27/3/92/RH/S3
248/RH/92

M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1517	Press Mis.
	68-69	
Dated	29-10-~~19~~1818	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 68. Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 14th October 1858, No. 420.

SIR,

As I observe in the Gazette of the 8th October 1858, page 809, a Notice by the Honorable Court, of Mr. Chapman's report, attributing to the Natives, discontent and distrust from the fact of prisoners having been deprived of their lotahs, I beg that in reference to my orders on this subject, it may be distinctly understood that the habits of the Natives of this Presidency entirely differ from those of Bengal; a brass lotah* is no doubt a fashionable luxury to those who can afford it, but, I believe, nine-tenths of our prisoners never possessed such an article, unless as the result of a successful theft and that even in this case it passed to the nearest receiver of stolen goods. I was much surprised at Hooghly at finding brass dishes in common use among the prisoners. Among male Hindoos of caste, I believe the use of such utensils, in the Northern Division at least, is prohibited by prejudice, yet in Bengal this prejudice induces an attachment to their use.

* Chemboo.

2. I feel confident that no rule prevailing in our Prisons is regarded by the public as having any reference to interference with religion.

3. The educational question is, I believe, in this Presidency, with those affected, one of interest only, though no doubt capable of misconstruction by those whose interests are affected by it.

No. 69. ORDER THEREON, No. 1517; dated 29th October 1858.

To be recorded.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial 1858 Department
Jn Comn: 29 October.

From
The Inspector of Prisons
Cotacamund

To
The Chief Secretary to the Govt of
Fort St. George

Dated 14th October 1858
R.C
No 420.

No 1094.

Enclosure a Note.

With reference to a notice by the Honble Court of Mr Chapman's report attributing to the natives discontent and distress from the fact of Prisoners having been deprived of their Cotahs for Chemtors I desire that it may be distinctly understood with reference to his orders on this subject, that the habits of the natives of this Presidency differ from those of Bengal.

30/5/17
Colin Reeves
29/10/58.

C22@N
R28.

68 & 69.