

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 411

Press
Mis.

466. 467

Dated

24. 2 - 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th February 1865.*

No. 466. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th February 1865, No. 597.

Read again letter from the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 11th May 1864, No. 292, in Board's Proceedings 16th June 1864, No. 3,676.

Read also the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 19th September 1864, No. 521 :—

1. In their Proceedings dated 16th June 1864, No. 3,676, the Board suggest "whether the platform of the Bimlipatam Salt pans might not be placed on the high ground on the main land north of the works."

2. Between the main land and the works, the river intervenes; and to avoid the difficulty of fording this river, the above suggestion is made by the Board. But when it is considered that the salt from the pans will have to be carried across the river, it may be seen that placing the platform on the mainland will not be advantageous. To connect the platform on the main land with the works, the best thing will be to construct a channel, by means of which the salt from the pans may be carried in boats to the place of storage; but this channel running through a tidal river must inundate the pans at times and cause damage to the manufacture. Further, it is to be remembered that the present platform near the pans is already constructed at a large expense, and to supersede it by another with the said difficulties, is in my opinion open to great objections.

3. Under these circumstances I beg to recommend that the original plan of the Engineer to construct a dam, though at some distance from the town, may be adopted; and that a flat boat in the form of a "Balakat" be placed at the place where the bridge was suggested, for the convenience of the traders and others who may then reach the pans from the town side.

4. As regards the Pentacottah pans, I beg the Board will decide as to what minor works the Salt Ryots are expected to construct at their own cost. The estimates are before the Board, and they might strike out such items as they deem proper, and recommend for sanction the remainder only of the estimate.

1. The Board regret that the absence of the Third Member of the Board from Madras has delayed the disposal of the papers above recorded. They will now be submitted, together with the plans and estimates noted in the margin, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

I. Road from salt pans at Bimlipatam with a tank	7,074	
II. Formation of salt pans at Pentacottah.		
Construction of a Tanadar's Cutcherry and	16,750	
Bridges		
III. Road from Pentacottah to Tanadar's Cutcherry	23,640	

2. These estimates were placed before Government in the Department Public Works with the Board's Proceedings, dated 4th February 1864, No. 760, and though the Estimate No. I. was

provided for in the Budget of the current year,* a further estimate of the cost of a bridge which it was then proposed to build, in order to connect the salt pans at Bimlipatam with the main road, was called for.

3. From the correspondence recorded above, it will be observed that the construction of a bridge is impracticable except at a very large outlay, and that the Collector is opposed to the Board's proposal to change the locality of the salt platform. Before, however, abandoning this expedient, the Board resolve to request the Collector to take the opinion of the Superintending Engineer on the matter, for they have doubts whether the present platform is sufficiently raised to protect it from the risk of inundation.

4. The remaining two estimates refer to the Pentacottah pans, to the approaches to them, and to a Tanadar's Cutcherry, the last of which works was approved by Government in the Government Order, dated 19th February 1864, No. 303, though the Cutcherry is, through inadvertence, stated to be at Bimlipatam. The necessity for these works was fully explained in the Collector's letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings with which these estimates were originally

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th February 1865.*

submitted. The Board then considered that a portion of the work included in the estimate for the formation of the pans might properly be required from the persons to whom this valuable property was to be given, and the Government deferred passing orders on either estimate until the Collector's reply to the Board's remarks was received.

5. The Collector has suggested that the Board should strike out from the estimate such items as they consider ought properly to fall on the Salt Ryots. The Board have accordingly adopted this course, which has resulted in a reduction of the estimate by Rupees 5,100.

6. The sanction of Government to the two estimates, as now submitted, will accordingly be requested. The necessary provision will be made in the Budget about to be submitted to Government for the coming official year for the execution of the works, which are likely to prove remunerative to Government by assisting in the development of the trade in salt, and thus increasing the amount of the Salt Revenue.

No. 467.

ORDER THEREON, 24th February 1865, No. 411.

Separate Revenue, No. 27.
Salt.

1. For formation of Salt Pans and erecting Cutcherry at Pentakottah, Rupees 16,750.
2. Road from Pentakottah to Tuni, Rupees 23,640.

to Rupees 1,130 has already been sanctioned in the Proceedings of Government, dated 19th February 1864, No. 303. The latter appears to be the revised and correct sum, and the former (Rupees 660) will therefore be struck out. Sanction is granted for the remainder of the estimate, amounting to Rupees 16,090, exclusive of the Cutcherry already sanctioned. The Government observe that the estimate provides for the planting of a Prickly Pear fence. The use of this plant has been strictly prohibited, and the Aloe, Bamboo, or some other suitable hedge plant must be substituted.

2. The estimate for the road from the Pans to the Trunk Road will be considered in the Public Works Department, agreeably to paragraph 2 of the Proceedings in that Department, dated 12th February 1864, No. 436. Both the road and the pans should be completed as soon as possible.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 3,676.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th June 1864.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Vizagapatam, dated 11th May 1864, No. 292:—

1. In their Proceedings passed on my letter giving cover to certain Plans and Estimates in connection with the Bimlipatam and Pentakota Salt Pans under date 4th February 1864, No. 760, the Board concur with me (paragraph 3) in considering that a bridge would be far preferable to a road dam on the latter road (Bimlipatam pans road), and they request me to submit a revised estimate for this portion of the work.

2. The Engineer was accordingly addressed on the subject, but he considers the work to be exceedingly objectionable in an engineering point of view. He says, "Building a bridge at all over the southern branch of the Bimlipatam river is in my opinion premature, and when one is built, it should be of such strength in foundation and apron as to be if possible uninjured when over-topped by a land flood opposed by a gale at sea: such a work would be very expensive, and constructed ever so massively would still be liable to be swept away. Perhaps an iron pile bridge, similar to the one being built at Cocanada for 70,000 Rupees, would have the best chance of permanence."

3. I suppose therefore the project must be dropped (though the necessity of it cannot be doubted) unless the Board are prepared to recommend such a large outlay as 70,000 Rupees. Mr. T. Clarke (3rd Member of the Board) on personally inspecting the place recently, was of opinion that a bridge was desirable to make the pans accessible at all times of the year. The Kotar cannot otherwise be so valuable as it is expected to be.

4. In the same Proceedings, the Board (paragraph 4) wish me to report whether the Ryots at Pentakota, as is usual elsewhere, would not do the earthwork and make petty channels themselves. Whatever may be the practice in other Districts, it has invariably been the case here for Government to lay out the pans completely before the Ryots are invited to occupy them. The Salt Deputy Collector however, when he lately visited the place in company with Mr. Clarke, took an agreement, in which the future manufacturers say that "the Sirkar should get the platform and the large channels constructed; excepting these, we shall do the other works at our own cost, viz., petty channels, fresh water reservoirs, condensing reservoirs, and beds." If this be so, the estimate already submitted will have to be proportionately diminished, though I must express my doubt whether those who have signed the agreement (all of them being illiterate marksmen only) understand what is the nature of the work they are expected to do, or what is likely to be the cost they will have to incur. Pantaya Pantulu Garu belongs to the old school of officials, but I fear he will find on this occasion that he has not clenched the business by getting the Ryots to affix Xs to a paper of this kind.

1. The Board doubt the advisability of constructing the salt platform on the Island at Bimlipatam, as, under the circumstances now reported, the platform will necessarily be inaccessible during some portion of the year if so placed. The Collector will be requested to consider whether the platform might not be placed on the high ground on the mainland north of the works.

2. The Salt Ryots at Pentakotta should be required to undertake all the minor works of laying out the salt beds, constructing the subsidiary channels, &c., and a revised estimate for the remainder of the work only should be submitted.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

To D. F. Carmichael, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright,

Gard

Revenue Department
3
1865

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 26th February 1865.

Read the following
Proc: of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting letters from
the Collector of Vizagapatam
together with certain plans and
estimates relative to the place
where the platform of the Brim-
lipatam salt pans is to be con-
-structed.

(Here enter 4th Feb^y 1865
No. 597)

In these Proc: the
Board of Revenue request
the sanction of Govt for the
two estimates noted in the
margin. The amount of the
first estimate appears to be
incorrect inasmuch as it
includes Rs 660 for the But-
-cherry the estimate for which
amounting to Rs 1130 has already
been sanctioned in the Proc: of
Govt.

1. For formation of salt pans &
erecting Butcherry at Bentakottah
Rs 16,750
2. Road from Bentakottah to
Suni — Rs 23,640.

Under the name of the
Board of Revenue the
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
1865.

Rev. 312/65.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
No.

Dated 16th June 1864.

No. 3,676.

Requesting further information about the
Salt platform at Dimlipetam, and stating that
the Salt Ryots at Pentacotta should be requir-
ed to undertake all the minor works.

Govt. dated 19th February 1864,
No. 303. The latter ~~estimate~~
appears to be the revised and
correct ~~and~~ ^{Sum} and the former ~~Rs. 660/~~
will therefore be struck out.

Sanction is granted for the
remainder of the estimate
amounting to Rs. 16,090. The

Government observe that the
estimate provides for the
planting of prickly pears.

The use of this plant ~~should~~
^{be} ~~strictly~~ prohibited and the use
of ~~Bamboo or some~~ ^{other} suitable hedge ~~must~~
^{be} ~~substituted~~.

2. The estimate for the
road from the Paris to the
Trunk Road will be con-
sidered in the Public
Works Department as
agreeably to para 2 of
the Proceedings in that
Department.

Exclusive of the
Cutcherry already
sanctioned.

Department dated 12th
February 1864 No. 436. But
the work & the Paris should
be completed as
soon as possible.

J. D.

14 Rd of Reu, with 18 miles Dec 25 Feb
21 to depth, N

48

Revenue 1865 Dept
Pro: of Gov: for Feb

2 Nov 11.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
24 Feb: 1865

To the Hon: Secy to the
Govt. of Madras
6 Nov 1865

Sanctioning the Estimate
for the construction of the
Railway at Pondicherry
Vizagapatam.

No. 282-283
19-2-64

No 266 4667