

Revenue (1897.) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 5212

DATED 6 Oct 97

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Referring to the Board of Revenue's remarks,
petition from W. E. Ganapathi Pillai, Agent
to the Lessees of Arumuganeri Salt factory,
Tinnevely D., complaining against the
procedure adopted in the storage of salt
of the season of 1896.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue Political (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 8459

Order M. i. c. No 5212 d/6 Oct: 97

Referred to the Board of
Revenue (Sup: Rev) for remarks.

From W. E. Gamafatty Pillai
Agent to the Lessees of
the Mungamari
Salt factory
No. Dinnevelly St

Dated 20th Sept. 1897

Received 29.9.97

Registered 1.10.97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Complaining against
the procedure adopted
in the storage of salt
of the season 1896.

See
5/10/97
This
one of the two
Comments will
have to be cancelled
ap
6/10/97

The B. of Rev (S. R.)
with the records: the return

Public G.O.
regarding storage of salt
for the season 1896
24/10/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

$\frac{0}{18}$ 4,000-12-7-97.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 8419.

*To be checked with
C No 8419
Same as*

Order

From W. E. Ganapathy Pillai,
Agent to the Lessees of the
Srimangalam Salt
factory,
No. Linnelly St.

Dated 20th Sept. 1897.

Received 28.9.97

Registered 28.9.97

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Praying for the
redress of their grievances.

12-30/9

BACK PAPERS.

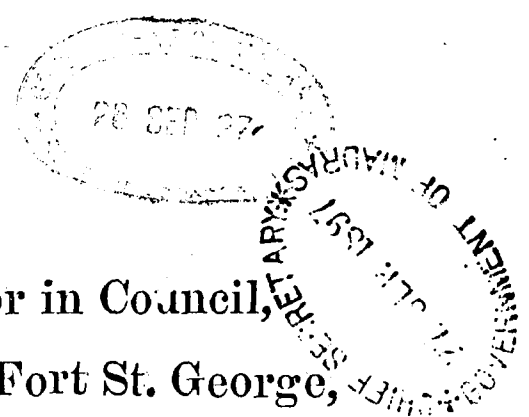
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Post
76

Duplicate



His Excellency the Governor in Council,
Fort St. George,

MADRAS.

PETITION

5771

REVENUE DEPT

*The humble petition of W. E. Ganapathy Pillai
agent to the Lessees of the Arumuganeri salt
factory, Kayalpatam circle, Tinnevely District.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

1. I most respectfully beg to submit that the circumstances, under which the storage of salt was conducted in the salt factory at Arumuganeri during the latter part of the manufacturing season in 1896 and the procedure, followed by the salt officers in this respect, have caused us considerable damage and loss not to say great inconvenience and trouble.

2. The scraping of salt was as usual carried on vigorously till it was stopped by the first fall of rain of the late monsoon which lasted unusually very long having frequent and heavy rains and ended with the close of December last. The practice, that had prevailed up to the year previous to 1896 regarding storage of salt after the commencement of rains, was that it was allowed to remain covered in the drying ground during the whole of the monsoon and, after allowing sufficient time for salt to dry, the storage used to be recommenced and closed in due course.

Unlike this practice, the circle officers of Kayalpatam urged us to store up all the salt, that remained unstored, during the continuance of the late monsoon and when it was threatening to rain more and more. We represented to them about the then state of the weather, about the salt being quite wet and unfit for storage, and about the practice which had previously obtained in connexion with this. But they began storage departmentally in complete violation of the provisions of the circular order regarding storage of salt during monsoon, stored 40 garce of our salt and compelled us to store up all the salt that remained during the continuance of the monsoon.

3. The provisions, under Circular order No. 1 of 1893 chapter XII Rule 124 Paras 9 & 11, run as follows :—

“9 No storage will be allowed on Sundays or authorized holidays, or on days on which in the opinion of the officer in charge of the factory, the state of the weather is such as to render storage inadvisable. * * All salt shall be stored.

within two months of the date on which it was scraped and within 45 days of the date fixed for the closing of manufacture. *The Assistant Commissioner may extend the above periods of 2 months and 45 days respectively in case storage should be unavoidably delayed by rain or any other sufficient cause.* 11 The officer in charge of a factory may refuse to allow the storage of salt which he considers *to be insufficiently dried for storage*".

4. The storage including the 40 garce, stored departmentally, was recommenced on the 29th November last and closed by the end of December following. The subjoined table is intended to show the rains that fell between the 1st November and the end of December, as well as the intervals that had elapsed between rains and storage.

Table denoting the days on which rains fell and near which storage was made.

Date.	Quantity of rains.	No. of heaps stored.	Date of storage.	Intervals between rains and storage.	Remarks.
1-11-96	0-3-3				
2-11-96	0-1-3				
3-11-96	3-4-8				
7-11-96	0-0-30				
9-11-96	0-0-2				
11-11-96	0-0-2				
13-11-96	0-0-2				
14-11-96	6-8-0				
15-11-96	0-6-4				
16-11-96	0-4-3				
17-11-96	0-7-2				
20-11-96	0-6-3				
21-11-96	0-1-0				
22-11-96	0-2-4	75	29-11-96		
30-11-96	2-8-2	76	1-12-96	7 days	
		77		1 day	
		78	2-12-96		
		79		2 days	
3-12-96	0-1-3	80	3-12-96	3 days	Calculated from the 30th Nov.
		81	Do.	Do.	Do.
4-12-96	0-1-0	82	4-12-96	1 day	Calculated from the 3rd Dec.
		83	5-12-96	1 day	
		84	Do.	Do.	
		85	6-12-96	2 days	
		86	Do.	Do.	
		87	7-12-96	3 days	
		88	Do.	Do.	
		89	Do.	Do.	
		90	8-12-96	4 days	
9-12-96	3-2-3	91	Do.	Do.	
		92	10-12-96	1 day	
		93	Do.	Do.	
		94	11-12-96	2 days	
		95	Do.	Do.	
		96	12-12-96	3 days	

		97	14-12-96	5 days	
		98	Do.	Do.	
		99	15-12-96	6 days	
		100	Do.	Do.	
16-12-96	0-1-0				
17-12-96	2-9-2				
18-12-96	0-3-7				
19-12-96	0-1-9				
20-12-96	1-2-8	101	21-12-96	1 day	Calculated from the 20th idem
22-12-96	0-0-7	102	22-12-96	2 days	Do.
		103	Do.	Do.	Do.
24-12-96	0-0-5	104	24-12-96	2 days	Calculated from the 22nd Do.
		105	Do.	Do.	Do.
25-12-96	0-0-5				
27-12-96	1-3-7				
28-12-96	0-2-8				

From the above it will be seen that the salt was not allowed time for drying and that there had been many heavy rains before every lapsed interval. The ground, on which the salt was weighed and stored, was necessarily quite damp. These circumstances coupled with the necessity for the employment of a hundred coolies for the storage work had the effect of salt being trampled upon under feet and of being intermixed with wet sand:— processes which would have naturally discolored the salt and added dead weight to it. This has necessitated us to pay as manufacturing expense not only for salt but also for what was not really salt.

5. That the salt subjected to this kind of processes would never be liked by the trade is unquestionably true. So the greatest quantity of this salt will remain in stock for years requiring frequent and annual repairs of its coverings. In proof of this assertion I beg to state that the merchants who have contracted the purchase of the whole of our salt of 1896 have sent us notice to the effect that they would not accept the salt stored during the monsoon of the year.

6. It is further to be observed that the Government, in its turn, has to experience great disadvantage by the storage of wet salt. This was ascertained by the case of a heap recently reweighed in this factory by the Assistant Commissioner.

The details are shewn below :—

No. of heap.	Quantity stored.	Date of storage.	Date of re-weighment.	Age.	Wastage Mds.	Percentage
82 of 96.	1,200 Mds.	4-12-96	13-3-97.	3 months 9 days.	60	5

The Assistant Inspector, who conducted the storage of this heap originally, was called upon to account for this abnormally high wastage. And I believe he has stated that it was due to the fact that the salt was wet when stored by him.

7. The remnant heaps which had existed containing heavy and in consequence unsaleable salt in this factory were put up to auction. And when it was not sold even by this process, it was ordered to be destroyed. Full heaps not opened for sale for 5 years are destined to be likewise destroyed under official pressure.

8. It is feared that the heaps stored under such violent procedure during the continuance of the late monsoon will have to be treated like the heaps, full and remnant, of previous years containing heavy and unsaleable salt. Instead of storage and up-keep of heaps in the above manner, it would be less costly and great immunity from anxieties and cares, worry and trouble, and expenses and losses, to destroy all the salt that remained unstored after the commencement of the monsoon if it is not meant to do justice to the cause of our vested interests. All we want is pure justice done by allowing sufficient time for the drying of salt after the complete cessation of monsoon rains.

9. It will be urged on the other hand that the salt in the drying ground is in an unguarded state, the temporaries employed for the season having to be removed by the first fall of rain in a monsoon. I beg to say that we will be willing to pay for the requisite extra guards until storage is recommenced and finished.

10. I represented these circumstances to the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue) Madras. But no justice was done by them. Their order (in original) No. dated is herewith submitted for perusal.

11. I beg to add that we have another grievance for redress. The Circle Officer at Kayalpatam has sent us a notice the translation of which is subjoined.

Notice No. 144.

To,

THE LICENSEE NO. 116 OF THE ARUMUGANERI SALT FACTORY.

"You are hereby informed that salt remaining more than ten days and well dried up should be brought to store within 6 days from the date of this notice on pain of storage departmentally and of recovering the cost thereof from you."

I need hardly mention that this kind of haste is in violation of the provisions of the circular order already quoted. It is impossible that the salt which remained in the drying ground for more than 10 days only i. e. within less than 3 or 4 weeks of scraping will be properly dried and fit for storage. This order which has been commenced to operate this season will if persisted in doubtless cause the deterioration of the quality of the salt brought to store under the circumstances now urged on.

12. In conclusion I most earnestly request Your Excellency in Council will be graciously pleased to give the subject matter of this petition Your careful and kind consideration, to grant us redress by instructing the local officers to be in future guided by the provisions of the circular order above quoted in regard to storage of salt remaining unstored after the commencement of monsoon, to permit us to pay for temporaries necessary for guarding the unstored salt and to cancel the notice complained against.

The Board's order and the notice received from the Circle Officer are herewith submitted.

20th September 1897

Palamcottah.

I beg to remain,

May it please your Excellency,

Your most obedient
servant & petitioner.

W. G. Ganapathy Pillai
Agent