

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G. O., dated 10th April 1886, Mis. No. 317, Financial.

Read—the following despatch from the Right Honorable Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 4th February 1886, No. 2, Financial (Stores):—

With reference to the letter from the Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, in the Financial Department, No. 3038, dated 3rd December 1885, forwarding an indent for stores required for the Punjab Police, I have to inform you that I have sanctioned compliance with the indent.

2. I request, however, that inquiry may be made whether future supplies of clothing stores required for the Police in India cannot be procured locally, and that pending further explanations no fresh demands for such stores be made. A statement is annexed showing the departments from which such demands have been recently received.

3. I enclose for your information a list of discrepancies between the quantities shown in the indent as due and those actually under supply.

ENCLOSURES.

STATEMENT of Indents for Police Clothing.

Assam Police.

Indent received with letter, No. 752, dated 11th May 1885.—Boots, ammunition, for the Frontier Police, Garo Hills Battalion.

Punjab Police.

Indent, dated 11th December 1884.—Clothing stores.

Assam Police.

Indent, dated 12th November 1884.—Boots.

Punjab Police.

Indent, dated 5th November 1883.—Clothing stores.

Madras.

Indent, dated 19th October 1885.—Clothing stores.

" " 4th November 1884. "

" " 31st October " "

Burma.

Indent, dated September 1885.—Clothing stores.

" " December 1884. "

" " 11th June " "

Bombay.

Indent, No. 2, of 12th August 1885.—Clothing stores.
 „ „ 3, of 3rd October 1883. „

List of discrepancies between the quantities shown as due on Indent of 14th November 1885,
 Stores for Punjab Police, and those actually under supply.

Description.	Quantity				Remarks.
	Shown as due.	Actually due.	Demanded.	That will be supplied.	
Rawal Pindi division, District Sealkot. Bedford cord for breeches.	Yds. 18	None.	Yds. 18	Yds. 18	In what indent was the Bedford cord referred to demanded.

No. 1377.

Endorsement on the above.

Copy forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations with the request that the inquiry directed by the Secretary of State in paragraph 2 thereof may be made and the result reported, indents for police or peons' clothing on the Secretary of State being suspended pending such report, and that in future such indents should not be submitted without a report showing to the satisfaction of the Government of India that the articles required or any substitute for them of Indian manufacture cannot be procured on equally economical terms.

(By Order, &c.)

DEPT. OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
 CALCUTTA, 25th March 1886.

(Signed) J. F. FINLAY,
Offg. Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Order—dated 10th April 1886, Mis. No. 317, Financial.

Communicated to the Inspector-General of Police, for report and for future guidance.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.

READ—also the following paper:—

From Colonel T. K. GUTHRIE, Inspector-General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 15th April 1886, No. 1955.

Store Department.

With reference to G.O., dated 10th April 1886, Mis. No. 317, Financial Department, I have the honor to report that, in accordance with instructions received from Government, advertisements calling for tenders for the supply of clothing and other stores of Indian manufacture required by this department have been published year by year since 1882 in the leading newspaper in each presidency.

2. A report has been submitted to Government each year showing what tenders had been received, and it appears unnecessary now to do more than recapitulate the results obtained last year as reported in my letter, No. 4309, dated 24th July 1885.

Tenders were invited for the supply of—

Cloth, blue, woollen		11,000 yards.
Do. Infantry grey		700 „
Do. blue serge		600 „
Do. scarlet serge		80 „
Do. blue, flannel		100 „
Turkey red cambric		4,600 pieces.
Thread, linen, white and black		2,000 reels.
Buttons, No. I		1,000 No.
Dark lanterns		1,000 „

3. The Cawnpore Mills, the Egerton Mills and the Elgin Mills submitted tenders for the supply of cloth, blue, woollen, at Rs. 2-4-0, at Rs. 2-12-0 and Rs. 3-8-0, and at Rs. 1-13-3 and Rs. 2-1-6 per yard, respectively, the price of the last English supply being Rs. 2-2-9 per yard. All the cloths, except those offered by the Egerton Mills at Rs. 2-12-0 and Rs. 3-8-0, were so inferior in quality to the English that no economy could have been effected by their purchase. The Egerton Mills cloth at Rs. 3-8-0 was superior to, and that at Rs. 2-12-0 very nearly as good as the English cloth; and by order of Government the Manager of the Egerton Mills was asked whether he could supply cloth of this second quality at Rs. 2-2-0 per yard. He stated his inability to reduce the price below Rs. 2-8-0 per yard, deliverable at the Dhariwal Railway station, equivalent to about Rs. 2-10-0 deliverable at Madras.

4. The Egerton Mills and the Elgin Mills offered to supply Infantry grey cloth at Rs. 2-8-0 per yard, the price of the last English supply being Rs. 2-12-4. The tender of the Egerton Mills was accepted.

5. The Cawnpore Mills offered blue serge at Rs. 1-10-3, but the quality was so inferior to that procured from England at a cost of Rs. 1-7-1 that I could not recommend the acceptance of their tender.

6. The Egerton Mills offered scarlet serge at Rs. 2-12-0 and their tender was accepted, the serge being sufficiently good to be substituted for the superfine scarlet cloth obtained from England at Rs. 5-11-8 per yard.

7. No tenders were received for the supply of the other articles. The prices given above include all expenses up to delivery at my office at Madras.

8. From this it will be apparent that this department has done everything in its power to reduce the indents on the Secretary of State, and it is only where articles required cannot be procured at all, or, if procurable, involving a decided loss to Government, that indents have been submitted.

ORDER—dated 6th May 1886, No. 390, Financial.

The instructions of the Government of India in respect to future supplies of police or peons' clothing will be carefully attended to by all officers concerned.

2. Ordered that the following letter be addressed to the Government of India:—

[Here enter No. 391, dated 6th May 1886.]

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
 „ Military Department.
 „ Public Works Department.
 „ Heads of Departments.
 „ Accountant-General.
 „ Inspector-General of Police.

Exd. P. L. Pereira

Gobt. of (1886) Madras.

FINANCIAL.

6TH MAY 1886, No. 390, FINANCIAL.

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Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 6th May 1886, No. 390.

MAY.

Clothing Stores.

Directing all officers concerned to attend carefully to the instructions of the Government of India in respect to future supplies of police or peons' clothing, and addressing that Government on the subject.

With order

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Exd. P. L. Pereira.

Govt. of (1886) Madras.
FINANCIAL.

No. 1290 Wd/21 May 1886

Recorded for
guidance

206.C

[Signature]
18/5/86

Issued

Recd.

17/5/86.

Encl.

G.O., 6th May 1886, No. 390.

[Signature]
19-5-86

B. No. 1290 Wd/21 May 1886

MAY.

Clothing Stores.

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2 copies to be kept

Auth. in Repts. Recd.

Comdg. E. for Rys

Encl. P.W. M.

S.E. V. Curale for uniform
= tion of Genl. Dept. R.W.S.

22/5/86

Ref. 9075