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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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38

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
29th April 1872.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 302. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Salem, 6th January 1872, No. 171.

I have the honour, with reference to Proceedings of the Madras Government dated 28th October last, No. 1616, to submit the Municipal Budget of the town of Salem for the year 1872-73.

2. A brief report on the several items of the Budget will follow in a few days.

No. 303. From the President of the Municipal Commission, Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Salem, 18th January 1872, No. 182.

In forwarding the Municipal Budget of the town of Salem for the year 1872-73 I have the honour to furnish the following explanations:—

RECEIPTS.—*Balance—(b.) Endowments.*—Rupees 2,200 is the balance that will remain out of a sum of Rupees 3,500, to be taken over by the Municipality with the Salem Hospital and Dispensary. This money is to be devoted to certain alterations and additions now being carried on to the building.

5. *Endowments—Poor House, Rupees 404.*—This is a contribution towards the construction of a building to be used as a Poor House.

6. *Contributions from Local Funds.—(a.) For Public Works Communications, Rupees 400.*—This is for two miles of Local Fund Roads that run through the Municipal town.

Grant to Municipality for office accommodation, Rupees 1,000.—The Municipality at the beginning of the year contemplated purchasing a building for their office for Rupees 4,000, towards which the Local Funds gave a grant of Rupees 1,000 for the accommodation of the Local Fund Board Office. The idea was, however, subsequently abandoned, as the building proposed to be purchased was old and required repairs, on which an outlay of Rupees 1,000 was necessary. It was decided instead that the Brett Town Hall, which belongs to the Municipality, should be enlarged at a cost of Rupees 4,200, so as to provide rooms and store godowns for the Municipal and Local Fund Board Offices, the Local Funds giving their share of Rupees 2,000 towards the expenditure, including the sum of Rupees 1,000 already sanctioned in the current year's Local Funds Budget.

6. *Hospital, Rupees 3,000.*—Rupees 2,000 of this sum is the Local Fund grant towards the Hospital expenses; the remaining Rupees 1,000 is a further grant which the Municipality expect to receive towards the alterations and additions, including fittings, to the Hospital buildings now under construction.

DISBURSEMENTS.—*Grant I.—(a.) Communications—River embankment, Rupees 500.*—The Municipality contemplate forming an embankment on the left bank of the Salem river and making a road on this embankment. As a sanitary measure this is very necessary, as most of the inhabitants use the river water for drinking purposes. A great point will, therefore, be gained by preventing the water from being polluted and keeping the river-bank free of all vegetable and other noxious

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matter. A road along the bank will also enable the river watchmen to prevent people committing nuisance on the river side, which it is not possible now to do. This work is likely to cost about 2,000 Rupees; but, as the Municipality have no funds available at present, it is proposed to do one-fourth of the work next year and the remainder the year following.

(c.) *Sanitary and Miscellaneous—Drainage Scheme, Rupees 300.*—The surveys and levels in connexion with this scheme will be completed by May next, when the estimate will be prepared and submitted to Government for sanction. It will then be necessary to procure sewage pipes from England, and by the time they arrive the Official year 1872-73 will be completed. No provision is, therefore, made for this item in this Budget.

Vellakkuttai Channel, Rupees 5,000.—This is a channel that runs through the town and is fed by the surplus water of two tanks and some paddy-fields, and the channel in turn feeds a tank called Vadabloy's Tank, situated on the south of the town. The water in this channel is stagnant for eight months in the year, and the effluvia that arise from it is very obnoxious. The bed of the channel is about the same level and in some parts lower than the bed of the tank which it feeds, so that it is only when there is a flood that the water runs off. This is a most important sanitary work, and the Municipality have long been unable to devise a plan for its execution. Mr. Lawford, the Executive Engineer of this Range, has, however, taken the matter in hand and is preparing plan and estimate, which will in due course be submitted to Government.

Grant III.—Hospitals and Dispensaries—Establishment, Rupees 3,084.—The Government will observe that the expenses of the Hospital and Dispensary will amount to Rupees 5,500, towards which the Local Funds give a grant of Rupees 2,000, leaving Rupees 3,500 to be met by the Municipality. Rupees 1,800 of this sum is the salary of the Native Surgeon, at Rupees 150 a month. This is a very large sum to pay for the services of one medical man. The Commissioners request, therefore, that Government will give a grant from Provincial Funds towards this item, as the expenditure, taken in a Municipal light, is exceptional and at the same time necessary. Although the services of a Native Surgeon for such a town as Salem are very necessary, it must also be borne in mind that his duties are not entirely devoted to Municipal purposes, as he has to attend at the jail during the absence of the Zillah Surgeon on duty on the Shervaroy Hills. The salary of the Native Surgeon will also in all probability in course of time be increased by promotion to a higher grade. If the expenditure is now considered a hardship, how much more will it then be?

The other items in the Budget require no explanation beyond the information furnished in the statements accompanying it.

No. 301. ORDER THEREON, 29th April 1872, No. 576.

The Municipal Commissioners of Salem expect to receive, according to the estimate submitted with the letter read above, Rupees 51,110 in 1872-73. The balance brought forward is Rupees 6,800. The capital of the Dispensary endowment, Rupees 2,000, which it is proposed to expend on a Dispensary building, ought

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not to have appeared as a balance but should have come under head 5-A. The Government observe that according to the last Dispensary report the funded capital amounted to Rupees 4,824. Rupees 2,800 have apparently been expended without specific sanction in 1871-72.

2. The road cess assignment refers, it is presumed, to arrears collections for the first three months of 1871-72. The grant for the Town School is entered at Rupees 900. The amount received in 1870-71 was Rupees 297 and in 1869-70 Rupees 156. The grant is not to be increased beyond the amount in force when the school was transferred to the Commissioners. Rupees 300 will be entered in the Budget under head 2, and the attention of the Director of Public Instruction is directed to the matter in view in particular to the entry of the amount in the general statement called for in G. O., 23rd March 1872, No. 352, paragraph 2. School fees are estimated at Rupees 900 against actuals in the Town Schools in 1869-70 and 1870-71 of Rupees 314-8-0 and Rupees 262. This large increase should have been explained. Fees in improved pyal schools are perhaps included (G. O., 10th October 1871, No. 1530). The President will give full information as to the educational operations of the Commissioners in the annual report for the year which has just expired.

3. The estimated yield of rates and taxes is Rupees 31,000, which includes arrears amounting to Rupees 3,850.

4. The Local Fund contribution for roads is only Rupees 370. That for the general expenses of the Dispensary, Rupees 2,000, is provided in the Local Fund Budget. A further contribution of Rupees 1,000 for the Dispensary building is entered as expected. It has not apparently been sanctioned by the Local Board and higher authority, and is for the present, pending further communication, struck out. The Government doubt the propriety of it, inasmuch as the sum allotted for the building is taken entirely from the capital. At any rate, if the Local Fund Board contribute for the purpose (and it is observed that their Budget as sanctioned can scarcely afford it) so much less should be taken from the capital. A report from the Local Board through the Board of Revenue is called for. A contribution of Rupees 1,000 for office buildings is also included. This was provided in the Local Budget of 1871-72, though apparently not paid in that year. If the money is

Balances—	Rs.	Rs.
Municipal	6,800	
Endowment	200	
		7,000
Assignment by Government		670
Rates and Taxes—		
House-tax	10,500	
Trades-tax	7,500	
Vehicles, &c.	1,500	
Carts	500	
Tolls	9,850	
Fees	500	
Fines	650	
		31,000
Fees in schools		900
Endowment, &c.		2,500
Contribution from Local Funds		3,370
Miscellaneous		4,000
		49,440
Total		

still available there is no objection to its being now paid. It is stated that office accommodation for the Municipal and Local Board is to be provided by the enlargement of the Brett Town Hall, which, it is said, belongs to the Municipality. The President will report how the Hall has become so vested, and whether its use as offices will interfere with the purposes for which it was built and made over. The estimate of receipts as modified amounts to Rupees 49,440.

5. The grant for New Works comprises Rupees 500 for a road along the river bank, which seems a useful work. To sanitary and miscellaneous works

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Rupees 14,800 are allotted. The Government await the promised report on the Vellakkuttai Channel project, for which Rupees 5,000 are assigned. The Local Fund Board want Rupees 880 for the Suramungalum Road, for which Rupees 400 only are provided. The larger sum is entered at the expense of the allotment for roads in the town. The President states that the Poor House subscription credited in the receipts was for the erection of a building; but no allotment is made for the purpose. He will explain this omission, and report generally regarding the institution, stating whether it is open to all classes and what is the nature of the relief afforded. The Government regret to observe from the Budget that the large sum saved in past years for the drainage scheme has been dissipated. Grant I. is Rupees 20,280.

6. Under Grant II. Rupees 1,000 are provided for results' grants and Rupees 100 as a contribution to the Local Fund for inspection. This does not appear in the Local Budget, but is a proper charge. The Local Board should be addressed as to the amount. With reference to the President's observation as to the salary of the Native Surgeon being charged to the Dispensary, he is informed that the question of a portion of such salaries being borne by Provincial Fund is under discussion. If the Native Surgeon does no Government work except visit the jail during the absence of the Zillah Surgeon on the Shervaroy Hills, the Government doubt whether they should accept the burden of any portion of his salary, as such periods of absence must be rare and short. The other items of expenditure comprised under Grants III. and IV. do not call for remark.

Grant I.—	Rs.	Rs.
New works	15,700	
Repairs	8,070	
Establishment	480	
Tools and Plant	150	
Contributions to Local Fund	880	
		20,280
Grant II.—		
Municipal Schools	2,000	
Results' grants	1,000	
Inspection	100	
Miscellaneous	50	
		3,150
Grant III.—		
Dispensaries	5,500	
Vaccination	570	
Registration of Births, &c.	370	
Conservancy	14,730	
		20,990
Grant IV.—		
Lightings	720	
Poor House	700	
Other	800	
		1,720
Grant V.—		
Office, &c.	2,300	
Miscellaneous	500	
		2,700
Advances and refunds		43,810
Balance		200
		310
Total		49,410

7. The estimates are sanctioned and the usual Notification will issue.

NOTIFICATION.

Under the provisions of Section 38, Act III. of 1871 (the Towns' Improvement Act), the Governor in Council authorizes the Municipal Commissioners for the town of Salem, in the Salem District, to levy during the year beginning 1st April 1872 and ending 31st March 1873—

A rate on houses, buildings, and lands, according to the annual value thereof.

A tax upon arts, professions, trades, and callings.

Tolls on carriages, carts, and animals entering the Municipal limits, at half Schedule rates.

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Taxes on carriages, horses, and other animals, as described in Schedule C to the above Act annexed.

Fees on the registration of carts.

(By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.)

[Signature]
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Salem.
 .. Public Works Department.
 .. Revenue Department.
 .. Board of Revenue.
 .. Accountant-General.
 .. Sanitary Commissioner.
 .. Inspector-General, Indian Medical Department.
 .. Director of Public Instruction.
 .. President of the Local Fund Boards, Salem.

Ed. A. S. Rodgers.

[Signature]

Revenue Dept.

7-1576

Cont. of 1879

FINANCIAL

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION

Debit April 1879

And May 79

G.O. FOR 2,000 1879. 100.00

ACTUAL

100.00-80.00

Postage and freight on the 1st of 1879

Acc'd 1879

70 May 1879