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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2366-67	Press
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Dated 14 th December 195		
		1883

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

3
No. 168-83

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department
(Archæology),—under date Calcutta, the 20th November 1883.*

Read the undermentioned papers :—

Despatch from Secretary of State, No. 39, dated 31st July 1878, Public Works Department.

Despatch to Secretary of State, No. 160 (Financial), dated 25th May 1880.

Despatch from Secretary of State, No. 43 (Public Works Department), dated 11th November 1880.

Resolution Nos. 1—30-42, dated 2nd February 1881.

From Curator of Ancient Monuments, dated 2nd February 1881.

Resolution Nos. 1—8-17, dated 12th August 1881.

To Curator of Ancient Monuments, No. 24, dated 25th February 1882.

From Secretary of State, No. 15 (Public Works), dated 9th March 1882.

To Curator of Ancient Monuments, dated 21st April 1882.

Resolution Nos. 3—167-181, dated 8th November 1882.

Resolution, dated 8th June 1883, Nos. 1—58-74.

Read—

Report of the Curator of Ancient Monuments for 1881-82.

RESOLUTION.

The appointment of Curator of Ancient Monuments was sanctioned by the Secretary of State in November 1880 for a term of three years only, in view to the settlement within that period by each Local Government of a complete scheme of conservation for each province. Major Cole has, since he took charge of his office in January 1881, visited most of the Local Governments, and in the notes and memoranda which form Appendices of his reports has indicated in respect of many of the principal monuments what measures of conservation are in his opinion required. It is important that the Local Governments should now settle, in communication with the Government of India, the general lines upon which their operations will in future be conducted. The lists of objects of antiquarian interest received from the different provinces show that very much information as to the number and character of existing monuments has been collected; and the Curator's memoranda and suggestions indicate sufficiently clearly the general direction which measures of conservation ought to follow.

2. The Governor General in Council notices, however, that the Curator has not apparently placed himself in such free communication with the officers of the Archaeological Survey as was desirable, and this is to be regretted. It is true the reports show that Major Cole has at times consulted General Cunningham; but as far as Madras and Bombay are concerned he appears to have had no communication with Dr. Burgess who has a great experience and sound knowledge, both archæological and architectural, would have been of much service in preparing the necessary lists, and determining the mode in which repairs should be planned.

3. The Governor General in Council desires that each Local Government will now, with as little delay as possible, take up the lists of ancient monuments for its province as given in Major Cole's Report for the year 1882-83, and, as regards Northern, Eastern and Central India, in communication with General Cunningham, and as regards Madras and Bombay, in communication with the Archaeological Surveyor of Southern and Western India, prepare classified lists and a detailed report showing—

- I.—Those monuments which from their present condition and historical or archaeological value ought to be maintained in permanent good repair.
- II.—Those monuments which it is now only possible or desirable to save from further decay by such minor measures as the eradication of vegetation, the exclusion of water from the walls, and the like.
- III.—Those monuments which from their advanced stage of decay or comparative unimportance it is impossible or unnecessary to preserve.

4. The monuments in classes I and II should be further subdivided, thus—

I (a) and II (a).—Monuments in the possession or charge of Government, or in respect of which Government must undertake the cost of all measures of conservation.

I (b) and II (b).—Monuments in the possession or charge of private bodies or individuals.

In respect of classes I (a) and II (a), the report should show what arrangements it is proposed to make for the due carrying out of the necessary measures of conservation. Definite provision should be made for the proper custody and up-keep of each monument in these classes. The Government of India do not wish to interfere in the details of these arrangements, but they desire to be satisfied that each Local Government has at its disposal the means for the intelligent and judicious treatment of any questions that may arise in connection with the preservation of buildings of such importance. The Governor General in Council considers that the cost of these measures is a legitimate charge upon the Public Works allotment of each province, but will be prepared to consider in very special cases whether any further assistance should be granted from Imperial funds.

In respect of classes I (a) and II (b), it should be reported what funds are available for their conservation; and whether the custodians can be induced to allow the inspection, direction, and control of Government officers in such matters. It may be advisable in some instances to offer small subsidies in view to securing the necessary amount of supervision, but this should only be proposed where the monument is one of primary importance, and its due conservation cannot be otherwise secured. In general it may be hoped that the local officers and the Local Government will be able to induce those interested to take proper steps for maintaining the buildings in their charge.

5. If hereafter it should become apparent that the Local Governments require advice or instructions with reference to the proper mode of preserving or treating any monument, the Government of India will be happy to arrange for procuring this from the

best available authorities. Meantime, as above intimated, the Local Governments should, besides referring to General Cunningham and Dr. Burgess, freely consult the Curator of Ancient Monuments in the preparation of the lists and reports now ordered, remembering that Major Cole's services will not be available in that capacity after the 28th January 1884 when the period for which his appointment was sanctioned by the Secretary of State will expire.

6. In the Annual Administration Reports of each province full information should be given as to the measures of conservation carried out during the year and as to the condition of all monuments in classes I and II.

Order.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations, to the Director General of the Archaeological Survey, and to the Curator of Ancient Monuments in India for information and guidance. The Curator, before his term of office expires, should arrange to visit any important monuments not yet seen by him, submitting his notes, as before, to the Local Governments concerned.

Ordered also that a copy be forwarded to the Foreign, Public Works and Finance Departments for information; and that the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

(True Extract.)

A. M. S.

Secretary to the Government of India.

To The Secy to the Govt. of Madras

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following

Proc of
the Govt of India of
7th Nov 1882 No 160 83.

Order 14th Dec 83, No 2361

Communicated to
the Archaeological Surveyor
of Southern & Western India.
2. Mr. Buzen will
take very early measures
for the preparation of the
lists and the detailed
report required by the
Govt. of India, in consul-
tation with General Cun-
ningham, ~~and~~ Captain
Cole, ~~and~~ Collectors of
Districts, ~~and~~ directed
to comply promptly with
any requirements.

W.C.
14/12

Thelpat ghar
Amudgott
20/12/83

By 26. Dec 83
1/1 Dec 83
Copy

102366/83

CO. 36/14

Refutation of claim
that the statue of
Henry VIII. is in the
British Museum
in London



11/11/83 222407
12/11/83 22107

...stances:
information concerning
local monuments ~~that~~ that
may be ^{made} addressed to
them by Mr. Burgess.

3. The resolution will
also be communicated to

The Public Works Deptt.
4. Application will be made to the Govt. of India
for the Curator's report for 1882-83 which
has not yet been received.

153

Enclos. No 2367 }
Cops to the Govt. of India, Home }
Deptt. 12/12/82 } Despt 20/12

Dr. J. Burgess to }
P. W. Deptt. 9 }
Rev. Deptt. 6 } Despt 21/12
Comm. of 20.5.137 }

Dec 3 1886
of 14 "Dec 88"

The Collectors of
~~The District Magistrates of~~
~~The Presidents, Municipal~~
Commissions,
~~The Presidents, Local Fund~~
Boards,

Anantapur.
North Arcot, Chittoor.
South Arcot, Cuddalore.
Bellary.
South Canara, Mangalore.
Chingleput, Saidápet.
Coimbatore.
Cuddapah.
Ganjam, Chatrapur.
Godávári, Cocanada.
Kistna, Masulipatam.
Kurnool.
Madura.
Malabar, Calicut.
Nilgiris, Ootacamund.
Nellore.
Salem.
Tanjore.
Tinnevelly.
Trichinopoly.
Vizagapatam.

CURRENT No.

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PRESS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
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Despatched in print. 21/12

[Despatch Abstract.]

Archaeology (cont. to the
Archaeological Surveyor, with in-
structions, Res. of the G. I. calling
for classified lists & detailed re-
ports showing certain particulars
relative to ancient monuments
in India; and directing that
application be made to the G. I.
for the report of the Curator of
Ancient Monuments for 1882/83.