

Order thereon No. 77 W dated
4/10 Jan'y 1888

Govt. of 1887 Madras.
FINANCIAL.

Communicated to
Officers of the P.W. Department
(Jdy. J.S.H.
W.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 9th December 1887, No. 1289.

No. 77 W 4/10 Jan'y 1888.

DECEMBER.

C.E. for Irrigation
Comy Engr for Rys.
Engrs Engrs.
Comy Archt to Govt
Engr P.W.D.
Engrs for Ry Accts
Engrs for Ry Accts

Stationery.

Communicating to all Secretariat Departments
letter from the Superintendent of — respecting
the way in which inks are to be prepared from
the black and red ink powders now supplied.

With Order

No 78 w a 10th January 1888

FROM,

M. L. 10655

9TH DECEMBER 1887, No. 1289, FINANCIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From Brigadier-General E. FAUNCE, Quartermaster-General, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Ootacamund, 8th November 1887, No. 3212-B.

With reference to O.G., No. 3856, dated 1st July 1887, I have the honor, by order, to state that the experience of this office and that of the divisional offices of this department generally shows that the black and the red ink powders supplied by the Stationery Department are quite useless and signally fail to produce fluids worthy of the name of inks.

2. Vinegar and other things have been added to the so-called inks produced by mixing water with the powders, but without altering their character; the liquids contain a granular precipitate and are so colorless that, while almost invisible when used on blue paper, they fade rapidly, so that they are unfit for use in connection with Government records, which ought to be legible for years.

3. In consequence of the worthlessness of the ink thus supplied, departmental officers have been compelled to purchase good ink for the use of their offices at their own cost in the local market—a proceeding which Government certainly does not contemplate.

4. I am accordingly to bring the matter to the notice of Government in view to measures being taken for the supply by the Stationery Department, which is now dealing with indents for stationery for the coming year, of either ink powders of superior quality to those it now procures, or of good ink (black and red) in liquid form.

5. Meanwhile, I am to ask that divisional and district officers of this department may be authorised to supply themselves with ink of suitable quality by purchase in the local market, the cost of it being adjusted in their periodical contingent bill for office contingencies.

No. 6995.

Transferred to the Financial Department, with reference to G.O., in that department, No. 554, dated 2nd May 1887.

FORT ST. GEORGE, (Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Brigr.-Genl.,
11th November 1887. Secretary to Govt., Mil. Dept.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., C.S., Superintendent of Stationery, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 30th November 1887, No. 1589.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement, dated 18th instant, referring to me, for remarks, letter (herewith returned) from the Quartermaster-General, No. 3212-B, dated 8th November 1887, complaining of the black and red ink powders supplied to his department by this office.

2. First, with reference to the complaint against the bad quality of the fuchsine powder. This powder is obtained from England through the Secretary of State for India, and is supplied to all public offices, the Secretariat included,—Blackwood's red

ink being supplied only to offices of account. This is the first complaint ever received by this office against this powder, and my own experience has shown it to be quite suitable for all ordinary office work.

3. Secondly, in respect to the black ink powder, it has been tested and approved by the Chemical Examiner of Madras, who selected it from several sent to him for analysis, and if the fluid is prepared according to the directions of the manufacturer, which are labelled on each packet of the powder, it will be found to be of sufficiently good quality for all purposes. The ink with which this letter is written is prepared from this powder, which is used for both scriptory and account work with satisfactory results in this office, and I beg to send to Government for trial a quart of this ink prepared in my presence from the powder.

4. The Quartermaster-General complains that the color of the ink rapidly fades. In view to ascertain this, I examined the office records as far back as the date of the introduction of these powders into the office, and I find the color has not suffered, except only in cases where the paper itself has become discolored from age and exposure.

5. It seems to me that the cause of complaint does not lie in the powders, but in the mode of their preparation, this part of the work being left to the office moochees, who do not, I suspect, closely attend to the directions of the manufacturer, and who may possibly misappropriate the funds for the purchase of vinegar, which is the only ingredient mixed with the powders in preparing the ink.

6. The procedure of the Deputy Quartermaster-General in asking divisional officers to buy their own ink, and charge it to "Contingencies," is, I beg to observe, against the orders of Government.

7. In September last, the Executive Engineer, Nilgiris, complained of this black powder supplied to him, but when it was pointed out to him that the cause of complaint probably lay in the manner in which he prepared the ink, he subsequently reported that he was "glad to be able to say that it was sufficiently good for use."

8. If under these circumstances, the Government consider that there is still any necessity for procuring ink of better quality, I have the honor to submit a statement showing the cost of the ink in the past year, and what the probable cost of the same will be if other inks or powders are substituted.

9. The contract for the powders of black ink, now in use, lasts till end of March 1889.—*Vide* G.O., dated 21st January 1886, Mis. No. 66.

ENCLOSURE.

Memorandum.

Quantity and description of Inks used in 1886-87.	Cost of the same.	Quantity and description of other Inks that may be substituted.	Cost.	Loss by substitution.
<i>Black Ink.</i>	RS.		RS.	RS.
3,467 dozen papers or 20,802 quarts of country ink and vinegar required for making the ink (Rs. 3,900).	5,164	(1) 20,802 quarts of Stephen's blue-black ink (English) ..	31,896	26,732
		(2) Aryan and Co.'s blue-black ink (Indian) ..	26,003	20,839
		(3) Chundabhai's do. (do.) ..	15,602	10,438
		(4) Hakim Abdul Karim's blue-black ink (Indn.) ..	13,624	8,460
		(5) Aryan do. (do.) ..	12,135	6,971
		(6) Stephen's black ink (English) ..	31,896	26,732
		(7) 3,467 dozen papers of English black ink powder as per latest invoice available in the office and the vinegar required, Rs. 3,900	6,780	1,616
<i>Red Ink.</i>				
3,002 oz. of red ink-powder or fuchsine or 18,012 quarts of red ink.	677	(1) 18,012 quarts of Blackwood's red ink as per latest invoice available in the office ..	12,179	11,502
		(2) Stephen's scarlet ink (English) ..	82,855	82,178
		(3) Chandabhai's scarlet ink (Indian) ..	13,509	12,832

ORDER—dated 9th December 1887, No. 1289, Financial.

The remarks of the Superintendent of Stationery will be communicated to the Military and other departments.

2. The Government are not prepared to sanction any change, and agree in considering that the ink is of very fair quality if properly made.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Departments of the Secretariat.
„ Superintendent of Stationery.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Ms. A. 9.2. 10504

Communicated to
Communicated to
officers of the Public
Officers of the Public
Works Dept.

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John
5/1/88

Issued

Recd. 2/14/87

Encl.

G.O., 9th December 1887, No. 1289.

DECEMBER.

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C & Ford Rys S
S. Ex. Wm. I. S. C. C. C. C.
C. A. to Gout S
Exp. P. W. S
Exp. P. W. S

Recd. 10-1-88

Dec 10-1.88

Stationery.

Communicating to all Secretariat Departments letter from the Superintendent of — respecting the way in which inks are to be prepared from the black and red ink powders now supplied.

With order
for the order

28/11/14

Order thereon No. 79162-51

9TH DECEMBER 1887, No. 1289, FINANCIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

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2. Vinegar and other things have been added to the so-called inks produced by mixing water with the powders, but without altering their character; the liquids contain a granular precipitate and are so colorless that, while almost invisible when used on blue paper, they fade rapidly, so that they are unfit for use in connection with Government records, which ought to be legible for years.

3. In consequence of the worthlessness of the ink thus supplied, departmental officers have been compelled to purchase good ink for the use of their offices at their own cost in the local market—a proceeding which Government certainly does not contemplate.

4. I am accordingly to bring the matter to the notice of Government in view to measures being taken for the supply by the Stationery Department, which is now dealing with indents for stationery for the coming year, of either ink powders of superior quality to those it now procures, or of good ink (black and red) in liquid form.

5. Meanwhile, I am to ask that divisional and district officers of this department may be authorised to supply themselves with ink of suitable quality by purchase in the local market, the cost of it being adjusted in their periodical contingent bill for office contingencies.

No. 6995.

ul-conv
Transferred to the Financial Department, with reference to G.O., in that department, No. 554, dated 2nd May 1887.

FORT ST. GEORGE, (Signed) A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Brigr.-Genl.,
11th November 1887. Secretary to Govt., Mily. Dept.

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3. Secondly, in respect to the black ink powder, it has been tested and approved by the Chemical Examiner of Madras, who selected it from several sent to him for analysis, and if the fluid is prepared according to the directions of the manufacturer, which are labelled on each packet of the powder, it will be found to be of sufficiently good quality for all purposes. The ink with which this letter is written is prepared from this powder, which is used for both scriptory and account work with satisfactory results in this office, and I beg to send to Government for trial a quart of this ink prepared in my presence from the powder.

4. The Quartermaster-General complains that the color of the ink rapidly fades. In view to ascertain this, I examined the office records as far back as the date of the introduction of these powders into the office, and I find the color has not suffered, except only in cases where the paper itself has become discolored from age and exposure.

5. It seems to me that the cause of complaint does not lie in the powders, but in the mode of their preparation, this part of the work being left to the office moochees, who do not, I suspect, closely attend to the directions of the manufacturer, and who may possibly misappropriate the funds for the purchase of vinegar, which is the only ingredient mixed with the powders in preparing the ink.

6. The procedure of the Deputy Quartermaster-General in asking divisional officers to buy their own ink, and charge it to "Contingencies," is, I beg to observe, against the orders of Government.

7. In September last, the Executive Engineer, Nilgiris, complained of this black powder supplied to him, but when it was pointed out to him that the cause of complaint probably lay in the manner in which he prepared the ink, he subsequently reported that he was "glad to be able to say that it was sufficiently good for use."

8. If under these circumstances, the Government consider that there is still any necessity for procuring ink of better quality, I have the honor to submit a statement showing the cost of the ink in the past year, and what the probable cost of the same will be if other inks or powders are substituted.

9. The contract for the powders of black ink, now in use, lasts till end of March 1889.—*Vide* G.O., dated 21st January 1886, Mis. No. 66.

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(True Extract.)

N. E. Kohler
Chief Secretary.

To the Departments of the Secretariat.
„ Superintendent of Stationery.

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Gobt. of 1887 Madras.
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Encl.

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Bk 7948 10/1/88

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11th November 1887. Secretary to Govt., Mily. Dept.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., C.S., Superintendent of Stationery, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 30th November 1887, No. 1589.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement, dated 18th instant, referring to me, for remarks, letter (herewith returned) from the Quartermaster-General, No. 3212-B, dated 8th November 1887, complaining of the black and red ink powders supplied to his department by this office.

2. First, with reference to the complaint against the bad quality of the fuchsine powder. This powder is obtained from England through the Secretary of State for India, and is supplied to all public offices, the Secretariat included,—Blackwood's red

ink being supplied only to offices of account. This is the first complaint ever received by this office against this powder, and my own experience has shown it to be quite suitable for all ordinary office work.

3. Secondly, in respect to the black ink powder, it has been tested and approved by the Chemical Examiner of Madras, who selected it from several sent to him for analysis, and if the fluid is prepared according to the directions of the manufacturer, which are labelled on each packet of the powder, it will be found to be of sufficiently good quality for all purposes. The ink with which this letter is written is prepared from this powder, which is used for both scriptory and account work with satisfactory results in this office, and I beg to send to Government for trial a quart of this ink prepared in my presence from the powder.

4. The Quartermaster-General complains that the color of the ink rapidly fades. In view to ascertain this, I examined the office records as far back as the date of the introduction of these powders into the office, and I find the color has not suffered, except only in cases where the paper itself has become discolored from age and exposure.

5. It seems to me that the cause of complaint does not lie in the powders, but in the mode of their preparation, this part of the work being left to the office moochees, who do not, I suspect, closely attend to the directions of the manufacturer, and who may possibly misappropriate the funds for the purchase of vinegar, which is the only ingredient mixed with the powders in preparing the ink.

6. The procedure of the Deputy Quartermaster-General in asking divisional officers to buy their own ink, and charge it to "Contingencies," is, I beg to observe, against the orders of Government.

7. In September last, the Executive Engineer, Nilgiris, complained of this black powder supplied to him, but when it was pointed out to him that the cause of complaint probably lay in the manner in which he prepared the ink, he subsequently reported that he was "glad to be able to say that it was sufficiently good for use."

8. If under these circumstances, the Government consider that there is still any necessity for procuring ink of better quality, I have the honor to submit a statement showing the cost of the ink in the past year, and what the probable cost of the same will be if other inks or powders are substituted.

9. The contract for the powders of black ink, now in use, lasts till end of March 1889.—*Vide* G.O., dated 21st January 1886, Mis. No. 66.

ENCLOSURE.

Memorandum.

Quantity and description of Inks used in 1886-87.	Cost of the same.	Quantity and description of other Inks that may be substituted.	Cost.	Loss by substitution.
<i>Black Ink.</i>	RS.		RS.	RS.
3,467 dozen papers or 20,802 quarts of country ink and vinegar required for making the ink (Rs. 3,900).	5,164	(1) 20,802 quarts of Stephen's blue-black ink (English)	31,896	26,732
		(2) Aryan and Co.'s blue-black ink (Indian)	26,003	20,839
		(3) Chandabhai's do. (do.)	15,602	10,438
		(4) Hakim Abdul Karim's blue-black ink (Indn.)	13,624	8,460
		(5) Aryan do. (do.)	12,135	6,971
		(6) Stephen's black ink (English)	31,896	26,732
		(7) 3,467 dozen papers of English black ink powder as per latest invoice available in the office and the vinegar required, Rs. 3,900	6,780	1,616
<i>Red Ink.</i>				
2,002 oz. of red ink-powder or fuchsine or 18,012 quarts of red ink.	677	(1) 18,012 quarts of Blackwood's red ink as per latest invoice available in the office	12,179	11,502
		(2) Stephen's scarlet ink (English)	82,855	82,178
		(3) Chandabhai's scarlet ink (Indian)	13,509	12,832

ORDER—dated 9th December 1887, No. 1289, Financial.

The remarks of the Superintendent of Stationery will be communicated to the Military and other departments.

2. The Government are not prepared to sanction any change, and agree in considering that the ink is of very fair quality if properly made.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Departments of the Secretariat.
" Superintendent of Stationery.

Exd. A. Raitt.

Govt. of (1887) Madras.

FINANCIAL

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 9th December 1887, No. 1289.

DECEMBER.

Stationery.

Communicating to all Secretariat Departments letter from the Superintendent of — respecting the way in which inks are to be prepared from the black and red ink powders now supplied.

9TH DECEMBER 1887, No. 1289, FINANCIAL.

3

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