M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 6-2-43

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press / Mis.
Dated	18 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd October 1862.

No. 15. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 24th September 1862, No. 1,589:—

Modifying the order in the Public Works Department, under date the 25th June 1862, prohibiting the Inspector General of Jails from enfacing estimates submitted to him by the Public Works Department for approval with remarks on matters of professional detail and permitting him to correspond either with the Chief Engineer or any other Officers of the Department on any points of professional details and requesting him to discontinue the practice of recording criticisms on the plans and estimates themselves.

(Vide Judicial Proceedings, 24th September 1862, Nos. 257-258.)

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 2nd October 1862, No. 2,353.

Communicated to the Chief Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineers of Circles, for information and guidance, with reference to the Proceedings of Government No. 1,482, dated 25th June 1862.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Inspector General of Jails.

(Here enter 4th July 1862, No. 312.)

ORDER THEREON, 24th September 1862, No. 1,589.

In this letter Mr. Rohde requests the Government to reconsider their Order in the Public Works Department under date the 25th ~~ultimo~~ *June*, prohibiting him from enfacing estimates submitted to him by the Public Works Department for approval, with remarks on matters of professional detail. Mr. Rohde submits that these Orders are opposed to the instructions* furnished to him on his appointment in which he was directed "to check all accounts of expenditure connected with the repairs or construction of Prison buildings;" as well as to the practice which has hitherto been sanctioned by Government.

*Dated 26th April 1855, No. 322.

From the Inspector of Prisons, 19th September 1856, No. 534.
Order thereon, 15th October 1856, No. 1,121.
Extract Minutes Consultation, Public Works Department, 24th September 1857, No. 1,817.
Order thereon, 15th October 1857, No. 1,345.

2. He adverts, among other cases, to the estimate for a Central Prison at the Red Hills, the amount of which was reduced in consequence of his detailed examination of the items, from Rupees 477,600 to Rupees 260,400, the difference being Rupees 217,200.

3. The records fully bear out Mr. Rohde's statements. Whatever may have been the intention of the Government in the instructions furnished to him on his appointment, and from the working of those instructions it would appear that the construction put upon them by Mr. Rohde is correct, it is the fact that his detailed criticisms of estimates and of work done have been repeatedly acted on by Government. In the Order on his letter of the 19th September 1856, reviewing in detail the plans and estimates for the projected Central Prison for the Red Hills, the Chief Engineer was directed to revise them "in reference to the remarks made by the Inspector of Prisons and in communication with that Officer." His remarks on the estimates in question referred, not to the accommodation or arrangement of the building but to the rates of charge, and as Mr. Rohde observes the estimate was revised in the Chief Engineer's Office under his personal direction.

4. In the Order dated the 28th January 1861 regarding the Salem Jail, the Chief Engineer was directed—para. 3—to consider the propriety of the means adopted by Mr. Rohde for remedying a serious defect in the construction of the Cells. This was clearly a matter of professional detail.

5. In another Order dated the 25th July 1861, the Government reviewed at length Mr. Rohde's remarks on the execution of certain repairs to the Jail at Tranquebar, observing in para. 4 that they were not satisfied with the District Engineer's explanation that Mr. Rohde's complaints were specific, and directing the District Engineer to report distinctly on each item objected to by Mr. Rohde and the Judge. In the letter containing the remarks in question, Mr. Rohde, besides commenting on the faulty execution of the work, made certain suggestions on matters of detail (paras. 10 and 11) which were communicated to the Chief Engineer for his consideration.

6. On further consideration of the subject the Governor in Council has reason to question the propriety of debarring the Inspector General of Jails from giving his opinion on matters of professional detail in regard to the erection or repairs of Prisons. Mr. Rohde is, as he observes, in a very different position from the other heads of Departments referred to in the Order of the 25th ultimo. Nothing material can be done for the improvement of Prison discipline until better Prisons have been built, and it seems of great importance in order to secure efficiency and economy in the construction of the buildings that the Inspector General, who, in the present instance, has probably a more practical knowledge of building than most of the Officers of the Public Works Department, should be permitted to scrutinize the plans and estimates and to make any suggestions he may think advisable even on matters of minute professional detail.

7. The Government have already recognized Mr. Rohde's qualifications as a competent judge of professional details, in entrusting him with the erection of the new Jail at Ootacamund.

8. The Governor in Council accordingly resolves so far to modify the Orders conveyed in the Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department under date the 25th ultimo, as to permit the Inspector General of Jails to address the Chief Engineer or any other Officers of the Department with whom he may have occasion to correspond, on any points of professional detail on which he may consider that plans and estimates submitted for his approval are susceptible of improvement. Mr. Rohde, however, will be requested to discontinue the practice of recording his criticisms on the plans and estimates themselves. Remarks so recorded must often of necessity be very short and perhaps curt and abrupt, and may have the appearance of discourtesy although nothing of the sort may have been intended.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.
" Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

15

P. W. 1862 Dept.to
Pro: of Govt. for October
No. 2911.

Pro: of the M. Govt. in
the Judicial Dept.to
Dated 24th Sept.r 62
Received 30th
No. 1589.

No. 2353-25 October.

Modifying the order in the
P. W. Dept.t under date the 25th
June 1862 prohibiting the
Inspector General of Jails from
enforcing estimates submitted to
him by the P. W. D. for approval
with remarks on matters of profes-
sional detail and permitting him
to correspond either with the Chief
Engineer or any Civil officer of the
Dept.t on any points of professional
detail and requiring him to
discontinue the practice of re-
cording Criticisms on the plans
and estimates themselves.

With an Order

No. 16-16.

No. 2353

Communicated to the Chief
Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineers
of Circles for information and
guidance with reference to the
Proceedings of Government No. 1282
dated 25th June 1862.

The remit
7 Copies. 27th October 1862.

To The Chief Engineer with 2 Copies of the Ind.r & Corr.
Disp.d 31st
3. — " dy — do — N. Circle with 2 Copies of the Ind.r
3. — " — do — S. — do — with Do — Do.
3. — " — do — C. — do — with Do — Do.

No. 84