

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1462	<u>Press</u> <u>Mis.</u>
⁵⁸⁴⁻⁸⁵ Dated	26-5-	18 68.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th May 1868.*

No. 584. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th May 1868, No. 3,470.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 4th April 1868, No. 99 :—

1. I have the honor to forward hèrewith, in original, a letter* received from the Deputy Collector in charge of the Salt Department, under date the 23rd

* With enclosures.

March last, No. 66, asking me to obtain the sanction of Government for confirming Annasawmy Pillay and Mahomed Yacub Sahib, as Superintendents, respectively, of Kattur and Vadasamanjeri salt-pans, without being required to pass the test prescribed for those offices.

2. From the marginal correspondence the Board will observe that both these individuals were appointed to act as Salt Superintendents in September 1866, on condition of their passing the Special Test in Tamil at the next opportunity.

They have lately both, however, been up for the examination, but unfortunately both failed.

3. From what Mr. Smith says, I trust that the Government will see fit now to free both of them from all future examinations, as, from their age and their duties, they are not likely now to pass, and have, each of them, peculiar qualifications that especially fit them for the posts they are employed in, and such as are not likely to be found in others except those who have their experience. A few people could doubtless be found who have passed the Salt Test, but none of them would have the experience of the two parties in question.

From the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, Madras, to the Collector of Madras, dated 23rd March 1868, No. 66.

1. I have the honor to submit, for your consideration, the accompanying addresses from Mahomed Yacub Sahib, Acting Superintendent of Vadasamanjeri, and Annasawmy Pillay, Acting Superintendent of Kattur.

2. These men went up for the Special Test Examination in August last, but failed to pass it.

3. Mahomed Yacub has been seventeen years in the service of Government, the whole of which he has passed in the Salt Department of this district, having been entertained as a Nevisinda in 1851.

4. It appears to me that this man is not bound to pass the Special Test Examination, as he was permanent Peshkar of Pungolam in 1861, and lost his appointment from no fault of his own, but in consequence of the abolition of that station, as a place of manufacture and sale, in 1862.

5. The men who now fill the posts of Salt Superintendent, in this district, were Peshkars at the time Mr. Pelly's revised scale of establishment was carried into operation; and Mahomed Yacub would, as a Peshkar, have also at that time been made a Superintendent, if his division (Pungolam) had not previously been abolished.

6. I enclose a statement of Mahomed Yacub's services. It will be seen that he has not only been seventeen years in the Salt Department, but has passed that time in situations of all grades, at different stations north and south of Madras, and has thus had opportunities of acquiring a knowledge of the details of manufacture, of which very few of his contemporaries can be

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7. As before observed, I think that this man has been wrongly called upon to pass the

* This test was introduced on the 1st May 1864.

Special Test* Examination, as he was a permanent Peshkar at the time (1861) his situation

was abolished, and as all his contemporaries, holding that office, were made Superintendents without being required to pass an examination. But if I am in error on this point, I trust that Mahomed Yacub's service of seventeen years, passed exclusively in the Salt Department and in this district, taken in connection with the fact that he would have been a Superintendent at this moment if his former situation had not been abolished, will be held to afford sufficient grounds for his being specially exempted from passing a test, for which, from the nature of his duties, he has not time to qualify.

8. Annasawmy Pillay, the Acting Superintendent of Kattur, was entertained in the public service in 1850, and was appointed by Mr. Stokes in 1855, as a Peshkar of Vallur, Attipat, Ennore, and its depôt. He was for two years in sole charge of these villages, which now constitute two separate divisions, and appears to have rendered satisfaction in the discharge of his duties.

9. In July 1857, Annasawmy Pillay, whose salary as Peshkar was only 20 Rupees, obtained the appointment of Accountant at the Huzur, by which he gained Rupees 4½ per mensem. In August 1865, he was appointed as a clerk at the Madras Salt Cotaur on a salary of Rupees 30, and was promoted in September 1866 to the office of Superintendent of the Kattur division.

10. Annasawmy Pillay's total service under Government is 17½ years, of which 4½ have been passed in the Salt Department. When entertained in the public service his age was twenty-nine, and he is, therefore, now forty-six years old.

11. I enclose a statement of Annasawmy Pillay's services, and a copy of his testimonials. Before obtaining a permanent berth, he was temporarily employed in the Revenue Board Office, and holds a certificate from the then 3rd Member, Mr. Walter Elliot, in which that gentleman states that Annasawmy Pillay "performed his duty with care and diligence," and that he "can recommend him as a trustworthy and attentive person."

12. When Annasawmy Pillay was Salt Peshkar in 1855, he obtained a certificate from the Chief Officer of a ship then taking in salt at Ennore. After expressing satisfaction at the manner in which Annasawmy Pillay discharged his duties in shipping salt, the Chief Officer adds: "Of the seventeen years that I have been trading in the country trade, I must here remark, I never saw a better system in the method of conducting the duties in shipment of this staple than at Ennore; and I ought to be a judge, as I have taken in salt at Bombay, Hongkong, Ceylon, and Muscat, for Calcutta. And if the Ennore system were adopted by the Preventive Officers in Calcutta, ships would be discharged there much more expeditiously without the needless humbug in vogue there."

13. On his re-transfer to the Salt Department in 1865, Annasawmy Pillay obtained a testimonial from his immediate superior, the Deputy Collector of Madras, in which reference is made to him in the following terms:—"Annasawmy Pillay discharged his duties to my satisfaction, and he is an active, intelligent, and hardworking servant."

14. With such testimonials in his favor, and with a service extending over a period of upwards of seventeen years, it seems hard to require Annasawmy Pillay, at the age of forty-six, to pass a test which, after all, will not make him one whit wiser or more efficient in the performance of his duties than he now is. His sole duty as Superintendent is limited to the supervision of the manufacture of salt, and he is sufficiently experienced in its details, to discharge that duty in an efficient manner.

15. Looking to these facts, to his age, his long service, and his experience in this Department, I trust that you will be pleased to recommend that Annasawmy Pillay may also be exempted from passing the Special Test, and that such exemption may have retrospective effect, both in his case and that of Mahomed Yacub, from the date on which the result of the examination was published in the Official Gazette.

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16. Adverting to the unfavorable nature of the season, and to the difficulty of replacing these experienced men, I have ventured to permit them to continue to act in their respective posts, pending the orders of Government on this application.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 and 3.

ABSTRACT.—Addresses presented by C. Annasawmy Pillay and Mahomed Yacub Sahib to the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, Madras.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Service Statement of Annasawmy Pillay.

Submitted for the favorable consideration of Government.

No. 585.

ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1868, No. 1,462.

Miscellaneous.

The Government sanction the exemption of these two men from the Special Test for Salt Superintendents in consideration of their length of service, and of the testimony borne to their thorough efficiency in the discharge of the duties of the post, which is that they have for some time held.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ the Accountant General.

„ the Commissioner for Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations.

sd. S. T. Argentin.

