

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From G. HAMNETT, Esq., Inspector-General of Registration, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Coimbatore, 20th June 1887, T. No. 1963.

With reference to G.O., Judicial, dated the 29th April 1887, No. 932, intimating that the Government were not prepared to accept the plan for the combined offices of the Inspector-General of Registration, the Registrar of Madras, and the Registrar of the Diocese, or to hold out any hopes of sanction being accorded for such a building as that contemplated, I beg that I may be pardoned for once more urging the necessity for providing the Registrar of Madras with suitable accommodation for the valuable records in his charge.

2. The Registrar in a letter, No. 272, dated the 23rd May 1887, writes to me as follows:—

“I most respectfully request that the Government may be moved to accord their sanction for the construction of a separate office for the Registrar alone on the finally selected site at a moderate cost of about Rs. 15,000, or Rs. 20,000, as they have already done in the case of the Registrar of Tanjore.

“I make this urgent request in the interests of the public convenience and of the safe custody of the very valuable and increasing records of this office, as the present rented building on the Second Line Beach, belonging to Messrs. McDowell and Co., though convenient to the public, is not sufficiently safe and fire-proof, seeing especially that the records are secured in huge almirahs placed on the second floor of this building, while the first or ground-floor is a godown for the custody of inflammable liquors and spirits, and therefore several respectable

Note.—Mr. Orr did speak to me and I told him that I did all I could since January * 1881, and could do no more.

* *Vide* Proceedings, Public Works Department, 15th October 1881, No. 2520 W.—G. H.

parties, such as Mr. Robert G. Orr of Messrs. Orr and Sons, and others have very recently bitterly complained to me against my apparent indifference in the matter in the interests of the public, and of the valuable records of the office.

Mr. Orr even went further and told me the other day in the office that he was about to address both you and the Government on the subject.

“I therefore most humbly request that you may be pleased to bring this urgent matter to the favorable consideration of Government, in view to their according their early sanction for the construction of a new building for this office alone at a cost of about Rs. 15,000, or Rs. 20,000, as the rental, calculated at 8 per cent. on this proposed outlay, would not be much in excess of the present. Such a building would answer all the requirements of the office at present; and as for the future requirements the necessary accommodation can easily be added from time to time on the space which would be left vacant on the site near Parry and Co.’s office on the First Line Beach, or opposite Pachiappah’s Hall.”

ORDER—dated 27th July 1887, No. 1647, Judicial.

Communicated to the Public Works Department with a request that orders may be issued for the preparation of an estimate of the lowest figure at which a combined office for the Inspector-General of Registration, the Registrar of Madras, and the Registrar of the Diocese can be built. It is believed that the site next the Post office has been appropriated in the Public Works Department for this combined building, and if a moderate estimate can be prepared, the Government will sanction it. A portion of the ground-floor may be required for store-rooms for the Stationery office. The former estimate of Rs. 90,000, referred to in G.O., dated 29th April 1887, No. 932, was altogether excessive.

2. With reference to the Inspector-General's first para., in which he requests that he "may be pardoned for once more urging the necessity for providing the Registrar of Madras with suitable accommodation for the valuable records in his charge," the Government believe that this is the first time on which the Inspector-General has represented the Registrar's present office to be unsuitable. The order of the 19th September 1881, No. 1949, Judicial, shows that the Registrar of Madras then obtained "premises admirably adapted for the purpose," and it does not, therefore, appear that there is any emergent need for a new office for this officer. Nor is the necessity in the case of the Inspector-General himself clear. He rents an apparently suitable building in the Mount Road, and in his letter, No. 958, dated 3rd March 1885, recorded in G.O., dated 27th March 1885, No. 840, he could do no more than suggest that "it would be a great comfort to him and to his establishment to be located on the North beach."

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Registration.
,, Public Works Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No 2221W of 20th August/87

Communicated
to the Consig. Architect
in continuation of
G.O. No 1358W dated
17th May 1887, in view
to the submission
of the estimate called
for in para 1

(sd) J.O.A.
W

C.A. to Gout
with 3 plans.

Govt. of (1886) Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 27th July 1887, No. 1647.

No 2221W of 20th August/87

JULY.

Registration.

Passing orders in regard to the provision of
suitable buildings for the location of offices of the
Registration Department.

With order