

Ecdl(1916) Department.

*Mr*SERIES.

G.O. No. 338

DATED 28.3-16

[Despatch Abstract.]

Native High School, Kumbakonam
Informing Rao Bahadur S. Appu-
sastriar Avargal, that the Govern-
ment are unable to comply with
his request to take over the —
under their management.

PRIVATE SECRETARY'S OFFICE, MADRAS.

CN. 834 208

7.3.16

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Memo. No. 605-P

Transferred to the Secretary to Government, Educational
Department, for favour of disposal.

ENCLOSURES :

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(By order of His Excellency the Governor.)

Hebbur

Private Secretary.

Madu.
The 3rd March 1916.

At 8/2

To

His Excellency The Right Hon'ble

THE LORD PENTLAND P. C., G. C. I. E.,

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

May it please your Excellency,

IN view of the good and efficient work I have done, and the uniformly successful results I have produced in the public examinations as Teacher, Headmaster and Manager during the last 39 years and 9 months, in view of the special attention I have always paid to the cultivation of good manners, discipline and physical training in my school, and to religious and moral instruction long before others thought of it, in view of my self-sacrifice, single-minded devotion to work, steady and strenuous application, and of the excellence of my management, to which four Governors, several members of Council, several High Court Judges, several Dewans of Native States, the Education Commission, and successive Directors of Public Instruction from 1880, &c., have borne appreciative testimony, and in view also of the recognitions accorded to me, and the distinctions conferred upon me by the Educational Department, the Local and the Imperial Governments, I most humbly and earnestly request your Excellency to be gracious enough **to order the purchase of the Native High School building and its equipment for Government, make it a model school** or lend it to me or to a committee, to **make good the deficits** according to the Financial statements for the last 15 years at least and the loss incurred by me by the withdrawal of **the rent for the school-building** for 5 years and more, before the 1st March 1914, from which date The Honorable Mr. J. H. Stone, the Director of Public Instruction, has fixed the rent of the school at Rs. 150 per mensem. I beg to submit that a building that can fetch Rs. 150 per mensem is estimated at Rs. 45,000, Rs. 50,000, Rs. 60,000, Rs. 70,000, &c. (from Rs. 45,000 to Rs. 75,000 and even more, by professional men), that in the locality in which it is situated, considered central and important for commercial purposes, it may fetch more than Rs. 200 rent per mensem, and that I am ready and willing to abide by the conditions that Government may be pleased to impose on me. I solicit the sympathy and support of Government just at this moment after a hard and exacting work of nearly 40 years, approved and appreciated by competent authorities. Without substantial support at the hands of Government, I shall be, as I stated in person at the private interview with your Excellency on the afternoon of the 11th December in Kumbakonam, in a most pitiable and miserable condition, aggravated at this moment especially, a hundred-fold by **advancing years, terrible domestic bereavements, and the heavy strain of long, continuous and strenuous work of 40 years.** I have just entered on the 61st year of my age, and am about to complete the 40th year of my service in the Native High School, Kumbakonam, and the 40th year of my graduation, for the school was founded on the 1st of March of 1876 and I took my B. A. Degree on the 23rd of March of 1876.

The support of Government just at this moment will give me a new lease of life, breathe into me fresh energy and renewed vitality, and enable me to work some time longer with renewed zeal and interest to place it on a footing of greater stability. The moral effect of my example and character which alone I have it in my power to bequeath to other teachers and to my pupils—past and present, will be an inspiration and an encouragement to workers in the field of private effort in Education. I beg to submit in this connection that I am ready and willing to sever my connection with the school, if called upon to do so, if proper and suitable arrangements are made by Government for purchasing the building, for compensating myself for my losses caused by the deficits and by the withdrawal of the rent for the building. As **special circumstances and exceptional conditions which do not exist elsewhere, exist in my case,** I most humbly request your Excellency to shew me **exceptional consideration** and thus protect the interests of this institution with which I have linked my prospects in life. On this protection and support, I entirely rely.

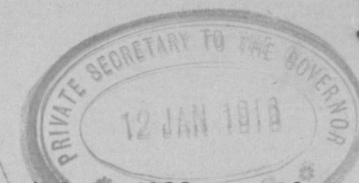
With these remarks, I beg to submit the following for your Excellency's gracious and sympathetic consideration and favourable disposal.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency,

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sastri,
(Headmaster, Manager & Proprietor,
Native High School, Kumbhakonam.)



The following are the special circumstances which differentiate the Native High School, Kumbakonam, from the other Native Institutions in the Presidency.

1st, that the Native High School, Kumbakonam, is the **first instance** of a large native institution that has been managed efficiently and successfully by a single individual—a graduate of the Kumbakonam College, as **Manager, Head-master, and Proprietor** during the long period of **39 years and 9 months**, and is the only Native High School that has done good and efficient work and produced uniformly successful results to which **so many Governors, Successive Directors of Public Instruction and Principals of First Grade Government Colleges &c. &c.**, have borne appreciative testimony for more than 39 years.

2ndly, that I am the **only Headmaster and Manager** that has been made a **'Rao Bhadur'** which was conferred on me as a personal distinction in 1889, nominated **'a Fellow'** of the University in 1899, appointed a **witness** by the Madras Government to give evidence before the Public Service Commission of 1887, and made a **member of the Educational Committees and Conferences** that sat in **1885, 1889, 1899 and 1900**, in recognition of my successful efforts in the cause of private effort in Education. Here I **stand alone**, because **no other Headmaster** of any other High School in this Presidency or elsewhere, has been **similarly recognised and similarly honored by the Imperial and the Local Governments, the University and the Educational Department** during the last 40 years in the history of Education.

3rdly, that I have, more than any other Headmaster, paid **special attention to discipline, to the cultivation of good manners** in my school which made the Honorable Mr. Monro, Acting Director of Public Instruction, style it as **'a school of good manners and sound discipline, and not, only an instrument for passing examinations'** in 1887, and **'as a nursery of morality and good manners'** in 1889. I was also the first, among Headmasters of High Schools to think of Religious and Moral Instruction in my school, referred to in terms of praise and appreciation by the late **Sir. T. Muthuswami Aiyar** Avl., the first **Native High Court Judge** of Madras, by **His Highness the Maharajah of Cochin**, by the late **Sir. K. Seshadri Aiyar** Avl., Dewan of Mysore for 19 years, by Dewan Bahadur **Mr. A. Ramachandra Aiyar** Avl., retired Chief Judge of Mysore and a student of the Kumbakonam College and by **Mr. V.P. Mathava Rao** Avl., Dewan of Travancore, the Dewan of Mysore and now Dewan of Baroda under His Highness the Guickowar, and a student of the Kumbakonam College nearly 50 years ago. In my humble opinion, Religious and Moral Instruction alone can **develop and form character, 'the crown and glory of life'** by training the feelings and moulding the daily habits, and mere culture of intellect and knowledge without character are useless.

4thly, that I am the only Headmaster, as far as I know, that declined several offers of Government service—once in 1883 when a **Deputy Collectorship** was offered, a second time in 1885 when an **Assistant Lectureship** in History was offered by the late Mr. H. B. Grigg, Director of Public Instruction, a third time in 1887 when an **Assistant Inspectorship** was offered, and later on a fourth time when the **Principalship of the 2nd grade College, Madura** was offered. I am the only Headmaster that has always followed the rules and regulations of the Department, and levied the standard rates of fees from the very beginning, in spite of the discretion allowed to the Managers of private institutions to levy lower rates, availed of by the Managers of so many native and mission institutions. Again, I am the only Headmaster that can shew a long, successful and unprecedented record of good work done, and successful results achieved, from which it will be clear that the Native High School, Kumbakonam, has systematically contributed to the success and glory of the Kumbakonam College to which it has supplied materials every year for the last 40 years.—A few facts and figures will clearly bring out this feature—that the boys that passed creditably from the Native High School, Kumbakonam, in the Matriculation Examination joined the College as a rule, and invariably passed very high in the F. A. and B. A. Degree Examinations. In 1880, my school stood **first** in the Presidency, having passed the largest percentage. In 1881, the boy that passed **second** in the Presidency from my school, stood **first** in the Presidency in F. A. from the Kumbakonam College and first in the B. A. Degree Examination from the Kumbakonam College. In 1883, the boy that passed high in the first class from my school in the Matriculation, stood First in the Presidency in the F. A. from the Kumbakonam College and took a first class in the B. A. Degree from the Kumbakonam

College, and this boy is V. S. Srinivasan, now the Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri B. A., L. T., a member of the Legislative Council. In 1884, the first boy in the Presidency was from the Native High School, Kumbakonam. In 1890, the boy that passed creditably from this school, now holds the position of District Judge, after being Sub-Collector and Acting Collector of Trichinopoly. This boy is Mr. R. Narayana Aiyar I. C. S., the first Brahmin Civilian from the Madras Presidency. In 1909, the worst year for the Matriculation Examination, the Native High School, Kumbakonam, passed **two boys** in the First Class out of **twelve** First Classes only, for the whole Presidency consisting of more than 200 High Schools. Of these two, one stood **First** in the Presidency and the other **Third** in the Presidency and both these, at my instance, joined the Kumbakonam College, though elsewhere scholarships were offered to them, to draw them away, and passed high in the First Class in the Intermediate Examination though both left for the Presidency College, Madras, for the Honors' Course. The Inspector of Schools referring to the results of 1909, remarked in his Inspection Report thus—'The inference I am tempted to draw is that the **teaching is good.**'

The good work of this school and its remarkable efficiency and success can be judged from this fact, that several that have gone forth from this School are now holding positions of trust and responsibility in every Department of Government—a few instances will suffice here—Mr. R. Narayana Aiyar I. C. S., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly is now District Judge; Mr. C. R. Tiruvengkatachiar B.A., B.L., is now City Civil Court Judge in Madras; the Hon'ble Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri Avl. is a member of the Legislative Council and the President of the Servants of India Society; the late Mr. C. Rajagopala Pillai B. A., B. L., who died a few days back was Chief Judge and Durbar Member in the State of Puducottah. Several are Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs, Executive Engineers, Sub-Engineers, Sub-Assistant Inspectors, Lecturers and Assistant Lecturers in Government and other Colleges, several are Headmasters and Assistant Teachers, Sub-Registrars, Law-Lecturers, High Court Vakils who form a very large number and Editors of good Newspapers &c. &c. The present Headmaster of the premier High School in Kumbakonam, managed by a Committee, consisting of over 1000 boys—Mr. R. Swaminatha Aiyar B. A., L. T., and four of his Assistants who are B. As. and L. Ts. were pupils of the Native High School, Kumbakonam, more than fifteen years ago. Two of the Lecturers in the Kumbakonam College, just at this moment, a Science M. A., L. T., and a Mathematics M. A., L. T., are old pupils of the Native High School, Kumbakonam.

The following are some of the NOTE WORTHY FEATURES of this School.

1st, that no teacher of my school has left it either from discontent or misunderstanding or indifferent treatment and that perfect harmony has always existed between the Manager and the Headmaster and the Assistant Masters—reference has been made in the Inspection Reports by Inspectors of Schools to this harmony and hearty co-operation, which is another evidence of its steady prosperity and growing usefulness. It is also my rare good fortune to enjoy the love, confidence and gratitude of my pupils who have invariably approached me with reverence and gratitude because they know I have always been their true friend and well-wisher and realised their point of view.

2ndly, that there has not been a single instance of unhealthy competition between this school and the Town High School, managed by a Committee, though both have been in existence for more than 35 years, even during the worst decade of adventure schools (1881—1891).

3rdly, that I, the Headmaster and Manager, have, with undeviating regularity paid my staff every month before the evening of the 1st day of that month, even if it should be a Sunday or a holiday—my conscience and discretion have been my old guides here. The punctual discharge of this simple duty has given immense satisfaction to all.

4thly, that the Native High School, Kumbakonam, is the only school visited by several eminent personages on account of its great popularity, success, self-sacrifice and efficiency—such as, four Governors, several High Court Judges, several Dewans of Native States, the Maharajah of Cochin, the President of the Education Commission, the late Mr. W. S. Caine, President of the Temperance Association, successive Directors of Public Instruction, the late Mr. R. F. Austin &c. The late Mr. W. W. Hunter, the late Mr. W. S. Caine and the late Mr. R. F. Austin remarked to me that such schools and such types of Managers and Headmasters are rare even in England and that I deserve special encouragement and recognition.

Want of accommodation is actually felt and accounts for its present strength of nearly 680 boys only as every year admissions have to be refused to 50 boys and more.

The following are some of the EXCEPTIONAL FEATURES.

1st, that I have spent Rs. 20,000 and more, within the last 40 years, on poor and deserving students alone, by way of free-scholarships which alone have enabled them to pass their Matriculation Examination from my school and to continue their higher studies in the Kumbakonam College. The recipients of these scholarships are now holding positions of trust and responsibility in every Department.

2ndly, that I have clung to this institution, recognising the nobility and the sacredness of the teachers' vocation, in spite of a succession of domestic bereavements in 1907 when the death of **my only two adult sons** within 15 days of each other left me suddenly heirless, and in spite of the several offers for the school-building ranging from Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 70,000 and more. The most substantial and respectable offer came from the Roman Catholic Missionary who seemed to be willing to pay me Rs. 60,000 and more for the school building, its equipment and the good-will. On principle I declined the offer, for I was the first to think of Religious and Moral instruction on national lines.

My persistent self-sacrifice in declining several offers of Government service more than 25 years ago and several offers for the school building and its equipment within the last 10 years, my steady zeal and obstinate determination to cling to the school and to work in it, irrespective of other considerations, were a formidable obstacle in the way of the Missionaries starting a High School in this foremost centre of education in Southern India, whereas in much smaller centres like Shiyali, Mannargudi, Ramnad, &c., (not to refer to such large centres like Calicut, Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Madura, Negapatam, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Tinnevely &c.) Mission High Schools and Colleges have been established and conducted with efficiency and success. Several friends of mine, official and non-official, and experts in Education have often congratulated me on the success of my institution and requested me to work in it, as long as it may be possible to do so, in the interests of national education based upon religious instruction which alone can produce loyal citizens and worthy sons of the country.

3rdly, that the late Hon'ble Mr. V. Krishnaswami Aiyar Avl., Member of the Executive Council, in reply to a letter from Mr. T. O. Hodges, the then Inspector of Schools, said that my school should be taken over as a 'model school' in 1911, when the 'Model School Scheme' was expected to come into force and Dr. Bourne (the late Director of Public Instruction) whom I saw in April 1912, seemed to be in favor of making it a 'model school' after hearing everything from me in detail. Dr. Bourne left for England soon after and the Hon'ble Mr. V. Krishnaswami Aiyar Avl. suddenly died. The late Mr. R. F. Austin I. C. S., Collector of Tanjore and the Collector of Madras, who attended the meeting in Kumbakonam held in my honor on the 9th February 1911, remarked to me in person that there are few schools like mine and very few Headmasters like myself even in England and that, were my lot cast in England, he would raise five thousand pounds in less than 6 months. He was transferred soon after to Madras where he died.

The Hon'ble Mr. T. V. Seshagiri Aiyar Avl. has known me and my work well and has visited my school. The Hon'ble Mr. T. Sadasiva Aiyar Avl., a student of the Kumbakonam College, is an old friend of mine and an admirer of my institution these 35 years and has visited my school more than once and encouraged me by giving a subscription for the extension, when I sent him a copy of the appeal. The Hon'ble Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri Avl., an old pupil, knows me and my work very well. The Hon'ble Mr. V. K. Ramajachariar Avl., Chairman of the Kumbakonam Municipality, may be consulted about the good work of the school and about my indebtedness and poverty and other difficulties. The Hon'ble Mr. Sir. P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar Avl. has known me and the character of my work for 30 years nearly, and **may be consulted**, as he is himself the Manager of a large and successful High School at Tirukattupalli.

Mr. H. S. Duncan, Acting Director of Public Instruction and now Principal of the Teachers' College was the Principal of the Kumbakonam College and Acting Inspector of Schools of the 6th Circle and in all these capacities he has had ample opportunities of judging of me and of my work, of the difficulties I had to face, of the sacrifices I have had to make, and the success with which I have been carrying on the work of the institution. The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Stone, Director of Public Instruction, who knows the difficulties of conducting a large school successfully and satisfactorily in Kumbakonam, by the side of a powerful institution managed by an influential Committee in this town with a large fund at

its disposal, has known me very well for more than 20 years at least and has already marked his appreciation of my labors by restoring the rent for the school-building and fixing it at Rs. 150 per mensem, after he became Director of Public Instruction.

The Hon'ble Mr. Sir C. Sankara Aiyar Avl., now a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, has a good opinion of me and my work and has known me well as the successful Headmaster and Manager of the Native High School, Kumbakonam.

As it does not generally fall to the lot of a humble worker like myself, the Headmaster of a High School, to command the respect, confidence and good opinion of such eminent and honored personages, I have ventured in this connection to mention the names of some of them, leaving out the names of several Senior Members of Council and several High Court Judges and several Dewans and the names also of successive Principals of the Kumbakonam College from the time of the late Mr. W. A. Porter, Principal of the Kumbakonam College in 1876, my revered teacher and honored patron, to the time of Mr. R. M. Statham, the present energetic, enthusiastic and popular Principal of the Kumbakonam College who has shown his appreciation of my work and of my self-sacrifice on so many occasions.....

4thly, that I beg to submit that though my school has been doing good work these 40 years under my management and supervision, it has drawn much less than other schools of fifteen, twenty or twenty five years standing, by way of teaching-grants, salary-grants, grants for furniture &c., and **absolutely nothing by way of building grant**, though High Schools much younger and less strong than my school have drawn big building and other grants of over Rs. 15,000, Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 25,000 and more, within the last 10 or 15 years.

5thly, it may not be out of place here to refer to a fact which I happen to know very well in the course of my long educational experience. As long as a **Government Model High School under the direct supervision of the Principal of the Kumbakonam College** was in existence in this town, so long the **results** of the Kumbakonam College were **remarkable, often splendid and even brilliant**. I refer to the **Secondary Department of the Kumbakonam College** which was **abolished in 1881**. The **re-establishment**, therefore, of a **Model School**, under the **supervision of the Principal of the Kumbakonam College** in Kumbakonam, will be a **most effective method of making the Kumbakonam more attractive**, for **this alone will put the best materials into the College** and make it the **centre of attraction** in Southern India. Such a school will be an **example and a model** for all the other schools to follow, and a **tower of strength to the Kumbakonam College**. It is, therefore, my most earnest request that your Excellency should be pleased **to take over the Native High School, Kumbakonam, as a model school by purchasing it**, place it under the supervision of the Principal of the Kumbakonam College, or lend it to me on certain conditions and also **compensate me for the losses caused by the annual deficits**, by the **withdrawal of the rent** of the school-building for more than 5 years, and **by the equipments** on which I have had to spend much, in view of the **special circumstances, the note-worthy features**, and the **exceptional conditions of the Native High School, Kumbakonam**, to which I have made reference in the foregoing pages.

It will be a 'true and lasting pleasure and satisfaction' to your Excellency, if your Excellency will be graciously pleased to aid the work I have been doing so long by substantial encouragement, and thus mark your Excellency's keen appreciation of my hard work in the field of private effort, for I have borne my own humble, if not distinguished, part, 'in forwarding the interest of Education' in this Presidency in a **silent, self-sacrificing, persistent and unostentatious manner** these 40 years continuously.

The addresses of the late Lord Connemera and the late Sir T. Muthuswami Aiyar Avl. in my school, the opinions of several great Educationists and the extracts from some of the Inspection Reports, which your Excellency was pleased to accept on the afternoon of the 11th December 1915 after the private interview was over, are the only testimonials of moral excellence I have to submit to your Excellency.

NOTES.

Rao Bahadur S. Aiyar Avl.,
(Headmaster, Manager & Proprietor
Native High School, Kumbakonam)

OFFICE NOTE.

SUBJECT. Pehar from ^{mlk} Rao Bahadur S. Appu Sashinair
Headmaster, Nalvie High School, Kumbakaram, regarding
that his school may be taken over by the Govt.
as a model school
From The P. S. L. no 605 P. of 3.3.16

Register No. 884 Sol

The Government have now decided to take over under their management only the four high schools and colleges noted in the margin and the Secretary of State will shortly be addressed through the Govt. of India for sanction to the scheme. As it has already been settled that another school in the Tanjore district (viz. the Board High School, Tiruvallur) should be taken up, it is not possible to comply with Mr. Appu Sashinair's request to take over his school at Kumbakaram. For orders whether he may be informed accordingly.

13.3.16
15/3/16. I think I think
he appears so. What does
D. V. I. think please?

16.3.16

* Board High School, Chittoor
— do — Tiruvallur
Corimbatore College
Bannur College, Tellicherry
(file separately under
corimbatore)

Sol no 884-1
16.3.16

17.3.16

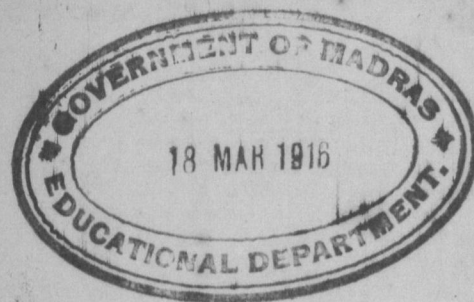
16/3

No. 56 of 17. 3. 16

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I do not see how Government can be expected to take over this school. It has always been aided in such a way as to give Mr. Appu Sastri a substantial income as pay as headmaster and of recent years something on account of rent of his school house. I have already in another connection suggested means by which his school might be transferred to a committee. Kumbakonam no doubt need a second high school but it would be much better if it could be established outside the town. Government could not stiffly itself by having a Government school in the present ^{Native} bungalow.

for 17. 3. 16.



Scg

Notes in CA
18/3/16

H.E.
for no. 19
23. 3. 16

P
25. 3. 16.

Educational Department

A draft order is submitted for approval

Scg
18.3.16.

H.E.
15/3/16

We have treated Mr. Appu Sastri with respect and consideration in the past. Please see A above. Draft for approval.

23. 3. 16

10-2-23-24

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text on the left side of the page, possibly a list or notes.]

21



[Handwritten notes at the bottom left, including the phrase "A draft order is submitted for office" and other illegible text.]

[Handwritten signature or initials, possibly "J. Star", followed by "27-3-16" and other illegible text.]

READ AGAIN G.O. No....., dated.....191 .

” ” ” ” ” ” 191 .

READ ALSO:—

READ ALSO:-
C. No. 8324 Vol. From the P.S. 9, No. 605 P, dated 3. 3. 1916.

" " " " " " 191 .

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

ORDER.

No. 33888^{Ms.}, dated 28-3-1916

Amc.

~~8/2~~
27/3

In Rly. Rao Bahadur S. Affre
Sastriar and will be informed that
the Govt. are unable to comply
with his request to take over his
high school under their management

82
18. 3. 66.
20/3/66

20/3/16

Done
29/3/16

216

To MR R. Bahadur S. afflu Sastri adl
Headmaster, Nahré High School,
Kumbhakonay

Copy to the D.I. ✓

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

191

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
191 .

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.