

Public Works (189 ) Department.

G.O., No. 1792 W

DATED 15 July 98

15/7/98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Growth of Manure yielding trees: Nos: Rev. Dept. approving  
the action of the Bd of Rev. in requesting the Col of  
Madras to instruct the District Officer to give  
effect to the proposal to encourage the growth of  
Shrub trees producing leaves suitable for manure,  
& <sup>also</sup> ~~that~~ the Col of other Districts, should be  
instructed to consider the advisability of adopting a  
similar course, communicated to officers of the  
P.W.D. for information.

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Proceedings, Revenue Department, approving the action of the Board of Revenue in requesting the Collector of Madura to instruct the District Forest-officer to give effect to the proposal to encourage the growth of shrubs and trees producing leaves suitable for manure, and desiring that the Collectors of other districts also should be instructed to consider the advisability of adopting a similar course, communicated to officers of the Public Works Department for information.

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.  
Civil Works.

Read—the following paper:—

G.O., Mis. No. 2801, Revenue, dated 2nd July 1898.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest No. 195, dated 20th May 1898:—

Read—the following G.O., Mis. No. 1137, Revenue, dated 7th March 1898:—

Read—the following extract from letter from T. W. S. SMYTH, Esq., Executive Engineer, Periyar Works, Madura, to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, dated 22nd September 1897, No. 91 S.E.:—

\* \* \* \* \*

19. The ryots say, and I believe with a good deal of truth, that the lands will, without much manure, bear only one crop, and it may be said that the financial success of the project depends to a great extent upon a large area of second crop being grown and everything possible in the way of growing leafy jungle on the Simurrai and Alagar Covil hills to provide leaf manure, or in any other way, should be done. It might even be advisable to try the effect of guano, or artificial manures, upon the lands.

\* \* \* \* \*

Order—Mis. No. 1137, Revenue, dated 7th March 1898.

\* \* \* \* \*

2. The Board's attention is drawn to paragraph 19 of the Executive Engineer's letter of the 22nd September 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,  
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Reference on the above, dated 16th March 1898, No. 108.

Referred to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, for report.

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,  
Secretary.

Read—the following letter from C. E. BRASIER, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 27th April 1898, No. 3696:—

[Reference.—Board's Ref. on F.R. No. 621, dated 16th March 1898.]

In reply to the above, I have the honour to state that I have consulted the Collector of Madura on the subject, and he informs me that the matter attracted the District Forest-officer's attention already while on inspection. He is of opinion that every endeavour should be made to encourage the growth of shrubs and trees producing leaves suitable for manure, and that provision should be made for this when preparing working plans.

He says that at present no restrictions are put in the way of the ryots wishing to procure permits for manure leaves, but if this continues the hills will soon become as bare as the Pachamalais in the Trichinopoly district.

2. It would appear to me from the Collector's reply that the time when something will be done—viz., when working plans are being prepared—is somewhat indefinite, and from the latter portion of his letter (copy enclosed) it would appear that when this time arrives there will be considerable risk of having nothing but barren hill sides to operate on.

3. The subject seems to be of such importance as to merit immediate action to prevent denudation and possible washing away of soil on the very hill sides themselves with the usual result of burying cultivable lands at their foot in gravel and debris.

4. One of the most, if not the most, valuable shrub or plant used for manure is the *Tephrosia purpurea* (Kolingi—Tamil) which springs up readily on most dry lands in the southern districts of the Presidency; its seeds can be collected cheaply and in vast quantity, and I believe ryots in Tinnevely actually sow their dry lands with this seed in order to reap or uproot the plants solely with a view to manure.

5. It may therefore be worthy of consideration whether the Forest Department should not place a portion of the hills in question under treatment on a very short rotation solely with a view to the production of a manure-yielding coppice or Pollard forest. Vacancies in the existing stock might be filled in by dibbling Kolingi or other nitrate-yielding species.

6. The species that are valuable for this purpose are those that belong to the *Papilionaceous Leguminosae*, and these might be specially encouraged in preference to other species which might be eradicated. By some such means a maximum yield of manure from a minimum area of forest might be obtained.

7. Nor will it be necessary to work the forest at a loss on this system as will be readily understood when I mention that ryots and mittahdars in the Salem district actually sell the right to take Kolingi from their lands at from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per cart-load of 22 head-loads.

8. Altogether the subject is one which I think it is the duty of the Forest department to study, more especially, in the special circumstances of the large and sudden increase in the irrigated area of the Madura district which on this account alone appears to offer the most likely locality for successful experiment.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. G. D. PARTRIDGE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madura, to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated 20th April 1898, Dis. Forest No. 683.

With reference to your letter, No. C. 3696, dated 22nd March 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the matter attracted the attention of the District Forest-officer while on inspection. He is of opinion that every endeavour should be made to encourage the growth of shrubs and trees producing leaves suitable for manure. Provision will be made for this when working plans are prepared. At present no restrictions are put in the way of the ryots wishing to procure permits for manure leaves; but if this continues, the hills will soon become as bare as the Pachamalais in the Trichinopoly district.

Enclosures returned.

Resolution—Forest No. 195, dated 20th May 1898.

The letter from the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, read above will be communicated to the Collector of Madura with an expression of the Board's concurrence in the views expressed therein. The Collector is requested to instruct his District Forest-officer to take immediate action in the matter in communication with the Conservator.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,  
Acting Secretary.

Order—Mis. No. 2801, Revenue, dated 2nd July 1898.

The Government is pleased to see this excellent proposal. Collectors of other districts should be instructed to consider the advisability of introducing a similar system into their districts.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) A. S. RUSSELL,  
for Secretary to Government.

ORDER—No. 1792 W., dated 15th July 1898.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department for information.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.  
„ Superintending Engineers.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

# Public Works (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 5853

Order

*Communicated  
to officers of the Public Works  
Dept. for information.*

From

*The Revenue Department*

No. 2801 mis.

Dated 2nd July 1898.

Received 11—

Registered 13.7.98

Enclosures

Spare copies

## SUBJECT.

*Stating that the Govt. is pleased to see the excellent proposal of the Conservator of Forests, N. Circle re: provision of leaf manure for the ryots irrigating under the Banjar Channels & directing that the Colrs. of districts other than Madura should be asked to consider the advisability of introducing a similar system into their districts.*

FURTHER PAPERS.

1898.

# Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

**MADRAS.**

Printed June th.

Proceedings, Forest No. 195, 20th May 1898.

**MAY.**

Communicating to the Collector of Madura, with an expression of Board's concurrence, letter from the Conservator, Southern Circle, regarding provision of leaf manure for the ryots irrigating under the Periyár channels, and requesting the Collector to instruct his District Forest-officer to take immediate action in the matter in communication with the Conservator.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE  
(LAND REVENUE).

Read—the following Government Order, Mis. No. 1137, Revenue, dated 7th March 1898 :—

Read—the following extract from letter from T. W. S. SMYTH, Esq., Executive Engineer, Periyár Works, Madura, to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, dated 22nd September 1897, No. 91-S.E. :—

19. The ryots say, and I believe with a good deal of truth, that the lands will, without much manure, bear only one crop, and it may be said that the financial success of the project depends to a great extent upon a large area of second crop being grown and every thing possible in the way of growing leafy jungle on the Sirumalai and Alagar Covil hills to provide leaf manure, or in any other way, should be done. It might even be advisable to try the effect of guano, or artificial manures, upon the lands.

Order—Mis. No. 1137, Revenue, dated 7th March 1898.

2. The Board's attention is drawn to paragraph 19 of the Executive Engineer's letter of the 22nd September 1897.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,  
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Reference on the above, dated 16th March 1898, No. 108.

Referred to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, for report.

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,  
Secretary.

To the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

Read—the following letter from C. E. BRASIER, Esq., Acting Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 27th April 1898, No. 3696 :—

[Reference.—Board's Ref. on F.R. No. 621, dated 16th March 1898.]

In reply to the above, I have the honour to state that I have consulted the Collector of Madura on the subject, and he informs me that the matter attracted the District Forest-officer's attention already while on inspection. He is of opinion that every endeavour should be made to encourage the growth of shrubs and trees producing leaves suitable for manure, and that provision should be made for this when preparing working plans.

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2. It would appear to me from the Collector's reply that the time when something will be done—viz., when working plans are being prepared—is somewhat indefinite, and from the latter portion of his letter (copy enclosed) it would appear that when this time arrives there will be considerable risk of having nothing but barren hill sides to operate on.

3. The subject seems to be of such importance as to merit immediate action to prevent denudation and possible washing away of soil on the very hill sides themselves with the usual result of burying cultivable lands at their foot in gravel and debris.

4. One of the most, if not the most, valuable shrub or plant used for manure is the *Tephrosia purpurea* (Kolingi—Tamil) which springs up readily on most dry lands in the southern districts of the presidency; its seeds can be collected cheaply and in vast quantity, and I believe ryots in Tinnevely actually sow their dry lands with this seed in order to reap or uproot the plants solely with a view to manure.

5. It may therefore be worthy of consideration whether the Forest Department should not place a portion of the hills in question under treatment on a very short rotation solely with a view to the production of a manure-yielding coppice or Pollard forest. Vacancies in the existing stock might be filled in by dibbling Kolingi or other nitrate-yielding species.

6. The species that are valuable for this purpose are those that belong to the *Papilionaceous Leguminosæ*, and these might be specially encouraged in preference to other species which might be eradicated. By some such means a maximum yield of manure from a minimum area of forest might be obtained.

7. Nor will it be necessary to work the forest at a loss on this system as will be readily understood when I mention that ryots and mittahdars in the Salem district actually sell the right to take Kolingi from their lands at from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per cart-load of 22 head-loads.

8. Altogether the subject is one which I think it is the duty of the Forest department to study, more especially, in the special circumstances of the large and sudden increase in the irrigated area of the Madura district which on this account alone appears to offer the most likely locality for successful experiment.

ENCLOSURE.

From J. G. D. PARTRIDGE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madura, to the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated 20th April 1898, Dis. Forest No. 683.

With reference to your letter No. C. 3696, dated 22nd March 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the matter attracted the attention of the District Forest-officer while on inspection. He is of opinion that every endeavour should be made to encourage the growth of shrubs and trees producing leaves suitable for manure. Provision will be made for this when working plans are prepared. At present no restrictions are put in the way of the ryots wishing to procure permits for manure leaves; but if this continues, the hills will soon become as bare as the Pachamalais in the Trichinopoly district.

Enclosures returned.

RESOLUTION—Forest No. 195, dated 20th May 1898.

The letter from the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, read above will be communicated to the Collector of Madura with an expression of the Board's concurrence in the views expressed therein. The Collector is requested to instruct his

4 BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), FOREST No. 195, 20TH MAY 1898.

District Forest-officer to take immediate action in the matter in communication with the Conservator.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,  
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Madura.

„ Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle.

Copy to all other Collectors and Conservators of Forests.

„ to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

with reference to paragraph 2 of Government Order,

Mis. No. 1137, Revenue, dated 7th March 1898.

Exd. C. M. Thumbusawmy.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

*Copy attached.*

READ Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)

Forest No. 195 Pressdated the 20th May 1898.

ORDER THEREON, No. 2801 Mis, dated the 2nd July 1898.

The Government is pleased to see this excellent proposal. Collectors of other districts should be instructed to consider the advisability of introducing a similar system into their districts.

(True Extract)

*A. K. Russell*  
For Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Board of Revenue.

(Land Revenue).

The Public Works Department.

*6.7-98*

Govt. of {189 } Madras.  
REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated

Encl.

Recd.

Mis. G.O.,  
R.

189 , No.

SUBJECT.