

Number of pages 26
Date of report 14.5.88
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P. W. D.

P.O. no. 457-W
of 9.2.1888

26.8

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers :—

G.O., dated 23rd January 1888, No. 499, Revenue.

Read—the following letter from H. S. TAYLOR, Esq., Executive Engineer, Periyár Division, to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, dated Thekady, 20th December, 1887, No. 664 P.P. :—

I have the honor to bring the following case to your notice, and request that such representation may be made as you deem proper to prevent the recurrence of such annoyance.

2. At the end of last month my accounts show a balance in the treasury of Rs. 8,611-12-1. This sum exactly tallies with that shown as the balance at my credit on the 30th November in the pass-book received from the Deputy Collector.

3. On the 1st December I cashed a cheque for Rs. 8,000.

4. On the same date I received a letter, dated 28th November (copy herewith) from the Deputy Collector stating that a sum of Rs. 12,000 had been received to my credit to be drawn on from 1st December.

5. On the 13th December I drew a cheque for Rs. 12,000 and sent it to be cashed at Periyakulam as usual.

6. On the 15th the Tahsildar writes to say that he has received no credit for me for the month, and that he therefore cannot cash my cheque without communication with the Deputy Collector.

7. The usual procedure on the Deputy Collector's giving the notice of having received a new credit is for him to ask for a distribution return of the treasuries where the credit is to be placed. This has been unnecessary in the case of this division which has connection with one treasury only.

8. In the case of the first credit of all, that for October, I wrote to ask the Deputy Collector to place it at Periyakulam. Since that nothing has been said about any particular treasury, and the credit of Rs. 15,000 for November was rightly placed there! I naturally assumed that the credit for December would be similarly dealt with, especially as the Deputy Collector did not ask for any instructions on the subject.

9. Whatever be the mistake he has made, the Deputy Collector has failed to apprise the Tahsildar of Periyakulam of my new credit for December, and I am without funds to pay the coolies, who have not been paid for the month up to date.

10. The serious consequences to the progress of the work, situated as we are, which will arise immediately the coolies get into their heads that they cannot depend upon regular payment are too obvious to need description.

11. In fact they are so serious that I am inclined to ask that the Tahsildar may be ordered to honor any cheque I may send for cash, leaving any mistake there may be about overdraft to be settled afterwards.

Endorsement by the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, dated 21st December 1887, No. 456 P.R.

Submitted to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, for the consideration and orders of Government.

2. The Deputy Collector's carelessness in not apprising the Tahsildar of the sum placed to the Executive Engineer's credit has already caused the greatest possible inconvenience, and is not unlikely to lead to distrust among the coolies; should this be the case, a falling off in labor supply will be the certain consequence.

3. It is hoped that such notice will be taken as will prevent any possible repetition of a failure in supply of funds.

4. The only conceivable explanation that can be given is that the Deputy Collector was waiting for instructions as to the taluk treasury at which the Executive Engineer wished the money to be placed, but this explanation ought not to be accepted, as the former knew perfectly well that the latter had no occasion for a credit at any treasury but Periyakulam, and had in fact placed the credit for the previous month at that treasury (see paragraph 8 of Mr. Taylor's letter) without any further instructions.

5. Even if he had any doubt on the matter, the fact of the credit remaining untouched up to the 15th of the month should have led him to make inquiry on the point.

6. The suggestion contained in paragraph 11 of Mr. Taylor's letter is, I think, worthy of consideration. This course was adopted during the famine of 1876-78, and has doubtless been adopted at other times where delay in payments has been likely to cause serious inconvenience.

Endorsement, Financial Department, dated 7th January 1888.

Transferred to the Revenue Department for consideration and disposal.

Order—dated 23rd January 1888, No. 499, Revenue.

Forwarded to the Collector of Madura for early remarks, to be submitted through the Board of Revenue and the Accountant-General, regarding the complaint of carelessness brought against the treasury officer.

2. The suggestion referred to in paragraph 6 of the Superintending Engineer's endorsement will be disposed of in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. A. STUART,
Under Secretary to Government.

Office note by the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, dated Madras, 4th February 1888, No. 1036.

(Your office note No. 404-C., dated 31st January 1888.)

The whole thing appears to have been a not very immaterial mistake, for which the Executive Engineer was, I think, mainly responsible, inasmuch as he should not have counted on the treasury officer transferring the credit without instructions.

2. The same thing is not likely to happen again if the treasury officer is properly instructed by the Executive Engineer, or if he is now instructed once for all to transfer all credits to Periyakulam; at the same time, in view of possible delays, it seems desirable that the Executive Engineer should so regulate his applications for funds as to have always a considerable balance at his credit at the treasury, and he should, as has I believe been arranged, endeavour to keep a reserve of cash at the Periyár, not to be touched except in cases of emergency.

3. It does not seem necessary or desirable to require the sub-treasury officer to cash cheques irrespective of credit, nor is it possible to ensure that funds for the purpose shall be in the sub-treasury unless properly arranged for. Moreover, the arrangement would be likely to defeat itself. The Executive Engineer relying upon it might in an emergency draw a cheque knowing that his credit was exhausted, and the sub-treasury (the funds in sub-treasuries sometimes run very low) might be unable to meet his cheque. I think a repetition of the inconvenience recently experienced would, under such conditions, be more likely than the recurrence of the mistake which actually led to the inconvenience.

4. It is possible that, when operations in the plains begin, funds may be required elsewhere than at Periyakulam, and it may be a question whether the Executive Engineer should not continue to advise the treasury officer monthly of the distribution required.

ORDER—dated 9th February 1888, No. 457 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, Periyár Project, who will arrange that the treasury officer shall in future receive clear instructions as to the distribution of credits and that a reserve of cash is kept at the Periyár.

2. It is not considered advisable that cheques should be cashed irrespective of credit as proposed by the Executive Engineer.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Periyár Project.
„ Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. J. Moses.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1888) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated February, 9th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 9th Feb. 1888, No. 457 W.

FEBRUARY.

Periyar Division

Payment of Cheques.—Orders on correspondence relating to the failure of the Periyakulam sub-treasury to cash a cheque in December last from the Executive Engineer and the consequent inconvenience to the works.

Despatch (P. 2) P. 4-57 W

8-457 W
B

The H. M. has attended
the draft accordingly.
It can issue
8.2.88

8.2.88

credit

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1888) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Periyar Division

Payment of Cheques.—Orders on correspondence relating to the failure of the Periyakulam sub-treasury to cash a cheque in December last from the Executive Engineer and the consequent inconvenience to the works.

1888.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

Current No. 828

From

The Revenue Dept

ENCLOS.— 1

No. 499

Dated 23rd January 1888

Received 27 - do —

SUBJECT.

Referring for remarks & suggestion of the Exec. Engineer, Periyar Division, desiring that the Tahsildar may be ordered to honor any cheques issued by him bearing any mistake about over draught to be settled afterwards.

DISPOSAL.

No. 404 C Dated 31 Jan'y 1888

To.

C

For favour of remarks on the suggestion referred to in para 2 of the Proceedings

(Ed) W. L. C. B.

30-1-88

credit

credit on the 30 November in
the Free Book received from
the Deputy Collector.

On the 1st December I
sent a cheque for £5,000.

On the same date I
received a letter dated 28th
November (copy herewith) from
the Deputy Collector stating that
a sum of £12,000 had been
received to my credit to be
drawn on from 1st December.

On the 13th December I
sent a cheque for £12,000
and sent it to be cashed at
Copenhagen as usual.

On the 15th the Tahiti
writes to say that he has re-
ceived no credit for me
for the month, and that he
therefore cannot cash my
cheques without communication
with the Deputy Collector.

7. The usual procedure
on the Deputy Collector's giving
the notice of having received
a new credit is for him
to ask for a distribution
return of the Treasury where
the credit is to be placed. This
has been unnecessary in the
case of this Division which
has connection with one Treasury
only.

8. In the case of the first
credit of all, that for October,
I wrote to ask the Deputy Collector
to place it at Copenhagen.
Since that nothing has been said
about any particular Treasury
and the credit of £15,000 for
November was rightly placed there.
I naturally assumed that the
credit for December would be
similarly dealt with, especially
as the Deputy Collector did not
ask.

ask for any instructions on
the subject.

9. Whatever ~~the~~ mis-
take he has made, the Deputy
Collector has failed to apprise
the Tacheildar of Serikolman of
my new credit for December
and I am without funds to
pay the coolies who have not
been paid for the month up
to date.

10. The serious consequences
to the progress of the work, situated
as we are, which will arise
immediately the coolies get into
their heads that they cannot
depend upon regular payment
are too obvious to need descrip-
tion.

11. In fact they are so
serious that I am inclined
to ask that the Tacheildar be
ordered to hand

any cheque I may send
for cash, leaving any
mistake there may be
about over draught, to be
settled afterwards.

I have the honor to be,

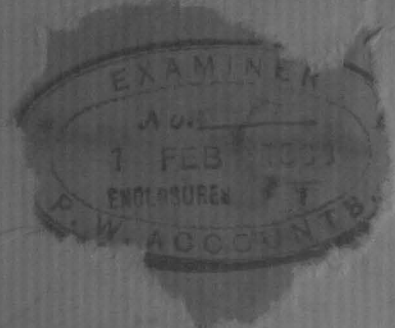
Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,
W. H. S. Taylor,
Executive Engineer, Serik Division.

/ True Copy /

H. A. Chant.

Under Secy. to Govt.



REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following endorsement

of the Financial Dept.,
dated 7th Janry. 1888, on endorse-
ment of the Public Works Dept.,
dated 5th Janry. 1888, N^o. 16 C., trans-
ferring for consideration endorse-
ment of the Superintending Engineer
6th Circle dated 21st December 1887,
N^o. 456 P.H. passed on letter from
the Executive Engineer, Perian
Division, N^o. 664 P.D. dated 20th
December 1887.

* copy attached.

Submitted to the Chief
Engineer, P.W.D. for the
consideration and orders of
Government.

2. The Deputy Collectors
carelessness in not apprising
the Tahsildar of the sum placed
to

to the Executive Engineer
credit has already caused
the greatest possible incon-
venience, and is not un-
likely to lead to distrust
among the coolies, should
there be the least falling
off in Calcutta supply will
be the certain consequence.

3. It is hoped that such
notice will be taken as will
prevent any possible repetition
of a failure in supply of funds.

4. The only conceivable ex-
planation that can be given
is that the Deputy Collector
was waiting for instructions
as to the Paluk Treasury
at which the Executive En-
gineer wished the money to
be placed, but this expla-
nation ought not to be ac-
cepted, as the former knew
perfectly

perfectly well that the latter
had no occasion for a credit
at any Treasury but Periak
lam and had in fact placed
the credit for the previous
month at that Treasury
(See para 8 of Mr. Taylor's letter),
without any further instructions.
5. Even if he had any
doubt on this matter the
fact of the credit remain-
ing untouched up to the
15th of the month should
have led him to make
enquiry on the point.
6. The suggestion contained
in para 11 of Mr. Taylor's
letter is I think worthy
of consideration. This course
was adopted during the
famine of 1846-48, and has
doubtless been adopted at
other times where delay in
payments

1887

P. W. DEPARTMENT

Current No. 10640

From *The Supply: Sugar: VI* Ciro

ENCLOS.—

No. 456 PR

Dated 21st Decembe 1885

SUBJECT

SUBJECT.

Submit for the consideration
and orders of Govt. letter from
the Secy. Ingr. Peria on
reporting the inconvenience
caused by his cheque not
having been cashed in time
at the Periakulam Treasury

1888.

Office Note No. 1036
Madras, 4th February 1888.

To W.

Your O.N. No. 48482 dated 31st. January
1888.

The whole thing appears

to have been a not very immaterial
mistake for which the Executive
Engineer was I think mainly respon-
sible, inasmuch as he should not have
counted on the treasury officer
transferring the credit without
instructions.

2. The same thing is not
likely to happen again if the
treasury officer is properly instruct-
ed by the Executive Engineer, or if
he is now instructed once for all
to transfer all credits to Periakulam,
at the same time, in view of possible
delays, it seems desirable that the
Executive Engineer should so regulate
his applications for funds as to
have always a considerable balance
at his credit at the Treasury; and he
should, as has I believe been arranged,
endeavour to keep a reserve of cash
at the Periyar, not to be touched
except in cases of emergency.

PWC No 1128

3. It does not seem necessary or desirable to require the sub-treasury officer to cash cheques irrespective of credit, nor is it possible to ensure that funds for the purpose shall be at the sub-treasury unless properly arranged for. Moreover the arrangement would be likely to defeat itself. The Executive Engineer relying upon it might in an emergency draw a cheque knowing that his credit was exhausted, and the sub-treasury (the funds in sub-treasuries sometimes run very low) might be unable to meet his cheques. I think a repetition of the inconvenience recently experienced would under such conditions be more likely than the recurrence of the mistake which actually led to the inconvenience.

4. It is possible that when operations in the plains begin, funds may be required elsewhere than at Perambalur, and it may be a question whether the Executive Engineer should not continue to advise the treasury officer monthly of the distribution required.

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R 6-2-88
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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 9th February
READ the following

Letter from the E.E. Sengar Project (H.E. No 664 P.P. d/20th Dec 1887)
Endorsement by the S.E. M. Ance (" " 465 P.H. d/21st " "
Endorsement by the Provincial Dept (" " " " d/7th Jan 1888
Proceedings Revenue Dept (" " 499 d/23rd " "
Office note by the E.P.W. Secy (" " 1036 d/4th Feb ")

824
825

Communicated to the
Supt Engineer Sengar Project
who will arrange that the
treasury officer shall in
future receive ^{clear} prompt and
regular instructions as to
the distribution of credits,
and that a considerable
balance is maintained

at the treasury, with
income of cash, at the
Perijar.

It is not considered
advisable that cheques
should be cashed in respect
of credit, as proposed by
the Executive Engineer.

WVW
7.2.58

He

The following is a list of the
cheques which are to be cashed
in the Perijar. The amount of
the cheques is Rs. 1000.00.
The cheques are to be cashed
in the Perijar. The amount of
the cheques is Rs. 1000.00.
The cheques are to be cashed
in the Perijar. The amount of
the cheques is Rs. 1000.00.

S.E. Perijar Project
E. M. A. S.
C. E. for S. E. M. A. S.

