M.R.O. 1—20,000—18-12-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1155 Press Mis.

231-232

Dated 25. 7. 19 1866

6/6

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

25th July 1866.

No. 231. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 12th July 1866, No. 2181.

Communicating papers, in view to a representation being made by this Department to the Government of India regarding the immediate provision of better Jail accommodation than at present exists in this Presidency. (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Department, dated 12th July 1866, Nos. 238 & 239.)

No. 232. ORDER THEREON, 25th July 1866, No. 1155.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 238. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account), to the Secretary to Government of Madras, in the Public Works Department, dated Simla, 26th May 1866, No. 501 A:—

1. In the concluding part of the orders on the Madras Public Works Budget-Estimate for 1866-67, it was stated that a separate reply would be furnished to those parts* of your transmitting letter which had reference to the wants and claims of the Madras Presidency for a larger Public Works grant. I am accordingly now to address you on this subject.

* No. 406, dated 1st February 1866, paragraphs 11, 12, and 13.

2. The Government of Madras will have already been made aware that the grant for 1866-67 has been increased from 69 to 70 lakhs, exclusive of expenditure on Railways. This is an increase of nearly seven lakhs on the grant of the previous year, and more than (with one exception) has ever been given before, the grants for the last seven years having been as follows:—

	£
1860-61	620,000
1861-62	660,000
1862-63	720,000
1863-64	644,445
1864-65	680,000
1865-66	632,000
1866-67	700,000

3. Any further augmentation could only be effected by a corresponding reduction from the allotments made to other parts of India, as the total Public Works grant is as large as the state of the revenues permit.

4. I am, however, to state that the Government of India will carefully reconsider the proportions into which the grant is now divided, before the next distribution takes place; and if it shall be found that the Madras Presidency is fairly entitled to a larger proportional share, the grant for 1867-68 will be increased accordingly.

5. With respect to what is said of there being numerous highly promising works of irrigation in the Madras Presidency which are languishing for want of funds, the Government of Madras is invited to send up a list of the projects which it desires to undertake, and for which complete and well considered designs and estimates have been matured. On its being shown that there is reasonable likelihood of these projects being remunerative and beneficial, the Government of India will be prepared to consider a comprehensive plan for undertaking them. But I am to notice that the last Budget-Estimate shows that the preparation of estimates for works still lags behind the supply of funds, and that a considerable expenditure is now going on in Madras without proper sanction.

6. But in addition to these general remarks, I am desired to draw the attention of the Government of Madras to two special points, in connection with the recently sanctioned organization of the Public Works Department of that Presidency. In regard to these, I am to say, that the Government of India does not wish to re-open the general questions involved, but merely to request that the bearing of these

matters on the Public Works grant of the Presidency may be borne in mind, and, if thought desirable, occasion may be taken to effect partial changes as opportunities offer.

7. These two points are:—

I.—The organization by which the number of executive charges is increased to three times the number which is considered necessary elsewhere.

II.—The arrangement by which petty irrigation works, which require no engineering skill, are placed under the management of the Engineering establishment, which is thus enlarged and sub-divided, to undertake duties which, in the opinion of many high local authorities, the ordinary Civil establishments might perform as well.

8. Allowing due weight to the remark that the exceptional circumstances of the Presidency do require larger charges for establishments and repairs than elsewhere, it still seems to the Government of India that much of the increased charge is due to the arrangements above indicated, and might be got rid of by altering these exceptional arrangements. So far, then, it does not seem fair to other Governments to admit the plea of the exceptional circumstances of Madras in favor of an increased share of the Public Works grant.

9. I am to repeat, however, that the Government of India does not desire to re-open the general question of organization, but only to point out its bearing on the subject of this letter, and to say that the Goveronr General in Council will regard with favor any proposals which the Government of Madras may find itself able to make either to reduce, here and there, some of the numerous executive charges; or to transfer, here and there, by way of experiment, some of the smaller irrigation works to the charge of the Civil Officers, under this Office Circular No. I of 1866, whereby the cost of repairs, &c., would be shown in the Civil Estimates, and proper accounts would be rendered accordingly.

No. 239. ORDER THEREON, 12th July 1866, No. 2,181.

ACCOUNT, No. 23.

Ordered that the following letter be sent:—

(Here enter No. 2,182, dated 12th July 1866.)

(True Extract.)

(signed) C. A. Clerk—Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

True Copy
Colonel R.E.
Secretary to Government

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

To
The Revenue Dept.
—"—Judicial—"—
With Copy of letter No. 2182 of 66

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
12*th July* 1866.

No. 2,182.

No. 240.
To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

ACCOUNT, No. 24.

1. In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 26th May 1866, No. 501A, which conveys the remarks of the Government of India on the observations which, under the instructions of this Government, I addressed to you in paragraphs 11, 12, and 13 of my letter No. 406 of the 1st February 1866, on the insufficiency of the Budget grant for the Public Works of this Presidency, I am directed to state that although, as you have pointed out, the aggregate assignments to Madras have unquestionably been made on a rather more liberal scale of late years, they have still not been increased in the same ratio as the demands upon them have multiplied with the rapid advancement of the country. In no part of India has the call for Public Works to meet the necessities of progress, or to suit the requirements of social, sanitary, and general improvement become more urgent than in this Presidency, and the assignment of money for supplying these works, always inadequate for the purpose, is now, although augmented in amount, more incommensurate than ever. It is, therefore, with no slight degree of disappointment that His Lordship the Governor in Council has observed the silence with which the Government of India have passed over the earnest application of this Government, for additional funds with which to carry on the construction of new Jails and the improvements that are pressingly required to be made to others to check the fearful mortality which has been taking place within them. The question of the immediate provision of more extensive and better Jail accommodation is too important to be permitted to rest here, and a further communication on the subject will accordingly be made to the Government of India by this Government in the Judicial Department. Meanwhile, the Government are glad to accept the assurance that, in making the next annual distribution of funds for Public Works, the Government of India will take into their most careful consideration the claims of this Presidency to a larger proportional share.

2. That a VERY much larger proportionate share is indeed required, may, this Government venture to think, be at once admitted, when it is seen that, from a total grant of seventy lacs, this Government, with every desire to give a preference to immediately productive and remunerative works, have yet been able to appropriate no more than four lacs to original irrigation works, although allotments to all other works were restricted to the narrowest limits, and the Government had before them *sanctioned* estimates to upwards of twenty lacs of Rupees for works

exclusively intended for the extension and improvement of irrigation, and all promising the usual very favorable returns of such works in this Presidency. This disposes of the misapprehension under which it is stated in your letter that the last Budget estimate showed that the preparation of estimates for (irrigation) works still lagged behind the supply of funds. So far from this being the case, the sum still to be provided to carry out estimates which have received the sanction of Government amounts to more than nineteen lacs of Rupees, or nearly to five years' appropriations to original works of irrigation on the scale on which, not without difficulty, money has been set aside for expenditure on works of that description in the current Budget. The only irrigation work that has been commenced without formally sanctioned estimate is the restoration of a fallen portion of the Lower Coleroon anicut, and that, being in the nature of an emergent repair, could not possibly be postponed for the submission of a regular estimate.

3. The Government of India point to a reduction in the charge for establishments in this Presidency as a source from which additional funds may be found for works, but this Government have on more than one occasion explained that they had no hopes of being able to effect any such reduction as would materially decrease the cost of superintendence. By a re-transfer to the Revenue Department of the care of minor works requiring no skilled supervision, including all ordinary works of irrigation, the Public Works Department might indeed be so much relieved as to make it possible to carry out some reductions, but nothing would be gained by this, unless, with the transfer of the works, the cost of the extra establishment which the Revenue authorities require for their management, be at the same time debited to that Department. Things have very much changed since the executive charge of all ordinary works was in the hands of the Civil officials, and now, owing to the enlarged areas of the Táluqs, and to the extended jurisdiction of the Tahsildars, those officers, with their reduced establishments, have imposed upon them so much labor as no longer to admit of their devoting any of their attention to Public Works, which would frequently necessitate their absence from the Cutcherries, where their duties, Magisterial and Revenue, are transacted, and occupy their time. Their influence amongst the people has also so much declined as no longer to give them the power to carry out works by means of village agency, and, as a special establishment for the management of those works, though formerly unnecessary, would therefore now be indispensable, the only effect of the change hinted at by the Government of India seems likely to be that it would shift a portion of the cost of Public Works supervision from one Department to another, and this, the Government conceive, would be tantamount to adopting the principle which they have advocated of making remunerative irrigation works self-supporting, by charging the cost of their maintenance against the Revenue derived from them. If the principle be thus conceded, and it is admitted that a special establishment for the executive management of these works must be maintained at the cost of one Department or the other, it is not easy to see what advantage would be gained by disturbing the present arrangement under which the supervision of all Public Works rests with the Officers of that Department.

4. It seems that the Government of India are under the impression that the cost of the establishments in this Presidency, as at present constituted, is comparatively heavier than of those in other parts of India, by reason of the peculiar distribution of executive charges into numerous Ranges of limited areas, instead of into a smaller number of Executive Divisions as elsewhere. This however can easily be shown not to be the case. The Statement in the margin, of the existing Executive Establishments under the Government of Bengal and in this Presidency, shows the numbers of Executive Officers of all classes in each case, and, taking the Civil salaries attached to each class and grade as the fairest means of drawing a comparison between the cost of the two, it will be seen that, notwithstanding the peculiar circumstances which render executive supervision in Madras especially difficult, the strength of the Establishment is less and its cost much less than in Bengal, while, relatively to the amounts of the Budget grants, there is but little difference. The causes of the nominally increased cost of the establishment of this Presidency were sufficiently explained in paragraph 10 of my letter, No. 406, dated 1st February 1866.

Bengal.	No.	Salary.
Executive Engineer, 1st Grade.	7	6,300
Do. 2nd do.	9	6,750
Do. 3rd do.	8	4,800
Do. 4th do.	12	6,000
		23,850
Assistant Engineer, 1st Grade.	12	4,800
Do. 2nd do.	15	4,500
Do. 3rd do.	7	1,400
		10,700
Sub-Engineer, 1st Grade ...	5	2,000
Do. 2nd do. ...	4	1,200
Do. 3rd do. ...	9	2,250
Supervisor, 1st Grade	13	2,600
Do. 2nd do.	22	3,300
Overseer, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Grades	87	7,660
Sub-Overseer	128	4,000
		23,010
		57,560 12
Per annum.		6,90,720

Madras.	No.	Salary.
Executive Engineer, 1st Grade.	5	4,500
Do. 2nd do.	6	4,500
Do. 3rd do.	7	4,200
Do. 4th do.	8	4,000
		17,200
Assistant Engineer, 1st Grade.	9	3,600
Do. 2nd do.	17	5,100
		8,700
Sub-Engineer, 1st Grade ...	4	1,600
Do. 2nd do.	3	900
Do. 3rd do.	7	1,750
Supervisor, 1st Grade	15	3,000
Do. 2nd do.	26	3,900
187 Overseers....		11,820
		22,370
		48,270 12
		5,79,240

5. The present division of this Presidency into Ranges originated with the organization of the Department some ten years ago, and having been found to work both conveniently and economically, was not interfered with when the Department was re-organized in 1863 on a reduced scale. On this point I am directed to call the attention of the Government of India to paragraphs 8 and 9 of my letter of the 25th October 1864, No. 3,070.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

List of 31st July

5

Jud'l 1866. Department.

No. 2181

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

P. W. Deptt

Dated 12 July/66
Rec'd 14 July/66

Enclosure

1518

Forwarding papers in regard to representations being made by the Civil Dept to the Jud'l Authorities regarding the non-existence of provision of better and accommodation therein for the Police Establishment stationed in the Presidency—

231-232.

Press No. 2755, G. M.—14-11-65—500.