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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rumee DEPARTMENT

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Dated	30-10-1972	197 .

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

17th October 1877, No. 2529.

Adjustment of Expenditure.

Read the following papers:—

No. 133. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st July 1877, No. 3422.*

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Salem, 16th July 1877, No. 383:—

Several Local Fund roads have been taken up as relief works, and sums in many cases in excess of the budget allotment have been spent both in storing materials and in repairing or improving the road. By G.O., No. 681, dated 15th February last, communicated in Board's Proceedings, No. 767, dated 21st idem, all expenditure from Imperial Funds on Local Fund Roads on account of famine relief purposes is to be assessed at the ordinary rates of work of the district and recovered from the respective Local Fund Boards and credited to Imperial Funds in adjustment of the outlay from the same. As regards the materials stored, there will be no difficulty, as they are at the disposal of the Government and can be paid for at any time when utilized by Local Fund Boards for Local Fund roads; but in respect of repairs, &c., executed to the roads, I beg to know how the cost is to be adjusted, whether the value of work assessed at the ordinary current rates may be deducted from the maintenance allotments, leaving any balance that there may be at the disposal of the Local Fund Boards for expenditure during the rest of the year; in several cases the value of work so assessed will exceed the budget allotments, in which case there will be no funds left for the maintenance of the roads during the remainder of the year.

2. I solicit early instructions of the Board in the matter as indents have been received from the Divisional Officers for funds for the Local Fund roads out of the grants assigned to them in the Local Fund Budgets.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The adjustment between Local and Imperial Funds cannot be made until famine relief operations come to an end, and the Board read G.O., dated 15th February 1877, No. 681, as requiring that only such portions of the maintenance grants as are not required for the upkeep of Local Fund roads, owing to their having already been put in proper repair from famine relief funds should be credited to Imperial; wherever the necessity for expending the maintenance grants has not been removed by famine outlay the maintenance allotments may be utilized to the extent which is requisite. The Order quoted clearly states that the transfer of maintenance grants for 1877-78 is not anticipated as possible to any considerable extent. The Collector apparently alludes principally to cases in which the value of the work already done, assessed at ordinary rates, exceeds the Local Fund Budget allotments for the current year; where roads have presumably been put into proper repair so recently, further outlay on upkeep after such a short interval ought not to be required, but, when absolutely necessary, the Board do not think the Government Order precludes the utilization of the Local Fund grants.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Transferred to the Financial Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
13th August 1877.

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Addl. Secy. to Govt.

No. 134. *Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 27th July 1877, No. 483-W.*

Read the following paper:—

Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Financial Department, dated 28th June 1877, No. 1,801.

Proceedings of the Government of India, Financial Department (Accounts), dated Simla, 14th June 1877, No. 1,169.

Read the undermentioned papers regarding the mode of adjustment to be followed in respect to expenditure incurred for famine relief works:—

Letter from the Bombay Government to the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, No. 8-A—39, dated 10th January 1877, and enclosures.

Letter from the Comptroller-General, No. 196, dated 8th May 1877, and enclosures.

Office Memorandum from the Public Works Department, No. 387-A—G., dated 21st May 1877, and enclosures.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor-General in Council is pleased to decide that all outlay on public works executed for the purpose of relieving distress among the people arising from famine, whether supervised by the officers of the Public Works Department or by Civil officers, shall, in the first instance, be recorded in the accounts of the Public Works Department under a suspense head to be called "Famine Relief."

2. Of the whole outlay thus recorded, the portion which represents the value of the work done calculated at normal rates must be ultimately recorded as expenditure under the proper sub-divisions of the Service Head, Public Works, Ordinary or Extraordinary, as the case may be, the remainder being transferred to the Service Head "Famine Relief."

3. The responsibility of determining, in each case, how much of such outlay shall be recorded as Public Works expenditure, and how much as expenditure under the head of Famine Relief, will rest upon the Public Works Department. But it is important that the Suspense Account to be kept in the Public Works Department should be cleared as quickly as possible, and no such refinements of calculations should be attempted or permitted as will cause any delay in the attainment of this object.

4. The Governor-General in Council trusts to the Local Governments to issue such subsidiary orders as will secure this result.

5. As a rule, the Governor-General in Council considers that experience shows, conclusively, that public works executed for relief purposes can be most conveniently and economically supervised by the professional officers of the Public Works Department; but if, in any case, this is found impracticable and the supervision of such works is entrusted to Civil Officers, the arrangement must not be allowed to interfere with thorough obedience to the present order, and the Civil Officers must act only as disbursers of the Public Works Department, submitting to that department all accounts of their outlay.

6. This Resolution is to be applied immediately, and with retrospective effect, to the outlay now being incurred for the relief of the distress arising from the present famine in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay.

Ordered that this Resolution be communicated to the Revenue* and Public Works Departments of the Government of India, to the Local Governments, to the Comptroller-General, and to the Accountants-General and Deputy Accountants-General in independent charge.

(Signed) R. B. CHAPMAN,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Communicated to the Public Works Department and to the Revenue (Famine) Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

In supersession of all previous orders on the subject, His Excellency the Governor in Council directs that the following procedure shall in future be observed with regard to all outlay on public works executed for the purpose of relieving distress arising from famine.

2. Wherever the supervision of Famine Relief Works is entrusted to officers of other departments than the Public Works Department, such officers will obtain funds from the nearest Executive Officer of the Public Works Department, and they will account to the Examiner for all outlay from such funds on account of Famine Relief Works. The necessary forms of account will be supplied by the Executive Officer from whom funds are obtained.

3. This order will take effect from the 1st September, and for any works which may on that date be in the hands of Civil Officers funds must after that date be obtained from the nearest Public Works Executive Officer.

4. Officers who are already in account with the Examiner for advances made to them for works other than Famine Relief Works must be careful to keep their Famine Relief Works accounts quite distinct from their accounts relating to ordinary Public Works. Applications to Executive Officers for funds should state distinctly that the funds are required for Famine Relief Works, and the funds so obtained are to be expended only on public works executed for the purpose of relieving distress among the people arising from famine, and must not be diverted to the gratuitous relief of the distressed, or to other collateral objects. All stocks of grain in the hands of Revenue and other Civil Officers will, as at present, be accounted for to the Board of Revenue. But actual grain payments to laborers will be shown in the accounts rendered to the Examiner as a receipt from the Civil Department, this receipt being cleared by a *pro tanto* debit to works *per contra*.

5. The arrangements at present in force with regard to the gratuitous relief of the distressed are not affected by this order.

6. With regard to works under execution by officers of the Public Works Department no modification of present arrangements is necessary so far as accounts and provision of funds are concerned.

7. All outlay whether by Public Works or by Civil Officers will in the first instance be debited by the Examiner to the Public Works Suspense head "Famine Relief," and the Examiner will see that this suspense head is relieved as rapidly as possible by charging off to the heads of service concerned the value of work done at normal rates and debiting the Civil Department with the ascertained excess. No details of excess so debited need be furnished to the Civil Department, as the responsibility of determining the value of work done will rest entirely with the Public Works Department.

8. On the completion of each work, whether by Public Works Officers or by Civil Officers, a completion report showing the actual value of work done, as determined by the Public Works Officers, will be submitted to the Examiner by the District Engineer concerned, and the Examiner will be guided thereby in apportioning the total outlay incurred.

9. The Examiner will take care that no debit is raised to any Local Fund in excess of the total grant from that fund for Public Works. The difference, if any, between the value of work usually chargeable to a Local Fund and the Public Works grant from that fund will be debited to Provincial.

10. Charges on account of Tools and Plant will remain in suspense ("Famine Relief," Suspense Account) until the closing of the Famine Relief Accounts.

11. The treatment of the large stocks of road metal which have been collected by relief laborers will be dealt with in a separate order.

12. The instructions already issued in G.O., No. 66-W, dated 15th May 1877, regarding the incidence of establishment charges are not affected by this order.

13. The Examiner, in communication with the Accountant-General, Madras, and District Engineers, will arrange for the proper apportionment of all outlay incurred before the 1st September next. The Accountant-General, Madras, will furnish the Examiner with details of expenditure (whether in cash or grain) incurred on Public Works by Officers of the Civil Departments and accounted for directly to the Accountant-General; and District Engineers, in communication with the Civil Officers concerned, will furnish as soon as possible such information as the Examiner may require regarding the value of work done.

14. The Examiner will issue to District Engineers and Executive Officers any further subsidiary instructions that may be necessary to give effect to these orders, and he will further submit as early as possible an estimate of the temporary Accounts Establishment which will be necessary to deal both with the accounts of the current expenditure and with the accumulation of accounts of past expenditure which will now be transferred to his office.

15. The Accountant-General, the Chief Engineer, and the Examiner will form a standing committee for the settlement of all doubtful points relating to the incidence of expenditure under these orders.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 2121.

Communicated to the President of the Madras Municipality, to the Commissioner of Police, and to the Agent, Remount Depot for information and guidance.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
15th August 1877.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 135. From the Officiating Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 27th August 1877, No. 294-X.

With reference to memorandum, No. 1623, dated 25th August 1877, from the Secretary to Government, Financial Department, the undersigned has the honor to invite attention to paragraph 9 of G.O. in the Public Works Department, No. 483-W, dated 27th July 1877, which prescribes the procedure to be observed with regard to debits to Local Funds on account of works carried out as famine relief works.

(Signed) A. G. BEGBIE, Captain, R.E.,
Offg. Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

No. 136. From W. DONALD, Esq., Officiating Accountant-General, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 12th September 1877, No. 682.

Treasury Account Department.

Returning the original enclosures which accompanied official memorandum in the Financial Department, No. 1623, dated 25th August 1877, I have the honor to report that in my opinion the expenditure incurred previous to 1st September on the repairs of Local Fund roads executed as Famine Relief Works should be adjusted in the manner and on the principles enunciated in paragraphs 9 and 13 of G.O., dated 27th July 1877, Public Works Department, No. 483-W., communicated in G.O., 15th August 1877, No. 2121, Financial.

2. All outlay expended on the repairs of Local Fund roads executed as Famine Relief Works should be communicated in detail to the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, by whom, in communication with the district authorities, it will be valued and apportioned.

3. Of the whole outlay thus ascertained, that portion which represents the value of work done, calculated at the ordinary rates for labor and material prevalent in the district, will be recovered in the usual manner from the Local Funds concerned up to the extent of the total grants for Public Works in the Local Funds Budget; the excess, if any, over the amount of these grants being charged to Provincial Services; whilst the difference between the cost at these rates and the total actual expenditure incurred will be debited to Famine Relief. The expression total grants should be understood to include not merely the original grants, but any further grants which may be possible from savings under other heads or balances.

4. The specific question put by the Collector of Salem and the Board of Revenue, however, in the papers under reference is not limited to the adjustment of expenditure on the repairs of Local Fund roads already undertaken out of famine money; they ask if, as will probably eventuate, the whole grant for Public Works in the Local Funds Budget is absorbed by the outlay on Famine Relief Works during the half-year that will close on 30th instant, how the roads will be maintained and other necessary works executed during the remainder of the year.

5. It appears to me that in such cases the expenditure must be treated as a charge against Provincial Services. It will, of course, however only be incurred either (1) as a Famine Relief Work, or (2) as absolutely necessary expenditure which could not possibly be postponed.

No. 137. ORDER THEREON, 17th October 1877, No. 2529.

These papers relate to the procedure to be observed with regard to debits to Local Funds on account of works carried out as Famine Relief Works.

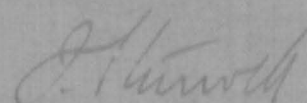
2. The main principle is laid down in paragraph 9 of G.O., Public Works Department, dated 27th July 1877, No. 483-W., viz., that after the valuation at normal rates has been made in accordance with the instructions laid down by the Government of India, care will be taken that no debit is raised to any Local Fund in excess of the total grant from that fund for Public Works, the balance being debited to Provincial.

3. The Accountant-General suggests that the expression "total grants" should be understood to include not merely the original grants, but any further grants which may be possible from savings under other heads or balances. To this the Government have no objection so far as savings and balances under the Road Fund Budget for the current year are concerned.

4. Somewhat more detailed instructions seem necessary, however, with reference to paragraph 9 of the G.O. Public Works Department, above quoted. If the Examiner goes on debiting Local Funds until the total grant for Public Works has been reached in the manner which seems to be anticipated by the Accountant-General, the result will be the practical appropriation of the funds allotted by the Local Board to other works the execution of which in most cases cannot possibly be postponed.

5. It must, therefore, be understood that the amount to be debited to Local Funds on account of works executed as Famine Relief Works must not exceed the aggregate grant in the Local Fund Budgets for the particular works in question *plus* such amount as may be available from savings and balances. In preparing the Local Fund Budgets and revised Budgets of famine districts the greatest care has been taken to include no works but those which were absolutely necessary, but all Presidents of Local Fund Boards will be reminded that every effort should be made to swell the savings and balances by reducing the expenditure of sanctioned allotments to the lowest possible limits, and even surrendering them altogether where such a course may be found to be feasible.

(True Extract.)



Under Secretary to Govt.

To the Board of Revenue.

Public Works Department.
Accountant-General.
Revenue Department.
Revenue (Famine) Department.

Exd. A. Grubert.

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Revenue Sept 4
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FINANCIAL.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 17th.

Issued 17th

Recd. 29 October 1877

G.O. 17th October 1877, No. 2529.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 133-137.

Adjustment of Expenditure.—Orders passed
regarding the procedure to be observed in respect
to debits to Local Funds on account of works
carried out as Famine Relief Works.

1877

Ordered

30th Oct 1877