

Law (1926) Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 788

DATED 5-5-1926

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council--Budget motion--Government Museum--
Committee of ~~managament~~ management--appointment--notes
recorded.

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DEMAND XVII - Scientific Departments (Other than Hydro Electric Surveys).

Diwan Bahadur P.C. Ethirajulu Naydu.
Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.

800

801.

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 50,200 for Provincial Museums by Rs.100.

(To discuss the advisability of having a Committee of management.)

Law (Education) Deptt.

The M.L.C.'s suggest that it is desirable to have a committee for the management of the Government Museum. The Museum is at present under the direct control of a Superintendent appointed by the Government. It is not known why the M.L.C.'s desire that the control of the Museum should be transferred to a committee. They may perhaps suggest that the Museum is not properly managed at present and that the interests of the public are not cared for. This can easily be refuted by calling their attention to the administration reports of the Museum for the last three years which clearly show that progress is being made in all directions. That the Museum is becoming more and more popular will be evident by the increasing number of visitors it attracts every year.

It may also be mentioned that in 1924 the Government sanctioned the appointment of an Archaeological Chemist for the preservation of the bronze images in the Museum. Mr. Ram Singh Ahuja, who was appointed to the post, worked in the Museum for six months and treated 77 images. He was expected to continue the work in 1925-26 and provision was made in the budget for his employment. Unfortunately, Mr. Ahuja has been ill and has been ~~unable~~ unable to join his appointment till now.

In August 1925 the Government sanctioned the appointment of a temporary assistant for the preparation of a reliable and exhaustive catalogue of

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of the coins and seals in the Museum. Such a catalogue is considered to be necessary on scientific and other grounds. The work is expected to take three years for completion.

Provision has also been made in the budget for 1926-27 for the appointment of an Ethnological Assistant as no systematic investigation has been made in this branch of study since the days of Mr. Henderson. It is proposed to appoint M.R.Ry. K. Rangachariyar, retired Lecturing Botanist, Coimbatore Agricultural College, to this post.

From the above it will be seen that Government are effecting ~~improvements~~ improvements in the Museum as necessity and occasion arises. It is not clear what more a committee of management will be able to do. The work in the Museum is of a special nature and a committee, if appointed, should consist of scholars who are specialists ^{one or other of} in the different branches of study represented in the Museum. ~~It is also possible that some persons will be available and willing to work without remuneration on the committee.~~

It may be pointed out that the Patna and Lucknow museums are managed by committees. But there is no information as to the constitution of the committees ^{are} and how much the committees ~~is~~ are being controlled by the Government. The Indian Museum at Calcutta is managed by a Board of Trustees, as also the Prince of Wales Museum at Bombay.

If the M.L.C.'s press the motion a consideration of the suggestion may ^{perhaps} be promised.

Vice Note for
the Finance
Committee
at ⑤

The motion was not
~~discussed~~ in the Council. The
note may be
order 788 of 5. 8. 26
Ri Recorded.

Legislative Council
- Budget Motion.

Gov. Museum.

Committee of
management.

Appointment.

N.R. - Recorded.

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