

Financial (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 327

DATED 8-4-97

INDEXED

9/9

[Despatch Abstract.]

Expenditure on works.

Directing that works of all kinds may proceed as usual so far as provided for in the budget.

Government {1897} of Madras.
FINANCIAL.

Enclosures

1897.

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G.O., No. 327, 8th April 1897.

APRIL.

Expenditure on Works.

Directing that works of all kinds may proceed as usual so far as provided for in the budget

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 795, Financial, dated 19th November 1896.
 " " 58 " " 23rd January 1897.

Read—also the following papers:—

Endorsement, in the Financial Department, dated 22nd March 1897, No. 712.
 Read—the following paper:—
 G.O., Mis. No. 1307, Revenue, dated 9th March 1897.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, &c.), dated 6th March 1897, Mis. No. 1700, on G.O., Mis. No. 1129, Revenue, dated 25th February 1897:—
 Resolution—dated 6th March 1897, Mis. No. 1700.
 Recorded.

2. In connection with the question of the restriction of expenditure on buildings, the Board begs to draw attention to the note by Colonel Sankey, R.E., printed at page 6 of G.O., No. 1188, Revenue, dated 13th August 1881, and to the fact that such restriction will also throw a number of skilled labourers out of employment, whilst section 133 states that such labourers (artisans) will find suitable employment on public works.

Order—Mis. No. 1307, Revenue, dated 9th March 1897.
 Transferred to the Financial Department, with reference to G.O., No. 58, dated 23rd January 1897.
 (True Extract.)

To the Financial Department.
 " Public Works Department.
 Copy to the Board of Revenue (Settlement, &c.).

Endorsement—dated 22nd March 1897, No. 712.
 Referred to the Public Works Department for favour of remarks.
 (Signed) A. R. KNAPP,
 Acting Assistant Secretary.

Memorandum in the Public Works Department, dated 26th March 1897, No. 1745-C.
 Read—the following note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated 25th March 1897:—

I agree with Colonel Sankey and consider that, if it were possible, all ordinary works, whether they give employment to skilled or unskilled labour, or both, should be continued during times of famine; but, on financial grounds, this is usually impossible, and it becomes necessary to stop works which will not afford so much employment to the majority of the suffering people in order to provide money for works which will afford such employment.

Though the erection of a building—say, a taluk office—near a famine-stricken village would give employment to a certain number of people, there is no doubt that a road or canal estimated to cost the same would give employment to far more; if it is possible to carry out both works, that should doubtless be done, but if funds do not permit of such a course, then the cutcherry should be stopped and the road or canal started.

Colonel Sankey is perhaps right when he says that on the construction of a building 80 per cent. of the labour is unskilled; still, it stands to reason that not so much labour of all classes can be employed on a building costing, say, Rs. 30,000, as on a line of road costing the same amount. It must further be remembered that skilled labour can dig and delve at a pinch, though it may be distasteful to it, but that unskilled labour cannot do masonry work or carpentry. I therefore think that during famine times no ordinary works at all should be stopped—in fact, they should rather be increased; but if it is necessary on financial grounds to stop some, then buildings should certainly be the first.

(Signed) D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, Col., R.E.,
 Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

Memorandum—dated 26th March 1897, No. 1745-C.

Transferred to the Financial Department, with reference to its endorsement, No. 712, dated 22nd March 1897, herewith returned.

(Signed) D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, Col., R.E.,
 Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

ORDER—No. 327, Financial, dated 8th April 1897.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that works of all kinds may proceed as usual so far as provided for in the budget.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
 Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
 " Public Works Department.
 " Accountant-General.

Public Works
Financial

(1897)

Department.

CURRENT No.

3000.

808

Ref This paper should be flagged and put in an urgent box and Papers flagged & filed 31.3.97

in note 31.3.97

From The Rev Dept.

Order Encl No 712 of 22nd March 1897

Referred to the Public Works Department for favour of remarks -

A. M. Whappes
As Assistant Secretary

No. 1307 mis

Dated 9th March 97

Received ~~10-3-97~~ 23.3.97

Registered ~~11-3-97~~ 23.3.97

Enclosures one

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Transferring B.P. record
ing with remarks G.O. R.D.
Comm G.O. P.W.D. withdraw
ing and adding to the provincial
Reserve the sum of Rs 1,400 so
rendered from the grant for
the Taluk office Madakur
in the Bellary Division

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date
58:	23-1-97		
1188/9:	13-5-81		

FURTHER PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

Financial (1897) Department.
CURRENT No. 1040.

From The P.W. Dept.

CHIEF SECRETARY
27. MAR. 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
No. 1745C

Order

Dated 26th March 1897
Received 27 } - 3-97.
Do for Regd 29 }
Registered 30 }
Enclosures 1 (656712922-3-97 returned)
Spare copies

SUBJECT.
Transferring note by the Chief
Engineer stating that no ordina
work at all should be
stopped during business time

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Life No 327
8-4-97
Financial DEPARTMENT

G. 26
1,000-14-12-06

C. No. 5 808 & 1040.

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.

- 2 H. E. THE GOVERNOR.
- 1 THE HON'BLE MR. BLISS, C.I.E.
- 3 THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT.

Postponement of expenditure on works owing to financial pressure.

FOR ORDERS.

FURTHER PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

The origin of the order of Novr 19 was that the cash in the treasuries had run low, so that it was necessary to take it as much as possible, order that it might last until the collections improved replenished the treasuries.

G.O. No. 587
23/1/97.

This position has now been reached - The treasuries are not now, so far as I know, in a particularly depleted condition. Should they become so, the G. of I. has already announced its intention of raising large rupee loan to replenish them.

There is not therefore, so far as I can see, any reason for any further restrictions of the ~~the~~ operations

In para. 2 of G.O. No. 795 Encl., 2 19 Novr 1906, the P.W.D. was requested to stop all expenditure on works the execution of which ^{could} be postponed without loss to the public revenue and without curtailing the work available in the affected districts. The Board of Revenue then pointed out that the restriction of the ordinary public works in any district where prices are high ^{would} ~~would~~ cause considerable suffering to the people, who are usually in part dependant on their earnings in the execution of such works, and would throw a large number of professional labourers ^{out} of employ.

Upon this the Govt decided that expenditure on ordinary public works of the masonry class, which cannot afford substantial relief to the poor, should be restricted as far as possible; but that it was desirable to continue outlay on tank repairs, earth works, &c., likely to give employment to the needy among the agricultural classes even in the less affected districts. The Board however now draws attention to the note by Capt. Sankar R.C. printed at page 6 of G.O. No. 1188 Rev. & 13 August 1881, and to the fact that such restriction will also throw a number of skilled labourers out of employment, whilst sec. 133 ~~states~~ of the Famine Code states that such labourers (artisans) will find suitable employment in public works.

In the note just

quoted

G.O. No. 587
& 23rd January/97.

of the P.W.D. then meeting by the budget & works of kinds may therefore be as usual so far as possible in the budget.

8/4/97

Agree with the conclusion arrived at by the Hon. Mr. Blair.

6.4.97

6/4/97

C. No. 808
x P. No. 41 6.44

M

quoted. Col. Sankar took exception to the injunction in para. 2 of the draft of the Famine Code which required that any work which did not provide employment for the unskilled labour in the tract affected by famine should be stopped or suspended. He observed that not only were private individuals during famine unable to employ artisans, ^{as} much less than ^{as} at other times, making it thus more incumbent on Govt to offer them work, but that it was a most grievous mistake to compel men running in various crafts to dig and delve for bare livelihood, ^{as} ~~this was~~ ^{amounted} to compelling the man to do cart-horse duty and ~~to~~ spoiled his special aptitude. He referred to his replies to the queries of the Famine Commission where he showed how fallacious were the ordinarily received ideas with reference to skilled labour and proved that even in the construction of buildings not less than 80 per cent of the labour

labour employed must necessarily
be unskilled, so that ~~as~~
it was apparent that works
of this kind were quite as
well suited for famine
relief as any other. ^{The} ~~Col.~~
^{Chief Engineer} ~~Mr. Campbell~~, to whom
the present paper ^{have been} ~~was~~
referred, expresses his agreement
with Col. Sankey and con-
siders that, if it were possible,
all ordinary works, whether
they give employment to
skilled or unskilled labour,
or both, should be continued
during times of famine.

^{He admits} ~~but~~ that on financial grounds
this is usually impossible,
as it becomes necessary to
stop works which will not
afford as much employment
as the majority of the suf-
fering people in order to
provide money for works
which will afford such
employment. The Chief
Engineer adds that although
erection of a building,
a taluk office, near
famine stricken village,
would

C. No. 1040.

would give employment to a
certain number of people,
there is no doubt that a
road or canal estimated to
cost the same would give
employment to far more;
that if it is possible to carry
out both, that should doubt-
less be done, but that if
funds do not permit of such
a course, then the cutting
should be stopped and the
road or canal started. Further
the Chief Engineer ^{considers} ~~states~~ that
Col. Sankey is perhaps right
when he says that on the con-
struction of a building 80 per
cent of the labour is unskilled,
but that still it stands to
reason that not so much
labour of all classes can
be employed on a building
costing, say, Rs 3000, as on
a line of road costing the
same amount. ^{that} It must
be remembered, ^{he points out,} that skilled
labour can dig and delve at
a pinch though it may be
distasteful to it, but that
unskilled labour cannot do

mason

labour. The Chief Engineer is therefore of opinion that during famine it was times no ordinary works at all should be stopped, in fact they should rather be increased, but that if it is necessary to stop some on financial grounds, then buildings should certainly be the first.

It is a question for orders whether the Chief Engineer's opinion is accepted, any modification is necessary in the terms of G.O. No. 58 Fm. of 23rd Jan'y/97.

2. 14/97 I do not see that there is any necessity for altering the order of the 23rd Jan'y last. His says that masonry works should be restricted as far as possible and not with which is intended carrying them out even on relief purposes. The object of relief works is I take it to afford for any given sum relief to the largest possible number of persons.

24/97

[G.]
[24.]
890-20-1-97.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 19th November 1896, No. 795 Fm. } (g)
 Again G.O., dated 23rd January 1897, No. 58 " }
 Current No. 808 of 1897, dated 9th March from the Rev. Secy. } (a)
 " " 1040 " 1897, " 26th " " the P.W.D. }
 " " " 18th " " " " }

L.S. ORDER. N^o 327 278-4-97

As there is no reason at present to continue any ~~of the~~ restrictions of the operations of the P.W.D. than those imposed by the budget. His Ex. the Governor informed directly that works of all kinds may proceed as usual so far as ~~was~~ provided for in the budget.

(From orders)

8/4/97.

To the Rev. Secy. 6
 " P.W.D. 6
 Secy to Govt. 4

29/4/97

29/4/97

[Faint handwritten notes on the left page, including "taken village" and "would"]

Copy sent to Press.
for signature.
hed in print.

9/10/91
28/4/91

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NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED. { Order complete. *HS*
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GOVERNMENT

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10/97