Public Works (1895) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 404

DATED 5th July

[Despatch Abstract.]

Houses for Native assistant Stationmasters.—

Estimate of Rs. 5,916 for constructing six — on the North West and South West lines, Madras Railway, sanctioned and the allocation approved.

[P. W. 66. 1,000—11-8-95]

Indexed.

Copy of a letter of 2nd February 1393 from the Station Master, Tirupatur, to the Assistant ~~Station Master~~ Traffic Manager, Jalarpet, re 3rd Class passenger traffic for half year ending 30th June 1894-95.

In going carefully with this traffic, I beg to say that passengers for Jalarpet and Kangankarai generally go away walking as they have not got convenient trains; also the present fares for small distances for the poor is considered heavy. The passengers from Jalarpet by 6-45 return to Jalarpet walking 5 miles as they have otherwise to wait till 22-45 for No. 30 train which is high time for meals. Similarly, from Kagankarai those that come by 21-25 cannot return by 6-45 immediately so they go away walking instead of waiting till 23-48 for No. 17 without meals and paying heavy train fares.

In 1894, there were many marriages celebrated and not so many in 1895. As there was no rain in time people were dreadfully afraid of famine so the great number of passengers in 1894 should not be taken as our guide. As far as our revenue is concerned the present fare pays well with the small decrease of passengers for near stations.

Reduction of fares to near stations with trains of local convenience will improve this.

MADRAS RAILWAY COMPANY,

TRAFFIC MANAGER'S OFFICE,

No. A3/43515
26631

Central Station, Madras, 10th March 1896.

The Agent and Manager.

Dear Sir,

COMPARISON OF 3rd CLASS PASSENGERS TRAFFIC DURING THE HALF YEARS ENDING JUNE 1894-95.

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The Station Master, Arkonam, writes:-

"There is nothing so far as I can trace here about that has led to "a diminution in the numbers of 3rd Class travellers other than to the "increase of the fare. The majority of these people travel about in "batches, whole households of 15, 20, or 30 souls either on pleasure "bent or to visit some shrine, temple, sacred pool or river to bathe "in: so given a cheap fare the head of the household now and again "gives all his people an outing but when it is otherwise he calculates "his cost and on that regulates the pleasure or religion of his family "and cuts down the numbers according to the money he is prepared to "spend for them and for this reason arbitrary rates from large centres "of traffic to places of interest to the native mind would certainly "run up the numbers I think."

The Station Master, Tiruppur, writes:-

"I beg to inform you that in comparing with the festival traffic "during the year 1894 and 1895 at this station there is very little "difference in numbers for which I am unable to account any special "reason."

The Station Master, Tirur, writes:-

"With reference to the above and the comparative statement ac- "companied with the above, I beg to state that the decrease of the num- "bers in 3rd Class passengers during the year 1895 is I believe owing "to the heavy fall of price of different class of goods in adjoining "weekly markets and as well as dry ginger and coparay at Calicut."

The Station Master, Shoranur, writes:-

"As to the falling off in numbers, I beg to state that it may be

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"attributed to the condition of people being bad owing to the failure of "monsoon and hence the poor class of people was not able to make use of the "Railway."

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) D. ROSS JOHNSON,

for Traffic Manager.