Financial (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 675, 676

Dated 7th Sept. 1895.

INDEXED.

4/5

[Despatch Abstract.]

LIMIT OF PERIOD WITHIN WHICH ARREAR CLAIMS SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED BY THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL

Agreeing with the suggestion of the Accountant-General in connection with the fixing of a limit in regard to the period within which claims of officers on account of arrears of pay and allowances should be investigated by the Account Department without the special orders of Government.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	568	160 L 12/379	1896				

CURRENT No. 1843

No. 3512-P.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras.

Simla, the 23rd July 1895.

SIR,

THE Government of India have had under consideration the question whether it is not desirable to lay down some general rule in regard to the period within which claims of officers on account of arrears of pay and allowances should be investigated by the Account Department without special orders of the Local Government.

2. Claims of this nature extending over a considerable period are frequently submitted to audit officers. Perhaps the most common instance is that of claims to arrears of increments on progressive salaries which are made when the officer has neglected to claim the increments when they became due and after a considerable interval ascertains that he might have done so. In the case of ministerial officers, the Audit office is not charged with the duty of bringing such neglect to notice.

3. It appears to the Government of India that it is a question whether it can be considered the duty of an Audit Officer to receive and investigate ancient claims against Government, for there is no doubt that the investigation of these claims often involves a large amount of labour in account offices with which they ought not to be charged. After the lapse of what may be considered a legitimate time, the Audit Officers should, the Government of India are inclined to think, refer an applicant who submits a claim to arrears of pay or allowances to the Local Government, leaving it to them to decide whether or not any enquiry should be instituted. The Local Government would, it is presumed, reject petty and ancient claims on the ground that there had been too long delay and would call on the Audit Officer to report only on the cases in which there appeared to be *primâ facie* reasonable claim, and reasonable cause of delay.

4. It has been suggested that a limit of two years should be fixed, after which arrear claims should be referred to the Local Government for determination of the question whether they are to be investigated, or summarily disallowed.

5. Before passing any orders in the matter, the Government of India desire to be favoured with the views of *His Excellency the Govr in Council* on the subject.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ACCOUNTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
6 AUG 95
MADRAS

Read L No. 1787

Referred to the Accountant General for favour of remarks

By Order
W. Francis
Ag. Under Secretary

C.S.
1. VIII. 95

Contacamund
2d August 1895

To the Acctt Genl

TO BE RETURNED WITH REPLY.

CURRENT No. 1

Financial Department

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

PAY AND ALLOWANCES.

To

LOCAL GOVTS. AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

NO. 3512-P.

Dated Simla, 23rd July 1895.

Rec'd. 30. 7. 95
Enc. 7. S.C.S.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
30 JUL 95

Proposal to fix a limit after which applications for arrears of increments of progressive salary, and for the payment of any allowances not claimed when due, should be disallowed.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 520 C. F.—23-7-95.—270.

CURRENT No. 2132

Treasury Account DEPARTMENT.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
Accountant-General's Office,
27th August 1895.

No. 2293

From

F. C. Harrison Esquire,
Offg. ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

SIR,

* returned

With reference to Under Secretary Mr. Francis' endorsement No. 1787 dated the 2d of August 1895 referring to me for remarks letter from the Government of India — Financial Department No. 3512 dated 23d July 1895, calling for the opinion of the Madras Government on the question of fixing a limit in regard to the period within which claims of Officers for arrears of pay and allowances should be investigated by the account department without the special orders of the local Government concerned

I

I have the honour to report that I entirely agree with the spirit of the orders proposed.

2 These claims are difficult to check as old rules and records have to be appealed to. The officers under whom the claimants served may have been transferred to other stations ~~ordered~~ dead, and the claims themselves give work out of all proportion to their importance.

3. Moreover, it is perhaps not out of place for me here to point out that Government on its side rarely recovers when granting pensions, leave allowances improperly granted to officers

4. It is however difficult to say what suggestion best meets the difficulty. There is something to be said for the limit being the statutory one. There is a good deal to be urged against troubling Government in every case. Perhaps to the two years rule, the addition might be made – "the audit officer at his discretion may reject all claims made after two years which amount to less than

10 per cent of the claimants pay for the month or months in respect of which the claim is made."

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servant,

H. Macnin
Offg. Accountant General

M
27/8.

CURRENT No. 2132

Treasury acct (189) DEPARTMENT.

Financial Deptt

From

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,

MADRAS,

To

THE Chief secretary to Govt,

Financial department

No. 2293

Dated 27th } august /95
Received 29. }

Regd 30.

C. No. 1813 returned.

CHIEF SECRETARY
29 AUG. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Subject.

Suggesting the addition of a clause, giving discretionary power to an audit officer to reject all claims made after 2 years wh: amount to 10 per cent of the claimants' pay for the period in respect of wh: the claim is made, to the 2nd para relating to the period within wh: claims of officers for arrears of pay & allowances shd be investigated by the account depts without special orders of the local Govt

Cor.—1,000—18-5-95.

[G. / 24.]
500—21-5-95.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings :—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 1813 of 1895, dated 23d July from The G to I. (2).

" " 2132 " 1895, " 27 August, Acct. Genl (2)

" " " 189 , " ; "

2 numbers

ORDER. dd 7th September 1895, No. 675.

H.E. the Gr. in Council
~~The Govt~~. agrees with the suggestions of the Acct. Genl. and the G. to I. will be informed accordingly

C.S. 4.9.95

Acct. Genl. dispd 13/9/95

Copied 10/9

No. 676.

Letter to the Secy. to the G. of I.
Fin: & Comm: Depts.

dispd 14/9/95

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Nathan's letter of the 23d July last No. 3512. P. requesting the opinion of this Govt. on the proposal to fix a limit in regard to the period within which claims of officers on account of arrears of pay & allowances should be investigated by the Acct. Depts without the special orders of the local Govt.

2. In reply I am to state that this Govt. agrees with the spirit of

of the proposed rule. The Local Acct. Genl, who has been consulted on the subject, reports as follows:-

[Ho. C. para 2, 3 & 4 of C. No. 2182]

The additions suggested by Mr. Harrison might, Sir, the Govt. in Council considers, be advantageously adopted.

C.S. 4/9/95

HD 4/5/95.

Note

The Officer concerned has always an appeal to Govt. against the A G's order HD 4/9.

Limit of period within which arrear claims should be investigated by the Accl. Genl.

Mem to Mr. Grose

Mr

C5/9 HD.

When given for copying ____
When copied ____
When examined ____
When signed ____
189.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189, DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.								
STATEMENT WITH DITTO.								
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.								

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.