

625/81

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

23/81 pay

G.O. No.	262	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	20.2.1986	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th February 1867.*

No. 156. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Foreign Department, dated Fort William, 23rd January 1867, No. 19.

Military.

Read again the Resolution of Government, in the Foreign Department, No. 214, dated 5th September last, regarding the sale of Government Arms in Native States.

Read also a letter, with enclosures, from the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 20, dated 15th ultimo, submitting copy of a letter from the Commissary of Ordnance, Hyderabad Subsidiary Force, on the same subject.

RESOLUTION.—The Resident at Hyderabad represents that no measures which the State can adopt will prevent those Natives who are prepared to pay highly from obtaining efficient fire-arms. He thinks, therefore, that it would be wise to check the demand for the better class of weapons by facilitating, instead of obstructing, the supply to such persons of old and inferior arms from the Government Arsenals.

2. The Governor General in Council observes that the Resident's views obviously have exclusive reference to Native States, and cannot be intended to apply to British Territories. Upon this understanding His Excellency in Council considers that there is much truth and force in what Sir George Yule says.

3. The practical form in which Sir George Yule would apply these principles is two-fold: firstly, the cheap sale of old guns after the inside of the barrel had been slightly manipulated; secondly, the rigid exclusion of rifles from importation, except under a restricted issue of licenses to private persons, not to dealers.

4. His Excellency in Council remarks that the latter of these proposals is already in force, and that in a shape even more stringent than the Resident himself suggests. By Notification from the Foreign Department, No. 477, dated 10th May last, the Government of India has prohibited "the importation into British India of rifles of every description, except such as are intended *bonâ fide* for sporting purposes."

5. With regard to the former proposal, the Resolution above cited permits the sale of old arms to "Chiefs of approved probity and loyalty." The Governor General in Council, therefore, understands Sir George Yule to advocate the further expansion of this principle, so that the conditional qualifications of the applicants for arms may be less carefully insisted on, or even altogether disregarded. His Excellency in Council considers that, so long as precautions are taken to prevent the dissemination of arms within British territory, all persons from Native States desirous of purchasing arms from British Arsenals may advantageously be encouraged to take our old and inferior muskets off our hands. The proviso, however, suggested by the Resident, that the interior of the barrels should first be slightly manipulated with a view to increasing their inefficiency, is unnecessary, and need not be acted on.

No. 20.

ORDERED that a copy of the above Resolution (with copy of the Resident's letter) be forwarded to the Military Department for further consideration and orders.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
20th February 1867.

No. 21.

Secretaries to Governments, Bengal, Punjab, North-Western Provinces, Fort Saint George, and Bombay.
Chief Commissioners, Oude, Central Provinces, and British Burmah.
Resident, Nepal.
Commissioners, Mysore and Coorg.
Agents, Governor General, Central India, and Rajpootana.
Political Agent, Manipore.

Copy also to the
Resident at Hydera-
bad, and to all Go-
vernments, * Agents,
and Residents, for
information.

(Signed) J. W. S. WYLIE,
Offg. Secy. to Govt. of India.

No. 157.

ORDER THEREON, 20th February 1867, No. 262.

Communicated to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, and to the Political Agent at Poodocottah and Military Department.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Resident in Travancore and Cochin.

„ Political Agent at Poodocottah.

„ Military Department.

„ Inspector General of Police.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

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Judicial Boy Akht
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Secy, Govt. of India
for Akht
Govt

23 Jan 1867
25 Feb 1867
6 Jan 1867
No 219.
Comand further Rev
by the Govt of India
Regarding the sale of
Govt. Arms in various
States.

With an order

No 262- 20th February 1867.

Communicated to the Residents
in Travancore & Cochin & Hyderabad
to the Political Agent at Poodocottah
& Military Dept.

Offg. Secy. to Govt. of India.

So Resd in Trav Cochin
in Resd at Poodocottah
in Resd at Poodocottah
in Resd at Poodocottah

23/2/67

15/2/67