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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. *2194-95* Press
B.P. No. _____ Misr

Dated *10* . *8* . 195*3*
18/4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th August 1874.*

No. 186. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 20th July 1874, No. 423:—

In reply to the Order of Government, dated the 8th June 1874, No. 1,507,
From Agent, Madras Railway, 17th July 1874, No. 624. I have the honor to enclose letters, as per margin, from the Agents of the Madras and the Great Southern of India Railways, upon the subject of the coloring of Railway signals in India.

2. I agree with the Railway Authorities in the opinion that red is the most suitable color that can be used for the purpose.

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, 17th July 1874, No. 624.

With reference to your letter, No. 549, of the 15th ultimo, and to the Order* of Government forwarded therewith, I have the honor to state that the arms of Semaphore signals on this line

* No. 1,507, 8th June 1874.
are marked with a black or white vertical bar, the object being to make the signal more conspicuous than a perfectly plain arm would be.

2. Care is also taken, as you are aware, to have the mast of the signal so placed as to be quite discernible from approaching trains, and in this way I believe that we secure all that is required, viz., a distinct signal.

3. With respect to the color used for the danger signal, I beg to point out that if any alteration were made in the day signal, a corresponding change would have to be made in the night signal, and there can, I think, be no doubt that a red light at night is the most conspicuous signal that could be used.

4. The Officers of this Company are of opinion that if a good quality of paint is used, red is the best color, next to white, that can be adopted for day signalling also, and I, therefore, do not advocate any change in the present custom, especially (as was pointed out in my letter to your office, No. 637, of the 12th of November 1870,) as such a course would be an infringement of what is the universal railway rule both in England and in this country.

From W. S. BETTS, Esq., Agent of the Great Southern of India Railway, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 25th June 1874, No. 5,587.

Your letter No. 286 of the 15th instant. Major White doubts the advisability of painting with red color that side of the arm of a Semaphore signal which has to be used to designate danger, but he does not suggest the adoption of any other color. I have consulted with the Officers of this Company, and I concur with them in preferring the continuance of the red color, as a sign of danger, both by day and night. It is considered that no more conspicuous color than a bright red can be adopted to be generally useful, and that it would be impolitic to vary the color according to the nature of the back ground.

2. In difficult positions like that described by Major White, when at a distance of about 400 yards or even less, the position of the signal arm cannot easily be decided, it would be well to try the effect of a couple of white stripes (either vertically or diagonally) across the red arm.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th August 1874.

No. 187.

ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1874, No. 2,104.

RAILWAY, No. 30.

ORDERED that these papers be forwarded to the Government of India, with reference to their docket, No. 1,031-R., dated 13th May 1874.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 188.

(DOCKET No. 2,195, dated 10th August 1874.)
Copy of the above forwarded to the Government of India.
(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 624.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

AGENT AND MANAGER'S OFFICE.

Madras, 17th July 1874.

From

R. D. Olwin Esq.,
Agent and Manager of the M.R.C.

To

Lieut Col. J. H. Shaw Stewart P.E.
Consulting Engineer for Railways.

SIR,

With reference to your letter
No. 549 of the 15th ultimo and to the Order
of Government forwarded therewith
I have the honour to state that
the arms of Semaphore signals on
this line are marked with a black
or white vertical bar, the object
being to make the signal more
conspicuous than a perfectly
plain arm would be.

2. Care is also taken as
you are aware to have the mast
of the signal so placed as to be
quite discernible from approach-
ing trains, and in this way
I believe that we secure all
that is required, viz:- a
distinct signal.

3. With respect to the
Colours used for the danger signal

Exd. E. C. Shaker.

Spare Copies

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I beg to point out that if any alteration were made in the Day Signal a Corresponding change would have to be made in the night signal, and there can I think be no doubt that a red light at night is the most conspicuous signal that could be used.

4. The Officers of this Company are of opinion that if a good quality of paint is used, red is the best Colour, next to white, that can be adopted for day signalling also, and I therefore do not advocate any change in the present custom, especially, (as was pointed out in my letter to your office of 637 of the 12th of November 1870) as such a course would be an infringement of what is the universal Railway Rule both in England and in this Country.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
your most obedient servant

W. J. K. W. H.
Agent and Manager

Railway Department.

CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

No. 423

From

LIEUT.-COLONEL J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, R.E.,

Consulting Engineer for Railways,

To

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

Secretary to Government,

Public Works Department,

Fort Saint George.

SIR,

In reply to the Order of Government dated the 8th June 1874, No. 1507, I have the honour to enclose letters, as per margin, from the Agents of the Madras and the Great Southern of India Railways, upon the subject of the colouring of Railway signals in India.

2. I agree with the Railway Authorities in the opinion that red is the most suitable colour that can be used for the purpose.

I have the honour to be

your most obedient servant

Wm. Stewart

Cons. Engineer for Railways

Madras
20th July 1874
R.E.

From Agent Madras Railway 17th July 1874 No. 624.
G.O. of S. 25th June 1874 No. 557.

MADRAS RAILWAY.

From

The Agent and Manager,

The Consulting Engineer

for Railways.

Recd

18th July

1874

No. 624.

Regarding the working of semaphore signals.

+ O. G. H. 4497/74

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From

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways,

To

The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Department,
Fort Saint George.

Dated 29th Dec 1874

Recd. 7/17

401

No. 423

Johnston, John

from the report of his

J. Goodrich & Son

Confessing Just Man

Mr. Andrew O. Safford

Geoffrey Brown

Dear Sir,

100

12/1/20