

Education & P.H (1946) Department.

Ms SERIES.

G.O. No.

634 Edm.,

Dated

22-3-46

(12)

[Despatch Abstract.]

Libraries - Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund - Grant -
1945-46 - Certain points raised by the President of
the X Library - Orders passed.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.
Go.	1641	Liaison (Edn)	6-8-28			
"	164	Edn	28-1-28			
"	1685	W.	22-11-21			

Further Papers.

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

NILGIRI LIBRARY,

OOTACAMUND.

48 JAN 1946

31st December 1945

22 FEB 1946

From,

The President,
The Nilgiri Library,
Ootacamund.

To,

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Deptt.,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Dear Sir,

NILGIRI LIBRARY - GRANT 1945-46.

The Hon. Secretary has brought to my notice the delay in obtaining orders on the above, due apparently to a difference of opinion in the interpretation of the rules.

2. Under G.O. 1440 Edn. & P.H. dated 26th October 1943, it is laid down that one of the conditions attached to the grant of Government aid to a Library like the Nilgiri Library is that the indents for books purchased should receive the prior approval of the District Educational Officer.

3. It would be difficult for any Library working in the lines of the Nilgiri Library to fulfil such a condition. We not only order specified books but also have standing orders with certain firms in England to supply us with the latest books. We cannot therefore always foresee what books these firms will send us. If Government is unwilling to reconsider this condition, Libraries like ourselves will be faced with the alternative of refraining from applying for a grant or of abandoning a policy of book buying which has been found both cheap and convenient and has hitherto been attended with no undesirable results. I suggest that Government could hardly have intended to present us with either of these alternatives.

4. This very question of the pre-censorship of books has more than once come under the consideration of the Committee since I have been a member of it and the Committee have been driven to the conclusion that the number of books purchased

(3)

is so great that it would be beyond the capacity of a member, even if he enjoyed the full leisure of retirement, to read - through them all before they were put into circulation. I would venture to suggest that no District Educational Officer could possibly find the time to equip himself with a knowledge of all the books we should wish to order, even if he possessed the very exceptional erudition which such a task would demand.

5. Looked at from a broader point of view, this condition raises a most important question of policy. This Library works under rules approved by Government. It is managed by a Committee elected annually by all subscribers. Government may rest assured that this Committee has a sufficient sense of responsibility to refrain from buying books which there is any reason to suppose are of an immoral tendency. But our members have varying opinions. What one may approve in the matter of, say, politics or history another may disapprove of. But what a subscriber disapproves of he is not bound to read and it is the object of the Committee not to strike a narrow average but to cater for as many tastes as - possible.

No instructions
have been
issued to
DE.Os

6. I presume that Government have issued directions to the District Educational Officer Coimbatore to guide him in his pre-censorship of our book lists. Should they not see their way to removing this clause, I would request that, for our guidance and for the prompter despatch of business, they may be pleased to furnish the Committee with a copy of those instructions.

7. I would also invite the attention of Government to the fact that the Director of Public Instruction, in his Proc. No.1298-J/43-dated 1st May 1945 rejected our application for a grant for 1944-45 on the ground that the Library was not - accessible to the general public; but that a month later he - informed the Hon.Secretary that he might apply for a grant for 1945-46. As there seems to be considerable confusion, I request Government to give a definite ruling as to whether or not this Library satisfies the condition that it should be open to the public

public. In my view it is just as open as is a shop. Any person who pays the subscription is entitled to use the Library.

8. I propose to hold a meeting of my Committee about the end of January and in view of the fact that our application for a grant has been pending for over six months and of the importance of the issues involved, I request that I may be favoured with the orders of Government in time to lay them before the Committee.

9. For convenience of reference I briefly summarise below the points at issue.

- (i) Whether the Government cannot see their way to cancelling the pre-censorship of book orders.
- (ii) Whether this Library is "open to the public" so as to satisfy the condition in the form of application.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Macqueen

President,

The Nilgiri Library.

3/1/46

L. S. G. P. A. Dept

A

Indorsement do

L. S. G. P. A. Dept

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes on a separate sheet of paper.]

⑤

4

Educational P. 4896

Encl No. 526 - A-1 - Encl., dt 12.1.46.

Referred to the D.P.I for remarks at an early date.

[Signature]
12/1/46

20 *as per with encl 15.1.46*

the D.P.I (with cs in original the returned)

[Signature]
12/1/46

Note

As regards para 9(ii) on page 3 cs there are certain papers and they have been called for for M.R.O. Meanwhile the remarks of the D.P.I may be obtained

[Signature]
12/1/46

Handwritten notes on lined paper, including a large diagonal line and various scribbles.

3014
30 JAN 1946
NILGIRI LIBRARY,
OOTACAMUND,
28th January 1946.

From, The President,
The Nilgiri Library,
Ootacamund.

To, The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Deptt.,
Fort St. George, Madras.

5811
Sir,

I have the honour to request the favour of an
early reply to my letter No. 3010 dated 3rd January 1946,
re. the Nilgiri Library Grant for 1945-46, as I have to
place the matter before my Committee which ~~next~~ meets
at the beginning of next month.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
Macneen
President,
The Nilgiri Library.
28.1.46

6 * 12 / 11/2

Hon & p. A. dept
C. No. 526

Memo. 526 A/46-2. Dated 31.1.46.

Subj: Library. Nilgiri Library.
Ootacamund - Grant for 1945-46.

Ref: From the President, The Nilgiri Library,
Ootacamund No. 3010 of 3-1-46
do. No. 3014 of 28.1.46

Nil-3 ante

N. Bant

The matter is under consideration
of Government.

To
The President
The Nilgiri Library,
Ootacamund.
31/1/46

Note: The papers have been referred to the Dps.
for remarks in Govt. Lett. No. 526 A/46-1 of 12.1.46.
His reply is being awaited till 12.2.46.
Draft memorandum is for approval.

31/1/46

Supdt. Ch.

Ex. Rm
18/2/46

31/1/46

C.F. 98.

Hon & p. A.

DEPARTMENT.

REMINDER.

Education Branch.

To The Director of Public
Instruction

I am directed to invite attention to Subj.
(with ref.)

No. 526 A/46-1, dated 12-1-46 and to

to request that the reply to it may be expedited
request that this reminder may be returned at once
with information as to—

- (1) the stage at which the matter now is, and
- (2) the date by which a reply may be expected,
and
- (3) the circumstances which have caused the
delay:

Office Secretariat,

Station Masais

Dated 12/2/46

Signature. 12/2/46

By Sec. to Govt.
Designation.

SUBJECT.

Library - Nilgiri Library.
grant 1945-46

[P.T.O.]

Educational

Department

Received

Registered

From (Name) Dr. S. R. U. Savor, M. A. D. Sc

To

I. E. S.,

Designation Director of Pub. Instruction

The Secretary to Govt. Edn & P. H.
Department, Madras

Station

M a d r a s

Enclosures:

R. C. No. 95 J/46.

dated 15-2-1946 194 .

Sir,

Sub: Nilgiri Library- Grant 1945-46 - Letter from the President, The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund dated 3rd January 1946 No. 3010 - Remarks submitted.

Ref: Govt. Endorsement No. 526 A-1 Edn., dated 12-1-46

In resubmitting herewith the letter from the President, The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund referred to me for remarks with the Govt. Memo, cited above, I have the honour to state that in the letter, the President solicits definite orders of Government on the following points viz:-

(i) whether the condition that the District Educational Officer's prior approval should be obtained for the indent for the purchase of books -- cannot be waived in the case of the Nilgiris Library and

(ii) whether the library is considered as open to the public.

2. In support of the first point, the President states that it will be difficult for any library working on the lines of the Nilgiri Library to satisfy the condition as orders are placed with the Firms in England some of which have standing orders for supply the latest works. He further states that it will be impossible for any District Edl. Officer to scrutinise all the books as the number of books ordered will be very large and he assures the Government that the managing committee of the Library has sufficient sense of responsibility to refrain from buying undesirable books. But, so far no library aided from Provincial funds sought for a relaxation of this condition. Obviously the Nilgiri Library is on a higher status like the Madras Library Society Library, catering to the needs of the elite of the town. If this is the case it is not clear why the Nilgiris Library should seek aid from Government as it can very well maintain itself by donations and the high rate of subscriptions levied from its members. It is therefore submitted that there is no case to warrant a relaxation of the condition regarding approval of indents by the District Educational Officer. If however, Government desire that this library should be treated as a special case a relaxation of the condition may be made. It may also be mentioned here that Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs 200/- to this library for 1945-46 - Vide G.O. No. 1517 Edn., dated 25-9-1945.

3. In regard to the second point, I submit that the idea underlying the scheme of aiding public libraries is the spread of education. If this object is to be achieved, libraries should be open to the public without any restriction and books and publications which are of interest to the public should be purchased and kept in the libraries. The Nilgiri -- library is open only to such of those who can pay an entrance fee of Rs 10/- and a monthly subscription of Rs 4/- Hence this library can neither be considered open to the public on account of the prohibitive rate of -- subscription nor can it be considered to fulfil the object underlying the Scheme as it does not cater to the tastes of the ordinary citizen but only to scholars.

4. The attention of Government is in this connection solicited to the Correspondence ending with Govt. Memo No. 35985 A-1 Edn., dated 27-10-1942.

For Director of Public Instruction.

P. R. K. 19/2/46.



REPLY.

To THE SECRETARY

Deputy Secy. to Govt.
Edn & P. H. Dept.

Resubmitted.

The reply is being

submitted.

R. Narasimhan
15-2-46

For Director of Public Instruction



The receipt

in reply of

the D.P. may

be awaited

At 28.2.46

19/2/46

19/2/46

20/2/46

No. 3017

A/OS (9) 10

NILGIRI LIBRARY,
COTACAMUND,

19th February 1946.

21 FEB 1946

From, The President,
The Nilgiri Library,
Cotacamund.
To, The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Deptt.
Fort. St. George, Madras.

10611
M-1-3ante

Sir,
With reference to correspondence ending with my letter No.3010 dated 3rd January 1946, I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of Resolution No.6 of the Committee of the Nilgiri Library dated 16th February 1946 :-

"Read President's letter to Government. The Committee agree in general with the views stated in the President's letter.

They are of opinion that it is undersirable for Government to control the selection of books purchased by any Library.

In the case of the Nilgiri Library they consider that, for the reasons stated in the President's letter, it is not feasible to do so.

They are of opinion that the Nilgiri Library is accessible to the general public.

As the question of the grant for 1945-46 has now been - pending for 8 months, the Committee would esteem it a - favour if Government would be so good as to give their - ruling on the points in dispute at a very early date".

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Magnan
President,
The Nilgiri Library.

20-2-46.

Libraries - Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund -

Grant - 1945-6 - Certain points raised by the

President of the Nilgiri Library - Orders passed.

Read:- G.O.No.1517 Edn., dated 25-9-45.
From the President, The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund,
No.3010 dated 3-1-46.
From the D.P.I., R.C.No.95-J/46 dated 15-2-46.
From the President, The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund,
No.3017 dated 19-2-46.

ORDER
MS.

634

EDN., dated 22.3.46

A grant of Rs.200/- has been sanctioned to the Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund, in the current year in G.O.No.1517 E.n., dated 25-9-45, subject to the conditions specified in the Government Order. In connection with this grant, the President of the Nilgiri Library has raised the following points:-

- (1) Whether Govt. cannot see their way to waive the condition that indents for books should receive the prior approval of the D.E.O., and
- (2) whether the Nilgiri Library can be considered as open to the public.

The Govt. have considered the matter and pass the following orders:-

(1) above.- The President of the Nilgiri Library states that it would be difficult for the library to fulfil the condition ^{referred to} ~~that indents for books to be purchased should receive the prior approval of the D.E.O.~~ as the library not only orders specified books but also has standing orders with certain firms in England to supply ^{it} with the latest books. He also assures that the Committee of the Library has sufficient sense of responsibility to refrain from buying undesirable books. In the circumstances, the Govt. direct that the condition regarding prior approval of indents by the D.E.O., need not be insisted on in the case of ~~this~~ this library.

(2) above.- The President of the Library states that ^{it is open to} ~~any~~ person who pays the prescribed subscription is entitled to use the library. In view of this the

Issue today
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H-9cf

H-10cf

(B)

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p 3 cf

p 2 cf

K-p 2 cf

p 3 cf

11201

10611

library will be treated as a "public library".

The D.P.I. is requested to see that the grant of Rs. 200/- is disbursed to the Nilgiri library before the close of the current year.

13.3.46

13/3/46

To the D.P.I.
President,
The Nilgiri Library,
Ootacamund.

A. G. Rao
Finance

22/3 (Spare copy)

Education & P.H.(C.2) Dept.

The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund - Conditions attached to the payment of Government grant - Relaxation.

C.No. 526.46 From the President, The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund, No. 3010 dated 3-1-1946.
(Issued as Endt. No. 526.A.1. dated 12-1-1946)
From the D.P.I., Re. No. 95-J/46 dated 15-2-1946.
From the President, The Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund No. 3017 dated 19-2-1946.

In 1943-44 a grant of Rs. 175/- was sanctioned to the Nilgiri Library, Ootacamund. In 1944-45 no grant was paid. In the current year a grant of Rs. 200/- has been sanctioned. The payment of this grant is subject to the conditions specified in G.O. No. 1517 Edn. dated 25-9-45. Under condition (iv) the indents for books to be purchased for the Library should receive the prior approval of the D.E.O. and under condition (iii) the library should be open to the public.

In the circumstances stated in his letters at pp. 1-3. e.f. and p. 10 e.f. the President of the Nilgiri Library asks for orders of Govt. on the following points:-

(1) whether the Govt. cannot see their way to waive the condition that indents for books should receive the prior approval of the D.E.O., and

(2) whether the Nilgiri Library can be considered as open to the public. So as to satisfy the condition in the application form.

Point (1) above: The President states that it would

be difficult for the Nilgiri Library to fulfil condition (iv) referred to above as it is not only orders specified books but also has standing orders with certain firms in England to supply it with the latest books. It cannot therefore always foresee what books these firms will send. Please see the remarks of the D.P.I. in para 2 on p. 9 e.f. on this point. The Director considers that there is no case to warrant a relaxation of the condition regarding approval of indents by the D.E.O. If, however, Govt. are of the view that the Library should be treated as a special case he has no objection to the relaxation of the condition. It is submitted there seems to be considerable force in the arguments advanced by the President of the Library. The President of the Library assures Govt. that the Committee has sufficient sense of responsibility

to refrain from buying undesirable books. The D.P.I. con-
cedes that this library is of higher status like the Li-
brary of the Madras Literary Society. It seems therefore
that, as a special case, the condition regarding prior appro-
val by D.E.O. may be waived in the case of this Library. For
orders.

Point (2) above: The President says that any
person who pays subscription is entitled to use the
Library and therefore considers that it is open to the
public. The remarks of the D.P.I. on this point are in para
3 on p.9 c.f. A 'public library' has been held to be one
which allows anyone to join it either as a member or as a
temporary subscriber. The Nilgiri Library is open to
all classes of the public on payment of the prescribed
subscription. The public character of the Library has
been admitted by the Govt. in para 2 of G.O. 164 Edn.

+ p 21 of f.w. 1641 Edn 2. 6.8.28
dated 28-1-28. What the D.P.I. means when he says that
this library can ~~neither~~ be considered open to
the public ~~on account of the prohibitive cost~~ ^{nor} to fulfil
the object underlying the scheme of library ^{goals} is that it
is not a free public library. It is submitted therefore
that the Nilgiri Library can be held to be a public

library. For orders, so as to satisfy the condition in the
form of application. ~~Finance may see for remarks.~~

A draft order is submitted. It may be sent to Finance for acceptance.
12.3.46
13/3/46
19.3.46
19.3.46
19.3.46

May be waived.
of at any time to
library goes in for
undisable situation,
we could always override
the question of continuing
the grant.
14.3.46

Vide notes on pp 54 &
89 of f.w. 1685 W/Q
11.11.27

p 3 of

(T) (D)

I agree.
A library open
to public
need not be a
free library.

In open public library
we do not find
in a public
house!

E & P.H. v.v.
526/46-23
19.3.46

Fin (Exp. B)



Please see the notes on pp 1-2 above. For the reasons
explained by the President of the Nilgiri Library, Finance may
agree, as a special case, to the waiver of the condition regarding

15298
2 p 21 (iv) in
p 1 of B

prior approval by the D.E.O. of the vendors for books to
be purchased. The view taken by E.O.H. that for the
purpose of claiming a grant from Govt. the Nilgiri Library
can be held to be a public library may be concurred in
in this Dept.

2. As the grant payable is restricted to half the
actual expenditure up to the maximum of Rs 200/-
the amount of grant of Rs 200/- mentioned in para 2 of the
draft order may be omitted. The draft order below
may otherwise be accepted.

19.3.46 19.3.46. 19.3.46. E & P.H.

A' above may be accepted. ~~as above~~
For order as to issue or
circulation. As may see (a.1).
19.3.46.



22 MAR 1946
22 MAR 1946
21.3.46

Can he help to be a public figure and be concerned in
 political planning or front group. The Wilson Library
 he purchased. The main reason of 1974 that for the
 four chapters after 1970 of the Wilson for books to
 in this part.

As the front people is restricted to half the
 actual expenditure up to the maximum of 50%
 the amount of front of 50% treatment in 1972 after
 draft was made the money. The draft was taken
 and Wilson is working.

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