

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No.s. 678. 79

DATED 31- 5- 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

The Governor's Body Guard - The detachment at Oot.
Addressing the Govt. of India on the subject of the ad-
ditional ~~abnormal~~ expenditure involved by the move
to Ootacamund for six months of a detachment of
H.E. the Governor's Body Guard.

[Letter Abstract]

— Requesting reconsideration of the decision in re-
gard to the additional expenditure involved by the
move to Ootacamund for six months of a detach-
ment of H.E. the Governor's Body Guard; and forward-
ing a minute of dissent by the Hon'ble Mr. B. S. S.

24/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cus 3377	797						

Government (1897) of Madras. PUBLIC.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., &c., Nos. 678, 679, 31st May 1897.

MAY.

The Governor's Body Guard—The Detachment at Ootacamund.

Addressing the Government of India on the subject of the additional expenditure involved by the move to Ootacamund for six months of a detachment of His Excellency the Governor's Body Guard.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., Nos. 378, 379, Public, dated 5th April 1897.

READ—also the following papers:—

Telegram from the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 27th April 1897.

767 C. Your 231, 1st April. No objection move of detachment Body Guard Ootacamund, but Government India unable to sanction special concession asked for. Letter follows.

From Major-General P. J. MAITLAND, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 6th May 1897, No. 827 C.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 379, dated the 5th April 1897, submitting an estimate of the additional expenditure involved by the move to Ootacamund for six months of the current year of ten men and horses of the Body Guard of His Excellency the Governor.

2. With reference thereto, and in continuation of Military Department telegram, No. 767 C., dated the 27th April 1897, in which sanction was accorded to the move of the detachment in question, I am to observe that one duffadar and twelve sowars of the Body Guard of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay are taken by road annually to Mahableshwar, but that, besides grain and forage compensation at Mahableshwar rates, which is admissible under ordinary rules, no special concessions are allowed to these men while at that place. Under these circumstances, the Government of India regret that they are unable to sanction the special concessions asked for in favour of the detachment of the Body Guard of His Excellency the Governor of Madras proceeding to Ootacamund.

Copy of the above forwarded to—

The Controller of Military Accounts, Madras Command.
The Accountant-General, Military Department.

MINUTE.

The arguments used in the draft letter to the Government of India in regard to the move of a part of His Excellency the Governor's Body Guard to Ootacamund do not seem to me to be at all cogent. Mahableshwar is not, so far as I know, so large a station as Ootacamund, but I do not know on what grounds it is stated that it is not a hill station in the sense that Ootacamund is. So far as I am aware, the one is as much a hill station as the other. The draft implies that Ootacamund is visited by

"numbers of native chiefs." This is an error. I have known the place for many years, but in no season have I known more than three native chiefs visit it. There is, therefore, no occasion for ceremony at Ootacamund. Indeed, it was decided some time ago, when Lord Wenlock was Governor, that ceremony should, as far as possible, be avoided at Ootacamund and that official receptions should therefore not be accorded to any native chiefs, even though ruling ones. To that decision I was a party and to it I adhere. Holding, therefore, as I do, that to bring a part of His Excellency's Body Guard to Ootacamund is to import into life here an element of ceremony from which it is much better that the place should be kept free, I regret that I must adhere to my minute of March 29, and decline to join in recommending to the Government of India an expenditure which I not only consider unnecessary but which is for a purpose which I think undesirable.

OOTACAMUND,
May 25, 1897.

(Signed) H. W. BLISS.

ORDER—No. 678, Public, dated 31st May 1897.

The Government of India will be addressed.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

LETTER—to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, No. 679, Public, dated Ootacamund, 31st May 1897.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram, No. 767 C., of the 27th ultimo, and letter, No. 827 C., dated the 6th instant, stating that the Government of India is unable to sanction the additional expenditure involved by the move to Ootacamund for six months of a detachment of His Excellency the Governor's Body Guard. The reason assigned for this decision is that one duffadar and twelve sowars of the Body Guard of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay are taken by road annually to Mahableshwar, but that, besides grain and forage compensation at Mahableshwar rates, which is admissible under ordinary rules, no special concessions are granted to these men while at that place.

2. In reply, I am directed to point out that Mahableshwar is not a hill station in the sense that Ootacamund is. The stay of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay there is limited. Though easier of access, it is not visited by members of native chiefs; there is therefore no occasion for any ceremony, and entertainments are necessarily on a very small scale. It is not a recognized seat of Government, or the headquarters of one of the large military commands, as are Simla, Poona and Ootacamund.

A comparison with what is done at Simla would, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, appear to be more to the point, especially as the Body Guard of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay—unlike those of His Excellency the Governor-General of India and of His Excellency the Governor of Madras—is maintained on the silladári system.

3. I am, therefore, to urge the request of this Government that, for the reasons set forth in paragraph 2 *supra*, the Government of India will be pleased to reconsider its decision in the matter.

4. A minute of dissent by the Hon'ble Mr. Bliss is forwarded herewith.

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

Ed. C. M. Thumbuswamy.

Public (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 16 2/

Telegram

From

The Government of India,
Milly: Dept.

No. 787 e.

Dated

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies.

27
28 } 4-97
28

SUBJECT.

Stating that there is no objection to the move of the detachment of the Body Guard to Ootacamund and that the Govt. of India is unable to sanction the special concession.

Order
Submitted for
perusal. The "231" issued
to the telegram flagged A

c.w.
28/4/97

c.w.
3.5.97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[Pub.]
29
1,000-29-7-96.

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

From

The Govt. of India, Milly: Dept

For Orders

Submitted for
perusal and orders,
in continuation of
C. 1621 I.

No. 127 G

Dated

6

Received

13

May 1897

Registered

13

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

C.S.
13/5/97

I don't see
any objection to
for as shown,

It is a regular
bill station, though not
of the same attitude as
Ootacamund.

can hardly be called a hill station

or considered to have any of the

dependence of one as regards supplies

13/5/97

187797

Stating that the Govt. of India is unable to sanction the special concessions asked for in favour of the detachment of the Body Guard of H.E. the Governor of Madras proceeding to Ootacamund.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
80	378-75	..	5-4-97
	310	..	19-3-97
papers marked on it			
✓	294	Indy	31-12-97
	6851	Indy	15-10-88
	5698	..	26-8-88

3332 .. 15-6-85
1828 .. 8-4-85
FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[G.]
[25.]
500 .. -5-95.

move of a detachment of H. E.
the Governor's Body Guard to Botocampo

C. Nos 1621 27824 of 97

H. E. the Governor

FOR ORDERS.

Hon W. J. Prose C. R.

minutes of the
Honble W. J. Prose

Resubmitted with
reference to the minute
by the Honble W. J. Prose.
If the Gov. does not minute on the
It is proposed
to add a fourth
para. to the draft
letter.

"A minute of dissent
"by the Honble W. J. Prose
"is forwarded herewith."

Cov.
25/5/97

25/5/97

HON'BLE MEMBER.

1815797

I believe that Inhableskwan is not a hill station in the sense; that Ooty is. #9. the Governor of Bombay's stay there is limited. Though easier of access it is not visited by numbers of Native Chiefs; there is no occasion for any ceremony, or any entertainments are necessarily on a very small scale. It is not a recognized seat of Government, or the Head Quarters of one of the large Military Commands, as are Simla Poona & Ooty.

A comparison with what is done at Simla would appear to be more to the point, especially, as the Body Guard of H.E. the Governor of Bombay, (unlike those of H.E. the Governor-General & of your Excellency) is maintained on the Silladani system.

15.5.97
F. Pimilly Major
Military Secretary.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Again G.Os, dated 5th April 1897, Nos 378/9 Public

Current No. 1621 of 1897, dated 27/4, from The Govt of India, Milly Dept

" " 1824 " 1897, " 6/5, " " "

" " " 189 , " , " "

1. H. E. the Governor.

(matter not routine)

ORDER.

W.P. 678 & 31st May 97

2. Hon Mr. H. W. Bliss C. J. E.

A

(as dissenting member)

The Govt of India will be
addressed. 1 from orders/C.W.
20/5/97

Letter-2 W.P. 679 & 31st May 97

The Secy to the Govt of India
Milly Dept

Minute

The arguments used in the draft letter to the Govt of India in regard to the move of a part of H. E. the Governor's Body Guard to Ootacamund do not seem to me to be at all cogent. Mahableshwar is not, so far as I know, so large a station as Ootacamund, but I don't know on what grounds it is stated that it is not a hill station in the sense that Ootacamund is. So far as I am ~~opposed~~ aware, the move is

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram N° 767 C of the 27 ultimo, and letter N° 827 C dated the 6th instant, stating that the Govt of India is unable to sanction the additional expenditure involved by the move to Ootacamund for six months.

a detachment of H. E. the Governor's Body Guard. The reason assigned for this decision is that one duffadar and 12 sowars of the Body Guard of H. E. the Governor of Bombay are taken by road annually to Mahabaleshwar, but that, besides grain and forage compensation at Mahabaleshwar rates, which is admissible under ordinary rules, no special concessions are granted these men while at that place.

2. In reply I am directed to point out that Mahabaleshwar is not a hill station in the sense that Ootacamund is. The stay of H. E. the Governor of Bombay there is limited. Though easier of access, it is not visited by numbers of native chiefs.

Mumbarhill Station as the other. The draft implies that Ootacamund is visited by "numbers of native chiefs". This is an error. I have known the place for many years ~~but in the past~~ ^{but in the past} no season have I known more than three native chiefs visit it. There is therefore no occasion for ceremony at Ootacamund. Indeed, it was decided some time ago, when Lord Wauchope was Governor, that ceremony should as far as possible be avoided at Ootacamund and that official receptions should therefore not be accorded to any native chiefs, even though entrapment. To that decision I was a party and to it I adhere. Holding, therefore, as I do, that to bring a part of H. E. the Governor's Body Guard to Ootacamund is to import into life here an element of ceremony from which it is much better that the place should be kept free, I regret that I must have been minute of March 29 and decline to join in recommending to the Govt. of India an expenditure which ~~is not only unnecessary~~ ^{is not only unnecessary} but which is ~~unnecessary~~ ^{in a purpose} which I think undesirable.

H. W. Smith

May 25, 1897

there is therefore no occasion for any ceremony, and entertainments are necessarily on a very small scale. It is not a recognized seat of foot, or the Headquarters of one of the large Military Commands, as are Simla, Poona and Ootacamund.

A comparison with what is done at Simla would, in the opinion of H. E. the Governor in Council, appear to be more to the point, especially as the Body Guard of H. E. the Governor of Bombay — unlike those of H. E. the Governor General of India and of H. E. the Governor of Madras — is maintained on the Silladar system.

3. I am therefore to urge the earnest

of this foot that,
for the reasons set
forth ^{in para 2 supra} above, the
foot of India will
be pleased to
reconsider its
decision in the
matter

CW.
20/5/97

20/5/97

Announcement of decision
by the British War Office

first copy sent to Press.

Return of signature.

Despatched in print.

P. at 6/97

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
189

DATE

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPER NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DEBATE
IN ORIGINAL.

1800/97

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- B = Not to be printed.
- P = Print abstract only.
- Q = Print heading only.

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