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# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

*P. W. D.* DEPARTMENT

|          |          |        |
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| G.O. No. | 1790A    | Press. |
| B.P. No. | 1790B    | Mis.   |
| Dated    | 7.7.1879 | 197.   |

*[Handwritten signature]*

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1726/ABB

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

7th July 1879, No. 1,790-A W.

Buildings and Roads.  
Civil Works.

Read the following paper:—

No. 35-A. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 13th June 1879, No. 151.

Read G.O., Public Works Department, dated 11th March 1879, No. 721 W.  
Read also letter to the Government of India, Home Department, dated 22nd April 1879, No. 94.

In the Resolution of the Government of India, Home Department, dated the 28th February 1856, paragraph 12, it was determined to continue in force the practice of sanctioning grants-in-aid towards the erection and repair of places of worship for the Roman Catholic soldiery on condition that they shall be resumable as Government property.

2. I am directed by His Grace the Governor in Council to inquire whether the condition specified has been since varied or waived by the Government of India.

From the Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated 31st May 1879, No. 191.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 94, dated the 22nd April last, inquiring whether the orders contained in Home Department Resolution of the 28th February 1856, in regard to grants-in-aid towards the erection and repair of places of worship for the Roman Catholic soldiery, have since been varied or waived by the Government of India.

2. In reply, I am to invite attention to the Public Works Department Circular No. 65, dated the 6th November 1877, which contains the rules at present in force on the subject.

ORDERED that the letters to and from the Government of India be communicated to the Public Works Department with reference to paragraph 2 of that Department Order above recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

C. G. MASTER,  
Ag. Chief Secretary.

No. 35-B.

ORDER THEREON, 7th July 1879, No. 1,790-A W.

ORDERED that the Government of India be addressed.

(Here enter No. 1,790-B W, dated 7th July 1879).

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,  
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

Exd. C. Howarth.  
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.  
CIVIL WORKS.

Sect. of (1879) Madras  
PUBLIC WORKS

Dated July 1879.

Amtd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 7th July 1879, No. 1,790-A W.

JULY.

Nos 35-A-35-B.

Liability of Roman Catholic Churches  
receiving Grants-in-aid being resumed by  
Government.—The Government of India  
requested to prescribe a definite ruling in  
respect to the —

1790A86  
2

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.  
Civil Works.

No. 1,790-B W.

No. 35-C.

FROM

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,  
Public Works Department,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,  
Public Works Department.

SIR,—In Mr. Secretary Master's letter in the Home Department, No. 94, of the 22nd April last, the Government of India were requested to state whether the condition laid down in the 13th paragraph of the Resolution in the Home Department, dated 28th February 1856, had since been varied or waived.

2. In reply the attention of this Government is invited\* to Public Works Circular, No. 65, dated 6th November 1877, as containing the rules at present in force on the subject.

\*Under Secretary's letter, No. 191, dated 31st May 1879, Home Department.

3. The case which induced the reference to the Government of India is, in the opinion of this Government, outside the rules, and I am now to request that definite orders may be passed upon it by the Government of India.

4. In paragraph 25 of the revised rules circulated with Public Works Circular No. 65 of 1877, it is stated that—

"All churches built by Government under these rules shall be considered the property of Government."

5. The Catholic Cathedral in Madras was not built by Government, but by Capuchin Missionaries, about the beginning of this century. In 1836 considerable alterations and additions were made to the original building, the Madras Government, in consideration of the fact that the European Troops of the Garrison of Fort St. George used to attend the church, sanctioning a grant-in-aid of one-third of the entire cost of these additions and alterations.

6. On receipt of Resolution of the Government of India in the Military Department, dated 17th January 1874, No. 905, it was considered that the Catholic Cathedral fell under Class No. II in that Resolution, being a church which had received building grants from Government, and as such being entitled to assistance from Government to the extent of one-third of the cost of repairs.

7. Bishop Fennelly, however, states that he cannot ask or accept a grant for the repairs of the church if the condition in paragraph 12 of the Resolution of the 28th February 1856 is still in force, and if grants-in-aid are dependent on the right of Government to resume any church to which they make such grants.

8. The question at issue, on which I am to request a definite ruling, is the following:—

Are this Government precluded from giving repair grants-in-aid to churches which plainly fall under Class II in the revised rules already referred to, but which were not built by Government under those rules, and cannot be considered the property of the Government.

9. The building in question is still used by the Catholic soldiers of the Fort St. George Garrison.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Major, R.E.,  
for Secy. to. Govt., P.W.D.

OOTACAMUND,  
7th July 1879.

Exd. C. Howarth.  
Spare Copies

179-ASH  
3

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.  
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1879) Madras.  
PUBLIC WORKS.

THE SECRETARY TO THE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Dated July 7th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 7th July 1879, No. 1,730-B. W.

JULY.

No. 35-C.

Liability of Roman Catholic Churches  
receiving grants should being retained by  
Government.

Declaratory Department.

1790/8

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Note by His Grace the  
Governor of 12th June 1879.

Yes - but the question put  
is not answered clearly if at all.  
Apparently only compensation for  
portmante required can be paid now  
in such a case as the R. C.  
Cathedral under rules 26 & 27 -  
(subject to Govt. of India sanction)

Initialed P. C.

whether the condition specified has  
been

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.  
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of [1879] Madras  
PUBLIC WORKS.

In Case 77-7-77-1720 A 2

1790 A  
1790 B W

Administrative Department.

1790 A 2 P1

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter G.O.

Public Works Department, 3<sup>rd</sup> 11 March  
1879, No. 721 W.

Read also letter to the Govt.  
of India, Home Department, dated  
22<sup>nd</sup> April 1879, No. 94.

In the Resolution of the Govt.  
of India, Home Department, 8<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>  
February 1856, para 12, it was determined  
to continue in force the practice of  
sanctioning grants-in-aid towards the  
erection and repair of places of worship  
for the Roman Catholic soldiery on  
condition that they shall be recognised  
as Government property.

I am directed by His Grace  
the Governor in Council to inquire  
whether the condition specified has  
been

been since varied or waived by the  
Government of India.

Recd. letter from the Under-  
Secretary to the Government of India  
Home Department, d. 31<sup>st</sup> May 1879,  
No. 191.

I am directed to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> April last, enquiring whether  
the orders contained in Home Dept.  
Resolution of the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1866,  
in regard to grants in aid towards  
the erection and repair of places of  
worship for the Roman Catholic soldiers,  
have since been varied or waived  
by the Government of India.

In reply, I am to draw  
attention to the Public Works Dept. Memorandum  
No. 65, of the 6<sup>th</sup> November  
1877, which contains the rules at  
present in force on the subject.

present in force on the subject.

Order thereon d. 13<sup>th</sup> June 1879, No. 151.

Ordered that the letters  
to and from the Government of  
India be communicated to the  
Public Works Department, with  
reference to para. 2 of that Dept.  
Order above recorded.

(True Extract.)

W. A. S.  
Asst. Secy.

To The Public Works Dept.  
with a copy of the letter thereon.

E Mc. Ecclesiastical  
 Dept No. 149 - 28. April 56  
 GO No. 1720 W - 19 Nov 77  
 GO - No. 721 W - 11 Mar 79  
 --- 180 21. 11. 72.  
 --- 104 10. 3. 74  
 --- 1727. 26. 6. 74

Nos. }  
 187 No.

Cont. of 1187 1 31 1875.

Oct 20. 6. 79  
 Cir 25. 6. 79

The Honble W. Hallstone  
 1879  
 White Dept of the  
 From  
 The Recd: Kept  
 No. 151 of 13 June 1879.

Communicating cor-  
 respondence on the subject  
 of the liability of the Catholic  
 Cathedral, Black Town,  
 to be resumed by Govt.

Note.

In a Resolution of  
 the Govt of India, dated  
 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1856, it was or-  
 dered that the practice  
 (should be continued)  
 under which grants in-  
 aid of the erection of  
 Catholic Churches, and  
 of repairs to them, might  
 be sanctioned on condition  
 that the buildings were  
 recoverable as Govt.  
 property. ~~should be con-~~  
~~tinued~~

Cir 25. 6. 79. Dtd 7. 7. 79.  
 20. 6. 79

M. Su  
 T.O.

In passing orders on this Resolution, the Madras Govt. ruled that this practice should be introduced in this Presidency, but they did not say that this was to be with retrospective effect.

In 1874 it was decided that the Armenian Street Cathedral, which was built by the Capuchin Missionaries about 1800, and enlarged in 1836, the Madras Govt. sanctioning a grant-in-aid, should be classed as a Church which "had received building grants from Govt." - see Govt. of India Resolution recorded in G.O. No 104 of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 1874. Para 2.

G.O. No. 1727 d/26<sup>th</sup> June 1879

Last Monday, Bishop Fenwick requested that the Govt. might be instructed to prepare an estimate of the repairs that were necessary to the Cathedral. He made this request on the understanding that the condition that the building and repair grants were only given by Govt. to churches reasonable as Govt. property had been virtually cancelled. He said that he could not ask or accept a grant for the repairs of this church on any such terms.

This question was referred to India in the Eccl. Dept, and India in reply simply refers to the revised rules

Regarding Ecclesiastical  
buildings, which are at-  
tached to G.O. No 1720 W of  
the 19<sup>th</sup> Novr 1877.

The rules in question  
do not cover the case  
of this Church. It is  
classed, as already men-  
tioned, in under Chap II -  
see page 8 of the Rules.

In para 25, page 9,  
it is said that all churches  
"built by Govt. shall be  
"considered as the property  
"of Govt."

The Armenian Strab  
Cathedral was built long  
before the rules were  
passed and the question  
at issue is - Can Govt.  
claim the right of resuming  
them and like Churches on  
the plea that they give

Construction or repair  
frants in app. of 50  
it follows that such  
Churches are practi-  
cally debarred from  
sharing in the benefits  
to which other Churches  
are entitled under the  
rules.

The following draft is  
proposed: -

No 1790 A.W 77 July 79

Ordered that the Govt.

of India be addressed -

H.R. No 1790 A.W 77 July 79

To Secy: India

By. In Mr. Secretary  
Master's letter in the  
Home Dept. No. 94 of  
the 22<sup>nd</sup> April last,  
the Govt of India were  
requested to state

Whether the condition laid down in the 12<sup>th</sup> paragraph of the Resolution in the Home Dept., dated 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1856, has since been varied or waived.

In reply the attention of this Govt. is invited to Mr. Cir. No. 65, dated 6<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1877, as containing the rules at present in force on the subject.

The case which induces the reference to the Govt. of India is, in the opinion of this Govt., outside the rules, and I am now to request that definite orders may be passed upon it by the Govt. of India.

In

\* Under Secretary's  
Letter, No. 191 dated  
31<sup>st</sup> May, 1879. Home Dept.

In paragraph 25 of the revised rules circulated with Mr. Cir. No. 65 of 1877 it is stated that "all churches built by Govt. under these rules shall be considered the property of Govt."

The Catholic Cathedral in Madras was not built by Govt., but by Capuchin Missionaries, about the beginning of this century. In 1836 considerable alterations and additions were made to the original building, the Madras Govt., in consideration of the fact that the European troops of the Garrison of Fort St. George used to attend the church, sanctioning a grant-in-aid of one third

(of these additional applications.  
of the entire cost.

On receipt of  
Resolution of the Govt of  
India in the Military  
Dept., dated 17 Jan. 1874,  
No 905, it was considered  
that the Catholic Cathedral  
of Bell under Clap No II in  
that Resolution, being  
a Church which had  
received building grants  
from Govt. and as  
such entitled to as-  
sistance from Govt.

to the extent of one  
third of the cost of  
repairs.

Bishop Jemmett  
however, states that he  
cannot ask or accept  
a grant for the repairs  
of the Church if the  
condition in para 12  
of the Resolution of

the 28<sup>th</sup> Feb/56 is still  
in force, and grants  
in aid are dependant  
on the right of Govt.  
to resume any Church  
to which they are made  
back grant.

The question at  
issue, on which I am  
to request a definite  
ruling, is the following-

Are this Govt. pre-  
cluded from giving  
repairs grants in aid  
to Churches which  
plainly fall under  
Clap II in the revised  
rules already referred  
to, that which were  
not built by Govt.  
under those rules,  
and cannot be con-  
sidered the property

of the fort.

~~I am directed to the~~  
same that the building  
in question is still  
used by <sup>the garrison</sup> soldiers of  
the Fort St George Garrison.

Att.  
24/6

Att.

25/6/79 20 issues

has to Govt of India  
dtd 7/7/79

S.C. Despatched  
24-7-79

1790 A.S.B.  
12

Phos. 7-7-79 at 1790 Alt + 13.4

$$\frac{179086}{13}$$

1027/3  
No. of 1879: Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Despatched

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 7 July 1879, No. 1790 A  
1790 B

419-C

Nos. 35-35

Liability of Roman Catholic  
Churches receiving grants  
in aid being assumed  
by Govt. The Govt. I beg to request  
to prescribe a definite policy  
in respect to the —

Liability of Roman Catholic  
Churches receiving grants  
in aid being assumed by  
Govt.