M.P.O. 1—77,004—8-6-31.

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4

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1065	Press / Mis.
196-197.		
Dated	26-7-	1873.

9/00

196-197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
26th July 1873.

No. 196. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 10th July 1873, No. 29 :—

With reference to Proceedings of the Madras Government, 18th June 1873, No. 864, noticing that more money is needlessly raised by local taxation than is or can be spent, I have the honour to note that these remarks, so far as blame is inferred, are inapplicable to this district, and to point out, for the information of Government, what the causes are by which so large a sum as Rupees 57,600 out of all sources, viz., Rupees 2,91,000, or nineteen per cent., remained unspent at the end of the year 1872-73.

2. Our reserve balance was only Rupees 1,096. I wrote to the Board in October to utilize the reserve, which was then a larger sum, but got no reply till the year was over.

The other balances were unexpected, but were attempted to be utilized to a certain extent, viz., Rupees 3,173, Road Fund, not spent by default of Board of Revenue to reply to my letters, dated 25th June and 10th August 1872, till 29th November 1872 and 31st January 1873.

The Public Works Department left some money unspent, which is not the fault of the Local Fund Board, viz., Rupees 6,248 out of Rupees 14,030, Malliempolliem and Koodoomoody Road ; Rupees 2,165 out of the Noyel Bridge allotment, which was only made by Government in G.O., No. 212, of 12th February 1873, Financial Department, too late for use that year. The Public Works Department left unspent Rupees 1,997 on the Hassanoor Ghaut, ignorantly I believe. Numerous sundry balances by Department of Public Works, Rupees 4,199. Abnormal collections of road-cess in March, Rupees 6,275. Total Rupees 25,153.

3. We did not spend all our sanitary allotment; this, however, cannot be done till we have estimates and plans for hospitals and the like. Merely wasting the money in annual clearances of prickly-pear was not approved; the balance* under Results' Grants and Inspection is due, not to Local Fund Board, but to the Deputy Inspector of Schools, who over-estimated. Out of unappropriated General Fund balance, Rupees 4,880, Rupees 3,180 remained unspent owing to the Board of Revenue not replying to my letters before the year was out. It would have built two bridges. Rupees 10,957 were unexpected increased collections in March.

* Rupees 4,658.

4. What I would propose to avoid the recurrence of large balances, when numerous crying wants, already sanctioned by Government, remain postponed for want of funds, is that the Local Board, who are by this time well-acquainted with the wants of the district, should be empowered to direct the execution of any sanctioned work with funds that cannot be worked out elsewhere, or have accumulated beyond expectation. As it now is the Local Fund Board have to obtain the sanction of the Board of Revenue for the transfer of funds, and when permission arrives, after an interval of six months, the year is over.

Not only is the reference to the Office of the Board of Revenue necessary for the transfer, but after sanction the same has to be communicated to the Accountant-General, Controller, and District Engineer; then only are the funds which have been accumulated before these references set loose, but in general too late.

If, however, the President, Local Fund Board, were to communicate direct to the Accountant-General the sanctions of the Local Fund Board, and he to act thereon, there would be no delay.

It is probably not found out till the year is well, say, half advanced that there are transferable funds, and if the cumbrous agency to effect the transfers takes months in working, then nothing can be done, and there remains the strange anomaly of works refused for want of funds and unemployed funds.

5. As, however, sanction for the transfer of sums from unspent balance and reserve must, by law, remain with the Revenue Board, then a means to obviate delay and disappointment would be to sanction a contingent supplemental budget in case of any funds being available.

6. If after these precautions against delay and unspent balances there should still remain an unutilized amount, then the Local Fund Board would be justly answerable.

No. 197. ORDER THEREON, 26th July 1873, No. 1065.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for their suggestions as to the best mode of expediting transfers, and the expenditure of available funds, during the year.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. Wright.

Financial Department. 3/

No. 1212.

From The Coll.r of Coimbatore

Dated 10 July 1873.

FOR ORDERS.

I would send them to the Bd of Rev.e for their suggestions as to the best mode of expediting transfers & of expending the available funds during the year.

J. D.L.

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

The Board of Revenue.

Dated July. 26*th*.

Read.

G. O., 26th July 1873, *No.* 1055.

JULY.
Nos. 196-197.

Coimbatore.—Letter from the Collector, accounting for the unexpended balances in that district in 1872-73, forwarded to the Board of Revenue for their suggestions as to the best mode of expediting transfers and the expenditure of available funds during the year.

Circulated
For order

No 29

Coimbatore Collector's office
Coimbatore, 10th July 1873.

From,

A. Wedderburn Esquire,
Collector of Coimbatore.

To,

The Honorable W. Huddleston,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

With reference to Proceedings, Madras Government, 18th June 1873, No. 864, noticing that more money is needlessly raised by local taxation than is, or can be, spent, I have the honor to note that these remarks, so far as blame is inferred, are inapplicable to this District, and to point out for the information of Government, what the causes are, by which so large a sum as Rs. 57,600 out of all sources viz: Rs. 29,100, or 19 per cent, remained unspent at the end of the year 1872-73.

2. Our reserve balance was only Rs. 1096. I wrote to the Board in October to utilize the Reserve, which was, then, a larger sum, but got

no reply till the year was over.

The other balances were unexpected, but were attempted to be utilized to a certain extent, viz: Rs. 3173 road fund, not spent by default of Board of Revenue to reply to my letters dated 25th June & 10th August 1872, till 29th November 1872 & 31st January 1873.

The Public Works Department left some money unspent which is not the fault of the Local Fund Board, viz: Rs. 6248 out of Rs. 14030 Mallimpallium and Koodoomoody Road. — Rs. 2165 out of the Royal Bridge allotment, which was only made by Government in G.O. No. 212 of 12th February 1873, F.D., too late for use that year. The Public Works Department left unspent Rs. 1997 on the Hassanoor Road, ignorantly, I believe. Numerous sundry balances by D.P.W. Rs. 4199. Abnormal collections of road cess in March Rs. 6275. Total Rs. 25153.

3. We did not spend all our Sanitary allotment. this however cannot be done till we have estimates and plans for hospitals and the like. Merely wasting the money

in annual clearances of prickly pear was not approved; the balance under results Grants and Inspection is due not to Local Fund Board, but to the Deputy Inspector of Schools, who overestimated. Out of unappropriated general Fund balance Rs. 4880, Rs. 3150 remained unspent owing to the Board of Revenue not replying to my letters before the year was out. It would have built 2 bridges. Rs. 10957 were unexpected increased collections in March.

What I would propose to avoid the recurrence of large balances, when numerous crying wants, already sanctioned by Govt., remain postponed for want of funds, is that the Local Board, who are, by this time, well acquainted with the wants of the District, should be empowered to direct the execution of any sanctioned work, with funds that cannot be worked out elsewhere, or have accumulated beyond expectation. As it now is, the Local Fund Board have to obtain the sanction of the Board of Revenue for the transfer of funds, and when permission arrives after an interval of 6 months, the year is over.

Not only is the reference to the office of the Board of Revenue necessary for the transfer, ent after sanction the same has to be com- -municated to the Accountant General, Controller and District Engineer - then only are the funds, which have been accumu- -lated before these references, set loose, lent, in general, too late.

If however the President Local Fund Board were to communicate direct to Ac- -countant General the sanctions of the Local Fund Board, and he to act thereon, there would be no delay.

It is probably not found out till the year is well-, very half, advanced-, that there are transferable funds, and if the cumbrous agency to effect the transfers takes months in working, then nothing can be done-, and there remains the strange anomaly of works refused for want of funds, and un- -employed funds.

5. As, however, sanction for the transfer of sums from unspent balance and reserve must by law, remain with the Revenue Board, then a means to obviate delay and disappointment, would be to sanction a contingent, supplemental Budget, in case of any funds being available.

6. If after these precautions against delay, and unspent balances, there should still remain an unutilized amount, then the Local Fund Board would be justly answerable.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obed[t] Servt.

Alexanderson
Collector.

Govt. of {1873} Madras

Financial 26/

To The Board of Revenue

&c

Dated July 26
Rcd. " Encl.

G.O. 26 July 1873. No. 1065

Nos. 196-197.

Coimbatore- Letter from the Coll. accounting for the unexpended balances in that Dt. in 72-73 forwarded to the Bd. of Rev. for their Suggestions as to the best mode of expediting transfers & the Expenditure of available funds during the year.

Statement. 26 August 1873. No 65 ft

From

The Collector & Commissioner

To

The Chief Secretary to Government

Fort St. George

Dated 10 August 1873
Rec'd 11 " "

No. 1212

Enclosing an Abstract of Government Orders that were received in necessary time by Executive Engineers Local Executive Engineers can be spent which remain unexpended & which should be surrendered to Government

Abstract of Government Orders received by Executive Engineers Local Executive Engineers can be spent which remain unexpended & which should be surrendered to Government

No. 1212 dated 11 August 1873

C 12/2 Abstract