

Public Works (1897) Department.

W. B. G.

G.O., No. 3233 *W*

DATED 19. November 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Expenditure for unit on famine relief, Ross & Famine
Dept furnishing the East of India with certain expla-
nation in regard to the increased rate of — in August
and September as compared with that for the period from
April to July and requesting certain enquiries
to be instituted as regards P.W.D. expenditure
during September Com to the officers
concerned with same acts.*

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

Communicated to the
officers concerned.

2. The Examiner will as early
as practicable furnish the information ^{called for} in para 3 of the Proceedings.

3. With reference to para 4
the order, it is observed that an
excess expenditure in September
is due ^{to} that incurred in previous
months having been adjusted
that month, and there is no
that similar excess ~~would~~ ^{will} ~~of~~
occurred in October and Nov^{er}.
The Supty. Engineers, I and ^{will} ~~and~~
will, however, make the necessary
inquiries at once and report
causes of excess. They will also
mit with the least possible
statements showing the gross
reque

BACK PAPER

G.O. to cover the entire famine
outlay.

W. H. H.
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Public Works
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Department.

CURRENT No. 11314

From

The Financial Dept

Order

No. 920

Dated 11 - 11 - 1897

Received 3 13. 11. 97

Registered

Enclosures 4

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Re the increased rate of
expenditure for work on
famine relief in Assam and
Sikkim as compared
with the work for the period
April to July

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G.O.

B. G.
19/11/97

To
The Secy I and III Circles
" Examiner P.W. Accts
" Financial Dept

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Copy of telegram from the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department dated 11th October 1897

Your telegram of 5th famine expenditure the estimate of famine Commissioner will ^{be} forwarded on what date must first of 85 lakhs have been spent to end of September the expenditure per unit in August and September taking the numbers from weekly returns has been about 25 percent higher than expenditure per unit in April to July & an explanation of their increased rate should be given. Government of India also desire to know if estimates of requirements have been received from district officers and how many units of relief are expected in each district in October and in subsequent months.



Revenue Department

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper:—

Endorsement of the Financial Dept.

No. 2117 dated 12th October 1897 referring telegram from the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Dept. dated 11th October 1897, in continuation of Endorsement No. 2031 dated 1st October 1897.

Endorsement No. 2117 dated 14th October 1897.

It is referred to the Financial Department with the following remarks—

The expenditure looked from April to July under 35 lakhs nearly and 47 1/2 lakhs and the expenditure at the end of September was 85 lakhs nearly. Calculating from these figures and from the numbers reported to have been in receipt of relief in three months in the north western parts of the Government of India arrives at the conclusion that the work of expenditure for

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per unit of relief in August and September was 25 per cent. higher than in the period April to July, we desire to have an explanation of this increase. The increase is due partly to a rise in the prices of food grains in the months of August and September and partly to the fact that the Public Works Department working on the deposit system is not able to bring expenditure to book till some time after it is incurred with the result that the expenditure of the closing months is unduly exaggerated.

2. The wages and stores payable to the recipients of Government relief are the most variable of fixed amounts of grains and it is found by actual calculation that the cost at the market rates that prevailed from ^{time} to time of the wages and stores payable in strict accordance with the scale prescribed in the Code, to the persons in relief averages Rs. 2.54 per head monthly in the period April to July, and Rs. 2.65 in August and September or 4 per cent. higher. It will thus be seen that other things being equal, the rate of expenditure in the latter period should be 4 per cent. higher than in the former. Again the Public Works expenditure in September

was 13.56 lakhs against only 12.56 lakhs booked in August though the average number relieved daily in September was only 27,779 as against 28,779 in August.

Average daily number relieved in months
about Aug. 18779 28779 77402 42779
before Sep. 74480 129004 42779 28779
ent. of that in the first; ^{this} but is certainly due to some of the expenditure incurred in previous months having been first brought to book in September. It is not possible with the information available in this department to say to what extent this has been the case.

3. The Finance Commission's revised estimate has been retransferred to the Financial Department with a view to their reference to the requiring of the Government of India in the latter part of its telegram, the Financial Department will be informed that the Finance Commission has received estimates of requirements from district officers, but that these estimates do not show the number expected to come on relief in October and accordingly must be arranged daily in order to relief in October as calculated from the weekly Season

Seasons reports are noted below:-

	Mulshankus	Weavers	Persons gratuitously relieved
Prayag	1032	1663	1919.
Byzagarh	"	"	"
Munroo	22767	11969	5315
Bellary	11998	1822	10528
Channarayana	10763	31141	41393
Chandragiri	2845	7554	1065

(See Extract)

(Signed) J. St. John

Secretary to Govt.

Dec 2
11/3/1897

[G. 63]
2,000-22-10-97.

Revenue Department.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper:—

Enforcement of the Financial Department, etc. 2031, dated 1st October 1897 and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, &c) dated 28th September 1897, etc.

Over the amount of Rs. 56,20,000, of 30th November 1897. In the paper read above, the Finance Commissioner submits his revised estimate of famine expenditure for 1897-98, called for in G.O. No. 18, Financial, dated 2nd October 1897. The estimate given by him works up to a total of Rs. 93.18 lakhs, but includes a provision of about 8 1/2 lakhs for advances to a district which are not debitable to famine relief; so that the estimate is at present about Rs. 84 1/2 lakhs, an amount the full cost of the famine expenditure up to September by about half a lakh.

2. The details up to the end of September

	Head Office	Ganjam	Poona Baram	Gulwar	Thurud	Dehri	Angul	Indra	Total
32 A	354	17,838	8903	26	22,120	22,042	7,275	7258	87,936
32 B	..	17,365	17,747	25	4,174	10,771	22,504	..	410,754
32 C	..	2397,473	2246	..	76,73	95,353	42,326	1,745,553	..
32 D	..	44,561	1,144	25,575	24,987	22,871	85,274	107,597	1,220,384
32 E	..	2613	572	950	..	..	172	534	4748
32 F	87,433	29,146	20,470	2,776	155,205	45,230	..	1,2410	504,544
									34,46730

is reported in the second and the third paper and above are abstracted in the margin. The abnormally large expenditure under 33 B in Revenue is due to delay on the part of the Examiners of Public Works Accounts in paying Subscribers in funds sent to the collector bearing in consequence had to strain the funds necessary for works in charge of Public Works Officers from the Treasury as if required for works in charge of Civil Officers; the expenditure is now being transferred to the Public Works Department by means of the Exchange account. On the other hand much of the expenditure under 33 C has not yet been brought to book and there is reason to believe that the sums booked under 33 C do not represent the total expenditure.

* From the Assistant General, No. 1, Jan 87
of 13th October 1895
* From the Examiners, P.W. Accounts, No. 84 A/B, of 29th October 1897

expenditure under this head up to September; the main cost of wages payable to the masons shown on the weekly returns as it appears from the masons' books that the cost of the materials required for the masonry from 1/2 to 3 times the cost of the wages and may roughly be taken at twice the latter on an average, the expenditure under this head could not have been less than 12 lakhs on the supposition that all the masons shown in the weekly returns were actually employed. The Government may be continuously. The Government also observe that the expenditure under 33 B is higher amounting to 15.23 lakhs against only 13.25 lakhs in August; though the average monthly returns for the month of August 1897 are 13,774 and for September 13,004 42,294-4 and about 60 per cent of the masonry work in August, but in fact the transfer of about 2 lakhs from the work, but mainly to the masonry that a considerable portion of imperfect masonry reported by the Examiners in the August accounts as outstanding and unaccounted for, represented unaccounted expenditure.

expenditure which has been booked in September; it is not unlikely that the actuals for October will also be similarly raised.

Judging from the incumbrances on relief of aid during the last five months, it is unlikely that the expenditure pertaining to October will exceed 2½ lakhs and that in November must be trifling, but having regard to the considerations set forth above and to the fact that the Assistant-General

and the ~~Executive Director~~ ^{Executive Director} estimate the total requirement up to the end of the following October, the Government is of opinion that the requirements for October and succeeding months cannot possibly be met at less than 8 lakhs which with the grant already sanctioned by the Government of India makes a total of 9½ lakhs. The distribution of this requirement among the different districts and divisions is shown in the statement appended of the

	Head Quarters Office	Guwahati	Tezpur Jalpaiguri	Gorakhpur Dumkai	Ballari	Almora Juni	Chitradurga	Total
23A		30,000	12,000	600	11,000	47,200	27,700	2,01,700
23B		30,000	18,000	200	420,000	16,000	24,000	495,200
23C		20,000	70,000		250,000	125,000	75,000	4,25,000
23D		45,000	1,10,000	40,000	1,10,000	25,000	1,00,000	14,00,000
23E								5,000
23F	40,000	3,00,000	2,10,000	2000	16,25,000	25,70,000	2,00,000	4,50,000
23G								60,00,000
Total	40,000	10,50,000	4,40,000	42,700	2,01,000	20,00,000	4,70,700	1,22,00,000

(True Extract)
(Signed) G. Stokes
Secy to Govt.

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Copy of telegram to the Government
of India, Finance and Commerce Department
No. 805, of 4th November 1897:-

"Your telegram dated 11th October. Ac-
counts of Revenue and Public Works expenditure
now in show that this Government's estimate
of 85 lakhs to end September quite correct
actuals being 84.97. Explanation of increased
rate in August and September is that
prices were higher than before, and also
that as the Public Works Department is
working on the imprest system expenditure
is booked after the date on which it is
incurred. Prices have since fallen but
the Public Works Department may still
have part expenditure to bring to account.
Accountant General and Examiner estimate
cost to conclusion of famine at 106 lakhs.
This sum includes large credits granted
by Examiners out of which the actual ex-
penditure doubtful unless large amount
of Public Works expenditure still unac-
counted for. Eight lakhs asked for in tele-
gram of 5th October, No. 774 ought to be
sufficient to close accounts."

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Financial Department.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper:-

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Again G.O. N^o 713-14, Financial, dated 3rd September 1897.

" N^o 818 " dated 5th October 1897.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), N^o 639, dated 28th September 1897, submitting the revised estimates of famine expenditure during 1897-98, called for in G.O. N^o 713, Financial, of 3rd September 1897.

Indicate pgs.

Endorsement of the Financial Department, N^o 2031, of 1st October 1897.

Indicate pgs.

Letter from the Accountant-General, N^o 3088, of 6th October 1897.

Indicate pgs.

Endorsement of the Financial Department, N^o 2096, of 11th October 1897.

* Copy attached

Telegram from the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Dept., dated 11th October 1897.

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Endorsement of the Financial Department,
No. 2117, of 12th October 1897.

Endorsement of the Accountant General,
No. 1/Jan. G. of 13th October 1897.

Letter from the same officer, No. 3267,
of 20th October 1897.

From the Examiner, Public Works Accounts,
No. 811 A/B, of 29th October 1897.

From the Accountant General, No.
3371, of 29th October 1897.

From the Revenue Department, No. 5649, of 4th November 1897. * copy attached

From the Revenue Department, No. 5620, of 3rd November 1897. * copy attached

Read also the following:-
Telegram to the Government of India,
Finance and Commerce Department, No. 805,
dated 4th November 1897. * copy attached.

From the Accountant General, No.
92/705, of 6th November 1897.

(Order:-

(Order:- No. 920, of 11th November 1897.

The Government of India will, with reference to its telegram of the 11th October 1897, and in continuation of this Government's telegram No. 805 of the 4th instant, be furnished with the explanation contained in the endorsement from the Revenue Department No. 5649, dated 4th November 1897 in regard to the increased rate of expenditure per unit on famine relief in August and September, as compared with that for the period April to July. The Famine Commissioner's revised estimates as accepted by the Revenue Department in its proceedings No. 5620 Abis, of 3rd November 1897 will at the same time be submitted to the Government of India. These estimates are shown in ^{the} appendix to these proceedings, with the actuals up to the end of September separated from the probable expenditure in the remaining months of the year.

2. The distribution of the existing grant of 85 lakhs under 33 Famine Relief will be as shown in the column "to the end of September" in the appendix to these proceedings. As thus distributed the allotment between Civil Officers and Public Works Officers will stand at 28.51 lakhs and 56.46 lakhs, respectively, and the distribution already made in paragraph 1

of G.O. N° 818, Financial, of 5th October 1897
will be revised as follows:-

Civil Officers...	28.54
Public Works Dept ...	56.46
	<u>85.00</u>

3. From the statement furnished by the Accountant General in his N° 22/705, of the 6th instant it appears that the expenditure in the Civil Department in October amounted to 1.60 lakh. The allotment to cover this outlay as well as future expenditure in the Civil and Public Works Departments must await the sanction of the Government of India to the additional grant of 8 lakhs for which application has already been made. Meanwhile the Examiner of Public Works Accounts should be requested in the Public Works Department to forward the actuals for October and succeeding months, as early as practicable.

4. It is observed that the actual expenditure in the Public Works Department up to the end of September as estimated by the Examiner in his telegram dated 23rd August 1897 was 77.82 lakhs. The Government fortunately regarded this at the time as an overestimate, and basing its calculation on the numbers on relief and likely to come on relief, framed a lower estimate for submission to the Government.

Government of India. The Revenue Commissioner, on the other hand, in Board's proceedings N° 529, of 26th July 1897 estimated for a Public Works expenditure of 43.10 lakh. The actuals to the end of September greatly exceeded this amount and according to the Examiner's figures there are large credits remaining outstanding and unaccounted for. The attention of the Chief Engineer has already been drawn to the question of credits in G.O. N° 2462 W, of 3rd September 1897. The foregoing facts point, however, to the necessity for further enquiries as regards Public Works Department expenditure, and these the Revenue and Public Works Departments will be requested to institute at an early date. The facts noticed in paragraph 2 of the proceedings of the Revenue Department N° 5620, dated 3rd November 1897 read above, - viz. that the Public Works Department expenditure in September exceeded that of August by nearly two lakhs in spite of a fall of 40 per cent in the average number on relief - seems to show clearly that due control has not been exercised over this class of expenditure. The matter should be treated as specially urgent for it is possible that the revised estimate of 73 lakhs framed by the Revenue Department

The excess is
not due to any
want of control

Department will be entirely thrown out
unless the subject of Public Works Department
expenditure is on a very different
basis from that disclosed in the papers
read above.

(True Extract)

M. Arundell

Chief Secretary.

T.S.
14/4/97

To

the Revenue Dept.

" Public Works Dept. ✓

" Finance Commissioner.

" Accountant General.