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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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No. 42. Read the following letter from Captain L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 19th October 1875, No. 108 W. :—

I HAVE the honor to forward you, for the information and orders of Government, copies of correspondence between the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, and this office, relative to the preparation of Appendix A of the Budget Estimate.

1 Letter from the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, No. 1,307 G, dated 9th June 1875.
1 Letter from the Controller of Public Works Accounts, Madras, No. 29 A, dated 10th August 1875.
1 Letter from the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, No. 2,101 G, dated 8th September 1875.

2. In my letter No. 29 A, you will observe that I informed the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, that no difficulty will be experienced in drawing out this appendix as required by the Government of India, provided that the expenditure on establishments is compared with the expenditure on works by *Districts* instead of by *Ranges*, and provided I am supplied by Government with copies of the Budget Estimates as soon as they are prepared.

3. In reply, the Accountant-General, whilst accepting the proposals of this office, again points out the desirability of preparing this Appendix A by *Ranges* instead of *Districts*.

4. In putting forward my original proposal to draw up this appendix by *Districts*, I had in view the Budget Estimates as at present prepared in Madras which differ so far from the Budget Estimates of the rest of India, inasmuch as under the 1st column in Part II. headed '*Executive Division*,' the administrative *District* is entered, and not the executive *Range*. From the Budget in its present form it is therefore impossible for the Controller to compile a statement showing the estimated expenditure by Executive Divisions or Ranges.

5. On a re-consideration of the case, however, it has occurred to me that it would be easy to meet the wishes of the Government of India by simply filling in the form of Budget Estimate in the manner originally intended, entering under the column headed '*Executive Division*' the name of the Range as well as of the District in which the works are situated. No additional labor would be thereby involved, as District Engineers must, it is conceived, base their Budget Estimates on the expenditure of their several Ranges.

6. The following is then the manner in which I think the wishes of the Government of India could best be met :—

(*a.*) In each of the four Budget Estimates in the parts relating to the expenditure on works, either original or repairs, the Range concerned should be specified against each item as well as the name of the District.

(*b.*) All grants at the disposal of District Engineers for Minor New Works, though held as at present for allotment throughout the District, should be shown in the Budget Estimate, divided off amongst the Ranges.

(*c.*) In a similar way, all grants for Repairs General and Miscellaneous should be shown divided off to the Ranges concerned. In this and the last division no difficulty will be experienced, for, as before remarked, the amounts now shown against Districts are probably based on estimates drawn up by Ranges.

(*d.*) All grants held by Government at the disposal of the Chief Engineer or of Government to be apportioned off in Appendix A between the Ranges in the best manner practicable by the Controller in communication with the Chief Engineer.

7. To enable me to prepare Appendix A in due time, I should be much obliged by receiving a copy of each of the Budget Estimates as soon as prepared, either in manuscript or a proof copy. At present, I am not supplied at all with copies of the Local Fund Budget Estimate. In future, to enable me to prepare this Appendix A in due time, it is important that I should receive a copy of the Local Fund Budget Estimate at the earliest practicable date.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. McLEOD-INNES, Accountant-General, Public Works Department, to Captain L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, Madras, dated Simla, 9th June 1875, No. 1,307 G.

THE Government of India has referred to me, for report, the letter noted in the margin, from which it will be seen that the Government of Madras do not think it practicable to adopt our form for Appendix A of the Budget, which, as you are aware, is meant to compare the cost of establishment with that of works and repairs. Whatever difficulties may be anticipated in its preparation, it is necessary that they should be overcome, and a copy of a note showing how they may apparently be met is herewith forwarded. I shall be glad to be favored with an expression of your views on the subject, and especially of your ideas of the best arrangements for facilitating the preparation of the statement referred to.

No. 2,313, dated 12th August 1874, from the Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Appendix A of the Budget Estimate showing Cost of Establishment compared with Grant for Works and Repairs.

THE new form of Budget Estimate that had to come into force from 1872-73 had for one of its appendices a statement showing cost of establishment compared with grant for works and repairs.

2. The Madras Government did not submit such an appendix with its Budgets for the years 1872-73 to 1874-75. In the orders on the Budget for 1874-75, the appendix was called for, in reply to which the Madras Government send copy of a letter from its Controller, which it is said will "explain the impracticability of adopting the Government of India form of Appendix A"; and it is hoped satisfy that Government that any statement prepared in accordance with it must, so far as this Presidency is concerned, be necessarily imperfect." In consideration of these

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circumstances, the Government of Madras request that the Government of India will not insist on the form in question being adhered to in Madras.

3. First as to the object of the form. It shows in a tabular form the number and cost of the establishment in each division as compared with the grant for works and repairs, thus :—

——	Executive Engineers.	Assistant Engineers.	Upper Subordinates.	Lower Subordinates.	Accountants.	And so on.	Total Cost of Establishment.	Provision for Travelling Allowances and Contingencies.	Total for Establishment.	Grant from Imperial Funds for Works and Repairs.	Grant from Provincial or Local Funds.
First Circle.											
—— Division											
—— do.											
—— do.											
Superintending Engineer ...											
Total ...											
Second Circle.											
(As above).											
Chief Engineer											
Accountants											

4. The object of the information is obvious. It is to show whether the outlay in any division is disproportionate to its establishment, and to lead to inquiry, whether the establishment of the division could not be reduced or amalgamated with other divisions. Statements rendered in the form laid down have led to reductions in establishment, and it was only the other day that the figures of the return from the Central Provinces led to the abolition of one division. And the return is made a portion of the Budget Estimate so as to enable a comprehensive review being taken of the contemplated operations of the department, and to enable Local Governments to decide what establishments should be kept up during the year; and the circumstances of such a statement being attached to the Budget Estimate, admits of inquiries being answered during the year, as to the cost of establishment in any division, or the outlay on works, &c., in it, and further facilitates disposal of applications for additional establishment. The want of the Appendix A from Madras has, in many cases, found to be very inconvenient.

5. Next as regards to the objections taken to rendering the form. These objections may be taken up point by point.

I.—Difficulty occasioned by Ranges in Madras, corresponding with divisions in other parts of India.

The Controller mentions that to this circumstance is due the incompleteness of the statement submitted by him. He adds as follows :—

"This office can certainly distribute the entire establishment according to Ranges, but it cannot tell how much of the funds granted or intended to be granted for each District will be allotted to each Range within the District."

Admitting this difficulty, then the obvious course to follow is to show the cost of establishment of each Range, and to show the grant for works and repairs for the District. But why cannot the grant for works and repairs for each Range be shown? The Budget shows the locality in which each work for which there is a grant is situated. The locality indicates the Range. And the aggregate of the grants for the localities in a Range is the grant for the Range.

Besides this the Controller must get the information together, or how is he to issue credit orders.

II.—Difficulty of distributing the cost of establishment of each District over the several funds, Imperial, Provincial, &c.

On this point the Controller says that the establishment charges are not distributed according to a uniform percentage under existing orders; and the distribution determined at the

close of the year could not be assumed at the time of preparing the Budget with any better result than of filling up space by entering amounts which would serve no useful purpose.

But no information is wanted to show how the cost of establishment of each division is apportioned off to the several funds concerned. It is true that the pattern form contemplated that in Provinces where the establishment was divided off (as in Burmah division by division, one to Provincial and the other to Imperial, that there should be one appendix to accompany the *Imperial* Budget Estimate and another the *Provincial* Budget Estimate, and that in cases where the Irrigation Establishment was divided off like course should be followed. But in Madras where this has not been done, the obvious course to follow is, to submit only one appendix for the whole of the establishment, no apportionment being made of its cost between the several funds, except in the case of extraordinary establishment, in which, unless the debit to extraordinary is made by a percentage, the items making up the probable charge should be shown distinctly.

III.—Difficulty in filling in the grants for works from Local Funds.

This is the real difficulty in the preparation of the appendix, but it is a difficulty easily overcome.

The Controller says that the allotment of Local Funds is not known when the Budgets of the Presidency are due to the Government of India, and even at this late date the Local Fund Circle Budgets have not come to hand.

But it can, and should be arranged, that the Circle Budgets of Local Funds should come to hand soon. The time for the submission of the Imperial Budget is the 1st January. The Local Fund Budgets are due on the 15th February. It is true that in most Provinces these Budgets cannot be got to hand on the date prescribed, and that they generally reach after April. But what is done in Bombay cannot be easily done in Madras. The Bombay Government with its Imperial Budget send the Appendix A with the column for Provincial or Local Fund outlay blank. With the Provincial and Local Fund Budget, they send the same appendix with the column filled in. The necessities of the case are sufficiently met by this arrangement, and it is submitted that the Government of Madras should be advised to follow this course. There is no more useful portions of the Budget Estimate for watching establishment charges than this Appendix A. Its advantage has been proved more than once.

From Captian L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. McLEOD-INNES, Accountant-General, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 10th August 1875, No. 29 A.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1,307 G, dated 9th June 1875, and in reply to inform you that I foresee no difficulty in preparing, within one week of receiving a copy of the Local Fund Budget, the form Appendix A of the Budget, provided that this appendix is drawn up on the following basis:—

(*a.*) That the expenditure on establishment is compared with the expenditure on works by Districts and not by Ranges.

(*b.*) That sums reserved by Government, Chief Engineer, &c., &c., for unforeseen requirements and the incidence of which even by Districts is not known at the time the Budget is drawn out, be divided off between the Districts by the Controller in the best practicable manner.

2. The date on which this Appendix A can be furnished is, it will be seen, entirely dependent on the date on which a copy of the Local Fund Budget is furnished the Controller by Government. As at present the Madras Government does not supply me with a copy of the Local Fund Budgets, I am unable to say with any certainty from past experience when I may expect to receive a copy of the Local Fund Budget. No exertions will, however, be wanting on my part to induce Government to supply me with a proof copy of the Budget immediately it is prepared, and to supply Appendix A immediately afterwards.

3. On receipt of your reply to this letter, I will address the Madras Government accordingly.

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From Lieutenant-Colonel J. McLEOD-INNES, Accountant-General, Public Works Department, to Captain L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, Madras, dated Simla, 8th September 1875, No. 2,101 G.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 29 A, of the 10th ultimo, explaining that you do not foresee any difficulty in preparing Appendix A of the Budget Estimate if the Local Fund Budget Estimate is sent you, and if the entries relating to grants for works may be exhibited by Districts instead of by Ranges, and the grant for minor works may be divided off by Districts in the best practicable manner.

2. In reply, I have to state that I see no objection to these groupings by Districts, provided that the distribution by Districts of the grant for minor works is shown as a separate column. The necessary communication to the Government of Madras, in order to admit of your proposals being carried out, should be made soon.

3. With reference to your remark A, I would be glad to know your reason for proposing to show the grants by Districts when the Range, I understand, continues to be the unit for rendering accounts.

No. 43. ORDER THEREON, 3rd November 1875, No. 3,107.

ACCOUNT, No. 3.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council directs that steps be taken for the compilation of Appendix A to the Budget of 1876-77 in the form required. This can be done without difficulty as regards all works, except roads, and perhaps some few Irrigation Canals, the work of which may spread over more than one Range. The subject will accordingly be attended to without delay by the Board of Revenue and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation in the preparation of the details of the Local Fund and Irrigation Budgets. The attention of the Financial Department is specially called to the last section of the Accountant-General's note referring to the preparation of the Local Fund Budget. The distribution by Ranges of grants for Minor New Works or Repairs, at present held at the disposal of District Engineers, the Chief Engineer, or Government, will be understood to be made as an estimate of outlay for the year, the actual sums continuing to be distributed to District and Range Officers as at present.

2. District Engineers will draw up the details of future Budgets in strict conformity with these orders.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Financial „
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.
To all Superintending and District Engineers.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

7 Spare Copies

Revenue 1875 Depte
№ 4413

Vide Con. № 4466/75

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November 3rd.

Issued

Read. — 13 Encl.

G. O., 3rd November 1875, No. 3,107.

Dr Mus

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 42-43

Preparation of Appendix A of the Budget Estimate.—Passing orders on correspondence between Controller of Public Works Accounts and Accountant-General, Public Works Department, relative to the —.

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