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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 14-7-57

G.O. No. 313 Press Mis.

11-12

Dated 8-7 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 11. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Judicial Department, dated 24th June 1857, No. 719.

Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated 2nd June 1857, No. 186.

SIR,

Colonel Faber having intimated to me that the Government have directed that the present Jail at Vizagapatam should be converted into a hospital, I have the honor to request that the Government will be pleased to order the preparations of plans and estimates for a new Prison at Vizagapatam as recommended in my report and approved by Government.

Extract Minutes Consultation, 168, para. 12, 7th February 1857.

2. It will be desirable that the Government should in their instructions state, with reference to their remark "that it may be well to be prepared to try each system," whether the form of building already approved (that of separate cells arranged in segments of circles having a common centre) shall be adhered to in whole or in part.

Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 168 7th February 1857, para. 14.

3. In my opinion that form should be adhered to for all 1st class cells on the plains, it allows of any modification of system that may be ultimately preferred; it affords the means of enforcing, what I believe to be, the more perfect system, with the inferior means that in this country will be available. It is true that double the space will be needed for wards; at the same time it is to be expected that the strict and equal discipline of the separate system will in most instances justify a considerable reduction in the period of close confinement and thus more than meet any increase of first expense.

Vide Extract Minutes Consultation, 168, para. 11.

4. It would greatly relieve me if the Government would at once decide on the erection of the 4 Division Central Prisons, at Vizagapatam, Bellary, Tellicherry or Cannanore and Trichinopoly.

5. Under the opinion expressed by Government that it will be desirable to transfer to Central Prisons all whose sentence exceeds 6 months, I would propose suiting the Vizagapatam Jail ultimately for 500 prisoners, but I would suggest that at present 1st class cells in segments of circles should be provided for 100 only, others being accommodated in 2nd class cells of smaller size, in blocks radiating from the centre, an upper story would increase the accommodation in segments of circles to 200 cells.

6. There is stone in abundance at Vizagapatam which might be worked advantageously by convicts; this is also the case at Bellary, Tellicherry and the Red Hills, and gangs might be employed with advantage at any of those stations in the work.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

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1. In the above letter the Inspector of Prisons requests that instructions may be issued for the preparation of plans and estimates for a new Prison at Vizagapatam, as the Chief Engineer has informed him that the present Jail is to be converted into a hospital. He recommends that the building should be suited for the accommodation ultimately of 500 prisoners as Government have considered it desirable to transfer to Central Prisons all whose sentence exceeds 6 months imprisonment, but that, at present, first class cells be provided for 100 persons only, and the rest accommodated in second class cells in blocks radiating from the centre.

2. It is observed that in Extract Minutes Consultation 7th February last, para. 12, the Government remarked that it would "eventually be found desirable to transfer to the Central Jails all prisoners whose sentence of imprisonment is above 2 years," and not 6 months as stated by the Inspector. The Government therefore consider it unnecessary to erect a Prison at Vizagapatam of the dimensions proposed by that officer; but the design of the building is very

good, and the District Engineer will be instructed to prepare, in communication with Mr. Rohde, the necessary plan and estimate.

3. It appears to Government desirable that plans and estimates for the other Central Jails should also be prepared, leaving it to be decided hereafter on financial and other grounds whether they should be commenced at once or at what intervals.

4. Referring to paras. 2 and 3 of the Inspector's letter, the Government are of opinion that the plan of separate cells arranged in segments of circles having a common centre may be still adhered to, as it appears to admit of being ultimately adapted if necessary, to any of the systems of imprisonment alluded to in Mr. Rohde's general report.

(True Extract and Copy.)

(Signed) E. MALTBY,
Acting Chief Secretary.

No. 12. ORDER THEREON, No. 1313; dated 8th July 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer, with a request that he will direct the District Engineer, to prepare and submit plans and estimates, for a prison at Vizagapatam, in communication with the Inspector of Prisons.

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

No. 719.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 24th June 1857.

Read the following letter from J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to E. MALTBY, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George, dated 2nd June 1857, No. 186.

SIR,

Extract Minutes Consultation, 168, para. 12, 7th February 1857.

Colonel Faber having intimated to me that the Government have directed that the present Jail at Vizagapatam should be converted into a hospital, I have the honor to request that the Government will be pleased to order the preparations of plans and estimates for a new Prison at Vizagapatam as recommended in my report and approved by Government.

Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 168, 7th February 1857, para. 14.

2. It will be desirable that the Government should in their instructions state, with reference to their remark "that it may be well to be prepared to try each system," whether the form of building already approved (that of separate cells arranged in segments of circles having a common centre) shall be adhered to in whole or in part.

3. In my opinion that form should be adhered to for all 1st class cells on the plains, it allows of any modification of system that may be ultimately preferred; it affords the means of enforcing, what I believe to be, the more perfect system, with the inferior means that in this country will be available. It is true that double the space will be needed for wards; at the same time it is to be expected that the strict and equal discipline of the separate system will in most instances justify a considerable reduction in the period of close confinement and thus more than meet any increase of first expense.

Vide Extract Minutes Consultation, 168, para. 11.

4. It would greatly relieve me if the Government would at once decide on the erection of the 4 Division Central Prisons, at Vizagapatam, Bellary, Tellicherry or Cannanore and Trichinopoly.

5. Under the opinion expressed by Government that it will be desirable to transfer to Central Prisons all whose sentence exceeds 6 months, I would propose suiting the Vizagapatam Jail ultimately for 500 prisoners, but I would suggest that at present 1st class cells in segments of circles should be provided for 100 only, others being accommodated in 2nd class cells of smaller size, in blocks radiating from the centre, an upper story would increase the accommodation in segments of circles to 200 cells.

6. There is stone in abundance at Vizagapatam which might be worked advantageously by convicts, this is also the case at Bellary, Tellicherry and the Red Hills, and gangs might be employed with advantage at any of those stations in the work.

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

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1. In the above letter the Inspector of Prisons requests that instructions may be issued for the preparation of plans and estimates for a new Prison at Vizagapatam, as the Chief Engineer has informed him that the present Jail is to be converted into a hospital. He recommends that the building should be suited for the accommodation ultimately of 500 prisoners as Government have considered it desirable to transfer to Central Prisons all whose sentence exceeds 6 months' imprisonment, but that, at present, first class cells be provided for 100 persons only, and the rest accommodated in second class cells in blocks radiating from the centre.

2. It is observed that in Extract Minutes Consultation 7th February last, para 12, the Government remarked that it would "eventually be found desirable to transfer to the Central Jails all prisoners whose sentence of imprisonment is above 2 years," and not 6 months as stated by the Inspector. The Government therefore consider it unnecessary to erect a Prison at Vizagapatam of the dimensions proposed by that officer; but the design of the building is very good, and the District Engineer will be instructed to prepare, in communication with Mr. Rohde, the necessary plan and estimate.

3. It appears to Government desirable that plans and estimates for the other Central Jails should also be prepared, leaving it to be decided hereafter on financial and other grounds whether they should be commenced at once or at what intervals.

4. Refering to paras. 2 and 3 of the Inspector's letter, the Government are of opinion that the plan of separate cells arranged in segments of circles having a common centre may be still adhered to, as it appears to admit of being ultimately adapted if necessary, to any of the systems of imprisonment alluded to in Mr. Rohde's general report.

(True Extract and Copy.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector of Prisons,
,, Public Works Department.

Ed. F. Cartledge.

E. M.C. in the Jud.l Dep.t
8/24 July 1857 & No. 1673
in Cons.
10 Aug

From the Chief Engr. 8/23d
May /5 & 6 Jn. 1931 in Cons.

No 11812.

Public Works 1857 Dep.t
Cons.n July.

No. 1324

Extract from the
Mins. of Cons.t in the
Judicial Department.

Dated 24th June 1857
Rec.d 30th " "

From Lt. Col. Jervis 1795 - 6 15 2
Inspr. of Prisons
Central Prison at Bellary

Referring a letter
from the Inspector of Prisons
requesting that the Govt.
will be pleased to order the
preparation of plans
& estimates for a new
Prison at Vizagapa-
tam, as recommended
in his report and appro-
ved by Govt.

E. M.C. with the Civil Dep.t & Public Works Dep.t
Central Jail for the Northern Circars
Coast at Vizagapatam 26 Aug

No. 1313. 8th July

No. 1313

Ordered to be Com-
municated to the Chief
Engineer, with a request
that he will direct the
District Engineer, to prepare
and submit plans and
Estimates, for a prison at
Vizagapatam, in commu-
nication with the Inspector
of Prisons.

J. W. St. George
8th July 1857

9 Spies to the Chief Engr. Dist. 9