1890.

# Public Works (~~1900~~) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 1442 Rys

DATED 24th September/90.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Accounts and returns of Cash and Stores in the Construc-
-tion and open line Sections of the Railways
branch. — Resolution of the Govt of India appoint-
-ing a Committee for inquiring into the procedure
followed with respect to —, recorded.

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P. W. Dy.

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No. 449 A.R.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNT.

Railway.

Simla, the 1st September 1890.

**Reduction of account work in departmental offices of the Railway (Construction and Open Line) Branch of the Public Works Department.**

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution No. 64 A.G., dated 28th April 1890.

1432 W R 21.5.90.

RESCLUTION.—In the resolution quoted above, the Government of India reviewed the work done by the Commi tee on Public Works Accounts appointed under Public Works Department Resolution No. 374 A G., dated 22nd October 1888, for the purpose of thoroughly investigating the system of accounting for receipts and expenditure in force in the Buildings and Roads and Irrigation Branches of the Department, and of reporting how far the then existing procedure could be simplified without sacrificing administrative and financial control.

778 W R 14.3.89

2. Certain of the orders passed on recommendations of that Committee have been made applicable to the Construction and Open Line sections of the Railway Branch of the Department; but the circumstances of the Railway Branch are so different from those of the Buildings and Roads and Irrigation Branches, that the Government of India has come to the conclusion that it is advisable to institute a separate inquiry, on the same lines, into the procedure followed with respect to accounts and returns of cash and stores in the Construction and Open Line sections of the Railway Branch.

3. The Committee will be composed as follows :—

*President.*

Mr. R. G. Macdonald, Offg. Accountant General, Public Works Department.

*Member.*

Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Coaker, R.E., Class I, grade III, of the Superior Revenue Establishment.

*Secretary.*

Captain C. A. R. Browne, R.E., Examiner of Accounts, IV Class, III grade.

4. The Committee will assemble early in November 1890 and proceed to sit at Lahore, Lucknow and Calcutta in succession. The head-quarters of at least one line under construction will also be visited, and if feasible the opinions of a few Railway Companies' officers will be obtained on every important point discussed. The Local Governments concerned and the Director General of Railways will be invited to instruct Managers and Engineers-in-Chief to nominate an experienced officer of each department to serve as temporary member of the Committee when it visits each Railway and is inquiring into the business of the different departments. The services of Captain Browne, R E, will be placed at Mr. Macdonald's disposal about the beginning of October, in order to forward the completion of preliminary business.

P.W. Code 8634



5. The salaries and travelling allowances of the members and secretary of the permanen Committee will be charged to the head "41—Miscellaneous Railway Expenditure." The payments made to these officers while on deputation should be adjusted in transfer with the Deputy Examiner of Accounts, State Railway Stores, Simla. The salaries of the local members of the Committee will be a charge against the Railways to which they belong. Salaries and allowances of the permanent members and the secretary should be drawn under the audit of the officers who now pass their salaries, and the amounts should be transferred by them to the Deputy Examiner of Accounts, State Railway Stores. The Government of India is pleased to appoint Mr. R. G. Macdonald the "Controlling Officer" for purposes of the travelling allowances of the members of the Committee. The Government of India is also pleased to sanction a grant of deputation allowance to the permanent members and the secretary of the Committee of 20 per cent. of salary, subject to a maximum of Rs. 150 per mensem, under section 98 (*a*) of the Civil Service Regulations.

6. The duties of the Committee will be to thoroughly investigate the procedure laid down in Volumes III and IV of the Public Works Department Code, so far as it affects the accounts and returns of Executive Engineers, Stations, Departmental Offices and Workshops; and to consider what accounts and returns are essentially necessary for purposes of control, account and audit, and for the compilation of the statistics now required by Government, and what may be dispensed with. The Committee's investigation should also extend to the Examiner's office in so far as its requirements directly affect the executive departments. The Committee should discuss how far the accounts, &c., proposed to be retained can be simplified in order to lessen the labour in departmental offices.

Rd 12-9-90 60 S.C.

7. The Committee should also inquire into the necessity for the different returns required by the Government of India, and into the possibility of improvements in the manner of collecting and classifying the information which appears to be really necessary.

8. The Committee is empowered to take the opinions of local officers of experience, on subjects which fall within the scope of the Committee's duties, and Local Governments and the Director General of Railways are requested to arrange to give facilities to such officers to communicate with, or appear before the Committee.

9. It will be open to any Railway, or Provincial authority, to give evidence or opinions before the Committee.

10. The report of the Committee should be submitted to the Government of India within, if possible, five months from the date the sittings commence.

11. These orders give no power to revise the Revenue Accounts and Statistics required by Government with reference to working of open lines.

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ORDER—Ordered, that a copy of the foregoing be forwarded to the Local Governments, Administrations, and Officers noted in the margin for information and guidance.

Ordered also, that copies be forwarded to the Finance Department for information, and that the resolution be printed in the *Gazette of India*.

Fr. Aud 14832 & 21 & 77348 14-3-90

The Governments of Madras and Bombay (Railway), Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab.
The Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces Burma, Assam and Coorg.
The Accountant General, Public Works Department.
The Director General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Railways, Calcutta, Lucknow and Central Division.
R. G Macdonald Esq.
Lieutenant-Colonel H. W. Coaker, R.E.
Captain C. A. R. Browne, R.E.

R.W. Sandbach
Colonel, R.E.,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 350 P. W. D., A. G.—4-9-90.—800.

To

The Joint Secretary to the Govt of Madras Railway Branch P.W.D.

No 2 J.W. Govt to do

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

RAILWAY BRANCH.

READ the following :—

No 449 R Dy 18th Sept from the Govt of India -

FOR ORDERS.

As none appear the required as the Committee will not apparently visit Madras -

The letter might be recorded & filed by sent to the Consulting Engineer & Examiner y accordingly

15/9/90

Pr 16/9 R 20/9

FOR ORDERS.

T B

No 1242 R dy 24 - Septr 90.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following

Resolution by the Govt. of India P.W.D } M.G. No. 449 A.R dy 1st Septr 1890

Recorded.

Vz

Offg: R

To
The Consg: Engr for Rys
-"- Exr Gd Rystwds
-"- Exr P.W. Accts:

S.

R
30/9

B

No 1442 Rdy 24th Sept/90.

II. Secretariat Personal Register of

| Serial number. (1) | Current number. (2) | Date of receipt by clerk. (3) | Title. (4) | From whom. (5) | Outside number and date. (6) | Submitted to Officer. (7) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | P.W.D. (Railway.) | | | |
| | Go. No. | 1443. | 44 P.W.D (Railway Branch) Dated | | 24.9 | 1890 |
| | | | Rainbegraded and Restored on 29.11.63 | | | |