

- (1) பக்கங்கரின் எண்ணிக்கை 4
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 21.9.20
 (3) ஆதாரங் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் சி.வ

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

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P.W துறை

அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	185	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் :	20.1.1894	199

மடிக்கவேண்டிய கையாளவே கூடாது.

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4TH JANUARY 1894, No. 1, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From C. MICHIE SMITH, Esq., Officiating Government Astronomer, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 27th November 1893, No. 209-93.

I have the honour to submit the following remarks with reference to G.O., No. 940 of 21st November 1893, the enclosures to which are returned herewith.

2. In order that the plans and estimates of the proposed observatory may be prepared without delay, it is necessary that I should visit Kodaikānal in company with an Engineer who could give the necessary technical advice. At the same time it would be well to have the site of the observatory marked out and surveyed. With this object I have the honour to request that I may be supplied with a letter to the Collector of Madura asking him to give me the necessary assistance. As the land is Government land, I presume that there can be no objections to having it taken up at once.

3. For the actual preparation of the plans, I have to request that I may be permitted to place myself in communication with the Government Architect.

4. With reference to Mr. Eliot's proposal that Miss Pogson should move into the observatory on April 1st, 1894, I have to point out that Mr. Eliot seems to have entirely overlooked the expense and inconvenience of such an arrangement. It is of course evident that I must have left the observatory before Miss Pogson enters it, and that since the Astronomer's house at Kodaikānal will not even have been begun by that time, a house will have to be hired for me there at a cost—since it is the height of the season—of probably not less than Rs. 150 per mensem, while there will be an additional charge for the Assistant or Assistants that I will have to take with me. Neither will there be any corresponding advantage, for my publication work will be considerably delayed and frequent visits to Madras will be necessary to look after the work done there.

5. That I should personally look after the erection of the domes, &c., seems most necessary, but the reason why I should have charge of the building of the Astronomer's house is less evident. I would suggest that the best arrangement would be that the house be first built and that this work be pushed on as rapidly as possible. Meanwhile the new dome which has to be made ought to be prepared under my supervision in Madras, in such a way that it will consist of pieces easily transported to Kodaikānal and readily put together. It is possible that it would be economical also to prepare the cut stone-work for the piers here also, so that only the putting of them together would have to be done there, but this is a point to be considered later. While the house was building, the site for the domes, &c., could be got ready, and all that would be necessary would be that I should pay one or two short visits to the place to see that the foundations, &c., were properly prepared.

6. As suggested by Mr. Eliot, it is very desirable that I should visit Dehra Dun before drawing up the final estimates, as it is hardly possible to settle all the details without having seen the instruments and the domes which it is proposed to move from there.

7. During such short absences from Madras as may be rendered necessary there need be no difficulty about the carrying on of the work here, as Mr. R. L. Jones, Professor of Physics in the Presidency College, has kindly offered to do as he did so efficiently when I was absent on privilege leave and see that the work does not suffer.

8. I note that the Government of India has not accepted Mr. Eliot's proposal that my salary should be one rising from Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,200 on the ground that "in view of Mr. Smith's previous position, the lower salary will, at any rate for some years, be sufficient." While accepting the appointment on this salary, I wish to point out that the reason given is a mistaken one, for though my salary from the Christian College would be only Rs. 600 per mensem, I had much spare time at my disposal so that I was able to undertake extra work as an Examiner, besides doing a certain amount of literary work, for which it is quite impossible for me now to find time. I have also forfeited my claims on the Professors' Retiring Fund after a service of over 16 years. As a simple matter of fact I have not gained financially by the change, or, if at all, to a very slight extent. I may also point out that the late Mr. Pogson drew for a number of years extra pay as Meteorological Superintendent and that after this ceased he was paid an honorarium of Rs. 1,800 on each volume which he published.

9. With reference to articles 406, 441-A of the Civil Service Regulations, I have the honour to enquire whether the change of the title of my appointment from Government Astronomer to Director of the Solar Physics Observatory will cancel my claim on the privileges granted by these rules. If it does so, I beg to submit that, pending the appointment of another Astronomer, there is no reason why such a change in title should be made. To me personally the title is a matter of complete indifference, but it would certainly be a great convenience to retain the old title which has been in use for more than a century, and which describes the work that will be done better than any other title of reasonable length that can be devised. In addition I may point out that all printed forms, &c., will have to be changed with the change of title and that the 200 or 300 corresponding observatories and institutions will have to change their printed addresses.

ORDER—dated 4th January 1894, No. 1, Public.

The proposals contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the foregoing letter are approved.

2. The Collector of Madura will be requested to afford every facility to Mr. Michie Smith in marking out and surveying the site for the observatory; and the Public Works Department will instruct its local officers to meet Mr. Michie Smith and assist him in the choice of a site.

3. The Government recognises the necessity for the residence being built first in order to enable Mr. Michie Smith to be on the spot to supervise the building of the new observatory.

4. Definite proposals in regard to the visit to Dehra Dun should be submitted, after which further orders will be passed and the Government of India addressed.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Government Astronomer.

" Collector of Madura, through the Revenue Department.

" Public Works Department.

Govt. of {1894} Madras.

PUBLIC.



No. 185. Wd/20 January 1894
Commnd: to the S.E. II
Circle & the Comdg. Archt:
who will afford the
Govt. Astronomer the
 requisite assistance.

By J.P.
W

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 4th January 1894, No. 1.

JANUARY.

New Observatory at Kodaikanal.

Approving, with remarks, certain proposals by Mr. Michie Smith with reference to the construction of the — and stating that further orders will be passed and the Government of India addressed on receipt of definite proposals in regard to his visit to Dehra Dun.

S.E. II C
Comdg. Archt. to Govt.