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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
17th April 1874.

No. 120. Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madura, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madura, 16th January 1874, No. 1 :—

I have the honour to submit the Budget of the Madura Municipality for 1874-75, with a copy of the Vice-President's covering letter, dated 20th December 1873, No. 387.

2. The Board of Revenue in their Proceedings, dated 27th November 1873, No. 8135 (Miscellaneous), submitted for the orders of Government their opinion that the Municipality should keep up all roads within municipal limits since they derive a large portion of their income from Tolls. The justice of this view seems evident, and if Government concur, the contribution of Rupees 811 from Local Funds entered in Statement I. (under 6) should be struck out.

3. The Commissioners have set apart Rupees 5,000 for the pay of a Sanitary Engineer to prepare a scheme for the water-supply and drainage of the town. It is not intended that the Engineer should carry out the scheme, but only that he should prepare it, and in order to obtain the services of a competent person it will probably be necessary for several Municipalities to combine for the engagement of an experienced person for two or three years. Professional assistance is undoubtedly necessary, and nothing satisfactory will be done till it is obtained.

4. I think it will not be necessary to spend part of the Dispensary endowment on the new building, as proposed in paragraph 14 of the Vice-President's letter. The Local Fund Board should contribute, for the building is for the town and neighbourhood, and there is a large balance in the hands of the Commissioners.

5. The usual draft Notification to be published under Section 38, Act III, of 1871, is enclosed.

From F. A. NICHOLSON, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Madura, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madura, dated Madura, 20th December 1873, No. 387.

I have the honour, on behalf of the Commissioners, to submit the Annual Budget for the Madura Municipality.

2. RECEIPTS.—In the Statement I. (Receipts) there is little to notice; the balance of Rupees 31,412 includes, as before, the standing funded balance of Rupees 17,900, together with a fluctuating balance amounting this year to a probable sum of Rupees 13,512. The *raison dêtre* of this balance will be apparent on perusal of Statement II. and paragraphs 6 and 8 of this letter.

3. Tolls are expected to realize a somewhat smaller sum next year than this, owing to a general feeling that the farms this year run excessively high, and that the probable completion of Railway will tend to reduce traffic.

4. (6) *Contribution to Local Funds ;* (a) *For Public Works, Communications,* Rupees 811. —Under contribution from Local Funds a sum of Rupees 811 has been entered, being the amount contributed for the upkeep of about four-and-a-half miles of Local Fund road within municipal limits.

5. (7) *Miscellaneous*; *h. Rent of ground, Rupees* 3,611.—This sum is chiefly the product of "drain rents," that is, of sums paid to the Commissioners by shopkeepers for permission to lay planks across the municipal drains for the purposes of trade. As the size of the shop and the convenience of both shopkeepers and purchasers is enhanced, no objection has been raised to the levy of this rent, which is of course optional.

6. EXPENDITURE.—*Grant* I.; 1*c*, *Sanitary and Miscellaneous, Rupees* 11,950.—This sum includes Rupees 9,750 to be spent in completing the new Civil Dispensary; the total cost is estimated at Rupees 14,750, of which Rupees 5,000 are to be spent this year. The remaining Rupees 2,200 are for latrines, dust-boxes, and other sanitary works.

7. 2*a*, *Repairs, Communication, Rupees* 3,911.—This sum has been arrived at by adopting a regular maintenance allowance per mile, based on the actual expenditure hitherto.

8. 3, *Establishments, Rupees* 7,592.—The Commissioners would draw special attention to this item, regarding which, however, a separate reference will shortly be made to Government. It includes a sum of Rupees 5,000 set apart for the pay of a Sanitary Engineer, whose services it is hoped may be obtained during the coming year, for the purpose of at least setting in hand a water-supply and drainage system for the town. The Government are aware that the difficulties are equal to the importance of supplying abundant good water and well-devised drains for so large a town as Madura, and they have repeatedly insisted on the necessity of attending to those important sanitary works. The Commissioners trust, therefore, that the Government will sanction this item, as funds are available out of the balance which has been accumulated with this particular view.

9. *Grant* II.; *Results Schools, Rupees* 2,000.—This sum is based on the report of the Deputy Inspector of Schools.

10. *Grant* III.; 4, *Conservancy*; (*d*) *Contingencies, Rupees* 1,000.—Five hundred Rupees are annually set apart, under the orders of Government, for the expenses of the Chittrai feast; the remaining 500 Rupees are for division contingencies, &c.

11. *Grant* IV.; 1*b*, *Lighting Contingencies, Rupees* 3,811.—It is estimated that this sum will cover the cost of kerosene oil now being introduced into the town in place of the old oil-lamps, and of the price of a large number of new iron wall-brackets (for the use of which this town is well fitted) and lamp-posts.

12. *Grant* IV.; *Sundries, Rupees* 1,000.—This sum has been provided to meet contingencies, such as the purchase of private lands, payment of fees to vakeels in suits instituted by the Municipality, and other petty transactions.

13. *Grant* V.; 1*a*, *Office Establishment, Rupees* 2,100.—A small increase has been made in this item to cover the cost of a proposed additional clerk in the office, the work being heavy for the three now employed.

14. In conclusion, I beg on behalf of the Commissioners to point out that the very heavy expenditure on the Civil Dispensary building is met at present from current municipal funds. It does not, however, seem fair that so large a burden as Rupees 14,750 should be thrown on the income of two years, especially when it is proposed to undertake other extensive sanitary works. The Commissioners are, therefore, of opinion that, as the Civil Dispensary is hereafter to be a perpetual charge on the Municipality, a portion of the Dispensary endowment (total Rupees 47,800) should be sunk in the new Dispensary buildings, thus throwing on the Municipality merely an annual burden, amounting to the interest on the sum so appropriated, instead of a present burden of the capitalized interest which has now to be defrayed from the current income of two years. In other words, the Commissioners would desire to charge the incomes of future years with a small but perpetual burden, rather than throw the whole heavy burden on the income of two years.

15. The Commissioners request the opinion of Government on this point.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
17th April 1874.

No. 122. ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1874, No. 608.

The Budget Estimates of the Madura Municipality, as submitted by the President, are compared below with those for the current year:—

RECEIPTS.	1873-74.	1874-75.
	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward.	22,400	34,031
Assignment by Government	100	70
Rate on Houses	12,130	12,250
Tax on Vehicles	2,300	2,300
Registration of Carts ...	900	1,000
Tolls	22,000	22,000
Fees	500	620
Fines	200	200
Dispensary	9,400	6,496
Choultries	2,450	2,450
Travellers' Bungalows...	300	300
Contribution from Local Funds	1,900	1,011
Miscellaneous	9,255	13,216
Total ...	83,835	95,944

CHARGES.	1873-74.	1874-75.
	RS.	RS.
Grant I.		
New Works—		
Communications ...	3,600	1,500
Buildings	8,450	11,950
Miscellaneous ...	...	...
Repairs—		
Communications ...	3,015	3,911
Buildings	3,100	2,404
Miscellaneous ...	400	96
Other Items	2,200	7,792
Grant II.—		
Municipal Schools ...	1,000	...
Salary Grants	...	198
Results Grants... ...	1,200	2,000
Contribution to Local Fund for Inspectorate	620	430
Grant III.—		
Dispensary	7,680	7,712
Vaccination	440	420
Registration of Births, &c.	300	360
Conservancy	23,816	24,508
Grant IV.—		
Lighting	4,420	4,676
Markets	144	236
Choultries...	2,180	2,180
Other Items	350	1,280
Grant V.—		
Supervision	2,410	2,620
Balance...	18,510	21,671
Total ...	83,835	95,944

2. The large opening balance is owing to funds having been accumulated for the prosecution of a complete system of drainage. The anticipated falling off in the Dispensary receipts should have been explained, it appears to be owing to a smaller appropriation from the funded capital. The Government observe that no grant in aid of the dispensary appears under "Contributions from Local Funds," although a grant of the kind is alluded to in the remark column of Statement I.-A. The proper heading under which to show it in Statement I. was pointed out in the order reviewing the Budget for the current year, and it was correctly entered in the statements submitted with the report for 1872-73. In the present statements it appears to have been omitted altogether. Under G.O., dated 29th January 1874, No. 154, the Local Fund contribution for roads must be struck out

of the Budget. The Government do not see any objection to the funded capital of the Dispensary being drawn on for a work of permanent improvement, such as the construction of a new building for which Rupees 9,750 is assigned in the Budget, and such a step would seem necessary if the present plan of accumulating a large balance for a drainage scheme is adhered to. It will always be open to the Municipality to replace the money when they have funds to spare. The opinion of the President, however, should receive full consideration at the hands of the Commissioners. The question of the entertainment of a Sanitary Engineer will be disposed of separately, with reference to the President's letter, No. 209, dated 9th February 1874, and, in the meantime, the provision of Rupees 5,000 may remain.

3. Explanation must be given of the considerations, which appear to have induced the Commissioners to abandon in favour of Results Grants the plan of providing Municipal Schools, indicated in the Budget for the current year.

4. The object of deducting the Branch Dispensary charge from the entry in Statement I.-A is not very apparent.

5. The President will report on the origin of the custom of levying fees from shopkeepers for permission to lay planks across the municipal drains, and will state the grounds on which he would advocate the retention of an impost of the kind.

6. Subject to the above remarks the Budget is passed as submitted.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL;
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madura.
,, 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 Boards, Madura.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 1435.

Revenue Department

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Madura,

&c., &c., &c.,

Dated April, 17th.

Recd. 2nd May/74. Encl.

G. O., 17th April 1871, No. 603.

APRIL.
Nos. 120—122.

Ex. Mag.

Madura Municipality.—The Budget Estimates of this Municipality reviewed and passed. Explanations called for on certain points.

No. 42.

Lodged

7 May 74