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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	563	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	2-3-1878	197

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

15th February 1878, No. 295.

Municipal-Budget.

Read the following papers:—

No. 140. *From J. H. MASTER, Esq., Collector and President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bellary, 7th January 1878, No. 16.*

I have the honor to submit the Budget Estimates of the Bellary Municipality for the year 1878-79, together with Regular Estimates prepared in accordance with G.O., No. 1347, dated 25th April 1877. The Vice-President's covering letter and the extract from Proceedings of the Bellary Municipality, dated 18th ultimo, are enclosed.

2. As the Municipality will close this year with a debt of 5,000 Rupees, the Commissioners earnestly request permission to withhold the contribution of 5,084 Rupees to the Local Fund Board. This request if approved, the Municipality will continue solvent.

3. The Commissioners, with a view to increase the income of this Municipality, that "tolls" may be raised to the maximum rates. I beg to support this

and the Commissioners consider the tax on arts, &c., as difficult to collect.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. L. LISTER, Esq., Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary, to the President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary, dated Bellary, 24th December 1877, No. 941.

I have the honor to submit the Budget of the Municipality of Bellary for the year 1878-79.

2. The present year has been an exceptional one, and all calculations have been upset, with the result that the Municipality will close this year with a debt of 5,000 Rupees, although there has been a saving of 2,500 Rupees by not carrying out works which were much needed, viz., the construction of a new latrine and repairs of the communications; of nearly 700 Rupees on education; and of 900 Rupees for watering trees, because there was no water to use; all so called savings whose non-expenditure is cause for regret.

3. Private scavenging is a great source of loss, and up to date the expenses connected with it have exceeded the receipts derived from it by 2,250 Rupees; Mr. Ross' simple plan, that no private latrine should be cleaned on credit, has unfortunately not been carried out, and there is a difficulty about collecting outstanding dues, no less than 1,600 Rupees being owing for last year and 6,500 Rupees for this; our solvency depends upon whether we get paid or not for the work we have actually done; the modest estimate of this office establishment of the probable receipts for the last four months were 1,000 Rupees out of 7,000 Rupees owing; I have raised this to 3,000 Rupees in the Regular Estimate, and as I am given to understand that the difficulty of collecting is enormous, it is not safe to fix a higher figure.

4. For the future strict orders must be issued and enforced that the private scavenging establishment be never paid a rupee except from the special fees collected for that purpose; in this exceedingly simple way can a repetition of the present embarrassment be avoided.

5. The budget shows a balance of 5,000 Rupees, the whole of which will be absorbed in liquidation of this year's debt, unless Government accede to what in my humble opinion is the very reasonable request of the Commissioners embodied in the enclosed resolution that for this year only, to enable the Commissioners to reach a state of solvency, the contribution of 5,084 Rupees to the Local Fund Board may be withheld.

6. The traffic upon the municipal roads has been enormous, as grain was poured into the district by the Railway, and the roads were the less able to bear it from lack of rain; the Local Fund Board, too, is unfortunately not in prosperous financial circumstances, but a considerable amount of Famine Funds have this year been expended upon their roads, and they have therefore the less claim upon the Municipality, whose roads were equally cut up but not repaired from Famine Funds.

7. Permission to withhold this sum of 5,084 Rupees, 1,000 Rupees of which has been already paid, will in no way interfere with the Local Fund Budget for the coming year, for the Local Fund Board has estimated for a contribution of 6,000 Rupees only; but if Government accede to the Commissioners' request, that the tolls may be raised to the maximum rates, the Local Fund Board will next year receive 12,000 Rupees, which will give them 900 Rupees more than they at present hope for.

8. It is absolutely impossible that the 4,084 Rupees now due can be paid this year; it must lie over until next year, for we have no capital, and to pay our way from day to day we are obliged to withhold payment from the only big creditor who is compelled to give time if we take it.

9. I would therefore beg you to give your warmest support to the Commissioners' proposal about withholding this contribution, and also to their proposal that Government should give a special grant, which even in these late days would, I think, be fairly debitable to "Famine" for the extra conservancy establishment which was rendered necessary by the famine, and which the Commissioners in a generous and public-spirited manner employed on the score of necessity, without counting the cost.

10. The next important point is how is the income to be increased.

11. The Commissioners regard the arts-tax as vexatious and oppressive, and difficult to collect, and the yield of 1,700 Rupees in the last year it was imposed was out of all proportion to the trouble and annoyance it occasioned.

12. It only remains to increase the tolls, if the Municipality is to flourish, and the Commissioners are unanimous in representing it to be the best method of raising funds; I would incidentally mention that a permanent accession of 6,000 Rupees income would also be a great boon to the Local Fund Board; the tax seems to be fair and reasonable, and I think it best to refuse to contemplate the contingency of Government acceding to the wish of the Commissioners to accede to the wish of the Government.

13. Indeed it is hardly possible to increase the tolls, and if Government will not have the tolls raised, the arts-tax, and if Government will not have the tolls raised, the nothing we are spending on new works and the next to nothing on communications are incapable of curtailment, and if the grant for conservancy is substantially reduced, we shall encounter worse evils than those of insolvency.

14. The Commissioners' unambitious hope that one latrine a year might be built has not been realised in the present year; if Government accede to the Commissioners' request about withholding the Local Fund contributions, I ask that the sum thus released may be appropriated in the budget as follows:—By raising the figure in Grant I, Public Works, Miscellaneous, from Rupees 1,500 to 3,000, and in Repairs (2), Communications, from Rupees 10,000 to 12,000, for the roads want all they can get; this would leave a closing balance of 1,000 Rupees.

15. The tolls sold for Rupees 6,000 the first half-year and Rupees 9,250 the second, so we may fairly reckon on Rupees 30,000 for next year.

16. It would not be safe to vary the budget figures on the actuals of an exceptional year, and the entries, with the exception of the tolls and the communications which have been explained, are almost the same as they were in this year's budget, as they are prepared from the same data.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

EXTRACT from Proceedings of the Bellary Municipal Commission, dated 18th December 1877.

XI. Consideration of the Budget for 1878-79.

That as the Municipality will be 5,000 Rupees in debt at the end of the current year, the Commissioners resolve to request Government to enable them to reach a state of solvency by withholding for this year only the contribution of Rupees 5,084* to the Local Fund Board, which Rupees 1,000 already paid. has the less claim upon this contribution, as very large amounts from Famine Funds have been spent upon constructions and repairs of roads, while the roads in the Municipality have been much cut up by the extra traffic from grain being poured into the district by the Railway.

2. That Government be requested to refund to the Municipality Rupees 1,340, the cost of extra conservancy establishment which was employed without reference to the funds available, because it was imperatively required for the health of the town in consequence of the large influx of strangers.

3. That Government be requested to authorize the levy of the maximum tolls to enable the Municipality to pay its way; the Commissioners have given full consideration to the question of imposing the tax on arts, and they consider it would be vexatious and oppressive, and difficult to collect; in the last year it was collected after no end of trouble and annoyance; the sum realized by it was only Rupees 4,686.

(Signed) A. L. LISTER,

Vice-President, Municipal Commission, Bellary.

No. 141.

ORDER THEREON, 15th February 1878, No. 295.

The annexed comparative abstract shows the estimated receipts and charges of the Bellary Municipality for 1878-79 as submitted by the President and the sanctioned estimates for the current year:—

RECEIPTS.	Estimates.	
	1877-78.	1878-79.
	RS.	RS.
Balance brought forward	70	..
Rates on Houses and Lands	19,500	19,500
Taxes on Vehicles and Animals	7,000	7,000
Registration of Carts	1,000	1,000
Tolls	11,334	24,000
Licenses	500	1,200
Assignments by Government	4,766	4,760
.. .. .	1,200	1,200
.. .. .	500	250
Endowments	12,560	10,558
Miscellaneous	..	..
Total	59,630	70,668

CHARGES.	Estimates.	
	1877-78.	1878-79.
	RS.	RS.
GRANT I—		
New Works—		
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	1,500	1,500
Repairs—		
Communications	5,800	10,000
Buildings	100	500
Sanitary and Miscellaneous	200	300
Establishment	240	150
Tools and Plant	..	..
GRANT II—		
Municipal Schools	1,772	1,472
Salary Grants	600	600
Results do.	1,000	1,000
Inspection (Contribution)	200	200
Miscellaneous	50	50
GRANT III—		
Hospitals and Dispensaries	5,124	6,340
Vaccination	556	676
Registration of Births and Deaths	504	554
Conservancy	32,232	31,908

CHARGES—(Continued).

	Estimates.	
	1877-78.	1878-79.
	RS.	RS.
GRANT IV—		
Lighting	2,400	2,400
Markets	72	122
Choultries	40	36
Travellers' Bungalow	126	178
Avenues and Watering Roads	1,800	1,800
Miscellaneous	800	1,300
GRANT V—		
Supervision and Management	4,512	4,682
Balances	2	5,002
Total ..	59,630	70,668

2. Owing chiefly to gross mismanagement in the conduct of the private scavenging operations as detailed by the Vice-President in paragraph 3 of his letter, it appears that the Municipality will probably be insolvent to the extent of Rupees 5,000 at the close of the current year, and the Commissioners propose to make it good by withholding payment of Rupees 5,084 of the Local Fund share of the tolls. After the

* G.O., dated 26th March 1877, No. 1072.

" " 25th Sept. " " 2383.

orders already passed on the subject* the Government are surprised that this proposal should be brought forward with the support of the Vice-President, and the Government decline to entertain it. As matters stand the Government can only direct payment as soon as funds are available at the beginning of next year. The Commissioners have sufficient resources in the tax on arts, professions, &c., which is not levied in Bellary. In the case of the Government of miscellaneous

with these remarks for revision.

3. With a view to the satisfactory adjustment of the Local Fund share of the toll receipts in future, the President will take care that as each instalment is received one-third is handed over to the Local Fund Board and two-thirds only brought to the credit of the Municipality. If this arrangement is not steadily adhered to, it will be necessary to entrust the levy of the tolls to the Local Fund Board instead of to the Municipal Commissioners.

4. The proposal that expenditure in the current year, aggregating Rupees 1,340, should be assumed as a famine charge, will be considered in the Famine Department.

(True Extract.)

A. B. Pigg
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Bellary, with budget.

" Public Works Department.

" Revenue Department.

" Board of Revenue.

" Accountant-General.

" Sanitary Commissioner.

" Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.

" Director of Public Instruction.

" President of the Local Fund Board, Bellary District.

" Revenue (Famine) Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

52

Revenue Sept 10

10931

Obt. of 1878, 311018

FINANCIAL.

To
The PRESIDENT of the
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,
Baltimore

Dated February 1878.

Amount 1-3

Recd. 1 March

End

G.O., 16th February 1878, No. 205.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 140-141.

Manuscript—Budget—Product—Balance of
Baltimore Municipality for 1878-79, reviewed.

1878

Adopted

2 March 1878