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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Final DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	725	Press / Mis.
Dated	14-10-	1862.

576

37-38

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
14th October 1862.

No. 37. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, dated 8th September 1862, No. 295A.

Read the undermentioned papers regarding the transfer of Budget Grants from one item in one section of a Department to another item of the same section :—

From Sir GEORGE COUPER, Baronet and C. B., Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces; to the Honorable E. DRUMMOND, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 1,264*a*, dated Nynee Tal, 1st July 1862.

Financial Department, North-Western Provinces.

I am directed to forward to you, for the consideration and Orders of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter, No. 1,063, dated 17th ultimo, from the Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General of these provinces, regarding the transfer of Budget Grants from one detailed head to another.

2. The question is one which requires the decision of the Supreme Government, as it relates to the Orders of the Government of India, No. 11,322, dated 15th November 1860, with which it is not in the competency of the Lieutenant-Governor to interfere.

3. If there be no objection on the part of the Supreme Government, His Honor will think it expedient to delegate his authority to Controlling Officers in the degree suggested in paragraph 3 of Mr. Balmain's letter, believing that this can be safely done, and that, if it be not done, the references to the Government will be so numerous as to prove an obstruction to business.

Copy sent to the Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, North-Western Provinces, with reference to his letter, No. 1,063, dated 17th instant.

From W. BALMAIN, Esq., Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, North-Western Provinces; to Sir GEORGE COUPER, Baronet and C. B., Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, Allahabad, No. 1,063, dated Allahabad, 17th June 1862.

I have the honor to request the instructions of Government in regard to the transfer of Budget Grants from one detailed head to another.

2. Under the Orders of the Government of India, No. 11,322 of November 15th, 1860, local Governments are empowered to transfer grants within any of the 25 principal heads mentioned in the Proceedings, reporting the transfers made. But the Budgets as prepared and sanctioned, shew the charges in very great detail. For instance, under B. I. 1, a Collector's establishment and contingencies appear divided up into from 15 to 20 distinct subordinate heads. That of a Collector of Customs, into an equal number; Judges and Magistrates the same. Strictly, every transfer of a grant from one of these subordinate heads to another, requires the previous sanction of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. But to require this procedure to be carried out, when part of a grant for contingencies is required for printing charges, or when part of a grant for travelling allowances to Officers, is required for the travelling allowances of establishment, would be needlessly to trouble the governing authorities.

3. No subordinate officer, who submits a Budget Estimate, should be allowed without sanction or report to depart from the detailed grants he has submitted, but I would suggest, that Controlling Authorities might be invested with power to sanction transfers amongst certain minor heads to be fixed by Government. The transfers to be thus allowed without reference to Government, might perhaps be limited to *contingent charges* estimated for by *one head of an Office*. Thus the amounts estimated for by a Collector under the heads of Contingencies—

Printing Charges,
Mofussil Contingencies,
Travelling Allowances to Officers,
Travelling Allowances to Establishment,
Treasure Remittances,
Tentage,

might be allowed to be transferred.

4. During the present year, with the improved arrangements for checking each item of grant, it is probable that numerous applications for transfer of grants will be made, and I would solicit orders as to whether each and every such transfer must be sanctioned by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From the Officiating Auditor General of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 552, dated 5th August 1862.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 5,065, dated 30th July 1862, received this day, to return its original enclosures as per margin, and to submit the report therein called for, on a proposition made by the Government of the North-Western Provinces, "that Controlling Officers be authorized to transfer Budget Grants from one "item in one section of a Department to another item in the same section."

Letter from Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, North-Western Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, No. 1,063, dated 17th June 1862.
Letter from Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Financial Department, No. 1,264*a*, dated 1st July 1862.

2. The reason assigned for this proposition which, if adopted, would delegate the authority of the local Government in respect to the transfer of Budget Grants from one head to another, to a considerable extent to Controlling Officers is, that it is feared the references to Government will be so numerous as to prove an obstruction to business.

3. I remark that the above reason assigned for the proposition would lead to the inference that the Budget Estimates had not been carefully prepared. Be this as it may, it is obviously very objectionable, that any alteration should be made in a Budget Estimate sanctioned by the Government on any authority short of that of the local Government, and the proposition made to authorize "*Controlling Officers*" to make transfer alterations, appears too indefinite to admit of sanction. Moreover, it does not appear admissible that Estimates made for one description of expenditure, should be admitted as applicable to another description of expenditure, such as the conversion of "Printing Charges" into "Travelling Allowances."

4. Perhaps, the difficulty apprehended would be obviated, if Officers requiring authority for transfers were directed to submit quarterly, a statement in detail for such authority to the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, for submission to the Government, with his remarks. This would no doubt reduce the number of applications to be considered, and would perhaps admit of the work being disposed of without obstruction to other business.

Resolution.—The Governor General in Council observes that it is a mistake to regard items of detail of grants as grants. The details are needed for purposes of review and check, but it never was intended that the Government should be brought into action every time an alteration becomes necessary in the distribution of Contingent charges, which are all subject to separate rules and check. His Excellency in Council is of opinion that as every class of Contingent Expenditure is subject to separate audit under special rules in addition to, and independent of, the Budget sanction, the question of petty transfers may best be disposed of by instructing Civil Pay Masters and Deputy Auditors and Accountants General, that so far as the Budget is concerned, they may, on the authority of such Controlling Officers as the local Governments may indicate, admit all transfers in details of Contingent charges of the same class, if the items be in other respects susceptible of audit under the general rules in force. Thus any Contingent charge of the nature of those estimated in the Budget for the Establishment or Department concerned, and auditable under the general rules, may be passed if not in excess of the total grant for Contingencies, whether in exact accordance with the detailed distribution in the Budget or not.

Ordered, that a copy of the above be sent to the several local Governments, the Deputy Auditors and Accountants General, the Civil Pay Masters, and to the Auditor General of India, and the Accountant General to the Government of India, for information.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) E. DRUMMOND,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
14*th October* 1862.

No. 38. Order thereon, 14th October 1862, No. 725.

Ordered to be communicated to the undermentioned Departments:—

Revenue Department.
Judicial do.
Public do.
Educational do.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

No. 295 a

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, d. 8th September 1862.

READ the under-mentioned papers regarding the transfer of Budget Grants from one item in one section of a Department to another item of the same section :—

From Sir GEORGE COUPER, Baronet and C. B., Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, to the Hon'ble E. DRUMMOND, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 1264*a*, d., Nynee Tal, 1st July 1862.

Financial Department, North-Western Provinces.

I AM directed to forward to you, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter, No. 1063, dated 17th ultimo, from the Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General of these Provinces, regarding the transfer of Budget Grants from one detailed head to another.

2. The question is one which requires the decision of the Supreme Government, as it relates to the orders of the Government of India, No. 11322, dated 15th November 1860, with which it is not in the competency of the Lieutenant-Governor to interfere.

3. If there be no objection on the part of the Supreme Government, His Honor will think it expedient to delegate his authority to Controlling Officers in the degree suggested in paragraph 3 of Mr. Balmain's letter, believing that this can be safely done, and that, if it be not done, the references to the Government will be so numerous as to prove an obstruction to business.

COPY sent to the Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, North-Western Provinces, with reference to his letter, No. 1063, dated 17th instant.

From W. BALMAIN, ESQ., Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, North-Western Provinces, to Sir GEORGE COUPER, Baronet and C. B., Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, Allahabad, No. 1063, d., Allahabad, 17th June 1862.

I HAVE the honor to request the instructions of Government in regard to the transfer of Budget Grants from one detailed head to another.

2. Under the orders of the Government of India, No. 11322, of November 15th, 1860, local Governments are empowered to transfer grants within any of the 25 principal heads mentioned in the Proceedings, reporting the transfers made. But the Budgets as prepared and sanctioned, shew the charges in very great detail. For instance, under B. I. 1, a Collector's establishment and contingencies appear divided up into from 15 to 20 distinct subordinate heads. That of a Collector of Customs, into an equal number; Judges and Magistrates the same. Strictly, every transfer of a grant from one of these subordinate heads to another, requires the previous sanction of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor. But to require this procedure to be carried out, when part of a grant for contingencies is required for printing charges, or when part of a grant for travelling allowances to Officers, is required for the travelling allowances of establishment, would be needlessly to trouble the governing authorities.

3. No subordinate officer, who submits a Budget Estimate, should be allowed without sanction or report to depart from the detailed grants he has submitted, but I would suggest, that Controlling Authorities might be invested with power to sanction transfers amongst certain minor heads to be fixed by Government. The transfers to be thus allowed without reference to Government, might perhaps be limited to *contingent charges* estimated for by *one head of an Office*. Thus the amounts estimated for by a Collector under the heads of Contingencies—

Printing Charges,
Mofussil Contingencies,
Travelling Allowances to Officers,
Travelling Allowances to Establishment,
Treasure Remittances,
Tentage,

might be allowed to be transferred.

4. During the present year, with the improved arrangements for checking each item of grant, it is probable that numerous applications for transfer of grants will be made, and I would solicit orders as to whether each and every such transfer must be sanctioned by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor.

From the Officiating Auditor General of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 552, d. 5th August 1862.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 5065, dated 30th July 1862, received this day, to return its original enclosures as per margin, and to submit the report therein called for, on a proposition made by the Government of the North-Western Provinces, "that Controlling Officers be authorized to transfer "Budget Grants from one item in one section of a "Department to another item in the same section."

Letter from Officiating Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, North-Western Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, No. 1063, dated 17th June 1862.

Letter from Secretary to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Financial Department, No. 1264a, dated 1st July 1862.

2. The reason assigned for this proposition which, if adopted, would delegate the authority of the local Government in respect to the transfer of Budget Grants from one head to another, to a considerable extent to Controlling Officers is, that it is feared the references to Government will be so numerous as to prove an obstruction to business.

3. I remark that the above reason assigned for the proposition would lead to the inference that the Budget Estimates had not been carefully prepared. Be this as it may, it is obviously very objectionable, that any alteration should be made in a Budget Estimate sanctioned by the Government on any authority short of that of the local Government, and the proposition made to authorize "*Controlling Officers*" to make transfer alterations, appears too indefinite to admit of sanction. Moreover, it does not appear admissible that Estimates made for one description of expenditure should be admitted as applicable to another description of expenditure, such as the conversion of "Printing Charges" into "Travelling Allowances."

4. Perhaps, the difficulty apprehended would be obviated, if Officers requiring authority for transfers were directed to submit quarterly, a statement in detail for such

authority to the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, for submission to the Government, with his remarks. This would no doubt reduce the number of applications to be considered, and would perhaps admit of the work being disposed of without obstruction to other business.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor General in Council observes that it is a mistake to regard items of detail of grants as grants. The details are needed for purposes of review and check, but it never was intended that the Government should be brought into action every time an alteration becomes necessary in the distribution of Contingent Charges, which are all subject to separate rules and check. His Excellency in Council is of opinion that as every class of Contingent Expenditure is subject to separate audit under special rules in addition to, and independent of, the Budget sanction, the question of petty transfers may best be disposed of by instructing Civil Pay Masters and Deputy Auditors and Accountants General, that so far as the Budget is concerned, they may, on the authority of such Controlling Officers as the local Governments may indicate, admit all transfers in details of Contingent Charges of the same class, if the items be in other respects susceptible of audit under the General Rules in force. Thus any Contingent Charge of the nature of those estimated in the Budget for the establishment or Department concerned, and auditable under the General Rules, may be passed if not in excess of the total grant for Contingencies, whether in exact accordance with the detailed distribution in the Budget or not.

ORDERED, that a copy of the above be sent to the several local Governments, the Deputy Auditors and Accountants General, the Civil Pay Masters, and to the Auditor General of India, and the Accountant General to the Government of India, for information.

(A true Extract)

Secretary to the Government of India.

Pro: 6th Dec. 1/60 A. 15 D 18.

Finl 1862 Dept

(7)

Order thereon 14 Oct. 1862 No 725.

Ordered to be communicated to the undermentioned Departments.

From

The Secy to the Govt of India. Fl Dept 295a

D/8th Sept
R/2nd Oct. 3/62

Fin. 14/4/63

No 781

Copy the Resolution of that Govt concerning powers regarding the Transfer of Budget grants from one item in one section of a Dept to another item of the same section -

To the Revenue Dept.
" Judicial "
" Public "
" Educational "
dupe 15th

Ch. Clerk 37 to 38
Rg.

With an Order