

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	971-972	<u>Press</u> Mis.
	77.79	
Dated	8 - 6.	19 18.6.4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th June 1864.*

No. 77. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, in the Home Department, under date the 15th April 1864, No. 3,272.

Read the following papers :—

From the Government of Fort Saint George, No. 2,583, dated 11th December 1862.
 " " " " No. 2,659, dated 23rd "
 " " " " No. 53, dated 8th January 1863.

REMARKS.

1. The papers above noted contain a proposal for the revision of the District Post Establishments in the Madras Presidency.

2. It appears that prior to 1857 the local official correspondence in the Districts of the Madras Presidency was carried by Revenue and Judicial Peons; and that in that year the Police Peons were relieved of the duty, extra runners being entertained in their place.

3. The cost of the existing Establishments by which the duties of the District Post are performed is approximately stated as follows :—

	Rupees per annum.
1. Cost of Peons and others borne on the general Establishments of the Revenue, Sea Customs, and Salt Departments... ..	22,545
2. Cost sanctioned at various times by the Government for extra Postal Establishment	32,634
3. Establishment sanctioned by the Post Master General*	28,092
Total	83,271
Deduct for North Canara since transferred	2,604
Net Total	80,667

4. The above Establishment is under the control of the Collectors of Districts, and is stated to "require re-organization and extension."

5. With this object Mr. Pelly was entrusted with its revision, the result of which is reported in the enclosures of the communication of the 11th December 1862. A brief review of the proposed re-organization is given by the Madras Government in the covering letter: the financial result being stated as follows :—

	Establishment.	Stationery.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Present cost per annum	80,667	Not given.	
Proposed cost "	1,13,310	2,955	1,16,265
Increase	32,643		

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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6. The scheme, it is stated, "has been carefully considered in communication with the Collectors," and the Government of Madras "approve of it generally and recommend its introduction."

7. The enclosures of the communication of the 11th December bear internal evidence of the requirements of each District having been made the subject of careful enquiry. The increase of cost amounting (for Establishment) to Rupees 32,643 per annum is not large when compared with the anticipated advantage, viz., a well organized and efficient District Post.

8. The Government of Madras, in making the application, mixed it up with a representation of objections to the general system under which the Postal Department is at present administered; the absence of control by the Local Government in matters connected with the administration of the General Post being stated as a reason why a revision of District Post Establishments, on their existing basis, was proposed, instead of the complete amalgamation of the District and General Posts.

9. The amalgamation with the General Postal system of special Establishments, maintained primarily for the conveyance of official correspondence in the interior of Districts, is not, however, altogether free from objection. The Rules in respect of franking, of limitation of the weight of letters, of the packing of Banghy parcels, &c., and other restrictions which it has been found advisable to impose in the Postal arrangements for the general correspondence of the country, are not always applicable to local arrangements designed primarily and principally for the conveyance of official correspondence; and the complete amalgamation of the District and General Posts might in this view be productive of unnecessary inconvenience.

10. It is, moreover, a recognized principle of the General Postal Department to extend its operations wherever the amount of general correspondence (public and private) appears to call for such a course, and in this way provision is made for the gradual supersession of the District Post by the General Post. This principle appears to be correct; and it might be objectionable to forestall its operation by an immediate amalgamation with the General Postal System of the entire District Post Establishment in the Madras Presidency.

11. There would not, however, appear to be any objection to the sanction of the proposed re-organization of the District Post on its existing footing under the control of the Local Government. Or, should the Government of Madras prefer it, there would probably be no objection to the administration of the District Post, as a separate institution, by the Post Master General of Madras, acting under the orders of the Local Government. This plan might, perhaps, secure a more effective intercommunication between the Local District Establishments and those belonging to the General Postal System, while it would, at the same time, secure for the local objects of the former all the advantages of local management and control. An expression of the opinion of the Government of Madras will be invited on this point, and meantime steps will be taken for obtaining the requisite financial sanction to the arrangements which have been proposed.

ORDERED, that a copy of the above Remarks, with copy of the papers under reference, be forwarded to the Financial Department for further consideration and orders.

Ordered also, that a copy of the above Remarks be forwarded to the Government of Fort Saint George, with a request that the Government of India may be favoured with an expression of opinion on the point referred to in the two last paragraphs.

Ordered further, that a copy of the above Remarks be communicated for information to the Officer in charge of the Office of Director General of the Post Office of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. W. S. WYLIE,
Under Secretary

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th June 1864.*

No. 78.

ORDER THEREON, 8th June 1864, No. 971.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered that the foregoing Proceedings with the following letter to the Government of India be communicated to the Board of Revenue and the Honorable C. Pelly for information.

(Here enter 8th June 1864, No. 972.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Honorable C. Pelly.
" the Public Department.

Exd, S. T. Augustin.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
8th June 1864.

No. 972.

No. 79.

From

J. D. SIM, Esq.,

Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

To

The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

SIR,

Miscellaneous.

11th Dec. 1862, No. 2,583.
23rd " " 2,659.
8th Jan. " 33.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department, 15th April 1864, No. 3,272, passed on my letters of the dates marginally noted, relative to the scheme for the revision of the District Post Establishments of this Presidency.

2. The wording of paragraph 8 would seem to imply that this Government went out of its way to assail the present system of Postal administration. This, however, I am directed to explain was not the case. The District Post Establishment was revised in common with the other Establishments under Collectors; but almost simultaneously with Mr. Pelly's final Report, the Government received from the Director General of the Post Office copy of a communication which he had addressed to the Post Masters General of Bombay and Madras on the subject of amalgamating the District with the General Post, and in which he declared that the amalgamation had "obviously become absolutely necessary," and that on receipt of certain information, he intended to seek the sanction of the Government of India to the measure. Under these circumstances this Government in forwarding their scheme could not well avoid noticing the important change contemplated by the Director General, and as they were favorable to the proposed amalgamation, provided the executive control and management of the Postal Department were entrusted to them, it was incumbent on them to notice those defects of the present system, which in their judgment rendered this proviso necessary.

3. In the Proceedings under acknowledgment the Government of India object to the amalgamation. They, however, see no objection to the sanction of the proposed re-organization of the District Post on its existing footing under the Local Government or, if desired, to its administration, as a separate institution by the Post Master General of Madras under the orders of this Government, and an expression of opinion on the latter point is sought.

4. I am directed to state that after very careful consideration this Government decidedly prefer that matters should remain on their present footing.

5. The Proceedings under acknowledgment conclude with the observation that "steps will be taken for obtaining the requisite financial sanction to the arrangements which have been proposed." In a preceding paragraph (7) it is remarked that the papers sent up "bear internal evidence of the requirements of each District having been made the subject of careful enquiry," and that the increase of cost "is not large when compared with the anticipated advantage, viz., a well organized and efficient District Post." But owing to some misapprehension the charge has been disallowed in the Financial Department on the ground "that the Government of India in the Home Department, has stated that it has not been deemed expedient to sanction the additional charge involved in the revision of the District Postal Establishments." Both orders bear the same date, viz., 15th April 1864, and the mistake has probably arisen from the Finance Department supposing that the disapproval of the Home Department extended to the whole scheme, whereas it applied only to that part of it which related to the amalgamation of the District with the General Post.

6. I am directed to state that this Government has been compelled from the urgency of the cases to sanction portions of Mr. Pelly's scheme in some Districts, as reported in the monthly Statements, and recently they have authorized the pay of the Runners in the Kurnool and Bellary Districts being raised to Rupees 5, the rate proposed in the new scheme, as from the high price of provisions in those Districts it was impossible to secure the services of men on less

4

pay. The Government hope that the scheme in its entirety will receive the early sanction of the Government of India, and they can only state that its postponement will be attended with the greatest public inconvenience.

7. The Governor General in Council has already declared that the additional expense is moderate. The principle laid down in paragraph 10 of the Proceedings under reply will always make the District Post appear expensive, as whenever a line pays sufficiently it is amalgamated with the General Post, which further gets credit for the entire sale of Postage Stamps. In neither respect is any change necessary or desirable, but these considerations should not be overlooked in dealing with the District Post.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro. 11 Decr/62 no 152-152
23 " " " 309-311
8 Janr/63 " 60-62

Revenue 1861. Vol. 1
Pro. of Govt for June
No. 1322.

Extract from the
Pro. of the Right Hon.
the Govt. of India.

Noted 15th Apr. 3 1864.
Received 20th May 3

No. 3272.

C. Secy. 978. 7/8 June

Requesting to be
favoured with an expression
of opinion and certain remarks
connected with the reorganiza-
tion of the District Board.

W. J.

27 May/62 R 30.

L.

Revenue Department

Note -
on No 1322 -

On the 11th de-
cember 1862 this Govt
submitted for the sanc-
tion of the Supreme
Govt a scheme for the
complete revision of
the district boards.

The enclosed
is the reply of the Home
Department and is
dated 15th April 1864.

In para 8 the
Supreme Govt say that
this Govt "mixed up"
with their scheme a
representation of ob-
jections to the system
under which the gene-
ral Post is now ad-
ministered - and the

wording of the whole
para implies that this
Govt went ^{out} of its way
to assail the present
system. This however
is not the case. The
District Post was re-
vised in common with
the other establishments
under Collectors but
almost simultaneous-
ly with Mr. Kelly's fi-
nal report, Govt re-
ceived from the Director
General of the Post office
copy of a communica-
tion which he had
addressed to the Post
Master General of Bom-
bay and Madras on
the subject of amalga-
mating the District with
the General Post, and
in which he had de-
clared that the amal-
gamation had "obvious-
ly become absolutely
necessary."

necessary" and that
on receipt of certain
information he in-
tended to seek the
sanction of the Govt
of India to the mea-
sure. Under these
circumstances this
Govt in forwarding
their scheme could not
not well for bear ex-
pressing the import-
ant change contem-
plated by the Director
General. The Govt were
favorable to the pro-
posed amalgamation
provided that the re-
spective control and
management of the
Postal Department
were entrusted to them
and in support of
this proviso it was im-
perative on them to
notice

notice the defects of the present system. This might explain to the Supreme Govt

MD

The Govt of India are opposed to the amalgamation - but they see no objection to the sanction of the proposed reorganisation of the district post on its existing footing under the Local Govt - or, if the Govt desire it, to its administration as a separate institution by the Postmaster General of Madras under the orders of the Govt and they seek an expression of opinion on the latter point.

They order on this suggestion - my own view is that it is merely a dodge for making two bites of the cherry - and will only

+ I would not acquiesce in any law some advantage it would be to authorise and to some Postmaster General under Govt authority to the Govt in spirit of discretion - with a licence to grant a better scheme than I cannot but be Mr. Sim that proposal design

will be more in this and other cases to make things to ourselves as much as we can JP
J.P. MD

only strengthen the position of the Director General.

The resolution winds up by saying that "mean time steps will be taken for obtaining the requisite financial sanction to the arrangements which have been proposed." They remark in a preceding para (7) that the papers sent up "bear internal evidence of the requirement of each district having been made the subject of careful enquiry" - and that the increase of cost "is not large when compared with the anticipated advantage of a well organised and efficient district post."

Post- This resolution of the Home Department is dated 15th April 1864 and on the very same day the Governor General in Council in the Financial Department writes "The other items have also been admitted with the exception of the entry of Rs 116,025 for a District Postal Establishment. In reference to this I am to state that the Govt of India in the Home Department has stated that it has not been deemed expedient to sanction the additional charges involved in the revision of the District Postal Establishment. His Excellency in Council

Council therefore disallows the extra provision beyond the actual of 1862/3 viz Rs 35067.

This Govt have been compelled to sanction some of Mr. Kelly's charges - in Wyand, Bellary and Kurnool - and I propose now resolving sanction - pointing the discrepancies between the statements of the two departments.

Yes 800
M

The principle laid down in para 10 of the Home resolution will always make the district Post too expensive as whenever a line pays sufficiently it is amalgamated with the General Post which further

no doubt - but it can be helped - the principle is not one to which we can object 800
M

gets credit for the
entire sale of postage
stamps.

Orders requested.

I D S

Revenue Dept.
W 971.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.

Under date the 8th June 1864.

Read the following
Extract from the Proceedings
of the Right Honourable the
Governor General of India.

Requesting to be for-
warded with an expression
of opinion on certain points (Here enter 15th April 1864
No 3272.)
connected with the or-
ganization of the District.
Post

Ordered that the
foregoing Proceedings with
the following letter to
the Govt of India be
communicated to the
D. of Revenue and to
Mr. C. Pelly for information.

J. S.

- 1. B. of Rev. Despt 10 June
- 2. Mr. C. Pelly
- 3. Public Dept.

Revenue Dept.
Pro: of Govt. for June

N^o 971.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
D^o 8th June 1864.

Proceedings Govt. of
India desiring to know if
the District Postal esta-
blishment may as a sepa-
rate institution be placed
under the Postal Genl.,
communicated to the B.
and the Hon. C. Pell

N^o 77 & 78.

Revenue Dept. 10 June

To

Revenue Department

N^o 972.

The Secretary to the Government of India
Home Department

Sir,

1. I am directed to
acknowledge the receipt of
the Proceedings of the Govern-
ment of India in the Home
Department 15th April 1864,
N^o 3272 passed on my letters
of the dates marginally noted,
relative to the scheme
for the revision of the
District Post Establish-
ments of this Presidency.
2. The wording of
para 8 would seem to
imply that this Govt.
Government went out
of its way to assail
the present system.

11th December 1862 N^o 2583.
23rd " " " " 2659.
8th January 1863 " " 33.

of

of Postal administration. This however, I am directed to explain is not the case. The District Post Establishment was revised in common with the other Establishments; under Collectors; but almost simultaneously with Mr. Pelly's final report the Government received from the Director General of the Post Office copy of a communication which he had addressed to the Post Masters General of Bombay and Madras on the
Subject

Subject of amalgamating the District with the General Post - and in which he declared that the amalgamation had obviously become absolutely necessary and that on receipt of certain information, he intended to seek the sanction of the Govt of India to the measure - Under these circumstances this Govt. in forwarding their scheme could not well avoid noticing the important change contemplated by the Director General - and as they were favorable to the proposed amalgamation, provided the executive control and management of the Postal Department were entrusted to them - it was incumbent

incumbent on them to notice these defects of the present system which in their judgment rendered this proviso necessary -

3. It is observed from the Proceedings under ^{that the Govt.} acknowledgment of India are opposed to the amalgamation - They however see no objection to the sanction of the proposed reorganization of the District Post on its existing footing under the Local Govt. or, if desired, to its administration, as a separate institution, by the Post Master General of Madras under the orders of this Govt., and an expression of opinion on the latter point is sought.

4. I am directed to state that after very careful consideration this Govt. decidedly prefer that matters should remain on their present footing.

The Proceedings under acknowledgment conclude with the observation that "steps will be taken for obtaining the requisite financial sanction to the arrangements which have been proposed." In a preceding para(?) it is remarked that the papers sent up bear internal evidence of the requirements of each District having been made the subject of careful enquiry, and that the increase of cost is not large when compared with the anticipated advantage, viz a well organized and efficient District Post. But owing to some misapprehension the charge has been disallowed in the Financial Dept. on the ground "that the Govt. of India in the Home Dept. has stated that it has not

not been deemed expedient
to sanction the additional
charges involved in the re-
vision of the District Postal
Establishments. Both orders
bear the same date viz 15th
April 1864, and the mistake
has probably arisen from the
Finance Dept. supposing
that the disapproval of the
Home Dept. extended to the
whole scheme whereas it
applied only to that part
of it which related to the
amalgamation of the District
with the General Post.
b. I am directed
to state that this
Govt. has been compelled
from the urgency of the cases
to sanction portions of Mr.
Pelly's scheme in some Districts,
as reported in the monthly
statements, and recently
they have authorized the
pay

15
147
pay of the runners in the
Hinnobaniot Bellary districts,
being raised to Rs 5 the rate
proposed in the new scheme,
as from the high price of
provisions in those districts
it was impossible to secure the
services of men on less pay. The
Govt. hope therefore that the
scheme in its entirety will
receive the early sanction of
the Govt. of India, and
they can only state that its
postponement will be
attended with the greatest
public inconvenience.
7. - The Governor General
in Council has already de-
clared that the additional
expense is moderate. The
principle laid down
in para 10 of the Proceedings
under reply will always
make the District Post
appear

appear expensive, and when:
ever a line pays sufficiently
it is amalgamated with the
General Post, which further
gets credit for the entire
sale of Postage stamps in
neither respect is any change
necessary, or desirable, but
these considerations
should not be overlooked
in dealing with the District
Post.

[Signature]

Fort St. George
30 June 1864

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. in relation to the proposed change in the mode of payment for the District Post. I have the honor to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the General Post Office for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours, Sir, very respectfully,
J. H. [Signature]

Quarterly
Revenue Dept.
Pro: of Govt. for June.

N^o 972.

To
The Secretary to the
Government of India
Home Department.
28th June 1864.

2

Letter to the Supreme
Govt. stating that the
present mode of adminis-
tering the District Post is
preferable.

N^o 79.