

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1663	Press Mts.
¹⁻⁴⁻⁴⁰ Dated	19-11-	19. 1864

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
19th November 1864.

No. 179. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 14th November 1864, No. 3259.

Deeming it unnecessary to apply to the Government of India for additional grants during the current year, for the Central Jails now under construction at Coimbatore and Rajahmundry. (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Dept., dated 14th Nov. 1864, Nos. 266—268.)

No. 180. ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1864, No. 1663.
Communicated to the Inspector General of Jails.

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

To the Inspector General of Jails.

Ed. T. Curdison.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th November 1864.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 206. From Captain J. G. RYVES, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Walah, 5th October 1864, No. 703.

Sir,

1. With reference to G. O. No. 2,761 of 25th ultimo, I do myself the honor of replying that, at present, I see no probability of a larger sum than that allotted* being spent in the current year on the Central Jail at Rejismundry.

* at the Budget, Part I. item No. 76.

2. I would, however, suggest the advisability of obtaining the extra grant referred to, and keeping it in reserve in case of any anticipations being incorrect.

No. 207. From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Camp Canner, 29th October 1864, No. 153.

Sir,

1. I have the honor to report having ascertained from the Assistant Engineer in charge of the new Jail at Coimbatore, that he will not be able to lay out within the current official year more than the sum of Rs. 60,000 allotted for the works in 1864-65.

2. Great mismanagement of Lieutenant Trill's successors, from February to May, by undue dependence on and intimacy towards a faithless Indian contractor (Mr. Baker), has chiefly hindered progress with the building. To counteract which, as far as possible, I have obtained Mr. Baker's consent to authorizing the use of teak instead of jungle-wood in the roofs, the Forest Department being unable to supply the latter in any quantity or in reasonable time.

3. But I must bring to notice another cause of delay, for which the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort Saint George, and the Lieutenant General of India have to answer. The former not having brought to notice till September his inability to supply materials which he was authorized to supply in the current official year, and the latter leaving me * * * in doubt how soon he would be able to supply the materials, now as now done, to ensure no further delay. I leave my accompanying statement of facts and dates to speak for itself. It is impossible to get work done quickly under such circumstances.

Memorandum on the subject of Indents for iron gates, and iron ball and flat, for the new Jail at Coimbatore.

1. An Indent for supply of all but the gates was passed by the Principal Commissary of Ordnance in month 1863-64; but appearing not to have been acted on either by the Executive Officer in charge of the Jail works, or by the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort Saint George, was re-transmitted by the Superintending Engineer to the Principal Commissary of Ordnance in letter No. 22 of 6th June 1864, with a request "for the speedy delivery of one-fourth of each article passed, so the progress of the works depended greatly on them." Information was also requested whether the gates could not be undertaken.

2. Letter No. 827 of 12th June, from the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort Saint George, states that the passed Indents will be complied with, but that it was necessary that a fresh Indent should be submitted in the current year should be furnished. Information was also given that the gates could not be undertaken (in copy of letter from Principal Commissary of Ordnance, which stated "that the iron required might be issued at once.")

3. Original Telegraphic Indent of 10th June was then sent with letter No. 30 of 24th June to Lieutenant General of India, with the copy of letter above cited; requesting that the Indent might be sent on direct, the copy of letter returned, and reply in a letter No. 23 of 6th June, sent informing the Superintending Engineer whether Mr. Baker was prepared to supply the gates as he mentioned stated he would do.

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4. In a letter No. 54 (date unknown) the Inspector General of Jails again requested the Principal Commissary of Ordnance to undertake the execution of the gates, which he subsequently agreed to, and the Inspector General's letter No. 68 of 14th July, giving order to copy of the same, was sent to Lieutenant Smith with instructions to write and expedite the supply of the iron.

5. In No. 70 of 27th July, the Superintending Engineer inquired of the Inspector General of Jails, what became of the Indent, the result of Lieutenant Smith's reminder being that the Commissary of Ordnance had not received it up to the 12th July.

6. In his reply No. 97 of 29th July, the Inspector General of Jails forwarded copy of the Indent as revised and eventually sent in by him.

7. With his letter No. 116 of 29th July, Lieutenant Smith remitted to the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort Saint George, Rupees 2,000, as an advance for the gates. In acknowledging which Major Harrison asks whether iron 2½ x ½ may not be substituted for 3 x ½. With the Superintending Engineer authorized on 4th August.

8. In his letter No. 173 of 17th September, Lieutenant Smith reports that the Commissary of Ordnance states that bolt and flat iron of the size required are not in store, and he submits a fresh Indent to be signed and passed on to Mr. Kohle for approval and countersignature. The original letter of the Commissary of Ordnance, No. 1,375 of 8th September, was passed on to Mr. Kohle on 25th September, for disposal with the original and revised Indents.

9. A copy of a revised Indent, headed "Duplicate," was received at the Colonization Head Quarter Office, on the 29th September, with the following letter No. 276 (without date) from the Inspector General of Jails, viz.:-

"Sir,—In acknowledging your letter of the 22nd September, I have the honor to return the Indent duly countersigned. Should it not be in duplicate?"

CANNARA,
21st October 1864.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

No. 268. ORDER TUESDAY, 14th November 1864, No. 3,539.

1. Under the circumstances stated in the letters above recorded, it will be unnecessary to apply to the Government of India for additional grants for the Central Jails now under construction at Coimbatore and Rajahmundry.

2. The Indent referred to in paragraph 2 will be forwarded to the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazine for early disposal. Colonel Simpson will be requested to ascertain and report the cause of the delay, on the part of the Commissary of Ordnance, Fort Saint George, in supplying the iron gates, &c., indicated for by the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

3. Colonel Walker's Memorandum, submitted with the foregoing letter, forcibly represents the difficulties experienced by the Public Works Department, in procuring materials, and even such simple manufactured articles as those required for the Coimbatore Jail, and clearly demonstrates the necessity of establishing, with as little delay as possible, the means of obtaining and supplying every thing, not procurable in the provinces, that may be required by the Department from a Central Depot and Workshop at the Presidency. The erection of a suitable Workshop and Store-room, and the establishment of an effective establishment for their management having now been mentioned, the Government request that the Superintending Engineer will intimate to the Officers in charge of Ranges in their respective Divisions that, except in cases in which articles can be obtained cheaper and better elsewhere, all Indents for tools, &c., required for Public Works, should be submitted for compliance to the Presidency Store Department. It has been observed that in almost every case in which an order for tools or other articles has been sent to a Commission Agent or private tradesman in Madras, the party to whom the commission was entrusted procured the articles from the Public Works Store, thus saving the prison

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by the extra 10 per cent charged on all private purchases and by the tradesman's own commission, and causing a considerable loss of time. If the articles required by any Officer are available in the Public Works Store, they will be at once supplied, and if not so available, they will be obtained by the Store Department from other establishments or in the open market.

4. The Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, will be requested to expedite, as much as possible, the completion of the building for the accommodation of the Presidency Store and Workshop.

(Type EXHIBIT.)

(Signature)
Secretary to Government.

Colonel, R. E.,

To the Superintending Engineers, 1st, 4th, and 7th Divisions.
To all other Superintending Engineers.
To the Judicial Department.
To the Inspector General of Ordnance, with Indent.
To the Store Department.

14th Nov. 1864.

N^o. 1663. 47. *Illustration*
Convenient to the
Inspector General of India.