

(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 8

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 3-90

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் கருக்கொப்பம் 10/10

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

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துறை

அரசாணை எண்.
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.

81

அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் :

16.1.1893

1893

மடிக்கலோ கண்டயடி கையாளலோ கூடாது

ஆவண, ஈர-1-18,008-18-8-87.

ஆதித்யன்

15TH DECEMBER 1892, No. 2318, JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper:—

G.O., dated 30th August 1879, No. 2234, Judicial.

Read—the following paper:—

From Colonel S. H. E. CHAMIER, R.A., Officiating Deputy Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines (in charge Ordnance Office), to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 23rd August 1879, No. G. 205.

Adverting to Order of Government, No. 4318, dated 8th August 1879, communicating Proceedings of Government in the

* No. 1690, dated 19th July 1879. Judicial department, *sanctioning the levy of a fee of 4 pies per pound per mensem on all gunpowder stored in the Merchants' magazines, Madras, I have the honour to request that I may be informed whether the Ordnance department is to collect the fees ordered to be levied, and, if so, whether such fees are leviable from date of Order of Government, No. 1690, dated 19th July 1879, (Judicial department) only, or from and for April 1879, the first month for which a bill for supply of a police guard over the magazine has been submitted to this office.

2. Pending a reply to this communication, the Commissary of Ordnance, in charge Arsenal, Madras, has been directed to demand payment of fees from 1st April from any depositors who may apply to withdraw powder from the magazine.

No. 4693.

Transferred to the Judicial Department.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND,
25th August 1879.

(Signed)

J. MICHAEL, Colonel,
Secy. to Govt., Mil. Dept.

Order—dated 30th August 1879, No. 2234, Judicial.

The Ordnance department being in charge of the magazine and the powder, it is, in the opinion of His Grace the Governor in Council, the proper department to levy the fees.

2. The collection of the fees from the 1st April 1879 is approved and sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Military Department.

" Collector of Madras.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Accountant-General.

Read—also the following papers:—

From Lieut.-Colonel A. F. FLETCHER, R.A., Officiating Inspector-General of Ordnance, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, dated Fort St. George, 25th July 1892, No. 6475-O.

In forwarding letter No. 5758, dated 18th July 1892, and enclosures, from the Chief Engineer, Madras Command, Military Works, for the orders of Government and favour of return, I beg to explain that the fees recovered for the storage of gunpowder in the "Merchants' magazine" are, under instructions from the Accountant-General,

issued in connection with Judicial Department * G.O., No. 2234, dated 30th August 1879, paid into the Bank of Madras to the credit of the Civil department, Gant XVI,

"Police", Minor head "Police supplied to Public departments, private companies and persons."

2. It appears to me that as the Merchants' magazine has been used for upwards of 50 years for the storage of gunpowder belonging to private traders, the building should be treated as a ^{Civil} Provincial rather than a ^{Military} Imperial one, and it is suggested for consideration whether it should not be maintained by the Public Works Department and transferred from that of Military Works, more especially as it has hitherto been kept up from Provincial funds.

3. It will be observed that the rent, Rs. 30 per mensem, required by the Military Works department for upkeep is far in excess of the actual expenditure on the building; and as, apparently, from this sum only the cost of repairs would be met, any "Original" work in connection with the magazine would presumably have to be defrayed from Provincial funds, as, although the building is in charge of the Ordnance department, its use is not for ordnance purposes and, therefore, the charge for original works could not be debited to the grant for the maintenance of ordnance buildings at the disposal of the Director-General of Ordnance in India.

ENCLOSURES.

From the Chief Engineer, Madras Command, Military Works, to the Inspector-General of Ordnance, dated Ootacamund, 18th July 1892, No. 5758.

I have the honour to forward, herewith, the marginally-noted communications concerning the Merchants' magazine at Madras for your information and subsequent return to this office, and, in connection therewith, as pointed out by paragraph 2 of Quartermaster-General's Minute, No. 1334, I further request that you will take the necessary steps to obtain the sanction of the Government to a certain proportion of the money realized from the fees for storage of powder being set apart and credited to this department in order to meet the annual charges for upkeep of the building and rent †

† Rent Rs. 30 per mensem as calculated below as per paragraph 28, Public Works Department Code, Chapter XI. Capital cost Rs. 5,205.

	Rs.	P.
Interest at 4 per cent. on ..	5,205	203
Repairs at 3 " " on ..	5,205	156
Tools and plant at 10 per cent. on ..	156	15
	12)	372
		31
Say	30	

be set apart from the amount realized by the fees and handed over to this department to meet the charges incurred by it.

Further, as regards paragraph 1 of Quartermaster-General's Minute, at the date specified, 1886, the Military Works Department was not in existence in Madras Presidency, and the only fund from which expenditure on the building could have been met was the Provincial Public

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Works Department, the orders given then can hardly be taken to apply to the present case, when the buildings are now shown on the annual return of military buildings as in ordnance charge.

If the above proposals be approved of, rent should be paid for the magazine from the 1st of April last.

From the Executive Engineer, Madras Division, Military Works, to the Chief Engineer, Madras Command, Military Works, dated 4th June 1892, No. 3032.

In continuation of my No. 2588, dated 10th May 1892, I have the honour to forward the following information obtained concerning the Merchants' magazine, Madras.

From a report on powder magazines made by Colonels Cadell, R.A., and Campbell, R.A., to the Madras Government in August 1876, it appears that this magazine was formerly used to contain the powder for the guns which were mounted on works in the north-west part of Black Town and at the time of this report was under the immediate charge of the Commissary of Ordnance at Fort St. George, while a warrant officer of the Ordnance department residing at Veysarpady looked after it. All gunpowder landed at Madras for dealers was at once removed to the Merchants' magazine. As a rule the magazine was opened only twice a week to allow retail dealers, of whom in August 1876 there were 16 in Madras who had powder in deposit in it, to remove any quantities they might require to keep in their houses or shops, in which, under existing rules, they were not permitted to keep more than 50lb. or to despatch up country. A sepoy guard was stationed over this magazine, and a sentry constantly posted over it, while in its opening, closing and management all the rules laid down for military magazines were strictly observed. At the time of this report (August 1876), there were in the magazine in deposit by private dealers about 7,000lb. of gunpowder, but sometimes the amount in deposit was greater. The inspecting officers were informed by local dealers having the largest transactions in gunpowder that no inconvenience was felt in the trade by reason of the restrictions to which they were subjected under the then existing arrangements. An objection was raised to certain store-houses, the erection of which the municipality had sanctioned in the immediate vicinity of the magazine. This objection was referred to the President of the Municipal Commission in an order from the Madras Government, dated 7th January 1877, and these buildings do not appear to have been built.

A recommendation also was made in the report of August 1876 that the magazine should be surrounded by traverses to limit, as far as possible, the effect of an explosion. This recommendation was also referred to the municipality in the above mentioned order of 7th January 1877, and was again recommended by the Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines in a letter, dated 10th February 1877, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department. In this letter the Inspector-General states, from an ordnance point of view, surrounding the Merchants' magazine with earthen mounds is not of consequence, but as the mounds would probably save life in case of explosion of the magazine, it would be well that they should be made and they probably might be constructed in connection with the famine relief works. As the magazine is now surrounded by an earthen bank, I presume that these suggestions were carried out.

In July 1879 an order of Government directs the levying of a fee of 4 pies per pound per month on all powder stored in the Merchants' magazine with retrospective effect from 1st April 1879. This rate was objected to by the dealers, as it was no uncommon occurrence for them to keep gunpowder in the magazine for periods of one to three years, in which case the rent would so increase the cost as to render the powder unmerchable.

In reply to this objection, a Government order was issued in September 1879, in which it was directed that the former order should not be considered retrospective and the following scale of fees laid down with effect from 19th July 1879:—

Four pies per pound per mensem up to 50lb. and not exceeding Rs. 1-8-0 up to 100lb.

Eight annas for every additional 50lb. or part of 50lb.

The demand to be made monthly.

The above rates are apparently still in force, and in March 1892 nine merchants of Madras were storing gunpowder in the magazine and paying the rent to the Ordnance department by whom it is paid into the Bank of Madras to the credit of Government, Civil Department.

The rent realized for storage of gunpowder for the past three years is as under:—

	RS.	A.	P.
1889-90	1,332	12	8
1890-91	3,008	3	4
1891-92	3,051	0	0
Total	7,392	0	0

and the expenditure, as far as is known, as under:—

In 1889, four estimates for repairs were sanctioned for Rs. 28, Rs. 10, Rs. 26 and Rs. 4, respectively, or a total of Rs. 68.

In 1890-91 there was apparently no expenditure, and in 1891-92 municipal taxes to the extent of Rs. 277-0-8 were paid, making a total expenditure of Rs. 343 in the three years.

No. 2495-O, dated 16th May 1892, from the Inspector-General of Ordnance. Copies of the marginally-noted letters are also forwarded showing the opinion of the departments concerned.

No. 551, dated 19th May 1892, from the Commissioner of Police, Madras.

From the Chief Engineer, Madras Command, Military Works, to the Quartermaster-General, Madras Army, dated Ootacamund, 20th June 1892, No. 4958.

In forwarding, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the letter marginally noted relative to the Merchants' magazine at Madras, I have the honour to state, for the Commander-in-Chief's information, that it appears to me only equitable that if this department is to be held responsible for the maintenance of this building with its guard-room and latrine, a certain portion of the fees realized for the storage of explosives lodged in the magazine should be credited to Military Works Department for its upkeep after deducting the charges on account of the police guard.

2. Should His Excellency concur in this view, I would request that the necessary reference may be made to Government on the subject.

No. 1334-M.W.

Minute No. II.

The accompanying file of correspondence with this office between the years 1878-1880 is forwarded for your information and return. From the last two orders of Government in the file, it is apparent that Government has recognized that the cost of any additional buildings required, and, presumably, any repairs to the Merchants' magazine it may be found necessary to carry out, should be met from Provincial funds.

2. It is noted, however, that the building in question is shown in the return of military buildings as in ordnance charge, and as all matters connected with the construction and repair of ordnance buildings are now arranged in direct communication with that department and without the intervention of this office, it is suggested that, should it be considered desirable to address Government on this subject, such reference be made by the Inspector-General of Ordnance. Please return.

(By Order)

OOTACAMUND,
5th July 1892.

(Signed) E. H. EYRE, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Quartermaster-General.

To the Chief Engineer, Madras Command, Military Works.

No. 4780.

Transferred to the Judicial department with reference to orders of Government (Judicial), No. 1690 of 19th July 1879 and No. 2234 of 30th August 1879.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND,
1st August 1892.

(Signed) H. R. HOPE, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.

To the Judicial Department.

No. 5952.

OFFICE NOTE.

With reference to the Chief Secretary's office-note No. 1894, dated 30th August 1892, the undersigned has the honour to state that the following reply has been received from the Inspector-General of Ordnance:—

No part of the Merchants' magazine is required for the use of the ordnance, and the building, as a whole, may be handed over to the Public Works Department.

It is also suggested that arrangements be made for the receipt and issue of merchants' powder by the Commissioner of Police, who now issues certificates in connection therewith, and to whom receipts for moneys collected are forwarded. The present arrangement is convenient for this department.

OOTACAMUND,
22nd September 1892.

(Signed) H. R. HOPE, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

From Colonel H. W. H. COX, Commissioner of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 30th September 1892, No. 57.

In returning, herewith, the correspondence regarding the Merchants' magazine forwarded with your endorsement, dated 27th September 1892, No. 1533, I have the honour to state that, as the present arrangements for the receipt and issue of gunpowder from the magazine are declared to be convenient for the Ordnance department, and as the work cannot, without inconvenience, be undertaken by this department, it is not desirable that any change should be made.

2. The police officer upon whom the duty would devolve in the event of its being undertaken by the police is the Reserve and Store Inspector, who at present has quite as much work to do as he can properly perform and has not the technical knowledge possessed by the ordnance conductor at present in charge of the magazine.

No. 1583.

Transferred to the Military department.

(Signed) N. S. BRODIE,
Ag. Under-Secretary.

6th October 1892.

To the Military Department.

No. 6923.

OFFICE NOTE.

With reference to Judicial department No. 1583, dated 6th October 1892, the undersigned has the honour to forward the original endorsement from the Inspector-General of Ordnance, No. O-9522, dated 15th September 1892, from which it will be seen that that officer reports that the present arrangement as regards the receipt and issue of merchants' powder is inconvenient for his department.

2. In the Military department office-note No. 5952, dated 22nd September 1892, through a clerical error the word "convenient" was used instead of "inconvenient." This, it is requested, may now be pointed out to the Commissioner of Police and that officer asked to reconsider his letter No. 57, dated 30th September 1892.

3. As the receiving and issuing of merchants' powder is hardly the legitimate work of the Ordnance department, it is suggested that that department may be relieved of the duty.

OOTACAMUND,
1st November 1892.

(Signed) H. R. HOPE, Brigdr.-Genl.,
Secy. to Govt., Mily. Dept.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

From Colonel H. W. H. COX, Commissioner of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 10th November 1892, No. 63.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 1719, dated 5th November 1892, upon the office-note No. 6923, dated 1st idem, from the Secretary to Government, Military Department, I have the honour to inform you that I have little to add to my previous letter on the same subject.

2. Should Government decide to hand over charge of the Merchants' magazine to the Police department, the Reserve and Store Inspector is the person best qualified for the performance of the duties hitherto discharged by conductors of the Ordnance department, but, as I have already stated, he has no special qualification and the extra work will add to his expenses and his responsibilities, in consideration of which I recommend that he be granted conveyance allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem.

3. The papers forwarded with the endorsement under reference are herewith returned.

ORDER—dated 15th December 1892, No. 2318, Judicial.

The Ordnance department will accordingly be relieved of the duties in connection with the Merchants' magazine, which should, in future, be performed by the City Police. The Commissioner of Police will issue the necessary orders in the matter.

2. Colonel Cox's recommendation that the Reserve and Store Inspector should receive a conveyance allowance of Rs. 15 per mensem will be referred to the Accountant-General, who will be requested to report whether the average receipts from the fees charged for the use of the Merchants' magazine under the orders of Government noted in the margin are sufficient to cover the extra expenditure which this proposal involves.

G.O., dated 19th July 1879, No. 1690.

" " 30th Aug. " " 2231.

" " 19th Sept. " " 2428.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Commissioner of Police.
" Military Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. S. J. Pereira.

Gobt. of {1892} Madras.
JUDICIAL.

W. H. May 16 Aug 1893

Communicated to the
Consulting Architect
who will bring the
building on his list
of Provincial works
and arrange for its
future maintenance

(S) G.T.U.

G.O., 15th Dec. 1892, No. 2318.

DECEMBER.

Merchants' Magazine.

Directing, with remarks, that the Ordnance
department be relieved of the duties in connec-
tion with the — which should, in future, be per-
formed by the City Police.

To
Messrs. Architects & Co.
Military Department
Judicial Dept
Ex. & P. Accounts

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