M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 40

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 352 Press —Mis.—

108-09

Dated 4-2- 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th February 1871.

No. 108. Read the following Endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated 9th January 1871:—

Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Camp at Ootacamund, 4th January 1871, No. 2,530.

In forwarding the documents as per margin, for the information of Government, I have the honour to inform you that I consider it very much to the interest of Government that some rule should be laid down that all Government departments should draw their supplies of timber from the depôts of the Forest Department, and that only in the event of our not being able to supply their wants should they be allowed to purchase from the local private markets or from contractors.

Letter No. 498, dated 17th December 1870, from the Deputy Conservator of Madura, etc., forests, to the Conservator of Forests.
Copy of letter No. 240, dated 20th September 1870, from do. to the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, Palamcottah.
Copy of letter No. 171, dated 7th November 1870, from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Deputy Conservator of Madura, etc., forests.
Copy of Statement showing the rates paid for timber in the several ranges of Madura and Tinnevelly Districts.
1 Statement showing the average rates of the different sorts of timber in Madura (town).
1 Statement showing the sale rates of timber from the Government Depôt at Cumbum, Pereacolum, Pulney, and Ambasamudrum.

2. By comparing the enclosed list of rates paid for timber by the Department Public Works in the Madura and Tinnevelly Ranges, furnished by the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division, with the statement of rates ruling in our depôts in the same districts, as furnished by Lieutenant Walker, and forwarded herewith, it will be at once seen that the Department Public Works are paying far more for their timber by resorting to private markets and contractors than if they indented on the depôts of the Forest Department; the same system prevails more or less throughout the Presidency, and must be adverse to the interest of Government. I will not say that the Engineer's Department do not in some instances obtain timber from private sources cheaper than they could from our depôts, or that this can ever entirely cease to be the case as long as the Government forests are as imperfectly guarded and conserved as they are at present, or whilst there are tracts of private forest worked without any attention to conservancy and in no way under imperial control; but even allowing that our rates are in excess of those of private sources, it must still be to the interest of Government that all their timber should be drawn from their own depôts, and strict rules to this effect will doubtless enable our department gradually to develope itself, and will besides be a considerable check upon illicit felling.

3. Under the present system, profits that should be going towards the development of the Forest Department are finding their way into the pockets of petty contractors. It will be seen by the correspondence forwarded, that the Engineer's Department acknowledge this. Under such a system timber must cost Government more than if drawn from their own depôts, though the subordinates in the Department Public Works, looking to a per-centage, would probably persuade their officers that the reverse is the case. Again, we can never know under existing circumstances what timber may be required from us. If the Public Works Department can procure, or imagine they can procure their supplies a little cheaper from

outsiders, we are not indented upon at all; but, if these sources fail we are perhaps suddenly called upon to supply a large amount, and then there is an outcry if we have not a seasoned supply in hand, or perhaps a grumble at our rates, and a long correspondence before the usual vouchers are granted. I am referring to facts. I would therefore strongly recommend that all supplies should, when possible, be drawn from our depôts, and that approximate indents should be sent in to us periodically showing future requirements, so that we may be prepared to meet them.

From the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Madura and Tinnevelly, to the Conservator of Forests, Madras, dated Camp at Trichinopoly, 17th December 1870, No. 498.

I HAVE the honour, in forwarding copy of a letter addressed by me to the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, and his reply, to request that you will call the attention of Government to the advisability of laying down some rules with the object of causing the supply of timber required by the Department of Public Works and all Government Departments to be drawn from our depôts when available. I have already drawn attention to this point—*vide* my Annual Administration Reports for 1868-69 (Salem and South Arcot), and 1869-70 (Madura and Tinnevelly).

2. The introduction and extension of departmental working is naturally distasteful to the timber merchants and contractors, and even at first to the general public, who are led to believe that the rates charged in the Government Depôts are excessive and far higher than those at which the timber could be obtained on the license and voucher system; the fact being that it is quite the reverse. If Government Departments do not show the example of indenting on us for wood, not only do we lose largely from waste and decay, not to mention the interest on money expended for felling, squaring, dragging, carting, etc., and the pay of the depôt establishments, but parties are encouraged by the large outside demand to carry on a system of illicit felling with or without the connivance of our subordinates.

3. If you will refer to the statement which I have the honour to submit, and compare it with the original submitted by Major Payne, you will observe the enormous difference betwixt the rates charged in the Department Public Works and those ruling in our depôts. The Superintending Engineer's statement gives, it must be remembered, in most instances, the rates "wrought and put up" whilst ours is all "rough wrought;" but that in no way accounts for the great discrepancy in price. In fact, the rates for sawing are, as a rule, low, varying from six pies to one anna per square foot.

4. The fact that the subordinates of the Public Works Department prefer buying from contractors to coming to our depôts or indenting through their Range Officers, is well known to the officers of that department, and I fear we cannot but infer that Overseers and Sub-Overseers find the former course more compatible with their private advantage. I have never yet heard a good or sufficient reason for the Government supply being drawn from private sources when available in their own depôts. If we knew that we had to provide for it we should endeavour to keep a supply of the descriptions and scantling most required, and comply with any indents of the Range Officer or Superintending Engineer in preference to any others, adjusting the accounts by simple receipts or vouchers. An approximate estimate of quantity and description of timber required, and where, might be sent in by the Superintending Engineer early each year on receipt of his budget orders, and the timber thus supplied cannot surely be worse than that drawn from private parties or firms who have too often received or purchased it from the clandestine fellers.

5. I would strongly advocate the publication of a stringent rule that all Public Departments requiring timber, bamboos, etc., should, in the first instance, apply to the special department, and that only in the event of the latter being unable to supply it within a reasonable time should purchases from the local market (private) be authorized or permitted.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th February 1871.

From the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Madura and Tinnevelly, to the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated Camp at Kadyanuller, 20th September 1870, No. 240.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will furnish me as early as possible with a statement of the rates paid by your department per cubic foot for timber in the several Talooks or Ranges in Madura and Tinnevelly, the description of timber used, and whether it is received in the rough, squared off, or sawn up to measurement.

2. I am convinced that the rates are greatly in excess of those at which it could be supplied by the Government Department, and am anxious to obtain reliable data on the subject, which I trust you will do all in your power to supply.

From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Madura and Tinnevelly, dated Palamcottah, 7th November 1870, No. 2,171.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 240, dated 20th September 1870, I have the honour to forward herewith a statement showing the rates paid per cubic foot for timber of various descriptions by Range Officers in the 8th Division, and to inform you that in many of the ranges timber is supplied by petty contractors, who, I think, must make very considerable profits. Teak, on account of its rumoured scarcity, is gone out of use altogether in the 8th Division, and very inferior kinds of jungle-wood are now, I regret to say, frequently used in Government buildings.

Statement showing the rates paid for Timber in the several Ranges of the Madura and Tinnevelly Districts.

	TINNEVELLY.										MADURA.										Remarks.
	1st Range.		2nd Range.		3rd Range.		4th Range.		Paumben Range.		1st Range.		2nd Range.		3rd Range.		4th Range.		Paumben Range.		
	Tinnevelly Taluk do. Thenkari do. Nangunary do.		Ambasamoodrum Taluk, Tenkasy do.		Streevelliputhoor Taluk. Shunkerneinar Covil do.		Suttur Taluk, Ootapedarum.		—		Madura Taluk, Tirumungalam do. Meylore do.		Dindigul Taluk, Pulney do. Peresacolum do.		Ramnad and Shevagungah Zemindaries.						
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	
Congoo wood, wrought and put up per cubic foot.	3	8	0	*3 to 3	6	0	.....			3	8	0	.....			.....			.....			* Paid in Tencasy Talook.
Vengay do. do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			3	4	0	2	8	0	.....			† Do. in Thenkari Taluk.
Teak† do. do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			3 to 3	8	0	.....			.....			‡ It is very doubtful whether any teak has actually been used of late years. Mr. Hayne, the Range Officer, does not state in his letter, No. 235 of 11th instant, for what particular works he purchased the teak.
Veckalee do. do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			1	8	0	.....			
Mathagari Vemboo do. do....	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			1	8	0	.....			
Paulai	.....			.....			.....			1	12	0	.....			.....			.....			
Ven Teak	.....			.....			.....			1	8	0	.....			3	8	0	1	5	3	
Asaney	.....			.....			.....			1	8	0	.....			.....			1	9	6	
Iron wood, Rough.	.....			.....			.....			1	10	0	.....			.....			1	4	0	
Wrought.	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			
Mailala do. ...	.....			.....			.....			1	4	0	.....			.....			.....			
Shembaga Pala, do. ...	.....			.....			.....			1	6	0	.....			.....			.....			
Munjel kadambu, do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			3	8	0	.....			
Vagai, do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			3	8	0	.....			
Kunnupalai, do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			
Augillee, do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			
Thambavoo, do. ...	.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			.....			

(Signed) G. M. PAYNE, Major,
Ag. Supg. Engineer, 8th Division.

7th November 1870.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th February 1871.

Statement showing the average rates of the different sorts of Timbers in Madura (Town).

Name and description of Timber.	Rate per cubic foot.	Remarks.
	Rs. A. P.	
Vengay joists	1 12 5	These are the rates charged by Native merchants in the bazaar. Much of the timber is believed to be clandestinely felled in Government forests without any payment. All is said to be drawn from Zemindary forests.
Veckalee do.	1 5 0	
Teak do.	1 13 0	
Vaghey beam	1 13 10	
Vengay planks	0 14 2	
Thothagathy do.	3 6 1	
Mathagari Vemboo	1 14 8	
Munjakadambay	1 7 10	

(Signed) C. J. WALKER, Lieutenant,
Deputy Conservator.

Statement showing the sale rate of Timber from the Government Depôts at Cumbum, Pereacolum, Pulney, and Ambasamoodrum.

Description of Timber.	Rate per cubic foot.				Remarks.
	Cumbum.	Pereacolum.	Pulney.	Ambasamoodrum, (Tinnevelly District).	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Teak	1 4 0	1 8 0	1 4 0	1 8 0	The rates for sawn timber in Ambasamoodrum Depôt are Annas 4 per cubic foot extra. In other depôts no sawn timber is available.
Thothagaty (Black-wood).	1 2 0	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 8 0	
Vengay	1 2 0	1 4 0	1 2 0	1 8 0	
Vaghey	0 13 0	1 0 0	0 13 0	.....	
Munjakadamboo	0 11 0	0 14 0	0 11 0	.....	
Malavemboo					
Velvala					
Veckalee					
Kasturi					
Maroothy					
Ayni	.....	.....	.....	1 8 0	
Cong	.....	.....	.....	1 8 0	
Nang	.....	.....	.....	1 8 0	
Shem	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Mathagari Vemboo ...	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Agal	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Karangalli	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Davudaram	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Maila	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Kadambai	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Poombudri	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Shembaga Pala	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Timbers not specified above	.....	.....	.....	1 0 0	This rate is tentative in Ambasamoodrum.

(Signed) C. J. WALKER, Lieutenant,
Deputy Conservator of Forests.

Transferred to the Department of Public Works.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 109. ORDER THEREON, 4th February 1871, No. 352.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 11.

IN these papers the Conservator of Forests submits, for the consideration of Government, the propriety of granting to his department a monopoly of the supply of timber to the Public Works and other Government Departments, on the ground that all such profits as can be made from trade in the article may go to the development of his department, and not to the encouragement of private enterprise or the illicit felling of trees.

2. In support of his views Major Beddome furnishes statements to show the prices at which various descriptions of timber can be supplied by the Forest Department and that at which the same kinds of timber are charged to Government in Public Works Estimates. These statements are, however, defective, inasmuch as, while the prices of the Forest Department are those charged for timber in the log, those of the Public Works Department include the cost of working and putting up. Taking teak for example, the price at which it is stated that it can be delivered in Madura by the Forest Department is Rupees 1-13-0 "rough wrought," whilst the charge by the Public Works Department for the same description of wood "wrought and put up" is shown to be from Rupees 3 to 3-8-0. Judging from these rates, and making only the necessary allowance for the labour of working up, for wastage, and for the expense of fitting, it does not appear to the Government that the charge of the Public Works Department for this building material is necessarily excessive.

3. At the Presidency the best Moulmein teak can be purchased in picked logs at from Rupees 80 to 85 a ton of 50 cubic feet, or for somewhat less than the rate at which the Forest Department desire the timber to be obtained from it to be carried into general public use. Moulmein timber is not of course everywhere procurable, but if it be considered that it is generally to be obtained for about Rupees 1-9-0 per cubic foot, in well shaped and squared logs that can be wrought up with a minimum degree of labour and wastage, and that the Public Works charge for it so wrought up is, at Madras, Rupees 2-15-0 per cubic foot, it is apparent that the Forest Department charge of Rupees 1-13-0 per cubic foot for a kind of timber in the rough much less susceptible of economical adaptation cannot be looked upon as very moderate, while the charge of Rupees 3 to 3-8-0 for the same timber wrought and put up is relatively far from exorbitant.

4. Under these circumstances the Government cannot see sufficient grounds for restricting the purchase of timber by either the Public Works or other departments to the stock likely to be made available by the Forest Department. The Government, however, determine to point the attention of the officers of the Department Public Works to the sources of supply now opened to them by the development of the Forest Establishment. They desire that the Department of Public Works shall in all cases consider and enquire whether the timber which they require may not be more economically obtained from the Forest Department, and they will confer with the officers of the Forest Department with reference to the various qualities of wood which may be rendered available for the public service

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 4th February 1871.

from the forests of this Presidency, the object of Government being to save the stores of teak which are still exisiting as much as possible.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Conservator of Forests.
,, Revenue Department.
To Major R. B. Kennedy.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 2530.

Office of Conservator of Forests
Camp Cotacamund 4th January
1871

From

Major R. H. Beddome
Conservator of Forests.

To,

W. Hudleston Esqre
Secretary to Government
"
R. D.

Sir,

In forwarding the documents as per margin for the information of Government, I have the honor to inform you that I consider it very much to the interest of Government that some rule should be laid down, that all Government Departments should draw their supplies of timber from the Depôts of the Forest Department and that only in the event of our not being able to supply their wants, should they be allowed to purchase from the local private

* Letter No. 498 dated 17th Decr. 1870. from the Dy. Conr. of Madura &c. forests to the Conr.
Copy of Letter No. 240 dated 20th Septr. 1870 from — do — to the Supt. Engineer 8th Division - Palamcotta.
— do — No. 171 dated 7th Novembr. 1870. from the Supt. Engineer 8th Division to the Dy. Conservator of Madura &c. forests.
Copy of Statement shewing the rates paid for timber in the several ranges of Madura & Tinnevelly districts.
1. Statement shewing the average rates of the different sorts of timber in Madura (Town).
1 — do — shewing the sale rates of timber from the Govt. Depôts at Cumbum, Periacolum, Pulney, & Ambasamoodrum.

— marked

markets or from Contractors.-

2.- By comparing the enclosed list of rates paid for Timber by the D. P. W. in the Madura and Tinnevelly ranges furnished by the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division with the statement of rates ruling in our Depôts in the same districts as furnished by Lieutenant Walker and forwarded herewith, it will be at once seen that the D. P. W. are paying far more for their timber by resorting to private markets and Contractors than if they indented on the Depôts of the Forest Department, the same system prevails more or less throughout the Presidency and must be adverse to the interest of Government I will not say that the Engineers' Department do not in some instances obtain timber from private sources cheaper than

they could from our depôts; or that this can ever entirely cease to be the case as long as the Government forests are as imperfectly guarded and Conserved as they are at present, or whilst there are tracts of private forest worked without any attention to Conservancy and in no way under imperial control but even allowing that our rates are in excess of those of private sources, it must still be to the interest of Government that all their timber should be drawn from their own depôts, and strict rules to this effect will doubtless enable our Department gradually to develop itself, and will besides be a considerable check upon illicit felling.-

3.- Under the present system profits that should be going towards the development of the Forest Department are finding their way into the pockets of petty contractors,

it will be seen by the correspondence for-
=warded, that the Engineer's Department
acknowledge this; under such a system
timber must cost Government more than
if drawn from their own depôts, though
the subordinates in the D. P. W. looking
to a per centage would probably persuade
their Officers that the reverse is the case.-
Again we can never know under existing
circumstances what timber may be required
from us, if the D. P. W. can procure or
imagine they can procure their supplies a
little cheaper from outsiders, we are not in-
=dented upon at all, but if these sources fail,
we are perhaps suddenly called upon to
supply a large amount, and then there is
an outcry if we have not a seasoned sup-
=ply in hand, or perhaps a grumble at
our rates and a long correspondence before
the

the usual vouchers are granted, I am referring
to facts, I would therefore strongly recom-
=mend that all supplies should when possi-
=ble be drawn from our depôts and that
approximate indents should be sent in to us
periodically shewing future requirements so
that we may be prepared to meet them.-

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servt.

Robt. Lowe Major
Conservator of Forests

Dated 1st January 1871

Received 6th January 1871

Received No. 2530.

Cuddalore 31st December 1870.

No. 552 - Highly Confidential

Submits certain corres-
pondence on the subject
of timber supplies to P.W.D.
for the information of Govt.

Dewan Bahadur K. Vira Raghava Chetty
Acting Head Sheristadar

To

The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

Dated 1st January 1871
Received 6th January 1871
Read: No. 2530.

Cuddalore 31st December 1870.

No. 552 - Highly Confidential

Submits certain corres-
pondence on the subject
of timber supplies to P.W.D.
for the information of Govt.

Dewan Bahadur K. Vira Raghava Chetty
Acting Head Sheristadar

To

The Conservator of Forests.
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward herewith a statement showing the average rates for different sorts of timber cut in Arcot (Town).

2. The Board request that you will favour them with your opinion on the rates proposed.

I have &c.

(Sd.) [illegible]
Secretary to Govt.

Statement showing the average rates for different sorts of Timber cut in Arcot (Town).

Name and description of Timber.	Rate per Cubic foot.			Remarks
Vengay Joists	1	12	5	These are the rates
Veckali do	1	5	-	charged by Native
Teak do	1	13	-	merchants in the
Vengay Beams	1	13	10	bazaar - much of
Vengay Planks	-	14	2	the timber is believed
Thothagathy do	3	6	1	to be clandestinely
Mathagathy Venkeys	1	14	8	felled in Govt. Forests
Mungakadambay	1	7	10	without any pay-
				ment-
				All is sent to be
				drawn from
				Zemindary Forests-

Lamphen Lenthen
Deputy Conservator

G.18 Sanitary 1871 R. 122

V.

Enclosure.

In a letter R 2530 of 4 January 1871 from the Conservator to the Secretary to Govt. R. D.

D.

Rev. 52/71

Rev. 108/71

Office of the Conservator of Forests

No 240 Camp Kadayanallur

20th September 1870

From

The Deputy Conservator of Forests

Madura & Tinnevelly

To

The Superintending Engineer

8th Division

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will furnish me as early as possible with a statement of the rates paid by your Department per Cubic foot for timber in the General Taluq or Ranges in Madura and Tinnevelly the description of timber used and whether

whether it is received in the rough, squared
for dawnsup to measurement.
I am convinced that the rate are
greatly in excess of those at which it
could be supplied by the Government
Department and am anxious to
obtain reliable data on the subject
which I trust you will do all in
your power to supply

I have &c.

(Signed) C. J. Walker Lt.
Dy Conservy Forests

Comptd. 6th Feb

(True Copy)

(Campbell Walker) Lt
Dy Conservy Forests

Rw: 52/71.

1972

C. 18 Copy 1/11 R. 1871

of timber supplied to Exhibition for the information of Govt.

Secretary to Govt. Madras

9 Jan 1871

Conservator of Forests

Secy to Govt

II.

Enclosure

In a letter No 2530 dated 4th January 1871 from the Conservator to the Secretary to Govt. R. D.

2
Rev. 52/71

P.W. 108/71

Statement showing the sale rate of timber from the Government Depôt at Cumbum, Periacolum, Pulney and Ambasamoodrum 21

Description of Timber	Rate per cubic foot: Cumbum	Periacolum	Pulney	Ambasamoodrum Timinerly (District)	Remarks
Teak	1 4 -	1 8 -	1 4 -	1 8 -	The rates for Saxon timber in Ambasamoodrum depôt are As 4 per cubic foot extra to other depôts as Saxon timber is available
Thothugaty (Black wood)	1 2 -	1 4 -	1 2 -	1 8 -	
Vengay	1 2 -	1 4 -	1 2 -	1 8 -	
Vaghay	- 13 -	1 - -	- 13 -	- - -	
Menjacadambos					
Malavembos					
Velvela	- 11 -	- 14 -	- 11 -	- - -	
Veekalee					
Kusturi					
Maroothy					
Agni	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 8 -	
Coong	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 8 -	
Nang	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 8 -	
Shem	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Mathagariembos	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Agal	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Karungalli	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Damadaram	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Incile	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Kadambai	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Poombudri	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Shembaga Pala	- - -	- - -	- - -	1 2 -	
Timbers not specified above				1 - -	This rate is tentative in Ambasamoodrum

Campbell Anthon Lieutt
Dy Conservator of Forests

No 2171

Palamcottah
7th November 1870

From

The Acting Superintending Engineer
8th Division

To

The Deputy Conservator of Forests
Madura Mid Division

Sir

With reference to your letter No 2450 dated 20th September 1870, I have the honor to forward herewith a statement showing the rates paid per Cubic foot for Timber of various descriptions by Range officers in the 8th Division, and to inform you that in many of the Ranges timber is supplied by petty Contractors who I think must make very considerable profits - Teak on account of its rumoured scarcity is gone out of use altogether in the 8th Division and very inferior kinds of jungle wood are now I regret to say, frequently used in Government buildings -

I have &c.

(Signed) Payne Major
Ag Superintending Engineer
8th Division

(True copy)
Campbell Gunther Lieut
Dy Conservator

VI

Conclusion.

In a letter No 2330 of 24th January 1871 from the Conservator the Acting Executive Engineer R. H. -

Rec. 5th Feb 1871

III.

Enclosure.

In a letter No. 2530 dated
4 January 1871 from the
Consr. to the Secy. to Govt. B.

3
Rev. 52/71.

For 108/71

Statement shewing the rates paid for Timber in the Several Ranges of the Madura and Tinnevelly Districts.

	Madura												Tinnevelly											
	1st Range			2nd Range			3rd Range			Paumben Range			1st Range			2nd Range			3rd Range			4th Range		
	Madura Taluq Tirumangalam &c. Inspection &c.			Dindigul Taluq Palney &c. Periakulam &c.			Ramnad & Sherasingapatam Zamindaries						Tinnevelly Taluq Tuticorin &c. Kangayam &c.			Ambasamudram Taluq Tenkasy &c.			Shenkottah Taluq Sankaranainar Coil &c.			Cattiar Taluq Ootoor &c.		
Coongoo wood wrought & put up per Cubic foot	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	-	3½	3	6	-	-	-	-	3	8	-
Vengery wood wrought & put up per Cubic foot	3	4	-	2	8	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	×3⅘	4	-	3½	3	6	-	2	4	-	3	8	-
Teak ——do——do——	-	-	-	2⅔	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vickalee ——do——do——	-	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
Mathagiri Vembo ——do——	-	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paulai ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vem Teak ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	-
Asaney ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	9	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron wood Roughly ——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nauga —— wrought	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-
Injeli ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-
Sembagapalai ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	-	-	-	-
Mempalkudamlai ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	-	-	-	-
Vagai ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-
Kunnupalai ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-
Angidlai ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	-
Thambaram ——do——	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	-

× Paid in Shenkarai Taluq
⊗ —do— in Tenkasy —do—
× It is very doubtful whether any teak has actually been used of late years. Mr Hayne the Range officer does not state in his letter No 235 of 11th instant for what particular work the teak was purchased

Supt. Engineer's office 8th Divn
7th November 1870

(Signed) Payne Major
Asst Superintending Engineer 8th Division

(True Copy)
Superintendent

25?

No 498

Office of Deputy Conservator of Forests
Camp Trichinopoly
17th December 1870

From

The Deputy Conservator of Forests
Madura and Tinnevelly

To

The Conservator of Forests
Madras

Sir

I have the honor in forwarding Copy of a letter addressed by me to the Superintending Engineer 8th Division and his reply to request that you will call the attention of Government to the advisability of laying down some rules with the object of Carrying the supply of timber required by the Department of Public Works and all Government Departments to be drawn from our depots when available.

I have already drawn attention to this point in my Annual administration Reports for 1868-69 (Salem and South Arcot) and 1869-70 (Madura and Tainevelly)

2 The introduction and extention of departmental working is naturally distasteful to the timber merchants and Contractors, and even at first to the General public who are led to believe that the rate charged in the

the Government depôts are excessive, and far higher than those at which the timber could be obtained on the license and voucher System, the fact being that it is quite the reverse. If Government Departments do not show the example of indenting on us for wood, not only do we lose largely from waste and decay, not to mention the interest on money expended for felling, squaring, dragging, Carting &c. And the pay of the depôt establishment, but parties are encouraged by the large outside dem and to Carry On a System of illicit felling with or without the Connivance of our Subordinates.

3. If you will refer to the statement which I have the honor to Submit, and Compare it with the original Submitted by Major Payne you will observe the enormous difference between the rates Charged on the D. P. W. and those ruling in Our depôts. The Superintending Engineers statement gives, it must be remembered in most instances the rate "wrought and put up" whilst ours is all "rough wrought" but that in no way accounts for the great discrepancy in price - in fact the rates for Sawing are, as a rule low ranging from Six pie to One anna

per Square foot

4. The fact that the Subordinates of the P. W. D. prefer buying from Contractors to Coming to our depôts or indenting through their Range Officers is well known to the Officers of that Department; and I fear we Cannot but infer that Overseers and Sub Overseers find the former Course more Compatible with their private advantages. I have never yet heard a good or sufficient reason for the Government Supply being drawn from private Sources when available in their own depôts. If we know that we had to provide for it we should endeavour to keep a supply of the dimensions and Scantling most required and Comply with any orders of the Range Officer or Superintending Engineer in preference to any others adjusting the accounts by simple receipts or Vouchers. An approximate estimate of quantity and description of timber required and where, might be sent in by the Superintending Engineer early each year on receipt of his Budget Orders and the timber thus supplied Cannot surely be worse than that drawn from private parties or firms who have too often received or purchased it from the Clandestine fellers.

5 I would strongly advocate the publication a stringent rule that all Public Departments requiring timber bamboos &c should in the first instance apply to the Special department and that only in the event of the latter being unable to supply it within a reasonable time should purchases from the local market (private) be authorised or permitted.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt servt.
Campbell Walker Lieut
Deputy Conservator of Forests

Compd C.H.R.

No 108

Enclosure.
In a letter No 2.538, dated 4th January 1871 from the Conservator of Forests to the Secretary to Govt N.W.P.

No 3 S.C. P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following endorsement from the Revenue Dept. — M. E. Co — 9th Jany 71

I would not comply with the wishes of the Department if you give them a monopoly of the supply they would perhaps be tempted to extort much more than the market value for timber

In these papers the Conservator of Forests submits for the consideration of Govt the propriety of granting to his Department a monopoly of the supply of timber to the Public Works and other Govt Departments on the ground that all such profits as can be made from trade in the article may go to the development of his Department, and not to the encouragement of private enterprise or

Council

illicit felling of trees.

In support of his views Major Beddome furnishes statements to show the prices at which various descriptions of timber can be supplied by the Forest Departt and that at which the same kinds of timber are charged to Govt in Public Works estimates. These statements are how-ever defective inasmuch as, while the prices of the Forest Departt are those charged for timber in the log, those of the Public Works Departt include the cost of working and putting up. Taking Teak for example, the price at which it is stated that it can be delivered

Ch. Ad does putting up mean? Does it mean sizing + pulling or putting up — position?

necessarily N

delivered in Madras is Rs 1-13-33 Rough wrought whilst the charge for the same description of wood "wrought and put up" is shown to be from Rs 3 to 3-8. Judging from these rates and making only the necessary allowance for the labour of working up, for wastage and for the expense of fitting, it does not appear to the Govt that the charges of the Public Works Departt for this building material is (in any way) excessive.

At the Presidency the best Moulmein Teak can be purchased in Rafts logs at from Rs 80 to 85 a tow of 50 Cubic feet.

Council

for somewhat less than the rate at which the Forest Departt. desire the ~~supply of~~ timber to be obtained from it to be ~~spread~~ carried into general public use. Moulmein timber is not of course every where procurable but if it be considered that it is generally to be obtained for about Rs 1-9 per Cubic foot in well shaped and squared logs that can be wrought up with a minimum degree of labor and wastage and that the Public Works charge for it so wrought up is, at Madras, Rs 2-15 per Cubic foot it is ~~clear~~ the Forest Departt. charge

omit. It may be useful in Scantly list not, I submit, in quality N.

Agreed

14

charge of Rs. 1- 13 per Cubic foot for a ~~fair unform and more uniform description of the wood~~ kind of timber on the roughly canal be looked upon as very moderate, while the charge of Rs 3 to 3-8 for the same timber wrought and put up is relatively far from exorbitant.

Under these circumstances the Govt. see grounds for restricting the purchase of timber by either the Public Works or other Departments to the stock likely to be made available by the Forest Departt. and His Excellency the Governor in Council

Must keep mouthlike economical adaptation

~~adaptation~~

carries sufficient ground N.

Council has no reason to think that, if that Department can offer timber either of a better quality or at a cheaper rate than it can be purchased for from private parties, either the Public Works or other Departments will hesitate to avail themselves of the advantage of supplying themselves from so convenient a market.

I would suggest the following.

The Govt. however determine to bring the attention of the Heads of the Dept. Forest Dept.

& the sources of supply opened to them by the development of the Forest Establishment

They desire that the D. P. W. shall in all cases consider and enquire whether the timber which they require may not be more economically

obtained for the Forest Dept and they will confer with the Heads of the Forest Dept. with reference to the various products of wood which may be rendered available for the public service, the forests of this Presidency the Govt. keeping & sawing stores of teak which are still existing as much as possible.

To the Hon'ble Engineer
" Conservator of Forests
" Revenue Secretary
" Chief Engineer

Dated 26/2/71

No 108

Govt. of [1871] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engineer

Dated

Recd. Read.

G. O. 4 Feby 1871. No. 352.

Nos. 108-109

Timber. Taking orders on the
letter from the Conservator of
Forests. Submitting for con-
sideration the propriety of fram-
ing rules regulating the supply of timber to the
Public Works Department.