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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 30-6-57

G.O. No. 1238 Press Mis.

12-18

Dated 25—6—1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

now entered in English above the signature of that functionary, as passed. This will enable the Tahsildars to pay at once the Abstracts in question upon a general Takeed to be issued by the Collector in each instance of an Officer being located in or near to the Talook.

7. I mentioned to the Civil Auditor that the latter arrangement will be only a temporary one, as I intended proposing to Government to issue orders to the several Collectors that in filling up future vacancies in the Talook Establishments one or more Servants who may understand English, in addition to the language of the country, must be entertained. This measure will in course of a short time, and by degrees, secure each Talook having a person who understands English on its Establishment, and thus remove the necessity for the entry in vernacular just above adverted to. I have also added in my letter to the Civil Auditor that even now there are a few Tahsildars, who understand English, which fact may be ascertained and the proposed Note in vernacular omitted where such is the case.

* Not to mention the other advantages which would result from the introduction of such Servants into the Talook Establishments

8. The Civil Auditor in giving his concurrence to my suggestions has added, that although the second point will to a certain extent materially affect the speedy Audit of Bills, and entail additional labour on his Assistants, yet, as it will be only a temporary measure and it will be highly beneficial to the Department Public Works, he will be prepared to carry out the change.

9. If the Government be pleased to sanction the above proposals generally, I shall have the honor of issuing the necessary instructions* to the Collectors, and also furnish sufficient number of copies thereof to the Chief Engineer for communication to the District Engineers, and also to other Engineer Officers concerned. The Civil Auditor will likewise be furnished with copies of these instructions as desired by him.

* Embracing such subsidiary arrangements as may be needful to carry the measure into effect and for reservation or supply of Funds in Talooks for the purpose of meeting the demand in question.

The Government approve the arrangements proposed by the Accountant General for remedying the inconvenience brought to notice by the Civil Auditor in regard to the late receipt of their Salaries by Officers of the Department of Public Works stationed at a distance from the Hoozoor Station, and desire that the necessary instructions be issued to the Collectors of the several Districts.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 18. ORDER THEREON, No. 1233; dated 25th June 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue for information.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 320.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 6th June 1857.

Read again letter from the Civil Auditor, dated 16th, and recorded in Diary to Consultation of the 20th January 1857.

Read also letter

From G. L. PRENDERGAST, Esq., Accountant General; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated 22nd May 1857, No. 22.

SIR,

1. In the letter from the Civil Auditor, dated the 16th January last, forwarded for my report by an Order of Government of the same date, he brought to the notice of Government the inconvenience experienced by Officers of the Department of Public Works, stationed at a distance from the Huzoor Station of a Collector, by reason of the irregularity and lateness of the receipt of their Salaries, in consequence of their passed Bills being required to be forwarded to the Sudr Station for the order for payment being endorsed thereon by the Collector. In mitigation of this evil the Civil Auditor proposes that, if unobjectionable on other grounds, the Tassildars may be authorized to cash an Audited Abstract, on presentation, without the endorsement of the Collector's order to pay.

No. 2103.

No. 33.

2. I have the honor to report for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council that I addressed a Circular of enquiry to the Collectors on the subject. Most of them in reply have stated that no such complaints of inconvenience, as those alluded to by the Civil Auditor, have been ever made to them, and that after the receipt by them of the Audited Abstracts from the District Engineers no delay has been allowed in the payment thereof, either from the Huzoor or Talook Treasuries.

On the 26th January 1857.

3. The system under which the Salaries of the Officers in the Department of Public Works have been discharged hitherto by Collectors, appears to be nearly the same in all the Districts.

4. The District Engineer forwards to the Collector one General Abstract passed, containing the Salaries of all the Officers and Establishments of his Department, with a letter or Memorandum specifying what portion of the amount is required to be paid from the Talooks, and what portion at the Huzoor, and also whether any Bills are required on the Accountant General, and for what sums. The Collector sends accordingly written orders for the payment of the amount, as required, from the Huzoor and Talook Treasuries respectively, and also for the grant of Bills. When no funds are available in Talook Treasuries, he remits money from the Huzoor for that purpose.

5. Although there may be difficulty in the matter according to the present practice observed in the Districts and explained by the Collectors, yet certain measures appeared to me to be feasible, in view to remedy the inconvenience brought to notice by the Civil Auditor. Before submitting these measures for the consideration and final orders of Government, I thought it advisable to refer* the proposal to the Civil Auditor, who has since given† his concurrence thereto.

* *On the 4th May* 1857.

† *On the 5th Do.*

6. These measures are:

1stly. That each Engineer Officer, the payment of whose Salary and Establishment is required to be disbursed from a *Talook* Treasury of a Collector, be desired to prepare *a separate* Abstract for the same, and send it to the Civil Auditor (through the District Engineer as usual), *noting* on the *face of it* that the amount is required to be disbursed from the said *Talook Treasury*. This Abstract, when passed, is to be returned by the Civil Auditor to the *Officer* who *signed* the *Abstract*.

2ndly. The Tassildars generally do not understand English, and the Collectors are therefore averse to give orders to them to discharge the passed Abstracts without a specific Takeed* in each instance from the Collectors. It is desirable that in passing the Abstracts in the Civil Auditor's

* *Or Order.*

Office in all those cases † in which they are to be disbursed from Talook Treasuries, the Amount passed, the substance of the Voucher in brief, and the Name of the party to whom the Amount passed is to be disbursed, be entered in red ink in Tamil‡ or Teloogoo‡ in the Office of the Civil Auditor, in addition to the words now entered in English above the signature of that functionary, as passed. This will enable the Tassildars to pay at once the Abstracts in question upon a general Takeed to be issued by the Collector in each instance of an Officer being located in or near to the Talook.

† *Which will be noted on the face of the Abstracts by the drawers thereof.*

‡ *With reference to the general language of the District.*

7. I mentioned to the Civil Auditor that the latter arrangement will be only a temporary one, as I intended proposing to Government to issue orders to the several Collectors that in filling up future vacancies in the Talook Establishments one or more Servants who may understand English, in addition to the language of the country, must be entertained. This measure will in course of a short time, and by degrees, secure each Talook having a person who understands English on its Establishment, and thus remove the necessity for the entry in vernacular just above adverted to. I have also added in my letter to the Civil Auditor that even now there are a few Tassildars, who understand English, which fact may be ascertained and the proposed Note in vernacular omitted where such is the case.

* *Not to mention the other advantages which would result from the introduction of such Servants into the Talook Establishments.*

8. The Civil Auditor in giving his concurrence to my suggestions has added, that although the second point will to a certain extent materially affect the speedy Audit of Bills, and entail additional labour on his Assistants, yet, as it will be only a temporary measure and it will be highly beneficial to the Department Public Works, he will be prepared to carry out the change.

9. If the Government be pleased to sanction the above proposals generally, I shall have the honor of issuing the necessary instructions* to the Collectors, and also furnish sufficient number of copies thereof to the Chief Engineer for communication to the District Engineers, and also to other Engineer Officers concerned. The Civil Auditor will likewise be furnished with copies of these instructions as desired by him.

* *Embracing such subsidiary arrangements as may be needful to carry the measure into effect and for reservation or supply of Funds in Talooks for the purpose of meeting the demand in question.*

(Signed) G. L. PRENDERGAST,
Accountant General.

The Government approve the arrangements proposed by the Accountant General for remedying the inconvenience brought to notice by the Civil Auditor in regard to the late receipt of their Salaries by Officers of the Department of Public Works stationed at a distance from the Huzzoor Station, and desire that the necessary instructions be issued to the Collectors of the several Districts.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Accountant General.
" Civil Auditor.
" Public Works Department.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Pub. Wks. York 1857. 9 4/10
Dft to Cons 30th June.
No 1235

Extract from the Minutes of Council in the Financial Department

Dated 16th June 1857

Recd 17th June 1857

Read Letter Lieut Col Jervois 22nd June 1857 No 330
Read Letter Lieut Col Bruce 23rd June 1857 No 130 Civ

Approving of the arrangement proposed by the Accountant General for remedying the inconvenience in regard to the late receipt of their salaries by Officers of the R.I.R.V. Stationed at a distance from the Engineer Station, and desiring that the necessary instructions be issued to the Collectors of the several Districts.

No 1238. 25th June

William Hedley C.

No 17+18.

No 1238

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue for information

Fort St George
25th June 1857

Copy to the Bd of Rev. Circ No 26.