

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 59 W

DATED 7. January

[Despatch Abstract.]

Madras Municipality Pro. Lt
in Dept reviewing the administration
report of the — for 1895-96, recorded

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

Reviewing the — of the Madras Municipality for 1895-96.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From R. E. ELLIS, Esq., M.I.C.E., Acting President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 1st September 1896, G. No. 304.

Pursuant to section 91 of the City of Madras Municipal Act I of 1884 as amended by Madras Acts VII of 1884 and II of 1892, I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of the administration report of this municipality for the year 1895-96.

2. The report was considered at a special meeting of the Commissioners held on the 28th August 1896; an extract from the proceedings of the meeting is annexed.

3. The remaining 47 copies of the report will be forwarded shortly.

ENCLOSURE.

Administration Report of the Madras Municipality for 1895-96.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Nayudu Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. Salla Guruswami Chetti Garu—

“That the Administration Report for 1895-96 be adopted and submitted to Government.”

Resolution.—Carried.

From R. E. ELLIS, Esq., M.I.C.E., Acting President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th September 1896, G. No. 331.

As promised in paragraph 3 of my letter, G. No. 304, of the 1st instant, I have now the honour to forward herewith 47 copies of the administration report of this municipality for 1895-96.

ORDER—No. 2084 M., dated 7th December 1896.

The receipts and charges of the Madras Municipality for 1895-96 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of 1894-95:—

	Actuals, 1894-95.	Budget estimate, 1895-96.	Revised estimate, 1895-96.	Actuals, 1895-96.
<i>Receipts.</i>				
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	2,49,715	28,080	2,91,330	2,91,325
Tax on Arts	67,318	65,000	67,000	68,888
“ on Buildings and Lands	5,35,327	5,17,400	5,17,500	5,07,783
Water Tax on Buildings and Lands	2,10,265	2,02,340	2,02,340	1,58,906
Lighting Tax on Buildings and Lands	66,929	64,670	64,670	63,516
Tax on Vehicles and Animals	53,235	53,200	55,700	55,551
“ on Carts	21,163	21,000	21,100	21,078
Tobacco Duties	29,794	..	..	7
Tolls	43,249	38,250	38,250	38,250
Rent of Lands, Buildings, &c., and Sale-proceeds of Lands, &c. .	63,727	59,180	57,510	64,696
Conservancy Receipts	5,539	5,530	5,550	5,939
Income from Markets and Slaughter-houses	26,447	26,540	30,820	27,830
License Fees	1,36,014	1,18,400	1,39,140	1,45,784
Other Fees	8,151	6,390	6,390	7,478
Fines under Municipal and other Acts	2,708	2,000	3,000	4,070
Interest on Investments and premium on Loans	4,500	13,000	39,500	38,500
Grants and Contributions from Government	35,192	32,960	3,82,960	3,83,033
Miscellaneous	24,977	26,400	27,900	31,815
Loans	..	4,00,000	4,00,000	4,00,000
Sale-proceeds of Government Securities, &c., and Realizations of Sinking Fund	32,108	26,100	26,310	26,366
Advances Recovered	3,289	6,000	6,000	5,766
Total ..	15,60,059	17,11,440	23,82,970	23,86,591
<i>Charges.</i>				
GRANT I—				
New Works—				
Communications	4,413	3,800	35,180	3,631
Buildings	28,808	36,350	1,72,280	33,950
Drainage	58,963	34,820	64,930	36,628
Water-supply	29,633	3,47,340	4,50,080	4,27,981
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	543	200	1,750	871
Repairs—				
Communications	1,21,741	98,770	1,57,920	1,15,141
Buildings	9,447	10,750	31,350	17,464
Drainage	1,43,075	1,68,870	1,78,630	1,69,390
Water-supply	43,728	38,550	56,070	57,216
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	244	500	920	630
Establishment	22,253	28,290	26,170	25,964
Tools and Plant and other Stores	3,822	5,100	22,700	3,958
Miscellaneous	10,079	16,450	20,080	17,947
Total ..	4,76,749	7,89,790	12,18,060	9,10,771
GRANT II—				
Training Schools	282	1,000	1,200	820
Grants-in-aid—				
Result Grants	6,943	9,000	10,730	9,913
Building, Furniture, &c., Grants	17	1,500	790	220
Inspection	1,226	1,190	1,190	1,193
Total ..	8,468	12,690	13,960	12,146
GRANT III—				
Hospitals and Dispensaries	20,212	19,630	26,390	25,320
Contributions	28,312	23,740	23,740	28,254
Vaccination	10,883	10,930	11,140	11,029
Registration of Births and Deaths	8,380	8,860	8,860	8,586
Conservancy, Road-cleaning and Road-watering	2,58,604	3,10,920	3,43,990	2,77,592
Total ..	3,26,391	3,74,080	4,14,120	3,50,731
GRANT IV—				
Lighting	50,774	49,720	55,130	49,977
Markets and slaughter-houses	5,363	5,700	6,730	6,894
Avenues	3,138	3,050	3,880	3,319
Public Garden, Survey of Land, Fire and other charges	97,042	1,07,730	1,25,610	1,20,460
Total ..	1,56,317	1,66,200	1,91,350	1,80,650
GRANT V—				
Supervision and Management	94,794	91,140	93,780	88,929
Repayment of Debt	51,647	53,920	53,920	53,920
Interest on Loan	1,25,038	1,41,220	1,53,220	1,44,445
Advances Recoverable	13,315	..	6,040	34,844
Refunds	10,709	5,000	5,000	4,190
Pensions and Gratuities	5,906	5,790	6,830	6,472
Balance	2,91,325	71,610	2,26,690	5,99,493
Total ..	15,60,059	17,11,440	23,82,970	23,86,591

I.—CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMISSION.

2. During the year under review Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. J. Moore, C.I.E., continued to hold the office of President, and Diwan Bahadur P. Ramaswami Chettiyar of Revenue Officer. Mr. R. E. Ellis, the Engineer, who had been deputed in February 1895, to undertake the hydraulic survey of the town and to prepare estimates for carrying out Mr. Cousins' scheme of water-supply, reverted to his office on the 31st July 1895, but took privilege leave for six weeks from the 6th October 1895, when Mr. Loane, the Assistant Mechanical Engineer, again acted for him. Dr. J. N. Cook, the Health Officer, took leave on medical certificate for twelve months from the 20th July 1895, and Mr. H. H. Marshall was appointed to fill his place.

3. Three elective seats on the commission fell vacant during the year. One of these was not contested, but at the elections held to fill the remaining two vacancies 40.9 per cent. of the registered number of voters in the division concerned attended the poll, against 36.3 per cent. in 1894-95, and an average of 47.7 per cent. for mufassal municipalities in that year. The list of persons qualified to vote was revised with the result that the number fell from 5,508 to 5,342.

4. The number of meetings held by the Commissioners rose from 19 to 32, and the average attendance at each meeting from 12 to 21, which is very satisfactory.

II.—RECEIPTS.

5. Excluding opening balance, the total receipts of the year were Rs. 20,95,266 against Rs. 16,83,360 and Rs. 20,91,640, anticipated in the budget and revised estimates, respectively, and Rs. 13,10,344 realized in 1894-95. The increase as compared with the actuals of the previous year occurs mainly under license fees, premium on loans, grants from Government and loans, and is partly counterbalanced by a decrease under the tax on buildings, water and lighting taxes, tolls and realizations of sinking fund. The differences between the budget estimates and the actuals are in several instances very wide. This is largely due to the inefficient manner in which the municipal budgets have hitherto been prepared. This subject has, however, been sufficiently commented on in G.O., No. 758 M., dated 4th May 1896.

(A) Revenue derived from taxation.

6. The following statement shows the demand, collection and balance—current and arrears—under the several taxes:—

Current.

Tax.	Demand as originally assessed.	Remitted on appeal.	Demand as finally settled.	Collected.	Remitted.	Written off as irrecoverable.	Balance.	Percentage of collections to net demand.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Tax on Arts, &c.	70,255	1,065	69,190	66,453	995	..	1,742	96.0
„ on Buildings and Lands ..	5,06,097	2,525	5,03,572	4,67,923	8,246	3	27,400	92.9
Water-tax	1,98,289	979	1,97,310	1,83,510	3,153	1	10,646	93.1
Lighting-tax	63,274	316	62,958	58,514	1,000	..	3,444	92.9
Tax on Vehicles with springs and Animals	60,575	966	59,609	55,123	1,239	..	3,247	92.5
Tax on Carts	21,084	..	21,084	21,070	6	7	1	99.9
Tolls	38,250	..	38,250	38,250	..	..	..	100.0
Total ..	9,57,824	5,851	9,51,973	8,90,843	14,639	11	46,480	93.6
Total for 1894-95 ..	9,51,707	6,862	9,44,845	8,67,538	13,155	9	64,143	91.8

Arrears.

Tax.	Total demand.	Collected.	Remitted.	Written off as irrecoverable.	Balance.	Percentage of collections to demand.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Tax on Arts, &c.	4,615	2,435	1,517	..	663	52.8
„ on Buildings and Lands ..	47,871	39,860	1,825	213	5,973	83.3
Water-tax	18,514	15,395	700	78	2,341	83.6
Lighting-tax	6,020	5,002	227	28	763	83.1
Tax on Vehicles and Animals ..	2,008	438	273	..	1,297	21.8
„ on Carts	10	8	..	..	2	80.0
Total ..	79,038	63,138	4,542	319	11,039	79.9
Total for 1894-95 ..	1,51,694	1,29,948	5,231	3,426	13,039	85.7

The net current demand under all the taxes, except the tax on carts, showed an increase over that of the previous year, which was considerable in the case of the taxes on buildings and lands and vehicles, and was due to the ordinary revision of assessments during the year. Owing, it is stated, to the absence of competition, the demand under tolls declined slightly. The percentage of remissions on appeal to the gross demand fell from .7 to .6. The current collections under the principal taxes improved, and were on the whole good; but it is to be regretted that there was a large balance of Rs. 41,490 outstanding under the house, water and lighting taxes at the end of the year. The arrear demand was only one-half of the previous year's, and the realizations were on the whole fair. Rupees 14,650 of the current, and Rs. 4,861 of the arrear, demand were either remitted or written off the accounts as irrecoverable, but notwithstanding these remissions and the repeated remarks of Government on the subject, old arrears dating back to 1889-90 were still outstanding on the municipal books. Very early steps should be taken to adjust them.

7. *Coercive Processes.*—For the collection of the several taxes 68,117 demand notices were issued against 67,047 in 1894-95, the amount involved being Rupees 4,68,734 against Rs. 4,77,326. Warrants were issued in 56,510 of these cases against 60,071 in the previous year; but the number of processes remaining unexecuted at the close of the year was still large, being 7,251 or 11.3 per cent. of the total number for execution. The total amount recovered by means of coercive processes was Rupees 4,66,552 against Rs. 4,88,929 in 1894-95, but the number of cases in which property was sold rose from 441 to 1,068, the amount realized being Rs. 1,346 against Rupees 1,288. Prosecutions were instituted in 680 cases against 569 in the previous year.

8. *Incidence of Taxation.*—The general incidence of municipal taxation per head of the population fell from Rs. 2-2-3 to Rs. 2-1-9, the decrease being due to smaller collections of arrears under the tax on buildings and lands and the water and lighting taxes. The incidence of the tax on arts was, however, Rs. 19-1-4 per person assessed against Rs. 19-0-4 in 1894-95, and that of the tax on buildings and lands Rupees 12-9-11 per building or land taxed against Rs. 12-9-2. Including the water and lighting taxes, the average tax paid in respect of each house or land was Rs. 19-2-4 against Rs. 19-1-1 in the previous year.

(B) Revenue derived from municipal property and under powers apart from taxation.

9. The total receipts under this head were Rs. 2,94,297 against Rs. 2,47,086 in the previous year, the increase appearing chiefly under license fees and premia on loans, and being due in the case of the former to larger imports of timber by sea. The income from markets, sewage farms, sale of rubbish and fines also showed an increase, but payment for the occupation of municipal lands and sale-proceeds of lands declined. It is observed that the Commissioners have at last decided upon constructing a new general market for which plans and estimates are under preparation.

10. *Grants from Government.*—The contribution paid by Government for the exemption of military officers from the tax on salaries was Rs. 3,925 against Rupees 6,084 in the previous year. In addition to this and the usual contributions for roads

(Rs. 9,058), for repairing the bridges over the Cooum and the Buckingham canal (Rs. 4,443), for withholding the levy of taxes on places used for the sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors (Rs. 13,607), and for the zoological collections in the People's Park (Rs. 2,000), a special grant of Rs. 3,50,000 was received from Provincial funds, of which Rs. 1,00,000 were for the construction of incinerators, Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of conservancy carts, and Rs. 2,00,000 for the new drainage scheme.

11. *Miscellaneous*.—The receipts under this head amounted to Rs. 31,815 against Rs. 24,977 in 1894-95, the increase appearing in all the items except sundry receipts from water-works.

III.—EXPENDITURE.

12. The total expenditure was Rs. 17,87,098 against Rs. 16,39,830 and Rupees 21,56,280, respectively, provided in the budget and revised estimates, and Rupees 12,68,734 spent in 1894-95. The decrease as compared with the revised estimate occurs under all grants, and the increase over the actuals of the previous year under all the grants except Grant V, the variations being marked under Grant I. About 51 per cent. of the total expenditure was incurred on public works, 1 per cent. on education, 19 per cent. on medical services and sanitation, 10 per cent. on lighting and miscellaneous, 5 per cent. on supervision and management, and 14 per cent. on repayment of debt, &c., the corresponding figures for the previous year being 38, 1, 26, 12, 7 and 16 per cent.

13. *Public Works—Communications*.—The outlay on New Works—communications was Rs. 3,631, and on Repairs Rs. 1,15,141, against the revised estimates of Rs. 35,180 and Rs. 1,57,920, respectively. The decrease under new works was again due chiefly to the failure to appropriate the provision of Rs. 25,000 for the improvement of streets. No explanation has been offered of this failure or of the lapse of Rs. 42,779 under repairs. Two-and-a-half miles of road were metalled for the first time during the year. More than 35½ miles were re-metalled at a cost of Rs. 78,774, Rs. 32,978 were spent on ordinary repairs to roads, and Rs. 3,389 on repairs to bridges, culverts and foot-paths and other petty works. The state of some of the roads is reported to have been not altogether satisfactory and it is added that "to keep the roads in thorough repair the grant should be increased by 50 per cent." With regard to this remark the Government would observe that only Rs. 1,15,000 were spent out of an allotment for repairs in the revised estimate of Rs. 1,58,000. Until, therefore, the municipality makes provision for spending fully the grants already sanctioned, it seems to the Government to be premature to talk of increased grants. The matter should receive attention during the current year.

14. *Buildings*.—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 51,414, of which Rs. 33,950 were spent on new works and the remainder on repairs. The allotment in the revised estimate was over two lakhs, but only Rs. 51,414, it is observed, were spent. This short expenditure was due mainly to the non-utilization of the provision of one lakh for the construction of an incinerator; and also to the non-payment in full for works completed during the year. The Government trusts that every endeavour will be made to avoid outstandings on this account. The only new work of importance executed during the year was the construction of a cholera shed estimated to cost Rs. 12,250 at Kistnampet. Some further improvements were undertaken to the Royapetta hospital building, but on this only Rs. 3,959 had been spent up to the 31st March 1896 out of an estimate of Rs. 5,440.

15. *Drainage*.—Under drainage the expenditure on new works was very short as compared with the revised estimate. The extension of the outfall channel 3,300 feet to the north, and the laying of pipes from the Triplicane pumping station to Kistnampet in order to prevent sewage flowing into the canal and to render it possible to dispense with pumping at the former place—works undertaken in 1894-95—were completed during the year under review at a total cost of Rs. 44,768 and Rs. 25,476, respectively. The only other new work of importance under execution was the formation of a pipe drain—described as a cement pipe in paragraph 84 of the report and as a stoneware pipe in Statement II-A—from Thacker's street to DeMellow's road, on which, however, only a sum of Rs. 212 was spent out of an estimate of Rs. 28,000.

The expenditure on minor drains amounted to Rs. 11,986 under new works and Rs. 15,705 under repairs against Rs. 13,239 and Rs. 9,931, respectively, in 1894-95. The great excess, as compared with the previous year, in the cost of the Napier Park and Rayapuram pumping stations is attributed mainly to the high rate of fuel. The cause of this rise in price should be explained.

As the drainage scheme prepared by Mr. Cousins was abandoned on account of its prohibitive cost and the impracticability of his system of house connections, two cheaper schemes—one suggested by Mr. Ellis, the Municipal Engineer, and the other by Mr. Loane, the Assistant Mechanical Engineer—were under consideration during the year. The former scheme is modelled on that of Mr. Cousins, and is such that it can be enlarged as funds become available, so as to be co-extensive with Mr. Cousins' complete scheme, while Mr. Loane's scheme, which was preferred by the Commissioners under the erroneous idea that it was on the same lines as Mr. Cousins', is quite new and depends chiefly on a sewer to be constructed from Mylapore to Manalli. In both of these schemes it is proposed to omit house connections for the time being. Mr. Ellis' scheme, however, has received the approval of Government and detailed plans and estimates have been called for, but the matter is still being considered by a special committee appointed by the Commissioners. A scheme for the purification of the Cooum by the excavation of a canal costing nine lakhs of rupees, connecting it with the sea near the Madras Harbour, was approved; but the execution of the work was held in abeyance, as a cheaper arrangement suggested by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation was under investigation.

16. *Water-supply*.—The outlay under this head was Rs. 4,85,198, of which Rs. 4,27,982 were spent on new works and Rs. 57,216 on repairs, against Rs. 29,633 and Rs. 43,728, respectively, in 1894-95. A sum of Rs. 3,50,607 was spent in laying two auxiliary mains to improve the water-supply in the First and Eighth divisions, and was met by a loan of four lakhs raised by the Commissioners in the open market. Rs. 6,275 were also expended on the hydraulic survey of the city as a preliminary to the introduction of an improved system of water-supply. During the year under review 46,050 yards of water-pipes were laid and 38 fountains were put up against 11,205 yards of pipes and 84 fountains in 1894-95. The total number of fountains on the 31st March 1896 was thus 1,046 or, on an average, one for every 0.11 square mile of the area supplied with water, and for every 334 inhabitants in that area. The total quantity of water supplied to the town was nearly one-fifth in excess of that in the previous year, but the quality as analysed continued to be "bad." The Commissioners recommended the adoption of the main portions of a scheme for improving the water-supply of the city prepared by Mr. Loane and estimated to cost seven lakhs in preference to that of Mr. Cousins, which they considered to be beyond the means of the municipality. The Chief Engineer, however, very strongly objected to the raising of the bund of the Red Hills tank, which formed one of the chief features of this scheme, and on his recommendation, an arrangement suggested by Mr. Ellis, which provides for the partial improvement of the distribution, purification and quantity of the supply at an estimated cost of nearly 6¼ lakhs, was approved by Government. The matter is still under the consideration of the Commissioners.

17. *Miscellaneous*.—The only important works falling under this head were the filling up of the pool near the rubbish depôt at St. Thomé and the construction of a wooden screen and the filling of breaches at Chetpat parcheri in the Sixth division. The Government notes with pleasure the public-spirited liberality displayed by the gentlemen named in paragraph 94 of the President's report.

18. *Education*.—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 12,146 against Rupees 8,468 in the previous year, the increase being mainly under result grants. A sum of Rs. 820 was spent on stipends to teachers attending the training and sessional schools, Rs. 1,193 in maintaining the two inspecting schoolmasters and Rs. 10,133 in aiding schools with result, building and furniture grants. At the close of the year, there were nine secondary and 151 primary schools receiving aid from municipal funds against 10 and 187, respectively, in 1894-95. On the 31st March 1896 there were on the rolls of these institutions 8,803 boys and 843 girls against 10,134 and 993,

respectively, in the previous year. The decrease in the number and attendance is attributed to the failure on the part of the managers of some schools to obtain recognition and aid. From these schools 4,626 pupils were presented for the grant examination and 3,363, or 72·7 per cent., were found qualified for grants, the corresponding figures for 1894-95 being 5,401, 3,889 and 72 per cent. It is, however, satisfactory to note that nearly 92 per cent. of the allotment for result grants was utilized against 78·6 per cent. in the previous year. The number of untrained and unpassed teachers in the aided schools, though less than in that year, was still unduly high and should be reduced.

19. *Medical Relief*.—As in previous years, the Commissioners maintained the Triplicane hospital and the Black Town dispensary. The expenditure on them amounted to Rs. 25,320 against Rs. 20,212 in 1894-95. The increase occurs mostly under the latter institution and is explained in paragraph 127 of the President's report. The usual contributions amounting to Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 6,611 were paid to Government towards the maintenance of the General Hospital and the Medical College, respectively, and a grant of Rs. 1,643 was made to the St. Thomé and St. Thomas' Convent dispensaries and the Victoria Caste and Gosha hospital.

The following statement shows the number of patients treated in these institutions, excepting the St. Thomas' Convent dispensary, regarding which no information has been furnished by the managers:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Triplicane Hospital—		
In-door	919	910
Out-door	31,056	31,078
Black Town Dispensary—		
Out-door	44,180	43,147
St. Thomé Dispensary	10,123	10,335
Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital	..	8,827

The decrease in the number treated in the Black Town dispensary has not been explained.

20. *Vaccination*.—The total number of vaccine operations performed during the year rose from 24,725 to 27,024, the increase being due to the large number of re-vaccinations of persons employed in the various offices, firms, &c., in the town, owing to the prevalence of small-pox in the latter part of the year. Of this number 25,108, or 55·5 per mille of the population, are reported to have been successful against 23,309, or 51·5 per mille, in 1894-95. The quality of the work turned out, though not so good as in the previous year, was still fair, and the net cost of each successful operation was again reduced by six pies. The number of deaths from small-pox was nine against eight in 1894-95. The number of children under one year successfully vaccinated was 13,027, or 28·8 per mille of the population, against 13,230, or 29·2 per mille, in the previous year. Excluding still-births, the number of births registered during the year was 18,904; but of the children born, 5,408 are reported to have died before they reached the age of one year, while 3,639 of the infants vaccinated were born out of Madras. In view, therefore, of the fact that nearly one-fourth of the number of children available for vaccination were left unprotected, the results cannot be considered altogether satisfactory. Only 690 summonses against 1,184 in 1894-95 were taken out against parents and guardians for failure to have their children vaccinated. The number of cases in which the parties were fined was 292 and the fines imposed amounted to Rs. 243 against Rs. 297.

21. *Vital Statistics*.—The numbers of births and deaths registered in 1895 are compared below with those of the previous year:—

	Births.	Rate per mille.	Deaths.	Rate per mille.
1894	17,062	37·7	16,542	36·5
1895	19,137	42·2	17,052	37·6

The increase in the number of births is attributed to the cheapness of food during the latter part of 1894 and the year 1895. Classified according to diseases, the increase in the number of deaths occurs under all the heads except small-pox and dysentery

and diarrhoea, while according to age, it is largest in the case of children under one year, whose death-rate rose from 356·9 to 387·7 per mille.

22. *Sanitation*.—The total outlay under this head was Rs. 2,77,592 against Rs. 3,10,920 and Rs. 3,43,990, respectively, provided in the budget and revised estimates and Rs. 2,58,604 spent in 1894-95, the decrease below the estimates being due to savings under hire of scavengers, labour for night-soil depôts and cholera contingencies, to non-utilization of the provision for the purchase of conservancy carts and to the existence of unclaimed outstandings. As in previous years, the scavengers were employed by the Commissioners themselves, but the conservancy carts, bullocks and drivers were supplied by contractors. It has, however, been decided to purchase the carts and to work them departmentally from 1st April 1896. The attendance of the conservancy coolies is reported to have been even worse than in the previous year, but it is hoped that the provision of house accommodation for them will result in an improvement. With reference to paragraph 179 IV (4) of the President's report, the Commissioners will be referred to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 936 M., dated 27th May 1892.

The year was not marked by any material advance in the sanitary condition of the city, but several measures of improvement were either carried out or were in progress during its course. The water-supply in the First and Eighth divisions was improved and extended by the laying of two auxiliary mains; house-to-house conservancy was introduced in the Fifth division; steps are being taken to construct incinerators for the disposal of rubbish, and to close the objectionable burial-grounds in crowded parts of the city; large plots of land have been acquired at Kilpauk and Saidapet to provide new burial-grounds, and several wide streets were opened through parcheries and hutting grounds for the better perfilation of these localities. All these are calculated to improve the sanitation of the town, but until an improved system of water-supply and an effective scheme of drainage are introduced, and the purification of the Cooum is accomplished, the health of the town cannot be expected to improve materially. Only four additional latrines were built during the year, making a total of 219 latrines—a number altogether insufficient for a population of 452,518. It is, however, noted that the construction of twelve more was in progress. Each year the number should be increased as rapidly as possible so that there may be at least one latrine for every 1,000 inhabitants. The sewage farms were worked at a loss of Rs. 5,000 against a profit of Rs. 5,032 in 1894-95.

23. *Lighting*.—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 49,777 against Rs. 50,774 in 1894-95. During the year under review 361 new lights were put up, making a total of 5,447, or 188 to the square mile.

24. *Parks*.—The Peoples' Park was worked at a net cost to the municipality of Rs. 11,421, but the Napier Park brought in a profit of Rs. 367. The Robinson Park under the management of a private committee was also worked at a profit, of Rs. 3,195.

25. *Financial Position*.—The annexed figures show the financial position of the municipality on the 31st March 1896:—

Assets.						RS.
Current balance	..	..	..	..	..	5,99,493
Sinking fund of loans	..	..	..	..	..	10,89,959
Value of premises, tools and plant	..	..	..	..	..	6,94,519
Advances recoverable	..	..	..	..	..	1,21,556
Total						25,05,527

Liabilities.						RS.
Loans	..	..	..	..	..	28,70,000

As in the previous years, the municipal debt was Rs. 28,70,000. During the year under review Rs. 53,920 were paid towards sinking fund and Rs. 1,44,445 towards interest, making a total of Rs. 1,98,365.

26. *General Remarks.*—The administration of the municipality during the year under review was on the whole satisfactory. No definite decision has yet been arrived at with regard to the drainage and water-supply schemes, but it is hoped that the Commissioners will be in a position very shortly to reach a final conclusion upon these matters which are of the most vital importance to the welfare of the City.

(True Extract.)

G. S. Forbes
Secretary to Government.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.

„ Accountant-General.
„ Director of Public Instruction.
„ Surgeon-General.
„ Sanitary Board.
„ Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Sanitary Engineer.
„ Public Works Department.

Editors' Table.

ENDORSEMENT—No. 2084-A M., dated 7th December 1896.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

Government {1896} of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

To be substituted for Government Order of same number and date (Nos. 2084, 2084-A. M., dated 7th December 1896).

Recd. 5. 1. }
Regd. 5. 1. } 1896.

Enclosures .

Spare copies 8.

G.O., &c., Nos. 2084, 2084-A M., 7th December 1896.

DECEMBER.

Administration Report.

Reviewing the — of the Madras Municipality for 1895-96.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From R. E. ELLIS, Esq., M.I.C.E., Acting President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 1st September 1896, G. No. 304.

Pursuant to section 91 of the City of Madras Municipal Act I of 1884 as amended by Madras Acts VII of 1884 and II of 1892, I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of the administration report of this municipality for the year 1895-96.

2. The report was considered at a special meeting of the Commissioners held on the 28th August 1896; an extract from the proceedings of the meeting is annexed.

3. The remaining 47 copies of the report will be forwarded shortly.

ENCLOSURE.

Administration Report of the Madras Municipality for 1895-96.

Proposed by M.R.Ry. V. Varadappa Nayudu Garu and seconded by M.R.Ry. Salla Guruswami Chetti Garu—

“That the Administration Report for 1895-96 be adopted and submitted to Government.”

Resolution.—Carried.

From R. E. ELLIS, Esq., M.I.C.E., Acting President, Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 15th September 1896, G. No. 331.

As promised in paragraph 3 of my letter, G. No. 304, of the 1st instant, I have now the honour to forward herewith 47 copies of the administration report of this municipality for 1895-96.

ORDER—No. 2084 M., dated 7th December 1896.

The receipts and charges of the Madras Municipality for 1895-96 are compared below with the budget and revised estimates for the year and the actuals of 1894-95 :—

	Actuals, 1894-95.	Budget estimate, 1895-96.	Revised estimate, 1895-96.	Actuals, 1895-96.
<i>Receipts.</i>				
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	2,49,715	28,080	2,91,330	2,91,325
Tax on Arts	67,318	65,000	67,000	68,888
„ on Buildings and Lands	5,35,327	5,17,400	5,17,500	5,07,783
Water Tax on Buildings and Lands	2,10,265	2,02,340	2,02,340	1,98,906
Lighting Tax on Buildings and Lands	66,929	64,670	64,670	63,516
Tax on Vehicles and Animals	53,235	53,200	55,700	55,561
„ on Carts	21,163	21,000	21,100	21,078
Tobacco Duties	29,794	..	..	7
Tolls	43,249	38,250	38,250	38,250
Rent of Lands, Buildings, &c., and Sale-proceeds of Lands, &c... .. .	63,727	59,180	57,510	64,696
Conservancy Receipts	5,539	5,530	5,550	5,939
Income from Markets and Slaughter-houses	26,447	25,540	30,820	27,830
License Fees	1,36,014	1,18,400	1,39,140	1,45,784
Other Fees	8,151	6,390	6,390	7,478
Fines under Municipal and other Acts	2,708	2,000	3,000	4,070
Interest on Investments and premium on Loans	4,500	13,000	39,500	38,500
Grants and Contributions from Government	35,192	32,960	3,82,960	3,83,033
Miscellaneous	24,977	26,400	27,900	31,815
Loans	..	4,00,000	4,00,000	4,00,000
Sale-proceeds of Government Securities, &c., and Realizations of Sinking Fund	32,108	26,100	26,310	26,366
Advances Recovered	3,289	6,000	6,000	5,766
Total ..	15,60,059	17,11,440	23,82,970	23,86,591
<i>Charges.</i>				
GRANT I—				
New Works—				
Communications	4,413	3,800	35,180	3,631
Buildings	28,808	36,350	1,72,280	33,950
Drainage	58,963	34,820	64,930	36,628
Water-supply	29,633	3,47,340	4,50,080	4,27,981
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	543	200	1,750	871
Repairs—				
Communications	1,21,741	98,770	1,57,920	1,15,141
Buildings	9,447	10,750	31,350	17,464
Drainage	1,43,075	1,68,870	1,78,630	1,69,390
Water-supply	43,728	38,550	56,070	57,216
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	244	500	920	630
Establishment	22,253	28,290	26,170	25,964
Tools and Plant and other Stores	3,822	5,100	22,700	3,958
Miscellaneous	10,079	16,450	20,080	17,947
Total ..	4,76,749	7,89,790	12,18,060	9,10,771
GRANT II—				
Training Schools	282	1,000	1,200	820
Grants-in-aid—				
Result Grants	6,943	9,000	10,780	9,913
Building, Furniture, &c., Grants	17	1,500	790	220
Inspection	1,226	1,190	1,190	1,193
Total ..	8,468	12,690	13,960	12,146
GRANT III—				
Hospitals and Dispensaries	20,212	19,630	26,390	25,320
Contributions	28,312	23,740	23,740	28,254
Vaccination	10,883	10,930	11,140	11,029
Registration of Births and Deaths	8,380	8,860	8,860	8,536
Conservancy, Road-cleaning and Road-watering	2,58,604	3,10,920	3,43,990	2,77,592
Total ..	3,26,391	3,74,080	4,14,120	3,50,731
GRANT IV—				
Lighting	50,774	49,720	55,130	49,977
Markets and slaughter-houses	5,363	5,700	6,730	6,894
Avenues	3,138	3,050	3,880	3,319
Public Garden, Survey of Land, Fire and other charges	97,042	1,07,730	1,25,610	1,20,460
Total ..	1,56,317	1,66,200	1,91,350	1,80,650
GRANT V—				
Supervision and Management	94,794	91,140	93,780	88,929
Repayment of Debt	51,047	53,920	53,920	53,920
Interest on Loan	1,25,038	1,41,220	1,53,220	1,44,445
Advances Recoverable	13,315	..	6,040	34,844
Refunds	10,709	5,000	5,000	4,190
Pensions and Gratuities	5,906	5,790	6,830	6,472
Balance	2,91,325	71,610	2,26,690	5,99,493
Total ..	15,60,059	17,11,440	23,82,970	23,86,591

I.—CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMISSION.

2. During the year under review Lieutenant-Colonel G. M. J. Moore, C.I.E., continued to hold the office of President, and Diwan Bahadur P. Ramaswami Chettiyar of Revenue Officer. Mr. R. E. Ellis, the Engineer, who had been deputed in February 1895, to undertake the hydraulic survey of the town and to prepare estimates for carrying out Mr. Cousins' scheme of water-supply, reverted to his office on the 31st July 1895, but took privilege leave for six weeks from the 6th October 1895, when Mr. Loane, the Assistant Mechanical Engineer, again acted for him. Dr. J. N. Cook, the Health Officer, took leave on medical certificate for twelve months from the 20th July 1895, and Mr. H. H. Marshall was appointed to fill his place.

3. Three elective seats on the commission fell vacant during the year. One of these was not contested, but at the elections held to fill the remaining two vacancies 40·9 per cent. of the registered number of voters in the division concerned attended the poll, against 36·3 per cent. in 1894-95, and an average of 47·7 per cent. for mufassal municipalities in that year. The list of persons qualified to vote was revised with the result that the number fell from 5,508 to 5,342.

4. The number of meetings held by the Commissioners rose from 19 to 32, and the average attendance at each meeting from 12 to 21, which is very satisfactory.

II.—RECEIPTS.

5. Excluding opening balance, the total receipts of the year were Rs. 20,95,266 against Rs. 16,83,360 and Rs. 20,91,640, anticipated in the budget and revised estimates, respectively, and Rs. 13,10,344 realized in 1894-95. The increase as compared with the actuals of the previous year occurs mainly under license fees, premium on loans, grants from Government and loans, and is partly counterbalanced by a decrease under the tax on buildings, water and lighting taxes, tolls and realizations of sinking fund. The differences between the budget estimates and the actuals are in several instances very wide. This is largely due to the inefficient manner in which the municipal budgets have hitherto been prepared. This subject has, however, been sufficiently commented on in G.O., No. 758 M., dated 4th May 1896.

(A) Revenue derived from taxation.

6. The following statement shows the demand, collection and balance—current and arrears—under the several taxes:—

Current.

Tax.	Demand as originally assessed.	Remitted on appeal.	Demand as finally settled.	Collected.	Remitted.	Written off as irrecoverable.	Balance.	Percentage of collections to net demand.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Tax on Arts, &c. ..	70,255	1,065	69,190	66,453	995	..	1,742	96·0
„ on Buildings and Lands ..	5,06,097	2,525	5,03,572	4,67,923	8,246	3	27,400	92·9
Water-tax ..	1,98,289	979	1,97,310	1,83,510	3,153	1	10,646	93·1
Lighting-tax ..	63,274	316	62,958	58,514	1,000	..	3,444	92·9
Tax on Vehicles with springs and Animals ..	60,575	966	59,609	55,123	1,239	..	3,247	92·5
Tax on Carts ..	21,084	..	21,084	21,070	6	7	1	99·9
Tolls ..	38,250	..	38,250	38,250	..	..	..	100·0
Total ..	9,57,824	5,851	9,51,973	8,90,843	14,639	11	46,480	93·6
Total for 1894-95 ..	9,51,707	6,862	9,44,845	8,67,538	13,155	9	64,143	91·8

Arrears.

Tax.	Total demand.	Collected.	Remitted.	Written off as irrecoverable.	Balance.	Percentage of collections to demand.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Tax on Arts, &c. ..	4,615	2,435	1,517	..	663	52·8
„ on Buildings and Lands ..	47,871	39,860	1,825	213	5,973	83·3
Water-tax ..	18,514	15,395	700	78	2,341	83·6
Lighting-tax ..	6,020	5,002	227	28	763	83·1
Tax on Vehicles and Animals ..	2,003	438	273	..	1,297	21·8
„ on Carts ..	10	8	..	..	2	80·0
Total ..	79,033	63,133	4,542	319	11,039	79·9
Total for 1894-95 ..	1,51,694	1,29,948	5,231	3,426	13,039	85·7

The net current demand under all the taxes, except the tax on carts, showed an increase over that of the previous year, which was considerable in the case of the taxes on buildings and lands and vehicles, and was due to the ordinary revision of assessments during the year. Owing, it is stated, to the absence of competition, the demand under tolls declined slightly. The percentage of remissions on appeal to the gross demand fell from ·7 to ·6. The current collections under the principal taxes improved, and were on the whole good; but it is to be regretted that there was a large balance of Rs. 41,490 outstanding under the house, water and lighting taxes at the end of the year. The arrear demand was only one-half of the previous year's, and the realizations were on the whole fair. Rupees 14,650 of the current, and Rs. 4,861 of the arrear, demand were either remitted or written off the accounts as irrecoverable, but notwithstanding these remissions and the repeated remarks of Government on the subject, old arrears dating back to 1889-90 were still outstanding on the municipal books. Very early steps should be taken to adjust them.

7. *Coercive Processes.*—For the collection of the several taxes 68,117 demand notices were issued against 67,047 in 1894-95, the amount involved being Rupees 4,68,734 against Rs. 4,77,326. Warrants were issued in 56,510 of these cases against 60,071 in the previous year; but the number of processes remaining unexecuted at the close of the year was still large, being 7,251 or 11·3 per cent. of the total number for execution. The total amount recovered by means of coercive processes was Rupees 4,66,552 against Rs. 4,88,929 in 1894-95, but the number of cases in which property was sold rose from 441 to 1,068, the amount realized being Rs. 1,346 against Rupees 1,288. Prosecutions were instituted in 680 cases against 569 in the previous year.

8. *Incidence of Taxation.*—The general incidence of municipal taxation per head of the population fell from Rs. 2-2-3 to Rs. 2-1-9, the decrease being due to smaller collections of arrears under the tax on buildings and lands and the water and lighting taxes. The incidence of the tax on arts was, however, Rs. 19-1-4 per person assessed against Rs. 19-0-4 in 1894-95, and that of the tax on buildings and lands Rupees 12-9-11 per building or land taxed against Rs. 12-9-2. Including the water and lighting taxes, the average tax paid in respect of each house or land was Rs. 19-2-4 against Rs. 19-1-1 in the previous year.

(B) Revenue derived from municipal property and under powers apart from taxation.

9. The total receipts under this head were Rs. 2,94,297 against Rs. 2,47,086 in the previous year, the increase appearing chiefly under license fees and premia on loans, and being due in the case of the former to larger imports of timber by sea. The income from markets, sewage farms, sale of rubbish and fines also showed an increase, but payment for the occupation of municipal lands and sale-proceeds of lands declined. It is observed that the Commissioners have at last decided upon constructing a new general market for which plans and estimates are under preparation.

10. *Grants from Government.*—The contribution paid by Government for the exemption of military officers from the tax on salaries was Rs. 3,925 against Rupees 6,084 in the previous year. In addition to this and the usual contributions for roads

(Rs. 9,058), for repairing the bridges over the Cooum and the Buckingham canal (Rs. 4,443), for withholding the levy of taxes on places used for the sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors (Rs. 13,607), and for the zoological collections in the People's Park (Rs. 2,000), a special grant of Rs. 3,50,000 was received from Provincial funds, of which Rs. 1,00,000 were for the construction of incinerators, Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of conservancy carts, and Rs. 2,00,000 for the new drainage scheme.

11. *Miscellaneous*.—The receipts under this head amounted to Rs. 31,815 against Rs. 24,977 in 1894-95; the increase appearing in all the items except sundry receipts from water-works.

III.—EXPENDITURE.

12. The total expenditure was Rs. 17,87,098 against Rs. 16,39,830 and Rupees 21,56,280, respectively, provided in the budget and revised estimates, and Rupees 12,68,734 spent in 1894-95. The decrease as compared with the revised estimate occurs under all grants, and the increase over the actuals of the previous year under all the grants except Grant V, the variations being marked under Grant I. About 51 per cent. of the total expenditure was incurred on public works, 1 per cent. on education, 19 per cent. on medical services and sanitation, 10 per cent. on lighting and miscellaneous, 5 per cent. on supervision and management, and 14 per cent. on repayment of debt, &c., the corresponding figures for the previous year being 38, 1, 26, 12, 7 and 16 per cent.

13. *Public Works—Communications*.—The outlay on New Works—communications was Rs. 3,631, and on Repairs Rs. 1,15,141, against the revised estimates of Rs. 35,180 and Rs. 1,57,920, respectively. The decrease under new works was again due chiefly to the failure to appropriate the provision of Rs. 25,000 for the improvement of streets. No explanation has been offered of this failure or of the lapse of Rs. 42,779 under repairs. Two-and-a-half miles of road were metalled for the first time during the year. More than 35½ miles were remetalled at a cost of Rs. 78,774, Rs. 32,978 were spent on ordinary repairs to roads, and Rs. 3,389 on repairs to bridges, culverts and foot-paths and other petty works. The state of some of the roads is reported to have been not altogether satisfactory and it is added that "to keep the roads in thorough repair the grant should be increased by 50 per cent." With regard to this remark the Government would observe that only Rs. 1,15,000 were spent out of an allotment for repairs in the revised estimate of Rs. 1,58,000. Until, therefore, the municipality makes provision for spending fully the grants already sanctioned, it seems to the Government to be premature to talk of increased grants. The matter should receive attention during the current year.

14. *Buildings*.—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 51,414, of which Rs. 33,950 were spent on new works and the remainder on repairs. The allotment in the revised estimate was over two lakhs, but only Rs. 51,414, it is observed, were spent. This short expenditure was due mainly to the non-utilization of the provision of one lakh for the construction of an incinerator; and also to the non-payment in full for works completed during the year. The Government trusts that every endeavour will be made to avoid outstandings on this account. The only new work of importance executed during the year was the construction of a cholera shed estimated to cost Rs. 12,250 at Kistnampet. Some further improvements were undertaken to the Royapetta hospital building, but on this only Rs. 3,959 had been spent up to the 31st March 1896 out of an estimate of Rs. 5,440.

15. *Drainage*.—Under drainage the expenditure on new works was very short as compared with the revised estimate. The extension of the outfall channel 3,300 feet to the north, and the laying of pipes from the Triplicane pumping station to Kistnampet in order to prevent sewage flowing into the canal and to render it possible to dispense with pumping at the former place—works undertaken in 1894-95—were completed during the year under review at a total cost of Rs. 44,768 and Rs. 25,476, respectively. The only other new work of importance under execution was the formation of a pipe drain—described as a cement pipe in paragraph 84 of the report and as a stoneware pipe in Statement II-A—from Thacker's street to DeMellow's road, on which, however, only a sum of Rs. 212 was spent out of an estimate of Rs. 28,000.

The expenditure on minor drains amounted to Rs. 11,986 under new works and Rs. 15,705 under repairs against Rs. 13,239 and Rs. 9,931, respectively, in 1894-95. The great excess, as compared with the previous year, in the cost of the Napier Park and Rayapuram pumping stations is attributed mainly to the high rate of fuel. The cause of this rise in price should be explained.

As the drainage scheme prepared by Mr. Cousins was abandoned on account of its prohibitive cost and the impracticability of his system of house connections, two cheaper schemes—one suggested by Mr. Ellis, the Municipal Engineer, and the other by Mr. Loane, the Assistant Mechanical Engineer—were under consideration during the year. The former scheme is modelled on that of Mr. Cousins, and is such that it can be enlarged as funds become available, so as to be co-extensive with Mr. Cousins' complete scheme, while Mr. Loane's scheme, which was preferred by the Commissioners under the erroneous idea that it was on the same lines as Mr. Cousins', is quite new and depends chiefly on a sewer to be constructed from Mylapore to Manalli. In both of these schemes it is proposed to omit house connections for the time being. Mr. Ellis' scheme, however, has received the approval of Government and detailed plans and estimates have been called for, but the matter is still being considered by a special committee appointed by the Commissioners. A scheme for the purification of the Cooum by the excavation of a canal costing nine lakhs of rupees, connecting it with the sea near the Madras Harbour, was approved; but the execution of the work was held in abeyance, as a cheaper arrangement suggested by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation was under investigation.

16. *Water-supply*.—The outlay under this head was Rs. 4,55,198, of which Rs. 4,27,982 were spent on new works and Rs. 57,216 on repairs, against Rs. 29,633 and Rs. 43,728, respectively, in 1894-95. A sum of Rs. 3,50,607 was spent in laying two auxiliary mains to improve the water-supply in the First and Eighth divisions, and was met by a loan of four lakhs raised by the Commissioners in the open market. Rs. 6,275 were also expended on the hydraulic survey of the city as a preliminary to the introduction of an improved system of water-supply. During the year under review 46,050 yards of water-pipes were laid and 38 fountains were put up against 11,205 yards of pipes and 84 fountains in 1894-95. The total number of fountains on the 31st March 1896 was thus 1,046 or, on an average, one for every 0.11 square mile of the area supplied with water, and for every 334 inhabitants in that area. The total quantity of water supplied to the town was nearly one-fifth in excess of that in the previous year, but the quality as analysed continued to be "bad." The Commissioners recommended the adoption of the main portions of a scheme for improving the water-supply of the city prepared by Mr. Loane and estimated to cost seven lakhs in preference to that of Mr. Cousins, which they considered to be beyond the means of the municipality. The Chief Engineer, however, very strongly objected to the raising of the bund of the Red Hills tank, which formed one of the chief features of this scheme, and on his recommendation, an arrangement suggested by Mr. Ellis, which provides for the partial improvement of the distribution, purification and quantity of the supply at an estimated cost of nearly 6¼ lakhs, was approved by Government. The matter is still under the consideration of the Commissioners.

17. *Miscellaneous*.—The only important works falling under this head were the filling up of the pool near the rubbish dépôt at St. Thomé and the construction of a wooden screen and the filling of breaches at Chetpat parcheri in the Sixth division. The Government notes with pleasure the public-spirited liberality displayed by the gentlemen named in paragraph 94 of the President's report.

18. *Education*.—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 12,146 against Rupees 8,468 in the previous year, the increase being mainly under result grants. A sum of Rs. 820 was spent on stipends to teachers attending the training and sessional schools, Rs. 1,193 in maintaining the two inspecting schoolmasters and Rs. 10,133 in aiding schools with result, building and furniture grants. At the close of the year, there were nine secondary and 151 primary schools receiving aid from municipal funds against 10 and 187, respectively, in 1894-95. On the 31st March 1896 there were on the rolls of these institutions 8,803 boys and 843 girls against 10,134 and 993,

respectively, in the previous year. The decrease in the number and attendance is attributed to the failure on the part of the managers of some schools to obtain recognition and aid. From these schools 4,626 pupils were presented for the grant examination and 3,363, or 72·7 per cent., were found qualified for grants, the corresponding figures for 1894-95 being 5,401, 3,889 and 72 per cent. It is, however, satisfactory to note that nearly 92 per cent. of the allotment for result grants was utilized against 78·6 per cent. in the previous year. The number of untrained and unpassed teachers in the aided schools, though less than in that year, was still unduly high and should be reduced.

19. *Medical Relief.*—As in previous years, the Commissioners maintained the Triplicane hospital and the Black Town dispensary. The expenditure on them amounted to Rs. 25,320 against Rs. 20,212 in 1894-95. The increase occurs mostly under the latter institution and is explained in paragraph 127 of the President's report. The usual contributions amounting to Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 6,611 were paid to Government towards the maintenance of the General Hospital and the Medical College, respectively, and a grant of Rs. 1,643 was made to the St. Thomé and St. Thomas' Convent dispensaries and the Victoria Caste and Gosha hospital.

The following statement shows the number of patients treated in these institutions, excepting the St. Thomas' Convent dispensary, regarding which no information has been furnished by the managers:—

	1894-95.	1895-96.
Triplicane Hospital—		
In-door	919	910
Out-door	31,056	31,078
Black Town Dispensary—		
Out-door	44,180	43,147
St. Thomé Dispensary	10,123	10,335
Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital	..	8,827

The decrease in the number treated in the Black Town dispensary has not been explained.

20. *Vaccination.*—The total number of vaccine operations performed during the year rose from 24,725 to 27,024, the increase being due to the large number of re-vaccinations of persons employed in the various offices, firms, &c., in the town, owing to the prevalence of small-pox in the latter part of the year. Of this number 25,108, or 55·5 per mille of the population, are reported to have been successful against 23,309, or 51·5 per mille, in 1894-95. The quality of the work turned out, though not so good as in the previous year, was still fair, and the net cost of each successful operation was again reduced by six pies. The number of deaths from small-pox was nine against eight in 1894-95. The number of children under one year successfully vaccinated was 13,027, or 28·8 per mille of the population, against 13,230, or 29·2 per mille, in the previous year. Excluding still-births, the number of births registered during the year was 18,904; but of the children born, 5,408 are reported to have died before they reached the age of one year, while 3,639 of the infants vaccinated were born out of Madras. In view, therefore, of the fact that nearly one-fourth of the number of children available for vaccination were left unprotected, the results cannot be considered altogether satisfactory. Only 690 summonses against 1,184 in 1894-95 were taken out against parents and guardians for failure to have their children vaccinated. The number of cases in which the parties were fined was 292 and the fines imposed amounted to Rs. 243 against Rs. 297.

21. *Vital Statistics.*—The numbers of births and deaths registered in 1895 are compared below with those of the previous year:—

	Births.	Rate per mille.	Deaths.	Rate per mille.
1894	17,062	37·7	16,542	36·5
1895	19,137	42·2	17,052	37·6

The increase in the number of births is attributed to the cheapness of food during the latter part of 1894 and the year 1895. Classified according to diseases, the increase in the number of deaths occurs under all the heads except small-pox and dysentery

and diarrhoea, while according to age, it is largest in the case of children under one year, whose death-rate rose from 356·9 to 387·7 per mille.

22. *Sanitation.*—The total outlay under this head was Rs. 2,77,592 against Rs. 3,10,920 and Rs. 3,43,990, respectively, provided in the budget and revised estimates and Rs. 2,58,604 spent in 1894-95, the decrease below the estimates being due to savings under hire of scavengers, labour for night-soil depôts and cholera contingencies, to non-utilization of the provision for the purchase of conservancy carts and to the existence of unclaimed outstandings. As in previous years, the scavengers were employed by the Commissioners themselves, but the conservancy carts, bullocks and drivers were supplied by contractors. It has, however, been decided to purchase the carts and to work them departmentally from 1st April 1896. The attendance of the conservancy coolies is reported to have been even worse than in the previous year, but it is hoped that the provision of house accommodation for them will result in an improvement. With reference to paragraph 179 IV (4) of the President's report, the Commissioners will be referred to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 936 M., dated 27th May 1892.

The year was not marked by any material advance in the sanitary condition of the city, but several measures of improvement were either carried out or were in progress during its course. The water-supply in the First and Eighth divisions was improved and extended by the laying of two auxiliary mains; house-to-house conservancy was introduced in the Fifth division; steps are being taken to construct incinerators for the disposal of rubbish, and to close the objectionable burial-grounds in crowded parts of the city; large plots of land have been acquired at Kilpauk and Saidapet to provide new burial-grounds, and several wide streets were opened through parcheries and hutting grounds for the better perfuration of these localities. All these are calculated to improve the sanitation of the town, but until an improved system of water-supply and an effective scheme of drainage are introduced, and the purification of the Cooum is accomplished, the health of the town cannot be expected to improve materially. Only four additional latrines were built during the year, making a total of 219 latrines—a number altogether insufficient for a population of 452,518. It is, however, noted that the construction of twelve more was in progress. Each year the number should be increased as rapidly as possible so that there may be at least one latrine for every 1,000 inhabitants. The sewage farms were worked at a loss of Rs. 5,000 against a profit of Rs. 5,032 in 1894-95.

23. *Lighting.*—The expenditure under this head was Rs. 49,777 against Rs. 50,774 in 1894-95. During the year under review 361 new lights were put up, making a total of 5,447, or 188 to the square mile.

24. *Parks.*—The Peoples' Park was worked at a net cost to the municipality of Rs. 11,421, but the Napier Park brought in a profit of Rs. 367. The Robinson Park under the management of a private committee was also worked at a profit, of Rs. 3,195.

25. *Financial Position.*—The annexed figures show the financial position of the municipality on the 31st March 1896:—

Assets.		Rs.
Current balance	..	5,99,493
Sinking fund of loans	..	10,89,959
Value of premises, tools and plant	..	6,94,519
Advances recoverable	..	1,21,556
Total	..	25,05,527
Liabilities.		Rs.
Loans	..	32,70,000

The municipal debt outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 32,70,000 against Rs. 28,70,000 in 1894-95. During the year under review Rs. 53,920 were paid towards sinking fund and Rs. 1,44,445 towards interest, making a total of Rs. 1,98,365.

26. *General Remarks.*—The administration of the municipality during the year under review was on the whole satisfactory. No definite decision has yet been arrived at with regard to the drainage and water-supply schemes, but it is hoped that the Commissioners will be in a position very shortly to reach a final conclusion upon these matters which are of the most vital importance to the welfare of the City.

(True Extract.)

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.

- „ Accountant-General.
- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ Surgeon-General.
- „ Sanitary Board.
- „ Sanitary Commissioner.
- „ Sanitary Engineer.
- „ Public Works Department.

Editors' Table.

ENDORSEMENT—No. 2084-A M., dated 7th December 1896.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.