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(1) Number of pages 17

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1823 Press Mis.

176-77

Dated 9 6 1879.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 90 A.—I.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Account.
Irrigation

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS, IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation Branch

SIMLA, 18TH MAY 1869.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 487, dated 13th February last, submitting a set of Rules framed by the Local Government for the audit of the Accounts of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, and with reference thereto to make the following observations.

Rule VI.—The payment of receipts into Government Treasury.—This rule, as proposed by the Government of Madras, requires that "all tolls revenue, and revenue from town supply" shall, if collected by the Company's Officers, be paid into the Treasury. But it would have been better if it had been laid down that *all* receipts, with certain exceptions, (distinctly specified) should be paid into Treasury. As it is, all receipts for the value of stores sold, and all miscellaneous receipts, in fact all receipts realized by the Company, excepting those specially reserved under the contract, should be paid into the Government Treasury as realized. The Company should be placed in funds for expenditure only by the Madras Government and the Secretary of State.

Rule IX.—The comparison of entries in the books of the Company, and of Government.—It would be well to state clearly that the information required to check the Company's Accounts in respect to advances from, and payments into, Government Treasuries, is to be obtained from the Provincial Accountant General, through the Consulting Engineer; and the form in which the required information is to be given should be laid down as has been done in the corresponding Railway Audit Rule.

Rule XIV.—Distribution of charges on Capital and Revenue—This rule might be modified as follows:—A large part of the fixed charges for establishments will have to be distributed between Construction and Revenue by the needful entries in the Cash-book or Journal. The Examiner will see that this is done periodically, monthly if possible, according to the proportions approved of by Government.

Rule XXI.—Depreciation of general plant.—The Government of Madras require that the Examiner shall see that the amount to be debited to works on account of the depreciation of general plant is brought into the accounts of the last month of the official year. In the present case this does not appear necessary, as the whole of the expenditure and works of the Company are dealt with as belonging to one Capital Account.

Rule XXII.—Copies of the additional forms required by this rule, should be submitted for the information of the Government of India.

Rule XXVII.—Authority for work charges.—In this rule it is laid down that the authority for all work charges will be the sanction of the Local Government. The rule may stand, but it must be considered as open to revision, if, when the canals are brought into use, it should be thought necessary for the Government of India to lay down specific rules for regulating the sanction of expenditure, such as are now in force on the several guaranteed Railways which have been open for traffic more than two years.

Rules XXX and XXXIX.—According to these rules, objectionable charges should be retained as inefficient balance. This course is not approved of by the Government of India. The total expenditure of each month must be brought forward for Government audit, and any item of expenditure incurred without sanction, which is not approved of by the Consulting Engineer, or is beyond his powers of sanction, should at once be written back to a head "Items disallowed by Government" as provided for in Artls. XXXVIII to XLI of the Railway Audit Rules as amended by Public Works Department Resolution No. 8 A.—R, dated 31st October 1867.

Rule XXXII—Half-yearly Revenue Accounts—The submission by the Company of half-yearly Revenue accounts as required by the contract is approved of, and if the Madras Government cannot obtain the decision of the Board of Directors regarding the form of the Revenue Account, the Consulting Engineer should be directed to prepare a form of Revenue Account, following, as far as practicable, that suggested by Colonel Strachey in his report already sent to the Madras Government, to be adopted at once, and to be used, subject to revision when propositions from the Board have been received.

2. A complete set of the forms which it is proposed to bring into use should be submitted for the information and approved of the Government of India.

3. The proposed redistribution of the Consulting Engineer's Office to provide the establishment required for the audit of the accounts of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company is approved of by the Government of India. But the carriage allowance of Rs. 50 per month to the Examiner, which has been sanctioned by the Government of Madras, is apparently unnecessary. The Examiner will probably not have to attend at the Irrigation Company's Office more than three or four days each month, and it is very unlikely that on those days he will visit the Railway Office also. But if any extra remuneration is to be given for the additional work, it should be given as pay, and not as carriage allowance It is to be observed, however, that, even with the additional work of auditing the accounts of the Irrigation Company, the duties of the Examiner of Railway Accounts at Madras will not be so onerous as those of the Examiners in Bengal and Bombay.

4. With reference to rule XLI, I am to remark that the Financial Department will be requested to direct the Accountant General, Madras, to render his Capital and Revenue Accounts of the Company to the Secretary of State, and to the Financial and Public Works Departments of the Government of India, monthly instead of quarterly, as laid down in the Madras Rules.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. Strachey *Colonel, R E,*

Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Irrigation Public Works Department

No. 1873

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 6th Jan 69.

Read the following

&

From The Offg Secy to the Govt of India, P.W. Dept. No. 90 A.—I. dated 18th May 1869

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company with reference to the Proceedings of Govt No. 486 of the 13th Feb 1869.

Major Mullins special attention will be drawn to the observations on Rules VI, XIV, XXI, XXVII, XXX and XXXIX, and he will take measures for giving effect to the rules

Ir. Dept. 1869

No: of Letter for Myre 4th 2254

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT

Irrigation

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS,
IN THE P W. DEPT

No 90 A—I.

Dated Simla, 18*th May* 1869

Received 29th

order of the Govt of India.

Regarding Rule IX, the
Consulting Engineer will
state the form or which
the information required
to check the Company's
Accounts should be given
and he will furnish
the copies of additional
forms referred to against
Rule XXII as well as the
list of forms called for
in para 2.

With reference to the
observation on Rule XXXII
the Cons Engr will be

supplied with a copy of
Colonel Strachey's report
on the subject of Revenue
Accounts for Irrigation
works, and he will furn-
ish a form of Revenue
Account for adoption by
the Officers of the Madras
Irrigation and Canal
Company.

The Consulting Engr will
observe that the Carriage
allowance of Rs. 50 per
mensem sanctioned by
this Govt for the Ex-
aminer of Railway
Accounts has been
objected to by the Govt
of India. That allow-
ance will accordingly
cease to be drawn
from

from the 11th Instant
and having regard to
the views expressed by
the Govt of India in
the latter part of para 3
of his letter to the Govt
Circulars of the Secretariat
Department, having
been lately amended
under the instructions of
the Govt of the Govt
of India communicated
in G.O. No. 2674 of
the 23rd August 1866.
His Excellency the
Governor in Council
is not prepared to

Vide G.O. No. 1596 of 14th May 1867.

recommend any further
increase to it at present.

7.
4 The Civil Engr &c &c with copy of Colo Strachey's Report on Revd Accts for information
4 Manager. do
4 Comptroller of PW Accts

Accts 10/6/69.

2 3
4

Cue 2257

Cost. of [1869] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Consulting Engr. for Irrigation and Canal Company

Further Rec'd 436 Dft. Feby 71

Dated

Recd

G. O. 9 June 1869, No 1873

Nos. 176-177

Accounts of the Madras I & C. Co

Papers orders on the Settlements
&c. for Jan. & Feb. containing Mem.
Observations on the proposed Rules
for the Audit of the Accounts of the
Madras I & C. Co.