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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3391	Press ~~Mis.~~
427-28	
Dated 21. 10. 1967.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

112

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st October 1869.*

No. 427. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Financial Department:—

Passing orders on the Budget-Estimate of the } (Here enter 12th October 1869, No. 477.)
Stationery Depot for 1870-71.

No. 428. ORDER THEREON, 21st October 1869, No. 3,391.

ACCOUNT, No. 39.

COMMUNICATED for the information
and guidance of the under-mentioned
officers:—

Superintending Engineers.

Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Do. for Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

Major R. B. Kennedy.

Controller of Public Works Accounts.

General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops.

Officer in charge of Operations at Cochin.

2. Major Shaw Stewart will furnish the report called for in paragraph 6.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To Superintending Engineers.

To the Consulting Engineer for Railways.

Do. for Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

To Major R. B. Kennedy.

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts:

„ General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops.

„ Officer in charge of Operations at Cochin.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
12th October 1869.

No. 30. Read the following letter from the Deputy Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, in charge of Ordnance Office, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Fort Saint George, 1st October 1869, No. 201-G.

Ordnance Department.]

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of Proceedings of Government, dated 1st September 1869, No. 400, returning, on certain grounds, the estimate of the Stationery Depôt for 1870-71, for revision.

2. That document was accordingly forwarded to the Superintendent of Stationery, who has furnished full explanation as to the impracticability of reducing his estimate. I enclose copy of his letter, dated 24th September 1869, No. 377, which thoroughly explains the difficulty under which he labours, in carrying out the wishes of Government; and, concurring in the correctness of the statements therein made, I beg to submit the same with my strong recommendation that the Stationery budget may be permitted to stand as at first prepared, unless Government can pass such orders as will reduce the demands of the Civil Departments, and Government Press, to an extent sufficient to carry out the wished-for reductions.

—

From the Acting Superintendent of Stationery, to the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines,
dated Fort Saint George, 24th September 1869, No. 377.

Having received with your foot-note, No. 2939, of 4th instant, Proceedings of Madras Government, dated 1st idem, No. 400, forwarding, for revision, my budget-estimate for 1870-71, I have the honour to state that a careful revision has been made of each item estimated for.

2. The Government has recorded its opinion that the estimate alluded to should not exceed the average of the actuals for 1867-68 and 1868-69; viz., about Rupees 1,08,000, or Rupees 6442 less than the amount budgeted for.

3. If the amount budgeted for had been for the purchase of articles for the use of my own department, or for departments under my orders or control, a peremptory order from me for the curtailment of stationery expenditure would have been possible; but my criticism of indents involves only pointing out errors in calculations, differences of averages from those of previous years, and demands unauthorized by Government orders, or for articles which have not lasted the regulated period. This criticism, which has been carried out with strictness and diligence, has resulted in large savings to the State; but it does not affect the vast majority of the articles demanded by offices, such as the Board of Revenue, the High Court, &c., &c., which have the control of indents of their subordinate departments.

4. Moreover, if the action of Government limited the establishment of offices to an average of previous years, and if that action also limited the expenditure of stationery of these offices to a similar average, then, I could have a certain and economical basis on which to estimate my budget. But a contrary principle obtains regarding both of these important subjects. Forty-four new offices marginally enumerated received stationery from me for the first time, in the last of the two years on which the average is suggested to be fixed: and as will be seen from the statement underneath, which affects two of the older establishments only, the quantity of stationery supplied to each, was in the last, much in excess of that of the first,

1. Chief Engr. for Irrigation works.
1. Registrar of Books.
1. Government Pleader.
8. Barrack Masters at out-stations.
12. Additional Superintendent of Vaccination
18. New Meteorological Establishments at out-stations.
3. Lock-Hospitals and Health Office, Madras, for six months only.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
12th October 1869.*

of these years. The tendency evidently appears to be both to increase the number of Civil Offices and to increase the supply of stationery to those already in existence :—

	For 1868-69.	For 1869-70.
<i>Revenue Board's General Indents.</i>		
French paper, 1st sort Reams	1,651	3,281
Do. 2nd „ „	10,073	18,329
Country Foolscap „	636	1,274
Do. Cartridge „	13	27
Glue lbs.	686	899
Bengal Twine „	530	1,087
Printing-ink „	990	1,782
<i>Government Press.</i>		
Country Cartridge Reams	...	71
Do. Demy „	18	29
Glue lbs.	680	800
Country Pasteboards No.	7,000	9,000

5. I beg also to bring to notice that the estimate for local purchases, in 1870-71, includes a sum of Rupees 3500, (more than half of the amount which it is proposed to cut from my budget,) to enable me to comply with Order of Government, No. 881, of 22nd July last, for the purpose of purchasing black-ink powders locally, instead of indenting for them, as heretofore, on England.

6. One other item alone, amounting to Rupees 2063-7-4, being freight for stationery which was expected to arrive in 1868-69, and estimated for accordingly, but which was actually included in actuals for the year 1869-70, on account of delay in despatch from England, will, together with the Rupees 3500 alluded to in the preceding paragraph, and the hire of 157 boats employed in landing the delayed stationery, nearly balance the proposed reduction of Rupees 6442 from my budget.

7. There is only one other point which I would wish here to notice. It has been supposed that the extension of railway communication would reduce charges for conveyance of stationery; but the fact is that these charges are in some instances *increased*, instead of being *diminished*. For instance, the sum previously paid for the conveyance of 12 maunds from this to Trichinopoly was, by country cart, about Rupees 12, whereas the same by rail now costs Rupees 18-2-0.

8. Under the foregoing circumstances, I deem it to be my duty to re-submit my budget-estimate as it stood before. It was made out with anxious and economical care. Should, however, you or Government still think that a reduction should be made, it can, of course, be effected by a proportionate reduction in the reserve ordered to be kept up to meet unexpected demands, or delays in supply; but in that case, I anticipate that I shall be obliged to have recourse to the local market for sudden supplies, in which case, advantage will naturally be taken, by the few vendors of stationery, to enhance the price; and consequently a loss, instead of a gain, be the result.

9. I have candidly explained how matters really stand, and I trust that I may not incur blame for the course which I have most respectfully adopted.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 12th October 1869, No. 477.

The Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines will be informed that the Government see no reason for reconsidering their Order, dated the 1st September last, No. 400, directing that the budget-estimate of the Stationery Depot for 1870-71 be reduced from Rupees 1,14,422 to Rupees 1,08,000. The present state of the finances imperatively calls for reduction of expenditure in all departments, and every effort should be made by Heads of Departments to that end.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
12th October 1869.*

2. The Superintendent of Stationery has ample time to arrange for meeting the deficit in the budget-estimate for 1870-71. He should at once intimate to Heads of Departments that their requisitions for stationery for 1870-71 must be limited to what is absolutely necessary, and that the most rigid economy should be exercised by them during the current year in the expenditure of stationery.

3. The attention of the Board of Revenue will be drawn to the very large supplies of stationery indented for by them in 1869-70, as compared with 1868-69, and they will be requested to impress upon all departments under their control the necessity for keeping the expenditure of stationery within the narrowest limits.

4. Heads of Departments generally should see that the stock of stationery in hand, in their respective offices, is correctly taken, and that their indents are carefully framed with reference to that stock, and the actual requirements of the departments.

5. With rigid economy in all departments the Government are of opinion that the budget assignment for 1870-71 will be found sufficient to meet the requirements of the year.

6. Paragraph 7 of the letter from the Acting Superintendent of Stationery will be communicated to the Consulting Engineer for Railways, and he will be requested to ascertain and report the cause of the Railway charges for stationery sent from Madras to Trichinopoly exceeding by fifty per cent. the cost by country cart. Pending the Consulting Engineer's report, the Superintendent of Stationery will despatch stationery up-country by carts.

(True Extract.)

W. H. Wright
Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines.
 „ Accountant General, with the estimate.
 „ Revenue Board.
 „ Revenue Department.
 „ Military do.
 „ Public-Works do.
 „ Heads of Offices in the Departments under the Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Wright.

200 copies will follow

1041 10669 20445
 Genl. of 11869 20445
 20445 3066
 FINANCIAL.

To

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF
 ORDINANCE AND MAGAZINES.

Ac, 60, 2

Postal October, 12th.

Recd. " 18 "

1041

G. O., 12th October 1869, No. 477

CC10322.
 Nos. 33-31.

Passing orders on the subject-estimate
 Stationery Dept for 1870-71.

No 33391-21st Oct 1869

With an order

33391
 No 33391

Communicated for the in-
 formation to guidance of the
 and subordinate officers.

1st supply furnished
 to Can: Supply for October 1st
 to for in 1st Oct. 1869
 by Mr H. Kennedy
 Can: Supply
 Genl Supply of 1869 & 1870
 or 1870
 Officer in charge of operations
 at Can: Supply

Major Adams & Son with
 furnish the highest rated for in Can:
 173 2nd Oct 1869
 22nd Oct 1869
 22nd Oct 1869

Puc 4366
Govt. of 1869 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To *The Superintending Eng^{rs}*

Dated

Recd.

G. O. 21st Oct 1869 N. 3351

Nos. 127-428

*Budget Estimate of the Statutory Deficit
for 1870-71- and the
Bills concerned*