

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 802

Press
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590-591

Dated 23rd March 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd March 1869.*

No. 590. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Revenue—Forests,) dated Fort William, 22nd February 1869, No. 94 F :—

Orders on the Madras Forest Budget Estimate for 1869-70.

Read—

Letter from the Accountant General, Madras, No. 4,457, dated 7th November 1868.

RESOLUTION.—The figures for 1867-68 are :—

	Budget. RS.	Regular. RS.	Actuals. RS.
Receipts	4,00,000	4,20,000	4,24,184
Charges	2,73,000	2,73,000	2,88,260
Surplus	1,27,000	1,47,000	1,35,924

The excess of the charges over the Budget grant is supported by a Budget transfer of Rupees 20,000 sanctioned by the Government of India in July last.

2. The Madras Government, in their orders on the Budget-Estimate, draw attention to the steady increase of Forest revenue within the last three years—

	Receipts. RS.	Charges. RS.	Surplus. RS.
1865-66	3,26,204	2,53,582	72,622
1866-67	3,38,608	2,17,171	1,21,437
1867-68	4,24,184	2,88,260	1,35,924

The charges for 1867-68 include an exceptional outlay of Rupees 30,000 on account of the lease of a portion of the Annamallay Forests. Taking this into account, the progress financially is satisfactory.

3. The Forest Report for the year has been received with the Budget. In the Financial Statement appended to it, the charges are entered at Rupees 2,72,840. This sum does not agree with the figures entered in the Budget.

4. The Accountant General explains that the totals entered in his books differ from those given in the Budget :—

	RS.
Receipts	4,29,663
Charges	2,90,195
Surplus	1,39,468

The difference which is explained by the Accountant General in a separate statement will form the subject of a distinct reference to the Financial Department.

5. An abstract account for the year accompanies the Budget. In it the charges are entered as Rupees 3,05,029, instead of Rupees 2,88,260; the discrepancy is explained by the Conservator.

6. The estimates for 1868-69 are—

	Budget. RS.	Regular. RS.
Receipts	4,50,000	4,50,000
Charges	3,09,800	3,10,480
Surplus	1,40,200	1,39,520

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7. The Regular Estimate, as proposed by the Madras Government, is accepted.

8. For 1869-70, the estimate as sanctioned by the Madras Government is as follows:—

Receipts	RS.	4,70,000
Charges	RS.	
Working	1,93,500	
Establishments	1,56,500	
	<u>3,50,000</u>	
Surplus		1,20,000

9. The Local Government is confident that the receipts which exceed those of 1867-68 by nearly Rupees 46,000, will be realized.

10. On the other hand the charges are expected to be increased by nearly Rupees 62,000 compared with the actuals of last year, viz:—

	Actuals, 1867-68.	Estimate, 1869-70.	Increase.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Conservancy and Working	1,62,037	1,93,500	31,463
Establishments	1,26,223	1,56,500	30,277
Total	<u>2,88,260</u>	<u>3,50,000</u>	<u>61,740</u>

In the orders of the Madras Government on the Budget, the increased charges are discussed in detail for each division of the Forests.

11. Under Conservancy and Working, the principal items of increase are in Cuddapah and the Annamallays.

12. In Cuddapah, Rupees 9,500 have been provided for under A. I, Timber expenses, against Rupees 2,032 in 1867-68; Rupees 2,000 for Plantations, and the same amount for Communications. Under these heads, there was no outlay in 1867-68. The Conservator notices, in explanation, the Red Sanders wood plantation, the enclosing of firewood reserves, and jungle-roads and footpaths, but does not refer to the contemplated increase of timber expenses. Although the cause of increase has not been sufficiently explained, His Excellency the Governor General in Council does not desire to disturb the orders passed by the Madras Government.

13. In the Annamallay Forests it is contemplated to expend Rupees 30,000 on timber operations, in the place of Rupees 18,212 in 1867-68, and Rupees 15,000 provided for 1868-69. The value of stock in hand at the end of last year was still Rupees 2,16,547 in this division.

14. Considering that the proceeds of timber sales during the current year are only estimated at Rupees 70,000, and for 1869-70 at Rupees 75,000, there would not at first sight seem to be any necessity for extended timber operations; it would appear preferable, in the first instance, to dispose of the large stock on hand, instead of increasing felling operations in the forests. In this instance, the orders of the Local Government will not be interfered with, but His Excellency in Council desires to draw the attention of the Madras Government to the expediency of husbanding the growing stock in the forests.

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15. Under Communications, Rupees 11,000 is provided; there was no outlay on this account in 1867-68. The amount is passed, but items of this nature should be closely scrutinized, and the expenditure confined to purely forest purposes.

16. The sum proposed under B Establishments consists of the following main items:—

	RS.
1. Salaries	1,35,549
2. Travelling allowances	14,948
3. Contingencies	6,000
Total	<u>1,56,497</u>

17. A portion of the increase under the first of these three items is due to full provision being made for the Conservator's pay (Rupees 12,000), the amount expended under this head in 1867-68 having been Rupees 6,139 only. The aggregate amount proposed under salaries and travelling allowances is nearly covered by the scale sanctioned by the Government of India, if allowance is made for the travelling allowances of the Conservator, one Deputy Conservator and Office Establishment.

18. A few minor additions have been proposed on account of increases to the Annamallay and Gumsoor Forest Establishments, duly submitted for the sanction of the Government of India, and for pay and batta of a 2nd class Hospital Assistant on Rupees 40 per mensem, which does not appear to have been submitted for sanction.

19. A sum of Rupees 1,250 has been proposed to provide for one of the seven trained Officers expected from Europe by the end of this year, applied for by the Madras Government in September 1867. This provision may stand, though it appears doubtful whether it will be practicable to attach one of these Officers to the Madras Presidency.

20. The large increase in the cost of Forest Establishments is mainly attributable to the additional establishment sanctioned since 1867.

21. The Budget Estimate for 1869-70 is accordingly admitted as proposed by the Government of Madras.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution, with the papers read, be forwarded to the Financial Department for information.

Ordered also, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Government of Madras for information and guidance.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Colonel, R. A.,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department.

No. 591. ORDER THEREON, 23rd March 1869, No. 802.

Forests, No. 21.

Ordered to be communicated to the
Officiating Conservator of Forests for
his information and guidance. Major

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd March 1869.*

Beddome's attention will be requested to the discrepancy noticed in paragraph 3, as well as to the remarks in paragraph 14 of the Resolution of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Conservator of Forests.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant General.

8. 802

Read the fol-
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of India -

Passing orders
on the Madras Forests
Budget Estimate for 1869-70.

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14 of the Resolution of
the Gov^t of India -

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From Offr. Leonard J. Susskind
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Forest Budget for 1880-70.— One of the Government of India on its communication to the Committee of Forests for information and guidance.