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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Public works.* DEPARTMENT.

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| G.O. No. | 1412    | Press          |
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| Dated    | 3 - 6 - | 1863.          |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
3rd June 1863.*

No. 69. Read the following Circular from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, with the Governor General, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 28th April 1863, No. 9:—

Read the following Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 28th April 1863.  
*Local Fund Administration in the Punjab.*

Read the following papers:—

Letter No. 8,091, dated 30th March 1863, from the Secretary to the Government of the Punjab in the Public Works Department, with enclosures.

"I see clearly that it will not be possible for the Officer who holds the post of Judicial Commissioner long to retain the duty of supervision; as regards the works of the Imperial Budget, he is but a channel of communication; as regards the Local Funds, he is only nominally controller. At the same time, the Judicial Commissioner is head Judge, final court of appeal, and minister of justice of a large province, and with the new codes will have his hands very full. I would propose that the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, take the immediate control, with a personal Assistant solely for Civil works and Local Funds; such an Officer should not be professional, but one intimately acquainted with the administrative routine of public works; and no one would be so fit as Mr. R. Haviland, the present Superintendent of my Office. His pay should be provided in the Local Fund Budget."

OBSERVATIONS.—His Excellency the Governor General observes that the Punjab Government, in sending up a Report on the works executed in 1861-62 from Local Funds, proposes to transfer the management of these funds for the future, from the Judicial Commissioner, to the Public Works Secretary. Of the propriety of this step, which is also strongly advocated by Mr. Cust, the present Judicial Commissioner, in paragraph 211\* of his Report, there can be no doubt, and His Excellency approves of the arrangement being carried out.

2. To assist the Public Works Secretary in disposing of the business connected with the Local Funds, the Punjab Government proposes to transfer to his Office the Establishment heretofore at the disposal of the Judicial Commissioner for this duty. It consists of an Assistant,

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| † 1 on ... | Rs. 150 |
| 1 " ... "  | 100     |
| 1 " ... "  | 75      |
| 1 " ... "  | 50      |
| Total ...  | Rs. 375 |

Mr. Haviland, who has till now received Rupees 500 a month, and four Clerks on salaries aggregating Rupees 375.† It is desired to make Mr. Haviland an Assistant to the Public Works Secretary to dispose of the local business, giving him Rupees 600 per month. This charge with that of the Clerks

will be borne by the Local Funds, which for the year 1863-64 are estimated to yield about 23½ lakhs.

3. The Punjab Government also suggests that Mr. Haviland be appointed a *personal* Assistant to the Secretary. But the force of this epithet is not exactly understood, and it is deemed sufficient that he be designated as Assistant to the Secretary, Public Works Department, Local Funds Branch. With this slight change, the Governor General approves of the transfer of the Establishment.

4. His Excellency the Governor General desires to express his satisfaction at the attention which the Punjab Government pays to this branch of its administration, and to observe that all necessary support will be readily afforded in carrying into effect any further measures which may be found necessary for completing, on a thoroughly sound basis, the organization necessary for the satisfactory application of the Local Funds to the purposes to which they are by rights devoted; that is to ensure, in the first place, the expenditure of the money to the best advantage, and in the second, the provision of a sufficient system of account and audit, to prevent waste and check the misappropriation of this local revenue.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
3rd June 1863.*

5. Paragraph 212 of Mr. Cust's report, quoted in the margin, appears to His Excellency

"Against the abuse of Local Funds—which are Trust Funds—we cannot too closely guard. It is positively dishonest to misapply the road and municipal funds, which belong to the landowners and citizens; as regards the local agency, ferry, prison labor, and forest funds, of course Government possess an unlimited discretion; but I am decidedly opposed to such projects as canal trains and mile trains for the convenience of European officers, lavish expenditure on sanitarium, and public gardens. I do not like to see little supplemental grants to increase the salaries of servants of Government. At the same time the Local Committees should pay for what they take, give full compensation from their own funds for land occupied, and pay the canal authorities for water which they require for their own gardens."

to call for special attention, in reference to these observations, as pointing to the necessity for establishing a proper system of Local Funds audit. The attention of the other Local Governments and Administrations should be directed to the caution conveyed by Mr. Cust, and the importance of the question of providing some regular system of audit for these funds should be noted, as making it desirable that the subject should receive early attention in the Financial Department of the Government of India.

6. The Governor General desires to acknowledge the manner in which these funds have hitherto been administered by Mr. Cust, and requests that the thanks of the Government of India may be conveyed to him on his relinquishment of the duty. His Excellency desires also to notice the services of Mr. Haviland, which have earned the commendation of the Local Government.

ORDERED, that the foregoing observations be communicated to the Government of the Punjab, with reference to its letter No. 8,091, dated 30th March last.

To the Financial Department for the purpose indicated in paragraph 3.

Governments of Bengal and N. W. P.  
Chief Commissioners of Oudh, Central Provinces, and  
British Burmah.  
Governor Straits Settlements.  
Resident at Hyderabad.  
Commissioner of Mysore.

To the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, with reference to paragraph 5.

And to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, and to the Public Works Department at the Presidency for information.

(Signed) R. STRACHEY, Lieutenant-Colonel, R. E.,  
Secy. to the Govt. of India with the Govr. General.

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, 3rd June 1863, No. 1,412.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineers of Divisions for information.

(Signed) W. L. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,  
Secretary to Government.

CIRCULAR No. 9 of 1863.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE RIGHT HON'BLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL  
OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,  
Simla, 28th April 1863.

General.

*Local Fund Administration in the Punjab.*

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*W. H. Murray* Lieut. Col., R. E.  
Secy. to the Govt. of India with the Govr. Genl.

*The Secy. to the Govt. of Madras*  
*P. H. Dept.*

