

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	933	Press
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	36-37	
Dated	9-7-	1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

933

Fort St. George, Judicial Consultation, 13th July 1858.

No. 36. Read the following Extract Minutes Consultation in the Public Works Department, dated 1st July 1858, No. 1242.

Disposing of such portions of the orders of Government of } (Vide Public Works Consultation, dated 6th
8th May last, Judicial Department, on the Annual Prisons' } July 1858, Nos. 115 and 116.)
Report as were referred to the Public Works Department.

No. 37. ORDER THEREON, No. 933; dated 9th July 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Inspector of Prisons in reference to Extract Minutes Consultation, 8th May 1858, No. 612.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 1st July 1858.

Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Judicial Department, dated 8th May 1858, No. 612.

Read the following letters from the Inspector of Prisons.

(Here enter 10th and 17th November 1857.)

Two hundred copies of each of the foregoing Reports, dated respectively 10th and 17th November last, have now been printed at the Gazette Press. They will be distributed in accordance with the list prepared for the Report of last year. The first is the Prisons' Report proper for the official year 1856-57, and in the second *Mr. Rohde* reviews the Report of the Medical Board on the sanitary condition of the Jails for the Calendar year 1856. In future, *Mr. Rohde* will submit the Medical Report as an annexure to his own; incorporating with his remarks on the state of the Prisons generally, any observations he may have to offer on the Reports of the Medical authorities at the several Jails. Both Reports also should be for the same period, that is for the official year, the next being for the year 1857-58. The Medical Board might in their Report for that year notice separately the sanitary state of the Prisons for the 4 months intervening between the close of their present Report, 31st December 1856, and the 1st May 1857, on which the official year 1857-58 commences.

2. The Government now proceed to pass orders on the first, or Prisons' Report. In paras. 1 @ 14, *Mr. Rohde* briefly enumerates the various tours of inspection he has made, and the different reforms which have engaged his attention during the official year. It appears that, besides revisiting a number of Jails, he has now completed his inspection of all the Prisons, that at *Kurnool* excepted. Revised Jail Rules have been compiled, comprising regulations for the conduct of the Officer in charge and his Jailer; those proper to be observed on the admission of prisoners and for their diet and clothing while in custody; the labor of Convicts on public works outside the Prison, and the introduction of manufactures, wherever practicable, within the walls.

3. Para. 16. *Mr. Rohde* should not expect that any large outlay will be sanctioned at present towards building new Prisons. The Government will press on the Government of India the expediency of allowing the construction, as early as possible, of one of the five great Central Prisons proposed by the Inspector.

4. Para. 17. & 18. EDUCATION OF CONVICTS.—In reviewing his first Report, Government rejected the measures suggested by *Mr. Rohde* on this head, and directed him to enquire what course had been adopted at other Presidencies. It does not appear that education, in the sense of reading and writing, has been any where instituted, except in the N. W. Provinces, at the Central Prison of *Agra* more especially—where, previously to the out-break, 4,000 Convicts were confined. A great deal however has been done, in *Bengal* particularly, in the way of training prisoners to habits of industry and order by instruction in the ordinary mechanical arts. In the *Hooghly* Jail, it is observed that the return made by the sale of the Prison manufacture (in this case *gunny* bags) gave an average of Rupees 55-3 for each manufacturing prisoner, or more than one-fifth of his cost of maintenance. From the same Report, the Government further learn that great success has attended the construction of Jail gardens not only in *Bengal*, but in *Agra* and the *Punjaub*. Their establishment has resulted in a great saving in the supply of vegetables and condiments, and in an increased healthiness from the disappearance of scurvy among the prisoners. The subject is worthy of *Mr. Rohde's* consideration.

5. Paras. 19 and 20 will be referred to the Sudder Court. Para. 21 to the Department Public Works.

6. The postscript of the Report will be brought to the notice of the Honorable Court. They will be informed that the allowance made for the support of destitute children of Convicts is extremely small, and that its withdrawal is to be deprecated. Whenever relatives can be found, the children should of course be made over to them. In other cases, the Inspector should

have them apprenticed under the Act (No. XIX of 1850.) In *Madras*, the Government learn that respectable natives, who have lost their own children, are very glad to adopt one or more of those under the tutelage of the Commissioner of Police.

7. The present Report should have had an Index attached.

8. **MEDICAL REPORT.**—The past year, remarkably healthy; with one or two exception the Jails were free from epidemics, a result to be partially ascribed to the precautions which have been generally adopted in enforcing a greater attention to cleanliness, in allowing a more generous diet, and in improving the ventilation. The Jails at *Salem*, *Coimbatore*, *Combaconum*, *Madura* and *Calicut* continue to exhibit the least satisfactory returns. A new Jail at *Salem* has been ordered, and the Inspector would urge the erection of new Prisons at *Coimbatore*, *Combaconum* and *Madura*, as early as circumstances will permit. *Tellicherry*, usually so healthy, this year stands very high on the list the other way. The Inspector considers that the reason of this is yet to be ascertained. He was to visit the Jail early in the present year.

9. The Government do not understand how such omissions as those reported in paras. 11 and 13 are allowed. When once the Government have passed an order regarding any Prison matter, they look to the Inspector either to carry it out or to see that no neglect occurs in other Departments in respect of it. Such neglect should be brought to notice at once, instead of forming the subject of a para. in the annual Report.

10. The remarks on the "Penitentiary" in the Medical Board's Report will be communicated to the Commissioner of Police. *Colonel Boulderson* will take care that each prisoner in future provided with a mat and a *cumbly*. In future the Director General of the Medical Department will report separately on this Jail, and will not include 'Mercara' in his Annual Report to the Madras Inspector of Prisons.

11. *Para. 22.* The Inspector may submit a design for the proposed Lunatic Asylum, suggested.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary

1. Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer, to whom five copies of the Report referred to in the above Extract have already been forwarded.

2. Adverting to para. 3 of the order, the Government observe, that an application was recently* made to the Government of India for early sanction to an estimate of Rupees 1,63,200 for the erection of a Central Prison at Red Hills, as also to another of Rupees 30,000 for a Jail for native Prisoners at Ootacamund, which was entered in the Budget of 1858.

* 14th May 1853, No. 923.

+ Statement I, No. 7.

3. Para. 21 of the Report of the Inspector of Prisons dated 10th November 1857, regarding lock-up houses and accommodation provided for prisoners in the standard plan of the Police Cutcherry will be referred to the Superintending Engineer in charge of the Central Office report, in communication with the District Engineers. They will procure any particulars they may require to make their reports complete from *Mr. Rohde*.

(A true Extract.)

W. A. Bayle

Acting Secretary to Government

To the Officiating Chief Engineer.

„ Judicial Department.

3^d July

C. H. May 1855. No 3924.
 Oct 20. 1855.

In 1846 to 1847. 1847.
 Judicial. 1847. 1847.

General Authority Board
 Station in the Public Works
 1847. 1847.

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Reporting of such portions
 of the Orders of 1847 of 8
 May 1847. 1847. 1847.
 the Annual Museum
 Reports as were referred
 to the Public Works Dept.

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Exposed to communication
 the Director of Prison in
 reference to Pub. Works: 1847. 1847.

1847. 1847. 1847.
 9. July, 1847. 1847.

1847. 1847. 1847.

Copy of the order of 1847. 1847.
 Prisoners. 1847. 1847.