Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O.. No. 1001

Dated 29th November

[Despatch Abstract.]

Approving the Board's Suggestion that all Depts Requiring Supplies of timber should adopt the procedure prescribed for the Ordnance Dept. in G.O., No. 362 Revenue dated 22nd May 1894.

BACK PAPERS.

DISPATCHER PAPERS.

Cur 24 25/98

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 24

Secy 20

From The Board of Revenue &c Madras

Order Ren No 1001 8/29th Nov 1897

Re Govt approval of Forest No. 979 Inis. the boards suggestion.

28.XI.97 29/11/97

Dated 27 September 1897

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

To the Bd L.R. Cons

To the Marine Dept Advo.

Cly & ale Mem Dept of the Sec Advo

& to the Heads of Dept under the Rev Sec Advo

Sec. 11-12-97

A

SUBJECT.

Subng to Govt with reference to G.O No 40444 Inis. 24.8.97 letter from the Conservator. S.C reporting on the advisability of keeping seasoned timber in stock and supporting the Conservator's suggestion that all departments requiring supplies of timber should adopt the procedure prescribed for the Marine Department.

Forest Reserved Trees

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

2,000
28-1-97.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE. MADRAS.

10

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue),

Dated 27 September 1897.

Forest No. 979 _____ Miscellaneous

READ again Board's Proceedings Forest No. 857 Mis. dated 30 August 1897, communicating to the Collector of Canara and the Conservator, S. C. G.O. communicating with remarks to the Marine Department papers regarding supply of wood for the flag staff at Cannanore, S. Canara.

Read the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle dated 13 September 97 R.C. No. 1075 to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Land Revenue, Madras.

Replying to enquiry in Proceedings F No. 857 Mis, dated 30 August 1897, addressed to Collector of South Canara in place of to North Malabar, I would not consider it to the Government interest that the Forest Department store timbers. Hitherto Cape the English Admiralty the

Madras Ordnance has stored its own timber and I would suggest that all Departments requiring supplies should adopt the procedure laid down for the Ordnance in Proceedings No 3897, dated 15th June 1894 and in cases where only occasional supplies are required application should be made to the Ordnance stock.

I would mention that the plan on the European continent is for Government Departments to have a right to reserve from sale standing trees chosen by their Agents from those to be felled in each advertised coupe.

Resolution

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O. No 4044 Mis, dated 4 August 1897.

2. The Board supports the Conservator's suggestion that all departments requiring supplies of timber should adopt the procedure prescribed for the Ordnance Department in G.O No 362 Rev. dated 22 May 1894.

/True copy and Extract/

Rees

Secretary.

To The Secretary to Government R.D. /

Rev: Dept.

C.P. 8269 of 97

From the Board of Rev: Land Revenue

Dated 27th Sept 1897

The Hon: Mr Grose C.S.I.
The Hon: Sir Henry Bliss K.C.S.I.

For orders

Secy to Govt Marine Dept
for consideration

A

Please see the notes attached with G.O. misc. no 4044 dy 4th August 1897, wherein a precis of the correspondence that had taken place prior to that date on the subject of the inability of the Forest Dept to supply seasoned timber required for a spar for the Cannanore flag-staff is given. In the G.O. in question, the Govt expressed its "surprise that the District Forest Officer had no seasoned timber in stock" and invited the particular attention of the Board to the fact.

2. The Board now submits with its support a suggestion made by the Conservator

Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, that all Depts requiring supplies of timber should adopt the procedure prescribed for the Ordnance Dept in G.O. N°362 Rev: of 22nd May 1896. Mr Hooper thinks that it would not be to the Govt interest to insist on the Forest Dept stamping timber and adds that on the Continent the Govt Depts have merely a right "to reserve from "sale standing trees chosen by "their agents from those to be "felled in each advertized ~~from~~ Coupe"

3. The procedure to be adopted in the matter of the supply of timber to the Ordnance Dept will be found set forth in para 2 of the B.P. on pages 3 & 4 of G.O. No 362 Rev: of 22nd May 1896 and is briefly as follows:-

(1) The Conservators to forward to the I. G. of Ordnance quarterly lists of the timber & bamboo in stock

(2) The I. G to send to the Conservators six months before the supply is required a list of his requirements

(3) The Conservators to arrange in communication with each other to comply with the indent.

(4) The Forest Dept to undertake to make delivery at a railway station to an Officer of the Ordnance Dept.

If it is inconvenient for the Forest Dept to stock timber i.e. if it is not to the interest of Govt that it should do so, the above procedure seems to be the best that can be adopted. Orders are solicited as to whether under the circumstances the Conservators suggestions may be accepted.

The Marine Dept with whom also I may whether its requirements are sufficiently frequent & important to warrant the introduction of this system with its attendant trouble & correspondence. In the case out of which the question arose it is clear that green logs of the size required were available & if sufficient time had been given for supply

B

B

Timber supplies

It would not pay the Forest Dept to keep timber in stock till it got seasoned

This is about what I say to Mr - If says users of timber every-where use seasoned timber - Govt therefore must keep timber until it is seasoned & who can do so more cheaply than the original producer? I think the Department ~~Govt~~ all arrangements should be such as to render seasoned & I think it had be accepted

11/11/97

12/11/97

3. XI. 97

J.W.S. 9.11.97

NOTE FOR THE Secretary

Please see draft order on the Docket of the current.

For orders as to what action shd be taken with reference to Sir H. Bliss's note. The rules which the Bd in framing agree should be applied do not provide for stocking timber the reasons. It may be noted that most users of timber (e.g. Denfords & Co Carriage builders of Madras) prefer to keep their own timber [illegible] 28/11/17

~~2 This letter was put~~

Issue the draft. I don't think H.M. makes any special return be taken.

29/11/17

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.	} 1897.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O., No. 1001, 29th November 1897.

NOVEMBER.

Timber.

Approving the Board's suggestion that all departments requiring supplies of — should adopt the procedure prescribed for the Ordnance Department in G.O., No. 362, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1894.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Mis. No. 979, dated 27th September 1897 :—

Read—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Forest Mis. No. 857, dated 30th August 1897.

Abstract.—Communicating to the Collector of South Canara and the Conservator, Southern Circle, Government Order communicating, with remarks, to the Marine Department papers regarding supply of wood for the flag staff at Cannanore, South Canara.

Read—also the following letter from the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated 13th September 1897, R. C. No. 1075 :—

Replying to enquiry in Proceedings, Forest Mis. No. 857, dated 30th August 1897, addressed to Collector of South Canara in place of to North Malabar, I would not consider it to the Government interest that the Forest Department store timber.

Hitherto, like the English Admirality, the Madras Ordnance has stored its own timber and I would suggest that all departments requiring supplies should adopt the procedure laid down for the Ordnance in Proceedings, No. 389-F., dated 15th June 1894, and in cases where only occasional supplies are required application should be made to the ordnance stock.

I would mention that the plan on the European continent is for Government departments to have a right to reserve from sale standing trees chosen by their agents from those to be felled in each advertised coupe.

Resolution—Forest Mis. No. 979, dated 27th September 1897.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., Mis. No. 4044, dated 4th August 1897.

2. The Board supports the Conservator's suggestion that all departments requiring supplies of timber should adopt the procedure prescribed for the Ordnance Department in G.O., No. 362, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1894.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Order—No. 1001, Revenue, dated 29th November 1897.

Forest No. 228.

The Government approves of the Board's suggestion.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
„ the Marine Department.
Copy to all other departments of the Secretariat,
and to the heads of departments under the Revenue Secretariat.

APPENDIX.

Read—the following G.O., No. 362, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1894 :—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 17th April 1894, Forest No. 256 :—

Read—the following letter from Colonel M. J. KING-HARMAN, Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department (Ordnance Department—Stores Supplies), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department, dated Fort William, the 21st February 1894, No. 1024-D. :—

I am directed to forward a copy of the communication marginally noted regarding the advisability of establishing a definite understanding as to the relations between the Madras Circle of the Ordnance Department in India and the Forest Department of that Presidency and Burma, in so far as the latter department can be looked to for the supply of timber, &c., required by the Ordnance Department in the Madras Presidency, and to request that, under the orders of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the matter may be carefully considered and that the Conservators of Forests in the Madras Presidency may be directed to issue such departmental orders on the subject as may be considered advisable.

No. 13640-B., dated 20th November 1893, from the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Circle, to the Director-General of Ordnance in India.

2. The Government of India would be glad to be informed, in due course, of the action taken in the matter.

Copy to the Director-General of Ordnance in India.

Enclosure No. 1.

Copy of a letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Circle, to the Director-General of Ordnance in India, No. 13640 B., dated 20th November 1893.

I have the honour, as verbally instructed, to represent the advisability of establishing a definite understanding on our relations with the Forest Department as regards the extent to which we can look to them for the supply of timber, &c., in this circle, where, as well as in Bombay, all timber required has to be obtained in the open market.

2. I have introduced here the same system which was, on my recommendation, initiated in the Bombay Circle as to the Gun Carriage Factory providing all timber in log, and distributing scantlings, &c., and log where necessary, to other establishments, of course, excluding Rangoon except for special timbers.

3. In Bombay, I found the Forest Department most anxious to assist us and meet our wishes in every way, but in this circle, on two occasions (one quite recently) in which we objected to the quality of the supplies, the local Forest officers both replied to the effect that as we did not choose to accept (in one case) what was supplied and objected to quality (in the other), no future demands would be complied with.

4. This appears to me anything but satisfactory.

5. I have always thought that we ought to get all timber and bamboos only from the Forest Department, the legitimate source, never resorting to contractors or middlemen except where it may be advisable to do so, *e.g.*, it is sometimes more economical to purchase

plank instead of log, the officials of that department should be the best judges for quality, embracing soundness, felling, trimming, &c., and we ought to be able to count upon a sufficient and good supply and a more economical one than as at present.

6. Of course the forests would require to fell trees in anticipation and should be furnished with an average of our requirements; they would then exercise judgment as to times of felling and supply.

7. As regards bamboos, I entered fully into that question in a report when in charge of Bombay Arsenal in 1885–86, but am not aware whether it is still in the Inspector-General of Ordnance's office, Bombay Circle, or was forwarded on for your consideration. I then stated that as far as I could ascertain the main cause of the deterioration of bamboos from the attacks of the "Ghoon," to use the Bengal term, is the felling of the bamboos at improper times. Now in this particular a Forest officer is in the best position to secure the desired result.

8. I am convinced that if we could arrive at a satisfactory arrangement with the Forest Department, and its officers took up the matter *con amore*, we should save much expense in both timber and bamboos.

Endorsement No. 1285.

Transferred to the Revenue Department for consideration and disposal.

2. It is requested that the orders passed on the subject may be communicated to the Military Department in due course.

Fort St. George,
28th February 1894.

(Signed) H. R. HOPE, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.

Endorsement No. 946, Mis.

Referred to the Commissioners of Land Revenue for early remarks.

Fort St. George,
5th March 1894.

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Copy to the Military Department.

Reference on the above, dated 14th March 1894.

Referred to the Conservators of Forests for early remarks.

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Conservators of Forests, Northern, Central and Southern Circles.

Read—the following letter from J. W. CHERRY, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 26th March 1894, No. 549:—

[*Reference.*—Board's Reference on Forest Register No. 800 of 1894, dated 14th March 1894.]

In reply to the above, I have the honour to state that the conclusions arrived at in the correspondence and orders recorded in Board's Proceedings, No. 1213, dated 18th April 1885, Forest No. 247, dated 1st May 1885, and Forest No. 422, dated 31st July 1885, regarding supply of timber to the Public Works Department, would apply equally to the Ordnance Department.

If the latter department will send District Forest-officers an estimate of their probable requirements, I feel sure that the District officers would endeavour to meet their requirements as much as possible, and will send quarterly lists of the most likely and suitable timbers in stock in the same way as is being done to the Public Works Department.

2. To avoid the constant disputes that arise as to the quality of the timber to be delivered, it is important that the purchasing department should send a responsible person to approve of the timber before delivery.

3. It so often happens that there is a suspicion that direct dealings with this department are discouraged by subsequent fault-finding at the instigation of contractors or other middlemen who, of course, are interested in securing or retaining the supply of timber to the Public Departments in their own hands.

Read—the following letter from E. P. POPERT, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Central Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, the 27th March 1894, No. 2578:—

[*Reference.*—Reference on Forest Register No. 800, dated 14th instant.]

In reply to the above, I have the honour to state that, as far as I am aware, this circle can supply no timber of the requisite quality for use in the Ordnance Department and is only interested in the supply of bamboos.

2. With reference to the supply of bamboos, some correspondence passed between the Inspector-General of Ordnance and myself in December 1891, and I issued the necessary instructions to the District Forest-officer, North Arcot. I have not been informed whether the demand was satisfactorily met. The difficulties the Forest Department had to contend with at that time were (*a*) shortness of time within which to supply the bamboos and consequently to season them, and (*b*) weakness of the subordinate establishment, the whole of which was engaged upon demarcation and other reservation work. The second difficulty still exists, but the first can be remedied by the Ordnance authorities themselves.

3. I have no doubt the requirements of the Ordnance Department can be met as regards bamboos, but certainly not less than six months' notice should be given of the quantity required. The demand will have to be met from either the North Arcot, Salem or South Arcot districts, and the Forest Department could undertake the delivery of the bamboos at a railway station in these districts where they should be passed and taken over by an officer of the Ordnance Department.

Read—the following letter from A. W. PEET, Esq., Conservator of Forests, Northern Circle, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Waltair, 24th March 1894, No. 2429:—

[*Subject.*—Supply of timber and bamboos by the Forest Department to the Military Department.]

[*Reference.*—Board's Reference, dated 14th March 1894, on Forest Register No. 800.]

In answer to the above reference, I have the honour to state that our chief difficulty in undertaking departmental supply is that our staff is so small that we can hardly provide for conservancy, and, so far as this circle is concerned, we have avoided almost all departmental work lately.

2. Another difficulty is that if the power of rejection of timber is to be exercised at Madras, we are likely to incur not only considerable loss of money but much complication of accounts.

3. I think, however, that it is very desirable that we should assist so important a Government work if possible, and suggest that a list of the average annual requirements in timber and bamboos should be circulated to all three circles, and that arrangements be made between the three Conservators as to what portion of such requirements they will attempt to satisfy. Orders could then be issued to fell and season sufficient timber for a supply for two years or more, but the passing and selection of such timber as is required should, I think, be arranged for at the risk and under the authority of some one deputed by the Military Department.

Resolution—dated 17th April 1894, Forest No. 256.

The replies of the Conservators of Forests read above will be submitted to Government with reference to its endorsement, dated 5th March 1894, Mis. No. 946.

2. The Board recommends the adoption of the following measures proposed by the Conservators for the supply by the Forest Department of the timber and bamboos required for the use of the Ordnance Department: (*a*) The Ordnance Department should be instructed to obtain their timber from the Forest Department rather than from private merchants and contractors on the spot, if suitable timber at reasonable prices is available and not otherwise; (*b*) the Conservators of Forests should be required to forward to the Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Circle, quarterly lists of the timber and bamboos in stock with particulars of kind, quality, size, price, &c., and (*c*) the latter officer should be required to circulate to the Conservators of Forests, six months before the supply is wanted, a list of their requirements in timber and bamboos; (*d*) the Conservators should thereupon arrange among themselves what portion of the indent each of them should attempt to comply with and should intimate to the Inspector-General of Ordnance where and when the timber and bamboos would be got ready for delivery; (*e*) the Forest Department should undertake to make delivery at a railway station where the timber and bamboos should be passed and taken over by an officer of the Ordnance Department deputed for the purpose.

3. The foregoing suggestions are based on the analogy of the rules regarding the departmental supply of timber to the Public Works Department contained in G.O., dated 17th March 1885, No. 332, Revenue, and G.O., dated 22nd April 1885, Mis. No. 2037.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. M. WYNCH,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with the letter from the Government of India and its enclosure returned.

Order—No. 362, Revenue, dated 22nd May 1894.

Forest No. 138.

The Board's proposals are approved and sanctioned.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of Colonel King-Harman's letter, dated 21st February 1894, No. 1024-D, a copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded in the Military Department for the information of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department, with two enclosures returned.
" the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Exd. Shaik Karim,.

200 Copies.