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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1032	Press. / Mis.
Dated	14.3.1979	—197—

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

1st March 1879, No. 127.

Commissioner—Nilgiris.

Read the following paper:—

No. 18. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th January* 1879, *No.* 218.

From Colonel W. S. DREVER, C.S.I., Acting Inspector-General of Police, Madras, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 8th October 1878, No. 4,344.

I HAVE the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, and to request the sanction of Government for an increase to the Police force at Ootacamund of one head constable and three constables with a view to furnishing the Commissioner with Police orderlies. The annual cost comes to Rupees 598. At present the Commissioner, who has no magisterial powers, is provided with one orderly only. I propose to give him one head constable and three men in addition.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, to Colonel W. S. DREVER, C.S.I., Acting Inspector-General of Police, dated Ootacamund, 14th September 1878, No. 406.

ADVERTING to Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, No. 547, of 11th April 1863, I have the honor to request that the necessary orderlies may be deputed to the Office of the Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills if you see no objection. If necessary I will address Government on the subject.

2. This district was not in existence when the Government Order above quoted was passed, and for some periods an orderly or orderlies have been supplied and for some not according to circumstances. Now that the Wynad has been annexed to the Nilgiri Hills and the Commissioner is frequently on circuit, the Police are as much required by the Commissioner here as by any Collector and Magistrate, and I have frequently been inconvenienced by the want of them. I believe orderlies are supplied to Commissioners and Judicial Commissioners in all other provinces.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 18th October 1878, No. 139.

IN reply to your official memorandum, No. 1,902, of the 15th instant, I have the honor to report that of the fourteen peons attached to the Commissioner, two are deputed to the Assistant Commissioner.

2. Two Police orderlies only are attached to the Assistant Commissioner as District Magistrate.

3. I should add that the twelve peons remaining to the Commissioner have not only to do the ordinary duties of deloyets in other districts, but have further to take cheques and money to and from the Bank of Madras (Ootacamund Branch) situated more than half a mile off, there being no treasury in the Commissioner's Office, and a certain number of them have also to remain at the office all night, there being no Police guard provided either for the office or stamps; there are usually stamps to the value of more than a lakh in store.

No. 1,996.

REFERRED to the Inspector-General of Police for report why the Police do not guard the stamps, &c., at night.

OOTACAMUND,
24th October 1878. (Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Chief Secretary.

From Colonel W. S. DREVER, C.S.I., Acting Inspector-General of Police, Madras, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 5th November 1878, No. 4,752.

IN reply to your No. 1,996 of 24th October, I have the honor to inform you that no request for a guard over the stamps in the Commissioner's Office, Nilgiris, has hitherto been made by that officer. If one be sanctioned, it will be necessary to increase the district force by one head constable and four constables at a cost of Rupees 722 per annum.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 5th December 1878, No. 160.

IN reply to your official memorandum, No. 2,114, dated the 18th ultimo, I have the honor to report that the fourteen peons alluded to are all that are attached to the Nilgiri District.

2. The Deputy Tahsildars of Coonoor and Gudalur, South-East Wynad, have each two taluk peons, and the Joint Magistrate of Ootacamund has two peons, but these, I presume, do not come within the scope of the question and are not more than sufficient for the work of these of officers, and in the case of the two former I should say quite insufficient.

3. The twelve peons of the Commissioner, though not more numerous than the number attached to any Collector, have the following duties in addition to those performed by the Collectors' peons ordinarily :—

(1.) There being no treasury and therefore no hurkaras (treasury attendants), they have to go to and fro to the Bank—about a mile distant—to cash cheques and bring money.

(2.) During the season one or more of them are constantly employed in getting straw and other necessary supplies for the Government House, there being no Tahsildar or taluk peons here.

(3.) As there are few post offices, they have frequently to take out demand notices and other papers to village officials in distant parts—a work usually performed by taluk peons if there are no post offices.

(4.) There being no police guards as in other Collectors' Cutcheries over the treasury, a certain number of these twelve peons—two every night—have to sleep near the almirahs for stamps, of which, exclusive of service labels, we have usually more than a lakh worth in stock,—a very unsatisfactory arrangement in my opinion.

(5.) These peons have further to attend on the Judicial Commissioner in Court during the trial of civil suits, as there are no Court peons attached to the Judicial Commissioner as in the case of District Judges.

4. The peons have quite enough to do, and little dependence can be placed on them, as it is next to impossible to get good men to serve on scanty pay in this climate. My reason, however, for asking for orderlies is not merely that these peons have more than enough to do, but that it is highly desirable that one or more police orderlies should always be within call of the Commissioner in case of emergency, as he is the head of the district and has many executive as well as judicial functions.

5. If two head constables and seven constables were attached to the Commissioner, they could furnish a guard over the stamps and office, and detail the necessary orderlies to be in attendance on the Commissioner at his office and residence. I would add that, though the Assistant Commissioner has two orderlies attached to him as District Magistrate, this is only what is allowed to every first-class Magistrate down below, and is not at all the complement of a District Magistrate.

No. 2,310

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for their opinion with reference to the revenue, magisterial, and judicial needs of the district.

2. Arrangements have been made to ensure that no extraneous demands are made in future on the Commissioner's establishment of peons.

MADRAS,
16th December 1878. (Signed) C. G. MASTER.
Acting Chief Secretary.

As the Commissioner of the Nilgiri Hills exercises no magisterial functions, the Board consider that Police orderlies in attendance at his office and residence would be out of place, but they consider that he should be allowed a small Police guard to relieve the peons of the charge of stamps.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Secretary.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, 1st March 1879, No. 427.

His Grace the Governor in Council is of opinion that the Stamp room should be placed in the securest possible condition; and the Police then left to guard it when the office is closed. The key might be kept with the Police, or any other precaution taken.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.
" Commissioner of the Nilgiris.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

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Chancellerie
N°2219.
Stabl. di 1879 Statuts.

Trib JUDICIAL.

The BOARD of REVENUE,

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