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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 578	Press / Mis.
Dated 18-12-	18 68.

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26-28

Not to be folded or roughly handled

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 578.

FROM

THE HONORABLE R. S. ELLIS, C. B.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 27th October last, No. 3253, intimating that the Governor General in Council has determined that the control of the Money Order Accounts of this Presidency shall be removed to the Chief Office at Calcutta, and requesting that a report may be submitted of the reductions that can be effected in the establishment and charges of the local Controller's Office, I am directed to transmit copy of a letter* from the Accountant General, Madras, from which it will be seen that by the adoption of the course determined on by the Governor General in Council, a saving of not more than Rupees 145 per mensem, or Rupees 1,740 per annum, will be effected.

* Dated 20th November 1868, No. 227.

2. The Accountant General remarks that he fails to see how the proposed transfer of the control of the Money Order Accounts will be attended with much economy, while the salary of the local Controller, which is by far the heaviest item, as pointed out in paragraph 8 of my letter, dated the 4th instant, No. 560, remains as a charge against the Department.

3. The Accountant General is of opinion that if all control over the accounts is removed, there is no necessity for an officer of Mr. Hewson's ability. He would place his services at the disposal of the Government of India, as a competent person might be found on a salary of Rupees 100 to undertake the duties which will devolve on Mr. Hewson on the transfer of the accounts.

4. The Accountant General suggests, however, as an experimental measure, that the duty of supervising the issue and payment of Money Orders be entrusted to the Examiner of Claims. If this suggestion be approved, he proposes that the present Head Clerk and Cashier be alone retained, by which arrangement there will be a saving of Rupees 7,380 per annum instead of only Rupees 1,740.

5. I am to add that His Excellency the Governor in Council entirely concurs in the views expressed by the Accountant General; and to state that the suggestion of the Accountant General, to place the control of the Money Order Department under an officer attached to his own Department, accords with the opinion held by this Government in paragraph 8 of my letter of the 4th instant, No. 560.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
18*th December* 1868.

Chief Secretary.

From the Accountant General, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 20th November 1868, No. 227.

Correspondence Department.

Adverting to the Order of Government, dated the 12th instant, referring for my report a letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department of the 27th ultimo, communicating the orders of the Governor General in Council relative to the removal of the control of the Money Order Accounts from the local Controllers to the Chief Office in Calcutta, I have the honor to submit the following remarks.

2. In the Madras Presidency there are fifty-three Money Order Agencies, which render monthly to the Head Office 318 Statements. To examine and check these Statements the Controller has a staff of four Assistants on a gross monthly salary of Rupees 145. He has also a Cashier, and an Assistant Cashier on salaries of Rupees 45 and 20, respectively; his own salary being Rupees 500, rising to 600. The entire cost, therefore, of the Money Order Office at Madras is at the present time Rupees 710 per mensem.

3. It is now proposed to transfer the control of the Money Order Department to the Head Office at Calcutta, leaving the local Controller to fill the office of Money Order Agent at the Presidency town. Under this arrangement all statements and references, heretofore submitted by the several Agents to the local Controller, will, in future, go direct to Calcutta, and consequently the whole of the establishment now engaged in the examination and check of these returns may be dispensed with. The Controller will thus be left alone with his two Cashiers.

4. The object of the proposed transfer is stated to be greater economy in working the Money Order Department, but I fail to perceive how this is to be obtained by the mere transfer to Calcutta of the control over the Money Order Accounts, while the salary of the local Controller, which is by far the heaviest item, remains as a charge against the Department. The Statements, &c., now received by the local Controller, will require precisely the same careful examination and analysis in Calcutta as in Madras, and I am very doubtful indeed whether the work can be done at a less cost there than here. At all events the difference will be so very trifling as to render the change, in a financial point of view, altogether unimportant.

5. But if all control is to be removed from the Madras Office, as proposed, where is the necessity, I would ask, for an officer of Mr. Hewson's ability and long experience in the Department. Such qualities are not required in a Money Order Agent, whose sole duty it will be to superintend the daily issue of three, and the payment of about twenty-five Money Orders, and their entry in the accounts, and assuredly a monthly salary of Rupees 500 is more than fitting remuneration for such work as this.

6. If then it be determined that the transfer of control shall be carried into effect, and I am by no means disposed to question the expediency of that measure, I am decidedly of opinion that Mr. Hewson's services should be placed at the disposal of the Government of India, with a view to his employment in a situation of higher responsibility than that of merely a Money Order Agent, for which post, I have no doubt, a competent person might be found on a salary of 100 Rupees, and perhaps less; or if it be intended that the Money Order Office should remain in this building as at present, then I would suggest, as an experimental measure, that the duty of superintending the issue and payment of Money Orders be entrusted to the Examiner of Claims, whom I could, without any very great inconvenience, relieve of a portion of his present work to enable him to perform that duty. If this suggestion be approved, I would propose that the present Head Clerk and Cashier be alone retained, by which arrangement there would be an annual saving to Government of Rupees 7,380, as per margin, instead of only Rupees 1,740 under the arrangement proposed by the Government of India.

	Per annum.
	Rs.
Controller's salary	6,000
Debit Check Clerk	480
Credit do.	420
General Assistant	240
Assistant Cashier	240
	7,380

7. In conclusion, I have to remark that, on the proposed transfer of control being carried into effect, some arrangement seems necessary for the issue of duplicates of lost Money Orders at Madras to avoid the necessity of a reference to Calcutta on each occasion, and which would cause considerable delay and inconvenience to the parties concerned. I would propose, therefore, that the Accountant General or Examiner of Claims should be empowered to grant such duplicates, and as the accounts showing the transactions of the several agencies will be lodged in Calcutta, that the duplicates should be issued on production of a certificate from the Paying Officer that the missing original Order had not been discharged by him. Authority, similar to that now vested in the local Controllers, might also be given for compliance with the wishes of parties requiring any alteration of name, &c., or for the renewal of Orders obtained by them.

Exd. J. Tulloch

1868.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

From

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Financial Department.

Dated 18*th December* 1868.

Read.

No. 578.
Enclosure.

DECEMBER.

Nos. 26—28.

Transmitting copy of a letter from the Accountant General, reporting the reductions that can be effected in the establishment and charges of the local Money Order Office by the abolition of the post of Controller.

Correspondence Deposit

Fort Saint George
Accountant General's Office
20th November 1868

No. 227

From
F. Lushington Esqre
Accountant General

To
The Chief Secretary
to Government

Sir,

Adverting to the order of Government dated the 12th instant referring for my report a letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India in the Financial Department of the 27th ultimo, communicating the orders of the Governor General in Council relative to the removal of the control of the Money Order Accounts from the local Controllers to the Chief Office in Calcutta, I have the honor to submit the following remarks.

2 In the Madras Presidency there are 53 Money Order Agencies which render monthly to the Head Office 318 Statements. To examine and

and check these Statements the Controller has a staff of 4 Assistants on a gross monthly salary of Rupees 145. He has also a Cashier, and an Assistant-Cashier on salaries of Rupees 45 and 20 respectively his own salary being Rupees 500 rising to 600. The entire cost therefore of the Money Order Office at Madras is at the present time Rs. 710 per mensem.

3 It is now proposed to transfer the Control of the Money Order Department to the Head Office at Calcutta, leaving the local Controller to fill the Office of Money Order Agent at the Presidency towns. Under this arrangement all Statements & References heretofore submitted by the several Agents to the local Controller will in future, go direct to Calcutta, and consequently the whole of the Establishment now engaged in the examination and check of these Returns may be dispensed with. The Controller will thus be left alone with his 2 Cashiers.

4 The object of the proposed transfer is stated to be greater economy in working the Money Order Department, but I fail to perceive how this is to be obtained by the mere transfer to Calcutta of the Control over the Money Order Accounts, while the salary of the local Controller, which is by far the heaviest item, remains

remains as a charge against the Department. The Statements &c. now received by the local Controller will require precisely the same careful examination and analysis in Calcutta, as in Madras, and I am very doubtful indeed whether the work can be done at a less cost there than here. At all events the difference will be so very trifling, as to render the change in a financial point of view altogether unimportant.

5 But if all control is to be removed from the Madras Office, as proposed, where is the necessity, I would ask, for an Officer of Mr. Newsom's ability and long experience in the Department. Such qualities are not required in a Money Order Agent, whose sole duty it will be to superintend the daily issue of three, and the payment of about twenty five Money orders and their entry in the Accounts; and assuredly a monthly salary of Rupees 600 is more than fitting remuneration for such work as this.

If then it be determined that the transfer of control shall be carried into effect, and I am by no means disposed to question the expediency of that measure, I am decidedly of opinion that Mr. Newson's services should be placed at the disposal of the Government of India with a view to his employment in a situation of higher responsibility than that of merely a Money Order Agent, for which post, I have no doubt, a competent person might be found on a salary of one hundred rupees* perhaps less. Or, if it be intended that the Money Order Office should remain in this building as at present, then I would suggest, as an experimental measure, that the duty of superintending the issue & payment of money orders be entrusted to the Examiner of Claims whom I could without any very great inconvenience relieve of a portion of his present work, to enable him to perform that duty. If this suggestion be approved, I would propose that the present Head Clerk and Cashier be alone retained, by which arrangement there would be an annual saving to Government of Rs. 7380 as per margin* instead of only Rs. 1740 under the arrangement proposed by the Government of India.

In

* Contribution now Head Clerk 600
Asst. Clerk 480
Cash — do — 420
Guard Assistant 240
Assistant Cashier 240
Rs 1980
Rs 5400
Rs 7380

7 In conclusion I have to remark that in the proposed transfer of control being carried into effect, some arrangement seems necessary for the issue of duplicates of lost Money Orders at Madras to avoid the necessity of a reference to Calcutta on each occasion and which would cause considerable delay and inconvenience to the parties concerned. I would propose, therefore, that the Accountant General or Examiner of Claims should be empowered to grant such duplicates and as the accounts showing the transactions of the several Agencies will be lodged in Calcutta, that the duplicates should be issued on production of a Certificate from the paying Officer that the missing Original Order had not been discharged by him. Authority similar to that now vested in the local Controllers might also be given for compliance with the wishes of parties requiring any alteration of name &c. on for the renewal of orders obtained by them.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

F. Allen Hyde
Accountant General

Comptr B.D.R.

No. 3253.

13

1868

To

Secretary to Government
Madras.

Financial depart. Sir,

The Governor General in Council has determined, that the control of the Money order accounts of the Madras Presidency shall be removed from the local Comptroller to the Chief Office at Calcutta.

This will considerably lighten the duties of
2. the local Controller, who will then merely have to perform those of a Money order Agent for the Town of Madras.

I am directed to request, that with the per-
3. mission of His Excellency the Governor, you will report what reductions can be effected in the Establishments and charges of the local Comptroller's Office, on the new system being put into force.

A recent report on the working of the money
4. order system in Bombay has shewn that the charges on account of the local Comptrollership have been to a great extent the cause of the non-success financially of the system. The Governor General in Council is of opinion that the removal of the work of Control to the Chief Office in Calcutta will lead to economy.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

J. M. Allen
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India

Simla
the 27th October 1868.

dw 28/10

Financial Dept. Letter from Secretary to Government of India, dated Simla the 27th October 1868.
Received Nov. 1868.
Read
No. 622
S.A. 578
Reporting on the reductions in the Money Order Office, and the addition to Controller's Work.

C.S. Rec. 18.
27

DA & AG. Office
Recd 13
Ansd 11.1868

Referred to the Accountant General for report.

Fort Saint George
12th November 1868

W Willis
Chief Secy

To the Accountant General

13/11
date of receipt returned

Extract from Proceedings of Council dated 12th November 1868 Para 18 Read a letter from Financial Dept No 3253 dated 27th October 1868 Submitting Estimate of Expenditure for 1869 Resolved that it be referred to the Accountant General for report

Extract per Contra
Secretary

No 578

Fort Saint George
12th November 1868

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 3253 dated 27th October last, submitting the Estimate of Expenditure for the Money Order Establishment for the year 1869-70 and to request that you will be pleased to call for a report from the Accountant General on the subject of a change in the system of Money Order Accounts which has been under the consideration of the Government of India, and which is expected on the Presidency Accounts being brought to a close.

Report 27-

Cash 31/12

567
60 H

Financial Department.

No. 578. 15

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.
Financial Department.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 27th October last, No 3253, intimating that the Governor General in Council has determined that the control of the Money Order Accounts of this Presidency shall be removed to the Chief Office at Calcutta, and requesting that a report may be submitted of the reductions that can be effected in the Establishment and charges

charges of the local Controllers' Office, I am directed to transmit copy of a letter from the Accountant General Madras, from which it will be seen that by the adoption of the course determined on by the Governor General in Council, a saving of not more than Rs 145 per mensem, or Rs 1740 per annum, will be effected.

† of 20 Nov 168 No 227.

2. The Accountant General remarks that he fails to see how the proposed transfer of the control of the Money Order Accounts will be

1872

be attended with much economy, while the salary of the local Controller, which is by far the heaviest item, as pointed out in paragraph 8 of my letter dated the 4th instant, No 560, remains as a charge against the Department.

3. The Accountant General is of opinion that if all control over the accounts is removed, there is no necessity for an Officer of Mr Kerson's ability. He would place his services at the disposal of the Government of India, as a competent person might be found

On

on a salary of Rs 100 to undertake the duties which will devolve on Mr Benson on the transfer of the accounts.

4 The Accountant General suggests, however, as an experimental measure, that the duty of supervising the issue and payment of Money Orders be entrusted to the Examiner of Claims. If this suggestion be approved, he proposes that the present Head Clerk and Cashier be alone retained, by which arrangement there will be a saving of Rs 7,380 per annum instead of only Rs 1,740.

5 I am to add that His Excellency the Governor in Council entirely concurs in the views expressed by the Accountant General, and to state that the suggestion of the Accountant General, to place the control of the Money Order Department under an Officer attached to his own Department, accords with the opinion held by this Government in paragraph 8 of my letter of the 4th instant No 560.

Fort St. George
18 Decr 68.

186 . Department

No.

To

The Secretary to the

Government of

Department.

Dated 186 .

1868.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

From

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Financial Department.

Dated 18 Sept October 1868.
Recd.

No. 578
Enclosure.

Nos 26-28.

Transmitting copy of a letter from the Acct. Genl reporting the reductions that can be effected in the Establishment and Charges of the local Money Order Office, by the Abolition of the post of