CHAPTER II
POLICE ORGANIZATION

As the maintenance of law and order was the prime concern of the rulers, the Kings of Travancore too felt the need to establish a regular standing police force since 1809. A perusal of the records reveals the fact that Travancore State was also not free from rapine and violence in some parts or the other as elsewhere. Knowing the impact of an effective police organization under the British, the Travancore Kings too attempted to reorganize the police on the model of the British. Consequently, a separate and self-contained police organization under their own superior officers was formed, whose sole duty and responsibility was to supervise them and to see that they had adequate means to deal with the prevention of crime. With this objective, the police force was organized on a provincial basis for maintaining law and order. The prevention and detection of crime were left under the control of the provincial government. While reorganizing the police force, the government aimed at coordination and minimisation of expenditure. However, in course of time, various changes were effected to meet the growing requirements for maintaining law and order and for the preservation of peace and tranquility of the State.

Police Organization from 1857 to 1881

Since 1857, the police force had existed only in name. Therefore, the police force was reorganized on an effective line which marked many changes in the police department. Much importance was given to the apprehension of criminals and to the restoration of peace and order. Various departments such as the Police, Judiciary and Revenue were clubbed together under the overall control of the Dewan. In 1857 Krishna Curry, J.G., *The Indian Police*, New Delhi, 1977, pp.31 - 47.
Row, the Dewan of Travancore passed away. Madhava Row2 who became the Dewan of Travancore from 1857 to 1872 effected various changes in the general administration with special stress on police organization.3 During his time, Utram Thirunal Martanda Varma continued as the King of Travancore. Towards the closing years of his reign a series of crises occurred in South Travancore.4 An agitation was organized by the Shannar Christian converts regarding the wearing of the upper cloth. The same was put to an end in July 1859 by a royal proclamation. In the meantime, Maharaja Utram Thirunal passed away on 18th August 1860. This was followed by the accession of Maharaja Ayilyam Thriunal, who was effectively guided by Madhava Row as Dewan.5

Reforms under Ayilyam Thirunal Rama Varma

The social system that existed in Travancore necessitated the introduction of sweeping changes in the police administration. Accordingly, the number of policemen was increased and they were placed in various strategic places; As a result, incidents of robbery, theft and murder steadily declined. In the meantime, Nanoopillai was appointed Police Sheristadar6 on a salary of Rs.150 per mensem in 1861.7 Nanoopillai effected

---

2 Madhava Row – He was appointed Dewan with a salary of Rs.2000/- per month (Neetu, Vol.62, No.295, 1858).

3 T.G.G; Vol X, 1872, p.295

4 An agitation was organized by the Shanar Christian converts to secure for their women folk the same rights in regard to dress as were enjoyed by the upper sections of the Hindus. Serious breaches of peace occurred in the southern taluks and the law and order situation took a serious turn. The Military had to be called out and a large auxiliary police force had to be stationed in the South. The Christian converts who had no faith in the impartiality of the Dewan Sri Madhava Row petitioned the Maharaja and the Governor of Madras praying for redress of their grievance. Eventually the Royal Proclamation was issued on 26th July 1859 abolishing all restrictions in the matter of covering of upper parts of Shannar women and granting them liberty to meet the requirements of their decency in any way they might deem proper by the reservation. (Selected Proclamation by the Sovereign from 1811 to 1936A.D., Trivandrum, 1937, pp.300-301).

5 Ibid., p.301.

6 Sheristadar – This office was equivalent to the Modern Inspector General of Police.

certain administrative changes in the police department which led to improvement in various directions. For revenue and police purposes, Travancore was divided into four divisions namely the Southern division, the Trivandrum division, the Quilon division and the Northern division. The Dewan Peishkar, who controlled the correspondence between the Tahsildars and Peiskars, supervised the police and Magisterial work, gave prompt punishment to delinquent subordinates and put submission of Peishkars diary once in a fortnight under the charge of each division.

The Tahsildar served as the head of the Taluk in revenue as well as police administration. However, the amalgamation of revenue and police powers into the hands of Tahsildars led to ineffective control and administration. They could look after neither the revenue department nor the police very sincerely. Therefore in order to reduce the police duty of the Tahsildars, a new officer named Police Ameen was appointed in 1861 as an experimental measure. Because of this appointment most notorious offenders were apprehended. Organized crime was put a stop to. It led to high discipline and strict organization. In fact, the energies of the Dewan were directed to every branch of the administration and to the promotion of the welfare of his subjects. The appointment of Ameens bore fruits. Consequently, the government appointed more Ameens in some more areas, which relieved the Tahsildars of their police duties. In 1866 the government

---

8 The Southern division consisted of Tovala, Agasthiswaram, Iraniyal, Kalkulam and Vilavancode. The Trivandrum division consisted of eight districts namely Neyyattinkara, South Trivandrum, North Trivandrum, Nedumangadu, Chirinkiri, Kottarakara, Pattanapuram and Shenkottah. The Quilon division consisted of Quilon, Kunathur, Karinagappalli, Karthikappalli, Mavelikara, Changanur, Tiruvalla and Ambalappuzha. The Northern division consisted of Cherttala, Vaikkam, Ettumanur, Kottayam, Changanachari, Kunathunadu, Alangadu, Minachal, Muvattupuzha, Todupuzha and Paravur. (Foulkes,T., A Class Book of the Geography of Travancore, Trivandrum, 1871, p.47).


appointed twenty six such officers in various taluks. Corresponding to their increase the number of Thanas\textsuperscript{12} too increased. As a result of these measures, the highways of the country both by land and water as well as the by ways became perfectly safe to travellers and traffic. Organized crime disappeared and crimes of violence became rare.\textsuperscript{13}

On seeing this, Dewan Madhava Row wrote a letter to Nanoopillai congratulating him and expressing his hope that “your administration of the police department will certainly bring credit to you and benefit to the state”. His administration to the police department also led to improvement in various directions including speedy improvement of tone and integrity among the officials of the department. This brought a sense of security to the people.\textsuperscript{14} So Dewan Madhava Row wrote that “it may be generally stated without fear of contradiction that a very high degree of security of person and property has now been attained in Travancore. The inhabitants build houses far out of town and live there without fear. Men and women, the latter with costly ornaments, travel by the highways night and day without apprehension, isolated bazars are often found in charge of mere boys or girls. The crops in the fields are guarded only against beasts or birds by women or children. Men move about without arms of any kind for protection, cattle are let loose to graze, and return often without anyone to look after them.”\textsuperscript{15} Theft, robbery and smuggling decreased on a large scale.\textsuperscript{16} The palace was guarded by the military. When the Maharaja went to the temple, or for saluting the Resident and when jewels and ornaments were taken to Thalapoli, both the Subadar and the Sarvadhikariyakar

\textsuperscript{12} Thanas until the reorganization of the police department the police stations were called as Thanas.

\textsuperscript{13} Ponnambalam pillai, D., \textit{op.cit.}, p.338.

\textsuperscript{14} Elenkath, K.R., \textit{op.cit.}, p.27.

\textsuperscript{15} Quoted in T.A.R., 1866-1867, p.2.

\textsuperscript{16} T.A.R.,1862-1863, p.8.
consulted each other for escort.\textsuperscript{17} The tranquility of the country was further secured by the presence of subsidiary force.\textsuperscript{18}

Though the Ameens enjoyed certain privileges, various restrictions were imposed on them. The police officers were debarred from taking cognizance of cases of adultery. The Dewan whom alone such complaints were to be referred to, issued orders for their investigation according to the usage of the country or caste of the parties.\textsuperscript{19} In 1870 a police Ameens Cutcherry was established at Colachel, a seaport in South Travancore, which was important for the operations of the coffee planters, who exported their produce from this place.\textsuperscript{20} A Police beat was introduced under the control of a police Inspector and fourteen peons\textsuperscript{21} in the town of Alleppey, in order to prevent pilfering of goods such as tobacco and salt from the steamers.\textsuperscript{22} Their effective role to prevent smuggling in Alleppey motivated the government to check such illegal practices in other places too. Consequently, in some other places also the police force was put on a better footing by appointing additional peons. Moreover, people were assured of a very high degree of personal safety and protection of property.\textsuperscript{23} In 1871 a police Ameens Cutcherry was established at Areecoty in the frontier between Travancore and Cochin.\textsuperscript{24}

\textsuperscript{17} Confidential section File No : 509, 1919, Regarding the details of guards from the palace guard and the direct requisition of the Sarvadhi Kariyakar to the Subadar.

\textsuperscript{18} Foulkes, T., \textit{A Class Book of the Geography of Travancore}, Trivandrum, 1871, p.47.

\textsuperscript{19} Judicial History of Travancore, Trivandrum, 1932, p.13.

\textsuperscript{20} T.A.R., 1870-1871, p.17

\textsuperscript{21} Proceedings of the twenty eighth session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly of Travancore, Trivandrum,1932, p.169.

\textsuperscript{22} Proceedings of the Travancore Sri Chitra State Council, vol XII, Trivandrum, 1939, p.305.

\textsuperscript{23} T.A.R., 1870-1871, p.17.

\textsuperscript{24} T.A.R., 1871-1872, p.22.
Thanas were set up in three more places - one at Killiyoor in the Eraniel district, one at Neymum in the Neyyattinkara district and the other at Nanjeenad in the Neyyattinkara district in 1867. Besides, minor police stations were set up in various places. Though Ameens were appointed in certain places, the Tahsildars were entrusted with the police responsibility in certain other places. In order to remove their burden, police Ameens were appointed in such places where Tahsildars were entrusted with police functions. The chief towns were placed under the direct control of Special Police Superintendents. So the appointment of the Superintendent of Trivandrum Town Police was a measure to place the whole establishment on a better footing. As a result of these measures, murder cases decreased considerably. So, in the year 1869-70, out of the 1973 cases disposed, only three hundred and ten cases had to be committed to the criminal courts.

Besides the police force, the detachment of the Nayar Brigade comprising of 270 men, was also allotted to guard the revenue treasuries, salt bank shells, bonded warehouses, jails and the cardamom hills. By increasing the police force, the duties performed by the military were reduced. Consequently, the disbanded military personnel were inducted into the police force. The police department thus formed was distinguished for high discipline and strict organization.


26 Residents Reports, Madras Revenue Proceedings, 5th August 1869.


On the whole, the government under Dewan Madhava Row succeeded in maintaining stability both real and apparent. Crimes were far less than before and there was greater respect for law and order. However, the chances for corrupt practice were more among the police because they had first hand contact with the public especially with the victim or the offender himself or herself. Therefore, Madhava Row checked corruption and malpractices which existed in various departments of administration. These reforms gave a new image to Travancore in the sphere of the administration of law and order. On seeing the effective administrative measures of Dewan Madhava Row, His Highness was pleased to grant him a pension of Rs.1000/- per month in recognition of his good services.

Seshiah Sastri who succeeded Madhava Row as Dewan of Travancore from 1872 to 1877 followed the same policy of his predecessor and hence many changes were not effected in the police department. However, in 1873, the salaries of Kotawals, police Naicks, Aminadars, Vicharippus, Jemadars, Havildars and Daffadars were increased from Rs.6 to Rs.7. The private forces named as Naikens, Mutilpers and peons’ (pay ranged from, Rs.4 ½ to Rs.6) were allotted to various Thanas attached to the Huzur and submagistrates Cutcherries and Palaces. Some such persons were employed in jails and bazars. They were all considered as stipendary police force paid by the state. In addition, Travancore also maintained a British Subsidiary Force. Seshiah Sastri retired

34 Ponnambalam pillai, D., op.cit; pp.337-338.
35 Kondoor Krishna pillai, Travancore and its rulers, Kottayam, 1941, p.205.
from service in 1877 and the police Sherishtadar Nanoopillai\textsuperscript{36} was appointed Dewan of Travancore in 1877. In the meantime, Ayilyam Thirunal Ramavarma the “Maker of Model State of Travancore” passed away and he was succeeded by Ramavarma Visakham Thirunal.

**Reforms of Ramavarma Visakham Thirunal**

Despite the various changes effected on police administration, Ramavarma Visakham Thirunal who came to the throne in 1880 found the police force in Travancore inadequate and inefficient. So he wanted to reorganize the police force thoroughly. He thought that the combination of police and magisterial functions in the same set of officers was perhaps the most serious drawback to the efficient performance of the executive duties of the police and the proper administration of criminal justice.\textsuperscript{37} As a result, a large proportion of the crimes which took place remained unchecked and undetected and out of these detected many cases broke down for want of necessary evidence.\textsuperscript{38} In the meantime, Dewan Nanoopillai retired in 1880 and Ramiengar was appointed the Dewan of Travancore. His Highness, the Maharaja placed the reorganization of the police system as one of the important measures and entrusted it in the hands of Dewan Ramiengar.\textsuperscript{39}

\textsuperscript{36} Nanoopillai was born on 1\textsuperscript{st} April 1826 in Neyyoor in the Kalkulam taluk of Kanyakumari District. From Maharaja’s free school at Trivandrum he obtained a diploma which was then considered the highest educational qualification. After studies Cullen appointed him in his office as a clerk. He served there for a period of 14 years, in various capacities. In 1861 with the recommendation of Gt. Cullen, he entered into Travancore service as a police Sheristadar. Winning the confidence of the Maharaja as well as the British in 1877, he was appointed Dewan of Travancore. (Samraj, N., Ayilyam Thirunal, Tirunelveli, 1999, p.13, unpublished Ph.D, thesis)


\textsuperscript{38} Ramanatha Iyer, S., Brief Sketch of Travancore, the Model State of India, Trivandrum, 1903, p.186.

Police force before the reorganization of 1881

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duties</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal Prerogative and final court of appeal</td>
<td>king</td>
<td>Sovereign head of the state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief magistrate</td>
<td>Dewan</td>
<td>Executive head of the government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submagistrate and police officer</td>
<td>Dewan Peishkar</td>
<td>Divisional Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Crime Police Extra Police

officers

Assistants Naicks, Mutalpers and Peons

Tahsildars

Police officers and (later in some places magistrates of the Taluks Ameens were appointed to relieve the Police work of Tahsildars)

Police Naicks, Mutalpers and Peons

Perjurers of village Proverticars Officers in charge of small divisions

After a thorough study, Dewan Ramiengar prepared a report in which he blamed the police in Travancore for inefficiency and insisted on the necessity of reforms in police organization and administration. In his own words “the question of reform of the police of Travancore is one of pressing importance. Recent events have forced it prominently upon the attention of government. Not many days ago, a crime of great
violence was committed within the premises of the Chief Shrine in the heart of the capital. Shortly after that, a Namboodiri Brahmin was robbed almost within shouting distance of the palace of a sum of money which he had just obtained as a gift from His Highness the Maharaja and it is reported, as I am writing, that valuable jewels have been obstructed from the pagoda at Nagercoil.\textsuperscript{40} There was no distinctly organized police in Travancore.\textsuperscript{41} The combination of the police and magisterial functions in the same set of officers was perhaps the most serious drawback to the efficient performance of the executive duties of the police and the proper administration of criminal justice. It was impossible that the same person could make a good magistrate and prove an efficient police officer as well. The result was that a good deal of crime remained unreported and undetected and the primary duty of the government, to protect the lives and property of its subjects was not carried out properly.\textsuperscript{42} Thus he submitted a report disclosing the defects, demerits and disabilities of the existing police force in Travancore.

He objected to the practice of combining the functions of police with those of the magistrates. Therefore, Ramiengar suggested certain measures to improve the police force. Accordingly complete separation of the police and the magistracy was effected. Thus, a clear line of demarcation was drawn between the judicial functions of the magistrate and the preventive and detective duties of the police.\textsuperscript{43} The Police Act of 1861 instituted the system of police in the Madras Presidency which regulated the organization, recruitment and discipline.\textsuperscript{44} This Act made the police to a considerable

\textsuperscript{40} Report submitted by Dewan Ramiengar. V., on the police reorganization, 31\textsuperscript{st} January 1881.

\textsuperscript{41} Ramanatha Aiyar, S., \textit{op.cit.}, p.186.

\textsuperscript{42} T.G.G., Supplement, Tuesday 29\textsuperscript{th} Nov.1881, p.4.

\textsuperscript{43} Cover file No : 6118, 1881, Re Organization of the Police Department.

\textsuperscript{44} Curry, J.G., \textit{The Indian Police}, New Delhi, 1977, p.35.
extent independent of the District magistrate. Realising the importance of this Act which was introduced in Madras Presidency, the Dewan wanted to enforce it in Travancore. As a result, the police were placed under the control and supervision of a separate police officer. Accordingly a separate police force was instituted on the lines of the police organization in the British India. On 24th February 1881, the Maharaja issued an order to reorganize the Travancore state force. So in 1881 the Regulation was passed which prescribed minimum qualification, regular training, good salary, and introduction of different grades in the police force. The members of the force were enlisted from all classes with due regard to age and physical fitness and were placed under the immediate control of the European Superintendent. They were so equipped and trained as to be available for employment in any part of the country. Thus the privilege given to a certain particular community was stopped.

Accordingly, in 1881, the police force consisted of a Superintendent, three Assistant Superintendents, forty six Inspectors, one hundred and seventy two Head Constables and one thousand five hundred and twenty three Constables. Mr.O.H.Bensley was appointed the first Superintendent of Police. As a result, in 1882, there was one policeman to every 4.8 Sq.miles of the country and to every 12724 of the

---

46 Ponambalam pillai, D., op.cit, p.1.
50 Bensley, O.H., He was an European officer who worked for 9 years as the magistrate of the Cardomom Hills. He was selected the first Superintendent of Police. He worked for 29 years as Head of the Police department and retired on 21st November 1910. (Proceedings of the government of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, T.G.G; Vol. I., Jan.1912, p.123).
The Superintendent was the head of the whole force and he was expected to keep in touch with all the five district magistrates in the state. Travancore was divided into three police districts, namely, Nagercoil, Quilon and Kottayam. Each district was placed under the control of an Assistant Superintendent of police. Next to him, Inspectors, Head Constables and Constables were appointed.

Under the proposed scheme, the Magistrates were empowered with their administrative and judicial authority but their control over the police ceased. A magistrate was required to report to the government from time to time on the state of the police of his division with regard to its efficiency and character, and bring to the notice of the Superintendent any irregularity which, according to him, was the cause for dissatisfaction. The judicial powers of Tahsildars as submagistrates ceased. The police duties performed by them and by the extra police officers, assistant extra police officers also ceased. Consequently, their powers were brought under the control of Inspectors and Sub Inspectors of Police. On completion of these arrangements Mr.O.H.Bensley the Superintendent remarked "there is security of life and property throughout the country". However, in 1908, Mr.Bensley, the Superintendent of Police, made slight changes in the police department to make it more effective. The post of Inspector who did exercise work was abolished. A Post of Revenue Inspector, Audit Inspector, a Treasure Escort Inspector, and Palace guard Inspector were created.

51 Gopala Krishnan, M., Gazetteers of India, Kanniyakumari District, Madras, 1995, p.627.
52 G.O.No. J.7600, dated 30th October 1912.
53 Cover File No : 6118 of 1881, op.cit.
54 T.A.R., 1885-1886, p.12.
55 T.G.G; Vol.XLVI, 1908, p.403.
Meanwhile, Mr. O. H. Bensley retired from service. Mr. F. S. S. George, who was appointed the Superintendent of Police in 1910, pointed out that efficient administration was impossible under this system. He too found out certain defects in the police force. Meanwhile in 1907 the Chalai uprising erupted. The riot had its origin in a clash between some merchants and the police. A large crowd gathered and the Chalai police station was burnt down. In order to quell the riot, numerous arrests were made. A large number of people were convicted by the Sessions Court. In addition, the Superintendent of Police pointed out that the pay of the Constables was inadequate to meet their growing needs due to soaring prices. So he suggested that the Constables must be provided with the minimum, necessary to support himself and his family, and if he could not get the amount honestly, he might take advantage of ample opportunities of making it up dishonestly. On seeing these defects he wanted to reorganize the police department. Consequently, after a thorough study he prepared a proposal and submitted to the Maharaja on 16th November 1911. He also sent letters on 3rd and 10th February 1912 reminding the King of the proposal. The government, in consultation with the District Magistrate, accepted the proposals. The Maharaja accordingly issued an order on 30th October 1912. But the Regulation was passed in 1919 and the same came into practice.

56 George, F.S.S., He was sent to Travancore as Superintendent of Police from the Madras Police department (T.G.G; Vol.L, 1912, p.123).

57 Judicial File No : 247/143, 1907, Reorganization of the Police department.


59 Letter No : J.6252/247, 1907, dated 5th August 1916, letter from the Commissioner of Police to the Chief Secretary.

60 G.O.No:J.7600 dated 30th October 1912.
According to the reorganization, the head of the department, now called the Superintendent of Police, was styled as Commissioner of Police. Mr. C.B. Cunningham was appointed the first Commissioner of Police. By this reorganization, the police department was divided into five police districts as against the previous three districts. The five police districts were Padmanabhapuram, Trivandrum, Quilon, Kottayam and Devicolam. The police districts were put under the control of the District Superintendents which corresponded to the five Revenue divisions. The Devicolam district, however, was put under the direct control of the Commissioner.\(^6^1\)

The districts were further divided into circles. The next class of officers were those of the Circle Inspectors. These officers under the new scheme would have larger areas and more responsible work. There were seventeen circles.\(^6^2\) Each circle was put under the control of the Circle Inspector. In addition, four Prosecuting Inspectors were also appointed at Padmanabhapuram, Trivandrum, Quilon and Kottayam districts. So, the total number of Circle Inspectors (including Prosecuting Inspectors) were twenty one. In addition, for speedy prosecution of cases, the Prosecuting Inspectors were appointed. However, the circles were further divided into charging stations.\(^6^3\) There were sixty eight charging stations. They were put under the control of Sub-Inspectors. In addition to the sixty

\(^6^1\) Proceedings of the government of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, T.G.G; Vol.L, 1912, p.239.

\(^6^2\) The circles were-Kottar, Thuckalai, Trivandrum, Nemom, Chilakur, Quilon, Punalore, Chengannur, Kayenkulam, Alleppey, Kottayam, Arukkutty, Minachil, Muvattu puzha, Alwaye, Devicolam, and Peermade. (Proceedings of the government of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, T.G.G; Vol. L, 1912, p.241.)

eight Sub-Inspectors, three more Sub Inspectors were added to the Palace Guard, Finger Print Bureau and the Revenue. The Sub-Inspectors were classified into different grades.

Outposts were the lowest unit of police administration. There were one hundred and seventeen outposts in Travancore before the reorganization of 1912. But by the reorganization of 1912 the charging stations were increased and the outposts were reduced to sixty six. These outposts were put under the control of Head Constables. Below them were the Constables. The police department under the reorganization can be diagrammatically represented thus:

```
spider diagram
```


65 Judicial File No:247, 1907, Proceedings of the government of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore.
In 1919 when the Police Regulation was passed, some more changes were also made. The post of Circle Inspectors and Prosecuting Inspectors was created for the purpose of conducting enquiries into important cases and prosecution of such cases. Yet they did not discharge the above functions satisfactorily. However, they now made rapid marches and gave some instructions to the Sub-Inspectors. So in 1919 itself the post of Circle Inspectors and the Prosecuting Inspectors were amalgamated and designated as Inspectors of Police. In the meantime, the police administrator, especially the Commissioner, found that the District of Quilon and Kottayam were large and the administrative burden was so heavy that it would be difficult for the District Superintendent of Police to keep in close personal touch with all executive work. So the Assistant Superintendent of Police was appointed in 1919. It relieved him of excessive work. A new office of Assistant Superintendent was created by the Act of 1919 in between the Inspectors and the District Superintendent.

After Cunningham, Mr. William Pitt became the Commissioner of Police on 26th March 1921. During his time, to augment the police department, the government provided a stable motor car, and agreed to meet the expenses incurred including the pay of the chauffeur (driver) and the cost of petrol. But the Commissioner was required to pay four annas a mile for all journeys he made outside Trivandrum town. This was a

---

68 Letter No.J.6252/247, 5th August 1916, Letter from the Commissioner to the Chief Secretary.
69 Pitt was appointed Commissioner of Police on 26th March 1921 with the salary of Rs.1437 and 8 Chakaram Permsem, increments in British service plus 20% there on and was given T.A. as prescribed by the civil service Regulation for first class officers (Judicial File No.534, 1921, Recording the appointment of Mr.Pitt as the successor to Mr.Cunningham, Commissioner of Police, Travancore).
70 Judicial File No:534, 1921, Regarding the appointment of Mr.Pitt as the Commissioner of Police.
check on his privileges. It is understood from this that even the high officers were not allowed to misuse government cars for their private use.

Not satisfied with all these changes, in 1922 again, reorganization was made in the police department. The students strike of 1921 also motivated the government to reorganize the police. At that time the students too participated in the freedom struggle. The main reason was the increase of fees by the administration of Dewan Raghavaiah.71 In the strike, police made lathi charge against the students. The incident took place on 21st September 1921. In this strike, many were wounded. Rajagopal, a Brahmin student, was killed. It was condemned by the politicians who stood against the inhuman activities of the police.72 By the reorganization of 1922, the districts of Trivandrum and Nagercoil were amalgamated and the district of Devicolam was abolished. Now the five districts which were organized in 1912 were reduced to three districts. Then each district was divided into two subdivisions. Accordingly, six subdivisions, namely, Trivandrum Head Quarters subdivision, Nagercoil subdivision, Quilon head Quarters subdivision; Chengannur subdivision, Kottayam Head Quarters subdivision and Perumbavoor subdivision were formed.73 The Districts were put under the control of the District Superintendent of Police and subdivisions were put under the control of the Assistant Superintendents of Police.74 Moreover, the duties of the Commissioner too increased day by day. Controlling motor traffic and issuing licences were under the control of the Commissioner. So in order to help the Commissioner, one Senior District

71 T.A.R., 1921-1922, p.38.
72 Confidential Section File No: 648, 1921, students strike death of a school boy.
73 Judicial File No : 2128, 1922; posting of Assistant Superintendent of Police under the reorganization scheme.
Superintendent of Police was appointed as Personal Assistant to the Commissioner in 1929.\(^75\)

The police discharged their duties day and night without any leisure. They spent most of their time in the police station only. So in 1929 to give some leisure from their arduous job, a police club was started. It was based on purely voluntary effort and open to all gazetted officers and clerks of the department. In course of time it received appreciation from the officers. The club was equipped with books of general and police interest, notable trials, the police system and organization in the different provinces of British India and the Empire. This facility enabled the members to develop reading habit and enrich their knowledge. On seeing its impact, subsequently, various facilities were also provided for their recreation. In addition, a co-operative union for police officers was formed to relieve the distress of widows and orphans of police officers dying in harness. It provided financial assistance to the deserving cases and such benefits extended to every member of the union and their dependents.\(^76\) Thus the police club helped the force in many ways.

In 1938 the political situation which prevailed in Travancore underwent another reorganization. The Travancore State Congress also launched Civil Disobedience. So riots took place at the Trivandrum beach, Neyyattinkara, Kallara, Pangode, Attingal and Kollencode in the Trivandrum district. In the Quilon district there were riots at Kottarakara, Chengannur, Karunagapalli, Kayenkulam, Alleppey, Shertalla and Quilon. There the lawless mob indulged in the burning of the transport buses, the cars of police and other government officers, damaging of bridges, government buildings and attacking

\(^75\) Lakshmi Raghunadan, "The Life and Time of Maharani Sethu Lekshmi Bai the Last Queen of Travancore", At the Turn of the Tide, Bangalore; 1995, p.92.

government officers with the intent of killing them with weapons like knives, spears, granite, stones and country guns. Moreover, in 1932, a communal riot of serious nature occurred in the Quilon district between the Ezhavas and Mussalmans. The timely intervention of the police averted serious breaches of peace and the situation was soon brought well under control. In Travancore there were sixty four Congress committees spread over several taluks which carried on various political propaganda. A number of young men joined it. In 1936 the Alleppey riot also took place between the Muslims and Ezhavas. In the beginning, the police force took no steps to suppress it. So it became violent and resulted in a communal conflagration which took away the lives of five people and inflicted heavy damages to the properties of a few people in the area. In the meantime, C.P.Ramaswamy Aiyar was appointed Dewan of Travancore in 1936. During his time, C.P.Skrine, the British Resident in a letter to the Viceroy dated October 1938, had criticised the inefficiency and disloyalty of the police force of the state. Moreover, the police department became highly unpopular owing to corruption and bullying. So in 1938 the department was again reorganized.

By the reorganization of 1938 the designation of Commissioner of Police was changed into Inspector General of Police. Khan Bahadur G.Sayid Abdul Karim Saheb Suhrawady, M.B.E was appointed the first Inspector General of Police. Accordingly, the police department was headed by the Inspector General of Police for the first time.

77 T.A.R., 1932-1933, p.100.
Further, Travancore was divided into three districts, namely, Quilon, Kottayam and Trivandrum. Each district was put under the charge of the District Superintendent. The districts were further divided into six sub divisions as in 1919 and was put under the Assistant Superintendent of Police. Similarly as before, the subdivisions were divided into circles and it was placed under the control of a Circle Inspector. The circles were further divided into police station ranges. In 1919 it was called charging stations. Now the name was changed to police station ranges. These police station ranges were put under the control of Sub Inspectors\textsuperscript{82} who were also called Station House Officers. Some big police station ranges were divided into outposts and each one was put under the control of a Head Constable. In station ranges the Sub-Inspector was helped by Head Constables and Constables.\textsuperscript{83}

A new officer of the status of a District Superintendent of Police was also created and designated as Deputy Inspector General of Police. He helped the Inspector General in executing his work, especially those relating to crime and traffic. An officer of the status of Assistant Superintendent of Police was created and designated as Assistant Inspector General of Police. He helped the Inspector General in political enquiries and other allied matters such as confidential record sections and general supervision of the work of the Inspector General.\textsuperscript{84} By the reorganization, a staff of police numbering 1397 were added to the Travancore police force. Among them, 46 were Head Constables and the remaining 1351 were Constables. This force was distributed among the stations and outposts throughout the State. In addition, to record the speeches of political meetings held at various places in the State, a temporary staff of sixteen Constables were enlisted.


\textsuperscript{83} T.A.R.; 1938-1939, p.97.

\textsuperscript{84} Judicial File No R.Dis 2824, 1939, Reorganization of the Police Department.
Apart from these changes, women were recruited as part of the special police on an experimental measure for the first time.\(^{85}\) The total number of sanctioned strength in the police department in 1938 was 2666 including 81 Inspectors. Thus it was calculated that there was one member of the permanent police force for every 286 sq.miles of the area of the State.\(^{86}\)

The office of the Inspector General was situated in Trivandrum city. In order to help the police even in odd hours, a police control room was also opened in the district in 1938.\(^{87}\) As the government had to deal with political agitation the organization of the police force was given special attention. The recruitment to the police was for the time being exempted from the preview of the Public Service Recruitment Rules and the decision was taken on 17\(^{th}\) September 1938 by the Maharaja and the Dewan.\(^{88}\) This measure avoided unwanted delay in recruitment. In addition to the regular force, several new units such as women police, special police, reserve police, police on daily wages, political records and special branch were organized.\(^{89}\) In 1943, a separate subdivision under a City Assistant Superintendent of Police was formed for Trivandrum city with jurisdiction over the four police stations in the city, control over the city traffic and the Trivandrum fire service.\(^{90}\)


\(^{86}\) T.A.R., 1939-1940, p.83.

\(^{87}\) Kareem, C.K., Kerala District Gazetteer, supplement, Trivandrum, 1979, p.81.


\(^{89}\) Letter No : ROC.No : 1105/Gl/35, dated. 22.9.1937, Letter from the Commissioner to the Chief Secretary.

\(^{90}\) Judicial File No : 1568, 1945, Proceedings of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore.
Selection of Police

The reorganization of police, effected in Travancore several times according to the needs, was based on certain specific qualifications. By the reorganization of 1881 the qualification required for the recruits was a standard of 5' 5" in height and chest measurement of 32". They had to know how to read and write and had to produce a certificate of good character from the Magistrate or Police Inspector of their native taluks. After having satisfied the Superintendent of Police on the above points, they were medically examined by the Surgeon in charge of the General Hospital. Upon receipt of his certificate, the recruits were enlisted and given Sunnad required by the Police Regulation, when they were put through a course of school and drill. After a few months of training at the headquarters, they were sent to take up their work as Police Head Constable or Constables wherever required. Out of the total strength, 93 percent was reserved to the local people of Travancore and the remaining seven percent was given to the people who hailed from the adjoining districts of Tinnelveli, Malabar and Cochin.

The reorganization of 1912 which came into force in 1919 prescribed certain qualifications for the police recruits. For Inspectors, a University degree in Arts was the minimum educational qualification for direct appointment. For Sub-Inspectors, 50 percent of this class was by promotion from Head Constables and 50 percent was to be appointed directly from school final leaving certificate holders and candidates of higher qualification. For Constables it prescribed the same qualification as laid down in the

---
93 Ramanath Aiyar, S., Progressive Travancore, Trivandrum, 1923, p.211.
reorganization of 1881. However various stringent measures were adopted for the selection of police in course of time.

By the reorganization of 1938 much changes were introduced in the selection procedure. For the selection of police, a committee was constituted which consisted of Dewan, the Chief Secretary to the government and the Inspector General of Police. The candidates desiring to join the force were required to send a written application which was forwarded to the Inspector of Police within whose jurisdiction the applicants resided, for verification of the character, education, social standing and general physical fitness. Suitable men were selected from among such applicants recommended by the District Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent of Police. Preference was given to those possessing educational qualifications and those belonging to the unrepresented class. But at the same time utmost care was taken to maintain the standard of fitness prescribed for the force.

Generally the higher officials especially the Inspector General, District Superintendent of Police and Assistant Superintendent of Police were Britishers. Indians were not preferred for such high posts for they believed that Indians were not capable of occupying such position. From the cadre of Inspectors only the natives were appointed. Seventy five percentage of Inspectors were recruited directly from graduates and twenty five percent by departmental promotions. In order to get better

---

94 Letter No : J 6252/247, 1907, dated 5th August 1916, Letter from the Commissioner to the Chief Secretary.
95 T.A.R., 1928-1929, p.91.
97 Judicial File No : 2592, 1926, Recruitment of Inspectors of Police.
type of men from different communities the minimum qualification was the English
school leaving certificate. Preference was given to candidates who possessed experience
in military training. Besides educational qualification, age and physical fitness were also
specified. The age fixed was not above 25 years with a minimum height of 5'8" chest
33" minimum with expansion of 2" minimum inhalation. As far as possible the
character of a person was to be the main criterion by which selections were made to the
post.

The qualification for the Prosecuting Inspectors was graduation in law or five
years experience as a second grade pleader in criminal work, duly certified by the
Judicial officers. Such selected candidates were put for one year on probation. In
addition departmental training in drill and station work was also given during their
period of training.

The qualification for the Constable was fixed as either a pass in the vernacular
school leaving certificate in the case of all classes except the depressed classes with a
minimum height of 5'6". Generally a recruit must be between eighteen and twenty five
years of age. Final selection was based on a strict medical examination. For the
depressed class the minimum qualification was relaxed as vernacular III class and for
Ezhavas vernacular V class. For selection of Constables to the Head Constables
grade, a written examination was conducted. The Constables appearing for the exam

101 Judicial File No : 596, 1938; Recruitment of Graduation in Law and II grade pleaders as Prosecuting
Inspectors of Police.
102 Judicial File No : 2341, 1931, Fixing minimum educational qualification for enhancement of
Constables.
were paid travelling allowance for the journey to the district police office and back to their headquarters.103

**Departmental Test**

Generally promotion from one grade to another was based on departmental test. From records it is known that the departmental test was conducted for Constables and Head Constables for the promotion to the next higher ranks of Head Constable and Inspector respectively. Constable test was conducted in Malayalam on the subject of penal code, criminal procedure code, motor vehicles regulation and rules, and a paper on general knowledge. Moreover they were required to write two essays on two different subjects of a general nature and undergo severe drill and training. The Head Constable test was conducted in English on subjects such as penal code, criminal procedure code, law of evidence, special and local laws, high court circulars, motor vehicles regulation and rules, police regulation and department circulars. They had to write two essays, one in Malayalam and one in English on two different subjects of general nature followed by drill. Usually a committee consisting of the Inspector General of Police and two District Superintendents of Police prepared the question papers for these examinations. They not only valued the answer papers but also announced the results.104

**Salary**

In practice the duty of policemen was tedious. Hence there was an aversion among various communities to join the police service in the beginning. Therefore to attract young men to this job attractive remuneration was given to them. From the mode

---

103 Judicial File No:3034, 1931, Rules for the examination of Constables for Promotion to the Head Constable grade.

104 Judicial file No : 1029, 1938, Departmental Test introduction of in the police department.
of remuneration it is understood that high British Police officials were provided with attractive salary. But low remuneration was paid to the low grade servants, especially the Constables, and Head Constables who were Indians. According to the cadre, salary was dispersed to the police officers. The Police Regulation of 1881 fixed the salary of the Superintendent of Police as Rs.700, the Assistant Superintendent as Rs.350, Inspectors of first grade as Rs.100, second grade as Rs.75, third grade as Rs.50, fourth grade as Rs.40 and fifth grade as Rs.35 per mansem.105 The Head Constable of first grade got Rs.15 and second grade got Rs.12 and third grade got Rs.10. The first class Constable got Rs.7 and the second class Constable got Rs.6 per mansem. The total expenditure of the police department was Rs.13920 in 1881. Besides lucrative salary, for other benefits such as clothing, contingencies and travelling allowances the department spent Rs.2500. So the total expenditure of the police department in 1881 was Rs.16420 per mansem.106 Thus a regular police force blossomed in Travancore.

After the creation of an organized police force in 1881, there was no substantial alteration both in regard to strength and emoluments for a long period. Therefore in 1907 Mr. Bensley, the Superintendent, drew the attention of the government to make changes in their emoluments due to the enhanced cost of living.107 He also recommended an increase in the salary of the Constables in the first class to Rs.8 and Constables in the second class as Rs.7 per month. The salary recommended for the Head Constables of first grade Head Constable as Rs.20, second grade Head Constables as Rs.15, third grade Head Constables as Rs.12. As regards the Inspectors, the minimum

105 Reorganization of the Police Department, T.G.G; 29th November, Supplement, 1881, p.7.
106 Cover File No:6118, 1881, Reorganization of the Police Department.
107 Letter No.R.O:C: No.906, dated 10th February 1912, Letter from the Superintendent of Police to the Chief Secretary.
pay was Rs.50. The first grade Inspector’s pay was Rs.150, second grade Inspector Rs.125, third grade Inspector’s was Rs.100, fourth grade Inspector’s Rs.75 and fifth grade Inspector’s was Rs.50.\textsuperscript{108} Moreover he recommended to enhance the house allowance of Inspectors from Rs.15 to Rs.20. The finance secretary accepted all these suggestions and enhanced the revised pay from 13\textsuperscript{th} April 1908 onwards.\textsuperscript{109}

The revised pay continued for nearly five years. It was inadequate to meet the ever increasing cost of essential commodities. However there was a proposal to reorganize the police force since 1912. So there arose the need for further revision and hence the reorganization was made and put into effect from 1919 onwards by the implementation of the Police Regulation of 1919. By the reorganization, the salary and the cadre of officers were changed.\textsuperscript{110} Accordingly the salary of the Commissioner was fixed as Bh.Rs.1017-24chs. The post of Assistant Superintendent was converted into District Superintendent of Police and his salary was fixed as Rs.350-50/3-450. The first grade Inspector’s pay was fixed as Rs.200, second grade Inspector as Rs.175 and third grade Inspector as Rs.125. The salary of first grade Sub Inspector was fixed as Rs.80, second grade Sub Inspector as Rs.70, third grade Sub Inspector as Rs.60 and fourth grade Sub Inspector as Rs.50. The salary of the first grade Head Constable was fixed as Rs.15, second grade Head Constable as Rs.14 and third grade Head Constables as Rs.12. The salary of the first class Constable was fixed as Rs.9, second class Constable as Rs.8 and third class Constable as Rs.7.\textsuperscript{111}

\textsuperscript{108} Letter No : 764, dated 1.12.1907, Letter from the Superintendent of Police to the Chief Secretary.

\textsuperscript{109} T.G.G; Vol.XIV, April 7, 1908, p.403.

\textsuperscript{110} The Regulation and Proclamation of Travancore, 1079 to 1090 M.E/1903-1914, Trivandrum, 1915, p.751.

\textsuperscript{111} The Travancore Almanac and Directory, Trivandrum, 1917, p.15.
Besides remuneration, they were given some allowances too. For Inspectors and Sub Inspectors of Police, the horse allowance was given to the police officer serving in hills and high ranges. The travelling allowance of the Prosecuting Inspectors of Quilon and Kottayam was fixed as Rs.75 and the prosecuting Inspectors of Padmanabhapuram and Trivandrum was fixed as Rs.50. However, they were not eligible for the horse allowance.\textsuperscript{112}

The reorganization of 1912 not only enhanced the salary of the police force but that of the clerical staff too. The clerical staff of the head office as well as the district office was also restructured. The Manager employed in the Commissioner’s office was entitled to draw Rs.100 per month: Head Accountant was given a salary of Rs.50; Head Clerk also got Rs.50, two grade I clerks got Rs.40, two grade II clerks got Rs.30, four grade III clerks got Rs.25 and five grade IV clerks got Rs.20 each, two typists got Rs.20 each, one mochee got Rs.10 one peon of first class got Rs.8 and two peons of second class got Rs.7 each.\textsuperscript{113}

The pay of the administrative staff of the District Superintendent of Police at various divisions was also enhanced substantially. In each of the district offices of Padmanabhapuram and Trivandrum, the clerks employed in various grades received pay as follows: Head clerk Rs.50, one first grade clerk Rs.40, one second grade clerk Rs.30, one third grade clerk Rs.25, two fourth grade clerks Rs.20 each and two fifth grade clerks Rs.15 each and one mochee Rs.10 and two second class peons Rs.7 each.\textsuperscript{114}

\textsuperscript{112} Judicial File No : 247/143, op.cit.

\textsuperscript{113} Judicial File No : 247 of 1907, Reorganization of the Police department, Vol:IV.

\textsuperscript{114} G.O.No : J.7600 dated 30th October 1912. Proceedings of the government of His Highness Maharaja of Travancore.
In the Inspector’s office also the salary of the administrative staff was revised. Accordingly in each of the Inspector’s office one fourth grade clerk of Rs.20, one fifth grade clerk of Rs.15 and two second class peons of Rs.7 each were appointed. The total additional expenditure involved was Rs.7889 and 20 chakrams per mensem or Rs.94676 and 16 chakrams per year.\textsuperscript{115} The cost of living in larger town was much greater than in rural parts and police work in the town was of a specially arduous nature. So a local allowance of Re.1 per mensem was granted to the Head Constable and Constables serving in the town of Trivandrum, Kottayam, Nagercoil, Quilon and Alleppey.\textsuperscript{116} The scheme came into effect from 1919 onwards.\textsuperscript{117}

The pay structure effected in 1919 continued for nearly three years. Within the period the price of essential commodities increased heavily. Consequently, the remuneration given to the official was inadequate to stem the rising cost of commodities. Hence in 1922, a committee was formed under Mr. William Pitt to revise the salary and to frame rules and regulations for their betterment. As a result of the recommendations of the salary committee in 1922 during the time of Mr. William Pitt, were accepted. Accordingly, the salary of the Inspectors and Sub Inspectors were increased and they were placed in eight grades: two inspectors with Rs.175 each, six inspectors with Rs.150 each, ten inspectors with Rs.125 each, thirteen Sub Inspectors with Rs.80 each, nineteen Sub Inspectors with Rs.70 each, twenty seven Sub Inspectors with Rs.60 each and fifteen


\textsuperscript{116} Letter No : 71, 1917, Letter from the Commissioner to the Chief Secretary.

\textsuperscript{117} G.O. No : J.7600, dated 30\textsuperscript{th} October 1912.
Sub Inspectors with Rs.50 each. The salary of the first four classes of Constables was increased to Re.1 and fifth class Constable was increased to Rs.2. 

Not satisfied with this, the whole department was thoroughly reorganized in 1938. According to the rank, the salary of the officers was also fixed. However, the salary of the Inspector General, District Superintendent of Police, Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Inspectors was not changed. The lower grade servants only had their salary enhanced. The higher grade officers were given permanent travelling allowance and duty allowances. Accordingly the District Superintendent was given a permanent travelling allowance of Rs.40 and a duty allowance of Rs.50. The Assistant Superintendent was given a permanent travelling allowance of Rs.28 and duty allowance of Rs.25. Likewise, the first grade Inspector was given the duty allowance of Rs.25, second grade Inspector as Rs.20, the third grade Inspector as Rs.15, and the Sub Inspectors were given the duty allowance of Rs.15. The Head Constables were put under three grades. Their salary was Rs.25, Rs.22, Rs.18 and their duty allowance was Rs.10. The Constables were put under five grades, and their salary was fixed as Rs.13, Rs.12, Rs.11, Rs.10, Rs.9 and their duty allowance was Rs.5.

In the establishment section, some changes were made. In the office of the Inspector General, the designation of Manager was changed into Office Superintendent.
and his salary was fixed as Rs.100-10/2-150.\textsuperscript{123} In each district head clerks, clerks of various grades, typists, reporters, photographers and peons were appointed. The head clerk’s salary was fixed as Rs.75-5-100. The first grade clerk as Rs.45-5-75, the second grade clerk as Rs.30-3-45; the third grade clerk as Rs.30-3-40: typists of first grade as Rs.30-3-45, second grade as Rs.25-3-40; reporters’ salary was fixed as Rs.25-3-40, while the photographer’s salary was fixed as Rs.25-3-40 and the peon’s salary was fixed as Rs.91/6 -11.\textsuperscript{124} Regarding the police department, the government always acted on the principle that “an efficient police administration is a very important factor in every form of good government, anything that helps to increase the efficiency is well worth the extra expenditure to achieve the end”.\textsuperscript{125}

**Uniforms of Police Officers**

The Travancore government allotted uniforms to the police officers to distinguish them from other officials and the uniform varied from cadre to cadre. The Inspector General’s uniform on duty, on all ceremonies like during the visit of His Highness the Maharaja or the visit of Viceroys was peak-cap, jacket of khaki serge single breasted, cut as a lounge coat to the waist, very loose at the chest and shoulders but fitted at the waist, military skirt to bottom edge, a silver plated hook on each side at the waist collar to be cut as in an ordinary civilian lounge coat, a whistle and lanyard, slacks of the same materials as jacket, brown ankle boots, khaki shirts, blue tie, khaki socks, sambrowne belt, medals and decorations.\textsuperscript{126} His working dress was peak-cap, jacket, whistle and lanyard, slacks, brown shoes, ankle boots, khaki socks, khaki shirts, blue tie, cloth belt of

\textsuperscript{123} Letter No : 9844/38/Judl.dated 18-3-1938, Letter from the Chief Secretary to the Inspector General of Police.

\textsuperscript{124} Letter No : G.O.ROC No : 6903, 25.4.1938, Letter from the Commissioner to the Chief Secretary.

\textsuperscript{125} Report on the Administration of Cochin for the year III3M.E/1937-1938, Ernakulam, p.88.

\textsuperscript{126} General File No : R-Dis.2138, 1936 Ceremonial Occasions-Dress for Police Officers.
the same material as the jacket or sambrowne belt when a revolver was carried and ribbons. His informal working dress was peak-cap or pitch hat, shirt and sandbrowne belt or bush shirt with cloth belt, socks or stockings, brown shoes or ankle boots. He wore a silver plated hook on each side at the waist. He wore one crown and two stars on each of the shoulder straps. A silver departmental badge “T.P” in half inch block letters was to be worn at the base of the shoulder strap.

The uniform of the District Superintendent of Police was the same as that of the Inspector General of Police, but with some alterations. He used the helmet and forage cap but no turban and one crown on each of the shoulder straps. A silver departmental badge “T.P” in half inch block letters was to be worn at the base of the shoulder strap. A silver shank with wreaths was to be worn on each of the cotton flaps in front.

Similarly, the uniform of the Assistant Superintendent of Police also had slight changes. He had a helmet and forage cap only but no turban and two stars on each of the shoulder straps. A silver departmental badge “T.P” in half inch block letters was to be worn on each of the collar flaps in front.

The uniform of the Inspector of Police was khaki drill breaches, khaki jacket, boots, ankle plain brown breather with plain toe caps, belts sambrowne with brass fittings, a ribbon half red and half dark blue, badges made of silver-shank with wreaths.

128 General File No:R Dis.2138, 1936, op.cit.
130 General File No : 2138, op.cit.
on each of the shoulder straps. A silver departmental badge “T.P” in half inch block letters was to be worn on each side of the collar flaps in front.\textsuperscript{131}

The uniform of the Sub-Inpector of Police was khaki shirt, shorts, plain khaki drill, khaki stockings, khaki putties, boots and brown shoes with plain toe caps, plain leather belt, a silver departmental badge “T.P” in half inch block letters was to be worn at the base of the shoulder strap shank without wreaths to be worn on each side of the collar in front.\textsuperscript{132}

The uniform of the Head Constable was khaki shorts, khaki coat, putties khaki woollen, belt of red silk, sash with frog mounted with white metal buckles, whistle, badges for first grade in triple silver chevron, second grade in double silver chevron and third grade in single silver chevron. All chevrons were to be worn on the right arm below the shoulder and silver lace.\textsuperscript{133}

The uniform of the Constable was khaki shirts, khaki shorts, khaki woollen putties, brown leather with brass mountings belt, whistle with brass chain, khaki head dress with brass shank to be worn in front. The badge of the first class Constable was triple red chevron, second class was double red chevron and third class was single red chevron and the fourth class Constable was nil. All chevron were to be worn on the right arm below the shoulder. But the Constables of Armed Reserve and Traffic Constables wore hats supplied to them.\textsuperscript{134}

\textsuperscript{131} The Travancore Police Manual, Vol II, Trivandrum, 1941, p.15.

\textsuperscript{132} The Travancore Police Manual, Vol II, Trivandrum, 1941, p.16.

\textsuperscript{133} Judicial File No: 3190, 1926, Police Allocation list-alteration.

\textsuperscript{134} The Travancore Police Manual, Vol II, Trivandrum, 1941, pp.18-19.
The uniform of the women Constable was khaki shirt, blouse with pleated lady skirts of khaki, stockings and sandal and blue forage cap.\textsuperscript{135} There was a proposal to change the uniform of women police from skirts and stocking to sarees.\textsuperscript{136} But no changes were effected during the period under study. However in course of time the women police were permitted to wear khaki sari. The various reorganizations which were effected in Travancore not only made changes in their designation but modernize the force on western model. To attract able men in the police department their salary was raised periodically. Moreover, to distinguish them from other officers, uniforms were also introduced which varied from cadre to cadre. Women were also appointed as Constables by the reorganization of 1938 and separate uniform was allotted to them too. Thus all these changes enabled the police department to keep law and order and to maintain the peace and tranquillity of the state based on a set of rules and regulations framed from time to time according to the requirements.

\textsuperscript{135} \textit{The Travancore Information and Listener}, Vol I, May 1941, p.34.