

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1774	Press
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Dated	6-11-	19-1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

9/5

19/10/30

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

6th November 1867.

No. 67. Read the following letter from the Subsidiary Jail Committee, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated 18th October 1867, No. 31.

We have had under careful consideration the standard plan of Taluq Cutcheries.

2. Apart from the objection that the necessary accommodation for prisoners under trial and convicted has been overlooked and insufficiently provided, the ventilation of these buildings is throughout insufficient, and the general arrangement of rooms susceptible of improvement. From the design of these buildings, which are placed round a quadrangle, extension of the original building is not possible, which is a serious objection.

3. Mr. Chisholm, who has been so good as to come to our assistance, has, in consultation with us, prepared two designs, 1st, for a Sub-Magistrate Tahsildar's Cutcherry, with a Subsidiary Jail, Police accommodation, and the requisite subordinate buildings, such as Hospital shed, latrine, and cook-house; 2nd, for a Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry and Subsidiary Jail, with out-buildings.

4. We are informed that the cost of these buildings will be, for No. I, from 14,000 to 16,000 Rupees; for No. II, Rupees 6000 to 8000.

5. This is in excess of the cost involved in the standard plan at present sanctioned, but it must be remembered that no sufficient Jail accommodation is provided by the standard plan, whereas by Mr. Chisholm's design adequate room is given for the Civil Officers, and Jail accommodation is provided according to ascertained requirements.

6. With reference to the question raised in paragraph 9 of the Government Order, Judicial Department, dated 18th April 1867, No. 613, as to the disadvantage of the Subsidiary Jail being under the same roof as the Tahseel Cutcherry, we beg to point out that, although in the design now submitted, the Jail is attached to the Tahsildar's Office, its position is at one extremity, and is separated by the Treasury from the rest of the main building, and that, while securing economy of construction and of guarding, no evil effect will result from the prisoners' cell being placed in an entirely separate building. It will be observed that, contrary to the hitherto observed custom in constructing prison buildings, we have provided ample space, light, and ventilation, thus rendering the occurrence of epidemic disease less frequent. We have also provided, at a distance from the main building, a Hospital shed into which, prisoners attacked with disease will be promptly removed, and thus, we trust, we have avoided any danger to the Civil Officers from the neighbourhood of the Subsidiary Jail. On the other hand, there is a substantial advantage in the proximity of the Subsidiary Jail to the Tahsildar's office. It will be observed that, under the arrangements we have proposed, the Tahsildar can have easy access to the Jail Wards, and the control which he should exercise over the Jail discipline and management is rendered as little onerous as possible.

7. The important question of the prison space which should be allotted to each prisoner has occupied our best attention, and we have arrived at the conclusion that the minimum standard space for prisoners in Subsidiary Jails should be 40 square feet superficial and 600 cubical feet per prisoner. In determining this question,

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this point, of very great importance, must not be overlooked, viz., that these Jails will not be under the charge of responsible and trained Superintendents, who may obviate in some degree the effects of occasional overcrowding by attention to ventilation, cleanliness, &c. They have indeed no special establishment attached to them. We are, therefore, decidedly of opinion that ample space should be allowed for each prisoner, and we have provided also for liberal ventilation. Where wards already exist, we have, of necessity, deviated from this standard, making up for deficiency in some respects by liberality in others.

8. It will be observed that the Treasury is made defensible, which is desirable, and is one of the objects of the present standard plan.

9. The plan sufficiently explains the increased accommodation provided in the Tahsildar's Court and retiring room.

10. We have discussed the plans now submitted with the Board of Revenue, the Inspector General of Mofussil Police, and the Sanitary Commissioner, and these designs have met with their approval.

11. We recommend that, if the Government sanction these standard plans, we may be permitted to have them and the necessary details lithographed for distribution.

12. We beg to record how greatly we have been assisted in this portion of our work by Mr. Chisholm, who has given to our assistance much of his valuable time and labor.

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 6th November 1867, No. 1774.

The Governor in Council approves of the standard plans of Taluq Cutcheries prepared by Mr. Chisholm and submitted by the Subsidiary Jail Committee in the letter above recorded, and directs that these plans be substituted for the standard designs for these buildings previously sanctioned.

(True Extract).

R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

To the Subsidiary Jail Committee.
" Public Works Department, with four plans.
" Revenue Department.
" Inspector General of Police.

Ed. J. H. Burns.

Judl. DEPARTMENT.

No. 2301.

From

The Subsidiary Jail Committee.

Dated 18th October 1867.

FOR ORDERS.

The plan seems to have been carefully considered and I think is approved. The only comment that occurs to me is that I do not see any Police Lock up provided, although there is a Subsidiary Jail-male room. It may be that one would in this Jail is to be set apart in the Jail for the Lock up. It is of course necessary that men under confinement for slight offences

should not be tried to be mixed
up with main case investigation
charged it may be with
offences
25/10/67

J.P.

In J. Gye's objection with I believe
be met by an explanation from Mr. Ellis
which perhaps he will hand in before
Council tomorrow.

I doubt, however, the value & correctness
of the defensive part of the plan.
There are three round ^{floor} openings for direct
fire on an approach towards the
"arm" room & the turret; but fire from
the loophole to the right would strike
the Sankhadari room wall & so that
from the turret roof would strike the
roofs of East & Cutchery. W.D.

112 with the plans before in
Council with the benefit of Mr.
Ellis's explanations N.

To the

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Exd.

Mr Chief Secretary

marked for morning
attention in the plan
of the Govt. in the
6th Nov. 1887

The Governor in Council
approves of the standard plans
of Subg. Caterers prepared by
Mr Chisholm and submitted by
the Subsidary Jail Committee
in the letter above recorded, and
directs that these plans be sub-
stantiated for the standard designs
for these buildings previously sanc-
tioned.

N.

To the Subg. Jail Committee
Sub. Works Dept.
Revenue Dept.
High Secy of Police
I would be glad to see the plans
at a meeting of the
at 10.30 AM on 11th Nov.
at 10.30 AM on 11th Nov.
at 10.30 AM on 11th Nov.

Subsidiary Jail Committee

The Subsidary Jail Committee

is

The Chief Secretary

Govt. Secy

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