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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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Dated	12-8-1878	197 .

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1947

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

6th July 1878, No. 552 I.

Irrigation.

Read the following papers :—

No. 34. Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 12th June 1878.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd May 1878, No. 1,377.

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th December 1877, No. 873 :—

With reference to G.O., No. 104, dated 25th January 1876, I have the honor to request the sanction of the Board of Revenue for the arrangement made by me, in anticipation of their approval, for utilizing the balance at credit of the Jungle Conservancy Fund of this district.

2. The balance as per estimate of 1878-79 is Rupees 8,695.

3. Mr. Stuart's proposal to plant village topes did not meet the approval of the Board of Revenue, and they were of opinion that Mr. Puckle's scheme to conserve natural growth on lands unfit for cultivation should be extended, *vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 2,924, dated 22nd November 1876.

4. The proposals now submitted provide for extension of plantations on tank and river banks which have not yet received consideration in the Tenkarai, Ottapidaram, Sattur, Sankaranainarkovil, and Tenkasi Taluqs. Mr. Puckle's operations in this direction were very successful, and it is very desirable to extend them. I have therefore commenced operations so that the proper season may not be lost, and hope that my action will meet with the approval of the Board of Revenue.

5. The annexed statement shows the sums required for expenditure during the five months of the current official year during 1878-79.

Talug.	Locality.	For 1877-78.			For 1878-79.		
		Estimate.	Contingency.	Total.	Estimate.	Contingency.	Total.
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Tenkarai ...	Planting trees on tank banks ...	280	70	350	480	70	550
Ottapidaram ...	Do. ...	10	240	250	36	10	46
Sattur ...	Planting trees on river bank ...	350	...	350	600	...	600
Sankaranainarkovil.	Planting trees on tank banks ...	122	10	132	205	50	255
Tenkasi ...	Planting trees on Chittar river bank and tank banks ...	250	...	250	600	50	650
	Total ...	1,012	320	1,332	1,921	180	2,101

The estimated balance on the 31st March 1879 will meet the expenditure for two years and a half at the scale proscribed above, within which period it is hoped that the trees already planted will be beyond the need of conservancy, and the establishment, &c., maintained on account of them will be available for one or two years more for the management of those to be now planted.

The Board approve the principle of the Collector's proposal to utilize the balance at the credit of the Jungle Conservancy Fund of the district in extending plantations on tank and river banks; but with reference to G.O., Public Works Department, dated 19th November 1874, No. 3,278, directing that all revenue of whatever kind derived from irrigation works maintained from Imperial Funds should be credited to "Irrigation Revenue," they think it necessary to ask for a definite ruling as to whether the sale proceeds of plantations on tank banks formed at the expense of Jungle Conservancy Funds are liable to be claimed as "Irrigation Revenue" under the Government Order above quoted.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd November 1876, No. 2,924.

Read the following letter from A. J. STUART, Esq., Acting Collector of Tinnevely, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 7th June 1877, No. 362.

In continuation of my letter, No. 274, dated 1st May 1876, I have the honor to submit the following supplemental estimate for Jungle Conservancy expenditure. The balance to be utilized as per Board's Proceedings, No. 25, dated 6th January 1876, was Rupees 8,646. In the letter above referred to I submitted estimates for the expenditure of Rupees 2,682, leaving a balance of Rupees 5,964.

2. It will be seen from the Board's Proceedings, tabular statement, that the expected receipts of the year alone amount to Rupees 8,370, which sum I think may be taken as the permanent annual figure for the purpose of calculation, 20 per cent. of this will be Rupees 1,654. I do not think that this is an excessive amount to devote annually to the supervision of planting operations, a requirement much needed throughout the district, and the more necessary as a few weeks' carelessness or neglect on the part of gardeners may destroy the work of several years in raising young trees. It is necessary also to get the operation of this kind into more systematic order, and to have more careful accounts prepared and kept of the trees already planted and of those which may be raised in future. Much of the income of this fund is derived from the loppings or thinnings of existing plantations, and the receipts may be expected to show by an increased amount the result of the undivided attention of a competent person in each taluq.

3. For these purposes I propose to employ, under the orders of the Tahsildars, an officer whose duties will be similar to those of a Revenue Inspector, but confined to matters connected with the Jungle Conservancy Fund. There are nine taluqs; allowing 15 Rupees a month for a Maistry in each taluq, and the same amount for a Clerk in my office to compile their statements and generally look after their business, there will be an establishment costing 1,500 Rupees annually. I request that this may be sanctioned, being satisfied that no money spent on planting will be so well expended as that which secures proper supervision.

4. This will leave a balance of Rupees 7,231 for other purposes. But this sum is a balance from receipts of previous years and cannot be depended on to recur; and if it were all spent in planting this year there would not be money enough to maintain the plantations in the next and following years, in which the ordinary expenditure, as already sanctioned by the Board, will require the whole of the fund. I therefore propose to spread this sum over four years, by the end of which time the trees now planted will probably require no further care. Thus the amount available for expenditure this year is reduced to 1,116 Rupees, which divided over the nine taluqs gives 124 Rupees to each taluq, sufficient to pay for a single tope with a gardener on 5 Rupees and another on 4 Rupees a month, and Rupees 10 for fencing and contingencies. I am in communication with the Tahsildars with a view to selecting places for topes, such as markets, and shall be in a position to commence operations as soon as I receive the sanction of the Board to the present proposals, as well as to those contained in my letter, No. 274, dated 1st May 1876, which I trust I may be favored with at an early date, as the monsoon on the west coast is just beginning.

In this letter the Acting Collector of Tinnevely proposes the entertainment of nine Taluq Maistries, on Rupees 15 each, to superintend Jungle Conservancy operations in the district.

	Plantations, &c.	Rs.
Tinnevely	8	592
Tenkasi	23	2,444
Ambassudram	2	300
Tenkasi	3	1,442
Ottapidaram	3	248
Sattur	7	264
Sankaranainarkovil	1	110
Nanguneri	13	790
		6,180

2. The number of plantations, &c., and the outlay in eight of the taluqs proposed for 1876-77 are shown in the margin. In Srivilliputtur there is no outlay proposed and no operations to superintend; and in the other taluqs the operations are not, in the Board's opinion, sufficiently extensive to justify the Acting Collector's proposal.

3. As regards the Clerk on Rupees 15 per mensem, also applied for, the Acting Collector is referred to Board's Circular Proceedings, dated 11th March 1876, No. 698, from which it will be seen that the Board are averse to entertain applications for new hands for Collectors' offices to keep Local and Special Funds accounts in addition to those already sanctioned.

4. With regard to the proposed allotment of Rupees 1,116 for planting topes, at the rate of Rupees 124 for each of the nine taluqs, the Board observe that large sums have already been expended in the district in former years with little or no result, the land suited for the growth of trees where topes were wanted being all taken up. Mr. Puckle, therefore, turned his attention to endeavoring to conserve and foster natural growth on lands which were unfit for cultivation, and a system of conservancy of such tracts was organized. But the system has, the Board believe, been allowed to become inefficient, and is to a great extent abandoned. The Board are of opinion that Mr. Stuart should endeavor to resuscitate and extend it rather than again to undertake planting operations which experience has shown to be likely to result in failure.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government, R.D.

No. 191 I.

No. 34-A.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The Board of Revenue appear to have lost sight of Proceedings, Madras Government, Financial Department, No. 6, 5th January 1874. So long as the Irrigation Department is responsible for the safety and efficiency of tanks, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation objects, for the reasons given in the memorandum, No. 873 E, of the 8th December 1873; to trees being planted on tank bunds and river embankments. They are a source of danger in many ways. The practice being objectionable in any case, would be still more so were it carried out under the orders of Revenue Officers from Jungle Conservancy or other funds, as then, however objectionable the particular method of making the plantations might be, the removal of the trees would occasion loss of time and temper.

In Tinnevely even the bed of the Tamrapoorney, a river on which so much of the prosperity of the district depends, is largely obstructed by trees, and it has recently been proposed to restore the river to its proper use.

In Coimbatore, in order to get rid of occasions of dispute, compensation was, in G.O., No. 645, of the 24th February 1877, sanctioned to be paid to the Jungle Conservancy Fund of that district for outlay on plantations on the Pullapolliem channel, belonging to the Ambravatti river irrigation. Regarding plantations on canals orders were passed in G.O., No. 961, 12th April 1875.

2. The instructions which have been issued from this office require the subordi-
Circular No. 69, 24th April 1875. tion of plantations to the primary obje
and requirements of irrigation wor

So far as the growth of trees may not be inconsistent with those objects and requi-
ments, officers in charge have been authorised to make use of ground belonging to
works for establishing plantations; and they have been also desired to con-
their operations to useful purposes, and to avoid expenditure on merely ornamen-
tree-planting.

OOTACAMUND,
22nd June 1878.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigati

To the Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.

No. 35.

ORDER THEREON, 6th July 1878, No. 552 I.

THE Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation will be communicated
the Revenue Department, and attention will be drawn to the order of the 5th Janu-
1874 in the Financial Department, under which the concurrence of the Public Wo-
Department is necessary in all planting operations connected with irrigat-
works. When such planting is approved by the Public Works Department,
proceeds must belong to the fund at cost of which the operations are carried out.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Joint Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Bran

(True Copy.)

John Mullins

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Bran

To the Financial Department.
" Revenue
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
To District Engineers.
To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

Spare Copies

1947
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Revenue 1878 Sept
No. 3153.
IRRIGATION.

Govt. of Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated July 6th.

Letter No.

Post - 20

Encl.

G. O. No. 27/1878, No. 362 L.

JULY.

Nos. 34-35.

With O.T. 1878

Plantations on Tank Banks - Passing
orders on Chief Engineer's (Irrigation)
Note with reference to Board's Proceedings
regarding - and the proceeds therefrom.

No. 1747

communicated to
the Board of Revenue
for information & signature
12 August 1878

14. 10. 1878. Board of Revenue. No. 1747.