

Revenue Dept.
N. 662.

Pros of the Madras Government

Under date the 12th April 1841

Read the following
Pros of the Bd. of Revenue

Submg: letter from Coll^r. of
Sea Customs, regarding exportation
of Indigo leaf free of duty, with
opinion that this article should
be entered in the new Customs
Tariff, now before Legislative
Council.

44 E. 23rd Mar 1841 No 1258.

It is abundantly
evident from the foregoing
papers that an export
trade in Indigo from Pondicherry
is growing up and
can compete with the British
Indian trade at a great
advantage, as the duty
of

N.
A.A.
J.P.

of 3 Rs per maund is
saved if the manufacture
takes place in French terri-
tory or if the manufac-
tured article can be
smuggled over the frontier.
To guard against the
latter facility is the duty
of the frontier Preventive
Establishment which it
is presumed is competent
to perform it as nothing
to the contrary is urged.

2. But it seems far
more likely that the French
trade is dependant on
the Indigo leaf which
can

570
can be imported free of
duty from British territory
and manufactured in French
limits, and it is only
reasonable to relieve the
manufacture in British
territory from the disadvantage
to which it is thus exposed.

3. It is stated that
at least 2000 lbs of Dry
leaf, or 1000 lbs of Green
leaf are required to make
a maund of Indigo, on
which the export duty
would be 3 Rs.

4. The Ag. Collector
of Sea Customs recommends
that

that the leaf whether dry
or green be charged with
an export duty of 3 Rs.
per Candy of 500 lbs.
which would be in fact
prohibitive, as it would
at least double the duty
on the manufactured
article.

5. The Board of Revenue
recommend 6 Rs. a ton
(= 2240 lbs) or 3 Rs. a
bandy load ^{(which may}
^{be assumed without}
distinction of green or
dry

68
dry leaf ^{leaf} at 1500 lbs. The latter
quantity is too indefinite
to be admitted into a Tariff
aiming at accuracy. The
former rate would about
equal that on manufac-
tured Indigo in the case
of Green leaf, but in the
case of Dry leaf (technically
"dust") would about double
the duty on the manufac-
tured article. A lower
rate would however, offer
special inducement to
export the Green leaf
for manufacture in
foreign

foreign territory, and dif-
ferential duties are unde-
sirable. The Board's pro-
posal will therefore be
recommended to the
Supreme Govt for adoption
in the revised Tariff of
Export duties.

6. As regards the
manufactured article,
the law recognizes no
distinction between
"Indigo-cake" and
"Indigo-fiq or lump",
but taxes all alike,
and

and the Govt see no
reason to advocate
any change.

7. These proceedings
will be forwarded for
the consideration of the
Supreme Govt together
with G. O. N^o 227
dated 3^d February 1891

L.B.

14. To the Govt. with 2 samples Dec 1891

L.B.

Importation of books
leaf free of duty
per