Local & Munl. (1895) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1480 Dn.

DATED 12th September 1895

[Despatch Abstract.]

Municipal Accounts.

Recording, with remarks, report on the audit of the Madras
-------for 1894-95.

BACK PAPERS.

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

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Mad: Accounts

Recording, in the remarks, report on the Audit of the Madras —— for 1894-95

G.O.

AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED 20th July 1915
18 . No. 1146-M. (Cir type) A.

BACK PAPER, No. OF 18

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ENCLOSURES

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 20th July 1894, Mis. No. 1146 M., Local and Municipal.

Read—the following paper:—

From F. C. HARRISON, Esq., C.S., Officiating Accountant-General, Madras, and L. E. PRITCHARD, Esq., Inspector of Local Fund Accounts, to the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Fort St. George, 9th July 1895, No. 161-L.F.D.

We have the honour to submit, in accordance with section 14 of Madras Act, VII of 1884, our Annual Report on the audit of the accounts of the Madras Municipality for the official year 1894–95.

2. The audit was conducted month after month, in the manner described in paragraph 2 of the report on the audit of the accounts for 1887–88; and a monthly report of our audit was forwarded to you under section 95 of Act I of 1884.

3. To ensure the punctual preparation of this report, it is desirable that the annual statements of receipts and charges with those of demand, collection and balance should, in future, be furnished for audit by the *first* week of June. This year they were not received until the 28th June 1895.

4. The total receipts and disbursements of the municipality during the year under report, together with the opening and closing balances, are given below:—

Receipts.	Amount.			Disbursements.	Amount.		
	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.
Opening balance	2,49,715	6	5	Grant I. Public Works	4,76,749	7	4
I. Taxation	9,67,692	3	3	,, II. Education	8,468	0	6
II. Rents	2,47,086	2	2	,, III. Sanitation and Medical services	3,26,390	7	8
III. Contributions	35,192	4	1	,, IV. Miscellaneous Municipal purposes	1,56,317	2	10
IV. Miscellaneous	24,977	3	5	,, V. Supervision and Management.	94,794	5	0
Debt	32,107	12	3	,, VI. Pension	5,905	14	0
Suspense	3,288	2	3	Repayment of debts, &c.	1,76,084	8	0
				Refunds	10,709	0	11
				Suspense	13,315	4	7
				Closing balance	*2,91,324	15	0
Total	15,60,059	1	10	Total	15,60,059	1	10

	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
* Balance as per pass book of the Bank of Madras						
Deduct—						
(*a*) Amount of cheques not cashed on 31st March 1895	23,864	10	6			
(*b*) Renewal fees, &c., credited in pass book, but owing to its late receipt of advices in the office omitted to be taken in the municipal cash book	8	0	0			
				23,872	10	6
Add—						
(*a*) Collections of 31st March 1895 remitted to the Bank of Madras in April following	12,614	11	0			
(*b*) Amount of fixed deposits	2,00,000	0	0			
(*c*) Bank's commission on a foreign cheque short-credited in the Bank's pass book	0	4	0			
				2,12,614	15	0
				2,91,324	15	0

RECEIPTS.

5. The following remarks are offered in connection with receipt items :—

(*a*) The sanction of Government to the scale of fees for extracts from the register of births and deaths has not as yet been obtained as promised in reply to this office objection statement for September 1894, item No. 2.

(*b*) *Composition fee for tolls.*—In the objection statement for September 1894 item No. 3, it was pointed out that the composition fee for tolls with persons living outside the municipal limits was subject to the sanction of the Standing Committee under section 175, clause 2 of the Act. The President, however, contends that that sanction is requisite only when toll collections are made by departmental agency.

(*c*) The following instalment amounts due from the respective renters on the dates specified against each, were pending receipt until about the close of June 1895 :—

Name of renter.	Amount. Rs.	A.	P.	When payable.
P. Theroovengada Pillai for grazing Esplanade.	132	8	0	1st Oct. 1894.
Do. do.	132	8	0	1st Jan. 1895.
Y. Ramasawmy Mudali for stalls in General Market	2,467	8	0	1st Oct. 1894.
Do. do.	2,467	8	0	1st Jan. 1895.

6. *Demand, Collection and Balance Statement.*—(*a*) Balances as follow were due on 31st March 1895 from the Commissioners named on account of the taxes specified :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(1) The Honourable P. Rungiah Naidu—			
House, &c., taxes	129	13	4
Water-supply	32	2	7
	161	15	11
(2) Mr. W. S. Vencataramanjulu Naidu—			
House, &c., taxes	27	11	2
Water-supply	12	8	10
	40	4	0
(3) Surgn.-Lieut.-Col H. D. Cook—			
Profession tax	75	8	0
Total ..	277	11	11

(*b*) The remissions granted in April and May 1895 were shown included with those sanctioned in the previous year—*vid* profession tax bill No. 632 of second half of 1894–95 for Rs. 37–8–0. This is incorrect. Only remissions granted in 1895 should affect the accounts of that year.

(*c*) Interlineations and alterations affecting the assessments as originally entered in the demand registers were found to have been attested by clerks instead of by the Revenue Officer himself.

(*d*) The demand registers were not closed and signed by the Revenue Officer to admit of the verification of the demands as therein entered with those in the demand, collection and balance statement accompanying the annual statements.

(*e*) In the register of remissions on account of tax on arts, &c., the Revenue Officer should initial all the entries in the separate column provided for the purpose.

EXPENDITURE.

7. In the following cases expenditure in excess of the revised estimate was incurred and has not yet received the sanction of Government :—

Head of Account.	As per revised estimate. Rs.	A.	P.	As per total expenditure. Rs.	A.	P.	Excess. Rs.	A.	P.
Grant III—									
1. Hospitals and Dispensaries—									
(i) Medicines and supplies	6,000	0	0	6,731	4	6	731	4	6
2. (*a*) Contributions to Provincial funds—									
(ii) Medical College	2,000	0	0	6,272	0	0	4,272	0	0
4. Registration of births and deaths—									
(*c*) Contingencies, stationery, clothing, &c.	1,200	0	0	1,240	5	1	40	5	1
5. Conservancy—									
(*e*) Night-soil depôts and sheets establishment	790	0	0	808	10	2	18	10	2
(*h*) Rent of Lorry stations, &c.	520	0	0	540	5	1	20	5	1
(*m*) Repair of carts, boats and buckets	7,800	0	0	9,598	10	3	1,798	10	3
6. Miscellaneous—									
(*b*) Printing charges	700	0	0	705	3	6	5	3	6
(*c*) Office furniture	100	0	0	107	9	2	7	9	2
Grant IV—									
2. (*c*) Slaughter-house establishment	890	0	0	895	10	4	5	10	4
4. Public Parks—									
(*a*) People's Park tools and plant	200	0	0	233	10	2	33	10	2
7. Other charges—									
(*c*) Municipal Proceedings, &c., charges—printing ..	2,250	0	0	2,298	11	8	48	11	8
Grant V—									
2. Head office—									
(*e*) Insurance on Municipal premises	520	0	0	535	12	0	15	12	0
(*f*) Office furniture	230	0	0	303	5	10	73	5	10
3. Assessment and collection—									
(*e*) Printing charges	2,870	0	0	3,059	2	8	189	2	8
(*g*) Contingent ,, ...	1,020	0	0	1,388	7	6	368	7	6
Refund of other than current collections	10,500	0	0	10,709	0	0	209	0	0

8. Errors of the following kinds were pointed out in the monthly objection statements and generally rectified :—

(*a*) Delays in check-measurements.
(*b*) Excess payments.
(*c*) Want of payees' receipts.
(*d*) Errors in classification.
(*e*) Entertainment of temporary establishment without Government sanction.
(*f*) Delays in discharging claims.
(*g*) Payment of claims not provided for in the budget without obtaining Government sanction.
(*h*) Want of leave statements.
(*i*) Want of President's sanction.
(*j*) Want of Standing Committee's sanction.
(*k*) Want of Government sanction.
(*l*) Want of budget provision.
(*m*) Non-scheduled items not marked "N.S." by the countersigning officer.
(*n*) Delay in the adjustment of advances.
(*o*) Want of vouchers.
(*p*) Want of one-anna receipt stamps.
(*q*) Want of sanctioned requisition memorandum.
(*r*) Excess over budget provision.
(*s*) Alterations unattested.

9. The following charges call for notice :—

(*a*) The charges incurred for printing service books have not been recovered from the officers of the municipality, although such books are under Article 881 of the Civil Service Regulations supplied to officers of Government at their own cost.

(*b*) There were now and then delays in the submission of claims which, in consequence, had in some cases to be paid in the year following. Steps should be taken to prevent this as far as possible.

(*c*) Temporary establishments were sometimes maintained in the Public Works Department without the requisite provision in the budget and without Government sanction—*vide* vouchers Nos. 1674 and 3797 of August and December 1894, for Rs. 58 and Rs. 43–13–11, respectively. It was

stated in reply to our objection statements for those months, that the establishments would be provided for in the revised estimate. But additions to the establishment require the *previous* sanction of Government.

ADVANCES.

10. The following is a statement of the year's transactions :—

Particulars.	General Fund.	Water Works Fund.	Lighting Fund.	Total.
	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Opening balance	82,447 9 5	..	3 13 5	82,451 6 10
Add—				
Advance made during the year	70,197 5 11	..	5,613 11 0	75,811 0 11
Total ..	1,52,644 15 4	..	5,617 8 5	1,58,262 7 9
Deduct—				
Advances recovered	65,183 14 9	..	599 15 10	65,783 14 7
Total outstanding ..	87,461 0 7	..	5,017 8 7	92,478 9 2

A statement of particulars of the outstanding balance under advances is appended.

11. The permanent advances allowed to the several departments aggregate Rs. 75,725–7–6 against Rs. 75,561–15–0 of the previous year. This increase of Rs. 163–8–6 is made up thus :—

	RS.	A.	P.
(*a*) Increase in the outlay in the permanent advance held by the Engineer, Public Works Department	150	0	0
(*b*) Permanent advance allowed to the Special Engineer Mr. Ellis	10	0	0
(*c*) Permanent advance allowed to the Revenue Officer ..	5	12	0
	165	12	0
Deduct—			
(*d*) Decrease in the permanent advance allowed to the Health Officer	2	3	6
	163	8	6

12. The total amount outstanding under "Advances" may be classified as under :—

	RS.	A.	P.
(i) Permanent advances (1 to 9) in the appended statement.	75,725	7	6
(ii) Advances recoverable balances of recurring advances (10 to 26)	8,864	7	5
(iii) Old advances (27 to 36)	3,287	6	8
(iv) New advances (37 to 70)	4,601	3	7
Total ..	92,478	9	2

13. *Class* (i).—Particulars of the amount shown against this class will be found furnished in statement III.

Out of the advance of Rs. 160 shown against the Engineer, Public Works Department, the Supervisors of the North and South ranges and the Assistant Mechanical Engineer have each been allowed to hold Rs. 50, but as the outlay incurred therefrom by those officers did not exceed Rs. 20 each on an average monthly, it would seem to be possible to reduce their imprests.

Class (ii).—The large increase under this class is due to—

(*a*) the debits from time to time against P. Munisawmy Mudali, the lighting contractor, of Rs. 5,017–8–7 on default and on execution of lighting work by other contractors—*vide* item No. 20.

(*b*) The debits against the conservancy contractor Erusappa Pillai on default and on execution of conservancy work by other contractors—*vide* item No. 15.

(*c*) The delay in the adjustment of the payments made to contractor P. Dasarathi Naidu to whom payment of Rs. 2,063–5–9 was made in advance, pending scrutiny of his bills in the Public Works Department.

Class (iii).—*Old advances*—*Item* 27.—Steps appear to have been taken to adjust the amount shown against this item.

Items 28, 29 *and* 36.—The amounts shown against these items may be written off under competent sanction if they are found to be irrecoverable. A statement giving the history of each item should be submitted to Government through this office. Early steps should be taken for the recovery of the amounts shown against the remaining items.

(*d*) *Class IV* (*a*)—*New advances*.—The number of items under this class increased largely during the year under report. The increase was chiefly due to the Public Works Department executing works of drainage, &c., on default of parties concerned.

(*b*) *Item* 44.—A sum of Rs. 190 was advanced to the Health officer in November and December 1894 for procuring scavengers from Nellore. Out of this sum, only Rs. 33–2–0 was accounted for by refund in cash and the balance remains unexplained.

A further sum of Rs. 10 was advanced to the Health officer to meet incidental charges in connection with the arrest of one Linghi Chetty, a defaulting contractor, but has not yet been adjusted.

DEPOSITS.

14. The following is an abstract of the year's transactions under deposits :—

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
In cash	65,423	14	11			
In fixed deposits	48,091	0	9			
In municipal debentures	10,000	0	0			
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants	70,300	0	0			
Sinking fund investments	2,57,400	0	0			
				4,51,214	15	8
Add—receipts during the year—						
In cash	2,25,592	1	7			
In fixed deposits	20,354	8	0			
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants ..	13,500	0	0			
Sinking fund investments	31,900	0	0			
				2,91,346	9	7
				7,42,561	9	3
Deduct—payments—						
In cash	2,37,202	1	1			
In fixed deposits	3,250	0	0			
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants ..	17,900	0	0			
				2,58,352	1	1
Closing balance on 31st March 1895				4,84,209	8	2

The above closing balance, which is exclusive of the sum of Rs. 7,40,500 invested on account of the Government loan for water-works of 1869–73, is made up of the several sums detailed hereunder :—

Kinds of deposit.	In cash.	In fixed deposits.	In Government Promissory notes.	In debentures.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Contractors and municipal servants.	28,938 8 0	65,195 8 9	65,900 0 0	10,000 0 0	1,70,034 0 9
2. Sinking fund investments	428 12 7	..	2,89,300 0 0	..	2,89,728 12 7
3. Workshop	9,190 7 2	..	..	..	9,190 7 2
4. Deposits on account of house service.	600 0 0	..	..	..	600 0 0
5. Composition of tolls	955 0 0	..	..	..	955 0 0
6. Stores	7,172 1 9	..	..	..	7,172 1 9
7. Suspense	585 15 8	..	..	..	585 15 8
8. Income tax	247 6 8	..	..	..	247 6 8
9. Sale-proceeds of distrained property.	31 11 6	..	..	..	31 11 6
10. Other miscellaneous deposits ..	5,664 0 1	..	..	..	5,664 0 1
Total ..	53,813 15 5	65,195 8 9	3,55,200 0 0	10,000 0 0	4,84,209 8 2

15. The amount shown as balance in the cash column is less than that shown in the bank pass book by Rs. 1,244–13–5, which is accounted for as follows :—

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Collections on the 29th and 30th March 1895 included in the cash book balance, but paid into the Bank subsequently ..	12,654 8 3	
Deduct uncashed cheques and transfer orders issued and debited in the cash book, but not adjusted in the pass book.	13,366 3 11	
	— 711 11 8	
Deduct credits in the pass book on the 28th and 30th March 1895 on account of magisterial fines, &c., but not advised till the close of that month	533 1 9	
Difference ..	1,244 13 5	

16. Of these balances, the following call for remarks :—

(*a*) *Item* 4.—Amounts included in this item so far as they relate to finished works should be adjusted to the credit of municipal funds.

(*b*) *Item* 5.—This amount is payable to the toll-contractor on his application for the same.

(*c*) *Item* 7.—This represents the advance collection of taxes adjustable to the service heads concerned during the year 1895–96.

(*d*) *Item* 9.—The amounts included in this item should be credited to No. I Account if proper claimants are not forthcoming.

(*e*) *Item* 10.—There are several items under this head, the adjustment of which should be expedited.

17. Besides the above the following item awaits early adjustment in the deposit account :—

Rs. 5–8–0, being the undisbursed pay of a burial and burning ground peon for February 1894, was transferred to deposits in April 1894, which was irregular. The amount in question should have been short drawn in the next month's bill.

Sinking Fund Investments.—The investments in Government securities on account of the several sinking funds are as follow :—

——	Up to 31st March 1895.	During the year 1894–95.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Water-works loan of 1869–73	7,13,200	27,300	7,40,500
Market loan of 1879	6,300	600	6,900
Water-supply extension loan of 1882	73,400	7,700	81,100
Drainage loan of 1882	29,400	3,000	32,400
Do. of 1883	76,000	8,900	84,900
Do. of 1885	54,200	8,000	62,200
Do. of 1887	4,900	800	5,700
Do. of 1888	6,300	1,200	7,500
Do. of 1889	5,000	1,200	6,200
Water-works loan of 1889	600	200	800
Black Town drainage loan of 1890	1,300	300	1,600
Total ..	9,70,600	59,200	10,29,800

18. *Stores.*—The standing advance of Rs. 65,000 allowed for the working of the Store department is accounted for as follows :—

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Opening balance on the 1st April 1894 in the Bank of Madras			12,782 5 3
Add—credits during the year			18,187 6 5
Total ..			30,969 11 8
Deduct—debits during the year			23,797 9 11
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895 ..			7,172 1 9
Add—			
(i) Value of stock as per stock book ..	56,221 1 5		
(ii) Value of articles paid for, but not brought to store account ..	320 14 0		
(iii) Value of stores issued to several departments, but not adjusted on 31st March 1895	2,262 0 9		
		58,804 0 2	
		65,976 1 11	
Deduct—			
(iv) Value of articles received from the supplier, but not paid for ..	878 2 3		
(v) Railway charges incurred by workshop for boiler tubes, &c. ..	24 2 0		
(vi) Railway charges paid to Messrs. Taylor and Sons' hydrants ..	15 9 0		
(vii) Value of articles received from several departments remaining unadjusted on 31st March 1895.	58 4 8		
		976 1 11	
Total ..		65,000 0 0	

19. (*a*) The amount shown against item (ii) represents the value of a hydrant with tariff duty paid on the 9th and 11th March 1895. But it was not taken into the store books within the year, since the entire value of the article including landing, cart hire, &c., charges could not be ascertained.

(*b*) *Item* (iii).—This will need to be adjusted in the accounts of April 1895.

(*c*) *Item* (iv).—This was not adjusted within the year as the supplier did not submit his bill for payment.

(*d*) *Items* (v) *and* (vi).—These amounts were paid by the workshop in July and August 1894, respectively, and might have been adjusted at once. The circumstances under which they still remain unadjusted should be explained.

(*e*) *Item* (vii).—This should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

20. The result of the stock-taking of the municipal stores was communicated on the 8th June 1895. The valuation thus arrived at was in excess of the value of the stock as shown in the books by Rs. 522–6–11. The difference was explained to be due to a rise in the value of scrap iron, &c., during the year. The requisite adjustments in support have been made in the accounts of the year.

21. *Workshop.*—The standing advance of Rs. 10,000 allowed for the working of this institution is accounted for as follows :—

				Rs.	A.	P.
Opening balance in the Bank on 1st April 1894				13,465	11	4
Add—credits during the year				55,185	13	1
		Total		68,651	8	5
Deduct—debits during the year				59,461	1	3
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895				9,190	7	2
Add—the following :—						
(i) Value of outturn of work by workshop in March 1895 awaiting adjustment			6,513	0	3	
(ii) Incomplete jobs			964	8	10	
(iii) Value of articles paid for, but not brought to account			117	1	5	
(iv) Standing advance with the foreman			30	0	0	
				7,624	10	6
				16,815	1	8
Deduct—the following :—						
(v) Cost of workshop establishment for March 1895			171	8	6	
(vi) Cost of muster roll for March 1895			6,286	6	3	
(vii) Undisbursed wages			313	1	7	
(viii) Value of articles received from contractor, but not paid for			44	1	4	
				6,815	1	8
		Total		10,000	0	0

22. (*a*) *Items* 1 *and* 3.—These should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

(*b*) *Item* 7.—This should have been adjusted against the works concerned before the close of the official year.

(*c*) *Item* 8.—This should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

23. The orders of Government are solicited on the following points :—

(*a*) Voucher No. 4064 for Rs. 31-12-0 (January 1895) being the annual subscription paid in advance for a copy of the "sanitary record" and a copy of "public health" for the use of the Health officer. The charge was met from the lump allotment in the budget for "contingencies." Either special provision for the charge should have been made or the sanction of Government obtained—*vide* article 98 (*c*) of the Civil Account Code.

(*b*) No lists of persons liable to taxation for the pursuit of offensive and dangerous trades appear to have been prepared, and omissions to take out licenses for these trades cannot consequently be detected.

The President remarks on this point as follows :—

"There has not been such practice hitherto as no complete list could be possibly prepared in the course of the year. The preparation of a list at the commencement of the year, which must necessarily be incomplete and the revision of it from time to time as circumstances arise, would interfere with the legitimate duties of the overseers and involve additional clerical work without appreciable advantage."

The list might be gradually written up and made as complete as possible and form a demand register as in district municipalities.

(*c*) Lands were purchased for extending certain burial and burning grounds without the sanction of Government, under the impression that such sanction was not needed in case of extensions. Section 392 of the Act does not speak of extensions, and the point is perhaps open to doubt and is referred for the orders of Government.

24. The following is a summary of the more important matters to which this report draws attention :—

	Paragraph
(i) The scale of fees for extracts from births and deaths register not approved by Government	5 (*a*)
(ii) Composition fees for tolls not sanctioned by the Standing Committee	5 (*b*)
(iii) Non-payment of taxes by certain Commissioners	6 (*a*)
(iv) Expenditure in excess of revised estimate not sanctioned by Government	7
(v) The cost of service books not recovered from the municipal employés	9 (*a*)
(vi) Want of previous sanction of Government for the entertainment of temporary establishments	9 (*c*)
(vii) Remarks on advances	10—13
(viii) Remarks on deposits	16 and 17
(ix) Sanction of Government not obtained for the purchase of periodicals	23 (*a*)
(x) List of persons carrying on offensive and dangerous trades not maintained	23 (*b*)
(xi) Sanction of Government not obtained for the extension of burial and burning grounds	23 (*c*)

25. The slight delay in the submission of this report is due to the late receipt of statements from the municipality.

No. L.F.D.-162.

Copy forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, Fort St. George.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th July* 1895.

(Signed) F. C. HARRISON,
Offg. Accountant-General.

Order—dated 20th July 1895, Mis. No. 1146 M., Local and Municipal.

The Government will await the remarks of the Commissioners.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

READ—also the following paper :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. J. MOORE, C.I.E., President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 9th August 1895, No. 522-R.

With reference to G.O., No. 1146 M., Mis. (Local and Municipal), dated 20th July last, I have the honour to submit the following remarks and explanations on the report of the auditors of the accounts of this municipality for 1894-95, the paragraphs heading them being those of the report :—

Paragraph 3.—All endeavours have been and will be made to ensure punctuality. Delays chiefly occur where differences arise in the result-figures of the numerous registers and accounts maintained in adjusting such differences.

Paragraph 5 (*a*).—The scale of fees has been sanctioned by G.O., No. 1076 M., Mis., dated 8th July 1895.

Paragraph 5 (*b*)—*Composition fee of tolls.*—To the farmer of tolls all powers of collection, including that of compounding, were delegated. For the convenience of toll-payers, the farmer authorized the President to compound with them on his behalf, as the lessee, and got credit for all fees thereby realized. The Standing Committee whom I consulted concurred with me in the conclusion that their sanction under section 175 of the Municipal Act was not required under the circumstances.

Paragraph 5 (*c*).—Civil suits have been instituted against the defaulting renters for recovery of the arrears.

Paragraph 6—*Demand, Collection and Balance Statement* (*a*).—The Commissioners have been addressed several times in this connection.

(*b*) All remissions intended to be granted in 1894–95 were entered up and included in the statistics for that year. Some of them, owing to other emergent work, were delayed being formally sanctioned till April, and none extended to May 1895.

(*c*) No interlineation or alteration is made in these registers, without the previous authority in writing of the President or the Revenue officer which is recorded either on the application itself or in the appeal report book and copied into the registers by the clerks who affix their initials to the entry.

(*d*) These registers have been signed as soon as the progressive totals originally made in pencil were verified and inked.

(*e*) This is similar to (*c*).

Paragraph 7, *Expenditure*.—Formal sanction will be obtained to the excesses in due course after the Standing Committee and the Commissioners have passed them. This is done in all annual statements.

Paragraph 9 (*a*).—It has all along been the practice to supply the employés with service books free of charge, the cost thereof being comparatively trifling.

Paragraph 9 (*b*).—This is done.

Paragraph 9 (*c*).—It would be practically impossible to wait for the sanction of Government in all these cases. Some latitude should be allowed to the President as recognized by the Commissioners in the following resolution passed at their meeting on 31st October 1890:—

"That the President be authorized to enter in the revised estimate under Grant I a suitable sum to meet any establishment that may be required which is not provided for in the budget to meet emergencies."

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*i*).—The standing advance to the Assistant Mechanical Engineer will be reduced to Rs. 20 as also to each of the 4 supervisors, as suggested.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*a*).—A civil suit has been instituted for recovery hereof.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*b*), *Item* 15.—These are being recovered by monthly instalments.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*c*).—This advance will be adjusted as soon as all the works towards which it was made are completed.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 27.—These items are mostly irrecoverable and will be written off on further scrutiny.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 28.—This debt arose from failure in payment of amount for which certain rubbish depôts were leased. A decree was obtained against the defaulter who has nearly wiped it off by imprisonment, the term whereof will expire on the 14th of August 1895, after which date it will have to be written off.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 35.—This will be written off, as the vouchers containing details of the debit are not traceable.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iv*) (*b*), *Item* 44.—These items have been adjusted.

Paragraph 16 (*a*), *Item* 4.—This amount is reserved to meet claims outstanding at the end of the year, the excess over it having been transferred to the Municipal fund.

Paragraph 16 (*d*), *Item* 9.—This is attended to from time to time.

Paragraph 16 (*e*), *Item* 10.—Steps are being taken to adjust these items.

Paragraph 17.—This item has been adjusted by transfer to credit of refund of expenditure of previous years.

Paragraph 20 (*d*), *Items* 5 *and* 6.—This was inadvertently omitted to be attended to before now.

Paragraph 23 (*b*), *Item* 7.— A greater portion of this amount has been paid away and the balance will be now adjusted.

Paragraph 24 (*a*).—Special provision will be made hereafter as suggested.

ORDER—dated 12th September 1895, No. 1480 M., Local and Municipal.

Recorded, with the following remarks:—

(1) In the circumstances stated by the President, the Government does not consider it necessary that the sanction of the Standing Committee should be obtained for compounding in lieu of tolls with persons living outside municipal limits.

(2) It is to be regretted that Municipal Commissioners should be in arrears with their taxes.

(3) The demand, collection and balance statements for each financial year should include only such remissions as are actually sanctioned in that year.

(4) With reference to paragraph 6 (*c*) and (*e*) of the Audit report, the Government considers it desirable that all interlineations and alterations in the demand registers and all entries in the remission registers should be initialled by the Revenue officer himself.

(5) The usual application for the admission in the accounts of expenditure incurred in excess of the revised estimate or without sanction should be expedited.

(6) The question of recovering from municipal subordinates the cost of service books supplied to them will be left to the discretion of the Commissioners.

(7) The auditors' proposal in paragraph 23 (*b*) to maintain a list of persons liable to payment of license fees for offensive and dangerous trades should be adopted. The objections raised by the President do not appear to be insuperable.

(8) The Government does not consider that its special sanction is necessary for the purchase of lands required for extending burial and burning grounds already approved under section 392 of the Act.

(True Extract.)

for *Chief Secretary*.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

Ed. T. K. Narayana Iyengar.

Govt. of {1895} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Read. *Encl.*

G.O., 12th Sept. 1895, No. 1430 M.

SEPTEMBER.

Municipal Accounts.

Recording, with remarks, report on the audit of the Madras — for 1894–95.

R. No. 151. 300.

R. No. 522 REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Municipal Office

Madras, 9th August 1895.

From

Lieutt. Col. C. Gell & Moore, C.S.I.

President, Municipal Commission, Madras.

To

CURRENT No.

The Chief Secretary

to Government.

Fort St. George.

SIR,

Enclosure.

With reference to G.O. No. 1146 M. dated 20th July last, I have the honor to submit the following remarks and explanations on the Report of the Auditors of the accounts of this Municipality for 1894-95, the paras heading them being those of the Report.

Para 3. All endeavours have been and will be made to ensure punctuality. Delays chiefly occur, where differences arise in the result figures of the numerous registers and accounts maintained by us adjusting such differences.

Para 5(a) The scale of fees has been sanctioned by G.O. No. 1076 M. dated 18th July 1895.

Para. 5(b) Competition for Wells. In the former G Wells all powers of Calls including that of Compounding

delegated. For the convenience of Dail-papers, the former authorized the President to compound with them on his behalf, as the Lessee and get credit for all fees thereby realized. The Standing Committee whom I consulted, concurred with me in the conclusion that their sanction under Section 175 of the Municipal Act was not required under the circumstances.

Para. 5(c). Civil Suits have been instituted against the defaulting renters for recovery of the arrears.

Para 6. Demand Collection + Balance statement.

(a) The Commissioners have been addressed several times in this connection.

(b) All remissions intended to be granted in 1894-95 were entered up and included in the Statistics for that year. Some of them, owing to other emergent work, were delayed being formally sanctioned till April and none extended to May 1895.

(c) No interlineation or alteration is made in these Registers, without the previous authority in writing of the President or the Revenue Officer which is recorded either on the application

application itself or in the Appeal Report Book and copied into the Registers by the clerks who affix their initials to the entry.

(d). These Registers have been signed, as soon as the progressive totals originally made in pencil were verified and inked

(e) This is similar to (c)

Para 7. Expenditure.

Formal sanction will be obtained to the excesses in due course, after the Standing Committee and the Commissioners have passed them. This is done in all Annual Statements.

Para. 9.(a) It has all along been the practice to supply the employés with Service Books free of charge, the cost thereof being comparatively trifling

Para 9.(b) This is done.

" 9.(c) It would be practically impossible to wait for the sanction of Government in all these cases. Some Estimates should be allowed to the President as recognized by the Commissioners in the following resolution passed at their meeting on 31st October 1890 "That the President be authorized to enter "in the Revised Estimate under Grant I.

"a suitable sum to meet any establishment
"that may be required which is not pro"
"vided for in the Budget to meet emergen-
"cies:"

Para 13 class (i). The standing grant to the Assistant Mechanical Engineer will be reduced to Rs. 20 as also to each of the 4 Superiorates, as suggested.

Para 13. class (ii) (a). A civil suit has been instituted for decreeing the sum of

Para 13 class (ii) (b) Item 15. These amounts being recovered by monthly instalments.

Para 13 class (ii) (c). This advance will be adjusted as soon as all the works towards which it was made are completed.

Para 13 class (iii) Item 27. These items are mostly irrecoverable and will be written off on further scrutiny.

Para 13 class (iii) Item 28. This debit arose from failure in payment of amount for which certain Rubbish depots were leased. A decree was obtained against the defaulter who has nearly wiped it off by imprisonment, the term whereof will expire on the 14th of August 1895, after which date it will have to be written off.

Para 13 class (iii) Item 35. This will be written off as the vouchers containing details of the debit are not traceable.

Para 13 class (iv) (b) Item 44. These items have been adjusted.

Para 16 (a) Item 4. This amount is reserved to meet claims outstanding at the end of the year, the excess over it having been transferred to the Municipal Fund.

Para 16 (d) Item 9. This is attended to from time to time.

Para 16 (e) Item 10. Steps are being taken to adjust these items

Para. 17. This item has been adjusted by transfer to credit of refund of expenditure of previous years.

Para 20 (d) Items 5 & 6. This was inadvertently omitted to be attended to before now.

Para 23 (b) Item 7. A greater portion of this amount has been paid away and the balance will be now adjusted.

Para. 24 (a) Special provision will be made hereafter as suggested.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
A. M. Moore Lt Col
President, M.M.C.

V.
Pres.

Genel. Dept.

Local & Municipal Dept.

CURRENT No. 1895 2546 he

Madras Municipality.

From

The President,

Municipal Commission,

MADRAS.

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

No. 522

Dated 9th
Despd. 10th August 1895.
Recd. 10 AUG 95

Enc.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding explanations on the Auditor's Report for 1894-95.

8.0 1480 he
12-9-95

1315

12 Sept 1480 Proof 2378

8.0

TH AUGUST 1895, No. M., LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 20th July 1894, Mis. No. 1146 M., Local and Municipal.

Read—the following paper:—

From F. C. HARRISON, Esq., C.S., Officiating Accountant-General, Madras, and L. E. PRITCHARD, Esq., Inspector of Local Fund Accounts, to the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Fort St. George, 9th July 1895, No. 161-L.F.D.

We have the honour to submit, in accordance with section 14 of Madras Act, VII of 1884, our Annual Report on the audit of the accounts of the Madras Municipality for the official year 1894–95.

2. The audit was conducted month after month, in the manner described in paragraph 2 of the report on the audit of the accounts for 1887–88; and a monthly report of our audit was forwarded to you under section 95 of Act I of 1884.

3. To ensure the punctual preparation of this report, it is desirable that the annual statements of receipts and charges with those of demand, collection and balance should, in future, be furnished for audit by the *first* week of June. This year they were not received until the 28th June 1895.

4. The total receipts and disbursements of the municipality during the year under report, together with the opening and closing balances, are given below:—

Receipts.	Amount. Rs. A. P.	Disbursements.	Amount. Rs. A. P.
Opening balance	2,49,715 6 5	Grant I. Public Works	4,76,749 7 4
I. Taxation	9,67,692 3 3	,, II. Education	8,468 0 6
II. Rents	2,47,086 2 2	,, III. Sanitation and Medical services	3,26,390 7 8
III. Contributions	35,192 4 1	,, IV. Miscellaneous Municipal purposes	1,56,317 2 10
IV. Miscellaneous	24,977 3 5	,, V. Supervision and Management.	94,794 5 0
Debt	32,107 12 3	,, VI. Pension	5,905 14 0
Suspense	3,288 2 3	Repayment of debts, &c.	1,76,084 8 0
		Refunds	10,709 0 11
		Suspense	13,315 4 7
		Closing balance	*2,91,324 15 0
Total	15,60,059 1 10	Total	15,60,059 1 10

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
* Balance as per pass book of the Bank of Madras		1,02,582 10 6
Deduct—		
(*a*) Amount of cheques not cashed on 31st March 1895	23,864 10 6	
(*b*) Renewal fees, &c., credited in pass book, but owing to its late receipt of advices in the office omitted to be taken in the municipal cash book	8 0 0	
		23,872 10 6
		78,710 0 0
Add—		
(*a*) Collections of 31st March 1895 remitted to the Bank of Madras in April following	12,614 11 0	
(*b*) Amount of fixed deposits	2,00,000 0 0	
(*c*) Bank's commission on a foreign cheque short-credited in the Bank's pass book	0 4 0	
		2,12,614 15 0
		2,91,324 15 0

Receipts.

5. The following remarks are offered in connection with receipt items:—

(*a*) The sanction of Government to the scale of fees for extracts from the register of births and deaths has not as yet been obtained as promised in reply to this office objection statement for September 1894, item No. 2.

(*b*) *Composition fee for tolls.*—In the objection statement for September 1894 item No. 3, it was pointed out that the composition fee for tolls with persons living outside the municipal limits was subject to the sanction of the Standing Committee under section 175, clause 2 of the Act. The President, however, contends that that sanction is requisite only when toll collections are made by departmental agency.

(*c*) The following instalment amounts due from the respective renters on the dates specified against each, were pending receipt until about the close of June 1895:—

Name of renter.	Amount. Rs.	A.	P.	When payable.
P. Theroovengada Pillai for grazing Esplanade.	132	8	0	1st Oct. 1894.
Do. do.	132	8	0	1st Jan. 1895.
Y. Ramasawmy Mudali for stalls in General Market	2,467	8	0	1st Oct. 1894.
Do. do.	2,467	8	0	1st Jan. 1895.

6. *Demand, Collection and Balance Statement.*—(*a*) Balances as follow were due on 31st March 1895 from the Commissioners named on account of the taxes specified:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(1) The Honourable P. Rungiah Naidu—			
House, &c., taxes	129	13	4
Water-supply	32	2	7
	161	15	11
(2) Mr. W. S. Vencataramanjulu Naidu—			
House, &c., taxes	27	11	2
Water-supply	12	8	10
	40	4	0
(3) Surgn.-Lieut.-Col. H. D. Cook—			
Profession tax	75	8	0
Total ..	277	11	11

(*b*) The remissions granted in April and May 1895 were shown included with those sanctioned in the previous year—*vide* profession tax bill No. 632 of second half of 1894–95 for Rs. 37–8–0. This is incorrect. Only remissions granted in 1895 should affect the accounts of that year.

(*c*) Interlineations and alterations affecting the assessments as originally entered in the demand registers were found to have been attested by clerks instead of by the Revenue Officer himself.

(*d*) The demand registers were not closed and signed by the Revenue Officer to admit of the verification of the demands as therein entered with those in the demand, collection and balance statement accompanying the annual statements.

(*e*) In the register of remissions on account of tax on arts, &c., the Revenue Officer should initial all the entries in the separate column provided for the purpose.

Expenditure.

7. In the following cases expenditure in excess of the revised estimate was incurred and has not yet received the sanction of Government:—

Head of Account.	As per revised estimate. Rs.	A.	P.	As per total expenditure. Rs.	A.	P.	Excess. Rs.	A.	P.
Grant III—									
1. Hospitals and Dispensaries—									
(i) Medicines and supplies	6,000	0	0	6,731	4	6	731	4	6
2. (*a*) Contributions to Provincial funds—									
(ii) Medical College	2,000	0	0	6,272	0	0	4,272	0	0
4. Registration of births and deaths—									
(*c*) Contingencies, stationery, clothing, &c.	1,200	0	0	1,240	5	1	40	5	1
5. Conservancy—									
(*e*) Night-soil depôts and sheds establishment	790	0	0	808	10	2	18	10	2
(*h*) Rent of Lorry stations, &c.	520	0	0	540	5	1	20	5	1
(*m*) Repair of carts, boats and buckets	7,800	0	0	9,598	10	3	1,798	10	3
6. Miscellaneous—									
(*b*) Printing charges	700	0	0	705	3	6	5	3	6
(*c*) Office furniture	100	0	0	107	9	2	7	9	2
Grant IV—									
2. (*c*) Slaughter-house establishment	890	0	0	895	10	4	5	10	4
4. Public Parks—									
(*a*) People's Park tools and plant	200	0	0	233	10	2	33	10	2
7. Other charges—									
(*e*) Municipal Proceedings, &c., charges—printing ..	2,250	0	0	2,298	11	8	48	11	8
Grant V—									
2. Head office—									
(*e*) Insurance on Municipal premises	520	0	0	535	12	0	15	12	0
(*j*) Office furniture	230	0	0	303	5	10	73	5	10
3. Assessment and collection—									
(*e*) Printing charges	2,870	0	0	3,059	2	8	189	2	8
(*g*) Contingent ,, ...	1,020	0	0	1,388	7	6	368	7	6
Refund of other than current collections	10,500	0	0	10,709	0	0	209	0	0

8. Errors of the following kinds were pointed out in the monthly objection statements and generally rectified:—

(*a*) Delays in check-measurements.
(*b*) Excess payments.
(*c*) Want of payees' receipts.
(*d*) Errors in classification.
(*e*) Entertainment of temporary establishment without Government sanction.
(*f*) Delays in discharging claims.
(*g*) Payment of claims not provided for in the budget without obtaining Government sanction.
(*h*) Want of leave statements.
(*i*) Want of President's sanction.
(*j*) Want of Standing Committee's sanction.
(*k*) Want of Government sanction.
(*l*) Want of budget provision.
(*m*) Non-scheduled items not marked "N.S." by the countersigning officer.
(*n*) Delay in the adjustment of advances.
(*o*) Want of vouchers.
(*p*) Want of one-anna receipt stamps.
(*q*) Want of sanctioned requisition memorandum.
(*r*) Excess over budget provision.
(*s*) Alterations unattested.

9. The following charges call for notice:—

(*a*) The charges incurred for printing service books have not been recovered from the officers of the municipality, although such books are under Article 881 of the Civil Service Regulations supplied to officers of Government at their own cost.

(*b*) There were now and then delays in the submission of claims which, in consequence, had in some cases to be paid in the year following. Steps should be taken to prevent this as far as possible.

(*c*) Temporary establishments were sometimes maintained in the Public Works Department without the requisite provision in the budget and without Government sanction—*vide* vouchers Nos. 1674 and 3797 of August and December 1894, for Rs. 58 and Rs. 43–13–11, respectively. It was stated in reply to our objection statements for those months, that the establishments would be provided for in the revised estimate. But additions to the establishment require the *previous* sanction of Government.

ADVANCES.

10. The following is a statement of the year's transactions :—

Particulars.	General Fund.	Water Works Fund.	Lighting Fund.	Total.
	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Opening balance	82,447 9 5	..	3 13 5	82,451 6 10
Add—				
Advance made during the year	70,197 5 11	..	5,613 11 0	75,811 0 11
Total ..	1,52,644 15 4	..	5,617 8 5	1,58,262 7 9
Deduct—				
Advances recovered	65,183 14 9	..	599 15 10	65,783 14 7
Total outstanding ..	87,461 0 7	..	5,017 8 7	92,478 9 2

A statement of particulars of the outstanding balance under advances is appended.

11. The permanent advances allowed to the several departments aggregate Rs. 75,725-7-6 against Rs. 75,561-15-0 of the previous year. This increase of Rs. 163-8-6 is made up thus :—

	RS. A. P.
(*a*) Increase in the outlay in the permanent advance held by the Engineer, Public Works Department	150 0 0
(*b*) Permanent advance allowed to the Special Engineer Mr. Ellis	10 0 0
(*c*) Permanent advance allowed to the Revenue Officer ..	5 12 0
	165 12 0
Deduct—	
(*d*) Decrease in the permanent advance allowed to the Health Officer	2 3 6
	163 8 6

12. The total amount outstanding under "Advances" may be classified as under :—

	RS. A. P.
(i) Permanent advances (1 to 9) in the appended statement.	75,725 7 6
(ii) Advances recoverable balances of recurring advances (10 to 26)	8,864 7 5
(iii) Old advances (27 to 36)	3,287 6 8
(iv) New advances (37 to 70)	4,601 3 7
Total ..	92,478 9 2

13. *Class* (i).—Particulars of the amount shown against this class will be found furnished in statement III.

Out of the advance of Rs. 160 shown against the Engineer, Public Works Department, the Supervisors of the North and South ranges and the Assistant Mechanical Engineer have each been allowed to hold Rs. 50, but as the outlay incurred therefrom by those officers did not exceed Rs. 20 each on an average monthly, it would seem to be possible to reduce their imprests.

Class (ii).—The large increase under this class is due to—

(*a*) the debits from time to time against P. Munisawmy Mudali, the lighting contractor, of Rs. 5,017-8-7 on default and on execution of lighting work by other contractors—*vide* item No. 20.

(*b*) The debits against the conservancy contractor Erusappa Pillai on default and on execution of conservancy work by other contractors—*vide* item No. 16.

(*c*) The delay in the adjustment of the payments made to contractor P. Dasarathi Naidu to whom payment of Rs. 2,063-5-9 was made in advance, pending scrutiny of his bills in the Public Works Department.

Class (iii).—*Old advances*—*Item* 27.—Steps appear to have been taken to adjust the amount shown against this item.

Items 28, 29 *and* 36.—The amounts shown against these items may be written off under competent sanction if they are found to be irrecoverable. A statement giving the history of each item should be submitted to Government through this office. Early steps should be taken for the recovery of the amounts shown against the remaining items.

(*d*) *Class IV* (*a*)—*New advances*.—The number of items under this class increased largely during the year under report. The increase was chiefly due to the Public Works Department executing works of drainage, &c., on default of parties concerned.

(*b*) *Item* 45.—A sum of Rs. 190 was advanced to the Health officer in November and December 1894 for procuring scavengers from Nellore. Out of this sum, only Rs. 33-2-0 was accounted for by refund in cash and the balance remains unexplained.

A further sum of Rs. 10 was advanced to the Health officer to meet incidental charges in connection with the arrest of one Linghi Chetty, a defaulting contractor, but has not yet been adjusted.

DEPOSITS.

14. The following is an abstract of the year's transactions under deposits :—

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
In cash	65,423 14 11	
In fixed deposits	48,091 0 9	
In municipal debentures	10,000 0 0	
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants	70,300 0 0	
Sinking fund investments	2,57,400 0 0	
		4,51,214 15 8
Add—receipts during the year—		
In cash	2,25,592 1 7	
In fixed deposits	20,354 8 0	
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants ..	13,500 0 0	
Sinking fund investments	31,900 0 0	
		2,91,346 9 7
		7,42,561 9 3
Deduct—payments—		
In cash	2,37,202 1 1	
In fixed deposits	3,250 0 0	
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants ..	17,900 0 0	
		2,58,352 1 1
Closing balance on 31st March 1895		4,84,209 8 2

The above closing balance, which is exclusive of the sum of Rs. 7,40,500 invested on account of the Government loan for water-works of 1869–73, is made up of the several sums detailed hereunder :—

Kinds of deposit.	In cash.	In fixed deposits.	In Government Promissory notes.	In debentures.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Contractors and municipal servants.	28,938 8 0	65,195 8 9	65,900 0 0	10,000 0 0	1,70,034 0 9
2. Sinking fund investments	428 12 7	..	2,89,300 0 0	..	2,89,728 12 7
3. Workshop	9,190 7 2	..	..	..	9,190 7 2
4. Deposits on account of house service.	600 0 0	..	..	..	600 0 0
5. Composition of tolls	955 0 0	..	..	..	955 0 0
6. Stores	7,172 1 9	..	..	..	7,172 1 9
7. Suspense	585 15 8	..	..	..	585 15 8
8. Income tax	247 6 8	..	..	..	247 6 8
9. Sale-proceeds of distrained property.	31 11 6	..	..	..	31 11 6
10. Other miscellaneous deposits ..	5,664 0 1	..	..	..	5,664 0 1
Total ..	53,813 15 5	65,195 8 9	3,55,200 0 0	10,000 0 0	4,84,209 8 2

15. The amount shown as balance in the cash column is less than that shown in the bank pass book by Rs. 1,244–13–5, which is accounted for as follows :—

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Collections on the 29th and 30th March 1895 included in the cash book balance, but paid into the Bank subsequently ..	12,654 8 3	
Deduct uncashed cheques and transfer orders issued and debited in the cash book, but not adjusted in the pass book.	13,366 3 11	
	— 711 11 8	
Deduct credits in the pass book on the 28th and 30th March 1895 on account of magisterial fines, &c., but not advised till the closs of that month	533 1 9	
Difference ..	1,244 13 5	

16. Of these balances, the following call for remarks :—

(*a*) *Item* 4.—Amounts included in this item so far as they relate to finished works should be adjusted to the credit of municipal funds.

(*b*) *Item* 5.—This amount is payable to the toll-contractor on his application for the same.

(*c*) *Item* 7.—This represents the advance collection of taxes adjustable to the service heads concerned during the year 1895–96.

(*d*) *Item* 9.—The amounts included in this item should be credited to No. I Account if proper claimants are not forthcoming.

(*e*) *Item* 10.—There are several items under this head, the adjustment of which should be expedited.

17. Besides the above the following item awaits early adjustment in the deposit account :—

Rs. 5–8–0, being the undisbursed pay of a burial and burning ground peon for February 1894, was transferred to deposits in April 1894, which was irregular. The amount in question should have been short drawn in the next month's bill.

Sinking Fund Investments.—The investments in Government securities on account of the several sinking funds are as follow :—

—	Up to 31st March 1895.	During the year 1894–95.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Water-works loan of 1869–73	7,13,200	27,300	7,40,500
Market loan of 1879	6,300	600	6,900
Water-supply extension loan of 1882	73,400	7,700	81,100
Drainage loan of 1882	29,400	3,000	32,400
Do. of 1883	76,000	8,900	84,900
Do. of 1885	54,200	8,000	62,200
Do. of 1887	4,900	800	5,700
Do. of 1888	6,300	1,200	7,500
Do. of 1889	5,000	1,200	6,200
Water-works loan of 1889	600	200	800
Black Town drainage loan of 1890	1,300	300	1,600
Total ..	9,70,600	59,200	10,29,800

18. *Stores.*—The standing advance of Rs. 65,000 allowed for the working of the Store department is accounted for as follows :—

	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Opening balance on the 1st April 1894 in the Bank of Madras			12,782 5 3
Add—credits during the year			18,187 6 5
		Total ..	30,969 11 8
Deduct—debits during the year			23,797 9 11
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895 ..			7,172 1 9
Add—			
(i) Value of stock as per stock book ..	56,221 1 5		
(ii) Value of articles paid for, but not brought to store account ..	320 14 0		
(iii) Value of stores issued to several departments, but not adjusted on 31st March 1895	2,262 0 9		
			58,804 0 2
			65,976 1 11
Deduct—			
(iv) Value of articles received from the supplier, but not paid for ..	878 2 3		
(v) Railway charges incurred by workshop for boiler tubes, &c. ..	24 2 0		
(vi) Railway charges paid to Messrs. Taylor and Sons' hydrants ..	15 9 0		
(vii) Value of articles received from several departments remaining unadjusted on 31st March 1895.	58 4 8		
			976 1 11
Total ..			65,000 0 0

19. (*a*) The amount shown against item (ii) represents the value of a hydrant with tariff duty paid on the 9th and 11th March 1895. But it was not taken into the store books within the year, since the entire value of the article including landing, cart hire, &c., charges could not be ascertained.

(*b*) *Item* (iii).—This will need to be adjusted in the accounts of April 1895.

(*c*) *Item* (iv).—This was not adjusted within the year as the supplier did not submit his bill for payment.

(*d*) *Items* (v) *and* (vi).—These amounts were paid by the workshop in July and August 1894, respectively, and might have been adjusted at once. The circumstances under which they still remain unadjusted should be explained.

(*e*) *Item* (vii).—This should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

20. The result of the stock-taking of the municipal stores was communicated on the 8th June 1895. The valuation thus arrived at was in excess of the value of the stock as shown in the books by Rs. 522–6–11. The difference was explained to be due to a rise in the value of scrap iron, &c., during the year. The requisite adjustments in support have been made in the accounts of the year.

21 *Workshop.*—The standing advance of Rs. 10,000 allowed for the working of this institution is accounted for as follows :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Opening balance in the Bank on 1st April 1894	13,465	11	4
Add—credits during the year	55,185	13	1
Total ..	68,651	8	5
Deduct—debits during the year	59,461	1	3
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895 ..	9,190	7	2

Add—the following :—	Rs.	A.	P.		
(i) Value of outturn of work by workshop in March 1895 awaiting adjustment..	6,513	0	3		
(ii) Incomplete jobs	964	8	10		
(iii) Value of articles paid for, but not brought to account	117	1	5		
(iv) Standing advance with the foreman ..	30	0	0		
				7,624	10 6
				16,815	1 8
Deduct—the following :—					
(v) Cost of workshop establishment for March 1895	171	8	6		
(vi) Cost of muster roll for March 1895 ..	6,286	6	3		
(vii) Undisbursed wages	313	1	7		
(viii) Value of articles received from contractor, but not paid for	44	1	4		
				6,815	1 8
Total ..				10,000	0 0

22. (*a*) *Items* 1 *and* 3.—These should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

(*b*) *Item* 7.—This should have been adjusted against the works concerned before the close of the official year.

(*c*) *Item* 8.—This should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

23. The orders of Government are solicited on the following points :—

(*a*) Voucher No. 4064 for Rs. 31-12-0 (January 1895) being the annual subscription paid in advance for a copy of the "sanitary record" and a copy of "public health" for the use of the Health officer. The charge was met from the lump allotment in the budget for "contingencies." Either special provision for the charge should have been made or the sanction of Government obtained—*vide* article 98 (*e*) of the Civil Account Code.

(*b*) No lists of persons liable to taxation for the pursuit of offensive and dangerous trades appear to have been prepared, and omissions to take out licenses for these trades cannot consequently be detected.

The President remarks on this point as follows :—

"There has not been such practice hitherto as no complete list could be possibly prepared in the course of the year. The preparation of a list at the commencement of the year, which must necessarily be incomplete and the revision of it from time to time as circumstances arise, would interfere with the legitimate duties of the overseers and involve additional clerical work without appreciable advantage."

The list might be gradually written up and made as complete as possible and form a demand register as in district municipalities.

(*c*) Lands were purchased for extending certain burial and burning grounds without the sanction of Government, under the impression that such sanction was not needed in case of extensions. Section 392 of the Act does not speak of extensions, and the point is perhaps open to doubt and is referred for the orders of Government.

24. The following is a summary of the more important matters to which this report draws attention :—

	Paragraph.
(i) The scale of fees for extracts from births and deaths register not approved by Government	5 (*a*)
(ii) Composition fees for tolls not sanctioned by the Standing Committee	5 (*b*)
(iii) Non-payment of taxes by certain Commissioners	6 (*a*)
(iv) Expenditure in excess of revised estimate not sanctioned by Government	7
(v) The cost of service books not recovered from the municipal employés	9 (*a*)
(vi) Want of previous sanction of Government for the entertainment of temporary establishments	9 (*c*)
(vii) Remarks on advances	10—13
(viii) Remarks on deposits	16 and 17
(ix) Sanction of Government not obtained for the purchase of periodicals	23 (*a*)
(x) List of persons carrying on offensive and dangerous trades not maintained	23 (*b*)
(xi) Sanction of Government not obtained for the extension of burial and burning grounds	23 (*c*)

25. The slight delay in the submission of this report is due to the late receipt of statements from the municipality.

No. L.F.D.-162.

Copy forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, Fort St. George.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th July* 1895.

(Signed) F. C. HARRISON,
Offg. Accountant-General.

Order—dated 20th July 1895, No. 1146 M. Mis., Local and Municipal.

The Government will await the remarks of the Commissioners.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

READ—also the following paper :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. J. MOORE, C.I.E., President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 9th August 1895, No. 522-R.

With reference to G.O., No. 1146 M., Mis. (Local and Municipal), dated 20th July last, I have the honour to submit the following remarks and explanations on the report of the auditors of the accounts of this municipality for 1894-95, the paragraphs heading them being those of the report :—

Paragraph 3.—All endeavours have been and will be made to ensure punctuality. Delays chiefly occur where differences arise in the result-figures of the numerous registers and accounts maintained in adjusting such differences.

Paragraph 5 (*a*).—The scale of fees has been sanctioned by G.O., No. 1076 M., Mis., dated 8th July 1895.

Paragraph 5 (*b*)—*Composition fee of tolls.*—To the former of tolls all powers of collection, including that of compounding, were delegated. For the convenience of toll-payers, the former authorized the President to compound with them on his behalf, as the lessee and got credit for all fees thereby realized. The Standing Committee whom I consulted concurred with me in the conclusion that their sanction under section 175 of the Municipal Act was not required under the circumstances.

				Rs.	A.	P.
Opening balance in the Bank on 1st April 1894	..	..	..	13,465	11	4
Add—credits during the year ..	..	..	..	55,185	13	1
Total	..			68,651	8	5
Deduct—debits during the year	..	..	..	59,461	1	3
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895	..			9,190	7	2

	Rs.	A.	P.			
Add—the following :—						
(i) Value of outturn of work by workshop in March 1895 awaiting adjustment..	6,513	0	3			
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Total ..				10,000	0	0

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The list might be gradually written up and made as complete as possible and form a demand register as in district municipalities.

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25. The slight delay in the submission of this report is due to the late receipt of statements from the municipality.

No. L.F.D.-162.

Copy forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, Fort St. George.

Fort St. George,
10*th July* 1895.

(Signed) F. C. HARRISON,
Offg. Accountant-General.

Order—dated 20th July 1895, No. 1146 M. Mis., Local and Municipal.

The Government will await the remarks of the Commissioners.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

Read—also the following paper :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. J. MOORE, C.I.E., President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 9th August 1895, No. 522-R.

With reference to G.O., No. 1146 M., Mis. (Local and Municipal), dated 20th July last, I have the honour to submit the following remarks and explanations on the report of the auditors of the accounts of this municipality for 1894–95, the paragraphs heading them being those of the report :—

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Paragraph 5 (*c*).—Civil suits have been instituted against the defaulting renters for recovery of the arrears.

Paragraph 6—*Demand, Collection and Balance Statement* (*a*).—The Commissioners have been addressed several times in this connection.

(*b*) All remissions intended to be granted in 1894–95 were entered up and included in the statistics for that year. Some of them, owing to other emergent work, were delayed being formally sanctioned till April, and none extended to May 1895.

(*c*) No interlineation or alteration is made in these registers, without the previous authority in writing of the President or the Revenue officer which is recorded either on the application itself or in the appeal report book and copied into the registers by the clerks who affix their initials to the entry.

(*d*) These registers have been signed as soon as the progressive totals originally made in pencil were verified and inked.

(*e*) This is similar to (*c*).

Paragraph 7, *Expenditure.*—Formal sanction will be obtained to the excesses in due course after the Standing Committee and the Commissioners have passed them. This is done in all annual statements.

Paragraph 9 (*a*).—It has all along been the practice to supply the employés with service books free of charge, the cost thereof being comparatively trifling.

Paragraph 9 (*b*).—This is done.

Paragraph 9 (*c*).—It would be practically impossible to wait for the sanction of Government in all these cases. Some latitude should be allowed to the President as recognized by the Commissioners in the following resolution passed at their meeting on 31st October 1890 :—

"That the President be authorized to enter in the revised estimate under Grant I a suitable sum to meet any establishment that may be required which is not provided for in the budget to meet emergencies."

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*i*).—The standing advance to the Assistant Mechanical Engineer will be reduced to Rs. 20 as also to each of the 4 supervisors, as suggested.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*a*).—A civil suit has been instituted for recovery hereof.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*b*), *Item* 15.—These are being recovered by monthly instalments.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*c*).—This advance will be adjusted as soon as all the works towards which it was made are completed.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 27.—These items are mostly irrecoverable and will be written off on further scrutiny.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 28.—This debt arose from failure in payment of amount for which certain rubbish depôts were leased. A decree was obtained against the defaulter who has nearly wiped it off by imprisonment, the term whereof will expire on the 14th of August 1895, after which date it will have to be written off.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 35.—This will be written off, as the vouchers containing details of the debit are not traceable.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iv*) (*b*), *Item* 44.—These items have been adjusted.

Paragraph 16 (*a*), *Item* 4.—This amount is reserved to meet claims outstanding at the end of the year, the excess over it having been transferred to the Municipal fund.

Paragraph 16 (*d*), *Item* 9.—This is attended to from time to time.

Paragraph 16 (*e*), *Item* 10.—Steps are being taken to adjust these items.

Paragraph 17.—This item has been adjusted by transfer to credit of refund of expenditure of previous years.

Paragraph 20 (*d*), *Items* 5 *and* 6.—This was inadvertently omitted to be attended to before now.

Paragraph 23 (*b*), *Item* 7.— A greater portion of this amount has been paid away and the balance will be now adjusted.

Paragraph 24 (*a*).—Special provision will be made hereafter as suggested.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 20th July 1895, No. 1146 m.

Current No. 2546 of 1895, dated 9th August from the President, municipal Commissioner, Madras.

Current No. of 189 , dated from the

Order. 12-9-95. No 1468 m/95

Recorded with the following remarks:—

(1) Under the circumstances stated by the President, the Government does not consider it necessary that the sanction of the Standing Committee should be obtained for compounding in lieu of tolls with persons living outside municipal limits.

(2) It is to be regretted that municipal Commissioners should be in arrears with their taxes. ~~The fact remains that they ought to be a bad example to the taxpayers whom they represent.~~

(3) The D.C.B statements for each financial year should include only such remissions as are actually sanctioned in that year.

(4) With reference to para. 6 (c) and (2) of the Audit report, the Govern-

Concd

J. K. Narayana Iyengar.

Mad. Municipal Audit Report for 1894–95.

Considers it desirable that all interlineations and alterations in the demand registers and all entries in the remission registers should be initialled by the Revenue officer himself.

(5) The usual application for the admission in the accounts of expenditure incurred in excess of the revised estimate, or without sanction should be expedited.

(6) The question of recovering from municipal subordinates the cost of service books supplied to them will be left to the discretion of the Commissioners.

(7) The auditors' proposal, in para 23(b), to maintain a list of persons liable to payment of license fees for offensive and dangerous trades should be adopted. The objections raised by the President do not appear to be insuperable.

(8) The Government does not consider that its special sanction is necessary for the purchase of lands required for extending burial and burning grounds already approved under s. 392 of the Act

To The President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

12TH SEPTEMBER 1895, No. 1480 M., LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 20th July 1895, Mis. No. 1146 M., Local and Municipal.

Read—the following paper:—

From F. C. HARRISON, Esq., C.S., Officiating Accountant-General, Madras, and L. E. PRITCHARD, Esq., Inspector of Local Fund Accounts, to the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Fort St. George, 9th July 1895, No. 161-L.F.D.

We have the honour to submit, in accordance with section 14 of Madras Act, VII of 1884, our Annual Report on the audit of the accounts of the Madras Municipality for the official year 1894–95.

2. The audit was conducted month after month, in the manner described in paragraph 2 of the report on the audit of the accounts for 1887–88; and a monthly report of our audit was forwarded to you under section 95 of Act I of 1884.

3. To ensure the punctual preparation of this report, it is desirable that the annual statements of receipts and charges with those of demand, collection and balance should, in future, be furnished for audit by the *first* week of June. This year they were not received until the 28th June 1895.

4. The total receipts and disbursements of the municipality during the year under report, together with the opening and closing balances, are given below:—

Receipts.	Amount.	Disbursements.	Amount.
	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.
Opening balance	2,49,715 6 5	Grant I. Public Works	4,76,749 7 4
I. Taxation	9,67,692 3 3	,, II. Education	8,468 0 6
II. Rents	2,47,086 2 2	,, III. Sanitation and Medical services	3,26,390 7 8
III. Contributions	35,192 4 1	,, IV. Miscellaneous Municipal purposes	1,56,317 2 10
IV. Miscellaneous	24,977 3 5	,, V. Supervision and Management.	94,794 5 0
Debt	32,107 12 3	,, VI. Pension	5,905 14 0
Suspense	3,288 2 3	Repayment of debts, &c.	1,76,084 8 0
		Refunds	10,709 0 11
		Suspense	13,315 4 7
		Closing balance	*2,91,324 15 0
Total ..	15,60,059 1 10	Total ..	15,60,059 1 10

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
* Balance as per pass book of the Bank of Madras	..	1,02,582 10 6
Deduct—		
(*a*) Amount of cheques not cashed on 31st March 1895	23,864 10 6	
(*b*) Renewal fees, &c., credited in pass book, but owing to its late receipt of advices in the office omitted to be taken in the municipal cash book ..	8 0 0	
		23,872 10 6
Add—		78,710 0 0
(*a*) Collections of 31st March 1895 remitted to the Bank of Madras in April following	12,614 11 0	
(*b*) Amount of fixed deposits	2,00,000 0 0	
(*c*) Bank's commission on a foreign cheque short-credited in the Bank's pass book	0 4 0	
		2,12,614 15 0
		2,91,324 15 0

RECEIPTS.

5. The following remarks are offered in connection with receipt items:—

(*a*) The sanction of Government to the scale of fees for extracts from the register of births and deaths has not as yet been obtained as promised in reply to this office objection statement for September 1894, item No. 2.

(*b*) *Composition fee for tolls.*—In the objection statement for September 1894 item No. 3, it was pointed out that the composition fee for tolls with persons living outside the municipal limits was subject to the sanction of the Standing Committee under section 175, clause 2 of the Act. The President, however, contends that that sanction is requisite only when toll collections are made by departmental agency.

(*c*) The following instalment amounts due from the respective renters on the dates specified against each, were pending receipt until about the close of June 1895:—

Name of renter.	Amount. RS.	A.	P.	When payable.
P. Theroovengada Pillai for grazing Esplanade.	132	8	0	1st Oct. 1894.
Do. do.	132	8	0	1st Jan. 1895.
Y. Ramasawmy Mudali for stalls in General Market	2,467	8	0	1st Oct. 1894.
Do. do.	2,467	8	0	1st Jan. 1895.

6. *Demand, Collection and Balance Statement.*—(*a*) Balances as follow were due on 31st March 1895 from the Commissioners named on account of the taxes specified:—

	RS.	A.	P.
(1) The Honourable P. Rungiah Naidu—			
House, &c., taxes	129	13	4
Water-supply	32	2	7
	161	15	11
(2) Mr. W. S. Venkataramanjulu Naidu—			
House, &c., taxes	27	11	2
Water-supply	12	8	10
	40	4	0
(3) Surgn.-Lieut.-Col. H. D. Cook—			
Profession tax	75	8	0
Total ..	277	11	11

(*b*) The remissions granted in April and May 1895 were shown included with those sanctioned in the previous year—*vide* profession tax bill No. 632 of second half of 1894–95 for Rs. 37–8–0. This is incorrect. Only remissions granted in 1895 should affect the accounts of that year.

(*c*) Interlineations and alterations affecting the assessments as originally entered in the demand registers were found to have been attested by clerks instead of by the Revenue Officer himself.

(*d*) The demand registers were not closed and signed by the Revenue Officer to admit of the verification of the demands as therein entered with those in the demand, collection and balance statement accompanying the annual statements.

(*e*) In the register of remissions on account of tax on arts, &c., the Revenue Officer should initial all the entries in the separate column provided for the purpose.

EXPENDITURE.

7. In the following cases expenditure in excess of the revised estimate was incurred and has not yet received the sanction of Government:—

Head of Account.	As per revised estimate. RS.	A.	P.	As per total expenditure. RS.	A.	P.	Excess. RS.	A.	P.
Grant III—									
1. Hospitals and Dispensaries—									
(i) Medicines and supplies	6,000	0	0	6,731	4	6	731	4	6
2. (*a*) Contributions to Provincial funds—									
(ii) Medical College	2,000	0	0	6,272	0	0	4,272	0	0
4. Registration of births and deaths—									
(*c*) Contingencies, stationery, clothing, &c.	1,200	0	0	1,240	5	1	40	5	1
5. Conservancy—									
(*e*) Night-soil depôts and sheots establishment	790	0	0	808	10	2	18	10	2
(*h*) Rent of Lorry stations, &c.	520	0	0	540	5	1	20	5	1
(*m*) Repair of carts, boats and buckets	7,800	0	0	9,598	10	3	1,798	10	3
6. Miscellaneous—									
(*b*) Printing charges	700	0	0	705	3	6	5	3	6
(*c*) Office furniture	100	0	0	107	9	2	7	9	2
Grant IV—									
2. (*c*) Slaughter-house establishment	890	0	0	895	10	4	5	10	4
4. Public Parks—									
(*a*) People's Park tools and plant	200	0	0	233	10	2	33	10	2
7. Other charges—									
(*e*) Municipal Proceedings, &c., charges—printing ..	2,250	0	0	2,298	11	8	48	11	8
Grant V—									
2. Head office—									
(*e*) Insurance on Municipal premises	520	0	0	535	12	0	15	12	0
(*j*) Office furniture	230	0	0	303	5	10	73	5	10
3. Assessment and collection—									
(*e*) Printing charges	2,870	0	0	3,059	2	8	189	2	8
(*g*) Contingent ,, ...	1,020	0	0	1,388	7	6	368	7	6
Refund of other than current collections	10,500	0	0	10,709	0	0	209	0	0

8. Errors of the following kinds were pointed out in the monthly objection statements and generally rectified:—

(*a*) Delays in check-measurements.
(*b*) Excess payments.
(*c*) Want of payees' receipts.
(*d*) Errors in classification.
(*e*) Entertainment of temporary establishment without Government sanction.
(*f*) Delays in discharging claims.
(*g*) Payment of claims not provided for in the budget without obtaining Government sanction.
(*h*) Want of leave statements.
(*i*) Want of President's sanction.
(*j*) Want of Standing Committee's sanction.
(*k*) Want of Government sanction.
(*l*) Want of budget provision.
(*m*) Non-scheduled items not marked "N.S." by the countersigning officer.
(*n*) Delay in the adjustment of advances.
(*o*) Want of vouchers.
(*p*) Want of one-anna receipt stamps.
(*q*) Want of sanctioned requisition memorandum.
(*r*) Excess over budget provision.
(*s*) Alterations unattested.

9. The following charges call for notice:—

(*a*) The charges incurred for printing service books have not been recovered from the officers of the municipality, although such books are under Article 881 of the Civil Service Regulations supplied to officers of Government at their own cost.

(*b*) There were now and then delays in the submission of claims which, in consequence, had in some cases to be paid in the year following. Steps should be taken to prevent this as far as possible.

(*c*) Temporary establishments were sometimes maintained in the Public Works Department without the requisite provision in the budget and without Government sanction—*vide* vouchers Nos. 1674 and 3797 of August and December 1894, for Rs. 58 and Rs. 43–13–11, respectively. It was

stated in reply to our objection statements for those months, that the establishments would be provided for in the revised estimate. But additions to the establishment require the *previous* sanction of Government.

ADVANCES.

10. The following is a statement of the year's transactions :—

Particulars,	General Fund.	Water Works Fund.	Lighting Fund.	Total.
	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Opening balance	82,447 9 5	..	3 13 5	82,451 6 10
Add—				
Advance made during the year	70,197 5 11	..	5,613 11 0	75,811 0 11
Total ..	1,52,644 15 4	..	5,617 8 5	1,58,262 7 9
Deduct—				
Advances recovered	65,183 14 9	..	599 15 10	65,783 14 7
Total outstanding ..	87,461 0 7	..	5,017 8 7	92,478 9 2

A statement of particulars of the outstanding balance under advances is appended.

11. The permanent advances allowed to the several departments aggregate Rs. 75,725-7-6 against Rs. 75,561-15-0 of the previous year. This increase of Rs. 163-8-6 is made up thus :—

	RS.	A.	P.
(*a*) Increase in the outlay in the permanent advance held by the Engineer, Public Works Department	150	0	0
(*b*) Permanent advance allowed to the Special Engineer Mr. Ellis	10	0	0
(*c*) Permanent advance allowed to the Revenue Officer ..	5	12	0
	165	12	0
Deduct—			
(*d*) Decrease in the permanent advance allowed to the Health Officer	2	3	6
	163	8	6

12. The total amount outstanding under "Advances" may be classified as under :—

	RS.	A.	P.
(i) Permanent advances (1 to 9) in the appended statement.	75,725	7	6
(ii) Advances recoverable balances of recurring advances (10 to 26)	8,864	7	5
(iii) Old advances (27 to 36)	3,287	6	8
(iv) New advances (37 to 70)	4,601	3	7
Total ..	92,478	9	2

13. *Class* (i).—Particulars of the amount shown against this class will be found furnished in statement III.

Out of the advance of Rs. 160 shown against the Engineer, Public Works Department, the Supervisors of the North and South ranges and the Assistant Mechanical Engineer have each been allowed to hold Rs. 50, but as the outlay incurred therefrom by those officers did not exceed Rs. 20 each on an average monthly, it would seem to be possible to reduce their imprests.

Class (ii).—The large increase under this class is due to—

(*a*) the debits from time to time against P. Munisawmy Mudali, the lighting contractor, of Rs. 5,017-8-7 on default and on execution of lighting work by other contractors—*vide* item No. 20.

(*b*) The debits against the conservancy contractor Erusappa Pillai on default and on execution of conservancy work by other contractors—*vide* item No. 15.

(*c*) The delay in the adjustment of the payments made to contractor P. Dasarathi Naidu to whom payment of Rs. 2,063-5-9 was made in advance, pending scrutiny of his bills in the Public Works Department.

Class (iii).—*Old advances*—*Item* 27.—Steps appear to have been taken to adjust the amount shown against this item.

Items 28, 29 *and* 36.—The amounts shown against these items may be written off under competent sanction if they are found to be irrecoverable. A statement giving the history of each item should be submitted to Government through this office. Early steps should be taken for the recovery of the amounts shown against the remaining items.

(*d*) *Class IV* (*a*)—*New advances*.—The number of items under this class increased largely during the year under report. The increase was chiefly due to the Public Works Department executing works of drainage, &c., on default of parties concerned.

(*b*) *Item* 44.—A sum of Rs. 190 was advanced to the Health officer in November and December 1894 for procuring scavengers from Nellore. Out of this sum, only Rs. 33-2-0 was accounted for by refund in cash and the balance remains unexplained.

A further sum of Rs. 10 was advanced to the Health officer to meet incidental charges in connection with the arrest of one Linghi Chetty, a defaulting contractor, but has not yet been adjusted.

DEPOSITS.

14. The following is an abstract of the year's transactions under deposits :—

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
In cash	65,423 14 11	
In fixed deposits	48,091 0 9	
In municipal debentures	10,000 0 0	
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants	70,300 0 0	
Sinking fund investments	2,57,400 0 0	
		4,51,214 15 8
Add—receipts during the year—		
In cash	2,25,592 1 7	
In fixed deposits	20,354 8 0	
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants ..	13,500 0 0	
Sinking fund investments	31,900 0 0	
		2,91,346 9 7
		7,42,561 9 3
Deduct—payments—		
In cash	2,37,202 1 1	
In fixed deposits	3,250 0 0	
In Government promissory-notes, contractors and municipal servants ..	17,900 0 0	
		2,58,352 1 1
Closing balance on 31st March 1895		4,84,209 8 2

The above closing balance, which is exclusive of the sum of Rs. 7,40,500 invested on account of the Government loan for water-works of 1869-73, is made up of the several sums detailed hereunder :—

Kinds of deposit.	In cash.	In fixed deposits.	In Government Promissory notes.	In debentures.	Total.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1. Contractors and municipal servants.	28,938 8 0	65,195 8 9	65,900 0 0	10,000 0 0	1,70,034 0 9
2. Sinking fund investments	428 12 7	..	2,89,300 0 0	..	2,89,728 12 7
3. Workshop	9,190 7 2	..	..	..	9,190 7 2
4. Deposits on account of house service.	600 0 0	..	..	..	600 0 0
5. Composition of tolls	955 0 0	..	..	..	955 0 0
6. Stores	7,172 1 9	..	..	..	7,172 1 9
7. Suspense	585 15 8	..	..	..	585 15 8
8. Income tax	247 6 8	..	..	..	247 6 8
9. Sale-proceeds of distrained property.	31 11 6	..	..	..	31 11 6
10. Other miscellaneous deposits ..	5,664 0 1	..	..	..	5,664 0 1
Total ..	53,813 15 5	65,195 8 9	3,55,200 0 0	10,000 0 0	4,84,209 8 2

15. The amount shown as balance in the cash column is less than that shown in the bank pass book by Rs. 1,244-13-5, which is accounted for as follows :—

	RS.	A.	P.
Collections on the 29th and 30th March 1895 included in the cash book balance, but paid into the Bank subsequently ..	12,654	8	3
Deduct uncashed cheques and transfer orders issued and debited in the cash book, but not adjusted in the pass book.	13,366	3	11
	— 711	11	8
Deduct credits in the pass book on the 28th and 30th March 1895 on account of magisterial fines, &c., but not advised till the close of that month	533	1	9
Difference ..	1,244	13	5

16. Of these balances, the following call for remarks :—

(*a*) *Item* 4.—Amounts included in this item so far as they relate to finished works should be adjusted to the credit of municipal funds.

(*b*) *Item* 5.—This amount is payable to the toll-contractor on his application for the same.

(*c*) *Item* 7.—This represents the advance collection of taxes adjustable to the service heads concerned during the year 1895-96.

(*d*) *Item* 9.—The amounts included in this item should be credited to No. I Account if proper claimants are not forthcoming.

(*e*) *Item* 10.—There are several items under this head, the adjustment of which should be expedited.

17. Besides the above the following item awaits early adjustment in the deposit account :—

Rs. 5-8-0, being the undisbursed pay of a burial and burning ground peon for February 1894, was transferred to deposits in April 1894, which was irregular. The amount in question should have been short drawn in the next month's bill.

Sinking Fund Investments.—The investments in Government securities on account of the several sinking funds are as follow :—

—	Up to 31st March 1895.	During the year 1894-95.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Water-works loan of 1869-73	7,13,200	27,300	7,40,500
Market loan of 1879	6,300	600	6,900
Water-supply extension loan of 1882	73,400	7,700	81,100
Drainage loan of 1882	29,400	3,000	32,400
Do. of 1883	76,000	8,900	84,900
Do. of 1885	54,200	8,000	62,200
Do. of 1887	4,900	800	5,700
Do. of 1888	6,300	1,200	7,500
Do. of 1889	5,000	1,200	6,200
Water-works loan of 1889	600	200	800
Black Town drainage loan of 1890	1,300	300	1,600
Total ..	9,70,600	59,200	10,29,800

18. *Stores.*—The standing advance of Rs. 65,000 allowed for the working of the Store department is accounted for as follows :—

				RS.	A.	P.
Opening balance on the 1st April 1894 in the Bank of Madras				12,782	5	3
Add—credits during the year				18,187	6	5
			Total ..	30,969	11	8
Deduct—debits during the year				23,797	9	11
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895 ..				7,172	1	9
	RS.	A.	P.			
Add—						
(i) Value of stock as per stock book ..	56,221	1	5			
(ii) Value of articles paid for, but not brought to store account ..	320	14	0			
(iii) Value of stores issued to several departments, but not adjusted on 31st March 1895	2,262	0	9			
				58,804	0	2
				65,976	1	11
Deduct—						
(iv) Value of articles received from the supplier, but not paid for ..	878	2	3			
(v) Railway charges incurred by workshop for boiler tubes, &c. ..	24	2	0			
(vi) Railway charges paid to Messrs. Taylor and Sons' hydrants ..	15	9	0			
(vii) Value of articles received from several departments remaining unadjusted on 31st March 1895.	58	4	8			
				976	1	11
Total ..				65,000	0	0

19. (*a*) The amount shown against item (ii) represents the value of a hydrant with tariff duty paid on the 9th and 11th March 1895. But it was not taken into the store books within the year, since the entire value of the article including landing, cart hire, &c., charges could not be ascertained.

(*b*) *Item* (iii).—This will need to be adjusted in the accounts of April 1895.

(*c*) *Item* (iv).—This was not adjusted within the year as the supplier did not submit his bill for payment.

(*d*) *Items* (v) *and* (vi).—These amounts were paid by the workshop in July and August 1894, respectively, and might have been adjusted at once. The circumstances under which they still remain unadjusted should be explained.

(*e*) *Item* (vii).—This should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

20. The result of the stock-taking of the municipal stores was communicated on the 8th June 1895. The valuation thus arrived at was in excess of the value of the stock as shown in the books by Rs. 522-6-11. The difference was explained to be due to a rise in the value of scrap iron, &c., during the year. The requisite adjustments in support have been made in the accounts of the year.

21 *Workshop.*—The standing advance of Rs. 10,000 allowed for the working of this institution is accounted for as follows :—

				Rs.	A.	P.
Opening balance in the Bank on 1st April 1894			.. ..	13,465	11	4
Add—credits during the year				55,185	13	1
			Total ..	68,651	8	5
Deduct—debits during the year				59,461	1	3
Balance in the Bank on the 31st March 1895 ..				9,190	7	2
Add—the following :—						
(i) Value of outturn of work by workshop in March 1895 awaiting adjustment..	Rs. 6,513	A. 0	P. 3			
(ii) Incomplete jobs	964	8	10			
(iii) Value of articles paid for, but not brought to account	117	1	5			
(iv) Standing advance with the foreman ..	30	0	0			
				7,624	10	6
				16,815	1	8
Deduct—the following :—						
(v) Cost of workshop establishment for March 1895	171	8	6			
(vi) Cost of muster roll for March 1895 ..	6,286	6	3			
(vii) Undisbursed wages	313	1	7			
(viii) Value of articles received from contractor, but not paid for	44	1	4			
				6,815	1	8
			Total ..	10,000	0	0

22. (*a*) *Items* 1 *and* 3.—These should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

(*b*) *Item* 7.—This should have been adjusted against the works concerned before the close of the official year.

(*c*) *Item* 8.—This should be adjusted in the accounts for April 1895.

23. The orders of Government are solicited on the following points :—

(*a*) Voucher No. 4064 for Rs. 31-12-0 (January 1895) being the annual subscription paid in advance for a copy of the "sanitary record" and a copy of "public health" for the use of the Health officer. The charge was met from the lump allotment in the budget for "contingencies." Either special provision for the charge should have been made or the sanction of Government obtained—*vide* article 98 (*e*) of the Civil Account Code.

(*b*) No lists of persons liable to taxation for the pursuit of offensive and dangerous trades appear to have been prepared, and omissions to take out licenses for these trades cannot consequently be detected.

The President remarks on this point as follows :—

"There has not been such practice hitherto as no complete list could be possibly prepared in the course of the year. The preparation of a list at the commencement of the year, which must necessarily be incomplete and the revision of it from time to time as circumstances arise, would interfere with the legitimate duties of the overseers and involve additional clerical work without appreciable advantage."

The list might be gradually written up and made as complete as possible and form a demand register as in district municipalities.

(*c*) Lands were purchased for extending certain burial and burning grounds without the sanction of Government, under the impression that such sanction was not needed in case of extensions. Section 392 of the Act does not speak of extensions, and the point is perhaps open to doubt and is referred for the orders of Government.

24. The following is a summary of the more important matters to which the report draws attention :—

	Paragraph
(i) The scale of fees for extracts from births and deaths register not approved by Government	5 (*a*)
(ii) Composition fees for tolls not sanctioned by the Standing Committee	5 (*b*)
(iii) Non-payment of taxes by certain Commissioners	6 (*a*)
(iv) Expenditure in excess of revised estimate not sanctioned by Government	7
(v) The cost of service books not recovered from the municipal employés	9 (*a*)
(vi) Want of previous sanction of Government for the entertainment of temporary establishments	9 (*c*)
(vii) Remarks on advances	10—13
(viii) Remarks on deposits	16 and 17
(ix) Sanction of Government not obtained for the purchase of periodicals	23 (*a*)
(x) List of persons carrying on offensive and dangerous trades not maintained	23 (*b*)
(xi) Sanction of Government not obtained for the extension of burial and burning grounds	23 (*c*)

25. The slight delay in the submission of this report is due to the late receipt of statements from the municipality.

No. L.F.D.-162.

Copy forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, Fort St. George.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10*th July* 1895.

(Signed) F. C. HARRISON,
Offg. Accountant-General.

Order—dated 20th July 1895, Mis. No. 1146 M., Local and Municipal.

The Government will await the remarks of the Commissioners.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

READ—also the following paper :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. J. MOORE, C.I.E., President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 9th August 1895, No. 522-R.

With reference to G.O., No. 1146 M., Mis. (Local and Municipal), dated 20th July last, I have the honour to submit the following remarks and explanations on the report of the auditors of the accounts of this municipality for 1894-95, the paragraphs heading them being those of the report :—

Paragraph 3.—All endeavours have been and will be made to ensure punctuality. Delays chiefly occur where differences arise in the result-figures of the numerous registers and accounts maintained in adjusting such differences.

Paragraph 5 (*a*).—The scale of fees has been sanctioned by G.O., No. 1076 M., Mis., dated 8th July 1895.

Paragraph 5 (*b*)—*Composition fee of tolls.*—To the farmer of tolls all powers of collection, including that of compounding, were delegated. For the convenience of toll-payers, the farmer authorized the President to compound with them on his behalf, as the lessee, and got credit for all fees thereby realized. The Standing Committee whom I consulted concurred with me in the conclusion that their sanction under section 175 of the Municipal Act was not required under the circumstances.

Paragraph 5 (*c*).—Civil suits have been instituted against the defaulting renters for recovery of the arrears.

Paragraph 6—*Demand, Collection and Balance Statement* (*a*).—The Commissioners have been addressed several times in this connection.

(*b*) All remissions intended to be granted in 1894–95 were entered up and included in the statistics for that year. Some of them, owing to other emergent work, were delayed being formally sanctioned till April, and none extended to May 1895.

(*c*) No interlineation or alteration is made in these registers, without the previous authority in writing of the President or the Revenue officer which is recorded either on the application itself or in the appeal report book and copied into the registers by the clerks who affix their initials to the entry.

(*d*) These registers have been signed as soon as the progressive totals originally made in pencil were verified and inked.

(*e*) This is similar to (*c*).

Paragraph 7, *Expenditure.*—Formal sanction will be obtained to the excesses in due course after the Standing Committee and the Commissioners have passed them. This is done in all annual statements.

Paragraph 9 (*a*).—It has all along been the practice to supply the employés with service books free of charge, the cost thereof being comparatively trifling.

Paragraph 9 (*b*).—This is done.

Paragraph 9 (*c*).—It would be practically impossible to wait for the sanction of Government in all these cases. Some latitude should be allowed to the President as recognized by the Commissioners in the following resolution passed at their meeting on 31st October 1890:—

"That the President be authorized to enter in the revised estimate under Grant I a suitable sum to meet any establishment that may be required which is not provided for in the budget to meet emergencies."

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*i*).—The standing advance to the Assistant Mechanical Engineer will be reduced to Rs. 20 as also to each of the 4 supervisors, as suggested.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*a*).—A civil suit has been instituted for recovery hereof.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*b*), *Item* 15.—These are being recovered by monthly instalments.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*ii*) (*c*).—This advance will be adjusted as soon as all the works towards which it was made are completed.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 27.—These items are mostly irrecoverable and will be written off on further scrutiny.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 28.—This debt arose from failure in payment of amount for which certain rubbish depôts were leased. A decree was obtained against the defaulter who has nearly wiped it off by imprisonment, the term whereof will expire on the 14th of August 1895, after which date it will have to be written off.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iii*), *Item* 35.—This will be written off, as the vouchers containing details of the debit are not traceable.

Paragraph 13, *Class* (*iv*) (*b*), *Item* 44.—These items have been adjusted.

Paragraph 16 (*a*), *Item* 4.—This amount is reserved to meet claims outstanding at the end of the year, the excess over it having been transferred to the Municipal fund.

Paragraph 16 (*d*), *Item* 9.—This is attended to from time to time.

Paragraph 16 (*e*), *Item* 10.—Steps are being taken to adjust these items.

Paragraph 17.—This item has been adjusted by transfer to credit of refund of expenditure of previous years.

Paragraph 20 (*d*), *Items* 5 *and* 6.—This was inadvertently omitted to be attended to before now.

Paragraph 22 (*b*), *Item* 7.— A greater portion of this amount has been paid away and the balance will be now adjusted.

Paragraph 23 (*a*).—Special provision will be made hereafter as suggested.

ORDER—dated 12th September 1895, No. 1480 M., Local and Municipal.

Recorded, with the following remarks:—

(1) In the circumstances stated by the President, the Government does not consider it necessary that the sanction of the Standing Committee should be obtained for compounding in lieu of tolls with persons living outside municipal limits.

(2) It is to be regretted that Municipal Commissioners should be in arrears with their taxes.

(3) The demand, collection and balance statements for each financial year should include only such remissions as are actually sanctioned in that year.

(4) With reference to paragraph 6 (*c*) and (*e*) of the Audit report, the Government considers it desirable that all interlineations and alterations in the demand registers and all entries in the remission registers should be initialled by the Revenue officer himself.

(5) The usual application for the admission in the accounts of expenditure incurred in excess of the revised estimate or without sanction should be expedited.

(6) The question of recovering from municipal subordinates the cost of service books supplied to them will be left to the discretion of the Commissioners.

(7) The auditors' proposal in paragraph 23 (*b*) to maintain a list of persons liable to payment of license fees for offensive and dangerous trades should be adopted. The objections raised by the President do not appear to be insuperable.

(8) The Government does not consider that its special sanction is necessary for the purchase of lands required for extending burial and burning grounds already approved under section 392 of the Act.

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
for *Chief Secretary.*

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Iyengar.