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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rec. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 263
B.P. No.

Press
Mis.

Dated 30.10.1963

196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Stationery Department.

ORDNANCE OFFICE:

Fort Saint George,

29th Sept 1873.

From:

Colonel A. Stewart, R.A.

Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government

Sir,

I have the honor to advise the following remarks of the Superintendent of Stationery, Fort Saint George, for submission to and consideration and orders of Government, with reference to Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, relative to the Supply to Collectors of Sealing Wax for Cash, Chits, and Money bags.

The Madras Government, upon the recommendation in the Report of the Commission for investigating public Establishments, regarding the Stationery Office, directed in the order in their Proceedings, that enquires be made regarding the local purchase of Stationery articles, and for all Officers, who were heretofore purchasing them locally, to forward a sample of each article to your Office, with their average prices.

2nd

The result of the above enquiry was the issue of Government order, prohibiting Stationery articles being purchased locally, and directing that the supplies should be obtained hereafter, by open contract from the Stationery Office only.

1st No. 5672 dated 5th Sept 1873 of Government, with reference to Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, relative to the Supply to Collectors of Sealing Wax for Cash, Chits, and Money bags.

1st No. 1577 of 28 Nov 1861

1st No. 1295 dated 8 Nov 1862.

3.rd

From the very introduction of this change of system, which effectually closed the door against the abuses mentioned in paras. 25 and 26 of the Commissioner's Report, there have been complaints of the inferiority of Articles supplied from this Office, which were heretofore purchased locally; and there were also endeavours to revert to the old system of Departmental purchases locally, - but this open Manipulation was confined to the Revenue Departments.

4.th

As regards the sealing Wax, it was all along admitted that a better article could be obtained from the Market, at a larger cost, but that it was doubtful whether the Stationery Department would be justified to issue a more expensive article, as a public charge, when the cheapest description answers equally as well all the public purposes for which it is required, and is also equal in quality to the sample furnished to this Office, for supplies to Public Departments. The article issued was fully equal to that which was specially approved of by the Revenue Board, on the 3rd June 1864. The unfavorable opinion expressed, as regards the supply of this article, was brought specially to the Notice of Government, and no authority was given for the expensive article to be issued from this Office.

The sealing Wax complained against, I must add, is very largely used in this Office, and there has been no difficulty, at any time, to seal the Brough parcels despatched from this Office almost daily. - In

1d,
Proceedings of Govt. No. 731 of
26th June 1872

In no single instance was there any complaint of parcel seals received broken; nor any parcel returned by the Postal Authorities, on account of defective sealing. - The suitability, or otherwise, of the Article for sealing Cash cheques and Money bags, must depend upon the description and quality of the Article, to which the seals are affixed. It however seems questionable whether a superior expensive Article should be used for such ordinary purposes, when all that appears necessary is for some adherent matter to receive impression for detective purposes. - The difficulties which this Office has to contend against, as regards supplies, will be understood when such contrary opinions are given in the same Article, as are recorded by the Revenue Board and Collectors; and to the present suggestion of the Revenue Board, after intimation of their approval of the article obtained by Contract for the current year, recorded in their Proceedings.

No. 3396 of 5th June 1873

5.th

As regards supplies from this Office, the Stationery Department has no alternative but to act implicitly in accordance with instructions issued by Government, for its guidance; and if Wax of a better quality was actually needed, the remedy was with the Revenue Board, simply to conform to the Order of Government to furnish a sample of the Article wanted.

51

Revenue Dep. art. No. 157
of 28th January 1863

6.th

A sample article has not yet been furnished to the Stationery Office, although efforts were made, without success, to obtain this for years past, before inviting Tenders for the supply by open Contract.

H

3 It was as far back as in 1869, that the Revenue Board
 "if we asked for information whether sealing Wax is readily
 "obtainable in the Bellary District, and at what rate; -
 "and for a sample of the article itself to be sent to this office.
 "Again, on the 6th January 1871, the Board were informed
 "that this office was still open to any suggestion which the
 "Revenue Board, from their experience, considered would
 "be advantageous to Government, so as not to repeat the
 "doe to the irregularities brought to notice by the Commission,
 "in his Report also referred to.

"Again, on the 25th January 1872, before accepting
 "tenders to supply sealing Wax by Contract for 1872-73,
 "six samples of this article were sent to the Revenue Board
 "Office, to select therefrom the sample which they
 "considered best suited for the Revenue Department -
 "but even here, no approved sample was received from
 "the Board, upto 12th March following, the date advertised
 "for opening the Tenders."

"Again, on 27th March 1873, the Revenue Board
 "were informed that the sealing Wax supplied to the
 "Collectorates, was the same in quality and from the
 "same stock as the article issued to their office and
 "other public Departments; and that it would be
 "satisfactory to the Stationery Department to be furnished
 "with a sample of the article which the Board, in
 "their opinion, considered best suited for the requirements
 "of the Revenue Department, so as to remove all doubt
 "as regards the quality and description to be supplied.
 "This

"This sample article has not yet reached this office."

"There has not been wanting, for several
 "years past, a wish to revert to the old system of local
 "purchases, by the several Departments; and this procedure
 "itself would not, in my opinion, be objectionable, if it
 "can be guaranteed that the cost will not hereafter
 "greatly exceed the present favorable rates at
 "which it is purchased, or for any inferior article
 "being substituted, for one of better description contracted
 "for."

"The remedy that suggests itself against
 "these abuses would be, that wherever this and other
 "articles are manufactured locally, in any public
 "institution, such as jails, &c., that these articles
 "be obtained from these Institutions, instead of
 "Public Departments competing against one
 "another, for their purchase in the market."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant.

Alepheswamy, Coll. R.A.
 Inspector, Central Ordnance and
 Magazines.

E. J. H. C.

Wile 40.3737 from the
offshore high ground
20 km / 73'

MA-2910

Andrew
Chief Secretary

Michigan Department.

Kingman

Secretary 1873 & forth:

Recd
1834/10

from ~~10/1/72~~

*The Spectator General
of common Paragons*

To
The Superintendent of
Prisons

Dated 29th September 1893

Number 14 & 15.

[Handwritten signature]

10203-30 & 473

Increases the smoothness of the

Eight: Stationary for last

George for his mediation to our

Could not find it

relative to the supply of labor

offering my profa

and money bag:-

10

2

Neunfernd

№ 203.

1. ~~Sum~~ 1. to the Board of Revenue who showed. me no time in supplies. The Dept of Stamping with a sample of the country were required by Govt for making cork chests and bags.

2. The English Lending were supplied by the State? Sept is very inferior, and the Sept remains in the subject are visited

I found it quite
unpleasant to use it

MS. 30 6473
210 Nov 71

B² of Red. banded 10 Nov. 73
 on p. 9. (10) + 1000000 - 6 Nov.