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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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Municipal—Budget.

No. 9. Read the following letter from W. LOGAN, Esq., Acting President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Calicut, 20th March 1876, No. 36:—

I have the honor to forward the budget estimates of the Tellicherry Municipality for 1876-77.

2. The only items which it seems necessary to notice are those referred to in paragraph 2 of the Vice-President's report and aggregating Rupees 2,569. As regards the Rupees 800 for the female school, I have the honor to suggest, with reference to recent orders, that the amount be allowed to stand. The next item of Rupees 1,200 as contribution to communications cannot, I think, be allowed to pass, first, because it does not seem equitable that, when the Local Funds contribute about Rupees 3,000 from Toll funds, a further sum of Rupees 1,200 to be spent on roads should be demanded; and secondly, because the Tellicherry Circle Funds are not in a position to grant this additional amount, and there is no provision for it in the budget of that circle for 1876-77, which has already been before Government. I am at a loss to understand why the Commissioners have any doubt as to the third item of Rupees 500, which appears to be the assessment on houses, &c., within fifty yards of high-water mark. I am not aware that any proposal or order has been made exempting houses so situated, and, even if that were so, the circumstances of Tellicherry forbid its being carried out as at least two of the houses inhabited by Europeans and many of the largest mercantile warehouses are situated within those limits. As regards the fourth item, *viz.*, Rupees 69, the Commissioners appear to make this claim because in 1871 the adjustment between Local Fund and Municipal contributions to the dispensary were assessed at $\frac{7}{13}$ ths and $\frac{6}{13}$ ths, respectively, of the net expenses of the institution. Government ruled in paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 298, dated 23rd February 1874, that each Fund was to pay half of the net expenses, and finally, in reviewing the Local Fund Budget for 1876-77, the Revenue Board cut down the Local Fund contribution on this account from Rupees 1,000, which had been fixed with reference to the actual expenditure of 1874-75, to Rupees 600. This reduction was approved* by Government, so

* G.O., No. 296, dated 11th February 1876. that in place of Rupees 994, which the Municipal Commissioners have calculated on from Local Funds on this account, only Rupees 600 will be available.

3. The new works which the Commissioners propose to undertake will be useful, but I should be glad to see more attention paid to the question of providing a better description of latrine for houses of the better class situated in the crowded part of the town; and I question if the necessity for raising and widening the road alluded to in the last paragraph of the letter is sufficiently urgent to call for so large an outlay.

From M.B.R. C. CANARAN, Vice-President, to W. LOGAN, Esq., President, of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry, dated Tellicherry, 4th March 1876, No. 55.

I have the honor, as desired by the Commissioners, to lay before you, for submission to Government, the budget estimates of the Tellicherry Municipality for 1876-77.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
1st June 1876. No. 1001.*

2. It will be seen from the budget that the total estimated income of the Municipality for the year including the items noted,* included under the belief that they would be sanctioned by Government, is Rupees 16,402-8-11; but if the items noted, viz., Rupees 2,569, be not sanctioned, the proposed net income will then only be Rupees 13,833-8-11.

	Rs.
* I. Education	800
II. Communication	1,200
III. Rate on Houses, &c., and Profession-tax	500
IV. Hospital	69
Total	2,569

3. Explanation may be necessary with regard to these items, and I shall therefore notice them severally.

Item No. I is the grant for the girls' school, the following being the particulars of the proposed expenses:—

	Rs.
Establishment (<i>vide</i> Statement II-B)	600
Contingencies	50
For the repair and annual thatching of the building	150
Total	800

The Commissioners would request your attention to G.O., No. 1223, dated 24th July 1874, by which Government have promised to bear the cost of the school.

The school was opened with the strength† of twenty girls, which in two months has risen to above fifty. The progress the girls have made in reading, writing, ciphering, and sewing has been very satisfactory. From what the Commissioners have seen of the school during the short time it has been in existence they are glad to have to submit for the information of Government that it might in course of time be a worthy institution and a model for the district. Its strength, it is thought, will in all probability rise to a hundred in the year under notice. But, owing to the shortness of the Municipal Fund, as will be seen from the budget, the Commissioners are sorry that they are unable to bear even a portion of the expenditure of the school.

The school building, built by the Commissioners, having been uninhabited for the last two or three years the present condition of its roof and the tatties demands immediate repair; for this purpose and for the annual thatching of the school the Commissioners have provided Rupees 150 in the budget.

4. Item No. II, contribution on account of roads, has been retained in the budget under the order of Government in paragraph 11 of G.O., No. 959, dated 29th April 1875, Financial Department.

The Commissioners had written at length on the subject a year ago, their views having also the support of their President. They now request you will be pleased to move Government for an early order on the subject

See paragraphs 3 to 24 of the Budget Report for 1875-76, dated 8th February 1875.

5. The annual expenditure on roads within the Municipality and for conservancy purposes has been between Rupees 7,000 and 8,000;† the whole of this sum the Commissioners think must be obtained from income on account of roads. What they get from tolls is only a little more than Rupees 3,000, the deficiency being made good from the revenue on account of rates, &c.

Under these circumstances, the fund at the disposal of the Commissioners, it is feared, will not cover the several charges contemplated by the Municipal Act, and they would therefore again respectfully solicit the favor of Government to place at their disposal the entire collection from the tolls on vehicles entering the Municipality.

† Under paragraph 3, G.O., No. 925, dated 13th September 1866, Public Department.

Item No. III, Rupees 500, is the sum of rates, &c., hitherto realized§ on houses and gardens situate along the margin of the sea-shore, the western boundary of the Municipality.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
1st June 1876. No. 1001.*

But if the boundary* be altered to a point fifty yards from the high-water mark the amount shall have to be deducted from the estimated income of the budget. On this matter the Commissioners propose addressing you separately.

* *Vide* notification in G.O., No. 925, dated 13th September 1866, Public Department.

Item No. IV, Rupees 69, is the amount in dispute with the Local Fund Board, being their share of the net expenditure of the Civil Dispensary.

On a former occasion Government have decided†, 7/10ths and 1/10th of the charges to be the shares of the Local and Municipal Boards, respectively. It would have been more right had two-thirds of the charges been thrown on

† G.O., No. 491, dated 27th April 1871, Public Department.

the Local Fund Board; but, rather than trouble Government with such request, the Commissioners resolved to abide by their decision. But they regret that for reasons not communicated to them the Board have paid them as their share only half of the net charges. The Commissioners have already submitted the matter for the orders of Government and their order is now anxiously awaited.

Now for the expenditure. Rupees 100 to sink a well and Rupees 250 for building a cook-room for the chuttrum made over‡ to them by Government is provided. For the want of them great inconvenience is felt by the travellers,

‡ By G.O., No. 955, dated 9th July 1873, Financial Department.

and the rooms they therefore make so filthy, especially during the rainy season, that building a detached cook-room is thought indispensably necessary to check the evil.

Rupees 350 is provided to build a line of shed on the bandy-stand for the accommodation of carriages. Great nuisance is now felt for the want of it, the carriages being kept on the sides of the roads everywhere in the town, which increases the conservancy expenses of the Municipality; even the vehicles and articles they contain suffer from the rain the district is exposed to for six months. The shed, it is thought, will prevent the evil and also enable the Commissioners to collect fees for its use.

Rupees 1,200 have been provided for Education, which the Commissioners think is more than necessary. Mr. Garthwaite has written to you applying to provide salary grants, in addition, to the Moplah schools. But the Commissioners have by a recent resolution of theirs confirmed their resolution of last year, passed on substantial grounds, not to provide such stipends from municipal funds for the education only of a particular class of their community. No stipends have been paid to them for the current year.

From Statement II-A of the budget you will observe that a sum of Rupees 3,100 has been provided for the repair of all the roads in the Municipality and Rupees 1,200 for the repair of Road No. 7 from the salt gollah to the Erinjolly Bridge.

The former sum, it will be observed, is Rupees 500 less than the amount sanctioned for the purpose for the current year, and the latter amount the Commissioners propose to spend in widening and elevating the road if Government would be pleased to sanction the amount provided as contribution from Local Funds for communication.

You are aware that the road not being sufficiently wide great inconvenience is felt by the innumerable carts and other vehicles frequenting the road, especially during the coffee season, and that during the monsoon the Moyambally Todda Canal overflows the road as it is not sufficiently high.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1876, No. 1001.

In forwarding their budget for 1876-77, the Commissioners claim increased contributions from Provincial and Local Funds for the maintenance of the girls' school, of the dispensary, and of the municipal roads. As regards the girls' school, it has been decided in G.O., dated 4th October 1875, No. 1948, to make a temporary grant and to await a further report; no further concession can at present be considered. If additional expenditure is necessary for the school, this must be

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
1st June 1876. No. 1001.*

met from municipal funds. With regard to the President's remarks regarding the dispensary contribution made by the Local Fund Board, the Government observe that in none of the papers quoted has any definite decision yet been arrived at regarding the exact proportion of the charges to be borne by the Municipality. The President is requested now to submit proposals on the subject through the Board of Revenue, and after consultation with the Local Fund Board. Meanwhile to avoid delaying the budget the contribution will be corrected to the amount provided in the Local Fund Budget, *viz.*, Rupees 600. With regard to the tolls in this Municipality, the Governor in Council cannot pass any new orders on the subject.

2. The Vice-President writes of a proposal to alter the boundaries of the Municipality so as to exclude localities within fifty yards of high-water mark. The necessity for the alteration does not exist, and the proposal involves a sacrifice of revenue to the extent of Rupees 500. The separate communication, however, which is promised, will be considered.

3. The disallowance of items as above reduces the Commissioners' estimate of income by about Rupees 2,200. The deficit must be met by reductions under Charges, and the President will report how this can be effected with least inconvenience. It is observed that the total establishment charges are Rupees 6,264, including Rupees 600 for the female school. The President will also explain the Commissioners' remark regarding non-payment last year of the Moplah schoolmasters' stipends and the non-provision for this purpose in the current year.

4. The budget figures last year were considerably modified by the criticism of Government on the Government assignments; the President, however, has not reported the details of the adjustment effected. He has also omitted to enter the actuals of the past year in the present budget statements. There is therefore no trustworthy set of figures wherewith to make a comparison, and a comparative financial statement showing progress is on the present occasion impracticable.

5. The Governor in Council desires to observe that though it is in accordance with the orders of Government that the President should forward explanations of his budget, yet if he has occasion to criticize it he should do this beforehand with the Commissioners. The Government hold the President responsible for the budget.

(True Extract.)

W. Chundrow
Chief Secretary

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Tellicherry.

- „ Public Works Department.
- „ Revenue do.
- „ Board of Revenue.
- „ Sanitary Commissioner.
- „ Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ Accountant-General.
- „ President of the Local Fund Boards, Malabar.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

57 delivered at Madras

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Municipal Budget.—Orders passed on the budget estimate of the Tellicherry Municipality for 1876-77.

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