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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1432A-143B	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	29-5-	1874 195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th May 1874.*

No. 579. Read the following letter from Captain G. P. SKIPWITH, R.E., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Telegraph,) to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 15th April 1874, No. 237 T. :—

In continuation of endorsement, No. 88 T, of the 11th February last, I am directed to forward, for remarks, the accompanying copy of a letter* from

the Director-General of Telegraphs, stating that the cost of reconstructing the line of telegraph from Kotaree to Dumagudium will be Rupees 46,764, and to inquire if the Government of Madras attach sufficient importance to the work to assign money for its construction and maintenance from the ordinary irrigation grant allotted to the Madras Presidency.

From the Director-General of Telegraphs in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Calcutta, 23rd March 1874, No. 533.

In accordance with the request contained in your office letter, No. 441 T, dated 3rd October

	Rs.	last, and your No. 441 T-1, dated the 13th
Cash	28,610	instant, I have the honour to forward herewith
New stores	5,436	an estimate, amounting to Rupees 46,764, for
Stores transferred from existing lines	12,718	the reconstruction of the line from Kotaree to
Total...	46,764	Dumagudium, a distance of 214 miles.

2. The estimate provides for an uninsulated wire on wooden supports. If iron supports were used, it is estimated the line would cost nearly two lakhs of rupees.

3. From the report received from the Assistant Superintendent who prepared the estimate, it would appear that about forty-four miles of the No. 8 gauge wire, formerly used on the section Sironcha to Dumagudium, is missing; other wire to replace this has, therefore, been provided in the estimate.

4. The Assistant Superintendent accounts for the missing wire by its having been stolen by villagers and by its becoming buried as posts fell down.

5. I know not how the line has come into its present state. On my report that the connection *via* Nagpore and Jubbulpore and *via* Bhosawal and Jubbulpore was completed, the Government of India sanctioned the unhealthy line Nagpore to Hyderabad being abandoned, or rather dismantled, and this was being done when the Irrigation Officers pleaded for, at least, the retention of Nagpore to Dumagudium. I represented, in reply, that the offices of Sironcha, Enchampilly, and Dumagudium involved a loss of nearly Rupees 9,000 per annum on this department, and that if a portion of the line was to be retained for the benefit of the Irrigation Department, the best arrangement would be to hand over the lines and offices altogether to them to maintain and work. This was accepted in Foreign Department Resolution of 20th January 1870.

6. Some correspondence with the Central Provinces Administration followed, and it was finally resolved in the Public Works Department, India, No. 57 T, dated 1st October 1870, that from Kotaree south the whole line with the offices at Sironcha, Enchampilly and Dumagudium be made over to the Superintending Engineer, Godavery Works, and the transfer was effected about the 1st November 1870.

7. After the transfer the Public Works Department maintained and worked only for a time the section Kotaree to Sironcha. It was then suffered to fall into decay, and, as the wooden posts which supported the wire fell, the wire came down. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that the wire was dangerous to travellers; but the Executive Engineer, 1st Barrier Division, objected to incurring any expense for collecting and removing the wire to the villages, remarking that if it was of any value to the Telegraph Department some arrangements might be made for its safety.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th May 1874.*

8. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation was then asked by the Officiating Director-General whether it was probable the line would be again required, and this gave rise to the present correspondence.

9. As no *pro forma* transfer was made to the Irrigation Department, the value of the whole line has been entered as an abandoned line in the Capital Account of this department, and estimated at Rupees 1,58,752.

10. I have now the honour to request the orders of His Excellency the Governor-General in Council as to the cost of its reconstruction and after maintenance. Is this to be a charge against the Telegraph Department? or against the Irrigation Department? and will it not be advisable to treat it like the lines constructed for the State Railways?

11. If offices are required at Sironcha and Dumagudium, the former will cost on an average Rupees 254, and the latter Rupees 155 per mensem, or a total of Rupees 4,903 per annum. The supports being of wood, and the country through which the line is to be reconstructed a forest jungle, it is estimated that the cost of maintenance will not be less than Rupees 20 per mile per annum, or for the 214 miles Rupees 4,280.

12. If it is decided that the line is to be reconstructed at the cost of this department, a special grant will be required, as funds are not provided in the budget estimate of this department for 1874-75 for this work.

No. 580.

ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1874, No. 1,432A.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 56.

ORDERED that the Government of India be informed that having in view the large outlay necessary for the reconstruction and maintenance of the telegraph line from Kotaree to Dumagudium the Madras Government are unable to accept the line on the terms proposed.
(Here enter No. 1,432B, dated 29th May 1874.)
(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Godavery.
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exl. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND, 29th May 1874.

No. 581.

No. 1,432B.

From

COLONEL G.W. WALKER, R.E.,

Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Public Works Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

Public Works Department.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 57.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 237 T, dated 15th April 1874, forwarding copy of a letter from the Director-General of Telegraphs stating that the cost of reconstructing the line of telegraph from Kotaree to Dumagudium will be Rupees 46,764, and inquiring whether the Madras Government are willing to assign money for its construction and maintenance from the irrigation grant of the Presidency. In reply I am to state that His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable under the terms proposed to accept the line of telegraph.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

communications
to be addressed
to Secretary.

No. 234 T.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

TELEGRAPH.

The Secy. to the Govt. of Madras
Public Works Department
Fort William 15th April 1844

Sir,

In continuation of endorsement
No 88 of the 11th February last, I am
directed to forward for your
accompanying copy of a letter from the
Dir. Genl. of Telegraphs, stating that the
cost of reconstructing the line of telegraph
from Rotaree to Dimgudium will be
Rs 46,764 and to enquire if the Govt.
of Madras attach sufficient importance
to the work to assign money for its construction
and maintenance from the Ordinary Budget
Grant allotted to the Madras Presidency.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant
Wm. R. P. M. R.

Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Madras

No 523 of 23rd ultimo

Public Works Department
 Proceedings of the Madras Government.

From Secy. of India (H.E. No 237 J. 97/15 April 1874)

Ordered that the Government of India be informed that having in view the large outlay necessary for the reconstruction and maintenance of the Telegraph line from ~~Trivandrum~~ Kottar to ~~Trivandrum~~ Madras the Madras Govt. are unable to accept the line on the terms proposed.

MD
 24/4

To The Secy. of India
 Ch. Engr. for Govt.
 S. Copies despatched to Secy. 4/6/74.

To The Secretary to the
 Govt. of India

~~Accepted by Secy. of India~~
~~Principal Secretary 4/6/74~~

From
 The Secy. of India

Dated 15th April 1874.
 Received 23rd April 1874.

No. 237. 21.

H.L.

Receiving
 information relative
 to the proposed con-
 struction of the
 line of telegraph from
 Kottar to Trivandrum
 over the proposed
 route from
 the railway bridge
 south of the station
 Secy. of India

C.O. No. 1432 A. 23-5-74.

C.O. No. 1432 A. 23-5-74.

Sir
I am directed to
acknowledge the receipt
of your letter N. 237

dated 15th April 1874 for
warding copy of a letter
from the Director General
of Telegraphs stating
that the cost of reconstruct-
ing the line of Telegraph
from Holaree to Brumqu-
been will be Rs. 46764
and enquiring whether
the Madras Government
are willing to assign mo-
ney for its construction
and maintenance from
the Irrigation grant of
the

the Presidency. In reply
I am to state that His
Excellency the Governor
in Council is unable
under the terms ^{proposed} to accept
the line of telegraph.
C. M. W.

26

Sd. Capt. de P. 24/6/74.

10/10/74

579-581.

Cir 28 April 1874.
Dt 12/1/74

2433 / 7
Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The Dir. Sup. Railway
Secy. to Govt. of India.

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 1.

G. O. 29 May 1874. No. 1432 A
1432 B

Nos. 579-581.

Stating that the Marine
Govts. are unable to accept
the terms proposed for
the reconstruction of the
line of Telegraph from
Kotance to Dumagoodum —

Telegraph line between
Kotany and Dumagoodum

Ordered that the
Government of India be
addressed on the
subject of the reconstruction
and maintenance of the
Telegraph Line