

(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 18

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 22-11-88

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 6/8

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பெரிய பணைத் துறை

அரசாணை எண். — 2225 W
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.

அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் :

14-10-1884

198

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

2525

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

READ—the following papers :—

Proceedings, Public Department, dated 14th September 1884, No. 1949.

Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department (General),
dated Simla, 5th September 1884, No. 5 P.W.

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the
Punjab, in the Public Works Department.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Assam, and Coorg.
The Resident, Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor-General for Central India, Rajputana, and Bilachistan.
The Accountant-General, Public Works Department.
The Inspector-General of Military Works.
The Director-General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways, Calcutta,
Lahore and Lucknow.
The Director-General, Telegraphs in India.
The Director-in-Chief, Indo-European Telegraph.
The Director, Persian Telegraph.
The Director, Persian Gulf Telegraph.
The Superintendent of Works, Simla Imperial Circle.

The following is
forwarded to the
Local Governments,
Administrations and
Officers marginally
noted, for informa-
tion and guidance.

(By Order.)

(Signed) A. B. SAMPSON,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ENCLOSURES.

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to all
Local Governments and Administrations, dated Simla, 16th August 1884, No. 7267-78.

The Secretary of State has forwarded to the Government of India a copy of a Treasury
Minute, dated 13th March 1884, respecting the "premature publication of official documents,"
with request that similar rules may be adopted in this country.

2. The minute in question draws attention to previous orders prohibiting the unauthorised
communication to the public Press of information derived from official sources, and points out
that the communications so prohibited are not confined to matter still under discussion, but include
also the unauthorised disclosure of matter finally decided on, but as to which the manner and the
time of publication may be not less important than the matter itself.

3. The standing orders of the Government of India upon the subject are contained in the
notification and resolutions reproduced in the appendix. The Governor-General in Council
desires that these orders may in future be held subject to the further restrictions explained in
paragraph 2 above.

No. 1280.

Foreign Department.
Department of Finance and Commerce.
Military Department.
Public Works Department.
Legislative Department.
Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Copy forwarded to the departments of the
Government of India marginally noted for
information and for the issue of further neces-
sary orders.

No.

Copy forwarded to the Superintendent of Port Blair and the Nicobars, Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, Surgeon-General with the Government of India, Director-General of Statistics to the Government of India, Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India, Secretary to the Board of Examiners, Registrar of the Calcutta University, Bishop's Chaplain, and Registrar of the High Court,* Calcutta, for information.

* To be done by letter.

Appendix.

General Order, Foreign Department, dated the 15th March 1847.

Fort William, Foreign Department, the 30th August 1843.

NOTIFICATION.—Some misconception appearing to exist with respect to the power which officers of both services have over the documents and papers which come into their possession officially, the Governor-General in Council deems it expedient to notify that such documents and papers are in no case to be made public, or communicated to individuals, without the previous consent of the Government, to which alone they belong.

The officer in possession of such documents and papers can only legitimately use them for the furtherance of the public service in the discharge of his official duty; and it is to be understood that the same rule which applies to documents and papers applies to information of which officers may become possessed officially.

By order, &c.,

J. THOMASON,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

The Governor-General deems it advisable to republish for general information the notification issued on the 30th August 1843, in which the principle is laid down that it is contrary to the duty of every officer, civil or military, to make public or to communicate to individuals, without the previous sanction of Government, any documents, papers or information of which he may have become possessed in his official capacity.

The practice of making use of official information in carrying on personal controversies is a course highly prejudicial to the public interests, and is not only at variance with the rules by which due discipline and obedience to superior authority can be adequately maintained, but is a positive breach of faith, inasmuch as no functionary has a right to reveal, without due authority from his official superiors, or the Home authorities, any fact or circumstance which may come to his knowledge in the performance of his duty, or to correspond with any one upon the instructions he may have received for his special guidance.

The Governor-General is persuaded that every officer, civil and military, will henceforth conform to this rule of the service under the conviction that if in the transaction of his official duties his public conduct be impugned, he is at liberty to seek redress through the usual official channel by an appeal to the Government he serves, and that the Government so appealed to will afford him every opportunity of vindicating his character.

(By order of the Right Honorable the Governor-General of India.)

H. M. ELLIOT,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India with the Governor-General.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Home Department (Public), No. 19—1134, under date, Simla, the 8th July 1875.

Resolution.—Questions having recently arisen as to the extent to which officers in the service of Government are permitted to connect themselves with the Press, the Governor-General in Council thinks it desirable that the existing orders on the subject should be clearly understood:—

- I. No officer in the service of Government is permitted, without the previous sanction in writing of the Government under which he immediately serves, to become the proprietor, either in whole or in part, of any newspaper or periodical publication, or to edit or manage any such newspaper or publication. Such sanction will only be given in the case of newspapers or publications mainly devoted to the discussion of topics not of a political character, such, for instance, as art, science, or literature. The sanction will be liable to be withdrawn at the discretion of the Government.
- II. Officers in the service of Government are not prohibited from contributing to the public Press; but their position makes it incumbent upon them to confine themselves within the limits of temperate and reasonable discussion, and they are prohibited from making public, without the previous sanction of Government, any documents, papers, or information of which they may become possessed in their official capacity. These rules have been hitherto in most cases honorably

observed. In case of a departure from them, or if the Government should consider the connection of any officer with the Press to be contrary to the public interests, his liberty to contribute will be withdrawn.

III. The Government of India will decide, in case of doubt, whether any engagements of officers with the Press are consistent with the discharge of their duties to the Government.

IV. Nothing in this resolution is intended to relax the provisions of any regulations on this subject which now apply to the Army.

Order.—Ordered that this resolution be published in the *Gazette of India* and circulated to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public), No. 1 C.H., under date, Camp Lahore, the 16th December 1878.

Resolution.—His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General desires to remind all officers of the Government that information received by them in their official capacity, whether from official sources or otherwise, which is not from its nature obviously intended to be made public, cannot be treated as if it were at their personal disposal.

The Governor-General does not think it necessary to issue any general order entirely prohibiting the disclosure, without special authority, of any information received officially. In such matters much must necessarily be left to the discretion and intelligence of officers holding places of trust, and in charge of duties more or less important. But His Excellency would impress upon all officers the serious responsibility involved in the exercise of this discretion. Whenever there is any room for doubt as to the right course to pursue, the orders of superior authority should be obtained before information regarding the public affairs is communicated to any one not officially entitled to receive it.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General has reasons to believe that sufficient attention has not upon all occasions been given to the principles which should guide the conduct of public officers in these matters, and which are especially applicable to the present time, when much important business is passing through the public offices. And His Excellency trusts that these principles may in future be clearly apprehended and observed.

Order.—Ordered that a copy of this resolution be circulated to all departments of the Government of India and to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

ORDER—dated 14th October 1884, No. 2525 W., Public Works.

Communicated to officers of the Public Works Department, for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Consulting Engineer for Railways.
To Superintending Engineers.
To the Consulting Architect to Government.
" Superintendent, Madras Harbour Works.
" Engineers-in-Chief, State Railways.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Examiner, Railway Accounts.

Exd. E. Fernandez.

Sare Copies

GENERAL.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated October, 14th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 14th Oct. 1884, No. 2525 W.

OCTOBER.

Official Documents

Circular from the Government of India, communicating order regarding premature publication of —, communicated to the officers of the Public Works Department.

4TH SEPTEMBER 1884, No. 1949, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

Despatch from the Right Honorable the EARL OF KIMBERLEY, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India office, London, 19th June 1884, No. 10, Public (Records).

I forward, herewith, copy of a Treasury Minute, dated 13th March 1884, respecting the "premature publication of official documents," and I request that your Excellency will cause similar rules to be adopted by the various departments of your Government.

ENCLOSURES.

PREMATURE PUBLICATION OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

Treasury Minute.

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall,
13th March 1884.

4982.

The First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer call the attention of the Board to the Treasury circular of 3rd June 1873,* and to the Treasury Minute of 6th February 1875,* respecting the unauthorized communication to the public press of information obviously derived from official sources.

They remind the Board that the communications against which these cautions are directed are not confined to matter still under discussion, but include also the unauthorized disclosure of matter finally decided on, but as to which the manner and the time of publication may be not less important than the matter itself. An irregularity of this latter kind would be the unauthorized communication to the public press of an official document presented, or about to be presented, to Parliament, but not yet actually circulated.

The First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer state to the Board that, in their opinion, in all these cases, the publication, without authority, of official information constitutes the offence; and that the danger, to which all Governments are equally exposed by it, cannot be adequately guarded against if distinctions are allowed to be drawn between one kind of unauthorized publication and another.

They advise the Board, therefore, that the foregoing interpretation of the Treasury circular of 1873 and minute of 1875 be communicated to the Public departments, as that which the treasury means to adopt in departments under its own control, and as that which my Lords recommend to the heads of departments for adoption generally throughout the Civil Service.

My Lords approve.

Let copies of this minute be circulated accordingly to the Public departments, and presented to Parliament with copies of the Treasury circular of 1873 and of the Treasury minute of 1875, printed as an appendix to it.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Treasury Chambers,
3rd June 1873.

8466.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to state that their attention has been called to certain cases which have recently occurred in which information

* See appendix.

derived from official sources has been communicated without authority to the public press, apparently by members of the Civil Service.

My Lords have entire confidence that this irregular conveyance of information is a practice to which the great body of the Civil Service would not stoop. But however few may be the officers in fault, their acts cause extensive mischief by sowing suspicion and by discrediting the service.

My Lords are of opinion that such breaches of official confidence are offences of the very gravest character which a public officer can commit, and they will not hesitate, in any case where they themselves possess the power of dismissal, to visit such an offence with this extreme penalty.

My Lords, in communicating their views upon this subject to the heads of departments, do so in full confidence that they are representing the public opinion of the service itself, which may be trusted to check practices injurious to its character for fidelity and honor, as soon as attention has been called to their existence.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. B. W. LINGEN.

No. 2.

Treasury Chambers, Whitehall,
6th February 1875.

2836.

The First Lord and the Chancellor of the Exchequer state to the Board that the attention of Her Majesty's Government has recently been directed to a number of instances in which information, obviously derived from official sources, has been communicated to the newspapers and other periodicals without the sanction of the heads of the offices from which the information has come.

They further call the attention of the Board to the fact that several members of the Civil Service have openly connected themselves with the public press, either as editors or members of the staffs of newspapers, or as Directors of a Company which has undertaken the publication of a periodical much engaged in the discussion of matters relating to the Civil Service.

They bring to the notice of the Board the rule of the service that no official information may be communicated to the public journals without the sanction of the responsible heads of departments, and that any gentleman infringing this regulation renders himself liable to instant dismissal.

My Lords are strongly convinced of the necessity of enforcing the observance of this rule, and desire that notice may be given throughout the various offices under the authority of the treasury that it will in future be strictly acted upon.

A caution should at the same time be given to gentlemen who have connected themselves with the press in the manner above noticed.

The inconvenience which may arise from such connection is obvious. Gentlemen taking upon them editorial duties can hardly fail to place themselves in a false position, and to expose themselves to suspicions and misrepresentations, which, however unmerited they may be, must disturb the confidence which ought to subsist between them and their official superiors.

It should be intimated to these gentlemen that they must in future be held personally responsible for any breach of official confidence committed by the writers or correspondents of the periodicals with which they are connected.

My Lords desire that a copy of this minute be sent to all the departments of State, and that they be invited to co-operate with my Lords in their endeavours to enforce this regulation.

READ—also the following paper:—

From A. MACKENZIE, Esq., C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Home department (Public), to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Simla, 16th August 1884, No. 30-1267.

The Secretary of State has forwarded to the Government of India a copy of a treasury minute, dated the 13th March 1884, respecting the "premature publication of official documents," with the request that similar rules may be adopted in this country.

2. The minute in question draws attention to previous orders prohibiting the unauthorized communication to the public press of information derived from official sources, and points out that the communications so prohibited are not confined to matter still under discussion, but include also the unauthorized disclosure of matter finally decided on, but as to which the manner and the time of publication may be not less important than the matter itself.

3. The standing orders of the Government of India upon the subject are contained in the notification and resolutions reproduced in the appendix. The Governor-General in Council desires that these orders may in future be held subject to the further restrictions explained in paragraph 2 above.

APPENDIX.

General order, Foreign department, dated 15th March 1847.

Fort William, Foreign department, 30th August 1843.

NOTIFICATION.—Some misconception appearing to exist with respect to the power which officers of both services have over the documents and papers which come into their possession officially, the Governor-General in Council deems it expedient to notify that such documents and papers are in no case to be made public, or communicated to individuals, without the previous consent of the Government to which alone they belong.

The officer in possession of such documents and papers can only legitimately use them for the furtherance of the public service in the discharge of his official duty; and it is to be understood that the same rule which applies to documents and papers applies to information of which officers may become possessed officially.

By order, &c.,

J. THOMASON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

The Governor-General deems it advisable to republish, for general information, the notification issued on the 30th August 1843, in which the principle is laid down that it is contrary to the duty of every officer, civil or military, to make public, or to communicate to individuals, without the previous sanction of Government, any documents, papers, or information of which he may have become possessed in his official capacity.

The practice of making use of official information in carrying on personal controversies is a course highly prejudicial to the public interests, and is not only at variance with the rules by which due discipline and obedience to superior authority can be adequately maintained, but is a positive breach of faith, inasmuch as no functionary has a right to reveal, without due authority from his official superiors, or the Home authorities, any fact or circumstance which may come to his knowledge in the performance of his duty, or to correspond with any one upon the instructions he may have received for his special guidance.

The Governor-General is persuaded that every officer, civil and military, will henceforth conform to this rule of the service under the conviction that, if in the transaction of his official duties his public conduct be impugned, he is at liberty to seek redress through the usual official channel by an appeal to the Government he serves, and that the Government so appealed to will afford him every opportunity of vindicating his character.

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor-General of India.

H. M. ELLIOT,
Q. J. Secy. to the Govt. of India
with the Governor-General.

EXTRACT from the proceedings of the Government of India in the Home department (Public), No. 19-1134, dated Simla, 8th July 1875.

RESOLUTION.—Questions having recently arisen as to the extent to which officers in the service of Government are permitted to connect themselves with the press, the Governor-General in Council thinks it desirable that the existing orders on the subject should be clearly understood:—

- I.—No officer in the service of Government is permitted, without the previous sanction in writing of the Government under which he immediately serves, to become the proprietor, either in whole or in part, of any newspaper or periodical publication, or to edit or manage any such newspaper or publication. Such sanction will only be given in the case of newspapers or publications mainly devoted to the discussion of topics not of a political character, such, for instance, as art, science, or literature. The sanction will be liable to be withdrawn at the discretion of the Government.
- II.—Officers in the service of Government are not prohibited from contributing to the public press; but their position makes it incumbent upon them to confine themselves within the limits of temperate and reasonable discussion, and they are prohibited from making public, without the previous sanction of Government, any documents, papers, or information of which they may become possessed in their official capacity. These rules have been hitherto in most cases honorably observed. In case of any departure from them, or if the Government should consider the connection of any officer with the press to be contrary to the public interest, his liberty to contribute will be withdrawn.

III.—The Government of India will decide, in case of doubt, whether any engagements of officers with the press are consistent with the discharge of their duties to the Government.

VI.—Nothing in this resolution is intended to relax the provisions of any regulations on this subject which now apply to the Army.

Order.—Ordered that this resolution be published in the *Gazette of India* and circulated to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

ARTHUR HOWELL,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

EXTRACT from the proceedings of the Government of India in the Home department (Public), No. 1-C.H., dated Camp Lahore, 16th December 1878.

Resolution.—His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General desires to remind all officers of the Government that information received by them in their official capacity, whether from official sources or otherwise, which is not from its nature obviously intended to be made public, cannot be treated as if it were at their personal disposal.

The Governor-General does not think it necessary to issue any general order entirely prohibiting the disclosure, without special authority, of any information received officially. In such matters much must necessarily be left to the discretion and intelligence of officers holding places of trust, and in charge of duties more or less important. But His Excellency would impress upon all officers the serious responsibility involved in the exercise of this discretion. Whenever there is any room for doubt as to the right course to pursue, the orders of superior authority should be obtained before information regarding the public affairs is communicated to any one not officially entitled to receive it.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General has reason to believe that sufficient attention has not upon all occasions been given to the principles which should guide the conduct of public officers in these matters, and which are especially applicable to the present time, when much important business is passing through the public offices. And His Excellency trusts that these principles may in future be clearly apprehended and observed.

Order.—Ordered that a copy of this resolution be circulated to all departments of the Government of India and to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

A. C. LYALL,
*Secy. to the Govt. of India
with the Governor-General.*

ORDER—dated 4th September 1884, No. 1949, Public.

The correspondence, including the treasury minute, will be communicated to all departments, for information and guidance, and will be published in the *Gazette*.

(True Extract.)

John Lubbock

Chief Secretary.

To the heads of departments.
" Superintendent, Government Press.
" Public Works Department.

Ed. J. Wright.

2525

5

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

25/9/84

Encl.

G.O., 4th September 1884, No. 1949.

SEPTEMBER.

Official Documents.

Communicating to all departments the correspondence including the treasury minute respecting the "premature publication of —," and directing its publication in the Gazette.

Read the following papers:-
Mr. Public Dept. dated 4th Sept/84, No 1949.

Circular No. 5 P. W.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL.

Simla, September 5, 1884.

The following is forwarded to the Local Governments, Administra-

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab, in the Public Works Department.
The Chief Commissioners, Central Provinces, British Burma, Assam, and Coorg.
The Resident, Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor General for Central India, Rajputana, and Biluchistan.
The Accountant General, Public Works Department.
The Inspector General of Military Works.
The Director General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways, Calcutta, Lahore, and Lucknow.
The Director General of Telegraphs in India.
The Director-in-Chief, Indo-European Telegraph.
The Director, Persian Gulf Telegraph.
The Superintendent of Works, Simla Imperial Circle.

tions and Officers

marginally noted

for information

and guidance.

By order,

Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 30 dated Simla, 16th August 1884.

From—A. MACKENZIE, Esq., Secy. to the Govt. of India, Home Department,
To—All Local Governments and Administrations.

The Secretary of State has forwarded to the Government of India a copy of a Treasury Minute, dated the 13th March 1884, respecting the "premature publication of official documents," with request that similar rules may be adopted in this country.

2. The minute in question draws attention to previous orders prohibiting the unauthorised communication to the public press of information derived from official sources, and points out that the communications so prohibited are not confined to matter still under discussion, but include also the unauthorised disclosure of matter finally decided on, but as to which the manner and the time of publication may be not less important than the matter itself.

3. The standing orders of the Government of India upon the subject are contained in the Notification and Resolutions reproduced in the appendix. The Governor General in Council desires that these orders may in future be held subject to the further restrictions explained in paragraph 2 above.

No. 1280.

Foreign Department.
Department of Finance and Commerce.
Military Department.
Public Works Department.
Legislative Department.
Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Copy forwarded to the Departments of the Government of India marginally noted for information and for the issue of further necessary orders.

No.

Copy forwarded to the Superintendent of Port Blair and the Nicobars, Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India, Surgeon General with the Government of India, Director General of Statistics to the Government of India, Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India, Secretary to the Board of Examiners, Registrar of the Calcutta University, Bishop's Chaplain, and Registrar of the High Court,* Calcutta, for information.

* To be done by letter.

Appendix.

General Order, Foreign Department, dated the 15th March 1847.

Fort William, Foreign Department, the 30th August 1843.

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By order, &c.,

J. THOMASON,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

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By order of the Right Honourable the Governor General of India,

H. M. ELLIOT,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India

with the Governor General.

Extract from the proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public).—

No. 19—1134, under date Simla, the 8th July 1875.

RESOLUTION.—Questions having recently arisen as to the extent to which officers in the service of Government are permitted to connect themselves with the Press, the Governor General in Council thinks it desirable that the existing orders on the subject should be clearly understood:—

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
 GENERAL.

To

Circular No. 5 P.W.

Dated Simla, September 5, 1884.

Received

10-10-84

No. 2525
 Communicated to
 officers of the Public
 Works Department, for
 information and guidance

C. E. Ford
 C. E. Ford
 S. E. Ford
 Supt. in H. W. S.
 Es. in Chief State S.
 In S. W. S.
 By H. E. S.
 22/10

Orders regarding the premature publication of
 official documents.

Govt. C. E. Press, Simla.—No. 108 P. W. D.—5501.—1884.

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Govt. of 1884 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

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16/10/89

Date

Recd.

Ed.

G.O. No. 14 dt. 25.5.89

Official document

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