

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2678	Press
536-537	Mis
Dated 24-8-1866.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th August 1866.*

No. 536. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Railway), dated Simla, the 31st July 1866,
No. 13 R:—

Payment of Rent by Railway Employés.

Read again—

Despatch No. 45 of 1860 from Secretary of State.

Extract Proceedings No. 193 of the Government of Bombay (Railway Department), for January 1865, deciding that a rent should be fixed for certain buildings occupied by servants of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, such as the men can afford to pay, and not the exact per-centage laid down by the Secretary of State.

Letter No. 2,312, dated 9th October 1865, from Government of Bombay.

Read also—

Letter No. 1,006, dated 25th April 1866, from Government of Bombay.
Public Works Department, letter No. 522R., dated 31st May 1866, to Government of Bombay.

Letter No. 1,417, dated 28th June 1866, from Government of Bombay.

Letter No. 1,199G., dated 25th May 1866, from Government of Bengal.

—

OBSERVATIONS.—The general principle laid down by the Secretary of State in his Despatch No. 45 of 1860 was, that a rent of 5 per cent., together with a per-centage to cover repairs, should be charged to the servants of Railway Companies for houses built for their occupation, provided the total did not exceed *one-ninth* of the wages.

2. In Bombay the rule has been adhered to, except at stations where the high prices would have necessitated an increase of wages to enable the men to pay rent at the rate laid down. In these cases such a rent has been demanded as the men can afford. The Government of Bombay now propose that, if any general rule is insisted upon, revenue should be debited with 5 per cent. on the cost of the buildings and with the cost of the repairs, and credited with any rent that the Company may think fit to recover from their servants.

3. In Bengal also, it has been found impossible to adhere to the rules: the practice has, therefore, been to charge workmen and artisans 3 Rupees per 100 superficial feet of area, excluding verandahs and bath-rooms—the superior officers being charged one-ninth of their salary irrespective of the cost of the building.

4. The Joint Committee of Inspection which, in 1863, reported on this question in connection with East Indian Railway, proposed that the existing property should be judiciously valued and the rents fixed so as to give a clear return of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and that Heads of Departments should apply on behalf of their subordinates for such accommodation as they were prepared to pay for, and be held responsible for the rent, the full amount of which was to be debited to their respective Departments; and that if afterwards it was found advisable to lay out more money on house property in situations where private enterprise was not forthcoming, it should only be done on the certainty of ample return. But nothing further appears to have supervened.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th August 1866.*

5. On the North-West Division of the East Indian Railway, the practice was, and probably is, to charge $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the cost of the building.

6. Under all the circumstances of the case, the Governor General in Council is of opinion that the proposal of the Government of Bombay may be adopted as an alternative by all Companies which may prefer it to the course laid down in Despatch No. 45 of 1860. At the same time it should be borne in mind, in allowing a discretion as to the charge for rent, that, as a rule, for ordinary cases and adequate accommodation, the rent to be charged should not be less than that laid down by the Secretary of State in 1860. Unless some general principle be kept in view, decisions separately made on the merits of each case will in time become so discordant, as to excite discontent, and call for the re-introduction, of one general rule for all Railways.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of these observations be forwarded to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, and the Punjab, for information and guidance.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Lieut.-Colonel, R. A.,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 537. ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1866, No. 2,678.

RAILWAY, No. 47.

Communicated to the Consulting
Engineer for Railways for information
and guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Circular No. 13 R. of 1866.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
Railway.

SIMLA, the 31st July 1866.

Payment of Rent by Railway Employees.

READ again—

Despatch No. 45 of 1860, from Secretary of State.

Extract Proceedings No. 193 of the Government of Bombay (Railway Department), for January 1865, deciding that a rent should be fixed for certain buildings occupied by servants of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company, such as the men can afford to pay, and not the exact percentage laid down by the Secretary of State.

Letter No. 2312, dated 9th October 1865, from Government of Bombay.

Read also—

Letter No. 1006, dated 25th April 1866, from Government of Bombay.

Public Works Department letter No. 522R., dated 31st May 1866, to Government of Bombay.

Letter No. 1417, dated 28th June 1866, from Government of Bombay.

Letter No. 1199G., dated 25th May 1866, from Government of Bengal.

OBSERVATIONS.—The general principle laid down by the Secretary of State in his Despatch No. 45 of 1860 was, that a rent of 5 per cent., together with a percentage to cover repairs, should be charged to the servants of Railway Companies for houses built for their occupation, provided the total did not exceed *one-ninth* of the wages.

2. In Bombay the rule has been adhered to, except at stations where the high prices would have necessitated an increase of wages to enable the men to pay rent at the rate laid down. In these cases such a rent has been demanded as the men can afford. The Government of Bombay now propose that, if any general rule is insisted upon, revenue should be debited with 5 per cent. on the cost of the buildings and with the cost of the repairs, and credited with any rent that the Company may think fit to recover from their servants.

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ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of these Observations be forwarded to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal and the Punjab, for information and guidance.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, *Lieut.-Col., R. A.,*
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

[Signature]
Captain, R. E.,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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The Secy. to the Govt. of Madras
P.W. Dept. (Railway)

P. J. M. S. P. S.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY.

No 3382

To

Mr. Secy. Railways

CIRCULAR No. 13 R.

Dated 31st July 1866.

Received

1/10/1866

1/10/1866

26/7/8

*Communicated to the
Consulting Engineer for
Railways for information
and guidance*

W. B. L.

Mr. Secy. Railways

W. B. L.

*Start 81 George
24/7/1866*

Aug 27-1866

Payment of rent by Railway Employees.

24/7/8-24/7/1866

With an order

24/7/8-5/3/1866