116

M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 8

(2) Date of repair 30-5-16

(3) Initials of the Referencer 16

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	116	Press / Mis.
Dated	26 Jan	1874 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th January 1874.

No. 221. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th January 1874, No. 10 :—

Read the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 12th December 1873, No. 514 :—

REFERRING to paragraph 5 of the Accountant-General's letter to the Board, dated 21st November last, No. 7,417, copy of which has been sent to me for guidance, I have the honour to state that without the details hitherto usually entered in the Remark Column of the monthly Estimate submitted from this district, the entry of a lump sum in the body of the estimate is calculated to mislead. If only the amount available for fresh bills is to be entered, as the Accountant-General seems to desire, there will be no provision for outstanding bills, which often amount to a very large sum, and constitute a heavy demand on the Treasury, and the consequence will be that the estimated balance at the end of the month will be very far wide of the truth. On the other hand, if it is directed that the amount of outstanding bills should be included, as has been usually done, with that available for fresh bills, then in the absence of the details to which exception is taken, the Account Office cannot ascertain, except by a tedious calculation, how much of the amount entered in the estimate may be reckoned on to meet fresh bills. This can now be ascertained by a glance at the marginal details. The omission of these details will not save any trouble to this Office, for the amount of outstanding bills will still have to be made out, to be included in the sum for fresh bills, while their entry will save much trouble to the Account Office.

2. As regards the position taken by the Accountant-General that he had a right to draw upon the 1,00,000 entered for September, I beg to state that, although this sum would have been available in September after the receipt of remittances from Sub-Treasuries, which usually reach the Huzur between the 1st and 15th, it does not follow that it would have been in hand to meet bills prematurely drawn in August.

3. As regards the remark in paragraph 7 that a sum of Rupees 42,200 was allowed to leave the Treasuries for paper in August, I beg to draw the attention of the Board to the fact that notes were also issued from the Treasury in that month in exchange for silver to the amount of Rupees 1,03,945, so that the net result of the note transactions was an influx of silver into the Treasuries of Rupees 61,545. I beg also to draw attention to the circumstance that of the notes received, there were only two of 500 and one of 1,000, the rest being all notes of small denominations, the refusal to encash which would have occasioned much inconvenience to the public. I enclose a copy* of Mr. Lushington's letter authorizing the free encashment in Taluq Treasuries of all notes of smaller denominations to the extent of their specie remittances to the Huzur, and stating that the issue of supply bills by his Office would be regulated by the silver balance.

Accountant-General's letter recorded in Board's Proceedings of 6th November 1873, No. 2,256.

* Dated 18th February 1873, No. 8,610.

4. As regards the last paragraph of Mr. Lodwick's letter, alluded to above, wherein he stated that my opinion of the Treasury Officer is not borne out by facts,

3. With regard to the issue and encashment of notes at the Huzur Treasury, it is no longer necessary that you should make minute enquiries as to the purpose for which the notes are required to be issued or paid, as the case may be. The only point on which it is really necessary that you should be satisfied is, whether, or not, compliance with the request of the applicant will occasion embarrassment to your Treasury, and if no inconvenience is likely to ensue, then the notes should be issued or paid without further restriction. You must bear in mind too that as a form of remittance, notes are more convenient and economical than specie, and that when you are called upon to remit your supplies balances to the General Treasury, the longer your stock of notes, therefore the better. The issue of supply bills by this Office will of course be regulated by the silver balance in your Treasury.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, 12th December 1873, No. 2,558.

2. There is nothing to add to what the Board have already said except that it appears now that the Accountant-General's drawings are intended to be limited to the silver balance. This disposes of Mr. Lodwick's argument in that the cash balance of Rupees 3,74,516 estimated at the close of August warranted his drawing freely during that month, for he was aware that this consisted chiefly of currency notes.

No. 222. ORDER THEREON, 26th January 1874, No. 116.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

I would refer the Board to paragraphs 23 and 24 of the Report of Mr. Lilly who was deputed by Government to inspect and report on the working of the Treasury and Account Departments in the several districts. For convenience of reference, an extract is given in the margin, from the remarks of that officer regarding the Treasury and Account Departments of this district. It is true that Mr. Donald did not report in quite so favourable terms in December 1870, but a reference to the points noticed by him, and the explanation furnished by the Deputy-Collector which will be found recorded in Board's Proceedings, No. 2,122, dated 23rd May 1871, will show that the matters commented on were of minor importance, and that in respect to some, the Deputy-Collector was not to blame. The suggestions of Mr. Donald have since been adopted.

Paragraph 23.—The three best ordered Treasuries I have seen are those at Cocanada, Cuddalore and Tanjore.

Paragraph 24.—In South Arcot, the condition of the Treasury reflects considerable credit on the intelligent officer in charge of it. The accounts are, on the whole, well kept.

5. In conclusion, I must state in fairness to the Deputy-Collector that, the Result Statements on the examination of the Treasury Accounts of this district are generally very light, and that in some months they have received remarks in terms of approval as indicated in the margin.

In the Result Statement for June 1870. "This Result Statement is very creditable to the Treasury Officer and his Department."

In the Result Statement for November 1870. "A very creditable Result Statement."

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From F. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Accountant-General to the Government of Madras, to H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, dated Fort St. George, 18th February 1873, No. 8,610.

FROM the replies received to my Circular of the 12th November last, on the subject of the encashment of currency notes, I have the honour to observe that sufficient advantage does not appear to me to have been hitherto taken of our usually large surplus balances to meet the wants of the public in this matter, and although it may not yet be possible to secure the unrestricted payment of notes of all denominations and of all circles, still far more might, in my opinion, be done in this direction than has hitherto been attempted, and I think that in your own district there should be no difficulty whatever in cashing notes of the lower denominations without limit, and certainly no restriction need be placed on their issue.

2. In the several taluqs especially, far greater facilities might be afforded for the issue and encashment of notes, by instructions being given to the Tahsildars to cash freely all notes of the lower denominations to the extent of the specie remittances usually made by them to the Huzur and in those taluqs in which the collections are not much in excess of their own wants, arrangements might be made for supplying them with additional funds from some of the wealthier adjacent treasuries. It is not perhaps desirable at present that Tahsildars should be permitted to re-issue any notes received by them from the public, as Taluq Treasury officials will not probably be found very competent to detect a forged note. All notes therefore received by them during the month should be sent up to the Huzur with the monthly remittance, a fresh indent being simultaneously submitted by the Tahsildar for the notes required by him during the ensuing month, and advantage taken of the return of the escort which accompanied the remittance, to transmit the notes so indented for. There will of course be no objection to the re-issue of such notes to the taluqs, if after they have undergone a close examination by the Treasury Department of the Huzur, they are found to be correct and in order.

Govt. of 1874 Madras

REVENUE.

To

The Board of Revenue,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 26th.

Recd.

G. O., 26th January 1874, No. 116.

JANUARY

No. 221-222.

Bill drawn by Accountant-General ... South Arcot District Treasury.—Recordi... Board's Proceedings regarding the non-payme... of certain —.

116/3

No. 10.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th January 1874.

Read the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 12th December 1873, No. 514 :—

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2. As regards the position taken by the Accountant-General that he had a right to draw upon the 1,00,000 entered for September, I beg to state that, although this sum would have been available in September after the receipt of remittances from Sub-Treasuries, which usually reach the Huzur between the 1st and 15th, it does not follow that it would have been in hand to meet bills prematurely drawn in August.

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(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, 12th December 1873, No. 2,558.

2. There is nothing to add to what the Board have already said except that it appears now that the Accountant-General's drawings are intended to be limited to the silver balance. This disposes of Mr. Lodwick's argument in that the cash balance of Rupees 3,74,516 estimated at the close of August warranted his drawing freely during that month, for he was aware that this consisted chiefly of currency notes.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Accountant-General.
,, to the Acting Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

4. As regards the last paragraph of Mr. Lodwick's letter, alluded to above, wherein he stated that my opinion of the Treasury Officer is not borne out by facts, I would refer the Board to paragraphs 23 and 24 of the Report of Mr. Lilly who was deputed by Government to inspect and report on the working of the Treasury and Account Departments in the several districts. For convenience of reference, an extract is given in the margin, from the remarks of that officer regarding the Treasury and Account Departments of this district. It is true that Mr. Donald did not report in quite so favourable terms in December 1870, but a reference to the points noticed by him, and the explanation furnished by the Deputy-Collector which will be found recorded in Board's Proceedings, No. 2,122, dated 23rd May 1871, will show that the matters commented on were of minor importance, and that in respect to some, the Deputy-Collector was not to blame. The suggestions of Mr. Donald have since been adopted.

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Rev: Off: Delhi
No 81

1874.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 6TH JANUARY 1874, No. 10.

Dep^t 12 Jan^y 74.
Encl.

Received 13th Jany 1874

JANUARY.

No. 10.

Bill drawn by Accountant-General on a District Treasury.—Letter from Collector of South Arcot, forwarding remarks with respect to Accountant-General's letter to Board, regarding non-payment of certain — and present arrangements for regulating Bill transactions, submitted to Government, with remarks.

No 116
Recorded.

221-222