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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Ravens DEPARTMENT

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1890

1890

THE DEPARTMENT,
DOTACAMUND,
14th June 1874.

No. 690

No. 46.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT

Miscellaneous.

under which the Accountant-General annua
for establishment from Civil treasuries that
be withheld until it is certified that the Ann
duly furnished.

2. It appears from a letter written by
ment of India with the Governor-General, d
great inconvenience had been experienced by
in charge of the Audit Departments in furn
General was of opinion that "if the district
was the duty of the Civil Auditor to report t
and one example made for such neglect w
future;" adding, "*indeed, there seems no objec
office for the month of April being made depende
ment for that month*" "or at
Government after duly considering all local
not then despatched, the Civil Auditor shou
for the severe censure of Government."

3. No order authorizing the adoption
was made by this Government, but the h
department concerned, and instructions to wi
requirements of audit were fully satisfied on
Presidency every year since 1857. The
Auditor's Manual prepared for Madras un
Auditor, and published in 1857 (*vide* paragi

4. On previous occasions this Govern
course thus adopted, but recently the subject
G. O., 14th April 1869, No. 622, Judl. Dept. I
" 26th " " " 196, Finl. " th

5. Owing to changes in the system
plan suggested by the Government of India
but in lieu it has been usual for the Acco
Annual Return, with instructions to withh

A,

L. DEPARTMENT.

tion of this Gov-
awn to a practice
idency since 1842
icers drawing pay
ies for March is to
nt Return has been

tary to the Govern-
t 1842, No. 70, that
part of the officers
n. The Governor-
y in this respect, it
ce of Government,
al attention for the
t of the salary of each
the list of Establish-
might be fixed by the
and, if
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ion italicized above
dvantage of by the
of salaries until the
been issued in this
blished in the Civil
ndence of the Civil

ed approval of the
ler discussion, and
for consideration
ld be abolished.

official year, the
literally followed;
circulate forms of
ars for March till

the return, which
Thus, in point of fact
performed in a com-
official year that it
soon to have the
however, from this
there are serious o-
department. There
those who are to bla-
sonable that a whole

after the 1st April as possible," is furnished.
last month are stopped, because a duty is to be
ften the Circular arrives so near the end of the
lly impossible to prepare the return sufficiently
the 1st April when it is really due. Apart,
t, in the opinion of His Excellency in Council,
stem of stoppages which obtains in no other
any difficulty in discovering and punishing
transmission of a return, and it seems unrea-
ould suffer on their account.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

3
1696

Financial 1874 Department.

From

Government of Fort St. George.

D.

R.

No. 690.
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D. No. Progs.

L. No. No.

RECOMMENDING abolition of the practice of withholding payment of March Salary Bills until submission of Annual Returns in April, with remarks.



To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

*Dept of Revenue & Finance
in the Financial Dept*

Sir,

The attention of this Government has been drawn to a practice in force in this Presidency since 1842 under which the Accountant General annually notifies to all officers drawing pay for establishment from Civil Treasuries that payment of salaries for March is to be withheld until it is certified that the Annual Establishment Return has been duly furnished.

L. S.

*MB
2/18*

Revenue Department.
4 June 1874

No. 690.

5/100

*Every salary bill
to be submitted
to the Financial
Dept*

2. It appears from
a letter written by the
Junior Secretary to the
Government of India with
the Governor General
dated 18th August 1842
No. 70 that great incon-
venience had been experi-
enced by the delay on the
part of the officers in
charge of the Audit
Departments in furnish-
ing this return. The Govern-
or General was of opinion
that "if the District Officers
"are faulty in this respect
"it was the duty of the
Civil Auditor to report
"them for the notice of
"Government and one ex-
"ample made for such
"neglect will ensure gen-
eral attention for the
"future" adding "indeed
there

there seems no objection to
"the payment of the salary
"of each office for the
"month of April being
"made dependent on the
"receipt of the list of Estab-
"lishment for that month
- - - - - or at any rate
"the time might be fixed
"by the Government ac-
"cordingly considering all local
"circumstances - - - - -
"and if not then despatched
"ed the Civil Auditor
"should report the officer
"guilty of neglect for the
"severe censure of Govern-
"ment.

3. No order authoriz-
ing the adoption of the
suggestion italicized
above was made by this
Government but the hint
was taken advantage

of by the Department concerned and instructions to withhold payment of salaries, until the requirements of Audit were fully satisfied on this point have been issued in this Presidency every year since 1857. The rule was also published in the Civil Auditors' Manual prepared for Madras under the superintendence of the Civil Auditor and published in 1857 (vide paragraph 89 Chapter I).

4 On previous occasions this Government have expressed approval of the course thus adopted but recently the ^{subject} ~~matter~~ has been ~~brought up~~ under discussion, and I am now

G.O. 14 April 69. N. 622. J.D.
G.O. 25 April 69. N. 196. F.D.

9/30
submit for consideration that the practice should be abolished.

5. Owing to changes in the system of Audit and in the Official year the plan suggested by the Government of India in 1842 could not be literally followed but in lieu it has been usual for the Accountant General to circulate forms of Annual Return with instructions to withhold the salary in arrears for March till the return which is due as soon after the 1st April as possible is furnished. Thus

in

in point of fact salaries
for a past month are
stopped because a duty
is to be performed in a
coming month and often
the Circular arrives
so near the end of the
Official year that it
would be physically
impossible to prepare
the return sufficiently
soon to have the pay
disbursed on the 1st April
when it is really due.
Apart however from
this I am to state that
in the opinion of His
Excellency in Council
there are serious objec-
tions to a system of stop-
pages which obtains
in no other Department.
There never can be any
difficulty

difficulty in discovering
~~and punishing those~~
who are to blame for
the non-transmissions
of a return and ~~they~~
~~only should be punished.~~
It seems un-
~~ed. There is no reason~~ able
that ~~this course of~~
~~stopping the pay of~~
a whole Department
should ~~be stopped~~ suffer or
their accounts.
~~only in this trivial~~
~~respect.~~

GU

Brook. on the 17 June 74.