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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	176	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated 30. 1-1872 195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
19th January 1872.*

No. 85. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st December 1871 :—

Read the following letter from A. MACGREGOR, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Malabar, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 18th December 1871, No. 278:—

In reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd December 1871, No. 4410, I have the honour to report that I do not consider it safe to allot a sum of 5,000 Rupees from the Reserve to meet the reduction in Provincial Funds.

2. The liabilities of the Reserve are very large including as they do much uncertainty of estimated income.

3. In regard to the additional allotment of a sum of 12,500 Rupees to the Karkur and Tambercherry Ghauts for which Government seek information, I beg to refer to the Board's Board's Proceedings, 17th October 1870, No. 1181, continued in G. O., dated 11th October 1870, No. 1540. Proceedings noted in the margin. It will be recollected that when the Wynad Ghaut Tolls were imposed, it was on the distinct understanding that the money was to be spent on the ghaut and the sum was ordered to be shown separately in the accounts, and it was only on the recent order of the Board that the distinction in account was ordered to be done away. This was not interpreted by me to mean that the money was to be otherwise allotted, and the Local Fund Board added it to the maintenance allotments already provided, that is, to the purpose to which as a special fund it stood devoted.

4. In judging of this maintenance grant for the Tambercherry Ghaut the nature of the work must be borne in mind; when actually opened for traffic it was barely passable in places owing to huge boulders and fragments of rocks. These are being gradually removed, revetments relaid, and loose stones have constantly to be dealt with which if not seen to would at any moment block traffic and even endanger life.

5. A considerable part of the ghaut has never been metalled and has a deep clay soil. During the last two years there has been heavy rain in October and November during heavy traffic, and the consequence is that, in a few hours, the road became an impassable quagmire. The only expedient is to put on gangs at once to reduce the surface to shape while it is in course of drying. If this is done a good road is formed in a few days, and comparatively little hinderance is offered to traffic or permanent injury inflicted on the ghaut. Perhaps the same state of things recurs several times in a month, and, unless the allotment admits of timely measures, matters must necessarily go from bad to worse.

6. The same is the case in a less degree on the other ghauts, and I would not, therefore, recommend the provision made being curtailed unless after a full discussion at a Board meeting.

7. I regret my absence on circuit has delayed this reply.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to their Memorandum of the 29th November 1871, Financial Department.

2. The Collector shows that the ghaut allotments are really needed, and does not concur in the Board's view that Rupees 5,000 might be safely taken from the Reserve.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 86. ORDER THEREON, 19th January 1872, No. 69.

The Government are not now prepared to make an additional Provincial grant. The Local Fund Board should consider the propriety of divesting the excess provi-

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sion from Repairs to New Works, or of appropriating a further grant from the Reserve.

2. At this period of the year there ought not to be much uncertainty as to probable receipts.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Malabar.

Revenue Office

Nº 331+

Govt. of Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
do., do., do.

Dated January, 18th.

Recd. *u* 30th Jan.

G. O., 19th January 1872, No. 69.

JANUARY.
Nos. 85-86.

Passing orders on the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, submitting copy of a letter from the President, Malabar Local Fund Circle, reporting on the inexpediency of allotting Rupees 5,000 from the Reserve to meet the reduction in the Provincial grant.

Nº 176.
RECORDED.

30th Jan. 1872.