

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From Colonel A. T. FRASER, R.E., Executive Engineer, West Coast Division,
to the Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, dated Calicut, 12th April 1888,
No. 218.

I have the honor to mention that considerable delay is caused to work by neither the Assistant Engineer nor myself being able to get dynamite, fuse and detonators at present.

2. In reply to my application for a license for dynamite required at Malapuram to the Collector, I received the following letters :—

No. 710, of 19th March 1888.

“In reply to your letter, No. 231, dated 14th instant, I have the honor to refer you to Rule 17 framed under the Explosives Act.

“I request that you will inform me where the dynamite is to be stored.

“Messrs. Andrew and Co. have not yet taken out a license to possess and sell dynamite for the current year, but I hope the license will be issued to them shortly.

“Several Moplas in different parts of the district have been found using dynamite, which must have been stolen from careless licensee, and I shall be obliged to work the rules with great stringency. The utmost care must be taken to prevent the dynamite being thus misused.”

No. 848 M., of 7th April 1888.

“In reply to your letter, dated 24th March 1888, No. 251, I have the honor to suggest that you should obtain, through the head of your department, an order of Government under Section 14 of the Explosives Act IV of 1884, authorising you to possess the ‘explosives you require free of the restrictions imposed by the Act and Rules.’ There have been so many dynamite accidents of late that I do not feel justified in granting you a license without full particulars as to where and how the dynamite and detonators are to be kept.”

3. I would therefore request that an order of Government may be obtained as recommended by the Collector under Section 14 of the Explosives Act IV of 1884, authorising the Executive Engineer of this division, the Assistant Engineer and their establishment to hold a quantity not exceeding for the whole division 1,000 lb. of dynamite, 250 coils of fuse of eight yards each, and 3,500 detonators, free of the restrictions imposed by the rules of taking out a license for different places and occasions.

4. The dynamite for the Assistant Engineer's road work has hitherto been supplied by Messrs. Mitchell and Mackenzie, whose license has not as yet been renewed owing, I understand, to a Cochin contractor, not attached to this department, letting some of his people take away explosives and one of these stating he was in the employment of the former.

5. They want dynamite badly for the foundations of the Ingopoya bridge.

No. 138-E.W.

Submitted to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with a request that he will be good enough to obtain orders of Government authorizing the Executive Engineer, West Coast Division, and his subordinates, to hold free of license the quantity of dynamite, fuse, and detonators mentioned in paragraph 3 of the foregoing letter.

COIMBATORE,
14th April 1888.

(Signed) J. BEATTY, Colonel, R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, IV Circle.

No. 62-D.

Transferred to the Judicial Department for consideration.

OOTACAMUND,
18th April 1888.

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Colonel, R.E.,
Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

ORDER—dated 2nd May 1888, No. 1030, Judicial.

Section 14 of the Indian Explosives Act, 1884, says—

“Nothing in this Act shall apply to the . . . possession . . . of any explosive . . . by any person employed under the Government . . . as a . . . policeman or otherwise” (which would include an Engineer) . . . “in the course of his employment or duty as such.”

2. Under these provisions, a license seems clearly unnecessary, but the Public Works Department must insist on explosives being kept by Engineers with the greatest precautions and in properly-secured magazines.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary P.W.D.
for Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department.

Copy to the District Magistrate, Malabar.

“ “ “ Nilgiris.
“ “ “ Coimbatore.
“ Commissioner of Police.

Exd. A. Raïtt.

13-S.C.

11-1-72

No. 1534 W of 25 May 1888

B.

Communicated
to the Suptg Engr IV
Circle; also to other
Suptg Engrs for
information and
guidance

16.5.88

19/5/88

Suptg Engrs ✓
20.5.88
25/5

17/5 105:4
19:4
21.5.88
46 808
295

PWC No 4590

Gobt. of (1888) Madras.
JUDICIAL.

13.8.8

Issued

Recd. 16.5.88 Encl.

G.O., 2nd May 1888, No. 1030.

No. 1534 W of 25 May 1888

MAY.

Indian Explosives Act, 1884.

Informing the Public Works Department that
under section 14 of the — the Executive Engineer,
West Coast Division, requires no license to hold
certain quantities of dynamite, fuse, and detonators,
but that they should be kept in properly-secured
magazines.

2 copies to 004

W. Thorden