

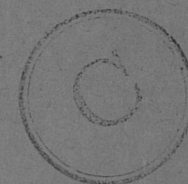
Educational (1903) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No 318

DATED 1. 7. 03. ✓

INDEXED.



[Despatch Abstract.]

Reformatory School, Chingleput.

Coming with to the D.P. I progo, P. to D recording
Correspondence on the subject of the
delay in the construction of the —

BACK PAPERS.

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

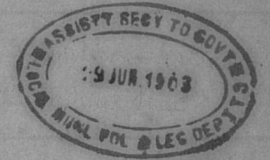
FURTHER PAPERS.

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

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2

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Government {1903} of Madras. PUBLIC WORKS.



Recd. 29-6 }
Regd. 29-6 - } 1903.

Enclosures nil

Spare copies nil

G.O., No. 1646 W., 9th June 1903.



JUNE.

Reformatory School at Chingleput

The correspondence regarding the delay in the construction of the —, recorded with the remark that the officers of the Public Works Department concerned are in no way responsible for the neglect and delay.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

READ—the following paper:—

From C. J. USSHER, Esq., Officiating Superintending Engineer, V Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 25th November 1902, No. 534 W.

With reference to G.O., No. 2120 W., dated 1st August 1902, directing that a report should be submitted regarding the alleged neglect and delay in proceeding with the Reformatory school buildings at Chingleput, I have the honour to submit herewith copy of Executive Engineer's letter No. 3989 S.E., dated 22nd October 1902, together with its enclosure, and also of letter No. 4406, dated 17th November 1902, from the same officer.

2. The great delay which has occurred in connection with the construction of the Reformatory school buildings is almost entirely due to the numerous alterations required, and objections raised, by various superintendents of the school to the sanctioned plans and sites of the buildings; and if this department had been allowed to proceed with the work in accordance with the plans and estimates sanctioned by Government in 1898 and 1899, I am convinced that the school buildings would have been completed long ago. The alterations required from time to time by the different Superintendents necessitated the preparation of new designs and estimates, and until these were sanctioned it was not possible to proceed with either the school building or the dormitory, which are the two most important buildings. The revised estimates were submitted in No. 240 M., dated 9th May 1902, and was sanctioned in G.O., No. 2412 W., dated 3rd September 1902.

3. In the Executive Engineer's letter and its enclosure are given various instances of objections and alterations proposed by the Superintendents of the school, and I submit that the Acting Superintendent's remarks in paragraph 10 of his report and also the Sanitary Commissioner's remarks quoted by him are altogether unjustifiable and must have been written in complete ignorance of the true facts of the case.

4. Now that the revised estimates have been sanctioned, and work is in progress, I trust that there may be no more interference with the revised plans and estimates which have been sanctioned after so much correspondence and consequent delay.

ENCLOSURES.

From C. T. MULLINGS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Chingleput Division, to the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, dated 22nd October 1902, No. 3989 S.E.

[Reference.—His endorsement No. 748 C.N., dated 4th August 1902.]

I have the honour to forward herewith Sub-Division officer's No. 984 E., dated 14th August 1902, which gives certain information on the point at issue, and to add the following remarks.

Ever since the Reformatory work was started, there have been numerous delays in the work, due, in nearly all cases, to the license allowed the successive Superintendents of the Reformatory who have been permitted to question the suitability of all the sanctioned designs and sites, and the correspondence on these two points has probably reached some thousands of letters. These Superintendents too have been changed with remarkable frequency and individual officers have often objected to the proposals of their predecessors, always adding more and more to the delay. I will give a few instances—

(1) *Dormitory.*—The original estimate and plan were objected to by the Superintendent in August 1899, so the Superintending Engineer sent orders in September 1899 that the work should not be begun. Subsequently the Superintendent proposed a change of site and a new estimate was called for in November 1899. Then the Superintendent proposed hammocks to replace cubicles requiring still another estimate—*vide* Government orders of April and May 1901. The necessary accommodation required was not communicated by the Superintendent till August 1901 and the revised design was completed in December. In the meanwhile on the 24th July 1901 a revised estimate had been sent in allowing a lump sum for the dormitory to save delay with the other work, but the Superintending Engineer objected to this arrangement.

(2) *Kitchen.*—This was completed during the year. In August 1900 owing to the Superintendent requiring alterations in the size of the cooking pots, the various gratings, etc., for the works which had already been made at the Public Works Workshops became useless and were broken up and charged to scrap. At the same time a new size of cooking pot was ordered and Superintendent's initials on the plan were taken as approval of the design. However a new Superintendent in February 1902 discovered they were too shallow and we have had to deepen them, and I am now told they are too heavy. As far back as July 1900 the Director of Public Instruction asked for early completion of the kitchen, but the building which was completed last March was not occupied till July.

Weaving shed.—The Superintendent having objected to the sanctioned site, three others were suggested in turn by the Executive Engineer, but that finally chosen was only selected in December last.

Compound wall.—Correspondence on this matter is now going up to Government. The delay here is due to the Superintendent requiring an increase in size of the compound and to a difference of opinion on the subject between the District Judge and Reformatory Superintendent.

In addition to such delays, instances of which can be multiplied to any extent, the whole of the year 1900–1901 was spent in correspondence with various officers in respect of the suitability of the Fort at Chingleput to contain the Reformatory at all.

In this office No. 75, dated 8th May 1901, and No. 902, dated 10th March 1902, to the Superintending Engineer, the difficulty of proceeding either with works or estimates due to continual alterations being required by the Superintendents is brought to notice.

If the Superintendents are justified in their actions, the only fault lies with the Director of Public Instruction when the original estimate was approved by him; but if otherwise their interference in the designs and plans sanctioned by Government should be put a stop to, and in any case such interference is always harassing to the officers in charge of the works.

I regret the delay in replying to this reference, but it is due to the enormous correspondence file that had to be searched.

From C. T. MULLINGS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Chingleput Division, to the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, dated 17th November 1902, No. 4406 S.E.

With reference to your No. 1076 W., dated 7th November 1902, to report the cause of delay in submission of the estimate for the dormitory called for in your No. 592 C.N., dated 8th November 1899, I have the honour to report that the Sub-Division officer, Chingleput, in his No. 1521, dated 2nd December 1899, brought to notice that the Superintendent of the Reformatory school informed him that nothing should be done as regards the plan for the dormitory and its cubicles as many other proposals are also being made by him, and that no further steps should be taken till either the Executive Engineer or Superintending Engineer was consulted as regards these proposals.

Whereupon Mr. Davidson, the then Executive Engineer of this division, inspected the Reformatory school in company with Captain Gifford, the then Superintendent, and the result of his inspection was communicated to you in this office No. 538 S.E., dated 19th December 1899, in which he stated that as Captain Gifford was not satisfied with the proposals he was of opinion that work should be postponed till the questions the Superintendent wishes to raise have been discussed.

In reply, this office was informed in paragraph 2 of your No. 701 C.N., dated 24th December 1899, that the work (dormitory) may be stopped pending further discussion and that when Captain Giffard's proposals have been received they will be made the subject of discussion by the Superintending Engineer, Executive Engineer and the Superintendent before submission for orders of Government.

At this stage, the Superintendent of the Reformatory School addressed the Director of Public Instruction in his No. 241, dated 9th February 1900, on the question of removing all buildings, except the reformatory outside the fort, and in October 1900, this question was finally settled in the Educational Department by the issue of G.O., No. 510, dated 17th October 1900, to the effect that the Governor in Council is not prepared to entertain the scheme advocated by the Superintendent of the Reformatory, which order was communicated to this office with your No. 669 C.N., dated 18th November 1900.

It will, therefore, be seen that up till then the preparation of the estimate could not have been proceeded with, and when the preparation of the design and estimate were put in hand after this date, the Sub-division officer forwarded letter No. 740, dated 30th April 1901, from the Superintendent of the Reformatory School, which letter was submitted to you in original with my endorsement No. 75 S.E., dated 8th May 1901.

Endorsement by the Executive Engineer, Chingleput division, dated 8th May 1901, No. 75 S.E.
Forwarded to the Superintending Engineer, for information.

A great deal of labour and time has been spent in preparing a plan and estimate for a new dormitory with cells which can be kept free of vermine. It is almost ready, but now I suppose the work will have to be gone over again. There is no saying how long this reformatory work will drag on if there is to be all this chopping and changing in the designs. Every new Superintendent seems to have some pet idea that he is determined to work in.

From the Officer in charge of the Chingleput Sub-division, to the Executive Engineer, Chingleput division, dated 14th August 1902, No. 984 E.

[Reference.—Your No. 1463 S.D. of 7th August 1902.]

In returning the Government Order reviewing the report on the working of the reformatory school at Chingleput, I think it necessary to make a few remarks with regard to the observations of the Acting Superintendent in paragraph 10 and which is referred to in the Chief Engineer's order as "neglect and delay" on part of the Public Works Department.

The Acting Superintendent, when he wrote the report was only a few months in charge of the reformatory, and I am certain that he was not made acquainted with the causes of the delay in carrying out these works.

These were almost wholly due to the repeated changes of Superintendents and to that of higher authorities. Last year the grant for the reformatory buildings was Rs. 30,000 with orders to proceed with the quarantine shed, weaving-shed, compound wall and roadway. The side of the quarantine shed, selected and approved of, was thought objectionable, so that work was stopped.

The next was the site of the weaving-shed; that also was said to be objectionable; so this work was stopped. This site was objected to by the Magistrate—*vide* Jail Superintendent's letter No. 51 of 12th July 1901. Next the compound wall was objected to, the Deputy Superintendent wanting more ground to be taken in on the plea of having more area for exercise, while the legitimate play-ground was converted into a market garden. This question is still pending. The only work that we were able to go on with, without objections being raised, was the new road, and this has been completed, barring the railway level crossing.

The school room was another building stopped, after it was well in hand, objections made by the reformatory authorities that it was too small, which apparently they did not see to, until the roof was about being put on.

The next was the dormitory. The sanctioned plan was not approved of by the Inspector-General of Prisons, who suggested that hammocks should be provided; this required an entire revision of the estimate. It will thus be seen that it is not our department that should be blamed for the delay.

In the same paragraph the Acting Superintendent refers to the kitchen. This building was handed over in March, but not made use of until last month. So it appears that however great a hurry they were to get it, they were not anxious to make use of the building. The blacksmith's shop was handed over a long while ago and now used as a weaving-shed.

The blame for neglect and delay must be attributed to the reformatory authorities.

Memo. No. 191, Educational.

In paragraph 10 of the report of the Reformatory School at Chingleput for the year 1901, the Superintendent brought to notice the delay in the execution of the sanctioned additions to the school buildings and in G.O., No. 345, Educational, dated 10th June 1902, the attention of the Public Works Department was drawn to the matter. In the explanations received from the Executive and Superintending Engineers it is alleged that the delay has been mainly due to the numerous objections raised by successive Superintendents to the sanctioned plans and sites of the buildings and to the frequent changes in the recommendations which these officers made and which were from time to time endorsed by the Director of Public Instruction. He is requested to be so good as to state why these changes and objections were endorsed from time to time by him and why he did not take steps to see that the design once determined on and sanctioned was steadily adhered to. A copy of the Superintending Engineer's letter No. 534 W., dated 25th November 1902, with enclosures, is forwarded to him for reference and return.

A. G. CARDEW,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

26th March 1903.

From the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. STUART, M.A., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 19th May 1903, Ref. on C. No. 2564.

I have the honour to reply to Government Memo. No. 191, dated 26th March 1903.

2. In this memorandum, I am asked to state why the changes suggested and the objections made by successive Superintendents of the Reformatory School in regard to the plans and sites of the new buildings were endorsed by me from time to time, and why I did not take steps to see that the design once determined on and sanctioned was steadily adhered to.

I was not responsible for the original plans: the changes and objections were endorsed by me because I approved of them. The principal cause of delay was Major Giffard's proposal that the whole of the fort should be handed over to the reformatory. This was submitted to Government with my letter of 27th April 1900 and Government passed orders declining to sanction the proposal in 17th October 1900. I consider I was justified in submitting the proposal: it would have provided much better accommodation for the reformatory than can ever be provided now: and the reformatory might well have endured its present cramped quarters for some time longer if there had been any chance of funds being provided at some future time to carry out the proposal.

As regards the changes of site, it does not appear that the sites were definitely fixed when the plans and estimates were prepared: the ground is small and it was not easy to squeeze in all the buildings required and the suggestions for change of site were sometimes made by the Public Works Officers themselves.

3. The Superintendent of the Reformatory should not have quoted Dr. King's remarks in paragraph 10 of his report. I intended to omit this paragraph in the printed copy but it unfortunately escaped my attention in the final proof. It will be noticed however that I do not endorse the complaint in my review.

4. In my opinion the changes demanded were all improvements and I would have been wrong not to endorse the demands. In view however of the last question contained in the memorandum of Government I request to be informed whether it is my duty to see that designs once approved by me are carried out without alteration even when, in the light of further knowledge, I am convinced that such alterations are necessary or at least great improvements.

ORDER—No. 1646 W., dated 9th June 1903.

Recorded with the remark that the officers of the Public Works Department concerned are in no way responsible for the neglect and delay referred to in paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 345, Educational, dated 10th June 1902.

2. Further orders on this correspondence will be passed in the Educational Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Educational Department, with copies of the notes.
„ Superintending Engineer, V Circle.

Forwarded to the *Educational Department*.

(By order.)

R. W. Lyons
Second Assistant. 24.6.03

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 1646 W., DATED 9TH JUNE 1903.

[SUBJECT—*Delay in constructing Reformatory school buildings.*]

The accompanying draft order is forwarded for acceptance.

S. B. MURRAY.
24-12-02.

R. W. LYONS.

A. H. GARRETT.
26-12-02.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The draft may be accepted.

P. T. THARYAN.
13-1-03.

Print up please.

A. T. PRINGLE.
15-1-03.

Printed up.

P. T. THARYAN.
26-1-03.

I regret to have detained these papers with me. I had them set up in type with the intention of seeing the Director of Public Instruction and asking him to make enquiries and see if the Reformatory authorities could be cleared of the charges brought against them. The case appeared to be one of those which crop up from time to time where the responsibility and freedom to decide vested in "heads of department" are found to have been completely misused. Just think of "thousands of letters"; of the waste of time and labour in preparing plan after plan, estimate after estimate, just to have them set aside at what one can hardly suppose to have been anything else than the caprice of fresh Superintendents; it is right that each Superintendent in turn should have given his personal attention to the matter, but (if the facts have been stated) no regard to the views of previous Superintendents can have been paid. "How not to do it" seems to be written large over the whole transaction.

A. T. PRINGLE.
16-3-03.

Honourable Member—

The Honourable Member is doubtless well acquainted with the history of the interminable correspondence regarding the Reformatory school buildings. This does not merely go back to 1898, but for many years further. A difficult situation was created when the school was set down in buildings, both unfit and insufficient, and when their extension involved correspondence and discussion with the Revenue Department (controlling the sub-jail), the Judicial Department (in possession of the District Court), the Educational Department (in charge of the school) and the Public

I am not sure that anything will be gained by further references: this is a typical instance of what writing (as opposed to oral discussions on the spot), and want of finality in conclusions will at times bring about in India.

A. T. PRINGLE.
23-5-03.

Shall the information suggested at **A** be called for? Without it, it is impossible to decide whether the Director unnecessarily endorsed proposals for revision of sites and estimates, or whether the Public Works Department allowed these proposals without securing the consent of the Head of the Department.

You will get no more out of the Director and need not waste more time and trouble. Dispose of it by general remarks regarding the necessity of adhering to sanctions and for careful reconsideration and prompt disposal of departures therefrom when afterwards proposed.

Please draft.

It is submitted that the file belongs to the Public Works Department and has to be dealt with there. The addition to their draft of a sentence to the effect that further orders will be passed in the Educational Department may be suggested and the draft as thus altered, accepted. On receipt of the Public Works order it may be communicated to the Director of Public Instruction with the remark ordered by the Honourable Member.

The Public Works current and the draft order are now in type. That Department will probably find it convenient to print the further correspondence and notes [and] if so will they be so good as to send copies to Educational.

Pass on to the Public Works Department.

A. T. PRINGLE.
29-5-03.

A. G. CARDEW.
29-5-03.

To the Public Works Department u. o.

READ ALSO :—

C. No. 1010, From the P. W. D., No. 1046W, dated 9-6-1903

No. 318, dated 1-7-1903

mis

Communicated to the D.P.I.
with the remark that plans ~~and~~ of
buildings once sanctioned and sites
selected should be adhered to as far
as possible ~~but~~ ^{but} that if any alterations
are found absolutely necessary ~~to~~
such alterations should be carefully
considered + the proposal about them
promptly disposed of.

1-7-03

30/6/23

From Hon's order S.

To the D.P. Defd
8/7/3

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

190

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
 190

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BRING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.:-

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- F = Copy abstract only.
- G = Copy heading only

with the remark that plans of
 linkings are sanctioned and after
 selected should be prepared to refer
 to the ~~but~~ that if any alterations
 are found absolutely necessary to
 level alterations should be carefully
 considered the proposed alterations
 must be approved by the