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DEPARTMENT

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

13th February 1878, No. 280.

Local Funds—Budget.

In the following papers:

No. 117. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th November 1877, No. 4968.*
Read letter from the President of the Local Fund Boards, Chingleput District, dated 25th October 1877, No. 81, forwarding Local Fund Budget of Saidapett Circle for 1878-79.

The Local Fund Budget Estimate of the Saidapett Circle for 1878-79 will be submitted for the orders of Government.

REGULAR ESTIMATE OF 1877-78.

2. RECEIPTS.—The actual closing balances of 1876-77 brought forward in the regular estimate amount to Rupees 41,662. Credit is taken only for Rupees 1,650 out of Rupees 3,300, the Provincial grant for schools, as the Saidapett High School has been taken under Government management* from 1st October 1877. Rupees 30,000 are expected from Land Cess against Rupees 33,000 in the revised budget and Rupees 32,830, the actuals of 1876-77. The estimate cannot safely be increased considering the low collections during the first five months of the year. Tolls are to yield Rupees 4,060, or Rs. 1,340 below the revised estimate as no tolls are to be levied at Nagalapuram and Vendalore before November 1877. The entries under Miscellaneous Debt Accounts will be struck out.

3. EXPENDITURE.—The grant for new works and repairs in the current year's revised budget† is Rs. 76,030, and it is expected that this will be expended in full. The interest on the Cortelliar Bridge loan amounts to Rupees 7,061. The estimated expenditure under Grants II and III calls for no remarks. The provision of Rupees 434 for "general contingencies" under Grant IV includes Rupees 334, the charge for stamping and registering the contract bond relating to the Cortelliar Bridge, which will be disallowed, the corresponding entry under "Advances Recoverable" on the receipt side having been struck out.

4. An abstract of the regular estimate stands as follows:—

	RECEIPTS.		
	Road Fund.	Endowment Fund.	General Fund.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Balances of 1876-77	— 43,212	— 379	1,929
Allocation from General Revenue ..	57,237	..	6,210
Rates and Taxes	24,160	..	10,003
School-fees	..	..	1,961
Contributions, &c.	1,450	696	146
Miscellaneous including Loans ..	60,072	..	556
Total	99,707	317	20,805

	EXPENDITURE		
	Road Fund RS.	Endowment Fund. RS.	General Fund. RS.
Grant I.—Public Works	1,00,655	..	1,580
Do. II.—Education	..	..	11,634
Do. III.—Sanitation	..	..	6,550
Do. IV.—Miscellaneous	1,102	..	284
Total	101,757	..	20,148
Balances	2,050	317	85

These balances will be carried to the budget of 1878-79.

BUDGET OF 1878-79.

5. STATEMENT I-A, REVENUE AND RECEIPTS.—In reviewing the current year's original and revised budgets the Board have dwelt at length on the importance of the communications and their exceptional character in this circle and have pointed out that the roads, if allowed to deteriorate for want of suitable maintenance grants, will eventually require an immense outlay for their restoration. The Road Fund income of the circle amounts to Rupees 39,680, of which Rupees 18,200,* or nearly one-half, are required to meet charges which are indispensable. The amount left available for New Works and Repairs is then Rupees 21,480. Assuming that no new works of any description are to be undertaken, this sum can only be distributed thus:—

	RS.
*Tolls and Ferry Establishment	1,450
General Management	1,120
Refunds	70
Repayment of Loan and Interest	15,260
Lighting the Marmalong Bridge	300
Total	18,200
Bond fide Repairs	17,050
Public Works Department Supervision	4,260
Tools and Plant	170
Total	21,480

A grant of Rupees 17,050 for the upkeep of about 300 miles of road is utterly inadequate. The average of the allotments budgeted for during the past five years amounts to Rupees 72,850. Government have negatived the proposal of the Board to raise the rate of Land Cess from nine pies to one anna in the current year, and the Board fear that the proposal cannot now be revived owing to the impoverished condition of the ryots. Under these circumstances the Board trust that, in consideration of the financial difficulties of the circle and of the fact that Provincial Funds will receive a fresh start from 1st April 1878, Government will be able to allot from Provincial Funds a grant of at least Rupees 50,000 for road repairs and Rupees 12,500 for the consequent establishment charges.

6. Rupees 40,000 are expected from Land Cess against Rupees 30,000 in the regular estimate and Rupees 33,000 in the revised budget. The usual estimate is Rupees 49,000. Considering that large arrears demand will exist, the Board consider that the estimate for 1878-79 may safely be taken as the usual amount notwithstanding the impoverishment of the ryots owing to the famine. The contribution from the

Chingleput Toll Funds is estimated at Rupees 1,340 as, owing to the establishment of a toll of their own on the Southern Trunk Road at Vendalore, the Saidapett Board can have no claim to a share in the Madrantakum toll proceeds, but it is observed that toll collections at Damal amount to about six-sevenths of the total revenue from the two* tolls. It seems, therefore, that the Saidapett Circle is entitled to a higher share, and the Board recommend that the toll collections at Damal, together with one-third of the net income of the Conjeeveram Municipal Tolls, be divided between the Chingleput and Saidapett Circles in the proportion of two-thirds and one-third with reference roughly to the mileage of the road Western Road in the two Circles; and, in anticipation of the sanction of Government to this arrangement, Rupees 1,390 will be credited in the budget under review.

	RS.
total estimated receipts	5,000
deduct Madrantakum tolls	720
.. .. .	4,280
Add one-third of Conjeeveram Tolls	1,702
.. .. .	5,982
Saidapett share	1,994
Or in round numbers	1,990

The yield of tolls in the Saidapett Circle is estimated at Rupees 5,000, of which Rupees 2,000 are for tolls on the Northern Road. The traffic on the road is expected to decline after the famine, but the President will report whether the estimate should not be raised with reference to less evasion of the toll after the gate is removed to the Costelliar Bridge.

7. The total assets are—

	RS.
Road Fund	39,680
Endowment Fund	680
General Fund	15,100
Total	55,460

8. STATEMENT I-B, EXPENDITURE—GRANT I, PUBLIC WORKS—STATEMENT II, ROAD FUND.—The Road Fund share of the cost of general management should be Rupees 1,120. Rupees 15,260 are provided towards the liquidation of the Costelliar Bridge loan, the repayment of which will begin from the 30th June 1878. The half-yearly instalments have been calculated according to the instructions conveyed in G. O., Financial Department, dated 26th January 1875, No. 140. The Road Fund expenditure aggregates Rupees 39,250, leaving a balance of Rupees 430.

9. STATEMENT II-A, PARTS I AND II, NEW WORKS AND REPAIRS.—No provision is made for new works for want of funds. The assignment for road repairs must be reduced from Rupees 68,630 in the budget of 1876-77 to Rupees 17,000 in the present one, and this can be done only by foregoing entirely all provision for Road Fund reserve. As the grant now made is so small, it is exhibited in a lump without being apportioned among the several roads detailed in Part II and in the appendix. If the Government are in a position to assign a grant from Provincial Funds, the Board will call on the President to submit, in communication with the District Engineer, a revised list of roads with the proposed allotment for each road. All the roads in the current year's list are repeated, and five new ones constructed from Famine Relief Funds are inserted in the appendix.

10. Under Miscellaneous Public Improvements Rupees 1,500 are provided for the maintenance of avenues, which will be reduced to Rupees 1,000 for want of funds.

11. Grant I is—

	RS.
Road Fund	38,060
General Fund	1,050
Total	39,110

12. GRANT II, EDUCATION.—The provision for inspection includes Rupees 60 for stationery charges, which under recent orders are not debitable to Local Funds, and which has therefore been disallowed. Rupees 1,080 are allotted to meet the cost of the Saidapett Primary School. For results grants Rupees 6,000 are entered, and this will doubtless be amply sufficient.

13. Grant II is Rupees 9,200 chargeable to the General Fund.

14. GRANT III, SANITATION.—Rupees 2,250 are provided for the two dispensaries of the circle. The allotment for the salary of the Medical Officer in charge of the Saidapett Dispensary, viz. Rupees 360, will be raised to Rupees 400 in the current year's revised budget. The vaccination charges should be Rupees 1,870, omitting the allowance made for stationery. The particulars of the sanitary grant, viz., Rupees 1,870, are furnished in the margin.

15. The proposed expenditure under Grant III debitable to the General Fund is Rupees 8,500.

16. GRANT IV, MISCELLANEOUS.—The contribution to the Controlling Establishments at the Presidency should be Rupees 420. The share of the cost of the establishment in the Collector's Office is given as Rupees 300 subject to revision.

17. Grant IV is—

Road Fund	1,190
General Fund	560
Total	1,750

18. On account of the paucity of funds, only Rupees 700 can be provided as General Fund reserve.

Subjoined is an abstract of the budget as modified by the Board of Revenue—

Receipts.		Expenditure.			
	RS.			RS.	RS.
Road Fund	39,680	Grant I (Road Fund)	38,060		
Endowment Fund	680	(General Fund)	1,050		
General Fund	18,100				39,110
		Grant II (General Fund)			9,200
		Grant III (General Fund)			6,500
		Grant IV (Road Fund)	1,190		
		(General Fund)	560		
					1,750
					50,560
		General Fund Reserve			700
		Road Fund	430		
		Endowment Fund	680		
					1,110
Total	58,460	Total			58,360

(True Extract.)

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

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 118. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd November 1877, Miscellaneous No. 16,156.*

Read the following letter from Surgeon-Major G. BIDIE, M.B., Secretary to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Fort St. George, 16th November 1877, No. 7386.

I have the honor, by desire of the Surgeon-General, to submit to your Board the following remarks on Grant III of the 1878-79 Local Fund Budget Estimate of the Sa^{id} Circle.

2. *Parvathy Varkany Ammal's Dispensary.*—The amount set apart for the maintenance of this dispensary is adequate, and calls for no remarks save in the pay of the Medical Subordinate. It should be raised to Rupees 899, or 900 in round numbers, as the pay and allowances of the Passed Hospital Apprentice in charge of the dispensary amount to Rupees 72 per mensem plus Rupees 35 per annum, being compensation in lieu of bedding and clothing.

3. *Senbiem.*—The provision made for this dispensary is adequate.

Submitted to Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 10th November 1877, No. 4968.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 119. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th November 1877, Miscellaneous No. 16,211.*

Read the following letter from Surgeon-Major W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 15th November 1877, No. 1872.

I have the honor to report that the Saidapett Local Fund Board have allotted a sum of Rupees 1,370 only in their budget estimate for 1878-79 for sanitary purposes. This gives a percentage of only 12.4 of available income, which I consider to be low. The whole of this amount is proposed to be expended on the scavenging establishment of two of the taluqs only in the circle and for the four festivals that occur in the year. No provision is made for the conservancy of the other taluqs or for the improvement of village-sites and water-supply.

2. In Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3257, dated 22nd December 1876, I observe, however, that the grants for the improvement of village-sites and water-supply have been struck out in the estimate for 1877-78, thus reducing the sanitary grant from Rupees 3,440 to Rupees 1,340, and the estimate for 1878-79 also has been framed in accordance with this reduction. No explanation is offered as to whether the necessity that existed for reducing the grant of the current year still exists. I have to suggest that, as these two important objects have not been attended to in 1877-78, a sum of money may be allotted for them in the ensuing year's budget.

3. Rupees 1,890 have been apportioned for vaccination. This is a moiety of the grant for the whole district and comes just within the minimum allotment that should be made according to the new vaccine rules.

Submitted to Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings, dated 10th November 1877, No. 4968.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 120.

ORDER THEREON, 13th February 1878, No. 280.

The estimated receipts and charges of the Saidapett Local Fund Circle for 1878-79 are compared in the subjoined abstract with the entries in the revised budget for the current year:—

RECEIPTS.		Estimate, 1877-78.	Estimate, 1878-79.
		RS.	RS.
Balances—			
Road Fund		43,010	2,050
Endowment Fund		370	320
General Fund		1,720	660
Allotments from General Revenue—			
Provincial Funds—			
For Roads		55,590	
„ Schools		3,300	
„ General Purposes		4,410	
Special Funds		1,880	2,230
Cess on Land		23,600	49,000
Tolls		5,400	5,000
Fees in Schools		8,200	400
Contributions from other Circles, &c.		1,200	1,200
Receipts from Endowments, &c.		790	440
Miscellaneous		60,520	480
Total		1,27,630	58,460

CHARGES.		Estimate, 1877-78.	Estimate, 1878-79.
		RS.	RS.
GRANT I.			
New Works—			
Communications		60,640	
Repairs—			
Communications		13,820	17,000
Civil Buildings		70	40
Miscellaneous Public Improvements		1,500	1,000
Establishment, Public Works Department		14,300	4,180
Petty Establishment		3,050	
Tolls and Ferries		1,330	1,450
Tools and Plant		760	180
Miscellaneous		7,640	15,260
GRANT II.			
Inspection		1,680	1,620
Local Fund Schools		7,450	1,030
Results Grants		6,500	6,000
Miscellaneous		620	550
GRANT III.			
Hospitals and Dispensaries		2,160	2,290
Vaccination		1,890	1,870
Sanitation		1,340	1,370
Choultries			
Travellers' Bungalows		240	240
Miscellaneous		650	730