

7-2-07 ✓
13-12-07 ✓
30-1-08 ✓
29-7-08 ✓
2/7/09 ✓
15-7-10 ✓
3-7-11 ✓
20-12-11 ✓
15-2-13 ✓
17-1-14 ✓

[2,000-48-10-87.]

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 532 M.

DATED 8-3-98

INDEXED, ^{SL}

DISPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Administration Report

Recording, with remarks, explanation
of points noticed in the _____ of the
Ootacamund Munl. Council for 1896-97

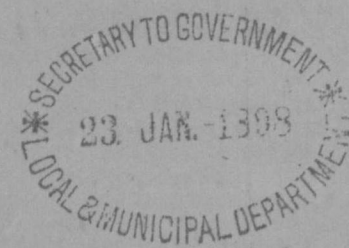
BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.



CURRENT No. 375M

From

The Chairman,
Municipal Council
Ootacamund.

Secy
Misc

Order No 532 Mas of 8/3/98

No. 4423

Recorded.

2. The explanation of the slow progress made in the extension of the private scavenging system, offered by the Chairman, cannot be accepted as adequate.

3. The entertainment of a temporary bill collector, proposed in para. 9 of the Chairman's letter, is approved; but a proposition statement in the prescribed form should be submitted.

1/2
5/3/98

Dated 8th January '98

Received 24-1-98

Registered

Enclosures Two.

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Administration Report

Submitting explanation on certain points noticed in G.O. No. 2232 M., dated 13 October '97, reviewing the

To

The Chairman, M.C. Ootacamund.

Dispt. 9/3/98

123

Pro. of the Ootacamund Municipality, for the year

1896-97.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Enclosure No. 1 to letter No. 4223 dated 8 January

Meeting of the subcommittee appointed to consider suggestions made by the Sanitary Commissioner regarding sites for disposal of night-soil as recorded in B.O. No. 2021 dt. 23rd December 1896.

Present. W. E. Smith

A. M. Jones.

Absent J. Browne.

The subcommittee understands that the whole question connected with the removal of night soil from the town is at present under enquiry and disposal of the special Engineer (Mr. Somers Esq) appointed by Government for the purpose and considers that the time is past for any suggestion made by a non-professional subcommittee to be of any use. They regret that this matter escaped their attention till now.

sd. W. E. Smith

A. M. Jones

I have forgotten the subcommittee meeting but reading the above I should most certainly have been at one with them.

(sd) J. Browne.

True Copy

W. R. Rammall

Chairman

3373497

No. 4423.

8th January 1898

THE CHAIRMAN.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

OOTACAMUND.

To

Enclosures

The Secretary to the Government
Local and Municipal Dept.
Fort Saint George,
the Collector of the Nilgiris, Ootacamund.

25

With reference to G. O. no 2232 dated the 13th October received on the 19th November 1897, reviewing the administration report of the Doracama Municipality for 1896-97, I am desired by the Municipal Council to submit the following reply on some of the points noted in the review.

2. In para. 3 of the order the method adopted for assessing the land tax on ^{the} Botanical gardens is remarked on. This method was the same as that adapted in assessing the lands belonging to private individuals, viz. at Rs. 1-8-0 per acre, per annum, until, on the 1st of April 1905, the High Court ruled it as Ultra-Vires. After the receipt of the ruling, the lands cultivated

1000.

9-9-96

Enclosure No. II to letter No. 4423 dated 28 January 1948
O. M. C.

Abstract of Demand of Taxes for the half-year ending

Name of Assessment Holder

189

N. E.—Discount of one per cent. should be added to all cheques drawn on other than the Bank of Madras (Ootacamund Branch.)

OOTACAMUND.

Dated _____ 189

CHAIRMAN, O. M. C.

MADRAS ACT III OF 1897.

In the event of the taxes claimed within not being paid within 15 days from the date of demand, a warrant will issue under:—

Section "104. In order to the distraint and sale of property under sub-section (1) of section 103, the Chairman shall issue a warrant in the form prescribed in Schedule E or in some similar form; and, for each such warrant, a warrant fee of two annas shall be leviable."

"105. The officer charged with the execution of the warrant shall, before making the distraint, demand payment of the tax due and of the warrant fee (two annas) leviable under section 104. If, thereupon, the said tax and fee are paid, no distraint shall be made, but, if not, the said officer shall:—

- (i) Seize such moveable property of the defaulter as he may think necessary;
- (ii) Make an inventory of the property seized; and
- (iii) Give to the person in possession of the property seized at the time of seizure a notice in the form prescribed in Schedule F or in some similar form.

$\frac{2}{375}$ Nov 1898

$\frac{1}{375}$ Nov 1898

Rs 2128 of 1896-97 there was some delay in obtaining the sanction of the Government for raising the water tax from 1 to 2 per cent, and the notices and bills for the first half year which should have been prepared and issued in May were not issued until August 1896. The Order raising the water tax to 2 per cent was not received until the 15th September 1896, after which the bills and notices for the second half year had to be prepared and issued. The taxes were not collected as rapidly as when the bills and notices are, in the ordinary course, issued immediately after the close of the first month of each half year. Some delay also occurred by the provision of the house tax. Notwithstanding these delays the actual realized balances under the chief sources of revenue did not exceed Rs 2166, i.e. about 6 per cent of the "demand".

Of the sum of Rs 2166 there were only 14 items exceeding Rs 5 and the remaining 174 varied from 1 anna to Rs 5.

Note: Of this amount Rs 1996 have been collected up to 7 December 1897.

Buildings	Rs 1740
Lands	69
Water	57

Viss. para 2 of the Collector's statement in fo. No 2232 M. 13-10-97

80 1396 M. 4
17-8-96
1569 M
14-9-96

1891-92. Rs 61,045, no less than Rs 58,217, or nearly 96 per cent were realized without any distraint of property whatever, and it does not, as remarked by the collector "point to want of proper staff or organization". It may be mentioned here that when property was fully distrainted in 1890-91 the "arrears under current demand" amounted to Rs 11,019. In the following year 1891-92 they were reduced to Rs 7,326. In 1892-93 without distraint of property to Rs 3,636. In 1893-94 the arrears rose to Rs 11,479 in consequence of the levy of land tax at Rs 1.8- per acre having been questioned by the rate payers and payment of the tax declined in many cases. In 1894-95 the arrears again fell to Rs 2,200 and in 1895-96 to Rs 2012. They rose in 1896-97 to Rs 2549, not only on account of the delay in the issue of notices and bills for the two half years, but on account of an increase in the "demand" under house and water tax of about Rs 2400, obtained by a provision of the house tax dogs. The arrears included in the accounts for 1896-97 appertaining to 1892-93

The present Chairman was elected on the 14th January 1892.

And 1892-93 amounted only to Rs 12-8-10 and Rs 12-6-10 respectively. It was easy to write them off, but as there was some prospect of recovery they were retained.

H. Para 3 of houses served by the private ^{scavenging} agency. In their remarks on this matter the Government appear to have overlooked their order no 1886 of this dated 28th August 1891, in which, at the instance of the Municipal Council, they had approved of a reduced scale of fees so as to make the service become more popular and acceptable to a large number of house holders. In the Chairman's letter no 3860 dated 21st December 1895 it was brought to the notice of the Government that:

"Of the 2513 houses, 1034 were situated in the villages marginally noted and had no latrines attached to them - and that there were also in the main-bazaar of the town, a large number of dwellings without latrines."

5. Regarding the probable

90 lb
17-1-96

under statement of births noted by the collector in para 8 of his remarks. It is apparently not known to the Government that many Hindus send their wives away to the Dow Country for accouchment. In this connection the attention of the Government is requested to para 7 of the Chairman's letter no 3860 dated 21st December 1895.

90 lb
17-1-96

h. As regards killing of dogs re para 11 of Collector's remarks - Every endeavour has been made to induce persons in the town to kill dogs without success. The only man in town who happens to be in the employ of the Municipality and who undertook to kill dogs and killed about 60 dogs, decided not to kill any more because his own caste people (scavengers) threatened to ostracize him, and other caste people anathematized him. It was not practicable to institute prosecutions regarding ownerless dogs as the Sanitary Inspector declared his inability to find the real owners of the dogs found in the town. Three

Sanitary

Sanitary Inspector and four Bill Collectors collected the dog tax and up to date licenses have been taken out for 456 dogs.

Sites for night soil deposits.
Copy of the report of the subcommittee bearing date the 3rd December 1897 is enclosed for information.

The staff employed in the collection of the chief tax. Consists of four Bill Collectors on Rs 20. 18. 16 and 15 (Total Rs 69). This staff was entrusted during the year 1896-97 with the collection of bills amounting to Rs 13,100, while the collection of bills amounting to Rs 17,943 (making up the total demand of Rs 31,043) was directly arranged for through the Municipal Office. The Council was of opinion in 1895-96 that "the bill collecting staff wanted strengthening, as bills were not paid on presentation and several calls had to be made before payment could be secured". In the following year it was shown

Vide Administration Report para. 62.

Vide p. 1264m N.
11-9-96

Copy Enclosed

in para 50 (h) of the administration report (1894-95) that
"In accordance with a Fabular Statement drawn up, printed and circulated showing residents what the house, water and land tax payable for each half year was, the chief residents pay the tax due directly into the Office, and the bill collecting staff does not therefore need the strengthening which the Council thought would be necessary."

As there are some arrears now to be got in the Council will employ an additional temporary bill collector for such time as may be indispensably necessary.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
W. Hammett
Commissioner

Forwarded. Mr. Hammett's explanation appear to me to be satisfactory. I understand that a man has now been obtained for killing dogs.
H. Althaus

18/1/98

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

When copied 22/8 189
 When examined 8/3
 When signed 8/3

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189 DATED

COMMENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

AMEND WITH DITTO.

APERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
 A = Copy in full.
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 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only.