

Public Works (1894) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 475. R

DATED 7th September

[Despatch Abstract.]

Madras Railway— Correspondence from the Govt of India limiting the powers of the Agent of the — to authorise expenditure on behalf of the Board to Rs 2500 for each complete work whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue, communicated to the Agent & Manager.

BACK PAPERS.

[illegible]

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

7TH SEPTEMBER 1891, No. 475 R., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Railway.

Read the following papers :—

From the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department,
Railway Branch, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works
Department, dated 15th September 1893, No. 3128 C.

With reference to the orders contained at the end of paragraph 1 of letter No. 835 R.C., dated 25th August 1893, I am directed to forward an extract from a letter from the Madras Board of Directors, No. 543, dated 18th December 1874, and to inquire whether the Government of India consider this authority sufficient in this and similar cases.

ENCLOSURES.

Extract from a letter from the Board, dated the 18th December 1874, No. 543.

The Board hereby authorise you to act for them in the matter of expenditure chargeable to Revenue . . . and they do not desire that proposals for new works, with the exception of large bridges, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue, should be submitted to them unless in the possible event, referred to in paragraph 11 of No. 513, of a difference of opinion existing between their officers and those of the Government as to the expediency of any work.

Extract from a letter from the Secretary to the Board of Directors, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, dated London, 18th July 1873, No. 513.

11. *Board's view on proposed new rules for sanction of future expenditure.*—The Board have had under consideration the rules embodied in order of Government No. 751, dated 8th March 1873, and referred to in paragraphs 21 to 29 of No. 1041 laid down by the Government of India for the sanction of future expenditure for works, &c., in substitution for those contained in Public Works Department Resolution of the 6th February 1871, and they entirely approve of the observations which Mr. Elwin, after consultation with the heads of departments concerned, addressed to the Government Consulting Engineer on the subject. It appears to the Board that no benefit would be obtained by the operation of the first part of the resolution unless there were some portion of the original estimate which, subsequent to its sanction, had been found unnecessary. A considerable amount of trouble and correspondence would therefore be saved if, instead of cancelling the original estimate, it were ruled that within six months of the opening of any portion of a line of railway it should be inspected by the local Consulting Engineer and Chief Engineer and a report made of any part of the original estimate which ought to be cancelled, or any modifications which might be thought requisite. The proposal that the Local Governments should sanction expenditure to an extent not exceeding Rs. 10,000 in each case will be a very great improvement and much facilitate the despatch of business; but the Board do not think it necessary to refer the estimates for their approval unless there be doubts expressed by their own officers or the Consulting Engineer's department as to the expediency of the new works contemplated by them, in which case they would wish to be consulted. In regard to stores, it appears to be undesirable, as the work of construction is not yet completed, to make any change in the present system till a decision has been arrived at respecting the proper limit of reserve for working expenses.

Letter from the Government of India, dated 3rd October 1933, No. 1002 R.C.

" to " " " " 18th " " " 1076 D.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (Railway Construction), to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, dated Simla, the 10th November 1893, No. 1171 R.C.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letters marginally noted*

* No. 3128 C., dated 18th September 1893.

No. 1076 D., dated 18th October 1893.

† No. 513, dated 18th July 1893.

No. 543, dated 18th December 1874.

enquiring whether the general authority contained in the letters† of the Board of Directors, Madras Railway Company, to their Agent, under which he is empowered to deal with proposals for new works except for large bridges, is sufficient in

the case of the estimate amounting to Rs. 1,75,663 of the cost of certain alterations and additions to the Bangalore City station, Madras Railway.

2. In reply, I am to say that as the amount involved in the present instance is considerable, it would be more satisfactory to have the specific approval of the Board of Directors to the expenditure, and that the Government of India therefore prefer to defer their formal sanction to the estimate pending the receipt of the Board's approval.

3. The Board's letter No. 513, dated 18th July 1873, is returned herewith as requested.

From the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 14th November 1893, No. 3767 C.

In continuation of my letter No. 1076 D. of 18th October 1893, I am directed to forward a copy of a paragraph of letter from the Madras Railway Board to their Agent No. 873 of 28th October 1892 and to remark that the words "any structure" may possibly be held to modify the extract from letter No. 543 of 18th December 1874 quoted and to refer to stations or buildings or works other than bridges. The Agent's reading is given in his No. 970 of 7th November, but I consider a reference should be made to the Board.

ENCLOSURES.

Extract from a letter from the Secretary, Board of Directors, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, dated 61, New Broad Street, London, E.C., 28th October 1892, No. 873.

3. As to forwarding estimates to the Board.—From paragraph 17 of No. 2049 it is observed that the Consulting Engineer is of opinion that, under the ruling of the Board in paragraph 10 of their No. 543, dated 18th December 1874, the estimates for strengthening the Thootha, Booga and other bridges should have been submitted for the formal sanction of the Board. This ruling was, however, as you suppose, intended to apply to new works and not to those already existing. As regards the bridges in question, the design had already been submitted to the Board and approved by them and their Consulting Engineer, and when the principle has once been settled as in this case, the Board do not desire that estimates may be specially submitted for their previous sanction, although these amounts should be reported for information. But when a radical alteration in any structure may be proposed involving a large outlay, they would desire to have forwarded to them both plans and estimates before such work is undertaken.

From the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, dated Madras, 7th November 1893, No. 970.

With reference to our conversation this morning, I write to say that I do not gather that the Board intended, when drafting paragraph 3 of their letter No. 873 of the 28th October 1892, to annul their ruling in paragraph 10 of No. 543 of 18th December 1874. I take it that the word "structure" was introduced into letter No. 873 to prevent a repetition of the word bridges.

Copies of all letters and sanctions relating to the charges at both Bangalore City and Kolar Road stations have been already submitted to the Board for their perusal and information.

In your demi-official of the 4th instant you refer to an official letter which you proposed to send me on the subject of the Board's letter No. 873, but up to date no official letter from you has reached me.

From the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, dated 3rd February 1894, No. 510 C.

In continuation of my No. 3767 C. of 14th November 1893, I am directed to forward a copy of a letter from the Board of the Madras Railway Company in reply to a reference made to them, from which it appears that the Agent's contention was correct.

This leaves the question unsettled as the Government of India considers it more satisfactory—vide letter No. 1171 R.C. of 10th November—when the amount involved is considerable that the specific approval of the Board of Directors should be given before estimates are submitted, and I am therefore to suggest that estimates over Rs. 50,000 should in all cases receive the Board's specific sanction before submission to the Government of India.

ENCLOSURE.

Extract from a letter from the Board of Directors, Madras Railway, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, dated 5th January 1894, No. 892.

11. Interpretation to be placed on words "any structure."—It is observed from paragraph 14 of No. 2119 that a question has arisen as to what interpretation is to be placed upon the words "any structure" which occur in paragraph 3 of the Board's letter No. 873 with reference to the submission for their approval of estimates for large works. Replying to your enquiry, I am to inform you that you are correct in supposing that the words in question were there used simply to avoid a repetition of the word "bridges," and it was not intended to modify in any way the orders of the Board as conveyed in paragraph 10 of their letter No. 543.

Endorsement from the Government of India, Public Works Department (Railway Construction), dated Simla, the 27th August 1894, No. 805 R.C.

The undermentioned papers are forwarded to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department (Railway Branch), for information with reference to correspondence ending with his letter No. 510 C., dated the 3rd February 1894.

(By Order.)

(Signed) L. G. PRICKETT,
Offg. Under Secretary.

ENCLOSURES.

Despatch from the Government of India, Public Works Department (Railway Construction), to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, dated Simla, the 25th April 1894, No. 24, Railway.

We have the honour to forward a letter* from the Government of Madras suggesting that in the case of works on the Madras Railway which are estimated to cost over Rs. 50,000, the estimates should receive the specific sanction of the Board of Directors before their submission to the Government of India.

2. With reference to this suggestion, we would invite attention to the correspondence from the Board of Directors of the Madras Railway Company recorded in the Proceedings marginally noted, especially to the Board's letters, dated 18th December 1874 and 28th October 1892, recorded as Nos. 79 and 85 of the Proceedings, 68-89, Part A.

from which it will be observed that the Board have authorized their Agent in India to act for them in the matter of all expenditure chargeable to Revenue, and that they do not desire that proposals for new works, with the exception of large bridges, whether chargeable against Capital or Revenue, should be submitted to them unless in the possible event of a difference of opinion existing between the Company's officers and those of Government as to the expediency of the works.

3. The usual practice on the several Companies' railways in India is for the Boards to exercise more or less control over estimates for works, and this control, we are of opinion, has proved efficacious in leading to economy. It does not seem to us desirable to give the Agent of the Madras Railway more extended powers than have been granted to the Agents of other Companies.

of similar importance, and we have, therefore, to request that you will settle, in direct communication with the Board of the Madras Railway Company, the exact powers which should be entrusted to their Agent in India.

4. As a matter of convenience, it does not seem necessary that the Agent's powers should be larger than the powers of sanction which the Local Government can exercise, viz., up to a limit of Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 5th July 1894, No. 52, Railway.

Your Excellency's Railway letter, No. 24, dated the 25th April 1894, drew my attention to the extensive powers which had been given to the Agent of the Madras Railway Company to authorize expenditure on behalf of the Board and suggested that a reference should be made to the Directors with a view to limiting the powers delegated to that officer.

2. I now forward, for your Excellency's information, a copy of correspondence which has passed on the subject with the Directors of the Company, from which it will be seen that the Board accept the limit suggested in the 4th paragraph of your letter, viz., Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

From the Under Secretary of State for India, to the Secretary, Board of Directors, Madras Railway, dated India Office, 6th June 1894, P.W. No. 838.

I am directed to acquaint you that the Government of India have recently drawn the attention of the Secretary of State to the powers delegated by the Board of Directors of the Madras Railway Company in their letters of 18th December 1874 and 28th October 1892 to their Agent in India to act for them in the matter of all expenditure on new works chargeable to Capital or Revenue except in the case of large bridges.

The Government of India consider that the powers at present delegated are excessive and would limit them to a sum of Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

It appears to the Secretary of State that the suggested limit might with advantage be imposed on the Agent, and Mr. Fowler hopes that the Board, on reconsideration of the matter, will concur with him in this conclusion.

From the Secretary, Board of Directors, Madras Railway, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 61, New Broad Street, London, E.C., 13th June 1894, No. 7776.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of India Office letter, P.W. No. 838, dated 6th instant, stating that the Government of India consider that the powers delegated by the Board to their Agent to act for them in the matter of expenditure on new works, except in the case of large bridges, are excessive and would limit them to a sum of Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

In reply, I am directed to inform you that the Board concur in the Secretary of State's conclusion that the suggested limit may with advantage be imposed on their Agent and Manager who will be instructed accordingly.

ORDER—dated 7th September 1894, No. 475 R., Public Works.

Communicated to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Railway Branch.

To the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.
„ Examiner, Guaranteed Railway Accounts.

Encl. C. A. Maniammy.
Spare Copies

RAILWAY.

Govt. of {1894} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated September, 7th.

Read.

Encl.

G.O., 7th Sept. 1894, No. 475 R.

SEPTEMBER.

Madras Railway

Correspondence from the Government of India limiting the powers of the Agent of the — to authorise expenditure on behalf of the Board to Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue, communicated to the Agent and Manager.

Para 11 of letter No: 513 dated London 18th July 1873,

from the Secretary to the Board of Directors, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.

Board's view on proposed new rules for sanction of future expenditure.

The Board have had under consideration the rules embodied in Order of Government No. 751, dated 8th March 1873, and referred to in paras. 21 to 29 of 1,044, laid down by the Government of India for the sanction of future expenditure for works, &c., in substitution for those contained in Public Works Department Resolution of the 6th February, 1871, and they entirely approve of the observations which Mr. Elwin, after consultation with the heads of departments concerned, addressed to the Government Consulting Engineer on the subject. It appears to the Board that no benefit would be obtained by the operation of the first part of the resolution, unless there were some portion of the original estimate which, subsequent to its sanction, had been found unnecessary. A considerable amount of trouble and correspondence would therefore be saved, if, instead of cancelling the original estimate, it were ruled ^{that} within six months of the opening of any portion of a line of railway it should be inspected by the local Consulting Engineer and Chief Engineer, and a report made of any part of the original estimate which ought to be cancelled, or any modifications which might be thought requisite. The proposal that the Local Governments should sanction expenditure to an extent not exceeding Rs. 10,000 in each case will be a very great improvement and much facilitate the despatch of business; but the Board do not think it necessary to refer the estimates for their approval, unless there be doubts expressed by their own officers or the Consulting Engineer's department as to the expediency of

the new works contemplated by them, in which case they would wish to be consulted. In regard to stores, it -- appears to be undesirable, as the work of construction is not yet completed, to make any change in the present system till a decision has been arrived at respecting the proper limit of reserve for working expenses.

Extract from a letter from the Board N^o 513
dated the 18th December 1874

The Board hereby authorise you to act for them in the matter of expenditure chargeable to Revenue x x x and they do not desire that proposals for new works, with the exception of large bridges, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue should be submitted to them, unless in the possible event, referred to in para. 11 of 513, of a difference of opinion existing between their officers and those of the Government as to the expediency of any work.

(True Extract)

Louis. S. M. D.

Agent and Manager

Recd 18/12/74

No. 1171 R. C.

All communications
should be addressed to
the Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY Construction.

To

The Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Railway Branch, Public Works Department.

Simla, the 10th November 1893.

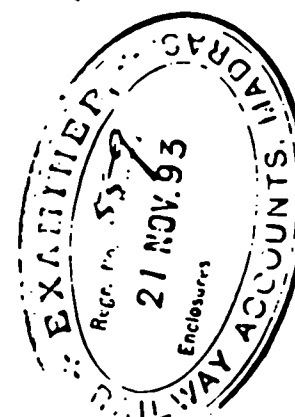
Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your

letters marginally noted
No. 3128 C. dated 18th September 1893 enquiring whether the
No. 1076 B. dated 18th October 1893 general authority
contained in the letters
No. 513 dated 18th July 1893. of the Board of Directors
No. 543 dated 18th December 1874. Madras Railway Company,
to their Agent, under

which he is empowered to deal with proposals for new works,
except for large bridges, is sufficient in the case of the
estimate amounting to Rs. 1,75,663 of the cost of certain
alterations and additions to the Bangalore city Station,
Madras railway.

2. In reply I am to say that as the amount involved in
the present instance is considerable, it would be more satis-
factory to have the specific approval of the Board of
Directors to the expenditure, and that the Government of
India therefore prefer to defer their formal sanction to the
estimate



No. 9866

estimate pending the receipt of the Board's approval.

3. The Board's letter, No. 513 dated 18th July 1873, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ is returned herewith as requested.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. A. K. M.

Under Secretary.

Document accompanying:-

Letter from the Board of Directors, Madras Railway company, No. 513 dated 18th July 1873.

No. 20.11.93

No. 910
28.11.93

Copy forwarded to

the Agent & Manager Madras Railway with reference to letter No. 738 of 18th Sept 1893.

M. A.

No. 2504 17/11 ER

Copy to be sent to the Agent & Manager Madras Railway with reference to No. 2006 of 11.9.93

(A. & M. L.)

No. 970

MADRAS RAILWAY.

AGENT AND MANAGER'S OFFICE,

Madras, 7th November 1893

From

The Agent and Manager. M. A. B.

To

The Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Sir,

With reference to our conversation this morning, I write to say that I do not gather that the Board intended when drafting para. 3 of their letter 873 of the 28th October 1892 to annul their ruling in para. 10 of 513 of 18th December 1874. I take it that the word "structure" was introduced into letter 873 to prevent a repetition of the word Bridges.

Copies of all letters and sanctions relating to the charges at both Bangalore City and Kolar Road stations have been already submitted

of
submitted to the Board for their perusal
and information.

In your semi official
of the 11th instant you refer to an official
letter which you proposed to send me
on the subject of the Board's letter 873.
but up to date no official letter from
you has reached me.

I have the honor to be,
^{Sir}
(You most obedt Servt.

Louis. S. Moss.

Agent & Manager

1169
1122

From
The Agent and Manager.
MADRAS RAILWAY.
To
The Consulting Engineer
for Railways.
Dated
Recd.
No.

P.W.
1984
1892

No. 874.
MADRAS RAILWAY COMPANY,
61, NEW BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C., 28th October 1892.

SIR,

Receipt of
letters, &c.

I am directed by the Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, Nos. 2,057 to 2,059, with their enclosures, Indent No. 684, and Bill of Exchange for £35 11s. 4d. on account of H. J. Smith and others.

Mr. Wake's
premium paid by
him.

2. I am to inform you, with reference to para. 4 of No. 2,055, that I have received from Mr. T. Wake the amount of his guarantee premium, which became due on the 13th inst.

As to forwarding
Estimates to the
Board.

3. From para. 17 of No. 2,049 it is observed that the Consulting Engineer is of opinion that under the ruling of the Board in para. 19 of their No. 543, dated 18th December, 1874, the estimates for strengthening the Thootha, Booga and other bridges should have been submitted for the formal sanction of the Board. This ruling was, however, as you suppose, intended to apply to new works, and not to those already existing. As regards the bridges in question, the design had already been submitted to the Board, and approved by them and their Consulting Engineer, and when the principle has once been settled, as in this case, the Board do not desire that estimates may be specially submitted for their previous sanction, although these amounts should be reported for information. But when a radical alteration in any structure may be proposed, involving a large outlay, they would desire to have forwarded to them both plans and estimates before such work is undertaken.

Conveyance allowance
granted to Medical
Officer.

4. In para. 5 of No. 2,057 you request the sanction of the Board to the grant of a special conveyance allowance of Rs. 50 monthly to the Medical Officer, with effect from the 1st January, 1893. In applying for an allowance, Dr. Ansted points out that in whatever part of Madras he may reside, the nature of his duties necessitates long journeys, and obliges him to maintain more horses than suffice for other officers of the Company. The Board concur in your opinion that Dr. Ansted is fairly entitled to an allowance, and, subject to the sanction of Government, they are pleased to approve of the above proposal, on the grounds and for the reasons stated.

Proposals re Audit
Department
approved.

5. With reference to the Board's letter No. 867, dated 27th May last, on the subject of the establishment of the Audit Department, you forward for the information of the Board, and refer in para. 7 of No. 2,057 to copy of Proceedings of Government No. 2,182 B., dated 10th September, in which is embodied your letter to the Consulting Engineer, No. 611, dated 25th July last, stating the measures it was proposed to adopt in order to give effect to the Board's views. It is observed that, after providing for certain increases in the clerical establishment, a saving of Rs. 12,180 per annum on the total cost of the Audit Department will have been made since the date of the Government Examiner's report. The Board are glad to see that your proposals have been transmitted for the approval of the Government of India, subject to which they are pleased to sanction the same.

Mr. Mitchell's
appointment as
Cashier.

6. Adverting to para. 9 of your letter above quoted, I am also to convey the Board's approval of your having nominated for the post of Cashier Mr. J. Mitchell, reported to be the most experienced of the Travelling Auditors,

To the Agent and Manager,
Madras Railway,
Madras.

and who, in Mr. Cramp's opinion, will prove an able and trustworthy official in his new appointment. It is observed that Mr. Mitchell will be required to deposit Rs. 10,000 as security. In reply to your letter of the 29th ulto., I am to inform you that Mr. Mitchell is to be classed as an upper subordinate.

As to payment of
Land-tax.

7. You forward for the consideration and instructions of the Board, and refer in para. 9 of No. 2,651 to G.O. No. 1,789, dated 23rd July, 1892, on the subject of the liability of the Company to pay land-tax to Municipalities.

8. The subject was dealt with in G.O. No. 797 R., dated 24th July, 1891, and the Madras Government appears, in the first instance, to have accepted the opinion of their Solicitor, that the Company, as mere tenants at will, were exempt from payment of the tax. In the recent Order, however, dated 23rd July, 1892, the Agent and Manager is desired to bring to the notice of the Board the decision arrived at by the Secretary of State in G.O. No. 797 R., above referred to, in view to the adoption of a similar arrangement by this Company. The Despatch of the Secretary of State, dated 6th June, 1889, which is quoted in the Order, gives no decision on the general question of the liability of Railway Companies for municipal taxation on lands occupied by them; it simply transmits for the information of the Government of India a letter from the Directors of the South Indian Railway Company, in which, while expressing their opinion that the Government as owner of the land is technically liable for the tax, that Company accedes to the suggestion of the Government to pay it as heretofore, and charge it to working expenses.

9. The liability accepted by that Company towards the immediate termination of their contract was, as you remark, a very trifling matter, but, in view of the increasing demands of the Municipalities all over the country, it may become a very serious tax on the revenues of the Madras Railway.

10. The Board learn, however, that this liability has been accepted by some of the leading Indian Railway Companies, and they have no wish that this Company should stand alone in opposing the tax. At the same time, having regard to the legal opinion already passed in their favour, they think it desirable that some authoritative ruling should be obtained on the point of law, and, should this be adverse to the Companies, that under Section 135, Clause 1, Chapter X. of the Indian Railways Act, a notification of the Governor-General in Council should be issued, declaring the Railway Companies to be liable to pay this tax.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. Julian Payne
Secretary.

REGISTER No. 11809

REGISTER
No. 1784
1893

Recd. 29.11.92

For information
E

W.S.R

No. 3767C

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
RAILWAY BRANCH.

To
THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Calcutta

Madras 14 November 1893.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. 1076 D of 18th October 1893, I am directed to forward a copy of a para of letter from the Madras Railway Board to their Agent No. 873 of 28th October 1892, and to remark that the words "any structure" may possibly be held to modify the extract from letter No. 543 of 18th December 1874, quoted and to refer to stations or buildings or works other than bridges, ~~I have referred the question to the agent in order to ascertain his reading of the para.~~

The agent's reading is given in his 970 of 15 Nov. but I care. I have the honor to be,
with a reference to be made to the Board

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant,

DESPATCHED
15 NOV. 93

Wm
11

Joint Secretary to Government,
P. W. D. Railway Branch.

15/11/93

Extract from letter No. 892 of 5th January 1894.
from the Board of Directors, Madras Railway
to their Agent & Manager, Madras

Interpretation to
be placed on words
"any structure."

11. It is observed from para 14 of No. 2,112, that a question has arisen as to what interpretation is to be placed upon the words "any structure" which occur in para 3 of the Board's letter No. 893 with reference to the submission for their approval of estimates for large works. Replying to your enquiry, I am to inform you that you are correct in supposing that the words in question were there used simply to avoid a repetition of the word "bridges," and it was not intended to signify in any way the orders of the Board as conveyed in para 10 of their letter No. 893.

No 510 Cal 3rd Feb 1894

Walter India

In continuation of my
3767^C of 14 November
93⁴ I am directed to
forward a copy of
a letter from the board
of the Madras Ry Co.
in reply to a reference
made to them - from
which it appears that
the agents contention
was correct.

This leaves the question
~~in an unsatisfactory~~
unsettled as the Govt.
of India considers it
more satisfactory vide
letter 1171 RE of 10 Nov.
where the amount
involved is considerably
that the specific appra.
val of the Board of
Director should be
given before estimates
are submitted and
I am therefore to suggest
that estimates over
50,000/- should be in
all cases receive the
Board's specific sanction
before submission to

the Govt. of India

FMU

2
4 94

Examined over.

See
2/2



No. 24 Railway of 1894.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

To

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE H. H. FOWLER,
Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Simla, the 25th April 1894.

SIR,

We have the honour to forward a letter* from the Government of Madras, suggesting that in the case of works on the Madras Railway which are estimated to cost over Rs. 50,000, the estimates should receive the specific sanction of the Board of Directors before their submission to the Government of India.

2. With reference to this suggestion, we would invite attention to the correspondence from the Board of Directors of the Madras Railway Company, recorded in the proceedings marginally noted, especially to the Board's letters dated 18th December 1874 and 28th October 1892, recorded as Nos. 79 and 85 of the proceedings, from which it will be observed that the Board have authorized their Agent in India to act for them in the matter of all expenditure chargeable to Revenue, and that they do not desire that proposals for new works, with the exception of large bridges, whether chargeable against Capital or Revenue, should be submitted to them, unless in the possible event of a difference of opinion existing between the Company's officers and those of Government as to the expediency of the works.

3. The usual practice on the several Companies' railways in India is for the Boards to exercise more or less control over estimates for works, and this control, we are of opinion, has proved efficacious in leading to economy. It does not seem to us desirable to give the Agent of the Madras Railway more extended powers than have been granted to the Agents of other Companies of similar importance; and we have, therefore, to request that you will settle, in direct communication with the Board of the Madras Railway Company, the exact powers which should be entrusted to their Agent in India.

4. As a matter of convenience, it does not seem necessary that the Agent's powers should be larger than the powers of sanction which the Local Government can exercise, viz., up to a limit of Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

We have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient and humble Servants,

(Signed) ELGIN.

„ GEO. S. WHITE.

„ ALEX. EDW. MILLER.

„ H. BRACKENBURY.

„ C. B. PRITCHARD.

„ J. WESTLAND.

„ A. P. MACDONNELL.

Copy.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

To
Her Majesty's Secretary of State
for India.

No. 24 Railway.

Dated Simla, the 25th April 1894.

Received

MADRAS RAILWAY.

Powers of the Company's Agent to sanction works without previous reference to the Board of Directors.

Documents accompanying.

Letter from the Government of Madras, No. 510 C., dated 3rd January 1894, and
annexure.

P. W. 838.

India Office,

5th June 1894.

Sir,

I am directed to acquaint you that the Government of India have recently drawn the attention of the Secretary of State to the powers delegated by the Board of Directors of the Madras Railway Company in their letters of 10th December 1874 and 26th October 1892 to their Agent in India to act for them in the matter of all expenditure on new works chargeable to Capital or Revenue, except in the case of large bridges.

The Government of India consider that the powers at present delegated are excessive, and would limit them to a sum of Rs. 25,000, for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

It appears to the Secretary of State that the suggested limit might with advantage be imposed on the Agent, and Mr. Fowler hopes that the Board on reconsideration of the matter, will concur with him in this conclusion.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) Secy.

cc
The Secretary, Madras Railway Company.

No. 7776.

Madras Railway Company,
61, New Broad Street,
London E.C. 4. 13th June 1894.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of India Office letter No. 838, dated 6th instant, stating that the Government of India consider that the powers delegated by the Board to their Agent to act for them in the matter of expenditure on new works, except in the case of large bridges, are excessive, and would limit them to a sum of Rs. 25,000 for each complete work, whether chargeable to Capital or Revenue.

In reply I am directed to inform you that the Board concur in the Secretary of State's conclusion that the suggested limit may with advantage be imposed on their Agent and Manager, who will be instructed accordingly.

I have &c.,

(Signed) Julian Byrne.

Secretary.

The Under Secretary of State for India.

India Office.

Ms. 2
66/6/4

Railway
No. 52.

India Office,
London 5th July 1894.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICE-ROI AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL
OF INDIA
My Lord,

Your Excellency's Railway Letter, No. 24 dated the 25th April 1894 drew my attention to the extensive powers which had been given to the Agent of the Madras Railway Company to authorize expenditure on behalf of the Board, and suggested that a reference should be made to the Directors with a view to limiting the powers delegated to that officer.

1
Letter to Company dated
6th June 1894.
Letter from Company dated
13th June 1894.

2. I now forward for your Excellency's information a copy of correspondence which has passed on the subject with the Directors of the Company, from which it will be seen that the Board accept the limit suggested in the 4th paragraph of your letter, vizt. Rs. 25,000 for each complete work whether chargeable to Capital ^{or} ~~work~~ revenue.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) Henry M. Fowler.

20

Ans.
6/6/94

4/19.
R.

No. 605 P.C.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Railway Construction.

All communications
should be addressed to
the Secretary.

Simla, the 27th August 1904.

The under-mentioned papers are forwarded to the
Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works
Department (Railway Branch), for information with reference
to correspondence ending with his letter No. 310, dated
the 3rd January 1904.

By order,

The Secretary

Offg. Under Secretary.

Documents referred to.

Copy of despatch to Secretary of State No. 24
Railway of 25th April 1904.

Copy of despatch from Secretary of State No. 32
Railway, dated the 5th July 1904 and enclosures.

Directors of the Madras Railway Company, to
authorise expenditure on behalf of the Board.

Pass
6626/84

P. W. DEPT. No. 6626

Encl. to
No. 6626

No. 475 R 7 7th Sept 1894
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
RAILWAY BRANCH.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

- Letter to the Govt. of India H. No. 3128 C 7 18 Sept 1893
P. W. Dept. ———
- Letter from — do ——— 1002 R.C. 7 3rd Oct 93
Letter to — do ——— 1076 D 7 18 do —
(Letter from — do ——— 1171 R.C. 7 10 Nov 1893
Letter to — do ——— 3767 C 7 14 do —
Letter to — do ——— 570 C 7 3rd Feb 1894
Letter from — do ——— 805 R.C. 7 27 Aug 94

His Excellency the Governor
for information —

Communicated
to the Agent and Manager
Madras Railway for information
& guidance.

W
7 Sep

7 Nov
6/94 R

To
The Agent & Manager, Madras
— S. B. P. S. —

DISPATCHED
21 OCT 94