GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442.

Read—also the following papers :—

From the President, Local Fund Board,	Anantapur,	dated	6th	June	1884, No.	14.
„ „ „	„	„	23rd	„	„ „	17.
„ „ „	Arcot, North,	„	14th	Aug.	„ „	326.
„ „ „	Arcot, South,	„	29th	May	„ „	38.
„ „ „	Bellary,	„	25th	Sept.	„ „	——
„ „ „	Canara, South,	„	6th	„	„ „	1254.
„ „ „	Chingleput,	„	27th	May	„ „	31.
„ „ „	Cuddapah,	„	1st	June	„ „	45.
„ „ „	Coimbatore,	„	10th	May	„ „	317 L.F.
„ „ „	Ganjam,	„	16th	Aug.	„ „	980.
„ „ „	Godávari,	„	23rd	Sept.	„ „	86.
„ „ „	Kistna	„	23rd	„	„ „	968.
„ „ „	Kurnool	„	16th	May	„ „	19.
„ „ „	Madura,	„	23rd	June	„ „	61.
„ „ „	Malabar,	„	1st	Sept.	„ „	1045.
„ „ „	Nellore,	„	11th	July	„ „	29.
„ „ „	Nilgiris,	„	28th	May	„ „	34.
„ „ „	Salem,	„	21st	„	„ „	1225.
„ „ „	Tanjore,	„	16th	Aug.	„ „	1291.
„ „ „	Tinnevelly,	„	13th	Dec.	„ „	145.
„ „ „	Trichinopoly,	„	2nd	June	„ „	542.
„ „ „	Vizagapatam,	„	29th	July	„ „	470.
„ Accountant-General,		„	21st	June	„ „	62-L.F.D.
„ „		„	21st	Feb. 1885,	„	186-L.F.D.

Resolution—dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

In G.O., dated 6th December 1882, No. 3211 W., Public Works Department, the contribution to be paid from Local Funds for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works by the Public Works Department was fixed at Rs. 21,250 per annum. The Board, however, observed in their Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, that as the number of estimates examined by the Chief Engineer in each year since the issue of G.O., dated 22nd March 1880, No. 609, was very small, the cost of the scrutiny for each estimate was proportionately heavy, and requested the Presidents of Local Fund

1880-81	35
1881-82	85
1882-83 (nine months)	51
Total ..	171

Boards to report, at the end of 1883, the number of cases in which it was found expedient to consult the Public Works Department, as it was thought that, as time went on, Presidents would avail themselves more freely of the services of Superintending Engineers. Again, in their Proceedings, dated 5th March 1884, No. 743, reviewing the operations of Local Funds for the year 1882-83, the Board remarked that the amount of contribution paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of the estimates and plans for Local Fund works was excessive, being 23 per cent. of the outlay on works, the estimates for which were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and promised to submit the matter for the orders of Government on receipt of the information called for from the Presidents in paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, above referred to. The Government, in paragraph 11 of their order thereon, dated 10th July 1884, No. 1533, agreed with the Board in their opinion, and awaited the further communication promised on the subject.

2. As the district reports failed to supply adequate information on which to base an opinion in regard to the question whether Local Funds obtained a fair return for the contribution paid by them, the Presidents were requested, in Board's Proceedings, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442, to furnish a statement in the form therein prescribed, and to this reference the above read letters are submitted in reply. Owing, however, to the numerous inaccuracies detected in these statements, the Board found it necessary to call upon the Accountant-General to furnish them with a statement of the expenditure incurred in 1883-84 on works whose estimates and plans were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and from the figures given by him, the following statement has been compiled:—

Circles.	1882-83. Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	1882-83. Total value of the estimates.	1882-83. Expenditure incurred on such estimates.	1882-83. Amount contributed from Local Funds.	1883-84. Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	1883-84. Total value of the estimates.	1883-84. Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1883-84.	1883-84. Percentage of column 5 to 4.	1883-84. Percentage of column 5 to 3.
1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	7	6
		Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs.	Rs. A. P.		
1. Anantapur	1	4,650	2,544 0 0	697 6 4	..	..	..	..	..
2. Arcot, North	1	14,708	800 0 0	187 14 0	3	21,938	11,732 2 0	23·5	12·8
3. Arcot, South	4	42,268	1,741 6 3	408 13 11	3	30,550	8,404 6 1	23·5	1·3
4. Bellary	2	11,992	3,806 4 1	893 13 3	..	..	..	..	1·0
5. Canara, South	3	47,507	14,384 14 5	3,378 4 1	3	50,500	13,593 2 0	23·5	7·5
6. Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	8,030	1,396 5 6	..	7·1
7. Coimbatore	..	..	..	..	2	6,400	..	..	..
8. Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	1	20,560	10,763 4 4	..	..
9. Ganjam	8	64,575	13,986 15 2	3,284 12 8	2	2,700	712 3 6	23·5	5·1
10. Godávari	2	1,85,208	23,935 1 10	6,621 0 8	1	89,303	24,106 0 0	23·5	3·0
11. Kistna	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Kurnool	1	22,260	..	..	1	11,800	3,400 0 0	..	..
13. Madura	..	..	..	..	1	5,035	4,503 10 10	..	..
14. Malabar	..	..	..	..	4	1,58,215	26,062 11 4	..	..
15. Nellore	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Nilgiris	1	18,000	8,200 15 10	1,925 15 7	..	4,126	4,723 7 9	..	..
17. Salem	1	7,400	225 0 0	52 13 5	27	1,01,170	20,438 0 0	23·5	10·7
18. Tanjore	2	9,730	8,551 14 3	2,008 6 6	3	23,320	6,874 13 3	23·5	0·7
19. Tinnevelly	1	4,500	2,243 0 0	526 12 3	3	47,575	2,651 7 5	23·5	20·6
20. Trichinopoly	3	22,436	10,066 3 10	2,363 15 4	3	14,940	10,235 2 1	23·5	11·7
21. Vizagapatam	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10·5
Total ..	30	4,55,234	90,485 10 8	21,250 0 0	61	5,96,162	1,49,596 12 1	23·5	4·7

Circles.	Total.								1883-84—*contd.*							
	Expenditure.	Percentage of column 13 to 12.	Number of estimates.	Value of estimates.	Amount contributed.	Percentage of column 19 to 17.	Percentage of column 19 to 18.		Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1882-83.	Total of columns 10 and 11.	Amount contributed from Local Funds.	Percentage of column 13 to 9.				
	18	15	16	17	19	20	21		11	12	13	14				
	Rs. A. P.			Rs.	Rs. A. P.				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.					
1. Anantapur	4,853 8 5	10·1	1	4,650	830 14 6	17·9	17·1		2,309 8 5	2,309 8 5	233 8 2	..				
2. Arcot, North	14,966 6 2	10·1	4	36,646	1,619 14 0	4·4	10·8		2,434 4 2	14,166 6 2	1,432 0 0	6·6				
3. Arcot, South	72,714 14 6	10·1	7	72,818	2,933 11 9	4·0	11·0		16,572 3 2	24,976 9 3	2,524 13 10	8·3				
4. Bellary	11,778 2 3	10·1	2	11,992	1,699 11 2	14·2	14·4		7,971 14 2	7,971 14 2	805 13 11	..				
5. Canara, South ..	40,198 12 6	10·1	6	98,007	5,987 11 9	6·1	14·9		12,220 12 1	25,813 14 1	2,609 7 8	5·2				
6. Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..				
7. Coimbatore	1,396 5 6	10·1	2	8,030	141 1 11	1·8	10·1		..	1,396 5 6	141 1 11	1·8				
8. Cuddapah	1,991 12 4	10·1	1	6,400	201 5 11	3·1	10·1		1,991 12 4	1,991 12 4	201 5 11	3·1				
9. Ganjam	10,763 4 4	10·1	2	20,660	1,088 0 1	5·3	10·1		..	10,763 4 4	1,088 0 1	5·3				
10. Godávari	14,699 2 8	10·1	9	67,275	3,356 12 3	5·0	22·9		..	712 3 6	71 15 7	2·7				
11. Kistna	48,904 1 10	10·1	6	2,74,511	8,145 1 6	3·0	16·7		863 0 0	24,969 0 0	2,524 0 10	2·8				
12. Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..				
13. Madura	10,814 0 0	10·1	2	34,060	1,093 2 6	3·2	10·1		7,414 0 0	10,814 0 0	1,093 2 6	9·3				
14. Malabar	4,503 10 10	10·1	2	5,035	455 4 10	9·0	10·1		..	4,503 10 10	455 4 10	9·0				
15. Nellore	26,062 11 4	10·1	1	1,58,215	2,634 10 2	1·7	10·1		..	26,062 11 4	2,634 10 2	1·7				
16. Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..				
17. Salem	12,924 7 7	10·1	1	22,126	2,403 6 7	10·9	18·6		..	4,723 7 9	477 7 0	11·				
18. Tanjore	21,742 0 0	10·1	28	1,08,570	2,227 14 10	2·0	10·2		21,517 0 0	21,517 0 0	2,175 1 5	2·1				
19. Tinnevelly	15,426 11 6	10·1	5	33,050	2,703 6 1	8·2	17·5		6,874 13 3	6,874 13 3	694 15 7	3·0				
20. Trichinopoly	4,894 7 5	10·1	4	52,075	794 12 0	1·5	16·2		2,651 7 5	2,651 7 5	267 15 9	0·6				
21. Vizagapatam	28,061 13 11	10·1	6	37,376	4,183 2 2	11·2	14·9		7,760 8 0	17,995 10 1	1,819 2 10	12·2				
Total ..	3,00,699 5 1	10·1	91	10,51,396	42,500 0 0	4·0	14·1		60,616 14 4	2,10,213 10 5	21,250 0 0	3·6				

3. It will be observed from the above statement that the percentage of the contribution paid from Local Funds has fallen from 23 in 1882-83 to 10 in 1883-84, the large decrease being due to the fact that the expenditure incurred on such works in 1883-84 was more than double that incurred in the preceding year. The foregoing remarks contrast the contribution with expenditure, but a fairer method is to compare the contribution with the value of the estimates; the substitution of this process gives 4·7 and 3·6 as the percentages of 1882-83 and 1883-84, respectively. Even this rate is high when compared with that fixed in G.O., dated 28th April 1880, No. 871, for the preparation of designs and estimates for Government works by the Local Fund Engineering Establishment, viz., 5 per cent. on the amount of the estimate. From another point of view, it will be seen that in 1882-83 and 1883-84, Rs. 21,250 were each year contributed for the scrutiny of thirty and sixty-one estimates, which was at the rate of Rs. 708 in the former, and Rs. 348 in the latter, year, for the scrutiny of each estimate, which seems an unnecessarily high contribution, because the labor of preparation very much exceeds that of simple scrutiny. Under these circumstances, as materials for the formation of a definite opinion are at length before them, the Board resolve to recommend to Government that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates shall be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. F. MACCARTIE,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with twenty-four papers, in original, to be returned.
„ all Presidents of Local Fund Boards.
„ the Accountant-General.

No. 32.

Referred to the Public Works Department for remarks.

(By Order.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Under Secretary.

MADRAS,
2nd May 1885.

No. 155-E.

MEMORANDUM.

Adverting to endorsement from the Financial Department, No. 32, dated 2nd May 1885, referring to the Public Works Department, for remarks, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1124, dated 31st March 1885, embodying a suggestion that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates should be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof, the undersigned has the honor to observe that the charge of Rs. 21,250 per annum now made to Local Funds, when distributed among the various circles, appears to be by no means excessive. There are twenty-one Local Fund circles, and the average annual contribution from each circle is Rs. 1,000, or about Rs. 84 monthly. The average monthly charge to each Local Fund circle is thus little more than the pay of a second-grade overseer, and for this amount the Local Fund Boards obtain the professional advice of officers of long and varied experience.

2. It is greatly to the advantage of public interests that Local Fund Boards should be encouraged to avail themselves to the utmost of the professional experience which is placed at their disposal, and in this aspect it appears better that the contribution should be in the shape of a fixed annual sum, than in that of a percentage charge on the amount of the estimates forwarded for departmental scrutiny.

3. If the Financial Department considers the contribution now made by the Local Fund Boards to be excessive, this department is of opinion that the proper course is to reduce its amount, but not to substitute for it a percentage charge.

OOTACAMUND, 28*th May* 1885. (Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E., *Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.*

To the Financial Department, with its C. No. 103 L.F., returned.

From the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 28th January 1886, No. 369-C.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding statements showing the number and value of estimates for Local Fund works finally approved by Superintending Engineers during 1882-83, 1883-84, and 1884-85.

ORDER—dated 5th October 1886, No. 1263 L.F., Financial.

On a careful consideration of the foregoing papers, the Government are of opinion that the present arrangement should be discontinued. The sum of Rs. 21,250 now paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works covers the whole cost of an establishment engaged not only on local work but also on that of the Public Works Department, which is clearly unfair to the local boards. The Government accordingly accept the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution should in future be fixed at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department. This arrangement will accordingly come into force from 1st April 1886.

2. The attention of all Presidents of District Boards will be called to No. 36 of the new Local Fund rules sanctioned in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L.F., under which only estimates for new works connected with buildings, drainage and masonry, and generally all works of a special or unusual character, amounting to upwards of Rs. 2,500, and for all other new works amounting to upwards of Rs. 5,000, need be sent to the Public Works Department for scrutiny.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ all Presidents of District Boards.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

23-2-87

Order thereon no: 2818 W a/25.10.86

Communicated with reference to G.O.no: 3211 W of 6/12/83. to the Examiner. P.W. accounts in view to the necessary adjustments being effected, also to Superintending Engineer for information.

(Sgd) D.M.L.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 5th Oct. 1886, No. 1263 L.F.

Bno. 2818 W a/25th Oct/86

OCTOBER.

Scrutiny of Plans and Estimates.

Accepting the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution for the — for Local Fund works should, in future, be fixed at the rate of 2½ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department; ordering that this arrangement be brought into force from 1st April 1886, and stating what estimates should be so scrutinized.

Ex. P.W. abs
Inspr Gen

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442.

Read—also the following papers :—

From the President, Local Fund Board,	Anantapur,	dated	6th June	1884,	No.	14.
„ „ „	„	„	23rd „	„	„	17.
„ „ „	Arcot, North,	„	14th Aug.	„	„	326.
„ „ „	Arcot, South,	„	29th May	„	„	38.
„ „ „	Bellary,	„	25th Sept.	„	„	—
„ „ „	Canara, South,	„	6th „	„	„	1254.
„ „ „	Chingleput,	„	27th May	„	„	31.
„ „ „	Cuddapah,	„	1st June	„	„	45.
„ „ „	Coimbatore,	„	10th May	„	„	317 L.F.
„ „ „	Ganjam,	„	16th Aug.	„	„	980.
„ „ „	Godávari,	„	23rd Sept.	„	„	86.
„ „ „	Kistna	„	23rd „	„	„	968.
„ „ „	Kurnool	„	16th May	„	„	19.
„ „ „	Madura,	„	23rd June	„	„	61.
„ „ „	Malabar,	„	1st Sept.	„	„	1045.
„ „ „	Nellore,	„	11th July	„	„	20.
„ „ „	Nilgiris,	„	28th May	„	„	34.
„ „ „	Salem,	„	21st „	„	„	1225.
„ „ „	Tanjore,	„	16th Aug.	„	„	1291.
„ „ „	Tinnevelly,	„	13th Dec.	„	„	145.
„ „ „	Trichinopoly,	„	2nd June	„	„	542.
„ „ „	Vizagapatam,	„	29th July	„	„	470.
„ Accountant-General,		„	21st June	„	„	62-L.F.D.
„ „		„	21st Feb. 1885,	„	„	186-L.F.D.

Resolution—dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

In G.O., dated 6th December 1882, No. 3211 W., Public Works Department, the contribution to be paid from Local Funds for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works by the Public Works Department was fixed at Rs. 21,250 per annum. The Board, however, observed in their Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, that as the number of estimates examined by the Chief Engineer in each year since the issue of G.O., dated 22nd March 1880, No. 609, was very small, the cost of the scrutiny for each estimate was proportionately heavy, and requested the Presidents of Local Fund

1880-81	35
1881-82	85
1882-83 (nine months)	51
Total ..	171

Boards to report, at the end of 1883, the number of cases in which it was found expedient to consult the Public Works Department, as it was thought that, as time went on, Presidents would avail themselves more freely of the services of Superintending Engineers. Again, in their Proceedings, dated 5th March 1884, No. 743, reviewing the operations of Local Funds for the year 1882-83, the Board remarked that the amount of contribution paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of the estimates and plans for Local Fund works was excessive, being 23 per cent. of the outlay on works, the estimates for which were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and promised to submit the matter for the orders of Government on receipt of the information called for from the Presidents in paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, above referred to. The Government, in paragraph 11 of their order thereon, dated 10th July 1884, No. 1533, agreed with the Board in their opinion, and awaited the further communication promised on the subject.

2. As the district reports failed to supply adequate information on which to base an opinion in regard to the question whether Local Funds obtained a fair return for the contribution paid by them, the Presidents were requested, in Board's Proceedings, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442, to furnish a statement in the form therein prescribed, and to this reference the above read letters are submitted in reply. Owing, however, to the numerous inaccuracies detected in these statements, the Board found it necessary to call upon the Accountant-General to furnish them with a statement of the expenditure incurred in 1883-84 on works whose estimates and plans were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and from the figures given by him, the following statement has been compiled :—

Circles.	1882-83. Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	1882-83. Total value of the estimates.	1882-83. Expenditure incurred on such estimates.	1882-83. Amount contributed from Local Funds.	1883-84. Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	1883-84. Total value of the estimates.	1883-84. Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1883-84.	1883-84. Percentage of column 5 to 4.	1883-84. Percentage of column 5 to 3.
1	2	3	4	5	8	9	10	7	6
		Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Rs.	Rs. A. P.		
1. Anantapur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Arcot, North	1	4,650	2,544 0 0	697 6 4	..	..	..	..	..
3. Arcot, South	1	14,708	800 0 0	187 14 0	3	21,938	11,732 2 0	23·5	53·4
4. Bellary	4	42,268	1,741 6 3	408 13 11	3	30,550	8,404 6 1	23·5	27·0
5. Canara, South ..	2	11,992	3,806 4 1	893 13 3	..	..	..	..	..
6. Chingleput	3	47,507	14,384 14 5	3,378 4 1	3	50,500	13,593 2 0	23·5	28·6
7. Coimbatore	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Ganjam	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Godávari	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Kistna	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Kurnool	1	22,260	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Madura	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Malabar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15. Nellore	..	..	..	..	2	8,030	1,396 5 6	17·4	17·4
16. Nilgiris	1	18,000	8,200 15 10	1,925 15 7	1	6,400	..	..	..
17. Salem	1	7,400	225 0 0	52 13 5	2	20,560	10,763 4 4	52·3	52·3
18. Tanjore	1	9,730	8,551 14 3	2,008 6 6	1	2,700	712 3 6	26·4	7·3
19. Tinnevelly	2	4,500	2,243 0 0	526 12 3	4	89,303	24,106 0 0	27·0	26·9
20. Trichinopoly	1	22,436	10,066 3 10	2,363 15 4	..	..	..	..	..
21. Vizagapatam	3	4,55,234	90,485 10 8	21,250 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
					11	11,800	3,400 0 0	28·8	28·8
					1	5,035	4,503 10 10	89·4	89·4
					1	1,58,215	26,062 11 4	16·4	16·4
					4	..	4,723 7 9	..	..
					..	4,126	..	..	..
					27	1,01,170	20,438 0 0	20·1	20·1
					3	23,320	6,874 13 3	29·4	29·4
					3	47,575	2,651 7 5	5·5	5·5
					3	14,940	10,235 2 1	68·5	68·5
Total ..	30	4,55,234	90,485 10 8	21,250 0 0	61	6,96,162	1,49,596 12 1	23·5	4·7

1883-84—*contd.*

Circles.	Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1882-83.	Total of columns 10 and 11.	Amount contributed from Local Funds.	Percentage of column 13 to 9.	Total. Number of estimates.	Total. Value of estimates.	Total. Expenditure.	Total. Amount contributed.	Percentage of column 13 to 12.	Percentage of column 19 to 17.	Percentage of column 19 to 18.
	11	12	13	14	16	17	18	19	15	20	21
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
1. Anantapur	2,809 8 5	2,809 8 5	233 8 2	..	1	4,650	4,853 8 5	830 14 6	10·1	17·9	17·1
2. Arcot, North	2,484 4 2	14,166 6 2	1,432 0 0	6·5	4	36,646	14,966 6 2	1,619 14 0	10·1	4·4	10·8
3. Arcot, South	16,572 3 2	24,976 9 3	2,624 13 10	8·3	7	72,818	26,717 14 6	2,933 11 9	10·1	4·0	11·0
4. Bellary	7,971 14 2	7,971 14 2	805 13 11	..	2	11,992	11,778 2 3	1,699 11 2	10·1	14·2	14·4
5. Canara, South	12,220 12 1	25,813 14 1	2,609 7 8	6·2	6	98,007	40,198 12 6	5,987 11 9	10·1	6·1	14·9
6. Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Coimbatore	..	1,396 5 6	141 1 11	1·8	2	8,030	1,396 5 6	141 1 11	10·1	1·8	10·1
8. Cuddapah	1,991 12 4	1,991 12 4	201 5 11	3·1	1	6,400	1,991 12 4	201 6 11	10·1	3·1	10·1
9. Ganjam	..	10,763 4 4	1,088 0 1	6·3	2	20,560	10,763 4 4	1,088 0 1	10·1	6·3	22·9
10. Godavari	..	712 3 6	71 15 7	2·7	9	67,275	14,699 2 8	3,356 12 3	10·1	5·0	16·7
11. Kistna	863 0 0	24,969 0 0	2,524 0 10	2·8	6	2,74,611	48,904 1 10	8,145 1 6	10·1	3·0	..
12. Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Madura	7,414 0 0	10,814 0 0	1,093 2 6	9·3	2	34,060	10,814 0 0	1,093 2 6	10·1	3·2	10·1
14. Malabar	..	4,503 10 10	455 4 10	9·0	1	5,035	4,503 10 10	455 4 10	10·1	9·0	10·1
15. Nellore	..	26,062 11 4	2,634 10 2	1·7	4	1,58,215	26,062 11 4	2,634 10 2	10·1	1·7	10·1
16. Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Salem	..	4,723 7 9	477 7 0	11·	1	22,126	12,924 7 7	2,403 6 7	10·1	10·9	18·6
18. Tanjore	1,079 0 0	21,517 0 0	2,175 1 5	2·1	28	1,08,570	21,742 0 0	2,227 14 10	10·1	2·0	10·2
19. Tinnevelly	..	6,874 13 3	694 15 7	3·0	5	33,050	15,426 11 6	2,703 6 1	10·1	8·2	17·5
20. Trichinopoly	..	2,651 7 5	267 15 9	0·6	4	52,075	4,894 7 5	794 12 0	10·1	1·5	16·2
21. Vizagapatam	7,760 8 0	17,995 10 1	1,819 2 10	12·2	6	37,376	28,061 13 11	4,183 2 2	10·1	11·2	14·9
Total ..	60,616 14 4	2,10,218 10 5	21,250 0 0	3·6	91	10,51,396	3,00,699 5 1	42,560 0 0	10·1	4·0	14·1

3. It will be observed from the above statement that the percentage of the contribution paid from Local Funds has fallen from 23 in 1882-83 to 10 in 1883-84, the large decrease being due to the fact that the expenditure incurred on such works in 1883-84 was more than double that incurred in the preceding year. The foregoing remarks contrast the contribution with expenditure, but a fairer method is to compare the contribution with the value of the estimates; the substitution of this process gives 4·7 and 3·6 as the percentages of 1882-83 and 1883-84, respectively. Even this rate is high when compared with that fixed in G.O., dated 28th April 1880, No. 871, for the preparation of designs and estimates for Government works by the Local Fund Engineering Establishment, viz., 5 per cent. on the amount of the estimate. From another point of view, it will be seen that in 1882-83 and 1883-84, Rs. 21,250 were each year contributed for the scrutiny of thirty and sixty-one estimates, which was at the rate of Rs. 708 in the former, and Rs. 348 in the latter, year, for the scrutiny of each estimate, which seems an unnecessarily high contribution, because the labor of preparation very much exceeds that of simple scrutiny. Under these circumstances, as materials for the formation of a definite opinion are at length before them, the Board resolve to recommend to Government that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates shall be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. F. MACCARTIE,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with twenty-four papers, in original, to be returned.
„ all Presidents of Local Fund Boards.
„ the Accountant-General.

No. 32.

Referred to the Public Works Department for remarks.

(By Order.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Under Secretary.

MADRAS,
2nd May 1885.

No. 155-E.

MEMORANDUM.

Adverting to endorsement from the Financial Department, No. 32, dated 2nd May 1885, referring to the Public Works Department, for remarks, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1124, dated 31st March 1885, embodying a suggestion that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates should be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof, the undersigned has the honor to observe that the charge of Rs. 21,250 per annum now made to Local Funds, when distributed among the various circles, appears to be by no means excessive. There are twenty-one Local Fund circles, and the average annual contribution from each circle is Rs. 1,000, or about Rs. 84 monthly. The average monthly charge to each Local Fund circle is thus little more than the pay of a second-grade overseer, and for this amount the Local Fund Boards obtain the professional advice of officers of long and varied experience.

2. It is greatly to the advantage of public interests that Local Fund Boards should be encouraged to avail themselves to the utmost of the professional experience which is placed at their disposal, and in this aspect it appears better that the contribution should be in the shape of a fixed annual sum, than in that of a percentage charge on the amount of the estimates forwarded for departmental scrutiny.

3. If the Financial Department considers the contribution now made by the Local Fund Boards to be excessive, this department is of opinion that the proper course is to reduce its amount, but not to substitute for it a percentage charge.

OOTACAMUND, 28*th May* 1885. (Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E., *Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.*

To the Financial Department, with its C. No. 103 L.F., returned.

From the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 28th January 1886, No. 369-C.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding statements showing the number and value of estimates for Local Fund works finally approved by Superintending Engineers during 1882-83, 1883-84, and 1884-85.

ORDER—dated 5th October 1886, No. 1263 L.F., Financial.

On a careful consideration of the foregoing papers, the Government are of opinion that the present arrangement should be discontinued. The sum of Rs. 21,250 now paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works covers the whole cost of an establishment engaged not only on local work but also on that of the Public Works Department, which is clearly unfair to the local boards. The Government accordingly accept the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution should in future be fixed at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department. This arrangement will accordingly come into force from 1st April 1886.

2. The attention of all Presidents of District Boards will be called to No. 36 of the new Local Fund rules sanctioned in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L.F., under which only estimates for new works connected with buildings, drainage and masonry, and generally all works of a special or unusual character, amounting to upwards of Rs. 2,500, and for all other new works amounting to upwards of Rs. 5,000, need be sent to the Public Works Department for scrutiny.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ all Presidents of District Boards.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

2

2818 W a/25 Oct/86

Communicated, with a reference to G.O. No. 3211W. dated 6th December 1882, to the Examiner P. W. Accounts in view to the necessary adjustments being effected; also to the Suptg. Engineers for information.

(Sd) J. O. H.

Exr. P. W. Accts
Suptg. Engrs.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 5th Oct. 1886, No. 1263 L.F.

No. 2818 W a/25th Oct/86

OCTOBER.

V66 W

Scrutiny of Plans and Estimates.

Accepting the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution for the — for Local Fund works should, in future, be fixed at the rate of 2½ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department; ordering that this arrangement be brought into force from 1st April 1886, and stating what estimates should be so scrutinized.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442.

Read—also the following papers :—

From the President, Local Fund Board,	Anantapur,	dated	6th June 1884,	No.	14.
,, ,, ,,	,,	,,	23rd ,,	,,	17.
,, ,, ,,	Arcot, North,	,,	14th Aug. ,,	,,	326.
,, ,, ,,	Arcot, South,	,,	29th May ,,	,,	38.
,, ,, ,,	Bellary,	,,	25th Sept. ,,	,,	
,, ,, ,,	Canara, South,	,,	6th ,, ,,	,,	1254.
,, ,, ,,	Chingleput,	,,	27th May ,,	,,	31.
,, ,, ,,	Cuddapah,	,,	1st June ,,	,,	45.
,, ,, ,,	Coimbatore,	,,	10th May ,,	,,	317 L.F.
,, ,, ,,	Ganjam,	,,	16th Aug. ,,	,,	980.
,, ,, ,,	Godávari,	,,	23rd Sept. ,,	,,	86.
,, ,, ,,	Kistna	,,	23rd ,, ,,	,,	968.
,, ,, ,,	Kurnool	,,	16th May ,,	,,	19.
,, ,, ,,	Madura,	,,	23rd June ,,	,,	61.
,, ,, ,,	Malabar,	,,	1st Sept. ,,	,,	1045.
,, ,, ,,	Nellore,	,,	11th July ,,	,,	29.
,, ,, ,,	Nilgiris,	,,	28th May ,,	,,	34.
,, ,, ,,	Salem,	,,	21st ,, ,,	,,	1225.
,, ,, ,,	Tanjore,	,,	16th Aug. ,,	,,	1291.
,, ,, ,,	Tinnevelly,	,,	13th Dec. ,,	,,	145.
,, ,, ,,	Trichinopoly,	,,	2nd June ,,	,,	542.
,, ,, ,,	Vizagapatam,	,,	29th July ,,	,,	470.
,, ,, ,,		,,	21st June ,,	,,	62-L.F.D.
,, Accountant-General,		,,	21st Feb. 1885,	,,	186-L.F.D.
,, ,,					

Resolution—dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

In G.O., dated 6th December 1882, No. 3211 W., Public Works Department, the contribution to be paid from Local Funds for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works by the Public Works Department was fixed at Rs. 21,250 per annum. The Board, however, observed in their Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, that as the number of estimates examined by the Chief Engineer in each year since the issue of G.O., dated 22nd March 1880, No. 609, was very small, the cost of the scrutiny for each estimate was proportionately heavy, and requested the Presidents of Local Fund

1880-81	35
1881-82	85
1882-83 (nine months)	51
Total ..	171

Boards to report, at the end of 1883, the number of cases in which it was found expedient to consult the Public Works Department, as it was thought that, as time went on, Presidents would avail themselves more freely of the services of Superintending Engineers. Again, in their Proceedings, dated 5th March 1884, No. 743, reviewing the operations of Local Funds for the year 1882-83, the Board remarked that the amount of contribution paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of the estimates and plans for Local Fund works was excessive, being 23 per cent. of the outlay on works, the estimates for which were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and promised to submit the matter for the orders of Government on receipt of the information called for from the Presidents in paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, above referred to. The Government, in paragraph 11 of their order thereon, dated 10th July 1884, No. 1533, agreed with the Board in their opinion, and awaited the further communication promised on the subject.

2. As the district reports failed to supply adequate information on which to base an opinion in regard to the question whether Local Funds obtained a fair return for the contribution paid by them, the Presidents were requested, in Board's Proceedings, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442, to furnish a statement in the form therein prescribed, and to this reference the above read letters are submitted in reply. Owing, however, to the numerous inaccuracies detected in these statements, the Board found it necessary to call upon the Accountant-General to furnish them with a statement of the expenditure incurred in 1883-84 on works whose estimates and plans were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and from the figures given by him, the following statement has been compiled:—

Circles.	1882-83. Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	1882-83. Total value of the estimates.	1882-83. Expenditure incurred on such estimates.	1882-83. Amount contributed from Local Funds.	1882-83. Percentage of column 5 to 3.	1883-84. Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	1883-84. Total value of the estimates.	1883-84. Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1883-84.	1883-84. Percentage of column 5 to 4.
1	2	3	4	5	6	8	9	10	7
		Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Anantapur	1	4,650	2,544 0 0	597 6 4	12·8	..	..	..	23·5
2. Arcot, North	1	14,708	800 0 0	187 14 0	1·3	3	21,938	11,732 2 0	23·5
3. Arcot, South	4	42,268	1,741 5 3	408 13 11	1·0	3	30,550	8,404 6 1	23·5
4. Bellary	2	11,992	3,806 4 1	893 13 3	7·5	..	..	..	23·5
5. Canara, South	3	47,507	14,384 14 5	3,378 4 1	7·1	3	50,500	13,593 2 0	23·5
6. Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	2	8,030	1,396 5 6	..
7. Coimbatore	..	..	..	..	..	1	6,400	..	..
8. Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	2	20,560	10,763 4 4	..
9. Ganjam	..	..	..	..	..	1	2,700	712 3 6	23·5
10. Godávari	8	64,575	13,986 15 2	3,284 12 8	5·1	4	89,303	24,106 0 0	23·5
11. Kistna	2	1,85,208	23,935 1 10	5,621 0 8	3·0	..	..	..	23·5
12. Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Madura	1	22,200	..	..	..	1	11,800	3,400 0 0	..
14. Malabar	..	..	..	..	..	1	5,035	4,503 10 10	..
15. Nellore	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,53,215	26,062 11 4	..
16. Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Salem	1	18,000	8,200 15 10	1,925 15 7	10·7	..	4,126	4,723 7 9	23·5
18. Tanjore	1	7,400	225 0 0	52 13 5	0·7	27	1,01,170	20,438 0 0	23·5
19. Tinnevelly	2	9,730	8,551 14 3	2,008 6 6	20·6	3	23,320	6,874 13 3	23·5
20. Trichinopoly	1	4,500	2,243 0 0	526 12 3	11·7	3	47,575	2,651 7 5	23·5
21. Vizagapatam	3	22,436	10,066 3 10	2,363 15 4	10·5	3	14,940	10,235 2 1	23·5
Total ..	30	4,55,234	90,485 10 8	21,250 0 0	4·7	61	5,96,162	1,49,596 12 1	23·5

Circles.	1883-84—*contd.* Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1882-83.	1883-84—*contd.* Total of columns 10 and 11.	1883-84—*contd.* Amount contributed from Local Funds.	1883-84—*contd.* Percentage of column 13 to 9.	Total. Number of estimates.	Total. Value of estimates.	Total. Expenditure.	Total. Amount contributed.	Total. Percentage of column 19 to 17.	Total. Percentage of column 19 to 18.
	11	12	13	14	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
1. Anantapur ..	2,309 8 5	2,309 8 5	233 8 2	..	1	4,650	4,853 8 5	830 14 6	17·9	17·1
2. Arcot, North ..	2,434 4 2	14,166 6 2	1,432 0 0	6·5	4	36,646	14,966 6 2	1,619 14 0	4·4	10·8
3. Arcot, South ..	16,572 3 2	24,976 9 3	2,524 13 10	8·3	7	72,818	26,717 14 6	2,933 11 9	4·0	11·0
4. Bellary ..	7,971 14 2	7,971 14 2	805 13 11	..	2	11,992	11,778 2 3	1,699 11 2	14·2	14·4
5. Canara, South ..	12,220 12 1	25,813 14 1	2,609 7 8	6·2	6	98,007	40,198 12 6	6,987 11 9	6·1	14·9
6. Chingleput ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Coimbatore ..	..	1,396 5 6	141 1 11	1·8	2	8,030	1,396 5 6	141 1 11	1·8	10·1
8. Cuddapah ..	1,991 12 4	1,991 12 4	201 5 11	3·1	1	6,400	1,991 12 4	201 5 11	3·1	10·1
9. Ganjam ..	..	10,763 4 4	1,088 0 1	5·3	2	20,560	10,763 4 4	1,088 0 1	6·3	10·1
10. Godavari ..	..	712 3 6	71 15 7	2·7	9	67,275	14,699 2 8	3,356 12 3	5·0	22·9
11. Kistna ..	863 0 0	24,969 0 0	2,524 0 10	2·8	6	2,74,511	48,904 1 10	8,145 1 6	3·0	16·7
12. Kurnool ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Madura ..	7,414 0 0	10,814 0 0	1,093 2 6	9·3	2	34,060	10,814 0 0	1,093 2 6	3·2	10·1
14. Malabar ..	..	4,503 10 10	455 4 10	9·0	1	5,035	4,503 10 10	455 4 10	9·0	10·1
15. Nellore ..	..	26,062 11 4	2,634 10 2	1·7	4	1,58,215	26,062 11 4	2,634 10 2	1·7	10·1
16. Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Salem ..	..	4,723 7 9	477 7 0	11·	1	22,126	12,924 7 7	2,403 6 7	10·9	18·6
18. Tanjore ..	1,079 0 0	21,617 0 0	2,175 1 5	2·1	28	1,08,570	21,742 0 0	2,227 14 10	2·0	10·2
19. Tinnevelly ..	..	6,874 13 3	694 15 7	3·0	5	33,050	15,426 11 6	2,703 6 1	8·2	17·5
20. Trichinopoly ..	..	2,651 7 5	267 15 9	0·6	4	52,075	4,894 7 5	794 12 0	1·5	16·2
21. Vizagapatam ..	7,760 8 0	17,995 10 1	1,819 2 10	12·2	6	37,376	28,061 13 11	4,183 2 2	11·2	14·9
Total ..	60,616 14 4	2,10,213 10 5	21,250 0 0	3·6	91	10,51,396	3,00,699 5 1	42,500 0 0	4·0	14·1

3. It will be observed from the above statement that the percentage of the contribution paid from Local Funds has fallen from 23 in 1882-83 to 10 in 1883-84, the large decrease being due to the fact that the expenditure incurred on such works in 1883-84 was more than double that incurred in the preceding year. The foregoing remarks contrast the contribution with expenditure, but a fairer method is to compare the contribution with the value of the estimates; the substitution of this process gives 4·7 and 3·6 as the percentages of 1882-83 and 1883-84, respectively. Even this rate is high when compared with that fixed in G.O., dated 28th April 1880, No. 871, for the preparation of designs and estimates for Government works by the Local Fund Engineering Establishment, viz., 5 per cent. on the amount of the estimate. From another point of view, it will be seen that in 1882-83 and 1883-84, Rs. 21,250 were each year contributed for the scrutiny of thirty and sixty-one estimates, which was at the rate of Rs. 708 in the former, and Rs. 348 in the latter, year, for the scrutiny of each estimate, which seems an unnecessarily high contribution, because the labor of preparation very much exceeds that of simple scrutiny. Under these circumstances, as materials for the formation of a definite opinion are at length before them, the Board resolve to recommend to Government that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates shall be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. F. MACCARTIE,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with twenty-four papers, in original, to be returned.
„ all Presidents of Local Fund Boards.
„ the Accountant-General.

No. 32.

Referred to the Public Works Department for remarks.

(By Order.)

MADRAS,
2nd May 1885.

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Under Secretary.

No. 155-E.

MEMORANDUM.

Adverting to endorsement from the Financial Department, No. 32, dated 2nd May 1885, referring to the Public Works Department, for remarks, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1124, dated 31st March 1885, embodying a suggestion that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates should be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof, the undersigned has the honor to observe that the charge of Rs. 21,250 per annum now made to Local Funds, when distributed among the various circles, appears to be by no means excessive. There are twenty-one Local Fund circles, and the average annual contribution from each circle is Rs. 1,000, or about Rs. 84 monthly. The average monthly charge to each Local Fund circle is thus little more than the pay of a second-grade overseer, and for this amount the Local Fund Boards obtain the professional advice of officers of long and varied experience.

2. It is greatly to the advantage of public interests that Local Fund Boards should be encouraged to avail themselves to the utmost of the professional experience which is placed at their disposal, and in this aspect it appears better that the contribution should be in the shape of a fixed annual sum, than in that of a percentage charge on the amount of the estimates forwarded for departmental scrutiny.

3. If the Financial Department considers the contribution now made by the Local Fund Boards to be excessive, this department is of opinion that the proper course is to reduce its amount, but not to substitute for it a percentage charge.

OOTACAMUND,
28*th May* 1885.

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Financial Department, with its C. No. 103 L.F., returned.

From the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 28th January 1886, No. 369-C.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding statements showing the number and value of estimates for Local Fund works finally approved by Superintending Engineers during 1882-83, 1883-84, and 1884-85.

ORDER—dated 5th October 1886, No. 1263 L.F., Financial.

On a careful consideration of the foregoing papers, the Government are of opinion that the present arrangement should be discontinued. The sum of Rs. 21,250 now paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works covers the whole cost of an establishment engaged not only on local work but also on that of the Public Works Department, which is clearly unfair to the local boards. The Government accordingly accept the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution should in future be fixed at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department. This arrangement will accordingly come into force from 1st April 1886.

2. The attention of all Presidents of District Boards will be called to No. 36 of the new Local Fund rules sanctioned in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L.F., under which only estimates for new works connected with buildings, drainage and masonry, and generally all works of a special or unusual character, amounting to upwards of Rs. 2,500, and for all other new works amounting to upwards of Rs. 5,000, need be sent to the Public Works Department for scrutiny.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ all Presidents of District Boards.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

19-1-05 V

No. 2818 W a/25th Oct/86

Communicated with adverence to G.O. No. 3211 W. dated 6th December 1883, to the Examiner P.W. Accts in view to the necessary adjustments being effected; also to Supt.g. Engrs for information.

(Sd) J.O.H.

Exr. P.W. Accts
Supt.g. Engrs.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 5th Oct. 1886, No. 1263 L.F.

No. 2818 W a/25th Oct/86

OCTOBER.

Scrutiny of Plans and Estimates.

Accepting the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution for the — for Local Fund works should, in future, be fixed at the rate of 2½ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department; ordering that this arrangement be brought into force from 1st April 1886, and stating what estimates should be so scrutinized.

2 Copies to Govt
one Copy with file for Cr. 8452

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442.

Read—also the following papers :—

From the President, Local Fund Board,	Anantapur,	dated	6th June 1884,	No.	14.
„ „ „	„	„	23rd „	„	17.
„ „ „	Arcot, North,	„	14th Aug.	„	326.
„ „ „	Arcot, South,	„	29th May	„	38.
„ „ „	Bellary,	„	25th Sept.	„	—
„ „ „	Canara, South,	„	6th „	„	1254.
„ „ „	Chingleput,	„	27th May	„	31.
„ „ „	Cuddapah,	„	1st June	„	45.
„ „ „	Coimbatore,	„	10th May	„	317 L.F.
„ „ „	Ganjam,	„	16th Aug.	„	980.
„ „ „	Godávari,	„	23rd Sept.	„	86.
„ „ „	Kistna	„	23rd „	„	968.
„ „ „	Kurnool	„	16th May	„	19.
„ „ „	Madura,	„	23rd June	„	61.
„ „ „	Malabar,	„	1st Sept.	„	1045.
„ „ „	Nellore,	„	11th July	„	29.
„ „ „	Nilgiris,	„	28th May	„	34.
„ „ „	Salem,	„	21st „	„	1225.
„ „ „	Tanjore,	„	16th Aug.	„	1291.
„ „ „	Tinnevelly,	„	13th Dec.	„	145.
„ „ „	Trichinopoly,	„	2nd June	„	542.
„ „ „	Vizagapatam,	„	29th July	„	470.
„ Accountant-General,		„	21st June	„	„ 62-L.F.D.
„ „		„	21st Feb. 1885,	„	„ 186-L.F.D.

Resolution—dated 31st March 1885, No. 1124.

In G.O., dated 6th December 1882, No. 3211 W., Public Works Department, the contribution to be paid from Local Funds for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works by the Public Works Department was fixed at Rs. 21,250 per annum. The Board, however, observed in their Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, that as the number of estimates examined by the Chief Engineer in each year since the issue of G.O., dated 22nd March 1880, No. 609, was very small, the cost of the scrutiny for each estimate was proportionately heavy, and requested the Presidents of Local Fund

1880-81	35
1881-82	85
1882-83 (nine months)	51
Total ..	171

Boards to report, at the end of 1883, the number of cases in which it was found expedient to consult the Public Works Department, as it was thought that, as time went on, Presidents would avail themselves more freely of the services of Superintending Engineers. Again, in their Proceedings, dated 5th March 1884, No. 743, reviewing the operations of Local Funds for the year 1882-83, the Board remarked that the amount of contribution paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of the estimates and plans for Local Fund works was excessive, being 23 per cent. of the outlay on works, the estimates for which were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and promised to submit the matter for the orders of Government on receipt of the information called for from the Presidents in paragraph 3 of Board's Proceedings, dated 12th January 1883, No. 88, above referred to. The Government, in paragraph 11 of their order thereon, dated 10th July 1884, No. 1533, agreed with the Board in their opinion, and awaited the further communication promised on the subject.

2. As the district reports failed to supply adequate information on which to base an opinion in regard to the question whether Local Funds obtained a fair return for the contribution paid by them, the Presidents were requested, in Board's Proceedings, dated 29th April 1884, No. 1442, to furnish a statement in the form therein prescribed, and to this reference the above read letters are submitted in reply. Owing, however, to the numerous inaccuracies detected in these statements, the Board found it necessary to call upon the Accountant-General to furnish them with a statement of the expenditure incurred in 1883-84 on works whose estimates and plans were scrutinized by the Public Works Department, and from the figures given by him, the following statement has been compiled:—

Circles.	1882-83.						1883-84.			
	Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	Total value of the estimates.	Expenditure incurred on such estimates.	Amount contributed from Local Funds.	Percentage of column 5 to 3.	Percentage of column 5 to 4.	Number of estimates scrutinized and approved by Public Works Department.	Total value of the estimates.	Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1883-84.	
	1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
		Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.				Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
1. Anantapur		4,650	2,544 0 0	597 6 4	12·8	23·5				
2. Arcot, North	1	14,708	800 0 0	187 14 0	1·3	23·5				
3. Arcot, South	1	42,268	1,741 5 3	408 13 11	1·0	23·5	3	21,938	11,732 2 0	
4. Bellary	4	11,992	3,806 4 1	893 13 3	7·5	23·5	3	30,550	8,404 6 1	
5. Canara, South	3	47,507	14,384 14 5	3,378 4 1	7·1	23·5				
6. Chingleput							3	50,500	13,593 2 0	
7. Coimbatore							2	8,030	1,396 5 6	
8. Cuddapah							1	6,400		
9. Ganjam							2	20,560	10,763 4 4	
10. Godávari							1	2,700	712 3 6	
11. Kistna	8	64,575	13,986 15 2	3,284 12 8	5·1	23·5	4	89,303	24,106 0 0	
12. Kurnool	2	1,85,208	23,935 1 10	6,621 0 8	3·0	23·5				
13. Madura							1	11,800	3,400 0 0	
14. Malabar	1	22,260					1	6,035	4,503 10 10	
15. Nellore							4	1,58,215	26,062 11 4	
16. Nilgiris										
17. Salem							27	4,126	4,723 7 9	
18. Tanjore	1	18,000	8,200 15 10	1,925 15 7	10·7	23·5	27	1,01,170	20,498 0 0	
19. Tinnevelly	1	7,400	225 0 0	52 13 5	0·7	23·5	3	28,320	6,874 13 3	
20. Trichinopoly	2	9,730	8,551 14 3	2,008 6 6	20·6	23·5	3	47,575	2,651 7 5	
21. Vizagapatam	1	4,500	2,243 0 0	526 12 3	11·7	23·5	3	14,940	10,235 2 1	
	3	22,436	10,066 3 10	2,363 15 4	10·5	23·5				
Total	30	4,55,234	90,485 10 8	21,250 0 0	4·7	23·5	61	6,96,162	1,49,596 12 1	

Circles.	Total.				1883-84—*contd.*				Percentage of column 13 to 9.	Percentage of column 19 to 18.
	Number of estimates.	Value of estimates.	Expenditure.	Percentage of column 13 to 12.	Expenditure incurred on estimates approved in 1882-83.	Total of columns 10 and 11.	Amount contributed from Local Funds.	Percentage of column 19 to 17.		
	16	17	18	15	11	12	13	20	14	21
		Rs.	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
1. Anantapur	1	4,650	4,853 8 5	10·1	2,309 8 5	2,309 8 5	233 8 2	17·9	..	17·1
2. Arcot, North	4	36,646	14,966 6 2	10·1	2,434 4 2	14,166 6 2	1,432 0 0	4·4	6·5	10·8
3. Arcot, South	7	72,818	26,717 14 6	10·1	16,572 3 2	24,976 9 3	2,524 13 10	4·0	8·3	11·0
4. Bellary	2	11,992	11,778 2 3	10·1	7,971 14 2	7,971 14 2	805 13 11	14·2	..	14·4
5. Canara, South	6	98,007	40,198 12 6	10·1	12,220 12 1	25,813 14 1	2,609 7 8	6·1	6·2	14·9
6. Chingleput	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Coimbatore	2	8,030	1,396 5 6	10·1	..	1,396 5 6	141 1 11	1·8	1·8	10·1
8. Cuddapah	1	6,400	1,991 12 4	10·1	1,991 12 4	1,991 12 4	201 6 11	3·1	3·1	10·1
9. Ganjam	2	20,560	10,763 4 4	10·1	..	10,763 4 4	1,088 0 1	5·3	6·3	10·1
10. Godavari	9	67,275	14,699 2 8	10·1	863 0 0	712 3 6	71 15 7	5·0	2·7	10·1
11. Kistna	6	2,74,511	48,904 1 10	10·1	..	24,969 0 0	2,524 0 10	5·0	2·8	22·9
12. Kurnool	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16·7
13. Madura	2	34,060	10,814 0 0	10·1	7,414 0 0	10,814 0 0	1,093 2 6	3·2	9·3	..
14. Malabar	1	5,035	4,503 10 10	10·1	..	4,503 10 10	455 4 10	9·0	9·0	10·1
15. Nellore	4	1,58,215	26,062 11 4	10·1	..	26,062 11 4	2,634 10 2	1·7	1·7	10·1
16. Nilgiris	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
17. Salem	1	22,126	12,924 7 7	10·1	..	4,723 7 9	477 7 0	10·9	11·	18·6
18. Tanjore	28	1,08,570	21,742 0 0	10·1	1,079 0 0	21,517 0 0	2,175 1 5	2·0	2·1	10·2
19. Tinnevelly	5	33,050	15,426 11 6	10·1	..	6,874 13 3	694 15 7	8·2	3·0	17·5
20. Trichinopoly	4	52,075	4,594 7 5	10·1	..	2,651 7 5	267 15 9	1·6	0·6	16·2
21. Vizagapatam	6	37,376	28,061 13 11	10·1	7,760 8 0	17,995 10 1	1,819 2 10	11·2	12·2	14·9
Total ..	91	10,51,396	3,00,699 5 1	10·1	60,616 14 4	2,10,213 10 5	21,250 0 0	4·0	3·6	14·1

3. It will be observed from the above statement that the percentage of the contribution paid from Local Funds has fallen from 23 in 1882-83 to 10 in 1883-84, the large decrease being due to the fact that the expenditure incurred on such works in 1883-84 was more than double that incurred in the preceding year. The foregoing remarks contrast the contribution with expenditure, but a fairer method is to compare the contribution with the value of the estimates; the substitution of this process gives 4·7 and 3·6 as the percentages of 1882-83 and 1883-84, respectively. Even this rate is high when compared with that fixed in G.O., dated 28th April 1880, No. 871, for the preparation of designs and estimates for Government works by the Local Fund Engineering Establishment, viz., 5 per cent. on the amount of the estimate. From another point of view, it will be seen that in 1882-83 and 1883-84, Rs. 21,250 were each year contributed for the scrutiny of thirty and sixty-one estimates, which was at the rate of Rs. 708 in the former, and Rs. 348 in the latter, year, for the scrutiny of each estimate, which seems an unnecessarily high contribution, because the labor of preparation very much exceeds that of simple scrutiny. Under these circumstances, as materials for the formation of a definite opinion are at length before them, the Board resolve to recommend to Government that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates shall be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) C. F. MACCARTIE,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with twenty-four papers, in original, to be returned.
„ all Presidents of Local Fund Boards.
„ the Accountant-General.

No. 32.

Referred to the Public Works Department for remarks.

(By Order.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Under Secretary.

MADRAS,
2nd May 1885.

No. 155-E.

MEMORANDUM.

Adverting to endorsement from the Financial Department, No. 32, dated 2nd May 1885, referring to the Public Works Department, for remarks, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1124, dated 31st March 1885, embodying a suggestion that the contribution payable by Local Fund Boards to the Public Works Department for scrutiny of estimates should be fixed at the uniform rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value thereof, the undersigned has the honor to observe that the charge of Rs. 21,250 per annum now made to Local Funds, when distributed among the various circles, appears to be by no means excessive. There are twenty-one Local Fund circles, and the average annual contribution from each circle is Rs. 1,000, or about Rs. 84 monthly. The average monthly charge to each Local Fund circle is thus little more than the pay of a second-grade overseer, and for this amount the Local Fund Boards obtain the professional advice of officers of long and varied experience.

2. It is greatly to the advantage of public interests that Local Fund Boards should be encouraged to avail themselves to the utmost of the professional experience which is placed at their disposal, and in this aspect it appears better that the contribution should be in the shape of a fixed annual sum, than in that of a percentage charge on the amount of the estimates forwarded for departmental scrutiny.

3. If the Financial Department considers the contribution now made by the Local Fund Boards to be excessive, this department is of opinion that the proper course is to reduce its amount, but not to substitute for it a percentage charge.

OOTACAMUND, 28*th May* 1885. (Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E., *Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.*

To the Financial Department, with its C. No. 103 L.F., returned.

From the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 28th January 1886, No. 369-C.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding statements showing the number and value of estimates for Local Fund works finally approved by Superintending Engineers during 1882-83, 1883-84, and 1884-85.

ORDER—dated 5th October 1886, No. 1263 L.F., Financial.

On a careful consideration of the foregoing papers, the Government are of opinion that the present arrangement should be discontinued. The sum of Rs. 21,250 now paid to the Public Works Department for the scrutiny of plans and estimates for Local Fund works covers the whole cost of an establishment engaged not only on local work but also on that of the Public Works Department, which is clearly unfair to the local boards. The Government accordingly accept the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution should in future be fixed at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department. This arrangement will accordingly come into force from 1st April 1886.

2. The attention of all Presidents of District Boards will be called to No. 36 of the new Local Fund rules sanctioned in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L.F., under which only estimates for new works connected with buildings, drainage and masonry, and generally all works of a special or unusual character, amounting to upwards of Rs. 2,500, and for all other new works amounting to upwards of Rs. 5,000, need be sent to the Public Works Department for scrutiny.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ all Presidents of District Boards.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Order thereon No: 2818 W a/25.10.86.

Communicated with advertance to Fr. No: 3211 W of 6th Dec. 86 to the Examiner P.W. accts. in view to the necessary adjustments being effected also to Superintending Engineers for information.

1561 D. me M.C.

D.W.

Govt. of {1886} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 5th Oct. 1886, No. 1263 L.F.

B No: 2818 W a/25th Oct: /86.

OCTOBER.

Scrutiny of Plans and Estimates.

Accepting the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the contribution for the — for Local Fund works should, in future, be fixed at the rate of 2½ per cent. on the value of the estimates scrutinized by the Public Works Department; ordering that this arrangement be brought into force from 1st April 1886, and stating what estimates should be so scrutinized.

To.
The Ex P. W. accounts
Supg Engineers.