1. Number of pages: 1-10
State of repair.
Lists of References.
M.R.O. 1—82 400—29-11-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 11-5-57

G.O. No.	1548	Press Mis.
57.68 Dated	8—8—	18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

26.7.57

No. 67. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 1st August 1857, No. 2611.

SIR,

I regret to have to report for the information of Government that owing to the non-receipt of returns from certain Districts in the Mofussil, I am altogether unable to complete the annual Progress report now overdue for the past season of 1856-57 within the time prescribed by the Government of India.

2. A timely special demand for the requisite documents was made on the several local Officers in a Circular order of the 8th of April last; and fixing the 25th of May for the transmission of the returns, the 31st Idem was assigned as the very latest allowable date.

3. From the experience already obtained in the two previous years, it was confidently believed that no difficulty would be experienced by the local Officers in preparing the return for the third year of 1856-57; and if my expectations had been fulfilled, it would have been easily within my own power to complete the General return within the prescribed date for transmission to the Government of India.

4. It is my painful duty to acquaint you that out of the 28 returns receivable, only 2 had come to hand by the 31st of May last.

5. The references in the margin exhibit the dates of further reminders circulated to the witholding Officers; and in one of these appeals it was distinctly pointed out that one of the most important documents required by the Government of India being thus kept back by delays in the Provinces, I should be under the disagreeable necessity of reporting the circumstances for the information of His Lordship in Council, unless the returns should be sent in forthwith to the Central office.

18th June 1857
29th do. „
8th July „

6. I have the honor to report that up to this time no returns have been received from the following Officers:

1st. The Collector of Tanjore.
2nd. The Collector of Malabar.
3rd. The District Engineer of Nellore.
4th. The District Engineer of Bellary.

7. Revised accounts have been called for, and I hope shortly to receive them, from the District Engineer of South Arcot and from the Superintending Engineer Hyderabad Subsidiary Force; and I avail myself of the occasion to place before Government the letters cited in the margin* in explanation of the non submission of the returns at the appointed time.

* District Engr. of Tanjore dated 2nd July No. 48.
Collector of Malabar dated 16th July No. 2323.
To be obligingly returned.

8. In conclusion I have only to assure the Government that the returns are dealt with the very moment they are received in the Central office; and that so soon as the whole of the local returns shall have reached me, they will be tabulated without delay into one General Statement agreeably to the instructions of the Government of India, and forwarded to you in a complete shape with all practicable expedition.

No. 68. ORDER THEREON, No. 1548; dated 8th August 1857.

It appears from the Chief Engineer's letter above recorded, that the non-receipt of returns from certain Districts in the Mofussil prevents him from completing the annual Progress Report now overdue from him for 1856-57. This Report ought to have been submitted to the Government of India by the 31st July; and it is to be regretted that these delays should occur in almost every year. This circumstance clearly shews that very little attention is paid by the Executive Officers in the keeping of the detailed accounts of expenditure upon works according to the forms furnished by Government; for if the accounts were properly and regularly kept, there would be no difficulty in the timely preparation of the Progress reports. The present

state of things is unsatisfactory; and the Government must insist that the local Officers pay more attention to the system of accounts, and take proper steps for the punctual submission of their Periodical returns.

2. The Collectors of Tanjore and Malabar and the District Engineers of Nellore and Bellary from whom the Reports are stated to be still due will be requested to send them within a fortnight from the date of this order. Should there be any further delay in the receipt of these Reports, the Chief Engineer will bring it to the notice of Government.

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

3N

Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George
1st August 1857.

No. 2644.

From
The Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary
to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

I regret to have to report for the information of Government that owing to the non receipt of Returns from certain Districts in the Mofussil, I am altogether unable to complete the Annual Progress Report now overdue for the past season of 1856/57 within the time prescribed by the Government of India. —

2 A timely special demand for the requisite documents was made on the several local Officers in a Circular order of the 8th of April last; and fixing the 25th of May for the transmission of the Returns, the 31st Idem was assigned as the very latest allowable date. —

3 From ~~two~~ experience already obtained in the two previous years it was confidently believed that no difficulty would be experienced by the Local Officers in preparing the Returns for the third year of 1856/57; and if my expectations had been fulfilled it would have been easily within my own power to complete the General Return within the prescribed

date

date for transmission to the Government of India.

4 It is my painful duty to acquaint you that out of the 28 Returns receivable, only 2 had come to hand by the 31st of July last.

5 The references in the margin exhibit the dates of previous communications to the withholding Officers; and in one of these letters it was distinctly pointed out that one of the most important documents required by the Government of India being thus kept back by delays in the Provinces, I should be under the disagreeable necessity of reporting the circumstances for the information of His Lordship in Council, unless the Returns should be sent in forthwith to the Central Office. —

10th June
29th do.
8th July. } 1857

6 I have the honor to report that up to this time no Returns have been received from the following Officers:

1st The Collector of Tanjore
2nd The Collector of Madalaur
3rd The District Engineer of Nellore
4th The District Engineer of Bellary

7 Revised Accounts have been called for, and I hope shortly to receive them from the District Engineer of South Arcot and from the Superintending Engineer of Madras, and I will myself endeavour to explain the occasion of these documents and the letters cited in the margin as explanation of the non submission of the Returns at the appointed time.

District Engineer of Tanjore dated 22nd July
Collector of Madalaur dated 28th July

Paid Postage
Rupees Annas

8 In conclusion I have only to assure the Government that the Returns are dealt with the very moment they are received in the Central Office, and that so soon as the whole of the Local Returns shall have reached me, they will be tabulated without delay into one General Statement agreeably to the instructions of the Government of India, and forwarded to you in a complete shape with all practicable expedition. —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

A.H. Baker Colonel
Chief Engineer

Central Office of P.W.D.
Fort Saint George
1st August 1857.

Conded
AHB

P. W. D.

No. 1548

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 8th August 1859.

Read the following

Letter from the Chief Engr.

(Hereunder 1st August 1859
No. 2611.)

It appears from the
Chief Engineer's letter above
recorded that the non-receipt
of returns from certain Dis-
tricts in the Mofussil pre-
vents him from completing
the annual Progress Report
now overdue from him for
1858/59. This Report ought
to have been submitted to the
Government of India by the

31st

Read the following
Letter from the Chief Engr.
dated 1st August 1859
No. 2611.

Ordered that
Executive Engineer
be informed that
Engineer's letter
dated 1st August 1859
No. 2611 has been
received.

Ordered that the Commanding Officer
be informed that the
Engineer may
proceed with the
as he may think
necessary for the
Service.

Copy to Supt.

31st July, and it is to be re-
gretted that these delays
should occur in almost every
year. The circumstances
clearly shows that very little
attention is paid by the Ex-
ecutive officers in the
keeping of the detailed
accounts of expenditure
upon works according to the
forms furnished by Govern-
ment, for if the accounts
were properly and regularly
kept, there would be no
difficulty in the timely
preparation of the Progress
reports. The present state
of things is unsatisfactory,
and the Government must
insist that the Local officers
pay more attention to the
system of accounts, and take
proper steps for the punc-
tual submission of their
Periodical returns.

2 The Collectors of
Tanjore and Malabar and
the District Engineers of
Nellore and Bellary from
whom the Reports are stated
to be still due will be requested
to send them within a fortnight
from the date of this order.
Should there be any further
delay in the receipt of these
reports, the Chief Engineer
will bring it to the notice of
Government.

57 Copies to the Chief Engr. with 4 Encls. Disp. 10.
1 — Coll. of Tanjore ✓
1 — " Malabar ✓
1 Dy. Engr. Nellore ✓
1 — " — Bellary ✓

Public Works 1857 - Sch. K.
Do to Aug. 11th 1858 August

No 1548.

Extract Ellis of Cairo
Dated 2 August 57.

Enclosing that the Board
Officers &c. Offering more Land than
is the system of Canal taking
into Sch. K. for the purchase,
examination of their proposals
Plans &c. &c. and stating the Conditions
of Tenders and Notices given to
Public Engineer for Advertising &c.
to send on their Proposals with a
Letter from the Clerk of the
Board

No 56 - 58

24 Aug. 57 No 6