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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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No. 70. Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Bellary, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Bellary, 31st December 1873, No. 98 :—

I have the honour to submit Budget Estimates for 1874-75 of only two of the four Municipalities in this district with the covering letters of their respective Vice-Presidents.

Adoni.
Anantapore.

2. These estimates do not call for any remark.

3. The estimates of the Bellary Municipality have not come to hand as yet, while those of the Gooty Municipality have been returned for revision. These will be submitted as soon as they are received.

From A. CASAVAROW, Vice-President, to J. H. MASTER, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Anantapore, dated Anantapore, 4th December 1873, No. 68.

In forwarding the Budget Estimate of this Municipality for 1874-75 I beg to show the variations between this and the previous year's Budget both on the Receipt and Expenditure side.

1. *Receipt.*—Under Assignments and "Allotments by Government," Rupees 4 has been added to Rupees 216, being one-fourth of the Medical Subordinate's salary here, in order to convert it into round numbers.

2. It is proposed to relinquish the tax on dogs as the amount thus realized is very insignificant and is mainly paid by the European and East Indian residents.

3. The Commissioners for the first time have determined upon introducing school fees in the Municipal School at the rate of 2 Annas, 1 Anna, and half an Anna per mensem. The latter is fixed so low on account of the poverty of the Mahomedan population. The fees being about to be collected for the first time the Commissioners are of opinion it would not be advisable to fix a higher rate because the number of scholars may be diminished. Ten per cent. of the scholars will be admitted free of charge.

4. Under head "Contribution from Local Fund Board for Civil Dispensary" a moiety of the whole amount of Rupees 1,460 is entered, being the share of the Medical Officer's salary, &c., to be contributed by the above Board. The sum of Rupees 200 is also entered under this head minus Rupees 6 to make it in round numbers, being the maintenance grant for the upkeep of the Imperial and Trunk Roads within the Municipality. This is the first time the Municipality propose to undertake the repair of these roads after corresponding with the Circle Board.

5. *Expenditure.*—The Commissioners earnestly request that Government will take the following into consideration.

With the exception of Rupees 320, which they have allotted for New Works in the Budget, they are unable to undertake any other new works which appear to be absolutely necessary for the improvement of the town from want of funds. There are nine latrines; of these two only were lately constructed of brick-in-chunam, leaving others to remain as built of mud with sun-dried bricks. The quality of the earth being very inferior the walls are injured in all weathers, the upper surfaces of them by the action of rain-water and the lower by the salty nature of the soil; hence they require very frequent repairs or redoing, which is entirely obviated by building them of brick-in-chunam. None of the latrines have been furnished with seats. The Commissioners are

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very desirous of completing them with stone seats, which are not obtainable here but at a place about twelve miles distant. The new school, which will soon be occupied as such, requires a compound wall and a room or two to secure the furniture and articles belonging to it at night. There are sixty lamps, which seem to be inadequate for the proper lighting of the town, and about fifteen require to be added. The Commissioners contemplate introducing elementary English teaching into their school by appointing a master on about a salary of Rupees 20 per mensem so as to provide means to the poorest class of learning English. Many parents are precluded from sending their children to the Anglo-Vernacular School here on account of the high rates of fees in it, the lowest fee in it being 8 Annas. They would very gladly send their children to the Municipal School were elementary English introduced at a lower rate of fees.

The market is held now in an open place called "Robertson's Chowk," and, as there is no shelter whatever, great inconvenience is felt throughout the year by the vendors, and, if the funds admitted, market-places would be built.

The income of this Municipality is limited. The agricultural community pay taxes on their houses, animals, carts, &c., whereas many of the Benians or merchant class pay only the first of these taxes, and they are in far better circumstances than the former. In the year 1871-72 the Government was pleased to sanction the introduction of the profession-tax in this town as proposed by the Commissioners; but, as the income from tolls realized a larger sum than was expected in that year, at their request it was afterwards withdrawn. In the three other Municipalities of this district the profession-tax is collected. The estimated income from this source is Rupees 1,500, which amount if taken as a receipt would contribute very materially to carry out the improvements and sanitary measures sketched in this paragraph. However, this item is not shown as a receipt in the Budget. Under the circumstances detailed above the Commissioners hope that they may be authorized to collect the profession-tax, when a supplemental Budget will be submitted showing the receipt and required expenditure.

6. Under Grant II., Education, an increase of 1 Rupee per mensem is made to the pay of the peon considering that he is required to watch the new school building and to perform the duties of sweeper as well. An increase of Rupees 3 is entered as the Commissioners propose to give the Mahomedan and other masters some small additions to their salary. The sum of Rupees 138, being the charge for Educational Inspectorate, has not been inserted considering that it will not be required to be paid for the year 1874-75 according to the late order of Government.

7. Under Grant III. an increase of Rupees 2 per mensem is provided, 1 Rupee being added to the pay of the peon and the other to that of the cook. The want of a female ward in connexion with the Civil Dispensary here being very much felt the Commissioners requested the Gooty Local Fund Board, as a special case, to contribute in the current year half the estimated amount of nearly Rupees 500 with the intention of bearing the cost of the remaining half, and for which purpose Rupees 250 is allotted under New Works in the Budget.

8. Under Grant IV., Miscellaneous Municipal Purposes, a reduction of one sweeper on Rupees 3 per mensem has been made owing to the bandy-stand near the Travellers' Bungalow having been relinquished as such.

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No. 76. ORDER THEREON, 11th April 1874, No. 573.

The revised Budget Estimate for the Adoni Municipality will be separately reviewed. The estimates of the Anantapore Municipality are compared below with those for the year 1873-74:—

RECEIPTS.			CHARGES.	
	1873-74. RS.	1874-75. RS.	1873-74. RS.	1874-75. RS.
Balance	690	...	Grant I.—	
Assignment by Government ...	...	390	New Works	390 320
Rate on Houses	1,100	1,020	Repairs	250 375
Tax on Vehicles	450	700	Other items	170 75
Registration of Carts	220	230	Grant II.—	
Tolls	3,500	3,800	Schools	922 870
Fees	90	100	Inspection	138 ...
Fines	50	60	Grant III.—	
Endowments	100	90	Hospitals	592 1,870
Local Fund Contribution ...	515	930	Vaccination	150 140
Miscellaneous	405	420	Registration of Births, &c. ...	144 120
			Conservancy	2,134 2,040
			Grant IV.—	
			Lighting	720 660
			Choultries	200 100
			Other items	160 90
			Grant V.—	
			Supervision	1,150 1,070
			Balance	... 10
Total ...	7,120	7,740	Total ...	7,120 7,740

2. The allotment from Government on account of the Medical Officer's salary may be raised to Rupees 225 as the pay of a Passed Hospital Apprentice together with bedding and clothing allowance amounts to Rupees 900 per annum. Explanation should have been given of the circumstances under which an increase of fifty-five per cent. is anticipated in the proceeds of the tax on vehicles, &c. As pointed out in the Order reviewing the Budget for the year 1873-74 the Government have no power to exempt any particular class of animals from the operation of the tax on vehicles, animals, &c., and they are, therefore, unable to grant the sanction to exclude dogs requested in the Note to Statement I. The arrangement by which the Local Fund Board will pay half the dispensary expenses is approved, and, as they will probably comply with the request of the Commissioners for a contribution of half the cost of the female ward, the Budget entry should include that amount also. In the present state of the Municipal funds it seems unnecessary to transfer to the funded capital of the dispensary the sum of Rupees 70 received as interest. If this be not done the total expenditure on account of the institution, including the full cost of the female ward, will be Rupees 2,050. Deducting from this Rupees 435, the independent income of the dispensary, there remains Rupees 1,615 to be divided between Local and Municipal Funds, the Local Fund contribution thus being Rupees 810 in round numbers. Statement I.-A. should be amended in accordance with the above remarks, the Municipal contribution appearing as a negative balance in Column 12.

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3. While admitting the inadequacy of the present Funds to meet fully all the requirements of the town the Government cannot consent to the imposition of the profession-tax, which is being abolished throughout the Presidency as far as possible, and the Commissioners must suggest some other method of increasing the revenues if they are satisfied that such a measure is absolutely required. The proposal to introduce English teaching into the Municipal School does not commend itself to Government and such an expenditure of Municipal funds on middle-class education could not be sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commissions, Bellary.
.. Public Works Department.
.. Revenue Department.
.. Board of Revenue.
.. Accountant-General.
.. Sanitary Commissioner.
.. Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
.. Director of Public Instruction.
.. President of the Local Fund Board, Bellary.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Shanley

No. 1133

Revenue Department

Budget of 1874-75

FINANCIAL

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE

MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONS,

Bellary.

Rs. Ls. P.

Dated April, 11th.

Recd. 2nd March 1874.

Rs.

G.O., 11th April 1874, No. 978.

APRIL

No. 70-76.

Dis. 11th

Annexure. The Budget Estimate of the Municipality for 1874-75, reviewed.

1043.

Lodges W

7 May 1874