

Home (1919) Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 104

DATED 24.1.19

RECEIVED

18

[Despatch Abstract.]

Madras Christian college.

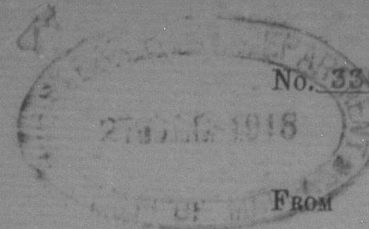
Raising to Rs 6500 the amount of grant already sanctioned for improving the land on the beach assigned to the ----- for use as a play ground.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



Edn 2700 B
27.12.18

MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, 2

26th December 1918 1918

THE BURSAR,

MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

The Secretary, Home Department,

Government of Madras.

Sir,

On behalf of this College I have the honour to submit for the favourable consideration of Government a request that they may be pleased to sanction to the College an unconditional grant of Rs.6500 for the purpose of laying out a part of their playing ground on the Beach.

2. A statement detailing the steps taken by the College to make this ground fit for a playing-field, of the obstacles encountered, and the cost incurred, has already been placed before His Excellency the Governor in response to His Excellency's personal request conveyed to Dr Skinner, Principal of the College.

3. I desire to add to that statement that the College wishes to place soil about one foot deep, with a surface of grass on about one half of the ground assigned to it on the Beach--an oblong of 420 feet by 300 feet--and to place a hedge round the east side of this part. The estimated cost of laying the soil and turf is Rs.6000, and the cost of planting the hedge and of digging wells to water the grass and the hedge is Rs.500. A total sum of Rs.6500 would suffice to put the place in order for football. The College would have to meet the recurring charges of gardeners' and coolies' wages.

4. Owing to present financial strain, the College is unable to take advantage of a grant-in-aid of Rs.3000 which Government were pleased to sanction on the 17th February of the present year. In view of what the College has already done and the amount which it has expended out of its own funds to put the ground in fit condition, and in view of the lack of further funds for the purpose, I have the honour to express the hope that the request for the whole sum which I have ventured to lay before Government may meet with their favourable reply.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

H. Meath

Bursar.

cf. Bursar's letter
at 4.3.18
28.1.18

191

From

The Bursar,

Madras Christian College.

To

No.

Dated

Received

Subject

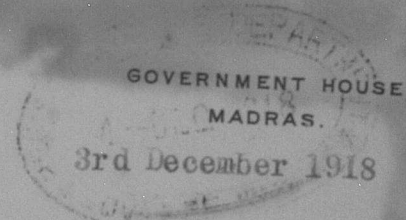
55,193-3-17.

3 67-18

NOTES.



Rel
LWS
4-12-18



My dear Swamikannu Pillai,

His Excellency understands that there has been some hitch about the Christian College cricket ground and playing fields. I am to ask you kindly to send the papers to me for him to see.

Yours sincerely,

Herbert

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur L.D. Swamikannu Pillai Aml.,
I.S.O.,
Secretary to Government, Home Department,
Fort St. George.

Home (Education) Dept.

The following two pieces of ground have been assigned to the Madras Christian College for use as recreation grounds-

- (i) the plot on the beach held in possession since 1909 with the permission of the military authorities - Vide G.O. No.262 Marine, dated 16th August 1909 and No.272 Marine dated the 1st September 1909.
- (ii) the north-east portion of the people's park, granted to the college in para 4 of G.O.No.1448 Edl., dated 18th December 1914, in pursuance of the recommendations of the committee appointed in 1913 to consider the question of adequacy or otherwise of play-grounds and playing field for schools and colleges in the city of Madras.

There is also a recreation ground in the hostel at Kilpauk towards which the Govt. have sanctioned a grant of Rs.75000

~~for the hostel in the park~~ - Vide
G.Os.No.1443 Edl. d/20-12-15
& No.1016 Edn.d/25-9-16.

2. There was a proposal in 1914 to take away a portion of the beach ground from the college authorities for the construction of a bungalow for the Dy. Port Conservator, and to provide the college with another plot in the beach itself - G.O.254 Marine, dated 30-7-15. The college management felt a little uneasy about this disturbance (p.13 of G.O.254 Marine dated 30-7-15); but the proposal fell through, as the military authorities objected to it (pp.12 to 14 of G.O. 70 Marine dated 13-3-16). The college has therefore been holding the ground granted to it in 1909. In G.O. No.92 Edn. dated the 28th January 1918 a grant of Rs.3,000 was sanctioned and making it serviceable as an athletic ground. The conditions under which this ground is held have not, however, improved: the college continues liable to be ousted at 12 hours' notice at any time without claim to compensation on any account - Vide the

(vii)

terms cited in para 1 of G.O. 262 Marine, dated the 16th August 1909 and specially emphasised in G.O. No.92 Edl., dated the 28th January 1918. No other hitch besides the one referred to above has been brought to the notice of the Government.

(y)

3. The ground in the People's park does not appear to be regularly used by the college - vide the Bursar's letter, dated the 18th October 1917 at pp.4 & 5 of G.O. No.92 Edl., dated the 28th January 1918.

(y)

5.12.18

6.12.18

5.12.18

LWS
7.12.18Home (Edl.) no. 2559 B-1
9.12.18

P.S.G. no



Dee-urgent
LWS
23.12.18

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
GUINDY.

21st December 1918.

My dear Swamikannu Pillai,

In returning this file I am to send you the accompanying copies of correspondence relating to the Christian College playing fields. I have separately asked the Chief Secretary whether it will be possible at this stage to provide an additional Rs.50,000/- in the budget for play-grounds. When Dr. Skinner's official letter is received, I am to ask for its examination in Educational and Financial and submission to His Excellency through the Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew.

Yours sincerely,

H. H. H.

This is being
attached to
the file.

Swamikannu Pillai
(C. F.)

4 7

Q. Copy of letter from - T.E. Moir Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Private Secy.
to H.E. the Governor,
To - The Revd. Dr. W. Skinner, Principal, Madras Christian College,
Dated - Madras, 10th December 1918.

I am to ask if you will kindly send for His Excellency a detailed note on the points regarding the Christian College cricket ground and playing fields with reference to which you had a conversation with His Excellency recently.

Copy of letter from - The Revd. Dr. W. Skinner, Madras Christian College
To - T.E. Moir Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Private Secy. to H.E. the Governor,
Dated - Madras, 13th December 1918.

I enclose for the information of His Excellency the note prepared by the Bursar regarding our cricket ground and playing fields.

Note.

THE MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE BEACH ATHLETIC GROUND.

1. 1893-1905. In 1893 the Government was pleased to grant to the College a piece of ground on the foreshore for use as an athletic ground on condition that it should be vacated whenever Government so ordered. (Not printed) (C.O. Marine 383/2-11-93). The College having secured a site, even under conditions of tenure so insecure, set about converting the piece of land allotted to it into a ground suitable for the athletics of its large body of students. But this was no easy task, for soil was difficult to procure, it had to be brought from a distance, and the access to the ground did not facilitate speedy operations. By 1897, however, the ground was nearly ready and in 1898 the Annual Sports of the College were for the first time held on it. The advantage to the School and College of the new ground was at once evident. The interest in sports and athletics was greatly advanced, so much so that the ground was felt to be too small for the increasing attention which the students were paying to recreation. The result was that in 1900, chiefly owing to the personal interest which H.E. Sir Arthur ~~Kawley~~ Havelock took in the matter, an additional strip of ground immediately contiguous to, and

A. 5 8

9 south of, the original piece was allotted to the College (G.O. Marine 913/18-12-1900). This portion was also put into suitable order, but in less than five years the whole had to be vacated. In 1905 the order for removal came (G.O. Marine 192/3-4-1905), and the College, which in the interests of the physical development of its students had taken the risk of the insecure tenure of the only piece of land which was open to it, had no option but to obey. During the period of its occupancy of the ground the College spent, not only a considerable amount on upkeep, but also a sum of Rs. 4,646 on preparing the ground. Towards this amount Government was pleased to sanction two grants in aid amounting in all to Rs. 1,313.

11 2. 1905-1908. In May a new piece of ground was applied for, and in February 1906 the grant of the portion applied for was sanctioned (G.O. Marine 19-2-1906). Again the same process was gone through. Soil was brought, grass sown, turf laid down, and a hedge planted. The occupation of this piece was ^{brief} ~~brief~~. The Chairman of the Madras Port Trust courteously sent to the College authorities a copy of a letter (6833/30-11-08) which he had forwarded to the Chief Secretary to Government. That letter was a notice to vacate our ground and was confirmed by the letter of the Collector of Madras (R. Dis. 27/4-2-09). Permission was granted us to occupy it till March, after which, as we held the land only 'temporarily', nothing was left to us but to seek for a new piece of land. During our three years of occupancy we spent on the make up of the ground Rs. 2,599. No grant was received from Government, but the Port Trust was good enough to make a grant of Rs. 1,000 to the College on 28-1-1907, in recognition of the expense to which it had been put in leaving its old ground and laying out a new one.

3. 1909-1912. In January 1909 the Bursar addressed the Chief Secretary to Government requesting Government, before it passed orders, 'to consider whether it might not be right and fair to request the Port Trust to fence and make up a recreation ground for the College to the south of the ^{present} ground before it is allowed to take possession of the ground in question.' He pointed out that while the Harbour Trust represented a public interest of great magnitude 'the College might not unreasonably claim to be a body representing a public interest of some consequence and that it would be highly injurious to the interest which the College represented if even for one year it should be without a recreation

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VII 9

ground.' The reply to this was G.O.262/16-8-09 Marine declining to comply with the request of the College and sanctioning a new piece of land for the use of the College on condition that 'the ground shall be liable to be resumed at any time by Government without reason stated and shall be vacated by the College without claim for compensation on any account at twelve hours' notice.' On the 20th August 1909 the terms of Government were, in default of more favourable treatment and in order to advance what was held to be so essential to College life, agreed to by the College. It hardly imagined, however, that when once again it began the operations necessary to form a proper recreation ground its efforts would be so soon interrupted. In February 1912 the Chairman of the Port Trust, in his letter G1.527/7-2-12, wrote to say that our boundary required adjustment, that a new road was to be laid down, and that in view of this road our ground would have to be shifted 60 feet to the south. This meant that new hedges had to be planted and that the altered area had to be prepared. Between 1908 and 1912 the College expended on the ground Rs.3,908. It received from the Harbour Trust on the 29th November 1909 a grant of Rs.1,000.

4. 1912-1913. The College proceeded forthwith to prepare the space for the fourth time assigned to it. But it was not many months before its operations were brought to a stand still. First, the Military authorities raised the objection that the laying out of the new ground was altering the level of the ground (letter of O.C. Madras 92 G.E.M./6-1-13). This objection was overcome (letter of Collector of Madras 522/24-1-13) but almost immediately objection was raised by the Port Trust ~~and the~~ (3154/5-2-13). As the result of correspondence with the Port Trust and the Corporation of Madras the second objection was met, and on the 8th March 1913 the Health Officer of the Corporation expressed willingness to send 15 carts of silt per day to the ground, and the Chief Engineer of the Port Trust expressed agreement with the arrangement (16/1-4-13). Since the receipt of the Health Officer's letter not a cart of soil has reached the ground.

5. 1913-1918. In December 1914 the Chairman of the Madras Port Trust proposed that part of the College athletic ground should be alienated in order to erect on it a residence for the Deputy Conservator of the Port of Madras. He further proposed that another piece of ground should

(E) be allocated to the College for the piece alienated, and that a compensation of Rs.1,000 should be given. In G.O.No.254 Marine of 30-7-1915 the proposed alienation was sanctioned and compensation was fixed at Rs.2,500, while the matter of the ground to be given to the College was left unsettled. The sum of Rs.2,500 was paid by the Madras Port Trust to the College on the 1st November 1915, but was refunded on the 29th February 1916, as the College was informed by Sir Francis Spring that the higher military authorities had refused the use of the land in question to the Port Trust. The College, being once again put in possession of the ground, called for an estimate of the cost of fitting it for play. The estimated cost of putting a part of the ground in order was Rs.6,000 and the Council applied to Government for a half grant. After some correspondence, a sum of not exceeding Rs.3,000 was sanctioned on the 6th February 1918 (Director's Proceedings No.2755 of 1917). Immediately after this the District Engineer of the South Indian Railway applied for permission to run a line through a corner of the ground for a temporary purpose (letter of 17th February 1918). And to crown the long list of obstacles which the College has encountered in seeking to provide an adequate athletic ground for its students, the heavily increased cost of maintaining a College in present conditions has now interposed a final barrier. The Council have no funds at their disposal this year to enable them to incur any expenditure whatsoever on the ground. The prospects for 1919 are brighter.

The College has thus laboured for twenty five years to provide a suitable athletic ground for its students. It has incurred an expenditure which, exclusive of annual upkeep, has exceeded Rs.11,000. The combined grants of the Government and Port Trust have been less than one-third of this sum. The ground has had to be shifted or its area modified three times. And now after all its thought and expenditure the College finds itself with no fully prepared athletic ground but with a piece of ground which it must be ready to vacate on twelve hours' notice. Part of this ground is hardly more than sand, part has an insufficient covering of soil. To hedge it, level it, cover with silt, and turf it will required at the most reasonable estimate Rs.13,000. And when this amount (granting it to be available) has been expended, and the ground satisfactorily prepared, the College, as conditions stand at present, may be required to leave it all.

230-9250
(Y) 28.1.18

Key this - Rs. 1000
was contributed
Port Trust
Rs. 13136
Lent

5. 8

Copy of letter from - The Hon'ble Sir Alexander Cardew, K.C.S.I., (/
To - H.E. the Right Hon'ble the Lord Pentland, P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,
Dated - Madras, 15th December 1918.

In reply to Your Excellency's letter dated the 14th instant on the subject of the Playing-ground for the Madras Christian College, it certainly seems to me that the College has good ground to complain of the treatment which it has received from the Government in this matter and I should be personally glad to consider sympathetically any proposals that they may make. I agree with Your Excellency that the best plan would be to ask them for their own proposals as they must know much more about it than any one else. The first essential seems to be to give them a piece of land of which their tenure would not be liable to be constantly revoked. Probably, if they went somewhat further south, this might be possible, but we have to deal both with the Military and the Port ~~Trust~~ authorities and it is hardly practicable without full investigation to foresee what would be the result of any proposals that might be put forward. I agree, however, that the first thing is to find out what the College itself would suggest.

Copy of letter from - T.E. Moir Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
To - The Revd. Dr. W. Skinner,
Madras - 17th December 1918.

With reference to your letter of 13th December forwarding a note by the Bursar of the Christian College, would you very kindly let me have any definite proposals you wish to make in the matter with the least possible delay? The Budget is under preparation and any proposals involving financial assistance from Government would have to be considered at once.

Copy of letter from - The Revd. Dr. W. Skinner,
To - T.E. Moir Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Private Secy. to H.E. the Governor,
Dated - Madras, 18th December 1918.

With reference to your letter of the 17th inst.

The following are the particulars of the work that has to be done in order to put our ground on the beach into a condition in which

8. 9
12
it can be used as a playing field:-

1. To put a foundation, soil and turf on one half of the ground
2. To clear the other half of shrub
3. To plant a hedge round the whole
4. To dig wells in the ground for watering.

The estimated cost of 1 & 2 is about Rs.12,000; of 3 Rs.120; & of 4 Rs.400; or about Rs.12,520 in all.

We were not able to take advantage of the grant offered by Government some time ago in aid of a partial laying out of the ground, because we had no money to spend upon it. We are still in the same position and are likely to be for some years to come. We have no money to spare.

If Government would sanction half the estimated cost of Rs.12,500 or say Rs.6,500, it would enable us in the meantime to carry out the partial scheme on which a half grant was formerly promised, and to put the ground into a condition which would do at any rate for football. If money were forthcoming, we should endeavour to do this in time for the athletic season next academical year.

Copy of letter from - T.E. Moir Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,

To - The Revd. Dr. W. Skinner,

Dated - Guindy, 21st December 1918.

I am to thank you for your letter of the 18th and to say that if you will very kindly send in to the Home Secretary an official letter stating briefly the facts referred to in the Bursar's statement and submitting an estimate for the works mentioned in your letter and apply for a grant to enable them to be carried out His Excellency will see that the application receives due consideration, although of course he is not in a position at present to say whether funds will be available or whether a grant will be possible.

NOTES.

Page

10

13

Home (Ed. 3)

With refer. to the P.S. G's

D.O. on the previous page, a formal application has since been received from the Bursar of the Madras Christian College. The College now wants a full-grant of Rs 6,500 being the estimated cost of ^{laying} ~~putting~~ soil and turf on one half of the area assigned to it on the beach (Rs 6,000), of planting a hedge round the north side of this plot and of digging wells to water the grass and hedge (Rs 500). It is observed that the present ~~proposal~~ ^{proposal} does not cover all the items mentioned in the request ~~concerning the proposed grant~~ ^{proposed} preferred to H.E. the Government in the personal correspondence (pp 8-9, N.F.

2 If however the present application is taken to represent the final proposal of the college, it virtually amounts to a request to modify the half-grant promised in G.O. No. 92 Ed. 3, dt/ 28th Jan. 1918 into a full-grant. The college pleads lack of funds and the heavy outlay it has had to face in past years ~~in connection with~~ in connection with

C.f

pp 8 & 9, N.F.

(y)

Para 4, p. 1, C.F.

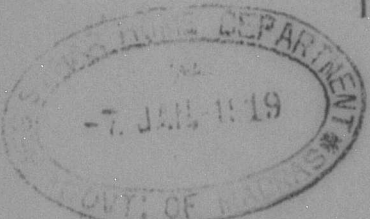
its recreation ground, as argument
for Special Treatment. Submitted
that the correspondence may be
forwarded w/o to the D. P. S. for early
remarks in the first instance.

1002557B-2
4-1-19

2-1-19. 3-1-19
2-1-19. 2-1-19. 4-1-19

no 9 of 6. 1. 19
For General cases in
No. 478 (20)
15.1.15

A



Office of the D. P. S.

The Department has given full grant for playground
in certain cases, I see no reason why the children
Gly. should not be treated. I would
point out however that 6000/- is a considerable
sum to spend unless there is some promise of
Security/tenure.

6.1.19

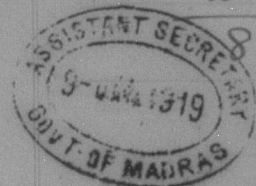
Horne (Edw)

The D. P. S. is inclined
to recommend a full grant. With refer-
to 'A' above, ^{it is observed that} the difficulty of getting
a convenient site in the vicinity of
the College on a less uncertain tenure
is almost insuperable. There appears
to be no help for it. The case may
now be sent to Financial for ^{remarks} ~~action~~
Afterwards it has to be circulated

To H. E. Hough H. M. (Ful.) - Under the
P.S. Q's D.O. at page 3 ante.

Ful. cl-78B
Rego 9-1-9

2-1-19
Ful. no.
LWS
8-1-19



Financial dept.

[Please see from page 8 ante]

CF

Submitted that there seems
to be no objection to the proposed
grant of Rs. 6,500 representing
the entire cost of laying out
a part of the Madras Christian
College playing ground on the
Brach. For precedents in which
full grants for playgrounds
were sanctioned please see

20 - G.O. 47 Educ. & 15-1-1915

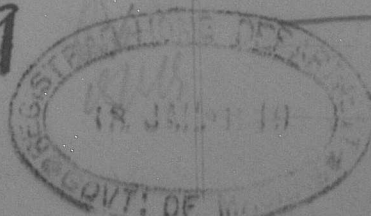
2. If it is decided to sanction
the grant (Rs. 6,500), it is subd
that it seems preferable to
disburse it in the current
year.

15-1-19

17-1-19

Large savings are
anticipated in the
current year's budget
grant under 22 Educ.

Ful. no. 78B-1
18-1-19



A draft order is subd. The
grant in this case is not to be

NOTES.

Leaves down by the rules of the
Grant. in. And leader. (para 1, p. 1, c. 4)

2 The file may be substituted

to H. E. through H. M. - Please see P. 10.
at 20. 8. 21. 12. 16 on page 3 above.

20.1.19.

21.1.19.

20.1.19.

HM (Zul)

1/2

23 JAN 1919

23 JAN 1919



My.

22-1-19

one
my
24/1/19

B: 35

C: 21.1

R: 37

985 to 1000
8 1 p 10

Prisoners

[Please see from page 8 and 9]

Submitted that there seems
to be no objection to the proposed
grant of Rs. 6200 representing
the entire cost of carrying out
a part of the Madras
College playing ground on the
Bach. For proposals in interest
full grants for playgrounds
more satisfactory please see
P. 10. 47 2 Oct 8 12. 1. 1919

3. If it is decided to sanction
the grant (Rs. 6200), it is only
that it seems preferable to
disburse it in the current

There is no objection to the
proposed grant of Rs. 6200 for
the carrying out of a part of the
Madras College playing ground on the
Bach. For proposals in interest
full grants for playgrounds
more satisfactory please see
P. 10. 47 2 Oct 8 12. 1. 1919

1000 to 1000
1000 to 1000

Revising to Rs 6,500 the ~~maximum~~ (Edn)
amt: of grant already sanctioned for
improving the land on the beach assigned
to the - for use as a play-ground.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 262 Mar. dated 16-8-1909. (VII)
" " " " 272 " " 1-9-1909 (X)
" " " " 92 Home/Edn, 28-1-1918 (Y)

READ ALSO:-

C No. 2700/13 From the Bursar of the, No. 337, dated 26.12.1918.

Madras Christian College.

" " " " " " " " 191

" " " " " " " " 191

ORDER.

Mrs.

No. 104, dated 24-1-1919.

In partial modification
of G.O. No. 92 Home (Edn), dt
28th January 1918, the Govt.
are pleased to raise to
Rs 6,500 the ~~maximum~~ amount
of grant sanctioned therein
towards the cost of improving
the land on the beach which
has been granted to the
authorities of the Madras
Christian College to be
used as a play-ground for
the institution.

Revised with
27.1.19

To the J.P.J. (Lto)

... Fuel: Depth: ~~the~~
... A. S. (Horo: Fuel: 940.
... Maxine Depth:

20.1.19.

20.1.19.

2 The Director is
requested to arrange
for the disbursement

of the amount in the current
year.

21-1-9
21/1/19

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

191

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
191

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH LITTO.

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.