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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2864	Press
659-660	Mis.,
Dated 27-7 -	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

On
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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
27th September 1865.*

No. 659. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Judicial Department:—

Passing orders on certain correspondence re-
lative to the distance, &c., of the Subsidiary
Jails in the South Arcot District from the
Sub-Magistrates' Offices. (Here enter 19th September 1865, No. 1,340.)

No. 660. ORDER THEREON, 27th September 1865, No. 2,864.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 89.

1. Forwarded to the Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, who will be requested to report, in communication with the Magistrate of South Arcot, what measures should be taken for the establishment of Subsidiary Jails, as part of the Sub-Magistrates' Offices, in all the necessary stations.

2. Colonel Foord will also be good enough to submit the report called for in the latter part of paragraph 4.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.

„ Judicial Department.

„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
19th September 1865.

Read the following papers:—

No. 195. From W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Police, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Kotagerry, 24th July 1865, No. 1479.

I have the honor to submit the accompanying letter from the Magistrate of South Arcot, on the subject of sanctioning special guards for the detached Sub-

No. 251, dated 23rd June 1865.

sidiary Jails, or Magistrates' lock-ups, for prisoners sentenced for periods less than one month, of his District.

2. There are four or five such places under construction. One, at Tiruvady, is already occupied, and is guarded by four men withdrawn from the duties for which they were sanctioned. To this extent the Police is weakened, and injuriously so.

3. These Subsidiary Jails have been constructed apart from the Magistrates' offices to which they are attached, and if their inmates are to be watched, special guards must be supplied.

4. If a single watchman, as sentry—the smaller number than this cannot guard a Jail—be allowed, with proper reliefs, five men at least will be required for each Subsidiary Jail, at an annual cost of about 700 Rupees for each Jail.

5. No money is allowed in the Budget of the year. I hesitate to recommend the outlay. Special sanction must be applied for and obtained from the Supreme Government, and the Budget limit will be exceeded by this sum.

6. When the plan of establishing Subsidiary Jails, by permitting Magistrates to keep the short sentenced prisoners, was first adopted, the intention of Government was, as rightly remarked by Mr. Irvine, that the lock-up of the Taluq offices should be so used. The watchman then in charge of the Treasury and office was directed to keep an eye on the lock-up.

7. This is the method pursued in all other Districts. In the new Taluq offices arrangements are so made. The Subsidiary Jail is under the same roof, and so placed that no additional guard is required.

8. But in South Arcot, the Magistrate has built his Subsidiary Jails at a distance from the Magistrates' offices. In itself the plan is objectionable, as the Jail is not immediately under the Magistrate's eye. Police are not Jailers, and should not be entrusted with the departmental keep of convicted persons; and, secondly, the original intention cannot be adhered to, and additional expense must be incurred.

9. The plans of the South Arcot Subsidiary Jails were not shown to me, or I should have pointed out the error in principle, and the serious financial objection to the plan adopted by the Magistrate. One year's guarding will amount to half the cost of these structures.

10. If these places are to be occupied and guarded, I fear we must wait until the Budget is relieved by contributions from municipalities.

11. The Magistrate will of course detail some one of his own establishment to act as Jailer.

12. The result of two years' operations shows that during each year about 15,000 short sentenced prisoners are confined in all the Subsidiary Jails under the Presidency, for an average period of eight days each. Under the latter circum-

stance, I doubt whether it is worth while incurring special expense on this account. The expense of guarding and dicting, and of working such men, far exceeds the value of their labor.

13. The dieting persons confined in Subsidiary Jails merits the consideration of Government. In some Districts, as I am informed, the diet is not sufficient if men are worked. Men cannot and ought not to be made to work on insufficient food.

14. Again, as to working these men:—It can only be done at large cost. There are rarely more than 2 or 3 prisoners sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, that is, to hard labor. Magistrates wish to work these men, and want Police to guard them at work. It can only be done at a great waste of the public service, apart altogether from the consideration that no men are allowed, or can be supplied, without special sanction. In regular Jails, one watchman guards seven convicts at labor; and the work is supervised and tolerably effective. But here we have a guard dandling after two or three (often only one) men, who are in for a week, and are sent out to sweep the streets. The work is nearly useless, but costs at least 3 or 4 times as much as at convict establishments.

From C. W. READE, Esq., Magistrate of South Arcot, to W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Police; dated Cuddalore, 23rd June 1865, No. 251.

In acknowledgment of your letter of the 19th instant, No. 1187, with enclosures herewith returned, I have the honor to state that, on the 16th idem, I addressed Government on the subject of special guards being provided for the Subsidiary Jails in this District, as had already been sanctioned in the case of the Subsidiary Jail at Tindevanum.

2. The remarks of my Head Assistant in his letter to Lieutenant Young, respecting these Jails and their locality, only show that Mr. Irvine is ignorant of the cause which influenced the arrangements that were determined on in communication with the Police Department; and my Report to Government, with their Orders thereon, under date the 30th March 1864, and 11th June 1864, would seem to have been entirely over-looked by Mr. Irvine.

3. It may be presumed that if Government authorize the separate guards for the Subsidiary Jails, the requisite provision will be made for their cost, as I can hardly suppose that the men will be withdrawn from their present duties for the purpose, and thus cripple the efficiency of the existing guards elsewhere.

From Captain W. O. SWANSTON, Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, to Captain M. W. CARR, Assistant Inspector General of Police; dated Cuddalore, 12th June 1865, No. 477.

With reference to Circular Memorandum, No. 395, of the 27th May 1865, page 142, Police weekly Circular, I have the honor to report that a Deputy and three Constables out of the District allotment are employed in guarding the short sentenced prisoners at the Subsidiary Jail at Tiruvady, which is the station of a Sub-Magistrate. These men are taken from the strength of the Punrootty station.

2. The Subsidiary Jails at the stations as per margin having been almost finished, they being now nearly ready to receive prisoners, a Deputy and three Constables are required for each of them, as none of them are under the same roof as the Taluq office, but apart from it, and fully demanding the service of a separate guard, and which could not possibly be supplied by the Treasury watchmen.

3. The Subsidiary Jail at Tindevanum has four Constables sanctioned by the Order of Government, dated 15th February 1865, No. 253, Judicial Department.

4. The Lock-up at Villapuram having been finished, and being available for the reception of prisoners, I have the honor to request an *immediate* sanction for the emloyment of four Constables for it, as applied for by my Assistant in his letter, No. 18 of 31st May 1865, which, with the one from the Acting Head Assistant* Magistrate to which it gives cover, are herewith forwarded for your perusal and return.

* Dated 30th May 1865, No. 44.

From Lieutenant T. H. B. YOUNG, Assistant Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, to Captain W. O. SWANSTON, Superintendent of Police, South Arcot; dated Tindevanum, 31st May 1865, No. 18.

I have the honor to forward herewith a letter received this day from the Acting Head Assistant Magistrate, Tindevanum, who informs me that the lock-up at Villapuram is now ready for the reception of prisoners.

2. As the Cutcherry and lock-up are quite separate, I agree with the Head Assistant in thinking that a special guard, as per margin, should be sanctioned.

Four Constables.

From O. B. IRVINE, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Magistrate of South Arcot, to Lieutenant T. H. B. YOUNG, Assistant Superintendent of Police of South Arcot; dated Tindevanum, 30th May 1865, No. 44.

I have the honor to report that the lock-up at Villapuram is finished, and will be available for the reception of prisoners on Monday the 5th proximo, and to request that you will take the necessary measures for guarding it.

Index No. 245.

I am aware that as a rule there is no regular guard provided for these lock-ups at the different Cusbah stations, but that the Treasury watchman while guarding the Treasury is expected also to keep his eye upon the lock-up.

This is all very well when the lock-up and Treasury are under the same roof, but where this is not the case as in Villapuram (the lock-up being a separate building to the left of the Taluq Cutcherry), it seems to me that application ought to be made for the ordinary rule to be set aside and a special guard sanctioned, and I request you will make application accordingly.

2. With the exception of Chellambur, Villapuram is, as you are aware, the largest, richest, and in every respect the most important Taluq in the South Arcot District; and why the town should only have been provided with a lock-up when other and inferior towns, such as Tindevanum and Trinomalay, have Subsidiary Jails, I am at a loss to conceive; but the fact of the building at Villapuram being only a lock-up, and by no means as substantial a structure as a Subsidiary Jail, only renders a special guard for it the more necessary.

3. Another reason for urging this as a special case is the proximity of Villapuram to the French territory. Whenever in that Taluq a prisoner effects his escape from custody, he usually takes refuge in the French territory; and the records of your office and mine will show the immense trouble and expense involved in re-capturing such prisoners, and the not unfrequent defeat of justice, owing to the apathy and indifference invariably displayed by the French authorities.

4. The offence of house breaking is at present very common in Villapuram, and I doubt not for some time to come the lock-up will be constantly occupied, and I strongly suspect that a mere warning of the penalty attaching to escape from custody (as proposed by the Inspector General of Police in the Circular Memorandum, No. 335, published in Police weekly Circular of the 27th instant) will not be sufficient to deter prisoners from attempting to recover their liberty, and a well organized attempt at Villapuram would, in the absence of the Treasury watchman's vigilant eye, be probably carried to a successful issue.

No. 196. From Lieutenant Colonel E. A. FOORD, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, Fort Saint George; dated Salem, 15th August 1865, No. 1175.

I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, that, upon receipt of the Controller's Circular, No. V, of the 15th of May, I communicated the same to the Collector of South Arcot, and called upon him to furnish me with a statement of cash balance in his hands on the 30th April 1865. This statement was furnished by the Deputy Collector in charge of the South Arcot Treasury on the 31st May; but on a subsequent reference to the Collector, to know whether the works undertaken by him in the last official year were completed, and, if not, what measures he had adopted to obtain funds for completing them, I was informed by him that, in ignorance of the Government Order that the Budget allotment lapses at the close of each official year, he had expended Rupees 769-10-10 in May and June 1865 upon the works marginally noted, out of the sum advanced to him by this Department in 1864-65, and that a further sum of Rupees 657-5-3 is required for completing the "Subsidiary Jails and Lock-ups" in this year.

2. Thus, a sum of Rupees 1427-0-1 will have to be provided from the current year's Budget allotment to meet this expenditure. Of this amount, Rupees 86-15-0 may be transferred from the head "agricultural" repairs, towards the "repairs of tanks in the Villapuram Taluq."

3. The balance Rupees 1340-1-1, required for "Subsidiary Jails and Lock-ups," I request Government will be pleased to transfer from the allotment for Civil buildings for some other Division, where the amount can be spared.

Referred to the Judicial Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
23rd August 1865.

(Signed) C. A. ORR, Col., R. E.,
Secretary to Government, D. P. W.

No. 197. From G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Magistrate of South Arcot, to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Cuddalore, 1st September 1865, No. 73.

I have the honor respectfully to ask the attention of Government to Mr. Reade's letter of 16th June 1865, No. 44, on the subject of guards for the Subsidiary Jails completed and in course of completion in this District, and would solicit early orders thereon.

2. Since the date of that letter two more of these Jails have been completed, and their occupation is impeded from the inability of the Police to furnish the requisite guards. The short sentenced prisoners, therefore, are, as a matter of course, still located in the Taluq Cutcheries, a place admittedly ill-suited for the purpose of a Jail, and thus the object aimed at by the construction of these Jails is in a manner defeated.

3. Connected with this, another question has since arisen, as to what officer is to be in charge of these Subsidiary Jails. The Government are aware that the

Subsidiary Jail of Tindivanam was completed last January, and a special establishment sanctioned for guarding the prisoners confined therein. Hitherto the warrants of commitment, and other processes were directed to the Police Officer in charge of the guard, who executed these processes, looked after the internal economy of the Jail, and arranged it for the working of the prisoners during the day; lately, however, the Deputy Inspector General of Police, in one of his recent tours, has taken exception to the arrangement, and has directed his Inspector to have nothing to do with the Jail, excepting furnishing the guard, and to return

the warrants, &c., in his possession to the Tahsildar, who he avers is the Jailer, and the proper custodian of these documents. This procedure on the part of the Deputy Inspector is justified by a Circular Memorandum of the Inspector General, Mofussil Police, dated the 6th May 1865, No. 324, given in the margin.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM, No. 324, 6th May 1865.
Position of Police at Subsidiary Jails.
Some doubt exists as to the position of the Police at Subsidiary Jails.
2. The Magistracy, not the Police, are the officers in charge of such Jails.
3. No warrant of confinement will be received by Police.
4. The Police prevent escape of such prisoners as the Magistracy put in confinement, precisely as they do at General Jails, but they are not the Jail officers.
(Signed) W. ROBINSON,
Inspector General of Police.

4. I am not aware if this Circular Memorandum is with the sanction of Government. However it may be, the order is attended with some inconvenience.

5. Granting that the Magistracy are the officers in charge of the Jail, still I do not think the Police absolved from any share in its management.

6. Not to mention the anomaly of the Magistrate sentencing a prisoner directing the warrant of commitment to himself, there are other details connected with the charge, such as dieting the convicts, telling them off to work, &c., which could be so much more effectively and conveniently performed by the Police than by the Tahsildar, who with his now extended jurisdiction, and decreased establishment, can hardly undertake the new task of Jailer in addition to his other duties.

7. The position of the Police in the Zillah Jail is, I venture to say, not analogous to the present case. In the Zillah Jail there is a sufficient and distinct establishment to perform all the duties of working, dieting, discipline, &c.; in the Taluq Jail there is nothing of the kind. Should Government decree that the duties of the Police are merely to guard, there are two ways of meeting the difficulty—either by deputing the Taluq Duffadar to take charge of the Jail, or by nominating an extra employé. The Duffadar is, in the first place, purely a Revenue servant; he is the only Executive Officer of any position that the Tahsildar has left; he has to be in Cutcherry all day, when not out on duty with the Tahsildar during that officer's frequent tours, so that his services can scarcely be said to be available for Jail charge. An extra Duffadar on the same pay, viz., 8 Rupees per mensem, might be nominated and termed "Jail Duffadar." He should take entire charge of the internal economy, and see that the prisoners really did good work during the hours of labor.

No. 197A. From G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to Lieutenant Colonel E. A. FOORD, Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, dated Cuddalore, 2nd September 1865, No. 224.

I have the honor to call your attention to Mr. Reade's letter, of the 17th July last, No. 176, and to request that you will be good enough to state what steps you have taken for the prosecution of the works therein mentioned.

2. After that letter, and pending your reply, I am given to understand that Mr. Reade stopped all work with regard to the Subsidiary Jails and lock-ups, and in reference to it the Joint Magistrate has addressed the enclosed.

3. It will be a pity to allow the materials to go to waste, as anticipated by the Joint Magistrate if the work be not immediately proceeded with, and I would therefore request to know if funds cannot be made available for the purpose.

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Joint Magistrate of South Arcot, to G. BANBURY, Esq., Acting Magistrate of South Arcot; dated Cuddalore, 1st September 1865, No. 694.

I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform why the order for the cessation of the construction of a lock-up at Tittagudi was issued by Mr. Reade, when more than half of the full amount sanctioned for the same had been spent, and most of the materials required had been procured. The building itself is well advanced, and had far better be completed; for if left unfinished during the next monsoon, the walls, in all probability, will come to the ground,—the materials that have been collected, chunam, &c., will be spoilt,—and when the work is resumed it will have to be begun *de novo*, with a very considerable increase to the expenditure originally estimated.

No. 1488.

Submitted to Government, in continuation of letter, No. 1175, dated 15th August 1865, from this office.

Enclosure 1.
1 Letter from Mr. Whiteside.

SUPG. ENGRS. OFFICE, 5TH DIVN.,
SALEM, 9th September 1865.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Lt.-Col., R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.

Transferred to the Judicial Department, in continuation of the Superintending Engineer's letter, dated 15th August 1865.

(Signed) C. A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
—September 1865. Secretary to Government.

No. 198. ORDER THEREON, 19th September 1865, No. 1340.

This correspondence brings before Government the subject of the Subsidiary Jails in the District of South Arcot, which have all, it appears, been built at a distance from the Sub-Magistrates' offices, a consequence of which is that a separate guard is required for each.

2. The original intention of Government in sanctioning the establishment of Subsidiary Jails was that the existing lock-ups attached to the Sub-Magistrates' offices, and necessarily guarded, should be so enlarged, or altered, as to fit them for the separate reception of persons in custody, awaiting, or under, examination or trial, and of persons under short sentences, while the guard already employed would suffice for watching the enlarged places of detention as fully as the old lock-ups.

3. The course pursued by the Magistrate of South Arcot of building Subsidiary Jails at a distance from the Sub-Magistrates' offices—a course, which although approved by the District Superintendent of Police, was never made known to the Inspector General—has compelled that officer to apply for a separate guard for each Jail, the cost of which would, Mr. Robinson states, be Rupees 700 annually, for which he has no provision whatever in his Budget, while he is unable to appropriate the necessary amount from other purposes.

4. The Government regret that the inevitable result of the separation of the Subsidiary Jails from the immediate oversight of the Sub-Magistrates' office guard, was not clearly pointed out by Mr. Reade before the buildings were sanctioned, but having respect to the heavy call upon the Police Force on other grounds, and to the certainty that no additional funds can be granted for its enlargement, the Government must direct that immediate measures be taken for establishing in South Arcot, in all the necessary stations, Subsidiary Jails as part of the Sub-Magistrates' offices, and so placed as to be under the immediate observation of the Treasury or lock-up guard. The buildings already erected will be made over to the Department of Public Works, and a report will be called for in that Department from the Superintending Engineer as to the best purpose to which to put the buildings already completed, or in course of construction.

5. With reference to the question raised in Mr. Robinson's letter as to the working of prisoners in Subsidiary Jails, the Government are of opinion that the prisoners in these Jails, whose period of confinement Mr. Robinson states does not exceed eight days on the average, should not be worked on the roads. As a general rule, the cost of providing extra guards renders this inexpedient. Magistrates should arrange for those who are sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, the number of whom must be comparatively small, being made to labor within the Jail.

6. These Jails must all be under the charge of the Sub-Magistrate of the Taluq.

(True Extract).

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector General of Jails.
" District Magistrate of South Arcot.
" Public Works Department.
" Inspector General of Police.
" Magistrate of

Ed. J. H. Burns.

11-20

Lead

Civil Works

202864

Thomas D. Deady

Engineer of the 5th Dr.

who will be ~~present~~ present

presented to report, in con-

munications with the Major

General S. Reed, what were

views should be taken in

the ~~officer's~~ ^{officer's} establishment

of auxiliary sails, as part of
the full recognition of them,
in all the necessary station
Colonel Ford will
also be present through &
submit the report called
for in the latter part of
page 4.
W. H. George
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Pro. of Govt. for September
No. 3668.

Pro. of Govt. in the
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of 19th Sept
Recd. 25th Sept

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Paying out on an
certain correspondence
relative to the distance
of the subsidiary jail
in the South West &
from the Sub. Magistrates
offices.

With an order
ex 2864-27th Sept/65

No. 659.660