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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	719(W)	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	11-3-1879-197-	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Copy

719

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

11th March 1879, No. 719 W.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read the following paper:—

No. 130. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th January 1879, No. 111.

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 Madras, 21st November 1878, No. 1,753:—

In continuation of my letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,162, dated G.O., 12th August 1878, No. 3,211-W. 3rd August 1878, and with reference to the papers marginally noted, I have the honor to subjoin a statement showing the sales in the Madura Salt Divisions in the first four months of the current fasli:—

Divisions.	SALES IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF	
	Fasli 1288.	Fasli 1287.
	RS.	RS.
Muthuraganadhapatam	1,545	5,012
Morekolam	13,505	32,479
Attenkarai	12,170	2,777
Vairavanadhapatam	1,573	4,262
Vattanam	15,838	21,819
Punchakali Swamp	...	83
Total ...	44,631	66,432

2. The general result is a further heavy fall which makes me more certain than ever that some of the Madura Salt Divisions ought to be closed, but the fluctuations which are apparent from the statement make it very difficult to say which.

3. Both the permanent Salt Deputy Collector (P. Subbaya) and his substitute (Vengai Pillai) propose to close Attenkarai, the transactions of which station as compared with the others have been as shown in the margin on the average of the last ten years, and which has many disadvantages such as entire dependence upon brine pits, want of a road, liability to flooding by the Vaigai river, &c. But they both qualify their opinions by saying that if the proposed rail-road from Madura to Ramnad is ever constructed these pans should then be reopened as they will be close to the line. To enable me to judge how this will be I request that the Board will be so good as to forward to me copies of any papers they may have or can procure from the Government Office which bear upon the question of the construction of this railway, regarding which I have now no information.

	MAUNDS.
Vattanam	60,741
Vairavanadhapatam	52,511
Attenkarai	36,098
Morekolam	58,695
Muthuraganadhapatam	77,116

4. In the mean time and for the next year or two, until the question of the construction of the new railway is settled and the permanent effect of the opening of the South Indian Railway to Tuticorin upon the Madura salt sales is more certain, I recommend that no further steps be taken towards the erection of a masonry Salt Office at Attenkarai.

5. Whatever decision, however, may finally be arrived at as to closing this station none need immediately be formed, for the stock of salt in hand must be sold off first. It is now large enough to last for several years even at the present rate of sale, which (probably because some heaps of light salt have been hit upon) is considerably more brisk than it was a year ago, while the sales of the neighbouring stations of Vairavanadhapatam and Morekolam continue their downward course with more than accustomed rapidity.

6. But whether Attenkarai is closed or not I consider that it will be necessary to keep Morekolam open. This will be particularly requisite if a railway is made to the former, which is quite unable to meet anything like the demand which a railway will probably create. I request therefore that orders may be issued for the building of the Morekolam Salt Office to be proceeded with.

7. The other two stations for building offices for which provision has been made in the current year's budget are Vairavanadhapatam and Muthuraganadhapatam, both of which, I think, ought eventually to be closed as their inland trade has been taken away from them by the South Indian Railway, and it will never pay to keep them up merely to meet the small local demand of the scantily-populated Ramnad Zemindari. Stocks there are however so large that they cannot be closed for some time to come. In the mean time, and until the permanence of the fall in sales at these stations becomes established, I recommend that the project of erecting masonry Salt Offices there be abandoned.

8. If these proposals are approved the sum of Rupees 5,700 allotted for expenditure in the current year at the two stations last mentioned and at Attenkarai will be available for transfer to other works. There are many either proposed or under actual execution by the Public Works Department which require funds. I may instance the following as the most important, and request that Government may be moved to make to them such fresh allotments as those and any other savings which may become available from other works will allow of. The commencement, or further prosecution, as the case may be, of these works during the current year will be of great advantage:—

District.	Project.
Ganjam ...	Constructing masonry bridge in lieu of the wooden bridge between Ganjam pans and Chilka canal. (Estimate ready and work intended to be included in next year's budget.)
Godavari ...	Canal from the Cocanada canal to the salt-pans. (Estimate long ago sanctioned—vide G.O., 11th March 1878, No. 1,238 W. Reason of non-commencement of work not known.)
South Arcot ...	Metalling and gravelling salt roads. (Estimate called for).
Tanjore ...	Rebuilding the Kandadu lattice bridge (vide Board's Proceedings, No. 2,661, dated 30th September 1878.)
	Constructing Police lines at Negapatam (vide G.O., 19th July 1878, No. 2,921-W. Work not begun. Reason not known.)

9. A further question mooted in the papers above referred to (in paragraph 1) is the advisability of closing Thithandadanam station of Vattanam Division. The local officers are opposed to this on the ground that it makes good salt, and I am not prepared to say that, if a proposal I intend shortly to submit to close Asanagiri is approved, it may not be necessary to keep this station open. There are however so many works more urgently, in my opinion, required than the road to Thithandadanam

that I recommend that the project may be left in abeyance for the present. It will probably be two or three years before I shall be able to form a definite opinion as to whether the station should be closed or not.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The building of the Morekolam Salt Office should proceed, but the execution of masonry structures at Attenkarai and Vairavanadhapatam and Muthuraganadhapatam may be postponed.

3. Mr. Bliss should state specifically the amounts he wishes transferred to particular works from savings.

4. The Commissioner will be supplied with copies of all papers in the Board's Office relating to the proposed line of rail.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

THE Governor in Council agrees in the opinion expressed at paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings. The necessary orders will be issued in the Public Works Department.

2. As regards the proposed postponement of the road to Thithandadanam referred to in paragraph 9 of Mr. Bliss' letter, it is observed that the matter has already been disposed of in G.O., 14th October 1878, Public Works Department, No. 3,990-W.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 131. ORDER THEREON, 11th March 1879, No. 719 W.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle.

2. The Government observe that an estimate for the Morekolam Salt Office in the Madura District is awaited, but that an appropriation of Rupees 1,200 has been made for this work in the Imperial Budget for 1879-80.

3. The work should not, however, be put in hand until an estimate for it has been sanctioned in the Public Works Department.* The Superintending Engineer will arrange for obtaining early sanction to the estimate, with the view to the work being undertaken as soon as possible after the commencement of the next official year.

* Vide G.O., No. 3,428, dated 3rd December 1878.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle.
" Revenue Department.
" Salt Commissioner.

Exd. C. Howarth.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1879) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
FIFTH CIRCLE,
etc., etc., etc.

Dated March 11th.

Amount

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 11th March 1879, No. 719 W.

MARCH.

Nos. 130-131.

Madras Salt Office to the Madras
District. Directs early submission of an
estimate for building the

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

28th February 1879, No. 503.

Read the following paper:—

No. 562. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th January 1879,
No. 111.

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
Madras, 21st November 1878, No. 1,753:—

In continuation of my letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,162, dated
3rd August 1878, and with reference to
G.O., 12th August 1878, No. 3,211-W. the papers marginally noted, I have the
" 14th October " No. 3,990-W. honor to subjoin a statement showing
the sales in the Madura Salt Divisions in the first four months of the current fasli:—

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2. The general result is a further heavy fall which makes me more certain than
ever that some of the Madura Salt Divisions ought to be closed, but the fluctuations
which are apparent from the statement make it very difficult to say which.

3. Both the permanent Salt Deputy Collector (P. Subbaya) and his substitute
(Vengu Pillai) propose to close Attenkarai,
the transactions of which station as com-
pared with the others have been as
shown in the margin on the average of
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upon brine pits, want of a road, liability to flooding by the Vaigai river, &c. But
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to Ramanad is ever constructed these pans should then be reopened as they will be
close to the line. To enable me to judge how this will be I request that the Board
will be so good as to forward to me copies of any papers they may have or can procure
from the Government Office which bear upon the question of the construction of this
railway, regarding which I have now no information.

4. In the mean time and for the next year or two, until the question of the construction of the new railway is settled and the permanent effect of the opening of the South Indian Railway to Tuticorin upon the Madura salt sales is more certain, I recommend that no further steps be taken towards the erection of a masonry Salt Office at Attenkarai.

5. Whatever decision, however, may finally be arrived at as to closing this station none need immediately be formed, for the stock of salt in hand must be sold off first. It is now large enough to last for several years even at the present rate of sale, which (probably because some heaps of light salt have been hit upon) is considerably more brisk than it was a year ago, while the sales of the neighbouring stations of Vairavanadhapatam and Morekolam continue their downward course with more than accustomed rapidity.

6. But whether Attenkarai is closed or not I consider that it will be necessary to keep Morekolam open. This will be particularly requisite if a railway is made to the former, which is quite unable to meet anything like the demand which a railway will probably create. I request therefore that orders may be issued for the building of the Morekolam Salt Office to be proceeded with.

7. The other two stations for building offices for which provision has been made in the current year's budget are Vairavanadhapatam and Muthuraganadhapatam, both of which, I think, ought eventually to be closed as their inland trade has been taken away from them by the South Indian Railway, and it will never pay to keep them up merely to meet the small local demand of the scantily-populated Ramnad Zemindars. Stocks there are however so large that they cannot be closed for some time to come. In the mean time, and until the permanence of the fall in sales at these stations becomes established, I recommend that the project of erecting masonry Salt Offices there be abandoned.

8. If these proposals are approved the sum of Rupees 5,700 allotted for expenditure in the current year at the two stations last mentioned and at Attenkarai will be available for transfer to other works. There are many either proposed or under actual execution by the Public Works Department which require funds. I may instance the following as the most important, and request that Government may be moved to make to them such fresh allotments as those and any other savings which may become available from other works will allow of. The commencement, or further prosecution, as the case may be, of these works during the current year will be of great advantage:—

District.	Project.
Ganjam ...	Constructing masonry bridge in lieu of the wooden bridge between Ganjam pans and Chilka canal. (Estimate ready and work intended to be included in next year's budget.)
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SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The building of the Morekolam Salt Office should proceed, but the execution of masonry structures at Attenkarai and Vairavanadhapatam and Muthuraganadhapatam may be postponed.

3. Mr. Bliss should state specifically the amounts he wishes transferred to particular works from savings.

4. The Commissioner will be supplied with copies of all papers in the Board's Office relating to the proposed line of rail.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 563.

ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1879, No. 503.

Miscellaneous.

The Governor in Council agrees in the opinion expressed at paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings. The necessary

orders will be issued in the Public Works Department.

2. As regards the proposed postponement of the road to Thithandadanam referred to in paragraph 9 of Mr. Bliss' letter, it is observed that the matter has already been disposed of in G.O., 14th October 1878, Public Works Department, No. 3,990-W.

(True Extract.)

J. H. P. ...
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
the Public Works Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

Spare Copies.

3-12-75 No 3428
 27-6-78 - 2667 W
 12-8- - 3211 W
 14-10- - 3790 W

Pro 94-3-79 No 717 R

Memorandum for the Board of Revenue
 Agreeing with the Board of Revenue that the
 should be proceeded with, and requesting Public
 Works Department to issue the necessary
 orders.

SECRETARY
 No. 662568.

G.O. No. 234, February 1879, No. 158.

Printed by 384.
 Printed March 4th.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
 Secy, Ady, Secy.

GOVT. of (1879) Madras
 REVENUE.

B + R
 No 719 W Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 11th March/79
 Read the following:—

219/5
 Pro. in the Rev. Depart. (N.E. No. 503 of 23rd Feb/79.)

Communicated to
 the Supg. Engineer Fifth
 Circle.

2. The Government
 observe that an estimate
 for the Morekolam Salt
 Office in the Madurai
 District, is awaited,
 but that an appro-
 priation of Rs 1,200
 has been made for the
 work in the Imperial
 Budget for 1879-80.

3. The work should not,
 however, be put in
 hand until an estimate
 for it has been sanctioned

* Vide L.O. No. 3428 of 3rd Dec/75.

in

in the Public Works Dept.
The Supy. Engineer will arrange
for obtaining early
sanction to the estimate,
with the view to the work
being undertaken as
soon as possible after
the commencement of
the next official year.

W.
P. 3. 79

+ vide by Q No 3428,
dated 3rd Dec. 75

Let. vide

Let.
8.3.79

Let.
8.3.79

Despatch 2. 11/8

Ch. Fifth Circle 85
Rev. Secy. 75
Salt Commissioner 36

Desp. 4/4/79 17

719
6

Cm 1988

Gobt. of (1879) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Amount

Recd.

Encl.

G.O. 11 March 1879, No. 719 W

Nos. 130-131

Morekolam Salt Office
in the Madura Or

Direct early submission
of an estimate for building
the —