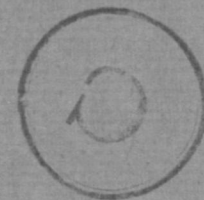


ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 327

DATED 1 - 8 - 00

INDEXED.



912807-9

[Despatch Abstract.]

Oriental Manus Library

Accepting the reply of the Director
of the _____ in regard to the complaints made
by one Swamana Yogi of this District that
manuscripts in the _____ are not properly
preserved, & informing the Yogi that we
offer to present some MSS
to the _____ will be accepted

Department.

Department.

Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Abstract 2.

Stating that Sivagnana yogi compiled only two manuscripts viz Tiruvaymoli + Tirumanthiratharam which are in a very injured condition, that those manuscripts were injured ~~long~~ before 1892 as ^{stated in} ~~will be~~ ^{old} ~~injured~~ by the cloth labels attached to them ~~in that year~~, & that they were ~~also~~ oiled before 1892 and have since been free from further injuries.

P. J.

Educational (189) Department.

2 CURRENT No. 1000

168 Pub 2 6-2-69



From

The Dir. of Public Instruction,
Madras.

No. 7257

Dated 23 July 1900.

Received 24 JUL 1900

Registered DO

Enclosures one in original

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Resubmitting with the Curator's explanation letter from V. Sivagnana Yogi, Virudapatti, Tinnevely District complaining that the Mss. in the Oriental Mss. Library are not properly preserved and proposing to make a gift to the Library of certain Sanskrit and Tamil Mss. from his Library.

R. O. 168 Pub 2 6-2-69

[E. & L. Dept.
3,000-20-2-00.]

NOTE FOR THE

[Faint handwritten text, mostly illegible]

Order

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Educational (189) Department
1900

CURRENT No. 715

3

N/

Encl. Order. N^o. 189 dt 1/6/00 -

Referred to the D.P. for remarks. / By order

From V. Sivagnana Yogi
Virudhpati
Sincerely

No.

Dated 23 - 5 - 00

Received

Registered 30 - 5 - 00

Enclosures

Spare copies

Asst. Secy. to Govt.
CURRENT NO. 1000
No. 7257 dt 23 July 1900

Resubmitted to Government with the Curator's explanation which may be accepted.

G. H. Stuart
Director of Public Instruction

Rec
31/6

SUBJECT.

Complaining that the MSS in the Oriental MSS Lib. are not properly preserved & proposing to make gift to the Library. Certain Sanskrit & Tamil MSS from his Lib.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



V. Sivagana. Yogi

Vivudupati

Tinnevely St.

To. The Secretary to the Government
of Madras
Educational Dept.

Respected Sir,

It is the duty of every one
who is interested in the welfare of the
Indians and the Hindus to try to see that
anything that relates to their past history
is culled out, collected, preserved, and
brought to light, so far as it lies in
one's power. The ancient literature of a
people not to speak of its value, as
such, is of great value, as it is a
source from which some thing true of
their early history can be gleaned.

The ancient works of genius relating
to several departments of learning
different languages of Southern India
have been preserved here, even in earl
centuries of the Christian era by the native
Kings.

power and means, was of some value.

But the Government, whose resources are not so very limited would have to set apart a decent sum for the preservation of the Manuscripts, and the printing and publication of such of them as are really useful to the public in general and to the antiquaries in particular.

I think that our benign Government has been doing something towards this. It has taken the trouble of collecting so many valuable Manuscripts from many sources, for the last some years. Some important Manuscripts, in Tamil and Sanskrit, which could be procured with very little difficulty, have not found their place in the Oriental M.S. library.

I will be very glad to furnish this Government library with some important Tamil and Sanskrit Manuscripts, which are not at present to be found in the library. I visited it on the 21st inst. my utter surprise I have not found the important works, which I went in search of.

and a suspicion

the very useful and important MSS, (these amongst others - तिरुमन्त्रिस्तोत्र, and तिरुवायमोक्ति, - i.e. Sherumau Thirasthane and Sheruvaimolai, Sanskrit and Tamil works respectively.) which I had the fortune of taking out for reference, have not been properly preserved. Moths and other insects of like nature have been making a very hearty meal of these valuable Manuscripts, perhaps for the last many months. I do not know how many more Manuscripts are being subject to this unpleasant treatment. I found in certain MSS, that some leaves have actually been reduced to dust while others partially so. Even though the Government incurs some expenditure in collecting and preserving useful Manuscripts, of what use will that be, if preservation comes to mean preserving them for the use of Moths and other insects? Where I see the such is the case with the Manuscripts that have been brought in there, perhaps

If you will cause more
attention to be bestowed upon these records
as regards their preservation I would
gladly send you some useful MSS
from my library for transmission
to the oriental manuscript library
with a view to profit the earnest student
of ancient work - literary, scientific
and philosophical.

If the librarian or some one,
who is in immediate charge of the library
is directed to communicate with me
I shall give him detailed instructions
for preserving old manuscript works
written on palm-leaf leaves.

Soliciting the favour of a
kind reply as early as possible.

I beg to remain

Respectfully

Your most obedient servant.

Sivagaya Yogi

Madras

23.5.1900

Goot. Oriental MSS Libr

To

The Director of Public Instruction
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your End. No 5656, dated
12th ultimo, referring to me for remarks to a letter from
V. Sivalyogi of Tirundappatti, Tinnevely Dist. to the
Madras Government, complaining that the MSS.
of the Library are not properly preserved, and pro-
posing to make a gift of the Library containing Sans-
krit and Tamil MSS. to the Goot. O. MSS Library.
I have the honour to inform you that the Complaint
made by the Yogi is utterly unfounded and untrue
and perhaps proceeds from ignorance and prejudice.

2 With regard to the Complaint of the Yogi,
he says, in his letter to the Government, he visited the
Library on 21st May; and, from the Receipt form
which contain the names of the MSS. Consulted by him
and his signatures, I learn that he got only two
MSS. Tiruvāymoli and Tirumantirantham and
more. In his letter he says, "moths and other insects
have been making a very hearty meal of these valuable
MSS. perhaps for the last many months and I do
not know how many more MSS. are being subjected
to this unpleasant treatment."

The two MSS. examined by him are
mentioned

in a very
condition, from which entry we can clearly
understand that the mss had been injured so early
1892 at the latest. They were oiled before that
and have since been free from further in-
juries. But the Yogi without reading the contents
the old cloth labels and knowing from the entries
those labels that the mss were injured many
years ago, thought that ~~they~~ the injuries sustained
by the mss. occurred in the last many months
the months preceeding the last May. He ig-
nored further that the mss. had been oiled before
he examined them and that, generally, oiled mss.
are not attacked by worms. To complete his
mistakes he fails to refer for any information
regarding the mss. to the Pandits and the Clerk, or
the persons who are always engaged in cleaning
and oiling the mss. of the library unless they have
to attend to other works. From these facts we can
see clearly that his remark that the mss. of the
Library are not properly preserved is utterly
unfounded and untrue.

3 When the Yogi visited the Library
and, after referring to the Alphabetical Index of
the mss. of the Library, applied for the above two
mss., they were handed over to him by the Clerk
of the Library on the receipt of the Receipt ^{forms}
in which the names of the mss. applied for, ^{were}
and the signature of the visitor was put in.
The Clerk who gave the mss. to Sivalogi knew
that they were injured and thought it was
his duty to hand over only the particulars
required

7
required, the names of which were written by the visitor in
the Receipt forms and no other mss. on the same subject.
It is a fact also that the Yogi did not see any other mss.
of the Library though he states in his letter, "I found
in certain mss. that some leaves have actually been
reduced to dust while others partially so." It is highly
regretted that the Yogi should jump into a conclusion
that the mss. of the Library are not properly preserved
from the injured conditions of only two mss. without re-
ading the labels of those mss. and without making any
enquiry about their injured conditions.

4 In regard to this matter the following
facts deserve to be taken into account.

There are injured mss. ~~also~~ in the Lib
and many of the mss. were injured when the Lib
was in a godown in the Old College Nungampakam
as can be seen from the Proceedings of the Madras
Government Public Department No. 168, dated
6th Feb 1869, and the letters of the Rev. Foulkes
and the Acting Under Secretary, published in those
Proceedings.

In the annual attempts to acquire mss.
we have had some injured mss. ^{also} which were either
presented or purchased for a reasonable price
on account of the rarity or importance of the
works contained. All such mss. were carefully
~~preserved~~ examined, cleaned and oiled to
avoid further injuries.

The Library was removed to a building
in the present Presidency College premises in 18
and was placed in charge of the Professor of
Sanskrit. In 1890 it was removed to the
Government

Government Record Room in the Fort St. George
and in 1896 to the Library room in the Govt.
Museum Egmore. Ever since the removal of
the Library from the Godown to better localities and
to the Custody of the Professor of Sanskrit, the contents
of the Library have been carefully preserved by
requent examination and oiling.

Since my appointment to the Curatorship in 1893, I have made it a daily duty of
the two persons, unless they had other works to do, to
examine the mss one by one every year and oil
the injured and uninjured mss. whenever necessary.

Under these circumstances I can
confidently assert that no injury to mss. is possible.

5 With regard to the proposal of
Sivayogi to make a gift of certain Sanskrit and
Tamil mss to the Library I beg to state that he
may be informed that he may send to the Library
any mss. he wishes to present.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,
Your most obedient servant
M. S. Srinivasan
Curator, Govt. O. Mss. Library

P.S. I beg to return herewith the letter of the
Yogi of Vinodapatti with the Endorsement
of the Chattras
Govt.
M.S.

NOTE FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

8 In cno 715 one Sivagnana
Yogi brought to the notice of Govt.
that two mss. which he had to refer
to, at the Oriental mss. library,
and certain others were in an
injured condition and at the
same time offered to present some mss.
to the library, if they would be properly
taken care of. This ^{current} was referred
to the D.P.O. for remarks and
with cno 1000 the Director forwarded
the Curator's explanation.

The explanation is that Sivagnana
Yogi saw only two mss in the library
& that those two mss are old and
injured. The cloth labels on the
mss show that they are injured
~~at this time~~ (probably before 1864).
The Director states that this ex-
planation may be accepted. Sub-
mitted that this may be done and
the offer of the Yogi to present
to the Library may be accepted.
Thanks.

25/7/00 27.7.1900
7/4/00
25-7-00

Again G.O., No. , dated 189 .
 Again G.O., No. , dated 189 .
 Current No. 715 of 1800, dated , from
 " " 1000 " 1800, " : "
 " " " 189 , " : "

ORDER.
 mis

N/ No. 327. d/1-8-00

The Government accept
 the Curator's explanation.
 2. The offer of M. R. R. V.
 Sivagnana Gaji, of Tiada:
 : paki, to present certain
 MSS. to the Oriental MSS.
 library will be accepted
 with thanks. He is requested
 to have the goodness to
 place himself in the com:
 : munication with the Curator
 of the library on the
 subject.

M.S.
 27.7.1800

In this account of the
 for a Gaji? 9 1/2
 with please check
 checked. P.S.
 1800
 M. R. R. V. Sivagnana Gaji,
 A.P.S.

Note. Send him the
 Order of G.O., with
 a short abstract of the
 Curator's letter as regards
 his explain- of condition of the
 MSS. taken up by the Gaji. Don't any controversial reference in the abstract

When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

150

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED _____
190 _____

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.