(1) Number of pages 4

(2) Date of repair 13-2-1984

(3) Initials of the Referencer

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

~~G.O. No.~~ / ~~B.P. No.~~	2798	Press. / Mis.
Dated	19~~8~~ 11 - 1878.	19~~7~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—5,806—24-2-78.

2798

No. 2,657.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th September 1878.

Read the following letter from H. W. BLISS, Esq., Commissioner of Salt Revenue, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue; dated Madras, 12th September 1878, No. 1,241 :—

IN his Petty Construction and Repair Budget for 1879-80, the South Canara Salt Deputy Collector has entered certain allotments for the repair of some bridges in the Salt Divisions and of some roads leading to the Kottars in which is stored salt manufactured under the excise system.

2. The bridges connect the pans themselves, which the Board are aware are very much scattered about, with the Kottars, and are used by the Superintendents and by the Police for inspection and patrol purposes, and by the salt manufacturers to bring salt in. I have provided for the purchase of boats for use by the Superintendents and the Police. There are none now in these divisions, though they are much required. When they are provided, the servants of Government will be independent of the bridges, which are rather expensive works to keep in order. I do not see why Government funds should be used to facilitate the storage of excise manufactured salt, and I have therefore struck the allotments out, and have informed the Salt Deputy Collector that if the manufacturers require the bridges they must repair them at their own expense.

3. I trust the Board will approve of this. The sum at stake in this particular instance is only Rupees 1,160, but the principle is of great importance. If we keep up in excise divisions bridges at Government expense, it seems to me that we must keep up canals and all other sorts of works also, which cost in the aggregate a very large sum of money annually. But one of the objects of the proposed introduction of the excise system is to save such expenses. I think, therefore, that the principle should be [illegible]

4. I propose also to leave the manufacturers to keep up the roads which lead from the high roads of the country to Salt Kottars (in excise districts) and which are not now required for revenue purposes.

5. I have also struck out of the South Canara Budget a branch road leading to the Baindur Depôt, which will be closed as soon as the stock of Government salt stored in it is cleared off.

THE principle advocated by Mr. Bliss appears to be in accordance with the views of the Salt Commission, and is approved by the Board; but they think that it will be necessary to introduce the change gradually after due notice, and that it is not advisable at the outset of the experiment to impose heavy burdens on the manufacturers, although eventually they may fairly be required to undertake the upkeep of communications in the maintenance of which they are chiefly interested. The Board have already referred this point for the consideration of the Commissioner in their Proceedings, dated 12th September, No. 2,511, and they will await his further remarks before deciding whether provision should be made for the works referred to in the ensuing year's Budget.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

Exd. A. Grubert.

1878.

Board of Revenue

MADRAS.

To

THE COMMR. OF SALT REVENUE.

Dated September 27th.

Printed October 5th.

Received

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH SEPTEMBER 1878, No. 2,657.

SEPTEMBER.

No. 2,657.

Bridges, &c.—in the Salt Divisions in South Canara District.—Passing orders on letter from Commissioner of Salt Revenue stating that he has struck out the allotments entered by Deputy Collector in his Petty Construction and Repair Budget for 1879-80 for the repair of —.

No. 2,913.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 1st November 1878.

Read the following letter from H. W. BLISS, Esq., Commissioner of Salt Revenue, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kudremookh, 7th October 1878, No. 1-1,361 :—

I HAVE the honor to furnish the report on the up-keep of the salt roads in the South Canara District called for in the Board's Proceedings marginally noted.

Nos. 2,511 and 2,657, 12th and 27th Sept. 1878.

2. I have conferred with the Collector on the subject, and we are in accord in recommending, with reference to the Board's wish, that the principle of throwing the up-keep of works in excise districts upon the manufacturers should be enforced gradually—

1*st.*—That the bridges mentioned in my former letter should be put into good repair at the estimated cost of Rupees 1,160, which I request sanction, therefore, to meet from savings in the Petty Construction and Repair Budget of the current year;

2*ndly.*—That the usual road repairs should be carried out this year from the grant already made in the Budget; and

3*rdly.*—That the grant for this latter object in 1879-80 should be reduced to one half of its present amount, and should thereafter be discontinued, and the manufacturers be left themselves to make such arrangements as they may think necessary for the transit of their salt from the place of storage to the nearest point on the ordinary high roads of the country.

3. These recommendations apply only to the roads numbered 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the list given in Mr. Comyn's letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings first above quoted, which are the only ones in the neighbourhood of the salt factories, and which, if our proposals are approved, will be left to the manufacturers to keep up from (say) the end of 1879, at which period they will be in as good a state of repair as their nature admits of. This is not, as the amount of the annual maintenance allowance hitherto allotted to them will show, such as in most cases to admit of wheeled traffic throughout the length of all of them, for the wooden bridges over the streams they cross are as a rule only fitted for passengers and pack animals. Such as they are, however, these roads have answered all purposes, and if our proposals are accepted and the roads and bridges now put into good order, we consider that the manufacturers will have as fair a start as can possibly be given them under the circumstances. Very possibly they will grumble and will fail to maintain the roads in the condition in which they will be handed over. But if the Board accept the principle of leaving excise manufacturers to undertake all works required for facilitating the manufacture and sale of salt, the importance of which must be gauged by a consideration of the expenditure on channels, &c., in such a district as Chingleput, this risk cannot be avoided, nor will the manufacturers' neglect, in my opinion, really tend to throw any considerable obstacles in the way of their disposal of their salt, for, as the Board are no doubt aware, there is easy water communication between all the South Canara manufacturing stations and the towns of Kandapur and Basrur, where the traders in salt chiefly resort.

4. The roads numbered 1, 7, 8 and 9 in Mr. Comyn's list before referred to are short branches connecting certain Government gollahs with the neighbouring villages and high roads, and may be abandoned as soon as the Government stocks of salt are disposed of. I think therefore that no expenditure on them will be required after the close of the current year.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 27th September 1878, No. 2,657.

2. The Board concur in thinking that manufacturers of salt on the excise system should be left to bear the cost of all works in connection with manufacture, storage and sale of salt, and approve the proposals in paragraph 2.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 27th September 1878, No. 2,657.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with do.
" " Collector of South Canara, with do.
" " Commissioner of Salt Revenue.

Exd. A. Grubert.

14 Octobr/78 No 2491 Rev

Revenue Department
No 4912.

1878.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVT,
FINANCIAL DEPARTMEMT.

Dated November 1st.

Printed 8th.

Received 12 November

PROCEEDINGS, 1ST NOVEMBER 1878, No. 2,913.

Copy & Maps. 4.

NOVEMBER.
No. 2,913.

Salt Roads — in South Canara District. — Submitting to Government report from Commissioner of Salt Revenue on the up-keep of the —, and concurring with that officer in thinking that manufacturers of salt on the excise system should be left to bear the cost of all works in connection with manufacture, storage and sale of salt.

No 2798
Lodged
19 Nov 78.