M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

(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.	1534	Press
~~B.P. No.~~ 188-189.	(Rly)	~~Mis.~~
Dated	11-6-1874	~~195~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 188. Read the following endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 12th May 1874, No. 280 :—

From R. B. ELWIN, Esq., Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 11th May 1874, No. 402.

WITH reference to your letter No. 419, of the 8th instant, and to the Proceedings* of Government forwarded herewith, I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to explain to His Excellency the Governor in Council how I personally am situated with regard to the accidents at the Cheyaur Bridge and the Raichore Station.

* G. O., No. 1,071, 27th April 1874.

2. Both of these accidents occurred during the month of August 1873, at which time I was in Europe on furlough, and upon my return to duty, nearly four months after, I found that the accident at Raichore had already been disposed of by the Acting Agent and Manager.

3. With regard to the accident at the Cheyaur Bridge, to which the order passed by the Government principally refers, it appears to me that after so long a period had elapsed since the occurrence of the accident, I could scarcely do more than direct the attention of the Locomotive Superintendent to the opinion that had been expressed by the Head Assistant Magistrate of Cuddapah as to the conduct of the engine driver; Mr. W. Barton Wright, the Locomotive Superintendent, being the officer who had acted as Agent and Manager during my absence. He is now absent on sick leave himself, but I am led to believe that throughout the inquiry he held a very decided opinion that no blame could be attached to the engine driver in this matter, and no punishment was therefore inflicted upon the driver.

4. There can be no doubt that the miscarriage of justice in this case must be attributed to the fact that a thorough investigation was not made immediately the occurrence was reported, though, as far as I have been able to judge, there is no doubt that the evidence was, as reported, most conflicting.

5. I exceedingly regret the whole of the circumstances, but I trust that His Excellency the Governor in Council will now allow the matter to rest. I believe that the system by which it is proposed to make inquiry into all future cases of serious accidents will have the effect of insuring immediate inquiry and prompt action in all such cases.

SUBMITTED for the consideration of Government with reference to their Order No. 1,071, dated the 27th April 1874.

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

No. 189. ORDER THEREON, 11th June 1874, No. 1,534.

RAILWAY, No. 28.

His Excellency the Governor in Council will, as requested by the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway,

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th June 1874.

allow the matters alluded to in his letter to rest, in the hopes that the notice already taken of them will lead to prompt performance of their respective duties by all the members of the proposed Committee for investigation of future Railway accidents.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
" Public Department.
" Judicial do.

No. 402.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

AGENT AND MANAGER'S OFFICE.

Madras, 11th May 1874.

From

Robt. B. Elwin Esq.

Agent and Manager.

To

Lieut-Colonel J. Wm. Shaw Stewart R.E.

Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Sir,

With reference to your letter № 419 of the 8th instant and to G.O. № 1071 the Proceedings of Government forwarded 27th April 1874. Herewith I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to explain to His Excellency the Governor in Council how I, personally, am actuated with regard to the accidents at the Cheyaur Bridge and the Raichore Station.

2. Both of these accidents occurred during the month of August 1873 at which time I was in Europe on Furlough, and upon my return to duty nearly four months after I found that the accident at Raichore had already been disposed of by the

Acting Agent and Manager.

3. With regard to the accident at the Cheyam Bridge to which the Order passed by the Government principally refers, it appears to me that after so long a period had elapsed since the occurrence of the accident I could scarcely do more than direct the attention of the Locomotive Superintendent to the opinion that had been expressed by the Head Assistant Magistrate of Cuddapah as to the conduct of the Engine Driver, W. H. Barton Wright, the Locomotive Superintendent, being the Officer who had acted as Agent and a Manager during my absence He is now absent on sick leave himself, but I am led to believe that throughout the inquiry he held a very decided opinion that no blame could be attached to the Engine Driver in this matter, and no punishment was therefore inflicted upon the Driver.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager.

To

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways.

Dated 187

Recd. "

No.

4. There can be no doubt that the miscarriage of justice in this case must be attributed to the fact that a thorough investigation was not made immediately the occurrence was reported, though as far as I have been able to judge, there is no doubt that the evidence was, as reported, most conflicting.

5. I respectfully request the whole of the circumstances, but I trust that His Excellency the Governor in Council will now allow the matter to rest. I believe that the system by which it is proposed to make inquiry into all future cases of serious accidents will have the effect of ensuring immediate inquiry and prompt action in all such cases.

I have the honour to be,
Sir
Your most obed[t] Servant
W. Thomas
Agent and Manager.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager.

To

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways

Dated 11th May 1874.
Rec'd 12th " "

No. 402.

Regarding the Resident's Petitions
at the Colgairs, Thigo
and the Kairees Station.

Rly. Office
12th May 1874.

Submitted for the consideration of Government, with reference to their Order № 1071, dated the 27th April, 1874.

Madras
12th May 1874.

Lieut. R.E.
Cons. Engineer for Railways.

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George.

№ 280

2855

Govt. of [1874] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To Mr Secy. to Govt. P.W.D.

Dated

Recd. Encl. 4

from Genl. Officer June 1874. No. 134

Nos. 188-189.

Accidents. Madras Railway

Stating that Govt will allow the matters connected with the accidents in shunting at the Chegaun Bridge & Raichore Station to rest in the hope that the notice already taken of them will lead to prompt her measures & their respective

duties by all the members of the proposed Committee for investigation of future Railway accidents —

1874 Dept. No: 2855.

From Lieut Col J. H. M. Shaw Secretary &c. Loans Insp. for Rys

To The Secretary to Govt. P.W. dept Fort St George

Dated 12th May 1874
Rec'd 13 May 1874
No 280. Encls. 1.

Submitting explanation from the Agent Madras Ry with regard to the accidents that occurred at the Chegaun Bridge and Raichore station

Pett order

Ry Dept. Proceedings of the Government with enquiry to Report and Memorandum of the Agent Madras Railway Company relative to the accidents which occurred on the Bridge at Chegaun and at the Station at Raichore

Ry Dept. Proceedings of the Government with enquiry to Report and Memorandum of the Agent Madras Railway Company relative to the accidents which occurred on the Bridge at Chegaun and at the Station at Raichore

1874

Committee appointed to investigate the accidents on the Madras Railway

188-189

Accidents Madras Railway 22/6/74