

(13) (11)
Revenue Department

Minutes of consultations

2nd June 1857

Back Numbers 32-34

Order no 521 dated 30th May 1857.

Read the following Papers.

No. 32. From J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department; dated Fort Saint George, 18th May 1857, No. 1642.

SIR,

R. D. No. 442.
In Con. 18th May 1857, No.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 12th Instant, regarding the renting of Abkarry Farms generally and of that of North Arcot in particular.

2. The Board understand it to be the desire of Government that public competition should be invited in all cases but by means of sealed tenders with a view to prevent the extravagant bids recklessly made at auctions. It is also the intention of Government that the Board should "make their own selection" of the tenders.

3. The Board do not understand, whether it is intended by this that the tenders should be addressed to the Board, and that they should form their own judgment as to which tender is the most eligible. If this be the meaning of Government, they would respectfully urge that it would be quite out of their power to fulfil the intentions of Government in their full spirit. They are necessarily ignorant of the character and means of the inhabitants of the Provinces likely to bid for such farms, and correspondence with Collector, subsequent to the receipt of the tenders would often preclude a decision previous to the expiration of the Fusly. Reckless offers are as easily made by tenders as by bids, and in fact the Board have now before them a written Petition from a party tendering Rupees 1,35,000 for the North Arcot Abkarry, and, in proof of his ability, offering adequate security. In such cases, the Board would be wholly at a loss which party to accept, and free competition would be greatly checked if a real bona fide offer supported by adequate security were rejected, merely because a distant authority considered that the sum offered was more than was likely to be paid, or that the personal character of another and lower tenderer was superior. The Board's decision would be constantly called in question, and bidders might urge with justice that so long as they executed the documents and furnished the securities required by Government for the due fulfilment of their obligations, it was for them and them only to determine how much they could afford to pay.

4. On the other hand, if the Board are to be guided by the recommendations of the Collectors, they think the best course would be to place the responsibility on the local officers, to allow them to receive and open the tenders and keeping the terms secret, to make such enquiry as may be necessary into the character, &c., of the bidders, and then forward the tenders with their opinions as to the most eligible for the Board's confirmation.

5. As regards the general question, which of the two, competition by tenders or by a public auction, is preferable, the Board feel some difficulty in giving a reply.

6. The public auction system leaves no opening for corruption and other malpractices to a Collector's Cutcherry servants. The bidders may indeed intrigue among themselves and buy off competitors, but as the highest bid above the minimum is always accepted at once, the intriguing is limited to the parties themselves and may occur equally under a system of tenders. Extravagant bids are no doubt made in the excitement attending a public auction, but if the conditions of the lease are sternly enforced and arrears realized by immediate sale of the property of the renter or his securities, such offers will soon cease to be made.

7. The system of tenders again affords the great advantage of allowing the Collector to select the renter most likely not only to fulfil his engagements, but to abstain from forcing the sale of liquor in every way and doing much moral injury. Extravagant offers will still continue to be made, as the only penalty is the negative one of possibly not getting the rent, but there is the power of accepting an offer known to be sufficiently moderate to enable the renter to pay it regularly and to place him beyond the necessity of resorting to every objectionable mode of increasing his gains. On the other hand, however, great scope is given to corrupt practices, and a selection is to be made out of several tenders; unprincipled persons professing or supposed to

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செனிட்டி வதற்காக

.. 07/2006

செனிட்டி காளிளப்பட்ட நாள்

.. 09/2006

செனிட்டி முடித்த நாள்

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Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 2d June 1857.

possess the power of unduly influencing the final decision of the selecting authority will not be wanting, and unscrupulous bidders will not hesitate to purchase their good will or pretended power.

8. As the Abkarry in several Districts has already been leased by public auction for periods of five years, a general rule is not at present required, and probably the best plan will be to leave it an open question for the Board to decide in each in communication with the Collector as circumstances may seem to warrant.

9. As the Abkarry of North Arcot must be settled at an early date, the Board will instruct the Collector to invite at once sealed tenders for that farm, and after opening them and considering the relative claims of the parties tendering, as to competency and respectability, to forward the same, with his opinion, to the Board for their final decision. The result will be submitted to Government for approval, as required; but the Board would beg to point out that this course is not usual, except in special circumstances, when it is considered proper to solicit the orders of Government.

No. 33. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue; dated 26th May 1857, No. 1763.

In Con. 26th May 1857.

Read letter from the Collector of North Arcot dated 22d May 1857.

(Here enter No. 118.)

The notice forwarded by the Collector calling for tenders for the Abkarry rents of the North Arcot District not being sufficiently explicit, the Board have prepared a revised draft which they resolve to submit for the approval of Government and for publication in the Gazette, with any amendments that may be deemed necessary.

2. A copy will also be forwarded to the Collector for his information.

3. Mr. Whittingham, when submitting the tenders will be careful to furnish full information regarding the character, competency, &c., of the parties tendering, as there will not be time for further references to him.

4. The tenders should be forwarded so as to admit of the ultimate decision of Government reaching the Collector by the 1st July.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Acting Secretary.*

No. 34.

ORDER THEREON, No. 521; dated 30th May 1857.

In the first letter above recorded, the Board of Revenue offer certain observations regarding the leasing out of the abkarry farm of North Arcot, pursuant to the orders contained in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 12th Instant, No. 442.

2. The Board doubt whether it is intended by Government that the tenders to be invited should be addressed to them, and that they should form their own judgment as to which tender is the most eligible, and they explain their objections to such a measure. They appear to have entertained this doubt from the words "make their own selection," in the Extract Minutes Consultation above quoted. In the instructions which the Board have given to the Collector, they have rightly apprehended the intentions of Government, which would not have been correctly interpreted had the Board themselves invited tenders. It has hitherto been usual for the Collector to report the result of an abkarry sale to the Board, and for them to approve, or disapprove, of the offer recommended for acceptance by the Collector, the Government intended that they should exercise precisely the same authority over the Collector's recommendation on the offers made by tender, and that so far, and no further, they should make their own selection.

3. In para. 4, the Board propose to allow the Collector to receive and open the tenders, and "keeping the terms secret," to make such enquiry as may be necessary into the character, &c. of the bidders. This would appear to imply that the tenders are to be opened as they are received, but the Government observe that such a plan would afford much facility for corruption,

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 2d June 1857.

inasmuch as the tenders, being generally written in the vernacular languages, will be read to the Collector by some of his subordinates in the Cutcherry, and thus the object of "sealed" tenders will be lost. A day should therefore be fixed in the notice on which all the tenders will be opened in the presence of the parties making them, and till then they should be kept in the Collector's own custody unopened. Any enquiry that may be necessary into the general respectability of the parties, can be easily made in a day or two afterwards. It is not the intention of Government that the characters of persons making tender should undergo any minute enquiry, it is only necessary that care be taken that the person whose bid may be accepted gives sufficient and unquestionable security to keep up to the terms of the lease, and is not known as a party who will promote riot, or will connect himself with the disorderly and lawless.

4. The Government will not insist on the result of all offers for abkarry rents being submitted for their sanction, but they request that the Board will communicate the result of the offers made in North Arcot, whenever they have finally concluded the rent.

5. Ordered that the Notification received with the Board's Proceedings of the 26th May above recorded, be published in the Gazette with the addition suggested in para. 3 of this order.

(Signed) H. FORBES,

Acting Secretary to Government.

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Read the following Papers
No 32 From

J. D. Sim Esq.

Acting Secretary to the

To Board of Revenue

H. Forbes Esq.

Acting Secretary to Government,

Sir, I do hereby certify that I am directed to acknowledge

the receipt of Extract Minutes of
Consultation dated 12th Instant, re-
garding the printing of Abstracts of
Journals generally and of that of North
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R.D. No 462
Dated 18th May 1837.
H.

Revenue Board Office,
Fort St George,
18th May 1837.

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due fulfillment of their obligations, it was for them and them only to determine how much they could afford to pay.

4. On the other hand if the Board are to be guided by the recommendations of the Collector, they think the best course would be to place the responsibility on the local officers - to allow them to receive and open the tenders and keeping the terms secret, to make such inquiry as may be necessary into the character &c of the bidders, and then forward the tenders with their opinions as to the most eligible for the Board's confirmation.

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The result will be submitted to Govern-
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Board would beg to point out that this
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cumstances, when it is considered proper to
obey the orders of Government.

me B. Office,
St. George
May 1857

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

J. S. M.
Secy Secretary.

To

H. Forbes Esq.

Secy Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

most

Revenue Department

N^o 33

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 20th May 1857. N^o 1763

Read letter from the Collector of North Arcot dated 21st May 1857.

(Enclosure N^o 115)

The notice forwarded by the Collector calling for Tenders for the supply of the North Arcot District not being sufficiently explicit, the Board have prepared a revised draft which they resolved to submit for the approval of Government and for publication in the Gazette, with any amendments that may be deemed necessary.

2. A copy will also be forwarded to the Collector for his information.

3. Mr. W. H. Cunningham when submitting the Tenders will be careful to furnish full information regarding the character, competency &c. of the parties tendering, as there will not be time for further

Dec 12th May 1857. N^o 1763

27th May 1857. N^o 1763

27th May 1857. N^o 1763

Revenue 1857. N^o 1763

27th May 1857. N^o 1763

The Collector of North Arcot

to the Secretary to Government

Madras 22nd May 1857

27th May 1857. N^o 1763

The Board of Revenue of the North Arcot District in reference to the instructions contained in the letter of the Secretary to Government dated 21st May 1857. N^o 1763. The Board have resolved that they propose to issue a notice of the Board of Revenue of the North Arcot District in reference to the instructions contained in the letter of the Secretary to Government dated 21st May 1857. N^o 1763.

N^o 32.

22nd May 1857. N^o 1763

further references to him.

The Tenders should be forwarded so as to admit of the ultimate decision of Government reaching the sector by the 1st July.

(True Extract)

Yours

By Secretary.

To
A. Forbes Esq.
By Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department

Encl
M. H. J. J.

copy in a G. to C.
24th December 1857. No 18
Para 2 b
Collection No.

Rev. 1857. October
D. to L. 12th June.

No 613

Extract from the
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Called 26th May 1857
Met 27th May 1857

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2. 20th June 1857
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No 33

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Revenue Dept

No 521

Extract from the Minutes of Council
Under date the 30th May 1857

Read the following
letter from the Acting
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue.

26
(Here enter 18th May 1857) 1763

We Regret
In this letter the

Board of Revenue offer
certain observations regarding
the leasing out of the Attorney
Farm of Killybegs, pur-
suant to the orders contained
in Ex. Mun. Com. dated 22nd
Inst. Cont. No. 442.

2 The Board doubt whether
it is intended by Govt that
the tenders to be invited
should be addressed to
them, and that they should
form their own judgment
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M. J.

most eligible, and they
explain their objections to
such a measure. They ap-
pear to have entertained
this doubt from the words
"make their own selection",
in the Ex. Minis. Cons. alone
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which the Board have given
to the Collector, they have
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intentions of Govt, which
would not have been
correctly interpreted had
the Board themselves in-
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result of an abkany
sale to the Board, and
for them to approve, or
disapprove, of the offer
recommended for accep-
tance by the Collector,
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they should exercise
precisely the same authority
over

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over the collectors recom-
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by tenders, and that
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3. The para to the Board
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~~to fix a day~~ ~~on which~~ ~~all the tenders~~ ~~will be opened in the presence~~
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The Government will not
insist on the result
of all offers for obtaining
rents being submitted
for their sanction, but
they request that the
Board will communicate
the result of the offers
made in North Arcot.
whenever they have
finally concluded the
rent. *BR*

Ordered that the noti-
fication received with the
Board's Proceedings of the 26 May
above recorded be published
in the Gazette with the
addition suggested in para
3 of this order.

Copies to the Secy of Govt.
with 3 Encls. Dated 21st June
Notification to the Caravan Office.

June 12th May 31st 4142
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 " 3rd Oct 4142
 " 27th Oct 4142
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Ordering the publication
 in the Official Gazette, a re-
 vised draft of a notification
 inviting tenders for the 1st.
 I have sent by the District
 of North Street, with the
 solution suggested by Genl
 in Para. 3 of the order.

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