

7-5-22✓

Political (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 480

Dated 23rd July 1895

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

IMPORT TARIFF IN TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN

Communicating to the Resident in Travancore and Cochin, Proceedings
Revenue Department, passing orders on papers relating to --

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1258		95				
C	1316		95				
	1384		95				
	1682		95				

CURRENT No. 974
Political Dept.
 Govt. of {1895} Madras.
 REVENUE.

129: 20.2.95.

Order: 23rd July 1895 No 480
Mis
 Communicated to the
 Govt in Travancore and Cochin

Issued

Recd.

3.20 July 95

Encl.

G.O., 26th June 1895,
 Nos. 398, 398A.

UNDER SECRETARY
 20 JUL 95
 PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

JUNE.

20
 The Govt in Trav. (to).
 20 JUL 95
 M.S.

Import Tariff.

Passing orders on papers relating to — in
 Travancore and Cochin.

WITH ORDER
 (b.o)

Refer the remaining papers
 to the Govt. please.
 Return
 6/7
 30/7

26TH JUNE 1895, Nos. 398, 398A, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again G.O., dated 4th February 1895, No. 69, Revenue.

ABSTRACT.—Stating that the Resident in Travancore and Cochin will be requested in the Political Department to furnish certain information in view to the adoption by the Travancore and Cochin States of the British Indian tariff and rates of import duty on all foreign goods imported into them.

READ—also endorsement of the Political Department, dated 7th May 1895, No. 991, transferring to the Revenue Department, in continuation of G.O., dated 20th February 1895, No. 129, Political, the following letter from J. D. REES, Esq., C.I.E., British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Ootacamund, dated Trivandrum, 27th April 1895, Ref. on C. Nos. 1049 and 1093:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., dated 4th February 1895, No. 69, Revenue, communicated with Political Order No. 129 of the 20th idem, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that the Dewan of Travancore intimates that, under the terms of the Interportal Trade Convention, his Durbar has always adopted the British Indian tariff and rates of import duty on all foreign goods imported into the State, tobacco being excepted. A copy of the latest tariff furnished by him is herewith submitted. He also states that it is not in contemplation to strengthen the Customs establishments in view of the additional work imposed on them by the adoption of this tariff, as the establishments already employed are competent and sufficient.

2. Adverting to paragraph 3 of the Government order under reply, I beg to state that the Dewan promises to furnish quarterly returns of dutiable foreign goods imported by sea and of the duties levied on them. The first of the returns received under this promise, for the second quarter of 1970 M.E., is also submitted herewith.

3. With reference to paragraph 4 there is only one spinning and weaving mill in the State and this is situated at Quilon. The information required by Government regarding this mill will be found in the accompanying copy of a report submitted to the Dewan by its proprietors.

4. The Dewan of Cochin has not yet replied to my reference on this subject. I have however sent an urgent reminder for a reply which will be submitted to Government on receipt.

ENCLOSURE.

From G. H. DAVEY, Esq., to the Dewan of Travancore, dated Quilon, 14th March 1895.

We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your No. 1030—M-518, dated the 11th instant, enclosing extract from a letter from the British Resident and in reply we beg to state, for the Resident's information—

(1) That we do a little hand-weaving here, having in all eight looms working chiefly on cotton table cloths, napkins, towels and checks. The coloured yarn used in weaving the checks, &c., is all procured from Bombay.

(2) Our spinning output last year was the largest output yet spun by the mills in any one year and therefore will be a good example of the various counts and quantities which were as follows:—

	LB.
No. 30s	6,072
„ 26s	34,077
„ 21s	251,729
„ 20s	1,187,380
„ 16s	272,249
„ 14s	145,693
„ 12s	104,319
„ 10s	230,138
„ 8s	100,497
„ 6s	53,192
„ 4s	11,513
Total	2,396,889

We trust the above information will meet with the requirements of the British Resident.

READ—also endorsement of the Political Department, dated 15th May 1895, No. 1047, transferring to the Revenue Department, in continuation of endorsement, dated 7th May 1895, No. 991, the following letter from J. D. REES, Esq., C.I.E., Resident in Travancore and Cochin, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Ootacamund, dated Trivandrum, 6th May 1895, Ref. on C. No. 1385:—

In continuation of my letter, Reference on C. Nos. 1049 and 1093 of the 27th ultimo, and with reference to paragraph 4 thereof, I have the honour to submit herewith copy of a communication No. 765—P-103, dated 26th idem, from the Dewan of Cochin, from which it will be seen that the Sarkar has adopted the valuations and rates of duty prescribed by India Act XVI of 1894 and that in his opinion it is not necessary at present to strengthen the Customs establishments of the State. The quarterly returns promised in paragraph 3 of the Dewan's letter will be submitted to Government on receipt.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Dewan of Cochin, to the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, dated Ernakulam, 26th April 1895, No. 765—P-103.

With reference to your letter, Ref. on C. No. 631 of the 5th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the valuations and rates of duty prescribed by Act VIII of 1894, as amended by Act XVI of 1894, have been adopted at the Sarkar ports.

2. It appears from the report of the Superintendent of Customs that it is not necessary at present to strengthen the Customs establishment.

3. The quarterly returns of dutiable foreign goods called for in paragraph 3 of your letter will be forwarded as soon as they are received from the Superintendent of Customs.

ORDER—dated 26th June 1895, No. 398, Revenue.

Separate Revenue No. 67.

In G.O., dated 4th February 1895, No. 69, information was called for from the Resident in Travancore and Cochin on certain points connected with the fiscal regulations adopted in those States since the passing of Acts VIII of 1894 and XVI of 1894 in British India.

2. First it was asked whether these two Native States had adopted the new tariff valuations and rates of import duty prescribed by Act VIII of 1894 as amended by Act XVI of 1894. On this point the Resident forwards a notification issued by the Dewan of Travancore shortly after the passing of the latter enactment embodying the tariff now in force in the State, and reports that he has received intimation from the Dewan that the Darbar has always adopted the British Indian tariff and rates of

import duty. A comparison of the Travancore tariff with the schedules appended to Act XVI of 1894, however, shows that though the articles made dutiable and the rates of duty are the same in both, there is a large number of cases in which the valuations differ. The Travancore valuations are generally higher than those given in the schedules, but in the cases mentioned in the statement appended they are less. Another important point of difference is that valuations are affixed in the Travancore tariff to cotton piece-goods and coloured twist and yarn which are dutiable *ad valorem* under the British Indian Act.

3. Under the arrangement entered into with the Travancore and Cochin States in May 1865 (*vide* notification published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 23rd May 1865), the Darbars have agreed to adopt the British Indian tariff valuations without change. If these States chose to adopt a higher valuation or a higher rate of duty it is a matter which concerns themselves, but the Resident should see that the valuations and rates are in no case less than those prescribed in the British Indian tariff, otherwise the working of the Act may be altogether evaded. A copy of the tariff in force in Cochin should be submitted for the information of Government.

4. The second question relates to the efficiency of the Customs establishments employed in Travancore and Cochin. It is reported that the Darbars do not consider it necessary at present to strengthen the Customs establishments. The Government however doubts whether the new tariff can be properly enforced unless the establishments possess the technical knowledge requisite for the appraising of goods, especially cotton goods. The existing staff should apparently be strengthened in this sense, if not also numerically. The Resident will be requested to give his watchful attention to the matter, and if he sees reason to believe that the staff is inadequate for the due protection of British interests, he will take an opportunity of pressing on the Dewan of the State concerned, the necessity of placing the establishments on a satisfactory footing. The Resident will submit an early report after making careful enquiries as to how the tariff and customs are being actually worked in the States.

5. The third question relates to the working of the spinning and weaving mills at Quilon. It appears from the report on the Quilon mill submitted by the Dewan of Travancore that the mill does turn out dutiable yarns, the total dutiable produce being about 292,000 lb. during 1894, worth Rs. 1,13,000 according to the valuation in the tariff. There is also a little hand-weaving done at the mill. The value of the imports of cotton twist and yarn into Travancore by sea and land was during the three years 1890-91, 1891-92 and 1892-93, Rs. 4,11,732, Rs. 1,05,484, and Rs. 1,22,931 respectively; the falling off in 1891-92 as compared with 1890-91 being attributed to the greater activity of the mill in the latter year. There are large imports from British India, but it is not known what proportion consists of yarns finer than 20s which are taxable in British India. Such taxed yarns may now have to recede before the free produce of the mills, which may also find its way into British India. The Travancore administration reports do not show that any cotton goods are exported from that State into British India, but according to the sea-borne trade returns published by the Board of Revenue, small quantities of such goods described as Indian produce and consisting chiefly of twist and yarn are occasionally imported from the State into the ports of this Presidency. The Board of Revenue will ascertain whether these are the produce of Travancore and whether any of them are dutiable under the Tariff Act, and will call upon the Collectors of Tinnevely, Madura and Malabar to ascertain and report if any cotton yarn or goods made in Travancore find their way into these districts across the land frontier.

6. Cotton manufactures, chiefly twist and yarn, appear also to be exported from Cochin to the ports of this Presidency. The Board of Revenue will ascertain and report the place of origin and the destination of these manufactures.

(True Extract.)

L. G. ibn

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Political Department.
„ the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue).

Endorsement No. 398A.

Copy to the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce, with copy of G.O., dated 4th February 1895, No. 69, with reference to paragraph 10 of letter from this Government, dated 6th February 1895, No. 76.

(Signed) G. S. FORBES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX.

No.	Name of article.	British Indian valuation.			Travancore valuation.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
4	Raisins, kishmish cent.	15	0	0	14	0	0
6	Beef and pork 2 cents.	75	0	0	70	0	0
	Shark fins cent.	40	0	0	30	0	0
	Singally and Soyille "	25	0	0	15	0	0
15	Brass Sheets.. .. . "	100	0	0	75	0	0
	Iron, old "	2	8	0	* 2	3	0
32	Rattans "	10	0	0	9	0	0
58	Gum ammoniac "	15	0	0	12	0	0
	Gum olibanum "	11	0	0	9	6	0
80	Paints, composition "	65	0	0	56	0	0
	Paints, white zinc "	25	0	0	20	0	0
94	Nakhla "	60	0	0	50	0	0

* Probably misprint.

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

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO O. No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

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