

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	612	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	4. 11.	1857

B no. 15-16

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Not to be folded or roughly handled*24-8-31*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
for the month of November 1859.*

No. 15. Read the following letter from J. L. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Civil Auditor; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 22nd October 1859, No. 1243.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the order of Government, dated the 13th instant, No. 578, Financial Department, referring for my report a proposition of the Collector of Ganjam to disburse all fixed salaries on a given date early in the month at the beginning of which they fall due, in order to prevent the inconvenience alleged to be caused by delay in the audit of the pay abstracts of his district.

In reply I beg to remark that the disbursement of salaries before abstracts for the same have undergone proper check and audit in this office, is decidedly objectionable, and contrary to the express orders of the Government of India, dated the 24th February 1857 and quoted in Extract Minutes of Consultation, No. 1079, dated the 5th June 1857, Public Works Department.

The system of post audit urged by Mr. Forbes is not only attended with loss to Government but inconvenience and vexation to individuals, arising out of incorrect payments made by disbursing officers who, in many instances, may be either ignorant of the correct application of the rules which regulate the salaries of absentees in the various branches of the service, or inattentive to rules relating to the admission of subordinates into the several establishments of Government, and in addition to which the audit office would be divested of all powers to enforce the observance of any rule or order of the Government requiring retrenchments to be made, or in the submission of periodical returns.

As regards the delay itself I beg to explain that no time is lost in this office in the audit and return of the abstracts to the several Collectorates in the order in which they are received unless from some unavoidable circumstance arising from their own neglect.

Those from Ganjam for the past five months were received, audited, and returned as shewn in the margin and would probably have been received back in the district about 10 days after. Thus though the Civil establishment in Ganjam are paid late in the month, they are paid regularly at about the same time, month after month. The inconvenience complained of will appear therefore not to be so severe as to require a departure from a system which obtains throughout this and all other Presidencies in India.

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 4th November 1859, No. 612.

Resolved, that the foregoing letter be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam, and that he be informed that Government see no reason for authorizing any deviation from the prescribed course of auditing Civil salaries in favor of the Ganjam District.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Order thereon. 14 November/59. No. 612-

Resolved, that the foregoing letter be communicated to the Collector of Ganjam, and that he be informed that Govt. see no reason for authorizing any deviation from the prescribed course of auditing civil salaries in favor of the Ganjam District.

J.P.

To the Collector of Ganjam. Dtd 9th