

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

1161

Press

~~Ms.~~

5-3-54

Dated

4-8-1870

18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
4th August 1870.*

No. 53. From the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, 16th March 1870, No. 1,834.

WITH reference to Items 137-8 of the Separate Revenue Proceedings of the Government of Madras for the month of January 1870, sanctioning the importation of the plant and materials required for carrying out the water-distribution project, Madras, free of duty, I am directed to point out that the argument in the 3rd paragraph of the letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, has no bearing on the question, and, moreover, contains an inaccurate statement. It is only the materials of State Railways that have been exempted from the payment of Custom Import-duties.

2. There is no reason that Government should contribute to the Madras Municipality an amount equal to the Import-duties on material imported for Municipal water-works, for this, in fact, is what the exemption amounts to; because as a matter of convenience materials for State Railways, which materials are the property of Government, are exempted from going through the form of paying Import-duty. I am desired to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, you will state what amount of Customs-duties was due under the Act.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
4th August 1870.

No. 54.

No. 1,161.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Separate Revenue, No. 5.

Customs

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Under-Secretary Batten's letter, dated 16th March 1870, No. 1,834, I am directed to state that the estimated value of the plant

and materials required for the water-distribution project of the Town of Madras is about six lakhs, assessed at the rate of one per cent., and therefore liable to an aggregate duty of Rupees 6,000.

2. The inaccuracy in paragraph 3 of the letter from the President, Municipal Commission, dated 6th December 1869, was not overlooked by this Government, and the financial embarrassment of the Municipality of Madras furnished the chief reason for the exemption in question. I am, however, to point out that other, besides Municipal, interests are involved in the success of the water-distribution project. In the first place, it is of grave importance to the State that Madras, as the head-quarters of the Civil and Military establishments of the Presidency, should be rendered as healthy as possible. In this respect, Imperial interests are directly at stake, but there is another argument which bears indirectly, though perhaps quite as materially, on the welfare of the State. Epidemic diseases are more readily generated in a large city like Madras than elsewhere, and once generated, they spread not only to the fort and the regimental lines of the Native Force in Madras, but also to other parts of the Presidency. For these reasons the introduction of a supply of pure and wholesome water from without is, in the opinion of this Government, a matter of no less importance to the State than to the people. When, in addition to the considerations referred to above, the poverty of the Town of Madras as compared with Calcutta and Bombay, the over-burdened condition of Municipal finances, and the numerous other schemes which press upon the Municipality for execution, are weighed in the scale, the Government feel justified in adhering to the former view which they took of the case. I am therefore to request that the Government of India will sanction the exemption from duty of the plant and materials referred to in your letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Ed. F R. Bantleman.

No. 910.

From *The Under Secy. to the Govt of India & D.*
 Dated 16th March 1870.

FOR ORDERS.

He must ascertain from
 Col Dennis what the plant
 is imported from and how
 likely to cost - calculate
 the duty - and take the
 fact that in our judgment the
 public works for a while they are
 being imported - the direct in
 terest of the State in the measures

Financial 1870 Department.

From Government of

Fort St. George.

Dated 4th August.

R.

No. 1,161.

Enclosures.

6 spare copies.

D. No.

Progs.

D.

L. No.

No.

Regarding the amount of Customs-duty that
 was due on the plant and materials required for
 the water-distribution project of the Town of
 Madras, and under further considerations herein
 represented requesting exemption from duty of
 the plant and materials in question.

so directly affecting the health
of the community - and the
purity of the Municipality
be warranted the Council

R.

S. S. S.

M. A.

FOR ORDERS.

14 April 1870



Rev. Depart

No.

To The Secretary to the
Govt of India

Financial Department

Sir

In reply to Mr
Under Secretary Batten's
letter dated 10 March
1870 No 1834. I am

directed to state that
the estimated value
of the plant and
materials required for

the water distribution
scheme project is about
six lakhs, of which

at the rate of one
per cent and there-
fore liable to an
aggregate duty of
Rs 6000.

2. The inaccuracy
no para 3 of the letter
from the President
Municipal Commission
is noted

J. O. S.

not sent

dated 6 December
1859, was not over-
looked by this Govt.
and the financial
embarrassment of the
Municipality of
Madras furnished
the chief reason
for their exemption
in question. The Govt.
are still of opinion
that the direct in-
terest of the State
in measures which
directly affecting
the health of the
community, the
extended scope which
will be given to the
objects to which the
materials in question
will be devoted and
the circumstances
referred to above
justify their re-
questing

Similar to this but
more strongly. The Govt.
of Madras has - besides
a large civil population -
a considerable military
force - and is the head
quarters of the Civil &
Military establishments
of the Presidency. The State
is therefore directly &
largely interested in the
health of the Town. The
quality of the local water
supply has undoubtedly
deteriorated of late years
and must from natural
causes continue to do so -
and not only must the
health of the people suffer
therefrom but the prevalence
of epidemic diseases
must be increased & in-
duced thereby - No sanitary

pie can turn in this the
fact or the reputational lines
of the former Native force
can avail to prevent
such diseases as cholera
breaking out in the former on
attacking the former on
if they prevail in the
Town. The introduction
of a supply of pure
& wholesome water from
the outside is thus a
matter of no less im-
portance to the State
than to the people - &
as the means of
the ~~sanitary~~ ^{municipality} - owing to
the extreme poverty
of a large section of
the resident population
are very limited
and overburdened
with other obligations
of equal importance -
it is just & has been
that the State should

6
requesting the Govt
of India to allow
^{exemption from duty}
the ~~to~~ ^{to} stand!
The
a tank such and
as it can be carried
out and under taking
in which it is so
heavily interested. It
was, I presume, on
these broad grounds &
not on precedents or
analogies that Govt. made
the concession - & it
is on these that I am?
reiterate the applica-
tion. The poverty
of Madras might be im-
poverished with the
health of Bombay &
Calcutta
L.S.

To the Secretary
 of the
 Water Distribution
 Project

900
 700
 200

No 1161

Revenue Department
 4 Aug 1170

To
 The Secretary to the Govt of India
 Financial Department

Sir,

In reply to Mr. Under
 Secretary Batten's letter dated 16th
 March 1870 c/o 1834, I am
 directed to state that the
 estimated value of the plant
 and materials required for
 the Water Distribution Project
 of the town of ^{Mandray} is about six lakhs, assessed
 at the rate of one per cent
 and therefore liable to an
 aggregate duty of Rs. 6000.

J. D. S.

2. The inaccuracy
 in para 3 of the letter from
 the President Municipal
 Commission

C. 13 July 1870 A. 15

Commission dated 6th December
1869, was not overlooked by
His Gov^t, and the financial
embarrassment of the Munici-
pality of Madras furnished
the chief reason for the exemption
in question. I am, however,
to point out that other besides
Municipal interests are in-
volved in the success of the
Water Distribution Project. In
the first place it is of grave
importance to the State that
Madras as the Head Quarters
of the Civil and Military
establishments of the Presi-
dency should be rendered
as healthy as possible. In
this respect Imperial interests
are directly at stake, but
there is another argument
which

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perhaps quite as materially
on the welfare of the State.
Epidemic diseases are more
readily generated in a large
city like Madras than
elsewhere, and once generated
they spread not only to the
Fort and the regimental
lines of the Native Force in
Madras, but also to other
parts of the Presidency.
For these reasons the intro-
duction of a supply of
pure and wholesome water
from without is in the
opinion of His Gov^t a
matter of no less importance
to the State than to the
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to above, the poverty of the
town of Madras as compared
with Calcutta and Bombay,
the overburdened condition
of Municipal finances, and
the numerous other schemes
which press upon the Municipality
for execution, are weighed in
the scale, the Govt feel justified
in adhering to the former
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case. I am therefore to request
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sanction the exemption from
duty of the plant & materials
referred to in your letter.

Yr. Obedt. Servant



25
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