

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 3164

DATED 23. June 97.

[Despatch Abstract.]

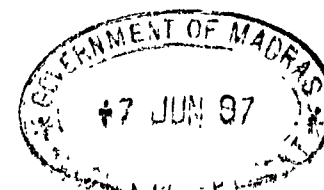
Requesting to furnish certain further information
regard to the loss of currency notes in the fire
at the Papanasam ~~Low~~ Forest Sannah

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
8394 497							



Revenue (1897) Department.

through
the Accountant General

CURRENT No. 24806

The Hon: Mr. J. S. C. L.

From

The Board of Revenue, Land Revenue
Madras

Order misc

In the circumstances
reported, sanction is accorded
for writing off the account Rs.
85, the value of the currency
notes destroyed in the fire at the
Papanasam Forest Tannah.

Forest No. 501 Misc.

Dated 27th May 1897

Received 7.6.97

Registered 7.6.97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government with
remarks letter from the Conservator
of Forests, S.C., forwarding Tinnevel-
ly Collector's report regarding Cur-
rency notes lost in the fire at the
Papanasam Tannah building in the
Tinnevelly District; and requesting
its sanction for the writing off of
Rs. 85, the value of the currency notes
destroyed.

The Board of Rev: L.R.
(P.O.) with Mr.
Acct General
(P.O.)
note

The facts are concisely
stated in the Board's Resol.
and the report comes thro' the A.G.
10.6.97

10.6.97

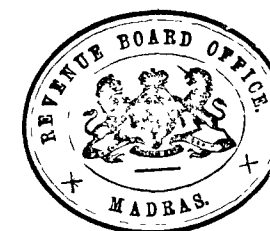
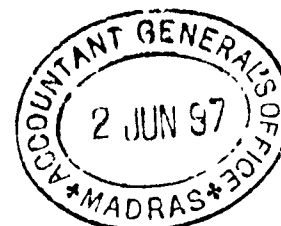
BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERES.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

3,000
10-12-96



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Land Revenue)

Forest NO 501 Misc; dated 27th May 1897

Read again Board's Proceedings Forest NO 296 Rout. dated 9th April 1897, recording report of the Collector of Tinnevely on the destruction by fire of the cash chest of the Range Officer, Southern Range.

Read letter from the Conservator of Forests, Southern Circle, dated 12th May 1897, R.C. NO 3596, forwarding Tinnevely Collector's report of the loss of Rs. 85 in currency notes in the fire at the Ambasamudram Forest Tannah.

Resolution.

In his letter recorded in the Proceedings read again above, the Collector of Tinnevely reported the occurrence of a fire on the 21st March last at the Forest & tannah building at Papanasam. It was stated that the cash balance of the Range Officer (Ambasamudram or Southern Range) which consisted of Rs. 85 in currency notes together with certain records, had been destroyed by the fire, and the Collector promised a full report after enquiry. With his letter read above, the Conservator Southern Circle forwards the Collector's promised report and requests sanction for writing off the amount lost.

It would appear that the Range Officer, who was on tour at the time, halted on the evening of the 21st March at the Tannah building. The Range Officer, his clerk and peon, and certain other men lay down in the building to rest for the night. The building was a thatched one and at about 1.30 A.M. on the 22nd, the Range Officer was awakened by the smoke to find that the building was on fire. He and his men at once set to work to

rescue the records and other articles inside the shed; but the flames spread rapidly and they were unable to save the cash chest (which was, a teak-wood box) before it had been almost completely burnt together with its contents which were as follows:-

(1) Rs.85 in currency notes, 1e, 2 notes of Rs.20/ each

4 notes of Rs.10 each

1 note of Rs.5 each.

(2) Range cash book with vouchers etc.

(3) Register of sanctioned works.

(4) One savings bank pass book and

(5) One forest journal.

The only things in the cash box which were not destroyed were certain coins.

3 The District Forest Officer who enquired very fully into the circumstances connected with the occurrence of the fire, is convinced that it was the work of incendiarism. It does not seem possible at present to trace the incendiaries, though a forest guard and a watcher are suspected to be implicated. The District Magistrate is however offering a reward for any information which may lead to the conviction of the offenders. The Board considers it proved that all possible exertions were made to rescue the ~~cash~~ cash chest and the records, and that the result was not due to any negligence on the part of the subordinates concerned. In these circumstances, the Board ~~th~~ requests that Government will be pleased to sanction the writing off of Rs.85/- the value of the currency notes destroyed.

4 It is reported that the numbers of the notes, cannot be ascertained as the list in which they were entered was burnt with the cash chest. The Conservator is however taking steps to find out the numbers if possible, from the timber contractors from whom they were originally received.

(True Extract)

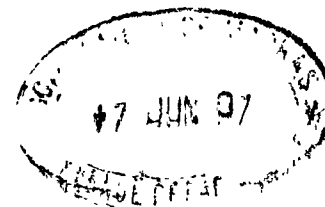
M. W. D. L.

Ag. Secretary

To the Secretary to Govt. R.D. thro' the Acct. Genl. with Consr's letter and 3 enclos. in original to be ret'd.

Copy to the Collector of Tinnevely.

Copy to the Conservator of Forests, S.C.



21/17/19

Fort Saint George
Accountant General's office
5th June 1897.

Forwarded to the Secretary to Government Revenue Department. Government has power to write off the amount under Article 279 Civil Account Code.

M. W. D. L.
offg: Accountant General.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

WR

C No. 4806

From The Bd of Rev L.R.

Dated 27- May - 1897.

The Hon Mr C. W. C. C.

FOR ORDERS.

It is reported that on the 21st March 1897 while the rangers & 6 men were sleeping some inside & some in the verandah of the tent Tannah at Papa Nassam, the rangers were awoken at 1.30 am. to find the tent roof ablaze.

It is said that every effort was made to rescue the goods & chattels in the Tannah & apparently most of things were rescued. The cash chest was however burnt & it is alleged currency notes to the value of Rs 85.

Sanction is requested to write the sum of the accounts. The use of the notes are not known -

A perusal of the D.F.O's report^{made} after his Enquiry is solicited

cash chest iron
burnt.

enc/6/97

It does not appear whether the D.F.O. personally saw the place soon after the fire. The records of his enquiry have not been submitted. It is not explained at all how the cash chest was not removed. Even presuming it to be a highly article, it is not explained why the contents were not removed.

While so many other articles were apparently removed I submit it could have been ^{no} great trouble to unlock the chest & take out the money.

From the report in an left to conclude that currency notes in a iron bound leather wood box were burnt with the box to be recognisably ashes, while the coins were recovered all right.

It is submit important to know whether the D.F.O. inspected this with his own eyes. The report I submit is extremely satisfactory as not showing definitely

- (1) What things were actually saved
- (2) its when these things

FOR ORDERS.

It should be explained why, while there was time to save other articles, the cash chest was not saved.

JS
1-15/17

were saved, was not the money taken out the cash chest which was reported to have been quite close to when the Range clerk was lying? Who had the key to the cash chest?
If whether the D.F.O. personally saw the place & verified the allegations as to the complete burning of the cash chest & notes.

little
12/6/81

Much depends on a personal knowledge of Range Chamberlain and I think probably the D.F.O. is right.

11/16/87.

I don't see how he could.
JS

What would be good of telling us this? JS

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read C. 40 4806 ^{P.}

G.O. misc. n^o. 3164, 23. June 97

The Govt observes that the District Forest Officer does not explain why whilst there was time to save other articles the cash chest or, at all event, its contents, was not saved. The omission should now be supplied.

See for.

Dec 23/97

Dec 1-7-97

23.6.97

23/6/97

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.F.—

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