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Public

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7. 10. 91.

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19-10-91



South Indian Chronolo-
gical Tables

~~Ordering that in the~~
~~revision of the~~
~~Papers of Chhatras~~
~~should be in~~
~~conformity~~

Passing orders on
letter from Mr. R. Se-
well recommending
an honorarium of Rs
500 for a complete
revision of the —

7TH OCTOBER 1891, No. 847, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From R. SEWELL, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Bellary, 15th September 1891, Ref. No. 3795.

I have the honour to reply to G.O., No. 609, dated 22nd July 1891, in which Government contemplates the careful revision of the Chronological Tables prepared and edited by the late Mr. Krishnasami Naidu and myself.

2. By this I understand that, having the choice between my proposed correction of the last column (showing the intercalated months), by the substitution of Professor Chhatre's results for my own, and the complete recalculation of all the entries in the two most important columns (7 and 10), the Government has decided that the latter course must be adopted.

3. I accordingly wrote to Mr. T. Lutchmiah Naidu, nephew of Mr. Krishnasami Naidu, who helped the latter in his calculations, and who has been of much assistance to me at various times since his uncle's death, asking him what he thought could be done.

4. It is well that I should place clearly before Government the nature of the labour required. Mr. Krishnasami Naidu began his calculations at the end of 1881, when we together mapped out the design of the work, and the calculations were so intricate and numerous that years passed before they were completed. I could not get the tables finally issued till 1889.

5. Now all this will have to be done all over again, and unless Government are prepared to offer some remuneration, the whole scheme must be abandoned.

6. I need only refer to the letters from Dr. Hultzsch, Mr. Rea, and Dr. Burgess, printed with the Government order under reply, to prove the usefulness of the tables. Their extreme simplicity is their best recommendation. The work once done will never need to be done again, and the tables once proved accurate will stand for all future time as the standard work on the subject. Every one will have in his hands tables so easy to work with that they will be practically utilized, while the other works on the subjects are, from the troublesome nature of the calculations required, only fitted to be used by skilled archæologists.

7. I enclose copy of Mr. Lutchmiah Naidu's reply, and beg to express my opinion that the honorarium of Rs. 500 is not at all too large a sum for Government to award for the complete revision of the tables.

8. I await the orders of Government before moving more in the matter.

ENCLOSURE.

From M.R.Ry. T. LUTCHMIAH NAIDU, to R. SEWELL, Esq., dated Madras, 9th September 1891.

I am in receipt of the Government order you sent me.

2. I consulted a pundit here on the subject. He informs me that he will secure the services of a person who has devoted a greater part of his life to Hindu astronomy, who is an expert at figures and who is an almanac-maker, that he must be paid at least Rs. 500, and that he will be able to complete the work in about a year. If he works 6 or 7 hours daily without interruption, he can finish it in about 9 months; but whether this is possible, it remains to be seen. The pundit says this remuneration is not adequate enough, but the astronomer will accept it as he is

now reduced to narrow circumstances by certain unforeseen events. The calculations made according to Krishnasami Naidu's method are practically useless for the new method to be adopted. The calculations are not such as may be continued from one stage to another, but are to be made afresh for each and every year. Considering the labour and difficulty involved in making the calculations with an immense quantity of figures by a tedious and intricate process for 2,000 years, the remuneration demanded is not at all unreasonable in my opinion. The pundit whom I consulted is an astronomer and almanac-maker himself, but he declines to take up the work even though he may be offered a greater amount of remuneration. If you desire me so, I will test the calculations here and there, as this will compel the computer to revise his calculations to ensure accuracy. My labour in this connection will be a labour of love. The person recommended for the work appears to be an astronomer now attached to the Pithápuram zemindari. If you wish to have his regular address, I shall ascertain and let you know.

3. I may tell you in confidence that the Government asked the press a few days ago to intimate the cost of a copy of South Indian Chronological Tables. The cost was given at Rs. 5 per copy. This is so much because only 50 copies were printed. If 500 copies are printed the price of a copy will be reduced to 8 annas. I dare say a great number of copies will be purchased by the general public when the publication gets abroad. Thus the cost of printing will be recouped by such a sale alone. The computer may be paid monthly so much in proportion to the quantity of the calculations he furnishes in that time. This will save the chance of losing the money otherwise by any unforeseen event.

4. I am employed in the Government Press, and so please address me here in future to save delay, &c.

ORDER—dated 7th October 1891, No. 847, Public.

There is no guarantee, and very slight probability, that the work of the Pithápuram pundit would be any better than that of the late Krishnasami Naidu, whereas, on the other hand, the incorporation of Professor Chhatre's results as suggested by Mr. Sewell would apparently give results guaranteed by a known name and tested by experience. The Government, therefore, considers it better to adopt Mr. Sewell's original suggestion than to undertake a new calculation, and is pleased to order accordingly.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To R. Sewell, Esq., C.S.
 „ Dr. Burgess, C.I.E., 22, Seton Place,
 Edinburgh (with C.L.)
 „ Dr. E. Hultsch, Government Epigraphist.
 „ A. Rea, Esq., Superintendent, Archæological Survey.
 „ J. F. Fleet, Esq., Bom. C.S., C.I.E.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

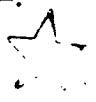
Encl.

G.O., 7th October 1891, No. 847.

OCTOBER.

South Indian Chronological Tables.

Passing orders on letter from Mr. R. Sewell
recommending an honorarium of Rs. 500 for a
complete revision of the —.



No.

BELLARY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

Dated 15 September 1891.

FROM

R. Sewell Esquire

COLLECTOR OF

BELLARY.

TO

THE

Chief Secretary to
Government

Public Department

Bellary

SIR,

I have the honor to reply to
G.O. No 609 dated 22nd July 1891 in which
Government contemplate the careful
revision of the Chronological Tables,
prepared and edited by the late Mr.
Krishna Sami Naidu and myself.

By this I understood
that, having the choice between my proposed
correction of the last column (showing the
intercalated months) by the substitution
of Professor Bhatra's Results for my own,
and the complete recalculation of all
the entries in the 2 most important
columns (7 and 10), the Government have
decided that the latter course must be
adopted.

I accordingly wrote to Mr.
J. Latchmiah Naidu, nephew of Mr. Krishna-
sami Naidu, who helped the latter in his
calculations, and who has been of much
assistance to me at various times since his
uncle's

uncle's death, asking him what he thought could be done.

4. It is well that I should place clearly before Government the nature of the labour required. Mr. Krishnasami Naidu began his calculations at the end of 1881 when we together mapped out the design of the work, and the calculations were so intricate and numerous that years passed before they were completed. I could not get the Tables finally issued till 1889.

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7. I enclose copy of Mr. Subramania Naidus reply, and beg to express my opinion that the honorarium of Rs. 500 is not at all too large a sum for Government to award for the complete revision of

of the Tables.

I await the orders of Government before moving more in the matter,

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obedt servant
C. P. Venkatesh
Collector

K.G.

Dr. Hultzsch, Prof. Epigraph. Ind. Mus.
Bombay, 6.5.1893
Mr. Rea, Suplt. Arch. Surv. Ind.
Bombay, 6.5.1893
Dr. Burgers, 6.5.1893

Dr. Hultzsch, 6.5.1893
Mr. Burgers, 6.5.1893
Dr. E. Hultzsch, 6.5.1893
A. E.
F. F. 7

Sub

27/8 22/7/91 Ex 609 Pub Ch

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

FROM

THE COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

TO

THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Debt
No.

Dated

15th September 1891

Despatched

Received

Enclosures. 1

Abstract.

For orders. As to the
amount of provision nec-
essary please see G.O. ⁶⁰⁹ 22.7.91.
Apparently Dr. Hultsch &
Mr. R. consider that the
revision proposed by Mr.
Sewell - vide G.O. d/15.4.91,
N^o 293 - wd: be sufficient.
But Dr. Burgess - para: 6
of his letter - considers that
the Tables should be care-
fully verified before
publication, and the order
was in accordance with
that opinion. It is submitted
that it wd: be more satis-
factory for Mr. Sewell to
place himself in direct
commⁿ with the Pandit on
the subject & to report the
result to Govt. He can
hardly expect Govt. to sanc-
tion the sum of 500. referred
to on the information afforded.

2013.
18/9

Have the Tables been printed? If so
I can follow what
is done about them. See
2013

WITH ORDER

Madras,
9 September 1891

Respected Sir,

I am in receipt of the
Government order you sent me.

I consulted a pundit
here on the subject. He informs
me that he will secure the services
of a person who has devoted a
greater part of his life ^{to} Hindu
Astronomy, who is an expert at
figures and who is an almanac-
maker, that he must be paid at
least Rs. 500 and that he will be
able to complete the work in
about a year. If he works 6
or 7 hours daily without interruption
he can finish it in about 9 months,
but whether this is possible, it
remains to be seen. The Pandit
says this remuneration is not a adequate
enough but the astronomer will accept
it as he is now reduced to narrow
circumstances by certain unforeseen
events. The calculations made according
to Krishnasamy Naidu's method are
practical;

practically useless for the new method to be adopted. The calculations are not such as may be continued from one stage to another but are to be made afresh for each and every year. Considering the labour and difficulty involved in making the calculations with an immense quantity of figures by a tedious and intricate process for 2000 years, the remuneration demanded is not at all unreasonable in my opinion.

The Pandit whom I consulted is an astronomer and almanac-maker himself but he declines to take up the work even though he may be offered a greater amount of remuneration. If you desire me so, I will test the calculations here and there as this will compel the computer to revise his calculations to ensure accuracy. My labour in this connection will be a labour of love. The person recommended for the work appears to be an astronomer ^{now} attached to the Pittapur Zemindary. If you wish to have his regular address I shall ascertain and let you know.

I may tell you in confidence that the Government asked the press a few days ago to intimate the cost of

of a copy of S. J. C. Tables. The cost was given at Rs 5. per copy. This is so much because only 50 copies were printed. If 500 copies are printed, the price of a copy will be reduced to 8 annas. I dare say a great number of copies will be purchased by the general public when the publication gets abroad. Thus the cost of printing will be recouped by such a sale alone. The Computer may be paid monthly so much in proportion to the quantity of the calculations he furnishes in that time. This will save the chance of losing the money otherwise by any unforeseen event.

I am employed in the Government Press and so please address me here in future to save delay. &c

I am yours obediently.

(Sd) J. Lutchmiak

(True copy)

Received
Collector

dtd 9/11/84