

INDEXED.

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 2108/m

DATED 14-12-96.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Petition

Informing Ramalingam Pillai
and others of Tinnally that Govt. seeks
sufficient ground to interfere in the matter
of the election of Mr. R. D. Sitarappa and
lingam as chairman of the Municipality.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

[1,000-28-10-06.]

Local & Munl. (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 3217 M

Order

Lodged pending receipt of the Collector's report on the election.

V.R.
3/12/96

From Ramalingam Pillai and others
Tinnevely.

C/O 3251 m m 80 2104 m m 11.12.96

No.

Dated 28-11-96

Received 1-12-96

Registered 1-12-96

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Praying that the election of Dalavoy Thitharappa Mudaliyar as Chairman of the Tinnevely Municipality may be cancelled and a fresh election ordered to be held.

The petitioners will be informed that His Excellency the Governor in Council sees no sufficient ground to interfere.

V.R.
11/12/96

8/12 orders
m m

Note

Please see the Secretary's note in

To go 2104 m m 11.12.96 Flag B.

The Petitioners

3/2 a/3/12 a/11/12 Dup 2 15/12/96

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.



To

His Excellency the Governor in Council
Fort Saint George
MADRAS

THROUGH THE COLLECTOR OF TINNEVELLY.

*The humble memorial of the undersigned inhabitants
and rate payers of the town of Tinnevelly.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:—

In the election that was held on the 16th Instant for the office of Chairman of the Tinnevelly Municipality, Mr. Dalavoy Thitharappa Moodaliar has been elected, and the memorialists humbly beg to submit that the privilege conferred upon the Council of electing their Chairman was not properly exercised and that a proper and competent person was not elected.

2. Excluding the Revenue Officer, there are three graduates in the Council, all of whom are 1st Grade Pleaders viz Messrs P. N. Venkatachallam Iyer B. A., P. M. Kailasam Pillay B. A. and S. Palaniandi Mudaliar B. A. and there are also in the Council 2 other 1st Grade Pleaders one of whom Mr. T. S. Subramania Pillay is an F. A. and well known for administrative ability he having distinguished himself as Manager of the Singampatti Zamindari. It cannot be said that any one of these gentlemen was unwilling to take up the office of Chairman, and as a matter of fact two of the graduates Messrs P. M. Kailasam Pillai and S. Palaniandi Moodaliar stood as candidates. Mr. T. S. Soobramania Pillai expressed his willingness to stand as a candidate but seeing that the Councillors were not willing to be guided by consideration of merit and qualification did not get himself nominated as a candidate.

3. On the date of election Mr. P. M. Kailasam Pillai withdrew in sheer disgust seeing that the majority of the Councillors were bent upon giving their votes in a particular way.

4. Mr. Thitharappa Mudaliar, who has been elected does not know English, and in these days when business is being transacted in English and when a knowledge of the English language is highly necessary for doing multifarious duties of Chairman satisfactorily, it is very strange that a person of Mr. Thitharappa Moodaliars stamp should have been elected while there are many competent persons willing to take up the office.

5. Mr. Thitharappa Moodaliar was Chairman from 1888 to 6th January 1892 and his administration was not satisfactory. On his administration report for 1889-90 the Government remarked "Except in the matter of the collection of taxes, the year's administration left very much to be desired and the Chairman's report is both meagre and insufficient and encumbered by unnecessary statements", and on his report for 1890-91, the Government remarked "The report and statements have been prepared with reprehensible negligence, and they were submitted a month after the date on which they were due with Government. The years administration was not, on the whole successful. (Vide G. O. Nos. 1539M and 1585M dated 16th October 1890 and 28th September 1891 respectively).

6. When the term of his office was about to expire in January 1892, three of the then Councillors addressed a memorial to the Government charging him with breach of trust, neglect of duty, illegal procedure and incompetency. This was forwarded to Government by the Collector with his letter No. 711 dated 6th December 1891. The Collector appears to have remarked therein that as his term of office was about to expire no steps need be taken on the memorial and the Government in No. 100 Mis: dated 15th January 1892 ordered to the effect that no serious notice need be taken apparently because his term of office had expired by that time.

7. After the expiration of his term in January 1892, the Divisional Officer was in charge for some time and in the election that was held on the 12th April 1892 Mr. R. Subramania Iyer B. A. was unanimously elected as Chairman and the Municipal administration began to improve; and on the administration report of the said Chairman for 1892-93 the Government remarked "The Chairman's report is full and clear. In the opinion of the Governor in Council, the administration of the Tinnevely Municipality in 1892-93 was conducted with energy and discretion. The results compare favourably with those of the previous year. The Government notes with pleasure the testimony borne by the Collector to the exertions of the Chairman M. R. R. Subramania Iyer Rao Bahadur". (Vide G. O. No. 862 M. dated 3rd July 1893).

8. Mr. R. Subramania Iyer vacated his office by reason of his transfer in June 1893 and the election of the Chairman was postponed till a competent successor could be nominated as Councillor with a view to give an opportunity to the Council to elect a proper Chairman and in the meeting held on the 26th September 1893 Mr. P. Krishnaswamy Iyer B. A. was elected as Chairman and he continued in office till July last when he resigned.

9. It is in electing a successor to Mr. P. Krishnasamy Iyer that the said Mr. Thitharappa Moodaliar has been elected on the 16th Instant and the memorialists very much regret that the Council has not made a proper selection when the important questions of acquiring lands for sewage farm, Mahomedan burial ground and for storing manures to the rate payers, water supply and drainage schemes are before the Council. A Gentleman imbued with modern ideas and possessing a good knowledge of English and quite equal to the advanced spirit of the times should have been elected and there are several such persons in the Council.

10. The memorialists believe that the election is subject to the approval of Your Excellency in Council under section 14 of Act IV of 1884 and the election rules made.

11. The memorialists humbly beg to submit that in the infant state of Local Self Govt. in India the Council should be educated to exercise the privileges properly and this can only be done by vetoing when a proper selection is not made and the memorialists believe the present case is a fit one for interference.

Pray therefore that Your Excellency in Council will be graciously pleased to withhold approval in the present case and to direct the Council to make a fresh selection.

28-11-96.

H. S. Muthia Pillay
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(H-13) The copy of this petition was sent to your Excellency through the Collector. But this is forwarded for information

H. S. Muthia Pillay
29/11/96

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