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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W. DEPARTMENT

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Dated	16. 9. 1878	197.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

16th September 1878, No. 3,662 W

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 195. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Judicial Department, dated 27th August 1878, No. 1,748.

From Colonel W. FAREWELL, Deputy Chief Engineer and Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, to the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Waltair, 6th August 1878.

I HAVE the honor to enclose a copy of a telegram from the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, with my reply thereto, and to report that I have carefully inquired into the cause of the delay that has taken place in reference to the completion of the Parvatipur Hill Jail.

2. From the copies of the several memoranda to the Divisional Officer submitted for my inspection, the slow progress of the work has frequently attracted the attention of the District Engineer who has done all that writing could do to urge on the work. So far back as July 1877, anticipating the sanction of the estimate, he authorised the collection of materials, &c., &c., but it was only late in July of the present year that the necessity of the revision of the rates was brought to his notice and duly reported.

3. The Jeypore Division, of which Parvatipur is the head-quarters, has suffered much from the want of efficient officers. Lieutenant Lever, a worn-out officer, who held charge of it last year, suffered so much in health that he did nothing; he was subsequently invalided; and the Vizianagram Divisional Officer took temporary charge of the division, but owing to his own extensive and important charge, for which he has proved himself unequal, did but little to mend matters. The temporary Overseer in charge of the jail had to be dismissed. Mr. Sub-Engineer Fouracros, Bengal Public Works Department, is now in temporary charge of the division, and a new temporary Overseer for the jail works has been entertained.

4. Parvatipur is an out-of-the-way place in which it is difficult to obtain labor, the rates of which appear never to have been properly arrived at, but those prevailing at Vizianagram very improperly adopted. The consequence is that neither laborers nor suppliers can be had at the rates provided in the estimate which are insufficient. These the District Engineer, after due inquiry, has raised, and I have sanctioned their immediate introduction, and directed the District Engineer to hasten the submission of the requisite revised estimate for the sanction of Government.

5. Mr. deMorgan, Assistant Engineer in charge of the Vizianagram Division, having failed to give satisfaction in that more important charge, I have already recommended shall be placed in charge of the very much smaller Jeypore Division, as soon as he is relieved, and thus Mr. Fouracros, Bengal Public Works Department (now holding temporary charge), will on relief by Mr. deMorgan, be available for pushing on with the budgeted works of the district in the Vizianagram Division, while Mr. deMorgan, with his head-quarters at Parvatipur, will be able to devote most of his attention to the completion of the jail.

6. I am given to understand that the most pressing work to be done to the Parvatipur Hill Jail consists of constructing a new wall at a greater distance round the building, constructing a hospital, another guard and contractor's room, and a few minor additions and alterations, while accommodation for seventy-five or eighty men is at present actually available, and so far as their guarding and security goes, both ends would be far better met in that jail than in the temporary thatched jail in which the prisoners are now placed at Vizagapatam, where the rate of death among the hill men is perfectly appalling. All that appears to be immediately required is a jail establishment at Parvatipur. If the number of prisoners named were at once removed to the Hill Jail, their labor, the District Engineer informs me, would be of service in hastening the completion of the jail.

7. In company with the Medical Officer in charge of the Vizagapatam Jail, the Collector and District Engineer, I this morning made a minute inspection of that building which is being enlarged and altered; some of the wards are at present occupied at night, and arrangements have been made by which increased accommodation can in a day or two be given for twenty men, while the works generally will be so pushed on with as in another fortnight to afford space temporarily for eighty more, and by the end of the current month for another eighty prisoners. Thus if the transfer to the Parvatipur Hill Jail of seventy-five or eighty men be sanctioned and carried out, the numbers in the temporary thatched jail at Vizagapatam will by the end of August be reduced by 255 or 260 men.

8. To admit of the rapid completion of the Vizagapatam Jail a further allotment of Rupees 5,000 is urgently required, and this sum I recommend with the full concurrence of the District Engineer being transferred from the Pottinghi Ghat grant, the estimate for which has not yet been completed, and to work without estimates and specifications is simply waste of money.

No. 3,628.

TRANSFERRED to the Judicial Department.

16th August 1878.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 1,466.

REFERRED to the Inspector-General of Jails for report on the suggestions contained in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Deputy Chief Engineer's letter.

Ootacamund,
17th August 1878.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

From Lieutenant-Colonel T. E. TENNANT, Inspector-General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 15th August 1878, No. 168.

In returning the papers received with your endorsement, No. 1,466, dated 17th August 1878, I have the honor to remark that the Parvatipur Jail is not fit for occupation in its present state. The outer wall having been built much too near the barracks which are crowded round a central space of insufficient size even if left clear, but as some thirty-four feet of the entire diameter of forty-eight feet are taken up by a warder's tower, the ventilation is seriously obstructed. It will be necessary to remove this building as well as the outer wall before it can be occupied by convicts.

2. Both Dr. Cornish and I came to the conclusion that if the central tower was removed and the outer wall thrown back so as to enclose an area of a hundred yards square there would be sufficient circulation of air within the enclosure. I would therefore propose that the central tower and present enclosure wall be at once removed

and the new outer wall commenced and raised about five feet; if this be done I shall then be in a position to transfer a gang of convicts whose labor can be utilised on the works. The earthen rampart of the old fort can then be removed with convict labor and the earth used to fill up the fort ditch. But until the new enclosure wall is raised about five feet and the defects in the ventilation remedied, I cannot recommend the removal of the convicts into the present jail buildings.

The Government cannot direct the transfer of the hill prisoners from Vizagapatam to Parvatipur while the Inspector-General of Jails opposes it on considerations of health in the present state of the buildings at Parvatipur.

2. The Inspector-General will, however, be instructed to arrange for the transfer being made at the earliest possible moment.

3. The Public Works Department will urge on the District Engineer the serious responsibility that rests on him of rendering the transfer feasible with the least possible delay. The alterations in the jail at Parvatipur were, it is observed, sanctioned in April 1877, and funds assigned for the purpose.

G.O., Judicial, No. 2,997, dated 20th April 1877.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 196. ORDER THEREON, 16th September 1878, No. 3,662 W.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, Vizagapatam, whose particular attention is called to paragraph 8. To admit of the completion of the Vizagapatam Jail, a further appropriation of Rupees 5,000 is made from Provincial Reserve.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

(True Copy.)

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Vizagapatam.
Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
Judicial Department.

Encl. T. D. 11/2/78.
Spec. Copies

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

27th August 1878, No. 1748.

Jails.

Read the following paper:—

No. 172. *From Colonel W. FAREWELL, Deputy Chief Engineer and Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, to the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Wallair, 6th August 1878.*

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a telegram from the Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, with my reply thereto, and to report that I have carefully inquired into the cause of the delay that has taken place in reference to the completion of the Parvatipur Hill Jail.

2. From the copies of the several memoranda to the Divisional Officer submitted for my inspection, the slow progress of the work has frequently attracted the attention of the District Engineer who has done all that writing could do to urge on the work. So far back as July 1877, anticipating the sanction of the estimate, he authorized the collection of materials, &c., &c., but it was only late in July of the present year that the necessity of the revision of the rates was brought to his notice and duly reported.

3. The Jeypore Division, of which Parvatipur is the headquarters; has suffered much from the want of efficient officers. Lieut. Lever, a worn-out officer, who held charge of it last year, suffered so much in health that he did nothing; he was subsequently invalided; and the Vizianagram Divisional Officer took temporary charge of the Division, but owing to his own extensive and important charge, for which he has proved himself unequal, did but little to mend matters. The temporary Overseer in charge of the jail had to be dismissed. Mr. Sub-Engineer Fouracres, Bengal Public Works Department, is now in temporary charge of the Division, and a new temporary Overseer for the Jail works has been entertained.

4. Parvatipur is an out-of-the-way place in which it is difficult to obtain labor, the rates of which appear never to have been properly arrived at, but those prevailing at Vizianagram very improperly adopted. The consequence is that neither laborers nor suppliers can be had at the rates provided in the estimate which are insufficient. These the District Engineer after due inquiry has raised, and I have sanctioned their immediate introduction, and directed the District Engineer to hasten the submission of the requisite revised estimate for the sanction of Government.

5. Mr. deMorgan, Assistant Engineer in charge of the Vizianagram Division, having failed to give satisfaction in that more important charge, I have already recommended shall be placed in charge of the very much smaller Jeypore Division, as soon as he is relieved, and thus Mr. Fouracres, Bengal Public Works Department (now holding temporary charge), will on relief by Mr. deMorgan, be available for pushing on with the budgeted works of the district in the Vizianagram Division, while Mr. deMorgan, with his headquarters at Parvatipur, will be able to devote most of his attention to the completion of the jail.

6. I am given to understand that the most pressing work to be done to the Parvatipur Hill Jail consists of constructing a new wall at a greater distance round the building, constructing a hospital, another guard and contractor's room, and a few minor additions and alterations, while accommodation for seventy-five or eighty men

is at present actually available, and so far as their guarding and security ends would be far better met in that jail than in the temporary thatched building which is now placed at Vizagapatam, where the rate of death among the prisoners is perfectly appalling. All that appears to be immediately required is an establishment at Parvatipur. If the number of prisoners named were removed to the Hill Jail, their labor, the District Engineer informs me, would be service in hastening the completion of the jail.

7. In company with the Medical Officer in charge of the Vizagapatam Jail, Collector and District Engineer, I this morning made a minute inspection of the building which is being enlarged and altered; some of the wards are at present at night, and arrangements have been made by which increased accommodation can in a day or two be given for twenty men, while the works generally are pushed on with as in another fortnight to afford space temporarily for and by the end of the current month for another eighty prisoners. Thus it is to the Parvatipur Hill Jail of seventy-five or eighty men be sanctioned out, the numbers in the temporary thatched jail at Vizagapatam will by August be reduced by 255 or 260 men.

8. To admit of the rapid completion of the Vizagapatam Jail a further sum of Rupees 5,000 is urgently required, and this sum I recommend with concurrence of the District Engineer being transferred from the Ponghi estimate for which has not yet been completed, and to work without and specifications is simply waste of money.

No. 3628.

Transferred to the Judicial Department.

16th August 1878.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.
Secy. to Govt.,

No. 1466.

Referred to the Inspector-General of Jails for report on the suggestions in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Deputy Chief Engineer's letter.

COTACAMUND,
17th August 1878.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL
Chief.

No. 173. From Lieutenant-Colonel T. E. TENNANT, Inspector-General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 19th August 1878, No. 168.

In returning the papers received with your endorsement, No. 1466, of 17th August 1878, I have the honor to remark that the Parvatipur Jail is in a very bad state of repair. The outer wall having been built much too close to the barracks which are crowded round a central space of insufficient size and clear, but as some thirty-four feet of the entire diameter of forty-eight feet is taken up by a warder's tower, the ventilation is seriously obstructed. It is necessary to remove this building as well as the outer wall before it can be used by convicts.

2. Both Dr. Cornish and I came to the conclusion that if the central tower were removed and the outer wall thrown back so as to enclose an area of a hundred yards there would be sufficient circulation of air within the enclosure. I would propose that the central tower and present enclosure wall be at once removed and a new outer wall commenced and raised about five feet; if this be done I shall be in a position to transfer a gang of convicts whose labor can be utilized on the earthen rampart of the old fort can then be removed with convict

the earth used to fill up the fort ditch. But until the new enclosure wall is raised about five feet and the defects in the ventilation remedied, I cannot recommend the removal of the convicts into the present Jail buildings.

No. 174. ORDER THEREON, 27th August 1878, No. 1748.

The Government cannot direct the transfer of the hill prisoners from Vizagapatam to Parvatipur while the Inspector-General of Jails opposes it on considerations of health in the present state of the buildings at Parvatipur.

2. The Inspector-General will, however, be instructed to arrange for the transfer being made at the earliest possible moment.

3. The Public Works Department will urge on the District Engineer the serious responsibility that rests on him of rendering the transfer feasible with the least possible delay. The alterations in the jail at Parvatipur were, it is observed, sanctioned in April 1877, and funds assigned for the purpose.

G.O., Judicial No. 2997, dated 20th April 1877.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

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

Exd. J. Wright.

fo. 326. of 27-4-77.

P.H.

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10/58

4/10/58

Recd. 19/9/77

JUDICIAL
OFFICE
19/9/77

17/2/77
No 3662 Wg 16 Sept 77

Communicated to the
District Engineer Vizagapatnam
whose particular atten-
-tion is called to para-
-graph 3.

Wk
2.9.77

To admit of the com-
-pletion of the Vizagapatnam
rail, a further appropria-
-tion of Rs. 5000 is made
from Provincial Reserve

M. Vizagapatnam
Rev. P. H. ...
Judicial Dept. 2-10-77

Cir 5-9-77 Dtd 17-9-77
P.H. Shukla 10/10/77

The transfer of the ...
of the ...
to be ...
the ...
the ...

17/2/77

17/2/77

10/10/78

Gobt. of (1878) Madras

PUBLIC WORKS

To

Mr. I. Vizagapatam

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 16th Sep. 1878, No. 3624

No. 195-2146

Parvathipur Jail Vizagapatam

judicial orders ^{deferring} regarding
the transfer of prisoners to
the - from Vizagapatam
in the present condition of the
Jail, com. to the to make
all ~~such arrangements~~ ^{to allow of the removal} speedy
arrangements to a further
appropriation of Rs 5000
made.

Sub. Secy.