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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3076	Press	<i>Original</i>
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis~~	
Dated	30. 10 .	195	
		1875	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th October 1875.*

No 510. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Railway,) dated Simla, 9th October 1875, No. 21 R. —

Standard maund for Indian Railways

Read again—

From Home Department, to the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Railways, No 1,221, dated 17th November 1854

From Home Department, to Governments of Madras and Bombay, Nos 1,202—3, dated 17th November 1854

Read also—

From Consulting Engineer at Calcutta, No 857, 17th April 1872

" " " at " " 1,189, 8th June "

Public Works Department, Nos 1,516—20 G—R, dated 21st September 1872, to Governments of Madras and Bombay, and Consulting Engineers at Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow

From Consulting Engineer at Calcutta, No 2,048, dated 3rd October 1872

To " " at " " 1,609 G—R, dated 9th October 1872

From Government of Bombay, No 1,133, dated 30th September 1872

" Consulting Engineer at Lahore, No 2,385, dated 17th October 1872.

" Government of Madras, No 2,797, dated 23rd November 1872

" Consulting Engineer at Calcutta, No 2,311, dated 16th December 1872

" " " at Lucknow, " 2,370, " 19th " "

" " " at Calcutta, " 2,009, " 13th August 1873

OBSERVATIONS—Complaints having been received of the inconvenience resulting in the settlement of through traffic accounts owing to the different modes of calculating weight in force on the several Railways, the Government of India requested the Local Governments and officers in control of Railways to state the precise value in English pounds of the maund in use on the several lines.

2 The replies received show that, except on the Carnatic, Eastern Bengal, Calcutta and South-Eastern, and Punjab and Delhi Railways, the authorized standard maund, equal approximately to 82½ (82 285) lbs, is in use. On the Carnatic Railway the maund is equal to 82 lbs, and the Eastern Bengal, Calcutta and South-Eastern and Punjab and Delhi Railways, to 80 lbs. On the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, however, the ton is calculated at 27 standard maunds.

3. The question of the standard weights for Railway transactions was raised in 1854, and orders were then issued that the standard Indian maund of 40 seers of 80 talahs weight to each seer equivalent as above stated to 82½ lbs, approximately, should be the prescribed weight for all Railway transactions. This gives 27 222 maunds or nearly 27 maunds 8 seers and 14 22 chittacks as the equivalent of 1 ton.

4 The inconveniences arising from the use of varying weights under one name are sufficiently obvious, and it was to prevent these inconveniences that the above-quoted orders were issued at the commencement of the working of Indian Railways.

5. The Government of India desire to draw the attention of all authorities concerned to those instructions, which should be strictly followed in future both on Guaranteed and State Railways.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th October 1875.*

ORDER—Ordered, that this Resolution, with a copy of Home Department, No 1,221, dated the 17th November 1854, to the address of the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, be forwarded to the Governments and Officers noted in the margin, for information and guidance.

All Local Governments and Administrations
Direct or of State Railways
Consulting Engineer, Calcutta.
" " Lahore
" " Lucknow.

(Signed) C H DICKENS, Colonel, R A,
Secretary to the Govt of India.

From W GREY, Esq, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, Railway Department, dated 17th November 1854, No 1,221

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 30th ultimo submitting a letter from the Agent to the East India Railway Company, No 1,956, dated the 28th idem, with enclosure, and communicating your opinion on the question whether English or Indian weights should be made use of in the tariff of charges for conveying goods by the Railway

2 The Most Noble the Governor-General in Council is unable to concur with you in your recommendation that English weights should be employed on the Railway His Lordship in Council thinks that such a regulation would be practically very inconvenient

3 The analogy with the practice at the shipping ports on which you lay stress does not seem to His Lordship in Council to hold good English weights may reasonably be used at the ports, because they are the weights in which a very large portion of the goods are shipped, and because the use of strange weights is thus confined to a very few spots. But the Railway will penetrate the interior of the country, and it appears to the Governor-General in Council that it should not be required to carry on all its dealing with the interior in weights of which the natives have never heard

4 His Lordship in Council conceives that the Railway weights should be in the standard "Indian mun" or maund, for the same reason that the Railway payments are to be in the standard Indian currency, the Company's Rupee, and he believes that the introduction of the ton into the transactions of the interior would be as inconvenient as the currency of the English shilling or the use of the Russian pood

5 The Governor-General in Council cannot admit that there is much force in the objection founded on the variableness of the maund. The maund no doubt varies, but so does the rupee. And His Lordship in Council can see no more difficulty in ensuring an invariable weight for quantities by using the standard Indian maund, than in ensuring an invariable measure for payments by employing the Company's standard rupee.

6 For these reasons the Most Noble the Governor-General in Council has been pleased to determine that the Indian maund of 40 seers or 80 tola weight to each shall be the prescribed weight for all Railway transactions. You are accordingly requested to take the necessary steps for giving effect to this decision

7 A communication on the subject will be made to the Governments of Bombay, and Madras

No 511

ORDER THEREON, 30th October 1875, No. 3,076

RAILWAY, No 49

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for the guidance of the Railway authorities

(True Extract)

Major-General, R E,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways
" Examiner of Railway Accounts
Exd S T Austin
Spere Copies

CP 11. Oct 1872 No 184.
28th Nov. 458-460

PU 1875 Sep
No 6965

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

RAILWAY

To

CIRCULAR No 21 RAILWAY.

Dated SIMLA, October 9, 1875.

Received 29th

30th Oct 1875
No 3076

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for the guidance of the Railway authorities.

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Standard maund for Indian Railways

11-7-16

11-7-16
4-5-17

Govt. of India

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Genl. Secy. for
P.W.

Date

From

Per

ED

C. O. 30th Dec. 30/16

NO. 510-5-11

Standard Gauge for Indian
Railways - Circular of Govt.
of India, regarding the
Communicated to the Comptroller
Engineers for P.W. -