

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	261	Press ~~Mis~~
Dated	2/- 2 -	1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st February 1870.*

No. 221. From the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Fort William, 19th January 1870, No. 527 :—

With reference to your telegram of the 12th instant, I am directed to request that you will furnish, as soon as possible, specific information as to the cause of the falling off in the receipts under Salt notwithstanding the increase in the duty.

(True Copy.)

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
21st February 1870.

No. 261.

No. 222.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Separate Revenue, No. 15.

Salt.

Procs. Board of Rev., 3rd Dec. 1869, No. 8,919.
Do. 14th Jany. 1870, " 259.
Do. 2nd Feb. " " 735.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter, under date 11th January, and with advertence to your Under-Secretary's letter, dated 19th ultimo, No. 527, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, the Proceedings noted in the margin, containing

returns of the sales of Salt in each district during the months of October, November, and December

2. The serious falling off in the sales during the month of November has already attracted the attention of the Government of India, and it will be observed that this decrease has not been to any extent recovered by the sales of December last, though, as anticipated in my letter above quoted, the latter were slightly in excess of the sales of December 1868.

3. The details of the quantity sold in January are not yet before this Government, but it has been ascertained that the collections on account of Salt-revenue during the month were Rupees 12,32,759-10-7 against Rupees 12,26,822-15-5 in January 1869. When the increase of price is taken into account, these figures show a very serious falling off of consumption during the month, amounting, probably, to not less than a lac of maunds.

4. The Salt-revenue of the last four months, as compared with the corresponding period during the last financial year, is given in the margin. It will be observed that the decrease during the four months, for which the increased price has been in force, has amounted to nearly one lac of rupees. This decrease, too, takes the place of the additional revenue of four lacs which was expected to be realized, had the consumption retained its former proportions.

5. This Government, however, are by no means satisfied that the decrease of consumption which has occurred during the four months under consideration, is to be ascribed to the increased price. The sales (for home and inland consumption) of the first six months in the last five revenue-years (Fuslies) are shown in the margin, and it will be observed that there were considerable fluctuations in the sales during the three years in which no charge of price occurred. Further, the consumption of the

	1868-69, RS.	1869-70, RS.
October... ..	7,84,241	9,16,447
November	12,66,207	8,75,801
December	10,30,919	12,01,803
January	12,26,823	12,32,759
Total	43,08,190	42,26,810

	Maunds.
July to December 1866	31,41,057
" " 1867	29,54,869
" " 1868	32,90,335
" " 1869	29,20,359

Financial 1870 Department.

From Government of

Port St. George.

Dated 21st Feb.

No. 261.

L.

Enclosures.
6 spare copies.

D. No.

Progs.

No.

L. No.

FEBRUARY.

No. 222.

Submitting Proceedings Board of Revenue
containing Returns of the sales of Salt in each dis-
trict during the months of October, November,
and December, and explaining the cause of decrease
in the sales.

article appears to have been seriously affected in three districts only, Ganjam, Kistna, and Nellore; but on analysing the figures, it is found that the quantity sold for home consumption in these three districts during November and December last was fully up to the average similar sales of previous years, and that the falling off has occurred in the sales for inland consumption (*i.e.*, for consumption beyond the district) only. These inland sales may be affected by a variety of causes, as the purchasers are always an uncertain class in their dealings. They are usually of the Brinjary tribe, and make their visits to the Salt depôts at uncertain periods. As already reported in my telegram, dated 15th February 1870, No. 7, the Collector of Kistna considers that the late period of the rains has delayed the arrival of these traders in his district, and a similar explanation of the falling off in the inland-sales has been received from the Acting Collector of Ganjam.

6. The sales in Madras, Tanjore, and Malabar, which are respectively much more extensive than those of the three last named districts, are up to the average sales of previous years, and upon the whole this Government is not of opinion, as at present informed, that the increase of price is likely to cause any material and lasting decrease of consumption. The sales of January and February will, however, be carefully examined in detail, and a further report upon the results of the measure will be submitted next month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

R.L.
2101 July 1309
W-261.

To The Secretary to the Govt. of India
Financial Dept.

Sir In continuation of my
letter under date 11th Jan^y
and with adverteuse to you
Under Secretary's letter
dated 19th ultimo A-327,
I am directed to submit
for the information of
the Govt. of India the Pro-
ceedings noted in the
margin containing re-
turns of the sales of salt
in each District during
the months of October,
November & December
2. The serious falling
off in the sales during
the month of November
has

Pr. 18th of Dec. 3rd Dec. 169 A-6919
14 Jan. 70 - 259
" 2 Feb. 70 - 735

W.A.
M.H.
N.

has already attracted the attention of the Govt of India, and it will be observed that this decrease has not been to any extent recovered by the sales of December last, though, as anticipated in my letter above quoted, ^{the latter} they were slightly in excess of the sales of December 1868.

3. The details of the quantity sold in January are not yet before this Govt, but it has been ascertained that the collections on account of Salt Revenue during

<u>1868/69</u>	<u>1869/70</u>
Rs.	Rs.
Oct: 7,84,241 —	9,16,447
Nov: 12,66,207 —	8,75,801
Dec: 10,30,917 —	12,01,803
Jan: 12,26,823 —	12,32,759
<u>43,08,190 —</u>	<u>42,26,810</u>

during the month were Rs. 12,32,759-10-7 against Rs. 12,26,822-15-5 in January 1869. When the increase of price is taken into account, these figures show a very serious falling off of consumption during the month, amounting, probably, to not less than a lac of maunds.

4. The Salt Revenue of the last four months as compared with the corresponding period during the last financial year is given in the margin. It will be observed that the decrease during the four months for which the increased price has been in force has amounted to nearly

nearly one lac of rupees. This decrease too takes the place of the additional revenue of four lacs which was expected to be realized had the consumption retained its former proportions.

5. His Govt, however, are by no means satisfied that the decrease of consumption which has occurred during the four months under consideration is (at all) to be ascribed to the increased price.

The sales (for Home and Inland consumption) of the first six months in the last five revenue years (Fasles) are shown in the margin, and it will be observed that there

is a great deal more
consumption in
the present year

July to Decr. 1866	31,41,057
— 1867	29,54,869
— 1868	32,90,335
— 1869	29,20,359

were considerable fluctuations in the sales during the three years in which no change of price occurred. Further, the consumption of the article appears to have been seriously affected in three districts only, Ganjam, Rishik and Kelton, but on analysing the figures, it is found that the quantity sold for Home Consumption in these three districts during November and December last was fully up to the average similar sales of previous years, and that the falling off

off has occurred in the
sales for inland consumption
only. These ^{inland} sales may be
affected by a variety
of causes, as the purchasers
are always an uncertain
class in their dealings.
They are usually of the
Birinjary tribe and make
their visits to the salt
seepots at uncertain periods.

As already reported in
my telegram dated 15th
Feb. 1870, & 12th 71 the Collector
of Kistna considers that
the late period
of the rains
has

had delay & the arri-
val of these traders
in his district, and a
similar explanation of
the falling off in the in-
land sales has been
elucidated from the Acting
Collector of Kanyam.

6. The sales in
Madras, Tanjore and
Malabar which are ex-
pectably much more ex-
tensive than those of
the three last named dis-
tricts are up to the ave-
rage sales of previous
years, and upon the whole
this Govt is not of opi-
nion, as at present in-
formed, that the increase
of price is likely to cause
any material and last-
ing decrease of consump-
tion. The sales of Jan-
uary and February
will, however, be care-
fully examined in de-
tail, and a further re-
port upon the results

