

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	223	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	18.5	1860

B-no. 29-31

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

18

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
for the month of May 1860.*

No. 29. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, dated Fort William, 23rd April 1860, No. 31.

The following Resolution is published for general information:—

Read again the Resolution of Government in this Department, on the subject of a Financial Budget, Estimates and Audit.

RESOLUTION.—By the Financial Resolution of the 7th April 1860, the objects and importance of a Budget containing previous estimates of expenditure on each particular service for each year, were pointed out. It was also ordered that estimates for the coming year should be immediately submitted by each local Government, as also by each Department of the State not under a local Government, to the Financial Department of the Supreme Government. In furtherance of one among the many objects of the Budget, the attention of the Supreme Government has been given to the matter of Stores for the Public Department consisting of Ordnance and Military Stores, Commissariat, Medical, Clothing, Stationery, Marine and Public Works Stores.

2. The supply and accumulation of Stores throughout India, have, as might have been expected, increased enormously since the disturbances of 1857. The amount value of Stores of every description supplied from England alone has risen to more than one and a half crores of Rupees, or one and a half million Sterling in the year 1858-59, and it is probable that the value of all Stores on hand may now amount to twelve crores of Rupees, or twelve millions Sterling.

3. The magnitude of these amounts will show the necessity that exists, that only the requirements absolutely essential to efficiency should be made in all branches of the Service; the provision of Stores in India and requisitions for them from Home being limited accordingly.

4. Special consideration should be given to this point, when the amounts necessary for each service are entered by Heads of Departments in the coming Budget, and as the circumstances which necessitated the supply of such a vast amount of Stores have happily ceased, and as the accumulation now on hand is unprecedentedly large, it may confidently be anticipated, that, with the cessation of active operations and the reduction of the Military Forces, the demands for Stores for the next Official year may be greatly curtailed, and the finances proportionately relieved.

5. The local Governments and Heads of Departments must be careful to secure the absolute efficiency of the service, and at the same time provide for all reasonable contingencies, but this limit must be rigorously observed, and all expenditure in excess thereof, all unnecessary accumulation of Stores, and excess in allotments thereof carefully avoided.

6. Each head of a Department must consider himself directly responsible to Government for enforcing all practicable economy in his Department and when indenting for Stores limit his requisitions to the lowest amount consistent with efficiency. Judgment must be exercised as to the quantity needed of each individual article. The quantity actually in hand will be observed, and it will be considered whether more need be indented for or not. If more must be indented for, still this requisition must be limited to the lowest amount practicable. It will be distinctly understood that the requisitions, both as regards quantities and nature of Stores, will be complied with as promptly as practicable, and the importance of this point will be earnestly pressed by the Government of India on the Home Government.

7. Also economy will be promoted by the concentration of Departmental Stores in as small a number of Depôts as possible, so as to bring all within the supervision of the Controlling Officer and diminish the aggregate of Stores.

8. The Executive Officers entrusted with the charge of Stores must, on their part, carefully watch over their issue and expenditure, for it is only by means of this minute supervision of details that the aggregate quantity of Stores consumed can be kept in check, and Government will not fail to look to its Controlling and Executive Officers for the exercise of vigilance in their respective spheres.

9. In the Ordnance Department the value of the aggregate quantity of Stores on hand throughout the Empire is enormous, amounting to not less than eight crores of Rupees considerably more

27

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
for the month of May 1860.*

than the amount value of Stores on hand before 1857, notwithstanding the great losses of Arms, &c., consequent on the mutiny and the subsequent large consumption of Stores.

10. The quantities of Ordnance Stores procured on Indent from Home, purchase in the Country, obtained from the Commissariat, and made up in Magazines, have all greatly increased and although this is in part due to the large expected requirements of the Service, the change of Arms from the old musket to the Enfield Rifle in the European Infantry generally, and to the augmentation in the number Guns owing to the increase made to the Artillery since the disturbances, still after every allowance has been made for these circumstances, the amount of Stores in hand is so great as apparently to ensure with small additions a sufficiency to meet probable requirements for some time to come, say for three years at least, and for a period longer than that for which it is usually considered necessary to lay in Stores. This anticipation is strengthened by the consideration of the extensive reductions in the Military Forces, already made and still in progress, and by the fact that this abundance of Ordnance Stores appears to exist in all parts of the Empire alike, and in respect to most, if not all of the articles both in use and in reserve. As regards the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, it has been ascertained on the most competent authority that the supply from Home during the next year may be very much limited, and judging from the past requisitions, it may be expected that a similar limitation will be found practicable as regards the Bengal Presidency.

11. The Inspectors General of Ordnance should, therefore, before framing their Estimates for the coming Budget, revise unfulfilled requisitions for Stores from Home, and, whilst having due regard to the probable need of the service on the one hand and the amount of Stores now available on the other, consider that it is necessary in the present state of the Finances to reduce supplies in proportion to the reduction of the Military Forces, and to limit demands both in England and India to the lowest point consistent with efficiency; the same principle being followed by the Supreme Government in sanctioning the final Budget.

12. The quantity of Malt Liquor supplied from Home to the Commissariat during the past two years has been very great; and calculated on a scale to meet the wants of a much larger force than is now maintained; and should now therefore be so far limited as to avoid wastage, whilst at the same time providing for the contingencies to which this branch of supply is liable, and as the Stores of liquor of other kinds also are known to be generally abundant, the question of the necessity of further increase to them should be carefully weighed before further supplies are laid in.

13. The quantity of grain and other supplies laid in at the fortified places throughout the Empire has been reduced since the re-establishment of peace; and as such supplies can always be obtained in the country at the shortest notice, the strict limit of actual Military requirements must be observed as regards this item of expenditure: the Commissaries General instructing the Officers of that Department to frame their requisitions so as not to exceed the requirements of the Army on its reduced strength.

14. The quantities of some articles of Store on hand in the Medical and Clothing Departments are far from excessive, and indeed in some cases actually deficient. This extreme should be as carefully avoided as the opposite as often leading Government into unnecessary expense and putting the Service to inconvenience; but in these Departments also, wherever any article of Store is already abundant, the same rule as prescribed for other Departments will be adhered to in framing the Estimates for the ensuing year.

15. In the Public Works Department, the accumulation of Stores which existed when the progress of work was partially suspended may probably by this time have been greatly reduced, and as the Financial means available do not at present admit of the rapid advancement or wide extension of operations in that Department, the supplies should be limited accordingly. The Chief Engineer of each Presidency or Circle must be well acquainted with the exact state of the work under his supervision, and can therefore judge of the amount of stock needed in each

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
for the month of May 1860.*

Executive Division; and the resources of each of the several work-shops should also be considered when making demands for supplies from other sources.

Home Department.
Foreign " "
Military " "
Public Works Department.
Government of Bengal.
" Madras.
" Bombay.
" North West Provinces.
" Punjab.
Accountant General, to the Government of India.
" Madras.
" Bombay.
" Accountant Bengal.
" North West Provinces.
" Punjab.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the above Resolution be forwarded to the Departments, Governments, and Accountants noted in the margin, for information and guidance.

Ordered further, that a copy of the Resolution be published in the *Government Gazette* for general information.

By order of the Honorable the President in Council.

(Signed) C. HUGH LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 30. MINUTE BY THE HONORABLE THE PRESIDENT, dated 15th May 1860.

The General Rules laid down in this Resolution relating to economy of Stores, are equally applicable to the whole of India, and I propose that the Resolution be re-published in our Gazette with an Order directing that the Rules be carefully attended to by all the Officers connected with the Store Departments under this Presidency.

(Signed) C. E. TREVELYAN.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 18th May 1860, No. 223.

In ordering the above Resolution of the Government of India to be republished in the Fort Saint George Gazette, the Honorable the Governor in Council directs that the rules therein laid down be carefully attended to by all Officers connected with the Store Departments under this Presidency.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Financial Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Read the following
papers:

Resolution of the Govd of India
in the Financial Dept.

(Dated 28 April 1860 - 1861)

Minute by the Honble the
President. - (a 15 May -)

Order thereon. 18th May 1860 No. 223.

In ^{ordering} directing the
above Resolution of the
Govd of India to be re-
published in the Fort
St George Gazette, the
Honble the Governor in
Council directs that
the Rules therein laid
down be carefully at-
tended to by all ~~the~~ Of-
ficers connected with
the Store Departments
under this Presidency.

W. M.

W. M.

J. P.

To the Supd of the Govd Gazette.

Pro Post 20 May
Commercial 18th Defiance

No. 223.

Proceedings of the Court
of the 18th May 1860