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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	499-500	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated	24	2	1876
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th February 1876.*

No. 438. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 15th February 1876, No. 219 :—

ABSTRACT.—*Salt works at Harigoshti in South Arcot District.*—Observing, with reference to the request of the Board of Revenue for the transfer of Rupees 10,000 to meet certain outlay on experimental — out of the sum entered on account of the Harigoshti Project, that the retransfer sought is not necessary, as sanction has not been received to the transfer of allotments for salt works to the Public Works Budget.

No. 439. ORDER THEREON, 24th February 1876, No. 499.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 18.

* G. O., 294, dated 4th February 1876.
† Rupees 68,000.

It is observed that the sanction of the Government of India has since been accorded* to the transfer of the total† Budget provision for salt works to be carried out by the Public Works Department during the current year. The sum of Rupees 10,000, referred to in these Proceedings, will be deducted from the amount to be placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department. The Government of India will be informed accordingly.

(Here enter, No. 500, dated 24th February 1876.)

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, South Arcot.
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Financial Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 24th February 1876.

No. 440.

No. 500.

FROM

MAJOR-GENERAL G. W. WALKER, R.E.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Public Works Department.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 19.

Sir,—Adverting to your letter, No. 102 A.—G., dated 26th January 1876, conveying the sanction of the Government of India to the transfer, from the Civil to the Public Works Budget, of the sum of Rupees 68,000 on account of Salt Works, I am directed to forward a copy of the accompanying Proceedings, from which it will be seen that, under the circumstances explained by the Collector of the South Arcot District, Rupees 10,000 for the Harigoshti Project have been allowed to remain at the disposal of the Revenue Department, and that the balance* only has been ordered to be transferred.

* Rupees 58,000.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

No. 3,331.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, 10th December 1875.

Read the following letters :—

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 27th October
1875, No. 450.

In their Proceedings of the 22nd April last, No. 1,006, the Board sanctioned an estimate, amounting to Rupees 1,850, for certain experiments at Harigoshti on one of the plots of land selected by Dr. Ratton and myself for the formation of new salt pans at that place. The experiment failed owing to the absence of sub-soil brine. The cost incurred was Rupees 105-12-9. One of the items of the sanctioned estimate was the cost of five Police huts at Rupees 30 each, amounting to Rupees 150. These huts were not built at Harigoshti.

2. Subsequently some experiments were undertaken at Manambady nearer to Porto Novo on another of the plots comprised in the scheme of pans, and the Board in their Proceedings of the 28th May last, No. 1,451, sanctioned Rupees 1,300 for carrying them out, and this sum has been advanced to Mr. Freer. These experiments have been very successful so far as they have gone. A plot of land about 16 cawnies in extent has been enclosed on three sides by means of a ditch and embankment, and from one cawny of it 673½ maunds of very good salt were scraped and sold this season. I enclose a copy of Mr. Freer's letter of the 27th ultimo, No. 219, reporting the above result and the plan of the ground which accompanied it; and, as he considers that the Killai pans can now be safely closed and the southern part of the district supplied with more and better salt from these 16 cawnies at Manambady than from that division, I strongly recommend that the manufacture of salt at Killai be stopped from next season, that the pans be made over at once for conversion into paddy fields to their present possessors, and that the Manambady pans be worked by Government on Dr. Ratton's principle by the Killai establishment or by so many of them as may be required.

3. Mr. Freer's estimate of the cost of preparing the six pans, occupying 8 cawnies, on which he has been experimenting this year, amounted to Rs. 1,844-15-5 (*vide* his letter No. 171 of 3rd August, of which a copy is enclosed), besides which the estimated cost of the embankment and channel was Rupees 1,300, and he has with my permission purchased a small plot of ground for building Police huts on for Rupees 42 (including cost of registration of sale-deed), besides renting for a year for Rupees 45 another piece for storing the salt made. He further estimates that to lay out the remaining 8 cawnies, of which the block is comprised, in pans will cost Rupees 2,090, and he has apparently incurred expenditure to the amount of Rupees 400 for erecting Police huts and a station-house, and Rupees 250 for constructing a temporary platform.

4. His actual expenditure at Manambady has been up to the end of September according to his progress report:—

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
For embankment and ditch	758	4	0			
For Police huts	181	13	8			
For Platform	100	0	0			
Overseer's salary	73	1	6			
Total	1,113	3	2			

His incurred expenditure up to the same date appears to be at Harigoshti (*vide* enclosed account) ...

105 12 9

At Manambady.

1. For laying out pans	1,459	15	7
2. Pay of Assistant Superintendent for five months, <i>vide</i> G.O., 7th May 1875, No. 699).	83	5	4
3. For purchasing ground for Police huts	42	0	0
4. For removing prickly-pear from above No. 3.	49	4	0
5. For building a station-house* and store-room	30	2	1
6. For a Head Constable's hut	51	7	4
7. For materials for other Police huts	10	8	4
	1,726	10	8

1,832 7 5

To which must be added—

1. For platform	250	0	0
2. Rent of ground	45	0	0
3. Balance of estimate for Police lines	217	0	0
4. For completing the six pans commenced this year	600	0	0
5. For embankment and channel	1,300	0	0
	2,412	0	0

4,244 7 5

1,300 0 0

2,944 7 5

Deduct cash placed at his disposal ...

He, therefore, appears to require Rupees 2,944-7-5 to enable him to complete the six pans begun this year and the channel and embankment, as well as to adjust his accounts, presuming that the estimates for the Police huts and platform are sanctioned by the Board; besides which Rupees 2,090 are required† to enable him to lay out the remaining 8 cawnies in the enclosed block, and Rupees 1,500 for purchasing the site of the present temporary platform and the land lying between it and the site of the Police huts, and for erecting a platform thereon. In addition to the above items a sum of Rupees 1,368 will be required to pay for the cost of the Police guards‡, and Rupees 80 for planting nanal and prickly-pear on the embankment erected. This work was commenced by Mr. Freer in anticipation of sanction of an estimate subsequently submitted. A total sum of Rupees 7,982-7-5 is thus required.

5. The only available funds from which to meet this expenditure are the Rupees 12,844 allotted in the budget of this year for the Harigoshti Project (Item

No. 315 in Salt Budget); but as this has been recommended to be all placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department, who are not likely however to be able to spend any of it until Government have passed orders on the Harigoshti scheme (which will hardly be before the end of this year), I think that Rupees 10,000 of that sum may be retained by the Revenue Department out of which the above charges can be met, and work can also be commenced on another rather larger block of land lying immediately on the west of the one alluded to in the present letter, which is also included in the original scheme of Dr. Ratten and myself.

6. I request the Board's sanction for the estimates and expenditure incurred as above detailed.

7. I am not satisfied however with the manner in which the expenditure on the Police huts has been incurred. It is true that Mr. Freer's original estimate was for five huts at Harigoshti on a clear and level piece of ground, while at Manambady he has had to provide for six men on a piece of ground which seems to have required a great deal of clearing of prickly-pear and of levelling; but, as the latter site is nearer to Porto Novo than the former, the cost of each hut should not have exceeded the Harigoshti estimate of Rupees 30, instead of which, excluding the cost of buying the ground and clearing it, the present estimate is double the one sanctioned, and the Head Constable's hut has cost apparently Rupees 51-7-4, while each of the others has cost, or is to cost, about Rs. 45. Mr. Freer's

* See extract from letter, dated 30th September 1875, No. 225, enclosed.

† See extract from letter, dated 19th October 1875, No. 244, enclosed.

excuse* that he lacked experience in the cost of labor and materials at Porto Novo, a place he has often resided in, is I consider invalid, while his further explanation† that the lines are to be permanent and not temporary is worse; for he must have known that, as the whole business was experimental, the huts were only temporary ones, and that six pukka ones could not be built for Rupees 400; and in the same sentence that he makes this excuse he announces that the walls of the huts are crumbling to dust, from which it may be inferred that a supplemental estimate for rebuilding them will shortly have to be submitted, which is hardly satisfactory.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Copies of Deputy-Collector's letters.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 3 and 4.—Extracts from letters from Deputy-Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 5.—Memorandum of Expenditure.

ENCLOSURE No. 6.—Plan.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 6th November 1875, No. 472.

In continuation of my letter of the 27th ultimo, No. 450, I have the honor to report that I have just returned from a visit to Manambady, and find that, as regards the Police lines alluded to in that letter, there are only one watch hut and

will

store-room and a Police hut have been built. These are finished, but the Constables* sent to do duty at the pans lived, One Head Constable and four Constables according to the Superintendent of Police. I find, in the town of Porto Novo. The site for the so-called lines has not been levelled, and has considerable under-growth on it and a few trees. There are signs as of prickly-pear having been gathered off the ground here and there, and it has been heaped up so as to form a fence on one side of the ground, while in a corner is an open pit half full of the pear. It does not appear to me that anything like Rupees 49-4-0 could have been spent on clearing the ground of prickly-pear. This is the amount charged for by Mr. Freer. I have called on him to send me the vouchers.

2. I do not think Mr. Freer's estimate for the Police lines should be sanctioned. If the Board approve my recommendation to close Killai and open pans on the 16 cawnies already experimented on substantial Police huts will be required. The soil with which the walls of those constructed by Mr. Freer have been built is very bad, and, as he says, the walls are crumbling away. A regular estimate should, I think, be prepared by the Public Works Department.

3. I enclose a copy of Mr. Freer's estimate, which by an oversight was not forwarded with my previous letter.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Estimate.

In the first letter recorded above the Collector of South Arcot reports that a sum of Rupees 7,982-7-5 is required during the current year to complete the experimental salt works at Harigoshti, and requests that Rupees 10,000 out of the allotment in the Budget for the project, amounting to Rupees 12,844, which the Board have requested Government to transfer to the Public Works Department Budget, may be replaced at the disposal of the Revenue Department.

Board's Proceedings, dated 16th September 1875, communicated to the Public Works Department in G. O. dated 1st November 1875, No. 1,551, Revenue Department.

2. It is not at all clear from paragraph 4 what the actual expenditure up to date has amounted to. The actual expenditure is first stated at Rs. 1,113-3-2, and the Collector then proceeds to state that the expenditure incurred has amounted to Rupees 4,244-7-5, from which the Board gather that work to the latter amount has been executed, but not paid for. The Collector should explain how the matter stands, and why expenditure was incurred in excess of the sanctioned allotment. Meanwhile the Board sanction the outlay proposed, and request Government to authorize the Accountant-General to retransfer the sum of Rupees 10,000 to the Revenue Department.

3. The Board approve the Collector's proposal to abandon the Killai pans and transfer the establishment to Manambady.

4. In his second letter the Collector reports that the Police huts constructed under Mr. Freer's supervision are so badly built as to necessitate their reconstruction. It rests with the Collector to refuse to pass the work if not properly

executed, and if he considers that estimates should be furnished by the Public Works Department, he is competent to call for them.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

with seven enclosures, to be returned.

.. the Collector of South Arcot.

Copy to the Accountant-General.

.. to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

.. to the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department.

No 499 Public Works Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,
under date the 24th Feb. 1876.
Read the following

Proceeding Revenue
Department (No. 217 of 15th Feb. 1876)

It is observed
that the sanction of
the Government of
India has since been
accorded to the transfer
of the total budget
provision for salt
works to be carried
out by the Public
Works Department
during the current
year. The sum of
Rs 10,000 referred to
in these Proceedings
will

* G.O. 294 of 14 Feb. 1876.
* Rs 68,000

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

1875.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH DECEMBER 1875, No. 3,331.

Depd 22 Dec 75

Encl.

Received

DECEMBER.

No. 3,331.

Salt works—at Harijoshi in South Arcot District.—Sanctioning proposed expenditure of Rupees 7,982-7-5 on certain—, requesting Government to authorize Accountant-General to retransfer to Revenue Department Rs. 10,000 out of the allotment placed at the disposal of Public Works Department, approving proposal to abandon Kilhai pits and to transfer the establishment to Muzimbad, and passing remarks regarding certain Police huts constructed under Mr. Freer's supervision.

will be deducted from
the amount to be placed
at the disposal of
the Public Works Dept.
The Government of
India will be informed
accordingly.

H. Co. No 500 d/24th Sep. 1916.

To
The Secretary to the
Govt. of India
Public Works Dept.

Sir,
I am writing to you
letter No 112 H. Co. d/26th
January 1916 concerning the sanction
of the Government of
India to the transfer
from

S. E. South West 1 set of Res. order
with one. 50
Revenue Department
Financial Dept. with one. 50
Dropt - 2. 3-78

from the Civil
to the Public Works
Budget, of the sum
of Rs 68,000 on account
of Salt Works, I am
directed to forward
a copy of the accom-
panying Proceedings
from which it will
be seen that under
the circumstances
explained by the
Collector of the South
Arcot District
Rs 10,000 for the
Mangashtti Project
have been allowed
to remain at the
disposal of the
Revenue Depart-
ment, and that
the

the balance only \$58,000
has been ordered
to be drawn forward.

Q. M. W.

with 35c of Rev order
No. 219- & 5c of 499

Depd. 2. 3. 76

1738

Jan 21-2-76

187

D. D. Drake
Care of Union

Enclosing find \$10.00
 I have been allowed to draw
 at the disposal of the same
 for the Harpatic. The
 balance only
 has been transferred to the
 Dept.

C. Wright at Birmingham
 with the same
 I am glad to see
 the Board of Revenue
 in return on Examination
 the subject from
 a common place at the
 trial of the Rev. Mr. W.
 and the Lord of Lincoln
 the informed of the same.