Archives 1—10,000—6-10-76.

(1) Number of pages 4

(2) Date of repair 16-5-86

(3) Initials of the Reference Clerk

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	283	Press. / Mis.
Dated	21-1-1879	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

7th January 1879, No. 20.

Official Information.

Read the following paper:—

No. 9. *Circular from T. C. PLOWDEN, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Public), to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Camp Lahore, 16th December* 1878, *No. 3-CII.*

I am directed by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General to enclose copy of a Resolution on the subject of communicating to the public information which has come into the possession of a Government servant in his official capacity. I am to request that the Resolution may not be published in the *Gazette*, but that particular care may be taken that all the officials serving under the orders of the Madras Government may have full knowledge of these instructions.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Home Department (Public), under date Camp Lahore, the 16th December 1878, No. 1-CII.

RESOLUTION.—His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General desires to remind all Officers of the Government that information received by them in their official capacity, whether from official sources or otherwise, which is not from its nature obviously intended to be made public, cannot be treated as if it were at their personal disposal.

The Governor-General does not think it necessary to issue any general order entirely prohibiting the disclosure, without special authority, of any information received officially. In such matters, much must necessarily be left to the discretion and intelligence of officers holding places of trust, and in charge of duties more or less important. But His Excellency would impress upon all officers the serious responsibility involved in the exercise of this discretion. Whenever there is any room for doubt as to the right course to pursue, the orders of superior authority should be obtained before information regarding public affairs is communicated to any one not officially entitled to receive it.

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General has reason to believe that sufficient attention has not upon all occasions been given to the principles which should guide the conduct of public officers in these matters, and which are especially applicable to the present time, when much important business is passing through the public offices. And His Excellency trusts that these principles may in future be clearly apprehended and observed.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be circulated to all Departments of the Government of India and to Local Governments and Administrations for information and guidance.

(Signed) A. C. LYALL,
Secretary to the Government of India,
with the Governor-General.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, 7th January 1879, No. 20.

Communicated to the Departments of the Secretariat, to the High Court, and to all Heads of Departments for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" the Military Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the High Court with covering letter.
" all Heads of Departments under the Chief Secretary.

Ed. T. D. Ryan.

Rev 1879 Deptt
No. 514

Govt. of 1879 Madras.
Mis D/21 Jany/79 No 283
PUBLIC.

To
THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated January 7th, 1879
Issued 18
Read 18 Pro.

G.O., 7th January 1879, No. 28.

JANUARY.
Nos. 8-10.

Official Letters, &c.—Communicating, for information and guidance, Resolution of the Government of India on the subject of communicating to the public information which has come into the possession of a Government servant in his official capacity.

D. 283 – 21 January 1879
With Order

No. 283
Communicated to the Board of Revenue and to the Settlement Survey and Forest Departments.
[illegible]

21 January /79.

of To the Board of Revenue on 22 Jany
to the Dir. of the Settlement
to the Depty. of the Survey
to the Conservator of Forests

No 283