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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P. W. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1996 W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	14-8-1884	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1996
14TH AUGUST 1884, No. 1996 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads
Civil Works.

READ—the following papers :—

From Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 18th June 1884, No. 128 T.C.

With reference to the second paragraph of G.O., No. 1294 W., dated 23rd May 1884, I have the honor to report the following with regard to the employment of convict labor on the construction of the Trichinopoly jail.

2. Convicts can, with advantage I consider, be employed on the following work of the jail :—

- (a) Excavation.
- (b) Carriage of materials as follows :—
 - Cartage of sand.
 - Bricks from depôts to work.
 - Stone from quarry to work.
- (c) Laying concrete.
- (d) Building in stone and brick work.
- (e) Quarrying stone.

3. I would propose,—as is usually done now when convict labor is employed, and it is, I consider, the best method,—that the convicts should work entirely under the orders of the Jail Superintendent; but any supervision, &c., that may be necessary should be given by this department; that the Executive Engineer should have the outturn of work measured and valued; and that this value, less the cost of assistance given in supervision, &c., should be debited to the Public Works Department. In fact, the Jail Superintendent will be treated as a petty contractor.

4. As of course the Jail Department would object, and properly so, to free and convict labor being employed together, and as the convicts must be under the orders of the Jail Department, I consider the above is the only course to be adopted; and if the Executive Engineer and the Jail Superintendent work together, I believe there will result a large saving to Government by the employment of the convicts.

5. I regret that as yet (see G.O., No. 303 W., dated 5th February 1884) the site of the new jail has not been decided on, and therefore the only work on which the convicts can now be employed is quarrying stone; and the Jail Superintendent might, I consider with advantage, be directed to place as large a party as practicable on this work. There is plenty of rock in the neighbourhood of the Jail, and there would be no difficulty in deciding on the site for a quarry not far from the site for the jail wherever it is finally settled to be built.

6. The estimate for the jail allows for the use of brick for all masonry. This is the cheapest material, but it will be a great direct saving to Government if stone is used for all foundations and basements, as of course the employment of convicts on quarrying, cartage, and building, in place of purchasing bricks, &c., will enable Government to utilise the convicts' labor, which at present is practically wasted. I propose therefore that the foundations and basements of the outer wall and all buildings should be of rubble stone in chunam, the whole work being done by convicts.

7. With regard to the quarrying, dynamite should be used, the blast holes being bored by the convicts: they will be charged and fired by free labor when the convicts are away from the work. If this is done, I do not think the jail authorities will in any way object: all the other work of the quarry to be done by the convicts.

8. I have to bring to notice that the Jail Superintendent reports that, before convict labor could be largely utilized, it will be necessary to raise the present strength of the jail.

I consider that a gang of 150 convicts might now be advantageously employed in quarrying, and it would be as well therefore for the Inspector-General of Jails to arrange for that number of convicts to be available in the jail for the work. They should of course be picked, strong men, fit for the work.

As soon as the site for the jail is settled, of course more men could be employed.

9. I shall be glad to be informed if the Inspector-General of Jails approves of the above proposals, and if they may be acted on.

No. 311 E., Public Works.

Referred, through the Judicial Department, for the opinion of the Inspector-General of Jails.

2. Special attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of Colonel Mead's letter, in which, with advertence to G.O., Judicial, dated 25th January 1884, No. 226, he brings to notice that the site of the new jail has not yet been fixed.

23rd June 1884.

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 1476, Judicial.

Referred to the Inspector-General of Jails for report.

(By Order.)

Ootacamund,
4th July 1884.

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Under Secretary.

G.O., dated 28th July 1884, Mis. No. 1858, Judicial.

Read--Endorsement of the Public Works Department, dated 23rd June 1884, No. 311 E.

Read--the following letter from the Inspector-General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 11th July 1884, No. 212:--

In returning the letter * from the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, received with your endorsement, No. 1476, dated 4th July 1884, I have the honor to state

* No. 128 T.C., dated 18th June 1884.

that the arrangements proposed by Colonel Mead meet with my full approval.

2. I fear, however, that at present the Jail Superintendent will not be able to detail any large number of convicts on the works owing to the great decrease in the number of prisoners. The present strength of all the central and district jails is remarkably low. At Coimbatore, Vellore, Salem and Rajahmundry, there are works going on giving full employment for all available labor in these jails. At Tanjore and at Palanecottah, the new cellular district jails employ all the convict labor that can be spared after providing for the menial duties of the jails. I therefore do not see any immediate prospect of my being able to raise the strength of the Trichinopoly

jail. The Superintendent will, however, be directed to employ all available labor, both of the district and central jails at Trichinopoly, on the works pointed out by the Engineer Department.

Order--dated 28th July 1884, Mis. No. 1858, Judicial.

Communicated to the Public Works Department, with reference to their endorsement, dated 23rd June 1884, No. 311 E.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Acting Under Secretary.

ORDER--dated 14th August 1884, No. 1996 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle,
Judicial Department.

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of 1884 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated August, 14th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th Aug. 1884, No. 1996 W.

AUGUST.

Trichinopoly Jail

Remarks of the Inspector-General of Jails on the Superintending Engineer's proposals for employment of convict labor on the — communicated to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER.

6TH CIRCLE.

Trichinopoly. 18th June 1884

No. 128 T.C

1996

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From

The Superintending Engineer.

6th Circle

To

The Chief Engineer

P.W.D.

Sir,

ENCLOSURE

With reference to the 2nd para of G.O. No. 1294 dated 23rd May '84, I have the honor to report the following with regard to the employment of Convict Labour on the construction of the Trichinopoly Jail.

2. Convicts can, with advantage, be employed on the following works of the Jail.

- (a) Excavation.
- (b) Barriage of materials as follows.
Barriage of Sand.
Bricks from depots to work.
Stone from quarry to work.

- (c) Laying concrete.
- (d) Building in stone & brickwork.
- (e) Lorrying stone.

3. I would propose, as is usually done now when convict labour is employed,

and it is I consider the best method
that the Cornicks should work entirely
under the orders of the Jail Supt., but
any supervision &c that may be neces-
sary should be given by the Supt.,
that the Executive Engineer should
have the out-turn of work measured
and valued, and that the value,
less the cost of assistance given in
supervision &c, should be debited to the
P.W. Department. In fact the Jail
Supt. will be treated as a petty
contractor.

4. As of course the Jail Supt.
would object, and properly so, to free
and Cornick labour being employed
together, and as the Cornicks must
be under the orders of the Jail Supt.,
I consider the above is the only course
to be adopted; and if the Executive
Engineer and the Jail Supt. work
together, I believe then will result
a large saving to Govt. by the employ-
ment of the Cornicks.

5. I regret that as yet, see G.O.
No 303 dated 5 February/84, the site

1996 1996 W
of the new Jail has not been decided on,
and therefore the only work on which the
Cornicks can now be employed is quarrying
stone, and the Jail Supt. might I consider
with advantage be directed to place
as large a party as practicable on this
work: there is plenty of Rock in the
neighbourhood of the Jail and there
would be no difficulty in deciding
on the site for a quarry not far from
the site for the Jail wherever it is
finally settled to be built.

6. The estimate for the Jail allows
for the use of Bricks for all masonry,
this is the cheapest material, but it will
be a great direct saving to Govt. if stone
is used for all foundations and base-
ments, as of course the employment of
Cornicks on quarrying cartage and
building in place of purchasing Bricks
will enable Govt. to utilize the Cornicks
labour which at present is practically waste.
I propose therefore that the foundations and
basements of the outer wall and all
buildings should be of Rubble stone
in Churanam, the whole work being done

by convicts.

7. With regard to the quarrying dynamite should be used the blast holes being bored by the convicts; they will be charged and fired by free labour when the convicts are away from the work if this is done I do not think the Sail authorities will in any way object, all the other work of the quarry to be done by the convicts.

8. I have to bring to notice that the Sail Supt reports that before convict labour could be largely utilized it will be necessary to raise the present strength of the Sail.

I consider that a gang of 150 convicts might now be advantageously employed in quarrying and it would be as well therefore for the Inspector General of Sails to arrange for that number of convicts to be available in the Sail for the work, they should of course be picked strong men fit for the work.

As soon as the site for the Sail

is

1996 1996 W 103
is settled, of course more men could be employed.

9. I shall be glad to be informed if the Inspector of Sails approves of the above proposals and if they may be acted on.

I have the honor to be

Sr

Your most obedient servant.

W. H. M. L. 10/11/96
Supt. Engineer, Sails.

Prof 1413-9-1-14
No 1244-23-1-14
p 226: 25-1-14

B. No. 3020 d/5 2-84
A. No. 1054 Wd/25-4-84
" " 1294 Wd/23-5-84

No. 311 Ed/23 June/84.

Referred, through the Judicial Department, for the opinion of the Inspector General of Jails. Special attention is drawn to paragraph 5 of Colonel Mead's letter, in which, with advertence to G.O. Judicial dated 25th January/84 No. 225, he brings to notice that the site of the new jail has not yet been fixed.

21.6.84
23.6.84
Maud Mount
Col. M.B.
Secretary to Govt. M.B.

Referred to the Inspector General of Jails for report.

(By order)
M. M. M.
As Under Secretary

To the Inspector General of Jails

P. W. D. 6th CIRCLE.

From
The Superintending Engineer,
6th Circle.

To
The Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

No. 128 T.C.

Dated 18th June 1884.
Received

Enclosure

Trichinopoly Jail

Reports in regard to the employment of convict labour on the construction of the

Referred

Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

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Read the following

Enclt. P. W. D. No. 311 E. d/23 June 1884.

Letter from the Inspector General of Jails, No. 212, dated 11th July 1884.

In returning the letter from the Superintending Engineer, 6th Circle, received with your endorsement No. 1476, dated 4th July 1884, I have the honor to state that the arrangements proposed by Colonel Mead meet with my full approval.

2. I fear, however, that at present the Jail Superintendent will not be able to detail any large number of convicts on the works, owing to the great decrease in the number of prisoners. The present strength of all the Central and District Jails is remarkably low. At Coimbatore, Vellore, Salem, and Rajahmundry, there are works going on giving full employment for all available labor in this

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these jails. At Trujillo and ^{at} Palamcottah, the
new cellular district jails employ all the
convict labor that can be spared after
providing for the menial duties of the
jails. I therefore do not see any immediate
prospect of my being able to raise the
strength of the Trichinopoly jail. The
Superintendent will, however, be directed to
employ all available labor both of the district
and central jails at Trichinopoly on the works
pointed out by the Engineer department.

Order, 28th July 1884, No: 1858 mis.

Communicated to the Public
Works Department with reference to their
Endorsement, dated 23rd June 1884, No 311.

/ True Extract /

Mannick
Ag. User Secretary

To

The Public Works Department
with papers returned

CC
ML

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Govt. of India

PUBLIC WORKS.

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Plants and

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14 August 1996

Trichinopoly Jail

Remarks of the Inspector
General of Jails on
the Supp. Enquired
proposals for employment
of Convict Labour on
the — Comm. to
the S. & VII Circle

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