

ORDINARY, MS.

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| <i>Public</i> DEPARTMENT |        |
| G.O., DATED              | 7-9-91 |
| No.                      | 765 ✓  |

**INDEXED.**

*When given for copying*

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Suggestion regarding  
maintenance, renewal  
and development  
of the collection of eco-  
nomic products <sup>products</sup>  
the Imperial Insti-  
-tute*

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1891.

FILE NO. 21.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

SERIAL NO. 4.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS.

To

Circular No.  $\frac{7}{21}$  M. & Ex.

*Dated Simla, the 17th July 1891..*

SUBJECT.

Maintenance, renewal and development of the collection of Economic Products  
supplied to the Imperial Institute.

[ J S. N. ]

Circular No.  $\frac{7}{21}$  M. & Ex.

FROM

SIR E. C. BUCK, KT.,  
*Secretary to the Government of India,*

TO

Rev. & Agri. Dept.  
Museums & Exhibitions.

*Simla, the 17th July 1891.*

SIR,

I AM desired to communicate [the information that Her Majesty's Secretary of State has sanctioned the expenditure of a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,000 a year by Imperial and Provincial Governments on the maintenance and development of collections at the Imperial Institute. This expansion of Indian contributions, which have been limited hitherto to a single grant of Rs. 10,000, is due to the representations of the Government of India that unless a collection of economic products and commercial manufactures is renewed and kept up to date, and also made the subject of continuous investigation, the initial collection will in a short time become of little value.

2. It has been urged that the contributions from India to the Imperial Institute should be placed on such a footing as to afford the best chance of securing some benefit in return to this country. To achieve this object two principles should in the opinion of the Government of India be observed. The first is to interest by direct methods the officials and leading commercial men in each Province or Native State in the representation of their local interests. The second is to make provision for such scientific investigations by experts in England as cannot easily be conducted in this country in connection with the properties and uses of Indian commercial products.

3. Holding these views, the Government of India consider that the provincial authorities should have control of some part at least of the funds necessary to provide and maintain collections, and that a moderate portion of the Indian contribution should be utilized in securing the practical co-operation of provincial experts when in London by fees or honoraria, however small, which may place upon them the obligation to give their personal assistance and advice to the authorities of the Institute. For the sake of economy the Imperial Government will itself continue to organize arrangements for the main collection of economic products, the greater part of which are common to many Provinces, and can be most usefully made by a central agency, but it need hardly be suggested that in connection with local varieties of products, and to a much greater extent

with local manufactures, there will still be a material amount of work to be done in each Province, and that this will have a tendency to increase if, after the economic collections reached a more advanced stage, contributions of art manufactures should be required.

The official experts who would be invited to interest themselves when on leave in England in the Provincial collections at the Institute, would, it is presumed, be mainly those who are in charge of Indian museums or of the special Departments which deal with museums and economic products.

4. The Government of India have not received any intimation that the Indian authorities are in any way made responsible for the provision of permanent cases for, or the curatorship of, the collections in London. But they have agreed that Rs. 2,000 a year should be offered, as an addition to the salary to any officer appointed as Curator of the Indian section, in consideration of the duties which he will perform in connection (1) with arrangements for investigations by English experts, (2) with the reception of Provincial officers paying official visits to the Institute. They will also provide from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 for honoraria and fees for English experts and official visitors from India, leaving Rs. 7,000 for the purchase and collection of specimens and freight.

5. The Government of India consider it desirable that Rs. 3,000 of this balance should, so long as economic products form the bulk of contributions, be provided and controlled by itself, leaving Rs. 4,000 to be provided and controlled by Local Governments or on a rough calculation Rs. 500 in each Province. I am desirous to ask that, if this arrangement is accepted, authority may be given for the expenditure of this sum to the Director of the Department of Agriculture and Land Records, and that this officer may be permitted to correspond direct on the subject of the collections with the official placed in charge of the central collecting operations at the Indian Museum, Calcutta. His Excellency the Governor General in Council would have preferred to leave the amount of each Provincial contribution entirely to the discretion of the Local Government or Administration concerned, but, in view of the fact that the total contributions have been restricted by the orders received, he is constrained to make such a distribution as appears for the present to be most conducive to the general interests of the Indian collections. I am, however, to point out that there is nothing to prevent the expansion of Provincial contributions by subscriptions, whether of cash, or of specimens for exhibition, by local bodies or private individuals, and should it be decided that artware in any form is to become a distinctive feature of the collections it may become desirable to obtain the co-operation of municipal and district corporations, or of wealthy citizens, in arranging for the effective representation of local interests at the Institute.

6. The same suggestion applies to such manufactures as those of cotton, wool, leather, &c., in connection with the representation of which the commercial community may be found willing to co-operate by the provision either of specimens, or of funds required for the special exhibition at the Institute of local manufactures of the kind. So far as such co-operation can be obtained the contribution to which the Local Government has been restricted may be materially amplified.

7. I am to add for the information of *His Ex. the Governor* that a conference will be held, probably at the commencement of August, at the Indian Museum at Calcutta for the purpose of drawing up a complete programme for the economic collection, and that the Government of India—although not desirous of making any requisition for the attendance of provincial representatives—will permit the deputation of any official to the conference whose attendance may be considered desirable by *His Excellency*.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. C. BUCK,

Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department (Museums and Exhibitions), dated Simla, the 17th July 1891, Circular No. 27 M. & Ex. :—

ABSTRACT.—Regarding maintenance, renewal and development of the collection of economic products supplied to the Imperial institute.

ORDER—dated 7th August 1891, No. 714, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

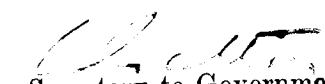
Communicated to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and

Agriculture and to the Superintendent, Government Central Museum, for information and guidance.

2. The Accountant-General will place the sum of Rs. 500 at the disposal of the Director of Agriculture, who will, in future, correspond direct on the subject of collections with the official placed in charge of the central collecting operations at the Indian Museum, Calcutta. Mr. Thurston will be requested to represent this Presidency at the forthcoming conference.

3. The following letter will be despatched to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

  
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.  
" the Superintendent, Government Central Museum.  
" the Accountant-General.  
" the Financial Department.  
" the Public Department.  
" the Educational Department.  
" E. Thurston, Esq.

Copy to the Government Botanist, &c.

" " Commissioners of Land Revenue.

" " Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, through the Public Department.

Exd. S. J. Pereira.

70 Copies.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.  
REVENUE.

*en*

*Order 7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 91 No 765*

*Recorded.*

*7th  
- 5/9*

Issued

Recd. *3-9*

Encl.

G.O., 7th August 1891, No. 714.



Imperial Institute.

Letter from the Government of India containing suggestions for the maintenance, renewal and development of the collection of economic products supplied to —, communicated to the Director of Agriculture and to the Superintendent, Government Central Museum, with instructions.

BACK PAPER, No.

of 18

FURTHER PAPER, No.

of 18

*2783/91  
2202/9732*

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED  
18 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURE.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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