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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 28.7.57

G.O. No. *1604*

Press
Mis.

12
Dated *22-7-57* 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Military Department dated 6th July 1857.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel G. BALFOUR, Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines; to Colonel C. A. BROWNE, Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated 25th June 1857, No. 104.

SIR,

With reference to the sanction accorded in Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 2616, dated 10th October 1856, for hiring coolies for extra work in the Arsenal in connection with Civil stores, I have the honor to report for the information of Government that so long as the Arsenal Establishment was equal to the duty without inconvenience to Ordnance work, no coolies were employed but since the 1st May 1857, a large number has been daily engaged. The aid they afford however is very far from effective. The Principal Commissary of Ordnance reports that they require some teaching to make them at all useful, and that it often happens as soon as they are trained to the work required of them, they get tired of the restraints which from a due regard to regularity and order, are imposed upon them, and seek employment elsewhere, thus necessitating the repetition of the instructions. Besides it is not deemed safe to entrust to such irresponsible laborers, as daily hired coolies, the handling of the valuable Machinery now being received from England.

2. There are at present about 20 coolies employed daily at (3-4) three annas and four pice each, and I would beg to recommend to Government for the sake of ultimate economy and present efficiency, to sanction in their stead, an additional establishment of 1 first and 1 second Tindal and 19 Lascars to the grand Arsenal, to be employed specially on duties connected with the Civil stores &c. The Principal Commissary of Ordnance who is the best practical Judge strongly advocates the measure, I entirely coincide with him in opinion of the greater utility of such a body of men and I trust Government will accept this recommendation and accord the necessary sanction.

Referred for the consideration and report of the Military Auditor General.

Fort Saint George,
27th June 1857.

(Signed) C. A. BROWNE, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

A.

1. In returning the letter of the Inspector General of Ordnance, No. 104, of 25th Ultimo, applying for the sanction of Government to the entertainment, in the Arsenal, of the extra establishment as per margin referred for his report of Government of 27th Idem, the Military Auditor General has the honor to observe, that the employment of coolies in the Arsenal was sanctioned by Government, Minutes of Consultation No. 2616, of 10th October 1856, to assist in putting in serviceable order certain Machinery sent out from England for the Public Works Department.

2. In the correspondence on this subject which led the order of Government in question, the Military Board stated, that, they had no desire to increase the Arsenal Establishment, and that they were of opinion that calls for this kind of work would, in future, be lessened.

3. It may, therefore, have been supposed that the work for which the services of these coolies were asked and obtained was occasional, and extra to the ordinary labors of the Arsenal; and the Military Board, with apparently a view to economy, have deferred, so long as lay in their power, to avail themselves of the sanction of Government, the coolies not having been em-

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 28th July 1857.

ployed until 1st May 1857, but, since that date, the work has been continuous, 20 coolies being employed daily.

4. This arrangement of the Military Board is however, stated to be attended with inconvenience, and the results of cooly labor are described as unsatisfactory, but the disadvantages complained of do not appear to be greater than may always be expected, when people not amenable to Departmental discipline are called in to assist the permanent Establishment during any press of labor.

5. The Inspector General of Ordnance, however, considers these disadvantages so important as to necessitate a permanent increase to the Establishment of the Arsenal, and recommends the entertainment, in room of the coolies, of two Tindals and 19 Lascars, thus exceeding the coolies in number but as they may also be expected to surpass them in individual efficiency, the necessity for so large an increase is hardly apparent.

Monthly charges of permanent Establishment.			Rs.	A.	P.
1st. Tindal	..	..	8	12	0
2nd. do.	..	..	7	0	0
19 Lascars	..	..	120	5	4
			136	1	4

Monthly charge of coolies.
20 Coolies for 31 days at 3 As. 4 pice per diem Rs. 129 2 8

6. The permanent extra expense of the proposed measure, opposed to that caused by the temporary employment of coolies is marginally shewn.

7. It is assumed that, the Establishment solicited is to be entertained for a distinct duty, the expenses of which will be chargeable to the Public Department.

8. Should Government consider the measure recommended by the Inspector General of Ordnance indispensable, the application should be prepared in the established form for submission to the Government of India.

Fort Saint George,
4th July 1857.

(Signed) J. J. LOSH Major,
Military Auditor General.

Referred to Public Works Department.

By Order.

(Signed) C. A. BROWNE, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, No. 1404; dated 22nd July 1857.

The Government remark that the establishment to be kept up in the Arsenal is a Military question, and that these papers require no orders in the Department of Public Works.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Military Department

Extract from the minutes of Consultation

Under date the 11th July 1857.

Read the following letter

From No 104

The Inspector General of Ordnance

and Magazines

To The Secretary to Government

Military Department

Sir,

With reference to the sanction accorded in Extract minutes of Consultation No. 1416 dated 10th October 1856, for hiring Coolies for extra work in the Arsenal in connection with Civil stores, I have the honor to report for the information of Government that so long as the Arsenal Establishment was equal to the duty without inconvenience to Ordnance work,

work, no Coolies were employed but since
the 1st May 1867 a large number has been
daily engaged. The aid they afford
however is very far from effective.
The Principal Commissary of Ordnance
reports that they require some teach-
ing to make them at all useful, and
that it often happens as now and
they are trained to the work requir-
ed of them, they get tired of the restraints
which from a desire regard to regularity
and order, are imposed upon them,
and seek employment elsewhere, thus
necessitating the repetition of the in-
structions. Besides it is not deemed safe
to entrust to such irresponsible laborers,
as daily hired coolies, the handling
of the valuable machinery now being
received from England.

There are at present about 20 Coolies
employed

employed daily at 3. 16/3 Three Annas and
Four Pies each, and I would beg to recom-
mend to Government for the sake of
ultimate economy and present efficiency,
to sanction in their stead, an additional
establishment of 1 First and 1 Second Indal
and 19 Lascars to the Grand Arsenal, to
be employed specially on duties connected
with the Civil Stores &c. The Principal
Commissary of Ordnance who is the best
practical judge strongly advocates
the measure, I entirely concur with
him in opinion of the greater utility of
such a body of men and I trust Govern-
ment will accept this recommendation
and accord the necessary sanction.

Inspector General's Office

Fort St George
25th June 1867

Signed Balfour St John
Inspector General of Ordnance
and Magazines

Referred

Referred for the consideration and
report of the Military Auditor General.

Fort All George

27th June 1857. / Signed C. A. S. Brown
Secretary to Govt.

In returning the letter of
the Inspector General of Ordnance,
No 104, of 25th Ultimo, applying for the
sanction of Government to the con-
tainment, in the Arsenal, of the
Extra Establishment as per margin
referred for his report by order of Go-
vernment of 37th idem, the Military
Auditor General has the honor to
observe, that, the employment of
Coolies in the Arsenal was sanc-
tioned by Government, under the
Consultation No 2616 of 10th October 1856,
to assist in putting in serviceable order
certain

certain machinery sent out from
England for the Public Works Depart-
ment.

2 In the correspondence on
this subject, which led to the order
of Government in question, the
Military Board stated, that, they
had no desire to increase the Arse-
nal Establishment, and that they
were of opinion that calls for this
kind of work would, in future,
be few.

3 It may, therefore, have
been supposed that the work for
which the services of these Coolies
were asked and obtained was occa-
sional, and extra to the ordinary labors
of the Arsenal; and the Military Board,
with apparently a view to economy, have
deferred, so long as lay in their power,
to

to avail themselves of the sanction of Government, the Coolies not having been employed until 1st May 1857.

But, since that date, the work has been continuous, 20 Coolies being employed daily.

11 This arrangement of the Military Board is however, stated to be attended with inconvenience, and the results of Cooly labor are described as unsatisfactory, but the disadvantages complained of do not appear to be greater than may always be expected, when people not amenable to Departmental discipline are called in to assist the permanent Establishment during any prep of labor.

12 The Inspector General of Ordnance, however, considers these disadvantages

disadvantages so important as to necessitate a permanent increase to the Establishment of the Arsenal, and recommends the establishment, in room of the Coolies, of Two Hindoos and 19 Lascars, thus exceeding the Coolies in number but as they may also be expected to surpass them in individual efficiency, the necessity for so large an increase is hardly apparent.

13 The permanent extra expense of the proposed measure, opposed to that caused by the temporary employment of Coolies is marginally shown.

14 It is affirmed that, the Establishment solicited is to be entertained.

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which will be chargeable to the Public
Department.

Should Government con-
sider the measure recommended
by the Inspector General of Ordnance
indispensable, the application
should be prepared in the establis-
hed form for submission to the Govern-
ment of India.

Fort St. George
1st July 1857
Major J. J. Lisle
Military Quarter General

Referred to Public Works Department

By Order
Major Genl. M. M. M. M.
Secretary to Govt.

To The Public Works Department

By
J. J. Lisle

28 June 28 October 1853

Public Works 1853/54
28 June 28 July

1853/54

Extract from the
list of work in the
Military Department

Subsist 6th July 1853
1853/54

Referring certain
consequences relative
to the increase of the
costs of the
army.

1853/54

With our order
1853/54

1853/54

The Government re-
marks that the establishment
kept up in the annual is a
military provision and that
these papers require no order
in the Department of Public
Works.

1853/54
22nd July 1853

1853/54

1853/54