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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	586	<i>Ry</i>	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	4.3.		1876.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th March 1876.*

No. 47. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Railway,) dated Fort William, 22nd February 1876, No. 542—6 R:—

Eastern Bengal Railway.—Incidence of cost of labor for shifting, relaying, and extending the river-side lines of the terminus at Goulundo.

Read again—

To Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta No. 2,068 R., of 17th August 1875.

To Secretary of State, No. 105 R., of 17th August 1875.

Read also—

From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India, dated 13th January 1876, No. 8.

Your despatch of the 17th August last, No. 105, relates to the incidence of expenditure incurred in shifting, relaying, and extending the river-side lines of the Eastern Bengal Railway terminus at Goalundo. The work more particularly referred to appears to be the extension of the east face siding, and your Excellency, while willing to allow the material used on the extension to be charged to Capital, was of opinion that the cost of labor engaged on the work was properly a Revenue charge. The Company, on the other hand, contended that, under the ruling of the 8th paragraph of Sir Charles Wood's despatch of the 9th March 1864 (No. 17), the whole cost of the work, including labor, was chargeable to Capital.

2. After carefully considering the matter in Council, I came to the conclusion that, in the peculiar circumstances of the locality on which the terminus is established, the frequent shifting of rails is apparently inevitable, and that, as the sidings may consequently be of greater or less extent according to the movement of the river, the cost of labor employed in these shiftings, whether the operation involves an extension or a contraction of previously existing sidings, is, as your Excellency's Government had considered, properly a Revenue charge. I caused the Board to be informed accordingly.

3. I have now received a reply from the Directors, in which they state that, with the additional information before them, they are prepared to acquiesce in this view of the case if it be intended to apply to sidings only; but that, if it should become necessary to extend the line of railway itself, or to change its direction in consequence of encroachments of the river, or from any other cause, the cost of such extension, or change of direction, must be held to be a Capital charge.

4. This question will be decided, in pursuance of paragraph 11 of Sir C. Wood's despatch, according to the circumstances of the case, when the contingency on which it depends arises.

* Letter to Eastern Bengal Railway Company, dated 24th November 1875.
Do. from do., No. 1,337, dated 17th December 1875.

5. A copy of the correspondence* with the Board is enclosed herewith for information.

From Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, Under Secretary of State for India, to the Secretary, London Board, Eastern Bengal Railway Company, dated 24th November 1875.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch,* with enclosures, from the Government of India,

* Railway, No. 105, dated 7th August 1875.
relative to the incidence of expenditure incurred in shifting, relaying, and extending the river-side lines at Goalundo.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th March 1876.*

The expenditure to which the papers more particularly relate would appear to be that incurred in extending the east face siding which was sanctioned by Resolution, No. 147, passed at an official meeting, the date of which is not given, and Government, while ready to allow the cost of the material used on the extended siding to be charged to Capital, are of opinion that the cost of labor engaged on the work is properly a Revenue charge. The Board, however, relying on the ruling of the 8th paragraph of Sir Charles Wood's despatch of the 9th March 1864, considered that the whole cost of the extension is chargeable to Capital.

I am now instructed to acquaint you that the Marquis of Salisbury, having given the matter his careful consideration in Council, has come to the conclusion that the so-called extension is not a work of the class contemplated as properly chargeable against Capital under Sir Charles Wood's despatch. In the peculiar circumstances of the locality on which the terminus at Goalundo is established, the frequent shifting of rails is apparently inevitable, and the sidings may consequently be of greater or less extent at different times, according to the movement of the river, and His Lordship is of opinion that the cost of labor employed in these shiftings, whether the operation involves an extension or contraction of previously existing sidings, is properly a Revenue charge, a view in which he trusts the Board will, upon reconsideration, be disposed to acquiesce.

From E. H. SMITH, Esq., Secretary, London Board Railway, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 17th December 1875, No. 1,337.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Lord George Hamilton's letter of the 24th ultimo, with enclosures, acquainting the Board that the Marquis of Salisbury has come to the conclusion that an extension of sidings at Goalundo, which the Board had considered chargeable to Capital, in accordance with Sir Charles Wood's despatch of the 9th March 1864, was not a work of the class contemplated as properly so chargeable under that despatch, and that His Lordship is of opinion that the labor employed in the shiftings of rails, whether the operation involves an extension or a contraction of previously existing sidings, is properly a Revenue charge.

The Board have accordingly again taken the matter into consideration, and, in doing so, they have been aided by the explanations afforded by the letter under reply and its enclosures, especially the letter, No. 1,940, dated the 21st July 1875, from the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, forwarding to the Secretary of the Government of India the paragraph of the Board's letter, No. 521, in which their previous opinion is expressed.

With the additional information now before them, the Board are prepared to acquiesce in the view taken by the Secretary of State, if that view be intended to apply to sidings only; but in the event of its becoming necessary actually to extend the line of railway itself, or to change its direction in consequence of encroachments of the river, or from any other cause, the cost of such extension or change of direction must be held to be a Capital charge.

ORDER.—Ordered that this despatch be communicated to the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta for information and guidance, in continuation of Public Works Department, No. 2,068 B., dated 17th August 1875.

Ordered also that the despatch be communicated to the Governments of Madras and Bombay in the Public Works Department (Railway), and to the Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Lahore and Lucknow for information.

(Signed) H. DRUMMOND, Colonel, R.E.,
Deputy Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th March 1876.*

No. 48.

ORDER THEREON, 4th March 1876, No. 586.

RAILWAY, No. 5.

COMMUNICATED to the Consulting
Engineer for Railways and to the Examiner
of Railway Accounts for information.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Examiner of Railway Accounts.

Ed. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

All communications
should be addressed
to the Secretary.

No. 542—6 R.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY.

Fort William, February 22, 1876.

Eastern Bengal Railway.—Incidence of cost of labor for shifting, relaying and extending the river-side lines of the terminus at Goalundo.

Read again—

To Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways at Calcutta, No. 2068R, of 17th August 1875.

To Secretary of State, No. 105 R of 17th August 1875.

Read also—

No. 8, dated 13th January 1876.

From—The Secretary of State for India,

To—The Government of India.

Your Despatch of the 17th August last, No. 105, relates to the incidence of expenditure incurred in shifting, relaying, and extending the river-side lines of the Eastern Bengal Railway terminus at Goalundo. The work more particularly referred to appears to be the extension of the east face siding, and your Excellency, while willing to allow the material used on the extension to be charged to Capital, was of opinion that the cost of labor engaged on the work was properly a Revenue charge. The Company, on the other hand, contended that, under the ruling of the 8th paragraph of Sir Charles Wood's Despatch of the 9th March 1864 (No. 17), the whole cost of the work, including labor, was chargeable to Capital.

2. After carefully considering the matter in Council, I came to the conclusion that, in the peculiar circumstances of the locality on which the terminus is established, the frequent shifting of rails is apparently inevitable, and that, as the sidings may consequently be of greater or less extent according to the movement of the river, the cost of labor employed in these shiftings, whether the operation involves an extension or a contraction of previously existing sidings, is, as your Excellency's Government had considered, properly a Revenue charge. I caused the Board to be informed accordingly.

3. I have now received a reply from the Directors, in which they state that, with the additional information before them, they are prepared to acquiesce in this view of the case if it be intended to apply to sidings only; but that, if it should become necessary to extend the line of railway itself, or to change its direction in consequence of encroachments of the river, or from any other cause, the cost of such extension, or change of direction, must be held to be a Capital charge.

4. This question will be decided, in pursuance of para. 11 of Sir C. Wood's Despatch, according to the circumstances of the case, when the contingency on which it depends arises.

* Letter to Eastern Bengal Railway Company, dated 24th November 1875.
Ditto from ditto, No. 1337, dated 17th December 1875.

5. A copy of the correspondence* with the Board is enclosed herewith for information.

P. W. 1876 Sept

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY.

To

No 1553

No. 542—6 R.

Dated February 22, 1876.

Received 2 March.

No 586.

Communicated
to the Consulting
Engineer for Railways
and to the Examiner
of Railway Accounts
for information.

8/4th March/76.

Eastern Bengal Railway.—Incidence of cost of
labor for shifting, relaying and extending the
river-side lines of the terminus at Goalundo.

No. 264, P. W. D. Press—22-2-76—77.

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C. E. for Rys - 21
Exp. Rys Accounts 7

24/3: 17-3-76

With order

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Govt. of 1870, Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Caus Engineer
for Railways

Dated

At

For

For

G. O. 4 March 1870, No. 586

Nos. 47 - 48

Eastern Bengal Railway
terminus at Goalundo
^{Copy of report for the}
Order of the Govt of India
relating to the vicinities of
Cost of labor for shifting, re-
-laying & extending the line
- side lines of the — Com.
- communicated to the Engineer
for Rly & to the Examiners of
Rly Accts for information.