

N^o 2090 Wd/25 August 84

Communicated to the
Suptg. Engineer IV Circle.
2. So far the P. W. Deptt
is concerned, the delay
was explained in the
Suptg. Engineer's letter
printed with P. W. N^o 15W
dated 7th January 1884.

(Signed) J. J.

S. E. IV Circle
Educational Deptt.

Gobt. of (1884) Madras.
EDUCATIONAL.

67

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 4th August 1884, No. 449.

N^o 2090 Wd/25 August 84

AUGUST.

Building Grants.

Sanctioning a grant of Rs. 6,000 for the Palghat high school building, and calling for a report clearly explaining the delay in settling this question.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 26th May 1884, Mis. No. 285, Educational.

Read—the following papers:—

From C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Malabar, to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, dated Calicut, 16th April 1884, No. 1756.

I have the honor to submit, herewith, a memorial, presented for transmission to His Excellency the Governor, by certain inhabitants of Pálghat, and to state, with reference to the complaints of the memorialists, that the Director of Public Instruction has been called on by Government to report whether any, and what, building-grant should be made to the Pálghat municipality as requested (*vide* G.O., dated 28th March 1884, No. 160, Educational).

ENCLOSURE.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

The humble memorial of the inhabitants of Pálghat, a town in the district of Malabar.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—Your memorialists beg to draw your Excellency's attention to the following facts:—

That the old high school house of this town, being found in a very unsatisfactory condition, a public meeting was called by the then Head Assistant Collector, Mr. E. J. Sewell, in February 1880, to ascertain whether the inhabitants of this town and neighbourhood would contribute anything towards the cost of erecting a suitable building, and the meeting was largely attended by the most influential portion of the population, including local rajahs and chiefs.

2. That a subscription list was at once opened, under which over Rs. 6,000 have been collected towards the re-building fund.

3. That your memorialists understand that the fact was communicated to the Director of Public Instruction, who entirely approved of what had been done, and promised to ask Government for a sum equal in amount to what was collected by voluntary subscription, and the building committee was required to prepare plans and estimates for the building.

4. That the plan and estimates were prepared accordingly by the Local Fund Engineer for the committee, but, although approved by the Director of Public Instruction, these were rejected as unsuitable by the Public Works department officers, who have not, as far as your memorialists are aware, prepared any plan or estimate in place of that which they so strongly condemned.

5. That your memorialists humbly beg to state that the old building, which has long been in an unsound condition, was blown down during a heavy gale at the commencement of the monsoon of 1882, and from that date the high school is wholly without a suitable shelter.

6. That for some time the school was held in the municipal school building for two hours daily before the pupils of that school assembled; it was then transferred to a small bungalow where the accommodation was wholly insufficient, and for rather more than a year it has found shelter in a thatched shed behind the municipal office.

7. That your memorialists regret that this state of things has greatly interfered with the good management and progress of the school, and has caused much inconvenience and even danger to health to the masters and pupils especially during the rains.

8. That your memorialists understand that the above state of things was brought to the notice of the higher authorities by the local officials, but no favorable reply has yet been received by them.

With Bds

9. That, though it is nearly four years since the subscription was collected, no attempt has, they believe, yet been made to utilize the amount so as to remedy the inconvenience felt by your memorialists owing to the want of a sufficiently commodious school building.

10. That your memorialists, in conclusion, humbly pray that early orders may be passed for the commencement of the building *before* the setting in of the monsoon, and your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

PALGHAT, 28th March 1884.

Endorsement on the above.

Transferred to the Chief Secretary to Government, by order of His Excellency the Governor, for early disposal.

OOTACAMUND,
21st April 1884.

(Signed) A. AWDRY, Captain, R.E.,
Private Secretary.

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., M.A., Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 30th April 1884, No. O-76.

With reference to endorsement, No. 886, dated 23rd April 1884, I have the honor to submit a report from Mr. Monro, Inspector of the Division, and to state that I approve his proposal to grant to the commissioners a sum equal to the amount collected towards the erection of a suitable building for the high school, and further to request that, as the building is urgently needed, the grant may be paid on the certificate of the Superintending Engineer that the building is worth double the amount of grant to be paid by Government, thus relieving the commissioners of the necessity of sending the plans and estimates to be passed by the Public Works department before the grant is sanctioned. I have little doubt they will be able to erect a sound and suitable building for about Rs. 12,000. They should, however, obtain the advice of the Inspector of the Division regarding the general plan before beginning work.

2. I do not approve Mr. Monro's suggestion that provision should be made for the normal school in the building.

3. If the commissioners resolve to take the present school building for the high school, and expend the subscription money on several small buildings, they should receive no aid from Provincial funds, because the Government are not bound to aid commissioners in erecting buildings for middle schools, nor should they be encouraged in seeking to provide for the secondary education of the town wholly by municipal agency, thus repressing all private effort.

4. No action could be taken regarding the erection of a building until the transfer of the school to the municipality had been sanctioned.

ENCLOSURE.

From A. MONRO, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., Acting Inspector of Schools, 6th Division, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Coonoor, 26th April 1884, No. 2301.

Referring to your endorsement, No. O-35, dated 22nd April 1884, I have the honor to state that the building in which the high and middle schools of Palghat are located is a thatched shed quite inadequate for the accommodation of the institution. It is therefore absolutely necessary that immediate steps should be taken to erect a suitable building.

2. My reason for not taking action earlier was that I thought it desirable to wait until the transfer of the high school to the municipality was finally settled.

3. The plan and estimate stated by the memorialists to have been prepared by the Local Fund Engineer was rejected by the officers of the Public Works department on the ground that the site selected was objectionable as being likely to sink. The site was the piece of ground on which the former building, blown down in 1882, stood.

4. The commissioners are, I gather from a conversation with the Head Assistant Collector, divided in opinion as to the utilization of the sum of Rs. 6,000 collected. Some think that the building in which the Kalpatti municipal school is held should be handed over to the high school, and that the money should be used in erecting municipal middle schools in different parts of the town. Others, and the majority, I believe, propose to ask Government for a sum equal in

amount to that collected, and to erect a handsome building for the high school. The latter course seems to me to be obviously the best. The policy of opening municipal middle schools is open to objection as interfering with private effort; whereas the high and middle schools must be maintained by the municipality, and, if so, it is desirable that the institution be provided with a suitable building, and, so far as funds will admit of it, a building which may be an ornament to the town.

5. I would suggest that the latter course be adopted, and that Government be asked to contribute a sum of Rs. 6,000 for the purpose. The officers of the Public Works department might be requested to select a fresh site for the building, in consultation with the Vice-President of the municipality. There is some spare ground close to the Kalpatti middle school, which might possibly be found suitable. This would be the best site, as it is desirable that the high school should be close to the middle school, so as to be under the supervision of the head master of the former institution.

6. The present normal school building at Palghat is a mere shed, being small, dark and ill-ventilated. A sum of Rs. 12,000 (Rs. 6,000 from local contributions and 6,000 from Government), or at most Rs. 14,000, would, I think, be sufficient to erect a building large enough to accommodate both the high and normal schools. It might possibly be made a condition of the Government grant that, in the proposed building, space sufficient to accommodate the normal school be provided. This would be a distinct measure of economy, and the location of the normal school in the same building and under the supervision of the head master of the high school would be of great advantage to the former institution. The high school at present contains upper IVth, Vth and VIth classes. The upper IVth might be handed over to the Kalpatti middle school, in the event of Rs. 12,000 or Rs. 14,000 being found insufficient to erect a building large enough for the purpose suggested above.

Order—dated 26th May 1884, Mis. No. 285, Educational.

The Director of Public Instruction will state whether the grant of Rs. 6,000 recommended can be made from the provision made for building-grants in the Educational budget for 1884-85.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

READ—also the following paper:—

From H. B. GRIGG, Esq., M.A., Director of Public Instruction, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 17th July 1884, No. O-498.

In reply to G.O., dated 26th May 1884, No. 285, I have the honor to state that if the proposals made in my letter, No. O-496, of the 17th instant, are approved, the grant of Rs. 6,000 for Palghat school building can be met from the provision for grants-in-aid without exceeding the total allotment to the department for the current year.

ORDER—dated 4th August 1884, No. 449, Educational.

A grant of Rs. 6,000 is sanctioned for the Palghat high school building. The plans and estimates (which should be put in hand at once) must however first be passed by the Public Works department.

2. It is observed that nearly four years have elapsed since the inhabitants of Palghat subscribed Rs. 6,000 for the school building. The Government desire to be furnished with a report clearly explaining the delay.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

" Public Works department.
" Collector and President, Municipal Commissions of Malabar.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

Gobt. of (1884) Madras.
EDUCATIONAL.

4TH AUGUST 1884, No. 449, EDUCATIONAL.

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Suptg. Insp: IV Circle.

2. So far the P. W. Dept. is

concerned, the delay was

explained in the Suptg.

Engineer's letter printed

with P.G. No. 15 W

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1884.

(Signed) J.S.

S.E. IV Circle

Educational Dept.

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