

(1) Number of pages 10
(2) Date of repair 3-2-87 ✓
(3) Initials of the Referencer lwp

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P. W. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2648 W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	28. 10. 1881	197.

lwp

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2648
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

28th October 1881, No. 2648 W.

General.
Account.

Read the following paper:—

No. 125. Endorsement of the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account—General,) dated Simla, 14th October 1881, No. 371 A.G.

From J. E. O'CONOR, Esq., Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce, (Stores,) to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated Simla, 28th September 1881, No. 3,220.

In reply to your letter No. 844, dated 9th September 1881, I am directed to state that the Government of India confirms the sanction accorded by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to the purchase in the local market of the articles noted on the margin urgently required for use in the Behar Opium Agency.

Red lead.	
White lead.	
Black paint.	
Linseed oil, boiled.	
Rope, Europe, tarred, hemp.	

2. The Government of India learns with satisfaction that His Honor has issued instructions to the Board of Revenue to purchase linseed oil of local manufacture, and trusts that the local Government will satisfy itself in each case that orders for the purchase of articles of Indian manufacture are strictly carried out.

3. I am to request that you will be good enough to move His Honor to issue similar instructions for the purchase of rope of local manufacture instead of imported rope. Messrs. Ahmuty and Company of Calcutta make rope of superior quality. A copy of a memorandum by them describing the fibres used in manufacturing the ropes they make and the quality of each kind, is appended to this letter. Rope is also manufactured by Messrs. W. H. Harton and Company of Calcutta.

Memorandum by Messrs. AHMUTY and Company, Calcutta.

Coir.—This fibre is very valuable for its extremely elastic qualities, and in cases where "give and take" is required, no other known rope fibre, except hair, can approach it. This fibre, of good quality, will not grow beyond the influence of sea-air, and cannot for any great length of time be preserved beyond the influence of salt water. Immersion in fresh water without immediate dryage results in deterioration and ultimate rot, while constant or occasional immersion in salt water will, with fair wear and tear, preserve it for probably three or four times as long as a rope of any other fibre would, under the same conditions, last. Where a dead strain or heavy lift is required, coir is not recommended as a safe or reliable rope, the fibre being too short and elastic.

Coir is very largely used by the Marine Department for riding cables and springs for the light vessels and for towing hawsers, warps and running gear for the Marine service.

For the Marine service the Superintendent of Marine annually invites tenders for the manufacture of coir ropes and cables, and the Marine Storekeeper supplies the successful tenderer.

with coir yarn, which is laid up to order, and returned to the dockyard. We may note here that we at present hold this contract, and, with the exception of two years, have done so since 1858. We attach some certificates from the Marine Department regarding our supplies of coir ropes and cables.

Manilla Hemp—Is the strongest of vegetable rope fibres, and, where heavy lifts or hard usage are required, is the most reliable of ropes. During the recent campaigns in Afghanistan we supplied large quantities of this rope for contractors in Bombay, Kurrachee and the Punjab presumably for the Ordnance and Commissariat Departments for the haulage of guns and stores over the mountain passes. For such purposes it is admirably adapted. It is lighter, stronger, and more durable than ordinary hemp rope, and weight for weight per coil is about the same price.

Calicut Hemp—Is grown on the Malabar Coast, and is of very great strength and fineness, and is especially suited for small ropes and lines. It is very little inferior to the best Russian hemp, and is a most reliable rope for heavy purchases, second, in this country, where Russian hemp is not used, only to Manilla.

Jubbulpore Hemp—A much coarser fibre than the above is in general use for heavy cordage. In utilizing this material there is much wastage, but it turns out a very satisfactory and reliable rope, is tough and strong, and will stand much rough usage. Hemp ropes are largely used by the Marine, Ordnance, Commissariat and Public Works Departments.

Sunn Hemp—This fibre is of a soft and somewhat silky texture, and when laid up into cordage looks well, but has not the advantage of possessing much strength. It is usually made up into spun yarn for engine packing, or into light lines for packing dried fish, or for baling hides in the interior for transport to screw presses.

Aloe Fibre—Is produced in large quantities in the Sonthal hills, and when new is of fair strength, stronger than coir, but inferior to Manilla or Calicut hemp. It is, however, incapable of resisting the action of water without serious injury, becomes black and unsightly, and soon ceases to be a rope on which dependence can be placed. Natives manufacture this material by hand-power into rough ropes, and these are extensively used for the haulage, mooring and running gear of country boats, but presumably only for its cheapness.

Jute—We manufacture this for the Marine Department for maroons used on board the light vessels at the Sandheads, and also in considerable quantities for export to Australia, where it is used for packing loose wool for transport to the coast. It is also very extensively used about Calcutta as lashings for jute bales. The fibre does not possess much strength, is unfit for heavy lifts or hard usage, and quickly rots if kept wet or even damp.

Cotton—This we manufacture into tent ropes and lines and into fine cord for driving gear for cotton and jute spinning machinery. The yarn we obtain from the local cotton mills and lay up to any size to order, but its high price prohibits its very extensive use unless in the case of mill gearing, where smooth running is a desideratum.

Cannabina Hemp, Pineapple Fibre—About up to thirty years ago there was considerable demand for cordage made from these fibres, but they have been superseded by the introduction of Manilla hemp and by the greater facilities for obtaining Calicut and Jubbulpore hemp. The fibres are, however, of considerable strength, and will stand a deal of hard handling. This manufacture is now confined to Native hand-laid lines for cargo boat and household purposes.

Steel Wire Rope, Iron Wire Rope—The wire is imported from England and is laid up to order. The quality is the best procurable. These we supply for bridge work in the hills and for standing rigging for vessels of the Marine service.

We would condense the foregoing as follows, viz. :—

Coir—For marine uses, light work, rough usage.

Manilla Hemp—Hard work, heavy lifts, and where great strength is required.

Calicut Hemp—For fine lines and ropes, heavy purchases, } and where great strength is required.

Jubbulpore Hemp—For heavy ropes, rough work, hard usage, }

Sunn Hemp—Engine packing, baling lines, little strength.

Aloe Fibre—Cargo boat uses, gooning lines.

Jute Fibre—Maroons, baling ropes and lines, very little strength.

Cotton Staple—Tent ropes, mill gearing, driving bands for machinery.

Cannabina Hemp, Pineapple Fibre—Almost obsolete. Boat ropes and lines, household purposes.

Steel Wire Rope, Iron Wire Rope—Bridgework across khuds. Standing rigging.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing letter and of its enclosure be forwarded to the other local Governments and Administrations and to the Military and Public Works Departments for information and for the issue of the further necessary orders.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, for information and guidance.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. FILGATE, Major, R.E.,
Dy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 126. ORDER THEREON, 28th October 1881, No. 2648 W.

COMMUNICATED to the General Superintendent, Public Works Stores, for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

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

To the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops and Stores.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

GENERAL
ACCOUNT.

Gobt. of (1881) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT,
PUBLIC WORKS WORKSHOPS,
AND STORES

Dated October, 28th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 28th October 1881, No. 2648 W.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 125-126.

Articles of Indian Manufacture.—Purchase
of — in preference to imported ones.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Enclosure of Letter No. 2251 of 1881.

Memorandum by—Messrs. A. M. & Co., Calcutta.

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Coir is very largely used by the Marine Department for riding cables and springs for the Light Vessels and for towing hawsers, wires and running gear for the Marine Service.

For the Marine Service, the Superintendent of Marine annually invites tenders for the manufacture of coir ropes and cables, and the Marine Storekeeper supplies the successful tenderer with coir yarn, which is laid up to order, and returned to the Dockyard. We may note here that we at present hold this contract, and, with the exception of two years, have done so since 1858. We attach some certificates from the Marine Department regarding our supplies of coir ropes and cables.

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Jubbulpore hemp.—A much coarser fibre than the above, is in general use for heavy cordage. In utilizing this material there is much wastage, but it turns out a very satisfactory and reliable rope, is tough and strong, and will stand much rough usage. Hemp ropes are largely used by the Marine, Ordnance, Commissariat and Public Works Departments.

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(2)

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Jubbulpore hemp.—For heavy ropes, rough work, hard usage, } is required.

Sunn hemp.—Engine packing, baling lines, little strength.

Aloe fibre.—Cargo boat uses, gooning lines.

Jute fibre.—Maroons, baling ropes and lines, very little strength.

Cotton staple.—Tent ropes, mill gearing, driving bands for machinery.

Cannabina hemp, pineapple fibre.—Almost obsolete. Boat ropes and lines, household purposes.

Steel wire rope, iron wire rope.—Bridgework across khuds. Standing rigging.

(True Copy)

Registrar, Dept. of Finance and Commerce.

No. 3220.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

STORES.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

Simla, the 28th September 1881.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 844, dated 9th September 1881, I am directed to state that the Government of India confirms the sanction accorded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to the purchase in the local market of the articles noted on the margin urgently required for use in the Behar Opium Agency.

Red lead.
White lead.
Black paint.
Linseed oil, boiled.
Rope, Europe, tarred, hemp.

2. The Government of India learns with satisfaction that His Honour has issued instructions to the Board of Revenue to purchase linseed oil of local manufacture, and trusts that the Local Government will satisfy itself in each case that orders for the purchase of articles of Indian manufacture are strictly carried out.

3. I am to request that you will be good enough to move His Honour to issue similar instructions for the purchase of rope of local manufacture instead of imported rope. Messrs. Ahmady & Co. of Calcutta make rope of superior quality. A copy of a memorandum by them describing the fibres used in manufacturing the ropes they make and the quality of each kind, is appended to this letter. Rope is also manufactured by Messrs. W. H. Harton & Co. of Calcutta.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. E. O'CONOR,

Assistant Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing letter and of its enclosure be forwarded to the other Local Governments and Administrations and to the Military and Public Works Departments for information and for the issue of the further necessary orders.

R. C. No. 6150

1881

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
AND COMMERCE.
STORES.

To
THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

No. 8220.

Dated Simla, 29th September 1881.

Received

No. 2648 Waj 28th Oct. 1881.

*Communicated to the
Genl. Supt. S. W. Stores for
information and guidance.*

*Attn
Genl. Supt. S. W. Stores.*

Local purchase of certain articles urgently re-
quired for the Behar Opium Factory. Direct-
ing that rope should be purchased of local
manufacture.

Copy forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, & to the Government for information and guidance.

*Forwarded to the
Public Works Department
Accounts
General.*

13

A. H. J. L.

Order to supply &c.

6/50.

Gt. of 1881 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 28th Oct. 1881, No. 26484.

Nos. 125 to 126

Articles of Indian
Manufacture.

Purchase of — in
preference to imported
ones.

Entd. in Receipt Bk.