

No. 22. Read the following letter from G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, Putacamund, dated Trevandrum, 11th June 1873, No. 45:—

THE Government are aware that by G. O., dated 24th June 1868, No. 1,775, as Travancore agreed to add cost of carriage from the coast to Shenkotta to the Government selling-price of salt, the property of the Travancore Government, carried on its account through Tinnevelly to Shenkotta was sanctioned. Eleven Annas and eight Pies per maund was calculated as the appropriate addition to the Shenkotta selling-price, and this arrangement has continued for some years.

The late Dewan and I had some conversation on the subject, as complaint was made of the unfair price of salt at Shenkotta as compared with the market-rates of the neighbourhood.

2. The present Dewan has now addressed me officially on the subject.

He reports that he has ascertained the market-rate at Tenkasi, the Cusbah of the Tinnevelly Taluq, adjoining Shenkotta, to be Rs. 2-7-4 per maund, whilst at Shenkotta, in the circumstances above said, the selling-price is Rs. 2-11-8, i.e., 4 Annas 4 Pies in excess of the price in the neighbouring British market. The Dewan, therefore, proposed lowering the price of Travancore salt at the Shenkotta depôt to that prevailing at Cusbah Tenkasi, and adjusting the same from time to time according to the market fluctuations on authentic information obtained through the British and Travancore Tahsildars.

3. The Dewan's proposition is perfectly sound if the arrangement of adding cost of transit to the Government selling-price is to continue. But it seems to me a convenient arrangement might be made by Travancore leaving the supply of salt to the inhabitants of the scattered villages eastward of the frontier line to private agency altogether, such as supplies the adjacent Tinnevelly villages, and receiving a lump sum equivalent to the estimated loss of salt-revenue to Travancore and gain to Tinnevelly by the arrangement. The salt would be more cheaply supplied from the Tinnevelly side, and the profit on its consumption would primarily accrue to the British Government.

4. Travancore is agreeable to such arrangement. I asked the Collector of Tinnevelly for his views. He does not think it worthwhile to make such arrangement, and points out the ease with which salt can be supplied from the east. But, of course, Travancore desires to have the monopoly profit from the salt consumption of its own subjects, and either some such arrangement as I have suggested must be made, or Travancore be allowed to sell at the Government price, *plus* true cost of transit. It will be observed this last item seems to have been over-estimated. I solicit the orders of Government.

Copy of Collector's letter, No. 642, dated 5th instant, is enclosed.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th August 1873.

No. 23.

ORDER THEREON, 5th August 1873, No. 809.

Separate Revenue, No. 2.

Salt.

ALL that the Government require is that to the current English selling-rate (at present 2 Rs. per Indian maund of 82 lbs.) the Travancore Government should add the actual cost of carriage to Shencotta, and they can sanction no other arrangement.

2. If the cost of carriage has been over-estimated, the Resident is at liberty to forward any proposals for the reduction of the selling-price at Shencotta that may be based on such grounds.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

N^o. 642.

Kuzar Cutcherry,
Tinnevely 5th June 1873.

From

R. H. Pickle Esq.

Collector

To

G. A. Ballard Esq.

Resident of Travancore.

Sir,

In reply to your letter N^o. 367 dated 26th Ult^o., I have the honor to inform you that I do not think it worth ^{the} while of the British Government to buy up the salt trade of Shencottah. our salt sales are steadily increasing, and as the railway will shortly carry Tuticorin salt to Tinnevely or half way to Shencottah, should the Travancore Government think fit to resign selling on Government account, the traders of both Tenkasi & Shencottah might buy at the depots that will in due course be established at Tinnevely & so complete on equal terms. Should the Travancore Government be unwilling to abandon the trade, no change seems to be necessary as far as the British Government is concerned.

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Inque, Va.
Signed R. H. Puckle
Collector.

True Copy
Pamunee
Resident

L.S.
L.S.

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N^o 45. Residents' Office
Trevandrum 14 June 1873

From
G. A. Ballard Esquire
To Resident in Travancore Cochin
The Honorable W. Hurdleston
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George.
Cotacaulund.

Sir,
The Government are aware that
by G. O. dated 24 June 1868. N^o 1775 as Tra-
vancore agreed to add cost of carriage from
the Coast to Shenkotta to the Government
selling price of Salt, - the property of the
Travancore Government, carried on its
account through Tinnervelly to Shenkotta
was sanctioned. Eleven annas and
eight pice per maund was calculated as
the appropriate addition to the Shenkotta
selling price, - and this arrangement has
continued for some years.

The late Dhivan and I had some
conversation on the subject, as complaint
was made of the unfair price of salt
at Shenkotta - as compared with the
market rates of the neighbourhood.
The

In a letter from
the Resident of Tra-
vancore Cochin, to
the Chief Secretary to
Government. N^o 45
dated 14 June 1873.

From
The Collector of
Tinnervelly
To The Resident of
Travancore Cochin

N^o 642.

27.5 June 1873.

12/14/73

Informing that
it is not worth the
trouble of the British
Government to buy
up the salt trade
of Travancore.

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2.

The present Diwan has now addressed me officially on the subject.

He reports that he has ascertained the market rate at Tenkasi, the Kasba of the Tinnevely Taluk adjoining Shenkotta, to be Rs. 2-7-4 per mairi, whilst at Shenkotta in the circumstances above said the selling price is Rs. 2-11-8 - i.e. $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ in excess of the price in the neighbouring British Market. - The Diwan therefore proposed lowering the price of Travancore Salt at the Shenkotta depot to that prevailing at Kasba Tenkasi and adjusting the same from time to time ^{according to the market fluctuations} on authentic information obtained through the British and Travancore Tahsildars.

3.

The Diwan's proposition is perfectly sound if the arrangement of adding cost of transit to the Government selling price is to continue. But it seems to me a convenient arrangement might be made by Travancore leaving the supply of salt to the inhabitants of the scattered villages eastward of the frontier line to private agency altogether, such as supplies the adjacent Tinnevely villages - and receiving a lump sum equivalent to the estimated loss of salt revenue to Travancore and gain to Tinne-

-velly

Copy of Collector's letter
No 642 dated
5. June 1842 is enclosed

Tinnevely by the arrangement. The salt would be more cheaply supplied from the Tinnevely side - and the profit on its consumption ^{would primarily} accrue to the British Government.

4. Travancore is agreeable to such arrangement. I asked the Collector of Tinnevely for his views. He does not think it worth while to make such arrangement and points out the ease with which salt can be supplied from the East. But of course Travancore desires to have the monopoly profit from the salt consumption of its own subjects, - and either some such arrangement as I have suggested must be made, or Travancore be allowed to sell at the Government price + true cost of transit. It will be observed this last item seems to have been overestimated. - I solicit the orders of Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant,
C. A. Munnar
Resident.

J. L.
L. B. L.

No. 809

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 5th August 1873

Read the following letter from the
President in Travancore Cochin

Suggesting that a convenient
arrangement may be made by
Travancore leaving the supply of
Salt to the inhabitants of the villages
eastward of the frontier line to
private agency altogether and
receiving a lump sum equivalent
to the loss of salt-revenue to
Travancore and gain to Timorelly.

H.E. 14 June 1873, No. 45.

All that the Govt.
require is that to the current
English selling rate (at present
2 Rs. per Indian Maund
of 82 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs) the Travancore
Govt. should add the actual
cost of carriage to Muncottah
and they can sanction no
other arrangement.

Lf

From 1873
The President in
Travancore Cochin
to Government
at 14 June
Dated 14 June 1873
Received 14 June 1873

No. 45.

Enclosure one

At 5 May 1873

Suggesting that a con-
venient arrangement may
be made by Travancore
leaving the supply of salt
to the inhabitants of the villages
eastward of the frontier
line to private agency
altogether and receiving a
lump sum equivalent
to the loss of salt-revenue to
Travancore and gain to
Timorelly.

C22183/1873 221 July

2. If the cost of carriage
has been over-estimated the
Resident is at liberty to
forward any proposals for
the reduction of the selling
price at Muncottah that
may be based on such
grounds.

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List from Area

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To Prof. Munn
Resident of Tamm & Co. Ltd.

1/10/18

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Ms. 22.23

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Supply of salt in
the Travancore State



Not on No. 1748.

Resident in Travancore & Cochin
Supply of salt in the
Travancore State.

14 June 1873, N. 45.

1. By the Trade Convention
of 1865 it was settled.

(1) That Travancore and
Cochin should be supplied with
salt at Bombay on the same
terms as it is supplied to the
Madras Govt;

(2) That they should sell
salt at the British Indian rate.

No restrictions were placed
on its manufacture.

2. In the correspondence
that preceded the conclusion of
the Convention Cochin was
distinctly given to understand
that at its Inland Depôts
the cost of carriage should
be added to the monopoly

rate

I am of opinion
that the proper
course is to agree
to Travancore charging
the English rate
of 2 Rs per 100 lbs of
82 1/2 lbs plus the
actual cost of
carriage -

I do

I agree but the actual
cost of carriage seems to
have been overestimated

rate. This it distinctly
agreed to. (vide para 5 of
Residents letter of 8 Nov. 1864
in G.O. No. 2213 of 7 Decr. 1864).

3. This point was
not directly raised in coming
to terms with Travancore,
but in G.O. No. 339 dated
16 February 1865 which finally
settled the terms of the
Convention Govt stated (in
para 21) that if Travancore
"has any Inland Chowkies
near the British or Cochin
frontier, the selling price
will of course be regulated"
so as "to place British India,
Cochin and Travancore salt
on the same relative footing."

4. In 1869 the Travancore
Govt proposed to open an
inland

in the agreement with
Travancore.

per land letter dms
has informed

[Signature]

17
inland Depot at Muncottah.
As their salt to get to this
place would have to pass
through the Tinnevely Dis-
trict they were told (G.O.
No. 2921, 6 Decr. 1867) they
must pay duty on its import
into British territory but
that the duty would be
refunded if they would
add the cost of carriage
to Muncottah to the ordinary
selling price. They agreed
and fixed 11 Annas 8 pies
as the amount to be added
to the thru selling price of
Rs 1. 11. 0 (Vide G.O.
No. 1775, June 24. 1868)

5. Now it is found that
the price which Travancore
has to sell salt at at

Muncottah

Shucottah is 4 annas 4 pies
a maund in excess of the
prices obtaining in the market
of Trukasi a neighbouring
British village. As this is the
Station of a Tahsildar the
Dewan proposes that this
officer and the Travancore
Tahsildar should from
time to time communicate
so that the price of Shu-
cottah salt may always
be on a par with that
of salt at Trukasi.

6. The Resident sug-
gests an alternative ar-
rangement to which
Travancore would consent.
This is that Travancore
should leave the supply
of salt to private agency
and

and receive from this Govt. a
sum equivalent to the estimated
loss of salt revenue to Travancore
and gain to Tinacorelly.
The Resident, it may be ob-
served, takes for granted that
the private agency would
purchase for sale at Shucottah
British salt.

7. The Collector of Tinacorelly
does not deem the Resident's
proposal worth Govt's attention.
His reasons are not clearly
expressed but appear to arise
from a belief that British
salt is probably now under-
selling Travancore salt
and most certainly will
do so hereafter when the
railway from Tuticorin
will afford facilities for
its carriage inland.

Attention

8. Attention is requested
to para 3 of the Notification
of the arrangement under the
Convention where it is stated
that the States will adopt the
British Indian selling price
"the rates at inland Depôts
being raised so as to place
the salt of Cochin, Travancore
and British India on the
same footing in the market."

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Salt supply in the
Navarino State

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