

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No: 1225 W

DATED 13th May 1898

[Despatch Abstract.]

Examine Expenditure, Pro: Revenue Dept issuing instructions regarding the preparation and submission of monthly estimates of —, Court to the Ex^r Pro Accts for report with reference to para 2 of the L.

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SUBJECT.

Issuing instructions
regarding the preparation of
monthly estimates of Income
Expenditure.

1898.

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),
MADRAS.

{ 1898.

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Printed March 22nd.

Proceedings, No. 114, 10th March 1898.

MARCH.

Famine expenditure.—Issuing instructions regarding the preparation of monthly estimates and control of —, and requesting sanction of Government for the entertainment of additional establishment for the Board's office.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

READ—again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (R.S., L.R. and Agri.), Mis. No. 403, dated 20th January 1898:—

Resolution—Mis. No. 403, dated 20th January 1898.

The Collectors of affected districts in which famine expenditure is being incurred or is likely to be incurred are requested to wire to the Board before the 5th of each month their probable requirements for the month as also for the remainder of the year. These estimates should be given for each minor head of expenditure noted in the margin. The numbers likely to come on each kind of relief should also be wired. The accounts of famine expenditure should be maintained in the detail given in the appendix, and a copy of them should be submitted to the Board within seven days of the close of each month. In order that there may be no delay in the submission of these accounts, the Collectors should arrange to obtain weekly statements of actual expenditure under each sub-head and keep them posted in a register opened for the purpose, showing all the sub-heads given in the appendix.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Collector of Nellore.
" " of Cuddapah.
" " of Kurnool.
" " of Bellary.
" " of Anantapur.

APPENDIX.

Form of Register of Expenditure.

READ—also the following G.O., No. 33, Financial, dated 15th January 1898:—

Read—G.O., No. 133, Financial, dated 8th February 1897, passing orders in regard to the obtaining and provision of funds for famine-relief purposes and laying down the method in which the expenditure already incurred should be dealt with.

Order—No. 33, Financial, dated 15th January 1898.

In paragraph 10 of G.O., No. 133, Financial, dated 8th February 1897, it was decided that all questions relating to famine finance should be dealt with in the Financial Department. The procedure in regard to famine expenditure that prevailed during 1897 indicates that there has been serious misapprehension as to the scope of this order, and that the Famine Commissioner and Collectors have not sufficiently recognized their positions as controlling authorities. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires therefore to impress on all Collectors that they are primarily responsible as controlling authorities for famine expenditure, and that they must not, except under circumstances of very great urgency, work without grants. The Board of Revenue is responsible for ensuring that grants are obtained by Collectors in sufficient time and that these are properly spent and accounted for. The Financial Department will continue to pass final orders on applications for grants received through the Revenue Department. In cases of urgency where time is of importance, Collectors may telegraph direct to the Financial Department, but such telegrams should invariably be supplemented by immediate applications in proper form through the Board of Revenue.

2. The Revenue Department and the Board of Revenue should maintain proper registers of sanctions, both of allotments and expenditure generally and of works and establishments in detail.

3. The Accountant-General and the Examiner of Public Works Accounts now submit to Government the actual expenditure of each month early in the succeeding month. These officers will be requested to furnish the Board of Revenue at the same time with a duplicate copy of the statements, and the Board will arrange to receive by the 5th of each month telegraphic intimation from Collectors of all affected districts of their probable requirements under each minor head for the current month and the remainder of the official year. These estimates and actuals should be tabulated in the recognized budget forms in the Board's office and should be submitted, after revision if necessary, to the Revenue Department for transmission to the Financial Department with its remarks. The consolidated estimate should reach the Financial Department by the 10th of the month. By this means the Government will be placed in possession of a revised estimate of famine expenditure each month. The Revenue Department will be requested to issue such instructions as may be considered necessary to make these estimates complete, as to the exhibition of numbers on relief and likely to come on relief.

4. The cause of the fluctuating nature of the accounts and estimates furnished by the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, will doubtless be brought to light by the enquiries which have recently been initiated as to the course of Public Works expenditure on famine in 1897, but it is essential that the Revenue and Public Works Departments should look into this matter carefully in view of ascertaining whether further detailed instructions are necessary.

5. The Accountant-General will be requested to draw up a definite set of rules for the regulation of famine finance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. T. ARUNDEL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement).
" Accountant-General.
" Collectors of all districts.

4 BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), No. 114, 10TH MAR. 1898.

RESOLUTION—No. 114, dated 10th March 1898.

With reference to the remarks in paragraph 1 of the G.O. read above, that the scope of G.O., No. 133, Financial, dated 8th February 1897, has been misunderstood and that the Famine Commissioner did not sufficiently recognize his position as a controlling authority in matters relating to famine finance, the Board begs respectfully to point out that, in the G.O. quoted above, the Government laid it down as a fundamental principle of the relief scheme of the Code that "the Collector is the officer to whom Government looks for the initiation and control of all famine operations, and it is not expedient that his action at any point should be controlled by any authority other than Government." When the Board enquired whether this dictum was intended to supersede the powers and discretion conferred on the Member of the Board in charge of this department by section 23 of the Famine Code, it was declared in G.O., No. 1212, Revenue, dated 4th March 1897, that the intention of Government was only "to place the Collectors under the orders of Government in the matter of obtaining financial grants." The Famine Commissioner had thus no place assigned to him in the control of famine finance and he did not therefore think it necessary to make any arrangements for controlling the action of the Collectors, in matters relating to finance. Communications from Collectors, on financial matters were ordered to be sent through him, and these he submitted to Government with such comments as were deemed necessary.

2. The necessary registers have been opened in the Board's office with reference to paragraph 2 of the G.O., and instructions are being issued to Collectors for the submission of fuller particulars regarding numbers on relief and amounts spent each month so as to enable the Board to exercise proper control over the expenditure.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the G.O., monthly estimates have already been called for from the Collectors in the B.P. first read above; but the Board doubts whether it will be possible to submit the consolidated estimate to Government so as to reach the Financial Department through the Revenue Department by the 10th of each month, as it appears that the Accountant-General and the Examiner, Public Works Accounts, will not be able to forward statements of actual expenditure before the 10th.

4. For checking the accounts received from the Collectors, compiling the estimates to be submitted to Government and maintaining the necessary registers of grants and expenditure, as also to assist in the prompt disposal of correspondence relating to finance, the establishment of the Board's office which is hardly able to cope with its present work will have to be temporarily strengthened; and the Board requests that immediate sanction may be accorded for the entertainment of two accountants, one on Rs. 50 and the other on Rs. 30. A proposition statement is herewith submitted.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) P. GOVINDA MENON,
Ag. First Assistant.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with proposition statement, through Accountant-General,
" Collectors of Nellore and Deccan districts,
Copy to other Collectors.

Exd. C. Parthasarathy.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

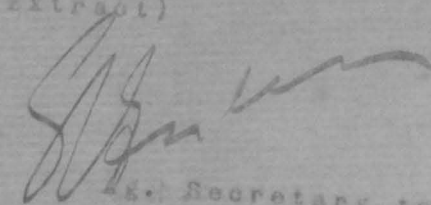
Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Rev. Sett., No. 114 Press, dated 10th March 1898.

ORDER THEREON/ No. 253 Press, dated 4th ^{May} March 1898.

Nellore is the only district in which expenditure on famine relief is being incurred, and the Government does not think that any increase of establishment in the Board's Office is necessary at present, especially in view of the saving effected ^{in clerical work} by the adoption of recent recommendations relating to the curtailment of work.

2. The Accountant General and the Examiner, P. W. Accounts, will be asked in the Financial Department and the Public Works Department respectively whether they cannot furnish the Board of Revenue with the returns of actuals before the 10th of each month. The Board should tabulate in print the estimates immediately on their receipt from Collectors and should endeavour to submit its consolidated return as soon after the receipt of the actuals as possible. The Superintendent, Government Press, will be requested to treat these returns as specially urgent.

(True Extract)



Ag. Secretary to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue, Rev. Sett.,

Financial Dept.

Public Works Dept.

Superintendent, Govt. Press.

P.P.K.
5.5.98