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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works: DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3173	Press
B.P. No. 138-139		~~Mis.~~
Dated	9-11-1874 ~~195~~ .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th November 1874.

No. 138. 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 Madras, 13th July 1874, No. 3,103 :—

REFERRING to the 3rd paragraph of G. O., No. 1,747, of the 29th June 1874, I have the honor to state that if the rule hitherto observed in respect to the issue of Tools and Plant from the Public Works Store Department is still to be followed, there will be no charge against "Ordinary" (Imperial) for the articles included in the indent therein mentioned.

2. The bulk of the stock of Tools and Plant in the Store Department has already been paid for from Imperial funds, and therefore when articles so paid for are issued to Imperial works, whether in the Buildings and Roads Branch or in the Agricultural Branch of the department, no charge* is made, the issues being recorded and treated *numerically*. When however issues from this Imperial supply of Tools and Plant are made to "Extraordinary" "Provincial" or "Local Works," the full value is charged† to those heads of service and a corresponding credit is raised to Revenue Imperial.

* General Superintendent, Public Works Stores, No. 1,213, of 24th November 1873, and No. 524, dated the 11th July 1874.

† General Superintendent, Public Works Stores, No. 1,352, dated 16th December 1873, No. 517, dated 10th July 1874.

3. I must, however, say that the arrangement, as above described, though simple, is not altogether a fair one, as I shall endeavor to explain. We will suppose that during 1873-74 there was a charge of Rupees 25,000 for Tools and Plant in the Store Department, and that this sum at the close of the year was ratably charged to the several sub-heads (Military, Civil Buildings, Agricultural) of "Imperial." The Tools and Plant having been thus paid for from Imperial funds would be borne on the books as "Imperial," and would be treated in the manner mentioned in the preceding paragraph. But suppose that in 1874-75 a large indent for Tools and Plant required for Military and Civil Buildings was met by the Store Department by sending out articles valued at Rupees 20,000 from the supply which cost Rupees 25,000 in 1873-74, during which year we will further suppose that the bulk of this charge of Rupees 25,000 was debited to "Agricultural" according to ratable distribution over outlay on works and repairs; then it follows that while the budget head *Agricultural* bore the largest share of the cost of Tools and Plant in 1873-74, the budget head *Military and Civil Buildings* derived a benefit in 1874-75 out of proportion to what it contributed in 1873-74. The Store Department is thus a disturbing element in the methodical and fair arrangement sanctioned* in respect to outlay on Tools and Plant in ranges of Public Works, seeing that the supply received in the Store Department during any year and charged for in the year in which received, may not be *issued* till the following year or years after.

* *Vide* G. O., No. 2,094, of 23rd August 1873. G. O., No. 255, of 3rd February 1874.

4. The above subject has been long considered by me, and I thought that the difficulty in connection with the Store Department might be got over by *not*

having the definite head of "Tools and Plant" in the Store Department accounts, and by placing articles of Tools and Plant as a distinct sub-head of "*stock*" which is a "suspense" head of account. Just as "fire bricks" or "Portland cement" belonging to the "*stock*" of the Store Department would not be finally charged for till issued, and as the charge would be against the head (Imperial, Provincial or Local) actually benefited by the issue, so I thought it might be arranged to issue Tools and Plant as a sub-head of "*stock*" from the Store Department, such issues being eventually charged in the range accounts to "Tools and Plant" against the head (Imperial, Provincial, and Local) actually benefited; but the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, to whom I referred, considered* it desirable to continue the arrangement of showing outlay in the Store Department on account of Tools and Plant as final charges under the head "Tools and Plant."

* No. 471-G of the 10th April 1874.

5. While on the subject of Tools and Plant, I may mention that we have in the Store department other than the Imperial supply above referred to. We have Tools and Plant *Provincial* obtained from England and charged exclusively to Provincial funds since 1872-73. The articles under this head, though intended for Provincial Works, to which they go without charge, would, if necessary, be issued to other services, and then they would go at a valuation, that is, be charged for, a corresponding credit being raised to Provincial Revenue. We have also a stock (small) of tools and plant, the cost of which under the arrangement followed throughout the department in 1872-73 was charged ratably to all heads except "Extraordinary." Issues from this portion are therefore made to Imperial, Provincial, and Local Works without charge.

Controller's Circulars, Nos. 179 and 2,679, dated, respectively, the 19th April 1872 and 14th February 1873.
Accountant-General, Public Works Department, No. 950-G, of the 30th May 1873.

6. Stated briefly the following is the arrangement in respect to tools and plant in the Store Department:—

I.—The charges are made under two heads—Imperial and Provincial. (The arrangement of 1872-73 mentioned above in the concluding portion of the 5th paragraph need not be considered, as it will cease with the supply referred to.)

II.—Imperial charges are in the Store Department Accounts made under one head "Imperial," the Store Department being classed as an Imperial Range. At the close of the year these charges are distributed by this office ratably to all the sub-heads (Military, Civil Buildings, Agricultural) of Imperial. Issues to all the Imperial sub-heads are made without charge, but when made for "Extraordinary," "Provincial" or "Local" services, those services are charged with the value and a corresponding credit raised to Revenue Imperial.

III.—Provincial charges for tools and plant obtained from England are debited wholly to Provincial Funds. Issues to Provincial Works are made without charge, but when made for other services, those services would be charged with the value and a corresponding credit raised to Revenue Provincial.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 9th November 1874.

No. 139. ORDER THEREON, 9th November 1874, No. 3,173.

IRRIGATION, No. 10.

Account.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council does not see how the Capital and Revenue Accounts of Irrigation works can be properly prepared if one sub-head of expenditure, viz., Tools and Plant, be treated on principles altogether different to those followed with respect to other items of charge. Formerly Tools and Plant were not charged to individual works, and no provision for such was made in estimates. Now that the Government of India have required Tools and Plant to be taken into account in estimating the cost of Agricultural Works, and that provision has been made in the Irrigation Budget for this charge, His Excellency considers that the cost of Tools and Plant issued for individual works or projects should be treated precisely in the same way in the accounts as other component parts of the outlay on works. The Controller will accordingly be instructed to determine, in communication with the Accountant-General of the Public Works Department, how this arrangement is to be carried into effect. The complications arising from the procedure discussed in the Controller's letter appear to the Government to be, together with others of a like kind, one of the causes why the departmental accounts in many ranges are in a state of confusion; it is necessary that arrangements more in accordance with the facts connected with the transactions involved should be introduced at once.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

Office of the Controller of
S. W. Accounts.

No 3103 Madras. 18th July 1874

From

The Offg Controller of
S. W. Accounts

To.

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort St George.

Sir,

Referring to the 3d para of G. O No 1747 of the 29th June 1874 I have the honor to state that if the rule hitherto observed in respect to the issue of Tools and Plant from the Public Works Store Department is still to be followed, there will be no charge against "Ordinary" (Imperial) for the articles included in the Indent therein mentioned.

2d The bulk of the stock of Tools and Plant in the Store Department has already been paid for from Imperial funds and therefore when articles so paid for are issued to Imperial Works, whether in the Buildings and Roads Branch or in the Agricultural Branch of

the Department, no change is made the issues being recorded and treated numerically. When however issues from this Imperial supply of Tools and Plant are made to "Extraordinary" "Provincial" or "Local Works," the full value is charged* to those heads of Service and a corresponding credit is raised to Revenue Imperial.

3. I must however say that the arrangement as above described though simple is not altogether a fair one as I shall endeavour to explain— We will suppose that during 1873-74 there was a charge of Rupees 25,000 for Tools and Plant in the Store Department and that this sum at the close of the year, was ratably charged to the several subheads (Military, Civil Buildings, Agricultural) of "Imperial". The Tools and Plant having been thus paid for from Imperial funds would be borne on the books as

* General Ins. student Public Works Store Ledger No 1213 of 24th November 1873 and No 524 dated the 1st July 1874.

* General Inspection student P. W. Stores No 1352 dated 15th December 1873 No 517 dated 10th July 1874.

"Imperial" and would be treated in the manner mentioned in the preceding para. But suppose that in 1874-75 a large indent for Tools and Plant required for Military and Civil Buildings was met by the Store Department by sending out articles valued at Rs. 20,000 from the supply which cost Rs 25,000 in 1873-74 during which year we will further suppose that the bulk of this charge of Rs 25,000 was debited to "Agricultural" according to ratable distribution over outlay on works and repairs. Then it follows that while the budget head "Agricultural bore the largest share of the cost of Tools and Plant in 1873-74. the budget head Military and Civil Buildings" received a benefit in 1874-75 out of proportion to what it contributed in 1873-74. The Store Department is thus a disturbing Element in the methodical and fair arrangement sanctioned in respect to outlay on Tools and Plant in Budget of Public Works, seeing that

o Vide G. O No 2094 of 23d August 1873. G. O No 255 of 3rd February 1874.

the supply received in the Store Department during any year and charged for in the year in which received may not be issued till the following year or years after.

4. The above subject has been long considered by me and I thought that the difficulty in connection with the Store Department might be got over by not having the definite head of "Tools and Plant" in the Store Department accounts and by placing Articles of Tools and Plant as a distinct subhead of "Stock" which is a "suspense" head of account. Just as "Fire Bricks" or "Portland Cement" belonging to the "Stock" of the Store Department would not be finally charged for till issued, and as the charge would be against the head (Imperial Provincial or Local) actually benefitted by the issue, so I thought it might be arranged to issue Tools and Plant as a subhead of "Stock" from the Store Department, such issues being eventually charged in

in the Stange Accounts to "Tools and Plant" against the head (Imperial, Provincial and Local) actually benefited, but the Accountant General of the Works Department to whom I referred, considered it desirable to continue the arrangement of showing outlay in the Store Department on account of Tools and Plant as final charges under the head "Tools and Plant."

G. of the 10th of 1870.

While on the subject of Tools and Plant I may mention that we have in the Store Department other than the Imperial supply above referred to, Tools and Plant Provincial obtained from England and charged exclusively to Provincial funds since 1870-71. The Articles under this head though intended for Provincial Works to which they go without change would, if necessary, be issued to other Services and then they would go at a valuation, that is be charged for, a corresponding credit being raised to Provincial Revenue. We have also a Stock (small) of Tools and Plant the cost of

which under the arrangement followed throughout the Department in 1872-73 was charged except Extraordinary notably to all heads, issues from this portion are therefore made to Imperial, Provincial and Local Works without charge.

Controllers Circulars Nos. 179 and 2679 dated respectively the 19th April 1872 and 14th February 1873, Accountant General's Department No. 950 of the 30th May 1873.

6. Stated briefly, the following is the arrangement in respect to Tools and Plant in the Store Department.

I. The charges are made on under two heads Imperial and Provincial. The arrangement of 1872-73 mentioned above in the concluding portion of the 5th paragraph need not be considered as it will cease with the supply referred to.

II. Imperial Charges are, in the Store Department accounts made under one head "Imperial", the Store Department being classed as an Imperial Range. At the close of the year these charges are distributed by this Office notably to all the sub-heads, (Military, Civil, Building, Agricultural) of Imperial issues to all the Imperial Subheads are made without charge, but when made for "Extraordinary", "Provincial" or "Local" Services, those Services are charged with the value and a corresponding credit raised to Revenue Imperial.

III. Provincial charges for Tools and Plant obtained from Imperial are debited wholly to Provincial funds. Issues to Provincial works are made without charge but when made for other Services those Services would be charged with the value and a corresponding credit raised to Revenue Provincial.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant.

J. W.

Offg. Controller & P.K. Accounts

G.B.C.

P. W. 1874 Dept.
From Pro. of Govt
No: 4311

The Offg Controller of
S. P. Accounts

To

The Secretary to
Government
S. P. Department
Fort St George

Dated 13th July 1874
Rec'd 14th July 1874

No. 3103

Offers observations
ment the issue
of Tools & Plant
from the P. W.
Store Department

No 138

Rec'd to Acty 16 July/74 D. 26 ad

No-3173-9-11-74.

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

From
The Offg Controller
of P. W. Accts

No. 3103 dated
13th July 1874

To
His Excellency the
Governor in Council does
not see how the Capital
and Revenue accounts of
Irrigation works can be
properly prepared if one
subhead of expenditure,
viz. Tools and Plant be
treated on principles alto-
gether different to those fol-
lowed with respect to other
items

What is done with Lally used
Stores when a work is com-
pleted - Rs 500 recorded
as received & now
is completed & 400 are
still service - How are
they transferred? How do
they appear & credited of the
Completed work? Ans

items of charge. Formerly Tools and Plant were not charged to individual works and no provision for such was made in Estimates. Now that the Government of India have required Tools and Plant to be taken into account in estimating the cost of Agricultural works and that provision has been made in the Irrigation Budget for this charge, His Excellency considers that the cost of Tools and Plant issued for

for individual works or projects should be treated precisely in the same way in the accounts as other component parts of the outlay on works. The Controller will accordingly be instructed to determine, in communication with the Accountant General of the P.W. Dept. how this arrangement is to be carried into effect. The complications arising from the procedure discussed in the Controller's letter appear to the Govt. to be, together with others

others of a like kind, one of the causes why the departmental accounts in many Ranges are in a state of confusion; it is necessary that arrangements more in accordance with the facts connected with the transactions involved should be introduced at once.

Mg. 22/7/74

Govt

28

1-9-74

Pondi c. 138-139
Ch Engr Dn Engrs
Cork Capts Dept 16/11/74.
Fd. 26 Sheet of Gun Dept
Cir 25/11/74 Rcd 26/8 Dept

P. P. D. 5

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

From the Offg. Secy. of P.W.D. (P.W.D. No. 3103 dated 13 July 1874)

I see no objection
Wm Ingram
Offg. Secy
Dept. 11 Aug

I think that the original Dept
Letter
No. 2 The Governor might
indicate the proper course in
respect to tools charged to
works & Stock ~~Collectorates~~ for
further use. Should direct the
course indicated & Col. Mullins pencil note on the Dept
letter be carried out
16/11 M2

It would not be
sufficient to have
a Central Store
in each District.
Each under there
Local Govt for all Lock

His Excellency the Governor in Council accepts the Controller's correction of para 3 of G.O. No. 1747 of the 29th June last and is of opinion that it is not desirable at present to make any change in the present system of dealing with Tools and Plant, the Controller's suggestions relative to which have not as it is observed met with the concurrence

concurrence of the Accountant General. P.W.D. It will it is thought be time enough to alter the existing system when definite orders to that effect are received from the Govt. of India.

G.M.W.

4311

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

☆

The Offg. Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 9th Nov. 74. No. 3173

Nos. 138-139.

Tools & Plant

Considering that the cost of Tools & Plant issued for individual works or projects should be treated precisely in the same way in the Accounts as other component parts of Military or Works requisite to determine in communication with the Accountant General whether this arrangement is to be carried into effect.

R. 24 Nov 74
Cir 15/874
Cir 20/1874