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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	4326 W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated 11 - 11 -		1888 197.

V.S.M.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

4326W
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

11th November 1878, No. 4,326 W.

General.
Account.

Read the following papers:—

No. 151. From Major L. CONWAY-GORDON, R.E., Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, General Branch, dated Chepauk, 27th September 1878, No. 290 W.

With reference to G.O., No. 3,274 W, of the 16th ultimo, I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government one point, and that not an unimportant one, which has apparently been overlooked in disposing of the case. The point I allude to is that Sub-Divisional Officers and imprest holders of the Public Works Department are not provided with proper treasure chests, and that, under the circumstances, it is difficult for any officer to avoid being robbed if the lascars to whom the cash chest is entrusted succumb to the temptation now unnecessarily held out to them.

2. The treasure chests supplied to Sub-Divisional Officers and imprest holders in the department are usually light wooden boxes with thin iron clamps at the corners, so comparatively frail that any evil-disposed person can easily get at their contents with the aid of a heavy stone or the first tool that comes to hand. Altogether these boxes are quite inadequate for the proper protection of any thing of value. For all practical purposes the money might as well be kept in a canvass bag.

3. Of the sum of Rupees 2,50,000, which was the amount of cash in the hands of Public Works disbursers at the end of June, I am given to understand that no less than Rupees 1,30,000 was deposited in these wooden boxes, and it seems to me more a matter of surprise than otherwise that there are not more robberies reported than there are.

4. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest for the consideration of Government that orders should be given directing that in future only *iron* treasure chests be issued from the Public Works Stores for the use of Sub-Divisional Officers and imprest holders, as it would appear that in the absence of the ordinary precautionary appliances, officers in charge of public money are not at present placed in such a position by the State that they can reasonably be held personally responsible in cases of burglary.

No. 151-A. Endorsement of the District Engineer, Presidency, dated 16th October 1878, No. 4,226.

From G. H. FAULKNER, Esq., Executive Engineer in charge of Presidency Public Works Workshops, to the District Engineer, Presidency, dated Madras, 14th October 1878, No. 2,724.

With reference to memorandum, No. 4,465, dated 30th October 1878, from Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, received under

endorsement No. 4,029, I have the honor to note the prices of the wooden and iron cash chests made and supplied by the Public Works Workshops.

1 Wooden chest 24" x 18" x 16" with iron chain and one Chubb's padlock ... RS. A. P. 77 14 0

1 Wrought iron cash chest 24" x 16" x 16" shot with bolts and keyed with patent lock ... 100 0 0

2. The original letter from the Examiner of Public Works Accounts to the address of the Secretary to Government is herewith returned.

SUBMITTED to the Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, with reference to his memorandum No. 4,465, dated 3rd October 1878.

2. The original letter from the Examiner of Public Works Accounts is herewith returned.

(Signed) ROSS THOMPSON, Major, R.E.,
District Engineer, Presidency.

No. 152. ORDER THEREON, 11th November 1878, No. 4,326 W.

The suggestion made by the Examiner in the last paragraph of his letter is approved. Iron cash chests will in future be issued for the use of Divisional and Sub-Divisional Officers.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. T. D. Ryan.
Spare Copies

4326W
2

GENERAL
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of (1878) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEERS.

to, to, to

Dated November 11th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 11th November 1878, No. 4320 W.

NOVEMBER

Nos. 151-153.

Iron Cash Chests.—Orders issued for the provision of — for the use of Divisional and Sub-Divisional Officers.

P.S.

50/28

FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS,

MADRAS.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

GENERAL BRANCH.

NO. 290 W

CHEPAK 27th SEPTEMBER 1878.

SIR,

WITH REFERENCE TO G.O. NO. 3274.W. OF THE 16TH. ULTIMO, I HAVE THE HONOR TO BRING TO THE NOTICE OF GOVERNMENT ONE POINT AND THAT NOT AN UNIMPORTANT ONE, WHICH HAS APPARENTLY BEEN OVERLOOKED IN DISPOSING OF THE CASE. THE POINT I ALLUDE TO IS, THAT SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICERS AND IMPREST HOLDERS OF THE P.W. DEPARTMENT ARE NOT PROVIDED WITH PROPER TREASURE CHESTS, AND, THAT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ANY OFFICER TO AVOID BEING ROBBED, IF THE LASCARS TO WHOM THE CASH CHEST IS ENTRUSTED SUCCEED TO THE TEMPTATION NOW UNNECESSARILY HELD OUT TO THEM.

2. THE TREASURE CHESTS SUPPLIED TO SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICERS AND IMPREST HOLDERS IN THE DEPARTMENT ARE USUALLY LIGHT WOODEN BOXES WITH THIN IRON CLAMPS AT THE CORNERS, SO COMPARATIVELY FRAIL, THAT ANY EVIL-DISPOSED PERSON CAN EASILY GET AT THEIR CONTENTS WITH THE AID OF A HEAVY STONE, OR THE FIRST TOOL THAT COMES TO HAND. ALTOGETHER, THESE BOXES ARE QUITE INADEQUATE FOR THE PROPER PROTECTION OF

ANY THING OF VALUE. FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THE
MONEY MIGHT AS WELL BE KEPT IN A CANVASS BAG.

3. OF THE SUM OF RS. 350,000, WHICH WAS THE AMOUNT OF
CASH IN THE HANDS OF PUBLIC WORKS DISBURSERS AT THE END
OF JUNE, I AM GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND THAT NO LESS THAN RS.
1,30,000 WAS DEPOSITED IN THESE WOODEN BOXES, AND, IT SEEMS
TO ME MORE A MATTER OF SURPRISE THAN OTHERWISE, THAT THERE
ARE NOT MORE ROBBERIES REPORTED THAN THERE ARE.

4. I WOULD, THEREFORE, RESPECTFULLY SUGGEST FOR THE CON-
SIDERATION OF GOVERNMENT THAT ORDERS SHOULD BE GIVEN
DIRECTING THAT IN FUTURE ONLY IRON TREASURE CHESTS BE ISSUED
FROM THE P.W. STORES FOR THE USE OF SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICERS
AND IMPREST HOLDERS, AS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IN THE AB-
SENCE OF THE ORDINARY PRECAUTIONARY APPLIANCES, OFFICERS
IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC MONEY ARE NOT AT PRESENT PLACED IN
SUCH A POSITION BY THE STATE THAT THEY CAN REASONABLY BE
HELD PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE IN CASES OF BURGLARY.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO BE,

SIR,

YOUR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT.

Lansay Jordan

EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS & MAJOR R.E.

4326W
u

Mr. 25/4

5040 3274w 8/16-8-78

FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS,

MADRAS.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVT. P.W.D.

GENERAL BRANCH.

NO. 290 PM

DATED 7 SEPTEMBER 1878.

RECD.

REPORTING THAT SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICERS AND IMPREST HOLDERS OF THE P.W. DEPT. ARE NOT PROVIDED WITH PROPER TREASURE CHESTS, AND SUGGESTING THAT IN FUTURE THE IRON TREASURE CHESTS BE ISSUED FROM P.W. STORES FOR THEIR USE.

To only 1-10-78 8-11-78.

P.S.

1000173

PRESIDENCY PUBLIC WORKS WORKSHOPS,
Madras, 14 October 1878.

No. 2724

From

THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT,

PUBLIC WORKS WORKSHOPS,

To

THE

District Engineer
Pondicherry
Fort St George.

Sir,

With reference to Memo No. 1415 of 30 October 1878 from under Secretary to Government P.W.D. received under endorsement No. 1029 I have the honor to note the prices of the wooden and iron Cash Chests made and supplied by the P.W. Workshops.

1. Wooden Chest 24" x 18" x 16" 3
with iron chain & 1 double padlock 3 R 44/14.

1. Wrought-iron Cash Chest
24" x 16" x 16" shut with bolt 3
and fitted with padlock 3 R 100/

2. The Original Letter from the Examiner of P.W. Accounts to the address of the Secretary to Government is herewith returned.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Yours most obedient Servant.

J. M. Paul & Co. Engineer
In ch. of P.W. Workshops.

5040 3274 Wd/16-8-78

No. 11661
From The General Superintendent,
Public Works Workshops,
Madras,

To The District Engineer
Presidency

Dated 14 Oct 1878.

Despatched 14

ENCLOSURES, 1

Subject.

Gives the prices of
the wooden & iron safes made
in the Workshops & supplied
to Mr. [unclear]

No 4226.

Submitted to
the undersigned by
Jr. Mr. [unclear] with reference
to Mr. Memo No 4165
of 2 Oct 78.

The original from
the examining Mr. [unclear]
is herewith returned.

Yours faithfully,
[Signature]

16 Oct 78 District Engineer
Presidency

To acty 17-10-78

P. W. D.

4326 W

6

Note.

It certainly would
appear advisable to pay
100 Rs for treasure chests
that can be relied upon
instead of 77 Rs for chests
easily broken open. It is
presumed that there can be
but slight necessity for using
such chests at all.

W
in
8/11/78

Edmond Col. Esq.

Chief Eng. P. W. D.

11 Nov. 1878.

Genl
Acct

No 4326

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 11 Nov 1878 4326

Read the following:—

From
The Examiner P. W. Accounts (H.C. No 290 W of 27th Sept 1878)
Endorsement of the District
Engineer Presidency } (H.C. No 4226 of 16th Oct 1878)

LB

The suggestion made
by the Examiner in the
last paragraph of his
letter is approved. Iron
cash chests will in future
be issued for the use of
Divisional and Sub-Divisional

Officers. Oct 8/11
W. H. 70

S. E. 120 ✓
E. P. A. 5 ✓
23. 11. 78

Ex 5-11-70.

10913
11661

Gobt. of (1878) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS

To The Supt. Engrs

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 11-1000 1878. No 4326/77

Nos 151 @ 152

Iron Cash chests. Orders
issued for the provision of
for the use of Divisional
and Sub Divisional officers.

Entorey Regd