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Revenue (1898) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 2014

DATED 7th May

[Despatch Abstract.]

Approving a notification proposed to be issued by the Board of Revenue, for delegating to Inspectors and Asst. Inspectors the power to order the destruction of salt brought to the dry grounds and found unsuitable for acceptance.

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 (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 2752

Order in No: 2014 d 17th May 1898

From

The Secretary to the Commission
-er of Salt, Abkari and Separate Re-
venue, Madras.

Press No. 100.

*The notification is
proposed to be issued by the
Board of Revenue is approved.*

K6
7/5/98

197/76

Dated 20th March 1898.

Received

Registered

Enclosures 5

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

*The B. 17 Revenue (S. R.)
(From order) the original enclosure returned*

Forwarding to Government with re-
marks, the explanations of the of-
ficers responsible for the heavy re-
jections of salt in the Chinna Gan-
jam and Kanuparti factories in the
season of 1896, and to the Superin-
tendent, Government Press, a certain
notification delegating to Inspec-
tors and Assistant Inspectors the
power to order the destruction of--
salt under certain circumstances.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
20	100	Revenue	20th March 1898

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1898.

Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

MADRAS.

Printed April 29th.

Proceedings, No. 100, 20th March 1898.

MARCH.



Forwarding to Government, with remarks, the explanations of the officers responsible for the heavy rejections of salt in the Chinna Ganjam and Kanuparti factories in the season of 1896, and to the Superintendent, Government Press, a certain notification delegating to Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors the power to order the destruction of salt under certain circumstances.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(SEPARATE REVENUE).

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 3856, dated 4th September 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Assistant Commissioner, Nellore Sub-division, to report in detail the circumstances that led to the very large rejections of salt in the Chinna Ganjam and Kanuparti factories in the season of 1896.

READ—again Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue), Mis. No. 4749, dated 28th October 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, to forward to the Board for its inspection certain samples of the salt manufactured at the Chinna Ganjam factory in the season of 1896.

READ—also letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Customs Revenue, Central Division, dated 9th December 1897, No. 7091.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting to the Board three samples of salt of the Chinna Ganjam factory.

READ—also letter from the Deputy Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Customs Department, Northern Division, dated 30th January 1898, No. 367.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting Inspector Mr. Rangaswami Iyer's explanation for the large rejections of salt at Kanuparti factory during 1896 together with the Nellore Assistant Commissioner's report thereon.

READ—also letter from the Assistant Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Customs Department, Nellore Sub-division, dated 19th January 1898, No. 247.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting Mr. Rangaswami Iyer's explanation for the large rejections of salt at Kanuparti during the year 1896 and furnishing further particulars called for by the Deputy Commissioner.

RESOLUTION—No. 100, dated 20th March 1898.

As promised in paragraph 2 of its Proceedings, No. 68, dated 6th March 1898, the Board submits herewith for the information of Government the explanations of the Factory officer and Inspector responsible for the very large rejections of salt in the Kanuparti and Chinna Ganjam factories in the season of 1896, with the reports of the Deputy Commissioners, Central Division and Northern Division, on the same.

2. The explanations are lengthy and in the Board's view are by no means satisfactory. It would have been inclined to deal severely with the officers in question but for the fact that they seem to have been influenced in taking the action which they did by the previous orders of their superior officers. The Board does not mean to say that every effort should not be made by officers in charge of monopoly factories to secure as pure and saleable salt as possible, more especially where the kudivaram is liberal. But it cannot believe that proper examination can have been made of the salt in a case like the present where in one instance no less than 11,165 maunds of salt were destroyed in one factory in a single day and where the salt set aside for destruction was found both by the Assistant Commissioner and the Board itself to be of good quality. Moreover from the facts stated in the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division, No. 5540, dated 30th September 1897, it seems grave reason to doubt whether Assistant Inspector M.R. Ry. S. Appayah acted in good faith in the matter. It has made an entry accordingly against his name in its Confidential Register.

3. Two general questions of some importance are raised in the correspondence relating to this case, first as to what standard is to be taken by the officer in charge of a monopoly factory as being good salt, and second as to what powers in the matter of destruction of rejected salt such officers possess.

4. As regards the first question the Board observes that the question of fixing a standard of chemically pure salt was discussed at some length while the present Salt Act was being drafted. But in the end it was decided that all the methods of testing proposed were impracticable; and the only power taken in the matter was that taken by section 19. Under present circumstances the officers in charge of monopoly factories have to consider in addition to the question of purity the question of saleability; and liberal dittams are given in several places solely with the view of securing salt that would be readily saleable. The need for some definite rules for the guidance of officers in charge of such factories is obvious and the Deputy Commissioners will be requested to submit any suggestions they may have for the framing of the same. In the meantime the licensees, more especially those who have recently reverted from the Excise system and who are unused to such restrictions, must be given clearly to understand that as Government pays a price sufficient for the production of good salt none other will be accepted.

5. In regard to the question of power to destroy rejected salt, the Board observes that condition 9 of the license* provides for destruction of the salt by the

licensee himself, and it is apparently intended that rejection should be from the ridges. The practice in many factories, however, appears to be for the factory officer to destroy from the drying grounds. This is irregular seeing that power to destroy under section 19 has only been deputed to Deputy and Assistant Commissioners. To remedy this inconsistency the Commissioner will now, in exercise of the power vested in him, depute the power to destroy rejected salt to Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors in charge of factories, subject to a proviso in the latter case that the salt shall be retained pending appeal to the Inspector should the licensee so wish. A notification to this effect will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. At the same time Deputy and Assistant Commissioners will be instructed that it is the duty of the Sub-Inspector in the first instance when he tests brine in the pans to say whether the salt in them should be scraped or not, that it is the duty of the factory officer in the second place to examine it on the ridges and reject it there if it is not fit for acceptance and that the Board will check the conduct of any officer who puts a licensee to the expense and trouble of transporting salt to the drying ground before informing him that it cannot be accepted.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. TODHUNTER,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

R. N. S. S. S.
Ag. Asst. Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two explanations and copies of the reports of the
Deputy Commissioners, Central and Northern Divisions.
Copy to the Deputy Commissioner, Northern Division,
for communication of the Board's remarks in
paragraphs 1 and 2 to the officers concerned.
" to the Deputy Commissioners of other divisions,
with special reference to the
orders in paragraph 4 of the Proceedings.
" to all Assistant Commissioners and Inspectors of Circles.
" to the Superintendent, Government Press,
extract of paragraph 5, with a copy of a notification for
publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.
" the Officer on special duty.

NOTIFICATION.

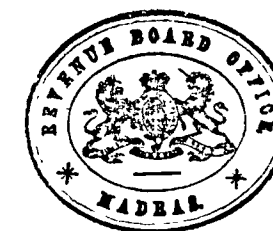
No. 9.—Under section 7 of the Madras Salt Act IV of 1889, and in continuation of the notifications noted in the margin, the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue further delegates his powers as follows:—

1. Notification No. 407, dated 5th September 1890, on pages 685 and 686, Part I, Gazette, dated 9th September 1890.
2. Notification No. 127, dated 21st March 1891, on page 214, Part I, Gazette, dated 24th March 1891.
3. Notification No. 223, dated 21st May 1892, on page 681, Part I, Gazette, dated 31st May 1892.
4. Errata, dated 13th July 1896, on pages 1202 and 1203, Part I, Gazette, dated 29th September 1896.
5. Notification, dated 17th November 1896, on page 1437, Part II, Gazette, dated 1st December 1896.

To Inspectors within their circles and Assistant Inspectors within the factories of which they are in charge.

Power under section 19 of the Salt Act to order the destruction of rejected salt in factories worked for the manufacture of salt for sale to Government, subject to the proviso that, if

any licensee object to the destruction of his salt by an Assistant Inspector, the salt shall be retained pending appeal to the Inspector.



Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

(Separate Revenue),

Dated 20th March 1898.

Press. No. 100.

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Read again Board's Proceedings No. 3316, dated 14th September 1897, requesting the Assistant Commissioner, Bellore Sub Division to report in detail the circumstances that led to the very large rejections of salt in the Chinna Ganjam & Kanuparti factories in the season of 1896.

Read again also Board's Proceedings No. 4749, dated 28th October 1897, requesting the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division to forward to the Board for its inspection certain samples of the salt manufactured at the Chinna Ganjam factory in the season of 1896.

Read also letter from the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division No. 7091, dated 9th December 1897, submitting to the Board three samples of salt of the Chinna Ganjam factory.

Read also letter from the Deputy Commissioner, Northern Division No. 367, dated 30th January 1898, submitting Inspector Mr. Rangaswami Aiyar's explanation for the large rejections of salt at Kanuparti factory during 1896 together with the Bellore

Mellore Assistant Commissioner's report thereon.

Recd also letter from the Assistant Commissioner, Mellore sub-division No. 247, dated 19th January 1898, submitting Mr. Ranga-
nami Aiyar's explanation for the large rejections of salt at --
Mangurthi during the year 1896 and furnishing further particu--
lars called for by the Deputy Commissioner.

RESOLUTION.

As promised in para 2 of its Proceedings No. 63, dated 6th March 1893, the Board submits herewith for the information of Government the explanation of the factory officer and Inspector responsible for the ^{very} large rejections of salt in the Mangurthi and Chinnar Gungur factories in the season of 1896 with the reports of the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division and ~~Deputy Commissioner, Northern Division~~ of the same.

2. The explanations are lengthy and in the Board's view are by no means satisfactory. It would have been inclined to deal severely with the Officers in question but for the fact that they seem to have been influenced in taking the action which they did by the previous orders of their superior officers. The Board does not mean to say that every effort should not be made by officers in charge of monopoly factories to secure as pure and saleable -- salt as possible, more especially when the standard is liberal. But it cannot believe that proper examination can have been made of -- the salt in a case like the present where in one instance no less

single day and where the salt set aside for destruction was found both by the Assistant Commissioner, and the Board itself to be of good quality. Moreover from the facts stated in the report of the Deputy Commissioner, Central Division No 1140, dated 30th September 1897, it seems quite reason to doubt whether Assistant Inspector H.R.K.S. Appurach acted in good faith in the matter. It has made an entry accordingly against his name in its Confidential register.

3. The general questions of some importance are raised -- in the correspondence relating to this case, ^{first} as to what standard is to be taken by the officer in charge of a monopoly -- factory as being good salt, and second as to what powers in the matter of destruction of rejected salt such officers possess.

4. As regards the first question the Board observes that the question of fixing a standard of chemically pure salt -- was discussed at some length while the present Salt Act was being drafted. But in the end it was decided that all the methods of testing proposed were impracticable; and the only -- power taken in the matter was that taken by section 19. Under present circumstances the officers in charge of the monopoly factories have to consider in addition to the question of purity the question of saleability; and liberal attainments are given in several places solely with the view of securing -- salt that would be readily saleable. The need for some defi-

such factories is obvious and the Deputy Commissioners will be requested to submit any suggestions they may have for the framing of the same. In the meantime the licensees, more especially those who have recently reverted from the Excise system and who are --

unused to such restrictions, must be given clearly to understand --

that as Government pays a price sufficient for the production of good salt none other will be accepted.

5. In regard to the question of power to destroy rejected salt

the Board observes that condition 9 of the license provides for destruction of salt by the licensee himself, and it is apparently *the*

intended that rejection should be from the ridges. The practice in

many factories, however, appears to be for the factory officer to des-

troy from the drying grounds. This is irregular seeing that power to destroy under section 19 has only been deputed to Deputy and Assistant Commissioners. To remedy this inconsistency the Commissioner will

now in exercise of the power vested in him depute the power to des-

troy rejected salt to Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors in charge

of factories, subject to a proviso in the latter case that the salt

shall be retained pending appeal to the Inspector should the licen-

see so wish. A notification to this effect will be published in the

Port Saint George Gazette. At the same time Deputy and Assistant --

Commissioners will be instructed that it is the duty of the Sub---

Inspector in the first instance when he tests brine in the pans to

say whether the salt in them should be scraped or not, that it is the

duty of the factory officer in the second place to examine it on the

ridges and reject it there if it is not fit for acceptance and that

the Board will check the conduct of any officer who puts a licensee to the expense and trouble of transporting the salt to the drying ground before informing him that it cannot be accepted.

(True extract)

R. M. Hurley

Asst. Assistant Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department with two

explanations and copies of the reports of the Deputy Com-

missioners, Central and Northern Divisions.

Copy to the Deputy Commissioner, Northern Division for com-

munication of the Board's remarks in paras 1 & 2 to the Officers concerned.

Copy to the Deputy Commissioners, Central and Southern Divisions

with special reference to the orders in part 4 of the Pro-
ceedings.

Copy to all Assistant Commissioners and Inspectors of Circles

Para 5 with a copy of a *Notification* for publication, in the Fort ---

Saint George Gazette, to the Superintendent, Government Press.

4/4/98

In Reply:

page 5 of the Report

	<u>rupees</u>
Chinnaganjam	89,068
Kanupatti	25,584

① on p 3 of B.P. under G.O. $\frac{1859}{4-4-98}$

From the statement appended to para 18 of the Board's report on the Administration of the Salt Revenue for 1896-97 it appeared that large quantities of salt had been rejected or destroyed at the Chinnaganjam and Kanupatti factories as shown on the margin. The Board had called for explanation on the subject; which it now submits for the information of Govt. with reference to the last sentence of para 5 of G.O. No 55 of 31.1.98. 2. From the enclosures forwarded by the Board it appears that the rejection or destruction of so large a quantity was the effect to a great extent of the orders issued by the Superior Officers for the acceptance of none but clean salt capable of finding a ready sale. It finds, however, that the destruction of 11,165 rds in a single day in one factory was unexpected, and having reason to doubt the bona fides of the Assistant Inspector, it has made an entry ^{against} his name in

4/5/98
25/1/98

in the Confidential Register.

3. In this connection the Board proposes to delegate to Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors power under Section 19 of the Salt Act to order the destruction of salt brought to the drying ponds and found unsuitable for acceptance. The power is now exercised by factory officers without authority and it is found convenient to legalize it.

4. May the delegation of power be approved.

KD
1/5/98

H.M.

All the cases are fully explained in the Board's report. The proposed notification may be approved.

G.H. 3/5/98
M
7/5/98

To Secy.
Please send draft G.O. put upon the back of the warrant.

KD
7/5/98

Mel
7/7/5/98

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____ DATED _____
189 ,

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO G. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.