

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	480	Press Mis.
Dated	13 Apr	19 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 123. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, (Public,) to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 24th March 1869, No. 1636.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 118, dated 27th January last, on the subject of improving the sanitary condition of Ootacamund, and in reply to communicate the following observations and orders.

2. Two propositions are made by the Government of Madras. The first is to make to the Ootacamund Municipality a grant of Rupees 20,000 as a contribution from the Imperial revenues for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the place. But the Governor General in Council does not see that sufficient reasons have been assigned for this grant, and he regrets his inability to sanction it. Such a grant would form a most inconvenient precedent; and if the Government of India admit the propriety in this case of giving money from the Imperial revenues for a purely local purpose, it will be difficult to refuse it in other cases. Moreover, the papers submitted with your letter show clearly that the Municipality of Ootacamund deserves no special consideration. The Minute of His Excellency the Governor of the 6th July 1863 makes this point as plain as possible.

3. As, however, the Madras Government has sanctioned the payment of the grant in anticipation of the approval of the Government of India, the Governor General in Council will not object to this amount being included in the loan which it is proposed to give to the Ootacamund Municipality, and which is treated of in the following paragraphs.

4. The second proposition of the Madras Government is to advance Rupees 40,000, to the Ootacamund Municipality, as a loan from Government, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and re-payable in six years by the application of a sinking fund. It is proposed that Rupees 6000 shall be annually paid to Government from the income derived from the house tax. Although His Excellency the Governor General in Council sees no objection to assisting in the improvement of Ootacamund by giving a loan to the Municipality, yet he does not think that the Government ought to sanction this proposal, unless the Municipality show, on their own part, a disposition to exert themselves to place the station in a better condition.

5. In his Minute of the 6th July, His Excellency the Governor observes that he would advance no public money "without some proof of energy and good will on the part of the Municipality," and he stated that the first thing necessary was to increase the Municipal revenues by further taxation. In paragraph 8 of the orders of the Government of Madras, dated the 2nd September 1868, the Municipality were, in accordance with these views, invited to raise the tax on lands and houses from 5 to 7½ per cent., and it was estimated that this enhanced assessment would increase the income by Rupees 6250 a year. The Municipality, however, have declined to make any increase to the existing taxation, but there is nothing to show that the conclusions stated in His Excellency's Minute were not quite correct.

6. The Municipality have themselves admitted that they can pay Rupees 4000 a year towards the liquidation of the proposed debt out of their present income. If they adopted the course proposed by the Madras Government in the

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
13th April 1869.

orders of the 2nd September, they could pay at least Rupees 6000 more, or Rupees 10,000 a year altogether.

7. Under these circumstances, I am desired to state that, although unable to recognise, as a grant from the Imperial revenues, the payment already made under the orders of the Madras Government, the Governor General in Council, as remarked in the 3rd paragraph of this letter, is willing to treat it as a loan to the Municipality. His Excellency in Council is also prepared to lend the Municipality Rupees 40,000 more, on condition that the whole amount of Rupees 60,000 will be repaid in full within six years, with interest at five per cent., by annual instalments; that the Municipal income will be raised to such an extent as will place the punctual payment of the instalments and interest beyond doubt; and that the Government of Madras will undertake to see that the money shall be judiciously spent, and the condition of the station shall be permanently benefitted thereby.

No. 124. ORDER THEREON, 13th April 1869, No. 480.

The Government resolve to communicate the letter above recorded to the President of the Municipal Commission, Ootacamund.

2. Under the instructions therein contained, the order of the Madras Government, under date the 9th February 1869, No. 180, sanctioning a grant of Rs. 20,000 to the Municipal Commission of Ootacamund, is cancelled, and the amount placed at the Commissioners' disposal will be deposited in the Government treasury, until the Commissioners report that they are prepared to accept the conditions under which the Government of India are willing to sanction a loan of Rupees 60,000 to the Ootacamund Municipality.

3. His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts that the Ootacamund Municipal Commissioners will not hesitate to avail themselves of these conditions. He is satisfied that the expenditure of a large sum of money is absolutely necessary for the protection of the public health of Ootacamund. The amount, Rupees 10,000 per annum, to be raised by increased taxation to meet the repayment of the loan, is moderate; and His Excellency would again urge upon the Municipal Commissioners that the most equitable means of meeting this requirement will be found by raising the tax on houses from 5 to 7½ per cent.

4. No class at Ootacamund is more directly interested in the maintenance of the reputation of that station as a sanitarium than the owners of houses; and, in most cases, the small addition to the rate on houses will be recovered by a slight increase in the rents charged by house-owners during the Ootacamund season.

5. While leaving it to the Commissioners to decide upon the best means of raising the amount necessary to secure the repayment of this loan, His Excellency in Council deems it his duty to state that, if the Municipal Commissioners fail in their duty in vigorously carrying out improvements which they have themselves acknowledged to be essential, the Government, regarding the sanitation of Ooty to

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13th April 1869.

be a matter of great public importance, will feel themselves obliged to take such other steps as may appear to be requisite to secure this object.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Ootacamund.

„ Commissioner of the Neilgherry Hills.

„ Accountant General.

„ Board of Revenue.

Out. of 1869 Rupees.

PUBLIC.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION.
Ootacamund.
&c. &c. &c.

Dated April, 18th.

Recd.

G. O., 13th April 1869, No. 480.

APRIL

Nos. 123-124.

Cancelling the order sanctioning a grant of
Rupees 20,000 to the Ootacamund Municipality,
and offering Rupees 60,000 as a loan on certain
conditions.

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FROM

No.

E. C. BAYLEY, ESQUIRE,
Secy. to the Govt. of India,

TO

THE CHIEF SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF
FORT ST. GEORGE.

SIR,

Fort William, the 24th March 1869.

HOME DEPT.
Public. I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 118, dated the 27th January last, on the subject of improving the sanitary condition of Ootacamund, and in reply to communicate the following observations and orders.

2. Two propositions are made by the Government of Madras. The first is to make to the Ootacamund Municipality a grant of Rupees 20,000 as a contribution from the Imperial Revenues for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the place. But the Governor General in Council does not see that sufficient reasons have been assigned for this grant, and he regrets his inability to sanction it. Such a grant would form a most inconvenient precedent; and if the Government of India admits the propriety in this case of giving money from the Imperial Revenues for a purely local purpose, it will be difficult to refuse it in other cases. Moreover, the papers submitted with your letter show clearly that the Municipality of Ootacamund deserves no special consideration. The Minute of His Excellency the Governor of the 6th July 1868 makes this point as plain as possible.

~~2. As, however, the Madras Government has sanctioned the~~
payment of the grant in anticipation of the approval of the Government of India, the Governor General in Council will not object to this amount being included in the loan which it is proposed to give to the Ootacamund Municipality, and which is treated of in the following paragraphs.

4. The second proposition of the Madras Government is to advance Rupees 40,000 to the Ootacamund Municipality as a loan from Government, bearing interest at 5 per cent., and re-payable in six years by the application of a sinking fund. It is proposed that Rupees 6,000 shall be annually paid to Government from the income derived from the House Tax. Although His Excellency the Governor General in Council sees no objection to assisting in the improvement of Ootacamund by giving a loan to the Municipality, yet he does not think that the Government ought to sanction the proposal, unless the Municipality show, on their own part, a disposition to exert themselves to place the station in a better condition.

5. In his Minute of the 6th July, His Excellency the Governor observes that he would advance no public money "without some proof of energy and good will on the part of the Municipality," and he stated that the first thing necessary was to increase the Municipal Revenues by further taxation. In paragraph 8 of the orders of the Government of Madras, dated the 2nd September 1868, the Municipality were, in accordance with these views, invited to raise the tax on lands and houses from 5 to 7½ per cent., and it was estimated that this enhanced assessment would increase the income by Rupees 6,250 a year. The Municipality, however, have declined to make any increase to the existing taxation, but there is nothing to show that the conclusions, stated in His Excellency's Minute, were not quite correct.

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7. Under these circumstances, I am desired to state that, although unable to recognize as a grant from the Imperial Revenues the payment already made under the orders of the Madras Government, the Governor General in Council, as remarked in the 3rd paragraph of this letter, is willing to treat it as a loan to the Municipality. His Excellency in Council is also prepared to lend the Municipality Rupees 40,000 more, on condition that the whole amount of Rupees 60,000 will be re-paid in full within six years, with interest at 5 per cent., by annual instalments; that the municipal income will be raised to such an extent as will place the punctual payment of the instalments and interest beyond doubt; and that the Government of Madras will undertake to see that the money shall be judiciously spent, and the condition of the station shall be permanently benefitted thereby.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant,

J. P. Bhandari
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

hist of April

17 Jan'y 189 Nox 152-153.
 18 Oct 188 — 153 c 155
 2 Sept — 54 c 69
 9 Aug 189 — 83

Public 1869. Sept
Nov. 15th Dec. 16th

I am very sorry
 they do not know
 where they are

100-1634

10/24 hours
11/30 hours
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Greene refused to accept the grant of \$2,000 made by the State and Municipal Building Society and to include this sum in the amount of the loan. He, however, the agent, announced of the \$2,000 to be repaid in full within 6 years with interest at 5 per cent.

Public Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter

Read the following letter from the
Secretary to the Government
of India, Home Department.
~~Here enters the march by No. 655~~

Or der them 13^{te} April 1869-1878.

The Government
resolve to communicate
the letter above recorded
to the President of the Municipal
Commission, Orizaba.

2. Under the instructions therein contained the Order of the Madras Government under date the 9th February 1869 No 180, sanctioning a grant of Rs 20,000 to the Municipal Commission of Colacamund, is cancelled, and the amount placed at the

the Commissioners' disposal
will be ^{deposited} kept in the Govern-
ment Treasury, until the
Commissioners report
that they are prepared
to accept the conditions
under which the Government
of India ^{are willing} is ready to sanction
a loan of Rs 60,000 to the
Botacammund Municipality.

3. His Excellency the
Governor in Council trusts
that the Botacammund
Municipal Commissioners
will not hesitate to avail
themselves of these conditions.
He is satisfied that the
expenditure of a large
sum of money is absolutely
necessary for the protection
of the Public Health of
Botacammund. The
amount, Rs 10,000 per
annum, to be raised
by increased taxation

to meet the repayment
of the loan is moderate;
and His Excellency ~~the~~
~~Government~~ ~~will~~
would again urge upon
the Municipal Commis-
sioners that the most
equitable means of
meeting this requirement
will be found by raising
~~the tax on~~ houses from
5 to 7 1/2 per cent.

4. No class at
Botacammund is more
directly interested in the
maintenance of the repu-
tation of ~~that~~ ^{the} Station as
a Sanitarium, than the
owners of houses, and,
in most cases, the small
addition to the rate on
houses will be recovered
by a slight increase in
the rents charged by
house

house owners during
the Ootacamund season.

311 While leaving it
to the Commissioners to
decide upon the best means
of raising the amount
necessary to secure the
repayment of this loan,
His Excellency in Council
deems it his duty to state
that, if the Municipal
Commissioners fail in their
duty in vigorously
carrying out improvements
which they have themselves
acknowledged to be
essential, the Govern-
ment are prepared to
obtain the necessary
legal authority for the
abolition of the Munici-
pality, and for vesting
in the Commissioners of
the Neilgherry Hills
the

The parish marked ~~is~~ is to stand all

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the powers conferred
by the Towns' Improve-
ment Act on the Munici-
pal Commissioners so as
to enable that Officer
to raise, to the necessary
extent, the taxes provided
under that Act, and
to carry out those measures
which are required to
place Ootacamund
in a proper sanitary
condition.

to
To The President Municipal
Commission, Ootacamund, dated 13/4
" Commissioners, Neilgherry Hills
" Accountant General. }
Board of Revenue

hint of 2^d April

Govt. of 186 } 2^d April

Public

To
The Secy. Genl. for
Coteau
see.

Dated April 13 }
Recd. 1869, No 480.

Nos. 123. 124.

Canceling the order
-taining a grant of \$20,000
to the Coteau and
-hally, and offering \$20,
6000 as a loan on certain
conditions.