

Home (1917) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1400

DATED 8. 11. 17

[Despatch Abstract.]

Manuscripts.

Recording correspondence relating to old palayam land

at the Ettiyaparam Samasthanam Library.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No.

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (= O) or spare copy (= S.C.).	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department

Papers of other departments.

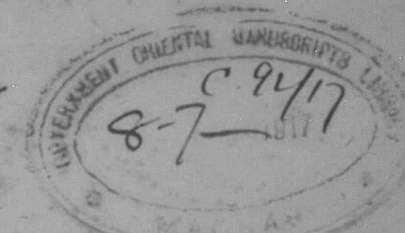
Department.	Number	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S. C.).	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

1917.

Home Edⁿ DEPARTMENT.

CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. Name of Paper-- *The New India*
2. Published at-- *Madras*
3. Dated-- *26-6-17*



PALMYRA MANUSCRIPTS AT ETTYAPURAM SAMASTHANAM LIBRARY

ETTYAPURAM is a zamindari of the Tinnevely District. Its enlightened Raja was cut off prematurely a year or so back. He has been succeeded by his paternal uncle who is no mean scholar in Tamil and in fine arts. Through his courtesy, as also that of his Dewan, Mr. S. I. Shanmugam Pillai, I had the pleasure to peruse some hundreds of palmyra manuscripts secreted in a corner of the palace. With the assistance of the pandit, Mr. Srinivasa Aiyangar, and of few others, I was able, in the course of a few days of stay there, to sift and unearth some rare Mss., the works of Samasthan Vidhwans of the palace. I am concerned more with literature than with medicine or astrology. There is a heap of treatises on medicine and astrology, and research scholars, I hope, will find it useful to peruse them and utilise whatever that is best for them. Now that the attention is directed towards Ayurvedic systems of medicine, medical authors would be well to resort to this repository before they edit the work.

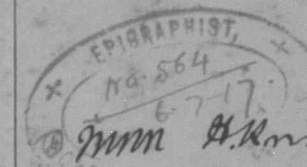
I found, on the literary side, that there are some complete Mss., which in the Oriental Manuscripts Library at Madras are only incomplete ones. I would wish that steps are taken to complete the incomplete Mss. at Madras. Besides, an earnest student, would find in Ettyapuram as much as he deserves. As regards the condition of the Mss., I suggested to the Raja and Dewan to catalogue the Mss. and copy on paper the most important ones and make the library a living source of interest and inspiration to Tamil students. The Raja is sufficiently enthusiastic and much interested in this matter, and I hope the work will commence ere long.

Particularly I should mention the extreme courtesy of the Raja to spare his precious time and energy to enlighten me on the literary career and works of the Tamil Vidhwans whom he has seen or heard or known. It is a pleasure to hear *pallus* and *Vannams* sung to a special and appropriate tune. The big *Vannam* by Kadigaimuthu Pulavar was insatiable; I had it sung for me a number of times. In these days when Tamil is being neglected, I desire that some of these masterpieces of poetic art ought to be conserved. The Raja told me that a few years back there were very few people who could not sing the *Vannam*. *Vannam*, I may explain, is a piece of a poetic diction dependant solely upon the sound.

The singing has considerably deteriorated. I suggested to him that especially this piece ought to be recorded in the gramophone by the best men available without loss of time. For, said I, to posterity there could be no better guide than this record. This might serve as a monument to bespeak of the speeches and singularity of the Tamil culture, art and taste.

M. V. ISHWAR AIYAR,
EDITOR, *Tamil Cyclopaedia*
Perambur, 24-6-1917.

For perusal
Ca
2-7-17



For perusal. also the Curator Oriental Manuscripts
3/7/17

Edwan No. 5583-1
3-7-17

Seen
for forwarded to the Curator Oriental Library, Madras

6/7/17
MA Sankar

D. no. 676

6-7-17

R.No. 718
31.8.17

Home (Education) Department.
B Branch.

2/ Educa
C.No. 954 B
Regd. 6.7.17



REMINDER.

D.No. 550.
4-9-17

REPLY. 3

To Mr. R. R. Rao Sahib
H. Krishna Sastri

The Secretary to Government,
Home (Education) Department
Ootacamund.

The undersigned ~~has the honour to invite~~
is directed to invite
invitee

attention to the communication noted in the
margin and to
No. 558-1, dated 3.7.17 request that
this reminder may be returned at once with
information as to—

- (1) the stage at which the matter now is,
 - (2) the date by which a reply may be expected and
 - (3) the circumstances which have caused the delay.
2. It is requested that the reply to this reminder may be sent not later than

The newspaper cutting regarding the Palmyra Manuscripts at Ettiyapuram Samasthanam Library was despatched in original to the Curator, Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, for necessary action with this office No. 376, dated 6th July 1917. As far as my department is concerned I do not find anything of epigraphical interest ^{in it}. However, if after the receipt of the Curator's report, I find any historically interesting manuscripts in the collection, I shall apply for copies of them.

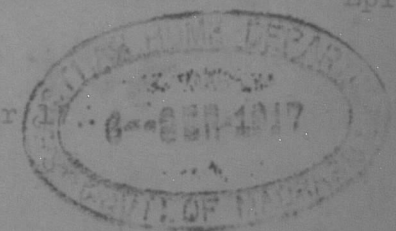
Office Home Dept
Station Ootacamund
Dated 29.8.17
Signature.
Registration
Designation.

H. Krishna Sastri
Asstt. Archl. Supdt. for Epigraphy

SUBJECT.

Newspaper cutting regarding
Palmyra Manuscripts ~~Library~~
at Ettiyapuram Samasthanam
Library
Sd/- 29.8.17

Madras,
4th September 1917
K.S.P. 4/9



Home (Edu) Dept
Lodged
13.9.17
(To be reminded after the 15th Oct if necessary)

DEPARTMENT

Registered 1 - 18. 191

Received



Subject

ENCLOSURES

No. 348

State copies.....

D. No. 689.

Station Madras, Dated the 31st October 1917

From (Name) M.R.Ry. Rao Saheb H. Krishna Sastri Aversal B

(Designation) Assistant Archaeological Superintendent
for Epigraphy, Southern Circle.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

H O M E (Education) Department.

Sir,

Asstt. Archl. Supdt. for Epigraphy.

Manuscripte

~~None~~ DEPARTMENT.

Reading my correspondence

relating to the old palm leaf — at
the Sathiyapuram Samasthanam library

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

22 22 22 22 22 191

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1336, From the A. A. S. L. S. L. No. 689, dated 31. 10. 1917

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

" " " " " " " " 191

ORDER.

No. 1400, dated 8.10. 191

Recorded

To the A. A. S. for Epigraphia
(940)
Copy to the Librarian, Oriental
Mss. Division
from: the D. P. S. (to write
a typewritten copy
of the manuscript)

Note: No special action is called for. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Librarian, Colonial MSS. Librarian, who has stated that the collection of palm leaf manuscripts in the Edinburgh Librarian would be dealt with

in the ordinary course
by the Secret Party
constituted under Sec.

1096 Edl.: d/ the 18th Sep. (12)
1914.

① The term of this party
has been extended till
January 1918.

5-10-17
6417

ppd 18 4-10-17 2 A.A. pcc1

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

A A A A A A A

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.