

Home (1919) Department.

Miscellaneous

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 208

DATED 27-1-19

INDEXED

16

[Despatch Abstract.]

Treasure Trove.

Passing orders on the ----- discovered at Kilapudanur; directing the acquisition of the images of Manikravesgar and Chandrasekharar for the Government Museum at Madras and sanctioning the return of the remaining images to the villagers of Kilapudanur.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

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 as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department.
604	26. 7-07			
805	11. 6. 10			
1156 } 25/9	9- 10. 14			
1157 }				
369	10. 4. 17			
583	13-6-17			
587-	6-8-18			

Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S.C.)	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

3-16.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

Received 191 . Registered 191 .

Subject.
Soliciting order whether the articles concerned
in the treasure house case at Kilapudanur
village Nannilam taluk may or may
not be acquired on behalf of the Government
Museum

ENCLOSURES.

No. Nil

Spare copies

R.C No. 2722/Ver. of 1917.

Station Tanjore, Dated the 11th September 1918.

From (Name) J.R. Huggins Esquire, I.C.S.

(Designation) Collector of Tanjore.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit that the marginally noted
four resident ryots of Kilapudanur village, Nannilam Taluk,
Rangaswami Pillai presented a petition to the Divisional officer,
Narayanaswami Pillai Negapatam, stating that a siva temple was in -
Chokkalinga Pillai existence some years ago on 10 cents of land in
Ethirapathi Pillai S.No. 106 B. of the village, that traces of its existence
were visible on the ground and that the village was in need
of a temple and they prayed that permission might be granted
to them to construct a Pillayar temple on the site of the
old temple. The petitioners allegations were found to be
true and their application was also bona fide. The site in

question is measured as natham poramboke in settlement and its paimash classification is reported to be "Lingathadi tope". The paimash classification leads to the inference that there was in the vicinity of the site, an idol, an emblem of the Hindu God Siva. In consideration of these facts, the Divisional officer, Negapatam passed an order to the effect that the erection of a temple on the site is a legitimate use of natham and that a reasonable - extent should be assigned to the petitioners for the purpose. An extent of 10 cents was accordingly assigned to the petitioners on 19th July 1917 by the Tahsildar of Nannilam for the construction of a Pillayar - temple.

2. While excavating earth in the site assigned for laying foundation the petitioners found on 29-10-17 and 19-11-17, the treasure whose description is noted in the margin. A notice under section 5 of the Treasure Trove Act was issued and the case was posted for hearing on 7th September 1918. The aforesaid 4 persons alone appeared before me for enquiry on 7th September 1918 and deposed that the treasure was found in the natham where there was a ruined temple, that the articles might have been buried 400 or 500 years ago and that they did not know who buried the articles and when the temple fell into ruins. They - also presented a petition to me saying that they had made necessary arrangements for the constructions of a temple for the idols and for the performance of puja to them and urging for the return of the treasure.

No one came forward claiming the treasure as his, on the ground that it was hidden by him within one hundred years before the date of the finding. In the above circumstances, I passed an order under section 9 of the Act, declaring the treasure as ownerless.

3. On a reference made to the Superintendent, Government Museum, Madras, as to whether the idols should be acquired on behalf of the Museum, he has informed me, in his No. 447, dated 20th June 1918, that the six idols concerned in the case should be acquired on behalf of Government.

4. The idols were found near the site of an ancient temple and the idols almost certainly belonged to that temple. The temple has been in ruins for many years and no worship has been performed. At the same time there is no doubt that in the view of the villagers a certain sanctity must be attached to idols found in such a place. This is a case which is somewhat similar to the one referred to in my report R.C.No. 1056 Ver. of 1917, dated 14th June 1918, and disposed of in Government order No. 587, dated 6th August 1918. I solicit orders as to whether the idols in question should in the above circumstances be acquired on behalf of the Museum or returned to the finders.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

For Collector.

A.V.N./14-9-18.

4

Description of the treasure.	Value of the treasure.	Date of finding of the treasure.	Names of the finders.
1. Natarajar.	Rs. 84 6 0	29-10-17.	Narayanaswami
2. Amman	22 0 0		Pillai.
3. Peedam	7 8 0		Chokkalingam
4. Brass lamp in 2 pieces	3 8 0		Pillai.
5. Stone pieces. 15 in number (with the village munsiff)	.		Uthirapathi Pillai.
6. Chandrasekaraswami	27 13 0	19-11-17.	Rangaswami Pillai
7. Amman	20 0 0		Narayanaswami ..
8. Sambandamurthi	10 8 0		Chokkalingam ..
9. Manikka Vachakar.	16 4 0		Uthirapathi ..

Home Ms. Depo

From the Collector of Tanjore, no. 2722 of 11.9.18

Encl No 2605-19 9.10.18

Referred to the Supl. Govt Museum, who is requested to report whether the acquisition of the idols in question is in his opinion particularly desirable, and if so, to explain his reasons for holding such a view.

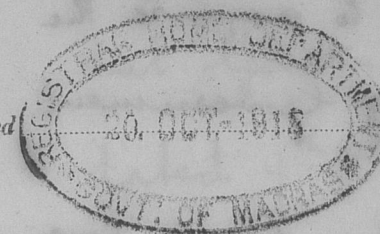
Read to the
with encls
14.10.18
To the Supl. Govt. Museum.

Reminders to come on 7-11-18.

26/23-9-18
Puck
5.10.18
9/10/18
9/19/18

Home (Miscellaneous) DEPARTMENT Home (Mis) 2605-1
24.10.18

Received



191

Registered

191

Subject

Kilapudamun village M. M. Case

Stating the circumstances under which the
images concerned in the _____ are required
to be required.

ENCLOSURES.

No. C. No 2605

H. Mis (in original)

Spare copies

nil

No. 641

Station Madras Dated the 18th October 1918.
19

From (Name) J. R. Henderson, Esq., C.I.E., M.B.C.M.

(Designation) Superintendent, Government
Museum,
Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Sir,

With reference to endorsement no.
2605-1 dated 9th October 1918, regarding the
images found at Kilapudamun village, Tanjore
District, I have the honour to state that in
accordance with the policy which has been adopted

for some years to improve wherever possible the fine collection of bronze deities in this Museum. I asked the Collector of Tanjore to acquire the images referred to on behalf of Government.

The six images in question are of considerable artistic and archaeological interest, an opinion which has been endorsed by Mr.

A. H. Longhurst, Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Southern Circle. They comprise a figure of Chandrasekkharaswami which up till now is unrepresented in the Museum Collection, and one of Manikkavasagar which is much finer and in some respects quite different from the only figure of this saint already exhibited in the collection. The figure of Nataraja is not required for the Madras Museum in which several examples already exist, but would have been a welcome addition to the collections of the Indian Museum, Calcutta, in which South Indian bronzes are up till now hardly represented. The authorities of the Indian Museum are particularly desirous to acquire

a figure of Nataraja and I may add that Government in G. O. No. 1156, Misc. (Edl.) dated 9th October 1914 approved my proposal that duplicates of South Indian bronzes should be supplied to them when available.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

L. Henderson.

Superintendent.

From

SUPERINTENDENT,

GOVERNMENT MUSEUM,

Madras.

To

No.

Dated

Received

191

Despatched

ENCLOSURES.

Subject.

NOTES.

Page 1

Home (Proc) Sep.

Treasure Trove Idols.

(C-2605)

From the S. H. Tanjore 9 11-8-18

It seems clear that the idols in question once belonged to the ruined temple within the precincts of which they were found. The villagers require them for devotional purposes, and a temple is being constructed for their worship. It would therefore appear that in accordance with the general policy followed in similar cases, it is desirable to comply with their request ~~and~~ to have the idols restored to them, particularly so, as they were discovered at the very site which has been assigned to them for building a temple. The Collector has declared the idols ownerless under section 9 of the Treasure Trove Act. The Supt. Govt. Museum, whom the Collector has consulted, remarks that the idols should be acquired for the Museum. It is for orders whether they may be ordered to be given back to the parties, or whether a reference is necessary to the

C. 6. G. 587 (E)
6-8-18

page 3 Cf

Supl. for Museum, inquiring whether on any special ground of archaeological or artistic importance, the acquisition of the idols is particularly desirable. Draft end to the Supl. is subd.

W.D.R. We sh^d have the definite opinion of the Supl. fr.
3.10.18. A 3.10.18 Le
Feb 5.10.18

From the Supl. for Museum No 641 of 18.10.18

The question for decision ^{now} is ~~whether~~ whether the "Considerable artistic and archaeological interest" which the idols are reported to possess is so important as to warrant a denial of the villagers' request to have the idols returned to them for devotional purposes. Submitted that the ~~policy~~ policy hitherto followed has been to return ~~to~~ ~~an~~ an idol to the petitioner or to the trustees of a temple where there is clear proof that the idol was discovered in a temple site and is required for bona fide devotional purposes - unless ~~they~~ it possesses distinct archaeological or artistic interest. (vide No 587 of 6.8.18 and No. 369 of 10.4.17). The Supl. make special mention of only 3 out of the 6 idols and of these, one is unrepresented in the Museum now, another is much finer than and in some respects quite

(E) + (Q)

(Museum office note revised)

different from the only other figure of this
 Saint already in the Collection and the
 this is required for the Indian Museum.
 It is presumed that the remaining three
 idols are not so important from the
 point of view of archaeological and
 artistic interest. In regard to the
 General principles governing the acqui-
 sition of Treasure Trove idols please
 see paras. 3 and 4 of India's Resolution
 printed on page 3 and Dr Mr Stokes'
 letter printed on page 6 of No 505 Pub
 D/11.6.10

There can be no question
 of the right of Govt. over the
 find. The only point is whether
 in view of the representations
 of the villagers, that arrangements
 will be made ^{by them} for the construction of a temple
 and for conducting regular worship -
 positive evidence of the belief of the people
 in the sanctity of the idols & of their earnestness
 in the matter - the Govt. should waive
 their right and hand the idols over to the
 villagers. The Collector's opinion that
 the idols "almost certainly belonged" to
 the ruined temple somewhat reduces
 the ~~right~~ nature of the right to a ^{mere} technical
 one; while the grant of the request of

(7)

28/11/18
 Park
 1-11-18

para. 2 - page 29
 Cf.

para. 4 - page 39 Cf

the villagers ~~will~~ is likely to be valued by them much. As observed by the Collector the present case is similar to that disposed of in fo. No. 587. Mi 2 6. 5. 18.

(E)

As regards the suggestion to retain part of the find for the Museum, it is observed that the ~~poor~~ central idol in the find is "Chandrasekhara-swami". ~~Protestation~~. The retention of this idol for the museum ~~will~~ may not render the other idols a sufficiently important set for a ~~each~~ separate temple & worship, which it is contemplated to serve.

In these circumstances, it is submitted that the Govt. may accept the proposal to hand the idols to the villagers provided they give an undertaking that they ^{will} ~~would~~ be build the temple & begin worship therein within a fixed period.

Ca
4. 11. 18

all the six images are reported to be of considerable artistic and archaeological interest. The Supt refers to three specifically (1) Chandrasekhara swami (2) Manikavasagar (3) Nataraja. The officer notes presume that the Supt

p. 4 of 4.

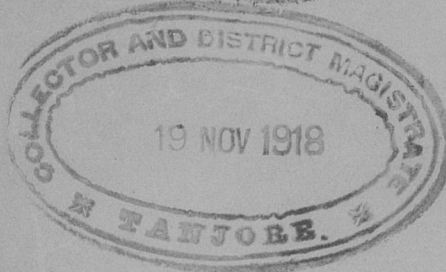
Home(mis) 2605-2

5-11-18

D. No. 680

7-11-18

note the date of return.



Home(mis) no 2665-3

18. 11. 18

(c+o)

has no objection to the return of the other three idols. Is the proposal correct? May 5/11/18

Suph. Central Museum (uo)

Government Museum

Madras, 7th November 1918

Under the special circumstances of the case I would not object to the return of three of the idols.

I alt. 7. 11. 18

Home Mis. Dept.

Submitted for orders.

20/11/18

11. 11. 18

CA 14. 11. 18

2722/17 Dec

Will the officers be satisfied if three of the idols alone be returned whilst the other three (namely the) are retained? May 15/11/18

Colr. of Tanjore (uo)

Re 2722

Encl:- 1 c file (27/18)

Returned. The villagers were consulted & say they want all the idols and if all cannot be given they wish that Natarajan & the corresponding Annam may be given to them. I suggest that this may be done

as the Katarajan is not required ^{for} Madras
though it is for Calcutta

8.12.18

Do let the Secretary to Government of
Home (Mis) department
Madras.

Howe Mr Dept

Do Summarise the position, as far

the idols were discovered on excavating
a piece of ground reported to be the site
of an old temple and ~~proposed~~ to be the
~~site~~ on which a new temple is going
to be erected. The villagers requested that
the idols ^{might} be given to them for devotional
purposes; but the Supt. Govt. Museum
wants them to be acquired for the
Museum. On further ^{reference} ~~representation~~, the
Supt. ^{agreed to surrender} ~~three~~ three of the idols. ~~Three~~
~~to be included in the principal collection.~~
The villagers, being consulted as to whether
they would like to have the remaining
three, ^{said} ~~they said~~ that if all cannot
be given, at least Katarajan and
its corresponding Anuman may be given
to them.

~~the idols of the goddess to be~~

note the date of relief
14.12.18

DEC 18 1918

12 DEC 1918



para 1 and 2
of Collector's letter
page 142 of

para 2 of Collr's
letter p. 2 of

para 3 ibid p. 3 of

vide page 5 ante

~~The Government of Madras~~
~~Suppl. of the Museum~~
 is anxious to acquire ^{Natural} ~~Natural~~ ^{history} ~~history~~
 on behalf of the Indian Museum at
 Calcutta - In J.O. 1156-57 of 8-10-14
 that Museum was promised to be
 supplied, as occasions arose, with
 duplicates of useful specimens of
 South Indian bronzes already in the
 Madras Museum; but the wording
 of the G.O. does not seem to make it
 obligatory on the part of this Govt.
 to acquire idols in behalf of that
~~for~~ institution when the
 Circumstances ~~of the~~ would recom-
 mend a different Course. The policy
 hitherto followed by this Govt. has been
 to return an idol to the villagers,
 or to the Trustees of ~~the~~ a temple,
 whenever it is required for bona
 fide devotional purposes; but pre-
 eminent Archaeological and
 Artistic interest has been recognised
 to be a sufficient reason for the
 denial of such requests. Vide G.O. No.
 463 Pub, 263 Pub, 577 Pub, 473 Pub, 369 Pub, 614 Pub, 587 Pub
 26-3-15, 19-2-15, 27-3-16, 11-3-16, 10-4-17, 20-11-18, 6-8-18
~~to the Government of Madras~~
~~for the purpose of the Museum~~
~~for the purpose of the Museum~~

X, B, M, A, C, Q, N & E

For orders

BP
22.1.19

CA
14.1.19

There seems to be no objection to the Coller
reserving for the Museum the images
of Manikavasagar + Chandrasekhar
+ giving up the rest for the proposed temple
provided someone undertakes to build one.

LWS
15.1.19

HM



Draft order Submitted

BP
22.1.19

CA
24.1.19

my
27/1/19

Rae
23.1.19

Bae
C: 16.1
9.26/19

Sectt. II-10 (a)-36,003-21-1-18. (6)

Treasure Trove

Hondius DEPARTMENT

Passing orders on the discovered at Kibitbandur directing ~~Donating~~ the acquisition of the images of Maunba Dasagar and Chandra Shekharar for the South Museum at Madras and sanctioning the return of the rest to remaining ^{images} ~~images~~ to the villagers of Kibitbandur.

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191

191

READ ALSO:—

• No. 2605, From the ^I/_{II} Collector of Tanjore, No. 2722 dated Dec 11-9-1918.
Fwd^d to the S. S. Museum No 2605-10/5700

From the ^{the} 10th - 10th 1911

” ” ” ” ” ” 191

ORDER.

No. 208, dated 27-7, 1919

Ms.

The Govt. consider that the image of Manikkavāsagar and Chandrasekharar should be acquired for the Govt. Museum at Madras. ~~and~~ ~~on~~ ~~the~~ ~~return~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~remaining~~ ~~images~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~villagers~~ ~~of~~ ~~Kilapundam~~ ~~,~~ ~~provided~~ ~~that~~ ~~some~~ ~~one~~ ~~undertakes~~ ~~to~~ ~~build~~ ~~a~~ ~~temple~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~receiving~~ ~~them~~ ~~.~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~done~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~expense~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Govt.~~

So
The Collector of Danpore
Got I and ~~two~~ a II + III and 50
Copy to the Suph; foot.

The Collector of Tanjore

in sum. It is

$\phi \circ \bar{I} \rightarrow \phi \circ \bar{II} + \bar{III}$

and

24/1/19

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

191

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
191

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH LITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.

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Q = Copy heading only.