

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	351	Press ~~Mis.~~
<i>365246</i>		
Dated	17-2-1865.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th February 1865.*

No. 345. 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 Madras, 28th January 1865, No. 1,191 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that I have inspected the Forest Establishment in the Kurnool District. Mr. Sheffield is now in charge of the District as a Sub-Assistant Conservator. The establishment is in good working order; but is too small. As Government are aware, it was proposed when the District was first handed over to Conservancy, and it was doubtful what revenue the forests would yield. The demand for timber has increased almost monthly, and now that the rail is going to be opened to Cuddapah, a still greater demand may be anticipated. I propose the following increase to the establishment, which I think will be sufficient for present requirements; though a further increase will, I have no doubt, be required a few years hence, when the forests will probably be more opened out:—

<i>Present Establishment.</i>			<i>Proposed Establishment.</i>		
	RS.			RS.	
1 Sub-Assistant Conservator	150	...	1 Sub-Assistant Conservator	150	...
Travelling allowance	30	...	Travelling allowance	30	...
1 Overseer	60	...	1 Overseer	60	...
Travelling allowance	15	...	Travelling allowance	15	...
1 Gumashta	15	...	1 Gumashta	25	...
1 Do. (employed in Tahsildar's Cut-cherry)	12	...	1 Assistant Gumashta	12	...
2 Duffadars, at 15 Rupees each	30	...	1 Gumashta (for Cutcherry)	12	...
20 Peons, at 6 Rupees each	120	...	3 Duffadars, at 15 Rupees each	45	...
			26 Peons, at 6 Rupees each	156	...
Total	432		Total	505	

2. This Establishment amounting to Rupees 505 per mensem, will cause an increased expenditure of Rupees 73 per mensem. The revenue fully authorizes this; it now amounts to more than 2,000 Rupees per mensem, as will be seen by the following return for the first eight months of this official year :—

								<i>Amount paid into Treasury.</i>		
								RS.	A.	P.
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,807	7	0
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,223	1	6
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,282	9	0
August	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,700	3	0
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	955	9	5
October	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,962	5	0
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,669	15	6
December	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,699	11	0
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,300	13	5

3. The Sub-Assistant Conservator states that clandestine felling still prevails to a considerable extent; the punishment has never as yet been more than confiscation, and the Collector often only inflicts a penalty of double seigniorage. He is of opinion that smuggling will never be put a stop to unless parties can be prosecuted and punished under the Penal Code. When confiscated timber is sold by auction, the informers get a per-centage of 50 per cent. on the sale proceeds; natives, however, will often prefer a small bribe paid on the spot to having to wait some months for a per-centage on the sale, and besides they never feel certain that the timber is liable to confiscation.

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4. The seigniorage list now in force was proposed when these forests were first handed over to our Department; it contains only the nine most valuable trees, and these are taxed at 2 Rupees per bandy-load, all other timbers being 1 Rupee per bandy. Now that the rail is being opened to Cuddapah, and the price of timber has much risen in the market, it is necessary to revise this list and bring it more to an equality with that of Cuddapah. I request sanction that the following list may now be put in force:—

Seigniorage List for the Kurnool Forests.

(1.) Teak, Red Saunders, Sandal-wood, to be strictly reserved, and only felled by the Forest Department.

(2.)	Jitegi. ...	... Pterocarpus marsupium.	} 4 Rupees the two bullock bandy-load.
	Tunki or Nellootee. ...	... Diospyros, Sp. (Ebony).	
	Yeggi. ...	... Dalbergia latifolia.	

(3.)	Nalla Maddi. ...	... Terminalia tomentosa.	} 3 Rupees the two bullock bandy-load.
	Acha. ...	... Hardwickia binata.	
	Chiriman. ...	... Conocarpus latifolius.	
	Billoo. ...	... Satinwood.	
	Ippi. ...	... Bassia latifolia.	

The timbers mentioned in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 are not given out to the Ryots without the payment of the usual seigniorage. Ryots are, however, allowed to fell stunted Chiriman and Billoo for agricultural purposes free of any tax.

(4.)	Goomer Tek. ...	... Gmelina arborea.	} 2 Rupees per load.
	Buta ganapú. ...	... Nauclea parvifolia.	
	Rudrá ganapú. ...	... Nauclea cordifolia.	
	Adivi Ippi. ...	... Bassia longifolia.	
	Yerra maddi. ...	... Terminalia arjuna.	
	Chindaga. ...	... Acacia stipulata.	
	Mámidí. ...	... Wild Mango.	

(5.) All timbers not mentioned in paragraphs 1 to 4, to pay a seigniorage of 1 Rupee per load under the designation of jungle timber.

(6.) Firewood when cut for sale, to pay a seigniorage of 4 Annas per bandy-load.

(7.) Bamboos when exported from the District, to pay a seigniorage of 8 Annas per bandy-load.

(8.) Charcoal, to pay a tax of 1 Anna per Cavadi-load of two baskets.

The above proposed rates are considerably lower than those now in force in Cuddapah.

5. I have given instructions for the opening of a small timber depôt at Nundial to meet any urgent requirements of the Department Public Works and the Railway, similar to the one in the Cuddapah District. I request sanction for expending 500 Rupees in felling timber for this depôt during the remaining portion of this official year.

6. I also request sanction to build a small office and store house with a room for the Overseer at Nundial (the Sub-Assistant Conservator provides his own house); the amount will not exceed 500 Rupees.

7. It is necessary to purchase four pair of bullocks for the removal of confiscated timber, and I request that the same may be sanctioned; the sum will not exceed 320 Rupees.

8. The above sums can be met out of savings in the working charges of the Anamallay forests.

9. To enable us to bring out some of the larger timbers from the hills, it is necessary to repair the road from Erunapadoo to the Matti Condah, a few miles north of Nundial. I would suggest that the Executive Engineer of the District should send in an estimate for the same, the expense could be borne by the Forest Department.

10. Teak of considerable size has been found in the Forest tracts to the extreme north of the Nullay Ma'lays; it is likely to turn out of great value; at present it is strictly reserved; it

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should be worked by the Department, or if given out on seigniorage the trees should be marked, and the price fixed by the Forest Department.

11. A tract of Sandal-wood has also been discovered in the extreme northern part of the District on the banks of the Kistna, the wood possesses considerable fragrance, though not quite equal to that of Mysore and Ségúr; though in great abundance, it is chiefly of very small size, the ripe trees having apparently been felled out some years since; it should, if possible, be strictly reserved and worked by the Forest Department; there will, however, be some difficulty in preventing smuggling, as it is in a wild, uninhabited and unhealthy part of the country, only frequented by pilgrims to the Sreeshalum Pagoda, who probably are the smugglers.

No. 346.

ORDER THEREON, 17th February 1865, No. 351.

Forests, No. 11

Referred for the remarks of the Board of Revenue, who will be requested to submit their opinion as soon as possible.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ Officiating Conservator of Forests.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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of the Board of Revenue who will
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Fort St. George
17th Feb. 1865

14 To the Board of Revenue
15 To the Off^r of the General Land Office

[Signature]

Pro: 25th Octo to 13th Feb 1865
9th Dec 1864
19th Jan 1865

Rev = 1865.

From the
Pro: of Govt for 1865
No. 257.

The Officer of the
Pro: of Revenue dated
11th July 1865

Revenue Deptt
Sat. Jan 1865

Dated 28th
Recd. 30th Jan 1865

No. 1191

Enclosure here.

Submits report upon the
working order of the Kurnool
range and proposes certain
increases to the establishment.

No. 350 17 Feb

With an order

345 & 346