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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 293 Press / Mis.

Dated 11-6- 1861.

B/No. 29-30 15/16

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
11th June 1861.

No. 29. Read the following letter from H. D. SANDEMAN, Esq., Officiating Civil Auditor; to C. H. LUSHINGTON, Esq, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Fort William, 16th April 1861, No. 139.

In order to assimilate the working of the Offices of Audit (Pay Master) in this and in the Madras Presidency, I have the honor to suggest that the Civil Auditor (Civil Pay Master) of Bengal be authorized to pass a month's pay in advance to newly arrived Assistant Chaplains to enable them to join their appointments as is the case in Madras (Vide Orders of Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department, No. 192, dated 17th May 1856,) or that the express sanction of Government be required in Madras in each instance, as is the case in this Presidency.

2nd. I would at the same time remark that in Madras the Civil Auditor is authorized to make advances of a month's salary to Probationary Assistant Overseers and Sub-Assistant Revenue Surveyors, recoverable in four equal monthly instalments on the countersignature of the Civil Engineer in the Department of Public Works (Vide Orders of Madras Government, in the Public Works Department, No. 475, dated 2nd April 1856,) and to any person newly appointed to the Educational Department on the application of the Director of Public Instruction recoverable in two equal monthly instalments (Vide Orders of Madras Government, No. 408, dated 16th April 1856,) without reference to the Government, also Travelling charges in advance to Officer of the Educational Department on Bills countersigned by the Director of Public Instruction.

3rd. In these instances, I would also beg to submit the advisability of assimilating the practice in both offices.

No. 5,330.

FORT WILLIAM, FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT, THE 3RD MAY 1861.

The authority solicited by the Officiating Civil Auditor, Fort William, for passing advances of the nature alluded to, with a view to the assimilation of the working of the Audit Offices in Madras and Calcutta, cannot be granted. The Governor General in Council directs that the system which prevails in Madras be discontinued. It cannot in His Excellency in Council's opinion be more necessary in the cases, mentioned than in many other cases, and to make the practice general is objectionable.

By order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council.

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

To the Government of Madras for information and guidance.

No. 30. To the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 11th June 1861, No. 293.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of an Order of the Government of India in the Financial Department, No. 5,330, dated 3rd May 1861.

2. In this Order the Supreme Government decline to invest the Civil Auditor of Fort William with the power of passing, without reference to Government, certain advances, hitherto possessed by the Civil Auditor at Madras, and direct that the practice prevailing at Madras be discontinued.

3. The cases alluded to, in which the Madras Civil Auditor has been in the habit of acting without reference to Government are the following.

4. An advance of one month's salary is allowed to Assistant Chaplains, on first arrival and appointment to a station in the Provinces, to enable them to join. In 1856 the Civil Auditor, Mr. F. Lushington, in submitting an application of the kind for the sanction of Government, suggested that a general authority might be conferred on the Civil Auditor to pass the bills of Assistant Chaplains for one month's salary in advance under similar circumstances. To this the Govern- ment under date 17th May 1856 assented.

5. In the Public Works Department it had been usual on the appointment of Probationary Assistant Overseers, or Sub Assistant Revenue Surveyors to the different Civil Divisions, to make them an advance equal to one month's salary to enable them to join their respective Divisions. Under date the 18th March 1856 the Chief Engineer requested that a permanent sum of Rupees 1,000 should be placed at his disposal to enable him to make these advances, which would from time to time be replaced by recoveries by instalments from the recipients. The Government, 2nd April 1856, thought that a better and simpler plan would be to authorize the Sub Treasurer once for all to make the requisite advances on occasion occurring, to be recovered in the ordinary course of business by the Audit Department, and resolved accordingly that every nomination to the rank of Probationary Assistant Overseer and Sub Assistant Revenue Surveyor as sanctioned by Government, should in future be communicated to the Civil Auditor and Sub Treasurer, and should be sufficient authority to advance on application a sum equivalent to a month's salary of the nominee. The individual on being apprized of his appointment was to make out a bill on the Honorable Company quoting the order of his appointment, and this having been counter-signed by the Chief Engineer and passed by the Civil Auditor, the amount was to be drawn from the General Treasury; the advance to be recovered in four equal instalments, to be stopped from the monthly abstracts of the recipient and credited to the Sub Treasurer. This course has been followed from that time.

6. On the 12th April 1856 the Director of Public Instruction represented that he had on several occasions received applications from persons appointed by him to situations in the Department, and having long distances to travel, for an advance of salary to enable them to provide for the travelling expenses. He suggested that the Civil Auditor might be instructed to pass, in the case of any person newly appointed to the Department, one month's salary in advance, to be recovered by deductions of a moiety of the salary at the expiration of each of the first two months of service. The Government under date 16th April 1856 issued orders accordingly.

7. Similarly this Government, under date 21st April 1856, authorized travelling charges to persons in the Educational Department being passed in advance by the Civil Auditor on bills countersigned by the Director of Public Instruction.

8. All the above Orders, it will be observed, were passed in April and May 1856. They have therefore been in force for five years without public loss or risk, and to the convenience of Government and of the parties affected by them.

9. These several Orders will, according to the Resolution of the Government of India now under acknowledgment, have to be recalled, and a special reference made to Government on every occasion which would have fallen under them.

10. I am however directed respectfully to solicit, that the Resolution may be re-considered, and that this Government may be permitted to adhere to its former practice.

11. I am to point out that in all the cases referred to, the advances are made under conditions perfectly well defined, and on sufficient responsibility. No greater degree of security would be attained by each case being separately submitted for the sanction of Government, as the Government would pass all such as a matter of course, on the countersignature of the Civil Auditor and Departmental head. The only result would be increased delay, and more detail work thrown upon Government and the Civil Auditor.

12. The Madras Government fail to perceive any difference in principle between the issue of advances on such clearly defined terms, and that of the issue of monthly salaries and fixed allowances as tentage, or why the former should not be passed by the Civil Auditor without reference to higher authority as well as the latter.

13. In the Order of the 3rd ultimo, it is observed that "the practice cannot be more necessary in the case mentioned by the Civil Auditor of Fort William than in many others, and to make the practice general is objectionable." I am instructed on this to remark with deference that if the practice be unattended with any risk to the State, and tend to economy of time and labor on the part of its servants, it would be preferable to extend it to all cases in which it could safely be adopted, rather than to abolish it. The great evil in Indian Offices is that they are

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
11*th June* 1861.

overloaded with details which do not conduce to effective check while they absorb the time and attention which should be devoted to matters of real importance.

14. The Madras Government must be permitted to refer to the very Order under reply as, an illustration of this remark. Although issued at the beginning of May it is numbered 5,330, from which it would appear that about 5,330 separate orders, letters, &c., had been despatched from your Office in the course of the preceding four months, which, at the rate of twenty-five working days to the month, would give fifty-three orders or letters per diem. Many of these must be mere routine, passed as a matter of course, and on reliance on some subordinate servant in the Office. Any change which would relieve your Office from such detail without diminishing its real control would doubtless be desirable.

15. Lastly I have to remark that the practice in respect to these advances obtaining at Madras has been summarily set aside by the Supreme Government, without this Government having had an opportunity of explaining the circumstances under which it arose, or the reasons for which they would desire its continuance. I am directed to solicit that for the future a reference may be made to this Government on any such occasion, and that they may be allowed to offer such remarks as may occur to them before final orders are given.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

№139

3

From H. D. Sandeman Esqre
Officiating Civil Auditor

To C. H. Cushington Esqre
Secretary to the Government of India
Financial Department.
Dated Fort William 16th April 1861.

Sir

In order to assimilate the working of the Offices of Audit (Pay Master) in this and in the Madras Presidency I have the honor to suggest that the Civil Auditor (Civil Pay Master) of Bengal be authorized to pass a months pay in advance to newly arrived Assistant Chaplains to enable them to join their appointments as is the case in Madras vide orders of Madras Government Ecclesiastical Department №192 dated 17th May 1856) or that the express sanction of Government be required in Madras in each instance as is the cas in this Presidency.

2

2d I would at the same time remark that in Madras the Civil Auditor is authorized to make advances of a month's salary to Probationary Assistant overseers and Sub Assistant Revenue Surveyors, recoverable in 4 equal monthly instalments on the counter-signature of the Civil Engineer in the Department of Public Works/ Vide orders Madras Government in the Public Works Department No 475, dated 2nd April 1856/ and to any person newly appointed to the Educational Depart-=ment on the application of the Director of Public Instruction recoverable in two equal monthly instalments/ Vide orders of Madras Government No 408 dated 16th April 1856/ without reference to the Government also Travelling charges in advance to officer of the Educational Department on Bills countersigned by the Director of Public Instruction.

3d In these instances I would also beg to submit the advisability of assimilating the practice in both offices

I have &ca

/Signed/ H. D. Sandeman
Offg Civil Auditor

No 5330

Fort William
Financial Department
The 3rd May 1861.

The authority solicited by the Officiating Civil Auditor Fort William for passing advances of the nature alluded to with a view to the assimilation of the working of the audit offices in Madras and Calcutta cannot be granted. The Governor General in Council directs that the system now prevails in Madras be discontinued. It cannot in His Excellency in Council's opinion be more necessary in the cases mentioned than in many other

other

other cases and to make the practice general is objectionable.

By order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council.

(Signed) C. Hugh. Lushington
Secy. to the Govt. of India

To The Government of Madras for information and guidance

No. 759

5

From H. D. Sandeman, Esqre.
Officiating Civil Auditor

To C. H. Lushington, Esqre.
Secretary to the Government of India
Financial Department
Dated Fort William 16th April 1856.

Sir,

In order to assimilate the working of the Offices of Audit (Pay Master) in this and in the Madras Presidency I have the honor to suggest that the Civil Auditor (Civil Pay Master) of Bengal be authorized to pay 2 months pay in advance to newly arrived Assistant Chaplains to enable them to join their appointments as is the case in Madras (Vide orders of Madras Government Ecclesiastical Department No. 192 dated 27th May 1856) or that the express sanction of Government be required in Madras in each instance, as is the case in this Presidency.

2d. I would at the same time remark that in Madras the Civil Auditor is authorized to make advances of a months salary to Probationary Assistant overseers and Sub Assistant Revenue Surveyors recoverable in 4 equal monthly instalments on the countersignature of the Civil Engineer in the Department of Public Works (Vide orders Madras Government in the Public Works Department No. 475 dated 2d April 1855) and to any person newly appointed to the Educational Department on the application of the Director of Public Instruction recoverable in two equal monthly instalments (Vide orders of Madras Government No. 408 dated

dated 16th April 1856) without reference to the Government also Travelling charges in advance to Officer of the educational Department on Bills countersigned by the Director of Public Instruction.-

2d. In these instances I would also beg to submit the advisability of Assimilating the practice in both Offices.-

I have the honor to be &c
(Signed) H. D. Sandeman
Officiating Civil Auditor

No 5330

Fort William
Financial Department
The 3d May 1856.

The authority solicited by the Officiating Civil Auditor Fort William for passing advances of the nature alluded to with a view to the assimilation of the practice of the audit offices in Madras and Calcutta cannot be granted - The Governor General in Council directs that the system which prevails in Madras be discontinued. It cannot in His Excellency in Councils opinion be more necessary in the cases mentioned than in many other cases and to make the practice general is objectionable.

By order of His Excellency the Governor General in Council.-

Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Government of Madras for information and guidance.-

Comp.d W.

Eccl. Con 20th May 1856.
Nos 14 & 15
Public Con 25th April 1856
Nos 1 & 2.
P.W. Con 2d April 1856.
Nos 21 & 22.

11 June

Fin. 1861 Dept.

Rec. 5 Aug.

From

The Secy to the Govt.
of India. Fin. Dr. 5330.

Rd 3rd
Rf 23rd } May 1861.

No 273

Copy the Resolution of the Govt. objecting to granting the authority solicited by the Offg Civil Auditor Fort William for passing certain advances with a view to the assimilation of the working of the audit offices in Madras & Calcutta & directing the discontinuance of the system of making advances which prevails in Madras —

C3 Sent
R7 "

Dept 14/6/61

278

Financial Dept.

No 293.

To

The Secretary to the Govt of India
Financial Department
Fort William.

Sir,

I am directed by the Hon.
the Governor in Council to
acknowledge the receipt of
an order of the Govt of
India in the Financial
Department No 3330 dated
3d May 1861.

2. In this order the
Supreme Govt decline to in-
-vest the Civil Auditor of
Fort William with the power
of passing without re-
-ference to Govt certain
advances, hitherto ~~exposed~~ possessed
by the Civil Auditor at
Madras - and direct that
the practice prevailing

at

Rec'd Cal. 3rd May 1858
No. 1475
Pol. Cons. 28th April 1858.
No 1422
W.H.W. Cons. Dep. April 1858
No 21/822.

D.

Fin. 1861 Dept.

From The Secretary to the Govt
of India Financial Dep.
Dated 30th April 1861.
Rec'd 28th May 1861.
No 293.

F.R. No 293

Communicating the
Order of Govt
Directing the Civil Auditor
to pass without reference
to Govt certain advances
hitherto passed by the Civil
Auditor at Madras.

Referred to the Civil Auditor
for information.
Copy to the Accountant General
for information.
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Public Works Dept for information
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Military Dept for information
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Marine Dept for information
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Public Dept for information
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Revenue Dept for information
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Home Dept for information
Copy to the Secretary to the Govt
Foreign Dept for information

at Madras be discontinued.

3. The cases in which the Madras Civil Auditor has been in the habit of acting without reference to Govt are the following. alluded to

1. ~~The Govt of Madras have been in the custom of allowing~~ An advance of one month's salary is allowed to Assistant Chaplains on first arrival and appointment to a station in the Provinces to enable them to join. In 1856 the Civil Auditor, Mr J. Sushington, in submitting an application of the kind for the sanction of Govt, suggested that a general authority might be conferred on the Civil Auditor to pass the bills of Asst Chaplains for one months salary in advance under similar circumstances. To this the Govt

under

date 17 May 1856 assented.

5. In the Public Works Department it had been usual on the appointment of Probationary Assistant Overseers or Sub Assistant Revenue Surveyors to the different Civil Divisions to make them an advance equal to one month's salary to enable them to ~~make arrangements for~~ join their respective Divisions. Under date the 18 March 1856 the Chief Engineer requested that a permanent sum of Rs 1000 should be placed at his disposal to enable him to make these advances, which would from time to time be replaced by recoveries by instalments from the recipients. The Govt, 2d April 1856, thought that a better & simpler plan

plan would be to authorize the Sub Treasurer once for all to make the requisite advances on occasion occurring, to be recovered in the ordinary course of business by the Audit Department, and resolved accordingly that every nomination to the rank of Probationary Assistant Overseer and Sub Assistant Revenue Surveyor as sanctioned by Govt, ~~shall~~ should in future be communicated to the Civil Auditor and Sub Treasurer, and ~~shall~~ should be sufficient authority to advance on application a sum equivalent to a month's salary of the nominee. The individual on being apprized of his appointment was to make out a Bill on the Honble Company quoting the order of his appointment, and this having been countersigned by the Chief Engineer and passed by the Civil Auditor, the amount was to be drawn from the General Treasury; the advance to be recovered in four equal instalments, to be stopped from the monthly abstracts of the receipient and credited to the Sub Treasurer. This course has been followed from that time.

D

b. On the 12 April 1856 the Director of Public Instruction represented that he had on several occasions received applications from persons appointed by him to situations in the Department, and having long distances to travel, for an advance of salary to enable them to provide for the travelling expences. He suggested that the Civil Auditor might be instructed

instructed to pass, in the case of any person newly appointed to the Depart. -ment, one months salary in advance, to be recovered by deductions of a moiety of the salary at the expir- -ation of each of the first two months of service.

The Govt under date 16th April 1856 issued orders accordingly -

7. Similarly this Govt, under date 21st April 1856, authorized travelling charges to persons in the Educational department being passed in advance by the Civil Auditor. +

+ on bills countersign- -ed by the Director of Public Instruction

8. All the above orders, it will be observed, were passed in April and May 1856. They have therefore been in force for five years without public loss or risk ~~to Govt~~ and to

the convenience of Govt and of the parties af- -fected by them.-

9. These several orders will, according to the resolution of the Govt of India now under acknowledgment, have to be recalled, and a special reference made to Govt on every occa- -sion which would have fallen under them.

10. I am however directed respectfully to solicit that the resolu- -tion may be recon- -sidered, and that this Govt may be permit- -ted to adhere to its former practice.-

11. I am to point out that in all the cases referred to, the advances are made under con- -ditions perfectly well defined, and on suf- -ficient responsibility.

No.

No greater degree of security would be obtained by each case being separately submitted for the sanction of Govt. as the Govt. would pass all such as a matter of course, on the countersignature of the Civil Auditor and Departmental Head. The only result would be increased delay, and more detail work thrown upon Govt. and the Civil Auditor.

12. The Madras Govt. fail to perceive any difference in principle between the issue of advances on such clearly defined terms, and that of the issue of monthly and fixed allowances as pay salaries, or why the former should not be passed by the Civil Auditor without reference to higher authority as

Page

as well as the latter.

13. In the order of the 3rd ult. it is observed that "the practice cannot be more necessary in the case mentioned by the Civil Auditor of Fort William than in many others and to make the practice general is objectionable."

I am instructed on this to remark with deference that if the practice be unattended with any risk to the State, and tend to economy of time and labour on the part of its servants, it would be preferable to extend it to all cases in which it could safely be adopted, rather than to abolish it. The great evil in Indian offices is that they are overloaded

loaded with details which do not conduce to effective check while they absorb the time and attention which should be devoted to matters of real importance.

11. The Madras Govt. must be permitted to refer to the very order under reply as an illustration of this remark. Although issued at the beginning of May it is numbered 5330, from which it would appear that about 5330 separate orders, letters &c. had been despatched from your office in the course of the preceding four months - which at the rate of 25 working days to the month would give fifty three orders or letters per diem.

directed to solicit that for the future all reference may be made to this Govt. on any such occasion, and that they may be allowed to offer such remarks as may occur to them before final orders are given

many of these must be mere routine, passed as a matter of course, and on reliance on some subordinate servant in the office. Any change which would relieve your office from such detail without diminishing its real control would doubtless be desirable.

15. Lastly. I have to remark that the practice in respect to these advances obtaining at Madras has been summarily set aside by the Supreme Govt, without this Govt. having had an opportunity of explaining the circumstances under which it arose, or the reasons for which they would desire its continuance. I am directed

Fort A Gregg
11 June 1861

Had we best steam
the Sewee to pass such
orders? I think we
need the C. A. was one
our Pilots. He I
am right sure would
should be without It

Financial 1861 Departt.

No. 293

To
The Secretary to the
Govermt. of India
11th June 1861.

Replied 2d July 1861 No. 411.

Replying to the Reso=
lution of the Govt. of India
objecting to grant the
authority solicited by the
Offg. Civil Auditor Fort
William for passing
certain advances with
a view to the assimila=
tion of the working of the
Audit Offices in Madras
and Calcutta.

29-30

~~24180~~

C S Lunn
R 7.