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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>248/249</i>	<i>153</i>	Press Mis.
Dated	<i>11.2.</i>	<i>1873.</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th February 1873.*

No. 248. Read the following letter from the Officiating Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account—General,) dated Fort William, 30th December 1872, No. 1,045—69 A.—G :—

Relief afforded to Executive Engineers in regard to Office work in general.

Read again :—

Public Works Department letter No. 24—34 A—G, dated 18th January 1871.

Read also the following :—

Letter No. 1,418 S, dated 16th May 1871, from Secretary to Governor-General's Agent, Rajpootana.

Letter No. 1,510 S, dated 23rd May 1871, *from Secretary to Governor-General's Agent, Rajpootana.

Letter No. 591 G, dated 26th May 1871, from Secretary to Governor-General's Agent, Central India.

Letter No. 176 A, dated 16th June 1871, from Secretary to Chief Commissioner, British Burmah.

Letter No. 1,529, dated 30th August 1871, from Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Oudh.

„ „ 5,891, dated 11th December „ „ „ to Government, Punjab.

RESOLUTION.—From the papers just read it would appear to be generally admitted that an efficient and trustworthy Accountant relieves an Executive Engineer to as great an extent as is practicable in the matter of accounts. Much has been recently done in this respect; and it may be reasonably assumed that, before long, every division will have an Accountant fully able to assist to the extent expected. It has, however, been shown that for the proper performance of their engineering duties, Executive Engineers must have greater freedom from purely Office work, as for instance, the drawing up of estimates for simple ordinary buildings and works for which the labour of estimating is almost mechanical, when once the design and specification are approved. For the preparation of such estimates, the aid of computers or estimators would no doubt be a great relief to Executive Engineers, and this relief the Government of India is quite willing to give by sanctioning the employment of qualified persons in all large divisions or charges, whenever thought necessary by Chief Engineers, and recommended by Local Governments and Administrations.

2. But while giving this assistance and impressing upon Executive Engineers the necessity of getting approval to rough drawings and specifications before making fair copies for sanction, the Government of India cannot relieve those officers of the important and responsible duty of preparing projects for larger works. In the opinion of the Government of India, an Engineer cannot fulfil his duty as such without paying as much personal attention to the preparation as to the execution of his projects, and, therefore, while holding Executive Engineers responsible under the orders of the Superintending Engineers for the correctness of their estimates in every particular, the Government of India will expect Local Governments and Administrations to give those officers such aid for the ordinary work connected with their divisions or charges, as will give them adequate relief and time to attend to other important duties.

3. The above remarks are not intended to confine the preparation of estimates to Executive Engineers. The Government of India considers that Superintending Engineers might often, with advantage to the State and credit to them-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th February 1873.*

selves, utilize their experience by preparing projects for works which, in their position as Inspecting Officers, they could see carefully executed by Subordinate Engineers. Superintending Engineers, and, indeed, Chief Engineers, aided by their professional Assistants, could, in the opinion of the Government of India, materially help Executive Engineers in the case of standard or ordinary designs, by having the quantities taken out, and either printed or lithographed in the shape of abstracts of estimates.

4. The Government of India would also here remark on the assistance expected by the rules of the Public Works Code to be given by Controllers of Public Works Accounts not only to Chief and Superintending Engineers, but to Executive Engineers. Much might and ought to be done by Controllers of Public Works Accounts towards ensuring financial regularity by ready aid, prompt advice, and personal communication. A part of their duty doubtless consists in simply observing rules, and pointing out irregularities after they have occurred, but it will often be in their power by forethought, and the exercise of good sense and tact, to assist Executive Engineers to an easy mode of working without infringing rules.

ORDER.—Ordered that the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab.
The Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, British Burmah, Oudh, and Mysore.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Governor-General's Agents for Central India and Rajpootana.
The Superintendent of Port Blair.
The Inspector-General of Military Works.
The Chief Engineer, Punjab Northern (State) Railway.
The Engineer-in-Chief, Indus Valley (State) Railway.
The Superintending Engineers, Delhi and Agra Districts, Rajpootana (State) Railway, Holkar (State) Railway, and Neemuch (State) Railway.
The Deputy Controllers of Accounts, Punjab Northern, Indus Valley, Rajpootana and Central India (State) Railways.

Local Governments and Administrations and Officers noted in the margin for information and guidance.

Ordered also that it be communicated to the Accountant-General, Public Works Department,

for the issue of any subsidiary instructions that may be necessary.

(Signed) P. O'CONNELL, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Offg. Deputy Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 249.

ORDER THEREON, 11th February 1873, No. 453.

ACCOUNT, No. 18.

COMMUNICATED to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, Inspecting and District Engineers, and the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Controller of Public Works Accounts.

To District Engineers.

Inspecting Engineers.

Exd S. T. Austin.

P.W. 1873 Departt
No. 201

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.
General.

To

No. 1045-69 A-G.

Dated December 30, 1872.

Received 13 Jan 1873

Relief afforded to Executive Engineers
in regard to Office work in general.

P. W. D. Press-31-12-72-204.

With an order

Communicated to the Chief Engineer for Bangalore, Sec.
operating and District Engineers and the Controller of P.W. Accounts.

Emil

175
28
5th Dec. 1872
Chief Engineer
District Engineer
Respecting Engineers
18
Dec 14/73

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C. No. 201

Govt. of 1873 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The Chief Engineer for
Irrigation

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 11th Feb 1873, No. 453.

Nos. 248-249

Office work - Govt.
of India Resolution
relative to the relief
afforded to Executive
Engineers in regard to
Office work com-
municated to the
Officers of the Dep't.