M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 16H — Press / ~~Mis.~~

19-20

Dated 3 — 12 — 1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 19. Read the following letter from W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., dated 16th November 1859, No. 4704.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 3rd November 1859, No. 4487, on the subject of the salt manufacture in Ganjam, I am directed by the Board of Revenue to request you will submit for the consideration and orders of Government, the accompanying letter just now received from the Collector of that District, forwarding with his own recommendation in its favour, a proposal from the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department for the extension of the pans at Umeravulli in the neighbourhood of the rapidly rising port of Calingapatam to the north and south of the present pans, but principally in the former direction, and for experimenting on the swamp or spontaneous salt which may be formed in the swamps at Nowpada and Ichapur.

From Collr. 1st in Con. 12th Nov. 1859, *No.* 5637.

2. Nursinga Rao estimates that the first measure will produce an additional supply of about 73,219 maunds of salt, and an increased revenue of some Rupees 60,000, without in any degree interfering with the sales at Nowpada which are situated some 18 miles north of Umeravulli and are on a different line of trade, and the Collector thinks this estimate not exaggerated in view of the rapidly increasing trade at Calingapatam, and the demand for salt for Calcutta.

3. The swamp salt is very acceptable to the Brinjaris, as from its larger and most solid crystals, the loss from crushing and wastage is less than in the case of the manufactured salt. Its cost to Government may be taken at one-third to one-fourth of that of the manufactured article, and Nursinga Rao estimates that about three lacs of Rupees worth of salt might be obtained in this locality.

4. He proposes to make the experiment to the extent of 50,000 or at most 1,00,000 of maunds at Nowpada in the coming season.

5. The Collector is in favor of the experiment even though it may possibly result in an overstock of salt, and consequent larger loss by wastage, but he considers the whole of the Deputy Collector's proposals to be steps in the right direction.

6. He does not, however, support his Deputy's recommendation that a Salt Superintendent on Rupees 100 monthly pay should be appointed to the Umeravulli cotar, thinking the near neighbourhood of the Deputy Collector himself, whose head quarters he would place at Calingapatam, sufficient for purposes of supervision.

7. I am directed by the Board to state that they recommend the whole of the proposals to the very favorable consideration of Government.

8. They share the expectations of Government that a very large increase of revenue may be derived from the salt of this Presidency, and they doubt whether any additional extent of manufacture that can be brought into operation in the next few years, will suffice to glut the market.

9. They desire to have always on hand a sufficient stock to meet the ordinary demand for two years, and as is being experienced at the present time in Tanjore and South Arcot, a fortnight of unseasonable weather, a severe storm, or a wet summer, may suffice to render districts, ordinarily affording an ample supply for a larger inland trade, suddenly dependant on other districts for salt to meet the demand for home consumption.

10. It is necessary to guard as much as possible against such unforseen disasters; it is also in the highest degree desirable to maintain the confidence of the inland traders who resort regularly to some fixed point as the source of supply for a certain tract of country, and whose arrangement and calculations are entirely upset, and their confidence greatly shaken should that source fail them. There is also to be considered the great inconvenience and possible distress caused to the residents in the interior by a short supply of salt at enhanced rates.

11. These and other similar considerations which will readily occur to Government, induce the Board to put aside as of little weight the consideration of possibly overstocking the market.

12. The question of wastage also does not appear to them to be of much importance. The cost of the salt to Government is trifling as compared to the returns from its sale, and the Board see reason to expect that the supply required for Bengal and Chittagong must from this time to the close of the ensuing season be drawn almost entirely from our northern districts, the export selling price of which salt covers all expenses without taking into consideration the further revenue derived from it at the place of import. There is no reason to expect that stocks will remain long in hand here, but the Collector can, if he thinks fit, limit the manufacture of the inferior Ganjam salt, though the Board would rather that he turned his attention to improving the article.

13. As to the proposed Superintendent for Umeravulli, the Board consider that it would be good economy to incur the expense.

14. If the Deputy Collector is to superintend the details of the extended manufacture and sales at that *cotar*, he will not have time to devote to the general supervision of the whole department throughout the district, which it is most desirable that he should have and the Board would wish him to be constantly itinerating along the line of manufacture, tending through the whole length of the district, during the season of manufacture and sale. A well paid Superintendent will also afford additional security against the abuses for which this department has unfortunately a reputation in every district, rendering it difficult to induce an honest man to enter it.

Mo. 20. ORDER THEREON, 3rd December 1859, No. 1641.

In this letter, the Board of Revenue submit certain recommendations made by D. V. Narasingha Ráo, Deputy Collector of Ganjam in view to the extension of the manufacture and sale of salt in that district.

2. The proposals are as follow:—

1st. To increase materially the extent of the pans at Umaravalli for the additional manufacture of about seventy-two thousand maunds of salt yearly, expected to yield about 60,000 Rupees.

2nd. To appoint a Superintendent on 100 Rupees a month at Umaravalli, where there is at present only a peshkár on only 20 Rupees a month.

3rd. To try the experiment of gathering about a lac, or half a lac at least, of indian maunds of spontaneous salt from the swamps of Naupáda.

The Collector supports only the first and third propositions, but the Board support all three.

3. The orders of Government are not now required on the first proposal, as they have already in an order dated 28th ultimo No. 2770 sanctioned an estimate of 1,450 Rupees submitted by the Chief Engineer for the proposed enlargement of the Umaravalli pans, by extending the channels and constructing an extra platform for the storage of the increased quantity of 72,000 maunds of salt.

4. The Government approve the proposal to make swamp salt at Naupáda, but they do not exactly understand what is intended to be done there this year. From paragraph 8 of the Deputy Collector's letter, it would seem that no increase of establishment is proposed, but that it will only be necessary to employ laborers at the proper season, to collect and store the salt. If this is the case, the Government now authorize the proposal; if any increase of establishment is wanted, an application should be made without delay. The result of the experiment with the swamp salt, viz. the quantity obtained, the cost, its quality, and its favor with buyers, should form the subject of report at the close of the season.

5. The Government fully agree in the sentiments expressed by the Board in paragraphs 10 to 12 of their acting Secretary's letter, with respect to the importance of maintaining large stocks of salt, and the comparative unimportance of wastage, because of the trifling loss occasioned thereby as compared with the gain realized by the sale of the article.

6. The Government also agree with the Board as to the expediency of having a Superintendent at Umaravalli, for the reasons stated in paragraph 14. They are decidedly of opinion that the Deputy Collector ought not to be clogged with any of the duties connected with the sales or the charge of a store. They resolve therefore, as a temporary measure, to sanction the entertainment of a salt Superintendent at Umaravalli on a salary of 100 Rupees a month, pending the revision of the salt establishments by Mr. Pelly. If it should appear, after that revision, that a permanent increase of establishment will be necessary, the requisite application will be made to the Government of India.

7. In paragraph 4 of his letter, Mr. Forbes notices the practice of the salt rayats of daily clearing the pans at Ganjam, which produces a very inferior quality of salt, as the crystals are exceedingly small and are much mixed with mud. Mr. Forbes has done right in forbidding the practice, which should be wholly put a stop to.

8. The Government have read D. Narasingha Ráo's report with interest. It shews that he is giving to his duties an intelligent attention, from which the best effects may be expected. They hope to receive in due time the report which he was directed* to make three months after taking up his present employment.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

* *Government Proceedings 7th July* 1859, *No.* 901, *paragraph* 6.

Rev Dept

No 1641.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 3rd Dec 1859

Read the following
letter from the Acting
Secy. to the Board of Rev.

Submit letters from the
Colr, and Deputy Colr, of Ganjam, pro-
posing ~~the extension~~ to extend the salt pans
of Umaravalli, and experimenting on
spontaneous salt at Schapúr & Nau-
páda.

(Here enter 16 Abs 5/59 &
470/4

In this letter, the Bd
of Revenue submit certain recom-
mendations made by
D. V. Narsinga Rao, Deputy
Colr of Ganjam in view to the extension of the
manufacture and sale of salt in that dis-
trict. ~~and thus increasing the rev.~~
~~from that source.~~ D. Narsin.

2. The proposals are as follow—
1st, To increase materially
the extent of the pans at
Umaravalli
yearly,
two thousand maunds of salt

expected to yield about 60,000 Rs.

2d, To appoint a superintendent on 100 Rs a month at Umaravalli, where there is at present only a peshkar, on only 20 Rs a month.

3d, To try the experiment of gathering about a lac, or half a lac at least, of indian maunds of spontaneous salt from the swamps of Naupáda.

The Govr supports only the first and third propositions, but the Board support all three. In respect to the first, they note that the increased manufacture at Umaravalli will in no way interfere with the sales at Naupáda, eighteen miles distant and supplying a different line of trade; and as to the production of swamp salt, they point out that it is more acceptable to the Brinjáris than the ordinary manufactured salt, as the larger and more solid crystals of the former render it less liable to crushing and wastage. As to the third proposal of experimenting on spontaneous salt at Naupáda, which the Govr fears may result in an overstock, the Board observe that they share in the expectations of Govt that a very large increase may be derived from the salt of this Presidency; and they doubt whether any additional extent of manufacture in the next few years will suffice to glut the market. The second proposal of a depot at Umaravilli the Board support, on the ground that it will be good economy to incur the expense.

3. The orders of Govt are not now required on the first proposal, as they have already in an order dated 28 Ultimo No 2770 sanctioned an estimate of 1,450 Rs for expenses submitted by the Chief Engr for the proposed

not dated & numbered yet.

enlargement of ~~Langboy~~ the Umaravelli pans, by extending the ~~salt~~ channels and constructing an extra plat. form for the storage of the increased quantity of 72,000 maunds of salt.

4. The Govt approve the proposal to make swamp salt at Nampádu, but they do not exactly understand what is intended to be done there this year. From para 8 of the Deputy Coll's letter, it would ~~seem~~ appear that no increase of establishment is proposed, ~~intended for the furtherance of the experiment~~, but that it will only be necessary to employ laborers at the proper season, to collect and store the salt. If this is the case, the Govt now authorize the proposal; but if any increase of establishment is wanted, an application should be made without delay. The result of the experiment with the swamp salt,

viz: the quantity obtained, the cost, its quality, and its favor with buyers, should form the subject of report at the close of the season.

5 The Govt fully agree in the sentiments expressed by the Board in paras 10 to 12 of their Acting Secretary's letter, with respect to the importance of maintaining large stocks of salt, and the comparative unimportance of wastage, because of the tripling of profit realized thereby as compared with the gain realized by the sale of the article.

6. The Govt also agree with the Board as to the expediency of having a superintendent at Umaravelli, for the reasons stated ~~by them~~ in para 14. They are decidedly of opinion that the Dr Coln might not to be charged with any of the ~~details~~ duties connected

with the sales or the charge of a
store. They resolve therefore, as
a temporary measure, to have
in the entertainment of a
Salt Superintendent at Umara.
with on a salary of 100 Rs a month,
pending the revision of the Salt
establishments by Mr. Pelly. If
if should then appear, after that revision, that any a
permanent increase of establish.
ment will be necessary, the re.
quisite application will be
made to the Govt of India.

7 In para 4 of this letter,
Mr. Forbes notices the practice
of the Salt rayats of daily
clearing the pans at Sanjam,
which produces a very inferior
~~results in great loss and~~
quality of salt,
~~wastage~~, as the crystals are speed.
ily small and are much mixed with
mud. ~~disturbed in removing them.~~
Mr. Forbes has done right in for.
bidding the practice, which

× Govt Res: 7th July/57, No 901, para 6.

should be wholly put a stop to.

8 The Govt have read Mr Narcinga
Rau's report with interest. It
shews that he is giving due attention to his duties
from which they expect the best effects may be expected
it. They hope to receive in due time
the report which he was
directed to make three
months after taking up his present
employment.

6 Copies To the Board of Revenue. Dispatched
1 " " Accountant General "
2 " " Civil Auditor "
1 " " C. Pelly Esqre "

Revenue 1859 Depart.
Pro: of Govt. 10th December.

No 1641.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dated 1st December 1859.

From Bd of Rev. 5th October 59 C. No 2216.
Requests sanction for Sub Superd. Moorumwally with
a sum of 6 Rs per para of the Order in Pro: 26th Oct.
No 1966.

6

Passing orders on the
recommendation made by
D. V. Narasingha Rao, Dy
Collector of Ganjam in view
to the extension of the manu-
facture and sale of salt
in that District.

No 1920.

28 November
1 December