

Memo on the development of the new Civil Abattoir submitted to
Cabinet by the Honourable Minister of Finance, Customs
and Port.

When Messrs. Abattoir Consultants were first engaged to draw up plans for the new Civil Abattoir, they suggested that the project should be divided into four main units:

- a) Livestock Market and Lairage
- b) Wholesale lock-ups and chillers
- c) Slaughter Hall
- d) Car park

They advised that the work could be spread into three phases, beginning with the slaughter hall which is the more urgent and allowing for each phase to step into the one preceeding at any time with an interval of reasonable duration. Moreover, the Ministry of Overseas Development were of the opinion that the livestock market and chiller area should be omitted from Phase One. In order not to prejudice the chances of obtaining United Kingdom grant finance for this project an amount of £300,000 was included in the III Five Year Plan to cover consultants' fees and the implementation of Phase One - the Slaughter Hall - only.

The Director of Public Works was, therefore, instructed to request consultants to consider whether it was possible to limit their work to phase I only. The Director of Public Works has now recommended that the Slaughter Hall should be constructed together with the facilities of lairage, chiller accommodations and full drainage system. Such a proposal would mean that the £300,000 provided in the current plan for the Civil Abattoir would have to be raised to £518,000.

There has already been a Cabinet decision to go out to tender for the construction of the Slaughterhouse alone. The reasons behind this decision are not known to Finance though it is presumed that such reasons related to the availability of funds as well as to the known views of the Ministry of Overseas Development. Incidentally this project has not as yet been agreed to by U.K. and the position therefore seems to remain as heretofore.

It is, of course, rather difficult to go against the technical advice of the Director of Public Works and if it is decided by Ministers that such advice should be accepted, the only condition by Finance would be that corresponding cuts would have to be made straightaway from other schemes in the Third Five Year Plan so that the overall plan estimate will not be added to in any way.

28th April, 1971.

MEPF/207/64/16

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