

Educational (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 13

DATED 10.1.98

INDEXED.

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10-1-98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Requesting the D.P.I to report on
the question of providing the Govt
Girls' School at Dindigul with
suitable accommodation.

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10.1.98

BACK PAPERS.

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

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Educational (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1541.

From
The Local + Municipal
Depts

Order. No. 13810.1.98

No. 2832 Mpus

The D.P.I. will be
requested to report upon the question
of providing the Govt. Girls' school
at Sindigal with suitable accommo-
dation.

Dated 18-12-97

Received 22.12.97.

Registered 22.12.97

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Passing orders on the
address presented to the
Honour by the Municipal
Council of Sindigal
and referring the question
of providing the Government
girls' school with suitable
accommodation.

To

The D.P.I. at
with enclos.

7/3
5/1/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

To

His Excellency Sir Arthur Willbank Parnell G.C.B., G.C.S.I.,
Governor of Fort St. George,
Madras.

May it please your Excellency.

On behalf of the inhabitants of
Dindigul we, the members of the Dindigul Municipal Council, most
heartily welcome your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Parnell
to this town of historic and increasing importance.

Your Excellency's visit is greatly appreciated by us and will
be specially held in remembrance as it is paid in the memorable
year of Her most gracious Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

This town is situated about 40 miles North-West of Madras in
a valley enclosed by the Palni Hills on the west and by the Siru-
malais on the east. Being situated at a considerable height above
the sea-level it has a cool and pleasant climate when compared with
neighbouring towns.

The fortress of Dindigul was the key of the Madurai Kingdom on
the west in the days of the Nayak Kings, and the famous rock, 280 ft
above the surrounding country, has fortifications in the modern
style erected on it by Haider Ali of Mysore and improved by the
British Government. The fort and the country round it were taken
by the British in 1790; and since then the town of Dindigul was, for
a long time, the head-quarters of a District.

In 1866, this town was constituted a Municipality, and from
that time it has been growing in extent, population and commerce,
though it is to be regretted that one of the chief industries of
the town - the tanning of skins - has of late received a severe
blow owing to a fall in the prices obtainable in the European mar-
kets. The other main industries of the town are the manufacture of
cigars and work in metal.

We now beg most respectfully to make known for your Excellen-
cy's benign consideration, some of the immediate needs of the town,
though we are aware that there is at present an immense drain upon
the resources of the country in connection with the severe suppres-
sion of plague and pestilence the relief of the famine stricken

and

and the restoration of peace and order on the frontier.

However much favoured by nature the town still lacked a supply of good drinking water. So, after various trials and experiments the water works to the east of the Railway station were constructed and rather more than a year ago came into use. Unfortunately however the supply has fallen far short of the expectation of the Sanitary Engineer's Department; and this source of disappointment appears to us to be due to a miscalculation of the probable supply owing to incorrect or insufficient data. Your Excellency's Government has however ordered the extension of the water works and is willing to help us with a liberal contribution now, even as it did when the scheme was undertaken originally. We are extremely grateful for the readiness with which Your Excellency's Government comes forward to assist us in our endeavours to improve the condition of the town. At the same time, we would most respectfully submit for your Excellency's consideration that the supply of water which we receive is less than one third of that which was expected and which would itself be sufficient, namely 80,000 gallons for a population of 16,000 at the rate of 5 gallons per head not counting a population of four thousand and odd living in some parts of the town not included in the water supply scheme. With this stunted supply the imposition of the water tax is felt by the people as a hardship, and though, it may not be strictly illegal to levy the tax, it is expedient that it should be suspended until a more reasonable supply has been secured.

The women and children's Dispensary which we opened in 1893 is conferring immense benefit on thousands and it is very necessary that it should be provided with a suitable and permanent habitation. We most respectfully pray that your Excellency will be pleased to extend your sympathy and support to our efforts in this direction.

The town of Dinagad favoured though it is with a genial climate has of late been subject to the visitation of epidemics which were for years past unknown. We share in the popular belief that, among other causes the tanneries which are situated outside but in close proximity to the municipal limits, contribute to a large extent in vitiating the atmosphere. While we are far from discouraging the growth of this industry to the importance of which we are fully alive, we pray that your Excellency will be pleased

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

When His Excellency the Governor visited Dindigul in October last, the municipal Council of the town represented that as the supply of water from the new water works was very limited and insufficient for the requirements of the people, the imposition of the water tax was considered by the inhabitants to be a hardship and that it should therefore be suspended until a more reasonable supply should be ensured. The water works were undertaken ~~as~~ after a careful preliminary investigation regarding the yield of the the water, and if unfortunately the present supply has fallen short of expectations, this is not a ^e reason for withholding the levy of the water tax, the proceeds of which were calculated upon in financing the scheme, and are absolutely required for repairing repaying the loan taken from Government for carrying out the work and for meeting the annual expenditure connected with it. A scheme for the extension of the works, in order to increase the supplies of water has however been sanctioned in G.O. No. 14 H, dated 8th January 1897 and the work will be undertaken shortly.

%. The memorialists state that the present supply is only one-third of that which was originally expected ; but according to paragraph 1 of the Sanitary Engineer's note, dated 2nd November 1896-1896 embodied in G.O. No. 14 M dated 8th January 1897, it was four-fifths of the estimate. The Sanitary Engineer is therefore requested to report the quantity of water actually supplied at present.

