M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 46 Press ~~Mis.~~

83-91

Dated 9—1—~~19~~ 186[illegible]

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th January 1864.

No. 89. Read the following letter from W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 11th December 1863, No. 7,829 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to the Order of Government dated 27th October 1863, No. 1,938, Revenue Department, communicating the Order of Government of India regarding Local Fund Budgets, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to request you will inform them whether it is the desire of Government that the Local Fund Budgets should be submitted to them through the Board, or through the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General. In paragraph 2 of the Government Order, passed in the Financial Department, dated 15th October 1863, No. 667, it is stated that these Budgets should, as on the last occasion, be prepared by the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, but that Officer in his Notification to Collectors dated 27th October 1863, No. 52, has intimated that they should be submitted to Government through the Board. And the Board observe that the rules prescribed in the Order of the Supreme Government dated 18th September 1863, require that the Local Fund Estimates shall be prepared according to the same rules as the Budget Estimates of Income and Expenditure, which the Board presume is the ground for the Accountant General's Notification, which changes the previous practice.

2. The Board have been entrusted by Government with much of the control of the Local Funds, and the origin and nature of these funds in many respects constitute them essentially a Revenue Department of administration. They were originally solely under the Collectors and the Board, but for the executive details, the Department Public Works Officers were associated with the Collectors, and gradually, as it appears to the Board, the principal management and control has passed from the Revenue Department to that of Public Works.

3. For instance, on the recent re-organization of the Department Public Works Establishments, those Establishments maintained from the Local Funds were in many instances, if not everywhere, broken up by the Superintending Engineers, and the subsequent Order of Government, dated 30th September 1863, No. 2,833, in that Department, leaves it to the Superintending Engineers to authorize the entertainment of such Local Funds Establishments as they may deem necessary. Similarly the Board are given to understand that the Superintending Engineers authorize disbursements from Local Funds on the recommendation of Range Officers independently of the Collectors, and the Board are under the impression that the Budget Estimate of works to be executed from these Funds was, on the last occasion, prepared by the District Engineers, and only communicated to the Collectors for remarks, such being, as the Board think, the direct opposite of what Government intended to be the established rule, viz., that the Collectors should originate the scheme for employing the Funds, and that the Department Public Works should be consulted as to executive details.

4. The Board have no desire whatever to exclude the District Engineer Officers from concern in these Funds, but they do not doubt that the Collectors of Districts are more favorably circumstanced for ascertaining the wishes of the people as to the way the Funds should be employed, and for securing their co-operation; and more especially so since the appointment of District Engineer was abolished, and the local head of the Department is a Superintending Engineer, who can only at long intervals visit each District in his charge, and ascertain its requirements.

5. If however the Government desire that, as at present, the Department Public Works should mainly decide how the Funds shall be employed, it seems altogether anomalous to make the Board the channel through whom the Budget Estimates shall reach Government, and in any case, a distinct expression of the Government intentions is desirable.

No. 90. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th December 1863, No. 8,042.

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 11th November 1863, No. 2,036, Revenue Department, communicating an order passed in the Public Works Department regarding the Local Fund administration.

(In Cons. 12th November 1863, No. 7,368.)

1. Communicated to all Collectors.

2. The Board observe that the Government Order of 27th July 1863, delegates to Superintending Engineers the duty of framing the Budget of Expenditure from Local Funds.

No. 91. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1864, No. 46.

1. The Local Fund Budgets should be submitted to Government by the Board of Revenue.
2. The Government have it in contemplation to issue rules on the subject at an early date.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant General.
" Public Works Dept.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 7,829.

From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue,

To J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Sir,

With reference to the Order of Government dated 27th October 1863, No. 1,938, R. D., communicating the Order of Government of India regarding Local Fund Budgets, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to request you will inform them whether it is the desire of Government that the Local Fund Budgets should be submitted to them through the Board, or through the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General. In paragraph 2 of the Government Order, passed in the Financial Department, dated 15th October 1863, No. 667, it is stated that these Budgets should, as on the last occasion, be prepared by the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, but that Officer in his Notification to Collectors dated 27th October 1863, No. 52, has intimated that they should be submitted to Government through the Board. And the Board observe that the rules prescribed in the Order o the Supreme Government dated 15th September 1863, require that the Local Fund Estimates shall be prepared according to the same rules as the Budget Estimates of Income and Expenditure, which the Board presume is the ground for the Accountant's General's Notification, which changes the previous practice.

2. The Board have been entrusted by Government with much of the control of the Local Funds, and the origin and nature of these funds in many respects constitute them essentially a Revenue Department of administration. They were originally solely under the Collectors and the Board, but of the executive details, the Department Public Works Officers were associated with the Collectors, and gradually, as it appears to the Board, the principal management and control has passed from the Revenue Department to that of Public Works.

3. For instance, on the recent re-organisation of the Department Public Works Establishments, those Establishments maintained from the Local Funds were in many instances, if not everywhere, broken up by the Superintending Engineers, and the subsequent Order of Government, dated 30th September, 1863, No. 2,833, in that Department, leaves it to the Superintending Engineers to authorize the entertainment of such Local Fund Establishments as they may deem necessary. Similarly the Board are given to understand that the Superintending Engineers authorize disbursements from Local Funds on the recommendation of Range Officers independently of the Collectors, and the Board are under the impression that the Budget Estimate of works to be executed from these Funds was, on the last occasion, prepared by the District Engineers, and only communicated to the Collectors for remarks, such being, as the Board think, the direct opposite of what Government intended to be the established rule, viz., that the Collectors should originate the scheme for employing the Funds, and that the Department Public Works should be consulted as to executive details.

4. The Board have no desire whatever to exclude the District Engineer Officers from concern in these Funds, but they do not doubt that the Collectors of Districts are more favorably circumstanced for ascertaining the wishes of the people as to the way the Funds should be employed, and for securing their co-operation; and more especially so since the appointment of District Engineer was abolished, and the local head of the Department is a Superintending Engineer, who can only at long intervals visit each District in his charge, and ascertain its requirements.

5. If however the Government desire that, as at present, the Department Public Works should mainly decide how the Funds shall be employed, it seems altogether anomalous to make the Board the channel through whom the Budget Estimates shall reach Government, and in any case, a distinct expression of the Government intentions is desirable.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras,
11th December 1863.

Copy to R. W. Lodwick, Esq., Acting Accountant General, for information.

Exd. J. Wright.

11 Novem/63 No 49/500
27 October — 319 - 382

Pro No. 862 - 663
30 - 5 - 64

From Bd/28 Canny 64 Cir 268.

From Acct Genl/28 Canny 64
Cir 274.

Revenue 1864 Department.
Pro. of Govt for Janry/64
No. 3645

From the Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To the Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to the Acting Accountant General.

Further Cno. 164 of 864

Dated 11th December 1863.

Despatched

Received

No. 7,829.

Rec'd 9th Janry 1864

Requesting to know whether it is the desire of Government that the Local Fund Budgets should be submitted to them through the Board or through the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General.

With an order

Cir 89 to 90-91

Re 46.
The Local Fund Budgets should be submitted to Govt by the Board of Revenue.

The Govt have it in contemplation to issue rules on the subject at an early date

Fort St George 9th Janry 1864

To Chas E the Pr Dy Auditor and Accountant Genl
and Acct Genl
with Mr C