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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 474 Press Mis.
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Dated 17-12- 1866.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
17th December 1866.

No. 27. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated 23rd November 1866, No. 3213.

Communicating, with remarks, the Local Fund Budget Estimates for 1867-68. } (Vide Proceedings, Revenue Department, dated 23rd November 1866, Nos. 577 & 578.)

No. 28. ORDER THEREON, 17th December 1866, No. 474.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd November 1866.

No. 577. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue:—

Submitting, with remarks, Local Fund Budget Estimates for 1867-68. } (Here enter 5th November 1866, No. — .)

No. 578. ORDER THEREON, 23rd November 1866, No. 3,213.

Local Funds, No. 13.
Account.

1. With these Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit the Budget Estimates of receipts and charges on account of the several Local Funds for 1867-68. Each of these Funds will be separately noticed.

2. *District Road Fund.*—The receipts under this head are estimated by the Board at Rupees 7,82,500, adding to which the expected balances (Rupees 87,700) of 1866-67, the amount available for expenditure, during the year, will be Rupees 8,70,200. The Board point out that the Collectors (with one exception) have not included in their respective estimates the proceeds of the Road Cess to be levied under Madras Act III. of 1866, and that the Budget will have to be revised when the necessary information is received from those Officers. The omission is no doubt owing to the circumstance that the orders for the introduction of the Act were issued only in October last. A supplemental Budget must be submitted as soon as possible, and meanwhile the estimate now before Government will be accepted, as the transmission of the Budgets to the Government of India cannot be delayed.

3. The expenditure proposed out of the above sum amounts to Rupees 7,85,325, as shewn in the subjoined table:—

	To be spent by the Public Works Department.	To be spent by the Revenue Department.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
New Works	2,41,437	1,32,713	3,74,150
Repairs	1,67,821	1,01,208	2,69,029
Establishments	40,925	22,970	63,895
Total ...	4,50,183	2,56,891	7,07,074
Reserve	.....	.....	78,251
Total ...	.....	.....	7,85,325

4. The Budget of Original Works comprises, as the Board observe, several which have not received the necessary sanction. The Board remark that in some districts, no estimates have ever been submitted for several works which were commenced before the Local Fund Rules were brought into operation, and have since been carried on under annual allotments. These grants could not well be avoided at first, but there has since been ample time for the preparation of the requisite plans and estimates for the unfinished portions. The Board will at once prepare lists of such works, and see that estimates, &c., are submitted without delay. There are several new works also which have not received sanction, and are nevertheless entered in the Budget. This is particularly the case in the districts noted in the margin, and the Government will be constrained to take effectual measures for the observance of their rules if they are again disregarded thus.

Kistna.
North Arcot.
South Arcot.

5. Another defect in the Budget, which the Board have also noticed, is the want of attention to the Order of Government that works already commenced should be pushed on as rapidly as possible. The Board remark that the residents of all the localities whence contributions are received to Local Funds, have a right to share in the benefit derivable from their expenditure, and as the District Road Fund will have a large addition of income next year by the introduction of Road Cess Act, they have not deemed it necessary to strike out any works. This plan of proceeding cannot, however, be adopted at the outset, or the limited funds at the disposal of Government would be frittered away on minute portions of numerous scattered works which would be in progress, and comparatively useless for years. As recently pointed out by Government in their Order, dated 10th October 1866, No. 2,736, "the proper course is to commence with the works most important "to the district at large, and as these are completed, to come gradually down to "mere village communications." With this view the Government resolve to revise the Budget now before them in those cases in which the principle has been altogether lost sight of, and to request the Board to follow this course in future.

6. VIZAGAPATAM.—The cost of the road from Narsapatam to Golcondah is estimated at Rupees 3,900, the computed expenditure up to 31st March next will be Rupees 582, and the proposed expenditure in 1867-68 is only Rupees 900 against Rupees 3,318, the amount required. At this rate this small work will not be completed for two or three years. The other work (Narsapatam to Thellapoliem) has not yet been commenced, and for it a provision of only Rupees 2,259 is made against the estimate of Rupees 18,230. The Board will take care that a more ample provision for these works is made in the supplemental Budget. The first indeed should be completed in 1867-68.

7. GODAVERY.—The road from Rajole to Makteshwaram, in the Godavery, must not be commenced until the plans and estimates have been sanctioned.

8. KISTNA.—The Budget of this district comprises fifteen new works. For only two of these have estimates been furnished, and in twelve cases the probable cost is not even stated. The proposed allotments will not be disturbed, but the Collector will be desired to procure and submit the requisite plans and estimates without delay, and to explain why they have not been submitted sooner. Meanwhile the works must not be commenced.

9. The estimate for the road from Datchapally to Goorjala (No. 23), amounting to Rupees 10,530, was sanctioned by Government in the Order dated 7th November 1866, No. 3,032. This road is described as "a portion of an important highway "by which the cotton and other produce of the Pulnad is brought to the coast. The "soil is chiefly black cotton of the worst possible description for traffic, and in the "month of September 1865, although then the height of the rainy season, not less "than 8,700 cart loads of goods passed across it." The Collector states also that Datchapally is on Trunk Road No. 7, "and that the road now proposed will con"nect Goorjala, one of the principal towns and the centre of the cotton country, "with this road, and place it in connection with the general communications of the "district." The allotment for this important line is only 6,000 Rupees, and the Government do not see why the work should be extended over two years.

10. The Item No. 16, Rupees 60,620, for a drainage channel from Lankapally to the Tidal Creek, is not chargeable to the District Road Fund. As pointed out in G. O. 2nd June 1865, No. 1,502, Public Works Department, it is partly Municipal and partly Imperial, and in neither respect can the Road Fund be charged with so heavy an expenditure. The Collector will be instructed, in conjunction with the Superintending Engineer, to submit proposals for the expenditure of the allotment of Rupees 20,000 in legitimate objects.

11. NELLORE.—The provision made for the road from Sangam to Kaligherry is not at all in accordance with the views expressed by the Board in their Proceedings, dated 31st August 1866, No. 6,207. The estimate for this road amounts to Rupees 19,680. The Board remarked that the work has already been commenced, and that Rupees 2,943 were expended on it up to the end of 1865-66. They supported the recommendation of the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, and the Collector, that the sum of Rupees 1,800, provided in the Budget for 1866-67 for two other roads,* the estimates for which were not likely to be ready for some time, should be appropriated for this road on the ground of its being a desirable work, and the proposal was sanctioned† by Government. The Board further remarked that "as ample pro"vision as the funds will allow should "be made for the completion of the Sangum road in the Local Fund Budgets of "1867-68 and 1868-69."

* Kaligiri, Zaldanki and Thanah road. Road from Dornal to Oodiagherry.

† Order dated 10th September 1866, No. 2,424.

12. The Government are surprised that, notwithstanding these instructions, the computed expenditure up to the end of the current official year is entered at Rupees 2,943, whence it would appear that no work is to be done during 1866-67, and that the provision made for 1867-68 is only Rupees 3,000. The Collector will be called upon to explain whether no work has been done during the current year, and the allotment for 1867-68 will be doubled. The road from Somaishweram to Nellore (No. 26), which has not yet been commenced, and the estimate for which has not yet received sanction, will be struck out, and if sanctioned, may be entered in the supplemental Budget.

	Estimate.	Computed. Expenditure	Allotment.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Alur and Iskapully Road (No. 27) ...	24,190	15,766	2,000
From Dornal to Oodiagherry (No. 28)	11,440	2,200	2,000
Narrain-reddipett to Nurkoor. ...	1,300	141	500

13. The provision made for the three other roads noted in the margin is very inadequate, and will be raised to 5,000 Rupees in each of the two first, and to the full amount (Rupees 1,159) in the third.

14. KURNOOL.—The allotment for the road from Cumbum to Markapoor will be raised from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,500, leaving the balance at Rupees 74, instead of Rupees 2,574, as shewn by the Board. This work, and the road from Nundicotkoor to Bairlooty should be pushed on with the proceeds of the Road Cess when introduced.

15. MADRAS.—The Madras Budget contains only two works, and estimates have not been submitted for either. Explanation of this omission will be required from the Collector.

16. North Arcot.—The provision made for this road, as shewn in thee margin, is very inadequate. At this rate it will take five years to complete the line. The want of sufficient means cannot be admitted as an excuse for such dilatory proceedings as in North Arcot ample funds are available, but the Collector instead of so apportioning them as to complete within a resonable time the important works already undertaken, and for some time under execution, proposes to commence others, for which even the estimates are not ready. The assignment will be raised to 10,000 Rupees, leaving Rupees 5,000 to be provided in 1868-69 for the completion of the line. This alteration will be made good by striking out the works noted in the magin, and reducing the provision for Minor Works from Rupees 5,000 to Rupees 4,000. None of the new works for which estimates have not been submitted are to be commenced, until these have been approved by Government or the Board.

Road from Cunnamungalum to Polur.

	Rs.
Estimate	32,000
Computed expenditure	17,063
Allotment	3,000

	Rs.
Wandiwash to Myúr	1,050
Vencatagiricottah to Kistnapuram ...	1,000
Chittúr to Argonda with a branch from Patnam to Iral	2,000
From Trunk Road No. 10, near Trivellum, to the Junction of Powney Road at Lalapet...	1,000
From do. do. No. I near Vanian Choultry to Poondy	1,000

17. The Budget contains no less than six works now in progress, on which Rupees 65,000 will have been spent by the end of this year without the submission of plans or estimates. The Collector will be required to state immediately when these will be submitted, and why they have been so long delayed.

18. South Arcot.—In this district four small fresh works are proposed. The amounts of the estimates under preparation and the allotment for each are shewn in the margin. The works, small as they are, will thus occupy more than one year in completion in the case of Nos. 1 and 2, and four years in that of Nos. 3 and 4. No. 3 will be struck out, and may be provided for in next year's Budget. The full sums of the remaining three will be entered as the allotment for 1867-68, so that the works may be completed in that year. The total revised allotment amounts to Rupees 10,900 against Rupees 6,500, the aggregate of the sums passed by the Board. The excess of Rupees 4,400 will be taken from the balance of Rupees 5,890.

	Estimate. Rs.	Allotment. Rs.
No. 1. From 5th mile of Mannargudy road to Shennur	2,500	1,500
No. 2. From 4th mile of Chellambram and Mannargudy road to Shevaratampet ...	4,400	2,000
No. 3. From Laulpet to Kuduvali...	8,000	2,000
No. 4. From Tittagudi to Trunk Road No. 8.	4,000	1,000

19. Tanjore and Trichinopoly.—The Tanjore and Trichinopoly Budgets call for no remark.

20. Madura.—The allotment of Rupees 3,111 for the road on the Andipatty pass is very inadequate. The estimate amounts to Rupees 22,700, and the computed expenditure up to the end of the current year will be no more than Rupess 5,200. At this rate the work will be in progress for between five and six years. The Board

will endeavour to arrange for a sufficient amount being provided for this road from the surplus of the Pound Fund.

21. Coimbatore.—No remark.

22. Salem.—The small amount required to complete several of the works in this district should be provided, if possible, during the year.

23. South Canara.—In this district three of the four works entered have not yet been estimated for. They cannot be commenced till the estimates have been sanctioned.

24. Malabar.—The provision made for the roads noted below is exceedingly small :—

		Estimate.	Computed expenditure up to 1866-67.	Allotment for 1867-68.
		Rs.		Rs.
No. 88	From Quilandi viâ Ulliri to Tambracherry	22,413	.....	2,500
,, 91	From Manjiri viâ Pandicod and Malatoor to two miles west of Manar, on the Mundur road	11,780	.....	3,250
,, 92	From Angaudipooram to Wundoor as far as Warumpooram Angady ...	18,000	.....	8,000

	Rs.
* Cannanore to Kamarkana	1,500
Pudiangadi viâ Edakad, Kokotri Bridge to Kokallur Amshom ...	2,500
Bawalli road to the Coorg frontier	2,000
Koottiandy viâ Korat to Teriot road	2,000
Total ...	8,000
	7,750
† No. 88	5,000
,, 91	9,000
,, 92	

The other works* for which estimates are not ready will be struck out, and the allotment for the three works noted above will be raised to the extent shewn in the margin.† Further funds can be provided if desirable in the supplemental Budget. No works are to be commenced until plans and estimates are submitted, as required by the rules.

25. In concluding their review of this part of the Budget, the Government must call upon the Board to see in future that Collectors are not neglecting their important duty in connection with the proper outlay of these funds, and to ensure the Budget being prepared and submitted as the rules and orders of Government prescribe.

26. The portion of the Budget which provides for "Miscellaneous Public Improvement," needs remark. The sums entered for Municipal contributions will not be required now that the Municipal Act has been introduced very generally.

27. The assignments for tanks and wells, and eradicating prickly-pear, must be contingent on the people interested in these works contributing an equal sum at least.

28. Improving the port of Barcoor, in South Canara, is not a charge on the Road Fund.

29. The entry of Rupees 3,000 for "planting trees" in Malabar should have no place in the District Road Fund Budget, unless these trees are to form avenues.

30. The Government observe that in most districts the duty of keeping the roads in repair is almost entirely thrown on the Public Works Department, and as in the largest number of cases no professional skill is required in executing them, they do not understand why the greater portion of the repairs cannot be superintended by the Revenue Department, the professional department being thus relieved of petty work, and having more leisure for important works requiring professional skill. In the districts* noted in the margin the repairs are altogether transferred to the Public Works Department, and in others† the sum to be spent by the Revenue Department is out of all reasonable proportion to that allotted for expenditure by the Public Works Department. The Government observe that in two districts‡ it is found practicable to have extensive repairs performed by the Revenue Department. The Board will see to this matter in future.

* Nellore. Bellary. Cuddapah. Kurnool.

	Public Works Dept.	Revenue Dept.
† Godavery ... Rs.	10,100	3,900
Kistna ... ... ,,	13,700	5,950
Madras ... ... ,,	4,200	2,800
South Arcot.... ,,	43,000	50
Coimbatore ... ,,	20,828	1,000
Malabar ... ,,	32,830	3,087

	Extent of Repairs.
‡ Madura ... ... Rs.	15,166
Salem ... ... ,,	33,330

31. The sum of 700 Rupees entered in Trichinopoly for improving the supplying channels of the fort tanks and improving the fort drainage is chargeable to the Municipality, and should be struck out.

32. As regards the opinion expressed by the Board in paragraph 11, the Public Works Department will, except in very special cases, provide from their General Establishments for the *superintendence* of Local Fund works as a set off for the ten per cent. deducted from Local Funds and carried to the Imperial credit, but "Petty" establishments for the execution of work when necessary must be provided by the Road Fund, as contemplated in Rule 22 of the Road Fund Rules.

33. The "District Road Fund" Budgets, as now revised, will be transferred to the Public Works Department for incorporation with the "Local Funds Budget."

34. The estimated receipts and charges on account of the other Funds noted in the margin are passed. The Government have recently issued orders about utilizing Jungle Conservancy Funds to the utmost possible extent, and they need not repeat them now. The expenditure of this Fund for avenues, as proposed in paragraph 14 of the Board's Proceedings is irregular, and should be avoided in future.

	Probable amount available.	Proposed expenditure.
	RS.	RS.
Jungle Conservancy Fund...	1,99,459	1,56,826
Cattle Pound Fund ...	2,61,753	1,77,009
Public Bungalow Fund...	49,994	20,032
Endowment Fund... ...	3,07,075	2,20,888
Town Fund, Madura ...	17,669	8,000
Irrigation Cess Fund in Trichinopoly and Coimbatore	62,073	52,108

35. The Pound Fund balances are very large in the Godavery, Kistna, Bellary, and Madura Districts, and proposals for their speedy utilization should be submitted.

36. The Board will in future enter round sums in these Budget Estimates as much as possible. This rule does not appear to have been attended to at all in the estimates which form the subject of this Order, and its neglect causes much useless trouble.

37. Copies of the several Budgets will be furnished to the Accountant General.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.
,, the Public Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Financial Dept

Dist of Surg. 69

Poor Govt Rev Dept
No 3213

2/23 Nov
& 17th Dec. 1866.

No 485

Coming with remark
the Local Fund
Budget Estimates
for 1867/68.
17 Dec. 1866 No 474.

Recorded

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