

Financial (1899) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 982

DATED 12.9.99

INDEXED.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording proceedings, Rev. Dept., accepting, with remarks, the proposals framed by Miss. Pogson for the establishment and maintenance of an observatory at Vellore, and stating that the Govt. of India will be addressed on the subject.

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14-9-98

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Financial CURRENT No. 3078 Government (1899) of Madras. REVENUE.



Recd.

Regd.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 528, 8th August 1899.

AUGUST.

ORDER No 982 d 12.9.99

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14-9-99
19/9/99

Observatory at Vellore.

Accepting, with remarks, the proposals framed by Miss Pogson for the establishment and maintenance of an —, and stating that the Government of India will be addressed on the subject.

WITH ORDER

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following letter from E. MACONCHIE, Esq., I.C.S., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture (Meteorology), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, the 20th May 1899, No. 1624—56—2:—

I am directed to forward a copy of a letter from the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India and the Director-General of Indian Observatories, No. 568-S., dated 1st October 1898, with which he submitted a copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Madras, Mis. No. 5363, dated 7th September 1898, containing proposals for the establishment of an observatory at Vellore, and to enquire whether the Governor in Council accepts the Board's proposals.

ENCLOSURES.

From JOHN ELIOT, Esq., Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, dated Simla, the 1st October 1898, No. 568-S.

I have the honour to forward a letter from the Government of Madras asking for permission to establish an observatory at Vellore in order to supply data of an area not represented by the present system of stations in Madras for inclusion in the Daily Weather Report. The Local Government are prepared to erect the shed and to make a contribution to this department to meet the pay of the observer and also apparently for the cost of the Daily Weather Telegrams to Madras.

2. As the observatory is required in order to supply information to the Government of Madras and as it is an important station for the local daily weather report, it would be advisable to sanction its establishment under the conditions proposed by the Government of Madras.

3. When observatories are established at the instance of the Local Governments, it is usual for the Meteorological Department to supply instruments free of cost to the Government concerned, and I have the honour to suggest that the practice be adhered to in the present instance and that I may be authorized to supply a complete set of meteorological instruments.

4. The cost of maintaining the observatory should be treated as a Provincial contribution to the budget grant of the Meteorological Department and the Madras Government be advised to place the amount required each year to the credit of the department in the usual manner.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Madras, Mis. No. 4043, dated the 4th July 1898.

Resolution.—In communicating Official Memorandum No. 163, Revenue, dated 28th October 1896, the Board requested the Meteorological Reporter to Government to submit proposals for establishing an observatory at Vellore, and in Board's Proceedings, No. 6713, dated 18th December 1896, she was requested to visit Vellore and submit definite proposals. Miss Pogson paid a visit to Vellore in January 1897, but no definite report has yet been received from her. She is now requested to submit the report called for at once, and to give such an explanation for the delay as the Board can submit to Government.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Madras, Mis. No. 5363, dated the 7th September 1898.

Read—again Board's Proceedings, No. 4043, dated 4th July 1898 (copy attached).

Read—also the following letter from Miss E. ISIS POGSON, F. R. MET. SOC., Meteorological Reporter to the Government of Madras, dated 26th August 1898, No. 661:—

In accordance with Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), Mis. No. 6713, dated 18th December 1896, I have the honour to submit herewith the detailed scheme for the establishment of an observatory at Vellore, for

submission on approval, to the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, agreeably to the request in the last paragraph of his letter No. 86-S., dated 2nd February 1897.

2. Having first obtained permission from the Postmaster-General, Madras, to place the Vellore Meteorological Observatory at the Postal and Telegraph Office and to utilize the service of the Post and Telegraph Master as Local Superintendent and Observer, if necessary, I proceeded to Vellore on the 27th of January 1897 to select a site and make the necessary preliminary arrangements.

3. After driving round and taking a general view of the place myself and consulting the Executive Engineer of the district, we agreed that the best and most convenient site available for the erection of the Thermometer shed and instruments was the Esplanade in front of the Post and Telegraph office, a large open piece of ground, measuring 450 feet by 300 feet and well under the observation of the Post and Telegraph office employés. There are two nice large rooms in the Telegraph office fairly well lighted, in either of which the Post and Telegraph Master said the barometer might be placed. Being a building of two stories, the roof of the Postal and Telegraph office offers a fairly good exposure for the Anemometer and Wind Vane. All the public offices at Vellore are, however, situated in the Fort surrounded by a high wall, which is rather objectionable.

4. The Post and Telegraph Master was most anxious to undertake the combined charge of the Observatory and the Observership on condition that he might be given the necessary instructions by the Madras Meteorological office, at the Vellore Observatory: as in accordance with previous information from the Postmaster-General, he could not be allowed to vacate his post to undergo the usual practice at the Madras Meteorological office. I would therefore suggest the erection of the usual pattern of Thermometer shed similar to all the rest in the Madras Presidency on the Esplanade in front of the Post and Telegraph Office, and that it may be placed in charge of the Post and Telegraph Master, who will also take the observations. The observatory need only be a third-class one, recording observations at 8 A.M. only, which should immediately be wired to the Madras Meteorological office for incorporation in the Madras Daily Weather Report in the line already allotted for that purpose. The Executive Engineer of the Vellore district might be asked to have the Thermometer shed made and erected exactly in accordance with the Madras Presidency pattern, a copy of which is forwarded herewith, and he would also have the Anemometer and Wind Vane properly fixed on the roof of the Post and Telegraph office building. The Anemometer will probably require a small platform and step ladder to enable the observer to reach it at times of observation and for oiling and cleaning. The necessary instruments for the equipment of the observatory will on application be supplied from the Imperial Meteorological Office, Calcutta, and on receipt of these, I will depute my Head clerk in charge of them to Vellore, to place them in their proper positions and also to give the Post and Telegraph Master, or whoever is to take the observations, the necessary instructions in reading the instruments, making out the Weather Telegrams, &c., which will probably take him about ten days. As soon as this is all done, I will, with the permission of Government, go to Vellore myself to see that everything is satisfactory on the starting of the work. The initial expenditure may roughly be estimated as follows:—

	Rs.
Cost of Thermometer shed of Madras pattern	175
Its carriage to Vellore and erection	50
Travelling expenses of Head Clerk to teach observer	36
Do. of Meteorological Reporter and duffadar to Vellore	36
Erection of Anemometer ladder staging and Wind Vane	50
Total	347

Annual Expenditure.

Pay of observer at Rs. 10 per mensem	120
Cost of telegrams at Re. 1 per diem	365
Contingent expenses per annum including postage, &c.	10
Total	495

5. The initial expenditure estimated above is only approximate and according to the cost of Thermometer sheds made of good teakwood under the supervision of the Meteorological office, which have generally lasted upwards of twenty years or more.

6. A plan of the Vellore Fort, showing the Post Office and other offices, kindly furnished by the Executive Engineer of the district is forwarded herewith, showing the proposed position of the Thermometer shed in red ink on the Esplanade. A view and plan of the Thermometer shed showing the arrangement of the instruments are also annexed to these proposals.

7. In conclusion I beg to suggest that the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India may have the necessary funds transferred to his budget, both for the initial and annual expenditure, on receipt of which, he will, I am sure, forward the required instruments and take the necessary action in asking the Executive Engineer of the district to erect a Thermometer shed and authorizing me to see to all other requirements.

Resolution.—Submitted for the orders of Government, with reference to its Memorandum No. 168, dated 28th October 1896, through the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, with reference to his letter No. 86-S., dated 2nd February 1897.

2. After a delay of nearly two years, Miss Pogson reports that she selected a suitable site for erecting a shed for a third-class station in front of the Post and Telegraph office at Vellore, when she visited that place in January 1897. The selection may be approved, and orders may be issued in the Public Works Department for the erection of the shed on the site selected. The approximate cost is put at Rs. 275 by Miss Pogson.

3. The report read above is silent as to the probable cost of the necessary instruments and of forwarding them to Vellore. The Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India may be asked to provide these and to arrange with the Telegraph Department for the transmission of daily weather telegrams from the station as soon as it is in working order.

4. Sanction will be requested for the grant of a special allowance to the Post and Telegraph Master of Rs. 10 per mensem for taking charge of the observatory, and to the payment of travelling allowances under the usual rules to the Meteorological Reporter and her Head Clerk in connection with the starting of the observatory.

ORDER—No. 528, Revenue, dated 8th August 1899.

Miscellaneous.

The Government accepts the proposals framed by Miss Pogson for the establishment and maintenance of an observatory at Vellore, as detailed in her letter to the Board of Revenue, No. 661, dated 26th August 1898. The Government of India will be informed accordingly. The shed for the observatory will be erected at the cost of Provincial funds, and an annual contribution will be made to the Meteorological Department on account of the allowances to be paid to the observer. As regards daily weather telegrams from the station to Madras, the Government of India will be requested to sanction their transmission free of charge as in the case of the telegrams from the other stations required for the publication of the Madras Daily Weather Report.

2. The following letter will be addressed to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

J. H. M.
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,
Land Records and Agriculture).
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Rungasawmy Aiyangar.

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READ AGAIN G.O., No.

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ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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