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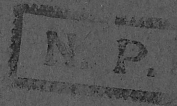
Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 219²²⁰ 21st February 1918

University of Madras

Replying to the reference from the Government of India regarding the practice in this Presidency of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the —



INDEXED

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Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 219, 21st February 1918

University of Madras

Replying to the reference from the Government of India regarding the practice in this Presidency of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the —.

Read—the following papers:—

I

Letter—from K. INAYAT-UL-LAH KHAN, Esq., M.A., Officiating Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).
To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Education) Department.
Dated—Simla, the 3rd December 1917.
No.—1031.

I am directed to forward a copy of the marginally-noted papers regarding the propriety of procedure, obtaining in the Madras Presidency, of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the Madras University; and to request that the Government of India may be favoured with the opinion of the Governor in Council on the subject.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

Letter—from A. NEWMARCH, Esq., Accountant-General, Madras.
To—the Comptroller-General, Delhi.
Dated—the 13th October 1917.
No.—T.M. 23-12055.

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of the marginally-noted correspondence between the Controller of Currency and myself regarding the practice of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the Madras University, and to state that though remittance transfer receipts are not actually issued for remittance of funds of the Madras University, the existing practice in this Presidency involves, as explained in my letter No. T.M. 23-9618, dated the 3rd September 1917, the remittance of large sums free of charge through Government account both from and to Madras. As the present procedure thus gives to the Madras University facilities which are not allowed to other Universities in India, I would request the favour of your advice as to the propriety of the present procedure, and whether any action should be taken by me to stop it.

(2)

Letter—from the Controller of Currency, Calcutta.
To—the Accountant-General, Bihar and Orissa.
Dated—the 25th July 1917.
No.—B & R 1476/123-17.

With reference to your letter No. Dep. 12-42, dated the 18th May 1917, I have the honour to state that the Government of India have decided that the practice followed in Bihar and Orissa of remitting students' examination and registration fees to a University by remittance transfer receipts is irregular and should be abandoned.

(3)

Letter—from the Accountant-General, Madras.

To—the Controller of Currency, Calcutta.

Dated—the 3rd September 1917.

No.—T.M. 23-9618.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. B & R-1477/123-17, dated the 25th July 1917, forwarding a copy of your letter No. B & R 1476/123-17 of the same date to the Accountant-General, Bihar and Orissa, regarding the discontinuance of the practice of issuing remittance transfer receipts in favour of a University for their examination and registration fees.

2. In this Presidency no remittance transfer receipts are issued in favour of the Madras University, but it enjoys the privilege of having all its examination and registration fees paid into any Government treasury situated either in this or other Presidencies or into the treasuries of Native States. Payments on account of remuneration to examiners are also made at any treasury desired by the Registrar and the receipts and payments on account of the University Fee fund are treated as if they were those of a local fund administered by Government, such receipts and payments being accounted for by the Treasury officers and by this office in the same manner as Government transactions, subject to the payments being made on bills passed by the Registrar.

3. This procedure is a long-standing one and dates from 1861. It had its origin in Section 15 of the Act of Incorporation (Act XXVII of 1857). This section says that the fees for admission into the University and for conferring degrees levied from candidates should be credited to one general fee fund for payment of expenses of the University under the directions and regulations of the Governor of Port St. George in Council, to whom also the accounts of the fund should be submitted. Accordingly the fund was considered to be one administered by Government until 1883, when the Registrar of the University raised the question of the administration of this fund in connexion with certain repairs to the Senate House, the estimate for which was not submitted to the Syndicate for sanction before its execution by the Public Works Department. In that year Government ruled that the administration of the Fee fund rested with the Syndicate subject to a general superintendence on the part of Government. But the practice of receiving the examination fees and making payments therefrom at Government treasuries still continued unchanged. The uninvested balances of the fund form part of the general treasury balance, and the balance according to my books is communicated to and accepted by the Registrar. Until 1912, surplus amounts were invested in Government paper with the sanction of the Local Government, and I now hold 34 per cent Government paper of the face value of Rs. 6,80,000 on behalf of the University Fee fund.

4. In January 1915 the Registrar put forward a suggestion that he should be allowed to invest the major portion of the surplus fees not required for immediate disbursement in fixed deposit with the Bank of Madras for such short period as he considered advisable. My predecessor Mr. Datta agreed to this proposal on the understanding that the Registrar would undertake not to overdraw his balance in the hands of Government, and that the previous consent of this office should be obtained. This procedure has deprived Government of the use of the surplus balance which accrued during the period December to June of each year. Though remittance transfer receipts are not actually issued, the existing practice involves the remittance of large sums free of charge through Government account both from and to Madras. The investments in short term fixed deposits with the Bank of Madras are made in the months of January, February and March and the receipts paid into district treasuries are utilized for this purpose, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	Receipts in district treasuries i.e., elsewhere than in the Presidency town.	Investment in the Bank of Madras.
	RS.	RS.
1915-16...	1,60,000	2,00,000
1916-17...	1,89,000	2,10,000

A portion of this investment is realised in July and succeeding months and paid into Government account with the Bank at Madras in order to increase the balance in hands of Government sufficiently to meet the payments at district treasuries on account of remuneration to examiners.

5. I would now inquire whether I should move the Local Government to alter the present procedure of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries, and request that the Madras University may be instructed to make its own arrangements for the receipt of examination and registration fees and for the payment therefrom of remuneration to examiners.

6. I may add that this was proposed to the Registrar in 1914 when the question or investment of surplus balances in the Bank of Madras was under discussion, but he informed Mr. Datta that the Syndicate was not willing to change the existing procedure in this respect in view of the many advantages which it afforded to the University and to the heads of educational institutions.

Endowment funds.
Imperial recurring grants.
Imperial non-recurring grants.
Grants for the inspection of colleges.
Grants for vacation lectures.
Grants for Tamil Lexicon.

7. I may also state for your information that, besides the Fee fund above referred to, the University has funds noted in the margin, which are lodged in the Bank of Madras outside the Government account. No remittance transfer receipts are issued on these accounts.

(4)

Letter—from the Controller of Currency, Calcutta.

To—the Accountant-General, Madras.

Dated—the 25th September 1917.

No.—B & R 2081/128-17.

With reference to your letter No. T.M. 23/9618, dated the 3rd September 1917, regarding the practice obtaining in Madras of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the Madras University, I have the honour to state that as remittance transfer receipts are not directly used for remittance of funds of the University, this office is not concerned in the matter. If, however, you feel any doubts as to the propriety of the above procedure which practically amounts to a facility afforded to the University of making their remittance free of charge through Government, you should address the Comptroller-General on the subject.

So far as consideration of resource is involved, there is no objection either to the continuance or the withdrawal of the concession, whichever course may be decided on the merits of the question.

II

Memorandum No. 1612/B-1, dated 21st December 1917.

With reference to the enclosed correspondence from the Government of India the Syndicate of the University of Madras is requested to offer its remarks.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Registrar, University of Madras.

III

Letter—from F. DEWSBURY, Esq., B.A., LL.B., Registrar, University of Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 21st January 1918.

No.—448.

With reference to Memorandum No. 1612/B-1, dated 21st December 1917, forwarding for the remarks of the Syndicate correspondence from the Government of India on the question of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the Madras University, I am directed by the Syndicate to state that the correspondence gives a correct representation of the facts.

2. The system of making and receiving payments through Government treasuries is, as stated, of long standing and the Syndicate would strongly deprecate any change therein. Proposals were placed before the Syndicate in 1914 for the transfer of the University Fee Fund from the Accountant-General to the Bank of Madras, but after a careful examination of the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal the Syndicate decided against it. Such a transfer would probably have increased the revenues of the University by the amount of interest received on accumulated receipts placed on deposit with the bank at short notice and would have enabled the Registrar at any time to ascertain more expeditiously the actual financial position; but the Syndicate was faced with the inconvenience and expense to which persons paying money to, and receiving money from, the University in places where no branch of the Bank of Madras had been established would be put. Under the present system any person can deposit a University fee at any treasury or sub-treasury and obtain a receipt without additional expense; and similarly examiners and assistant examiners can receive their remuneration by bills on the treasuries in their locality and draw the same without deductions. Except in those places (about twenty in number in 1914) in which branches of the Bank of Madras are situated persons desiring to pay

money to the University through the Bank would be able to do so only through the post office and would be put to the additional expense of one per cent at a minimum; similarly examiners and others receiving payments from the University would be faced with the difficulty of negotiating cheques, in many cases without the assistance of a local bank. The university would also lose the advantage, which it at present enjoys, of having its establishment bills and payments to examiners and to superintendents at examinations at centres throughout the Presidency pre-audited in the Accountant-General's office. The Syndicate therefore came to the definite conclusion that a very considerable balance of advantage remained with the system of the retention of the Fee Fund by the Accountant-General and payments and receipts being made through him.

3. At the same time the Syndicate realized that when a considerable portion of the University fees and receipts was unexpended during some six months in the year, a possible source of additional revenue would be open if surplus balances were available for interest. By arrangement with the Accountant-General such balances are now deposited with the Bank of Madras, but it should not be supposed that these balances represent the whole of the surpluses of the Fee Fund even during the period they remain on deposit. To guard against all contingencies a very considerable margin has been allowed to remain with the Accountant-General (with the possible exception of a short period in 1917 when University funds were being invested in the War Loan).

4. At present as a result of the facilities of payments through and by treasuries the University office has very small cash transactions. It is only in very special cases that payments are made to the office in cash and consequently no special provision for receiving and checking such payments is necessary. If these facilities were withdrawn, it is more than probable that the number of payments to the University office in cash would increase to an extent which would necessitate a thorough reorganization of its financial methods. An elaborate system of check and counter-check and the engagement of an experienced and trustworthy accountant on a high salary would be necessary.

5. In view of these considerations I am directed by the Syndicate to request that the present arrangements with the Accountant-General may remain unaltered.

Order—No. 219, Home (Education), dated 21st February 1918.

The Government of India will be addressed.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

No. 220.

From

THE HON'BLE DIWAN BAHADUR

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO AVARGAL,

Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Home (Education) Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Dated Fort St. George, the 21st February 1918.

SIR,

I am directed to reply to Mr. Inayat-ul-lah Khan's letter No. 1031, dated the 3rd December 1917, forwarding certain correspondence regarding the propriety of the procedure obtaining in this Presidency of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the Madras University.

2. The correspondence forwarded gives a correct representation of the existing state of affairs. The Syndicate of the University which was consulted in the matter reports that it is averse to any change in the existing arrangements. That body mentions that an identical proposal for the transfer of the University Fee Fund from the local Accountant-General to the Bank of Madras was actually considered by it in 1914 and had to be given up after a careful examination of the advantages and disadvantages thereof. Under the existing system any person can deposit a University fee at any treasury or sub-treasury and obtain a receipt without additional expense, and similarly examiners can receive their remuneration by bills on treasuries in their locality. In the event of University's transactions being transferred to the Bank of Madras, this general convenience would cease to exist except in the very few places where the Bank of Madras has branches. A change in the arrangements would also deprive the University of the advantage it now enjoys of its establishment bills and payments to examiners and to Superintendents at examinations being pre-audited in the Accountant-General's office and would increase the number of cash payments in its office to an extent which would necessitate a thorough reorganization of its financial methods and the employment of an experienced and trustworthy account staff at a high cost.

3. His Excellency the Governor in Council is in entire agreement with the views of the Syndicate and would commend the continuance of the existing practice which is a long-standing one.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,

Secretary to Government.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. Nos. 219-20, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 21ST FEBRUARY 1918

[SUBJECT.—*Propriety of the existing practice of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the University of Madras.*]

Previous papers :

G.O.	109, Educational,	3rd Mar. 1883	G.O.	363, Financial,	28th May 1914
"	204	" 16th Apr. 1887	"	129, Educational,	9th Feb. 1915
"	90	" 5th Feb. 1912	"	168	16th "
"	169	" 28th Feb. "	"	34, Home (Edn.),	8th Jan. 1917
"	587	" 3rd July "	"	537	" 28th Apr. "

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

From the Government of India, No. 1031, dated 3rd February 1917.

The Accountant-General's letter to the Controller of Currency gives a clear account of how the existing practice of passing university moneys through Government Accounts *free of charge* arose. It has since been decided that the University Fee fund should be treated as one *not administered by Government* (cf. India's letters on page 4 of G.O. No. 363, Financial, dated 28th May 1914). On this ground and on the further ground that other universities do not appear to have this concession allowed to them, it would seem improper that the Madras University should continue to enjoy the privilege. But as will be seen from paragraph 6 of the Accountant-General's letter the Syndicate has already expressed its unwillingness to change the existing procedure in view of the many advantages which it affords to the University and to heads of educational institutions. Perhaps to get an idea of the extent to which inconvenience will be caused by the withdrawal of the concession a reference may be made to the Syndicate in the first instance. If so, the draft memorandum below is for approval.

E.A.V.—12-12-17.

T.K.—15-12-17.

We should hear what the Syndicate has to say on the question.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—19-12-17.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—21-12-17.

[Memorandum No. 1612/B.-1, dated 21st December 1917.]

From the University of Madras, No. 443, dated 21st January 1918.

For the reasons mentioned in the Registrar's letter the Syndicate requests that the present arrangements with the Accountant-General may be allowed to continue. For orders whether a recommendation should be made to India to that effect.

2. The Financial Department may, it is submitted, be consulted.

E.A.V.—28-1-18.

C.R.—29-1-18.

C.R.—30-1-18.

Draft accepting the correctness of the position: refer to Syndicate's views; recommend continuance owing to the longstanding practice.

R.R.—31-1-18.

University of Madras.

Replying to the letter from the Govt. of India regarding the practice in this Presidency of receiving fees and making payments at Govt. Treasuries on behalf of the

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191 .

" " " " 191 .

READ ALSO:-

C. No. 1612 B/17 From the *Government of India*, No. 1631, dated 3/12/191 .

" " 144 B/18 " " *Regd. letter* 191 .

" " " " 191 .

ORDER.

No. 219, dated 21.2.191 .

[To be printed for Record only]

The Government of India will be addressed.

CR 7.2.18

LETTER:- No. 220, 21.2.18

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Department of Education.
but not to be sent to Govt.

Sir,
I am directed to reply to Mr. Inayatullah Khan's letter No. 1031, dated the 3rd ~~January~~ *December* 1917, forwarding certain correspondence regarding the propriety of the procedure in this Presidency of receiving fees and making payments at Govt. Treasuries on behalf of the Madras University.

2 NOTES to G.O. Nos. 219-20, HOME (EDUCATION), 21st FEBRUARY 1918

A draft order and a draft letter are submitted.

E.A.V.—2-2-18.

C.R.—6-2-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—7-2-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—8-2-18.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Financial may agree to the Home (Education) Department replying to the Government of India recommending the continuance of the existing practice of receiving fees and making payments at Government treasuries on behalf of the Madras University.

P.K.K.—14-2-18.

A.S.M.—14-2-18.

Yes, the Controller of Currency says resources are not affected.

L. E. KERSHAW—15-2-18.

L. DAVIDSON—16-2-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

For orders as to circulation to His Excellency the Governor for approval of draft.

C.R.—18-2-18.

R.R.—19-2-18.

P[ENTLAND]—20-2-18.

Issue.

R.R.—21-2-18.

[G.O. Nos. 219-20, Home (Education), dated 21st February 1918.]

Proof.
2-3-18.
2-3-18.
C.R. 6.3.18

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. Nos. 219-20, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 21st FEBRUARY 1918

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R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—21-12-17.

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For the reasons mentioned in the Registrar's letter on pages 12-13, the Syndicate requests that the present arrangements with the Accountant-General may be allowed to continue. For orders whether a recommendation should be made to India to that effect.

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C.R.—29-1-18.

C.R.—30-1-18.

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C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—7-2-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—8-2-18.

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Yes, the Controller of Currency says resources are not affected—page 5 current

Slc.

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HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

For orders as to circulation to His Excellency the Governor for approval of draft.

C.R.—18-2-18.

R.R.—19-2-18.

P[ENTLAND]—23-2-18.

Issue.

R.R.—21-2-18.

[G.O. Nos, 219-20, Home (Education), dated 21st February 1918.]

ORDINARY.

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Hone DEPARTMENT.

Current No dated 191

G.O. No 219, dated 21.12.1918.

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