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O 3,000—5-8-05.

Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 4968

DATED 16th December 98

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Colly of the Virgin
nagram Zamindari that Govt is unable to
sanction the supply of breach-loading arms
and that 100 muzzle loading arms [made] the purchas
in the open market.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government (1898) of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1898. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., Mis. No. 4988, 16th December 1898.

DECEMBER.

Informing the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari that Government is unable to sanction the supply of breech-loading arms and that 100 muzzle-loading arms may be purchased in the open market.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898 :—

Read—the following letter from W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., I.C.S., Collector and Guardian, Vizianagram Samastanam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 6th June 1898, No. 12 :—

I have the honour to enquire whether Government would supply me with 100 snider carbines similar to those used by the police, for the use of guards employed by the Vizianagram zamindari. A great deal of treasure escort has to be performed and the guards at present are armed with old flint locks and percussion muskets which have not been fired for many years, and which, if it could be done at all, could only be discharged with considerable danger. Lakhs of rupees have to be sent long distance dependant for safety on men armed with these antiquated weapons. It is absolutely necessary that I should obtain serviceable arms for the guards and it occurs to me that none could be more suitable for the purpose or less objectionable on public grounds than the bored out sniders now supplied with buck-shot cartridges to the police. I believe that any number of the rifles are at the disposal of the Government and that all that would have to be done would be, to bore out the lands and knock the back sights off.

Order—Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898.

Referred to the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, for favour of report on the following points :—

(i) whether the supply of bored out snider carbines may be allowed, and
(ii) whether so many as 100 carbines are required.

2. It is requested that the report may be submitted in consultation with the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, with application.

Read—the following letter from W. O. HORNE, Esq., I.C.S., District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 2nd October 1898, No. 1649 :—

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2. Mr. Willock is apparently correct in saying that he could under the Arms Act and Rules supply himself with these guns in the open market without reference, but the proviso to rule 9 gives Government the right of control and limitation, and Government has recently declined to allow the Maharaja of Jeypore to arm his guards with martinis.

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Enclosure.

From W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., I.C.S, Collector and Guardian, Vizianagram Zamindari, to the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 6th August 1898, No. 579.

In reply to your Endorsement No. 1236 on G.O., Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the guard now entertained at Vizianagram is as follows:—

Sepoys	213
Troopers	58

They are, however, only armed with obsolete weapons.

2. My estimate of what is required is as follows. I only count properly armed men in the list.

Fort—	
(1) First post main entrance	Four men
(2) Second post back entrance	,,
(3) Third post Treasury	,,
(4) Fourth Maharanees' apartments	,,
(5) Fifth Reserve	,,

As Rs. 4,00,000 or more is occasionally in the treasury and as there is jewellery of the reputed value of something near a crore of rupees within the walls, a total guard of 20 armed men does not seem unreasonable.

The thana treasuries are now practically unguarded. There are 19 of them and they sometimes contain 50, 60, or even 80 thousand rupees. Three stand of arms for each is hardly more than adequate. This would come to 57 or 77 with the arms of the Fort guards leaving a balance of Rs. 23 for escort duty. This is performed chiefly by the sepoys on the Fort establishment, the time of the thana peons being fully occupied by other duties. In January and February three or four lakhs of rupees are sometimes in transit, at the same time in a number of different consignments. A lakh of rupees is allowed, three carts and, allowing for the fact that the discipline of the sepoys is not good, an allowance of two men per cart would not be excessive for each cart. This would come to 24 men for three lakhs. On the whole, 23 carbines for escort duty would not be more than a reasonable allowance.

I have not got the Arms Act and Rules at hand, but I am under the impression that I could buy what I want in the open market (subject to conditions as to sighting) so long as the number of arms bought was not actually unreasonable. What I now ask for is to be supplied by Government with arms which, while fitted for guard duty, are much more harmless than anything I would be likely to obtain privately for other purposes. In fact, I want someting which will go off, if required, and at the same time do the minimum mischief.

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To the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

Read—the following letter from Colonel F. J. MORTIMER, R.A., Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 19th November 1898, No. 13318-A:—

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Prd. Shaik Karim.

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„ the Collector of Vizagapatam.
„ the Judicial Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

10 Copies.

Revenue Department.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., MIS. No. 4988, REVENUE, DATED 16th DECEMBER 1898.

[Subject.—*Supply of arms to the Vizianagram zamindari.*]

Letter from the Collector and Guardian of the Vizianagram zamindari, No. 12, dated 6th June 1898.

Judicial Department.

Will Revenue Department please say whether it considers the use of these carbines necessary in the interests of the zamindari? Judicial will then consider the expediency of allowing so large a number of breech-loading weapons to be possessed. The arrangements for obtaining the weapons, if they are allowed, will be for Revenue to make.

A. R. Knapp.
4-7-98.

G. Stokes.
9-7-98.

To the Revenue Department u.o.

Revenue Department.

To Secretary—

As to whether these carbines are necessary in the interests of the zamindari, no information is available beyond what is contained in Mr. Willock's letter. He says: "Lakhs of rupees have to be sent long distances dependent for safety on men armed "with these antiquated weapons (flint locks and percussion muskets). It is absolutely "necessary that I should obtain serviceable arms for the guards, and it occurs to "me that none could be more suitable for the purpose or less objectionable on public "grounds than the bored-out sniders now supplied with buckshot cartridges to the "police."

2. As regards the remark of the Judicial Department that "the arrangements for obtaining the weapons, if they are allowed, will be for Revenue to make," it is submitted that this will be the correct procedure, if the weapons have to be obtained from an officer who is *not* under the control of this Government, *e.g.*, the Inspector-General of Ordnance. Mr. Willock, however, says that any number of the rifles applied for by him are at the disposal of Government, presumably in the possession of the Police department, and it is submitted that it is for the Judicial to say whether this is so or not. If the arms are not at the disposal of the Police department, this department may apply to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

G.A.V.
16-7-98.

V.K.R.
16-7-98.

Apply to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

G. S. Forbes.
17-7-98.

To Secretary—

Application will be made to the Inspector-General of Ordnance. But before doing so, it appears necessary, it is respectfully submitted, that the question of supplying the arms should be considered by the Judicial Department. That department enquires—

(i) whether the use of bored-out snider carbines is necessary; and
(ii) whether so many as 100 of the carbines are required.

As stated above there is no information available in this office, other than what is contained in the extract from Mr. Willock's letter made therein.

May Mr. Willock be asked?

V.K.R.
22-7-98.

Ask District Magistrate to report after consulting Mr. Willock.

G.S.F.
25-7-98.

To Secretary—

Please see a reference * below.

* Issued as G.O., No. 3145, dated 26th July 1898.

V.K.R.
25-7-98.

Letter from the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, No. 1619, *dated 2nd October* 1898.

To Secretary—

The District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, after consulting the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari, reports (i) that the type of arms asked for by Mr. Willock—snider carbines—is suitable, and (ii) that the quantity—100 carbines—is not excessive.

2. May the file be forwarded to the Judicial Department, for consideration whether the zamindari may have so many as 100 carbines (*vide* its note on page 1 *supra*).

V.K.R.
11-10-98.

Yes.

G.S.F.
17-10-98.

To the Judicial Department u.o.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Chief Secretary—

Mr. Willock in his letter, dated 6th June 1898, addressed to the Revenue Department, asked whether Government would supply him with 100 snider carbines, similar to those used by the police, for the use of the guards employed in the Vizianagram zamindari. He proposed that the carbines should have the rifling bored out, and should be used for buckshot cartridges. The District Magistrate of Vizagapatam was consulted in the matter. He now reports in a letter to the Revenue Department that he considers the type of arm suggested a suitable one, and that the number is not excessive. He encloses a copy of a letter from Mr. Willock on the subject, in which details are given of the purposes for which the arms are required.

Mr. Willock says that he only applied to Government as he desired Government to sell him the weapons, otherwise, he says, he could have bought the arms in open market without question. As pointed out, however, by Mr. Horne, the zamindar, though exempted under rule I (9) of the Arms Act rules, only enjoys his exemption subject to such orders as the Local Government may issue regarding the number of weapons. (The Maharajah of Jeypore has been refused permission to use these weapons—*vide* G.O., No. 713, Judicial, dated 3rd May 1898).

Not so. He asked for snider rifles.

H. W. B[LISS].

Judicial has now to decide whether the possession of these weapons should be sanctioned, and if so, whether the full number asked for should be allowed. A smooth-bore snider is, it is submitted, no more dangerous than an ordinary smooth-bore gun, while it has the advantage of being cheaper and more serviceable at a low price.

Orders are requested.

A.R.K.
27-10-98.

To the Hon'ble Sir Henry Bliss—

There does not seem to be any objection to the proposal or to the number asked for.

G.S.
29-10-98.

I see no objection. Smooth-bore breech-loaders are no danger.

H. W. B[LISS].
31-10-98.

To the Revenue Department u.o.

A.R.K.
3-11-98.

G.S.
4-11-98.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To Secretary—

Please see draft below.

2. It is presumed that the arms are correctly described in the Official Memorandum.

V.K.R.
8-11-98.

* Issued as O.M. No. 269, dated 14th November 1898.

*Issue.

G.S.F.
11-11-98.

Letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance No. 13318 *A, dated 19th Nov.* 1898.

To Secretary—

The Inspector-General assumes that the Vizianagram zamindari is a Native State, and points out that the supply of snider carbines to it will be opposed to G.O., No. 184, Political, dated 11th March 1898.

2. Please see Official Memorandum below, pointing out the error. May the Political Department be consulted in the matter?

No.
G.S.F.

V.K.R.
30-11-98.

*Issued as Official Memorandum No. 298, dated 1st December 1898.

Issue the Official Memorandum.*

G.S.F.
1-12-98.

Letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance, No. 14432, *dated 8th December* 1898.

To Secretary—

The Inspector-General states that the sanction of the Government of India is necessary to the supply of breech loading arms. In his opinion a zamindari is included under "Native States" in regard to the supply of arms.

2. For orders whether it is necessary to address the Government of India? Mr. Willock stated that he could buy the arms in the open market; but that those which Government would supply, would, while fitted for guard duty, be much more harmless.

Or, may the Vizianagram Collector be left to purchase the arms in the open market?

V.K.R.
13-12-98.

It is not worth while referring the matter to the Government of India. Ask the Vizianagram zamindar to procure muzzle loading arms.

G.S.F.
14-12-98.

To Secretary—

Please see draft below.

V.K.R.
16-12-98.

Issue as revised.

G.S.F.
16-12-98.

[Issued as G.O., Mis. No. 4988, Revenue, dated 16th December 1898.]

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., MIS. No. 4988, REVENUE, DATED 16TH DECEMBER 1898.

[SUBJECT.—*Supply of arms to the Vizianagram zamindari.*]

Letter from the Collector and Guardian of the Vizianagram zamindari, No. 12, *dated 6th June* 1898.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Will Revenue Department please say whether it considers the use of these carbines necessary in the interests of the zamindari? Judicial will then consider the expediency of allowing so large a number of breech-loading weapons to be possessed. The arrangements for obtaining the weapons, if they are allowed, will be for Revenue to make.

A. R. KNAPP.
4-7-98.

G. STOKES.
9-7-98.

To the Revenue Department u.o.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To Secretary—

As to whether these carbines are necessary in the interests of the zamindari, no information is available beyond what is contained in Mr. Willock's letter. He says: "Lakhs of rupees have to be sent long distances dependent for safety on men armed "with these antiquated weapons (flint locks and percussion muskets). It is absolutely "necessary that I should obtain serviceable arms for the guards, and it occurs to "me that none could be more suitable for the purpose or less objectionable on public "grounds than the bored-out sniders now supplied with buckshot cartridges to the "police."

2. As regards the remark of the Judicial Department that "the arrangements for obtaining the weapons, if they are allowed, will be for Revenue to make," it is submitted that this will be the correct procedure, if the weapons have to be obtained from an officer who is *not* under the control of this Government, *e.g.*, the Inspector-General of Ordnance. Mr. Willock, however, says that any number of the rifles applied for by him are at the disposal of Government, presumably in the possession of the Police department, and it is submitted that it is for the Judicial to say whether this is so or not. If the arms are not at the disposal of the Police department, this department may apply to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

G.A.V.
16-7-98.

V.K.R.
16-7-98.

Apply to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

G. S. FORBES.
17-7-98.

To Secretary—

Application will be made to the Inspector-General of Ordnance. But before doing so, it appears necessary, it is respectfully submitted, that the question of supplying the arms should be considered by the Judicial Department. That department enquires—

(i) whether the use of bored-out snider carbines is necessary; and
(ii) whether so many as 100 of the carbines are required.

As stated above there is no information available in this office, other than what is contained in the extract from Mr. Willock's letter made therein.

May Mr. Willock be asked?

V.K.R.
22-7-98.

Ask District Magistrate to report after consulting Mr. Willock.

G.S.F.
25-7-98.

To Secretary—

Please see a reference * below.

* Issued as G.O., No. 3145, dated 26th July 1898.

V.K.R.
25-7-98.

Letter from the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, No. 1619, dated 2nd October 1898.

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The District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, after consulting the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari, reports (i) that the type of arms asked for by Mr. Willock—snider carbines—is suitable, and (ii) that the quantity—100 carbines—is not excessive.

2. May the file be forwarded to the Judicial Department, for consideration whether the zamindari may have so many as 100 carbines (*vide* its note on page 1 *supra*).

V.K.R.
11-10-98.

Yes.

G.S.F.
17-10-98.

To the Judicial Department u.o.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Chief Secretary—

Mr. Willock in his letter, dated 6th June 1898, addressed to the Revenue Department, asked whether Government would supply him with 100 snider carbines, similar to those used by the police, for the use of the guards employed in the Vizianagram zamindari. He proposed that the carbines should have the rifling bored out, and should be used for buckshot cartridges. The District Magistrate of Vizagapatam was consulted in the matter. He now reports in a letter to the Revenue Department that he considers the type of arm suggested a suitable one, and that the number is not excessive. He encloses a copy of a letter from Mr. Willock on the subject, in which details are given of the purposes for which the arms are required.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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Mr. Willock says that he only applied to Government as he desired Government to sell him the weapons, otherwise, he says, he could have bought the arms in open market without question. As pointed out, however, by Mr. Horne, the zamindar, though exempted under rule I (9) of the Arms Act rules, only enjoys his exemption subject to such orders as the Local Government may issue regarding the number of weapons. (The Maharajah of Jeypore has been refused permission to use these weapons—*vide* G.O., No. 713, Judicial, dated 3rd May 1898).

Not so. He asked for snider rifles.

H. W. B[LISS].

Judicial has now to decide whether the possession of these weapons should be sanctioned, and if so, whether the full number asked for should be allowed. A smooth-bore snider is, it is submitted, no more dangerous than an ordinary smooth-bore gun, while it has the advantage of being cheaper and more serviceable at a low price.

Orders are requested.

A.R.K.
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To the Hon'ble Sir Henry Bliss—

There does not seem to be any objection to the proposal or to the number asked for.

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I see no objection. Smooth-bore breech-loaders are no danger.

H. W. B[LISS].
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A.R.K.
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To Secretary—

Please see draft below.

2. It is presumed that the arms are correctly described in the Official Memorandum.

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*Issue.

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Letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance No. 13318 A, dated 19th Nov. 1898.

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The Inspector-General assumes that the Vizianagram zamindari is a Native State, and points out that the supply of snider carbines to it will be opposed to G.O., No. 184, Political, dated 11th March 1898.

2. Please see Official Memorandum below, pointing out the error. May the Political Department be consulted in the matter?

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V.K.R.
30-11-98.

* Issued as Official Memorandum No. 298, dated 1st December 1898.

Issue the Official Memorandum.*

G.S.F.
1-12-98.

Letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance, No. 14432, *dated 8th December* 1898.

To Secretary—

The Inspector-General states that the sanction of the Government of India is necessary to the supply of breech loading arms. In his opinion a zamindari is included under "Native States" in regard to the supply of arms.

2. For orders whether it is necessary to address the Government of India? Mr. Willock stated that he could buy the arms in the open market; but that those which Government would supply, would, while fitted for guard duty, be much more harmless.

Or, may the Vizianagram Collector be left to purchase the arms in the open market?

V.K.R.
13-12-98.

It is not worth while referring the matter to the Government of India. Ask the Vizianagram zamindar to procure muzzle loading arms.

G.S.F.
14-12-98.

To Secretary—

Please see draft below.

V.K.R.
16-12-98.

Issue as revised.

G.S.F.
16-12-98.

[Issued as G.O., Mis. No. 4988, Revenue, dated 16th December 1898.]

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Issue the Official Memorandum *

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G.S.F.
14-12-98.

To Secretary—

V.K.R.
16-12-98.

Please see draft below.

Issue as revised.

G.S.F.
16-12-98.

[Issued as G.O., Mis. No. 4988, Revenue, dated 16th December 1898.]

Government (1898) of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd.
Regd.
} 1898.

Enclosures
Spare copies

G.O., Mis. No. 4988, 16th December 1898.

DECEMBER.

Informing the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari that Government is unable to sanction the supply of breech-loading arms and that 100 muzzle-loading arms may be purchased in the open market.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following G.O., Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898:—

Read—the following letter from W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., I.C.S., Collector and Guardian, Vizianagram Samastanam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 6th June 1898, No. 12:—

I have the honour to enquire whether Government would supply me with 100 snider carbines similar to those used by the police, for the use of guards employed by the Vizianagram zamindari. A great deal of treasure escort has to be performed and the guards at present are armed with old flint locks and percussion muskets which have not been fired for many years, and which, if it could be done at all, could only be discharged with considerable danger. Lakhs of rupees have to be sent long distance dependant for safety on men armed with these antiquated weapons. It is absolutely necessary that I should obtain serviceable arms for the guards and it occurs to me that none could be more suitable for the purpose or less objectionable on public grounds than the bored out sniders now supplied with buck-shot cartridges to the police. I believe that any number of the rifles are at the disposal of the Government and that all that would have to be done would be, to bore out the lands and knock the back sights off.

Order—Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898.

Referred to the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, for favour of report on the following points:—

(i) whether the supply of bored out snider carbines may be allowed, and
(ii) whether so many as 100 carbines are required.

2. It is requested that the report may be submitted in consultation with the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, with application.

Read—the following letter from W. O. HORNE, Esq., I.C.S., District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated 2nd October 1898, No. 1649:—

In reply to Government Endorsement Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898, I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, copy of a letter from the Collector and Guardian of the Vizianagram zamindari and to say that in my opinion the type of arms asked for is suitable and the quantity not excessive.

2. Mr. Willock is apparently correct in saying that he could under the Arms Act and Rules supply himself with these guns in the open market without reference, but the proviso to rule 9 gives Government the right of control and limitation, and Government has recently declined to allow the Maharaja of Jeypore to arm his guards with martinis.

Enclosure.

From W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., I.C.S, Collector and Guardian, Vizianagram Zamindari, to the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 6th August 1898, No. 579.

In reply to your Endorsement No. 1236 on G.O., Mis. No. 3145, Revenue, dated 26th July 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the guard now entertained at Vizianagram is as follows:—

Sepoys	243
Troopers	58

They are, however, only armed with obsolete weapons.

2. My estimate of what is required is as follows. I only count properly armed men in the list.

Fort—

(1) First post main entrance	Four men
(2) Second post back entrance	,,
(3) Third post Treasury	,,
(4) Fourth Maharanees' apartments	,,
(5) Fifth Reserve	,,

As Rs. 4,00,000 or more is occasionally in the treasury and as there is jewellery of the reputed value of something near a crore of rupees within the walls, a total guard of 20 armed men does not seem unreasonable.

The thana treasuries are now practically unguarded. There are 19 of them and they sometimes contain 50, 60, or even 80 thousand rupees. Three stand of arms for each is hardly more than adequate. This would come to 57 or 77 with the arms of the Fort guards leaving a balance of Rs. 23 for escort duty. This is performed chiefly by the sepoys on the Fort establishment, the time of the thana peons being fully occupied by other duties. In January and February three or four lakhs of rupees are sometimes in transit, at the same time in a number of different consignments. A lakh of rupees is allowed, three carts and, allowing for the fact that the discipline of the sepoys is not good, an allowance of two men per cart would not be excessive for each cart. This would come to 24 men for three lakhs. On the whole, 23 carbines for escort duty would not be more than a reasonable allowance.

I have not got the Arms Act and Rules at hand, but I am under the impression that I could buy what I want in the open market (subject to conditions as to sighting) so long as the number of arms bought was not actually unreasonable. What I now ask for is to be supplied by Government with arms which, while fitted for guard duty, are much more harmless than anything I would be likely to obtain privately for other purposes. In fact, I want someting which will go off, if required, and at the same time do the minimum mischief.

Read—the following Official Memorandum, No. 269, Revenue, dated 14th November 1898.

Official Memorandum—No. 269, Revenue, dated 14th November 1898.

The Inspector-General of Ordnance is requested to be good enough to state whether he can supply to the Vizianagram zamindari, Vizagapatam district, one hundred smooth-bore snider carbines similar to those supplied with buck-shot cartridges to the police, and if so at what price.

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

Read—the following letter from Colonel F. J. MORTIMER, R.A., Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 19th November 1898, No. 13318-A:—

With reference to Revenue Department Memorandum No. 269, dated 14th November 1898, I have the honour to inform that smooth bore snider carbines cannot be issued to Native States—*vide* G O, No. 184, Political, dated 11th March 1898 (Confidential).

Read—again the following Official Memorandum, No. 298, Revenue, dated 1st December 1898.

Official Memorandum—No. 298, Revenue, dated 1st December 1898.

With reference to his letter No. 13318-A., dated 19th November 1898, the Inspector-General of Ordnance is informed that Vizianagram is not a Native State, but an ordinary zamindari estate in British India. He is requested to be good enough to state whether he can supply the snider carbines asked for, and at what price.

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

Read—also the following letter from Colonel F. J. MORTIMER, R.A., Inspector-General of Ordnance, Madras Command, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 8th December 1898, No. 14432-A:—

With reference to Revenue Department Memorandum No. 298, dated 1st December 1898, I have the honour to state that breech-loading arms cannot be issued without the sanction of the Government of India, as a zamindari must be considered to come under the meaning of Native State with regard to the supply of arms.

2. Breech-loading, smooth-bore arms with bayonets, when issued to Native States are charged for at the rate of Rs. 35 each.

Order—Mis. No. 4988, Revenue, dated 16th December 1898.

The Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari will be informed that the Government are unable to sanction the supply of breech-loading arms and that 100 muzzle-loading arms may be purchased in the open market.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari.
„ the Collector of Vizagapatam.
„ the Judicial Department.

Ex.J. Shaik Karim.

10 Copies.

Revenue Department.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., MIS. No. 4988, REVENUE, DATED 16th DECEMBER 1898.

[Subject.—*Supply of arms to the Vizianagram zamindari.*]

Letter from the Collector and Guardian of the Vizianagram zamindari, No. 12, dated 6th June 1898.

Judicial Department.

Will Revenue Department please say whether it considers the use of these carbines necessary in the interests of the zamindari? Judicial will then consider the expediency of allowing so large a number of breech-loading weapons to be possessed. The arrangements for obtaining the weapons, if they are allowed, will be for Revenue to make.

A. R. Knapp.
4-7-98.

G. Stokes.
9-7-98.

To the Revenue Department u.o.

Revenue Department.

To Secretary—

As to whether these carbines are necessary in the interests of the zamindari, no information is available beyond what is contained in Mr. Willock's letter. He says: "Lakhs of rupees have to be sent long distances dependent for safety on men armed "with these antiquated weapons (flint locks and percussion muskets). It is absolutely "necessary that I should obtain serviceable arms for the guards, and it occurs to "me that none could be more suitable for the purpose or less objectionable on public "grounds than the bored-out sniders now supplied with buckshot cartridges to the "police."

2. As regards the remark of the Judicial Department that "the arrangements for obtaining the weapons, if they are allowed, will be for Revenue to make," it is submitted that this will be the correct procedure, if the weapons have to be obtained from an officer who is *not* under the control of this Government, *e.g.*, the Inspector-General of Ordnance. Mr. Willock, however, says that any number of the rifles applied for by him are at the disposal of Government, presumably in the possession of the Police department, and it is submitted that it is for the Judicial to say whether this is so or not. If the arms are not at the disposal of the Police department, this department may apply to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

G.A.V.
16-7-98.

V.K.R.
16-7-98.

Apply to the Inspector-General of Ordnance.

G. S. Forbes.
17-7-98.

To Secretary—

Application will be made to the Inspector-General of Ordnance. But before doing so, it appears necessary, it is respectfully submitted, that the question of supplying the arms should be considered by the Judicial Department. That department enquires—

(i) whether the use of bored-out snider carbines is necessary; and
(ii) whether so many as 100 of the carbines are required.

As stated above there is no information available in this office, other than what is contained in the extract from Mr. Willock's letter made therein.

May Mr. Willock be asked?

V.K.R.
22-7-98.

Ask District Magistrate to report after consulting Mr. Willock.

G.S.F.
25-7-98.

To Secretary—

Please see a reference * below.

* Issued as G.O., No. 3145, dated 26th July 1898.

V.K.R.
25-7-98.

Letter from the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, No. 1619, *dated 2nd October* 1898.

To Secretary—

The District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, after consulting the Collector of the Vizianagram zamindari, reports (i) that the type of arms asked for by Mr. Willock—snider carbines—is suitable, and (ii) that the quantity—100 carbines—is not excessive.

2. May the file be forwarded to the Judicial Department, for consideration whether the zamindari may have so many as 100 carbines (*vide* its note on page 1 *supra*).

V.K.R.
11-10-98.

Yes.

G.S.F.
17-10-98.

To the Judicial Department u.o.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Chief Secretary—

Mr. Willock in his letter, dated 6th June 1898, addressed to the Revenue Department, asked whether Government would supply him with 100 snider carbines, similar to those used by the police, for the use of the guards employed in the Vizianagram zamindari. He proposed that the carbines should have the rifling bored out, and should be used for buckshot cartridges. The District Magistrate of Vizagapatam was consulted in the matter. He now reports in a letter to the Revenue Department that he considers the type of arm suggested a suitable one, and that the number is not excessive. He encloses a copy of a letter from Mr. Willock on the subject, in which details are given of the purposes for which the arms are required.

Mr. Willock says that he only applied to Government as he desired Government to sell him the weapons, otherwise, he says, he could have bought the arms in open market without question. As pointed out, however, by Mr. Horne, the zamindar, though exempted under rule I (9) of the Arms Act rules, only enjoys his exemption subject to such orders as the Local Government may issue regarding the number of weapons. (The Maharajah of Jeypore has been refused permission to use these weapons—*vide* G.O., No. 713, Judicial, dated 3rd May 1898).

Not so. He asked for snider rifles.

H. W. B[LISS].

Judicial has now to decide whether the possession of these weapons should be sanctioned, and if so, whether the full number asked for should be allowed. A smooth-bore snider is, it is submitted, no more dangerous than an ordinary smooth-bore gun, while it has the advantage of being cheaper and more serviceable at a low price.

Orders are requested.

A.R.K.
27-10-98.

To the Hon'ble Sir Henry Bliss—

There does not seem to be any objection to the proposal or to the number asked for.

G.S.
29-10-98.

I see no objection. Smooth-bore breech-loaders are no danger.

H. W. B[LISS].
31-10-98.

To the Revenue Department u.o.

A.R.K.
3-11-98.

G.S.
4-11-98.

To Secretary—

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Please see draft below.

2. It is presumed that the arms are correctly described in the Official Memorandum.

V.K.R.
8-11-98.

* Issued as O.M. No. 269, dated 14th November 1898.

*Issue.

G.S.F.
11-11-98.

Letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance No. 13318 *A, dated 19th Nov.* 1898.

To Secretary—

The Inspector-General assumes that the Vizianagram zamindari is a Native State, and points out that the supply of snider carbines to it will be opposed to G.O., No. 184, Political, dated 11th March 1898.

2. Please see Official Memorandum below, pointing out the error. May the Political Department be consulted in the matter?

No.
G.S.F.

V.K.R.
30-11-98.

* Issued as Official Memorandum No. 298, dated 1st December 1898.

Issue the Official Memorandum.*

G.S.F.
1-12-98.

Letter from the Inspector-General of Ordnance, No. 14432, *dated 8th December* 1898.

To Secretary—

The Inspector-General states that the sanction of the Government of India is necessary to the supply of breech loading arms. In his opinion a zamindari is included under "Native States" in regard to the supply of arms.

2. For orders whether it is necessary to address the Government of India? Mr. Willock stated that he could buy the arms in the open market; but that those which Government would supply, would, while fitted for guard duty, be much more harmless.

Or, may the Vizianagram Collector be left to purchase the arms in the open market?

V.K.R.
13-12-98.

It is not worth while referring the matter to the Government of India. Ask the Vizianagram zamindar to procure muzzle loading arms.

G.S.F.
14-12-98.

To Secretary—

Please see draft below.

V.K.R.
16-12-98.

Issue as revised.

G.S.F.
16-12-98.

[Issued as G.O., Mis. No. 4988, Revenue, dated 16th December 1898.]

16

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 94

Order.

From
The Inspector General of Ordnance. M.C. Ootacamund.

No. A 14432

Dated 8th December, 1898.

Received } 12 " "
Registered }

Enclosures —

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

B.L. Arms— states that— cannot be issued without the sanction of Govt. of India as a Zamindari must be considered to come under the meaning of Native state with regard to the Rule of Arms.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

P. No. 61—A.
5000—18-10-98.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

No. A 14432

From

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ORDNANCE,
MADRAS COMMAND.

To

THE Chief Secretary to Government,
Madras.

CHIEF SECRETARY
10 DEC 1898
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

OOTACAMUND, 8th December 1898

Sir,

With reference to Revinue Department Memorandum 293 dated 1st December 1898, I have the honour to state that B.L. Arms cannot be issued without the sanction of the Government of India, as a Zamindari must be considered to come under the meaning of Native State with regard to the supply of Arms.

2. B.L. S.B. Arms with bayonets, when issued to Native States are charged for at the rate of Rs35/- each.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Colonel, R.A.,
Inspector General of Ordnance, M.C.

$\frac{D}{7}$ 500—14 5-98.

Revenue Department.

No. 298

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

C. no. 7998

but an ordinary Zamindari estate in Central India

With reference to his letter No 13318 A dt 19.11.98, the Inspector-General of Ordnance is informed that ~~the~~ Vizianagram ~~Zamindari~~ is not a native state, ~~The~~ He is requested to be good enough to state whether he can supply the Snider carbines asked for, and at what prices.

SB 1/12/8

Fort St. George
1st ~~November~~ December 1898

To:

The I-G of Ordnance.

KD
30/11/98

DeS - 3-12-98

4

Revenue.

~~Marine~~ (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 7998

CHIEF SECRETARIAT
21. NOV. 1898
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Order

From

Inspector General of Ordce:
Madras Command,
Ootacamund.

No. 13318-A.

Dated 19th November 1898.

Received 24/11

Enclosures 3

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that the S.B.Snider Carbines cannot be issued to Native States.

5

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

P. No. 61—A.
5000—18.10.98.

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

—o—

No. 15318-A.

FROM

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ORDNANCE,

MADRAS COMMAND.

To

THE Chief Secretary,

to Government,

M a d r a s.

OOTACAMUND, 19th November'98

Sir,

With reference to Revenue Department Memorandum 269 dated 14th November 1898, I have the honour to inform that S.B. Snider Carbines cannot be issued to Native States-vide G.O. Political No.184 dated 11th March 1898.; Confidential.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obodient servant,

[signature] Colonel, R.A.,

Inspector-General of Ordnance,

Madras Command.

6

Jamasthanam Division

D/7 600—1s 5-98.

Revenue Department.

No. 269.

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

The Inspector-General of Ordnance is requested to be good enough to state whether he can supply to ~~the Collector of the~~ Vizianagram Zamindari, ~~Rajahpalaiem District~~, one hundred smooth bore snider carbines similar to those supplied with buck shot cartridges to the Police, and if so at what price.

Fort St: George
14th November 1898

S.R. 11/11/8

To

The I-G of Ordnance

KD
8/11/98

D.O. 14-11-98

Samasthanam Archives
Office Vizianagram

Revenue (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1649

From

The District Magistrate
Vizagapatam

Order

No. 1649

Dated 27th October 1898
Received 9th —
Registered 10th —
Enclosures Two.
Spare copies

GOVT. PEN. OFFICE

SUBJECT.

Submitting reply to G.O. No. 3145 dated 26.7.98 regarding the supply of bored out guns for Cochin to the Vizianagaram Samasthanam

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Samasthanam Agency
Office Vizianagram
6th August 1898.

ord 579

From

W. D. Willcocks Esqre,
Collector & Guardian
Vizianagram Zemindary.

To

The Collector, Vizagapatam.

Sir,

In reply to your Endorsement ord 1236 on G. O ord 3145 cllis: dated 26-7-98, I have the honor to inform you that the guards -nces entertained at Vizianagram is as follows.

Depoys 243
Troopers 58

They are however only armed with obsolete weapons.

2. cllly estimate of what is required is as follows. I only count properly armed men in the list.

Fort

1st	Post cllain entrance	4 men
2nd	" Back "	4 men
3rd	" Treasury	4 men
4	" cllaharanies apartments	4 men
5	Reserve	4 men.

As Rs 40,0000/ or more is occasionally in the Treasury and as there is jewellery of the reputed value of something near a crore of Rupees within the walls, a total guard of 20 armed men does not seem unreasonable.

The Thana treasuries are never practically ungarded. There are 19 of them and they sometimes contain 50, 60, or even 80 thousand rupees. There stand of arms for each is hardly

more

more than adequate. This would come to 57 or 77 with the arms of the Fort guards leaving a balance of Rs 23 for escort duty. This is performed chiefly by the peyons on the Fort establishment, the time of the Thana peons being fully occupied by other duties. In January and February three or four lakhs of rupees are sometimes in transit, at the same time in a number of different consignments. 3 lakhs of rupees is allowed 3 carts and, allowing for the fact that the discipline of the peyons is not good, an allowance of 2 men per cart would not be excessive for each cart. This would come to 24 men for 3 lakhs. On the whole, 23 carbines for escort duty would not be more than a reasonable allowance.

I have not got the Arms Act and rules at hand but I am under the impression that I could buy what I want in the open market (subject to conditions as to fighting) so long as the number of arms bought was not actually unreasonable. What I now ask for is to be supplied by Government with arms which, while fitted for guards duty, are much more harmless than anything I would be likely to obtain privately for other purposes. In fact, I want something which will go off, if required, and at the same time do the minimum mischief.

I have &c &c,

(Signed) W.A. Willcock

Collector & Guardian

Vizianagram Zemindari

1 (True Copy)
REVENUE DEPT.

for District Magistrate.

[V. C. P.—No. 296.—30-3-97.—300.]

Rc. C. Dis. No. 1649

District Magistrate's
VIZAGAPATAM ~~COLLECTOR'S~~ OFFICE,
Dated 22 October 1898;
Rec'd 25 October

From

W. O. Horne Esq^re.

~~the~~ Collector, Magistrate,
Vizagapatam District.

To

The Honorable Mr. G. S. Forbes,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department,
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to Government Endorsement Miscellaneous No. 3145 dated 26th July 1898, I have the honor to forward for the information of Government copy of a letter from the Collector and Guardian of the Vizianagram Zemindari and to say that in my opinion the type of arms asked for is suitable and the quantity not excessive.

2. Mr. Willcock is apparently correct in saying that he could under the ~~Arms~~ Act and rules supply himself with these guns in the open market without reference, but the proviso to rules 7 gives Government the right of control and limitation, and Government has recently declined to allow the Maharajah of Jeypur to arm his guards with ~~martines~~

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant

for District Magistrate

Notes connected with [illegible]

[illegible] Supply [illegible]

3145
26.7.95

4900 Mis, 26.12.95. Rec'd Dept

Foreign Judicial

Dept (Judl Cons 2759 of 98)

To Secretary

As to whether these carbines are necessary in the interests of the Zamindar no information is available beyond what is contained in Mr Willock's letter. He says:- "Lakhs of rupees "have to be sent long "distances dependent "for safety on men armed "with these antiquated "weapons (flint locks and "percussion muskets). It "is absolutely necessary "that I should obtain "serviceable arms "for the guards and it "seems to me that none "could be more suitable "for the purpose or less "objectionable on public "grounds than the "bored out Sniders now

"supplied with buckshot
"cartridges to the police".

2. As regards the re-
mark after Judicial
Dept that "the arrang-
"ments for obtaining
"the weapons, if they
"are allowed, will
"be for Revenue to make",
it is submitted that
this* will be the ~~Court~~ correct procedure
if the ~~officer who~~
~~will supply~~ the weapons
~~were~~ have to be obtained from an officer who is
not under the
control of this Govt. e.g. the D. G. of ordnance.
Mr Willcock, however,
says that any number
of the rifles applied
for by him are at the
disposal of Govt ~~and~~ presumably, ~~at the~~ in the possession of the
it is for the Judicial Police Dept, and it is submitted that
to say whether this
is so or not. If the arms are
5/7/98. not at the disposal of the Police Dept, the
Dept. may apply to the D-G. of ordnance.

KD
16/7/98

Apply to the D.G of Ordnance

CR 16/7/S

3

To Secy

Application will be made to the D-G of ordnance. But before doing so, it appears necessary, it is respectfully submitted, that the question of supplying the arms should be considered by the Judicial Dept. That Dept enquires ~~whether~~ —

(i) whether the issue of bored out snider carbines is necessary; and

(ii) whether so many as 100 of the carbines are required.

As stated on the first page there is no information available in this office, other than what is contained in the extract from Mr. Willock's letter made therein.

May Mr. Willock be asked?

KD
22/7/98 Ask D. ~~Magte~~ Magte to refer to after consulting Mr Willock

CR 25/7/S

To Secy

Please see a reference below.

KD
25/7/98

Letter from the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, No 1649 dated 2-10-98 (R no 6964).

To Secy

The District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, after consulting the Collr of the Vizianag

* Issued as G.O. 3145 25-7-98

Zamindari, reports (i) that the type of arms asked for by Mr. Willock — Snider Carbines — is suitable and (ii) that the quantity — 100 carbines — is not excessive.

2. May the file be forwarded to the Judicial Dept, for consideration whether the Zamindari may have so many as 100 carbines (vide its endorsement under G.O. No 3145 dated 26-7-98)

KO
11/10/98

Yes
S.R. 14/10/98

Read 17/10/98.

e 31.8.98
R/. 11.98
[G. / 26]
—19-10-98.

5

.....Judicial.....DEPARTMENT.

C. No.

SUBJECT.

Arms for the Vizianagaram Zamindari.

~~HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.~~

THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

~~THE HON'BLE MR. ARUNDEL~~

FOR ORDERS.

Mr. Willock in his letter dated 6-6-95 addressed to the Revenue Department asked whether Government would supply him with 100 snider carbines, similar to those used by the police, for the use of the Guards employed in the Vizianagaram Zamindari. He proposed that the carbines should have the rifling bored out, and should be used for buck shot cartridges. The Dist. Magte. of Vizagapatam was consulted on the matter. He now reports in a letter to the Rev. Dept. that he considers the type of arm suggested a suitable one, and that the number is not excessive. He encloses a copy of a letter from Mr. Willock on the subject, in which details are given of the purposes for which the arms are required.

Mr. Willock says that he only applied to Govt. as he desired Govt. to sell him the weapons, otherwise, he says, he could have bought the arms

in

in open market without question. As pointed out, however, by Mr. Horne the Zamindar, though exempted under rule I (9) of the Arms Act rules, only enjoys his exemption subject to such orders as the Local Govt. may issue regarding the number of weapons. (The Maharajah of Jeypore has been refused permission to use these weapons vide G.O. 715 Judl. 3-5-98 and the D.O. at A)

Judicial has now to decide whether the possession of these weapons should be sanctioned and if so whether the full number asked for should be allowed. A smooth-bore snider is it is submitted no more dangerous than an ordinary smooth bore gun, while it has the advantage of being cheaper and more serviceable at a low price.

Orders are requested.

Ext to. Heard for
Snider rifles
BS

27/X/98 Then does not seem to be any objection to the proposal as to the number asked for.

29-10-98.

Secy objection - Smooth bore breach loaders are no danger.

BS
31/10/98

Secy to.

Dept. IV. No. 2389 d/5-11-98.

To the Revenue Dept.
(Secy)

3/XI/98

11/11/98.

Dept.
Secy
BS
11/11/98

Ordered as per D.O. no 269 dated 14-11-98

7 Rev. Dept.

To Secy.

Please see draft below.

2. It is presumed that ~~the description~~ are correctly described of the arms given in the D.O. ~~is correct~~.

KD
8/11/98

Issued
11/11/98

From the Inspector-General of Ordnance no 13,318-A dated 19-11-98 (C no 7998)

To Secy

The Inspector-General assumes that the Vizianagram Zamindari is a native State, and points out that the supply of snider carbines will be opposed to G.O. no 1014 Pol. dated 11-3-98.

2. Please see D. M. below, pointing out the error. May the Political Dept. be consulted in the matter?

KD
29/11/98
30

Done the 07 no 298 1-12-98

8/12/98

From the Inspector-General of Ordnance no 14,432 dated 8-12-98 (C no 8474)

To Secy

The Inspector-General states the the sanction of the Govt. of India is necessary

the supply of B.d. arms. In his opinion a Zamindari is included under "Native states" in regard to the supply of arms.

2. For orders whether it is necessary to address the Govt. of India? Mr. Willock stated that he could buy the arms in the open market; but that those which Govt. would supply, would, while fitted for guard duty, be much more harmless.

Or, may the I'mself be left to purchase the arms in the open market?

KD
13/12/98

It is submitted while referring the matter to the Govt of India, ask the V[ice]roy and Govt to procure muzzle loading arms, as ~~they have each~~ [illegible]

JH
14/12/98

To Secretary

Please see draft below.

KD
16/12/98

[illegible]

per Tar

WH

Read full

Secretary
Simply for information

Rev. Dept

Read

(1) again G.O. No. 3145 dt 26-7-98
(2) letter from the Collector of Vizag No. 1649 dt 2-10-98 (CR No. 6964)
(3) O.M. No. 269 dt 14-11-98.
(4) From the J.G. of ordnance No. 13318-A dt 19-11-98 (CR) 998
(5) O.M. No. 298 dt 1-12-98.
(6) From the J.G. of ordnance No. 14432-A dt 8-12-98 (CR. 84) 4-

G.O. mis No. 4988 P/16th Dec 1898.

The ~~correspondence~~ ~~read above~~ ~~will be communicated~~ to the Collector of the Vizianagram Zamindari, ~~for his remark.~~ ~~he is informed~~ will be informed that the Govt ~~does~~ are unable to sanction the supply of breechloading rifles to ~~Govt~~ to members arms & that the Govt of India in the matter, and that ~~they~~ ~~Govt~~ ~~will~~ ~~not~~ ~~supply~~ 100 muzzle loading arms ~~are~~ may be purchased in the open market.

Sd/ 15/12/98. the open market.

KD
16/12/98

The Collr of the Vizianagram Zamindari
- Vizag
- J.D.

Secy. 21-12-98

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GOVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

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N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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