

P. W.
Marine (189) Department.

✓ G.O., No. 2803 W (Cir)

DATED 2nd Nov^r 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

European Stores

The local purchase of Alum —
required for the iron bridge across the Kallar
River on the Chundal & Mysore Road —
sanctioned.

B/s. a/c

Ld 3/11

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public Works (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 8680

~~44~~
B

No. 2803 W 22.11.98.

Order

2.9.98
1.11.98

The local purchase of the articles referred to is sanctioned. From the Supt. Engr. 5 Circle.
APK
21.10.98.

W. H. H. 27.10.98
D. W. W.

No. 6462

Pr.

Note. These articles are required for an iron bridge across the Kullar river on the Chundale Mysore road, the estimate for which was sanctioned in G.O. No. 1040 W dated 25th April 1898.

The bridge has to be constructed as soon as possible, the present wooden bridge having been pronounced to be unsafe in 1895. The matter being one of urgency, the local purchase of the articles referred to is recommended. The pub. ltr. to letter Pr. will be referred to C.A. for remarks, as it was a reply to the from the latter office that the

Dated 16.10.98

Received 19.10.98

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

Flag Z

SUBJECT.

European stores. Return the application of Bombay for sanction to the local purchase of - with India office rate duly filled and with copy of Mr. Moss' remarks.

4350

The Supt. Engr. 5 Circle. 21.10.98
Examined, P.W. Accts, with statement for note & return.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.
informa was drawn that local prices for rolled beams are less than the P.W. Works prices. As H. 21. 10. 98. <i>W.H.</i> 27. 10. 98. In memo 4350C dy 5-10-98 Co. 1040 W dy 25-4-90 " 724 W dy 12-3-97	

No.	Date.

Copy of a letter from H. A. Moss Esquire, General Superintendent, P.W. Stores, to the Superintending Engineer, 5 Cricle, No 173 S.E. dated 11 October 1898.

With reference to your No 456 P.W. dated 6 October 1898, I have the honour to return the closures with the estimated cost of obtained the India office duly filled in.

I must take exception to the statement by the Deputy Chief Engineer, that the previous reports from me as to the prices of rolled beams obtained from the Secretary of State are fallacious. I am at present prepared to deliver any of 500 man Long and 600 steel beams (which is the same kind that Messrs. Massey & Co. supply) now in our stock, for our departmental work in any part of Madras within Municipal limits for less than Rs 130/ a ton. This rate is for immediate delivery. Messrs. Massey & Co. rate of Rs 135/ a ton is, I believe, for deferred delivery, their rate for immediate delivery being about Rs 140/. If there is any fallacy in my statement I shall be glad to have it shown to me.

I have been unable to discover the instance referred to by the Deputy Chief Engineer in which Rs 175/ a ton was charged by us for steel beams. Reputedly C.A. and I have no doubt that there must have been some good reason for the high charge.

Our rates, of course, vary from time to time with the market rates at which we obtain the material and with the exchange. It is the same with Messrs Massey & Co., or any other firm in India. In general, it will be found that materials obtained from the P. W. Stores is cheaper (often very much so) for the same quality and conditions as to size &c.

It would be well when giving an opinion as to the price of any particular lot of steel beams obtained through the P. W. Stores, to take into consideration all the circumstances of the case, whether any special quality, size, or section was ordered, the market price and exchange at the time when they were bought, or if any special work was required to be done on them before issue, and whether the beams were ordered by another department or for the P. W. D. There is little doubt that if everything is taken into consideration, any apparent fallacy there may have been in reports from this office as to cost, will disappear.

I do not say that we can supply other departments or private parties more cheaply than private firms. We cannot, as our rules require that we should charge 10 p.c for Railways and Military Works and 24½ p.c for other departments and private parties over and above the rates at which we issue materials to our own department. I do not know the reason for these

these percentages being charged to other Government departments, but I should think they are apt to be misleading at times and possibly may help to account for the fallacy referred to by the Deputy Chief Engineer.

No 6462

Enclosure. 1

To the Chief Engineer, P. W. Department,
with reference to his N. 4350 C. dated 5 October 1898, the application received with which is herewith returned.

16 October 98.

Amhurst
Colonel R.

offg Supy Engineer 5 and

15.10.98

C.S.

Kindly say whether
the letter from the
Genl. Supt. P. & Workshops
is to be copied for the
Examiners.

WJ
2-11-58.

WJ
2/11/58