

Legislative (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 4

DATED 25-1-98

5/6

INDEXED.



[Despatch Abstract.]

Comm. G. with remarks, to the depart-
ments concerned copies of questions
asked at the meeting of the League Council
held on the 24th Jan^y 1898 and two
answers given hereto.

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BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY,
THE 24TH DAY OF JANUARY 1899.

(1) Questions.

With the permission of His Excellency the President—

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

I. (a) With reference to G.O., No. 690, Educational, dated 7th November 1898, and the notification issued by the Principal of the Law College at Madras thereunder on the 25th *idem*, will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government Order and the notification are intended to apply retrospectively to the students who joined the college in the first term of 1898, and whether such students will not be permitted to commence their studies for the B.L. course in the second term of the current year, without passing their F.L. Examination?

(b) If the answer to the above clause be in the affirmative, whether Government will be pleased to take into consideration the hardship which will be entailed on the students, who joined the college in the first term of 1898 in the full belief that they would be permitted, under the rules then existing, to complete their B.L. courses independent of their passing the F.L. Examination, and to exempt such students from the operation of the new rule?

(c) Is there any objection to making the Madras Law College a full-time institution like the Presidency College and other colleges, in view to reducing the F.L. and B.L. courses from three to two years?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

I. (a) The Government Order and the notification will apply to the students who joined the college in the first term of 1898. These students will not be permitted to commence their studies for the B.L. course in the second term of 1899, unless they pass the First Examination in Law.

(b) The Honourable Member's attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of the Annual Report of the Law College, embodied in G.O., No. 608, Educational, dated 29th September 1898, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

It will be seen therefrom that the change adopted is in the best interests of the students themselves. Of those who joined the college in the first term of 1898, such as may fail at the F.L. Examination in May next will, by repeating the F.L. course of lectures, be better grounded and more likely to pass the examination next year, than if they were allowed to proceed with the B.L. course. The B.L. class will also materially benefit by being confined to *bonâ fide* B.L. students.

For these reasons it is not considered desirable to exempt the students mentioned in the question from the operation of the new rule.

(c) Government in 1896 had under consideration proposals to work the Law College as a full-time institution, but did not think it practicable to introduce the change. Nor is Government at present prepared to make any alteration in the existing conditions.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

II. With reference to the statement published in the *Tanjore District Gazette* for September 1898 showing that 37 plots of land, measuring 136 acres and assessed at Rs. 296, were sold for arrears of Government revenue and purchased by Government itself at one anna per plot, will Government be pleased to inquire into the circumstances attending the sale and furnish the Council with information as to why no one offered to bid, and Government was obliged to purchase the lands for a nominal price?

III. With reference to similar statements published in the *Tanjore District Gazette*, dated the 20th October 1898 and 1st December 1898, showing that 28 plots of land, measuring 51.11 acres and assessed at Rs. 59-2-0, and 57 plots, measuring 76 acres and assessed at Rs. 203, respectively, were sold for arrears of Government revenue and purchased by Government itself at one anna per plot, will Government be pleased to enquire into the circumstances attending the sales and furnish the Council with similar information as is requested in the preceding question?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

II and III. The Hon'ble Member is requested to be good enough to repeat his questions at the next meeting.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

IV. In view to the diffusion among the masses of the knowledge of sanitary laws, will Government be pleased to take into consideration the desirability of making compulsory the study of sanitary primers in the primary and lower secondary departments and of advanced treatises in hygiene in the upper secondary and collegiate departments?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

IV. Hygiene and Elementary Science is an optional subject of study in primary and lower secondary standards from the third standard upwards. Next to Geography the largest number of pupils that passed in the third and fourth standards in 1897-98 was in this subject, as will be seen from paragraph 80 of the last Public Instruction Report. At the Primary Examination of 1897-98 it was brought up by the largest number of male and female candidates. Considering the importance of other branches of study and considering also how popular the subject is under existing conditions, the Government is not prepared to curtail the freedom of managers of primary and lower secondary schools in the selection of subjects of instruction. The subjects to be taught in the upper secondary department are already sufficiently numerous and taxing and their number cannot be added to without omitting some portion of the present curriculum. The University by-laws regulate the course of instruction in colleges, and it is open to the Honourable Member to address the Syndicate on the subject.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

V. Is Government in a position to furnish the Council with any information regarding the contemplated reorganization of the Registration department, and when the proposed scheme is likely to be brought into force?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

V. The answer to the Hon'ble Member's question must be in the negative. A scheme for the reorganization of the department is now under consideration.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

VI. (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the correspondence which appeared in the *Madras Standard*, dated the 17th September 1898, under the heading "Madura—Union Chairman," and will Government be pleased to state if the allegations contained in it are correct?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Union Chairman of Elayangudy (Madura) —M.R.Ry. Sikandar Vava Ambalagar, who was also the village munsif of the place — was compelled by the President of the Taluk Board of Sivaganga to resign his Chairmanship on pain of being dismissed from his post of village munsif?

(c) If the answer to the above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the circumstances in which such an unusual step was taken by the President of the Taluk Board?

(d) If Government be not in possession of the necessary information, will it be pleased to call for a report upon the matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

VI. The Government has now perused the correspondence in question, but has no official information in the matter. A report will be called for from the President of the District Board.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

VII. With reference to the orders of Government passed upon a memorial by some inhabitants of Mylapore last year as regards certain alleged injurious effects of the junction canal on people and property in the vicinity, will Government be pleased to lay on the table the reports submitted to Government by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, the Board of Revenue, and the Surgeon-General, and the final orders thereon?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

VII. The Hon'ble Member is informed that the reports called for from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and the Revenue Board have not yet been submitted to Government. No final orders on the subject have therefore been passed.

The orders of Government mentioned by the Hon'ble Member, and the Surgeon-General's report in reply, will be placed on the table.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI :—

VIII. (a) Has Government perused the correspondence appearing in the *Madras Standard*, dated 21st May 1898, headed "Penukonda," and is it in a position to state if there is any truth in the allegations contained in it regarding the procedure of the Head Assistant Magistrate said to have been adopted against the Stationary Sub-Magistrate of Penukonda?

(b) Is it a fact that the Stationary Sub-Magistrate withdrew the adverse comments which he had recorded in his judgment against the evidence of the Head Assistant Magistrate's butler, who had been examined as a witness for the prosecution, in deference to the latter officer's remarks?

(c) If Government is not in possession of any information on the matter, will it be pleased to call for a report from the District Magistrate?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

VIII. The Government has now perused the news letter referred to, but has received no official information in the matter. Assuming the facts to be correctly reported, it is not alleged that the comments of the Divisional Magistrate in any way affected the course of justice, and the Government considers it sufficient that the attention of the District Magistrate should be drawn to the questions put by the Hon'ble Member.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

IX. Has the attention of the Government been called to a resolution of the Indian National Congress passed in its last meeting held in Madras that it is desirable to relieve the District and Municipal Boards from all liability to contribute towards the expense of administering the plague regulations and rules?

Will the Government be pleased to consider this question?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

IX. The Government is unable to relieve the Local Bodies from contributing a fair share of the plague charges.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

X. Is it a fact that fines realised from convictions for offences against the plague regulations and rules are credited to the Provincial fund? If so, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of allotting portions of these fines to the District and Municipal Boards in proportion to the charges incurred by those bodies in the administration of the plague measures?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

X. Yes; as the fines in question are levied under the Indian Penal Code, they are credited, as all other fines under that Code are, to Provincial funds under the head of Law and Justice. The Government is not prepared to accept the Hon'ble Member's suggestion.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

XI. (a) Is it a fact that Medical officers who have been specially entertained to perform duties in connection with the plague are now employed in the Madras General Hospital or elsewhere for other duties?

(b) If so, how many such officers are there?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state when it will be possible for it to dispense with the services of the Medical officers who have been so entertained?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XI. (a) Yes; but the attention of the Hon'ble Member is invited to the reply to clause (b) of his question No. XXVIII asked at the Meeting of the Council held on 13th May 1898, in which he was informed that the officers in question had been engaged for general as well as plague duty.

(b) Five, in addition to nine officers newly arrived who, pending further orders, are temporarily attached to hospitals at the Presidency.

(c) This depends chiefly upon the progress of the plague, and the Government is unable to say when it will be possible to dispense with their services.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

XII. From the experience obtained since the creation of the Office of the Madras Plague Commissioner, will the Government be pleased to state whether it is absolutely necessary to continue the office and whether the duties now performed by the Plague Commissioner may not be curtailed and performed by the existing permanent machinery of the Government?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XII. The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative and to the second part in the negative.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

XIII. (a) Will the Government be pleased to state under what circumstances the recent notification relating to the Madras Law College has been issued, under which the time of instruction in the College has been altered so as to include in it the hours of ten to eleven o'clock in the morning and four to five o'clock in the evening?

(b) Is it a fact that the students who joined the College in 1897 and 1898 had no notice at the time they joined the institution or prior to it that any such alteration would be made?

(c) Is the Government aware that several of these students hold appointments in Public service and elsewhere, for whom it would be impossible to attend the College between ten and eleven o'clock in the morning and between four and five o'clock in the evening?

(d) Is it a fact that the majority of the Professors and Assistant Professors of the College find that the altered hours of instruction, namely, ten to eleven o'clock in the morning and four to five o'clock in the evening, are very inconvenient to them and that, as a matter of fact, they do not attend the College during those hours?

(e) Is it a fact that the attendance of the students of the Law College is sometimes marked for hours when no instruction is given? If so, will the Government be pleased to call for information under what circumstances and authority this is done, and for a statement of such hours in the year 1898 showing also whose duty it was to give instructions during those hours?

(f) In view to obviate the hardship and inconvenience caused alike to the students and to the majority of the teaching staff by the notification in question, will the Government be pleased to direct that the whole matter be reconsidered?

The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—

XIII. (a) and (f) The change was made by the Director of Public Instruction on the recommendation of the Principal and of the College Council. The Government does not consider it necessary to interfere with the exercise of the Director's discretion in this matter.

(b) to (e) The Government is unable to admit the force of the arguments implied in these portions of the question.

(2) Petitions, &c.

The Secretary reports the communication to the Select Committees concerned of the following papers :—

G.O., No. 84, Legislative, dated 16th December 1898, relating to the Bill further to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1884.

Petition from the Proprietors of Tiruvur division, Kistna district, relating to the Madras Tenancy Bill.

(3) Madras Tenancy Bill.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. T. Arundel, c.s.i., will move for the addition of two members to the Select Committee on the Bill in the place of Sir Henry Bliss, K.C.I.E., and Mr. C. S. Crole, c.i.e., who have ceased to be members of the Committee.

(4) Bill further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1884.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. T. Arundel, c.s.i., will introduce the Bill and move that it be read in Council.

(5) The Malabar Compensation for Tenants' Improvements Bill.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. M. Winterbotham will introduce the Bill and move that it be read in Council.

H. TREMENHEERE,

Secretary to Government.

Government of Fort St. George.
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICES

FOR THE

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

On Tuesday, the 24th day of January 1899.

[E. & L.]
500-10-11-98.

Legislative DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Current No.	of 189 , dated	, from
" "	, 189 , "	" "
" "	, 189 , "	" "

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Questions asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 24th Jan'y 1899 & the ORDER. Answers given thereto.
his No. 4 of 25-1-99

Communicated to the departments of the Secretariat concerned for information & guidance.

2. The attention of the Local & Municipal department will be drawn to the answer given to Question no. VI

26/1/99

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The Council
" Revenue } para 1 only.
" Public works }
" Trust } Dept
" Lm } para 1+2

26/1-99

25/1/99

When given for copying 25
When copied 1
When examined 20 189
When signed 1

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

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	..	..	..	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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