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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Publications

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3079	Press
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Dated	18-11	18 76
		195-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 296. Read the following endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 13th November 1876, No. 555 :—

From W. S. BETTS, Esq., Agent, South Indian Railway, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Negapatam, 11th November 1876, No. 2,461.

YOUR letter No. 1,221 of the 9th instant. On the 14th September last I informed you that the Locomotive Superintendent had reported to me his stock of broad gauge engines was insufficient to enable him to effect the necessary repairs to keep them in running order and to work them as well; and I asked for the sanction of Government to my hiring of the Madras Railway Company the only three engines they could part with.

2. Sanction was accorded, but the engines had scarcely arrived and been set to work when the grain traffic, consequent upon the scarcity in Mysore, suddenly increased, and those engines which it had been intended to take into the workshops for repair had to be kept running to clear off the trucks to Erode. Application was made to other Companies for the loan of engines but without success; our own broad gauge engines were constantly failing and the consignments of grain continued to pour in. On the 24th ultimo we had upwards of 300 truck loads of goods waiting to be worked off, and I considered it advisable to refuse receiving more consignments of grain until the stations had been cleared of the quantity on hand.

3. On the 3rd instant this number had been reduced only to 217, and there was no prospect of our being able to increase the average daily working number, but there was every probability of the average being decreased by the engines growing worse daily for the want of repair. On this account I recommended the temporary withdrawal of Nos. 7 and 10 trains from the passenger service.

4. I need hardly say that the prompt delivery of grain into the famine district is of great importance to the grain merchants, and that the Company would be liable for the payment of heavy claims for undue detention if the bags were kept for many days at Trichinopoly waiting to be worked off.

SUBMITTED to Government.

2. The Agent of the South Indian Railway telegraphed as follows on the 3rd instant :—"Recommend 7 and 10 cease carrying passenger traffic. Manager fears their discomfort. Station blocked with grain. Telegraph sanction." It was with some reluctance that the required sanction was communicated by telegram.

3. The accompanying letter explains the grounds upon which so extreme a measure as that proposed had been recommended.

4. The Agent has been requested to restore the passenger service now under abeyance at the first possible opportunity.

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW-STEWART, Lt.-Col., R.E.,

Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th November 1876. No. 3,079.

No. 297. ORDER THEREON, 18th November 1876, No. 3,079.

RAILWAY, No. 46.

It is to be regretted that this extreme measure has had to be resorted to. A further report should be called for as to present state of traffic, showing also number of trucks despatched either way daily on the Erode and Trichinopoly line, and the consignments received since 24th instant when consignments were refused.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Consulting Engineer's Office,
Madras, 13 November 1876.

No. 555

SUBMITTED

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Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

By

G. O., 1876, No. 2079

Dec. 29/97

Trans. S & P.

Passing orders on ~~letter~~
Endorsement of the ~~for~~ ~~order~~
for the submitting letter
from the Agent requesting
for reasons stated the
temporary withdrawal
of Nos 7 & 10 Trans from
the Passenger Service