

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1370	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	22. 8. 1918	

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
22nd August 1867.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 292. From the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Simla, 10th July 1867, No. 2128.

Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 924, dated the 5th ultimo, submitting an explanation in respect of the reductions ordered in Financial Department Resolution, No. 1557, dated 21st March, paragraphs 10 and 11, on the Madras Police Budget of the current year.

2. With regard to the item of Rupees 51,500 for hutting the Police, I am to state that the charge was admitted last year on the explanation that it was merely a transfer from the Public Works Department Budget, but it was not expected by the Government of India to be a recurring charge; and I am now directed to request that it may be definitely stated whether the grant, if sanctioned this year, will suffice finally for hutting the Police throughout the Madras Presidency, as is apparently intimated in the third paragraph of Mr. Robinson's letter, dated the 18th of May.

3. The remaining portion of your letter will be considered in the Financial Department.

Referred to the Inspector General of Police, for early report.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
24th July 1867.

(Signed) F. BRANDT,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt.

No. 293. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., c. s. i., Inspector General of Police, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 14th August 1867, No. 1422.

General Department.

With reference to the letter of the Secretary to the Government of India, dated 10th July 1867, No. 2128, I have the honor to state that the sum of Rupees 51,500 for hutting, &c., entered as usual in the Budget of this year, will not suffice to complete the hutting of the Police throughout the Madras Presidency. The annual grant for Police huts, &c., must be continued for some years to come.

2. Taking the ranks of the Madras Police which require to be hutted at about 20,000 men, the grant solicited as heretofore amounts to about Rupees 2½ per man for the year, I need scarcely state that but a small part of the urgent requirements of such a Force can be met in the first instance, as is being slowly done from year to year, or maintained, from this very moderate grant. Still, more than might be expected is being accomplished, and by steadily pursuing the system which has obtained, the hutting may be completed in a few years.

3. I beg to note in the margin the numbers and dates of the letters which have passed on the subject of hutting the Force. In these, I have urged with all the earnestness I can—an earnestness

No. 784, dated 9th May 1866.
" 833, " 18th " 1867.

which more experience only increases—the unavoidable necessity of hutting the men of a disciplined Force, like the Police, together at their stations, so that they may be under the effective supervision and control which are indispensable, and be

22nd August 1867.

available for duty on emergency. The absolute necessity of this measure is never questioned in countries where an organized Police has been established. In England, Ireland, France, or elsewhere, the Police Barrack is as well understood an institution as the Military Barrack, and the care taken to preserve the respectability, health, and convenience of the one branch of the service of the Public is quite as great as that shown in respect to the other. If these measures are essential to the discipline, health, and usefulness of an European Police, how much more so are they to the well-being of an Indian Police? From the first, therefore, this principle was adopted for the Madras Police; and, so far as the funds at our disposal have admitted of it, it is being slowly, but successfully, worked out from year to year, with useful results. The grant solicited has the object of continuing these indispensable operations.

4. But special considerations affect the condition of the men of the Madras Police, and increase the cogency of this necessity.

First, as is the case with the Native Army of this Presidency, our Police men are men with families, whom they take with them wherever they go (a condition which must be cordially encouraged and provided for), and, therefore, they must have dwellings. Huts ready made to hand cannot, of course, be found for these servants of the State in the agricultural villages where the stations are placed; wherever, therefore, huts are not provided, the men are too frequently, for a time at least, practically quartered on the villagers. This is not fair to the inhabitants or to the men: the former are hampered and, perhaps, molested in their families; and the Police men are precluded from taking their wives and families with them, and have to put up as they can. They, consequently, take up too frequently with the loose women of the place, to whose houses they are welcome, at the expense of ruin to their health, efficiency, and character. Would any one think of sending a party of Irish Constabulary into a rural village to billet themselves, as might be, on the people? But this is in some measure what occurs wherever huts are not yet provided for the men. It is with a view to obviating, as fast as funds can be obtained, this most undesirable condition of things that these grants are solicited, and will, no doubt, not be withheld. Already much has been done in this direction; but a good deal remains to be accomplished.

Secondly, the stability of the Force, and life and health of the men, urgently demand that the system hitherto followed be steadily persevered in, and that suitable and healthful shelter be provided for the men at each station as rapidly as the public finances will admit of it. The annual casualties in the Force from resignations and deaths alone have averaged throughout the Presidency, during five years last passed, nearly ten per cent. (9.3) of the entire Force. In unhealthy districts, where fairly salubrious shelter cannot be obtained even temporarily in the villages, these casualties much exceed this average. By far the most frequent cause for resignation is the domestic misery of being posted to stations where it has been impossible as yet to provide huts to live in or accommodation for a family. Respectable family men relinquish the Service rather than submit to these wretched conditions of life. The percentage of resignations is happily now gradually decreasing from year to year, in some measure in proportion as the reasonable comfort of the men is promoted by the

22nd August 1867.

annual provision of huts at a few more stations, as funds have been considerably accorded by the Government of India.

5. The average death rate in the Madras Police still further establishes the absolute necessity of attending to the shelter and comfort of the men. It is at this time even upwards of 20 to 1000, amongst effective men who are actually in the Service at the date of decease. The mortality amongst their women and children is not recorded; and many resign the Service on loss of health, of whom a portion doubtless die in their villages. In three or four districts the death rate amongst effective men is between 30 and 40 to the 1000 (in Vizagapatam it was 43 to 1000 in 1866). The average death rate of the Police is thus considerably more than double that of the Madras Native Army (9 to 1000 in 1865), whose members are generally men of the same time of life, and from the same rank of society. Of course, the excessive mortality of this branch of the Public Service is, no doubt, in some measure attributable to the harder and more continuous work of the Police, to greater exposure, and to the unhealthiness of many parts of the country where the Police must be employed; but the effect of these adverse circumstances is at present most seriously aggravated, almost throughout the country, by the still prevailing deficiency of suitable dwellings and reasonably good accommodation for the men and their families.

6. I do not go into the Hospital returns—they are necessarily imperfect for a Force so scattered as the rural Police must be; but, so far as they go, these also show the same facts in respect to the health of the men, and prove the necessity of attending as rapidly as possible to their accommodation. I am conscious that, in thus frankly stating the backward condition of the Madras Police in this respect, I lay myself open to the imputation of want of consideration for not long ere this soliciting a large grant for so indispensable, not to say humane, an object as that of fully hutting the whole Force. I can only say that I have been actuated by a feeling that the Government of India has difficulty in meeting all demands, and by the assurance that the systematic and economical expenditure of the grant solicited will overcome in time our difficulties.

7. It may, perhaps, suggest itself that the better plan would be to estimate for all the hutting required once for all, and solicit a grant of the larger sum. This, on careful consideration, and after much experience, I do not recommend. There must always be some difficulty in expending through the Police Department, as required by present rules, any large sums of money in out-of-the-way places; and Police Officers could not supervise efficiently a number of little works going on at the same time at many different stations in their Districts. Further, a smaller sum (the average is about 2500 Rupees a year per District) is more economically and systematically laid out than larger grants which require to be expended at once. The ryots too are often induced to assist with materials, &c, in a way which never could be expected done were regular estimates, &c., prepared, and a large number of works put in hand at one time.

8. I may, I believe, safely state that there is no Department of the Service of the State of equal magnitude, for which the demands for ordinary accommodation have been so moderate and reasonable, and I must add that the patience and endurance of men who are serving out on dismal salt swamps, in ill-inhabited and

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
22nd August 1867.*

unhealthy neighbourhoods and the like, on the faith of a very slowly redeemed promise of suitable accommodation, deserve all praise and consideration.

9. Referring to the ready consideration with which the Government of India conceded the grant last year, on full explanation being afforded, I trust that the Government will, in anticipation of sanction, allow the expenditure on huts, &c., to go on. Nearly half the current official year is now gone; unless, therefore, the works are proceeded with at once, they will not be completed within the year. Some portion of the grant of last year lapsed at the end of the official year, in consequence of the late period at which the sanction of the Government of India was obtained.

No. 294. ORDER THEREON, 22nd August 1867, No. 1370.

With reference to the correspondence above recorded, the Inspector General of Mofussil Police will be requested to inform Government, in so far as he is able, as to the time which will be required for completing the hutting of the Police throughout the Presidency, and to furnish an approximate estimate of the expenditure which will be necessary for this purpose.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 of Mr. Robinson's letter, the Governor in Council, in anticipation of the sanction of the Government of India, approves of the expenditure of the grant which has been entered in the budget of the current official year.

(True Extract).

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector General of Police.
„ Accountant General.
„ Examiner of Claims.

Erd. J. H. Burns.

Memo. for Mr. Robinson.

*Before replying to the
letter of the Govt of India
I would suggest that Mr.
Robinson be called upon
to give some more definite
reply as to the time when
the work will be completed in India
the Police & Mr. Robinson*

which I sent out - per
of his letter I would
allow \$5 per diem
on bus for the
year to go on

on the best part
of the season with
to look for

certainly
why

expenditure per annum -

Per

This may be done - but
in Dr. R's letter the
cost is very possibly
just and when we
get his answer to
our reference we
should support him
thoroughly - mean.

Judicial Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter,

From the Secretary to Government of India - Home Department. Here enter - 10th July/07 No. 2128

" Inspector General of Police — 14th August — 1122

Order thereon No 1370 of 22 Aug 07

With reference to the correspondence above recorded, the Inspector General of Bengal Police will be requested to inform Government in so far as he is able as to the time which will be required for completing the putting of the Police throughout the Presidency and ~~will~~ furnish an approximate estimate of the expenditure which will be necessary for this purpose.

JP
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2 With reference to para 9 of Mr. Robinson's letter the

the Governor in Council
in anticipation of the sanc-
tion of the Government of
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penditure of the grant which
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year. AL

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To the Inspector General of Police
" Accountant General -
" Examiners of Claims -

*Ind. B. & Co. 10th
June 1868 20th*

*Ind. B. & Co. 10th
June 1868 20th*

No. 1370

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

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Dated 22 August 1868*

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