

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

1912.

Enclosures

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G.O. No. 713, 3rd August 1912.

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DESPATCHED

Government Museum.

Accepting, with remarks, the suggestions of the Government of India in regard to the co-ordination of the archaeological work in museums.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. L. C. PORTER, C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education.

To—the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Dated—Simla, the 19th June 1912.

No.—188 (Archæology and Epigraphy).

The Government of India have had under their consideration the recommendation of the Conference of Orientalists held at Simla in July 1911 regarding the co-ordination of archæological work in museums in India. The Conference considered (see page 40 of the report) that Archæological Superintendents should supervise and assist in the matter of provincial and local museums, but thought it desirable to have trained Indians as Archæological Superintendents definitely attached where archæological collections were of importance and when the Curator himself was not an Archæologist.

2. The Government of India are disposed to agree with this view, and I am to say that, except in special cases, museum work should not be allowed to interfere unduly with the ordinary duties of archæological officers. Though such officers may be asked to pay regular visits to Government museums in their circles and to advise Local Governments and Administrations as to the measures necessary for their organisation and development, they are not expected to hold themselves responsible for arranging and cataloguing the exhibits, as they have frequently done in the past. Such duties appertain more naturally to Curators of Museums. If, therefore, in the case of any of the more important archæological collections, *e.g.*, in the Madras Museum, His Excellency in Council considers that the existing Curators are unable to discharge these functions properly either now or in the future, I am to suggest the desirability of appointing suitable assistants for the purpose.

3. I am to add that, should the Government of Madras accept the above suggestion, the Government of India will be prepared to assist them in securing suitable candidates and to train selected men at the Indian Museum, on the understanding that any expenditure involved will be met by the Local Government.

Order—No. 713, Educational, dated 3rd August 1912.

The Government of India will be addressed.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 714.

From

THE HON'BLE MR. L. DAVIDSON, I.C.S.,

Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Educational Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

Dated Ootacamund, the 3rd August 1912.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 188 (Archæology and Epigraphy), dated 19th June 1912, suggesting certain measures for the proper maintenance of archæological sections of museums.

2. In reply I am to state that the Government of Madras are in general agreement with the view that Archæological Superintendents should, so far as their legitimate duties permit, be required to supervise and assist in the matter of museums. This principle has already been recognized in Madras where Mr. Rea, the local Superintendent of Archæological Surveys, has for some time been an honorary assistant to the Museum Superintendent.

3. His Excellency in Council also accepts the general proposition that the duty of cataloguing and arranging archæological exhibits in museums should primarily rest with the Curator and that Archæological officers should not be held responsible for such work. I am, however, to point out that the circumstances of the Madras Museum in this regard are special. As stated in Mr. Cardew's letter to the Home Department, No. 1079, dated 23rd November 1910, special arrangements had to be made for the arrangement and cataloguing of valuable archæological collections which had long been lying in disorder in the museum premises. Mr. Rea has been appointed, with the sanction of the Government of India, to carry out this work. To facilitate the discharge of this duty he has been relieved of a portion of his ordinary work, which has been transferred to an additional superintendent and a temporary special staff including an assistant and a photographer have been appointed to help with the museum work.

4. This Government had recently under consideration the question of the appointment of a permanent archæological assistant in the Madras Museum; but their final decision has been deferred pending the completion of the special work of arranging and cataloguing the antiquities in the museum.

5. His Excellency in Council will be glad to avail himself of the assistance proffered by the Government of India in securing and training suitable candidates for the post of archaeological assistants as opportunity occurs, if it should be eventually decided to appoint a permanent archaeological assistant in the museum.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. Nos. 713, 714, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 3RD AUGUST 1912.

[SUBJECT.—*Appointment of archaeological assistants in the Government Museum.*]

Previous papers :

G.O. No.	925, Public,	dated	7th October	1910.
" "	1078 "	"	23rd November	"
Letter	" 1079 "	"	23rd "	"
G.O.	" 929 "	"	24th August	1911.
" "	1405 "	"	18th December	"
" "	432 "	"	4th April	1912.
" "	392, Educational	"	7th May	"
" "	756, Public	"	25th June	"

From the Public Department, No. 563-1, dated 2nd July 1912.

The Government of India suggest—

(i) that Archaeological Superintendents should supervise and assist in the matter of provincial and local museums so far as such work does not interfere with their ordinary duties;

(ii) that the duty of arranging and cataloguing archaeological exhibits in museums should naturally appertain to curators of museums and that archaeological officers should not be held responsible for such duties;

(iii) that if the curator of any museum is unable to discharge this duty, a suitable archaeological assistant should be given him; and

(iv) that if their suggestion for the appointment of archaeological assistants in museums is accepted, they will be prepared to assist in securing suitable candidates and train selected men at Indian museum on the understanding that any expenditure involved is met by the local Government.

Please compare paragraph 2 of letter to India, No. 1079, Public, dated 23rd November 1910, and page 2 of notes therewith.

2. *Item (i).*—The principle enunciated in the first clause may be accepted. It is one which has already been accepted by this Government. Mr. Rea has been

honorary assistant to the Museum Superintendent.

3. *Item (ii).*—The circumstances of the Madras Museum are special. Dr. Marshall, Director-General of Archaeology in India, found during his visit that the valuable and large collections of the archaeological

section has been left unlabelled and uncatalogued for a long time and accordingly recommended that special arrangements should be made to arrange and catalogue them. At his instance the sanction of the Government of India was obtained to depute Mr. Rea, Superintendent of Archaeological Survey, Madras, for this work as the only person who knew where the antiquities included in the collections came from and what circumstances surrounded their discovery. To facilitate this work, he was relieved of

G.O. No. 929, Public, dated 24th August 1911.

G.O. No. 1405, Public, dated 18th December 1911.

a portion of his archaeological duties by the appointment of an additional superintendent, Mr. Longhurst. Mr. Rea has also been given an archaeological assistant,

one photographer and four lascars to assist him in the work of arranging and cataloguing the antiquities in the museum. It will thus be seen that there is ample justification for entrusting the archaeological officer in Madras with the work of labelling and cataloguing the archaeological specimens in the Madras Museum, the circumstances of which are peculiar as already explained to the Government of India.

4. *Item (iii).*—The Superintendent recently applied for the appointment of a permanent archaeological assistant for the museum; but in G.O. No. 392, Educational, dated 7th May 1912, he has been informed that as a temporary archaeological assistant has already been sanctioned to assist Mr. Rea in the work of arranging and cataloguing the antiquities in the museum, there is at present no case for the appointment of yet another archaeological assistant and that when Mr. Rea has finished his work in the museum, the question of making the temporary archaeological assistant permanent will be considered.

5. *Item (iv).*—As regards the question of selecting a suitable candidate and training him at the Indian museum for ultimate employment in the Madras Museum, it will be observed that the temporary archaeological assistant, Pandit Natesa Aiyar,

Vide the Director-General's demi-official to the Chief Secretary on page 8 of Notes with G.O. No. 432, Public, dated 4th April 1912.

who has been appointed to assist Mr. Rea, is a fully qualified man and has been recommended for the appointment by the Director-General of Archaeology in preference to another candidate locally selected.

Paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 432, Public, dated 4th April 1912. He has been given the maximum pay of the appointment, viz., Rs. 150, in view of his special qualifications. He has also been promised that if it subsequently be found

that the services of a permanent assistant are required the propriety of absorbing him in the museum staff will be considered, should his work be favourably reported on. The Government of India may be informed of this and the assistance offered by them noted for future guidance.

6. A draft reply is submitted for approval. If approved, it may be sent to the Public Department for acceptance.

T.K.—18-7-12.

C. RAMANUJACHARI—19-7-12.

Please re-type pages 2 and 3 of the draft and send to Public for acceptance.

L. DAVIDSON—19-7-12.

To the Public Department.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Please see the draft in the linked file and connected papers. In his letter R.C. No. 232-Arch., dated 18th May 1912, Mr. Rea reported to Government that Pandit Natesa Aiyar was unwilling to join the post of museum assistant inasmuch as he objected to doing clerical work connected with it. The appointment of museum assistant was accordingly not made till now, pending the construction of the shed at the museum. It has now been decided to appoint M.R.Ry. P. V. Jagadisa Aiyar, Manager, office of the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, as museum assistant with effect from 6th August 1912.

See paragraph 2 of G.O. *ibid.* See paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 756, Public, dated 25th June 1912.

2. *Paragraphs 3 and 5 of draft letter.*—It is submitted that it seems doubtful whether M.R.Ry. P. V. Jagadisa Aiyar can be said to be a *trained* archaeological assistant. Reference is solicited in this connection to paragraph 5 of the Public Department note on pages 5-6 of Notes to

C. W. E. COTTON—26-7-12.

G.O. No. 925, Public, dated 7th October 1910. It is also submitted that it is not known whether the Educational Department would be prepared to absorb M.R.Ry.

See paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 432, Public, dated 4th April 1912. P. V. Jagadisa Aiyar eventually in the museum staff, should his work be favourably reported on, or whether they would prefer to secure instead a candidate trained for the purpose at the Indian museum.

3. The file may, it is submitted, be returned to *Educational* for amendment of the draft with reference to the above remarks.

R.V.S.—24-7-12.

P.G.—24-7-12.

C. W. E. COTTON—26-7-12.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Submitted that in the circumstances stated by the Public Department the portions enclosed in brackets in paragraphs 3 and 5 of the draft may be omitted and the addition made to the latter paragraph as indicated.

C. RAMANUJACHARI—31-7-12.

Very well.

H.E. the Governor with draft for approval

L. DAVIDSON—1-8-12.

I approve.

M. H[AMMICK]—2-8-12.

[G.O. Nos. 713, 714, Educational, dated 3rd August 1912.]

G.O.No. 1078 Pub., dated 23-11-1910.
 G.O.No. 929 Pub., dated 24-8-1911.
 G.O.No. 604, Edl., dated 30-8-1911.
 G.O.No. 1405 Pub., dated 18-12-1912.
 G.O.No. 432 Pub., dated 4-4-1912.
 G.O.No. 392, Edl., dated 7-5-1912.

C.No. 1819, from the Govt. of India, No. 188, dated 19-6-1912.

ORDER:
 P.S.

The Government of India will be addressed.

T.K.
 18-7-12.

CA
 18-7-12

LETTER

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of India,
 Department of Education

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 188, Archaeology and Epigraphy, dated 19th June 1912, suggesting certain measures for the proper maintenance of archaeological sections of museums.

2. In reply I am to state that the Government of Madras are in general agreement with the view expressed in the letter. They cordially approve of the proposal that archaeological superintendents should, so far as their legitimate duties permit, be requested to supervise and assist in the matter

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of museums. This principle has already been recognized in Madras where Mr. Rea, the local Superintendent of Archaeological Surveys, has for some time been an honorary assistant to the Museum Superintendent.

3. His Excellency in Council also accepts the general proposition that the duty of cataloguing and arranging archaeological exhibits in museums should primarily rest with the Curator and that archaeological officers should not be held responsible for such work. I am however to point out that the circumstances of the Madras Museum in this regard are special. As stated in Mr. Cardew's letter to the Home Department, No. 1079, dated 23rd November 1910, special arrangements had to be made for the arrangement and cataloguing of valuable archaeological collections which had long been lying in disorder in the Museum premises. Mr. Rea has been appointed, with the sanction of the Government of India, to carry out this work. To facilitate the discharge of this duty he has been relieved of a portion of his ordinary work, which has been transferred to an additional superintendent and a temporary special staff including ^{an} ~~a trained archaeological~~ assistant and a photographer have been appointed to help with the museum work.

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28 [a trained archaeological] ^{an} assistant

and a photographer have been appointed to help with the museum work.

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4. This Government had recently under consideration the question of the appointment of a permanent archaeological assistant in the Madras Museum; but their final decision has been deferred pending the completion of the special work of arranging and cataloguing the antiquities in the museum.

5. His Excellency in Council will be glad to avail himself of the assistance proffered by the Government of India in securing and training suitable candidates for the post of archaeological assistants. ~~but the assistant now temporarily employed in the Madras Museum (Pandit Natesan Aiyar) has himself been recommended by the Director General of Archaeology as possessing special qualifications for the appointment, and if it should eventually be decided to appoint a permanent archaeological assistant, it is probable that he will be selected for the post. There is therefore no immediate necessity for the training of an assistant for the Madras Museum.~~

as opportunity occurs, if it should be eventually decided to appoint a permanent archaeological assistant in the museum.

I have etc.

L. D.
19-7-12.

58/7/12

9
Note for Mr. V.A. 9/22

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of letter 716 to
Govt of India
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Educational
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Current No. dated 190

G.O., No. *713*, dated *3* : *8* : 19*12*.

Number of MS. pages sent { Correspondence including order or orders
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Letter. A. Archaeological section
of Museum
Referring to the letter from
of the Govt. of India dated 3/8/12
re: a list of names for the
Archaeological section, for
Museum.

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