

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President, District Board, Godávári, to the Under Secretary to Government, Financial Department, dated Cocanada, 13th May 1885, No. 11.

I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government that the absence of rules regulating the employment of Local Fund subordinates in the Government service is grievously interfering with the efficient working of the Local Fund department, especially with that of the Engineer. The pay of the Local Fund subordinates compares unfavorably with that of the corresponding officers in the Imperial departments, and this fact, coupled with other advantages, such as a prospect of promotion and pension, which the Imperial department holds out, is a sufficient inducement to Local Fund subordinates to try from the moment they enter the Local Fund service for an employment in the Government service, which they do the more anxiously because the attainment of the twenty-five years' age debars them from ever trying for it.

2. This being so, it must be clear that, if Government officers also aid the Local Fund servants in their efforts, anything like efficiency in the Local Fund service would be impossible.

3. The sanctioned number of Local Fund overseers for this district is ten, and the number actually employed is eight. The Local Fund Engineer now brings to my notice that appointments have been offered to four overseers in the department of Public Works without previous communication with him, and they are required to be relieved after a month's notice. He hears that two more are expecting appointments in Mr. Rundall's office, and he very justly complains that his department will be hindered in their work by this course. He appears to have protested against it to Mr. Rundall, who only informed him that he would not take them unless they had given the Local Fund Engineer a month's previous notice. This can hardly protect the efficiency of the Local Fund service when its servants are withdrawn in numbers and a better safeguard is certainly required. If this course is allowed to continue, the Local Fund service would only serve as a preparatory institute for the department of Public Works. Raw youths from college are first taken in by the Local Fund department, and when, with the training given, they begin to be useful, the department of Public Works wants their services. This is tantamount to the servants of the department of Public Works gaining their experience at the expense of the Local Funds.

4. Under these circumstances, I consider that there should be fixed rules regarding the employment of Local Fund subordinates in other departments. Between two private individuals it is considered improper for one to ask the servant of the other to enter his service, and I think that this is the principle which Government servants should act upon.

5. Should there be any objection to this course being followed, I think it necessary to raise the salaries of the Local Fund servants to the same standard as those of the subordinates of the department of Public Works and give them the pension and other privileges. Otherwise the Local Fund service must seriously suffer.

ORDER—dated 15th June 1885, No. 321 L.F., Financial.

The Government do not think it advisable to bind the Local Boards by any hard and fast rules upon this question. It is to be expected that Local Board employes will endeavour to obtain pensionable appointments under Government. The President can, however, insist upon agreements being taken from all subordinates binding them not to quit the Local Board service without giving three months' previous notice. The Public Works department will issue instructions to Superintending Engineers that three months' notice should, except in cases of emergency, be given to District Boards in cases where Local Board's subordinates may be taken into Government employ.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, District Board, Godavari.
„ all other Presidents of District Boards.
„ the Public Works Department.

Gobt. of (1885) Madras.

FINANCIAL.

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Issued

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Encl.

G.O., 15th June 1885, No. 321 L.F.

B.N. 1559484-7-85

JUNE.

Local Fund Servants.

Passing orders on letter from the President, District Board, Godáviri, requesting that some rules may be issued regulating the employment of — in the Government service.

15TH JUNE 1885, No. 321 L.F., FINANCIAL.

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(True Extract.)

M. J. Mannick
Chief Secretary.

To the President, District Board, Godavari.
„ all other Presidents of District Boards.
„ the Public Works Department.

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