M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 298 Press

~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 25.2.1875 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 299. Read the following letter from G. H. M. BATTEN, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Forests,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, 2nd February 1875, No. 120:—

WITH reference to the Budget-estimate of the Forest Department in Madras for the year 1875-76, received with letter, No. 6,840, dated the 3rd November last, from the Accountant-General of Madras, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, copy of a Resolution by the Government of India in the Financial Department, No. 139, of the 13th instant, accepting for the present, as the estimates of Receipts and Charges of the Madras Forest Department for 1875-76, the figures noted in the margin.

		RS.
Receipts		5,07,000
Charges.	A, Conservancy and Working...2,50,000	
	B, Establishment.1,95,000	
		4,45,000
Surplus ..		62,000

2. A copy of the memorandum of this department, No. 1,392, dated the 30th ultimo, to which the above is a reply, is also forwarded herewith. I am to invite attention to the remarks made in paragraphs 5, 9, and 10, and to request that, with the permission of His Excellency in Council, a report such as that described in the last paragraph of that memorandum may be furnished to the Government of India with the next year's Budget-estimates.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Office Memorandum from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Forests,) to the Financial Department, dated Calcutta, 30th December 1874, No. 1,392.

THE undersigned is directed to forward (in original) the accompanying letter from the Accountant-General, Madras, No. 6,840, dated 3rd ultimo, enclosing the Budget-estimate of the Forest Department in that Presidency for 1875-76, and to communicate the following remarks:—

2. The actuals of 1873-74, compared with the Budget and regular estimates for that year, are as follow:—

	Budget-estimate.	Regular Estimate.	Actuals.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Receipts	4,90,000	4,50,000	4,64,194
Charges	4,00,000	4,00,000	3,53,184
Surplus	90,000	50,000	1,11,010

This exhibits a satisfactory result, the surplus being the largest since the year 1869-70, when it amounted to Rs. 2,09,000. The receipts, it is noticed, include Rs. 14,653 realised from the Godavery forests which were transferred from the Central Provinces; this amount was not anticipated when the estimates were framed.

3. The Accountant-General, Madras, in submitting the present estimate, has not said whether the figures of the actuals have been checked by him. It is presumed that he has done so, and has found them correct, but it would have been better to have had a distinct assurance that the figures had been verified.

4. The regular estimate of 1874-75, compared with the Budget-estimate for the same year, is as follows :—

		Budget-estimate.	Regular Estimate.
		RS.	RS.
Receipts		4,50,000	4,24,774
Charges.	A, Conservancy and Working	2,02,824	2,18,902
	B, Establishments	1,97,176	1,81,098
	Total	4,00,000	4,00,000
	Surplus	50,000	24,774

5. These figures have been accepted by the Board of Revenue and the Government of Madras, and may, therefore, be admitted by the Government of India. It is noticed, however, that the Board of Revenue have increased the estimates submitted by Collectors under head A—I. (revenue from wood) by Rs. 30,000, in the hope of seeing the demand for Red wood in Cuddapah revive, and because no cause has been shown for a decrease in other districts, while the estimates of the Collectors under head A—II. (revenue from minor produce) have been reduced by Rs. 6,000. It would have been satisfactory had more specific reasons been assigned for these alterations; but, from such information as the present documents afford, the anticipations of the Madras Government and Board of Revenue seem to this department to be somewhat too sanguine, and it is possible that instead of the very small surplus estimated for, the year may close without any surplus at all.

6. The Budget-estimate of 1875-76, proposed by the Board of Revenue and modified by the Government of Madras, is as follows :—

		Proposed by Board of Revenue.	Modified by Government of Madras.
		RS.	RS.
Receipts		5,37,780	5,37,000
Charges.	A, Conservancy and Working	3,06,291	2,54,590
	B, Establishments	1,95,410	1,95,410
	Total	5,01,701	4,50,000
	Surplus	36,079	87,000

7. Under receipts the only item which seems to require notice is that estimated for the Anamallay forests; the actual receipts in 1873-74 amounted to Rs. 67,825; in 1874-75 it is expected that Rs. 39,000 will be realised; while for 1875-76 Rs. 73,000 are anticipated, because it is hoped that by that time the auction system will be thoroughly known and established, and that large sales will be effected. The success of the new system has, however, not yet been tested, and it, therefore, appears to this department to be safer to reduce the estimate by Rs. 30,000, and to let the total receipts stand, in round numbers, at Rs. 5,07,000. This seems the more necessary, as, with the exception of the year 1873-74, when the receipts exceeded the regular, though they were below the Budget-estimate, the expected receipts of the Forest Department in Madras have generally been placed at too high a figure.

8. The working charges estimated by the Board of Revenue have been reduced on apparently good grounds by the Government of Madras from Rs. 3,06,291 to Rs. 2,54,590, and this estimate may be accepted with a further small reduction which would make the grant, in

round numbers, Rs 2,50,000. This grant will admit of an outlay of Rs. 1,00,000 for timber operations, and will allow of Rs. 32,600 for other permanent and necessary expenditure, *viz* :—

	RS.
II.—Cost of collecting minor produce	8,800
V.—Rent of leased forests	4,000
VIII.—Cost of departmental cattle	15,000
IX.—Cost of plant and tools	2,900
X.—Miscellaneous charges	1,900
Total	32,600

while in addition to these the following amounts will be allowed for the organisation and improvements of the forests :—

	RS.
III.—Cost of forest organisation	5,400
IV.—Improvement of forests	90,000
VII.—Works of utility	22,000
Total	1,17,400

9. The necessity for these sums has been fully explained, and the items have been closely scrutinised by the Board of Revenue with the assistance of Captain Campbell Walker, the Acting Inspector of Forests. No explanation has, however, been given respecting the amount entered under VIII. (cost of departmental cattle), and as the actuals under this head amounted to only Rs. 14,061, the amount estimated under 1875-76 may be reduced from Rs. 19,274 to Rs. 15,000. The Government of Madras will, however, be requested, in submitting future Budgets, to furnish detailed explanations in support of such items, without which no such charges can be admitted by the Government of India.

10. The provision under B, Establishments seems to have been carefully calculated. It is made up of—

	RS.
Salaries	1,49,459
Travelling allowances	38,779
Contingencies	7,172
Total	1,95,410

This is less than the amount sanctioned in the Budget-estimate of 1874-75, which was Rs. 1,97,176, and may be admitted, in round numbers, at Rs. 1,95,000. A revision of the establishments is contemplated, which the Board of Revenue hope it will be possible to effect without additional cost to the State. As it is said, however, that if any small increase is required a Supplemental Budget will be submitted, the Government of Madras will be informed that no additional grant will be allowed beyond the amounts that may be admitted by the Government of India.

11. The estimate then, which it is recommended in this department, may be admitted for the year 1875-76, is as follows :—

			RS.
Receipts			5,07,000
Charges	A, Conservancy and Working	2,50,000	
	B, Establishments	1,95,000	
			4,45,000
	Surplus		62,000

The receipts, if realised, will very nearly equal those of 1869-70 (*viz.*, Rs. 4,95,789), but the expenditure under both A and B will be considerably higher, having been in that year Rs. 1,46,909 and Rs. 1,39,782, respectively.

12. It is intended in this department to ask the Government of Madras, when submitting next year's Budget, to furnish the Government of India with a precise report showing in what respects the increased charges now sanctioned will confer any real and lasting benefit upon the country, and to explain why the same ends might not have been attained at a less cost. In 1869-70 the forests were under a separate department. Since then an arrangement has been sanctioned, under the recommendation of the Madras Government, by which the work has been conducted by the agency and under the responsibility of the Civil Department. After the experience, therefore, which will be gained in another year, it is hoped that the Government of Madras will be able to show whether the new system has really proved as efficient and economical as it was expected to be when it was proposed in 1872.

A. O. HUME,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Financial Department, No. 139, dated 13th January 1875.

Read—

Office Memorandum from the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, No. 1,392, dated 30th December 1874, forwarding, with certain observations, the Forest Estimates of the Madras Presidency for 1875-76.

			Rs.
Receipts	... ...		5,07,000
Charges.	A. Conservancy and Working...	... 2,56,000	
	B. Establishment	... 1,87,000	
			4,45,000
Surplus	...		62,000

RESOLUTION.—The estimates of Receipts and Charges of the Forest Department, as modified by the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, are accepted for the present.

ORDER.—Ordered that the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the Department of Revenue,* Agriculture, and Commerce, for information and further orders, and to the Accountant-General, Madras, for information and guidance.

* Original papers returned.

R. H. HOLLINGBERY,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 300. ORDER THEREON, 25th February 1875, No. 298.

Forests, No. 25.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue for their information and guidance. Their attention will be drawn to paragraph 2 of the letter from the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Officiating Inspector of Forests.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 1392.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

CALCUTTA, THE 30TH DECEMBER 1874.

THE undersigned is directed to forward (in original) the accompanying letter from the Accountant General, Madras, No. 6840, dated 3rd ultimo, enclosing the budget estimate of the Forest Department in that presidency for 1875-76, and to communicate the following remarks.

2. The actuals of 1873-74, compared with the budget and regular estimates for that year, are as follow:—

	Budget Estimate.	Regular Estimate.	Actuals.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	4,90,000	4,50,000	4,64,194
Charges	4,00,000	4,00,000	3,53,184
Surplus	90,000	50,000	1,11,010

This exhibits a satisfactory result, the surplus being the largest since the year 1869-70, when it amounted to Rs. 2,09,000. The receipts, it is noticed, include Rs. 14,653 realized from the Godaveri forests which were transferred from the Central Provinces; this amount was not anticipated when the estimates were framed.

3. The Accountant General, Madras, in submitting the present estimate, has not said whether the figures of the actuals have been checked by him. It is presumed that he has done so and has found them correct, but it would have been better to have had a distinct assurance that the figures had been verified.

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Charges { B. Establishments	1,97,176	1,81,098
Total ...	4,00,000	4,00,000
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	Surplus ...	36,079	87,000

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	Rs.
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hope it will be possible to effect without additional cost to the State. As it is said, however, that if any small increase is required a supplemental budget will be submitted, the Government of Madras will be informed that no additional grant will be allowed beyond the amounts that may be admitted by the Government of India.

11. The estimate then, which it is recommended in this Department may be admitted for the year 1875-76, is as follows :—

		Rs.	Rs.
Receipts	... ...		5,07,000
Charges	A. Conservancy and Working	2,50,000	
	B. Establishments	1,95,000	
			4,45,000
	Surplus		62,000

The receipts if realized will very nearly equal those of 1869-70 (*viz.*, Rs. 4,95,789), but the expenditure under both A and B will be considerably higher, having been in that year Rs. 1,46,909 and Rs. 1,39,782 respectively.

12. It is intended in this Department to ask the Government of Madras when submitting next year's budget to furnish the Government of India with a precise report shewing in what respects the increased charges now sanctioned will confer any real and lasting benefit upon the country, and to explain why the same ends might not have been attained at a less cost. In 1869-70 the forests were under a separate Department. Since then an arrangement has been sanctioned, under the recommendation of the Madras Government, by which the work has been conducted by the agency and under the responsibility of the Civil Department. After the experience therefore which will be gained in another year it is hoped that the Government of Madras will be able to shew whether the new system has really proved as efficient and economical as it was expected to be when it was proposed in 1872.

A. O. HUME,

Secretary to the Government of India.

To

THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

1875.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

To

THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 1392.

Dated Calcutta, the 30th December 1874.

Rev 535/75

SUBJECT.

REVIEW of the Budget Estimate of the Forest Department, Madras, for 1875-76.

O. S. G. P., No. 1610, R., A. & C.—3-2-75.—40.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department,—

No. 139, *dated the* 13*th January* 1875.

READ—

Office Memorandum from the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, No. 1392, dated 30th December 1874, forwarding, with certain observations, the Forest Estimates of the Madras Presidency for 1875-76.

			Rs.
Receipts			5,07,000
Charges	A Conservancy and Working ...	Rs. 2,50,000	
	B Establishment	1,95,000	
			4,45,000
Surplus			62,000

RESOLUTION.—The estimates of receipts and charges of the Forest Department, as modified by the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, are accepted for the present.

ORDER.—Ordered that the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the Department of Revenue,* Agriculture and Commerce, for information and further orders, and to the Accountant General, Madras, for information and guidance.

* Original papers returned.

R. H. HOLLINGBERY,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

1875.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

FROM

THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated } 13*th January* 1875. *No.* 139.
Recd. } *Enclosures.*
Spare copies.

D. No. 29. }
L. No. 27. }

Progs. { *No.*

Rev 535/75

SUBJECT.

FORWARDS, for information and further orders, its resolution accepting the estimate of receipts and charges of the Madras Forest Department for 1875-76.

O. S. G. P.—No. 1611, R., A. & C.—2-3-75.—20.

No. 120.

FROM

G. H. M. BATTEN, ESQ.,
Officiating Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Dept. of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce.
Forests.

Calcutta, the 2nd February 1875.

SIR,

WITH reference to the Budget Estimate of the Forest Department in Madras for the year 1875-76, received with letter No. 6840, dated the 3rd November last, from the Accountant General of Madras, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, copy of a resolution by the Government of India in the Financial Department, No. 139 of the 13th instant, accepting for the present, as the estimates of receipts and charges of the Madras Forest Department for 1875-76, the figures noted in the margin.

		Rs.	Rs.
Receipts			5,07,000
Charges { A Conservancy and Working ...		2,50,000	
{ B Establishment		1,95,000	
			4,45,000
Surplus			62,000

2. A copy of the memorandum of this Department, No. 1392, dated the 30th ultimo, to which the above is a reply, is also forwarded herewith. I am to invite attention to the remarks made in paragraphs 5, 9 and 10, and to request that, with the permission of His Excellency in Council, a report such as that described in the last paragraph of that memorandum may be furnished to the Government of India with the next year's Budget Estimates.

I have the honour to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient Servant,

G H M Batten

Officiating Secretary to the Government of India.

15/2

No 535

Revenue 1875. Dept to

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

No. 120.

Enc: 2.

Dated Calcutta, the 2nd February 1875.

Rec^d 15. Febry

No 298. 25th February 1875

SUBJECT.

COMMUNICATES the figures accepted by the Financial Department for the present for the receipts and charges of the Madras Forest Department for the year 1875-76.

O. S. G. P.—No. 1609. R. A. & C.—3-2-75.—30.

W Hoarder

No 298

Communicated to the

Board of Revenue for their

information and guidance.

Their attention will be

drawn to para 2 of the

letter from the Government

of India.

C/LL

10/2/75

25th February 1875

Asst

C/L

14. To the Board of Revenue 25 Feb
3 The Offg Inspector of Forests