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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

889

Press
Mis.

Dated

1. 7. 1876

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

80/1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st July 1876.*

No. 14. Read the following letter from A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Forests,) to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 12th June 1876, No. 509:—

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from the Accountant-General, Madras, No. 8,359, dated the 23rd November last, enclosing the budget estimate of the Forest Department in the Madras Presidency for 1876-77, and to communicate the following remarks.

2. The actuals of 1874-75, compared with the budget and regular estimates for the year, are as follow:—

					Budget Estimate.	Regular Estimate.	Actuals.
					RS.	RS.	RS.
Receipts	...	...	...	...	4,50,000	4,24,774	3,64,326
Charges	{ A	...	...	...	2,02,824	2,18,902	2,21,864
	{ B	...	...	...	1,97,176	1,81,098	1,76,008
Total					4,00,000	4,00,000	3,97,872
Surplus					50,000	24,774	33,546
Deficit					...	...	...

The actuals agree with the figures shown in a separate statement received in September 1875. In a letter, No. 1,220, dated the 22nd November last, the attention of the Government of Madras was drawn to the unsatisfactory results of the year in question, and the Government of India asked to be favored with any remarks which might occur to His Grace the Governor in Council in regard to the large deficiency in the forest receipts as compared with the estimates, and the comparatively small decrease in the expenditure. No reply has yet been received to that communication.

3. The estimates for 1875-76 are—

					Budget Estimate.	Regular Estimate.
					RS.	RS.
Receipts	...	...	...	...	5,07,000	4,63,304
Charges	{ A	...	...	...	2,50,000	2,49,328
	{ B	...	...	...	1,95,000	1,93,440
Total					4,45,000	4,42,768
Surplus					62,000	20,536

I am to point out that the figures of the budget estimate sanctioned by the Government of India have been incorrectly quoted: thus—

					RS.
Receipts	...	...	...	...	5,18,350
Charges	{ A	...	...	...	2,56,500
	{ B	...	...	...	1,99,500
Total					4,56,000
Surplus					62,350

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st July 1876.

With regard to the regular estimate, as it is believed from information more recently received that the receipts and charges will be altered, the following figures have been accepted for 1875-76:—

Receipts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rs.	4,63,000
Charges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rs.	4,10,000
Surplus ...									53,000

4. The estimate proposed for 1876-77 is—

Receipts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rs.	5,12,000
Charges	{	A	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,64,000
		B	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,46,000
Total									...	5,10,000
Surplus									...	2,000

5. I am directed to invite attention to the fact that the revenue is estimated at a higher figure than has ever been attained, and that the whole of this revenue is to be expended, except an insignificant surplus of Rs. 2,000. The Government of India fully recognises the fact that the production of a surplus is not at the present time the primary object of forest operations: eventually, however, the Government forests, if properly managed, ought to yield a large and increasing surplus; but no satisfactory proof has as yet been given that the large outlay which the Government of India is asked to sanction will have the effect of placing the forest resources of the Madras Presidency permanently upon a safe and satisfactory footing.

The Government of India is quite ready to take into consideration any well-considered proposals for the demarcation and improvement of the forests, even though the outlay which such proposals may entail should occasionally absorb a large proportion of the revenue of the year; but the unsatisfactory state of the forest balance sheet in Madras has existed since 1872-73, and no clear proof has yet been given that the expenditure on account of the Madras forests, which since that year has barely been balanced by the revenue, has been productive of any great improvement in the capital value of these estates.

6. The receipts for 1876-77 have, however, been accepted as estimated; they seem to have been carefully examined, and it is hoped that the Board of Revenue have not taken too sanguine a view of the amount that will be realised.

7. The working charges aggregate Rs. 2,64,000. Of this amount, the following items are proposed mainly for the production of revenue:—

A. I. 1, a. timber	...	...	Rs. 97,950	corresponding revenue	...	Rs. 2,17,000
A. I. 1, b. fire-wood and charcoal	...	...	7,860	"	...	18,500
A. I. 1, c. Sandalwood	...	...	11,900	"	...	51,000
Total for timber and wood operations			1,17,710	"	"	2,86,500

On account of wood removed by purchasers and permit-holders (A. I. 2, a & b) an outlay of Rs. 8,322 is estimated against an estimated revenue of Rs. 1,87,275.

On account of drift and confiscated timber (A. I. 3) Rs. 901 are estimated against a revenue of Rs. 4,425.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st July 1876.

The collection of minor produce (A. II.) is expected to cost Rs. 4,732 against a revenue of Rs. 31,700.

Other charges, which are mainly debitable to the production of revenue, are—V, rent of leased forests, Rs. 6,200; VIII, cost of departmental cattle, Rs. 16,040; IX, plant and tools, Rs. 3,740; and X, miscellaneous charges, Rs. 1,462. And the total of the outlay estimated on account of revenue is Rs. 1,59,107. As these charges are necessary, and as they are moderate as compared with the revenue expected to be realised (Rs. 5,12,000), they have been admitted.

8. For the organisation and improvement of the forests the following sums are proposed, and for convenient reference the corresponding items of the actuals of 1874-75 are entered side by side with the figures of the estimate:—

		1874-75.	1876-77.
		Rs.	Rs.
III.	Demarcation and survey of forests	1,148	8,925
IV. 1 a.	Fire protection	3,131	4,001
b.	Fencing and enclosing	15,588	9,855
c.	Improvement	14,941	17,040
IV. 2.	Plantations	40,212	46,433
VII.	Communications and buildings, including purchase of land	31,956	18,635
Total		1,06,976	1,04,889

The Government of India have no means of judging whether this large outlay is to be expended in such a manner as to secure the objects aimed at, i.e., to increase the productive powers and consequently the revenues of the forests. It seems unadvisable, however, in the present case to curtail the estimate of what will be, if well directed, most useful expenditure, and the amounts, therefore, are admitted for next year on the understanding that the full revenue estimated will be realised. Should this appear doubtful, the outlay under Conservancy must be reduced. The Madras

* In a letter No. 1,662B, dated the 19th November 1875.

Government have recently reported* a change in the organisation of the Forest Department, by which the Conservator is again constituted the responsible head of the department, the control of financial matters being again entrusted to him. One of his first duties must be to exercise a strict control over the expenditure incurred on the formation and improvement of the forests; and I am to request that a special report may be furnished to the Government of India as early as possible, giving a detailed accounts of the works undertaken and in progress, the expenditure for which is provided under heads A. III, IV, and VII of the budget.

9. While, however, admitting the charges for conservancy and working without any reduction, it is obvious that the establishment charges cannot remain as proposed. As shown by the Board of Revenue in their Proceedings of 18th November 1875, received with the letter from the Government of Madras, No. 1,675A, dated 22nd idem, the annual average of these charges from 1862-63 to 1871-72 was Rupees 1,19,140. From 1872-73 to 1874-75 they averaged Rs. 1,76,000, and for next year

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st July 1876.*

they have been estimated at Rs. 2,46,000. This sum is composed of the following items :—

	RS.	RS.
Salaries {Conservator	14,400	
{Officers	78,000	
Subordinate establishments	99,372	
Deputation allowances	1,530	
		1,93,302
Travelling allowances	...	47,698
Contingencies	...	5,000
Total		2,46,000

Salaries and travelling allowances are within the scale lately revised by the Government of India.* But as Captain

* Government of India letter, No. 1,262, dated the 6th December last. Campbell Walker has left for New Zea-

land, some saving may probably be effected

under pay and allowances of Deputy Conservators, and it also seems desirable that the large increase of subordinate establishments lately sanctioned should only be worked up to gradually. The provision under B—Establishments has, therefore, been reduced to Rs. 2,10,000, which is still Rs. 34,000 more than the average expenditure on this account from 1872-73 to 1874-75. Should this grant prove insufficient, the needful provision must be obtained by effecting savings under A—Conservancy and Working.

10. The estimate for next year as thus modified will stand as follows :—

	RS.	RS.
Receipts	...	5,12,000
Charges {A	2,64,000	
{B	2,10,000	
		4,74,000
Surplus		38,000

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, 1st July 1876, No. 889.

Forests, No. 2.

COMMUNICATED to the Conservator of Forests, the Board of Revenue, and the Accountant-General.

2. The Conservator's special attention is requested to paragraphs 5, 8, and 9 of the letter from the Government of India. He will submit the report called for in the concluding part of paragraph 8, and take steps to keep the establishment charges within the limits pointed out in paragraph 9.

3. He will note "that the large increase of subordinate establishments lately sanctioned should only be worked up to gradually."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Conservator of Forests.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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889
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No. 509.

FROM
A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B.,
Secretary to the Government of India,
To
THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Department of Revenue,
Agriculture, and Commerce.
Forests.

SIMLA, the 12th June 1876.

SIR,
I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of a letter from the Accountant General, Madras, No. 8359, dated the 23rd November last, enclosing the Budget Estimate of the Forest Department in the Madras Presidency for 1876-77, and to communicate the following remarks.
2. The actuals of 1874-75, compared with the budget and regular estimates for the year, are as follows:—

	Budget Estimate.	Regular Estimate.	Actuals.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	4,50,000	4,24,774	3,64,326
Charges { A ...	2,02,824	2,18,902	2,21,864
{ B ...	1,97,176	1,81,098	1,76,008
Total ...	4,00,000	4,00,000	3,97,872
Surplus ...	50,000	24,774	...
Deficit ...	...	...	33,546

The actuals agree with the figures shown in a separate statement received in September 1875. In a letter No. 1220, dated the 22nd November last, the attention of the Government of Madras was drawn to the unsatisfactory results of the year in question, and the Government of India asked to be favoured with any remarks which might occur to His Grace the Governor in Council in regard to the large deficiency in the forest receipts as compared with the estimates, and the comparatively small decrease in the expenditure. No reply has yet been received to that communication.

3. The estimates for 1875-76 are—

	Budget Estimate.	Regular Estimate.
	Rs.	Rs.
Receipts ...	5,07,000	4,63,304
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{ B ...	1,95,000	1,93,440
Total ...	4,45,000	4,42,768
Surplus ...	62,000	20,536

The letter from the Government of India received under reference bearing date 22nd Nov 1875 No. 1220

17/8/80

Budget Estimate of the Forest Department in Madras for 1876-77.—Communicating to certain officers, with instructions, resolution of the Government of India on the review of the —; and requesting the Conservator of Forests to submit the report called for in paragraph 8, and take steps to keep the establishment charges within the limits pointed out in paragraph 9; the large increase of subordinate establishments lately sanctioned should only be worked up to gradually.

Dated July, 1st.
Recd.
G.O. 1st July 1876, No. 369.
JULY.
Nos. 14-15.

To
REVENUE.
THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
Secy, &c., &c.
Govt. of Madras.

Recd 23/207/96 & the Govt of India.
26 August -

7 S. Coimbatore

I am to point out that the figures of the budget estimate sanctioned by the Government of India have been incorrectly quoted: thus—

Receipts	...	...	...	...	Rs. 5,18,350
Charges	{	A	...	...	2,56,500
		B	...	...	1,99,500
Total					4,56,000
Surplus					62,350

With regard to the regular estimate, as it is believed from information more recently received that the receipts and charges will be altered, the following figures have been accepted for 1875-76:—

Receipts	...	...	...	...	Rs. 4,68,000
Charges	...	...	...	...	4,10,000
Surplus					58,000

4. The estimate proposed for 1876-77 is—

Receipts	...	...	...	...	Rs.	5,12,000
Charges	{	A	...	...	...	2,64,000
		B	...	...	...	2,46,000
Total					...	5,10,000
Surplus					...	2,000

5. I am directed to invite attention to the fact that the revenue is estimated at a higher figure than has ever been attained, and that the whole of this revenue is to be expended, except an insignificant surplus of Rs. 2,000. The Government of India fully recognises the fact that the production of a surplus is not at the present time the primary object of forest operations: eventually, however, the Government forests, if properly managed, ought to yield a large and increasing surplus; but no satisfactory proof has as yet been given that the large outlay which the Government of India is asked to sanction will have the effect of placing the forest resources of the Madras Presidency permanently upon a safe and satisfactory footing.

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b. Fencing and enclosing	15,588	9,855
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Total	1,06,976	1,04,889

The Government of India have no means of judging whether this large outlay is to be expended in such a manner as to secure the objects aimed at, i.e., to increase the productive powers and consequently the revenues of the forests. It seems inadvisable, however, in the present case to curtail the estimate of what will be, if well directed, most useful expenditure, and the amounts therefore are admitted for next year on the understanding that the full revenue estimated will be realised. Should this appear doubtful, the outlay under Conservancy must be reduced. The Madras Government have recently reported* a change in the organisation of the Forest Department, by which the Conservator is again constituted the responsible head of the Department, the control of financial matters being again entrusted to him. One of his first duties must be to exercise a strict control over the expenditure incurred on the formation and improvement of the forests, and I am to request that a special report may be furnished to the Government of India as early as possible giving a detailed account of the works undertaken and in progress, the expenditure for which is provided under heads A. III., IV. and VII. of the budget.

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Rs. 1,76,000, and for next year they have been estimated at Rs. 2,46,000. This sum is composed of the following items:—

		Rs.	Rs.
Salaries	{ Conservator	...	14,400
	{ Officers	...	78,000
Subordinate establishments		...	99,372
Deputation allowances		...	1,530
			<u>1,93,302</u>
Travelling allowances		...	47,698
Contingencies		...	5,000
			<u>2,46,000</u>
	Total	...	

Salaries and travelling allowances are within the scale lately revised by the Government of India.* But as Captain Campbell Walker has left for New Zealand, some saving may probably be effected under pay and allowances of Deputy Conservators, and it also seems desirable that the large increase of subordinate establishments lately sanctioned should only be worked up to gradually. The provision under B—Establishments has therefore been reduced to Rs. 2,10,000, which is still Rs. 34,000 more than the average expenditure on this account from 1872-73 to 1874-75. Should this grant prove insufficient, the needful provision must be obtained by effecting savings under A—Conservancy and Working.

10. The estimate for next year as thus modified will stand as follows:—

		Rs.	Rs.
Receipts		...	5,12,000
Charges	{ A	...	2,64,000
	{ B	...	2,10,000
			<u>4,74,000</u>
Surplus		...	<u>38,000</u>

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Doakume
Secretary to the Government of India.

19 Jan 1876 - 256A - 256B
 22 do - 256A - 256B
 21 Dec - 2667 hrs
 11 Jan 1876 - 80 - 81.

No 2542
 Volume 1876 *Departments*
 DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
 AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

FORESTS.

No 889

Communicated to the Conservator
 of Forests, the Board of Revenue, and the
 Accountant General.

The Conservator's special attention
 is requested to paras 5, 8, and 9, of
 the letter from the Govt of India.
 He will submit the report called
 for in the concluding part of para
 8, and take steps to keep the establishment
 cheap within the limits pointed
 out in para 9.

He will note "that the large
 increase of subordinate establishments
 lately sanctioned should only be
 worked up to gradually."

To the Conservator of Forests, 10 July 1876
 To the Secy. to the Govt. of Madras, 10 July
 To the Secy. to the Govt. of India, 10 July

Note
 Should the Govt. of India
 be informed with regard
 to this remark in para 3
 that this inquiry had been
 assumed?

To
 THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS.

No. 509.

Dated Simla, the 12th June 1876.
 Recd - 23

Rev D

Rev D

Imp. Secy

No 889-10 July 1876

SUBJECT.

REVIEW of the Budget Estimate of the Forest
 Department in Madras for 1876-77.

With order

20 July 1876 R 1
 26 June 1876 R 23