

INDEXED.

PRESS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

G.O., DATED 7-10-95

No. 1611 m.

First copy sent to Press.

7/10/95

Returned for signature.

23/10/95

Despatched in print.

24/10/95

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Administration Report**Reviewing the**of the Dindigul Muni. Council  
for 1894-95.*L. & M.  
9,000-5-8-95.]

Local &amp; Muni. (1895) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1610 M

DATED 7<sup>th</sup> October 1895

[Despatch Abstract.]

Municipal Council.

Ordering, with remarks, that the election of M. R. Ry. N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar as a member of the Kumbakonam----be notified

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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# FURTHER PAPERS.

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Ne 2147 of 95

Sub Collectors Office

Kumbakonam

27<sup>th</sup> August 1895

From

Robert B. Clerk Esquire

Al. Sub. Collector of

Tanjore

To

The Collector of

Tanjore.

Sir,

I have the honor to report on the petitions of certain voters of Ne III ward, Kumbakonam Municipality, and of N. Krishnasami Iyengar, the defeated Candidate at the election held to fill up a vacancy in the Council on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1895, which were forwarded to me with your References on Current Nos 629, 647, and 655 Municipal dated 10<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> instant respectively.

2. Two Candidates contested the vacancy;

N. Krishnasami Iyer, High Court Vakil, the petitioner, and K. Ramalinga Chetty, a wealthy merchant. The polling took place in the Kumbeswaraswami temple. There was a hot contest, each party and his agents doing their utmost to secure votes, with the result that N. Krishnasami Iyer received 91 and K. Ramalinga Chetty 93, the latter winning by the small margin of two votes.

3. Both parties have been fully heard in person and by Vakeels, and have been allowed to examine and cross-examine any witnesses they chose.

4. The petitioners question the validity of the election on the ground that there was false personation and fraud, and that the

successful

successful candidate was not duly elected by a majority of votes.

5. One clear case of false personation undoubtedly did occur and it is not denied.

The petitioners contend that the opposite party and K. Ramalinga Chetty himself were abettors of the false personation, and that, even granted they were innocent of it, it is sufficient under the rules to render the election invalid. The party of K. Ramalinga Chetty denies any knowledge of the false personation and contends that at the most it will only invalidate one vote.

6. One Arumula Padiachi is a registered voter for the Ward No III. He has been living for some time in Inambur, a village of the Taluk

son

Some miles away from the town of Kumbakonam, and was not at all in Kumbakonam on the date of election. He has a brother living in Kumbakonam named Amirthalinga Padiachi.

This man went to the poll in the assumed character of the voter. Arumula Padiachi, voted for K. Ramalinga Chetty and signed his name as Arumula Padiachi in the voting paper.

On the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> August this man was brought to me by N. Krishnasami Iyengar and I recorded his statement then and there.

He alleges that he was brought from his house to vote by K. Ramalinga Chetty's agents, that he was met outside the temple and conducted to the polling place by K. Ramalinga Chetty himself, and that all of them told him there was

no harm in his voting for his brother and signing his brother's name, inasmuch as it was an unimportant document. He even goes so far as to say that K. Ramalinga Chetty said in public that he was going to vote for his brother at the entrance to the temple, and that the agents and adherents of both sides were aware of it when he went to the poll. This story I do not believe.

From other evidence it appears that there was a question raised by the Iyengar's party at the time as to whether this man was actually a voter, but on a reference to the Municipal Inspector at the polling place, it was said that he was and they were satisfied. Any how, no complaint was made that day and N. Krishnasami Iyengar's [redacted] attested the polling officer's

Certificate at the close of the poll. I think that the man has exaggerated matters in the interest of the petitioners and it would be unsafe to rely on his bare statement. No attempt, however, has been made to contradict the fact that the man was conducted to the poll by K. Ramalinga Chetty's agents. I should say it was therefore extremely probable that it was at their instigation in their zeal to secure votes that he was induced to falsely personate his brother. He is a simple kind of fellow with nothing to gain by voting, and it is too much for me to believe that he acted altogether of his own accord.

7. On the list of voters which is dated 12<sup>th</sup> January 1895, there are two deceased persons, Nadalan Chetty No 54 Vembadi Street

and Chakrapani Chetty No 70 Vembadi Street. Nadalan Chetty No 54 died in June 1894. Chakrapani Chetty died 4 or 5 years ago. There are no persons bearing these names residing at the above numbers. Curiously enough however, there are two persons of the same names, Nadalan Chetty at No 70 and Chakrapani Chetty at No 54, and it would appear from the enquiry that these persons voted. The polling officer was guided in the identification of the voters by a bill. Collector, Kasturi Senghar, who prepared the list of voters, and this bill. Collector himself admittedly was not acquainted with all the voters on the list. It is alleged that the two men who voted were the actual voters intended, but that the door numbers against their names, had by a

Clerical

Arti clerical error been interchanged. In the  
the previous year's list of voters, there are two men  
into of the name of Nadalan Chetty, one at No 54,  
-sa and the other at No 70. The bill. Collector  
how explains that in preparing the present year's  
the list of 12<sup>th</sup> January 1895 he had information  
that one Nadalan Chetty was dead, but,  
K. ( instead of ascertaining correctly who it was,  
it he guessed that it was No 70 Nadalan Chetty,  
wa and substituted the name of Chakrapani  
vol Chetty in his stead at No 70 instead of  
his substituting Chakrapani Chetty the brother of  
no No 54. Nadalan Chetty at No 54. This expla-  
for nation may or may not be true, but it is  
hi clear that the two men who voted are not the  
two men in the list of voters. It will not do  
to allow others to vote in this way at the  
pleasure of Municipal subordinates. These

two voters should therefore be considered  
invalid, and if proper enquiry had been  
made by the polling officer at the time they  
came to vote, they ought to have been rejected.

8. Another irregularity was committed by the  
Chairman who was present during the greater  
part of the polling. One Panchanatha Pathan  
came up to vote about 12<sup>noon</sup> 12. AM. There was a  
Panchanatha Chetty on the list of voters who  
appeared to the Chairman to be the same  
man. The Chairman went away to tiffin  
and came back again in an hour or two having  
sent for the bill. Collector of the division wherein  
the man resided. On the word of this bill-  
Collector, the Chairman altered the name  
Panchanatha Chetty to Panchanatha Pathan

in the list of voters under his initials  
and allowed the man to vote.

I think this vote too should have been  
rejected.

9. These are the main objections pressed  
against the election. The other allegations  
in the petition are of a general nature, and  
no proof of them has been brought forward.

10. The inquiry shows how carelessly and  
inaccurately the list of voters has been prepared.  
It has practically been left to a Bill Collector,  
supposed to have been examined by a  
Councillor, and not checked at all by the  
Chairman.

11. Irrespective of the question of fraud,  
the measure of Municipal

there is, I think, sufficient proof that the  
successful candidate, K. Ramalinga Chetty,  
has not been duly elected and I recommend  
that the election be cancelled.

12. A list of records of the inquiry is enclosed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) Robert B. Clegh

Off. Sub. Collector

27. 8. 95

No. 143  
2nd

(True Copy)

Enc: Records as per list. CURRENT TO. 2809/1

Submitted to Government in the Local  
and Municipal Department, Madras with the  
recommendation that the election of M. R. R. K.

Ramalinga Chettiar Avarhal held on 31<sup>st</sup> July

1895 for Ward No III in Kumbakonam

Municipality may be Cancelled.

2. The records of Enquiry together with the Chairman's report of election dated 18<sup>th</sup> August 1895 and the 2 petitions presented to this office both by the successful and the defeated Candidates after the Enquiry are forwarded herewith as per list enclosed.

Tanjore Collector's Office  
Dated 4<sup>th</sup> September 95  
Mayavaram. Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 1895  
For as. Collector  
6. 9. 95

Local & Municipal Dep.  
CURRENT No. 2809M

28446-9-3-96

From

The Collector of  
Tanjore

To

The Chief Secretary to Govt  
Local and Mun. Dept.  
Madras.

Dated 4<sup>th</sup> }  
Desp 2 6<sup>th</sup> } September 1895  
Recd 9 SEP 95

No 43 of 1895

Enc 1 bundle as per list.

Municipal Election.

Reporting the result of the Enquiry  
into the validity of the  
held in the Kumbakonam Muni-  
cipality on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1895 for filling  
up a vacant seat.

appo.  
14<sup>th</sup>

[ 5 ]  
500-27-5-95.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 2809M of 189 5, dated 4<sup>th</sup> Sept. — from the Collector of Tanjore.  
Current No. of 189 , dated from the

Order. 7-10-95. No 1616 muni

The Government agrees with  
the Collector in considering that  
M. R. Ry. K. Ramalinga Chettiar was  
not duly elected by a majority  
of votes. The election of the other  
candidate M. R. Ry. K. Krishnaswami  
Aiyangar will be gazetted.

2. The attention of the  
Municipal Council will be drawn to  
para. 10 of the Sub. Collector's letter.  
If greater care is not bestowed on  
the preparation of the lists of  
voters, the Government will have  
to conclude that the privilege  
of election is not valued to the extent

V.P. H. S. 1/10/95  
1/10/95  
5/10/95

To the Chairman, M. C. Kumbakonam  
Collector of Tanjore.  
(with the Enclosures returned)

Gazetted 8/10/95  
+ Mr. Madhav Rao  
Copy 11/10/95

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 18

FURTHER PAPER, No.

OF

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED  
189 No MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH  
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

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Election of a Council  
Lumbahman Municipality

M 1610

Cl.  
Misc.

**INDEXED.**  
*Miscellaneous.*

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPT.

G.O., DATED 7-10-95  
No. 1610.1v.

*When given for copying.*

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Municipal Council*

*Ordering, with remarks,  
that the election of Mr. R. G.  
N. Krishnaswami Aiyangar  
as a member of the  
Kumbakonam be  
notified.*

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*When signed*

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.

189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

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