

C. POWERS OF SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS

417. The following is a summary of the powers of a Superintending Engineer:—

I. ROADS AND BUILDINGS

A. Original Works

(a) *Administrative Approval.*—To approve administratively estimates upto Rs. 5,000 for works other than residential, electrical.

NOTES (1)—Superintending Engineers may sanction estimates administratively on electrical works in non-residential buildings upto a limit of Rs. 1,000 provided it is not first installation. All the estimates for improvements to a single building in regard to electrical works in any official year must be considered as one work, the first sanctioned being the original estimate and subsequent sanctions supplemental thereto.

(2)—Huts for watchers of inspection bungalows may be dealt with by Superintending Engineers under their powers of sanction for ordinary non-residential buildings.

(3)—The powers in Note (2) above can be exercised by the Superintending Engineers in respect of quarters for all employees in inferior service subject to the conditions specified in Note (2) under paragraph 427-I-A(c) introduced by G. O. No. 1281 W., dated 12th June 1934.

(b) *Contribution works.*—To sanction the undertaking of contribution works upto Rs. 5,000.

(c) *Technical sanction to estimates.*—Permanent and provisionally substantive Superintending Engineers and those holding officiating rank likely to last for atleast three months are empowered to accord final or technical sanction to detailed estimate for original works upto rupees one lakh excluding charges for establishment and tools and plants.

Where the detailed estimate is a working estimate for a work, or part of a work, included in a general estimate or in any subsidiary estimate subsequently sanctioned by, competent authority, the sanction is subject to the condition that the provision for it in the general or subsidiary estimate is not exceeded. A Superintending Engineer may transfer ascertained savings from any one portion of the project to another within the sanctioned estimate.

(d) *Excesses over estimates.*—To deal finally with all excess of not more than 5 per cent of the amount of any sanctioned estimate provided that the total amount of the excess is within the limit of this powers to sanction estimates technically. He may also pass excess expenditure upto a limit of Rs. 1,500 on all works irrespective of the amounts of the sanctioned estimate. He has however no powers to sanction any excess over a revised estimate sanctioned by a higher authority. (See also paragraph 182).

(e) *Alterations of designs.*—To sanction necessary alterations in the constructive details of works during their execution provided that such alterations do not cause an increase of charges beyond the limit of his powers to deal finally with excesses over estimates—*Vide* (d) above.

(f) *Contingencies in the estimate for a work.*—To divert the provision for contingencies to new works or repairs which are not provided for in the estimate.

(g) *Unforeseen works in an estimate for a work.*—To divert the provision under this item for new works which are required by the administrative authority and which are essential for the due fulfilment of the precise object for which the estimate was intended. (See also paragraph 117-A.)

B. Repairs

418. (a) To sanction estimates for annual and special repairs within the limits assigned for his circle in the budget estimate under each head of service, and to prescribe lumpsum provisions for the annual repairs to buildings as laid down in paragraph 147. In the case of roads the sum should be limited by the Superintending Engineer to a fixed amount per mile.

(b) *Periodical repairs.*—To authorise the commencement of urgent periodical repairs in anticipation of normal sanction to estimates—Vide paragraph 140.

(c) *Emergent repairs.*—To sanction emergent repairs to work to any reasonable and necessary amount in case of imminent danger to the structure.

(d) *Excesses over estimates.*—Same powers as under Original works, if a revised estimate is not prepared; if a revised estimate is prepared it may be dealt with under sub-paragraph (a) above.

C. Tools and Plant

418-A To sanction detailed estimates for the purchase and manufacture of ordinary tools and plant upto Rs. 1,00,000.

419. In order that relief works may be started without delay in case of famine, Superintending Engineers are authorized to sanction and keep in readiness repair estimates for raising the bunds of tanks, but funds need not be provided until the works are actually repaired.

II. IRRIGATION WORKS

420. The following is a summary of the powers of a Superintending Engineer with regard to Irrigation works.

(a) Administrative Approval

	Rs.	P.
(1) 68. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, etc., works, works chargeable to capital accounts.	* 1,500	00
(2) XVII, Irrigation, Navigation etc., works—works for which capital accounts are kept—working expenses Extension and improvements.	* 7,500	00

(*) These powers should be exercised in consultation with the Collectors.

	Rs.	P.
(3) 18. Irrigation other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenue—works for which no capital accounts are kept—	7,500	00
(i) Original works (works and extensions and improvements)		
(ii) Miscellaneous expenditure—The power should not be exercised in any case unless there is specific budget appropriation for the purpose and the expenditure is non-recurring	* 1,500	00 in each case.
(4) Full contribution works—Original works. ..	7,500	00
(5) Tank restoration scheme works—Extension and improvements.	15,000	00
(b) Technical Sanction		
(1) 68. Works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept—Works chargeable to account capital	1,00,000	00
(2) XVII. Works for which capital/and Revenue Accounts are kept—Extensions and improvements	1,00,000	00
(3) 18. Works for which capital and Revenue accounts are not kept—Original works (works and extensions and improvements and miscellaneous expenditure)	1,00,000	00
(4) Full contribution works and repairs ..	1,00,000	00
(5) XVII and 18 Maintenance and repairs—		
Ordinary repairs ..		Full powers
Special repairs ..	1,00,000	00
(6) Tank Restoration Scheme works—Extensions and improvements	1,00,000	00
(7) Tools and Plants estimate charged to irrigation heads of account.	1,00,000	00

Note:—The limits fixed in (1) to (6) above are for “works” only and are exclusive of centage charges for Establishment and Tools and Plant etc.,

* (†) These powers should not be exercised unless there is budget provision specifically made for the purposes and expenditure is non-recurring.

(c) Excesses over estimates

Superintending Engineers may sanction excesses over estimates subject to the limits in paragraphs 417 (d) and 418 (d) subject also to the condition that in the case of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works for which Capital and Revenue Accounts are kept, the power can be exercised only so long as the total project estimate is not exceeded—*Vide* paragraph 398 and rule 24 of the rules issued by the Government of India in their letter No. I.R./39, dated 6th July 1929. He may however, transfer savings from any one portion of the project to another within rules issued by the Government of India in their letter No. I.R./39, dated 6th July 1929.

Note:—The actual expenditure in any particular year on sanctioned estimates, is, however, limited to the appropriation—*See* paragraph 101 (a) (ii) of the Tamilnadu Public Works Account Code.

III. PHOTOGRAPHIC CHARGES

421. Superintending Engineer may sanction photograph charges within the limits of budget provision.

Note:—In cases where the photographs taken are for completed works and for general purposes and not in the interest, of the works themselves, the charge should be debited to Establishment Contingencies.

IV. CONTRACTS

422. (i) To accept tenders for contracts for all original works and repairs upto the limit of the estimates sanctioned by competent authority plus such excess as he is competent to sanction under the provisions of paragraph 417(d). To execute contracts and piece-work agreement upto the same limit, provided they are drawn up in standard forms

(ii) To accept tenders for, contracts for Electrical Works.

(iii) To accept tenders for contracts for sanctioned original works and repairs upto the limit of the estimates sanctioned by the competent authority plus such excess as they are competent to sanction under paragraph 417 (d) of this code.

V. STORES

(a) Purchase, Manufacture and Repair.

423. (i) *General.*—To accord administrative approval to estimates for the purchase of tools and plant (not including livestock or office furniture) subject to a maximum expenditure of Rs. 5,000 for each estimate, and to order the purchase or manufacture of any stores required for the construction of a sanctioned work, subject to the conditions laid down in the Stores Rules.

Note:—Estimates for extensions and improvements and special repairs which owing to inclusion of items of substantial improvement would go either wholly or partly to increase the capital cost of staff boats, or boats for which rent or hire is payable should be submitted for sanction of Government irrespective of their cost but estimates for all other floating plant may be dealt with by the Superintendent Engineers upto a limit of Rs. 1,000.

The term "floating plant" does not include motor or steam launches for the purposes of this note.

(ii) *Office furniture.*—To sanction purchase of office furniture within the budget allotment subject to a maximum expenditure of Rs. 500 or each estimate.

(iii) *Indents*—To pass indents on other departments for articles required for sanctioned works, and to forward indents for European stores direct to the High Commissioner for India for any work within his powers of sanction. See the Stores Rules—Appendix 15 to the Madras Financial and Account Code, Volume II, issued by the Government of Madras.

(iv) *Repairs.*—To sanction estimates for repairs to tools and plant within the limits of the appropriation assigned to this circle.

(b) Disposal of Stores.

(i) To issue orders for the disposal of all unserviceable or surplus stores including stock, tools and plant, materials at site of works and materials received from works dismantled or undergoing repair; to write off the loss due to disposal of such articles (i.e. the difference between the book value of the articles and the amount realised by their disposal) when the total loss on all articles disposed of at a time and included in one survey report is Rs. 10,000 or less. Also to sanction the issue of any materials from store-yards to

private persons. Full value including storage charges, plus the usual charge of 10 per cent except when this charge is specially remitted under the provisions of paragraph 331 (a), when this can be done without inconvenience to the public service.

(ii) To writeoff famine tools that have been lost or become unserviceable.

(iii) A Superintending Engineer may deal finally with the disposal of any unserviceable floating plant subject to the proviso that the condemnation, sale or disposal otherwise of all staff boats, and of other vessels of which the original cost was Rs. 10,000 or more, should be made after the sanction of Government.

(c) Losses due to Depreciation.

To sanction estimate for losses due to depreciation of stock upto a limit of Rs. 10,000.

(d) Write off

To write off the irrecoverable value of stores or public money lost by fraud or the negligence of individuals or other causes, unprofitable-outlay on works and loss of revenue subject to a maximum limit of Rs. 300 in each case provided the loss does not disclose—

(i) A defect of system or in rules the amendment of which required the order of a higher authority; and

(ii) serious negligence on the part of some individual officer or officers which might possibly call for disciplinary action requiring the orders of a higher authority.

NOTE.—All sanctions to write off under this rules should be communicated to the Accountant-General.

(e) Sale and Dismantlement of Public Buildings.

(See paragraph 235)

(f) Losses in Manufacture.

To adjust losses in manufacture upto a limit of Rs. 500 in each case.

VI—POWERS OF RE-APPROPRIATION

424. The following are the powers of Superintending Engineers to re-appropriate funds—

I. Roads and Buildings 50 and 81. Civil Works—

- (a) Original works—Buildings;
Original works—Communications; and
Original works—Miscellaneous.

▲ Superintending Engineer may, within the funds allotted to the Circle re-appropriate funds from one work to another subject to the following conditions—

- (i) That the total of the amounts proposed to be re-appropriated from or to a single major work does not exceed Rs. 10,000;
- (ii) that in the case of resumptions, the head of the department concerned is informed of the fact explaining why it was not possible to spend the appropriation on the work in question;
- (iii) that no re-appropriation is made to a new major work or to a new minor work costing over Rs. 2,500 not provided for in the budget.
- (iv) that these appropriations are confined to works under the same minor head or department.
- (v) the re-appropriation does not involve a transfer of funds to a work or project which has not received the requisite administrative approval and technical sanction under the rules in this code or does not involve an appropriation of funds in excess of the amount of the estimate if technical sanction has been accorded;
- (vi) that the re-appropriation has not the effect of increasing the appropriation under a unit, which has been reduced by a higher authority; and
- (vii) that the re-appropriation has not the effect of increasing the total budget provision for minor works under a minor or department head under "50 Civil Works."

- (b) "Repairs" and "Tools and Plant"—No powers.

NOTE.—Lumpsum will be allotted by the Chief Engineer for each circle under the primary units under those heads. The Superintending Engineer should re-distribute the amounts under each primary unit among the several divisions under him.

(a) *Establishments*—No power except under the heads “Non—contract contingencies” and “Supplies and Services”. The exercise of the powers is subject to the condition that the re-appropriation does not involve the undertaking of a recurring liability.

(2) 68. Construction of irrigation, Navigations, Embankment and Drainage works for which Capital and Revenue accounts are kept and “Working expenses” under XVII—Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works for which capital accounts are kept—

A Superintending Engineer may re-appropriate funds within the same minor head provided that—

(i) the re-appropriation does not involve a transfer of funds from one project or system to another;

(ii) no re-appropriation of funds is made for the execution of any new work not provided for in the budget for the year;

(iii) the re-appropriation does not involve a transfer of funds to a work or project which has not received the requisite administrative approval and technical sanction under the rules in this Code or does not involve an appropriation of funds in excess of the amount of the estimate, if technical sanction has been accorded; and

(iv) that the re-appropriation has not the effect of increasing the appropriation under a unit, which has been reduced by a higher authority.

(3) 18. Other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenue:—

A Superintending Engineer may sanction re-appropriation of funds within the circle provided—

(i) that no re-appropriation is sanctioned from one minor head to another;

(ii) that the re-appropriation does not involve expenditure on new major works not provided for in the budget;

(iii) that the re-appropriation does not involve a transfer of funds to a work or project which has not received the requisite administrative approval and technical sanction under the rules in this Code or does not involve an appropriation of funds in excess of the amount of the estimate, if technical sanction has been accorded; and

(iv) that the re-appropriation has not the effect of increasing the appropriation under a unit, which has been reduced by a higher authority.

(4) Copies of all orders of re-appropriations sanctioned by Superintending Engineer, should be forwarded to the Finance Department through the Chief Engineer, and to the Accountant-General.

VII—MISCELLANEOUS POWERS

425. Rules and powers regarding the grant of advances of pay and travelling allowances, house-building advances, etc., and contingent expenditure will be found in the Tamil Nadu Financial Code Volume I.

426. Superintending Engineers of Circles are authorised to arrange with the Telegraph Engineering Department, on their own authority, for the establishment of telephone connections required as a temporary measure in connection with the execution of works, subject to the condition that the cost of the connections has been provided for in the sanctioned estimate for the works.

2. Superintending Engineers are authorised to incur expenditure in the employment of Watchman for supplying drinking water to this office staff from their office contingencies when the necessity for such expenditure arises.

427. Superintending Engineers may approve of alterations of the dates of birth entered in the service books of the non-gazetted establishments employed under them.

D—POWERS OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS

428. The following is a summary of the powers of a permanent Executive Engineer in-charge of a division. Officiating Executive Engineers in-charge of divisions are also empowered to exercise these powers provided the officiating period is likely to exceed three months. Once an officiating Executive Engineer has exercised these powers he will exercise them again whenever he acts as an Executive Engineer, whatever the period unless the powers have for any reason been expressly withdrawn.