

Edd (191 5) Department.

mis SERIES.

G.O. No. *989 Edd*

DATED *10-7-15*

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Lac-dye industry: Recording Copy of
Correspondence received from the
Government of India on the
Subject of the lac-dye industry.

6285.
2828.8
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D. O. No. 13902.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

Simla, the 21st August 1915. 191 .

(Industries).

CV03009Ed
2-9-15

Dear Mr Davidson

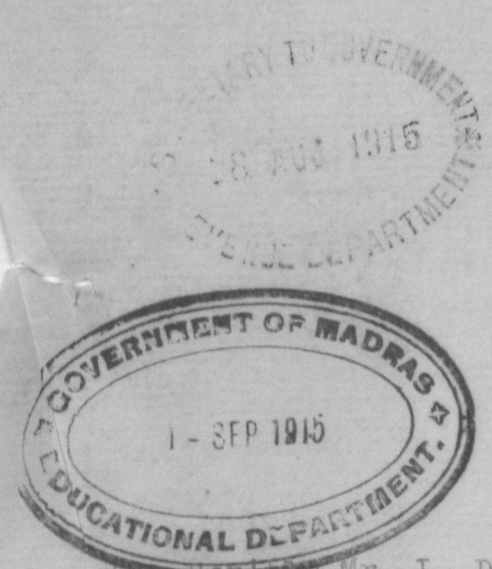
I am desired to forward, for your information,

- X -----
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Letter from Mr. B. Coventry, C.I.E., Agri-)
cultural Adviser to the Government of India,)
to the Hon'ble Mr. C.E. Low, C.I.E., I.C.S.,)
Secretary to the Government of India,)
Department of Commerce and Industry, No.)
C/99, dated the 2nd June 1915.) | the accompanying copy
of certain semi-official |
| 2. Letter to Mr. B. Coventry, C.I.E.,)
No. 13901, dated the 21st August 1915.) | correspondence noted in |
-

the margin, on the subject of the lac-dye industry.

Yours

[Signature]
D. D. Elie



The Hon'ble Mr. L. Davidson, C.S.I., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Revenue Department.

Dr 31/8

Educational no.

S Rev. no. 628/15-1
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C. & I. - E. 21b.

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Copy of a demi-official letter No. C/99, dated Camp Simla, the 2nd June 1915, from B. Coventry, C.I.E., Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India, and Director, Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa, to the Honourable Mr. C. E. Low, C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, Simla.

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For some years we have been interesting ourselves at Pusa with the improvement of lac. Howlett has pointed out to me that owing to the present low price of lac and the great demand for dye stuffs the dye might be made available in large quantities. He says it might be produced at a figure not exceeding Rs. 5/- per maund. I forward some patterns of lac-dyed silk which he has sent me dyed at Pusa. I also forward copy of his letter. Have you any information about the dye and do you think it would be any good trying to stimulate its production and consumption.

Encl 2
to No 3009 EOL

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

Simla, the 21st August 1915. 191 .

present very high rates for synthetic dyes. Lac-dye has not the faintest (Industries)ing it own when synthetic dyes can be obtained at anything like

My dear Coventry, real prices and Government cannot therefore

With reference to your demi-official letter No. C/99, of 2nd June, on the lac-dye industry, I am bringing the matter demi-officially to the knowledge of Local Governments, but such information as I have is not favourable as regards the future of the industry.

2. Dr. Marsden has brought out the important point that lac-dye cannot be applied to cotton, as there is no method of fixing the dye upon cotton. This conflicts with Howlett's statement that the dye was once used for both silk and cotton, but appears to be correct. The shades upon wool and silk are fast, but lacking in brilliancy and this may account for the displacement of the dye by cochineal which gives similar shades but of greater purity. Both dye-stuffs are "mordant colours" i.e., for their effective use they require the employment of metallic salts. Upon alum mordanted wool and silk the shade is bluish crimson but the bright scarlet shade obtained by the use of tin salts was in greatest demand in the past. Lac dye gave a faster shade than cochineal but was only used in admixture with the latter to improve its fastness; it was never used alone as the shade obtained was not sufficiently brilliant to meet the market demands. With the disappearance of scarlet tunics from the army both dye-stuffs lost their importance and now find only a limited application in silk dying, cochineal being here again the dye-stuff in greater demand, whilst a little lac is used for producing crimson shades for woollen carpets.

3. Wool and silk dyers might be glad to have the dye under

present

D. O. No. 12001.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Sir, the 21st August 1913.

(Industries).

My dear Governor,

With reference to your letter of the 11th July

No. 6/92, of 2nd June, on the lac-dye industry, I am bringing the matter to the knowledge of the Government, but such information as I have is not favourable as regards the future of the industry.

2. Dr. Marston has brought out the important point that lac-dye cannot be applied to cotton, as there is no method of fixing the dye upon cotton. This conflicts with Howlett's statement that the dye was once used for both silk and cotton, but appears to be correct. The shades upon wool and silk are fast, but lacking in brilliancy and this may account for the displacement of the dye by cochineal which gives similar shades but of greater purity. Both dye-stuffs are "mordant colours" i.e., for their effective use they require the employment of metallic salts. Upon alum mordanted wool and silk the shade is bluish crimson but the bright scarlet shade obtained by the use of tin salts was in greatest demand in the past. Lac dye gave a faster shade than cochineal but was only used in admixture with the latter to improve its fastness; it was never used alone as the shade obtained was not sufficiently brilliant to meet the market demands. With the disappearance of scarlet shades from the army both dye-stuffs lost their importance and now find only a limited application in silk dyeing, cochineal being here again the dye-stuff in greater demand, whilst a little lac is used for producing crimson shades for woollen carpets.

3. Wool and silk dyers might be glad to have the dye under

present

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present conditions, if it can be produced at a figure not exceeding Rs. 5/- a maund. But this is a purely temporary position and cannot last longer than the present very high rates for synthetic dyes. Lac-dye has not the faintest chance of holding its own when synthetic dyes can be obtained at anything like their normal prices and Government cannot therefore take measures to stimulate its production.

Yours sincerely,

C. M. Low.

Secretary to the Government of India.

B. Coventry, Esquire, C.I.E.,

Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India,

and Director, Agricultural Research Institute,

Pusa.

Encl 3 to
No. 3009 E.D.

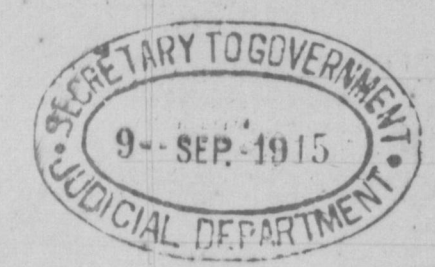
Est. Depart.

Submitted that the correspondence received from the Govt of India may be recorded & a copy communicated to Mr. Trevelyan semi-officially. A draft order & draft do. are submitted for approval.

SK CA
4-9-15 6-9-15

cf
7.9.15

H. S. The Governor.



P.
8.9.15.

ES! Dept!

Two days

Dr 9/9

Dr. No. 3009-1.209
10-9-15

My dear Sir,

I am to forward for
your information and
for communication to
Mr. Narayan ^{the enclosed} & copy
of the ^{certain} correspondence
received from the Govt
of India on the subject
of the lac-dye industry.
Yours sincerely

SK
4-9-15

CR
6-9-15

CS
9-5-15

To

K. T. B. Irescher Esq.

Dir. of Ind.

Madras.

(with copy of correspondence)

page 2 to 5 of it.

send
SK 10/9/15

62

SK 10/9/15

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191 .

" " " " 191 .

READ ALSO:-

C. No. 2009, From the Govt of India, No. 13902 dated 21. 8. 1915.

" " 191 .

" " 191 .

ORDER.

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No. 989 Col mis, dated 10. 9. 1915.

Recorded.

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When given for copying—
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When examined—
When signed—

191 .

READ AGAIN G.O. No. . DATED
191 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH BITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
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