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M.R.O. 14—5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.



G.O. No. 853 Press Mis.

160-161

Dated. 13 - 4 — 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th April 1866.

No. 160. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th April 1866, No. 2,262.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 14th March 1866, No. 224 :—

1. Adverting to the fifth paragraph of the Order of Government of the 12th May 1862, No. 1,043, intimating that when it is found necessary to raise the rate of Kudivarum at those pans where the enhanced rate was not sanctioned by the above Order, a separate application should be submitted to Government, I have the honor to request that the rate of Rupees 9-6-0 per garce of salt may be introduced at the Woomeravelly salt pans on the following grounds.

2. These pans are about half a mile distant from the port of Calingapatam where laborers can earn from three to four Annas per day, while at the pans their gains average but one Anna and six Pice per diem, and it has in consequence been found difficult at times to carry on the manufacture at these pans. At Nowpada (twenty miles from Woomeravelly) where labor is cheaper, where salt is manufactured with greater facility from the superiority of the soil ; and where there is no port at hand to entice labor, the manufacturing pice of salt has been twice raised from Rupees 4-4-0 to Rupees 6-0-0, and from Rupees 6-0-0 to Rupees 7-8-0 per garce, at which rate it now stands. The price paid at Woomeravelly is Rupees 7-8-0 per garce.

3. The present scarcity, and the failure of the salt supply at the Woomeravelly pans at the commencement of the manufacturing season in December last, have induced some of the manufacturers to migrate to Doomagoodam, Cuttack, and Moulmein ; others have only been prevented from following, by a promise that application would be made to Government to raise the Kudivarm to Rupees 9-6-0 per garce, which is the rate at Ganjam and Itchapore.

4. The manufacturers have been at some trouble in enlarging the salt beds and reservoirs with a view to produce salt of a better quality, and though their efforts have not as yet led to marked improvement, owing to the heat of the sun not yet having attained sufficient intensity, yet the Salt Deputy Collector is of opinion that as the weather grows warmer a better kind of salt would be produced.

5. I have also to add that the demand for salt at the Woomeravelly pans is very great. The Salt Deputy reports that the manufacture of any one season is invariably consumed within the Fusly. The pans were extended in 1860, and though there is no room for further extension, yet the existing beds are capable of producing a larger quantity of salt than that now made if more labor could be had ; hence it is very desirable to offer such prices as will enable us to keep up the manufacture to the full capacity of the pans.

From the Deputy Collector, to the Collector of Ganjam, dated Calingapatam, 10th March 1866, No. 57.

1. I have the honor to bring to your notice that the Government, in their Order of the 12th May 1862, No. 1,043, have sanctioned the increase* of the price of salt to be paid to the manufacturers at all the salt pans, in the District, except at Woomeravelly, in common with the pans of other Districts in the Presidency.

* Divisions.	Old rate. Rs. A. P.	Increased rate. Rs. A. P.	
Ganjam	9 0 0	9 6 0	
Itchapore... ...	9 6 0	9 6 0	
Nowpada	6 0 0	7 8 0	
Woomeravelly ...	7 8 0	7 8 0	Not increased.

In the fifth paragraph of the same Order they intimated that where higher rates were necessary, in consequence of the labor being more expensive, or for other reasons, separate application should be made to Government.

2. You are aware that the Woomeravelly salt pans lie only at a distance of half a mile from the Calingapatam port, and laborers are scarcer than at Nowpada or Itchapore. During the time of exportation, a cooly realizes at the port more than three or four Annas per day, whereas at the pans the manufacturers do not get more than one and a half Anna per day, consequently when the manufacturers find work at the port, they suddenly leave the salt works for it. The salt servants daily go to the port and detect, and compel them to work; thus the works are interrupted owing to the inadequate price paid to the manufacturers.

3. As the Government in the 11th paragraph of their Order of the 6th July 1864, No. 1,168, on Mr. Clarke's report on the salt works of this District, declared that the price of salt at these pans should be allowed to be increased only when the manufacturers produce good salt, I therefore beg to submit, for your inspection, two specimens of new salt, manufactured during the current season, in two separate bamboo cases marked A and B. The weather is not powerful yet to produce salt of a better quality, so there is only one-sixth part of salt of the kind in the case A, in the stock already made, and five-sixths part of the kind in the case B. I am sure that a better quality of salt will be produced as the weather becomes hotter. I beg to state that, with the intention of applying for a higher rate of price, the manufacturers took great trouble last year in improving the structure of the beds and the reservoirs, by making them twice and thrice larger than before, and in paying every other attention to produce good salt, but they were unsuccessful, as the manufacture was interrupted by the too frequent fall of rain.

4. Although I supposed that it was necessary to recommend for the increase of the price of salt long before this, I was unwilling to take the liberty of doing so, before fulfilling the condition named by Government. The salt which is now submitted is not of the best kind that can be produced, but it cannot be effected before paying the manufacturers the proper cost of it. You are well aware of the quality of salt produced here in former years; it was generally blackish, but that which is now produced is white, and the same is secured in moving or storing. I also beg to submit a small quantity of salt, manufactured during the last Fusly, in a separate case marked C, and you will see that the crystals are harder as the salt is older, but it is not so white as that of this year.

5. A uniform rate of price is paid to the manufacturers since the last eight Fusles. The articles of food are now twice dearer than what they were before, and during the same period the price of salt at the Nowpada salt pans, which are at a distance of twenty miles from Woomeravelly, has been twice increased from Rupees 4-4-0 to Rupees 6, and from 6-0-0 to 7-8-0 where there is no port, and the labor is much cheaper, and the salt is more easily produced than at Woomeravelly, for the soil is better.

6. The demand of salt is very great at this place, and every crystal of salt can be manufactured is consumed within the Fusly year. The pans were once extended in the year 1860, but there is no more room for further extension. If a liberal rate of Kudivarum is paid to the manufacturers, I believe that their number will be augmented, and they will work better in the same beds, and produce a greater quantity of salt.

7. In the month of December last, or at the commencement of the current manufacturing season, the crops failed and food was scarce, so that many of the manufacturers were determined to leave their homes for Doomagoodam and Cuttack anicut works and to Moulmein, and some have gone without my knowledge, but I have retained the rest, giving them hopes that I shall recommend the price of salt to be raised, if they make good salt. I therefore earnestly solicit, that you will kindly recommend to Government to increase the price of salt of these pans from the current Fusly, from Rupees 7-8-0 to 9-0-0, or at one Anna and three Pice per Maund.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th April 1866.

The proposed increase of Kudivarum at the Woomeravelly salt pans to Rupees 9-6-0 per garce, will be recommended for the sanction of Government.

No. 161. ORDER THEREON, 13th April 1866, No. 853.

Separate Revenue, No. 9.
Salt.

Sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro 12 May 62 No. 229
6 July 62 No. 160-161

Pers 1866. Department.

Bd: of Cust: for Salt.

No. 1015.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 4th April 1866.

Recd 7 do

Rep 9 do

No. 2,262.

Recommending for sanction proposal of Collector of Ganjam to increase rate of Kudivaram at Woomeravally Salt Pans to Rupees 9-6-0 per garce.

14 Apl 66 Ogo 2nd Ass. Sec. to Govt
6 do do Chief Sec. to Govt

Rs. 853 P.

Sanctioned P.

No. 1071 J. Dl.
13th April 66.

N.B. our present

160-161.

Selling price in
Rs. 202-8-0 per
Garce - or 193-2-0
more than the
proposed Rate.
Need for ma-
king the Salt.
J. Dl.