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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>2407</u>	Press
<u>85-86</u>	Mis.
Dated <u>6</u> <u>9</u>	1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 85. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, (Revenue—Forests,) dated Simla, 19th September 1870, No. 534 F. :—

Demarcation of Railway Fuel Reserves, Madras, and additional Establishments required.

Read again—

Public Works Department No. 458 F, of 29th September 1869, to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

Do. do. No. 493 F, of 11th October 1869, to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

Do. do. No. 233 F, of 14th May 1870, to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch.

Do. do. No. 234 F, of 14th May 1870, to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

Read also—

A letter from the Secretary to the Government of Madras in the Revenue Department, No. 1,221, dated 10th August 1870, and enclosures.

Despatch from the Government of Madras, to Her Majesty's Secretary of State, No. 4, of 13th August 1870.

OBSERVATIONS.—On several occasions the Government of India has invited the attention of the Madras Government to the necessity of demarcating Forest tracts suitably situated, to provide a permanent supply of fuel for the working of the Railways in that Presidency. The reports now received show that 14 blocks have already been demarcated in the Cuddapah, North Arcot, Salem, and Coimbatore Districts, aggregating 17,000 acres or about 26 square miles.

2. The Conservator estimates that nearly 100 square miles will be required to provide a sufficient supply of fuel, and he apparently bases this estimate on the assumption that the yield of 50 acres will be sufficient to cover the average annual requirements of one mile of Railway. At the rate of four trains daily, and one maund per train mile, the annual consumption would be about 1,500 maunds per mile. The yield to cover this would require to be 30 maunds per acre per annum.

3. There are no data whatever before the Government of India regarding the yield of wood per acre, under different circumstances and in different parts of this country; further experience will doubtless show that the yield varies exceedingly in different districts, according to climate, soil, and other circumstances. Major Beddome should explain the data on which his figures are based, but His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is inclined to think that no reliable estimate of the area that will be needed to supply the wants of the Madras Railways in this respect can as yet be framed. The climate in the Eastern Districts of the Madras Presidency is dry, and probably not favourable to rapid growth and good reproduction; actual experience alone will show what area will ultimately be required in the different districts.

4. The length of lines constructed or sanctioned is 1,340 miles. In addition to this, it is probable that at least 100 miles more will be sanctioned. Adopting Major Beddome's estimate, for the sake of argument, about 115 square miles would supply the needful fuel for the working of the lines. Sea-borne coal will, however, always be used to some extent, and it may not be impossible to import coal via the Godavery at paying rates as compared with sea-borne coal or wood fuel.

The formation of the reserves will take time, and should it eventually be found that the area taken up is too extensive, it will then not be difficult to dispose of the surplus land, in the event of its produce not finding a sale otherwise than to the Railways at remunerative rates.

5. In addition to the lines in the Madras Presidency there are the Railways projected in the Mysore territory. The necessity of taking measures to provide a supply of fuel for these lines has already been urged upon the Chief Commissioner of Mysore, and the Governor-General in Council trusts that the needful steps are being taken by the Mysore Forest Department.

6. In order to enable the Conservator to make satisfactory progress with the demarcation of these reserves, the Madras Government has sanctioned the appointment of three additional Assistant Conservators of the third class, on a salary of Rupees 200 per mensem each, and His Excellency in Council considers that this sanction should be confirmed as these additional officers will certainly be required for the special purpose explained. The additional charge is necessary and will amply repay itself. The Madras Government add that the additional outlay during the current year will be met from the existing Budget provision under "B. Establishments."

7. It is stated that the Conservator of Forests has been instructed to report what additional subordinate agency he will require for the charge of these reserves. When the strength of these subordinate establishments is settled, a Tabular Statement should be submitted to the Government of India in this Department.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution, with the papers read, be forwarded to the Financial Department for consideration and orders with reference to paragraph 6.

Ordered also, that a copy be forwarded to the Government of Madras in the Revenue Department for information and guidance.

Also, that a copy be forwarded, for information, to the Government of Madras in the Public Works Department, Railway Branch, and to the Chief Commissioner of Mysore.

(Signed) W. A. CROMMELIN, Colonel, R.E.,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 86.

ORDER THEREON, 6th October 1870, No. 2,409.

RAILWAY, No. 8.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE—FORESTS.

To

No. 534 F.

Dated Simla, 19th September 1870.

Received 28th — —

*For L. Smith George
6th October 1870*

Order to be recorded.

15th 24th 29th

[Signature]

Demarcation of Railway Fuel Reserves, Madras,
and additional Establishments required.

With an order

1873 812

Govt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

For Laid 1880
6th October 1870

From

10.

For

6th Oct 1870 No 2409

Nos. 85-86

Railway Fuel Reserve. Mr. J.
The Govt. of Madras forwarding
copy of Resolution regarding
the ~~the~~ demerit of Rail-
way Fuel Reserve in
Madras ~~for~~ recorded.

Produced to be recorded.
15th 21th 09

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