

Public Works (1899) Department.

G.O., No. 2971 W

DATED 10 Nov 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Stores. Proo. Incl Sept. Commg an
extract from the a despatch from the
Secretary of State to the Govt of India,
forwarding copy of a report by the Dir Genl
of Stores at the India Office on the returns
showing expenditure on — in India during
1897-98, commd to officers of the P.W.D

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Resolution of the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department (Accounts and Finance—Stores), dated Simla, 26th September 1899, No. 4341 S.R.

Read—

Despatch from the Secretary of State for India, No. 160-Financial, dated the 24th August 1899.

- * * * *
4. I enclose a copy of a report * by the Director-General of Stores at this office on the returns, and would specially draw your attention to his remarks on the difficulties in supplying satisfactory component parts for machines purchased in India, and as to supplementary indents in cases where requirements are urgent and could not have been foreseen.
- * Dated 7th July 1899.

Report by the Director-General of Stores, dated 7th July 1899.

These returns show a marked decrease in the value of imported stores purchased in India. There are, however, still considerable local purchases of imported machinery, and I think it would be well that indenting officers should be informed, with a view to avoiding such purchases as far as possible, that apart from the superiority of machines made under the specification and inspection of this department, there is the question of supplying components from this country for machines purchased in India. The manufacturers cannot guarantee that such components will fit the machines for which they are required without the fullest particulars, and these are usually not available when the machines were not supplied by this department.

The returns appear to have been carefully prepared and scrutinised in India, and the reasons for local purchase of imported stores are in most cases satisfactorily explained. Some of the indenting officers, however, appear to be unaware that supplementary indents can be sent home in cases in which the requirements are urgent and could not have been foreseen. Such indents will always be dealt with with the utmost possible despatch.

The only individual returns which require comment are Nos. 26, 28, 36 and 23, in which are shown local purchases of imported wire ropes, steel, waterproof sheets, and indiarubber sheeting without any explanation being afforded.

Order.—Ordered, that extract, paragraph 4, of the despatch, with a copy of the report therein referred to, be communicated to all Local Governments and

Administrations; to the Military Department with special reference to the last paragraph of the report, and to other departments of the Government of India; to the Superintendent of Government Printing, India; to the Mint Masters, Bombay and Calcutta; and to the Director-General of the Post Office of India.

(Signed) W. HESELTINE,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ORDER—No. 1100, Financial, dated 7th October 1899.

Communicated to the departments of the Secretariat.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
for Chief Secretary.

To the Departments of the Secretariat. *(Public Works Dept)*
" Accountant-General.
" Postmaster-General.
" Superintendent of Stationery.

Telephone.

From

H.C. C.S.

To H.C. M.D.

Span edges of

G.O. No. 1100 Fink. 3

7.10.29 are not

available here. Mr.

Supt, Govt Press,

has been requested

to supply 65 of the

same direct to you.

M.M.

30.10.29