

Public Works (1899) Department.

G.O., No.

456 W

DATED

13th Feb - 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Indian made articles of Iron Steel

Letter from the Govt of India declining
to assent to the proposal of the Govt to include
rolled steel beams & joists in the list of articles for
in Appendix A attached to Govt of India, Finance Commission
Report, Resolution No 2587 B.S. of 5 June '98 on the subject of the
purchase of ———, under ———

K

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

All communications
should be addressed
to the Secretary.

No. 28 C.W.M.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

CIVIL WORKS.

Miscellaneous.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department.

Simla, the 6th January 1899.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2455 W., dated the 21st September 1898, recommending the inclusion of rolled steel beams and joists in the list of articles given in Appendix A attached to Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department, Resolution No. 2587 R.S., dated the 9th June 1898, on the ground that such articles are obtainable from private firms in Madras at a cheaper rate and much more rapidly than through the Secretary of State for India, while the quality is exactly similar.

2. In reply, I am to say that rolled beams are not manufactured in India and were purposely excluded from the list of articles that might be purchased locally, (Appendix A) as they are barred by the restrictions of paragraph 3 (d) of the Resolution referred to in paragraph 1. The Government of India are therefore unable to assent to the proposal to include such articles in Appendix A, more specially as when required in small quantities or in cases of urgency, the Local Government has at present power to sanction their being purchased locally.

3. I am to add that the statement attached to your letter cannot be accepted as conclusively showing that beams of

the

with Rates
Committee file
with KC
Flag K
1924 Wd 1.8.98
Flag W
in linked
file

the same make and quality can be purchased at lower rates in the Indian market than those at which they can be obtained at the same time through the Secretary of State.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

A. C. Lees
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Documents accompanying.

Nil.

K.P.G.

Ep.

[48
509]

C. No. 388

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.
~~THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.~~
~~THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.~~

SUBJECT.

Local purchase of rolled steel beams and joists.

FOR ORDERS.

With reference to His Excellency's remarks on current No 388, I proposed to record the Govt. of India's letter, because our report that rolled steel beams should be included in the list of articles purchasable in India had been declined in the proposal that such beams had been purposely excluded, & it therefore seemed wisest to go on again about it.

2. Our report was founded on the statement that such beams could be obtained at a cheaper rate locally, & much more rapidly. There is no question about the latter, as local firms can supply beams in 3 to 4 months whereas

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PRESIDENCY P. W. STORES,
Madras, 23 December 1898.

H. A. Moses Esq.

PUBLIC WORKS STORES,

THE Under Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Madras.

Dir

I have just had occasion to write to Messrs Massey & Co. for their rate and the time in which they could deliver some rolled girders $34' \times 20" \times 7\frac{1}{2}"$. They quote Rs. 4.0. per cwt. if called for and delivered in $3\frac{1}{2}$ months at the Madras beach. This amounts to Rs. 185 per ton. It would seem therefore that the rate of Rs. 165 per ton which we charged the Consulting Architect to Govt. for 18" rolled beam and of which he so bitterly complained was not out of the way.

I have thought it as well to send
this information to you as it may be of some use in connec-
-tion with the question lately raised of the cost of rolled lead
obtained through the India office

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Yours most obedient servant.

It takes 6 to 12 months to obtain them from the India Office. There was also, at the time our letter was written, thought to be a little doubt about the fact that such beams can be obtained more cheaply locally, such fact being supported by the figure supplied by the Consulting Architect. But from figures furnished, at a later date, by the Messrs. J. & W. Hall, it is evident that beams obtained through the India Office have been sometimes dearer & sometimes cheaper than those obtained locally & it seems impossible to make any accurate comparisons owing to fluctuations in the price of iron & steel, & in exchange. Nevertheless I am as strongly as ever of the opinion that our report was founded on sound principles, but there seems little hope of obtaining the desired change, & I have therefore proposed to let the matter drop.

2.288

seen. The draft of O. is now accepted.

Д. 4 Н

9,299

O. W. Current No: 10625

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Presidency P. W. Stores.

From
THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT,
PUBLIC WORKS STORES,
Madras,

To
The Under Secy. to Govt.
P. W. Deptt.
Madras.

No. 414 M. S.

Dated 23
Despatched 23 } December 1898.
Received 25

No. of ENCLOSURES. 42

Subject.

Handwritten notes:
SFW message letters are
recorded in Memo 4423 C flagged Q
26.1.99
For orders. Papers are sent
to him with the Rates Committee file
File and done 2 days
ago. Put up with them
+ copy letters ASH
16.1.99
2.2.98

C No 388

On
For orders with
reference to His Excy's
remarks.

It does not seem
to be established con-
-clusively that rolled
steel beams & joists
can be obtained at
a cheaper rate in the
local market than through
the India Office.

W Per
It is not possible to
know that the local
market is cheaper than
the I of I, although the
C. A's figure made it
appear so, since the pos-
tion is so complicated
by differences in exchange
& variation of prices.