(1) Number of pages 34 pages

(2) Date of repair 19.8.86

(3) Initials of the Referencer lcvg

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public Works. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	3079 (D).	Press. / Mis.
Dated	2.5-1878	197 .

M&P.

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

Archives 1—10,006—19-4-79.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Read the following paper :—

No. 19. From Major J. CLOWES, R.E., Superintendent of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, General Branch, dated Ootacamund, 1st October, No. 1353 W.

In their Order passed in the Government Public Works Department, No. 102, dated 18th February 1878, on a letter received from the Assistant Engineer, Salem, the Government considered [illegible] regards the supply of [illegible] be permitted to continue, and [illegible] referred to being [illegible] supplying credits, the [illegible] the famine cooks had [illegible]

2. In paragraph 14 [illegible] 1878, I had the honor to submit [illegible] to show that the state [illegible] had probably never existed at all. I now [illegible] evidence on this point.

3. Enclosed will be found a [illegible] disposal of the District Engineer [illegible] and January and February 1878. [illegible] Salem Division (with regard to [illegible] will observe that, as a general rule, [illegible] between one and two lakhs of [illegible] Rupees 63,000. The lowest [illegible] Rupees 63,387-3-8, which [illegible]

4. With regard to the [illegible] District Engineer, I was [illegible] lower than Rupees 27,361. [illegible] from the statement to have been [illegible]

5. In connexion with [illegible] for me to bring to the [illegible] supplying famine cooks [illegible] subsequent allocation of [illegible] Treasuries is a matter [illegible] left to be arranged [illegible] With a balance of credit [illegible]

want of funds at any particular sub-treasury, points, not to a want of funds, but to a want of care and forethought on the part of the Local Public Works Officers in utilising the funds lying at their disposal.

6. The figures in the enclosed statement appear to me to prove—

(*a.*) That in spite of the greatest irregularity in the receipt in this office of the cash requisitions from the Salem District, at no date was there any want of funds which ordinary action on the part of the Local Officers could not have obviated.

(*b.*) That whatever inconvenience practically was experienced by the Executive Officers for want of money was the effect solely of want of proper arrangements on the spot for utilising the available credits.

7. This, as regards the District Engineer's general allegations, I will now come down to details. In paragraph 2 of letter from the District Engineer, Salem, No. 183 SL, dated 18th January 1878, a strong case of delay on the part of the Financial Officers attached to this Government is specifically adduced. It is there officially stated that an application for Rupees 46,000, though it had passed through the District Engineer's office more than a month before, had not been received up to the *14th January*.

G.O., P.R., No. 545, of 1st March 1878.

This statement is repeated in a letter from the District Engineer, No. 113 SL, dated 17th January, addressed to this office (*vide* copy enclosed).

8. On the first of these representations from the District Engineer, Government passed an order in the Revenue (Famine Relief) Department, remarking on the delay in placing funds at the disposal of the Divisional Officers; and based on the second of these representations, the Accountant-General issued a Circular, No. 16, to all Treasury Officers calling attention to similar delays and citing this particular case brought forward by the District Engineer as a striking instance of the delays that had occurred.

9. Government will doubtless be surprised to hear the actual facts in connection with this application for Rupees 46,000. In support of my assertions I beg to submit copy of a letter, No. 11,986, dated 17th February 1878, received from the Accountant-General, Madras, with an enclosure, No. 327, dated 12th February 1878, from the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salem Treasury.

10. This application for Rupees 46,000 was dated on the 24th November 1877; it was countersigned by the District Engineer on the 29th November 1877; it was received in this office on the 1st December; checked and sent on to the Accountant-General on the 1st December; the credit order issued from the Accountant-General on the 3rd December; was received by the Treasury Officer, Salem, on the 5th December; the credit was distributed amongst the sub-treasuries on the 6th December, and on that date, *i.e.*, the *6th December*, to use the words of the Deputy Collector, "the Tahsildars honored cheques to the extent of Rupees 13,904-6-10 from the amount of a credit order alleged not to have been placed at the disposal of the Range Officer" on the *14th January*.

11. Amid much that is vague and indefinite in the District Engineer's allegations, I am able to extract but this single specific instance which has been adduced of delay on the part of the Financial Officers, and I now leave Government to judge how far the actual facts of this single specific instance support the District Engineer's other general statements.

12. In drawing the attention of Government to the remarks made by the Deputy Collector in his letter with regard to the inaccuracy of the statements laid before Government, I wish to add that, equally with that officer, I have felt keenly that the remarks passed by Government animadverting on our conduct have been passed on wholly unreliable *ex parte* statements, which we were given no opportunity of refuting. I feel sure that these remarks of Government would not have been made had Government been in possession of complete information as to the facts of the case.

No. 20. ORDER THEREON, 2nd August 1878, No. 3,079 W.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Ex'd. T. D. Ryan.
Spare Copies

GENERAL ACCOUNTS.

GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE COMPTROLLER & AUDITOR GENERAL.

Dated August 2nd. 1870.

Issued

Entered

Q. 0. The Right Hon. Sir Edward [illegible]

AUGUST.

Nos. 1020.

FROM THE EXAMINER, G. W. ACCOUNTS,

MADRAS.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

GENERAL BRANCH.

No. 133 /

DATED MADRAS, THE 16TH JULY 1870.

SIR,

IN THESE OFFICE PAPERS IN THE ENCLOSED NUMBER ROLLS I

AND ENCLOSURES NOS. 2 TO 5 DATED 28TH FEBRUARY LAST ON A LETTER RE-

CEIVED FROM THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, SALEM, THE GOVERNMENT

ANIMADVERTED ON THE STATE INTO WHICH THE SALEM DISTRICT

HAD FALLEN AS REGARDS THE SUPPLY OF CANINE GUESTS, A STATE

WHICH, THE GOVERNMENT REMARKED, CANNOT BE PERMITTED TO

CONTINUE, AND WHICH OUGHT NOT TO HAVE ARISEN AT ALL; THE

STATE REPORTED TO BEING INEXPLICABLE EXCEPT, OWING TO DE-

LAYS ON THE PART OF THIS OFFICE IN FURNISHING DOGGETTS, THE

DISTRICT HAD BEEN LEFT WITHOUT FUNDS, AND THAT THE PAY-

MENT OF THE CANINE DOGGETTS HAD ON THIS ACCOUNT BEEN UNTIM-

NOTICED AND UNNECESSARILY DELAYED.

2. IN REPLY TO THE ABOVE MY LETTER NO. 5 DATED

28TH FEBRUARY LAST, I HAD THE HONOR TO SUBMIT TO GOVERN-

MENT CERTAIN FIGURES WHICH AT LEAST TENDED TO SHEW THAT

THE STATE OF MATTERS ALLEGED BY THE DISTRICT ENGINEER TO

HAVE ARISEN HAD PROBABLY NEVER EXISTED AT ALL. I NOT HAVE THE POWER TO BRING FORWARD COMPLETE EVIDENCE ON THIS POINT.

3. ENCLOSED WILL BE FOUND A STATEMENT SHOWING THE MONTHLY CASH BALANCES AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER FOR EVERY DAY DURING THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER 1919 AND JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1920. OMITTING ALTOGETHER THE BALANCE IN SPECIE OF RS.2,000 WHICH MY PREDECESSOR TO ME-COULD AS I GOVERNMENT WILL OBSERVE THAT AS A GENERAL RULE THE AGGREGATE BALANCES OF THE DISTRICT VARIED BETWEEN ONE AND TWO LAKHS OF RUPEES, AND THAT ON NO DATE WAS IT LESS THAN RS.60,000. THE LOWEST BALANCE TO BE FOUND IS ON THE 23RD JANUARY, VIZ., RS.62,000-0-0, WHICH ROSE TO RS.814,000-10-3 ON THE FOLLOWING DAY.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE MESNE DIVISION, THE PARTICULAR ONE COMPLAINED OF BY THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, I AM UNABLE TO FIND DURING THE LAST THREE MONTHS ANY BALANCE LOWER THAN RS.82,304. AS A GENERAL RULE THE BALANCES OF THIS DIVISION APPEAR FROM THE STATEMENT TO HAVE BEEN BETWEEN RS.80,000 OR RS.100,000.

5. IN CONCLUSION THIS QUESTION OF THE SUPPLY OF FUNDS, IT IS PERHAPS UNNECESSARY FOR ME TO REFER TO THE RECOLLECTION OF GOVERNMENT THAT THE FUNCTIONS OF THIS OFFICE IN SUPPLYING SUMS DUE WITH OBTAINING A CREDIT ON THE HEAD QUARTER TREASURY. THE SUBSEQUENT ALLOCATION OF THIS CREDIT BETWEEN THE HEAD QUARTER AND THE PARTIAL TREASURIES IS A MATTER OF DETAIL WHICH UNDER THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE DEPARTMENT IS LEFT TO BE ARRANGED DIRECTLY BETWEEN THE TREASURY AND THE DISTRICT BOARD CONCERNED. WITH A BALANCE AT VERY IT AT THE HEAD QUARTER TREASURY, THE FACT OF THERE BEING A PAUCITY OF FUNDS AT ANY PARTICULAR TREASURY, BUT TO A WANT OF FUNDS, BUT TO A MANIFEST CARE AND

11. APART FROM THAT IS VAGUE AND INDEFINITE IN THE DISTRICT ENGINEER'S ALLEGATIONS, I AM ABLE TO EXTRACT BUT THIS SINGLE SPECIFIC INSTANCE WHICH HAS BEEN ADVANCED OF DELAY ON THE PART OF THE FINANCIAL AUTHORITY, AND I NOW LEAVE GOVERNMENT TO JUDGE FOR ITSELF THE ACTUAL FACTS OF THIS SINGLE CHECK IN CONFLICT WITH THE DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OTHER GENERAL STATEMENTS.

12. IN DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF GOVERNMENT TO THE REMARKS MADE BY THE DEPUTY COLLECTOR IN HIS LETTER WITH REGARD TO THE INACCURACY OF THE STATEMENTS LAID BEFORE GOVERNMENT, I WISH TO ADD THAT, SOMEWHAT WITH THAT OF TODAY, I HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY THAT THE REMARKS MADE BY GOVERNMENT DURING DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT HAVE BEEN BASED ON MISCONCEIVABLE EXPARTE STATEMENTS, WHICH HE HAS NEVER HAD OPPORTUNITY OF REFUTING. I FEEL SURE THAT THESE REMARKS OF GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE HAD GOVERNMENT BEEN IN POSSESSION OF COMPLETE INFORMATION AS TO THE FACTS OF THE CASE.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO BE,

SIR,

YOUR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

(WALTER, P.W. ACCOUNTS AND MAJOR R.E.

10.8

Revised 1835 W of 13 April 78
a — " 1313 W " 13 March —
a — " 835 W " 19 July —

FROM THE RESIDENT ENGINEER,

SALEM.

TO THE SECY. TO GOVT. P.W.D.

GENERAL BRANCH.

No. 133 ff.

DATED 8TH JULY 1878.

RECD. 9TH

ENCLOSURES.4.

APPEALING EXPLANATION ON THE REPORT OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, SALEM REGARDING THE DELAY IN COMPLYING WITH REQUISITIONS FOR CREDITS.

Co Corby 13-7-78 Ch. 2 ff

Cir 19-7-78 Ch 2 ff

Salem Collectors Office
No. 327. 12th February 1878

From

The Deputy Collector
in charge of the Treasury
Salem

To

The Collector
of Salem.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement on the Accountant Generals letter dated 1st February 1878 No. 11.177, I have the honor to submit the following explanation.

2.— In para 1, the Accountant General remarks that the amount of the credit Order No. 650 issued on the 3rd December 1877 was not placed at the disposal of the Pauper Officer, until after the 11th January 1878, viz 12 days. I beg to state that this statement is not borne out by the records of this Office. The credit order was received on the 5th December 1877, and its amount was immediately distributed among the several Talukdars as per Pauper Officers applicatio

hereunto returned

dated 28th November 1877 No. 1649. The Tahsildars concerned received my orders on the following day and honoured cheques to the extent of Rs 13,904-6-10. as per margin, from the amount of the Credit Order alleged not to have been placed at the disposal of the Range Officer. The Accountant Genl's remarks seem to have been solely based on the representations of the Range Officer whose action therefore seems to me to require some particular notice by the Accountant General.

3. On a reference to the records of this Office, I find that even during the Famine when there were unusually heavy transactions no unreasonable delay occurred in the payment of Credit orders or in the distribution of the amounts

Present	Balance	Paid	Total
1877-1-10	Rs 53-8-0	Rs 13904-6-10	Rs 13958-14-10

Balance on 1st Decr 1877.
Received during December 1877
as per G. O. No. 6649 dated 28th Novr 1877 — Rs. 13904-6-10
Rs. —

Paid for cheques sent Decr 1877 Rs 13904-6-10

Balance on 1st January 1878 Rs 53-8-0

Total Rs 13958-14-10

Cheques sent the Collectors for payment

Paid Receipts

59-7-1; 1878-3-4; 1878-3-4; 1878-3-4

readily carried out by the Sabaildar; whenever a Sub Divisional Officer has been authorized to draw cheques and intimation thereof given to this Office necessary orders are issued to the Sub-Treasury Officer to honour the cheques signed by such Sub. Divisional Officer.-

5. No separate Drawing Account is opened at a Sub Treasury, nor are the Sub. Divisional Officers treated as Range Officers (Executive Engineers). Now in this District each Salag has a Sub Divisional Officer and his cheques are honoured by the Sub-Treasury Officers and charged off in the Pass Book of the Range Officer by whom they have been empowered to draw cheques.-

6. In his remarks the Accountant General says that it is not the duty of the Treasury Officer to question the necessity for or the cause of the Credit Order. I do not remember ever having raised such a question and shall be much obliged by the Accountant General pointing out the instance in which I have been so guilty.- 85

7. In regard to the concluding para, I have the honor to state that the views of the Accountant General have been already followed, and you are personally aware of the two instances in which under your orders, funds were placed in November 1877 and January 1878 at the disposal of the D. P. W. Officer in charge of the Dabampury and Nasaur Salags respectively for Flamine works in anticipation of the required usual Credit Order.-

I have &c.

(signed) J. Pritchard
Deputy Collector

(True Copy)

Forwarded to the Accountant General in reference to his letter No. 1177 dated 1st Instant.- (sd) C. J. Longley
Collector.

Salem, Collector's Office
14th February 1878
Camp Dabampuri

/True Copy/
Cyriac
Chief Accountant

M. 53. 9/7

P. & R. Department No. 11986.

P. W. P.

Fort St. George
Accountant General's Office
19th February 1896.

From
The Accountant General
to the Government of Madras.

To
The Examiner, P.W. Accounts
Madras.

Sir

With reference to your letter No. 281 P. and 284 P. of the 26th and 29th ultimo respectively and in continuation of my letter No. 11978 of the 17th instant I have the honor to forward in original a letter of the Deputy Collector Salem No. 327 forwarded by the Collector from which you will observe the repudiates the charge of delay in placing funds at the disposal of Public Works Officer.

I beg to suggest that you instruct the District Engineer to visit Mettur immediately in immediate personal communication with the Collector of Salem, in regard to the present and any future difficulties and that when returning the original enclosure of this letter you will inform me whether you are satisfied with the explanation regarding the credit Order for Rs. 25,000 so that I may remove the censure which in accepting the facts as reported in District Engineer's letter, was apparently unjustly

Yours &c.

Passed on the Passing Officer.

I have P.
(Signed) L. B. Probyn
Accountant General.

(Sent copy)
Endorsed
Chief Accountant

C.A.
9/1

No. 1138. L. District Engineer's Office,
Salem 17th January 1878.

From.

The District Engineer
of Salem.

To

The Examiner of P. W. Accts.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to your notice that the Executive Engineer Coonoor Division reports (on the 14th instant) that no credit order had been received upto that date, though an application for Rs. 46,000 was passed through this Office on the 29th November 1877.

2. Looking to the extreme suffering that is caused by any irregularity in the payment of coolies employed on relief works, I shall feel obliged by your taking such steps as may be necessary to prevent delay of this sort from occurring in future.-

1878.

February

1878

January

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Letter from the District Engineer, Salem, No 225 dated 8th March 1878.

Do. Examiner, Dr Acamuto, No 133 N dated 11th July 1878.

FOR ORDERS.

Bench mark will not apparently be gained by entering on this controversy.

Record of Examination

Secy to Govt Mad

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19th July 1878.

Mark R.S.

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Ex. Book 15-8-98

Recorded.

D

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Rec'd.

Encl.

G. O. 2nd Cav. 1878. No. 307

Nos.

Relative to employing enlisted
men as teamsters for Engineer
Department Post Laredo
in relation to the Post Laredo
Reservation &c. — Recommended