

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 180

DATED 22nd February 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Expenditure: Govt of India letter on the subject of the responsibility of P.W.D. officers for regulating - so as to keep within Budget Grants - comt^d to the officers concerned and the instructions of that Govt ordered to be rigidly adhered to by Supts. Engineers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government { 1897 } of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Spare copies

FEBRUARY.

Government of India letter on the subject of the responsibility of Public Works Department officers for regulating — so as to keep within budget grants, communicated to the officers concerned, and the instructions of that Government ordered to be rigidly adhered to by Superintending Engineers.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.
Account.

READ—the following paper:—

From Colonel W. S. S. BISSET, R.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (Account—Irrigation), to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, dated Calcutta, 27th January 1897, No. 8 A.I.

In continuation of Public Works Department telegram No. 3 A.I., dated 18th January 1897, communicating sanction to an additional grant of Rs. 38,000 under 42. Major Works (Working expenses) for the Srivaikuntam anicut system to cover expenditure incurred in closing breaches, I am directed to observe as follows.

2. From the Proceedings of the Government of Madras, forwarded with your letter No. 769 I., dated 19th September 1896, it appears that although the breaches in question occurred in December 1895, no provision was made in the budget estimate for 1896-97, nor did the Executive Engineer's first application for additional funds reach the Superintending Engineer till May 1896.

3. From the proceedings of the local departmental officer in connection with this case, it appears to the Government of India that the responsibility of Public Works Department officers for regulating expenditure, so as to keep within budget grants, is not sufficiently appreciated. I am therefore to say that it should be clearly insisted upon that the budget grant imposes an obligation upon an officer to regulate the expenditure by it, whether he considers it sufficient or not, until it is supplemented in due course, and further that, if an officer is compelled by circumstances beyond his control to spend money in excess of grant, it is incumbent on him to take immediate steps to inform the controlling authority or the Local Government of the fact, in order that the irregularity may be removed without any avoidable delay. In cases where the amount involved is doubtful, a rough approximation should be given subject to correction when more complete information on the subject becomes available.

4. The foregoing remarks also apply generally to the case of the excess expenditure in connection with the flood damages in the Gódávári and Cauvery deltas, for which an additional grant of Rs. 41,500 was sanctioned in Public Works Department telegram No. 100 A.I., dated 31st December 1896. In that case the floods occurred in July and August last, when expenditure in excess of the budget grant became necessary, but the Government of India were not informed of the fact until the 20th November 1896.

ORDER—No. 180 I., dated 22nd February 1897.

Communicated to the officers concerned. The instructions given in paragraph 3 of the foregoing letter from the Government of India will be rigidly adhered to by Superintending Engineers in future.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" the Superintending Engineer, I Circle.
" the " " V "
" the " " VI "
" all other Superintending Engineers.
" the Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

Exd. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1213

Order

180/22.2.97
1928
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Communicated to the officers concerned. The instructions given in para 3 of the foregoing letter from the Govt of India will be rigidly adhered to by Superintendents in future.

From The Govt. of India, P.W.D.

No. 80.1

Dated 27.1.97

Received 3.2.97

Enclosures "

Spare copies ..

SUBJECT.

Furnishing further particulars on the additional grant of Rs. 38,000, sanctioned under 42 Major Works Working expenses for the Srivasthantani Ancient System to cover expenditure incurred in closing breaches.

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P. W. D.

2,000-10-11-99

3. From the proceedings of the local departmental officers in connection with this case, it appears to the Government of India that the responsibility of Public Works Department officers for regulating expenditure, so as to keep within Budget grants, is not sufficiently appreciated. I am therefore to say that it should be clearly insisted upon that the Budget grant imposes an obligation upon an officer to regulate the expenditure by it, whether he considers it sufficient or not, until it is supplemented in due course, and further that, if an officer is compelled by circumstances beyond his control to spend money in excess of grant, it is incumbent on him to take immediate steps to inform the controlling authority or the Local Government of the fact, in order that the irregularity may be removed without any avoidable delay. In cases where the amount involved is doubtful a rough approximation should be given subject to correction when more complete information on the subject becomes available.

4. The foregoing remarks also apply generally to the case of the excess expenditure in

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in connection with the flood damages in the Godavari and Canvey deltas for which an additional grant of Rs 41,500 was sanctioned in Public Works Department telegram no. 100 A.D. dated 31st December 1896. In that case the floods occurred in July and August last, when expenditure in excess of the budget grant became necessary, but the Government of India were not informed of the fact until the 20th November 1896.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. M. Birt
Collector,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Estt
29.1.97

Documents accompanying:-
Nil.