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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No:	3005	Press. / Mis.
Dated	9-12-1878	197 :

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Archives I—S.806—24-2-78.

3005
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

25th November 1878, No. 4,496 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following papers :—

No. 288. Memorandum from the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, June 1876:

It is desired that Collectors shall be supplied from time to time with copies of progress reports of all works in their districts. It is referred to the Secretaries to Government in the Public Works and Revenue Departments to propose a form that shall give all necessary information without unnecessary detail.

2. The undersigned would suggest that printed registers of progress in the form accompanying G.O. (P.W.D.), No. 2,226, of 8th September 1873, be filled up and supplied by Range Officers to Collectors monthly; each work under "Irrigation," "Imperial, Civil Buildings," "Provincial" and "Local" being separately numbered and entered by name once when first commenced, but the expenditure under "Imperial, Military" and under the sub-heads "Establishment," "Tools and Plant," "Contingencies" being shown only in a single line for each head. In this manner it is thought that Collectors would be furnished with all necessary information with the least trouble to the executive officers.

3. Detailed information as to the progress made with the construction and repair of any road or building or other work, other than can be gained from the columns of monthly expenditure, must not be looked for from executive officers. They cannot even supply it to their own immediate superiors. Collectors must inform themselves in this matter regarding any works that they are specially interested in by personal inspection or report from their own subordinates instructed with that view.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Memorandum to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 3rd July 1876, No. 112.

With reference to Major-General Walker's memorandum on the subject of the form of progress reports to be supplied by Range Officers to Collectors, the undersigned begs to be informed what is the nature of the information concerning works referred to in the last paragraph of the memorandum.

2. It is stated that detailed information as to the progress made with the construction and repair of any road or building or other work, other than can be gained from the columns of monthly expenditure, must not be looked for from executive officers; and that Collectors must inform themselves in this matter regarding any works that they are specially interested in by personal inspection, &c. If the new form will furnish all the information considered necessary and ordered to be furnished in G.O., 9th May 1868, No. 1,471, excepting the details regarding military works, it is presumed that nothing further will be wanted by Collectors. The chief heads of information which appear from the correspondence to be necessary for Collectors are—

1. Name and description of each work whether Imperial, Local or Provincial.
2. Amount of estimate.
3. Amount expended up to last year.
4. Amount of grant for current year.

5. Expenditure up to the month of the current year for which return is submitted.
6. Remarks such as those referred to in the Trichinopoly Collector's letter, recorded in G.O., 12th January 1868, No. 97.

It is observed that the proposed arrangement will enable information being furnished under these heads, with full remarks for each work. As this form has been always adopted except during the short period of one year when the system of sending in abstract accounts merely to Collectors was in force, it is not clear what necessity there is now for prescribing a new form; and how far the one proposed in the memorandum under reply is an improvement on the old.

On further information on the above points being received, the undersigned proposes to consult the Board of Revenue and obtain their opinion before deciding on the course to be adopted.

(True Extract.)

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

Memorandum from the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated 5th July 1876.

THE undersigned has the honor to refer the Secretary to Government in the Revenue Department to Form C "Register of Progress of Works" accompanying G.O., No. 2,226, of 8th September 1873, as being the form through which District Engineers receive information as to the works in progress in the districts under their charge. Major-General Walker is not aware to what extent and in what detail the column of remarks is filled up by Range Officers; all he means is that an exact transcript of what is sent to District Engineers ought to suffice for the Collectors' purposes.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th August 1876, No. 2,041.

Read the following Official Memorandum from the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 7th July 1876, No. 113:—

IN forwarding the enclosed original papers, the undersigned requests that he may be favored with the opinion of the Board of Revenue as to whether the Form C recorded in Public Works G.O., dated 8th September 1873, No. 2,226, and which the Public Works Secretary recommends, may be adopted for Public Works Range Officers submitting monthly progress reports to the Collectors of districts in supersession of the form now in use. It is requested that a copy of the form now in use may be submitted with information as to how far it is considered sufficient for the purpose intended; and whether the new Form C will answer all purposes and, if not, what modifications it would be desirable to make therein. The object of the proposed change is to reduce the work of the Public Works Range Officers consistently with the requirements of the administration. It is suggested that the opinion of a few selected officers, if obtained on the subject, will be found to be of great value in enabling Government to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. Early reply is requested.

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

THE Collector of Malabar having called for monthly progress reports from the Range Officers of all Imperial and Provincial works, the District Engineer addressed the Chief Engineer stating that under G.O., No. 2,430, dated 9th August 1867, progress reports of Local Fund works are furnished, objecting to the submission of similar reports for other than Local Fund works on the ground of the labor involved,

and suggesting that annual abstracts of expenditure under the budget heads be supplied instead.

2. The Chief Engineer recommends that printed registers of progress in the form accompanying G.O., No. 2,226, of 8th September 1873, Department of Public Works (Form C annexed), should be supplied to Collectors monthly; each work under Irrigation, "Imperial, Civil Buildings," "Provincial" and "Local" being separately numbered and entered by name once when first commenced, but the expenditure under "Imperial, Military," and under the sub-heads "Establishment," "Tools and Plant" and Contingencies" being shown only in a single line for each head. He is of opinion that by this means Collectors will be furnished with all necessary information with the least trouble to executive officers, and that detailed information as to the progress made with the construction and repair of any road or building or other work, other than can be gained from the columns of monthly expenditure, must not be looked for from executive officers, Collectors being left to inform themselves in this matter regarding any works in which they are specially interested by personal inspection or report from their own subordinates instructed with that view.

3. The Board are called upon to state whether the form recommended by the Chief Engineer meets the requirements of Collectors, and to submit a copy of the form now in use, with an expression of opinion as to the comparative merits of the existing and proposed forms and the modifications required, after consulting a few selected officers.

4. Collectors appear to have been originally furnished with progress reports for all works in the form submitted to the Chief Engineer, to be found at page 415 of the Standing Orders of the Department of Public Works. This was found to entail too much work, and it was ordered that Civil Officers should be furnished with the abstracts of Range progress reports merely—G.O., dated 13th March 1867, No. 759, Department of Public Works. On a subsequent representation that these abstracts did not supply the kind of information required, monthly returns in the following form were prescribed for those works only sanctioned for execution by the Department of Public Works from Local Funds, whether connected with roads, conservancy of avenues, or maintenance of ferries:—

G.O., dated 9th August 1867, No. 2,430, Department of Public Works, and 5th December 1867, No. 3,791, Board's Circular Order XXXV of 1867.

Name of Work.	Amount of Estimate.	Allotment for current year.	Expenditure.	
			Up to this Month.	During this Month.

Collectors were directed to prepare annually for each Public Works Range in their districts a printed form, showing each work sanctioned for execution by the Department of Public Works, and to furnish the Range Officer with duplicate copies sufficient in number for twelve months. The details of Columns 1, 2 and 3 were

to be printed, the manuscript entries being thus confined to the last two columns.

G.O., dated 13th January 1868, No. 97. A remark column was subsequently entered, as experience showed that mere entries of expenditure afforded little means of judging of the actual work accomplished. Abstracts only continued to be furnished for all works other than Local Fund works, but on a representation that they were not in sufficient detail the Government directed that the practice of furnishing the civil authorities with copies of Range progress reports be reverted to, the form being, it is presumed, that originally prescribed in the Standing Orders of the Department of Public Works.

G.O., dated 9th May 1863, No. 1,471.

5. When the submission to the Board of Local Fund statements of receipts and charges by the 15th of each month was prescribed by the Local Fund Rules it became necessary to furnish progress reports for Local Fund works at an earlier date; and such works were accordingly separated from Imperial and Provincial works, and progress reports relating to the former were directed to be furnished by the 10th of each month. From paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 26th April 1876, No. 1,107, now before Government, it appears, however, that a diversity of practice at present exists, the progress reports furnished to Collectors embracing in some districts all works, whether Imperial, Provincial or Local, whilst in others separate statements are compiled. Under G.O., dated 14th August 1872, No. 1,936, Department of Public Works, expenditure under Military, Imperial Establishments, Tools and Plant, Profit and Loss Transfers, &c., is apparently omitted from Range progress reports supplied to Collectors.

6. It is not very clear from the correspondence referred to above what amount of information is at present supplied to Collectors regarding Imperial and Provincial works, or when and how it is furnished. The form in use relating to Local Fund works is annexed (B) and does not differ materially from the form embodied in the Department of Public Works Standing Orders. It seems to supply exactly the kind and amount of information required, and would, it is believed, answer equally well for the return of progress on Imperial and Provincial works. By printing the entries in the first six columns, for which particulars are known as soon as the budget is passed, and by supplying Range Officers with the requisite number of copies, a great deal of time and labor would be saved as it would only be necessary to fill in the columns relating to expenditure in manuscript. Additional works sanctioned during the course of the year and incomplete works could be added afterwards in manuscript. For Imperial and Provincial works a *quarterly* return in a similar form would, the Board think, suffice for all practical purposes. What appears to be required is general information as to progress towards completion rather than details of expenditure in each month; it is, therefore, essential that the entries in the remark column should be in sufficient detail to give a correct idea of the nature and extent of the work performed. Orders to this effect have already been issued in G.O., dated 8th March 1873, No. 753. The exhibition of outlay in the quarter and up to the quarter would, no doubt, meet the requirements of Civil Officers, and details of monthly expenditure appear unnecessary. It would be more convenient to print the list of works and entries regarding amount of estimate, date of sanction, previous expenditure and grant for the current year, than to indicate the works by number, leaving the columns blank.

7. With these remarks the Board resolve to refer the question for the opinion of the Collectors of the marginally-noted districts with the request that they will furnish specimen pages of the progress reports now furnished by Range Officers, and state what modification they consider to be required, and whether the proposed Form C will answer all purposes.

Chingleput.	Madura.
North Arcot.	Coimbatore.
South Arcot.	Malabar.
Tanjore.	

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd August 1878, No. 2,171.

Read the following replies to Board's Proceedings, dated 11th August 1876, No. 2,041.

Letter from	Collector of	Chingleput,	dated	12th Sept. 1876,	No. 522.
,,	,,	of North Arcot,	,,	18th ,, ,,	,, 438.
,,	,,	of South Arcot,	,,	24th August ,,	,, 393.
,,	,,	of Tanjore,	,,	27th Feb. 1877,	,, 130.
,,	,,	of Madura,	,,	26th Aug. 1876,	,, 322.
,,	,,	of Coimbatore,	,,	4th Sept. ,,	,, 186.
,,	,,	of Malabar,	,,	31st May 1878,	,, 4.

WITH a Memorandum, dated 7th July 1876, No. 113, the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, forwarded to the Board of Revenue a form of progress report (Form C) which the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, recommended as a suitable form for the monthly progress reports to be submitted to Collectors of districts, and requested the Board to report on the subject after obtaining the opinion of a few selected officers.

2. In their Proceedings, dated 11th August 1876, No. 2,041, the Board reviewed the previous orders on the subject and expressed an opinion that the form now in use with regard to Local Fund works (Form B) would answer equally well for the return of progress on Imperial and Provincial works also, scriptory labor being saved by printing the entries in the first six columns as soon as the budget was issued, and supplying Range Officers with the requisite number of copies. The question was then referred for the opinion of the Collectors of the marginally-noted districts, who were also requested to forward specimen pages, as desired by Government, of the progress reports now furnished.

Chingleput.	Madura.
North Arcot.	Coimbatore.
South Arcot.	Malabar.
Tanjore.	

3. The file of replies, and the specimens received, will now be forwarded for the information and orders of Government. There is considerable diversity in the forms in use, but the most common is Form B or a modification thereof.

4. The Collector of Chingleput would adopt Form C with the addition of another column for remarks. The Collector of Malabar adheres to a form proposed by him some time ago and disapproved by the Board in their Proceedings, dated 18th August 1875, Miscellaneous No. 7,487. All the others prefer Form B either as it stands or slightly modified.

5. The Board see no reason to change the opinion expressed in paragraph 6 of their Proceedings, dated 11th August 1876, No. 2,041, that Form B should be retained for Local Funds and adopted universally for Imperial and Provincial works also. The separate progress reports for Local Fund works should continue to be submitted monthly as at present to Collectors in their capacity of Presidents of Local Fund Boards, but in the case of Imperial, Provincial, and Special Fund works quarterly returns will suffice, and to reduce labor still further the Board would adopt, as regards these quarterly returns, the suggestion made by Mr. Bliss that all entries regarding establishment and tools and plant might be omitted, and the information relating to minor works shown in a lump in all but the last return of the official year. For this purpose Mr. Bliss proposes a different maximum for each class of work, but the Board would say generally that separate entries need not be given with regard to works costing less than Rupees 500. The Board's instructions* regarding the printing of the forms will have to be carefully attended to by Collectors.

Vide paragraphs 4 to 6, Board's Proceedings, dated 11th August 1876, No. 2,041.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

THE Board's Proceedings read above will be communicated to the Public Works Department, with the intimation that the recommendations made appear convenient and appropriate.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary to Government.

No. 289. ORDER THEREON, 25th November 1878, No. 4,496 W.

COMMUNICATED to Superintending Engineers who will issue the requisite instructions to Divisional Officers to submit the progress report now authorized to the Collectors of their districts.

(True Extract.)

E A Ford Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
„ the Revenue Department.
„ the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. C. Howarth.
20 Spare Copies

Revenue Department
No 5392

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of [1878] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November 25th.

Issued

Read. 7 Dec.

G. O., 25th November 1878, No. 4,496 W.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 288-289.

No 3005
Comm'd to the
Board of Revenue

9. Dec /78.

PROGRESS REPORTS OF PUBLIC WORKS TO BE FURNISHED TO COLLECTORS BY DIVISIONAL OFFICERS.

14 Folios Orig and 2 Copies