CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA
AND INDIAN STATES.

Political (1899) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 620

DATED 15-9-99

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Travancore-Cochin Railway

Conveying to the Resident in Travancore certain instructions of the consulting Engineer for Railways to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway for the direct correspondence of the Madras Railway officers with the Cochin Darbar in the matter of supply of timber for the —, and stating that all Govt communications between the Madras Railway Company and the Cochin Darbar should pass thro'

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Poll.

Government {1899} of Madras.

POLITICAL.

Recd.
Regd.
} 1899.

Enclosures
Spare copies

G.O., No. 620, 15th September 1899.

SEPTEMER.

Shoranur-Cochin Railway.

Communicating to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin certain instructions of the Consulting Engineer for Railways to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway for the direct correspondence of the Madras Railway officers with the Cochin Darbar in the matter of the supply of timber for the —, and stating that all *important* communications between the Madras Railway Company and the Cochin Darbar should pass through Government.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

From FRANCIS J. E. SPRING, Esq., Consulting Engineer for Railways, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, dated Ootacamund, 15th August 1899, No. 213-O.

I can see nothing in the Government Order on the subject of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway which would necessitate your addressing to me your letter No. 10705/966, dated the 8th August 1899, which I read as a request that I should on your behalf address the Cochin Darbar about supplying timber required for their railway which your company proposes to build.

2. The matter is one which your Engineer-in-Chief for construction should deal with in correspondence with the Darbar's Forest Officer. Should they fail to agree on any point it will be time enough to address the Darbar. But even when addressing the Darbar, all that seems necessary in such ordinary matters of business as this, is that you should address the Diwan direct, passing the letter *through* the Resident, in order that the latter may be cognizant of all that goes on.

No. 214-O., dated 15th August 1899.

Copy, with a copy of the letter to which it is a reply, forwarded to the Resident, Travancore and Cochin, through the Political Department.

Enclosure.

Copy of letter from the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, No. 10705-966, dated the 8th August 1899.

With reference to paragraph 18 of G.O., No. 496 Ry., dated 28th April 1899, in which it is stated that the Cochin Darbar will provide the sleepers for the Shoranur-Cochin Railway, I have the honour to append a list of the sleepers required and shall be obliged if you will kindly impress upon the Darbar the importance of getting the timber at once in order that it may be seasoned before being placed on the line.

It will be observed that for the main line four timbers are specified which are known to be good sleeper timbers, but if other suitable timbers are available the sleepers may of course be cut from them. As many of the West Coast timbers have been experimented with by the Engineering Department, and found to be unfit for use as sleepers, it would be well for the Cochin Forest Department to consult the Engineer-in-Chief before cutting large numbers of sleepers from timber not included in the list below.

It will be observed that for points and crossings and bridges, teak is specified. The Coimbatore Forest Department sell to this railway good teak in the log at Rs. 1-8-0 per cubic foot—a rate only a few annas in advance of that for good jungle-woods. There being so little difference in price between teak and jungle-wood and a considerable quantity of the former timber being, I understand, available in His Highness' forests, I am of opinion that teak should be used for all sleepers for bridges and points and crossings.

If the Forest Officer of Cochin places himself in communication with the Engineer-in-Chief a specification for the sleepers will be sent to him.

Ordinary sleepers 6′ × 7″ × 4½″—142,000, to be cut from Irumbogum (*Hopea parviflora*) Irrul (*Xylia dolabraformis*) Kurramurdoo (*Terminalia glabra*) or *Mesua ferrea*.

Girder bridge and point and crossing sleepers to be cut from teak.

6′ × 7″ × 6″	300
10′ × 7″ × 6″	600
11′ × 10″ × 6″	100
15′ × 12″ × 7″	1,050
12′ × 9″ × 6″	150
7′ × 7″ × 4½″	420
8′ × 7″ × 4½″	300
9′ × 7″ × 4½″	300
10′ × 7″ × 4½″	350
6′ × 6″ × 4½″	550

Order—No. 620, Political, dated 15th September 1899.

Communicated to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, but it should be understood that all *important* communications between the Madras Railway Company and the Cochin Darbar should pass through Government.

(True Extract.)

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Resident in Travancore and Cochin.
„ Public Works Department (Railway Branch).

Ed. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

Poll
7

1,000—28-

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 620, POLITICAL, DATED 15TH SEPTEMBER 1899.

C. No. 1073.

NOTE.

The Consulting Engineer for Railways communicates copy of his letter to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway intimating that the matter of the supply of timber for the Shoranur-Cochin Railway is one which may be dealt with in direct correspondence between the Engineer-in-Chief and the Darbar Forest-officer; and that in case of failure of agreement between these officers on any point, the Agent may correspond with the Diwan direct, passing the letter through the Resident in order that the latter may be cognizant of all that goes on.

2. This instruction raises the question of direct correspondence between authorities in British India and those in Native States. The general rule in G.O., No. 753, Political, dated the 7th August 1886, as interpreted in G.O., No. 408, Political, dated the 25th June 1895, is that all communications between Departments of Government and Native States under the control of the Local Government should issue through the Political Department. This ruling does not of course apply to the present case. The papers tied separately in the file and headed "Mysore" relate to the arrangements come to with the Resident in that State under which direct communication is permitted between Collectors in the Madras Presidency and Mysore officials regarding the service of notices for the collection of arrears of revenue.

G.O., No. 658, Political, dated 25th September 1884.

G.O., No. 263, Political, dated 18th April 1885.

G.O., No. 883, Political, dated 19th November 1887.

G.O., No. 184, Political, dated 7th March 1888.

3. Paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 420, Political, dated 3rd September 1890, ruled as regards direct correspondence between Mr. W. Leslie and the Travancore Darbar on the subject of the Tinnevelly-Quilon Railway that all communications on the subject of railways in either of the Native States of Travancore and Cochin should be submitted to Government in the first instance.

4. In G.O., No. 727, Political, dated 10th December 1891, the Military Department was requested to issue orders prohibiting correspondence between Military authorities in British India and the Diwans of Native States except through the channel of the Resident or other Political Officer.

5. G.O., No. 351, Political, dated 4th June 1896, contains correspondence on the subject of direct communication between the officials of His Highness the Nizam's Darbar and the British authorities and here the principle, that in matters of importance such direct communications are objectionable and opposed to practice, is laid down.

6. The present directions of the Consulting Engineer do not appear to be objectionable so long as the direct communications are confined to unimportant matters. It is true that neither the Agent nor the Engineer-in-Chief of the Madras Railway is a subordinate; in the ordinary sense, of this Government; but at the same time it is submitted that in the matter of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway the general principle, viz., that *important* communications between officials of British India and of Native States should pass through Government should be applied to communications between these officers of the Madras Railway and the Cochin Darbar and its officers.

Draft order is submitted below communicating the papers to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin and perhaps after issue these notes might be forwarded (U.O.) to the Consulting Engineer for perusal.

(Intld.) C.M.S.
30-8-99.

Attention is invited to G.O., No. 420, Political, dated 3rd September 1890. I have ascertained that Mr. Leslie was an officer working in the survey made by the South Indian Railway Company in 1899 and subsequent years.

It may, I think, be said that important communications between the Madras Railway Company and the Cochin Darbar should pass through and be watched by Government but it is obvious that correspondence on details of construction such as that to which the Consulting Engineer is referring need not. To rule that such communications should come to the Engineer is unnecessary and would have the effect, no doubt, of seriously hampering the progress of work. The rule laid down by the Consulting Engineer is altogether a good and proper one but I would ask orders whether, in communicating it, it would not be well to amplify it as indicated in the first sentence of this paragraph and because it is contrary to the already declared policy of Government.

(Intld.) A.E.H.

The rules governing the correspondence of officials with the Native States of Travancore and Cochin have no application, I think, to the present case.

I agree. (Intld.) A.E.H. 7-9-99.

(Intld.) G.S.
31-8-99.

U.O. to Public Works Department, Railway Branch, for counter-initials.

(Intld.) G.S[TOKES.]
31-8-99.

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY, RAILWAY BRANCH.

I think that the situation has been sufficiently guarded by the words in my letter to the Agent "in such ordinary business matters as this." This implies that in matters other than "ordinary business" (by which all businessmen understand buying, selling, &c.,) the Darbar should not be addressed direct. The Agent understands all about this in connection with his dealing with Mysore Darbar on account of the Kolar Gold Fields Railway.

(Intld.) F.J.E. S[PRING.]
1-9-99.

To the Political Department.

NOTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The opinion expressed in this Note, by the Chief Secretary, is concurred in, and his proposed action is approved.

(Intld.) A.E.H.
7-9-99.

[Poll. / 7]

1,000—28-6-48.

Political (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 1073.

From

The Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras

Order

Comm^d. to the Resdt. in T.C.

Cons. 30.8.99

Resdt. in T.C. (90) with Chemical

No. 214/O

Dated 15-8-99.

Received 16-8-99.

Registered 16-8-99.

Enclosures One

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Supply of timber required for Shoranur-Cochin Railway.

Forwarding a copy of his letter to the Agent-Madras regarding the —— by the Durbar Forest Dept.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[8/24]
1,000-21-7-

C 4·9·99
R 9-7-99

14

Political DEPARTMENT.

5P

Noted connected with G.O. 620 Pol. dy 15-9-99

G. No. 1073. From the ....., No. ....., dated ..... 189 .

" ..... " " ....., " ....., " ..... 189 .

" ..... " " ....., " ....., " ..... 189 .

" ..... " " ....., " ....., " ..... 189 .

The Consulting Engineer for Railways communicates copy of his letter to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway intimating the latter that the matter of the supply of timber for the Shoranur-Cochin Railway is one which may be dealt with in direct correspondence between the Engineer in Chief and the Durbar Forest Officer; and that in case of failure of agreement between these officers on any point the Agent may correspond with the Dewan direct, passing the letter through the Resident in order that the latter may be cognizant of all that goes on.

2. This instruction raises the question of direct correspondence between authorities in British India and those in Native States. The general rule in G.O. No. 753, Pol. dated the 7th August 1886, as interpreted in G.O. No. 408 Pol.,

A

dated the 25th June 1895, is that all XVII 5.
communications between Departments of
Government and Native States under the
control of the Local Government should
issue through the Pol.Dept. This ruling
does not of course apply to the present
case. The papers tied separately in the
file and headed "Mysore" relate to the
arrangements come to with the Resident
in Mysore and under which direct com-
munication is permitted between Collectors
in the Madras Presidency and Mysore offi-
cials regarding the service of notices
for the collection of arrears of revenue.

G.O.No.658, Pol.d/ 25-9-84
G.O.No.263, Pol.d/ 18-4-85
G.O.No.383, Pol.d/ 19-11-87
G.O.No.184, Pol.d/ 7 -5-88

I think that the intention has been sufficiently guarded by the words in my letter to the Agent "in such ordinary matters as this". This might include matters other than "ordinary business" (Coolie affairs, Inquiries now instituted by Engineers, settling J.J.'s) The Durbar should not be informed that. The Agent understands all about this connection with his dealings with Mysore Durbar on account of the K.S.F.R.

3. Paragraph 2 of G.O.No.420, Pol. V
dated 3rd Sept. 1890, ruled as regards
direct correspondence between Mr. W. Leslie
and the Travancore Durbar on the subject
of the Tinnevelly-Quilon Railway that all
communications on the subject of Railways
in either of the Native States of Traven-
core and Cochin should be submitted to
Govt. in the first instance.

4 In G.O.No.727, Pol. dated 10th Decem- VI
ber 1891 the Military Dept. was requested
to issue orders directly prohibiting
correspondence between Military authho-
rities in British India and the Dewans
of Native States except through the channel
of the Resident or other Political Officer.

7 Rs
4/9/99
To Pol Dept.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT, 1-SEP. 1899 OOTACAMUND.

5 G.O.No.351, Pol. dated 4th June 1896, XI
contains correspondence on the subject of
direct communication between the officials
of His Highness' the Nizam's Durbar and the British
authorities and here the principle, that
in matters of importance such direct
communications are objectionable and

6P

opposed to practice, is laid down.

In the present case the Consulting Engineer has authorised the Engineer in Chief to communicate direct with the Cochin Forest officers. He has also informed the Engineer in Chief and the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway that they may address the Dewan direct on ordinary matters of business connected with the Shoranur-Cochin Railway passing the letter through the Resident. In view of the rulings in paragraphs 6 The present direction of the Consulting Engineer do not appear to be objectionable so long as these direct communications are confined to unimportant matters. It is true that neither the Agent nor the Engineer in Chief of the Madras Railway is a subordinate, in the ordinary sense, of this Government, but at the same time, it is submitted, that in the matter of the Shoranur-Cochin Railway the general principle that important communications between officials of British India and of Native States should pass through Govt. should be applied to communications between these officers and the Madras Railway and the Cochin Durbar and its officers.

Draft order is submitted below communicating the papers to the Resident in Travencore and Cochin, and perhaps after issue these notes might be forwarded (U.O.) to the Consulting Engineer for perusal.

Chl
30/8/99

3/9

Attention is invited to the under
flapped V. Chem enclosed the
Govt. Letter was an offer work
on the Survey made by the S. Indian
Rly Co in 1899 & subsequent years.

It may I think be said that
the important communications between
the Madras Rly Co and the Cochin
Durbar Offices pass through Govt but it is obvious that
Correspondence on details of construction
such as that & which the Con.g
is opening
Engrs need not to make
unnecessary and will form the
effort to check of Govt
hampering the progress of work.
The rule laid down by the Cons.g
Engineer is altogether a good and
proper one but I do not ask the
orders whether in communicating
it to the will be applied
to as indicated in the first
of sentence of this para and because
it is contrary to the already
declared policy of Govt.

The rules governing the correspondence
of Officials with the Native States
of Travancore & Cochin have no
application I think to the present
case

31/8/99.

D.P.W. Mr Branch for ci.

31/8/99.

A.G. The Govt.

Dept. 1/9/99.

A.G.H.

The opinion expressed in this Note, by the Chief Sec., is concurred in, and the proposed action is advised.

A.G.H.
7.9.99

Legn.
A.G.H
7.9.99

Political DEPARTMENT.

G. 4]
25-11-98.

C. No. 1073 From the Consulting Engr. to Rys No. 214/0 dated 15. 8. 1899.

" " " " 189 .

" " " " 189 .

" " " " 189 .

3P

PWD (Rly) for C. & Issue.

Order
Copy.

No 620 dt 15-9-99

Comm. to the Resident
in T+C. Govt. to be informed
that all important communi-
cations between the Madras
Rly Co and the Cochin Darbar
should pass through Govt.
(Form Order)

Cwd
11-9-99

I think that there is not definite enough to be
called to give the Resident the impression that the
Pol. Dept. wishes the Engrs to effect of first finding
between the Durbars in Trust Dept. and its own Rly
through the medium of the Madras Rly Engineer, to be
"important". I think that Pol. Dept. means this
phrase of this & that this meaning is not
expressed in the draft G.O.

12/9/99

dispd 25/9/99.

GOVT. OF SECRETARIAT.
12 SEP. 1899
MADRAS.
received 23/9/99

Resdt in T+C
PWD (Rly Branch)

Rly S.C. to Shoranur-Cochin Rly Co
S.C. (with words bounded yellow) to
Pol. Rly Engrs Tellicherry

Noted J.S.C.
Cattell
Asst
3-10-99

Please see connection.

12/9/99.

Dft to Rly Engr Cir.

14/9/99