

(1) Number of pages 8
 (2) Date of repair 14/11/37
 (3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>2356</u>	Press
<u>519-26</u>	Mis.
Dated <u>2.9.37</u>	<u>1870</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th September 1870.*

No. 519. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account—Railway,) dated Simla, 5th September 1870, No. 372 A.R:—

Delay in the submission of the Revenue Accounts of Guaranteed Railway Companies.
Read—

Public Works Department Resolution No. 23—9A—R, of the 25th January 1870, promulgating the new rules regarding the accounts of Government in connection with Guaranteed Railway transactions.

Read also the following Note:—

Note by LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. J. McLEOD INNES, R.E., *Accountant-General, Public Works Department, dated 31st August 1870.*

I BEG to bring to the notice of the Government of India, for such action as may appear necessary, the difficulty that has been experienced in obtaining from Consulting Engineers the Revenue Accounts of the several Guaranteed Railways for the first quarter of 1870, and the inconvenience that has resulted therefrom.

According to the rules promulgated with Public Works Department Resolution No. 23—9A—R, of the 25th January last, the accounts in question should have reached my office by the 1st June; but, notwithstanding frequent reminders, they did not come to hand till the following dates:—

Indus Steam Flotilla	...	...	11th June.
Sindh Railway	...	...	11th "
Great Indian Peninsula Railway	...	...	20th "
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway	...	...	29th "
Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway	...	...	12th July.
Great Southern of India Railway	...	...	18th "
Carnatic Railway	...	...	18th "
East Indian Railway	...	...	1st August.
Eastern Bengal Railway	...	...	1st "
Madras Railway	...	...	2nd "

The complete accounts for the Punjab and Delhi Railways have not yet been received, and have again been called for.

The Bengal accounts, though two months after date, were said to be merely approximate, a separate report regarding these accounts has already been made to the Government of India.

Owing to the non-receipt of these accounts by the prescribed date, the information urgently demanded by the Financial Department as to the actuals of the past year could not be furnished when required.

The several Consulting Engineers were accordingly requested by telegraph on the 9th June to report at once the net profits for the first quarter of the year.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th September 1870.*

The following table will show the amounts then reported as compared with the actual accounts subsequently received:—

	Amounts reported by tele-gram.	Amounts given in annual ac-counts	DISCREPANCIES.	
			Actuals, short.	Actuals in excess.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Madras Railway, North-West Line ..	1,72,712	18,996	1,53,716	...
Do., South-West Line ..	6,09,300	4,87,576	1,21,724	...
Great Southern of India Railway ..	60,757	60,757	...	...
Carnatic Railway ..	1,333	939	...	...
Great Indian Peninsula Railway ..	22,70,448	22,70,448	394	...
Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway ..	6,79,185	6,26,846	...	...
Sindh Railway ..	33,898	33,898	52,339	...
Indus Steam Flotilla ..	25,247	25,217	...	...
East Indian Railway, (Main Line) ..	42,25,000	41,40,610	...	...
Do., (Jubbulpore Line) ..	Nil	34,148	84,360	...
Eastern Bengal Railway ..	2,32,000	1,47,143	...	34,148
Punjab Railway ..	68,100	38,213	84,857	...
Delhi Railway ..	5,36,700	4,76,734	29,887	...
Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway ..	29,192	21,920	59,966	...
	89,43,872	83,83,505	5,60,357	...

I need hardly point out that the want of punctuality on the part of Consulting Engineers and the grave differences (amounting in the aggregate to over 5½ lakhs) in the amounts reported at different times as the net profits of the several Railway Companies might have seriously deranged the accounts of the empire, and must have misled the Financial Department to a great extent. Possibly the delay that is complained of may be, in a great measure, due to dilatoriness or opposition on the part of the Railway Companies' officials.

It is gratifying to notice that Bombay stands first on the list with regard to punctuality. This I have no doubt is mainly attributable to the interest Colonel Trevor takes in his work, and the desire which he has always manifested to see the orders of the Government of India carried out.

RESOLUTION.—The Government of India notice with serious displeasure the delay that has occurred in furnishing the accounts required from Consulting Engineers under Public Works Department Resolution No. 23—9A—R, of the 25th January 1870. The accounts of the Guaranteed Railway Companies are so intimately connected with the financial concerns of India, that it is necessary that reliable information should be forthcoming regarding the transactions of each official year, as soon as possible, after its close; and the Government of India look to the Local Governments and Administrations to use every endeavour to ensure the submission of the accounts of Railway Companies by the dates prescribed in the rules already referred to.

2. There can be no reason whatever why a Railway Company should not be able to furnish a complete account of its transactions during any period within two

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th September 1870.*

months after its close. The Secretary of State will accordingly be addressed in view to the Directors of the several Companies being moved to insist upon the requisite punctuality on the part of their Account officers in India.

ORDER.—Ordered that this Resolution be forwarded to the Governments and Administrations noted in the margin, for information and guidance.

Madras.
Bombay.

Bengal.
Punjab.

Oudh.

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Financial Department, and the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, for information.

(Signed) J. J. McLEOD INNES, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Depy. Secy. to Govt. of India.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras.

No. 520.

ORDER THEREON, 29th September 1870, No. 2,356.

RAILWAY, No. 56.

COMMUNICATED to the Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways for information and guidance with reference to G. O., No. 443, dated 8th February 1870.

2. It is observed that the Revenue Accounts referred to are furnished direct by the Consulting Engineer to the Accountant-General of the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

2356
Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the 29th Sept 1870
Read the following

From the Dy Secy to the
Govt of India.

[A.C. No 372-A-Rd 5th Sept
1870]

Communicated
to the Acting Consulting
Engineer for Railways
for information and
guidance with reference
to G.O. Nos 443 dated
8th February 1870.

It is observed that
the Revenue Accounts
referred to are furnished
direct by the Consulting
Engineer to the Account-
ant General of the
Public

Public Works Department

W.B.

32

To Congress for Rys ✓

Recd: 30/9/70.

22

C/3703

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Consulting Engineer
for Railways

Urgent

Part A

Part B

29 Sept 1870

Nos. 519-520

Revenue Accounts. No. 1
The Govt. of India forwarding
copy of Resolution upon the
delay in the submission
of the Revenue Accounts of
Guaranteed Railway
Companies, Comd. to the
Joint Secy for Railways
with instructions.