8-9-13 B II ✓

L. & M.
00—12-9-98.

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 2178 M

DATED 16 12 98.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Festival charges Chidambaram – Stating that it is but fair that the Dt. Bd of South Arcot should contribute a reasonable portion of the cost of the Sanitary arrangements made during the festivals at Chidambaram & requesting the Collector to state what portion of the expenditure incurred by the Munl Council shd be debited to the Dt Bd

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
G.O.	1055	Rev.	/99				
G.O.	1274	Rev.	/99				

IIR

Festival Charges Chidambaram

C No. 2985 17/98

Misc

order No. 2178 Rev. dt 16/12/98

The Government Considers that it is but fair that the District Board of South Arcot Should Contribute a reasonable portion of the Cost of the Sanitary arrangements made during the festivals at Chidambaram. The Collector is requested to State what portion of the expenditure incurred by the municipal Council on this account Should be debited ~~to the District~~ Board.

2. The Collector is also requested to address the temple authorities regarding the payment by them ~~regarding the~~ ~~payment~~ of a Contribution towards the festival Charges and see whether they Cannot be persuaded to reconsider their decision in the matter.

(From orders)

W. T.
15 12 98

N.R.
14/12/98

Pro
344
Dec 20
RAO

To the Chairman, Mc. Chidambaram
" Collector of South Arcot
" President Dt. Bd. S. Arcot

oup 19/12/98

8

[G./25]
250—18-2-98.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 2985-M

SUBJECT.

Contribution towards expen
incurred during festivals-
Chidambaram.

FOR ORDERS.

H.M.

Please see the Chairman's letter
to the President Dt Bd, flagged N

Vide the Collector's endorsement
in G.O. $\frac{1579 M}{12-7-97}$ O

P

Two important festiv
take place at Chidambaram ev
year - one in the month of Jun
and the other in December, wh
attract large numbers of pilgri
The expenditure incurred by th
Municipality on the sanitary
arrangements made during the
two festivals was Rs 1042-12-7 i
1896-97 and Rs 1273-15-1 in 1897-
As the temple authorities derive
considerable income during the
festivals, and as the money spe
on sanitary arrangements is
much for the good of the Distri
as for that of the Municipality,
the Municipal Council was requ
ed in G.O. No 494 M, dated 4th M
1898, to address the temple auth

nd the District Board regard-
ng the payment of a contribution
wards the festival charges and
eport the result to Government.

2. With his letter read above
he Chairman forwards copies
f the replies from the temple
uthorities and the District Board
the requisition made by him
n the subject. The trustees of the
mple state that the temple does
t receive any tasdik from Govern-
ent, that the income derived
uring these festivals is not suf-
icient to cover the cost of the
estivals themselves, that the trustees
re already looking after the
anitary arrangements inside
he temple and that they are
herefore unable to contribute
wards the expenses incurred on
anitary arrangements outside ~~t~~
n this connection, please see the
mble Members remarks in G.O.
No 1579. M, dated 12th July 1897.
The District Board in its re-
olution No 11, dated 31st August 1898,
lso states that it is unable to make
ny contribution, but assigns no

Vide the trustees reply flagged R

Q

S

reasons for its decision. As it is but fair that the District Board should contribute a reasonable portion of the cost of the sanitary arrangements, the Collector may be asked to state what portion of the expenditure ~~on sanitary arrangements~~ should be debited to the District Board, so that the Board may be directed to pay the amount to the Municipality. As however the Government has no power to compel the temple authorities to make any contribution for this purpose, the Collector may be asked to take the matter in his own hands and see whether they cannot be persuaded to reconsider their decision.

V.R
28/10/98

H.T.
31.10.98.

H.E. wd perhaps like the Hon Mr. Arundel to see his note at Q (G.O 1579 M of 1897)

This is ~~abo~~ all that can be done for the present & what should be done.

H.S

Yes – The matter will need legislation –

H.S
7/11/98

It may be looked into at once as the L. Bd's Bill is under consideration & a ~~Bd~~ Mr. Munro's amendment act (re fish.) has to be introduced.
My impression is that years ago

5

[L. & M. / 200—17-6-97.]

6

Introduction of a pilgrim-tax in festival-Centres.

(in the linked file) M

— Do — L

— Do — K

— Do — Y

NOTE FOR THE Honourable Member.
with reference to his remarks d/13. 11. 98. Flag Z.

In his report on the Brahmótsavam festival held at Tirupati in September 1893, printed in G.O. No. 120 M, dated 3rd February 1894, the Sanitary Commissioner suggested that in towns where largely attended festivals occurred, some legislation was necessary to secure the proper sanitation of houses in which pilgrims lodged, and he instanced the precedent of the Lodging House Act in force in the North West Provinces and Oudh. The Bengal Government, which was thereupon asked to state how the Puri Lodging House Act IV of 1871 had been working, stated tha "on the whole, the Act was working satisfactorily" and that in places wher large numbers of pilgrims gathered, some special law such as that in force in the Province was found necessary to provide for sanitation, and in a further communication on the subject, that Government stated that the Act was in force in ten towns in the Presidency and i the lodging houses along three of the Jagannath roads. Copies of this Act were then circulated to the Board of Revenue, the Sanitary Commissioner and some selected officers, who were asked to report on the desirability of introducing a similar Act into this Presidency. The replies received from these officers are summarized in the note for orders in the linked file; but no orders have yet been passed on the proposal.

2. It has to be observed in this connection, that a pilgrim tax is levied in some Municipalities in the North West Provinces and Oudh. Section 41 of the North West Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act XV of 1883 authorizes a Municipal Board to levy, with the previous sanction of the Local Government and of the Governor-General in Council, any taxes other than those rein Specified, and Section 42 empowers a Municipal Board to propose, y a resolution passed at a Special meeting, he imposition of any tax for the pur- oses of that Act and also prescribes the ocedure to be followed in imposing it. n September 1896, the Sanitary Commissioner

J G.O. No. $\frac{490 H}{14\cdot4\cdot94}$ (in the linked file)

I — do —

What information?
H.
3-12-98

Please see flag. X. in G.O. No. 76. Legislative / 29-10-96
H
5/12/98

H G.O. No. $\frac{76\ Legve.}{29\cdot10\cdot96}$ in the linked file.

Flag. X.

G

8

suggested the introduction into the District Municipalities Act, which was then under revision, of provisions similar to those of Section 42 of the North West Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, and stated that, even if an enactment like the Puri Lodging House Act should be passed, it was not likely that sufficient funds would be raised for carrying out the Sanitary arrangements at festivals and that a pilgrim tax similar to that levied in some of the Municipalities in the North West Provinces and Oudh was a desirable and necessary addition. As, however, the Bill to amend the District Municipalities Act had then passed through the Select Committee, the Government considered it was too late to propose such an addition unless the Amending Bill had to be "re-committed" and the Question was accordingly dropped — Vide the notes in G.O. No. 1861 H, dated 2nd November 1896.

It is therefore for considerat whether advantage may not be take of this opportunity to introduce into the Bills to amend the Local Boards and District the Jagannath roads. Copies of this Act were then circulated to the Board of Revenue, the Sanitary Commissioner and some selected officers, who were asked to report on the desirability of introducing a similar Act into this Presidency. The replies received from these officers are summarized in the note for orders in the linked file; but no orders have yet been passed on the proposal.

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J G.O. No. 490 H / 14.4.94 (in the linked file)

I

— do —

What information?

3.12.98

Please see flag. X in G.O. No. 76. Legislative / 29-10-96

5/12/98

H G.O. No. 76 Legve / 29.10.96 in the linked file.

Flag. X.

G

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It is therefore for consideratio whether advantage may not be take of this opportunity to introduce into the Bills to amend the Local Boards and District

District Municipalities ~~Acts~~, some provisions authorizing the imposition of a pilgrim-tax as in the North West Provinces and Oudh.

V.R.
2/12/98

H.M.

I think it too late now to introduce any such thing into the Bill. But perhaps Colrs., D Bs & Mufs. Municipalities might be asked what they would think of a Bill giving power to Govt. to sanction the imposition of some such tax as is levied at Hardwar (Flag X) at any place where a popular festival takes place ~~att~~ with an estimated attendance of ~~5000~~ 10,000? persons, & during the time which the festival lasts.

Take the case of Hampi. It used (before Plague) to be attended by enormous crowds; sanitation was very expensive to the D B – the temple made much profit – yet the temple authorities would not contribute a pie. And so in many places. The temple authorities can't be taxed – the D Bs can't give enough money – the alternative is to tax the pilgrims. H.T. 6.12.98

Nothing could be done now in the Bill under consideration.

I do not think the N.W.P. Poll-tax wd. be suitable for this Presy. It is levied on persons entering the Muny. – a most difficult thing to ensure as people can enter most towns any where.

The matter must drop I fear for the present.

A.T. 8.12.98

H. 9.12.98

If the idea at all commends itself to H.M., he might have the papers for consn.

Genl. Cur. Regr. No. 705 Eng of 98

10

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE SOUTH ARCOT

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2985 M

1465 / Cur 98

Forwarded

E. Wallace
Ag. Actg. Collr.
17.9.98

DESPATCHED 19 SEP 98

ASSISTANT COLLECTOR'S OFFICE 14 SEP 1898 SOUTH ARCOT.

From The Chairman
Municipal Council
Chidambaram

Order – Forwarded

L. L. McWynch
Ag. Collector

Rh
20-9-98

21/9/98

No. 414

Dated 12th September 1898

Received 23 SEP 1898

Registered

DESPATCHED 22 SEP 1898

Enclosures Four

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Reporting that both the temple authorities and the District Board have expressed their inability to pay a contribution towards the festival charges.

18/10

2915

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Go	787	Mun SC	3-4-97
Go	1579	[illegible]	12-7-97
Go	429	Misc	8-3-97
Go	474	Misc	4-2-98
Go	1541	Misc	19-8-98
	1634	Public	17-11-98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

alternative is to tax the pilgrims. H. 1.6.12.98

No 240 9-6-1898

Yadast from the Chairman Municipal Council Chidambaram to the Deekshadars of Sree Sabha-nayakar's temple Chidambaram.

You are aware that when in this office yadast No. 27 of 15th April 1897 embodying the substance of the Government order passed on the recommendation of the District Collector, you were called upon to contribute a third of the expenses incurred in keeping this town, its tanks wells &c in a sanitary condition during the Anithirumanjanam and Arudra darisanam Brahmotsava festivals of each year, you attended only to the sanitation of the temple premises with its wells and Sivaganga Tank during the said festivals of last year in accordance with the undertaking contained in the petition put in on 12th May 1897 by Chandra-sekara Deekshadar and five other managing trustees of the temple in reply to the said yadast.

2. As the Government have in their order passed on the recommendation made by the Head Assistant Collector of this Division in his report on the current year's Budget estimate of this Municipality directed that you

you should be again addressed regarding the payment of a contribution towards the expenses incurred in making Sanitary arrangements outside the temple premises during festivals, and your reply reported to them, you are requested to have the matters mentioned in the said yadast no 27 reconsidered at as early a general meeting of your community as possible and to communicate the result to me.

(Signed) M. Ramaswami Iyer
Chairman

(True translation)

M. Ramaswami Iyer
Chairman

Enclosure no 1
to letter no $\frac{414}{12-9-}$

To
The Chairman
Municipal Council
Chidambaram Town.

The petition of (1) A. Sabhanatha Deekshadar, (2) V. Appasami Deekshadar, (3) T. Sabharathna Deekshadar, (4) A. Sambamurthi Deekshadar, (5) N. Dhandapani Deekshadar, (6) M. Kanaka Sabhapathi Deekshadar, (7) Selvarathna Deekshadar, and (8) S. Kunjitha Deekshadar, being the trustees and absolute managers of Sree Sabanayakar's temple, Chidambaram

Reply to yadast no $\frac{240}{9-6-98}$ from the Chairman Municipal Council Chidambaram town.

(1) We have been attending to the necessary sanitation within Sree Sabhanayakar's temple premises Chidambaram.

2. The contract Revenue of the said temple is not always the same.

3. Of the contract revenue derived, what is left after the expenses of the said temple have been defrayed is insufficient to meet the festival charges.

4. This is not a Devastanam deriving a permanent income but is dependant upon charitable contributions.

5. All the affairs of the said Devastanam are being conducted by and under the auspices of many gentlemen.

6. It is by no means fair to call on us to contribute towards the expenses of
th

the arrangements throughout the town.

We therefore request that order be passed that we should continue to make arrangements within the temple premises as in previous years and that we should not be required to contribute towards the expenses of the arrangements to be made in the town outside the said premises.

18-6-98. (Signed) Manjar T. Sabaratna Deekshadar (in Tamil).
" M. Kanagasabapathy Deekshadar (in Tamil).
" A. S. Kunjithasarana Deekshadar (")
" Selvaratna Deekshadar (").
" Sadasivamoorthy Deekshadar (")
" N. Dandapani Deekshadar (")
" V. Abhasalli Deekshadar (")
" A. Sabharatna Deekshadar (")

(True Translation)

M. Ramaswamy
Chairman

Enclosure No 2
to letter No 414 / 12-9-98

3
2985/M/98

No 339

Municipal Office.
Chidambaram
Dated:- 26th July 1898.

From
The Chairman,
Municipal Council,
Chidambaram.

To
The President,
District Board
South Arcot.

Sir,

I have the honor to address you on the following subject with reference to para 4 (4) of G.O. No 494 M dated 4th March 1898 reviewing the Budget Estimate of this Municipality for 1898-9

2. Two important festivals are being celebrated in the famous Siva temple of this town every year in the Tamil months of Ani and Margali correspondi to June and December; on each occasi the festival lasts for 10 days. The Municipality used to be making some extra sanitary arrangements a small scale on these festival occasions, at a small cost, the avera annual cost for the 7 years from 188 to 1895-96 being Rs 70-0-3. From the ye 1896-97, the Municipality was require by the District Medical and Sanita Officer to make the Sanitary arrangem on festival occasions in a grand scale based on the lines laid dow

in G.O. No. 421 Public dated 17th November 1868 and on the arrangements made at the Tiruvannamalai Karthigai festival of 1895. The suggestions of the District Medical and Sanitary Officer were repeated on every festival occasion during the last 2 years and either the District Surgeon or the Assistant Surgeon visited the place on those occasions to see that their recommendations were carried out. Owing to the extended scale which had to be adopted, the expenditure in 1896-97 was Rs 1042-12-7 and that in 1897-98 was Rs 1273-15-1. This expenditure is exclusive of the cost of the Sanitary arrangements made within the temple premises which was borne by the Deekshadars of the temple. Out of the sum of Rs 495-10-3, expended on the occasion of the Anithirumanjanam festival of 1896-97, the District Board contributed Rs 250 (vide Resolution No 16 of 31st October 1896).

3. In para 6 of his endorsement on the Budget of this Municipality for 1897-98, the Collector stated that the temple authorities might well be called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the festivals by which they benefit so largely. In the G.O. reviewing the Budget, the Council's attention was drawn to his remarks, whereupon the Council resolved to address the temple Deekshadars asking them to contribute one-third of the amount expended for festival arrangements. The Deekshadars made a reply to the effect that the temple was

was not endowed with any Tasdik allowance by Government, that the income derived in the temple was hardly sufficient to meet the expenses necessarily incurred by them on account of various purposes connected with the temple and that they were therefore unable to pay any contribution towards the expenses on account of Sanitary arrangements on festival occasions but that they would make the necessary Sanitary arrangements within the temple premises at their own costs. The council considered that under the circumstances it would not be equitable to call on the Deekshadars to contribute a portion of the expenses on account of Sanitary arrangements made outside the temple premises.

4. On report of the above being made from this office the Government in its order No 1579 M. Mis dated 12th July 1897, expressed that it concurred in the Collector's remarks given below:-

"I am informed that at the last Arudra Darsanam, each person who wished to witness the abishekam was required by the temple authorities to pay Rs 1-4-0. I have also heard that the right to levy temple fees was sold for some Rs 1000. That the authorities of a temple like that at Chidambaram — of unique importance in the religious world of Southern India — should fail to recognize its responsibilities in the matter of contributing properly

4 in G.O. No. 421 Public dated

properly towards the Sanitary expenses of the Municipality is most deplorable."

5. In para 3 of his endorsement on the Budget Estimate of the Municipality for 1898-99, the Head Assistant Collector stated as follows:-

page 7 of G.O. 494 M 4-3-98

"It is thought that the local temple authorities may perhaps reconsider their decision to make no contribution for festival arrangements beyond the temple limits, but if they refuse to do this the District Board might fairly be asked to contribute, as the money is spent as much for the good of the district as for that of the Municipality."

The Government in para 4(4) of its order No. 495 M dated 4th March 1898 reviewing the Budget, directed that the Municipal Council should address the temple authorities and the District Board regarding the payment of a contribution towards the festival charges and report the result.

page 12 ibid.

6. On the temple Deekshadars being addressed, they have stated, as before, their inability to make any such contribution. Copies of their

thereon are enclosed.

D. 7.
24-6-98

7. In laying the matter before the District Board, I respectfully beg to draw its attention to the latter part of the Head Assistant Collector's suggestion viz that the District Board might fairly be asked to contribute, as the money is spent as much for the good of the District as for that of the Municipality and I hope that the District Board will be pleased to afford a reasonable help to the Municipality.

I have &c.

(Signed) M. Ramaswami Iyer
Chairman

(True copy)

M Ramaswami Iyer
Chairman

Enclosure to letter
No ~~414~~ 414
12-9-1898

2/2985/M/98

21

Extract from the Proceedings of the District Board, South Arcot, passed at a meeting held on the 31st August 1898.

Res. No. 11. Read letter from the Chairman, Chidambaram Municipality, dated 26th ultimo, No. 339 soliciting payment of contribution from District funds on account of special sanitary arrangements made during festivals in the Siva Temple at Chidambaram.

Also the President's note on the subject.

The majority of the Board is of opinion that Municipal Council of Chidambaram is bound to provide for its own sanitation. The temple authorities ought to contribute. The Board is unable to comply with the request of the Council;

M.R.Ry Ramaswami Iyer Avergal,
Ramakrishna Pillai Avergal and
Parthasarathy Aiyangar Avergal
dissent.

× × ×

Repn. Cur. Regr. No $\frac{867}{DB}$ of 1898. (Signed) H. Subbaraya Iyer
Vice President District Board

True Extract forwarded to the Chairman, Municipal Council Chidambaram for information.

(Signed). H. Subbaraya Iyer
Vice President Dist. Bd.
for President Dist. Bd.

5-9-98.

(True copy)

M.Ramaswami Iyer
Chairman.

1/2985/M/98

1. Translation of chairman's letter no. 240/9-6-98 to the temple Deekshadar.
2. " Deekshadar's reply dated 18th June 1898.
3. Copy of Chairman's letter no. 339/26-7-98 to the President, District Board.
4. Copy of the Proceedings of the District Board passed at a meeting held on the 31st August 1898.

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT F. No. 2985/M

Municipal Office.
Chidambaram.
Dated - 12th September 1898.

No. 414

From

The Chairman,
Municipal Council.
Chidambaram.

To

The Secretary to Government
Local and Municipal Department
Fort Saint George.

(Through the Head Assistant Collector and Collector of South Arcot.)

Sir,

With reference to the last sentence of clause 4 para 4 of G.O. no. 494 M dated 4th March 1898, I beg to forward herewith the papers noted in the margin. It will be seen from the enclosures 2 and 4 that both the temple authorities and the District Board have expressed their inability to pay a contribution towards the festival charges.

2. It will be observed from para 2 of my letter to the President District Board (enclosure 3) that the cost of Special Sanitary arrangements on festival occasions has, of late, risen very high. The District Medical and Sanitary Officer and the

the Sanitary Commissioner complain that the suggestions of the former were not adopted in their entirety (vide their report on the last Arunadra Darisanam festival embodied in G.O. No 1541 L dated 19th August 1898). There can be no doubt that if the District Medical and Sanitary Officer's recommendations are to be carried out in their entirety, the expenditure will be much larger.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obedient servant

M Ranganswami
~~Collector~~

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed 17/ne
189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. , DATED 189 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

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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