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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1158	Press
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis.~~
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Dated	(14)-9-1874	~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 110.- Read the following Endorsement of the Secretary to the Government of India, No. 243 :—

Letter from A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Customs and Salt,) to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, dated Calcutta, 28th August 1874, No. 242 :—

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Abbott's letter, No. 1,729, dated the 13th instant, and, in reply, I am desired to state that His Honor the President in Council cannot sanction the proposed rules, which would operate to perpetuate the stringently restrictive system that has hitherto prevailed, the reform of which was one of the leading objects of the Bill recently passed.

2. It is quite true that the full measure of freedom which it is desired to give to the transit of salt cannot be secured all at once, and some rules for the regulation of routes and the issue of protective passes are, for the present, necessary. I am, therefore, directed to enclose a rough draft, which may be taken as the basis of the rules to be temporarily adopted; and I am to request that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will, if he sees no objection, submit for final sanction rules on this basis, with the necessary additions to rules 4 and 5, and with any modifications that local experience and the Board of Revenue may suggest.

3. I am, however, to explain that these or any similar rules can only be accepted as a temporary measure to prevent serious loss, while the Government of Bengal is maturing such arrangements as will render interference with the internal transit of salt in Orissa altogether needless. His Honor in Council considers that all places of licensed manufacture should be so fenced round and guarded as to prevent the possibility of the removal of salt without payment of duty, and further that any part of the coast line where the manufacture of salt is practicable should be watched and patrolled by responsible officers, so that systematic illicit manufacture on any large scale (we must expect occasional petty manufacture of a few seers here and there) may also be impossible. This is the object to be attained, and then all interference with the internal transit of salt in Orissa should cease. I am to request that the Lieutenant-Governor will issue instructions to the Board to prepare carefully a scheme which will provide for these objects. The money now expended on Police posts will probably more than suffice to defray the cost.

4. It is probable that some time may elapse before these measures can be adopted in their integrity, the more so as recent cases have led to the conclusion that the arrangements to prevent smuggling in the Ganjam District have hitherto been far from satisfactory; but a complete revision should be carried out as soon as the necessary arrangements can be matured in Bengal and as soon as the Madras Government can certify that they have so reorganised their establishments and system in Ganjam as to render impossible such wholesale smuggling as has occurred there during the last two or three years.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Draft Rules for the Admission of Ganjam Salt into Orissa.

SALT may be sold at the Ganjam gollahs in any quantities, wholesale or retail, for consumption in Orissa.

2. All salt thus sold shall be covered by a protective pass to be granted by the Collector of Ganjam, and no Bengal Rowanah shall be required. This pass shall be dated, and shall state the quantity of salt which it covers, the place within Orissa to which it is destined, and the number of days allowed for transit. This pass shall be in English and in the Orissa vernacular, and a copy of it shall be sent on the day of issue to the Collector of the district in which the place of destination is situated. No fee shall be charged for this pass. This pass shall be quite sufficient to protect the salt so covered from the place of sale to the place of destination, provided that the latter is reached within the period of the currency of the pass; and during this period no Bengal rule or regulation shall affect this salt or the carriers, *etc.*, thereof.

3. If, owing to accident or circumstances beyond the control of the trader, the salt should not be able to reach its destination within the period fixed, then the pass-holder shall, at least one day prior to the expiry of the pass, report the circumstance to the nearest police station, the officer in charge of which shall, unless good reason for suspecting fraud exist, endorse the pass, extending its period by one more than the number of days necessary to enable the salt to reach its place of destination. If the officer in charge apprehends fraud, he shall detain the salt and refer the case, including a full statement by the pass-holder, to the Collector for orders. If, after a pass has been once extended, a second application for extension should be made, the case shall be referred for the orders of the Collector. No salt thus detained shall be confiscated under any Bengal rule except on distinct proof of fraud; but where the pass-holder has wilfully overstayed the period of grace granted, the Collector may, if he deems it necessary, impose a moderate penalty, not exceeding 10 per cent., on the value of the salt thus delayed in transit.

4. Salt may be sold in transit between the Ganjam frontier and the place of destination; but directly it has been sold it becomes amenable to Bengal rules; and if the amount sold exceed five seers the purchaser shall be bound (Here Bengal to insert the provisions they wish to enforce in regard to such salt.).

5. Salt having arrived at the place of destination, and the currency of the Madras pass or any extension thereof having expired, the salt becomes amenable to Bengal rules, and the holder shall be bound (Here Bengal to insert the provisions they desire to enforce.).

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From L. C. ABBOTT, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue, Department, (Miscellaneous Revenue,) to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, dated Calcutta, 13th August 1874, No. 1,729.

I AM directed to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General in Council, the following question connected with the arrangements under which Ganjam salt should be admitted into Orissa, with reference to the Notifications* issued in pursuance of Act X. (I. C.) of 1874, and specified in your letter, No. 124A, dated 24th April 1874.

* Nos. 113, 114, and 115, dated 21st April 1874.

2. Your letter above cited intimated that the Inland Customs Line, which had hitherto prevented Madras and Orissa salt from entering the Central Provinces without payment of further duty, had been abolished, and that all interference with the import by land of salt from the Madras Presidency into the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal would cease to be necessary. These orders were not understood by His Honor to imply that all regulation of Ganjam salt after it was once imported into Orissa should be abandoned, but, on the contrary, that all such salt would be subject to Bengal Salt Rules under Act VII. (B. C.) of 1864. The requirements of the Bengal Salt Act and Rules were accordingly pointed out to the Collector of Ganjam, and his attention was especially called to the regulations, under the Rowanah system, regarding transport and sale applicable to Bengal-made salt, and also to the fact that Ganjam salt introduced into Bengal would be subject to the same rules, so that any quantity above 5 seers would be liable to confiscation if found uncovered by a protective document issued by the Collector of one of the Orissa districts, or by the Calcutta Board of Revenue.

The Collector of Ganjam was further advised that he should refuse to sell salt for transport into Bengal, except on production of a Rowanah procured from either the Bengal Board of Revenue or a Bengal Collector specially authorised to issue wholesale Rowanahs.

3. The Collector of Ganjam, however, considered the restrictions in question to be opposed to the views of the Government of India as enunciated in your letter* of the 24th April, and apparently thinks that Ganjam salt, purchased at the revised rate, fixed under Notification No. 114, of Rs. 2-4-0 per maund for salt sold at the Ganjam depôt, may be taken into any part of Orissa without the local officers interfering with it in any way. This, however, could scarcely have been the intention of His Excellency in Council, and as the Collector of Ganjam has declined to be bound by Bengal rules, the Board of Revenue has deemed it expedient to draw up a schedule of rules which they propose should be observed in respect to salt passing from Ganjam within Bengal Chowkee limits, *i.e.*, the regulation districts of Cuttack, Pooree, and Balasore. The only part of the proposed rules to which any objection can, in His Honor's opinion, reasonably be taken is that which restricts the transport of Ganjam salt into Orissa to salt entering under *cancelled* Rowanahs, as such a restriction may be said to be an interference with import. The necessity, however, for this is explained in paragraph 5 of the accompanying copy of a letter† from the Board of Revenue, and the Lieutenant-Governor entirely agrees with the view taken by the Member in charge. The order of the Government of India would appear to be an enabling order, which, though it dispenses with interference, does not prohibit it. A copy of the proposed rules is also enclosed, and should they meet with the approval of the Governor-General, I am to request that sanction may be accorded to their publication, and that the necessary communication may be made to the Government of Madras, with a view to their being carried into effect, and to the Collector of Ganjam being formally vested with power to issue Bengal wholesale Rowanahs, as suggested by the Board.

* No. 124A.

† No. 436½B, dated 13th July 1874.

4. I am, also, to submit a later letter‡ from the Board of Revenue, enclosing a further correspondence on this subject between the Commissioner of Orissa and the Collector of Ganjam, from which it will be seen that the latter officer still persists in his opinion that, under the orders of the Government of India cited in paragraph 1, Ganjam salt after its entry into Orissa is exempt from the operation of Bengal Rules. The Lieutenant-Governor is, however, unable to admit this principle, and His Honor hopes that the Government of India will adopt such measures as His Excellency in Council may deem necessary to restrain the Collector of Ganjam from the course of action which he is at present pursuing.

‡ No. 465B, dated 23rd July 1874 (and enclosures).

From W. H. GRIMLEY, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P., to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, dated Fort William, 13th July 1874, No. 436½B.

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Member in charge, to submit, for the information and orders of Government, an account of the action taken by the Board regarding the arrangements for the admission of Ganjam salt into Orissa, rendered necessary by the Government of India's Notifications Nos. 113, 114, and 115, dated 21st April 1874, issued in pursuance of Act X. of 1874.

2. In the Government of India's letter, No. 124A, dated 24th April last, which accompanied your No. 1,016 of the 2nd May, it was intimated that all interference was to cease with the import of salt from the Presidency of Fort St. George by land into the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Whereupon the Board in their letters marginally cited drew attention to the fact that, under Act VII. of 1864 (B. C.), locally made salt was allowed to circulate in Orissa under a system of protective documents only, it being contrary to all practice to allow salt in manufacturing districts the free circulation permitted in districts at a distance from the sea, and as it did not appear that the Supreme Government intended to give Ganjam salt any advantage in Orissa over locally manufactured salt it was pointed out that Ganjam salt, if found uncovered by a protective document issued by the Collector of one of the Orissa districts or by the Calcutta Board of Revenue, would be confiscated, and the propriety was suggested of communicating the state of the law on the subject to the Collector of Ganjam.

No. 299B, dated 18th May 1874, to the Government of Bengal.
No. 312B, dated 26th May 1874, to the Government of Bengal.

3. That suggestion was approved of by Government Order, No. 1,237, dated 29th May, and accordingly, under instructions from the Board, the Commissioner of Orissa forwarded a copy of the Salt Act and Manual to the Collector of Ganjam, and especially called attention to the regulations under the Rowanah system regarding transport and sale applicable to Bengal-made salt, and also to the fact that Ganjam salt introduced into Bengal would be subject to the same rules; and the Collector was advised to refuse to sell salt for transport into Bengal except on production of a Rowanah procured from the Bengal Board of Revenue or a Bengal Collector specially authorised to issue wholesale Rowanahs; and in answer to an inquiry on the point was informed that the restrictions imposed were not the result of altered circumstances created by Act X. of 1874, but had always been applied to all salt passing into Orissa districts.

4. The Collector of Ganjam then informed the Commissioner that the restrictions were so entirely opposed to the views of the Government of India, as enunciated in its letter, No. 124, dated 24th April, to the Government of Bengal, as well as to the instructions received from the Madras Government to the effect that the new Ganjam rates would carry salt anywhere, that he declined to carry out the wishes of the Commissioner; whereupon the latter drew up a schedule of rules in conformity with the Salt Act and Manual, and requested the Collector to comply with them provisionally pending their approval by the Board; at the same time intimating that any salt entering Bengal Regulation Territory and Chowkee limits without the pass prescribed by the rules would be stopped and sent back.

5. The Schedule of rules has been amended and approved of by the Member in charge, who has directed the Commissioner to carry them into effect, pending their approval by Government; and I am now instructed to enclose a copy of the same, and to ask that, after communication with the Government of India and the Government of Madras, the sanction of the Government of Bengal may be given to the Schedule; and I am also to recommend that the Ganjam Collector should be formally invested with power to issue Bengal wholesale Rowanahs in the same manner as special authority has been given to the Collector of Orissa; and I am to add that the necessity for restricting the issue of salt to wholesale Rowanahdars arises from the circumstance that, under the present rules, the preparation of statistics of consumption is imperative, and, in the opinion of the Member in charge, so long as these rules remain in force, the admission of Ganjam salt on any other than the wholesale Rowanah system should be prohibited.

SCHEDULE I.

Proposed Rules to be observed in respect to Salt passing from Ganjam into Bengal Chowkee limits, i.e., *the Regulation Districts of Cuttack, Pooree, and Balasore.*

ALL salt sold from Ganjam gollahs for consumption in Bengal Chowkee limits must be on wholesale Rowanahs issued by the Ganjam Collector. The Collector of Ganjam will give notice to the Collector interested of the issue of each Rowanah.

2. Applications for Bengal wholesale Rowanahs should be on stamp paper of the value prescribed by law for petitions.

3. Salt sold on a wholesale Rowanah must be carried to its destination and by the route given in the Rowanah. It cannot be sold on the road.

4. While in transit, salt under wholesale Rowanahs must be reported at every Police station on the line of route where the Rowanah will be endorsed.

5. On reaching its destination, the owner or trader, to whom the salt belongs or is consigned, is bound to report arrival in writing to the Collector of the district, giving the number and date of the Rowanah.

6. At the time of issue of salt on wholesale Rowanahs from Ganjam gollahs, the person taking out the Rowanah is to be furnished with sufficient copies of retail Rowanahs or Chars for issue to parties purchasing from him.

7. The salt covered by a retail Rowanah or Char shall in no case exceed 100 maunds, and for all quantities above 5 seers purchasers must receive a retail Rowanah.

8. If any person purchase salt from a wholesale Rowanahdar for sale beyond the limits of the Police station in which the salt is stored, a special form of Rowanah is required called an Attraffee Rowanah; forms of such Rowanahs can be obtained by traders from any district or sub-divisional office on payment of a fee of 4 Annas each.

9. No Ganjam passes or Rowanahs will be recognised in Orissa Regulation Districts; all salt must be sold on formal wholesale Rowanah in the Bengal form.

10. It is to be understood that traders purchasing salt on wholesale Rowanahs for sale in Bengal Chowkee limits are subject, after they pass Bengal boundary, to the Bengal Salt Act and Rules in detail.

From W. H. GRIMLEY, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P., (Salt.) to A. MONEY, Esq., C.B., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department, dated Fort William, 23rd July 1874, No. 465B.

IN continuation of my letter, No. 452½B, dated the 18th instant, I have the honor to forward the correspondence marginally cited, in original, and to state that, in the opinion of the Member in charge, it seems advisable that measures should be taken to restrain the Collector of Ganjam from the course of action he is pursuing, as otherwise injury will result to the salt-trade in consequence of the traders who buy for import into Orissa being misled by the Collector's notice. I am, therefore, to suggest that the Government of India be requested to take the necessary steps to prevent such a contingency by informing the Collector of Ganjam, through the Madras Goverament, that Ganjam salt in Orissa must remain subject to the same rules as regulate the trade of Orissa salt, and to the provisions of the law in force, Act VII. of 1864, B.C.

No. 63, dated 15th July 1874, from Commissioner of Orissa, with enclosures.

From T. E. RAVENSHAW, Esq., Commissioner, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P., Fort William, dated Cuttack, 15th July 1874, No. 63 (Salt).

IN continuation of my No. 49 of 29th June 1874, I have the honor to submit copy of the Ganjam Collector's No. 320½ of 9th July 1874, and also copy of No. 328 of 10th idem, containing a form of Notice.

2. The Collector of Ganjam has been informed that this salt will be admitted into Bengal Regulation Territory on the Bengal form of Rowanah only, and that after entering into Bengal territory his salt will be subject to the provisions regarding transport and sale laid down in Bengal law and rules.

3. The Collectors of my division have received instructions to refuse admittance to salt not covered by Bengal form of Rowanahs.

4. You will observe that the position taken by the Ganjam authorities appears to be that their salt is on payment of duty at their golahs free to pass anywhere, and it would seem that they claim exemption from the ordinary rules current for transport and sale of salt in Bengal Chowkee limits.

5. It appears to me that this position is untenable, and so long as the Bengal salt law and rules stand as they are, Ganjam salt cannot be exempted from strict conformity to those rules after passing into Bengal limits.

6. We desire to place no more restriction on Ganjam salt than on that of Bengal manufacture, and the request that Rowanahs should issue in Bengal form is reasonable, and ought, I think, to be insisted on. I hope to be favored with decisive instructions with the least possible delay.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to T. E. RAVENSHAW, Esq., Commissioner of Orissa Division, dated Purushottapore, 7th July 1874, S. No. 320.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 50, of the 29th ultimo, with its enclosures, and I regret to have to inform you that I find myself unable to accede to your request, as I consider that the restrictions which you propose to adopt are directly at variance alike with the orders conveyed by the Secretary to the Government of India to the Bengal Government in his letter, No. 124A, of the 24th April last, and with those which I have recently received from the Madras Board of Revenue, in accordance with instructions from the Madras Government, and to which I am about to give effect.

2. As the orders of the Government of India above quoted are in full effect and they have been communicated to and acted upon by the Madras Government, I trust you will see the propriety of abstaining from introducing the restrictive measures which you propose, until you receive the final orders of the Government of India on the subject; and I must again repeat that the responsibility of your interfering with salt introduced into Orissa from the district must rest with yourself.

3. I may add, for your information, that up to the date of my last letter to you (15th June) the sales at Ganjam alone had fallen off to the extent of ten thousand maunds (10,000) since the passing of Act X. of 1874, and I understood you to say that the Orissa sales had proportionately increased.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Ganjam, to the Commissioner of Cuttack, dated Purushottapore, 10th July 1874, No. 328.

I SHALL be obliged by your having the enclosed Notification published in English and vernacular in the next five successive issues of your Gazette.

NOTICE.

Abolition of all Interference with the Import of Salt from Ganjam into Bengal and Central Provinces.

WITH reference to Act X. of 1874 and the Notifications of the Government of India, Nos. 113, 114, and 115, published in the *Gazette of India* Extraordinary of the 21st April 1874, and in accordance with instructions conveyed by the Secretary to the Government of India in his letter, No. 124A, dated 24th April 1874, and recorded in Government Order of the 5th May 1874, No. 549, Revenue Department, notice is hereby given that all interference with the import of salt from Ganjam into Bengal has been removed, and the Inland Customs line which hitherto prevented Ganjam salt from entering the Central Provinces without the payment of further duty has been abolished, and there is now no obstacle to the trade in salt from the coast to any part of the Central Provinces.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10*th September* 1874.

The following rates take salt anywhere, *viz* :—

Rupees 2-4-0 per maund to be paid at the Ganjam gully.
„ 2-3-0 at Itchapore.
„ 2-0-0 at Nowpadar and Womoravilly.

PURUSHOTTAPORE,
7*th July* 1874.

(Signed) R. DAVIDSON,
Acting Collector and Agent, Ganjam.

COPY of the correspondence forwarded to the Government of Madras, with a request that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to oblige the Government of India with any remarks that may occur in reference to the proposed temporary rules.

(Signed) ARTHUR HOWELL,
For Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 111. ORDER THEREON, 10th September 1874, No. 1,158.

Separate Revenue, No. 6.
Salt.

FORWARDED to the Board of Revenue for early report.

(True Extract.)

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of India, 1874. No. 242.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated September 1874.

Read

Noted in the Margin.

SEPTEMBER.

Nos. 11011-12.

No. 242.

FROM

A. O. HUME, Esq., C.B.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce.

Customs and Salt.

Calcutta, the 28th August 1874.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Abbott's letter No. 1729, dated the 13th instant, and in reply I am desired to state that His Honor the President in Council cannot sanction the proposed rules, which would operate to perpetuate the stringently restrictive system that has hitherto prevailed, the reform of which was one of the leading objects of the Bill recently passed.

2. It is quite true that the full measure of freedom which it is desired to give to the transit of salt cannot be secured all at once, and some rules for the regulation of routes and the issue of protective passes are for the present necessary. I am therefore directed to enclose a rough draft, which may be taken as the basis of the rules to be temporarily adopted, and I am to request that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor will, if he sees no objection, submit for final sanction, rules on this basis, with the necessary additions to rules 4 and 5 and with any modifications that local experience and the Board of Revenue may suggest.

3. I am, however, to explain that these or any similar rules can only be accepted as a temporary measure to prevent serious loss while the Government of Bengal is maturing such arrangements as will render interference with the internal transit of salt in Orissa altogether needless. His Honor in Council considers that all places of licensed manufacture should be so fenced round and guarded as to prevent the possibility of the removal of salt without payment of duty, and further that any part of the coast line where the manufacture of salt is practicable should be watched and patrolled by responsible officers, so that systematic illicit manufacture on any large scale (we must expect occasional petty manufacture of a few seers here and there) may also be impossible. This is the object to be attained, and then all interference with the internal transit of salt in Orissa should cease. I am to request that the Lieutenant-Governor will issue instructions to the Board to prepare carefully a scheme which will provide for these objects. The money now expended on police posts will probably more than suffice to defray the cost.

4. It is probable that some time may elapse before these measures can be adopted in their integrity, the more so as recent cases have led to the conclusion that the arrangements to prevent smuggling in the Ganjam district have hitherto been far from satisfactory; but a complete revision should be carried out as soon as the necessary arrangements can be matured in Bengal and, as soon as the Madras Government can certify that they have so reorganized their establishments and system in Ganjam as to render impossible such wholesale smuggling as has occurred there during the last two or three years.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

A. O. HUME,

Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 243.

COPY of the correspondence forwarded to the Government of Madras, with a request that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to oblige the Government of India with any remarks that may occur in reference to the proposed temporary rules.

for Arthur Howell
Secretary to the Government of India.

Draft rules for the admission of Ganjam Salt into Orissa.

1. SALT may be sold at the Ganjam golahs in any quantities, wholesale or retail, for consumption in Orissa.

2. All salt thus sold shall be covered by a protective pass to be granted by the Collector of Ganjam, and no Bengal rowannah shall be required. This pass shall be dated, and shall state the quantity of salt which it covers, the place within Orissa to which it is destined, and the number of days allowed for transit. This pass shall be in English and in the Orissa vernacular; and a copy of it shall be sent on the day of issue to the Collector of the district in which the place of destination is situated. No fee shall be charged for this pass. This pass shall be quite sufficient to protect the salt so covered from the place of sale to the place of destination, provided that the latter is reached within the period of the currency of the pass; and during this period no Bengal rule or regulation shall affect this salt or the carriers, &c., thereof.

3. If, owing to accident or circumstances beyond the control of the trader, the salt should not be able to reach its destination within the period fixed, then the pass-holder shall, at least one day prior to the expiry of the pass, report the circumstance to the nearest police station, the officer in charge of which shall, unless good reason for suspecting fraud exist, endorse the pass, extending its period by one more than the number of days necessary to enable the salt to reach its place of destination. If the officer in charge apprehends fraud, he shall detain the salt, and refer the case, including a full statement by the pass-holder, to the Collector for orders. If after a pass has been once extended, a second application for extension should be made, the case shall be referred for the orders of the Collector. No salt thus detained shall be confiscated under any Bengal rule except on distinct proof of fraud; but where the pass-holder has wilfullly overstayed the period of grace granted, the Collector may, if he deems it necessary, impose a moderate penalty, not exceeding 10 per cent., on the value of the salt thus delayed in transit.

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Here Bengal to insert the provisions they wish to enforce in regard to such salt.

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Here Bengal to insert the provisions they desire to enforce.

1874.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

CUSTOMS and SALT.

Draft rules for the admission of Ganjam salt into Orissa.

O. S. G. P.—No. 1213, R., A., & C.—28-8-74.—100.

No. 1729.

FROM L. C. ABBOTT, ESQ.,

Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Beng[illegible]

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
MIS. REVENUE.

Calcutta, *dated the 13th August* / *issued August* 1874.

SIR,

I AM directed to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General in Council, the following question connected with the arrangements under which Ganjam salt should be admitted into Orissa, with reference to the Notifications* issued in pursuance of Act X (I.C.) of 1874, and specified in your letter No. 124A, dated 24th April 1874.

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The Collector of Ganjam was further advised that he should refuse to sell salt for transport into Bengal, except on production of a rowannah procured from either the Bengal Board of Revenue or a Bengal Collector, specially authorized to issue wholesale rowannahs.

3. The Collector of Ganjam, however, considered the restrictions in question to be opposed to the views of the Government of India as enunciated in your letter† of the 24th April, and apparently thinks that Ganjam salt, purchased at the revised rate fixed under Notification No. 114, of Rs. 2-4 per maund for salt sold at the Ganjam depôt, may be taken into any part of Orissa without the local officers interfering with it in any way. This, however, could scarcely have been the intention of His Excellency in Council, and as the Collector of Ganjam has declined to be bound by Bengal rules, the Board of Revenue has deemed it expedient to draw up a schedule of rules which they propose should be observed in respect to salt passing from Ganjam within Bengal chowkee limits, *i.e.*, the regulation districts of Cuttack, Pooree, and Balasore. The only part of the proposed rules to which any objection can,

† No. 124A.

in His Honor's opinion, reasonably be taken, is that which restricts the transport of Ganjam salt into Orissa to salt entering under *wholesale* rowannahs, as such a restriction may be said to be an interference with import. The necessity, however, for this is explained in paragraph 5 of the accompanying copy of a letter* from the Board of Revenue, and the Lieutenant-Governor entirely agrees with the view taken by the Member-in-Charge. The order of the Government of India would appear to be an enabling order, which, though it dispenses with interference, does not prohibit it. A copy of the proposed rules is also enclosed, and should they meet with the approval of the Governor-General. I am to request that sanction may be accorded to their publication, and that the necessary communication may be made to the Government of Madras, with a view to their being carried into effect, and to the Collector of Ganjam being formally vested with power to issue Bengal wholesale rowannahs, as suggested by the Board.

* No. 436½B, dated 13th July 1874.

4. I am also to submit a later letter† from the Board of Revenue, enclosing a further correspondence on this subject between the Commissioner of Orissa and the Collector of Ganjam, from which it will be seen that the latter officer still persists in his opinion that, under the orders of the Government of India cited in paragraph 1, Ganjam salt, after its entry into Orissa, is exempt from the operation of Bengal rules. The Lieutenant-Governor is, however, unable to admit this principle, and His Honor hopes that the Government of India will adopt such measures as His Excellency in Council may deem necessary to restrain the Collector of Ganjam from the course of action which he is at present pursuing.

† No. 465, dated 23rd July 1874 (and enclosures).

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

L. C. ABBOTT,

Under-Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

D. E. J.

No. 436½B, dated Fort William, the 13th July 1874.

From—W. H. GRIMLEY, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue, L.P.,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Member in charge, to submit, for the information and orders of Government, an account of the action taken by the Board regarding the arrangements for the admission of Ganjam salt into Orissa, rendered necessary by the Government of India's notifications Nos. 113, 114, and 115, dated 21st April 1874, issued in pursuance of Act X of 1874.

2. In the Government of India's letter No. 124A, dated 24th April last, which accompanied your No. 1016 of the 2nd May, it was intimated that all interference was to cease with the import of salt from the Presidency of Fort St. George by land into the territories under the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Whereupon the Board in their letters marginally cited, drew attention to the fact that under Act VII of 1864 (B. C.) locally made salt was allowed to circulate in Orissa under a system of protective documents only, it being contrary to all practice to allow salt in manufacturing districts the free circulation permitted in districts at a distance from the sea, and as it did not appear that the Supreme Government intended to give Ganjam salt any advantage in Orissa, over locally manufactured salt, it was pointed out that Ganjam salt, if found uncovered by a protective document issued by the Collector of one of the Orissa districts, or by the Calcutta Board of Revenue, would be confiscated, and the propriety was suggested of communicating the state of the law on the subject to the Collector of Ganjam.

No. 299B, dated 18th May 1874, to the Government of Bengal.
No. 312B, dated 26th May 1874, to the Government of Bengal.

3. That suggestion was approved of by Government order No. 1237, dated 29th May, and accordingly, under instructions from the Board, the Commissioner of Orissa forwarded a copy of the Salt Act and Manual to the Collector of Ganjam, and especially called attention to the regulations under the Rowanah system regarding transport and sale applicable to Bengal-made salt, and also to the fact that Ganjam salt introduced into Bengal would be subject to the same rules; and the Collector was advised to refuse to sell salt for transport into Bengal except on production of a Rowanah procured from the Bengal Board of Revenue or a Bengal Collector specially authorized to issue wholesale Rowanahs; and in answer to an inquiry on the point, was informed that the restrictions imposed were not the result of altered circumstances created by Act X of 1874, but had always been applied to all salt passing into Orissa Districts.

4. The Collector of Ganjam then informed the Commissioner that the restrictions were so entirely opposed to the views of the Government of India, as enunciated in its letter No. 124, dated 24th April, to the Government of Bengal, as well as to the instructions received from the Madras Government, to the effect that the new Ganjam rates would carry salt anywhere, that he declined to carry out the wishes of the Commissioner, whereupon the latter drew up a schedule of rules in conformity with the Salt Act and Manual, and requested the Collector to comply with them provisionally pending their approval by the Board, at the same time intimating that any salt entering Bengal regulation territory and chowkee limits without the pass prescribed by the rules would be stopped and sent back.

5. The Schedule of rules has been amended and approved of by the Member in charge, who has directed the Commissioner to carry them into effect pending their approval by Government, and I am now instructed to enclose a copy of the same and to ask that, after communication with the Government of India and the Government of Madras, the sanction of the Government of Bengal may be given to the Schedule, and I am also to recommend that the Ganjam Collector should be formally invested with power to

issue [illegible] wholesale Rowanahs in the same manner as special authority has been given to the Collector of Orissa; and I am to add that the necessity for restricting the issue of salt to wholesale Rowanahdars arises from the circumstance that under the present rules the preparation of statistics of consumption is imperative, and, in the opinion of the Member in charge, so long as these rules remain in force, the admission of Ganjam salt on any other than the wholesale Rowanah system should be prohibited.

SCHEDULE I.

Proposed Rules to be observed in respect to salt passing from Ganjam into Bengal Chowkee limits, i.e., the Regulation districts of Cuttack, Pooree, and Balasore.

1. All salt sold from Ganjam golas for consumption in Bengal Chowkee limits must be on wholesale Rowanahs issued by the Ganjam Collector. The Collector of Ganjam will give notice to the Collector interested of the issue of each Rowanah.

2. Applications for Bengal wholesale Rowanahs should be on stamp paper of the value prescribed by law for petitions.

3. Salt sold on a wholesale Rowanah must be carried to its destination and by the route given in the Rowanah. It cannot be sold on the road.

4. While in transit, salt under wholesale Rowanahs must be reported at every Police Station on the line of route where the Rowanah will be endorsed.

5. On reaching its destination, the owner, or trader, to whom the salt belongs or is consigned, is bound to report arrival in writing to the Collector of the district, giving the number and date of the Rowanah.

6. At the time of issue of salt on wholesale Rowanahs from Ganjam golas, the person taking out the Rowanah is to be furnished with sufficient copies of retail Rowanahs or Chars for issue to parties purchasing from him.

7. The salt covered by a retail Rowanah or Char shall in no case exceed 100 maunds, and for all quantities above 5 seers, purchasers must receive a retail Rowanah.

8. If any person purchase salt from a wholesale Rowanahdar for sale beyond the limits of the Police Station in which the salt is stored, a special form of Rowanah is required, called an Attraffee Rowanah; forms of such Rowanahs can be obtained by traders from any district or sub-divisional office on payment of a fee of 4 annas each.

9. No Ganjam passes or Rowanahs will be recognized in Orissa regulation districts; all salt must be sold on formal wholesale Rowanah in the Bengal form.

10. It is to be understood that traders purchasing salt on wholesale Rowanahs for sale in Bengal Chowkee limits are subject after they pass Bengal boundary to the Bengal Salt Act and Rule in detail.

B. E.

No. 465 B.

From

W. H. Grimley Esquire
Officiating Secretary to the
Board of Revenue L.P.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal
Revenue Department

Salt

Dated Fort William, the 23rd July 1874

A. Money Esqr. C.S.

Sir

In continuation of my letter No. 462 dated the 18th instant, I have the honor to forward the correspondence marginally cited in original and to state that in the opinion of the Member in charge, it seems advisable that measures should be taken to restrain the Collector of Ganjam from the course of action he is pursuing, as otherwise, injury will result to the salt trade in consequence of the traders, who buy for import into Orissa, being misled by the Collector's notice. I am therefore to suggest that the Government of India be requested to take the necessary steps to prevent such a contingency by informing the Collector of Ganjam through the Madras Government that Ganjam salt in Orissa must remain subject to the same rules as regulate the trade of Orissa salt, and to the provisions of the law in force, Act 7 of 1864.

No. 462 dated 15th July 1874 from Commr. of Orissa with enclosures.

10/

Copy

1864 13 6

I have &c
T. E. M. Grimley
Offg Secretary

No 63

Commissioner's Office Orissa Divn
Cuttack, the 15th July 1874.

From
T. E. Ravenshaw Esquire
Commissioner
To
The Secretary to the Board of Revenue
L.P.
Fort William

Salt

Sir

In continuation of my No 49 of 29th June 1874 I have the honor to submit copy of the Ganjam Collector's No 320/2 of 9th July 1874 and also copy of No 328 of 10th idem containing a form of notice.

2 The Collector of Ganjam has been informed that this salt will be admitted into Bengal Regulation territory on the Bengal form of Rowannah only and that after entering into Bengal territory his salt will be subject to the provisions regarding transport and sale laid down in Bengal laws & rules.-

3 The Collectors of my Division have received instructions to refuse admittance to salt not covered by Bengal form of Rowannahs.

4 You will observe that the position taken by the Ganjam authorities appears to be that their salt is on payment of duty at their Golahs, free to pass anywhere and it would seem that they claim exemption from the ordinary rules current for transport and sale of Salt in Bengal Khowlee limits

5 It appears to me that this position is untenable and so long as the Bengal Salt law and rules stand as they are - Ganjam Salt cannot be exempted from strict conformity to those rules after paping into Bengal limits.

6 We desire to place no more restrictions on Ganjam Salt than on that of Bengal manufacture and the request that Rowannahs should ipse in Bengal form is reasonable and ought I think, to be insisted on. I hope to be favored with decisive instructions with the least possible delay

I have &c
T. E. Ravenshaw.
Commissioner

Copy

(Copy)

No 3201/2

From

R. Davidson Esquire
Acting Collector Ganjam.

To

T. E. Ravenshaw, Esquire
Commissioner of Orissa Division

Dated Camp Purshottapore 7th July 1874.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 50 of the 29th ultimo with its enclosures, and I regret to have to inform you that I find myself unable to accede to your request as I consider that the restrictions which you propose to adopt are directly at variance alike with the orders conveyed by the Secretary to the Government of India to the Bengal Government in his letter No 121.T of the 24th April last and with those which I have recently received from the Madras Board of Revenue, in accordance with instructions from the Madras Government and to which I am about to give effect.

2 As the orders of the Government of India above quoted are in full effect, and as they have been communicated to, and acted upon by the Madras Government. I trust you will see the propriety of abstaining from introducing the restrictive measures which you propose until you receive the final orders of the Government of India on the subject, and I must again repeat that the responsibility of your interfering with salt introduced into Orissa from the District must rest with yourself.

3 I may add for your information that up to the date of my last letter to you (15th June) the sales at Ganjam alone had fallen off to the extent of Ten Thousand Maunds (10,000) since the passing of Act X of 1874, and I understood you to say, that the Orissa sales had proportionately increased.

I have &c

Sd/ R. Davidson
Acting Collector

(Copy)

No 328

From

The Acting Collector
Ganjam

To

The Commissioner of Cuttack

Dated Camp Purushottapore 10th July 1874

Sir

I shall be obliged by your having the enclosed

12

enclosed notification published in English and Vernacular in the next five successive issues of your Gazette

I have &c

Sd/ R Davidson

Acting Collector Ganjam

Notice

Abolition of all interference with the import of Salt from Ganjam into Bengal and Central Provinces

With reference to Act X of 1874 and the Notifications of the Government of India No 113. 114. & 115 published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary of the 21st April 1874 and in accordance with instructions conveyed by the Secretary to the Government of India in his letter No 124 A dated 24th April 1874, and recorded in Government order of the 4th May 1874 No 549 Revenue Department, notice is hereby given that all interference with the Import of Salt from Ganjam into Bengal has been removed, and the Inland Customs Line which hitherto prevented Ganjam salt from entering the Central Provinces without the payment of further duty has been abolished and there is now no obstacle to the trade in Salt from the Coast to any part of the Central Provinces.

The following rates take salt anywhere Viz,

Rs 2-4- per maund to be paid at the Ganjam Gully.

" 2-3- at Itchapore

" 2-- at Nowpadar & Womoravilly.

Sd/ R. Davidson

Camp.
Itchapore
7th July 1874

Acting Collector and Agent Ganjam.

(True copies)

Registrar
Department of Revenue, Agriculture & Commerce

No. 3870.

Procds 1874.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

CUSTOMS and SALT.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF BENGAL.
,, GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for early report

10 Sept 74.

Nos. 242 & 243.

Dated Calcutta, the 28th August 1874.

Read 9 September 74.

SUBJECT.

ARRANGEMENTS under which Ganjam salt should be admitted into Orissa.

O. S. G. P.—No. 1209, R., A. & C.—28-8-74.—30.

With Order