

Educational (1905) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No 102

DATED 20. 2. 05

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Loan of Manuscripts from the Oriental
Ind. Library.

Recording letter from the Govt of India
regarding the — to Professor Hillebrandt of Germany

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

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CURRENT FILE.

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From	Number.	Date.	Pages.
[Cuo. 150] The Govt. of India (Home dept. - Public) No 26 30.1.05 1-6			

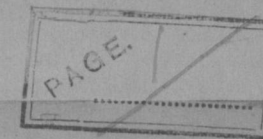
PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. 150

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 have been removed for copying, printing, &c., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department.
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Papers of other departments.

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Pub	461	25.6.90	mis	
	269	8.4.90	"	
	782	8.8.88	"	
	1039-40	20.5.86	"	
	1108	11.5.85	"	
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	1544	26.10.78	(O)	
	1583	26.10.78	(O)	



CURRENT NO
0150
FINANCIAL (Books Branch)



DD. No. 26.

Calcutta, the 30th January 1905.

Dear Sir

I am desired to forward, for information and such
action as the Governor in Council may think desirable, a
copy of a correspondence with Dr. A. Hillebrandt, a German
Professor of Sanskrit, regarding the grant to him of a loan
of the original manuscripts of the *Mudrārāksasanātaka* from
the Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

Yours faithfully
H. S. Srinivas



The Hon'ble Mr. G. S. Forbes, C.S.I., I.C.S.,

Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

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PAGE 3

Benares Hotel de Paris,
January 6th 1905.

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Dear Sir,

May I take the liberty to draw your attention to a matter which, in my opinion, seems to affect the progress of Sanskrit scholarships and the interest of all scholars, especially Europeans employed in editing Indian texts. On their behalf I venture to address you on this matter, as you might consider it worth laying before His Excellency the Viceroy who I know is especially interested in oriental research.

Some time ago I applied to the Curator of the Oriental MSS Library, Madras, for the loan, during my stay in Benares of some MSS of the Mudraraksasanataka of which I am engaged in bringing out a new edition. The Librarian wrote in reply that under orders of Government original manuscripts could not be lent, but copies could be made for me.

Y.D. 21/1/05
16.1.05

As copies are not sufficiently reliable for critical comparison, this order practically denies non-resident scholars access to original manuscripts and is, I venture to submit, out of harmony with the requirements of oriental research. Most if not all, scientific and oriental work is being done by Europeans, and any measure which prevents a MS from being sent to them prevents at the same time its utilization for scientific purposes.

Print rec CNo 160
The German Professor
has an Indian
fellow worker whom
the Secy of State for India
is helping

I orders have
been issued to
him

I have made further representations to the Madras Government, but as the matter seems to me to involve a principle of wider application, I make bold to bring it to your notice in the hope that His Excellency may see his way to issuing such instructions as will facilitate scholars residing in Europe and elsewhere the access to manuscripts in the possession of Government Libraries. Such a measure would not only be welcomed by all Oriental scholars, but spread a truer knowledge of India.

India is so large a country and so far from Europe, that it would be impossible for scholars to personally

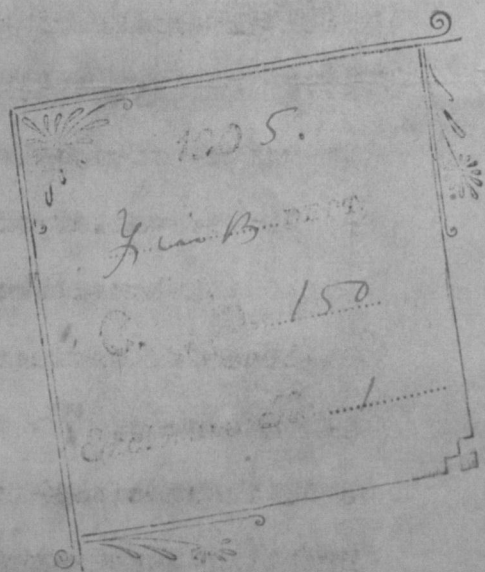
visit all the places where certain manuscripts are known to exist, in order to compare different readings. Rather than let manuscripts fall a prey to white ants or the ravages of the Indian climate, the small risk might surely be taken which is involved in sending them in original to scholars requiring them for their work, such restrictions being imposed as may be deemed necessary.

Lord Curzon's well known interest in all matters of scholarly research will be my excuse for submitting a suggestion which I beg you to kindly lay before His Excellency, if you think it advisable.

I beg to remain &c.,

Sd/ A. Hillebrandt, Ph. D.
Professor of Sanskrit in the
University of Breslau, Germany.

B
The Govt.
Oriental Mus.
duly take
better care
of them.



No. 248.

From

W. S. Marris, Esq.,

Depy. Secy. to the Govt. of India,

To

Herr A. Hillebrandt, Ph. D.,

Professor of Sanskrit,

University of Breslau, Germany,

Hotel de Paris, Benares.

Home Department.

(Public)

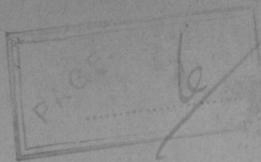
Calcutta, the 30th January 1905.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 6th January 1905, to the Private Secretary to the Governor General, in which you state that the Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras, has refused to lend you the original manuscripts of the Mudrārāksasa-nāṭaka, and suggest that facilities should be afforded to European scholars in obtaining loans of Oriental manuscripts in the possession of Government libraries in India.

2. In reply I am to say that the Government of India and the Indian local Governments are fully alive to the general considerations which you set forth; but they believe that you will find that they are always ready to meet the needs of scholars as far as is compatible with the proper preservation of material which is often irreplaceable. But it is sometimes impossible to comply with requests for the loan of manuscripts, as, for instance, when a particular manuscript is in such a fragmentary condition that to send it about the country would certainly cause injury to it. Probably some such condition influenced the local authorities in the case in question. Your letter will, however,

be



be forwarded to the Government of Madras for such action as they may think best.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Sd/ W.S. Marris,

Depy. Secy. to the Government of India.

[G. 3]

5,000-17-3-04.

Loan of a
Sanskrit MS. to a German
Orientalist.

C-16-2-05
R-16-2-05

Financial DEPARTMENT.

(Books Branch)

C. No 150, From the Govt. of India, Home Dept., No. , Dated 30th May 1905.

The Govt. of India forward for such action as this Govt. may deem desirable copy of correspondence with a German Orientalist regarding the grant to him on loan of a MS. from the Oriental MSS. Libry.

An application from the same Professor for the MS in question was recently received direct by this Govt. and disposed of in the Educational Dept.

The present correspondence may therefore be transferred to that department.

File (Books) u.o. 26 u.o. for disposal.
15/2/05

Cd.
14.2.05

Ed & uo
15.2.05

For orders, the rule applies to all m.s.s. whatever their condition. It is open to the learned professor to visit Madras and study the MS in situ if it is of such essential importance to the work on which he is engaged.

I gather that the Govt. of India does not wish to interfere with our discretion. Record. 17/2/05
H.D. 16.2.05

1005.
Div B DEPT
150
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Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. , dated 190 .

Again G.O., No. , dated 190 .

Current No. 160, From the 9. 2. 1904, No. 5036, dated 30. 1. 1904.

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SUBJECT.

*Loan of manuscript for the
bulletin*

ORDER. No. 102, dated 20. 2. 1904.

1904
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Then given for copying _____
 Then copied _____
 Then examined _____
 Then signed _____

190 .

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 WANT FOR DISPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

S.E.—
 A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only