancore territory; the only thing is the mileage from Shoranur to Ernakulam would be increased from 62 to 72 miles.

10. Ernakulam will be the station for the British port of Cochin and the merchants may raise objections to the increased mileage of the railway as there is no doubt it will affect their interests.

11. As regards the proposal of having no station between Kodakulamkaray and Alwaye, if the line is taken through the isolated piece of Cochin territory named Vellarapully, it will be necessary to keep the line some distance to the east of the Chowrah Palace; this diversion would save about 6½ miles.

12. Alwaye and Chowrah are to the residents of Ernakulam, Muttancherry and British Cochin what Brighton is to London, and it will be to the interests of the people of Cochin to have a station at one or the other of these two places, or at both if possible.

No. 779, Political.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, Railway Branch.

Fort St. George,
6th April 1895.

(Signed) W. FRANCIS,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

From the Assistant Resident in charge, Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cochin, 11th April 1895, Reference on Circuit No. 23.

In continuation of my letter, Circuit No. 17 of the 3rd April 1895, I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of Government, copy of a letter, dated the 10th idem, from the Honorary Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce in Cochin containing the views of that body on the route of the proposed Railway from Shoranur to Ernakulam, and, with reference to the concluding portion thereof, to state that from enquiries made I understand that there is always sufficient water in the backwater opposite to the site selected, at all states of the tide, to accommodate laden cargo boats.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Honorary Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Cochin, to the Assistant Resident in charge, Travancore and Cochin, dated Cochin, 10th April 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th instant enclosing copy of letter from the Chief Engineer to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, together with a tracing with regard to the proposed Railway from Shoranur to Ernakulam.

In reply thereto I beg to inform you that the subject was discussed at a meeting of this Chamber held this morning, and I am instructed to inform you that the proposed route meets with the approval of the Chamber, but they would suggest that when the site of the terminus at Ernakulam is being decided on due consideration should be given to its position in regard to the depth of water in the adjoining backwater, so that landing and shipping operations may be practicable at all states of the tide and the necessity for dredging thereby obviated.

No. 827, Political.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, in continuation of endorsement, dated 6th April 1895, No. 779.

Ootacamund,
17th April 1895.

(Signed) L. DAVIDSON,
Acting Under Secretary.

ORDER—dated 7th May 1895, No. 336 R., Public Works.

His Excellency the Governor in Council approves of the proposed line to Cochin taking off from the Madras Railway at or near to Shoranur station. The actual position of the junction should be fully dealt with in the report accompanying the project estimate. The alignment decided on at the meeting between the Travancore, Cochin, and Madras Railway officials, held at Trichur on 22nd January 1895, should be adopted in the present survey, but His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that reconnaissances should be made of the alternative route from Ahlur via Mala and Alwaye and of a branch line from Alwaye to Perambalur. The Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, will be requested to report the estimated cost of these reconnaissances, care being taken to utilize, where possible, the work of the present and previous surveys. Care should be taken when locating the terminus at Ernakulam to select a site offering facilities for landing and shipping operations at all states of the tide in the adjoining backwater.

(True Extract.)

Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Railway Branch.

To the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.
" Examiner, Guaranteed Railway Accounts.
" Political Department.

Sd. C. A. Menimayy.
Spare Copies

RAILWAY.

Govt. of (1895) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated May, 7th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th May 1895, No. 336 R.

MAY.

Shoranur-Cochin Railway

Orders on the subject of the alignment of the proposed—

No. 336 R., PUBLIC WORKS.

ENT OF MADRAS.

KS DEPARTMENT.

ailway.

, Public Works.

as Railway, to the Consulting Engineer for February 1895, No. 5490/109 W.

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From the Chief Engineer, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, dated Madras, 29th January 1895, No. C/90.

[Shoranur-Cochin Railway].

I beg to advise you that on the 22nd January 1895 the Resident of Travancore and Cochin was good enough to convene a meeting at Trichur at which were present—

Mr. H. B. Grigg, C.E., Resident of Travancore and Cochin.

M.R. Ry. V. Subramania Pillai, Dewan of Cochin.

M.R. Ry. T. Raja Rama Row, Dewan of Kottayam, Representative of Travancore.

Mr. H. W. Hudson, Chief Engineer to the Cochin Government.

Mr. H. C. West, Chief Engineer, Madras Railway.

Mr. A. B. Strange, Executive Engineer in charge of the Shoranur-Cochin Survey.

2. The object of the meeting was to consider the relative merits of previously proposed extensions of the Railway to Cochin and to decide upon the best route which the survey now in progress should follow south of Trichur with a view to meet the requirements of both the Native States through which the line would pass and to fix the towns at which stations should be provided.

3. It was unanimously agreed that the point of departure on the Madras Railway should be at a point about 1½ miles east of Shoranur station, as the gradients, curves and general configuration of the country rendered this site specially suitable for a junction station and would secure a very favourable crossing of the Ponnani river about ¼ of a mile above the existing road bridge. It may be probably necessary to transfer the present Shoranur station to the new site ultimately.

4. The alternative proposal to make Pattambi station the point of departure was considered, but was not approved of by either the Resident or the Dewan of Cochin, as the country between this point and Trichur, although to a great extent free of hills, offered such meagre prospects of traffic. The ground also at each side of Pattambi station has been examined, and it is found that no suitable site for a junction station could be obtained owing to the low level of the land, the difficulty of securing a favourable crossing of the Ponnani river, and the increased mileage from Madras which a junction here would involve.

P. Govindaswamy

22/1/95 1895, No. 11-A-R., PUBLIC WORKS.

5. It was also agreed that a line passing through the undermentioned towns (*vide accompanying map*) would best serve the interests of the railway as well as those of the Travancore and Cochin territories and meet with the sympathy and support of the Governments of both States:—

	Distance from Shoranur.
	MILES.
(1) Mulakaray	5
(2) Wadakkancherry	8
(3) Mularthankav	14
(4) Trichur	20
(5) Edakunni	24
(6) I'oodukad	29
(7) Ahtur	36
(8) Shalakudi	40
(9) Kodakulamkaray	47
(10) Chengal (ferry)	53
(11) Perambalur	56
(12) Keelamsad (for Alwaye)	62
(13) Eddapally	69
(14) Ernakulam (Cochin)	72

6. It will be observed that this route differs materially from any line previously surveyed or recommended; it occupies a position further inland than the more direct line to Cochin hitherto advocated and is consequently 72 miles in length as compared with the 62 miles on which the previous estimate submitted for the survey was based. It is desirable here to explain that any line of railway from Shoranur to Cochin must of necessity pass through a large area of Travancore as well as of Cochin, and it would appear that the interests of the former State had not been sufficiently consulted in the alignment followed when the preliminary survey was undertaken in 1871.

7. This point has been satisfactorily settled at the present meeting, and the final location of the line along the revised route indicated on the map will now be carried out during the survey in progress as far as funds will permit. This alignment has been carefully considered with due regard to the most important trade centres and is unquestionably best suited to the altered conditions of the country since the first preliminary survey was undertaken in 1871, or over twenty-four years ago. Owing to the opening out of additional roads, the extension of cultivated area and the general development of traffic in grain and forest produce, the route as now fixed, though somewhat circuitous in one place, commends itself as the most favourable from all aspects. The detour eastwards through Perambalur is found to be imperative in order to avoid traversing the isolated tract of Cochin territory between that town and Alwaye and thus obviate the difficulties in connection with custom dues, but it will accommodate the extensive timber traffic from the north-east portion of Travancore.

8. From an engineering point of view also this alignment possesses many advantages as it avoids the crossing of the large rivers near their mouths where they widen out and fall into the estuaries or backwaters which exist all along the coast. The bridging of these large streams at favourable points more inland will thus be secured, and the stations having been fixed at towns where existing roads meet, it is anticipated that competition from carriage by backwater will thus be averted. The country moreover is not difficult except for a short portion between Shoranur and Trichur and the adoption of this route will, it is hoped, result in economy of construction.

9. The officials present at the meeting approved of the proposal that the bridges over all large rivers should be so designed that they could be easily adapted for cart traffic and foot passengers if found necessary at any time after the opening of the railway, in which case tolls would be levied by the railway in lieu of any contribution being demanded from the States towards the cost of the structures.

10. Attention is here invited to the fact that the alignment now decided upon does not, except for a short length near Trichur, follow any route hitherto investigated by any preliminary survey, and it is evident that the cost of finally locating a line under these conditions must of necessity be costly compared with a route the general direction and particulars of which have been already determined by a preliminary survey. It is proposed therefore to shortly submit a revised estimate for completing a final survey of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway now increased in length from 61 to 72 miles, and as both the Travancore and Cochin sircars appear anxious for the early construction of the line, it is hoped that funds will be sanctioned to retain the present survey staff to enable the plans and estimates for the complete project to be prepared.

11. I enclose a statement of the minutes recorded at the meeting held at Trichur on the 22nd January 1895 on which the information furnished in the present report has been based.

1895, No. 11 R., PUBLIC WORKS.

Notes of discussion of a meeting held at the Residency, Trichur, regarding the extension of the Madras Railway to Ernakulam via Trichur.

Present.

H. C. West, Esq., Chief Engineer, Madras Railway.
A. B. Strange, Esq., Executive Engineer in charge of the Survey.
M.R.Ry. V. Subramania Pillai, Dewan of Cochin.
M.R.Ry. T. Raja Rama Row, Dewan Peishcar of Cottaayam, as representative of Travancore.
H. W. Hudson, Esq., Chief Engineer, Cochin.
H. B. Grigg, Esq., British Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

Note (1).—The unanimous opinion of the meeting was in favour of Shoranur as the point of departure.

Mr. West informed the meeting that all large bridges will be constructed so as to be adapted for foot passengers and traffic on payment of toll to be fixed by the Railway authorities and that no demand will be made on the States for any contribution towards the outlay for constructing these bridges.

Note (2).—The Shoranur route, as proposed by the Madras Railway, approved.

Note (3).—If portions of the public road are taken up for the railway, the Railway authorities will bear cost of construction of road diversions on fresh sites. States would be consulted.

II. Stations between Shoranur and Trichur to be at—

(1) The Mulakaray toll-gate, 5 miles from Shoranur.

(2) Wadacherry, 8 miles from Shoranur.

(3) A place 6 miles from Trichur (Mularthankava).

III. Unanimously agreed that the station (Trichur) should be near the canal basin on the nearest spot to it where ample land is available.

IV. Line from Trichur to Ernakulam station—

	Distance from Trichur.	
	MILES.	
(1) Edakunni at crossing of roads serves Ullur and Ooragore	4	Intermediate distance.
(2) Poodukad	5	
(3) Ahtur serves Mala (at present) and Irinjalakudu	7	
(4) Shalakudi	4	
(5) Kodakulamkaray	7	
(6) Chengal ferry to serve river traffic, more especially timber	6	
(7) Perambalur to serve North-east Travancore traffic	8	
(8) Keelamaad to serve Alwaye and Valankulam	6	
(9) Eddapally	7	
(10) Ernakulam	3	
Total	52	

V. Agreed unanimously that the above line will best serve the interests and elicit the sympathy of both States and that so soon as the trade from Mala to line at Ahtur justifies the expenditure a branch should be run to the backwater at that point.

Ernakulam station to be opposite to Bolghatty. Passengers and goods to be discharged on waters edge and station to be inland behind Anjikaimal Court-house and Jews' quarter so as not to disturb the Jews or interfere with the Court buildings or the station can be placed on north of the jail on land that can be reclaimed.

Trichur,
22nd January 1895.

(Signed) H. B. GRIGG.
(") H. C. WEST.

I would note here that the station proposed to be placed at Kodakulamkaray may perhaps, with greater convenience to the public, be located at Anjimallee which is not far distant.

(Signed) H. B. GRIGG.

Order—dated 1st March 1895, No. 114 R., Public Works.

A revised plan showing the proposed route of the railway now being surveyed between the Madras Railway and Cochin will be forwarded to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin who will obtain the views of the two Durbars as to the relative merits of Pattimbi and Shoranur as the junction station with the Madras Railway. Full explanation should also be obtained from the Durbars of the advantages which are expected to accrue from the deviation towards Perambalur, which adds 10 miles to the length of the line and avoids Alway altogether. It should further be pointed out that if the collection of dues is the only reason for the deviation, the difficulty can be avoided by having no station between Kodakulandai and Alway. His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that the present alignment is carried more inland than was the case in the survey of 1871 and that no particular reasons are given for such a great deviation. If, however, the new route is supported by both Durbars, no objection will be raised to their recommendations.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. D. G. SHELLEY, Captain, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Railway Branch.

Read also the following paper:—

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., M.A., C.I.E., Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cochin, 3rd April 1895, Ref. on Circuit No. 17.

With reference to G.O., No. 114 R., dated 1st March 1895, I have the honour to submit herewith, for the information of Government, copies of letters from the Dewans of Travancore and Cochin, Nos. 1048/P.W. and 627/P. 81 of the 24th idem and the 2nd instant, respectively, containing their views on the proposed route of the railway now being surveyed between the Madras Railway and Cochin. With reference to the concluding portion of the letter from the Dewan of Cochin, I beg to add that I am addressing an urgent communication to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of British Cochin in order to obtain the views of that body as suggested by the Dewan and I shall submit the same as soon as received.

I regret that I have not been able to reply to the Government Order above quoted earlier, as the Dewan of Cochin did not answer my reference to him on the subject until this morning.

The tracing received with the Government Order is herewith returned.

From the Dewan of Travancore, to the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, dated Trivandrum, 24th March 1895, No. 1048 P.W.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter, Ref. on C. No. 856, dated the 10th instant, with enclosures, received here on the 16th instant and your telegram of the 22nd idem.

With regard to the starting point of the railway, viz., whether it should be Shoranur or Pattimbi and its course up to Trichur, His Highness' Government have hardly any remarks to offer. They, however, observe from the Chief Engineer's letter to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, which forms one of the enclosures to your letter, that Shoranur has far greater facilities for a junction station than Pattimbi and that the prospects of traffic on the Pattimbi route are very meagre.

In respect of the line this side of Trichur, it seems to me that there can be no difference of opinion in regard to the desirability of avoiding competition with the cheap backwater communication along the coast and at the same time serving the inland traffic of the country. The interior taluks of North Travancore, as you observe in paragraph 65 of your review of the administration report for 1894, abound in rich soil and steps are now being taken to open them out. A northern railway, such as the one proposed to be of any real benefit to this State, should be within easy reach of those taluks if it does not traverse them. Perumbayur, situated in the Proverthi of the same name, containing a population of over 14,000 forms the head-quarters of the Kunnathnad taluk and is the principal outlet for the trade of that taluk and the neighbouring

taluka of Thodupuzha and Muvattapuzha and the carrying of the railway to Perumbalur or not far away from it would, besides serving the best interests of traffic, conduce materially to the further development of the country. Among the stations proposed, there is one at Keelamad, a village about two miles to the south-east of Alwaye, and this would serve the traffic of the latter place and Vallacolum.

Under the circumstances set forth, His Highness the Maharaja's Government are of opinion that the interests of this State would be best served by the line resolved on at the meeting of the 22nd January irrespective of the questions of the collection of customs dues, and I request you will kindly move the Madras Government in view to obtain their final approval of this line which, besides being beneficial to both the Native States concerned, is preferred by the Chief Engineer of the Madras Railway on account of the many advantages it possesses in an engineering point of view.

I have not received the plan referred to in the order of the Madras Government.

From the Dewan of Cochin, to the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, dated Ernakulam, 2nd April 1895, No. 627/P-81.

With reference to your letter, Ref. on C. No. 856 of the 10th March 1895, I have the honour to forward a copy of Mr. Hudson's letter, dated 25th March 1895.

2. This Government would prefer Shoranur to Pattambi as the junction station with the Madras Railway, because though the distance between each of these places and Trichur would be about the same, yet the principal traffic in passengers and goods on the proposed Cochin Railway would be to and from places east of Shoranur and the adoption of the Pattambi route would involve the unnecessary carrying of this traffic over 7 or 8 miles of railway between Shoranur and Pattambi. Besides this a large cattle and grain market is held weekly 5 or 6 miles north-east of Shoranur at Vaniankulam in Malabar, between which and places in Cochin there is a large trade.

3. As to the line to the south of Trichur, this Government is of opinion that the present alignment, which is more inland than the line surveyed in 1871, should be adopted, as the latter would pass through a large tract of paddy lands or kayals (lakes). It is almost parallel as far as Ahlur (described as Ahlur in the minutes and marked as Antur in the tracing) to the other line. If the line from Ahlur should proceed to Mala instead of Shalakudi and then follow the previously surveyed line to Ernakulam, the length of the line between Shoranur and Ernakulam would be a little over 61 miles or, according to Mr. Hudson, 63 miles. If Perumbalur and other places in Travancore are to be served, a branch line may be constructed from the station near Alwaye.

4. As far as the Cochin sircar is concerned, it does not matter much whether the line passes through Mala or Shalakudi, but if it should pass through Shalakudi according to the present alignment, the mileage between Shoranur and Ernakulam and consequently the distance between the junction and the British port of Cochin would be increased by about 10 miles. It may also be noted that if the railway should pass through Mala which is connected with the backwater by a canal, Mala would serve as a station to catch the backwater traffic, and the traffic which would have to be carried by boats to and from Karupadnam if the railway should pass through Shalakudi will be diverted to Mala.

5. As the merchants and inhabitants of British Cochin are interested in the matter, I would suggest that the Chamber of Commerce in Cochin be also invited to express its opinion.

From the Chief Engineer, Cochin Government, to the Dewan of Cochin, Ernakulam, dated Trichur 25th March 1895, No. 319.

In reply to your letter forwarding original papers with plan (already returned as requested) in reference to the new alignment of the proposed Shoranur-Cochin Railway, I have the honour to inform you, as stated in Mr. West's letter No. C/90, dated 29th January 1895, addressed to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, "it was unanimously agreed at the meeting that the point of departure on the Madras Railway should be at a point about 1½ miles east of the present Shoranur station."

2. The chief reasons for preferring Shoranur to Pattambi are—

(1) The largest cattle and grain market in Malabar is held weekly at Vaniankulam about 5 or 6 miles north-east of Shoranur; there is a large trade at this market with places in Cochin territory.

(2) The principal traffic in passengers and goods (timber, grain, &c.) on the proposed Cochin Railway would be to and from places east of Shoranur; although the mileage from either Pattambi or Shoranur to Trichur would be about the same, the Pattambi route would involve carrying this traffic over the 7 miles of railway (or 8½ miles to the new station) between Pattambi and Shoranur with a corresponding increase of fares, &c.

(3) On the Trichur-Shoranur route the railway would pass through Wadachanchery which is the centre of the taluk where the Tahsildar's, Munsif's, Registrar's, and other offices are situated.

(4) A better junction can be made with the main line of the Madras Railway and a better site for the bridge across the Ponnani river can be obtained at Shoranur than at Pattambi.

3. With regard to the line south of Trichur, the reason for taking it further inland was to tap the large village of Ooloor by a station at the junction of the roads at Eddakunni; it was also necessary to avoid the Thomanakoil and Moorecantha lakes with their valuable paddy fields situated between the Curvanoor river and Iringalakadu which was the objection at this point to the line surveyed in 1871 between Pattambi and Ernakulam; the line has been proposed to be taken from Eddakunni through Poodukad on to Shalakudi and Unjal, the Travancore frontier.

4. The line could, however, be shortened by branching off at Ahtur or Ahlur and joining the line surveyed in 1871 at Mala and on to Ernakulam.

The distance would then be —

	MILES.
From Shoranur to Ahtur or Ahlur	36
Do. Mala	42
Do. Ernakulam	63

5. By this route Alwaye would be about 8 miles to the east of this line.

6. A branch line could be made if required to Perambalur, the length of which would be about 12 miles.

7. I may mention here that the black dotted line representing the preliminary survey of 1871 between Pattambi and Ernakulam does not seem to have been correctly marked on the plan submitted by Mr. West. I therefore beg to enclose a copy of it with the line corrected in dotted green lines showing the crossing at the junction of the Alwaye and Shalakudi rivers (one bridge would serve the two rivers).

8. It will be observed that the 1871 line passes through the isolated piece of Travancore territory named Puthencherra which it would be well to avoid and which would be avoided if the line is taken from Ahlur to Mala.

9. Cochin has no objection to the line shown on the plan south of Shalakudi as it serves Travancore territory; the only thing is the mileage from Shoranur to Ernakulam would be increased from 62 to 72 miles.

10. Ernakulam will be the station for the British port of Cochin and the merchants may raise objections to the increased mileage of the railway as there is no doubt it will affect their interests.

11. As regards the proposal of having no station between Kodakulamkaray and Alwaye, if the line is taken through the isolated piece of Cochin territory named Vellarapully, it will be necessary to keep the line some distance to the east of the Chowrah Palace; this diversion would save about 6½ miles.

12. Alwaye and Chowrah are to the residents of Ernakulam, Muttancherry and British Cochin what Brighton is to London, and it will be to the interests of the people of Cochin to have a station at one or the other of these two places, or at both if possible.

No. 779, Political.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, Railway Branch.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
6th April 1895.

(Signed) W. FRANCIS,
Ag. Assistant Secretary.

Here on 6th April Indorsement from P.W. Dept. No. 827 1/17 dated 1/18/95

ORDER—dated 12 April 1895, No. 827 R., Public Works.

His Excellency the Governor in Council approves of the proposed line to Cochin taking off from the Madras Railway at or near to Shoranur station. The actual position of the junction should be fully dealt with in the report accompanying the project estimate. The alignment decided on at the meeting between Travancore, Cochin, and Madras Railway officials, held at Trichur on 22nd January 1895, should be adopted in the present survey, but His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that reconnaissances should be made of the alternative route from Ahlur and

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TH-APRIL 1895, No. 117R., PUBLIC WORKS.

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Mala and Alwaye and of a branch line from Alwaye to Perambalur. The Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, will be requested to report the estimated cost of these reconnaissances, care being taken to utilize, where possible, the work of the present and previous surveys. Care should be taken when locating the terminus at Ennakulam to select a site offering facilities for landing (True Extract.)
and shipping operations at all stages of the tide in the adjoining backwater.

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

To the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.
" Examiner, Guaranteed Railway Accounts.
" Political Department.

Ed. C. A. Maniway.

Spore Copies

29 Jan'y. 1895.

No. 970.

The Agent & Manager.

Shoranur.

Shoranur - Cochin Railway.

I beg to advise you that on the 22nd January 1895 the Resident of Travancore and Cochin was good enough to convene a Meeting at Trichur at which were present :-

Mr. B. W. Grigg C.I.E. - Resident of Travancore & Cochin.

Mr. R. Ry. V. Subramania Pillai } Deputies of Cochin

Mr. R. Ry. J. Raja Kumar Rao - Deputies of Travancore & Cochin
Deputy of Cochin, Representative of Travancore.

Mr. H. W. Keidson - Chief Engineer to the Cochin Government

Mr. H. C. West - Chief Engineer, Madras Railway.

Mr. H. W. Shryve - Executive Engineer in charge of the Shoranur - Cochin Survey

2. The object of the Meeting

was to consider the relative merits of previously proposed extensions of the Railway to Cochran and to decide upon the best route which the survey now in progress should follow, south of Irickah with a view to the requirements of both the Native States through which the line would pass, & to fix the towns at which Stations should be provided.

It was unanimously agreed that the point of departure on the Madras Railway should be at a point about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Shoreour Station - as the gradient, curves and general configuration of the country rendered this site specially suitable for a junction station, and would secure a very favorable crossing of the Ponnany River about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile above the existing Road bridge. It may be probably necessary to transfer the

present Shoreman Station to the new site ultimately.

4. The alternative proposal to make Puttambi Station the point of departure was considered, but was not approved of by either the Resident or the Governor of Cochin - as the Country between this point and Trichur, although to a great extent free of hills offered such meagre prospects of traffic. The ground also at each side of Puttambi Station has been examined, and it is found that no suitable site for a junction station could be obtained owing to the low level of the land, the difficulty of securing a favorable crossing of the Perambur River, & the increased mileage from Madras which a junction here would involve.

5. It was also agreed that the line passing through the undermen.

[illegible]

4. I do not know (with accompanying
map) would that serve the interests
of the Railways as well as those of the
Government & British territories and
meet with the sympathy and support
of the Government of both States.

No.	Place	Value
(1)	Obulakuray	5
(2)	Madakanchery	8
(3)	Obularthunkudi	14
(4)	Trichur	20
(5)	Sillakurani	24
(6)	Orulakudi	29
(7)	Chithur	36
(8)	Sthalakudi	40
(9)	Kotakulamkerry	47
(10)	Chengal (ferry)	53
(11)	Perumbalur	56
(12)	Neelamandi / for chingay	62
(13)	Sthalakudi	69
(14)	Kozhikulam / Cochin	72

6. It will be observed that this route differs materially from

any line previously surveyed or recommended; it occupies a position further inland than the more direct line to Cochin hitherto advocated and is consequently 72 miles in length as compared with the 62 miles on which the previous estimate submitted for the survey was based. It is desirable here to explain that any line of Railway from Sharavur to Cochin must of necessity pass through a large area of Changanam as well as Malabar and it would appear that the interests of the former State had not been sufficiently consulted in the alignment followed when the preliminary survey was undertaken in 1878.

This point has been satisfactorily settled at the present meeting, and the final location of the line along the frontier to be indicated on the map will now be carried out.

accommodate the extensive timber
traffic from the north east portion of
Laurier.

8. From an engineering
point of view also this alignment
possesses many advantages as it
avoids the crossing of the large rivers
near their mouth where they widen
out and fall into the estuaries or
backwaters which exist all along the
coast. The bridging of these large streams
at suitable points now intended will
thus be avoided, and the Stations having
been fixed at towns where existing
roads meet it is anticipated that
competition from Carriage by backwater
will thus be avoided. The country now
is not difficult except for a short
portion between St. Lawrence and
and the adoption of this route will
it is hoped result in economy of con-
struction.

9. The officials present at

[The page contains several horizontal bands of dense, illegible handwritten or printed markings.]

submit a revised estimate for com-
pleting a final survey of the Green
Swamp Railway - now increased in
length from the previous estimate -
and an estimate for the work to be done
appears anxious for the early construc-
tion of the line, it is hoped that funds
will be sanctioned to obtain the
Green Swamp staff to enable the
work to be commenced for the completion of
the line to be completed.

For since a short note
of the Minister Received of the West
his Agent exhibited on the 22^d day
upon which the information furnished
in the present report has been
received.

Home for the
Homeless
Child Support
M.A.

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fixed by the Railway authorities or
that no demand will be made on the
State for any contribution towards the
outlay for constructing these bridges.
clause 2. The Government have not
proposed in the Madras Railway Bill
clause 3.

It is further proposed that the public
road are taken up for the Railway.
The Railway authorities will bear cost
of construction of road diversions on
fresh sites. Estates would be consulted.

The Station between Shoranur & Trichur
to be at

1. The Mulakaray Toll gate - 5 miles
from Shoranur.

2. The Channaray - 8 miles from Shoranur

3. A place 6 miles from Trichur (Channaray
road)

It is unanimously agreed that the station
(Trichur) should be near the Canal
train on the nearest spot to it where
ample land is available

IV. Line from Trichur to Ernakulam.

Station - Distance from Trichur.

1. Eulakanni - at crossing of road.
serves Ulloor and Kodagone - 4 miles
2. Poulkad _____ 5
3. Chithur (serves Malapattanam)
and Chingalakkudi _____ 7
4. Chankudi _____ 11
5. Chankudi _____ 11
6. Chankudi ferry - to serve river
traffic more especially
timber _____ 6
7. Chankudi to serve at S.
Travancore traffic _____ 3
8. Chankudi to serve Chingal
and Chankudi _____ 6
9. Chankudi _____ 7
10. Ernakulam _____ 3

52 Total

It is agreed unanimously that the above line will best serve the interests and elicit the sympathy of both Sides so that so soon as the line from Madras to Pondicherry is completed.

Informational document

at which time the reputation
should be run to the same
as that point.

Enakulam Station to be opposite to
Polythally. Passage & goods to be dis-
charged on water side & Station to be
inland behind Englishman's Court
as a point of view so as not to disturb
the Jews or interfere with the Court build-
ing of the station can be placed on
N. W. of the jail on land that can be
acquired.

(Signed) H. B. J.

Trickar

22nd January / 1955

(Signed) H. B. J.

I would note here that the station pro-
posed to be placed at Enakulam may
perhaps be with greater convenience
to the Public be located at a point
which is not far distant.

(Sd) H. B. J.

/ True Copy /

W. Chief Engineer

No. 1 TO E. R. 520. 225
LETTER NO. 5490W 2.2.95
ATT 109

(No. 11.)
No. 5490.95.
109

5,000-14-11-85.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

AGENT AND MANAGER'S OFFICE,

MADRAS, 22nd February 1895

From

The Agent and Manager.

M. A. D.

To

The Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Madras.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit
herewith for the information of the Govern-
ment, a copy of a letter from the Chief
Engineer, No 8/90 dated the 29th ultimo, on
the subject of the new alignment of the
proposed Shoranur-Cochin Railway, which
it was decided, should be adopted, at the
final survey at a meeting of the Shoranur
and Cochin officials held at the Presidency,
Trichur, on the 22nd January last. A copy
of the minutes recorded at the meeting as
well as a tracing showing the old and the
new alignments are also enclosed. —
According to the new alignment, which
meets with the wishes of both the native
States

LETTER NO. 139

MADRAS RAILWAY.
 From
 The Agent and Manager.
 To
 The Consulting Engineer
 for Railways.
 Dated
 188
 Recd.
 No.

States, the length of the proposed line is increased from 61 to 72 miles and revised estimate prepared on this basis will shortly be submitted.

I have asked the Traffic Managers to prepare a report on the Traffic prospects of the line from Shoranur to Trichur as well as from Pattambi.

I have the honour to be,
 Sir,
 Yours most obedient servant
 [Signature]
 Agent and Manager.

12/10/88
 4/

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Letter from the Agent and Manager
Madras Railway with enclosures.

A revised plan shewing the proposed route of the railway now being surveyed between the Madras Railway and Cochin will be forwarded to the Resident in Travencore and Cochin who will obtain the views of the two Durbars as to the relative merits of Pattambi and Shoranur as the junction station with the Madras Railway. Full explanation should also be obtained -- from the Durbars of the advantages --- which are expected to accrue from the deviation towards Perambalur which adds 10 miles to the length of the line and avoids Alwaye altogether. It should further be pointed out that if the collection of dues is the only reason for the deviation, the difficulty can be avoided by having no station between Kodakulandai and Alwaye. His Excellency the Governor-in-Council observes that the present alignment is carried more inland than was the case in the survey of 1871, and that no particular reasons are given for such a great deviation. If however the new route is supported by both Durbars no objection will be raised to their recommendations.

LD. Arus
23/2/95 19/2/95

CONFIDENTIAL SECRET/NOFORN
JAN 11 1964
DEPARTMENT OF MAGNETICS

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Arthur Catchery

Greville, 24th Dec 1895

From The New York Advocate

To
The British Resident
in Travancore and Cochin

Li,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter
Ref: in C. n^o 836 dated the 10th Instant with
enclosures received here on the 16th Instant and
your telegram of the 22nd idem.

With regard to the starting point of the railway, viz, whether it should be Shoranore or Pattambi and its route up to Erichur His Highness' Government have hardly any remarks to offer. They however observe from the Chief Engineer's letter to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, which forms one of the enclosures to your letter that Shoranore has, a far greater facilities for a junction station than Pattambi and that the prospects of traffic on the Pattambi route are very meagre.

In respect of the line this side of
Grichin, it seems to me that there can be no difference
of opinion in regard to the desirability of avoiding
competition with the cheap backwater communi-
cation along the coast and at the same time serve
the inland traffic of the country. The interior Talus

of North Travancore as you observe in para 65-
of your review of the Administration Report
for 1908 abound in rich Soil and Steps are now
being taken to open them out. A northern railway
such as the one proposed to be of any real benefit-
to this State, should be within easy reach of
those taluhs if it does not traverse them. Perum-
bavur situated in the Province of the same
name containing a population of over 14,000
forms the head quarters of the Kunnathad Taluk
and is the principal outlet for the trade of
that taluk and the neighbouring taluhs of
Thodupuzha and Muvattupuzha and the
carrying of the railway to Perumbavur or not
far away from it, would besides serving the
best interests of traffic, conduce materially
to the further development of the Country.
Among the Stations proposed, there is one
at Keelamad a Village about 2 miles to the
Southeast of Alwaye and this would serve
the traffic of the latter place and Vallacolum.

Under the circumstances
set forth His Highness the Maharaja's Govern-
ment are of opinion that the interests of
this State would be best served by the line
resolved on at the meeting of the 27th January
irrespective of the question of the Collection of

Customs dues and I request you will kindly
move the Madras Government in view to
obtain their final approval of this line
which besides being beneficial to both the
Native State concerned, is preferred by the
Chief Engineer of the Madras Railway on
account of the many advantages it possesses
in an engineering point of view

I have not received the
plan referred to in the order of the Madras
Government.

Phamse
(Sd) Shungasa Subbiah
Dewan

(True copy)

F. W. D. S. C. P.
Assistant Resident

Enclosure No 1 to letter
Ref: on Circuit No 17 of 95
from the Resident in Travancore
Cottam and Cochin

Regarding the route of the
proposed railway from
Shoranore to Cochin

No 5.2
1833/95

POV

461

No 627
P. 91

Hazier cut cherry
Ernakulam
2nd April 1895

I

H. B. Briggs Esquire C. I. E.
British Resident in Travancore and Cochin

Sir,

With reference to your letter Ref: on C No 556 of
the 10th March 1895. I have the honor to forward a copy of
Mr. Hudson's letter dated 25th March 1895.

2. This Government would prefer Shoranore to
Pattambi as the junction station with the Madras Railway,
because, though the distance between each of these places
and Trichur would be about the same, yet the principal
traffic in passengers and goods on the proposed Cochin
Railway would be to and from places east of Shoranore,
and the adoption of the Pattambi route would involve the
unnecessary carrying of this traffic over seven or eight
miles of railway between Shoranore and Pattambi. Besides
this, a large cattle and grain market is held weekly five
or six miles north east of Shoranore at Vannikulam, in
Malabar, between which and places in Cochin there is
a large trade.

3. As to the line to the south of Trichur, this
Government is of opinion that the present alignment

which is more inland than the line surveyed in 1871 should be adopted, as the latter would pass through a large tract of paddy lands or kayals (lakes). It is almost parallel as far as Ahlu (described as Ahlu in the minutes and marked as Antur in the tracing) to the other line. If the line from Ahlu should proceed to Mala instead of Shalattudi and then follow the previously surveyed line to Ernakulam, the length of the line between Shoranore and Ernakulam would be a little over 61 miles or according to Mr. Hudson 63 miles. If Perumbalur and other places in Travancore are to be served, a branch line may be constructed from the station near Alwaye.

4. As far as the Cochin side is concerned, it does not matter much whether the line passes through Mala or Shalattudi, but if it should pass through Shalattudi according to the present alignment, the mileage between Shoranore and Ernakulam and consequently the distance between the junction and the British Port of Cochin, would be increased by about 10 miles. It may also be noted that if the Railway should pass through Mala, which is connected with the backwater by a canal, Mala would serve as a station to catch the backwater traffic, and the traffic which would have to be carried by boats to and from Kumpadnam, if the railway should pass through Shalattudi, will be diverted to Mala.

5. As the merchants and inhabitants of British Cochin

Cochin are interested in the matter, I would suggest that the Chamber of Commerce in Cochin be also invited to express its opinion.

I have &c.
(Sigd) V Subramanyam Pillai
Dewan.

No. 319
1895.

Chief Engineer's office
Trichur, 25th March 1895

The Dewan of Cochin
Ernakulam

Sir,

In reply to your letter forwarding original papers with plan (already returned as requested) in reference to the new alignment of the proposed Shoranore-Cochin Railway.

2. I have the honor to inform you as stated in Mr. West's letter No C/90 dated 29th January, 1895 addressed to the Agent and Manager Madras Railway "it was unanimously agreed at the meeting that the point of departure on the Madras Railway should be at a point about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of the present Shoranore station."

3. The Chief reasons for preferring Shoran-

at the junction of the Alwaye and Shalabadi Rivers
(one Bridge would serve the two Rivers).
9. It will be observed that the 1871 line passes through
the isolated piece of Travancore territory named Puthen-
cherra which it would be well to avoid, and which
would be avoided if the line is taken from Aukloor
to Malan.

10. Cochin has no objection to the line shown on
the plan south of Shalabadi as it serves Travancore
territory, the only thing is the mileage from Shoranore
to Ernakulam would be increased from 62 to 72
miles.

11. Ernakulam will be the station for the British
port of Cochin and the merchants may raise objections
to the increased mileage of the Railway as there is
no doubt it will affect their interests.

12. As regards the proposal of having no
station between Kodakulangara and Alwaye, if
the line is taken through the isolated piece of
Cochin territory named Vellara fully it will be
necessary to keep the line some distance to the
east of the Chovvra Palace. This diversion would
save about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

13. Alwaye and Chovvra are to the
residents

residents of Ernakulam, Muttancherry, and British
Cochin, what Brighton is to London, and it will be to
the interests of the people of Cochin to have a station
at one or the other of these two places, or at both, if
possible.

I have &c.

(Sigs) H. W. Hudson Esq. Esq. C.E.

Chief Engineer
Cochin Government

(True copy)

(Sigs) T. Subramanya Pillai
Dewan

(True copies)

F. W. D. S. Esq.

Assistant Resident

on

Enclosure no II to letter Ref: on circuit
no 17 of 95 from the Resident in Travancore
and Cochin.

1008-1
2537/95

Regarding the route of the
proposed railway from Shoranore to
Cochin.

1008-1
P. 111
2
461

Ref: on circuit no 17395

461
Resident's Office on Circuit
Cochin, 3rd April 1895

From H. B. Grigg Esquire M. A. C. J. C.
Resident in Travancore and Cochin

To
The Honorable Mr. J. G. Price C. J. J.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

Sir,

With reference to G. O. no 114 D dated
1st March 1895 I have the honor to submit
herewith for the information of Government
copies of letters from the Dewans of Travancore
and Cochin nos 1048 and 627 of the 24th idem
and the 2nd instant respectively containing
their views on the proposed route of the rail-
way now being surveyed between the Madras
Railway and Cochin. With reference to
the concluding portion of the letter from
the Dewan of Cochin I beg to add that I
am addressing an urgent communication
to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce
of British Cochin in order to obtain the views

2833

From
Shoranore
Travancore & Cochin

Indt No 779

Transferred to the Public
Works Department, Railway
Branch.

To
The Chief Secretary, Government
Fort Saint George

Dated 3rd April 1895.

Recd 6/4

Decd. 5. 4. 95

Ref No 17 of 1895

N. of Enclosures. 2 of 11.

Fort St George 3 Francis
6th April 1895

By Assistant Secretary

Decd. 5. 4. 95

Encls 3 (11)

CHIEF SECRETARY
G. APR. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Shoranore Ernakulam
Railway -

Forward copies of
letters from the Managers of
Travancore and Cochin
regarding the route of
the proposed -

To
The Public Works Dept
Railway Branch

(11)

Chamber of Commerce
Cochin, 10th April 1895

Captain J. W. Dawson

Asstt: Resident, Boddykatty

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your
letter of the 4th inst and enclosing copy of letter from the
Chief Engineer to the Agent and Manager Madras Railway
together with a tracing with regard to the proposed Railway
from Shoranore to Ernakulam.

In reply thereto I beg to inform you that the
subject was discussed at a meeting of this Chamber held this
morning, and I am instructed to inform you that the proposed
route meets with the approval of the Chamber, but they would
suggest that when the site of the terminus at Ernakulam is
being decided on due consideration should be given to its
position in regard to the depth of water in the adjoining
harbour, so that landing and shipping operations may be
practicable at all states of the tide, and the necessity for
dredging thereby obviated.

I have to
(Sd) E. H. Blacke
Honorary Secretary

(True copy)

J. W. Dawson Capt

Asstt: Resident
in Charge.

HP

Enclosure n^o. I to Resident's letter
Ref: on circuit n^o. 23 of the 11th April
1895.

DESPATCHED
15 MAY. 95

Copy of a letter containing the views
of the Cochin Chamber of Commerce
approving the new alignment for the
Shoranore - Cochin Railway.

Political

996

A

ho 336 Rdfy-5-195

OWE.1

3067/25

Ref: on circuit n^o. 23.

From

Captain F. W. Dawson

Asstt: Resident in Charge

Travancie and Cochin

The Honorable Mr. J. F. Price C.S.I.
Chief Secretary to Government
Cotacamund

Sir,

In continuation of my letter Circuit n^o. 17 of
the 3rd April 1895, I have the honor to submit herewith for
the information of Government Copy of a letter dated the
10th idem from the Honorary Secretary to the Chamber of
Commerce in Cochin containing the views of that body on the
route of the proposed Railway from Shoranore to Ennakulam,
and with reference to the concluding portion thereof to state
that from enquiries made I understand that there is always
sufficient water in the backwater opposite to the site selected,
at all states of the tide, to accommodate laden Cargo boats.

I have the honor to be

Sir
Your most obed^t servant

F. W. Dawson

Asstt: Resident
in Charge.

1895
Political Department

From

The Asstt: Resident in
Travancore & Co

To

The Chief Secretary to Govt
Cochin

Dated 11th April 1895

Received 15th April 1895

Ref: on circuit no. 23
Enclosure .1

Forwarding copy of a letter con-
taining the views of the Cochin Chamber
of Commerce on the new alignment for
the Shoranur Cochin Railway.

A. 336 RD/7-5-95
[Signature]

The Public Works Dept (Ry Branch)

(W.C)

A. 336 RD/7-5-95
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
RAILWAY BRANCH.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

again
Read the following

Progs. of the Madras } H.R. no. 104 of 1895
Govt. P.W. Dept. }
Read also

Political Department }
Enclosure with Sude. } 779 of 6 April 1895
Sunder

This Excellency the
Governor in Council approves
of the proposed line to
Cochin taking off from
the Madras Railway at
or near to Shoranur
Station. The actual position
of the junction should be
fully dealt with in the
report accompanying the
project estimate. The align-
ment decided on at the
meeting between Travancore
Cochin and Madras Railway
officials

The officials held at Trichur
 on 22nd January 1895.
 should be adopted in the
 present survey, but His
 Excellency ^{the Governor} in Council is
 of opinion that reconnois-
 sances should be made of
 the alternative route from
 Athur via Mala and
 Alwaye, and of a branch
 line from Alwaye to Peran-
 talur. The Agent Surveyor,
 Madras Railway will be
 requested to report the
 estimated cost of these recon-
 noissances, care being taken

For
 the
 of
 the
 to utilize where possible
 the work of the present and
 previous surveys. Care should
 be taken when locating the terminus at
 Ernakulam ~~and shipping operations~~ to select a
 site offering facilities for landing ^{ABR}
 and shipping operations at all states ^{16/4/95}
 of the tide in the adjoining back-
 water.

A
 N. 336 R of 7 May 95

To
 The Agent Surveyor, Madras
 - 1 - Mr. B. P. Rylands
 - 4 - Political Dept.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Miscellaneous No. 193, dated 193

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RAILWAYS.

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Th. G. F.

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Examining
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