M.R.O. 14—12,000—27-6-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1325 Press.
~~Mis.~~

417-418

Dated 26-7-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 26th July 1864.

No. 417. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd June 1864, No. 3,886.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 5th April 1864, No. 573, Revenue Department:—

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Board to submit a Statement showing the receipts and charges an account of stamping weights and measures for the first nine months of the current official year —the return for the Presidency Town being kept distinct, and requesting them also to state what arrangements they have made under Government Order 26th February 1863, for extending the Madras system to other Districts.

DISTRICT.	Receipts.	Charges.
	Rs.	Rs.
Vizagapatam	42	31
Kistna	193	168
Madras District...	1,018	1,020
North Arcot	11	194
South Arcot	527	.....
Tanjore	843	547
Madura	830	1,584
Tinnevelly	160	147
Salem	106	101
Bellary	487	235
Total.....	4,223	4,027
Town of Madras.....	4,183	620
Grand Total.....	8,406	4,647

1. The Statement of receipts and charges on account of stamping weights and measures for the first nine months of the past official year 1863-64, called for in paragraph of the above order, is given in the margin.

2. With reference to paragraph 2, the Board observe that long before the receipt of the Order of Government, dated 26th February 1863, No. 410, the Collectors had been desired in the Board's Circular, dated 6th September 1861, to introduce the system of stamping weights and measures on the principle observed by the Collector of Madura, an extract from whose Report was furnished to the Collectors. From the abstract of receipts and charges on account of the stamping fee fund entered in the margin of paragraph 31 of the Board's Report on Local Funds for 1862-63 which is now before Government it will be seen that the system has already been introduced in the nine Districts noted in the margin.

Vizagapatam.	South Arcot.
Kistna.	Tanjore.
Bellary.	Madura.
Madras	Tinnevelly.
North Arcot.	

3. The subject having been brought under the notice of the Government of India in connection with the Madras District, they observed in paragraph 3 of their letter, dated 12th August 1862, that as necessity for stamping weights in any particular place can only be temporary, it is a question whether these establishments might not with advantage be limited to two or three months in the year, and whether one establishment itinerating about a District would not sufficiently meet the occasional wants of the people instead of numerous petty ones, and whether, after the existing arrangements have provided for a general stamping of weights, the ordinary establishments of the Tahsildars will not be sufficient for the object in view. In their order, dated 12th September 1862, No. 1,941, Government called for the views of the Board on these suggestions.

4. The order above referred to was communicated to the Collector of Madras, who in his letter, dated 17th January 1863, stated that he was of opinion that the establishment employed for stamping weights and measures in his District at a monthly cost of Rupees 102 might with advantage be continued another year and then limited to three months in the year. This was recommended in the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th February 1863, and the Board observed that they would prefer the retention permanently of two of the Talook stamping establishment at a monthly cost of Rupees 34. In the Order of Government, dated 26th February 1863, No. 410 the continuance of the stamping establishment in the Madras District till the close of 1863-64 was approved, and also the arrangements recommended by the Board for the retention of two permanent itinerating establishment. The Government also desired the Board to communicate with the Collectors of other Districts in view to the same system being tried in them commencing with the large towns.

With reference to the above order a Circular was addressed to Collectors on the 1st June 1863, No. 3,242, requesting them to give their opinions on the subject, and that they should state what means they have of ensuring the stamping of correct measures, and replies have been received from all the Districts. The Collectors of these Districts, where the system of stamping is already established, report that it is working well. Those of the other Districts state generally that the introduction of the system is very desirable and would be of great advantage to the public. Some Collectors are of opinion that the proposed stamping should be accompanied by a legal enactment prohibiting the use of measures and weights other than those of a fixed standard. The advantage of having a uniform standard of weights and measures throughout the country has often been discussed, and it has long been in contemplation by Government to apply for legislative enactment to bring such system into force, the subject therefore does not require any further notice at present.

6. Much correspondence has passed as regards the means possessed by Collectors of ensuring the stamping of correct measures, and in their Circular, dated 10th October 1861, No. 5,506, the Board pointed out the mode in which the cubic capacities of the different measures used in the Districts should be calculated and compared with the standard measures supplied from Madras, and they also called for a list of the measures in use in each District with their cubical contents and a table reducing them to Madras measures. These have been received from some Districts; and the tables prepared by the Collectors according to the above Circular will no doubt enable them to ensure the stamping of correct measures.

7. Some Collectors attach great importance to securing uniformity in the measures and weights which now vary in different parts of the District; but this question can only be settled by legislative enactment. On a report from the Collector of Nellore on this subject, the Board in their Standing Circular, dated 6th November 1863, No. 7,075A, pointed out that their object is as far as possible to enforce a consistent system, without which there can be no test of fairness or exactitude in the matter to induce the recognition of the established standard, and without interfering with the use of locally established weights and measures to test them, and record on the face their values according to the recognized standards of value. If this is properly attended to there will be no difficulty in ensuring the stamping of correct weights and measures. Some of the Collectors reported, in replying to the Board's Circular, that they are not in possession of a set of standard weights and measures, and the Collectors were therefore instructed in the Board's Circular, dated 24th September 1863, to indent for the necessary weights and measures. The indents are being complied with as received.

8. It appears from the present letter from the Government of India that exception is taken to the inclusion of fees for stamping weights and measures under Local Funds, and the Accountant General has already issued a Circular to Collectors instructing them to credit the fees to XV Miscellaneous as a portion of the General Revenues. The Board have on a former occasion stated in their Proceedings, dated 12th February 1863, that as the services of an Iron Smith are essential to the stamping establishment, its duties could not conveniently be performed by the Tahsildar's office, and that they would prefer the retention permanently of two of the Talook stamping establishments at a monthly cost of Rupees 34. The Board see no reason to alter this opinion; and if the Government will be pleased to sanction a monthly charge of Rupees 34 for each District, the Collectors of the several Districts will be instructed to entertain the itinerating establishment, and to carry out the system of stamping the weights and measures now in use in their Districts according to the local standard, which measure almost all the Collectors have admitted to be necessary. The establishment now employed in Madras town at a monthly cost of Rupees 77 should be continued as usual, as the work is very heavy in this District and the receipts from fees very large. Sanction is requested for this also. If the establishment required for the Talooks and for Madras town be sanctioned on a permanent footing, the fees for stamping may be credited to XV Miscellaneous as desired by the Government of India.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th July 1864.

No. 418.

ORDER THEREON, 26th July 1864, No. 1,325.

Miscellaneous.

1. In these Proceedings the Board of Revenue reply to the Order of Government, dated 5th April 1864, No. 573, in which, with reference to the rule of the Government of India, that the fees for "Stamping Weights and Measures" should be credited to the general revenues under XV "Miscellaneous," they were requested to submit a Statement showing the receipts and charges on this account for the first nine months of 1863-64, and to state what arrangements have been made to extend the system to all the Districts of the Presidency.

2. The Statement submitted by the Board, shows that except in the Districts named in the margin, the collections have more than covered the charges. In North Arcot and Madura the expenditure has largely exceeded the income. The Board will call for an explanation as to how the increase has occurred, and how it was met, as also why the return in some* of the Districts is so small. In South Arcot the Government observe no charges whatever have been incurred, though the collections amounted to Rupees 527. The Board will be requested to state what establishment performed the work of stamping in this District. The collection in the town of Madras amounted to Rupees 4,183, while the expenditure was only Rupees 620. On the whole the charges amounted to Rupees 4,647 against an income of Rs. 8,406, and they are never likely to exceed it.

	Receipts.	Charges.
	rs.	rs.
North Arcot	11	194
Madura	836	1,584
Madras District ..	1,018	1,020

* Vizagapatam.
Kistna.
North Arcot.
Tinnevelly.
Salem.

3. As to the second point of enquiry the Board state that the system of stamping weights and measures has already been introduced into the nine Districts noted in the margin in 1862-63. The same was done in the District of Salem in 1863-64, and in all these the system is reported to work well. The Collectors of the other Districts state generally that its introduction is very desirable and would be of great advantage to the public.

Vizagapatam.
Kistna.
Madras District.
North Arcot.
South Arcot.
Tanjore.
Madura.
Tinnevelly.
Bellary.

4. The Board propose to entertain two stamping establishments at the total cost of Rupees 34 for each District, to itinerate through the District and carry out the work of stamping. They state that the other proposal of the Government of India, viz., to entrust the work to the Tahsildars' establishment is not practicable, as the services of an Iron Smith are essential to the stamping establishment. The Talook establishments have also been already reduced to the utmost extent practicable with reference to their ordinary duties, and cannot be burdened with further work. The Board propose that the establishment now employed in the town of Madras at a monthly cost of Rupees 77, should be continued as usual, as the work is very heavy and the receipts from the fees are very large.

5. The Government approve the recommendations of the Board, and request they will furnish at an early date the necessary tabular Statement for submission to the Government of India, as the fees received for the stamping no longer form a Local Fund, and the sanction of that authority for the establishments is therefore necessary.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec'd Sept

No 1325

Proceedings of the Executive Government
Under date the 26th July 1864
Read the following Report
of the Board of Revenue

Sub Treasurer's Office
Statement of Receipts and Charges
on account of transmitting
coin weights and measures for
the first nine months of
the official year 1863/64, and
certain remarks on the in-
troduction of the system.

Here enter 23 June/64
No 5586

In these Proceed-
ings the Board of Revenue
reply to the order of Govt
of 5th Sept 1864, No 3175
and submit, with reference
to the part of the Govt
of Madras, dated the Secre-
tary to the Board of Revenue
with enclosures, relative
to the expenditure
incurred in the
transmission

Chingleput
Salem
North Arcot
Trichinopoly
Madura

Exempted charges
1st 2nd
North Arcot ——— 11 ——— 194
Madura ——— 836 ——— 1884
Madras Districts 1018 ——— 1021

Inaccuracies they were rejected, to enable a statement showing the receipts and charges on these accounts for the year, pursuant to the Act of 1863 4th, and to state what arrangements had been made to exhibit the system to collect the Districts of the Presidency

2. The statement ordered by the Board was not exceptions in the Districts named in the margin the collections have more than covered the charges. In North Arcot and Madura the collections have largely exceeded the income.

Board, with the

for

for the explanation are to be seen, the increase has occurred and been met, as also why the returns in some of the Districts do not exhibit the system, the charges have been incurred through the collectors recommended to the 2nd and 3rd Rules of the Board in Cir. Mo. 66 regulated, & also with the establishment performed the work of subordinate charges in these Districts. That collections in the Tanjore & Madras amounted to Rs. 1,48,3, while the expenditure was only Rs. 1,23,620. On the whole the charges amounted to Rs. 46,4 & appeared

excessive

received of Rs. 8,405 and they are never likely to exceed it.

3 As to the second question, the Board state that the system of steamships, suitable and sufficient has already been introduced into the nine Districts noted in the margin viz. 1862/63. The measure was done on the Northern of Godavery 1863/64, and as the Steamers in question, are to ply to Guntur, the Collectors of the other Districts state generally that introduction of steamers would be of great advantage to the public.

Vizagapatam
Nellore
Madras District
North Arcot
South Arcot
Tanjore
Madura
Tinnevelly
Bellary.

4 The Board proceed to enter into the various charges which the total cost of Rs. 34 per cent. Carriage to Chinsurah through the District and carry out the growth of steamships. They state that the whole proposed of the Godavery, is to be borne by the Inhabitants who benefit by it. The Board propose that the whole cost employed in the transport of Government stores

The Inhabitants have also been already reduced to the Guntur portion, to be with reference to the ordinary duties and cannot be burdened with further

Finally they consider it should be continued

ve covered the coarse
in every Respect and the
receipts from the fees
are very large.

5th The Government
approve the Recommen-
dations of the Board
and Resolved they are
prepared to act and carry
into Execution the necessary Sub-
-stitute to be Inserted for the
Direction to the Gaoler & Surgeon
in the Fees received for
the Maintaining no Longer
found a Local Fund
and the Execution of
Bond and Security for the
Sub-Instrument in their
-stead necessary.

Minutes of Proceedings &c

E 2 & 3 Geo 4

Revenue Misc Dep.ts
Pro: of Govt for July

No 1325

Pro: of the Madras Govt
26th July 1864

Rec'd of Messrs Grey & Co Bags & Bales Nos 1 to 236
Bombay 3rd Aug 1864

Pro Bs of Rem.ce 28 November 1864
Cs 12981 on Pro 24 Nov 1864 No 2113
Bs Pro 5 April 1865 Cs 1966

Ordering interest on the
Settlement of Receipts and
Charges on account of
Stamping Weights and
Measures.

No 1325 of 1868.