

Public Works (1898) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 544 Ry.

DATED 7th April 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sleepers for the Calicut-Cannanore Railway.

Requesting the Board of Revenue to report & advise whether any special steps should be taken or expenditure incurred to enable the Forest Deptt, to meet the probable demand of 1,36,000 — in the next two years.

Indexed.

16/4/98

RAILWAY SLEEPERS IN MALABAR.

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Note by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras.

There will soon be a very heavy demand for 1,36,000 Railway sleepers for the Calicut-Cannanore Railway, 62 miles: and in all probability a demand will also arise very soon for 1,64,000 sleepers for 74 miles of the Shoranore-Cochin Railway. The demand for Pyngadu, Xylia Dolabriformis, from Burma is far in excess of the supply, so much so that the Burma firms were quite unable to supply the Bezwada-Madras Railways

requirements, and Deodar (Cedrus Deodara) sleepers had to be got round from Kurrachee at a very high price, and the opening of the line has consequently been delayed by many months.

3. I hear that there are large quantities of timber fit for sleepers in the two forest Divisions, North and South Malabar, not far from the Calicut-Cannanore Railway, and that not only is "Maddi" ~~sand~~ (Terminalia tomentosa)^{found} but also Teak, and other woods eminently fit for sleepers

3. I hear also that the Forest Department have machine saws working somewhere not far from Podanur whence Shoranore-Cochin and Podanur-Dindigul sleepers could perhaps be supplied.

5. But however excellent and plentiful the timber may be in the forest, it is hopeless to expect to get it out, any-

thing like fast enough or anything like honestly, through the agency of the petty sort of private enterprise that is available. It seems to me that the agency of the Forest Department might be made use of, and that Provincial finances might as well get whatever profit accrues from the proposed expenditure of perhaps 3 to 5 rupees per sleeper.

6. Though nominally the work of a Railway Company, the Calicut-Cannanore Railway is really de facto a Government work, and it only seems right that all the help which the Forest Department can give should under the circumstances be given.

7. The Company's Agent is already enquiring into the price at which creosoted pine sleepers from Europe can be delivered. But it seems a pity to send to Europe for what we ought to be able, so far as I can learn to obtain from the Forests alongside of the Railway through the Agency of a Government Department specially organized for such purposes.

Wm. H. Spring
Consulting Engineer.
25/3/98.

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*Please say if
this may be circ-
ed to Sir Henry
is -*

*No. he said we can
get it from the
Forest Dept. 1/4/98*

Current No 1245 d 14.3.98.
The Governor
Sir H. Bliss K.C.I.E.
Mr. J. Grose C.I.E.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
RAILWAY BRANCH.
THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

4 Rg of 7/4/98.

Read the following

H.E. No. 9294 of 12 March 1898
B 218

of 25 - do -

The Board of Revenue
in report upon the subject

the words "in communication with the
Collector of Malabar" will
advise whether any special
steps should be taken or
expenditure incurred to en-
able the Forest Dept. to meet
the probable demand of 136,000
sleepers for the Calicut-Canna-
nore Railway in the next two
years.

To
31/3/98
The Board of Revenue
through the Rev. Secy. B 8/4/98

F.H.S.
R
28/3/98

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Wm. H. Spring
Consulting Engineer.
25/3/98.

Consy. Engrs Current No 1245 d 14.3.98.
Form No. (2.) His Excellency the Governor
The Hon'ble Sir H. A. K. C. I. E.
The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. C. I. E.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
RAILWAY BRANCH.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

No 544 Rg of 7/4/98.

Read the following

Letter from the Agent
& Manager Mysore Ry } H.E. No. 9294 of 12 March 1898
B 218

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Jy 1914 29.3.98. not Railway in the next 2
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H.E. Hms
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