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(3) Initials of the Referencer long

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	990 - W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	14.10.1878	197.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

14th October 1878, No. 3,990 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 168. Endorsement of the Under Secretary to Government in the Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 30th September 1878.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th September 1878, No. 2,550.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Commissioner of Salt Revenue, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 2nd September 1878, No. 1,149.

From the Order of Government communicated to me with the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 8,439, dated the 17th August 1878, I see that provision has been made from the Reserve under "Salt" in the Public Works Department for "constructing a salt road to Theethandathanam from the junction of road No. 9 and coast road No. 10, Rupees 1,780."

2. But a reference to my letter printed with G.O., 12th August 1878, No. 3,211-W (communicated to me in the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 8,541, of the 21st idem), will show that in the last fasli sales at Vattanam (of which Theethandathanam is a sub-station) fell to 50,917 maunds (not Rupees as printed in the Government Order) as compared with 81,701 maunds in Fasli 1286, and an average of 64,100 maunds in Faslis 1282—86 inclusive. In July they were only 3,887 maunds as against 6,335 maunds in July of the preceding year. The fall in sales there continues, therefore, and with continually accelerated rapidity.

3. It is a question therefore with me whether Theethandathanam station should not be closed. As soon as I have obtained the opinions of the local officers, for which I have already applied, I shall submit proposals on the subject. In the meantime I venture respectfully to deprecate further expenditure on a station which it is most probable it will soon be necessary to close altogether, and to request that the appropriation may be cancelled.

4. From the same order of Government I observe that a very large expenditure is being incurred on the provision of a road to the Timmalapenta salt platform. But this is one of the stations, the abolition of which was recommended by the late Salt Commission. I enclose an extract from a report by Mr. Plunkett, late Salt Deputy Collector in Nellore, on this subject in which he strongly supports this recommendation. I have of course not yet had time to go into this matter, and am not at present prepared to say whether I am likely to agree with the late Salt Commission and Mr. Plunkett or not. But in the meantime I think it will be best not to go on with any work that can be postponed without loss at such a station, and therefore beg to suggest the cancelling of this appropriation also (Rupees 5,000).

5. If these suggestions are approved, a sum of Rupees 6,780 will be available for allotment to other works. I respectfully beg to propose the following appropriations :—

Police huts at Kattumavadi Division in Tanjore (in addition to Rupees 997 already allotted) for the completion of the work, if possible, in the current year	rs. 4,543
The head sluice of the Merkanam supply channel (for collection of materials)	400
Total	4,943

6. This will leave a sum of Rupees 1,837 still available, for which I have no doubt employment may be found before the year is out.

7. Kattumavadi is not a very important station, but its situation is such that it is not likely to be abolished. The Police there must therefore be properly lodged; and the sooner this is done the better it will be, for I feel sure that good and comfortable houses for the Police are among the earliest *desiderata* of the department. I should therefore wish to see these huts finished as soon as may be.

8. The construction of a head sluice to the Merkanam supply channel was sanctioned in the Order of Government 20th June 1878, No. 934, Revenue Department. marginally noted, communicated to me in the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 6,543, dated 3rd July 1878, and can therefore be proceeded with at once. A subsequent Order of Government, however (22nd July 1878, No. 2,944-W, communicated to me by the District Engineer of South Arcot), rules that the work is to be done by the Salt Department with the aid and advice only of the Public Works Department. But the work involves sinking of wells and other matters with which the officers of the Salt Department are not competent to deal. I had intended, therefore, entering it in the budget of 1879-80 for execution by the Public Works Department, because, under present rules (see G.Os., Nos. 13 and 1,940, dated 4th June 1870 and 19th June 1868, respectively), no transfer of salt funds can be made during the year from the Revenue to the Public Works Department to enable the latter to carry out works; and the work, which I consider much required, must therefore stand over until formally budgeted for in the latter department. But if the arrangement I now propose can be made, and funds thus provided for the work from the Imperial allotment under salt in the Public Works Budget, there is, I believe, nothing to prevent the District Engineer from taking it in hand at once. If so, I learn from him that Rupees 400 will be all he will require for the provision of materials (*i.e.*, for burning bricks) before April 1st, 1879.

9. I venture, in conclusion, to point out the great inconvenience of the rule as to transfers mentioned in the last paragraph, and to express a hope that on reconsideration it may be found possible to modify it.

EXTRACT from letter, No. 86, dated 30th August 1878, from C. E. PLUNKETT, Esq., Salt Deputy Collector, Nellore, to the Collector.

I now come to the second point for reply, viz., the abolition of Timmalapenta. This is not a new question either. By my letter of 3rd August 1869, printed in Board's Proceedings of 14th September of that year, No. 6,894, it will be seen that I proposed to do away with Timmalapenta then; but the Board did not consider it could be abolished, principally for this reason, that too great a distance would then intervene between Pakala and the next station Iskapalli. Since 1869 I have frequently desired to obtain the abolition of this place and have raised the question personally more than once with the Collector, but in the face of the Board's positive order he declined to re-open it. The holders of pans and manufacturers of Timmalapenta are a most apathetic lot; they have no interest whatever in the work, and do not care to make salt; as a rule they are obliged to be coerced, and last year I recommended as a punishment the cancelment of their dittam for that season and that the pans be not worked in the following two years or till the manufacturing season of 1880, and the Board thereupon cancelled the dittam for last year and directed that the manufacturers should be warned that, if they neglect or refuse to make salt next year, *i.e.*, 1878, the station will be closed altogether. Notwithstanding this warning the manufacturers are quite as negligent this year as they ever were. The particulars I brought to your notice in my weekly diaries when I visited the station at the end of January last, and again in this month about a fortnight ago. I have no hesitation therefore in recommending its immediate abolition.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. W. BLISS,
Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 5th August 1878, No. 1,904, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating order in the Public Works Department intimating that the District Engineer, South Arcot, has rightly apprehended the intentions of Government regarding the head sluice across the Merkanam Brine Supply Channel.

MR. BLISS' letter will be submitted to Government with the request that the appropriations in the current year's Public Works Department Budget for the works specified, viz., items 3 and 9 in the list of salt works at paragraph 6 of G.O., dated 27th June 1878, No. 2,661 W, Public Works Department, may be cancelled, and that a further allotment of Rupees 4,543 be made from the savings thus effected to item No. 8 and an appropriation of Rupees 400 for the collection of materials on account of the work sanctioned in G.O., dated 20th June 1878, No. 934.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 some modification of existing rules which would admit of transfers of salt funds from the Revenue to the Public Works Department to enable the latter to carry out works not provided for in the Public Works Department Budget appears very desirable to obviate delay in their execution.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department for disposal.

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under Secretary.

No. 169. ORDER THEREON, 14th October 1878, No. 3,990 W.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineers of Nellore and Madura, who will issue orders for stopping work on the road from the Great Northern Road to the Timmalapenta salt platform, and on the salt road to Theethandathanam, reporting how much has been spent out of the appropriations of Rupees 5,000 and 1,780; on receipt of which information, the necessary transfers will be made to the works mentioned by the Commissioner.

2. In addition to the appropriation of Rupees 997 made in G.O., No. 2,661 W, of the 27th June last, a sum of Rupees 2,500 has been provided* in the

* Item No. 44.

Imperial Budget, so that the balance required amounts only to Rupees 2,043.

3. The Government are not prepared to recommend to the Government of India any change in the existing rules relating to transfers from the Revenue to the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Second Circle.	
" District	Madura.
" "	South Arcot.
" "	Tanjore.
" Revenue Department.	
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.	

Exd. C. Howarth.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Gobt. of (1878) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
SECOND CIRCLE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 14th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 14th October 1878, No. 3,990 W.

OCTOBER

Nos. 168-169.

Great Northern Road to Timmalapenta Salt Platform and Salt Road to Theethandathanam.—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue with reference to the cancelling certain budget items in the list of salt works, communicated to the District Engineers, Madura and Nellore, with regard to the —

No. 2,550.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th September 1878.

Read the following letter from H. W. BLISS, Esq., Commissioner of Salt Revenue, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 2nd September 1878, No. 1,149:—

FROM the Order of Government, communicated to me with the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 8,439, dated the 17th August 1878, I see that provision has been made from the reserve under "salt" in the Public Works Department for "constructing a salt road to Theethandathanam from the junction of road No. 9 and coast road No. 10, Rupees 1,780."

2. But a reference to my letter printed with G.O., 12th August 1878, No. 3,211-W (communicated to me in the Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 8,541 of the 21st idem) will show that in the last fasli sales at Vattanam (of which Theethandathanam is a sub-station) fell to 50,917 maunds (not Rupees as printed in the Government Order) as compared with 81,701 maunds in Fasli 1286 and an average of 64,100 maunds in Faslis 1282—86 inclusive. In July they were only 3,887 maunds as against 6,335 maunds in July of the preceding year. The fall in sales there continues, therefore, and with continually accelerated rapidity.

3. It is a question therefore with me whether Theethandathanam station should not be closed. As soon as I have obtained the opinions of the local officers for which I have already applied, I shall submit proposals on the subject. In the meantime I venture respectfully to deprecate further expenditure on a station which is most probable it will soon be necessary to close altogether, and to request that the appropriation may be cancelled.

4. From the same order of Government I observe that a very large expenditure is being incurred on the provision of a road to the Timmalapenta salt platform. But this is one of the stations, the abolition of which was recommended by the late Salt Commission. I enclose an extract from a report by Mr. Plunkett, late Salt Deputy Collector in Nellore, on this subject in which he strongly supports this recommendation. I have of course not yet had time to go into this matter, and am not at present prepared to say whether I am likely to agree with the late Salt Commission and Mr. Plunkett or not. But in the mean time I think it will be best not to go on with any work that can be postponed without loss at such a station, and therefore beg to suggest the cancelling of this appropriation also (Rupees 5,000).

5. If these suggestions are approved a sum of Rupees 6,780 will be available for allotment to other works. I respectfully beg to propose the following appropriations:—

	RS.
Police huts at Kattumavadi Division in Tanjore (in addition to Rupees 997 already allotted) for the completion of the work, if possible, in the current year	4,543
The head sluice of the Merkanam supply channel (for collection of materials)	400
Total	4,943

6. This will leave a sum of Rupees 1,837 still available, for which I have no doubt employment may be found before the year is out.

7. Kattumavadi is not a very important station, but its situation is such that it is not likely to be abolished. The Police there must therefore be properly lodged; and the sooner this is done the better it will be, for I feel sure that good and com-

fortable houses for the Police are among the earliest *desiderata* of the department. I should therefore wish to see these huts finished as soon as may be.

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9. I venture, in conclusion, to point out the great inconvenience of the rule as to transfers mentioned in the last paragraph, and to express a hope that on reconsideration it may be found possible to modify it.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACT from letter, No. 86, dated 30th August 1878, from C. E. PLUNKETT, Esq., Salt Deputy Collector, Nellore, to the Collector.

I now come to the second point for reply, viz., the abolition of Tummalapenta. This is not a new question either. By my letter of 3rd August 1869, printed in Board's Proceedings of 14th September of that year, No. 6,394, it will be seen that I proposed to do away with Tummalapenta then, but the Board did not consider it could be abolished principally for this reason, that too great a distance would then intervene between Pakala and the next station Iskapalli. Since 1869 I have frequently desired to obtain the abolition of this place and have raised the question personally more than once with the Collector, but in the face of the Board's positive order he declined to re-open it. The holders of pans and manufacturers of Tummalapenta are a most apathetic lot; they have no interest whatever in the work and do not care to the cancellation of their dittam for that season and that the pans be not worked in the following two years or till the manufacturing season of 1880, and the Board thereupon cancelled the dittam for last year and directed that the manufacturers should be warned that if they neglecting this warning the manufacturers are quite as negligent this year as they ever were. The of January last and again in this month about a fortnight ago. I visited the station at the end in recommending its immediate abolition.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. W. BLISS,
Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 5th August 1878, No. 1,904, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating Order in the Public Works Department intimating that the District Engineer, South Arcot, has rightly apprehended the intentions of Government regarding the head sluice across the Merkanam Brine Supply Channel.

Mr. Bliss' letter will be submitted to Government with the request that the appropriations in the current year's Public Works Department Budget for the works specified, viz., items 3 and 9 in the list of salt works at paragraph 6 of G.O., dated 27th June 1878, No. 2,661-W, Public Works Department, may be cancelled, and that a further allotment of Rupees 4,543 be made from the savings thus effected to item No. 8 and an appropriation of Rupees 400 for the collection of materials on account of the work sanctioned in G.O., dated 20th June 1878, No. 934.

2. With reference to paragraph 9 some modification of existing rules which would admit of transfers of salt funds from the Revenue to the Public Works Department to enable the latter to carry out works not provided for in the Public Works Department Budget appears very desirable to obviate delay in their execution.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Commissioner of Salt Revenue, with copy of G.O.,
dated 5th August 1878, Miscellaneous No. 1,909.

Exd. A. Grubert.

No 3990 w Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 14 Oct/78

Read the following:—

Endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated 30th Sept/78, on Proceedings Board of Revenue, No. 2550, dated 16th Sept/78.

Communicated to the District Engineers of Koller and Madurai, who will issue orders for stopping work on the road from the Great Northern Road to the Simmalapenta salt platform, and on the salt road to Theethanda. - thanam, reporting how much has been spent out of the appropriations of.

Revenue Department.

No. 2550.

1878.

Board of Revenue, MADRAS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVT. REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated September 16th.

Printed 19th.

Recd. 27th.

PROCEEDINGS, 16TH SEPTEMBER 1878, No. 2,550.

SEPTEMBER 1878.

No. 2,550.

List of Salt Works at paragraph 6 of G.O. dated 27th June 1878, No. 2,661-W, Public Works Department. — Requesting that the appropriations in current year's Public Works Department Budget for items 3 and 9 in the — may be cancelled and that further allotments made from the savings thus effected for Police huts at Kattunavathi Division in Tanjore and for construction of head sluice to the Moorkanum Brine Supply Channel in South Arcot District.

Transferred

5040 3211W of 12th Aug/78
2941W 22 July
2661W 27 June
2742 4 July
813W 18 July
1940 19 June/68

To Acty 5-10-78

Cir 7-10-78 Put 14-10-78

Mr. H. H. Johnston

3990
b.

of Rs 5000 and 1780;
On receipt of which
information, the necessary
transfers will be made
to the works mentioned
by the Commissioner.

2. In addition to the
appropriation of Rs 997
made in S. C. No. 266/14
of the 24th June last, a sum
of Rs 2,500 has been
provided in the Imperial
Budget; so that the
balance ^{required} amounts only
to Rs 2043.

3. The Govt are not prepared
to recommend to the Govt
of India any change in the
existing rules relating to
transfers from the Revenue
to the Public Works Departt.

+ Item No. 44
Budget 1878-79
16/10

Sup. Govt. 2nd Circle
Mr. H. H. Johnston
" Madras
" South Arcot
" Tanjore
Rev. Department
Genl. P. H. A. 105

For P. H. A. 105-10-78

200 To a/c: 5-10-78 7.10.78
To C.A. 7.10.78 7.10.78