

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS BUDGET ORDERS, 1863-64.

The Budget is framed for an expenditure of 4 lakhs of Rupees, the same amount as passed for 1862-63. The provisional assignment was only 3 lakhs of Rupees; it is explained that the orders of December last did not reach the Straits Government "until all the necessary orders had been issued and the Budget was actually in course of preparation."

2. The Budget is prepared in good form and is well explained. The whole sum is appropriated as follows:—

Military	Rs.	42,930
Civil	"	53,180
Public Improvement	"	1,22,510
Repairs	"	73,260
Establishment	"	80,808
Reserve	"	27,312
	Rs.	4,00,000

3. In September 1861, Her Majesty's Secretary of State wrote to impress upon the Government of India "the necessity for making such financial arrangements as will cause these outlying dependencies to be no longer a burden upon the Indian Exchequer."

4. In 1856 an Act was passed for appointing Municipal Commissioners and for levying rates and taxes in the several Stations of the Settlement of Prince of Wales' Island, Singapor, and Malacca, and also for the conservancy and improvement of the several Stations.

5. In reviewing the Budget these points have been borne in mind.

PART I.—ORIGINAL WORKS.

I. MILITARY.

A. ARMY.

6. There are 12 items brought forward under this head, the Estimates for which aggregate Rs. 57,930, of which Rs. 15,000 have been spent up to the end of 1862-63; the balance to complete the works, Rs. 42,930, may be passed.

7. Item No. 8 provides for protecting the Tanglin Barracks with Lightning Conductors at an expense of Rs. 5,120. One of the Barracks, it appears, "was struck very severely by Lightning, and in such a way that, had it been fully occupied, several men must have been struck." There is

danger of the Barracks catching fire and being burned down if not supplied with Conductors, hence the measure is considered necessary "to preserve what has been already erected," and the item may stand, subject to the orders passed on the Estimate which has been submitted.

8. The total sum passed under this head is Rs. 42,930.

II.—CIVIL ADMINISTRATION.

C. REVENUE.

9. *Item No. 14. River Wall and Road to South Compong, Malacca.*—Estimated to cost Rs. 47,820. This work is for the reclamation of land which is to be sold in lots, and is estimated to realize Rs. 32,000. It is properly a Municipal work, and the orders passed upon the Estimate have stated that it should be carried out as such, the ground reclaimed being made over to the Municipal Commissioners, so that the whole profit may be theirs. This work is a continuation of works brought forward in the Budget of 1862-63, when it was remarked that "the formation of the Singapore Municipality must be held to abrogate any claims on the Imperial resources for Town Works that may have been formerly admitted, directly or indirectly, unless specially excepted." A report should be made on these works of reclamation as a whole, showing how much has been advanced from Imperial Funds, and what sales have taken place; the matter can then be adjusted between the Government and the Municipality, the whole of the expenses being debited, and the value of lands reclaimed being credited, to that body. In the mean time this entry may stand as an advance, pending adjustment of the account.

G. JUDICIAL.

Police.

10. *Items Nos. 15, 16, 17, and 18,* aggregating Rs. 3,180, are passed.

Item No. 19. New Court House at Singapore.—The revised Plan with Estimate for this building has been received; the appropriation of Rs. 25,000 for expenditure during 1863-64 is passed, subject to the orders which may issue on the Estimate. It is acknowledged that the building is urgently required.

11. The total sum passed under Civil Administration is Rs. 53,180.

III.—PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT.

H. MUNICIPAL.

12. *Item No. 20. Water Supply for the Town of Singapore.*—The revised scheme and the Estimate, amounting to Rs. 1,14,000, have been submitted and are under consideration. Of this sum, Rs. 28,600 have been contributed by donation, Rs. 23,000 is the value of work to be performed by Convicts, leaving Rs. 62,400 to be contributed by Government. Of the

appropriation of Rs. 33,000 passed for 1862-63, only Rs. 15,000 have been spent; the proposed appropriation for 1863-64, Rs. 40,000, is passed, subject to orders on the Estimate. The Government has become pledged to bring a sufficient main supply of water to the Town of Singapore without any expense to the inhabitants, the Municipality carrying out the distribution of the water in the Town: This pledge was given by the Government for the time being and upheld by Her Majesty's Secretary of State with reference to the munificent gift by a Chinese Merchant in 1858 of \$13,000, to be aided by Convict labour, for the purpose of carrying out a water supply to Singapore, without any charge being imposed upon the inhabitants of the Town. The land required for the Reservoir and Conduit will be given by the proprietors without claiming compensation. The works for distribution, which will be carried out by the Municipality, will cost Rs. 3,34,000, so that the whole water supply will cost in round numbers 5 lakhs of Rupees.

It appears that Rs. 1,89,200 per annum are now paid for water in the Town, so that the benefit to the inhabitants will be very great.

I. MARINE.

13. *Items Nos. 21, 23, and 24,* aggregating Rs. 4,310, are passed.

Item No. 22 is for a new Coal Shed at Singapore. The site of the present Government Coal Shed has become so valuable, owing to the construction, by the Municipality, of a new road and bridge running close to it, that it is said that it would be better to sell the site, and with the proceeds to construct a new Coal Shed in another place equally favourable. This also seems to be a matter for adjustment between the Government and the Municipality; the item could only be sanctioned with the understanding that the Municipality either erects or provides funds for the erection of the new Coal Shed. If the site of the Coal Shed is to be changed, great care must be taken to place it in the most favourable position both as regards safety and convenience. This appropriation cannot be passed, and the matter must be more fully explained before any steps are taken.

Item No. 25. New Screw Pile Lighthouse on the North Sands, in the Straits of Malacca.—The Estimate amounts to Rs. 33,500; it has been returned to Singapore with reference to remarks made by the Marine Department. The appropriation of Rs. 21,000 is passed, subject to orders on the Estimate.

K. AGRICULTURAL.

14. *Items Nos. 26, 27, and 28,* aggregating Rs. 7,400, are passed.

Item No. 29, Rs. 1,100, for planting 200 acres of land with 20,000 Forest trees, has been struck out, for inclusion in the "Forest Budget."

L. COMMUNICATIONS.

15. *Item No. 30*, for metalling five miles of Bukit Temah Road at an expense of Rs. 1,980, assisted by Rs. 1,320 of Convict Labour, is passed.

This is the only entry on account of metalled roads.

16. The 12 items entered for unmetalled roads aggregate Rs. 20,780, and are passed; the whole of these works are new short roads and bridle-paths for opening out the country, and the Estimates have been sanctioned by the Governor.

17. *Item No. 43. A, B, C Bridge at Singapore.*—The Estimate amounts to Rs. 18,590, of which Rs. 13,590 have been spent, leaving the appropriation to complete the work, Rs. 5,000, which is passed, subject to remarks, para. 9, on item 14.

Items Nos. 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, and 49 are for constructing small Drain Bridges, and aggregate Rs. 16,100. The Estimates have been passed by the Governor, and the appropriations are sanctioned.

Item No. 50 is for constructing a new Bungalow at Changhee, Rs. 2,640. The appropriation is passed; the old Bungalow which is to be replaced is stated to be completely rotten, and shelter is much required by the Government Officers visiting the District. The Bungalow will be on the road to Pulo Obin and the Granite Quarries.

18. The total sum passed under Public Improvement is Rs. 1,19,210.

PART II.—REPAIRS.

19. The Repairs amount to Rs. 73,260, divided as follows:—

Military	Rs. 22,550
Civil	" 21,970
Public Improvement	" 25,740

20. The appropriation is passed under the explanation afforded. Special repairs are nearly as heavy as the ordinary current repairs.

PART III.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

21. The appropriation amounts to Rs. 80,808, which is about 25 per cent. on the sum to be spent on works, and higher than it was last year.

The Executive Engineer at Singapore is also Superintendent of Convicts, who are to execute work to the extent of Rs. 40,000 during 1863-64.

The Analysis of Establishments shows that—

Rs. 14,010 may be set down for Direction.

" 55,850 " " " Construction.

" 10,916 " " " Account.

The expenditure at Malacca, where there is an Assistant Supervisor in charge, is Rs. 58,850. In Penang, where the expenditure is only

estimated at Rs. 37,560, there would appear to be no necessity for an Executive Engineer. The expense of the present Establishment in Penang is about 46 per cent. on the expenditure.

22. It is of advantage, for many obvious reasons, that there should be an Engineer Officer of some experience and standing, as Secretary to the Governor of the Straits, in the Department of Public Works; but it seems a question whether the Municipality should not have their own Executive Engineer, and whether the P. W. Establishment in respect to Executive Engineers might not be reduced. It is stated that there are many candidates for work by Contract; care should be taken to introduce a good system of Contracts, and the local Officers, not in the Department, might assist in seeing to the proper execution of outlying works. Much may be done in this way, if the movement has the hearty concurrence of the Governor.

23. A separate communication will be made on the subject of the Establishments, and pending the issue of further orders, the appropriation is passed for a monthly outlay not exceeding Rs. 6,734.

24. This concludes the review of the Imperial Budget, amounting to Rs. 4,00,000, distributed as follows:—

	Original Works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
<i>I.—Military.</i>			
A. Army	42,930	22,550	65,480
Total Military	42,930	22,550	65,480
<i>II.—Civil Administration.</i>			
C. Revenue	25,000	330	25,330
D. General	...	11,000	11,000
E. Ecclesiastical	...	1,980	1,980
F. Educational	...	220	220
G. Judicial	28,180	11,440	39,620
Total Civil Administration	53,180	24,970	78,150
<i>III.—Public Improvement.</i>			
H. Municipal	40,000	1,980	41,980
I. Marine	25,310	2,420	27,730
K. Agricultural	7,400	2,640	10,040
L. Communications	46,500	18,700	65,200
Total Public Improvement	1,19,210	25,740	1,44,950
Total Works and Repairs	2,15,320	73,260	2,88,580
Establishment	...	...	80,808
Reserve	...	...	30,612
Grand Total	...	...	4,00,000

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.,
20th May 1863.

[Straits Settlements Budget Orders, 1863-64.]

J. P. BEADLE, *Lieut. Col., R. E.*
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

CIRCULAR No. 30 of 1863.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HON'BLE THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF
INDIA IN COUNCIL

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
Fort William, 20th May 1863.

General.
Accounts.

Read Orders on the Budget of the Straits Settlements for 1863-64.

Ordered, that a copy of the above Orders be forwarded—

Revenue—Item No. 14.
Marine—Item No. 22.
Communications—Item No. 43.
Part III, Establishments.

To the Governor of the Straits Settlements
for information and guidance, and that his
special attention be drawn to the remarks
on the Items marginally noted.

To the Home, Financial, Foreign, and Military Departments for
information.

To the Quarter Master General of the Army and the Military
Finance Department for information.

Governments of Bengal, Madras,
Bombay, N. W. P., and Punjab.
Chief Commissioners, Oudh, Cen-
tral Provinces, and British Burmah.
Resident at Hyderabad.
Commissioner of Mysore.

To the Local Governments and Adminis-
trations marginally noted.

Ordered also, that it be intimated to all the
Departments and Governments above named,
that complete sets of the Budget Orders for 1863-64, with the General
Resolution of the Government of India on the subject, will be forwarded
to them hereafter.

Ordered further, that a copy of the above Resolution, and of the
Orders on the Budget of the Straits Settlements for 1863-64, be for-
warded to the Public Works Department with the Governor General,
for His Excellency's information.

W. Mearns Lieut. Col., R. E.
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras

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Dec 1867.

Secretary

From the Office Secretary
to the Government of the State

Dated 20th May 1863

Dec 10th June 1863

Printed 1863

Forwarding copy
of same to the Hon. Secy.

Get of the Hon. Secy. Secy.
minutes for 1863/64.

Recorded

1863/64

1863/64