

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

25th March 1881, No. 418.

Public Servants.

Read the following paper:—

No. 101. *Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home, Revenue, and Agricultural Department (Public), dated Fort William, 7th March 1881, No. 12—365-83 [Current No. 518].*

Read again—

Home Department Resolution, No. 13—467, dated 13th February 1874, on the subject of the holding of land by Government servants in India and of speculative investments by Public Officers.

Read also—

Despatch to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 320 (Financial), dated 28th September 1880.

Despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 120 (Railway), dated 30th November 1880.

RESOLUTION.—In the despatch of 28th September 1880 the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India was informed that, in the belief that the rule forbidding Public Officers to act as Directors of a Company does not affect the power of Government to appoint a public servant as a Director to watch the public interests, the Government of India had sanctioned the appointment of the Commissioners of Kumáon and Rohilkhand to act as Government Directors of the Bareilly-Ranibagh Light Railway. It was added that the fact of the officers above named being shareholders need not, in the opinion of the Government of India, prevent their appointment to be Government Directors, inasmuch as it seemed improbable that the interests of the Government would conflict with those of the shareholders.

2. The Secretary of State in reply remarks—

It may, as you observe, be improbable that the interests of the Government should conflict with those of the shareholders. The interest of both may generally be identical; but nevertheless, as a matter of principle, and without any personal reference or consideration, I concur in the opinions which have been expressed by my predecessors on the subject, and I think it best that, if it is considered advisable for the Commissioners of Kumáon and Rohilkhand to continue as Government Directors, they should divest themselves of all personal interest in the Railway.

3. The above decision must be treated as a general ruling bearing on the subject, and the Governor-General in Council accordingly directs that it be circulated to Local Governments and Administrations for information and future guidance.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations and to the several Departments of the Government of India for information and guidance.

Ordered, also, that a copy of the Resolution be forwarded to the Superintendent of Port Blair and the Nicobars, the Director-General of the Archæological Survey of India, the Surveyor-General of India, and the Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. GRANT,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 102.

ORDER THEREON, 25th March 1881, No. 418.

Communicated to all Departments of the Secretariat.

(True Extract.)

J. Davidson
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department,
" Military Department.
" Public Works Department.