

BACK PAPERS.

BACK PAPERS.							
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.							
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
9546				7	512		9/98
957							
10014							
10024							
1057							
CNO							
2996/98	1500		22-4-98				

Government { 1897 } of Madras.
JUDICIAL.



Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1297, 6th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Indian Arms Act.

Reviewing reports on the working of the —, 1878, and the Explosives Act 1884, during the year 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Reports from District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, on the working of the Indian Arms Act, 1878, and the Explosives Act, 1884, during the year 1896.

ORDER—No. 1297, Judicial, dated 6th September 1897.

Six * out of the twenty-two reports were again received after the due date. 2. In the statement forming Appendix I to this proceedings details are given of the licenses issued during the year under review in each district under the Arms Act and the rules framed under it. The total number of these amounted to 68,849 against 66,618 in 1895. Particulars of the principal forms of licenses issued during the past five years are given in the subjoined statement:—

Year.	Form VI.	Form VII.	Form VIII.	Form X.	Form XI.	Licenses to possess gun-powder and fuses for blasting.	Total of all classes of licenses.
1891	364	225	44,651	291	3,028	7,221	57,149
1892	354	229	48,262	295	2,697	7,809	60,185
1893	363	240	51,790	316	2,827	7,996	63,229
1894	364	245	54,477	338	2,134	9,584	68,218
1895	371	269	58,194	243	1,785	4,974	66,618
1896	377	267	62,607	178	774	5,865	68,849

The variations in the several districts between the figures for 1896 and those for the preceding year are shown in the following table:—

Districts.	Form VI.	Form VII.	Form VIII.	Form X.	Form XI.	Licenses to possess gun-powder and fuses for blasting.
1. Anantapur	+ 1	- 1	+ 132	..	..	- 1
2. Arcot, North	..	- 5	+ 113	..	..	..
3. Arcot, South	+ 2	- 2	+ 245	..	..	- 2
4. Bellary	..	+ 2	+ 27	..	..	..
5. Canara, South	+ 3	..	+ 1,026	+ 1	- 910	- 1
6. Chingleput	- 2	..	+ 222	..	..	- 5
7. Coimbatore	..	+ 1	+ 249	+ 5	- 32	+ 958
8. Cuddapah	..	..	+ 373	..	+ 4	+ 1
9. Ganjam	- 1	- 2	+ 143	..	..	..
10. Godavari	+ 1	+ 4	+ 31	..	..	+ 1
11. Kistna	+ 2	+ 1	+ 263	..	..	..
12. Kurnool	..	..	+ 137	..	..	..
13. Madras	..	..	+ 22	..	..	..
14. Madura	..	+ 2	+ 419	..	..	+ 55
15. Malabar	- 2	- 4	+ 142	- 33	- 27	+ 268
16. Nellore	+ 4	..	+ 238	..	..	+ 7
17. Nilgiris	..	+ 1	+ 24	..	+ 6	+ 32
18. Salem	..	+ 2	+ 254	- 36	- 61	+ 15
19. Tanjore	+ 1	- 2	+ 70	..	..	+ 5
20. Tinnevely	..	- 2	+ 141	- 1	- 1	+ 1
21. Trichinopoly	..	..	+ 41	..	..	+ 5
22. Vizagapatam	- 3	..	+ 101	..	..	+ 1
Total	+ 6	- 12	+ 4,413	- 65	- 1,011	- 1,109

3. The fall in the number of licenses for the possession of fuses and powder for blasting occurred almost entirely in Coimbatore, where the agricultural wells for which these articles are used were less needed than in former and less favourable seasons.

The decrease in licenses under Form XI in South Canara is apparently due to the licensing under Form VIII of many of the weapons previously covered by Form XI licenses, and not to any fall in the number of weapons in use.

4. The number of licenses in Form VIII again increased in every district. It has advanced 40 per cent. in the last six years. Excluding South Canara, where the rise was due to the special causes above noticed, the increase was heaviest in Madras, Cuddapah, Kistna, Salem and South Arcot. In Salem, it was in part counteracted by a decrease in licenses under Form XI, but in all these districts a considerable advance occurred in the total number of weapons licensed under all forms, and this advance has been going on steadily in them for several years. In Madras, for instance, the number of weapons licensed has more than doubled since 1891. Part of the rise is no doubt due to increased care in registration, but allowing for this it seems evident the number of weapons in the district must have largely increased. The District Magistrate will be requested to report whether the advance has occurred in revolvers, which have in recent years come to be frequently owned by natives of the better classes, or in single and double barrelled guns and rifles. The number of each of these classes of weapons licensed in each of the two years 1892 and 1896 should, if possible, be given, and the District Magistrate should state whether in his opinion any restriction should be placed on the issue of licenses in future.

5. Appendix II to this proceedings exhibits the number of licenses issued under the Explosives Act in the four districts in which it was in force during the year. There were 848 of these against 744 in 1895.

6. The duty of inspecting the shops of licensed dealers during the year under review was, as usual, on the whole well performed. As required by the rules, the shops were in most cases inspected once a year by a magistrate and by a superior officer of police and once a quarter by an inspector of police. The extent to which inspections fell short of these requirements in each district is shown in the subjoined statement:—

District.	Number of shops licensed in Forms VI and VII.	Number of instances in which inspectors of police failed to inspect in the				Total for the year.	Number of omissions on the part of	
		First quarter.	Second quarter.	Third quarter.	Fourth quarter.		Superior officers of police.	The magis- tracy.
Anantapur	6	1	3	2	..	6	1	..
Arcot, North	26	..	..	2	..	2	1	..
Arcot, South	43	1	1	..	..	2	6	..
Bellary	12	1	3	..	..	4	1	1
Canara, South	65	2	2	16	2	22	2	..
Chingleput	14	3	1	1	..	5	..	2
Coimbatore	28	1	1	3	2	7	2	2
Cuddapah	5	1	..	..	1	2	1	2
Ganjam	29	..	1	..	1	2	3	1
Godavari	32	1	3	..	..	4	1	5
Kistna	23	..	1	..	2	4	5	4
Kurnool	4	..	2	1	..	3	..	..
Madras	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madura	47	..	1	1	..	2	..	11
Malabar	30	7	..	1	..	8	..	4
Nellore	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Nilgiris	6	2	2	2	2	8	3	1
Salem	50	6	4	2	..	12	..	3
Tanjore	60	..	..	..	..	..	2	4
Tinnevely	53	11	3	..	..	14	1	8
Trichinopoly	40	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Vizagapatam	13	1	..	..	..	1	3	..
Total	634	39	28	32	10	109	32	65
Total for 1895	640	55	28	34	20	137	53	48
Total for 1894	609	57	45	20	15	137	64	23

7. In South Canara, Chingleput, Coimbatore, Salem and Tinnevely inspection by the police might have been more regular, and in Chingleput, Gódvári, Madura and Tinnevely the magistracy omitted to visit several shops the required number of times. In some districts existing shops were not inspected, because the licenses for them had not been renewed. The attention of the District Magistrates will be once more invited to the general instructions on this point contained in paragraph 14 of G.O., No. 1441, Judicial, dated 10th July 1895.

8. The inspection of shops licensed under the Explosives Act was good except in Coimbatore, where, for reasons explained by the District Magistrate, 24 shops licensed in Form A were not inspected by the magistracy.

9. *Prosecutions.*—Four hundred and eighty-nine persons were prosecuted under the Arms Act and Rules, against 508 in 1895 and 646 in 1894; and 374 of them, or 76 per cent., were convicted. The largest number of prosecutions occurred in Tinnevely (122), Coimbatore (68) coming next and Madura (41) third. Only two prosecutions (against five in 1895) were instituted for breaches of the provisions of the Explosives Act and the Rules made thereunder, and all the three persons concerned therein were convicted.

10. The procedure laid down in G.O., No. 813, Judicial, dated 4th May 1896, for the grant and renewal of licenses in Form VIII appears, so far as it has been worked, to have been successful. The order in question was not communicated until after the expiry of the first half of the year under review, and there does not therefore seem to have been sufficient time for district officers to pronounce definitely regarding it. In the reports for the current year, any suggestions in connection with it which may occur to District Magistrates should be noted. A similar request was made in paragraph 15 of the last review, but the District Magistrates of Bellary, Nellore and the Nilgiris have not furnished any information on the subject.

11. The following points in the District Magistrates' reports call for notice:—

(a) *Anantapur.*—No reason is given why shop No. 1 was not inspected during the early part of the year. The explanation offered relates only to the latter part of it.

(b) *Bellary.*—The numbers entered in column 1 of Schedule B are not intelligible. Serial numbers should have been given therein. The dates of the licenses of the last two shops and of shop No. 6 in the same schedule should have been given; and it should have been explained why the last shop was not inspected at all during the year. The further report promised by the District Magistrate regarding the details of punishments awarded in Arms Act cases has not yet been received.

(c) *South Canara.*—The date (14th December 1894) of license of shop No. 1 appears to be a mistake for 14th December 1895.

(d) *Nellore and the Nilgiris.*—The dates on which inspecting officers visited shop No. 13 in Nellore and shops Nos. 3 and 6 in the Nilgiris, but were unavoidably prevented from conducting any inspection, should have been entered in the remarks column as required by paragraph 14 of G.O., No. 1441, Judicial, dated 10th July 1895.

(e) *Tinnevely.*—Serial numbers should have been given in column 1 of Schedule B.

(f) In Coimbatore, Cuddapah, Gódvári, Malabar, Nellore, Salem and Tinnevely, either Schedule A or B, or both, have been submitted in manuscript or in the obsolete form in spite of the remark in last year's review.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To all District Magistrates.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Commissioner of Police, Madras.
 „ the Inspector-General of Police.
 Editors' Table.

Ed. C. M. Thumbarwamy.

APPENDIX I.

Districts.	Form II.	Form III.	Form IV.	Form V.	Form VI.	Form VII.	Form VIII.	Form IX.	Form X.	Form XI.	Licenses to possess arms and ammunition for the purpose of destroying wild animals.	Licenses to possess arms and ammunition for the purpose of sport, protection or display.	Licenses to go armed on a journey.	Licenses to possess fire-arms, ammunition or military stores in a district which has not been disarmed.	Licenses to possess arms and ammunition for the purpose of destroying wild animals.	Licenses to possess arms and transport powder and for use in blasting purposes (India Resolution, dated 30th September 1881, recorded in G.O., No. 2114, Judicial, dated 18th November 1881).	Licenses to import and export without transhipment of arms, &c., in the port of Madras.	Total.	Number of licenses in Form XI produced before the Magistrate in accordance with rule 16 of the rules under the Arms Act.
1. Anantapur ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,255	1
2. Arcot, North ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,985	..
3. Arcot, South ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,558	..
4. Bellary ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,993	490
5. Canara, South ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,833	..
6. Chingleput ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,808	..
7. Coimbatore ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,558	70
8. Cuddapah ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,426	..
9. Ganjam ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	935	..
10. Gódvári ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,693	..
11. Kistna ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,256	..
12. Kurnool ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,031	..
13. Madras ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,272	..
14. Madura ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,745	..
15. Malabar ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,159	84
16. Nellore ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,462	..
17. Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	296	..
18. Salem ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,153	444
19. Tanjore ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,966	1,226
20. Tinnevely ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,476	..
21. Trichinopoly ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,129	..
22. Vizagapatnam ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	969	..
Total ..	153	82	81	493	377	267	58,194	66	178	774	3,865	1	68,849	2,315	66,618	3,136	..	..	..
1895 ..	187	81	..	442	371	269	58,194	66	243	1,755	4,974	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

APPENDIX II.

LICENCES issued under the Explosives Act, 1884, during 1896.

Serial No.	Districts.	Form A. Licenses to manufacture, sell and possess explosives under Rule 8 of the Explosives Rules.	Form B. Licenses to sell and possess explosives under Rule 8 of the Explosives Rules.	Form C. Licenses to possess explosives under Rule 8 of the Explosives Rules.	Form D. Licenses to possess explosives under Rule 14 of the Explosives Rules.	Form E. Licenses to possess explosives under Rule 17.	Form F. Licenses to sell explosives under Rule 23 of the Explosives Rules.	Form A. Licenses to import explosives under the rules regarding importation.	Total.
1	Coimbatore ..	100	81	..	1	..	..	..	182
2	Madras ..	12	180	..	..	3	3	77	275
3	Malabar ..	28	47	187	3	1	1	35	302
4	Nilgiris ..	1	31	..	54	3	..	..	89
	Total ..	141	339	187	58	7	4	112	848
	1896 ..	136	306	179	36	8	5	74	744

Levy.

27/9/97

Read cno 8136 of 97

Order misc no 5058 d/27 Sept 97

Communicated to

the Board of Rev.

2 It is observed that

the figures showing the number of free licenses issued during the year 1896, ^{in form T} as now reported by the District Magistrates differ in several cases from those furnished by the Board ^{in its} Progs no 81 d/ 16th March 1897 the cause of the discrepancies should be ascertained and reported for the information of Govt.

* L.O. no 306
d/7.5.97

Thro' the Registrar.

28 Sept 97

To the Board of Rev.
L.R. (A & O)

Copy to the Board of Rev.

Sep Rev (A & O)

Indirect Rev.

Note

The figures given in Para 9 of the B.P. on page 5 and Col 38 of the Statement on page 7 of L.O. no 306 d/ 7th May 1897 do not correspond with those given in para 2 of the present Judicial G.O. and Col 12 of the app^x I Chertu

21.7.97

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

189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____ DATED _____
 189 .

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURE TO O. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DUTY.

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

N.B.—
 A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 F = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only