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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

B.P. No.

Press

Mis.

Dated

1800
2-7-1955

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd July 1875.*

No. 57. Read the following docket of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Telegraph,) dated Simla, 3rd June 1875, No. 243 T.:—

COPY of the following, together with copy of Director-General of Telegraphs' letter, No. 39, dated 12th ultimo, forwarded to the Government of Madras in continuation of Public Works Department, No. 201 T., of 7th May 1875.

By order,
(Signed) G. T. SKIPWITH, Captain, R.E.,
Asstt. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to the Director-General of Telegraphs, dated Simla, 3rd June 1875, No. 242 T.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, Nos. 39 and 40, dated the 12th ultimo, regarding the erection of telegraph lines along the extensions of the South Indian Railway, and in reply to say that the Governor-General in Council, bearing in mind the repeated requests of the Government of Madras for their permanent erection, sees no reason for deferring the construction of the new lines until the terms of payment for maintenance have been formally settled. Moreover, it is not considered desirable that the traffic on that section of railway which will shortly be opened should be dependant on a single wire carried by temporary posts.

2. The Governor-General in Council desires therefore that the new line of telegraph on the southern extension of the South Indian Railway from Trichinopoly to Tuticorin and Tinnevely should be erected without further delay.

3. If the Company demurs, as apparently it does, to pay a fixed sum by way of contract for maintenance, it should be charged the *actual cost*, as already laid down in paragraph 3 of Public Works Department, No. 53 T., of the 25th January last, subject, unless you see any grave objection thereto, to a *maximum* of Rupees 10-8-0 per mile, as in the case of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company.

4. As regards the line from Tindivanam to Cuddalore, its commencement may be deferred until you receive further instructions.

From the Director-General of Telegraphs in India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 12th May 1875, No. 39.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 200 T., of the 7th May, forwarding an extract from a letter from the Government of Madras regarding the non-commencement of the new lines of telegraph along the South Indian Railway.

2. The orders of the Government of India, conveyed in Public Works Department, No. 53 T., dated 25th January, to which you direct my attention, have not been overlooked, though I fear, from the tone of your present communication, that they must have been misinterpreted. As required by the first paragraph of that letter, preliminary arrangements for the immediate construction of the new lines were at once made, but before commencing operations it was considered essential to arrive at an agreement with the Railway Company as to the conditions of payment. This course was followed in the case of the Oudh and Rohilund Railway, and appeared to be clearly indicated by the 3rd paragraph of the letter in question, in which you laid down the principle to be followed as regards the payments to be made by the Company for the use of the wires.

3. I beg respectfully to point out that the explanation submitted in my letter, No. 16, dated 20th April, was not intended to refer merely to the non-conclusion of an agreement with the Railway Company for the transfer of their existing line of telegraph, but also to place before Government the reason for the non-erection of the new lines.

4. The reason for the delay is, briefly, that the Agent of the Railway Company declined to accept the terms for rent and maintenance, based on a fair division of expenditure, which under

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd July 1875.

paragraph 3 of your letter, No. 53 T., were demanded by this department. It appeared, therefore, that if the lines were erected before the rates to be charged for them had been definitively settled, the Company would be in a position to dictate its own terms hereafter, and that a grave responsibility would be incurred if this course were adopted without the express sanction of the Government of India.

5. From the correspondence already submitted, it will be seen that our demand was equitable, and that any lesser rate would result in loss. All we asked for was a fair share of the cost of the lines calculated in the same way as are our charges for the Oudh and Rohilcund Railway Telegraph, and the resulting rates are no higher than the fair charges for interest and depreciation on the capital cost, which the Agent expects to be paid for the Company's existing line.

6. Further, I beg to point out that on the southern extension from Trichinopoly the Railway have already the use of one insulated wire on temporary posts, while on the section from Madras, via Tindevanum south to Tanjore, there is no probability of traffic for a very considerable time, although undoubtedly the telegraph is wished for as a matter of convenience by the Engineers.

7. With this explanation I have the honor to inquire if it be the wish of the Government of India that the construction of the lines should at once be undertaken before the terms on which the work is executed are settled or agreed upon, notwithstanding the more than possible loss this department will have to sustain from the Agent being in a position to dictate his own terms, it being understood that the only terms he is willing to agree to are more than 20 per cent. less than actual cost.

No. 58.

ORDER THEREON, 2nd July 1875, No. 1,860.

RAILWAY, No. 8.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting
Engineer for Railways in continuation of
G.O., No. 1,528, dated 1st June 1875.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,

Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways

Ed. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

N^o 39.

From

The Director General of Telegraphs in India

To

The Secretary to the Government of India
Public Works Department.

Dated 12th May 1875.

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98 2 July 75
ME/186

56/17500-1071

Handwritten notes on lined paper, including a large section of text on the right side and a smaller section on the left side.

4015-Sept 1894 No 320-322
 - 50- " " " 593-595
 - 1st Decr " " 16-18
 - 21st " " " 457-459
 - 15- Decr " " 291-293
 - 15- Feb 1895 " 358-359
 - 31st March " " 654-656
 - 1st June " " 16-17

P. S. Evans

Mr. J. P. Smith
 No 520-521-13-7
 2. 7-75

Recd 17/4/95
 Recd 26/4/95
 R. L. Shurt 10 June

Communicated to the Com. Engineer
 for Railways in connection of
 G.O. No 1526 dt 1/10 June 1895

Mr. 1895 Sept
 No. 3894
 From The Fort of India

Dated 3rd June 1895
 Recd. 12 June —
 No 2437. In/

Forwarding copy of
 Correspondence between
 Director General of Tele-
 graphs and The Fort of
 India on the subject of
 the erection of new lines
 of Telegraph along the
 Extension of the South
 Indian Railway.

With order

3894 ✓

GOVT. OF INDIA
PUBLIC WORKS.

Mr. Cresswell

27th July 1860

No. 57. 58.

Erection of new lines of
Telegraph along the ex-
tensions of the South Indian
Railway. — Letter from the
Government of India, forwarding
copy of correspondence between
the Director General of Telegraphs
and themselves on the subject
of the —, communicated
to the Consulting Engineer.