

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 639

DATED 27th July 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Audit of the Accounts of the Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

Letter from the Accountant General, Madras, pointing the ruling of the Comptroller General that the — should not be undertaken by Government officers in their official capacity, commd to the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Madras Branch.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1897) Department.

Mr. Hon. Secy. Genl. Secy
H. E. Mr. Governor
CURRENT No. 6145



Read again COs $\frac{2874}{5-6-97}$ & $\frac{1287R}{6-7-97}$

also Cms 6145/87 - full with enclosure

N. 639 of 27th July 1897 From the Accountant General
26.7.97
Order (Mss.) The Secy. for the
Communicated to
the Hon. Secy. Genl. Secy, I. F. C. R. Fund
under Branch No. 2202

Unvill

Dated 19 July
Received 20-7-97
Registered
Enclosures
Spare copies

SUBJECT.

The Hon. Secy. Genl. Secy (I. F. C. R. Fund)
The 3^d to the Finance Comm.
A - C.
Communicating the ruling
of the Comptroller General
that the audit of the accounts
of the Famine Charitable Relief
Fund should not be undertaken
by Government Officers in their
official capacity

rd
21-7-97

22/7/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

The Treasury
Calcutta
The 14 July 1897

From
The Comptroller General

To.
The Accountant General,
Madras.

Sir,
In reply to your letter No 1977 of the 2 July
1897, I have the honour to inform you
that the Indian Famine Charitable Relief
Fund is, as I understand the matter, a
private fund, for the administration of
which Government can assume no res-
ponsibility, not even indirectly, by lending
the services of their officers for the purposes
of audit. No audit, therefore, of the accounts
of the Fund by Government Officers in their
official capacity, should, in my opinion, be
undertaken. There is of course no objection
to Government Officials serving on the
Committee

Committees of this fund, and undertaking in an honorary and purely private capacity the duty of examining the accounts. Such an examination, however, would be made on behalf of the Committee of the Fund, and not on behalf of the Government, and for this, if the work is performed in an honorary and not a paid capacity, no orders of Government appear to be either necessary or desirable.

2. I may add, that the views above expressed are also those of the Central Committee of the fund, who do not wish for, or consider, as at all practicable, an audit by Government Officers as such.

I have &c
(Signed) J. T. Barrow
Comptroller General

True copy

J. T. Barrow
Chief Superintendent

Int. Secy
Accountant General's Office
July 1897

Treasury and DEPARTMENT.

FORT, ST. GEORGE,
Accountant-General's Office,
19th July 1897.

No. 2202

4P

From J. C. Harrison Esq.,
ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,
To THE Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

SIR,

In reply to Government Order Miscellaneous No 2874 dated the 5th June '97 and in continuation of my letter No 1978 dated 2^d July '97, I have the honour to state that the Comptroller General has replied to my reference that no audit of the Accounts of the Famine Charitable Relief Fund should be undertaken by Government Officers in their Official capacity. A copy of his letter is enclosed.

The

Commiff. St. 1. 1. 1.
The letter of the Honorary Secre-
taries of the Fund received with the
Government Order under reply is
returned.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Yours most obedt. servant,
W. Harris
Off. Accountant General.

Government (1897) of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 639, 27th July 1897.

JULY.

Audit of the Accounts of the Famine Charitable Relief Fund.

Letter from the Accountant-General, Madras, communicating the ruling of the Comptroller-General that the — should not be undertaken by Government officers in their official capacity, communicated to the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Madras Branch.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 2874, Revenue, dated 5th June 1897:—

Read—the following letter from the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Madras Branch, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 31st May 1897:—

We are desired by the Executive Committee to enquire whether Government would kindly allow the necessary audits of the Famine Fund accounts of each district Committee to be done by the local Treasury Deputy Collector, as this will save the fund a considerable sum in audit fees, besides guaranteeing the correctness of the audit in the eyes of Government and of the public. The work will not be very onerous and it will not, of course, entail any travelling or general supervision of actual expenditure.

2. We enclose forms of accounts which have been ordered to be maintained by the district and local committees.

Order—Mis. No. 2874, Revenue, dated 5th June 1897.

Referred for remarks to the Accountant-General, to whom the Honorary Secretaries of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund will be requested to forward the forms of accounts referred to in paragraph 2 of their letter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Accountant-General.
„ Honorary Secretaries.

READ—again G.O., No. 1259, Revenue, dated 6th July 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Recording, pending receipt of the further communication promised, letter from the Accountant-General informing that a reference to the Comptroller-General regarding the proposal to require Treasury officers to audit the expenditure of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in their respective districts has been made and that, on receipt of reply, the matter will be communicated.

READ—also the following letter from F. C. HARRISON, Esq., Officiating Accountant-General to the Government of Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Fort St. George, 19th July 1897, No. 2202:—

In reply to G.O., Mis. No. 2874, dated the 5th June 1897, and in continuation of my letter, No. 1978, dated 2nd July 1897, I have the honour to state that the Comptroller-General has replied to my reference that no audit of the accounts of the Famine Charitable Relief Fund should be undertaken by Government officers in their official capacity. A copy of his letter is enclosed.

The letter of the Honorary Secretaries of the Fund, received with the Government Order under reply, is returned.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Comptroller-General, to the Accountant-General, Madras, dated Calcutta, the 14th July 1897, No. 751.

In reply to your letter, No. 1977 of the 2nd July 1897, I have the honour to inform you that the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund is, as I understand, the matter, a private fund, for the administration of which Government can assume no responsibility, not even indirectly, by lending the services of their officers for the purposes of audit. No audit, therefore, of the accounts of the Fund by Government officers in their official capacity should, in my opinion, be undertaken. There is, of course, no objection to Government officials serving on the Committees of this fund, and undertaking in an honorary and purely private capacity, the duty of examining the accounts. Such an examination, however, would be made on behalf of the Committee of the Fund, and not on behalf of the Government, and for this, if the work is performed in an honorary and not a paid capacity, no orders of Government appear to be either necessary or desirable.

2. I may add that the views above expressed are also those of the Central Committee of the fund who do not wish for, or consider, as at all practicable, an audit by Government officers as such.

ORDER—No. 639, Revenue, dated 27th July 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Honorary Secretaries, Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund, Madras Branch.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Honorary Secretaries (Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund).
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Accountant-General.

Exd. Md. Fakhir.

60 Copies.