

Order 2039 Wd/9.10.86

Comm. to the

S.E. I, Circle

(S.) C.A.S.
fwd

S.E. I Circle

Gobt. of (1886) Madras.
FINANCIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 28th Sept. 1886, No. 1229 L.F.

No 2039 Wd/9.10.86

SEPTEMBER.

Unions.

Ordering the issue of a notification constituting the village of Dowlaishweram, in the Godavari district, a major union under Act V of 1884, and requesting the President, District Board, to recommend the appointment of members and chairman of the panchayat.

28TH SEPTEMBER 1886, No. 1229 L.F., FINANCIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., Superintending Engineer, I Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 19th December 1885, No. 1915-G.D.

I have the honor to submit, for the favorable consideration of Government, the accompanying petition from the inhabitants of Dowlaishweram, requesting that a separate and independent municipality may be established at an early date for this town, which has upwards of 9,000 inhabitants.

2. I am fully persuaded that a municipality is the only suitable arrangement for dealing with this place, which is in a very unsanitary and neglected condition. The officers of the Public Works Department, who form the principal portion of the European inhabitants, do what they can to improve the condition of the place, but there are many nuisances and prejudices on the part of the Natives which cannot be dealt with except under the Municipal Act.

No. 87-C.

Transferred, in continuation of No. 2177-C, dated 17th December 1885, to the Financial Department, for consideration.

(By order.)

8th January 1886. (Signed) D. McN. CAMPBELL, Capt., R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 41.

Referred to the Collector of Godáviri, for report.

(By order.)

MADRAS,
25th January 1886.

(Signed) J. D. REES,
Under Secy. to Govt.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Godáviri district, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Cocanada, 9th September 1886, No. 25.

I have the honor to reply to endorsement, No. 41, of 25th January last, requiring report on a proposal to erect the village of Dowlaishweram into a municipality. I regret the delay: the matter was not pressing, and till the present time I was unable to attend to it.

2. The proposal emanates from "Public Works Department officials and inhabitants of Dowlaishweram," takes its rise in an idea that Dowlaishweram was to be attached to Rajahmundry municipality (mooted since three years, but laid aside), and is forwarded and supported by the then Superintending Engineer, Colonel Montgomerie. Major Clarke, who succeeded him, held the same opinion as to its desirability. Both

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officers objected to the insanitary condition of the place. Mr. Walch is not, I understand, personally in favor of the proposal, but is not prepared to oppose it. He has forwarded to me the accompanying petition of objectors, who do so on the score of poverty and because those who wish for a municipality will not suffer pecuniarily by its institution.

3. The village is mainly a Public Works Department settlement. On its alleged insanitary condition, I have to say that it has been considerably improved within the last year, mainly through the exertions of Mr. Vanstavern, a retired Engineer. A new petta has been carefully laid out, drains cut, and low places filled. The temple people gave up a portion of the temple inam for house sites. The district board have been in the practice of contributing Rs. 500 yearly to the Public Works Department for expenditure on sanitation, and a staff of sweepers is being maintained.

4. I have ascertained that the people do not wish a municipality in the full sense of the word; and they do not require such. They are not much concerned about education, medical relief (there is a Public Works Department hospital assistant stationed there who does not render aid to outsiders), vaccination, or registration; the other purposes of municipal administration—water-supply, repair and construction of streets and buildings, control of offensive and dangerous trades, of slaughter-houses, of markets and latrines, of drainage, of cleansing, of over-crowding, of infectious disease, and of burial and burning grounds—are all, in my opinion, that they might trouble themselves regarding; and what they require is only some funds for expenditure, beyond those they have at present, on general sanitation. A municipality proper would saddle them with an expensive establishment which they could not afford and is actually not wanted.

5. I enclose a sketch. The village is compact enough. The dotted red line is the boundary line projected in view mainly to include buildings; a better one would be the quarry channel for the east boundary. I also enclose a rough estimate of income within the line of boundary I propose. Tolls could not be instituted within so short a distance (5 miles) of Rajahmundry. Taxes at full rates under section 47, Act IV of 1884, will yield, perhaps, over Rs. 3,000. A house-tax and fees on pandals, &c., under sections 57 and 140, Act V of 1884, might yield Rs. 1,450.

6. This latter sum, not to speak of what further money the taluk board of Rajahmundry might choose to grant, ought to do all the sanitation, &c., that Dowlaishweram requires, if it is not squandered. My proposal is to make the village a major union under Act V of 1884, with the Superintending Engineer as chairman of a panchayat of five, of whom Mr. Vanstavern and the village head would be two. They will not have the power which a municipality would have, but the influence three of them could bring to bear would effect, I believe, all that is necessary; the taluk board would not, I think, have cause or wish to interfere with them; and the experience of a union there would, I hope, render that class of public institution acceptable to the district generally.

ORDER—dated 28th September 1886, No. 1229 L.F., Financial.

The Collector's proposal in paragraph 6 is approved, and the following notification will be published in the Fort St. George and Godavari District Gazettes:—

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the power conferred by section 6 of the Madras Local Boards Act V of 1884, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to declare the village of Dowlaishweram, in the Rajahmundry taluk of the Godavari district, to be a major union for the purposes of the said Act, and to direct that the provisions of the said Act regarding panchayats shall come into force in the said union from the date of this notification.

2. In exercise of the power conferred by section 122 of the aforesaid Act, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to declare that the maximum number of members to be appointed to the panchayat of the aforesaid union shall, for the time being, be five, and that they shall all, except the *ex-officio* member, be appointed by the Governor in Council.

2. The President of the district board will submit his recommendations for the appointment of members and chairman of the panchayat.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Godavari.

- " President, District Board, Godavari.
- " Public Works Department.
- " Accountant-General.
- " Director of Public Instruction.
- " Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
- " Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

Exd. A. Raitt.