

1882.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

To
THE COMMISSIONER OF
SALT REVENUE.

Printed February 8th.

Received

PROCEEDINGS, 19TH JANUARY 1882, No. 152.

Be N^o 647 W of 14th March 1882.
Comm^d to the S.R. 5th Circle.
(S.) R.T.

S.R. 5th Circle.

E. S. W. S. S. S.

AUTHORIZING the Commissioner of Salt Revenue to relieve the lessees from the obligation of filling *shell-pits* on the margin of the Pulicat Lake, in Chingleput District, in consideration of their forfeiting half their deposits.

No. 152.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th January 1882.

Read again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th February 1881, No. 274:—

ABSTRACT.—Approving proposals of Commissioner of Salt Revenue in connection with shell-pits or quarries in the Pulicat Lake, and requesting opinion of Government Pleader as to whether Zemindars have any rights at all between high and low water-mark in backwaters.

Read again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th March 1881, No. 419.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting for orders of Government, with remarks, letter from the Commissioner of Salt Revenue requesting issue of orders to the Superintendent of Works, Presidency, to fill up shell-pits or quarries in the Pulicat Lake excavated by him.

Read again the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th October 1881, No. 2326:—

ABSTRACT.—Intimating that the Board will pass orders on the Commissioner's letter on the subject of relieving certain *lessees of shell-pits* in Chingleput District from the obligations to fill up their pits on receipt of the orders of Government upon their Proceedings, dated 10th March 1881, No. 419.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 15th December 1881, No. 3614.

Read the following memorandum from the Public Works Department, dated 1st December 1881, on letter from the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, No. 239, dated 29th November 1881, reporting the approximate cost of filling up the shell-pits in the Chingleput District:—

WITH reference to Revenue Department endorsements, Nos. 716, dated 17th March, and 3125, dated 3rd November 1881, the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, has the honor to state that on the 19th March last the then Superintendent of Works, Presidency, was called upon to submit an estimate of the cost of filling up the shell-pits referred to by the Commissioner of Salt Revenue. The Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, now gives the cost approximately of filling up the pits at Choonambucolum, Yellavar, and Coorivithattoo villages as follows:—

	RS.
Pits excavated by Government	22,400
Do. by private parties	37,500
Total	59,900

2. The two endorsements above quoted are herewith returned.

ORDER THEREON, 15th December 1881, No. 3614.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings, dated 10th March and 15th October 1881, Nos. 419 and 2326.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with three original enclosures
to their earlier Proceedings, returned.

THE above correspondence relates to the filling up of certain pits dug by shell-pit lessees on the margin of the Pulicat Lake. It was a stipulation in the contract that the pits excavated should be filled up to prevent spontaneous salt from forming, but this was never enforced, and in his letter embodied in Board's Proceedings, dated 16th February, No. 274, Mr. Bliss recommended that in certain cases the lessees should be required to contribute labor for filling up the pits generally, and in others the condition should be enforced. The Superintendent of Works, who was one of the lessees, declined to fulfil the conditions of the contract in this respect, and the Board

asked Government to ascertain the cost of filling up the pits. The foregoing order communicates an estimate of Rs. 22,400 for filling up the pits excavated by Government and Rs. 37,500 those excavated by private persons. Meanwhile the Officiating Commissioner, Mr. Happell, has reported that it is impossible to fill up the pits, and suggested that lessees should be relieved from the obligation in consideration of their forfeiting a portion of their deposits.

Board's Proceedings, dated 10th March 1881, No. 419.
Board's Proceedings, dated 15th October 1881, No. 2326.

2. It is clearly out of the question to insist on specific performance of the condition, but the proposed forfeiture of half of the deposit for utilization in the manner proposed by Mr. Willock is not unreasonable, and the Board authorize the Commissioner to settle the cases awaiting disposal in accordance with that proposal.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary.

To the Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

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