

108
(1) Number of pages to
(2) Date of repair Feb 1987
(3) Initials of the Referencer bua

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Pub DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1730	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	19 12 1881	~~1987~~

15/12/87

Not to be folded or roughly handled

5

1730
2

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

19th December 1881, No. 1730.

Telegraphs.

Read the following paper :—

*Proceedings of Government, Public Works Department, dated 29th November 1881,
No. 2976 W. [Current No. 2642].*

Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department (Civil Works—Telegraph), dated Simla, 14th November 1881, Nos. 410-442 T.

Tariff on Inland Messages.

Read the following papers :—

- Resolution by the Government of India, Nos. 169-90 T., dated 31st May 1881.
Letter from the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 442 T., " 6th June "
" " 447 T., " 10th " "
" Government of Bombay, No. 10 T.-727, dated 6th June 1881.
" Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, dated 28th June 1881.
" Madras, " 22nd July
" Government of India, to the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 284 T.,
dated 12th August 1881.
" Government of India, No. 295 T., dated 17th August 1881.
" Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 495 T., dated 19th August 1881.
" " 497 T., " 19th " "
" " 514 T., " 9th Sept. "
" Government of India, to the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 344 T.,
dated 28th September 1881.
" Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 548 T., dated 26th October 1881.

OBSERVATIONS.—In the Resolution of the 31st May 1881 His Excellency the Governor-General in Council authorised the introduction of a "word" rate of two annas a word for each word in excess of the minimum charge of one rupee for six words; and indicated the future policy of the Government of India with regard to the development of the telegraph service briefly as follows :—

The Government of India is willing and anxious to forward any scheme for developing and facilitating communication by telegraph so far as this can be done without risk to the interests of the general tax-paying community, but in the interests of that community it is essential that the telegraph service should be self-supporting.

The Government of India, as opportunity arises, will consider measures for the partial amalgamation of the telegraph and postal services so as to secure economy of working.

By the same Resolution the power to authorise the Telegraph Department to erect lines and open offices was with certain necessary restrictions extended to local Governments and Administrations; and the Director-General of Telegraphs was desired to

suggest further measures which might encourage the more extended use of the telegraph service by the public, without endangering the financial position of the department.

In accordance with these orders the Director-General of Telegraphs has submitted, for the approval of Government, a scheme for the revision of the tariff, which, while affording room for a very considerable further reduction in rates, will admit of a large expansion of the traffic without necessitating additional expenditure on increasing the number of wires.

The main feature of this scheme consists in the introduction of arrangements which will permit of the disposal of message traffic in order of urgency instead of, as at present, in order of presentation of messages.

Under the present system messages are, with very few exceptions, transmitted in order of receipt without any reference to their comparative urgency; in the case of commercial and "State" telegrams almost the whole of the messages sent are tendered for transmission during the business hours of the day; the result being a great pressure of work for a few hours, while for the rest of the day and night the wires are lying comparatively idle; and messages of great urgency are not infrequently delayed awaiting their turn for transmission while the wires are occupied with messages of less importance in which a delay of some hours would be of no consequence whatever.

On the other hand, messages are delivered on arrival at any hour of the day or night irrespective of their urgency; they are frequently delayed in transit owing to the cause referred to above; and the addressees are needlessly disturbed at night by the receipt of telegrams on which no action can be taken until the following day.

It is obvious that the telegraph officials cannot be the judges of the comparative urgency of messages tendered for transmission; the selection must be made by the senders themselves; and in order to admit of this being done the more readily, the Director-General of Telegraphs proposes to introduce, in addition to the ordinary class of message, two other classes, "deferred" and "urgent."

Messages marked by senders as "deferred" will be received at any time during the working hours of the Telegraph Office, but will be transmitted at the convenience of the Telegraph Department on the understanding that they shall be delivered at their destination early on the following morning. Such messages would usually be transmitted during the night, when the wires are comparatively free, and would be delivered at their destination through the Post Office with the first postal delivery, except at stations where such a procedure would entail too much delay.

Messages marked by the senders as "urgent" will have priority over all ordinary messages, and will be delivered immediately on arrival by special messenger.

Messages marked by the senders as "ordinary" will be dealt with in order of receipt as under the present system, but will yield priority to all "urgent" messages.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council believes that the introduction of the "deferred" message system as sketched out above will prove a very great convenience to the public in improving the service for transmission of really urgent messages, and it will enable a large reduction in average cost of telegraphing to be made, owing to the facilities it would give for utilising the wires for a greater proportion of the twenty-four hours than is possible under the present system.

For "deferred" messages, which may be expected to comprise the great bulk of communications relating to such subjects as mercantile transactions effected, evening résumés of operations between corresponding firms, orders issued too late for execution the same day, modifications of orders already sent by post, and to most of the telegrams on domestic concerns, a very considerable reduction of cost will be possible; for ordinary messages the number of words to be allowed can be slightly increased with safety; but for "urgent" messages it will be necessary to somewhat increase the cost, as the privilege of priority and delivery by special messenger which is accorded to such messages will, while adding considerably to their value to the sender, entail additional cost on the State. It is also necessary to make the rates for "urgent"

messages sufficiently high to restrict such messages to really important communications, as otherwise the value of the priority obtained would be largely reduced.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is accordingly pleased to direct that the telegraph rules be revised on this basis, and has approved of the following tariff:—

The address to be transmitted free in all cases as at present.

Local messages, that is, messages tendered for transmission in ordinary course within a radius of six miles from a central telegraph office.

Four annas for each group of eight words or less.

Deferred messages, that is, messages tendered for transmission at the convenience of the Telegraph Department, but to be delivered at destination early on the following morning.

Minimum charge eight annas for eight words or less, with one anna for each additional word in excess of eight.

Ordinary messages, that is, messages tendered for transmission and delivery in ordinary course.

Minimum charge one rupee for eight words or less, with two annas for each additional word in excess of eight.

Urgent messages, that is, messages tendered for immediate transmission, and delivery with priority over all "ordinary" messages.

Minimum charge two rupees for eight words or less, with four annas for each additional word in excess of eight.

Press messages to be subject to the same rates as above, but four times the number of words are allowed for each rate.

The revised rules and tariff published with this Resolution will come into force on the 1st January 1882.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is further pleased to direct that, with a view to reduce expenditure and to prevent the State business from unduly interfering with private message traffic, all *State* telegraph messages shall be sent as "deferred" unless specially marked as "urgent" by the sender, and that no *State* message shall be despatched as an "ordinary" message.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copy of this Resolution and enclosures be communicated

To the Department of Finance and Commerce.
To the Foreign, Home, Military, and Legislative Departments.
Department of Revenue and Agriculture.
The Government of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh,
and the Punjab, in the Public Works Department.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Assam, and Coorg.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Resident at Mysore (through Foreign Department).
The Agents to the Governor-General for Central India, Rajputana, and Beluchistan.
The Accountant-General, Public Works Department.
The Inspector-General of Military Works.
The Director-General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways,
Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow.

to the departments of the Government of India and to the local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin for information and guidance, with reference to the concluding paragraph.

Also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Director-General of Telegraphs for information and guidance.

Also, that the Resolution and enclosures be published in the *Gazette of India*, and that copies be communicated to the Chambers of Commerce in Bengal, Madras, Bombay, Rangoon, and Karachi.

(Signed)

G. F. L. MARSHALL, Major, R.E.,
for Offg. Secy. to Govt. of India, P.W.D.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT, 19TH DECEMBER 1881, No. 1730.

ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1881, No. 2976 W.

COMMUNICATED to officers and departments of the Madras Government for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1881, No. 1730.

Communicated to all Heads of Departments.

(True Extract.)

A. Davidson
Chief Secretary.

To all Heads of Departments.

Exd. E. C. Shunker and T. O'Connor.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

showing the distribution of the Proceedings of Government,
dated 19th December No. 1730

1730
1

General Department, for information and for communication to Subordinate Officers ..
Public Works Department, do. do. ..
Military Department, do. do. ..

JUDICIAL
Honorable the Judges of the High Court, for information and for communication to ..
Subordinate Officers .. do. do. 31
Inspector-General of Police, do. do. 30
Inspector-General of Jails, do. do. 30
Magistrates of the Town Police Court
Do. of the Egmore Police Court
Judges of the Madras Court of Small Causes
Advocate-General
Government Solicitor
Administrator-General
Coroner of Madras
Inspector-General of Registration
Sheriff of Madras
Government Pleader
Registrar of the Joint Stock Companies

PUBLIC
Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, for information and for communication to Subordinate Officers
Sanitary Commissioner
Health Officer
Committee for the Examination of Assistants
Private Secretary to the Right Honorable the Governor
Government Astronomer
Superintendent, Government Central Museum
Chemical Examiner
Superintendent of Stationery
Superintendent of the Government Press
Inspector of Emigrants
Tamil Translator to Government
Telugu do. to do.
Malayalam do. to do.
Canarese do. to do.
Hindustani do. to do.
Postmaster-General
Superintendent, Electric Telegraphs
Examiner of Medical Accounts
Committee for the Management Government Workhouse, Madras

POLITICAL
Resident in Travancore and Cochin
Government Agent at Chepauk
Do. at Tanjore
Political Agent at Pudukottah
Collector in charge of the Special Agent's Department at Cuddalore
Officer in charge of the Stipend Pay Office at Vellore
British Consular Agent, Pondicherry
Do. Karikal

ECCLIASTICAL
The Right Reverend the Bishop of Madras
Venerable Archdeacon of Madras
Senior Chaplain of the Church of Scotland

MARINE. Master Attendant, Madras, for information and for communication to Subordinate Officers .. 10

FINANCIAL. Accountant-General .. 6
Commissioner of Paper Currency .. 1

EDUCATIONAL. Director of Public Instruction .. 4
Commissioner for the Uncoventured Classes Examinations .. 4

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th November 1881, No. 2976 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 131. Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department (Civil Works—Telegraph), dated Simla, 14th November 1881, Nos. 410-442 T.

Tariff on Incoming Messages.

Read the following papers :—

Resolution by the Government of India Nos. 160-90 T., dated 31st May 1881.
Resolution by the Government of India, No. 442 T., " 6th June "
Letter from the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 447 T., " 10th "

" Government of Bombay, No. 10 T., 727, dated 6th June 1881. "
" Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, dated 28th June 1881. "
" Madras, " 22nd July "

" Government of India, to the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 284 T.,
dated 12th August 1881.

" Government of India, No. 395 T., dated 17th August 1881.

" Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 495 T., dated 19th August 1881.

" " " 497 T., " 19th "

" " " 514 T., " 9th Sept. "

" Government of India, to the Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 344 T.,
dated 28th September 1881.

" Director-General of Telegraphs, No. 548 T., dated 26th October 1881.

OBSERVATIONS.—In the Resolution of the 31st May 1881 His Excellency the Governor-General in Council authorised the introduction of a "word" rate of two annas a word for each word in excess of the minimum charge of one rupee for six words; and indicated the future policy of the Government of India with regard to the development of the telegraph service briefly as follows :—

The Government of India is willing and anxious to forward any scheme for developing and facilitating communication by telegraph so far as this can be done without risk to the interests of the general tax-paying community, but in the interests of that community it is essential that the telegraph service should be self-supporting.

The Government of India, as opportunity arises, will consider measures for the partial amalgamation of the telegraph and postal services so as to secure economy of working.

By the same Resolution the power to authorise the Telegraph Department to erect lines and open offices was with certain necessary restrictions extended to local Governments and Administrations; and the Director-General of Telegraphs was desired to suggest further measures which might encourage the more extended use of the telegraph service by the public, without endangering the financial position of the department.

In accordance with these orders the Director-General of Telegraphs has submitted, for the approval of Government, a scheme for the revision of the tariff, which, while affording room for a very considerable further reduction in rates, will admit of a large expansion of the traffic without necessitating additional expenditure on increasing the number of wires.

The main feature of this scheme consists in the introduction of arrangements which will permit of the disposal of message traffic in order of urgency instead of, as at present, in order of presentation of messages.

Under the present system messages are, with very few exceptions, transmitted in order of receipt without any reference to their comparative urgency; in the case of commercial and "State" telegrams almost the whole of the messages sent are tendered for transmission during the business hours of the day; the result being a great pressure of work for a few hours, while for the rest of the day and night the wires

are lying comparatively idle; and messages of great urgency are not infrequently delayed awaiting their turn for transmission while the wires are occupied with messages of less importance in which a delay of some hours would be of no consequence whatever.

On the other hand, messages are delivered on arrival at any hour of the day or night irrespective of their urgency; they are frequently delayed in transit owing to the cause referred to above; and the addressees are needlessly disturbed at night by the receipt of telegrams on which no action can be taken until the following day.

It is obvious that the telegraph officials cannot be the judges of the comparative urgency of messages tendered for transmission; the selection must be made by the senders themselves; and in order to admit of this being done the more readily, the Director-General of Telegraphs proposes to introduce, in addition to the ordinary class of message, two other classes, "deferred" and "urgent."

Messages marked by senders as "deferred" will be received at any time during the working hours of the Telegraph Office, but will be transmitted at the convenience of the Telegraph Department on the understanding that they shall be delivered at their destination early on the following morning. Such messages would usually be transmitted during the night, when the wires are comparatively free, and would be delivered at their destination through the Post Office with the first postal delivery, except at stations where such a procedure would entail too much delay.

Messages marked by the senders as "urgent" will have priority over all ordinary messages, and will be delivered immediately on arrival by special messenger.

Messages marked by the senders as "ordinary" will be dealt with in order of receipt as under the present system, but will yield priority to all "urgent" messages.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council believes that the introduction of the "deferred" message system as sketched out above will prove a very great convenience to the public in improving the service for transmission of really urgent messages, and it will enable a large reduction in average cost of telegraphing to be made, owing to the facilities it would give for utilising the wires for a greater proportion of the twenty-four hours than is possible under the present system.

For "deferred" messages, which may be expected to comprise the great bulk of communications relating to such subjects as mercantile transactions effected, evening résumés of operations between corresponding firms, orders issued too late for execution the same day, modifications of orders already sent by post, and to most of the telegrams on domestic concerns, a very considerable reduction of cost will be possible; for ordinary messages the number of words to be allowed can be slightly increased with safety; but for "urgent" messages it will be necessary to somewhat increase the cost, as the privilege of priority and delivery by special messenger which is accorded to such messages will, while adding considerably to their value to the sender, entail additional cost on the State. It is also necessary to make the rates for "urgent" messages sufficiently high to restrict such messages to really important communications, as otherwise the value of the priority obtained would be largely reduced.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is accordingly pleased to direct that the telegraph rules be revised on this basis, and has approved of the following tariff:—

The address to be transmitted free in all cases as at present.

Local messages, that is, messages tendered for transmission in ordinary course within a radius of six miles from a central telegraph office.

Four annas for each group of eight words or less.

Deferred messages, that is, messages tendered for transmission at the convenience of the Telegraph Department, but to be delivered at destination early on the following morning.

Minimum charge eight annas for eight words or less, with one anna for each additional word in excess of eight.

Ordinary messages, that is, messages tendered for transmission and delivery in ordinary course.

Minimum charge one rupee for eight words or less, with two annas for each additional word in excess of eight.

Urgent messages, that is, messages tendered for immediate transmission, and delivery with priority over all "ordinary" messages.

Minimum charge two rupees for eight words or less, with four annas for each additional word in excess of eight.

Press messages to be subject to the same rates as above, but four times the number of words are allowed for each rate.

The revised rules and tariff published with this Resolution will come into force on the 1st January 1882.

His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is further pleased to direct that, with a view to reduce expenditure and to prevent the State business from unduly interfering with private message traffic, all State telegraph messages shall be sent as "deferred" unless specially marked as "urgent" by the sender, and that no State message shall be despatched as an "ordinary" message.

ORDER.—Ordered, that copy of this resolution and enclosures be communicated

To the Department of Finance and Commerce.
To the Foreign, Home, Military, and Legislative Departments.
Department of Revenue and Agriculture.
The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North Western Provinces and Oudh,
and the Punjab, in the Public Works Department.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Assam, and Coorg.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Resident at Mysore (through Foreign Department).
The Agents to the Governor-General for Central India, Ajputana, and Beluchistan.
The Accountant-General, Public Works Department.
The Inspector-General of Military Works.
The Director-General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India, Guaranteed Railways,
Calcutta, Lahore and Lucknow.

to the departments of the Government of India and to the local Governments and Administrations noted in the margin for information and guidance, with reference to the concluding paragraph.

Also, that a copy of this Resolution forwarded to the Director-General of Telegraphs for information and guidance.

Also, that the Resolution and enclosures be published in the *Gazette of India*, and that copies be communicated to the Chambers of Commerce in Bengal, Madras, Bombay, Rangoon, and Karachi.

(Signed) G. F. L. MARSHALL, Major, R.E.,
for Offg. Secy. to Govt. of India, P.W.D.

No. 132. ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1881, No. 2976 W.

COMMUNICATED to officers and departments of the Madras Government for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Col., R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Consulting Engineer for Railways.
To Superintending Engineers.
To the Consulting Architect to Government.
" General Superintendent, Public Works Stores and Workshops.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Examiner of Railway Accounts.
" Public, &c., Departments.
" Revenue Department.
" Military "

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

4 Spare Copies

Order 19th Dec 1881, No 173.
Council, & all
heads of depts.
24-3-17
17/11/81

(Telegraphs)

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

1. of 1881 33rd Dec.

PUBLIC WORKS.

DISPOSED

19 DEC 81
D. No. 1730
THE CHIEF ENGINEER
FOR IRRIGATION,

R.D. &c. &c. &c.
3 DEC 81

CURRENT No. 2642

Encl.
V.C.

29th November 1881, No. 2976 W.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 131-132.

To all heads of
depts dis.
16/11

5/12/81

Inserted
21st Dec 1881

iff on Inland Messages.—Resolution of
overnment of India regarding —, com-
uted to the officers of the Public
Department.

Handwritten signature