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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## Government of Madras

*public works* DEPARTMENT

|          |           |       |
|----------|-----------|-------|
| G.O. No. | 984       | Press |
| B.P. No. | 165-8166  | Mis.  |
| Dated,   | 15-4-1874 | 1957. |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
15th April 1874.*

No. 165. Read the following Endorsement of the Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, No. 153-71 T:—

From Colonel C. H. DICKENS, R.A., Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Telegraph,) to the Director-General of Telegraphs in India, dated Fort William, 12th March 1874, No. 151-T.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 311, dated 21st October last, soliciting the orders of the Government of India as to the course which should be adopted by Officers of the Telegraph Department when called upon to produce telegrams in Courts of Justice.

2. In reply, I am to state that the following procedure should be followed:—

1st.—Where such requisitions are received, a reference should always be made to Government or Chief administering authorities of the Province, if there is time to do so, and the Court sending the requisition would ordinarily grant time for the reference.

2nd.—If there be no time for this reference, and the Telegraph officials think the production of the telegram unobjectionable on public grounds, it may be produced. If they see any objection, an official of the Department should attend with the message and state the objection. If the telegram concerns *public affairs*, it should not in any case be disclosed without an order from Government.

3. It must be understood that the foregoing procedure is to be made applicable only in the case of the particular message or messages specified in the requisition, and that no order to search for a message, or inspect the records, should be obeyed without the consent of Government.

No. 152 T.

COPY forwarded to the Home Department for information, with reference to its Memorandum No. 294, dated 20th ultimo.

COPY forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

(Signed) G. T. SKIPWITH, Captain, R.E.,  
*Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 166. ORDER THEREON, 15th April 1874, No. 984.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 21.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

*To the Public and Septs  
" Rev Septs  
" Milly Septs*

Exd. S. T. Austin.  
Spare Copies

## TELEGRAPH.

To

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELEGRAPHS  
IN INDIA.

No. 151 T.

*Dated March 12, 1874.*

Received — 23 —

|                             |                           |         |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
|                             |                           |         |
| " The Public Health Officer |                           |         |
| " "                         | " "                       |         |
| " City                      | " "                       |         |
|                             | " "                       |         |
|                             | Assigned Copy sent to all | 29/4/74 |
|                             | Wk. Copies " "            | 30/4/74 |

2572

Living

984  
Ordered to be recorded.

*Communicates the procedure to be followed with reference to the production of telegrams in Courts of Justice.*

P. W. D. Press.—12.3.74—220.

165-166.

1707  
Pro. for April  
Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 15<sup>th</sup> April 1874, No.

784

Nos. 165 & 166.

Telegrams -

Proceedings of the  
Government of India  
relative to the procedure  
to be followed with re-  
ference to the production  
of telegrams in Courts  
of Justice, record of-