M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 644 Press
~~Mis.~~
23-25

23-25

Dated 25.5.1860 ~~19~~ .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, for the month of May 1860.

Read the following papers :—

No. 23. From H. D. COOK, Esq., Civil and Sessions Judge of Calicut, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government in the Judicial Department, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 14th April 1860, No. 173.

1. I trust I shall be excused by again re-opening the question regarding the pre-auditing of the monthly abstract of pay for the Judicial establishment in this Zillah.

2. The system has now been in force since June 1856, so that it has had a pretty fair trial and the result is a heavy loss and grievance to the public servants in general. In my letter to the Registrar of Sadr Adálat dated 27th May 1856, I stated that the servants would not under the new system receive their pay before the 20th of the following month, but now they seldom receive it at the Huzzoor station before the 22nd and 23rd and at the out-stations not before the 27th or 28th.

3. The price of provision in Malabar has of late years quadrupled, the salaries remain the same, barely sufficient to meet the expenses of a family, the delay therefore has a most pernicious tendency, driving many to borrow and to use other means of raising money to meet their wants before the salary is paid.

4. As the payment of a fixed establishment on the 1st of each month cannot by any possibility inflict loss, and as the system of pre-auditing the Bill of fixed establishments cannot in any way prove beneficial to Government while it entails great inconvenience, I earnestly hope the Government will be pleased to reconsider the subject and pass an order authorizing the payment of the monthly abstract of the fixed establishment on the 1st of each month as was customary before the issue of the Civil Auditor's Circular*.

**Dated 17th May* 1856.

5. The arguments adduced against the introduction of the new system in my letter dated the 27th May 1856 apply with full force and I cannot do better than quote them in support of my present request which has reference solely to the well-being and comfort of an industrious and hard-working class of the public servants.

" The Judges are aware that the emoluments attached to the different Offices barely suffice " to meet the expenditure of those holding the inferior offices, and by the delay in disbursing to " them their salaries for so long a time, their families must necessarily be put to the most serious " inconvenience, without, it appears to me, any adequate advantage to the Government. Were " the order, under discussion, rendered necessary from any uncertainty regarding the amount " to be disbursed, which uncertainty subjected the disbursing Officer in a responsibility not " justly attachable to his Office, I could understand its propriety and expediency, but when I " consider that the pay of the Judicial establishment is fixed and unchangeable under the orders " of the Supreme Government, the necessity of an Audit prior to disbursement appears altogether " uncalled for."

" In these days of advancement and progress, and I may add economy, the Government I " am persuaded would be unwilling to place its servants in a worse position than they now are " as regards the receipt of the emoluments of their Offices, always a month in arrears, and I feel " sure that the matter has only to be brought to the notice of Government in order to cancel an " order which cannot possibly benefit the Government or expedite business and which must " necessarily excite universal discontent and vexation, because taking into consideration the dis- " tance, delay on the road, chance of sickness or delay in the Audit Office, under the operation of " the new rule, the pay of the establishment cannot be disbursed before the 20th of the succeeding " month at the very soonest."

Referred to the Civil Auditor for explanation in reference to the statement made in para. 2.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
24th April 1860.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 24. From E. F. HARRISON, Esq., Civil Auditor, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 12th May 1860, No. 456.

Fixed Department.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Order of the 24th ultimo* forwarding a letter from the Civil and Session Judge of Calicut for my report with reference to the statement that under existing arrangements the pay of the Judicial establishments is seldom issued at Calicut until the 22nd or 23rd of the month.

**Judicial Department, No. 663.*

2. Annexed to this letter is a statement shewing the dates on which the Abstracts of the establishment of the Calicut Court have been received in and despatched from this Office during the past twelve months.

3. It will be seen that with one exception the Abstracts have been despatched not later than the 13th of the month, and should have reached Calicut by the 19th at latest.

4. Last month the Easter holidays occurred at the busiest part of the month and interfered much with the ordinary course of business; in the previous month (February) the bill was returned Audited on the day on which it was received, but an interval of two days ordinarily occurs.

5. The time occupied in transit will of course be very materially abridged on the completion of the Railroad to the Western Coast.

6. As it is alleged that the present system has no advantage so far as regards fixed charges, I may be allowed to notice the facility which it affords for the compilation of early and exact accounts of Civil expenditure.

7. All Civil salaries for any one month are with few exceptions Audited during the currency of the month following. I could arrange with but little difficulty for the submission within a very few days of the close of each month of an account shewing the expenditure Audited in such month arranged under such general heads as might be desired.

8. Here then are the means of obtaining an account of actual expenditure earlier than can be got in any other way with which I am acquainted when the number of disbursing Officers and the distance of many of them from the seat of Government are taken into consideration.

9. Although no practical use is at present made of the facilities existing for the preparation of an early record of Civil expenditure, I have thought it right thus briefly to refer to them.

Memorandum of the date of receipt and despatch of the Abstract of the Civil Court of Calicut.

For the month of	Date of receipt.	Date of despatch.
	1859.	1859.
April 1859.	May... 10	May... 13
May ,,	June... 11	June... 13
June ,,	July... 11	July... 13
July ,,	August... 8	August... 10
August ,,	September... ... 10	September... 12
September ,,	October... 10	October... 11
October ,,	November... ... 8	November... 11
November ,,	December... ... 9	December... 12
	1860.	1860.
December ,,	January... 10	January... 12
January 1860.	February... 9	February... 11
February ,,	March... 12	March... 12
March. ,,	April... 10	April... 14

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, for the month of May 1860.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 25th May 1860, No. 644.

Resolved that a copy of the above communication be furnished to the Civil and Sessions Judge of Calicut, in reference to his letter of the 14th ultimo, and that he be informed that the Government cannot authorize any departure from the present system.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Dept.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
Read the following papers.
Here enter 11th April 1860. No 173.
12th May — to 86.

From the Civil & Sessions Judge of Calicut.
To the Civil Auditor —
Order thereon. 25th May 1860 } No 644.

Resolved that a copy of the
above communication be
furnished to the Civil & Sessions
Judge of Calicut, in reference to
his letter of the 14 ultimo &
that he be informed that
the Govt cannot authorize any
departure from the present
system

Sd/ J. P.

Rte

Civil & Sessions Judge of Calicut
Civil Auditor —

Disp. 31st

Fk 663.

1860 th Department
Judicial -
From 31 st May
The Civil Auditor

To
The Chief Secretary
to Govt.

Dated 12 th May 1860
Recvd 15

No 436

No 809 -

Reports with reference to the
order dated 25 th Ultmo -
- on a letter from the Civil
& Session Judge of Calicut with
reference to the Statement that
under existing arrangements the
pay of the judicial establishments
is seldom issued at Calicut
until the 22 d or 23 d of the month

C 19 May
R 23 d

23 @ 25.

With an order