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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department.

5th June 1873.

No. 11. Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Godavery District, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Cocanada, 26th November 1872, No. 15 :—

I have the honor to forward, herewith, Budget Estimate for the Rajahmundry Municipality for 1873-74, together with the Vice-President's letter, dated 15th instant, No. 104, in original.

From A. J. STUART, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Rajahmundry, to W. S. FOSTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Cocanada, dated Rajahmundry, 15th November 1872, No. 104.

I have the honour to forward the Budget Estimate for the Rajahmundry Municipality for the year 1873-74.

2. Municipal duties have increased considerably in consequence of the desire of the Municipality to improve the sanitary condition of the town. It is possible that [illegible] may hereafter be found advisable in this direction, but none seem to be needed at present.

3. [illegible] to be spent in the purchase of certain lands lying between the old and new town now occupied by gardens. This land it is intended shall be devoted solely to the purpose of enabling the Municipality to give sites in the most favorable situation to persons who are either pulling or are obliged to give up their houses in the overcrowded parts of the old town for the improvement of the public thoroughfares in that quarter. There can be no doubt that this is the most urgent want in the town of Rajahmundry, and also no doubt that the lands which it is proposed to take up and devote to this purpose will be the most popular sites to be obtained. It is, therefore, of great importance for the future gradual improvement of the old town, that these lands be acquired by the Municipality as a preliminary step towards carrying out the improvements [illegible] in the manner that will be least injurious to the private interests which will have to give way to public improvements.

No. 12. Orders thereon, 4th June 1873, No. 771.

The following table shows the estimates of the Rajahmundry Municipality for the year 1873-74 compared with those for 1872-73 :—

Receipts.	1872-73.	1873-74.
	Rs.	Rs.
Octroi	1,000	2,000
House-tax	3,110	3,010
Taxes on arts	3,030	4,500
Tax on vehicles	600	550
Registration of carts	120	125
Tolls	2,100	2,000
Fees	740	550
Fines	270	200
Endowments, &c.	740	620
Contribution from Local Funds	670	1,200
Miscellaneous	150	2,875
	12,740	18,216
Balance		4,362
Total ...	12,740	22,578

Charges.	1872-73.	1873-74.
	Rs.	Rs.
Grant I.—		
New Works	1,400	700
Repairs	1,120	1,200
Establishment	300	372
Feed and Plant	30	—
Grant II.—		
Results' Grant	600	250
Salary Grants		180
Inspection	650	100
Grant III.—		
Dispensaries	2,010	2,020
Vaccination	120	137
Conservancy	3,930	8,118
Grant IV.—		
Lighting	530	740
Other items	50	300
Grant V.—		
Establishment	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous	300	2,144
	12,740	18,216
Balance		4,362
Total ...	12,740	22,578

2. The endowment balance appears to include the funded capital of the dispensary. It should appear only in column 2, Statement I.-A, and should find no place in either Statement I. or II. The entry in column 8, Statement I.-A, appears also incorrectly to include the municipal contribution. The entry in column 8 should correspond with the sum of the hospital receipts and contributions appearing in Statement I., and the municipal contribution (if any) will then be represented by the deficit balance shown in the last column.

3. The increase of the current demand under Taxes on arts, &c., from Rupees 3,000 to Rupees 5,500 appears to be a consequence of the Commissioners having amended the mode of assessment in accordance with paragraph 2, G. O., dated 19th April 1872, No. 539. The other items of receipts call for no remark.

4. The details of the allotment for Repairs should have been shown in Statement II.-A, Part II. Of the increase of Rupees 3,978 in the allotment for Conservancy Establishment, it appears that Rupees 2,400 is on account of private scavenging, the expenditure on which will be recouped by fees. The remaining increase of Rupees 1,578 and the allotment of Rupees 2,000 for the purchase of land are approved under the circumstances stated in the Vice-President's letter, but the latter charge would have appeared more correctly under Grant IV., "Miscellaneous Municipal purposes," than under Grant V., "Supervision and Management."

5. Subject to the above remarks the Budget is passed as submitted, and the usual notification authorizing the levy of taxes will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. The Profession-tax must be dispensed with in preparing the Budget for 1874-75, and the Government desire that this may be done, as far as possible, by a reduction in the expenditure, rather than by proposals for an increase of the rates of any of the other existing taxes.

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 Rajahmundry, in the Godavery District, to levy, during the year beginning 1st April 1873 and ending 31st March 1874,—

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.
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 Right Honourable the Governor in Council.)

A. Munro
Acting Under Secretary,
for Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Godavery District.
" 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, Godavery District.

Ed. J. Wright.

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