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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue
Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>550/103</u>	Press Mix.
Dated <u>18.4</u>	<u>1874</u>

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No. 29. Read the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Conjeveram, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Varadaiyapalliem, 27th January 1874, No. 13:—

I have the honour to forward, for sanction, the Budget Estimate of receipts and charges of the Conjeveram Municipality for 1874-75.

2. RECEIPTS.—The assets from all sources are estimated at Rupees 21,790, or about Rupees 5,000 less than the usual annual income, the decrease being caused by the abolition of the Professional tax from next year.

3. The Commissioners apprehend that the expenditure budgeted for, for 1873-74, will not be utilized to the extent proposed, the balance is, therefore, entered at Rupees 3,310, against Rupees 310, the estimated amount.

4. About Rupees 1,000 are expected to remain uncollected on account of Trades Tax, and this amount is accordingly entered under "Arrears."

5. The entire expenditure on account of the annual festival at Conjeveram is under the control of the Municipality, so the amounts of contribution made on its account by the Chingleput Local Fund Board, and the Pagoda authorities, Rupees 400 and 50, respectively, are shown under "Receipts."

The other items of revenue call for no explanation.

6. EXPENDITURE.—In consequence of the falling off in the municipal revenue, owing, as above stated, to the discontinuance of the Trades Tax, it has been found necessary to economise the expenditure under several heads as explained below:—

(1.) Although much remains still to be done in the way of giving the town the benefit of improved roads, the Commissioners have only been able to make a grant of Rupees 4,100 for three roads, all of which can be completed with these allotments.

(2.) No provision is made for the Lalakal project; but, as soon as the revised plan and estimates are received, provision will be made by a transfer of funds from other less important items of expenditure.

(3.) Nothing is entered on account of "Results Grants." There are two good institutions in the town—Pacheappah's and Free Church Schools—which amply provide for elementary education. In addition to these, and in place of the numerous Pial Schools, the Commissioners proposed to establish and maintain two schools, in each of the four divisions, at an aggregate cost of Rupees 800 a-year. By this arrangement, the Inspectorate charge will be considerably less than what it was, and, therefore, only Rupees 100 are entered as the contribution to the Chingleput Circle, instead of Rupees 450 as now.

(4.) In view of keeping the expenses within the available means, Mr. Crole, the Acting Sub-Collector, who is an ex-officio member of the Municipality, has, at the request of the Commissioners, revised and further reduced the establishments, and his suggestions have been generally adopted by the Board, the result being a saving of Rupees 1,480 per annum.

7. The cost of the sanitary arrangements is given at Rupees 1,050, which is Rupees 450 more than the sum entered in the current year's Budget. The differ-

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ence is due to the entire expenditure having been charged to the Municipality, as stated at paragraph 5.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1874, No. 550.

The Budget Estimates of the Conjeveram Municipality, for the years 1873-74 and 1874-75, are compared in the subjoined abstract:—

RECEIPTS.			CHARGES.		
	1873-74. RS.	1874-75. RS.		1873-74. RS.	1874-75. RS.
Balance brought forward ...	14,920	3,310	Grant I.—		
Assignment by Government ...	40	790	New Works—		
Rate on Houses ...	9,000	8,500	Communications ...	12,510	4,100
Tax on Arts, &c. ...	6,000	1,000	Buildings ...	1,100	650
Tax on Vehicles ...	1,000	900	Miscellaneous... ..	2,600	50
Registration of Carts ...	600	600	Repairs—		
Tolls ...	4,000	4,500	Communications ...	1,870	1,030
Fees ...	300	150	Buildings ...	160	50
Fines ...	100	70	Miscellaneous... ..	80	150
Endowments, &c. ...	30	20	Other Items ...	510	330
Contribution from Local Funds. 1,400	1,800		Grant II.—		
Miscellaneous... ..	100	150	Municipal Schools ...	1,650	800
			Inspection ...	100	100
			Grant III.—		
			Hospitals ...	4,890	4,890
			Vaccination ...	120	120
			Registration of Births, &c. ...	150	170
			Conservancy ...	6,610	5,380
			Grant IV.—		
			Lighting ...	2,450	2,110
			Miscellaneous purposes ...	400	110
			Grant V.—		
			Office ...	1,730	1,420
			Miscellaneous ...	350	200
			Balance ...	310	130
Total ...	37,490	21,790	Total ...	37,490	21,790

2. The Commissioners have been able to adjust the Budget without proposing any fresh taxation to make up for the loss of the Profession-tax, the entry against which for 1874-75 is an account of arrears only. The other entries on the receipt side correspond so nearly with those for the current year as to call for no remark in detail.

3. The reduction in the allotment for Public Works seems to be due, not only to the loss of the Profession-tax as stated in the covering letter, but also, and that in greater measure, to the fact that the opening balance for 1874-75 is estimated at Rupees 11,610 below that shown in the current year's Budget. The District Engineer will be called upon, in the Public Works Department, to explain why the revised estimate for the Lalakal project has not yet been furnished, and to state when it may be expected.

4. If, by the establishment of Municipal Schools at an annual cost of Rupees 800, it is proposed to sever connexion with the Prial Schools, now being improved

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by the Inspecting Schoolmasters, no contribution at all need be paid to the Local Fund Board for inspection, as all charges on account of Deputy Inspectors are in future to be borne from Provincial funds. The Government observe that the amount expended on Results Grants in 1872-73 was Rupees 977, and, if the new arrangements meet all requirements equally well, the change will undoubtedly be an improvement. It is presumed that the educational authorities have been consulted. The reductions in the establishment are approved, and the Budget is passed as submitted.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Conjeveram.
.. Public Works Department.
.. Revenue Department.
.. Board of Revenue.
.. Accountant-General.
.. Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
.. Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
.. Director of Public Instruction.
.. President of the Local Fund Board, Chingleput District.

Edw. J. Wright.

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