

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1117

Press
~~Mis.~~

295-26-22

Dated 20-4-1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th April 1871.*

No. 296. Read the following letter from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Railway,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, (Railway,) dated Fort William, 27th March 1871, No. 553-R:—

In acknowledging the receipt of your docket No. 755-B, dated the 13th March 1871, with copy of a correspondence with the Agent of the Madras Railway Company regarding the opening of the line from the Toongabudra to Mutmurri for public traffic, and to Raichore for passenger traffic only, on the 15th March 1871, I am directed to enquire whether, as appears from the correspondence, this section was opened without having previously been formally inspected and reported upon by an officer of the Consulting Engineer's Department. If so, I am desired to enquire what circumstances made it desirable to adopt such an unusual course, as it appears to the Government of India that nothing short of the gravest urgency can justify the opening of any portion of a Railway for public traffic without the declaration by the responsible advisers of Government, after personal investigation, that the Railway is complete in all essential particulars, and that traffic can be worked throughout without any unnecessary danger or risk.

No. 296.

ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1871, No. 1,117.

RAILWAY, No. 44.

ORDERED that the following letter
be sent:—

(Here enter No. 1,118, dated 20th April 1871.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 20th April 1871.

No. 297.

No. 1,118.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY, No. 45.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of Major Williams' letter of the 27th March 1871, No. 553-R, in which referring to my docket No. 755-B, under date the 13th idem, the Government of India inquire regarding the circumstances under which a portion of the North-west Line of the Madras Railway was allowed to be opened on the 15th of that month without having previously been personally inspected and reported on by an officer of the Consulting Engineer's Department, I am directed to state that, as no officer of that department happened to be available for the duty of visiting the line, the Madras Government had no alternative but to prohibit the section in question being used for public traffic after it had been shown by the officers of the Company to be sufficiently ready, or to sanction its being opened as explained in the correspondence which accompanied my docket.

2. The Consulting Engineer, having been summoned to give evidence on an important trial, was unavoidably engaged at Tinnevely, the Deputy Consulting Engineer was absent with one month's privilege leave on a voyage to sea for the benefit of his health, and the young officer who has recently been appointed to officiate as Assistant Consulting Engineer, during the absence in England of Lieutenant Coaker on medical certificate, had not joined. Under these circumstances the Madras Government, although fully alive to the inexpediency, except in most emergent cases, of allowing any portion of a railway to be opened to the public before it has been inspected and passed as fit for traffic by a responsible Government officer, was of opinion that, taking into consideration the importance that has justly been attached both by the Government and the public to the early provision of the means of effecting through railway communication with Bombay, a precautionary measure, of which they feel the importance, might be justifiably dispensed with. Experience has proved that this decision has not been attended with any injurious consequence.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Engineer's Department. If so, I am desirous to

All communications
should be addressed to
the Secretary.

No. 553 R.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY.

2/
To,

*The Secretary to the Government
of Madras
Public Works Department (Railway)*

Fort William, 27th March 1871

Sir,

*In acknowledging the receipt of
your docket No. 553 B dated the 13th March 1871,
with copy of a correspondence with the Agent
of the Madras Railway Company regarding
the opening of the line from the Tongabudra
to Mutmurri for public traffic, and to
Raichore for passenger traffic only, on the
15th March 1871, I am directed to enquire
whether, as appears from the correspondence,
this section was opened without having
previously been formally inspected and
reported upon by an Officer of the Consulting
Engineer's Department. If so, I am desired*

To

to enquire what circumstances made it
desirable to adopt such an unusual
course, as it appears to the Government
of India that nothing short of the gravest
urgency can justify the opening of any
portion of a railway for public traffic
without the declaration by the responsible
advisers of Government, after personal
investigation, that the railway is complete
in all essential particulars, and that
traffic can be worked throughout without
any unnecessary danger or risk.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servt

G. S.

Major, R.E.

Deputy Secretary

Pro 13 March 1871 No 342 R.
342 R.

Southey
and
Spence

1871

1871

1871

Ch 245

66 April 1871 No 120

P. Dr. 1871 Depart
Pro 13 March 1871
No 342 R.
From

The Govt of India
dated 27 March 1871
Recd 3 April
No 553 R.

Requesting
further information
regarding the opening
of the N. W. Line
of the Madras Rail-
way from the
Trongalunda to
Raichore on the 15th
March 1871
11/17/71/1871 April 1871
With an Order

1118

The Secretary to the Govt.
of India

Sir, In acknowledging
the receipt of Major William's
letter of the 27th March 1871
No 553 R, in which, refer-
ring to my docket.
No 755 B under date the
13th Idem, the Govt. of
India inquire regarding
the circumstances under
which a portion of the
North West Line of the
Madras Railway was al-
lowed to be opened on
the 15th of that month
without having previously

N

A

J. D. S.

been personally inspected
and reported on by an
officer of the Consulting
Engineer's Dept. I am
directed to state that,
as no officer of that
Dept. happened to be
available for the duty
of visiting the line,
the Madras Government
had no alternative
but to prohibit the
section in question
being used for public
traffic after it had
been shown by the
officers of the Company

to be sufficiently ready
or to sanction its being
opened as explained in
the correspondence which
accompanied my docket.
The Consulting
Eng^r having been sum-
-moned to give evidence
on an important trial
was unavoidably engaged
at Tinnevely - the Deputy
Consulting Eng^r was
absent with one month's
privilege leave on a
voyage to sea for the
benefit of his health,
and the young officer
who has recently been

appointed to officiate
as Assistant Consul.
King Esq. during the
absence in England
of Lt. Col. on
Medical Certificate.
had not joined. Under
these circumstances
the Madras Govt., al-
though fully alive
to the expediency,
except in most emer-
gent cases, of allowing
any portion of a
railway to be opened
to the public before
it has been inspected
and

a precautionary measure
of which they feel the
importance might
be justifiably dispensed
with.

might be well added,

"Experience has proved that this
(A Govt. of A. Govt.) decision has not been attended with
any serious consequence. By A. Govt.

was

and passed as fit
for traffic by a res-
ponsible Govt. Officer,
is of opinion that,
taking into consider-
ation the importance
that has justly been
attached both by the
Govt. and the public
to the early provision
of the means of effecting
through railway com-
munication with
Bombay, no other
course than that
which was adopted
was either desirable,

or would have been
satisfactory to
the general community/



Rec'd 21/4/71

101522

GOVT of INDIA
PUBLIC WORKS.

Secretary to the Govt of
India

Date

Recd

101522

101522

101522
The Secretary
to the Govt of India
Public Works
Department
Bombay
101522

101522
The Secretary
to the Govt of India
Public Works
Department
Bombay
101522