M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 10.

(2) Date of repair 22 - 1 - 40

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1567	Press Mis.
235-236.		
Dated	28-10-	1873.

617

Not to be folded or roughly handled

S. J. M.
22-1-40.

No. 235. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 24th October 1873, No. 2601 :—

Read the following endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th September 1873 :—

Read the following :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th September 1873, *No.* 1744.

Read the following papers :—

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Shembaganore, 28th May 1873, No. 52.

I have the honour to submit copy of Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, No. 65 of 1873.

1. Copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer, dated 17th March 1873, No. 799.
2. Copy of the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, dated 20th March 1873, No. 40.
3. Copy of the District Engineer's letter, dated 18th April 1873.

2. The Local Fund Board have refused to pass an estimate for an expenditure of Rupees 2,048 incurred on the Madura and Tinnevelly Road without their sanction, and have requested me to bring the matter to the notice of Government in order that the amount may not be paid out of the allotment for the repair of this road during the current year.

3. This request seems reasonable. The exact amount of excess expenditure is not known ; but I think it must be sanctioned by some competent authority, and must not be paid by the District Engineer out of an allotment made for a different purpose.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of Proceedings of Local Fund Board, dated 22nd May 1873.

From Captain W. CONINGHAM, R.E., Executive Engineer, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul, dated Dindigul, 17th March 1873, No. 799.

Colonel Roberts, R.E., in his letter, No. 5331, refers you to me for explanation regarding the excess of Rupees 2,254 (not yet paid) over the sanctioned estimate.

2. It appears that orders were given by the District Engineer and the 1st Range Officer some time in August to repair the trunk road, the side slopes of which were out of order, and to make varappus and plant aloes. This was apparently done without counting its cost. I have clearly told the District Engineer that I do not hold myself responsible for the excess expenditure which was incurred without my knowledge.

	RS.	A.	P.
Material for maintenance costs about...	2,908	4	0
Mile coolies	1,464	0	0
Total cost ...	4,372	4	0
Amount of estimate	4,500	0	0
Balance for contingencies ...	127	12	0

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Copy of Proceedings of Local Fund Board, dated 20th March 1873.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul, dated Dindigul, 18th April 1873.

In reference to Proceedings, No. 40 of 1873, of the Local Fund Board of the Dindigul Circle, I have the honour to forward, herewith, a statement prepared by the Taluq Overseer of Tirumungalum, showing side by side the items of expenditure as estimated and incurred, respectively, for the maintenance of the 14½ miles of Road No. 2 in the Tirumungalum Taluq.

2. Of the extra expenditure thus incurred, it will be seen that the sum of Rupees 189-11-0 was spent upon repairs to the 10th, 11th, and 12th miles in excess of the average allotment, while Rupees 100-12-11 were expended in paying avenue men, to defray whose salaries a sum was solicited last year, but without avail, or even response, it is believed, from the Revenue Board.

3. The request made by the Board that they may be informed of the name of the person who is responsible for the bad state of the road south of Tirumungalum is one that is not so easily answered. Who, it may be asked, is responsible for a wide belt of black cotton soil having to be traversed by the road in question, for forming and maintaining which the necessary material have to be brought for many miles? The annual maintenance allowance may appear to the Board very heavy; but to those who know the locality and the amount of traffic passing over the road the allotment will not appear excessive. This portion of the road was in very indifferent order when I joined the district and when it was handed over to the Local Funds. It has now been vastly improved; but it is only by unremitting exertions that its present good state can be maintained.

4. In my circular to Range Officers, No. 2169, dated 13th September 1871, I directed that, for the formation of varappus, &c., the sum of Rupees 40 per mile was not to be exceeded. The Overseer states that he was not aware of this order, as he joined the taluq subsequent to its issue.

5. I can only renew my expression of regret that the excess expenditure under reference should have been incurred: but, from the correspondence already forwarded by me, the Board will have seen that it is due to a misunderstanding on the part of the Overseer of the instructions which he alleges to have been given to him by Assistant Engineer Mr. Leggatt, but which instructions Mr. Leggatt denies.

6. I shall be very glad, therefore, if the Board will kindly overlook the matter on the present occasion and will sanction the estimate of Rupees 2,048 from the surplus funds available; otherwise, the amount will have to be debited to the current year's allotment, and will indubitably be the occasion of the road reverting to its former state of disrepair.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Dindigul, 5th August 1873, No. 88.

I have the honour to submit copy of the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, No. 79 of 1873, containing their reply to the Board's Official Memorandum, No. 810, dated 7th June 1873. I also beg to submit copy of Local Fund Board's Proceedings, No. 40 of 1873, on the District Engineer's original application for sanction for this expenditure.

2. I believe the Local Fund Board have not before them a sufficiently accurate explanation of the circumstances in which this expenditure was incurred to enable them to arrive at a more definite decision. I can only suggest that the Board of Revenue may either sanction the expenditure incurred, on the ground that the Local Fund system is new and imperfectly understood by the Department of Public Works, or obtain from the District Engineer more accurate information as to the persons responsible. The error arose from ignorance, and I do not see that any member of the Department of Public Works can well be made to pay the money, but evidently expenditure of this sort must not be incurred again.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
28th October 1873.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Extracts from Proceedings of Local Fund Board, dated 20th March 1873 and 30th July 1873.

The Board resolve in this case to sanction the amount involved, viz., Rupees 2,048, from the Road Fund Reserve of the Dindigul Circle, and the Accountant-General is requested to place that sum at the disposal of the Public Works Department.

2. The papers will be submitted to Government, with the request that the orders which determine that Public Works officials who expend money without sanction are personally liable for the sum so expended may be reiterated with special reference to expenditure controlled by Local Fund Boards.

Referred to the Department of Public Works for disposal.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to communicate these papers to all District Engineers, with an intimation that the orders of Government in regard to the pecuniary responsibility incurred by Public Works Officers expending Imperial Funds without sanction from competent authority will be considered applicable to outlay from Local Funds, and District Engineers will now issue such instructions to their subordinate officers as will in future ensure strict compliance with standing orders on the subject.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secy. to Govt., P. W. D.

No. 236. ORDER THEREON, 28th October 1873, No. 1567.

Communicated to all Presidents of Local Fund Boards.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To all Presidents of Local Fund Boards.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

ALL PRESIDENTS OF LOCAL FUND BOARDS

Dated October, 28th.

Read.

G.O., 28th October 1873, No. 1567.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 235-236.

Local Fund Boards.—Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department on the subject of expenditure from Local Funds being incurred by Public Works Officers without authority, communicated to the Presidents of all Local Fund Boards.

235

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 24th October 1873.

No. 400. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th September 1873 :—

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th September 1873, No. 1,744.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Shembaganore, 28th May 1873, No. 52.

I HAVE the honour to submit copy of Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, No. 65 of 1873.

1. Copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer, dated 17th March 1873, No. 799.
2. Copy of the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, dated 20th March 1873, No. 40.
3. Copy of the District Engineer's letter, dated 18th April 1873.

2. The Local Fund Board have refused to pass an estimate for an expenditure of Rupees 2,048 incurred on the Madura and Tinnevelly road without their sanction, and have requested me to bring the matter to the notice of Government in order that the amount may not be paid out of the allotment for the repair of this road during the current year.

3. This request seems reasonable. The exact amount of excess expenditure is not known ; but I think it must be sanctioned by some competent authority and must not be paid by the District Engineer out of an allotment made for a different purpose.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of Proceedings of Local Fund Board, dated 22nd May 1873.

From Captain W. CONINGHAM, R.E., Executive Engineer, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul, dated Dindigul, 17th March 1873, No. 799.

COLONEL ROBERTS, R.E., in his letter, No. 5,331, refers you to me for explanation regarding the excess of Rupees 2,254 (not yet paid) over the sanctioned estimate.

2. It appears that orders were given by the District Engineer and the 1st Range Officer some time in August to repair the trunk road, the side slopes of which were out of order, and to make varappus and plant aloes. This was apparently done without counting its cost. I have clearly told the District Engineer that I do not hold myself responsible for the excess expenditure which was incurred without my knowledge :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Material for maintenance costs about	2,908	4	0
Mile coolies	1,464	0	0
Total Cost...	4,372	4	0
Amount of estimate	4,500	0	0
Balance for Contingencies...	127	12	0

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Copy of Proceedings of Local Fund Board, dated 20th March 1873.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. ROBERTS, R.E., District Engineer, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul, dated Dindigul, 18th April 1873.

IN reference to Proceedings, No. 40, of 1873, of the Local Fund Board of the Dindigul Circle, I have the honour to forward, herewith, a statement prepared by the Taluq Overseer of Terumungalum showing side by side the items of expenditure as estimated and incurred, respectively, for the maintenance of the 14½ miles of road No. 2 in the Terumungalum Taluq.

2. Of the extra expenditure thus incurred it will be seen that the sum of Rupees 189-11-0 was spent upon repairs to the 10th, 11th, and 12th miles in excess of the average allotment, while Rupees 100-12-11 were expended in paying avenue men, to defray whose salaries a sum was solicited last year, but without avail, or even response, it is believed, from the Revenue Board.

3. The request made by the Board that they may be informed of the name of the person who is responsible for the bad state of the road south of Terumungalum is one that is not so easily answered. Who, it may be asked, is responsible for a wide belt of black cotton soil having to be traversed by the road in question, for forming and maintaining which the necessary materials have to be brought for many miles ? The annual maintenance allowance may appear to the Board very heavy ; but to those who know the locality and the amount of traffic passing over the road the allotment will not appear excessive. This portion of the road was in very indifferent order when I joined the district and when it was handed over to the Local Funds. It has now been vastly improved. But it is only by unremitting exertions that its present good state can be maintained.

4. In my circular to Range Officers, No. 2,169, dated 13th September 1871, I directed that, for the formation of varappus, etc., the sum of Rupees 40 per mile was not to be exceeded. The Overseer states that he was not aware of this order as he joined the taluq subsequent to its issue.

5. I can only renew my expression of regret that the excess expenditure under reference should have been incurred. But from the correspondence already forwarded by me the Board will have seen that it is due to a misunderstanding on the part of the Overseer of the instructions which he alleges to have been given to him by Assistant Engineer Mr. Leggatt but which instructions Mr. Leggatt denies.

6. I shall be very glad, therefore, if the Board will kindly overlook the matter on the present occasion and will sanction the estimate of Rupees 2,048 from the surplus funds available, otherwise the amount will have to be debited to the current year's allotment and will indubitably be the occasion of the road reverting to its former state of disrepair.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Dindigul, 5th August 1873, No. 88.

I HAVE the honour to submit copy of the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, No. 79 of 1873, containing their reply to the Board's Official Memorandum, No. 810, dated 7th June 1873. I also beg to submit copy of Local Fund Board's Proceedings, No. 40 of 1873, on the District Engineer's original application for sanction for this expenditure.

2. I believe the Local Fund Board have not before them a sufficiently accurate explanation of the circumstances in which this expenditure was incurred to enable them to arrive at a more definite decision. I can only suggest that the Board of Revenue may either sanction the expenditure incurred on the ground that the Local Fund system is new and imperfectly understood by the Department of Public Works, or obtain from the District Engineer more accurate information as to the persons responsible. The error arose from ignorance, and I do not see that any member of the Department of Public Works can well be made to pay the money, but evidently expenditure of this sort must not be incurred again.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Extracts from Proceedings of Local Fund Board, dated 20th March 1873 and 30th July 1873.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th October 1873.

THE Board resolve in this case to sanction the amount involved, *viz.*, Rupees 2,048, from the Road Fund Reserve of the Dindigul Circle, and the Accountant-General is requested to place that sum at the disposal of the Public Works Department.

2. The papers will be submitted to Government with the request that the orders which determine that Public Works officials who expend money without sanction are personally liable for the sum so expended may be reiterated with special reference to expenditure controlled by Local Fund Boards.

REFERRED to the Department Public Works for disposal.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

No. 401. ORDER THEREON, 24th October 1873, No. 2,601.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 24.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council resolves to communicate these papers to all District Engineers with an intimation that the orders of Government in regard to the pecuniary responsibility incurred by Public Works Officers expending Imperial Funds without sanction from competent authority will be considered applicable to outlay from Local Funds, and District Engineers will now issue such instructions to their subordinate officers as will in future insure strict compliance with [illegible] orders on the subject.

(True Extract.)

C. W. Walker Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To District Engineers.
To the Executive Engineer, Wynaad.
" Board of Revenue.
" Financial Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
10 Spare Copies, will be supplied from Madras office

Encl. 1873 Dept

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

DISTRICT ENGINEERS,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 24th.

Reed. " 28th "

Encl.

G. O., 24th October 1873, No. 2,601.

OCTOBER. E 1972

Nos. 400-401

136 Cir to

Funds.—Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue sanctioning the expenditure incurred on the Madura and Tinnevelly road by the Public Works Department without authority of the Local Fund Board, and requesting the Public Works officials may be warned against doing so in future.

Copy communicated to the Bd. of Rev. 15 Nov 1873

28 October 1873 No 1567

Govt. of {187} Madras.

Financial

To All Presdts of L. F. Boards.

Dated Oct. 28
Recd. Encl.

G. O. 28 Oct. 1878, No. 567.

Nos. 235. 236.

Local Fund Boards. Proc. P. W. Dept on the Subject of Expenditure from Local Funds being incurred by P. W. Officers without authority. Comd to the Presdts of all Local Fund Boards.