

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	155	Press
		<u>Mis.</u>
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Dated	8 - 2 -	~~19~~ 1864

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
8th February 1864.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 29. From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Agent to the Governor in Ganjam ; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Chatterpoor, 6th July 1863, No. 39.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Order of Government, No. 1004, dated the 25th June last.

2. It is not quite clear to me from the Government Order, and the Inspector General's letter, whether the Government understand that the reduction, which it was the object of my letter to deprecate, has after all not been carried out.

3. Mr. Robinson's first order to the District Superintendent was to prepare to disband one-third of the Hill Constabulary, or about 150 men.*

* Out of 469.

† Leaving the Reserve at 378.

Shortly after, however, was received his printed Memorandum on the reduction of the Ganjam Police, which provides for a reduction of 80† men. This also was not carried out, the District Superintendent having received after-instructions which limited the reduction to 40 men. Then came Captain Tennant (during the absence of the District Superintendent), and with Mr. Robinson's Memorandum in his hand again threatened the entire reduction of 80 men therein set down ; but this intention also was abandoned soon after I wrote the letter of remonstrance on which the present Order of Government has been passed.

4. I learn with satisfaction that the Government regard existing arrangements as having been well considered : a reference to my letter reporting on a tour in the Hills in February last will show that these arrangements were planned and carried out by myself in communication with the District Officers, and in modification of those originally adopted.

5. The newly occupied out-post of Bomanigam, mentioned by the Inspector General, is the one alluded to in paragraph 6 of my letter, it has been occupied by pushing forward the Sooradah guard. Had the reduction deprecated by me been really carried out, existing arrangements must have been disturbed, and future steps to render them more complete, and which I hope to effect next cold weather with the means left at my disposal, would have been impossible.

6. I have no wish to impugn the confidence reposed by Government in the Inspector General, but I should be glad to share it. The Government will, I think, admit that the great modification in the reduction originally planned by the Inspector General (from 150 to 40 men), as already explained, constitutes a tacit admission of the justice of the objections I have from the first opposed to the measure, a course which has brought upon me, notwithstanding, the gravest rebuke. I trust I have now shown that I did not trouble the Government without due cause.

7. I would request that a copy of my report of February last may be furnished to the Inspector General. I will in the ensuing cold season duly communicate to that Officer the further arrangements I have alluded to.

No. 30. From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Agent to the Governor in Ganjam ; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Madras, dated Rumbah, 7th August 1863, No. 52.

Adverting to my letter, No. 26, dated 18th May last, regarding reductions in the Hill Constabulary, I have the honor to submit, for the information of Government, copy of a letter I have this day addressed to the Inspector General of Police, who has recently instructed the District Superintendent to transfer these men to other duties, and re-place them by the ordinary District Constabulary. I feel compelled to call the attention of Government to this matter, because the measures proposed by the Inspector General seem to me totally incompatible with the attainment of the objects which the Government had in view when they resolved to take the Khond country under their control.

From G. S. FORBES, Esq., Agent to the Governor in Ganjam ; to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police, Madras, dated Rumbah, 7th August 1863, No. 51.

It has come to my knowledge that the Superintendent of Police in this district has your instructions to employ the men of the Armed reserve or Hill Constabulary at the salt pans and other places

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on the coast, and to substitute for them in the performance of their special duties the ordinary Constabulary of the District.

2. That such orders should have been issued without any communication with myself has occasioned me some surprise, and I think it my duty to point out that the Hill Police will inevitably suffer severely from "Beri-beri" and other complaints if transferred to the salt pans and other duties on the coast, and that the ordinary Constabulary of the District are totally unfit to re-place them, and to undertake their duties in the Khond and Sourah Malias.

3. The late Sibbundies, though now completely incorporated with the District Police, have been for years past (as you are aware) disciplined and trained to the use of arms, they are to a certain extent acclimated to the Hill country, and are acquainted both with the country itself and with its inhabitants.

4. In virtue of the long period during which they have been practiced in the use of arms, and accustomed to act and move in a body, they may be looked upon as veterans, and their steadiness on various occasions of trial must be attributed entirely to these circumstances. The ordinary Constabulary of the District have a very imperfect acquaintance with the musket and with anything like Military organization: they are not acquainted with the Khond country and people, and entertain a hearty dread of both. I have not the least doubt that their physique would succumb very speedily to the climate and the frequent hardships of the duty, and that their want of training would expose them to failures discreditable to themselves and mischievous in their effects.

5. I need scarcely remind you of what occurred a very few months ago in the Southern part of the Chinna Kimedy Malia, where a party of 50 men effected an arrest (in a District remote from any point up to that time visited by us), and were for three days and nights surrounded in a narrow valley by large bodies of Khonds, and forced to remain under arms day and night; nothing but the self-reliance of the men and their familiarity with the service saved them from being cut to pieces.

6. I cannot think that a body of the ordinary Constabulary of the District would have passed through such an ordeal with safety, and I should consider it worse than unwise to expose them to it.

7. A copy of this letter will be submitted to Government in reference to the correspondence which has already taken place, and to the importance which I attach to the maintenance of a select and special body for the Hill service.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Agent to the Governor.

No. 31. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Kotegheri, 6th October 1863, No. 2619.

General Department.

With reference to Mr. Forbes' letter, dated 7th August 1863, I have the honor to explain that no instructions have been given for employing other than the Hill Division of the Ganjam Constabulary in the Gumsur Highlands. None others are or have been so employed.

2. When the rains set in the number of men actually employed in the Hills was temporarily reduced. The consequence was that an unusually large number of the men of this Division was idle at Russelcondah. I gave instructions to utilize them on general Police duty in the Gumsur Talug, the Native country of most of the Uryah men who compose the majority of this Division, and on Treasury and Salt Store guard duty.

3. I had three objects in this order: 1st, to give the men something to do; 2ndly, to utilize Government expenditure; and lastly, but not least, to accustom these hitherto irregular soldiers to Civil Police duty.

4. The late *Shibandis* were irregular soldiers, and there is reason to fear that they looked on the Khond Highlands as a kind of enemy's country, which was to be occupied and coerced by a Military force. This feeling is, I hope, passing away under the new Police system and the management of the Agent. But it is hard to make of soldiers real Civil Police men. Time

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and care alone will effect it. And I am anxious that the spirit of the Division of the Constabulary now employed on the Malyah should become of a more peaceful character, and that they should have an opportunity of observing the objects of Government in the old and occupied part of the District. This is best effected by associating the men with the working of the regular Police in other Divisions. This is done without the slightest detriment to their discipline or acquaintance with the use of their weapons.

5. I do not anticipate any loss of health from occasional employment on the coast. There had always been a guard at Chatterpore before the Police was organized. There was on the 31st August but one man on the coast. The Government may be assured that the Officers of Police are, under my instructions, looking carefully after the health of their men. There were only fourteen in Hospital on the 31st August last.

	Men.
In Kimedy and its Hills	81
In Khond Hills	166
At the Head-quarter, Russelcondah	224

6. On the 31st August last, the Division was disposed as per margin. I consider that the latter were not sufficiently utilized.

No. 32. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Madras Police; to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Kotegheri, 17th October 1863, No. 2671.

Account Department.

With reference to the letter (date and number as per margin) from the Government's Agent of Ganjam, I have the honor to submit the following explanation.

No. 39, dated 6th July 1863.

2. The full reduction ordered by Government in the District force of Ganjam has been carried out.

3. It consisted, as ordered by Government, of a reduction of 100 men from the Hill Division of the Police, and 33 men of the Talug Divisions of the low country.

4. In carrying out the details of the reduction, the District officers offered to throw more of the reduction on the Talug force than is contemplated, and to reduce the Hill Division by 35 men only; distributing the rest of the reduction over the other Division.

5. The Government is aware of the strong feeling expressed and maintained by Mr. Forbes on the subject of these reductions. In deference to this feeling I have ventured to accede, as a temporary measure, to this adjustment of the reduction. It is done without affecting the financial bearing of the matter.

6. I am quite satisfied that there are no good grounds for making any modification of the Orders of Government in the matter of these reductions. And I can only hope that under the circumstances, the Government will view with indulgence the temporary divergence from the execution of the orders issued that I have ventured to allow.

7. I am shortly proceeding on a tour to the District of Ganjam, when I will adjust matters with the local Officers.

No. 33. ORDER THEREON, 8th February 1864, No. 155.

The Governor in Council having recently sanctioned an addition of 30 men to the Ganjam Constabulary, deems it unnecessary to pass any orders on the subject referred to in the foregoing letters.

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

Exd. J. Tulloch.

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Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters:-

From the Agent to the Governor of }
Fort St. George, in Ganjam - } Here enter 6 July 1863. N^o 52.
The Inspector General of }
Mofussil Police - } - do - 6th October - N^o 2619.
26/7

Order thereon 8th February 1864. N^o 155.

The Governor in Council
having recently sanctioned
an addition of 30 men to
the Ganjam Constabulary,
deems it unnecessary to
pass any orders on the subject
referred to in the foregoing
letters.

1
To the Agent to the Governor of }
Fort St. George, in Ganjam } des^d 12th 1863
The Inspector General of Police. }

lit of 16. 1864.

Richard & M. H. H. H. H.

1865.

Friendship of God?

Oct 20th February 1864.

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