

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1022	Press Mis.
114-15	
Dated 13-4-	1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th April 1871.*

No. 114. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Account—Railway,) dated Fort William, 8th March 1871, No. 167-A. R:—

Prompt adjustment of claims of Railway Companies against Government.

Read again:—

Resolution by the Government of India, Military Department, No. 357, dated 17th August 1870.

Resolution by the Government of India, Public Works Department, Nos. 381—3 A—R, dated 7th September 1870.

Letter No. 1,842 R, dated 22nd November 1870, from the Public Works Department, to the Joint-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Public Works Department, Railway Branch.

Read also:—

Railway Despatch from Secretary of State, No. 2, dated 12th January 1871.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council observes that considerable delay has, on several occasions, been allowed to occur in adjusting the claims of Guaranteed Railway Companies against Government, and that generally sufficient efforts do not appear to be made by Departmental Officers to ensure a prompt settlement of these debts.

2. The Government of India have already impressed upon some of the Local Governments the necessity for claims being disposed of without unnecessary delay, and the Secretary of State has recently requested that the observance of these orders may be strictly enforced.

3. There is no apparent reason why all Railway Companies should not do business with the several Government Departments with which the transactions are large and frequent, entirely on the credit-note system, as is already done by some of the Companies in their transactions with mercantile firms, and the Governor-General in Council directs that henceforward, all claims made by Railway Companies against the State, supported by proper orders signed by competent authority, shall be paid *on demand*, all excess or doubtful charges being left open for after-adjustment, as is now done in the dealings of Railway Companies with the public. Further cash payments at the time each transaction takes place should be made by Government Departments, in all possible cases; and greater care should be taken to avoid credit transactions to the very utmost.

4. The Governor-General in Council also desires that all old claims remaining unadjusted at the present time may be settled forthwith. Consulting Engineers should, besides taking action to assist the Companies in securing the early settlement of their dues, at once bring to the notice of the Local Governments, for communication to the Government of India, any case of unnecessary delay that may in future occur in the settlement of claims preferred against Government Departments. Also, as it appears that some Companies have allowed lengthened periods to elapse before making their claims against Government Departments, thereby causing no little inconvenience and trouble to the Officers concerned, His Excellency in Council desires that all cases of this nature may be reported by the Officers concerned to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
13th April 1871.*

their superiors, and may, so far as the facts come before the Consulting Engineer, be reported also by them, with a view to the matter being similarly brought to the notice of the Government of India. The Governor-General in Council considers that claims should be sent in within, at most, ten days after the debt on such account is incurred.

Order.—Ordered, that this Resolution be communicated to the several Departments of the Government of India for the issue of needful orders, and to the marginally noted Governments and Administrations in the Railway Branch of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance.

(Signed) J. J. McLEOD INNES,
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 115. ORDER THEREON, 13th April 1871, No. 1,022.

RAILWAY, No. 14.

COMMUNICATED to the several Departments of the Secretariat, and to the Consulting Engineer for Railways for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public, etc., Departments.
.. Revenue Department.
.. Acting Consulting Engineer for Railways.
.. Military Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.
Railway.

To

No. A—R.

Dated March 8, 1871.

Received 22nd

1022

Prompt adjustment of claims of Railway Companies against Government.

L. W. D. Press—10.3.71—84.

15th April 1871/1022
With an order

*Copy Public Works Department
for the Com. Engrs for Railways for information & guidance.*

1022

15th April 1871/1022

11/07/13

Govt of India 1871/72

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department

1871/72

1871/72

1871/72

Nos. 114 & 115

Claims. Order from the Govt
of India communicating a
Resolution regarding the
prompt adjustment of
claims of Ry. Companies
against Govt, Com? to the
officers depts concerned.