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M.R.O. 14-12,000-27-8-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1689	Press Mis.
218. 219	
Dated	13 - 9 - 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th September 1864.*

No. 218. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th June 1864, No. 3,607.

Read again Board's Proceedings dated 23rd March and 23rd April 1864, Nos. 1,803 and 2,464.

Read also the following letter from the Collector of Madras, dated Sydapet, 4th June 1864, No. 247 :—

1. I have the honor, in reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd April last, to submit a revised scheme for the allotment of the Kattur Salt pans. The Board are aware that it was at first proposed to apportion out a fair share amongst the resident Ryots, and sell the rest at auction. Mr. Banbury acting up to these instructions arranged that out of the whole number to be distributed, 349 pans should be handed over to the resident Ryots, 150 to be given as recompense to other manufacturers in the neighbouring villages, whose pans had become unfit for the required purpose, and that the remaining 121 should be put up to public auction.

2. The villagers earnestly begged that the Government Order sanctioning the sale of the pans at auction might be re-considered, as they were only too ready to take them up, and in the new scheme now submitted, which has been prepared by Mr. Banbury in consultation with Mr. Smith, it would appear that the Petitioner's request has been listened to, and that the pans formerly retained for auction have been merged into the number of those to be allotted to the Ulkudis. I would suggest that this concession be sanctioned by the Board.

3. There is one point, however, upon which I should be glad of the Board's opinion, when apportioning the pans amongst the Puttahdars according to their Puttah Beiz. The scale in its lower gradations embraces a large number of very small Puttah holders, paying annually one or two Rupees to the Government. I am in doubt whether it would be expedient to allot to these doubtless impoverished cultivators, pans which will involve the expenditure of capital and labour in the first instance, and which when worked on so small a scale will not prove remunerative to the possessors. I should feel inclined to advocate that no allotments be made to Puttahdars paying less than five Rupees Ain land revenue to Government.

4. It may, however, be urged that as these small Puttahdars are poor and industrious, they will only too gladly embrace the opportunity of adding to their subsistence by working steadily and constantly at this new source of livelihood; that their rights are as good as those of their richer fellow cultivators; and that even supposing they did sell their allotments, there is no fair ground for debarring them from a participation in the good fortune which has befallen their community by the selection of their waste lands for salt pans.

5. Representations have been made that the Mirassidars alone should be participators in these benefits, and that the Puttahdars, not Mirassidars, should be totally excluded therefrom. I do not think this somewhat grasping solicitation should be entertained. I beg to submit the scheme, revised, distributing to the Puttahdars, after reserving sufficient for compensation to the neighbouring manufacturers; it will, I think, only need revision, should the Board deem proper to strike out from the scheme those small Puttah holders under five Rupees.

6. I beg to forward extract of a letter received from Mr. Smith, submitting an application from Messrs. Cammiade and Co., for pans in the present locality, to the number of one hundred. The application it appears is based upon the supposition that, when the intended excise system supersedes that now existing, there will be difficulty in introducing the measure, unless we have large manufacturers like Mr. Cammiade willing and ready to aid at the commencement. Apart from this consideration, it would doubtless be advantageous to have manufacturers possessing the enterprize and capital of a Firm like Messrs. Cammiade and Co., but under existing orders, and established practice, we cannot I think any more concede waste lands for salt pans without the consent of the resident villagers, than we could hand over to stranger proposers lands for cultivation without letting the Ulkudis have the prior right of objection, a prerogative which in the present instance they would not fail to exercise.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th September 1864.*

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Extract of a letter received from the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Department, dated 11th May 1864, No. 220.

P. S.—

I have received the accompanying application for 100 pans at Kattur from Messrs. Cammiade and Co. I do not understand the nature of the combination to which they refer in their application; but if the monopoly should be abolished, and a system of excise introduced into this Presidency, there is a probability that, from disagreements among the Ryots as to the profits that should be added to the excise duty to give a remunerative return for their salt, the manufacture will be considerably diminished, and the salt revenue endangered. In such a crisis, the influence of Mr. Cammiade, whose name is well known to all the manufacturers, will counteract any unreasonable measures which the Ryots may contemplate, in ignorance of the disadvantages which may result from their adoption of them. The well known energy and enterprise of Mr. Cammiade are also a guarantee that every endeavour will be made by him to manufacture a superior description of salt, and his example will stimulate others to follow it. On these grounds, I beg to support the application of the Firm for 100 pans; and as the Ryots of the Kattur, &c., villages have, in my opinion, been amply provided with pans in the allotment statement first submitted, I have the honor to recommend that the 121 pans intended for auction be either distributed among the Ryots of other villages in substitution for their abandoned pans, or be given to Messrs. Cammiade and Co., on the same terms and conditions as to the resident villager in question.

(True Extract)

(Signed) E. G. R. FANE, *Collector.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Revised scheme for the allotment of the Katur Salt Pans.

1. The Board approve the application to the present case of the rule giving villagers the preferential right of occupying waste land in their villages without distinction of Mirassidars and Puttahdars other than Mirassidars, and sanction the proposed distribution of the salt pans at Katur, which is understood to be in accordance with this rule. It is of course understood that Government have the power to discontinue the manufacture at pleasure without thereby creating any claim to compensation.

2. Copy of these Proceedings and of the former Proceedings above referred to, will be submitted for the information of Government.

3. As no opportunity will here offer of complying with Mr. Cammiade's application, he may address the Nellore Collector in order to ascertain if any of the periodically submerged land at the north end of the Pulicat lake is available.

No. 219.

ORDER THEREON, 13th September 1864, No. 1,689.

Separate Revenue, No. 108.

Salt.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
21st September 1864.

No. 1,729.

No. 298.

From

J. D. SIM, Esq.,

Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George,

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

SIR,

Miscellaneous.

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Junior Secretary Bayley's letter of 22nd ultimo, No. 3,533, giving cover to one from the Commissioner of Assam, applying for a supply of 150 Chinchona plants.

2. In reply, I am desired to state that the Government will be happy to comply with the application, and to send a larger number if desired; but they deprecate the transmission of the plants unless a suitable person can be sent for them. Experience has shown that unless this precaution be taken, very few of the plants reach their destination alive. I am therefore requested to ascertain in the first instance whether the Commissioner can send a suitable person to Ootacamund to receive charge of the plants.

3. The seeds asked for in paragraph 4 of the Commissioner's letter will be forwarded as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd March 1864.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Madras, dated Sydapet, 16th March 1864, No. 116:—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 21st November 1863, No. 2,100, I have the honor to state that the Deputy Collector Mr. Smith has had the pans at Katur measured and marked out; they are within the limits of Katur, Kadapakan, and Sirupalaverkadu, and are six hundred and twenty in number, each pan occupying half a Kani of ground. I beg to forward the enclosed sketch of this newly marked out locality.

2. Of the number of pans thus available, it is proposed to allot amongst the Mirasidars, Payakaris, and Village officers 319, to give 150 in substitution to those Salt Ryots of Attipat and the neighbouring localities, whose pans, owing to bad situation, percolation, and the unfavorable nature of the soil, render them unfit for the purpose to which they are now devoted. There is no doubt that during past seasons the owners have worked these inferior manufacturing beds at a loss. The remaining pans, 121 in number, are available for auction, as Government have already

To be assigned to the Mirasidars, &c.....	Pans. 319
To be given in substitution for old pans which are unfit for manufacture.....	150
To be put up to auction.....	121
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determined in their Proceedings, dated 21st November 1863, No. 2,100. The distribution will therefore stand as per margin. I propose to allot the new pans to the inhabitants in proportion to their individual Pattah Beriz; this will prevent any clamour regarding alleged favoritism and unfairness.

3. I find that the Vayalur pans were not put up to auction, as appears to be apprehended, the Government orders reaching the Collector's Office after the partition and allotment had taken place.

4. I beg to forward draft of a Bill of Sale and of a Notification, which latter might be published in the "Fort Saint George Gazette," should Government approve of the same, and the measures now proposed. I regret that there has been longer delay than I had anticipated in marking out these pans; but there was, owing to the heavy monsoon, an unusually larger quantity of water left standing on the intended site at the termination of the rainy season, and until the water had drained off, and the mud partially dried up, it was impossible to stake out and measure our proposed beds. Under these circumstances I beg to solicit early orders, and trust that with a favorable season we may be able to reap some benefits from this new scene of operations.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Bill of Sale.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Notification.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Sketch.

1. The Board approve of the proposed allotment. The Acting Collector had better consult the Government Solicitor as to his forms of Notice and Bill of Sale.

2. It may possibly be questioned whether in their present form, the purchasers could legally be prevented from manufacturing salt in the purchased pans in the event of Government hereafter ceasing to require such manufacture to be conducted there on their own account.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary.

To G. Banbury, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, with three enclosures returned.

Exd, J. Wright.

No. 2,464.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd April 1864.

Read Petition No. 1,035 of 1864 from certain Ryots of Katur, praying for a reconsideration of the orders of the Deputy Collector as to the distribution of the Salt Pans about to be opened at their village, with the Collector's Endorsement thereon.

Mr. Banbury disposes of Petitioner's complaint by stating that the allotment of Salt Pans to which Petitioner object, has received the sanction of the Board in the Proceedings noted in the margin, but the Board observe that that sanction was accorded to the Collector's proposal under the impression that he had reserved a fair proportion for the resident Ryots. Should Mr. Banbury see fit to re-consider his proposals, he is at liberty to do so, and the Board consider that no pans should be sold unless there are more than can be conveniently worked by the residents willing to take them, and the holders of the old pans at Attiput and the neighbourhood. The Board observe that the Petitioners complain of the mode in which the allotment has been made, as well as regarding the small number of pans allotted to them.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Sub-Secretary.

To G. Banbury, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, with a Petition.

Exd. J. Wright.

*Received by the Board of Revenue
at the office of the Deputy Collector
at Katur, on 11th June 1864.
27367-*

1864.

Department.

No.

Rev. Secy. 1507/11

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 23rd March 1864.

Despatched

Received

No. 1,803.

Approving with remarks of the proposed
allotment of pans at Katur.

MEMORANDUM

Requested for reference the undermentioned paper on the subject of

Revised Scheme for the allotment of Kattur Salt Pans.

Enclosure No. 3 in a letter No. 3258 from Secy. dated 4 June 1864 sent to Govt. with Board of Revenue's 11 June 1864, No. 3607.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,

26 Jan'y. 1865

To

The

Registrar
Govt. Office R.S.

Registrar.

Rev. 21 Nov/63. No. 279. 250

Rev. 1864. Department.
Secy. Govt. for Salt.

No. 1537.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Re. No. 1916 dtd 16/6/64 C.R. 24

Dated 11th June 1864.

Despatched 20.8.

Received 20.5.

22nd 10/8/64

No. 3,607.

14 Copies to the Secy of Rev. Receipt 14. 6/1/64

Sanctioning the proposed distribution of the Kattur Salt Pans.

18-1689.

RECORDED.

13-4/17/64.

250/18+219