

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 282 *Ln*

DATED 24-2-97

INDEXED. *M/S*

DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Water supply of Salem

Requesting the Executive Eng^r in the P. W. D. to report what progress has been made in the investigation of the scheme for the —; deferring the question of providing the town of Salem with a system of drainage for the present, & requesting the P. W. D. to state at what stage the irrigation work in Coimbatore known as the "Muthalam project" has now reached.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cuo	1375		24/97				
Cuv	1778		dy/97				

[5]
500-27-5-05.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

^{D.G}
Current No. 25 of 1896 , dated 3rd Dec. 1896 from the Private Secretary to H.E. the Governor
Current No. of 189 , dated from the

Order. No. 282 memo. 24-2-97

The Executive Engineer, Salem, will be requested in the Public Works department to report what progress has been made with the investigation, the scheme for the water supply of Salem which was entrusted to him under Government order No. 1581-M. dated 1st October 1895, and with what result

2. The question of providing the town of Salem with a proper system of drainage must, owing to want of funds, be deferred pending the settlement of the water supply scheme.

3. The Public Works department is requested to ^{be good enough to} state at what stage the irrigation work in Coimbatore known as the "Muthukulam project" has ~~not reached~~ ^{reached}

To The Chairman, Municipal Council Salem

Coimbatore

(From Orders)

Public Work. department

1.24
23/2/97

24/2/97

Addresses presented to and replies delivered by His Excellency the Governor on his first tour.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

D.O
Current No. 257

From

Hon. W. Bliss
H. E. the Governor

FOR ORDERS.

The following are the points raised in the addresses presented to, and in the replies given by His Excellency the Governor in his first tour, on which action has to be taken in the Local and Municipal Department:-

1. Salem (a) Water supply-
The municipal council of Salem, requested that in view of the scarcity of water in the town, which was then impending, immediate effect might be given to one of the water supply schemes which had been proposed for consideration. In March 1895, the Collector, Mr. Stokes, pointed out that the several schemes which had from time to time been suggested were based on the principle of storage and gravitation and were open to objection owing to the uncertainty of supply in years of short rainfall, and he recommended for the consideration of the council the plan suggested by Mr. Ellis when he acted as

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D.O 15814
1-10-95

Sanitary Engineer to Government, of tapping the subsoil water at the foot of the Namamalais and of pumping the water into a system of distributory pipes. The municipal council thereupon requested Government to depute Mr. Ellis to make a detailed investigation of the scheme suggested by him, but as it was not found possible to comply with this request, the Executive Engineer was entrusted with the investigation of the project. In April last a sum of Rs. 1280 was allotted for the sinking of trial wells, but nothing is known about the results of the experiments. It is submitted that the Executive Engineer may be asked in the Public Works Department to state what progress has been made with the experiments and with what results.

(b) Drainage. The people of the Salem District and the municipal corporation of Salem, both alluded to the need of an efficient system of drainage for the town, but this question must ^{presumably} lie over pending the settlement of the water supply scheme.

(c) Municipal Bill. The following suggestions have been made in connection with the Bill to amend the District Municipalities Act now before the Legislative Council:-

(1) The right of electing a definite number of Councillors, not less than three-fourths, should be given to the ratepayers by the statute itself.

(2) The provision authorizing the dismissal of municipal councillors is inexpedient and undesirable. There is no such provision in the city of Madras Municipal Act and there is no reason why the law in

the mufassal towns in this respect should be different from that in force in the City of Madras.

(3) Any increase in the existing rates of municipal taxation should be deprecated.

As regards the second point His Excellency replied as follows:-

"It is of course the desire of the Government to secure for the municipal councils the very best members of the Community and to introduce in the Bill any measure which is likely to defeat that object is - I consider - a mistake. I will therefore with regard to that particular point say that I will bring it to the consideration of my Hon'ble Colleagues before the Bill comes on for consideration at our next meeting of the Legislative Council". As to the third His Excellency observed that the increased taxation could not be avoided, as municipal councils have to finance costly schemes of water supply and drainage. All these suggestions had, however, already ~~been~~ received and considered by the Legislative Council, which decided upon ^{partially} accepting the first and rejecting the other two.

(d) Constitution of the Council. The Salem Municipal Council requested that its strength might be increased as also the number of elected Councillors. His Excellency stated in reply that he then saw no reason why their request should not be granted and that if it was the decided wish of the council that the

enlargement

The point was referred to by H.E. in the Council a fortnight ago on some discussion about the Municipal Bill.

We must adhere, I think, to what has already been decided on.

See the Proceedings of the Legislative Council dated 11th March 1896, page 104, J. 12th March 1896, page 124, to 137 and 173 to 184.

enlargement should be made, it should address an application to Government, which, he promised, would receive most careful consideration. No application has however been yet received.

(e) Tiruppattur & Vaniyambadi - The

people of Salem also suggested that the municipal Councils of Vaniyambadi and Tiruppattur might

with advantage be given the privilege of electing their own Councillors and Chairmen and pointed out that the present arrangement under which the Head Assistant Collector is the Exofficio Chairman of both the towns would be detrimental to the efficiency of the administration. When these towns were constituted municipalities in 1885, the Collector of Salem recommended that all the Councillors should "for the present"

be nominated by Government that the Divisional officer should be appointed Chairman of

both the Municipalities and that after the first three years, the elective system might gradually be introduced. In

1889 the ratepayers of Tiruppattur petitioned Government praying among other things for the grant of the elective franchise. The Ag. Head Asstt. Collec-

tor, who was consulted in the matter, observed that the exercise of the right was not yet generally desired and the

Government thereupon said that it was not then prepared to extend the privilege of election to the municipality. His Excellency has in his reply said

"that if the councils desired the grant of the privileges described, it is only natural

Application shd be awarded - In many cases however, I think it will be best to leave matters as they are until the Municipal Amendment Bill has taken effect

Let us await an application

A.S.H.

In reviewing the Municipal budgets I have asked the Mr. Deputy why the Chairman shd. still be the Divisional Officer. I did not know when they were raised as H.A. towns.

S.H. 4/7

Butter cut this out, unless the order has already issued for the reason above given

This is not a case for the budget

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natural that they themselves should appeal to the Government in their own interest". No such application has yet been received and no action is therefore required at present.

(f) The Salem Literary Society In G.O.

No. 72 M, dated 19th January 1893, the Government declined to apply the Land Acquisition Act (X of 1870) for the compulsory acquisition of the site and building occupied by the Salem Literary Society, although the municipal council and the Collector strongly recommended the course. In its address to His Excellency, the Society alluded to this Government order and requested him to enquire into the matter and render such assistance as he might deem proper. His Excellency replied as follows:-

"I do not think it is a case in which the Land Acquisition Act can be put in force. It is therefore very difficult for me to suggest a way out of the difficulty X X X

I will however make the enquiry you ask for and if I can find a solution of the difficulty, I will not fail to inform you of it.

A brief history of the Society and of its claims on the municipal council for a building is contained in the Collector's endorsement in G.O. No. 1557 M, dated 23rd September 1892. The compulsory acquisition of the buildings, etc, in question would be illegal, as the provision of a building for the Literary Society cannot be a public purpose within the meaning of section 4(1) of Act I of 1894. Nothing can therefore be done now on behalf

Let us await this application

G

H

I suggested a long time. I now think of no other expedient.

A.S.H.

behalf of the Literary Society.

2. Coimbatore (a) Water supply

The land holders of Coimbatore and the Municipal Council of the town prayed that the irrigation work known as the "Muthikulam project" might become an accomplished fact during His Excellency's administration, as it would probably lead to the commencement and completion of the water works and drainage of the town. His Excellency replied ~~by saying~~ that as it was a very important and costly scheme, no assurance can be given that the work will be undertaken, until the project had been thoroughly investigated and its results are known. A scheme for supplying the town with water from the river Noyel had however to be abandoned on account of its prohibitive cost. The increased revenue that may be realized under the amended act may probably enable the Council to undertake this work.

*This scheme is, I believe,
being worked out by the P.W.D.
which might be asked as to the
present position of affairs.*

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4-1-97

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