M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1806 Press ~~Mis.~~

469—650

Dated 30-9-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th September 1864.

No. 449. Read the following letter from Captain R. H. BEDDOME, Officiating Conservator of Forests, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Camp Ooty, 3rd September 1864, No. 1,050 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that I have made a tour through the forests of Tinnevelly, from the Madura District, down as far as Courtallum.

2. The forests are all situated on the line of ghâts, or at the foot of the hills; a little more than one-half of the forests of the District belong to Government, the remainder to Zemindars and private individuals. I forward herewith a list of all the forest land of the District, showing what portions belong to Government, and what to Zemindars, and the Annual Revenue derived from each; the measurement is in Travancore chains (a chain being equal to 1,58,404 square feet).

3. No conservancy has ever been attempted in this District; much reckless felling is carried on, and the annual destruction of valuable saplings is very great, and a large portion of the timber cut evades the Government tax. The Collector is of opinion that conservancy should be put in force, and the system of printed vouchers and licenses introduced.

4. The forests are very similar all the way down the range, though of course more valuable in some parts than in others. The forests near Vásádevanalúr are the most valuable Government tract, and contain a considerable amount of teak. The following is a list of the most valuable timbers of the District:—

Tek.	... Teak.
Iti.	... Black-wood, very scarce.
Vengay.	... Pterocarpus Marsupium.
Angali.	... Artocarpus hirsuta (or wild Jack).
Sumi (or Vada Maddi Chek.)	... Soymida febrifuga (red Cedar).
Maile.	... Vitex alata.
Purushá (or Vymará).	... Satin-wood.
Madagerry vembu. ...	... Chickrassia tabularis (Chittagong-wood).
Tun (or Shandana vembu.)	... Cedrela Toona (or white Cedar).
Mango kadambe. ...	... Nauclea cordifolia.
Thâni.	... Terminalia Belerica.
Kádukai	... Do. Chebula.
Vekâli.	... Conocarpus latifolius.
Vághe.	... Acacia odoratissima.
Illupi.	... Bassia latifolia.
Panas.	... Artocarpus integrifolia (or Jack).
Poom bádre. ...	... Bignonia Suaveolens.
Shembago pálu. ...	... Litsæa Ceylanica.
Tante pálu. ...	... Wrightia Sp.
Naúg	... Mesua Speciosa (Iron-wood).
Cong.	... ——?

5. If all the Zemindars' forests in this District could be leased by Government, I would certainly propose a regular forest Establishment for the whole District; there is, however, I am afraid, little chance of this arrangement. The Zemindars derive very little profit from their forests, and when leased out it is generally for a very small sum, and no attempt at conservancy or the preservation of saplings is ever thought of; if however Government proposes to lease them, an exorbitant sum is probably demanded. When I was in the Madura District, last July, I learnt that the lease of the Bodinaikenoor Rajah's forests had nearly expired; these forests are situated in the ravines and on the slopes of the Uggamallay range (a spur from the south-east corner of the Pulnies), and are of considerable value; they had been leased for three years to a native at 150 Rupees per annum. The Rajah himself is a minor, but I saw the Manager of the estate and tried to explain to him that it would be of great advantage to the estate if the forest could be rented to Government on a long lease; he said that he would lease it to Government, but asked 1,000 Rupees per annum. I then tried to explain to him that although he might get that sum from

Rec'd 26th April/64 N 413 & 414

20/6/98

12.4.07

6/11/1900

14-6-06

27-8-17

No 449 & 450.

27 Feb 1865

Revenue

Forest Establishment

Rec'd of Govt for Sept 1864

N. 237

Trans.

The Offg Conservr of Forests

To The Secretary to Government

R. D.

Dated 3rd Sept 1864

Received 7th Sept 1864.

No 1050

Enclosing one Report of Board

Submits Report upon the Tinnevelly Forests

No 1806 - 30 Sept

Glos

1806

N. 1806.

Before passing Order on this report, the Govt resolve to refer it to the Collectors of Tinnevelly, through the Board of Revenue, for early report as to the possibility of obtaining long leases on reasonable terms for the several private forests in the District.

J. H. Lt Gov

30 Sept 1864

23/9/07

14 Bd of Rev recommend Dept 30 Sept 31

14 Ag Conr of Forests N 4