

(1) Number of pages 28
54 (2) Date of repair 3-7-87
(3) Initials of the Referencer arg

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

761. W

Press.
Mis.

Dated

20. 3. 1884. ~~19~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

arg

14

(7A. Number)

20TH MARCH 1884, No. 761 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

READ—the following paper :—

G.O., dated 8th March 1884, No. 333, Revenue.

Read—the following G.O., dated 14th February 1884, No. 397 W., Public Works :—

Read—Proceedings of the Revenue Department, dated 21st January 1884, Nos. 101, 101-A.

Order—dated 14th February 1884, No. 397 W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 of the proceedings in the Revenue Department, attention is called to proceedings in Public Works Department, No. 2734 W., dated 4th November 1881, from which it will be observed that the question of the purchase of Forest Department timber has already been investigated, and that general principles have been laid down for the guidance of Public Works officers.

3. It is considered, in the Public Works Department, that paragraph 5 of the Secretary of State's despatch, No. 5, dated 3rd February 1881 (Revenue—Forests), if not already answered, can now be replied to in the Revenue Department, there being sufficient information on record with G.O., No. 2734 W., dated 4th November 1881, to account for the comparatively small demand in the Public Works Department for Forest Department timber.

4. Other causes apart, the principal reasons why Government timber is not more utilised by the Public Works Department, as shown by the replies of the Superintending Engineers summarised in the proceedings quoted above, are that it is only obtainable in the log, and that the price exceeds that of the local market. Whether, with the water-power available in most forests, it would not be advantageous for the Forest Department to set up machinery for sawing up timber into convenient scantlings, and whether a reduction in the rates would not facilitate the disposal of stock, are points which seem to deserve consideration.

5. The list of useful timbers, other than teak, which has been supplied by the Conservator of Forests, will form an appendix to the standard specifications of the Public Works Department about to issue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

Order—dated 8th March 1884, No. 333, Revenue.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the information collected in 1881, and referred to in paragraph 2 of the Government order above read, is now out of date, and that, in consequence of the changes which have since taken place in the organisation of the Forest Department and in the price of teak, it is

expedient that the question of the supply of timber from the State forests to the Public Works Department should be again examined. It is in the highest degree desirable that the obstacles which have hitherto prevented such supply shall be, if possible, removed.

2. The Board of Revenue will call upon the Conservators of Forests to report fully on the matter after such communication or consultation with Superintending Engineers as may be necessary; and the Board will submit their reports with their own views. Steps will also be taken in the Public Works Department to ascertain what can be done in that department to facilitate the solution desired by Government.

3. As the matter has stood over for a long time, and a reply is due to the Secretary of State's despatch quoted in the Government order, officers concerned should lose no time in furnishing the reports now called for.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

ORDER—dated 20th March 1884, No. 761 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the officers of the Public Works Department.

2. It is desirable that Government timber should be utilised to the fullest possible extent. The high price now charged for Burmah teak furnishes an additional ground for endeavouring to make more use of timber from State forests.

3. Superintending Engineers and other officers to whom these proceedings are communicated will accordingly consider what practical difficulties still exist to the more extensive use of such timber, and will submit their views on the subject at an early date.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Consulting Architect to Government.
„ General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

761
2

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Gobt. of (1884) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated March, 20th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 20th March 1884, No. 761 W.

MARCH.

Timber

Regarding the supply of — from the State forests to the Public Works Department.

761/3

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

4th November 1881, No. 2734 W.

General.
Account.

Read again :—

- No. 23. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 21st September 1881, No. 2329 W.
Proceedings of Government, dated 22nd April 1881, No. 1049 W.
From Superintending Engineer, First Circle, dated 3rd Sept. 1881, No. 1,374.
Do. do. Second Circle, dated 20th June 1881, No. 259 E.W.
Do. do. Third Circle, dated 30th June 1881, No. 533 T.J.
From Superintendent of Works, Godáviri, dated 4th June 1881, No. 660.
Do. do. Kistna, dated 2nd June 1881, No. 407.
Do. do. Presidency, dated 6th July 1881, No. 1,261.
From Offg. Executive Engr., Buckingham Canal, dated 12th July 1881, No. 1,140.
From General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, dated 9th May 1881, No. 313 W.

Summary of replies of Superintending Engineers, &c., to the Questions put in G.O., No. 1049 W., dated 22nd April 1881.

SUPPLY OF TIMBER BY THE FOREST DEPARTMENT.

Questions.	Circle.	Replies.
(1). What supply of timber would ordinarily meet the requirements of your circle each year?	Superintending Engineer, First Circle.	4,800 Cubic feet.
	Superintending Engineer, Second Circle.	17,000 "
	Superintending Engineer, Third Circle.	5,000 "
	Superintendent of Works, Godáviri.	10,000 "
	Superintendent of Works, Kistna.	6,000 "
	Superintendent of Works, Presidency.	13,000 " and 2,000 cubic feet of jungle-wood.
	Superintendent of Works, Buckingham Canal.	1,200 Cubic feet.
	Presidency Workshops	100 Tons or 5,000 cubic feet.
(2). How have the requirements usually been met hitherto?	Superintending Engineer, First Circle.	Generally from the local markets.

Questions.	Circle.	Replies.
	Superintending Second Circle.	Engineer, Almost invariably from the local markets through contractors.
	Superintending Third Circle.	Engineer, From the local markets.
	Superintendent of Works, Godáviri.	By purchase in the local market from timber merchants, among others from the accredited agent for the sale of Government forest timber.
	Superintendent of Works, Kistna.	From the local markets.
	Superintendent of Works, Presidency.	Do. market.
	Superintendent of Works, Buckingham Canal.	Do. do.
	Presidency Workshops	... Usually from the local market. Two supplies of timber were obtained from the Forest Department, one of 3,198 cubic feet in 1875, and another of 13 logs in 1880.
(3). What are the causes which have led to the whole or portion of the supply being obtained from other than the Forest Department?	Superintending First Circle.	Engineer, The distance of Government teak forests and the consequent high prices to be paid.
	Superintending Second Circle.	Engineer, Scantlings of the size required can be procured from contractors without delay, while the Forest Department can supply only wood in log, unless long notice be given. Works near railway stations can be supplied at cheaper rates with Burmah teak, which is superior to Forest Department timber.
	Superintending Third Circle.	Engineer, (1) The lower prices at which timber is procurable from contractors; the impossibility of officers choosing for themselves if wood be obtained from Forest Department; uncertainty as to time of delivery and consequent delay of work; difficulty in rejecting Forest Department timber if not approved of; and inability of latter to supply wood of required sizes and sufficiently seasoned.
	Superintendent of Works, Godáviri.	The cheaper rates at which timber is procurable from other sources.
	Superintendent of Works, Kistna.	The absence of any Forest Department depôt in the district, and the unlikelihood of that department being able to compete with the local market.
	Superintendent of Works, Presidency.	Timber is required only in small quantities at a time and it is readily procurable both at Madras and Bangalore of any required scantling.

Questions.	Circle.	Replies.
	Superintendent of Works, Buckingham Canal.	The Forest Department rates are prohibitive; its timber is only procurable in log and some one must be sent to the depôt at Coimbatore or Pôdanûr to examine and take it over; such an arrangement involves risk. Moulmein teak is procurable in scantlings at cheaper rates; Anaimalai timber is not popular.
	Superintendent, Workshops.	Presidency The greater part of the 13 logs ordered in 1880 had to be countermanded, as a small portion received was of inferior quality and of excessive price. On working up the timber it was found that 50 per cent. was wastage.
General remarks as to the best means of giving effect to the wishes of Her Majesty's Government.	Superintending First Circle.	Engineer, The Forest Department must undersell the local merchants. Even then, as the latter can supply timber on the spot in the required scantling, the officers of the department would prefer to deal with them.
	Superintending Second Circle.	Engineer, Nil.
	Superintending Third Circle.	Engineer, The Forest Department should arrange to furnish timber according to order, free from flaws and cracks and at a fixed price.
	Superintendent of Works, Godáviri.	Nil.
	Superintendent of Works, Kistna.	Nil.
	Superintendent of Works, Presidency.	Considers it inadvisable to obtain any stated quantity of timber yearly from the Forest Department, because the execution of sanctioned works is dependent on funds being available.
	Superintendent of Works, Buckingham Canal.	Suggests that a large stock of Forest Department timber be introduced into the local market on trial in view to its actual value being determined, and that the capabilities of the timber be tested at the Public Works Workshops and Gun Carriage Factory in view to its unpopularity being corrected if there be nothing against it.
	Superintendent, Workshops.	Presidency Anaimalai teak is very hard and durable, and if the Forest Department will supply sound logs deliverable at the workshops at the same price as Burmah teak, the Superintendent will be very glad to use it.

761/4

THE foregoing papers are forwarded to the Conservator of Forests for such remarks as he may wish to offer prior to disposal of the questions raised.

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

Read also:—

No. 23-A. From Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 7th October 1881, No. 631.

IN returning the papers received with G.O., No. 2329, dated 21st September last, I have the honor to inform you that I have only a few remarks to make, viz.—

1. Scantlings of sizes required by the Public Works Department officers can scarcely ever be supplied by this department, as we have no saw machinery and it is even difficult to get sawyers to come into any of our forests. We can generally only supply timber in log.

2. Our Western Coast teak cannot compete with that from Burmah at Madras, or any place on the eastern side of the Presidency, or stations near the rail within 200 miles of Madras.

3. Timber can very often be procured cheaper from contractors than from the Forest Department, as it is procured from private forests where there is no expenditure on conservancy or establishments; Government however are great losers by their own departments not taking timber, as far as possible, from the Forest Department at fair rates, and it appears to me to be a perfect anomaly that they should purchase from outsiders when their own depôts and forests are often full of timber, and it is a custom which, I believe, does not prevail in any other country in the world. It often does occur, however, that the Public Works Department officers purchase at higher rates than we can supply, and it also occurs that, failing a market, we have to sell off at ruinous rates, our timber being bought by timber merchants, who sell it again to Government at a very large profit. It is a pity therefore that teak and other timber in the log should not be taken from this department wherever it is possible, even though our rates may be a little higher than the outside market.

4. Many of our timbers are quite equal to teak, and it is a pity that more of them are not utilized, and that the cry should always be for teak and teak only.

5. The practice of the Public Works Department always looking to native contractors and not to the Forest Department, is tending to deforest tracts outside Government limits, where revenue alone is considered, which is detrimental to the welfare of the country in the future; it also prevents the Forest Department, a department under the Government, from showing as fair a revenue as ought to be expected from it.

No. 24. ORDER THEREON, 4th November 1881, No. 2734 W.

IN G.O., No. 1049 W., dated 22nd April 1881, Superintending Engineers were called on for certain information to admit of an opinion being formed as to the better mutual working of the Public Works and Forest Departments.

2. The replies were duly received (*vide* the summary printed above) and were forwarded under G.O., No. 2329 W., dated 21st September 1881, to the Conservator of Forests for any observations he might desire to offer.

3. From the reply of that officer above recorded it is observed that—

- (1.) The Forest Department can scarcely ever supply scantlings of sizes required by the Public Works Department.
- (2.) West coast teak cannot ordinarily compete with that from Burmah.
- (3.) Timber can very often be procured cheaper from contractors. Colonel Beddome concludes with the remark that it is a pity teak and other timber should not be taken from the Forest Department in log, even though the rates "may be a little higher than the outside market."

4. With every desire to facilitate interworking with the Forest Department, the Government do not see how this suggestion can be adopted in the face of the drawbacks stated by Superintending Engineers, and set forth in the foregoing summary. If the rates, form and general facilities are not one and all such as can insure the Forest Department competing with private dealers, it would practically have the effect of the Public Works budget having to make up the difference in order to allow the Forest Department to show a profit.

5. Where the Forest Department and private dealers meet on equal terms, the Honorable the Governor in Council considers that officers of the Public Works Department should invariably deal with the former, but those officers must be the judges as to what constitutes equality.

6. The Conservator of Forests is right in laying stress on the fact that many classes of timber other than teak are now rejected by officers of the Public Works Department, and the Government would be glad to see these brought into greater use. With this object Colonel Beddome is requested to draw up and submit to Government a statement of the timbers available in particular localities with as far as possible an account of their ascertained values for building purposes, rates, &c.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Conservator of Forests.
" Superintending Engineers.
To the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of (1881) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 4th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 4th November 1881, No. 2734 W.

NOVEMBER.
Nos. 23-24.

Supply of Timber by the Forest Department.—Passing orders regarding the — to the Public Works Department.

21ST JANUARY 1884, Nos. 101, 101A, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th November 1883, No. 3387 :—

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, annual report of the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, for 1882-83.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th November 1883, No. 3462 :—

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to Government, with remarks, administration report of the Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, for 1882-83.

ORDER—dated 21st January 1884, No. 101, Revenue.

Forest, No. 14.

With these proceedings the Board of Revenue submit separately the annual reports of the Conservators of Forests for the year 1882-83. It will be more convenient if, in future, both reports are reviewed simultaneously, and the Board are requested to make arrangements accordingly.

2. *Leading Events.*—The year under review was the first of the provincialisation of the Forest revenues. The principal event was the coming into force of the Madras Forest Act V of 1882 on the 1st January 1883. Shortly before this took place the Jungle Conservancy Fund was amalgamated with Provincial, Forests and Jungle Conservancy operations placed under the charge of the professional department. The staff of the Forest Department was at the same time strengthened and reorganised, and the Presidency divided into two circles, the Southern, comprising eleven districts and fifteen forest charges, being placed under Major Campbell Walker as Senior Conservator, and the Northern with ten districts or charges under the Junior Conservator, Mr. Gamble. The whole administration was placed under the control of the Board of Revenue, Collectors being constituted the heads of the department within their districts, the District Forest Officers, their Assistants, and the Conservators consulting and inspecting officers with authority in matters of finance and establishment.

3. *Inspection Tours.*—During the year under report the Senior Conservator visited all his districts with the exceptions of Chingleput, Tanjore and South Canara, and the Junior Conservator, who was in charge only for the last three months of the year, the Ceded Districts and the Nilgiris. The District Officers were commendably active in touring, especially Mr. Brougham who appears to have spent no fewer than 284 days of the year in camp.

4. *Reserved Forests.*—According to Statement I the extent of forest treated as reserved prior to the passing of the Act was 1970·331 square miles in the Southern

and 812 square miles in the Northern Circle. These totals are of course only roughly approximate, many of the so-called reserves having never been surveyed. The last-mentioned figure excludes the Nallamalai reserves in Kurnool and the Nilgiri sholas and slopes towards Coimbatore and Malabar, which have not yet been demarcated and the area of which cannot even be roughly estimated. Some 35,550 acres in the Kadiri, Madanapalle and Váyalpád taluks, which were included under Reserves in the previous year, are stated to have been transferred to other heads, but to what heads does not appear. Besides these reserves, Mr. Gamble points out that in the Northern Circle (and the remark applies equally, no doubt, to the Southern Circle), there are very extensive tracts of country which have hitherto been under Jungle Conservancy management and from which further reserves may be selected. An attempt has been made to estimate the area so available in seven out of the ten districts of the Circle, but the result is confessedly of very doubtful accuracy.

5. Some 7,719 acres are shown as "village forests" in the taluks of Proddutur and Jammalamadugu, and large areas are stated to have been set aside for the same purpose in other taluks of the Cuddapah District. The Government desire to receive further information as to the nature of the arrangements made and the system under which it is proposed to administer these tracts.

6. Of leased forests there are only two, the first of 200 square miles leased from the Rajah of Mudumalai for an annual rental of Rs. 3,500; and the second, comprising 62½ square miles, leased from the Rajah of Sandúr for an annual rental of Rs. 10,000.

7. *Fire Protection.*—During the dry season of 1882-83, 218,614 acres were protected in the Southern Circle at a cost of Rs. 4,763, and 155,871 acres in the Northern Circle at a cost of Rs. 5,359. The work of protecting the Sandúr forest appears to have been carried out with especial success and does great credit to the District Forest Officer, Mr. Hooper. Some account should have been given in the report of the Southern Circle of the fires which occurred and of the degree of success attained in preventing them during the year. The District Forest Officers of Ganjam and Nellore should be called upon to explain the large expenditure incurred in those districts under this head.

8. *Plantations and Topes.*—The return of regular plantations gives the area in the Southern Circle as 36,027 acres and that in the Northern Circle as 8,950 acres, while in the latter circle 10,262½ acres are shown as the total area of topes, and in the Southern Circle 7,709 acres are described as "under cultural operations." The latter phrase is apparently intended to indicate topes and similar small plantations, and it will be convenient in future to class all such as topes and to exhibit them in a separate statement.

9. *Departmental Working.*—The total value of timber felled and removed to the sale depôts, including minor produce so removed, was Rs. 39,460 in the Southern and Rs. 51,910 in the Northern Circle. In addition to this, Rs. 59,613 worth of timber is shown as removed to forest depôts, and Rs. 6,875 as lying in the forest in the Southern Circle. For the Northern Circle similar information is not furnished, except for the Nellore District owing, it is explained, to insufficient information. In the Southern Circle timber, valued at Rs. 1,38,526, was sold for Rs. 1,93,183, and in the Northern Circle timber valued at Rs. 79,533 for Rs. 1,09,586. The valuations appear to have been particularly low in Nellore and Coimbatore. The attention of the Public Works Department will be drawn to paragraph 15 of Major Campbell Walker's report and paragraph 10 of the Board's proceedings thereon. At the close of the year the value of stock on hand in the Southern Circle had decreased from Rs. 1,86,343 to Rs. 1,53,765, and in the Northern Circle had increased from Rs. 60,532 to Rs. 62,415.

10. *License and Voucher System.*—The revenue from forest produce removed under the license system, including the grazing-tax, which accrues chiefly in the Kistna District, was Rs. 2,64,488 for the Northern and Rs. 2,95,694 for the Southern Circle.

11. *Financial Results.*—The following statement shows the financial results of the year for each Circle as well as for the whole Presidency:—

	Northern.	Southern.	Presidency.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Receipts	3,89,112	5,14,802	9,03,914
Expenditure, Conservancy and Works	1,27,047	1,76,520	3,03,567
Do. Establishments and Contingencies ...	1,24,276	2,08,715	3,32,991
Total Expenditure ...	2,51,323	3,85,235	6,36,558
Surplus ...	1,37,789	1,29,567	2,67,356

The figures compare, as noted in the margin, with the combined totals of the previous year under Forests and Jungle Conservancy and with the average figures for the five years ending 31st March 1882.

	Receipts.	Expenditure.
	RS.	RS.
1877-78 to 1881-82 ...	6,69,978	5,55,263
1881-82 ...	8,05,884	6,03,069
1882-83 ...	9,03,914	6,36,558

12. *Prosecutions.*—Out of 425 cases in the Southern and 364 in the Northern Circle, only 68 in the former and 57 in the latter resulted in acquittals. The convictions numbered 340 and 277 respectively. The Government note that effective steps are being taken to put a stop to the timber-smuggling trade in Kurnool, and that the Tahsildar of Sirvél has shown himself especially energetic in co-operating with the Forest Department for this purpose.

13. In the earlier portion of his report, the Conservator, Northern Circle, deals with various questions, such as the system of audit, the disposal of driftwood, &c., which have not as yet been finally decided, and are therefore irrelevant for the purposes of the report. The Government will be ready to consider all such matters in their proper time and place.

14. In conclusion, the Government have much pleasure in placing on record their satisfaction with the mode in which the department has been administered during the year under review.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture.
" the Public Works Department.

No. 101A.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. H. French.

100 Copies.

Govt. of {1884} Madras.
REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 21st January 1884,
Nos. 101, 101A.

JANUARY.

Forest Administration Reports
for 1882-83.—Passing orders on Board's review
of the—

14TH FEBRUARY 1884, No. 397 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

READ—the following paper :—

Proceedings of the Revenue Department, dated 21st January 1884, Nos. 101, 101-A.

ORDER—dated 14th February 1884, No. 397 W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Proceedings in the Revenue Department, attention is called to Proceedings in Public Works Department, No. 2734 W., dated 4th November 1881, from which it will be observed that the question of the purchase of Forest Department timber has already been investigated, and that general principles have been laid down for the guidance of Public Works officers.

3. It is considered, in the Public Works Department, that paragraph 5 of the Secretary of State's despatch, No. 5, dated 3rd February 1881 (Revenue—Forests), if not already answered, can now be replied to in the Revenue Department, there being sufficient information on record with G.O., No. 2734 W., dated 4th November 1881, to account for the comparatively small demand in the Public Works Department for Forest Department timber.

4. Other causes apart, the principal reasons why Government timber is not more utilized by the Public Works Department, as shown by the replies of the Superintending Engineers summarised in the Proceedings quoted above, are that it is only obtainable in the log, and that the price exceeds that of the local market. Whether, with the water-power available in most forests, it would not be advantageous for the Forest Department to set up machinery for sawing up timber into convenient scantlings, and whether a reduction in the rates would not facilitate the disposal of stock, are points which seem to deserve consideration.

5. The list of useful timbers, other than teak, which has been supplied by the Conservator of Forests, will form an appendix to the standard specifications of the Public Works Department about to issue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Revenue Department.
" Consulting Architect to Government.

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1884) Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated February, 14th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th Feb. 1884, No. 397 W.

FEBRUARY.

Forest Administration Reports
for 1882-83

Orders in the Revenue Department on
Board's review of the —, communicated to
Superintending Engineers, with remarks.

8TH MARCH 1884, No. 333, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following G.O., dated 14th February 1884, No. 397 W., Public Works :—
(Read—Proceedings of the Revenue Department, dated 21st January 1884,
Nos. 101, 101-A.

Order—dated 14th February 1884, No. 397 W., Public Works.

Communicated to Superintending Engineers.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 of the Proceedings in the Revenue Department, attention is called to Proceedings in Public Works Department No. 2734 W., dated 4th November 1881, from which it will be observed that the question of the purchase of Forest Department timber has already been investigated, and that general principles have been laid down for the guidance of Public Works officers.

3. It is considered, in the Public Works Department, that paragraph 5 of the Secretary of State's despatch, No. 5, dated 3rd February 1881 (Revenue—Forest), if not already answered, can now be replied to in the Revenue Department, there being sufficient information on record with G.O., No. 2734 W., dated 4th November 1881, to account for the comparatively small demand in the Public Works Department for Forest Department timber.

4. Other causes apart, the principal reasons why Government timber is not more utilized by the Public Works Department, as shown by the replies of the Superintending Engineers summarised in the Proceedings quoted above, are that it is only obtainable in the log, and that the price exceeds that of the local market. Whether, with the water-power available in most forests, it would not be advantageous for the Forest Department to set up machinery for sawing up timber into convenient scantlings, and whether a reduction in the rates would not facilitate the disposal of stock, are points which seem to deserve consideration.

5. The list of useful timbers, other than teak, which has been supplied by the Conservator of Forests, will form an appendix to the standard specifications of the Public Works Department about to issue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. BOWEN, Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Revenue Department.
„ Consulting Architect to Government.

ORDER—dated 8th March 1884, No. 333, Revenue.

Forests, No. 51.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the information collected in 1881 and referred to in paragraph 2 of the Government Order above read is now out of date, and that in consequence of the changes which have since taken place in the organization of the Forest Department and in the price of teak, it is expedient that the question of the supply of timber from the State forests to the Public Works Department should

be again examined. It is in the highest degree desirable that the obstacles which have hitherto prevented such supply shall be, if possible, removed.

2. The Board of Revenue will call upon the Conservators of Forests to report fully on the matter after such communication or consultation with Superintending Engineers as may be necessary; and the Board will submit their reports with their own views. Steps will also be taken in the Public Works Department to ascertain what can be done in that department to facilitate the solution desired by Government.

3. As the matter has stood over for a long time, and a reply is due to the Secretary of State's despatch quoted in the Government Order, officers concerned should lose no time in furnishing the reports now called for.

(True Extract.)

H. Stobus

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Public Works Department.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

60 copies.

C.A.W.

I do not clearly see the object of the reports from S.E.'s being sent direct to the B. of Revenue. ^{261/9}

Conservators of Forests are to consult with S.E.'s before reporting to the B., — but it seems to me that the correct course is for the reports now called for from S.E.'s to come to this Office so that W can have his say on such a very important subject, — before sending on the papers to the Rev. Dep't.

W.

20.3.84

Please explain — if I have overlooked any cogent reason for the course proposed in draft.

W.

It occurred to me that if separate

82
reports were submitted
to different authorities
there would probably be
a conflict of opinions.
If the Board received
the reports, it could
consider them with the
reports from Conservators.
It would thus be
enabled to arrive at
sounder conclusions
than if it had the
Conservators' reports alone
before it.

It is assumed that
no orders affecting the
P.W. Dept. will be issued
by the Revenue Dept.
without first consulting
the P.W. Secretary.

L.S.

20.3.82.

I think the reports from
S.E. & W. come to this
office.

Please modify the
draft accordingly.

J.W.

L.L.

Modified
accordingly
L.S.

20.3.84

261
9

W.D. 2734W. 4.11.81.
347W. 14.2.84.

Ms. 2484
Est. of 1884 Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd. 19/3/84

Encl.

G.O., 8th March 1884, No. 333.

MARCH.

Timber.

Fresh inquiry into the question of the supply of — from the State forests to the Public Works Department considered necessary, and the Board of Revenue requested to call upon the Conservators of Forests to report fully on the matter after communication or consultation with Superintending Engineers if necessary.

5050

This is an urgent matter & the necessary references should be made without loss of time.

The high prices now charged for Burmese teak seem to furnish an additional argument for endeavouring to make more use of timber from the State forests.

W

19-3-84

S. W. Department.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

Under date the

26/12

Read the following:-

Proceedings, Revenue Department (H.E. No 333 of March 8. 1889)

Communicated to

officers of the S. W. Dept.

It is desirable that Government timber should be utilized to the fullest possible extent. The high price now charged for Burma Teak furnishes an additional ground for endeavouring to make more use of timber from State forests. Suptg

Engineers and other officers
to whom these Proceedings
are communicated will
accordingly consider what
practical difficulties still
exist to the more extensive
^{use}
~~employment~~ of such timber,
and will submit their
views through the Board
of Revenue, by whom they
will be dealt with in
connection with reports
from Conservators of
Forests which are to
be submitted in compliance
with the orders of the
Revenue Dept recorded
above.

on the subject at an early
date.

729
70/100
Suptg Engineers
Consy Architect to Govt
Genl Suptt, I. W. Workshop
Revenue Dept

LS
20/3/44

No 761 W. General
P. W. Department,
Proceedings of the Madras Govt
Under date the March 20. 1884
Read the following:-
Proceedings, Revenue Dept (H.E. No 333 of March 8. 1884)

26/13
Communicated to the
officers of the P. W. Dept
1. It is desirable that
Govt timber should be
utilised to the fullest
possible extent. The high
price now charged for
Burmah Teak furnishes an
additional ground for
endeavouring to make more
use of timber from State
forests.

3. Suptg. Engineers and

other officers to whom these
Proceedings are communicated
will accordingly consider
what practical difficulties
still exist to the more
extensive use of such timber,
and will submit their
views on the subject at
an early date.

W

20.3.84

Supply Engineers
Comdg Architect to Govt
Genl Suptd L.W. Workshops
Revenue Department

20/3

761
14

LS

2484.

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

(14)

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. 20th March 1884 No 76/W.

Trincher

Regarding the supply
of — from the
State forests to the
P. W. Dept.

160

12

CC
20/3
Cecilia
20/3

Submitted Sept