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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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

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Press
Mis.

Dated

14-1-1968 196 .

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BADGES FOR GOVERNMENT PEONS.

No. 12. Read again the following papers :—

Proceedings of Government, Judl. Dept., dated 23rd July 1874, No. 1351.

" of " " " 15th October 1874, No. 1923.

Read also the following letter from H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 25th November 1874, No. 3394 :—

I am directed to submit, for the approval of Government, a Draft Standing Order which the Board propose to issue for regulating the supply of peons' belts and badges.

2. In submitting their recommendations as to the description of belts and badges to be worn by peons under date 5th January 1872, the Board suggested the addition of the Royal Arms embossed separately in *silver* or brass above the badge, the fact that Government in their Proceedings of the 25th August 1859, Revenue Department, No. 1134, prohibited the supply of new silver badges or the renewal of old ones thenceforth having been overlooked. In their recent Order of 23rd July last, No. 1351, the Government approved the Board's recommendations. As the use appears to have been sanctioned by an oversight, the Board deem it necessary to seek the approval of Government before issuing a Standing Order, in which the use of silver for badges and plates with the Royal Arms embossed is recognised. The Board believe that Duffadars and the Deloyets of Collectors and Divisional Officers are already supplied with silver badges throughout the country; the badges are likely to last for years to come, and the Board would not abolish a distinction which has existed for so many years and to which they believe the wearers and the people attach considerable importance. They propose, therefore, to leave the silver badges untouched, and to supply the Royal Arms embossed in that metal to all wearers of silver badges.

3. I am also directed to forward, for the inspection of Government, a specimen plate with Royal Arms embossed executed in the Public Works Department of Workshops. The cost in brass is stated to be Rupees 2½, and in silver Rupees 8.

		RS.	
700 silver plates, at Rupees 8	...	5,600	
4,500 brass " at " 2½	...	11,250	
Total		16,850	

Of the former some 4,500, and of the latter about 700, will be required for the Revenue Department; the total cost of supplying the Royal Arms alone amounting to Rupees 16,850 at the above rates. The Board believe that the plates could be supplied from England at far cheaper rates, and when the number of peons to be furnished therewith in the other Departments of the Government Service is taken into account, even a small reduction in the rates will make a considerable difference in the total cost. They would suggest, therefore, for the consideration of Government, the advisability of obtaining the supply from England.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th January 1875.*

No. 13. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1875, No. 15.

In their Order, dated the 20th January 1871, No. 84, Judicial Department, the Government resolved, in order to prevent peons in private employ passing themselves off as, or being mistaken for public servants, to direct the Board of Revenue to prepare and submit in communication with the Advocate-General, for publication in the Official Gazette, an order prescribing that all belts worn by Government peons shall be of scarlet color, and bear a badge having the Royal Arms embossed or engraved thereon; so that after the proclamation of such order, any person wearing the garb of a Government peon would be liable to prosecution and punishment under Section 171 of the Penal Code. The late Acting Advocate-General, however, gave it as his opinion that the Government could not, by any mere proclamation, monopolize to themselves the use of any particular color for their peons' belts, so long as the general appearance of belts used by private individuals for servants in their employ was unlike that of the belts worn by Government peons. He further pointed out the difficulty that would arise in every case of prosecution to prove, as a fact, the intention or knowledge required by the Section, which provides that punishment shall follow if the person wearing the garb or token denoting a public servant, does so with the *intention* that it might be believed, or the *knowledge* that it was likely to be believed, that he belonged to that class of public servants.

2. On a reconsideration of the question, the Government resolve to recall their orders of the 23rd July 1874, by which they directed that scarlet alone shall be the color of all cloth belts to be worn by their peons. It is understood that at present each Department has a distinctive color of its own for the belts of its peons, as for example blue for the Revenue, buff for the Judicial, and green for the Public Works Department. The adoption of a distinctive color appears to be rather an advantage than otherwise, for where a man's badge may not be readily discernible, the color of his belt will at once betoken his Department. The Government accordingly request the Board of Revenue to arrange with all heads of other Departments for the adoption of a distinctive color for the belts of their peons, and to report the arrangement that has been come to.

3. The orders in respect to the choice of patterns of badges will hold good, *viz*, that the patterns shall be those prescribed in the Revenue Board's Circular Order, dated 28th November 1859; but the Government see no objection, on the recommendation now made by the Board, to the retention of the silver badges at present worn by duffadars and peons of a superior class attached to officers of a certain rank in the service. On the selection of pattern of badge and color of cloth for each Department being approved by Government, orders will thereupon be issued that the prescribed arrangement shall be rigidly adhered to.

4. The affixing of the Queen's Arms to badges worn by Government peons is highly desirable. It will be a distinctive mark to denote at once that the wearer is a public servant; and any simulation or unauthorized assumption of the Royal Arms by a private individual will be an offence easily proved, and as readily punishable. The Board report that the cost of embossing the Royal Arms in brass in the Workshop of the Public Works Department is Rupees 2-8-0 per plate, while the cost in silver is Rupees 8 each. They believe, however, that the plates could

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
4th January 1875.*

be supplied from England at far cheaper rates, which would make a considerable difference in the total cost of the large number that will be required for all the Departments of the Government Service. The Government approve the Board's suggestion to obtain the supply from England if cheaper, and resolve accordingly to address the Secretary of State for India, in view to ascertaining what the cost of manufacture at home would be if a large number of plates were ordered.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

.. Revenue Department. ✓
.. Public Works Department.
.. Military Department.
..

Exd. J. Wright.

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John