

Public Works (1899) Department.

G.O., No.

2334 W

DATED 7^{5th} September 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

New Court House for the Dist. Judge,
Coimbatore - Proo. Incl. Sept. accepting the
recommendation of the High Court that a
new court house should be constructed for the
Dist. Judge of Coimbatore alone, while the existing
building may be occupied by the Dist. Municipality,
Comm'd to the S.E. IV Circle for submission of
the necessary plans & estimates.

From A. H. GARRETT, Esq., Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 9th March 1899, No. 134-W.

In reply to your No. 5444-C, dated 5th December 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the cost of the proposed improvements to the existing building would amount to Rs. 38,000, whilst the cost of a new combined court would be Rs. 81,000.

2. The value of the existing building is about Rs. 12,000 and that of the site about Rs. 1,500.

3. If a new court-house were built for the District Judge only, the cost should certainly not exceed Rs. 50,000, and a few thousand rupees spent on his present court would make it suitable for the use of the District Munsif.

4. I respectfully beg to adhere to the opinion I have already expressed regarding the danger of putting an upper story on the present building.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 1260, Judicial, dated 12th August 1898.

READ—also the following papers:—

Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

With reference to G.O., No. 2221 W., dated 31st August 1898, I inspected the District Court at Coimbatore on 15th October 1898, and carefully examined the roof, walls and foundations. A great deal of the roof timber has decayed, and it requires almost complete renewal. The walls and foundations are sound, except that the mortar in the walls of lower story is not as good as it ought to be. The building is, however, in my opinion, capable of carrying an upper story, and that being the case I consider it to be a waste of money, which is urgently needed elsewhere, to construct an entirely new building for the District Judge and District Munsif. I, therefore, recommend that estimates be prepared for putting an upper story upon the existing court-house, including a complete renewal of the existing roof, and of the plaster on the existing walls.

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Chief Engineer.

No. 4784-C.

Forwarded to the Judicial Department with reference to the proceedings in that department, No. 1260, dated 12th August 1898.

MADRAS,
3rd November 1898. (Signed) A. S. RUSSELL,
Under Secretary to Government.

No. 2510.

With reference to its endorsement, No. 4784-C, dated 3rd November 1898, the Public Works Department is requested to be so good as to state what, roughly, would be the cost of the proposed repairs, and what the cost of the new building.

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

16th November 1898.

From A. H. GARRETT, Esq., Superintending Engineer, IV Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 9th March 1899, No. 134-W.

In reply to your No. 5444-C, dated 5th December 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the cost of the proposed improvements to the existing building would amount to Rs. 38,000, whilst the cost of a new combined court would be Rs. 81,000.

2. The value of the existing building is about Rs. 12,000 and that of the site about Rs. 1,500.

3. If a new court-house were built for the District Judge only, the cost should certainly not exceed Rs. 50,000, and a few thousand rupees spent on his present court would make it suitable for the use of the District Munsif.

4. I respectfully beg to adhere to the opinion I have already expressed regarding the danger of putting an upper story on the present building.

No. 1512-C.

Forwarded to the Judicial Department with reference to Government Order in that department, No. 2510, dated 16th November 1898.

(Signed) A. W. SMART, Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

13th March 1899.

Letter from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, No. 970, Judicial, dated 6th April 1899, to the Honourable the Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature.

I am directed to invite attention to the correspondence ending with G.O., No. 1260, Judicial, dated 12th August 1898, on the subject of the construction of a new combined court-house for the District Judge and the District Munsif at Coimbatore.

2. The Chief Engineer has recently inspected the present building and has suggested to Government that it is capable of standing an upper story, and that with suitable additions and alterations it may be made to accommodate both the District Judge and the District Munsif. But from the previous correspondence on the subject it will be apparent that the professional opinion as to the safety of the present building has not been unanimous and it would therefore seem safer to accept the view that the building will not bear an upper story, rather than run the risk of wasting money and possibly endangering life. There are therefore two other alternatives, viz., either (1) to construct a new combined court-house, the cost of which will be about Rupees 81,000, or (2) to construct a new court-house for the District Judge alone at a cost of about Rs. 50,000, leaving the District Munsif in possession of the present building. One of the objections to the adoption of the latter course which has been put forward is that the nazarat and copyists' establishments of the two courts are now joint and that it would be convenient to keep them together. The Government is not aware if any great inconvenience or extra expense would be involved if they were separated. Before deciding therefore whether to spend Rs. 81,000 for a combined court-house or Rs. 50,000 for a court-house for the District Judge, His Excellency in Council will be glad if the Honourable the Judges will favour Government with their opinion as to whether the separation of the courts would cause such inconvenience or extra expense as to justify the acceptance by Government of the more costly proposal to build a new combined court-house.

From A. L. HANNAY, Esq., Registrar of the High Court of Judicature, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 19th July 1899, Dis. No. 1033.

With reference to your letter No. 970, dated 6th April 1899, on the subject of the construction of a new combined court-house for the District Judge and the District Munsif at Coimbatore, I am directed to forward a copy of letter No. 348, dated 12th June 1899 (with its enclosures), from the District Judge of Coimbatore, and to state that the Honourable the Judges accept the view of the District Judge that a combined court-house is not necessary and therefore recommend that a court-house may be constructed for the District Judge alone and that the existing building may be used by the District Munsif.

2. I am to state also that as the two courts will be only a quarter of a mile apart, the Honourable the Judges accept the District Judge's view that there is no need to separate the nazarat and copyists' establishments; but considering that the bulk of the copyist and process work will be contributed by the District Munsif, the High Court considers that those establishments should be located in the existing building which will be occupied by the District Munsif.

ENCLOSURES.

From G. T. MACKENZIE, Esq., District Judge, Coimbatore, to the Registrar, High Court, Madras, dated 12th June 1899, No. 348.

I have the honour to reply to your letter No. 1034, dated 20th April 1899, enclosing a copy of letter No. 970, dated 6th April 1899, from the Chief Secretary.

2. The present state of the question of new court-houses at Coimbatore is as follows. The District Judge and District Munsif occupied court-houses on one site, but in June 1898 the Public Works Department condemned the roof of the District Court-house as unsafe, and the District Judge has, therefore, for one year occupied a rented bungalow while the District Munsif remains in his own court-house. Government has now decided that it is necessary to build a new court-house, but, in order to decide whether this is to be a court-house for the District Judge alone or a combined court-house for both the District Judge and District Munsif, Government asks if separate court-houses will involve the separation of the process-serving and copying establishments and what would be the cost of such separation.

3. I have delayed my reply in order to give the local bar an opportunity of expressing an opinion. The Coimbatore Bar Association is unanimously of opinion that a combined court-house will tend to the convenience of the profession and of the public.

4. There is a very suitable site immediately south of the police parade ground. This site is only quarter of a mile from the old site, a five minutes walk. The distance is so short that I see no difficulty in the bar practising in both courts and I see no reason why the process-service and copying establishments be separated. For the past twelve months the District Court and the District Munsif's Court have been separated by a distance of more than half a mile and there has been little, if any, inconvenience. It is suggested that in sending records from one building to the other there is danger that the records may be tampered with, but I see little force in this suggestion. My own opinion, therefore, is that a combined court-house is not necessary and that there is no need to divide the process-serving and copyist establishments. A new court-house may be built for the Judge with accommodation for his records and for the combined process-serving and copyist establishments and the District Munsif may occupy the present buildings.

5. If the High Court differs from this view and is of opinion that buildings quarter of a mile apart necessitate separate process-serving and copyist establishments, the cost of separating the establishments will be very little as is shown in the statements annexed.

COMPARATIVE statement of the present and proposed divided Process Establishments.

Establishment	Present scale of the combined establishment for the District Court and the District Munsif's Court, Coimbatore.				Proposed scale of the divided establishments.				Decrease.	Increase.	13			
	Designation.		Pay.	No.	Designation.		Pay.	No.				Total of the two divided establishments.		
	No.	3	4		No.	6	7						9	10
1	2			4	5			7	8			12		
Processes establishment attached to the District Munsif's Court, Coimbatore.	1	Deputy Nazir	..	25 0 0	1	Deputy Nazir	..	25 0 0	1	Deputy Nazir	..	25 0 0	..	
	1	Process writer on Rs. 15	..	15 0 0	1	Process writer on Rs. 15	..	15 0 0	..	Process writers on Rs. 12 each	..	24 0 0	..	
	2	" " on " 12	..	24 0 0	..	" " on " 12	..	15 0 0	2	Amin on Rs. 15	..	24 0 0	..	
	2	Amin on Rs. 15	..	30 0 0	..	Amin on Rs. 15	..	15 0 0	1	Amin on " 12 each	..	15 0 0	..	
	6	" " on " 12	..	72 0 0	1	" " on " 12	..	12 0 0	5	Peons (1st grade) on Rs. 8 each.	..	60 0 0	..	
	9	Peons (1st grade) on Rs. 8	..	72 0 0	1	Peons (1st grade) on Rs. 8	..	24 0 0	16	Peons (2nd grade) " " 7	..	48 0 0	..	
	19	" (2nd grade) on " 7	..	138 0 0	3	" (2nd grade) on " 7	..	21 0 0	16	" (3rd grade) " " 6½	..	112 0 0	..	
	19	" (3rd grade) on " 6½	..	123 8 0	4	" (3rd grade) on " 6½	..	26 0 0	15	Total	..	97 8 0	..	
		Total	..	494 8 0		Total	..	138 0 0		Total	..	381 8 0	..	
													25 0 0	..

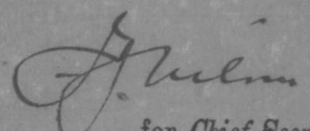
COMPARATIVE statement of the present and proposed divided Copyist Establishments.

Establishment.	Present scale of the central establishment for the District Court and the District Munsif's Court, Coimbatore.										Proposed scale of the divided establishments.										Decrease.		
	District Court, Coimbatore.					District Munsif's Court, Coimbatore.					Total of the two divided establishments.					Increase.							
	No.	Designation.	Pay.	No.	Designation.	Pay.	No.	Designation.	Pay.	No.	Designation.	Pay.	Total of the two divided establishments.										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13											
Central Cypist establishment, District Court, Coimbatore.	1	Superintendent	30 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	RS. A. P.	30 0 0									
	1	Examiner	20 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	RS. A. P.	20 0 0									
	1	Reader	15 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	RS. A. P.	15 0 0									
	10	Copyists	100 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	RS. A. P.	20 0 0									
	1	Attender	10 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	RS. A. P.	8 0 0									
Total ..			175 0 0			Total ..			115 0 0			Total ..			78 0 0			193 0 0			18 0 0		

ORDER—No. 1262, Judicial, dated 11th August 1899.

The High Court's recommendations contained in the last of the letters read above are accepted, and the Public Works Department will be requested to issue the further orders necessary in the matter.

(True Extract.)


for Chief Secretary.

To the Public Works Department. ✓
,, the Honourable the Chief Justice (with C.L.).