4-3-68
16-2-09.

L. & M.
9,000-8-8-06.

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

GOVERNMENT PRESS
2 SEP 1907
MADRAS

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1312 M

DATED 7th August 1896

Ren

Please print 'ten' copies
for sale & send
soon

[Despatch Abstract.]

Water-supply.

Declining, with remarks, to approve the scheme for the ---- of Kumbakonam during the Mahamakham festival, and requesting the Sanitary Engineer to report why the investigation and survey of the new area for the ---- of Coonoor has not yet been undertaken.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Read

[7] V. E

Miscellaneous.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPT.

G.O., DATED 7-8-96

No. 1312 M

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Water Supply

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[illegible]

Read again Order of Government, dated
189 , No. , Miscellaneous.

Back Paper, No.
189

Further Paper, No. Cuo 2333 Rev/96
of 189

Enclosures.

Current No.

Statement with ditto.

Order of Government

Statement with ditto.

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Copied by
Examined by

A

No. 7/6

Office of Sanitary Commissioner,
Camp Ootacamund ~~Fort St. George,~~ 13 July 1896.

CURRENT No.

From

Surgeon Lieut.-Col. W. G. King, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
Sanitary Commissioner for Madras,

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Local and Municipal Department

Enclosure. 2

Sir,

In forwarding Proceedings of the Sanitary Board No 16, dated 8th July 1896, I have the honor to offer the following remarks in regard to the unusual circumstances under which a scheme for the water-supply of Kumbakonam is placed before Government, as an emergent sanitary work:—

2. In the consultation of the Sanitary Board with the Collector of Tanjore and the Municipal Council of Kumbakonam, it was agreed that whilst it was quite possible numbers in excess of this estimate might arrive at Kumbakonam during the Mahamagam festival—avoiding extremes on either side—it would be reasonable to conclude that ~~in~~ an assembly of 500000 pilgrims

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Back Paper, No. 189

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pilgrims would take place during that period, and be actually present on the great bathing day when it is claimed the water of the Ganges enters the Mahamari Tank.

3. That heavy responsibility attends the assemblage of so large a concourse of people from all parts of India in so highly an insanitary a town as Kumbakonam in respect to danger to public health in this and neighbouring Presidencies, is indubitable—more especially with regard to possible widespread mortality from Cholera. Thus, I find that although in the last festival report embodied in G.O. No 1722 dated 22nd July 1885, Public but scant notice is taken of the existence of Cholera at the festival ~~there occurred~~ during the first three months of the year—in which time practically pilgrims arrive and depart—231 attacks of Cholera were reported in Kubakonam. Experience at festivals throughout India shows that even when trivial numbers of Cholera attacks occur, on the departure of pilgrims undergoing incubation of the disease on the journey homewards.

Rew

homewards epidemics of magnitude may be inaugurated. Whilst it is my duty to point to the dangers that may attend the assembly of this mass of pilgrims, it is at the same time, necessary that to enable Government to correctly gauge their grade, I should add that the festival takes place at a period when it may be expected, by reason of meteorological conditions acting upon the specific cholera bacillus, any increase of epidemic activity would take place under unfavorable conditions. Nevertheless, even if of brief duration an epidemic under the circumstances described could not fail to be causative of considerable and preventible mortality.

4. Under the above circumstances it would obviously be of material utility that the well proved advantages offered by a public piped water-supply in securing immunity from specific contamination of water—the most frequent mode of cholera spread—should be available during the festival, and in anticipation of the period when it is doubtless the intention of Government that

in common with other municipalities, Kumbakonam should be in possession of this sanitary boon. That the matter has not been pressed upon the notice of Government in a manner more convenient for it to deal with, is due to facts beyond my control. Putting aside the former history of the long-pending subject of the water-supply of this town, I may state that in December 1895, I urged the importance of a scheme being put into execution as rapidly as possible, having regard to the approaching festival, and a Resolution by the Municipal Council desiring Government to direct that a scheme be prepared at an early date was accordingly passed. This Resolution was however never put into effect by the Municipal Council, and, three months having been allowed to lapse, it was cancelled without intimation being given to me of the fact. Hence, the delay which has occurred, and the somewhat ambiguous phraseology of the Resolution of the Municipal Council dated 2d July herewith forwarded, intended to meet the legal difficulties of a

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third Resolution on the same subject.

5. It is understood that if the Sanitary Engineer be permitted to wire at once to England, the pipes for the proposed scheme could be delivered in time for completion of the work before the festival. The Sanitary Engineer is already in possession of the necessary levels. In Mr Minchin, who is thoroughly conversant with this class of work, there is at disposal an officer of the required energy. The question therefore resolves itself into consideration as to whether Government is prepared to place the necessary funds at disposal.

6. I have laid the Resolution before the President of the Sanitary Board. That officer whilst expressing grave doubts as to Government being capable of meeting this sudden demand for funds, approves of the engineering aspect of the scheme and its sanitary desirability, and agrees with me in thinking—so far as information at disposal would permit—that in the event of

Government

Government approving the scheme, the following sources might be look to for funds owing to the probable lapse of allotments for sanitary works:—

Municipality	Government grant	Amount likely to lapse	Reasons for probable lapse
Ootacamund	100000	80,000	Mr Welch's plans and Estimates will be complete in January 1897.
Coonoor	40000	40000	Investigation and survey of new area not commenced.
Tirupatti	75,000	70000	Experimental well still in progress
Cuddapah			Special borings and investigations only just completed.

7. In regard to the possibility of the Municipality meeting the cost of the scheme, in the event of its being made permanent, I would furnish the following data:—

	Names of places for which water supply schemes have been prepared.	Amount of Estimate	Cost per head of Population			Remarks
1	Adoni (Pop. 26,243)	Rs 1,62,000	6	2	8	Completed
2	Conjeeveram (Pop. 42,548)	" 2,57,000	6	"	8	In progress
3	Kurnool (Pop. 24,376)	" 2,39,380	9	13	1	— do —
4	Dindigul (Pop. 20,203)	" 80,000	3	15	4	— do —
5	Madura (Pop. 87,428)	" 3,91,400	4	7	7	Completed
6	Tanjore (Pop. 54,390)	" 4,29,000	7	14	2	— do —
7	Trichnopoly (Pop. 90,609)	" 5,02,050	5	6	5	Approaching completion
	Kumbakonam (Pop. 54,307)	4,88,800	9	"	-	Now suggested

In Kumbakonam tax on buildings is levied at 7½ per cent — the maximum permissable under the present Act.

Tax on Lands is also levied at the maximum rate.

Total income from taxation expected for 1896-97 including Tolls is Rs 56,950, the incidence per head of population (Census) being Rs 1-"-9

Income from taxation excluding Tolls is Rs 36,950, or as 10-11 per head

Water tax if levied at the maximum rate (4 per cent) will yield about Rs 10,800.

But
The estimated cost of the scheme is
Rs 4,88,800

Working charges would be from
Rs 13,000 to Rs 15,000.

Interest and sinking fund on one half of total cost of scheme (Rs 244400) would be Rs 14,664.

Therefore, total extra cost to the Municipality would be excess above receipts from water-tax, namely, Rs 4,200 plus interest on sinking fund equal Rs 18,864

Presuming, however, the revised Act IV of 1884 to be in force, the scheme could be financed thus:—

House and Land tax will yield at maximum rate Rs 27,000 or an increase of Rs 4,750

Water tax will yield Rs 17,550

There would therefore be available a total additional income of Rs 24,300 leaving a deficit to be provided by savings under other heads of expenditure of from Rs 3,364 to Rs 5,364.

7 It will thus be seen that unless it can be proved that the method of assessment by the Municipality is erroneous — a matter I think worthy of special investigation — it would not be in a position to finance the scheme.

8 I would therefore suggest for the consideration of Government that, in the event of the scheme being made permanent, three-fourths of the cost be borne by Government. I submit that in respect to water schemes for the large pilgrim resorts this demand upon the generosity of Government although very heavy, is not unreasonable. In the case of Tirupatti this has, I believe, been already suggested to Government. Such centres are for sanitary reasons called upon to provide pipes and machinery beyond the actual necessity for the standing population, with the object of arranging for the requirements of a disproportionately large fluctuating population of pilgrims.

A small & poor place
HD

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt servt
W G King
Surg: Lt Col.
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

third

L & M Department.

25

8P

C.No.2035 d/13-7-96.

O R D E R No 1312 Mmis dt 7. 8. 96

In its proceedings read above, the Sanitary Board puts forward a scheme for the water supply of Kumbhakonam which is to be at first temporary, in view to meeting requirements at the coming Mahamagham festival which takes place in February next, and subsequently to become the permanent source of supply to the Town.

2 No plans and nothing but the roughest of estimates have been submitted to Government. The scheme is presented in the most sketchy outline and no means of forming any idea as to its exact nature are afforded. All that is said is that it is probable that the requisite quantity of water can be obtained some where to the North West of the town in the tract~~s~~ between the rivers Cauvery and Arsilar and that the Sanitary Engineer is already in possession of the necessary levels.

3 The estimate, which is admitted to be only approximate, amounts to the very large sum of ₨.488,800. This, however, does not provide for the cost of engines and pumps which it is proposed for the present to borrow from either Trichinipoly or Tanjore, nor does it cover working charges. It also does not

provide

provide for the cost of carriage to and from Kumbakonam of any engines borrowed nor for charges for wear and tear of these and it contains no provision for the compensation which will no doubt have to be paid for lands taken up. Further the engine house for which provision is made in the estimate is to be only temporary and will have in the future to be replaced by a permanent and more expensive structure.

4 It is thus quite evident that the cost of the works proposed ~~will~~ would be at the very least five lakhs and the probability is that when completed they would cost very much more as if the recommendations made were accepted the work would, to be of any use by February next, have to be carried out with haste such as would inevitably involve further expenditure in the future.

5 It is quite clear that the whole of the funds required for the scheme proposed would have to be advanced from Provincial funds and it is also more than probable that but a very small fraction of the outlay would ever to be recouped from the Municipality. To treat Kumbhakonam, a populous and wealthy place, in the exceptional manner contemplated by the Sanitary Commissioner, is entirely out of the question. The case of Tripati is not in point as it is a small and poor town and is, apart from the temples in and near it from which the Municipality derives little if any revenue, a place of no importance.

Very Urgent.

Cir 1930 L 96
1076 Addl 26-6-96
173-74 L 25-6-96
805 L 11-5-96
330 L 25-2-96
1722 L 23-10-95
1027-28 Mul 18-12-95

369

1722 L

~~Local & Municipal~~ DEPARTMENT.

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 2035 M

From

SURN.-LT.-Col. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Local & Municipal Dept.

CHIEF SECRETARY
13 JUL. 1896
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

No. 1/6

Dated 13th | July 1896.
Despatched do. |
Received |

ENCLOSURES. 2

Subject.

Forwards, with remarks, Resolution of the Sanitary Board, No 16 of 8th July 1896 proposing a water-supply scheme for the town of Kumbakonam in view of the forthcoming Mahamagam festival

1312 L
7-5-96

B

Proceedings of the special meeting of the Municipal Council Kumbakonam held on the 2nd July 1896.

× × ×

2. Resolved that the Sanitary Board be requested to prepare a scheme for supplying the town temporarily during the festival with pure protected water and that Government be addressed to acquaint the Council as to what help the Council may expect from it in this matter and also for the general purposes of the festival.

(S) T. S. Sivasamy Odayar

Chairman

(True Copy)

T. S. Sivasamy Odayar

Chairman

K.N.
Duty

Very urgent.

[100—18-11-95.]

686

A
Enclosure

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

SANITARY BOARD OFFICE.

GENERAL SANITATION ~~DEPARTMENT~~. Branch.

Proceedings of the Sanitary Board, No. 16, dated 8th July 1896.

PRESENT.

SURGEON-LT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., AG. SANITARY COMMISSIONER, MADRAS,

J. A. JONES, ESQ., M.I.C.E., F.R.S.P., SANITARY ENGINEER TO GOVERNMENT.

READ the following:—

G. O No. 1076 A. M. dated 26th June 1896 requiring the Sanitary Board to consult with the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police as to measures requisite in view of the forthcoming Mahamagam festival at Kumbakonam.

Read also resolution of the Municipal Council Kumbakonam No. 2 dated 2nd July 1896, in reference to a consultation with the Collector of the District and the Sanitary Board on the 2nd July 1896, stating that a protected public water supply is in its opinion requisite for the sanitary safety of the population expected to assemble in the town during the Mahamagam festival, and requesting the Sanitary Board to prepare a suitable scheme as rapidly as possible for the temporary water supply of Kumbakonam.

Read also approximate estimate —

prepared by

by the Sanitary Engineer to Government for the temporary water supply of Kumbakonam.

The Sanitary Board is of opinion that it would be impossible to secure the sanitary safety of the large population estimated at not less than 500,000 likely to assemble for the Mahamagam festival satisfactorily, otherwise than by the rapid execution of a scheme for supplying the town by pipes.

2. It is considered that by relying upon the subsoil water found in the area to the North west of the town between the rivers Cauvery and Arsilar, sufficient water of good quantity can be secured by pumping. It is regarded as probable that the required amount of 1,500,000 gallons at 3 gallons per head per day can be obtained in this manner.

3. In drawing up this scheme, the Sanitary Board has held in view the fact that a permanent water supply is highly desirable for this insanitary town, and it calculates that taking into account the fluctuating pilgrim population of ordinary times plus the town population, it would be safe to estimate that 60,000 persons should be supplied with 25 gallons per head. It further believes that it would best serve economy that the execution of the temporary scheme for the festival be so effected that it shall be possible to render it of a permanent nature with a minimum of alteration.

4. The Sanitary Board would, holding the above view as to economy, advise in regard to finance that Government should purchase the pipes, and necessary adjuncts, and, whilst placing them at the disposal of the Municipality, should retain a lien upon them until the Municipality is in a position to accomplish their purchase in whole or in such part as Government may deem necessary, and further that to enable the cost of labour to be met a loan to cover this item be granted the Municipality at once. The proposals as to finance are therefore as follows:—

Cost of Materials

Steel pipes	Rs 45,056.
Elevated water iron tank	24,000.
Pipes &c	270,000.
Total	335,056
Add contingencies	50,244
Tools & plant	Rs 385,300

Cost of labour.

Infiltration wells	28400.
Laying steel pipes	10,600.
Pumping and baling	10,000.
Storage well	5000.
Engine house temporary	1,000.
Laying and jointing	35,000
	90,000.
Contingencies &c.	13,500
Total	103,500.
Total of Tools & plant	385,300.
Grand total	488,800

Note The cost of neither pumps nor pumping is included. It is intended to use plant temporarily fm Trichinopoly and Tanjore, the charges for this could be afterwards arranged.

5. The

by the Sanitary Engineer to Government for the temporary water supply of Kumbakonam.

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5. The Sanitary Board is of opinion that in view of the short time at disposal and in the event of this scheme being sanctioned by Government, the duty of carrying it out should be entrusted to a special officer who should be given as free a hand as possible. It is probable that the Sanitary Engineer can obtain the pipes &ca required from England in a less period than any other officer who may be detailed to carry out the work.

W. King.

Surgn: Lt Col.
Secy (Genl. Sanitation Branch)
Sanitary Board

2/203K

---

6 Under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable to accept the proposal of the Sanitary Board. If proper sanitary arrangements are made for the coming festival, there seems no reason why it should be a source of any appreciable danger.

7 With reference to the remark opposite to the entry "Coonoor" in the statement appended to paragraph 6 of Dr. King's letter No. T/6, dated 13th July 1896 the Sanitary Engineer will be requested to report, without delay, the reason why the investigation and survey of the new area for the water supply of the town in question has not yet been undertaken. (true copy).

Jd 4/8/96

To
The Joint Secy. Sanitary Board
(Sanitation Branch)
" Sanitary Commissioner
" Sanitary Engineer

Despd - 13/8/96

98

Kumbhakonam Water Supply

(FROM ORDERS)

2035 m

~~Hm~~. 1312 m

Press

Please print this in the note in continuation of the A.H.S' & H.E.'s note

Submitted with the note for approval as I am not quite sure whether he intended that reasons should be given or merely a brief order declining to approve the scheme.

J. F. Price
4/8/96.

Let it go as it is, 2nd day

[illegible]
5/8/96

J. F. Price

[G. No 1312 m
7/8/96]

C 8/2

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed
189 .

Read again G.O., No. Dated
189 .

Current No. 2035 m A

Enclosures to C. No. 2035 m A

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.

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&
20 copies of [illegible]

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Print notes

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7-3-07

Government of Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

MISCELLANEOUS.

Recd. } 1896. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 1312 M., 7th August 1896.

Water-supply.

Declining, with remarks, to approve the scheme for the — of Kumbakónam during the Mahamagam festival, and requesting the Sanitary Engineer to report why the investigation and survey of the new area for the — of Coonoor has not yet been undertaken.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

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Letter—from Surgeon Lieut.-Col. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
To—the Chief Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department.
Dated—Camp, Ootacamund, the 13th July 1896.
No.—T/6.

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Tirupati	75,000	70,000	Experimental well still in progress.
Cuddapah	..	..	Special borings and investigations only just completed.

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4	Dindigul	20,203	80,000	3 15 4	Do.
5	Madura	87,428	3,91,000	4 7 7	Completed.
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Water-tax if levied at the maximum rate (4 per cent.) will yield about Rupees 10,800.

But the estimated cost of the scheme is Rs. 4,88,800.

Working charges would be from Rs. 13,000 to Rs. 15,000.

Interest and sinking fund on one-half of total cost of scheme (Rs. 2,44,400) would be Rs. 14,664.

Therefore, total extra cost to the Municipality would be excess above receipts from water-tax, namely, Rs. 4,200 *plus* interest on sinking fund equal Rs. 18,864.

Presuming, however, the revised Act IV of 1884 to be in force, the scheme could be financed thus—

House and land tax will yield at maximum rate Rs. 27,000 or an increase of Rs. 6,750.

Water-tax will yield Rs. 17,550. There would therefore be available a total additional income of Rs. 24,300, leaving a deficit to be provided by savings under other heads of expenditure of from Rs. 3,364 to Rs. 5,364

It will thus be seen that unless it can be proved that the method of assessment by the Municipality is erroneous—a matter I think worthy of special investigation—it would not be in a position to finance the scheme.

8. I would therefore suggest for the consideration of Government that, in the event of the scheme being made permanent, three-fourths of the cost be borne by Government. I submit that in respect to water schemes for the large pilgrim resorts this demand upon the generosity of Government although very heavy is not unreasonable. In the case of Tirupati this has, I believe, been already suggested to Government. Such centres are for sanitary reasons called upon to provide pipes and machinery beyond the actual necessity for the standing population with the object of arranging for the requirements of a disproportionately large fluctuating population of pilgrims.

ENCLOSURE.

Proceedings of the Sanitary Board, No. 16, dated 8th July 1896.

* * * * *

Read G.O., No. 1076-A M., dated 26th June 1896, requiring the Sanitary Board to consult with the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police as to measures requisite in view of the forthcoming Mahamagam festival at Kumbakónam.

Read also resolution of the Municipal Council, Kumbakónam, No. 2, dated 2nd July 1896, in reference to a consultation with the Collector of the district and the Sanitary Board on the 2nd July 1896, stating that a protected public water-supply is in its opinion requisite for the sanitary safety of the population expected to assemble in the town during the Mahamagam festival, and requesting the Sanitary Board to prepare a suitable scheme as rapidly as possible for the temporary water-supply of Kumbakónum.

Read also approximate estimate prepared by the Sanitary Engineer to Government for the temporary water-supply of Kumbakónum.

Resolution.—The Sanitary Board is of opinion that it would be impossible to secure the sanitary safety of the large population estimated at not less than 500,000 likely to assemble for the Mahamagam festival satisfactorily, otherwise than by the rapid execution of a scheme for supplying the town by pipes.

2. It is considered that by relying upon the sub-soil water found in the area to the north-west of the town between the rivers Cauvery and Arsilar, sufficient water of good quantity can be secured by pumping. It is regarded as probable that the required amount of 1,500,000 gallons at 3 gallons per head per day can be obtained in this manner.

3. In drawing up this scheme, the Sanitary Board has held in view the fact that a permanent water-supply is highly desirable for this insanitary town, and it calculates that taking into account the fluctuating pilgrim population of ordinary times *plus* the town population, it would be safe to estimate that 60,000 persons should be supplied with 25 gallons per head. It further believes that it would best serve economy that the execution of the temporary scheme for the festival be so effected that it shall be possible to render it of a permanent nature with a minimum of alteration.

4. The Sanitary Board would, holding the above view as to economy, advise in regard to finance that Government should purchase the pipes and necessary adjuncts, and, whilst placing them at the disposal of the Municipality, should retain a lien upon them until the Municipality is in a position to accomplish their purchase in whole or in such part as Government may deem necessary, and further that to enable the cost of labour to be met a loan to cover this item be granted the Municipality at once. The proposals as to finance are therefore as follows :—

Cost of materials.

	RS.
Steel pipes	45,056
Elevated water iron tank	20,000
Pipes, etc.	2,70,000
Total ..	3,35,056
Add contingencies	50,244
Tools and plant ..	3,85,300

Cost of labour.

Infiltration wells	28,400
Laying steel pipes	10,600
Pumping and baling	10,000
Storage well	5,000
Engine-house, temporary	1,000
Laying and jointing	35,000
Total ..	90,000
Contingencies, etc. ..	13,500
Total ..	1,03,500
Total of tools and plant ..	3,85,300
Grant total ..	4,88,800

NOTE.—The cost of neither pumps nor pumping is included. It is intended to use plant temporarily from Trichinopoly and Tanjore, the charge for this could be afterwards arranged.

5. The Sanitary Board is of opinion that in view of the short time at disposal and in the event of this scheme being sanctioned by Government, the duty of carrying it out should be entrusted to a special officer who should be given as free a hand as possible. It is probable that the Sanitary Engineer can obtain the pipes, etc., required from England in a less period than any other officer who may be detailed to carry out the work.

Order—No. 1312 M., dated 7th August 1896.

In its proceedings read above, the Sanitary Board puts forward a scheme for the water-supply of Kumbakónam which is to be at first temporary, in view to meeting requirements at the coming Mahamagam festival which takes place in February next, and subsequently to become the permanent source of supply to the town.

2. No plans and nothing but the roughest of estimates have been submitted to Government. The scheme is presented in the most sketchy outline and no means of forming any idea as to its exact nature are afforded. All that is said is that it is probable that the requisite quantity of water can be obtained somewhere to the north-west of the town in the tract between the rivers Cauvery and Arsilar and that the Sanitary Engineer is already in possession of the necessary levels.

3. The estimate, which is admitted to be only approximate, amounts to the very large sum of Rs. 4,88,800. This, however, does not provide for the cost of engines and pumps which it is proposed for the present to borrow from either Trichinopoly or Tanjore, nor does it cover working charges. It also does not provide for the cost of carriage to and from Kumbakónam of any engines borrowed nor for charges for wear and tear of these and it contains no provision for the compensation which will no doubt have to be paid for lands taken up. Further the engine-house for which provision is made in the estimate is to be only temporary and will have in the future to be replaced by a permanent and more expensive structure.

4. It is thus quite evident that the cost of the works proposed would be at the very least five lakhs and the probability is that when completed they would cost very much more as if the recommendations made were accepted the work would, to be of any use by February next, have to be carried out with haste such as would inevitably involve further expenditure in the future.

No. 1312 M., 7TH AUGUST 1896.

5. It is quite clear that the whole of the funds required for the scheme proposed would have to be advanced from provincial funds and it is also more than probable that but a very small fraction of the outlay would ever be recouped from the Municipality. To treat Kumbakónam, a populous and wealthy place, in the exceptional manner contemplated by the Sanitary Commissioner is entirely out of the question. The case of Tirupati is not in point as it is a small and poor town and is, apart from the temples in and near it from which the Municipality derives little if any revenue, a place of no importance.

6. Under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable to accept the proposal of the Sanitary Board. If proper sanitary arrangements are made for the coming festival, there seems no reason why it should be a source of any appreciable danger.

7. With reference to the remark opposite to the entry "Coonoor" in the statement appended to paragraph 6 of Dr. King's letter No. T/6, dated 13th July 1896, the Sanitary Engineer will be requested to report, without delay, the reason why the investigation and survey of the new area for the water-supply of the town in question has not yet been undertaken.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Joint Secretary, Sanitary Board (Sanitation Branch).
,, Sanitary Commissioner.
,, ,, Engineer.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 1312 M., DATED 7TH AUGUST 1896.

[SUBJECT.—*Water-supply scheme at Kumbakónam for the Mahamagam festival.*]

Demi-official from Lieut.-Col. W. G. King, M.B., C.M., *D.P.H., I.M.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to J. F. Price, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 13th July* 1896, *No. T/6.*

I have posted before my departure a Proceedings of the Sanitary Board as to the Mahamagam festival in connection with the question of supplying Kumbakónam with a water scheme. Mr. Bliss has kindly consented to treat this matter as "very urgent," and I should be greatly obliged if you would do your best to secure a decision as rapidly as feasible, as in the event of the scheme being sanctioned every day gained would be of the utmost value to the Engineers. I would therefore take the liberty of suggesting that a note from you on the dreaded question of financial possibilities would greatly facilitate an early settlement. I have discussed the matter with Colonel Campbell, and he is prepared to write a note.

The Sanitary Commissioner submits with his letter No. T/6, dated 13th July 1896, a water-supply scheme for Kumbakónam in view of the Mahamagam festival to take place there in February 1897. The cost of the proposed scheme is Rs. 4,88,800 exclusive of cost of pumps, which it is proposed to borrow from Trichinopoly and Tanjore. Of this sum Rs. 3,85,300 is cost of materials and Rs. 1,03,500 cost of labour. The Sanitary Board's proposal is that Government should pay for the former from Provincial, and lend the latter to the Municipal Council, at any rate, provisionally, the idea being that later on—perhaps when the amended Municipal Act becomes law—the Council will borrow half the cost from Government and that the other half will be met from Provincial as in other water-supply schemes.

2. In order to ensure the execution of the scheme before February 1897, the Sanitary Commissioner suggests that the pipes should be ordered from England by telegram by the Sanitary Engineer and that Mr. Minchin be deputed as a special officer to carry out the work. Both these suggestions are in direct opposition to G.Os., No. 2073 M., dated 9th December 1895, and No. 847 M., dated 15th May 1896, which directed that the execution of water and drainage projects and the ordering of the necessary material from England should in future be done by the Public Works Department. However this is a special case and it is not likely that the Public Works Department could depute a special officer at such short notice to carry on the work.

3. As to the reasons for carrying out this work so urgently, the Sanitary Commissioner points out that there will probably be an assemblage of 500,000 pilgrims at the festival and that it is of the utmost importance to prevent any outbreak of cholera which might be disseminated throughout the whole of India and a piped water-supply is considered to be one of the best preventives, the usual source of a cholera epidemic being contaminated water. The work proposed, though apparently only of a temporary nature, is such that it can be converted into a permanent one for the future supply of the town.

4. Rupees 4,88,800 is a large sum for Government to provide from savings in the budget. Dr. King points out a saving of Rs. 1,90,000 likely to accrue under allotments to Municipalities. The Financial Department must be asked if the remainder, Rs. 2,98,800, can be provided, if it is decided to carry out the work and sanction the grant.

Local and Municipal Department.

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2. In order to ensure the execution of the scheme before February 1897, the Sanitary Commissioner suggests that the pipes should be ordered from England by telegram by the Sanitary Engineer and that Mr. Minchin be deputed as a special officer to carry out the work. Both these suggestions are in direct opposition to G.Os., No. 2073 M., dated 9th December 1895, and No. 847 M., dated 15th May 1896, which directed that the execution of water and drainage projects and the ordering of the necessary material from England should in future be done by the Public Works Department. However this is a special case and it is not likely that the Public Works Department could depute a special officer at such short notice to carry on the work.

3. As to the reasons for carrying out this work so urgently, the Sanitary Commissioner points out that there will probably be an assemblage of 500,000 pilgrims at the festival and that it is of the utmost importance to prevent any outbreak of cholera which might be disseminated throughout the whole of India and a piped water-supply is considered to be one of the best preventives, the usual source of a cholera epidemic being contaminated water. The work proposed, though apparently only of a temporary nature, is such that it can be converted into a permanent one for the future supply of the town.

4. Rupees 4,88,800 is a large sum for Government to provide from savings in the budget. Dr. King points out a saving of Rs. 1,90,000 likely to accrue under allotments to Municipalities. The Financial Department must be asked if the remainder, Rs. 2,98,800, can be provided, if it is decided to carry out the work and sanction the grant.

I submit that the proposal made should be negatived. If there is a sufficient sanitary staff and arrangements are made to procure as pure a supply of water as is obtainable and to protect it from pollution the chances, I venture to think, are that there will be no cholera or that if there is it will be speedily stamped out.

Sanitary arrangements on a lavish scale would cost far less than one year's interest on the sum which Government will have to put down at once if the "scheme" which Dr. King and Mr. Jones have thrown at the heads of Government is accepted.

J. F. Price—17-7-96.

Dr. King came to me about this business some weeks ago. He was not definite in what he said, but I understood that his proposals were to be comparatively moderate and such as Government might be able to find the money to help in carrying out. I judged of their nature by Dr. King's Inspection Report extract in G.O., No. 805 M., dated 11th May 1896, and in my own mind formed the opinion that what was needed could probably be accomplished by the aid of a grant from Government of perhaps half a lakh—a sum which could probably be found without difficulty. Now we have this sketchy scheme for the expenditure of Rs. 4,88,800, not including any provision for the purchase of engines and pumps, and no doubt, as the Chief Secretary says, liable to considerable excess from the hasty way in which it has been prepared; and, to meet the expenses, we are asked (i) to withdraw grants, which we have promised to certain towns and which, with the existing Provincial contract about to terminate, we cannot be sure of being able to renew in 1897-98, if we now withdraw them; and (ii) to find a large additional sum from other sources, to me unknown. Moreover, as Kumbakónam can't finance the scheme on the basis of a half grant from Government, we are asked to make a three-quarters grant, the precedent of Tirupati being quoted. It does not, however, at all follow that what we may be willing to do for Tirupati, a comparatively small and poor place, we should be prepared to do for Kumbakónam, a populous and wealthy place, which must inevitably reap a rich harvest out of the large concourse of pilgrims expected in February next. The whole scheme seems to me quite out of the question, for these and other reasons, which it is hardly worth while for me to record in view of the detailed examination made by the Chief Secretary, but which I shall be prepared to state if my Honourable Colleagues do not agree with my conclusion and desire a fuller statement of my views.

With reference to the proposed transfer of the grant of Rs. 40,000 to Coonoor, I should like to know why the investigation and survey of the new area has not been commenced. What is Mr. Jones about?

H. B[liss]—18-7-96.

I doubt whether the scheme is necessary for there will be no lack of "unprotected" water, and I am sure that it is impracticable financially. As much as possible should be done for observing, preventing and giving medical aid on the lines of the rules for combating epidemics of cholera which are now before us.

J. G[rose]—18-7-96.

I agree that the objections are valid, and that the scheme should be rejected.

A. E. H[avelock]—20-7-96.

Draft order submitted to the Honourable Member for approval as I am not quite sure whether he intended that reasons should be given or merely a brief order declining to approve the scheme.

J. F. Price—4-8-96.

Let it go as it is, I should say.

H. B[liss]—5-8-96.

Seen.

J. F. Price—5-8-96.

[G.O., No. 1312 M., dated 7th August 1896.]

7-2-08.

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			

[Ref. / 4]
15,000—13-2-06.

L. A. M. DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / Miscellaneous / Routine No. 1312 Misc., dated 7-8-96 190 .

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attender.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
7-3-07	Clk for the history of the Kumbakonam municipality				20-9-07	JC

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one years interest on the sum which Govt. will have to put down at once if the "scheme" which Dr. King and Jones have thrown at the heads of Government is accepted.

Sd. J. F. Price
17/7/96

Please print here the notes of the H.O.S and H.E and then in continuation the note of Mr Price on the back page of the second the of the order

~~Order.~~

~~The proposed scheme cannot be approved for financial & other reasons.~~

~~2. With reference to Dr. King's proposal to withdraw the grant of Rs 40,000 to Coonoor Munl.: the San. Engr. will be requested to report why he has not yet commenced the investigation & survey of the new area for the water supply of that town.~~

(from orders)

W.W.S.
17.7.96

Water supply at Kumbakonam for the Mahamagam festival

From

~~FOR~~ ORDERS.

XX

H.M. & circ
C.S.

V.E.

Marked V.E. in accordance with a D.O. from Dr. King (put up) —

Not 1312 M
7-8-96.

[Ref. / 4]
15,000—13-2-06.

L & M DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press / Miscellaneous / Routine No. 1312, dated 7-8-96 190 .

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of clerk taking the paper or of attendeer.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
7-3-07	Ch. For the History of the Kumbakonam municipality				20-9-07	JC

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(from orders)

WWS
1-7-96

Water Supply at Kumbhakonam for the Mahamagam festival

From

~~FOR~~ ORDERS.

H.M. ~~& circ~~

XX

Marked V.E. in accordance with a D.O. from Dr. King (put up) —

Not 1312 M.S.
7-8-96.

[G./25 A.]
1,000—21-3-96.

DEPARTMENT

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

disease throughout India in consequence. Kumbakonam was filthier then than it is now, the same crowd of pilgrims then, I presume, attended as are expected to turn up on an appearance now, and sanitary arrangements at festivals are now looked after much more completely and intelligently now than they were ten or twelve years ago.

I submit that the proposal made should be negatived. If there is a sufficient sanitary staff and arrangements are made to procure as pure a supply of water as is obtainable and to protect it from pollution the chances I venture to think ~~are~~ are that there will be no cholera or that if there is it will be speedily stamped out.

Sanitary arrangements on a lavish scale would cost far less than

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FOR ORDERS.

underestimated for and which are hastily pushed through always cost more than was expected. If this scheme is embarked on now it will probably cost [illegible] a expense under 5½ lakhs it not more.

Now what is the gain on the other hand to result from this scramble? It is the prevention of a possible outbreak of cholera. Dr. King if I read his rather involved language aright admits that the chances are that there will not be cholera. He makes a great deal of the possibility of cholera being carried over the length and breadth of India if it occurs at this festival — he apparently thinks that with the improved water supply there will probably be none. But by his own showing when the Mahamakam festival last took place – in 1885 there were only 231 attacks deaths of cholera in Kumbakonam which then had no drainage system and where sanitary arrangements were not enforced as they are now – I cannot call to mind any marked outbreak of cholera following on the festival of 1885 nor am I aware that there was a general appearance of the

H. M.

not deaths, attacks, which is a very different thing.
W.S.
This was a slip of the pen. H.S.

[G./25 A.]
1,000—21-3-96.

64

DEPARTMENT

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

scheme is carried out.

There is but one thing that is clear and that is that if the scheme is sanctioned Govt. will have to certainly advance the whole of the funds including in all probability the cost of pumping for at any rate some time, and will have to find the money before delay wait. and probably have eventually to bear 3/4 of the cost.

The question for consideration is I submit whether the game is worth the very large candle which Govt will have to pay for it.

The Estimate as it stands now is not far removed from five lakhs & this without engines or permanent buildings. Experience has shown that no scheme of this sort has ever been completed within the estimate. There can be no doubt either apart from this that works which are hastily designed

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been proposed that he shall order the pipes and that Mr Minchin shall carry the work out — under Mr Jones supervision it is presumed. The whole scheme is presented in the most crude form. The Estimate is avowedly an approximate one to all that the Sanitary Engineer appears to have is the levels. The Estimate itself does not sent up. & there is not the weights of plant. The Estimate does not provide for cost of engines, the engine house is to be temporary. Engines are to be borrowed or hired from Trichy or ~~Madras~~ Tanjore (if they are available which I very much doubt) and there is nothing provided for carrying them backwards and forwards — nor do I see anything for compensation for land unless it is included under Contingencies. There is not the slightest idea put forward as to what the scheme is. All that one is told is that the water is to be got from somewhere in the area between the Cauvery and the Arisilar.

It is strange ~~that amongst the~~ ~~[illegible]~~ having regard to the recent battle between Dr King and Mr Jones on the subject of the supply per head at Bezwada that the former is content with three gallons per head for 150.000 for the temporary arrangements while the latter accepts 25 gallons per head for 60000 when the permanent

Water supply at Kumbhakonam for the Mahamagam festival

~~For~~ orders

~~H.M. & circ~~

~~V.E.~~

marked V.E. in accordance with a d.o. from Dr King (put up).

The Finl. Dept. must be asked if the remainder, Rs 2,98,800, can be provided, if it is decided to carry out the work & sanction the grant.

5. In para 7 of this letter the San. Commr. goes into the question of whether the Mun. will be able to finance the scheme in the event of its being made permanent. From these figures it appears that under the usual conditions of a half grant from Govt., the Mun. will be unable to finance the scheme, even by levying taxes at the full rates allowed in the amending Bill. He accordingly suggests that a $\frac{3}{4}$ grant be given in the special circumstances of the case, Kumbhakonam being a great centre of pilgrim resort & as such, a town whose sanitation it is of the utmost importance to maintain in an efficient state.× Excepting the Trichy scheme, this scheme exceeds the cost of all others sanctioned up to date & also exceeds the cost per head of population of all except the Kurnool scheme.

It is proposed to give a $\frac{3}{4}$ grant in Tirupati (vide Ref. No. $\frac{557}{16\text{-}5\text{-}96}$) marked ×

W.W.S.
17.7.96

This appears to me to be a very large order: that Mr. Jones has not more duly thought about the proposal made [illegible]

[illegible]

the scheme before Feby. 1897, the San. Commr. suggests that the pipes should be ordered from England by telegram by the San. Engr. & that Mr. Minchin be deputed as a special officer to carry out the work. Both these suggestions are in direct opposition to G.O.s $\frac{2073\ M}{9.12.95}$ & $\frac{847\ M}{15.5.96}$, which ~~ordered~~ directed that the execution of ~~these~~ water & drainage projects & the ordering of the necessary material from England ~~to~~ shd. be done by the D.P.W. However this is a special case & it is not likely that the D.P.W. could depute a special officer at such short notice to carry on the work.

3. As to the reasons for carrying out this work so urgently, the San. Commr. points out that there will probably be an assemblage of 500,000 pilgrims at the festival & that it is of the utmost importance to prevent any outbreak of cholera, which might be disseminated throughout the whole of India & a piped water supply is considered to be one of the best preventives, the usual source of a cholera epidemic being contaminated water. The work proposed, tho' apparently only of a temporary nature is such that it can be converted into a permanent one for the future supply of the town.

4. Rs 4,88,800 is a large sum for Govt. to provide from savings in the budget. Dr. King points out a saving of Rs 1,90,000 likely to accrue under allotments to Municipalities

FOR ORDERS.

of Tirupati being quoted. It does not, however, at all follow that what we may be willing to do for Tirupati, a comparatively small & poor place, we should be prepared to do for Kumbhakonam, a populous & wealthy place, which must inevitably reap a rich harvest out of the large concourse of pilgrims expected in February H. M. next. The whole scheme seems to me quite out of the question, for ~~[illegible]~~ these and other reasons, which it is hardly worth while for me to record in view of the detailed examn. made by the C.S., but which I shall be prepared to state if my Hon. Colleagues do not ~~[illegible]~~ agree with my conclusion and desire a fuller statement of my views.

With refce. to the proposed transfer of the grant of Rs 40000 to Coonoor, I should like to know why the investigation and survey of the new area has not been commenced. What is Mr. Jones about?

18/7/96

I doubt whether the scheme is necessary for there will be no lack of "unprotected" water, and

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I am sure that it is impracticable financially. As much as possible will be done for obviating, preventing & giving medical aid on the lines of the rules for combating epidemics of cholera wh. are now before us.

J.G.
18/7/96

I agree that the objections are valid, and that the scheme shd. be rejected