

INDEXED *MS*
Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 65774

DATED 22-3-97

DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Horse tax revision

Directing that the general revision of the
horse tax registers ^{in the Muzirga Pon and Muzirga} ordered in G.O. No. 1856 of
2nd Novr 1896. should be carried out; and request-
ing the Revenue Dep't. to depute a Dy. Col. of the
last grade for the purpose as soon as possible.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1326		4/97				

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 61/11

From The Collector of Tanjore

Rise

Order. No 657 mins. 22. 3-97

The Government is still of opinion that the general revision of the house tax registers ordered in G.O. No 1856/4, dated 2nd November 1896, should be carried out.

Endorsement on No. 2652 of 1896 Eng.

Dated 5th January 1897.

Received 8- JAN-1897

Registered 8.

Enclosures 3.

Spare copies

2. As suggested by Rao Bahadur S. Seshayya and approved by the Chairman and the Collector, a deputy

Collector will be appointed for the purpose under Sec 37(2) of the Municipalities Act of 1884, and the Revenue Department will be requested to depute an officer of the last grade as soon as possible.

SUBJECT.

Forwarding with remarks Kumbakonam Municipal Chairman's letter re the resolution of the Council about the remission of House Tax.

13/1/97

14/1/97

The Revenue Dept for favour of Council.

Note The clause "more especially as the new municipal act is in force" in H's note, has been omitted

in the draft order as the act has not yet come into force; and the last portion regarding the extension of time allowed for the revision of the tax has not also been put in, as it is not consistent with the appointment of a special officer under Sec 37(2) of the Act.

V.A.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	2128	h	1812-96
	2877	h	96-20-96
	1856	h	2-11-96
	1505	h	5-9-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

For the Chairman, 1st. Kumbha Konam
Collector of Tanjore
Revenue Department.
24/8/97

I cannot see what this has to do with the matter.

W.S.

his right in refraining,

Letter out from G.O. 6/1/97

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Again G.O., dated 2nd November

Current No. 61.M

Current No.

1896. No. 1856 M

of 1897, dated 5th January 1897

of 189, dated

from the Collector of Tanjore from the

FOR ORDERS.

In its order read above, the Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 37(1) of Act IV of 1884, directed the municipal Council of Kumbakonam to carry out a general revision of the house tax registers before the 1st January 1897 and to report the completion of the work. Instead of complying with this order, the Council has after three adjournments passed a resolution on the 12th December 1896 asking for a reconsideration of the order or at least for the postponement of the revision until next year on the grounds that it is impossible to finish the work within the time prescribed by Government, and that high prices are ruling in the town. The Council's attitude in the matter is evidently obstructive and the best course seems to be for Government to take action under section

Section 37(2), and appoint a special officer to carry out the revision. The Chairman and the Collector suggest that the temporary Deputy Collector now placed on special duty in connection with the Mahamakhham festival may be kept on for this purpose.

1/2
19/2/97

Office

(The office should have kept this for six weeks & then sent it up just as the festival is over & the D.C. has either gone or is about to go. If the ^{current} file had been carefully looked at as receipts, the office should have seen that there was one due taken out of file paper order of date were date.)

I am sorry to hear that the paper order of date involves the detention of papers in the office for 6 weeks.

HM It is quite clear that the Council means to be obstructive in the matter of the revision & from their treatment of the Chairman, that his position will be made as difficult as possible. A special officer seems therefore to be required

I quite agree. There will probably be an outcry in the native press about this, so
Circ= 23/2/97 26/2/97

and if the D.C. who is there on festival duty is still available he might be retained for the duty: if not another officer of D.C. rank should be deputed.

21/2/97

I agree, and I would suppose that the G.O. should state that Govt. is still of opinion that the general revision should take place, more especially as the new Municipal Act is now in force; and I would add that as suggested by Mr. Senhagga and approved by the Chairman and Collector, - a Deputy Collector will be appointed for the purpose and the time extended as requested.

17.3.97

Received at 11 AM 19/2/97

FOR ORDERS.



Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

Current, No. 2654

Forwarded

It seems to be purely discretionary in the Chairman to forward a letter addressed to him by a member of the Council.

Order.

1/18/12

W. S. S. S.

CURRENT No.

6191

From

The Chairman
Municipal Council
Kumbakonam.

No. 629.

Dated

16th December 1896.

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Two.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

As it is a question of the Council. I don't think the Council has any right to interfere with the Chairman. It is for him to decide whether to forward the letter or not. It is not for the Council to decide.

19/12/96
Endd. by Secy No. 2652 of 96
Forwarded.

As a Councillor has not, I think, any locus standi or right of intervention, and no right of demanding, apart from a resolution of the Council, that any letter be written and be sent to Government. The Chairman was therefore within his rights in refraining from

Forwarding with remarks
Copy of resolution of the Council
regarding the remission of
House Tax.

from sending his letter to Government at the time. In this Resolution of 12th inst the Council resolved that the Council's letter left forwarded Government, and as the letter thereby becomes virtually a part of the Resolution, the Chairman is not right in forwarding it.

3. Para 5 of the Council's letter is virtually an admission of mismanagement of Municipal affairs on the part of the Chairman & Council for the time being for over 3 years past, & is not a reason for postponing a revision of the House Tax, which should be proceeded with without delay. Considering the attitude of the Council, in the matter of the Tax, & its opposition to the views of the Chairman, & the desirability of obtaining uniformity in the mode of assessment, I think better to be well spent in getting the work done by a special officer at the call of the Council, & I suggest that the Special Collector recently recommended for

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

The machinery and papers might be kept for a further period of 6 months or so to assist the Chairman in his revision. Because with the work that is going on, the revision cannot be brought into force as much as possible during the current fiscal year.

Vallam
S. 1. 87.
18
3/1-

No. 639.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILORS' OFFICE

KUMBakonam 16th December 1897.

FROM

T. S. Sivakumar today at 10th Rangit Rao Bahadur
CHAIRMAN, MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
KUMBakonam.

TO

The Secretary to Government, Madras, Government, Local & Municipal Department (through the Sub Collector, The Collector of Madras District and the District Officer, Madras District).
SIR, I am in receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. regarding the forwarding of the accompanying Resolution of this Council dated 12th instant. I have the honor to solicit the favour of your obtaining the orders of Government thereon at an early date.
The Resolution deals with three different points and which I beg to offer my remarks thereon.
The first of these is that I delayed sending to Government Mr. R. R. Rao Bahadur's letter dated 3rd September last. It was received eight days after the 12th 6th August last on which day the resolution negating my proposal to revise the House Tax was passed by a majority of the Council. I did not consider it either necessary or my duty to comply with the request contained in the above letter because it was not before the Council at the time of passing the

the above resolution and also because
the various letters addressed to me by
several Councilors including Mr Seshayya
on the question of House Tax before the
date of the above-said resolution were
intended to be sent and were in fact sent
to Government along with my letter No
429 dated 9-9-96. I spoke however, about
the letter to Mr Seshayya who promised
to reconsider the question of having it sent
to Government. I received no definite
reply for some time. Subsequently
I understood that Mr Seshayya was
sorry that his letter was not sent up.
On the 23rd October last I forwarded
it through the proper channels embodying
my remarks thereon in this office letter
No. 510 and gave information to Government
of the fact in a post-card No. 504. Before
this letter could reach the hands of
Government in the usual course G.O. No
1855 M. M. dated 2nd November last had
been received by the Collector who returned
Mr Seshayya's letter to me with my own.
Both these are now enclosed for the
information of Government.

1856
2-11-96

4. The next point raised in the resolution
is the want of time to complete the work
of revision before the 1st of January next
as directed in G.O. No. 1856. This G.O.
was received by me on the 17th November.
It was first placed at a meeting of the
Council held on the 21st of the same
month and subsequently adjourned to
the 3rd 5th and 12th December. On the 12th
the resolution on which the orders of
Government are now sought was passed.
The lists originally prepared by me, &
though they may require some correction
there and there are available, the
work of revision can be proceeded
with and completed before the close
of the current official year, if not
earlier. I may add that the revision
of inequalities in which I am now
engaged only confirms me in the be-
lief that the general revision will
bring in a larger revenue.

FROM

THE CHAIRMAN

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

KUMBAKONAM.

TO

Dated

Despatched

Received

ENCLOSURES.

No.

SUBJECT.

No. 5/10.

MUNICIPAL COUNCILORS' OFFICE

KUMBAKONAM 23rd October 1896.

FROM

J. S. Sivasamy Adayar and Rao Bahadur

CHAIRMAN, MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

KUMBAKONAM.

TO

The Chief Secretary to Government

Local & Municipal Departments

Through the Sub Collector & the Collector of
Tanjore.

SIR,

In forwarding herewith the copy of a letter
addressed to me by Rao Bahadur S. Seshayya
Mungal, Municipal Commissioner, under the
revision of the same, I have the honor to say

1856h
2-11-96

that my letter No. 429 of 9.9.96 deals fully with the
subject of a general revision that is in circulation
for me to send to it.

2. Rao Bahadur S. Seshayya has raised the
question of economy as an appendage to his
objections and mentions the road Cooly Est-
ablishment and the outlet to the Brahman
Kham Sank. I have observed that the question
of economy is altogether out of place. The
Cooly Establishment was maintained &
during the time of Rao Bahadur S. Seshayya
Mungal as Chairman of this Council existing

it now exists. The Guahamakham Tank outlet
was sanctioned by the Council and built
and by me in my individual capacity.

Nothing will be more welcome to me than
a proposal to reduce expenditure. I have never
been compelled to say that I have invariably
kept the accounts in order in all transactions
connected with the Council.

3. One of the objections of Rao Bahadur S. Seshayya
Chungal against a revision is that in the last
10 years the revenues of this Municipality have gone
up by nearly Rs 20,000 in five years. I submit
that this increase is not solely due to any
thing of the sort as in the case of buildings, but
chiefly brought about by an increase of the
rate of tolls to the maximum under the Act
and to the extension of the Municipal limits
of Kumbhakonam.

I have the honor to be

Sir
your obedient servant

L. S. Sivanarayana

Chairman

From

Rao Bahadur S. Seshayya, B. A.

Municipal Councillor, Kumbhakonam

To

Mr. L. S. Sivanarayana, Mayor, Chungal

Chairman, Municipal Council,
Kumbhakonam.

Sir

Referring to your letter dated the 15th inst.
and, I have the honor to state as follows. —

1. The work which you ask me to do is to revise
the house tax register of Ward No. 11 and to return
the same to you with the day revision before the
17th inst. I am aware that what I can do with
the extremely limited time at my disposal.
To do the work with anything like satisfaction
to myself and justice to the parties concerned,
I shall have to go from house to house, inspect
such houses as need inspection, make en-
quiries regarding actual rental in the case
of rented houses; all this cannot be done by
me under three weeks. I regret that I must there-
fore decline the task which you have been
pleased to assign to me.

2. In my letter to you of the 13th inst., I main-
tained to you that in order to remove the existing

2/5/1907

inequalities of assessment in the house tax, the
Council should lay down definite rules for
the guidance of those to whom the revision of
the house-tax might be entrusted. The revision
of different wards by different Councillors
will, if anything at all, add to the existing in-
equalities rather than remove them. And
the boards, when the revising Councillors
are guided by their own discretion and not
by any definite rules. I am strongly of opi-
nion that neither the Chairman nor any one
Councillor has the requisite leisure to under-
take singly the revision of the house tax of the
whole town. If a revision of the house tax is
thought necessary, the right course would, in
my opinion, be for you to apply to Government
for a competent officer to do the work on some
system. The cost of securing such a revision
would be nothing compared with the satis-
faction it would give. I am sorry that at the
last meeting of the Council, when the subject
came up before it, nothing was done in the
way of laying down rules for our guidance
in the matter of house assessment.

In connection with the proposition which

I moved at that meeting and which was carried
by a majority, I feel bound to bring to your notice
again the following facts:-

- (1) That between the years 1891-92 and 1894-95
the revenue of this Municipality has risen
by nearly 20000 (vide Municipal Report 1894-95).
- (2) That some of the assumed objects of the en-
hancement of revenue were (a) improved
water supply to the tanks (b) the construction
of a bridge over the Causeway, to the west of the
existing bridge, and (c) the extension of the
drainage works.
- (3) That not one of these promised improve-
ments has been effected, and that the addi-
tional revenues are spent in the ordinary
upkeep of the Municipality.
- (4) It is the painful experience of us all that
the existing checks for securing economy in
expenditure are extremely inadequate. Our
system of permanent road coolies, and the
entrusting of work, involving large expenditure,
to the supervision of Councillors at random,
and obviously so defective, as necessarily to lead
to wasteful expenditure. It was only three
months ago that the Council was obliged to sanction

work costing Rs 300000 on an outlet of the
Brahma Khesu Tank, - admittedly a neces-
sary work on which Rs 40000 had been spent, from
becoming a source of danger to the public.
5. Bearing in mind these facts, I deprecated,
at the last meeting of the Council, any addi-
tional addition to the existing assessment under
house tax. Our first care now should be econo-
my in expenditure. When we have secured
that, and when we are in a position to confer
on the public additional benefits, we shall
then certainly be justified in asking them for
more money. Let us also remember that when
the Municipal Bill now before the Legislature
shall become law, as it will ere long, we shall
have ample funds at our disposal.

6. If you are sending up the resolution of the Council on the question of home tax revision to Government, I request that you will be pleased to submit this letter also for their consideration.

Kumba Korau }
 3^d. September '96. }

I thank you for the honor to be
 Sir
 your obedient servant
 W. L. Lockhart

(True Copy)

L. circumscripta Auct.

Chas. W. W.

x This gentleman left the meeting before this resolution.

Proceedings of the meeting of the District
Council Kumbhakonam held on the 12th
December 1896.

Reverend

to Edw. J. S. Swann, Mayor Chicago

Las Palacios, Chairman

a K. Rungius da Rapia etargol B.A.

1
" Rao Bahadur L. Akbar Sahib" a P. a.

a. V. Pannunzio, Charles

N. Vaidyanatha Sagar Jun 2.

a. A. L. Tiruvengadam Pillai a

A. Ramalinga Chettiar

T. kristenmachianus 18. 2.

V. Kistner Lyon a B. A. B. L.

S. Swainsonadactylus B.A.B.D.

St. Kristina van Lyngar. B.A.B.

J. Hyacinth Brandt

J. H. Bathurst, Chesham.

S. Krishnasamy Chettiar

Mr. Rangasamy Chettiar

C. R. Legumadofketliar

2. Read G. O. No. 1866 to (Cons) and the sub-
ject of a general revision of the House of

and all connected papers.

Proposed by Mr. H. K. Ling and seconded by Mr. H. K. Ling
charged and seconded by Mr. H. K. Ling
In an emergency that Government has again
addressed upon the subject at large with
The letter of Mr. H. K. Ling has been forwarded to Government
charged in quick order which the Council
learn has been forwarded to Government
which even up to this date and that
Government has requested to reconsider
their orders, and in the light of the facts
contained in the letter of such an ex-
perienced gentleman and a former
Chairman of this Municipality to be
pleased to see their way to rescind the
same and that further considering the
impossibility of taking up and finishing
the work of revision within the time
prescribed by Government and also
on account of the high prices of labor
in this town, the Government
has requested to at least order the

revision of the House Tax to be postponed
till next year.

Carried by all the Councillors voting
in favor of it, The Chairman alone
dissenting.

(S) J. S. Swarny, Secy.

Chairman

(True Copy)

J. S. Swarny, Secy.

Chairman

By
K. S.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. Some words like "Carried" and "to the" are visible.]

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189

DATED

No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

ATTACHMENT WITH DITTO

NOT FILLED UP, BRING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only