Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations

6th October 1857

Back No. 16 – 17.

Order No. 1614 dd 3rd Oct 1857

12/2006
02/2007

No. 17. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue; dated 24 September 1857, No. 2949.

Read letter from the Collector of Malabar dated 27th July 1857.*

*In Consultation 29 September 1857.

(Here enter No. 122.)

Resolved that the above letter be laid before Government, with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation 7th May last, Revenue Department, No. 428.

2. In para. 3 of the Minutes Consultation above referred to, Government wished to be informed whether there was "any other reason for fixing the Warehouse rent in Malabar at double the rate sanctioned for the adjoining District of Canara, than the mere fact that the Merchants were willing to pay a higher rate than even that proposed by Mr. Robinson." Government also desired that the rate for Malabar might be reduced to that sanctioned for Canara, if this would pay for the cost of keeping the salt godowns in repair as well as interest on their value.

3. Mr. Robinson states that the buildings are valued at 11,900 Rupees, and that the average annual charge for repairs has been Rupees 147. He estimates the depreciation of the buildings at 7½ per cent., or Rupees 892½ per annum, so that the aggregate sum to be realized annually on these accounts alone amounts to 1,039½ Rupees. Mr. Robinson adds that one half at least of this sum should be realized from private traders, the remaining accomodation afforded by the buildings being apparently required for Government salt. The receipt of this amount however at the rate of godown rent proposed, viz. 4 annas per garce per annum would require the bonding of 2,080 garces, while the entire imports of the year do not exceed 3,000 garces.

4. In the above calculation interest on the value of the buildings is not included, and perhaps Government would not demand it as well as repairs and depreciation of the property. The interest at 5 per cent. would amount to Rupees 595 annually of which a moiety, or Rupees 297½, would fall on private trade.

5. In the past year the imports were only garces 297, and the utmost that could have been realized in the shape of godown rent would have been only Rupees 74.

6. Mr. Robinson also deprecates a low rate of charge as likely to discourage the establishment of private godowns, which, he shows, could be profitably rented out by the owners while they were themselves using the Government stores for their salt. Mr. Robinson has retained 8 annas per garce in his revised draft of rules, and from the above calculation this would certainly seem to be the minimum which Government could charge with reference to the value of their buildings.

7. The Board are not aware what is the total quantity of salt which can be stored in the godowns, and without this information they are unable to determine what the charge per garce ought to be, as the annual sum required to be realized for repairs, &c., divided by the number of garces the buildings will hold will alone give the proper charge. As however the import trade is very small and is likely almost wholly to cease when indigenous salt comes into the market, and as also the rules now under the consideration of Government for passing salt through the Custom House on security will greatly lessen the value of the privilege of bonding, Government may be disposed to accept the rate proposed by Mr. Robinson and allow the plan to be tried at once.

8. With reference to the proposition for charging godown rent according to the space engaged and not on the quantity stored, Mr. Robinson now informs the Board that the Malabar godowns are large, solid buildings, each room of which would hold from 75 to 185 Garces, and that a very considerable outlay would be requisite to divide them into compartments capable of containing even 25 garces, the average quantity imported on Pattimars. For the reasons assigned in the latter part of the preceding para., the Board are not disposed to recommend that Government should incur any large expenditure on this account, and as the merchants are said to prefer the system of charging by the quantity of salt stored, the Board recommend that this plan may be adopted at least for the present. If Government approve of this alteration, the latter part of Rule VIII will be omitted.

9. The Board have made a few verbal alterations in the rules, and propose omitting Rule VI, which is identical with Rule II.

10. With these remarks the Board recommend that the modified rules may be sanctioned by Government.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) A. D. [illegible], Acting Secretary.

No. 18. Order thereon, No. 1003; dated 6th October 1857.

The Government approve of the rate, Rs. 8 each, proposed by the Collector of Malabar for [illegible] for licenses a grant of salt in that District, and sanction, as recommended by the Board of Revenue, the revised rules submitted with the foregoing Proceedings.

(Signed) W. [illegible],
Acting Secretary to Government.

2/197

Revenue Department

No 2922

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd September 1857

Read letter from the Collector of Malabar dated 29th July 1857

N. C. 3rd Sept 1857

(Here Enter No 122)

Resolved that the above letter be laid before Government with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation 9th May last No 428.

2. In Para 3 of the Minutes of Consultation above referred to, Government wished to be informed whether there was any other reason for fixing the above licenses in Malabar at double the rate sanctioned for the adjoining District of Canara, than the mere fact that

that the Dockyard [illegible]
[illegible] there are that purpose
[illegible] Robinson [illegible] Government to also
[illegible] that the [illegible]
[illegible] to the buildings [illegible]
[illegible] for the
[illegible] the [illegible] Government
[illegible]

Mr Robinson states that
the buildings are valued at upwards
[illegible] and that [illegible]
charge for repairs has been [illegible]
[illegible] to the expense [illegible]
of the buildings at [illegible] per cent
Repairs [illegible] per annum & that the
aggregate sum to be realized annually
[illegible] seems to be
[illegible] Robinson [illegible]
[illegible] Repairs [illegible]
that one half at least of the [illegible]
should be [illegible]
the remaining accommodation of
[illegible] by the buildings [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the buildings
[illegible]
[illegible] Repairs [illegible]
[illegible]
In the first year [illegible]
[illegible]

by raising the establishment of the
salt Golas which the charge would
be proportionably lessened by the [illegible]
while they were themselves saving the
Government charge for their hulks, the
establishment being [illegible] charges for
Gunny on the present rate of rent,
and from the above calculation we the
would entirely [illegible] take the [illegible]
money which Government could charge
with reference to the value of the
buildings.

* The Board are not aware
what is the latest quantity of salt
which can be stored in the Golas
and without this information they
are unable to determine what the
charge for Gunny ought to be, as the
annual sum required to be realized
for repairs divided by the number
of Gunnies the buildings will
hold will alone give the proper
charge. It however the [illegible] expect

should

have as many vessels as is likely [illegible]
would choose to come when a [illegible]
Salt comes into the Market, and as
also the [illegible] consideration
[illegible] of Government for fearing that
[illegible] of the Custom House [illegible]
will greatly lessen the value of the
privilege of building Government may
be disposed to accept the rate pro-
posed by Mr Robinson and allow the
plan to be tried at once.

With reference to the proposi-
tion for charging Golam rent accord-
ing to the space occupied and not
on the quantity stored, Mr Robinson
now informs the Board that the [illegible]
[illegible] Golas are large and will hold
many back rooms each room of which would
hold from 70 to 130 Gunnies and that a
very considerable outlay would be
required to divide them into compart-
ments capable of containing [illegible]
25 [illegible] on the average [illegible] expected

imperfect or [illegible]. In these cases
and [illegible] on the east part of the pier
[illegible] the Board would [illegible]
[illegible] recommend that Government
should incur any large expenditure
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] to prefer the system of charg-
ing by the profits of Tolls [illegible]
they would recommend that the plan
may be adopted at least for the present
of Government [illegible] of the whole
[illegible] the outer part of Pier [illegible]
[illegible]

The Board however [illegible]
[illegible] attention to the [illegible]
[illegible] in [illegible] Tolls [illegible] which
[illegible] with that [illegible]

[illegible] With these remarks the Board
recommend that the rate of Tolls may
be sanctioned by Government

(True Extract)

[illegible]
Secretary

To
[illegible] Esq
Secretary to
Government
[illegible] Department

Cons 1st May 57 No 13 4

Revenue 1857 Sept
Recd 6th October
No. 1020

Extract from the
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
Dated 3rd
Recd 4th Sept 1857
2 Encls

No. 2922

Submitting with the
Board's remarks a letter
from the Collector of Malabar
affording explanation with
reference to Extract fm of
9 May last relative to the
Warehouse rent to be
fixed in the District

[illegible]
No. 314 3 Octr

No 17 & 18

[illegible] 1823 [illegible]

No 1014

The Government approve
of the rate of warehouse rent proposed
by the Collector of Malabar for
warehouse rent for landing a garce
of Salt in that District and
sanction, as recommended
by the Board of Revenue, the
revised rules submitted with
the foregoing Proceedings

Extd Geo
3rd October 1857

Copies to the Secy of Rev. Dept with 2 Encls