

Educational (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 574

Dated 27-8-98

INDEXED.

10-11

[Despatch Abstract.]

Comm. to the D.P.D., Prov. Public Works
Dept. sanctioning with remarks
the estimate amounting to Rs. 1,80,943
for constructing the Victoria Students'
Hostel at Chepak, Madras

11/6/98

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
CN 1123/98							

[G.]
9
1,000-19-2-97.

Sl. C. 6.6.98
Rs. 11.1.98

Educational (1898) Department.

D. O No. 413

My dear Sir

Please see note below.

S. L. 10/6/98

From
The Private Secretary to
H. E. the Governor.

D. O. Note.

The P. W. D. should now be directed to push on the work, and to send me a progress report at the end of the month.

Final orders in the matter of the

Victoria Students' hostel were passed in G.O. no.

400 Ed D 15th July 1897; the construction of the building was, however, not authorised pending the receipt of the donation of Rs 25,000, promised by the late Maharaja of Vizianagram. This has since been authorised - vide G.O. no. 267 Ed D 22nd April 1898, Flag C. It is now for the P. W. D. to push on the work.

The contribution of Rs 25,000 promised by Govt may now be paid, should the Committee apply for it. There is a provision of Rs 40,000 for the purpose in the current year's budget.

Vide page 42 of G.O. no 1049 Dated 14th Dec 97.

~~Though the Hon. Sir B. S. K. I. E. notes that the amount is not likely to be required so he will support its application to the purchase of new furniture for the new~~

Spare copies
The Committee should be informed.
A. G. 10.6.98

SUBJECT.

Requesting to be informed to what stage the Victoria Hostel question has now reached.

S. L. 10/6/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



My dear Tremenheere,

His Excellency
would be much obliged if
you would kindly tell him
what stage the Victoria Hostel
question has now reached.

Yours sincerely
J. H. M.

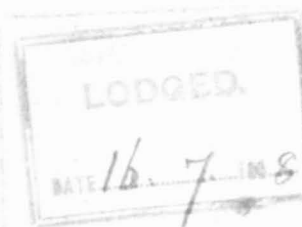
EP 116

C. 12.7.98
R 15.7.98

Educational (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 852

H.E. the Governor



Order

Submitted to H.E.
for information.

al
8/7/98

11.7.98

M
7.7.98

Lodged

al
16.7.98

From The Public Works Dept. 37

No. 3066C

Dated 5 July 1898

Received { 7 July 1898
Registered

Enclosures ..

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SUBJECT.

Victoria Students Hostel,
Madras:- Stating that the
estimate for the — is
under check & will be
submitted for sanction
with the least possible
delay.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

CURRENT No. 852.

No. 3066C

Government of Madras,
Public Works DEPARTMENT.

MEMORANDUM.

Dated Madras, 5 July 1898.

With reference to Memo. No. 1387 dated 22nd instant in the Educational Department, the undersigned has the honour to say that the estimate for the Victoria Students' Hostel, Madras, is under check in this office and will be submitted to Government for sanction with the least possible delay.

2. A progress report at the end of next month can hardly exhibit any information.

A. Russell.

Under Secretary to Govt.

To

The Educational Department.

St. 22-6-98

H.2
22-6-98

Ed Dept.

H.2

Om. No. 1388 of 22-6-98

Re: Victoria Hostel question.

Act 21-6-98

With ref. to G.O. no 267 Ed of 22nd April 1898, the P.W.D. is requested to issue early orders for the speedy construction of the hostel and to arrange for the submission to His Excellency the Governor of a progress report at the end of July next.

(from orders)

To The P.W.D. 20-6-98
25/6/98
(2)

Om. No 1388 of 22-6-98.

With ref to G.O. no. 267 Ed of 22nd April 1898, the D.P.D. is informed that the Govt is prepared to sanction payment of the contribution of Rs 25,000, promised for the Victoria hostel on the committee submitting a formal application for it.

(from orders)

To The D.P.D. 20-6-98
25/6/98

16-6-98

1083

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government (1898) of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Order No 544/27-8-98

Communicated to the D.P.

Recd. 18 AUG. 1898 }
Regd. 20 8 98 } 1898.

Enclosures
7/1
22.8.98

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24/8/98
AT
25 8 98
To the D.P. se [deposited 20-9-98]

G.O., No. 1971 W., 5th August 1898.

AUGUST.

Victoria Students' Hostel

Estimate amounting to Rs. 1,80,943 for constructing the — at Chepāk, Madras, sanctioned with remarks.

No. 1971 W., 5TH AUGUST 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read—the following papers:—

G.O., No. 400, Educational, dated 15th July 1897.

Read—again the following paper:—

G.O., Mis. No. 521, Educational, dated 25th August 1896.

Read—the following letter from the Honorary Secretaries, Students' Hostels Committee, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 21st June 1896:—

In approaching Government on the subject of the Victoria Students' Hostel, we cannot but express our regret that it has not been found possible to make more progress with the scheme in the two years that have elapsed since the order of Government specifying the site allotted for the building. It was hoped, when in March 1895 His Excellency Lord Wenlock was invited to lay the foundation stone of the hostel, that we should be able to begin building at an early date. During the vacation, however, Mr. Stone, who had just been appointed Joint Honorary Secretary, devoted considerable attention to the plans that had been drawn up from the points of view of the suitability of the proposed building to the purpose in view, and of the economical spending of the money entrusted to the committee, and as the result of his investigations presented to the committee a memorandum embodying the following main suggestions:—

(1) that the hostel should be built for not less than 200 students, because, taking a reasonable estimate of the rates of board and lodging that students might be expected to pay, a hostel for fewer students could only be worked with considerable probability of the funds available for upkeep (servants, porter, office, taxes and repairs) proving insufficient;

(2) that the plans should be remodelled with a view both to efficiency and economy.

2. The committee in the main adopted Mr. Stone's memorandum as a basis for its further action, and Mr. Irwin, at its request, undertook to prepare new plans. He retired from the service of Government without having done so, and Colonel Rawson took the work in hand, and prepared three pencil sketches in accordance with Mr. Stone's suggestions and with the assistance of plans of the students' residential portion of the Fergusson College, Poona, which was built very cheaply and has proved very well adapted to its purpose. These plans were sent to His Excellency Lord Wenlock at his Lordship's request, and after some correspondence with the Chief Engineer, were

No. 1971 W., 5TH AUGUST 1898.

referred to the Hon'ble Mr. Grose who at Mr. Stone's request placed them at the disposal of the committee.* At a meeting of the committee held on the 13th April 1896, they were exhaustively discussed,

* See papers returned marked "urgent." and various minor alterations with a view to economy were suggested. Of these the committee accepted the following: (1) to place the clerk's office in the ground floor of the warden's house adjoining his study; (2) to build only two bed-rooms on the first floor of the warden's house, leaving a terraced roof over the study and office; (3) to omit the passage to the warden's kitchen; (4) to reduce the width of the verandahs in the residential part of the hostel to 5 feet 6 inches; (5) to lower the rooms in the same part on the first and second floors by 2 feet and 1 foot, respectively. The sketch plans marked No. 1 and No. 3 and estimate marked No. 3 revised, with an exception to be noted below, will therefore explain the views of the committee as to the building that it is desirable to construct. Plan No. 1 is useful only for the elevation, which is subject to modification (5). Plan No. 3 is subject to modifications (1)–(4). The kitchens, dining rooms, &c., will be in accordance with Mr. Irwin's plan but on a larger scale.

3. It will be seen that the estimates, excluding Rs. 40,133 under the head of Public Works establishment charges, which we venture to hope Government will not charge to the committee, amount to Rs. 1,63,809 for a building to accommodate 204 students with a library, kitchens and dining rooms and latrines, and a house, kitchen and stables for the warden, and a house for a porter or similar official. The maximum funds at the disposal of the committee amount to Rs. 88,942, made up of Rs. 63,942 promised by the Maharaja of Vizianagram and the general public, and Rs. 25,000, the contribution of Government. Rs. 74,867 are therefore wanting to complete the building on the proposed plan.

4. To meet this difficulty the committee proposes to limit its immediate aims to building about half the residential portions of the hostel and the whole of the kitchens†

† The committee think this desirable, because the same number of separate kitchens and dining rooms will be necessary for the smaller, as for the larger number of students. and the warden's residence, leaving the remainder of the residential part, the library, a house for the porter and the warden's stabling till more funds are available. It would probably be possible to arrange for the duties of "porter" being discharged by one of the subordinates attached to the College of Engineering, who live in the married quarters close to the hostel site, and arrangements might be made for the warden utilizing the Presidency College stables pending the completion of the design.

5. To execute even this portion of the work, however, the funds at present at the disposal of the committee will not suffice, as the following statement shows:—

	RS.
Residential part of hostel (one-half)	47,343
Warden's residence (including clerk's office and kitchen)	22,994
Dining rooms, &c.	19,557
Gates and roads	2,000
Water-supply	800
Contingencies at 5 per cent.	4,635
Total	97,329
Funds available	82,942 ‡
	14,387

‡ Being less by Rs. 6,000 than the total of contributions promised, because that sum was promised by Mr. G. Subroyulu Chetty for the express purpose of providing a library.

6. Consideration of Colonel Rawson's revised plan has led the committee to think that its suggestion to leave the first floor of the warden's residence incomplete was a mistaken one, and it therefore proposes to allot to the warden's residence and kitchen Rs. 25,175, the sum specified in the unrevised estimate No. 3, raising the total cost of the work proposed to be undertaken at once by Rs. 2,290 (building Rs. 2,181, contingencies Rs. 109) and therefore leaving a deficiency of Rs. 16,672.

7. Before proceeding further we cannot but invite a comparison of this estimate of Rs. 99,619 with that originally arrived at by Mr. Irwin of Rs. 1,32,380. The number of students to be accommodated is nearly the same in the two cases. Mr. Irwin's estimate provides for a library at about Rs. 10,000, but allows nothing for contingencies which at 5 per cent. would add about Rs. 5,000 to his total, while the present estimate provides for kitchens, dining rooms, &c., for 204 students at an additional cost for the extra 108 students of Rs. 6,514. The present estimate consequently shows a saving of about Rs. 33,000.

8. In round numbers Rs. 17,000 more than is at present available will be needed to carry out the limited proposals detailed above. The committee hopes that the commencement of building operations will be itself a stimulus to increased subscriptions, as there are many generous men throughout the Presidency who have held back from this movement owing to the fact that hitherto no visible and tangible evidence is forthcoming to show that the hostels are to be a reality. The committee is therefore convinced that it may issue renewed appeals for public support with confidence of success, as soon as, but not before, building operations have made substantial progress.

9. It will be observed that the above calculations are based on the assumption that Government will be pleased to waive the Public Works establishment charges at $24\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., which on the amount proposed to be immediately expended would be more than Rs. 24,000—an additional expense which would leave the committee in a deficit of Rs. 41,000, since while there is reasonable hope that Rs. 17,000 might be obtained by subscriptions while the buildings are in course of erection, the committee would hardly be justified in beginning to build in the hope of realizing Rs. 41,000 before the completion of the work.

10. If these anticipations of the committee of the generosity of Government and the public are realized, and the proposed portions of the plans herewith submitted are carried out, there would still remain the question of the completion of the buildings involving the following expenditure:—

	RS.
Residential portion of hostel (one-half)	47,343
Library	11,845
Warden's stabling	1,127
Gate Superintendent's lodge	3,000
Contingencies at 5 per cent.	3,165
	66,480
Contributions promised for library	6,000
	60,480

This again is exclusive of Public Works establishment charges, which it is hoped that Government will be pleased to waive here also.

11. The committee, convinced as it is of the utility of building the portion of the hostel detailed above, would deplore the long postponement of the completion of the design. Useful as the hostels will be in providing cheap and good board and lodging for students, the committee hopes very much more from them than this. They may be expected to take a leading part in that development of our educational

system on European Public School and College lines which has already been initiated by the establishment of hostels in connection with certain missionary institutions. The building for which the committee is now submitting plans has been designed with careful reference to the social and disciplinary aspects of college life, and as long as it is incomplete, the committee's aims can only be incompletely realized. It has consequently anxiously considered the question of how to raise this large sum of Rs. 60,000.

12. Mr. Stone, in his memorandum already referred to, has suggested that borrowing should be resorted to. The obvious difficulty in the way of this course, is the provision of security, since the committee's sole property will consist in buildings erected on land vested by Government in trustees for a particular purpose. Even if this difficulty could be overcome, however, there are strong reasons against resorting to this expedient. If the hostel realized surplus revenues, these could be much better employed in enlarging and improving it (by, for instance, providing for additional supervision), than in paying interest and contributing to a sinking fund. It is also probable that the public would more willingly contribute funds for the completion of the building than for the repayment of a loan. It has been suggested that the university should be asked to contribute to the hostels either by way of loan or gift. The objections to borrowing would be as strong in the case of the university as in that of any other creditor, as it is clear that in the present state of university finances that body would not be justified in risking any of its capital. The Act of Incorporation so explicitly limits the function of the university to the encouragement of learning by the grant of degrees on examination, that it is extremely doubtful whether the university could legally make any gift to the hostels, and it is practically certain that, in the present state of its finances, and bearing in mind that the hostels are, by the memorandum of association,* primarily for mofussil students, it would in any case be unwilling to make any grant.

* *Vide* memorandum of association as revised in accordance with the orders of Government, section 3 (a).

13. In these circumstances the committee is of opinion that it must rely on the generosity of the public and of Government for the gradual completion of the buildings, and begs to suggest that, in order to encourage subscribers to come forward, Government should offer to supplement the future subscriptions of the public by an equal amount. In support of this suggestion it will be remembered that Government has given half grants for educational buildings in several special cases, and that the hostels are educational institutions in every way deserving of similar assistance. The committee has in view other means of stimulating subscriptions, among which may be mentioned naming rooms, or blocks of rooms, after donors of large sums, and assigning prior right to hostel rooms to students from Native States and districts of the Presidency, in numbers proportionate to the contribution from each.

14. Although we have, with a view to clearness, treated the immediate carrying out of a portion of the building, and its final completion, as two separate objects in view, we have no intention of ear-marking any portion of our funds for one or the other purpose, and we think it very desirable that should Government adopt our suggestion of a half grant-in-aid of subscriptions, that it should come into force at once. In this case there is reasonable probability of our being able to complete an even larger portion of the building, without a suspension of work, than we have above laid down as the essential minimum.

15. It is doubtless unnecessary to reiterate the importance of commencing work with as little delay as may be, and the committee has therefore the honour to request that Government will be pleased, as a step towards giving effect to its order of 26th June 1894, No. 471, Educational, to pass speedy orders on the revised memorandum and articles of association of the Madras students' hostels already submitted,† and to empower the Consulting Architect to Government to prepare full plans and estimates based on the pencil sketches Nos. 1 and 3 and the estimate No. 3 revised.

† *Vide* our letter of 21st April 1896.

Order—Mis. No. 521, Educational, dated 25th August 1896.

The Government desires that, before proceeding further, complete and detailed plans and estimates of the cost of the hostel, of which a drawing is given in "revised sketch No. 3," should be prepared. The Public Works Department will be accordingly requested to issue the necessary orders. The preparation of these plans and estimates should be carried through as early as possible, and every endeavour should be made to keep the amount of the estimate within the lowest practicable limits.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.

„ Honorary Secretaries, Students' Hostels Committee.

Read—also the following paper:—

From the Honorary Secretaries, Madras Students' Hostels Committee, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated 22nd February 1897.

We have the honour to submit herewith plans and detailed estimates for the Victoria Students' Hostel, drawn up by the Consulting Architect to Government in accordance with G.O., No. 521, Educational, dated 25th August 1896, and rough estimates made by Mr. Irwin and Colonel Rawson.

A comparison of the amount of these estimates with that of the rough estimate made by Colonel Rawson and taken as the basis of the proposals of the committee in our letter, dated 21st June 1896, seems at first sight to indicate that those proposals require modification, as Mr. Harris's estimates amount to Rs. 2,25,274, or excluding establishment charges at 24 per cent., to Rs. 1,80,942 as against Colonel Rawson's rough estimate of Rs. 1,73,561 excluding the same charges. Mr. Harris, however, informs us that, under the heads of contingencies and petty supervision, which, according to the practice of the Public Works Department, are charged at 5 per cent. and 2½ per cent., respectively, he anticipates a saving of, probably, as much as Rs. 10,000 due to the extreme detail in which the estimates have been prepared, and the nearness of the site to his office which will make it possible for him and his staff to make very frequent visits to the works while in progress. If Mr. Harris's anticipation is anything near realized and Government accedes to the committee's request to waive its claim to establishment charges, the actual sum required for the completion of the building will be in round numbers Rs. 1,71,000, or Rs. 2,500 less than Colonel Rawson's rough estimate.

In these circumstances the committee ventures to request that Government will be pleased to pass very early orders on our letter of 21st June 1896 and on the draft conveyance submitted with our letter, dated 26th October 1896.

Order—No. 400, Educational, dated 15th July 1897.

With the letter read above the Honorary Secretaries of the Madras Students' Hostels Committee submit the plans and detailed estimates for the Victoria Students' Hostel, which were called for in G.O., No. 521, Educational, dated 25th August 1896.

2. The plans are suitable and meet with the approval of Government. The estimates amount to Rs. 2,25,274; but only a sum of Rs. 82,942, inclusive of the donation of Rs. 25,000 promised by the late Maharaja of Vizianagram, is at present at the disposal of the committee and a sum of Rs. 1,42,332 more is required for the construction of the whole of the buildings. The committee therefore proposes to build at first about

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of the residential part of the hostel, with kitchens and warden's quarters, and to complete the remainder of the work to be completed when funds are available. To complete even this portion of the work, which it is proposed to take in hand first, a sum of Rs. 48,000 is required and the committee asks that the Government will forego the Public Works Department charges for establishment and plant amounting nearly to Rs. 26,000 and will supplement by an equal amount the public subscriptions that may be received to make up the further deficiency of about Rs. 22,000. The Government is pleased to accede to these requests, but cannot hold out any promise to make the same concessions towards the completion of the remainder of the work.

3. The plans and estimates will be transferred to the Public Works Department; but the construction of the building should not be proceeded with pending further orders.

4. In conclusion the Government desires to express its appreciation of the thoroughness with which the committee has worked out the project and to thank Mr. Stone especially for the attention which he has devoted to it.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. J. WILSON,
for Secretary to Government.

Memo. No. 1387, Educational.

With reference to G.O., No. 267, Educational, dated 22nd April 1898, the Public Works Department is requested to issue early orders for the speedy construction of the hostel and to arrange for the submission to His Excellency the Governor of a progress report at the end of July next.

OOTACAMUND,
22nd June 1898.

(Signed) A. S. RUSSELL,
for Secy. to Government.

Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

The undersigned does not approve of the Consulting Architect's proposal to reduce the cost by Rs. 10,000 by the substitutions referred to in paragraph 2 of his letter No. 4957, dated 26th January 1897, except the substitution of whitewashing for internal plastering. Brick on edge floor and chunam floors do not last.

2. The out-houses might, however, be built of brick-in-mud, with chunam only at openings and on top foot of walls. The mortar should have one-quarter surki at least mixed with it, and stone or tile floors should be substituted for chunam floors wherever the latter are provided.

3. In paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 400, Educational, dated 15th July 1897, the Government acceded to the requests of the Hostels Committee to forego the Public Works Department charges for establishment and tools and plant on the cost of the kitchen and warden's quarters and of half of the residential part of the hostel which it is proposed to build at first and to supplement by an equal amount the public subscriptions that may be received, but declined to hold out any promise to make the same concessions towards the completion of the remainder of the work. As the proposed building is in the interests of the public and as the committee has not sufficient funds at its disposal, it is recommended that the Public Works establishment and tools and plant charges on the entire estimate of Rs. 1,80,943 be waived.

4. With the above remarks the estimate is recommended for sanction.

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Chief Engineer.

20th July 1898.

ORDER—No. 1971 W., dated 5th August 1898.

The estimate, amounting to Rs. 1,80,943, for constructing Victoria Stude. Hostel at Chépák, Madras, is sanctioned for execution in accordance with the provisio. of paragraph 82, chapter IX, Volume I, of the Public Works Code.

2. As the committee has not sufficient funds at its disposal to carry out the whole project, it proposes that one-half of the residential portion of the hostel with kitchens and warden's quarters be constructed at first, leaving the remainder of the work to be completed when funds become available. This proposal is approved.

3. In paragraph 3 of the Government Order read above, the construction of the building was ordered to be deferred pending further instructions. This restriction having since been withdrawn (*vide* G.O., No. 267, Educational, dated 22nd April 1898), the Consulting Architect is authorized to arrange for the speedy construction of so much of the hostel as is sanctioned in paragraph 2 of these Proceedings. A report of the progress made on the building should be submitted for the information of Government at the end of September next.

4. The attention of the Consulting Architect is drawn to the Chief Engineer's note read above.

5. The recommendation of the Chief Engineer that the Public Works establishment and tools and plant charges on the entire estimate of Rs. 1,80,943 be waived is approved.

(True Extract.)

J. K. N.

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Consulting Architect to Government,
with ten enclosures.

- „ Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
- „ Honorary Secretaries to the Madras Students' Hostel Committee.
- „ Educational Department. ✓

Chépák

Encl. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar;

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189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No.

DATED

189 ,

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. 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.
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