M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair 20-11-37

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2105 Press / Mis.

636-37

Dated 29-11- 1837.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th June 1869.

No. 636. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department:—

Making inquiries as to what area of land around the Pothanore Railway Station should be kept free from private buildings. (Here enter 16th June 1869, No. 814.)

No. 637. ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1869, No. 2,105.

RAILWAY No. 47.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, who will furnish the report called for in paragraph 2.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
16th June 1869.

No. 81. Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Coimbatore, 29th May 1869, No. 30.

I have the honour to bring the following circumstances to the notice of Government.

2. The Acting Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, in his letter dated 15th April 1869, No. 213, called my attention to the fact that a village consisting of thatched houses was springing up to the east of the timber yard attached to the compound of the Railway station at Pothanore, and requested that orders might be issued for its removal.

3. I have personally inspected the locality. The land on which the houses are built is private property, and is distinct from the site on which the village formerly removed* was situated. There are twenty-two houses, yielding the owner a monthly rent of Rupees 7-8-0 on the land. The owner estimates the value of the houses at Rupees 302, and offers to sell twenty-one of them and the site to Government for Rupees 1052. He also engages to refrain from building on the rest of the land. He makes a reservation regarding one house, but this is not a material point.

* Under orders of Government, dated 28th October 1868, No. 1649.

4. I believe that, as the land is not required for railway purposes, it cannot be included in any of the classes in which all lands taken up for railways have to be entered. If the removal of the village is necessary, the land must be taken up for public purposes. I am at present unable to order the removal of the houses, or to prevent others being built.

5. If compensation were paid to the owner, and his guarantee given that no other houses would be built on the rest of his land, I doubt if we should be able to enforce its fulfilment in the event of the land changing hands.

6. There is no doubt that the erection of houses in the locality mentioned is objectionable both on sanitary and other grounds. The houses are thatched and adjoin the Railway fuel yard, and consequently any fire breaking out in the village would greatly endanger the safety of the railway fuel.

7. I am not aware whether similar cases have occurred in other districts. When a station may be situated within municipal limits, the regulation of new buildings is easy. I do not, however, anticipate that Pothanore will ever become of sufficient importance to warrant the introduction of the Municipal Act; and if any real improvement in the vicinity of railway stations is to be made, the hands of the Collector must be strengthened. Houses of any class and in any order can be built so long as the land is private property, and the only manner in which this nuisance can be put a stop to is by Government becoming the purchaser of all land in the vicinity of the larger railway stations.

8. I have the honour to enclose copy of the letter from the Acting Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, and of a communication received from the owner of the land alluded to.

No. 82. ORDER THEREON, 16th June 1869, No. 814.

In his letter above recorded, the Acting Collector of Coimbatore brings to notice that several huts have been erected on private land (distinct from that on

which the village removed in 1868 was situated) at the Pothanore Railway Station, which are likely to prove a nuisance to the station, and, from being thatched and near the Fuel Depôt, dangerous to Railway property. The owner of the ground is, it is stated, willing to accept Rupees 1052 as compensation for the huts and their site, and to engage not to build on the rest of his property. But, as pointed out by the Collector, it is doubtful if this engagement would be binding on future purchasers of the land in question.

2. Before taking any further steps in the matter, the Government resolve to forward the present letter and its enclosures to the Public Works Department, with a view to the Consulting Engineer for Railways being called upon to furnish, after communication with the Acting Collector of Coimbatore, a detailed report as to what area around the Railway station requires to be kept free from private buildings, and also the probable expenditure, &c., involved in securing this area.

(True Extract).

R. Walyell

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Public Works Department, with three enclosures.
„ Acting Collector of Coimbatore.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

2nd part taken

JUNE.

Nos. 621-622

Cartridge Factory.—Proceedings Military Department, communicating a Despatch from the Home Government transmitting a drawing showing the drainage arrangements for the new Cartridge Factory, &c., recorded.

P.W. 1869 Dept.
Govt. of Madras.
No. 2560.

PUBLIC.

To

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated June, 16th.

Recd. " 21 Encl. 3

G. O., 16th June 1869, No. 814.

JUNE.

Nos. 81-82.

No 2105 - 29 June 69.

Making inquiries as to what area of land round the Pothanore Railway Station should be kept free from private buildings.

Write an Order

Rly 2

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No 2105

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, who will furnish the report called for in para 2.

Fort St. George
29th June 1869

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways with Two letters and a Drawing

Desp. 30/6/69

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W. S. Rodgers.

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Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Consulting Engr.
for Railways

&c., &c., &c.

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 29 June 1869, No. 2105

Nos. 636-637

Pothanore Railway Station

Pub. Dept. requesting
to be informed of the area
around the Pothanore Station
which should be kept
free from private buildings,
&c. and other Offices concerned for
report.