

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1442	Press
		Miss.
153-154		
Dated	23.11.1861	19

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Not to be folded or roughly handled*1442*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
23rd November 1861.

No. 153. Read the following letter from Captain C. S. HEARN, Acting Inspector General of Madras Police; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madura, 18th October 1861.

With reference to the Order of Government No. 1,195, dated 23rd September 1861, I have the honor to submit the following Report regarding the Establishments of Village Police in the Trichinopoly and Madura Districts.

2. The Government of India request to be informed to what extent the Village Police, as now being re-organized, will practically form a new charge on the State.

Village Police.—3. I must premise that the sums estimated for by Mr. Robinson on this account and sanctioned by Government in their Orders, dated 4th April 1861, No. 450, and 27th March 1861, No. 425, have never yet been expended.

Trichinopoly...	Rupees 66,600
Madura	61,484

4. It is needless to remark here upon the state of confusion which pervades the old Village Police institutions throughout the Presidency. Shortly after the commencement of practical working with the new Constabulary, it became apparent that to attempt a piecemeal reform of the Village Police by Districts would be unadvisable, if not impossible. The Village Police was therefore simply utilized as it stood, pending the introduction of a comprehensive measure of re-organization. In a few Districts only where no available Village Police existed, new stipendiary Watchers were entertained.

5. The operations of the Inam Commission and the general revision of Village Establishments, will afford the desired opportunity of thorough re-organization. But this cannot be carried out until the actual assets of Village service Inam onfranchisement, and the balance necessary to support the charge of a new establishment, (which must be met from other sources,) have been correctly ascertained.

6. Meanwhile the sole Village Police in Trichinopoly and Madura consists of the original Village Watch under the name of Arsoogars, Talaries and Kavilgars, who are remunerated by their hereditary inam lands, and by the fees assigned to them under the common law of the country. These men have been brought as far as possible under control and into co-operation with the Constabulary. But it is a mere temporary expedient.

	Inam.	Fees.	Total.
Trichinopoly...	4,803	29,900	34,693
Madura...	9,019		9,019

7. The only fresh charge for Village Police as yet incurred by the State in these Districts, has resulted from the appointment of a class of officials termed Village Inspectors, upon a salary of Rupees 42 per annum. Their number and cost at the present date are exhibited in the margin.

	No. of Village Inspectors.	Cost.
Trichinopoly...	107 X 42	= 4,494
Madura	39 X 42	= 1,638
Total.....		6,132

8. Village Inspectors were appointed with a view to re-modelling the Village Police. But the scheme then proposed has not yet been carried out. Experience has cast a doubt upon the practical value of these men as Village Police officials, and they will probably find no place in the measure of reform now under contemplation. They are useless adjuncts to the old Village watch institutions, and their services have been dispensed with from the 1st proximo.

9. Thus it will be seen that no charge is at present being incurred for Village Police in Trichinopoly and Madura.

10. With regard to the future cost of the Village Police, I would observe that the scheme of re-organization is not yet matured, I can therefore merely sketch the probable result in each District.

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Trichinopoly.—11. The original plan for re-organizing the Village Police of Trichinopoly will admit of considerable modification. The future Establishment will probably consist of 793 Talukies placed under the control of the Heads of Villages. The Chief Magistrate considers that this number will suffice. Each man will receive 3 Rupees per mensem, making a total cost of about Rupees 28,000 per annum. The real assets to meet this charge are but few: they consist first of Poligar lands resumed in 1837 to the amount of Rupees 2,439. This fund has always been devoted to Police purposes since the date of resumption, having provided for the pay of stipendiary Village Watchers or Arsoogars in the Arsaloor and Oodiarpolliem Taluqs. The original number of these watchers appointed in 1837 was 234; but vacancies have not been filled up and the number now existing is only 60, forming an annual charge of Rupees 1,440. The accumulations from this fund already amount to Rupees 19,296. This sum lies in deposit as a Police Fund, and has never been credited to any other head. But the land still comes under the head of Inam, and will be dealt with accordingly by the Inam Commission, so that the actual asset will be reduced to Rupees 1,525, or $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of the whole.

12. The Inam land now enjoyed by Village Talukies is assessed at Rupees 2,254. This enfranchised at $\frac{1}{4}$ ths will yield Rupees 1,409.

13. There is a further sum of Rupees 1,992, the amount of Menkavil lands resumed in 1839. This sum was at once brought to the credit of Government under the head of Land Revenue, but at the same time it was liable to a charge for a life pension accorded to the then existing incumbents. Of these only 174 survive, receiving Rupees 1,680 per annum. On the lapse of these pensions, the sum set free may be fairly considered an asset for Police purposes without loss to the State, since Government have never really enjoyed the proceeds of the lands. Eventually the whole sum will of course become available.

14. The fees said to be now enjoyed by the Village Police to the amount of Rs. 29,900 may be passed over; and the practical assets for new Village Police purposes will therefore stand as follows:

	Amount.	Enfranchised at $\frac{1}{4}$ ths.	Real Assets.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Poligar Lands resumed in 1837.....	2,439	1,525	1,525
Village Police Inam land.....	2,254	1,409	1,409
Menkavil lands resumed in 1839.....	1,992		1,992
Total...	6,685	2,934	4,926

15. The real assets thus consist of about Rupees 5,000 only (independent of the accumulated sum of Rupees 19,296 mentioned in paragraph 11) against Rupees 28,000 estimated for the new Village Police. The balance Rupees 23,000 will remain to be met.

16. Mr. Pelly has included the Village Police in his scheme for the revision of the Village establishments in Trichinopoly. By paragraph 4 of his letter, it would appear that the new Revenue Assessment will defray the whole charges for Village Establishments (including Police) being framed on a maximum standard in which all fees are taken into account. In that case the deficit of Rupees 23,000 for Village Police will not form a charge on the State. It will be met by the increased demand on the land.

Madura.—17. In Madura District also the real assets to meet the charge of a new Village Police are very small.

18. On the abolishment of the Menkavil and Poligar system in 1797 and 1801, rent free land to the extent of 9,655 acres was resumed. The income then amounted to about 17,000 Rs. It is now estimated at from 30,000 to 35,000 Rupees. But from the date of resumption the proceeds of these lands have been incorporated with the general Revenue, and to apply them now to Police purposes would practically draw upon the State.

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19. The Jivium Funds resumed in 1802 yielded an income of Rupees 5,739 per annum. In 1855 the income of these Jivium lands was estimated at Rupees 13,000. But this sum has also been included in the Ayen from date of resumption, and if now appropriated to the Police Establishment, it will really be an extra charge to the State.

20. There are now 386 Village Watchers or Kavilgars in the Government Taluqs enjoying rent free land, amounting to 9,019 Rupees. It is proposed to enfranchise this land at full assessment, and this sum will form an undoubted asset for the new Village Police.

21. Mr. Pelly, in conjunction with the Collector, has proposed an Establishment of 490 Village Watchmen at Rupees 36 per annum for each man. The cost will be 17,640 Rupees, and on deducting the amount to be realised by enfranchisement of rent free lands, as above stated, there will remain a balance of Rupees 8,621 to be made good by a local cess should Government so decide.

22. The Government Taluqs being thus provided for, the question of the Zemindaries remains to be dealt with.

23. In the great Zemindaries of Shevagungah and Ramnad there appear to be 4,229 Villages for which, when carefully formed into groups, 403 Village Watchers will be required at a yearly cost of 17,010 Rupees.

24. The Inam land said to be set apart for the remuneration of the present Village watch is as follows:

	Amount of Inam Land
Shevagungah.....	Rupees 3,017
Ramnad.....	5,402
Total...	8,419

This sum ought to be a set-off, but I very much doubt the correctness of the Zemindary accounts, or if the Inams said to exist can be practically dealt with. It is probable that the total charge of Rupees 17,010 will have to be met.

25. Although the Zemindars are freed by the terms of their tenure from the charge of maintaining a Police, yet the Collector is of opinion that the inhabitants of the Zemindaries might be fairly cessed (in support of their own Village Police) as well as their neighbours in the Government Taluqs. The Zemindars might be required by Law to recover the amount of the cess by adding it to the Puttahs, and it might then be remitted with the annual Pesbush.

26. There are 24 small Zemindaries mixed up in the Ayen Taluqs, which must also be provided for. The following statement gives particulars:—

Taluqs in which Zemindaries are situated.	Number of Villages.	Area square miles.	Population.	Present Watchers.	
				No.	Assessment of Inam land.
Terumungalum.....	93	148	48,752	20	245 5 9
Madura.....	4	3	1,765	1	8 15 ..
Melur.....	13	51	3,237	...	...
Periakolum.....	41	458	58,436	1	5 15 ..
Dindigul.....	37	351	65,814	15	333 10 5
Pulney.....	51	291	56,417	..	...
Total ..	239	1,237	2,34,421	37	593 14 2

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27. About 130 Village Watchers will probably suffice for the wants of these petty Zemindaries when the villages are carefully grouped. The charge will be Rupees 4,680, to meet which there is but the small credit of Rupees 600, derived from Inam land, which will yield an asset of from Rupees 375 to Rupees 600, according as the land is enfranchised at $\frac{1}{4}$ or full assessment. The observations in paragraph 25 will also apply to these Zemindaries.

28. The future cost of the re-organized Village Police in Madura may be summed up as follows:

	No. of Watchers required.	Cost.	Deduct Inam lands.	Balance of new charge.
Government Taluqs..	490	17,640	9,019	8,621
Shevargungah and Ramnad.....	405	17,010		17,010
Petty Zemindaries...	130	4,680	375	4,305
Total...	1,025	39,330	9,394	29,936

This gives a total new charge of Rupees 30,000. As regards the Government Taluqs no commutation of fees can be taken into account in the new Revenue Settlement, (as described in paragraph 16 of this letter with reference to Trichinopoly) because no joint fees seem to exist; but I imagine that the general measure now contemplated for defraying the cost of Village Establishments will not be restricted by this consideration. Mr. Pelly estimates that a very slight cess will provide for the village Revenue and Police Establishments in this District. The charge for new Village Police in the Zemindaries must also either be met by a cess or fall upon the general revenues of the country.

29. I trust I have made it clear that no money is at present being spent on Village Police in Trichinopoly and Madura. The cost of the new Establishments when organized will, I conclude, be provided for by legislation, so as to avoid any fresh charge to the State.

No. 154. To the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Fort Saint George, 23rd November 1861, No. 1,442.

In reply to your letter, 14th May 1861, No. 969, calling for a report, showing to what extent the Village Police reorganized on the scale sanctioned for the districts of Trichinopoly and Madura, will practically form a new charge on the State, I am directed to forward a copy of a letter, 18th ultimo, from the Acting Inspector General of Police.

2. Captain Hearn states that it has been found impossible to attempt a piecemeal reform of the Village Police by districts. The Village Police have, therefore, been employed as they stood. In a few districts only, where no available Village Police existed, stipendiary Watchers have been entertained. In Trichinopoly and Madura, the original Watch are still maintained, and are remunerated by their hereditary Inam lands, and their fees. The only charge incurred in these districts has been by the appointment of Village Inspectors, but as this class have not proved useful adjuncts to the old Watcher body, they have been dispensed with. It thus appears that no portion of the sums sanctioned for Village Police Establishments of these two districts is now being expended.

3. The Village Police have, however, been brought as far as possible under control and into co-operation with the Constabulary. But this is a mere temporary expedient, until a proper scheme for the reorganization of the Village bodies has been matured. The outline of such a scheme is sketched and the sources from which the expenses of it are to be met are discussed out by Captain Hearn in paragraphs 11 to 20 of his report and will receive the consideration of this Government hereafter.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Miss A. 91492 Sept 1861
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- 1st of April - 1861.
- 15th of June - 1861.
- 30th of June - 1861.

Judicial 1861 Dept

From
The Ag Inspector
Genl of M. Police.

of 18th Oct 2 1861
of 6th Nov 3 1861

No. 1794

Submits Report re-
farding the Establish-
ments of Village Police
in the Trichinopoly
& Madura Districts.

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Judicial Department

N^o 1442.

To The Secretary to the
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Stipendiary Watchers have been entertained. In Trichinopoly and Madurai, the original Watch are still maintained, and are remunerated by their hereditary income lands, and their fees. The only charge incurred in these districts has been by the appointment of Village Inspectors, but as this class have not proved useful adjuncts to the old watcher body, they have been dispensed with. It thus appears that no portion of the sums sanctioned for Village Police Establishments of these two districts is now being expended.

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Port St George,
23^d November, 1861.

J. H.

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To the Secy: to the Court
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