

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3076	Press
B.P. No.		Mis. ☒
Dated	31. 5-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

15th May 1877, No. 1192.

Police.

Read the following paper:—

No. 111. *From H. S. THOMAS, Esq., District Magistrate of Tanjore, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Point Calimere, 31st July 1876, No. 2916.*

I have the honor to submit a scheme for the reorganization of the Village Police Establishment in this district, accompanied by an expression of the views of the Inspector-General of Police on the same subject, as contained in a letter addressed to me on the 11th March 1876, No. 1187.

2. In my several Grave Crime Reports I have repeatedly brought to the notice of Government the necessity that exists for having a responsible Village Police staff in Tanjore, and such a body is generally admitted to lie at the very root of good detection and prevention of crime. I need not therefore enlarge on its advantages.

3. Besides the above necessity, Tanjore has also a just claim to have such a force, for it had it under the Rajah, till it was despoiled of it by wiping out at a stroke the whole Police Force of the Rajah in favor of the new Police, instead of wiping out such portion of it only as needed to be remodeled into the new District Police to which it answered, and retaining such portion as was properly Village Police and should have been retained as such.

4. The history of these funds is clearly set forth in the enclosed letter from the Inspector-General, by which Government will see that Tanjore still has funds to which it can fairly point out as its own for the reformation of its old Village Police.

5. I proceed then to the scheme which is drawn up so as to be within the available balance.

6. There are at present in Tanjore for the purposes of Revenue Administration 1,423 Vattums or groups of villages. Each Vattum has a Monigar or Headman, who is also the Village Magistrate. But he is a Magistrate without his Policeman, a head without a body. To this Village Magistrate I propose to restore his Village Policeman or Taliari.

7. The number of Taliaries that will be required for the district cannot be exactly determined in advance. It must be regulated more accurately hereafter by experience. For the present, I would be content with fixing their number approximately only, with reference to the population of the villages, leaving experience to show what villages with less population require a larger staff in consequence of the turbulent character of the population, and what others again with reference to their position as commanding the highways through which robbers and dacoits may find ingress into the district; and thus reserving the increase or diminution of the force in particular localities till the practical results of its working are better known.

8. In paragraph 11 of his letter the Inspector-General considers at some length the advisability or otherwise of combining the duties of a Cavilgar with those of Visarupugars or Vetties. However comparatively useful the present class of Vetties may be for Police duties, I cannot agree with Deputy Collector Streenevasa Row in considering "that the present revenue duties of these men occupy an inconsiderable

portion of their time, and that they could easily do Village Police work also." At present these men attend more to Police duties than to their legitimate Revenue functions, and we have no just claim to take them from their own proper duties. A highly cultivated district like Tanjore has full need of its Visarupugars or Vetties, and should not be deprived of them. Moreover, if both Revenue and Police duties are combined in one person, both the departments are liable to suffer and excuses are easy. I agree therefore with the Inspector-General in thinking that the two establishments should be distinct. I would however let the Village Magistrates themselves select their own Taliaries in the first instance from the residents of the Vattum, and from the Taliari class and castes; though I would not allow them afterwards to dismiss and reselect at pleasure without the sanction of the Superior Magistracy, that is of the Divisional Officers, as in the case of other village servants.

9. I would not have these men placed under the Police at all, but entirely under the control of their own immediate head the Village Magistrate, whose legs and arms, whose executive they are. My principle is to maintain the integrity of the village system and to make the Village Magistrate responsible head in his own village.

Taliari, i.e., Police.
Village Magistracy—Magistrate.
Constabulary—Police.
Sub-Magistracy—Magistrate.
Superintendent—Police.
European Magistracy—Magistrate.

10. My principle is also to maintain throughout the whole chain one uniform alternation of which in actual work, in point of responsibility and reliance the order practically stands as marginally given, for the European Magistrate naturally trusts most to the integrity of his fellow countrymen.

11. As to the number of Cavilgars or Taliaries required for the district, I would adopt the following scale:—

For villages with less than 1,000 souls	1 Taliari.
Do. from 1,000 to 3,000 do.	2 do.
Do. from 3,000 to 6,000 do.	3 do.
Do. above 6,000 do.	4 do.

This arrangement will give 2,762 Taliaries for the district as shown below. In this calculation the number required for the five Municipalities is not included:—

Villages with less than 1,000 souls	at 1 Taliari for each	2,093
Do. with 1,000 to 3,000 do.	at 2 do. for "	580
Do. with 3,000 to 6,000 do.	at 3 do. for "	69
Do. with above 6,000 do.	at 4 do. for "	20
Total		2,762

12. The population of the five Municipalities in the district is as follows:—

Tanjore	52,175
Combaconum	44,444
Negapatam	48,525
Manargudi	17,703
Mayaveram	21,165

I would propose one Taliari for each 2,000 of the population of these Municipalities. The number required will then be for—

Tanjore	26
Combaconum	22
Negapatam	24
Manargudi	9
Mayaveram	10
Total	91

13. The total number of Taliaries that will be required for the whole district will be $2,762 + 91 = 2,853$, or for the several taluqs as shown below:—

Tanjore	370
Combaconum	502
Mayaveram	378
Sheally	196
Tritrapundy	264
Manargudi	284
Pattukottai	133
Negapatam	312
Nannelam	414
Total	2,853

14. I am in some doubt whether to fix the pay of the Taliari at Rupees 3, which is the pay of the Vetties, or at Rupees $3\frac{1}{2}$, which is more commensurate with the present rate of living, and which slight addition may be further claimed on the score of the violence they sometimes have to meet. I incline to the latter rate of Rupees $3\frac{1}{2}$, and that is my proposal. In Municipalities I would give half a Rupee more, as living in towns is ordinarily more expensive than in villages. Indeed I would have made the pay Rupees 4 and Rupees 5 instead of Rupees $3\frac{1}{2}$ and Rupees 4 if we could have afforded it, but the Rupees $3\frac{1}{2}$ and Rupees 4 rates proposed leave but a small margin of available assets, to wit only Rupees 2,233 per annum.

15. The cost of the scheme now proposed will amount to Rupees 10,031 per mensem, or Rupees 1,20,372 per annum as shown below:—

Taluq or Municipality.	No. of Taliaries.	Cost per Mensem at Rs. $3\frac{1}{2}$.	Cost per Mensem at Rs. 4.	Total Cost per Mensem.	Cost per Annum.
		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Tanjore Taluq	344	1,204	..	1,204	14,448
Do. Municipality	26	..	104	104	1,248
Combaconum Taluq	480	1,680	..	1,680	20,160
Do. Municipality	22	..	88	88	1,056
Mayaveram Taluq	368	1,288	..	1,288	15,456
Do. Municipality	10	..	40	40	480
Negapatam Taluq	288	1,008	..	1,008	12,096
Do. Municipality	24	..	96	96	1,152
Manargudi Taluq	275	962 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	962 $\frac{1}{2}$	11,550
Do. Municipality	9	..	36	36	432
Sheally Taluq	196	686	..	686	8,232
Nannelam Taluq	414	1,449	..	1,449	17,388
Tritrapundy	264	924	..	924	11,088
Pattukottai	133	465 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	465 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,586
Total	2,853	9,667	364	10,031	1,20,372

16. Now as regards the funds for meeting this cost, it will be seen from para. 5 of Colonel Hearn's letter that a sum of Rupees 2,46,000, being the collection of fees and house-tax due to the *Mén Kavelgars* collected under Regulation I of 1816, was declared to be appropriated for the maintenance of the Police. This sum plus Rupees 39,000 being the fund accumulated from resumed Inam lands' fee, &c., and Rupees 23,605 being the amount of Taliari fees, resumed subsequently, or Rs. 3,08,605 in all, form an asset from which the cost of the General and Village Police of the district has to be met. Deducting from this amount the present cost of the General Police Rupees 1,86,000, as ascertained from the printed Police Administration Report for 1874, there remains a sum of Rupees 1,22,605 which the district is justly entitled to claim for the improvement of its Police administration. The cost of the

establishment now proposed is Rupees 1,20,372, and the assets available are more than sufficient to meet the outlay.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. HEARN, Inspector-General of Police, to the Magistrate of Tanjore, dated Madras, 11th March 1876, No. 1187.

I have the honor to forward copies of a Memorandum of remarks on my recent inspection of the Police Force in this district.

2. As arranged between us in personal conversation at Tanjore, I went into the Village Police question with the assistance of Mr. Forbes, the Assistant Magistrate, and Deputy Collector Mr. Streenevasa Row.

3. At present there is no Village Police in Tanjore. The *Taliaries* are the paid servants of the *Meerasidars*, and though they do to some indefinite extent assist the Village Munsif in the discharge of his duty, yet they own no responsibility and have none. Consequently Village Munsifs frequently disclaim their own responsibility with regard to crime on the ground that they have no one to assist them.

4. I need not enlarge on the necessity of having some kind of responsible Village Police Force in the district. It is admitted on all hands, and you have yourself recently pressed it on the notice of Government.

Paragraph 9, Page xxxii of Appendix C to Police Administration Report for 1874.

5. The history of the Village Police in Tanjore is shortly this. At the cession of the Province of Tanjore the *Mén-kârel* system prevailed; but in 1813 this system of Police was suppressed and Regulation I of 1816 provided for the collection of the fees and house-tax due to the *Mén Kârelgars*, the funds (Rs. 2,46,000) being declared to be appropriated to the maintenance of the Police Establishment. In 1814 a body of paid *Visarupugars* was entertained as a Village Police, and when the Constabulary was organized in 1860, this body numbered 1,040, and cost Rs. 39,000 per annum, paid by the Revenue Department out of the fund accumulated from resumed *inam* lands, fees, &c. Upon the introduction of the Constabulary the number of *Visarupugars* was reduced to 900, and 300 Village Inspectors were added to supervise them, making a Village Police Force of 1,200 men, costing Rs. 45,000 per annum, which was thenceforth paid out of the Police Budget grant on regular pay bills prepared in the Police Department. On the 30th June 1862, under pressure of financial retrenchment, the whole of this Force was abolished; Rs. 45,000 were saved to the Police Budget, and a Village Police ceased to exist in Tanjore.

6. It is important to observe here that Tanjore is the only district in which a Village Police Fund has been made an asset to the credit of the general Police grant. Elsewhere the two funds have been kept distinct (which seems undoubtedly correct in principle), and moneys available from various sources for Village Police have been kept exclusively for that purpose. But in Tanjore, by a curious shifting of the cards, first the sum of Rs. 39,000, which had been properly used as a Village Police Fund for nearly half a century, was transferred to the general Police grant, which was also saddled with an additional sum of Rupees 6,000 (Rupees 45,000 in all) for the Village Police Establishments. Next the whole sum of Rupees 45,000 was in June 1862 made a saving to the general Police grant, the Village Police being completely swept away. What then has become of the Rupees 39,000 derived from resumed Village Police *inams* and fees, and consequently properly to be devoted to the maintenance of a Village Police and to that only? Is it not, or ought it not to be, still available for that purpose? It seems to have been swallowed unawares, but should it not be reproduced in justice to the people? Practically the sum has been added to the general revenues of Government since June 1862 at the expense of the Tanjore Village Police.

7. It is true that in some other districts also some paid Village *Taliaries* were swept away in 1862 without much detriment, but these were only a few supplementary men added to the existing Village Police of these districts on the organization of the Constabulary in 1860, and paid entirely from the general Police grant. When they were swept away the original Village Police Force still remained in those districts, and Village Police Funds were untouched throughout. But in Tanjore the whole Village Police Force and its emoluments were first handed over to the Constabulary and then swallowed up by it. I submit that in 1862, the sum of Rs. 39,000 (out of Rupees 45,000) should still have been treated as an asset for the maintenance of a Village Police, instead of being made to contribute to a saving in the Police Budget.

8. In 1867 a change took place in the Village Establishments of Tanjore, the whole history of which is detailed in Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, No. 160, dated 8th October 1867. The villages of Tanjore were grouped into *Vattums* or Townships, paid officers of the class of *Monigar* (Village Munsif), *Kurmun* and *Vetti*

(*Visarupugar*) being allotted to each. To meet the payment of these officers, certain assets were made available, including a sum of Rupees 23,605, as shown in the margin.

I submit that this item, derived from resumed *Taliaries' fees*, &c., should properly be an asset for the maintenance of a Village Police, and

the Government appears to have held this opinion (*vide* paragraph 9 of G.O., No. 1697, R. D., dated 9th August 1862.) Although the money was subsequently appropriated to other purposes as a matter of expediency (*vide* paragraphs 13 and 15 of G.O., No. 2359, Revenue Department, dated 8th October 1867), yet there can be little doubt about the principle.

9. Thus it would appear that the two sums of Rs. 39,000 and Rs. 23,605 (making a total of Rs. 62,605) ought to be available for the payment of a Village Police in Tanjore; and of these sums the former at least has never been directly appropriated to any other purpose.

10. It remains to consider the cost of a new Village Police in Tanjore. The *Vattums* have been divided into classes with different rates of pay, but I think that the rate for *Taliaries*, as for *Vetties* (commonly called *Visarupugars*), should be uniform. It certainly should not be less than 4 Rupees. This would give

No. of Vattums.	Per mensom.	Per annum.
1,446 × 4 =	Rs. 5,784 × 12 =	Rs. 69,408.

The above sum would exceed the total assets above mentioned even if both items could be deemed available.

11. Deputy Collector Mr. Streenevasa Row strongly recommends that the present body of *Visarupugars* (*Vetties*) established in 1867, as above shown, for revenue duties only, should also perform the duties of Village Policemen, receiving an addition to their pay for the extra work. Mr. Streenevasa Row declares that the present revenue duties of these men occupy an inconsiderable portion of their time, and that they could easily do Village Police work also. In that case he considers (and here I quite agree with him) that these men should be taken from the *Taliari* class and castes, and be invariably *Natives* of the Vattum, instead of being, as now, in many cases non-resident outsiders, or a sort of 2nd-Class Taluq Peons, selected from the hangers-on of the Cutcherry. The Deputy Collector says that many of them neglect work entirely, that there are as many as 70 complaints against *Visarupugars* before him at this moment, and that almost every day a *Visarupugar* is dismissed. He proposes that the change in the class of persons employed should take place gradually as vacancies occur. All the Police Inspectors agree in thinking that the *Visarupugars*, if drawn from the proper class and paid better, would do very useful Village Police work in addition to Revenue duty. Of the *Tahsildars* whom I consulted on the point, some agreed with the Deputy Collector and some disagreed, the latter thinking that the combined duties could not well be performed by one man. On this point you will be able to obtain full information. Mr. W. F. Hathaway, when acting as Collector of Tanjore in 1870, appeared to think that the *Visarupugars* might well perform the combined duties. See the following extract of his letter, No. 479, dated 1st April 1870, to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police:—

"I mention all this however to show how it was that when these new *Vicharippukarans* were appointed, they were generally only spoken of as Revenue officials. It seems to have been felt that it was impossible to say in what state the Police question stood, and that therefore it would be best to ignore it. I think however that leaving the *Taliaries* as they are, there would have been no harm in also giving the new *Vicharippukaran* police powers. Allowing the ideal usefulness of the *Taliari* force, yet the Government might certainly appoint some one with the purely practical and executive work, for instance, of putting a man in the stocks, or preventing him walking away when the head of the village is trying him. At present, from not having any one to do this arresting criminals or settling petty cases, simply from not having any one under them to do this executive work. I think therefore that the *Vicharippukarans* might easily, and with great advantage, be invested with this power (if necessary by direct appointment and certificate under the Police Act from the Inspector-General, so that there may be no question about their jurisdiction), and that the mere having the authority for use when necessary, would not trench upon a *Vicharippukaran's* revenue work on the one hand, nor on the other on the usefulness of the old *Taliaries*, whatever that may be. If you could get this carried out, and obtain the sanction of Government to its being done, I think that it would be a great benefit to the district in a Police point of view."

For my own part I should prefer to have separate Police *Taliaries*, but it would be difficult to find sufficient money, and I would far rather have the *Visarupugars* than nothing. If the present body of *Visarupugars* should be paid one Rupee extra all round (raising their pay to Rs. 4) the cost would be Rupees 1,446 × 12 = 17,352 per annum. If the *Visarupugars* should be paid Rupees 5 all round, (which would greatly increase the attraction of the service and stimulate the sense of responsibility) the cost would be Rupees 34,704, which falls within the sum appropriated to the general revenues since 1862 from the fund originally obtained from the

abolition of the *Mén-kivel* system. This system combined the elements of a General and a Village Police, and consequently Rupees 39,000 from the resumed emoluments had been assigned ever since the year 1814 to the payment of a Village Police.

12. In your letter, No. 550, dated 12th February 1876, on the subject of Village Police, you say "all that will be necessary in my opinion, in addition to the existing Monigars of Vattums, is a Monigar for Police duties in each subordinatedly grouped village, with a Cavilgar under him, as well as under each Vattum Monigar. In large villages however an additional Cavilgar will be found necessary. I believe that influential Meerasidars in each village will be willing to serve as Honorary Monigars." I am not sure if you mean that there should be a Cavilgar in each village of the group constituting a *Vattum*, besides a Cavilgar for the *Vattum* itself. If so, I fear it will be impossible to pay so many, and that we must be content with a Cavilgar for each *Vattum*. But *Vattums*, after all, resemble the villages in some other districts which have a number of hamlets attached. With regard to separate Police Monigars I doubt if the class of men we want would accept the honorary post with its duties and responsibilities, or if the measure would be in accordance with law (Section 3, Reg. IV of 1816, and Reg. XI of 1816). I have always strongly held that what we want in a Village Munsif is influence, and that to this end he should be supreme in a village both as regards Revenue and Police duties. Wherever these duties have been performed by different persons, the separate Village Munsif has been found to exercise a weakened authority and consequently to be of smaller use.

13. I have now put the aspect of the Village Police question in Tanjore fully before you as it presents itself to me. The alternative propositions are either to establish a body of Police Taluaries or to utilise the existing Visarupugars. The main question is of money. A numerous Village Police would probably be too expensive; but we want at least a link to connect us with the villages and the Village Munsifs want an executive subordinate officer to carry out their orders. I do not know if you will agree with me on all points, but I trust that after considering the matter, you will see the way to submit to Government some definite proposition for the re-establishment of a Village Police in Tanjore.

No. 112.

ORDER THEREON, 15th May 1877, No. 1192.

The Governor in Council observes that the only asset which can be said to exist in the hands of the State, as appropriate for the maintenance of a Village Police in Tanjore, is the item of Taliari's fees and land assessment, aggregating Rupees 23,605, which is included in the amount of Rupees 2,76,768 assigned by G.O., dated 8th October 1867, No. 2359, for the general Village Establishment of the district, estimated to cost Rupees 2,76,048.

2. The "Kaveli" Police referred to in Regulation I of 1816, was not a Village Police in the ordinary sense, but was the General Police of the district, which under that Regulation was reconstituted on a common footing with the rest of the country, and now exists as the Reformed Police Force. The Governor in Council is certainly not prepared at this date to go back upon the legislation of more than half a century ago and declare the funds then absorbed into the General Revenues of the country from which the General Police is paid, to be appropriable properly to a Village Police only. The house-tax, which was also an item of receipt under the Regulation, has long ago been abolished.

3. The other item referred to by the Inspector-General of Police in his letter now submitted is the sum of Rupees 39,000, which in 1860 was found to be the cost of the body of Visarupugars paid in the Revenue Department, who were then embodied in the District Constabulary, the cost (Rupees 45,000) being admitted by Government as an item in the Police Budget. In 1862, this force was abolished and the contention of the Inspector-General of Police is that the saving thus effected, or at least the proportion of Rupees 39,000, originally paid in the Revenue Department, should be recognized as an asset properly available for the payment of a Village Police. The fact however is that this amount is now spent for Police purposes in the district, and in order to produce either of the assets relied on by the Collector and the Inspector-General it is necessary that corresponding savings should first be effected in the cost of the Village Establishment and General Police Force of the district.

4. If these officers are able to submit proposals calculated to effect this end, the Governor in Council will be prepared to consider the appropriation of the saving for the purposes of a Village Police; but in the absence of any such saving, the charge

would be simply a new and additional one either on the Provincial income, which could not meet it, or on Imperial Revenues, requiring an additional grant from the Government of India, which could not at present be solicited.

5. The argument that the Kaveli Swatuntrums were a special levy for Police purposes, cannot be maintained, unless it can be shown that the Government demand on the land in Tanjore is higher than the prescribed State share of the produce would warrant. The contrary is notoriously the case. The real fact is that the Swatuntrums were a specific assignment from public revenues for a specific purpose. The special assignment was subsequently abolished by law, but the purpose is still effected in a different form at the charge of the State.

(True Extract.)

H. G. Hamilton
Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Tanjore.

" Inspector-General of Police.

" Revenue Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Revenue Department

10 2659

Govt. of 1877 S. 18073.

JUDICIAL.

To THE COLLECTOR OF TANJORE,
Ac., Ac., Ac.

Dated May, 1877.

Received 26

Recd 28 May

and

G.O., 15th May 1877, No. 1192.

MAY.

Nos. 111-112.

S. 18073 of Revenue 1-6-77

Police.—Orders passed on letter from District Magistrate, Tanjore, submitting a scheme for the reorganization of the Village Police Establishment in the Tanjore District.

15 3076.

Forwarded to the
Board of Revenue

15 3076.