

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No.

407 W

DATED 10. February 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Land Acquisition Proceedings; Pro: Finance
Dept passing orders in regard to the recovery and
debit of the cost of supplying copies of —,
Count to the Office of the — and

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Public Works (1897) Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Current No. 882

Recd. { 25-1- } 1897.
Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies 10

G.O., No. 34, 15th January 1897.

B-407 No. 10. 2.97
Communicated to
Officers of the P.W. Dept
JANUARY.
4/2/97

Ac. S. for d. ✓
C. S. for d. ✓
Sup. S. for d. ✓
Ch. S. for d. ✓
S. S. for d. ✓
S. S. for d. ✓
Gen. S. for d. ✓
Gen. S. for d. ✓
Gen. S. for d. ✓
Gen. S. for d. ✓

Cost of supplying copies of Land Acquisition Proceedings.

Passing orders in regard to the recovery and debit of the —.

R 10/2/97

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

G.O., Mis. No. 4500, Revenue, dated 12th November 1896.

Read—the following paper :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 4729, dated 19th October 1896.

Read—the following letter from F. C. HARRISON, Esq., Officiating Accountant-General, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Fort St. George, 29th September 1896, No. 3040 :—

I have the honour to state that the Collector of Nellore has passed an order that the amount of a bill for remuneration to copyists and examiners presented by the Special Deputy Collector, Bezwada-Madras State Railway, Pennar division, should be debited to "3. Land Revenue" in the treasury accounts, treating the Special Deputy Collector as a Divisional officer for the purpose of granting copies of documents.

A reference was also made to me recently by the Examiner of Accounts, Bezwada-Madras State Railway, in connection with a bill presented to him for payment by the Special Deputy Collector of the Bapatla division of the railway.

In both cases the system of copy-stamped papers sanctioned in G.O., No. 181, Revenue, dated 25th February 1892, was adopted. But under Board's Proceedings, No. 592, dated 13th October 1893, the officers empowered to grant copies of documents on such papers are Collectors, Divisional officers, Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars.

The order clearly refers to Revenue officers only, and I am doubtful whether it was intended to apply to officers who are on special duty in the Public Works Department for acquisition of lands, &c.

If any extension in this direction is allowed, the question will arise as to what department should bear the charges for remuneration to copyists. It will not be correct to debit Land Revenue with them since the charges were not incurred in that department. On the other hand, the Examiner contends that, as the sale-proceeds of the copy-stamped papers are credited in the accounts of the Civil department under Stamps, the charges incurred in connection with the preparation of copies on such papers should be debited to that department.

To avoid any complication it seems to me that the simplest plan would be to rule that, in cases like the present, the copying fees should be paid in cash. If the Board concurs in this view, I request that the necessary orders may be issued.

Resolution—Mis. No. 4729, dated 19th October 1896.

Special Deputy Collectors for the acquisition of lands for railway purposes have been declared to be Divisional officers for the purpose of the grant of copies under Standing Order, No. 226 (Old Edition). There will accordingly be no objection in future to their levying copying fees in the shape of copy-stamped papers under G.O., No. 1178, Revenue, dated 9th December 1891.

2. In order to meet the difficulty pointed out by the Accountant-General in regard to the department to which the charges for remuneration to copyists should be debited, the Board has already suggested to Government that the sale-proceeds of copy

stamped papers should be credited in future to Land Revenue or other appropriate departmental head—*vide* paragraph 2 of Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 3962, dated 29th August 1896.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Ag. Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Order—Mis. No. 4500, Revenue, dated 12th November 1896.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Ag. Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
Copy to the Financial Department.

Note by the Examiner of Railway Accounts, dated 3rd December 1896.

Copies of land acquisition proceedings are supplied, not for the benefit of the railway acquiring the land, but for the benefit of private individuals, who are required to pay for the cost of the same in the shape of fees for stamped papers.

If the fees are properly fixed, there is no actual expense either to Government or to the railway in connection with the furnishing of copies of land acquisition proceedings to the parties interested.

If, however, the fees levied are credited to some Civil department head of Revenue, while the railway is charged with the cost of copying, the railway capital account will be unduly and unfairly swollen by some fictitious expenditure which has not actually been incurred in connection with land acquisition.

For this reason I am of opinion that the Accountant-General's suggestion, that the cost of supplying copies of proceedings should in these cases be recovered in cash, should be adopted.

ORDER—No. 34, Financial, dated 15th January 1897.

As suggested by the Accountant-General and the Examiner of Railway Accounts, the cost of supplying copies of papers in cases such as those dealt with in the correspondence read above will, in future, be recovered in cash.

2. The expenditure in the cases mentioned in the Accountant-General's letter, No. 3040, dated 29th September 1896, will, however, be booked in the accounts of the railways, to which the salaries of the Deputy Collectors on special duty in the Public Works Department are, under section 1203 of the Civil Service Regulations, also debited.

(True Extract.)

A. R. Kuapp
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Raith.

Public Works Department

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Please send 8 additional three copies of G. O. R. 34, Feb. dated 15th January 97, as they are required for communication to officers of the S. W. Dept.

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Cost of supplying copies of Land Acquisition Proceedings.

Public Works Department
 Government (1897) of Madras.
FINANCIAL.

Recd.

Enclosures

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1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 34, 15th January 1897.

Order thereon No. 407 of 10.2.97
Communicated to officers

Of the P.W. Department.

(True extract)

JANUARY.

(sd) D. M. C.

To
 The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
 " Consulting Engineer for Railways
 " Superintending Engineer
 " Consulting Architect to Govt.
 " Supdtg. Engr. on Special duty
 " Executive Engr. Light House Division
 " Examiner P.W. Accounts
 " Examiner Railway Accounts
 " Examiner of Accts, Madras Bezwa
 State Railway

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(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Raith.