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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1870	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	21.11.1898	197

JS
Not to be folded or roughly handled

1870

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

21st November 1878, No. 1,870.

Read the following paper:—

No. 254. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th October 1878, No. 2,716.

Read the following replies to Board's Proceedings, dated 13th April 1877, No. 1,640:—

From Ag. Collector	of Cuddapah, dated 23rd May 1877, No. 1,197.
" Collector	of Kurnool, " 5th " " 426.
" "	of North Arcot, " 24th Jan 1878, " 18.
" "	of South Arcot, " 13th Aug. " " 348.
" "	of Trichinopoly, " 28th July 1877, " 263.
" "	of Madura, " 12th " " 447.
" "	of Tinnevely, " 4th May " " 288.
" "	of Coimbatore, " 30th April " " 146.
" "	of Salem, " 1st May " " 231.
" "	of South Canara, " 8th " " " 780.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 28th April 1877, No. 55.

WITH reference to the G.O., No. 1,036, dated 12th March last, and to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 1,640, dated 13th instant, I have the honor to report as follows.

2. It is only in this Presidency I believe that there is such a thing as Local Conservancy for certain jungle tracts, in other parts of India all forests and jungles whatsoever are under the Forest Department and all revenue is shown under "Forests," and I think that when a Forest Act is passed for this Presidency a similar arrangement should be brought into force here; all revenue accruing from forest tracts should appear as forest revenue, but this should not prevent a very large percentage of the profits, or even the whole receipts from communal tracts, being utilized in the upkeep or improvement of the same.

3. At present there is no fixed principle on which Collectors or our officers can act; in some districts nothing but topes and avenues are under Local Conservancy, in others—North Arcot for instance—large tracts of mountain forests are under this conservancy, and the revenue accruing from them has for many years been spent on topes, avenues, roads and other purposes.

4. Avenues will probably have to be placed entirely under the Public Works Department, who, however, might get assistance from our department, but in time when our lately sanctioned establishments are brought up to their full complement topes might, I think, with great advantage be placed under this department; large sums have of late years, I fear, been spent in attempting to plant trees in soils and sites in which they have no chance of growing. A tope was pointed out to me the other day on which I was informed Rupees 2,000 had just been spent, and there was not a single tree alive; the Native Revenue officials who have the planting and management of these have not the experience that our officers have, and can hardly be expected to know what trees are likely to answer in certain soils, &c., and can scarcely be blamed for failures.

5. In drawing up his scheme for the large increase to our establishments brought into force on the 1st of April last Captain Campbell Walker informed me that he had considered it a *sine qua non* that all colonial forests should be placed under our control and contribute towards the Imperial establishment, as Government are aware shortly after these establishments had been entertained at their full complement, the Supreme Government struck off Rupees 30,000 from the estimate, and I was ordered only to work up to them gradually; I had no choice but to make considerable reductions, and when I found that there was no chance of any immediate transfer of the tracts under Jungle Conservancy, I saw that the increase of establishments was in most cases premature and not authorized by the revenue likely to accrue which had been much over-estimated by Captain Walker, as he also anticipated that we should have complete control over all "hill produce" which has not been the case; this increase is at present to a great extent held in abeyance, but if our Forest Act should become law and our department have control over tracts at present under Local Conservancy it will be very necessary.

6. I have on many occasions written much on this dual system; it has been the great drawback to any proper conservancy in this Presidency; in 1871 the question of handing over the forests to Collectors was chiefly raised because the system of two different departments working for one and the same object caused so much jealousy and clashing, and I was in favor of the transfer, provided that all Local Conservancy were amalgamated with the Forest Department, but the transfer was made without this and found to be a complete failure and Forest Revenue sank considerably; a system now has been introduced in which the Collectors have a general control over all the forest tracts in their districts, and although the Conservator and his officers carry on the general routine and the working of the more important forests and are responsible to Government for them, the Collectors can, if they take an interest in these matters, keep themselves informed of all that goes on, so there can now be no objection to a complete amalgamation of all forest interests under one department, and until this is done Government will, I fear, find that forestry will never pay; as long as the Native Revenue officials are working certain tracts to derive a separate revenue, a considerable amount of jealousy must exist, and we cannot expect that cordial support and assistance so necessary to the success of the department; many Collectors are I know anxious to see this carried out and see the impossibility of proper forest conservancy where two separate departments are attempting to work for one and the same object; others again are anxious to retain all the revenue they can for local purposes, and the constant change of Collectors with different opinions on this subject has in some districts been one of the worst features of this dual system and has caused much financial loss to the State, and upset all attempts at progress in this department and the formation of reserves so important in a tropical country like this subject to periodical famines, floods, and droughts.

In G.O., Revenue Department, dated 12th March 1877, No. 1,036, the Government observed that in certain districts reserves and plantations appertaining to the Jungle Conservancy Fund were more or less supervised by officers of the superior establishment of the Forest Department, and called on the Board, after consultation with the Conservator of Forests, to submit their views as to whether the Conservancy Funds should, under such circumstances, contribute something towards the cost of Forest establishment.

2. The question was referred for report to all Collectors of Forest Districts.

3. From six* out of ten districts it is reported that the services of the superior Forest establishment are not utilized in connection with Jungle Conservancy operations, and there is consequently no cause for any contribution.

*Cuddapah.	Coinabators.
Kurnool.	Tinnevely.
Salem.	South Canara.

4. The Collectors of North Arcot and Trichinopoly are of opinion that as the Jungle Conservancy Funds of those districts pay Rupees 900 and Rupees 450 respectively in aid of the Subordinate Forest establishment, no further contribution is called for.

5. The Collector of Madura seems to contemplate a contribution calculated rateably on expenditure, but points out that it would be very small.

6. The Collector of South Arcot refers to a proposal made by the Conservator that half the salary of the Deputy Conservator should be charged to Jungle Conservancy Funds, shows that this would be an excessive charge, and concludes by proposing a fixed charge of 5 per cent. on the expenditure exclusive of establishment.

7. The Board are of opinion that where the District Forest officer exercises any actual supervision over the operations of the Jungle Conservancy Fund it would be fair in principle that his salary and allowances and those of his office establishment should be distributed rateably between Imperial and Local in proportion to the expenditure supervised by him from each source. Assuming this as the principle the most convenient course in practice would be to charge a fixed percentage on the expenditure from Local Funds which would approximately equal the amount which would be paid under a rateable distribution. This percentage might be fixed for the first time when the next budget is being prepared, but would be subject to adjustment in the event of any material change taking place in the scheme of operations.

8. In his letter above recorded, Colonel Beddome proposes that the administration of Jungle Conservancy Funds should be placed entirely in the hands of the Forest Department, but this raises a question outside the limits of that referred by Government for discussion.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 255. ORDER THEREON, 21st November 1878, No. 1,870.

Forests, No. 18.

The Government do not consider that the Forest Department takes any such part in Jungle Conservancy operations as to render payment for their services a proper charge on the Jungle Conservancy Fund.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. W. H. French.

Jungle Conservancy Fund—Observing that the Forest Department does not supervise the operations of the —, and negating its consequences the proposal that the fund should contribute something towards the cost of the Forest Establishment.

NOVEMBER.
No. 201-206.

Cost of (1878) 234000.
REVENUE.
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Printed November 21st.

Printed 20th.

Secy. Secy. Secy.

1878/80

1870
3

No. 2716.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th October 1878.

Read the following replies to Board's Proceedings, dated 13th April 1877, No. 1,640.—

From Ag. Collector	of Cuddapah, dated 23rd May 1877, No. 1,197.
Collector	of Kurnool, " 5th " " 426.
"	of North Arcot, " 24th Jan 1878, " 13.
"	of South Arcot, " 13th Aug. " 348.
"	of Trichinopoly, " 28th July 1877, " 263.
"	of Madura, " 12th " " 417.
"	of Tinnevely, " 4th May " 288.
"	of Coimbatore, " 30th April " 146.
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3. At present there is no fixed principle on which Collectors or our officers can act; in some districts nothing but topes and avenues are under Local Conservancy, in others—North Arcot for instance—large tracts of mountain forests are under this conservancy, and the revenue accruing from them has for many years been spent on topes, avenues, roads and other purposes.

4. Avenues will probably have to be placed entirely under the Public Works Department, who, however, might get assistance from our department, but in time when our lately sanctioned establishments are brought up to their full complement topes might, I think, with great advantage be placed under this department; large sums have of late years, I fear, been spent in attempting to plant trees in soils and sites in which they have no chance of growing. A tope was pointed out to me the other day on which I was informed Rupees 2,000 had just been spent, and there was not a single tree alive; the Native Revenue officials who have the planting and management of these have not the experience that our officers have, and can hardly be expected to know what trees are likely to answer in certain soils, &c., and can scarcely be blamed for failures.

X Don't forget to mention that the forest department have made a considerable amount of money from the sale of timber in the village of ...

5. In drawing up his scheme for the large increase to our establishments brought into force on the 1st of April last, Captain Campbell Walker informed me that he had considered it a *sine qua non* that all communal forests should be placed under our control and contribute towards the Imperial establishment, as Government are aware shortly after these establishments had been entertained at their full complement, the Supreme Government struck off Rupees 36,000 from the estimate, and I was ordered only to work up to them gradually. I had no choice but to make considerable reductions, and when I found that there was no chance of any immediate transfer of the tracts under Jungle Conservancy, I saw that the increase of establishments was in most cases premature and not authorized by the revenue likely to accrue which had been much over-estimated by Captain Walker, as he also anticipated that we should have complete control over all "hill produce" which has not been the case; this increase is at present to a great extent held in abeyance, but if our Forest Act should become law and our department have control over tracts at present under Local Conservancy it will be very necessary.

6. I have on many occasions written much on this dual system; it has been the great drawback to any proper conservancy in this Presidency; in 1871 the question of handing over the forests to Collectors was chiefly raised because the system of two different departments working for one and the same object caused so much jealousy and clashing, and I was in favor of the transfer, provided that all Local Conservancy were amalgamated with the Forest Department, but the transfer was made without this and found to be a complete failure and Forest Revenue sank considerably; a system now has been introduced in which the Collectors have a general control over all the forest tracts in their districts, and although the Conservator and his officers carry on the general routine and the working of the more important forests and are responsible to Government for them, the Collectors can, if they take an interest in these matters, keep themselves informed of all that goes on, so there can now be no objection to a complete amalgamation of all forest interests under one department, and until this is done Government will, I fear, find that forestry will never pay; as long as the Native Revenue officials are working certain tracts to derive a separate revenue, a considerable amount of jealousy must exist, and we cannot expect that cordial support and assistance so necessary to the success of the department; many Collectors are I know anxious to see this carried out and see the impossibility of proper forest conservancy where two separate departments are attempting to work for one and the same object; others again are anxious to retain all the revenue they can for local purposes, and the constant change of Collectors with different opinions on this subject has in some districts been one of the worst features of this dual system and has caused much financial loss to the State, and upset all attempts at progress in this department and the formation of reserves so important in a tropical country like this subject to periodical famines, floods, and droughts.

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Kurnool. Tinnevely.
Salem. South Canara.

4. The Collectors of North Arcot and Trichinopoly are of opinion that as the Jungle Conservancy Funds of those districts pay Rupees 960 and Rupees 450

respectively in aid of the Subordinate Forest establishment, no further contribution is called for.

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8. In his letter above recorded, Colonel Beddome proposes that the administration of Jungle Conservancy Funds should be placed entirely in the hands of the Forest Department, but this raises a question outside the limits of that referred by Government for discussion.

(A true Copy and Extract)

A. H. M. S.
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with ten original letters and their enclosures to be returned.

Copy to the Collector of Cuddapah.
" " " of Kurnool.
" " " of North Arcot.
" " " of South Arcot.
" " " of Trichinopoly.
" " " of Madura.
" " " of Tinnevely.
" " " of Coimbatore.
" " " of Salem.
" " " of South Canara.
" " Conservator of Forests.

Ed. W. J. Lewis.

*Original of 27th
30 April 1878*

*4-7-78 The jungle conservancy fund
proposed to be a separate fund
for the purpose of a separate
administration in the jungle conservancy
fund. The Govt. has taken any risk
of the Govt. conservancy fund.*

*Revenue Department
No. 2716*

1878.

**BOARD OF REVENUE
MADRAS.**

**THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.**

*Printed 1170
Received 23d October*

PROCEEDINGS, 27th OCTOBER 1878, No. 2716.

**OCTOBER.
No. 2716.**

Copy 22-11-78

Jungle Conservancy Fund.—Submitting to Government Board's views on question whether the — should contribute something towards the cost of Forest establishment for supervision of the operations of that fund.

Dr. 1878. 21st December 1878

IX. Forwards 1878

Board of Revenue
Received 23 Oct 78
No. 2716

The Board suggest that jungle conservancy funds should bear a certain percentage of the pay of an Imperial officer in the event of his superintending operations under the fund.

Col Beddome suggests that all jungle's Forests etc should be under his Department. This question the Board decline to discuss but it has been already noted.

Thank the under the enclosed. Am I have this matter to by the C.O.?

12/11 M

Col. B. says that elsewhere there is no such a fund & jungle's like conservancy under the Forest Dept.

Lyette Hon. Lige
Huddleston in his
note on the
suggested inquiry
into the working
of the simple bond-
-vance fund.

This bundle
relating to this
matter is
accordingly put up.

If the proposed
step is to be taken
it seems unnecessary
to pass order
on these Proceedings.

L.S.

Trusting that
L.S. will be able to
bring the currency under
the B. D. is elsewhere
carried out by the B. D.
I don't believe this to be
the case. In that in the
entire. No attempt is
elsewhere made a what
is aimed at by our V. D. people
currency.

I don't see the
the continuance of the present
system of V. D. under B. D.
The result of which will be
that the common 2.8
of Villagers will be reduced.

ignores the fact
of the financial gain of
the Free B. D.

At the present moment
I don't consider that the
Special B. D. takes any
such part in V. D. as
I consider just for their
services as per charge
on the V. D. fund. &
other things.

L.S.

I agree in the last
part. decidedly

By B. D.

For orders
Simple Consistency
Fund
Contributions to salary
of suspended ministers

Dec 4 66

in D. Williams
Mar 2 1866

R.C. 14/68 R. 19. 100/68
R.C. 15. 100/68 R. 16. 100/68
C. H. 100/68 R. 15-11-78