

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1303.

DATED 8th March

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Recording Progs. of the Legislative Department
concerning questions asked at the meeting of the
Council held on the 9th February 1897 together
with the answers given thereto.*

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.



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SUBJECT.

Communication questions asked at the
meeting of the Council held on the 9th inst.
together with the answers given thereto.

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23/2/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

GOVERNMENT OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

NOTICES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, THE
9TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 1897.

(1) Additional Members.

The Secretary reports that the following gentlemen take their seats as Additional Members of Council:—

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. PRICE, C.S.I., Chief Secretary to Government.

The Hon'ble V. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur, Acting Advocate-General.

(2) Questions.

With the permission of His Excellency the President—

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

I. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the buildings in the occupation of the Resident and Assistant Resident in Travancore and Cochin belong to the States or Rulers of Travancore and Cochin respectively?

(b) Whether the British Government or the Resident and Assistant Resident pay rent for the use of such buildings?

(c) Whether during the past ten years any money was spent by the British Government towards the repair and upkeep of these buildings?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

I. (a) "Yes."

(b) "No."

(c) "No."

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

II. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Mr. Thornton, I.C.S., while Sub-Collector and Joint Magistrate of Salem in August 1896, directed the Tahsildar of Dharmapuri by wire to send up to him one Sampangi, a peon attached to the office of the Deputy Tahsildar and Second-class Magistrate of Pennagaram, without stating the purpose in the telegram, and, on the peon's appearance before him, asked him if he took to his master, the said Deputy Tahsildar, a bribe of Rs. 100 entrusted to him by one Baodeen Sahib, and on the man's persistent denial he was informed on the spot that he was a prisoner charged with the abetment of the said bribery under section 164, Indian Penal Code, and remanded to jail?

(b) Whether it is a fact that it was some time before the magistrate discovered that an offence under section 164, Indian Penal Code, is a bailable one, and that, on this discovery, Mr. Thornton ordered the peon to find two sureties of Rs. 500 each, besides his own recognizance of Rs. 500?

(c) Whether it is a fact that this peon was then over 40 miles by ordinary road from his native place of Pennagaram; that, being suddenly ordered to appear before Mr. Thornton without being previously informed why, he was unable to find the required security on the spot?

(d) What is the length of time during which he was kept in custody for want of security?

(e) Whether it is a fact that this man has been subsequently discharged by Mr. Thornton himself for want of evidence?

(f) Whether it is a fact that Mr. Thornton sent round a notice to be proclaimed by beat of tom-tom in Pennagaram and in several other places within the jurisdiction of the said Deputy Tahsildar and Second-class Magistrate that persons having complaints to make against that officer might come and prefer them to him?

(g) Whether it is a fact that he had ordered about 150 village officers to appear before him and questioned them all whether or not they had given bribes and supplies to the said Deputy Tahsildar and Second-class Magistrate?

If the Government has no information on the subject, will it be pleased to direct an inquiry into these matters and place the papers relating to the same on the table?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price:—

II. The Government is not at present in possession of complete information on the matter but reports have been called for. The Hon'ble Member is requested to repeat his question at the next meeting of the Council.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR:—

III. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) What are the districts in which the Government has fixed the maximum area for reserved forests in each taluk?

(b) In what districts, if any, have the maximum areas been exceeded and what proportions do the excess areas bear to the fixed maximum areas?

(c) In what districts areas, proposed for reservation of forests but rejected by the Government as inexpedient, have been re-submitted for such reservation and sanctioned by the Government?

(d) Whether before sanctioning proposals to constitute into reserved forests lands in excess of the maximum area fixed by the Government for each taluk and lands, the constitution of which into reserved forests has been previously once disallowed by the Government, the Government will direct publication of the proposals together with the reasons therefor so as to give the villagers concerned an opportunity to state their objections to such proposals?

(e) What are the districts in which provision is made for pasturage for goats in reserved forests and reserved lands and on what conditions? Are goats allowed to graze in reserved forests and lands free of fees? Whether there is any order of Government applicable to all the districts in reference to such provision? If not, whether the Government will issue an order directing that sufficient provision be made in reserved forests and reserved lands for pasturage for goats either free of fees or on easy conditions?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose:—

III. (a) & (b) The Government has in the case of some districts laid down limits beyond which it is considered for the present undesirable to extend reservation. It is possible that further reservation may never become expedient in such districts but no absolute maximum has been fixed.

(c) The information desired by the Hon'ble Member could not be furnished without a detailed and laborious examination of the voluminous correspondence which has taken place on the subject of forest reservation, since the passing of Madras Act V of 1882. The Government sees no reason to cause such an examination to be made.

(d) The Government considers that the issue of the preliminary notification under section 4 of Madras Act V of 1882, taken together with the publicity of the Forest Settlement-officer's proceedings, give the ryots concerned ample opportunity to prefer objection.

(e) The question of regulating goat-browsing has been remitted for the consideration of Collectors.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR:—

IV. (a) Whether it is a fact that Mr. K. Krishnan Nair, B.A., B.C.E., whose term of office as Member of the Calicut Taluk Board expired last year, was asked if he was willing to be re-appointed and had given his consent?

(b) Whether it is a fact that four or five others who also vacated office in the taluk board along with him have been re-appointed?

(c) What are the circumstances under which this gentleman was excluded?

(d) What are the districts to the Collectors of which the Governor in Council has delegated his power of appointing Members to the Taluk Boards under section 160 of the Madras Local Boards Act V of 1884? Whether such delegation of the powers is being made from time to time to particular Collectors by name, or once for all upon the Collectors of particular districts by their official designation only, and if the latter, whether the opinion of the Advocate-General had been taken as to the legality of such delegation under the provisions of the section?

(e) In view to a greater feeling of independence among the Members of a Taluk Board, whether the Government will consider the desirability of itself appointing the Members instead of authorizing Collectors to do so?

(f) Whether the Government would consider the desirability of giving effect to the provisions of section 16, clause (b), of the Act and frame and issue rules for the election, by the tax-payers and inhabitants of the taluks, of two-thirds of the whole number of the Members of the Taluk Board as fixed by section 18 of the Act?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss:—

IV. The Government has no information on the points (a) and (c).

As to (b), the answer is "yes."

As to (d), under section 160 of the Local Boards Act the power of re-appointing Members of Taluk Boards originally appointed by the Governor in Council has once for all been delegated to the Presidents of District Boards and not to Collectors as such. There was no necessity to consult the Advocate-General in the matter.

As to (e), the power of appointing Members of Taluk Boards is retained by Government, while that of re-appointing the Members of these Boards, originally appointed by Government, has been delegated to Presidents of District Boards with the view of saving correspondence. The Government sees no necessity for disturbing this arrangement.

As to (f), the Government is not at present prepared to take any steps in this matter.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR:—

V. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether before making appointments to the office of a Subordinate Judge it has been the practice to request the High Court to nominate or recommend duly qualified persons, and whether it will place on the table the standing orders and rules relating to the appointment of Subordinate Judges by the Government under section 6 of the Madras Civil Courts Act III of 1873?

(b) What was the special reason, if any, why the High Court was not previously consulted when Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer was appointed as Subordinate Judge at Tanjore last year?

(c) Whether the High Court was consulted before the Government filled up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Gopalan Nair, what were the names submitted by it, and whether the list included the name of Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer was a third-grade District Munsif when he was appointed a Presidency Magistrate?

(e) Whether it is a fact that if he had continued a Munsif instead of being made a Magistrate, he would now be at the bottom of the first grade with over twenty Munsifs senior to him, including several High Court Vakils and graduates?

(f) Whether it is a fact that about three years ago the High Court refused to recommend Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer for appointment as a Subordinate Judge and stated that he had lost touch with civil work?

(g) What are the special reasons for appointing Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer as a Subordinate Judge?

(h) Whether before confirming Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer as a Subordinate Judge is it the intention of the Government to consider the claims of the District Munsifs who were senior to him when he was District Munsif?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

V. (a) The answer to the first part of this clause is—It is the ordinary practice now to ask the High Court to mention the names of qualified persons or to ask the High Court to name one or more qualified persons out of several whose names are mentioned.

The answer to the second part is—There are no such standing orders or rules.

(d) "Yes."

(e) "Yes."

(b), (c), (f) & (g) Government considers the matters referred to to be of a confidential nature and therefore declines to answer questions respecting them.

(h) The claims of all parties will be duly considered when the question of confirming Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer comes up for disposal.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

VI. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that there is an order of the District Magistrate of Salem impressing upon the Deputy Magistrates and Sub-Magistrates of the district that it is part of their duty to wait upon the Superintendent of Police when he goes to their divisions?

(b) Whether the statement made in the *Madras Standard* of the 8th May 1896 that the following circular of the District Magistrate of Malabar appeared in the *Malabar District Gazette* of 18th March 1892 is true?

"The Sub-Magistrates are informed that it is part of their duty to wait on the Superintendent of Police when he arrives at their head-quarters and to give all information and assistance in their power."

(c) Whether similar orders of District Magistrates are in force in other districts and whether there are directions issued by the District Magistrates as to the way in which the Subordinate Magistracy ought to address Superintendent of Police as if these latter officers were their (Subordinate Magistrates) official superiors?

(d) Whether in view of the feeling that widely prevails that such orders and circulars were intended to bring the Magistracy into subordination to the Police, the Government would direct the withdrawal thereof?

(e) Whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a series of articles on the vagaries of the Mufussal Police that appeared in the *Madras Standard* in its issues of the 30th and 31st December 1896 and 3rd January 1897?

(f) Whether it is a fact that the Head Assistant Magistrate of Penukonda has stated, "at present the Police Inspectors are not only allowed with impunity but Magistrates though there is not an atom of truth or probability in them." Whether the Government is aware that there is a growing feeling of alarm and anxiety that what the Head Assistant Magistrate of Penukonda has said is true of the Police throughout the Presidency?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

VI. (a), (b) & (c). The Government has no information on the matters mentioned in this part of the question.

(d) The Government does not see sufficient reason to adopt the course suggested by the Hon'ble Member.

(e) The Government has now perused the criticisms referred to, which are anonymous letters, not newspaper articles.

(f) The Government has no information on the point. The answer to the last part of the question is "No."

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

VII. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether its attention has been drawn to the complaints against the Coonoor Police published by "an old detective" in the *Nilgiri News* in its issue dated the 26th November 1896?

(b) Whether the Government has any information of the action taken by the Police in respect of the two cases of murder and mischief referred to in the newspaper?

(c) Is it a fact that the Coonoor range has but three small stations; and that heinous offences are rare there? Is there any special reason why the pay of the Police Inspector of Coonoor should be so high as Rs. 350 a month?

(d) How long has the Chief Police Inspector of Coonoor, Mr. Shortt, been employed there?

Will the Government be pleased to direct that a statement be furnished showing the landed and house properties purchased by Mr. Shortt or his wife or other near relations at Coonoor, Ootacamund and Kottagiri since he was appointed at Coonoor; and whether the fact had been reported by him to the Government, "or to the Inspector-General of Police"?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

VII. (a) The Government has now perused the anonymous letter referred to. It is not a newspaper article.

(b) The Deputy Inspector-General's report regarding the Coonoor ghât case has already been placed at the disposal of the Press; the Government has no information regarding the other case.

(c) The answer to the first part is—Coonoor range comprises four stations,—one first and three second-class; grave crime there is light. To the second part the answer is *that* the officer at Coonoor is a Chief Inspector and not an Inspector; the pay of the office is Rs. 300 with Rs. 25 horse allowance and Rs. 25 house-rent.

(d) Since August 1885; the return has been called for.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

VIII. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of its letter to the Government of India, No. 47, Financial, dated 19th January 1897, on the subject of the adjustment of Provincial contracts?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

VIII. It is contrary to precedent to publish correspondence with the Government of India and the Secretary of State upon questions which are still under discussion. The Government therefore regrets that it cannot comply with the Hon'ble Member's request.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR :—

IX. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it has made any rules to regulate the transit of timber in Malabar under the provisions of section 35 of the Madras Forest Act V of 1882?

(b) Whether all or any of such rules are in force in South Malabar?

(c) Whether any stations or timber tannas have been established in South Malabar in view to carry out any such rules?

(d) Whether any rules under clause (k) of section 35 are in force in South Malabar and, if so, whether they make the registration of property marks for timber compulsory?

(f) Whether it is a fact that about three years ago the High Court refused to recommend Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer for appointment as a Subordinate Judge and stated that he had lost touch with civil work?

(g) What are the special reasons for appointing Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer as a Subordinate Judge?

(h) Whether before confirming Mr. C. G. Kuppusawmy Iyer as a Subordinate Judge is it the intention of the Government to consider the claims of the District Munsifs who were senior to him when he was District Munsif?

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(d) "Yes."

(e) "Yes."

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(b) Whether all or any of such rules are in force in South Malabar?

(c) Whether any stations or timber tannas have been established in South Malabar in view to carry out any such rules?

(d) Whether any rules under clause (k) of section 35 are in force in South Malabar and, if so, whether they make the registration of property marks for timber compulsory?

(e) Whether fees are levied for the registration of property marks and at what rates? What is the amount of such fees realized in South Malabar in 1895-96, or 1896?

(f) Whether the Government has taken the opinion of the Advocate-General as to the legality of levying fees for registration of property marks under section 35 of the Forest Act?

(g) Whether the object of registering property marks under the Act is to provide against the fraudulent removal of timber, the property of Government and whether the Government will make such registration free?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—

IX. (a) to (e) The Accountant-General reports that in 1895-96 a sum of Rs. 845 was realized from the levy of fees for the registration of property marks in South Malabar. For the answers to the other questions put, the Hon'ble Member is referred to the notification published at pages 469-471 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 5th August 1884.

(f) No.

(g) The Hon'ble Member is referred to paragraph 1 (e) of G.O., No. 707, Revenue, dated 29th October 1895, which has been laid on the Editor's Table. The revision of the timber transit rules in force in Malabar is now under consideration.

The Hon'ble C. VIJAYARAGHAVACHARIAR:—

X. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Mr. E. H. O. Sewell, Inspector of Salt and Abkari Revenue, Ranipectai Circle, North Arcot district, while on a shooting excursion on the 19th December last, ordered one Abdul Khader, a Salt and Abkari peon under his orders, to swim to a tree in the middle of a tank and pick up for him from its branches a bird he had shot?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this peon met his death while carrying out this order?

(c) What were the full circumstances which brought about his death?

(d) Whether it is a fact that Abdul Khader was an indifferent swimmer and that he stuck to the tree long and cried for help before he died?

(e) Who were the other persons that were with Mr. Sewell; how far is the tank from the nearest village and what was the help which Mr. Sewell rendered or endeavoured to render to Abdul Khader when it was found he was unable to swim back and struggling for life?

(f) When and what was the information which Mr. Sewell sent of this occurrence to the Magistrate?

(g) Whether any Magistrate held any inquiry touching the death of this man?

(h) Whether it is a fact that no post-mortem examination was held?

(i) Whether this man was also in the enjoyment of a military pension? Whether Mr. Sewell has made any provision for the widow and son of this peon? If not, whether the Government would direct him to make a suitable provision for them?

(j) What notice has the Government taken of the conduct of Mr. Sewell in connection herewith?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes:—

X. The Government has no information on the subject.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR:—

XI. If, at any meeting of the Legislative Council, the Government is not in possession of any particular information required by a member, will the Government be pleased to afford the same at the succeeding meeting?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price:—

XI. The practice is that the member should repeat the question if he still desires the information, and the Government does not see any sufficient reason to depart from the practice.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR:—

XII. Will the Government be pleased to supply to the members of the Legislative Council Government reviews and administration reports of the different departments?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price:—

XII. The Hon'ble Member is referred to G.O., No. 44, Legislative, dated 31st May 1895, on the subject of the supply of official papers to un-official members of the Legislative Council, a copy of which will be furnished to him.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR:—

XIII. Has the attention of Government been drawn to the general appreciation expressed by the local press of the work of the Legislative Councils, and does the Government contemplate holding the meetings oftener in deference to the public wish?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price:—

XIII. The Government has seen articles in the local press to the effect stated. Meetings of the Council cannot be held more frequently than is required by the exigencies of legislative business.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR:—

XIV. (a) Will the Government be pleased to state (1) the number of assesses of income-tax in Madras, Bellary and Salem districts, and (2) the number of objection petitions put in, rejected for lapse of time or want of systematic accounts, and disposed of in camps last year?

(b) Is there any objection to the Sub-Magistrates and Treasury Deputy Collectors taking up income-tax work in full or in part?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss:—

XIV. (a) The Hon'ble Member will be referred to the published report on the administration of the Income-tax Act during the year 1895-96, which contains full particulars as to the total number of assesses in each district, and the number of objection petitions put in by assesses under Part IV of Schedule II to the Act. The Government has no information with which to answer the rest of the Hon'ble Member's question.

(b) If by Sub-Magistrates, the Hon'ble Member means *Stationary* Sub-Magistrates, the Government considers that there are objections to the arrangement suggested in the case of both classes of officers.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR:—

XV. (a) Does Government consult the Board of Revenue and Collectors on particular subjects?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to ask them what inducements could be offered to Europeans for taking to agriculture and place their opinion on the table before I could offer any suggestions as desired by Government at the last meeting?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose:—

XV. (a) Yes.

(b) The Government does not consider that any useful purpose would be served by the reference suggested.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XVI. (a) Are third-class compartments reserved for Eurasians fully occupied always?

(b) Is the number of Muhammadan female passengers less than that of the Eurasians?

The Hon'ble Colonel Campbell :—

XVI. (a) Third-class compartments are not reserved for Eurasians on the South Indian Railway, while those on the Madras Railway, so reserved, are not always fully occupied.

(b) The Madras and South Indian Railways have no information as their records do not show the sex, nationality, caste, or religion of passengers.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XVII. (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the leader in the *Madras Mail* of the 12th December on Agricultural farms?

(b) When was the Saidapet farm started, and why did the experts advise its continuance in face of its unsatisfactory progress?

(c) If Government farming does not show any improvement over the ryot's system, would it not be advisable to stop further experiments until a more suitable system could be found?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XVII. (a) Prior to the receipt of the Hon'ble Member's question, the attention of Government had not been specifically drawn to the article mentioned.

(b) The Hon'ble Member will be referred to the published report of the Agricultural Committee appointed by G.O., No. 686, Revenue, dated 25th September 1888, from a perusal of Appendices B and C to which he will see that the Saidapet Farm was started in 1865, and was abolished in 1885, because it was considered not to be successful. The question why the experts advised its continuance in face of its unsatisfactory progress is not understood.

(c) Granting the Hon'ble Member's hypothesis, the answer to his question is that "Experiments should not be stopped but should be persisted in in order that a more suitable system may be found."

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XVIII. (a) Were exhibitions previously held in this Presidency as in other parts of India, and if so, what was the date of the last exhibition?

(b) Have there been any special reasons why such exhibitions were stopped by Government, seeing that they serve useful purposes?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XVIII. (a) Yes. The last Agricultural Exhibition was held on the 20th and 21st February 1890.

(b) The Hon'ble Member is referred to paragraph 21 of the published orders of Government—G.O., No. 515, Revenue, dated 4th July 1890, on the report of the Agricultural Committee appointed in 1885.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XIX. (a) In what particular district are Government loans largely availed of by ryots, and how many applications were received last year in that district?

(b) What was the average period required for the disposal of each, and what was the longest period required?

(c) Is special establishment maintained in each district in connection with loan grants?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XIX. (a) The latest particulars available are to be found in the Jamabandi Report for the year ending June 1895, to which the Hon'ble Member is referred.

(b) No information is available.

(c) No. Special loan establishments are entertained when the work cannot be got through by the ordinary revenue establishments.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XX. Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the correspondence between the Madras Government and the Government of India regarding the reduction of provincial contracts?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XX. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer on the same subject, given to the Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXI. As by the adoption of small measures of encouragement, primary education has advanced amongst Muhammadans, will it not be desirable to undertake similar steps to promote higher education amongst them?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

XXI. Considering that public funds last official year bore 64 per cent. of the entire cost of Muhammadan education the Government cannot admit that only "small measures of encouragement" have been adopted. The number of scholarships actually awarded to Muhammadans last year was greatly in excess of the number allotted to them at the beginning of the year as their fair proportion in justice to the claims of other sections of the community. To ensure that their interests shall not be lost sight of a certain number of scholarships in high schools and colleges is set apart for Muhammadans as the Honourable Member will see if he peruses the Government scholarship notification published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of 19th January 1897. Government has also sanctioned the payment to the children of Carnatic Stipendiaries who are very poor of scholarships equal to twice the amount of the school or college fees. Muhammadans are admitted to all grades and classes of institutions under public management at half the standard rates of fees. The Government is at a loss to know what further measures can be adopted to promote the higher education of Muhammadans.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXII. (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the protest made at a public meeting by Mr. G. Ganapathy Iyer, Deputy Collector of Salem, and reported in the *Madras Standard* of the 13th December last, to the effect that the Government ought not to afford any facilities to Muhammadans?

(b) Do the rules regulating the conduct of public servants tolerate such political utterances at public gatherings by subordinate officers?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XXII. (a) The Government has now perused the passage referred to, and finds that, according to the report, the so-called protest alluded to was not made by M.R.Ry. Ganapathi Aiyar at all, but by another gentleman who is not a Government servant.

(b) No such utterances having, so far as appear, been made, this question requires no answer.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXIII. What is the number of Brahmin officials in the Salem district drawing a salary of Rs. 50 and upwards?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXIII. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the various establishment lists, which, if he cannot procure them elsewhere, he can inspect in the Government Office.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXIV. Did the Government ever draw the attention of the Heads of Departments to watch against the predominance of the above class in public offices, if so, when and under what circumstances?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXIV. Yes, in G.O., No. 386, Educational, dated 27th July 1887, which was placed on the Editors' Table.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXV. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the entertainment in some districts of a large number of relatives and caste men of ministerial officers through their influence within the last two or three years, if so, where and what steps are being taken to prevent such irregularities in future?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXV. Yes, in Anantapur. The officer concerned was transferred to another district.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXVI. (a) What is the amount of expenditure of the Ecclesiastical Department?

(b) What is the proportion of the population of the Presidency to which this is beneficial?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

XXVI. (a) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the Civil Estimates.

(b) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the Census Report, from which he may draw his own conclusions.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXVII. By whom were the endowments and allowances granted to most of the Muhammadan and Hindu religious institutions?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXVII. This is a matter of history, in regard to which the Hon'ble Member is referred to the published works on the subject.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXVIII. Has the Government resumed or proposes to resume any of the above except for very bad management, if so, what?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXVIII. The Government cannot undertake to examine the records for an indefinite time in order to ascertain what was done in the past. For the future the answer is "No".

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXIX. (a) Was the reform of the Madrasa recommended by any Government officers long before the formation of the Board of Muhammadan Education, if so, when and by whom?

(b) Was any allotment originally provided for a new building in the Educational Budget, and, if so, why was it allowed by the Director of Public Instruction to lapse?

(c) Was not the head of the Educational Department aware of the unsatisfactory state of the Madrasa both as regards its building and administration before representation by the Board of Muhammadan Education was made, if so, why did he not adopt measures for its reform?

(d) How long was Mr. Bower the Headmaster of the Madrasa, and is the Government aware that his address at the last anniversary of the school he attributed its inefficiency to the neglect of the Education Department?

(e) Cannot the reform of the Madrasa be proceeded with till a new building is secured for its location?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

XXIX. (a) The Madrasa has undergone several changes, it was originally of the high school standard. In January 1873 it was constituted a lower secondary school. It continued to be a lower secondary school until 1885, when, on Mr. Grigg's recommendation, it was raised to the status of a high school as an experimental measure for one year, on the abolition of the high school department of the Presidency College. At the end of this year Dr. Duncan recommended the continuation of the high school classes for a term of years, and this was sanctioned by Government for a term of three years. With reference to the report of the Committee on Muhammadan Educational Endowments the school underwent further modifications in 1890 on Mr. Grigg's recommendation (G.O., Nos. 15, 16, Educational, dated 13th January 1890).

(b) No allotment was made in the Educational Budget for a new building; but funds were allotted in the Public Works Budget for six years from 1884-85. The allotment could not be utilized for want of a suitable site.

(c) The Director of Public Instruction has long been aware of the unsuitable character of the present premises; but better accommodation could not be rented and a suitable site could not be found on which a new building could be erected. The Director was not and is not aware of any serious drawback in the administration of the school. The staff has been strengthened from time to time and is quite as well qualified as that of other high schools in this Presidency. The main cause of the comparative failure of the school has been the apathetic character of the students and the absence of efficient control over them out of school hours by their parents or guardians.

(d) Mr. Bower was the Headmaster of the Madrasa from May 1890 to June 1896, when he was transferred to the Rajahmundry College. Government is not aware that in his address at the last anniversary of the school Mr. Bower attributed its inefficiency to the neglect of the Educational Department. Had such an address been brought to the notice of the head of his department Mr. Bower would have been called upon to explain and justify his statements.

(e) After full consideration Government has come to the conclusion that it is inexpedient to discuss changes in the staff and management of the institution until the site to which the school can best be removed has been decided upon.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXX. (a) Is the Government satisfied that the order issued in 1872 regarding the employment of qualified Muhammadans in the public service duly carried out? When was the order repeated, and why?

(b) What is the total number of Registrars and Sub-Registrars in the Registration Department?

(c) How many appointments were made during the time of each of the Inspectors-General from the time of the Hon'ble Mr. Rama Iyengar up to date, and how many of these were filled by Muhammadans during the time of each Inspector-General?

(d) How many officers draw Rs. 100 and more per mensem in each of the following departments in the mofussil, viz., Salt, Public Works, Jail, Forest, Judicial, Settlement, Survey and in the several Public offices in the Presidency, and what percentage of these are Muhammadans?

(e) Was any despatch received from the Secretary of State or from the Government of India calling the attention of the Madras Government to the backwardness of the Muhammadan community, if so, when, and what action has been taken over it?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

XXX. (a) The Government is satisfied that the orders of 1872 are being acted upon.

Attention was drawn to these orders in 1880, 1883, 1885, 1887 and 1889.

(b) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the Registration Department list.

(c) The Government has no information on the point, and regrets that it cannot undertake the very laborious task of collecting it.

(d) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the civil estimates and to the departmental establishment lists which the Hon'ble Member may refer to at the Government Office.

(e) No despatch appears to have been received by this Government from the Secretary of State calling attention to the backwardness of the Muhammadan community. A communication from the Government of India on the subject was received in 1871 and this Government issued orders in 1872 directing the establishment of elementary Muhammadan schools and corresponding classes in other schools at the principal centres of the Muhammadan population, requiring arrangements to be made for the training of Muhammadan teachers. In 1885 a further resolution of the Government of India was received dealing with the memorial presented to the Viceroy by the National Muhammadan Association of Calcutta on the subject of the position and claims of Muhammadans in India. In accordance with a suggestion contained in the resolution a committee was appointed to enquire and report on the management and appropriation of Muhammadan educational endowments; report and final orders were passed upon them by the Government in January 1890. By these orders, the appointment of two additional Sub-Assistant Inspectors for Muhammadan schools, the reconstitution of the Madrasa-i-Azam with a Eurasian graduate as headmaster and the payment of grants under certain conditions to teachers of mosque schools were sanctioned.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXI. What is the pay of the Sanskrit Munshi in the Presidency College and that of the Arabic and Persian Munshi of the same institution?

The Hon'ble Dr. Duncan :—

XXXI. The present pay of the Arabic and Persian Munshi of the Presidency College is Rs. 80 and that of the Sanskrit Munshi is Rs. 44.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXII. Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the article in the *Muhammadan Advocate of India* of November 1896 regarding the appointment of Persian and Hindustani Translator?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XXXII. The Government has now perused the article referred to in the question.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXIII. How many Government Translators are there, and for what languages and to what community do they belong?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XXXIII. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the Quarterly Civil List which can be bought at the Lawrence Asylum Press.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXIV. Are European officers examined by the Translators?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XXXIV. "Yes."

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXV. What is the qualification required for the appointments of Translators?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XXXV. No special qualifications are laid down, but no one not thoroughly well acquainted with the language with which he has to deal and with English is appointed a Translator to Government.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXVI. Are appointments such as Sub-Judge on the Nilgiris reserved for persons of any particular community, if so, what are the appointments so reserved and why?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXXVI. The Hon'ble Member's question is indefinite. If he will on some future occasion specify the particular appointments with regard to which he seeks information, it will be furnished.

The Sub-Judgeship of the Nilgiris is not reserved for persons of any particular community.

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXVII. (a) Which district in the Presidency has the largest Muhammadan population, and what is the proportion of Muhammadans to Hindus?

(b) What number of appointments carrying a pay of Rs. 100 and upwards is held by each class?

(c) How many Muhammadan officers carrying a salary of Rs. 100 and above were appointed in this district within the last 50 years?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

XXXVII. In reply to (a), the Hon'ble Member is referred to the Census Report.

In the absence of information as to the district referred to by the Hon'ble Member it is impossible to answer (b) and (c).

The Hon'ble MUHAMMAD SHARIF KHAN BAHADUR :—

XXXVIII. What opportunities have young Civilians and Probationary Deputy Collectors of learning the details of taluk work before they are placed in independent charge?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XXXVIII. The rules relating to the training of Junior Civilians in taluk as well as other work are contained in paragraphs 10 to 15 of the Indian Civil Service Manual, which can be procured from the Government Press.

Until Probationary Deputy Collectors are found qualified for an independent charge they are employed under the Collector's guidance or under that of an experienced covenanted servant. While thus learning their duties they are employed in examining complaints brought forward by petitioners, in taking evidence and preparing decisions in summary suits or in questions about lapsed inams or in charges preferred against subordinate servants. A portion of their time is also employed when necessary in examining and classifying records. They also undergo training in survey and treasury work.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XXXIX. Will the Government be pleased to state what orders have been passed on the last memorial submitted by the residents of the nine villages of Sri-parankunrum, &c., in the Srivaikuntam taluk, in the Tinnevely district, regarding the new embankment on the northern side of the Tambraparni?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XXXIX. The matter is still under the consideration of Government.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XL. Is it true that some time ago the Head Assistant Magistrate at Palghat recommended the dismissal of a Head Constable in connection with a torture case and that he was subsequent to such recommendation promoted to the grade of an Inspector of Police as stated in the issue of the *Madras Standard* of the 19th January 1897?

If so, will the Government be pleased to institute an inquiry into the matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XL. The Government has no information on the subject; the attention of the Inspector-General of Police will be drawn to the Hon'ble Member's question.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XLI. Will the Government be pleased to state the amount of penal assessment levied and collected in the several taluks of the Tanjore district on the ground of encroachment on poramboke lands and on house-sites?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XLI. The Government has not the information to answer this question.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XLII. Is it a fact that karnams have every year to remain at the taluk head-quarters for the preparation of jamabandi, irrigation and other accounts, that the total period they are thus required to stay there comes generally to several months in the year, and that they are also summoned very often to appear before Tahsildars for inquiries into Revenue petitions?

If so, will the Government be pleased to order that *batta* be paid to them in consideration of their low pay and the expenses involved in such frequent stays at head-quarter stations?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

XLII. It is the case that karnams are frequently detained at the taluk head-quarters for several weeks. In the district of Cuddapah the karnams complained last year that they were so detained for more than six (6) months in the year. If this is true the detention was excessive. A report has been called for on the subject. In Standing Order No. 22 (new edition) the following passages are found: "It is very important in view of the growing amount of clerical work demanded from village officers, that the karnams should be kept away from their villages for as short a time as possible."

"The system of summoning karnams to the taluk cutcherry and detaining them there for weeks together to write up accounts, which should have been prepared during the year, should be put a stop to."

It is also true that karnams are frequently summoned by Tahsildars with reference to revenue enquiries, and have sometimes to repair on that account to the taluk head-quarters, though now that Stationary Sub-Magistrates have been appointed and Tahsildars visit outlying villages more frequently than they used to do, this is not necessary so frequently as it was. The question whether *batta* should be given to karnams on these occasions has been considered. It would be objectionable for many reasons, one of which is that it would make it the interest of karnams to stay away from their villages longer than they need. It has been resolved, therefore, not to give *batta* but to increase the pay of karnams, and proposals with this object are now under consideration.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XLIII. Will the Government be pleased to state the amount of the monthly pay of the karnams in the Mayavaram and Kumbakonam taluks of the Tanjore district and the amount collected from them as fine during the last four months of 1896?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XLIII. The information asked for is not available in the Government office.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XLIV. Is the statement in the issue of the *Madras Mail* of the 29th December 1896, that the amount collected as village-cess in the Tanjore district in 1895-96 was 6½ lakhs of rupees, correct?

If so, will the Government be pleased to state the cause of the sudden increase of this cess from Rs. 1,47,360 in 1894-95 (*vide* page 63 of the Proceedings of the Council of Fort St. George of 1896) to 6½ lakhs of rupees in 1895-96?

If not, will the Government be pleased to state the amount actually collected?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XLIV. The statement in the *Madras Mail* is not correct. The sum collected from the ryots as village-cess was Rs. 3,16,621.

The Village Cess Act was introduced into the Tanjore district from the 1st July 1894. The collection in the last nine months of that year was Rs. 1,47,360. The collections in the first three months of 1895-96 ~~was~~ 1.59 lakhs, and in the last nine months 1.57 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 10,000 in the latter amount is due to increase of land revenue.

The Hon'ble K. KALYANASUNDARAM AIYAR :—

XLV. (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of night station-masters employed in the South Indian Railway on a monthly salary of Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 who, in addition to their proper work of receiving and starting trains, &c. are also made to perform the duties of the signallers and booking clerks?

(b) Will it be pleased to order a more liberal scale of pay to these officers and a more adequate establishment to some of the stations on the same line?

The Hon'ble Colonel Campbell :—

XLV. (a) The following assistant stationmasters are employed :—

95 on Rs. 17-8-0 per mensem.
11 on Rs. 20 per mensem.

Those in receipt of Rs. 17-8-0 are appointed at minor stations and attend to the signalling of trains and booking of passengers, as it is considered that there is not sufficient work to necessitate the employment of a separate staff. At most of the stations where the 20 rupees men are employed, a separate signaller and booking or assistant clerk is given.

- (b) The scale of pay was raised from Rs. 15 to Rs. 17-8-0 in August 1896 and compares favourably with the pay given to men in similar positions on other railways. It is not contemplated to further increase the pay or establishment at the stations at present, as the present arrangements are considered adequate.

The Hon'ble C. JAMBULINGAM MUDALIYAR :—

XLVI. (a) Whether the Government is aware that fees for serving processes are collected in the Courts of District and Subordinate Judges at double the rates levied in District Munsifs' Courts although the same agency is utilized for serving processes in all classes of courts under the present system of Central and Deputy Nazir?

(b) Whether it is a fact that process-servers have not ordinarily to travel beyond the limits of jurisdiction of District Munsifs to serve processes of District Courts or Subordinate Judges' Courts, as all processes are served by the men attached to the Munsifs' Courts in whose jurisdiction the parties or witnesses may be living?

(c) Whether there is not large surplus every year of receipts over expenditure under this head and, if so, will the Government be pleased to give relief to the public by equalizing the rates or use the surplus in improving the civil judicial establishments, and the buildings, furniture, &c., of civil courts and forming suitable law libraries or improving the same in all the districts?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

XLVI. (a) "Yes."

(b) "Yes."

(c) There is at present a surplus and the subject of the equalization of the rates is now under consideration by Government.

The Hon'ble C. JAMBULINGAM MUDALIYAR :—

XLVII. Will the Government be pleased to state what orders, if any, have been issued in the matter of remission and postponement of kists in the affected districts and place on the table all papers connected with the subject?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XLVII. It rests with the Board of Revenue to deal with the suspension of the collection of kists in the first instance. The matter is receiving the attention of the Board and the postponement of the December kists in the affected districts of Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah has already been allowed in all cases in which the grant of remissions may be considered necessary. The whole of the January kist has also been postponed in the Proddatur, Jammalamadugu, Pulivendla and Cuddapah taluks of Cuddapah. The Collector of Bellary has also been authorized to postpone the dry kists of January and February wherever this may be necessary. As regards wet assessment, Collectors are competent to suspend till jamabandi the collection of any revenue that is likely to be remitted.

The following papers will be placed on the Council table :—

Board's Proceedings, No. 322,	dated 6th November 1896.
" " No. 448,	dated 18th December 1896.
" " No. 2,	dated 1st January 1897.
" " No. 472,	dated 31st December 1896.
" " No. 61,	dated 25th January 1897.

The Hon'ble C. JAMBULINGAM MUDALIYAR :—

XLVIII. Will the Government be pleased to remit totally dry assessment in the case of all ryots, holding dry land pattas of Rs. 20 and less, whose crops may have wholly failed or who may have got a partial return of less than 8-anna crop, in view to the ryot's need for any small outturn he may have for his own subsistence during the present distress in the affected district?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

XLVIII. The rules for the grant of dry remissions will be found at paragraph 4 of the Board's Standing Order No. 23. Government cannot accept any system of dry remissions which would deal with individuals in view of the abuses to which such a system would give rise.

The Hon'ble C. JAMBULINGAM MUDALIYAR :—

XLIX. (a) Is it a fact that ragi has been taken as the staple food-grain to calculate famine wages in the Cuddapah district?

(b) Is the Government aware that in the affected tracts of the Cuddapah district cholom is the staple food-grain?

(c) Is the Government aware that by reason of the adoption of ragi for calculation of wages, the relief-workers would be paid less than what they would earn if the cholom standard were adopted, owing to the prevailing higher price of the latter?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to order the adoption, in all cases, of the staple food-grain of the place only for the purpose of calculating famine wages?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

XLIX. (a) Yes, but on a representation from the Collector that cholom is the grain used by relief-workers, the Board has now directed that in accordance with section 121 of the Famine Code the grain in ordinary use by the workers at the time of payment should be taken as the standard for fixing wages.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, cholom being the dearer grain.

(d) Government is unable to issue orders in the sense asked for. Relief wages will be determined with reference to the grain in ordinary use by the labourers.

The Hon'ble C. JAMBULINGAM MUDALIYAR :—

L. (a) Is it a fact that, up to 31st December 1896, a sum of about Rs. 800 only has been advanced to ryots under the Land Improvement Loans Act XIX of 1883 in the Cuddapah district during the present distress, whereas several lakhs of rupees were advanced during the famine of 1891-92 in the same district?

(b) If the above facts are correct, will the Government be pleased to investigate and state the causes that led to such small sum being taken by the ryots during the current year, and adopt such measures as may be necessary to give effect to the recommendations contained in Rule 126 of the Madras Famine Code.

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

L. (a) From the information at the disposal of Government, it appears that up to the end of December 1896, only Rs. 1,000 in round numbers ~~was~~ *were* advanced in Cuddapah. In 1891-92, about 5.96 lakhs were taken in the whole district in the whole year.

(b) The Board is giving its attention to this matter. No special investigation by Government seems to be necessary.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LI. Will Government be pleased to state the extent of damage caused to the crops by the floods of 1896 in the Gódvári and Kistna districts and the measures adopted for the relief of ryots whose crops have been so lost?

Will Government be pleased to place on the table the reports of the Collectors of Gódvári and Kistna with the orders of the Board of Revenue or Government, if any, in the above matter?

Will Government be pleased to state whether, in tracts where crops have wholly or partially failed owing to floods or short rainfall, kists are collected with the same rigidity as in normal years? If not, will Government be pleased to state in what districts or parts of districts Government has suspended the collection of kists?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LI. (a) The damage caused by the floods in Gódvári and Kistna was considerable, and the measures adopted for the relief of the ryots were—

- (1) The postponement of kists in the affected villages to February or March and in individual cases of real hardship till June 1897.
- (2) Free grant of loans under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts for the removal of silt accumulations, purchase of seed-grains, cattle, &c.

The question what remissions are necessary will be considered in due course at jamabandi.

The answer to the second part of the question is that the Government is not prepared to place the papers asked for on the Editors' Table.

Most of the third part of the question has been answered in the reply to question XLVII. In tracts where crops have failed kists are not collected with the same rigidity as in normal years.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LII. Will Government be pleased to state the rules laid down for granting remissions in normal years in cases where crops have partially failed?

Will Government be pleased to state what special orders have been issued for granting remissions in years like the present?

Will Government be pleased to place on the table the rules issued on the subject?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LII. The rules for the grant of remissions in normal years are laid down in the Board's Standing Order No. 23, New Edition. No special orders have been issued for the grant of remissions in years like the present.

Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LIII. Will Government be pleased to state in what districts or parts of districts the famine allowance under the Civil Account Code to Government servants drawing a salary of Rs. 15 and less has been granted?

Is it a fact that the Board of Revenue, in spite of the objection of the Collector of the Gódvári district, ruled that ragi and latterly cholam should be treated as the staple article of food for granting the famine allowance under the Civil Account Code in the Gódvári district, though paddy is the standard grain adopted by Mr. Clerk for purposes of settlement and though rice is the staple article of food used by Government servants drawing a pay of Rs. 15 and less?

Will Government be pleased to cause an enquiry to be made and order that the price of the article of food used by Government servants should determine the grant of the allowance under the Civil Account Code?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LIII. The allowance has not been sanctioned in any district.

It is a fact that the Board of Revenue has recently ruled that ragi, or, if the Collector recommends so, cholam should be taken as the basis for granting compensation for dearth of provisions. The conditions under which this indulgence is to be given have been laid down by the Government of India and the standard which has been adopted by it is the cheapest grain which is commonly used by the people not the staple grain used by the Government servants in question.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LIV. (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the proceedings embodying the policy enunciated by Government at the last meeting of the Council in answer to my question No. XLV regarding the duration of a settlement?

(b) Whether in adopting the said policy the attention of the authorities was drawn to the following facts :—

(1) That in connection with the introduction of the Survey and Settlement in this Presidency, the policy laid down by the Court of Directors and the Secretary of State was that the duration of a settlement should be 30 years though the then Government of Madras expressed itself in favour of a term of 50 years.

(2) That in pursuance of the said policy this Government issued notifications from time to time whenever Survey and Settlement was introduced into a district.

(3) That this Government embodied the said policy in unequivocal terms in the Settlement Manual and the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue.

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons which led Government to set aside this unambiguous policy accepted for more than a quarter of a century both by the Government and the people and substitute therefor a policy based on "reasonable expectations" guided by "special circumstances" and determinable by the authorities for the time being?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

LIV. The Government is not at liberty to lay the papers referred to on the table, and cannot furnish the Hon'ble Member with any information as to the correspondence which has taken place on the subject.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LV. With reference to the change of policy introduced in July 1895, in consequence of the receipt of the Secretary of State's Despatch of 1885, in connection with the principles governing revisions of assessment—

Whether the Despatch of the Secretary of State was issued with reference to the North-West Provinces and a copy of it was ordered to be sent only to the North-West Provinces and not to Madras?

Whether by the said Despatch the Secretary of State did disapprove of the principles accepted by this Government that revisions of assessment in ryotwari districts should be made entirely with reference to prices and that no re-classification of soils or re-valuation of grain values should be attempted?

Whether the Secretary of State by the said Despatch did direct or suggest to this Government to cancel its previous declarations and pledges?

Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the said Despatch of the Secretary of State and, if not, will Government be pleased to state its reasons for declining to place the same on the table?

In case Government is not prepared to lay the Despatch on the table, will Government be pleased to give such portions of the said Despatch as direct this Government to set aside its policy governing revisions of assessment or cancel its previous declarations and pledges?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

LV. As the Hon'ble Member was informed in answer to a question put at the meeting of the 18th December 1895, the Government is not prepared to lay on the table the Despatch to which he refers. The Government regrets that it cannot give the Hon'ble Member any further information on the subject.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LVI. With reference to the answer given at the meeting of the Council held in February 1896 by the Hon'ble Colonel McNeil Campbell that "the rules for the distribution of water in the Gódvári delta were circulated for adoption" in January 1895, will Government be pleased to state whether the rules have been brought into force? If not, what is the cause of the delay?

Will Government be pleased to state whether the rules will be brought into force before the commencement of the next fasli?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LI. (a) The damage caused by the floods in Góđavari and Kistna was considerable, and the measures adopted for the relief of the ryots were—

- (1) The postponement of kists in the affected villages to February or March and in individual cases of real hardship till June 1897.
- (2) Free grant of loans under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts for the removal of silt accumulations, purchase of seed-grains, cattle, &c.

The question what remissions are necessary will be considered in due course at jamabandi.

The answer to the second part of the question is that the Government is not prepared to place the papers asked for on the Editors' Table.

Most of the third part of the question has been answered in the reply to question XLVII. In tracts where crops have failed kists are not collected with the same rigidity as in normal years.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LII. Will Government be pleased to state the rules laid down for granting remissions in normal years in cases where crops have partially failed?

Will Government be pleased to state what special orders have been issued for granting remissions in years like the present?

Will Government be pleased to place on the table the rules issued on the subject?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LII. The rules for the grant of remissions in normal years are laid down in the Board's Standing Order No. 23, New Edition. No special orders have been issued for the grant of remissions in years like the present.

Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LIII. Will Government be pleased to state in what districts or parts of districts the famine allowance under the Civil Account Code to Government servants drawing a salary of Rs. 15 and less has been granted?

Is it a fact that the Board of Revenue, in spite of the objection of the Collector of the Góđavari district, ruled that ragi and latterly cholam should be treated as the staple article of food for granting the famine allowance under the Civil Account Code in the Góđavari district, though paddy is the standard grain adopted by Mr. Clerk for purposes of settlement and though rice is the staple article of food used by Government servants drawing a pay of Rs. 15 and less?

Will Government be pleased to cause an enquiry to be made and order that the price of the article of food used by Government servants should determine the grant of the allowance under the Civil Account Code?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LIII. The allowance has not been sanctioned in any district.

It is a fact that the Board of Revenue has recently ruled that ragi, or, if the Collector recommends so, cholam should be taken as the basis for granting compensation for dearth of provisions. The conditions under which this indulgence is to be given have been laid down by the Government of India and the standard which has been adopted by it is the cheapest grain which is commonly used by the people not the staple grain used by the Government servants in question.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LIV. (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the proceedings embodying the policy enunciated by Government at the last meeting of the Council in answer to my question No. XLV regarding the duration of a settlement?

(b) Whether in adopting the said policy the attention of the authorities was drawn to the following facts :—

(1) That in connection with the introduction of the Survey and Settlement in this Presidency, the policy laid down by the Court of Directors and the Secretary of State was that the duration of a settlement should be 30 years though the then Government of Madras expressed itself in favour of a term of 50 years.

(2) That in pursuance of the said policy this Government issued notifications from time to time whenever Survey and Settlement was introduced into a district.

(3) That this Government embodied the said policy in unequivocal terms in the Settlement Manual and the Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue.

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons which led Government to set aside this unambiguous policy accepted for more than a quarter of a century both by the Government and the people and substitute therefor a policy based on "reasonable expectations" guided by "special circumstances" and determinable by the authorities for the time being?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

LIV. The Government is not at liberty to lay the papers referred to on the table, and cannot furnish the Hon'ble Member with any information as to the correspondence which has taken place on the subject.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LV. With reference to the change of policy introduced in July 1895, in consequence of the receipt of the Secretary of State's Despatch of 1885, in connection with the principles governing revisions of assessment—

Whether the Despatch of the Secretary of State was issued with reference to the North-West Provinces and a copy of it was ordered to be sent only to the North-West Provinces and not to Madras?

Whether by the said Despatch the Secretary of State did disapprove of the principles accepted by this Government that revisions of assessment in ryotwari districts should be made entirely with reference to prices and that no re-classification of soils or re-valuation of grain values should be attempted?

Whether the Secretary of State by the said Despatch did direct or suggest to this Government to cancel its previous declarations and pledges?

Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the said Despatch of the Secretary of State and, if not, will Government be pleased to state its reasons for declining to place the same on the table?

In case Government is not prepared to lay the Despatch on the table, will Government be pleased to give such portions of the said Despatch as direct this Government to set aside its policy governing revisions of assessment or cancel its previous declarations and pledges?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

LV. As the Hon'ble Member was informed in answer to a question put at the meeting of the 18th December 1895, the Government is not prepared to lay on the table the Despatch to which he refers. The Government regrets that it cannot give the Hon'ble Member any further information on the subject.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU :—

LVI. With reference to the answer given at the meeting of the Council held in February 1896 by the Hon'ble Colonel McNeil Campbell that "the rules for the distribution of water in the Góđavari delta were circulated for adoption" in January 1895, will Government be pleased to state whether the rules have been brought into force? If not, what is the cause of the delay?

Will Government be pleased to state whether the rules will be brought into force before the commencement of the next fasli?

The Hon'ble Colonel Campbell:—

LVI. The water distribution rules published in the "Gódávári District Gazette" of 7th January 1897 are already in force in the Gódávári delta as far as practicable.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU:—

LVII. Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the rules, if any, framed for the distribution of water to the Sangam and Nellore deltas?

Is it one of the rules in force since the construction of the Sangam anicut in 1884 that 1,200 cubic feet of water per second should be let down the Sangam anicut through the under-sluices, for the irrigation of the Nellore delta before any is taken for the Sangam delta?

Is it a fact that in December last Mr. R. N. H. Reid, the then Executive Engineer of the Nellore district, ordered, in spite of the protest of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Nellore delta, that the under-sluices of the Sangam anicut should be closed, thereby preventing the supply of water and causing loss to nearly 20,000 acres under the Sarvapalli reservoir and specially 40,000 acres receiving direct supply from the Pennéru and thus diverting nearly all the water in the river to the Kanigiri reservoir?

Will Government be pleased to cause an enquiry to be made into the above matter and issue orders that the usual flow of water down the Sangam anicut should not be interfered with?

The Hon'ble Colonel Campbell:—

LVII. There is no rule regarding the amount of water to be passed through the under-sluices of the Sangam anicut.

No information is available in the Government office regarding the allegation that the Executive Engineer of the Nellore division, in spite of the protest of his Sub-Divisional officer, curtailed the supply of water to irrigation under the Nellore anicut resulting in a failure of crop on 60,000 acres. Inquiries will be made.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU:—

LVIII. Is it a fact that though there was a full supply of water in the Kanigiri reservoir in fasli 1305, no water was let down by Mr. Salisbury, Sub-Divisional Officer in charge of the Sangam delta, to Utkur and other villages, with the result that the crops raised by ryots in the said villages failed for want of water?

Is it a fact that, in consequence, ryots of the said villages applied for remission of the land-tax and water-rate and that at the jamabandy held in or about March 1896 the Jamabandy officer refused remission on the ground that there was adequate supply in the reservoir?

Will Government be pleased to order an enquiry into the above matter?

The Hon'ble Colonel Campbell:—

LVIII. No information is available in the Government office on the subject of this question. Inquiries will be made.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU:—

LIX. Is it a fact that the Tahsildar of the Nuzvid division under instructions from the Collector of Kistna district notified to the ryots of the Nuzvid division that in case they withdrew their relinquishment applications and used Government water for raising wet crops in fasli 1305, they would not be liable to any penal water-rate; and is it also a fact that some of the ryots who withdrew their relinquishment applications and used Government water on the faith of the said assurance were charged with double water-rate and their petitions to the Collector were rejected?

Will Government be pleased to cause enquiries to be made into the above matter and order a refund of the excess water-rate so levied.

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose:—

LIX. The Government has no information on the subject and is not prepared to institute enquiries into this matter upon which the Board of Revenue is competent to adjudicate on appeal.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU:—

LX. Is it a fact that orders have been issued during the current fasli that the enhanced water-rate of 5 rupees should be collected on all lands indiscriminately, though in the previous fasli exemption from the enhanced rate was granted with respect to certain lands "suffering from poverty of soil, insufficient irrigation, defective drainage or a combination of these defects" and consequently unable to bear the enhanced water-rate?

Will Government be pleased to state the circumstances under which such orders have been issued and place on the table the papers relating thereto?

Will Government be pleased to state whether it sees any objection to issuing instructions that the 5-rupee water-rate should not be collected on lands exempted during the previous fasli, as also on lands affected by floods during the current fasli.

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose:—

LX. The exemption sanctioned by Government was intended to remain in force pending the resettlement of the delta tracts subject to any modifications which experience might show to be necessary. No proposals for the general discontinuance of the concession have been received and so far as the Government is aware neither the Board of Revenue nor the district officers have issued orders directing the indiscriminate collection of the enhanced water-rate.

The Government sees no reason to reduce the water-rate on lands affected by the floods in the way proposed. The Collector has been authorized to postpone the collection of the revenue for such time as may be necessary in each case, and this the Government considers to be sufficient.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU:—

LXI. (a) Is it a fact that in the Nellore district under a system known as Sekhada 150 per cent. of the occupied area in a village was set apart for free grazing to the villagers?

(b) Is it a fact that this system was abolished and the land left for free grazing is now reserved by the Forest department?

(c) If so, will Government be pleased to state why the rights enjoyed by ryots have been allowed to be interfered with by the Forest department?

(d) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the Proceedings of Government and the Secretary of State, if any, relating to the Sekhada system prevailing in the Nellore district?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose:—

LXI. (a) the answer is "Yes".

(b) The system referred to has been abolished and some of the Sekhada lands have been constituted forest reserves.

(c) The *privileges* granted to the ryots in 1875—not *rights*—were allowed to be interfered with by the Forest department, because they are inconsistent with the forest policy of Government and the real interests of the people. The rights claimed by the ryots affected by the reservation of any particular block must have formed the subject of judicial investigation at the hands of the Forest Settlement-officer appointed under section 4 of Madras Act V of 1882, against whose decision the law provides a regular appeal.

(d) The Government is not prepared to lay on the table the papers relating to the subject.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU:—

LXII. Will the Government be pleased to state whether it has received any representations from the districts of South Arcot, North Arcot and Chingleput urging the necessity of postponing the collection of kists, owing to the lateness of the rains and the consequent absence of all cultivation last year; and if so, what orders have the Government passed on them? If no orders have been yet passed, will the Government be pleased to state what orders they intend making on the matter?

Has the Government received any memorial or telegram on the subject from the inhabitants of Kauveripak, and if so, how was it disposed of?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LXII. Certain petitions on the subject have been received and transferred to the Board of Revenue for disposal. Two telegrams have been received from the inhabitants of Kauveripak and transferred to the Board of Revenue, and a petition received from them is still under disposal.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXIII. Has the attention of Government been drawn to a letter published in the *Madras Times* on Saturday, the 23rd January 1897, under the heading of "The ways of Collectors" and under the signature of "R.R.R."?

If its attention has not been drawn to it, will it cause enquiry to be made into the matter, and place the result of the enquiry on the table?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LXIII. The answer to both parts of the question is "No".

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXIV. Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a return of all the Engineers now employed under Local Fund Boards, stating their present age, their pay and their qualifications and nationalities, stating also how many of them are the retired servants of Government and in what years did they retire?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

LXIV. The names of the Local Fund Engineers and their pay will be found at page 228 of the last Quarterly Civil List. No further information is available in the Government office.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXV. Will the Government be pleased to state whether there have been any loss or gain from the European refreshment-rooms provided in the Madras and South Indian Railways? Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement of receipts and expenditure in connection with the refreshment-rooms for Europeans at Arkonam, Guntakal, Salem, Jallarpet and Méttupálaiyam? Will the Government be pleased to state what amount is charged as "house-rent" for refreshment-rooms at the above places?

The Hon'ble Colonel Campbell :—

LXV. On the Madras Railway some refreshment rooms are worked at a loss and others at a profit. The following statement shows the result of working the refreshment rooms at the stations named except Guntakal which is under the Southern Mahratta Railway and not under the control of this Government :—

		31st December 1895.			30th June 1896.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Arkonam	Profit.	1,538	0	6	2,125	12	10
Salem	"	527	1	9	646	6	3
Jallarpet	"	135	13	9	78	2	8
Méttupálaiyam ..	"	604	13	4	509	1	4

The Madras Railway has its own refreshment room contractor and no rent is therefore charged for the rooms.

The refreshment rooms at South Indian Railway stations are worked by private contractors and not by the Company who is in no way concerned beyond looking to the contractors to give general satisfaction and fixing the tariff charges. The Company allows the contractors the use of the rooms free of charge.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXVI. Will the Government be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been taken to train a staff of efficient, commercial and industrial instructors in this Presidency; whether any scholarship has been offered to under-graduates and graduates to induce them to qualify themselves for teaching such subjects? Is there any special allotment in the Educational Budget of this year for this purpose?

In the year 1895, the Government was pleased to state that, in view of the success of the School of Commerce at Calicut, it was under consideration to open branches at Tellicherry and other centres. What steps have been taken in the matter?

The Hon'ble Dr. Duncan :—

LXVI. There are no special schools in this Presidency to train teachers of commercial subjects. With regard to the industries connected with wood-work and metal-work proposals are under consideration, according to which four young men will annually be admitted into the workshop of the College of Engineering to go through a three years' course with a view to their being trained to be teachers of these industries in schools throughout the Presidency. The Government scholarship notification and the Grant-in-Aid Code provide for scholarships to candidates passing the Elementary Technical examination in commercial and industrial subjects to enable them to continue their studies for the Intermediate and Advanced examinations in those subjects. Such of them as intend to become teachers are required to satisfy the Board of Examiners for Teachers' certificates of their ability to teach the subjects they profess. On passing this test they receive Technical Teachers' certificates and become eligible for employment as commercial or industrial teachers.

Special classes to teach certain commercial subjects have been opened in the Brennen College, Tellicherry. Government sees no present necessity to maintain a number of commercial schools under its direct management.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXVII. Will the Government be pleased to place a statement of the amounts spent by the various district boards for educational purposes during the last three years in this Presidency? Has there been any reduction in the amounts spent for educational purposes and has there been any correspondence regarding the same between the Government and the Director of Public Instruction?

Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is not desirable to fix a percentage of Local Fund receipts to be spent for educational purposes with a view to save all correspondence in the matter? Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps to impart primary education to the children of the hill tribes in Northern Circars, and if any steps have been taken, what is the amount they intend allotting for the purpose?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

LXVII. As regards the first part of this question, the Hon'ble Member is referred to the General Local Fund Reviews for the last three years, which contain the required information. As regards the second part of the question, there has been no reduction in the total amount spent for educational purposes. The Government does not consider it desirable to lay down any fixed percentage of Local Fund receipts to be spent on education. Over 150 Government schools are at work in the agency tracts of the Northern Circars and these are specially intended for the hill tribes, though the tribes have not yet availed themselves of them to the extent that was contemplated or is desirable. The current year's budget has provided about Rs. 32,000 towards their upkeep.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXVIII. Will the Government be pleased to state what amounts were collected as printing charges in the High Court of Madras from the litigants for the years 1894-95, 1895-96 and 1896-97; what amount was actually spent for printing and were there any savings in those years? Will the Government also state whether the old scale of charges from parties is continued or a reduction or increase is made in it?

The Hon'ble Mr. Price :—

LXVIII. The Hon'ble Member is referred to the Civil Estimates for the answer to the first part of the question. The Government has no information on the other subjects referred to in the question.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXIX. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they received sanction to the scheme for the re-organization of the Educational Department in this Presidency; and, if so, when is it likely to come into force? Will the Government place on the table all correspondence relating to the subject?

The Hon'ble Dr. Duncan :—

LXIX. Sanction was received and the scheme introduced with effect from 1st January 1897. The Resolution of the Government of India on the subject was republished from the *Gazette of India* in Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 4th August 1896 to which the Hon'ble Member is referred.

LXX. Has the attention of Government been drawn to the paragraphs in the "Hindu" of the 27th and 28th January relating to the practice of Inspectors of Schools making text books for the lower standards and to the tendency to the use of undue influence to get them adopted? Will the Government be pleased to call for and lay on the table a return showing the names and number of the text books compiled by Inspectors, and in use in all or some of the institutions in their respective circles and also the names of those institutions and the date when these books were introduced?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

LXX. Government has perused the paragraphs in the "Hindu." Mr. Marsden's connection with the preparation and publishing of text books viewed in relation to his position on the Text-book Committee and as Inspector of Schools was under the consideration of the Director several months ago and is still engaging his attention. The use of undue influence on the part of any inspecting officer to get the books in which he is interested introduced into a school would be a breach of the regulations of the department; and if brought to the notice of the Director, the officer doing so would be severely dealt with. Government is not prepared to call for and lay on the table the return requested by the Hon'ble Member. A consolidated list of all approved text books will shortly be published by the Director of Public Instruction and from this list the Hon'ble Member will be able to ascertain what books have been prepared by Inspecting officers. Managers of schools have according to the rules absolute freedom to select from this list the books they wish to use. If any attempt is made by an Inspecting officer to interfere with the freedom of a manager in this respect, the manager has his remedy in an appeal to the head of the department.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXXI. Will the Government be pleased to state whether its attention has been drawn to the position of inspecting schoolmasters? Have any steps been taken, or are they in contemplation to better their pay and prospects?

The Hon'ble Mr. Grose :—

LXXI. Yes. The Government is not at present prepared to take any steps in the matter.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXXII. Will the Government be pleased to state whether its attention has been drawn to a paragraph in the "Hindu," dated 1st February 1897, complaining against the conduct of the District Magistrate of Kurnool in forcing the toddy lease-holders to open toddy-shops? If its attention has not been drawn to it, will the Government be pleased to take notice of it and cause enquiries to be made into the matter?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

LXXII. The Government does not see sufficient grounds for enquiring as to the Collector's order. Any one who is aggrieved can complain to the Board of Revenue.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXXIII. Will the Government be pleased to inquire and report whether it is a fact that the High Court establishment on the Appellate Side had only one day's holiday during the Christmas vacation and that since the appointment of Mr. C. G. Todhunter as Deputy Registrar the payment of the salaries of the subordinate officials, peons and other servants is being made only after the 10th of every month?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

LXXIII. The Government has no information. The Government has no authority to interfere with the details of the working of the establishment of the High Court and declines therefore to comply with the Hon'ble Member's request.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXXIV. With reference to my question at the last meeting of the Council whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to an article in the *Hindu* of the 18th November 1896 regarding the assignment of darkhast lands to a Missionary in the village of Manur in the taluk of Conjeeveram, the Government was pleased to state "No"? Has the Government made inquiry into the matter subsequently and is the Government now in a position to state whether the lands referred to were assigned to a stranger or not?

The Hon'ble Mr. Stokes :—

LXXIV. The Government did not think it necessary to make any inquiry subsequently.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXXV. Will the Government be pleased to state why no action was taken by the District Magistrate of Malabar against Unni Tampuran, a defence witness in the Calicut torture case, who gave evidence before the Committing Magistrate, but who was found by Mr. H. H. O'Farrell, the Sessions Judge, to have evaded summons in order to avoid appearing in the Sessions Court (*vide* his Judgment, dated 28th November 1895)? Will the Government kindly order the District Magistrate to carry out the Sessions Judge's order in accordance with the law?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

LXXV. The Government has no information on the point.

The Hon'ble P. RANGAYYA NAYUDU :—

LXXVI. Will the Government be pleased, in view to the present disturbed condition of the Ernad and Wallavanad taluks in the Malabar district, to appoint a Special Officer well acquainted with the country and possessing local influence to deal with the grave crimes in those taluks either independently or in co-operation with the local officers?

The Hon'ble Mr. Bliss :—

LXXVI. The Government considers that the officers now employed in Malabar are well acquainted with the country and possess local influence and has no intention of making any changes there at present.

(3) *Rules for the conduct of business at Meetings of the Council.*

The Secretary reports that the alteration made by the Council at the meeting of 9th December last in the definition of Secretary in the rules received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 12th idem.

(4) *Acts assented to by His Excellency the Governor.*

The Secretary reports that the Bill to amend the Madras Revenue Recovery Act II of 1864, which was passed by the Council on the 9th December last, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 12th idem.

(5) *Acts assented to by His Excellency the Governor-General.*

His Excellency the President announces the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General to the Act to amend the Madras Revenue Recovery Act II of 1864.

(6) *Petitions, &c.*

The Secretary lays on the table the following papers with reference to the answers given to questions Nos. I and XXXIII asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 9th December last:—

(1) G.O., No. 1567, Judicial, dated 30th September 1896, containing Mr. Winterbotham's report on the late Mappilla disaster and the orders of Government thereon.

(2) Letter to the Government of India, No. 202, Public, dated 8th February 1896, regarding the new office of Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department.

(7) *Madras Survey Bill.*

The Hon'ble Mr. J. GROSE, C.I.E., moves for the suspension of so much of Council Rule 34, as requires 15 days' previous publication in view to the introduction of a Bill to amend the law relating to Survey and the Settlement of boundary disputes; and if the motion is accepted, introduces the Bill.

(8) *Bill to amend the Religious Endowments Act XX of 1863.*

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU introduces the above Bill, leave to introduce which was granted to the Hon'ble K. Kalyanasundaram Aiyar at the meeting of the Council held on the 26th February 1896.

(9) *Bill further to amend the Madras Rent Recovery Act VIII of 1865.*

The Hon'ble V. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR, C.I.E., Diwan Bahadur, introduces the above Bill.

(10) *Bill to amend Madras Act III of 1895 (The Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act, 1895.)*

The Hon'ble Mr. C. S. CROLE presents the report of the Select Committee on the above Bill and moves that the report be taken into consideration and the Bill be passed into law.

The Hon'ble N. SUBBA RAO PANTULU moves the following amendment in the above Bill:—

That in section 1, the words "or be heard" be omitted.

(11) *Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act IV of 1884.*

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. PRICE, C.S.I., moves that the above Bill be passed into law.

Notice has been given that the following amendments will be moved in the above Bill:—

*Section 10.

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar:—

In section 10 of the Act—(a) Omit the words "partly appointed by the Governor in Council and partly" and insert the words "not less than one-half the number of" after the word "Council" where it first occurs, and the words "and the remaining municipal councillors, if any, shall be appointed by the Governor in Council" after the word "thereof" at the end of the paragraph.

(b) Omit the proviso.

Section 10 of the Act.

*Note.—The words 'section' and 'sub-section' when italicized refer to the Bill as revised by the Council, when in ordinary type to the Act as so revised.

Section 11.

Section 10-A of the Act.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar:—

In section 10-A of the Act, sub-section (1), clause (e), the words "Criminal Court" shall be substituted for the words "Court of Justice".

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar:—

In sub-section (1) of section 10-A of the Act, added by Section 11 of the Bill, add the following as clause (h): "Possess such educational qualifications as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the Governor in Council by rules applicable either to all the municipalities or to such of them as he may deem fit."

Between Sections 11 and 12.

Section 11 of the Act.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu:—

That the following section be inserted in the Bill:—

11-A. From section 11 shall be omitted the words "in the district in which any Municipality is situated" and the words "of such Municipality."

Section 12.

Sections 12 and 13 of the Act.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu:—

For the words "In section 13" at the beginning of section 12 of the Bill shall be substituted the following:—"Sections 12 and 13 shall be re-numbered as 13 and 12, respectively, and in the latter section"

The Hon'ble Mr. H. W. Bliss:—

Section 13 of the Act.

In the proviso to section 13 of the Act added by section 12 of the Bill for the words "without previously intimating to the Municipal Council the intention of the Governor in Council to issue such notification and the grounds therefor and considering the explanations" shall be substituted the words "without previous intimation to the Municipal Council of the intention of the Governor in Council to issue such Notification and of the grounds thereof or without the consideration by the Governor in Council of the explanations."

Section 13.

Section 14 of the Act.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price:—

That the words "unless specially exempted by the Governor in Council" be inserted at the beginning of proviso (i) to sub-section (1) of section 14 of the Act as embodied in section 13 of the Bill.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price:—

That at the end of proviso (ii) to sub-section (1) of section 14 of the Act, as embodied in section 13 of the Bill, for the words and figures "10 and 11" be substituted the words and figures "11 and 12."

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar:—

In sub-section (2) of section 14 of the Act as embodied in Section 13 of the Bill, omit the words "or if the municipal councillors make on two successive occasions a nomination which does not meet with his approval."

Section 15.

Section 16 of the Act.

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar:—

In section 16 of the Act as embodied in Section 15 of the Bill, omit from sub-section (2) the words "nominate such Chairman for the approval of the Governor in Council in accordance with such rules and conditions as may be prescribed by the Governor in Council", to insert instead the words "appoint such Chairman by election in accordance with the provisions of section 14".

Omit the proviso.

If the above amendments are lost, then omit from the proviso the words "or, if the municipal council make on two successive occasions, a nomination which does not meet with the approval of the Governor in Council".

Section 17 of
the Act.

Section 16.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

In sub-section (1) of section 17 of the Act as embodied in section 16 of the Bill for "section 19" shall be substituted "sections 19 and 20;" for "sub-section (2) of section 10" shall be substituted "section 21-A;" and for "section 13 (iii) in respect of the Municipality of which he is Chairman" shall be substituted "section 13 in respect of the appointment of the Chairman."

The Hon'ble Mr. H. W. Bliss :—

That the following proviso be inserted at the end of sub-section (1) of section 17 of the Act as embodied in section 16 of the Bill :—

"Provided that on one occasion only after the passing of the 'Madras District Municipalities Act Amendment Act, 1897,' the Governor in Council may by Notification prescribe a date upon which all Municipal Councillors appointed by election prior to such date shall vacate office."

Section 19 of
the Act.

Section 18.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In sub-section 1 of section 19 of the Act, clause (iv), omit all the words beginning from "likely" up to the end. After clause (iv) add clause (v) as below :—

"(v) If the Municipal Council recommends his removal on the ground of his being guilty of any disgraceful conduct."

If the above is not accepted—

In section 19 (1), clause (iv), omit the words "in the opinion of the Governor in Council".

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar :—

In section 19 of the Act as modified by Section 18 of the Bill, omit clause (IV) of sub-section (1) and number clause (V) as clause (IV).

Number the proviso as sub-section (3), omit therefrom the words "provided that" and substitute in it the word "section" for the word "clause".

Section 30 of
the Act.

Section 23.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

After sub-section (1) insert "In clause 2 of section 30 of the Act insert the word 'Vice-Chairman' between 'Chairman' and 'or the presiding Municipal Councillor'."

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

In sub-section (3) of section 23 of the Bill (and consequently in sub-section 4 of section 30 of the Act) for the words "and the Inspector and Assistant Inspector of Schools" shall be substituted the words "the Inspector or the Assistant Inspector of Schools".

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Bill for the last paragraph of sub-section (5) of section 30 of the Act shall be substituted the following :—

"If within half-an-hour after the time appointed for a meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to some future day, unless all the members present agree to wait longer."

Section 31 of
the Act.

Section 24.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price :—

That the following words be omitted from sub-section 3 of section 31 of the Act as embodied in sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Bill :—'and in his absence the Chairman-delegate' and 'or in his absence by the Chairman-delegate'.

Section 32 of
the Act.

Section 25.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

At the beginning of sub-section (4) of section 32 of the Act as embodied in sub-section (2) of section 25 of the Bill shall be inserted the following words :—
"Where there is no Vice-Chairman".

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In sub-section (4) of section 32 of the Act added by sub-section (2) of section 25 of the Bill, insert the words 'In the absence of the Vice-Chairman' before 'any Chairman may.'

Section 27.

Section 33 of
the Act.*The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price :—*

That for the words "after obtaining and considering the explanation of the Chairman" in sub-section (1) of section 27 of the Bill (and consequently in sub-section (1) of section 33 of the Act) be substituted the words "after giving the Chairman a reasonable opportunity of explanation".

Section 29.

Section 35 of
the Act.*The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price :—*

(a) That in sub-section (1) of section 35 of the Act as embodied in sub-section (1) of section 29 of the Bill the words "or permission" be inserted after the words "any license" and between the words "license" and "is likely"; and the words "grant of such license or permission" be substituted for the words "issue of such license".

(b) That in sub-section (2) of section 29 of the Bill (and consequently in sub-section (2) of section 35 of the Act) the words 'after giving the Municipal Council a reasonable opportunity of explanation' be substituted for the words "after obtaining and considering the explanation of the Municipal Council."

Section 32.

Section 38 of
the Act.*The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—*

The following shall be inserted as sub-section (1) of section 32 of the Bill :—

"(1) The following clause shall be inserted between clauses (iii) and (iv) of section 33 :—

'(iv) The interpellation of the Chairman by the Municipal Councillors;' and clauses (iv), (v), (vi) and (vii) shall be re-numbered as clauses (v), (vi), (vii) and (viii), respectively."

Section 33.

Section 39-A
of the Act.*The Hon'ble Mr. H. W. Bliss :—*

"That the following words shall be added to sub-section (1) of section 39-A of the Act as embodied in section 33 of the Bill :—

"and shall remove such person if at any time required by the Governor in Council to do so."

The Hon'ble Mr. H. W. Bliss :—

That in sub-section (1) of section 39-A of the Act as embodied in section 33 of the Bill, the words "subject to the approval of the Governor in Council" in lines 3 and 4 be inserted at the beginning of the sub-section before the word "every", and that the word "and" in line 3 be omitted.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

That the following be substituted for sub-section (2) of section 39-A of the Act :—

"(2) Unless the Governor in Council otherwise directs, every Municipal Council which has during three consecutive financial years realized an average annual income of Rs. 30,000 excluding extraordinary items of receipt shall in the next succeeding financial year appoint a Secretary.

For the purposes of this section the Governor in Council may declare what are extraordinary items of receipt.

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar :—

In section 39-A of the Act added by *Section 33* of the Bill, omit sub-section (2).

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In clause (d) of sub-section (3) of section 39-A of the Act, the words "as regards the servants of the Municipal Council employed in the Municipal office and on the collection of the Municipal revenues" shall be inserted after "section 42," and the words "business or" shall be omitted.

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar :—

In clause (d) of sub-section (3) omit the words "his powers under section 42 and" and the word "other" and insert the words "and for such period of time" between the words "meetings" and "as" and the words "from time to time" before the word "determine".

Omit clause (ii) of the proviso.

Section 44 of
the Act.

Section 37.

The Hon'ble C. Vijayaraghavachariar :—

In sub-section (1) of section 44 of the Act, omit the word "one" to insert therein the words "the Chairman or a committee consisting of two or,"

Section 47 of
the Act.

Section 39.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In the first proviso to section 47 of the Act as embodied in *section 39* of the Bill omit the word "construction" between the words "the" and "maintenance."

Section 49 of
the Act.

Between sections 40 and 41.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

In section 49 of the Act insert after the words "not exceeding the rate authorised by this Act" and before the word "unless," the following :—

"and in the case of a tax under section 47, clause (ii), not exceeding a rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the annual value of buildings or lands or both."

If the above is not accepted, insert the following :—"and in the case of Municipalities with a population of less than 50,000 inhabitants, not exceeding a rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the annual value of buildings or lands or both."

Section 52 of
the Act.

Section 42.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

Sub-section (4) of section 52 of the Act as embodied in *section 42* of the Bill shall be omitted.

Section 63 of
the Act.

Section 48.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In sub-section (2) of section 63 of the Act, as embodied in *section 48* of the Bill, substitute for "ten per centum" "seven and a half per centum."

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

At the end of sub-section (3) of section 63 of the Act, insert the following proviso :—

"Provided that no tax shall be levied under this sub-section upon lands used solely for agricultural purposes."

Section 75 of
the Act.

Section 55.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In sub-section (1) of section 75 of the Act as embodied in *section 55* of the Bill the word "four" shall be substituted for "six and a half."

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

At the end of sub-section (1) of section 75 of the Act, shall be added the following proviso :— "Provided also that no such tax shall be levied upon any land exclusively used for agricultural purposes and not deriving any benefit from the water or drainage works on account of which the tax is imposed."

Section 82.

Section 113
of the Act.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar :—

In section 113 of the Act, clause (ii), omit the words "drains" after "markets" and "water-works" after "latrines."

After clause (ii) insert clause (iii) as follows :—

"(iii) The maintenance, repairs and improvement, and extension of water and drainage works."

Re-number the present clauses from (iii) to the end.

Between sections 103 and 104.

Sections 164
and 165 of the
Act.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu :—

That the following *section* be inserted in the Bill :—

103-A. For sections 164 and 165, shall be substituted the three following sections :—

164. The Municipal Council may prescribe a line on each side of any public street within which, except under the provisions of section 169, no portion of any building abutting on the said street, shall, after such line has been prescribed, be constructed.

A line so prescribed shall be called "the regular line of the street."

165. (1) When any building or any part thereof which projects beyond the regular line of a public street falls down or is burnt down or is taken down under section 180 or otherwise, the Chairman may at once take possession on behalf of the Municipal Council of the portion of the land within the regular line of the street theretofore occupied by the said building, and, if necessary, clear the same; the Chairman may also require such building or part thereof to be set back to the regular line of the street.

(2) The Municipal Council shall make reasonable compensation to the owner of such building for any damage which he may sustain by any action taken under sub-section (1).

(3) Land acquired under this section shall thenceforward be deemed a part of the public street and shall vest as such in the Municipal Council.

165-A. The Municipal Council may, upon such terms as they think fit, allow any building to be set forward for improving the line of any public street in which such building is situated.

Section 121.

Section 186 of
the Act.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price :—

For sub-section (1) of section 186 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, as amended by *section 121* of the Bill the following be substituted :—

"The municipal council may, by general or special notice—

- (a) direct the removal of prickly-pear growing within municipal limits;
- (b) prohibit the planting of wild croton, prickly-pear, wattle, lantana or other noxious vegetation; or,
- (c) require the owner or occupier of any building or land, which is in their opinion in a filthy, or unwholesome state, or which is overgrown with trees or with wild croton, wattle, lantana or other noxious vegetation, to cleanse, clear, or otherwise put the same in a proper state within a time to be specified in such notice."

Section 201
of the Act.

Section 131.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price:—

That the following *section* be substituted for *section 131* of the Bill:—

131. (1) In sub-section (1) of section 201 for the words "during which such market or place is so opened or kept open" shall be substituted the words "on which he is convicted of having opened or kept open such market".

(2) In sub-section (2) of the same section between the word "any" and the word "market" shall be inserted the word "such".

Section 226
of the Act.

Between Sections 144 and 145.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price:—

That the following *section* be inserted after *section 144* of the Bill:—

144-A. In sub-section (2) of section 226 for the words "each day after such date during which such overcrowding continues" shall be substituted the words "every day after such date upon which he is convicted of having permitted such overcrowding to continue."

Section 233
of the Act.

Section 153.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price:—

That the following *section* be substituted for *section 153* of the Bill:—

"153. In section 233 before the word 'medical,' wherever it first occurs, shall be inserted the word 'certificated', and between the word 'practitioner' and the word 'direct' shall be inserted the words 'arrange for or'."

New section.

Between Sections 161 and 162.

The Hon'ble N. Subba Rao Pantulu:—

The following *section* shall be inserted in the Bill:—

"161-A. After section 250 shall be inserted the following section:—

250-A. (1) The assessment books of the Municipality shall be open at all reasonable times and without charge to inspection by any tax-payer or his authorized agent.

(2) The account books of the Municipality shall be open without charge to inspection by any tax-payer on a day or days in each month to be fixed by the Municipal Council."

Section 256 of
the Act.

Section 165.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar:—

The following shall be inserted as *sub-section (1)* of *section 165* of the Bill:—

(1) From sub-section (1) of section 256 shall be omitted the words "in such manner as may in his or their opinion be sufficient for giving information to persons interested therein".

Section 273 of
the Act.

Between Sections 178 and 179.

The Hon'ble Mr. J. F. Price:—

That the following *section* be inserted after *section 178* of the Bill:—

"178-A. In sub-section (2) of section 273 for the words 'during which he so continues to refuse' shall be substituted the words 'upon which he is convicted of having continued so to refuse permission'."

Schedule A
of the Act.

Section 192.

The Hon'ble C. Jambulingam Mudaliyar:—

For clause (vi) of Schedule A, Class I, substitute "Practising Barristers, Advocates, High Court Vakils, Solicitors, Attorneys, Pleaders and Law Agents", and in the 2nd proviso under note to Schedule A after the word 'Barrister' insert the word 'Advocate.'

5th February 1897.

G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to the Council.

NOTICES

FOR THE

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

On Tuesday, the 9th day of February 1897.

[$\frac{G.}{63}$]

3,000-23-11-1/8

Legislative Department.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following paper:—

Questions asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 9th instant and the answers given thereto.

C. P. D. W. 2: - No. 17 dated 18th February 1907.

Communicated to the Judicial, Revenue, Local Board

Incidental, II, VI(a), (b) & (c) & (f), VII(d)

Revised, K, XIV(a), XIX(b), XXI, & XXIII.

Local & Municipal, IV(a) & (c).

Public Works LVII & LVIII.

Municipal and Public Works
Departments with reference
to the answers to questions
marginally noted.

(True Extract)

Secretary to Govt.

To the Judicial Department.

,, 1970-1980 Sept. ✓

., local and municipal Dept.

,, Public Works Dept.

C. No. 1634 of 1897.

From the Legislative Dept.

8/2/97

Dated

189 .

Reader No. 1634/97 FOR ORDERS.

G.p. no. 1303 of 8th Mar 1897

Recorded.

1897

Lib.
CP.
Cunningham

C. No. 1634/97

Note for the Head Clerk.

So far as the Head Clerk's subjects are concerned, no action has to be taken at the current.

24/2/97
The proposed reply in answer to the question is as follows:—
The information asked for is not available in the Govt. office but will be called for from the collector of Tanjore. The proposed reply was approved by the Hon. Mr. Grose but in the answer finally given at the committee there was no promise that the information would be called for. It is presumed

Please see question ~~XI/III~~ ^{XI/III} and the answers given thereto printed on page 15 of the current. In the draft answer furnished by this Dept., it was stated that "the information asked for is not available in the Govt. office but will be called for from the collector of Tanjore". The proposed reply was approved by the Hon. Mr. Grose but in the answer finally given at the committee there was no promise that the information would be called for. It is presumed

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therefore that no further action is necessary.

FOR ORDERS.

(R.
25 Feb 97)

No. h.m.

1/6/2/87

Question XIX (b): Please see original answer drafted by the Hon: Mr. Goble at place flagged C. In the answer finally given (at place flagged C₁) there is no promise of further information. It is presumed that no further action is necessary.

No. h.m.

1/6/2/87

Question L (b): May the Board's attention be drawn to measures (place flagged D).

No. h.m.

RD
26-2-97

Please see Questions X and XI.1 and the answers given thereto. No further information was promised nor was it intended to obtain it - vide draft answers and notes flagged E and F. It is therefore presumed that no further action is necessary.

No. h.m.

1/6/2/87

AR.
2/3/97 No action has to be taken in the Res: Dept on the

the answers to the questions connected with the subjects dealt with by the Under Secy. In the Secy's order communicating the Prop. attention is ^{no doubt,} specially drawn to the answer to Question XIV (a), but as the Income Tax report is available for at the Govt and Press and the Hon. can get a copy by merely applying for one, it is presumed that no further action in the matter should be taken now.

No. h.m.

1/6/2/87

2.10.87
2/3/97

5.3.97

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING AWAITING FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only