

Public (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 292.

DATED 20th April 1895

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

THE MANALUR TREASURE TROVE CASE.

Sanctioning the proposals of the Collector of South Arcot to make over to the villagers of Manalur collectively, as a special case, a few stone idols that have been recently unearthed at that village.

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BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

In the Court of the Ag. Collector of South Arcot

The 26th day of March 1895

The Manabur Treasure, Trone ~~ca~~

In the village of Manabur, Chidambaram
Taluk, there is a Threshing floor, S. No. 32

registered as Government Porambo.

An ancient Jainite temple appears
to have stood on this spot, still known
locally as "Isuwaran Konil modu".

Fragments of bricks were lying about
this spot. In January 1893, one V. the
Linga Pillai, a ryot of the village,
performs puga in the Pilliar temple
of the village, resolved to build a
wall round this temple. He set to
work to collect bricks from S. No.
32 and employed certain persons
to dig the soil, he being present and
superintending operations. These ex-
cavations resulted in the discovery
of the treasure produced to day.

1 stone idol of Parasakthi amman, -
1 ditto Pasupathi Somaralingam, 1 ditto
Pillayar, a couple of stone idols Pidari,
of the total estimated value of Rs 43. Be-
sides these, 25 cartloads of brick bats
were found which have been sold
for Rs 4-4-4 and the sale proceeds
have been deposited in the Treasury.

2. The monegar of the village repre-
senting the village, claims the treasure
as having been found within village
limits. He states that the tradition
of the place was that an ancient
temple stood on this site, but nobody
can give any positive account of its his-
tory. The monegar says that, when a
boy of 15, he remembers having seen
the top of the lingam projecting from
the site and therefore would have no
believe that the treasure was hidden
less than 100 years ago. This statement
is not ^{very} credible and I do not believe it.
Had he known that such a lingam

he would doubtless, ^{long ago} have taken steps
to unearth it.

3. There is no evidence as to the person
or persons by whom the treasure was
hidden. The evidence shows that, in
bygone time, an ancient shrine
temple stood on the site and this pro-
bably was more than 100 years ago.

4. I therefore declare, under section
9 of Act VI of 1878, the treasure to be
ownerless.

5. The finder, Vythilinga Pillai, failed
to give notice of the find as required
by section 4 of the act. His share of the
treasure therefore vests in Her Ma-
jesty under section 20.

6. The owner of the place in which
the treasure was found is Govern-
ment, the land being "Govern-
ment poramboke". Under section
10, the property vests absolutely in
Government, the finder being en-
titled to any share as stated
above, unless any appeal against

this declaration is preferred as provided for by section 9.

7. Having regard to the nature of the treasure and to the fact that the villagers since its discovery have been worshipping the idols and ask to be allowed to keep them for their existing temple, Government will be asked to consider their request that the treasure be made over to the villagers collectively. The sale proceeds of the brickbats may be credited to Government. If Government is pleased to accede to the villagers' request, they will be informed accordingly. otherwise the treasure will be sold

sold by public auction when the villagers will have the opportunity of purchasing it.

8. The treasure is meanwhile made over to the moneygar for safe custody pending receipt of final orders.

South Street
Collector's office
Lampussapur
26th March 1885

} (sd) A. E. Lachet
Ag. Collector

/ True Copy /

Mundakur
for ag. collector

SOUTH ARCOT.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

NO.

4

Camp a Supper
27th March 1895

FROM

A. E. Castle Stuart Stuart Esquire

Ag. COLLECTOR OF SOUTH ARCOT.

TO

THE CHIEF SECRETARY,

TO GOVERNMENT

Public DEPARTMENT.

MADRAS.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit herewith for the information of Government a copy of my proceedings in the Manakur treasure trove case dated 26th March 1895. The circumstances under which the treasure was found, the nature of the treasure, the name of the finder and other information regarding the case are fully detailed in the proceedings. The moneygar on behalf of the villagers request that the

the stone idols may be made
over to them as they are being
worshipped by them in the
temple of the village. The images
are not valuable being very
ordinary specimens of sculpture
and are not worth sending
to the museum; Considering
that the value of the idols is small
and that they are the chief objects
of worship of the villagers, I beg
to recommend that they may as
a matter of grace be made over
to the villagers Collectively. If this
cannot be done, I request that
the sanction of Government
for their sale by public auction
at Chidambaram in one lot
publication after
the

the expiry of the appeal time.
The villagers intimated that
they had no intention of
appealing but hoped that
Government would be
pleased to accede to their
prayer.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Mundacodan
for. As. Collector.

✓

From
The Collector of
South Arcot.
To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Madras.

Dated 27th March 1895.
Despatched 4th April.
Received 4th April.
Regd (in Pub) 5th April.

No.

ENCLOSURE.

CHIEF SECRETARY
Subject.

Submitting copy of the
proceedings based on
the Chennalur Treasure
Trone case + recom-
mending that the
treasure may be made
over to the villagers
collectively.

W.O.

C 15/4

20 April
1895 No 292
order

The collector's
recommendation is
accepted as a special
case.

75B
17/4/95
8/4/5
There seems no objection to this

The Govt. of S. Arcot
23 APR 96
M.S.

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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