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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No:	6083.	Press. Mis.
Dated	14-10-1877.	197 E.

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82 Archives 1-10,006-19-4-79.

6033

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th June 1877, No. 326 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following:—

No. 288.

NOTE.

In paragraphs 11 and 12 of their orders on the Madras Imperial Public Works Budget Estimate for 1877-78, the Government of India requested to be furnished with information as to the reasons which led to the provision for construction and maintenance of the Vedarniem Canal and for the up-keep of the East Coast Canal being made from the Ordinary grant for Imperial Civil Works. And in paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 86 W, dated 16th May 1877, a separate note was promised to be drawn up explaining the circumstances.

2. As regards the Vedarniem Canal the Collector of the Tanjore District reported in June 1873 that, owing to the canal being in parts shallow, the traffic in salt to Negapatam was attended with obstruction and delay, more especially in the dry season. He was of opinion that, in order to throw salt into the market at a reasonable cost, it was necessary that this water communication should be perfected so as to render it available for the passage of boats of ordinary size at all seasons of the year.

3. The whole cost of the canal in 1873, including the amount spent on its maintenance, was Rupees 1,68,362, of which about two-fifths had been already recovered by the saving in the cost of transporting the Vedarniem salt to Negapatam. The total quantity of salt conveyed to Negapatam by the canal between its first opening in 1867 and the year 1873 was 824,620 Indian maunds or 6,872 garces; and, taking the difference between the cost of carriage by sea and that by the canal to be Rupees 10 a garce, the saving was estimated by the Collector at Rupees 68,780 in favor of the canal route. Considering, moreover, that the salt trade was capable of further expansion the Collector was of opinion that another lakh of rupees or so spent on the improvement of the canal would be most usefully laid out and prove a decidedly remunerative outlay.

4. On these representations the Government decided on the improvements to the canal being undertaken and called for the necessary plans and estimates.

5. The work being solely in the interests of the salt traffic, it was considered a legitimate charge against Salt Imperial; and as the project has been entrusted to the Public Works Department for execution, it was budgetted for in the Imperial Public Works Budget Estimate under salt works.

6. The maintenance of the canal is considered to be a proper charge against salt which benefits so largely by its construction; and following the course recently adopted of bringing forward in the Public Works Budget all appropriations for salt works which are to be spent by Public Works Officers, the grant has this year been shown in the Budget of this department.

7. In respect to the East Coast Canal the provision of Rupees 7,000, which appears under Part II in the Budget, is the Imperial share of maintenance of a particular

section which is the main line of carriage for salt from the pans to the depôt at Madras, and is based on the average expenditure of the previous five years. Grants for the cost of maintenance have hitherto been made under Petty Construction and Repairs, and have been disbursed by Civil Officers. This arrangement was found inconvenient and ineffective. It was thought best therefore to entrust the work to Public Works Officers and allow the maintenance grant to appear in the Imperial Public Works Budget.

8. Previous to this being done it was brought to the notice of Government that the canal was so shallow that boats were stranded at low tide. The salt which was conveyed from the pans to the platforms in boats was thus detained, and a large quantity wasted through exposure to the rains.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 288-A.

ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1877, No. 326 W.

ORDERED that this Note be forwarded for the information of the Government of India in continuation of the papers transmitted with docket No. 87 W, dated 16th May 1877.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated June 29th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 29th June 1877, No. 326 W.

JUNE

Nos. 288-288-A.

Rev 39544
11

Vedarniem and East Coast Canals.—Ordered that the Note by the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, affording explanation as to the provision of funds from the Ordinary grant for Imperial Civil Works for the —, be forwarded to the Government of India.

Extract from letter from the
District Engineer, Bangalore, No. 1485
dated 31st August 1877.

Para 3. I observe from L. D. No. 533
dated 5th February 1877 R. D. and No. 508
dated 10th February 1877 L. D., copies of
which were furnished to me by the
Collector, that a sum of Rs 6750
has been sanctioned for the main-
tenance of the Vedarnim Canal
in 1877-78 under "Canal and Ferry
Fund" and the Collector has desired
me to request that the said amount
may be appropriated for the repairs
of the Canal during the year, but
as a sum of Rs 5000 has been already
provided for the purpose in the
Imperial Budget for 1877-78 and no
orders have been passed in the Public
Works Department with regard to
the

the allotment of Rs 6750 under Canal
and Ferry funds above referred to,
I request that orders may be passed
with reference to the disposal of the
latter amount"

No 2650

Referred to the Revenue Depart.
ment for consideration and orders
together with note by the Secretary
P. H. Department recorded with No. Dec.
326 H. dated 29 June 1877.

Edmund J. P. H.

Secretary to Government
P. H. D.

Ed. St George
10 Sept 77

11/9

To The Revenue Department.

Ed. St George

Rev: 1851: Sept.

N^o 3974.

Pro: P. L. D.

Dated 10

Rec^d: 11th } Sept.

VCP 4542/17

N^o 2650

Referring for
consideration & orders here
affording explanation as to
provision of funds for the
Vedarnisa & East Coast
Canals.

N^o 6033

Referred to the
Board of Revenue for
remarks.

CPCL

4: Oct 177

1777 of Revenue (5-10-7)