M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3208 Press Mis.-

401-402 Dated 30-12-1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3208 in

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th December 1868.

No. 401. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th December 1868:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 11th December 1868, No. 407.

I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt, Madras, transmitting, with his recommendation, a petition from the Salt manufacturers of the Northern pans, praying that advances may be granted to them to enable them to manufacture salt during the ensuing season, and to request that, under the circumstances therein set forth, the Board will give the subject their gracious consideration, and pass early orders upon it.

* Sent in original, to be returned.

Viz., to holders of 1 to 3 Pans at 10 Rupees per	... ...	Rs.	18,350
	of 4 to 8 at 7 Rs.	,,	13,062
	of 9 and upwards at 5 Rs. do.	... ,,	9,840
		Rupees	41,252
In 1867		... Maunds	17,94,441
In 1868		... ,,	5,96,286
		Difference...	11,98,155
Paid to cultivator in 1867		... Rs.	8,479
Do. do. 1868		... ,,	2,349
		Difference Rupees	6,130

In the above letter the Collector endorses the recommendation of the Deputy Collector, that advances be made to the Salt manufacturers of the Northern part of the Madras District of Rupees 41,252, as shewn in the margin.

2. Mr. Smith points out, that in consequence of the disastrous circumstances of last season, there was a falling off in the quantity produced of 12,00,000 of maunds, or upwards of two-thirds of the yield of the previous year; that no profit accrued to any manufacturer; and that they are all in debt, and unable to undertake the work of the ensuing year with the vigour which State interests urgently require. There can be no doubt that owing to the simultaneous loss of crop and prevailing high prices the manufacturers, many of whom live from hand to mouth, must be worthy of commiseration.

3. On the other hand, the interests of the State require very active prosecution of the manufacture during the coming season. The great falling off in the supply last year has drawn heavily on the stock on hand to meet the demand, and they are very low, so that not only must the demand of the year be met, but every exertion must be made to replace the stock which it is requisite to keep on hand.

4. The Board, therefore, strongly recommend the advance as an exceptional concession.

No. 402. ORDER THEREON, 30th December 1868, No. 3,208.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.

Salt.

The advance of Rupees 41,252 is sanctioned as recommended by the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A.DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Govt. of {1868} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated December, 30th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 30th December 1868, No. 3,203.

DECEMBER.

Nos. 401-402.

Advance.—Grant of Rupees 11,252 sanctioned to the Salt Manufacturers of the Northern part of the Madras District.

outturn of the preceding year by no
less a quantity than twelve lacs of
Maunds.

	Mds.
1869 —	17,94,641
1868 —	5,96,286
Difference	11,98,155

3. The consequences of this startling deficiency in the manufacture, differently affected the interests of Government, and of the producers of this necessary of life. As regards the Government the consequences were happily mitigated, if not averted, by the large stock of salt on hand, which enabled the Department not only to meet the demand of the year, but also to provide a supply for the requirements of a few of the opening months of the year on which we are about to enter.

4. As regards the manufacturers, however, the consequences of the large falling off in the outturn of salt, have reduced the majority of the ryots, who live from hand to mouth, to penury and debt, and inflicted heavy loss on the few who, though better able to bear it, are, nevertheless, unwilling, without encouragement, heartily to embark on a venture

venture which may prove as remunerative as their outlay on the current years undertaking.

5. That this statement of their case is not exaggerated, can be abundantly proved from the records of this Department. Not to be tedious, however, I shall simply content myself with enclosing a statement, showing in a few cases, the probable outlay made by the ryots on the manufacture of salt, the return received by them in the shape of Loudiwaram, and the profit or loss. It will be seen that in every case the profit has been nil, and the loss more or less heavy. By way of contrast a column is also added, showing the return received from these same lands during the preceding year.

Pond	Loudiwaram 1868	Loudiwaram 1867	Difference
238	Rs. 2349	8479	6130

6. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that the manufacturers should seek Government aid, in the shape of an advance to enable them to make

Salt

salt during the ensuing year. Their Petition to me on the subject is here=with submitted; and it will be seen that they not only ask for an ad=vance, but further pray that the present rate of Kudiwaram may be raised from Rs. 10 to 20 per garce. Startled probably by the excess of their request, they shrewdly suggest a mode of raising the wind, by which Govt. may sustain no loss by comply=ing with their prayer. They propose that the additional 10 Rs. per garce, which they seek, be recovered by tacking it on to the selling price of salt, in other words by raising the monopoly rate from Rs. 202-8-0 to 212-8-0 per garce. The originator of this bright idea is evidently a great financier, and is probably the exponent of the the=ories of the modern sages of that branch of science. But as the Board of Revenue, with whom we have to do, did not adopt the expedient when lately raising the Kudiwaram in other Districts, it is to be feared that notwithstanding the in=genuity of the rising financier, the Board are not likely to endorse his suggestion on the present occasion.

7. The application for an advance, however, is another matter, and requires serious consideration at the present conjuncture. But here, again, Petitioners cannot make a simple application without rendering it ridiculous by the extravagance of its request. They want, it will be seen, an advance at the rate of Rupees 25 per pan, and as there happen to be 5659 pans in all in the 4 Taluks, their request involves the disbursement of no less a sum than Rupees 141725!

8. An advance, under the circumstances I have already explained, seems to be absolute=ly necessary after the loses the ryots have sustained, to encourage them to make as much salt as will not only suffice for the demand of the ensuing year, but leave a surplus in reserve to meet any deficiency that may arise from a future unfavorable year.

9. At this moment (I am writing from Attipat) no manamut work is being done any where, except in a very few cases, and the

the excuse pleaded is that the manufacturers have no money, and are gone to Madras to borrow from the Sowcars. The same excuse was made the week before at Pulidivekam and Vayalur; and unless the ryots are speedily furnished with the wherewithal to commence operations, a considerable number of pans will remain unworked, and the out-turn be again insufficient for our requirements.

10. I would therefore most strongly recommend that the advance solicited be granted as a special and exceptional case. It appears to me that 10 Rupees per pan would be sufficient in the case of those holding from one to three pans; 7 Rupees in the case of those holding from 4 to 8 pans; and 5 Rupees in the case of all others having nine pans and upwards. The financial effect of this proposal is shown below;-

	Pans	Rupees
From one to three pans	1835	18350
" four to eight "	1866	13062
Nine pans & upwards	1968	9843
Total	5669	41252

11. If the above scale of advances be

sanctioned, it will be recovered during the ensuing year from the first Kudivaram payments.

12. I may here mention that the last advance made was in 1860, when the urgency of the case was not so pressing as on the present occasion, and when the manufacture was only about half the quantity now expected and required.

13. I respectfully beg that an early answer may be obtained to this reference, as the boon now sought will be diverted of its practical advantages, if granted at too late a season of the year

I have the honor &c.
(Signed) A. Smith.
D.C. Collector.

On Circuit Vizadur
3 December 1868

(A true Copy)
J Grole
Sub Secretary.

Revenue Department. 6

W. 3208.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 30th December 1868.

Read the following Pro. of the Board of Revenue.

Recommending to grant advance to Salt Manufacturers of Northern part of Madras District

(W. E. 24 Dec. 1868 W.)

The advance of Rs 41,252 [illegible]

sanctioned, as recommended by the Board of Revenue

The Board have apparently overlooked the reprehensible and objectionable style of writing which the Deputy Collector has adopted in para 6 of his letter to the Collector

Perhaps it is not to be noticed. It is dismissed from the mouth of ignorance. On the other hand, if not corrected, it may be repeated.

It is hereby wrote writing

hereby wrote

[illegible] Copies to the Bd of Revenue with enclosures for info. & Sanct. Order

[illegible] Acctt Genl

Rev. 4023/68

From Chas. Ingram Esqr Secy to the Board of Revenue to the Govt of Madras

Dated Nungumbaukum 24 Decr 1868

Deputation to Collector

Deputation to Collector

Copy of Govt Proceedings

Collectorate Charge

Deputation to Collector

Road Cess

Dec. 257 Accompaniments

Petition for Pattah

Pattah

Rs 150 Remarks

S 3/774

Revenue 1868 Dept.

N.3208

Proceedings of the
Madras Government

Dated 30th Dec. 1868

Secretariat

107 + 402

Rs. 2 8 As/ Box R. 24.