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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 156 Press
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Dated 22-5-1874 ~~196~~

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No. 320. Read the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq, President of the Municipal Commissions, Kistna District, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Masulipatam, 19th February 1874, No. 250:—

I have the honour to forward the Budget Estimates with the Vice-President's covering letter for the Guntoor Municipality for the year 1874-75. The balance with which the next year will open will be Rupees 10,000.

2. It is large because the Government in their Order, No. 774, dated the 4th June 1873, forbad any expenditure on New Works until the scheme of the water supply was complete.

3. The District Engineer is still engaged on this. The work was delayed in consequence of the tank being full, and the impossibility of running the levels. Even if it is received before the end of the year no expenditure will be possible.

4. The assets of the Municipality will be diminished by Rupees 5,250 due to the abolition of the Professional tax.

5. The revision of the House-tax ordered by Government has not produced the increase that was expected. The Commissioners at first estimated the rate at which a brickhouse of ten square yards might be expected to let at Rupees 7-13-0 per annum, and a mud one at Rupees 3-2-0 and so on; but at a subsequent meeting, and influenced by an enormous number of appeals complaining of the largeness of the estimated rent, and on reconsideration the rate was agr[illegible] Rupees 4-14-0 and Rupees 1-15-3 per ten square yards, respectively. This was not specially reported to me, and I was not aware until now that the Commissioners have only raised about Rupees 450 more than in the year, when the Government, under the impression that the House-tax was too low, ordered the revision of it. I think the rates now estimated are fair for houses that are occupied by the owners; houses that are let are charged at the real rental.

6. The Vice-President is wrong in paragraph 4, and the endowment of Rupees 1,092 belonging to the Dispensary is now invested in the Savings Bank, and will be utilized as soon as the Vice-President sends in plans and estimates for the buildings required.

7. The alterations that I have to propose in the budget are as follow.

8. Of the allotment of Rupees 2,660 for the Hospital Assistant's quarters, I would take out Rupees 1,568 to be devoted to the improvement of the water supply to the town, leaving only the endowment money of Rupees 1,092 for that item.

9. I would also take the Rupees 1,000 allotted for a school and the Rupees 250 for the establishment of the Training school, and Rupees 50 for its contingencies, now no longer necessary, and devote them to the improvement of the latrines, together with 200 Rupees out of the 1,500 Rupees already allotted by the Board for the two new latrines at old Guntoor. Then the Commissioners will have, for the two works that the Government have recorded as being the ones that it is most necessary the Board should pay attention to, an aggregate sum of Rupees 4,368.

10. In answering G.O., No. 14, dated 5th January 1871, which I hope to do before many days have passed, I will inform the Government in what these improvements will best consist.

11. No change is proposed in the office or any other of the establishments that are under the control of the Board, and as the roads are in fair order, and the Great Northern Road has been just repaired, the sum of Rupees 1,000 allotted for repairs will be ample.

12. The extension of Budampad road for which 1,000 Rupees are allotted is a good and useful work.—*Vide* 1 (*a*) Grant I.

13. I enclose a revised Budget drawn up in accordance with these recommendations of mine.

From A. NEWMAN, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Guntoor Circle, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., President of the Municipal Commissions, Kistna District, dated Masulipatam, 7th February 1874, No. 191.

I have the honour to enclose the Budget Estimates of the Guntoor Municipality for the ensuing year 1874-75 passed at a meeting of the Commissioners.

2. The draft was prepared sometime ago, and I think that a better approximation can now be made to the balance which will be in hand on 31st March. I will, therefore, direct the manager to send to you from Guntoor an account showing the actual balance in the Bank now, and his estimate of probable receipts and expenditure up to that date, so that the estimated balance may be altered if necessary.

3. The amount entered as the estimated produce of the rate on houses is merely a rough estimate as the House-tax has been collected for the first time this year after revision. The increase collection is very small. It would have been greater if the rates as per square [illegible] appeals the Commissioners were in favour of reducing them, and the collection of House-tax is, therefore, not likely to be much greater than before.

4. There is no endowment entrusted to the Commissioners at present. It is expected that the sum in your hands belonging to the dispensary will be transferred to it, but that probably depends upon whether the proposed to erect new buildings there be approved.

5. You have recommended to Government that the endowment of Which's Choultry should be transferred. I have, therefore, entered the annual receipts and disbursements of the choultry in these estimates. Should it be transferred to the charge of the Commissioners they will be ready to execute repairs which are becoming very necessary out of the general funds.

6. With regard to the sum of Rupees 1,000 to be laid out on new roads, the Commissioners intend this sum to be spent in completing the new road called the Budampad road, and in extending it if possible.

7. The Rupees 1,000 entered for educational new works is intended for the commencement of one new Municipal schoolhouse.

8. The Rupees 2,000 entered for sanitary new works was intended to be applied to the erection of new buildings at the [illegible] and the ghaut.

9. Since the details of this budget were drawn up I have, in fact a few days ago, the orders passed by Government on the reports on July wherein it is received. It is considered that money should be allotted for further improvement to the water supply of the two tanks and their inspection by the District Engineer, and that power should be sought for the building of new latrines.

10. The estimates must therefore be revised, and I doubt whether you will consider the amount available to enable in that case for allotments for new buildings.

11. Rupees 1,000 entered for repairs to roads will not be expended on any one road but on all the roads where and whenever the Commissioners find that it can best be applied.

12. And Rupees 1,500 entered for sanitary and miscellaneous repairs is intended to be spent in petty repairs to all the existing latrines, wells, cesspools, &c.

13. Provision has been made as before towards the expenses of a Training School, but the Commissioners doubt whether it is intended to open such a school now that the proposed Local Fund House-tax is not to be levied.

14. The Commissioners provided for the employment of a Schoolmistress for girls. Up to this time they have not been able to find one. I received today a copy of G.O., dated 14th January 1874, No. 42, and consequently I have struck that item out.

No. 822. ORDER THEREON, 29th April 1874, No. 731.

The subjoined abstract shows the Budget Estimates of the Guntoor Municipality for the year 1874-75 compared with those for 1873-74 :—

RECEIPTS.	1873-74. Rs.	1874-75. Rs.
Balance brought forward ...	13,092	10,000
Assignment by Government...	250	125
Tax on Houses	2,200	2,400
Tax on Arts	5,600	50
Tax on Vehicles	1,000	1,000
Registration of Carts	900	900
Tolls	7,200	7,200
Fees	700	700
Fines	200	200
Endowments, &c.	435	1,052
Contribution from Local Funds	1,500	1,500
Miscellaneous	447	415
Total ...	32,924	26,242

CHARGES.	1873-74. Rs.	1874-75. Rs.
Grant I.		
New Works—		
Communications	2,500	1,000
Buildings	10,000	3,960
Repairs—		
Communications	600	1,000
Buildings	1,300	1,500
Other Items	1,156	756
Grant II.—		
Municipal Schools	1,752	1,452
[illegible]	500	500
Inspection...	100	40
Miscellaneous	400	100
Grant III.—		
Hospitals	2,976	2,736
Vaccination	330	330
Registration of Births and Deaths	180	200
Conservancy	6,600	6,700
Grant IV.—		
Lighting	1,092	1,102
Other purposes...	902	891
Grant V.—		
Supervision and Management	2,193	2,193
Balance...	833	1,654
Total ...	32,924	26,242

2. The President has made some alterations in forwarding the budget, and as such a revision appears to have been contemplated by the Vice-President when submitting the original statements, the Government will deal with the amended budget only. The opening balance is shown at Rupees 10,000 against Rupees 13,092 in the budget for 1873-74, and the receipts of the year show a falling off of Rupees 3,590, which is more than accounted for by the loss of the Profession-tax. A revision of the House-tax has not resulted in any considerable increase, and the Commissioners submit no proposals for raising the rate which at present is only four per cent. on the annual rental value. Although only Rupees 1,568 are allotted

for the water-supply scheme which is still under examination, the proposed expenditure for the year absorbs more than Rupees 8,000 of the opening balance of Rupees 10,000, which resulted from the Government forbidding any expenditure on other new works in the current year until the absence of any allotment for that scheme had been explained. The small allotment on that account in the budget now under consideration is perhaps owing to the scheme being still in an incomplete state, but the Government refrain from any further comment pending receipt of the promised reply to G.O., dated 5th January 1874, No. 14. Improvement to the latrines being urgent, the provision for that purpose is approved; but the utilization of the Rupees 1,000 provided for the extension of the Budampad road must be held in abeyance for the present. The proposal to limit the expenditure on the medical subordinate's quarters to the amount available from the Endowment Funds is approved. Notwithstanding the loss of the funds previously obtained from the Profession-tax, no savings of any importance are proposed, except such as result from the action of G.O., dated 28th March 1874, No. 426, and it appears to Government that if the water-supply scheme is to be prosecuted in a thorough manner, it will be necessary either to have recourse to a loan or to raise the rate of the House-tax.

3. Subject to the above remarks, the Budget is passed as submitted by the President.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

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

Ed. J. Wright.

No. 1613.

Revenue Department

20 May

No. 15-b

Lodged

22 May 14