

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 621 J

67. 1897

DATED 6 July 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Canal Telegraph lines: Govt of India Resolution
fixing the charges to be paid to the Telegraph
Dept for the supply and maintenance of
Cords to the Chief Engr for Works & S. Es of Canals.

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Government of India Resolution fixing the charges to be paid to the Telegraph Department for the supply and maintenance of —, communicated to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and Superintending Engineers of Circles.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

Read—the following papers:—

Resolution of the Government of India, Public Works Department (Civil Works—Telegraphs), dated Simla, 12th June 1897, No. 144 T.

Read—

Public Works Department Circular, No. 2 P.W., dated 8th October 1879.

Read also—

Letter from the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 521 A.T., dated the 30th Sept. 1895.

Observations.—The Government of India have recently had under consideration the question of fixing a uniform charge for the supply and maintenance of telegraph wires and instruments required in connection with the working of canals. Hitherto varying rates have been charged for canal telegraph lines and instruments according to the peculiar circumstances of each case.

2. The utility of the telegraph to canals has been found to be so great that new demands are constantly arising, and it appears to the Government of India to be most desirable in the interests both of the canal systems and of the Telegraph Department, that the rates for telegraph lines and instruments should be made uniform and simple, so that Local Governments and the officers concerned may be in a position to determine readily the approximate annual charges for telegraphs in all projects that come before them without the necessity for correspondence and special calculations.

3. Formerly the dealings of the Telegraph Department with canal administrations were very limited; the country was much less opened out by telegraph lines and railways than it is at present, and it was, therefore, necessary to take into consideration the position, accessibility for inspection, cost of construction and many other points of each canal telegraph line, in determining the rates at which the Telegraph Department could undertake its construction and supervision.

4. Under the existing circumstances of the country, it is found that the Telegraph Department can undertake all work connected with canal telegraph or telephone lines without difficulty, as not only have railways greatly extended, thus simplifying the question of the carriage of stores, but the Telegraph Department now has lines and offices of its own in the canal districts, so that it gives that department little additional trouble to look after the requirements of the canal administrations. The time, therefore, appears to have come to apply to all canal telegraph lines, as has already been done in the case of railway telegraph lines, uniform rates for wires and instruments, open to reconsideration after fixed periods.

Resolution.—The Government of India are accordingly pleased to decide that, for five years with effect from the 1st July 1897, a rate of Rs. 26.25 per mile of wire per annum shall be charged for the rent and maintenance of existing as well as of new canal telegraph wires, and that in the case of the telegraph lines for which posts have been supplied by the canal authorities, a reduced rate of Rs. 16.25 per mile of wire per annum shall be levied.

In the case of telephone circuits a return wire, instead of using the earth as a return, though not necessary, is sometimes found desirable in order to improve speech by eliminating the effects of induction and other disturbances. Such return wires will be supplied at half the above rates.

2. The practice of permitting the canal authorities to supply posts arose originally from the fact that the canal authorities happened to have rails and that the Telegraph Department had not always funds available at the time to provide for the canal demands. The system is opposed to the principle so often emphasised by Government that all telegraph lines should be paid for by, and be borne on the books of, the Telegraph Department. It is, therefore, laid down that in all future extensions of canal lines the Telegraph Department shall supply all the material including posts; further, that the lines assessed at the lower rental of Rs. 16.25 per mile of wire per annum shall be at the disposal of the Telegraph Department for general telegraph purposes, and that that department shall be at liberty to use the posts of such lines for the erection of wires whenever found necessary.

3. The Government of India are also pleased to decide that with effect from the 1st July 1897 an all-round rate of Rs. 60 per instrument per annum shall be charged for the rent and maintenance of telegraph instruments including telephones supplied to canals by the Telegraph Department, instead of the varying rates now charged according to the circumstances of each case.

Order.—Ordered that this resolution be communicated to the Local Governments and Administrations noted on the margin for information and guidance.

The Governments of Madras and Bombay, Public Works Department, General Branch.
The Governments of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Punjab and Burma.
The Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Assam and Coorg.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor-General for Rajputana, Central India and Baluchistan.
The Accountant-General, Public Works Department.
The Director-General of Telegraphs.

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Finance and Commerce Department for information.

(Signed) W. S. S. BISSET, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to the Government of India.

ORDER—No. 621 I., dated 6th July 1897.

Communicated to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and Superintending Engineers of Circles.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ Superintending Engineers of Circles.
„ the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

No 62/28 6th July 1897.

Public Works (1897) Department.

J. H. E.

CURRENT No. 6566

Secretary's Resolution regarding charges to be paid to the Telegraph Dept for the supply & maintenance of Canal Telegraph Lines

Order

27.97

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The number in W. office

Communicated to the
Chief Engineer for Suez
& Suez Engineers of Suez.

From The Govt of India
P.W.D.

30.6.97

W.H.

30.6.97

J.

Print

No. 144. I.

Dated 12th June 1897

Received 24th — 20

Regd. 5.7.97

Enclosures

Spare copies 6.

Same

W.H. 3.7.97

J.

SUBJECT.

Canal Telegraph Lines. Govt.

To The Chief Engineer for Suez
Suez Engineers of Suez
The Govt. P.W. Dept.

communicates Resolution of the

Govt of India re: charges to

be paid to the Telegraph

Dept for the supply and

maintenance of —

Aluminium

25.6.97

CIVIL WORKS.
Telegraphs.

Simla, the 12th June 1897.

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MMBiner

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

*So. The Secy to the Govt. of Madras.
P.W. Department.*

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C.F. 73.

DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press
Miscellaneous
Routine

s. No. 621, dated 6-7

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