

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1908

Enclosures

Spare copies

order
open 6

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G.O., No. 618-A, 31st August 1908.

Sanskrit manuscripts.

Directing that the Secretary of State be ~~addressed~~ ^{requested} to send certain — from the India Office Library required by M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganadhaswami Aryavaragaru of Vizagapatam.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter—from J. M. TURING, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Collector, Vizagapatam.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 18th May 1908.
No.—R.N.C. 453.

I have the honour to forward herewith petition from M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganathaswami Aryavarugaru of Vizagapatam requesting that certain old Sanskrit manuscripts named "Prakrita Sanjivani" and "Prakrita Kalpataru" may be obtained from the India Office Library and that he may be allowed to take copies of them. He states that he requires the loan of the manuscripts for a period of three months to copy them and that as they possess academical interest, they will greatly help him in the preparation of a Prakrita Dictionary which he is compiling. A copy of the letter from Mr. Arnold of India Office Library which the petitioner received direct from India Office is enclosed. The petitioner is a great Sanskrit scholar and belongs to a very respectable family. He is a grandson of the late Mahamahopadyaya P. Rangacharyulu Ayyavarlungaru, an eminent Sanskrit pandit of Vizagapatam.

2. As these manuscripts are required by the petitioner for a useful purpose and as they are said not to be procurable in India, I request that Government may be pleased to obtain them on loan from India Office and send them to me. I can arrange that the copies of the manuscripts are taken by the petitioner under the superintendence of a responsible official of my office in the manner suggested by the petitioner himself.

ENCLOSURES.

Petition—from M.R.Ry. S. P. V. RANGANADHASWAMI ARYAVARUGARU of Vizagapatam.
To—the Collector of Vizagapatam.
Dated—the 30th March 1908.

I beg to state that I have applied to the Librarian, India Office Library, for copies of the old Sanskrit manuscripts *Prakrita Kalpataru* and *Prakrita Sanjivani*. He states in reply that there are no persons capable of copying Sanskrit manuscripts in London; but assures me that if I apply through the Madras Government for the loan of the manuscripts and if the Madras Government makes itself responsible for the safe custody of the manuscripts while I use them, the Secretary of State for India will give permission for the manuscripts to be sent to India.

He further wants me to state in my application the exact period for which I require the books here. I think I do not require more than three months to copy the two manuscripts.

I herewith submit a copy of the letter I have received from Mr. T. W. Arnold of the India Office for your kind perusal.

I humbly request that your honour may be pleased to get the books from the India Office Library through the Government of Madras and allow me to take out copies. The originals may be kept in your honour's office and need not be delivered to me for use at home. If permitted, I shall myself go to the office daily and take out copies under the supervision of such officer as you may be pleased to direct. The manuscripts possess great academical interest and I therefore value them very much. I shall thank you very much if you will please help me in the matter; for which act of kindness I shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

Letter—from T. W. ARNOLD, Esq., Librarian, India Office Library.
To—M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganathaswami Aryavargaru of Vizagapatam.
Dated—Whitehall, S.W., the 29th February 1908.

In reference to your request for copies of No. 1106 (Prakrita Kalpataru) and No. 1503-C. (Prakrita Sanjivani) of Eggeling's Catalogue of Sanskrit manuscripts in the India Office Library, I regret that it is not possible to have copies made, as persons capable of copying Sanskrit manuscripts are not available in London. But if you apply, through the Madras Government, for the loan of these manuscripts and if the Madras Government makes itself responsible for the safe custody of these manuscripts, while you are using them, I have no doubt that the Secretary of State for India will give permission for the manuscripts to be sent to India for your use. In your application for the loan of the manuscripts, you should state for how long a period you wish them to be lent.

II

Memorandum No. 1310-1, Educational, dated 25th June 1908.

With reference to his letter, R.C. No. 453, dated 18th May 1908, forwarding a petition from M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganathaswami Aryavarugaru of Vizagapatam for the loan of certain old Sanskrit manuscripts from the India Office Library, the Collector of Vizagapatam is requested to enquire and report whether it will suit the applicant if the manuscripts are sent out and kept in charge of the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, where it will be open to him to copy them or have them copied.

H. D. TAYLOR,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Vizagapatam.

III

Letter—from R. H. CAMPBELL, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of Vizagapatam.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.
Dated—the 3rd August 1908.
No.—D. Dis. 2595.

With reference to your Memorandum No. 1310-1, dated 25th June 1908, I have the honour to state that M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganathaswami Aryavarugaru informs me that he wishes to copy the manuscripts himself in order to avoid mistakes in copying and that he cannot afford to go to Madras and stay there for three months for copying them. He therefore requests that the Government may be pleased to arrange to send the manuscripts to my office. A copy of his letter is enclosed for information.

ENCLOSURE.

Letter—from S. P. V. RANGANADHASWAMI ARYAVARUGARU.
To—the Collector of Vizagapatam.
Dated—the 25th July 1908.

With reference to your Office Memorandum R.P.C. No. 453, of 1908, I beg to report that the manuscripts in question are very important and are not found anywhere in India, to compare the copies with, to correct the mistakes of the copyists. So they are to be copied personally by me. My financial position does not permit me to go to Madras and stay there for three months to copy the manuscripts as it will cost me very much to do so and as I cannot conveniently afford to bear such a heavy cost.

I shall thank your honour very much and the Acting Secretary to Government if you will kindly arrange for the manuscripts being sent over here and left in charge of your honour and allow me to copy them and oblige.

No. 618-A, EDUCATIONAL, 31ST AUGUST 1908.

Order—No. 618-A, Educational, dated 31st August 1908.

The Secretary of State for India will be addressed.

[Here enters Despatch No. 6, dated 31st August 1908.]

(True Extract.)

H. D. TAYLOR,
Secretary to Government.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 618-A, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
31ST AUGUST 1908.

[SUBJECT.—*Loan of Sanskrit manuscripts from the India Office Library.*]

From the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 18th May 1908, No. 453.

M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganathaswami Aryavara Garu of Vizagapatam applied to the India Office to have copies made and sent to him of two Sanskrit manuscripts named "Prakrita Sanjivini" and "Prakrita Kalpatharu". He was however informed by the librarian (Mr. T. W. Arnold) that it was not possible to have copies made of the manuscripts, as persons capable of copying Sanskrit manuscripts were not available in London; but that if he applied through the Madras Government for the loan of those manuscripts and if the Madras Government made itself responsible for the safe custody of the manuscripts, while he was using them, the Secretary of State would give permission for the manuscripts to be sent to India for his use. The librarian further added that in the application for the loan of the manuscripts, he (Ranganathaswami) should state for how long a period he wished them to be lent.

2. M.R.Ry. Ranganathaswami Aryavara Garu now makes an application through the Collector of Vizagapatam for the loan of the manuscripts, stating that the manuscripts may be obtained and kept at the Collector's office and that he would himself go to the Collector's office and take copies of them under the supervision of such officer as the Collector may depute. He adds that he could copy the manuscripts within three months.

3. The Collector, Mr. T. M. Turing, states that the applicant is a great Sanskrit scholar and belongs to a very respectable family, being a grandson of the late Mahamahopadhyaya P. Rangacharyulu Ayyavarlungaru, an eminent Sanskrit Pandit of Vizagapatam. As the manuscripts are said to be required by the applicant for the preparation of a Prakrita dictionary which he is compiling and as they are not procurable in India, the Collector requests that the Government may be pleased to obtain them on loan from the India Office and send them to him. The Collector states that he would arrange for the applicant's taking copies of the manuscripts under the superintendence of a responsible official of his office.

4. It is for consideration whether, as requested by the Collector, an application may be made to the Secretary of State for the loan of the manuscripts.

T.K.—15-6-08.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—16-6-08.

I do not think that the Government can assume responsibility for manuscripts of such value to be given into the possession of a private individual. If any facilities at all are to be offered we can get them sent to the care of the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, where the pandit can copy them, but they should not go further. In the converse case we have objected more than once to sending our own manuscripts on the requisition of the Secretary of State to private scholars in Europe.

Vide despatch No. 1, dated 28th January 1908.

H. D. TAYLOR—20-6-08.

Yes. I think we had better first ask the Collector whether, if these manuscripts are sent out and kept in charge of the Curator of Sanskrit Library, Madras, when the petitioner can copy them or have them copied, it will suit him. We can then address the Secretary of State. We should not, I think, let them go out of Madras.

We can await reply before addressing the Secretary of State.

M. H[AMMICK]—22-6-08.

Draft please.

H. D. TAYLOR—23-6-08.

The draft placed below is for approval.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—24-6-08.

Issue.

H. D. TAYLOR—25-6-08.

[Memorandum No. 1310-1, dated 25th June 1908.]

From the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 3rd August 1908, No. 2595.

The Collector of Vizagapatam (Mr. R. H. Campbell) reports that M.R.Ry. S. P. V. Ranganathaswami Aryavara Garu states that he (the latter) wishes to copy the manuscripts himself in order to avoid mistakes in copying and that he cannot afford to go to Madras and stay there for three months for copying them.

2. As it has already been decided that the manuscripts should not go further than the Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, it is for consideration whether

Vide notes on page 1 supra. the Collector may be informed that M.R.Ry. Ranganathaswami Aryavara Garu's request cannot be complied with.

P.R.—12-8-08.

Please see the remarks of the Secretary and the Hon'ble Mr. Hammick above.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—12-8-08.

It seems a pity to stop this pandit's work and after all the manuscripts will probably be almost as safe in the custody of the Collector as in the Sanskrit Library. The Collector might be asked to keep them in his personal custody.

C. A. SOUTER—13-8-08.

I wish we had more such precedents. What we want are scholars to come forward to examine the numerous manuscripts that are being collected and eviscerate what is of value in them.

G. S. F[ORBES].

The precedent will, I fear, be a very awkward one, and is likely to lead to demands from the India Office for copies of our manuscripts to be sent home to private individuals.

If the application to send the copies to the Collector is approved, the manuscripts should be kept under the personal custody of the Collector, Treasury Deputy Collector or some other responsible official in the Collector's office; only one manuscript should be given out at a time; the copying should be done between fixed hours in a room in the Collector's office set apart for the purpose, and the manuscripts returned each day, after the expiry of the fixed hours to be placed under lock and key. I think we have gone far enough to meet the convenience of the pandit as it is, but the Collector is willing to undertake the responsibility.

H. D. TAYLOR—14-8-08.

I doubt if these manuscripts are of any great special value. But manuscripts are collected to be used by scholars and not to be locked away in charge of a Bureau, idle and useless. The India Office are clearly prepared to allow these manuscripts to come out here, so that the manuscripts are not unique. The man who wants to use the manuscripts here is not a busybody but a scholar, of high personal reputation and antecedents.

It will be quite enough to send the manuscripts registered to the Collector with instructions that the manuscript is not to go out of his office, the Treasury Deputy Collector being held personally responsible for the safety of them and hours being fixed during which the pandit will have access to them.

G. S. F[ORBES]—15-8-08.

Draft please.

H. D. TAYLOR—17-8-08.

The draft letter placed below is submitted for approval. On receipt of the manuscripts from the India Office, they may be sent to the Collector of Vizagapatam in the manner and with the instructions indicated in the last paragraph of Honourable Member's note above.

P.R.—18-8-08.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—19-8-08.

C. A. SOUTER—19-8-08.

H. D. TAYLOR—20-8-08.

G. S. F[ORBES]—23-8-08.

Draft approved.

G. S. F[ORBES]—23-8-08.

A. L[AWLEY]—25-8-03.

Print.

H. D. TAYLOR—26-8-08.

The despatch has been printed. It may be circulated for signature.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—28-8-08.

His Excellency the Governor and circulate.

H. D. TAYLOR—28-8-08.

Issue.

H. D. TAYLOR—29-8-08.

[G.O., No. 618-A, Educational, dated 31st August 1908.]

C.No.1310, from the Collr. of Vizagapatam, No. 453, dated 18-5-1908.
C.No.1753, from the -do.- No.2595, dated 3-8-1908.

ORDER:
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The Secretary of State will be
addressed.

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LETTER:

No. 6 2731-8-08

To

The Right Honourable

The Secretary of State for India

My Lord,

We have received an application
from M.R.Ry. S.P.V. Ranganadhaswami,
Aryavarugaru of Vizagapatam ^{in which he} request
that the Sanskrit Manuscripts noted in
the margin may be obtained from the
India Office Library and that he may
be allowed to take copies of them. He
states that he requires the loan of
the manuscripts for a period of three
months ~~to copy them~~ and that as they
possess academical interest they will
greatly help him in the preparation of
a Prakrita Dictionary which he is com-
piling. The petitioner is a ~~repute~~
Sanskrit Scholar, and belongs to a ~~repute~~
respectable

Despatched
2.9.08.

25.8.08

- (1) No.1106--Prakrita Kalpataru
- (2) No.1503c-Prakrita Sanjivani,
of Eggeling's Catalogue of
Sanskrit Manuscripts in the
India Office Library.

being
respectable family, ~~and~~ the grand-
son of the late Mahamahopadyaya P.
Rangacharyulu Ayyavarlungaru, an
eminent Sanskrit Pandit of Vizagapatam.

2. The petitioner appears to have
applied to the India Office direct
for copies of these manuscripts and to
by the Librarian of the India Office) have been informed in reply that his
request could not be complied with as
persons capable of copying Sanskrit

Manuscripts were not available in
London ~~but~~ that ~~the Secretary of State~~ ^{permission would}
~~for India would give permission for the~~
despatch of ^{probably be given} the manuscripts to be sent out to
India if this Government held them-
selves responsible for their safe cus-
tody.

3. In view of the personal reputa-
tion of the applicant and of the use-
fulness of the purpose for which they
are required ~~to~~ support the applica-
tion. Should ^{your Lordship} ~~the Right Honourable the~~
~~Secretary of State for India~~ see no
objection to send ~~the~~ manuscripts
to this country, we shall be ^{glad} ~~happy~~ to
make adequate arrangements ^{for their safety} and to
afford the applicant every facility
for copying the ^{at Vizagapatam} ~~manuscripts~~ under the
superintendence of a responsible offi-
cer of this Government.

We have etc.

20
19.8.08

Cal
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