

Public Works (1890) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 690 Ry.

DATED 19th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Irregular payment of Coolies. — Correspondence regarding the same in Mr. Brook Fox's district, Villuputuram - Guntakal State Railway, recorded.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

The Secretary to the Governor in Council
 Fort St. George,
 Madras.

Respected Sir,

The undersigned most humbly begs to inform these few lines to your honour, hoping that these prayers will be kindly upheld and the reports taken for due Considerations:

In days long gone by, works of various descriptions were executed by our Ancestors, with impartial justice, and those helpmates whom they engaged were well paid in due time, just as it is expected now-a-days, and the works left after by such workmen, are taken a sample for long standing ones. Whereas, if the Govt. or the Company execute such works without paying the hard-working helpmates (Coolies) the cry of such helpmates from starvation, would — we are afraid of penning — doubtless reduce the works to ruins, in course of days, and would not a little be boastful of standing side by side with the works of above description.

It is usually the case in all Industrial Septs, such as, D. W. P., Local Sand Septs, Laboratories, Factories, Cotton and other Manufactories, M. S. Company, Harbour Works, to pay their hardworking Coolies every week or at least every month at their requests.

III. The South Indian Railway works were started in North Arcot early in the year 1888. The Executive Engineer, F. G. Brook Fox Esq., is appointed to manage the Railway works. He neither pays the Coolies weekly nor monthly. The Coolies who are at work in such hot days, suffer from starvation, and when paid they are paid a week's wage for that of a month's. Would their starvation and wages in arrears produce any profit to the Government? It is divinely charitable, if, instead of forcing or at least killing the Coolies like ourselves, the Exec. Engineers, Sub Engineers, and other officials be paid Quarterly with a month's payment. This will show a great surplus to the Govt.

IV The poor suffer and starve and the fellow-creatures enjoy and are surfeited. Would to God that the poor be left helpless, even when work for their maintenance, while once He hath ordained Adam to live with what he earned by the sweat of his brow? This seems quite against the destiny of the Lord.

Wherefore, we, poor helpless coolies,
most humbly request your paternal generosity, to kindly design allevi-
ate our sufferings and pass an order to Mr. D. Logan, Chief

Engineer, that our wages may be paid every week
& thus rescue us from the influence of South Indian ~~Traders~~ ^{Traders}
North Arcot,
7th April 1890.

Respected Sir,
Your most obedt & humble servants,

- S/d Ramasawmy
- Moathuray,
- Karayanam,
- Sya Kunnoo,
- Clearasawmy,
- Priya Sawmy,
- Chinnasawmy,
- Geoppusawmy,
- Kristnasawmy,
- Goobramanyam,
- Peeran,
- Goobrayen,
- Mooroogasan,
- Kanthan,
- Appasawmy,
- Arumagan,
- Manasingu

O all Cooks:-

No. 1951 C d 21 April 90

Referred to the Com.
Sitting Engineer for Railways
for report.

Quadrant Krishnan
Lt Col. Rb.

Ag. Secy. to Govt. P.W. Department

14/4/90

Am. 16.4.90 R 17.4.90

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 3614

From Ramasawmy & others
Coolies employed on
S.I. Ry. Works
N. Arcot

No.

Dated 7-4-90

Received 14-4-90

SUBJECT.

Requesting that early
orders may be issued
to Mr. S. Logan, Chief
Engineer of the S.I. Ry. Co.,
for the weekly payment
of their wages.

DISPOSAL.

No. 1951 C dated 21 April 90

Referred to the
Comg. Engr. for Rys.
for report.

14/4 RRB. AB
21/4 For. R

No 639

South Indian Railway,
AGENT'S OFFICE,

TRICHINOPOLY, 4th May 1890

From

The AGENT,
SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY,

To

The CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR RAILWAYS,
MADRAS.

Sir,

In returning herewith the petition which accompanies your letter No 446 of the 25th ultimo, I have to submit for the information of Govt. the following copy of a report which I have received from the Chief Engineer.

"I find that although professing to pay his
"day Coolies only one week in arrears, and
"his plating Coolies monthly, there has,
"in my opinion, been undue delay in
"settling up some of the Muster Rolls on
"Mr. Brook's District. His explanation
"of this is not altogether satisfactory,
"although Mr. Brook has had difficulties
"to contend with in connection with the
"inefficiency of Inspectors &c. He has
"however made fresh arrangements to insure
"greater promptness in payments and
"I have requested the Dy. Chief Engineer
"whose head quarters are at Vellore
"to give his special attention to seeing
"that no unnecessary delay in
"payments

"is permitted in future."

I am
Sir

Your most obedt. Servant

William E. Betts:

Agent.

P.W. Dept
4454/90.

REGISTER

599

Form No. 1.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE OF CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR RAILWAYS,

Madras, 10th May 1890.

Letter from the Agent, South Indian Railway,
No 639 dated 7th May 1890.

No. 332.

SUBMITTED _____ to _____ Government.

with reference to G.O. No. 1951 C
dated 21st April 1890 (herewith
returned.)

Under arrangements now
made it is hoped there will be
no unnecessary delay in the
future payment of Coolies
employed in Mr. Brook Fox's
District.

R. D. G. M. S. Captain, R.E.

By: Comd. Engrs. for Railways.

R

From
THE AGENT,
South Indian Railway,
Trichinopoly.

To
THE CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR
RAILWAYS,
Madras.

Dated
Received
No. 639
May 1890
ENCLOSURE.

To Govt.

Hon: Jas. H. E. St. John, C.S.D.

For orders..

Quadrant. Buchanan

Lt Col: R.R.

Ag: J. H. Secy: to Govt: P. W. Deptt:

Received

to

7 may

Form No. 3.

From

THE CONSULTING ENGINEER
FOR RAILWAYS,
MAD

No. 332

Dated 10

Received

1890

No. OF ENCLOSURES. 2

Subject.

Submitting correspondence
regarding irregular payments
of coolies employed in
the Brook Force's District
Villupuram gun at Kal
State Railway.

13

h. 690 R 2 19th May/90.

Q2C 79/5.

Apr. 16/5 R 17. 5. 90