

Financial (1898)

Financial (1898) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 33

1-25

DATED 15. 1. 98

INDEXED.

12/12

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine Expenditure.

Explaining in detail the
scope of G.O. No. 133 (Jul 8. 8. 2. 97)
laying down that all questions
relating to famine finance
should be dealt with in the
financial dept.

996

Gamine

1898

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 133, Financial, dated 8th February 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders in regard to the obtaining and provision of funds for famine-relief purposes and laying down the method in which the expenditure already incurred should be dealt with.

ORDER—No. 33, Financial, dated 15th January 1898.

In paragraph 10 of G.O., No. 133, Financial, dated 8th February 1897, it was decided that all questions relating to famine finance should be dealt with in the Financial Department. The procedure in regard to famine expenditure that prevailed during 1897 indicates that there has been serious misapprehension as to the scope of this order and that the Famine Commissioner and Collectors have not sufficiently recognized their positions as controlling authorities. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires therefore to impress on all Collectors that they are primarily responsible as controlling authorities for famine expenditure, and that they must not, except under circumstances of very great urgency, work without grants. The Board of Revenue is responsible for ensuring that grants are obtained by Collectors in sufficient time and that these are properly spent and accounted for. The Financial Department will continue to pass final orders on applications for grants received through the Revenue Department. In cases of urgency where time is of importance, Collectors may telegraph direct to the Financial Department, but such telegrams should invariably be supplemented by immediate applications in proper form through the Board of Revenue.

2. The Revenue Department and the Board of Revenue should maintain proper registers of sanctions, both of allotments and expenditure generally and of works and establishments in detail.

3. The Accountant-General and the Examiner of Public Works Accounts now submit to Government the actual expenditure of each month early in the succeeding month. These officers will be requested to furnish the Board of Revenue at the same time with a duplicate copy of the statements, and the Board will arrange to receive by the 5th of each month telegraphic intimation from Collectors of all affected districts of their probable requirements under each minor head for the current month and the remainder of the official year. These estimates and actuals should be tabulated in the recognized budget forms in the Board's office and should be submitted, after revision if necessary, to the Revenue Department for transmission to the Financial Department, with its remarks. The consolidated estimate should reach the Financial Department by the 10th of the month. By this means the Government will be placed in possession of a revised estimate of famine expenditure each month. The Revenue Department will be requested to issue such instructions as may be considered necessary to make these estimates complete as to the exhibition of numbers on relief and likely to come on relief.

4. The cause of the fluctuating nature of the accounts and estimates furnished by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, will doubtless be brought to light by the enquiries which have recently been initiated as to the course of Public Works expenditure on famine in 1897, but it is essential that the Revenue and Public Works Departments should look into this matter carefully in view of ascertaining whether further detailed instructions are necessary.

5. The Accountant-General will be requested to draw up a definite set of rules for the regulation of famine finance.

(True Extract.)

A. T. ARUNDIL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.

„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlements)
„ Collectors of all districts.
„ the Accountant-General.

10.33/98
15

2

28/3

Financial Department.

NOTE FOR THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From the season reports published in the last two issues of the Gazette it is observed that a test work has been opened in the Nellore District and that the numbers thereon have risen from 250 in the week ending 4th December to 438 in the week ending 11th December. Please state the source from which the expenditure on the test work is being met

CMB
19.11.97

MA 17.12.97

Cd.

Keep a close watch on the financing of the new scarcity if there is one. There must be no repetition of the late confusion.

MA 17.12.97



NOTE FOR THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From the season reports published in the last two issues of the Gazette it is observed that a test work has been opened in the Nellore District and that the numbers thereon have risen from 250 in the week ending 4th December to 438 in the week ending 11th December. Please state the source from which the expenditure on the test work is being met.

KA 17.12.97

Office Return to CA this office copy
 office 18/12/97
 Cmt

Referred to the Finance Commr
 for very early report

RS
 18-12-97

Healey marked
 it for H. R.
 on 18/12/97
 from H. R.
 18-12-97

Nale. In the note on the Nellore report (now in circ) the Secy suggested that the Commr should be directed to apply for

It is a
material course
to ask the $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 1800 R
800

Am 1878

To the Del

6/33

24 The accompanying papers relate to the estimates of famine expenditure. The Accountant-General saw the Chief Secretary personally before the holidays and urged a redistribution of the grant under Civil Officers by detailed heads. He has since written ⁱⁿ ~~an~~ officialy on the subject, but this communication will be dealt with separately as it raises other points. Collectors of the affected districts were on the day that Mr. Harrison saw the Chief Secy. all telegraphed ^{to} and all have ^{now} replied.

The matter has been
Somewhat delayed by the
reply from Kumon which was
wrongly addressed to the Board
and obtained from there after

~~graphical reminders on the subject.~~ four-tale

[illegible]

Whilst the papers have been under disposal, further astounding revelations have been made by the P.W.D., and the Examiner of P.W. Accounts has again altered his estimate cutting it down by 5 lakhs. The reasons for this change are given in C.No. 4043 and are dealt with in C.No. 4046 by the A.G. The state of affairs is by no means creditable to those concerned and in para 7

T
C

2 of the draft order the Rev. and P.W.D. have been requested to institute strict enquiries into the matter.

Orders are solicited as to whether India should be told of the drop in the estimate. The last information from this Government was in letter No. 953, Financial, dated 17th November 1897 where a grant of 100 lakhs was asked for. There is no guarantee against the Examiner again changing his estimates ~~at this point~~ had better lie over until the Hon'ble Sir Henry Bliss returns. Meanwhile, the order might issue redistributing the estimates, as the month with

is over if further delay before the A.C. gets the figures of further delays occur.

Cin.S.
28/12/97

Please see especially Flag O

28.12.97

The R.D. presumably knows what is going on in these districts & should at once get the Govt. of their requirements, so that we may make allotments to cover expenditure. At present we seem to be going on in the old style which has caused some trouble already. That is, the Ch. of Nellore (or may be others) as stated last week without any allotment to pay for them. I think, I know of no allotment. This procedure had better be nipped in the bud.

As
29/12/97

C. 11/12/97
R. 11/12/97
Famine Estimates

Hon. Sir H. Bliss.

Financial Department.

With reference to the Honourable Member's note dated 29th December 1897, it is respectfully submitted that the matter of expenditure on famine relief in Nellore and other districts has not escaped attention in the Financial Department. ~~Attention is~~ ^{please see} the Office Note dated 17th December 1897 flagged ~~B~~ ^{and} ~~please see~~ G.O. No. 1030, Financial, dated 8th December 1897 flagged ^A. It is submitted, however, that the Financial Department is powerless in the matter if the Board does not recognise its responsibilities as a controlling authority. It is anomalous that the Financial Department, if it is to have any control over famine expenditure, should be left to find out that such expenditure has been already incurred from Season Reports. So long however as the first sentence of paragraph 10 of G.O. No. 153, Financial, dated 8th February 1897, ^{is} "questions relating to famine finance will be dealt with in the Financial Department" ~~and~~ ^{remains} uncanceled or unmodified, the Board and all spending officers will consider that they are within their rights in spending money on famine relief without allotments as their

their reading-entirely incorrect-of
that order is that it divested every
department except the Financial depart-
ment and every officer of financial
responsibility -a responsibility which
exists with every other officer who
has the spending of public money how-
ever small his budget allotment may be

It is submitted therefore that
the first sentence of paragraph 10 of
G.O.No.133 Finl., d/8th Feb. 1897,
should be cancelled or that it should
be amplified by impressing upon the
Board and upon all Collectors the fact
that they are primarily responsible
as controlling authorities for famine
expenditure, that they must not work
without grants and that the Board is res-
ponsible for seeing that grants are
obtained in sufficient time. The Acct.
enl. might at the same time be asked
to draw up a definite set of rules
regarding Famine finance. The Famine
code contains every provision for the
speedy disbursement of money but beyond
one or two returns, which are worth-
less as financial checks, does not
culcate the doctrine of budget control.
An example of the position in which the
Finl. dept. is placed is contained
in the linked file and attention is
respectfully solicited to the papers
re.

14

This is an astonishing mis-
caption. I can hardly suppose
that it existed.

As

M / No. See below.

Yes, and are perfectly shunt
I don't believe that in the late famine
the Govt. ever troubled himself in
the least of how expenditure proposed

The C.A. has prepared this
note under my orders. Vids
also flag B. & note thereon.

A peremptory stop must
be put to the loose method
of procedure that has
prevailed during the
last year in famine
expenditure.

A mere cancellation of the
misunderstood words of
para 10 in G.O. 133 Fin & 8th Feb 97
will not do. It will attract
no attention & have

15

to be supplemented by
another G.O. The sentence
had better be made the
text for a G.O. as proposed
in the note impressing on
the Bd. Upon all Collectors
that they are primarily
responsible as controlling
authorities for famine
expenditure, that they
must not except under
circumstances of emergency
work without grants &
that the Bd. must see
that grants are obtained
in sufficient time.
The Fin. Dept. will continue
to pass final orders on
receipt of appls thro'
the Rev. Dept.
The Acct. Genl. may be
asked as proposed for
suggestions.
The real difficulty is the
delay due to the filtration
of applications etc. from
Collectors thro' the Bd. & the
Rev. Dept to the Fin. Dept.
It is necessary that Collectors
can write to Fin. when

time is of importance. The
 A.C. with no doubt ^{emphasizing}
 this course as though ^{warning to others} he
 has kept himself posted
 up with the latest information during last year's famine.

We must also get to the
 bottom of the mysterious
 flow of the totals of
 the Exam. P.W. Accts. The
 report already called for
 ought to reveal it. There
 maybe some interweaving
 of expenditure between P.W.
 & P.W. officers wh. need
 thing right. If it lies
 the P.W. system of accounting
 some radical change wd
 seem necessary.

At 10.1.98
 Entirely agree with the C.L.
 further point to which attention
 should be called is the necessity
 of the maintenance in the R.D. &
 the H. of proper registers of sanctions,
 allotments and expenditure
 both of ~~expenditure~~ generally &
 works and ~~etc~~ in detail.
 don't believe anything of the kind
 was attempted last year.
 H.S.
 11/1/98

It may be
 C.L.
 11.1.98

Doag 10.
 1.98

Papers to be read in Proceedings:-

Again G.O., No. 133, ^{Feb} dated	8 Feb.	1897. (P)	
Again G.O., No. , dated		189 .	
Current No. of 189 , dated		, from	
" " , 189 , "		" "	
" " , 189 , "		" "	

15-1-98
 In no way
 to the Dept
 of the
 Board of Rev
 A.C.

ORIER. 20 33 8 15-1-98

In paragraph 10 of G.O. No. 133
 Financial, dated 8th February 1897,
 it was decided that all questions
 relating to famine finance should
 be dealt with in the Financial dept.
 The ~~procedure~~ procedure in re-
 gard to famine expenditure that pre-
 vailed during 1897 indicates ^{that} there
 has been ^{great serious} some misapprehension as to
 the scope of this order and that the
 Famine Commissioner and Collectors
 have not sufficiently recognized
 their position as controlling autho-
 rities. His Excellency the Governor
 in Council desires therefore to im-
 press on ~~all~~ all Collectors that they are pri-
 marily responsible as controlling
 authorities for famine expenditure, and
 that they must not, except under
 circumstances of very great urgency,
 work without grants. ~~The~~ The
 Board is responsible for ^{ensuring} seeing
 that

of Revenue

that grants are obtained in sufficient time ^{that these} and are properly spent. The Financial Dept. will continue to pass final orders on receipt of applications ^{for grants received} through the Revenue Dept. In cases of urgency where time is of importance, Collectors ^{may} telegraph direct to the Financial Dept., but such telegrams should invariably be supplemented by immediate applications ⁱⁿ proper form through the Board of Revenue.

2. The Revenue Dept. and the Board of Revenue should maintain proper registers of sanctions, both of allotments and expenditure generally and of works and establishments in detail.

3. The Accountant-General and the Examiner of P.W. Accounts now submit to Govt. the actual ^{expenditure} of each month early in the succeeding month. These officers will be requested to furnish the Board of Revenue at the same time with a duplicate copy of the statements and the Board will arrange to receive by the 5th of each month telegraphic intimation from Collectors of all affected districts of their probable requirements ~~for the current and two succeeding months~~ under each minor head. These estimates should be tabulated ⁱⁿ the recognized budget forms ^{and} with the latest actuals in the Board's office and should be submitted, after revision, if necessary, to the Revenue Dept. for transmission to the Financial

Dept. with its remarks. By this means

and accounted for.

Current months & the remainder in the remaining months of the official year

The consolidated estimates should reach the Financial Department by the 10th of each month.

Government will be placed in possession of a revised estimate of famine expenditure each month. The Revenue Dept will be requested to issue such instructions as may be considered necessary to make these estimates complete as ^{to} the exhibition of numbers on relief and likely to come on relief.

5. The Accountant-General will be requested to draw up a definite set of rules ~~for~~ for the regulation of famine finance.

4. The cause of the fluctuating nature of the accounts and estimates furnished by the Examiner, P.W. Accounts the will doubtless be brought to light by the enquiries ^{which have recently been initiated} ~~directed to be made~~ ^{on the cause of P.W. expenditure in para. 2 of G.O. No. 1020, Financial, in Jan. 1897} dated 30th December 1897, but the P.W. Dept. is requested to consider the matter carefully ^{it appears to be essential} ~~that the P.W. Dept.~~ should look into this matter carefully in view of ascertaining whether further detailed instructions are necessary.

To the Revenue Dept.

.. P.W.D.

.. Board of Revenue.

.. Collectors of ^{all} Districts

.. Accountant-General. - 4

Secy dtd 20.1.98

15.1.98

15.1.98

15.1.98

20.1.98

15.1.98

15.1.98

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

To R.D.

With reference to the note by the Revenue Secretary on the spare copy of G.O.No.33 Financial, d/15th January 18 below, enquiring whether that order should not have been sent to the Revenue Department for counterinitials before issue, ~~it is respectfully submitted that this course does not appear to be necessary.~~

The G.O. merely amplified a previous Financial G.O. and dealt chiefly

with a matter of procedure in regard to estimates, but it should have been sent for

Counter initials that Dept. to R.D. & it is

CA. speak to me regretted that MT 11.2.98 this was not done

MT 12.2.98

show

The Collectors of
The District Magistrates of

23

✓ 3) 8

Anantapur.	8
North Arcot, Chittoor.	8
South Arcot, Cuddalore.	8
Bellary.	8
South Canara, Mangalore.	8
Chingleput, Saidapet.	8
Coimbatore.	8
Cuddapah.	8
Ganjam, Chatrapur.	8
Godavari, Cocanada.	8
Kistna, Masulipatam.	8
Kurnool.	8
Madras (when necessary).	
Madura.	8
Malabar, Calicut.	12
Nilgiris, Ootacamund.	8
Nellore.	8
Salem.	8
Tanjore.	9
Tinnevely.	8
Trichinopoly.	8
Vizagapatam.	8

Des 20. 1. 98.