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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

1151

Press
Mis.

Dated

16-8-1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

FROM

THE HONOURABLE R. S. ELLIS, C.B.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
 FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

Referring to paragraph 18 of your letter, dated the 31st March last, No. 2000A, remarking that the charge for stationery in this Presidency has more than doubled since 1864-65, and retrenching Rupees 16,000 from the Budget assignment in the hope that this Government will endeavour to reduce the expenditure a little below

* Dated 17th June 1869, No. 74.

Magazines, embodying the explanation of the Superintendent of Stationery relative

† Dated 6th August 1869, No. 122.

random from the Accountant General regarding a variation of Rupees 14,870

‡ Rupees 99,150.

§ Rupees 1,14,020.

the actuals of 1867-68, I am directed to transmit copy of a letter* from the Inspector General of Ordnance and to the cause of increase in expenditure since 1864-65; also a letter† and Memorandum from the Accountant General regarding a variation of Rupees 14,870 between the figures‡ entered in the Financial Secretary's letter and the net§ charges for the year 1867-68.

2. It will be seen, from the explanation of the Superintendent of Stationery, that the largest increase in the expenditure for stationery first took place in 1865-66, owing to an order of this Government requiring all Departments to obtain their supplies from the Stationery Depot instead of purchasing in the local markets at prices considerably in excess of what was paid by the Superintendent of Stationery. The change, though involving an apparent increase in the accounts of expenditure in the Stationery Department, has, His Excellency the Governor in Council believes, resulted in a saving to the State.

3. The instructions of the Secretary of State, that articles procurable from Europe on indent should not be bought in this country, has, as far as possible, been strictly attended to; the Superintendent of Stationery anticipates, however, that serious inconvenience will be caused to the several Departments if the sum of Rupees 16,000, which has been retrenched, is not restored.

4. I am desired to request the attention of the Governor General in Council to the Memorandum appended to the Accountant General's letter, which shows clearly that the estimate for stationery for 1869-70 is Rupees 70 less than the

	RS.
1867-68.....	1,14,020
1869-70.....	1,13,950
	70

actuals for 1867-68,|| and not, as supposed in your letter, Rupees 14,800 in excess. As it will not be possible, under these circumstances, for this Government to effect so large a reduction as Rs. 16,000

in the expenditure this year, I am to solicit that the Governor General in Council will be pleased to allow the sum of Rupees 1,13,950, entered in the Budget estimate of this Presidency for stationery, to stand.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
16th August 1869.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Chief Secretary.

From the Acting Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 17th June 1869, No. 74.

Ordnance Department.

With reference to paragraph 2 of Order of Government, No. 637, dated 18th May 1869, I cannot furnish the explanation called for as to the increase of expenditure which has taken place during the last few years better than in the words of the Superintendent of the Stationery Department, whom I called on to report on the matter, and I think it will be seen clearly from his statement how the gradual increase in expenditure has taken place in the Stationery Department: at the same time, as it is now the general depôt of supply for all Civil and Military Departments in this Presidency, although its expenditure has increased in a considerable ratio, if the expenditure saved in the different Departments when they supplied themselves was ascertained and put down, it would, I think, be found that the Stationery Department has worked economically, and been the source of considerable saving to Government.

The Superintendent writes thus:—

"I beg to place for easy comparison the contingent expenses and the charges for the purchase of stationery in this Presidency, according to stationery records, side by side, with those in the paragraph under observation:—

	Contingent expenses		Purchase of stationery in India.		Total.	
	According to para. 18.	According to stationery received.	According to para. 18.	According to stationery received.	According to para. 18.	According to stationery received.
1864-65.	3,510	10,062	50,560	51,501	54,070	61,563
1865-66..	740	8,233	91,810	86,768	92,550	95,001
1866-67..	80	12,443	99,720	89,223	99,800	1,01,666
1867-68..	300	27,924	98,850	99,634	99,150	1,27,558
1869-70... Estimate. ...	8,950	13,270	1,05,000	1,05,000	1,13,950	1,18,270

2. "I cannot understand, without some explanation, the great discrepancies in the above statement.

3. "It is stated that 'Rupees 16,000 are retrenched in the hope that the Madras Government will endeavour to reduce the expenditure a little below the

actuals of 1867-68.' I beg to point out that my estimate for 1869-70 amounts to Rupees 1,18,270, while the actuals for 1867-68 amounted to Rupees 1,27,558, which shows that the estimate is already Rupees 9288 below the actuals of 1867-68.

4. "It is quite true that the charges for stationery purchased in India have nearly doubled since 1864-65 as far as the accounts of the Stationery Office itself are concerned; but it will be observed that the great leap in this increase took place in 1865-66, and amounted in one year to Rupees 35,267. It was caused simply by the Madras Government having observed that the prices paid by this department were less than those which were incurred in others, while the quality of the goods was better; they consequently ordered, on 3rd November 1862, all other departments to procure their stationery from this department; but on account of the existence of certain contracts, effect was not given to their orders till 1865-66. The whole real charges of stationery, therefore, prior to that year, cannot be fairly shown unless the heavy accounts of the various departments, which had hitherto purchased independent supplies, are also exhibited and added to those of this department itself.

5. "The change of system has increased immensely the responsibility and work done in this department, but it has resulted in a great saving to Government.

6. "The injunction of the Secretary of State for India, that articles procurable from Europe on indent should not be bought in this country, has been scrupulously attended to, where possible; but in some few cases where the stationery indented for from home had not arrived in due time, limited local purchases were necessary.

7. "French-paper is by far the heaviest single item of local purchases, and to procure it in this way is specially allowed in paragraph 6 of Proceedings of Madras Government, No. 331, of 30th March 1866, which say '*** it is tolerably certain that if procured through England, the cost of agency and transport would greatly increase its price.' In 1862 this article (2nd sort) was purchased here at Rupees 1-15-6 per ream, while at out-stations it was charged for by other departments at much higher rates, viz., from Rupees 7-8-0 downwards per ream. Last year we paid Rupees 1-7-3, and this year have accepted a contract at the rate of Rupees 1-6-9 per ream. In this way, although the demands have very largely increased, the estimates have been kept down.

8. "Over these demands my control is limited to a careful check of indents, and it is to Heads of Departments that Government must, according to their own Proceedings, look for a reduction in the consumption of stationery; and if the retrenchment of Rupees 16,000 is not restored, I anticipate that serious inconvenience will be caused to these departments, and that the result will be hasty purchases made at unfavourable rates, causing ultimate pecuniary loss to the State."

From the Accountant General, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 6th August 1869, No. 122.

Budget and Resource Department.

With reference to the Official Memorandum from the Acting Under Secretary to Government, No. 325, dated the 29th ultimo, Public Department, I have the honour to annex a Memorandum explanatory of the discrepancies referred to in the first paragraph of the letter from the Superintendent of Stationery, annexed in one of the enclosures to the Memorandum under reply, which are herewith returned.

MEMORANDUM.

Years.	Purchase of stationery and contingent expenses, as per letter of the Superintendent of Stationery.	Deduct two-thirds freight on stores from England excluded.	Net charges.	Amount given in the letter from the Government of India.	Remarks.
1864-65..	61,563	5,876	55,687	54,070	The discrepancies referred to by the Superintendent of Stationery is chiefly owing to his having improperly included in the calculation the charge on account of two-thirds freight on stores from England. After making the necessary deduction on this account, there is still a slight variation in the first three years, arising from that Officer's accounts showing the stationery received into store in each year, whereas the figures given by the Government of India represent the actual payments on that account. The large variation in 1867-68 is partly owing to the last-mentioned cause, and is partly the result of an omission of Rupees 12,662 in the account made up by the Government of India, apparently from the fact of their not being in possession of the necessary details with regard to certain expenditure.
1865-66..	95,001	177	94,824	92,550	
1866-67..	1,01,666	3,214	98,452	99,800	
1867-68..	1,27,558	13,538	1,14,020	99,150	
1869-70..	1,18,270	4,320	1,13,950	1,13,950	
Total...	5,04,058	27,125	4,76,933	4,59,520	

(Signed) F. LUSHINGTON,
Accountant General.

Public Department

No. 1157.

To

The Secretary to the Government
of India.

Public Department.

Sir,

Referring to para-
graph 18 of ~~the~~ letter
from the ~~Home Secretary~~
to the Government of India
dated the 31st March last,
N^o 2000 A, remarking that,
the charge for Stationery
in this Presidency has more
than doubled since 1864-65,
and recommending Rs 15,000
from the Budget Assignment
in the hope that this Go-
vernment will endeavour
to reduce the expenditure
a little below the actuals
of 1867-68. I am directed
to transmit copy of a
letter from the Inspector
General of Ordnances and
Magazines

* 9/17 June/69. No 74-

1869.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

From
The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George,
To
The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Financial Department,
Dated 16th August 1869.
Recd.

No 1151.
Encl. 1.

AUGUST.
Nos. 110-112.

Furnishing explanation in regard to the Budget
assignment for stationery of this Presidency for
1869-70.

Magazines, embodying
the explanation of the
Superintendent of Stationery
relative to the cause
of increase in expenditure
since 1864-65; also a letter
and Memorandum from
the Accountant General
regarding a variation of
Rs 14,870; between the
figures entered in the
Financial Secretary's
letter, and the net charges
for the years 1867-68.

2. It will be seen from
the explanation of the
Superintendent of Stationery
that the largest increase
in the expenditure for
Stationery first took place
in 1865-66, owing to an
Order of this Government
requiring all Departments
to obtain their supplies
from the Stationery Depot,
instead of purchasing
in the local markets.

+ of 6. August 69 - Rs 122

+ Rs 99150-

Rs 1,12,020

no prior considerably
in excess of what was
paid by the Superinten-
- dent of Stationery. The
change though involving
an apparent increase in
the accounts of expenditure
in the Stationery Depart-
- ment, has, I do not
- deny the Government in
Council believes, resulted
in a saving to the State.

3. The instructions of
the Secretary of State,
that articles procurable
from Europe or India
should not be bought
in this country, has,
as far as possible, been
strictly attended to; the
Superintendent of Stationery
anticipates that serious
inconvenience will be
caused to the several

Departments

Department, at the sum
of Rs. 10,000 which has
been retrenched, is not
restored.

H. I am desired to re-
-quest the attention of
the Governor General in
Council to the Memoran-
-dum appended to the
Accountant General's letter
which shows clearly that
the estimate for Stationery
for 1869-70 is Rs 70 less
than the actuals for 1867-68,
and as it is supposed in your
the ~~Financial Secretary's~~ letter,
Rs. 14,800 in excess.
As it will not be possible
under these circumstances
for this Government to
effect so large a reduction
as Rs. 10,000 in the ex-
penditure this year,
I am to solicit that the
Governor General in
Council will be pleased
to

to allow the sum of
Rs. 13,500 entered in
the Budget Estimate of
this Presidency, for
Stationery, to stand.

Fort St George.

16 Aug: 1869.

* 1867-68 - Rs - 14,550
* 1869-70 - " - 13,750

186 . Department.

No.

To
The Secretary to the
Government of
Department

Dated 186 .

Public 1869.
DEPARTMENT

From: The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George.

To: The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Financial Department.

Date: Aug 16. 1869.
Recd.

No. 1151.
Enclosure.

110. 112.

7 No. 2591

24th 1870

Furnishing Explanation
in regard to the Budget
assignment for Stations
of this Presidency for
1869-70.