

Public Works (1890) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 207 Ry

DATED 8th February

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Receipts and Charges, South Indian Railway
for 1888-89. — Review by the Government
of India of the — Communicated to the Cons-
ulting Engineer for Railways.*

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

No. 67 A.—R.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. ACCOUNT. Railway.

Calcutta, the 24th January 1890.

SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

Review of Receipts and Charges for 1888-89.

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution No. 682 A.—R., dated 30th October 1888.

Read also—

The following note by Lieut.-Col. A. G. Begbie, R.E., Officiating Accountant General, Public Works Department,—No. 39 R., dated 11th January 1890.

CAPITAL.

The transactions are compared with the Budget and Revised Estimates and with the actuals of 1887-88, in the following table:—

FINANCIAL HEAD.	1887-88.	1888-89.		
	Actuals.	Budget Estimate.	Revised Estimate.	Actuals.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
"CAPITAL OF RAILWAY COMPANY."				
<i>"Net Payments."</i>				
Payments into Treasury . . .	17,80,692	18,75,000	18,85,000	20,62,509
Withdrawals from Treasury . .	10,09,366	12,00,000	13,50,000	13,04,705
Net Payments . . .	—7,71,326	—6,75,000	—5,35,000	—7,57,804

Payments into Treasury.

2. The payments into treasury during 1888-89 are Rs. 2,81,817 more than in 1887-88. The increase is attributed chiefly to greater consumption of stores by revenue owing to heavy renewals, and to abnormal refunds on account of (1) the construction of rolling stock for the Villupuram-Guntakul Railway, Nellore Branch; (2) adjustment of expenditure incurred on the Villupuram-Guntakul Railway; and (3) the cost of re-aligning the beach line, Madras.

3. The excess of Rs. 1,87,509 and Rs. 1,77,509 in the actuals over the Budget and Revised Estimates, respectively, is explained to be due to the consumption of stores by revenue being heavier than was anticipated.

Withdrawals from Treasury.

4. The outlay was Rs. 2,95,339 more during the year under review than in 1887-88. The excess is owing to increased expenditure in connection with Stores and Miscellaneous, the expenditure on Construction and Establishments being somewhat less than in the previous year.

5. Compared with the Budget Estimate, the actuals show an excess of Rs. 1,04,705. The excess appears entirely under Stores and Miscellaneous. The outlay on Stores exceeded the Budget provision by Rs. 2,72,078, due chiefly to extensive purchases of teak timber, and the charges falling under the head Miscellaneous exceeded the provision by Rs. 94,152, which is attributed to transactions in connection with the Villupuram-Guntakul Railway which were not provided for. On the other hand, there were savings on the provi-

sion for Engineering and Locomotive works, which have not been explained; and on the provision for establishment, which is attributed to construction works having been closed and the staff being transferred to the Villupuram-Guntakul Railway in December 1888.

6. The decrease of Rs. 45,295 in the actuals as compared with the Revised Estimate is accounted for principally by a short outlay of Rs. 1,43,627 on Engineering works, of which no explanation has been furnished. This saving was absorbed, to a considerable extent, by increased expenditure under the heads *Stores* and *Miscellaneous*.

REVENUE.

7. The Revenue transactions are compared with the actuals of 1887-88 and with the Budget and Revised Estimates in the following table:—

FINANCIAL HEAD.	1887-88.	1888-89.		
	Actuals.	Budget Estimate.	Revised Estimate	Actuals.
XXVII.—GUARANTEED COMPANIES.				
“Net traffic receipts.”	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Payments into Treasury—				
Administrative	51,07,049	51,50,000	54,50,000	54,88,007
Suspense	1,68,447	3,50,000	6,25,000	6,47,052
Financial	52,75,496	55,00,000	60,75,000	61,35,059
Withdrawals from Treasury—				
Administrative	37,23,773	37,00,000	37,25,000	38,20,174
Suspense	2,11,522	3,50,000	6,25,000	6,22,359
Financial	39,35,295	40,50,000	43,50,000	44,42,533
Net Traffic Receipts—				
Administrative	13,83,276	14,50,000	17,25,000	16,37,833
Suspense	—43,075	...	...	24,693
Financial	13,40,201	14,50,000	17,25,000	16,92,526

Payments into Treasury.

8. The payments into treasury during the year under review exceed the payments into treasury during 1887-88 by Rs. 8,59,563, as under:—

Increase in Earnings	Rs.
Increase in Suspense	3,80,953
	4,78,605

There has been a satisfactory expansion of traffic, both under Coaching and Goods, the improvement under the former being attributable chiefly to development of third class passenger traffic. The increase under Suspense is owing chiefly to the transactions in connection with the Nellore Branch of the Villupuram-Guntakul Railway having considerably exceeded those of the previous year, during which that line was worked for a few months only.

9. Compared with the Budget Estimate the actuals are more by Rs. 6,35,059, as follows:—

	Rs.
Increase in Earnings	3,38,007
Increase in Suspense	2,97,052

The Budget Estimate was based on the transactions of the previous year, but as stated in the preceding paragraph, there was a very satisfactory improvement both in Coaching and Goods traffic during the year under review. As already stated the improvement under Coaching traffic is chiefly in third class passenger traffic; the improvement under Goods traffic can only be attributed to the ordinary expansion of traffic generally and not to any particular causes. The increase in Suspense is ascribed to the transactions in connection with the Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway having being underestimated.

10. The increase of Rs. 60,059 in the actuals over the Revised Estimate is arrived at as under:—

	Rs.
Increase in Earnings	38,007
Increase in Suspense	22,052

The differences between the actual and estimated transactions both under Earnings and Suspense are comparatively small.

Withdrawals from Treasury.

11. The actual withdrawals during 1888-89 exceeded those of 1887-88 by Rs. 5,07,238, as under:—

	Rs.
Increase in Working Expenses	96,401
Increase in Suspense	4,10,837

The increase in Working Expenses is shewn to be due principally to increased charges under Loss by Exchange. The increase in Suspense is due chiefly to the transactions connected with the working of the Nellore Branch of the Villupuram-Guntakul Railway.

12. Compared with the Budget Estimate, the actuals are more by Rs. 3,92,533, as follows:—

	Rs.
Increase in Working Expenses	1,20,174
Increase in Suspense	2,72,359

The excess over the Budget provision for Working Expenses appears almost entirely under *Maintenance* and *Locomotive Expenses*. The excess under the former is due chiefly to special renewals of line not apparently provided for, to insufficient provision for repairs of bridges and buildings, and increased charges under Loss by Exchange. Under *Locomotive Expenses* the excess occurs chiefly under *Fuel*, owing to increased consumption entailed by the heavier traffic, and under *Unclassified Expenditure*, to increased charges under Loss by Exchange. The excesses under these heads were partly counter-balanced by savings under *Carriage and Wagon* and *Traffic Expenses* and *General Charges*—the result apparently of excessive estimates under nearly all minor heads. The excess over the estimate of *Suspense* is ascribed to the cause explained under this head in para. 9.

13. The increase of Rs. 92,533 in the actuals over the Revised Estimate is as under:—

	Rs.
Increase in Working Expenses	95,174
Decrease in Suspense	2,641
Resulting in a net increase of	92,533

The excess over the provision for Working Expenses in the Revised Estimate occurs entirely under *Locomotive Expenses*, which have exceeded the estimate by Rs. 1,71,927. This large excess appears chiefly under the minor

heads Fuel, Maintenance and Renewals of Engines and Machinery, and Unclassified Expenditure. The excesses, as in the cases of the excesses over Budget Estimate, are attributed chiefly to increased consumption of fuel and increased charges for Loss by Exchange; but as the actuals for several months were known when the Revised Estimate was prepared, the explanation cannot be considered satisfactory. This excess was counterbalanced to a certain extent by the savings in the provision for *Carriage and Wagon Expenses* and *General Charges*, owing to the transactions under these heads having been overestimated.

Suspense Transactions.

14. The Suspense balances at the close of the year were as under:—

Stores Suspense Account.

	Rs.
1. General Stores	14,32,411
2. Material missing	589
3. Carriage and Wagon Shop	4,70,888
4. Engineering Workshop	2,24,667
5. Manufactures	32,411
6. Permanent-way Stores	9,73,471
7. Stores in transit	1,76,953

Capital Advance Account.

8. Home Payments	2,634
9. Government Telegraph Department	47
10. Mayaveram-Mutupet Survey	618
11. Foreign Railways	950
12. Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway, Nellore Branch	63
13. Local Fund Board, Madura	1,212
14. Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway	45,493
15. Public Works Department, Madras	2,145
16. Capital Advance Account, India	28,694

Revenue Account.

17. Pay and Allowances	1,14,886
18. Revenue Liabilities	65,297
19. Revenue Advance Account	45,637
20. Madras Railway, Traffic Account	640
21. Station Remittances	28,517
22. Station Liabilities	89,454
23. Pondicherry Railway, Traffic Account	19,974
24. Chief Engineer's Account	13
25. Survey Advances	4,407
26. Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway	51
27. Cash in hand	18,257
28. Bank of Madras	63,196
29. Government Telegraph, Traffic Account	69
30. Revenue Refunds	8,048
31. Fire Insurance Fund	1,22,133
32. Government Securities	7,50,654
33. Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway, Nellore Branch, Traffic Account	66,913
34. Messrs. Cook and Sons	692
35. Cashier's Imprest Account	7,755

36. Post-audited Disallowances	1
37. Traffic Claims	162
38. Contractor's Deposit Account	21,981
39. Fine Fund	1,26,593
40. Unclaimed Moneys	20,110
41. Guarantee Fund	5,47,188
42. Madras Railway Sundries	242
43. Miscellaneous Advances	754
44. Government Refunds	265
45. Madras Municipality	75
46. Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway, Nellore Branch	5
47. Income Tax	36
48. Freight Deposits	440
49. Puducotta Survey	145
50. Mayaveram-Mutupet Survey	697

15. The Examiner of Accounts reports that these balances are current and efficient, with the exception of items Nos. 1,3,4,6,8,13,25,43 and 49, on which the following remarks have been made:—

General Stores.—The special count that was in hand last year is completed, but the results are not yet known.

Carriage and Wagon Shops.—Stock was taken last December departmentally, and is now being taken at one depôt by Audit Department.

Engineering Workshops.—Efficient, with the exception of two irrecoverable items, viz., Rs. 9-7-0 due by Colonel Mourough, and Rs. 7-10-0 by Mr. W. M. Shaw.

Permanent-way Stores.—These stores are being transferred monthly to General Stores on the basis of a joint count. The results are not yet worked out.

Home Payments Account.—A discrepancy of Rs. 718-13-5 still exists between the balance under this head and that shewn in the Company's Ledger Balance Book, due to transactions before the Company booked with the Government Treasury.

Local Fund Board, Madura.—The balance under this head is outstanding since January 1888, which will be adjusted when the work on account of which the amount is held is completed.

Survey Advances.—The balance will be transferred to Villupuram-Dharmavaram Railway in April 1889.

Miscellaneous Advances.—Reported to be current and probably all efficient, but rent to be refunded still requires to be adjusted.

Puducotta Survey.—The balance under the head is outstanding, it is said, since January 1887. This refers to a survey still under discussion and which will be adjusted when the subject is finally disposed of.

As regards items 31, 32 and 38 to 41, the Examiner remarks as follows:—

Fire Insurance Fund and Government Securities.—It is reported that the balances were lately inspected by the Chief Auditor and were found satisfactory.

Contractor's Deposit Account, Fine Fund, Unclaimed Moneys and Guarantee Fund.—The assets of these funds are invested, it is said, partly in Government Securities and partly in the Bank of Madras, and partly in hand.

Financial Results.

16. The net amount of Capital withdrawn in England and in India during, and to the end of, the year 1888-89 is exhibited in the following table :—

	During the year.			To end of the year.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
In England	19,34,919	1	5	3,75,20,593	3	6
In India	7,57,803	15	2	1,15,46,211	13	1
Total	11,77,115	2	3	4,90,66,805	0	7

17. The net earnings shewn in the Administrative Account yield 3.40 per cent. on the total Capital outlay to the end of the year.

OBSERVATIONS.—The attention of the Government of Madras is invited to para. 15 of the Accountant General's note, with a request that the adjustment of the outstandings therein specially referred to may receive early consideration.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the note by the Accountant General, Public Works Department, be forwarded to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, for information.

P.W. Dantia Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

No. 977R 415-11-88

No. 204R 8th Feb/90.

Communicated to the
Consulting Engineer for
Railways in continuation of
Procs. No. 977R, dated 15th
November 1888.

2- Attention is directed to
para 15 of the Accountant
General's note.

The Comptroller for Rgs.
Exr. Rds. Rys. Auto.
4-2-90 R. 6-2-90