O/9. 3,000—5-5-98.

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3084

DATED 22nd July 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Sanctioning the entertainment for a period of 4 years of a dancing company establishment consisting of 9 coolies on Rs 4 each per mensem in connection with the Cauvery Channels in the Salem Dt.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 4409

Read again G.O. 1327 / 16.5.98.

Read also B.P. 3622 / 17.6.98.

Order Mis. no 3084 d/22nd July 98.

In the circumstances reported the entertainment for a period of 4 years, of a temporary establishment consisting of 9 coolies on Rs. 4 each p.m. ~~for looking after the Cocoanut plants on the Banks of~~ in connection with the Cauvery Channels in the Salem Dt, is sanctioned.

~~With proportion Statement will be transferred to the Finl. Deptt.~~

Mes 18/7/98 Sd/ 21.7.98

(p.c.)

Memo 26/7/98

To the Board of Rev. L&R. (Rev Sett).

" " ~~Finl. Deptt (with P.S.to~~ G.O. 1327 / 16.5.98.

" " A. G.

A.S. " 19.7.98 21/7/98

From The Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement & Land Records & Agriculture) Madras

No. 3622. Mis.

Dated 17th January 1898.

Received 22 "

Registered 22 "

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Irrigation Cess Fund, Salem District :— Submitting to Government, with remark, letter from the Collector of Salem reporting on the justification of expenditure of Rs —, on the planting & maintenance of cocoanut trees on the banks of the Cauvery channels.

2

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Mis.	1327	Rev.	16-3-98
Encl. Records 2			10-9-82
Report 1126			13-9-83
G. 28/6/95 1182			23-10-84
	1355		21-12-85
G.O.	2000		7-7-85

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

(Sett. 22—2,000—11-3 97.)

3

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE MADRAS

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

Dated 17th June. 1898.

No. 3622. Mis.

READ ... the following letter from Robert B. Clegg, Esquire, Acting Collector of Salem, No. 2390, dated 8th June 98:-

Adverting to the Board's resolution No. 2189, Mis. Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 30th March 1898, on Government Order, No. 1327. Mis. Revenue, dated 16th March 1898, requesting to 'report (1) how the expenditure of the Irrigation Cess Fund on the planting and maintenance of cocoanut trees on the banks of the Cauvery channels is justified, and (2) to what head the

× Forwdg. to the Collr. of Salem G.O.R.D. 1327 Mis. dg. 16.3.98

the receipts realised by the sale of the produce of the trees are to be credited, I have the honor to report as follows:—

1st Query.

2. According to rule 40 of the Special Fund Account, and Audit Rules, the objects to which the Irrigation Cess Fund is generally applied, are to meet (a) the cost of Establishment, permanent, or temporary entertained for keeping the waterchannels in order, and (6) the outlay necessary for clearing channels, constructing temporary dams &c. It will be seen, therefore, that the planting and maintenance of cocoanut trees is not an object expressly provided for in these rules.

3. This question, however, as to whether the fund can be devoted to

to this and other purposes has been raised, and considered on previous occasions. In 1883, in reviewing the report on the operation of the Special local Funds, for 1882-83 in R.o 1142, Revenue dated 18-9-83, Government drew attention to the large balance under the Irrigation Cess fund, and called for proposals for its utilisation. The (then) Collector, Dr. Martin, proposed a list of works, which included (1) blasting rocks, (2) bridge works, (3) repairing anicuts, (4) planting cocoanut trees, (5) repairing and strengthening the channel banks &c, and reported further that, if the principles enunciated in Government Order R.o 1126, Revenue, dated 13th September 1883, were to be strictly followed, there would be no chance of utilising the large balance

* vide B.D. R.o 3579 dated 26-11-83. 2-c.

balance, except by suspending collections for some years to come, or by reducing the tax. He, however, stated that this being a voluntary cess, and paid by the ryots with the object of the channels being kept in the best possible condition, it seemed to him that it was not incumbent on Government to confine the funds to those purposes, on which Kudimaramat was formerly employed, but that, on the contrary, as trustees it was incumbent on Government to spend them to the best advantage on such works as would increase the profit of the contributors, be those works masonry or otherwise. He added that at all events, if there was doubt in the matter, the wishes of the contributors should be consulted. The Government objected

objected to the first three items being executed from the Irrigation Cess Fund, and tacitly approved of the proposed expenditure on cocoanut plantations. (vide G.O. No 1183. Revenue, dated 30th October 1884, embodied in Boards Proced. imp. No 11036. mis. dated 24th November 1884.)

4. Later on, in the year 1885, the late Mr MacWatters, in submitting proposals for the modification of the Channel Establishment, including the watchers of the cocoanut trees, again adverted to the point, and stated that he doubted very much whether planting cocoanut trees at all was within the scope of the Voluntary Cess. The Board sanctioned the revised scale of establishment in para 6 of its Proceedings No 2000, dated

dated 7.7.85, and the Government did not object to it. (vide Govt. Order No. 1398. Revenue, dated 23rd. December '85, embodied in Board's Proceedings No. 504. Mis. dated 19th January 1886.)

5. The plantations were started in 1878, and for the last 20 years, the fund has been utilised towards the purpose, without any objection on the part of the contributors or otherwise, and it is to be considered whether it is necessary to enter into a discussion of this point now.

6. The plantations are remunerative, as the average annual rent from the produce of the trees is Rs. 2444 (a), while the cost of the temporary Establishment, now retained, is Rs. 432 (b), and when all the trees have come to bearing, there will be still less expense and more income. Moreover these trees with their long and many roots, serve to strengthen and protect the bunds. They are also useful in giving shade to people going over the bunds, and the persons employed on the channel. On these grounds the expenditure is, I maintain, justifiable.

(a.) Income for the last five official years from the Cocanut plantations. Therefore average for a year Rs. 12,222.

(b.) 9 Coolies at Rs. 4 per mensem. 2,444.

7. As regards the 2nd query, I have to state that the receipts from the sale of the produce of the trees are credited to "Miscellaneous" under the Irrigation Cess Fund.

Resolution.

Submitted to Government, with reference to its order No. 1327. Mis. dated 16th March 1898.

2. The best justification for the

the expenditure of the Irrigation Cess Fund on the planting and maintenance of cocoanut trees on the channel banks would seem to be that the expenditure is reproductive. The Collector compares the average annual revenue realised during the last five years with the annual cost of the proposed Establishment, but he has not furnished figures to shew the total expenditure and amount realised up to date. The plantations were commenced in 1878, and although, as appears from para 17 of Mr. McWaters' letter at page 3 of G.O 1398/23.12.85, the undertaking was not remunerative at first, the figures now reported by the Collector seem to shew that the maintenance of the plantation will be a distinct source of gain to the Irrigation Cess Fund.

(True Copy and Extract.)

R. C. Srinivasa
Secretary.

To. The Secretary to Government,
Revenue depart

Copy to the Collector of Salem.

Ex. d. 20/6

Endt of the Ag. no. 770/780
dt. 25-2-98

Cy no. 1643 of 1898

In the paper read above the Coll. of Salem reports that on the banks of the Cauvery channels 3138 young cocoanut plants have been planted during the past three years at the cost of the Irrigation Cess Fund and that about Rs. 1100 have been spent in planting them and about Rs 1800 in maintaining a temporary establishment for watering and looking after them.

The temporary establishment now maintained consists of 15 coolies on Rs 4 each and one maistry on Rs 10. But as the plants have now started and do not require

so much watering, it is stated that no mistry is needed and that 9 men on Rs 4 each will suffice and that this reduced establishment will be required for about 4 years.

The existing establishment is stated to have been entertained under the sanction of the calls apparently under the authority of para 3 of S.O. No. 97 (New Edn.) under which the Collr is competent to sanction the entertainment of temporary establishments (to be paid out of the Irrigation cess Fund) during certain months of each year and during times of scarcity of water. But as the Inspector of local Funds took exception, the

They will probably answer that the banks require protection & that it is better for that purpose to plant fruit bearing trees that will give returns, than trees valueless. But one may as well ask

S/Z 67 798

Para 2 of S.O. No 97 (New Edn).

sanction of Govt is now solicited to the continuance of the reduced establishment. It is not clear how the expenditure of Irrigation cess Fund on the planting and watering of cocoanut plants on the banks of a channel can be justified and to what head the receipts which may be realised by a lease of the enjoyment of the produce of the trees would be credited.

Irrigation cess is levied in lieu of customary free labor and the proceeds are generally applied to the following objects:-

(a) The cost of establishment, permanent or temporary entertained for keeping the water channels in order &

(b) the outlay necessa

for clearing channels, constructing temporary dams, contributions for the provision of sluices; irrigating dams &c.

It is submitted that further information should be called for. A draft is submitted.

A.
15 Aug 98

Yes - Issue draft

S.V. 15/8/98

Read again G.O. 1013 of 26.5.;
" " G.O. 1327 of 16.3.;
" also. B of B. 3622 Mis. 17.6.98 (enc 4407 of 98).

Note.

As suggested in the office note, the Board of Revenue was requested to report (1) how the expenditure of the Irrigation cess fund on the planting and maintenance of Cocoanut trees on the banks of the Canvery in the Tanjore District channels was justified and (2) to what head the receipts which might be realized by the sale of the produce of the trees would be credited. As regards the first point, it appears from the Collector's report that the plantations were started in 1878 and that for the last twenty years the fund has been utilized towards the purpose without any objection on the part of the contributors or otherwise. In 1882, the Collector's proposal to devote a portion of the funds on cocoanut plantations was not objected to. (vide para 3 of the

D

f/1327 16-3-98

B.

Paras 5 of the Collector's letter 28.6.98 read in the current

16.7.98.

Collector's letter and para 1 of C.O. 1183 § 30.10.84). Again in 1885, the Collector in submitting proposals for the modification of the channel establishment including the watchers of the Cocoanut trees, adverted to the point and doubted very much whether planting Cocoanut trees was within the scope of the voluntary cess. The Board sanctioned the revised scale of establishment but did not notice the point (vide para 17 of the Collector's letter in page 3 of C.O. 1398 § 23.12.85).

3. The Collector also reports:—

"The plantations are remunerative, as the average annual rent from the produce of the trees is Rs 2444 while the cost of the temporary establishment now retained is Rs 432 and when all the trees have come to bearing, there will be still less expense and more income. Moreover these trees with their long and many roots, serve to strengthen and protect the bunds. They are also useful in giving shade to people going over the bunds and the persons employed on the channel."

Para 6 of the Collector's letter § 8-6-98 read in the comment.

Para 7 of the Collector's letter § 8-6-98

4. As regards the second question, the Collector states that the receipts from the sale of the produce of trees are credited to 'miscellaneous' under the Irrigation Cess fund.

5. The Board observes that though the undertaking was not remunerative at first; the figures now reported by the Collector seem to show that the maintenance of the plantation will be a distinct source of gain to the Irrigation cess fund and that this fact is the best justification for the expenditure.

6. Provision is made in the budget under 'Temporary establishment' to meet the charge of the establishment proposed in order by the Collector.

7. It is submitted that sanction may be accorded for the entertainment, for a period of 4 years, of the establishment consisting of 9 coolies on Rs 4 each per mensem as recommended in para 2 of B.O. 3376 dtd § 13.5.9)

Secy

There seems no objection. The point to mark Mr Seeley has pointed out above that the trees protect the banks moreover they bring in a good income. Mr 4.7.98

vide item marked in page 6 of Co. 10.26. 8.12.97 & telephone attached.

* vide Co. 1327 16.3.98

Please see draft on the docket

A.S. 16.7.98.

5/7/98.

Hon.
Please see draft on the docket for approval
S.K. 19/7/98

There is nothing now to be done but sanction it.
Secy 21.7.98

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