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(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 3/90

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

121

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

121

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

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121

அரசாணை எண்.
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண். 440

அச்சகம்
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மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

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440/1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., dated 16th August 1890, No. 2055 L., Local and Municipal.

ABSTRACT.—Making certain alterations in the rules regarding the passing of plans and estimates of Local Fund and Municipal works.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Mannárgudi, dated 23rd September 1890, No. 778.

READ—also the following papers :—

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Negapatam, dated 24th September 1890, No. 648.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tanjore, dated 3rd October 1890, No. 1841.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Máyavaram, dated 3rd October 1890, No. 542.

From Surgeon-Major W. G. KING, M.B., D.P.H., Acting Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 4th October 1890, No. 4570-V.

With reference to G.O., No. 2055 L., dated 16th August 1890, Local and Municipal, inviting expressions of opinion to be forwarded by persons interested in the subject therein mentioned, I have the honor to submit a memorandum for the consideration of Government.

ENCLOSURE.

MEMORANDUM of Suggestions in connection with G.O., No. 2055 L., of 16th August 1890, by Surgeon-Major W. G. King, D.P.H.

The present mode of conducting sanitary works in districts fully advanced as to self-government according to the ideal of Act No. 5 of 1884 causes the large sums of money which used to be in the hands of District Boards to be distributed between Taluk Boards and Panchayets; so that I find after perusal of reports from all districts that the amount allotted for any single sanitary work rarely amounts to, or exceeds, Rs. 200. The expenditure is confined to the repairs of wells and dust-bins, the cleansing of tanks, the removal of prickly-pear, the purchase of iron dust-bins, and the repairs of formerly existing side channels. As a consequence, year after year, in reviews by Government of sanitary reports, it is stated that "no sanitary works of importance were undertaken." How could it be otherwise, if the money at disposal of Local bodies is thus frittered away on works of the petty nature mentioned? Any one acquainted with the cost of works must know that for a sum of Rs. 200, it is rarely possible to make an efficient latrine or sink a new well, and that, of course, any radical improvement to village-sites or public water-supply is out of the question. In short, the utmost that can be expected from such a system is that a certain number of existing tanks, wells, and drains are repaired without a thought to sanitary efficiency. There is no possibility of any further advance under such a system; matters must remain practically *in statu quo*.

It may be argued that the arrangement by which many, although petty, sanitary works are executed throughout the country is the best that can be devised, in that numbers of sanitary faults are rapidly corrected. Provided it were known that the petty works referred to were efficiently performed, it would not be possible to say the money was wasted, although it undoubtedly could still be shown that it is not judiciously used. But the system now in vogue forbids the possibility of expenditure being carried out to the best advantage, and, consequently, I maintain that the money in 99 cases out of a hundred is either actually squandered, or is applied to purposes that, compared with other possible results that could be attained, are useless. To prove that this is so, it is enough to analyse the method followed. Before the preparation by Local bodies of their budgets, circulars are sent out to Divisional Officers and Tahsildars for suggestions for sanitary works. The presence of the District Sanitary Officer is often forgotten on such occasions, and the old habit of looking solely to revenue sources for assistance is adhered to. The replies are usually to the effect that the sum of Rupees so and so is required for such and such village wells, drains, &c. In no case are plans and estimates for the works forwarded with these requests. The Revenue Inspector, accustomed to land measurements and the making of valuations, is considered a sufficient authority to rely upon as to sanitary designs and their probable cost. Yet, as a fact, neither Revenue Inspectors nor Tahsildars of the average stamp have the most remote idea of methods of protecting wells in a sanitary sense, and still less as to the making of drains. They rely upon patterns handed down to them from the days of the Great Mogul, and, indeed, infinitely prefer them to any newfangled idea of western origin. I have had practical experience of estimates so prepared, and can safely say that many thousands of rupees have been absolutely wasted year after year in this Presidency, as the result of acceptance of such estimates by Boards and Municipalities without skilled check. Thus, in well making, linings of dry revetment of eight, ten, and twelve feet thickness are often suggested, where a single-brick ring of nine inches with an impervious backing of clay or concrete would suffice both for engineering and sanitary purposes; whilst structures are recommended as drains, that have a relation to the total sewage they are designed to receive that a rabbit's burrow has to a railway tunnel, and are withal made in a manner and of material that defeat the prime object in view. Another effect of the absence of an efficient organization is, that year by year, it is found that money devoted nominally to sanitary purposes is not spent at all! The excuse offered has been hitherto that there were no officers attached to districts who could draw up required plans, and therefore expenditure was held in abeyance. At the present moment, however, the tendency probably is to obey strictly Government orders as to spending without much thought as to the best interests of sanitary advance.

2. Under G.O., No. 9662, dated 30th May 1887, Local and Municipal, it was ruled that plans and estimates for any works over Rs. 200 should be referred through the District Sanitary Officer to the Sanitary Commissioner for opinion. The arrangement was undoubtedly of much use; although, personally, I believe it was not strictly obeyed by Local bodies. However, as I have shown, works costing Rs. 200 or over are few and far between where District Boards are concerned, and, therefore, such estimates as were sent for revision necessarily were chiefly those prepared by Municipalities.

There would at least thus seem no reason to regard Local bodies as capable of looking after their own concerns as to sanitary works, either when judged by their own statements as to no skilled persons being available, or by the results in actual practice. I would hence respectfully represent that the order only demanding that works costing Rs. 1,000 and over should be sent for scrutiny, instead of tending to tighten such supervision as has hitherto been exercised, removes it, and replaces it by no better system, at the very moment when, by having increased expenditure by the appointment of a Sanitary Engineer, supervision would have seemed most readily obtainable.

Taking the facts mentioned above into consideration, I would respectfully state I fail to see what good result Government expects from the suggested ruling; the effect will be to deprive the public of the valuable advice of the Sanitary Engineer, whose advent has been for years looked forward to as likely to fill the hiatus in district organization as to practical sanitation. It is also a foregone conclusion that, neither District Boards nor Municipal Councils will avail themselves of the advice of the Madras Sanitary Board, should a permissive clause as to forwarding plans be upheld. They will not do so, because they are likely to be perfectly content with local talent, and would fail to see that any benefit could be derived. As a practical illustration of this fact, I may state that, under G.O., No. 966, dated 27th November 1889, Public, the Sanitary Board issued a circular asking Local bodies to forward plans and estimates for works over Rs. 200. None were sent by District Boards with one exception, because there were none contemplated for reasons already given. But certain plans were submitted by Municipalities. On receipt of G.O., No. 1971 L., dated 8th August 1890, Local and Municipal, I returned to the bodies concerned plans that had been forwarded and which in my opinion were unfit for sanitary purposes, and told them that under the new ruling they could act as they chose. These, as far as I know, have not been returned; these authorities are necessarily content that the plans served sanitary requirements, as they had doubtless been prepared to the best of their knowledge, and after careful deliberation. [Whilst writing this, I have received a practical illustration of

what I imply. The Penukonda Taluk Board, presumably not having received yet G.O., No. 1971 L., dated 18th August 1890, Local and Municipal, have submitted for approval the plan of a latrine. This is estimated at Rs. 418. The plan is absurd and sanitarily useless. Yet under the latter Government order submission for revision is *optional*].

Having in the foregoing paragraphs pointed out what in my opinion constitutes defects, it remains for me to suggest how they may be overcome. I would advise the following measures:—

The policy which should guide all Local Fund bodies in sanitary matters should be the taking up of village after village, as advised by the Government of India Government orders noted in the margin, with reference to water-supply, drainage and conservancy. This would involve the spending, not of trivial sums all over the district, but of concentrating the expenditure upon certain localities, there being reserved a certain amount for current urgent repairs of petty sanitary works during the year. To effect this, sums granted for new sanitary works should not be handed over to Taluk Boards and Panchayats, but should be retained as a distinct fund under the District Board. The District Board should have the right of settling, subject to the usual approval by Government of the budget, upon what special spots important sanitary works should be undertaken.

No. 354, dated 4th April 1888, Public.
No. 281 L., dated 11th February 1890, Local and Municipal.

To ensure that the requirements of various localities be carefully considered, that is — to speak plainly—without favoritism, the District Board, before preparing its budget, should submit proposals for sanitary works made by any Local Fund body to a committee composed of at least one member of each Local Board or Panchayat and of the District Board. This committee should draw up its proposals for the year's expenditure. The Sanitary Officer should at the same time be called upon to submit such proposals as he may choose, and also make such criticism as he may deem necessary upon the proposals of the committee. The conclusions arrived at by this committee should be embodied by the District Board in the budget for submission to Government.

Under this scheme, rules such as the following might be framed:—

(1) Sanitary works shall be classified as major, minor and petty. Major works shall include undertakings involving expenditure of, and above, Rs. 5,000. Minor works shall include undertakings of, and above, Rs. 50 and up to Rs. 5,000. Petty works shall include undertakings costing below the sum of Rs. 50.

(2) District Boards and Municipalities shall refer plans and estimates for sanitary works other than those classed as petty for approval of the Local Sanitary Board of the district concerned before proceeding to execution.

(3) All major works shall be undertaken under the supervision and with the advice of the Sanitary Engineer to Government, both as to preparation and execution, subject to such rules as may be framed from time to time for the guidance of the Sanitary Board of Madras.

(4) Minor sanitary works shall be undertaken by District Boards and Municipalities, both as to preparation and execution, under the supervision and with the advice of the local Sanitary Board of the districts concerned, but where any single work is estimated to cost Rs. 500 or more, the plans and estimates prepared by the local Sanitary Board shall, before execution of the works, be approved by the Madras Sanitary Board.

(5) Copies of all resolutions passed by the local Sanitary Board shall be forwarded for the information of the Madras Sanitary Board, and where the works referred to are not of a nature requiring the formal approval of the Madras Sanitary Board, it shall nevertheless be allowable that the latter shall in its discretion call for plans and estimates, and advise thereon as it may think fit. But it shall be understood that if within ten days of receipt of such resolutions (which shall be duly acknowledged), no request for plans and estimates has been made by that Board, the local Sanitary Board shall be entitled to carry out works without further interference.

(6) Petty sanitary works shall be executed under the supervision of such agency as District Boards, Municipalities, Taluk Boards or Panchayats may direct.

(7) There shall be constituted in each district a body to be known as the local Sanitary Board of the district in which it is appointed to act. The following shall be ex-officio members:—President, the Collector of the District; Secretary, the District Sanitary Officer; Members, the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, and the Local Fund Engineer. Additional members, not exceeding two in number, may be appointed by the District Board from time to time. These members shall retain their seats upon the local Sanitary Board, until the completion of works or rejection of the schemes, with reference to the special knowledge of which their election shall have been decided by the District Board. When a scheme to be undertaken by a Municipality has been presented to a local Sanitary Board for consideration, the Chairman of the Municipality concerned shall be ex-officio an additional member, and the Municipality shall also have the right to elect an additional member from amongst the councillors. Membership shall be relinquished on completion of the work or rejection of the scheme, with reference to which the appointments were made.

440/2

(8) When a Local Fund Engineer undertakes, at the request of the local Sanitary Board, the preparation of plans and estimates for a Municipality in consultation with the District Sanitary Officer, he shall be entitled to a fee for his services at a rate per cent. on the estimates as may be fixed by Government.

(9) All correspondence addressed to the local Sanitary Board shall be forwarded to the Secretary, and all Proceedings of that Board shall be issued under the signature of that officer.

(10) All correspondence affecting sanitary matters in areas under the charge of either District Boards or Municipalities shall be addressed to the authorities concerned through the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. To enable the District Sanitary Officers to prepare schemes for sanitary improvements of villages to be laid before the local Sanitary Boards, there shall be attached to these officers' establishments men possessed of suitable qualifications as overseers and draftsmen who shall accompany these officers on tours of sanitary inspection.

If some such rules as the above were adopted, there would, in conjunction with the scheme for the organization of a Sanitary Department referred to in Proceedings of the Madras Sanitary Board, No. 3, dated 24th September 1890, General Sanitation Department, be laid the foundation of a complete mode of supervising the practical sanitary wants of the country. It may of course be said that the adoption of these methods would indicate a retrograde step with respect to Local self-government. This is not really so. It will be seen that in the midst of such an organization as suggested, there will be ample scope for the opinions of all classes to be carefully taken into consideration, whilst undoubtedly Local bodies will be relieved of responsibility as to design and structures of works, which they have repeatedly declared themselves incompetent of designing. Further, only by some such measures is it possible for Local bodies to derive the full benefit of the advice of the Madras Sanitary Board.

From the Divisional Officer in charge of the office of Chairman, Municipal Council, Kumbakónam, dated 14th October 1890, No. 403.

From Surgeon-Major J. A. LAING, Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 3rd November 1890, No. 5128-S.

With reference to G.O., No. 2055 L., dated 16th August 1890, Local and Municipal, I have the honor to make the following suggestions regarding the amendments therein proposed in the Local Fund rules and those prescribed for the guidance of Municipal Councils.

2. In both instances the proposed amendment in regard to works exceeding Rs. 1,000 in cost runs thus:—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 1,000 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department * * * *"

3. According to G.O., No. 966 L., dated 30th May 1887, it is ruled that plans of all sanitary works estimated to cost Rs. 200 and over should be submitted to the Sanitary Commissioner for approval. This ruling, as far as I am aware, has not been cancelled. I would therefore suggest that the proposed amendment alluded to in paragraph 2 of this letter be altered as follows:—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 1,000 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

4. I have advisedly suggested that all plans, &c., should be submitted to the *Sanitary Commissioner* and *Sanitary Engineer* and not to the "*Sanitary Board.*" Though the "Sanitary Board" as at present constituted is made up of the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, yet it cannot be called a consultative body, inasmuch as, according to the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Board, they work independently of each other; thus the Sanitary Engineer deals with, and reports direct to Government on, schemes for water-supply, drainage and other works of a sanitary nature without reference to the Sanitary Commissioner and local authorities concerned. The Sanitary Commissioner does the same in dealing with questions on general sanitation, but yet both officers submit their individual reports in the form of proceedings as emanating from the Sanitary Board office. Unless, therefore, this arrangement, by

440/3

which the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer thus work independently of each other, be so modified as to bring the two members of which the Board is composed to deal in consultation with each other with all questions relating to works of a sanitary nature, whether in the General Sanitation or Sanitary Engineering Department, I would not suggest the substitution of "Sanitary Board" for Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer in my amendment proposed in paragraph 3.

5. Further, the arrangement by which the two members of the Board work independently might lead to conflict of opinion between them, and the advantages of having a consultative body be deprived. For instance, schemes for works of the nature described in the rules under amendment will have been designed, recommended and carried out by the Sanitary Engineer alone, regarding which the Sanitary Commissioner on his inspection may have occasion to differ from him in opinion from a sanitary point of view. In such case the remark of Mr. Jones in paragraph 3 of his letter, No. 193, dated 4th July 1890—that the double reference to the Superintending Engineer and the Sanitary Engineer of the Board might lead to a conflict of opinion between the Public Works Department on the one hand and the Sanitary Board on the other, and Government be placed in the position of having two sets of advisers, each advising differently—would apply with equal force to the Sanitary Board as at present worked, inasmuch as the Sanitary Commissioner and the Sanitary Engineer give their opinion independently of each other. *En passant*, I may take this opportunity of observing that the Engineer member of the Board cannot be considered as the sole adviser of Government in all matters relating to Sanitary Engineering, the Sanitary Commissioner being the adviser to Government in all sanitary matters, and as the Sanitary member of the Board cannot be disassociated from the consideration of schemes for works described in Rules 2, 4 and 7 of the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Board for reasons set forth above.

6. In the proposed amendment of the rules under consideration, it is stated that District Boards and Municipal Councils concerned may, if they see fit, consult the Sanitary Engineer in cases of works costing more than Rs. 200 and less than Rs. 1,000, in regard to the plans and estimates, thus leaving it optional with these bodies to do so or not. I would not recommend such an arrangement, as there are many works of a sanitary nature, such as latrines, slaughter-houses, &c., which cost between Rs. 200 and Rs. 1,000, and which it is most important should be constructed on sound sanitary principles or else they are liable to become nuisances of a most offensive nature and dangerous to public health. The men at present employed by Municipalities and also by District Boards in connection with such works have not, as a rule, had that training which is necessary to qualify them to draw out plans on sanitary principles, and therefore it is very important that plans and estimates of all works costing Rs. 200 and less than Rs. 1,000 also should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. If this be not done, it will surely happen, as experience has proved, that in their inspections many works will be found to have been carried out which are objectionable both in a sanitary and engineering point of view and thus will have to be altered or altogether condemned, which means so much time and money wasted.

7. I therefore consider that the option indicated in the proposed amendment should be withdrawn, and that it be made compulsory with District Boards and Municipal Councils to forward plans and estimates of all works costing more than Rs. 200 to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. It may be argued that District Boards and Municipal Councils will gladly avail themselves of the option and forward plans and estimates of such works also for opinion and approval as suggested, but experience has shown that frequently this has not been the case.

8. In the amended Rule 2 of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils, I would suggest that the word "buildings" be omitted, for in the construction of buildings, such as houses, hospitals, schools, cutcherries, choultries, &c., there are many sanitary points which have to be considered, such as the site, provision for ventilation, prevention of sub-soil dampness, cubic and superficial space, &c., in order to make them healthy buildings. I consider, therefore, plans and estimates of buildings

also should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval before they are sanctioned or put into execution, as a defective habitation is undoubtedly a most serious cause of ill-health and even death.

9. To sum up, my suggestions are as follows :—

I. That in the proposed amended rules of both the Local Fund Rules and Rules for the guidance of Muncipal Councils, all plans and estimates, &c., estimated to cost Rs. 200 and over shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, &c.

II. That the option given to District Boards and Municipal Councils of consulting the Sanitary Engineer in regard to plans and estimates in case of works costing Rs. 200 and more than Rs. 1,000 be withdrawn, and it be made compulsory with these bodies to forward the plans and estimates of all such works to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval.

III. In the amended Rule 2 of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils omit the word "buildings," as in the construction of buildings, such as houses, hospitals, schools, cutcherries, choultries, &c., there are many sanitary points to be considered, and therefore the plans and estimates of such buildings should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval.

IV. I have throughout mentioned that the plans and estimates should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. If, however, Government be pleased to modify the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Sanitary Board, so as to bring the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, who form the members of the Board, in consultation with each other in dealing with questions regarding matters referred to them individually, and thus make the Sanitary Board a consultative body, I would substitute "Sanitary Board" for "Sanitary Commissioner" and "Sanitary Engineer."

From the President, District Board, Tanjore, dated Vallam, 9th November 1890, No. 321.

From the President, District Board, Anantapur, dated 13th November 1890, No. 77.

From the President, District Board, Kistna, dated Masulipatam, 27th November 1890, No. 223.

From the Collector and President, District Board, Bellary, dated 9th December 1890, No. 2448.

ORDER—dated 16th January 1891, No. 79 L., Local and Municipal.

The papers read above relate to the amendment of Rule 36 of the Local Fund Rules published in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L., and of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils prescribed in G.O., dated 22nd June 1890, No. 124 M. Dr. Laing, Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of Madras, and Dr. King alone make any suggestions in respect of the proposed alterations. The Government agrees with these officers in considering that Local Boards and Municipalities should be required to submit all plans and estimates for sanitary works costing more than Rs. 200 to the Sanitary Engineer with Government, but does not consider it necessary that they should be submitted to the Sanitary Commissioner as well. As regards Dr. Laing's proposal that, in No. 2 of the draft municipal rules printed in the Government order read above, the word "buildings" should be omitted, the Government is not prepared to make any alteration in the present procedure, which has worked well hitherto.

2. The following notifications will be published in all District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular language of the district :—

NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, under section 144 of Act V of 1884, to prescribe that the following alterations shall be made in Rule 36 of the Local Fund rules published in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L., as follows :—

(i) In clause 1, line 4, and in clause 3, line 5, omit the word "drainage."

(ii) Add the following after clause 3 :—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 200 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

These alterations shall come into force in each district three months after their first publication in the District Gazette.

NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, under section 250 of Act IV of 1884, to prescribe that the following rules shall be substituted for Rule 2 of the rules published in G.O., dated 22nd January 1890, No. 124 M., as follows :—

"2. The approval of the Superintending Engineer of the Public Works Circle within whose range of superintendence the Municipality is situated, must be obtained to plans and estimates for all buildings, bridges and other original masonry works and, generally, original works of a special or unusual character costing more than Rs. 1,000 each, which the Municipal Council proposes to undertake.

"3. All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 200 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

These rules shall come into force in each Municipality three months after their publication in the local Gazette of the district.

3. The above notifications will be forwarded to the Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Canarese Translators to Government for translation as speedily as possible, in view to their publication in District Gazettes, and the Superintendent, Government Press, will print the required number of copies in English and the vernaculars and forward them to Presidents and Collectors for publication. Each Collector and President will report date of publication in the District Gazette.

4. Dr. King's further proposals, in his letter read above, have received the careful consideration of Government, but His Excellency in Council is unable to regard them as practicable at present.

5. In accordance with the above notifications, Rule 7 of the Rules for the guidance of the Sanitary Board published in G.O., dated 8th August 1890, No. 1971 L., Local and Municipal, will be altered as follows :—

RULE.

"7. No sanitary work, whether original or repair, estimated to cost more than Rs. 200, shall be undertaken by any District Municipality or Local Board unless the plans and estimates have been first approved by the Sanitary Engineer."

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Board.
" the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" the Sanitary Engineer.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Public Department.
" all Presidents of District Boards.
" all Collectors.
" all Chairmen of Municipal Councils,
through the Collectors concerned.
" the Tamil Translator to Government.
" the Telugu do. do.
" the Malayalam do. do.
" the Canarese do. do.
" the Superintendent, Government Press.
Gazette.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Communicated to
Subs Engrs with reference
to Vo. Nos 1995-w & 10 Augt
1886 & 2400 w & 5 Sept 1890.

Issued

Recd. 10-2-91 Encl.

12.2.91

G.O., 16th January 1891, No. 79 L.

JANUARY.

Rules.

Ordering, with remarks, the issue of notifications making certain alterations in the — regarding the passing of plans and estimates of Local Fund and Municipal works.

(4)

also should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval before they are sanctioned or put into execution, as a defective habitation is undoubtedly a most serious cause of ill-health and even death.

9. To sum up, my suggestions are as follows :—

I. That in the proposed amended rules of both the Local Fund Rules and Rules for the guidance of Muncipal Councils, all plans and estimates, &c., estimated to cost Rs. 200 and over shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, &c.

II. That the option given to District Boards and Municipal Councils of consulting the Sanitary Engineer in regard to plans and estimates in case of works costing Rs. 200 and more than Rs. 1,000 be withdrawn, and it be made compulsory with these bodies to forward the plans and estimates of all such works to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval.

III. In the amended Rule 2 of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils omit the word "buildings," as in the construction of buildings, such as houses, hospitals, schools, cutcherries, choultries, &c., there are many sanitary points to be considered, and therefore the plans and estimates of such buildings should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval.

IV. I have throughout mentioned that the plans and estimates should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. If, however, Government be pleased to modify the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Sanitary Board, so as to bring the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, who form the members of the Board, in consultation with each other in dealing with questions regarding matters referred to them individually, and thus make the Sanitary Board a consultative body, I would substitute "Sanitary Board" for "Sanitary Commissioner" and "Sanitary Engineer."

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2. The following notifications will be published in all District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular language of the district :—

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(i) In clause 1, line 4, and in clause 3, line 5, omit the word "drainage."

(ii) Add the following after clause 3 :—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 200 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

These alterations shall come into force in each district three months after their first publication in the District Gazette.

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His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, under section 250 of Act IV of 1884, to prescribe that the following rules shall be substituted for Rule 2 of the rules published in G.O., dated 22nd January 1890, No. 124 M., as follows :—

"2. The approval of the Superintending Engineer of the Public Works Circle within whose range of superintendence the Municipality is situated, must be obtained to plans and estimates for all buildings, bridges and other original masonry works and, generally, original works of a special or unusual character costing more than Rs. 1,000 each, which the Municipal Council proposes to undertake.

"3. All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 200 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

These rules shall come into force in each Municipality three months after their publication in the local Gazette of the district.

3. The above notifications will be forwarded to the Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Canarese Translators to Government for translation as speedily as possible, in view to their publication in District Gazettes, and the Superintendent, Government Press, will print the required number of copies in English and the vernaculars and forward them to Presidents and Collectors for publication. Each Collector and President will report date of publication in the District Gazette.

4. Dr. King's further proposals, in his letter read above, have received the careful consideration of Government, but His Excellency in Council is unable to regard them as practicable at present.

5. In accordance with the above notifications, Rule 7 of the Rules for the guidance of the Sanitary Board published in G.O., dated 8th August 1890, No. 1971 L., Local and Municipal, will be altered as follows :—

Rule.

"7. No sanitary work, whether original or repair, estimated to cost more than Rs. 200, shall be undertaken by any District Municipality or Local Board unless the plans and estimates have been first approved by the Sanitary Engineer."

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Board.
,, the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
,, the Sanitary Engineer.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Public Department.
,, all Presidents of District Boards.
,, all Collectors.
,, all Chairmen of Municipal Councils,
through the Collectors concerned.
,, the Tamil Translator to Government.
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Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1891} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 16th January 1891, No. 79 L.

JANUARY.

Rules.

Ordering, with remarks, the issue of notifications making certain alterations in the — regarding the passing of plans and estimates of Local Fund and Municipal works.

No 440 W 2/16 February 189

Communicated to Supdg Engineers with reference to G.O. No. 1995 W dt 10th August 1886 and 2400 W dt 5th September 1890

Initd J C W.

Supdg Engrs

Exec. P. W. Secrets

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., dated 16th August 1890, No. 2055 L., Local and Municipal.

ABSTRACT.—Making certain alterations in the rules regarding the passing of plans and estimates of Local Fund and Municipal works.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Mannárgudi, dated 23rd September 1890, No. 778.

READ—also the following papers :—

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Negapatam, dated 24th September 1890, No. 648.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Tanjore, dated 3rd October 1890, No. 1841.

From the Chairman, Municipal Council, Máyavaram, dated 3rd October 1890, No. 542.

From Surgeon-Major W. G. KING, M.B., D.P.H., Acting Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 4th October 1890, No. 4570-V.

With reference to G.O., No. 2055 L., dated 16th August 1890, Local and Municipal, inviting expressions of opinion to be forwarded by persons interested in the subject therein mentioned, I have the honor to submit a memorandum for the consideration of Government.

ENCLOSURE.

MEMORANDUM of Suggestions in connection with G.O., No. 2055 L., of 16th August 1890, by Surgeon-Major W. G. King, D.P.H.

The present mode of conducting sanitary works in districts fully advanced as to self-government according to the ideal of Act No. 5 of 1884 causes the large sums of money which used to be in the hands of District Boards to be distributed between Taluk Boards and Panchayets; so that I find after perusal of reports from all districts that the amount allotted for any single sanitary work rarely amounts to, or exceeds, Rs. 200. The expenditure is confined to the repairs of wells and dust-bins, the cleansing of tanks, the removal of prickly-pear, the purchase of iron dust-bins, and the repairs of formerly existing side channels. As a consequence, year after year, in reviews by Government of sanitary reports, it is stated that "no sanitary works of importance were undertaken." How could it be otherwise, if the money at disposal of Local bodies is thus frittered away on works of the petty nature mentioned? Any one acquainted with the cost of works must know that for a sum of Rs. 200, it is rarely possible to make an efficient latrine or sink a new well, and that, of course, any radical improvement to village-sites or public-water-supply is out of the question. In short, the utmost that can be expected from such a system is that a certain number of existing tanks, wells, and drains are repaired without a thought to sanitary efficiency. There is no possibility of any further advance under such a system; matters must remain practically *in statu quo*.

It may be argued that the arrangement by which many, although petty, sanitary works are executed throughout the country is the best that can be devised, in that numbers of sanitary faults are rapidly corrected. Provided it were known that the petty works referred to were efficiently performed, it would not be possible to say the money was wasted, although it undoubtedly could still be shown that it is not judiciously used. But the system now in vogue forbids the possibility of expenditure being carried out to the best advantage, and, consequently, I maintain that the money in 99 cases out of a hundred is either actually squandered, or is applied to purposes that, compared with other possible results that could be attained, are useless. To prove that this is so, it is enough to analyse the method followed. Before the preparation by Local bodies of their budgets, circulars are sent out to Divisional Officers and Tahsildars for suggestions for sanitary works. The presence of the District Sanitary Officer is often forgotten on such occasions, and the old habit of looking solely to revenue sources for assistance is adhered to. The replies are usually to the effect that the sum of Rupees so and so is required for such and such village wells, drains, &c. In no case are plans and estimates for the works forwarded with these requests. The Revenue Inspector, accustomed to land measurements and the making of valuations, is considered a sufficient authority to rely upon as to sanitary designs and their probable cost. Yet, as a fact, neither Revenue Inspectors nor Tahsildars of the average stamp have the most remote idea of methods of protecting wells in a sanitary sense, and still less as to the making of drains. They rely upon patterns handed down to them from the days of the Great Mogul, and, indeed, infinitely prefer them to any newfangled idea of western origin. I have had practical experience of estimates so prepared, and can safely say that many thousands of rupees have been absolutely wasted year after year in this Presidency, as the result of acceptance of such estimates by Boards and Municipalities without skilled check. Thus, in well making, linings of dry revetment of eight, ten, and twelve feet thickness are often suggested, where a single-brick ring of nine inches with an impervious backing of clay or concrete would suffice both for engineering and sanitary purposes; whilst structures are recommended as drains, that have a relation to the total sewage they are designed to receive that a rabbit's burrow has to a railway tunnel, and are withal made in a manner and of material that defeat the prime object in view. Another effect of the absence of an efficient organization is, that year by year, it is found that money devoted nominally to sanitary purposes is not spent at all! The excuse offered has been hitherto that there were no officers attached to districts who could draw up required plans, and therefore expenditure was held in abeyance. At the present moment, however, the tendency probably is to obey strictly Government orders as to spending without much thought as to the best interests of sanitary advance.

2. Under G.O., No. 9662, dated 30th May 1887, Local and Municipal, it was ruled that plans and estimates for any works over Rs. 200 should be referred through the District Sanitary Officer to the Sanitary Commissioner for opinion. The arrangement was undoubtedly of much use; although, personally, I believe it was not strictly obeyed by Local bodies. However, as I have shown, works costing Rs. 200 or over are few and far between where District Boards are concerned, and, therefore, such estimates as were sent for revision necessarily were chiefly those prepared by Municipalities.

There would at least thus seem no reason to regard Local bodies as capable of looking after their own concerns as to sanitary works, either when judged by their own statements as to no skilled persons being available, or by the results in actual practice. I would hence respectfully represent that the order only demanding that works costing Rs. 1,000 and over should be sent for scrutiny, instead of tending to tighten such supervision as has hitherto been exercised, removes it, and replaces it by no better system, at the very moment when, by having increased expenditure by the appointment of a Sanitary Engineer, supervision would have seemed most readily obtainable.

Taking the facts mentioned above into consideration, I would respectfully state I fail to see what good result Government expects from the suggested ruling; the effect will be to deprive the public of the valuable advice of the Sanitary Engineer, whose advent has been for years looked forward to as likely to fill the hiatus in district organization as to practical sanitation. It is also a foregone conclusion that, neither District Boards nor Municipal Councils will avail themselves of the advice of the Madras Sanitary Board, should a permissive clause as to forwarding plans be upheld. They will not do so, because they are likely to be perfectly content with local talent, and would fail to see that any benefit could be derived. As a practical illustration of this fact, I may state that, under G.O., No. 966, dated 27th November 1889, Public, the Sanitary Board issued a circular asking Local bodies to forward plans and estimates for works over Rs. 200. None were sent by District Boards with one exception, because there were none contemplated for reasons already given. But certain plans were submitted by Municipalities. On receipt of G.O., No. 1971 L., dated 8th August 1890, Local and Municipal, I returned to the bodies concerned plans that had been forwarded and which in my opinion were unfit for sanitary purposes, and told them that under the new ruling they could act as they chose. These, as far as I know, have not been returned; these authorities are necessarily content that the plans served sanitary requirements, as they had doubtless been prepared to the best of their knowledge, and after careful deliberation. [Whilst writing this, I have received a practical illustration of

what I imply. The Penukonda Taluk Board, presumably not having received yet G.O., No. 1971 L., dated 18th August 1890, Local and Municipal, have submitted for approval the plan of a latrine. This is estimated at Rs. 418. The plan is absurd and sanitarily useless. Yet under the latter Government order submission for revision is *optional*].

Having in the foregoing paragraphs pointed out what in my opinion constitutes defects, it remains for me to suggest how they may be overcome. I would advise the following measures:—

The policy which should guide all Local Fund bodies in sanitary matters should be the taking up of village after village, as advised by the Government of India Government orders noted in the margin, with reference to water-supply, drainage and conservancy. This would involve the spending, not of trivial sums all over the district, but of concentrating the expenditure upon certain localities, there being reserved a certain amount for current urgent repairs of petty sanitary works during the year. To effect this, sums granted for new sanitary works should not be handed over to Taluk Boards and Panchayats, but should be retained as a distinct fund under the District Board. The District Board should have the right of settling, subject to the usual approval by Government of the budget, upon what special spots important sanitary works should be undertaken.

No. 354, dated 4th April 1888, Public.
No. 281 L., dated 11th February 1890, Local and Municipal.

To ensure that the requirements of various localities be carefully considered, that is — to speak plainly—without favoritism, the District Board, before preparing its budget, should submit proposals for sanitary works made by any Local Fund body to a committee composed of at least one member of each Local Board or Panchayat and of the District Board. This committee should draw up its proposals for the year's expenditure. The Sanitary Officer should at the same time be called upon to submit such proposals as he may choose, and also make such criticism as he may deem necessary upon the proposals of the committee. The conclusions arrived at by this committee should be embodied by the District Board in the budget for submission to Government.

Under this scheme, rules such as the following might be framed:—

(1) Sanitary works shall be classified as major, minor and petty. Major works shall inculde undertakings involving expenditure of, and above, Rs. 5,000. Minor works shall include undertakings of, and above, Rs. 50 and up to Rs. 5,000. Petty works shall include undertakings costing below the sum of Rs. 50.

(2) District Boards and Municipalities shall refer plans and estimates for sanitary works other than those classed as petty for approval of the Local Sanitary Board of the district concerned before proceeding to execution.

(3) All major works shall be undertaken under the supervision and with the advice of the Sanitary Engineer to Government, both as to preparation and execution, subject to such rules as may be framed from time to time for the guidance of the Sanitary Board of Madras.

(4) Minor sanitary works shall be undertaken by District Boards and Municipalities, both as to preparation and execution, under the supervision and with the advice of the local Sanitary Board of the districts concerned, but where any single work is estimated to cost Rs. 500 or more, the plans and estimates prepared by the local Sanitary Board shall, before execution of the works, be approved by the Madras Sanitary Board.

(5) Copies of all resolutions passed by the local Sanitary Board shall be forwarded for the information of the Madras Sanitary Board, and where the works referred to are not of a nature requiring the formal approval of the Madras Sanitary Board, it shall nevertheless be allowable that the latter shall in its discretion call for plans and estimates, and advise thereon as it may think fit. But it shall be understood that if within ten days of receipt of such resolutions (which shall be duly acknowledged), no request for plans and estimates has been made by that Board, the local Sanitary Board shall be entitled to carry out works without further interference.

(6) Petty sanitary works shall be executed under the supervision of such agency as District Boards, Municipalities, Taluk Boards or Panchayats may direct.

(7) There shall be constituted in each district a body to be known as the local Sanitary Board of the district in which it is appointed to act. The following shall be ex-officio members:—President, the Collector of the District; Secretary, the District Sanitary Officer; Members, the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, and the Local Fund Engineer. Additional members, not exceeding two in number, may be appointed by the District Board from time to time. These members shall retain their seats upon the local Sanitary Board, until the completion of works or rejection of the schemes, with reference to the special knowledge of which their election shall have been decided by the District Board. When a scheme to be undertaken by a Municipality has been presented to a local Sanitary Board for consideration, the Chairman of the Municipality concerned shall be ex-officio an additional member, and the Municipality shall also have the right to elect an additional member from amongst the councillors. Membership shall be relinquished on completion of the work or rejection of the scheme, with reference to which the appointments were made.

(8) When a Local Fund Engineer undertakes, at the request of the local Sanitary Board, the preparation of plans and estimates for a Municipality in consultation with the District Sanitary Officer, he shall be entitled to a fee for his services at a rate per cent. on the estimates as may be fixed by Government.

(9) All correspondence addressed to the local Sanitary Board shall be forwarded to the Secretary, and all Proceedings of that Board shall be issued under the signature of that officer.

(10) All correspondence affecting sanitary matters in areas under the charge of either District Boards or Municipalities shall be addressed to the authorities concerned through the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. To enable the District Sanitary Officers to prepare schemes for sanitary improvements of villages to be laid before the local Sanitary Boards, there shall be attached to these officers' establishments men possessed of suitable qualifications as overseers and draftsmen who shall accompany these officers on tours of sanitary inspection.

If some such rules as the above were adopted, there would, in conjunction with the scheme for the organization of a Sanitary Department referred to in Proceedings of the Madras Sanitary Board, No. 3, dated 24th September 1890, General Sanitation Department, be laid the foundation of a complete mode of supervising the practical sanitary wants of the country. It may of course be said that the adoption of these methods would indicate a retrograde step with respect to Local self-government. This is not really so. It will be seen that in the midst of such an organization as suggested, there will be ample scope for the opinions of all classes to be carefully taken into consideration, whilst undoubtedly Local bodies will be relieved of responsibility as to design and structures of works, which they have repeatedly declared themselves incompetent of designing. Further, only by some such measures is it possible for Local bodies to derive the full benefit of the advice of the Madras Sanitary Board.

From the Divisional Officer in charge of the office of Chairman, Municipal Council, Kumbakónam, dated 14th October 1890, No. 403.

From Surgeon-Major J. A. LAING, Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 3rd November 1890, No. 5128-S.

With reference to G.O., No. 2055 L., dated 16th August 1890, Local and Municipal, I have the honor to make the following suggestions regarding the amendments therein proposed in the Local Fund rules and those prescribed for the guidance of Municipal Councils.

2. In both instances the proposed amendment in regard to works exceeding Rs. 1,000 in cost runs thus:—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 1,000 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department * * * *"

3. According to G.O., No. 966 L., dated 30th May 1887, it is ruled that plans of all sanitary works estimated to cost Rs. 200 and over should be submitted to the Sanitary Commissioner for approval. This ruling, as far as I am aware, has not been cancelled. I would therefore suggest that the proposed amendment alluded to in paragraph 2 of this letter be altered as follows:—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 1,000 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

4. I have advisedly suggested that all plans, &c., should be submitted to the *Sanitary Commissioner* and *Sanitary Engineer* and not to the "*Sanitary Board*." Though the "Sanitary Board" as at present constituted is made up of the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, yet it cannot be called a consultative body, inasmuch as, according to the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Board, they work independently of each other; thus the Sanitary Engineer deals with, and reports direct to Government on, schemes for water-supply, drainage and other works of a sanitary nature without reference to the Sanitary Commissioner and local authorities concerned. The Sanitary Commissioner does the same in dealing with questions on general sanitation, but yet both officers submit their individual reports in the form of proceedings as emanating from the Sanitary Board office. Unless, therefore, this arrangement, by which the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer thus work independently of each other, be so modified as to bring the two members of which the Board is composed to deal in consultation with each other with all questions relating to works of a sanitary nature, whether in the General Sanitation or Sanitary Engineering Department, I would not suggest the substitution of "Sanitary Board" for Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer in my amendment proposed in paragraph 3.

5. Further, the arrangement by which the two members of the Board work independently might lead to conflict of opinion between them, and the advantages of having a consultative body be deprived. For instance, schemes for works of the nature described in the rules under amendment will have been designed, recommended and carried out by the Sanitary Engineer alone, regarding which the Sanitary Commissioner on his inspection may have occasion to differ from him in opinion from a sanitary point of view. In such case the remark of Mr. Jones in paragraph 3 of his letter, No. 193, dated 4th July 1890—that the double reference to the Superintending Engineer and the Sanitary Engineer of the Board might lead to a conflict of opinion between the Public Works Department on the one hand and the Sanitary Board on the other, and Government be placed in the position of having two sets of advisers, each advising differently—would apply with equal force to the Sanitary Board as at present worked, inasmuch as the Sanitary Commissioner and the Sanitary Engineer give their opinion independently of each other. *En passant*, I may take this opportunity of observing that the Engineer member of the Board cannot be considered as the sole adviser of Government in all matters relating to Sanitary Engineering, the Sanitary Commissioner being the adviser to Government in all sanitary matters, and as the Sanitary member of the Board cannot be disassociated from the consideration of schemes for works described in Rules 2, 4 and 7 of the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Board for reasons set forth above.

6. In the proposed amendment of the rules under consideration, it is stated that District Boards and Municipal Councils concerned may, if they see fit, consult the Sanitary Engineer in cases of works costing more than Rs. 200 and less than Rs. 1,000, in regard to the plans and estimates, thus leaving it optional with these bodies to do so or not. I would not recommend such an arrangement, as there are many works of a sanitary nature, such as latrines, slaughter-houses, &c., which cost between Rs. 200 and Rs. 1,000, and which it is most important should be constructed on sound sanitary principles or else they are liable to become nuisances of a most offensive nature and dangerous to public health. The men at present employed by Municipalities and also by District Boards in connection with such works have not, as a rule, had that training which is necessary to qualify them to draw out plans on sanitary principles, and therefore it is very important that plans and estimates of all works costing Rs. 200 and less than Rs. 1,000 also should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. If this be not done, it will surely happen, as experience has proved, that in their inspections many works will be found to have been carried out which are objectionable both in a sanitary and engineering point of view and thus will have to be altered or altogether condemned, which means so much time and money wasted.

7. I therefore consider that the option indicated in the proposed amendment should be withdrawn, and that it be made compulsory with District Boards and Municipal Councils to forward plans and estimates of all works costing more than Rs. 200 to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. It may be argued that District Boards and Municipal Councils will gladly avail themselves of the option and forward plans and estimates of such works also for opinion and approval as suggested, but experience has shown that frequently this has not been the case.

8. In the amended Rule 2 of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils, I would suggest that the word "buildings" be omitted, for in the construction of buildings, such as houses, hospitals, schools, cutcherries, choultries, &c., there are many sanitary points which have to be considered, such as the site, provision for ventilation, prevention of sub-soil dampness, cubic and superficial space, &c., in order to make them healthy buildings. I consider, therefore, plans and estimates of buildings

also should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval before they are sanctioned or put into execution, as a defective habitation is undoubtedly a most serious cause of ill-health and even death.

9. To sum up, my suggestions are as follows :—

I. That in the proposed amended rules of both the Local Fund Rules and Rules for the guidance of Muncipal Councils, all plans and estimates, &c., estimated to cost Rs. 200 and over shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, &c.

II. That the option given to District Boards and Municipal Councils of consulting the Sanitary Engineer in regard to plans and estimates in case of works costing Rs. 200 and more than Rs. 1,000 be withdrawn, and it be made compulsory with these bodies to forward the plans and estimates of all such works to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval.

III. In the amended Rule 2 of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils omit the word "buildings," as in the construction of buildings, such as houses, hospitals, schools, cutcherries, choultries, &c., there are many sanitary points to be considered, and therefore the plans and estimates of such buildings should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval.

IV. I have throughout mentioned that the plans and estimates should be forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer for opinion and approval. If, however, Government be pleased to modify the rules prescribed for the guidance of the Sanitary Board, so as to bring the Sanitary Commissioner and Sanitary Engineer, who form the members of the Board, in consultation with each other in dealing with questions regarding matters referred to them individually, and thus make the Sanitary Board a consultative body, I would substitute "Sanitary Board" for "Sanitary Commissioner" and "Sanitary Engineer."

From the President, District Board, Tanjore, dated Vallam, 9th November 1890, No. 321.

From the President, District Board, Anantapur, dated 13th November 1890, No. 77.

From the President, District Board, Kistna, dated Masulipatam, 27th November 1890, No. 223.

From the Collector and President, District Board, Bellary, dated 9th December 1890, No. 2448.

ORDER—dated 16th January 1891, No. 79 L., Local and Municipal.

The papers read above relate to the amendment of Rule 36 of the Local Fund Rules published in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L., and of the Rules for the guidance of Municipal Councils prescribed in G.O., dated 22nd June 1890, No. 124 M. Dr. Laing, Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of Madras, and Dr. King alone make any suggestions in respect of the proposed alterations. The Government agrees with these officers in considering that Local Boards and Municipalities should be required to submit all plans and estimates for sanitary works costing more than Rs. 200 to the Sanitary Engineer with Government, but does not consider it necessary that they should be submitted to the Sanitary Commissioner as well. As regards Dr. Laing's proposal that, in No. 2 of the draft municipal rules printed in the Government order read above, the word "buildings" should be omitted, the Government is not prepared to make any alteration in the present procedure, which has worked well hitherto.

2. The following notifications will be published in all District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular language of the district :—

NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, under section 144 of Act V of 1884, to prescribe that the following alterations shall be made in Rule 36 of the Local Fund rules published in G.O., dated 26th June 1886, No. 721 L., as follows :—

(i) In clause 1, line 4, and in clause 3, line 5, omit the word "drainage."

(ii) Add the following after clause 3 :—

"All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 200 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

These alterations shall come into force in each district three months after their first publication in the District Gazette.

NOTIFICATION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased, under section 250 of Act IV of 1884, to prescribe that the following rules shall be substituted for Rule 2 of the rules published in G.O., dated 22nd January 1890, No. 124 M., as follows :—

"2. The approval of the Superintending Engineer of the Public Works Circle within whose range of superintendence the Municipality is situated, must be obtained to plans and estimates for all buildings, bridges and other original masonry works and, generally, original works of a special or unusual character costing more than Rs. 1,000 each, which the Municipal Council proposes to undertake.

"3. All plans and estimates for original or repair works of a sanitary nature estimated to exceed Rs. 200 in cost shall be sent for approval to the Sanitary Engineer, and not to the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department."

These rules shall come into force in each Municipality three months after their publication in the local Gazette of the district.

3. The above notifications will be forwarded to the Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Canarese Translators to Government for translation as speedily as possible, in view to their publication in District Gazettes, and the Superintendent, Government Press, will print the required number of copies in English and the vernaculars and forward them to Presidents and Collectors for publication. Each Collector and President will report date of publication in the District Gazette.

4. Dr. King's further proposals, in his letter read above, have received the careful consideration of Government, but His Excellency in Council is unable to regard them as practicable at present.

5. In accordance with the above notifications, Rule 7 of the Rules for the guidance of the Sanitary Board published in G.O., dated 8th August 1890, No. 1971 L., Local and Municipal, will be altered as follows :—

RULE.

"7. No sanitary work, whether original or repair, estimated to cost more than Rs. 200, shall be undertaken by any District Municipality or Local Board unless the plans and estimates have been first approved by the Sanitary Engineer."

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Board.
" the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" the Sanitary Engineer.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Public Department.
" all Presidents of District Boards.
" all Collectors.
" all Chairmen of Municipal Councils,
through the Collectors concerned.
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Gazette.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of {1891} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 16th January 1891, No. 79 L.

JANUARY.

Rules.

Ordering, with remarks, the issue of notifications making certain alterations in the — regarding the passing of plans and estimates of Local Fund and Municipal works.

with Order

Re. 440 W D 16. Feb. 1891

Communicated to Supdg Engineers with reference to G.O. No. 1995 W D 10th August 1886 & 2400 W D 5th Sept. 1890 -

H D J R

Rlo Se B P Works