M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 10

(2) Date of repair 5-7-1966

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	307	Press
B.P. No.		~~Mis.~~
Dated	4-3-	1874 ~~196~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following :—

No. 62. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th December 1873, No. 2,552.

Read the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 17th November 1873, No. 472 :—

IT having come to my notice that the Sayer gates at the different stations were closed at night-fall, and all traffic, except passengers, detained till the following morning, I ordered the practice to cease, and directed that goods were to be examined by night as well as by day, and allowed to pass with the least possible delay. In this country, as the Board are aware, advantage is taken of the cool nights to convey the bulk of the traffic, and this being the case the detention of goods for the best part of twelve hours was a manifest hardship.

2. After an experience of some two or three months, the Superintendent of Police applies for an augmentation of the Land Customs Police force to the extent noted in the accompanying Statement, involving an extra cost to the State of Rupees 1,482 per annum, to enable him to provide for the enhanced duties entailed by the night search. In this application he is supported by the Head Assistant Collector whose letter* is enclosed, and I beg to record my opinion that the increase applied for is actually necessary. Efficiency cannot be expected when men are on duty day and night. The Superintendent of Police has done his best to manage with the limited number at his disposal, but experience in the working of the new arrangement has shown that the men are over-tasked.

*Dated 7th November 1873, No. 176.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. KOUGH, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, dated Tindevanum, 7th November 1873, No. 176.

HAVING been in communication with the Superintendent of Police regarding the efficiency of the present staff employed in the Land Customs Department for the discharge of night-duty, I have the honour to forward a statement showing the increase which that officer considers necessary to meet the recent orders to search vehicles and travellers at the gates by night.

2. I am aware that Government have more than once declined to sanction any increase in the Police strength allotted to this service, but I base my present application for favourable consideration on this ground, that however proper the present system is, and however much in accordance with the intention of the legislature, it never entered into the calculation of requirements submitted originally, and *ipso facto* we are now short-handed.

3. May I venture to express a hope that you will submit the application for increase with your favourable recommendation.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Statement.

—	4th Grade Head Constables.	Constables.	Total Cost.
Reddy's Chavady	1	3	Rupees 1,482 per annum.
Mortandy	1	3	
Vuldavoor	0	2	
Kundamungalum.... ...	0	2	
Tooknampakum	0	2	
Cotacooppum...	0	2	
Total...	2	14	

(Signed) T. H. B. YOUNG, Captain,
Superintendent of Police.

THE altered practice contravenes the spirit of Section 13, Act VI. of 1844, and should at once be stopped.

2. In any case, the Collector, knowing that the alteration would involve an increase of work, and therefore, in all probability, require an increase of establishment, should have obtained the sanction of the Board previously.

No. 63. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th February 1874, No. 291.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 12th December 1873, No. 2,552.

Read also the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tindivanam, 27th December 1873, No. 529:—

I HAVE communicated the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th instant, No. 2,552, to the Head Assistant Collector in charge of the Sayer Department for his information and guidance, and in future all traffic outward and inward will be detained at the frontier stations from sunset to sunrise and for such time afterwards as may be necessary, for the examination and assessment of duty on the goods which have arrived during the night.

2. I do not think the Board can be aware of the extent of the inconvenience to which the public is subjected by this detention of goods during the night. It is not only the local trade between Pondicherry and the adjacent English towns and villages which is affected by it, but the whole of the through traffic between Madras and the Southern districts, which, having to pass through French territory, is similarly detained at the frontier. The consequence is that in the morning the roads on the main lines are regularly blocked with vehicles which have assembled during the night, whilst those which arrive after sunrise have to wait until those which have preceded them have been searched.

3. The Board speak of the system of searching by night as "the altered practice." I beg to point out that this is a mis-apprehension. Previous to 1868

or 1869 (the office is closed for the holidays; and I have not the records to refer to) goods were examined by night as well as by day, when the Assistant Collector Mr. Gribble, who was in immediate charge of the Sayer Department, issued an order for the closing of the gates at night. This order involving as it did great hardship to the public and not being, in my opinion, warranted by law, I felt myself justified in abrogating. I would here respectfully submit that Section 13 of Act VI. of 1844, which had not escaped my notice, can scarcely bear the interpretation put on it in the Proceedings under reply. It has clearly reference to advantage being taken of the darkness to pass goods over the frontier *without examination*.

4. I leave it to the Board to decide whether the matter should not be submitted for the orders of Government. The revenue from Land Customs has largely increased of late years, although owing to a general depression of trade it has fallen off slightly during 1873, and I humbly submit that it should be collected with as little inconvenience to the public as possible. To do this an adequate establishment must be maintained. Another reason why I am opposed to the system of closing the gates at night is that it opens a door to the Sayer officials to levy unauthorized fees which those who are able to afford it would willingly pay to avoid detention for twelve hours or more.

THE Board have no doubt on the subject themselves, but as the Collector wishes it and feels strongly on the subject his letter will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The question is whether goods should be allowed to pass the Pondicherry frontier between sunset and sunrise.

3. Section 13, Act VI. of 1844, provides that goods which may be passed or which an attempt may be made to pass across any frontier guarded by chokees between sunset and sunrise, or in a clandestine manner, shall be seized and confiscated. The Collector considers that this "has clearly reference to advantage being taken of the darkness to pass goods over the frontier *without examination*." The Board are of a contrary opinion. The section could not mean what the Collector thinks it means unless the word "or" between "sunrise" and "in a clandestine manner" were expunged. Moreover, the Board believe that the practice of closing Customs gates at night against everything but passengers and their baggage is universal.

4. The Collector dwells on the inconvenience caused by stopping carts at night, and this no doubt is very great, but it is less than he supposes. Passengers with baggage are allowed to pass, and very little of the traffic between Madras and the Southern districts goes *viâ* Pondicherry. There are alternative lines of road by which goods going to Cuddalore from Tindivanum and *vice versâ* can be taken if it is an object to avoid a night's stoppage at the Pondicherry frontier.

5. Mr. Sullivan has asked for an increase in the Frontier Police on account of the gates being open at night. The Board think an increase in the Police Force alone will not be sufficient. It cannot be expected that the Customs officers or the batta peons will do their work properly if the same men are required to do duty by night as well as day.

6. Mr. Sullivan fears that the closing of the gates at night gives the Sayer officials opportunities of levying unauthorized fees. The Board think that such unauthorized fees are much more likely to be exacted if the goods are examined by night, than if the examination is postponed till day-light.

7. It would obviously be most convenient to the public if the Customs cordon could be done away with altogether, but whilst it is maintained the Board are of opinion that all night traffic (except passengers) must be stopped.

No. 64. ORDER THEREON, 4th March 1874, No. 307.

Separate Revenue, No. 4.
Customs.

THE Government concur with the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Original

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE.

Dated March 4th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 4th March 1874, No. 307.

MARCH.

Nos. 62—64.

Sayer Stations on Pondicherry frontier.—
onours with Revenue Board that goods should
ot be allowed to pass the — during the night.

307
4

Read the following:—

No. 2,552.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th December 1873.

Read the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 17th November 1873, No. 472:—

It having come to my notice that the Sayer gates at the different stations were closed at night-fall, and all traffic, except passengers, detained till the following morning, I ordered the practice to cease, and directed that goods were to be examined by night as well as by day, and allowed to pass with the least possible delay. In this country, as the Board are aware, advantage is taken of the cool nights to convey the bulk of the traffic, and this being the case, the detention of goods for the best part of twelve hours was a manifest hardship.

2. After an experience of some two or three months, the Superintendent of Police applies for an augmentation of the Land Customs Police force to the extent noted in the accompanying Statement, involving an extra cost to the State of Rupees 1,482, per annum, to enable him to provide for the enhanced duties entailed by the night search. In this application he is supported by the Head-Assistant Collector whose letter* is enclosed, and I beg to record my opinion that the increase applied for is actually necessary. Efficiency cannot be expected when men are on duty day and night. The Superintendent of Police has done his best to manage with the limited number at his disposal, but experience in the working of the new arrangement has shown that the men are over-tasked.

* Dated 7th November 1873, No. 176.

Enclosure No. 1.

From C. KOUGH, Esq., Acting Head-Assistant Collector, to H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, dated Tindevanum, 7th November 1873, No. 176.

Having been in communication with the Superintendent of Police, regarding the efficiency of the present staff employed in the Land Customs Department for the discharge of night duty, I have the honour to forward a Statement, showing the increase which that officer considers necessary to meet the recent orders to search vehicles and travellers at the gates by night.

2. I am aware that Government have more than once declined to sanction any increase in the Police strength allotted to this service, but I base my present application for favourable consideration on this ground, that, however proper the present system is, and however much in accordance with the intention of the legislature, it never entered into the calculation of requirements submitted originally, and *ipso facto* we are now short-handed.

3. May I venture to express a hope that you will submit the application for increase with your favourable recommendation.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Statement.

—	4th Grade Head Constables.	Constables.	Total cost.
Reddy's Chavady	1	3	Rupees 1,482 per annum.
Mortandy	1	3	
Vuldavoor	0	2	
Kandamungalum	0	2	
Tooknampakum	0	2	
Cotacooppum	0	2	
Total ...	2	14	

(Signed) T. H. B. YOUNG, Captain,
Superintendent of Police.

THE altered practice contravenes the spirit of Section 13, Act VI. of 1844 and should at once be stopped.

2. In any case, the Collector, knowing that the alteration would involve an increase of work, and therefore in all probability require an increase of establishment, should have obtained the sanction of the Board previously.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 12TH DECEMBER 1873, No. 2,552.

Encl.

Received

DECEMBER.
No. 2,552.

Sayer Stations—of South Arcot District,—
Recently introduced practice of having gates at
— open during night, and goods examined by
night as well as by day, to be stopped at once.

No. 291.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th February 1874.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 12th December 1873, No. 2,552.

Read also the following letter from H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tindivanam, 27th December 1873, No. 529:—

I HAVE communicated the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th instant, No. 2,552, to the Head Assistant Collector in charge of the Sayer Department for his information and guidance, and in future all traffic outward and inward will be detained at the frontier stations from sunset to sunrise and for such time afterwards as may be necessary, for the examination and assessment of duty on the goods which have arrived during the night.

2. I do not think the Board can be aware of the extent of the inconvenience to which the public is subjected by this detention of goods during the night. It is not only the local trade between Pondicherry and the adjacent English towns and villages which is affected by it, but the whole of the through traffic between Madras and the Southern districts, which, having to pass through French territory, is similarly detained at the frontier. The consequence is that in the morning the roads on the main lines are regularly blocked with vehicles which have assembled during the night, whilst those which arrive after sunrise have to wait until those which have preceded them have been searched.

3. The Board speak of the system of searching by night as "the altered practice." I beg to point out that this is a mis-apprehension. Previous to 1868 or 1869 (the office is closed for the holidays; and I have not the records to refer to) goods were examined by night as well as by day, when the Assistant Collector Mr. Gribble, who was in immediate charge of the Sayer Department, issued an order for the closing of the gates at night. This order involving as it did great hardship to the public and not being, in my opinion, warranted by law, I felt myself justified in abrogating. I would here respectfully submit that Section 13 of Act VI. of 1844, which had not escaped my notice, can scarcely bear the interpretation put on it in the Proceedings under reply. It has clearly reference to advantage being taken of the darkness to pass goods over the frontier *without examination.*

4. I leave it to the Board to decide whether the matter should not be submitted for the orders of Government. The revenue from Land Customs has largely increased of late years, although owing to a general depression of trade it has fallen off slightly during 1873, and I humbly submit that it should be collected with as little inconvenience to the public as possible. To do this an adequate establishment must be maintained. Another reason why I am opposed to the system of closing the gates at night is that it opens a door to the Sayer officials to levy unauthorized fees which those who are able to afford it would willingly pay to avoid detention for twelve hours or more.

THE Board have no doubt on the subject themselves, but as the Collector wishes it and feels strongly on the subject his letter will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The question is whether goods should be allowed to pass the Pondicherry frontier between sunset and sunrise.

3. Section 13, Act VI. of 1844, provides that goods which may be passed or which an attempt may be made to pass across any frontier guarded by chokees between sunset and sunrise, or in a clandestine manner, shall be seized and confiscated. The Collector considers that this "has clearly reference to advantage being taken of the darkness to pass goods over the frontier *without examination*." The Board are of a contrary opinion. The section could not mean what the Collector thinks it means unless the word "or" between "sunrise" and "in a clandestine manner" were expunged. Moreover, the Board believe that the practice of closing Customs gates at night against everything but passengers and their baggage is universal.

4. The Collector dwells on the inconvenience caused by stopping carts at night, and this no doubt is very great, but it is less than he supposes. Passengers with baggage are allowed to pass, and very little of the traffic between Madras and the Southern districts goes *viâ* Pondicherry. There are alternative lines of road by which goods going to Cuddalore from Tindivanum and *vice versâ* can be taken if it is an object to avoid a night's stoppage at the Pondicherry frontier.

5. Mr. Sullivan has asked for an increase in the Frontier Police on account of the gates being open at night. The Board think an increase in the Police Force alone will not be sufficient. It cannot be expected that the Customs officers or the batta peons will do their work properly if the same men are required to do duty by night as well as day.

6. Mr. Sullivan fears that the closing of the gates at night gives the Sayer officials opportunities of levying unauthorized fees. The Board think that such unauthorized fees are much more likely to be exacted if the goods are examined by night, than if the examination is postponed till day-light.

7. It would obviously be most convenient to the public if the Customs cordon could be done away with altogether, but whilst it is maintained the Board are of opinion that all night traffic (except passengers) must be stopped.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J Grote
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Board's Proceedings, dated 12th December 1873, No. 2,552.
,, the Acting Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. W. H. French.

146 B.d of Rev. dep. 5. 3. 74

Received 17 Feb 1874.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 11TH FEBRUARY 1874, No. 291.

Encl. 1

FEBRUARY.
No. 291.

Sayer Stations—on Pondicherry frontier.—Question under discussion between Collector of South Arcot and Board and decided in negative by latter, as to whether goods should be allowed to pass — between sunset and sunrise, submitted for orders of Government.