PWNo 2296.

[6]

Govt. of {188} Madras.

To

The PW Dept

Rec 14/3/84

Proceedings, dated 13/3/1884
No. 560 Mis.

Subject.

No. 717 W a/ 15th March

Recorded.

14/3

14.3.84

C 13/3

acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 64/111 d/ 5th March /84, and to inform you in reply that the Government are not prepared to undertake work for private individuals in their Workshops at Madras.

W
12-3-84

Despd 15/3/84

Nos 2488W. 25.9.82
360W. 9.2.84.

R.S. G.E.C 17/3. [illegible] 17/3

Subdn Recpt & Despt

No. 700 W

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the March 14, 1884

READ the following

Letter from Mr. C. Seshadri Sastry, Proprietor, South Indian Press & Workshop Madura —— H. E. No. 64/111 of 1884 d/5th March/84

Endorsement thereon by the Financial Dept —— " " 574/84 d/11th March/84.

Ordered that the following reply be sent.

(H. E. No. 701 Wd/14 March/84)

To
Mr. C. Seshadri Sastry
Proprietor
South Indian Press &
Workshops, Madura.

Sir,
I am directed to

~~Finl:~~ CURRENT No. 789

DW No 2245

Memo No 574/84.

Transferred to the Public Works department for disposal.

11/3/84 Chief Secy.

8/3

From the Proprietor
S. I. Press & Workshop
Madura

~~No. 700 Wd/14/3/84~~

70 **No.**

Dated 5th March/84

Received 7 do
Recd 1/2 —

Enclosures 1

SUBJECT.

Praying that the Supdt P.W. Stores be authorized to cast some printing machinery in pieces.

For

Lodged

cute the work and collect the cost from

3. I have hitherto been giving work

South Indian Railway who now state

their own work is enough to occupy the

le time of all the workshops for months

gether

4. I may here state that

tender for printing the Madura District

zette and other work has been accepted

the Collector of Madura and submitted

the Board of Revenue for their approval

am therefore compelled by necessity to

pply for sanction of Govt to permit the

Superintendent to cast some works for me.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obt Servant

Propr

2245/82

South Indian Press & Workshop.
Madura, 5 March 1884.

No. 64/111 of 1884.

From,

Mr. C. SESHADRI SASTRY,
Proprietor,
South Indian Press & Workshop,
MADURA.

To,

C. F. Webster Esquire
Chief Secretary to the
Govt of Fort St George
Madras

Sir,

I have some patterns connected with printing machinery and I like to have them cast in irons. I ascertained the cost from Messers Massey & Co Madras who demanded an exorbitant rate.

The total cost when the work is finished will, according to my estimate amount to 1000 Rs. The Superintendent of the P. W. Stores states that he is prohibited from undertaking directly any work from private people and I have therefore the honor to request you will be good enough to authorize the Superintendent as a special case

Impossible
under St.
[illegible]
JW

9th February 1884, No. 360 W., Public Works.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

Read—the following papers :—

G.O., No. 3081 W., dated 12th December 1881.
Memorandum No. 220, dated 26th January 1882.
G.O., No. 2064 W., dated 12th August 1882.
Memorandum No. 628 E., dated 24th August 1882.
G.O., No. 2434 W., dated 19th September 1882.
" " 2488 W., " 25th " "
" " 2489 W., " 25th " "
" " 3183 W., " 4th December "
" " 250-51 C., " 23rd January 1883.
Memorandum No. 567, dated 9th March 1883.
G.O., No. 922 W., dated 21st March 1883.
From Superintending Engineer, I Circle, No. 3107 G.D., dated 21st March 1883.
From " " II " " 3 G.L., " 4th April "
From " " III " " 154, dated 13th April 1883.
From " " IV " " 139 " 5th " "
From " " V " " 54 " 4th " "
From " " VI " " 172 T.J., dated 24th April 1883.
From the Consulting Architect to Government, No. 29, dated 9th April 1883.
Memorandum No. 1041 C., dated 31st May 1883.
From the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 320 W., dated 8th June 1883.
Memorandum No. 1538 C., dated 15th August 1883.
From the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 632 W., dated 20th August 1883.
From Messrs. Massey and Co., dated 31st August 1883.
From the Consulting Architect to Government, No. 679, dated 13th September 1883.
Office note from the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 804 W., dated 9th October 1883.
Office note from the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 867 W., dated 31st October 1883.
From Messrs. P. Orr and Sons, Madras, dated 29th March 1883.
Memorandum No. 716 C., dated 30th March 1883.
From the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 16 W., dated 4th April 1883.
Memorandum No. 805 C., dated 14th April 1883.
From Messrs. P. Orr and Sons, Madras, dated 15th June 1883.
Memorandum No. 167 E., dated 18th June 1883.
From the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 414 W., dated 29th June 1883.
Memorandum No. 203 E., dated 6th July 1883.
From Messrs. P. Orr and Sons, dated 17th August 1883.
Memorandum No. 297 E., dated 21st August 1883.
From Messrs. P. Orr and Sons, dated 12th September 1883.
Memorandum No. 2310 C., dated 23rd November 1883.
From the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, No. 1016 W., dated 1st December 1883.
Memorandum by Lieutenant Baddeley, dated 23rd January 1884.

No. $\frac{64}{111}$ **of 1884.**

South Indian Press & Workshop,
Madura, 5 March 1884.

From,

Mr. C. SESHADRI SASTRY,
Proprietor,
SOUTH INDIAN PRESS & WORKSHOP,
MADURA.

To,

C. F. Webster Esquire
Chief Secretary to the
Govt of Fort St George
Madras

Sir,

I have some patterns connected with printing machinery and I like to have them cast in irons. I ascertained the cost from Messers Massey & Co Madras who demanded an enorbitant rate.

The total cost when the work is finished will, according to my estimate amount to 1000 Rs. The Superintendent of the P. W. Shops states that he is prohibited from undertaking directly any work from private people and I have therefore the honor to request you will be good enough to authorize the Superintendent as a special case

Impossible under St. orders
FW

Order—dated 9th February 1884, No. 360 W., Public Works.

The foregoing papers relate to the question of restricting the operations of the Presidency Public Works Workshops in view to their eventual abolition.

2. The subject came prominently under the notice of Government in September 1881, when the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, submitted his annual review of the financial operations of the workshops for the year 1880-81. That report showed that the outturn during the few preceding years had been steadily decreasing, and that from a commercial point of view, the result to be looked for was the entailment of an annual loss on Government. In G.O., No. 3081 W., dated 12th December 1881, Colonel Prendergast, R.E., Superintending Engineer, V Circle, who, as President of the Public Works Stores Committee, had acquired much information in regard to the working of the shops, was requested to report his conclusions on the general question raised as to the future of the workshops, and the best arrangements for execution of work should their closure be decided on.

3. The results of the inquiry which followed are summarised in the printed précis attached to Proceedings of Government, No. 2064 W., dated 12th August 1882, and the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, in a note printed therewith summed up in favor of abolishing the workshops for the following reasons:—

First.—As being in a condition of chronic deficit;

Second.—As directly interfering with private enterprise; and

Third.—As presenting insuperable difficulties in the way of providing for their proper and continuous supervision by a thoroughly trained mechanical engineer.

The Chief Engineer was further of opinion that one of the following three courses seemed open to Government:—

(1). To maintain the shops on much the same footing as at present, though relieved as much as possible of certain items standing against the capital account, so as to admit of their having a better chance in future of working to show a profit,

(2). To get rid of all buildings and plant, and retain only those portions which may be required for the execution of such repairs and trifling matters of manufacture as Executive Engineers cannot have locally executed,

(3). To dispose of the whole concern, and trust to the open market for all manufactures and repairs;

and, as it was feared that much inconvenience might result from such a drastic measure as the immediate closure of the shops, the Government, on the recommendation of the Chief Engineer, resolved to adopt the second of the alternatives thus placed before them, and called for proposals for carrying it into effect.

4. Those proposals which were submitted in the papers printed with Proceedings of Government, No. 2488 W., dated 25th September 1882, and generally approved by Government for gradual adoption, may be briefly summarised as follows:—

(*a*) All work to be refused except that required by the Public Works Department, and in the instrument shops.

(*b*) Officers of the Public Works Department to abstain as far as practicable from giving orders for work at the shops.

(*c*) The nucleus of a small workshop for departmental purposes to be organized within the present shops.

(*d*) Tenders to be invited for the purchase of the existing buildings and available plant; and if any such be accepted, the reduced establishment to be removed elsewhere.

(*e*) Inquiries to be made as to whether the mathematical instrument work of the department could be executed at Calcutta.

(*f*) The gradual reduction of the existing establishment.

5. The steps which have since been taken to carry out these measures may thus be briefly stated. Immediate effect was given to (*a*), and, at present, except in special cases, no work is undertaken outside the Public Works Department.

With regard to (*b*), Superintending Engineers were called upon in the Chief Engineer's Circular No. 567 C., dated 9th March 1883, or nearly six months subsequent to the issue of the restrictive orders, to report how far the intentions of Government had been carried out and the result which had thereby accrued, with special reference to the following points:—

1st.—To what extent work previously done by the Public Works Workshops had been carried out by other agency.

2nd.—Whether any difficulty, either in the shape of increased prices, of delay, or of difficulty in getting work done, had been experienced in carrying out the change.

3rd.—If any such difficulty had been experienced, whether it could be removed, and by what means.

4th.—If no steps had been taken towards the reduction of demands upon the workshops, what had prevented such steps from being taken.

The majority of the replies to that circular were meagre, but they showed generally that little work had been given to the presidency workshops during the period in question; that officers of the department anticipated no difficulty or delay in getting work done by private agency; and that sufficient time had not elapsed for any reliable opinion to be formed as to the full effect of the restrictive orders.

As regards (*c*), nothing definite has apparently yet been done beyond reducing the number of workmen and restricting work.

With respect to (*d*), the contemplated sale of the buildings, &c., completely fell through, not one reasonable offer having been received in reply to advertisements for tenders published throughout India.

With reference to (*e*), an inquiry addressed to the Surveyor General, Calcutta, elicited the reply that the mathematical instrument department there was not in a position to undertake the repair of the mathematical instruments of the Madras Public Works Department, and it was consequently decided, in Proceedings of Government, No. 3183 W., dated 4th December 1882, that the closing of the Madras instrument shop would be premature. It was therefore ordered to be maintained for the present, for the execution of Government work; the establishment to be regulated solely with reference to the amount of such work likely to be required, and the execution of private work to be discouraged. Subsequently, Messrs. Orr and Sons undertook to repair Government mathematical instruments, and a certain number were sent to them for treatment; but the result, as reported by Captain Baddeley, was not altogether satisfactory with respect both to quality of work and to price. Messrs. Orr and Sons however maintain that, if a continuity of work were supplied to them, they are confident of overcoming defects due to inexperience, and of ultimately giving entire satisfaction.

With regard to (*f*), some reduction of establishment has taken place; the apprentices under training to be foremen mechanics have been transferred to the Madras Railway workshops; and the General Superintendent has submitted statements showing the existing permanent establishment, the number of workmen employed, the duties performed by each man, and the scale of establishment he would recommend for the maintenance of a small workshop for purposes purely departmental.

6. The Government consider that the time has now come when some definite settlement should be arrived at as to the future of the workshops, and they accordingly resolve to appoint a Committee composed of—

Colonel H. L. Prendergast, R.E., Superintending Engineer, V Circle, as President, and
Major C. Bowen, R.E., Deputy Chief Engineer and Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.
D. C. Gordon, Esq., Examiner, Public Works Accounts,
Major R. R. E. Drake-Brockman, R.E., Executive Engineer, and
W. Hughes, Esq., B.A., Executive Engineer,

as members, to investigate and report on the questions now pending respecting the Public Works Workshops and Stores. The attention of the Committee will be specially directed to the following points:—

I.—The effects of the restrictive order No. 2488 W., dated 25th September 1882, on the financial position of the workshops.

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of (1884) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated February, 9th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 9th Feb. 1884, No. 360 W.

FEBRUARY.

Public Works Workshops and Stores

Appointing a Committee to investigate and report on the questions now pending respecting the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Account.

No. 192.

Read—the following letter from Colonel H. L. PRENDERGAST, R.E., Superintending Engineer, V Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 13th September 1882, No. 2161 :—

I have the honor to inform you that I have discussed with the General Superintendent of the Public Works Workshop your memorandum, No. 628, of the 24th ultimo, and Lieutenant Baddeley has given me the enclosed papers on the subject of closing the workshops.

Letter, No. 1447, dated 7th September 1882.
" " 1090, " 8th " "
Lists A, B, C, and D.
One Block Plan.

2. The first step has been taken, in the refusal to accept work except for the Public Works Department and with the exception of work in the instrument department. I have also recommended, in my letter, No. 2118, of the 9th instant, that no work should be done after the 30th November for other departments.

3. The next point (paragraph 9 of Lieutenant Baddeley's letter) is that Public Works officers should refrain from giving orders to the workshop. But I would say nothing about the cost of work, when the workshops are closed the market prices must be accepted, and I would call upon departmental officers to abstain from applying to the workshop generally, or unless they cannot get their requirements elsewhere. There may be some trouble, some delay and extra cost, but these drawbacks are inevitable.

4. There is work now in hand in the workshop, but as it will gradually fall off there can be a reduction made in the number of workmen, while at the same time the machinery can be kept in order. Lieutenant Baddeley considers that it is of much importance that the shops should not be altogether closed; so that on inspection it may be evident that the machinery is in working order.

5. The maintenance of a small workshop will (paragraph 10) be expensive in comparison with the small amount of work to be done. The details will require careful consideration, for it appears to me that when work is generally transferred elsewhere the rest may likewise follow. Still a small workshop will not cause any heavy expense : while at the same time it cannot be expected to be self-supporting. In paragraph 17, Lieutenant Baddeley represents the need of an instrument-maker and a shop for him to carry out repairs. I consider this is highly desirable : but yet in working out the principle of abolition, if the Revenue Survey Department can get

their instruments repaired elsewhere, the Public Works Department can do so also. There may, however, be a small instrument department maintained with a small working shop without much expense.

6. As to reduction of establishment: this should be carried out on the general principle of reduction, such as took place in the Public Works Department recently, transfers being made where practicable. Care should be taken that in all cases three months' notice to quit should be given in good time. In fact, as a precaution, this had better be given to all employed in the workshops.

7. The list of buildings, A, gives the total cost of construction, Rs. 2,07,910. No allowance is made in these figures for depreciation. The value as a selling price will have to be considered before tenders for purchase or rent may be received.

List B is a valuation statement of machinery and plan, amounting to Rs. 81,464. This is the last valuation made nearly five years ago, and must therefore be considered as higher than the present price. It has also been stated lately by the General Superintendent that much of the machinery is old, so that it compares unfavorably in both make and cost with modern machinery. I allude to the reference made by the Superintending Engineer of the II Circle as to defective parts and high cost of articles sent to the Kistna. Hence it must be expected that there will be offers of much less than book value.

List C gives a description of the nature of work done in the workshops: the value is entered in paper D.

The paper D is a draft notice, inviting tenders for purchase or hire of the shops.

8. A serious difficulty arises in the question of the future location of the stores and such minor working shop as may be retained. The machine shop and office rooms are in the main building, the instruments and valuable small stores are in the upper-storey; while the heavy stores are in the separate building, called the store-shed on the block plan, and the State Railway stores are in the store-yard. The machine shop must go with the work-sheds, and it is not possible to divide the main building so that a part might be kept for the Government Stores Department. Hence, if an offer for the whole premises be accepted, the Government property will have to be removed and another place must be found. There are no Government buildings available, and therefore they must be built.

But in the event of no suitable offer being made, the present work-yard and buildings will remain on the hands of the Government, and as this cannot be considered an impossible contingency it will not do to incur the expense of constructing new buildings beforehand. I can only suggest that plans and estimates be made at once for future requirements, and that it be notified in the call for tenders that the premises can be taken over at a future date, say, after the 30th June or from such date as will allow of four months' interval for the construction of the buildings.

9. The Public Works Stores must, it is presumed, be kept up (paragraph 13 to 15) and will require a store-shed, there must be an enclosed yard for heavy stores and the State Railway stores, there must be an instrument shop and workshop. The Government machinery stores can be left where they now are in a part of the old Mint premises. It is desirable that Sub-Engineer Francis should be available to look after the machinery at the General Hospital and the Guindy Water Works, and he might do so as a sub-divisional officer under the Presidency Executive Engineer, having also charge of the repair shop.

10. For the present I would ask for orders on the following points:—

I. Will orders be given to Public Works officers to abstain from making demands on the workshop? Paragraph 3 above.
II. Shall there be a small workshop maintained? } Paragraph 5 above.
III. And an instrument-maker's shop?
IV. Shall the General Superintendent make a list of establishment to be kept for II and III and for the stores? Paragraph 6 above.
V. Is it contemplated that there should be a new set of buildings, and estimates prepared, as suggested in paragraph 8 above?

ENCLOSURE.

From Lieutenant W. L. C. BADDELEY, R.E., General Superintendent, Public Works Stores and Workshops, to the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, dated Madras, 7th September 1882, No. 1447 W.

With reference to your No. 1952 of 28th August 1882, I have the honor to submit my proposals for carrying into effect the orders of Government in No. 2064 W. of 12th August 1882.

Map.
List of Buildings.
" of Works.
" of Machinery, &c.
Draft Circular.
Chief Engineer's letter, No. 628 E., of 24th August 1882.

2. The General Superintendent of the Public Works Stores and Workshops is in charge of the following:—

1. Public Works Stores and Mathematical Instrument Department.
2. Public Works Workshops.
3. State Railway Stores.
4. Government Machinery Stores.
5. Machinery at the General Hospital for working the punkahs, and Water Works at Guindy.

3. The Public Works Stores and the Public Works Workshops occupy the same buildings, all office work connected with State Railway stores is conducted in the Public Works Stores office, and all State Railway stores in the custody of the General Superintendent are stacked in the Public Works store-yard.

4. The mathematical instrument department is usually considered as part of the workshops, but it is now necessary to recognize the difference, for the repair of instruments is totally distinct from repairs to machinery, and it does not follow that because Government wish to close the workshops they should also wish to abolish the mathematical instrument department.

5. The Government machinery stores are situated in a portion of the old Mint which is adjacent to the Public Works Stores and Workshops.

6. The machinery at the General Hospital and the Guindy Water Works is worked by employés of the workshops, and all office work is carried on in the office of the Public Works Workshops.

7. As matters now stand, the iron and heavy goods belonging to the Public Works Stores are kept in the shed marked on plan as "store-shed," while the instruments and other valuable articles are kept in a portion of the upper-storey of the "main building," and the repair of instruments is carried on in a portion of the lower-storey of the same building.

It is impossible to reserve any portion of the present building for the Public Works Stores and mathematical instrument department, for the only building suitable for the purpose is the main building, and this must be given up to the firm which takes over the workshop, for it contains the machine shop and all the office-rooms.

It is difficult in a short letter to anticipate all the suggestions that, from an inspection of the plan, might appear feasible for setting aside a portion of the building for the Public Works Stores and mathematical instrument department; but after careful consideration I am confident that such an arrangement would be impracticable.

8. When the buildings now occupied by the Public Works Stores and Workshops have been sold or leased, it will be necessary for Government to arrange for the custody of the stores, and the performance of the duties connected with—

1. Public Works Stores and Mathematical Instrument Department;
2. State Railway Stores;
3. Government Machinery Stores;
4. Machinery at the General Hospital and Guindy Water Works,

and therefore, when I have submitted my proposals for the abolition of the Public Works Workshops, I shall offer certain suggestions which, I trust, will be found of some value in arranging for carrying on the work detailed above.

9. At present the Public Works Workshop executes a considerable amount of work for *all* departments of Government, and obviously therefore the first step towards reduction is the refusal of all work except for the Public Works Department, and this step has already been taken except in the mathematical instrument department.

Secondly, I would propose sending a circular to every Superintending Engineer for distribution, pointing out the necessity of encouraging private enterprise, and requesting that no work of any kind be sent to the workshop if it can be carried out at a reasonable rate by a private firm.

The result of this will be that a considerable reduction can be made in the number of workmen employed, and yet, as work will not be entirely stopped, the machinery and plant can be kept in working order, so that as soon as a firm comes forward to purchase or rent the concern it can be handed over ready for immediate use.

This is, in my opinion, a most important point, for if the shops were totally closed and the machinery left idle for six months, the depreciation in this climate would be so great that a large portion would become unserviceable, and it requires no argument to prove that an intending purchaser of a large concern like the Public Works Workshops would be more inclined to make a liberal offer for an establishment in working order than for one which had been idle for some time.

10. As regards the maintenance of a small Government shop, except for repairs to mathematical instruments and work of that nature, I am of opinion that it will not be needed, for when once a private firm is established in the workshop buildings, it can easily execute every bit of work, down to the smallest repair; also it must be remembered that a shop which is only to be used by the Department of Public Works for repairs and trifling manufacture must be a most expensive one, for the cost of supervision and the outlay on machinery will be distributed over a very small quantity of work; for example the most trifling repairs will require castings of iron and brass, screws to be cut, surfaces to be planed, and various other processes which are continually in progress in a large shop, all of which will require steam-power, machinery, skilled-labor and supervision.

11. While the operations of the workshops are being steadily reduced in the manner described, the accompanying circular might be distributed in whatever manner Government think best.

12. Assuming that the publication of the views of Government leads to the transfer of the workshop to a private firm, it remains to be considered what is to become of the establishment, and my views on this are—

(1.) Mr. Francis, the Sub-Engineer, should be attached to the Presidency District where his services will be of the greatest value in looking after the machinery at the General Hospital and Guindy Water Works, he will also be available for any work in other districts which may require an experienced Mechanical Engineer.

(2.) Mr. Willis, the Overseer, who is a carpenter by trade, should be posted, if possible, to one of the workshops in the north of the Presidency, if not his services should be utilized whenever a foreman carpenter is required.

(3.) The Maistries are divided into two classes, one consisting of men who have served Government for a large number of years, and the other of men who have only been promoted within the last few years; the former class will probably retire from work when the workshop is transferred, and the latter will find ready employment under the new state of things.

(4.) The workmen, as a rule, will be employed by the firm which takes over the workshop, but there are some who, from length of service or by reason of injuries received while in Government employ, may be entitled to special consideration.

(5.) The clerks, who are not entitled to pensions, will, I hope, be absorbed into other Government offices, as vacancies occur.

13. I have now, I trust, shown how the workshops can be gradually reduced, and eventually handed over to private enterprise with the least inconvenience to the Public Works Department, the least loss to Government, and the least distress to the large number of men who now earn their living in the workshops, and I will therefore proceed to discuss the Public Works Stores.

It is unadvisable to do away with the Public Works Stores, for there must be a central depôt for preparing indents, receiving supplies, storing them, issuing as required, and performing the various duties connected therewith; also in combination with the stores it is absolutely essential that there should be a mathematical instrument department, where every instrument, &c., can be examined before issue, and repaired when necessary.

It will be impossible to reserve any portion of the present building for the Public Works Stores and the mathematical instrument department, and it will therefore be necessary to locate them elsewhere, bearing in mind the following conditions:—

(1.) The store-sheds must be of fairly strong construction, viz., brick in mortar with corrugated iron roof.
(2.) There should be a suitable room for the instrument shop.
(3.) There should be an enclosed yard for storing heavy machines and goods.
(4.) The stores should be as near as possible to the pier.

14. The question as to whether the Public Works Stores are to continue to carry on the work of landing and despatching all State Railway stores which are sent through Madras, will require consideration; in my opinion there is no more economical arrangement than to place the Public Works stores, State Railway stores, and mathematical instrument department under one officer.

15. The Government machinery stores should, I think, be handed over to the Ordnance Department, but if Government are of opinion that the Public Works Department should continue to have charge of all spare machinery belonging to the different departments of Government, this appointment should be combined with that of the Public Works Stores, &c.

16. The machinery at the General Hospital and the Guindy Water Works should be placed in charge of the Executive Engineer, Presidency.

17. I must now revert to the question of keeping up a Government mathematical instrument department in connection with the Public Works Stores, either exclusively for the use of the Public Works Department or for the benefit of all Government departments. At present every instrument issued by the Public Works Stores is first passed through the mathematical instrument department, where it is examined and repaired if necessary; in like manner every instrument returned to store is examined in the mathematical instrument department and classed as "serviceable," "repairable" or "unserviceable." If the mathematical instrument department is abolished it will still be necessary for a mathematical instrument-maker to be attached to the Public Works Stores, but his services will never be fully utilized unless he has a shop in which he can carry out repairs. The mathematical instrument department now repairs all instruments, and executes a great variety of work for all departments of Government, and it is impossible, in my opinion, to propose any better or more economical arrangement than (in connection with the Public Works Stores) to maintain an instrument department for the repair of all Government levels, theodolites, &c., and for the manufacture of scales, seals, badges, weights, measures, &c., and the various other articles which are continually required by all departments of Government.

No. 193.

ORDER—dated 25th September 1882, No. 2488 W., Public Works.

With the letter above recorded the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, submits proposals for giving effect to the decision of Government, recorded in G.O., No. 2064 W., dated 12th August 1882, for restricting the operations of the Public Works Workshops at Madras to the execution of such repairs and trifling manufacture as may be required by the Public Works Department and cannot be executed in the open market, and for disposing of the buildings and plant which would thus become available.

2. It is explained that the first step for the accomplishment of the object in view has already been taken in the refusal to accept work except that required by the Public Works Department and in the instrument shops.

3. These arrangements are approved. Officers of the Public Works Department will now be directed to abstain as far as practicable from giving orders for work at the shops, and no new work for other departments should be accepted after the end of the present year.

4. A small workshop will thus still be required for departmental purposes, and the nucleus of this may, for the present, be organized within the present shops. Tenders will meanwhile be invited for the purchase of the existing buildings and available plant, and as soon as they have been received and decided on, the reduced Government establishment may, if necessary, be removed elsewhere.

5. It may be practicable to have the mathematical instrument work of the department executed in Calcutta, should local firms be unable to take it up. The Surveyor-General will be communicated with on the subject.

6. As regards the disposal of the existing establishment, many of the workmen will no doubt find employment with the firms which will take over the work which the Government are now surrendering, and the others will be absorbed gradually. In any case no immediate action seems necessary, and the details of the process may well be left to be worked out by the Superintending Engineer as circumstances admit.

7. It is premature to issue any definite orders as to erection of new buildings at present. There will be ample time for decision on this question after tenders for taking over existing block and plant have been considered. Tenders may be received up to the 1st February next, and the interval should be utilized in printing and circulating lists, which should be accompanied by a lithograph block plan of the buildings, on a somewhat smaller scale than that sent up, and a small index map of Madras on the same sheet. The index map should show the situation of the shops with reference to a few of the most important places, *e.g.*, the harbour, railway stations, fort, &c.

This is, in my opinion, a most important point, for if the shops were totally closed and the machinery left idle for six months, the depreciation in this climate would be so great that a large portion would become unserviceable, and it requires no argument to prove that an intending purchaser of a large concern like the Public Works Workshops would be more inclined to make a liberal offer for an establishment in working order than for one which had been idle for some time.

10. As regards the maintenance of a small Government shop, except for repairs to mathematical instruments and work of that nature, I am of opinion that it will not be needed, for when once a private firm is established in the workshop buildings, it can easily execute every bit of work, down to the smallest repair; also it must be remembered that a shop which is only to be used by the Department of Public Works for repairs and trifling manufacture must be a most expensive one, for the cost of supervision and the outlay on machinery will be distributed over a very small quantity of work; for example the most trifling repairs will require castings of iron and brass, screws to be cut, surfaces to be planed, and various other processes which are continually in progress in a large shop, all of which will require steam-power, machinery, skilled-labor and supervision.

11. While the operations of the workshops are being steadily reduced in the manner described, the accompanying circular might be distributed in whatever manner Government think best.

12. Assuming that the publication of the views of Government leads to the transfer of the workshop to a private firm, it remains to be considered what is to become of the establishment, and my views on this are—

(1.) Mr. Francis, the Sub-Engineer, should be attached to the Presidency District where his services will be of the greatest value in looking after the machinery at the General Hospital and Guindy Water Works, he will also be available for any work in other districts which may require an experienced Mechanical Engineer.
(2.) Mr. Willis, the Overseer, who is a carpenter by trade, should be posted, if possible, to one of the workshops in the north of the Presidency, if not his services should be utilized whenever a foreman carpenter is required.
(3.) The Maistries are divided into two classes, one consisting of men who have served Government for a large number of years, and the other of men who have only been promoted within the last few years; the former class will probably retire from work when the workshop is transferred, and the latter will find ready employment under the new state of things.
(4.) The workmen, as a rule, will be employed by the firm which takes over the workshop, but there are some who, from length of service or by reason of injuries received while in Government employ, may be entitled to special consideration.
(5.) The clerks, who are not entitled to pensions, will, I hope, be absorbed into other Government offices, as vacancies occur.

13. I have now, I trust, shown how the workshops can be gradually reduced, and eventually handed over to private enterprise with the least inconvenience to the Public Works Department, the least loss to Government, and the least distress to the large number of men who now earn their living in the workshops, and I will therefore proceed to discuss the Public Works Stores.

It is unadvisable to do away with the Public Works Stores, for there must be a central depôt for preparing indents, receiving supplies, storing them, issuing as required, and performing the various duties connected therewith; also in combination with the stores it is absolutely essential that there should be a mathematical instrument department, where every instrument, &c., can be examined before issue, and repaired when necessary.

It will be impossible to reserve any portion of the present building for the Public Works Stores and the mathematical instrument department, and it will therefore be necessary to locate them elsewhere, bearing in mind the following conditions:—

(1.) The store-sheds must be of fairly strong construction, viz., brick in mortar with corrugated iron roof.
(2.) There should be a suitable room for the instrument shop.
(3.) There should be an enclosed yard for storing heavy machines and goods.
(4.) The stores should be as near as possible to the pier.

14. The question as to whether the Public Works Stores are to continue to carry on the work of landing and despatching all State Railway stores which are sent through Madras, will require consideration; in my opinion there is no more economical arrangement than to place the Public Works stores, State Railway stores, and mathematical instrument department under one officer.

15. The Government machinery stores should, I think, be handed over to the Ordnance Department, but if Government are of opinion that the Public Works Department should continue to have charge of all spare machinery belonging to the different departments of Government, this appointment should be combined with that of the Public Works Stores, &c.

16. The machinery at the General Hospital and the Guindy Water Works should be placed in charge of the Executive Engineer, Presidency.

17. I must now revert to the question of keeping up a Government mathematical instrument department in connection with the Public Works Stores, either exclusively for the use of the Public Works Department or for the benefit of all Government departments. At present every instrument issued by the Public Works Stores is first passed through the mathematical instrument department, where it is examined and repaired if necessary; in like manner every instrument returned to store is examined in the mathematical instrument department and classed as "serviceable," "repairable" or "unserviceable." If the mathematical instrument department is abolished it will still be necessary for a mathematical instrument-maker to be attached to the Public Works Stores, but his services will never be fully utilized unless he has a shop in which he can carry out repairs. The mathematical instrument department now repairs all instruments, and executes a great variety of work for all departments of Government, and it is impossible, in my opinion, to propose any better or more economical arrangement than (in connection with the Public Works Stores) to maintain an instrument department for the repair of all Government levels, theodolites, &c., and for the manufacture of scales, seals, badges, weights, measures, &c., and the various other articles which are continually required by all departments of Government.

No. 193.

Order—dated 25th September 1882, No. 2488 W., Public Works.

With the letter above recorded the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, submits proposals for giving effect to the decision of Government, recorded in G.O., No. 2064 W., dated 12th August 1882, for restricting the operations of the Public Works Workshops at Madras to the execution of such repairs and trifling manufacture as may be required by the Public Works Department and cannot be executed in the open market, and for disposing of the buildings and plant which would thus become available.

2. It is explained that the first step for the accomplishment of the object in view has already been taken in the refusal to accept work except that required by the Public Works Department and in the instrument shops.

3. These arrangements are approved. Officers of the Public Works Department will now be directed to abstain as far as practicable from giving orders for work at the shops, and no new work for other departments should be accepted after the end of the present year.

4. A small workshop will thus still be required for departmental purposes, and the nucleus of this may, for the present, be organized within the present shops. Tenders will meanwhile be invited for the purchase of the existing buildings and available plant, and as soon as they have been received and decided on, the reduced Government establishment may, if necessary, be removed elsewhere.

5. It may be practicable to have the mathematical instrument work of the department executed in Calcutta, should local firms be unable to take it up. The Surveyor-General will be communicated with on the subject.

6. As regards the disposal of the existing establishment, many of the workmen will no doubt find employment with the firms which will take over the work which the Government are now surrendering, and the others will be absorbed gradually. In any case no immediate action seems necessary, and the details of the process may well be left to be worked out by the Superintending Engineer as circumstances admit.

7. It is premature to issue any definite orders as to erection of new buildings at present. There will be ample time for decision on this question after tenders for taking over existing block and plant have been considered. Tenders may be received up to the 1st February next, and the interval should be utilized in printing and circulating lists, which should be accompanied by a lithograph block plan of the buildings, on a somewhat smaller scale than that sent up, and a small index map of Madras on the same sheet. The index map should show the situation of the shops with reference to a few of the most important places, *e.g.*, the harbour, railway stations, fort, &c.

8. The notices should be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, the *Bombay Gazette*, and the *Gazette of India*.

9. The General Superintendent of the Workshops will take the requisite action for giving effect to these orders, submitting drafts of notifications for insertion in the Gazettes outside the Presidency.

(Here enter No. 2489 W., dated 25th September 1882.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. H. SANKEY, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the General Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, with enclosures.
To Superintending Engineers.
To the Consulting Architect to Government.
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Consulting Engineer for Railways.
,, Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Military ,,
,, Public, &c., Departments.

Exd. E. Fernandez.

GENERAL.
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of {1882} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated September, 25th.

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 25th Sept. 1882, No. 2488 W.

SEPTEMBER.

Public Works Workshops at Madras

Orders on proposals of the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, for restricting the operations of the Public Works Workshops at Madras to the execution of such repairs and trifling manufacture as may be required by the Public Works Department and which cannot be done in the market.

Executive Engineer's Office,
Coimbatore, 1st March 1884.

No. 139
E. W.

From

The Executive Engineer,
Coimbatore Division.

To

The Superintending Engineer,
Fourth Circle.

Sir

With reference to G. O. No: 3477 W, dated 4th December 1883, bearing your Endorsement No. 811, dated 13th idem, I have the honor to state that the work, revetting the lagoon side of the Cruz Mileagre Dam at Cochin is in progress, and the contract time for completion of the work is the 15th of March 1884.

2. I request that you will be good enough to take early steps, with reference to para 2 of the G. O. under reference, to obtain an allotment for the work.

I have &ca

(Signed) J. I. Davidson
Executive Engineer

Forwarded

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer, P. W. Department, for the favor of his obtaining an allotment to meet the outlay on the work.

L. Beatty - Colonel, R.E.,
Supg. Engineer, 4th Circle.

Camp Ooty
8th March/84

32

No 703 Wd/ of 14/3/84

Ro

Recorded
with reference to
G.O. dated 5th March
1884 No 480 ~~Marine~~
Financial

13·3·84

From
The Superintending Engineer
IV Circle

4

Dated 8th March 1884
Recd 12 —

No 139
E.W.

Enclo: Nil.

No 703 Wd/ March 14 1884

Cruz Milagre dam Cochin.

Forwards copy of letter from Exi: Engr Coimbatore Dn & requests the favor of obtaining an allot=
=ment to meet the outlay on the work of revetting the lagoon side of —

No 703 Wd/ March 14 1884

14/3

With order

12-3-84

15/3

4/4

18/3

20/3

Entd in Receipt Regr

No. 703 W.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the March 14 1884

READ the following

Engineer

From the Supdg Engr V Circle (R Dis No 4205 d/ 8th Mar 1884).

The estimate amounting to Rs 514, for compensation for land taken up for the Sub Divisional Officer's Bungalow and Office at Tindivanum in the South Arcot Division, is sanctioned, and the amount is appropriated from the Provincial Reserve with Government under Civil Buildings.

2. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No 238 W of 1883-84, and classified as Civil Buildings Original Works.

15/3

S. E. V Circle, with extr for Dy. O. Accts

CJ 11/3/84

12-3-84

11/3

2164

From

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
5TH CIRCLE,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. Department.

Dated 8th } March 1884.
Recd. 10th }

ENCLOSURES. 1.

No. 703 Wd/ 14/3/84

No. 4205.

Sub Divisional Office and compound at Tindivanum.

Submits for sanction an estimate of Rs 514 for compensation for land taken up by the —

No. 703 W.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the March 14 1884

READ the following

From the Supdg Engr V Circle (Lr No 4205 d/ 8th Mar/84)

The estimate amounting to Rs 514, for compensation for land taken up for the Sub Divisional Officer's Bungalow and Office at Tindivanum in the South Arcot Division, is sanctioned, and the amount is appropriated from the Provincial Reserve with Government under Civil Buildings.

2. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No 238 W of 1883-84, and Classified as Civil Buildings Original Works.

W.
12-3-84

Ent 15/3

S. E. V Circle, with [illegible] for
by O. [illegible]

CJ.
11/3/84

C 14/3

Dwk 2164

From

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
5TH CIRCLE,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P. W. Department.

Dated 8th } March 1884.
Recd. 10 }

ENCLOSURES. 1.

No. 703 W d/ 14/3/84

No. 4205.

Sub Divisional Office and compound at Tindivanum.

Submits for sanction an estimate of Rs 514 for compensation for land taken up by the ——

B

[illegible]
12/3

No. 703 W.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the March 14 1884

READ the following

From the Supdg Engr V Circle (Lr No 4205 of 8th Mar/84).

The estimate amounting to Rs. 514, for compensation for land taken up for the Sub Divisional Officer's Bungalow and Office at Tindivanam in the South Arcot Division, is sanctioned, and the amount is appropriated from the Provincial Reserve with Government under Civil Buildings.

2. This sanction has been registered as Provincial No 238 W of 1883-84, and classified as Civil Buildings Original Works.

Ret 15/3

S. E. V Circle, with est.

by O. Extracts

W.

12-3-84

C.J.

11/3/84

CH 11/3

No. 4205.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
5TH CIRCLE, MADRAS,
Chepauk, 8th March 1884.

From
THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
5TH CIRCLE,

To
THE Chief Engineer
P. W. D.

SIR,

Enclosures. 1
1 Estimate.

I have the honor to submit for sanction an Estimate of Rupees 514. for compensation for land taken up by the former Range Office, now the Sub Divisional Office, and Compound at Tindivanam.

2. The Executive Engineer explains that the land measuring 3.02 acres has

has been in the occupation of the P. W. Department since 1874, but compensation was not paid, because there was a doubt regarding the person who was the real proprietor. The matter has now been settled by the Collector, who has sent the Bill on the 2d February 1884, for adjustment in the P. W. Department.

3. There are no funds at present available & I recommend that a grant of Rupees 514 may be made if possible from the Reserve under Provincial Civil Buildings in order that payment may be made at once.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt servt,
Alexr Lunday Lt Col. R.E.
Superintg Engr 2d Circle

Provincial Fund.

Application for modification of Allotments from the Grants for Minor Works, Repairs, and Tools and Plant.

Divisions.	Minor Works.							Repairs.							Tools and Plant.
	Military.	Civil Buildings.				Communications.	Miscellaneous Public Impts.	Military.	Civil Buildings.				Communications.	Miscellaneous Public Impts.	
		Postal.	Telegraph.	Salt.	*				Postal.	Telegraph.	Salt.	*			
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Madura Dn.	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	-339	"	"	"

* When Funds are applied for under Provincial, the entries should be made in this Column; when under Imperial the Columns Postal, Telegraph and Salt should be filled up as required.

Station Mayaveram
Dated 5th March/84

Superintending Engineer, 6th Circle.

N.B.—The application must be submitted in triplicate, but the explanations need only be given on one copy. The other copy will be returned showing the modifications, if any, made by Government [illegible]perintending Engineer's proposals. And the third will after sanction be retained in the Examiner's Office. The amount of additional grants required will be entered in black ink, reductions or surrenders in red ink with the minus sign prefixed.

Endorsement No. 1601 W
dated the 24th March 1884

~

Returned to the Secretary to Government Public Works Department, duly noted

D. C. Gordon

Examiner P.W. Accts.
Madras
32/3

A 25/3

R.S. 26.3.84