

(1) Number of pages 4
(2) Date of repair 14.5.82
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	5871.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	22.9.1877-197.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

5-871

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

15th September 1877, No. 2311-A.

Famine Expenditure.

Read the following papers:—

No. 110-A. *Telegram from R. B. CHAPMAN, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Simla, 30th August 1877, No. 2870.*

In his Financial Statement, Sir John Strachey estimated total cost of famine in Madras at Rupees 373,54,000, viz., Rupees 258,50,000 last year, and Rupees 115,04,000 this year. Can you now telegraph revised figures, prepared upon the same lines, according to present prospects?

No. 1673.

Referred to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings, dated the 16th February 1877, No. 655, and for early report.

FORT ST. GEORGE
1st Sept. 1877.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 110-B. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th September 1877, No. 4241.*

Read endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 1st September 1877, No. 1673, on telegram from the Government of India, Financial Department, requesting to be furnished with revised figures showing estimated total cost of famine.

The loss on account of the famine both in the way of diminution of Revenue and of direct outlay on famine relief, as estimated by Sir John Strachey, was as follows:—

1. Loss of Revenue, the sanctioned estimate of 1876-77 being taken as the standard.

	RS.	RS.
(a.) Land Revenue	99,65,000	31,84,000
(b.) Excise on Spirits and Drugs	9,25,000	3,32,000
(c.) Forest	50,000	..
2. Charges.		
(a.) Direct outlay on Famine Relief	144,10,000	73,50,000
(b.) Excess charges in the Army	5,00,000	6,37,000
Total	258,50,000	115,04,000

The Board have no information as regards military charges and excluding, therefore, this item, the loss under heads cognizable by the Board, according to Sir John Strachey's calculation, would amount to Rupees 253,50,000 for 1876-77 and Rupees 108,67,000 for 1877-78.

* Loss under Land Revenue in 1876-77	Rs. 119,85,000	2. The actual figures for 1876-77 are now available, and the loss is found to be Rs. 305,40,000* against Rs. 253,50,000, Sir John Strachey's estimate. It is not clear why Sir John Strachey did not estimate for a decrease under Salt, Customs, and Stamps. The loss of revenue under these heads amounts to Rs. 11,35,000;† the total loss for 1876-77 being thus Rupees 316,75,000.
Loss under Excise on Spirits and Drugs	7,96,000	
Do. Forest	97,000	
Direct famine outlay	176,62,000	
Total	305,40,000	

† Salt	Rs. 7,95,000	3. The direct famine outlay (Rupees 176,62,000) includes about Rs. 52,30,000, being payments on account of grain purchased by Government to be held as reserve most of which remains unexpended.
Customs	3,33,000	
Stamps	7,000	
Total	11,35,000	

Board's Procs., 27th July 1877, No. 3537.

4. As regards 1877-78, the Board are unable to furnish any reliable estimate of the loss of revenue, as the prospects of the year are in a great measure dependent on the character of the north-east monsoon. The collections up to the end of June, compared with those of the corresponding months of 1875-76, already show a falling off of Rupees 71,74,000. Accounts for July have not yet completely come in, but the Accountant-General may be able to supply figures for that month:—

	Collections from 1st April up to 30th June 1876-76.	Collections from 1st April up to 30th June 1877-78.	Difference.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(1). Land Revenue	151,15,000	85,98,000	— 65,17,000
(2). Forest	96,000	59,000	— 37,000
(3). Excise on Spirits and Drugs	13,56,000	11,69,000	— 1,87,000
(4). Salt	31,88,000	31,15,000	— 73,000
(5). Customs	8,81,000	4,32,000	— 4,49,000
(6). Stamps	10,02,000	10,91,000	+ 89,000
Total	216,38,000	144,64,000	— 71,74,000

5. Referring to the requisition for an estimate of the probable famine outlay in 1877-78, the Board submit that in the uncertain state of the season, and in view of the extensive changes which are just now about to be introduced in the famine administration, it is quite impossible for them, for the reasons stated below, to frame any estimate which could be relied upon, or which could even be put forward with any confidence as an approximation. It is in the contemplation of Government to employ in famine management a large number of European officers of various grades deputed from other provinces, but the Board have no means of judging what the cost of this additional agency will be. It would also seem to be the intention of Government to take in hand several large irrigation schemes with the view of utilizing the available efficient labor, but the Board have no idea what the estimated cost of the works will amount to, what portion of the estimates will eventually be debited to famine and to remunerative works, respectively, and what rates of wages the Public Works Officers under the new system will find it necessary to adopt; further, as regards the employment of inefficient labor and dispensation of gratuitous relief, the Board are not aware what the policy is to be, and it seems to them eminently undesirable to frame any estimate on the eve of a great change in famine management the effect of which cannot be gauged with any approach to accuracy till the details of the scheme are settled, and some experience has been gained.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

Referred to the Accountant-General for early report with reference to paragraph 4.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 110-C.

No. 686.

The undersigned has the honor to subjoin the receipts under the following heads, referred to in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th September 1877, No. 4241, Revenue Department:—

	Collections for July 1876.	Collections for July 1877, Approximate.
	Rs.	Rs.
Land Revenue	18,00,391	14,83,411
Forest	20,567	15,411
Excise on Spirits and Drugs	4,42,085	3,58,895
Salt	10,70,067	9,64,940
Customs	3,22,303	1,26,031
Stamps	4,95,496	4,59,560
Total	41,50,909	34,08,248

(Signed) W. DONALD,
Officiating Accountant-General.

Fort St. George,
13th Sept. 1877.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 110-D. ORDER THEREON, 15th September 1877, No. 2311-A.

Ordered that the following telegram be despatched, and that a copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, with the information furnished by the Officiating Accountant-General, be forwarded to the Government of India:—

"Your telegram 30th August. Actual loss revenue past official year under Land, Excise, Forest, Salt, Customs, and Stamps, Rupees 140,13,000. Famine outlay same period Rupees 176,62,000, but this includes payments for reserve grain most part of which is unexpended. No reliable estimate loss revenue in 1877-78 possible owing uncertainty north-east monsoon. Approximate loss from 1st April to 31st July 1877, Rupees 79,17,000. Estimate current year outlay impossible owing uncertainty season and recent change famine administration."

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Revenue (Famine) Department.
" Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. Wright.

Rev 1877 Dehn

5
H No 8188

Oct. of 1877

FINANCIAL

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Ac.

1st Sept 1877

1st Sept 1877

1st Sept 1877

G.O. 150 September 1877, No. 20, 21, 22

SEPTEMBER.

Nos. 110 A-110 E

Printed by the Government of India
furnished with certain information respecting the
approximate total cost of printing in Mysore.

4/5841

27. Sept 1877