[F./25]

308—98-11-06.

Financial (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 818

DATED 5. 10. 97.

INDEXED.

38/38

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine Relief

Distributing with remarks the additional grant of 50 lakhs sanctioned by the Govt. of India under 33 ——— ; and telegraphing to that Government for a further allotment of 8 lakhs.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

~~G.O.~~ Cur	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
3197 of 97 3391 of 97 3236/97 3515/97							

Financial (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 2931

Read — also the following papers.—

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
20 SEP 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

10 P E

From the Board of Revenue, Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture. Madras

- Pmt.

No. 7711 Mis.

Dated 17th September 1897.

Received } 20/9/97
Registered
Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Informing Government in the Financial Department of the impossibility of submitting the revised estimates of Famine expenditure by the 20th September 1897.

Ord

Bring up on 24th if nothing heard before then

Cur
20/9/97

~~Order~~

Despd (0) 26/9/97

Telegram to Famine Commissioner

Boards proceedings 7711 ~~Sept.~~ 17th instant. When may revised famine figures be expected.

Cur
24/9/97

24/9/97

To. Revenue Dept before issue as the figures may have been recd there

Cur

24/9/97

No figures have been received in this Dept

24/9/97

Rl
26-9-97

Sent to the Secy
25/9/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	713	Finl	3-9-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Boards proceedings 7711 dated 17th instant. There may await famine figures be expected

Cud 20/9/97

20/9/97

To Revenue Dept. [illegible]

[illegible]

(Sett. 24 · 2,000—29-10-96.)

CURRENT NO 2931

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE. MADRAS.

118

Print in full

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.)

Dated. 17th September 1897. ~~189~~ .

No. 7711 Mis.

W.J.H. Le Fanu Esquire.

(Famine Commissioner).

READ

again G.O. Financial No. 713 dated 3rd September 1897.

Resolution.

The G.O. read above was communicated to the Collectors of affected Districts by telegram immediately on its receipt , and they were requested on the 6th instant to submit revised estimates with the latest particulars of actual expenditure so as to reach this office on the 14th instant. Estimates have been received from 5 Districts alone only this day and the estimates of the remaining Districts cannot be expected before the 20th , as advised by the Collectors.

In these circumstances the Famine Commissioner fears it impossible to submit the consolidated estimates to Government by the 20th instant, but he will endeavour to submit them as early after that date as practicable . The totals will be communicated to Government by telegram.

(True extract.)

HBuckley. 18/9

Famine Secreta middle of

To the Secretary to Government , Financial D June

GoPJ 14/1

FINANCIAL MEMBER OF COUNCIL

Simla, the 13. 9. 1897.

My dear Bliss.

The operations of your Government in the matter of money have been rather distracting to us. You appear to have quite overlooked an order of Dec: 22nd last reminding everybody that even famine outlay must be ruled by the regular system of "grant": and as a matter of fact every Govt. has ~~bo~~ so managed its expenditure. It has

F.O. 12/8.1.97 Finl

first obtained grants or allotments from us & then distributed these to their spending officers .. in Madras. Either the local officers made their expenditure without having regular "grants" made to them, or if you made them "grants" you did so without having the grants at your disposal.

Of course we have known & you have informed us that expenditure was going on at a rate for which there were no grants: but that is a different thing. We have been awfully put to it to find money for all that is going on. — (as you may no doubt have seen from the newspapers) — and I can't help thinking it a little inconsiderate in your Govt. when we were willing to do everything we could to meet your requirements, that you did not aid us by proceeding on the regular system of financial management. We have called your attention officially to it: but do please think of a poor finance minister who has to open his emptying purse to a dozen different claimants, & finds that ~~the~~ one of the biggest of them will not follow

exceeded the amount by more than a

the regular system which enables him to suit his skimpy means to all their demands.

Yours sincerely
J. Westland

Sir Henry Bliss
K.C.I.E.

GOVERNMENT OF
MADRAS

Sept 20 1897

My dear Stokes,

As Price is away will you kindly see Mr Schmidt about this & ask him to come up here tomorrow morning about 8½ ~~with~~ to speak to me about the matter of the enclosed — He had better bring such papers as I shall need to look at in order to reply to Westland. My impression is that in regard to making allotmen

In excess of "grants"
the P.W.D. has been the chief
offender. I have several
times drawn attention to
the huge "credits" the Examr.
has been granting to Exve
Engrs, without, so far as I
have been able to make out,
any necessity.

Yours truly

H. W. Bliss

35

Memorandum ~~on Sir J.Westland's lette~~
~~to the Honourable Sir Henry Bliss,~~ K.C.I

The Famine Grant

164/5
18-2-97 Fmb
x
F A
x

188
26-2-97 Fmb F B

Page 9 of 470-1
12-6-97 Fmb F C

~~I do not understand why in paras 3, 4 & 5 of this, a forecast of 30 lakhs is spoken of; or~~

I have sent the fair copy of this to Sir J. Westland

HS
23/9/97

The original estimates of famine expenditure for 1897-98 were framed in February last, first for 14 lakh and then for 20.04, the latter being the amount incorporated by the Govt. of India in the Budget. These estimates were framed on the assumption of an early and favourab monsoon and on the data then available. The ~~cause~~ course of famine in this Presy. has, however, ~~h~~ been peculiar as it has been considerably intensified by the high prices ruling in N.India which caused large exports of grain and a consequent rise in local prices ~~and deepening~~. Distress has ~~increased~~ in consequence increased at a rate which could not ~~by any means~~ ~~manner of~~ have been foreseen so early as February and which in later months has thrown out ~~successive~~ forecasts after forecasts of expenditure based on local indications. The grant of 20.04 lakhs, which contained no margin for the unexpected, was, as matters have turned out, expended before Govt. had reason to suspect its insufficiency ~~or before it could form anything like a correct idea of the probable expenditure~~; in fact the expenditure in the single month of July has exceeded the amount by more than a lakh.

3. There was nothing in April or May to cause Govt. to fear any very large excess ~~of~~ over the grant. About the middle of

June

1/2

1. 2/3

R 23/9/97

June the Acct. Genl. reported the actuals of April and those of May as then known and ~~then~~ intimated "that having regard to the rate of expenditure in those two months the grant of 20.04 lakhs would probably not suffice and it might become necessary for the local Govt. to apply for a further allotment should the outlook remain unfavourable. But according to a forecast

x 489/23-6-97 Finl

483-4/23-6-97 Rev

from the Famine Commissioner which was then before Govt the probable expenditure of the year was placed at 30 lakhs, and as this ~~This~~ forecast ~~was~~ framed with due regard to the rate of expenditure in april + may & was forwarded to the Govt of India on the 23rd June as a revised estimate of the ~~showing the~~ requirements of the year. ~~as~~ ~~although the numbers then on~~ relief were no doubt greatly in excess of the average assumed in the forecast, but there was every reason to believe that they ~~the numbers~~ would fall again rapidly, as the monsoon had already opened, favorably, and that consequently the expenditure would be kept well ~~within the above limit~~; The fact that this estimate was based on a normal monsoon was clearly emphasized in the Bd's Procs which accompanied the forecast. It is as well to ~~state here~~ emphasize that the actual expenditure ~~up to this date~~ then did not exceed the grant of 20.04 lakhs.

4. Then followed ~~the~~ prolonged break in the monsoon which intensified distress everywhere ~~by~~, causing the numbers on relief to rise [illegible] counts. There was no fall but an ~~The~~ unexpected sudden

rise in prices due to extraneous circumstances which pro tanto ~~proportionately~~ increased the cost of relief measures, but there was no reason to anticipate that the expenditure would exceed the above 30 lakhs till the latter part of July, when it was seen that the numbers were increasing steadily and rapidly notwithstanding the return of the monsoon in the second week of the month. The Govt of India letter sanctioning a revised grant of 35 lakhs was received in the third week, and as the Govt had then before it complete actuals for April and May and could form a tolerably correct estimate of the rate of expenditure, it informed the Govt of India at once that the amount was altogether insufficient and would be exceeded by the end of July. A ~~revised estimate which had been~~ ~~[illegible] upon the Famine~~ ~~called for from the Famine Commr~~ ~~Commr to submit a revised es-~~ ~~in June~~ ~~timate in view to forward appli-~~ ~~cation being made for a further~~ ~~grant~~. This estimate which was received on 29 July had ultimately to be sent back for

624-5 Rev 7go J/9
26-7-97

625 7g 9

A few days later the Govt received from the Famine Commr a revised estimate which had been called for in June; this ~~had~~ to be returned to him ~~for fur~~

X

713-14 Finl 7g L
3-9-97

702 A Finl 7g M
31-8-97

X

further revision, but in order to avoid delay, the Govt framed an estimate of its own on the informat at its disposal and applied for further grant of 50 lakhs.

5. It will be seen from the above that the actual expenditure ha not exceeded the grant when the revised forecast was forwarded to the Govt of India in the latter par of June; that there was no reason to believe till the latter part of July that the estimate in the fore-cast would be exceeded; that a soon as this became apparent the fact was reported to India and that an application for a fresh grant was made as soon as the Govt became possessed of the information called for by it. There was no doubt a technical error in exceeding the original grant on the strength of a revis estimate but if famine measure were not to be stopped, no other course was possible in the absenc of definite information as to actu and in the then utter uncertainty to the course of the season. The course of the famine in Madras h

As has been pointed out in para 1 supra, been peculiar, ~~and whatever~~ may be the financial possibilities in other Provinces, it is to be remembered that their budget estimates apparently provided for a large expenditure for a number of months continuously, that consequently there was little risk ~~with~~ in their case of the grant being exceeded by unexpected excess in one or two months, and that it was quite possible to meet such excess in time by a further grant. ~~As already stated~~ The original estimate for this Presy as well as the forecast of 30 lakhs referred to above ~~for this Presidency~~ were, ~~on the other hand~~, ~~were~~ made on the assumption of a favorable monsoon, and owing to the unexpected and unfavorable turn in the season the grant was exceeded before the Govt had time to obtain a fresh one.

~~grant~~ is
received o
timately, t

---

219 Rev
30-3-97

The LOANS GRANT

The fact that the expenditure o ~~and~~ advances under the loans acts has no been covered by an additional grant or by an earlier application for such a grant than that of August is much to be regretted, but was in some measure due to doubt as to the correct classification of such loans in the affected districts. As indicated in the application to the Govt. of India for an additional grant, it was understood that the advances under the Land Improvements Loan Act would ultimately be transferred to 33 Famine Relief. (Vide R+A Circ: 117/27-1. d/ 8-2-97) Application was made to the Govt. of India When it became clear that the combined famine and loans grant was being exceeded, and pending the disposal of this application the Board of Rev: was allowed to continue the grant of loans. This course, although incorrect from a strictly financial point of view, was perfectly justified by the rapidly deepening distress at that period - a period which caused the Govt. the greatest anxiety and during which it believed it would have the countenance of the Govt. of India in taking unusual measures to alleviate the suffering which was becoming more acute every day, especially as the disbursements would be ultimately recoverable. The loans must have been of immense benefit to the distressed population; and Their sudden discontinuance at that time would have led to extremely undesirable results

As directed by the Govt. of India Land Imp. Loans have been utilized in this Presidency ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] in the distressed districts also where they offered employt. to people who w^d otherwise have come on the relief works & have been looked on as an integral part of the famine admn.

The application to India is in the file of loans and advances which is now under disposal

RS
22-9-97

In view of the recent orders of the Govt. of India directing the postponement of cash payments wherever possible instructions have lately been issued with the object of curtailing the operations under the Loans Acts, and the disbursements under this Head will for the remainder of the year be but trifling.

22/9/97.

The references are given in the rough copy of the note.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

OOTACAMUND,

22-9-1897.

Dear Sir Henry.

I send herewith the note for reply to Sir James Westland. I regret I could not send it before but it was not easy of concoction.

Yours sincerely
G. Stokes.

The H. E. has asked for a draft telegram which is submitted. If it be desired to send this letter on D.O. perhaps it sh'd be revised before it can be sent on.

NOTE

1

District officers have had no authority to spend money on famine without allotments. They are bound by the Famine Code (vide specially section 59) The forecast of 30 lakhs expenditure based on a favourable monsoon (which the Govt. of India subsequently read as 35 lakhs) was forwarded to the Govt. of India with Revenue letter of ~~on the~~ 23rd June 1897. The annexed statement A compares the expenditure in the Civil dept. up to the end of June as reported by the Acct. Genl. [vide page 5 of G.O.No.202A d/ 31st August 1897] with the distribution of the original grant of 9.63 lakhs as shown in appendix B to G.O.No.470-1 Finl., d/ 12th June 1897. From this it will be seen that at the time the forecast was forwarded to the Govt. of India, all the districts except Kurnool were well within their allotments. After the end of June it was impossible to keep the expenditure within budget allotments without actually stopping famine relief. The sanction of the Govt. of India to the additional allotment of 14.96 lakhs was received at the end of July and the Govt. of India was immediately informed [by the Rev. dept] that the revised grant of 35 lakhs would be exceeded considerably before the end of that month. It must therefore have been apparent to the Govt. of India then that officers were working in excess of their budget allotments and this state of affair naturally continued pending sanction to an additional allotment, the amount of which was intimated to the Govt. of India on the 31st August as soon as anything like reliable estimates were procurable. The fact that expenditure has been incurred in excess of allotments was specially alluded to when the Acct. Genl's figure to the end of July and his statements of allotments for that period (which however includes only specific allotments by Govt and not those entered in the Civil Budget Estimates) were received. The Famine Commissioner was then directed to look into the matter immediately (G.O.Nos. 742-3, d/ 11th Septr. 1897). It is useful to note that this order is dated two days ~~earl~~ prior to that on which Sir James Westland wrote his first D.O. to the Hon'ble Member (13th Septr.) . In the case of ~~civil depts.~~ expenditure by civil depts therefore the reply to Sir James Westland's telegram seems to be that so long as this Govt. had money to allot, officers kept within their allotments.

The P.W.D. expenditure stands however on a quite different basis . ~~The total expenditure to the end of June amounted to~~ 15.35 ~~lakhs against a grant of 10.41.~~ The P.W.D. in June drew up and circulated a budget estimate distributing the grant of 10.41 but the revised estimates called for from the Suptg. Engineers on receipt of G.O.No.489 Finl., d/ 23rd June 1897, have

A statement showing the expenditure up to the date of the present year against the grant in each district (Enclosed B) is appended. From this it will be seen that the grants were exceeded in 4 districts; ~~[illegible]~~ the excess was slight in Kurnool and Vizag.

have, it is understood, not yet been received in that dept. Financial has had the extraordinary statements from the Examiner regarding the issue of credits but these have been so hopeless and haphazard as to be ~~[illegible]~~ useless for purposes of estimates. The Famine Commr. has of course included Public Works expenditure in his forecast of July and in that recently received, but no separate applications for additional grants to cover prospective expenditure have come in. The truth of the matter seems to lie in the fact that Collectors and Suptg. Engineers between them have not been able to work (clause (1) of sec.38 of the Famine Code. Numerous applications have been received for grants for gratuitous relief, weavers' relief, etc. etc. but in only one case can an application be called to mind in which P.W. expenditure has been dealt with This was for a small grant of .50 in Vizagapatam. The following reply to the telegram is suggested for approval:--

Your telegram 28th. Dt. officers had no authority spend money on famine without allotments and up to the end of June that is subsequent to the first revised forecast of this Govt. expenditure in the Civil dept. was ~~kept well~~ within budget allotment except in one district, where excess due to unforeseen debit to Civil consequent on difficulty about transfer of works to Public Works dept. ~~Since then in July August impossible to restrict expenditure without stopping famine relief altogether.~~ Expenditure in P.W.Dept. had however ~~great-~~ ~~ly~~ slightly exceeded allotments in some districts ~~throughout~~ ~~probably~~

~~owing to misconstruction of clause (1) section 38 Famine Code.~~

After June to enforce financial rules as to allotments w^d have meant stopping famine relief altogether.

[F./23]
1,000—25-11-96.

Financial (1897) Department.

11½

CURRENT No. 2987

From
G of I.
Fin & Com Dept:

Order

No. 4184 A.

Dated 18
Received 24
Registered 24
} Sept: 97
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Sanctioning with remarks a further add^l: grant of 50, Lakhs. for expenditure under "33 famine Relief."

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	702 A	Fml	31-8-97
	713-4	"	3-9-97
	624-5	"	26-7-97
	590	"	25-7-97
	483-4	"	23-6-97
	489		
	470	"	
	219	S.e.-97	
	165		
	188 ayl		26-2-97
	164 S.e.		
	12		18-2-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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12 CURRENT No 298

Fml Dep

№ 4184-A

Government of India.

Finance and Commerce Department

Simla, the 18th September 1897.

CHIEF SECRETARY
24 SEP. 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

To

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Madras.

Print m [illegible]

G.O. 702 A / 31.8.97

Put up original

G.O. 12 / 8.1.97

Sir,

With reference to the telegram from the Government of Madras, № 698, dated the 31st August 1897, I am directed to convey sanction to a further additional grant of Rs 50,00,000 for expenditure under the head "33-Famine Relief" in the Madras Presidency during the current year.

2. I am however to call attention to the instructions conveyed in the letter from this Department, № 5409-A, dated 22nd December 1896, and to remark that they appear to have been insufficiently observed. It appears to the Government of India that if the procedure prescribed in

in paragraph 1 of the above circular of making systematic provision for all intended expenditure by the formal allotment to expending officers of the necessary "grants" had been rigorously followed, the Government of Madras must have been in a position to intimate their probable excess requirements at a much earlier date than that of their telegram of August 31. It appears however that grants have not been made as laid down, or if made, have been sanctioned without funds from which they could be met

So they did by letters on the 23rd June & 26th July Cons.

3. By this Department's letter No. 3219-A, dated 22nd July 1897, the total grant for expenditure on famine relief in Madras during 1897-98 was raised to 35 lakhs. That additional grant wa made on receipt in the Revenue and Agricultural Department, of paper showing that the Government of Madr expecte

5919 Fml
30.7.97

In consequence of a forecast from the Madras Govt. based on abnormal monsoon

for

⊕ and the G. of I. muddled the fact that 4 lakhs [illegible] belonged to the year 1896-97 & granted 35 lakhs!
Cwd

‡ But the commⁿ. from Rev. Dept. to Finance of the ~~appl~~ forecast was apparently taken by the latter as an application: else why did it sanction an addˡ. allotment? This is quibbling!
Cwd

expected the expenditure to amount to 30 lakhs: ⊕ no application for an additional grant was made to the Finance Department. ‡ Your telegram of August 31 shows that by the end of July the amount of the increased grant had already been exceeded by more than 12 lakhs. No formal application for a further allotment was however received till a month after this excess expenditure had been incurred. ⊕

⊕ But this Govt. is not able to know on 1st August the expendʳᵉ. up to 31st July.

4. The Government of India do not overlook the fact that the possibility ‡ of the famine allotment being exceeded has been intimated to them from time to time. But it was necessary and would have been in accordance with prescribed financial procedure that such intimations should be followed up, at the earliest possible opportunity, by definite application:

‡ Why not use the correct word & say "certainty" – see especially para 8 of Rev. letter No. 628 R 26.7.97.

I ↙ But that was addᵈ. to Rev. & not to Fin., to draw a definite applicⁿ. Shd there have been made/H

So they were
Cwd

from

for the necessary additional funds before those already allotted had been exhausted.

5. The expenditure of large sums of money without the observance of the prescribed procedure in respect of Budget control has been the cause of much inconvenience to the Government of India, who, as the Government of Madras are no doubt aware, have this year been face to face with unusual difficulties in finding funds for all the demands upon them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

J. F. Finlay

Secretary to the Govt. of India

Ordered that copy be forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Ordered also that copy of para. 1 be forwarded to the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Accountant General, Madras,

for

for information.

$\left[\frac{G.}{25}\right]$
500—17-5-97.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 2987

(3) H. E. THE GOVERNOR.
(1) THE HON'BLE ~~MR.~~ Sir Henry BLISS, K.C.I.E.
(2) THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT

Additional Famine Grant

Rev. Dept. for c.i.
8/10/97

FOR ORDERS.

The letter from the Govt. of India contains very much the same arguments as those employed in Sir James Westland's D.O. of the 13th to the Hon'ble Member to which the Hon'ble Sir Henry Bliss has replied enclosing copy of the Memorandum flagged Z. It is thought, however, that the Finance Minister's D.O. has lost much of its force by its paraphrase in the Financial Secretariat of the Govt of India, for the latter by omission of material facts & by drawing very fine distinctions between forecasts & applications for addl. allotments – distinctions which the Finance Dept. itself did not recognise as existing when it ~~acted~~ did ~~made~~ make an addl. allotment – does not

possible to meet this increase

I am afraid it is true that India has cause for complaint that earlier infn. was not sent to the F.D., though earlier infn. could not have been definite infn. The truth is the break in the rains in June–July which so immensely intensified distress threw out all our calculations. How far the depts. concerned have kept an eye on expenditure remains to be seen – very little, I fear. I can't remember any of the Fam: Comr's procs. to have dealt with the matter (in individual dists, I mean) – but he may have issued procs. on the subject which I have not seen

see note at end

4/10/97

state the case fairly. As the Hon'ble Member has replied to Sir James Westland, it will perhaps suffice if ~~[illegible]~~ the latter's D.O. ~~&~~ the copy of the ~~of~~ Memorandum are filed for record with the order on this paper. The attention of the Famine Commr.× might be drawn to the necessity for ~~[illegible]~~ working within framed estimates. This ~~is~~ as a general instruction is, however ~~an~~ impracticable ~~instruction~~, it is submitted, for although it may be possible to follow it now that the famine is ~~[illegible]~~ closing, it would not be ~~[illegible]~~ workable when distress is increasing. ~~[illegible]~~ ~~So~~ It is not known how ~~the~~ other Govts. have managed, but it will be seen from page 8 of G.O. No. 470/1 d/ 12. June 1897 that ~~[illegible]~~ most of them started the year with large grants & had heavy expendre. in 1896-7. to guide them in their famine programme. This Govt. has on the other hand restricted its calls for famine expendre. to the smallest practicable amounts and has ~~not~~ not asked for an anna more than appeared to be absolutely necessary. As a natural result its estimates have been thrown out completely when the unforeseen has happened — e.g. the sudden break in the early part of the monsoon — and this must be ~~happen in~~ the case with ~~of~~ any famine, however carefully financed, unless the estimates violate a cardinal principle of the budget system by retaining large provisions for the unexpected. The application of the strict budget system to famine finance is excellent in theory but, it is said, impossible in practice. ~~Ex~~ A famine estimate must vary with the season. ~~[illegible]~~ A sudden rise in prices or the holding off of rain in one district ~~[illegible]~~ increases the numbers on relief there and ∴ the expenditure and it is not possible to meet this increase

×Note

In a recent order (under issue at Madras) his attention has been drawn to the discrepancies between allotments & expenditure

It is dangerous & profitless to speculate on what other govts. have or have not done, because we have, in this office, neither the knowledge nor the material with which to judge

The question however is rather whether we could not have given earlier intimation of what we were likely to want in such a form that the Fin. Dept cd. have arranged its resources accordingly — See note at end expenditure by re:appropriation within the Famine grant – is by reducing the allotment for some other district. Such a course would only be possible if it ~~was~~ were a natural law that the total amount of distress ~~was~~ is never exceeds a fixed quantity – increases in one direction being balanced by decreases in another. ~~This~~ The reverse is, however, ~~not~~ the case – or at all events has been the case in this years famine for when distress deepened it deepened everywhere. ~~What would have been~~ No amount of previous estimating could have caused the expendre in this Presidency in July – which was a lakh more than the total estimate for the whole year – to be covered by a grant and if the budget system had been strictly applied then famine relief would have ceased altogether.

2. When asking for an addl allotment of 50 lakhs, the total famine expendre up to the end of ~~the current months~~ September was estimated as follows (vide notes in original of ~~file~~ G.O. 702 A of 31. 8. 97 flagged M):-

Civil Officers

		Lakhs
Actuals	April to July	19·59
Rough Estimate	August	9·01
	September	7·00
		35·60

P. W. D.

Actuals	April to July	27·79
Rough Estimate	August	12·61
	September	9·00
		49·40
	Grand Total	85·00

The original grant of 20·04 was allotted as follows:-

Civil Dept — 9·63
P. W. " — 10·41

P. W. D was granted ·50 in G.O. No 595 Fml of 30. 7. 97 but was not given anything out of the addl 14·96 sanctioned by the G of I in July as this amount was spent in the Civil dept before it could be allotted.

The distribution of the grant of 35 lakhs is therefore:-

Civil Dept (9·63 – ·50 + 14·96) = 24·09

P W Dept (10·41 + ·50) = 10·9

The addl. 50 lakhs now granted should ∴ be distributed:—

Civil Dept.	(35·60 − 24·09) =	11·51	or 10·91	to make a round grant of 35
P.W.	" (49·40 − 10·91) =	38·49	or 39·09	" " " " " 50
		50·00	50·00	85

The actual P.W.D. expendre. in August was 13·35 accordg. to the Exr's figures which passed through Financial Dept. yesterday. The A.G. has not reported August figures yet. He has been wired to for them.

3. The Famine Commr. has not yet subd. the revised estimate called for in para 1 of G.O. No. 713 Finl: of 3d. September 1897. He reported on that day that ~~his for~~ complete information had ~~was~~ not been received from all districts & promised to telegraph the figures. A telegraphic reminder has gone to him today. The A.G. has also been asked by telegram to report the approximate expendre. in Sept. & P.W.D. has been asked to obtain similar information from the Examiner

I

As soon as anything like a reliable estimate for the remainder of the year can be framed India will be wired to again.

C.W.S.
24/9/97

Despatch the telegram× to A.G. & the note to I. Office. & then resubmit the file to me

S.K. 24/9/97

× ordinary

Telegram & the note despd 25/9/97

File resubmitted

A.S. 25/9/97

H.M.

To some extent the difficulties have arisen ~~from~~ in connection with procedure.

Our letter of 23d June No. 484 was addressed to Rev. & Agr. Dept of the G. of I. & was accepted in their Fin. Dept. as a formal application for the grant. But it was in reply to a distinct request from R & A. for the "expenditure" figures (R & A letter of 24/7/97)

In our further letter

of 26 July '97 no. 625 R., we informed A. & A. that the revised grant of 35 lakhs wd be considerably exceeded by the end of the month & that revised estimates wd be forwarded for requirements up to 30th Sept. From a procedure point of view I do not think this letter was sufficient to affect the Finl. Dept with the necessary "notice". At any rate the safe thing to have done was to have made then a definite application to the Finl. Dept for whatever grant we cd certainly [illegible] anticipate wd be wanted: for we did certainly know then that much more than the 35 lakhs wd be required & we cd have made sufficient forecast to enable the Fin. Dept of the Govt of India to arrange its resources. At any rate if we had done this no blame cd have been imputed to us.

As to whether the expenditure of the grants was properly controlled by the departments to which they were allotted, is a matter wh. is for considn in these departts. & may if desired be taken up later on.

So far as the Fin. D. is concerned there seems no need to make any reply, excusatory or otherwise, to the current letter of the Fin. Dept.

The distribution of the 50 lakhs may be as proposed in the office note

30/9/97

JG
1/10/97

2.54
3.10.97

1/10/97

15½

Financial (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3012

E/

Order

From The Acctt General
Madras

No. 2978

Dated 24th September 1897

Received }
Registered } 27th Sept '97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Requesting that Govt. may be pleased to apportion the total amount of Rs 6,496,000, sanctioned by the Govt. of India under the head "33 Famine Relief" during the current year, between the Civil and the Public Works Depts.

CA 2247

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cuo 2987	F/97		
Procs 80	702A	Finl	31-8-97
..	590	..	29-7-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Fcuo 3029	F/97		

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT NO 3612

16 P

FORT ST, GEORGE,
Accountant-General's Office,
24 September 1897.

No. 2978

Print in full

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

To
THE Chief Secretary to Government
Financial Department

C 2987 F/97 (under disposal)

SIR,

With reference to the Government of India letter No. $\frac{A}{4184}$, dated the 18th September '97, conveying its sanction to a further additional grant of Rs 5000,000 for expenditure under the head 33 Famine Relief during the current year, I have the honour to request that Government may be pleased to apportion that amount as well as the sum of Rs 1496,000 sanctioned in the Government of India letter No 3219 A, dated the 22d July '97, or Rs 6496,000 in all between the Civil and the Public Works Departments.

590 / 30-7-97 A

2. The grants originally sanctioned for both the Departments have been considerably exceeded and it is very desirable both for audit purposes as well as for Budget check to ascertain and

record

record the additional grants sanctioned for the respective Departments.

3. As reported to Government in my letter No. 2547, dated the 20th August '97, the amount of the letters of credit, issued on the applications of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, has greatly exceeded the total grant for the year. In the absence of the apportionment of the additional grants now sanctioned, I cannot exercise the required check over the Examiner's requisitions for funds.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt Servant,
F. Marin
Offg Accountant General

B 724
31-8-97

[F. / 25]
1,000—25-11-96.

16½

Financial (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3029

C. No. 3012 & 3028

Recd back 28/9

Subd. to the Secy. with whom the file contg. India's letter sanctioning an addl. allotment of 50 lakhs now is

Order

Circl
29.9.97

From the A. G.

No.

Dated 27 }
Received 27 } 9.97
Registered 27 }
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Giving figures for August under 33. Famine relief Civil dept. expenditure.

C.A.
27-9-97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cur	2957 of 97		
Pungs	702A	Fib	31-8-97
–	590	"	29-7-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cur 3012	of 97		

---

17 P

CURRENT No. 3029

Code Class, } 1

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS. Monthly Number. }

To (Office) Ootacamund

From (Office) Madras Fort St

Words.	Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.
63·9	27	12	55	

To (Person) Madras

From (Person) Actl

Print

CHIEF SECRETARY * GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

27 SEP 1897

Civil department expenditure
33 famine relief august
7 lakhs collectors estimate
September expenditure at
642000

32 Word Form.

F.C.

Recd. from LN.

At Hrs. Mts. by

Sent to LN.

At Hrs. Mts. by

Telegraph Master.

OOTACAMUND 27 9 97

G C P—No.49a T—18 2 96—1000000

[F./28]
1,000—25-11-96.

17½

Financial (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3042

V. E

Telegram

From

The Bd. of Rev
(Rev. Sett. Imt, L.R. & A)

Order

No.

Dated 27. 9. 97
Received } 28. 9. 97
Registered }
Enclosures
Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

~~Re.~~ Telegraphing the figures under Revised famine Estimates under 33. Fam. Relief.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

188

CURRENT NO 3042

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS.

Code Class.

Monthly Number.

To (Office) Ootacamund	From (Office) [illegible]

Words.	Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.
45.51	27	10	25	

To (Person) Madras	From (Person) [illegible] Board Famine

Recd 3.15 pm 28/9/97

Print abstract only

Your telegram 26 revised estimates in hundreds 33 a 2017 33 B 1163 33 C 19354 33 D 13561 33 E 51 33 F 57034 33 G 2442 33 H 1847 Post copy despatched today explanatory memorandum follows tomorrow

32 Word Form.

F.C.I.

1847 P

Recd. from | I.N. | Sent to | I.N. | Telegraph Master.

At Hrs. Mts. by

OOTACAMUND 27-9-97

C G P—No. 430 T—18 2 96—1600000

[F./28]
1,000—25-11-96.

18 1/2

Financial (1897) Department.

The connected file is this understood to be with C.A.
hm
28-9-97

CURRENT No. 3046

E

From

The P. W. D

Order

No. 1511 D

Dated 28 · 9 · 97

Received Do

Registered Do

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Forwdg. telegram from the Examr. Public Works accts giving the actuals of famine expenditure under 33 Fam. Relief for August

CA
28-9-97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Fil.

SS 5/10/97

Z Don't give a fresh no. please.

C. B. D.

No. 784

CURRENT NO 3029

FROM

THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL,
MADRAS,

TO

THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Department,
Ootacamund.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT 30 SEP. 97 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

SIR,

I have the honor to confirm the following telegram sent to you ~~this day~~ yesterday:—
Civil Department expenditure 33 Famine Relief August 7 lakhs Collectors estimate September expenditure at 642000.

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

J. Mairison
Offg. Accountant-General.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
ACCT.-GENL.'S OFFICE,
28-9-1897.

Corres. 2,000—18-7-95.

MW 28/9

Very urgent

198

Print

NOTE FOR THE Public Works Dept.

Please obtain by wire from the Examiner Public Works Accounts the approximate ~~expenditure~~ Public Works expenditure under 33 Famine Relief. The actuals for August amounted it is understood to 13·35 lakhs.

Cuts 24/9/97

for Chief Secretary

CURRENT NO 3046

No. 1511 D., d/ 28th September 1897

Note for the Financial Dept.

Print

Please see Examiner's reply herewith

The actuals for August are correctly stated, so far as present information goes.

Colonel R. E.
Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

C.S.
Recd 28/9/97

... Public Works Dept.

Please obtain by wire
from the Examiner Public
Works Accounts the approximate
expenditure [illegible]
expenditure under 32 Famine
Relief. The estimate for August
[illegible]

Note for the Financial Dept.

Please see Examiner
Public Works
The estimate for August
[illegible]

Print

20 P

INDIAN TELEGRAPHS

Code Class. DS
Monthly Number. 2613

To (Office) Ootacamund
From (Office) Madras

Words.	Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.
45/18	29	19	5	[illegible]

To (Person) Madras Works

From (Person) [illegible] Works

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS 28 SEP 97

Your wire twenty sixth approximate expenditure to end of August rupees 41,23,075 vide my number 619 twentieth instant Executive Engineers Ganjam and Vizagapatam have however since wired withdrawing demands to the extent of rupees 70,000

Recd. from I.N. Sent to I.N.

At Hrs. Mts. by

Telegraph Master.

OOTACAMUND 27-9-97

32 Word Form.

F.C.I.

G.P.—No. 190 T—18 2 96—1600000

What can this mean? If the money has been spent it has been spent & cant be surrendered!

20½

Financial

Revenue (1897) Department.

2

CURRENT No. 3051

28 SEP 97

Print in full

Order

From

The Board of Revenue
Rev: Sett: L. R. & Agri:
Madras

No. 7922 Mis:

Dated 27th September 1897.

Received in Finl. 29.9.97

Registered 29.9.97

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government of revised abstract estimates under 33. of Famine Relief expenditure for in 1897-98 prepared on the basis of a normal N. E. monsoon

1897
Finl D.
Enclos. No. 1
To
C. No. 3046

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 7922 Mis:

Abstract estimates of Famine Relief expenditure in 1897-98.

CURRENT NO 365

21

33. Famine Relief		Head-Quarter office	Ganjam	Vizagapatam	Godavari	Kurnool	Bellary	Anantapur	Cuddapah	Total
			Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.
Salaries and Establishment	33 A		30,000	12,000	600	51,000	47,200	27,900	33,000	2,01,700
Relief works in charge of Civil officers.	33 B		24,000	20,000	2,000	17,000	17,300	26,000	10,000	1,16,300
Relief to people employed otherwise than on Relief works	33. C		3,31,000	2,50,000	"	4,00,000	4,22,400	1,84,000	3,48,000	19,35,400
Gratuitous Relief	33 D		4,60,000	1,40,000	15,000	3,07,000	2,13,100	1,12,000	1,09,000	13,56,100
Miscellaneous.	33 E		5,000					100	-	5,100
Total, Civil Department			8,50,000	4,22,000	17,600	7,75,000	7,00,000	3,50,000	5,00,000	36,14,600
Relief works in charge of Public works officers.	33 F		3,00,000	1,75,000	400	17,00,000	18,78,000	7,00,000	9,50,000	57,03,400
Total 33 Famine Relief			11,50,000	5,97,000	18,000	24,75,000	25,78,000	10,50,000	14,50,000	93,18,000
Famine Expenditure debited to other Service-Heads.	33 G.	45,000	12,500	7,000		16,500	1,17,000	27,700	18,500	2,44,200
Other measures of Relief viz, Relinquishment of Revenue on account of Famine.	33 H		3,50,000	2,50,000		3,00,000	2,97,000	4,50,000	200,000	18,47,000
Grand total - Famine Relief Operations		45,000	15,12,500	8,54,000	18,000	27,91,500	29,92,000	15,27,700	16,68,500	1,14,09,200

Board of Revenue
(Rev: Sett: L.R & Agri:)
Madras Dated 27th September 1897

29/9
Famine Secretary.

[G./5]
500—17-5-97.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

C. No.s 3012, 3029, 2931. 3042 3046 3051.

(3) H. E. THE GOVERNOR.
(1) THE HON'BLE ~~Mr~~. Sir Henry K BLISS, C.I.E.
(2) THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT

Famine Grants

Rev Dept. for ci

8/K
20/9/97

FOR ORDERS.

In C. No. 3012 the Acct. Genl. requests an early apportionment between the Civil & P. W. Depts of the extra famine grant sanctioned by India

In C. No. 3029 he reports the Civil Dept Expendre in August on Famine Relief to have been 7 lakhs & the estimate for September to be 6'42

In C. No. 3042 & 3051 the Famine Commr. telegraphs the figures of the revised estimate of expendre up to the end of the famine which was called for in G.O. No. 713 M ~~Financial~~ d/ 3d. September 1897. He promises an explanatory memorandum by post. The Famine Commrs figures are as follows:

+	Lakhs
33 A. Salaries & Establishments —	2·02 ✓
33 B. Relief works - Civil Officers —	1·16 ✓
33 C. Relief to people otherwise than on relief works —	19·35 ✓
33 D. Gratuitous relief —	13·56 ✓
33 E. Miscellaneous —	·05 ✓
33 F. Relief works - P.W.D —	57·04 ✓
Total Famine Relief -	93·18
33 G. Debitable to other Service heads	2·44 ✓
33 H. Relinquishment of Rev. &c.	18·47 ✓

+ Note These heads are from the C.B.E. & from pages 20 et seq of G.O. 470/1 Fin of 12-6-97 V.

~~* There seems to be something wrong about these figures~~

Ans

The total famine relief expendre according to the Famine Commr. thus comes to ~~93·64~~ 93·18 lakhs or ~~8·64~~ 8·18 lakhs in excess of the grant already sanctioned by India. The Revenue Dept may be able to cut this estimate down but of course nothing can be done in the way of examination until the Famine Commissioner's Memorandum is received. The papers are meanwhile submitted for orders as to whether a telegram should not at once go to India for an additional allotment in order to avert any further charge of working without allotments. It will be seen from the telegram in G.O. No.

Likewise - P.W.D. may also be able to cut down - Both Depts should consider the matter

C. No. 3046

Total to end of August	- 41·23
Total to end of ~~August~~ July	27·79 [G.O. 702 A / 31.8.97]
August	13·44

22
20·44
1·56

* Total on Septr	- 16·00
Deduct what was exceeded for rounding to 85 lakhs	·38
	15·62
Civil Dept.	6·42
	9·20
	1·56
	10·76

B No 702A of 31. August 1897 that the August expenditure was ~~reported to~~ placed at 22 lakhs According to the A.G.'s present figures + those furnished by the Ex. P.W. Accts ~~[illegible]~~ ~~other day~~ the expendre actually was:-

Civil Dept — 7·00
P.W. " — 13·44
20·44

The A.G. places expendre in the Civil Dept for September at 6·42 lakhs. This will leave about 9·20* lakhs for the P.W.D. for that month. The estimate of 85 lakhs to the end of Septr. should ∴ be well within the mark.

If it is decided to wire at once to India the following is submitted for approval:-

Reference your 4184 ~~to~~ Eighteenth sanctioning additional allotment 50 lakhs for famine expendre to end September Famine Commnd. estimates of basis normal northeast monsoon expenditure to end famine will amount 93 lakhs round numbers. Please sanction additional allotment 8 lakhs ~~as 85 already granted will last about~~ – Grant 85 lakhs will not ~~suffice~~ about suffice to end September ~~[illegible]~~

Cud
28-9-97

H.E.L.

Yes: application d at once be made by gm to the Fin. Dept. as proposed above

J.F.
30/9/97

1/10/97

J.G.
1/10/97

W
1/10/97

A.S.H.
3.10.97

Financial Dept.

Read again G.O. No. 164/5 Finl. of 18. 2. 97.
" " G.O. No. 188 Finl. of 26. 2. 97.
" " G.O. No. 470/1 Finl of 12. 6. 97
" " G.O. No. 489 Finl of 23. 6. 97.
" " G.O. No. 483/4 Rev of 23. 6. 97.
" " G.O. No. 624/5 Rev of 26. 7. 97. } (P)
— ... No. 590 Finl of 29. 7. 97 – (Q)
— " – No. 595 Finl of 30. 7. 97.
— " – No. 702 A Finl of 31. 8. 97.
— No. 713/4 Finl of 3. 9. 97. } (P)

Read also. C. Nos 2931, 2987, 3012, 3029, 3042, 3046, 3051 (as marked)

Scy
22 P.

Office

Issue in ms. first reading again G.Os 702 A. & 713/4. (Q). C. No. 2987 (P) 3012 (Q) 3029 (Q) 3046 (P) 3051 (P). Manifold & give me copy also – Then send at once to Madras to be printed and instruct B.C. to see proofs through specially urgent & to send copies & original back by return if possible, asking Mr. Hill to make special arrange-ments for printing very short [illegible] notes &c here

Cud
4/10/97

Fin B.C.
Please [illegible] orders above & send copies with very sharp [illegible]
A.S. 5/10/97

Sent herewith.
H.L.
8/10/97

B/proof

Order. No. 818 of 5th October 1897.
P.S.

The distribution of the enhanced grant of 35 lakhs under 33 Famine Relief sanctioned in G. of I. Finance & Commerce Dept letter, No. 3219-A. of 22nd July 1897, stands at present as follows: –

	Lakhs
Civil Officers —	24·09
Public Works " —	10·91.

The additional grant of 50 lakhs now sanctioned by the Govt. of India will be allotted as follows: –

	Lakhs
Civil Officers –	10·91
P. W. " —	39·09

The total grants under these

these two heads will then stand at 35 lakhs & 50 lakhs respectively.

2. The actuals up to the end of August were:-

	Lakhs
Civil Officers ——	26.59.
P.W. " ——	41.23.
	67.82

The expenditure in the Civil Dept in September is estimated by the Accountant General at 6.42 lakhs thus leaving a balance from the total grant of 85 lakhs of 10.76 for ~~expenditure~~ the outlay in the PWDept. ~~This will probably slightly exceed more than even the outlay in that month. But in view of the fact that the grant must have almost expended the~~

74.24
10.76

3. The revised estimate of 93.18 lakhs under 33 Famine Relief ~~received~~ submitted by from the Famine Commr. will be accepted provisionally & subject to scrutiny in the Revenue and Public Works departments. The following telegram will be despatched to the Govt, Fin: & Commerce Dept:-

Tel. Despd 5/10/97

Reference your 4184 Eighteenth September sanctioning additional allotment 50 lakhs for famine relief expenditure to end September Famine Commr. estimate on basis normal north-east monsoon expenditure to end famine will amount 93 lakhs round numbers. Please sanction additional allotment 8 lakhs. Grant 85 lakhs will just about suffice to end September

(From orders)

23 P.

Cw.S
4/x/97

4/10/97

Memo No 2069
5.10.97.

Revenue Dept 6
P. W. Dept. 10
Acct. Genl 4
Famine Commr. 1

S.C. Despd 9/10/97

Despd 5/10/97

Copies to Famine files

Added to CAS file here
9.X.97

The P.W.Dept. & the Acct. Genl will be requested to arrange to furnish the Financial Dept. ~~with~~ with the actual expendre ~~...~~ under 33 Famine Relief in each month and together with the actuals up to the end of the month as soon as possible after the outlay in each month is known ~~using~~ using the telegraph freely for the purpose.

Cw.S.
4.10.97

4/10

Pb.D.
A.G.
} Despd 5/10/97

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED.
Order complete. 80
Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. DATED
189

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH G.O.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

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