

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

541

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

10-5-1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

10th May 1867.

No. 81. Read the following letter from the Officiating Under Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Fort William, 18th January 1867, No. 594.

Home Department.

In forwarding the accompanying copy of a telegram erroneously sent on the Public Service by Dr. Mayer, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals at Vizagapatam, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to point out that the transmission of the message by telegraph was clearly contrary to the rules laid down by the Government of India, and that the only excuse which can be offered for its being so transmitted is that the case to which it related was of a very serious and urgent nature, such as to admit of no delay.

2. At the same time, I am desired to point out that Dr. Mayer's explanation appears to imply an opinion that any message regarding any Medical Certificate of a Public Officer may be sent as a Service message.

3. This view, I am to observe, indicates so complete a misunderstanding of the circumstances under which Public Officers are justified in using the telegraph at the public expense, as explained in the Circular from this office, No. 941, of the 18th June 1864, that I am desired to express the hope of the Governor General in Council that the Madras Government will take some step to ensure a proper understanding on the part of public servants of the conditions under which the telegraph may be used at the public expense.

4. It does not seem, I am to add, to be a principle difficult of apprehension that communications which are made by telegraph solely for the private convenience, or in the personal interest, of the Officer concerned, should not be sent at the public expense.

Telegram from Dr. MAYER, Vizagapatam, to Apothecary HARGREAVES, Rajahmundry ; dated 21st July 1866.

Grant the Certificate asked by Captain Ryves. Dr. Andrews is of opinion he ought to go away.

MEMORANDUM.

How can a question regarding an Officer's sick certificate be private. This was certainly a Service question.

WALTAIR,
14th December 1866.

(Signed) J. MAYER,
Depy. Insp. Genl. of Hospitals.

No. 82. ORDER THEREON, 10th May 1867, No. 541.

Ordered that the following Notification be published in the Gazette:—

NOTIFICATION.

Fort Saint George, 10th May 1867.

Instances having lately come under the notice of Government, indicating that a misunderstanding of the conditions under which the Government Telegraph may be used at the public expense still exists on the part of Public Officers, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council deems it necessary again to call attention to the following directions of the Telegraph Department applicable to Service messages.

1. Communications made by telegraph solely for the private convenience, or in the personal interest, of the Officer concerned, applications for leave of absence, or for appointments, are not to be sent at the public expense.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
10th May 1867.

2. No one communicating with Government, or with any public functionary is entitled to a reply by telegraph.
3. If an Officer seeking leave, or applying for an appointment, desires a reply by telegraph, he should pay for the reply himself; for no such message can properly be sent at the public expense, unless so sent because it is in good faith believed that the interests of the Public Service require it.

(By order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council).

A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

From N. 594. 27

W. E. Ward Esquire

Off. Under Secy to the Gov. of Madras

To

The Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

D/ Fort William the 18th January 1867.

Home Department Sir,

To be returned

In forwarding the accompanying copy of a Telegram erroneously sent on the public service by Dr. Mayer, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals at Vizagapatam, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to point out that the transmission of the Message by telegraph was clearly contrary to the rules laid down by the Govt. of India, and that the only excuse which he offered for its being so transmitted is that the case to which it related was of a very serious and urgent nature, such as to admit of no delay.

2. At the same time I am directed to point out that Dr. Mayer's explanation appears to imply an opinion that any message regarding any Medical Certificate of a public Officer may be sent as a service Message.

3. This view I am to observe indicates so complete a misunderstanding of the circumstances under which public Officers are

justified

4. It does not seem, I am to add, to be a principle difficult of apprehension that communications which are made by telegraph solely for the private convenience, or in the personal interest, of the Officer concerned, should not be sent at the public expense.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obed^t & servant

Edward

Chas. Under Secretary to the Govt of India.

Pro 21 July/64 No 128-129-

Public 1887 Sept

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Considered objectionable because.	Considered to have been improperly so sent because.
1. Wordy.	8. Apparently private, but marked "Service" by the Sender.
2. Wordy—The underlined portion appears superfluous.	9. Apparently private, but written on a printed Service Form *
3. Not apparently of such urgency as to justify a recourse to the Telegraph.	10. Apparently private, but written on a printed Service Form, and as a reply by Telegraph was probably expected, the words "answer paid" should have ended the message.
4. Not apparently of such urgency as to justify a recourse to the Telegraph, the postal time being only days.	11.
5. Precedence unnecessarily claimed	12.
6. A "Clear Line" unnecessarily claimed.	
7. A "Clear Line" claimed without authority.	

N. B.—The objections to the Message to which this is attached are given in No. 8.

GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE MONTHLY NO. _____

Recd. the *21st* of *July* 186*6* at _____ hrs.

Words charged *24* Rs. *2* As. "

FROM *Viragapatam*

To *Rajahmundry*

FROM *Dr. Mayes*

To *Offy. Hargreaves* ✓

Words *24 S.P.*

*Grant the Certificate asked by Captain Ryves
Andrews is of opinion he ought to go away.*

Dr.

*How can a question regarding
affairs at ~~Link~~ Certificate be private
this was certainly a service question*

Sender's
Signature

Wattin 14th Decr 1866

Sender's
Address

*Mayes
27, Inspect Genl of the R.F.*

CD. BY _____ at _____ hrs. _____ mins. FROM _____

RWD BY _____ at _____ hrs. _____ mins. To _____

ATION FROM _____ date _____ STATION TO _____ date _____

Telegraph Office. Peon Book No. _____

Assist. in Charge.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter
from the Under Secretary to
the Government of India.

Received 18th January 1871.

Order. 19th February 1871.

The foregoing letter
will be communicated to the
States, with instructions to
keep in view the remark at
its conclusion, viz. that com-
munications which are made
by telegraph solely for
the private convenience, or in
the personal interest, of the
officer concerned, should
not be sent at the public
expense.

Ordered that the
Notification on the subject
of the misuse of the
Telegraph dated 14th Nov/71,
be

W. M. S. S.
N. S.
W. M. S. S.

be republished in the official
Gazette, and that all
public officers be strictly
enjoined to observe the
res. there directed to be
followed.

4

~~L. P. & Meyer~~
The President, & of the
- Senate
with the Senate

14th Nov 1857
 15th Nov 1857
 16th Nov 1857

Public Works Department

1857.

Proceedings of Govt

Vol 10. May 1857.

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[Faint, illegible handwriting]

Public Library Department

1871

Proceedings of Gov.

Vol. 10. Aug 1871.

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