

Government of Madras.
Judicial (1911) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1770

CONFIDENTIAL

DATED 18-11-1911.

[Abstract.]

VIJAYA VIKATAM. Recording correspondence relating to the warning conveyed to the Editor of the by the Chief Presidency Magistrate under the orders of Government in respect of certain objectionable articles published by him.

confd.

Tel. Department.

on N. 10/230-1/12.10.11.

16th Aug. 1911. The Madras
Damages Suit and the Vice.

23^d Aug 1911. The Nellore District
Conference.

2^d Sept^r 1911. The present
condition of India.

The attention of the Ch.
Presq. Magte. is drawn to the
accompanying translations of ~~three~~
the three articles noted on the
margin which appeared in the
Vijaya Vicitran, a Tamil bi-weekly
published in Madras City. The
Govt. consider that the tone of the
articles is objectionable and that
a warning shd. be conveyed to
the Editor to refrain from pub-
lishing such matter. The Chief
Presq. Magte. is requested to take
action accordingly and to report
the fact to Govt.

To

12.10.11
The Ch. Presq.

Magte., Madras

translations
(with extracts from the)

be returned)

Recd for min
12.10.11

CO.
2/10/11

2/10/11

2/10

2/10

10/10

Confidential
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Received

CURRENT NO.
191
4925
JUDICIAL

Registered

~~CURRENT NO.~~
~~670~~
~~PUBLIC~~

CHIEF SECRETARY'S
21-OCT. 1911
DEPARTMENT OF MADRAS

Regd. 25-X-11 Subject.

Reporting to Government that the war-
ing in ~~Incus~~ and cum No. 6/230-1 Judicial
of 12th October 1911 has been conveyed to
the editor of the Vijaya Vikatan.

ENCLOSURES

No. *One*

Spare copies

R Dis No. 248

Station *Eximus, Madras* Dated the *19th October 1911*.

From (Name) *H. D. Bird Esq. Bar. at Law*
(Designation) *Chief Presidency Magistrate*

To The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Sir,

With reference to Confidential
Incus and cum No. 6/230-1 Judicial
dated 12th October 1911, I have the
honour to report that the editor of
the Vijaya Vikatan, K. S. Katheru
Rattar, appeared before me on the
18th instant in accordance with the
notice issued on receipt of the men-
dandum and that, as he does not

know English, the portions of the
articles referred to were translated
to him in Tamil and he was warned
to refrain from publishing such matter
in future. A copy of the statement-
made and signed by him is submitted.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most-obedient Servant-

J. D. Bird

Chief Presidency Magistrate

Me

4

Before F. D. Bird Esq. Bar-at-Law,
Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras

K. S. Katherulan Rattor S. A. I am the
editor, printer and publisher of the
Vijaya Vikatan, a bi-weekly journal
in Tamil. I have heard now the objec-
tionable portions of the articles noted
in the margin translated to me.

16th August 1911. The Indian
Damages Act and the Rules
23rd August 1911. The Yellow
District Conference
2nd September 1911. The present
Condition of India

I regret that
I have pub-
-lished these
portions of
articles in
the journal.
I have received

the warning conveyed by the Chief Presi-
dency Magistrate and I will refrain
from publishing such articles in future
in the journal.

Dated 18th October 1911 (Signed) K. S. Katherulan
in Tamil Rattor

Signed in my presence after being trans-
lated to him by the chief clerk.

(Signed) F. D. Bird
Chief Presidency Mag.
18th October 1911

CONFIDENTIAL. N^o 230
2.10.11

5

No. C. 18

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

CHIEF SECRETARY
MADRAS
21 SEP 1911Circd. 2.10.11 C.I.D.
Recd. 4.10.11

From the Criminal Investigation Department, Dated 28th September 1911

Chief Secretary—

N^o 522-C
28.9.11

Three extracts from the "Vijaya Vikatan" are forwarded for favour of perusal.

This newspaper is a Tamil bi-weekly published in Madras and printed at the Vijaya Vikatan Press. The editor is the proprietor, publisher and printer of the paper and owns the press. He is a Hindu named K.S. Kadirvelu, and nothing is known against his character. The paper has a large circulation and some influence among the lower classes. It is written in a vulgar style, contains local and general news, treats of politics, and its tone is occasionally vehement.

The tone of the articles enclosed is objectionable. A warning may be conveyed to the editor, through the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras, to refrain from publishing objectionable matter of this sort in future.

[Signature]

Action may be taken as proposed

[Signature]
30/9

[Signature]

[Signature]
3-4

[Signature]

30/9
4/10

us.

A draft on. to the chief Presy. mayte. is submitted.

co.

7/10/11

WJ 7-10/11

Sun

7/10

CS

I am inclined to think the warning ought to be given by the Commissioner of Police, but the order may issue.

Sun 12/10

1/11
1870

prcf.

on. to the chief Presy. mayte., No. C/230-1, & 12-10-94.

pp 2-4 CF.

(Cno. 49 25) from the chief Presy. mayte., Radio No.

248, & 12-10-94.

us.

May 12 recorded. Draft order is submitted.

co.

4/11

WJ 4/11-11

Issue cut 17/11

[3. / 6]
12,100-28-12-05.

Vijaya Vikatan

Confidential

7 / Jul DEPARTMENT.

READ

Recording correspondence relating to the warning conveyed to the Editor of the — by the Ch. Presy. mafe. under the orders of Govt. in respect of certain objectionable articles published by him.

om. to the Ch. Presy mafe., No - C / 230-1, 2

12.10.41

(CNo. 4925) from the Ch. Presy. mafe., R.S.O.
No. 248, 2 12.10.41.

ORDER No. 1770, dated 18th November 1941.

mis.

Recorded

2. The Ch. Presy. mafe. is requested to return the transcriptions of the three articles forwarded to him.

17/11

Recd
19/11/41

X 9
CO 18/11/41

CO.
4.11.41
25
6.11.41

To
The Ch Presy mafe
Cg of Govt to 1

D.S.G.
of Police.
C & D.
(a of Govt to)

Confidential 8

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT NO.
5269
JUDICIAL

Received 191 . Registered *23-11-1911*

Subject,

Returning the three articles referred to in para 2
of G.O. No. 1770--Judicial--dated 18th November 1911:

RECEIVED
NOV 21 1911
PUBLICITY DEPT.

RECEIVED SECRETARY
22 NOV 1911
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

ENCLOSURES.

No. *Three*

Spare copies

Reis No. 280 of 1911.

Station Egmore, Madras., Dated the 20th November 1911.

From (Name) F.D. Bird Esquire, Bar-at-Law.

(Designation) Chief Presidency Magistrate.

To The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Sir,

I have the honour to return the translations of the
three articles referred to in para 2 of Government Order
No. 1770--Judicial--dated 18th November 1911.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

F D Bird

Chief Presidency Magistrate.

*Loged
27/11*

*20
24.11.11
20/11-11*

To be stitched with the

P. origl. g. g. 1770 d 18.11.1911.

12. In a leader on this subject, the *Vijaya Vikatan*, of the 16th * August, says:—Ever since the appearance of the abominable bomb in this country, the Government has strengthened the ranks of the police and invested them with enormous powers, with a view to suppress this scourge. Thus armed, there is practically no limit to the excesses committed by our red-turbaned gods. A bomb here, a leaflet there or a seditious meeting elsewhere is sufficient to call the policemen to the scene and straight way they proceed to make mountains of mole-hills. They succeed with the help of their superior officers in getting a number of warrants issued and make wholesale arrests. The persons who are thus indiscriminately arrested are kept in lock-up for four months and after undergoing trial for eight months, are sentenced to five or ten years' punishment. We have no mind to find fault with the procedure adopted by the police or the punishment awarded to the culprits. Only we are amused at the way in which the police arrest innocent and unwary men and torment them to confess their alleged guilt and at their concoction of evidence to support their case. All these features of police procedure are illustrated in the Midnapore damages suit. A rich zamindar who was implicated in this case had to spend nearly two lakhs of rupees according to some or Rs. 75,000 according to others to establish his innocence. After all the version of the police has been proved to be false by the High Court. Happily the victim of the police in this case was rich and therefore in a position to spend the necessary funds to set up an able defence. But what would have been the fate of a poor man under the circumstances? It is, however, a matter for satisfaction that the High Courts in India hold the scales of justice even between the Government and the people, and it is no wonder that the people look upon these courts as divine. The amount spent by Government in this case is estimated at a lakh of rupees, and in addition to this there are the damages to be paid. Cannot the Government which blindly spends such an enormous sum of money better utilise it on education and thus remove the ignorance of the masses? Instead of adopting such a course, the Government and the police are pursuing a self-willed policy and the result is riot and agitation. It is with a view to invite the attention of Government to this matter that we have penned these lines.

25. In a leader under this heading, *Vijaya Vikatan*, of the 23rd August, observes as follows:—The Hon'ble Mr. Govindaraghava Aiyar, who presided over this conference, condemned the Government order on the Palghat municipal affair as inconsiderate and hasty. Such a remark coming from the lips of one who does not generally indulge in strong criticism of the actions and measures of Government will have caused not a little surprise to all who have known him. When such a supporter of Government as himself to speak in this strain, the public opinion in regard to the Palghat affair may be easily imagined. In referring to the Ashe murder, the Chairman of the Reception Committee waxed wroth and said that if such an outrage had been committed during the old Moghul days, all the people of Southern India and especially of the Tinnevely district would have been beheaded. This is a fallacious statement, for though during the long period of Mussalman sovereignty, the people were tormented and massacred, it never occurred to the subjects that the king or his officers should be murdered. It is only now, and that during the régime of Lord Curzon, that the anarchist movement has been set afoot. This is an importation from England and not an invention of our black brethren. It is only the Government which has given rise to such outrages

being committed. Would this assassination have taken place if the Police at the Maniyatchi station had been alert? Even worse crimes will be perpetrated if the Police, who are paid from the revenue levied from the people, are to be sleeping thus in a corner. Such being the state of affairs how is the Chairman justified in pouring out the vials of his fury on the poor people? He could have with better reason vented his wrath on his educated and wealthy countrymen, for having failed to do their duty by preventing the popular mind from being corrupted by seditious teachings spread by a handful of *Swadeshi* rioters. If only the educated community had brought home to the minds of the people the numerous great benefits derived from British rule, such an outrage as the Ashe murder would not have been committed. It may be within the knowledge of this Chairman that two or three years back, some persons were arrested and punished for throwing bombs in Tenali which is a town in his own district, and why did he then fail to teach loyalty to the people? When he has himself thus failed to do his public duty, what is the use of his fretting now? It is extremely regrettable that he should have used such strong language in a public assembly.

40. A leader in the *Vijaya Vikatan*, of the 2nd September, records the following conversation in the course of an imaginary interview which the comic editor of this paper is said to have had with the God Ganapati:—

Ganapati—How is the Government of India at present?

Editor—Certain reforms and the regulations relating thereto have been introduced.

G.—How is the Madras Government?

E.—Good.

G.—How is the Educational department?

E.—It has dealt a half blow to the language of Agastya.

G.—Please explain yourself?

E.—The University has made Tamil an optional subject. As a result of this, this language which was compulsorily studied before has now been shaken to its foundations and is at the point of disappearing.

G.—How is the Judicial department?

E.—If you have paid any attention to the trials of the Tondiarpet murder case and the torture case which took place last week, you can form an idea of the integrity of the Judicial department.

G.—Can you not explain its details to me by word of mouth?

E.—Of course this can be done. But our mouths have been closely stitched up by the Government. Therefore we are unable to satisfy you.

G.—How is the Railway department?

E.—In the Anaitandavapuram case a mad man has been punished instead of the real culprit. The third-class passengers are treated with the honour shown to tamarind bags. Deaths by railway routes and rivers are attributed to accidents. The railway officials in some places treat the passengers like cattle.

G.—How is the Police department?

E.—It is making the people happy.

G.—Do not utter lies? Does it make them happy or miserable?

E.—According to my information, the most cordial relations have till now existed between the police and the people. The police detest disorder and have not so far inflicted any injury on the people. How they will behave hereafter is a matter which you may know better.

G.—That is very fine. How is the Revenue department?

E.—The prescribed taxes should be paid up whether the lands are productive or not. Otherwise a land worth Rs. 1,000 will be disposed of by auction for one or two annas and this is how the happiness of the people is promoted.

G.—How can you call this happiness?

E.—It is because the Government considers this to be happiness, that it has adopted this procedure.

G.—Well, how is the Forest department?

E.—I shall speak to the villagers about it and then tell you.

G.—How is the matter of the Ashe murder?

E.—It has now come to the Madras High Court and the accused have also been brought down here. Messrs. Napier and Richmond will appear for Government. No vakil is prepared to appear on behalf of the accused.

G.—Can you give me your opinion on this matter?

E.—If I just breathe a syllable about this now, I will lose my nose, and if I utter one word about it, I will lose my tongue.

G.—Has the Government imposed such restrictions?

E.—Even with such restrictions, outrageous murders are taking place. If these restrictions are removed, India is sure to meet with destruction.

~~344177~~

~~942/97~~

260/21

~~880 R 11~~

8348/0

26/5/81/12 H

~~540/RT~~

~~6598/4~~

CONFIDENTIAL