

Home (1917) Department.  
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 708

DATED 7-7-1917

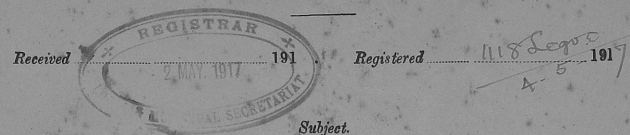
INDEXED

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Transliteration.

Informing Mr. Mark Collins that Government see no  
necessity to modify the existing official system of ———.

Local & Municipal DEPARTMENT.  
and Legislative

Subject.

Transferring for the disposal of Government letter dated 7th April 1917 from Mr. Mark Collins, University --- Professor of Sanskrit and Dravidian Philology regarding certain systems of translation <sup>deration</sup>.

## ENCLOSURES

No. ....

Disposal. No. 2685

Spare copies .....

Station M a d r a s., Dated the 18<sup>th</sup> M a y 1917.

From (Name) Hon'ble Mr. H. H. Stone, M. A., F. R. H. S., C. I. E.,

(Designation) Director of Public Instruction.,

M a d r a s.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Local & Municipal & Department.s.  
L e g i s l a t i v e

Sir,

I have the honour to transfer for the disposal of Government the enclosed letter dated 7th April 1917 from Mr. Mark Collins, University Professor of Sanskrit and Dravidian Philology regarding certain systems of translation <sup>deration</sup>, and to state that I am not concerned with the subject in question.

I have the honour to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant

for Director of Public Instruction

DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT No.

3

From

Received

191

Registered

191

Subject.



MADRAS UNIVERSITY

MOORE'S GARDENS BUNGALOW,  
NUNGAMBAKAM, MADRAS.

April 7<sup>th</sup> 1917.

Dear Mr. Storr,

I have received from  
Mr. Fisher, Superintendent of the  
Government Press, a box/box containing,  
amongst other things, a whole series  
of transliteration-systems, as employed  
by him or their publication, for the  
main Dravidian languages and  
for Sanskrit. May I suggest  
that it would be more economical  
and far more scientific if some  
sort of harmony could be here  
introduced - which should be quite

3  
Tamil, Telugu, Canarese and  
Malayalam that should be  
as far as possible from unnecessary  
overlapping, and which should  
be as far as possible in harmony  
with the (recent) systems of  
transliteration employed elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

M. J. Ellis

possible.

2  
I am the more keen on urging  
that some such modification should  
be introduced because I find that  
in printing the work of the Reader  
in Dravidian philology. I am met  
with innumerable (as I feel) unnecessary  
difficulties in getting the right types  
— many of which will have to be  
specially made.

I would make the suggestion  
that myself and other philologically-  
minded individuals should be  
asked to definitely fix up — as far  
as it is possible to do so — system  
of transliteration for Sanskrit, for

NOTES

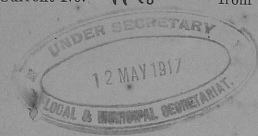
[ E. & L. ]  
142.  
1800-7-1-13.

1426 No 1007-10

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

(Legislation)

Again G.O. No , dated 191 .  
Current No. from the , No. , dated 191 .  
Current No. 1118 from the D. P. J , No. 2685 , dated 1-5-1917.



SUBJECT.

Transliteration

It is submitted that the S.G.P. may be requested u.o. to be so good as to put up a copy of the booklet sent by him to Mr. Mark Collins & referred in the latter's letter to the D.P.J.

249  
5517  
5517

V.TK  
7/5

S.G.P u.o.

Legos no 1118-1  
7-5-17

9/5/17

\* put up

(Signature)

The booklet referred to is the print of the Appendix to the "Printing Manual" now sanctioned by Government. It will be seen from the marginal notes on p 89 that the subject has often been considered. In cases where there are no first orders the appendix embodies present practice. From what Mr Collins has demanded in the way of types it seems that he wants a lot of scientific detail which are unworkable in ordinary practice even to special phonetic characters which are not transliteration; understanding some that I have never

been before such as  $\frac{1}{2}$  for an extra short vowel.

He continually changes his mind as to what is necessary also. As a printer I submit that it would save Government money to have a less complicated system instead of a more detailed one: A page of the Archaeological Survey Report takes more than twice as long to produce than ordinary matter. I have told Mr. Collins that I am willing to make the special types when he has made up his mind as to what he requires, and it appears to me that the University should decide on a system for its own publications.

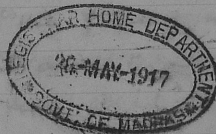
10/5/17

L & M (degen) Sept.

As the subject of the Printing transliteration Manual (referred to in the above note) relates to the Home (Mis) Financial dept., it is submitted that the file may be transferred u.o. to that dept. for disposal.

V.K.  
26/5

Home (Mis) u.o.



No:  $\frac{2512}{11-5-17}$ .

Lego. Dhono 1118-2  
28/5/17

the pamphlet 24/5

misc  
1802  
Nag 24/5

Home (Misc) Dept

Please see the notes on pages 1-2 ante. It will be seen that the S. D. P. is not in favour of such a detailed transliteration as is aimed at by Mr. Mark Collins in his letter on page 2 C.F. The case may if it submitted be transferred to the Financial (Mil.) Dept. for decision as to whether it is advisable to adopt the proposed system in Govt. publications. It may be mentioned that the "transliteration" is not one of the subjects appertaining to this department.

Mark

1.6.17

Pd. 2.6.17

CA

10/6/17

Lu

Financial

11/6/17

Financial Dept

The point raised in Mr Collins' letter at pages 24 C.F. relates to the fixing up of a system of transliteration for Sanskrit and other vernaculars.



(which deals with printing)

Page 6 of  
C.F. Distribution  
List of Subjects (V)



F.D.  
Home (Misc.) no. 1802-1  
11.6.17

4484

11/6/17

page 307

languages of Southern India.  
 From the S. G. P.'s note at pages  
 1-2 ante it will be seen that he  
 is not in favour of having such  
 a detailed transliteration as Mr.  
 Collins proposes, but considers  
 that the University should decide  
 on a system for its own publication.  
 He considers that for local purposes the transliteration in the present manual is sufficient.  
 The S. G. P.'s views may be concurred  
 in by Financial. If so, the only  
 action that will be necessary is  
 with reference to above. This  
 question is for consideration in  
 the Home (Edn.) Dept. to which  
 Dept. the case may be transferred.  
 no

I don't think  
 CRB ~~MS~~ <sup>MS</sup> financial has any.  
 14.6.17 15.6.17  
 being more li do  
 with the case. It is for them  
 to say if they wish to move  
 in the matter. C. S. should  
 see.  
 Agree & add the following remarks. <sup>CRB</sup> 15.6.17  
 Dr. Collins is proposing to hit off a good  
 deal more than he can chew, I fancy. I am  
 certainly not prepared to reopen the  
 official system of transliteration which has

stood the test of time & is ~~wholly~~ quite sufficient for normal requirements. At one time or another I have had to deal with all the languages mentioned except Persian (1) Pabzolan & (2) Urdu where the alphabets are on the same principle as (1) Urdu (2) Chinese & (3) Hindi & need require special schemes of transliteration. I am well aware that the official system is defective in so far as it does not distinguish (eg.) between the various nasals, or between cerebrals and dentals. But such minute differentiations are not required except in technical books on language or philology, where the author must work out his own solution. Unless in any particular case of that class the need for special type is made out, I don't think the S.G.P. ought to be asked to manufacture it. Personally, I am convinced that it is beyond the wit of man to devise an alphabetical system which will adequately represent the various sounds occurring in the Dravidian, Aryan & Arabic tongues, and will at the same time meet with general acceptance among linguistic scholars. I wd. certainly not lend my support to Dr. Gollan's idea of a Govt. Committee for any such purpose. (9.6.17)



Home (Eda)

20-6-17  
C. No. 491  
Recd 20.6.17

Home Dept. 29.6.17

In the foregoing notes it has been decided that there is no necessity to modify the <sup>official</sup> system of transliteration <sup>at present</sup> ~~in~~ in vogue. Mr Collins may perhaps be informed accordingly.

2. When the file was referred to the S. G. P. he incidentally remarked that the University should decide on a system for its own publications. If that body finds it necessary to adopt a new system it is open to them to do so. Mr Collins may perhaps kindly move in the matter if necessary. Submitted no action is ~~therefor necessary~~ <sup>therefor necessary</sup> in this ~~aspect~~ Department on this point.

3. With these remarks the file may it is submitted be returned to Financial w.o. with reference to para 1 Supra.

He need not interfere in the matter. The University may work out its own scheme.

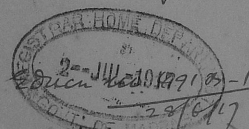
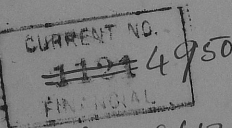
CR  
27.6.17

I agree nor is it necessary we should suggest anything to the university

Mr 28/6/17

Financially  
Anti: has no objection to Mr. Collins being informed as above

A. Home



File no 4950  
29.6.17

Edison  
CNo. 551 B  
2nd 27/17

5/7/17  
Ed  
5-7-17

A draft order is submitted for approval

9  
7-7-17

Hocue E. 4, 1896  
9/7/17

Septt. 11. 10 (b)—1-17

Transliteration

Worcester, DEPARTMENT.

Informing Mr Mackenzie that Govt see no necessity to modify the existing official system of —.

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

" " " ..... " ..... 191

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 551 B From the D-P-J. No. 2685 dated 1. 5. 1915

99 11 ..... 39 35 ..... 191

## ORDER

me

No. 908, dated 9.7.191

(University Professor of Sanskrit and  
Dravidian Philology)

Mr Mark Collins <sup>transliteration</sup> is informed  
that the Govt see no necessity to  
modify the existing official system  
of transliteration.

5.7.17  
Tel  
5.7.17

Ca  
7.7.17 May  
9/11/17

$$\frac{K.S.V}{13.7.17}$$

2. Mr Mark Collins Emeritus Professor  
of Sanskrit & Dravidian Philology  
(Lto)  
The D.P.D. (Gto)

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

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DETS.

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

N.B.--

A = Copy in full.

B = Not to be copied.

P = Copy abstract only.

Q = Copy heading only.