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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	134	Press
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st January 1874.*

No. 271. Read the following docket of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (State Railways,) dated 10th December 1873, Nos. 1,795—6 S.—R. :—

ABSTRACT.—Requests the consideration of special arrangements for developing traffic on the new State Railways and the submission of proposals calculated to serve the desired end.

No. 272. ORDER THEREON, 21st January 1874, No. 137.

RAILWAY, No. 38.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

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Nos. 1795—6 S—R.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
STATE RAILWAYS.

To

THE SUPDG. ENGRS., DELHI AND AGRA DISTRICTS,
RAJPOOTANA STATE RAILWAY.

FORT WILLIAM, DECEMBER 10, 1873.

SIR,

I am directed by the Governor General in Council to address you on the subject of the necessity of adopting special arrangements for developing traffic on the new State Railways.

2. The traffic on the State Railways will at first be necessarily small. The districts traversed by them are poor compared with those already occupied by some of the principal open Railways, and a rigid adherence to the system of working the traffic in operation elsewhere will not be sufficient for the attainment of the end desired.

3. In the consideration of this question several plans suggest themselves as likely to operate beneficially in fostering and encouraging traffic:—

1st.—By the running of light and frequent trains. It frequently happens that the facility of communication caused by the multiplication of trains creates traffic, and though such light trains will be comparatively expensive to work, it is possible that what is lost in this way will be more than re-gained in additional traffic. Such a service will chiefly be desirable in such localities, as the neighbourhood of large towns, and its economic value can only be determined by careful experiment.

2nd.—By running what may be called omnibus trains. These trains would not only stop at the regular stations, but at all the important crossings and intermediate villages to pick up and set down passengers. The low speed on the metre-gauge Railways would facilitate the adoption of this system, and the difficulty as to the collection of fares without giving rise to defalcation and extortion could probably be overcome by suitable arrangements. The Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway Company have adopted experimentally the plan of stopping at two road crossings, and this measure has been independently suggested by the Assistant Traffic Superintendent of the Rajpootana State Railway.

3rd.—By running extra trains at native festivals and fairs, and multiplying Ticket Offices on such occasions.

4th.—By timing the stoppages of trains so as to suit native habits, and affording suitable opportunities of refreshment and other conveniences at such halting places.

Both of the last suggestions have been carried out by the Guaranteed Railways.

4. These and other plans will naturally suggest themselves to the Railway Managers, but the Governor General in Council does not rely on any general rules of universal application for meeting the requirements of each case. In fact, no inflexible rules will be suitable to the circumstances of every Railway. It is to the Officers in charge of each line that the Government looks for the study of the wants of each locality and of the means of providing for these wants.

5. Already an important step has been taken by the adoption of low fares, but this in itself cannot ensure success. The manners, habits and institutions of the people of the country must be carefully studied; the comfort and convenience of the native passengers must be suitably provided for, and the advantages of the Railway brought home to all.

6. The Governor General in Council requests that early attention may be paid to this matter, and that proposals calculated to serve the desired end may be submitted for the consideration and orders of the Government of India.

7. A reserve of rolling-stock and engines at localities where the running of light trains may be found desirable will be required. It may not be possible to provide this extra stock immediately, but it is none the less necessary that the matter should be taken into consideration, and practicable schemes worked out in order that early arrangement may be made for these and other requirements.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. E. S. Colonel, R. E.,
Offg. Deputy Secretary.

Nos. 1797-1814 S-R.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Bengal; the Resident, Hyderabad; the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces; to the Chief Engineer, Punjab Northern State Railway; the Officiating Engineer-in-Chief, Indus Valley State Railway; and the Superintending Engineers, Holkar, Neemuch, West Rajpootana and Sindia State Railways, for information and consideration.

Copy also forwarded for information to the Governments of Madras, Bombay, North Western Provinces, and the Punjab; Chief Commissioners of Oudh, British Burmah, and Mysore; Agents to the Governor General for Central India and Rajpootana.

N. 1805 S.R.

*The Secretary to the Govt of Madras
P.W. Department*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
STATE RAILWAYS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS, DELHI AND
AGRA DISTRICTS, RAJPOOTANA STATE
RAILWAY.

Nos. 1795—6 S—R.

Dated December 10, 1873.

Received — 23rd —

Requests the consideration of special arrange-
ments for developing traffic on the new State
Railways and the submission of proposals
calculated to serve the desired end.

P. W. D. Press—12-12-73—460.

With an order

136
Confidential
For the Secy to Govt
12th Dec 1873
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Recd 12th Dec 1873

No 137
Confidential
For the Secy to Govt

Amul

Obt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Consulting Engg
for Railways

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 21 August No. 137

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No. 2710272

Railway. Packet from
The Govt. of India forwarding
Copy of communication
regarding the necessity of
adopting special arrange-
ments for developing
traffic on ~~new~~ State Rail-
ways. Comd. W. the Engg. Supt.