# Public Works (1899) Department.

G.O., No. 1094 W.

DATED 20 April 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Meeting of the Legve Council

Pros: Legve Dept. Communicating the Questions asked at the [illegible] held on the 9 March 99 & the Answers given thereto, recorded.

[P. W. 2 / 9,000—99-3-99.]

Indexed. 26/4

## BACK PAPERS.

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| 1854 C | | | 28.3.99 | | | | |

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# Public Works (1899) Department.

**CURRENT No.** ~~2584~~ 3121

FOR [illegible] ATION.
5 - APR. 1899
No. 117 W

No: 1854 C. of 28th March 99

**From** The Legislative Dept

~~Order~~

Circulated to "I" "R"
for note and favour of return

C.S.
[illegible] 21/3/99

I
I }
R } with extracts to be retained.
No 130 of 6.4.99
noted & returned
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Noted & returned
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Please see flags A & B.

No: 1094 W of 20.4.99.
Recorded

C.S.
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**No.** 32.

**Dated** 11th March 1899

**Received**
**Registered** ~~24.3.99~~ 14.4.99

**Enclosures** 2

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**SUBJECT.**

Communicating with remarks, to the departments of the Secretariat Copy of questions asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 9th March 1899 & the answers given ~~thereto.~~

BACK PAPERS.

| No. | Date. |
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FURTHER PAPERS.

| No. | Date. |
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Legislative Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

-:-

Read the following:-

Questions and answers at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 9th instant.

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ORDER:-No. 37, dated 11th March 1889.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue and to the Secretariat, concerned for information and guidance.

(True Extract)

A Edgington

for Secretary to Govt.

To the Public Works Department.

" " Revenue Department.

" " Educational Department.

The Municipal Councils of towns in which public water-supplies have been introduced will be called upon to report what action they propose to take with respect to old wells and tanks.

MY 15/1889

BACK PAPERS

GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

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NOTICES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, THE 9TH DAY OF MARCH 1899.

(1) *Questions.*

With the permission of His Excellency the President—

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

I. With reference to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner who writes in his report for 1896 regarding Karúr (Coimbatore), that "the sub-soil of the town is saturated with soakage from cess-pools, and as typhoid is a recognized disease in this town, it need not be assumed that solely malarial fever was dealt with," will Government be pleased to state whether any and what steps have been ordered to be taken to remedy the state of things in the above place ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

I. The Hon'ble Member is referred to paragraph 14 of G.O., No. 1705 L., dated 6th September 1897, which has been placed on the Editors' Table.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

II. Will Government be pleased to state in how many towns water-works have been introduced, and in how many of these drainage works have been completed ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

II. Water-works have been completed in Madura, Dindigul, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Conjeeveram, Cuddapah, Adóni, Kurnool and Ootacamund and are under construction in Tirupati, Vizagapatam and Cocanada. Drainage works have been completed in Coonoor and Kumbakónam.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

III. With reference to the marginally-noted observations of the Sanitary Commissioner in his report for 1896, will Government be pleased to take steps to induce the Municipal Councils referred to by that officer to give up the old wells and tanks in favour of the public water-supplies introduced into their towns ?

"No other than a mediocre result from sanitary works in this Presidency can, however, be expected, so long as they are not constructed so as to involve, not the major portion of towns but the whole, so long as the facilities afforded are not such as to permit free use of the water by the inhabitants in all parts of the town and at all times of the day ; and above all, so long as the Municipal Councils persist in retaining the old wells and tanks which the public water-supplies should have replaced."

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

III. The Municipal Councils of towns in which public water-supplies have been introduced will be called upon to report what action they propose to take with respect to old wells and tanks.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

IV. (*a*) In view of the fact that out of 47,847 deaths from cholera in the whole Presidency of Madras during 1896 no less than 10,731 deaths occurred in the single district of Coimbatore alone, will Government be pleased to state whether the cause of the severity of the epidemic in that district has been ascertained?

(*b*) If so, will it be pleased to lay on the table the papers on the subject?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes* :—

IV. (*a*) The severity is ascribed by the Sanitary Commissioner to the transmission of the cholera microbe by water-courses and by contamination of the unprotected drinking water sources in villages as a result of the insanitary habits of the uneducated classes of the people.

(*b*) The Sanitary Commissioner will be requested to forward to the Hon'ble Member the correspondence on the subject.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

V. Will Government be pleased to state whether any satisfactory explanation has been found of the fact that only 4,390 villages out of a total of 44,678 in the whole Presidency were affected, although cholera prevailed in every district in 1896, and although in point of their sanitary condition the villages that suffered differed little from those that escaped?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes* :—

V. In the opinion of the Sanitary Commissioner, the statement that in point of their sanitary condition the villages that suffered from cholera in 1896 differed little from those that escaped, appears to be open to question.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

VI. (*a*) With reference to my question No. XXVI asked at the meeting of the Council of the 23rd November 1897, and the reply of Government that the train service referred to will receive its attention, will Government be pleased to state whether the alterations in the passenger train service on the South Indian line notified on the 6th February 1899 to take effect from the 10th idem have been approved by Government?

(*b*) Whether, in view of the fact that the altered service subordinates the interests of the travelling public of the Negapatam-Tanjore section to the convenience of the inhabitants of Karaikal, Government will be pleased to reconsider the matter and make such arrangements as may satisfy the reasonable requirements of Karaikal without prejudicing the interests of a large population of an extensive tract of country in the Negapatam-Tanjore section?

(*c*) Whether Government is aware that by the above-altered service the people of Negapatam and those residing on the Negapatam-Tanjore and Peralam-Tiruválúr sections have been placed in a much worse position than they were on the 23rd November 1897 when the question referred to in clause (*a*) was asked, inasmuch as, instead of a mail service connection with Madras by a shorter route on the Máyavaram-Muttupet line prayed for, even the mail service connection with Madras by the longer route which was then in existence for out-going passengers to that city (mail train No. 145) and the one for passengers returning from it (train No. 119) have been now abolished?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes* :—

VI. (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) There is no question of subordinating the interests of Negapatam to those of Karaikal. It is always difficult to arrange a limited number of trains per day in a complicated system of cross lines like those under reference, so as to satisfactorily secure all desired connections.



(*c*) The serious decrease in the number of passengers which has recently occurred has rendered it necessary to cancel one train per day from Peralam to Negapatam and another from Negapatam to Tanjore. The cancelling of these two trains has undoubtedly resulted in the journey between Negapatam and places north of Máyavaram occupying a longer time than before. But a very limited number of passengers has been affected, only 9 per day in one direction and 3 per day in the other during January last, the busiest time of year. The Consulting Engineer is in correspondence with the Company's Agent with a view to the public convenience being better served if possible, but it is not an easy matter.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

VII. (*a*) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons which influenced it in converting Negapatam, which had been for a long series of years the head-quarters of a Sub-Collector, into a Head Assistant's division?

(*b*) Whether, in view of the importance of the varied interests of the Negapatam division, such as Sea-customs, Port, Marine, Shipping, Trade, Emigration, Land customs, and of the circumstance that the place is the seat of a growing Railway workshop, and of a large European community which renders the presence of a Justice of the Peace necessary, Government will be pleased to revert to the old arrangements, and make it a Sub-Collectorate?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes* :—

VII. (*a*) and (*b*) The last redistribution of divisional charges in the district of Tanjore took place in 1882. Its object was to apportion more equally the work of the divisional officers. By it Negapatam was made the head-quarters of the Head Assistant Collector.

No change has been made in the charges of the Sub-Collector and Head Assistant Collector of Tanjore for upwards of 16 years. The three taluks comprising the Sub-Collectorate were, and still are, one of the heaviest divisional charges in the Presidency. The Hon'ble Member is under a misapprehension in supposing that a Head Assistant Collector cannot be a Justice of the Peace. The Government sees no sufficient reason to reconsider at present the status of the Negapatam divisional charge.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

VIII. With reference to the statement published in the *Tanjore District Gazette* for September 1898 showing that 37 plots of land, measuring 136 acres and assessed at Rs. 296, were sold for arrears of Government revenue and purchased by Government itself at one anna per plot, will Government be pleased to inquire into the circumstances attending the sale and furnish the Council with information as to why no one offered to bid, and Government was obliged to purchase the lands for a nominal price?

IX. With reference to similar statements published in the *Tanjore District Gazette*, dated the 20th October 1898 and 1st December 1898, showing that 28 plots of land, measuring 51·11 acres and assessed at Rs. 59–2–0, and 57 plots, measuring 76 acres and assessed at Rs. 203, respectively, were sold for arrears of Government revenue and purchased by Government itself at one anna per plot, will Government be pleased to inquire into the circumstances attending the sales and furnish the Council with similar information as is requested in the preceding question?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes* :—

VIII and IX. The matter is still under investigation. The Hon'ble Member is requested to be good enough again to repeat his questions at the next meeting of the Council.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

X. With reference to Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 308 (Land Revenue), dated the 16th November 1898, promulgating certain rules for calculating the capitalized value of all permanent periodical payments to or by Government, under

which in the case of such dues payable *to* Government the capitalized value shall be not less than thirty times the annuity, but which in the case of dues payable *by* Government shall not be more than twenty times the annuity, will Government be pleased to move the Government of India in view to placing both the cases on a footing of equality?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—*

X. The rules in question were promulgated by the Government of India and the Governor in Council does not consider that it is necessary to move that Government in the matter.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

XI. (*a*) Will Government be pleased to state whether the accretions to the river margins formed by the action of the current are under the control of the Public Works Department or the Revenue Department?

(*b*) Is Government aware that such lands formed as *Padugai* on the margins of the Cauvery and its branches have been dealt with by the Public Works Department without reference to the Revenue Department, and leased out for the rearing of bamboo and other sandy growths which affect injuriously the cultivation and crops of the adjoining landholders?

(*c*) Where the land is scooped out by the action of the current of a river at one point and formed at another, does not Government think that the owner of the former land has a reasonable claim to the latter?

(*d*) If Government is not in possession of the required information, will it be pleased to direct a general enquiry into the matter, and call for a report on such cases in the villages of Alavandipuram, Tenampadugai, Papanasam and Govindagudy, &c., in the taluk of Kumbakónam.

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—*

XI. (*a*) The practice varies according to the character and extent of the accretion and other circumstances.

(*b*) The answer to this part of the question is in the negative. If a landholder's crops are injuriously affected in the manner stated, he should represent the matter to the Revenue or Public Works department authorities concerned.

(*c*) The rights of parties in cases of alluvion and diluvion are regulated by law and custom. The Hon'ble Member's question does not admit of a categorical answer.

(*d*) The Government can see no sufficient reason for directing a general inquiry into the matter. It has recently called on the Board of Revenue to report whether it is desirable to define more clearly than is at present the case the circumstances in which poramboke lands on the margin of rivers or irrigation works under the control of the Public Works Department may be leased out by that department.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

XII. Will Government be pleased to state the circumstances in which the Director of Public Instruction has thought fit to refuse recognition to the Mahant's Hindu Union School at Vellore?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—*

XII. The Hon'ble Member is misinformed. The Mahant's School, Vellore, was recognized by the Director of Public Instruction in January last.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

XIII. (*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the views expressed by Dr. Miller in the *Christian College Magazine* of July 1898, on the Lower Secondary Examination, in which he says, *inter alia*, that "from the very beginning of a boy's training both pupils and their teachers are almost irresistibly induced to give exclusive



attention not to the intelligent reception of knowledge, not to the development of mental power or the formation of healthy mental habits, but to the filling the memory with what is likely to pay in an examination, in other words, to cramming," and that the existing evil state of matters "cannot be radically cured so long as boys are driven to a public examination at an age when its effects upon their mental attitude and upon the whole development of both intellect and character can hardly, in the very nature of the case, be less than fatal"?

(*b*) Will Government be pleased to state whether the question is engaging its attention, and whether it proposes to apply a remedy to the evils pointed out?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—*

XIII. (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to G.O., No. 789, Educational, dated 24th December 1898, reviewing the report of the Director of Public Instruction for 1897–98.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

XIV. (*a*) With reference to my question No. VIII asked at the meeting of the Council on the 1st February 1898, and the reply to it, and in view of the fact that the number of deaths from small-pox in 1896 in the Presidency was so large as 9,410, in which no district enjoyed entire immunity, will Government be pleased to state whether the recommendation of Surgeon-Major W. B. Bannerman to appoint two Assistant Inspectors of Vaccination "to inspect the verification work of the deputies, and so impose a wholesome restraint on the dishonest practices which at present prevail to too large an extent in the department" will be taken into favourable consideration at an early date?

(*b*) If the recommendation referred to in clause (*a*) of this question has not been received yet, will Government be pleased to call for a report upon the suggestion?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes:—*

XIV. The subject will receive attention when the present financial pressure is over.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

XV. In view of the inability expressed by the Municipal Councils and Local Boards to start schools on their own account for the education of deaf-mutes and blind persons from want of funds in response to the circular issued to them in March 1898 by the Director of Public Instruction, will Government be pleased to take into consideration the desirability of establishing such institutions in some central locality at its own cost?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—*

XV. The Hon'ble Member is referred to paragraph 176 of the Report on Public Instruction for 1897–98.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

XVI. (*a*) With reference to G.O., No. 680, Revenue, dated the 14th November 1898, and the Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 351, dated the 20th December 1898 (Land Revenue), will Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which it has been found necessary to transfer the power to issue distraint notices No. I under Madras Act II of 1864, hitherto exercised by the Tahsildars, to village headmen?

(*b*) If Government has decided to try the experiment of the change, will it be pleased to call for reports from the District officers at the close of the current fasli as to the way in which the new procedure has been working?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XVI. (*a*) The change referred to by the Hon'ble Member was decided upon by the Government as an experimental measure. In accordance with the prevailing practice the distraint notices, which in the first instance are mere requisitions for payment, are made out by the village officers and sent to the Tahsildar for signature and issue. The primary responsibility for their correctness rests upon the village officers; and the modified procedure which is being tried will not only enforce this responsibility, but save much delay in the issue of process as well as unnecessary scriptory work.

(*b*) The authority has been conferred tentatively on all village headmen in the districts of Bellary, Kistna, Tanjore and North Arcot, and the Collectors of these districts have been already instructed by the Board of Revenue to report on the 1st June next how the experiment works.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

XVII. (*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the suggestion made by Diwan Bahadur R. Raghunatha Rao Avargal in the columns of the *Madras Mail*, dated the 11th instant, on the subject of "Police torture"?

(*b*) Will Government be pleased to take into consideration the desirability of adopting his suggestion and forming a separate section of the Police for the custody of under-trial prisoners as distinguished from a detective and prosecuting section in view to minimizing the evils frequently complained of regarding extortions of confessions by the Police?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XVII. (*a*) The Government has now perused the letter.

(*b*) In the opinion of Government, no scheme of the kind suggested is practicable.

The Hon'ble M R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

XVIII. (*a*) Will Government be pleased to state the proportions or the mode in which the plague charges are now being distributed among Provincial, Local and Municipal funds?

(*b*) What kinds of charges are now borne by the Provincial funds, and what by the Local Boards and Municipalities, and also what proportion to the total cost the charges from the Provincial funds bear?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XVIII. (*a*) The following are the principles on which expenditure in connection with plague in this Presidency for the present is being distributed between Provincial and Local and Municipal funds :—

(i) A broad distinction has first been made between *direct* and *indirect* charges, this distinction being based on the same principles as those which regulate famine expenditure, viz., when new appointments are created exclusively for plague duty, the charges are treated as *direct*, but when new appointments are made merely with the object of strengthening existing establishments to cope with the additional work caused by plague, the charges are treated as *indirect* and debited to the ordinary service heads. The *indirect* charges therefore follow the classification of the accounts and are Provincial, Local, or Municipal, according as the cost of the establishments which are strengthened are debited to these several funds.

(ii) The next main principles which have guided this Government in the distribution of plague expenditure are that all charges incurred on account of superior medical officers, the magistracy and the police and the cost of telegrams and all other precautionary charges incurred by Provincial departments are debited to Provincial funds; while the cost of subordinate medical staff, hutting, medical appliances and the like and all expenses incurred at plague camps and inspection



stations are charged to Local and Municipal funds. The Governor in Council has further decided to contribute from Provincial funds half the cost of construction of private plague hospitals and private segregation camps, as also maintenance grants for the same not exceeding half the actual expenses.

(iii) It has also been laid down that travelling and other allowances and all contingent expenditure on stationery, postage, telegrams, office furniture, &c., shall be charged against the heads of account to which the salaries of the officers drawing the allowances or incurring the expenditure are respectively debited.

(iv) The following are the main items which constitute *direct* Provincial plague charges in this Presidency :—

(1) Medical officers on plague duty.
(2) Medical assistants for plague charge of a taluk or a smaller area.
(3) Superior medical officers in charge of plague inspection stations.
(4) The emoluments of staff corps officers employed as special plague officers.
(5) Superior nurses.
(6) Contributions to private hospitals and segregation camps.

(v) The *direct* Local and Municipal charges consist principally of the following items :—

(1) Establishments entertained for railway and road frontier inspection stations.
(2) Observation staff consisting of plague supervisors, plague inspectors, assistant plague inspectors and their peons.
(3) Ambulance staff.
(4) Superintendents of camps, gumastahs and menial servants.
(5) Cost of stretchers, medical stores, disinfectants and comforts, hospital furniture and clothing.
(6) Cost of construction of plague hospitals and "observation", "suspect", "health" and "staff" camps, whether at inspection stations or elsewhere.

(vi) It has also been directed that the expenditure falling on district boards should be distributed between all the districts of the Presidency in the ratio of one-third in frontier districts proper (*i.e.*, those districts which adjoin or are nearest to the plague-stricken areas) and of one-fourth in districts in which there are railway inspection stations against the district in which the expenditure is incurred, the remaining two-thirds or three-fourths, as the case may be, being contributed by the other districts of the Presidency rateably to their annual receipts.

(*b*) The first part of this question has been replied to in (*a*). As regards the second part, the most recent estimates of plague expenditure for the current year stand as follows :—

| | | Rs. |
|---|---|---|
| Provincial— | | |
| Direct | | 2,01,290 |
| Indirect | | 58,775 |
| | Total | 2,60,065 |
| Local— | | |
| Direct | | 4,47,720 |
| Indirect | | 6,130 |
| | Total | 4,53,850 |
| Municipal | | 2,98,910 |
| Port and Marine Funds | | 1,344 |
| | Grand Total | 10,14,169 |

The proportion borne by Provincial funds to the total cost is therefore 25·64 per cent.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

XIX. Will Government be pleased to state what arrangements have been made for the supply of serum for plague inoculation, and whether sufficient supplies are available for use in the affected districts and those adjoining them ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XIX. Fifty-five thousand doses of M. Haffkine's prophylactic have been obtained, and arrangements have been made to obtain a further supply from time to time. A sufficient supply is available for use in the affected districts and those adjoining them.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

XX. (*a*) Whether inoculations are being performed in the plague-affected municipalities of Walajahpet, Vellore, Vániyambádi, Tirupati and Bellary, &c., and in the affected districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, North Arcot, and Salem ?

(*b*) Will Government be pleased to place at the disposal of the press statistics of the uninoculated persons, attacks and deaths, among them, and of the once and twice inoculated attacks and deaths among them, respectively, in the places and tracts referred to in clause (*a*) of this question.

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XX. (*a*) The answer to this question is generally in the affirmative ; but the towns of Vániyambádi, Tirupati and Bellary are not considered plague affected.

(*b*) No attempt has yet been made in this Presidency to classify the statistics of attacks among inoculated and uninoculated persons.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

XXI. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) Whether its attention has been drawn to a leading article in the "Madras Standard" of the 25th February 1899 (evening edition) under the heading "Principal of the Law College and Students—Mr. Nelson's threats—", in which Mr. R. A. Nelson, Principal of the College, is stated to have threatened students suspected of supplying information to the newspapers concerning the irregular attendance of the College Principal and Professors with instant dismissal and a more rigorous application of the College rules in regard to attendance and the keeping of the terms, to discourage such complaints being communicated to the papers ?

(*b*) Whether the occurrences narrated in the article are true ?

(*c*) Whether, if so, it will kindly take such steps as it may deem fit in view to preventing the recurrence of similar incidents.

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXI. Government has read the article referred to, and has been informed that the article gives an exaggerated and misleading account of what took place. The Principal told the students that any complaints they had to make should be made to the proper authorities ; and that it was a breach of discipline, rendering them liable to dismissal, to make these complaints to the Press. No threat was held out to the students, that if such complaints were made to the Press, the College rules as to attendance and keeping of terms would in future be more rigorously applied.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXII. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) When a special officer was last appointed to revise the District Manuals and how long he was on the special duty ?

(*b*) What was the original allotment of money made in this behalf and what was the actual amount expended ?

(*c*) How many District Manuals have been revised by the special officer and how many Manuals so revised have been printed and issued ?



(*d*) Whether, in view of the importance of issuing District Manuals revised up to date, it intends to take any and what steps to complete the work for which the special officer was appointed ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XXII. (*a*) For the purpose of revising and re-issuing the District Manuals of this Presidency, Mr. H. A. Stuart, I.C.S., was placed on special duty at first for a year from 29th March 1893 and this period was subsequently extended by six months. For five months of this period, however, Mr. Stuart acted first as Collector and subsequently as District Judge.

(*b*) A total sum of Rs. 50,000 was allotted for the purpose and the expenditure to date has been about Rs. 41,200. In the sum spent is included a portion of Mr. Stuart's salary as Acting Collector and Acting District Judge.

(*c*) The Manuals for North Arcot, South Canara and Volume II (Statistics) for Coimbatore have been completed and issued. The statistical portions relating to the remaining districts have been to a great extent revised and are partly in type. The remaining portions of the manuals containing the permanent information about each district have been revised and are partly in type for Coimbatore, Kistna, Madura, Chingleput, Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly.

(*d*) Mr. Stuart has collected a large quantity of material for the other districts also and has undertaken to continue the revision in addition to his own duties. The Government considers that the work will be best done by Mr. Stuart and is not prepared at present to take any further steps to hasten its completion.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXIII. Is it a fact that the annual import of the Bombay light salt into this Presidency is gradually increasing and becoming more popular with the consumers than the salt manufactured in this Presidency ? If so, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of revising the rules relating to the manufacture and sale of salt so as to create facilities for the production of light salt in this Presidency ? Will it be pleased to state further what other steps it deems necessary to take, in view to make the competition of the Madras salt with Bombay salt more successful in future and to protect the salt revenue ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XXIII. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the Report on the Administration of the salt revenue for 1897–98, which shows that, during the last three years the import of Bombay salt into the Ceded districts of this Presidency has on the whole increased. In 1895–96 the imports were 153,500 maunds ; in 1896–97, 138,370 maunds ; and in 1897–98, 176,290 maunds. In Mysore, Bombay salt has displaced Madras salt more rapidly. The feasibility of producing light salt in this Presidency is under consideration. The salt revenue being Imperial is not affected.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXIV. Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is now in a position to say what steps it intends to take in view to give effect to the recommendations of Mr. Nicholson, I.C.S., regarding establishment of agricultural banks ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XXIV. Mr. Nicholson's report is still under consideration ; and orders on it may be shortly expected.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXV. In view of the general complaint that the state of management of the Hindu religious and charitable endowments is very unsatisfactory and in view of the fact that the question of fresh legislation on the subject has been long occupying the attention of the Government and the public, will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of early passing a suitable law in reference to this matter?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Arundel :—*

XXV. The question of the expediency of legislating for the better protection of Hindu religious endowments is at present under the consideration of Government.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXVI. (*a*) Is it a fact that one or two more vacancies may be shortly expected to occur in the Madras High Court in consequence of other Judges than Mr. Justice Davies going home on furlough?

(*b*) What is the present state of file of arrears of cases in the High Court? Is it a fact that the rate of disposal and outturn of work in the High Court are gradually becoming greater than in previous years?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to take advantage of this opportunity to consider what should be the full permanent complement of Judges, whether five or six?

(*d*) If the Government thinks it necessary that the High Court should continue to consist of six Judges, will it be pleased to consider the desirability of appointing an Indian to the sixth judgeship and further to consider whether it would not be in the advancement of justice to provide for two Judges of the High Court, an Indian and Englishman, visiting from time to time the District and Subordinate Courts and hearing cases in such centres in the mufassal as may be convenient?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Winterbotham :—*

XXVI. (*a*) Yes. There will be a vacancy when Mr. Justice Shephard avails himself of the leave granted to him.

(*b*) The Government has no information, but a copy of a statement showing the state of the file up to 31st December 1898 will be laid on the table. The outturn of work has undoubtedly increased since the appointment of a sixth Judge.

(*c*) and (*d*) It has already been arranged that the question of the future strength of the High Court shall be reconsidered on the occurrence of the next permanent vacancy. It is not in contemplation to appoint circuit Judges.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXVII. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been called to the articles that appeared in *The Madras Standard* in its issues of the 23rd morning, and of the 25th and 27th evenings of February last regarding the Madras Law College?

(*b*) Are the statements made therein substantially true?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the Principal recently refused, for a time, to grant term certificates to certain students appearing for the next F. L. Examination on the ground that they did not do well in the College examination and, if so, is his action in accordance with the rules?

(*d*) Is it a fact that the Principal and his assistants attend the Law College late occasionally on account of business in the High Court?



The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal :—

XXVIII. (*a*) Has the attention of the Government been called to the article published in *The Madras Times* in its evening issue of the 17th February last under the heading "A tale of a devotee—A regrettable incident"?

(*b*) Is it a fact that the devotee mentioned in the article was arrested under a non-bailable warrant?

(*c*) Is it a fact that the offence of which he was accused was Hurt, a bailable offence?

(*d*) Is it a fact that the man was released on bail on being produced under the warrant before the Máyavaram Magistrate who had issued the warrant?

(*e*) Will the Government be pleased to direct an enquiry why the Magistrate of Máyavaram did not provide in the warrant for the release of the man on bail by the officer executing the warrant?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXVIII. The Government has now perused the article in question, and will call the attention of the District Magistrate to the matter.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXIX. (*a*) Will Government be pleased to state which of the listed appointments declared open to the Provincial Service are now permanently held by members of that service?

(*b*) Will Government be pleased to state approximately when the claims of the members of the Indian Civil Service will be satisfied with regard to one of the Under Secretaryships to Government?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXIX. (*a*) The Hon'ble Member is referred to page 81 of the Civil List, from which it will be seen that the following posts have been transferred permanently to the Provincial Civil Service in this Presidency :—

One post of Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
Three posts of Head Assistant Collector.
One post of Special Assistant Collector.
One post of Assistant Collector.

In addition to the foregoing, the following listed posts are held permanently by Statutory Civilians :—

One post of District and Sessions Judge.
One post of Collector.
One post of Sub-Collector.

(*b*) Under present circumstances, a post of Under Secretary to Government will be open to the Provincial Civil Service after the claims of all members of the Indian Civil Service down to and including those who arrived in 1887 have been satisfied with regard to posts of equal or similar standing. Before, however, this post can be transferred to the Provincial Civil Service if there is an officer of the required merit and ability in that service to fill it, it will be necessary that it should be vacated in due course by the officer who may be holding it at the time it becomes open to the Provincial Service.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXX. Will Government be pleased to state how many, and what, appointments not reserved to the Indian Civil Service are now held in this Presidency by members of that service?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXX. The following appointments, which are not reserved by Statute for members of the Indian Civil Service, are now held in this Presidency by members of that service :—

Resident in Travancore and Cochin.
Inspector-General of Police.
Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.
Postmaster-General.
Registrar, High Court.
Deputy Commissioner, Salt, Abkári and Customs Department.
Deputy Accountant-General.
Assistant Secretary to Government.
Deputy Registrar, High Court.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXXI. (*a*) Is it a fact that even when they are at head-quarters, District Collectors in some districts do not attend office but transact business and dispose of appeals and other matters of judicial nature at their residence ?

(*b*) Has this practice been brought to the notice of Government and does it meet with its approval ?

(*c*) Will Government be pleased to state what instructions, if any, it has issued to District Collectors in the above matter and place the same on the table ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XXXI. (*a*) and (*b*) No such practice has come to the notice of the Government.

(*c*) It is a standing order that all public officers should, when at head-quarters, as a general rule, attend office from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXXII. Will Government be pleased to obtain and place on the table a statement showing the number of suits decided during 1897 by the Bench Courts constituted under section 9 of Act I of 1889, and if the information for preparing such a statement is not available, will Government be pleased to issue instructions that such information should be obtained and embodied in future in the Administration Report on Civil Justice in the Presidency ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXXII. The Government has no information as to the number of suits decided by Bench Courts during 1897, and it regrets that it cannot undertake the very laborious task of collecting it. The possibility of affording information of this description in future reports on the administration of Civil Justice will be considered.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXXIII. Will Government be pleased to state when the scheme to reorganize the class of Delta Superintendents in the Department of Public Works is likely to be brought into force ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXXIII. The question of reorganizing the Irrigation Conservancy establishment is at present held in abeyance, pending further enquiry.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXXIV. In view of the fact that in the construction of the Madras Railway no provision has been made at important stations for latrine accommodation for first and second-class Indian passengers and also for refreshment rooms for all classes of Indian passengers, will Government be pleased to take necessary steps for providing such accommodation for the convenience and comfort of Indian passengers on the Bezwada-Madras and East Coast Railways recently opened for through traffic ?



*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—*

XXXIV. The East Coast Railway, including the Bezwada-Madras Section of it, is administered by the Government of India and not by this Government. The matters referred to by the Honourable Member have however been brought to the Government of India's notice in a recent report by the Senior Government Inspector of Railways, Madras Circle.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXXV. (*a*) With reference to the answer of Government to question No. XXX at the meeting of the Council held on 1st February 1898, that the reason why the enhanced water-rate of five rupees an acre was imposed on lands held on zamindari or inam tenure in Gódávari and Kistna districts, was that " they were on the whole more favourably circumstanced " than the neighbouring ryotwari lands, exempted in some instances from the enhanced rate, will Government be pleased to state what it means by their being " *more favourably circumstanced.*"

(*b*) Is it a fact that there are several lands in the said districts held on zamindari or inam tenure that deserve to be exempted from the enhanced rate but for the circumstance that they were favourably assessed at the time of the permanent settlement or at the enfranchisement of inams, and has Government made any enquiry into the matter ?

(*c*) If Government is not in a position to answer the above in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to order an enquiry whether there are any zamindari or inam lands that deserve to be exempted from the enhanced rate ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XXXV. (*a*) The Government approved the imposition of the rate on the report of the Collector that the zamindari and inam lands which are favourably assessed should not be exempted from the enhanced rate anywhere.

(*b*) *and* (*c*) The remedy open to persons who deem Rs. 5 per acre an excessive charge for irrigation is to relinquish the water. This being so, Government does not consider that any zamindari or inam land " deserves " to be supplied at a lower rate.

Government sees no sufficient reason at present to institute the proposed enquiry.

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu :—

XXXVI. (*a*) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following resolution passed at the Kistna District Conference in June 1897 and what orders have been passed thereon :—

"XXI. That this Conference re-affirms the Resolution XIII of Gudivada Conference, and while expressing the satisfaction and thankfulness of the people of a very small number of villages in which a four-rupee rate has been levied as before in consideration of the poverty of the soil and other circumstances in those villages, regrets that a complete examination has not yet been made of a very large number of other villages containing similarly poor soil to a greater or less extent and requests that the lower rate of assessment may be levied on all lands of inferior quality in every village."

(*b*) Will Government be pleased to state how many villages in the Kistna district have been exempted from the enhanced rate and place on the table a list of such villages ?

(*c*) Will Government be pleased to state whether an examination of the lands in the Kistna district was made by any officer of Government, whether a report of such examination was submitted to Government and whether Government passed orders thereon ?

(*d*) Will Government be pleased to place on the table the report and order of Government thereon in the said matter ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes :—*

XXXVI. (*a*) The Government has now perused the resolution of the Kistna District Conference. Government does not generally pass orders on such resolutions, and no orders were passed on the resolution in question.

(*b*) The number of villages exempted from the enhanced rate is 61. The list will be placed on the table as desired.

(*c*) The selection of the villages to be exempted was made by the District Collector with the help of his subordinates, and was sanctioned by Government on his recommendation. As has been repeatedly explained to the Hon'ble Member, the exemption is merely a temporary expedient and does not profess to be based on a detailed examination of the circumstances of every field. Government hopes to be shortly in a position to pass orders on the scheme for the resettlement of the district, and the necessity for any special exemption will then cease.

(*d*) The reply to this is in the negative.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XXXVII. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the Council table papers relating to the several proposals made by the local Muhammadan Educational Board as regards Muhammadan education and the action taken by Government thereon ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes* :—

XXXVII. The Honourable Member may peruse the papers at the Government office.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XXXVIII. Will the Government be pleased to direct the more extensive nomination of Muhammadans as members of the Village Panchayats, Local Boards and Municipal Councils, seeing that the majority of the electors belong to the other communities ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Arundel* :—

XXXVIII. The Government has no reason to believe that the Muhammadan Community does not at present enjoy a fair share of representation in Union Panchayats, Local Boards and Municipal Councils. The system of election is in force only in regard to District Boards and Municipal Councils.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XXXIX. From the General Administration Report for 1896–97 it appears that out of 6,308 Muhammadans in the Public Service, 5,348 are employed in the Police department. If the latter number includes any constables, head constables and station-house officers, will the Government be pleased to state the number in each class ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes* :—

XXXIX. The figure referred to doubtless includes constables, head constables and station-house officers, but the Government has no information as to the precise number of Muhammadans employed in each of these grades.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XL. Will the Government be pleased to state what check is exercised in the matter of securing a proper consideration of the claims of Muhammadans in the subordinate branches of service ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Arundel* :—

XL. Government has, from time to time, expressed its desire that endeavours should be made to increase the number of qualified Muhammadans in the public service. The consideration of the claims of individual Muhammadans must necessarily lie with heads of departments and Government cannot limit the discretion of those officers in such cases. The extent to which Muhammadans are employed in superior service is, however, noted annually in the general administration report.



The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XLI. Will the Government be pleased to reserve a certain proportion of appointments for qualified Muhammadans in each branch of service as the system appears to have been introduced in the Bengal Presidency.

*The Hon'ble Mr. Arundel* :—

XLI. The Government has no information regarding the system said to have been introduced in Bengal, and having regard to the interests of the public service, is not prepared to adopt the Honourable Member's suggestion.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XLII. Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of appointing a Muhammadan for the post of the Inspector-General of Registration when the next vacancy occurs, seeing that the appointment has been successively held by representative of the other communities ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Arundel* :—

XLII. The qualifications of all candidates for the appointment will be duly considered, but the Government cannot undertake to give the preference to a member of any class in particular.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XLIII. Is it a fact that on the representation of the Muhammadan population of Trichinopoly the Government was pleased to assure them that their claims for a proper representation on the local Municipal Council would be borne in mind and allowed two nominated seats to them ? If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether this number has been kept up ? In consideration of the large Muhammadan population in this town, will the Government be pleased to always reserve two nominated seats as requested by them ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Forbes* :—

XLIII. The Government stated that the claims of the Muhammadan population would be borne in mind whenever appointments were made on the Municipal Council, but did not undertake to reserve two nominated seats for them. Nor is it prepared to do this now as suggested by the Honourable Member.

The Hon'ble GHULAM MUHAMMAD SAHIB BAHADUR :—

XLIV. (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the circumstances which have led to the system of commutation of Carnatic stipends of small value which is now in force ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to reconsider its order as regards commutation after calling for a special report from the Paymaster, Carnatic Stipends, as to the effect which that system has produced on the Carnatic family ?

*The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes* :—

XLIV. (*a*) The compulsory commutation of Carnatic Stipends of small amounts was introduced in the interests of the stipendiaries themselves.

(*b*) The Government sees no reason for reconsidering the existing rules.

(2) *Act assented to by His Excellency the Governor.*

The Secretary reports that the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1884, which was passed into law by the Council at the meeting held on the 24th January last, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 12th ultimo.

(3) *Act assented to by His Excellency the Governor-General.*

His Excellency the President announces the assent of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General to the Act to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1884.

(4) *Petitions, &c.*

The Secretary reports the communication to the Select Committees concerned of the following papers:—

G.O., No. 9, Legislative, dated 6th February 1899.

G.O., No. 10, Legislative, dated 9th February 1899.

Petition from the ryots of Nuzvid Zamindari, dated 22nd October 1898.

Telegrams from the Kerala Mahajana Sabha, Calicut, and M.R.Ry. Rama Varma Raja Avargal of Parappanad, dated the 19th and 27th ultimo, respectively, requesting that the consideration of the Malabar Compensation for Tenant's Improvements Bill be deferred pending receipt of their memorials.

G.O., No. 20, Legislative, dated 2nd March 1899.

(5) *Madras Registration of Births and Deaths Bill.*

The Hon'ble Mr. H. M. Winterbotham presents the report of the Select Committee on the Bill and moves that the report and the Bill as amended be taken into consideration at once.

Notice has been given that the following amendments will be moved when the Bill is taken into consideration:

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. V. Bhashyam Aiyangar Avargal:—

*Section 2.*

(1) *For* the words "from a date to be specified in such notification to any district or village or portion of a district or village situated outside", *substitute* "to any local area beyond".

(2) To the same section add the following words "and may also by notification exclude any such local area from the operation of the Act or any portion thereof".

*Section 3.*

(1) Between the words "local area" and "now recognized", insert the following: "which for purposes of revenue administration is".

(2) *For* the words "district or portion of a district to which the provisions of this Act have been extended", *substitute* "local area in which this Act or any portion thereof is in force".

*Section 4.*

(1) In lieu of the words "of this Act", substitute "extending this Act or any portion thereof to any local area".

(2) *For* the word "that" between the words "District Gazette" and "registration", *substitute* the words "the date from which".

(3) *For* the word "is" between "deaths" and "compulsory", *substitute* "will be".

*Section 5.*

In sub-section (1),

(1) *For* the words "from the date on which such notification comes into force", *substitute* the words "on the publication of such notification".

(2) Omit the word "district" between the words "the" and "Collector".

(3) Between the words "a person" and "to be", wherever they occur, insert the words "either by name or by virtue of any office he may hold".

*Section 7.*

Insert the following as sub-section (2) to section 7:—

"(2) A copy of such form in the vernacular language shall be posted in some conspicuous place on or near the outer door of the dwelling house of every registrar".

[If the above amendment be carried, insert (1) immediately after figure 7 in the above section.]



*Section 8.*

(1) Between the words "resident in the house" and "and any person", insert the words "in which the child was born".

(2) *For* the word "complete" occurring between the words "required to" and "the forms", *substitute* the words "be entered in".

(3) In the first proviso omit the words "it is shown that" occurring between the words "under this Act if" and "he had reasonable cause".

(4) To the same proviso add the following words, viz., "by such other person".

(5) In the second proviso between the words "it shall" and "be the duty of", insert the words "in the first instance".

(6) In the same proviso between the words "child and" and "such person" insert the word "unless".

(7) In the same proviso omit the words "in such case" occurring between the words "such person shall" and "sign the register".

*Section 10.*

(1) *For* the word "the" occurring between the words "dying in" and "village", *substitute* the word "a".

(2) *For* the word "complete" occurring between the words "required to" and "the forms", *substitute* the words "be entered in".

(3) In the proviso to the same section omit the words "it is shown that" occurring between the words "under this Act if" and "he had reasonable cause".

(4) To the said proviso add the following words "by such other person".

*Section 11.*

(1) *For* the words "any place or under any" occurring between the words "found dead in" and "circumstances not covered", *substitute* the words "a village under".

(2) Omit the words "in which the body is found or the officer in charge of the Police station within the limits of which the village is included" occurring between the words "head of the village" and "to give forthwith".

*Section 12.*

In sub-section (1) *for* the word "complete" occurring between the words "required to" and "the forms", *substitute* the words "be entered in".

*Section 13.*

*For* the word "sign" between "shall" and "in", *substitute* the word "write".

*Section 14.*

(1) Between the words "the registration" and "has been completed" insert the words "of the birth of a child".

(2) *For* the word "a" occurring between the words "of" and "child", *substitute* the word "the".

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. Ratnasabhapati Pillai Avargal:—

*For* the words "the birth of a child", *substitute* the words "a birth or death"; and for the word "birth" in the last line the word "event".

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. V. Bhashyam Aiyangar Avargal:—

*Section 15.*

Omit the words "after the coming into operation of the aforesaid notification" occurring between the words "his village or ward" and "and he shall ascertain".

*Section 17.*

Between the words "may make" and "any person", insert the words "under section 21".

*Section 18.*

(1) *For* the words "neglects or refuses" in sub-section (1), *substitute* the words "fails without reasonable cause".

(2) In the same sub-section *for* the words and figure "and sub-section (2) of section" occurring between the figures "10" and "12", *substitute* the word and figure "11 and".

(3) *For* sub-section (3), *substitute* the following: "refuses to *write* his name, description and place of abode or to put his mark in the register as required by section 13".

(4) Omit the proviso to this section.

If the amendment to omit the proviso be not carried, substitute the following for the said proviso: "provided that when more persons than one are guilty of an offence under sub-section (1) in respect of one and the same birth or death only one of such persons shall be liable to be prosecuted for the offence".

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

After the proviso to the section, insert the following:—

"Provided also that for a first offence the Magistrate may on conviction dismiss the accused with a warning".

*Section 19.*

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. V. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR Avargal:—

*For* section 19, *substitute* the following:—

"No prosecution in respect of any offence punishable under this Act shall be instituted except under the order or with the sanction of the Tahsildar having jurisdiction over the village in which the offence was committed or of an officer to whom such Tahsildar is subordinate.

The District Collector or any officer generally or specially empowered by him in this behalf may stay such prosecution".

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

Insert the figure (1) after 19 and add the following as sub-sections (2) and (3):—

"(2) In prosecutions under the Act the accused persons shall have the option of appearing before the Magistrate either in person or by duly authorized agent."

"(3) No investigation in criminal proceedings under this Act shall be made by a police officer."

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR Avargal:—

After section 19, insert the following as section 20:—

20. "In prosecutions for offences under the provisions of this Act, the accused person may appear by a near relation, or by an agent duly authorized to act in his behalf."

If the above is not accepted by the Council, insert the following:—

20. "In prosecutions for offences under the provisions of this Act, the accused person may appear by a near relation, or by an agent duly authorized to act in his behalf. Provided that his personal attendance may be required when, for reasons to be recorded, the Magistrate thinks fit to do so in the ends of Justice."



*Section 20.*

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. V. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR Avargal:—

Omit this section.

If this amendment be not carried, substitute the following for section 20: "The Collector may of his own motion or on complaint and after enquiry, fine, suspend, dismiss or remove any Registrar if in his opinion such Registrar is guilty of misconduct or neglect of duty or is incapable of performing his duties or if, without the permission of the Collector, he resides outside the village or ward thereof as the case may be of which he is the Registrar; and shall record his reasons for so doing."

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

Insert the figure (1) after the figure 20 and add the following as sub-section (2):—

"(2) An appeal shall lie to the Board of Revenue from such orders of suspension, dismissal, or removal".

*Section 21.*

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. V. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR Avargal:—

(1) *For* the words "Governor in Council", *substitute* the words "Local Government".

(2) *For* the words "from time to time" occurring between the words "may" and "make rules", *substitute* the words "after previous publication".

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal:—

After clause (5), insert the following as clause (6):—

"(6) For the remuneration of the registrars".

and alter the present clause (6) into (7).

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU Garu:—

In section 21, in clause (6), substitute (7) for (6) and insert a new clause (6) as follows:—

(6) For the salaries and allowances of registrars.

(6) *Bill to amend the Court of Wards' Regulation V of 1804.*

The Hon'ble Mr. H. M. Winterbotham introduces the above Bill and moves that it be read in Council.

(7) *Bill to amend the City of Madras Municipal Act, 1884.*

The Hon'ble Mr. G. S. Forbes introduces this Bill and moves that it be read in Council.

H. TREMENHEERE,
*Secretary to Government.*

Government of Fort St. George.
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICES

FOR THE

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

On Thursday, the 9th day of March 1899.

3/21

Questions and answers at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 9th March 1899

Questions appertaining to the P. W. D.-Railway Branch

(7 Leg. A & B. pages 2 & 3 & 12 & 13)

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. Ratnasabhapati Pillai Avergal:- Question.

VI (a). With reference to my question No. XXVI asked at the meeting of the Council of the 23rd November 1897, and the reply of Government that the train service referred to will receive its attention, will Government be pleased to state whether the alterations in the passenger train service on the South Indian line notified on the 6th February 1899 to take effect from the 10th idem have been approved by Government?

(b). Whether in view of the fact that the altered service subordinates the interests of the travelling public of the Negapatam-Tanjore Section to the convenience of the inhabitants of Karikal, Government will be pleased to reconsider the matter and make such arrangements as may satisfy the reasonable requirements of Karik[al]

Karikal without prejudicing the interests of a large population of an extensive tract of country in the Negapatam-Tanjore Section?

(c). Whether Government is aware that by the above altered Service the people of Negapatam and those residing on the Negapatam-Tanjore and Peralam-Tiruvalur Sections have been placed in a much worse position than they were on the 23rd November 1897 when the Question referred to in clause (a) was asked, inasmuch as, instead of a mail Service connection with Madras by a shorter route on the Mayavaram-Muttupet line prayed for, even the mail Service connection with Madras by the longer route which was then in existence for out-going passengers to that city (mail train No. 145) and the one for passengers returning from it (train No. 119) have been now abolished?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:-

VI (a) Yes.

(b). There is no question of subordinating the interests of Negapatam to those of Karikal. It is always difficult to arrange a limited number of trains per day in a complicated System of cross lines like those under reference, so as to Satisfactorily Secure all desired Connections.

(c). The Serious decrease in the number of passengers which has recently occurred has rendered it necessary to cancel one train per day from Peralam to Negapatam and another from Negapatam to Tanjore. The cancelling of these two trains has undoubtedly resulted in the journey between Negapatam and places north of Mayavaram occupying a longer time than before. But a very limited number of passengers has been affected, only 9 per day in one direction and 3 per day in the other during January last the busiest time of year. The Consulting Engineer is in correspondence with the Company's Agent with a view to the public Convenience being better Served if possible, but it is not an easy matter.

The Hon'ble M.R.Rg. V. Subba Rao Pantulu Garu:-

XXXIV. In view of the fact that in the Construct

construction of the Madras Railway no provision has been made at important Stations for latrine accommodation for first and Second class Indian passengers and also for refreshment rooms for all classes of Indian passengers, will Government be pleased to take necessary steps for providing such accommodation for the convenience and comfort of Indian passengers on the Bezwada-Madras and East Coast Railways recently opened for through traffic?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:-

XXXIV. The East Coast Railway, including the Bezwada-Madras Section of it, is administered by the Government of India and not by this Government. The matters referred to by the Hon'ble Member have however been brought to the Government of India's notice in a recent report, by the Senior Government Inspector of Railway, Madras-wide.

R.S.
25 Mar 99

Flag B
Question XXXIII

R/K
Where is the file for Leg: Council about Delta Supts? I mean the file of previous questions, asked for last night?

R.S.
25. 3. 03

6282 of 16/12/02
6331 of /12/02

S.A.W.

Submitted.
There are some confidential papers on the subject. I have asked S.A.W. to send them to you. S.A.W. having left his office keys at home he has sent for them.

C.W.R.
25. 3. 03

Restore
C.W.R.
26/3/03

Telephone

To

~~The Registrar~~ H.C.
Legislative Dept

Please let me
know
the number & Date
of the L.O. (W reference)
the questions and
answers last given
in the Legislative
Council in connection
with the position
of the Delta Reps Dr.

25/3

25/3/03 May

25/3/03