

(1) Number of pages _____
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	628	Press
		Mis.
Dated 17-6-18		

Not to be folded or roughly handled

5-11-18

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th June 1871.*

No. 284. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer,
1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,
dated Dowlaishweram, 11th May 1871, No. 456 :—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of G. O. of the 3rd instant, No. 1,224, and beg to express my regret for having put the Government to any apparently unnecessary trouble; but I respectfully request the following explanation may be taken into consideration.

2. Range Officers send in their indents for cash monthly, and when a general statement for the division is sent to the Controller, intimation is given to the several officers in charge of treasuries of the sums required in each talook or other treasury; when a Deputy Collector gets an intimation from the Accountant-General of the sums passed by the Controller, if these do not agree with the requisitions sent to him from this office, he has no idea in which treasury the disallowances have been made, or in what proportion for each treasury; this officer has then to apply to this office for further instructions, and we have either to make an arbitrary distribution, or to ascertain from the Range Officer how he requires the sums allotted to be placed, causing a great deal of correspondence and loss of time, which at the commencement of an official year is not absolutely necessary, for then it matters very little what the balances in any treasury are.

3. It is impossible to tell exactly what the expenditure at this season of the year is likely to be; for instance, in this year we have never yet had the water more than one inch below the crest of the anicut during this hot weather, and on the 9th instant four inches of water passed over the crest of the work, and if the river continues in its present state, it is extremely doubtful if we shall be able to execute the annual repairs to the work, so the large expenditure provided for these will remain in hand at the end of the month. Similarly, intimation has been sent to me that several of the large nullahs in the Vizagapatam District have freshes in them already, and works undertaken in them have had to be stopped, and all through the moonsoon seasons this uncertainty prevails more or less.

4. Now, in December, work can be far more regularly taken up, so that if the Controller were to prepare in January a statement showing the grants for the year, the allotments made and the expenditure up to the end of December, it would be easy enough then to see where any interference was necessary and exercise a salutary control, which, I beg to say, cannot be done by merely making alterations in the monthly cash indents without causing a great confusion.

5. In conclusion, I would further beg to express my regret at finding the Government consider I have disregarded frequent warnings conveyed to me from them; but as no reference is made to the orders containing these, I am at a loss to know when these occurred; however, I am very sorry to understand such is thought to be the case, but I trust the explanations I have now submitted will show that interference of this kind is not calculated to be of much use, and if I have expressed myself before in stronger terms than is considered necessary, I am very willing to express my regret for so doing.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th June 1871.

No. 285.

ORDER THEREON, 17th June 1871, No. 1,028.

ACCOUNT, No. 21.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION
DOWLAISHWARUM, 11 May 1871

No. 456

From

Major J. J. Fisher R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer

1st Division

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.

Secretary to Government D. P. W.

MADRAS

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G.O. of the 3rd Instant, to 1224, and beg to express my regret for having put the Government to any apparently unnecessary trouble, but I respectfully request the following explanation may be taken into consideration.

Range Officers send in their Returns for Cash monthly, and when a General Statement for the Division is sent to the Controller intimation is given to the several Officers in charge of treasuries of the sums required in each taluk or other Treasury, when a Deputy Collector gets an intimation from the Accountant General

General of the sums passed by the Controller, if they do not agree with the requisitions sent to him from this Office, he has no idea in which Treasury the disallowances have been made, or in what proportion for each Treasury, this Office has then to apply to this Office for further instructions, and we have either to make an arbitrary distribution, or to ascertain from the Range Officer, how he requires the sums allotted to be placed, causing a great deal of confusion & ^{disputations} ~~inconvenience~~, which at the commencement of an official year, is not absolutely necessary, for then it matters very little what the balances in any Treasury are.

3/. It is impossible to tell exactly what the expenditure at this season of the year is likely to be, for instance, in this year, we have never yet had the water more than one inch below the crest of the Mithank, during this hot weather, and on the 9th of Inst. 14 inches of water passed over the crest of the work, and if the River continues in

its present state, it is extremely doubtful if we shall be able to execute the annual repairs to the work, so the large expenditure provided for these, will remain in hand at the end of the month. Similar intimation has been sent to me that several of the large Nullahs in the Vijayapalam District have freshes in them already and works undertaken in them, have had to be stopped and all this the monsoon season this uncertainty prevails more or less. 4/. Now in December, work can be far more regularly taken up, so that if the Controller were to prepare in January a statement showing the grants for the year, the allotments made, and the expenditure up to the end of December, it would be easy enough then to see, where any interference was necessary, and exercise a salutary Control, which I beg to say cannot be done by merely making alterations in the Monthly Cash Reports, without causing a great confusion. 5/. In conclusion I would further beg

Per 3rd May/71 W. 47

P. 4. 1871 kept
No. 456

11th 2244

The Secretary of the
P. 4. 1871

The Secretary of the
P. 4. 1871

P. 4. 1871
P. 4. 1871

Dated 11th May 1871

Recd 17th — — —

Furnishes certain expla-
nation regarding the curtail-
ment of credits for April
1871 by the Controller of
P. 4. 1871 and ex-
presses his regret for having
put the Government to any
unnecessary trouble on the
subject. Recd
11th 1628-17th Dec 71

1/2nd June/71 R. 13th

7244
Govt of Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 17 June 1871, No. 1625.

Nos. 212, 8785

[Faint handwritten text, likely a signature or official note, mostly illegible due to fading.]