

(1) Number of pages 6(2) Date of repair 9-1-48

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<i>1036 M</i>	Press- Mis.
Dated	<i>9.10. 18 86.</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Telegram from ABDUL RAHIMON SAHIB, to His Excellency the Governor, dated Trichinopoly, 1st October 1886.

All bazaars have been closed from yesterday. Merchants refuse selling and they say bazaars will not open until the abolition of municipal and income taxes imposed on them. Public greatly suffering. Prays necessary orders.

Transferred to the Chief Secretary to Government for disposal.

(By Order.)

MADRAS,
1st October 1886.

(Signed) W. H. MACKINNON, Lt.-Col.,
Private Secretary.

Telegram from the Chief Secretary to Government, to the District Magistrate, Trichinopoly, dated 1st October 1886.

Is it true that all bazaars in Trichinopoly have been shut by the merchants? If so, report fully.

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

From W. P. AUSTIN, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Trichinopoly, 2nd October 1886, No. 3772.

In reply to your telegram received last evening which ran as follows:—"Is it true that all bazaars in Trichinopoly have been shut by the merchants? If so, report fully," I have the honor to inform you that I had already wired to you to the effect that the bazaars were closed, and some excitement prevailed in the town.

2. The facts are as follow:—On Thursday afternoon I heard, for the first time, that the bazarmen were closing their shops. On Friday morning early I went with Colonel Court and the Sub-Magistrate through the town and found all the shops shut. With some difficulty I got a few of the bazarmen together and inquired the cause of this procedure. They informed me that it was done because they were called on to pay municipal and income taxes. They also complained that the municipal commissioners were corrupt, and they were altogether dissatisfied with the way municipal affairs were being managed. I pointed out to them that all this might be fitting matters for a petition to Government or such other legal action as they chose to take, but it was no reason whatever for closing their shops and jointly provoking a riot which might result in great loss to themselves. They admitted the force of my reasoning and promised that they would at once open their bazaars. They,

however, did not do so, but sent word to the Town Sub-Magistrate that they would open them this morning. Accordingly I went down to the bazaar this morning, but could not get hold of any of the bazaarmen with whom I had spoken yesterday. They were all skulking away and could not be found. Some other bazaarmen, however, were there, and promised to arrange to open their shops in a short time only asking that police assistance might be given them to prevent a loot. I am arranging with Colonel Court to send every available constable into the town to keep order. At my request Colonel Court yesterday telegraphed for reinforcements from neighbouring districts, and these are hourly expected. It is impossible to compel the bazaarmen to open their shops and sell, and as hungry men are proverbially angry men, I have some slight fear of a disturbance, but I hope, by the measures I am adopting, to avert it. I have telegraphed to Government for authority to send for food-grain and other necessities to neighbouring districts, and when such sanction is accorded, the knowledge of it will, I hope, act in two ways. It will induce the bazaarmen to open their shops lest their grain, &c., be left on their hands, and it will induce the people to keep order, as they will feel that they will be shortly independent of the merchants. I should not, of course, make use of such authority (if given me) except as an extreme measure. I am still hoping to receive intimation that the bazaars are being opened, and in such case shall wire the fact to Government. I will report further to-morrow.

Telegram from T. PONNUSAWMY PILLAY, to His Excellency the Governor, dated Trichinopoly, 1st October 1886.

The inhabitants of Trichinopoly starving since two days for want of provisions, as all bazaars of city being shut owing heavy taxes imposed on merchants. Most humbly beg your Excellency to be merciful to the taxation, both income-tax and profession-tax of municipality. This city is very poor, no exports but imports. Waiting for speedy arrangements to open bazaars, as it will be difficult to send this telegram in memorial, this was sent in the name of one individual. Reply prepaid 2 rupees.

Transferred to the Chief Secretary to Government for disposal, with a pass for reply for Rs. 2.

(By Order.)

MADRAS,
2nd October 1886.

(Signed) W. H. MACKINNON, Lt.-Col.,
Private Secretary.

Telegram from the District Magistrate, Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Trichinopoly, 1st October 1886.

Bazaars all closed; alleged cause dissatisfaction municipal and income taxes. Some excitement prevails.

Telegram from the District Magistrate, Trichinopoly, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Trichinopoly, 2nd October 1886.

Bazaars continue closed; grievance income and municipal taxes. Bazaarmen promised open this morning, have not done so. If strike continues, serious danger public peace. Please authorize opening grain and necessities other districts. Police applied for from surrounding districts.

ORDER—dated 6th October 1886, No. 2687, Judicial.

Ordered that the following telegram be despatched to the District Magistrate of Trichinopoly:—

"Every effort must be made to keep the peace. Inspector-General of Police has been communicated with. Chetties should be clearly informed of their responsibility if riot produced by their action with reference to Special Police Act. Report progress by telegram."

2. The Inspector-General of Police will be informed of what has occurred, and will be directed to give close attention to progress of events in Trichinopoly.

3. The foregoing papers will be communicated to the Military Department in view of the possibility of a requisition for further troops becoming necessary. The Commanding Officer, Trichinopoly, will be requested in that department not to allow men in the bazaars except in uniform.

(True Extra)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

the Inspector-General of Police.
Military Department.
District Magistrate, Trichinopoly.
Financial (M.) Department.

Financial Department

CURRENT No. 187720

Govt. of 1886 Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 6th October 1886, No. 2687.

1-10-86

OCTOBER.

Trichinopoly—Closing of Bazaars.

Passing orders with reference to the closing of bazaars by merchants on account of the municipal and income taxes.

Ref. 1/10
order of 9th Oct/86 No 1036
Communicated to the Chairman
Municipal Council, Trichinopoly

7/10/86
8/10

PA
7/10/86

To
The Chairman, Municipal Council,
Trichinopoly through the Collector.
Dated 12-10-86

Tepl

Copy in full.
Not to be copied.
Copy to be kept only.
Copy to be kept only.

S
Miscellaneous.

FINANCIAL DEPT.	
G.O., DATED	9 th Oct ^r /96
No. 1036	In MIS.

When given for copying

[Despatch Abstract.]

Closing of bazaars.

*Copy to the Chairman
Mund Council Irishi,
- no copy, G.O. just kept
passing orders with refer-
to the — by merchants
owing to the imposition
of Mund for taxes.*