

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

READ—the following papers:—

From I. S. SHERLOCK-HUBBARD, Esq., Examiner, Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 25th June 1895, No. 2248 C.

The following is forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, with a request that if the proposals therein made are approved they may be emphasized by an order of Government.

Copy of letter from the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Madras, to the Superintending Engineer, . . . Circle, No. 2247 C., dated 25th June 1895.

I have the honour to reply to your No. 110 Exr., dated the 21st instant.

2. I assume from your paragraph 2 that you are of opinion that it is, ordinarily, undesirable to retain a Divisional Accountant for more than three years in a particular office; and if this be so, I fully endorse it.

3. When I joined this office four years ago, I was struck by the fact that accountants had been allowed to remain in the same division for unlimited periods; and in representing to the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government that the arrangement was undesirable, I suggested that, save in the case of a few exceptional divisions, I might be allowed to take the earliest opportunity, as a rule, of transferring an accountant who had been more than three years in a division.

4. The exceptions were specially unhealthy and specially healthy localities; and for these I proposed a limit of two years, so as to minimize the hardships of the former and to give every man a fair turn at the latter.

5. The above proposals were fully approved by the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government; and a reference to the distribution return for the last three years will show that the principle has, as far as circumstances permitted, been put into effect.

6. I am however not sure that a transfer ought to be effected on the only ground that an accountant has been three years in the same division; as such an arrangement, besides causing inconvenience, would entail unnecessary expense. The name of every accountant who has been three years in a division is usually noted for transfer; and the transfer is effected on the occasion of a suitable opportunity.

7. It is not of course possible to adhere to the exact period, as every other consideration has to give way to the exigencies of the public service. On the one hand, it may not be possible to effect an accountant's transfer the moment he has served the prescribed period in one office, without deranging several other offices in providing each with a suitable accountant with reference to the importance of the division; while, on the other hand, if an important division falls vacant, unexpectedly, it may be necessary to remove the man most fitted for that charge, even though he may not have been many months in another division.

8. As the responsibility of providing divisional offices with suitable accountants devolves on me, I hope you will agree with me (i) that the convenience of one office should not be placed over and above the convenience of two or more other offices;

and (ii) that in any transfers I may find it necessary to make, I shall be seriously handicapped in discharging my responsibilities unless I receive the full support of Superintending Engineers.

9. In this connection, I may add that I have invariably endeavoured to study the convenience of divisional officers in my proposals for the transfers of accountants; and, although not required to do so by any rule, I have usually addressed them on the subject, either demi-officially or officially, before applying for the Superintending Engineer's approval to a transfer. In the present case my first communication to the Executive Engineer was a demi-official to which no reply was received.

10. I forward, for your information, copy of my letter No. 2160 C. of 19th June 1895, to the Executive Engineer, ... Division, which will show that I had to propose the removal of for special and urgent reasons. The Executive Engineer having requested that he should not be moved for another two or three months, I have arranged to leave the accountant where he is until the middle of September 1895; but in order to do this I have had to temporarily post to the other division a junior accountant who has not had sufficient experience to fill it.

ENCLOSURE.

Copy of letter from the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, Madras, to the Executive Engineer, ... Division, No. 2160 C., dated 19th June 1895.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram, dated the 18th instant, objecting to the immediate transfer of accountant and requesting that he may be allowed to remain in his present charge till September next.

2. I am always willing to do all in my power to meet the convenience of Executive Engineers and I would readily consent to your proposal; but as four senior accountants are taking leave and the accountant of the Division has sent in a very strong medical certificate in support of his application for a year's furlough from 1st July 1895, I must have a fairly senior accountant to replace him.

3. I shall therefore be obliged if you will reconsider your objection and obtain the Superintending Engineer's approval to the arrangement I have proposed. As should join at the Head-quarters of the Division, on or before 1st July 1895, I would request his immediate relief. Mr. , Assistant Accountant, is in my opinion fully competent to take temporary charge of the accounts of the division, and I will post another accountant to your office at an early date.

ORDER—dated 3rd July 1895, No. 1619 W., Public Works.

The proposals of the Examiner are approved.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. PENNYCUICK, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.

- „ the Consulting Architect to Government.
- „ the Superintendent of Works, Periyár Project.
- „ the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of {1895} Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated July, 3rd.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 3rd July 1895, No. 1619 W.

JULY.

Accountants

The proposals of the Examiner of Public Works Accounts with respect to the transfer of —, approved.

[G]
[53]
500-26-2-95.

Divisional Department.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper:—

Memorandum from
Proceedings of the Public Works Department,
of 14th June 1895 R.O. 315 D.

Order 26th June 1895 R.O. 555.

Recorded in continuation

of G.O. of 11th June 1895 R.O. 508.

[Enclosed]

C. Goddard

By asst. Secretary

for chief secretary—
1.VII.95.

no 1587 W
25.6.95

to
The Public Works Department ✓
" Presiding Post-offices
" Accountant General.

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Govt. of {189 } Madras.

To

Recd: 4.7.95

The P. W. Dept.

No. 1772 Wd 17th July 1895

Recorded with
reference to L.O. 1587 Wd of
28th June 1895.

Proceedings, dated 26th June 1895.
R No. 555

Subject.

Recording Memorandum
from P. W. Dept. No. 3762
of 14th June 1895

No. 1587 Wd of 28-6-95
1035 Wd of 2-5-95
889 Wd of 10-4-95
821 Wd of 3-4-95
768 Wd of 26-3-95
1196 C of 21-3-95
669 Wd of 19-3-95
1047 C of 13-3-95
465 Wd of 26-2-95
260 Wd of 2-2-95
3238 Wd of 17-12-94

LS

Crossed
1/95

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