

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2608	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
418-419		
Dated	24-10-	1951/873

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 418. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 3rd September 1873, No. 3,445 :—

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for the orders of Government, copy of a letter, No. 44 of the 23rd ultimo, from the Officiating District Engineer, Ganjam, proposing a change in the present practice of supplying funds to meet expenditure in the Russelcondah Sub-division of the Berhampore Range. I see no objection to the arrangement ; indeed, it is one followed in other parts of India, and is, in my opinion, far more convenient to Sub-divisional Officers without having the effect of increasing their powers or giving them command over larger sums.

2. By having a cheque book of his own the Sub-divisional Officer can draw the exact amount he requires, but in being supplied with cheques from the head-quarter's office he must often be obliged to obtain more cash from the treasury than he really needs at the time. For example, he has to make a payment of, say, Rupees 15, and to enable him to do this he may have to send a cheque of Rs. 100 to the treasury, and if so he would have Rupees 85 in coin, which, in not being required at the time, would perhaps be inconvenient or unsafe to keep. All that is necessary is for the Range Officer to fix the limit of the Sub-divisional Officer's monthly credit at the treasury, informing the Treasury Officer of the same. To allow a credit of, say, a thousand rupees, gives the Sub-divisional Officer no greater command over cash than possessed by him in holding three or four cheques from the Range Officer aggregating 1,000 Rupees.

From Captain H. SMALLEY, R.E., Officiating District Engineer, Ganjam, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Chatterpore, 23rd August 1873, No. 44.

THE Officer in charge, Berhampore Range, has pointed out to me forcibly, and justly as I conceive, the inconvenience attending the supply of the Russelcondah Sub-division of his range with funds. He says cheques for large sums have necessarily to be issued to the Sub-division Officer at present, and that he has in consequence a large sum in cash to look after, as payments by cheque for work and materials cannot be made by him direct as in the principal division, so that a different system is followed in the two parts of the same range. He suggests that the Sub-division Officer should be supplied with a cheque book, but without any other alteration in the mode of transacting business between the Sub-division Officer and the Range Officer, the latter being, as at present, responsible for all the accounts in the range. He considers the office work of the Sub-division would not be increased by the adoption of his suggestion. I consider the Range Officer's suggestion perfectly feasible, and that it would be a great improvement if carried into effect. The Range Officer might be left to issue the minor detailed orders that would be necessitated by the change. I think some change of this sort is required if the Sub-divisional Officer is to be considered more than a Head Overseer. The only other courses open that I see are either to do away with the sub-division and reform it into a separate range as before, or for the Range Officer to undertake directly all the payments in the range, including the sub-division, the Overseers in the sub-division accounting directly to him and not through the Sub-division Officer, who would have nothing to do with their accounts beyond periodically examining them. His duties would in that case be nearly entirely practical—surveying, estimating, measuring up, reporting. I confess I am inclined to think that reconstituting Goomsoor as a 3rd or 4th Class Range would be the best plan. It was all very well, when the Superintending Engineer's head-quarters were

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21th October 1873.*

some 200 miles off at Dowlaispweram, for the Officer in charge of Berhampore Range to have control over Goomsoor also, but now that the District Engineer is within an easy distance of the latter, the necessity for the Berhampore Range Officer's control has ceased it seems to me. Business would certainly be accelerated if Goomsoor were an independent range, and the work in Berhampore Range would be more closely looked after than it can be at present. There would be extra expense entailed for an Office Establishment, but against this might be set the saving there should be in the travelling allowance of the Berhampore Range Officer, who now cannot get over his charge without frequent dāk journeys.

No. 419. ORDER THEREON, 21th October 1873, No. 2,608.

ACCOUNT, No. 31.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has no objection to the use of cheque books by Sub-divisional Officers

for the purpose of drawing from treasuries the funds placed at their disposal by the Range Officers, provided the amounts so placed at the credit of Sub-divisional Officers are carefully limited to the probable requirement of the sub-divisions during each month, and provided also that, on reference to the Revenue Department, no objection is raised on the score of inconvenience caused to the taluq accounts by the proposed arrangement.

2. It must however be borne in mind that the Range Officer is personally responsible for all disbursements of cash within his range. And His Excellency in Council, in authorizing the above arrangements, desires that Range Officers shall themselves make as many payments as they can, and all final payments to petty Contractors for amounts exceeding Rupees 100 without exception.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
To all District Engineers.
To Major R. B. Kennedy.
To the Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies.

District Engineer's Office,
Chatterpore 23d August 1873.

Mr. H.

From
The Offg District Engineer
Gangam.

To
The Controller of
Public Works Accounts
Fort Saint George.

Sir

The Officer in charge Berhampore Range has pointed out to me forcibly and justly, as I conceive the inconvenience attending the supply of the Ruffelcondah Sub Division of his Range with funds. He says cheques for large sums have necessarily to be issued to the Sub Division Officer at present and that he has in consequence a large sum in cash to look after, as payments by cheque for work and materials cannot be made by him direct as in the principal Division so that a different system is followed in the two parts of the same Range. He suggests that the Sub Division Officer should be supplied with a cheque book but without any other alteration in the mode of transacting business between the Sub Division Officer and the Range Officer the latter being as at present responsible for all.

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by the adoption of his suggestion. I consider the Range
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There would be extra expense entailed for an office
Establishment but against this might be set the
saving there should be in the Travelling Allowance
of the Berhampore Range Officer who now cannot
get over his charge without frequently leaving.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant
(Signed) H. Smalley Captain R.E.

Off. District Engineer Goomsoor

True Copy

Off. Controller of Public Works Accounts

Off. Controller of Public Works Accounts

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various posts in the Public Works Department, Fort St. George, for the year 1873. The names are given in the order in which they were appointed, and the posts to which they have been assigned.

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Office of the Controller of
 Public Works Accounts
 Fort St. George, September 1873.
 From
 The Controller of the Accounts
 To
 The Secretary to Government
 Public Works Department
 Fort St. George.

I have the honor to forward herewith for the orders of Government Copy of a letter No. 44 of the 23 Ultimo from the Officiating District Engineer Ganjam proposing a change in the present practice of supplying funds to meet expenditure in the Russel-coudah Sub-Division of the Berhampore Range. I see no objection to the arrangement, indeed, it is one followed in other parts of India and is in my opinion far more convenient to Sub-Divisional Officers without having the effect of increasing their powers or giving them command over larger sums.

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Cash from the Treasury than he
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Rupees 15 and to enable him to do
this he may have to send a cheque
of Rupees 100 to the Treasury and if
so, he would have Rupees 85 in
Coin, which is not being required at
the time, would perhaps be incon-
venient or unsafe to keep. All that
is necessary is for the Range Officer
to fix the limit of the sub divisional
Officers' monthly credit at the
Treasury, informing the Treasury
Officers of the same. To allow credit
of say a thousand Rupees, gives
the sub divisional Officer no greater
command over cash than he possesses.
and by him in holding three or four
Cheques from the Range Officer aggre-
gating one thousand Rupees.

I have the honor to be,

Yours most obedt Servt

Frederick

Offy Controller of Accounts

P.O. No. 1873 Dep't
From 3rd Oct 1873

The Offy Controller
of Accounts.

To The Secretary to Govt
P.O. Dep't
Fort St George

Dated 3rd September 1873.

Received 4th Sept 1873.

En: 3415
Forward copy of
letter from the officiating
District Engineer
Ganjam proposing
a change in the
practice of supplying
funds to meet expenditure
in the Russel condah
in sub Division.

No 4118
978
45 Sept 1873 R. 19

No 2608-20 act 1873

1878
14E
The Secretary has the
honour to submit, with
this amended draft,
copy of the Govt. Order
revising the Range of
The Pub. Works Dept -

It was drafted in con-
sultation with the then Revenue
Secretary, and under
the special instructions
of the Honble Mr. Dalhousie.
- and the Chief
Inspector is of opinion
that the conclusions
arrived at should not
be disturbed -

I have passed the draft - I merely
feared in announcing the Sale, acc^d
Sept. that the amended draft feared of B - 8.10.73
I had no sort of intention of giving in -
directly interfering with a monopoly this would
concentrate business of the Speculation Dept JH
9/10

N^o 2608

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following

From

The Offg. Controller of
P. & A. Accounts

(H.E. No. 3445 of

3rd Sept 1943)

M
9/10

Thank Madras Govt. for the
Rev. dep. & learn that any
inconvenience will
be caused to the Sub. Accts.
It may be undesirable
to have an acct. with these sub
ordinate officers.

Thank Madras Govt. for
showing some price for
the rearrangement
be recommended in the 2nd half
of his letter. It is not known
if the separate with detailed
information - unless the
disposal - see cause & disp.
more. 7/10

His Excellency the
Governor in Council
has no objection to the
use of cheque books
by Subdivisional
officers for the pur-
pose of drawing
from Treasuries the
funds placed at their
disposal by the Range
officers, provided the
amounts so placed

No 4858

Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

★
To The Off Controller of
M Accounts

Dated

Recd.

Encl. /

G. O. 24th Oct 1873, No. 2608.

No. 418 & 419

Guids. Papering orders on
letters from the ~~to~~ to
Off Controller of M. Accts
submitting with remarks
copy of letter from the
to Mr. Tannin proposing
a change in the practice
of supplying funds for
expenditure in the Revenue
and Public Works divisions

No 418.19.

Cir 2nd Oct