M.R. O. 1—80,000—26-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 791 Press ~~Mis.~~

108-109

Dated 16.5.1862 ~~19~~

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 16th May 1862.

No. 108. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, dated 7th May 1862, No. 1,004.

Respecting the desirability of sanctioning special Establishments of Village Moonsiffs in large towns in different Districts. } (Vide Proceedings Revenue Department, dated 7th May 1862, Nos. 149 and 150.)

No. 109. ORDER THEREON, 16th May 1862, No. 791.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

2E

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 28th March 1862, No. 1,222 :—

SIR,

1. In the last paragraph of their Order on my report on the village Establishments of the Kistna District, I was directed to consider, after consulting with the Collector, whether a special Establishment would not be the best arrangement for the large towns of Masulipatam and Guntoor.

Order of Government, dated 29th October 1861, No. 2,067, paragraph 15.

2. The Collector Mr. Thornhill is of opinion that a special Establishment of a village Moonsiff is desirable. He reports that in the town of Masulipatam 203 suits cognizable by village Moonsiff, were instituted before the District Moonsiff during the past three years. The town has a population of about forty thousand; but though there are fourteen village Moonsiffs in this town, they are not educated men, and they receive no remuneration whatever; the consequence is that suits, and petty Police cases, cognizable by them are generally filed in the District Moonsiff's Courts or disposed of by the Tahsíldár, as the duties of the District Moonsiff and Tahsíldár are very onerous, he proposes that one competent person be appointed as village Moonsiff for the town itself.

3. In Guntoor town the number of suits cognizable by village Moonsiffs instituted in the Guntoor Moofty Sudder Amín's Court during three years was only 39 suits. The population of the town is about fifteen thousand. Mr. Thornhill proposes to appoint here also a competent person as village Moonsiff.

4. The number of suits cognizable by village Moonsiffs in either of these towns is not nearly so large as in the town of Kurnool, the population of which town is only twenty-seven thousand, and about one thousand suits are annually filed. But if a competent village Moonsiff is appointed, it is reasonable to suppose that many more suits will be filed.

5. I am of opinion that there should certainly be a separate Moonsiff for the town of Masulipatam, and I think one might also be given for Guntoor, though at present the number of suits there is but small, but would probably increase. I would beg to recommend the following Establishment for each of these places. The Establishment proposed by the Collector is shown in the margin.

Establishment proposed by Collector.

Proposed Establishment.	Masulipatam.	Guntoor.
1 Moonsif ...	25	15
1 Peon... ...	4	4
Sadirwarid	2	1
Total..	31	20

Designation.	Masulipatam.		Guntoor.	
1	2			
	No.	Rs.		Rs.
Moonsiff.. ...	1	25	1	15
Gumáshta ...	1	10	0	0
Peon.....	1	4	1	4
Sadirwarid ..		2½	0	1
Total...		41½	0	20

6. I shall call upon other Collectors to report whether it is desirable to have similar establishments for Moonsiffs in large towns in their Districts.

Referred to the Sudder Court.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT, *Chief Secretary.*

Fort Saint George,
8th April 1862.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. F. CHAMIER, *Registrar.*

The Judges are averse to the appointment of such low paid functionaries for the discharge of Judicial duties. They think it would be preferable gradually to extend the system of Small Cause Courts (such as are about to be established), in all Districts where the pressure of the litigation may be too great for the existing tribunals.

By Order of the Sudder Court;

14*th April* 1862. (Signed) C. F. CHAMIER, *Registrar.*

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

ORDER THEREON, 7th May 1862, No. 1,004.

1. The Governor in Council observes that the question under consideration is merely whether, in places like Masulipatam and Guntoor, it is not desirable to have efficient and well-paid, instead of illiterate and ill-paid village Moonsiffs. The plan has answered well elsewhere, as for instance in Kurnool, Trichinopoly and Combaconum, and there is no reason why this improvement should be foregone, because Small Cause Courts (which however cannot at once be established in every District) will be more effective. The pay proposed for these Moonsiffs is not inadequate remuneration considering their limited powers and the character of the work which they have to perform.

2. Mr. Pelly will proceed with his enquiries as proposed in paragraph 6 of his letter of the 28th March, and the Government will pass orders in each case, when fixing the village Establishments of the different Districts. The minimum salary of a town Moonsiff should be 20 Rupees per mensem.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Hon. C. Pelly.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ Sudder Court.
„ Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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No 964

Respecting the desirability of demolishing Special Establishments of Village Constables in large Towns in different Districts.

No 791 – 16 May 1862

To be recorded.

1862/109