

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1981

DATED 6th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Tents supplied by the Central Jail, Vellore.

Communicating to the Board of Revenue
G.O. (Judicial) recording, with remark, the report of
the Committee appointed to consider what improve-
-ments might be introduced into the present system
of manufacturing the _____.

BACK PAPERS.

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

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Revenue 1898 Department

Government 1898 of Madras.

JUDICIAL.

Recd. 26 Apr 1898.
Regd. 27 Apr 1898.

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G.O., No. 531, 28th March 1898.

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Tents supplied by the Central Jail, Vellore.

Recording, with remark, the report of the committee appointed to consider what improvements might be introduced into the present system of manufacturing the —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Report of the Committee appointed to consider what improvements might be introduced in the tents manufactured at the Vellore Central Jail.

The committee appointed under G.O., No. 835, Judicial, dated 14th June 1897, begs to submit its report to Government.

2. This committee was appointed for the purpose of considering what improvements might be introduced into the present system of manufacturing the tents supplied by the Central Jail at Vellore, as complaints had been made regarding their quality, durability and finish; and attention was specially directed to the question of reverting to the use of a heavier cloth for flies.

3. The committee as at first constituted consisted of the President, Mr. Willock, the Inspector-General of Prisons, and Messrs. Garrett and Meredith, who were nominated by the Chief Engineer and the Inspector-General of Police, respectively. During Mr. Meredith's absence on leave in the months of August and September 1897, Mr. Arbuthnott took his place on the committee, and Mr. Willock having left Madras at the end of October 1897, Mr. J. Thomson was appointed President, under G.O., No. 1707, Judicial, dated 4th December 1897, in his stead.

4. The committee held meetings on 31st August 1897 and 12th January 1898. At the first meeting several tents of the kind at present supplied by the Vellore Jail used and it was considered that their chief defect lay in the thinness of the cloth total tent weight, there was no serious objection to thicker cloth being used for the outer fold of the outside fly and for both inner folds. Samples of cloth which were considered to be suitable were accordingly selected and arrangements made for the construction of a sample set of tents for inspection.

5. Owing to a delay on the part of the Buckingham Mills in furnishing cloth of the kind selected, the sample set of tents was not ready till early in January when the second meeting of the committee was held. Two sets of tents had, in the meanwhile, been obtained from Cawnpore and Jubbulpore with reference to G.O., No. 4235, Revenue, dated 13th August 1897, and these, together with a set of Vellore tents as previously supplied, were pitched for comparison with the sample set. After careful inspection, it was decided that the sample set from Vellore was to be preferred to any of the others. The question of the kind and quantity of cloth to be used was further discussed and the following specification was finally arrived at. All walls and flies, except the flies of the bath-rooms and necessary tents, to be four-fold, the outer fold of M.C. 39, the inner fold of M.M. 10, and the two interior folds of bath-rooms and necessary tents to have an additional fold of jail cloth as above, making five folds in all.

It was also agreed that all inside cloths should be buff in colour and that all indigo dyed carpets should be thoroughly washed before issue.

6. The following statement, comparing the cost and weight of the sample set of tents with those of a similar set of the old pattern and as supplied by the Muir Mills at Cawnpore and the Reformatory School at Jubbulpore, is appended for the information of Government:—

Description of tents and place of manufacture.	Weight.			Cost.		
VELLORE CENTRAL JAIL.						
<i>(Original Sample Set.)</i>						
1 Miniature Swiss cottage tent 12' X 12' with bath-room chicks and carpet	MDS.	SEERS.	TOLAS	RS.	A.	P.
1 Shooting pal 10' X 10' with chicks and carpet	6	33	50	230	0	0
1 Servants' tent 8' X 8'	2	21	40	178	0	0
1 Necessary tent 4' X 4'	0	27	40	45	0	0
	0	39	0	33	0	0
	11	1	50	486	0	0
<i>Set as hitherto supplied to Inspectors of the Salt, Abkari and Customs Department.</i>						
1 Hill tent 12' X 12' with bath-room 5' X 5' and chicks and carpet	MDS.	SEERS.	TOLAS.	RS.	A.	P.
1 Double-fly sleeping pal 10' X 10' with chicks and carpet	7	4	0	334	0	0
1 Servants' tent 12' X 12'	3	2	0	198	4	0
1 Necessary tent 4' X 4'	1	10	0	61	0	0
	0	31	0	33	0	0
	12	7	0	625	4	0
MUIR MILLS COMPANY, CAWNPORE.						
1 Hill tent 12' X 12' with bath-room 5' X 5' with chicks and carpet	MDS.	SEERS.	TOLAS	RS.	A.	P.
1 Double-fly sleeping pal 10' X 10' (four folds)	5	25	70	320	0	0
1 Servants' pal 12' X 12'	2	3	20	160	0	0
1 Necessary tent 4' X 4'	0	29	70	50	0	0
	0	26	25	32	0	0
	9	6	25	562	0	0
REFORMATORY SCHOOL, JUBBULPORE.						
1 Hill tent 12' X 12' with bath-room 5' X 5' and chicks and carpet and purdahs (one extra)	MDS.	SEERS.	TOLAS.	RS.	A.	P.
1 Double-fly sleeping pal 10' X 10'	8	17	0	405	0	0
1 Servants' tent 12' X 12'	4	4	0	210	0	0
1 Necessary tent 4' X 4'	1	23	0	95	0	0
	0	35	0	32	0	0
	14	39	0	742	0	0

The cost was subsequently modified by the Inspector-General of Prisons - vide page 3 of 1898 - to Rs. 646.

The weight and cost of a set similar to the first made up according to the specification now decided upon are estimated to be 13 maunds 24 seers and 36 tolas and Rs. 646, respectively.

7. The matter of the prevention of mildew was discussed and it was resolved that it should be referred by the Inspector-General of Prisons for the opinion of a chemical expert. It was further resolved that the opinion of an experienced officer in the Forest department should be taken as to the proper way of seasoning bamboos.

8. The committee also undertook, at the request of the Commissioner of Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, to decide whether a Vellore Jail single-pole tent supplied to him to which he had taken objection should be accepted or not. The exceptions taken by the Commissioner were found valid. The tent was withdrawn by the Jail department. A similar request had been made by the Board in the Separate Revenue department, but the tents in question being urgently required had to be sent up-country before the committee could meet.

(Signed) J. THOMSON—President.

(") A. G. CARDEW, }
(") A. H. GARRETT, } Members.
(") J. MEREDITH, }

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

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No. 531, JUDICIAL, 28TH MARCH 1898.

ORDER No. 531, Judicial, dated 28th March 1898.

Recorded, with the remark that 10' x 10' would be a more useful size for the servants' tent than 8' x 8'. A tent of the latter size is too small.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
for Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Prisons.
" Revenue Department. ✓
" Public Works Department.
" Inspector-General of Police.

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READ AGAIN G.O., No.

DATED

189 ,

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

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STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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